

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

May 13, 2009

Volume 36, Number 1

LOCAL COLOR

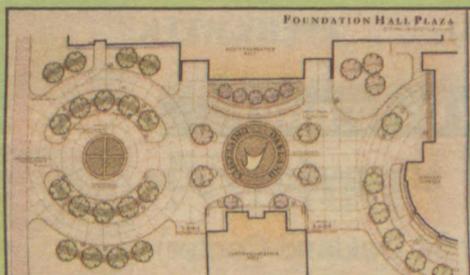


Festival Issue

Students anticipate a **mix** of concerts and festivals **PAGE 12**

Motor City Pride unites **local** LGBT community **PAGE 13**

A pioneer in Detroit's techno **scene** on Movement 2009 **PAGE 18**



CAMPUS

Multiple summer construction projects will bring improved main entrance, corridors and sidewalks **PAGE 8**

BE HEARD

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On Campus Wednesday, July 22

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THIS WEEK **5.13.09**

THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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What summer festivals and concerts are fellow classmates most excited about?



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Rochester Heritage Festival will bring entertainment, crafts and festival fare to the local Memorial Day weekend scene.



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The baseball team's season concludes this week and many seniors will be taking their last at-bat's.



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The Oakland Post interviews electronic musician Derrick May about the Detroit Electronic Music Festival and the origins of Detroit techno.



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Not all stalking is scary, if done correctly. Guest columnist Chris Hagan has the rules on how to properly stalk for a parking spot on campus.



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Parents' anger is still unresolved on the one-year anniversary of the Chinese earthquake that killed 90,000 people.

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local Cinco de Mayo
celebrations!

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Perspectives

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May 13, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

We challenge you to celebrate discomfort

People celebrate some odd things – from dolls that talk when you stick your hand up their rear end (Las Vegas Ventriloquist Festival) to cheese rolling (festival of the same name in England).

There are some pretty specific or even, pretty taboo to some, things that are celebrated around the world and in metro Detroit. So chances are you won't be as into whatever is being celebrated as those who are decked out in costume. But regardless of your interest in electronic music (Movement), country music (Downtown Hoedown), or your sexual orientation (Motor City Pride), there's no reason to avoid the party. Hey, you might even learn something without footing nearly \$300 per credit hour.

Not only are festivals a learning experience, but it's truly a phenomena that in a time when we are so preoccupied with the nuances of our daily lives, there are still so many opportunities for the community to come together to sing, dance and be merry.

Attending local festivals, where you can observe and interact with people, can offer more insight into different cultures and interests than any Discovery Channel special. As college students and hopefully the future leaders of the free world, what better way is there to experience diversity than with a draft beer in your hand (for those of age of course), too much sun on your back (but wear sunscreen) and kettle corn in your teeth (don't forget to floss).

Many festivals have free admission with things to do like riding the Tilt-A-Whirl and licking cotton candy off your fingers. Even the typical arts and crafts fairs have something to offer to someone who may or may not be in the market

for glazed pottery. Doesn't it amaze anyone that people are still actually making a living from things they make by hand out of their home?

A simple conversation with a local crafter, or the guy volunteering to do security at a fair, or somebody wearing metallic pink hot pants can really be enlightening for somebody who isn't used to talking to "strangers." Rarely do most people venture out of the group of friends they showed up with to meet somebody new. This is a behavior most likely hailing from high school social norms when it wasn't cool to walk to class alone, and if you did it was embarrassing. College is the time to own up to your independence. That human interaction is the very least that we need to be experiencing out at public events, and Facebook stalking friends on your iPhone to avoid looking bored and alone doesn't count.

So in light of the theme of this first issue of the summer, The Oakland Post challenges readers to step outside of their comfort zones this month. Attend at least one event for a cause that confuses you, that you straight up disagree with or that you just don't understand what it's all about. Have a real conversation with somebody while you're there. Listen to what people have to say.

We're not saying you have to change your mind, your interests or your beliefs – but maybe you will change your perspective. Maybe you will learn something and maybe you will be awakened. We can't expect to be world leaders when we aren't very worldly. And the best place to start accepting people who are different from us is by interacting with the people who share our area code.



NATE BEELER/The Washington Examiner, Cagle Cartoons

What do you think? Send your comments to The Oakland Post or stop in the office, 61 Oakland Center.

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– The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

A stop at the top limits the view

Dan Simons
 Guest Columnist
 Senior, Journalism major

At the end of a semester I, and many other people I know, like to take the elevator to the top floor of the Science and Engineering Building, walk onto the classroom-sized roof and enjoy the view.

But I couldn't do that last semester.

At first I figured they had it closed off because of the cold weather, but then it warmed up and finals were over for the winter 2009 semester. I went to check the door.

"Emergency Exit Only No Roof Access" reads the new sign next to the door leading outside.

"Do Not Open! Alarm Will Go Off!!!" says the sign on the window. The ominous red light on the wall alludes to this. I wasn't about to open it and find out.

Eight stories above the ground, 174 steps if you decided to take the stairs, only to find out students are no longer allowed on the roof of SEB.

It's a safety issue to allow people onto that high of a rooftop without a guard rail or protective fencing.

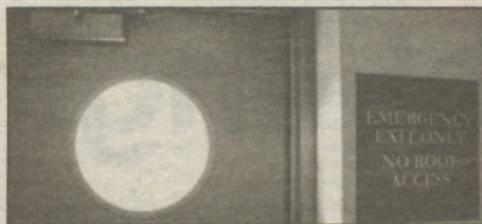
Several offices and the Oakland University Police Department have reported students misbehaving up there, breaking the laws of campus by abusing the law of gravity. Any physics major can tell you that dropping objects from eight stories can cause serious damage. Any medical student can tell you that same fall can be fatal.

There is, however, a substantial concrete barrier that would be pretty hard to accidentally trip over. And any person immature and stupid enough to drop things off the roof probably shouldn't be in college anyway.

By cutting us off from access to the roof of SEB, the university is loudly saying that students can't be trusted enough to be up there. And they're saying it with that little red light and a big red sign.

The school has changed its policies of where students are allowed to go on campus. Recently students have been blocked from administrative halls in Wilson Hall by the placement of keycard access devices on doors, again for apparent safety reasons.

Going on the roof of SEB and looking around is almost an Oakland rite of passage every student should go through. It's like working out at the Rec. Center, get-



BROOKE HUG/ The Oakland Post
 The new sign sends the message that SEB's rooftop is now off limits for students.

ting lost in O'Dowd, falling asleep on a Lay-Z-Boy in the basement of the Oakland Center, struggling to find a parking space around noon, trying to stomach Vandenberg cafeteria food or getting into an argument about whether it's Beer or Bear Lake. It's part of the Oakland experience.

If it turns out the reason for closing the roof is a result of students misbehaving up there, then why not set up a card system like the one that keeps

non-residents out of the residence halls. Swiping a Spirit Card would allow access. This would record who has been up there, stop people who have abused the privilege, and allow the university to control what times people are allowed to be up there.

When you're way up there on the roof on a clear day, look south. You can see the outline of the iconic Renaissance Center in Detroit on the horizon way off in the distance. You can also see the Chrysler headquarters, although by the time students are allowed back onto the roof, it may be Fiat HQ.

You can see all of campus from the top of SEB. You can see all the cars in the parking lots, students walking to and from classes, all the buildings and all the trees — something you can't do from the top of Hamlin, Vandenberg, or O'Dowd. You get to see how beautiful the campus is from the rooftop of SEB. Well, you used to be able to, anyway.

Are virgins the new aliens?

Caterina Passarelli
 Guest Columnist
 Senior,
 English major

During a recent episode of MTV's "The Hills" reality show, character Spencer Pratt is interrogating his girlfriend Heidi's ex-boyfriend, Colby, about his decision to remain a virgin until marriage. To Pratt this was like "hanging out with an alien." The idea that an earthquake could occur and Colby would die a virgin is the craziest thought in Pratt's mind. He asked, "Are there a lot of you out there?"

I think this is the wrong message to send out to viewers, especially younger ones who are currently facing these types of decisions. Virgins are not another species or foreign creatures; they are human beings just like you and me. Should virgins walk around with scarlet letters on their chests so we don't associate ourselves with these so-called "aliens"?

Remaining a virgin or not depends on the individual and his or her outlook on life, marriage and religion. It shouldn't be something that people judge you for or look

down upon. This decision should not define a person's character.

After watching the episode, I decided to talk to some of my fellow students to see where they stood on the matter, and opinions were mixed. One girl explained that she's met her share of "Spencers" throughout high school and college, and her decision to remain a virgin has ended multiple relationships.

Sex is now in your face with increased media coverage at all times, from "morning after pill" commercials to billboards for condoms. It's sad that there's so much pressure on virgins to have sex in order to fit what has become socially acceptable. But love can be expressed in many different ways, not just by having sex.

"I think that in the teenage years there is more social pressure through the media's exposure and from peers to have sex or to lie and say you have," senior Pamela Gudenau said.

On the other side of the fence is the fact that virgins are judging their non-virgins peers for having sex.

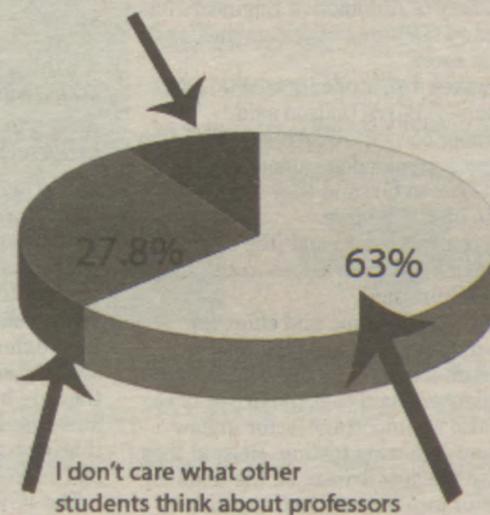
"I strongly believe in the thought of 'to each their own.' If you want to wait then wait, if you want to have sex then have sex. But what upsets me is when the people who are 'waiting' negatively judge the ones who have sex," senior Chris Hagan said.

