

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

September 1, 2010

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Volume 37 // Issue 4



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A comprehensive guide to everything you didn't know Kresge Library had to offer.

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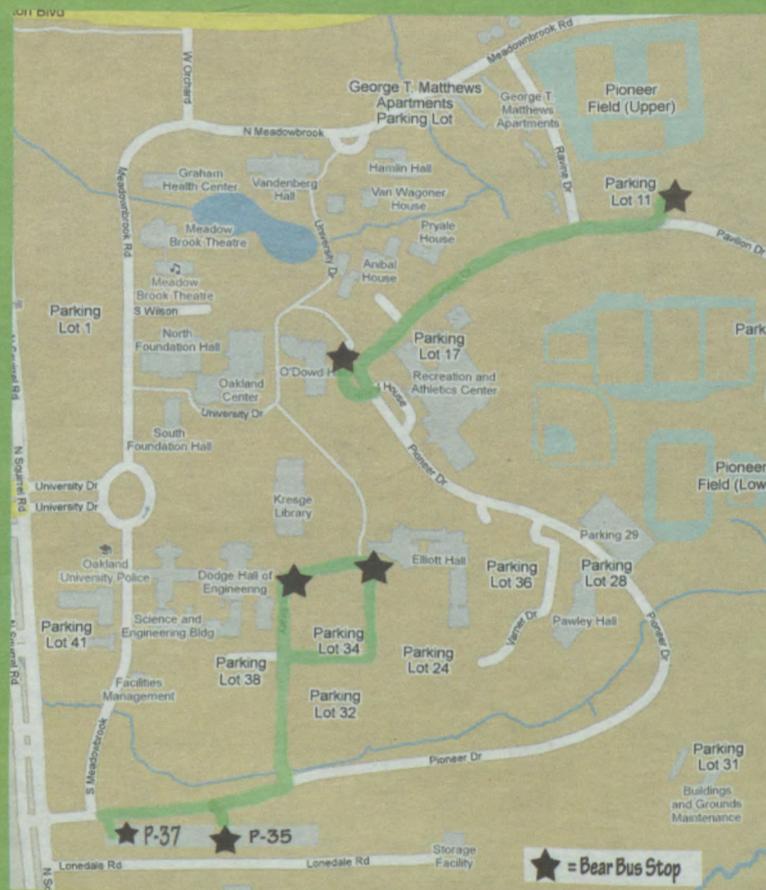
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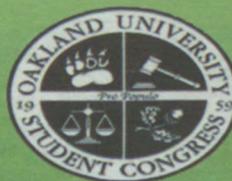
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The Oakland Post hits newsstands every Wednesday. Be sure to pick up your copy.

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Something you really can afford

Every year, as a student, you contribute to the funding of student organizations. That's right, \$25 comes out of your tuition to help student organizations, new and old, grow.

As a directly funded organization, The Oakland Post receives 7 percent of student activities funding each year. Other directly funded groups are the Oakland University Student Congress, Student Video Productions, WXOU Radio, club sports, the Student Life Lecture Board, and the Student Program Board. What's left is split among other organizations by the Student Activities Funding Board.

While we can't tell you exactly what happens to all of that money because it's impossible to keep tabs on what every single campus organization is doing, we can tell you what we're doing with our share. It's time for a bit of shameless self-promotion.

Your money goes to help pay our staff of 30. That's not figuring unpaid interns who also contribute to the task of creating this newspaper every week. We don't have the most funding, but your dollars reach more student paychecks because of our status as the student organization with the largest staff.

We've been hard at work over the sum-

mer improving the product that you're now reading, whether in print or online. Our goal is to give you the most for your money.

We want to represent OU in the best way, whether it's by winning more awards on the state and national level, or by featuring the faces of OU's best. Also, who doesn't like more pictures and color?

We have been working tirelessly on the redesign of the newspaper since April and hope you enjoy the aesthetically pleasing new layout that provides for maximum readability. You'll find that we'll be featuring more campus organizations, teams and faces.

In this issue, pages 14 and 15 feature a guide to Kresge Library, a valuable campus resource. More campus guides are planned for the coming weeks. If you're in a hurry, sidebars in every section give you a quick dose of news on the go. If you're really in a hurry, you can scan headlines on our website or through our Twitter account at www.twitter.com/theoaklandpost.

Our website, www.oaklandpostonline.com, also has a new look in order to complete our design overhaul. There, you'll find stories that have been in print as well as web exclusives and photos that didn't make it into the paper.

Want to see more or less of something in your student newspaper? Let us know by sending an e-mail to oakposteditor@gmail.com. We work for you and you can also tell us how we're doing via Twitter or Facebook at www.facebook.com/theoakpost.

In the end, we want to return that \$1.75 each student gives to us each year. We strive to give it back to you in the form of a quality independent student newspaper you can enjoy.

This is your tuition at work. It does not go toward special interest projects because our interest lies in the campus community. That means everything we spend money on goes right back into the product, whether it be new computers to better produce the paper or the travel costs to a development conference, not an item only we can use.

Our newly redesigned newspaper says it all. We'd like to welcome back those returning to our campus community and wholly welcome those new to campus by helping you out as much as possible and letting you know that we are here in 61 Oakland Center.

Swing by to say hi, hang out for a bit and drink a cup of coffee, meet our staff or even join our staff. You're always welcome.

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Letter Policy:

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.

The matching socks



by John O'Neill



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

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States



POLL OF THE WEEK

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Should Oakland University require that students of many degree programs complete an internship to graduate?

yes - 25 no - 21

CURRENT POLL // Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

Did you notice that the trees had been removed from the roundabout?

yes no

ON SECOND THOUGHT...

Zero ground to be gained in NYC Islamic center debate

New York City is the birthplace of many past debates and controversies. Until recently, Governor David Paterson's activities and allegations of Michael Bloomberg buying the mayoral election dominated the public eye.



Daud Yar
Copy Editor

But America's biggest melting pot is faced with a new problem: its approval of a proposal to build an Islamic center two blocks from Ground Zero.

Can NYC handle its own problems? The rest of America thinks not.

Constitutionally, the city made the right decision. The First Amendment guarantees freedoms of religion, expression and speech to every citizen of the U.S.

Even the most prejudiced Americans recognize and abide by the 200-plus-year-old document that forms the basis of American life.

So, case closed. Debate over. The Constitution has provided a judgment everyone can be happy with.

Not quite.

Karl Rove, Sarah Palin, and other conservatives suggest the Muslim community is insulting 9/11 survivors and their families. For God's sake, they say, a national disaster happened not even a mile from the proposed building site. Have these radical Muslims no shame? Nothing short of a shrine to Allah at Ground Zero will satisfy these barbarians.

More than half of NYC object to the idea, as do countless other Americans. The words "too soon" have fallen on deaf ears. They mean nothing to Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, priest and leader of the future Islamic center. People, especially Americans, are very thin-skinned. Rauf should consider these feelings before launching into a campaign dividing Americans more than ever.

Presently, over 100 mosques are located within city limits; one only three blocks from Ground Zero. One more couldn't hurt, right? Or, are the insensitive actions of Rauf, and his associates, completely out of line? Unfortunately, Americans are considering these questions with the attention of a hawk on its prey.

Not surprisingly, President Obama came out in support of the Islamic Center, citing the Constitution. But his job is to enforce the laws of the land; commenting on social planning is not part of the job description. Sometimes anonymity or plain silence is the best policy.

With arguments from the left and right, what is gained? Nothing. This matter has turned into a political soap opera rivaling the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal. Furthermore, only politicians are in a position to gain precious political points needed to top their opponent come November.

At the end of the day, NYC will address and solve its own problems. There is no need for national concern.

Welcome back, Golden Grizzlies

It is hard to believe summer is already over and another academic school year is before us. Whether you are a new student or a returning one, OUSC is excited to serve you, represent you, and enhance your campus experience this year.

A lot has been accomplished in the last four months, and we would like to update you about what we have been focusing on throughout the summer.

As you may remember from the Gustafson/Ring platform during elections, one of our main goals was to enhance outdoor life at OU. With support from much of the administration, OU will in fact have a campus quad outside of Kresge Library by April 2011.

The newly installed sidewalk in this location is one of the beginning stages of completing this project, as well as the outdoor posting location, hammocks, and additional benches around campus.

We are excited for student life to enhance outdoors and that our dream of having hammocks on campus has become a reality.

Another one of our main goals was to build better relationships with the surrounding businesses and restaurants.

Throughout the summer we have worked very closely with the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and the City Manager of Auburn Hills, and through this interaction we have created Oakland University Spirit Packs that have been delivered to numerous businesses in the area. The packs consist of OU flags, pennants, and posters, and are intended to increase OU spirit



Brandon Gustafson and Amy Ring
OUSC Student Body President and Vice President

in the community.

Let us know if you see a business not participating in this program that you think should be. We would be happy to drop off a pack — or give the business a hard time for not putting up our free goods.

It was in the summer that the topic of tuition was also before us. We worked closely with vice president for finance and administration, John Beaghan, in order to understand how the increase was calculated and how it compared with other universities. We would of course be more than happy to expand on our knowledge of the topic and explain to you how this decision was determined. Feel free to contact us with the information given below or stop by our office at 62 Oakland Center.

Other OUSC initiatives to watch for this fall include: The Bear Bus Shuttle Service now running during the day to alleviate parking congestion; the expansion of the Newspaper Readership Program into the residence halls, now offering a local newspaper, The Detroit Free Press; and the creation of the student organization OUnited bringing together student representatives from Housing, OUSC,

Athletics, and Greek Life.

Our list of fall goals consist of: Increasing the hours in the recreational center; reaching students in as many ways as possible — through the Oakland Post, WXOU, our new monthly newsletter, meeting you at Fireside Chats, and increasing awareness about our general body meetings; filling the OUSC legislature (it's not too late to get involved; we are always looking for driven students who want to make a difference); start a movie rental program in the residence halls; register students to vote and educate them about elections; and, of course, increase attendance at both OUSC and OU events.

Here is a list of important dates to remember with regards to OUSC:

- Wednesday, Sept. 1 at noon — premiere of OUSC radio show, "The A and B Conversation"

- Friday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m. at lower fields bonfire pit: OUSC Bonfire — free pizza and T-shirts, plus meet the soccer teams

- Sunday, Sept. 5, 12:30 p.m. at soccer field: Soccer Sunday at OU — free vuvuzela horns

- Tuesday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m. in Pioneer Food Court: Rock4Rights talent show — free food and OUSC sunglasses

- Monday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room: First OUSC general body meeting of the 2010-2011 academic school year

We couldn't be more excited to serve you this year. Contact Brandon at bmgestaf@oakland.edu or Amy at arring@oakland.edu. We would love to hear from you.

