

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

April 9, 2008

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No Way Back



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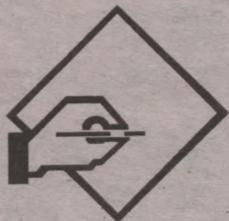
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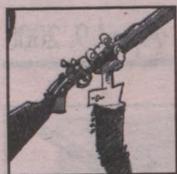
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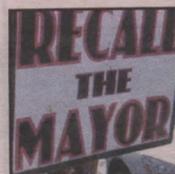
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Fifty-two people are arrested in the aftermath of a party turned riot in East Lansing. And check out photos of this week's news briefs.



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OU students gear up for the sunny weather. Plus, has the insect life ever intrigued you? Find out what bugs students would choose to be.



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There's no place like home — or is there? Also, a look into the life of an OU resident assistant.



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OU baseball finally heats up in a series of wins over Western Illinois. Plus, an optimistic Tigers fan sees hope in Boston.



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No Way Back



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April 9, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

A new sexual education program in U.S. is a must

Think back to your days as an impressionable middle, or high school teenager. We can all relate, on some level or another, to the angst and frustration of that age, as our bodies were progressively developing into adulthood.

We experience new feelings, think new thoughts and suddenly notice the cute person sitting next to us in math class.

It is the experience of being human.

Unfortunately, a recent startling statistic has made this common experience much more dangerous. According to a recent study by the Center for Disease Control, 25 percent of teenage females have a sexually transmitted disease.

And according to TeenPregnancy.com, "Despite impressive declines over the past decade, the United States still has the highest rates of teen pregnancy and births in the industrialized world," with over 750,000 teen pregnancies annually.

Such statistics give the transition years a different tone.

For this, the U.S. government needs to take responsibility. It's clear the abstinence program endorsed by the government is not working. In fact, it is failing miserably.

The federal government provides millions of dollars to states who for supporting abstinence-only programs. These programs teach that abstinence — abstaining from sexual activities until engaged in a long-term, monogamous relationship — is the solution.

However, this concept ignores the large number of kids that will inevitably engage in sex, and excludes information about contraceptives (birth control) or condoms.

Numerous studies have shown that abstinence-only programs are ineffective in preventing kids from having sex, reducing sexually transmitted diseases from spreading and decreasing unwanted teen pregnancies.

Yet the government continues to increase the funding. From 1996 to 2007, \$1.4 billion federal and state dollars have been spent on abstinence-only programs.

With the staggering number of teenagers affected negatively from sexual intercourse,

perhaps the education system should honestly look at its effectiveness.

Perhaps the current abstinence philosophy is too archaic. Kids are too independent and the society too open. Whatever one's perspective is, it is clear that the current program is failing. An ideology that obtains negative results of this nature needs to be abandoned for a practical approach that accrues better outcomes.

Thankfully, the tide seems to be turning, and more and more states are rejecting abstinence-only programs. When federal funding was first offered in 1996, California was the only state to decline, because it tried its own abstinence-only program in the early 1990s and found it ineffective. Taking California's lead, at least 16 states have declined federal funding as of early 2008.

A bill in Congress — the Responsible Education About Life Act seeks to give funding for "abstinence-plus" sexual education programs.

Abstinence-plus sexual education is a comprehensive sexual education program that promotes abstinence as the best choice for teens, but also provides information about contraceptives and condoms.

The reality is teenagers are going to want to have sex and many will have sex, regardless of the improper and unacceptable nature of the act in many societies.

Abstinence education does not appear to be productively influencing the statistics.

An educational structure that addresses these issues, will hopefully succeed in altering students behaviors enough to lower the statistic. Naturally, the point is not to teach a sort of "go out and get laid" mentality, but should be quieter and more accepting.

Sexual intercourse is an option, and should not be valued less than any other option. Instead, safe and intelligent decision-making techniques should be the primary lesson plan.

The implicit negative baggage must be discarded. We need to be blunt: Call the class Prophylactics 101.



JOHN DARKOW/Cagle Cartoons

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to
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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 (April 9, 2008) of The Oakland Post:

- Deniz Cikis' surname was incorrectly spelled in Perspectives (page 5).

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.

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

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



Nusha Sylaj
Sophomore, Nursing Major



Jesse Williams
Freshman, Physics Major



Bianca Rambus
Sophomore, Medical Laboratory Sciences Major



Jennifer Law Sullivan
Assistant Professor (French)
Dept. of Modern Lang. & Lit.

An OU concert featuring hip-hop artist T-Pain that was planned for April was cancelled due to security concerns on behalf of the administration and the OU Police Department. Do you agree with the decision?

No, I don't agree with that. I didn't know it was cancelled. That's weird. It would've been fun. There's always security issues, anyway. I don't see a big issue. I guess they [may have] had to step it up a little.

I don't know the entirety of how that came about. I agree the university has to worry about student safety first, but I'm pretty sure that there are other ways to handle it, other than outright cancelling the show.

I thought it was cancelled because he cussed too much. But since it's for security reasons ... I don't think it should've been. Oakland doesn't have all the events, so they should've kept all the ones they could get.

I really can't speak, because I don't know a thing about it. Just from what you're telling me it sounds a little bit paternalistic on the part of the university, but it's one of those tricky things — I mean, sometimes that's the role of the university.

Due to China's alleged human rights violations, there are many protesting the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. Do you think the U.S. should boycott them?

I like to watch the Olympics. I'd like to see the US represented.

The athletes shouldn't be involved with the protest — they should be allowed to do their thing. But at least for the opening ceremonies, having the western governments boycott the opening ceremonies is definitely a good thing.

Of course not. ... They should either take them to another country or don't do anything about it.

The committee was perhaps not choosing very wisely when they originally [chose] Beijing. ... [A boycott] is not fair to the athletes. I think it's dangerous to mix politics and the Olympics. But it's such a huge platform ... to make a huge statement.

Did you participate in the recent student body president election? Were you happy with the results?

I did. I wanted Andrew Bashi to win. I voted for him. I was sad that he lost. ... But it was nice to see everyone vote; I heard there was a record number of votes.

I've actually recently just started to go back to school, so I've been a little out of the loop. ... I would definitely [vote] in an election in the future and hear more about everybody and what's going on.

I didn't know anybody who was running and didn't know anything about [them]. I didn't want my vote to have nothing behind it, so I didn't [vote].

I'm thrilled students are getting more involved with campus life, and I think that's nothing but good.

* Sullivan cannot vote in OUSC elections because she is a faculty member.

The Tigers started their season 0-6. Do you think this is cause for concern?

No. They'll come back, because they're awesome. They're just starting off slow. They'll come back, they just wanna ease everyone in.

No. I mean, I've been a Tigers fan for a long time, and it's just been recent that they've been doing well, so I'm just happy for the last couple of seasons. But we'll see, I'll give them a few more games.

No. They suck anyway. On top of that, I don't really watch baseball so I only know what I hear, and what I hear is that they suck.

I don't know if worried is the word. I'm bummed. From what I've read, it doesn't look like they can (comeback). ... I don't think it looks good for our playoff chances.

There's only one more issue of
The Oakland Post left
before the end of the semester ...

BUT BE SURE TO LOOK FOR
OUR MONTHLY EDITIONS
DURING THE SUMMER SEMESTER

Professor left in limbo

Students attempt to help former professor denied reentry to U.S.

By STEVE STAEGER
Senior Reporter

All Dr. Ashraf Farahat wants to know is why.

The former Oakland University physics professor is stuck at the U.S.-Canadian border and, according to his attorney, will have to stay there until he gets some answers.

Farahat, once a visiting professor who began teaching at Oakland in the fall of 2006, attended a conference in Mexico last summer. On his way back, a stop at customs in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., turned into a nightmare.

VISA REVOKED

"An immigration officer asked me to go to another room, where I waited for two hours," Farahat said, recalling the incident. "They asked me why I was in Mexico and then searched my luggage."

According to Farahat, the officers carried out an in-depth search, even sifting through his notebooks.

All this time, Farahat continued to ask the same question: Why?

But the officers refused to tell him anything and intensified their questioning.

"They started asking me questions about the Middle East," Farahat said. "(I told them) I hadn't been overseas since the last time I was in Cairo (Egypt) to get a new visa in 2006."

After more questioning, the officers finally told Farahat that his visa had been revoked. He asked the officers for the reason, but they could not supply one.

Instead, they told him that he would have to go back to the U.S. embassy in Cairo to sort it all out before he could be allowed back in the United States.

"I told them that this would be impossible, as I only had \$12 in my pocket and you cannot go to Cairo in such a way," Farahat said.

A permanent resident of Canada, Farahat proceeded to show the officers his documentation and was booked on a flight to Toronto the next day. In the meantime, the officers took him to an immigration jail where he spent the night, awaiting his flight.



Photo courtesy of Ashraf Farahat
Dr. Ashraf Farahat has been denied reentry to the United States since he went to Mexico for a conference in July 2007. Border police told him his visa had been revoked but never provided him with an explanation of why. Farahat has reached out to his former OU students for help in the matter.

The next day, Farahat was escorted through the airport in handcuffs and sent to a cell where he would await his flight.

"I was so embarrassed," Farahat said. "All these people were looking at me like I was a criminal."

After three hours in an airport cell, Farahat boarded a flight to Toronto.

In Toronto, he went to a hotel near the U.S. embassy and contacted his family, who had not heard from him since before he began his trip home.

"My wife and two children were waiting for me in Detroit," Farahat said. "I had no way to contact them until I got to Toronto, a day after I was supposed to arrive in Detroit."

Farahat went to the U.S. embassy in Toronto the next day to try to sort everything out.

"I told them I didn't understand what was going on and that I did not break any laws," Farahat said.

But officials at the embassy told him that they could not help and he would have to travel to Cairo to sort everything out.

After being rejected in Toronto, he took a Greyhound bus to Windsor and rented a place to stay. Realizing that this situation was not going to be handled swiftly, Farahat's wife packed up their house in Auburn Hills and moved the family to Windsor.

Farahat traveled to Cairo in December 2007 and made an appointment to apply for a new visa at the embassy. According to Farahat, after waiting for 30 minutes at the embassy, an officer informed Farahat that he could not help.

"He told me that before he could issue me a new visa, I need to know why my old visa was revoked," Farahat said. "He told me to contact the Department of State to find out what happened."

The officer also told Farahat that this usually happens when the government

doesn't like a political group that a foreigner belongs to or the political views that the person holds, Farahat said.

"I don't belong to any groups or have any views," Farahat said. "I just spend all day in my laboratory and go home at night."

Since his trip to Cairo, Farahat has filed a Freedom of Information Act request to the U.S. Department of State to try and find out why his visa was revoked.