The question isn't whether someone is a virgin or not. There is no right answer or right way to look at the situation — everyone has an opinion. What's important is to be respectful and treat everyone equally, and this goes for both sides. Just because someone has differing viewpoints does not make him alien and it does not place you above him.

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Student engineering wars

Three engineering organizations prepare for competitions

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Oakland University is sending its engineering students to do battle. Within the next month, three different student organizations at OU will be entering into separate engineering competitions, doing things such as building formula cars, autonomous ground robots and flying drones.

Auto Engineers

The first competition is the Michigan branch of the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers competition, which began May 12 at the Michigan International Speedway. Teams in the competition must design, build and test their own prototype formula racer. The cars are tested in fields such as acceleration, braking, fuel economy and endurance. The second part of the competition is to present the car to a marketing test group as a viable production vehicle.

The competition has strict limits on what kind of parts can be used in the formula cars. For example, the rules limit teams to using a 600 cc engine, so the OU Society of Automotive Engineers has decided to use a motorcycle engine for its formula racer.

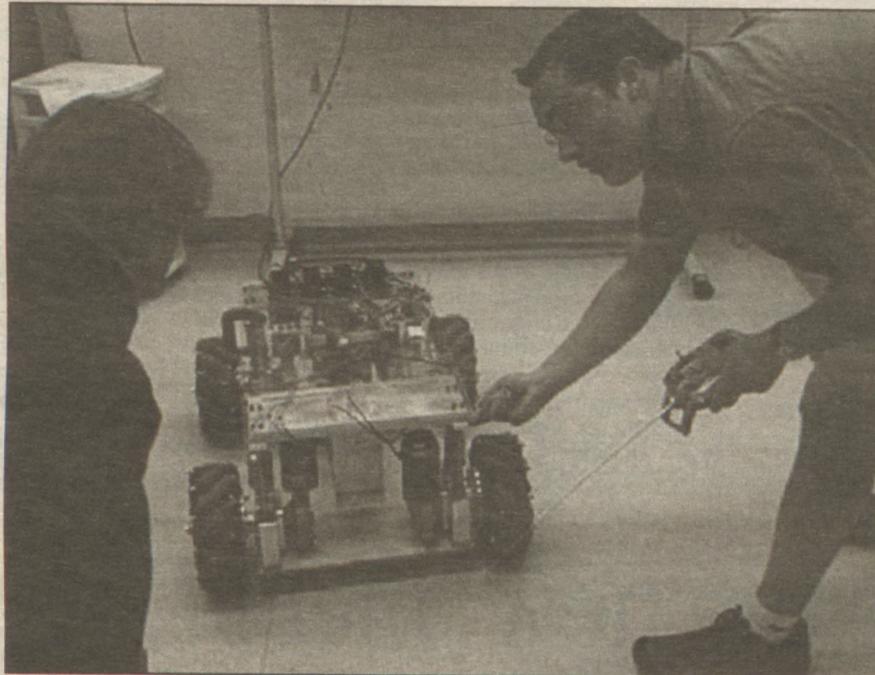
"It makes it so students have to tune the engine," Barry Dodson said.

The members of OUSAE said that they have put a tremendous amount of time into the car so far, and they expect this week to be much more.

"I've come in before and [the other team members] were asleep in the shop," Kirk McGuire said.

Along with the time and effort the members put into tuning the car to make sure it runs well, President Matt Schmalenberg said that the driver of the car is also an important factor in how well they do during testing. He said they may use the best drivers on the team for the endurance part of the competition, while for the acceleration competition they may use their lightest drivers. Schmalenberg said that the top schools in the endurance test would probably be determined on driver skill.

"Even though we all want to drive, it's outweighed by our desire to do our best in the competition," Schmalenberg said. Many OUSAE members on the team



RORY MCCARTY/The Oakland Post
Oakland Robotics Association President Micho Radovnikovich (right) tests their robotic vehicle with a remote control as Alex Pawlowski looks on. The movement of the robot will eventually be automatic.

have common interests.

"Anyone with an interest in cars or anything that goes fast, we encourage them to join," John Smerczak said.

Oakland Robotics

Another group currently working on a project is the Oakland Robotics Association, who is currently developing a robot for the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition on June 5. The competition brings together engineering students from different fields just as the SAE competition does. But because the vehicle they are building is unmanned and operates based on programming instructions, it brings computer programming into the fold as well.

The IGVC stipulates that vehicles must complete a series of challenges including following a course, avoiding obstacles and navigating using waypoints. The ORA plans to do this using a camera, onboard sensors and GPS data. But they also have something new that they didn't possess last year: omni-directional wheels.

"The wheels let us move in any direc-

tion we want, not just forwards and backwards," ORA President Micho Radovnikovich said as he demonstrated the vehicle.

The vehicle's wheels enable it to move forward and backwards as well as rotate in place, but they also let the robot move sideways. The ORA said it hopes that these wheels will give the robot an edge over the other teams during the competition.

The robot currently moves by a remote control, but Radovnikovich said that by the time of the competition, the movement will be fully automated.

Pavan Vempaty said that part of his duties on the vehicle is to create an artificial intelligence for the robot so that it can navigate around obstacles. He has to create a program to coordinate between the sensors and cameras and ensure that the robot knows when and where to move.

"Until we actually go outside and test it, we can't be sure how it will work," Vempaty said.

Vempaty said that another thing they would probably need to do is set up a switchbox so that the robot could be

swapped at will between autonomous mode and manual mode.

Alex Pawlowski, who worked on the mechanical aspects of the vehicle, said the technology they're working with has many real world applications. He said the Navy had been looking into some of the technology, and the omni-directional wheels could even have common everyday applications like parallel parking.

Although the robot is now moving around freely, Pawlowski said he has a lot of work in front of him, as he needs to alter the platform of the robot to carry a heavy payload.

Team member Steve Grzebyk said that because the robot is more modular than it has been in previous years, it should be easier to fix when things go wrong. But like the OUSAE, they expect at least a few sleepless nights between now and the time of the competition.

Aerial Systems Club

Another OU student organization is creating a robot not unlike ORA's vehicle, but with one notable exception: it flies. The Aerial Systems Club has been building its "quadrotor" in preparation for the Student Unmanned Systems (UAS) competition on June 17.

Similarly to the IGVC, the goal of the teams entered into the UAS is to build a vehicle that autonomously navigates a GPS course. ASC's quadrotor model for this year builds off a similar model from last year that led ASC to fifth place in the competition, winning them \$3600.

According to ASC advisor Osamah Rawashdeh, OU's entry into the UAS is unique because it is the only vehicle of its kind in the competition: a helicopter-like vehicle powered by four equidistant propeller motors. It has an advantage from the other vehicles due to its ability to take off and land vertically.

"All the other teams buy their own remote control planes," he said.

Though ASC doesn't have to worry about avoiding obstacles during their test runs, they do have to worry about balance.

ASC President Rami Abousleiman said that practical applications of a robot drone like this include being a floating camera on a battlefield or doing surveying and reconnaissance after there's a disaster like a fire.

Faculty contract negotiations to begin soon

By **MASUDUR RAHMAN**
Senior Reporter

The contracts of about 600 Oakland University faculty members are going to expire on Aug. 15. The OU administration and the union that represents the faculty are preparing to negotiate the new contracts so classes in fall can be taught without disruptions.

The negotiation for the 2009-2012 contracts officially can't start until May 15, and the two sides are having their first meeting on Tuesday, May 19.

OU's chapter of Association of American University Professors represents about 460 full-time and 140 part-time faculty members.

Mike Latcha, an associate professor of engineering and the chief negotiator of AAUP's negotiating team, said the team has met with different academic departments to find out their concerns.

Latcha said that among AAUP members' concerns, the major ones are: strengthening faculty input, keeping same-sex domestic partnership benefits, making sure the upcoming medical school doesn't take resources away from other programs, money and health care.

He said that in previous years, most recently in 1994 and 1997, an agreement

wasn't reached in time, so AAUP withheld their services — similar to going on strike but legally different — for a few hours to a couple days. But he said this year, he is "eager to get to the table, get the issues settled and get back to class in fall," and is cautiously hopeful.

The contracts of the members of three other unions at OU — OU Professional Support Association, OU Campus Maintenance and Trade and Police Officers Association — have expired in 2008. But instead of going on strike, their members have been working based on their old contracts, while their new contracts are being negotiated.

The administration declined to comment, citing policy not to comment on ongoing contract negotiations.

Latcha said many faculty members wanted the governance process strengthened, meaning they are not happy with how certain administrative decisions don't take sufficient faculty input.

AAUP filed an Unfair Labor Practice lawsuit in November 2008 for similar reasons. Liz Barclay, professor of management and AAUP's grievance officer, said they're still waiting on arbitration on this case.

Faculty members also want to make sure that the benefits of same-sex domes-

tic partners remain, Latcha said.

OU currently gives AAUP members' same-sex domestic partners the same health care benefits that heterosexual married partners enjoy. But a 2008 Michigan Supreme Court ruling said that a law passed in 2004 makes it unconstitutional for Michigan public institutions, like OU, to give such benefits, after the current contract expires.

Currently, AAUP is looking to employ the language that colleges like University of Michigan does, something like "an other covered adult" to keep the benefits, Latcha said.

"Most other schools did this by a blanket provision approved by the board of trustees [and not by changing the contract]," Latcha said. "But we're not sure if it'll work here, so [we're trying to change] the contract."

He said faculty members also want to incorporate the upcoming Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine into OU in a way that doesn't "change the current atmosphere" of OU and the medical school doesn't take away resources from other programs.

