

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

October 28, 2009

Volume 36, Number 12

## Odd Jobs of OU

**page 12** New series takes flight with feature on professor's wasp research



### CAMPUS

OU crime stats reveal larceny most prevalent.

**page 7**



### MOUTHING OFF

Emergency zombie plan for the living.

**pages 14-15**

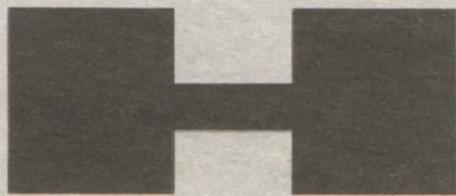


### SPORTS

Hoops squad sets high season goals.

**page 20**

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# THIS WEEK Oct. 28-Nov. 3, 2009

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## Perspectives

- 4 — EDITORIAL: What's the plan for surplus of funds as a result of increased student enrollment?
- 5 — COLUMN: Surviving after a sexual assault.
- 6 — COLUMN: The "greatest country in the world" needs a second look.

## Campus

- 7 — OUPD releases crime statistics.
- 8 — Preview of the 2009-10 theater season at Varner.
- 9 — Chinese Literati art exhibit by city dwellers who are into nature. OUSC supports MIP amnesty bill in the State Congress. Plus, events for commuters.
- 10 — Graham Health Center offers free H1N1 vaccinations on campus. Plus, POLICE FILES.
- 11 — Make A Difference Day brings out Greeks and other student orgs.

you ( your stories  
your words  
your style  
your health )



- 12 — Odd Jobs of OU: A new series looks at the work of a wasp researcher.
- 13 — Housing's International Village brings together students of different cultures.

## MOUTHING OFF



- 14 & 15 — A seriously satirical guide to surviving a zombie takeover on campus. Where to go, and where to avoid.

## the Scene

- 16 — Tour brings together bands of two different sides of the rock genre.
- 17 — REVIEW: Heavy metal video game is recommended, but a bit repetitive.
- 18 — REVIEW: Halloween rental favorite.

## The Mix

- 19 — Students cite favorite costumes of Halloweens past and plans for this year.

## Sports

- 20 — Women's basketball preview.
- 21 — Twin sisters bring chemistry to the soccer field. Plus, Coming Attractions.
- 22 — Sporting Blitz.
- 23 — Women's basketball continued.
- 24 — Four on Four with team captains

## Local

- 25 — Pontiac mayoral candidates debate the issues facing the city.
- 26 — Japanese pop culture celebrated at anime convention in Dearborn.

## Nation | World

- 27 — A model on the cover of Teen Vogue raises teen pregnancy awareness.

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# Perspectives

4

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October 28, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

## Enrollment spikes questions

### *Where is the extra tuition money going to go?*

Oakland University's recent joyous announcement of increased enrollment has some of us rolling our eyes.

One thing we'll say about the university's media relations team is that they are darn good at their jobs. In the press release revealing a 4.1 percent enrollment increase for the fall semester 2009, emphasis and praise was placed on the record growth (read article on page 7 of the campus section).

When reading a well-written press release, this does seem like nothing but good news. The general fund budget of the university was balanced with the 9 percent tuition increase this fall, and among other things, an across-the-board salary freeze. And the budget counted on the increased revenue that would come with a projected 1 percent more students paying tuition.

More students means more revenue. Revenue is always good.

What raises our eyebrows about all this extra cash flow is that we can't get any information as to where it's going to go. And by our calculations, there's a lot of it to be concerned about.

By no means are we here at The

Oakland Post economists, master budgeters or mathematicians. But we worked some of the figures provided to the board of trustees on tuition rates, the financial aid plan, the enrollment growth numbers released — all found on [oakland.edu](http://oakland.edu) — and did some basic algebra.

We found that the actual tuition revenue for this year will be roughly \$185 million, well over the projected \$172 million with the originally proposed 11 percent undergraduate tuition increase and projected 1 percent enrollment increase.

Subtract the nearly \$4.7 million in estimated financial aid through the freshmen guarantee, and the net revenue is at about \$180.3 million. That's about \$8 million more than what was hoped for with the larger tuition hike and a smaller student body increase. It's about \$11 million more than expected with the actual 9 percent tuition increase and the record enrollment.

We realize that we shouldn't jump the gun on account that state funding is still undecided. OU's budget was passed with the assumption the state will cut 3

percent of its funding. And OU officials are concerned about additional cuts.

But from what we know, there has been no talk in Lansing about reducing our funding by a double digit percentage, which is what would have to happen for OU to not have a surplus in these circumstances.

We're disappointed that there has been no open communication about what a likely surplus could mean for OU, its students, staff and faculty. It seems unlikely that the administration hasn't at least thought of what they might do with any extra funds. Will it go back to the students? Reinvested in the university? Spent frivolously?

If you ask us, we vote for raises for those who deserve it, like the OU police department and, heck, even the media relations department.

Just as long as it's not spent on another useless SAIL emblem in front of the Oakland Center that looks like a glorified helicopter landing pad.

Where would you like to see any extra funds go? It appears the administration is open for suggestions. Send yours to [oakpostmanaging@gmail.com](mailto:oakpostmanaging@gmail.com).

**W**hat do you think? Send your comments to The Oakland Post or stop in the office, 61 Oakland Center or by any of the methods below.

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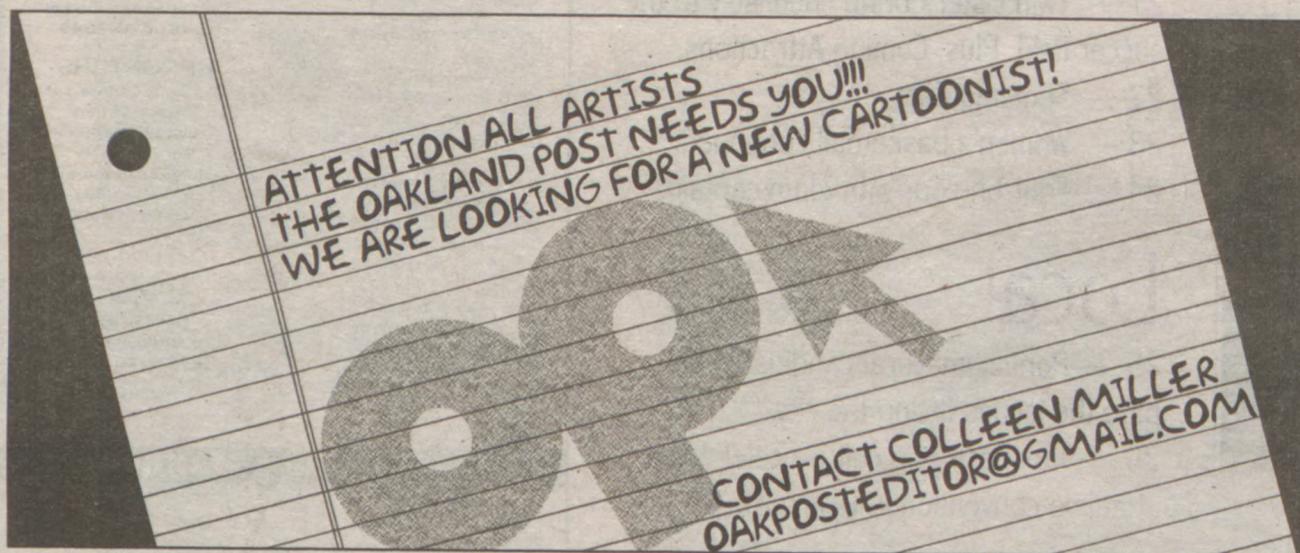
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#### CORRECTIONS CORNER

• In last week's article entitled "Kresge expands tech support," Library Dean Julie Voelck's name was spelled incorrectly.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail [oakpostmanaging@gmail.com](mailto:oakpostmanaging@gmail.com) or call (248) 370-2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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*— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States*

# Survivor's recovery begins with the right resources

**Jennifer Wood**



senior reporter

I am afraid of the dark. Not because of some silly childhood fear of monsters, but because of a very real, adult fear of real, adult monsters.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice, there were 255,630 reported cases of sexual assault in 2006.

The data for 2009 has yet to be compiled, but there is one thing I know: I am a part

of that statistic. Last summer, while walking the short distance from downtown Royal Oak to the home I was house-sitting, I was attacked and sexually assaulted. I had decided to leave my cousin's "last night out" bachelorette party early, and head home for the night.

I made it to about a block outside of downtown, when I stopped at a street corner to adjust the bags I was carrying. As I re-situated myself, I was grabbed from behind and forced to the ground.

The attack itself, clichéd as it may sound, is a total blur.

I remember screaming as my face hit the pavement, trying to struggle free, then seeing house lights start to illuminate. Someone must have heard me and come outside because before I could grasp what was happening, my attacker was running.

The police were there in a matter of minutes. I was given something to cover up with, as part of my clothing was lying in the street, and taken to the station.

The questions started that night and would continue for the next week. "What did he look like?" "What exactly happened?" "Why were you walking?" "Which direction did he run?"

I tried to answer the questions, replaying the incident in my head like a broken movie reel, but the truth was I didn't really know much.

In addition to my multiple visits to the police station, I also had to be examined by the nurses at HAVEN, Help Against Violent Encounters Now. It felt like one

invasion of privacy after another.

Replaying and then replaying it again, in a way, made it harder for me to grasp what had happened. And I didn't really, until I foolishly started reading the news reports.

As a journalism major, I know that you're not supposed to print the names of victims of sexual assaults names for ethical reasons. And thank God, they didn't.

However, the details were there in black and white: She went to a bachelorette party, decided to walk home, attacked around 1 a.m.

Then, there were the comments. One in particular, from Channel 7 News, is burned into my brain.

"What was she doing walking by herself from the bar that late at night? We know she wasn't going to church in the morning."

That's when it hit me. I had been raped, and someone wanted to tell me it was my fault? Someone I didn't even know wanted to insinuate that I was deserving of this in some way?

My view of the world was instantly shattered. Not only did I no longer feel safe in my cushy, suburban life, but now, I had every reason to believe that people were not inherently good.

I realize that, to a lot of people, I am "lucky." It could have been worse. I could not be here today. In a way, I guess I am, but "lucky" is the last thing I have felt.

I carry mace now. I refuse to walk to the car by myself as soon as it is even partially dark. And I am unintentionally suspicious of every man I see. I see the world through entirely different eyes.

However, after months of trying to hide my anger and tell myself that if I just don't think about it, it will stop hurting, I realize that those actions led to just the opposite outcome.

I am able to maintain composure through most days, but most nights are full of tears, yelling, and an ugly side of myself I had never seen before.

It has always been my belief that dealing with things on my own made me strong. However, this time, I am finding out that my old ways of coping simply will not work.

Resources are there for a reason. Because, in all real-

ity, this isn't something anyone can handle alone.

Personally, I find relief in a private counselor. Talking things out, trying to make sense of a completely fucked up situation, and then strategizing ways to release the anger without lashing out at the closest warm body, has allowed me to finally breathe easy again.

The Oakland University Counseling Center, located in Graham Health center offers an on-campus outlet for victims of sexual assault.

Its website, [www.oakland.edu/GCC/](http://www.oakland.edu/GCC/), provides students with resources like HAVEN's phone number, guidelines on what to do after being assaulted, the healing process, and what to expect during police investigations.

Graham also offers confidential counseling, including six free sessions to all OU students, and further help costing only \$12 per session.

OUPD offers RAD, Rape Aggression Defense, classes that are designed to teach women "realistic self-defense tactics and techniques." And although I had never even thought to enroll in such a course, I am currently signed up for the January basic training.

The man who assaulted me has yet to be caught, and as time wears on, the odds of that happening decrease.