GUEST COLUMN

Please plan, be patient while construction ends

The beginning of any new school year is a busy and exciting, but occasionally frustrating, time.

In light of temporary inconveniences associated with the Squirrel Road and campus construction projects, we expect that the start of the 2010-11 academic year will be no different.

With this in mind, it may be helpful to remember to plan extra time for daily commutes to and from campus this year — particularly in the early part of the fall semester.

A little extra patience will go a long way to reduce stress and anxiety for everyone on campus.

This being said, we have quite a bit of good news to consider.

All of OU's parking improvement projects will be completed before classes start on Thursday,



John Beaghan
Vice President of Finance
and Administration

Sept. 2. Between permanent additions and temporary parking arrangements, there will be a net increase of more than 700 spaces compared to last fall.

As always, there will be competition for the most convenient spots, but drivers should look to

the lots on the south side of Pioneer Drive (P-37 and the newly constructed P-35), the parking structure and the Upper Fields lot (P-11) for the greatest likelihood of finding open spaces.

The brand new sidewalk along Ravine Drive will make P-11 more convenient and accessible. Drivers are encouraged not to leave spots during peak business hours in hopes of finding a closer or more convenient space.

Another piece of good news is that all university construction projects are on schedule and on budget.

Progress on the Squirrel Road project (managed by the City of Auburn Hills) will result in a complete opening of the roadway between Pioneer Drive and Walton Blvd. This will allow for the added convenience of two exit

lanes onto Squirrel Road from both Pioneer Drive and the main campus parking lot (P-1).

Construction on Squirrel Road south of Pioneer is expected to keep that stretch of roadway closed well into the fall semester. As such, commuters using westbound M-59 to get to campus are advised to use the Adams Road exit and enter campus at Meadow Brook Road. Eastbound M-59 commuters are advised to merge onto I-75 north and exit at University Drive.

Once on campus, taking advantage of a few tips regarding traffic and parking will help ease potential frustration for the entire community.

Drivers should:

- Tune in to campus radio, 88.3 WXOU-FM, for parking updates
- Follow traffic and parking

signs posted throughout the campus

- Save time by proceeding to lots most likely to have available parking (P-11, P-35, P-37)

- Avoid illegal parking, as the OUPD will enforce parking restrictions to ensure safety

A great deal of planning has gone into making the start of the coming academic year as stress free as possible. Many university employees and students will be on hand to help direct newcomers to classrooms and offices during the first week of classes.

With a little planning and patience, we all can look forward to another great year at Oakland University.

Editor's note: For any concerns regarding parking or construction, please contact John Beaghan at beaghan@oakland.edu.

Harsha Gowda, Attorney and Counselor at Law

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Welcome Week kicks off

Campus organizations host free events for Oakland students

By **JEN BUCCIARELLI** and **RYAN HEGEDUS**

Assistant Campus Editor and Senior Reporter

Welcome Week kicks off today, September 1 and run through Friday September 10. All students are encouraged to participate in the activities, as admission for most events will be free.

"A Young Man's Blues"

Students of the music, theatre and dance department at Oakland University are looking forward to the all-student production this weekend entitled on "A Young Man's Blues."

With Elton John as inspiration, the show is built around a young songwriter and his journey to L.A. in hopes of making it big, said Peter Giessl co-writer of the show with David Meese.

Giessl and Meese began writing the play in March, finishing mid-July, and the cast and crew has been rehearsing since the beginning of August.

The show will take place in the Varner Hall Studio Theatre with the following show times: Friday Sept. 3 at 8 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 4 at 8 p.m. as well as at 10 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 5 at 8 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the door and Giessl said admission is free. However, a suggested donation of \$5 is encouraged, as the money raised will go towards sending the Actors 'N' Techies group to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in January this year.

Car and Formula Hybrid Demonstration

OU's Formula Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) will present their 2010 formula car on Wednesday, Sept. 1. The group took 36th place out of 120 teams at the SAE International Competition in the spring.

The group will demonstrate and "show off the dynamic abilities of the car" in P1 parking lot, said Stephen Parker, co-president of the organization, from 6-8 p.m.

The group, which completes a new car from scratch every year, has designed and built a vehicle that accelerates from zero to 60 in under four seconds, he said.

"We have been doing really well. Hopefully we can keep the move going," Parker said.

There will also be an SAE picnic on Sept. 2 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Oakland Center, where the 2010 competition car will be presented as well as the Formula Hybrid vehicle that is currently a work in progress, said Kirk McGuire, also with SAE.

A smaller group of students have been working on the Formula Hybrid vehicle for nearly a year and plan to have "it up and running on electric but not yet hybrid before snowfall," said McGuire. The crew has hopes of completing the vehicle by this spring.

Some of the group's robots, including one named Franken-bot, will also be on display for students at the picnic.

Bear Bus Shuttle kickoff

OU's Bear Bus Shuttle Service will kick off its second year of operation on Sept. 2 at 11:30 near the North and South Foundation Halls. The kick off includes trips to Meijer's and Great Lakes Crossing mall, as well as downtown Rochester according to Lauren Baker, who works for University Housing.

The shuttle service, which consists of two vans, runs Friday evenings from 6 p.m. until 2:30 a.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2:30 a.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. until midnight.

The two shuttle vans provide a continuous loop to retail and entertainment venues during operating hours. Stops include Busch's Market, Whole Foods Market, Buffalo Wild Wings and the greater downtown area of Rochester.

During normal hours of operation, the shuttle will run a continuous loop that departs from Hamlin Circle every hour and half hour, also stopping at the University Student Apartments clubhouse.

For more information about the Bear Bus Shuttle Service, call 248-370-3570.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

The Bear Bus will begin its second year on Sept. 2 with trips to Meijer's and GLC mall.

Student Organizations Fair

The annual GrizzFest Student Organizations Fair, hosted by the Center for Student Activities will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday September 2 near the Oakland Center. With more than 50 student organizations represented, the fair will be held outdoors this year, said CSA director, Jean Ann Miller.

The annual fair gives new students a chance to gather more than a handful of information about different groups on campus as well as to meet current members of the group and enjoy plenty of popcorn and give a ways.

The GreekFest Greek Organizations Fair will also take place near the CSA Student Organizations Fair at the same time, Miller said.

Veteran Services

Wednesday, Sept. 8, there will be a Veteran Services Welcome Reception from 5-6:30 p.m. The reception will take place in

Fireside Lounge.

Over 200 invitations have been sent out to current and newly-enrolled student veterans, but the event is open to anyone who is interested.

In its second year, the reception is intended to give veterans a chance to meet the Veteran Services staff as well as one another.

"With the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts ongoing, enlistment in the armed forces is up, but retention is down. This, coupled with the Post-911 GI Bill that was launched last fall, has led to a huge rise in the number of veterans seeking higher education," Veteran Services liaison Michael Brennan said. "OU has been making great strides to improve veteran-friendliness around campus, to be a more welcoming community for these students, and this reception is just a product of those efforts."

The complete schedule of Welcome Week events can be found online at www.oakland.edu/csa

police files

Suspicious circumstances

On August 8, officers responded to a family disturbance call at Meadowbrook Hall where a wedding was taking place. Upon arrival, officers observed two individuals who were arguing. The two individuals were taken to the OU Police Station for further investigation. With both family members separated and sent to different homes for the remainder of the evening, the dispute was resolved and no injuries were reported.

Assault and battery

On August 18 a woman was reported leaving her job and was en route to the store when she was approached by an angered biker on Walton Blvd. The man accused the woman of not allowing the group of bike riders to pass her at the stop sign. The man assaulted the woman by slamming his bike into the front of her vehicle, striking the woman in the jaw and shoulder as well as taunting her with a nearby stick. Using OnStar vehicle system to call for assistance, the Oakland County Sheriff's Department deputies responded but were unable to locate the suspect.

Larceny

On August 23, it was reported that an Epson Powerlight 1730 multimedia projector had gone missing from Gold Room C of the Oakland Center. The projector is black with a black case, with an estimated replacement value of \$1,117.00.

Driving under the influence

On August 26, an OU police officer noticed a speeding vehicle heading west on Walton Blvd around 2 a.m. The driver was stopped for a traffic violation where the officer detected the odor of intoxication and issued the required field sobriety tests. The driver was taken to the Rochester Police Department for further processing.

— Compiled by Jen Bucciarelli,
Assistant Campus Editor

Projects finish; more begin

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**

Features Editor

Construction, as if it is not already prominent enough all over the state of Michigan, will still be affecting students on campus going into fall semester at a lesser magnitude than anticipated.

"We started in May with a lot of different jobs to do, and everything is on schedule," said Terry Stollsteimer, associate vice president of facilities management.

The sidewalks near Elliot Hall have been rebuilt with four inches added to them, making the sidewalks a total of 10-feet wide. Seating was added to the stone structures that are around Kresge Library.

"Students used to sit on the tops of them, but now there is stable seating available," Stollsteimer said.

Students can also expect to see a lot of work being done on Wilson Blvd., where construction for the High Temperature Hot Water (HTHW) project will continue until its October deadline.

"The north side of Wilson Blvd. will be closed down before school starts, and then they are going to open the south side of the road," Stollsteimer said.

The sidewalk from North Foundation Hall will be open to the OC and to Wilson Hall. There will also be a temporary dirt road to P-2 and a sidewalk through it for construction. The roads will be watered

frequently to keep the dust down.

In an effort to promote the usage of P-11, a shuttle bus has been arranged to transport students back and forth from O'Dowd. There will be signage on M-59, directing students to the Adams Road exit for a detour to OU. The Oakland County Police Department has offered to help direct traffic at the Adam's entrance as well.

Although a majority of the construction has been completed, there are still a few different projects that will be completed after school is in session.

Two different projects have been proposed for the roundabout at the main campus entrance, one for a half-wall and the other a brass statue of Matilda Wilson.

"Once the board of trustees decides which project we're going to do, we'll plant the trees accordingly," Stollsteimer said. "I'd like to have the trees planted in late September."

Plans have also been made to build a new UTSIT computer room next to O'Dowd that will add capacity and enhance security.

OU has partnered with DTE and installed new lampposts that have energy-efficient CPL white light bulbs that will cut down energy costs. This partnership makes the school a DTE test site for other people to come and visit.

