

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

September 17, 2008

Volume 35, Number 3

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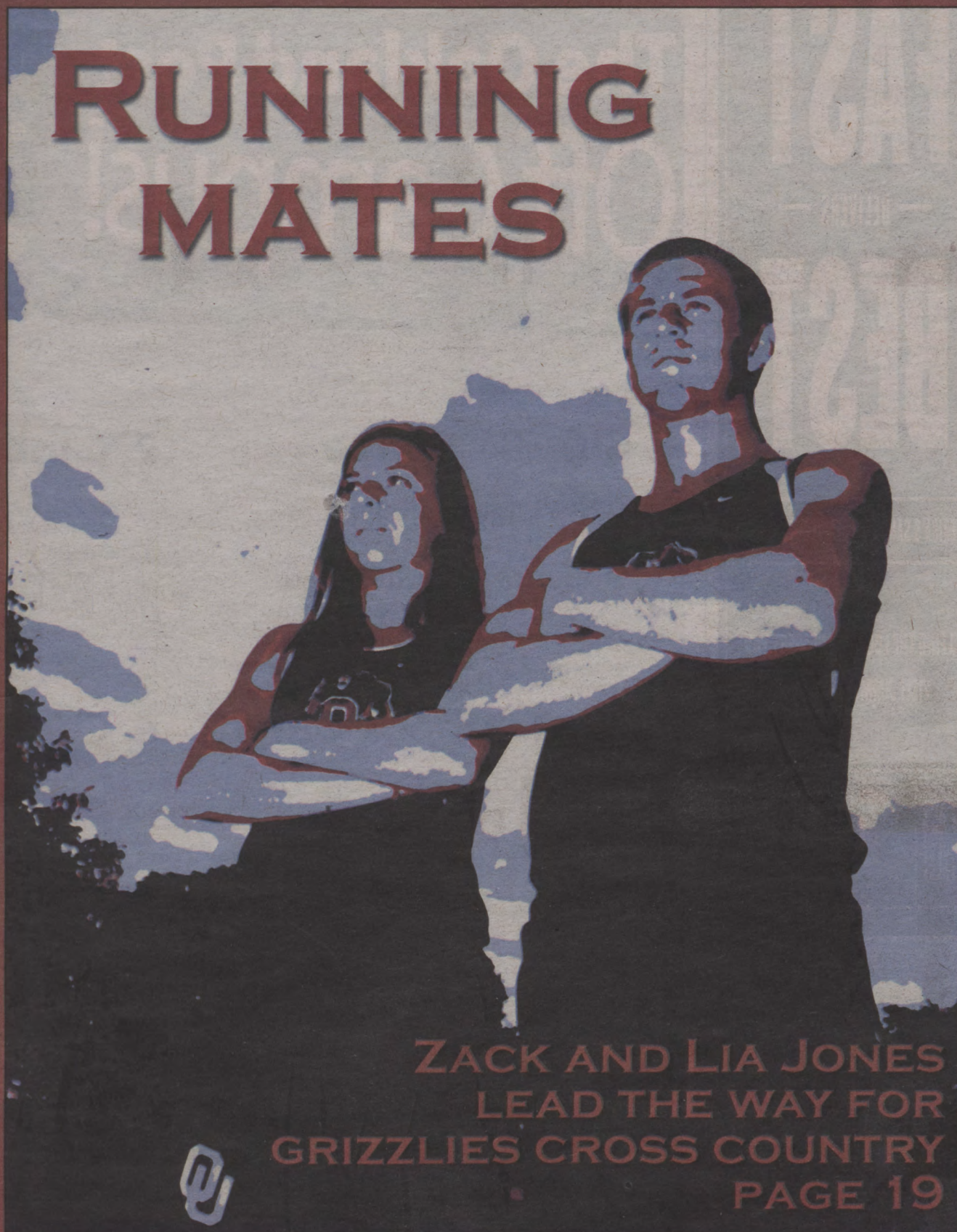
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THIS WEEK 9.17.08

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Managing Editor Nick Degel wonders why our culture has become so obsessed with socialites.



Campus page 6

Miss America brings message of positive self-image. Plus, the alliance between OU and Macomb grows stronger.



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Nonprofit organizations feel effects of the suffering economy. Also, GM announces plans of a new electric car to be produced in Detroit.



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Find out how to prepare yourself before you buy a home.



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The Oakland Post addresses the age-old argument of peer-to-peer music sharing. Also, discover another way to save money on an entertaining pastime.



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Find out what Sports Editor Tim Rath did on his first coffee trip. Plus, why Sarah Palin may soon become a GILVE.



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General Petraeus hands over command of U.S. forces in Iraq to General Ray Odierno.



Zack and Lia Jones are racing through The Oakland Post this week. See them make the finish line on page 19.

Perspectives

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September 17, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Do pundits really know what's best?

What kind of person are you? Where do your ideologies lie?

Are you a Scarborough person? Maybe you're an Olbermann person or, on the other side of the coin, an O'Reilly person. People ask you what you think about politics or current events and you may find yourself saying that you tend to agree with Dobbs or Matthews.

It's a sign of the times and we're all a part of it. The news is no longer simply the news. Now it arrives to us in the form of an opinion, molding every Joe and Jane into a Hannity or a Colmes.

To most this may just seem like an afterthought, as normal as the invention of television itself. But take a step back and look at the big picture of the United States on Sept. 17, 2008.

When people tell you that this year's election is one of the most important in our nation's history, they're not lying. The deficit has reached an almost imaginary level; our troops are still fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, waiting for someone to come up with the next stage of the plan; we face an energy crisis that will see gas climb over five dollars per gallon; and, most recently, we're playing the "missile game" with Russia all over again.

Our next president, and his administration, faces a series of challenges that are unenviable to say the least. Whether John McCain or Barack Obama is the right person for the job is our decision to make.

So where is this going?

It is not a leap of faith to assume that people vote based on the opinions they hear. Not to sound judgmental, but if you're getting your news from "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, the GOP can kiss your vote goodbye. Likewise, Obama's probably not your guy if you partake in the "No Spin Zone." This way of thinking is dangerous.

Why? Because it's no longer about YOUR vote; it's about how Cooper or Hume votes. Once people limit their viewing to one opinion on one cable news show, the host's opinion is the only one that matters – not yours. It's as if the "punditry guard" is telling us, "Don't bother with the details, we'll tell you how you should vote."

The good news is we can do something about this, and we don't have to film our own pundit shows on YouTube to do it. Worry about the details, seek answers to your own questions, and, most importantly, broaden your media horizons.

If you're interested to know the truth about what a certain candidate's tax plan means to you, do the leg work and seek more than one opinion. Think of the news media as if it is plotting points on a graph – remember high school algebra? Whether you're listening to CNN's take or reading The New York Times take, each outlet plots its own separate and unique point.

While no point may lie in the same place, together they populate the same area of the political landscape. It's up to us to take that data and apply it to what WE think. Not what Rove or Stephanopoulos thinks.

In this day and age where every paper, magazine, and channel has its own website, it is far too easy for us not to make our own decisions. As you're deciding who to vote for, seek the opinions of at least four different media outlets. If you're an MSNBC person, see what Fox has to say. You don't have to agree with it, just add it to your perspective – your plot graph.

Be happy that there is something you can do to be a part of this election. You're as much a part of this process as the guy with the perfect TV hair.

Instead of choosing a pundit, choose a candidate.



ADAM ZYGLIS/The Buffalo News

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to
The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:
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By mail:
Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
61 Oakland Center
Rochester, MI 48309

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

In "Rare disease kills deer on campus links" on page 7 of the Sept. 10, 2008 issue, the Katke Cousins golf course was incorrectly referred to as Katke Collins.

In "Proposing a roast" on page 7 of the Sept. 10, 2008 issue, Katie Wolf was incorrectly identified as a member of Sigma Pi.

In "OU Prof. 'Stamps' the importance of China" on page 18 of the Sept. 10, 2008 issue, the Chinese Conversation course was incorrectly referred to as Chinese Conservation.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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

Are the lives of socialites really that interesting?



Are we really that fascinated with the lives of the young, rich and famous?

Hollywood seems to think so. That can be the only explanation for their inundating TV with the lives of young, rich socialites, both real and fictional. The network shot callers obviously know something that I don't.

In all reality, that something is probably ratings. Why else would every network be scrambling to put out their installment of a day in the life of the super rich? Whether it's the MTV megahit "The Hills" or everyone's newest obsession "Gossip Girl," there is

obviously a market for this sort of thing.

I'm not disputing this, I just would like to know why. In order to write on this topic in an informed manner, I watched as many shows from this genre as I could. They all seemed to have one commonality: petty teenage drama.

Someone's boyfriend is looking at someone else's girlfriend — drama. Some girl is having an argument with some other girl, who gets mad at another friend for hanging out with the first girl — drama. "Daddy bought me a BMW 7 series instead of the Maybach I asked for" — come-join-us-here-in-the-real-world drama.

Outrageous wealth aside, how different are these shows from our own lives? This is college and let's face it: Whether you choose to admit or not, your life is full of drama. Maybe not the cookie-cutter, made for TV kind of drama, but you're still no stranger to it. Dating problems, stress at work, stress at school, being surrounded by people you don't get along with; if you think about it, your life is probably more interesting than the superficial, out-of-touch lives everyone

seems to be clamoring for.

Your real problems like trying to pay for school or deciding which major is right for you are far more relevant than the woes of the ever-drunk, ever-shallow, monotonous lives of the uber-privileged. Careful, you may be sitting next to some of them as you read this.

Or maybe I'm wrong. Again, the ratings seem to say so. But perhaps the moral is not to take your life for granted. Trash TV is OK for entertainment's sake, and if you like watching the show then watch. Who cares what people think? Just don't use shows like "My Super Sweet Sixteen" or CW's newest show "Privileged" as a way to escape the duldrums of your own life.

So go out and cause your own drama. Steal someone's boyfriend or girlfriend. Make up a lie about someone and spread it. Hell, slap someone in the face if you want to. Live YOUR life first, L.C.'s second.

NOTE: The Oakland Post and Nick Degel are in no way advocating assault and battery. Totally kidding about that.

Letter to The Oakland Post:

In regard to the recent increase in security measures to protect the administration ("Concern voiced over Wilson security," Sept. 10, 2008) I can only say Amen! As someone who specializes in the history of terrorism I must strongly disagree with the AAUP, my fellow faculty, and The Oakland Post on this issue.

It appears that people are completely unaware of the tidal wave of attacks upon university administrators that is taking place in this country. Across America attacks by disgruntled boyfriends, parents maddened by tuition increases, subversive Venezuelans, and out of work members of the Irish Republican Army are depleting the ranks of our already insufficient number of academic administrators.

As the focal point for public and student dissatisfaction, these officials, who are unable to go out in public without being recognized must be afforded the highest protection possible. My only concern is that these measures do not go far enough. What if a group of terrorists gets a plane and plunges it into Wilson Hall? Are we ready? Lets put my good friend Mel Gilroy on the roof, arm him and his charges with anti-aircraft missiles or consider moving the administration into the Basement with a bunker to withstand a major blast.

We need this because as we all know that we can lose the faculty and witness the killing of the students, and all the lower level administrators (uh oh, no one thought about the deans), but we cannot lose the administrators. After all is said and done, students and faculty are not the university and while we can be sacrificed, without administrators there can be no Oakland University.

We who are about to die, salute you!

Sean Farrell Moran, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
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Oakland University
Rochester, MI 48309

STUDY ABROAD FAIR Oakland University



Wednesday, September 17, 2008
Thursday, September 18, 2008
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Oakland Center
Fireside Lounge

If you have any questions, please e-mail:
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International Education
or

pigott@oakland.edu

Sheila Murdock
Office Assistant
International Education

murdock@oakland.edu

PLEASE BRING YOUR PARENTS!!!

STARTING LINE

Miss America's message of hope

Farmington Hills-based beauty queen talks about body image

By SEAN GARNER
Campus Editor

Being Miss America may bring a lot of glamour, but for Farmington Hills native Kirsten Haglund, the exposure also provides her with the opportunity to spread a message she feels passionate about.

Haglund, a 2006 graduate from Walled Lake Western who turned 20 years old Sunday, became the second youngest winner of the Miss America crown this January at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas. Ever since her coronation, Haglund has been busy nearly every day with speaking engagements and media functions.

Haglund uses these appearances to talk about one particular issue very personal to her, eating disorders. Eating disorders were her official platform in her campaign for Miss America, which she spoke about, along with other issues related to low self-esteem, at Oakland University's Fireside Lounge Tuesday. The speech was sponsored by the Student Life Lecture Board.

Haglund struggled with eating disorders after she started her first diet at the age of 13. She was later diagnosed with anorexia, and began a difficult journey of self-actualization.

"It always starts out as a 'diet,'" Haglund said. "That [anorexia] was a very scary word. But it was through my recovery and getting to a healthier place that I began to learn about this disease, and I began to realize that it wasn't talked about. I didn't know what was happening to me when I was struggling."