"In other universities, medical schools often become sinkholes for resources," Latcha said, saying that other departments have suffered as a result.

The medical school was announced summer 2008, and is planned to open in 2010. OU spokesperson Ted Montgomery said it'll be privately funded and not depend on state funding.

"Medical schools, once established, contribute tremendously to the financial well-being of their universities," he said. "There is an enormous return on investment from a medical school."

Latcha also said another main concern is salary and health care.

"We absolutely understand the economic situation. We understand education is going to have to lead Michigan out of it," he said. "We're looking at economic packages that are fair to the faculty and what OU can afford."

Latcha said this year's negotiation "may be especially challenging because of the economic storm," but that "we are always hopeful."

Barclay said it's not unusual to reach tentative agreements for minor issues early, but the whole contract often doesn't get agreed upon until later. She said although negotiations are sometimes theatrical, at OU it's been mostly calm.

"Usually we think of union and management relations as adversarial because of strikes," Barclay said. "But that's not all that labor relations are."

Swine flu affects grads



HOLLY GILBERT/The Oakland Post

This year's graduating class at Oakland University wasn't taking chances with shaking hands. To limit the spread of the H1N1 flu virus, the customary handshake with OU President Gary Russi was dropped at the recommendation of the Oakland County Health Department, according to OU spokesperson Ted Montgomery.

Visit the website to view pictures from "The Little Prince" and "Engineering Wars," as well as other web exclusives.



1st or 2nd year LGBT student?

As if transitioning to college wasn't hard enough, being LGBT can make it complicated! Wouldn't it be nice to meet someone who knows what it's like because they've been there?

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OU actors to tour musical 'The Little Prince'

By DAUD YAR
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University's department of music, theatre and dance is hosting its first on-campus performance of "The Little Prince" on Thursday, May 14 at 11 a.m. for a private audience.

"The Little Prince" was originally written in 1943 by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, was turned into a movie in 1974 and adapted as a play in 2000.

The production will visit area schools this week.

"I'm excited to see all the little kids' reactions," said Ashley Rozanski who plays the Rose, the first character the Little Prince has a relationship with. "This is the first time that Oakland is allowed to tour. Everything had to be better and over the top."

The play centers on two main characters: the Little Prince and Aviator. Danielle DeWulf, who also appeared in "Follies," plays the Little Prince.

"The script is very close to the book," DeWulf said. "My favorite part is when Aviator and the Little Prince fight. It shows that they care for each other. I really like that." DeWulf has been in four main-stage plays with MTD and said she hopes to add to that number.



Photo Courtesy of Joni Hubred-Golden
In rehearsal, TerpTheatre interpreters Dan McDougall, left, and Jamie DeWitt, right, figure out the footwork as cast members Steven Ross and Danielle DeWulf dance through a musical number.

Aviator, the narrator, is played by Nicholas Smith. Aviator crash lands in the Sahara Desert and later comes upon the Little Prince.

"My character just really tells the story of the Little Prince's adventures," said Smith. "It was hard to play Aviator. You have to find similarities that you share with the character."

As the story progresses, the Little

Prince eventually leaves his home, Asteroid 325, in search of other places. The Little Prince comes to know different beings from the planets he explores. Peter Giesel plays the various men that the Little Prince meets on his journey away from Asteroid 325.

"I play a king, a businessman, a conceited man, a lamplighter and a geographer," Giesel said. "I have only a couple

seconds to change and then come back out as someone else with a different voice, physicality ... stuff like that. I'm good at voices and accents. It helps me do the different characters that I have to do." This will be Giesel's second main-stage performance with MTD.

During the play, the Little Prince receives guidance and wisdom from the knowledgeable character of the Fox, played by Steven Ross.

"[The Fox] just likes to have fun, but he likes to teach a lesson, also," Ross said. This is Ross' first children's show and he said that it presented some difficulty for him while preparing for the role of the Fox. "You would think that acting for kids is really cheesy but they understand a lot more than we realize."

Ross has been with MTD for three years and has done eight plays.

"Of all the characters in the book, the Snake would be the villain," said Amanda Ryskamp, who plays the part. "It was not easy to play this role. I am nothing like the Snake." She said she is enjoying her first year with MTD and hopes to continue performing on the main stage.

"The Little Prince" will begin touring this week and will perform at Varner Recital Hall May 29-31

Campus summer construction ongoing

By KAY NGUYEN
Assistant Campus Editor

Oakland University will receive major outdoor renovations to entrances, roads and sidewalks as well as many interior upgrades in a variety of campus buildings.

According to OU Facilities Management Vice President Terry Stollsteimer, all work will be done throughout the summer, with the goal of being completed in time to welcome students for the fall term.

The plaza in front of the Oakland Center between North and South Foundation halls has been redesigned and will be reconstructed for a more functional use of space.

More greenery as well as seating will be added to the area, with a planned main centerpiece of a brick paver depicting the OU sail crest.

"We really wanted to open the space up," said Stollsteimer. "It will be more advantageous for students to gather in this area."

Additionally, the plaza between the Oakland Center and O'Dowd Hall will undergo similar revamping.

These projects were developed this past fall and winter, and bids were

received in February.

According to Stollsteimer, the money for the projects may come from a myriad of different sources, from special OU funds to the Facilities Management general operating budget.

Another major project is the repaving of OU's main entrance circle drive. The entrance will be closed for six to eight weeks beginning May 18.

"Having the traffic circle be repaved is going to be horrible not for just me, but many others," said sophomore biology major Alyssa D'Angelo. "I think that is going to cause major problems and blockages at other entrances."

Students, staff and faculty are advised to use alternate entrances such as parking lot P1 or Pioneer Drive.

Other campus wide paving projects and road maintenance will also go on throughout the summer.

Campus sidewalks will also be upgraded or repaired. The boulevard connecting Vandenberg Hall and the Oakland Center will be out of commission once sidewalk widening begins.

"The sidewalks are cracked and [the projects] would make the campus look more presentable," said senior elementary education major Renee Baril.

Crumbling sidewalks will be rejuvenated and others will be altered to better accommodate maintenance vehicles.

Major interior renovations will take place in O'Dowd Hall with the first and second floors being retiled.

The second floor of O'Dowd Hall will also be renovated to hold administrative offices for the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Both O'Dowd and Hamlin halls will receive elevator upgrades.

"I think the elevator upgrades are definitely needed," D'Angelo said. "They are way too slow, and honestly, I have only allowed myself to use the elevators a few times because they seemed so old I was afraid of them breaking with me in it."

Stollsteimer agreed with student sentiments regarding campus elevators.

"When people get stuck for a long time, they get irate," Stollsteimer said. "Other elevators have already been upgraded."

Kresge Library will also undergo its final phase of transformation as its roofing work is completed.

Along with the major renovations come other projects that have been deferred until the summer, like the repair of a manhole and removal of traffic barriers in parking lot P36.

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Access denied to SEB roof

By MELANIE ZYNEL
Staff Intern

The door to the eighth floor and roof of the Science and Engineering Building has been closed, and students may only peek through the window to the view outside.

A large red sign hangs next to the door reading "emergency exit only, no roof access," while a paper sign taped to the door warns: "Do not open! Door alarm will go off!!!"

There was no specific incident that caused the closure, according to Cora Hanson, environmental health and life safety manager of the office of Environmental Health and Safety.

"For a number of years there's been a concern about safety," said Lieutenant Mel Gilroy of the Oakland University Police Department.

"We've had to kick people off who were messing around," said Gilroy, mentioning reasons including students drinking, throwing things and potentially harming themselves.

Ted Montgomery, media relations

director at OU gave a similar response.

"More than anything it's a safety issue," Montgomery said. "You can see how there could be a mishap up that high."

Some students are upset about the closure but recognize the reasoning behind it.

"I'm disappointed; it was a stunning view of campus," said Brent Yanos, a junior psychology major. "I understand though that the university faces certain liabilities and must adhere to certain guidelines."

"I can see why they closed it but there might have been a better way of going about it," said Brandon Wykoff, a sophomore political science major.

According to Gilroy, the concerns about the safety of student access to the roof led to the decision to close it off.

Information on who specifically made that decision was not given.

"It was a lot of different departments collaborating," Hanson said.

"From a safety standpoint, it's just not wise to let anyone up there whenever they want," Montgomery said.

POLICEFILES

On April 14, a West Vandenberg Hall worker reported that a student had found a small baggie, possibly marijuana, at the entrance to West Vandenberg Hall and turned it into her. OUPD officers took the evidence into possession and performed a test of the substance, which came back as positive for marijuana and weighed 2.5 grams.

On April 15, OUPD investigated broken glass next to the first floor men's room of South Foundation Hall. The rest of a bottle was found outside the north doors to South Foundation Hall. A man said he reported it because of recent violence on college campuses. He also claimed that his co-worker had been making threatening statements.

On April 19, a woman reported that she had received some text messages from a friend saying that she had cut herself. OUPD located the woman and found four superficial cuts on her forearm. She stated that she did not feel suicidal. She was then voluntarily transported to Crittenton Hospital by the Auburn Hills Fire Department for observation and treatment.

On April 24, a woman filed a missing person report, claiming that she dropped off her son at Wilson Hall on April 20 at 8 a.m., and had not heard from him since. She said he is not autistic, but is "different" from other people, and has stayed the night at OU before, but this is unusual for him. He was last seen wearing blue jeans, red hoodie and black jacket.

Campus housing options diversify

By MACKENZIE ROGER
Staff Reporter

For hundreds of students, on-campus housing may become more available in the future.

Oakland University's housing department has hired design firm Design Plus to evaluate OU's current housing situation and make recommendations for the future.

The department is scheduled to present its second draft of plans to OU President Gary Russi on May 28.

Following the proposal is a long process, requiring approval and input from the board of trustees and the university financial team, which could take several years.