The OUSC is in the process of creating a plaza on the north side of Kresge, which will be completely funded by the organization.

Along with a kiosk used to display fliers, OUSC plans on adding hammocks to the area to make it a study spot.

John Beaghan, vice president for finance and administration and treasurer to the board of trustees, said that students will be informed of all happenings on campus.

"Prior to the beginning of the fall semester, multiple communication vehicles will be used to keep students informed; website, email, signage," said Beaghan. "In addition, we will have temporary overflow parking at the upper playing fields and near Pioneer and Meadow Brook Road."

Parking in various parking lots on campus has been expanded, and a new parking lot has been created at the corner of Pioneer and Library Drive. The Bear Bus will be available to help students around campus without having to cough up a parking spot. OUPD and Facilities Management staff will be on cue to direct students as well.

"Mostly, I'm looking forward to the extra overflow parking lot off of Pioneer Drive," Senior Communications major, Horatiu Zglembia said. "With all the new returning students, I'm excited to finally get some more parking spaces to maybe ease all the congestion."

Although there will still be some construction going on once students return to school, the majority of it will have been completed before fall semester begins on Sept. 2.

Skills Center adds new programs

By **JANINE SEMPERGER**

Contributing Reporter

The Academic Skills Center offers multiple free services to help students beat the summer learning gap and get a head start on their classes. While the ASC helps with paper writing and math problem solving, they also provide guidance to struggling students and can help strengthen study skills.

The ASC offers new hours for this academic year. The main office, located in North Foundation Hall, will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The satellite office in East Vandenberg Hall will be open from 5-10 p.m. Monday

through Thursday.

The ASC also offers free tutoring for most 100-200 level courses to registered OU students. Students can either sign up online for individual tutoring or walk into one of the offices for group tutoring.

The ASC also has a Supplemental Instruction program for traditionally demanding classes. The SI sessions have student leaders who have previously taken and performed to expectation in the course they instruct.

Along with leading group-oriented review sessions two to three times a week, they also attend every class with their students while taking current notes and doing the homework. Those interested in becoming

a Peer Tutor or SI Leader can stop in the ASC office and pick up an application.

The new Early Alert Program identifies and contacts students who are struggling academically early in the semester.

Those at the ASC also work with students on Academic Probation and Dismissal Option Status. Through guidance, they offer help to strengthen skills and assist students to return to good academic status.

Students will have an opportunity to meet this semester's peer tutors and SI Leaders on Wednesday, Sept. 1 between noon and 2 p.m. outside between North and South Foundation. Tutoring for both locations will begin Monday, Sept. 13.

OU announces DSO partnership

By **ANNIE STODOLA**
Local Editor

Starting in September, a new partnership between the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Oakland University's Music Preparatory Division will offer students the opportunity to study with professional musicians in world-class facilities.

Oakland University has had DSO musicians as faculty for a number of years, including French horn player Corbin Wagner and clarinetist Doug Cornelsen. The new partnership will help bring OU's Music Preparatory Division's efforts to Detroit.

Charles Burke, director of education and outreach for the DSO, credits much of the partnership to the orchestra's ties to OU music education professor Jackie Wiggins.

"We've always had a good relationship with the department of music, theatre and dance, especially professor Jackie Wiggins," Burke said. "We decided cultural institutions and institutions of learning need to work together to have the kind of impact

that creates a vibrant cultural community."

The university's Music Preparatory Division, headed by director Bibianne Yu, began in 2002 and offers programs for students from ages as young as 18 months to students in their 80s. The division also began on campus but has since expanded to also include instruction in the Bloomfield Hills School District, the OU-Macomb campus and now the Pincus Music Education Center adjacent to the DSO Orchestra Hall.

Through the partnership, OU and the DSO hope to give music students the most comprehensive education possible.

"OU will offer private lessons and college-level courses, while they can get their ensemble training in the same facility through the DSO," Burke said. "Ultimately, our goal is to create a continuum of learning for families in metro Detroit and surrounding areas."

The two organizations hope to also provide a more well-rounded experience for current DSO Civic Youth Ensemble students. As part of this, the Music Preparatory

Division will offer a music theory course at Pincus, where rehearsals for the Civic Youth Ensembles are held.

Yu stated that music educators in the metro Detroit area from Lake Orion to Detroit itself have expressed interest in enrolling students in the theory class.

An additional element of the partnership still being discussed is the potential for private lessons taught by DSO musicians.

The Music Preparatory Division's programs run from Sept. 13 to Dec. 19 and will include a collaborative concert between the OU Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Choir at Orchestra Hall.

Burke said in addition to creating an all-inclusive musical education environment, he hopes the partnership will draw attention to the cultural community in Detroit.

"In order to get a complete education experience, students should take part in these cultural institutions," he said. "It's a very rare situation to have so many cultural opportunities in one spot like we do in Detroit."

campus briefs

AltaGracia college apparel

New this fall semester to universities locally and nationally, including OU, is a clothing brand of college T-shirts and sweatshirts by Knights Apparel, produced in AltaGracia.

AltaGracia, the name of the clothing brand, is also the location in the Dominican Republic where its employees have been guaranteed a sustainable standard of living to raise families from poverty.

OU's campus bookstore began carrying AltaGracia college apparel at the beginning of August.

Attached to all AltaGracia merchandise is a tag including the story of a factory worker and how Knights Apparel has changed their life.

Visit www.altagraciaapparel.com for more information.

Campus tours on mobile phones

As an alternative to live campus visits, Oakland University is now offering a walking audio tour via mobile devices.

The self-guided audio tours can be accessed through a mobile friendly website or calling 248-464-6066. By calling the number, students will walk themselves to major buildings and landmarks while dialing the corresponding numbers at each location.

A printable map outlines the stops and guides the student through the circular tour.

For phones with web access, users can track locations via GPS coordinates and view photos at each stop.

Links to the audio website and map can be found at www.oakland.edu/audiotour.

BOT approves four grants to OU

Oakland's board of trustees acknowledged four grants totalling over \$2 million for the university. The grants will go towards health-related projects, including cataract study and nursing education.

The grants were awarded from the National Institute of Health and St. John Health System.

— Compiled by Campus Editor Kaitlyn Chornoby and Assistant Campus Editor Jen Bucciarelli

New options for expensive books

By **JAMIE GASPER**
Staff Reporter

With web searching and price comparison, students may find large savings on textbooks. Various places, including the OU bookstore, are now offering money-saving alternatives for students, such as rental options and e-textbooks.

The rental option offers up to a 50 percent savings from buying books; when the rental period is over, however, there is no reimbursement from selling books back.

"Some students are used to purchasing the book, turning it in and getting some cash back, they kind of depend on that cash especially in December at holiday time. No matter what you choose, we're here to give that option," said Debbie Ogg, OU's bookstore manager.

Rented books can be purchased to keep within the first two weeks of the rental period and have the same policy when it comes to dropped classes. Books can be rented in new or used condition and normal use of highlighting and writing in the books



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

Students have the option of renting or purchasing e-book copies of many texts.

is accepted. The books are due back from rental ten days after finals end.

Another option available this semester to save money is e-textbooks, digital replicas of the stand textbook with the exact same look and layout. E-textbooks come in a download pack, which allows the book to be downloaded on two different computers. The books may also be accessed online if neither computer is available. E-textbooks offer features such as highlights and annota-

tions, as well as a search box for key terms and automatic organization for notes.

"This option is good for people who don't want to haul around big books every day, and you might not need your book every day," Ogg said.

E-textbooks are available for 13,000 titles and can be purchased online at oakland.bn-college.com or in the store.

Although OU is taking steps to offer alternative options to lower book prices, physical books are still available for new and used purchase, many of which can be found for low prices. In a price comparison for the book "Building a Speech," a required book for COM 201, Amazon.com came through with the lowest prices on both new, \$39.80, and used, \$29.76, conditions, and also gives the buy-back rate before the purchase is made. OU's Barnes and Noble was a bit higher, a new copy priced at \$43.65 and used at \$32.75.

If price comparing becomes overwhelming, websites such as bigwords.com and campusbooks.com make saving money simple by compiling a list of the best prices.



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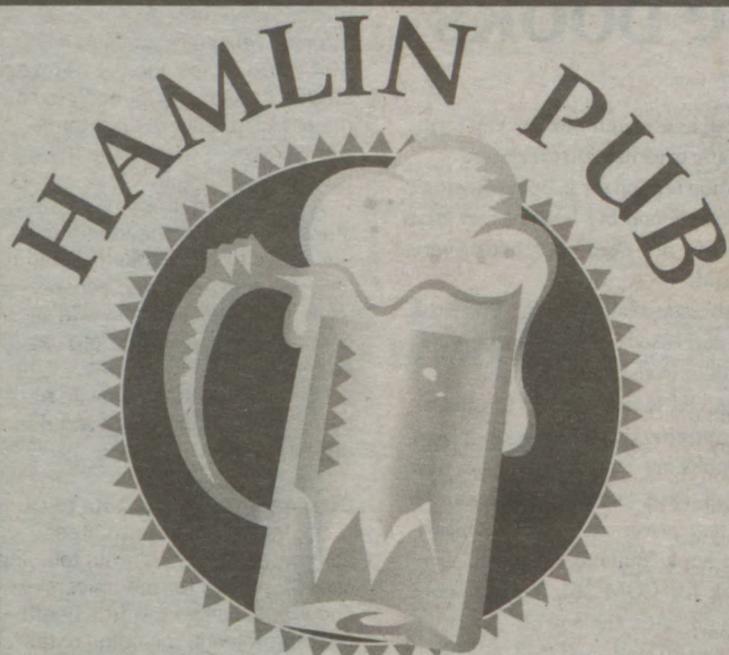
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Leaving behind a legacy

Jones and Nelson continue their basketball careers in Europe

By **ROSS MAGHIELSE**

Sports Editor

Johnathon Jones and Derick Nelson took the Oakland University basketball program to new heights during their record-breaking careers with the Golden Grizzlies. It was their team. Oakland was their home. And the team's 20-1 record in the Summit League paired with the school's second NCAA tournament appearance last season is their legacy.

"I think you have to give both of those guys a lot of credit for where our program is today," Oakland head coach Greg Kampe said. "Those were two kids who accepted their roles, and we're in a better place because of them being here. They played in championship games and left a legacy we need to continue."

While Jones and Nelson will no longer be playing together, their basketball careers are continuing with the shared dream of playing professionally.

The next challenge

Jones recently signed a professional contract with MBK Rieker Komarno in Slovakia. As he was in his first season with the Grizzlies, he will be the starting point guard on his new team.

