

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

June 16, 2010

Volume 37, Number 2



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# Perspectives

June 16, 2010

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## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Senate aims to put leash on watchdogs

We figured that one does not need to read an editorial to know our thoughts on the inconveniences of campus construction and other Michigan road repair projects.

So instead, we decided to focus on something we might be able to do something about.

A Michigan legislator is proposing that all journalists should be registered by the government so that news consumers will know which sources are credible.

As a media publication - defined by the bill as "any electronic or written medium including, but not limited to, newspapers, television, radio, and internet" - The Oakland Post opposes the legislative measure because it would discredit the profession of journalism.

Michigan Senate Bill 1323 seeks to create "The Board of Michigan Registered Reporters," not unlike governing boards for other industries that require registration such as accountancy, cosmetology, forestry and mortuary science.

While there is nothing wrong with wanting competent service from a licensed professional, the bill runs into some problems when it defines what needs to be done in order to become a reporter.

In addition to paying a \$10 registration fee, one must: "be of good moral character" and prove it by signing a statement acknowledging industry-

wide ethics "acceptable to the board," possess a degree in journalism or its equivalent, have more than three years of experience as a reporter, three writing samples and "awards or recognition that related to being a reporter."

The measure is currently referred to the committee on economic development and regulatory reform.

While the legislation being proposed deems that reporters would voluntarily apply for recognition as a registered reporter, a larger issue with the blatant violation of the free speech and free press clauses of the First Amendment lies down the road.

Because "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press," the government allowing only registered reporters to practice journalism does not make sense due to the fact that such licenses come at the whim of the aforementioned government.

Who gets to determine what is "good moral character?"

Senator Bruce Patterson implies that reporters who do not meet the above criteria cannot be accurate and reliable in reporting.

What would happen to student publications like this very newspaper?

These voices have all of the necessary knowledge and tools to be reporters, but do not yet have an undergraduate degree and may not have the subjective "good moral character."

Though some citizen journalists and bloggers may have ridiculously alternative views, alternative perspectives sometimes contribute to the discussion.

The problem of fulfilling the requirements for registration occurs for new journalists.

How could someone who is not a registered reporter, someone who is not a legitimate journalist in the government's eyes, possibly garner the awards and experience necessary?

Will there be an absurd learner's permit system that allows novice journalists to report?

As a staffer points out: the registration policy is akin to requiring a person to have an established voting record before the age of 18.

Patterson, whose bill has no cosponsors, wants to lessen the dissemination of misinformation, but he stifles the truth in his quest to promote it.

What's to say that the voluntary measure won't turn into a mandatory Michigan law and extend as far as seeking official licensure for reporters?

As Patterson said, First Amendment rights come with "correlative and corresponding duties."

The industry already knows that it is its duty to seek and report the truth.

As reporters serve as the watchdogs of democracy, the right to print a story should not be determined by the very government that is being reported on.

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

# Why you should watch the World Cup

*A soccer fanatic asks: Everyone else is watching, why aren't you?*



**Brad Slazinski**

On Facebook, Twitter, or the news, you may have been hearing about the World Cup.

For some people, it's the biggest deal of their summer. For others, they get on with their lives.

The other day a friend of mine asked what's the big deal about this tournament, and I couldn't come up with one answer. There are a lot of things that make the World Cup a big deal and it's why this tournament is highly watched.

The World Cup is an event that can make the world stop. On the first day of the 2006 World Cup, Costa Rica declared a day off as they were playing in the first game.

When the Ivory Coast, a country that had been going through civil war managed to qualify, the country managed to lay down their arms and eventually put an end to the civil war.

It's a matter of national pride, being able to forget about life's mundane activities and being able to have fun. It's a month-long summer party, meant to socialize

with friends, talk about the tournament, and enjoy an event that has games going nonstop.

Soccer has been a conversation topic for people I've met from Europe, South America, and other regions.

There is a Brazilian in one of my classes; the first thing we talked about was soccer.

It breaks borders, develops friendships, and acts as a great conversation topic.

The sport of soccer itself doesn't require pads, skates, hoops, or any special equipment. All you need is a ball and some objects to act as goalposts.

It is a sport that can be played by the poor, the wealthy, and the middle class.

It is a sport that can be played by anyone regardless of their status, religion, or race.

You don't need to be tall, overly strong, or very quick to play it and succeed.

The most enthralling of all, is the way the game is set. 45 minutes in two halves, a 15-minute break in between, no timeouts, and maximum of three substitutions for the entire game.

It's a test of stamina, nerves, and patience; not just for the players but also for the fans, where they can go from ecstatic to depressed within a matter of seconds.

One little thing can change a game. That misplaced pass, shot, the smallest incident can create a major change in the game. It's about that one moment that could've been, that changed it.

Since I watched the 2002 World Cup, it got me into

the sport. There is something about it that once you truly get into it, you can't stop enjoying it.

The feeling I had the day before this year's World Cup was that of a little kid awaiting a big surprise.

Being able to forget about other things to enjoy a game for a month is a nice feeling

Being able to watch a sport without the constant commercial breaks that plague the Olympics and the Super Bowl.

Being able to see something completely insane happen out of the blue only to have a feeling of shock and surprise and wanting to see it again because you couldn't believe your eyes.

That moment I experienced happened in the last tournament, England against Trinidad and Tobago.

Trinidad had set up a play that almost gave them a goal, only for an England player to come flying in and kick the ball away before it went into the goal. The England player's landing looked pretty painful, but I remember wanting to see a replay because I thought it went in.

Moments like that are what makes the World Cup eventful.

Whether or not you're a soccer fan, it's worth it to watch at least a couple of matches. Throw away any preconceptions; treat it as if you were learning something new.

It's worth checking out and seeing what the hype is all about.

## McCain "snooks" Obama in less than 140 characters



**Daud Yar**  
web copy editor

Amidst the high intensity of political primaries, politicians are no longer involved with legislating but saving their jobs from tea party enthusiasts and plat-forms of anti-incumbancy.

Some have already lost their office while others, like John McCain, will be in for a fierce fight.

It's good the Arizona senator is campaigning around the clock. . . or is he?

Last week on the MTV music awards, Snooki — a TV reality show rising star from The Jersey Shore — expressed her discontent for a sun tanning tax that will be levied in July.

"I don't go tanning anymore because Obama put a 10 percent tax on tanning and I feel he did that intentionally for us," Snooki said.

With a skin color as orange as John Boehner's, the well-known MTV personality did not stop there.

"McCain would never put a 10 percent tax on tanning," added the Snookster.

Now, I would like to pause right here for a moment. Why would Snooki, who gets paid thousands of dollars just to show up to parties, care about a measly 10 percent tax?

Really, with the recent cancerous connection to tanning booths, Snooki should be thanking Obama, or rather Congress, for making the practice more expensive. Then again, I'm surprised she even knew that the U.S. had a president.

While these observations dig into the enigmatic and absurd thinking of Snookums, it is the aftermath of this criticism that draws many more questions. John McCain, the on-again, off-again Arizona maverick, responded to Snooki's comment with a conservative tweet.

@Sn00ki: "u r right, I would never tax your tanning bed! Pres Obama's tax/spend policy is quite The Situation. but I do rec wearing sunscreen!"

That's right. John McCain is hip. He's in tune with the times. Not only does he tweet, but he knows Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino.

Personally, I really hope an aide is in control of the McCain's twitter account because there is no excuse for any high-caliber politician to keep tabs on the Jersey Shore or reply to one of its craziest characters. As a national public servant, there is simply no time for watching any TV program on a regular basis — this is especially true for MTV.

There is never enough time to complain about taxes and earmarks on the senate floor. Politicians also need to raise funds for next election, talk to various lobbyists and address national financial problems.

All these tasks amount to less than half of lawmakers' duties. So there is no time to even consider following the Jersey Shore.

### On second thought...

Maybe this is great strategy by McCain.

He is hovering at around 50 percent in the Arizona Republican primary according to the latest Rasmussen report. Maybe this tanning booth thing is just the kind of help he needs to topple the competition on a wave of raging teenagers.

Twitter, after all, is the place to be to reach out to a young constituency.

And with 1.7 million followers — compared with Snooki's quarter of a million followers — McCain can reach out to more young voters than most seasoned politicians.

Personally the old man needs to retire. Hearing him drown on about unfair earmarks in congressional bills is a broken record message that needs to come to an end. So I'm going to hope the youngsters following McCain do not vote.

Whatever the result of Arizona's senatorial Republican primary, members of the U.S. government need to focus on what is important.

Addressing celebrities' grievances over social networks is not a constructive use of one's time.

That's what the Sarah Palins of the world are for.

## Leader dogs training at Oakland

By RYAN HEGEDUS  
Senior Reporter

Leader Dogs for the Blind, a guide dog school located in Rochester Hills, has been helping those who are visually impaired for over 70 years.

While Oakland University hasn't existed for that long, the university has been a consistent, invaluable resource to the school, and it will take more than the recent construction efforts to keep the guide dogs from maneuvering the campus.

"We've been down to Wayne State and Detroit, but it's just so hard to drive down there, find parking and everything," said Linda Fisher, a Leader Dogs senior instructor. "That's why we like to utilize OU. We're training dogs for a big city and huge pedestrian traffic-type places, and we don't have that (in Rochester) so we go to the college. It's good training for them with distractions."

Fisher, who started out with Leader Dogs as a dog caretaker in 1994, said working with the canines was a natural progression from her childhood.

"I've lived in this area all my life so I've seen them out and about," Fisher said. "You kind of feel like you give back because that's where you started."

It doesn't take a connection to the Rochester area, however, to get involved with the school.

Leader Dogs has an apprenticeship program that, when finished, will allow the graduate to be a guide dog instructor. A four-year degree in psychology or animal behavior isn't required, but the three-year program will test the pupil's commitment.

Once entered into the apprenticeship, a time commitment of roughly 40 hours per week will likely be necessary. There are other activities the student will be asked to do, such as attending conventions and orientations pertaining to guide dog education.

There are over 230 volunteer positions available at the Rochester facility.

One of the more intensive volunteer programs is raising a puppy to be a guide dog.

The volunteer puppy raising program encourages the raiser hosting a puppy for approximately one year to prepare the dogs for their lives as dog guides. Raisers teach puppies house manners, basic obedience and take it into the surrounding community to interact with people on a regular basis.

While an affinity for dogs is suggested, it takes more than just a love for dogs to raise the potential guide dogs.

"You've got to be able to understand a dog, for a start. You've got to be able to exercise a young dog. You've got to be able to hopefully bring the dog into puppy class. You've got to remember it's going to be a leader dog," said Richard Michael, Leader Dogs' Canine Training Class Supervisor. "The key thing is you have to be committed to the puppy. Get it into environments where there are lots of people... what you're trying to achieve is to have a well-behaved young adult puppy growing up."

Not all of the volunteer positions at Leader Dogs for the Blind deal directly with dogs.

"We have volunteers that come and help students, show them around the rooms and around the residence

when they come in," said Katie Stamm, guide dog instructor. "We have volunteers that go and pick up students from the airport or drop them off, so we have lots of different opportunities for volunteering around here. Our main focus is with the dogs, but you can volunteer to do just about anything here."

For more information regarding apprenticeships and volunteering, contact Leader Dogs for the Blind through their website, [www.leaderdogs.org](http://www.leaderdogs.org), or visit their offices located on the southeast corner of Rochester and Avon Roads.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post  
Instructor Wendy Eichler trains yellow lab Bridget on campus.

## OUSC starts new campus events, programs

By JAKE THIELEN  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Student Congress held a meeting Monday to discuss a variety of issues affecting the campus. Topics for discussion included expanding relations with local businesses, a new website for selling textbooks and the continuation of the bike share program.

