

THE OAKLAND POST

July 16, 2008

Volume 33, Number 61

FIND YOUR DESTINATION

EXIT 46

The
Travel
Issue

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Two Grizzlies head overseas

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**OU RAISES
TUITION**

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Cover photo by Dustin Alexander

WELCOME WEEK - FALL SEMESTER 2008

Tuesday, September 2	CSA: Jump Start (10 am-3 pm, Banquet Rooms, OC)
Tuesday, September 2	CMI Scholars: Meet & Greet (1-2 pm, Oakland Room, OC)
Tuesday, September 2	New Student Convocation & Involvement Fair (3-5 pm, Recreation and Athletics Center)
Tuesday, September 2	OU Classes Begin at 5 pm
Tuesday, September 2	ABS/CMI: Welcome BBQ (6-9 pm, Hamlin Basketball Court)
Wednesday-Friday,	Kresge Café (8 am-8 pm, Student Lounge, Kresge Library)
Wednesday, September 3	First Full Day of Classes Begin at 7:30 am
Wednesday, September 3	InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Welcome Picnic (4-6:30 pm, Between the OC and The Lake)
Wednesday, September 3	"The Walk" to Meadow Brook Hall (9 pm, 9:30 pm, 10 pm, Meet at Hamlin Courtyard)
Wednesday, September 3	OU Greeks: Pizza, Pop and Music (9-11 pm, Meadow Brook Hall)
Thursday, September 4	Community Business Fair (11 am-1pm, between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Greek Carnival (11 am-2 pm, Outside between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Student Affairs Ice Cream Social (11:30 am-1 pm, Outside between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Student Affairs Ice Cream Social (5-6:30 pm, Outside between NFH & SFH)
Thursday, September 4	Graham Health Center & OU Counseling Center: Open House (1-4 pm, Graham Health Center)
Thursday, September 4	Athletics: Grizz Gang Jumpin' Jamboree (5-9 pm, Hamlin Courtyard)
Thursday, September 4	InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Large Group Meeting (7 pm, Oakland Room, OC)
Friday-Sunday, Sept. 5-7	Actors 'N' Techies: Annual Student Production (8 pm, Varner Studio Theatre, Varner Hall)
Friday, September 5	ISSO: International Welcome Reception (5-7 pm, Gold Rooms, OC)
Friday, September 5	SPB & SAFB: 3rd Annual Carnival (7 pm-Midnight, P11 Parking Lot)
Friday, September 5	Sigma Pi Fraternity: 14th Annual Pig Roast (7 pm-Midnight, Upper Fields)
Monday, September 8	SPB: College Dome Theater Experience (10 am-4 pm, Fireside Lounge, OC)
Monday, September 8	School of Education and Human Services (SEHS): Welcome Reception (11:30 am-1 pm, Atrium, Pawley Hall)
Tuesday, September 9	GrizzFest: Student & Greek Organizations Fair (11 am-1 pm, Outside the OC between North & South Foundation Halls)
Tuesday, September 9	Career Services: Open House (11 am-1 pm, Fireside Lounge, OC)
Tuesday, September 9	School of Business Administration (SBA): Open House (11:30 am-2 pm, Outside Elliott Hall)
Tuesday, September 9	Athletics: Golden Grizzlies Pep Rally (Noon-12:30 pm, Outside the OC between North & South Foundation Halls)
Tuesday, September 9	Academic Advisors: Amazing Race around OU's Campus (TBD)
Tuesday, September 9	Women's Volleyball: OU vs Bowling Green State University (7 pm, O'rena)
Tuesday, September 9	Student Michigan Education Association (SMEA): Outdoor Movie (9-11 pm, Between the Oakland Center and The Lake)
Wednesday, September 10	Play for FREE in Bumpers Game Room (11 am -1 pm, Bumpers Game Room, OC)
Wednesday, September 10	OUSC, Post, SPB & WXOU: Open House (11:30 am-1 pm, Lower Level of the OC)
Thursday, September 11	CSA: Volunteer Fair (11 am-1 pm, Fireside Lounge & Main Hallway, OC)
Thursday, September 11	7th Annual Campus Recreation vs. University Housing Tailgate Party (6-8 pm - Tailgate Party; 8-9:30 pm - Flag Football Challenge, Upper Fields)
Friday, September 12	GSC, LGBT ERG & GSA: LGBTQA Welcome Reception (11 am-1 pm, OC Patio)
Friday, September 12	SPB Mainstage Concert @ Meadow Brook Music Festival



Looking Forward:

FALL SEMESTER 2008

Welcome Week Fall Semester 2008 - September 2-12, 2008
 Hispanic Celebration 2008 - September 15-October 3, 2008
 Rec Fest - September 26, 2008
 WOCO (Week of Champions at OU) - October 13-17, 2008
 Midnite Madnezz - October 17, 2008
 Cultural Awareness Week - November 3-7, 2008
 Global Market - November 6, 2008

WINTER SEMESTER 2009

Welcome Week Winter Semester 2009 - Jan. 6-10, 2009
 Keeper of the Dream Celebration w/ Danny Glover - Jan. 19
 African-American Celebration 2009 - Jan. 19-Feb. 20, 2009
 Meadow Brook Ball - January 31, 2009
 OU Basketball Homecoming - February 6-7, 2009
 Women's History Month - March 2-31, 2009
 International Night - March 27, 2009

THIS WEEK 7.16.08

THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Perspectives page 4

OUSC Vice President Dan Evola sounds off on the recent tuition increase.



Campus page 6

OU offers staff and faculty a compressed work week option. Plus, a colorful change in the Oakland Center basement's future.



Local page 10

There's no need to go to a faraway land for a great summer getaway. Find out what Michigan has to offer.



The Mix page 12

See where in the world OU students would travel to if given the chance. Plus, what's on a traveling student's iPod?



you page 14

Learn how to be prepared before hitting the road for a summer adventure. Also, see what some students think the world would be like without the U.S.



Sports page 16

Golden Grizzlies head across the pond to discover new recruits and compete in tournaments. Plus, under the radar club sports such as fencing and cricket.



the Scene page 20

Find ways to take a memorable vacation on a tank of gas. Also, see summer blockbusters at affordable prices.



MOUTHING OFF page 22

Retired Mouting Off Editor Alex Cherup unloads some baggage regarding flying in America. Plus, Detroit celebrates the Fourth of July a little early this year.



Nation | World page 24

The International Criminal Court charges Sudan President Omar al-Bashir with genocide. Plus, The New Yorker upsets the Obama campaign.



OU raises tuition 6.29 percent.

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Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

July 16, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Tuition increase makes sense, but students deserved some input

It seems that for Oakland University students there are a few guarantees in life: death, taxes and the ever-increasing tuition rates for higher education.

OU's board of trustees voted on June 25 to raise the tuition rate for the 2008-09 school year by 6.29 percent for undergraduate students and five percent for graduate students.

Usually, we can be safe in blaming the pitiful economy of the Great Lakes state. Given Michigan's \$920 million deficit, we understand that OU can't get as much aid from the state of Michigan that it deserves. Currently, OU gets 27 percent of its funding from the state and the rest of the budget has to come from the student tuitions.

This time, it seems as if the state of Michigan's woeful economy is not the only culprit. It appears as if the board was given the silent treatment by state representatives regarding the amount of money that OU would be given for the upcoming year.

As a result, the board budgeted "conservatively" and underestimated the amount that OU would be given. This left the average student with a tuition hike of about \$30 per credit hour.

However, we can live with the tuition increase. It pales in comparison to last year's 13.9 percent increase and seems necessary to not only maintain but also improve upon our current quality standard of education. It is, after all, the reason that we pay as much as we do in the first place.

What we find especially troubling is what happened three days after the decision was made to increase tuition. On June 28, Michigan lawmakers got together and decided to give a one percent increase in appropriations to all public universities in the state, which includes OU.

We find it hard to believe that the state had no idea how much would be given, only to have the thought come suddenly on a

sunny Saturday morning.

We find it even harder to believe that OU administration and the board of trustees could not have scheduled another meeting to reconsider the tuition increase in lieu of the state's decision.

Instead of returning the one percent increase in appropriations, which tallies to about \$519,329, to current students by lowering the tuition increase, it will be invested in classrooms and labs to benefit future classes.

As previously mentioned, it's not like the money is going to waste. We're not particularly upset that future classes will be taught better than we are.

But we feel the freeze of Michigan's economy as much as anyone else. The one percent appropriation would have better served students by lowering the tuition increase rate, which would have helped out students at a time when the cost of living and education are continually rising.

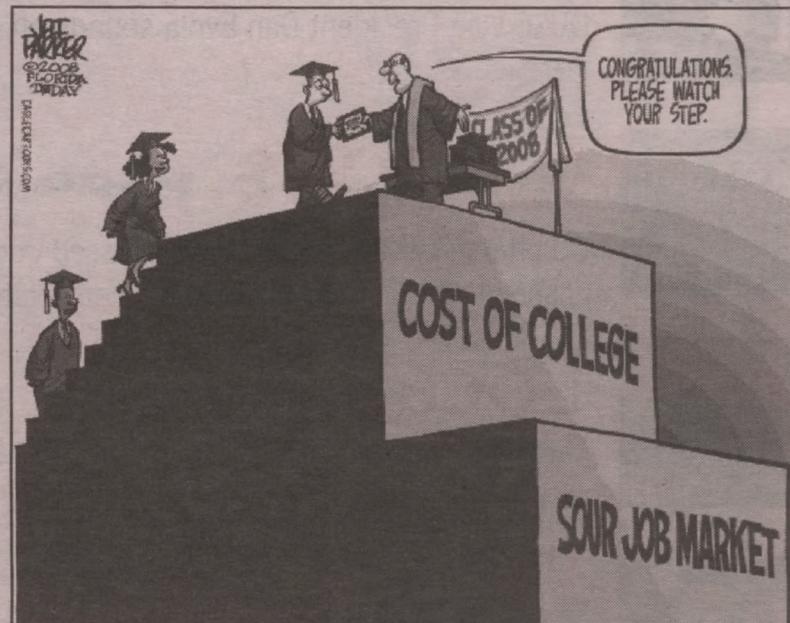
A tuition increase of this size seems to be too harsh a price for students to pay just because one decision was made only three days after another decision. There have been different reasons for tuition increases of varying legitimacy in the past and a time difference of three days seems to be one of the worst.

At the very least, a poll could have been taken to include students' wishes in the discussion. If the student body had voted to invest in better classrooms and labs, we would have supported the measure unquestionably.

More likely, the student body would have voted to using the one percent increase in state aid to lower the tuition increase rate.

Whatever the results of the hypothetical poll of the students might have been, we would have welcomed more input into the decision.

Instead, we just feel left out.



JEFF PARKER/Parker, Florida Today

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to
The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:
oakpostmanaging@gmail.com

By mail:
Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
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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

In "Brain food helps minds stay healthy to learn," on page 11, Joanne Talarek's name was misspelled.

On page 12, the Special Orientation Insert, Dustin Alexander was not credited for creating the map of OU's campus.

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

The ins and outs of OU's rising tuition

Student Vice President calls for united front of OU students to help out in Lansing

Dan Evola
Student Body
Vice President



I was recently invited to a meeting regarding this year's increase in tuition with some prominent members of the administration. Students may not pay attention to most of the work that the administration does, but a tuition increase is always the biggest moan and groan around, especially after last year's increase of over 13 percent. So, I brought my pen and note pad ready to crunch some numbers, and braced myself for what was ahead.

As soon as I took my seat, I was handed a rather thick packet of graphs and charts, containing information about Base Appropriations per FYES (Fiscal Year Equated per Student), Cost Containment Cumulative,

and General Fund Expenditures — just the kind of information that I wanted to get hit with at 9 a.m. on a summer morning.

Finally, somewhere around page nine, I saw the magic number. This year, tuition will increase by about 6.3 percent for the average undergrad student at Oakland University.

Now, before you destroy this paper in a fit of rage, let me take a minute to break down how this number came to be. It is no secret that tuition has been increasing consistently for years, so no one was expecting a decrease. This newest increase is due to a couple of factors; I will try to explain the ones I understand.

First off, OU eliminated non-mandatory fees, including the graduation fee, transcript fee, orientation fee, etc. These fees were rolled into tuition, increasing it by one percent. This means that, without the elimination of non-mandatory fees, tuition would be increased by 5.3 percent. You would still be paying the money, just under a different label.

The rest of the 5.3 percent is really scattered, but I am assuming most of it is coming from Michigan's "wonderful" economy and the government's decreasing support of education.

Now that the cat is out of the bag, the next step is figuring out how to fight future tuition increase.

Every year, the state of Michigan offers colleges and universities money for each student that enrolls. OU's state appropriated money is around \$3,645 per FYES, the third lowest amount of money given to any other Michigan university. The highest is Wayne State University, given \$8,680 per FYES.

