

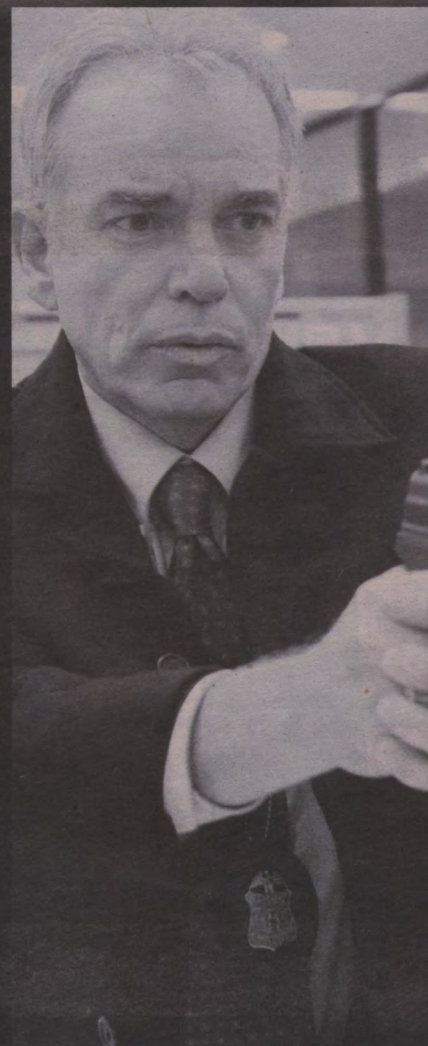
THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

September 24, 2008

Volume 35, Number 4

EYE TO EYE



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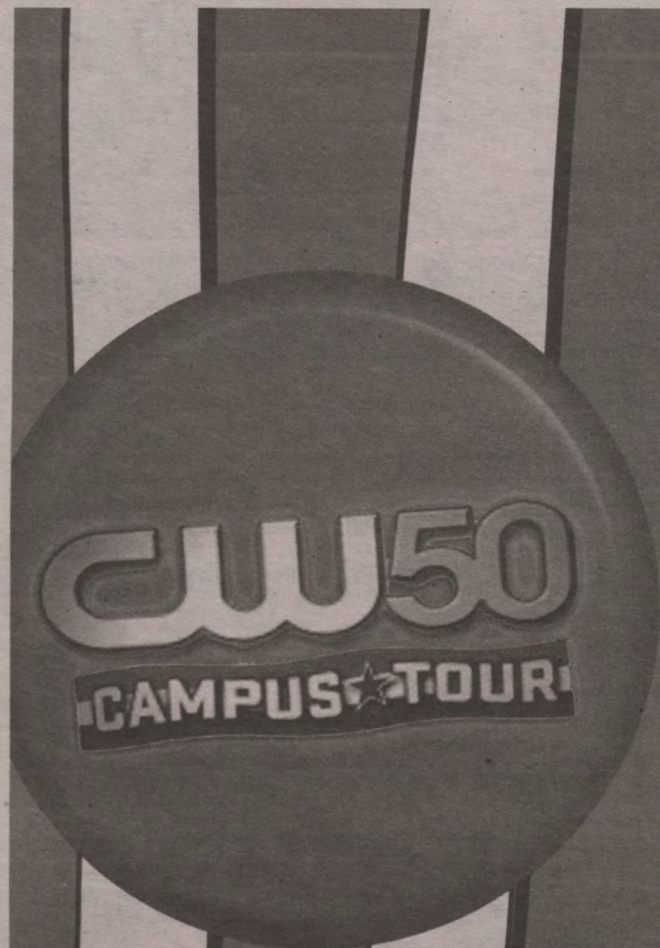
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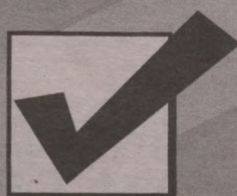
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[Stand for Something.
VOTE 2008.]

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THIS WEEK 9.24.08

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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See what President Russi had to say when he sat down with The Oakland Post. Also, a hippie entrepreneur comes to OU.



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www.oaklandpostonline.com

September 24, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

You have no excuses, vote in this election

It is likely that by now your planners, PDAs, and calendars are all chock-full of important dates. Fortunately, we're here to tell you that there is only one date that matters.

On Nov. 4, 2008, the United States of America will take to the voting booth to decide one of, if not the, most important election in its 232 years. Whether you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, independent or none of the above, Nov. 4 is the day to put up or shut up.

If you are over the age of 18, it is imperative that you get registered to exercise your right as an American and choose our next president. If you haven't registered yet, the good news is that you have until 5 p.m. on Oct. 6 to do so.

It is not our intention to sound like a broken record, but the statistics speak to the importance of the matter. After the 2004 election, The Committee for the Study of the American Electorate reported the highest voter turnout since 1968 – that's the good news. The bad news? That "whopping" total was 60.7 percent of eligible citizens of voting age.

The right to vote has been taken for granted in this country, no doubt because of how far removed we are from having that right threatened. We cannot fathom an American without this right and that's where the complacency sets in.

It's very easy for us to sit back and assume that our votes don't really matter. You may think to yourself, "So many millions of people cast their vote, what difference does mine really make in the long run?" Well, if the statistics from the last election are any indication, over a third of eligible voters in the United States thought the same thing.

Do the math and that equates to about 70 million votes uncounted – and, remember, this election was hailed as a turnout success. A number like that can change an

election; so, yes, your vote does matter.

But simply registering then casting a vote is not enough. If you haven't been following the election race, or if you tuned out for an extended period of time, now is the time for a cram session.

Thankfully, network news will oblige by broadcasting four debates from now until the election. Here at The Oakland Post, we will be blogging live during the first debate this Friday night at www.oaklandpostonline.com. Though the debates will only feature the two big party candidates, Barack Obama and John McCain, the debates can act as a great source of information and, for most of us, as intimate of a look as we will get of the front-runners.

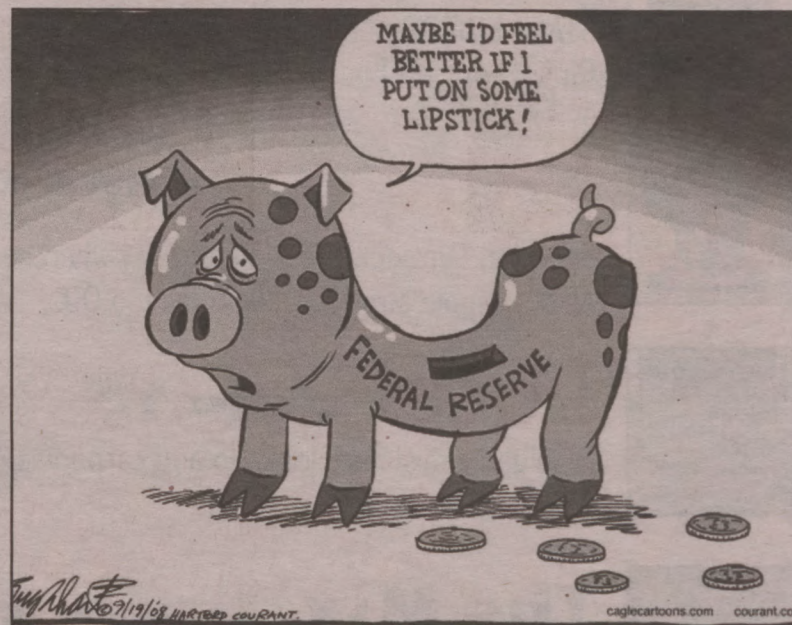
However, just watching the debates is not enough. Do your homework. Find out what you feel will matter the most in the next four years and research where the candidates stand. Do your best to steer clear of the career talking heads – easier said than done – and focus more on what you think. Educate yourself, then make your decision. Maybe you'll surprise yourself.

But you will never know unless you make the effort. In our hot-and-ready, ADD pop culture world, where we increasingly demand instant access and even faster results, it's almost outside of our nature to do the leg work.

Suck it up. This election is too important to take the easy way out. The stakes are too high for us to do what everyone else is doing.

Every day our news is littered with election talking points. But don't let the rhetoric fool you, the issues are more like emergencies: The housing crisis, the energy crisis, the national deficit, our troops overseas, fraying international relations. Our next president has to fix them all. And guess what? We decide who the person will be.

So let's make this one count. Let's all circle November 4.



BOB ENGLEHART/The Hartford Courant

What do you think? Have a news tip? Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

By e-mail: oakpostmanaging@gmail.com
By mail: Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
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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 "Real life and real estate," on page 16 of the Sept. 17 issue, the quote "If students buy right now, they are trading in a lot of future flexibility" should have been attributed to Susan Carter.

In "No OU football team? No worries," on page 22 of the Sept. 17 issue, Mathew Reale's name was spelled incorrectly.

In "The Crofoot has your Friday night covered," on page 24 of the Sept. 17 issue, The Crofoot's website was misprinted. It is www.thecrofoot.com.

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

Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



Chris Dunham

Freshman, Undecided



Lisa Egle

Senior, Elementary Education Major



Jayeson Philip

2nd Degree, Biology



Chris Kersten

Ph. D., Systems Engineering

Which issue in this year's presidential election is the most important to you?

"Economic change. It's kind of a broad issue."

"Universal health care is a big one. It's probably my biggest issue. I think that everyone should have health care and I think rich people can do with a little bit less for the good of everyone."

"Student loans, economy. I don't know how we're going to finance education in the long run if they keep consolidating all of the loan companies."

"Lately what I think has been most interesting is this financial bailout. It seems like there is a lively debate."

Monday being the first day of fall, are you bummed that summer is over or do you look forward to the beginning of the new season?

"I like them both but I like fall a lot. I'm not a big fan of winter though. I'm going to miss sleeping in [in the summer]."

"My birthday is on Aug. 28 so I'm excited when the summer ends but I just wish the weather would stay nice. So I dread fall in the aspect of weather, but with school starting it gives you something to do."

"I'm looking forward to the fall season because I want to get going with school and finish all of my credits as soon as possible."

"I really prefer the summer. Nicer weather."

Do you think the Detroit Lions will improve their record of 7-9 from last year?

"I hope so but I doubt it. They started out and everyone said 'Oh, they're going to win,' but now it's here we go again."

"Judging by their preseason, yes. Judging by everything else, no."

"I think they can improve with the right coaching changes and also their players in key positions. This year, I don't see it happening. It will be the year of change, I think."

"I don't pay any attention to football."

In light of the recent upheaval on Wall Street, do you feel the government did the right thing by buying out Fanny May, Freddie Mac and AIG or should they let the companies fail on their own?

"If they didn't help a lot of people would lose their money. At the same time, I don't think that a privatized company should be supported by the government."

"I like it [because] I feel bad for people when they fail. I don't like to see anyone going broke."

"I think they did the right thing because originally they were private enterprises and they kind of got out of hand. I think when the government steps in they take the responsibility. I don't think it was government interference, it just fell upon the government to [do what they did]."

"These are interesting times and if I were to make a judgment I would like to see a little more information on it. So, did they do the right thing? Don't know yet. We might not actually know until about ten years later."

Love us? Hate us? Something on your mind?

We want to know what YOU think!

Send your letters to oakpostmanaging@gmail.com and you may see them published in a future issue of The Oakland Post.

Dear The Oakland Post:

The journeys of a modern-day hippie

By PAUL GULLY
Special Projects Editor

For the better part of the year, his 1990 Ford Aerostar is packed with T-shirts, posters and other paraphernalia from another generation. He travels the Midwest, making rounds at 25 universities and colleges. One of his stops is Oakland University.

You've probably noticed him and his table set up in the Oakland Center from time to time. Well, you probably notice him first, then his table. It's not every day you walk by a 41-year-old, self-proclaimed hippie.

On appearances alone, he fits the bill. He favors 70s rock band shirts, patchwork drawstring pants, and sports an unruly beard, and shoulder-length brown hair.

Those interested in checking out his merchandise are typically greeted with a pleasant welcome, or if lucky, a Chuck Norris joke.

"Did you know that Chuck Norris has counted to infinity, twice?" is one of his favorites.

But, Tye Dye Thom, as he likes to be called, is much more than just some free-living hippie trying to make a dime by selling T-shirts, mittens and posters. For Thom, setting up at schools across the region is something he does for the students. He sees it as just doing his part.

A TURNING POINT

In everyone's life there is a turning point. For Thom, who requested that his last name not be used, the year was 1998. He was living in New Orleans, and had been since 1992, when tragedy struck. According to Thom, four of his friends were killed in a restaurant robbery.

"They were all forced into a walk-in cooler and were all shot in the back of the head," Thom recalled. "I was in that restaurant five days out of seven, every week. I could have been sitting there when that restaurant was robbed," he said.

Although on the surface Thom didn't feel, at the time, that the death of his friends had anything to do with his decision to begin vending at universities and colleges, he did say that it may have, unknowingly, played a role.

"Subconsciously, yes, there may have been a correlation," he said. "I feel if I do a good job and make money for the



Tye Dye Thom, a 41-year-old, self proclaimed hippie, showing off his goods at a table set up in the O.C.

students, that they will in turn grow up to be better citizens and then we may not have a situation in which four people [are killed] who have done nothing wrong.

"It's amazing what somebody will do to another human being for a dollar. It blows my mind how easily somebody will screw over another when you throw a dollar in the mix," he added.