Haglund developed the eating disorder, she said, in service to being the best ballet dancer she could be as a young teenager, and is aware that focused, ambitious young people and athletes of

both genders are commonly victims of eating disorders. She also believes many eating disorders arise out of a misplaced set of values.

"Why would you want to sacrifice your health for this craft?" Haglund said. "I had to take myself out of ballet, and that was the hardest thing, because I was so passionate about it. But as soon as I realized that Kirsten, as a person, was someone outside of just a ballet dancer, that I could have an identity outside of that, all of the sudden, I didn't feel the pressure anymore."

According to Haglund, it was this realization that now allows her to keep her newly-acquired fame in perspective.

"I am Kirsten before I am Miss America," Haglund said. "I value myself for more than just being a beauty queen. I value myself for my message. I value going through school and loving school and loving to be someone who is intelligent. I want to be judged on my character, integrity and dignity."

Matt Kelly, an OU student who went to high school and was a theater mate of Haglund, introduced the beauty queen



Photo courtesy of Student Life Lecture Board
Oakland County native Kirsten Haglund visited OU as part of a year-long speaking tour.

to the Fireside Lounge audience. Kelly said it would be unfortunate for people not to take Haglund seriously just because of her status as a beauty queen.

"Kirsten is an absolutely wonderful individual and her platform is amazing," Kelly said. "Hearing her speak today shows that she does have a message and she is a very confident individual. I would have to disagree wholeheartedly with anyone who said that [she does not have much substance]."

Kelly said he has been impressed with Haglund since

the first time he met her, saying in his introduction that she had the intangible "it" quality that successful people possess and use to inspire others to follow them.

Haglund believes charisma is about more than just having something to say.

"Words only do so much," Haglund said. "So much of your message is communicated by who you are. I've seen that in other leaders that I have looked up to. Many of my role models have inspired me by the person they are, the method by which they communicate and how genuine and true to themselves. I think that speaks volumes more than what you could write in a speech."

Haglund said the main thing distinguishing the Miss America contest from other beauty pageants, such as Donald Trump's Miss USA, is that it is a non-profit organization focused on scholarships and service to the community.

Haglund herself has won, she approximates, \$62,000 in scholarships through the pageant circuit. She said scholarships were the main reason she became involved in pageants when she was 17, having no idea how far that path would lead her.

"I wasn't expecting to win Miss Oakland County at all," Haglund said. "I was wearing my prom dress for my evening gown. I sang 'Adult Laughing Song,' which I was working with my voice teacher from my high school. ... Even the week of Miss America, I wasn't nervous at all. I was the youngest girl there, I thought I had no chance to win."

Haglund also serves as national goodwill ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network. In that role, Haglund visits children in hospitals throughout the country, which she calls one of the most fulfilling parts of her job.

"Service builds self-worth," Haglund said during her speech. "If I am able to walk into that kid who is just precious and adorable and is going through so much in life and just with a crown on my head make them feel better and to smile and take them out of that cold hospital room for a second is just amazing."

Haglund attended the University of Cincinnati her freshman year, but currently is not taking classes in order to fulfill her obligations as Miss America. However, she told the audience she is a CNN junkie who really misses school. She mentioned UCLA and Pepperdine as two possible places to continue her studies.



Oakland, Macomb relationship grows

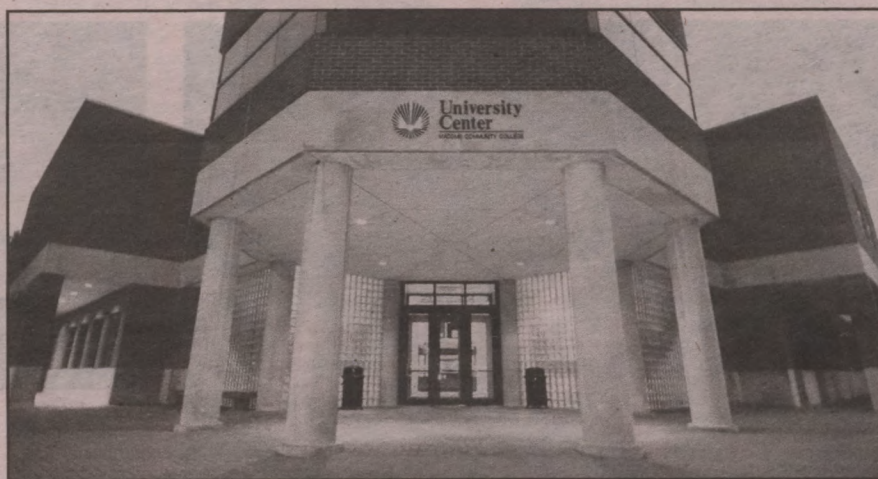
By **TIM RATH**
Sports Editor

Working within the confines of a devastated Michigan economy, Oakland University, with help from a neighbor, has found a way to grow.

At a press conference in Shelby Township, OU President Gary Russi announced a major expansion of the university's presence in Macomb County, including "an innovative satellite campus and significant outreach and community engagement efforts," according to a news release.

This comes on the heels of other expansion announcements within the past year, including a partnership with Beaumont Hospitals in April 2007 to establish a medical school at OU and later, a new relationship with Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills.

"Oakland University is committed to the overall prosperity and economic growth of Macomb County through education, research and business partnerships," said OU President Gary Russi. "Bringing to the county a unique 21st-century satellite campus is the next logical step."



Many OU students already take classes at the University Center of Macomb Community College's Clinton Township campus.

The expansion adds to OU's already-strong relationship with Macomb County, including a partnership with Macomb Community College, the Macomb University Center and the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD).

"There's no question," Russi said when asked if there was a viable market for such rapidly increasing growth in a market in which there is currently no other universities.

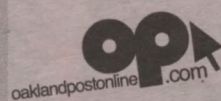
"We've got a plan for 2020 and these are just elements that we're putting in

place to satisfy that plan," he said. "It's all about increasing the visibility of the university, of the value of the degree, of each student. Things like the medical school, this satellite, legal education and other things obviously do just that."

Vice President for Outreach Mary Otto said that the new satellite campus, which will be tentatively headquartered at the Macomb University Center while OU's relationship with the community grows, plans to offer programs in health care, education and human resources, technology and international business, engineering and communications arts.

"Our goal is to serve the people in Macomb County by offering a student-centered curriculum, rich with student support services, including academic advising, which is so critical to students' success," Otto said. "We target an enrollment goal of 2,000 students by 2010 and 5,000 students by 2020."

Perhaps considering just that need to specifically serve Macomb County residents, OU officials also announced that former Macomb Community College President Al Lorenzo will join OU as an executive in residence beginning Oct. 1.



For Tim Rath's exclusive interview with
OU President Dr. Gary Russi about the
development of the new satellite campus,
go to

www.oaklandpostonline.com.

Also, tune in Sunday night for The Post's
live web blog of the 2008 Primetime
Emmy Awards.

You can also always catch breaking
campus news at the new and improved
Oakland Post website.

POLICEFILES

A vehicle driving erratically on Walton Blvd. was pulled over by OUPD on Sept. 10. The driver of the vehicle appeared to have been drinking and was field-tested for sobriety. Results of PBT were over the legal limit and the driver was placed under arrest.

A student was walking down a hallway on Sept. 10 in Pawley Hall when she fell, receiving lacerations to the elbows. The student did not recall what happened but believed that she may have passed out. She confirmed that she is a diabetic and had checked her blood sugar that morning.

On Sept. 11, a student in Hamlin Hall was transported to Crittenton Hospital by the Auburn Hills Fire Department.

The student fell off the stairs of a loft, landing on and injuring her right foot.

On Sept. 12, the Auburn Hills Fire Department, as well as an OUPD officer were dispatched to assist a student experiencing severe abdominal pain. An ambulance arrived and the student was transported to Crittenton Hospital.

OUPD responded to a disturbance at the University Student Apartments on Sept. 13. An argument that began at a club in Pontiac and returned to the apartment resulted in two individuals needing to be restrained by police. One of the involved parties had their clothing thrown out a bedroom window during the argument.

Food, fun, flag football for free



The Red Center (orange shirts) prepares for an offensive play against the Housing Department (white shirts) who are also anticipating the snap of the football. The flag football game has become an annual tradition and something of a substitute for an actual intercollegiate football game.

SARAH LANG/The Oakland Post



Local alternative rock station 89X (88.7 FM) offered merchandise to tailgaters.

SARAH LANG/The Oakland Post



These tailgaters are in front of a giant inflatable two-sided maze in which people can race each other. The maze was one of the more popular attractions at the Tailgate Party.

SARAH LANG/The Oakland Post

Hundreds of students congregated at the Upper Athletic Fields near the Student Apartments on the evening of Sept. 11 to enjoy the annual Tailgate Party put on by Campus Recreation. All who showed up had access to free hot dogs and pop. The main event of the evening was the 7th annual flag football game between the student staffs of University Housing and Campus Recreation. The festivities also marked the tenth anniversary of the Rec Center.



Julie Beck shows off her Rec pride by posing with a poster made by one of her adoring fans.

SARAH LANG/The Oakland Post



It's all in fun. After intense, competitive flag football action, the teams from University Housing and Campus Recreation come together to show they are still friends.

SARAH LANG/The Oakland Post



Cooley, OU engage in partnership

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

Oakland University and Thomas M. Cooley Law School officials announced Monday that OU will be the exclusive education partner university of Cooley's Auburn Hills campus and that Cooley's Auburn Hills campus will be the exclusive educational law school of OU.

Under this partnership, OU students will benefit as Cooley will continue to give preferred admission to OU students and Cooley's Auburn Hills campus will start to reserve a minimum of 15 spots in each section for OU students.

Another part of the agreement is that OU Honors College students with a minimum GPA of 3.5 and a minimum LSAT score of 149 are eligible for early admission to Cooley during or after the second semester of their junior year, and could receive a 35 percent tuition scholarship.

Furthermore, the OUHC students who are admitted early to Cooley can take two introductory classes at the Auburn Hills campus during their last or second-to-last semester at OU.

Cooley also has campuses in Grand Rapids and Lansing, and while OU stu-

dents will be given preferred admission to those campuses, only the Auburn Hills will reserve spots for OU students and let those eligible take classes early.

This new partnership will benefit Cooley students too.

There was an agreement in 2006 that allowed OU students to use the law library at Cooley. Now, Cooley students can use the recreation center, library and other facilities at OU. Associate Dean of Cooley's Auburn Hills Campus, John Nussbaumer, said that he was excited about the prospect of Cooley students finally "having a campus now." When asked to clarify, he said that Cooley "could never afford to build a rec center. But now, Cooley students can enjoy the benefits of a rec center and other facilities."

The OU-Cooley 2006 partnership allows Cooley students to get a masters degree in business administration or in public administration while pursuing a juris doctor (law degree) at Cooley.

At the conference, Cooley's president Don LeDuc said that they are planning more OU-Cooley joint programs. "I look forward to mornings like this, when we'll be able to announce more partnership programs," he said.

Everyone at the conference seemed to support this joint venture.

OU president Gary Russi said that he has high hopes for the partnership. "Like so many of these ventures, we don't know what the future holds," he said, "but it's likely to be great because we're working with such first-rate partners."

Nussbaumer said at the conference that he was not only excited about the venture, but also dedicated to making OU a nationally recognized university in terms of law education. "As I understand it," he said, "OU is already the national leader for percentage admitted to medical schools. I want to see if we can make OU the national leader for admittance to law schools too."

Vice chair of OU's board of trustees Henry Baskin said that this partnership is a "very positive thing for OU students" because it will do "quite a bit for OU's stature. It also improves Cooley's stature in this community," he added.

OU's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost Virinder Moudgil said he believes that this venture will "produce community leaders through the sharing of knowledge and expertise."

In an interview after the conference, Oakland County's Executive L. Brooks

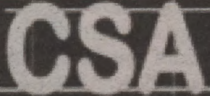
Patterson expressed his support. "This is good news for OU and Cooley, but it's also equally good news for Oakland County," he said. "This will help keep some of our brightest in Oakland County, where I want them to stay."

OU trustee Monica Emerson had similar thoughts. "These kinds of partnerships demonstrate the revitalization in this area, in spite of tough economic times," she said.

Cooley Law School offers juris doctor degrees to its students, and masters of law degree in taxation or in intellectual property. Nussbaumer said that its Auburn Hills campus has rolling admission and admits 150 students in September, 80 in January and 150 in May. A minimum of 15 spots will be reserved for eligible OU students each of these three times.

Russi said that this partnership and the preferred admission will benefit OU students pursuing law degrees greatly. "There are thousands of students who apply [to law schools] every year and don't get in," he said.

"This will keep students at home in this state, and probably cut their education costs," he added.