Why does OU get the third lowest appropriation while we have the second highest growth rate in recent years, as well as one of the best graduation rates? Simple answer: Politics. If the government offered OU just the average amount of money offered to other schools (about \$5,200 per FYES), the tuition increase could be cut drastically.

I believe that one of the biggest problems we are having is that all of our protesting and rallying in Lansing is done alongside other schools. We must realize that we are competing for the same money as they are, and the state of Michigan cannot afford to just start offering more money to colleges.

The Student Congress can organize trips to Lansing to protest, but they are useless without your support. This year, if you want to make a difference, be ready to hop on the bus — we're going to Lansing!

For more on the tuition increase see story on page 6

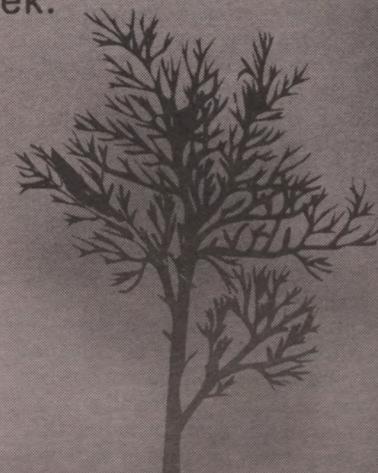
we'll be right back.

don't miss our welcome week issue on 9/2/08!

Grab your copy every Wednesday and don't forget to look for us outside the Oakland Center on September 2, 2008 (between north and south foundation halls) to be the first to see our coverage of Welcome Week.

weekly issues returning in september!

The Oakland Post
oaklandpostonline.com



OU increases tuition

Board OKs 6.29 percent increase for undergrads, five percent for grads

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

At a special formal session on June 25, Oakland University's board of trustees unanimously voted to raise the tuition rate for 2008-09 by 6.29 percent for undergraduate students and by five percent for graduate students.

One percent of this tuition increase is due to the non-mandatory student fees, such as transcript fees and fees for nursing, music and education courses, being included into the price of tuition for all students, a decision that was passed at the previous board meeting in May.

The rate of increase was 1.29 percent lower for graduate students than it was for undergraduate students because the administration wanted to "relieve some of the pricing pressure for our graduate students," said John Beaghan, OU's vice president of finance and administration.

This latest increase follows a 13.9 percent rise in student tuitions for the 2007-08 year.

This increase was based on the administration estimating a "flat" state appropriation, meaning that the amount of money OU receives from the state of Michigan, for 2008-09, will not change from the amount given to in 2007-08.

Many of the trustees, including Board Chair Dennis Pawley, blamed the "degradation of state aid" for the tuition increase. Trustee Henry Baskin also said that Michigan legislators not telling OU how much aid they'll give early enough has forced the administration and the board to play a "guessing game," and led them to budget conservatively and assume flat appropriations.

However, even if OU receives more appropriations than budgeted, it was decided at the board session that the tuition will not be decreased. Instead, the excess money will be placed in a special reserve until the board is certain that there will not be a mid-year cut in state appropriations.

This proposal was approved three days before Michigan legislators met on June 28 and passed a bill that gave a one percent increase in state aid for all public universities in Michigan, including OU.

This one percent increase in state aid means an increase of \$519,329 from last

year's \$51,932,900, totaling state aid to OU for the 2008-09 to \$52,452,229.

The report did not include \$519,329, announced three days after the board of trustees special formal session by the Michigan legislature, in the estimation of OU's budget. The money will not be used to lower the tuition increase rate but rather send it the special reserve mentioned above.

Should OU not get a mid-year cut, the board of trustees approved the proposal that this money will only be used to improve classrooms and labs.

Samir Hanna, a student liaison to the board of trustees, said at the session that he was glad the board will consider student input on which classrooms and labs will be upgraded.

Later, however, Hanna also said that he wished the administration and the board had considered more student input before deciding what was to be done with this hypothetical extra money.

"[Upgrading classrooms and labs] are important things to do, but I wish there were more student input into what the money will be used for," Hanna said.

Beaghan said that some of the reasons for the tuition increase were things like increases in health care, utility increases and contractual compensations.

"We buy gasoline just like you buy gasoline," he said. "We have to pay for all these things somehow or cut the budget."

"Somewhere along the way, we have to decide what quality of education services you want to provide," he said. "We built a budget that we believe will provide quality education services to our students."

For resident freshmen and sophomores the tuition per credit hour rose from \$252.50 to \$268.50, for juniors and seniors it rose from \$276 to \$293.25, and for graduate students it rose from \$472.50 to \$496.

For non-resident freshmen and sophomores the tuition rose from \$587.50 to \$626.75, for juniors and seniors it rose from \$630.00 to \$672.00, for graduates it rose from \$814.50 to \$855.75.

This means that a freshman or sophomore taking 12 credits will pay \$3,222, a \$192 rise from last year; a junior or senior will pay \$3,519, a \$207 rise from last year; and a graduate student will pay \$5,952, a \$282 rise from last year.

Student body Vice President Dan Evola said in a phone interview that the tuition increase, although less than last year, is unacceptable. "But I don't think that OU is completely responsible for all of it — a lot of it comes from Michigan not giving us enough money," Evola added.

Evola is also not happy with the decision to use the excess appropriations money to upgrade classrooms and labs.

"I don't think it's fair that if we get more money, they can just go and take it. This money should be refunded back to the students," he said.

The board of trustees said at the session that the excess money, which was only hypothetical at the time, should not be refunded back to the students, but should go toward improving educational services instead.

Evola also blamed Lansing politics for the tuition increase. He said that it's "outrageous" that the "big three" universities (University of Michigan — Ann Arbor, Michigan State University and Wayne State University) and Michigan Tech University get more than double the amount of state aid per student than OU does. He accused some members of the Michigan legislature of having close ties with WSU and favoring them.

Hanna agreed that this situation is "unfair."

"They say that the 'Big Three' get more funding per student than we do because they bring in more research and money into Michigan," Hanna said. "But OU is a research university, too."

Evola plans to organize a protest rally in Lansing to fight this "unfairness" and try to get more state aid for OU. He said that students from other universities will not be invited to protest alongside them.

"We're all competing for the same money, so it doesn't make any sense for different universities to protest together," Evola said.

FYES stands for fiscal year equivalent student, or in simpler terms, the number of full-time students a university has.

"We'd be temporarily set if they gave us what we asked for — \$4,000 per student," Beaghan said. "The average [funding per FYES among public universities in Michigan] is about \$5,200 — we'd take that too."

How do we rank?

2008-2009 tuition for resident students*

U of M — Ann Arbor	\$11,111
Michigan Tech	\$10,579
Michigan State	\$9,910
Wayne State	\$8,450
U of M — Dearborn	\$8,110
Oakland	\$7,928
Ferris State	\$7,875
Western Michigan	\$7,680
Eastern Michigan	\$7,511
Grand Valley State	\$7,420
U of M — Flint	\$7,391
Central Michigan	\$7,343
Lake Superior State	\$7,271
Northern Michigan	\$6,759
Saginaw Valley State	\$6,258

2008-2009 base appropriations per FYES, or full-time student*

Wayne State	\$8,680
U of M — Ann Arbor	\$8,077
Michigan Tech	\$8,006
Michigan State	\$6,838
Northern Michigan	\$5,398
Lake Superior State	\$5,069
Western Michigan	\$4,814
Ferris State	\$4,495
U of M — Flint	\$4,183
Eastern Michigan	\$4,142
U of M — Dearborn	\$4,052
Central Michigan	\$3,797
Oakland	\$3,645
Saginaw Valley State	\$3,644
Grand Valley State	\$3,172

*Numbers based on full-time undergrad students
Source: Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Preparation
Briefing June 25, 2008

OU offers four-day work week for staff

By PAUL GULLY
Special Projects Editor

Following suit with Oakland County, Oakland University staff members now have the option of working a four-day work week.

In an effort to reduce fuel consumption, the university initiated what it's calling a compressed work week pilot program, which began July 7 and will run through August 30.

The four-day work week, in which employees will work 10-hour shifts as opposed to eight, is not mandatory, but is an option for full-time staff members who choose to take advantage of it.

"We believe the compressed work week is a forward-thinking, employee-friendly approach to the economic crisis Michigan is facing, a situation compounded for many of our employees by today's astronomical gas prices," said John Beaghan, OU's vice president for finance and administration.

"We're happy to see that alternative schedules like this are catching on nationwide," he added.

Departments and offices whose employees choose to work the four-day work week are to coordinate days off and stagger shifts to ensure there is adequate staffing so university services will be available five days a week.

Jean Ann Miller, OU's director of the Center for Student Activities, has only a five minute commute to OU and will not be adopting the four-day work week. However, Miller supports the university's attempt to reduce fuel consumption.

"I'm extremely supportive of the program. The rationale the university used was very

well thought out," Miller said.

While Miller is "all for it," she did say that the compressed work may be tough for smaller departments with fewer employees to adopt.

According to a press release from the university, the program was also adopted, in part, to boost employee morale and save on transportation and childcare costs.

"The compressed work week is a win-win," said Beaghan. "This model has the potential to introduce greater job satisfaction and lower stress levels for our talented staff, resulting in a higher level of productivity."

Mary Isaacs, reservations coordinator in the Oakland Center, has long been hoping for a compressed work week and was excited when she found out OU would be offering it as an option.

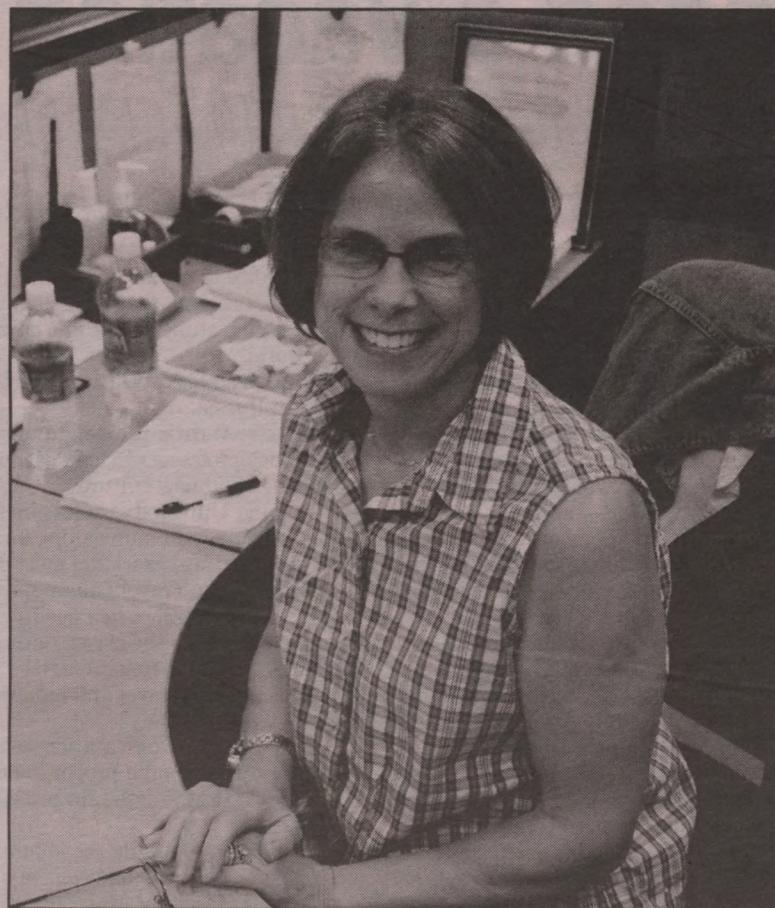
"I've always wanted a four-day work week — for 35 years." It saves gas and keeps my car in the garage for [an extra day]."

Alice Carleton, one of two department secretaries of Mathematics and Statistics, will be giving the new program a try beginning Monday, July 21.

"I'm going to give it a try and if I don't like it, I'll go back to working five eight-hour days," she said.

Student employees and outside entities at OU, such as Chartwell's, Barnes & Nobles, and Credit Union One, will not have the option and will continue working five eight-hour days per week.

Following the initial implementation, the program will be reviewed, and if determined successful, extending the program into the academic year will be considered.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Mary Isaacs, the reservations coordinator for the Oakland Center, is excited for the compressed work week option she has wanted for a while.

CSA to plan trips available to students

Mt. Pleasant, Chicago and Toronto among the destinations also sponsored by Travel America

By RORY McCARTY
Senior Reporter

For many students, college is a time to get away from their homelives and go out and explore the world. So what better time is there to go on a trip to visit another city?

Oakland University students are going to have that opportunity beginning this semester with a series of trips sponsored through the Center for Student Activities and a new OU student group, Travel America.

The College of Arts and Sciences' theme this year is "Cities," so the CSA's contribution will be to allow students to explore a city a month.

Jean Ann Miller, the Director of CSA, believes that every student will be able to get something different out of the trip. "Some students will be interested in the culture, some in the arts, some in the architecture, some in the food."