It was then he decided to hit the road and start setting up at colleges.

While Thom traveled the country during school semesters, he continued to call New Orleans his home until 2005, the summer of Hurricane Katrina.

"When Katrina happened, which was the second major catastrophe in New Orleans in the last eight years, I decided I couldn't live there anymore," he recalled thinking.

When he's not traveling the country, Thom now splits his time between Bowling Green, Ohio and Nashville.

GIVING BACK

Though he may not look the part, Thom is, by his own admission, a successful businessman. Besides his vending gig, he sells merchandise at spring and summer festivals, such as Bonnaroo (in Tennessee), Langerado (in Florida) and the All Good festival (in West Virginia).

However, Thom is also part-owner of

a "very successful" aerial photography company that he started with his close friend, an ex-marine turned hippie.

So when Thom is on the road, visiting campuses for months at a time, it's not something he does out of necessity. He chooses to set up at campuses because he enjoys the experience and, also, to help students.

"I feel as though I'm living in the moment when I'm on a college campus," he said.

At each university or college where he sets up, Thom pays a fee to the school, which he makes sure is passed along to benefit the students.

According to Mary Isaacs, reservations coordinator in the Oakland Center, the fee Thom pays at OU goes into an account that is used for various things, including building upkeep on the O.C.

"This building brings in amazing people," Thom said. "Harry Belafonte, one of my childhood idols, [was here] on Martin Luther King's birthday [last year] to speak to students. Wow."

According to Thom, the fee he pays at other schools goes directly to student groups to help fund activities and programs.

Recently Thom began working with the Save The Music Foundation, a non-profit organization that promotes and supports music education programs.

Though in its infancy, Thom plans on raising money by having bands auto-graph aerial photos his company takes at music festivals and auctioning them online.

"There is so much confidence gained in being able to play an instrument, even at a rudimentary level ... just being able to play a D-chord, that makes a kid smile," he said.

Every product that Thom sells is either made by companies he's started or is fair trade merchandise. The fair trade movement is aimed at helping producers in developing countries by advocating the payment of a fair price for products and establishing a set of social and environmental standards.

"Everything we buy ends up going back to help someone somewhere in the world," he said.

THE HIPPIE

Thom considers himself a throwback, saying he gets "to live a lifestyle that few people are able to these days," being able to travel the country and live in the moment.

Thom was born into an affluent family in Pittsburgh. Both of Thom's parents held jobs in politics, his father a Republican National Committee employee and his mother an employee of Republican California Congresswoman Bobbi Fiedler.

Thom's father, two uncles, grandfather and great-grandfather are also all graduates of Yale University. According to Thom, his father graduated with George H.W. Bush in 1954.

Thom chose a slightly different route. "I don't think what was good for my father was necessarily good for me."

He became immersed in the "counter-culture" when he began following legendary rock band the Grateful Dead in 1986, the summer he graduated from high school. He continued to follow the band on tours during college.

Rather than Yale, which he never really considered, Thom chose to attend the University of West Florida, which is located on a nature preserve and is 10 minutes from the beach.

"It's Pensacola, Florida — it's gorgeous. When I went there, I fell in love with it and said 'this is where I want to go to school.'"

See TYE DYE on page 11

Catching up with Russi

By **LINDSEY WOJCIK AND NICK DEGEL**
Editor in Chief and Managing Editor

The Oakland Post recently stopped by the office of Oakland University President Gary Russi to discuss plans for the present and future of our university. From the status of large scale projects to Golden Grizzlies basketball, Russi is optimistic for the future of OU.

On the progress of the medical school

"We hired the founding dean. The next step is to hire the key administrators and there's a large list of those that are required by the accrediting law. The accrediting body has a liaison committee on medical education and there are certain standards, and you have to meet those standards. We're in the process now of interviewing the folks for those key administrative positions. So [it includes] curriculum, research, ... outreach to student services, IT, financial aid, admissions; the traditional stuff that you've experienced here, it's all for the medical school, they've got to have their own group."

"The other key piece is by November/December of this year, we have to have a full accreditation profile for LCME and that's essential because if everything is in order in that database, then LCME will send a site team here in the spring. If everything is good with the site team, they will give us preliminary accreditation for a medical school. What that lets us do is admit that class for '10. ... It's a very tight aggressive time frame, and we have a ton of work to do. ... It's really going well right now, we're putting a lot of time and energy into it to get it done."

"The key piece of that is to update the teaching laboratories, particularly in the sciences. Five are about done and the remaining are to be done throughout the semester and maybe into next semester. But the goal is to get it done by next term. ... As we move forward we'll continue to put money into teaching facilities."

"Through our budgeting process, with the uncertainty of the state, we said we've got to project what our budget is going to be. We said we thought the state wasn't going to give us a nickel more than what they did last year and they did, it was one percent, that's \$519,000. That \$519,000 has been put into reserve for two purposes, one of two purposes, whichever materializes. One is that since 2002, state funding for higher education in Michigan has been going down and during that time we've experienced several mid-year cuts. So we don't want to upset what's going on in any of the classrooms, [we wanted] ensure the quality continues and the courses continue. If we sustain a cut mid year, that money will be applied to that cut. ... The reason we're holding it for that one purpose that we know right now that this next year's state budget is down under revenue \$3 million plus, and it's going to get worse. So is there a possibility of a cut mid year? Yes, but we're prepared to deal with it. If none of that happens, what we're going to do is consult with the students like we did with that project (the laboratory) and we're going to consult with the student leaders and we're going to take that \$519,000 and put it into teaching and learning infrastructure."

On Macomb expansion

"There's a lot of work to be done on that program, we're putting together the administrative unit, the facilities and the infrastructure for the students. One of the key things that has to happen there is that a student is supported with library access or they need financial aid. So that will happen all throughout this year, but the key

that operation is the number of academic programs that go out there. What I can report is that there are 15 academic programs in the queue to go [to the Macomb campus]. Not only are we seeing enrollment in the current programs that are out there but we're going to take a lot more out there. The goal that we announced was 2,000 — we're going to blow that out of the socks by 2010. We said 5,000 by 2020, I think we're going to exceed that very quickly. The reception in the county has been very good."

On OU basketball's recruiting classes

"I have different levels of contact and the first level of contact is what I read in the media. If you look at the media reports ... we've got one of the best recruiting classes we've ever had, by far. I've had an opportunity to hang around the athletic center because I go in there to work out quite a bit, these guys are unbelievable. They are very very talented. So it's a question of whether they come together in the team chemistry. We all know that freshmen can contribute but sometimes it takes them a little while to learn the systems to do well, so I suspect there will be a learning curve, but it will be: 'how quickly they learn that new system to perform?' On the women's side I think there are only two that came in and both of them are highly ranked players and they look good as well. So again it's whether they fit in, but the beauty of both of those teams, Greg's team is remarkable core of men that come back. Same thing on the women's side, she's got a really good core of ball players that are coming back who are experienced, so the potential for this year looks pretty good."

On new partnerships

"One is potentially very large for the campus, that I'll share with you. It could be one of the major announcements that's coming ... we will let you know if it happens but I'll give you the context for [it] today."

We want to build a performing arts center on this campus. The performing arts center's current vision would be a 3,000-seat performance hall and a 800 seat theater, surrounded by a complete support system, including faculty offices. We're working aggressively with The Palace of Auburn Hills to make that a reality. So as we move through the dance to get this done, we really would like to make this a destination spot for culture in Oakland County."

On goals for 2008-09

"Growth is part of it. ... Second, is to obviously get accreditation for that medical school. Third, is we really want to get an additional building from the state. We have been working hard to get an additional building or two from the state. The last state building was Pawley Hall. We're in the cue for two buildings, engineering design center and a human health building. I can tell you in the current supplemental bill ... there are four universities that are to get buildings, we're one of them. One of them is to get a human health building and nothing is probably going to move on that until after the elections. ... It's good news if we're successful and it would mean a \$61 million building. In the supplemental outlay there would be \$41 million toward this building from the state. We would have to go find the other \$21 million, be it fundraising, donations, partnerships and maybe even debt service for that building. In that building would be two key units, the School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences. Another goal for us — and it relates to Macomb — is to make sure that it's a very viable outreach for us. We have to move, we can't sit here and do nothing. It is clear that other universities want that market. We want it — that should be our market. And the other component is legal education. The piece we're working on is a combined degree. That's the next step. It would mean something like a three-three. We would cut the duration of law school by a year but you are jointly admitted to Oakland and the law school. And the other elaboration of the legal component is to continue to do more joint degrees. We're probably going to get into corporate law, tax law and intellectual property law as joint degrees."

Art of the minority culture

Collector hopes provocative images will enlighten students

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

He may not be an artist himself, but George N'Namdi believes art can be a powerful tool for giving a voice to underrepresented people.

N'Namdi's Seminal African American Art Collection will be on display through Oct. 12 at the Oakland University Art Gallery in Wilson Hall. N'Namdi's art collection, which is primarily abstract, has been on display in New York and Chicago.

"I think we're doing this show because art by these artists is unevenly represented," said Dick Goody, OUAG Director. Goody said African American art has historically been marginalized and segregated by the mainstream art community.

The collection contains works from artists who used many different mediums, including oil and acrylic paintings, drawings, photos, and free standing and hanging sculptures. One hanging sculpture by Chakaia Booker is made entirely of pieces of tires, inner tubes and nozzles.

The art explores a wide variety of issues with many pieces confronting taboos and customs of American society. David Hammons' "African American Flag" combines the U.S. flag with the colors red, black and green instead of red, white and blue.

Works like "African American Flag" have ideological significance and compel viewers to challenge stereotypes. Others, like Raymond Saunders' drawing, "Lady with Red Heart Walking," are intended as "vehicles of free expression" rather than to project any specific political ideal.

Some of the works are racially charged, like Rashid Johnson's oil-based, faux-graffiti piece "HNIC." The acronym stands for "Head Nigga in Charge," a title with a great deal of irony attached to it.

"The term 'HNIC' really means nothing, so it has significance and insignificance. It's about not being branded," said Monica Bowman, an independent curator and writer of all the catalogue entries at the art gallery.

Some of the art features more geometrical, grid based patterns, like Jack Whitten's "Formal Relay." Whitten's painting supposedly began with the artist painting crisscrossing straight lines with an afro comb.

"The artist is trying to make some-

thing abstract, but they're also trying to exceed the picture plane by having something constructed," Bowman said.

As with much abstract art, some works defy easy interpretation. For example, Phyllis Dianne Jones' "Stan's Dance" uses a collage of images, like a race car, a family on a boat and a lion, to form a person. It was the first piece of art N'Namdi put in his collection.

N'Namdi said the major thread that runs throughout the collection is its outside-the-box inspiration.

"The artists here have reinvented something," N'Namdi said. "They've invented a new way of looking at art."

N'Namdi began collecting art during the 1960s when the countercultural spirit of rebellion influenced him to help preserve African American culture. Since then, his collection has grown to include over 200 works.

"I wanted to do this show because I wanted our student body, which is primarily white, to experience it," Goody said. "When you think of African American culture you think of a singular thing, and it's not at all."

George N'Namdi spoke to an audience at Varner Hall Sunday about his collection, where he discussed how he became an art collector and his philosophy on collecting.

"I never had a desire to do anything in art. I did have a desire to present art," N'Namdi said.

N'Namdi bought his first painting, "Stan's Dance," for \$120. He couldn't describe how he knew he liked the painting, he simply liked it.

"In my beginning years, I didn't know art. You just begin to start enjoying it," N'Namdi said.

Though he knew little about art when he began collecting, he learned more by talking to the artists whose works he admired.

N'Namdi began to buy art pieces from art shows based on the pieces he liked that were left at the end of the show. He had been told that the pieces not purchased already by the end of the art show were "the difficult ones," and they were the ones that would make him happier in the end.

"You don't have to like everything. You don't have to understand everything. You just have to try to figure it out."

He began to think of his art collection and the gallery as his social responsibility to preserve the art and give more people the opportunity to view it.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Chakaia Booker's "Pioneer" is meant to be a metaphor for African American resilience, with the toughness of the exterior, which is made from recycled tires, protecting the more delicate interior.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Bernard Williams' "Buffalo Soldier" (center painting) is one of the more prominent pieces of George N'Namdi's art collection. The art includes a wide variety of styles and themes.

Hitchcock comes to Meadow Brook

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

A man witnesses a murder from out his apartment window. A small town is ravaged by an unnaturally coordinated attack by flocks of birds. A couple that witnesses an assassination soon finds themselves embroiled in deadly international espionage.

These are the plots for some of the more recognizable films of Alfred Hitchcock, who is regarded as one of the best film directors of all time. His movies are the focus of Meadow Brook Hall's "Dinner and a Movie" event, which runs through September.

Meadow Brook Hall has shown Hitchcock's films for "Dinner and a Movie" in past years and has returned this year with a new selection of Hitchcock movies.

"It's been Hitchcock the last three years. We decided that 'Hitchcock at the Hall' had a nice ring to it," Meadow Brook Marketing Coordinator Shannon O'Berski said.

For \$35, visitors to Meadow Brook Hall will receive a three-course meal and view one of Hitchcock's films in the Hall's ballroom.