Nelson signed a deal to play with Kouvol, a pro team in Finland. Both players have already departed for their new jobs.

Although several other teams showed interest, Jones said he ultimately chose to play in Slovakia because he was offered an opportunity to come in and contribute as a starter right away. It was the same opportunity he was presented with at Oakland when Kampe recruited him out of Okemos High School.

"I was able to come in and play right away at Oakland and coming out of high school that is what you want to do and I was allowed that," said Jones, who added that Kampe's stability as the head coach was also a major factor in his decision to join the Grizzlies. "I knew Kampe had been here like 20 years, which I liked. His mindset of



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Jones (left) and Nelson (right) are honored during senior night at the O'Rena last season.

playing anyone anywhere prepared me and our team for a level of competition other schools in our league couldn't get."

That competition inspired Jones to strive for higher achievement. He leaves Oakland with multiple records and a conference championship in his name.

"I got everything and more from my experience (at Oakland)," Jones said. "Seeing the program grow from my freshman year to now is a great feeling. To be a part of one of the two teams to make it to the NCAA tournament is a great feeling. Going out how I did my senior year is what everyone dreams about. I went out a winner and that's all you can ask for."

In fact, Jones not only went out a winner

but went out with more wins under his belt than any player in school history.

Nelson shared in many of those victories. A season-ending foot injury in the 2008-2009 season gave Nelson an injury redshirt and aligned his senior season with Jones' the following year. Together, they cashed in on the opportunity.

A year to remember

"No question my greatest accomplishment in basketball is winning the conference title last year and going to the NCAA tournament," Nelson said. "That was always a dream of mine and the rest of the team, so to accomplish that goal finally on my way out was the best."

Nelson said he realized his potential to play professionally after his junior year at Oakland. Kampe shared that opinion, saying he thought Nelson could, and still does, have a chance to play in the NBA.

Yet, Nelson's previously mentioned foot injury stalled his momentum among NBA team scouts. When he returned to Oakland the following year, he was a different player.

"When Nelson came back we needed him to take on a different and more defensive-minded role," Kampe said. "He can guard anybody at the highest level and that's what we needed him to do, which took away from his scoring stats a little bit. But he came up big when we needed him the most and got us a championship."

In the Summit League championship game last season, Nelson poured in a career-high 36 points. As Oakland struggled early in that game, Nelson kept his team close. Late in the game, he ensured the win.

The next major challenge for Nelson won't be scoring points or guarding the star on the other team, it will be adjusting to a different lifestyle and living away from his family.

"I love to play basketball and it was important for me to keep my career going but if it didn't happen it wasn't the end of my life," Nelson said. "The toughest part for me will be being away from my daughter and not seeing my family. Just being away from them and in a different country with a different culture is going to be tough to get used to."

"Basketball is my passion and I'd like to play for as long as possible but you can't play forever and I graduated from college so I'm going to rely on that to help me in the long run," added Nelson.

For Jones, basketball has been his life and he plans on keeping it that way.

"Playing basketball is what I love to do and as long as god gives me the ability to play at the highest level I'm going to continue to play," Jones said. "But when I'm all done I want to get into coaching. Hopefully at the college level."



SPORTS ONLINE

Former University of Michigan guard Laval Lucas-Perry is transferring to Oakland for his senior year. He will join the OU hoops team in 2011.

www.oaklandpostonline.com

Men's soccer ready for real competition

By KYLE BAUER

Staff Intern

Exhibition matches for sports programs generally serve as nothing more than glorified practices. They don't count. Yet, the Oakland University men's soccer team doesn't plan to take any game, exhibition or not, lightly.

In their exhibition opener against Bowling Green, freshman Alex de Leon knocked in a header with less than 90 seconds remaining in overtime to give the Golden Grizzlies a 2-1 victory. Oakland went on to win its other exhibition game as well, a 3-2 road win against Xavier.

Albeit they are just a pair of throw-away games against a non-conference opponent, the two wins served as a small sample of what Oakland has the potential to accomplish this season. The Grizzlies were picked to finish second in the Summit League in the coach's preseason poll. Oakland coach Eric Pogue, the 2009 Summit League Coach of the Year, welcomes the challenge of meeting those lofty expectations with a team bringing in nine new players.

"On paper we look young with only one senior, but we were even younger last fall and a lot of young guys got a lot of valuable playing time and experience in 2009," Pogue said. "That should translate into a more mature, experienced, and deep team in 2010."

Pogue believes the maturity was imported with the new recruiting class. He feels confident in his freshmen, because they have looked mature and up to speed in camp.

"Our 2010 recruiting class is a very good group of guys with a lot of talent and they all possess the right core values that we are looking for in Oakland players," he said. "We expect a number of them to be key contributors for us this fall."

The freshmen will be brought into a returning group who suffered a gut-wrenching end to the 2010 season.

Oakland went into the 2009 Summit League Tournament as the No. 1 seed, following an undefeated regular season within the conference. Having the tournament on their own field didn't help the Grizzlies, as UMKC stunned Oakland in the first round with a 2-1 defeat.

For returning players, Pogue believes it is important to remember the past for motivation, but more important to wipe the slate clean.

"Obviously the loss to UMKC in the conference tournament left a bitter taste in our mouth," Pogue said. "We were so close to achieving all our goals

in year one, that to come up just short was tough. Sure, you use it as motivation and fuel for the future, but we have really tried to refocus ourselves on this season, this team, this year's goals and put last year behind us and refocus in 2010."

Focus will be a key with a very difficult non-conference schedule.

Oakland will play six of its first seven matches away from Rochester. This can provide an early challenge for a young team.

The Grizzlies will face seven squads ranked inside the nation's top 40, including second-ranked Akron Oct. 10 in a home game played at Pontiac Ultimate Soccer Arena and seventh-ranked Ohio State in Columbus Oct. 27. But first up is eighth-ranked Drake Sept. 5 at home.

The team will also be traveling to play in the San Diego State Marriot Classic, where it will play the host team of the tournament and UC Irvine in the second weekend of September.

Coach Pogue welcomes the challenge of Oakland's intimidating schedule.

"Our out of conference schedule is one of the top ones in the nation," he said. "With a young team, it is always important to get off to a good start, get our confidence high and protect home field advantage heading into a tough stretch of games against San Diego State, UC Irvine, Michigan, Butler and Akron."

Sophomore forward Shane Lyons returns as OU's top striker with four goals last season. He is paired with lone senior Makesi Lewis, who led the Grizzlies with 15 shots on goal and was named to the second-team All-Summit League roster last season.

By the numbers, the most impressive returning player might be junior goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt — last season's Summit League Defensive Player of the Year. His numbers were impressive not just on a conference level, but also suited for national notoriety for his play in net with a conference-leading seven shutouts and a 0.73 goals against average, good enough to finish in the top 10 ranks in the country.

Led by a coach hungry for further success in his second year and a roster fused with award-winning returning players and an influx of youth, the Grizzlies look to strike early against some of the nation's highest ranked teams and settle in for another run at the Summit League title.

The official start of the season is Sept. 3 but, as they showed in their exhibition openers, the Golden Grizzlies have long been ready to take the field for the games that count this season.

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Volleyball looking to reach next level

By RYAN HEGEDUS

Senior Reporter

Last season was a renaissance for the Oakland University volleyball team.

The squad, led by head coach Rob Beam, went 17-10 with a 10-8 record in Summit League play. Those 17 wins, including victories over longtime rivals Bowling Green and Eastern Michigan, were the most in the Division I era for Oakland.

Despite the great season the Grizzlies had, 2009 didn't end the way the team had hoped.

Tied with UMKC for fourth in the conference, Oakland needed to win its final match of the season against the Kangaroos to make the Summit League Tournament for the first time.

It was a goal the team did not accomplish.

Up 2 sets to 1, UMKC went on to win the fourth set, 25-20, and the deciding fifth set, 15-12, stunning the Grizzly faithful in attendance at the O'Rena.

"To be so close to achieving something that no Oakland volleyball team has ever achieved, and to miss it by just a few points and two match opportunities, it was disappointing for all of us," Beam said.

"I think we've all worked really hard on improving every aspect of the program so that we can use that as a springboard to the

next level of play."

While the loss hurt at the time, it looks to serve as motivation for the 2010 season.

"Every single time we go into the weight room or step on the floor, we think about how it (the 2009 season) ended and we've talked about it a lot," said junior Jenna Lange. "I think we're ready to step on the floor, game one, with the mindset about how it felt to lose that last game."

What made last season's result even more impressive was the youth of the team.

Besides seniors Nikki Pawson and All-Summit League first teamer Adrienne Leone, the oldest player on Beam's roster was junior Brittany Dunn.

With a year of playing together and a solid 2010 recruiting class, the losses of Leone and Pawson have been somewhat tempered.

"It helps that the freshmen from last year know what they're doing now, and we only have four new freshmen, so everyone is able to help the younger players out," Dunn said. "Since we've all been together for a year, everything is clicking a lot faster than it was last year at the beginning."

Oakland also has 12 returning players from last season's record-setting squad, including All-Freshmen selections Meghan Bray and Brittany Holbrook. Ashley Neville, OU's season record holder for assists,

will return to her position of setter in 2010.

Another similarity to 2009 is where the Grizzlies are located in the rankings. After ending last season in fourth place, they have been picked to finish this season there, as seen in the Summit League preseason coaches' poll.

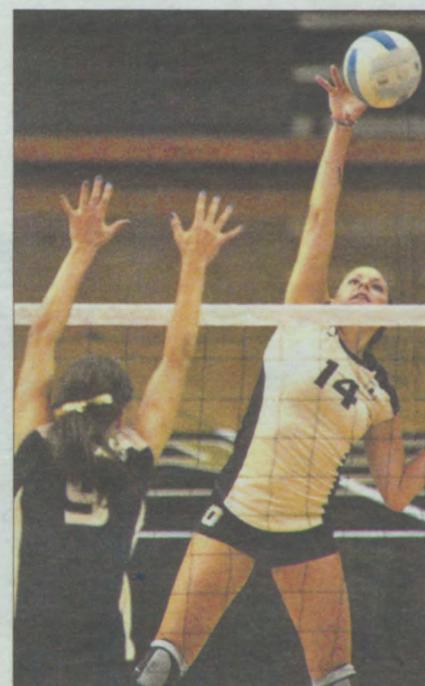
"Since only the top four teams in our conference get to go to the (Summit League) tournament ... there is nothing I want more, especially being a senior, than to make it to the tournament, which would be the first time," added Dunn. "That's everyone's mindset, so I think we'll be able to do it."