Although the trips focus on student participation, they are also open to faculty and staff who would like to come along.

"It would be good for students and faculty to go and explore cities together," Miller said.

The trips vary greatly in distance and focus, from places here in Michigan like Mt. Pleasant (in November) and Grand Rapids (in April), to Toronto (in March) and even to the Presidential

Inauguration in Washington D.C. this January.

CSA's goal is to have the trips subsidized so that there is little cost to the students taking part, but so far no details have been worked out as to transportation or price.

Another trip, one to Chicago that will take place in October, is a collaborative effort between Travel America and the Student Program Board.

Travel America is trying to schedule one such trip per semester. The trips will open to all current OU students.

"We would like to be able to say we are well traveled. I think that's what we really want to gain," Travel America President Cristina Ciraulo said. "We

also want to be able to have some really amazing experiences and be able to share them with other students who want to travel as well."

Like the CSA trips, Travel America has not worked out the cost details yet, but "Our goal is to find the most affordable prices possible since we are still paying for school and have other expenses," Ciraulo said.

Travel America was created out of a desire to go out and see the world.

"The group was formed while my friends and I were talking about all these places we would love to go and things we would like to see for ourselves," Ciraulo said. "There is so much to see in our country, let alone the rest of the world."

You think you need a vacation?

After a long year, faculty at OU look for ways to unwind for the summer

By WENDELL SMILEY
Staff Intern

Students and summer vacations go together like Oakland University and no parking spaces. For many instructors, the sun comes out and it immediately becomes time to start thinking about one of the wonderful perks of being a professor — summer vacation.

Some faculty members view the time as a chance to disengage after the rigors of a seemingly endless school year.

"I long for a quick vacation whenever I must deliver an expulsion sanction to a student," said Dean of Students Glenn McIntosh. "I wonder 'could our campus community have done more to prevent inappropriate behavior?'"

McIntosh, who considered traveling to Finland and San Juan, Puerto Rico this summer, enjoys being with family and friends during his down time.

McIntosh, plans to be totally energized for OU's roughly 18,000 students in the fall, and consider Egypt, Africa, France, and New York as good points of destination to consider.

School districts in the United States, Spain and the Virgin Islands are now enjoying the rapture of summer in 2008.

"In the summers we take our 34-foot sailboat either into the lake and just enjoy the views and relaxation if the weather is calm, or the thrills if the weather is stormy," said Sandra Packard, an educational leadership professor at OU. "Sailing is a great way to see the world from a different perspective and to relearn the power of nature."

Travel takes you out of your realm of comfort and allows the chance to establish some space between work and the rest of your life.

Vagner M. Whitehead, assistant professor of art and history, views travel

as a chance to explore language and lifestyle, bringing the classroom to life and helping students become citizens of the world.

Whitehead is currently spending time in Russia.

Summer vacations extend the opportunity for professors to learn about new countries and new cultures.

Oakland University professors have to be effective communicators, and adept at getting across the most difficult concepts. Travel enlightens and influences professors in a positive way that could add to the classroom.

Many faculty members use the summer vacation to travel and enhance their own education.

"I am currently on vacation, which is rather work than a proper holiday," said Pavlo Bosyy, assistant professor of theatre.

In addition to taking the summer to explore the world and continue her education, Assistant Multicultural Communication Professor S. Lily Mendoza is attending a conference with international delegates in the Philippines.

For Mendoza, travel challenges people by removing technological and cultural crutches. If getting by without e-mail seems fantastical, try going without a working bathroom.

"I will be traveling in a mountain place north of the country and won't have access to technology for a while," Mendoza said.

McIntosh considers travel to be high on his list of priorities and a fundamental obligation to step outside of your daily life.

"I like traveling during the period of mid-July to mid-August," McIntosh said. "Traveling provides me a time to recharge and expand my perspective of life and living."

POLICEFILES

OUPD was contacted regarding an identity theft situation on June 19. A student reportedly received a text message on his cell phone the night before, stating that a Blackberry cell-phone was purchased using his account. The student went on to say that, in order for someone to make a purchase with his account, someone would need the last four digits of his social security number. The responding officer will attempt to get a subpoena from T-Mobile to see where the Blackberry was shipped.

On June 30, an OUPD officer met with a student who claimed to have been scammed on a purchase of concert tickets on Craigslist. The student sent out a warning about the scam and received confirmation from another subject that the seller had attempted this before. The

student filed a report with her hometown police department.

OUPD was called to the Structural Department on June 4 to check on a burst pipe in the ceiling of a room. The pipe was pouring out a heavy stream of water, damaging radio and computer equipment, as well as paperwork. More damage was discovered in another room but no damage was visible on the roof.

A student called OUPD on June 2 to report that a large tree limb had fallen onto power lines between two sorority houses. A downed power line was also discovered on the ground underneath the fallen limb. The Rochester Hills Fire Department and DTE Energy were called to the scene for safety reasons and the scene was cleared without incident.

Physical graffiti



Photo courtesy of OUSC

The basement of the Oakland Center will be getting a face-lift at the end of July. A large mural will cover the walls from the OU bookstore to Bumpers Game Room. The design, featuring the Golden Grizzlies' colors, was created and will be applied by SFC Graphics.

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OU provides advisory role for new charter school

New Montessori school to open in Royal Oak will give OU students hands-on learning

By **AMANDA SAOUD**
Senior Reporter

Oakland University will be expanding its role in the local education community, acting as the advisory school for a new charter school set to open in Royal Oak in September 2009. OU's Board of Trustees voted to approve the application from the Four Corners Montessori Academy at their meeting on June 25.

The Four Corners Montessori Academy's application was among 35 others reviewed by the Public School Academies and Urban Partnership Office, which is a division of the School of Education and Human Services. Of those 35, Four Corners and two other schools were selected for a full review, and Four Corners was selected as the finalist by the School of Education for its outstanding application qualities.

This partnership will bring both financial and educational benefits to the OU community. The university will receive three percent of the state school funding for the Academy as an administrative fee, and the alternative educational program at the Academy will offer hands-on learning opportunities for OU education students who are interested in alternative education. Currently none of the public schools that the university works with has alternative education.

"As an education major, I think it's a great opportunity. We learn about so many different methods for teaching children, and having direct experience with as many education programs as possible is an excellent resource," said senior Jamie Boyce.

The school, which will educate children from preschool through the eighth grade, provided its mission statement on the application to OU: "To allow each child to discover his/her learning potential, inborn talents, and love of learning by providing him/her with a limitless educational environment."

Application reviewers from the School of Education felt that this fit well with the University's own mission statement.

The Academy will be located in an area of Royal Oak designed to serve the cities of Royal Oak, Ferndale, Berkley and Oak Park, but will be open to students in Detroit and surrounding communities as well. The area was chosen because of a need in the region for more educational options where public school redistricting and school closures have left a void. The Academy will be the only one of its kind in the area, as most local Montessori programs end when children reach kindergarten.

A letter of recommendation from Mary Otto, dean of the School of Education and Human Services, was sent to Provost Virinder Moudgil and presented to the Board of Trustees by Dr. Moudgil.

In it, Otto lists a number of reasons that she believes Four Corners is an excellent candidate for approval including but not limited to "anticipation of a diverse student population from metropolitan Detroit area and southeast Oakland County communities, research-based Montessori approach with reputation for high achievement, quality services for special needs students, and a focus on character development and positive values."

The curriculum followed by the Academy, though currently in development, will be "based on consistent adherence to the 'Michigan Curriculum Framework' requirements" according to the Academy's application. This means that students who complete their education, through eighth grade, at Four Corners will be fully prepared to enter public high schools at the same educational level of their peers who attended traditional schools.

"There is consensus among all involved in the decision-making process that Four Corners Montessori Academy has the potential to achieve its goals of excellence under Oakland University's authorization," Otto concluded.

A full copy of the Academy's application, as well as University guidelines for applications and charter school programs are provided in the agenda from the June 25 Board of Trustees meeting, available online at the OU website.

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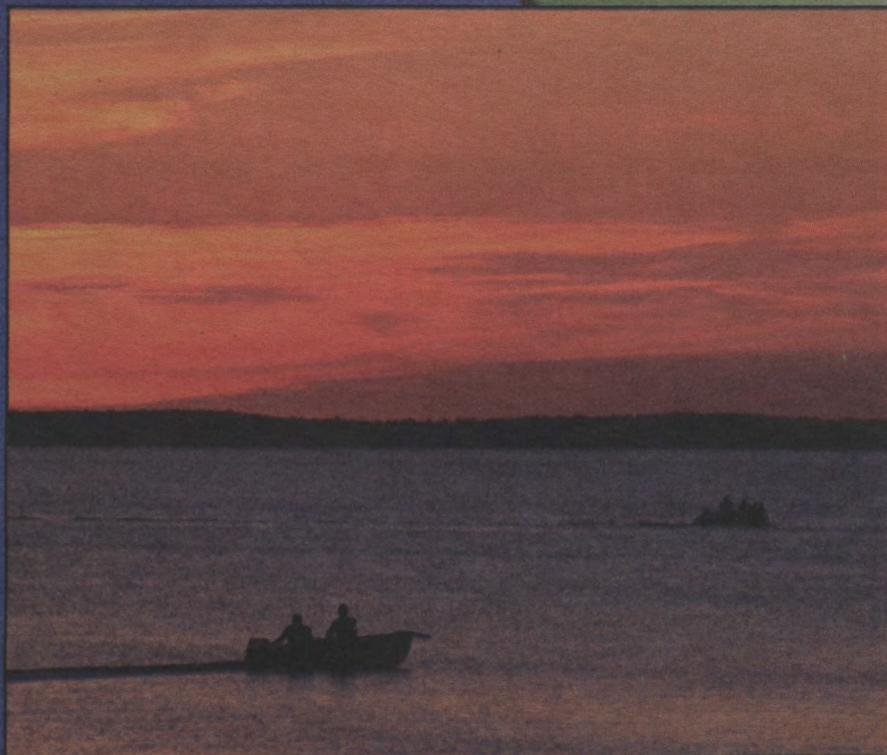
The Great Lakes escape

The perfect summer getaway is closer than you may think

By LINA AMENT
Staff Intern

When thinking of a summer getaway, places like Hawaii, Florida and Alaska can come to mind. But there other options.

Michigan offers many venues that are budget friendly and right around the corner.



From lake to shining lake, Michigan offers plenty of options for summer travelers to try. Above, boat goers enjoy a sunset on Black Lake in the city Onaway near Lake Huron.

DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

If gas prices are getting you down, you can park your car and your worries outside Mackinac Island.

According to Mary McGuire-Slevin, the Executive Director for the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau, the island is entirely horse drawn.

"No cars are allowed on the island. We have horse drawn carriage tours, horseback riding, and bicycling around the island," McGuire-Slevin said.

McGuire-Slevin added that Mackinac Island was voted among the top 10 most sustainable islands in the world by National Geographic Traveler.

"The island is 80 percent state park and has 300 years of American architecture. There are no chain hotels, only a few franchises. The Grand Hotel is one of the only Grand Hotels left in the world, and is known for its long porch," McGuire-Slevin said. "The island is also known for its Victorian Era fudge."

Maria Provenzano, a senior at OU, has traveled many times to Mackinac Island.

"I visited Fort Mackinac. They gave tours of the fort which was very interesting," Provenzano said. "I did horseback riding and road my bike on the trails. The island also has great restaurants."

Frankenmuth, also known as "Michigan's Little Bavaria" offers a unique cultural experience. According to Herb Zeilinger, motorcoach and group travel manager, Frankenmuth is known for its shopping and dining.

"Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland is the world's largest Christmas store and has almost two acres worth of retail shopping," Zeilinger said. "Main Street is also lined with a hundred different shops."

Frankenmuth is famous for its chicken dinners, served at the Bavarian Inn Restaurant and Zehnder's Restaurant.

"Zehnder's is Americas largest independently owned family restaurant," Zeilinger said. "It can seat up to 16,000 people. The Bavarian Inn is totally decorated in German Alpine style and all of the servers dress in German attire."

Zeilinger added that right outside of the Bavarian Inn is a 30 foot tower called the Glockenspiel. The tower has 35 bells that play seven times a day.

Frankenmuth offers many activities enjoyable for all ages. Alycia St. Angelo, a senior at OU, visited the attraction this past June.

"I like the relaxed atmosphere of Frankenmuth," St. Angelo said. We [played miniature golf] and visited the Cheese Haus. The food at the Bavarian Inn was delicious. Also, Birch Run is close by and great for shopping."

If its water sports and outdoor recreations you're after, Traverse City is a great destination for just that. You can take your pick from swimming, sailing, boating, hiking or kayaking. According to visittraversecity.com, it is known for over 150 clear inland lakes and rivers.

Also in Traverse City, the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore offers views of Lake Michigan, several hiking trails and fresh water beaches.