"The current Michigan economy makes it tougher," said Director of Housing Lionel Maten. "The process would take 28 to 30 months ideally."

Returning OU students with contracts to live on campus in the upcoming school year have increased 35 percent from fall of 2008, while incoming freshmen with contracts are up 33 percent.

Despite the current proposal, students planning to live on campus won't have to wait years to see a change in the format of the dorms.

After receiving positive reviews about the major-specific nursing floor in Vandenberg, another floor in the same

building has been set aside for business majors.

"We're exploring the growth of 'living and learning' floors," Maten said. "Housing has tried to grow with the academic communities."

Maten added that more major-specific dorm communities may be on the way and that the housing department is open to other majors as well, if they have enough students.

"I think medical majors might need a floor more," said sophomore biology major Linda Camen. "Just because of the intense courses they have to take. If you have the same students living with you and taking the same classes, it could be easier to study and achieve."

Camen, who lived in Hamlin her freshman year and will live in Vandenberg in the fall, believes that more housing will benefit OU.

"The lines signing up for housing were unbelievable," she said. "Students want rooms and if there were more, the lines would be way quicker."

The future housing plan would provide more space for students to live on campus, and add a new look to the future dorms.

"Conceptually, we're looking at more meeting-type rooms," Maten said. "Students could study, professors could possibly teach. The physical structure would be different."

The dorms would have more of a bedroom feel, possibly with a kitchen, and would also be more akin to schools, as the students would live and attend certain classes in the same building.

In the fall semester an international village will also be available in the student apartments to approximately 15 foreign students, each of whom will be matched up with a domestic student from the International Students and Scholars Office.

"They could get the on-campus experience but also learn about American culture," said ISSO Assistant Director Petra Knoche. "This year is stage one, but we're hoping to next year get the whole floor and eventually the whole building."

The community's goal is to integrate students into both OU and the United States, with the housing department providing additional financial resources to ensure that their aim is reached.

Interested students can fill out housing forms, located in Hamlin Hall, and can see either the ISSO or Housing office for more details. Spaces in the village are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Though OU students have desired greater on-campus housing each year, with this year's on-file contracts increasing 21 percent, they may not see more dorms in the near future.



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Designed to help others

Student to launch an affordable clothing line to benefit charities

By KAY NGUYEN
Assistant Campus Editor

For many people, the number 747 may bring a certain Boeing aircraft to mind. For Harper Kidder, it is a much deeper connection.

The Oakland University psychology student's new Rochester-based clothing line named 747 will launch on May 20.

Inspired by Kidder's good friends, the line of T-shirts and hoodie jackets combine his interests in fashion as well as his desire to give to charities.

The name and concept stemmed from various late night conversations Kidder had with his best friends, as well as a running inside joke.

"We would always gather at my house and find something to do when everyone got there. This went on for years and years," said Kidder. "One of the most bizarre things we noticed was that the doorbell would ring and it would be 7:47 p.m."

Kidder began turning the project he once just spoke about in casual conversations into a reality shortly after he moved out on his own.

Charity has always been a part of his life, as his mother founded Band of Angels, an organization that strives to support families of individuals with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities.

After moving out, Kidder realized that he had little extra money to spend on himself, let alone give to charity.

"I just thought that you should not have to choose between buying a new T-shirt and helping people or giving to charity," said Kidder.

In early February, Kidder had enough money to jump into the online retail business venture, and everything has seemingly fallen into place since then.

"Harper grew up with a sense of giving back: it is pretty natural to him," said his mother Cynthia Kidder. "He wanted to merge commerce and charity in a really unique way and I think it is exciting the way he's doing it."

While his girlfriend Abby Hartmann is influential in his clothing design, a personal inspiration to Kidder is his younger brother Jordan.

Jordan, 19, has Down syndrome and has just finished

his first year of college studies toward becoming a veterinary assistant.

"He has achieved more than anyone ever said he could," said Kidder of his brother. "Seeing his success had helped me believe I can do this."

Because he grew up in the Rochester area, he has a invested interest in partnering with local talent and seeing local business grow.

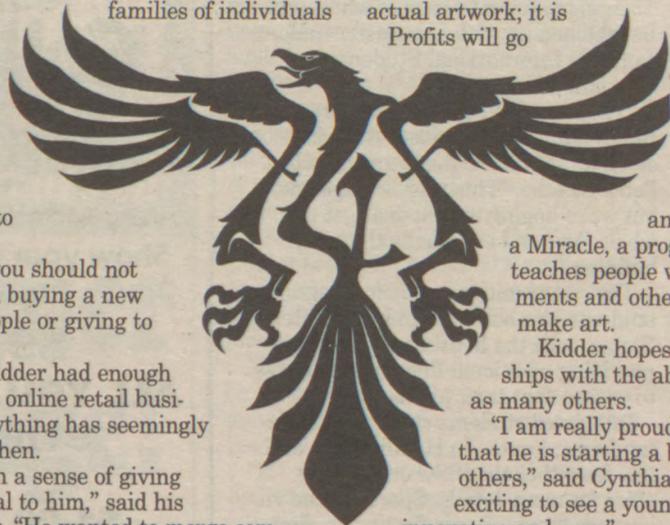
Though he has a lot of interest in graphic design and product development — the making of clothes — Kidder readily admits that he has never been at the forefront of fashion, but simply likes cool clothes.

"I am fortunate enough to know a lot of young talented designers in the Rochester area," said Kidder. "[They have] contributed a lot to the design aspect and I think people are really going to like it."

The designs were stimulated by an interest in tattoo art and graffiti.

Kidder currently has 10 tattoos and believes that tattoo artists are some of the most talented people one will ever meet because of their creative and improvisation abilities.

"I think that it will be really refreshing after years of the general Hollister fashions — relatively the same," said Kidder. "There is a lot of creativity and design and actual artwork; it is Profits will go



a Miracle, a program in Rochester that teaches people with cognitive impairments and other disabilities how to make art.

Kidder hopes to form lasting partnerships with the above organizations as well as many others.

"I am really proud that his core values, that he is starting a business that will help others," said Cynthia Kidder. "I think it is exciting to see a young person do something innovative and new."

The launch party for the clothing line's website www.747store.com will take place in the Rochester venue The Factory at 7 p.m. on May 20.

Admission is free, and partygoers can purchase 747 wares and vote for any new pieces they wish to see in the future via the website.



Photo Courtesy of TONI GREGO

Oakland University student Harper Kidder will launch his new clothing line Wednesday, May 20 at Rochester venue The Factory at 7 p.m. with profits going to charity. At left is a design of a bird that will be on one of Kidder's shirts by JP Sullivan at Squiddink.

Kidder took a semester away from his studies at OU due to financial reasons, but plans to keep pursuing his degree in psychology with a concentration on linguistics. The success of his clothing line will also determine the fate of any future business-related goals.

"Whether it succeeds or fails, I have already learned a great deal," Kidder said. "I do not think you can learn any other way than by doing."

Professor receives high honor

By KATIE JACOB
Copy Editor

At the front of the banquet room, a special bouquet sits on the center table where an honored guest, a small gray-haired woman is seated. She is the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Professor Award at the Faculty Recognition Luncheon held last month. When she rises to accept the award, the audience rises to give her a standing ovation.

Approaching 80 years of age, Professor Judy Brown, the oldest faculty member at Oakland University, swims 1,000 yards a day, five days a week. She has also been swimming upstream most of her life against cultural norms, against unspoken rules about what a woman can or can't do. For the most part, she has ignored those rules.

Brown, a professor in the department of sociology and anthropology at OU, has been teaching here for more than four decades and has co-edited and written numerous books and articles, mostly about women and their culturally-defined roles. At the faculty luncheon she was described as a trailblazer in the anthropological study of women's lives in societies across the cultural spectrum.

Brown said that anthropology is the study "of all human beings wherever they have been." Laughing, she said, "It's a very modest agenda." She said when you tell someone you're an anthropologist, they always think that you're Indiana Jones. (Archeology is a subdivision of anthropology, which might explain the confusion.) Brown says she is an archival anthropologist, which means she doesn't work in the field. "I'm a disgrace to the profession, I don't like to travel much," she said. "I like just going to a library."

Brown, who went to Harvard to get her Ph.D., said at Harvard she was fortunate to have access to the Peabody Museum Library, probably the world's best library of anthropology.

Facing adversity

When she arrived at Harvard in 1950s, Brown said there were very few women. "I would walk into the graduate dining hall and there would be 200 people sitting there and I would be the only female," she said. Brown said there was only one female professorship at Harvard at the time, which was endowed to be occupied by a woman.

"That's the way it was back in the 50s," she said. Brown said that female graduate students knew they probably wouldn't be as well accepted professionally as the men were. She said she just knew the rules of the game for women at that time were that you had to go twice

"I enjoyed looking at things that are essentially about what's going on with women because I'm one myself and I don't fully understand men at all."

— Professor Judy Brown

as far to get half as much.

Brown encountered a similar bias when she came to OU. Her friend and colleague in the anthropology department, Professor Richard Stamps, said that Brown was one of the first women in the department. He said that it was very difficult for them to accept a bright, intelligent, articulate woman. He also said that she was discriminated against, most notably, in pay. He said that it was one of those blatant examples of the way the world really used to be.

When she first arrived, Brown taught an extension class at Michigan State University Oakland one night a week. She said she was paid only "a handful of rice" but that it kept her going. At least, she said, she was doing something professional. Despite her education, OU didn't hire her right away. She started working at OU part time in 1964, in the sociology and anthropology department. In 1969, she was hired full time, as an assistant professor. In 1983 she became a full professor.

Published work

While at Harvard, Brown met the eminent anthropologist John Wesley Mayhew Whiting, who became her mentor and her dissertation advisor. She went to Harvard to please her parents, but she had no idea what she wanted to do until she took Whiting's course:

"I had this epiphany. Oh my God. This is fabulous. This is what I want to do for the rest of my life."