Center for Student Activities

40 Oakland Center, Box 600, MI 48309-4401
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Are you a V.I.P.?

For more information & to sign up go to:
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Mark your Calendars

Sorority Recruitment
Sunday, Sept. 21 @ 5:30pm
Gold Rooms, OC

Constitution Day 2008

"Terrorism and the Constitution"

Wednesday, September 17
Noon - 1:00pm
Oakland Center—Gold Rooms

TGIF Events: Friday, September 19th

Residence Halls Presents:
Friday Night Live
(with Comedian Dan Cummins)
Vandenberg Hall - Dining Center (7:00pm)

SPB, RHC, & WXOU Presents:
Jammin' @ Hamlin
Hamlin Courtyard (8:00-11:00pm)

Hispanic Celebration 2008

Wednesday, September 17
Salsa Dance Lessons
7:00 - 9:00pm, Gold Rooms, OC

Friday, September 19
Student Travel Experiences
Noon - 1:00pm, Fireside Lounge, OC

For a complete listing: www.oakland.edu/csa

Student Video Productions

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday Sept. 17 &
Thursday Sept. 18



behind the scenes

get trained

get experience

Join us @ 112 Varner Hall
Wed 4:30-6pm or Thur 11:30am - 1pm
TV Shows, Networking and Free Food



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Givers become the needy

Nonprofit organizations are struggling along with the economy

By **ASHLEY WOHLGEMUTH**
Contributing Reporter

Foreclosures, high gas prices, cost of living and countless other reasons make it hard for Americans to donate to the less fortunate nowadays.

In the slumping economy, more people are turning to charity for food, shelter and other basic human services. Nonprofit organizations providing these services are now feeling the pinch of what the low worth of a dollar means to most American families.

"The high cost of gas and living does not only affect our kids, but our staff and donors as well," said Carolyn Millard, development manager of the covenant house in Detroit. "Many people are trying to cut corners and this has hurt many charities. Our donations are down and since most of our support comes from private individuals, this has hurt us."

Amy Wynne, former vice president for the Mental Health Association of Michigan, worked at MHAM for five years where the main part of her job was filling grants. Grants can be given to any nonprofit organization by states, counties and cities.

Wynne explained that there used to be the Self Help Clearing House "that would allow anyone at anytime to call and provide contact information for people in need and seeking support groups or any assistance of any kind. The state pulled the funding for this organization and it shut down."

Wynne said that she had worked at an organization that was run strictly on donations and had no funding whatsoever. That donation was a \$15-per-year membership fee. The organization would then provide a newsletter to announce what they were doing and to try to get volunteers.

Private giving nationwide reached \$295 billion in 2006. The amount was almost double in 1996. Of that, individuals gave the majority, or \$223 billion, followed by foundations and corporations, according to the Urban Institute.

Most nonprofit organizations are volunteer oriented. "It's very hard to find dedicated people under normal circumstances to donate time, gas and money," Wynne said. "So with the struggling economy it's even more horrendous to find people that will donate 15-20 hours a week of their time."

Wynne also said that the bigger nonprofits are shrinking. "I have noticed over the past two years how

healthy or unhealthy some of the nonprofit organizations are," she said. "Some of them are still around and shrinking; others have just slipped under the radar."

"I have noticed organizations have a need for increased outreach dollars, more demand for certain services. Homeless shelters are turning people away because they are at capacity, and food banks have shortages because the donations have gone down," she said.

Annual giving in non-recession years increased 4.3 percent, according to the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, but giving has fallen an average of 1.3 percent in the five national recessions since 1973. In the 2001 recession, giving fell 2.2 percent and was down 1.4 percent the following year, after the recession was over.

In June, the Meals on Wheels Association of America reported a 30 percent reduction in the frequency of delivered meals among 277 of its programs. Some programs that once delivered hot meals daily now save gas by making weekly deliveries of one hot meal and four frozen meals. Many program organizers also lament the decreased contact with homebound people.

Wynne explained that the Meals on Wheels program "does require the volunteer to have their own vehicle, pay for their own gas, and the wear and tear on the car (repairs, oil changes, etc.) is for the volunteer to take care of. They are also always advertising for volunteers."

Ironically, volunteers in 1997 — when gas was \$1.26 a gallon — wanted gas mileage reimbursements. Wynne said a lot of the times the organization's meetings were on the west side of Michigan so consumption of gas was a big issue even then. With the rising gas prices, volunteers need to take more out of their pockets to travel.

School donations are also affected by the struggling economy. According to Wynne, "food drives are struggling because families are only buying just what they need, and using everything they have instead of throwing something out around Thanksgiving time."

Wynne explained that the Parent Teacher Organization is "a school organization that augments the school's building budget. They are responsible for fundraising; that helps organize field trips, activities in and out of school buses for the field trips. They also give \$100 supply allowance to each teacher for their classrooms."

Oddly enough, fundraising — or the lack thereof

— affects children's education. Field trips and learning outside of the classroom is essential for the young minds of today. Parents who want the best for their children simply cannot give enough to their schools to augment their education.

"Fundraising is a lot more challenging and the PTO is trying to get more people involved but its harder to get families to even donate a little bit extra to the school," Wynne said.

CHARITY AND ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

Charity has been a growing part of the national economy. Here are some facts from The Nonprofit Almanac 2008, produced by the Urban Institute:

- * Nonprofits account for nearly 10 percent of the nation's jobs.
- * Nonprofits contributed \$666 billion to the U.S. economy in 2006.
- * 61.2 million people said they volunteered in 2005.
- * Nearly 13 billion hours were volunteered in 2006.
- * The estimated wage value of volunteer time was \$215.6 billion in 2006.

Fact from www.ns.umich.edu:

- * Since mid-2000 to the end of this year, Michigan will have lost 336,000 jobs and it will lose another 33,000 jobs in the next two years

— Compiled by Ashley Wohlgemuth



GM unveils electric car to be produced in Detroit

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT — General Motors Corp. Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner unveiled the automaker's long-awaited electric car Tuesday at GM's 100th anniversary celebration.

Wagoner showed off the production version of the Chevrolet Volt, which will be able to go 40 miles on a single charge from a home outlet. He said GM has been testing the car's new lithium-ion battery packs and is confident in their performance.

The Volt is expected to be built at GM's Detroit Hamtramck facility by 2010.

"General Motors' second century starts right now," he said as Vice Chairman Bob Lutz drove the four-passenger sedan onto a stage at the automaker's world headquarters.

GM said the Volt will cost about 80 cents to fully charge at a rate of 10 cents per kilowatt-hour, which is about the national average. After that, the batteries will be recharged by a small gasoline engine that allows the car to travel hundreds more miles.

GM said the engine will be able to run on E85 ethanol, a blend of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline.

"It's proof that the century-old General Motors is alive and well and that it intends to lead in reinventing the automobile," Wagoner said.

The Volt will have a driver-configurable liquid-crystal instrument display and touch-screen-style climate, information and entertainment controls, GM said. It will also include standard Bluetooth wireless connectivity for a cellular phone and music streaming.

GM hasn't announced the Volt's pricing, but it's expected to cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

Lutz said that the car won't be ready sooner because of the complexity in building an entirely new powertrain.

"This is all-new technology, a lot of very complex software on the interaction between power electronics, piston engine and so forth," he said.

The car, he said, will know a person's normal route home, and if the driver veers off the route, it will calculate whether it needs to start the gasoline engine to recharge the batteries to extend the range, and for how long the engine needs to run.

At the celebration, Wagoner also addressed the turmoil in U.S. financial markets, and said that it should not affect government loan guarantees that



PAUL SANCYA/Associated Press

The Chevrolet Volt at a General Motors centennial celebration in Detroit, Tuesday.

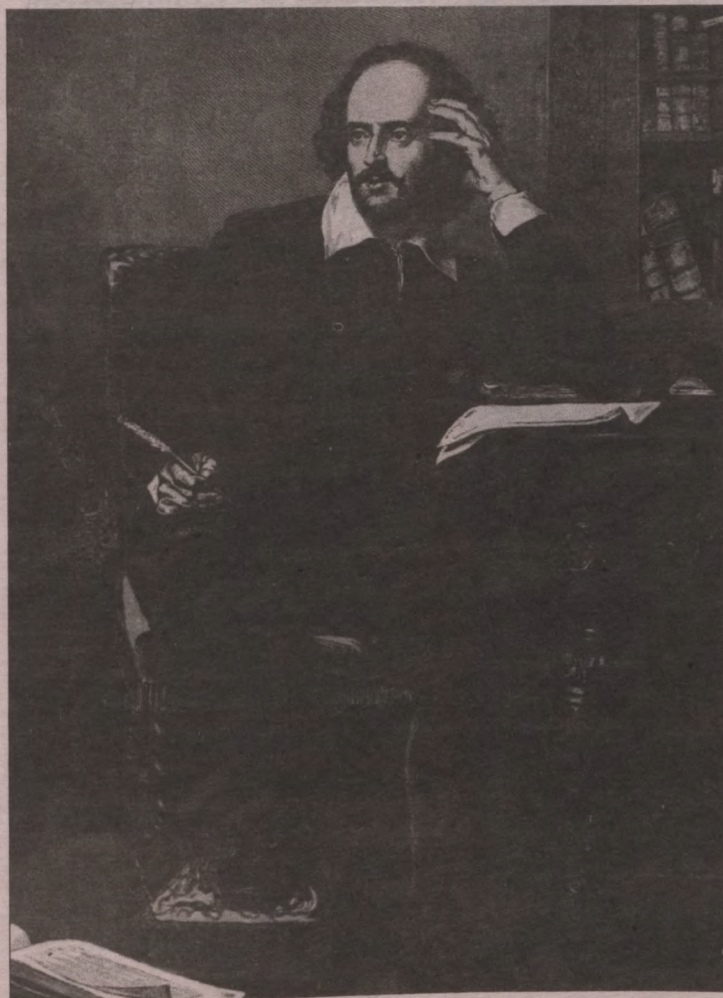
would help the auto industry develop high-tech vehicles.

Wagoner said the \$25 billion in loans were approved last year as part of an energy bill and should now be funded to help the industry build next-generation automobiles and meet government fuel economy standards.

"Really a relatively small fraction of the investment the industry will have to make to achieve these improvements was to be provided for by direct loans,"

Wagoner said. "We're just asking that those loans now be funded and that the rules and procedures to be able to draw against those loans be finalized promptly."

Lutz told reporters that GM will be able to develop products even if it doesn't get the loans, but the company would prefer to have the financing as it faces a difficult balancing act between spending to meet government regulations and developing new products.



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Are female celebrities giving women a bad name?



"No. Young girls look at them and know they shouldn't behave like that."

Jarvelle Paschall
Junior, Political Science



"No. They're just having fun."

Chelsea Ledesma
Freshman, Undecided



"No. You'd have to assume she represents all women and they only represent a small group of women."

Peter Piccirillo
Senior, Communications

They aren't all bad

Some of Hollywood's ladies are more productive with their money and time.

Angelina Jolie

The Oscar-winning actress has taken a deep interest in international charitable projects. She donates a third of her income to charity.

According to www.imdb.com

Oprah

This TV personality and philanthropist started the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa in 2007. The school is for gifted girls who wish to receive an education and decrease the numbers of poverty.

According to www.oprahschool.com

Pamela Anderson

The model and actress actively participates in the PETA organization. She is also working on her own line of eco-friendly body products.

According to www.pamelachannel.com

Has society become more accepting to gay marriage due to the influences of pop culture?



"Yeah, because twenty years ago people wouldn't openly be gay."

Alex Kolaned
Junior, Communications



"Slowly but surely. There is a change coming on, but in some people's eyes it's not coming fast enough."

Rebecca Jennex
Freshman, English

Same-sex marriage may be one of the hot-topic issues, but people could be warming up to the idea.

According to **www.sfgate.com**, a survey of California residents showed that 43 percent supported gay marriage.

In the 2004 election, Michigan voted to ban gay marriage along with ten other states, according to **www.about.com**.



"Yes, because gay marriages are being accepted more open and we see it everyday."

Grace Weng
Freshman, Nursing



Catch the finish line on page 19



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Oakland University

Code of Academic and Non-Academic Student Conduct

Code of Student Conduct Purpose

Oakland University students are expected to practice civility and uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity. These campus community values are reflected through campus standards and regulations. The purpose of Oakland University's Code of Student Conduct is to foster the growth and development of students by encouraging self discipline, assist in creating an educationally supportive environment, and to protect the well-being of the campus community. This code includes nonacademic and academic conduct and applies to all undergraduate students, graduate students and student organizations at Oakland University. It is the responsibility of all university students and organizations to familiarize themselves with the conduct code at the beginning of each academic year. The conduct code is set forth in writing to give students general notice of the conduct expected of them. The code is not written with the specificity of a criminal statute and is not designed to define misconduct in exhaustive terms. The Code of Student Conduct shall apply to a student's conduct even if the student withdraws from class or school while a disciplinary matter is pending.

