

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

February 11, 2009

Volume 35, Number 19



Dave Bing's plan to **revive** Detroit's economy **page 10**

Homecoming **revives** OU's spirit **page 17**

Actor survives **revival** of "Friday the 13th" **page 19**

Don't have a heart
attack over "V-Day" date.
can't get any worse
than what's on
page 25

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THIS WEEK **2.11.09**



Perspectives **page 4**

It's free, there's food, it's an opportunity to network for the real world and Student Body President Dan Evola wants you there. Page 5



Campus **page 6**

Board of trustees approves architectural firm to draw proposal for Human Health Building, a raise for OUPD sergeants and four med school hires.



Local **page 10**

Former Pistons guard Dave Bing leads in poll of Detroit mayoral candidates.



The Mix **page 12**

With Valentine's Day approaching, OU students talk about their plans and the worst gifts they've ever received.



OU's special lecturer Thomas Mahard expands on his acting career in an upcoming flick with Hilary Swank to be filmed in Ann Arbor.



Sports **page 15**

OU wrestler takes his physical limitations in stride on the mat and in his life.



the Scene **page 19**

Frontman Matt Reich talks with The Post about his band, Lights Resolve, and their latest tour. Page 20



MOUTHING OFF **page 22**

Your Valentine's date catches on fire at dinner or insensitivity causes the would-be-date to go awry, which would you choose?



Nation | World **page 23**

The Senate, Fed and Treasury take action against economic crisis after President Obama's call to action on Monday.

THE OAKLAND POST
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Cover illustration by BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

Reviving Spirit!

Oakland University's first homecoming draws hundreds of students to pep rally, a tailgate party, and men's and women's basketball games. The Oakland Post was there. See homecoming through our lens in an exclusive video.

This week on
oaklandpostonline.com.

Posted: Student leaders needed

There is no good enough reason for members of such a kick-ass-and-take-names generation to miss out on a chance of a lifetime.

comments, concerns, questions:
oakpostmanaging@gmail.com



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

– The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Harness the 'power' of 'networking'

Dan Evola
Student Body
President



It is hard to get a job in Michigan. There is no easy way around that, and I am certainly not going to try and butter it up. With countless college students taking out loans to make ends meet, it's hard to grasp life after graduation with the uncertainty of the economy.

But despite the uncontrollable environment which we live in now, there are things we can do to give ourselves an advantage.

Next Wednesday, Feb. 18, the Oakland University Alumni Association in conjunction with Student Congress, Career Services and the Future Alumni Network, will be putting on an event which can help you meet the right people in your field. The Power Networking Dinner will feature nearly 30 OU alumni from nearly every major career path, as well as a keynote speech from Denise Anne Taylor, professional development consultant and OU alumni. Alumni and students will be matched at career-themed tables for networking.

And best of all, the event is free to all students. It is the perfect opportunity to make business connections for future jobs, or even just speak to real professionals from OU. There will also be appetizers, dinner and dessert.

So what is the only thing missing from this event? So far, it's the students. Currently the number of alumni registered to attend the event far outnumbers the number of students.

Perhaps you haven't heard about this event yet. If that's the case, you have just lost your excuse. Students will often go to great measures to ensure that they ace that exam or turn in those extra credit assignments, but the opportunities that our university offers are about more than just a grade point average. And after you leave this institution, these opportunities are not nearly as bountiful.

The Power Networking Dinner will be held in the banquet rooms from 5-7 p.m. and business attire is encouraged. I would strongly recommend that all of you to consider attending this event. Preregistration is required and can be completed online at oualumni.com, but it is quick and painless.

"Perhaps you haven't heard about this event yet. If that's the case, you have just lost your excuse."

And even if you can't stay for the full program, it is designed this year for students to be able to come and go freely, so don't worry about missing your night class or work.

Whether you are a graduating senior or a first semester freshman, this is a great chance to connect with people who can help you in your career aspirations. After all, sometimes it's not what you know, but who you know.

you in your career aspirations. After all, sometimes it's not what you know, but who you know.

Have you seen or heard something on campus that makes you angry? The Post will help you get to the bottom of any injustice or hypocrisy you may encounter in The Post's newest Web Exclusive, Control Center Alpha. E-mail your name and contact info. to controlcentralalpha@gmail.com.



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Thomas Rowland, Multimedia editor**

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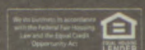
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Approved by the board

By MASUDUR RAHMAN and
SEAN GARNER
Campus Editor and Senior Reporter

Oakland University's board of trustees approved a \$3 million proposal design for the Human Health Building at their Feb. 4 meeting.