The truth is that being prepared is my only defense. I can't walk around for the rest of my life scared that somehow I will wind up in the wrong place at the wrong time again, but I can prepare myself if that does happen.

I will never "get over" what happened to me. It's a scar that is ugly and permanent, and will only become faded with time. There will be bad days and good days, but I have to believe the eventually the bad days will become less prevalent and I will start to feel whole again.

Getting help is the first step in that direction. Putting my feelings on paper has been the second.

Editors note: If you, or anyone you know, has been a victim of sexual assault, please contact these resources: HAVEN 24-hour hotline: 877-922-1274. RAD Registration/Information: 248-370-3331. Graham Counseling Center: 248-370-3465.

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# America: the 'greatest' country needs to be challenged

## Brandon Kosal

guest columnist

I'm not sure if this problem is uniquely American, but I've never understood this country's obsession with claiming to be No. 1. From "God Bless America" (I had no idea God was an American nationalist) to "America is the greatest country in the world," Americans love to stake their claim atop the country leader board.

What makes this claim so absurd is that there is no rating system for countries. Any claim of country superiority is without merit. By what set of standards do we judge ourselves as the greatest? Is it by how we treat each other? Or how we treat other countries and their citizens? Using those criteria, anyone with a global outlook could certainly make the argument that we have yet to become a great country, let alone the greatest.

## Looking out to the world

Take the Iraq war for example, which was sold to us with one main purpose: to protect America from another Sept. 11-like terrorist attack. A recent report by the Human Rights Ministry found that over 85,000 Iraqi civilians have died as a result of our occupation of their country. What type of message does it send to the rest of the world when we say that it is worth the lives of over 85,000 non-Americans to protect American interests?

You can also tell a lot about a country by checking its spending habits. To wit, a report by [globalissues.org](http://globalissues.org) shows that in 2008 the United States was responsible for 41.5 percent of global military expenditures. To put this in perspective, the next 14 countries combine for just under 40 percent of the world total. That is an astonishing statistic, especially when our success overseas in recent years has been suspect at best.

Our dedication to military spending is merely curious

until you consider how little we spend on foreign aid and assistance. A report released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development finds that, in 2008, of the 22 eligible countries, the United States was tied for last in developmental assistance as a percentage of gross national income.

Our military spending is enough for 14 countries, but when it comes to foreign aid, we're tied for last. That doesn't reflect very well on America.

## Taking it back home

What about the way we treat our own citizens?

Look no further than the health care debate. Have you heard much of a debate on health care? The media has been flooded with shouting matches and uninformed insults being hurled back and forth between both sides. The debate has become less about those who need help and more about those who crave attention.

President Obama has said he wants to help the millions of Americans with no health insurance. For that, he's labeled a socialist and compared to Hitler. With rumored estimates ranging from 30 to 50 million uninsured, Americans and 45,000 dying each year because they don't have health insurance, according to [physorg.com](http://physorg.com), it's clear we have a health care problem in this country. Despite all of that, a recent USA Today/Gallup poll finds that 33 percent of Americans will oppose a health care reform bill, regardless of its contents.

Let's also not forget the ugly history our country has: slavery, two nuclear bombs, Japanese internment camps, and countless wars that have resulted in the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians. We shouldn't dwell on the past to pity ourselves, but to look for guidance to fix our current problems, including a court system that is slanted in favor of those with power, homosexuals being treated as second-class citizens, and racism and sexism remaining a problem, despite an ABC News/Washington Post poll that finds an overwhelming majority of Americans consider it to no longer be a huge issue.

Still, the "we are No.1" mentality persists.

This false sense of inflated self-worth is dangerous. Our ethnocentric methodology and rogue tendencies have shamed us with a reputation of being an arrogant,



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

greedy nation that barely cares for its own citizens, let alone the rest of the world.

I'll be the first to say that there are many great things about this country, but we must avoid the pitfall of judging our country relative to other nations. Are we a great nation compared to others that have nightly beheadings or death squads that shoot innocent civilians? Of course. Does that also mean that, judged independently, we are a great nation? That's at least debatable.

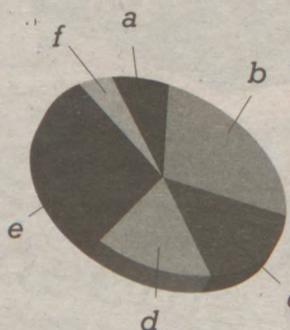
Keep in mind that the majority of Americans did nothing to earn their citizenship. The genetic lottery placed us within a set of borders, and in between those borders happened to be a place called America. Our responsibilities as human beings shouldn't be trumped by some imaginary sense of American authority over the rest of the world.

Just like American lives are no more valuable than any others, America should not automatically be considered greater than other nations. A reputation of being the best, or even great, is earned, not granted or inherited. Assuming a position of superiority is a step in the wrong direction. We owe it to ourselves and to the rest of the world to take a few steps back and start looking at things not from the perspective of an American, but a human being. Those two labels apply to everyone in this country. Let's start acting like it.

## last week's results

### How was your experience registering with SAIL?

- a** I haven't done it yet. **3 votes | 7.1%**
- b** I went on at midnight and it took forever but I got all the classes I need. **10 votes | 23.8%**
- c** I waited until later in the day and didn't have any problems. **7 votes | 16.7%**
- d** I went on at midnight and didn't have any problems. **6 votes | 14.3%**
- e** I went on at midnight and didn't get all the classes I need. **12 votes | 28.6%**
- f** I waited until later in the day and didn't get all the classes I need. **2 votes | 4.8%**



## poll of the week

## current poll

### What do you think of America?

- a** America is the greatest country in the world.
- b** It's flawed but still on top.
- c** It's losing ground in its global standing.
- d** America has really gone downhill.
- e** It isn't what it used to be; I'm moving.

## OU sees rise in enrollment

By JENNIFER WOOD  
Senior Reporter

Earlier this month, Oakland University officials announced a 4.1 percent increase in the fall 2009 student enrollment, surpassing the projected increase of only 1 percent.

Now at a total of 18,967 students enrolled for the fall semester, the question is what the unexpected increase means for the OU budget.

The general fund budget was passed in July 2009 based on a 1 percent increase in enrollment, resulting in the 9 percent tuition increase.

Vice president of finance and administration John Beaghan said in a previous interview that the university did balance the budget with tuition.

The administration also anticipated the expected 3 percent decrease in state funding, however one-time federal stimulus funding is predicted to be used to fill that deficit.

Beaghan said it is too early to tell what



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

Responding to the record enrollment, an additional 72 parking spots were recently added on campus.

will happen with the enrollment and budget situations, due to the ongoing state budget discussions.

"We are still waiting on the state budget situation to settle down, and are not yet confident that we will receive any federal stimulus funding," Beaghan said. "There is also potential for mid-year

state funding cuts that we are weary of."

Revisions of OU's budget are at a standstill, awaiting the final decisions on the state's budget.

The interim state budget is effective until Saturday, Oct. 31.

The governor's office reported the higher education budget is still under review,

and will be addressed this week.

Laura Schartman, director of Institutional Research and Assessment at OU, believes that the current trend is hard to predict because students enrolling are not just students fresh out of high school, but also transfers students, graduate students, as well as non-traditional students.

"It's a mixed demographic. There are fewer students graduating from high school; the fact that our freshman enrollment is growing in a shrinking pool makes it hard to tell," Schartman said.

University Technology Services director of systems engineering, Stephen Glowacki, reported that the university is already expecting a higher number for winter enrollment.

The increase in students could be partially to blame for the recent issues with the OU SAIL registration system.

According to Glowacki, the system slowed down in part due to a higher number than was expected of students registering at start times.

## Campus crime reports released, larceny is top offense

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University Police Department released two campus crime reports recently.

While OUPD officials said it wouldn't be accurate to use these statistics to make a safety ranking comparison between OU and other institutions because the demographics are different for each one, they said OU is a "very safe place."

"We compare very favorable to other Michigan institutions, our national peers and the local communities," said Lt. Mel Gilroy.

The reports show that violent crimes such as murder, rape, robbery, vehicle thefts and arson continue to stay down, while drug and liquor law violations continue their higher numbers. Larceny, or theft, is the most frequent crime on campus.

"I'm gratified that overall as demonstrated by these statistics, that Oakland University remains a very safe place," said OUPD Chief Sam Lucido. "However, we need to remain vigilant and take

personal responsibility for our safety and look out for each other."

Both reports cover crime on OU's campus from January to December 2008. The annual Uniform Crime Report, a requirement for all police departments, was created for the FBI and released in September. The Clery Act Annual Campus Safety and Security report, a requirement for all campus police departments, was created for the Michigan government and released on Oct. 13.

Official statistics for the same period in 2009 won't be available until around October 2010, said OUPD captain Mark Gordon, because it takes time to review and process the information through several layers of law enforcement organizations.

Gilroy said the number of incidents and arrests in 2009 so far show that crime on campus this year is on par with 2008, and is "remaining low."

"I feel pretty positive about that," he said.

According to the UCR, in 2008, there were four violent crimes (one robbery and three aggravated assaults) and 71 property crimes (four burglaries, 63 lar-

cenies, three motor vehicle thefts and one arson).

This is a decrease overall from 2007, when there were seven violent crimes (one robbery, five aggravated assaults and one rape) and 117 property crimes (six burglaries, 106 larcenies, four motor vehicle thefts and one arson).

Gilroy credited the decrease to more police officers being on campus. For six to eight months in 2007, OUPD was short-staffed by two to four people, he said, and by 2008 it was full-staffed.

"It shows the prevention and deterrent (tactic) works," he said.

But arrests on Oakland University's campus due to drug and liquor law violations increased by 46 percent from 2007 to 2008. Arrests include citations (such as minor in possession) issued.

In 2007, there were 13 arrests for drug violations and 45 for liquor violations. Within that same period in 2008, 19 drug arrests and 66 liquor arrests were made. The majority of these occurred in the residence halls.

Lucido said the increase in arrests was probably due to both increased OUPD enforcement and increased illegal drug

and liquor activity on campus.

Gilroy said it is "predictable" that these violations were concentrated in campus residences because it's a 24/7 living facility.

"A minor student leaves campus and goes to his home in Sterling Heights and drinks — that doesn't go in our report," he said.

He said the vast majority of these arrests and warrants, with very few exceptions, led to charges being filed by a prosecutor's office.

According to the reports, there weren't any hate crimes reported on campus from 2005-08. Hate crimes are those crimes established to have a motive based on gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, etc.

Because of the high number of larcenies on campus OUPD encouraged people to not leave their belongings around unattended even for a few minutes.

"Larceny remains our No. 1 crime on campus," Lucido said. "People, please take responsibility."

The full reports can be found at [www.police.oakland.edu/statement](http://www.police.oakland.edu/statement) and [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov).

# Varner Theatre 09-10 season begins

By MIKE SANDULA  
Staff Reporter

Filled with musicals, comedies and classics that aimed to appeal to a wide audience, the 2009-10 Varner Theatre season began this month.

"Violet" started off the year with eleven nearly sold-out performances in mid-October. Based on the short story "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts, it tells the story of an isolated young woman who travels by bus during the civil rights era in search of a televangelist she believes can heal her scarred face.

It was directed by Fred Love, assistant professor of theatre.

Starting Nov. 12, theater professor Karen Sheriden directs "The Learned Ladies of Park Avenue."

Set in 1936 New York, the performance is a comedy riff on Molière's "Learned Ladies."

After a winter hiatus, the theater department returns in February with "The Good Doctor."

Based on the stories of Anton Chekhov and set in the 19th century Russia, this

comedy presents a series of scenes whose only common thread is a strangely familiar character.

Thomas M. Suda, special instructor of theater, directs the show, which runs from Feb. 4-14.