Another one of Traverse City's main attractions is the National Cherry Festival. The festival, according to cherryfestival.org, was designed to celebrate cherries, tourism and community involvement. Its annual attendance is over 500,000 during the eight day festival.

OU senior Danielle Katner spent many summers at this prime location.

"Traverse City has very nice beaches and public access for boats," Katner said. "Downtown has many small shops, tons of restaurants and great ice cream parlors."

Other hiking destinations can be found just north of Traverse City. Robert Black, a senior at OU, has spent ample amount of time hiking at North and South Manitou Island.

"[The islands] are national parks off of Leland Michigan. North Manitou is more desolate of the two. It has a lot of well marked trails and is great for hiking and camping."

Sterling, Michigan hosts another great site for camping and water adventures. Riverview Campground on the Rifle River offers a 120 acre campground. Take your pick of tubing, kayaking or canoeing for two hours at a time or more.

For more information on Michigan getaways, visit michigan.org or travelmichigan.com.

Kwame text messages concealed

By COREY WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT — A number of previously unreleased text messages in the criminal case against Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and his former top aide will remain under seal, a judge ruled Monday.

District Court Judge Ronald Giles said texts that could be subject to a privilege challenge by defense lawyers or would be inadmissible in a preliminary examination will be sealed and not included in Kilpatrick's criminal case file.

Defense lawyers say the messages could threaten the ability to get a fair trial and were illegally obtained.

The Wayne County prosecutor's office wanted the new messages released to the public.

Giles did say he intended to release a number of text messages that previously have surfaced in media reports.

He said the release of those texts would not present any further harm to the defendants' right to a fair trial.

"For the most part those text messages are already out there," Giles said. "The issue of a fair trial has to some degree already been threatened."

It wasn't immediately clear when the messages would be unsealed, although Giles said he would rule at a July 25 hearing on what evidence will be admitted for a preliminary examination scheduled for Sept. 22.

Prosecutors want to make public as part of the court case file a motion containing what they say is about 200 text messages, including some between Kilpatrick and his wife, Carlita. Attachments containing other text messages also are part of the motion.

"There are a lot of text messages



DONNA TEREK/Associated Press

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and attorney James Parkman sit in court in Detroit on Monday. A number of previously unreleased text messages in the criminal case against Kilpatrick and his former top aide will remain under seal, a judge ruled Monday.

attached, definitely in the hundreds, if not in the thousands," Giles told Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran. "This is still a preliminary examination. How many text messages do you need?"

Moran countered that all the messages relate to the charges against Kilpatrick and former Chief of Staff Christine Beatty and that prosecutors anticipate challenges to some of them.

"There is a lot of evidence in this case," Moran said. "We're finding new relationships, in terms of the messages, every day, and more witnesses."

Moran said nearly two weeks ago that the new text messages reveal other extramarital relationships involving Kilpatrick. His office plans to amend at least one of the charges against the mayor due to those new messages, Moran said.

Moran had no comment on Giles' ruling.

The case has seen numerous motions filed by the defense and prosecution. The preliminary examination was pushed back to September from the original June 9 date to give defense lawyers more time to prepare.

Giles said Monday the case will move forward.

"We're not going to delay these proceedings any further," he told both sides. "In September, we're going to hold these hearings."

Attorneys for Kilpatrick and Beatty have been given until July 18 to give Giles and prosecutors a list of messages they claim could fall under spousal, attorney-client or other privileges.

Kilpatrick and Beatty were present at Monday's hearing in Detroit.

Giles' ruling also allows defense teams to argue which of the new text messages should be included as evidence in the preliminary examination, said Jim Parkman, one of Kilpatrick's lawyers.

"We wanted to remain sealed those things that have not gotten out," Parkman told reporters outside 36th District Court. "There are the ones that have already been out there. People can read them over again."

Excerpts of embarrassing and sexually explicit text messages left on Beatty's city-issued pager first were published in January by the Detroit Free Press.

Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Robert J. Colombo in April ordered the release of a document containing other text messages sent from or received on Beatty's pager. That document was recovered from the computer of Michael Stefani, an attorney who represented three police officers in whistle-blowers' lawsuits that were settled last year for \$8.4 million.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy charged Kilpatrick and Beatty in March with perjury, misconduct and obstruction of justice stemming from testimony they gave last year during the whistle-blowers' trial. They also are accused of lying about their roles in the firing of a police official.

Kilpatrick and Beatty denied the charges.

Kilpatrick also faces forfeiture of office efforts by the Detroit City Council, which accuses him of violating provisions in the city charter by keeping secret a confidentiality agreement related to the whistle-blowers' settlement.

The council also has asked Gov. Jennifer Granholm to remove Kilpatrick for misconduct.

B N E W S R I E S F S



MARK R. RUMMEL/Associated Press

Above: Vincitore, left, of the Chicago Yacht Club, and Equation, of Bayview Yacht Club, near the finish line of the Port Huron to Mackinac sailboat race Sunday at Mackinac Island. The race takes more than 300 boats from the harbor off of Chicago up Lake Michigan and through the Straits of Mackinac to end at beautiful Mackinaw Island.

Below: A dog seized during the takedown of a dog fighting ring in Detroit is seen at the Michigan Humane Society in Detroit on Monday. The Wayne County sheriff says deputies busted a major dog fighting ring in Detroit, arresting 50 men and three women and seizing \$27,000 in cash, as well as weapons and drugs.



DAVID GURALNICK/Associated Press



HOYT E. CARRIER II/Associated Press

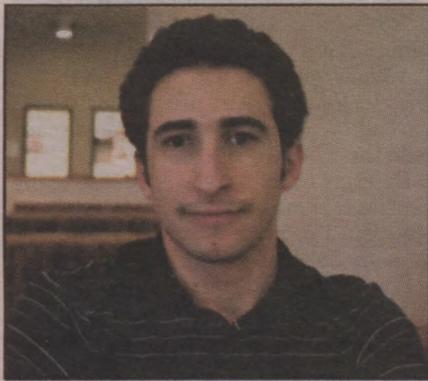
Above: Mike Ford, son of President Gerald R. Ford, addresses the crowd gathered for the wreath laying at Ford's tomb on the grounds of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Mich., on the 95th anniversary of the birth of President Ford on Monday.

Below: The Master Tire boat driven by Jimmy King exits a turn, Saturday, July 12, 2008, during the 2008 American Power Boat Association Gold Cup Unlimited hydroplane qualifying rounds on the Detroit River. The boats can reach speeds of up to 190 mph. Winds cancelled the races on the final day of competition.



STEVE PEREZ/Associated Press

If you could see anything in the world, what would it be?



"Pyramids in Egypt. It's really amazing to see how different the culture was so long ago."

Ahmed Ibrahim
Grad Student, Chemistry



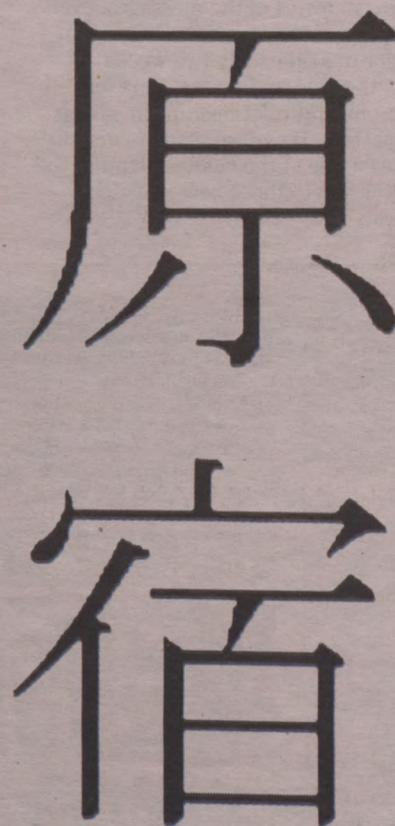
"I'd like to see Japan. They're always on the cutting edge, plus 2,000 years of history."

Max Klinkoski
Junior, Business



"I want to go see the Olympics. That way, instead of visiting all kinds of different places and experiencing the culture, everyone is already in one spot. Plus, I like sports."

Yakela Roberson
Senior, Medical Lab Science



"Ancient Europe. It's something we don't really have in the U.S. and history is something I find interesting."

Alex Rusek
Junior, Political Science

What was your most memorable vacation?



"Amsterdam was cool. It was refreshing to see other cultures."

**Guy Coaster
Senior, Nursing**



"Along the East Coast. Me and my family spent three weeks going to places like Williamsburg, Gettysburg, Baltimore and D.C. I haven't really gone anywhere since so it's kind of stuck in my mind."

**Marlene Fritts
Sophomore, Biology**



"Australia was memorable. Everything was similar, but really different in a lot of other ways."

**Latonia Waller
Senior, Biology**



ON THE ROAD PLAYLIST

Kat Augustyniak
Sophomore
English and Spanish

"Don't Lets Start"
- They Might Be Giants

"Do You Realize"
- The Flaming Lips

"Last Night" - The Strokes

"The Chills" - Peter Bjorn and John

"Chop Suey!"
- System of a Down

"The Devil in Mexico"
- Murder by Death

"Beast of Burden"
- The Rolling Stones

"Cats in the Cradle"
- Harry Chapin

"Train of Love" - Bob Dylan

"Folsom Prison Blues"
- Johnny Cash

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Road trip tips for the traveler

Things everyone should do to get the best out of a road trip

By KATHLEEN QUANDT
Staff Intern

If you are planning a road trip this summer, properly preparing for the journey could determine how enjoyable the vacation would be.

A road trip puts you in the driver's seat and in charge of where you go and what you do. Seeing and doing things first-hand makes this kind of trip different than flying, taking a bus or riding a train.

Taking a road trip requires planning a budget for food, transportation, lodging and other costs. There are several ways to save money and different ways to get to where you are going.

According to www.roadtripamerica.com, there are a series of steps to planning a great road trip.

The first step is to identify your trip's purpose. This will help travel seekers figure out how much planning is needed.

The next step is figuring out your preferences. You might want a tightly scheduled trip or just play it by ear. Plans should be made in advance for a place to stay if you want to have control of your schedule.

While point-and-click road trip planners are free and easy, finding the information you need by doing some research with books and maps could be useful as well.

A few recommended travel websites are AAA.com's Triptik, Yahoo.com's Trip Planner, Orbitz.com and RandMcNally.com.

Asia Walton, 20, a junior and computer science major, said when she and a friend planned a trip to London, Ontario, she looked on maquest.com for directions but wishes she would have studied her route more closely before hand.

"I told [my friend] the directions when he was driving," Walton said. "I would plan differently [next time]."

Brittany Timins, 19, a sophomore and physical therapy major, is planning to take two trips to Cedar Point this summer.

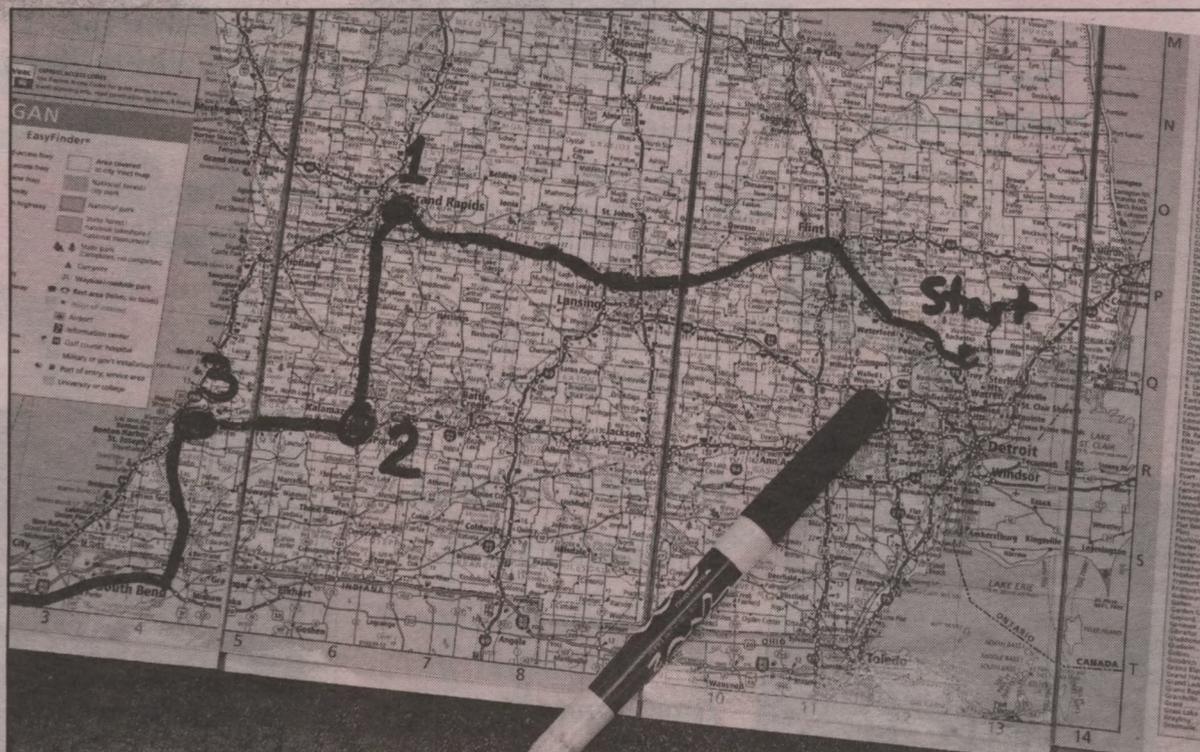
Timins is making sure to plan her route to Sandusky more thoroughly by checking road work updates because websites like mapquest.com do not take construction into consideration.