He has not received any feedback from the government.

REACHING OUT TO OU

Farahat, originally from Alexandria, Egypt, came to the United States in 2000 to get his Ph.D. from the Florida Institute of Technology.

In 2006, Farahat was hired into the physics department at OU to begin teaching in the fall as a visiting professor. Before the semester began, he traveled back to Egypt to get a new five-year visa. He was issued a new J-1 visa, which was supposed to expire in 2011.

Because of a long security clearance, Farahat was not allowed back into the country immediately and missed the first two weeks of classes in the fall.

After getting back to Oakland, Farahat taught physics 1 and 2 during the fall semester of 2006 and the winter and spring semesters of 2007.

During this time, Farahat made a good impression on many students.

"He was one of the best physics teachers here at Oakland," said senior Poornima Nayak, one of Farahat's former students.

Nayak took an 8 a.m. class with Farahat during the spring and said even though the class was so early she came to class excited each day because of Farahat.

"Students didn't feel intimidated by him," Nayak said. "If we didn't understand things, he was willing to teach in different ways."

Farahat took a break from teaching over the summer semester to attend and present a paper at the International

Sitting down with Russi

On the record voter turnout for the student elections

Russi: The turnout was very good and I think that's great. I do think the process of letting people know about the election has improved much. I think that's huge. I think

there's a direct correlation between ability of student orgs to communicate this is happening and what it means for them really translates to the number of people that turn out. I also think it relates to how each party/group campaigns. I thought they did a great job this year. I liked to see the signs and I liked to see what's been done online, and there's been a lot of things online and in the paper. I know they talked to student organizations, and I thought they did a great job of putting it together. I think the outcome's good.

Russi: I think it all depends on what the cut is for the student. For example, all of the science laboratories can be brought up to date for \$2 million. The move for Career Services: \$800,000. The endowment for the improvement of student orgs: \$300,000 or so. So when you look at it ... if those numbers are real, and I think they are, and you take the rest and give it to the students, is that a solution? Is everybody satisfied?

On a prioritization of the student-related projects suggested for the use of the \$4.8 million deferred payment

On the status of OU's Medical School

Russi: Sure, that's going really well. Our first objective is to get the accreditation process done, and we're on a very, very tight time frame. Our objective is to try to get some materials all completed for accreditation. It's initial accreditation. It is not full accreditation; it is preliminary accreditation. We have to get it done — we're shooting for August. Now what will happen if we hit the August time frame, the accrediting body — the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) — will be here in January, and they'll take a look at us, look at our facilities, how it's structured, look at the materials and so on. And then they'll give us this preliminary accreditation. Two years later — that's after the first class is admitted in 2012 — we will have to resubmit for full accreditation. One of the things that's happened with this med school is that more and more opportunities are coming to us for research and so on. One is ... proton beam therapy. Proton beam therapy is the state-of-the-art cancer therapy. There are only four centers in the country, and now Beaumont, in partnership with Oakland, is applying for a proton beam therapy center.

On OU's future partnership with a university in Israel

Russi: A team of us are going [to] Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa. The university there is the Max Stern Academic College. In a lot of ways it mimics Oakland. It's a school that's relatively young. It's a little smaller, but pretty active in research like we are. What we plan to do there is to sign officially some agreements. There are three agreements that will be signed. One will be student exchanges. [Second] will be faculty exchanges, which will be really important. Third will be research agreements. That third one will leak into things like incubators and commercialization and tech transfer.

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FARAHAT

Cosmic Ray Conference in Merida, Mexico from July 3 to July 17 in 2007.

To prepare for his trip, Farahat said he went to the International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) and was cleared for the trip. He also visited the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) dean's office, where he received funding for the trip.

Dr. Andrei Slavin, the chair of the physics department at that time, said he had concerns about Farahat's trip.

"He had issues at the border in 2006," Slavin said. "I don't know why he would want to risk leaving the country again."

But Slavin said he supported Farahat's decision.

"We support all of our employees," Slavin said. "We would never stop a professor from going to a conference."

After Farahat's problem at the border, he e-mailed Slavin to update him on his status. Slavin and Farahat exchanged e-mails during the fall semester, while Farahat was fighting to find out why his visa was revoked.

At the beginning of the winter semester, Slavin e-mailed Farahat to tell him he had hired a replacement professor to

teach Farahat's classes. Slavin told The Oakland Post that Farahat is no longer an employee of the university.

Farahat replied to Slavin's e-mail asking for the university's help in solving his problem.

"Although I understand that someone has been hired to teach my classes ... I have no doubt that the Physics Department and ... OU still care about this issue and why it would happen to a faculty member (who) represented the university at an international conference," Farahat wrote in a Jan. 19 e-mail to Slavin.

In the e-mail, obtained by The Oakland Post, Farahat asked Slavin to petition the administration to lobby state and national politicians to try and find out what happened to his visa.

Slavin responded to Farahat a month later in a Feb. 19 e-mail.

"I discussed this issue with the administration of CAS," Slavin wrote in the e-mail. "The answer is that CAS will not appeal to the senator or congressman on your behalf."

This response prompted Farahat to reach out to his former students. In a March 12 e-mail to former students, Farahat asked students to write e-mails and letters to senators and to OU

President Gary Russi.

"Unfortunately no one will listen to me if I am by myself, but if you help me my voice will get louder," Farahat wrote to students.

Farahat's plea prompted students to act. Two of Farahat's former students set up a Facebook group dedicated to spreading the word.

One of those students is senior Dan Madej, who took physics 1 and 2 with Farahat in the winter and spring semesters of 2007.

"He always made lectures interesting and was always available before and after class for students," Madej said.

When Nayak got the e-mail she was so shocked that she typed up a letter of intent to send to legislators and to Russi.

She is currently gathering signatures and plans on sending the letter when she gets more.

Nayak says she has also reached out to Slavin, but has yet to reach him.

"The really unfortunate thing is that OU hasn't done anything for Dr. Farahat," Nayak said. "It's pretty sad to be part of this institution."

"I felt bad that he couldn't rely on administrators," Nayak added. "When professors can't rely on administrators, students really can't."

When contacted for comment on Dr. Farahat's situation, the president's office said, "The university does not represent students, faculty or staff in their personal legal matters."

One of Farahat's students sent him the contact information of Edward Bajoka, a Troy immigration attorney. Farahat contacted Bajoka and the two spoke about the issue on the phone.

"This is really something I've never come across," he said.

According to Bajoka, he has even consulted fellow immigration attorneys, including his former immigration law professor, and none of them have ever seen a situation like this.

"It's a catch-22 and he's stuck in limbo," Bajoka said. "I told him the best thing he can do from here is to try and get support from students and both the administrations at Oakland University and his former institution (the Florida Institute of Technology) to get on elected officials."

As for the reason for his visa getting revoked, Bajoka said since the Patriot Act was passed, a lot is up in the air for people like Farahat.

"It could be as simple as some jerk border guy who said 'I don't like this guy's name,'" Bajoka said.

Early Google glitch with new e-mail

By JESSE DUNSMORE
Senior Reporter

When the university e-mail system switched to Webmail powered by Google April 3, the introductory e-mail promised, among other things, "messages that are easy to find." It quickly delivered on that promise, with a glitch beginning immediately and continuing through the weekend, making it possible for anyone to log in to any student's Webmail account without using a password.

Sophomore Stephen Parker said he was able to log into his Webmail account without entering his password last Thursday or Friday. He assumed his browser had remembered the password, but he decided to try again Sunday evening. Parker's roommate also tried on his own computer.

They soon discovered that any student account was accessible this way. "I kind of freaked out," said Parker, a mechanical engineering major.

At 7 p.m. he wrote an e-mail to the University Technology Services help desk. Parker said it wasn't until after another report by a different student that UTS shut down Webmail.

In a statement released to the Oakland Post, UTS Chief Information Officer Theresa Rowe attributed the problem to an error occurring during login system programming. "Upon

learning of the problem, University Technology Services shut down the Web site and corrected the program," she said.

"No, this is not something that anyone should worry about happening a second time," said Rowe. "It was a script error made in programming, and it is fixed. It won't come undone."

Rowe said the site was shut down at 11 p.m. Sunday and reactivated at 8 a.m. Monday.

As of Tuesday, she said, no students had reported "lost or stolen information."

Students weren't notified of the glitch until Tuesday evening.

No students interviewed during the day Tuesday had noticed the problem. But some had plenty to be concerned about.

Andrea, a freshman, said her schedule details are in her inbox and Scott, a sophomore, said his Grizz number is there as well.

Kelsey, a junior, and Alexis, a freshman, both said they have banking info in their inboxes. "I'm paperless, so everything's on my Webmail now," Kelsey said.

"I'm crossing my fingers," Alexis said.

Lindsay, a senior, said she has personal information in her inbox. She said she also does merchandising for a high profile performing artist

and other musicians, and her account includes some itineraries and contact information.

She was also upset the university hadn't yet notified students about the problem. "Isn't it our right to know?" Lindsay said.

E-bill notifications are also sent to student Webmail accounts, and include account balance information and the last four digits of the recipient's Grizz number.

Senior Joe Gunnell said he doesn't store vital information in his account. "Still," he said, "I don't think it speaks very well on behalf of the school. ... I might think twice before I use [Webmail] for anything sensitive."

"I think anytime they switch to a new system, there's going to be glitches," said former student body president Rob Meyer. "I do think there could have been more done ahead of time. But we can't expect everything to work 100 percent at first."

"Identity theft is a big problem when you do need a password," said newly-inaugurated student body president Steve Clark, "so when you don't, it's definitely a bigger problem."

Rowe said the glitch did not affect faculty or staff e-mail accounts.

*First names were used in this article to protect students' sensitive information.

Gift of life



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post
April 7-9, students are given the opportunity to donate blood in the OC. Shaleen Freeman, a junior journalism major, said she has been donating blood since she was 17 because of the direct impact donating blood has had on her life. "I was given a blood transfusion when I was born and I would have died if I didn't have it," she said.

Businesses going green without losing green

By ADAM ROBERTS
Senior Reporter

Is green the new gold, or it could it be fool's gold? That question was the topic of discussion for local businessmen and academics who gathered at OU Friday, for the "It's Not Easy Being Green" forum.

Environmentally conscious businesspeople talked about how investing in energy efficiency and other green solutions doesn't have to be a money loser.

"Green does not have to cost more," said Paul Murray, director of environmental safety at Herman Miller, Inc.

Murray used the example of Herman Miller's state-of-the-art production facility that raised the bar on energy efficiency, recycling and eco-friendly operations in a factory. The annual savings the building incurs as a result of the changes quickly made up for the initial investment. So far the building has saved the company more than \$6.5 million in 7 years.

Not everyone is that optimistic about being green.