Michael Gillespie, associate professor of theatre, directs "Little Women." Gillespie said it's a musical version of Lousia May Alcott's classic novel about four sisters and their mother as they deal with the absence of their male family members during the Civil War.

"It tells the story pretty much as written, but there's a contemporary thrust to it," Gillespie said. The performance runs March 18-28.

Closing the season is "Dear Edwina," which follows Edwina Spoonapple as she gets ready for her musical advice-giving show that she performs live from her garage every Sunday morning. It runs June 4-6 and is directed by Suda.

To find out more about performance times and tickets, call the Varner Box Office at 248-370-3013 or visit the Theatre section of [www.oakland.edu/mtd](http://www.oakland.edu/mtd).

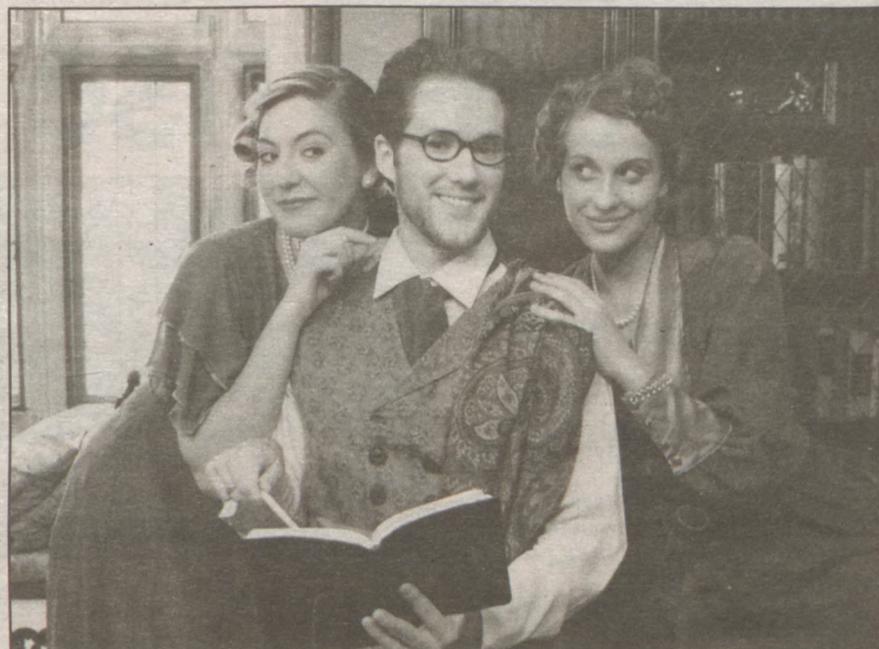


Photo courtesy of Joni Hubred-Golden  
"The Learned Ladies of Park Avenue" features Allison Kochanski, Bret Radke and Abby Alexander. Its run at the Varner Theatre begins Nov. 12.

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# OU presents Chinese Literati art

By SEAN GARNER  
Senior Reporter

Until Nov. 22, Oakland University will be host to some of the most prominent pieces in the Chinese art form known as literati.

Literati is a Latin term to describe the ability to write, and all of the pieces in the "Writing an Image" exhibition incorporate text written in Chinese characters into idyllic depictions of nature.

The images have been on display in the OU Art Gallery on the second floor of Wilson Hall since September. Dick Goody, director of the gallery, said the literati exhibit strongly complements displays featured at the gallery in the past.

"We really chose this for variety I think," Goody said. "Last

year we showed two exhibits of contemporary art ... We tried to balance that this year."

The pieces range in age from as recently as the last decade to over 800 years ago.

Goody said literati artists have historically been city dwellers who strongly admired — perhaps even worshipped — nature. Many of the pieces, if examined from bottom to top, depict an evolution from realistic objects and people to ethereal images of the imagination.

He also said that literati art demands that its practitioners be skilled in many disciplines.

"A literati artist would be Chinese scholar who played the guzheng (a Chinese stringed instrument) who would also be a calligrapher, a poet and a painter. So it's not just one-dimensional," Goody said.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

The exhibition is on display until Nov. 22.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

"Writing and Image" presents an experience of the written word as art through Chinese calligraphy.

## OUSC resolves to support MIP exemption bill

By MIKE SANDULA  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University Student Congress adopted a resolution Monday that supports a bill that would exempt minors from Minor in Possession charges if they had to seek medical attention for alcohol poisoning.

The MIP Exemption Bill, which has already passed through the Michigan House of Representatives, would also provide amnesty to minors who called or helped transport the affected student.

The resolution, sponsored by legislator Brett McIsaac and co-sponsored by legislator Anthony Ivone, was adopted on the grounds that "it can positively impact the health and safety of OU's students."

"Hopefully it'll save lives," said McIsaac. "That's the biggest concern we had."

Mark Medaugh, student activities funding board chair, supported the resolution, hoping it will serve as a "last minute reminder" to students who need to seek medical attention but are afraid of getting in trouble.

The resolution was adopted with the support of 14 OUSC members. There were three abstaining votes and no votes against, though during the discussion prior to the vote, some members voiced concern that it would reward minors who drank too heavily.

But Nick McCormick, public relations agent for OUSC, said students would not be getting off completely. He said fines would be dropped and students wouldn't have to perform community service, but they would have to attend one session on underage drinking. The bill would only override MIP charges and would not exempt anyone from Driving Under the Influence charges.

OU is one of 15 members of the Student Association of Michigan, and is now among the member schools to adopt a resolution. Saginaw Valley State University and Northern Michigan University, also SAM members, already passed a similar resolution and other schools are in the process of doing the same.

Jordan Twardy, president of SAM and OU alum, said SAM is already pushing to get the bill passed, but having the member schools pass a resolution "legitimizes what SAM does."

The bill was introduced to the Michigan Senate in March, but they have yet to act on.

For further coverage, go to [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com).

## Commuters seek to make a connection

By MIKE SANDULA  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University always has a multitude of campus events throughout the year, but seldom do they reflect the fact that a majority of students are commuters. For the second year in a row, OU will have an event that provides an opportunity for students who commute to connect with each other.

The second annual "Make the Commuter Connection" Day, coordinated by the Center for Student Activities with cooperation from various campus organizations, is Wednesday Oct. 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center.

"We want our commuter students to realize we recognize their value going here and make sure they're being paid attention to," said Jean Ann Miller, director of the CSA.

Miller said the event was timed to coincide with midterms because students are stressed financially and academically and this provides an opportunity for them to relax.

There will be a "stress-free" zone where students can drink herbal tea and decorate miniature gourds, along with other Halloween-themed crafts. Students can also enjoy free cider, doughnuts and popcorn, and see a male living statue.

The CSA will be giving out, among other items, an OU license plate and demonstrating ways students can live and drive "greener." Some auto insurance groups will also have a presence to help students with their insurance needs.

The event is in conjunction with the Community Business Fair, which will be held in the Gold Rooms of the OC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event, sponsored by University Relations, will provide an opportunity to check out the products

and services of area businesses. Many businesses will be giving out internships and some will be giving out T-shirts.

As part of the day's events, Graham Health Center will be giving H1N1 immunizations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lower level of the OC to individuals under the age of 49 and have no chronic health problems. The nasal vaccine is free for students and \$10 for faculty and staff.

An Open Enrollment, Employee Benefits and Wellness Fair is also being held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the OC. Faculty and staff can visit the Blue Cross Blue Shield Blues Cruiser in the P2 parking lot for a free health screening.

"It's an OU community event," said Miller, who hopes the three events will generate a lot of traffic and interest throughout the OC all day.

# Free H1N1 vaccines on campus

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University students can get vaccinated for free on campus at the Graham Health Center. For faculty and staff, it will cost \$10.

Since it started giving out the H1N1 virus vaccinations Oct. 16, about 400 had been given out by Oct. 27, with about 500 doses remaining, said Julie Thams, a physician assistant at the center.

She said they have already held three flu clinics on campus — two in the residence halls and one in the athletic building, “to try to get those who live in close quarters ... [and] those who work in close conditions.”

On Wednesday, Oct. 28, the center will make the vaccine available on the lower floor of the Oakland Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. On Oct. 29, Graham Health Center will hold another clinic in Hamlin Hall from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The vaccine is also available Mondays through Fridays between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Graham Health Center.

The H1N1 virus seems to affect young people under 25 more than other people.

The vaccination is nasal spray that is a “live vaccine,” Thams said, which means it’s a diluted version of the actual virus,

which puts children, people older than 50, pregnant women and people with chronic health problems at a risk if they take this version of the vaccine.

The current target audience for this round of vaccines at the center is non-pregnant people between 18-24 who don’t have chronic health problems such as asthma and diabetes.

Thams said the Center is hoping to get the injection version soon, which is safer for more people. She said the Centers for Disease Control sets the criteria for people who can be given the vaccine.

“Once the CDC lifts our guideline, we hope to get it to everybody,” she said.

Thams said the center doesn’t know how many OU members were affected by the flu, but that it keeps in contacts with resident halls to find out how many students have flu-like symptoms, and recommends them to stay home until they’re healthy to prevent contagion.

The H1N1 has the same symptoms and fatality rate as the regular seasonal flu, but it spreads more rapidly.

On Tuesday, Oct. 27, 117 K-12 schools were closed, none of which were in Oakland or Macomb County. No public universities are closed.

Visit [www.oakgov/health](http://www.oakgov/health) to find where to get the flu vaccine.

# POLICE FILES

On Oct. 19, a student reported to OUPD that she had lost her purse. The student said that she might have left the purse at the Oakland Center. All of her IDs and credit cards were in the purse. Later, the student sent OUPD an e-mail saying she had found her purse.

On Oct. 21, OUPD met with a student outside Hamlin hall. The student reported that she had found a threatening note on her alarm clock from her roommate. The student said she felt scared because she did not get along with her roommate. OUPD then met with the roommate, who said that she was mad when she wrote the note. She said the note was not serious, and she was just annoyed.

On Oct. 25, OUPD responded to a fire alarm in a room in West Vandenburg Hall. OUPD spoke with the occupant who said some food cooking in the microwave activated the smoke detector. The Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived and inspected the area and cleared the scene.

On Oct. 25, a student reported a false charge on his credit card to OUPD. The student said that he had reported the incident to his bank but they needed a police case report number. The card was used in Illinois but the student said that he had his card in Michigan, and never gave the card to anyone else.

— Compiled by contributing reporter Brad Slazinski, from Oakland University Police Department’s media logs.



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# Students Make A Difference, get involved

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

Saturday was Make A Difference Day around the nation, and student organizations on Oakland University's campus took part by doing community service activities in a plethora of ways.

Make A Difference Day is a national day of service started by the United Way and community service groups take part by cleaning, building, or just providing assistance to groups in need.

Tiffany Sims, from the office of Academic Service Learning, went to student organizations around campus and requested their participation in Make A Difference Day. She helped set up activities for the groups to take part in, ranging from building a playground at the Baldwin Center, doing yard work for seniors through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency, or helping to install benches at the Salvation Army Echo Grove Camp.

"My goal was just to get more students to volunteer," Sims said.

Sims said that a lot of people in the community at large have a poor image of college students. She sees this as a way to change that.

"I think this is a great opportunity to get OU students into the community to show people they do care," Sims said.

Students from OU's Alternative Spring Break did

service for Make A Difference Day by helping to paint, rake leaves, and clean the basement for the morning at the Grace Center for Hope. Jennifer Doptis, president of Alternative Spring Break, said they got involved so they could volunteer their time to make someone else's lives a bit more comfortable.

"Our group met a lot of other volunteers who enjoyed being there just as much as we did," Doptis said.

She said that they met other OU students working there as well. "Basically, we had a productive day filled with fun projects and fun people!"