Four new medical school hires and a renegotiated contract between OU and the OU Police Sergeants' Union were also approved.

Human Health Building

OU administration's recommendation for the architecture firm to design the building sparked a heated debate, but ultimately the board approved it, with a compromise.

John Beaghan, vice president for finance and administration, proposed SmithGroup make a \$3 million design proposal for the building.

The state of Michigan promised \$40 million to the \$61 million building. Beaghan said OU will fundraise for the \$21 million difference.

Trustee Henry Baskin, vice-chair of the board, said he was concerned that OU may be overriding the board. He asked why the board wasn't shown several proposals.

Trustee Ann Nicholson said this was usually done, but not always.

Baskin said he was also concerned about the cost of the proposal.

"If [the building] is not approved until the board says it's approved, which it hasn't yet," Baskin said. "So what happens to the \$3 million if we end up not approving it?"

Trustee Dennis Pawley said it would be foolish to not approve it.

"It took us five years to get this money," Pawley said. "Do we want to give back \$40 million because we're afraid of raising \$20?"

In the end, the board approved the proposal, but added a clause that OU can cancel SmithGroup's services at any time and stop payment. The board asked SmithGroup to cut the cost.

"We can reduce the cost by making it less pretty and more functional," Pawley said.

The board appointed Pawley to represent it in monitoring the progress of the building.



The entire board of trustees, along with Oakland University President Gary Russi and OU's general counsel and board's secretary, listening to a speaker.

OU's financial state

Beaghan gave the quarterly finance report to the board, and the board accepted it, approving gifts and endowments to OU and OU faculty.

He said the enrollment levels are "fine" and that expenditures for fiscal year 2009 are under budget so far.

Beaghan said OU is in the early stage of making the FY 2010 budget.

"So far, there are no state appropriation cuts," he said, and added that there is uncertainty of how much money OU will receive from the state of Michigan until Governor Jennifer Granholm gives her FY 2010 budget recommendations on Thursday, Feb. 12.

Even then, OU won't know for certain until the budget is approved in summer, Beaghan said.

Baskin asked whether OU administration thinks Granholm's proposed tuition freeze is a good idea.

"We're not prepared to say yet," Beaghan said.

If approved, the tuition freeze would give money from the federal stimulus package to public universities that keep their 2009-10 tuition rates the same as 2008-09.

Neither the tuition freeze nor the federal stimulus package has been approved yet.

Beaghan said OU will consider it at the upcoming budget discussions.

Sergeants get raise

The OU Police Sergeants' Union has finally reached an agreement with OU on a new contract.

The board approved a deal between the union and OU that will give the sergeants a 3 percent pay raise for fiscal year 2009, but give them no pay increases for the next two years. The sergeants had been working without a contract since July.

The increase is to be applied retroactively to the beginning of FY 2009. Renegotiation is possible next year.

Ronald Watson, assistant vice president for human resources, said the negotiations involved a great deal of compromise, but the relations between the University and the sergeants remained intact.

"Both sides were really after the same thing: An agreement we both could live with," Watson said. "I think we accomplished that."

The union declined to comment, citing fears it could disrupt negotiations of three workers' unions who are also currently working without contract, including the Police Officers' Union.

Watson said he is confident that the union matters will be resolved as negotiations are going smoothly.

"A work stoppage is not anticipated," he said. "The unions and employees expect to reach an amicable resolution."

New med school hires

The trustees approved four new executive employees for OU William Beaumont School of Medicine, which is planned to open in 2010.

Angela Nuzzarello will be associate dean of student affairs and clinical associate professor of psychiatry.

Michele Raible will be associate dean of undergraduate medical education and clinical assistant professor of pathology.

John Musich will be associate dean of graduate and continuing medical education and clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

David Felten will be associate dean of research and clinical research professor of anatomy, cell biology and neuroscience.

About the board

Who they are: group of 8 people appointed by the governor.

What they do: Serve as watchdogs to the OU administration.

What power they hold: Any financial, academic or employee union decision needs to be approved by the board.

Their next meeting: April 1, 2009
www3.oakland.edu/oakland/hot

Surgeon stresses reading, religion

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Respected neurosurgeon Dr. Ben Carson said he believes that America has a problem with valuing entertainment over education.

Carson discussed how his mother helped turn his life around and about separating twins conjoined at the head, at the lecture in Oakland University's banquet hall Thursday, Feb. 5.

Carson has written four books and in 2008 received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his work as a surgeon. He is also a survivor of prostate cancer.