NOTICE: The reader should take notice that while every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in the Student Handbook, Oakland University reserves the right, in its sole and exclusive discretion, to make changes at any time without prior notice. Oakland University provides the information in the Student Handbook solely for the convenience of the reader and expressly disclaims any obligations which may otherwise be stated, implied or inferred. The Student Handbook, in its entirety or in its component parts, is not a contract and cannot be utilized, construed or relied upon as a contract.

Jurisdiction

The University reserves the right to take necessary and appropriate action to protect the mission of the university or the safety of its members. This may include taking disciplinary action against students whose behavior off university premises or between academic periods violates university ordinances and regulations, federal, state, or local laws; or which materially and adversely affects the individual's suitability as a member of the campus community.

Judicial Process

The Dean of Students Office administers the university judicial process and insures that student rights are protected. The judicial system provides for the timely and orderly investigation and adjudication of alleged nonacademic and academic conduct violations of community standards. All conduct records are maintained in the Dean of Students Office and protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA").

Nonacademic Conduct Regulations

If a student breaks a law that also violates university standards of conduct, the student may be held accountable by both external authorities and the university. The university may at its sole discretion elect to pursue disciplinary action against the student either before, during or after administrative, civil or criminal proceedings arising out of the same or other events and shall not be subject to challenge on the ground that external charges involving the same incident have been dismissed, reduced or are pending.

Imminent Danger/Emergency Suspension

Sometimes, the nature of a reported incident may require immediate action be taken by the university to protect the members of the community. Such a situation occurs when the nature of the allegation brings into reasonable question the prudence of permitting the accused student to continue as a member of the university or residence halls community prior to a formal hearing. To protect the safety and well being of university students, faculty, staff or university property, the student may be temporarily suspended prior to formal adjudication of the case. In any such instance, the university will promptly implement its judicial procedures to address the conduct in question.

Academic Conduct Regulations

All members of the academic community at Oakland University are expected to practice and uphold standards of academic integrity and honesty. Academic integrity means representing oneself and one's work honestly. Misrepresentation is cheating since it means the student is claiming credit for ideas or works not actually his or her own and is thereby seeking a grade that is not actually earned. All academic misconduct allegations are forwarded to the Dean of Students Office and adhere to the student judicial system.

Following are some examples of academic dishonesty:

1. Cheating on assignments and examinations. This includes, but is not limited to, the following when not authorized by the instructor: the use of any assistance or materials such as books and/or notes, acquiring exams or any other academic materials, the use of any other sources in writing drafts, papers, preparing reports, solving problems, works completed for a past or concurrent course, completing homework or carrying out other assignments. No student shall copy from someone else's work or help someone else copy work or substitute another's work as one's own. No student shall engage in any behavior specifically prohibited by an instructor in the course syllabus or class discussion.
2. Plagiarizing the work of others. Plagiarism is using someone else's work or ideas without giving that person credit. By doing this, a student is, in effect, claiming credit for someone else's thinking. This can occur in drafts, papers and oral presentations. Whether the student has read or heard the information used, the student must document the source of information. When dealing with written sources, a clear distinction should be made between quotations, which reproduce information from the source word-for-word within quotation marks, and paraphrases, which digest the source of information and produce it in the student's own words. Both direct quotations and paraphrases must be documented. Even if a student rephrases, condenses or selects from another person's work, the ideas are still the other person's and failure to give credit constitutes misrepresentation of the student's actual work and plagiarism of another's ideas. Buying a paper or using information from the Internet without attribution and handing it in as one's own work is plagiarism.
3. Cheating on lab reports by falsifying data or submitting data not based on the student's own work.
4. Falsifying records or providing misinformation regarding one's credentials.
5. Unauthorized collaboration on assignments. This is unauthorized interaction with anyone in the fulfillment of academic requirements and applies to in-class or take-home coursework. Individual (unaided) work on exams, lab reports, homework, computer assignments and documentation of

sources is expected unless the instructor specifically states in the syllabus or verbally that it is not necessary. Collaboration can also include calculating homework problems with another person, having another help to rewrite a paper, sharing information/sources with others and checking coursework with others.

6. Completion of original work. When an instructor assigns coursework, the instructor intends that work to be completed for his/her course only. Work students may have completed for a course taken in the past, or may be completing for a concurrent course, must not be submitted in both courses unless they receive permission to do so from both faculty members.

Student Organization Regulations

General student and Greek organization regulations are included in the Student Organization Handbook available in the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development (CSA), 49 Oakland Center. Organization officers are provided a copy of this handbook at the time of student organization registration. Student organization violations are addressed through the CSA. All university ordinance violations are addressed by the Dean of Students Office and adhere to the student judicial system. All academic conduct violations will adhere to the Academic Conduct Regulations.

Hazing Policy

Of special concern to student organizations is the university hazing policy. Hazing is defined as any action taken or situation related to organizational membership that produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment or ridicule, or any activity that threatens or endangers the life or safety of an individual. All forms of hazing are strictly prohibited at Oakland University.

Student Organization Conduct

Any person who is aware of possible student or Greek organization nonacademic misconduct is requested to report the alleged violation to the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development. Such matters will adhere to the Student Organization Regulations. All academic conduct violations should be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

Judicial Procedures

Judicial procedures for addressing cases of nonacademic, academic or student organization misconduct vary slightly, but the following steps are included in each process. The term "dean of students" as used in this document shall mean "dean of students or other person designated by the vice president for student affairs to process and/or hear case(s)." The focus of the judicial process shall be to determine whether a student has violated campus standards or regulations. Deviations from prescribed judicial procedures shall not invalidate a decision or proceeding unless, in the opinion of the dean of students, significant prejudice to a student resulted from the deviation.

1. Complaint: A complaint of misconduct is usually written and includes specific allegations or charges. Any faculty, staff or student who is aware of possible student misconduct is requested to report the alleged violation to the dean of students.

2. Interview: Upon receipt of a complaint or report of alleged student misconduct, the accused student shall meet with the dean of students or assistant dean of students for an interview to determine if a university hearing is required. The accused student may have an adviser, who must be a member of the Oakland University community, present at the interview and shall be informed of the alleged violation and advised of his/her rights.

3. Notice: Upon determination of the need for a disciplinary hearing, the accused student will receive written notification. Written notice includes a statement of the alleged misconduct with sufficient particulars to enable the accused student to prepare his/her defense, the date, time and place of any hearing, and the names of witnesses who are scheduled to appear at the hearing. Normally, notice is provided at least 72 hours in advance of any hearing.

Hearing Types

The University Conduct Committee (UCC) and Academic Conduct Committee (ACC) are both comprised of five members, representing faculty, staff and students. Hearings of the UCC and ACC are tape recorded to provide a record in the event of an appeal.

The UCC includes two students and three faculty and staff selected by the Dean of Students Office. A faculty member or staff member will chair the UCC hearing. A non-voting representative of the Dean of Students Office will present an overview of the case.

The ACC includes faculty appointed by the University Senate Committee, two students selected by the Dean of Students Office, and one staff representative of the Dean of Students Office. A faculty member selected by the University Senate Committee will chair the hearing.

The focus of inquiry in disciplinary hearings shall be to determine whether there has been a violation of campus standards or regulations and, if necessary, appropriate sanctions.

There are seven types of conduct hearings at the university depending on the nature of the infraction

Student nonacademic conduct cases will be addressed in either a University Conduct Committee Hearing or a University Conduct Administrative Hearing:

• University Conduct Committee

If the alleged violation is of a non-academic nature, the accused student may choose a University Conduct Committee (UCC) hearing. All serious matters of misconduct can be referred to the UCC by the dean of students. Hearings of the UCC will be closed to the public, unless the complainant and the accused student both agree to conduct an open hearing. Requests for an open hearing require a 48-hour notice and the final determination is made by the UCC chair. The purpose of the hearing is to determine responsibility for an alleged violation and make sanction recommendations to the dean of students.

• University Conduct Administrative Hearing

If the alleged violation is of a nonacademic nature and the accused student fully accepts responsibility for the violation, the dean of students may allow an administrative hearing. This hearing is conducted solely by the dean of students or assistant dean of students. The hearing officer decides on the appropriate sanction and if the student agrees with the sanction(s), the case is concluded and all appeal rights are waived. If there is no agreement on a sanction, the University Conduct Committee will hear the case.

Student academic conduct cases will be addressed in either an Academic Conduct Committee Hearing or an Academic Conduct Administrative Hearing:

• Academic Conduct Committee

If the alleged violation is of an academic nature, the case will be heard by the Academic Conduct Committee (ACC) of the University Senate. Academic conduct hearings are generally closed to the public. In all cases heard by the ACC, the purpose will be to make a decision regarding responsibility or innocence with respect to the alleged misconduct. In the case of a "responsible" finding, the ACC also will determine the sanctions.

• Academic Conduct Administrative Hearing

This hearing is used when the student accepts responsibility for the alleged violation. The dean of students may choose to hold an administrative hearing conducted by the chair of the Academic Conduct Committee. The dean of students, faculty member bringing the case, the student charged and his/her adviser will be present. The hearing is held to decide an appropriate sanction. If the chair, dean of students, and faculty member bringing the case agree on a sanction, the case is concluded. If there is no sanction agreement, the Academic Conduct Committee will hear the case.

• Residence Hall Hearing

If the alleged violation is of a nonacademic nature, involves a residence hall student, occurred in the residence halls, and is not a major infraction, the matter will be heard through the Residence Hall Judicial System. The procedures for the Residence Hall Judicial System are included in the Residence Hall Handbook.

• Student Organization Conduct Hearing

Student or Greek organizations may choose a Student Organization Conduct Hearing. All serious matters of nonacademic misconduct can be referred to the University Conduct Committee (UCC) by the Center for Student Activities. These hearings will be closed to the public, unless the complainant and accused organization both agree to an open hearing. Open hearing requests require a 48-hour notice and final determination is made by the SOCC chair. The hearing is to determine responsibility for the allegations and decide sanction(s). All appeals are made to the dean of students or his/her designee.

• Student Organization Administrative Hearing

If the student or Greek organization fully accepts responsibility for the violation(s), an administrative hearing may be allowed. The hearing is conducted solely by the director or his/her designee. The hearing officer decides on the appropriate sanction and if the organization agrees with the sanction(s), the case is concluded and all appeal rights are waived. If there is no agreement on a sanction, the University Conduct Committee will hear the case.

Hearing Procedures

1. Written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing will be provided to the student 72 hours in advance of the hearing. The notice will include a statement of the alleged misconduct with sufficient particulars to enable the accused student to prepare his/her defense and the names of witnesses who are scheduled to appear at the hearing.
2. The accused student or his/her adviser shall notify the dean of students in writing at least 48 hours prior to a hearing of the name, address and phone number of witnesses he/she wishes to call and the context of their appearance. After the witness list is finalized, the accused student is responsible for asking them to appear at the hearing.
3. The dean of students will advise the accused student of his/her right not to make any responses or statements that may be incriminating and also will inform the student that any information or answer given may be used in a disciplinary hearing or a court of law.
4. Throughout the hearing, it is the responsibility of the chair to determine the appropriateness of all questions and comments. Any member of the hearing committee and advisers may make inquiries and comments when properly recognized by the chair.
5. The dean of students will make all decisions regarding postponement of a hearing prior to the hearing date. It is the responsibility of the chair to make all decisions regarding postponement or continuation of a hearing once in progress.
6. The chair has the authority to maintain the proper atmosphere throughout the hearing. Any person, including the accused student, who disrupts a hearing or who fails to adhere to the rulings of the chair, may be excluded or removed from the hearing.
7. The chair has the final decision as to the admissibility of any evidence, written statements, documentation or testimony. Irrelevant or unduly repetitious evidence may be excluded.
8. After considering all evidence, the conduct committee will deliberate in private, determine responsibility or innocence, and determine an appropriate sanction.

University Sanctions

If a student or an organization is found to be responsible for academic or nonacademic misconduct, the following sanctions may be imposed singly or in combination. The sanction(s) imposed will be commensurate with the offending conduct and may take into account the student's educational record and any previous conduct record. Additionally, sanctions may prevent the student from representing the university in some extracurricular activities.