OU's newest fraternity, Alpha Sigma Phi went to the Salvation Army Camp and helped them clean their flowerbeds and get ready for winter. President Ryan Gentry said that although it was a pretty dreary day, it was still a good experience.

"The guys got to get to know each other a little bit more throughout the morning," Gentry said. "The camp director, Mark, was very nice, and couldn't thank us enough for coming."

Meanwhile, Phi Sigma Sigma was at the Baldwin Center, helping paint one of the rooms there. Phi Sigma Sigma member Amanda Kochanski said they all had a good time and were enjoying themselves. She said that some of the volunteers even started painting each other.

Later that day, they passed out candy to Pontiac area children through "Trunk-or-Treat." Kochanski said because it's too dangerous for kids to go trick-or-treating in Pontiac, children dressed up and came to the

Baldwin Center to get candy by going from trunk to trunk of volunteers' cars.

"We help out with the Baldwin Center so much, so we wanted to do this for them," Phi Sigma Sigma member Tiffany LeDonne said.

She said Phi Sigma Sigma will also be tutoring some young students at the Baldwin Center in the beginning of November.

Though they weren't organized through Center for Student Activities, OU's Revive, Experience, Dream, Change Our World got involved by helping at a Rochester haunted house put on by the Jaycees.

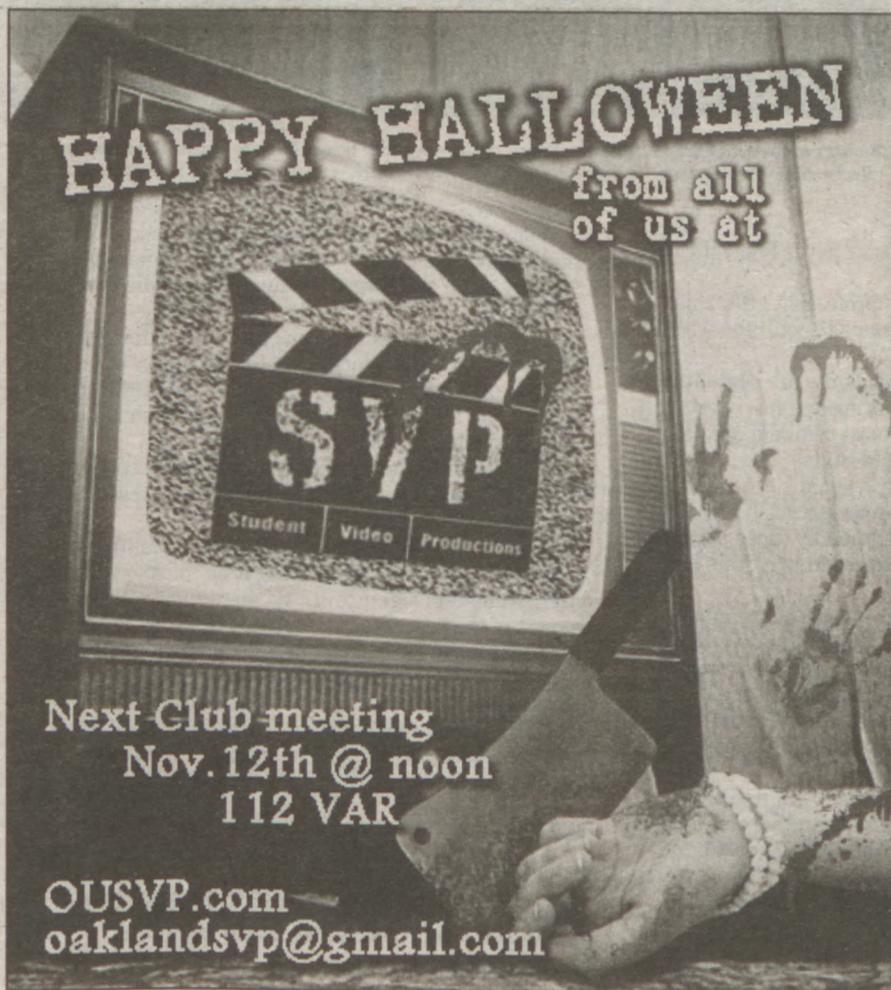
REDCOW president Norris Chase said everyone at REDCOW had been looking forward to the event and had a great time dressing as monsters and scaring people.

"It was very interesting to be working on the opposite side of the haunted house," Chase said.

Chase said his job in the haunted house was working as "the headless man." He said he carried around a dummy head with him and used it to scare people waiting in line, to get them excited for the house itself.

While OU managed to have a significant impact on the area this year, community service organizations around the country did activities for Make A Difference Day. Sims said that it feels good just to be a part of that.

"It's a neat way to connect with people across the country," Sims said.



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## Odd Jobs of OU

# Professor abuzz with research

By RYAN HEGEDUS  
Staff Reporter

Just four hours after being born, were you able to recognize every single one of your family members?

Due to kin recognition, paper wasps, specifically the *Polistes* genus, are able to distinguish between family members and any intruders in their nests.

This is just one of the many facts that Dr. George Gamboa has discovered in his 30 years of teaching and research here at Oakland University.

Gamboa first attended graduate school at Oregon State University with an emphasis in marine biology. His education was postponed, however, when he was called upon to serve in the Air Force during the Vietnam War.

When his four years of service were over, he returned to America and his college education. He had lost interest in marine biology, but became more intrigued by behavioral biology.

His first animal behavior course, taught by famed insect behaviorist John Alcock, was the turning point of his career path. Given the option of taking a final exam or doing a class project involving research on leafcutter ants, Gamboa took the latter. After completing the project, he decided to do his master's thesis on the subject.

Gamboa received his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas in 1979 and was hired by OU in 1980 as a biology professor.

He had always been interested in biology and the behavior of animals, but that fascination didn't start out with wasps.

"I used to spend time at my uncle's ranch and hunt some of the animals," Gamboa said. "Eventually, I stopped hunting and took binoculars with me instead. I became interested in what they were doing and why they were doing it. That really piqued my interest."

It was this early fascination with behavior in nature that has spurred a career spanning 30-plus years at Oakland University. In addition to his wasp research, Gamboa teaches biology labs, two different courses of Topics In Behavioral Biology, and Scientific Inquiry Communication.

With so much experience and knowledge in the behavior field, it's not surprising that his students have found interest in his research projects and joined him.

"I needed a research project for my graduate work and I love insects, so it was a natural choice," said Amanda Murray, one of Dr. Gamboa's grad students. "I really like working with him because he is very knowledgeable about his work and has a passion for it. I have learned a great deal from him."

About 10 years ago, that passion was put to the test.

Gamboa began developing increasingly serious allergic reactions to the venom of the wasps when he got stung. Once these reactions became life-threatening, a drastic measure needed to be taken.

For five years, he had to receive anti-venom shots — starting with mild doses and increasing to higher doses — and is now able to tolerate stings.

"I was at a point where I thought I would have to switch animals, because it became so dangerous," Gamboa said. "When I was in the fields with the wasps, I was really getting paranoid because I knew I was going to have a serious reaction if I got stung. I never knew if I was going to make it."

Some might consider a new profession after this problem. Gamboa, however, plans to continue with his research.

Gamboa and his graduate students are currently researching *P. dominulus*. This species has overtaken the native *P. fuscatus* as the most common species of paper wasp found in the United States.

*P. dominulus* had long been resistant to the various parasites that affected the native species, but recently has become more prone to infection by those parasites. Gamboa's grad students will look into why this has begun to happen.

Gamboa and his students are also looking into aggression within hives and if that aggressive behavior is being passed on to future generations of wasps.

This extensive research is being done in the biological preserve, a 110-acre plot of land located on the southern part of Oakland's campus. The entrance to the preserve is on a dirt road just off Pioneer Drive.

Walking around the preserve, one will find trees as old as 130 to 150 years, animals and insects of all different kinds, and 92 of Gamboa's wasp nest boxes. These wooden boxes have a wire-mesh cover on them; this is done to keep out animals like raccoons, who would normally eat the larvae of the wasps.

Having been undisturbed for a long period of time, the preserve has been able to keep its natural beauty.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post  
Biology professor George Gamboa with one of his wasp nest boxes. In spite of past life-threatening allergic reactions to wasps, he continues to work with them.

"The preserve is truly an oasis in the middle of a highly developed area," Gamboa said. "Sometimes you go back there and forget you're in the middle of metro Detroit."

After putting video cameras into the nestboxes, Gamboa and his students film the wasps for extensive periods of time, recording their behavior. Kin recognition, or the ability to recognize family members by odor cues, is one main focus of this video footage.

In addition to Gamboa and his Oakland students, the University of Michigan is also doing wasp research in the biological preserve.

Some might ponder the importance of Gamboa's research. Other than describing it as "biologically interesting and significant," he mentioned an economic aspect of the research.

"A lot of pest species, like yellow jackets and leafcutter ants, use kin recognition and odor cues," explained Gamboa. "If you could somehow alter their kin recognition abilities so that they don't recognize their own kin, you can cause them (the pest species) to self-destruct. A company like Dow Chemical could create a synthetic,

If you know of someone who has an interesting job at OU and would like their story told in The Oakland Post, send us an e-mail at oakpostfeatures@gmail.com.

# Housing benefits domestic and exchange students

By SEAN GARNER  
Senior Reporter

Eight months ago, Mark LaMerse was going to sign up to live in the Student Apartments with two other roommates assigned by Oakland University Housing.

However, a miscommunication with housing put the kibosh on those plans and led LeMerse to enter a world he had only heard vague rumblings about beforehand — the International Village.

LeMerse, a charter member of University Housing's International Village, located in the 7000s of the University Student Apartments, originally had more traditional residential plans for his junior year at OU.

He had heard about University Housing's plans to develop an all-inclusive "living and learning" community where born and raised Americans would share residence with natives of different countries, but he hadn't planned on living there.

"When I first heard about it, I thought, 'Well that's a cool idea, but it's not really for me,'" said the junior computer science major with a Japanese minor. "When [my roommate] Danny told me we got screwed out of our original apartment, I was like, 'OK, I might have to check this thing out.'"

LeMerse has since embraced his role as ambassador of his college and country. He has made quick friends with his French roommate as well as his Chinese roommate.

They occasionally quibble over things like cuisine, but they unite over mutual curiosity for each other's homeland.

LeMerse has even managed to immerse his Chinese roommate in one of his favorite American cultural staples: basketball.

The walls of their apartment are heavily decorated with sports symbols, including flags for OU and posters featuring the schedules for both the men's and the women's Grizzly basketball team.

"We're really hoping to take him to some games this year," LeMerse said. "We went to Midnite Madnezz, and he absolutely loved it. He's a true fan; he follows the NBA all the way from China."

"It's been a fine decision. I have no regrets about it," LeMerse said.

The 17 foreign and 13 domestic students who occupy the International Village live on the highest floor of the easternmost student residential complex on campus. The village residents have the longest treks to the heart of campus of any residential students.

This not-so-prime location might serve as a metaphor — most likely an unintentional one — for most Americans' attitudes toward the countries these people come from: Out of sight, out of mind.



Molly Rowland and her roommate Katharina Buentjen outside their home in the International Village in the University Student Apartments.

David Archbold, director of the International Students and Scholars Office said that sentiment of isolation is what drove him and former University Housing director Lionel Maten to try to create a more welcoming on-campus environment for international students.

"The first step was trying to decide what an international village would look like," Archbold said. "We knew we always needed one, but we needed to do a lot of research. Before that, 99.5 percent of international students either lived across the street in Beacon Hill Apartments or somewhere else in the area, but they didn't live on campus."

As eager as the university was to cater to its international population, that was not the only reason the International Village was created. Deborah Middlebrook, interim director of University Housing, said it was equally as important to serve domestic students interested in gaining a deeper understanding of other cultures.