Hitchcock's films are famous for their unique cinematography and often macabre subject matter. Over the course of his directing career, which began in 1919 and lasted until 1976, Hitchcock made over 50 films.

Hitchcock is famous for his unrelenting desire to control his actors. He cared little for their artistic freedom, notoriously commenting that "Actors are cattle."

Hitchcock is also credited with popularizing the concept of "The MacGuffin," an object that characters strive for, but which serves no purpose other than to move the plot along. His films frequently involved characters caught up in cases of mistaken identity.

Hitchcock films like "Psycho" and "The Birds" are familiar pieces of popular culture and tend to project the image of him as a horror director, although many of his films are subtle thrillers.

For some, "Dinner and a Movie" is an opportunity to pass their affection for Hitchcock down to the next generation.

"I grew up watching Hitchcock's films. As a kid I probably saw all of

them," patron Jaqueline Willis said. She said she decided to take her daughter to the event because seeing the film on the big screen with a big group of people is a different experience from watching it in your home on television.

Hitchcock is known for effectively bridging gaps of genre and attracting viewers who generally would not be inclined to watch such dark material.

"I'm a person who doesn't like scary movies, but I love Hitchcock's movies," Willis said.

Earlier this month, the Hall showed two of Hitchcock's films "Rope," and "Spellbound," on Sept. 4 and Sept. 18, respectively. Meadow Brook also has plans to show "To Catch A Thief" on Sept. 25. "Suspicion" was originally to be screened on the Sept. 11, however that showing was cancelled due to lack of public interest.

Although the event's audiences generally do not consist of many OU students, O'Berski said that they would like to see more students, and adds that tours of Meadow Brook Hall are free.

The film shown on Sept. 18, "Spellbound," features Ingrid Bergman as a psychiatrist who suspects that the new head of the mental hospital she works at is an impostor. Hitchcock appears in a cameo, as he does in most of his films, carrying a violin case.

The meal served with the movie is structured so that the food will complement the narrative arc of Hitchcock's films. The Meadow Brook Hall staff serves the first course, shows about half of the movie, serves the main course during an intermission, shows the remainder of the film and ends with dessert.

"We usually stop it at a suspenseful point, so people can discuss it," event coordinator Leanne DeVreugd said.

James Brammer says he thinks movies today cannot compare to the ones that Hitchcock used to make.

"When there aren't all those special effects, the story really has to be good," Brammer said.

Though they were made over 60 years ago, people continue to watch Hitchcock's films for their timeless qualities. The Sept. 25 showing of "To Catch a Thief" is already sold out.

*Enjoy a Sunday Afternoon with
Claire and Mia Fontaine
September 28, 2-3 p.m.
O'Banquet Rooms*

Authors of *Comeback*, mother and daughter tell their parallel stories in gripping and provocative first-person accounts. Claire Fontaine's story is a parent's worst nightmare: having to save three-year-old Mia first from an abusive father, then a decade later from herself; dealing with Mia's manipulative, drug-fueled behavior and repeated disappearances; each time to do worse things with worse people. Mia's story details her precarious refuge in the abyss of criminals and heroin addicts, the painful childhood trauma that caused her near self-destruction, and her remarkable, if controversial, process of healing.

No butts about Recreation Center

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

In what may be the first time that an outdoor area has been designated as a no-smoking zone on Oakland University's campus, an area around the Recreation Center is a no-smoking zone.

The no-smoking zone includes the entrance of the Rec Center and the sidewalks leading to it from the north, south and west. The borders are labeled by visible signs as well as cigarette urns.

Greg Jordan, director of Campus Recreation, said that this decision was made to promote health on campus and to make the part of the OU community that uses the Rec Center feel welcome.

"I can't think of a worse way to start or finish a healthy session than to walk through a cloud of cigarette smoke," Jordan said.

Jordan said that he has received a "consistent amount of complaints" over the ten years of the Rec Center's existence about people being uncomfortable with others smoking around the Rec Center.

Most people interviewed said they did not mind the new no-smoking zone around the Rec Center, and some said they thought it was a great idea.

"This makes sense," said Samir Hanna, a student liaison to the OU board of trustees. "I can't imagine too many people would be upset about this."

While there was not a strong opposition to this isolated case, many students said that if there was a measure to designate more places around campus as no-smoking zones, they'd be opposed to it.

OU spokesperson Ted Montgomery said that "at this time there is no campus-wide initiative, but if [the OU administration] gets a good response from the community, [OU] might try it in other areas such as the Oakland Center or housing."

He added that he thinks "it's going to have to be a student-led initiative to change smoking culture on campus," and that "if more students get involved on a grassroots level, [the OU administration] might see more interest in restrictions."

Montgomery also encouraged students to voice their opinions with The Oakland

Post about these hypothetical restrictions on smoking on parts of campus.

At the moment, there does not seem to be a viable student-led movement at OU that is pushing for smoking restrictions on campus.

Hanna said that he thinks it's a great policy that OU administrators won't arbitrarily put no-smoking zones into effect without consulting students.

Tawnee Milko, the other student liaison to the board of trustees, said that she is skeptical about the success of any measure that would seek to restrict smoking around buildings because of the large smoker population on campus.

"The no-smoking ban around buildings may be difficult to enforce as well," Milko said, "especially during the winter when people are going to want to smoke as close to the buildings as they possibly can simply because of the weather."

Steve Clark, president of OU Student Congress, said the outdoor smoking on campus doesn't bother him personally, but that he'd like to hear other students' thoughts on this matter.

"My personal opinion doesn't mean

anything," Clark said. "What matters is what the majority of students think. I am here to give everyone a voice to the administration so if students would like to ban smoking in certain areas, then I am their man."

Nick Grenville, a senior who said he smokes, said he would be opposed to any more no-smoking zones on campus, let alone the whole campus.

A few student smokers, like Adam Wilson, said they would be OK if OU banned smoking on campus everywhere except for designated, sheltered areas.

"You'd need at least one for every building," Wilson said.

Some non-smoker students said while they understand students have the right to smoke, smokers should be courteous of non-smokers.

Milko said she doesn't smoke and has no problem with anyone who does, but that she's uncomfortable with second-hand smoking.

"I feel that non-smokers should be given the choice of whether or not they want to inhale secondhand smoke," Milko said.

POLICEFILES

OUPD responded to a smoke alarm at Vandenberg Hall on Sept. 17. The cause of the incident was a bag of popcorn left in the microwave for too long. Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived and cleared the scene.

OUPD was dispatched to Meadow Brook Drive and Adams Road on Sept. 11 to check on a report of a deer that had been hit by a vehicle. The deer was severely injured and had to be "dispatched."

Police responded to a report of a fight in the P-5 parking lot on Sept. 17. The two involved were separated before the altercation became physical. A related party called police in fear that the loud argument would turn into an assault.

A student and resident in the University Student Apartments contacted OUPD on a suspicion of credit card fraud on Sept. 19. Two charges had been made on the student's credit card without authorization. Charges were filed and a search warrant was issued to track down the guilty party.

OUPD were called to the parking lot outside 6000 USA on Sept. 22 for a report that a person was attempting to break into vehicles parked there. Three individuals reacting to a car-alarm located a suspect who ran off and was later found hiding in a dumpster. The suspect claimed that he was drunk and had accidentally set off the alarm, and was confused when people started chasing him. A PBT was administered and the suspect was charged with an MIP citation.

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www.oakland.edu/ready

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OU professor, former CIA officer discuss civil rights

By ASHLEY WOEHLGEMUTH
Contributing Reporter

One Oakland University professor is not happy with the way her government is treating the Constitution in the name of national security, and a veteran expert agrees with her.

On Sept. 17, 2008 OU hosted a lecture titled *Terrorism and the Constitution* in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center. The panel featured associate professor of political science Martha Zingo and Jim Marcinkowski, a former prosecutor, criminal defense attorney and former CIA officer. The event commemorated the anniversary of the Constitution which was signed 221 years ago.

Zingo and Marcinkowski focused on the issue of how civil liberties have been compromised under the pretense of national security. Zingo and Marcinkowski both claim that one of the most important freedoms under attack is the right to privacy.

Although the right to privacy is not specifically enumerated in the Constitution, the courts have generally maintained that the government can not obtain access to personal documents without a warrant. Under the 2001 USA PATRIOT Act however, the burden on the government to prove a person or group was a threat was weakened, according to Zingo and Marcinkowski.

Medical records could be disclosed, email could be hacked into, phone calls could be tapped, often without a warrant. For Marcinkowski, these developments should concern all Americans, even if they are not directly affected.

"Privacy issues affect all of us since 9/11," Marcinkowski said. "Pre-9/11, nobody could collect information without consent. Post-9/11, the collection of information is in direct conflict with the constitution."

For example, medical waivers state "an authorization is not required to use or disclose protected health information for military mission, conducting intelligence, and national security activities." Patients who do not agree to these conditions can be denied treatment.

Marcinkowski also discussed the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. FISA defines the procedures for the physical and electronic surveillance and collection of "foreign intelligence information" between "foreign powers" and "agents of foreign powers."

FISA, created in 1975, set up a court to grant search warrants for intelligence agencies to tap phone calls made within the United States. The warrants could be obtained up to 72 hours after a search.

A 2005 New York Times article revealed that, in several instances, intelligence agencies, authorized by the Bush Administration, had conducted wiretap searches without a warrant.

Zingo claimed the president exploited the events of 9/11 to expand his authority.

"President Bush was allowed to declare a national emergency," Zingo said. "It was a power grab on his part. He was telling the country that he could do anything he deemed necessary to protect the United States. That he does not need the legislature or the courts to do any of this."

In the wake of the 9/11 attacks, different government agencies created lists of suspected terrorists that should be prevented from flying. These "no fly" lists quickly spread to private companies and other organizations.

As a result, numerous innocent people have been prevented from flying because their name resembles the name of a terrorist or a because government error put their name on the list.

The war on terrorism has not only

affected American citizens, but legal immigrants as well. Since the tragic attack of 9/11, FBI and local police agents have used immigration laws to arrest hundreds of immigrants and keep them in secret custody.

In an internal memo made public in 2002, the Department explicitly adopted a policy of selective immigration enforcement. Immigrants from certain countries who have overstayed their visas might now be targeted for speedy deportation based on their national origins, according to the United State Justice Department.

During the lecture, Marcinkowski focused on privacy rights and how they are being abused by government officials, and Professor Zingo focused on the balance of power.

Zingo said that, "Post 9/11, prisoners in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba do not have the right of Habeas Corpus; they do not have to know what they are being charged with."

Zingo was also concerned about the torture of suspected enemy combatants in Guantanamo Bay and prisoner of war camps in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The United States has never got information they need through torture," Zingo said. "A relationship has to be built to get what you want. The United States doesn't have time this is a matter of national security."

Marcinkowski discussed the Bybee Memo, a Justice Department document stating that torture may be permissible under some circumstances. This memo caused a controversy, with many civil libertarians claiming it was a violation of the Geneva Conventions, which were adopted in 1949 to set the standards for the treatment of prisoners of war.

A political science professor in the room mentioned the National ID Card Act, which some members of the government want to use to expand the fight against

terrorism.

"Who said we need it?" Marcinkowski asked. "They are dropping atomic bombs when they should be throwing hand grenades."

Zingo believes the willingness to concede freedom in the name of security raises a core philosophical question.

"What do we believe in?" she asked.

True stories of the War on Terror

Shakir Baloch - a Pakistan-born Canadian citizen was brutally beaten during his detention, and eventually deported back to Canada with all his identification papers confiscated. Read the presentation he made in a Criminal Justice Group in Geneva in April 2003.

A University of Texas graduate, Asif Iqbal who faced regular searches and interviews by law enforcement because his surname is common in Arab countries.

A 24-year-old Haitian woman named Wilidia was among about 200 other Haitians asylum seekers, has been detained for more than half a year without being charged.

Glen Morris - an activist, found out from a secret file Denver Police Department had kept on him for 16 years that someone had once plotted to kill him.

—Information provided by ucla.org

continued from page 6

TYE DYE

AT OU — TRUE GUMBO

Thom has been coming to OU since 2006, when Amanda Jenkins, an OU communication major transferred from Grand Valley University, a stop on Thom's route, and suggested that he check out her new university.

Since his first visit, the university has made an impact on Thom.

He likens the school to gumbo.

"I wish more parents raised their kids to realize that it takes 11 ingredients to make gumbo. If you leave out one of those ingredients, it's soup. OU is gumbo. It's something special. It's unique," he said.

Though he's said students have told

him that he shouldn't be on their campus, he speaks highly of the OU community.

"The reason I like Oakland University is its genuine and special. The students appreciate me coming. They hold doors for me; they ask me if I want something to eat; they watch my booth for me so I can go to the bathroom," he said.

"At this school the students are the main focus. I've talked to many faculty and administrators.

They do this job because they enjoy their students. It's not a paycheck to them — it is truly a mission."

And according to Thom, this isn't

the case at all the schools. "One school that I absolutely despise is Ferris State. The students there rank fifth in terms of importance. The president, faculty, town, staff are all more important there."

The one aspect of Oakland he

can't stand: the parking, which he calls atrocious.

But he doesn't let such annoyances bother him.

"I've had, literally, the greatest adventure," Thom said of his life.

"It's like I have 25 different lives with 25 groups of friends. And I may only get to see them for four weeks out of the year, but in knowing that, we put so much time into the time period.