Oakland officially opened its season Aug. 27 with an appearance in the Northern Illinois Invitational in Dekalb, Ill. The Grizzlies (1-3) lost their first three games of the invitational but finished with a 3-0 triumph over Chicago State.

On Sep. 3 and 4, the Grizzlies will take part in the upcoming Active Ankle Challenge, playing Robert Morris University, Tennessee State, and Ball State. The first home game for Oakland will be versus Eastern Michigan Sep. 7.

Beam sees plenty of potential in his young team and is hoping for continued improvement after last season's resurgence. This year, OU appears as talented as ever.

"In my four seasons at Oakland, this is the deepest team we've had and that's making



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Meghan Bray (#14) goes for a spike over teammate Audrey Wilson (#9) in practice.

preseason practice a ton of fun," Beam said. "To watch them play, you kind of sit back and talk as coaches and go 'wow.' We have some good things we can work with and we're certainly optimistic about the season and building on what we did last year."

Jeltema inks pro deal with team in Germany

By ROSS MAGHIELSE

Sports Editor

Melissa Jeltema graduated from Oakland University with a degree in wellness, health promotion and injury prevention, but her first job out of college is to play basketball. The former OU hoops star recently signed a contract to play professionally for the Chemnitz Chemcats in Germany. The contract offer came after Jeltema participated in a three-day European exposure camp, where she was recognized as the camp's most valuable player.

Jeltema leaves OU as the ninth all-time leading scorer in school history with 1,544 career points.

Last season she led the Grizzlies to a second place finish in the Summit League, averaging 15.6 points per game and 7.7 rebounds. In four years at Oakland, Jeltema was selected to two All-Summit League teams and was also a four-time Academic All-Summit League selection.

"We're really proud of MJ," OU head coach Beckie Francis said. "Her signing to play in the top division in Germany is a by-product of all her hard work and dedication to the game of basketball. ... During her senior year we met once a week to discuss where she would play overseas because there was not a doubt in my mind that she would play professionally."

For Jeltema, playing at Oakland was a major stepping stone towards her career as a pro athlete.

"I was given a great opportunity at Oakland to play Division I basketball and was able to learn a lot and grow as a player and a person," Jeltema said. "I'm really excited. Playing overseas has always been a goal of mine and now it's actually happening."

Jeltema said she realized her potential to one day play professionally after her sophomore season with Oakland. The offer she received from her German club was one of three offers from interested teams in Europe. Jeltema turned down another offer in Germany with a lower level league in

order to play with the Chemcats, a team that recently won a promotion to play in the highest level of German basketball in the Damen Basketball Bundesliga League (DBBL). Yet, for Jeltema, playing against top of the line competition is nothing new.

"Playing a tough schedule (at Oakland) and against bigger schools like UConn, Florida State, Auburn, Georgia, etc. really prepared me to play at the next level," Jeltema said. "It taught me to respect my opponents, but also that I am tough enough to play at that level."

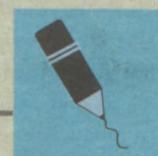
Athletics became a major part of Jeltema's life even prior to high school; where she went on to excel

on the hardcourt for Grand Rapids Christian before coming to OU. Once her professional basketball career comes to an end, whenever that time comes, Jeltema said she will return to the United States to work with athletes as either a trainer or coach.

"At this point I am not sure how long I will continue to make basketball my career," Jeltema said. "I am living in the moment and could not be happier to have been given the ability and opportunities I have been given. We will see what is in store for the next few years as it comes, but right now, I could not be happier."

Jeltema's season in Germany begins Sept. 25.

Capturing Kre



Mon-Thurs: 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM

Fri: 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Sat: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

WRITING CENTER

At the Oakland University Writing Center or "The Write Space," students, faculty and staff can visit to get help from consultants for writing at any stage or level. This free resource is located on the second floor of Kresge Library, Room 212. Appointments can be made online or by calling (248) 370-3120. For more information on the Writing Center, visit www.oakland.edu/OUWC

QUIET RESEARCH ROOM

Looking for a place to really hunker down and study? The third and fourth floors of the library are for quiet research and learning. Study rooms on both floors can be used for optimal quiet study time. Also, stop by the Oakland University E-Learning and Instructional Support offices for any issue pertaining to Moodle and other online programs.

GROUP STUDY

Those more inclined to groups can take advantage of various spaces throughout the second floors. The Information Commons on the second features computer labs, research and group study areas that are personalized. Various configurations can be created using a number of pieces that range from casual and casual to serious.

Kresge

Written by Kay Nguyen
Designed by Carla Butwin
Photos by Brett Socia



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EXHIBITS

The "Saints and Sinners" sculpture, created by Marshall Fredericks, is the most recognized piece of artwork at OU and is in its predominant perch at the center of campus right in front of the library. Art is everywhere at Kresge thanks to donations from various OU donors. Each floor has various works of art that students can view.

KRESGE CAFE

Come mid-fall, students studying in Kresge Library will no longer have to leave the building or resort to vending machines to get fresh coffee. The cafe will be located on the right-hand side when visitors enter the library, where there is currently a glassed-in study area. With eco-friendliness in mind, Peet's Coffee & Tea was chosen to be the supplier.

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Area residents remember Rochester back in the day

By ANNIE STODOLA
Local Editor

Oakland University writing and rhetoric special lecturer Cornelia Pokrzywa started the Rochester Oral History Archive project in order to help preserve memories of Rochester from residents age 55 and up.

Through the project, interviews are conducted with residents ages 55 and up on memories of Rochester, including information about buildings, festivals, prominent people and campus life when OU was just starting out.

"Our work is creating ties and strengthening ties in the community," Pokrzywa said.

The project was partially inspired by Ohio University's Digital Archive of Literary Narratives — a database that collects recordings of people's memories of learning to read — and NPR's StoryCorps series.

Pokrzywa and her team began the oral history project earlier this year through grants from the Meadowbrook Writing Project and Building the Civic 'Net, a philanthropic organization that gives grants to projects that are working to build community through the use of social media.

So far, interviews have been conducted at the Rochester Older Persons Commission, the Rochester Hills Public Library and Pokrzywa's office.

"We've done 35 or so interviews so far, but we're going into a heavy phase of expansion," Pokrzywa said. "Over the next year, expect to see a great deal more added."

At the upcoming Rochester Area Heritage Festival at Rochester College on Sept. 25 and 26, the project will conduct interviews by appointment, as well as on a first come, first serve basis if they have time.

To record an interview, the interviewee must be at least 55 years of age and talk about Rochester, regardless of whether or not they are a current resident. Pokrzywa also said that there's no stipulation regarding the length of time the person lived in the area.

"We're not just looking for people who can say they've lived here for 50 years," she said. "If there's someone who doesn't live here but who got married here and wants to talk about



Brett Socia/THE OAKLAND POST

As part of her Rochester Oral History Archive project, OU special lecturer Cornelia Pokrzywa has compiled memories of several well-known Rochester people and places, including the Dodge family and Meadowbrook Hall.

that, that's okay too."

Pokrzywa is a longtime Rochester resident who graduated from Rochester Adams High School, and received her master's degree from OU.

"Our work is creating ties and strengthening ties in the community."

— Cornelia Pokrzywa,
Special lecturer at OU

She is also enlisting others with ties to the Rochester community to help with the interviews, including other lecturers from OU, a retired teacher and some of her own students.

"Last year students in my Writing 160 course helped as volunteers," Pokrzywa said. "In winter 2011, another Writing 160 class will also help, and we're getting the help of the digital storytelling class. We intend to have more student involvement as the project grows."

The project is open to students interested in helping as interviewers, especially student organizations that might be interested in helping out. Training is provided for volunteers.

The interviews that have been conducted so far are available on the oral history project's website, located at www.oakland.edu/roha as well as at the Rochester Hills Public Library and the Rochester Hills Museum. Currently in the works is a searchable digital database that will allow residents to find information on specific subjects.

"Once we have the database set up, you'll be able to search, for example, Meadowbrook Hall and find every recorded memory from the project about Meadowbrook Hall," Pokrzywa said.

The project has received support from the community, who have eagerly shared stories about both campus life and community events.

"The really exciting thing about internet capability is that it allows people to share easily," Pokrzywa said. "Once they record it, we put it online and they can share the link with their families and friends."

Students involved in the interviewing process have also benefitted.

"Some students are from the area, but don't have deep roots in the community," she said. "A lot of them are three generations or less in a town. It's a lot of fun for the students to hear the memories and see how people lived."

local briefs

Emagine breaks ground in Royal Oak

Crews began construction on the new Emagine movie theatre and entertainment complex in Royal Oak this week.

The new entertainment site, located at the corner of Troy Street and 11 Mile Road, will have ten movie screens, 16 lanes of bowling, a banquet room and a restaurant. The facility was also granted a liquor license.

Parking for the site, which was a primary concern for city officials and restaurants, will be in the existing structure on Center Street between Second and Third Streets. Additional parking spaces for the complex are located at the Royal Oak Farmers' Market.

Additionally, Emagine has recently announced its plans to renovate and reopen the former AMC Star Rochester at Auburn and Rochester Roads in Rochester Hills in November.

Royal Oak's Emagine Theatre location is expected to open in late April of 2011.

Yates reopens

Yates Cider Mill in Rochester Hills has reopened for the fall season.

The mill, which originally opened in 1863 and has been featured nationally on the Food Network's "Unwrapped" program, reopened on Aug. 20 and will remain open through October.

In addition to the cider mill itself, Yates's fudge shop, which sells fudge made in Frankenmuth, reopened on Aug. 30. The Apple Tent is set to reopen Friday, Sept. 3. Pony rides are available on the weekends beginning Sept. 11.

Weekday hours for the mill are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays, Yates is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The cider mill is located at 1990 E. Avon Road. For event and product information, visit www.yatescidermill.com

Art and Apples comes to Rochester

The Art and Apples Fest is scheduled for Sept. 10 - 12 in downtown Rochester.

The event, sponsored by Paint Creek Center for the Arts, features a juried art show. Some of the media categories for the weekend include metalsmithing, painting, photography, sculpture, jewelry, digital art and clay.

Additional aspects of the festival include local entertainment, a variety of food vendors and an apple pie and dessert competition.

The annual festival is the second-largest juried art fair in the state, with an average attendance of more than 125,000 people.