"I think there's been a desire for this type of program for years," Middlebrook said. "In my experiences, people would like to live with people from different parts of the world. Let's say you've got a domestic student interested in the German culture or language. Therefore, when they live with a German student, their interest is peaked, because they get firsthand knowledge. They get to ask questions directly that relate to their culture as opposed to our culture."

One student who fits Middlebrook's statement is Molly Rowland, a German language and letters major.

Rowland lives with students from Japan and, appropriately, Germany. The timing of Rowland's grouping allowed for her to teach her foreign roommates about some seasonal American practices, including carving

pumpkins for Halloween, a custom not practiced in either Germany or Japan.

Living with people of different cultures is nothing new to Rowland. While growing up in Bloomfield Township, she hosted two foreign exchange students, one from China and one from the Netherlands, and traveled abroad, staying with host families all across Europe.

"Given my experiences, I was already

anticipating that everybody was going to be a little different, coming from a different background, but I was so used to it that it really didn't affect me at all," Rowland said. "I guess I was just born with a deep interest in other cultures and other ways of life."

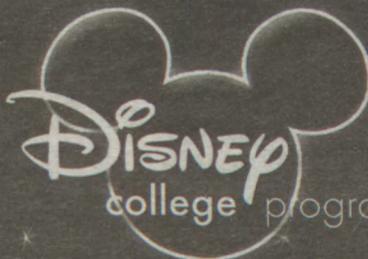
Rowland's roommate, Katharina Buentjen, an exchange student who is studying business and English, said there are numerous differences between college life in Germany and America, including that the final grade for most German university classes is determined by one's performance on a single final exam.

"I think it's better here where you can do so many things to try to get a better grade," Buentjen said. "In Germany, if you have a bad day on your final, that's it."

That's not the only difference between college life in the two countries, however.

"There's free food everywhere," Buentjen said. "The university spends so much money for the students here with things like the carnival a few weeks ago. I know that you spend a lot of money for it, but you'd never get that in Germany."

For information on the International Village, visit [www.oakland.edu/isso/](http://www.oakland.edu/isso/).



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**T**hree zombies walk into Café O'Bears ...

What is a student to do if the undead rise and the ensuing chaos restricts us to campus? This Halloween edition of Mouthing Off is here to help, even though zombie awareness should be year round.

"We do not have a specific plan for dealing with zombies, per se" is the official statement given by the Oakland University Police Department concerning zombies, but it's important to remember to report any (legitimate) suspicious activities to the authorities.

"If there is a zombie outbreak on campus, it more than likely came from Beer Lake," said Matt Parks, 19, a sophomore finance major and admissions ambassador who gives new students tours of campus.

"If you find yourself outside during the apocalypse, be careful," Parks said. "Any building you enter could be filled with zombies, but if you stay outside you're dead for sure."

This map is designed to show people buildings to go to and places to avoid at OU. The key to survival is to organize before they rise so you aren't left for dead.

Save this spread and study it, because when it comes to information like this during a cannibal crisis, you can afford this.

## DORMS AND STUDENT APARTMENTS

**DOOMED.** Plenty of flesh to eat and too many exits to cover make these closed quarters something to avoid. Unless the students can organize fast enough, the undead will simply move from room to room feasting and attacking. Move to the top floor, block any exits with the futon you got off craigslist, consolidate your snacks and hang any spare sheets and towels out of the window to signal for help.

## GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

**A BIG NO.** The first people to feel ill will go here, and you do not want to be where the soon-to-be undead will flock. If someone turns while at the center, then we've got an army of ghoulish doctors and nurses to deal with. This, and the location next to the dorms, makes Graham a bad idea. If you're certain the zombies have cleared the area, raid the building for first aid.

## O'RENA AND REC CENTER

**DAMNED.** While it would be best to have all our athletic students fighting for the living, the very second one of our basketball, soccer, track or other sports stars turn, we're going to have fast, strong, agile and cannibalistic athletes who can easily kick your ass. The fields and gyms offer no coverage and above all, avoid the pool. Steal the Grizz's outfit to offer stylish protection from claws and teeth.

## WILSON HALL

**WORTH A SHOT.** Figure that with the extra security and keycard access the building has, they probably also installed a panic room somewhere near Russi's office just in case the students really found out where their money was going and rioted. Get into this panic room before it is sealed off, and you will survive the quarantine comfortably with pillows stuffed with money and drink from vases filled with tears of broke college students.

MEADOW BROOK DRIVE

WILSON BLVD

MOUTHING OFF GETS SERIOUS  
PLAN AGAINST ZOMBIES ON

PIONEER DRIVE

### KRESGE LIBRARY

**SAFE.** Get to the top floor and use bookshelves and tables to barricade. Jam the revolving door to stop zombies. Use the study rooms for sleeping quarters and burn the books for heat, or if you're really bored, you could read them. The step-down design of the build will allow people to safely leave the top floor and scale down to the ground if they need to escape. Few windows and fresh water make Kresge your best bet.

### O'DOWD, ELLIOTT AND VARNER HALLS

**DEPENDS.** Much like O'Dowd, there are too many turns in the hallways, allowing for a zombie to sneak around a corner and end you. However, the SVP kids swear that the studio control center, soundproof and locked, would be perfect to bunker down in. The anthropology professors on the fifth floor of Varner might survive, but let's face it, the business students in Elliott are practically zombies anyway.

### PAWLEY HALL

**COMPLETELY FORSAKEN.** Not only is Pawley far away from any other building, but it's the home of the Lowry Early Childhood Center, which means dozens of snot-nosed little kids could easily become dozens of snot-nosed little bloodthirsty, undead mini-demons who can fit into tiny spaces and pop out of nowhere. Sure, OurTakes Café has food, but think about it — zombie kids are not worth the coffee and sandwiches. Avoid Pawley.

LIBRARY DRIVE

### OAKLAND CENTER

**SCREWED.** The exits are all glass, which can be shattered and stumbled into. While the cafeteria has food supplies, it'd be hard to make a strong barricade with the tables and chairs in such a large area. One ghoul gets in and the entire OC is clamoring for flesh. If you're in the OC, try to get into The Post/WXOU offices where the doors lock and we can tweet about the undead apocalypse.

### DODGE, SEB AND HANNAH HALLS

**SAFE-ISH.** Those crazy science kids are probably the reason for the undead rising, with their experiments, radiation and lasers, making SEB the likely point of origin for infection. The three-building complex has too many doors, so get to the top of SEB, block the stairwell and signal to the outside world for help. With the police station nearby, you'd be right next to the first line of defense: the guys with the guns.

MEADOW BROOK DRIVE

...OUS WITH A PROTECTION  
...ON CAMPUS.

WRITTEN BY DAN SIMONS  
DESIGNED BY JASON WILLIS

- ↑ Dodge, Hannah Science & Eng.
- ← North Foundation
- ← South Found.
- ← Oakland Center
- ← Kresge Library
- ← O'Dowd Hall
- ← Ath. Rec. Center
- ← Varner Hall
- ← Filbert Hall
- ← Sealey Hall



# The Scene

16

www.oaklandpostonline.com

October 28, 2009

## The odd couple of modern rock *Bands Papa Roach and Jet co-headline tour*

By AMANDA MEADE  
Asst. Ads Manager

While Jet and Papa Roach might both be considered rock bands, one might view both as different brands of the genre.

Thanks to the upcoming co-headlining tour, Jet and Papa Roach will "combine two worlds under one roof," according to the tour's press release.

This tour serves as an example of how, a lot of the time, bands don't get to choose their touring partners.

"To be honest, I've not heard a single Papa Roach song," said Nic Cester, lead singer and guitarist of Jet. "We have a shared management company who suggested this tour and beyond that we're just being very open minded to try something different, rather than go around America one more time playing to the exact same people again."

Papa Roach's guitarist Jerry Horton mentioned the seemingly large fan anticipation for the two bands to tour together.

"Touring with Jet will be yet another new experience that we're looking forward to," Horton said. "I've been reading comments on the [paparoch.com](http://paparoch.com) community, and fan response and anticipation for the pairing has been very eager to check it out, which is great."

Cester said a percentage of Jet's fan base is actually similar to that of Papa Roach.

"We've played so many shows, all different shapes and sizes. Our fan base has always been pretty interesting. We've always had the ability to cross quite comfortably into all sorts of different crowds," Cester said.

Cester expressed how his band was willing to take a chance on touring with Papa Roach, regardless of the difference in followings.

"Papa Roach is Papa Roach. They do their thing but we were more concerned about us and our fans," Cester said. "We realize that we were rolling the



Photo courtesy of P.R. Brown

Papa Roach is a four-piece hard rock band from California. Their newest album is "Metamorphosis."

dice with this tour but we wanted to give it a go, like I said we've toured the states so many times and it could be quite soul destroying which it has been in the past, doing a tour and then realizing that you hadn't really achieved much. In the end, what's the greater purpose and why are you doing it all?"

Horton recalled a recent touring experience, impressing a different fan base than that of Papa Roach.

"It's always a great challenge and rewarding to win over new fans who may not have come to see our band in particular play. For example, when we toured with Nickelback this summer, probably 80 percent of the audience had never seen us live before, and we could see the crowd coming around warming up to us as we played more songs. It was cool to have won them over before the end of our set," Horton said.

Jet's front man talked about the pros and cons of touring, from the traveling to the partying.

"Well the pros are the traveling, and the cons, also the traveling. Everything about touring is a double-edged sword and that's why it's dangerous, because you've just got to keep your head switched on otherwise you can get sucked into it," Cester said.

"We're all here because of the music and for some reason you can forget that which is ridiculous. I suddenly found myself on previous tours being there more for the parties than the actual music," Cester said.

While Papa Roach recently reached their 10 year anniversary as a signed band, Horton gave some insight as to what to expect from the band on the tour.

"I think we're 10 times better live than we were starting out and we're definitely better musicians. Plus, we've learned a lot about the music business in general. We're in a really good place right now," Horton said.

A few of the shows on the tour will be exclusive to Papa Roach, without Jet. One of those in particular is Flint's Machine Shop on Thursday, Oct. 29.

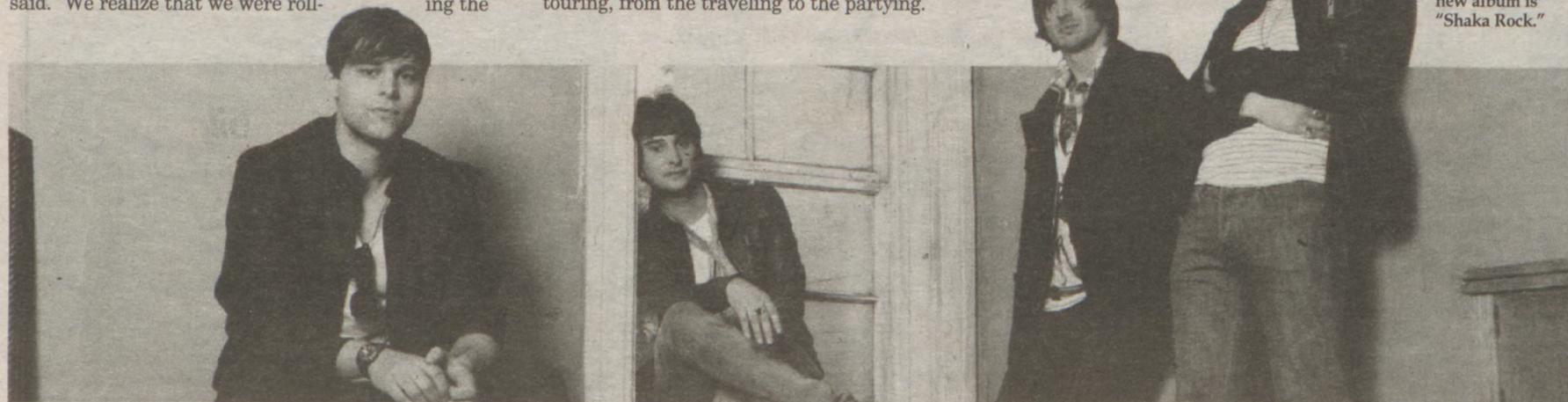
"I think that's going to be one of those shows that people talk about for a long time because it's one of those places that's small and they pack so many people that the energy is going to be off the charts," Horton said.