1. Disciplinary Reprimand. A written reprimand that expresses university dissatisfaction with the student's conduct and clarifies expected behavior in the future.
2. Disciplinary Probation. Written notification that any further violations within the probationary period shall result in more severe disciplinary action. The probationary period will be for a specific period of time or until the completion of any specified requirements or conditions that are a part of the probation.
3. Deferred Disciplinary Suspension. The student remains enrolled; however, any violation of conduct regulations during the period of deferred suspension will, after a determination of responsibility, result in disciplinary suspension.
4. Disciplinary Suspension. A decision that removes the student from the university for a specified period of time, usually no more than two years. The suspension might be immediate or begin after the end of the semester. In either case, the student is eligible for consideration for readmission at the end of the specified period. Courses completed at another college during the period of suspension will not be accepted as transfer credits.
5. Disciplinary Expulsion. A decision that removes the student permanently from the university. Normally, the penalty shall consist of the student being barred from the premises of the university.
6. Other Sanctions. May include, but are not limited to, prohibition from engaging in any extracurricular activity such as, running for or holding office in any student group or organization, limiting athletes from participation in sports-related activities, restricting students from serving on any university committees, or limiting student employment, service charges, holds on records, counseling, restriction or removal from on-campus housing, community service, and writing a paper.
7. Fines/fees. Established fines and fees may be imposed.
8. Revocation of Degree. A degree awarded from the university may be revoked for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of university standards in obtaining a degree, or for other serious violations committed by a student prior to graduation.
9. Withholding Degree. The university may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in this Student Code of Conduct, including completion of all sanc-

tions imposed, if any.

Disciplinary Findings

After the hearing, the student will be informed of the findings of the committee. The findings may include:

- A. Not responsible: No misconduct has been proven.
- B. Responsible: The student was proven responsible for the alleged misconduct by a preponderance of the evidence or accepted responsibility for the charges.

Expelled or Suspended Student Refund Policy

When a student is expelled or suspended from the university for disciplinary reasons (either academic or nonacademic), the date of the disciplinary violation will be used to determine whether the student is entitled to a refund of any tuition or fees according to the current university tuition and fees refund schedule. Additionally, residence halls and apartment room and board charges will be prorated based on the student's room checkout date.

Appeal Procedures

There are only two grounds on which the decision of the Nonacademic and Academic Conduct Committees may be appealed:

1. Substantial new evidence, which was not available at the hearing and/or;
2. Procedural error that significantly affected the outcome of the case.

*Severity of the sanctions imposed is not grounds for an appeal.

Nonacademic Conduct Right of Appeal

Appeals for the University Conduct Committee are processed through the vice president for student affairs. The vice president may affirm the decision and sanction, affirm the decision and modify the sanction, reverse the decision, or return the case to the conduct committee for further consideration or rehearing. The decision of the vice president is final. The vice president may designate another individual or group to recommend an appeal decision.

Academic Conduct Right of Appeal

After a hearing has ended, all students receive written notification of the findings and sanction(s). The decision of the Academic Conduct Committee shall be final, subject only to the student's right of appeal. The Steering Committee of the University Senate grants authority to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, or designee, to screen all appeal letters and determine merit.

Form of the Appeal

Students will normally have ten (10) working days from the date of the written notification to submit a written appeal stating the grounds for the appeal and the disposition the student seeks as a result of the appeal. If the appeal is based on new evidence, the letter should specify in detail what the new evidence is, how it affects the case, and why it was not presented at the hearing. New evidence in written form should be included with the letter of appeal. If the appeal is based on a procedural error, the letter should specify in detail what the error was and how it prevented a fair adjudication of the case.

Acceptance or Rejection of the Appeal

All information submitted will be reviewed to determine whether there are grounds for an appeal. If the appeal is rejected, the student will be informed and the case will be closed. If the appeal is accepted the case will be reverted back to the Dean of Students Office for a rehearing with a newly constituted Academic Conduct Committee.

Student Rights

Oakland University students shall enjoy certain rights as members of the academic community in addition to those rights that they enjoy as citizens or residents of the United States and the state of Michigan. While the following is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all rights supported by the university, it does reflect principles that are essential to the maintenance of an environment that is conducive to the pursuit of learning and the development of students as scholars and citizens. Students have the right of free inquiry, expression and association, and students are expected to exercise their rights within the bounds of civility and community responsibility.

- Students have the right to participate in university-sponsored services and activities without discrimination or harassment based on a student's race, creed, color, sexual orientation, national origin, age, sex or other classification that deprives the person of consideration as an individual.
- Students have the right to protection against improper disclosure of their student record as provided in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA).
- Students have the right of access to their personal records and other university files as provided for under the FERPA and the Michigan Freedom of Information Act.
- Students have the right to join associations without fear of harassment or intimidation.
- Students have the right to petition for change in either academic or non-academic regulations, procedures or practices.
- Students accused of misconduct or of violating university policy have the right to have their responsibility determined in accord with university procedures and standard due process protections.

Health Related Emergencies

In cases involving health-related emergencies (physical or psychological), the university may take appropriate action to protect the health and safety of the individual student and of the campus. Such action may include restriction from the campus until the situation is addressed as well as notification of the student's family. This can also include a voluntary or administrative medical withdrawal. Students will receive written notification of the decision to invoke an administrative medical withdrawal. Students who have received a medical administrative withdrawal due to a health related emergency must complete the re-enrollment process prior to enrolling in subsequent coursework.

Re-enrollment Process

Students who have received a voluntary or administrative medical withdrawal due to a mental health condition may request re-enrollment.

The student must complete the following:

1. Submit to the Office of the Dean of Students, a Request for Re-enrollment form with supporting documentation. The request must be completed by a qualified (licensed) mental health professional.
2. Once the completed request form and supporting documentation have been submitted, the student must schedule a meeting with the Dean of Students to review his/her request.

Questions regarding the judicial process or incidents of a disciplinary nature should be directed to the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, (248) 370-3352.

The complete Student Code of Conduct is available on-line at

www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/

you

(your stories
your words
your style
your health)

Real life and real estate

Finding a home is a process that should not be taken lightly

By ERIN MASTRO
Contributing Reporter

When students graduate, it's time for them to move on to a new stage of life and deal with the basic needs that everyone faces. One of the most basic needs — and sometimes intimidating — that people deal with is finding that first place to call home. Some say it is the biggest investment one will ever encounter.

Still, students should not pressure themselves into moving in on their own if they feel that they are not ready. According to realtor.com, Wayne County registered the nation's second highest metro foreclosure rate with 4,190 properties entering some stage of foreclosure, averaging a foreclosure filing for every 197 households.

While foreclosures can be a nightmare, it helps if students are able to handle the many financial aspects of finding a place to live.

Know Your Limits

Dolly Stoianov, who is a graduate student at Oakland University, did what many should do to avoid the chance of foreclosure.

"I thought that I had a job set up. I searched the market for homes that would fit my income," Stoianov said.

Susan Carter, a real estate broker at Sine & Monaghan GMAC Real Estate in Royal Oak for the past 25 years, believes that students need to emulate what Stoianov did by making sure they are financially ready to buy or rent a home.

"Students need to research the rental market and make sure they have enough money," Carter said. "The first month's rent and a month-and-a-half security deposit is usually needed."

According to Carter, it is also important for students to set a budget for themselves.

"Sometimes heat and electricity are going to be included, sometimes they're not," Carter said.

Students not knowing what questions



Graphic by DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

to ask and not considering their bills is another problem that can occur.

Greg Barnas, a real estate broker for 10 years and office manager at Sine & Monaghan GMAC, said "the biggest issue I see not being communicated is whether or not water is included."

Buying vs. Renting

Renting or buying is another big decision. Renting saves students money by allowing them to share the bills with another person. It's also a good learning experience for future house hunting.

"Renting helps shape your opinions. It is a good transition into a pure adult life," said Jeff Reiter, a real estate broker at Re/Max Vision in Huntington Woods for 17 years.

OU senior Bryan Everson believes that students should not buy for their first time in the market.

"If students buy right now, they are trading in a lot of future flexibility," Everson said.

Reiter believes that renting can help one develop a keen eye in future house-hunting endeavors.

"Renting a place can really help shape that person's opinion on what is important to them in a house that they might not have known while living at their parents," Reiter said. "Take a basement for example. If a person is living somewhere that doesn't have one, they may realize how important it is for extra storage."

According to Carter, buying is great if a student wants to stay in Michigan.

"Prices in real estate have dropped

dramatically and interest rates have also been lowered on mortgages to about 6 percent," Carter said.

But if there is any doubt due to job offers that are in a different location, keep the option of renting open.

Reiter has similar opinions that strongly support Carter's on renting.

"Renting can also help a person pay off student debts since it is cheaper than buying," he said.

For seniors who have a high amount of student loans, they cannot hurt you in Reiter's opinion.

"They can only help build your credit," he said, if they are paid on time.

Sometimes good credit isn't enough. Landlords won't always rent to students. "Landlords may be hesitant to rent out their property thinking 'will this person maintain it or trash it?'" Barnas said.

Barnas also said that landlords are charged a higher property tax rate on the property they are renting out that is "usually 30-40 percent higher since the landlord isn't claiming it as their primary residence. In Michigan you can only claim one."

Applying Yourself

Carter said she thinks the main problem encountered by landlords is that "people who haven't lived on their own don't understand basic housekeeping."

Carter said that when a student looks for a place, they should get a packet together.

"This should include a credit report, which a student can obtain for free online from any of the three credit bureaus," Carter said. "Any bad credit a student has needs to be taken care of or needs to have a letter of explanation."

Just like an application process, letters of recommendation help show a potential buyer's reliability.

"The packet also needs two reference letters that can be from a teacher or an employer stating whether or not he or she is responsible or not," Carter said.



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313-278-4491

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(in front of Kohl's)

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734-779-0148

NOVI

3025 12 Mile Rd.
(Twelve Oaks Service Dr.
north of Sears)

248-305-6600

Twelve Oaks Mall

(lower level play area)

PONTIAC/WATERFORD

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(across from Summit
Place Mall)

248-335-9900

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(at Auburn Rd.)

248-853-0550

ROYAL OAK

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(at Normandy)

248-549-4177

ST. CLAIR SHORES

26401 Harper Ave.
(at 10 1/2 Mile)

586-777-4010

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28117 Telegraph Rd.
(south of 12 Mile Rd.)

248-358-3700

STERLING HEIGHTS

45111 Park Ave.
(M-59 & M-53,
Utica Park Plaza)

586-997-6500

Lakeside Mall

(lower level, Sears court)

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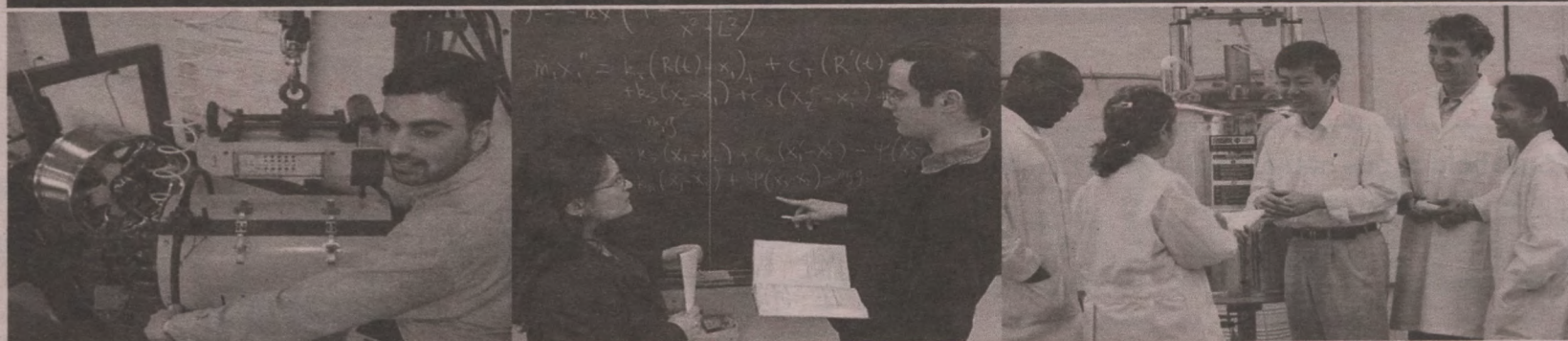
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To apply or to learn more about research at Oakland University, please visit www.oakland.edu/research



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(248) 370-2552
research@oakland.edu

"I had the opportunity to apply scientific knowledge to real problems in the lab — which is much more challenging than learning from a textbook! I was able to present my research to Oakland University's Eye Research Institute (ERI) staff, friends, and other S.U.P.E.R. kids, attend lectures by ERI faculty and visiting scholars, and present a research poster at the Sigma Xi conference in Detroit."

— Elizabeth Zbrozek, biology student, on her project entitled, "Effects of UVA light in vitro on guinea pig lens crystallins"

"I was able to participate in the University of Michigan Meeting of the Minds and see my research efforts materialize into a tangible product that I could share with others. I consider the opportunity to present my work at such an event a platform to share the capstone experience I have gained during my undergraduate studies."

— Monica Bowman, art history student, on her project entitled, "Gunter von Hagens' Gestalt Plastinates: The Convergence of the Modernization of Art and Science - Recreation of Man as Art Object"

Sports

September 17, 2008

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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By JARED PURCELL
You/Local Editor

One morning at a high school cross country meet in northern Michigan, a brother and sister prepared to run one of the most important races of the season. Representing Pine River High School, Zack and Lia Jones both readied themselves for the regional meet.