"A company can be completely green, but if they are not making a profit, they will quickly go out of business," said Dr. Wolfgang Sofka, a research fellow at the Center for European Economic Research.

For others at the conference, the problem with "going green" is making people aware of eco-friendly alternatives that are available.

"To me one of the biggest things is awareness and education," said Bob Burnside, owner of Fireside Home Construction.

Burnside and Steven Burch, vice president of Strategic Marketing for Pulte Homes, spoke about how "green" is emerging as a popular trend in home building.



JEFF SIMMS/The Oakland Post

The business world came together to discuss how energy efficient advancements do not have to hurt the bottom line.

Customer awareness and potential cost savings are reasons more homeowners consider going green, Burch said.

Others see the movement as an inevitability in the changing world in which we live.

"It's not about being green and enjoying the environment," said Andrew Mangan, executive director of the U.S. Business Council for Sustainable Development. "The world is really changing, and a growing population forces us to change our lifestyle."

Professor Russell Belk, chair of marketing for Kraft

Foods Canada, said he has seen this trend emerge in food packaging.

He said fast-food chains went from using foam packaging that takes a millennia to break down, to using wax paper packaging that only takes 300 years.

"We have a problem with creating disposable packaging that sticks around long after its usefulness has run out," Belk said. "Ideally McDonald's would use a wrapper that doubles as an after dinner mint," he said jokingly. "Now that's packaging that has the perfect lifespan."

Michigan Rep. Kathleen Law has proposed legislation aimed at making Michigan more energy independent.

The Michigan Renewable Resources Act would allow individuals to harness wind or solar energy and then sell that energy back into the power grid.

Law says that currently only 2.3 percent of Michigan's power is renewable.

The bill is a first of its kind in the United States, and is modeled after the German renewable resources act.

Rep. Law is confident that Michigan can become the standard bearer for this new wave of technology.

She points out that the solar panels used in the German plan are manufactured in Michigan, yet we do not utilize these technologies. We also have an untapped resource right above our heads.

"Michigan is to wind what Saudi Arabia is to oil," Law said. "You go up 100 meters, and it doesn't stop blowing."

The forum was presented by OU's School of Business Administration. Marketing professor John Henke provided the opening remarks for the meeting and served as moderator.

Lawyer representing Guantanamo Bay detainee shares frustration and insight regarding the prison

By PAUL GULLY
Managing Editor

Doris Tennant, an experienced U.S. lawyer representing a detainee being held at Guantanamo Bay, spoke before approximately 100 Oakland University students and faculty members at the third annual Global Security Forum on Friday, April 4.

In a lecture entitled "Guantanamo: Why Should We Care?" Tennant, a Boston College Law School graduate, shared her personal experience representing Abdul Aziz Naji, an Algerian who was captured in Pakistan while doing Muslim missionary work.

Though she is neither a criminal or Constitutional lawyer and lacks the financial backing from a large law firm as many lawyers defending detainees do, Tennant made the decision to defend Naji "because of her lifelong commitment to human rights."

"Not being a Constitutional law scholar I, at first, thought would be an impediment, but little did I know how little the Constitution matters to the people [running] Guantanamo Bay," Tennant said.

Tennant also presented an extensive PowerPoint presentation detailing the recent history and decisions concerning Guantanamo Bay.

Many of the PowerPoint slides displayed rulings and legal decisions authorizing, what Tennant characterized as, torture, violating the standards set forth by the Geneva Convention.

She expounded on, what she considered, the unfair, unlawful treatment of prisoners, citing their lack of rights, especially when pertaining to legal defense.

According to Tennant, requests for witnesses are rarely granted and anything a detainee says to their legal representation can be used against them in later proceedings.

Tennant said it costs her and her law

partner nearly \$20,000 per year to represent Naji, with much of it coming out of their pockets. Tennant and her partner have raised financial contributions to help with the costs.

There is also no pay or financial reward for lawyers who represent detainees, according to Tennant.

Following her lecture, for which she received a standing ovation, Tennant answered a few questions from the audience, many concerning the current administration and its alleged abuses of power.

Tennant shared a bleak outlook. "I have learned more about my government than I ever wanted to know," she said.

"Our top U.S. officials have forgotten their responsibility to protect American lives and ideals."

The Global Security Forum was sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, with the support of several other student organizations and departments.



JEFF SIMMS/The Oakland Post

Doris Tennant, a U.S. lawyer, is representing a Guantanamo Bay detainee.

Get your drag on



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

The Gay/Straight Alliance sponsored the 5th Annual Drag Show at Oakland University in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms April 3. The event was open to all students and featured both professional and student performers. The Drag Show is dubbed as the biggest GSA event of the year.

POLICEFILES

A professor contacted OUPD on April 1 after returning to her office in Pawley Hall to find that her laptop had been stolen overnight. The professor said the laptop was in a case on her desk when she left the night before and was gone when she came in the next morning. No other items were missing from her office, though other items on her desk had been moved.

A banner used for admissions events throughout the past 10 years was stolen during the night of April 4. The 20-foot-long banner had been placed on the lawn along Meadowbrook Drive for an admissions event that was held on April 5. Admissions employees

contacted police upon realizing that the banner was missing.

Police were called to the Athletics Center on April 6 to investigate an assault on a basketball player and her mother. They had been on campus for the daughter's basketball tournament and were on their way home when a silver van pulled in front of them and stopped. Five or six girls from the opposing basketball team exited the van and began assaulting the vehicle and threatening to harm the daughter. They were still wearing uniforms from the game, which allowed the woman and her daughter to identify them.

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Hundreds party; 52 arrested in East Lansing

By **TIM MARTIN**
Associated Press Writer

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Police said Sunday they used tear gas as a last resort to break up bottle-throwing rioters near Michigan State University.

About 3,000 to 4,000 people gathered late Saturday and early Sunday near campus in an apparent attempt to revive the so-called Cedar Fest tradition that was shut down because of out-of-control crowds in the 1980s. Police reported 52 arrests, 48 tickets and several injuries — mostly cuts, bumps and bruises — in the disorder that ended shortly after 3 a.m. Sunday. East Lansing fire officials made 14 rescue runs to the area for several reasons, including injuries such as cuts and slashes and to assist incapacitated people.

The arrested could face charges ranging from misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct to felony counts of inciting a riot. Police are reviewing videotape of the incident in anticipation of more arrests and they could go after people who helped organize the event and promote it on the Internet, depending on the results of their investigation.

The day began with hundreds of people partying, barbecuing, playing Frisbee and otherwise having a good time on a warm early spring day. The mood began to change late Saturday and police said they put on helmets at about 10:45 p.m. because bottles were being thrown.

By about 1:30 a.m., police say the disorder had escalated and they began efforts to break up the crowd. Police and

witnesses said officers broadcast several warnings, asking people to leave and threatening arrests. Police tried firing smoke bombs and noisemakers called “flashbangs” before they turned to tear gas.

East Lansing police Chief Tom Wibert said officers showed “a lot of restraint” and that less tear gas was used than in some previous disorders near campus. Police said they used 13 rounds of tear gas early Sunday.

“I think that there were some who were there because they wanted to be tear-gassed as a rite of passage, so to speak,” Wibert said. “After the initial munitions — the flashbangs and the smoke bombs — they were actually chanting for tear gas.”

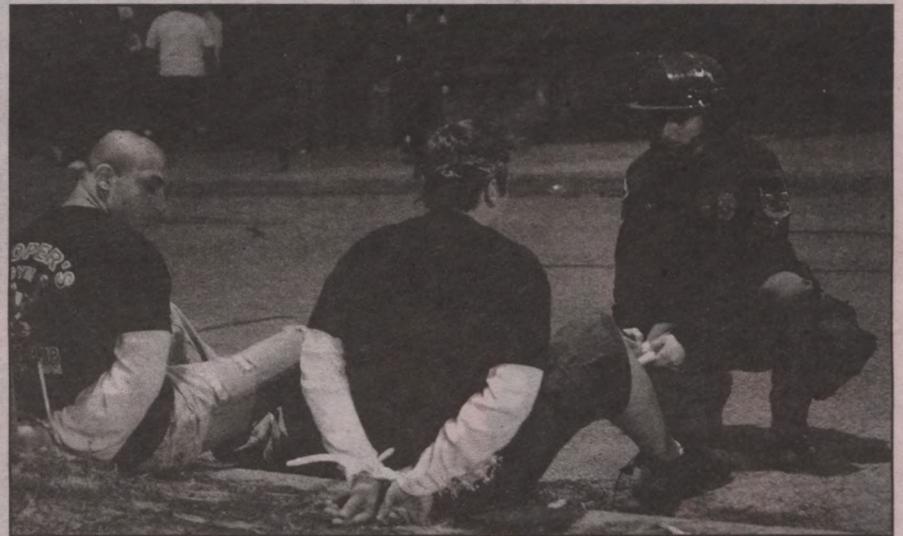
Witnesses had conflicting views of what role the police presence may have played in changing the crowd’s mood.

Wibert said nearly all officers working the scene were hit by a flying object at some point in the night. About 80 officers from several departments worked the scene, including 36 from East Lansing.

Four small fires were reported and windows were smashed on two police vehicles.

“I’ve got to say, I’m really impressed with how it was handled,” said Robert Gerard, a Michigan State student from Flushing. “The police did everything in their power to make sure everyone who was having fun was having fun and everyone who was causing problems got out of there.”

Wibert said the vast majority of Michigan State’s 45,000 students stayed



ERIC J. GREENE/Associated Press

Two detained parties talk with a police officer outside the Cedar Village student housing complex.

away from the gathering and that many of the troublemakers weren’t students. Of the 52 people arrested, 28 had been identified as university students.

Students convicted of charges involving riotous behavior could face long-term suspension, as allowed by state law.

The city and Michigan State University on Friday had warned people to stay away from the planned event. The warning came following reports that the social networking Web site Facebook was being used to promote the event at Cedar Village, a student housing complex bordering the northeast side of campus.

Police said they had been monitoring Internet postings about the planned party since January.

Lee June, Michigan State vice president for student affairs, said the university would evaluate the situation to see what lessons could be learned in the community’s ongoing efforts to prevent large-scaled disturbances.

University spokesman Terry Denbow said clear progress has been made in preventing and controlling large disturbances near campus, but that adjustments must be made to keep up with changing technology such as the use of the Internet to promote gatherings.

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KATHLEEN GALLIGAN/Associated Press

Above: Winky, a 56-year-old elephant originally housed in the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak, was euthanized in a California refuge Monday, April 7.

Below: An early-morning fire destroyed two Battle Creek Lakeview school buses Sunday, April 6. Fire officials are calling it suspicious; authorities estimate \$162,000 in damages.