Both Jet and Papa Roach will be co-headlining a show at The Fillmore in Detroit on Sunday, Nov. 1. Opening for the bands are Kill Hannah and Aranda.

For more info on the bands and the tour visit [paparoch.com](http://paparoch.com) or [jettband.ning.com/](http://jettband.ning.com/). Nic Cester and Jerry Horton participated in a press conference which included *The Oakland Post* on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Photo courtesy of Beatrice Neumann

Jet is a rock band from Melbourne, Australia. Their new album is "Shaka Rock."



# Rock 'n' roll game gets Brütal

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

## GAME REVIEW

If you've ever looked at a heavy metal album cover and wondered what it would be like to wander through those apocalyptic dreamscapes, you can stop imagining. "Brütal Legend" for the Xbox 360 and PS3, the latest from game developer Double Fine, lets you have the experience.

In the game, you take control of Eddie Riggs, a metal band roadie who is expertly voiced here by Jack Black. Eddie is accidentally transported to the "Age of Metal," an overt caricature of the violent, sexy, chrome-plated world of metal music. Plopped into the middle of an epic battle between humans with medieval weaponry and demons wearing bondage gear, Eddie, with his knowledge of the power of music, is like a god among them.

In recent months, this game has had no small amount of marketing, with Jack Black dressing up as his character and going to awards shows, and game creator Tim Schafer going on a late night talk show. But can the game live up to the level of hype it's created?

Something that you might not realize about Brütal Legend is that the style of game play changes dramatically as you progress through the story. When the game begins, Eddie has only his axe, The Separator, and his electric guitar, which, in the Age of Metal, shoots bolts of lighting and pyrotechnic-like effects to damage



Eddie Riggs, the star of Brütal Legend, massacres with his battle axe. Photo courtesy Amazon.com

enemies. Later on he can learn a literally face-melting guitar solo. It's initially a fairly simple hack-and-slash game where you kill S&M demons and sound like Jack Black.

Then, you get control of Eddie's car, The Deuce, and optional missions throughout the battle-torn country open up to you. It becomes a bit like a Grand Theft Auto-style sandbox game, but instead of buildings there are massive amps and statues of guitars to navigate through.

When the game gets in full swing, it introduces stage battles, where you command an army of metalheads to take down the opponent's stage by building support units like bassists and roadies, creating merchandise booths to bring in more fans, and playing guitar solos to buff your troops.

All the styles of game play are fun and play well. But the stage battles are truly epic in their scale.

The dialogue is also one of the game's strong points, since most of the time it lives up to the humor and witticism you would expect from a Tim Schafer game. When Eddie defeats a demon nun early in the game, he comments, "I think I heard once that killing nuns is bad luck. I better get out of here."

Also of significant note are the voice cameos by actual metal rock gods. Lemmy from Motorhead, Rob Halford from Judas Priest, and (the surprisingly coherent) Ozzy Osbourne play main characters in the game and do impressive jobs for their parts.

No game that celebrates everything heavy metal would work without an awesome soundtrack. Brütal Legend not only delivers on this, it does a double encore and smashes the guitar afterwards.

On the other hand, the game's main story, where the best gameplay is, can be completed in about six hours, making it unexpectedly short. The side missions pad the game's length, but become incredibly repetitive. After the umpteenth sneak attack mission, hearing the same bits of dialogue, you'll want to do something else.

If you're a fan of metal music, you will not find a game anywhere that enshrines everything about the music the way this game does. Anyone else, I would strongly recommend it to, so long as you understand what you're getting: part brawler, part racer, part strategy, all face-meltingly good.



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# Halloween rental: The Lost Boys

By ALEXIS TOMRELL

Scene/Mix Editor

## RENTAL REVIEW

Think back to a time long ago ... to a land called the 80s ... before vampire mania bit into popular culture and everyone wanted to date the palest vampire on the block. Yes, before Edward and Bella, there were "The Lost Boys."

This 1987 movie made teen vampires what they are today. In "Lost Boys," director Joel Schumacher created an original storyline that takes the lone Dracula of Bram Stoker's imagination and makes him a gang of sexy tough guys in leather jackets, led by Kiefer Sutherland's bleach-blonde, spiked mullet.

After Michael (played by Jason Patric) and Sam's (Corey Haim) parents get divorced, the two brothers move to Santa Carla, California with their mother (funnily played by Dianne Wiest).

In the movie, Santa Carla is the murder capital of the world, but not by way of guns or knives. The place is crawling with vampires, as younger brother Sam is informed by the Frog Brothers (played by Corey Feldman and Jamison Newlander).

Michael, and his manly jaw line, meets the beautiful girl Star (Jami Gertz), who happens to be dating David (Kiefer Sutherland), the mysterious gang leader of three other New Wave punk vampires with coiffed hair.

Michael is seduced by their world of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll, but mostly by Star, and decides to start tagging along on the gang's late-night fits of villainous debauchery.

One night, mistaking blood for wine, Michael drinks David's blood and later begins to experience cravings, loss of reflection, the growth of fangs and possessed eyes. Even though Michael is now one of them, he is an anti-hero, caught between his bloody needs for survival and his family values.

The rest of the movie is a game of kill-the-lead-vampire, led by Sam, in an attempt to save his older brother from an eternity of evil deeds. Stakes and garlic come in the



Photo courtesy of Amazon.com

The Lost Boys' main stars from left to right: Jason Patric, Kiefer Sutherland and Jami Gertz.

form of the young Frog Brothers, who are enthusiastic vampire hunters in the community. Hell ensues.

This version of vampires is more fascinating and alluring than "Dracula," and part of the reason it has stuck around so long. Schumacher's adaptation exposes us to darker realms of rebellion and overwhelming sexuality.

Pair this with a good soundtrack and soon everyone is hooked, making this horror cult classic one of the greatest films of the '80s.

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## What was your favorite Halloween costume?



**"Power rangers. Red ranger."**

Nicholas Gielniak  
Sophomore, undecided



**"I dressed like Ben Wallace. I had a huge tumbleweed on my head to use as the fro."**

Caryn Shermetaro  
Junior, BIS



**"Ninja Turtles. Donatello."**

Thomas Szawarski  
Sophomore, electrical engineering

## What are you doing for Halloween this year?



**"I'm going up to Grand Valley."**

Gary Dibella  
Freshman, mathematics



**"I'm going to be taking my nephew trick or treating."**

Catherine Uhrick  
Senior, art history



**"I'm just going to a party."**

Neil Lipon  
Freshman, sociology



Photos by Bob Knoska, design by Jason Willis

By ZACH HALLMAN  
Staff Reporter

There are four fundamentals in the game of basketball according to Oakland University women's head basketball coach Beckie Francis. Together they play a large factor in determining the success of her team.

"If we out rebound the other team, shoot a better field-goal percentage, make more free-throws than they shoot and commit less turnovers than the other team then we win the game by 20 points," Francis said. "If we do three of these things, then we win by 10-15 points and if we only do two, then the game is close."

## Disappointing end

Last season, Francis's team played a lot of these fundamentally sound games and had, by all accounts, a very successful season as they set a Division I school record with 26 wins. OU also had four players earn All-Summit League selection awards.

The Grizzlies were one game away from the NCAA tournament, but lost to South Dakota State in the Summit League Championship game. The loss put OU at the mercy of the NCAA selection committee, which opted not to send Oakland to the big dance and instead cast them into the NIT. The team could not get past Dayton in the first round and lost back-to-back games to end the year — just the second time all season.

Last season featured record-breaking highs and disappointing lows for the Grizzlies, but Francis refuses to

dwell on the past.

"I have seven new players this year," Francis said. "This year is only about this year."

## Season schedule

While coach Francis, in her 11th season at OU, chooses to treat every game with the same preparation, junior Brittany Carnago and senior co-captain Riika Tereva said they will be looking forward to a couple dates on the schedule in particular.

Both players are looking forward to Jan. 23, when they face South Dakota State for the first time since the Jacks beat the Grizzlies by 10 points in the championship game. Both players and their coach think that South Dakota State has become one of their rival opponents.

Tereva also said she is excited for the Penn State game Dec. 21 and for the non-conference schedule as a whole.

The Grizzlies will take on several Big Ten schools, as they will travel to Penn State and Illinois this season and will also take on Purdue at home.

The team opens up their schedule Nov. 1 against Ferris State in a home exhibition game and Francis said she'd use that game as well as the following exhibition against Western Ontario to fine-tune a line-up for the regular season.

"Right now I have no idea who is starting," Francis said. "The exhibitions will be used to plug in different player combinations and figure that out."

## Comings and goings

While five of the team's top seven scorers will return from last season, the team will be without two of their most prolific scorers in recent memory.

The Grizzlies lost guards Jessica Pike and April Kidd, their best offensive and defensive players, respectively, from last year, to graduation.

In losing the team's starting backcourt, the presumption might be that Oakland will have difficulty replacing them, but Francis said she disagrees.

Tereva, one of five co-captains, missed all but four games last year due to injury.

"Kidd was our defensive stopper last year, but Riika is also a defensive stopper and has not lost a step from where she was last season," Francis said. "Getting her back is huge."

Adding to the defensive depth of the team is sophomore guard Sharise Calhoun, who according to both Carnago and Tereva dramatically improved her defense over the summer.

Another reason Francis has reason to feel confident in her backcourt is the return of All-Summit League Second Team selection Melissa Jeltema. The 5'9" senior was second only to Pike in scoring last year. Though listed as a guard, Jeltema uses her strength to be effective around the rim, and led the team last season with 8.2 rebounds per game.

See Preview on page 23

# Twins have opponents seeing double

By **JENNIFER WOOD**  
Senior Reporter

For most sports teams, chemistry between players can take years to develop. For juniors Meghan and Melissa (Missy) Hartwig, that chemistry comes naturally.

The twin sisters are playing important roles for the Oakland University women's soccer team this season.

They've been inseparable on and off the field since they began playing in sixth grade.

"When he (coach Nick O'Shea) put us on the same side ... he realized we play well together," Meghan said. "(Melissa) played a lot better which made me play a lot better and I think coach realized that if he put us on the same side we can get something going."

Along with natural chemistry comes an inevitable competition between the sisters.

"I think the sibling rivalry pushes me to really strive to be the best I can be, because it's more than representing myself, but also my sister," Missy said. "Playing against her in practice makes me play harder because let's face it — no one wants to lose to their sister."

With Meghan at left midfield and Missy right behind her at left defense, the sisters' playing styles have become complimentary over the years.

"They're both composed on the ball, but we're playing Missy in the back because she does the defense work and is more disciplined. Meghan is better running with the ball and seeing quick play options," O'Shea said.

Teammate, junior Dani Haelewyn,

agrees that the bond between the sisters has been a significant contribution to the team.

"It's weird because sometimes without even talking, they play the ball exactly where the other one will be. Like if Missy was playing a ball forward, Meghan would make a cut inside and Missy would play it exactly to her," Haelewyn said. "Their chemistry is unbeatable against opponents because no one really expects them to work that well together."

While each has enjoyed career success, the twins admit that coming to OU for soccer was not a quick decision.

Knowing they did not want to go to different colleges, they looked into playing basketball at Albion College.