Having published a paper on male initiation rites, Whiting suggested that Brown do her thesis on female initiation rites. Brown's thesis dealt with initiation rituals for adolescent girls in various societies.

Later, Brown examined women's roles in food gathering. Her paper, entitled "A note on the division of Labor by Sex," was published in the American Anthropologist. It has been widely cited over the years, in fact, as recently, she said, as just a few weeks ago.

Brown said that at the time she did the study, there were beginning to be some rumblings of a feminist movement but that it was not exactly powerful and recognized. She said that her article had a big impact, but she was surprised when she found herself being described as a feminist. She said, "I never sort of identified myself as a rabble-rouser."

Later in her career, a friend asked Brown to look into the literature on wife beating. They ended up doing a study together and were surprised by their findings. Brown said wife beating is a universal custom and is widespread in America across socio-economic classes.

Brown said there's nothing surprising about being interested in women's issues. "I did publish one thing that had nothing to do with women," a paper about Levi-Strauss, "but generally speaking, I enjoyed looking at things that are essentially about what's going on with women because I'm one myself and I don't fully understand men at all."

About the future Brown said she has some ideas but, "I don't seem to get around to doing any of them."

Professor Peter Bertocci, Brown's colleague in the anthropology department who nominated her for the distinguished professor award, said that Brown got the standing ovation at the luncheon, not only because it is the most prestigious award, but also because she's been around for a long time. "A lot of people know her, and she's very well liked," he said. "She was a path breaker in several different ways throughout her career."

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Which summer festival are you excited for?



"I'm excited for Sonic Youth's show in Royal Oak."

Andrew Grieves
Senior,
journalism

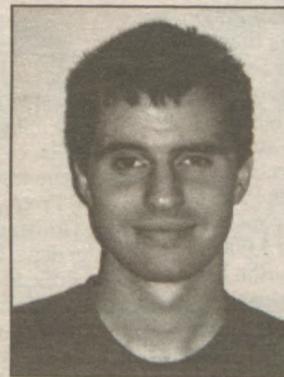
"The Detroit Electronic Music Festival, to see all the weirdos like me."

Marty Shafer
Senior, psychology



Matt Passmore
Senior, marketing

"Warped Tour. I've never been before and I hear the atmosphere is great. Plus, Bayside is playing."



John Francois
Sophomore, psychology

"Ragnarok. It's a national summit for all Dagorhir associations in the world to get together, party and play."

Seeing any summer concerts?



"Metric is coming June 15. I love Metric! Also Braed Mape-Brown, an acoustic solo artist from Lake Orion."

Hector Jackson
Sophomore, Spanish with
secondary certification



"I'm excited to see the Bouncing Souls play at this year's Warped Tour."

Heidi Martz
Sophomore, communication

Motor City Pride hits Ferndale

By COLLEEN J. MILLER
Editor in Chief

On Sunday, June 7, an expected 40,000 people will gather in Ferndale for the Motor City Pride festival.

Put on by the Triangle Foundation and with the help of hundreds of volunteers, the festival brings together the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community as well as straight supporters and the curious, according to event chair Dave Wait.

"The majority are from the [LGBT] community, there's a lot of allies that also come and support," Wait said. "I'm sure a few curious people too."

The foundation is asking for a \$5 donation to help offset the cost of the festival. Among the activities and entertainment to be offered are a car show by Lambda Car Club International, a beer garden, live entertainment, a dunk tank and a commitment ceremony that will be held the day before.

Rev. Mark Bidwell of Metropolitan Community Church will be co-officiating a mass commitment ceremony in front of city hall Saturday, June 6, along with Ferndale Mayor Gary Jensen. Bidwell said they are expecting just over a dozen couples to participate in the ceremony, even though there will be no legal recognition of the commitments made on that day.

"It makes people feel a little more



(From left) Ryan Rouse, Kyle Rogers and Chuck Panky were volunteers at Motor City Pride 2007. Photo Courtesy of Ryan Rouse

legitimized by the presence of people like him," Bidwell said of the mayor's presence. Bidwell also said that the ceremony itself, being performed by a religious figure, means a lot to the community. "It's something people have longed for to have a church, a clergy acknowledge their love and their relationship."

Not only is the ceremony a spiritual event for the couples, Bidwell said it's also a political statement and that they will continue to do it until gay couples

are recognized by the government.

"I'm a firm believer we have the right to call it a marriage," Bidwell said. "Otherwise they're treating us like second-class citizens."

Part of the power of the ceremony comes from it being a public event that everyone can watch.

"We wanted people to be able to witness and see couples celebrating their love and commitment to each other out in public," Bidwell said.

Because not everyone who is gay is openly gay, and some travel from areas that are not as accepting of the lifestyle, Wait said the festival can be validating.

"People who aren't fully out or participating in the community, it's a very affirming day for them," Wait said.

Ryan Rouse, who graduated from Oakland University last year, has been involved in the festival for four years.

"Motor City Pride, I feel is the one big event where you can go to and you can truly be yourself," Rouse said. "People can come, be themselves, realize there are other people going through the same kind of trials that they're going through."

Rouse said that the festival also does a lot to raise awareness of the LGBT community in the area.

"I think that Rochester Hills and Oakland University in particular are a lot further along in their acceptance not only to the LGBT community but religions, races ..." said Rouse, who grew up in a rural area that wasn't as accepting.

"When I went through high school there were not a whole lot of out LGBT people and there was a really bad stigma. I put who I was in the back of my head because I grew up and went to school with people who thought it was wrong."

"The very first Pride that I went to it really helped me accept myself and make me feel somewhat relieved," Rouse said.

For more information about Motor City Pride visit www.motorcitypride.org.

Rochester Heritage Festival offers free entertainment

By ANNIE STODOLA
Staff Reporter

The 32nd annual Rochester Heritage Festival takes place May 23-25 at the Municipal Park in Rochester.

The festival, which began as a bicentennial celebration at the Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, has expanded greatly over the years.

"The first year was such a success and we found the community was interested in continuing an event like this each year," said Sue Neal, executive director of Dinosaur Hill. "Eventually it evolved into the full-scale community event that it is now."

Activities at the festival include a car show, craft show, old-time demonstrations of chores like sheep shearing, Civil War reenactments, and live entertainment. This year, the festival committee also announces

the addition of a living statues exhibit. Additionally, there are a multitude of food options for festival-goers.

"We have everything from old-fashioned soda pop and kettle corn to turkey legs and even gelato," Neal said. "You can essentially eat your way through the festival."

Neal went on to highlight the events that particularly are of interest to Oakland University students.

"For college students, the craft show and the car show are big hits, plus the local bands are something to see," Neal said. "This year we have a rod and custom antique car show as well. More than that, it's a chance for students to learn more about the community their school is in."

Bands range from funk/reggae group Lake Effect to blues band Catfish Project to My Biography, a pop/punk band. "The bands were selected because they encompassed a wide variety of music, different styles and lots

of originality," said Andrea Rozman, the festival's entertainment coordinator. "They showcase the great music that is being created by musicians in the area, and I think it'll add a fun dynamic to the festival."

On Saturday, there is a 5K Fun Run at 8:30 a.m. To help offset the costs of the festival, there is a \$15 fee. Check-in is at the Rochester Hills Public Library.

"[The run] is a great way to get out and enjoy the community," said Melissa Humbyrd of Rochester Avon Recreation Authority. "Walkers, runners and strollers are welcome!"

There is no cost for admittance to the festival. "The festival is both cheap and local," Neal said. "It's a great way to have a nice Memorial Day weekend without going far and without going broke in the process."

A full schedule of events is on rochesterheritagefest.org.

Bing is sworn in as Detroit mayor

By COREY WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT — Throughout his campaign for Detroit mayor, Dave Bing promised that once elected he would get to work on the city's behalf.

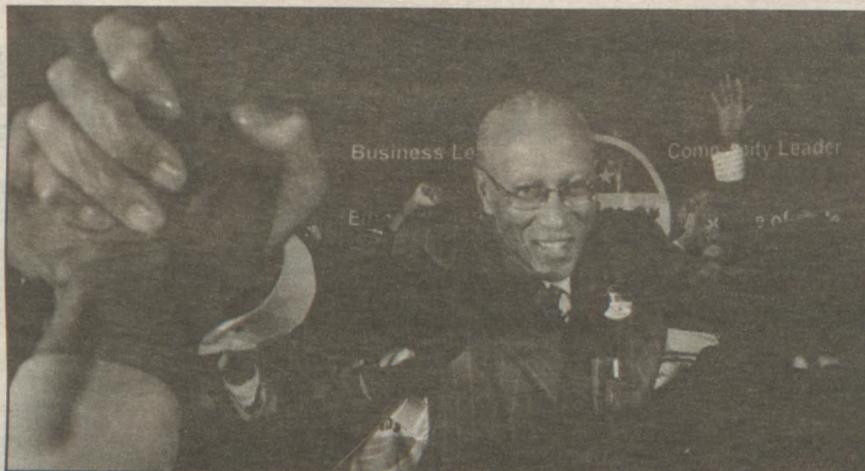
The former NBA legend and successful businessman didn't waste much time, setting up shop Monday in a temporary City Hall office while waiting for the outgoing mayor to gather his remaining belongings. Bing could move into the mayor's office Tuesday.

Bing's tenure will last at least until the end of the year after voters elected him Tuesday to complete Kwame Kilpatrick's second term in office. The 65-year-old professional basketball Hall-of-Famer already has said he will run in the August primary for a full, four-year term that begins Jan. 1.

"The last eight months have truly been grueling," Bing said of his campaign for mayor. "I don't know how that's going to compare for the next seven months and maybe for the next four years, but I'm looking forward to this. This is the biggest challenge that I've ever had in my life, but it's one I think I'm ready for and I'm ready to serve the people of Detroit."