You can catch Thom at his table, which is set up in the OC, until the end of this week.

He's scheduled to be back from Nov. 10-14, during which time he plans to have his winter gear — gloves, mittens, scarves and knit hats — for sale.

To check out his aerial photography company, Wish You Were Here, visit www.wywhpics.com.



THE BIO BOX:

Tye Dye Thom

Age: 41

Hometown: Pittsburgh

Favorite band: The Grateful Dead

Favorite movie: "Ordinary People"

Favorite book: "Bob Marley: My Son"

by Cedella Marley Booker

Hobbies: Surfing, Cooking, Music

Car pool lanes are possible

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — The world's automotive capital may be getting more serious about car pool lanes.

Bills approved by the Legislature last week would authorize Michigan to have high-occupancy vehicle, or HOV, lanes.

There already is one HOV lane in the state: a five-mile stretch of Michigan Avenue in Detroit near the Ambassador Bridge that coincides with the largest construction project in the history of the state Department of Transportation.

The lane opened in February as a pilot project, but legislative authority is needed so police can ticket violators. Use of HOV lanes is typically limited during certain hours to vehicles with two or more riders and to buses. Some states also allow solo drivers of hybrid vehicles to use car pool lanes.

"There's always been a love affair in Michigan with driving your own vehicle," MDOT spokesman Bill Shreck said. "But we can't build our way out of congestion. We're going to have to be more efficient."

HOV lanes exist or are planned in 46 metropolitan areas in 29 states and Canadian provinces, according to the Federal Highway Administration.

Michigan has been slow to join that movement, and no specific plans for more HOV lanes are in the works. But trans-



PAUL SANCYA/Associated Press

This high-occupancy sign in Detroit is the first of its kind in the state. More signs may be on the way.

portation officials plan to look at whether it would make sense to add them while rebuilding the state's highways.

"We'll see how this works and start to see where else we can try," Shreck said of the pilot project.

That's a problem for Jim Walker, an insurance salesman by trade who follows transportation issues as a member of the volunteer-based National Motorists Association.

His group contends that HOV lanes

are underused and take up valuable space on the road that could be used to serve the entire taxpaying public.

"We've already paid for it," said Walker, 64, who lives in Ann Arbor. "To take away existing lanes or parts of it is grossly unfair. There are a huge proportion of people who cannot do a car pool."

Backers of HOV lanes respond that car poolers and bus riders also pay taxes. When using the lanes, they say, traffic is reduced in other lanes, as is pollution.

"Even though it may seem selective to a few, everybody else benefits because you're taking cars off the road," said Sen. Jud Gilbert, an Algonac Republican who sponsored the HOV bills that unanimously passed the Senate. The House overwhelmingly approved similar measures. The legislation could be ready for Gov. Jennifer Granholm's signature soon.

Some states have high-occupancy toll, or HOT, lanes that let solo drivers pay to avoid being stuck in traffic. The tolls vary depending on the level of congestion. There's currently little discussion about adding any of those in Michigan, even though the Detroit area has the state's oldest and busiest freeways and Grand Rapids has growing traffic congestion.

Shreck said the state will explore adding the car pool lanes only where traffic patterns suggest they can make a difference.

"We really have no interest in empty HOV lanes," he said.

In some areas it might also make sense to add rapid transit buses, he added.

The first highway HOV lanes appeared in the United States in 1969 and 1970, with more being added in the mid-1980s. They're most heavily used in places such as Houston, Dallas, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York and Washington.

B R I E F S



WENDY TORELLA/Associated Press
Above: Lindsey Tycholiz, of Sterling Heights, Mich., is crowned Miss Michigan USA 2009 by Elisabeth Crawford, Miss Michigan USA 2008, Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008 at McMorran Place in Port Huron, Mich. Tycholiz competed with more than 50 women for the title that allows her to compete in the Miss USA pageant on April 19 in Las Vegas.

Below: New Detroit Red Wings goalie Ty Conklin deflects a shot during an intra-squad scrimmage at the first day of training camp for the NHL champion Detroit Red Wings on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008, in Traverse City. The team begins pre-season play tonight against the Montreal Canadiens at 7:00 p.m. in Detroit.



JOHN L. RUSSELL/Associated Press



DON CAMPBELL/Associated Press
Above: A black granite memorial marker engraved with the names of the 58 victims is shown Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008, at Riverview Cemetery in St. Joseph, Mich. during a memorial service for victims of Northwest Flight 2501, which crashed into Lake Michigan on June 23, 1950. The search continues for the location of the plane.

Below: Chrysler LLC Vice Chairman and President, Tom LaSorda, left, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Bob Nardelli stand next to a Dodge electric sports car prototype in Auburn Hills, Mich., Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008.



PAUL SANCYA/Associated Press

Nation to descend on Detroit

Plans underway to bring convention regarding U.S. economy

By JEFF KAROUB
Associated Press

DETROIT — A national convention is in the works for next year on the future of manufacturing, technology, energy and the environment that could help fuel a broad plan to overcome industrial and economic upheavals affecting the entire country, the leaders of two global companies said Monday.

Ford Motor Co. Executive Chairman Bill Ford and Dow Chemical Co. Chairman and Chief Executive Andrew Liveris announced plans Monday to co-host The National Summit, set for June 15-17 at Ford Field.

Organizers say the gathering has similarities to the World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland, but it would be a first of its kind on this scale in the U.S. Ford called it "crucial and long overdue."

"There's no place where all the interested parties can get together and really thrash it out," Ford told reporters after

the announcement. "In this country, we've not had that dialogue with everyone at the table."

The nonpartisan Detroit Economic Club is organizing the summit. The group says the event has received sponsorship pledges of more than \$2 million from more than 50 companies and organizations and hopes to draw 5,000 leaders and others from business, government and academia.

The timing of the announcement dovetails with crisis talks in Washington as turmoil roils Wall Street. But Liveris said the conference is not about quick fixes — rather it's designed to help find long-term answers that could eventually result in sound policies and legislation to restore the nation's manufacturing might.

"Maybe the word 'industrial' got a bad connotation," he said. "Call it jobs."

The speaker lineup hasn't been announced, but companies planning to take part include Chrysler LLC, IBM Corp., Microsoft Corp., AT&T

Inc., Motorola Inc., Deloitte LLP, Borg Warner and Masco Corp.

Liveris gave Monday's keynote address to the economic club, reiterating his call from a speech two years ago to the same group about the need for a national, comprehensive industrial policy — leavened with structural reforms such as a lower corporate tax rate and fairer trade policies.

He has been vocal about industry troubles and the effect on the Midland-based company he leads. Dow this year announced two sets of wide-ranging price increases in an attempt to offset record costs for energy and raw materials — and he took the unusual step of directing blame at the nation's energy policy makers.

"What made [the U.S.] strong was its vibrant industrial and manufacturing base. ... A country can't be strong abroad if it's not strong at home," he said Monday.

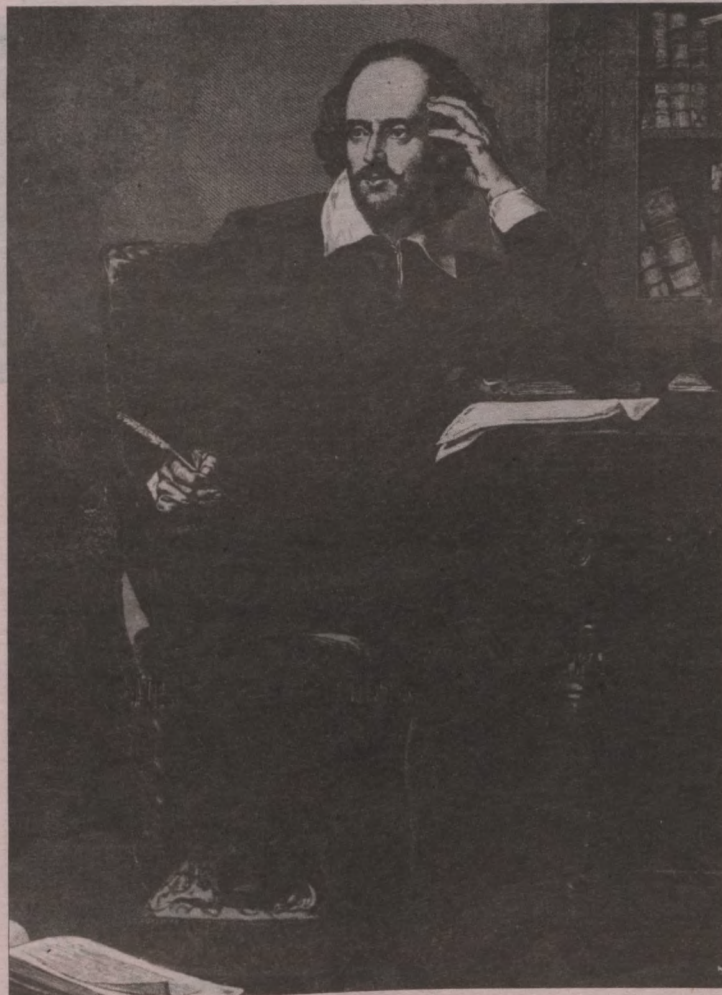
"Somehow our government has lost sight of that. ... Bad policies have drawn

good jobs out of this country. ... We've allowed them to create an industrial crisis that's undermining our nation's strength and they don't even know it."

Summit organizers say they will invite the new president of the United States and members of his administration to attend.

"We don't have a [national] plan, and sometimes it seems like we don't have a clue," Ford said. "It's time for government and business to work together for a stronger, more secure, prosperous nation."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Council on Competitiveness have agreed to participate in the national summit, which includes concurrent town halls on each of the main topics, a "CEO Summit" for corporate leaders and an innovation exposition that incorporates technology displays and an effort to match entrepreneurs, researchers and venture capitalists.



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What is your all-time favorite video game?



"Halo 3" because I like first person shooters."

Anthony Djelosevic
Freshman, business management

The creator of "Donkey Kong," Shigeru Miyamoto, named the character because he thought "donkey" meant "stupid" in English.

According to
www.miyamotoshrine.com

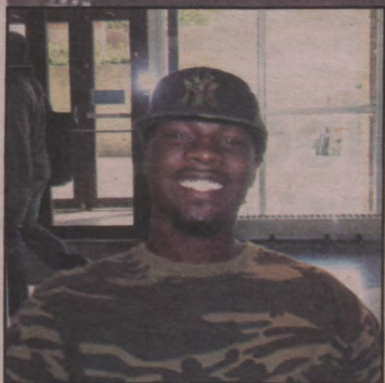


"World of Warcraft" because it's very addicting."

Sarah Kuna
Junior, biology

In 2007, "World of Warcraft" had 9.3 million subscribers. Of those players, an estimated maximum of 40 percent are addicted to the game.

According to
www.associatedcontent.com



"I would have to say 'Donkey Kong.' I just like adventurous games."

Dino Heard
Sophomore, dance



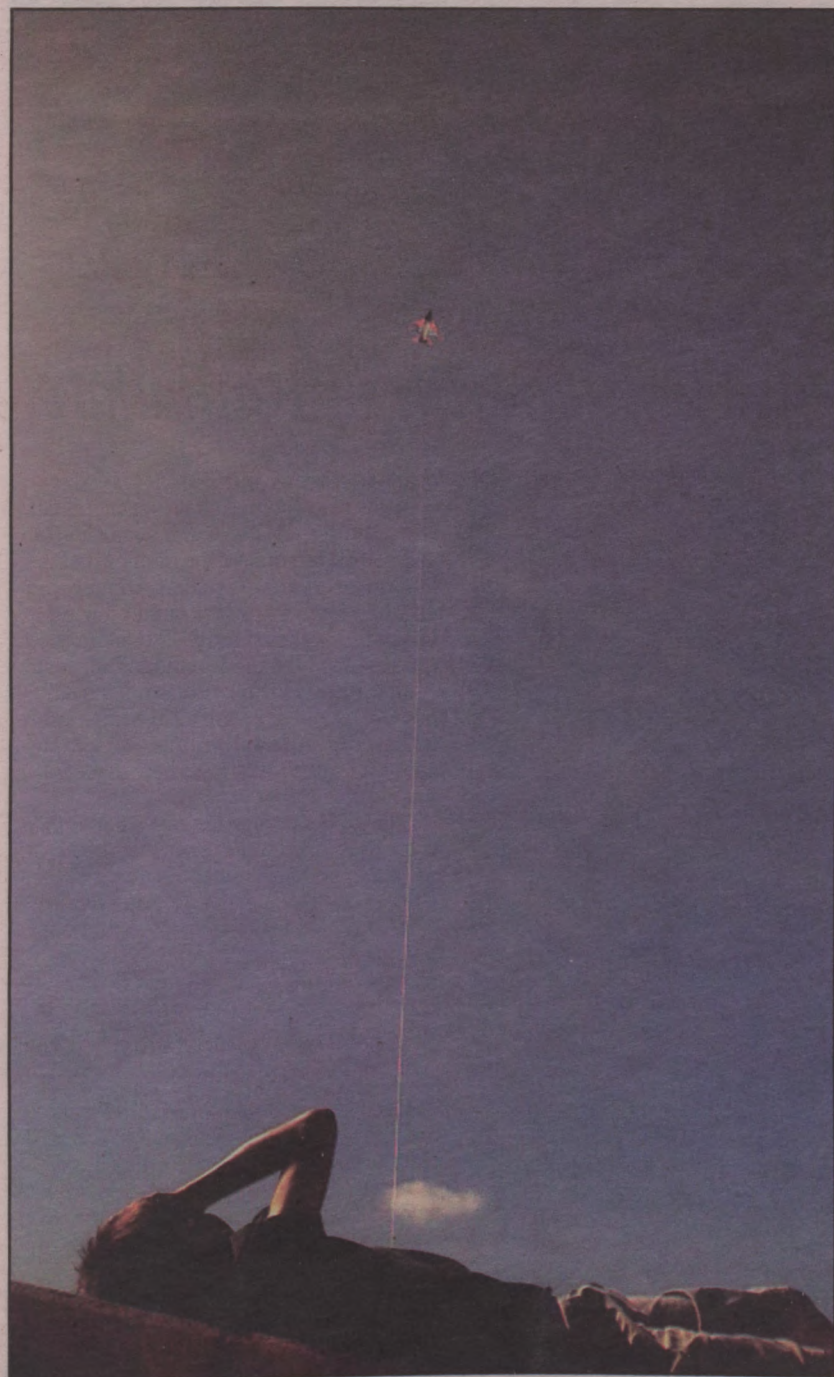
AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Oakland University students can now enjoy "Rock Band" in the basement of the Oakland Center in the Bumpers Game Room.