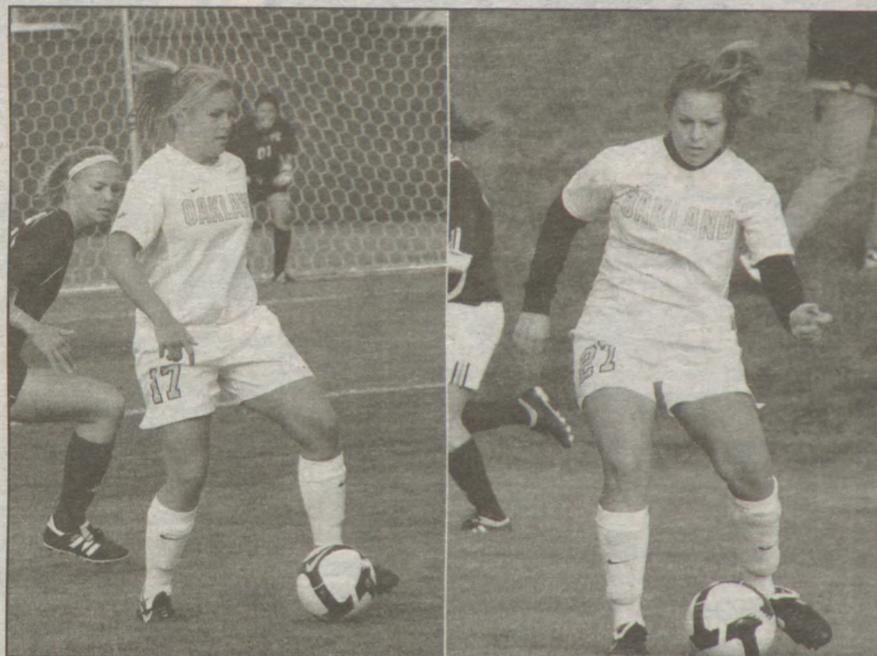
"I was always more basketball and she was always more soccer, but Oakland was where we wanted to go so we contacted Nick O'Shea to come check us out," Missy said.

After both an official and unofficial visit to OU, O'Shea was pleased with what he saw and offered both of the women a spot on the team.

"We never thought we would go away from each other, but we didn't think we would both be able to play soccer here, so that was really neat," Meghan said.

Last season, Meghan finished second on the team in goal scoring, and became only the fourth player in OU's history to score three goals in a single half during a victory against North Dakota State.

Missy, who, as a sophomore, scored one goal and assisted on two, has been a versatile player for the Grizzlies in the midfield. She was moved to the back end this season when a defensive position opened up.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Sisters Missy Hartwig (17, pictured left) and Meghan Hartwig (27, right) said they have never played against each other in soccer and they are glad for that.

"Meghan worked very hard in the summer between her freshman and sophomore year and it really paid off," O'Shea said. "I think Missy saw that and how it impacted Meghan and she really stepped up this year and started working just that little bit more."

This year, both Meghan and Missy have found continued success, earning starts in the majority of the games. The women's team fought for a spot in the Summit League Tournament in a game Friday against IPFW. The Grizzlies shut

out the Mastodons 4-0, with Meghan contributing an assist.

"As a team, I would really like to win the first round of the NCAA tournament. We always get to the first round, but never get past that first game," Missy said.

"We got to the tournament our freshman year, and it would be great to go for it again," Meghan added.

The Hartwig sisters and the rest of the Golden Grizzlies will play two more road games before postseason play begins.

**MEN'S SOCCER**  
10/31 at UMKC

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
10/30 at IUPUI  
11/1 at Western Illinois

**CROSS COUNTRY**  
10/31 The Summit League  
Championship in Cedar City,  
Utah

**Golden Grizzlies**

# COMING ATTRactions

**GAME SCHEDULE FOR OCT. 28 - NOV. 3**

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
11/1 vs. Ferris State 2 p.m.\*  
\* exhibition game

**CLUB WRESTLING**  
10/28 Black vs. Gold Varsity  
Wrestle-Offs

**VOLLEYBALL**  
10/30 at IPFW  
10/31 at Valparaiso

**SWIMMING & DIVING**  
10/31 vs. Wayne State 1 p.m.

**CLUB HOCKEY**  
10/30 vs. Youngstown State  
8:40 p.m.  
10/31 vs. Youngstown State  
8:40 p.m.

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# THE SPORTING BLITZ

By DAN FENNER  
Sports Editor

A recap of games during the fourth week of October.

## Volleyball

Season Record: 16-5

Oct. 23 and 24 — The Oakland University volleyball team was victorious in both of their weekend matches, defeating Oral Roberts in five sets Friday, and Centenary in three sets Saturday.

In the first match, OU was led offensively by Meghan Bray and Jenna Lange, who each contributed 18 kills. Ashley Nevelle also had 49 assists as the Grizzlies notched their second victory over Oral Roberts this season. Against Centenary, Oakland worked quickly, winning in straight sets. Allison Bell set a new school record with a .818 hitting percentage for the match.

OU will play four matches on the road in the next two weeks before returning home to conclude the regular season.

## Men's soccer

Season Record: 8-4-2

Oct. 21 — The Golden Grizzlies rounded out their home schedule with a matchup against the University of Detroit-Mercy, winning 3-1. Sophomore Josh Bennett was in on all three goals, picking up three assists. Shane Lyons, Winston Henderson, and Danny Sowell scored goals for OU.

The team was scheduled to travel to Indianapolis, Ind. to play Butler University Tuesday, but the match was postponed indefinitely.

## Women's soccer

Season Record: 7-7-1

Oct. 23 — Oakland put forth a huge offensive effort, defeating IPFW 4-0 Friday in a game of major significance in the Summit League standings. Entering the match, OU and IPFW were fourth and fifth, respectively, in the standings. The top four teams at season's end will qualify for the conference tournament.

Sophomore Deanna Colarossi had two goals, while freshmen Marlen Knoph and Katie Bramble also scored.

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Continued from page 20

## PREVIEW

Carnago acknowledged the significance of losing some talented players to graduation, but is as confident that new players will step up.

"Those were two very big roles that will have to be replaced, but we have a lot of really talented guards, all of whom are really stepping it up," Carnago said.

Pike's shooting will have to be replaced this season though, and to do that Oakland has four true freshmen with their fingers on the trigger. Carnago and Tereva said they've been impressed with the freshmen class in practice, in their ability to put the ball in the basket from long range.

"Now that Pike is gone we need a shooter," Tereva said. "A lot of players are stepping up and they all shoot."

The two co-captains are also very impressed with the athleticism of the freshman class and believe that their speed will help add another dimension to the Grizzlies.

"Our game plan will always be fast paced," Carnago said. "We will always try to run teams out [of the gym]."

Carnago set a women's basketball school record with 89 blocks, the most ever recorded in a single season. She is the second leading returning scorer and will again have to handle the bulk of the work near the basket.

Junior Anna Patritto and senior Hanna Reising should see a significant increase in playing time in Oakland's frontcourt. They each saw minutes off the bench last season, playing in over 30 games apiece.

## Goals and expectations

According to Francis, this season will not be defined by the number of wins Oakland earns.

"We will define success by whether we achieved the four factors," she said.

Francis's attitude toward success has rubbed off on her players.

Like her coach, Carnago said she won't measure the team's achievements by the number of wins. She is determined to not let this season end like last.

"We want to win the Summit League this year," Carnago said, "but a success would be winning the first game of the NCAA tournament."

The Grizzlies could assure themselves of an automatic trip to the NCAA Tournament this year if they accomplish what they could not last year and win the Summit League Championship game.

Oakland was voted as the second-best team in the preseason Summit League poll behind South Dakota State, who received 25 of the 27 first-place votes.

Francis downplayed the significance of the preseason rankings, saying she doesn't use them as motivation.

"One time we were ranked sixth in the poll and I used it as a motivator because I thought we were way better than that," Francis said. "Usually though, the rankings don't matter because it is where the team finishes that is important."

Oakland's five co-captains have a goal this season that they believe is attainable and in their own hands.

"Our focal point every game will be to come out hard and get a win every night," Carnago said. "I think that last year we let a few games slip through our fingers."

— Ryan Hegedus contributed to this report.

## 2009-10 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HOME SEASON SCHEDULE

Nov. 1	Ferris State	2 p.m.
Nov. 9	Western Ontario	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Detroit-Mercy	2 p.m.
Nov. 18	Toledo	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 24	Bowling Green	6:30 p.m.
Nov. 30	Marygrove	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 13	Purdue	1:30 p.m.
Dec. 17	Saint Louis	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	Rochester College	4 p.m.
Jan. 2	IUPUI	2:30 p.m.
Jan. 4	Western Illinois	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Southern Utah	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	UMKC	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	Oral Roberts	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 8	Centenary	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	North Dakota State	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	South Dakota State	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	IPFW	3:30 p.m.

The Summit League Championships take place March 6 - 9 in Sioux Falls, S.D.

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# FOUR on FOUR

Four senior team captains share their take on four topics.



**Lindsey Blair**  
Women's Soccer



**Machel James**  
Men's Soccer



**Adrienne Leone**  
Volleyball



**Frank McAuliffe**  
Men's Golf

What is the highlight of your athletic career at OU?

"It was my freshman year we were playing Michigan. It was a night game so it reminded me of high school games. It was the first game I started in and we also ended up beating them."

"I had a lot of good memories throughout my OU sports career; however, the one that stands out above the rest would have to be beating Michigan State in the 2007 NCAA tournament and moving on to the second round."

"I think that the most memorable moment of my career was this year when I recorded the 1,000th kill for my career and I now hold OU's all-time kills in a career record. Also this whole season has been memorable because the team has broken a lot of records for the program."

"My most memorable moment at OU is my two all-conference performances."

Could you see yourself playing any other sports at Oakland?

"I could see myself playing basketball (a joke between me and my coach right now), but really I played basketball, softball and volleyball in high school so it could be any of those."

"That's a difficult question for me to answer. I grew up in a country that revolves around soccer. That's the only sport I'm good at. It's the only one I love. So if OU didn't offer that sport, I probably would not be here today."

"Possibly basketball because I'm pretty tall and I might be useful on the basketball court. But I'm not very good at basketball."

"If I wasn't playing golf I could see myself playing basketball because I played in high school, but I'm too short, so probably curling or something like that."

What does being a team captain mean to you?

"It is by far the biggest honor I have had yet in my life. I was captain in high school but being a college captain means so much more. I came to OU thinking I was never going to play and now, my fourth year, I am a captain. It means that all my hard work has paid off and people recognize that and respect it."

"Being a captain in my mind means being a good leader, someone who your teammates can look up to and aspire to be in life some day. I take my job as team captain very seriously, both on and off the soccer field. A true captain always leads by example."

"I was honored when my team voted me as one of our captains. To me, being a captain is someone who leads by example and someone the team has trust in to help guide the program and team in the right direction."

"Being a team captain means a lot to me. It means my coach and teammates have faith in me. They know I can be a leader, be responsible and set a good example. It gives me confidence."

What are your plans for after graduation, either in athletics or with your degree?

"I am planning on doing some coaching because I can never see myself not involved in soccer. Then get a job in communications. Hopefully something with sports also."

"I haven't really figured out what I want to do with my life after I graduate. However, I do know for certain that I am not ready to 'hang up my boots' and end my soccer career after I'm done at OU. There are tons of opportunities out there for me to continue my soccer career as a professional."

"I don't think my body can handle any more playing after this, but hopefully I can find a job in the human resources field and possibly stay with sports."

"After I graduate I want to try and play golf professionally. My dream has always been to play on tour but I know I have some work to do but I'm ready for the challenge."

# Mayoral contenders face off

By ZACH HALLMAN  
Staff Reporter

Monday night signified the end of a busy campaign for Pontiac mayoral candidates Leon B. Jukowski and Sandy-Michael McDonald. Both candidates took to the podium at Pontiac City Hall and fielded questions from citizens.