He is Detroit's third mayor in the past eight months. What lies ahead could be critical for the city and to Bing's continued political aspirations.

He knew coming in that the city's financial situation was dire, with a budget deficit his predecessor, Ken Cockrel Jr., had estimated to be between \$250



Former NBA basketball star Dave Bing celebrated his mayoral victory in Detroit on May 5. Detroit voters elected Bing as their mayor, sweeping incumbent Ken Cockrel Jr. from office and giving the ex-Pistons great at least through the end of the year to make a dent in the city's myriad of problems.

million and \$300 million. Bing also was aware of the importance of reopening a deal to expand and renovate the aging Cobo convention center to keep the lucrative North American International Auto Show in the city.

Along with Detroit's budget problems, the city is suffering through the national economic downturn. It is among the nation's leaders in unemployment and home foreclosures. Continued restructuring by the area's three automakers likely will mean more jobs cuts and hits to the local economy.

The city's public schools are among the worst in the nation and in such bad

shape that the state appointed an outside financial manager earlier this year.

Minutes after taking the oath of office from good friend and U.S. Appeals Court Judge Damon Keith, Bing addressed the possibility that General Motors Corp. might vacate its downtown headquarters.

"The impact would be absolutely horrendous," said Bing, who added that one of his first phone calls as mayor would be to GM Chief Executive Fritz Henderson. Earlier Monday, Henderson said during a conference call with reporters that it's looking at everything within its business, but the automaker said in a follow-up statement it's too early to speculate

about the effect of corporate restructuring on facilities.

Bing also said he would consult with members of his cabinet and his turnaround team before contemplating "what to do with GM or any other business that's located here in the city of Detroit."

He is expected to announce cabinet and team members on Wednesday.

"We'll start to work immediately," he told reporters.

He leaves behind his Bing Group, steel manufacturing companies primarily serving the auto industry. Bing has turned their operations over to his three daughters and management team. The companies have about 500 workers.

"Once I leave here, I want to go back and thank the Bing Group employees for their support because they won't see much of me," he said Monday. "I have other people that I have to work for."

Bing took 52.3 percent of the vote in the special runoff election to Cockrel's 47.7 percent. Both are Democrats.

Cockrel returns to being city council president. He already had pulled petitions to run for mayor in the Aug. 4 primary. Petitions for the city council race also have been pulled for Cockrel by others with his knowledge, spokesman Daniel Cherrin said Monday.

As he said early in his campaign, Bing will not take a salary as mayor. Instead, the money will be used to hire extra police and for public safety, spokesman Cliff Russell said.

None of Bing's 31-member turnaround team will receive a city salary.

Catholic organizations see rise in volunteerism

By KATHY CARROLL
Contributing Reporter

As unemployment rises in Michigan, people may have less money to put in the collection plate, but are instead volunteering more of their time and doing what they can for those struggling around them.

"Some people pull into themselves and others are rising to the challenge of helping others or accepting the change of job," said Marian Bart, Christian service coordinator at St. Anastasia Roman Catholic Church in Troy, when talking about the unemployed.

Bart is responsible for all the services at St. Anastasia and gathers the volunteers to execute projects.

"When people know their money or gifts are going to those who are poorer than themselves, they are happy to contribute," Bart said. "Every week my office fills up with supplies for St. [Aloysius],"

she said.

St. Aloysius is an outreach center in Detroit that feeds and clothes between 200 and 500 homeless people a day, five days a week.

"To promote the Catholic faith through education, fellowship and outreach activities," is Faith @ Work's mission, said Beth Collison. Jim and Beth Collison opened Faith @ Work, a non-profit organization, in March 2008. The store sells Catholic books, handmade gifts, baked goods and offers wireless Internet.

"The retail component supports the ministry component by doing different service projects," said Beth Collison. As of April 20, 2009, Faith @ Work has donated almost \$11,000 to charitable causes.

Though the store was not open before these economic times, it isn't feeling the crunch.

"We don't notice any economic struggle," Collison said. "Anything we ask for,

people are still donating."

However, St. Anastasia is hurt by the economy. Deacon Franz Hoffer, business manager for the church, deals with its financial struggles.

"Not just in the Catholic Church but across the board churches are feeling this pressure of, if [parishioners] haven't lost their job yet, they're worried they will," Hoffer said. "The Archdiocese of Detroit is 12-16 percent down in their weekly collections as a whole." Hoffer said the reason they are not hurting too much financially is because many unemployed are volunteering since they have time, when in the past the church may have had to pay those positions.

Dan Parker, volunteer coordinator for Royal Oak Warming Center, has been a part of the organization for the last 20 years. Royal Oak Warming Center is a collection of seven churches in the Royal Oak area that rotate every two weeks to tend to those in need in the cold winter.

Attendees are given dinner, a place to sleep, breakfast and a bagged lunch.

"In the last 20 years, who we help has increased by five-fold. When I started we averaged 20 homeless a night and now we're at 100," Parker said. Though their numbers have gone up, they have the volunteers and donations to be able to support the increase.

Bart, Collison, Hoffer and Parker all agreed that though economic times are hard, people want to help more than ever. They said people tend to want to volunteer their time more than money. All four are thankful because they could not support everything they do if volunteering stopped.

"Detroit has always been known for having a big heart across the U.S. I have to turn volunteers down each time I coordinate a night," Parker said he is grateful for all the volunteers and is strong in believing Detroit's giving heart will not become hard, even in this economy.

Season-ending thoughts

After missing the playoffs, players and coaches reflect on the year

By MIKE SANDULA
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University baseball team won't be making the playoffs this year, but head coach John Musachio is not disappointed with his team's play as the season winds to a close this week.

"We got what we expected from our guys," Musachio said. "They fight, they claw, they play hard."

"We did a lot of good things [this season]," said senior shortstop Andrew Stafford, whose .368 batting average leads the Golden Grizzlies. "But we didn't play as well as we hoped or we could have."

Oakland was picked to finish sixth in the Summit League preseason coaches' poll back in February.

The Summit League Championship is in Tulsa, Okla., May 21-23 and only the top four teams in the conference will make the cut. With an 8-16 conference record, OU is currently seventh in the standings after being swept at home by Oral Roberts in which OU dropped three of four games.

OU is 19-32 overall and still has four games left to play against Centenary, currently ranked third in the Summit League.

Musachio, who was an assistant coach for two years before taking over as head coach last year, said that there's a learning curve whenever a new system is put in place, but the team is starting to get comfortable and move in the right direction.

"They understand what the coaches are looking for," Musachio said. "And it's allowing them to be more reactive and more aggressive on the baseball field and that's really what we want from them."

Last year the team finished 15-30 with a 7-14 conference record. Musachio said they've been more competitive this year, winning games against talented teams.

The Grizzlies began the season on the road, playing 12 games across four different states. Five early season games in February against Eastern Kentucky had to be canceled, interrupting any momentum the team may have gained from their season opening win Feb. 21.

The team made its home debut against Rochester College March 18, winning 12-6 at the OU baseball field.

Oakland's 6-5 victory over Notre Dame March 25 was its first win against the Fighting Irish since joining Division I athletics in 1998. Oakland also put together an 11-run rally to pull off a come-from-behind victory May 8 against Oral Roberts, the top-ranked team in their conference. It was their first win against Oral Roberts since 2005 and just their third ever.

In addition to their efforts on the field, the team placed an emphasis on academic success. They won an OU community service award and earned a collective 3.15 GPA this past semester.

"We need to continue what we've done in the classroom and in the community and take that next step and compete for a championship," Musachio said.

The team will be losing eight seniors to graduation at season's end. Justin Wilson's departure will create a void in centerfield for the first time in four seasons. Wilson broke the school's career hits record March 14, and leads the Golden Grizzlies with 12 home runs.

Senior infielder Rob Merkle has received two consecutive Academic All-District selections and slugged six home runs this season. The team will also miss the steady play of first baseman Taylor Traub and outfielder Dan Ryan.

But Musachio said he is confident he'll find leadership in the underclassmen that will return next year. Several key contributors from this season will be back, including pitcher Matt LaMothe and outfielder Tim Ryan.

Musachio said he is looking forward to bringing in a strong recruiting class for next season. Stafford said that Musachio's personality has been a great recruiting tool, helping to bring in talent.

"We're going to be young [next season]," Musachio said. "But we think that's a pretty good thing."

Jonathan Zalenski, a fifth-year senior, said this year's team has left a mark on the school's baseball program.

"I think we've left something here that we're going to build on and keep getting better and better," Zalenski said.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
The Golden Grizzlies had the benefit of a senior-laden roster, to which head coach John Musachio said he credits much of his team's success this season. Senior shortstop Andrew Stafford (above) and outfielder Justin Wilson (left) have been a starters for four years and each surpassed 200 career hits during the 2009 season.

Softball team misses postseason

By DAVID PITTS
Staff Intern

The Oakland University softball season came to a close May 2, concluding with a three-game series sweep over South Dakota State. The 2009 campaign was filled with highs and lows. The season began in February by losing five straight games to non-conference opponents, but finished the year strong with a five-game winning streak.

"We played much better than we did last year," head coach Glenn MacDonald said. "We played team softball."

The Golden Grizzlies missed out on postseason play by mere percentage points in the Summit League standings. The fourth and final playoff spot went to Southern Utah, despite losing the season series with OU.

Before the March 29 loss to University of Missouri-Kansas City, the team spent several hours working to improve field conditions after adverse weather conditions threatened to cancel the game. The decision to use his team to help fix the field haunts MacDonald to this day.

"We worked on that field for four

hours, all 26 girls, and I think I did a disservice to the team," MacDonald said. "I used my team to get that field ready and then my team couldn't perform. If we didn't play that game we're in the tournament."

But he also recognized the unintended benefit of this task. "You talk about a team bond, and not one word of complaining," MacDonald said. "They did what they had to do to play."