### Book Swap Website

Legislator Brent McIsaac spoke about a proposed budget amendment to fund a Craigslist-style website that students could use to sell textbooks. Students could log into the website using their current OU ID and password. McIsaac said that the website could also be used by students living in the dorms to sell items.

The cost of creating the website, which would be hosted off-campus, would be a one-time fee of \$7,500. If the budget amendment is approved, the goal will be to have the website up and running before the end of the fall semester.

### Spirit packs in local businesses

Another budget amendment was proposed that would increase the budget for creating relationships with local businesses from \$500 to \$2,000. Student body president Brandon Gustafson said that his goal is to get more OU gear in local businesses and restaurants. The businesses would each receive a spirit pack, which would include OU banners and t-shirts or jerseys that they could put on display. Gustafson said that the current plan is to target 60 businesses in the Rochester area and another 10 to 15 in Auburn Hills.

### Bike Share Program Update

OU's bike share program is still running through the summer. McIsaac said that more bikes have already been purchased and that OUSC is still looking to add more used bikes in an effort to expand the program.

McIsaac said there are plans to add more bike racks near parking lots as well as an advertising campaign in an effort to reduce the number of bikes that are destroyed, lost or left in random locations.

### New Member Approvals

Andrew Gustafsson and Maria Willett were approved as new student services committee members.

Former student body president Kristin Dayag was approved as diversity chair of the Student Program Board. Before her term as student body president, Dayag served as the multicultural affairs director of OUSC for two years. As multicultural affairs director, Dayag formed a five person committee designed to discuss diversity issues and to promote diversity through campus events such as International Night.

### Readership program

Gustafson discussed plans to expand the university's newspaper readership program. The plan would involve adding additional locations in Vandenberg and Hamlin Halls. The new locations would feature USA Today and the Detroit Free Press. Gustafson said that better signs would be added near each location to help advertise the program.

# Campus construction obstruction

*New on-campus projects results in closed roads and blocked paths*

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**  
Contributing Reporter

The Oakland campus has lately been lined with orange barrels and barricades to block curious students. Another construction zone joining several ongoing projects was created when crews started working on the High Temperature Hot Water (HTHW) Project-North Loop on Oakland's campus in early June.

The project extends from Wilson Blvd. to the north side of the Oakland Center and has closed P2. All other road closures around campus are due to different construction developments.

"We are doing a total replacement of the high temperature hot water pipes by North Foundation Hall, Graham Health Center, Wilson Hall, Meadowbrook Music Theater and the residence halls," Terry Stollsteimer, associate vice president of facilities management, said. "The old pipes would usually last around 12 years. These pipes are designed to last 50 years or more."

Similar to another HTHW project completed in 2008, this project was put into effect after a pipe broke earlier in the year.

"We are digging up the ground eight feet under the surface," Stollsteimer said. "The floor and sides were covered with roots. This heating and cooling project is a complete restoration and will loop all around campus."

These simultaneously timed construction projects have made navigating around campus much more difficult. However, some students said they prefer dealing with construction now rather than later.

"I would rather have the construction done in the summer, not in the fall or winter," junior Jeff Lamkin Jr. said. "There are fewer people on campus during the summer, making it a minor inconvenience at most."

John Beaghan, vice president for finance and administration and treasurer to the board of trustees, said the plant referral project has needed attention for more than a few years.

"We try to deal with several major deferred plant renewal projects each year," Beaghan said. "We had an opportunity to fund this expensive project by issuing bonds at the same time we issued bonds for the Human Health Building, which made the whole process more efficient."

Even though multiple emails were sent out by officials and numerous notifications all around the campus, some OU students said that there was not enough warning.

"I feel like I was not adequately notified of this construction," sophomore Lisa Coppola said. "I only received one e-mail that told me to avoid Squirrel road because of detours, and I spent a majority of my time driving all around campus just to find an accessible route."

Currently, Oakland construction includes relocating the career services building, replacing the windows in Vandenberg Hall, adding a new parking lot to the southeast corner of Pioneer and Library roads, building the Human Health Building, and repaving Squirrel Road.

"One of my classes this semester has actually been affected majorly from this construction," junior Walter Hooper said.

"My JRN 200 class was in Vandenberg Hall and we had to walk around campus frequently when they were re-doing the windows. I feel that because of all the moving around we have done, we have delayed class time and confused people as to where we are supposed to meet for every class."

The construction for the HTHW is ongoing and is

scheduled to be completed before the start of the fall semester. The area is closed off by a fence and the crew is working within that space. A traffic shift to the Oakland Center is up and running.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post  
Students may experience long wait times to leave campus as the construction has caused back-ups in busy areas of campus.

## SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ORGS

Creative HeARTS

By **AMANDA MEADE**  
Staff Reporter

Creative HeARTS is one of many student organizations to be added to the over 200 existing organizations on campus this fall, yet promises of an artistic twist may deviate this group from the rest.

Stephanie Love, a sophomore, conceived the idea of Creative HeARTS in an effort to mix art and community service. Love is double majoring in studio art and psychology and plans to attend graduate school for art therapy.

Love said she wanted students to be able to create artwork, write songs and produce creative projects while connecting with other students and the surrounding OU community.

"I'm interested in trying to visit patients in nearby hospitals and possibly have some sort of crafts activity with local elementary schools," Love said.

Ashley Coates, a sophomore majoring in cinema studies, is the vice president of the organization.

"Creative HeARTS' basic structure is based upon art therapy where you can relieve yourself of stress or any feelings that you may have, whether they be good or bad, through the different variations of art," Coates said. She also mentioned all aspects of art would be embraced in the organization.

Love said she hopes Creative HeARTS becomes a more casual organization. While she plans to have meetings like any other organization, she wants to allow the students involved to fully express their ideas.

"It's important that the people involved feel very passionately about what we do on and off campus," Love said.

Through Creative HeARTS, Love said she hopes to make it possible for students to have fun with the projects they are involved in and have a sense of accomplishment upon completing them.

"So many times I talk to people and they say that they aren't artistic or can't draw, but I think self-expression comes in many forms," Love said.

Coates promises they will bring their "A-game" to make Creative HeARTS one of the best new organizations on campus.

"Our meetings will never be dreadful and full of speeches and plain presentation; our events definitely will not be boring," Coates said.

Love said she is hoping to gauge interest in the organization throughout the summer months before it officially begins in the fall. She plans on creating a Facebook group for the organization sometime in the near future.

The first event for Creative HeARTS is being planned for mid to late August.

For information about Creative HeARTS, e-mail Love at [snlove@oakland.edu](mailto:snlove@oakland.edu) or Coates at [accoates@oakland.edu](mailto:accoates@oakland.edu).

# OU offers CNL program

By JEN BUCCIARELLI  
Staff Intern

Nursing students that are planning to graduate with a bachelor's degree and continue on to a Master of Science in nursing have a new master's program to look forward to as early as winter semester.

The Clinical Nurse Leader program (CNL) is designed to further hospital safety education.

The primary goal of the new master's program is to "reduce risk and improve outcome for the patients and for the hospitals," Marisa Ferrari, an assistant professor of nursing at OU said, and "to address the current needs of the hospital with their quality issues and patient safety issues."

"It is very outcome-oriented," she said, as the program teaches its clinical nurse leaders how to handle situations such as patient falls or hospital infections and becomes their responsibility to educate staff and patients.

Having clinical nurse leaders will save any hospital money, and the patients have a better outcome, so "it's really a win-win for both," Ferrari said.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, (AACN) developed the CNL program in 2008.

While most master's courses are online as well as some form of a classroom component, the CNL program is completely online.

Since the program is online, OU is the only school in Michigan to have the opportunity of offering this particular nursing degree to out-of-state residents interested in the field.

Grand Valley State University and the University of Detroit Mercy are currently the only two other universities in Michigan that offer the CNL program, but both programs are not completely online.

"We're the only ones who can offer it to other states

such as Washington," Ferrari said.

At the end of the program, nurses can sit for a certification exam as well, Ferrari said, "so they do receive certification, just like the nurse practitioner or any other advanced practice."

The university has partnered with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, as their nursing leaders need to have certification by 2016, Ferrari said.

"They're a large group of master's students who are coming back for the certificate," she said.

Crittenton Medical Center has stated that they are interested in employing clinical nurse leaders but there is currently "no partnership established with them to train any of their nurses at this time," Ferrari said.

While she is currently not planning to return to school, recent nursing graduate Courtney Rigel said the new degree "is a great idea to provide an alternative master's program for those nurses who know they want to go back to school but are not interested in the limited choices that are available for nursing."

Before the introduction of the CNL program for the upcoming year, there were only master's programs in fields like nurse practitioner, a nurse midwife, a nurse anesthetist, or a clinical nurse specialist, according to Rigel.

"Even though most nurses pursue their master's degree to change their job description, there are other nurses that would like to better themselves without changing their status as a floor nurse," she said.

"[It] sounds like something that would be perfect for all the nurses that already love what they do now," Rigel said, "but would still like to better their practice and the care they provide to their patients."

For more information about the CNL program or the school of nursing at OU, visit [www.oakland.edu/nursing](http://www.oakland.edu/nursing).

# Meadow Brook revisits history

By BRAD SLAZINSKI  
Contributing Reporter

Meadow Brook Hall offered a taste of its past with the Wickets, Wine, and Wheels festival on Sunday, June 13.

The festival's attractions included a display consisting of 35 old cars, a wine tasting of various fine wines, crepes prepared by a chef, and opportunities to play croquet. Singer Steve Blackwood, a former Oakland University student, provided musical entertainment. Meadowbrook's exterior grounds were open to the guests, giving them a chance to see how the Dodges enjoyed their spare time.

"We want to reach out to the community and epitomize the era of Meadow Brook Hall," Geoff Upward, the executive director of Meadow Brook Hall, said. "The theme is what it was like to live on the estate back then, we hope it becomes an annual event."

Bocce ball was also included in the list of activities.

Jon Block, a volunteer, was in charge of bringing the cars to Meadow Brook.

"There are cars that range from the 1920s to the 1950s. One of these cars is a 1939 Jaguar," Block said.

Block went into detail about how people who were wealthy at the time lived life.

"They used to have parties here and would have some of the best entertainment; they were able to get movies a month before they were commercially available," Block said.

Marketing and communications manager for Meadow Brook Hall Shannon O'Berski was pleased with the outcome of the event.

"We had a steady crowd and a nice turnout for the event," O'Berski said. "We were worried about the rain but the turnout was good."

## POLICE FILES

**Family Trouble:** After the Holly High School graduation ceremony on Friday June 4, it was reported that a student was "forcibly removed from the lobby area of the O'Rena by her father, according to the police report. Upon discovering that the mother's side of the family was present at the ceremony, the student's father forcefully made the student leave, as she tried to make him stop.

The student was found safe at Holly High School later on Friday evening as reported by Michigan State Police on Monday June 7.

**Vandalism Suspect:** On June 2 the OU Police Department investigated a complaint of loitering and malicious destruction of property. Two mall security officers at the Village of Rochester Hills, near OU, noticed an individual who was reported to be loitering in the area and expressed attitude when the officers informed him to leave the mall.

The officers later noticed messages spray-painted on buildings in the area as well as on the Oakland University sign at the intersection of Walton and Adams. The OUPD is investigating the graffiti.