McDonald and Jukowski, both of whom are graduates of the Pontiac Public School system, captured 1,063 and 1,445 votes respectively to take the top two spots in Pontiac's primary election. Current mayor Clarence Phillips placed third with 456 votes. Only the top two vote-getters received bids to run for the Nov. 3 general election.

## Candidate backgrounds

McDonald believes that he differs from the city's previous administration because he has a greater understanding of municipal government.

"One has to understand that there is not only an executive branch, but also a legislative branch of government," McDonald said. "You (as a mayor) can have all these great ideas, but if you do not work with the council then nothing will get done."

Jukowski, who has spent years working at different positions within the city government, agrees that whoever is elected mayor needs to work more with the council. The ex-trial lawyer believes, however, that nothing he or McDonald promises right now carries any weight if the city's finances are not fixed.

"The finance department has not been properly ran for years," Jukowski said. "Without proper finances, anything we talk about right now is meaningless."

Jukowski believes that his experience as an attorney, businessman and municipal government employee makes him the right person for the job.

"I have a history of being a trial attorney," Jukowski said. "I am more capable of looking at a situation and making the right decision, business wise, without anything else weighing me down politically."

McDonald, currently the Downtown Development Authority Executive Director, said he also has an understanding of business and municipal government because of the variety of positions he has held in his career. McDonald spent years working in Washington, D.C. and held both lower level and managerial positions. McDonald believes that he was successful in both positions due to his understanding of the obligations of the each side.

"As an employee I knew that my manager being successful depended on me being successful," McDonald said. "As a manager, it was not about being too hard or too soft with employees, but it was about being honest with them."

## Finances

On March 23, Gov. Jennifer Granholm placed Fred

Leeb in charge of Pontiac's financial crisis. The city has had financial problems for some time and Leeb was appointed as emergency financial manager after the state declared that the city had a budget deficit of over \$7 million.

Both candidates agree that the first order of business for the new mayor will be to meet with Leeb and work on getting the city to a stable enough condition financially so that Leeb is no longer needed.

The two candidates also agree that the solution for the sale of the Pontiac Silverdome does not lie in a no-limit auction.

Leeb, who holds the authority to make all decisions regarding the Silverdome, has put it up for auction under the private auction company Williams and Williams.

Bids will continue to be made until Nov. 12, when the dome will go to the highest bidder.

"One thing that we have that other cities that were in financial crisis did not have is assets," McDonald said. "I believe that I can get Mr. Leeb home in two years, but not if we are simply auctioning our greatest asset to the highest bidder."

Jukowski added that he believed that although the Silverdome is costing Pontiac taxpayers nearly \$1 million a year to keep up, the real estate market is not ripe for sale.

"The city seems to have a history of putting emotion into decisions that should simply be considered math questions," Jukowski said. "Deflating the dome would save the taxpayers the money they spend to keep it inflated and the money could be used elsewhere."

McDonald and Jukowski also agree that if the Silverdome is put up for auction, the best interest of the city would be served in selling the property based on its tax value.

"No private investor is going to pay \$20 million for this property in this market," McDonald said. "But if we could get \$400,000 every year for the property then an investor would be willing to pay and the city would receive a long-term stream of revenue."

The candidates would treat Pontiac's other assets in much the same way. Jukowski believes the concept is simple.

"If we own it and run it, then we have to pay for it," Jukowski said. "If we sell it to someone, then they have to pay to run it."

McDonald believes that Pontiac has more than enough assets to create a steady revenue stream.

"We have the cemetery, the golf-course and the wastewater treatment facility," McDonald said. "These are assets that cannot be moved out of the city and if we sell them to an outside party then we have created an extra source of income every year for the city."

## Public safety

Many citizens have expressed concern to the two candidates about public safety throughout the campaign. Pontiac's police force has been cut by about 50 percent

in the last five years. The city now employs around 70 full-time officers.

McDonald believes that simply reshuffling the city's finances will create more room for additional police. He thinks that having more police on the street is one of the "low-hanging pieces of fruit" that he can get accomplished right away.

"I believe that simply by re-organizing what we do and how we do things (financially), we can put eight to 10 more bodies on the street right away," McDonald said. "I also do not believe that we (Pontiac) need to have 115 full-time firefighters."

Jukowski said although public safety is a concern that he will address, the focus is out of scope with public safety.

"The main concern of city government is to serve the people, not to provide jobs," he said.

Jukowski also added that in his opinion the police force was about half of where it needs to be for a city the size of Pontiac.

## Education

Education is the last major issue on the agenda of both candidates, as graduates of the Pontiac school system.

"Right now, we have residents buying houses in the city because they are cheap, but as soon as they have kids then there is a five-year countdown until they move out of the city in search of better schools," McDonald said.

Jukowski said that he believed Pontiac cannot become a successful city without a successful education system. The candidate relayed the importance of Pontiac becoming a state-ordained promise zone.

The Michigan Promise Zone Act provides tuition assistance to individuals in these promise zones who wish to go to college, but cannot because of financial constraints.

## The election

No matter the outcome on Nov. 3, McDonald hopes more citizens will turn out for this election than they did for the primaries. In a city of more than 60,000 residents, only 3,500 turned out to vote.

McDonald believes that he is the right man to run the city he grew up in because of his passion for the city and his business experience.

"You not only need a mayor who knows business, but you need a mayor who sets himself aside and puts the city first," McDonald said in his closing statement. "I believe in the city and I still believe that Pontiac's better days are ahead."

In his closing statement, Jukowski maintained his business outlook because, in his mind, finances are first on the agenda of whoever is elected into office.

"If the community is not properly managed, we can't do anything for you," said the one-time deputy mayor. "Vote in the best interest of your city."

# Anime convention comes to Dearborn

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

Though it is the only large anime convention in Michigan, the annual Youmacon in Dearborn in no way lacks in its reverence for anime culture.

Youmacon (pronounced: yo-mah-con) celebrates Japanese pop culture, emphasizing anime and manga, or Japanese comics. The convention has guest panels, shops, and events set up to appeal to anime fans of all ages and levels of interest. It runs this Thursday through Sunday at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn, with all panels on Thursday being free of charge to attendees.

The name of the convention comes from youma, the Japanese word for hell, and con which is short for convention. Many self-identified otaku, or anime fans, flock yearly to conventions like this across the country.

This is the fifth year the Youmacon is taking place at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Dearborn, and Morgan Kollin, convention chairman for Youmacon, says they try every year to add something new to



Photo Courtesy of Youmacon Enterprises  
Attendees at 2008's Youmacon dress up as part of the event's Cosplay.

the convention floor.

"We're not satisfied just with what works; we're always improving," Kollin said.

For more casual anime fans, there are series-specific panels where attendees can discuss their favorite show.

One panel, "Otaku vs. Hollywood," examines the emerging trend of Hollywood trying to adapt anime into mainstream movies, such as "Speed Racer" or "Astro Boy," and whether or not there will be good results.

"Everyone is taking it in very different strides," Kollin said. "Some people don't like to see things changed and 'Americanized.'"

Another panel takes the opposite approach and looks at how American comics are localized when they reach Japanese shores. Have you ever seen Spider-Man pilot a giant robot?

Also appearing at Youmacon are a few of the voice actors who do English dubs of Japanese anime and video games, including Brad Swaile, who played Light in "Death Note," and Caitlin Glass, who played Winry in "Fullmetal Alchemist."

For the more involved attendees, there is the world of cosplay. Cosplay is the phenomenon of fans coming to the convention dressed up as their favorite anime or video game character.

Some fans put a tremendous amount of time into their costumes to get them to look as accurate as possible.

There are a series of costume contests for the best-assembled outfits, and photo opportunities where attendees dressed as characters from the same series can gather and strike a pose.

For those less willing to dress like ninjas or schoolgirls, there is also the Charity Cosplay Ball where formal attire is required and masquerade masks are encouraged. Proceeds from the ball go to help Detroit's Cornerstone Schools.

Dawn Strenzel, department head of volunteering at Youmacon, said she's happy to see the new generation of young anime fans coming in.

"The great thing about anime fandom is it encompasses so many other circles," Strenzel said.

Other events include tabletop gaming, a look at the ParaPara dance craze, fanfiction workshops, the improvisational "Whose Line is it Anime?" a live action game of Mario Party, a scavenger hunt, a cosplay pajama party, and Youmacon's own version of the Japanese Maid café, where waitresses are dressed as French maids.

Kollin said that people with even a small interest in anime can attend the show and have a good time.

"As long as someone comes there with an open mind, we have a lot that other conventions don't offer," Kollin said.

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## Pregnant covergirl of Teen Vogue raises eyebrows

By **BRUCE SMITH**  
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS — A model on the November cover of Teen Vogue is a 19-year-old who reveals in the magazine that she is pregnant.

Jourdan Dunn is not visibly pregnant on the cover, and Teen Vogue Editor-in-Chief Amy Astley said the magazine didn't know about Dunn's pregnancy until after the photo shoot. But she said that editors didn't consider pulling the cover Dunn shares with fellow model Chanel Iman.

"Teen pregnancy is a difficult, real-life issue that Teen Vogue readers (with an average age of 18) are mature enough to be exposed to," Astley said in a statement. "Teen Vogue felt it was important to support, not punish, Jourdan Dunn, who contributed to a beautiful photo shoot and who will surely have an ongoing and successful career in fashion."

The cover has raised eyebrows among some parents, teens and advocates against teen pregnancy.

"There's no message to send to them that that's not OK. Maybe if she's on the cover to tell them 'Be careful,' that's one thing," said Catherine Essig, a 19-year-old sophomore at Dallas' Southern Methodist University, who was concerned about 15- and 16-year-old readers.

Many advocates said parents should use the cover as a way to talk to their kids about sex and the importance of planning pregnancies for the right moment in their lives.

"Teen parenting isn't glamorous, even if you are a teen model," said Valerie Huber, executive director of the National Abstinence Education Association.

A message left by The Associated Press at Dunn's New York City agency was not immediately returned. The London native told Teen Vogue that her unplanned pregnancy has been hard.

"All I could think about was what my mom was going to say, my agency, my boyfriend," said Dunn, who is expecting a boy in December.

The magazine should be used as a teachable moment because the media

and popular culture help shape "the social script for teenagers," said Bill Albert, a spokesman for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

"It shapes what they think is cool, is not cool, what's in, what's out, what's acceptable, what seems to be the social norm," he said. "It's not the only influence and I'd suggest not the most powerful, but it is an influence."

But parents, he said, shouldn't underestimate their own power.

"Young people tell us time and time again that parents — not the media, not their partners, not their peers — parents most influence their decisions about sex," he said.

After a record high in the early 1990s, the teen birth rate in the U.S. dropped 34 percent from 1991 to 2005. But between 2005 and 2007, it increased 5 percent, according to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy.

A lack of family planning remains a problem even as women get older — 70 percent of pregnancies among 18 to 29-

year-olds are unplanned, Albert said.

The magazine cover story mainly focuses on the two models' friendship, which grew chilly over competition for a time, and their experiences as black models in the fashion world.

Jill Taylor, chair of the women and gender studies department at Simmons College in Boston, said that she would have liked to have seen the magazine use the model's pregnancy to provide more information about teen pregnancy.

"Fourteen and 15-year-olds reading it don't have an idea how hard it is for most single mothers having babies. She's got resources," Taylor said.

That difference between Dunn and most teens could be a starting point for a discussion about timing.

"What do you want to have in place when you get pregnant?" asked Dr. Janet Realini, president of the Healthy Futures, a nonprofit dedicated to preventing teen and unplanned pregnancies in San Antonio and Texas. "For teens, we mostly want them to think about staying in school, finding the person who is right for them."

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- Pets Welcome