Oakland played a month's worth of games on the road before beginning their home schedule in late March. The team went 11-4 at home.

MacDonald credited senior leadership and team unity for an improved season that saw them finish 24-27 overall, with nine more victories than the previous season.

"Jessica Granger did a great job with [the younger players] and with all 26 girls," MacDonald said.

Granger, a team captain and starting pitcher, was the staff's ace, appearing in the vast majority of the games. She led the Golden Grizzlies this season with 19 wins, a 2.40 ERA, 195 strikeouts and seven shutouts.

During the season, she broke several school records. On April 15, she became Oakland's all-time leader in career victories against Southern Utah University. Granger also holds the school record for strikeouts and complete game shutouts.

Senior second basemen Julie Owen was an offensive catalyst all season, leading the team in nearly every statistical category. She hit .408 with four home runs, 13 doubles, and 29 RBIs.

Both Granger and Owen were named to All-Conference teams at season's end. Owen made the All-Summit League First Team, while Granger was named to the second team.

Senior co-captain Caitlin Lynch was also a major offensive contributor, starting all 51 games and batting .293 for the year. She finished second only to Owen in home runs (3) and RBIs (23).

Outfielder Stephanie Schall, another senior, batted .295 and finished third on the team in stolen bases and runs scored.

The team has a roster full of players that MacDonald said would be capable replacements next year.

The team will return over half of their starting lineup and their entire pitch-

ing staff with the exception of Granger, who MacDonald said would be serving as a mentor to the younger pitchers next year.

"She didn't even realize [that she'd throw a no-hitter]. She didn't have a clue until the game was over," MacDonald said. "She just threw out that day. It was a nice way to get her first win."

One notable season highlight came when freshman pitcher Brittany Doyle earned her first collegiate win by pitching a no-hitter against Rochester College April 19.

This victory also marked the first no-hitter by a Golden Grizzlies pitcher since 2004. Doyle had a 4.20 ERA and 26 strikeouts overall on the season.

This summer, Owen, along with Alison Tansel, Kylie Schalz and Kelsey Krych will be competing in Australia as a part of Team USA in an Olympic-style tournament called USA Athletes International.

"It's really a great experience," said MacDonald, "I had Julie [Owen] with me in Prague last year and we took the silver medal. We hope to take the gold in Australia."

Race to the finish line

By BRAD SLAZINSKI
Staff Reporter

The 2009 season is winding down for Oakland University's track and field team, and they have just one last competition.

The team will travel to Cedar City, Utah for the Summit League Outdoor Track and Field Championship, held May 14-16 at the Eccles Coliseum.

Among the many Golden Grizzlies competing at the championships are Joe Goike in the 800 meter run, Breanna Peabody and Megan Enzor in the 100 and 400 meter hurdles. Anthony Halfmann and Adam Grubius will also be participating in the throwing events.

Head track and field coach Paul Rice has been preparing his team for this week's conference championship for months.

"It's been an interesting season. We have many young athletes and they are willing to learn," Rice said.

The outdoor track team was well-traveled this season, competing in meets across five different states.

Rice declined to single out individual accomplishments from the season, and said that he prefers to judge the team's performance as a group instead.

"On the men's side, it was a strong group," Rice said. "Mainly in the mid-distance and long distance groups who are the core. We've been lucky with some field athletes also."

"On the women's side, it's more spread out," he said. "We have people in sprints, mid-distance, and field events that have done well."

The regular season produced several notable moments. Junior Zack Jones broke his own school record in the five kilometer race at the Bison Outdoor Classic on April 11. His younger sister, freshman Lia Jones, also broke a school record that day in the women's 5K race.

Rice is hoping that his squad can build off of this season's results and become a more well-rounded team in 2010.

"We have a good group of sprinters, but they had injury problems this year," Rice said. "We're also weak at field events for the men's but we're hoping to expand on that."

Rice is currently scouting future OU track athletes.

"I'm looking at [bringing in] three solid athletes for the men's program," Rice said. "One of them is an all state athlete and another is a state champion in Division III. I'm also hoping to add depth."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Oakland runners had a strong showing at the Detroit Titan Classic April 3, taking first place in several events, including the men's 800 meter and one mile runs.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

By DAN FENNER
Sports Editor

Basketball recruits announced

With room to add three scholarship players to the team this offseason, the Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team recently completed their search.

The 2009-10 incoming class will include forward Drew Valentine from Sexton High School (Mich.), guard Ledrick Eackles of Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia, and point guard Reggie Hamilton, a transfer from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Valentine was a two-sport star in high school, playing both football and basketball. Eackles is the son of former NBA player Ledell Eackles and is one of the most highly rated recruits to ever commit to Oakland. Hamilton averaged 12.6 points per game last season with UMKC.

Men's golf season ends

The Oakland University men's golf team concluded their season at the Summit League Championship April 27-28 in Kansas City, Miss. The Golden Grizzlies finished the tournament in seventh place out of 10 conference teams.

Junior Frank McAuliffe finished in a tie for fourth overall in the field of 50 golfers with a score of 215 (-1). For the second consecutive year, McAuliffe received All-Summit League first team honors.

Four other OU golfers — Michael Coriasso, Vince Carango, Travis Peitz and Michael Marks — competed in the tournament.

OU hosts golf championship

Oakland University played host to the Women's Golf Summit League Championship at the campus' Katke-Cousins Golf Course April 21, placing third among the 10 schools in the competition.

Freshman Liz Ecker finished the tournament tied for fourth place with a score of 160 (+16). She also garnered first team All-Summit League honors.

Senior Nikki Swan shot a 165 (+21) and finished in a tie for 15th.

For the 12th straight season, Oral Roberts University finished in first place, 38 shots ahead of second place UMKC. Oakland placed third in the 2008 Championship.

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The Scene

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May 13, 2009

Derrick May on Movement 2009

The pioneer techno musician talks about this year's DEMF

By ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL
Scene/Mix Editor

In the midst of sweaty, dancing bodies and pulsating drum beats, there are a few revered names synonymous with the origins of Detroit's electronic music scene. In accordance with the summer festival theme, The Oakland Post interviewed Derrick May, one of techno's original minds, credited with thinking up the dance weekend known as the Detroit Electronic Music Festival.

He is one of the infamous Belleville Three, along with Juan Atkins and Kevin Saunderson, known for making Detroit the birthplace of techno. His funky, rhythm-building sounds in "Strings of Life" attracted the wide-eyed attentions of a new sub-culture of kids whose ethos were tolerance, creation and community euphoria.

As he prepares for his closing-night performance at this year's festival, now known as Movement 2009, May reflects on the festival's beginning, its changing energy and his hopes for creative new seeds in the city of Detroit.

In its three days of all-out music and dancing, how would you describe the energy of the festival?

It's changed. Originally I think the energy was better in the beginning years of the festival. I think the idea still remains intact though. Now it is a paid event, and before anyone could wander in. You used to have kids riding around on skateboards; young couples with kids and even old ladies would be chilling. There was another type of energy. It was cool. It was like some sort of beautiful happy ending of a story, where music is the theme of every single person alive. It was beyond romantic; it was totally angelic and unreal.

However, once it became a paid event it became more designated to a party crowd. People tend to be more in tune to what they're coming for.

This year there are going to be a lot of amazing performances. Which performers do you recommend checking out?

It is a good list this year. Carl Craig is always phenomenal to see. He pur-

sues a lot of different avenues, musically. I would also recommend seeing Osunlade, Francois K and Octave One.

As a kid, what artists or genres of music were you drawn to?

I was drawn to a lot of electronic music — before techno, before house, even before disco. My influences go back to the days of Kraftwerk and Funkadelic's first records. It goes way back.

But more importantly, the city of Detroit was my biggest influence as I grew up inside and outside the city. My friends and I were listening to all types of music, while seeing the city through our eyes. It gave us a different outlook on life. We took the darkest and most negative parts of Detroit and made something positive out of it.

Can you offer any beginner's tips to a student who wants to start deejaying?

I think the best tip is to try to be as original as possible. Stay away from as many outside influences as you can when trying to develop your own personality. Whether it is singing, graphic design, painting or whatever, just stay as far left of anyone else and what they might be doing.

And beyond Movement 2009, where else can students see you this summer?

Look on Facebook and MySpace under Derrick May. Dates are always added. I'm flying in from Tokyo Monday night to perform at the festival, and then three days later I'm off to Columbia.

I don't play very much in Detroit anymore. I'm on the road a lot; it all has to do with supply and demand. I would like to play at home more, but there aren't a lot of offers around here. I'm trying to make some more time to play stateside. It would be good to plant some new seeds.



Photo Courtesy of Derrick May
Derrick May is closing this year's Detroit Electronic Music Festival with a performance on May 25.

Movement 2009, one of the nation's premier electronic music festivals, will be held at Hart Plaza in Detroit May 23-25. Last year's attendance reached over 80,000. Acts will include Afrika Bambaataa, Benny Benassi, RJD2, Chloe Harris, Tiga and many others. More than 70 artists are expected to perform.

The Prodigy will open the week-

end May 22 at 7 p.m. with a performance at the Fillmore in Detroit. Advance weekend festival passes are available for \$45 until May 15 through Paxahau's website or in person at 323 East off 4th Street in Royal Oak.

For more Movement 2009 information and an expanded schedule check out:

www.paxahau.com

MOUTHING OFF

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

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Walkers, stalkers take heed

By CHRIS HAGAN
Guest Columnist

It's acceptable to have a stalker nowadays at Oakland University. Finishing my junior year, I've already had more than I can count. I've been stalked leaving Pawley Hall, Dodge Hall and the Oakland Center. I'll be walking to my car and suddenly I will get this feeling that I'm being followed. I turn around and see a car creeping to my stride with its blinker lit up, claiming me.