This issue's photo contest winner is:

Senior Carol Washington

"I took this picture in Puerto Rico in December."



Think you can do better?

Send your best shot to the photo editor at dustinaalexander18@gmail.com and you could be featured in an issue of The Oakland Post! At the end of the semester, we will choose one grand prize winner, courtesy of The Oakland Post.

Do you like new video games or do you prefer the classics?



"The new ones because there's more stuff to do, old ones are too repetitive."

Gary Yung
Freshman,
computer engineering



"The classics, the graphics for new ones are difficult for me. Too hard for me to follow first person games."

Renee Warren
Junior, communication



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Getting to know you

A series telling the stories of those who make OU unique

Students sacrifice and celebrate during holy month of Ramadan

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

Welcome Week at Oakland University is known for the plentiful free food available to students, provided by various organizations. But this year, a certain group of students chose to pass on all of the free food.

That's because this year's welcome week coincided with the first week of Ramadan, the month when Muslims fast, or don't eat or drink anything, from sunrise to sunset. Ramadan is considered a holy month in Islam because it is believed that the first verses of the holy book Koran were first revealed during this month.

During Ramadan, Muslims are not only supposed to refrain from eating and drinking, but also from sexual activity and committing sins.

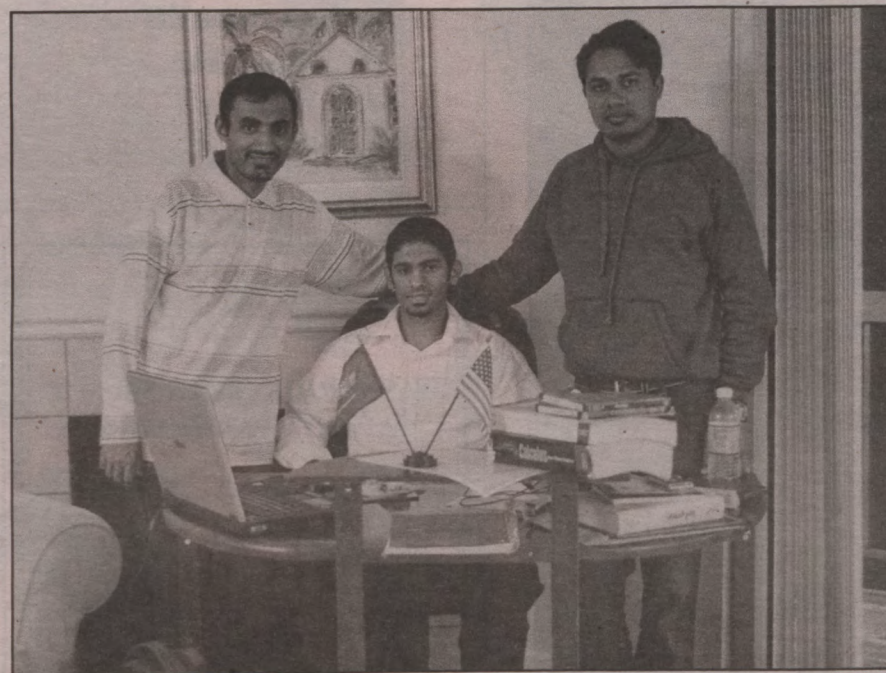
"For example, we are told to keep a clean mouth and not curse, lie, be physically aggressive, etc.," said Hamed Altair, a 26-year-old Muslim international student from Yemen. "Actually, these things are haram (forbidden and sinful) all year long. If we do these things during Ramadan, it doesn't break our fast, but the sins multiply."

Some Muslim students also refrain from listening to certain types of music. Hadi Alzawad, a 25-year-old international student from Saudi Arabia, said that he doesn't listen to hip-hop or any other kind of music that leads to dancing because dancing is considered forbidden, especially during Ramadan.

"I think listening to romantic music is OK, as long as it doesn't lead to dancing," Alzawad said.

According to Islam, Ramadan not only warns extra punishment for sins, but also extra reward for good deeds.

"Whenever you pray or read the



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post

From left to right: Hamed Altair, Hadi Alzawad and Saiful Islam fulfill the duties Ramadan together.

Koran or [do] other good deeds during Ramadan, the reward you get is multiplied more than in other months," Altair said.

Many students said they don't consider fasting to be physically hard. Saiful Islam, a 24-year-old international student from Bangladesh, said that he doesn't find fasting difficult because he's used to it.

Alzawad said the same thing, but added that despite its easiness, he's "always looking forward to the sunset."

Other students said that they find it harder to refrain from committing sins than from eating and drinking.

"Personally, it's harder to abstain from sins," said freshman Adam Siddiqui.

"That's like a level two fast, not a basic level one."

Altair said that despite the difficulty, "we all try to do it because it's God's command and the reward is great."

Altair also said that there are three primary benefits of fasting during Ramadan: spiritual, psychological and physical.

"It's spiritually [beneficial] because it helps to remember God more. The whole year, we're busy with work and don't [always remember] God," Altair said. "But during Ramadan we remember God always."

Altair said that because Ramadan is the month of peace, "if someone attacks you, you aren't allowed to retaliate, and

that's psychologically good."

Altair also claimed that fasting helps to decrease cholesterol and sugar levels.

A source of support for many Muslims, like undergraduate student Amine (who declined to give her last name) during Ramadan is their family. "My mom cooks the best food during Ramadan," she said.

The three international students said, however, that they don't have any family in America. Alzawad, Altair and Islam share an apartment together, and said having each other makes it easier.

Alzawad said that they try to plan their breakfast and dinner together during Ramadan, but that sometimes their schedules don't work out. He also said that he tries to cook the traditional meals of his country.

Alzawad said that last year OU's chapter of the Muslim Student Association used to hold dinner parties for fasting Muslims two nights a week, but that this year the MSA is inactive because much of the past leadership graduated last year. He hoped that someone else would take up the helm.

This year, Ramadan started on Sept. 1 and will last until Sept. 30. Eid al-Fitr, a Muslim holiday that translates into "festival of breaking the fast," will begin on Oct. 1 and will last three days. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Arabic calendar, which follows the lunar cycle rather than the solar cycle. Thus, Ramadan falls on different dates every year, usually about two weeks earlier than the previous year. In 2007, Ramadan started on Sept. 13.

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims often give donations to the needy. According to www.islaam.com, Muslims who can afford it should give a minimum of either five pounds of food or its equivalent in money.

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Nominees must possess all of the following attributes: current cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0, demonstrated campus involvement, record of responsible citizenship, and enrollment in a minimum of 12 credits each term for fall 2009 and winter 2010 semesters.

Applications may be obtained in The Center for Multicultural Initiatives office (134 NFH) or visit the CMI website: <http://www2.oakland.edu/cmi/files/kodapp.pdf>

All applications are due by October 10, 2008

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Trying to hang ten

Oates leads pursuit of tenth straight league title

By JOE GUZMAN
Contributing Reporter

If the Michael Phelps show at this summer's Beijing Olympics proved anything it was this: jaw-dropping domination over the competition can make any sport, even competitive swimming, an awe-inspiring event.

Phelps' performance at the previous Olympics in Athens provided a glimpse of what was to come at the Beijing games. Predictions began even before the opening ceremonies that he would break Mark Spitz's gold medal record of seven in one Olympic summer.

Even though Chelsea Oates had built an impressive resume in high school, the Oakland University diver entered her freshman year in 2007 in no position to predict the level of success that she would go on to have.

It was at East Grand Rapids High School where she established herself as one of the best divers in the state. During her time there, she was named All Conference, All State and All American in her sophomore through senior years.

One of 12 newcomers to the OU woman's swimming and diving team, Oates was thrust into competing as one of the team's two divers. The heightened intensity of collegiate athletics, compared to what she was used to in high school, required the largest adjustment.

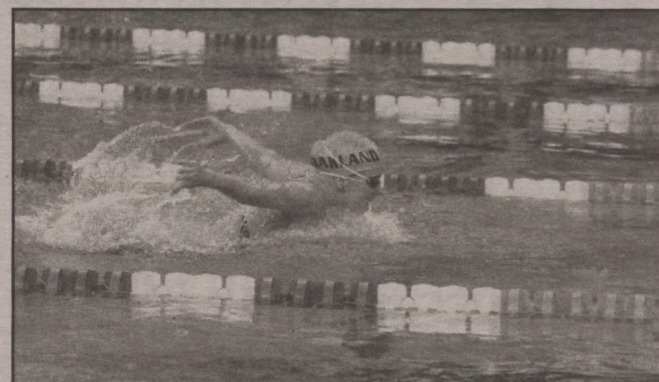
"It was very different," Oates said about her experience as a freshman. "Specifically the practices and training was much more advanced. The amount of time and how hard the coaches pushed [the team] to raise our level of effort, and the degree of difficulty of the dives was the biggest difference."

Oates proved up to the challenge by setting Summit League Championship records in the one-meter and three-meter springboard events during the championship preliminaries. She came away victorious in both events during the finals, earning her Diver of the Year honors; and the team went on to win 18 of the 20 events to defend their Summit League Championship for the eighth consecutive year, securing Pete Hovland's fifth Coach of the Year award.

Whether it's against world-class competition or Mid-Major Division I universities, establishing dominance over opponents relies on talented individuals establishing themselves. But sustained supremacy requires depth within the team, and a program to adjust to the revolving door of outgoing seniors and incoming freshmen.

Withstanding a continuously-changing roster is what makes the extent of the team's dominance so remarkable. When the season commences with the Black and Gold Intrasquad and Alumni meets Friday and Saturday at the OU Recreation and Athletics Center, these Golden Grizzlies will enter the season poised to secure an astounding tenth consecutive Summit League Championship.

Reflecting on last year's success, Oates expects



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Senior Sophia Gustafsson competes in an event in 2007. She swam the second fastest 1,000-meter freestyle in OU history last season at 10:21.09.

more of the same this year. As she enters her sophomore year of diving, returning with her is a strong core of swimmers; including 2007 Newcomer of the Year, Agnes Solan and 2007 Swimmer of the Year, team captain Sophia Gustafsson.

In Oates' opinion the current culture of winning stems from the standards set by Hovland. His track record during the past decade proves he and his staff are not just great teachers and trainers, but recruiters as well.

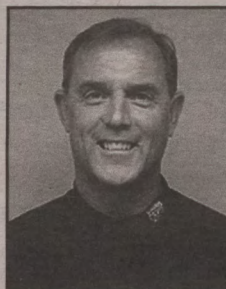
Along with the returning team members, a promising 2008 recruiting class was recently announced; including Johanna Gustafsson, Sophia's younger sister; Jackie Hynson, a versatile talent from Virginia; and Alyssa Vela, a local athlete out of Clarkston High School.

A program doesn't repeat as champions without swimmers and divers that are primed to step in and contribute right away. This abundance of talent provides an atmosphere where competing during practice can be as much of a test as provided by some Summit League opponents.

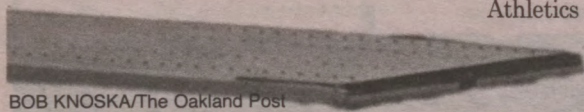
The intense practices, talented pool of teammates and superior coaching staff are all part of the formula to push the team to higher levels than its Summit League peers.

Like the opponents of Phelps and the U.S. men's swim team in Beijing, it could be argued that OU's competition in the Summit League isn't even close. Winning nine straight championships proves that fact, but winning year after year can cause complacency among the team.