"Parts of I-75 are closed so we have to figure out an alternate route to get there," Timins said.

An important part of a road trip is planning where to eat. To experience the flavor of the place you are traveling through, try a café or a roadside diner.

Another idea is to bring a cooler with snacks and beverages. Some healthy snacks to keep you going are fruit and veggies, granola and trail mix.

Lodging is another thing to take into consideration. Some people prefer camping while others like a hotel or



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Drawing out the route you plan on taking to your destination and marking specific stops along the journey is a way to make sure you're ready for the road. It also helps to take note of construction and weather conditions and plan an alternate route just in case.

resort.

"We have to book a hotel before we go," said Timins noting the importance of doing so.

Also, make sure your vehicle is adequately equipped, and be prepared for emergencies. In case something happens to the vehicle during the trip, make sure that you have a charged cell phone on hand. A citizen's band radio could come in handy in areas where cell phones don't work.

Be sure to check your vehicle's oil and other fluid levels and tire pressure before leaving.

Renting a car is another thing to consider.

"Rent a car that has better gas mileage like a small compact car," said Timins.

Walton managed to save money on her trip by having everyone help pay for gas costs.

"We all went in on gas so it saves a lot," Walton said.

Other things to be cognizant of while driving are weather and road conditions, especially if you will be experiencing conditions that you're not used to such as snow or mountain roads.

"Have something to do while you're in the car," Walton said.

To make the trip more enjoyable, take along some music or audio books to listen to.

Safwan Anam, 18, is a freshman and will be taking a trip to Cedar Point with Timins.

"Make sure you make a lot of CDs for the trip," Anam said.

Walton says the next time she travels, she'll plan what she wants to do when she gets to her destination.

"Once we got there we didn't know what to do,"

Walton said of her last trip.

Keeping a travel journal can be helpful for planning trips. Take note of what goes on each day as well as trip data-mileage, stops, weather and expenses.

The final thing you should try and remember is to just hang loose. Even after all of your planning, things still happen that are out of your control. Road trips can be adventurous and things can be unexpected. It is a time to relax and enjoy the freedom of traveling the open road.

Summer vacation or occupation?

By CAITLIN CALLAGHAN
Contributing Reporter

With the advent of summer, students generally look forward to relaxing, working a summer job, spending more time with their friends, or maybe taking a couple classes. But, do students actually have time to take a summer vacation if they are working and taking classes?

Both work and homework take up a great deal of time, leaving most students with little free time. Some students work around this by taking smaller weekend vacation trips.

Blair Trevorrow, a senior psychology major, works as a pharmacy technician and doesn't have much free time.

"Besides every other weekend, I don't have much free time. I work and there's always homework," Trevorrow said.

However, she does use the time she has off from to get away when she can.

"I go up North every other weekend. That's my mini vacation. It's like my summer savior," she said.

Other students agree, saying that with classes and work, they would really have no free time to take an extensive vacation this summer except for weekend and day trips.

Karen Genera, a senior medical laboratory science major, works at a sleep clinic in addition to taking summer classes.

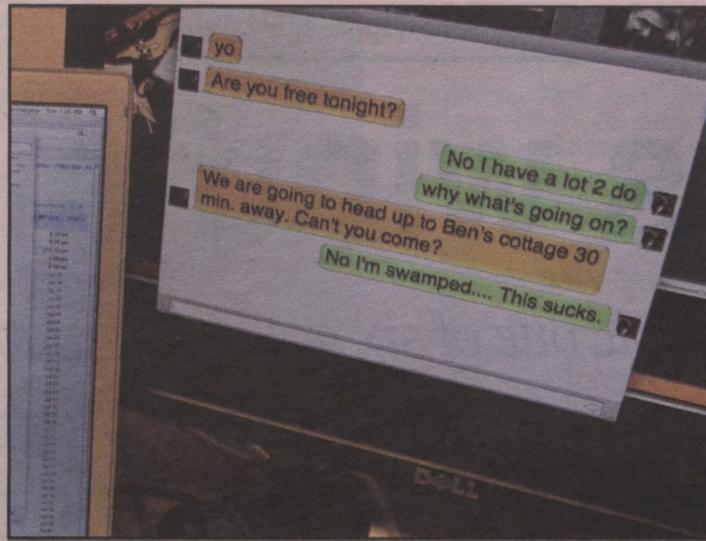
"I hook patients up to electrodes and monitor them for sleep disorders," Genera said.

However, she has weekends free for trips.

"I went to 'the thumb' last weekend," she said.

Christina Ferrante, also a senior and a pre-physical therapy major, works and takes classes.

"I could take a weekend trip since I don't work weekends. I could also take Friday off and take a long weekend trip," Ferrante said.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Work and school can make it hard for college students to enjoy summer free time.

Some students have all their time consumed by classes and work, but would travel if they had the time.

Christopher Matz is a senior biology major and a guest student from Albion College.

"I work at a company in Troy called Control Power. I just work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., so I'd definitely say I have some free time, so it's manageable," said Matz.

He said that taking classes for most of the week in addition to working however, does not leave time to go on vacation.

"I really can't because I have class four days a week and it's condensed, so I haven't really been able [to vacation]," Matz said.

Matz wishes that he had more free time to travel.

"I wish I could have gone to that Rothbury music festival. And I would also go up north if I could," he said.

Michael Khalil, also a guest student, is from Grand Valley State and a biomedical science major.

Khalil doesn't work so he does have some free time. However, with his load of classes, he sometimes wishes he had more vacation time.

"I have no vacation time because of class everyday. There's exams every Wednesday and homework due every Monday, so you can't be slacking," Khalil said.

"If I could go anywhere it would be Europe for the summer. I was planning to do a little tour of Europe, but I decided to take summer classes instead."

Amanda Quantz, a junior and English major, felt that the summer semester is less stressful and gives her more free time.

"I only have classes two days a week. So there's a little less stress and I can get things done quickly," Quantz said. "I feel like I'll have more free time. This is my first summer semester and I already feel like I have more free time."

However, Quantz said she will not be vacationing this summer.

"I have requirements for my program to finish up," she said.

Quantz also recently got a new job and will be working more hours than usual, since she has more time.

Adam Dryke, a senior economics and business major feels he has more free time during the summer.

"Just because I'm taking fewer classes. I have two less classes than normal, so more time," Dryke said.

"The way I set up my schedule I think I will have more time to hang out with friends. I have to get up earlier to get more hours at work," he said.

But, Dryke said he probably will not be vacationing this summer.

"I doubt it because I work. If I do, it's mainly for a long weekend. So nothing sustainable," he said.

OU professor pushes students to be 'original'

By CHERIE W. ROLFE
Contributing Reporter

Fifty sheets of white paper are neatly stapled to the wall on the fifth floor of Wilson Hall. This intellectual collage is the result of a question Doris Runey posed to her summer semester modern literature students:

What would happen if the United States suddenly vanished from the face of the earth?

Modern literature (ENG 111) is the study of writings from the decades of 1920 to 1950, known as the modernist period.

Authors such as Ernest Hemingway, Willa Cather, and John Dos Passos are often considered modernists. Many socially relevant novels were published during this post World War I era.

That is why Runey also sees the class

as a forum for thought and exchange and designs assignments that evoke a unique response to the literature.

But, why assign an essay on this topic?

"Current events generate a lot of responses in any class," Runey said, who strives to alter students' perceptions by removing a common element from the philosophical equation. "I'm disruptive, but in a meaningful way," she said.

Runey wants her students to buck the trend of reliance on the opinion of others and instead form their own opinions.

"When students are pressed to honesty, the answers surprise me," Runey said. "Although sometimes it confirms the reflex response."

When the essay was first assigned, "It was hard to conceive because all we know is based on what our country is," said Courtney Kus, a nursing major.

In their essays, students pondered

what world power would arise to take the place in the void left by the U.S. Would it be China or would Britain feel the need to colonize again? How would other countries react? What kind of economic and social problems would it cause? What would be next? All of these were common themes throughout the essays.

"If the U.S. were to disappear, the world as we know it would end," a student wrote. "If the United States suffered the fate of some latter-day Atlantis, the first reaction would be shock and horror," wrote another, reflecting another common theme of chaos.

Then, there were these responses that related to a similar theme:

"This may sound horrible, but it may be the best for the world. The U.S. also has a way of getting too involved in others' business."

"Currently, the U.S. is acting as a

world police system and finds it necessary to obtain control over a multitude of foreign matters, some of which do not and should not concern America ... the U.S. acts as an authoritarian entity getting involved, controlling and trying to manipulate other countries because America believes they should operate a certain way."

"If the U.S. vanished from the face of the globe, then other countries might have to take care of their own problems for a change. When has any other country strained its neck out for the United States?"

Did Runey get what she was after? Was the rhetorical exercise a success?

"Yes, but I still believe students are constrained by popular opinion instead of original thought," Runey said. "I want to create an atmosphere of free thinking."

Kampe's windfall class

Serbian center Milutinovic one of six acclaimed men's basketball recruits

By **BRAD SLAZINSKI**
Contributing Reporter

The Oakland University men's basketball team posted a respectable 17-14 overall record last season, made it to the second round of the Summit League tournament and did not lose any players from their starting lineup. Despite these facts, head coach Greg Kampe has hit the road with a fury this summer, gathering what may be the strongest recruiting class in the team's history.

Kampe recruited players from all over Michigan, Washington D.C. and Serbia. In expanding his scope outside of the Great Lakes state, Kampe believes that he has enough newcomers with qualifications to make Summit League opponents stand up and take notice.

"On paper, it's their accomplishments that make them great. We've never had players with these types of credentials before," Kampe said. "We also have a nice nucleus of young and experienced players, and a guy at every position."

Kampe's most recognizable recruit may also be his biggest, literally. Serbian center Ilija Milutinovic stands 7 feet tall, weighs 255 pounds and was heavily recruited by Oregon State before Kampe swooped in with an offer to play for the

Golden Grizzlies.

"One of my assistants was told about [Milutinovic]. He spent time coaching in Serbia and gained contacts over there," Kampe said. "He is very skilled and is a good rebounder."

Milutinovic made a name for himself in the National Christian Athletic Association varsity division championship game, where he obtained 14 points and 22 rebounds. Milutinovic also competed in the Albert Schweitzer Tournament in Germany as a member of Serbia and Montenegro's national team, helping lead them to a third-place finish with a 17 point, eight rebound average.

Milutinovic appears to immediately fill the need for a backup center after the graduation of Pat McCloskey. However, Kampe said that he and the rest of his class would play themselves into roles as the season went on.

Another notable player is Washington D.C. native Matt Samuels. The 6-foot point guard averaged 22 points and five assists per game as a senior at Coastal Christian Academy in Virginia Beach, Va. Like Milutinovic, Samuels had several suitors.



TIM RATH/The Oakland Post
Greg Kampe should have fewer reasons to yell in the huddle this season. His recruiting class includes three Top-10 players from Michigan, a transfer from St. John's and two nationally-recruited prospects.

See Kampe on Page 19

McAuliffe reaches third round at Moors Club

By **MICHAEL SANDULA**
Contributing Reporter

Junior Frank McAuliffe painted what is normally considered "Western Michigan Broncos Country," Oakland gold last month. The Grizzlies' golfer made it to the third round in this year's Michigan Amateur Championship at Moors Golf Club in Kalamazoo, June 17 to 21.

"The tournament was a lot of fun," McAuliffe said. "It was a good experience and the people were great. They treated us very well."

This was the first time the tournament had been held at the 6,766 yard, par-72 course, but not the first time McAuliffe had golfed there.

"The last four holes are some of the toughest in the state," said McAuliffe, adding that the course was fair and in good shape.

McAuliffe qualified for the Championship by posting a score of 75 in a preliminary round at Walnut Creek. He scored 75 and 78 in the first two rounds, advancing to match



Junior Frank McAuliffe

play in the Round of 16.

There, the Ann Arbor native battled it out against fifth-seeded Tom Werkmeister, 40, of Kentwood.

After a rough start, McAuliffe fought back from three holes down to see the 18th hole, but he put his approach shot in the bunker, leaving him unable to force an extra hole.