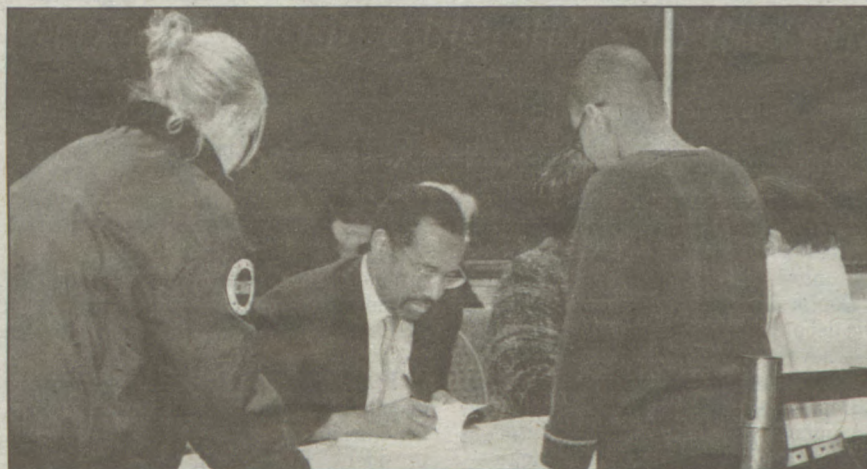
Growing up in Detroit, Carson was one of the worst students in his class and was called "dummy" by his classmates.

"Mom didn't know what to do, so she prayed," Carson said. "Her idea was to read two books a week from the Detroit Public Library and submit written book reports [to her], even though she couldn't read them."

The first book he read was "Chip the Dam Builder." He said he read begrudgingly at first, but soon forgot about playing outside and read instead.

"Between the pages of those books, I could go anywhere, do anything," he said.

Within one year, Carson had gone from the bottom of his class to the top and earned the nickname "bookworm."



Ben Carson autographs a student's copy of a book written by him at a session after his lecture.

Carson said that everyone should have someone in his or her life like his mother was to him growing up.

"I think you'll find virtually anyone who has found success in life has had someone like that," he told The Oakland Post. "I suspect [if I didn't] I would probably be dead now."

He also said that you could become someone important in someone's life if they don't have anyone like that already.

His religion, Carson said, was also an important factor in making him who he

is. When he was 14, he tried to stab a classmate in a dispute, but struck the student's belt buckle and broke his knife instead. Although neither of them was harmed, Carson said he knew with that kind of life, his "only options were jail, reform school or the grave."

Carson said he locked himself in a bathroom after that and read the book of Proverbs for three hours. But he feels like today, America is trying too hard to take God out of everyday life.

"It's in our pledges, it's on our money,

and yet we're not supposed to talk about it," he said. "In medicine, they call that schizophrenia."

Carson said America is the "pinnacle nation in the world right now," but that other such nations, like Egypt, Rome and Greece fell from their positions.

"They became enamored of the rich and famous, lost their moral compass and went right down the tubes," he said. Carson said America has to begin emphasizing the importance of education to remain relevant in the world.

However, Carson said that there are ways that Hollywood can be used to help as well. He cited his own guest appearance in the movie "Stuck On You" as an example, where he agreed to appear only if the proceeds from a premiere of the film would go to charity.

In the film, despite being a pediatric neurosurgeon, Carson had a cameo where he separated conjoined twins played by Matt Damon and Greg Kinnear joined at the liver.

Cuba Gooding Jr. also portrayed Carson in a recent TV movie based on his autobiography, titled "Gifted Hands."

Carson's message about wealth and morality resonated with Denise Jones, senior psychology major.

"A lot of people are about having a lot of money and a big house, and it's not about that," she said.

Worthy: Detroit still needs to go a long way

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Detroit still needs to get rid of corruption, said the city lawyer who prosecuted ex-mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, a case that gained nationwide attention.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy gave a speech in the Oakland University Kresge Library Thursday, Feb. 5. She talked about her own experiences as a prosecutor, the prosecution of Kilpatrick and what Detroit needs to do to recover following his removal from office.

She rarely referred to Kilpatrick by name, and instead usually referred to him as "the ex-mayor."

"This was not about some affair," she said. "This was about ruining the lives of three people who did nothing, but do their jobs." Worthy also answered criticisms that the ex-mayor's sentencing was too lenient.

She said the early release was because Kilpatrick's sentence was statutory, and there was nothing that could be done about it. But she passionately expressed her feelings towards the scandal that the mayor's office started.