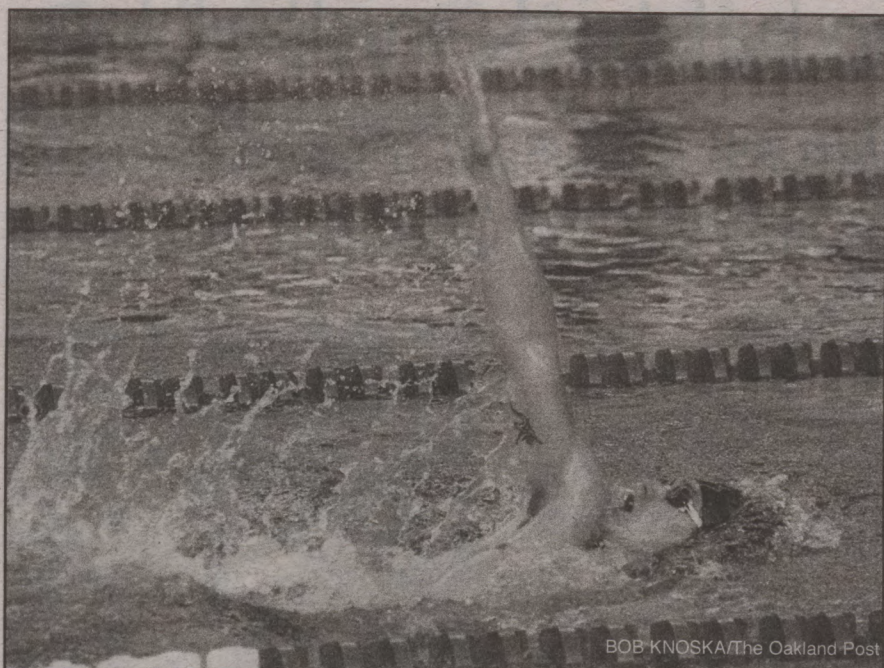
"Above all else, it's the mentality that the coaches instill in us that keeps us focused," said Oates when asked what she thought was the most important thing the coaches do to keep the winning from going to the team's head. After a slight pause, as if peering ahead to the accomplishments this season may have in store, Oates added with conviction, "They make us want it."



Coach Pete Hovland



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

10

NAMES TO KNOW

1. John Ledda Jr.

Was named Newcomer of the Year at the Summit League Championships and earned four letters in swimming at Monroe High School.

2. Eddie Toro

Swam the fourth fastest time in OU history (3:58:68) to win the 400-yard individual medley at the Summit League Championships.

3. Agnes Solan

Was named Newcomer of the Year and earned first-team All-Summit League honors in seven events.

4. Sarah Ludema

Swam the fourth fastest time in OU history (23.76) to win the 50-yard freestyle at the Summit League Championships.

5. Emily Wike

Earned first-team All-Summit League honors in four events.

6. Aaron Holdsworth

Broke the OU and Summit League Championships record in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:47.54.

7. Alyssa Vela

Incoming freshman was the Oakland County champion in the 50 and 100 freestyles.

8. Jade Evink

Incoming freshman was named an All-State athlete five times at Hamilton High School.

9. Nicole Salmento

Incoming freshman was undefeated throughout her entire high school career at Eisenhower High School in Shelby Township.

10. Tim Montague

Incoming freshman is the record holder in the 500 freestyle at Firestone High School in Akron, Ohio.

The big encore

Unold aims to echo banner year

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

Success is a common theme for the Oakland University men's swimming program. With 2007-08 Summit League swimmer of the year Marcin Unold, OU is aiming to win their tenth straight title.

Last season, Unold broke OU and league championship meet records in both backstroke events and was a member of the championship 400-meter freestyle and 200-meter as well as the 400-meter medley relay teams.

He had an even better showing at the NCAA Championships where he earned a spot on the Division I mid-major All-American first team by placing ninth in the 100-meter backstroke and fifth in the 200-meter backstroke.

Unold, who hails from Gliwice, Poland, followed that event with a gold medal performance at the Polish National Championships.

Head coach Pete Hovland said that despite Unold's career year, he has a great chance to do even better this season.

With the way the sport of swimming is set up, Hovland said that the dual meet season (regular season schedule) is more of a training period in preparation for the conference championship and the NCAA Championships.

He said that every team in the conference automatically competes in the conference tournament, so the goal as a swimmer is to train hard all season and peak at the league championships and hopefully qualify for the NCAA Championships.

"A lot of times we are training in the morning of the dual season meets. Our swimmers are usually pretty tired during dual meet season," Hovland said.

"I try to schedule as tough a schedule as I can to have Marcin and others like him put in difficult situations so they are forced to race quality people when they are really tired. So when the end of the season comes around they are prepared for it."

Unold said that although training is demanding and juggling the schedule of a student-athlete takes a lot of responsibility, the results are worth the hard work.

"I think there is nothing better than to work out and have fun," Unold said. "It's the best feeling in the world after practice, I feel so fresh. Of course I like winning. Standing on the podium is a special moment, I've actually practiced for it for

14 years, that's a lot of miles."

Unold said that training is from 6-8 a.m. Then he has class, followed by study table for two hours. Then he lifts weights and does cardio exercise for at least an hour followed by swimming again for two hours.

"Then I am all done and that is my favorite part of my day," Unold said.

Along with training and class, Unold has also had to adjust to living in a different country.

"The transition as far as language and culture has been difficult, but it is nothing that I can't adapt to. I spent one year in high school in Chicago so that prepared me for [OU]."

Unold said that a major reason for choosing to come to OU was the winning tradition of the program and the facilities that OU offers. When some other universities across the country are dropping Olympic sports such as swimming and diving due to financial difficulties, Hovland said that OU's programs are thriving.

"Success breeds success, so once you start on a roll it makes it easier," Hovland said. "But you have to find people that are driven. Fortunately I have some assistant coaches that are driven. The administration staff is very driven, we all want to see how far we can take the program."

Hovland said that the program was very successful as a Division II program winning five national championships. The Grizzlies have been competing in Division I for the past 10 years, making national championships harder to attain, but Hovland said that just makes everybody in the program hungry for success at the highest level.

"Obviously you can see the commitment here at Oakland with this facility and with our successes," Hovland said. "We have a place that is a good choice for a lot of [swimmers] to come to."

The Golden Grizzlies men's and women's swimming and diving teams open up the 2008-09 season Friday at 6:30 p.m. at the OU Rec Center with the Black and Gold Intrasquad Meet.



Check out Tim Rath's uncensored rant on the men's and women's swimming and diving teams only at www.oaklandpostonline.com

The hat-trick midfielder

Colarossi makes an impact in first games on the Oakland pitch

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

Killing time is a college student's pastime. Whether it's playing cell phone games or daydreaming, we've all been caught wasting away the day.

Well, all of us except for women's soccer star Deanna Colarossi.

Starting as a freshman, she already shares the team lead in goals with three. She has played in all eight games this season and started three games.

Colarossi said that the early successes have aided her throughout the season.

"Scoring those goals has given me more confidence," she said. "It's pretty cool for a freshman to be able to come in and have an impact, but it's not like it's just me dribbling all over the field. It's a team effort."

Standing 5 feet 10 inches, Colarossi is one of the tallest players on the team, giving her the ability to see the field and win the ball.

As a midfielder, Colarossi said that while she has been able to score goals for the Grizzlies, her main role is to control the ball and make passes to the forwards and putting them in position to score.

"I'm not the fastest player, but I am a smart player," Colarossi said.

She added that after this season, a lot of key players will be leaving and that she expects to step up and be a team leader.

Oakland University head coach Nick O'Shea said while she is suited for the leadership role, she still has to make changes.

"She still needs to get a little more composure when it comes to finishing," O'Shea said. "But she has fairly good speed and decent size. She's going to be a great player over four years and she's having a great start to her career."

Colarossi was the captain of her high school team at Notre Dame Catholic in Burlington, Ontario. She said she is still adjusting to the college game.

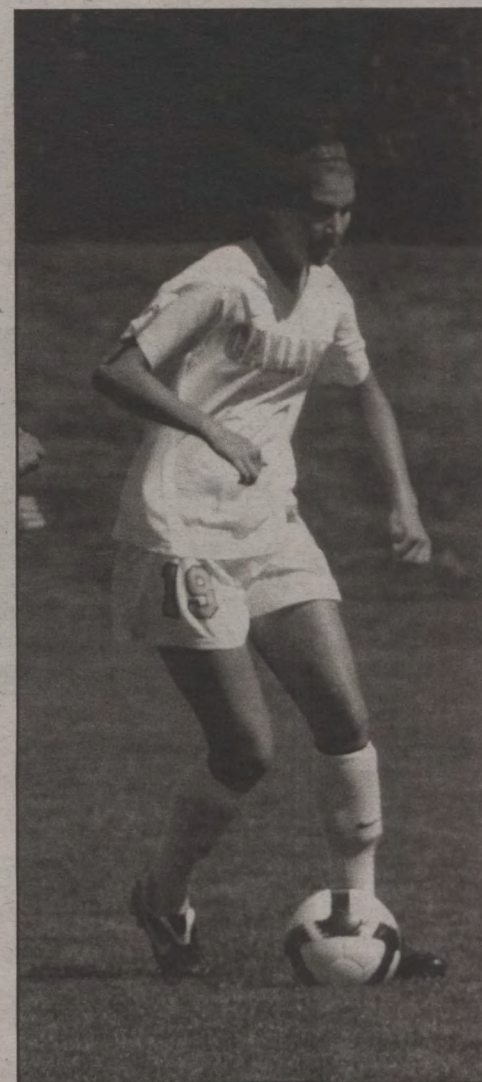
"When I first came in everything was a lot faster," Colarossi said. "I was shocked at the speed of the game. After the first couple of games I got used to it. It's become easier."

Colarossi said that while she hasn't been on campus that long, she likes being a student athlete at the collegiate level. One of her favorite aspects is the recognition and support she receives from other athletes and the OU community.

Colarossi said that the transition of moving to a new area and starting her college career so far away from home is made easier by the relationship she has with her teammates.

"We are really close so that helps a lot," Colarossi said.

But the transition still holds challenges.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Deanna Colarossi dribbles the ball upfield in a game against Central Michigan Aug. 31.

Between practices, classes and traveling with the team, Colarossi has to be very disciplined to focus on her responsibilities.

"It's tough when you get back from a road trip at four in the morning and still have to go to class," she said. "But you get used to it."

The most difficult thing for Colarossi so far this season is not winning as much as the team would like. She hopes to continue to improve and help her team gain more victories as the season progresses.

"I think our problem has been in the first half, we're getting behind right away," Colarossi said. "It's hard to get back after getting down early. We are getting chances, you can see moments where we are really connecting but we have to keep that consistent throughout the whole game."

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Golden Grizzlies Game of the Week



At left, senior defenseman Kristi Smith attempts to head the ball past Green Bay goalkeeper Maddie Drusch as teammate Kristi Evans looks on. Drusch ended up with 10 saves in the game. Bottom right, senior midfielder Jessica Boyle scores the lone goal against Green Bay, her first of the season. Bottom left, Evans battles with a Green Bay player for possession. After notching an assist against Green Bay and scoring two goals against Kentucky Sept. 19, Evans was named Summit League Offensive Player of the Week.

All photos by
BOB KNOSKA/The
Oakland Post

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Oakland falls short against Green Bay

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

The Oakland University women's soccer team might need new alarms clocks, according to Head Coach Nick O'Shea.

"Both of their goals were off mistakes," O'Shea said of the Green Bay's 2-1 victory over OU Sunday, which dropped the Golden Grizzlies' record to 1-5-2.

"The team fell asleep. They didn't do the little things that they know they are supposed to be doing. Not enough attention to detail and they are not being held accountable by their teammates."

Green Bay forward Chelsea Lyons scored a goal just one hour and eight minutes into the game.

Laura Hayward added another goal for the Phoenix at 14:30 in the first

half. Grizzlies' midfielder Jessica Boyle brought OU within one goal on a break-away at the 21:49 mark of the first half but that would be all the scoring for the Grizzlies despite 11 shots on goal.

O'Shea said that after the Phoenix jumped out to an early lead they were content to play back in their zone making it hard for the Grizzlies to attack.

"If we didn't make two mistakes like that they weren't going to score," O'Shea said. "We created a ton of good chances."

Most of the game was played in the Green Bay end but once a team is down it is not easy to make a comeback, according to Boyle.

"It's happened to us quite a bit this season so we are used to battling back," Boyle said. "But it's hard especially when they score really early like that."



The Scene

22

www.oaklandpostonline.com

September 24, 2008

Movie crew gives insider's view

By AMANDA MEADE
Scene/Mix Editor

Steven Spielberg came up with the concept for a film 10 years ago. But, he was concerned that the idea was a little ahead of its time because technology wasn't as prevalent then it is today. Spielberg wanted people to walk out of the theater and turn off their cell phones because they were afraid of them, the way they were afraid of the ocean after seeing "Jaws."

That idea will be brought to the big screen in the new film "Eagle Eye," which opens Sept. 26.

D.J. Caruso, the film's director, and stars Billy Bob Thornton and Michael Chicklis shared their thoughts on technology, their involvement in the film and advice for college students hoping to break into the movie business during a press conference on Sept. 13. College publications from all over the nation took part in the conference call, including The Oakland Post.

"Eagle Eye" is about two strangers (played by Shia LeBeouf and Michelle Monaghan) who meet under unusual circumstances. Each receives a mysterious phone call from a woman they have never met. Afterwards, their lives and their family are threatened; the technology that they depend on every day is turned against them.

Technology's role

Caruso, who also directed "Disturbia" and several episodes of "The Shield," said he believes that technology has invited "Big Brother" in.