With Oakland's enrollment annually rising, the pressure to get a close parking spot has never been greater. Few words can describe the joy when you're running late and at the last minute you see that first open spot in front of the OC. Many words, some unmentionable during PG-13 movies, can explain the anger when that spot is claimed the moment you activate your blinker.

Unspoken but understood

But there are rules both stalker and walker are expected to follow. Never before have I seen these "rules" written down, nor have they been passed down to me by an upperclassman.

But my four-year experience of working for the parking department at The Palace of Auburn Hills has compelled me to inscribe the rules. Like every commuter at Oakland, we observe — and most of us respect — what I'm calling the Parking Lot Code of Conduct.

I begin the code with something called "Hatch it to Catch it." This was derived from personal experience and observation. In order to find your walker promptly, you should simply wait in the yellow hatched-off areas at the end of each aisle anywhere you're looking for a spot. Make sure there aren't any motorcycles parked there. As soon as you see a student pass your car, or begin walking up an aisle, start your move.

The next rule of the parking lot is the "Art of the Blinker." The left and right blinkers are no longer used on Oakland's campus as a turning indication to other drivers. Their first function now is to claim someone walking to his parking space.

If you find yourself stalking up an aisle with your left blinker on, that's a signal to other drivers that the soon-to-be-open parking space on the left hand side is yours. It doesn't matter if you're stalking in forward or reverse — the blinker means ownership.

Once you've lit up the blinker, distance now becomes the focus for the third rule, "A Stalker's not a Creeper." How closely you talk can mean the difference between the normal Oakland parking lot stalker and a creeper who should be driving a sketchy windowless van. That's why I'm going to recommend a minimum of a two car-length gap between the walker and the stalker.

"In my opinion, the worst part about the parking spot stalkers isn't so much being followed to your car — it's how difficult they can make backing out of your spot," sophomore Taylor Podvin said. "They feel the need to stop as close to your car as possible in fear that someone else may take the spot."



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

Editor in Chief Colleen Miller has a few years of experience with parking lot stalking. She finds the easiest thing to do is shout out the window and ask where her stalkee is walking. Managing Editor Katie Wolf always tries to let her stalkers know where she's going to prevent stalker-walker stress.

Spot stealers beware

On rare occasion you may run into the scenario in which another car may try to pull a fast one and pull in before you. If that happens and they refuse to leave, that's a cardinal sin in the parking lot and I totally support holding a bird over their windshield until it poops.

When you're parked it may be necessary to back up and readjust. "Make it fast." (That's what she said.) It's also the next rule. I'm sorry, but I couldn't pass on the opportunity to have a Michael moment. For other drivers, seeing the glow of back-up lights triggers excitement and a tendency to hit the accelerator to get the open space, only to be disappointed when the lights turn off and your car pulls back in.

These rules are important to follow. The walkers are held to the same well-mannered standard. Although they don't have a blinker to worry about, they still have a responsibility. "Know your Aisle" is the first rule to be followed by the walker. Remembering what aisle you parked in saves not only your stress level, but the stalker's too. Watching a walker just cut through the aisle is the biggest parking lot tease. And by the time you get to him, nine times out of 10 he's been claimed by someone else.

Walkers have frustration too

Being a walker can be just as much of a stressor as being a stalker. It's especially frustrating when you're not leaving and just have to run to your car for something and you get stalked. The misjudgment by a

stalker of someone leaving is an honest mistake but it's an issue that has students griping.

"If you're parked and in-between classes and you have to run to your car because you forgot something, most people take this as a sign that you're leaving," freshman Heather Hardin said. "So while the stalker is mad at you for not leaving, you're annoyed with them for sitting there staring at you for five minutes."

Senior Brad MacDonald's experience getting stalked was one that could have ended badly. MacDonald was walking off campus to get lunch when a stalker drove up asking where he was parked. When MacDonald replied that he wasn't parked, the stalker didn't believe him.

"He asked me why I would lie about where my car was parked but I told him he could continue following me, but he'd be disappointed," MacDonald said. "Sure enough he followed, and when I reached near the end of the parking lot, he started swearing at me and drove off."

It's this kind of FML moment that gives the act of stalking a bad rep. But done correctly, it's a gas-efficient method of finding a parking space. As a student who has wasted more gas driving around looking for a space, stalking is the way to go if you follow the code. Use your blinker, give enough distance, readjust fast, and if you're in doubt, simply ask the walker if he's leaving. It's these rules that will lead to a less stressful and more successful stalking experience.

You know you could just park far away and hoof it, but who are we kidding? This is Oakland.

Anger lingers on quake's anniversary

By KEN TEH
Associated Press Writer

BEICHUAN, China — China marked the year anniversary of a massive earthquake on Tuesday in a somber, nationally televised ceremony filled with flowers and speeches, as the normally distant Chinese leadership provided an unusually cathartic public moment.

The 30-minute memorial service in front of a destroyed school in the Sichuan province town of Yingxiu followed a minute of silence that began at 2:28 p.m., the moment the magnitude 7.9 temblor shook China — and some countries beyond — on May 12, 2008.

Nearly 90,000 people were killed or never found, and 5 million were made homeless in the deadliest earthquake to hit in decades.

"The great task of earthquake rescue and recovery reminds us again that unity is strength, that victory can only be gained through struggle," President Hu Jintao said.

The solemn event was broadcast live on national television, underscoring the disaster's searing effect on the national consciousness. The scope and pomp of the ceremony is usually reserved for official Communist Party events in Beijing.

The destruction triggered an outpouring of grief around China and united the country in a massive rescue effort boosted by volunteers, private donations and international aid. But it also brought to the fore a politically incendiary issue: why so many schools sank to the ground while buildings around them were barely affected.

Parents of dead students have been at

the forefront of dissent with accusations of corruption and mismanagement that they say led to shoddy construction.

"My son died a terrible death. Why did the school have to collapse? The buildings are so poorly constructed!" said Fu.

Her husband, Wu Zhenwei, added: "Some of the pig pens that I built 10 or 20 years ago are stronger."

Parents gave voice both to their bereavement and continuing resentment over the government's treatment of them. Many of those who have tried to sue or petition local and central authorities have been detained or warned against speaking out.

So far, no one has been punished or held responsible for the schools' collapse, and officials insist that they have not found evidence so far of shoddy construction.



AP FILE PHOTO

This undated file booking photo provided by the Carroll County Sheriff's Office, shows Dr. Phil Astin. The personal doctor faces sentencing for illegally distributing prescription drugs to patients.

Wrestler's doctor gets 10 years

By JEAN H. LEE
Associated Press Writer

NEWNAN, Ga. — The personal doctor to a professional wrestler who killed himself, his wife and their 7-year-old son was sentenced to 10 years in prison Tuesday for illegally prescribing painkillers and other drugs to patients.

Dr. Phil Astin, 54, had pleaded guilty Jan. 29 to a 175-count federal indictment that accused him of writing illegal prescriptions to known drug abusers. Prosecutors said at least two of Astin's patients died of drug overdose — a fact the judge said he could not overlook in handing down the sentence.

"I take full responsibility," Astin told U.S. District Judge Jack Camp during a sentencing hearing that lasted more than two hours. "I am sorry I hurt so many lives. I was thinking that I was looking after my patients."

The 19 patients in the indictment are identified only by their initials because of privacy rules. C.B. and N.B. were among the patients listed, but Assistant U.S. Attorney John Horn would not say whether that referred to the Benois. Both abused prescription drugs, Horn said.

Astin came to the attention of authorities in June 2007, when Benoit, his wife and son were found dead in their suburban Atlanta home.

Horn said it was likely there were far more patient addicts than the 19 listed in the indictment, but the investigation was halted when Astin agreed to plead guilty.

NIW BRIEFS

— Three people died while working at a fuel storage facility in Arkansas. The workers were installing new equipment when the explosion occurred May 12.

— An inmate who was in jail on death row for 22 years has had a murder charge against him dropped. New evidence shows that Paul House may not have acted alone in the murder of Carolyn Muncy.

— Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin is set to write a memoir for HarperCollins that will be released in spring 2010. She will use the book to tell her story in regard to many of the rumors that circulated during the 2008 election.

Miss Calif. keeps her crown



BEBETO MATTHEWS/Associated Press

Miss California USA, Carrie Prejean, reacts as Donald Trump, left, speaks during a news conference Tuesday May 12. Trump, who owns the Miss USA pageant, says Prejean can retain her Miss California USA crown after she caused a stir by expressing opposition to gay marriage and posing in racy photographs.

Dual-citizen journalist released from jail

By ALI AKBAR DAREINI
Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran — A joyful Roxana Saberi on Tuesday thanked those who helped win her release after four months in a Tehran prison.

Her lawyer revealed that the American journalist was convicted of spying for the U.S. in part because she had a copy of a confidential Iranian report on the U.S. war in Iraq.

Saberi, who holds American and Iranian citizenship, had copied the report "out of curiosity" while she worked as a freelance translator for a powerful body connected to Iran's ruling clerics, said

the lawyer, Saleh Nikbakht.

"I'm of course very happy to be free and to be with my parents again, and I want to thank all the people all over the world — which I'm just finding out about really — who whether they knew me or not helped me and my family during this period," she said in brief remarks.

Saberi's original trial was a swift, single session. She didn't have a chance to speak in that trial, and she was sentenced to eight years in prison — drawing an outcry from Washington.

But she spoke in an appeals court Sunday, explaining her side to the judges, Nikbakht said.

Saberi had moved to Iran six years ago

and throughout her time there was working as a freelance journalist for several organizations, including NPR and the British Broadcasting Corp.

Saberi also told the appeals court that she had engaged in no activities against Iran during her visit to Israel, Nikbakht said.

The court accepted her explanation and reduced her sentence to a suspended two-year sentence, prompting her release on Monday.

Another of Saberi's lawyers said a letter from Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to the court urging it to give Saberi's case a complete review helped bring the sentence reduction.