Zack, the elder sibling and a senior, was favored to qualify for the state meet. Lia, a sophomore and rising talent who qualified for states the year before, was only expected to finish the race as best as she could. After all, she had an appendectomy just two weeks earlier.

Zack finished with flying colors and took his state qualification in stride, in his usual modest way. His main concern was that his sister was running so soon after the operation. The top 15 make it to states and his sister had a shot. He needed to help in anyway he could.

"And [Zack] just ran like crazy chasing her around the course encouraging her to keep going," recalled Kay Jones, Zack and Lia's mother. "He was yelling things like 'you're in seventh, keep it here' and 'don't drop back, you're in, you're in.'"

On the surface, the Jones siblings are gifted runners with a knack to win. Beyond all of that is a quiet older brother and a vocal younger sister who lead their teams — and each other — to success on the Oakland University cross country team.

SUSTAINING SUCCESS

Zack, now a junior linguistics major at OU, recently added another item to his long list of accomplishments. He became the third person in the history of the Running Fit-Detroit Titan Invitational to run it in under 20 minutes with a time of 19:59 over the four-mile course earlier this season.

Expecting to take a few meets to get back into the groove of running after missing most of last season due to an ankle injury suffered in September 2007, Zack is already exceeding expectations of his recovery.

"I didn't expect it necessarily, but it doesn't really surprise me," Head Coach Paul Rice said of Zack's early-season success. "Zack and I had a talk early on this season that we needed to use the

first couple of meets just to get him back in that cross country mode ... everything went right for him and I was excited to see that."

Lia, a freshman who is currently undecided about her major, tries not to focus on the intimidating aspects of her brother's success.

"I just felt like I wanted to do well," Lia said. "I don't feel like I have to live up to expectations."

After all, as a four-time letter winner in cross-country and track in high school, with multiple all-state honors, it

shouldn't be too hard for her to make her own name for herself.

She wasted no time in making her mark as she started her collegiate running career finishing as the top OU woman at the Grizzly Open.

"She ran really well the first race," Rice said. "Her work ethic was great from the start and she fit right in."

TOGETHER AGAIN

For Zack, it's nice to be part of a team with his sister once again.

"It's kind of cool to be able to see her

run," Zack said. "If she were somewhere else, I'd be able to see her run every now and then, but here I can see her practice everyday."

As an older brother, Zack had some concerns when it became clear Lia was going to attend OU as well.

"In a way you want to be independent," he said. "I didn't want to have to worry about her, or her to worry about me."

Though, as time has progressed, there aren't many independency issues between the two. Even when it comes to Lia and dating, Zack says he isn't very protective or strict.

"Well, not too strict," he said with a smile. "If it's reasonable, it's fine."

"I think he's protective," Lia said. "But I don't have to hide anything from him. We're close."

With all of their successes, it makes one wonder if there is a sibling rivalry.

"Not with me but maybe with her," Zack said, to which Lia quickly answered "no."

Really? After all, we are talking about a brother and a sister.

"Sometimes, Lia might jab and say 'well I got this at this meet' if she [placed] higher or something," Kay said. "They would just kind of tease each other but there was never any rivalry."

In fact, rather than ribbing each other, they do their best to encourage each other and give advice.

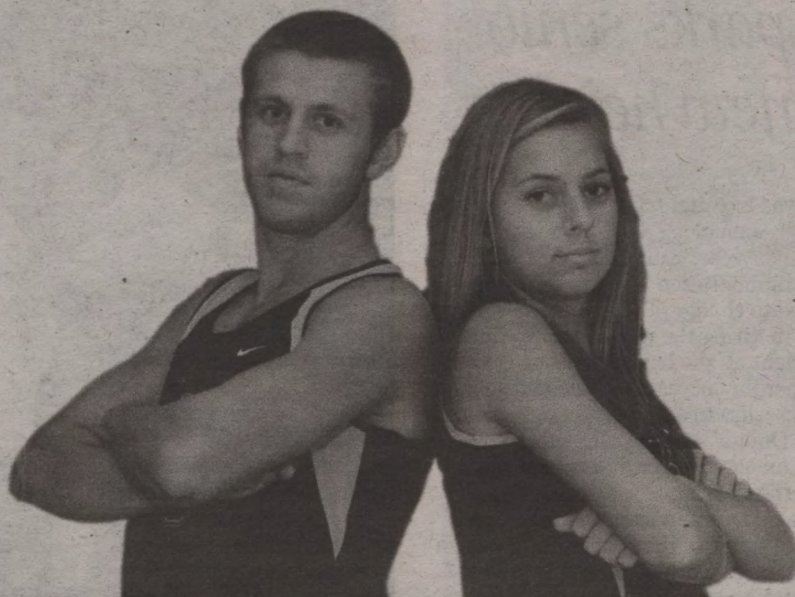
"In a lot of ways you can be more honest than with certain people, I think," Zack said. "Well, at least that's how I'll be with her."

Lia believes that Zack's advice and honesty are some of her sources for motivation.

"I don't want to disappoint him, I guess," Lia said. "Other people would be like 'oh, good job, good job,'" she said. "I know that he wouldn't be like 'good job' but he would tell me if I did good or bad."



Check out the exclusive story of the 8th Annual 24 Hour Cross Country Relay at www.oaklandpostonline.com



RUNNING IN THE FAMILY

See Jones on page 22



Killing time

New head coach sparks senior volleyball star to new heights

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

When Leah Dupuie first joined the Golden Grizzlies volleyball team three years ago, she was already a champion.

During her senior year of high school, Dupuie led the Romeo Bulldogs volleyball team to an undefeated regular season as well as a league and district championship.

So when she decided to play for Oakland University, she felt that she could help change the losing atmosphere surrounding the team.

"I had other choices [for scholarships] but a lot of them were far away," Dupuie said. "I just wanted to go to a really good Division 1 school and Oakland had a lot to offer me. I knew their program wasn't the best but I thought I could come in and help change it around."

Indeed, Dupuie had an immediate impact. She was named team captain as a freshman.

"I was definitely shocked," Dupuie said. "I think it was that I was good in the classroom and focused on the court."

In many cases, a freshman being named captain would cause a lot of animosity amongst a team. But Dupuie said that her teammates were supportive and helped her through her freshman year.

However, the transition from winning all the time to losing all the time was not something that Dupuie dealt with easily.

"It was really hard to come into a program where losing was so accepted," Dupuie said. "Where I came from, losing absolutely was not accepted."

Things became worse in Dupuie's sophomore season. The team only won one game.

If there ever was a point in her career where she could have lost her desire to play, that would have been it. But Dupuie said that even though the team was losing, the joy of playing volleyball never left her.

"I always knew that we definitely could have a winning team. I knew that we just need the right coach to tell us that we could and instill in us the confidence," Dupuie said.

They found that coach after her second season. Head Coach Rob Beam came to OU after coaching Illinois State to a 35-25 record over two seasons, and Dupuie said that the difference under his tutelage

was like night and day.

"Rob came along and saved the day my junior year," Dupuie said. "I think the administration knew that something needed to change. They let us have a big hand in hiring the new coach. We loved him right off the bat."

In her junior year, Dupuie helped lead the Grizzlies to a school record of eight wins. Dupuie said that she has recognized an even bigger difference in the team this season.

"We're definitely more confident," Dupuie said. "In the past, we were down a point or two points it would've been devastating to us. But now it's like we don't care because we know we are going to win."

Beam said that the turnaround in team attitude has much to do with Dupuie and how she carries herself.

"You can tell that people really gravitate toward her, people really like her," Beam said. "That personality type sets up very well for being a captain and being a leader for our program. She has high expectations for herself."

"She's a great student, she works really hard in the weight room and on the court. So, she is a leader by example in every facet of being a student athlete."

Dupuie said that her journey over the past three years has made her a more confident person. She has become more mature mentally and is as motivated as ever to play volleyball.

Beam said that he has seen Dupuie become an even better player this season.

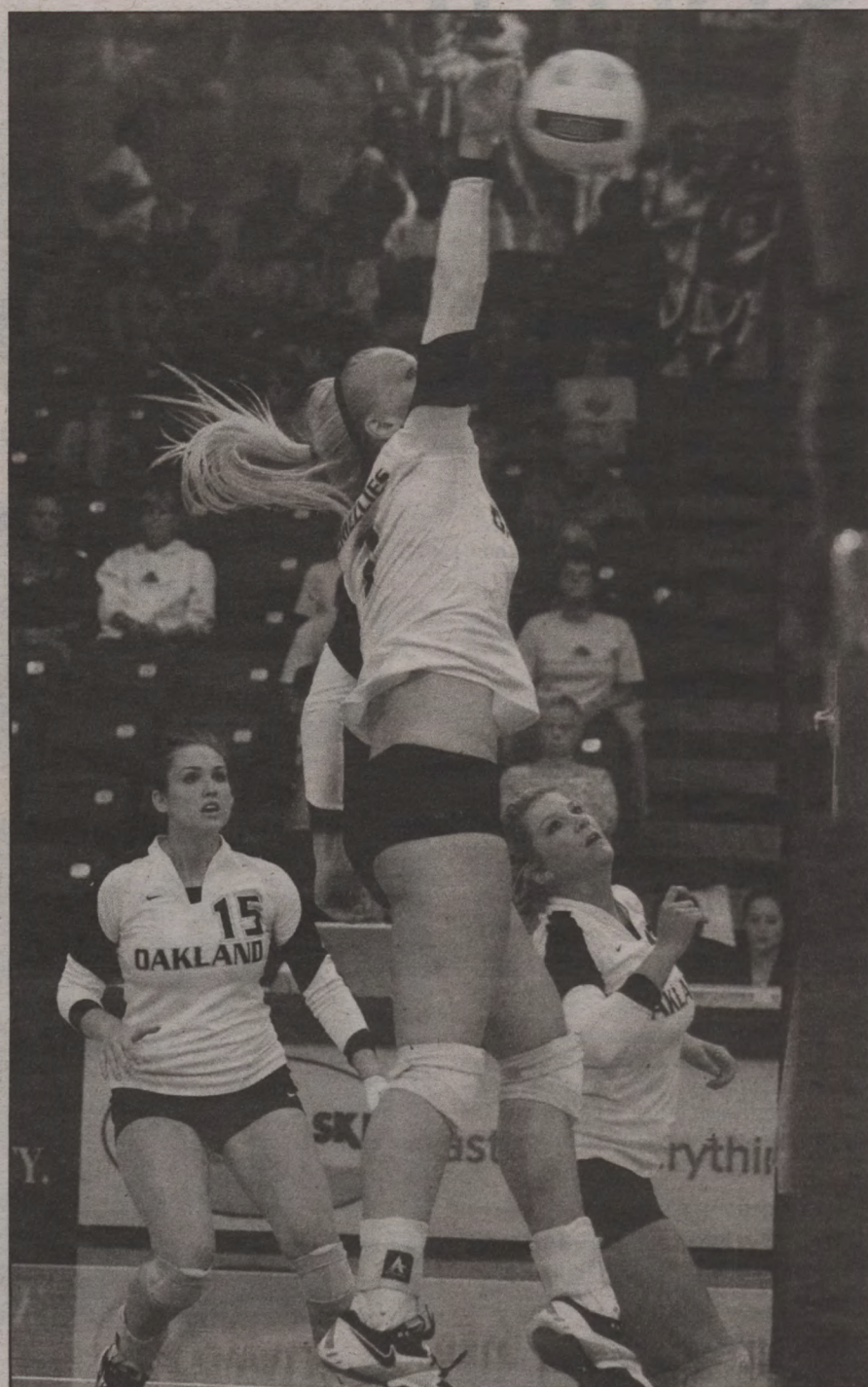
"The first thing that you notice is that she is so much more under control with her skills," Beam said. "She's really refined her game. It's made a huge difference in how effective she is for us."

Dupuie said that while she loves being a student athlete, it can be very challenging.

"It's tough traveling a lot. I don't like upsetting professors because of missing so much class," she said.

But for Dupuie the positives of being a student athlete far outweigh the negatives.

"I love competing for the school," Dupuie said. "I love going to the classroom wearing my Oakland Volleyball clothes. I like to show my school pride. There is a lot more to this school than people think."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Leah Dupuie goes for a kill against Bowling Green State on Tuesday as teammates look on. Dupuie reached double digits in kills seven times last season and averaged 1.91 kills.

Jumping the Starting Gun

Best in years

With a 3-7 overall record at press time, the volleyball team is off to their best start in seven years. They opened 2001 at 4-6.

On the defense

On Sept. 2, senior libero Lauren Duquette was tabbed Summit League Defensive Player of the Week.

Sweet charity

On Aug. 22, the volleyball team participated in a Habitat for Humanity project, helping to build a house in downtown Pontiac.

Golden Grizzlies Game of the Week

VOLLEYBALL

Oakland falters in tough loss to BGSU

By JESSICA WILSON
Contributing Reporter

The Oakland University volleyball team may be in the midst of its best start in recent memory, but that wasn't enough to take down Bowling Green State University on Tuesday.