For information, visit www.artandapples.com

— Annie Stodola, Local Editor

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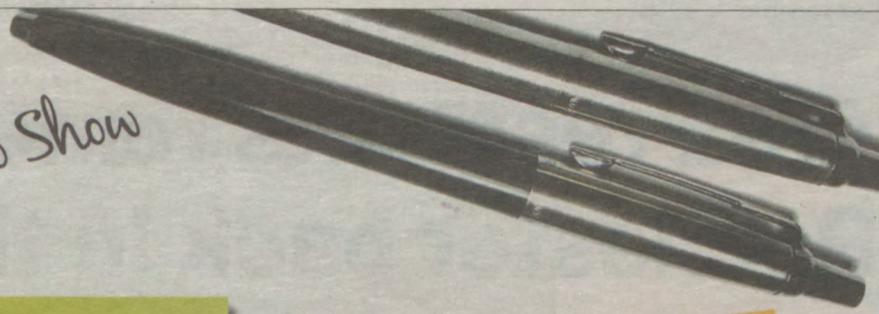
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Global News

ON SEPTEMBER 1 IN HISTORY:

1666 — The Great London Fire began in Pudding Lane. 80% of London was destroyed.
1890 — Major League Baseball's first tripleheader is played between Boston and Pittsburgh.
1939 — Nazi Germany invaded Poland to begin World War II.
1962 — The United Nations announced that the world's population had reached 3 billion.
1985 — The wreckage of the Titanic is located in a joint American-French expedition.

1 Atlantic Ocean

Hurricane Earl is heading for the U.S. east coast after causing power cuts and heavy rain across the eastern Caribbean. The category-four storm is generating winds of 215km/h (135mph). The U.S. authorities say they fear the hurricane may brush North Carolina and prompt evacuations. "There is still some concern for a close approach to Cape Hatteras on Thursday and Thursday night," National Hurricane Center chief Bill Read said. Forecasters say it is a major hurricane and may cause "catastrophic" damage if it hits land.

2 Italy

A fist fight between two doctors resulted in a botched delivery. Laura Salpietro had to have her uterus removed, and her son Antonio suffered heart problems following his birth Thursday in Messina's public hospital. Hospital officials said the two doctors disagreed about whether to perform a Cesarean section and came to blows. Salpietro's husband said the fight delayed the C-section by over an hour, leading to complications for mother and son.

3 Pakistan

Floodwaters that have devastated Pakistan for five weeks are beginning to recede in some areas. Flooding has affected one-fifth of the country, and about 8 million people still need emergency aid. The magnitude of the disaster has raised concerns about the Pakistani government stability. Even Pakistan's rival, India, has offered assistance with a \$25 million contribution. The international community has pledged hundreds of millions of dollars to aid the victims of the disaster.

4 United Arab Emirates

The imam, a Muslim priest, leading plans for an Islamic center near the site of the Sept. 11 attacks in New York says the project could help shape the future of Islam in America. Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf spoke Tuesday in Dubai to promote religious tolerance. Rauf said the showdown over the proposed mosque and community center has gone beyond a "piece of real estate." It could set the tone for wider views toward Muslims in America, Rauf said.

5 Nigeria

Tardy Nigerian federal employees are now being locked out of federal offices in an attempt to combat chronic tardiness. Ministries in the capital city of Abuja open at 8 a.m., but most offices do not operate to their maximum efficiency until several hours later. Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation, with a population of 150 million people. Offices usually close at 4 p.m. and productivity is limited to the hours the national power grid is active.

6 Vietnam

A Vietnam War-era artillery shell exploded and killed a southern Vietnam villager Monday as he was cutting it up for scrap metal. His wife was seriously wounded in the explosion. Long Duc village chief Truong Hoang Hai in the southern province of Soc Trang said the village was heavily bombarded by artillery by American and Saigon government forces during the war. Vietnamese government figures show unexploded ordnance has killed more than 42,000 people and wounded some 62,000 since the conflict ended in 1975.



— Compiled by staff members from AP Reports

WORLD IN NUMBERS

3 mil.

The estimated number of people affected by the earthquake in Haiti (January 2010).

15 mil.

The estimated number of people affected by Hurricane Katrina (August 2005).

20 mil.

The estimated number of people affected by recent flooding in Pakistan (August 2010).

Fed funding frozen: Judge halts stem cell

By **KATIE JACOB**
Copy Editor

Last week a District Court judge issued a temporary injunction halting federal funding of embryonic stem cell research, throwing the Obama administration, the research community at large and millions of Americans living with disease, for whom stem cell research holds out hope, into turmoil, as they try to figure out what comes next.

Deputy Press Secretary Bill Burton told reporters, "The President said very plainly when he laid out his stem cell policy, that this is important, life saving — potentially life saving research that could have an impact on millions of Americans and people around the world. He thinks we need to do research."

He said the administration was exploring all possible avenues to make sure that the "critical, lifesaving research" would continue.

In a case brought by two researchers who disagree with the use of embryonic stem

cells, Judge Royce C. Lamberth of Federal District Court for the District of Columbia, found that an executive order issued by President Obama shortly after taking office, which lifted restrictions on federal funding of embryonic stem cell research, was illegal, violating a law passed by Congress in 1996 which prohibits the use of federal funding for research in which embryos are destroyed.

The judge said the distinction used by the president in issuing the executive order, between creating stem cell lines — often from discarded embryos obtained from fertility clinics, and using those stem cell lines in federally funded research, was not valid.

The judge said that the two cannot be separated and that "The language of the statute reflects the unambiguous intent of Congress."

The National Institutes of Health spent \$143 million dollars to fund 330 embryonic stem cell projects in 2009 according to the New York Times, and was expected to spend another \$137 million in fiscal year

2010. The director of NIH, Dr. Francis S. Collins quoted in the Times said "The decision has the potential to do serious damage to one of the most promising areas of biomedical research," and that the judge's decision would most likely force the cancellation of dozens of experiments.

Dr. Rasul Chaudhry, a professor in the department of biological sciences at OU said, "This is a step back on recent progress made after President Obama allowed federal funding of embryonic stem cell research."

Chaudhry, who uses adult and fetal stem cells as well as embryonic stem cells in his research, said that the effect of the judges ruling on his work would not be as severe. But he said embryonic stem cells, which are the most primitive cells among all types of stem cells, have the greatest potential for self-renewal. They can be differentiated into 200 types of cells found in the body where as adult stem cells and cord blood cells have more limited potential.

"Lack of availability of embryonic stem cells will limit research for finding cures for

many debilitating diseases," he said.

Chaudhry pointed out that many unused embryos are discarded or destroyed by the fertility clinics and said, "An argument can be made that isolating embryonic stem cells from these embryos in fact keep their cell alive and can contribute usefully to human health."

The Obama Administration said that the Justice Department would appeal the injunction. There is also talk in Congress of reviving legislation, which would codify the president's executive order and make it clear that the research is legal.

Congressman Gary Peters of Michigan said he was deeply concerned about the impact of the federal court's decision to ban federal funds for embryonic stem cell research.

"This is research that has the potential to save lives and create jobs. This decision highlights the need for Congress to act in order to ensure certainty for scientists, researchers and companies who are committing to doing this research in America."

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Use caution on Craigslist

By NICHOLE SEGUIN
Features Editor

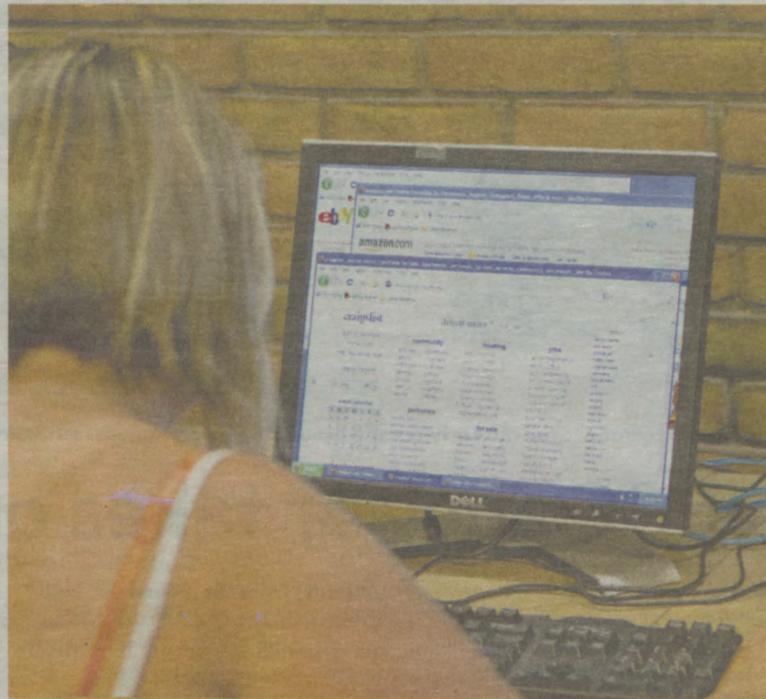
Richard Kuhn, a second-year student at Michigan State University, may never buy anything online again. He sat down with an Oakland Post editor to share his story about one family's online nightmare.

Oakland Post: Can you tell us what happened?

Richard Kuhn: Two of my dad's friends thought they could harmlessly buy a four-wheeler online. ... One man asked his friend to accompany him to Detroit to buy a four wheeler he found a good deal for on Craigslist. ... At a parking lot in Detroit, the duo met with the man they contacted online. Although the four-wheeler looked like a good deal, the seller could not produce a key and asked for a ride back to his house to pick it up. ... The seller ... attempted to mug the men of the money they had and the truck they drove. The friend accompanying the buyer was shot and instantly killed after he tried to stop the mugger. ... The buyer attempted to escape the truck and narrowly made it to safety after the gunman's gun malfunctioned. The killer escaped with the money and the truck. The truck was found hours later, stripped of its rims and other accessories and the seller got away.

OP: How do you think this could have been prevented?

Kuhn: The buyer thought he was doing the right thing by taking a friend along to back him up. Although it was probably a good idea, I would have done things different. For starters, I think that the location is a key safety hazard. The men were unfamiliar with their surroundings and even though they met at a location that was fairly populated, they were still unfamiliar. Secondly, they had a large sum of money on hand. This is exactly what the criminal was hoping for and went after. Thirdly, the men made the mistake of allowing a stranger to ride with them in their vehicle. By leaving the safety of their meeting place and confining themselves to the privacy of the vehicle, it gave the criminal the opportunity to strike, an opportunity he took advantage of.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

Sophomore Lisa Coppola works on making a smart online purchase.