**Golf Course Trouble:** On June 9 OU Police Department investigated an "unwanted touching complaint" at the Sharf Concession Stand at the golf course that took place on June 6. It was reported that a concession stand employee was preparing food and cleaning when a golfer inquired about the employee's boyfriend. The golfer commented that since her boyfriend was not there that he would give her a hug. The golfer is a returning customer and the employee said he always gives all the girls hugs. The employee reported an unwanted touching complaint. A member of the golfing group mentioned the hug went as far as trying to grab the employee's underwear. The golfer was informed to stop giving hugs and the employee was pleased with the way the issue was resolved.

**Occupational Injury:** On June 9, a student slipped and fell near a drinking fountain in Pawley Hall. The student is approximately eight months pregnant and the wet floor near the drinking fountain caused her to fall. She spent 24 hours at Crittenton Hospital and it was reported that there were no injuries and the unborn child is unharmed.

— Compiled by staff intern Jen Bucciarelli from OUPD's media logs

# Meet the new Grizz Gang e-board

## Steve Cox, Co-president

Steve Cox is a junior marketing major at OU. This is his first year on the Grizz Gang e-board, but he worked as an Athletics Department marketing major during the 2009-10 school year. Cox said in addition to typical student organization president responsibilities, he's added challenges for himself.

"Personally, I hold myself responsible for increasing attendance at all sporting events and furthering the work started with basketball," Cox said.

Cox said he's looking to expand on tailgating events from previous years and potentially incorporate tailgating into sporting events besides basketball.

Outside of Grizz Gang, Steve is a former member of the Residence Hall Association, current Oakland University Student Congress legislator and employee at the Student Technology Center.

## Danny Malendowski, Secretary

Senior Danny Malendowski said he has always loved college basketball and thought Grizz Gang was a good way to get more involved in the basketball experience.

"We want to continue the successful programs, and we're simply looking to build on what has been done in the past," Malendowski said. "No need to reinvent the wheel. We just want as many people coming to games as possible."



Photo courtesy of Steve Cox  
Grizz Gang co-presidents Dan Elliott and Steve Cox gear up to lead the student body in cheers for Grizzlies.

## Sai Myint, Historian

Health science major Sai Myint first got involved with Grizz Gang after attending OU soccer games at Ultimate Soccer Arena in Pontiac.

As historian, Myint is mainly responsible for taking photos at Grizz Gang events. He also keeps records and logs of the organization's activities.

"I hope to bring some positive energy and perspective and a sense of can-do spirit," Myint said.

## Dan Elliott, Co-president

Biochemistry major Dan Elliott is serving as co-president of the Grizz Gang this year. Elliott, a junior, has been involved with Grizz Gang since his freshman year, as a general member and then by getting more involved in his sophomore year.

This year, he hopes Grizz Gang can start building a legacy of athletics spirit on OU's campus.

"I would like to improve on current Grizz Gang events, like the Jamboree and tailgating, try and form traditions for future generations of fans to follow, and bring about a greater number of student supporters" Elliott said.

Elliott is a Jump Start Leader, former treasurer for the Honors College Student Association, a member of the OU Men's Club Volleyball Team and a resident of the International Village on campus.

## Jessica Hinman, Communication Coordinator

Jessica Hinman, a human resources development senior, has been involved with Grizz Gang since the organization was formed. She previously served as secretary and vice-president.

"I plan on bringing more attention to our student athletes and growing our student section for each sport with more events for all students," Hinman said.

— Profiles compiled by assistant campus editor Annie Stodola

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### Run for Autism raises \$32,000 for OUCARES and Homes for Autism

The second annual Run for Autism, an event which gathered support from over 600 people to raise awareness for the disease, was held on Oakland's campus on May 16. Families and friends impacted by the effects of Autism were among those in the surrounding community to participate in a 10k race and 5k walk to gather funds for OUCARES and Homes for Autism. Approximately \$32,000 was raised from the event and will be donated to both organizations. According to Angie Schmucker, director of development in Oakland's School of Education and Human Services, the 2010 Run for Autism brought in an increase of sponsors and more opportunities to enhance awareness and support of Autism. An extensive list of race winners from the event can be found at [www.therunforautism.org/results.htm](http://www.therunforautism.org/results.htm).

### OU's International Dance Club hosts free classes

The International Dance Club, previously known as the OU Folk Dance Club, will be hosting International Dance classes on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Students of all skill levels are invited to attend these free events. The classes will focus on the Balkan region, including Romania and Greece, as well as the Middle East, including Israel and Armenia. These dances alternate between fast and slow paces, simple and complex moves, and holding hands in a line or in a closed circle. Amy Koza, coordinator of the events, says that the classes are for students who are looking to get exercise, socialize, and have fun. Dances taught in previous classes include Setnja from Serbia, and Debki from Lebanon. The club hopes to expand the regions to include West European and African dances. The classes will run until December and take place in room 126 of the Oakland Center. For more information, contact Koza at [amkoza2@oakland.edu](mailto:amkoza2@oakland.edu).

### IGVC encourages students to lead careers in robotics

The 18th Annual Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC) took place June 4 through 7 on Oakland's campus near the Adams and Walton intersection. The event, hosted by the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) and OU, aims to direct students to a future career in robotics. Students are challenged to design and engineer autonomous vehicles to compete in mobility competitions. Oakland was among 58 teams to compete in the 2010 challenge. Oakland University has competed in over 17 competitions since 1993. In addition to the universities, TARDEC supports the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) 2010 competition, Breakaway, in which high school teams build robots to conquer a game similar to soccer. More information on IGVC and TARDEC can be found at [www.igvc.org/](http://www.igvc.org/).

### Michigan Pinball Expo begins July 8 at OU

The Michigan Pinball Expo will be held inside the Oakland Center starting Thursday, July 8 and running until Sunday, July 11. The event will feature over 100 pinball machines, all of which can be played for free after purchasing an admission ticket. Competitions for "Pinball wizard" and "Wizard in training" will be held for an entry fee. The winner of the Pinball Wizard tournament will be crowned "Michigan Pinball Champion" and will win a cash prize of \$1,000. Pinball machines will also be for sale at the event. Advance ticket prices for adults are \$40 for a four-day show pass and \$10 for a single day ticket. Ticket purchases at the door are \$55 for a four-day show pass and \$15 for a daily pass. For more information and to purchase advanced tickets, visit [www.mipinball.com](http://www.mipinball.com).

### Meadow Brook Theatre director and actor named Artistic Director

The Meadow Brook Theatre appointed Travis W. Walter as the new artistic director by MBT's Board of Directors on May 17. Walter has been working professionally in the theatre on and off-stage since his graduation from OU in 2002. He has worked on shows such as "Witness for the Prosecution," "The Foreigner" and "Romeo & Juliet." Along with directing many shows, Walker has created, directed and produced his own piece, musical "Hey There, Good Times: A Tribute to Cy Coleman" in 2001. Walter says that he is grateful for his new position, and is dedicated to encouraging the staff to create the best shows possible.

— Briefs compiled by campus editor Kaitlyn Chornoby



# The African Drum Ensemble

By: Kaitlyn Chornoby, Campus Editor

The Oakland University African Drum and Xylophone Ensemble. Pan-Jumbies and Steel Band played a free concert on the patio of the OC on Tuesday, June 15. Trisha Lee, a senior music education major, has been part of the group for two semesters. Lee says the group practices twice a week to perform pieces such as their final piece titled "Sunset." Although she is undecided if she will continue to play in the Steel Band for her remaining semesters, she says she is interested in the cultures she learns through the group. The groups have presented this concert for ten consecutive years.



## Elections shake things up

*Candidates offer views of education and the economy*

By DAUD YAR and KAY NGUYEN  
Web Copy Editor and Editor-in-chief

The amount of state funding that comes to Oakland University could be influenced after this November's elections as open seats and fierce campaigning could drastically change the political landscape.

OU is located in the 12th Congressional district, which includes the areas of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills and Pontiac as well as the townships of Oxford, Orion, Addison, Oakland and Independence.

The seat is currently held by Michigan Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop.

Bishop will not be running for re-election for the 12th district seat as he is a state attorney general hopeful.

This year, 29 incumbents are leaving the state senate, said Jim Marleau, a State House representative completing his third term.

This could change representation for districts like the 12th and eight people have declared their candidacy for the seat that will be vacated by Bishop.

With party primaries less than two months away, candidates for the State Senate in the 12th district are campaigning around the clock.

Marleau is the only candidate with any political experience amongst the field of candidates.

"I feel we need someone with experience," said Marleau. "We need experience because no two days are the same in Lansing." Marleau is running as a

Republican.

Experience is a key issue in this race, but other concerns include the economy of Michigan. Republican candidate Gene Taliercio believes a Bank of Michigan would be a great idea to get businesses back on track in Michigan.

He is a family business associate at Taliercio Brothers. Local community banks cannot give loans out to small business owners if they don't have enough backing, even if the business owners have good credit, according to Taliercio.

"A Bank of Michigan would back that loan, so the small business owner could start his or her business," Taliercio said. The idea is modeled off North Dakota's system of banking Taliercio recently visited the state.

A common query about Taliercio's plan is whether it could get enough financial backing. It would be very difficult to acquire available funds to start a Bank of Michigan at this point, believes fellow Republican candidate Kim Russell, owner of Vanguard Commercial Cleaning. Russell thinks the BOM "is not a very good idea." Taliercio said there is the money in the Michigan budget; "we just need to find it."

Russell serves on the Rochester City Council and the Downtown Development Authority, Business and Development.

"We should run our government like a business," said Russell.

Russell seeks to cut through red tape and "make up

for lost time."

"College students are looking for a job and I'm looking for a place that will give them a job," said Russell.

Other candidates like Lois Golden, a mother and, since 1980, a small business owner, says she has "a unique perspective on how to save money" having served in the Local Development Finance Authority Board in Rochester Hills, Golden has experience in municipal financial matters. "I have been self-employed all my life," said Golden. "I know the struggles of small business."

The status of businesses around Michigan has been a main concern of voters around the state, but educational needs have also remained in the public eye. Cassandra Ulbrich, a democratic candidate and member of the State of Michigan board of education, has a strict platform on education reform.

"We spend more on prisons and incarcerations than education," Ulbrich said. "We need to look at the overall message we are sending."

There are many more school districts than are needed, said Ulbrich. According to her, Michigan is currently ranked 49th out of 50 states for higher education. She believes that the state needs to reform its education policies and "invest in the people in the state."

There are three other candidates in the state Senate race. They could not be reached for comment.

Republican and Democratic primaries are August 3. General elections are Nov. 2.

### State Senate candidates vie for open seat



**Kim Russell - Republican**  
Platform: Make Business Better



**Cassandra Ulbrich - Democrat**  
Platform: Reform Education



**Jim Marleau - Republican**  
Platform: Experience is key



**Gene Taliercio - Republican**  
Platform: Bank of Michigan



**Lois Golden - Republican**  
Platform: Better financial responsibility



**Ted Golden - Democrat**  
Platform: Reform of Judicial System



**Copper Rizzo - Republican**  
Platform: Government needs better direction



**John Garfield - Republican**  
Platform: Need to address state deficit

# Fireworks launch through local skies

By **DONNA TUCKER**  
Contributing Reporter

U.S. residents will see more than \$217 million dollars of imported fireworks this year. Michigan will host over 390 displays in 2010 alone.

Many local cities are offering free Fourth of July celebrations.

Rochester Hills boasts that its festival is the second largest fireworks display in Michigan.

The city's Festival of the Hills will be held at Borden Park on Wednesday, June 30.

Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. Family-style games followed by a USO-styled dance tribute, by the Rhythm Society Orchestra, will be featured. Fireworks begin at 10:06 p.m. rain or shine.

"Parking is free, but arrive early," officials say.