ERIC J. GREENE/Associated Press



LON HORWEDEL/Associated Press

Above: Students at the University of Michigan form a human peace sign on campus Sunday, April 6, to protest the war in Uganda and the use of child soldiers.

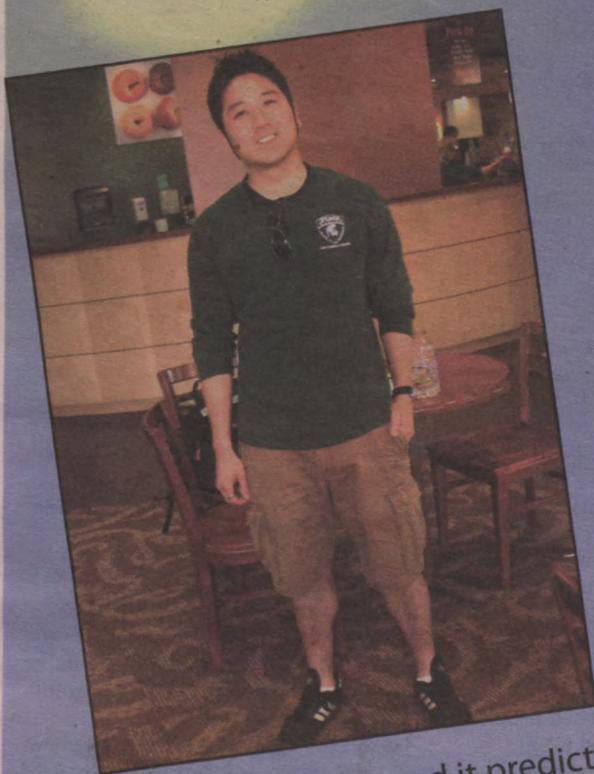
Below: Citizens gathered at the Cathedral Conference Center in Detroit Saturday, April 5, to rally against Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, who refuses to resign from his position as mayor of Detroit.



ANKUR DHOLAKIA/Associated Press

Has spring finally sprung?

With highs reaching the '60s on the thermometer, it seems as though days of thick winter gloves and hats may be behind us. Oakland students appear to agree. Check out these students who were caught sporting flip-flops, shorts and tank tops early in the season.



"I went to Weather.com and it predicted a high of 64, so I thought I would bust out some old shorts."

Matt Shin
Post-Graduate, Biology



"For the first time in months, it's been great weather and it's the first time I haven't needed to wear my winter coat."

Maragaret Berg
Senior, Psychology



"I put my head out the window this morning and it felt warm. I couldn't wait to wear my favorite shorts. I am ready to put a closure on winter."

Jeff Shipman
Junior, History

This week's forecast*

Wed
Apr. 9

57°

A.M. Showers

Thurs.
Apr. 10

51°

Few Showers

Fri.
Apr. 11

63°

Rain

Sat.
Apr. 12

48°

Showers

Sun.
Apr. 13

44°

Rain/ Snow
Showers

Mon.
Apr. 14

45°

Rain/ Snow
Showers

*After all this is Michigan. Check www.weather.com for real-time updates

Hate to bug you

If you could be an insect, what would you be?



"A butterfly, because they're beautiful and everyone likes them. No one would kill them."

Jessica Booker
Sophomore, Nursing

"A hornet, because when they sting, they sacrifice their lives."

Stephen Edgar
Senior, Science



"I would say I'd be a ladybug because they bring luck, and they fly all over."

Bojana Popovic
Freshman, Nursing



Worldwide, there are approximately 28,000 species of butterflies.

Source: www.butterflywebsite.com

Ladybugs are also known as lady beetles and ladybirds. The name comes from the Middle Ages when the colorful insects were known as the "Beetle of Our Lady."

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature>

Blossoming into the season

What is your favorite spring-time activity?

"Going to the park because it's beautiful. It feels nice outside and it's a good time to take pictures."

Asijona Sanchez
Sophomore, Sociology



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"Walking my dog."

Dave Gakstatter
Junior, Chemistry/Pre-Nursing



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Dancers work hard for perfection

By NICOLE JACOB
Contributing Reporter

To the casual eye, dance may be seen as no more than just another form of exercise. But Samantha Bingham, a junior in Oakland University's Repertory Dance Company, says the program is different.

"This is not just some sport, this is an art form," Bingham said.

It may come as a surprise to some Oakland University students that the school offers a program of study in dance. A common misconception about the program is, as senior Amanda Woodcox explains, "people don't know that it's a major and when they do, they question what we can do with it."

Unlike most of the programs at OU, there is an audition required just to get in. Once a student is accepted, they learn many types of dance.

"All dance students are expected to continually improve and become more technically advanced," Greg Patterson, the director of the dance program, said.

Oakland University's dance program also gives students a good foundation for those who are immersing themselves in the program.

"It depends on how proactive you are in the program," senior Justin Dettloff said. "It's all about being passionate."

There are two types of groups that make up Oakland's dance program. The Oakland Dance Theatre (ODT) is where a dancer would begin. ODT is offered mostly during the fall and winter semesters and counts as a one credit course.

The other program is the Oakland University Repertory Dance Company, which is more advanced. The program is comprised of mostly upperclassmen and mainly serves as more performing experience for the dancers.

It is considered to be a pre-professional dance team and requires one to two years of experience with ODT to be accepted.

Every March, OU's dance teams take part in the American College Dance Festival (ACDF). This year, the festival was held at Western Michigan University, March 5-8. All certified dance companies at colleges across the country get together in different regions. Oakland belongs to the Midwest Region. They partake in multiple classes and perform every night of the festival.

Crystal Payter, a sophomore dance major, offers some advice to new dance students or any student interested in joining the dance program.

"Really work hard on your own," said Payter. "It will put you one step closer. The professors only give you so much direction."

Woodcox agrees that those interested in the program should make sure they are truly passionate about the art.

"Experience dance outside in the community before you decide on it as a career," she said.

Those interested in the dance program can see the results of the program's education when some of the dancers perform in the Young Choreographers Forum April 10-13 at Varner Studio Theatre. For more information, visit www.oakland.edu/mtd.



Photo courtesy of Michael Foley

The Oakland University dancers work hard every time they take the floor in constant pursuit to perfect their skills.

OU student spends her time getting involved

By STACIE BARTMAN
Staff Intern

Referring to herself as "a tumbleweed in the wind," Stacy Lutz made a move to Michigan from Weston, MO., giving her the chance to finally live out her dreams and achieve her goals.

"I live and breathe OU," she laughs as she poses for her picture to be taken.

In addition to being a resident assistant over-seeing 42 girls, she is also an OGL orientation assistant, admissions ambassador and a student assistant at Kresge Library.

"The big key is efficiency. I don't have time to procrastinate on homework assignments" said Lutz. "Sometimes I will turn projects in a week in advance because I know I won't have time to do it later. A planner has done me wonders."

Building relationships with residents by studying in the main lounge of the dorms where she lives allows her to be accessible to the residents' needs and get her assignments done.

Being a resident assistant has been one of the most rewarding experiences, according to Lutz. "You're there to advise who to talk to if you're having trouble with classes and keep the peace between everyone." As a resident assistant, Lutz helps set up information programs to keep residents informed about events around campus and safety.

As an orientation assistant, Lutz is responsible for hiring and training OGLs and facilitating orientation, which can consist of 200 people.

"With orientation, you develop different relationships with the students," said Lutz. "Welcoming students to one of my

favorite places — Oakland University — and showing them how to gather all the tools and resources they need for a successful future is quite exciting to me."

A busy girl who says, "I'm always doing something," Lutz also finds time during the year to be an admissions ambassador.

As an admissions ambassador, Lutz participates in events such as Go for the Gold, Discover OU and also Saturday tours. The tours are open to prospective students and their families. The tours have up to 600 people, according to Lutz.

Filling in a few hours a week at the library gives Lutz a chance to catch up on homework.

For relaxation and balance between her studies and jobs, Lutz relieves stress by attending live shows.

"I routinely attend live performances

put on by fellow students, faculty and guest artists that occur on campus."

Lutz also enjoys running, where she brainstorms for her assignments and is able to think and relax.

"There's nothing more peaceful than running outside" said Lutz.

A passion for the outdoors extends into a desire to travel. After graduation Lutz plans to take some time to see the world.

"Human culture is so different from place to place and human interaction is an amazing thing. I want to experience as much of this planet as I can while I am here," said Lutz.

Lutz hopes that incoming students will take advantage of all that Oakland has to offer.

Lutz' advice to students is "to get to know the resources at OU. There are endless opportunities available here."

Resident assistant gives OU dorms dependability

By JACLYN RINK
Staff Intern

Those who live in the dorms at Oakland University might be seen peeking from their doors from time to time to see if a resident assistant is on duty.

Relando Thompkins is the resident assistant for a community service floor and it seems as though his door is always open in anticipation of providing some service.

Thompkins' job as an OU resident assistant focuses mainly on providing assistance and aid to the residents on his floor. He is the go-to guy if you had a question or issue to discuss.

"I know all my residents by name and important things about their life," said Thompkins. "I like that they feel comfortable enough to let me in."

As a junior working on his degree in the social work program, he said he is genuinely interested in people and the diverse stories they have to tell.

He is an avid listener and says he is a proactive RA, striving to bring a sense of community and support to his floor.

Thompkins often gets residents to come together and simply hang out. They also combine efforts on community service projects.

Thompkins believes his passion for social work stems from the idea of an imbalance in society. Through his RA position, he is able to use those beliefs and apply them to his current job.

"There are a lot of imbalances that exist in society," he said, "and I want to be a part of tipping the scales more so towards things being equal. I want to be part of that solution."

Thompkins has one ground rule for all the residents: Treat others the way you want to be treated.

At times he has had to step in and mediate situations, which later results in residents usually feeling a sense of disappointment that they let him down, he said. An apology inevitably follows.

"We consider ourselves a family and even families have disagreements from time to time," said Thompkins.

Thompkins has been an RA since winter semester 2007 and has no intention of leaving his position anytime soon.

In order to be a resident assistant, one must go through group activity experiments and an individual interview.

Selection committees interview aspiring RAs while group activities are performed in order to observe an applicant's leadership and communication skills. So

timidness is not on the checklist.

The application process starts in the winter semester and is open to any student interested.

Resident assistants are compensated with room and board expenses covered by the university and also a stipend for their work. Besides these perks, Thompkins gets much more from his experiences as an RA.

"I'm big on interaction. The things I like aren't necessarily tangible. It's just that feeling of community with my residents. Everybody trusts me, I trust them," said Thompkins.

"Even though some of the people on my floor may not be coming back next year, knowing that they've established that bond where they plan on keeping in touch with each other, who knows where that could lead for them and for me?"