"We played really hard, I wish it would have turned out different," said senior Stephanie Parkin. "I think we definitely outplayed them, they just had better kills than we did."

Coming close in games one and two with scores of 22-25, the Golden Grizzlies lost the match with a score of 18-25 in the third game.

"When you play at this level, you need

a consistency of execution," Head Coach Rob Beam said. "I think we played well, we just need to get better offensively."

The Grizzlies put up a good fight throughout all three games. Parkin totaled 27 service receptions without a single error. Senior Lauren Duquette reached 13 digs, and hitters Leah Dupuie and Adrienne Leone tied with nine kills apiece.


"We have great senior leadership. Leah, Amy, Kelly and Steph do a really great job keeping us motivated," Leone said.

The Grizzlies totaled 28 kills, 63 digs and 3 aces in all three games.

"I think we played really well, we just need to step it up next time," Leone said.




BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Sophomore setter Katy Wilson assists senior outside hitter Stephanie Parkin and senior middle hitter Leah Dupuie in their attempt for a kill against Bowling Green State on Tuesday.




Morris on Campus

Life According to an Upperclassman



Descartes said:

**"I think, therefore I am...
opening a free
checking account."
Seriously, he said that.**



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No OU football team? No worries

Golden Grizzlies rugby hits just as hard without pads or helmets

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

During one of the many college football interviews done this past Saturday, a reporter asked a player what it takes to get motivated each week. The athlete responded that if you truly love the game, that is all you need.

For the Oakland University men's rugby club, love for the game can be seen on their faces as they run up and down a hill encouraging each other to go faster and to work harder. They do this voluntarily. There is no recruiting for rugby and there certainly are no scholarships. What the club does offer is brotherhood, fierce competition and a physical and mental test each Saturday during the season.

Rugby is one of the most bruising sports there is. Every play has potential for crippling injury. But the players don't think about that. They think about winning. They think about competing in every match, they think about building the club into becoming a collegiate powerhouse in the next few years.

They also think about trying to clean up their image and prove to the university and its fan base that rugby is a great game played by respectable athletes that enjoy representing the school.

Club president Graham Stevens said that he loves rugby so much that he couldn't go back to playing football — even though he played on a high school championship team for Rochester Adams.

"This is the closest thing to a football team that you can find on campus," Stevens said. "Come out and watch a rugby game. So many people out there would find it to be such a great sport."

Stevens and club treasurer Mathew Realy are both ambassadors for the sport of rugby on campus. They speak about the sport with the same fire and intensity that they display in the scrum, on the pitch.

"As long as there is a rugby team I will never go back to football," Realy said.



The Oakland University rugby team engages in a scrum against Saginaw Valley on Sept. 13. The Grizzlies lost the match by a score of 20-14.

Photo courtesy of Michelle Polkowski

"I played football in the Silverdome. I played in the state playoffs, and it's not the same."

The club plays their first home game Saturday against Wayne State University.

"We've established them as a rival," Stevens said. "That's the team that we're gunning for, the team we should beat."

Stevens said that while he loves the sport, the politics of running a club at the university is an aggravating situation.

"We get \$1,500 a semester (from the university) but the usage has to be approved by the school, if they don't like how [we] spend the money then we don't get any money," Stevens said. "And they do not understand that rugby is a physical sport and they expect us to have one set of jerseys that lasts for five years."

He said that it is also hard to use the fields for practice because the administration would rather have outside organizations pay to rent the fields out.

"It's really frustrating," Stevens said. "We're part of the school and they would

rather rent the field out to private soccer leagues. It's like a slap in the face."

Despite the ongoing battle for respect in the eyes of the university, Stevens said that the progress of the club has increased greatly since last season.

"This is our second official year, last year we didn't do that great, we had a lot of internal problems," Stevens said. "Our [team] administration [this season] is a totally new group of guys."

Realy said that a major part of the turnaround is to clean up the image of the club. He said they are also working on raising their own money.

"We are doing our own fund raising and we are getting sponsors," Realy said.

Building a program at an established university is not easy, but neither is slamming into another human being at full speed without any pads for 80 minutes. If Stevens, Realy and the rest of the OU ruggers put as much passion into building the club as they do into playing the sport, the sky (or the emergency room) is the limit.



Check out

oaklandpostonline.com

for Tom Murphy Jr.'s

rant on the 0-2, terrible,

horrible, no good, very

bad start for the 2008-

09 Detroit Lions season.

continued from page 19

JONES

While both are hard working runners following the same path, each have their own identity.

Zack is a soft-spoken, lead-by-example

type of runner. Lia is a bit more vocal. Neither let success go to their heads.

"That's what we expect of a cross-country athlete," Rice said of their modesty. "Zack has been a good leader for us and I'm sure Lia will be as well."

Lia's coaching staff knows the potential she has and they treat her as another talented runner to work with rather than

judging her on what her brother has accomplished.

"Lia is her own person and she has a really good example to follow with her older brother," said assistant cross-country and track coach Shannon Stanley.

Although the thought of following in Zack's footsteps can sound like an intimidating task, don't be surprised if Lia cre-

ates some footsteps of her own.

"She is very persistent," Zack said of Lia. "Stubborn sometimes — and that's not always a good thing — but she stays on top of things."

Whatever happens, don't expect success to come between the two.

"We're not just brother and sister," Lia said. "We're friends."

The Scene

September 17, 2008

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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To steal or not to steal?

An argument over illegal music sharing

By JOSHUA DEFOUR
Contributing Reporter

COLUMN

Once upon a time there existed an industry that produced music and collected huge profits made from its musicians, and the whole world smiled and cheered for the glorious balance of talent and success.

Then, as the music industry elders would say, the Internet "bastardized" the music industry. Musicians and record labels found their work on the fast track of peer-to-peer (P2P) networks.

It wasn't long until the world of music stopped revolving around record labels. Internet music distribution opened the floodgates for companies like Apple and Amazon to a gold mine. Even though the days of taping songs off the radio were gone, the Internet opened new opportunities to getting music for free.

"Illegal downloading gives artists more exposure, so in a way it opens their music up to a larger market," said freshman Nick Brown.

Brown is referring to sophisticated music download arenas such as Bit Torrent and Lime Wire. Together, their popularity has actually created a community of sorts.

For the record, Brown seems like a wholesome fellow. Music label executives, however, consider him and every other player in the P2P fold a music pirate, or outright criminal, depending on whom you talk to.

"Websites like IMEEM and various radio stations stream music legally and promote new

bands without any downloading at all," said Celson Belton, a junior and resident's assistant at OU. "If consumers get too used to downloading an artist's music they won't purchase the album when it arrives in stores."

Many new websites can match your existing tastes with that of a legal music site. Once the site picks out the appropriate tunes, you can then preview the new-found music and decide whether to

purchase it or not.

One such popular music search engine, Pandora, actually links the songs to the iTunes Music Store for you. While this may represent a convenient and seamless transaction experience, new data suggests that the majority of illegal downloads have little affect on the economy of album sales as a whole anyway.

One particular study in the "Journal of Political Economy," published in 2007 and entitled "The Effect of File Sharing on Record Sales: An Empirical Analysis," estimated that P2P affected no more than a measly 0.7 percent of sales in the final four months of its 2002 testing time frame alone.

The study reports that while the 803 million CDs sold in 2002 represented a decrease of about 80 million from the previous year, only 6 million of the decreased sales came as a result of P2P downloads. This left an excess of about 74 million unsold CDs without explanation.

Setting aside the economic effects of P2P downloads, the success of an artist or label will always depend on the amount of exposure their music is able to garner, and hitting the top download charts on Bit Torrent can be just as instrumental as being featured on iTunes.

After seeing his band on a popular illegal playlist floating around Bit Torrent, Andy Liotta, the front man for the fast emerging contemporary pop band The Billie Burke Estate, agreed with the views of Brown and the majority of the P2P community.

"I'm a believer in music sharing because ... indie bands get their music out to a new audience," Liotta said.

Regardless of how one gets their music, the bottom line should be that fans must support their bands in some form or another. Whether it is through paying an arm and a leg for concert tickets or buying the album after downloading it illegally, true fans of music should always respect the musicians' work.

"Support for the musicians is what keeps them making music," Brown said. "If you want to continue to listen to the music you like, then you should support the artists responsible for it."

THE ITINERARY

Let the Oakland Post write your to-do list.

Girl Talk

9.23.08

While "Feed the Animals" has already been available over the World Wide Web, those of you who prefer the jewel case over MP3s can finally purchase the album at stores.

"Eagle Eye"

9.26.08

Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan and Billy Bob Thornton star in this race-against-time thriller directed by D.J. Caruso and executive produced by Steven Spielberg.

Silent Hill: Homecoming

9.30.08

This time, the game was made by an American team rather than Japanese. There is a reworked combat system and more massive bosses.

"Forgetting Sarah Marshall"

9.30.08

If you didn't get enough of Jason Segel and Russell Brand the first time, pick up "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" in stores on DVD.

MSTRKRFT

10.08.08

This eclectic/punk/rap group will grace the stage of the Royal Oak Music Theatre on the "Fist of God Tour."



Graphic by DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
With the creation of MP3s, CD cases seem to be taking up less room on our shelves as MP3s fill up our hard drives.

Entertaining alternatives

By AMANDA MEADE
Scene/Mix Editor

As the price of everything seems to be on the uprise, one of the first luxuries that tends to go out the window is entertainment.

For all the movie lovers who just can't afford to make it to the theaters anymore, here are a couple alternatives that won't drain your bank account.

REDBOX

Redbox is a vending machine for DVDs, found in places like Wal-Mart, Walgreens and McDonalds.

The rentals only cost a dollar a day. Each day, your credit card is charged. After 25 days, the DVD is yours.

The vending machines hold 70 to 200 different titles, complete with new releases.

Redbox offers 8,000 different locations in which you can rent and return

DVDs, including the Wal-Mart on Adams Road in Rochester Hills.

NETFLIX

For an option that doesn't require using gas, go to www.netflix.com.

Netflix offers an online rental service that doesn't require returning movies to a store, which means no late fees.

Netflix offers a two-week free trial. Beyond that, they offer affordable monthly plans, ranging from \$4.99 to \$16.99.

Not only does the website offer movies, but many television show seasons are also available.

Netflix customers can also stream movies over the Internet right to their computer.

Customers with a Netflix-ready device, like the Roku for \$99.99, can stream movies from the Internet to their television sets.

At E3 this year, Microsoft released that they are also going to allow streaming through Xbox LIVE.

The Crofoot has your Friday night covered

By AMANDA MEADE
Scene/Mix Editor

Sometimes, the thought of driving to Detroit, trying to find a parking space in the crowded downtown streets and paying outrageous amounts of money just to park doesn't make the concert-going experience as exciting.

The Crofoot in downtown Pontiac, however, is a mere five minutes from Oakland University's campus.

"There are different types of music, and \$2 drink specials for those of age," said Phreddy Wischusen, general manager of The Crofoot, referring to Phonotropic.

Phonotropic is just one of the events at The Crofoot, and it happens every Friday. The event is advertised as being "performance art weird crap beer drink," and is welcome to anyone 18 and over.

"Any Friday night you can come

out and have a lot of fun and spend as much or as little as you'd like," Wischusen said.

The event is hosted in The Vernors Grill, and holds performances each week.

Cover into Phonotropic is only \$5, but if you're an OU student, just flash your student ID and you get in for free.

"Every week is something new and exciting, and we have different types of music," Wischusen said.

Although Phonotropic is the only event OU students can get into without paying cover, there is another event on Fridays in the Crofoot Cafe called Waxxonnia. There's no cover 5-9 p.m.

Waxxonnia features funk, soul, hip hop, jazz, experimental and \$2 drink specials.

Go to www.thecrowfoot.com for more information.

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THE EAGLE THEATER



KATE VOEGELE
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MOGWAI
THU SEPT 25 8PM
THE CROFOOT BALLROOM



THE ROCKET SUMMER
FRI SEPT 26 6PM
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WED OCT 15 8PM
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SAT OCT 18 8PM
THE CROFOOT BALLROOM



METHOD MAN
THU OCT 23 8PM
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MOUTHING OFF

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September 17, 2008

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Buzzin' off coffee beans

By TIM RATH
Sports Editor

Disclaimer: I acknowledge that I am reading this solely on account of my ravenous lust for tasteless and dangerous new journalism. Tim Rath is not in any way responsible for the strange things that I do under the influence of this piece. I have been warned of the power of words and choose to continue on because I am a dirty little piggy.

Ladies and gentlemen of the incoming freshman class, I have one piece of advice for you — drink coffee. As I enter into my senior year at Oakland University, I've come to the realization that if I could only offer one tip for the future, coffee would be it. While scientists are still debating the long-term benefits of coffee, the short-term rush of your very first coffee buzz is doubtlessly an experience unlike any other.