Borden Park is just about 13 minutes and approximately 8 miles east of Oakland University.

Make sure to check for construction zones before heading out.

"Hamlin Road is closed at Livernois. They are constructing a roundabout," warns Kristin Lashar, a Rochester Hills resident. "If you arrive late, there is additional parking off of Dequindre, just north of Hamlin, at the gun club. They do charge about \$5 to park. We like to walk up to the 7 - 11 to get a Slurpee before the fireworks."

Mt. Clemens is having its weekend long Stars and

Stripes Festival July 2-5. This fourth annual event has been expanded to four days and offers free music on four different stages throughout the city.

Music ranges from national bands, rock, country and family entertainment. The event also offers a military salute, Artist Avenue, a craft show type exhibit, food from around America, carnival attractions and much more.

Mt. Clemens is about 30 minutes from Oakland University and is approximately 22 miles away. The most direct route, from OU, is M-59 east to Romeo Plank Road. Take Romeo Plank Road south until it turns into Cass Ave. Cass Ave. east will lead to the heart of downtown Mt. Clemens.

"Make sure to arrive early to find your spot, either 'on the hill' or on one of the blocked off streets. You can either bring your own picnic or try something from one of the local restaurants or vendors," said Dawn Allor, a Macomb County resident, who has been attending the festivities for years.

According to officials, parking can be found around town and on side streets. Make sure to watch for no parking signs.

No alcohol is permitted, with the exception of the Stars and Stripes Festival in Mt. Clemens, where alcoholic beverages may be purchased from vendors. No glass bottles are usually allowed.

For a comprehensive listing of Michigan fireworks, please visit [www.michiganfireworks.com](http://www.michiganfireworks.com).

## Wednesday, June 30

Rochester Hills, Borden Park  
1400 E. Hamlin Rd.  
Fireworks at 10:06 p.m.  
[www.rochesterhills.org](http://www.rochesterhills.org)

## Friday, July 2

Downtown Mt. Clemens  
Fireworks at dusk.  
[www.starsandstripesfest.com](http://www.starsandstripesfest.com)

## Saturday, July 3

Birmingham  
Lincoln Hills Golf Course, 2666 W. 14 Mile,  
Fireworks at 10 p.m.  
[www.ci.birmingham.mi.us](http://www.ci.birmingham.mi.us)

Downtown Clarkston,  
Fireworks at dusk.  
[www.twp.independence.mi.us](http://www.twp.independence.mi.us)

Stony Creek Metro Park  
Fireworks at 10:10 p.m.  
[www.metroparks.com](http://www.metroparks.com)

# ATTENTION!

STARTING THIS FALL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OAKLAND UNIVERSITY HISTORY, A CAMPUS SHUTTLE WILL BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS

LOOK FOR BEAR BUS PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS AND MAPS AROUND CAMPUS.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS / FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION /  
THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS / RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

/// UNDER CONSTRUCTION // SUBHEAD ///

# WHAT ON EA IS GOING SUMMER CONSTRUCTION LEAVES O

PHOTOS BY BRETT SOCIA // WRITTEN BY KAY NGUYEN



**PROJECT:** SQUIRREL ROAD REPAVING  
**WHAT IS IT:** THE ROAD IS BEING REPAVED BETWEEN WALTON BOULEVARD AND FEATHERSTONE ROAD.  
**PROJECTED COMPLETION:** BETWEEN JUNE AND NOVEMBER IN SEPARATE PHASES  
**HOW TO AVOID:** FOLLOW SIGNS LEADING ONTO CAMPUS. TO AVOID TRAFFIC LEAVING CAMPUS, BE SURE TO NOTE THE MULTIPLE EXITS ONTO WALTON BOULEVARD.



**PROJECT:** HUMAN HEALTH BUILDING, FUTURE SITE OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCE  
**WHAT IS IT:** GEOTHERMAL WELLS ARE CURRENTLY BEING DRILLED FOR USE IN THE HUMAN HEALTH BUILDING.  
**PROJECTED COMPLETION:** FALL 2012  
**HOW TO AVOID:** REMEMBER THAT A PORTION OF P1 IS BLOCKED, BUT P3 IS JUST AS CLOSE OF A WALK TO MOST BUILDINGS.

# EARTH QUAKE YOU IN THE DIRT

BY JENNY // DESIGNED BY JASON WILLIS



## THREE



**PROJECT:** NEW PARKING LOT, P35  
**WHAT IS IT:** EXCESS DIRT FROM THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PARKING LOT AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF PIONEER DRIVE AND LIBRARY DRIVE.  
**PROJECTED COMPLETION:** BEFORE FALL SEMESTER  
**HOW TO AVOID:** THERE'S NO AVOIDING THE 540 NEW AND 40 RECONFIGURED PARKING SPOTS THAT WILL BE MADE ON CAMPUS THIS SUMMER.



## FOUR

**PROJECT:** HIGH TEMPERATURE HOT WATER LINES  
**WHAT IS IT:** WORN OUT HIGH TEMPERATURE HOT WATER LINES ARE BEING WORKED ON, BLOCKING OFF P2 FROM THE OAKLAND CENTER.  
**PROJECTED COMPLETION:** BEFORE FALL SEMESTER  
**HOW TO AVOID:** PARK IN P16, THE LOT IN FRONT OF THE SMALL HOUSES NEXT TO O'DOWD HALL FOR A QUICK WALK TO THE OC OR PARK IN P1 FOR A BETTER SHOT AT A SPOT.

## Running down a dream

*Bigelow becomes OU's first runner to advance to national semi-finals*

By RYAN HEGEDUS  
Senior Reporter

When running, it's often a good idea to save your best for the last stretch of the race. Throughout his career at Oakland University, Jason Bigelow did just that.

In late April, at the Jesse Owens Track Classic in Columbus, Ohio, the senior long-distance runner placed an impressive fifth with a time of 3:47.09 in the 1500-meter run.

With that finish, he had set a new school record, something he had done several times before in his career.

After a week of waiting, however, the news that he had earned Oakland's first-ever NCAA Championships bid for track and field was the ultimate award.

"It was a dream come true to qualify for the NCAA Championships," Bigelow said. "It had always been a dream of mine to qualify, although I knew the chance of it actually happening was small. Once I realized that I qualified, it made the entire five years of hard work that I put in completely worth it."

Before he ran in the NCAA preliminary round in mid-June, Bigelow had one more record to add to his astonishing list of athletic accomplishments.

The Clio native secured his place in the Summit League record books with a championship meet record time of 3:47.96 in the 1500-meter. After that race, Bigelow was done with Summit League competition and on his way to the track field preliminary round in Greensboro, N.C. on May 27.

As if being the first Golden Grizzly track and field athlete to represent the school on the national level wasn't pressure-packed enough, running alongside other extremely accomplished athletes was another matter for Bigelow.

"I don't really have a ton of experience racing in championship-style races and it showed at the NCAA Championships. It seemed like the guys in my heat were ready for any type of race," Bigelow said. "It was quite intimidating to be racing next to people like Andrew Wheatling (Oregon), who ran the 800 m in Beijing for the 2008 Olympics and has four NCAA championships, and Lee Emanuel (New Mexico), who has two NCAA championships of his own."

Overall, Bigelow finished eighth, automatically qualifying for the NCAA quarterfinals just two days later. He continued his torrid pace on the track, finishing fourth in his heat and 14th overall in quarterfinal competition.

With the top five runners from both heats as well as the next two best times advancing to the semifinals, Bigelow found himself among the nation's top 24 runners competing in the NCAA National Championship

semifinals in Eugene, Ore.

In his final race wearing the Black and Gold, Bigelow finished 23rd in the 1,500-meter with a time of 3:53.62.

With that finish, Bigelow's magical run to the NCAA National Championship ended in the semifinals, but not before he completed the program's most impressive stretch of track performances.

"Obviously when you talk about the national level, it's a new experience for us, and to have a student-athlete qualify for nationals in just our fifth year of having a program is pretty exciting," Paul Rice, track and cross country coach, said.

"You look at someone like Jason Bigelow, he's had a long career at Oakland, had some ups and downs, worked super hard through a lot of adversity, and I couldn't have painted a better picture for the end of his senior year. It's really been exciting to be a part of that ride with him."

His achievements didn't go unnoticed, as Bigelow earned All-Summit League honors, as well as being named OU Athlete of the Week twice in the past month alone.

The success seen by Bigelow this season is unprecedented, and despite injuries earlier on in his career, he has been able to continually have success at the collegiate level. Bigelow went through periods of success and frustration during his first two years on campus before taking the next step as a junior.

"When he hit that third year of running for the program, I think we saw that we really had a special athlete in our program," Rice said. "He had a few injuries in his career that held him back a little bit, but later in his career he really started to shine for us. He came back in 2009, won the DMR Indoors, really had some good confidence, and that was a big turning point in his career."

While Bigelow has achieved plenty on the individual level, he has also shared in success on the team level.

During OU's indoor track season in late February, Bigelow, along with seniors Michael Flemming, Kevin Luce, and junior David Magnotte, set a league and school record in the distance medley relay with a time of 10:01.32 at the Summit League Championship.



Photo courtesy of the Oakland University Athletics Department  
Senior Jason Bigelow recently competed in the 1500 meter race in Eugene, Ore.

While this season was his last at OU, Bigelow is optimistic about the future of the program that came into existence the first year he became a Golden Grizzly in 2005.

"It's great to see how far the Oakland track and field team has come in the last five years," Bigelow said. "While I'm the first person to qualify, I'm just paving the way for other OU athletes to qualify in the future. Right now we have many quality young athletes that can potentially qualify in the future, so that's great to see."

# Soccer player adjusting to life at OU

By ZACH HALLMAN  
Contributing Reporter

Last year marked the 10-year anniversary of NATO's bombing of Serbia for what was then called "humanitarian purposes."

Over 3,000 people were killed and many cities, including the capital city of Belgrade, have yet to fully recover.

In 2008, a Serbian-born player from the city of Belgrade took the field for Oakland University's men's soccer team. As a redshirt sophomore living in a foreign country and learning a new style of play, Vuk Popovic initially struggled to find his form on the field.

Last year, however, Popovic — who was just 11 years old when he watched missiles launched from NATO battle-ships in the Adriatic Sea fly through the air and into their intended target from his fifth-floor apartment — started in 16 games for the Grizzlies and was named a member of the All-Summit League Second Team.

"I would sit on the balcony with my father and sister and watch the missiles, which were about the size of the couch in my dorm, just fly around the sky," Popovic said. "The closest one ever got was about from where my apartment is (the student apartments on campus) to the Chrysler building. That one I could feel the vibrations from, but NATO always told us which target they would hit and they would always hit their target. (NATO) knew what they were

doing."

Popovic has not seen his family since Christmas. He still communicates with them frequently over the phone and has taken advantage of using Skype as often as he can. His mother's name is Dalija and his father, Djordje (pronounced George).

Popovic plans on returning home to see his family after he finishes his summer semester and is excited for the comfort that his hometown, a metropolitan city of over 1.5 million people, provides.

"There is just a different breeze, a different smell back home," Popovic explained. "At home I can take a one-hour walk to get downtown and would never be bored (along the way). Here if I start walking down interstate-75, I would get lost and people would laugh at me."

Even for the greatest of athletes competing at the high school level have an adjustment period that involves times of struggle before they excel or feel comfortable in collegiate competition. For an athlete that transfers from a country such as Serbia, that adjustment period becomes harder, and in truth, never really stops.

The style of play in Serbia differs drastically from the style in the U.S.

Instead of being applauded for his ability to possess the ball and create plays for teammates out of the back, the 6-4, 200 pound center back was forced to learn that defenders in the U.S. are required to play much more conserva-

tively.