OP: What else do you think should be done to avoid events like this?

Kuhn: Nothing can be done to bring back the life of the man who was murdered, but to prevent tragedies such as this one from happening again, people should think smartly about the people they are doing business with. If the neighborhood seems shady, seller (or buyer) seems suspicious, or if certain aspects of the transaction seem fishy, then say "no." If somebody pays attention to the aforementioned warnings and still finds themselves in a tight situation, it would seem reasonable to avoid confrontation as much as possible. If I were in a situation like that, I would first try to excuse myself. ... If that option is not available, comply with the criminal and call for help. I would also always carry a phone.

OP: Why do you think people offer so much information online?

Kuhn: I think people are overly trusting these days. Until they have experienced negative effects of offering too much sensitive information online, they don't know the risks they face. In the case of Craigslist, it's not even the information that the

criminal had before the fact. It was the over-trusting demeanor of the victims that got them into trouble. I have a set of general rules that I try to live by while online, ... (which) include(s) staying as quiet as possible. I try not to broadcast the valuables I may have, any key information about myself, or even information that could allow somebody to find where I live. Providing a detailed profile of likes, interests or personality may be the open door that crooks need to win over your trust, and I feel like a lot of people give that away too easily.

OP: How has this altered your online habits?

Kuhn: I have always been leery of Craigslist, but in the future I will plan more safety steps into my transactions. I will be very skeptical of the people I am dealing with and may suggest meeting in a very secure place such as a police department or somewhere that is not remote or secluded. I also think more about sites other than Craigslist that could be potentially dangerous in the same ways. Networking websites such as Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, and even online dating sites are places where Internet predators prey.

Online habits may require extra attention

In an era where almost everything has been technologically converted, Internet users from all over the world have been given the ability to shop online. Whether or not this is a good idea depends on what kind of shopping database is used and how responsibly the transactions are handled.

OUPD detective David Birkholz said that most people often ignore some obvious warnings when it comes to purchasing things online.

"There's always the chance you could be buying stolen merchandise, and those chances are higher online," Birkholz said. "Look for scratched off serial numbers or words stenciled in and just keep an eye out."

With Craigslist, it is the responsibility of the users to figure out how to exchange money for product, and according to the Craigslist privacy policy, "Craigslist shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage of any sort incurred as the result of any such dealings."

"In any crime, when you go somewhere and meet, your chances for crime improve immensely once you are isolated. Criminals are not going to stand in an area where there are too many eyewitnesses," Birkholz said. "They'll look for somewhere more private."

Other sites like Amazon and eBay allow users to purchase on a larger scale. Amazon is most notably known for the purchase of books and its Kindle, which is a player for digital books, while eBay is an online auction for all types of different things from cars to autographed baseball cards.

"I've noticed that I have found much better deals on school books from Amazon and eBay," senior Ashley Uhl said. "I saved a good amount of money shopping there this year, as opposed to the OU bookstore, and I feel a lot safer there, but I'm still cautious."

A majority of department stores have also made the multimedia switch, allowing their customers to skip the wait in line for a sale.

"You never know when it's safe to use your card online," sophomore Lisa Coppola said. "It may be easier than going to the store, but it's hard to tell which sites are secure. One of my friends actually had her identity stolen when she bought a CD online. The best way to stay safe is to protect yourself in all aspects possible."

Although online shopping is easy and convenient with the perks it offers, making decisions throughout the shopping process can sometimes be the difference between life, death and identity crisis.

— Nichole Seguin, Features Editor

40

professor profiles ✓

Weekly spotlight on OU professors

If you happen to see a man walking around campus with thick black-rimmed glasses and a stack of movies under his arm, chances are you just saw Professor Kyle Edwards. Edwards started at Oakland University in the fall of 2006 as an Assistant Professor of English.



Becoming the Director of cinema studies at Oakland University was not always Professor Edwards' master plan. He graduated in 1997 with a degree in English from Vanderbilt University, then took a few years off from schooling to work as an editor at a market research company in California.

While he was attending graduate school at the University of Texas-Austin, Edwards discovered his passion for cinema. In 2006, he graduated and launched his career at OU.

His enthusiasm for the subject can be contagious for some of his students.

"Professor Edwards is very knowledgeable about cinema," junior Katie Hepfinger said. "He actively writes about it and he's very into what he teaches."

"It's refreshing to have someone so passionate about their subject. His classes are never overwhelming and I've always walked away with new perspectives on film and technique."

In the fall of 2009, Professor Edwards launched a cinema studies major at OU.

Edwards said that in the program's maiden year, there were 20 confirmed majors. This fall, the number of students majoring in cinema studies has grown to 57, far surpassing its targeted number of 20.

Aside from his obvious passion for cinema, Edwards has developed a habit of collecting novelizations and movie advertisements. His students have picked up on this and started to bring their own movie ads into class.

The overflowing bookshelves that dominate the walls in his office are evidence of his fervor for the topic. Edwards said he likes to try and find a correlation between the product being advertised and the film. He also uses these examples as a learning tool in his lectures.

This semester, Edwards is teaching CIN 322, a course centered around the career and impact of actress Barbara Stanwyck, and CIN 252, a writing intensive course uncovering the methods of film.

Professor Edwards said he enjoys cinema studies classes because it's gratifying "teaching classes where everyone is very passionate about film."

— Amy Eckardt, Staff Reporter



AMY ECKARDT/The Oakland Post

Assistant Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development Jean Szura spends one last day in her office.

OUSC advisor takes on new role

By AMY ECKARDT
Staff Reporter

As the Oakland University campus continues to expand to appease the heightened interest in a medical program, the Center for Student Activities has agreed to lend one of their best to help construct student life at the new William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Assistant Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development Jean Szura has stepped down from her current position at OU. Szura has accepted a position as the Director of Student Activities at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Szura has been responsible for planning organizing leadership events such as Leadership Challenge OU, an annual leadership retreat and various other leadership-related events. She also served as the advisor for the Oakland University Student Congress, a position she stepped down from as well.

Current OUSC President Brandon Gustafson sees Szura as more than just a typical OUSC advisor.

"She held more than an advisor role, more like a part of the organization," Gustafson said. "She always had a vested interest. We (the OUSC members) will miss her more than she will miss us."

The William Beaumont School of Medicine is set to open in the fall of 2011. For the next year, Szura will work diligently to start the school's

activities from the ground up. The first task at hand will be organizing and planning orientation so things are in order for the cardinal year.

"Right now, no programs are in place, but I'm looking forward to the opportunity to build student activities from the ground from up," Szura said. "I'm always brainstorming."

Aside from planning orientation for

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to build student activities from the ground up."

— Jean Szura

the school, Szura will also be in charge of arranging new student activities on campus as well as planning various ceremonies such as the prestigious white coat ceremony.

Szura is a 2003 English and political science graduate from OU. Before starting her career as a Graduate Assistant for Student Activities at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, she received her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University in 2006.

The new position piqued Szura's interest when she stumbled upon the job posting on the university website.

Szura said the prospect of working at a "phenomenal school with great opportunities" is what initially drew her to the job.

Staying true to her organizations,

Szura plans to have continuing involvement with the programs at OU, especially during the transition of directors.

As well as working at the new Director of Student Activities, Szura is currently working on her Ph.D in educational leadership from OU.

What she will miss the most about working in her Oakland Center office are the daily interactions she has with co-workers and student leaders.

"I will be so close, I don't know how much I will miss," Szura said. Her new office is in the William Beaumont section of O'Dowd Hall.

Director of Student Activities, Jean Ann Miller has known Szura since she was an undergrad student at OU as well as a co-worker in the CSA office for the past four years. Miller said she wishes Szura a lot of happiness and success.

"(Szura) has made wonderful contributions to OU over the years, (she) will continue to make these positive contributions to the university and medical school," Miller said.

As far as what to expect at her new position, Szura says she is excited to work with an entire new set of staff and students. The sheer task of building the infrastructure of the medical school will be plenty enough to keep Szura busy as well as working on her degree.

Szura's last day working in the Oakland Center will be Friday, Sept. 3. The new director of Student Activities will begin her new position on Tuesday, Sept. 7 of this year.

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Dinner & movie: No more

By **CHRIS HAGAN**
Scene Editor

Dates today seem to have hit a plateau on the creative scale; especially first dates. First dates have fell into this slump of dinner and a movie. A movie is potentially the worst thing to add to a first date. Why? You learn nothing about the person. At dinner you soak up what ever info you can before the food arrives. With the movie, the only conversation afterward is whether it was good or bad or how the people behind them kept talking.

Luckily, there are places around the metro-Detroit area that make for great first dates and won't cripple your bank account. Five were found to have low-to-fair prices and they're above the norm in the first date realm.

1. Henry Ford Museum \$15/ticket - www.thehenryford.org

Tucked in the Dearborn area, Henry Ford Museum is within Greenfield Village and brings with it a whole slew of history. Walking through the museum takes one through the industrial age and pop cultures of America. With pieces like the Lincoln Continental that John F. Kennedy was assassinated in, to prototype rocket-skates and old planes, the museum offers several hours worth of interesting history. If one were to brush up on their history on Wikipedia before hand, moments to impress your date may arise. This Detroit gem is definitely worth taking a date to. Also, who doesn't want to have their picture taken in front of the Oscar Meyer Weinermobile?

2. Detroit Zoo \$11/ticket - www.detroitzoo.org

Take it back to elementary school, but leave out chaperones yelling about staying together and forming a single file-line. The zoo can go over very well as a date suggestion and often results in an "I haven't been there in so long," response. Situated on 10 Mile Road in Royal Oak, this location offers over 1,500 animals over 125 acres. Exhibits within the zoo include an Arctic Ring of Life that allows you to see penguins and polar bears. But make sure you know the person before suggesting the date. If the girl or guy is a PETA supporter, another location is advised. Going to the zoo allows adults to revisit their youth in an enjoyable way. The zoo makes for great conversation without sacrificing scenery. Like any large local attraction, food can be subpar and over-priced, so plans to eat before or after is a wise decision.



3. Detroit Institute of Art \$8/ticket - www.dia.org

On the surface, it seems rather boring to suggest a date at the DIA. That's because we all remember it as fifth graders who didn't care. But its setting can be made casual or romantic. The DIA sits inside Wayne State's campus surrounded by college-age kids, the Science Center and plenty of local eateries. Guided tours are available, but should be avoided. It's great for learning trivia about the painting, but usually they huddle people in groups. The DIA enables you to stroll at your leisure amidst semi-quiet areas, allowing you to either talk about the paintings or the interests of your date.