Looking forward to next year, McAuliffe said that the OU men's golf team has "some new kids that should

help the team contend for the [Mid-Continent] Conference championship."

McAuliffe led the way for the Grizzlies golf team last year with a scoring average of 77.09. He shot a two-over par score of 218 to finish in a tie for fourth place at the Summit League Tournament in April and was named to the All-Summit League first team.

The golf schedule will begin for the Grizzlies on Sept. 8, when they travel to the Stone Ridge Golf Club in Bowling Green, Ohio to participate in the John Piper Intercollegiate tournament.

OU hoops schedule announced



SAMANTHA FRANZ/The Oakland Post

Sophomore Brittany Carnago brings the ball up the floor in a 2007 Summit League Tournament game against Centenary. Oakland will look to improve upon their semi-final finish in 2008.

By DAVID SANDERS
Staff Intern

During the 2007 season, the Oakland University women's basketball team became known for putting fear into the hearts of nationally-ranked opposition.

After close losses against No. 7 Georgia and No. 24 Auburn, a victory over No. 21 Florida State ensured that the Golden Grizzlies would not stand for being overlooked.

In 2008, head coach Beckie Francis and the rest of the Grizzlies will look to capitalize upon that fear.

The Grizzlies' schedule is highlighted by non-conference games against national powerhouses Georgia, Purdue, and Marquette, as well as a two-game trip to Cozumel, Mexico.

"We're excited to get to practice in October," Francis said. "We're pumped for Georgia and Purdue, and we're looking to avenge any loss."

The Grizzlies will look to build upon the success of their 20-10 overall record

last season as they return 11 players and all five starters, including first team All-Summit League pick Jessica Pike and second-teamer Melissa Jeltema.

OU will kick off the season on Friday, Nov. 14 as they welcome Columbia to the O'Rena at a 7:30 p.m. tip-off time. From there, they embark on a challenging non-conference schedule that includes Georgia, Saint Louis and Purdue before heading south to Mexico on Dec. 19 for dates with Texas-San Antonio and South Carolina-Upstate.

"We're looking to gain experience in traveling," Francis said. "We're looking forward to a good cultural experience to play in another country."

The Grizzlies return home on Dec. 28 to play Marquette and Rochester College before beginning the bulk of their conference schedule at home against North Dakota State on Jan. 3.

"We're looking forward to all of them," Francis said. "Just getting better with each game, continuing to improve and building on last year."

Club sports display widespread tastes

Oakland students partake in many games that enjoy more popularity overseas

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Contributing Reporter

The 2008 Summer Olympic Games next month in Beijing will include some sports that Americans are not used to following.

However, on college campuses across the country (including Oakland University), many unfamiliar sports are represented by clubs that compete every year.

Fencing, judo, cricket and rugby are four such sports that are very popular in other parts of the world but not in America.

Cricket is one of the most popular sports throughout southern Asia. It is also the national sport of England and the Bahamas. Fencing is very popular in Europe and rugby is the national past time in Australia and New Zealand. Judo originated in Japan in the late 19th century and continues to play an important part in Japanese culture.

Cricket is a game that resembles baseball. Two teams of 11 members compete on an oval shaped grass field called the pitch. The object of the game is to score more runs than your opponent. Runs are scored by making an

exchange, when the batsman hits the cricket ball then proceeds to run to a wicket at the opposite end of the pitch, where a second batsman is standing. The second batsman then runs to the opposite end. Each time this is completed a run is scored.

Cricket has been played throughout the world for centuries. The modern form of Cricket was established in England and is still followed very closely there.

Fencing is one of only four sports that have been played at every modern Olympic Games. Oakland University Fencing Club President Jamie Shorek said that while fencing may look dangerous, it is a safe sport as long as basic safety rules are followed such as never pointing a weapon at someone if they are not wearing a mask.

"There are real safety issues involved and there are rules that must be followed for everyone's protection," Shorek said. "As long as you act in a controlled respectful manner during a bout, there's very little risk."

Shorek said that the uncommon nature of the game is what makes it enjoyable for her to devote time to.

"Not many people know about fenc-

ing as an actual sport other than what is seen in the movies," Shorek said. "I love teaching others and getting them involved."

Shorek said that fencing is especially popular in Europe, where the sport originated, but that fencing is also popular in Canada, Portugal, Peru, Argentina and South Africa.

Rugby is a popular sport throughout the world, especially in Europe and Australia. OU Rugby Club President Graham Stevens said that rugby may not be as popular in America as in other countries because of the NFL.

"American football is such a huge industry and was established way before rugby was here," Stevens said. "Rugby originated in the Far East and moved through Europe and Africa before coming here. It's just hard to break into the American market with a new sport, especially with the multibillion dollar enterprise of the NFL."

Rugby is sort of a combination of American football and soccer. The players don't wear pads and injuries are common. Stevens said that what he loves most about rugby is the heart and brotherhood (or sisterhood, as women compete in rugby as well) that it takes

to compete.

"Unless you know everyone on the field with you and you've developed a close bond with them, you won't have a good team," Stevens said. "We on the OU men's rugby club team know each other so darn well that it's great, it's a brotherhood that we've formed and we all know we have each other's back."

Judo is a modern Japanese martial art. The object is to either throw the opponent to the ground, or to make the opponent submit by immobilizing him. Judo moves include rolls, falls, throws, hold-downs, chokes, joint-locks and strikes.

There are two types of throws, standing and sacrifice throws. Standing throws include hand, hip, foot and leg techniques. Sacrifice throws are when the thrower falls backwards or on his side to complete the throw of an opponent. Ground fighting (or submission moves) includes locking joints, chokeholds and pinning the opponent to the ground.

Athletes compete anywhere in the world. Different sports may be popular in different countries but the goals are usually the same: to practice, to compete, and to win.

Overseas softball adventure

Golden Grizzlies Owen and MacDonald lead USA International Softball team to second place finish in the Czech Republic

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University softball coach Glenn MacDonald and senior shortstop Julie Owen joined the USA International Softball team for an eight-day trip to the Czech Republic June 25 to 28 to compete in the Prague Softball Week Tournament.

MacDonald guided the team to a second place finish in the tournament. USA International lost in the championship game 3-1 to American Sports Tours International, the only other U.S. based team in the six-team field.

Owen led the team with a .625 batting average, going 10 for 16 with two doubles and one triple. She also scored seven runs, while striking out just once during the tournament.

"Julie was outstanding," MacDonald said. "She was by far the best offensive player in the tournament. She was just awesome."

Even though the team did not win the championship, MacDonald said the trip was a success.

In the first game against SaBaT Praha, USA International won 2-1. MacDonald said that a key to that victory was a triple play in which Owen made an over the shoulder catch for one out, threw to the catcher who made a tag on the runner coming home for the second out and then threw out the runner trying to get to second base to complete the triple play.

"In all the years I've been coaching, I've never been a part of a triple play," MacDonald said. "It was something that really pumped us up."

The second meeting with SaBaT Praha was for a trip to the championship game. The game went into extra innings with the score tied at five. USA International exploded for five runs in their half of the eighth inning and held on to win 10-5, earning the chance to play in the championship game.

Overall USA International played seven games in the tournament finishing



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Senior Julie Owen led the way in the Czech Republic both in the field and at the plate. She finished with a .625 batting average, two doubles and seven runs.

with a 4-3 record.

MacDonald said an interesting aspect of playing internationally was the language barrier.

"There were times when one of the girls would forget a sign and I could just say it out loud because nobody on the other team knew what I was saying, but on the other hand, we had no idea what they were saying," MacDonald said.

MacDonald said that the trip was very exciting and while most of his time was spent handling his coaching responsibilities or watching other teams play, there was still some time for sight seeing.

"Prague is called the City of Gold," MacDonald said. "It's a very beautiful city. The structures are beautiful. We went to the castle where the president of the Czech Republic runs his office. The

churches are magnificent there. We were very fortunate; it wasn't just a softball trip, we were able to experience their culture and their way of life."

While they were in the Czech Republic, the 2008 Euro Cup soccer tournament was being played in Austria and Switzerland. MacDonald said it was amazing to see thousands of people gathered in the town square where large television screens were displayed to watch the Czech team compete.

MacDonald said that a major difference between America and the Czech Republic was the fact that the legal drinking age is only 15. He said that he was at a stand getting something to drink and there was a young man in front of him, he expected him to order an ice cream or a pop but instead he ordered

a beer.

"I couldn't believe it," MacDonald said. "But to them it's normal."

He said the trip was a great experience for both him and Owen and he expects the trip to be very beneficial for Owen going into her senior season.

"During the summer a lot of our athletes don't play ball," MacDonald said. "She had the opportunity to play highly competitive ball so that will keep her sharp."

This was the second trip that MacDonald has made with USA International. Two years ago he coached the team when they went to Australia. He said he plans to coach the team again next year when USA International returns to Australia and that Owen is looking forward to going as well.

By the Numbers:
OVERSEAS
EDITION

12

Number of teams in the field at the Prague Softball Week Tournament

6

Positions that Owen played in the tournament, including right field, left field, shortstop, second base, third base and catcher

15

Years that the Czech Republic has been an independent nation

POST GAME

In doing research for our club sports article (see page 17), we here in The Oakland Post sports department were blown away by the variety of games offered on campus. There truly is something for everyone. In fact, the only group without a game to play is ours: the gawky, awkward, clumsy journalists that couldn't find the Rec Center with a map and a compass.

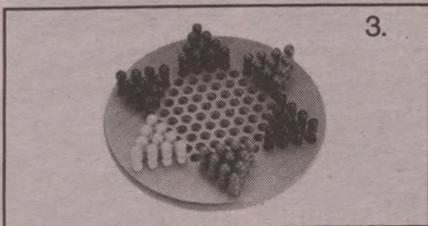
With that in mind, here is a list of five serious and not-so-serious suggestions for sports we'd like to see played on campus: 1) hopscotch, 2) jump rope, 3) Chinese checkers, 4) football (video games), 5) House.



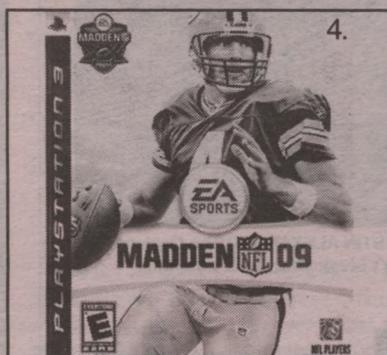
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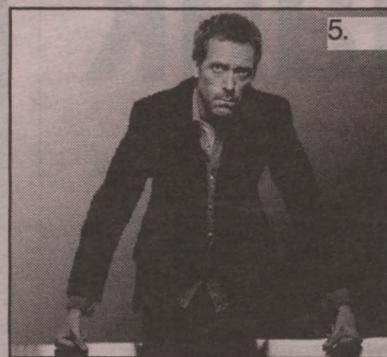
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Photo credits: amazon.com

GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

Julie Owen
Softball

Year: Senior
Major: Health Sciences

Owen led the USA International softball team to a second place finish in the Prague Softball Week Tournament with a .625 batting average, two doubles and one triple.

continued from Page 16

KAMPE

At one point, he had signed a letter of intent to play at Wyoming but a coaching change made him reconsider. Samuels hopes to assist current point guard Jonathon Jones in the Grizzlies' back court.

Rounding out the Grizzlies' summer is the addition of 6-foot-2-inch, 172 pound guard Larry Wright. Wright, an incoming junior from Saginaw, transferred from St. John's where he ranked third on the team in scoring last season. Wright started in 10 out of the 29 games he played for the Red Storm last season, averaging 9.1 points per game and shooting 40 percent from three-point range.

While Wright won't be eligible to play until the 2009-2010 season due to the conditions of his transfer, he should help out the Grizzlies' bench considerably as a three-point bomber when he is eligible.

These three players join incoming freshmen Blake Cushingberry, Johnny Thames and Drew Maynard to comprise

the 2008 OU men's basketball recruiting class. The previously recruited incoming freshmen, who joined together to sign letters of intent on Nov. 21, 2007, ranked in the Top-10 of Bankhoops.com's basketball recruiting rankings for the state of Michigan.

Maynard, a 6-foot-7 forward from Lake Orion, is a three-time selection for all-state, all-county, all-area and Oakland County Dream team.

He was described by Kampe in a January 2008 issue of the Oakland Post as "a Pat McCloskey that can shoot better."

Cushingberry, a 6-foot-4 guard, led his Romeo Bulldogs to three consecutive MAC Red championships and two straight district championships.

"He's a kid that we think has a chance to be one of the best players in the Summit League before he's done," said Kampe of Cushingberry. "He is strong and physical and with a body like that can go deep and shoot it."

Thames, a 6-foot-9 forward from Port Huron Northern, reached all-state level as a junior and a senior and was named team MVP on two consecutive occasions.



Junior Jonathon Jones

Join an organization that's all about having fun. Be a part of

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- ★ Main Stage
- ★ Publicity
- ★ Special Events
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Contact us at studentprogramboard@gmail.com or 248-370-4295.