"Vuk is not your typical center back, other than his size and strength. He is very comfortable with the ball at his feet and can help us jump start the attack and build a little more from the back," Oakland head coach Eric Pogue said. "Sometimes he tries to do too much, but he has been improving on that aspect of his game."

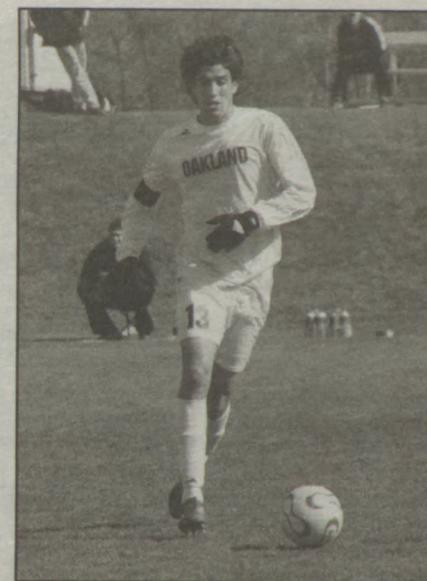
Popovic admits that it was his size and strength that got American coaches attention when he sent them highlight videos in the hopes that a scholarship offer would surface.

He also admits, though, that what helps him in the American game hindered him in the Serbian game.

"In America, they would probably have cut Lionel Messi (world player of the year) because they would think he is too small," Popovic said. "That is why they liked me, but at home they did not like me because I was so big. The game is so different at home ... every player on the field has to be skilled and there are not as many fouls because they want to protect the players."

Popovic has a theory of his own as to why the American soccer game allows and even seems to encourage a more physical and dangerous type of soccer game.

"I think it all comes from (American) football," he said. "Before games when I first got here guys would punch me to get me ready to play. Now I am used to it, but I still don't need you to come and



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Vuk Popovic played an important role for last season's Summit League Championship team.

punch me to get me ready to play."

Upon returning to Belgrade, Popovic said there is one thing that he wants to bring with him from his time spent at Oakland.

"Around here," Popovic says, "almost everybody smiles and is genuinely happy when they talk to you. Back in Belgrade, I smile and am happy to be home, but they (people in Serbia) tell me that there is no reason for anybody to be smiling that much."

# Grizzlies turn the corner with strong finish

By ROSS MAGHIELSE  
Sports Editor

They went down swinging.

That description, perhaps more than any other, sums up the Golden Grizzlies on the baseball field this spring. A 20-6 loss to South Dakota State in the Summit League Tournament marked the official end of the 2010 baseball season for Oakland, but it also capped a progressive step forward for the program.

This season, the Golden Grizzlies (23-34) suffered a stretch of 15 losses in a 17-game span. They also won a school-record eight straight and used a five-game win streak to close out the regular season and secure a spot in the Summit League Tournament for the first time since 2006.

"The progress we made this year was critical," Oakland coach John Musachio said, after reflecting on the entirety of the season. "We're trying to build a program here and not a season and to do that you have to develop the right culture and attitude. For our guys to have the resilience they had this year tells us everything we need to know about the future of this group."

Oakland's resilience was tested often this season. Injuries mounted, as did potentially deflating defeats.

Prior to its five-game win streak at the end of the season, OU lost three in a row to IPFW. The Grizzlies had to win the rest of their games and get some help from other teams in the league just to qualify for the fourth and final spot in the league tournament.

Oakland claimed a 5-1 lead on No. 1 seed South Dakota State in the first game of the postseason before losing 6-5 in extra innings. That loss was answered the following day with a 7-2 win over Centenary before losing the rematch with the Jackrabbits in the double-elimination tournament.

"Towards the end of the year we hit a point where we stopped playing like we had everything to lose and started playing like we had nothing to lose," Musachio said.

"A goal of ours at the start of the year was to make the Summit League Tournament and it wasn't easy. We had four of our top pitchers out this year and just one senior on the team so we were led by a younger group of guys. Having achieved a goal we set out at the start of the year gives us confidence and our players now

believe that they belong and that's the biggest piece."

Six position players finished with a batting average above .300, led by junior Tommy Jablonski at .364. Sophomore Aaron Cieslak accounted for the second most runs, hitting seven home runs for a total of 39 RBI. He finished with a .320 average.

Sophomore Kyle Teague served as the ace of a depleted pitching staff and tallied a record of 5-6 with an ERA of 5.11. Junior Mark Leichtman pitched well in relief, collecting three wins and five saves with an ERA of 4.31.

"Our guys are really tough kids and they want to win and now they have the experience of becoming leaders and playing in high pressure situations," Musachio said. "Our goal every year is to make the Summit League Tournament and give ourselves a chance and from what I saw from our team this year I know they're not going to settle for anything less. We've got almost everybody coming back next year and a strong recruiting class joining us so our whole team is thinking 'next level' baseball right now."

Catcher Brett Geschke was the lone senior on the team.

# 'Big 3' woes too fast for NASCAR

By KYLE BAUER  
Staff Intern

Michigan International Speedway sits in the proverbial backyard of the "Big Three" (Chrysler, Ford, General Motors). Roughly 100 miles away from the metro-Detroit area. This track always has attracted clout out of proximity.

If any "Big Three" executives were in attendance during last Sunday's Heluvagood Sour Cream Dips 400, they would be sure to notice the stunning amount of empty seats.

The track, now in its 42nd year, has seen its own share of economic hardship — much of which can be directly tied to impact of the auto industry's recent follies. Attendance has recently been down an estimated average of 35,000 tickets. The price of a ticket to a NASCAR race at MIS ranges from \$22.50 to \$115. Extra costs many people cannot afford in the wake of the layoffs and cutbacks.

"This is the longest impact we've seen since I've been in (NASCAR)," said 20-year veteran driver Jeff Burton, referring to the toll of the recession.

Currently driving for the prestigious Richard Childress Racing, even Burton's team has felt the fall-out.

"This (recession) is going to be a three or four year deal," Burton said. "A couple years ago sponsorships started tightening up looking at what was happening."

In 2004, while driving for Livonia based Roush Racing, Burton lost his primary sponsor. Sponsors typically commit to a team in three-year cycles.

"It creates a huge mental issue on the team because they're not stupid," Burton added. "They are wondering if they're going to keep their job. It was on people's minds all the time."

NASCAR is facilitated by capitalism. Each car needs sponsorship due to the annual operating cost being upward of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Ask any driver and they will tell you the importance of proximity when it comes to winning at MIS. No driver may have a bigger understanding of the importance of all this than Sprint Cup rookie and Rochester Hills native Brad Keselowski.

Keselowski is a part of a racing family that started with his father, Bob Keselowski, who made a name for himself and his family in lower divisions of stock car racing. His older brother Brian and uncle Ron also have racing backgrounds.

Brad started as a shop mechanic for his father's team. He eventually started racing in 2005 in the lower divisions of NASCAR. Last year, he won his first career Sprint Cup race at Talladega Super Speedway in Alabama after a controversial last lap crash with popular driver Carl Edwards.

Last August, Keselowski won at MIS in the Nationwide Series, a division lower than Sprint Cup.

"Of course racing at Michigan is always special to me," Keselowski said. "There's some pressure, but I'm more just happy to be racing anywhere."

But Keselowski can be looking at other pressures beyond just performing in his home state. His team owner is racing legend and Detroit businessman Roger Penske. He drives the number 12 Verizon Dodge and is a part of the only full-time NASCAR team that drives a Chrysler make.

After becoming the biggest victim of the American auto industry bottoming out in 2008, the Auburn Hills based Chrysler company decided to pull back manufacturing funding from auto racing.

At one point there were three prominent teams that ran Dodge machines. After the troubles of '08 and '09,



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post  
Rochester Hills native Brad Keselowski has one win and four top 10's in 32 career starts in Sprint Cup.

Chrysler made the decision to only sponsor Penske's team.

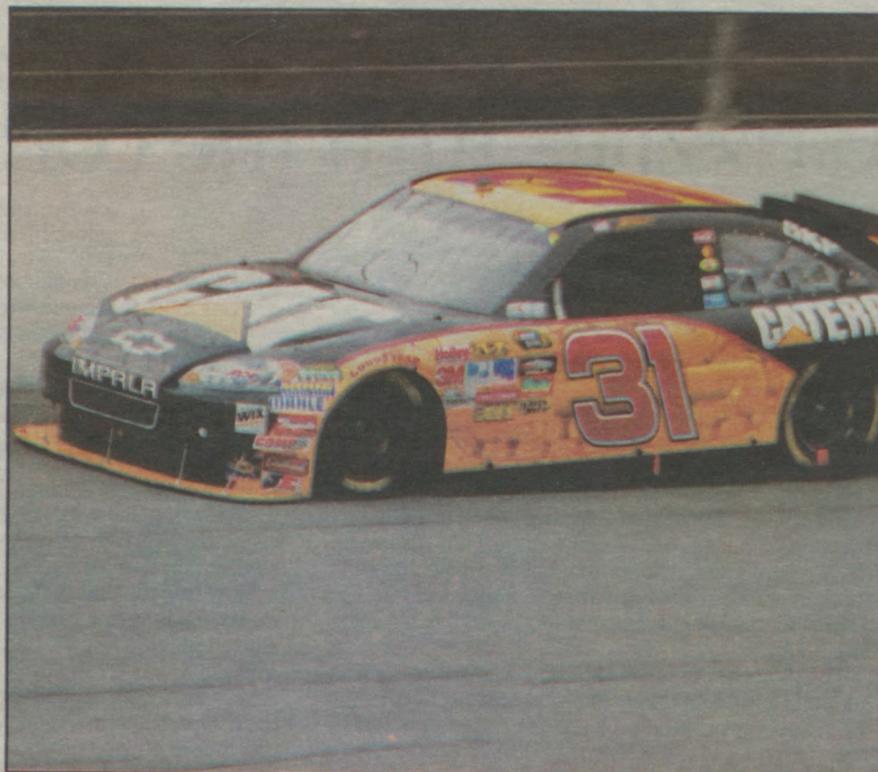
"It doesn't add any pressure to me, I actually like it," Keselowski admits "Exclusively having Dodge on board is a luxury because we get to do our own testing and keep our information. They also have full concentration on us and how we perform."

While Keselowski feels he reaps the benefits of being the exclusive Dodge team, he understands the weight of the times.

"It hasn't directly affected me too much personally, but it affects everybody at least a little bit," Keselowski said. "The Big 3 is the roots to this area. If the roots are contaminated, everyone else here who make up the stem and pedals will have a hard time surviving."



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post  
Denny Hamlin (left) celebrates his fifth win of the 2010 season at Michigan International Speedway.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post  
Jeff Burton drive his #31 Chevy (right) to an 8th place finish at Michigan International Speedway.

# The Scene

June 16, 2010

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Downtown's Hart Plaza was the epicenter for the indie music group Model 500. The group honored Detroit's 25 years of techno music history by performing their set on the Vitamin Water stage. Photo courtesy of Douglas Wojciechowski

## Detroit hosts techno concert

*The local music festival celebrated its tenth anniversary last month*

By **AMANDA MEADE**  
Staff Reporter

This year's Movement festival brought in an attendance of more than 95,000, surpassing 2009's record of 83,000. It also marked the 10-year anniversary of the festival, which has been held in Detroit every year.

Movement, or the Detroit Electronic Music Festival, generally involves various forms of techno and electronic genres, although there is a stage set aside for crossover acts as well.