4. Comedy Clubs \$8/ticket - www.comedycastle.com

Everybody loves to laugh; it's human nature. Though this flirts on the border of movie theater setting (i.e., minimal talking), it's a location rarely suggested so it works. A good idea is to look on their website to see the line-up. A quick YouTube visit solves any qualms about the comedians skills. If the comedian billed is not funny or has a sense of humor that is difficult to understand or appreciate, suggest another venue for the date. One thing to consider is age requirement, as some clubs have a 21 and up policy.

5. Tigers/Pistons Game \$5-15/ticket - www.palacenet.com <http://mlb.mlb.com/det/ballpark/index.jsp>

Sporting events aren't usually associated with first dates or dates in general, but there are two professional teams that have discounted tickets and are rather enjoyable. The Tigers have some of the cheapest tickets around and still you get a lot for your money. The Pistons, as of the last few seasons, have been discounting tickets to get fans in the building. If both enjoy sports, a baseball or basketball game make for an ultra casual date setting. Keep in mind there are cash only parking fees for both venues ranging from \$10-30.

Photos 1, 2 and 5 - Jason Willis/THE OAKLAND POST. Photo 4 courtesy of Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle. Photo 3 courtesy of Flickr/Cletch.

records & reels



TAKERS // 107 mins // PG-13
 Featuring T.I., Paul Walker, Chris Brown and more who are a group of criminals that continue to execute perfectly planned bank robberies. Leaving no evidence behind, with perfect timing, have left them out of police hands, specifically a police detective played by Matt Dillon. With one last robbery planned, their streak may end.

THE AMERICAN // 107 mins // R
 George Clooney plays the part of Jack, an assassin. After a job that ends more negatively than expected, Jack retreats to a quiet life in the Italian countryside. Enjoying the new solitude in his new home, he becomes friends with a local priest, and starts a relationship with Clara, played by Violante Placido, but Jack soon realizes the danger that he left behind may not stay in the past.



GOING THE DISTANCE // 97 mins // R
 Drew Barrymore and Justin Long star in this romantic comedy about a couple that try to maintain a long distance relationship. What starts as a summer fling in New York City, returns back to San Francisco. Regardless of what their friends say, Long and Barrymore quickly realize that even the largest fireworks start off as a spark.

GOO GOO DOLLS // "Something for the Rest of Us"
 They've been one of the top selling bands of our generation and now have released a ninth studio album. This time they have teamed up with longtime collaborator Tim Palmer. Spotlight Track - "Not Broken."



KATY PERRY // "Teenage Dream"
 Outside of the pop hits like "California Gurls" that probably already take up space on your iPod, her third studio album "Teenage Dream" also has ballads that highlight the growth of her vocal abilities as well as maturity.

DISTURBED // "Asylum"
 Disturbed have released their fifth studio album, "Asylum," which shows that they aren't done branching out. The band tries out instrumentals featured in the opening track, "Remnants" as well as changing the tempo of the tracks like "Never Again."



THE SCENE ONLINE

Which phone is worthy of the two year contract: Motorola Droid X vs. Blackberry Torch.

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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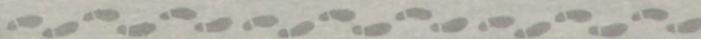


Welcome Week is free giveaways, free food, fun and festivities.
 September 1 - 10
 The complete schedule of events can be found at:
 www.oakland.edu/welcomeweek

Center for Student Activities & Greek Council present:

"The Walk" to Meadow Brook Hall September 1st

Tours leave at 9:00, 9:30, and 10:00 pm. Meet at Hamlin Courtyard



Center for Student Activities and Student Technology Center

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September 7th

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For information about other CSA events, visit our website at:

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TIME TO GET WILD AGAIN!

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 45¢ Traditional Wings

➤ **MONDAY & THURSDAY**
 60¢ Boneless Wings

➤ **LUNCH MADNESS**
 Mon. - Fri. ★ 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 15 Min. or Less Lunch Combos Starting at \$6.99

➤ **HAPPY HOUR**
 Mon. - Fri. ★ 3 - 6 p.m.
 \$1 Off All Tall Drafts!

➤ **LATE NIGHT HAPPY HOUR**
 Sun. - Fri. ★ 9 p.m. - Close
 \$1 Off All Tall Drafts ★ \$2 Select Shots
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WILD

CLASSIC BIRD

Construction run amok

Helping freshmen navigate OU's new labyrinthine campus

By RORY McCARTY

Mouthing Off Editor/aspiring tour guide

I've been at the Oakland Post for a while now, threatening to quit every year like Brett Favre, but ultimately breaking down and accepting that this is all I'll ever do with my life. And in my time here, The Oakland Post has had a tradition of making a guide for the incoming freshmen to acclimate them to the campus grounds.

Because no guide was planned for this issue, I decided to take up the task myself. And when your school looks like a barren moonscape when you arrive, you probably could use a little help getting around.

Welcome to Oakland University!

Our campus, renowned for its quiet beauty, is in the midst of a massive reconstruction project, shrouding much of the campus in black privacy fences and orange netting, dotting the landscape with roadwork barrels, sawhorses and construction equipment.

While they may seem a nuisance, we feel that the fences and roadblocks add an air of excitement and mystery to the daily commute. The shrill whine of a power drill will no doubt punctuate an otherwise monotonous morning.

The first thing you'll want to do when you arrive is find parking. You will notice quickly that there is no available parking. This is normal. However, the ongoing construction has made parking even more scarce, in an effort to create more parking.

This year OU introduces "turf" parking, also known as "Uh, I don't know. Just park wherever."

OUPD recommends you arrive for class an hour early. If you have an 8 a.m. class and you live off campus, we recommend you simply not sleep. After all, that's what class is for.

Your best bet is to actually already live on campus. If this is not possible, might we suggest parking at one of the fine restaurant establishments that surround OU? We totally know a guy at TGI Fridays.

If you haven't already, you will likely want to go to O'Dowd Hall to register for class. Simply circumnavigate the Oakland Center, go into the O'Dowd basement and turn right.

You may need to visit North Foundation

Hall to hit up the Office of Financial Aid. From O'Dowd, you'll have to go around the cordoned-off pile of dirt near Beer Lake and walk through the student inaccessible parking lot. Then, just walk through Wilson Hall, being careful to first go into the basement to avoid walking through the main floor, which is locked for security reasons. Now you need only go around another privacy fence, and you're there!

What's that? You're tired, want to go to the dorms? Well, go back around the fence, through the basement, and push on the third brick from the elevator. Enter the passageway and you'll see a guy in a hoodie there; his name is Tony. Tony will take you through the sub-bunker to the evacuation silo. Then just knock four times on the vault door and you're there. Easy!

Maybe you need to go to the library for some study time? No problem! You'll find this area relatively uninhibited by construction. On the other hand, Caterpillar treads have tended to chew up the cement here. So go ahead and pencil in construction for this area next February in your day planner.

Headed to Elliot Hall? You'll notice as you approach this building that there is no grass in this area whatsoever. This year we are trying out a Southwestern theme for Elliot, to make Arizonan transfer students feel more at home.

On that note, you may notice that grass is dead. This is due to the aforementioned network of tunnels which makes up OU President Gary Russi's Bat Cave.

This is also of course why the main floor of Wilson Hall is off limits. Fun Fact: that cluster of trees on Pioneer Drive by the maintenance building is where the Clawzzmobile comes out.

The \$62 million OU Human Health Building is currently being constructed on the corner of Walton and Squirrel, where a parking lot once sat. You'll recognize this place as the area that looks like a giant sink hole.

With the help of a grant from the Department of Energy, this building will harness a geothermal heat pump.

This is thanks to our unique geological position situated on an active volcano. No doubt you read about it in the brochure. Prepare for frequent volcano drills, running to the helipad/logo in front of the OC.

In all seriousness, the omnipresent detours and roadblocks are just a growing pain in what will bring us a bigger, shinier campus. We can almost guarantee that once you see the finished improvements, you'll feel the tuition hike was worth it.



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

Oakland University's famous vanishing trees, the ninth wonder of the world.

Campus restoration or devious plot?

By DAN FENNER

Senior Editor/conspiracy theorist

Here at The Post, we spent the summer trying to decipher cryptic construction update e-mails from the administration and do a little investigative digging of our own. We did our best to report our findings, but the answers we received left reasonable room for doubt, at least in the eyes of yours truly.

For instance, the ten feet tall barricade surrounding Wilson Blvd. and Parking Lot 2 — what secrets are hidden from view?

If you'll allow me to speculate, then I will share my wildest theories on the matter — Secret tunnels and exploratory excavation projects.

Being the sleuth that I am, I was smart enough to figure that if you go up to the top floor of O'Dowd Hall you can see over the wall. There are trenches being dug and enough heavy machinery to mine all of the precious "unobtanium" this campus has to offer. Oh come on, don't tell me you're one of the eleven people in the world that still hasn't seen "Avatar."

I've seen enough History Channel specials to know that all of the best cities in the world have underground passageways. Why should OU be any different?

After all, we already established that we had the Dante's Peak situation going on.

Another striking difference to the landscape of campus is the mysterious disappearance of the large oak trees that used to stand tall in the center of the roundabout.

Where did the trees go? An unnamed

source within the university informed me that the trees suffered from various diseases and their close proximity to the road caused them damage from excess road salt in the winter.

But I find that explanation to be suspiciously rational. Many theories have been floated about: spontaneous mini-wildfires, a diabolical union of beavers and lumberjacks, or perhaps alien UFO forestry abductions under the cover of darkness. There are just so many possible explanations, admittedly some less likely than others.

Left in the trees' stead is a curious patch of wide open nothingness, unobscured by the existence of any pesky plant life.

I'd like to take this opportunity to suggest some possible monuments to be constructed in the void. After all, we circle this sacred ground in our cars daily, never setting foot within the bounds of its mythical circumference.

Consider this article an edict exclaiming the need for the erection of an extravagant edifice of epic proportions to entice all enterers of Oakland University for eons to come.

In other words, build a big-ass statue.

Specifically, I propose a ten-story statue of head basketball coach Greg Kampe riding a Grizzly Bear. Or perhaps a giant two-faced sculpture of Dr. Russi on one side and the much ballyhooped Clawzz mascot on the other.

I guess the point I am trying to make here, folks, is that times are a 'changin' and you best be keeping up.

Heraclitus famously said that "no man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man." Take that to heart, Grizzlies, because one day you'll wake up and tomorrow will be yesterday and the future will be history.



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