Classifieds

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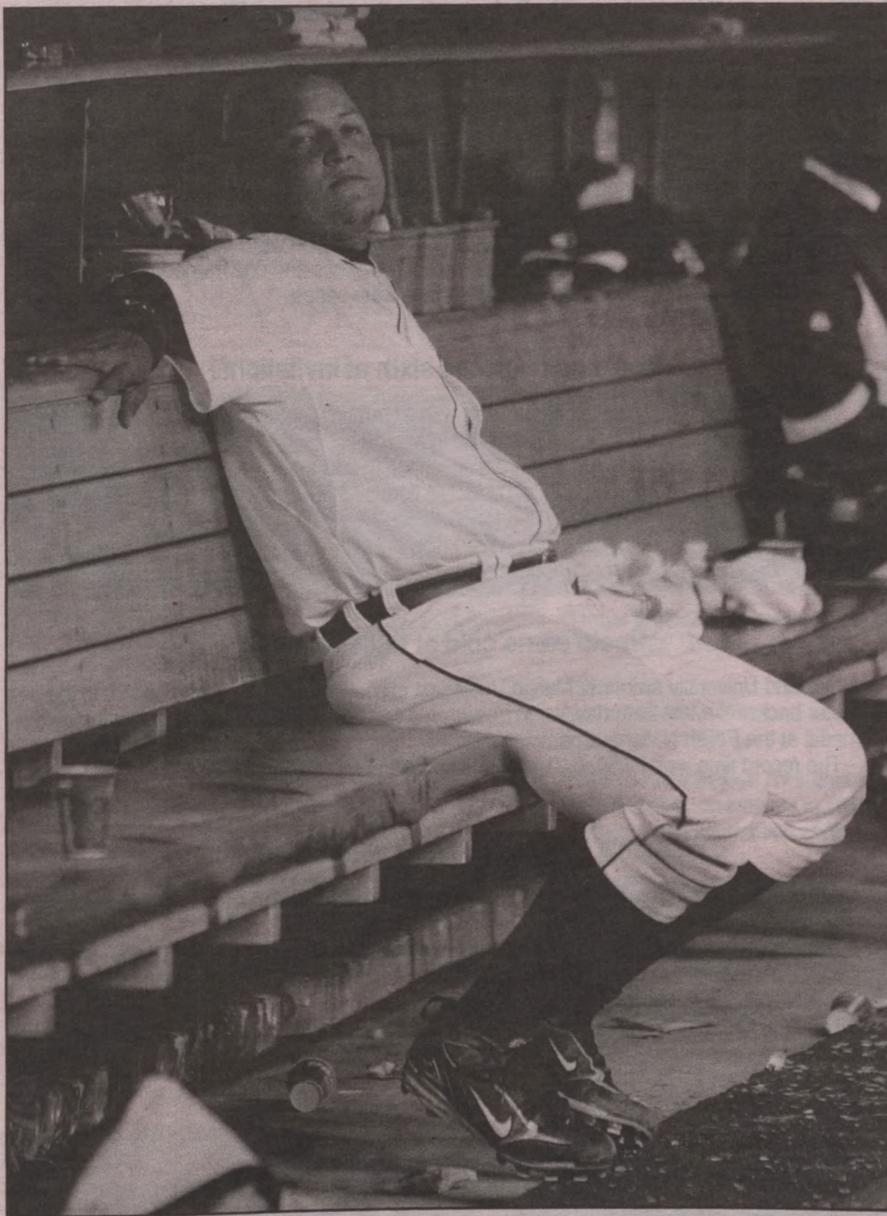
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Off to a terrible start

Can the Tigers turn things around with a trip to Boston?



DUANE BURLESON/Associated Press

Miguel Cabrera sits in the dugout following the 13-2 loss to the Chicago White Sox Sunday night in front of a national television audience. Cabrera signed an eight-year 153.3 million dollar contract extension in March and started off the year with a .111 batting average through Sunday.

COLUMN

By JARED PURCELL
You Editor

Looking back at the hype surrounding the Detroit Tigers prior to the 2008 season, it's safe to say that excitement has been replaced with panic.

As the Tigers prepare to head to Boston, many are expecting the worst. With the worst record in the league at 0-7 as of Tuesday, it's hard to disagree with the doubt.

Still, this is no time to sing the blues. The Tigers just need someone or something to spark a new energy — anything to restore the roar.

Luckily for the Tigers, they have to look no further than their MP3 players to find inspiration in the 2006 radio hit "Boston" by Augustana. The lyrics should be a message to the Tigers and should help them forget their current struggles and resurrect the season.

"I think I'll go to Boston/I think I'll start a new life/I think I'll start it over..."

Of course starting over against the defending World Series champions is not exactly the ideal situation. But if not now, when?

Everyone is trying to find a certain aspect of the team to blame. The starting pitching isn't lasting long enough. Relief pitching is shaky. When is the hitting going to show up? The infield is not making plays. The Tigers are losing because Curtis Granderson is out. Too many runs are left on base.

All are valid arguments.

Wonderboy Justin Verlander has been anything but wonderful with a 6.17 earned runs average through his first two games.

Jason Grilli has an ERA of 20.25 with only 1.1 innings under his belt, and the team that was supposed to have opposing pitchers running for the hills is batting just .245 and ranks 28th in total

bases with 73. Miguel Cabrera, one of the Tigers' major off-season acquisitions, has just two hits so far and has a .111 batting average.

Something needs to happen. No team has started 0-7 and gone on to win the World Series. In fact, no team has started 0-4 and won it all. So the Tigers are just a bit behind.

The best thing the Tigers can do is to start over. They need to start fresh and, as the song continues, "leave this all behind."

"Boston.../Where no one knows my name."/

With so many headline names on the roster, it's hard for the Tigers to go anywhere without people knowing their names. Yet, Clete Thomas has been a surprising unknown in such a "stacked" line up.

Through five games, Thomas is batting .467 and is beginning to make a name for himself, batting better than Carlos Guillen, Placido Polanco and Pudge Rodriguez. The 24-year-old rookie is showing up even last year's AL batting champion, Magglio Ordonez.

Being relatively new may be an advantage for Thomas. Pitchers would rather pitch around other batters as best they can and take their chances with Thomas. So far, that plan doesn't seem to be working out.

Maybe a young upstart from nowhere is what the Tigers need to get their heads out of the clouds and into the batter's box.

"Carry all your thoughts across an open field."

This line from the song simply is a message of what not to do.

See TIGERS on page 19

Baseball finally breaking through

Grizzlies' bats wake up at WIU.

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

After a slow start to the season — the Golden Grizzlies had just two wins in the first 14 games of the season — Oakland University's baseball team made up some much-needed ground as Summit League play opened last weekend. Oakland took three of four matchups with Western Illinois.

APRIL 4 — WIU 6, OAK 1

Junior Dan Ryan got the Grizzlies on the board in the fourth inning of Friday's contest when he hit his first home run of the season. Oakland held a 1-0 lead until the bottom of the sixth, when Western Illinois picked up two runs. The Westerwinds added another run in the seventh and three in the eighth to hand Oakland its sixth consecutive loss.

Senior Mike Takashima (0-2) pitched 6.2 innings for Oakland, allowing four hits and three runs, one of which was earned. Senior Ben Darga entered the game in relief, allowing two hits and three earned runs. Eric Eden picked up the win on the mound for Western Illinois.

APRIL 5 — OAK WINS BOTH, 11-5, 5-0

In the first game of Saturday's double-header, senior Dustin Joffrion, juniors Andrew Stafford and Taylor Traub and redshirt freshman Ryan Waldhart each scored a pair of runs for the Grizzlies, who won their first game since March 9.

Senior pitcher Matt Trausch improved his record this season to 2-3, allowing only one run in the fourth inning.

Trausch gave up nine hits in the eight innings he pitched and senior Dan Stinthcombe pitched a perfect ninth to close out the victory.

After falling behind 1-0, the Grizzlies hammered home seven runs in the fifth to put the game out of reach, adding three in the eighth and one in the ninth.

In the nightcap, freshman pitcher Greg Welke (1-2) allowed only two hits in the shutout for Oakland.

Junior Rob Merkle and Ryan each scored runs for the Grizzlies in the first. Ryan added another in the third and Stafford rounded out the scoring for Oakland in the seventh inning.

Freshman Scott Sexton had three of Oakland's four RBIs.

APRIL 6 — OAK 11, WIU 9

The Grizzlies found themselves playing from behind in most of Sunday's finale, but the runs came when it mattered most, as Oakland scored seven runs in the ninth inning to clinch the win.

Stafford tied the game 9-9 when he belted a grand slam in the ninth, bringing home Merkle, junior Justin Wilson and freshman Eric Ogg. Traub scored the game-winning run and sophomore Keith Kampe added an insurance run. Western Illinois was unable to respond in the bottom of the ninth to give Oakland a third straight win.

Ogg and Waldhart each scored in the third on a Ryan double, Sexton scored in the fourth, Merkle in the fifth and Waldhart added another in the ninth.

In a game that saw six Oakland pitchers on the mound, it was freshman Mark Leichtman who picked up his first career win, pitching 0.2 innings.

APRIL 8 — OAK 4, WMU 3

After the victories over the Leathernecks, the Golden Grizzlies kept their win streak going with a 4-3 decision over cross-town rival Western Michigan University Tuesday.

The best things came in pairs for Oakland, as Joffrion led the Grizzlies with two hits, they put up two runs in each the fourth and sixth innings, Sexton and Traub each had two RBIs and Stafford finished the game with two runs.

His first run came in the fourth, when Traub grounded out to second. Ryan also scored earlier in the inning.

Stafford struck again in the sixth, along with Sexton, who scored on Traub's double.

Western threatened to rally late in the game, pulling within a run in the eighth inning. But the Grizzlies were able to sustain the win, holding off the Broncos in the final inning.

Redshirt freshman pitcher Aaron Wick was credited with the win in his debut, pitching six innings, giving up only two hits and two runs, one earned.

The Golden Grizzlies will take the field against another state rival, Eastern Michigan University, at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 9.

From there, OU will begin a three-game series against Summit League foe South Dakota State University.

GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



Andrew Stafford

Year: Junior
Major: Mechanical Engineering

Stafford nailed the game-tying grand slam that capped off the eventual three-game win streak against Western Illinois University over the weekend.

Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

In Case You Missed It:

Women's softball drops two to Western Michigan

Oakland University's softball team dropped a pair of games to Western Michigan last Wednesday, with the Broncos emerging victorious with 9-1 and 5-0 wins.

In the first game of the double-header, freshman Chelsea Wengren scored the Golden Grizzlies' only run in the second inning. Freshman Alison Tansel (1-1) pitched four innings for the Grizzlies, giving up five runs.