The Scene

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

July 16, 2008



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

The price of gas may be higher than ever. But no need to be down, fun can still be had at a destination that won't break your bank or tank.

Trips in one tank

By **AMANDA SAOUD**
Senior Reporter

With the price of gas getting higher every day, that carefree summer road trip is becoming less affordable. But don't worry. These trips provide a great escape from that summer job without breaking the bank. All of these destinations are within 100 miles of Oakland University, which means you can get there and back on just one tank of gas!

Known to most as a college town, Ann Arbor is also one of the most culturally diverse and activity-filled cities in the Metro area, especially during the summer.

Some of the best dining and nightlife in all of Michigan can be found in Ann Arbor. Whether you are looking for a place to listen to smooth music, laugh with up-and-coming comedians or dance all night long to the latest songs, you will find it here.

A popular event of the summer is the Ann Arbor Art Fair, running this year from July 16 to 19. Comprised of four award-winning, juried art fairs, this renowned event transforms Ann Arbor into an impressive outdoor art gallery showcasing the best in fine art and fine crafts.

If you are a musician, or just an aficionado, don't miss the Riverfolk Festival, which begins August 1 to 3.

Enjoy a weekend of professional performances as well as music workshops for children and adults.

If the idea of driving to Mackinac, Traverse City or the Upper Peninsula is more than your wallet can handle, check out the region known affectionately as "The Thumb." With more than 150 miles of shoreline and 51,000 acres of public recreation land, it offers something for every outdoor lover.

Consisting of about a dozen small towns and villages on the shore of Lake Huron, the thumb area provides the up north feel without the distance. These towns have embraced local tourism, and according to Thumbtourism.org, there is an event almost every weekend. Here is just a small sampling of all the fun events throughout the summer:

- 20th Annual Yale Bologna Festival, July 25 to 27.
- Harmony Weekend in Caseville, August 1 to 3.
- The Sarnia to Lexington Sailboat Race, August 2 to 3.
- Pirates on the Great Lakes in Port Austin, August 22 to 23.

Most of the restaurants and hotels in the area are family owned, providing a quaint feel, and generally lower prices than in bigger cities. Renting cottages and cabins on the beach is also a popular option if you are traveling with a group.

Don't forget that downtown Detroit has a lot to offer during the summer as well. The Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix is August 29 to 31, and the ongoing Rockin' on the Riverfront free concert series is every Friday night through August 22 according to Downtowndetroit.org. The series include musicians such as The Guess Who, Blue Oyster Cult and Foreigner, and admission is free.

On August 23 the Heidelberg Project of Detroit is hosting "It's all about the D," a festival that includes Hair Wars, Detroit Fashion Week and other local artists. For more info go to Heidelberg.org.

The Magic Stick in Detroit always has concerts to see, and the venue provides pool tables at \$8 an hour. Upcoming shows include:

- August 6: RX Bandits
- August 16: Cute is What We Aim For
- September 4: Reggie and the Full Effect

Check out more dates and events at Majesticdetroit.com.

For a sense of something different that is just around the corner, visit Detroit's Greektown. Filled with restaurants, bars, clubs, shopping, lodging and entertainment, Greektown is ideal for an OU student wanting to experience something different. Learn more at Visitgreektown.com.

THE ITINERARY

Let the Oakland Post write your to-do list.

"The Dark Knight"

7.18.08

The highly anticipated Batman movie starring Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Maggie Gyllenhaal and Morgan Freeman.

The Soundtrack of Your Summer Tour

8.7.08

Metro Station and The Maine open for co-headliners Boys Like Girls and Good Charlotte at the Fillmore in Detroit.

Madden NFL 09

8.12.08

It's that time again. EA Sports continues with the release of Madden NFL 09, complete with a new rewind feature and ability to be played on the Wii.

"What Happens in Vegas"

8.25.08

Didn't get to see it in theaters or want to see it again? "What Happens in Vegas" will be released on DVD.

Underoath

9.02.08

Two years since the release of "Define the Great Line," the screamo-rock band is back with "Lost in the Sound of Separation."

A few cheap flicks

By RORY McCARTY
Senior Reporter

Ten dollars a ticket.

That is how much it is costing movie patrons to see flicks during weekend evening hours at AMC Theaters in the OU area. AMC Theaters aren't the only ones, either. Many have raised the prices of movie tickets in the last year.

During this summer blockbuster movie season, a plethora of big-budget, star-filled films have flooded theaters. But students hoping to catch one of these films on the weekend might suddenly find it out of their price range.

According to employees at AMC and MJR theaters, this change is called price organization because, while prices during peak hours have gone up, the prices during matinee times have actually gone down. AMC, for example, only charges \$5 for a matinee during the week and twice that on a weekend. This means that patrons willing to get up early to go see movies can actually save some money.

Another way for savvy moviegoers to save money is to wait a few months longer and see films at second-play theaters like the Cinemark Movies 16 at Universal Mall in Warren.

The Cinemark runs a special on Monday where groups of three or more people can get in for 50 cents per person.

Though it seems that moviegoers would

flock to second-play theaters to avoid rising ticket prices, the patronage at Cinemark has actually declined.

"The attendance fell off about four years ago with the bad economy," said Carol Watters, a cashier at the Cinemark theater. "Also, maybe because some of the movies aren't as good."

Other venues, like The Magic Bag in Ferndale, started specifically to present people cheap movie-going options with its Brew & View shows. Held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, the Brew & View tickets are only \$2 and the Magic Bag sells beer and mixed drinks during the movie. All showings are 21 and up.

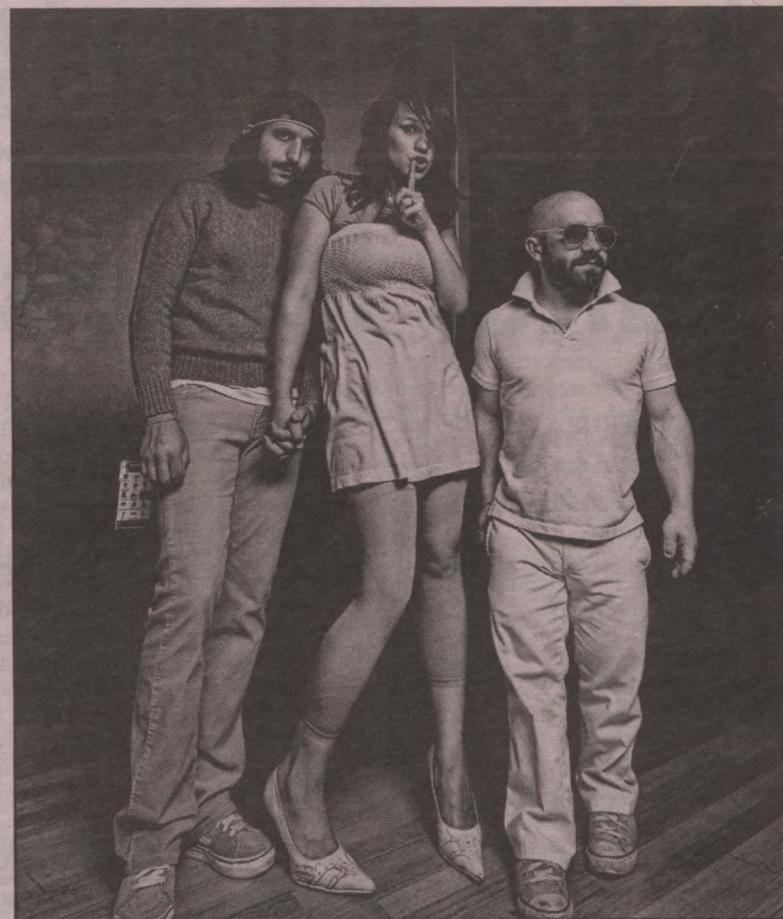
"The way the economy is in Michigan right now, we want to present entertainment that will fit into everybody's budget," said Magic Bag publicist Willy Wilson.

Wilson also said he doesn't feel as if attendance has been affected by the sluggish economy.

"As far as shows go, attendance has pretty much stayed on an even keel. I think the attendance for Brew & Views has more to do with what movie is showing as opposed to the cost," Wilson said.

With movie attendance showing no signs of slowing down in the weeks to come, movie patrons may need to find ways like this to save money.

The last piece of advice attendees will want to consider: don't buy the \$5 small popcorn if you can avoid it.



JOSH BAND

Detroit's The Hard Lessons are, left to right: Augie, Ko Ko Louise and The Anvil.

Lessons learned

By NICK DEGEL
Managing Editor

REVIEW

If you have done little else in this city over the last two years, hopefully you have checked out The Hard Lessons.

Aside from holding the unenviable but accurate title of Detroit's "next big thing," The Hard Lessons have been about as close to a musical enema as one could ever imagine. Their high energy shows and unforgettable hooks remind even the most pretentious music fan to shut up and just have fun.

But behind the carefree attitude are some real chops. Singer/guitarist Augie (Visocchi), singer/keyboardist Ko Ko Louise (Korin Louise Cox) and drummer The Anvil (Christophe Zajac-Denek) combine to create a bluesy indie-rock sound that never spares the white-hot intensity.

On July 22, the trio will release "B & G Sides," a packaging of four singles they have released since November 2007. The record gets its name from the arrangement of the

singles with two songs each, one performed by Augie and the other by Ko Ko Louise (a boy and a girl, if you don't see where this is going).

According to Augie, the band arranged the record as they did in order to provide room to explore their many influences. This gives the record both a sense of variety and a sense of cohesion.

Songs like "Come Back to Me" and "Don't Shake My Tree" are shining examples of the band's sound. This also includes "See and Be Scene," a satirical look at the hipster crowd that deserves radio recognition.

The Hard Lessons show their versatility with the aggressive "12345678" and the sweet ballad "I Like Your Hair Long." They also showcase a new side with "The Sound of Coming Down," adding a touch of country to the mix.

From front to back, "B & G Sides" is a solid representation of everything the band does well. From Ko Ko Louise's larger-than-life vocals to the pure rock vibe, The Hard Lessons continue to display why they may not be Detroit's best kept secret for much longer.

IT'S SHOW TIME

Cinemark Movies 16 Universal Mall, Warren

Baby Mama (99 min.)
July 17
11:10, 1:30, 4:05, 7:30, 9:50

The Strangers (85 min.)
July 17
12:10, 2:40, 4:45, 7:20, 10:05

What Happens in Vegas (99 min.)
July 17
11:30, 12:30, 1:50, 2:50, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10,
7:45, 9:35, 10:30

For more showtimes, go to Cinemark.com.

The Magic Bag Ferndale

**Harold & Kumar Escape from
Guantanamo Bay**
July 17

You Don't Mess With the Zohan
July 23

The Foot Fist Way July 24

For more information, go to
Themagicbag.com.

AMC Star Rochester Hills 10

Hancock (92 min.)
July 17
2:00, 2:50, 4:15, 5:05, 6:30, 7:20, 8:50,
9:40, 11:20

Wanted (110 min.)
July 17
2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00

The Dark Knight (152 min.)
July 17
12:01 a.m.
July 18
12:30, 1:15, 3:45, 4:30, 7:00, 7:50, 10:15

For more showtimes, go to www.amctheaters.com/

*All times available at time of press.

MOUTHING OFF

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

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

July 16, 2008

Editor leaves baggage behind

By ALEX CHERUP
Guest Columnist

I have an official announcement of the utmost importance.

To the staff and readers of The Oakland Post, The Oakland University community, and the bored and uninterested orientation parent flipping through the student newspaper to kill time, I disclose the following: I, Mouthing Off Editor Alex Cherup, am retiring.

After 33 years of (somewhat) devoted service to The Oakland Post, I am closing up shop. Throwing in the towel. Sailing off into the sunset. Singing my last refrain. Serving my last detention.

Unclogging the last john. Faking my last gonorrhea. Invading my last sovereign nation. Going on my last wild goose chase.

In other words, give me my clock. I am done. What more can I say — I am fresh out of annoying analogies.

So, as they say in "The Producers": "Au revior. Adios. Auf wiedersehen. Good-bye. Get lost." Seriously, leave me alone already. I'm not joking — I'm through.

Honestly, why are you still reading? Get a life.

Editor's Note: Retired Mouthing Off Editor Alex Cherup was not joking. He has decided to retire halfway through this column. Unfortunately, it is legal for him to do this, as his contract called for one million words. "Gonorrhea" was his millionth word. Since we have extra space, and this is a travel-themed issue, The Oakland Post has decided to publish a piece on this topic from Cherup's vault of unreleased material, from earlier this year.

When I retire, after I write my last column (or portion of a column), I plan to travel the world and the seven seas, much like that song with synthesizers suggests.

However, with the increasing gas prices and the declining dollar, I do not know if I will be able to afford to gallop around the globe on an Oakland Post pension.