Some of the performing acts included Model 500, Inner City, Derrick Carter, DJ Godfather, DJ Sneak, Robert Hood, Ryan Crosson, Simian Mobile Disco and Theo Parish.

"Richie Hawtin Presenting Plastikman Live, and then Richie Hawtin stepping in for Ricardo Villalobos was huge. Pretty Lights electrified the Red Bull Music Academy Stage," said Jason Huvaere, stating that those acts were the ones that seemed to have left people amazed.

Huvaere has been the festival director of DEMF for the past five years.

Sponsors of Movement included the Red Bull

Music Academy, Vitamin Water, Made in Detroit and Beatport. The presenting sponsor was Ford Fiesta, who Huvaere said they were very happy to be partnering with.

"Our team has made it a priority to find brands to support the festival that really understand and respect the audience that attends Movement and we think Ford was that type of sponsor," Huvaere said.

Huvaere speculated that the reason behind the Movement's popularity is due to the birth of Detroit techno 25 years ago and the migration of fans from all over the world to Detroit to experience the music festival.

"Movement is a chance for people from around the world to celebrate techno's history in the city where it was born," Huvaere said.

Overall, Huvaere said this year's edition of the techno festival was a success, and that they received great feedback from attendees.

"Each year we seem to go a level above the previous one," Huvaere said. "This year we spent more on production than we ever have and it was all worth it after seeing the shows live."

For the 2011 DEMF, Huvaere said he just hopes to

maintain the "raising the bar" kind of attitude in regard to the production aspects. Also, he said he looks forward to the audience experiencing new shows from new artists.

To follow the Movement festival for next year, go to [www.myspace.com/detroitmusicfest](http://www.myspace.com/detroitmusicfest) or "like" the "Detroit Electronic Music Festival" on Facebook.

### Upcoming Local Concerts

- June 16 — Powerman 5000, Blondies
- June 16 — MGMT, The Fillmore
- June 17 — TECH N9NE, Blondies
- June 20 — Blake Shelton, DTE
- June 30 — U2, Spartan Stadium
- July 1 — Young Buck, The Hayloft
- July 7 — 311 & The Offspring, DTE
- July 11 — Matt Kearney, The Ark
- July 17 — Iron Maiden, DTE
- July 30 — Van's Warped Tour, Comerica Park

# H2O Tour hits DTE Music Theatre

By CHRIS HAGAN  
Scene Editor

The crowd began cheering as Justin Moore graced the stage. They became hyped when Darius Rucker sang his hit "Alright." And just about everybody was losing their minds when Brad Paisley opened his set with "Water."

The H2O Tour, accompanied by three other performers including Steel Magnolia, stopped at the DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston, Mich., on Friday, June 11.

Early afternoon downpours of rain hardly stopped DTE's parking lot from filling to capacity. As the sun broke out of the clouds, the outdoor stage, which was set up on the parking lot, came alive with performances by Easton Corbin, Josh Thompson, and Steel Magnolia.

When the outdoor stage finished their sets, fans poured inside the venue. Quickly the concourse became a sea of tan country girls wearing blue-jean skirts and cowboy boots, greatly outnumbering the men who played cowboy for a day.

Moore warmed up the crowd on the main stage with his set which included the hit "Small Town USA." Darius

Rucker was welcomed with an almost deafening cheer and his vocals warranted the greeting. The audience seemed not to care about Rucker's rather boring stage presence, which he made up for with his skills on the guitar and well-written lyrics.

Rucker covered what seems to be the quintessential concert country song, "Family Tradition" by Hank Williams Jr., provided the night's biggest moment of irony — one of country's few black artists performing a song made famous by a known lover of the Confederacy.

The people inside the pavilion and those on the lawn stayed standing as there was a set change for the evening's headliner, Brad Paisley.

Paisley emerged from an elevated platform, in front of a packed pavilion and crowded lawn while a video showed him walking out of a pool leading into his latest single, "Water."

He had a solid mix of past and present songs, including one of his biggest called "Celebrity." The song received much applause after an image of the Detroit Tigers logo appeared on screen prompting fans to raise their arms in excitement.

Paisley rarely stayed in one place for long. He made good use out of the stage including walking out onto a center catwalk that extended passed the pit. Halfway through his set, he included people who had lawn seats by running up the pavilion steps and into the lawn to perform the second half of a song.

Later in the evening he added a couple more local moments during a guitar riff of "Welcome to the Future."

The large screen showed clips of children holding a microphone saying what they wanted to be when they grew up. The two responses that peaked decibel levels were "I want to be a Michigan State Spartan" and later a "Michigan Wolverine."

Paisley only performed two songs during his encore, "Ticks" and "Alcohol," which sort of became the theme of the crowd as the concert came to a close. The emptying venue resembled Windsor's downtown bar strip on a Saturday night, full of intoxicated 19-year-old Michiganders.

But nonetheless, Paisley and the rest of the performers on the H2O tour made it so that one couldn't help be a country fan on Friday night.



CHRIS HAGAN/The Oakland Post  
Darius Rucker, who opened for Brad Paisley, performs his hit "Forever Road" from his 2008 debut country album "Learn to Live"

## GOT TO GET AWAY?



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CHRIS HAGAN/The Oakland Post  
The headliner, Brad Paisley, drew in a solid attendance as he opened with his latest single, "Water."



## the reel review

Get Him To The Greek

# Moviegoers would be wise to avoid "Get Him to the Greek"

By MATT LOCKWOOD  
Guest Columnist

### REVIEW

"Get Him To The Greek" follows washed-up rocker Aldous Snow (Russell Brand) after the failure of his band's embarrassing album "African Child." The film highlights the hardships of his relationship with Jackie Q, (Rose Byrne) a female rocker that resembles a cross between Madonna and Lady Gaga.

Aaron Green, (Jonah Hill), who's a huge Snow fan, pitches the idea of having Snow's band perform at a 10-year anniversary concert. Green's boss who is also the executive of a Los Angeles record company, Sergio Roma (Sean "P. Diddy" Combs), gives Green 72 hours to go to England and bring Snow back to Los Angeles for the anniversary concert of his band "Immortal Child" at the Greek Theatre.

Amidst dull humor and perpetual sexual references, there is nothing here to see. The film takes a great mocking approach to the life of a rock star, but the voids in the script and story seemed very unrelated.

From the time Green meets Snow in England, the film seems to drag on. After hitting the bars in England, swaggering through the flamboyant city of

Las Vegas, and finally arriving in Los Angeles, it seems that director Nicholas Stoller has really made no point. Time seems like an inexhaustible resource as the same mishaps are brought to the screen over and over again.

Snow seems to have an avid Messiah Complex (more than Russel Brand already is off the silver screen) toward the middle of the film. The heroin addiction, womanizing, and the riotous behavior of Snow became very routine.

Green has a character that was obviously developed to be liked by the audience. Being the only person in Snow's fan base to be exposed to the issues he is facing in life, he tries to abate the pain Snow is going through by helping him with major issues, mainly that of a heroin addiction and a relationship with Jackie Q.

Sergio's character is a typical pompous, colluding entertainment authority who is only out to get what will promote his name as well as his record company.

Jackie Q is an over the top, shameless, pop singing trollop that only insists on making all of her music videos excessively smutty. Even though she seems to miss Snow throughout the film, her wrongdoings seem to be the focal point of his struggles in life.

Each character is fully exposed for who he or she is, but it all comes down to exemplarity in the characters that gives a film a cogent make-up, and sadly, this film

fails at doing so.

The director seems to lack a sense of mobility when it comes to composing a reliable dimension of shape in a film. Whether it be the absence of cinematic space to fixate to a character or a compound of cinematic theories for the film events.

Precariousness will cause the viewer to feel hesitant about the outcome of the characters' actions, thus revealing the director's personal creative vision. Which, in this case, is absolutely horrid.

Stoller is obviously a second-rate director who enjoys directing discreditable films like "Forgetting Sarah Marshall," a prequel to "Get Him To The Greek."

When it comes down to buying your next movie ticket, please avoid seeing "Get Him To The Greek." You will be very happy for making that decision, rest assured. Russel Brand alone is annoying enough, and putting two more jabber heads such as Sean "P. Diddy" Combs and Rose Byrne on screen makes watching the film even more insufferable.

Even if mainstream guppies say the film is "so cool," do not buy in. Take your money, buy some popcorn, look at all of the other films that are playing, select anything else than this catastrophe, and be glad knowing that you will not have to witness the "African Child" of cinema.



## music spotlight

Eminem. Recovery

# Eminem's new album is worth the download

By KEVIN ROMANCHIK  
Staff Reporter

### REVIEW

The man who put 8 Mile on the map is back with a new album "Recovery" that was recently leaked onto the web. So, where does Eminem's latest release rank among the hits of Slim Shady's past like 2004's "Encore" and 2000's "The Marshall Mathers LP?" That depends on what you were expecting this time around.

On one side, "Cold Wind Blows" pokes fun at various celebrities like Elton John in a similar fashion that made songs like "My Name Is" famous at the beginning of his career.

If Eminem wants to secure his place as one of the best MCs in hip-hop history, he needs to grow out of the immature nature and leave those songs on the cutting room floor. Luckily, there are not many tracks like that on "Recovery."

On the other side, Eminem makes another attempt at showing maturity in "Not Afraid" and succeeds by proclaiming, "So I solemnly swear to always treat this roof like my daughters and raise it."

"Love The Way You Lie" is the highlight of Recovery, supplying a sweet flow over a piano beat that accompanies a wonderful chorus from the talented Rihanna. "Love The Way You Lie" is likely to be a radio hit because of Eminem's ability to bring people from different musical styles together and

make it work, which is also obvious in "No Love," featuring Lil Wayne.

"No Love" is a great contrast of two different artists who share a common ground and ideal of love for music. It's refreshing to hear Eminem, one of the major hip-hop acts of the early decade, sharing the mic with Lil Wayne, who is securing his place as one of the most popular acts of our generation.

In most cases, he succeeds with that ability, but unfortunately with "Won't Back Down" featuring pop singer Pink, the song lacks the depth to make a statement most likely because Pink lacks the strong vocal talent to make any sort of impression on the listener.

Whether or not you're a fan of Eminem, "Recovery" deserves some of

your time. Rather than pushing out played out album after album, Eminem took time off between 2005 through 2009 and seems to be focusing on quality rather than quantity.

If you were expecting a complete change and deviation from Eminem, you might be disappointed, but he is still a talent who aided in bringing Detroit to mainstream media.

In "Seduction," the 37-year-old Mathers says "But I'm not giving up till I get my respect, and I won't stop till I get enough. 'Cause I'm not living up to my own expectations.", Eminem seems to finally understand that the only thing that matters is what he expects of himself, and that epiphany is something that we all can respect and relate to.

# Farming for a fruitful future

*Students start urban farming group to teach, donate food*

By JENNIFER BEITZEL  
Contributing Reporter

Last December, a breeze fell over Oakland University, carrying with it the seeds of inspiration to sprout a new organization dedicated to sustainability, helping the environment, and feeding the hungry.

The original idea for the group was the result of collaboration between the Environmental Coalition — a representation of Oakland University students and other on-campus organizations, which share a goal of improving OU's environment — and Students in Free Enterprise.

Urban Farming at Oakland University (UFAOU) is the first agricultural student organization on campus. When SIFE couldn't financially afford to continue pursuing the plan, President Jack Cunningham and Vice President Jarret Schlaff decided to officially form the organization and receive funding directly from OU. The group now boasts 12 to 15 members and counting.

Group members were met with a tough task at the inception of UFAOU: Oakland is not allowing the organization to use any machinery due to liability reasons. Members have been busy getting their hands dirty by digging trenches, putting up fences, planting seeds and transplants, watering and composting.