The Broncos held Oakland scoreless in the nightcap, allowing only two hits by the Grizzlies for the second straight game. Freshman Brittany Gryns was charged with the loss, pitching four innings and giving up four hits and four runs, two of which were earned. Freshman Marisa Everitt finished the last two innings, allowing two hits and one earned run.

The Grizzlies were without five of their starters for the series.

Men's golf finishes sixth at invitational

Oakland University's men's golf team tied with St. Ambrose University for sixth place in the Beu/Mussatto Invitational, held last weekend in Macomb, Ill.

Freshman Vince Carango led the Grizzlies, shooting 233 to tie for 24th place. Senior Nate Hendricks tied for 27th, freshman Robby McNiff tied for 30th, sophomore Frank McAuliffe tied for 35th and senior Jack Nacy tied for 53rd.

Carango, Hendricks and McNiff all shot season-lows for a single round at the invitational. The Grizzlies return to Macomb April 21-23 for the Summit League Championship.

Unold earns gold at Polish Nationals

Oakland University swimmer Marcin Unold just missed the Polish national record in the 50-meter backstroke last Saturday, when he swam a career-best 25.71 and captured the gold medal at the Polish National Championship.

The record time was 25.50, 0.21 seconds off of Unold's mark.

Women's tennis splits pair with Indiana teams

Oakland University's women's tennis team finished last weekend's trip to Indianapolis 1-1, after defeating IUPUI 4-0 and falling to IPFW, 5-2.

The Grizzlies won No. 1 singles (Lindsay Grimmer), No. 5 singles (Jackie Dinicu) and No. 2 doubles (Gabrielle Gogas-Amanda Scheer) to sweep IUPUI. The Golden Grizzlies also won No. 3 doubles and No. 6 singles by default.

The Grizzlies edged out IPFW in No. 2 singles (Scheer) and No. 6 singles (Dinicu), but the Mastadons swept the doubles matches and claimed the remaining four singles matches for the win.

STAY CONNECTED.

TAKE A FACEBOOK BREAK AND CATCH UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS ON CAMPUS.

www.oaklandpostonline.com

continued from Page 17

TIGERS

It is hard to explain why such a talented line-up is having such a hard time producing. They've got big name hitters and yet the Tigers are ranked 28 out of 30 teams in the league for most runs scored with just 15. Milwaukee and Atlanta rank first in runs scored with 40.

Whether the Tigers got caught up in all of the hype or are in a mental rut, they've got to enter the field with a new mentality.

"I think that I'm just tired/I think I need a new town to leave this all behind."

Six home games, six losses. The Tigers are probably tired of Comerica

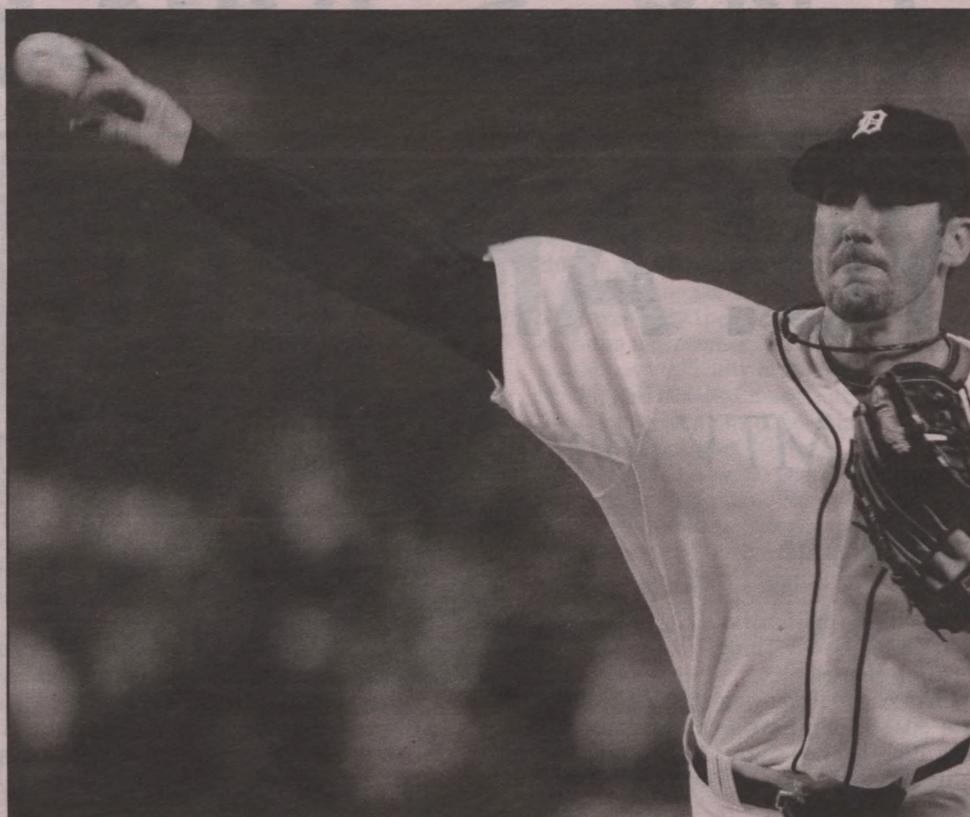
Park and the slump that has evolved while playing there.

There are those who travel to find themselves and, with 12 of their next 14 games away from Comerica, hopefully the Tigers will find their identity as a winning ball club — an identity that fans expected them to take on.

If Boston doesn't work out, they can try Chicago, Cleveland, Minnesota and Toronto.

The one thing that should help relieve the minds of players and fans alike is that there are still over 150 games left to turn things around.

Have fun at Fenway, Detroit. Here's to the team returning home with some new life.



DUANE BURLESON/Associated Press
Pitcher Justin Verlander is not showing any signs of his history-making no-hitter last season on June 12, 2007, when he became the sixth Tiger to accomplish the feat. Verlander's 2008 ERA is currently 6.17, a far departure from the 3.66 runs per game he allowed last season.

BOMBED IN BEANTOWN

THE TIGERS GOT OFF TO A SHAKY START ON THEIR ROAD TRIP, FALLING 5-0 TO THE RED SOX TUESDAY AFTERNOON. THE TIGERS WILL PLAY THE BOSOX AGAIN TODAY AT 7:05 P.M.

Center for Student Activities **CSA**

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<p>You are an ESSENTIAL PIECE to Oakland University leadership...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30th Annual STUDENT ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP AWARD NIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, April 10th Reception 5:30PM - 6:30PM Awards 6:30PM - 7:30PM Banquet Rooms, OC</p>	<p>Gender & Sexuality Center Sponsors: The HAVEN Information Table</p> <p>TODAY Main Hallway, OC 11:30AM - 1PM</p> <p>April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month! HAVEN will be on campus to offer resources and information about sexual assault awareness.</p>
<p>LGBTQ Coming Out/Being Out Support Group</p> <p>Monday, April 14 2PM - 3PM Room 125, OC</p> <p>On-going, weekly support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students on campus!</p>	<p>SPB Presents HAUTE. A Fashion Experience.</p> <p>Friday, April 11 7PM - 10PM Shotwell Pavilion</p> <p>A <i>Fashion Show</i> like OU has never seen before! Hosted by Melyssa Ford & featuring Day 26 from "Making the Band."</p>
<p>SPB Presents SPRINGFEST</p> <p>Tuesday, April 15 (rain date, April 17) 12PM - 5PM Outside of the Oakland Center</p> <p>interactive games, novelty items, food, fun & prizes!</p>	<p>Tickets available at the CSA Ticket Window, 49 OC. Free for students! There will also be complimentary valet parking.</p>

CHECK BACK NEXT WEEK FOR OUR LAST ISSUE OF THE SEMESTER, WHEN THE POST'S SPORTS DEPARTMENT TAKES A LOOK AT THE 2007-08 OU SPORTS SEASON

WE BREAK DOWN:

The Good,

The Bad,

AND ...

The Ugly

The Scene

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April 9, 2008

Yo! Are you listening?

MTV commemorates 20th anniversary of hip-hop show

By JACLYN RINK
Staff Intern

"When I Be on the Mic."
"It's a Big Daddy Thing."
"Run's House."

Chances are if you were watching MTV in the late '80s you may have seen these music videos.

In 1988, hip-hop culture was gaining in popularity due to the likes of Rakim, Big Daddy Kane, and Run-DMC.

This month, MTV will commemorate the debut of "Yo! MTV Raps," which first aired in 1988, with a 20th anniversary special, paying tribute to a television program that became a catalyst for hip-hop culture.

Fab 5 Freddy was the first host for the show, and with his own ideas in mind, he planned on showing the nation just what was behind the lyrics of up and coming artists such as LL Cool J, Notorious B.I.G., Naughty by Nature and Dr. Dre.

"I marked the beginning of a new era because I wanted to take it to the streets, I wanted to be in the basements where the music was created, where the people lived because I was more able to convey the reality of where the creative genius comes from, who these artists really were," Freddy said in a conference call.

The show aimed to communicate the artists' emotions with the rest of the world, giving an insight into their lifestyles and a chance to experience the national culture of hip-hop. Different ethnicities were key, demonstrating that this new genre of music was everywhere from the inner city to the suburbs and was followed by a diverse demographic.

"Yo! MTV Raps" was the start of a cultural

avalanche, allowing the voices of the hip-hop culture to finally be heard, showing the nation that music had more to do with artistic ability than thug life.

"There were extremely different artists, but they were all standing on the same platform, which was 'Yo! MTV Raps,'" Fab 5 Freddy said.

Hip-hop experts refer to the era in which the show aired as "the golden age of hip-hop" because of the influential and clever wordplay artists used to create their music.

Although the shape of music has changed, as mainstream artists seem to be more focused on the extravagance and glitz of rich rap stars, the cultural basis of hip-hop still holds forthright to any true artist.

During the conference call, Freddy expressed that even though an artist of today may sell millions of records, it does not mean that they have elevated the art form or contributed to the foundation of hip-hop culture.

In pursuit of the almighty dollar, many artists are simply sounding just like the next guy, as the artistry of their music becomes second, he said.

"We were all the window that kind of showed this really is a culture, it's national, and that helped to form what people referred to as the hip-hop generation," said Freddy.

"So many groups were able to say things that were socially relevant, as well as being able to get people to throw their arms up in the air and party and have a

good time. That was what was so special about 'Yo! ... It showcased an era where there was so much diversity and balance culturally as opposed to a lot of the music you hear in the mainstream now," he added.

In honor of the 20th anniversary celebration, MTV will be re-airing past episodes and counting down some of the top moments in the show's history during the month of April. Check it out, Tuesday-Thursday, 4:30-5 p.m. MTV.