"It dawned on me that we're always so afraid of 1984 and our Orwellian 'Big Brother' invading our lives," Caruso said. "With this great technology that we have, the technology that we love, the Blackberrys, the iPhones, the computers, the e-mails, everything that we love about technology has made our life easier."

While some of us couldn't imagine life without technology, Thornton, who starred in "Bad Santa" and wrote, directed and starred in "Sling Blade," is less concerned with it.

"I'm big on privacy. I only got a cell phone two years ago; I couldn't tell you how to take a picture on it," Thornton said.



Photo courtesy of Dreamworks Pictures
D.J. Caruso working on the set of "Eagle Eye." Caruso also directed the movie "Disturbia."

Involvement in the film

Chicklis found his role to be a stretch from his character as a detective in "The Shield."

"If the seats had seat belts I'd put one on. It is really one of those thrill-ride, break-neck paced movies that just keeps you on the edge of your seat," said Chicklis. "It's a story about two ordinary people placed in really extraordinary situations and they don't know why, for quite awhile, what's happening is happening to them."

Caruso previously worked for Spielberg, directing several episodes of "High Incident," a television series Spielberg created. Caruso said that Spielberg followed his career and liked what he was doing.

"He really loved that one episode and sent me a letter and said 'I'd love for you to direct more because I liked what you did,' and I ended up doing four or five of those," Caruso said. "He called me about 'Disturbia,' and then after that things were going well. They mentioned 'Eagle Eye' to me. It was an original idea that Steven had thought of about ten or

twelve years ago."

Thornton has played a plethora of different characters throughout his acting career. He said he couldn't really relate to the character in this movie because usually he's the one being chased by the FBI. In "Eagle Eye" he plays an FBI agent. "I like to play different things all the time so it was pretty nice. I did do some research, it's knowing what you're saying when you're saying it. I think the audience can tell when you don't know what you're doing. In this case, the language of the script is technical. If I were an FBI guy that's the way I would be," Thornton said.

Chicklis got involved with "Eagle Eye" by accident. Caruso's son was playing with his phone one morning, and accidentally called Chicklis.

"I called D.J. back and said 'Why are you calling me at seven on Sunday morning?' and he said, 'Oh, I'm sorry, he called Angelina Jolie a minute ago too.' He was like, 'Hey wait a minute, what are you doing right now?' I had just literally wrapped the last show on 'The Shield,' and he said, 'I've got something for you,'" Chicklis said.

"I really loved the script, I just thought

it would be fun and interesting to do something like that."

The star of the film

The director and actors seemed to have a lot to say about the star of the movie, Shia LeBeouf.

"One thing you'll see about Shia is how he has now become sort of a young man and looks different and acts different and behaves differently," Caruso said. "He's gotten out of the teenager stage."

Thornton and LeBeouf had a lot of on-set interaction.

"Shia is a great kid. He's very mature as an actor for his age. I really enjoyed working with him. I really hope big things for him," Thornton said.

"Shia is awesome. I really enjoy the kid, I mean, this is a really great talent, smart, not an ego whatsoever," Chicklis said. "He's a wonderful actor because he's accessible, he's likeable."

Advice for future actors

All three had advice for anyone wanting to be involved in the movie business.

"If you work harder than everybody else it will happen for you," Caruso said. "I think the work ethic particularly in the film industry is lacking."

Chicklis is a graduate of Boston University, and had specific advice for students looking to break into the field of acting.

"I would educate myself as much as I could, if I were a student, as to the ins and outs of the business. Agents, management, business management, publicists, lawyers, all the different people you end up having no matter who you are, that's something you need to be aware of," Chicklis said. "If I were in college now, in addition to just taking in my lessons as an actor, I would be looking into all of that."

Thornton had advice for both musicians and actors, since he is also in a band and does solo work himself.

"It is most important to learn the history. It's very important to learn the movie and music industry, makes it easier to talk to the people you're trying to break in with. Eventually you'll really need to be in L.A.," Thornton said.

Go to www.eagleeyemovie.com for a trailer, photo gallery and more.

Gaming for all

Students on campus share their love for video, card and table top games

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

While taking classes, working and trying to maintain a social life, every student needs to take time to unwind. Many students turn to gaming, which includes video games, collectible card games and tabletop games. These games provide ways for gamers to relax, and communities of people that play them have sprung up at Oakland University.

What most people think of when they hear the word "gaming" is video games, and there's no more central place for it on campus than the Bumpers Game Room in the basement of the Oakland Center.

"I just play them when I'm bored, and I get bored a lot," said Jomar Mabborang, a freshman business major. Mabborang said he plays action games like "God of War II" to take the edge off his school day.

Mike Gazdik, a freshman economics major, said he plays games like "Starcraft" and "Halo 3" for the social aspect and the online multiplayer modes. With online multiplayer, relaxation tends to be overshadowed by competition. "It's very stressing sometimes," Gazdik said.

"World of Warcraft," the incredibly popular multiplayer online game, has a thriving community of its own. Some are more devout than others.

"Out of school, I play like a maniac. If I'm not in school and not working, that's what I'm doing," said Jason Kilgore, senior Japanese/English major.

But even though he plays so much, "WoW" is still primarily social for him, as he plays online with his friends and co-workers. "If my friends stopped playing, then I would stop playing," he said.

Kilgore said he's seen people lose jobs and girlfriends over games. But all of the gamers seem to agree that the danger only exists if you let game

playing get out of control.

"Video game addiction is like cigarette smoking; it's ok as long as you don't get cancer," Gazdik said.

Another group of gamers play collectible card games like "Magic: The Gathering." Collectible Card Games involve two or more people playing against each other with decks they've made from card sets sold at hobby shops. The rules for CCGs can be simple or intense, depending on the skill level of the players.

Michelle Nefcy, a senior psychology major, has been playing "Magic" since she was 13 and continues to play with a group in the basement of the OC. She said that interested players are welcome to come by and learn the game. "Even if it's someone new, we say, 'Yeah, come and play, come and watch.' That's how we get most of our people."

Finally, tabletop games like "Dungeons & Dragons" represent gaming in its oldest form. The Gaming Guild at OU plays "Dungeons & Dragons" weekly, in addition to many other kinds of games, tabletop or otherwise.

"Anything you can think that you want to play, if you can get enough people together, we'll do it," said Karl Morey, computer science grad student and member of the Gaming Guild. "It wouldn't surprise me to see someone bring in jacks one day."

In contrast to video games, tabletop gaming is strictly a social activity, as conversing with the other players is necessary to playing.

"I know a lot of people who, if they never got into these games, would not have much of a social life. I've never met anyone who was worse for the wear because of gaming," said Mike Conn, president of the Gaming Guild.

The Gaming Guild holds gaming night every Friday from 3-11 p.m., and rents out Bumpers Game Room for open video game play from 5-11 p.m.

Bored between classes? Check out Bumpers Game Room in the OC for arcade games, table tennis, billiards and video games.

Prices are as follows for OU Students, per hour/per person:

Billiards: \$2.50

Table Tennis: \$1.50

Video Wall (XBOX, Nintendo, Playstation): \$2.50

Also, board and card games are made available free of charge.

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THU OCT 23 8PM
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FRI NOV 7 6PM
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The Drug-Free Schools and Workplace Guide for Oakland University Employees and Students

Clip and Save Oakland University (OU) is committed to providing an environment that is free of the abuse of alcohol and the illegal use of alcohol, drugs and controlled substances. OU is required by law to adopt and implement a program ("Program") to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The Program includes: the annual distribution of a statement to each student and employee which addresses certain risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol; standards of conduct prohibiting the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on campus property or as part of any of its activities; the legal consequences for violations of local, state or federal laws related to illicit drugs and alcohol; a description of health-risks and other risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol, a description of applicable counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs; and a biennial review of the program. Pursuant to the law OU is issuing the statement set forth below.

Standards of Conduct at OU: The unlawful possession, use, or distribution, manufacture and dispensation of controlled substances, and illicit drugs and the unlawful use, or possession of alcohol by students or employees in the workplace, on OU property or as part of a University activity is specifically prohibited by OU Ordinances and/or by state or federal law. The OU Ordinances governing the use of alcohol and drugs are available in the Student Handbook (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=68&sid=75>) and University Administrative Policies and Procedures, Section # 600, Health and Safety.

University Sanctions: OU will impose sanctions for violations of this statement consistent with local, state and federal law and with applicable collective bargaining agreements, employee handbooks, student handbooks, and University ordinances. Violations by faculty, staff or students will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, expulsion and referral for prosecution. The discipline imposed will depend upon the seriousness of the offense. In addition to, or in lieu of, discipline, violators may be required to complete an appropriate rehabilitation program. Additional information is available in the Student Handbook (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=68&sid=75>), Academic Human Resources (<http://www2.oakland.edu/provost/web/acadhr/index.cfm>) and University Human Resources (<http://www2.oakland.edu/erd/>).

Legal Sanctions: There are legal sanctions under OU Ordinances, and under state and federal law, for the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. Any violation of an OU Ordinance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 90 days or both. Violations under state and federal law may result in punishment for a misdemeanor or felony, depending on the nature of the crime, including fines, imprisonment, and loss of certain licenses and forfeiture of real and/or personal property. Descriptions of the state and federal sanctions for illegal possession and distribution and, in some cases, use of a controlled substance are included in this guide. Sanctions may change from time to time.

Health Risks: The psychological and social consequences of controlled substance use, illicit drug use and alcohol abuse can be devastating. This can lead to various health and other risks including feelings of depression or anxiety; diminished or impaired work or academic performance; absenteeism; poor decision making; poor morale; low self esteem; financial problems; conflicts with co-workers, classmates, families, friends and others. Loss of job, friends, divorce and the creation of a dysfunctional family system are common consequences of substance abuse. Additional risks include; sexual assault or other unplanned sexual relationships; unwanted pregnancies; irreversible drug-induced psychotic state and/or delusions of omnipotence which trigger

life-threatening behavior. Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

Additional information is available at Graham Counseling Center (<http://www2.oakland.edu/GHC/>.)

Employees working on federal grants and contracts:

As a condition of employment all employees working on federal grants and contracts must abide by this statement. Such employees must notify their supervisor or department head of any criminal drug statute conviction occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after the conviction. The supervisor or department head must then promptly report the violation to the Director of Grants and Contracts.

Drug & Alcohol Counseling, Treatment and Rehabilitation Contacts

NOTE: This is a partial list of substance abuse facilities. More programs and centers may be listed in local and other area telephone directories.

On-Campus

Counseling Center
(248) 370-3465
Graham Health Center
Oakland University
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
(248) 853-3000
900 Woodward Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48341

National Hotline Numbers & Assistance Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous
(800) 252-6465

Food & Drug Administration
(301) 443-1240
(Consumer Complaints)

M.A.D.D.
(800) 438-6233

National Cocaine Hot Line
(800) 378-4435

S.A.D.D.
(508) 481-3588

Tough Love
(800) 333-1069

Local Facilities

AA of Oakland County
(248) 332-6116
168 University Drive
Pontiac, MI 48342

M.A.D.D. Oakland County
(248) 682-2220
3525 Elizabeth Lake Rd., Suite B
Waterford, MI 48328

Narcotics Anonymous
(248) 543-7200
220 W. Nine Mile Rd
Ferndale, MI 48220

Oakland Family Services
(248) 858-7766
114 Orchard Lake Rd.
Pontiac, MI 48341

If treatment for substance abuse is needed, please contact your insurance carrier to obtain proper instructions for seeking treatment. Students covered by University health insurance should contact the Graham Health Center staff for benefit coverage.

If you have questions about any of the issues addressed in the guide, please contact one of the following departments:

Faculty:	Office of Academic Affairs	(248) 370-2190
Students:	Office of Dean of Students	(248) 370-3352
Staff:	Office of University Human Resources	(248) 370-3480

Resources

The complete Drug-Free Schools and Workplace Guide is available on-line @ <http://www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents>

MOUTHING OFF

September 24, 2008

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The views expressed in Mouting Off do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post

25

An 'all in' economic solution

By PAUL GULLY
Special Projects Editor

Things aren't looking good here in America.

Our financial sector is in such shambles that I wouldn't be surprised if the government started rounding up all of the country's illegal aliens to see if they can loan us a buck.

I'm sure President Bush is hoping the illegals can clean up this mess as well as he thinks they can clean a hotel room.

The administration is currently working on finalizing a \$700 billion bailout plan that, according to Bush, is in the taxpayers' best interest.

The proposed plan would take our national debt to about the \$10 trillion mark.

And don't look for things to get much better anytime soon.

According to Paul Krugman, professor of economics and international affairs at Princeton University and New York Times columnist, "The best scenario for this is the economy is probably going to get worse for another year and the housing market is going to get worse for another two years. This [bailout plan] is not the answer, this is just avoiding disaster."

But ladies and gentlemen, I have a solution; a quick fix to this seemingly endless problem: Get the world's most powerful leaders, sit them down at a table, and get things settled like men, with a high stakes game of Texas Hold'em poker.

At stake in said game: A mere \$10,000,000,000,001 — just enough to get us out of our current financial hiccup and pay off our national debt and get us out of the red.

It is well known among Washington insiders that both Bush and Cheney are quite skilled in the craft of poker.

Well, not really, I just made that up. I figure they have to be good at something other than ruining a country in 10 years or less.