I will recount the story of my own first coffee buzz now:

I may as well have been wearing all white. Trudging into the Oakland Center at 7 p.m. about to begin studying for the first time for the first exam of my college career on the eve of the actual test, I was already worn thin and dead tired when I came across the light.

Not unlike the star of Bethlehem, the lights of Café O'Bears offered this average student the opportunity to escape the realistic realm of rest and possibly pass the exam in the morning. I had always ignored coffee to this point. Regardless, I quickly began a conversation with the woman behind the counter and explained my situation. She gave me a sly, crooked grin and a cup of French roast. Friendliness has always been my downfall.

I could never understand the allure of hot tea and avoided pop except in restaurants. Suffice it to say, my veins were quite healthy before being introduced to this powerful new acquaintance. It could have been merely plaintive self-reflection. Looking back on it, I'm not sure what I would have told my father if I had made it home that night — that I had picked up a fierce, expensive drug habit or that I was hours away from flunking my first linguistics exam.

Whatever caused the brief

pause, I'll always remember the moment after accepting the temptress' challenge, the same way that veterans can recall the horrors of their ordeal decades after the fact.

It was as if I had heard a cymbal crash or a thunderclap in the back of my brain after a long silence and then a melodramatic voice, like you'd hear in a movie preview:

"And so concluded the addiction-free ways of Timothy Rath, former straight-edge, straight-A student at OU. The rest of his night would not be filled with the cramming that was originally planned, rather, a kind of maddening fever previously known only to championship athletes, hardcore ravers and John Travolta."

Then there was calypso music. As I took that first gulp, steel drums, brass and woodwinds provided the soundtrack for a descent into lunacy. The formerly warm café lights above me turned to flickering strobe lamps that seemed to threaten explosion. The television near the front door, constantly tuned to ESPN, was... well, still tuned to ESPN. Chris Berman's mere existence is always enough to freak me out.

Knowing full well that I was onto something peculiar and altogether horrifying, I did what I usually do in such situations: reach for pen and paper. My linguistics test quickly morphed into the ramblings of a madman as each schwa and labiodental approximant was scratched out in favor of sheer coffee propaganda.

Ladies and gentlemen, here now for the very first time are a few of the rants that I saved since that trip:

COFFEE! Wow! I'm so FOCUSED! I can't believe that I didn't drink this stuff straight from the bottle! I could have been a professor by now! Get back, Professor Linguistics: I'm teaching the class now! COFFEE! Room for cream? Don't need it, sister! You say you have iced coffee? Sign me up! I can't even imagine! COFFEE CAKE! It's a dessert with coffee already inside!

I can eat it with coffee for double the after-dinner jolt! Wow! I've been thinking about joining the swim team, but I could never get up early enough! Now I can! COFFEE! I want to find some girls! I bet they would love me on coffee! Sex! COFFEE!

It may have been the caffeine that did it to me. After that first sip, I can only remember the rest of the night in bits and pieces. Occasionally while standing in line with the rest of the other junkies, still frames of those memories flood my mind to this day: Riding a deer down Pioneer Drive, scaling O'Dowd Hall with a rope that I somehow acquired and dancing with the grizzly bear statue to the tune of "Stayin' Alive."

I fully remember waking up at sunrise in a chair outside the café smelling of espresso, although it may have been dirt of some kind. Sitting up and checking my cell phone for the time, I began to realize the horror of my situation: the exam was in mere minutes and despite my intentions, I hadn't studied a bit.

As I walked into class, taking measure of the reactions on my peers' faces as I passed them

on my way to the back row of seats, I felt thoroughly unwanted. As fate would have it, a slave similar to myself happened to stumble into the seat next to mine. Clutching a 60 ounce Big Gulp filled with pop from 7-Eleven, I was reminded once again that the only difference between us drug addicts was who took our money.

I remember thinking as I bombed the linguistics exam that I had survived another test, one that could possibly prepare me even better for the future. These days, I'm able to control and mold my caffeine addiction into something of a study aid, I know that I'll never again be held captive by the likes of that ravenous feeling of the first coffee buzz. Although, to be honest, that loss of self-control is a feeling that I miss sometimes.

So trust me, drink coffee.



Palin's beauty gives her the MILVF factor in '08

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

By now, I'm sure everyone has heard that John McCain has picked Sarah Palin as his vice-presidential running mate.

This news shook up the 2008 presidential race and surprised many, not only because most people had no idea who Palin was, but also because it marks the second time that a woman has been a vice-presidential candidate for a major U.S. political party since 1984. Geraldine Ferraro, who ran with Walter Mondale on the Democratic ticket but was defeated by Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

I have to admit, when McCain was the presumptive nominee, I really wasn't too excited about him and didn't think that I was going to vote Republican. My gut feeling was that he flip-flopped on several issues, making him a little bit untrustworthy.

And now that he's the official nominee, my feelings about him still remain the same, but one thing made me excited about the prospect of voting Republican this November, Sarah Palin, because she is a MILVF: a mother I'd love to vote for.

Palin is an incredibly attractive 44-year-old woman (yes, three years younger than Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama). She's been the governor of Alaska and was the mayor of the small town of Wasilla a few years before that.

But enough about her political experience. I'd rather talk about her looks.

Palin is a rare breed of female politicians: attractive.

She also falls under that rare breed of females who get more attractive as they get older. A quick Google search will show that as a young woman, she didn't look like someone who most people would consider "hot." But as the years progressed, she became more and more beautiful. And somewhere along the way, she added on a pair of glasses that make her even sexier. I can't imagine how much prettier she can get in four years, but it's safe to say that she'll be quite a sight for sore eyes.

Even though I'm not a big fan of McCain, I think we all should vote Republican in the presidential election, because Palin needs to be elected as the vice president.

Almost all of us are sick of hearing about the current wars, possible future wars and the economy nonstop for the last few years. The reason why I think we're so bored of political talk is because it's usually men talking and there's a limit to how long we can look at those men's faces without our brains turning off. But if Palin is elected as vice president, we'll have something to look at while we hear boring political speeches.

And I apologize to Hillary Clinton fans, but this is something that Clinton just could not have accomplished. I'm not saying that Clinton is unattractive, only that the years seem to have taken a much greater toll on her than on Palin. Also, shapely skirts make men more attentive than pantsuits do.

I don't think I'm being too misogynistic here, because I'm not saying that looks are all Palin brings to the table. Her record shows that she also holds up her end of the bargain as a politician and a public servant. As mayor,

even though she left Wasilla millions of dollars in debt and secured more than \$27 million in earmarks from the federal government, she did manage to cut property taxes and build a hockey rink. And as governor, even though she requested millions of dollars in earmarks from Congress, she did push for ethics reform in Alaska.

But what impressed me most about Palin was her stint as chairwoman of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, where she exposed the corruption and abuse of power of several Republican officials.

People looking for a key to my heart, take note — there's nothing sexier than someone who fights corruption and injustice.

Some people question her ability to serve as vice president because she has five children, including a 4-month-old boy with Down Syndrome. I say that it makes her all the more impressive, holding public office while keeping track of her children.

Of course, it's impossible to keep track of *all* her children, as was proved with the revelation a few weeks ago that her 17-year-old unwed daughter Bristol is five months pregnant. Because of this, some people question Sarah Palin's ability as a mother and a teacher of family values. Other people think that it's ironic that Sarah supports the federal funding of abstinence-only education in schools, and opposes funding of comprehensive sex education that would teach schoolchildren about condoms and birth control pills and other safe sex measures.

But for me, the implication of this news is far simpler. Come November, Sarah Palin could be a GILVF: a grandmother I'd love to vote for.

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Petraeus leaves Iraq, strategy hailed

By ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gen. David Petraeus, whose strategy for countering the Iraq insurgency is credited by many with rescuing the country from all-out civil war, stepped aside Tuesday as Gen. Ray Odierno took over as the top American commander of the conflict.

At a traditional change-of-command ceremony attended by top Iraqi and American military and civilian officials, Petraeus said that Odierno's skills and experience make him "the perfect man for the job."

With Defense Secretary Robert Gates presiding at the ceremony in a cavernous rotunda of a former Saddam Hussein palace outside Baghdad, Petraeus hand-

ed over the flag of his command, known as Multi-National Force Iraq, to Odierno and then bade farewell.

Petraeus said the insurgents and militia extremists who have created such chaos in Iraq over the past five years are now weakened but not yet fully defeated. He noted that before he took the assignment in February 2007 he had described the situation as "hard but not hopeless."

He thanked his troops for having "turned 'hard but not hopeless' into still hard but hopeful."

Despite the security gains, insurgents retain the ability to carry out devastating attacks. On Monday evening, a female suicide bomber blew herself up among a group of police officers northeast of Baghdad, killing at least 22 people. Hours earlier, car bombs in the

capital killed 13 people.

Because of Odierno's extensive previous experience in Iraq, he is generally expected to be able to continue building on the gains made under Petraeus' command, although an evolving set of difficult challenges face him here and in Washington, where he will soon have a new commander in chief.

A major part of Odierno's job will involve working with Iraqi political leaders, in tandem with U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker. In that role Odierno may call on his experiences in 2004-05 as assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, when he was the Pentagon's liaison to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and traveled abroad with her frequently.



MARY ALTAFFER/Associated Press
A man demonstrates outside the Lehman Brothers headquarters Monday, Sept. 15, 2008 in New York.

Lehman Brothers files for bankruptcy

By PATRICK RIZZO AND
JOE BEL BRUNO
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The upheaval in the American financial system sent shock waves through the stock market Monday, producing the worst day on Wall Street in seven years as investors digested the failure of one of its most venerable banks and wondered which domino would be next to fall.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost more than 500 points, more than 4 percent, its steepest point drop since the day the stock market reopened after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The carnage capped a tumultuous 24 hours that redrew U.S. finance. Lehman Brothers, an investment bank that predates the Civil War and weathered the Great Depression, filed the largest bankruptcy in American history. A second storied bank, Merrill Lynch, fled into the arms of Bank of America.

It was by far the most stomach-churning single day since a financial crisis began to bubble up from billions of dollars in rotten mortgage loans that have crippled the balance sheets of one bank after another and landed mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under the control of the federal government.

"We are in the middle of a deep, dark recession, and it won't end soon. Here it is, and it is pretty nasty," said Barry Ritholtz, who writes the popular financial blog The Big Picture and is CEO of research firm FusionIQ.

And the fallout was far from over. American Insurance Group, the world's largest insurer, was fighting for its very survival, tapping one of its subsidiaries for an emergency loan to stay above water.

NIW BRIEFS

9-14 | Militant groups battle with Nigerian armed forces over what appears to be fight over the region's oil. | Japan is put on alert by an unidentified submarine that was discovered in their territorial waters.

9-15 | An armed-robbery trial involving O.J. Simpson as the defendant begins in Las Vegas. | An angry crowd attempts to break into a convention center where rival political parties in Zimbabwe signed a power-sharing agreement. | Former aid to Kwame Kilpatrick Christine Beaty rejects a plea deal in City Hall sex scandal.

9-16 | Chinese officials say that over 10,000 babies may have ingested milk powder tainted with the same chemicals that have been linked contaminated pet food in the U.S. | Officials report that 720 Afghan police have been killed by insurgent attacks in the last six months.

Clean up to follow Ike's destruction



SMILEY N. POOL/Associated Press
A beachfront home stands among the debris in Gilchrist, Texas on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008 after Hurricane Ike hit the area. Ike was the first major storm to directly hit a major U.S. metro area since Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans in 2005.

NATO chief: Russia cannot block Georgia joining NATO

By STEVE GUTTERMAN
Associated Press

TBILISI, Georgia — NATO's chief declared Tuesday that Russian tanks and troops cannot block Georgia from joining NATO, but he acknowledged internal disagreement over how long the pro-Western nation must wait for membership in the alliance.

In a strong message of support after Georgia's debilitating war with Russia, NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said Georgia's "road to NATO is still wide open."

"The process of NATO enlargement will continue, with due caution but also

with a clear purpose — to help create a stable, undivided Europe," he said in a speech at Tbilisi State University.

Russia has adamantly opposed NATO membership for Georgia, whose location straddling a key westward energy route for Caspian and Central Asian oil and gas supplies gives it outsized geopolitical importance.

The NATO chief underlined that the alliance makes its own decisions.

"No other country will have a veto over that process, nor will we allow our strong ties to Georgia to be broken by outside military intervention and pressure," de Hoop Scheffer said. "Georgia has a rightful place in this Europe."

De Hoop Scheffer came to Georgia with the NATO ambassadors of all 26 allies. On Tuesday, the entire delegation visited Gori, a city targeted by Russian bombs and tanks during the war, which now houses a large tent camp for displaced people. The NATO delegation also toured the base of a Georgian brigade that was bombed.

De Hoop Scheffer condemned Russia's recognition of separatist South Ossetia and Abkhazia as independent nations, saying Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity must be respected. He also called on Moscow to tone down its rhetoric.

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