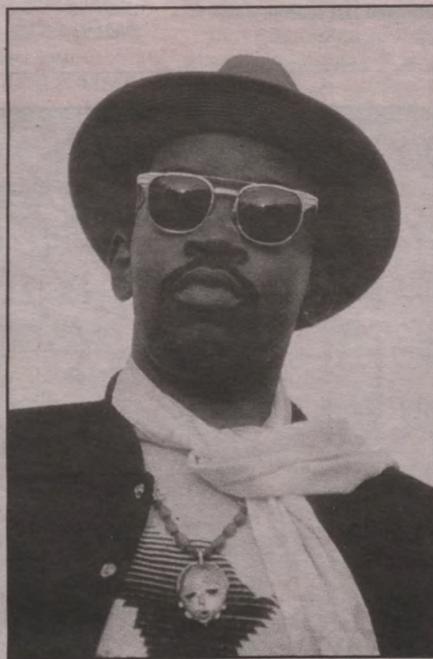


Photo courtesy of MTV
Fab 5 Freddy was the first host of "Yo! MTV Raps" during its first season in 1988.



Photo courtesy of MTV

In 1989, Ed Lover and Doctor Dre took over as the hosts of MTV's hip-hop show "Yo! MTV Raps." Lover and Dre interviewed many of the popular artists of the time, from Tupac to James Brown.

"Yo!" on MTV

Check out these countdown specials on MTV this month.

April 28, 29, 30 at 4:30 p.m.

"Yo! MTV Raps" Top 20 Videos

"Yo!" MTV Raps" Top 10 Videos

"Yo! MTV Raps" Top Artists Then and Now

"Yo! MTV Raps" Top 10 Episodes

"Yo! MTV Raps" Top 20 Moments

Check out www.mtv.com for details and show times

'Chicago 10' offers alternative views

REVIEW

By **KYLE PHANEUF**
Contributing Reporter

Look past the eccentric visuals and unconventional editing and "Chicago 10" is, at its core, a documentary — but only in the most lax sense of the word.

The new film from director Brett Morgen details the infamous riots surrounding the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago and the ensuing prosecution of the eight men accused of inciting them. However, it doesn't do so in any sort of linear or logical narration.

Instead, the chronology of the events is taken apart and re-assembled in a kaleidoscope of music, speech and spectacle that's erratic, disorienting and unequivocally brilliant at portraying the chaotic and violent reality of the situation.

For the unversed, the riots were the culmination of mostly-peacefully ending protests by two anti-war movements, the Yippies and the Mobe, who came to Chicago during the convention in opposition of the U.S. occupation of Vietnam.

What was planned as a non-violent, non-aggressive "Festival of Life" in Lincoln Park quickly escalated with the arrival of armed officers, barbed wire-laden Jeeps and Chicago mayor Richard Daley's notorious "shoot to kill" order.

"Chicago 10" relates the events surrounding the violence. But in lieu of a sequential retelling padded with talk-



Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions
Animation from the courtroom in "Chicago 10." The film is a combination of animation and actual footage from the riots surrounding the 1968 Democratic National convention in Chicago.

ing heads and a foreboding narrator, the film goes for urgency over accuracy, recounting both the riots themselves and the Chicago Seven trial, which occurred nearly a year later, simultaneously.

A lot of attention for the film has been given to the animated re-enactment of the trial, in which actors such as Hank Azaria and Mark Ruffalo voice motion-capture CGI caricatures of the defendants in dialogue based on the trial's actual transcripts.

The more traditional cell-shaded animation works better, but the vaguely out-of-date-video-game look appropriately visualizes the surrealism of a courtroom that quickly spirals out of control.

The real highlight, though, is the astounding accumulation of archival footage used to present the riots themselves. Collected after three years of vault digging, this footage offers the most raw and unfettered look at the violence yet, and it isn't easy to watch.

"Chicago 10" wears its bias on its sleeve, and it's hard to sympathize with the police when every brawl seems to begin and end with a group of police clubbing a passive demonstrator, leaving a fleeing throng of blood soaked bodies in their wake. By the end of the convention, even the most conservative authoritarian would have difficulty arguing with the beaten and bloodied masses and their frequent accusations of fascism.

It's no coincidence "Chicago 10" is being released now, 40 years after the Convention took place. Plenty has been said of the similarity between the war in Vietnam and the current quagmire in Iraq, and now with a tumultuous contest for the Democratic nomination, the similarities between 1968 and 2008 are only building.

The filmmakers restrain from offering much in the form of review or retrospect, and instead make the events of '68 feel urgent and current, building the intensity with impassioned speeches and modern music.

The music, in fact, is the film's only misstep — a movie about the '68 Democratic National Convention and the only MC5 song is a cover performed by Rage Against the Machine?

But it can be forgiven for attempting to drive home the point that the people have the ability to positively influence their government, as well as draw attention to its failures.

'Leatherheads' lacks any side-splitting comedy

REVIEW

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**
Senior Reporter

With today's multi-million dollar contracts, it's hard to imagine a time when football was the laughing stock of professional sports. But such was the case in 1925, the backdrop for George Clooney's latest film, "Leatherheads."

Clooney stars as Jimmy "Dodge" Connelly, team captain for the Duluth Bulldogs, who sets out to legitimize professional football. Whereas fans came out in droves to support college teams, players on the brink of graduation scoffed at the thought of turning pro, a far cry from today's players willing to leave college early to enter the NFL draft.

What the professional game lacked in the '20s was a steadfast set of rules and money. Many teams were flat broke, leaving them no choice but to fold.

Rather than just sitting back and letting the Bulldogs become a distant memory, Connelly recruits war hero turned college-golden-boy Carter "The Bullet" Rutherford (John Krasinski).

With a tip-off that Rutherford is not the war hero everyone proclaims he is, Chicago Sun-Times reporter Lexie Littleton

(Renee Zellweger) is hot on his trail, placing her in the midst of a love triangle with the youthful Rutherford and the older Connelly.

In his third outing as director, Clooney brilliantly recreates the feel of a 1920s film, even using the vintage Universal logo in the opening credits.

As an actor, Clooney has established himself as one who appeals to audiences of all ages and, coupled with the old-time feel, the movie targets an older generation.

Fans of "The Office" have come to love Krasinski's witty remarks as Jim Halpert, but "Leatherheads" puts that on the backburner. Instead of the funny guy, Rutherford is simply a football hero and humble war veteran.

Zellweger is no stranger to the role of a journalist — starring as one in both "Bridget Jones" movies — but faced a greater task this time around, as females in sports journalism were practically unheard of back then. She effectively showed the struggles for females in industry, doing whatever it took to get to the bottom of the story, even if it meant going beyond today's ethical standards.

Marketed as a romantic comedy, the romantic storyline of "Leatherheads" is weak and the slapstick comedy feels out of place from the humor used in modern sports comedies, offering more of an occasional chuckle than side-splitting laughter.



MOUTHING OFF

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

April 9, 2008

Take a look at my brackets!

By **TIM RATH**
Guest Columnist

It's time for me to throw another bracket into the fire.

Collegehumor.com is adding new meaning to the term "March Madness," with their latest addition to the internet intelligentsia, "America's Hottest College Girl '08."

Those familiar with NCAA basketball's season-ending frenzy will appreciate the creativity involved in the idea: sixty-four co-eds armed with a few pictures and a short Q&A session have been entered into a tournament bracket, divided by region.

From there, users vote to determine who advances to the next round. The tournament champion receives \$10,000 and all the prestige garnered as "College Girl '08."

Discussing the implications of this seemingly-innocuous attempt at comedic competition is as difficult as discarding my fantasy NCAA bracket was.

I had UConn in the title game — never again.

I can't understand it from my own perspective, that of the red-blooded, male Oakland University student.

To me, the lunchtime walk through the Oakland Center is oftentimes an exercise in hedonism, as I'm surrounded by beautiful women and reminded of one of my favorite reasons to attend OU: the nearly 2-to-1 female-to-male student ratio.

I'm satisfied enough so that by the time I reach my destination in the basement computer lab, preparing for my next class has become much more important than hounding the Internet for soft-core bracketology.

Yes, explaining high marks to my mom has become rather awkward.

I can't understand it from a woman's perspective, either. Ten-thousand dollars is a lot of money, especially for college

students, but at what cost is it won?

As I alluded to above, beauty is a fairly common trait.

What's rarer is a strong personality, which shines through the tournament's participants, despite the brevity of their interviews posted.

For instance, Jennifer, a "West" participant, says that "Steamed cabbage is the grossest thing I have ever eaten, it's so slimy."

Unfortunately, the prize money puts their obvious intelligence, creativity, humor, and outlook in a different light. The interviews now look like desperate pleas for votes, and every picture is in grayscale.

Most importantly, I can't understand what this means beyond this bright screen in the OC computer lab.

"There is an immoral link between the way women were treated by the oppressive Taliban in Afghanistan and the hateful actions of the al-Qaeda terrorists. Under the Taliban, women in Afghanistan were forbidden to attend schools, to access health care, to work and even to appear in public unless hidden behind the head-to-toe burqas," said Hillary Clinton in TIME Magazine, shortly after September 11.

Public condemnation of such human rights violations was common then, as we attacked a supposed threat to American security and patted ourselves on the back for supposedly saving women that few of us will ever know.

Meanwhile, evening news didn't seem complete without a discussion of what the trials of Britney Spears meant to society at large.

It was our culture of misogyny at work.

Although it hits us much closer to home than Afghanistan, the problem is more difficult to acknowledge. Most of us may personally know a victim of sexual assault, yet discussion of sticky subjects like "female disrespect" isn't often heard

in mainstream media.

Can you imagine Clinton writing another piece for TIME Magazine, this time decrying "College Girl '08?"

TIME would make Tila Tequila the new "Person of the Year" just to spite her. Bill O'Reilly would wonder aloud if she'd gotten laid lately.

Ann Coulter would call her out-of-touch: "She doesn't understand what \$10,000 means in today's economy ... but I'll still vote for her over John McCain!"

I'm expecting a similar response to this piece.

"This is like, my only salvation," I'm expecting to hear.

"You are so uptight, why don't you get a life?"

Maintaining high marks and juggling a work schedule apparently leaves OU students too tired for a social conscience.

Our culture of misogyny will likely keep Clinton from the White House solely on account of her gender.

It has no problem with turning Afghanistan into a parking lot because their female population wears burqas, but scoffs at those who'd describe "College Girl '08" as a human meat market.