Initially, UFAOU relied on donations from Oakland Community College's horticulture students. The group began planting chard, parsley, tomatoes and lettuce.

"We also planted broccoli," said Dr. Fay Hansen, professor of biology at Oakland University and advisor to UFAOU, "but the critters got to it."

Now the group has added beans and cucumbers to its plot, which spans roughly 50 feet by 100 feet. About two-thirds of it is reserved for growing potatoes because they can be planted without much digging. And despite the abundance of sweltering sunshine and scarcity of funding, group members are definitely reaping what they sow.

"Students, being a notoriously poor demographic, can come to our farm and learn how to feed themselves at minimal cost simply by planting a couple seeds,"



MIKE SANDULA/The Oakland Post  
Jack Cunningham, president of Urban Farming at Oakland University, says the group's goals are to teach students to feed themselves as well as help feed the hungry.

Cunningham said.

Not only can students learn how to grow their own food in an urban setting, they can also involve themselves in a humanitarian movement that is spreading like wildfire across the country.

While urban farming has seen a recent resurgence in popularity, the idea actually has its roots in medieval Europe.

Allotment gardens were systematically placed around the outskirts of towns, and the concept made its way across the Atlantic in the late 19th century to help feed the people of poor urban areas like New York. These urban relief gardens paved the way for the City Beautiful Movement, a massive reform movement generated in 1860 to refresh and rejuvenate the United States' major cities.

The urban gardens continued to flourish during WWI and WWII, providing much-needed nourishment to soldiers and civilians in a more timely and affordable manner.

However, by the 1960s, urban farming became more of a hobby than a means for survival. More Americans were

able to live comfortably, and the idea of urban farming would have to wait decades before cropping up again. Most abandoned inner-city lots remained vacant between 1950 and 1990.

In the early 1990s, the U.S. General Accounting Office identified over 400,000 vacant lots that could be safely converted for agricultural purposes. According to the USDA, the number of inner-city farmers' markets has increased by 50 percent since 1994; a clear indication that urban farming's influence of urban farming is on the rise.

With its vibrant history embedded into the soil of some of America's most difficult periods, it's no wonder urban farming is blossoming once again.

If Metro Detroit's economic situation — much like the situation seen in many major cities around the country — can be represented by a wilting flower, then the urban farmers might be the nourishment the plant needs to persevere. The longing to rebuild a decaying city and economy acts as a driving force, pushing people to create beautiful landscapes and give back to the community. Urban

farming not only generates an aesthetic appeal amid a concrete jungle, it also provides essential items for the survival of citizens and the environment.

"Urban farming gets people involved in the growing process, and they think more about where the food is coming from," says Hansen, "There's also the environmental aspect of it: people are realizing the huge consumption of fuel that goes into conventional foods."

Food that's grown on an urban farm is generally less exposed to harmful fertilizers and pesticides used in commercial farming. This idea goes hand-in-hand with the population's recent enthusiasm for organic food as opposed to food that is over-processed.

In terms of environmental impact, less fuel is required to transfer urban-grown produce to its final destination. Rather than importing food products or sending them cross-country, people can eat almost right out of the palms of their hands.

"Plus when the zombies come, we'll at least be prepared enough to grow our own food," Cunningham said.

While UFAOU is still just a sapling compared to the urban farming organizations of larger universities such as Michigan State, UFAOU is prepared to start branching out in the coming months. The overall goal is to feed as many people as possible while keeping costs to a minimum and protecting the environment.

"We have plans to donate this summer's harvest to Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac [Oakland County's oldest and largest homeless shelter] and we want to donate all that we can, not only to do something nice for the community, but we can use that to press for a bigger plot of land for next year," Cunningham said.

**OPA**  
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To watch a video on UFAOU,  
please visit our website,  
www.oaklandpostonline.com

# Alumna teaches for America

*Recent graduate finds satisfaction in teaching English, social studies to inner-city kids*

By RHIANNON ZIELINSKI  
Contributing Reporter

While many recent college graduates are spending the summer looking for full-time employment, recent Oakland University graduate Julia Hunko already knows where she will be this fall – back in the classroom.

Hunko was selected as one of 4,950 young adults from 45,000 applicants to become a part of Teach for America.

## Bridging the gap

Established in 1990, Teach for America is a program of AmeriCorps that trains recent college graduates and professionals to teach in low-income schools in the inner-cities and rural areas of the U.S. Their focus is to ensure educational equality for all students.

"The program has a main goal of trying to end the achievement gap between the better-income school districts and the lower-income school districts," said Hunko, who received her bachelor's degree in political science from OU in April. "If you go to an inner-city school, a lot of the kids have a lower reading level than they do in the suburbs."

Hunko's interest was sparked by her sister, who has been a part of Teach for America for three years, teaching eighth-grade English in the Bronx. Hunko plans to attend law school in the future, but wanted to do something worthwhile before she takes that next step.

"I wanted to do something, either volunteer work like Peace Corps or AmeriCorps, so I decided on Teach for America because I felt really strongly about their specific mission of ending the achievement gap," she said.

## Happy to learn

A trip to Israel in the summer of 2009 helped reinforce her decision to apply for the program.

She went on the OU-sponsored trip as a part of the Michigan-Central Galilee Partnership 2000 Program to teach English acquisition to sixth-grade students.

"Those kids were adorable, wonderful. It was so great when they would learn something new. You would see it in their whole expression," Hunko said. "They were just so happy that they were learning English."

After returning from Israel, Hunko began the extensive application process, which was due at the end of September.

The online application included person-

al information, two references, a resume and an essay about why she wanted to become a part of Teach for America.

Hunko then had to wait a month and a half before she was chosen for a half-hour phone interview with a former Corps member who taught in Philadelphia.

Another month later and she made it to the last step of the process, an in-person, day-long interview in Detroit with six other applicants from the area.

"In the morning we did a group interview. Then you had to teach a lesson for five minutes in the subject area you chose. I chose seventh-grade social studies and taught the three branches of the government."

After lunch came a 90-minute individual interview — her last chance to impress.

"They asked really interesting, kind of random, questions," Hunko said. "They were asking what your hardest class in college was and how you got through the course. They asked why you wanted to join Teach for America."

Another scenario involved a mock parent-teacher conference with a parent whose child had been misbehaving.

They were also very interested in her experience with Model United Nations, a club Hunko started at OU in 2008 and has since won multiple awards while serving as president.

"One of the things that they really look for is leadership qualities. They want something on your resume that is a leadership role."

Eventually, the 8-hour day came to an end and yet another waiting game began. It wasn't until the end of January that the status of her application was going to be posted online, and Hunko found herself checking the website every five minutes to see if she had been accepted.

The good news finally came when she returned home from her job at the College of Arts and Sciences advising office one night.

"I was very happy," Hunko said. "I worked so hard; that application process was crazy. People I was talking to at the interview were like, 'You're still in school? How are you doing this if you're still in school? That's crazy.' It was very exciting."

## Getting accepted

Many of those accepted

into Teach for America come from big name, Ivy League schools, so Hunko is proud to stand out from the crowd with her OU degree.

"I think Oakland is what you make of it. Oakland is very up-and-coming from what it used to be a few years ago. It's made leaps and bounds, and people who know what Oakland is respect it, which is what I like about it."

The education she's received at Oakland has helped prepare her for the fast-paced training that is in store for her this summer.

Hunko chose Chicago as the city she is going to be teaching in for the next two years, and moves there this week to begin certification and placement at a school.

"From what I understand, the first week is just introduction to the program, to the people. After that I will start teaching at a summer school. They pretty much just throw you in."

In the mornings, Hunko will take classes at Dominican University in suburban Chicago to receive her teaching certification from the state of Illinois. In the afternoon, she will be teaching.

Outside of the classroom, she has textbooks to study, questions to answer, and a DVD of teachers giving lessons to reflect on.

Teach for America provides trainees with a dorm to stay in and meals during training, as well as financial aid to ease the transition and help find a permanent home at the end of the summer.

"They really do help you. They don't just throw you out into the wolves and say, 'Find an apartment,'" Hunko said. "It really helps with the down payment because you don't get paid until mid-September. That's your first paycheck."

When the fall does come, Hunko will be receiving the same salary and benefits

of other certified teachers in the city of Chicago.

"I'm really excited to be on my own and be in Chicago. I'm going to have a real job, after having my bachelor's for less than three months," Hunko said.

For her, though, the best part of the package was guaranteed health insurance.

"To me, that is worth it all. I am so excited to have that security."

## Advice for students

Her main piece of advice to other students that are considering the Teach for America program is to remember what it's all about.

"Be serious about what the program is. This is not something you go into lightly," she said. "Understand that it is two years of your life that is committed to something great like ending the achievement gap. If you can do that, then you should think about applying. Just go into it knowing that it will probably be the hardest thing you will ever do."

As she prepares to move to Chicago, Hunko still has her fears as she starts this new chapter in her life. Being responsible for education can be a large load to carry.

"I'm afraid that I'm going to be a bad teacher," Hunko said. "I just hope that I am a good teacher. I don't want to mess up anybody's sixth-grade English or social studies course. I want them to like me, you know? But I feel so happy that I have a job, and I will be teaching and I will be doing something that is worth something."

For more information about Teach for America, ask for Tiffany Sims, AmeriCorps VISTA, at the Center for Student Activities, 49 Oakland Center, or visit [www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org).

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## Stabenow calls for more regulation

By KATIE JACOB  
Copy Editor

Over the Memorial Day recess, Senator Debbie Stabenow addressed growing concerns of Michigan citizens in the wake of the catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

While the yet uncontrolled oil well continued to dump millions of gallons of oil into the Gulf, destroying vulnerable wildlife, damaging fragile wetlands, fouling pristine beaches and threatening a way of life of the Gulf region, Stabenow called for stricter regulation of the oil industry.

On a teleconference with local media, Stabenow, who was touring the Upper Peninsula, said that Lake Michigan provided the perfect background to talk about both what is happening in the Gulf, which she called "outrageous," and protecting the Great Lakes.

She said that a temporary ban on oil and gas drilling in the Great Lakes that had been instituted in 2000 was made permanent in 2005 so there was not a great risk of something like the BP oil spill happening here.

But she decried the philosophy of lax regulation in the last decade which led to the gulf spill. She pointed to a loosening of oversight in the public interest on everything from mining to Wall Street.

Stabenow said that a few years ago, when BP applied for permits to start drilling, serious red flags should have gone

up.

"There should have been more concern about giving them those permits to drill than there obviously was," she said.

Stabenow said that industry had gotten too "cozy" with the people who were supposed to be regulating them. She described two Inspector General reports about what was going on, particularly under the previous administration, "with trips and lavish gifts given to those that were overseeing the oil industry through the Mineral Management Services."

Stabenow said the inspectors actually allowed the industry to write its own inspection reports.

Stabenow said, "Clearly, the public's interest has not been represented here. We have got to put back the oversight and the regulations on the industry just as we've had to do now with Wall Street and as we are going to have to do in other areas as well."

When asked whether offshore drilling in the Canadian Great Lakes posed a risk, since Canada does not have a ban, Stabenow said that she has concerns and that we should be engaging the Canadian Government in conversations over what safety precautions they have in place. "I think that is something that should be done and will be done," she said. "Personally, I would prefer that we weren't doing any drilling in the Great Lakes."

## In oval office first: Obama says BP will pay

By JENNIFER LOVEN  
AP Correspondant

WASHINGTON — Dedicating new urgency to the Gulf oil spill, President Barack Obama accused BP of "recklessness" in the first Oval Office address of his presidency Tuesday night and swore to make the company pay for the massive damage it has caused to lives, businesses and shorelines.