Airplanes have become the typical college students of the sky: cheap, obnoxious and, more often than not, high.

I half expected to be served Ramen noodles on my last flight to Vegas.

On the whole, the flight industry is struggling more and more to get off

the ground. For one thing, airlines are obsessed with adding charges: surcharges, fees, fines, memberships, taxes and other forms of robbery covered up by business BS lexicon.

Also, airlines seem to be cutting costs wherever possible. At the current rate of penny-pinching, I am surprised there are still flight attendants on the planes.

Now I'll admit that airlines have always been somewhat parsimonious. In the past, airlines have refused to even purchase life vests. Is there anything stingier than using a seat cushion as a flotation device? It almost seems like a flippant joke.

If I were a lifeguard, imagine the anger that would result if I were to use an airplane seat cushion as a life preserver. I'm sure the reaction would be very negative, especially when it was discovered I cannot swim (and to all those who demand I learn how to swim, please let me drown in peace).

Nevertheless, the benefits of flying are disappearing and the costs increasing. It implicitly makes my membership to the Mile High Club much more expensive.

The first obnoxious price increase involves luggage. I recently paid \$15 for my clothes to accompany me to Costa Rica. As annoying as this is, it is a wonderful business move: Charging extra for a necessity. It's like an extra fee for limbs: **"Your flight is \$99, however we ask for \$10 extra for each arm, \$15 extra for each leg."**

It's like a restaurant renting out plates and silverware.

Of course, many will claim, one does not need more than carry-on luggage to comfortably travel. My response is one can also, just as comfortably, eat directly off the table with their bare hands.

If one can, however, avoid checking luggage, the benefits exceed merely escaping the charge. In some ways, the added fee may be a positive step for flying. Check-in is swifter, packing is easier, personal belongings do not end up in Minneapolis or Denver and



JIM MONE/AP File Photo

In this April 23, 2008 file photo, Northwest Airlines skycap Lori Barnett, left, checks in passenger Scott Jennings for a flight at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in Minneapolis. Northwest is one of many airlines that now charges for your clothes to fly with you.

time is saved circumventing the world's most boring parade, the baggage retrieval mechanism.

I have concluded, if there is a hell, it consists merely of a luggage retrieval device that never supplies your baggage. Ultimately, you spend the rest of eternity waiting and asking "Have you seen a blue suitcase with a red ribbon on it?"

And at least Henny Youngman was fed foodstuff that tasted like Purina puppy chow back in the day. On my most recent excursion out to Las Vegas, I was expected to subsist without any sustenance for over four hours.

Not like six peanuts and a glass full of ice would have really made anything much better — it was just the thought that counts.

Perhaps Homeland Security isn't allowing airlines to carry more than three ounces of liquid onto the plane.

Most ridiculous, nevertheless, was a recent additional move to save cash. Northwest, soon-to-be Delta Airlines, is planning to remove all apparatuses involved in showing movies to passengers. The rationale is the lost weight will save on fuel. Personally, I'm not going to miss seeing the latest Hugh Jackman or

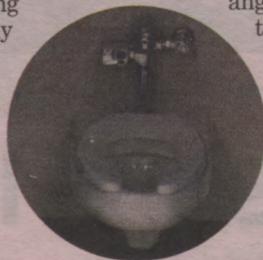
Cameron Diaz flick with no sound (the headset costs two dollars, which is two dollars more than I am willing to pay to see Cameron Diaz), however, I think the reason is absurd: To save weight? Honestly, there is nothing heavy about **"The Holiday."**



And while we are on the subject, I can think of a few other things that add excess pounds to the airplane: first class passengers. It's about time we removed those as well. I may be thirsty, but at least I don't have to look pretentious right in the eye when I board the plane.

So, after the added fees, charges and surcharges in the name of "convenience," parking payments, insurance, cab rides, overpriced airport meals, confiscated shampoo and toothpaste, flying can be quite costly. And with the recent loss of one of the airline industries largest critics, George Carlin, flying has never been more annoying.

At least this column in The Oakland Post is free.



Detroit lets freedom ring — in June

Fireworks on the river explode 11 days before Independence Day

By JARED PURCELL
You/Local Editor

Detroit's Fourth of July fireworks show is heralded as one of the greatest in America and has also been promoted as the largest.

This year, however, I thought the Freedom Festival fireworks show in Detroit was canceled because it was scheduled too close to a random fireworks show held on June 23 over the Detroit River.

As it turns out, the Fourth of July fireworks celebration actually *was* the June 23 Freedom Festival show — just 11 days before the holiday.

I found myself trying to figure out what we were supposed to be celebrating on June 23. Was it a happy third day of summer celebration? Maybe a happy birthday celebration for singer KT Tunstall? Ah, it must have been a birthday celebration for former Detroit Lions' fullback Cory Schlesinger.

Honestly, do you expect me to think it's acceptable to celebrate the most glorified day in our nation's history almost two weeks early? Did Detroit make other plans? Did Kwame push the show date back because it was originally scheduled the night of one of his wild mansion parties?

The fireworks show in Detroit is often held earlier

than other shows because we also celebrate Canada Day (July 1) for those watching in Windsor. But all Canadians could say when they saw the explosions happening over the Detroit River was "eh?"

"If people can celebrate Christmas and the Fourth of July whenever they feel like it, I'm going trick-or-treating on Labor Day."

Detroit is acting like the ignorant husband that can't remember an anniversary.

Still, the aspiring pyrotechnic in me enjoyed the fireworks. In fact, I jumped in the car and purchased some simple fireworks at the nearest fireworks stand. The only problem was that none of the stands were up yet!

To make matters a little more perplexing, the cities of Southfield and Oak Park held fireworks on the same night as the Detroit show. I could hear the Southfield and Oak Park fireworks from my house. Yet, when I

heard the loud booming of the fireworks, I mistakenly thought it to be thunder. Who can blame me? It was *June 23!*

It's bad enough that Christmas music floods the radio airwaves the day after Halloween. By the time Christmas rolls around, I'm ready to punch the nearest caroler in the mouth. Are we all just going to stand around and allow the same to happen to the Fourth?

Fine. If people can celebrate Christmas and the Fourth of July whenever they feel like it, I'm going trick-or-treating on Labor Day. When Mother's Day rolls around, I'll go ahead and celebrate Father's Day too. I'm going to hand out valentines on Halloween.

Come Christmas season, I'm going to open my presents 11 days early. Of course, I'll have to request that Santa makes his trip even early because, if he doesn't, by the time he arrives he'll be eating some stale cookies and washing them down with warm, lumpy milk.

Or, better yet, I'm going to the bars 11 days before I turn 21. Take that America!

Don't get me wrong, I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I can put up my Christmas lights before Thanksgiving.

Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go to a Christmas in July Halloween costume party. I'm going as the Easter Bunny.



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International court charge Sudan leader

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press Writer

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The prosecutor of the International Criminal Court filed genocide charges Monday, July 14, against Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, accusing him of masterminding attempts to wipe out African tribes in Darfur with a campaign of murder, rape and deportation.

The filing marked the first time prosecutors at the world's first permanent, global war crimes court have issued charges against a sitting head of state, but al-Bashir is unlikely to be sent to The Hague any time soon. Sudan rejects the court's jurisdiction, and senior Sudanese officials said the prosecutor was politically motivated to file the charges.

Luis Moreno-Ocampo asked a three-judge panel at the International Criminal Court to issue an arrest warrant for al-Bashir to prevent the slow deaths of some 2.5 million people forced from their homes in Darfur and still under attack from government-backed Janjaweed militia.

"Genocide is a crime of intention — we don't need to wait until these 2.5 million die," he told The Associated Press.

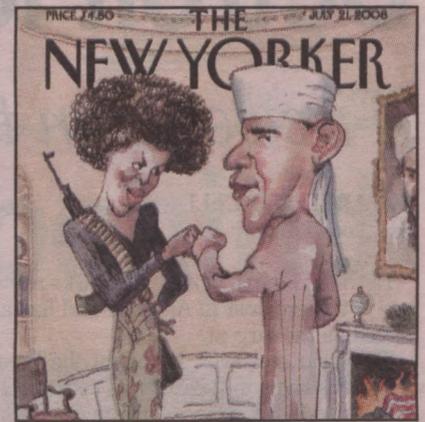
"The genocide is ongoing," he added, saying systematic rape was a key element of the campaign. "Seventy-year-old women, 6-year-old girls are raped," he said.

Moreno-Ocampo was undeterred by concern that his indictment against al-Bashir might ignite a storm of vengeance against Darfur refugees and spur Sudan to shut out relief agencies and possibly

peacekeeping troops. Al-Bashir's ruling National Congress Party on Sunday, July 13, warned of "more violence and blood" in the vast western region if an arrest warrant is issued against the president, state TV reported.

"I am a prosecutor doing a judicial case," Moreno-Ocampo said. He filed 10 charges: three counts of genocide, five of crimes against humanity and two of murder. Judges are expected to take months to study the evidence before deciding whether to order al-Bashir's arrest.

Al-Bashir "wants to end the history of the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa people. I don't have the luxury to look away. I have evidence," the prosecutor said in a statement after submitting his case to the judges.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

This illustration provided by The New Yorker magazine, the cover of the July 21, 2008 issue by artist Barry Blitt, was deemed "tasteless" by Barack Obama's campaign.

Obama outrage at New Yorker

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama's campaign says a satirical New Yorker magazine cover showing the Democratic presidential candidate dressed as a Muslim and his wife as a terrorist is "tasteless and offensive."

The illustration on the issue that hit newsstands on Monday, titled "The Politics of Fear" and drawn by Barry Blitt, depicts Barack Obama wearing traditional Muslim garb — sandals, robe and turban — and his wife, Michelle — dressed in camouflage, combat boots and an assault rifle strapped over her shoulder — standing in the Oval Office.

The couple is doing a fist tap in front of a fireplace in which an American flag is burning. Over the mantel hangs a portrait of Osama bin Laden.

"The New Yorker may think, as one of their staff explained to us, that their cover is a satirical lampoon of the caricature Senator Obama's right-wing critics have tried to create," said Obama campaign spokesman Bill Burton. "But most readers will see it as tasteless and offensive. And we agree."

In a statement on July 14, the magazine said the cover "combines a number of fantastical images about the Obamas and shows them for the obvious distortions they are."

"The burning flag, the nationalist-radical and Islamic outfits, the fist-bump, the portrait on the wall? All of them echo one attack or another. Satire is part of what we do, and it is meant to bring things out into the open, to hold up a mirror to prejudice, the hateful, and the absurd. And that's the spirit of this cover," the New Yorker statement said.

NIW BRIEFS

7-10 | China, India and top UN officials dismiss the G8 preventative measures against global warming as "insignificant" and a poor option.

7-11 | Britain is urges families to cut food waste by using more leftovers, returning to practice of wartime frugality.

7-12 | Crews reported some progress in the battle against one of several California wildfires exhausting the state's budget.

7-13 | Violence in Iraq remains low and there may be troop reductions, as reported by to U.S. officials.

7-14 | President Bush announced that he will lift an executive order banning offshore oil drilling.

7-15 | Two suicide bombers killed 28 army recruits in Baquba, Iraq | Texas Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton hit a record 28 homeruns in the MLB All-Star Home Run Derby.

General Motors to lay off more salaried workers



ASSOCIATED PRESS

General Motors Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner listens during a news conference in Detroit, Tuesday, July 15, 2008 with company Product Development Vice Chairman Bob Lutz, right. The automaker said Tuesday it will lay off salaried workers, cut truck production, suspend its dividend and borrow \$2 to \$3 billion to weather a severe downturn in the U.S. market.

Israel approves prisoner swap with Hezbollah

By AMY TEIBEL
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — Israel's Cabinet on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved an emotionally charged deal to trade a Lebanese militant convicted of killing three people for two Israeli soldiers captured by Hezbollah guerrillas and believed to be dead.

The swap is due to take place on today under U.N. supervision at a seaside border crossing.

Hezbollah has given no evidence that Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev are alive, and has not allowed the Red Cross

to see them since they were captured in a July 2006 cross-border raid. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told his Cabinet last month that Israel believes the men did not survive.

The deal, approved in a 22-3 vote, reflects the country's commitment to its soldiers that they will never be left behind in the field. It also will close a painful chapter from Israel's inconclusive war against Hezbollah, which was sparked by the soldiers' capture.

Zvi Regev, Eldad's father, said he was holding out hope his son might still be alive.

"I really hope this nightmare will end

tomorrow," he told Israel Radio. "We will accept whatever will be. We need to be strong and accept it for better or for worse."

Critics have said that by trading bodies for prisoners, Israel is giving militants little incentive to keep captured soldiers alive. And although polls suggest a large majority of Israelis support the exchange, many Israelis were anguished at the prospect that Samir Kantar would go free.

Kantar is serving multiple life terms for the 1979 killing of an Israeli policeman, a civilian and his 4-year-old daughter.