But for too many OU students, that's



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

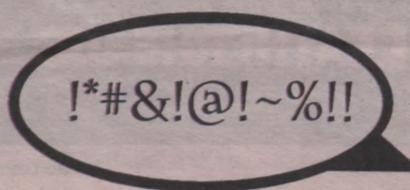
It looks just as stupid when he does it. Red-blooded male Tim Rath recreates an actual pose from a contestant on collegehumor.com. He didn't make the bracket.

too much to understand.

The meat market might as well be selling comfort food.

If you're among those that I anticipate are questioning my social life and sexual history, this column just can't match a pretty face and \$10,000 in cash.

Go ahead and toss it into the fire. You'll need it to keep from the cold reality.



GOT A BIG MOUTH? WE'LL STUFF IT WITH \$20.

SUBMIT YOUR COLUMN FOR "MOUTHING OFF" TO
THEOAKLANDPOST@GMAIL.COM AND SCORE 20 BUCKS IF IT PRINTS.

We may need bumper lanes in White House

By TODD M. BUTKOVICH
Guest Columnist

Last week, the world of American politics was shocked by the latest tragedy to befall a presidential candidate when we found out, to our horror, that Barack Obama really, really sucks at bowling.

At a campaign rally held at a Pennsylvania bowling alley, Senator Obama finished with a score of 37.

To put this in perspective, that's like an SAT score somewhere between not putting your name down and quitting three questions in because you saw a raccoon outside.

Now, the last time I went bowling was 11 months ago — and that was after a three year absence from the game — and I was still was able to rein in a triple-digit score.

(Note: I refuse to refer to bowling as a "sport" on the grounds that there are senior citizens' leagues, and anything with a senior citizens' league cannot in good conscience be called a sport.)

Since this revelation came out, people haven't been speaking so fondly of Obama, as if he is yet another man brought down from potential greatness by bowling.

Of course, I'm not saying Obama

shouldn't become president because he needs the assistance of bumpers they put in at kids' parties — there are plenty of other reasons he shouldn't be president, some of them not related to the seven-ten split whatsoever.

But still . . . 37?

So does this really matter in the long run?

As a certified history major, I can definitively state that, yes, it does. Failing at recreational contests has ruined the careers of many past presidential candidates.

Consider 1984, when a humiliated Walter Mondale went on to carry only one state in the Electoral College after being defeated by Ronald Reagan in a break-dancing competition.

Or the 1952 election, which ended up being decided by a cutthroat game of quarters.

It's a proud tradition dating back to 1800, when John Adams challenged Thomas Jefferson to the most popular sport of the day — seeing who could go the longest without getting cholera. This contest ended in a draw and had to be settled in a sudden-death typhoid overtime.

Which brings me back to today's elections: What arbitrary challenge should

select who takes the White House in 2009?

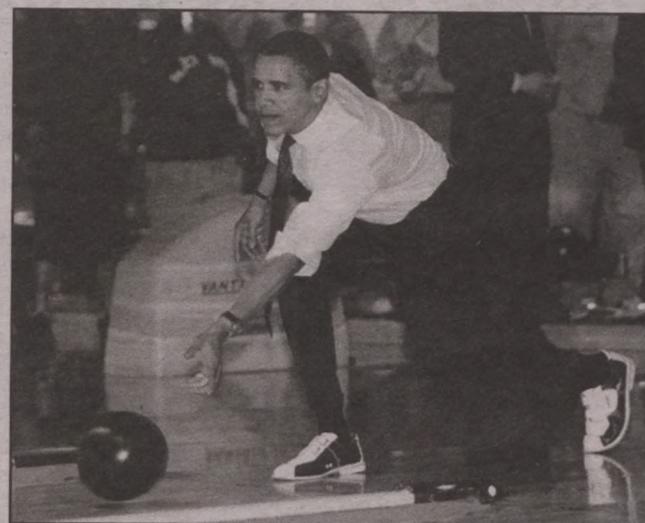
We're already aware that bowling isn't a fair fight.

The thought of Hillary Clinton and John McCain challenging each other to a match of Twister is too vomit-inducing, and a health care debate could ruin a good, clean game of Operation.

Perhaps the best method is by seeing who can best rock out to Def Leppard on Guitar Hero, or the challenge of who has the hungriest hungriest hippo (although with Bill Richardson on Obama's side, it's a little lopsided).

My vote: Risk.

I mean, what better why to decide who should conquer the world than by having the candidates roll dice and push plastic armies over the face of Denmark?



ALEX BRANDON/Associated Press
Barack Obama bowls at Pleasant Valley Recreation Center in Altoona, Pa., Saturday, March 29, 2008. He should have played Risk instead.

It's less costly, and doesn't come with any of those irritating protesters.

Or we can just stick to the old-fashioned game: rock-paper-attack ad.

Until then, we'll just have to wonder what kind of future we are headed for with a president who can only bowl a score of 37.



Like Mousing Off?



Are you a lifetime subscriber to MAD magazine? Do you have something to say?

Do others politely ask you to calm down or to be quiet?

Have you ever consumed more than 9 cups of coffee in 1 day?

Are you still out of work because of the writers strike?



Is the world really run by reptiles? Have any super powers?

Got what it takes?

If you answered "yes" to one or more of these questions, we're looking for you!

The Post is currently seeking a new Mousing Off Editor and if you've got what it takes:

Contact us at: oakposteditor@gmail.com

Petraeus calls for halt in troop reductions

By ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The U.S. general commanding the Iraq war called Tuesday for an open-ended suspension of U.S. troop withdrawals this summer, reflecting concern about a recent flare-up of violence and leaving open the possibility that few, if any, additional troops will be brought home before President Bush leaves office in January.

Gen. David Petraeus told a Senate hearing that he recommends a 45-day "period of consolidation and evaluation" once the extra combat forces that Bush ordered to Iraq last year have completed their pullout in July.

"At the end of that period, we will commence a process of assessment to examine the conditions on the ground and, over time, determine when we can make

recommendations for further reductions," Petraeus said.

He did not commit to any additional troop withdrawals beyond July.

"This approach does not allow establishment of a set withdrawal timetable. However, it does provide the flexibility those of us on the ground need to preserve the still fragile security gains our troopers have fought so hard and sacrificed so much to achieve," he added.

The plan gives Petraeus maximum flexibility at a time of rising violence in Baghdad and some others parts of the country. It runs counter to Democrats' push for a more rapid reduction in the U.S. military commitment and a faster transfer of responsibility to the Iraqi government.

Petraeus said his approach takes account of the fact that security gains achieved over the past year are fragile

and reversible, and he said it is intended to "form a foundation for the gradual establishment of sustainable security in Iraq." But he did not say when he thought that goal would be reached.

Bush has said he intended to accept Petraeus' recommendation. On Thursday, the president will make a speech about the war, now in its sixth year, and his decision about troop levels.

Under questioning by Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Petraeus said he could not predict when troop reductions would be resumed or how many U.S. troops were likely to remain in Iraq by the end of this year.

There currently are 160,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, and the Pentagon has projected that when the scheduled troop withdrawals are completed in July there will be about 140,000 troops there.



TONY GUTIERREZ/Associated Press
Law enforcement officials escort members of The Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Later-Day Saints onto a school bus on April 6.

Polygamist site raided; over 400 children removed

By MICHELLE ROBERTS
Associated Press Writer

ELDORADO, Texas — More than 400 children, mostly girls in pioneer dresses, were swept into state custody from a polygamist sect in what authorities described as the largest child-welfare operation in Texas history.

The dayslong raid on the sprawling compound built by now-jailed polygamist leader Warren Jeffs was sparked by a 16-year-old girl's call to authorities claiming that she was being abused and that girls as young as 14 and 15 were being forced into marriages with much older men. Under Texas law, girls younger than 16 cannot legally marry.

Dressed in home-sewn, ankle-length dresses, some 133 women left the Yearning for Zion Ranch of their own volition along with the children.

State troopers were holding an unknown number of men until investigators finished executing a house-to-house search of the 1,700-acre property.

One of the wives of the complex's alleged leader said the community emphasized self-sufficiency because they believed the apocalypse was near.

The women were not allowed to wear red — the color Jeffs said belonged to Jesus — and were not allowed to cut their hair. They were also kept isolated from the outside world.

Attorneys for the church and its leaders filed motions asking a judge to quash the search on constitutional grounds, saying state authorities didn't have enough evidence to search the grounds and the warrants were too broad. A hearing on their motion is scheduled Wednesday.

Jeffs, currently jailed, awaits trial for four counts each of incest and sexual conduct with a minor stemming from two arranged marriages between teenage girls and their older male relatives.

NIW BRIEFS

4-02 | The House of Representatives votes to provide \$50 billion over five years to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in numerous third-world countries.

4-04 | Blackwater Worldwide's contract to provide security in Iraq is renewed by the U.S. Department of State.

4-05 | Academy Award winning actor and former NRA spokesperson Charlton Heston dies at the age of 84.

4-06 | The Olympic torch is grabbed by a protester before police wrestle him to the ground as thousands of anti-China demonstrators disrupt the Olympic torch relay through London.

4-07 | Elite French troops are called upon to East Africa to bolster efforts to free captives of a yacht held by pirates. | Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr threatens to lift a freeze on his militia if the Iraqi government does not halt attacks on his followers or set a timetable for a U.S. withdrawal.



When pigs can fly

Crew from the "Jellymen" attempt to fly off a ramp in a flying machine competition overlooking Sydney Harbor in Sydney, Sunday, April 6, 2008. Teams from around Australia attempted to fly the greatest distance across the water in their manpowered flying machines.

Opposition accuses gov't of unleashing violence in Zimbabwe

By ANGUS SHAW
Associated Press Writer

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Opponents of President Robert Mugabe accused his regime of unleashing thugs to attack opposition supporters and seizing white-owned farms in an attempt to retain power. They called on other African powers to intervene.

Mugabe, who has led Zimbabwe for 28 years, has virtually conceded that he did not win March 29 elections and appeared to be campaigning for an expected runoff against Morgan Tsvangirai by intimidat-

ing foes and fanning racial tensions.

Tendai Biti, secretary-general of Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change, said he feared more violence unless the African Union and the Southern African Development Community step in.

"We are concerned by the deafening silence in the region," Biti said. "I say to our brothers and sisters across the continent, don't wait for dead bodies ..."

Election results remained secret, and a High Court judge heard an urgent opposition petition Tuesday to force their publication. The hearing resumes Wednesday.

Biti said there had been "massive violence" since the elections in traditional ruling-party strongholds that voted for the opposition this time. Ruling-party militants, used in the past to intimidate opponents, were being rearmed, he said.

Information Minister Sikhanyiso Ndlovu denied the accusations, saying "They are concocting things. It is peaceful."

Reports that people have been beaten and their homes torched have circulated in the capital but couldn't be verified because of the danger of travel to affected areas.

The lack of election results "has paralyzed the country," Biti said.