He announced that he had asked former Mississippi Gov. Ray Mabus to develop a long-term Gulf Coast Restoration Plan - to be funded by BP PLC - in concert with local states, communities, fishermen, conservationists and residents "as soon as possible."

Obama did not detail what this plan should include or how much it might cost, a price sure to be in the billions of dollars.

Whatever the bottom line, he declared to his prime-time television audience, "We will make BP pay."

Still, 57 days into the crisis, oil continues to gush from the broken wellhead, millions of gallons a day, and Obama has been powerless to stem the leak.

The sad episode has raised doubts about his leadership and his administration's response to what Obama has called the nation's worst environmental

disaster.

A new Associated Press-GfK poll shows for the first time a majority of Americans disapproving of his handling of the situation.

Eight weeks to the day after an offshore oil rig leased by BP PLC exploded, killed 11 workers and sent tens of millions of gallons of crude flooding into the Gulf of Mexico, Obama's high-stakes speech came during a week of constantly unfolding drama.

Lightning even struck. A bolt hit the ship siphoning oil from the leak - injuring no one but halting containment efforts for five hours.

And a government panel of scientists said the undersea well is leaking even more oil than previously thought, as much as 2.52 million gallons a day - or enough to fill the Oval Office more than 22 times. The total spilled so far could be as much as 116 million gallons.

BP has had only modest success so far in stemming the flood of oil, but Obama said that within weeks "these efforts should capture up to 90 percent of the oil leaking out of the well." Later in the summer, he said, the company should finish drilling a relief well to stop the leak completely.

Much of the president's speech was devoted to a recitation of steps his

administration has already taken - "from the very beginning," he said - to clean the oil, help the distraught people of the Gulf and prevent another environmental crisis.

"We will fight this spill with everything we've got for as long it takes," Obama said.

Likening that process to a long epidemic instead of a single crushing disaster like an earthquake or hurricane, he said the nation could be tied up with the oil and its aftermath for months "and even years."

Looking ahead to his showdown Wednesday morning with BP executives, Obama said he would "inform" them that the company must set aside whatever resources are required to make whole all local residents and businesses hurt by the spill and to repair the immense ecological damage wrought by the oil.

That meeting was to be followed by a presidential statement - his fourth planned remarks on the spill in three days. Later in the week, BP leaders take the Washington hot seat again, appearing before more congressional hearings. Today Congress heard evidence that BP cost-cutting shortcuts could have caused the blowout.

## Colo. man tries to find Bin Laden

By DAN ELLIOTT and CHRIS BRUMMITT  
Associated Press Writers

DENVER — An American construction worker has been detained in the mountains of Pakistan after authorities there found him carrying a sword, pistol and night-vision goggles on a solo mission to hunt down and kill Osama bin Laden.

Catching bin Laden was Gary Brooks Faulkner's "passion," his brother said, noting that the 50-year-old has been to Pakistan at least six times, learned some of the local language and even grew a long beard to blend in. Relatives and acquaintances said Faulkner is a devout, good-humored Christian who requires dialysis and did time in prison years ago.

"A lot of kids grow up and say, 'I want to be Rambo,' you know? Well, he is," said Faulkner's brother, Scott Faulkner, 43.

Gary Faulkner arrived June 3 in the town of Bumburate and stayed in a hotel there. The Greeley, Colo., man was assigned a police guard, as is common for foreigners visiting remote parts of Pakistan.

When he checked out without informing police, officers began looking for him, according to the top police officer in the Chitral region, Mumtaz Ahmad Khan. Faulkner was found late Sunday in a forest.

"We initially laughed when he told us that he wanted to kill Osama bin Laden," Khan said. But when officers seized the weapons and night-vision equipment, "our suspicion grew." He said the American was trying to cross into the nearby Afghan region of Nuristan.

Chitral and Nuristan are among several rumored hiding places for bin Laden along the mountainous border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Pakistan's military and intelligence establishment generally deny the possibility that bin Laden is hiding somewhere along the Pakistan-Afghan border, as Western intelligence agencies believe.

On Tuesday, Faulkner was being questioned by intelligence officials in Peshawar, Pakistan's main northwestern city. He has not been charged with any wrongdoing.

Scott Faulkner dropped his brother off at Denver's airport May 30, and the two discussed the possibility Faulkner would not return alive from his search of bin Laden.

"He talked about why he was so passionate" to find bin Laden, Scott Faulkner recalled, adding that his brother retained vivid memories of the Sept. 11 attacks. "He has not forgotten." But Faulkner insisted his brother was on a rational mission.

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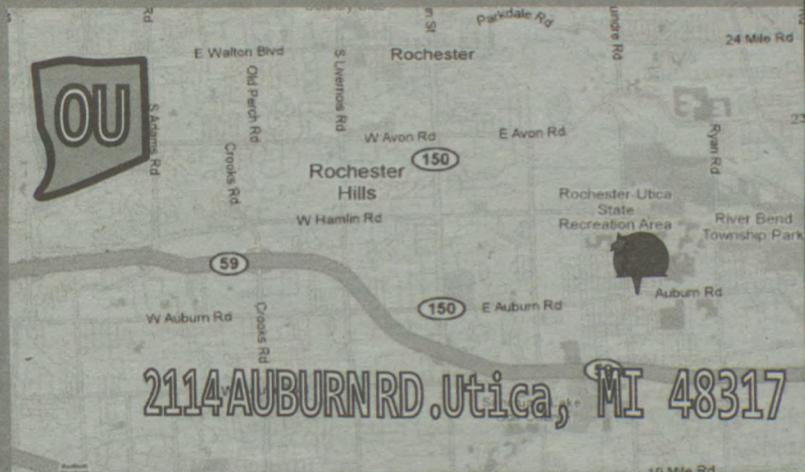
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# Mouthing Off

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

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June 16, 2010



Illustration by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

BY RORY M<sup>C</sup>CARTY

Mouthing Off editor/topical playwright

## Cast

**Susan Elizabeth Birnbaum:** Director of the Minerals Management Service.

**Tony Hayward:** The CEO of BP.

**Kevin Costner:** An actor. Portrayed here by a telephone.

**James Cameron:** A director of moving pictures.

**Barack Obama:** The nosy neighbor.

**Hayward's Secretary:** Hates his job.

## ACT ONE:

WHEREIN THE OIL RIG BLOWS UP AND WE STILL HAVEN'T FIXED IT DAMMIT

*Curtain up on the office of Tony Hayward. Hayward is standing by his desk, talking to Susan Elizabeth Birnbaum. A desk calendar displays the month of May.*

**Birnbaum:** Well I really gotta get going. We just started to download like a terabyte of porn torrents as I left. I better make sure that's on track. Say hey to your fam for me.

**Hayward:** Thanks for stopping by, Birnie! *The two exchange a high five, followed by a behind-the-back stealth low five.*

*Birnbaum exits stage left. Enter Hayward's Secretary. Hayward is playing minesweeper on his computer.*

**Secretary:** Sir, I've been meaning to ask

you about our safety regulations.

**Hayward:** Okay. What is that?

*Suddenly, from stage right, in the Gulf of Mexico, there's an explosion.*

Hayward: ... What?

**Secretary:** Sir, one of our underwater oil rigs just exploded. It killed 11 people. It's spilling millions of gallons of oil into the ocean daily. Sir, I need to ask, what is our contingency plan for this situation?

**Hayward:** Our contingency... is... what... I will tell you.... in a second...

*Hayward stares at his computer screen, clicking away.*

**Secretary:** Sir... are you Googling the word "contingency?"

**Hayward:** What. No. What? Well, first thing's first.

**Secretary:** Try to plug the oil leak?

**Hayward:** No, underestimate the damage we did. And estimate it in barrels. Most people measure things in barrels, right?

**Secretary:** Only laughs and monkeys, I think.

**Hayward:** Still, that's only a couple million gallons, right? There's like a trillion bazillion gallons of water in the ocean, right? I think the environmental impact of this disaster will be very very modest. <AN ACTUAL QUOTE>

**Secretary:** It will probably kill every living thing in the spill radius, devastate the economies of the coastal cities, and turn the Gulf of Mexico into a toxic soup for nearly a decade.

**Hayward:** I see your point. Our stock might go down. Alright, step two...

**Secretary:** Plug the leak?

**Hayward:** No, blame someone else. Who else is involved? Transocean? Halliburton? I bet one of those bastards put a faulty screw in there or something. Send out a press release. AND SEND IN THE SCIENTISTS!

*Secretary leaves stage left. In walk four men in white lab coats, carrying beakers, microscopes, and wearing goggles. There is no doubt in the audience's mind that these are scientists.*

**Hayward:** Okay, damage control. Throw some ideas out.

**Scientist A:** We could put even more chemicals in the ocean to disperse the oil. Nobody'll care about a tiny bit more toxic stuff at this point, right?

**Scientist B:** We could try to put a cap on the leak. Like a really big cap? I don't think I'm accurately emphasizing the bigness of the cap.

**Scientist C:** Let's put some mud in there.... like heavy mud! And a bunch of golf balls and other crap.... I don't, I just got here!

**Scientist D:** Okay. What if. We buy the word "oil." FROM GOOGLE. And put ads up there that say how great we are? Problem solved.

**Hayward:** Those are all terrible ideas. Start on them right away. *Hayward pushes a button on his desk and a trap door in the floor opens, dumping the scientists into a chute.*

**Hayward:** All right, what say we take one month off for lunch and meet back here.

*House lights dim. When they come back on, Hayward has a half eaten tuna sandwich at his desk. The calendar now reads June. He presses the button on his intercom to talk to his secretary.*

**Hayward:** Well, where are we now?

**Secretary:** We've made no progress. Wait... yes, we've actually made it worse.

*Just then, President Obama smashes through the wall of Hayward's office with his bare fists.*

**Obama:** Whose ass do I have to kick around here?! <AN ACTUAL QUOTE>

**Hayward:** Mr. President, I am doing my best to fix this and all you are doing is looking to kick asses and chew bubblegum, respectively. Really, isn't this your fault?

**Obama:** How is this my fault?

**Hayward:** Well you didn't stop me from doing it, right?

**Obama:** You've got to clean this oil up now.

**Hayward:** What are we supposed to do with watery oil?

**Secretary:** Kevin Costner is calling for you on line two, sir.

**Hayward:** The guy from "Dances with Wolves?" What does he want?

*Costner's voice comes out over speaker phone.*

**Costner:** Mr. Hayward, after playing a fishman who drank filtered pee in the movie "Waterworld," I wondered if that could also be done with oil. Turns out it can!

**Hayward:** Hmmm pass. We've got this handled. We're working on a relief well thing that can stop the leakage in about two months. So we've got that on our plate already.

**Secretary:** James Cameron is here to see you, sir.

**Hayward:** The guy who made "Dances with Wolves in Space?" What does he want? *Enter James Cameron stage left.*

**Cameron:** Mr. Hayward, you are an idiot. <A SLIGHT PARAPHRASE> I have a team of undersea robots I was going to use for Titanic 2, where frozen Jack Dawson comes back to life, saved by mermaids, and takes revenge on the surface world. We can use these to determine exactly how badly you screwed up.

**Hayward:** Hold on everybody. We're all smart people. We can figure this out. Let's order out for Thai food, put our heads together, and do this right.

*House lights down. Actors quickly cover the stage in a foot of oil, put up a Christmas tree, change the calendar to December, and put on fake beards. House lights up. Everyone looks pensive.*

Hayward: Yeah, I got nothin.'

**CURTAIN.**