As tough as it may be to swallow, the only way of avoiding the administration's proposed bailout plan, the burden of which falls squarely on the shoulders of taxpayers, is to shuffle up and deal.

The players involved in this elite showdown would be a who's who of the world leaders. The first who would be none other than Hu Jintao, the president of the People's Republic of China. To his left would be a superpower in the Middle East, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the president of Iran.

The European Union would be well represented with Gordon Brown, the prime minister of England, Nicolas Sarkozy, the president of France and Italy's head honcho, Silvio Berlusconi, all at the table.

For comic relief, North Korea's "Dear Leader," Kim Jong-Il would be given a seat, complete with a booster chair.

Representing Russia, Teddy KGB, who would be sitting in for Vladimir Putin. For those who aren't familiar with Teddy, he's the ruthless, Oreo Cookie-eating poker player in the 1998 film "Rounders."

And, of course, representing the U.S., everyone's favorite fake Texan, George W. Bush.

While many Americans might have a little more faith in one Richard Bruce Cheney when given the option of choosing between the country's two most powerful men, going with the Dick — the country's most evil, slimey, conniving, maniacal citizen — just wouldn't be American.

Surely, sending a real-life version of Batman super-villain The Penguin to rescue us from the depths of our financial abyss is beneath this country.

What fun would that be? Either you lose to him, or he shoots you in the face, like he did with his buddy Harry Whittington.

Folks, the clear choice would be Bush. Think about it, Texas Hold'em is all about strategy.



The answer to the current economic crisis may be a well-played hand of poker — here's hoping W's jacks hold up. AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

And while George is rarely the smartest person in a room, he knows a thing or two about strategy.

Bush's Iraq War strategy is practically a blueprint for poker success, if you're willing to overlook the blunders.

Take for instance Bush's decision to invade Iraq in the first place. This follows suit with basic poker strategy. When you have power, bully the short stack.

Or his claims of Iraq's WMDs, which was clearly a perfectly played bluff.

Being the poker master that he is, Bush seems to have mastered the art of what I'll call the surge. Even when things aren't working, you still have the power, flex your muscle up the ante, and win with sheer force.

And while I have no explanation or poker rationale for Bush's premature claims to victory, he does heed to one of the basic tenets of strategy: Always stick to your guns.

Folks, this man would not let us down.

Just picture this scenario: Bush and Ahmadinejad are in a heated hand. Bush is throwing around cash like the U.S. has

some to spare, and Mahmoud calls him down.

Bush turns over a pair of jacks. Ahmadinejad shows his two queens and goes to take the pot.

G.W. Bush: "Not so fast there, Ahmi."

M. Ahmadinejad: "What are you talking about, George, I have the higher pair, I have two queens in my hand — none in my country — but, my pair of queens beats your jacks."

W: "Not according to your Taliban belief system, Ahmi. Both you and I know that women are not equal to men. So your pair of ladies are beneath my jacks."

Ahmadinejad: "This is absurd! Iran may be free of gays, but we do not not have a Taliban belief system!"

W: "Well, the pot's mine anyway."

Ahmadinejad: "How so?"

W: "First of all, I'm American, so I'm better than you. Second, haven't you heard the saying, 'The house always wins?'"

Ahmadinejad: "What does that have to do with poker? There's no 'house' in poker."

W: "The house, Ahmi, always wins. The White House."

America. We always win."

Bush could not lose. Regardless of the number of all-ins he was on the losing end of, he could just have the Treasury print up some more money.

He could always borrow a little more from Hu Jintao. Even after he exhausted all monetary options, as we all know, Bush isn't above gambling with people's lives. He could always sweeten the pot by throwing a few able-bodied Americans into the mix. I'm sure Hu would be glad to take them — after all, China could always use a few more people for some sweatshop work.

All that aside, doesn't Bush just fit the part perfectly? He sports a cowboy hat, speaks in a southern accent, rarely answers questions, and has the greatest poker face ever.

Though you could swear he's lying 100 percent of the time, you're never completely sure because he's so absurd.

And the constant look of befuddlement would even throw off the world's best card players. No one would know when he was bluffing.

Frankly, I doubt George would know either.

'The Hills' is a guilty pleasure I won't give up

By AMANDA MEADE
Scene/Mix Editor

"Reality shows" have seemed to completely consume television networks over the past years. Whether we are watching people competing on an island, fighting for someone's love, or someone trying to be "America's Next Top Model," these shows show no sign of stopping anytime soon.

Don't even ask me why because I'd never be able to offer any rationale, but for some reason, when "Laguna Beach" hit MTV it didn't take long before I was watching every episode.

So, imagine my sheer excitement at the news of a spin-off, when all the spoiled brat Orange County kids graduated high school, and moved on to be actual "grown ups" (yet still living off mommy and daddy) in "The Hills" of California.

The series took a different twist — one that I realized I loved even more than the "Oh my God, Steven is such a jerk" drama of Laguna. The series follows the drama surrounding Lauren Conrad's life and work out to Los Angeles. Conrad and her friends (and ex-friends) receive a lot of grief from media and, well, pretty much everyone. I'm not oblivious, I can understand why people hate on these

kids. I just so happen to side with them, though.

I recently found out that Conrad makes \$75,000 per episode of "The Hills." Most would be shocked, and this information would most likely just add more fuel to their absolute hatred for these rich kids.

Here is where I suggest my argument and ask that everyone simply stop complaining. Conrad has an awesome job at a People's Revolution, a fashion P.R. firm, she goes to school for fashion design, and she gets paid to sit and have conversations with her friends and party at clubs in California. She also recently started her own clothing line and endorses "mark." cosmetics.

My question to those who have negative thoughts towards these shows is this: If someone approached you with the opportunity to make an incredible amount of money for doing absolutely nothing, would you really turn it down?

I'm all about working hard, and I do so for a figure of dollars extremely lower than \$75,000. For some reason, the fact that these kids are my age and get paid

to do nothing doesn't really affect me. Maybe it's because I find it as a form of entertainment.

My favorite chick on the show is Audrina Partridge, who has the opportunity to work at Epic Records. She recently got to help put together an audience for the band White Tie Affair, and then she and her friends partied with them at the after party. What a life.

Spencer Pratt, on the other hand, is a total jackass. As far as the audience can see, he sits around and does absolutely nothing, except maybe for apparently "managing" his equally lame wreck of a girlfriend, Heidi

Montag, with her horrendously obnoxious "singing" voice.

I mean, this guy seriously had the audacity to sit and tell Heidi's sister, Holly, that Heidi wanted her to leave their apartment, when like, Heidi TOTALLY didn't say that!

"Speidi" are the bad guys in the series. They create drama and that is why they get on TV.

As a side note, for those of you who are on my side and are avid watchers of this

show, I really hope Conrad and Montag don't become friends again. Conrad is like, so much better off without her.

Those of you who can't stand this show or anything like it I suggest the hit "America's Next Top Model" instead. Maybe Tyra Banks can make you feel fierce, what with her obnoxiously condescending behavior and unbearable repetition. I'm sure she could feel your pain, since she does everyone else's.

At least "The Hills" portrays these kids' REAL lives.

Many speculate that "The Hills" is scripted. Conrad has come out several times in defense of the series, saying that this is her "real life." Whether or not that's true, I will continue to watch "The Hills" probably no matter what happens. Hey, at least it's better than "America's Next Top Model."

My only request is this: Everyone needs to stop complaining about things that they can't control. The people that criticize this show probably just want something to complain about, and if it wasn't these kids, then it would be something or someone else. Take it out on Tyra instead.

Maybe I watch the show for the drama, or maybe to distract myself from my own reality. Either way, I don't have my own show, so until then I'll remain addicted to "The Hills."

"If someone approached you with the opportunity to make an incredible amount of money for doing absolutely nothing, would you really turn it down?"

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Federal Reserve Chair offers warning

By JULIE HIRSCHFELD AND
JEANNINE AVERSA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke bluntly warned reluctant lawmakers Tuesday they risk a recession with higher unemployment and increased home foreclosures if they fail to pass the Bush administration's \$700 billion plan to bail out the financial industry.

Bernanke sketched a scenario in which neither businesses nor consumers could borrow money as President Bush and top lawmakers leaders in both parties voiced hope for agreement within days on a plan to ease the crisis.

"Nobody is happy" about the bailout request, said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., although he spoke

of possible passage of legislation by the weekend.

"Nobody wants to have to do this," agreed Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the Republican leader. He said he was hopeful of a quick agreement, despite withering criticism from conservative GOP lawmakers, some of whom likened the plan to socialism.

With the stock market headed lower in early afternoon, the stakes were unmistakable. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said Congress must pass the legislation this week.

"I understand speed is important, but I'm far more interested in whether or not we get this right," said Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., presiding over a hearing by the Senate Banking Committee banking panel where Bernanke joined Paulson in appealing for quick legislation.

"There is no second act to this. There is no alternative idea out there with resources available if this does not work," he added.

Bernanke's remarks about the risk of recession came in response to a question from Dodd, who seemed eager to hear a strong rationale for lawmakers to act swiftly on the administration's unprecedented request.

"The financial markets are in quite fragile condition and I think absent a plan they will get worse," Bernanke said.

Ominously, he added, "I believe if the credit markets are not functioning, that jobs will be lost, that our credit rate will rise, more houses will be foreclosed upon, GDP will contract, that the economy will just not be able to recover in a normal, healthy way."



MARY ALTAFFER/Associated Press
The 15-acre Tony Alamo Christian Church was quiet Sunday following a raid by federal and state law enforcement officers as part of a child-abuse and pornography investigation.

Evangelical complex raided for suspicion of sexual abuses

By JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — State and federal authorities are investigating the possible sexual abuse of minors at a 15-acre evangelical compound run by a convicted tax evader whom critics describe as a cult leader.

The Tony Alamo Christian Ministries complex in southwestern Arkansas was raided Saturday by more than 100 federal and state police, and six children have been placed in temporary state custody and are being interviewed.

No one was arrested, but U.S. Attorney Bob Balfe said prior to the raid that he expects a warrant to be issued for Alamo, 74, who has a long history of tangling with law enforcement.

State police spokesman Bill Sadler said that if the children in state care need to be held long-term, the matter would have to go before a judge.

The raid, the culmination of a two-year investigation into child-abuse and pornography allegations, was moved up on the calendar after an e-mail about plans for an October raid was inadvertently sent to media late last week.

Alamo told The Associated Press in an interview Saturday that no child pornography was generated at the ministry but that age of consent is puberty when it comes to sex. Alamo, who said he was in the Los Angeles area, said the government is trying to harass him.

Alamo was convicted of tax-related charges in 1994 after the Internal Revenue Service said he owed the government \$7.9 million. He served four years in prison.

N | W BRIEFS

9-21 | Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert formally resigns. | Members of Russian parliament move to ban Halloween and Valentine's Day as both are deemed a negative Western influence. | South African president Thabo Mbeki resigns under pressure from critics.

9-22 | It is discovered that a last minute change in dinner plans saved Pakistani leaders from last weekend's truck bombing at a Marriott hotel. | Russia sends a navy squadron to Venezuela increasing their military presence in the Western Hemisphere.

9-23 | Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez visits China with hopes to increase ties with their communist leadership. | The ACLU reports that a Connecticut inmate on a year-long hunger strike is being force fed. | U.S. military allows family visits at its Afghan detention center in Bagram.

Blaine 'hangs' around for another stunt



TINA FINEBERG/Associated Press
Magician David Blaine hangs upside down above Central Park's Wollman Rink in New York as he begins his latest endurance challenge "David Blaine: Dive of Death" Monday morning. Blaine plans to hang upside without a net for 60 hours concluding his challenge with a plunge.

Bush tells international community to unite against terror

BY DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — President Bush, who once warned that the United Nations was endanger of becoming irrelevant, said Tuesday that multinational organizations are now "needed more urgently than ever" to combat terrorists and extremists who are threatening world order.

In his final speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Bush said the international community must stand firm against the nuclear ambitions of North Korea and Iran. He said that despite past disagreements over the U.S.-led war in Iraq,

members of the U.N. must unite to help the struggling democracy succeed. And he scolded Russia for invading neighboring Georgia, calling it a violation of the U.N. charter.

"The United Nations' charter sets forth the equal rights of nations large and small," he said. "Russia's invasion of Georgia was a violation of those words."

Bush, who has had a testy relationship with the U.N. which he says has been slow to address global problems, called on the U.N. to focus more on results and aggressively rally behind young democracies like Georgia, Ukraine, Lebanon, Afghanistan and Liberia.

Bush said that instead of issuing state-

ments and resolutions after terrorist attacks, the U.N. and such organizations must work closely to prevent violence.

Bush, who ordered the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 without the U.N.'s blessing, said: "The United Nations and other multilateral organizations are needed more urgently than ever." His farewell address comes at a time when many multilateral diplomatic missions Bush has championed are stalled. North Korea is backing away from pledges to abandon nuclear weapons. A Palestinian-Israeli peace pact before Bush leaves office is unlikely. Violence is flaring in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and Iran continues to pursue its nuclear work.



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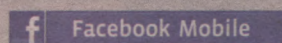
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(lower level play area)

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(at Auburn Rd.)
248-853-0550

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248-549-4177

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(at 10 1/2 Mile)
586-777-4010

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