"You couldn't find a more model cop than Gary Brown, whose career they destroyed for their own selfish reasons," she said.

Worthy said that Detroit has to go a long way to



Kym Worthy spoke about her experiences to over hundred people.

recover, comparing the revival process to the stages of grief.

"The Detroit region, in my opinion, is still in denial," she said. Worthy said that there is still corruption in Detroit that needs to be rooted out before the region can recover.

Worthy also talked about having to shut down the Detroit Police crime lab, which she said was found to

have a 10 percent error rate in firearms cases.

"You can't even have a half percent error rate in a crime lab," she said.

"If criminal justice means anything ... when we sign our names to a document that charges a person of a crime ... we change that person's life forever," she said. "It doesn't feel good when you have to let someone go when you'd rather just push them down an elevator shaft."

Worthy said that she never had any intention of becoming a prosecutor while in law school at Notre Dame.

"I didn't want to be someone who locked people of color up," she said. But in a trial exercise during her last year at Notre Dame, she had to represent the side she thought she would never work on: the prosecution.

"For me to think that all prosecutors do is lock people up was absurd," she said. She talked about the difficulties she had becoming a prosecutor in Detroit, and gave examples of prejudice in indictments.

"Prosecution was really the last bastion of white male domination," she said.

She said that before she began working there, Wayne County prosecutors didn't want to charge white women with child abuse cases.

She said it's important to have people of all ethnic backgrounds in the prosecutor's office.

Student elections to be more visible

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

One year after the tightest race with the highest voter turnout in its history, the Oakland University Student Congress elections are going to look a little different.

According to OUSC Student Services Director Andrew Bashi, OUSC wants to make this year's elections more interactive and transparent than they have been in the past. One way they are attempting to accomplish this is by holding more debates and promoting the debates more aggressively.

Last year, there was only one debate, which was only open to the presidential candidates. This year, the plan is to hold four debates, including one between the vice presidential candidates, in different locations on campus.

"One of the big things we want to do with this election is make it much more in your face, much more visible," Bashi said.

Bashi, who lost last year's presidential election to Steve Clark by a mere seven votes, said he advised elections coordinator Jennifer Doptis to try to make it

easier for candidates to get their message out. He said OUSC is working on addressing many of the frustrations he had in his campaign.

"I don't think we should have to resort to passing out I don't how many thousands of fliers we passed out last year," Bashi said. "I think students should vote based on hearing people's policies and their ideas, and then they should go from there. It's not supposed to be a popularity contest."

Doptis said she plans on holding one of the debates in one of the residence halls.

"They're pretty much a target group here on campus," she said.

Doptis also said she wants to make the candidates more accessible to the student body by having more informal activities involving the candidates. She said she plans to host a meet and greet dinner as well as a game show where students can "get to know the candidates better."

Kristin Dayag, OUSC director of multicultural affairs, said the results of last year's presidential race, both the turnout and the competitiveness, increase her anticipation to kick off her own campaign for Student Body President.

"After seeing last year's election versus

previous elections, I think it is going to be very exciting," Dayag said. "Because of last year, I think there are more people who actually want to run for president."

"They see that anybody can run for president," she said. "They don't necessarily have to be a member of student congress already; they just have to have a passion for Oakland University and its students."

Doptis said the executive positions are not for everybody, and that students considering running should possess qualities that will help them relate to the students.

"I think you need to be very student oriented, because that is the people you are working for as president and vice president," Doptis said. "You need to be personable, you need to be a strong figure. You need to be able to work hard inside and outside of the office, because you are the face of the student body."

Other open positions are the 25 OUSC legislators, 23 of which are elected.

Current Student Body Vice President Jordan Twardy is scheduled to graduate in the spring, and current Student Body President Dan Evola said he is not running for another term.

The deadline for applicants to run for a position is Monday, Feb. 16. Available positions are president, vice president and 25 legislative seats. The new due date is an extension from the original Feb. 11 deadline.

Dayag said OUSC amended the election bylaws to move the deadline forward because it was unnecessarily early.

"With the date at Feb. 11, it was still a month before anybody could start campaigning," Dayag said. "We just didn't see any reason why the forms needed to be in so early when there is basically a whole month where there is nothing going on with the election."

Candidates are allowed to start campaigning March 2 with voting taking place March 23-25.

Doptis said the extension gives OUSC more time to advertise the position openings and hopefully find better candidates.

"What it really does is help us improve the quality of the ballot," Doptis said.

"There is no reason to cut it off early in February. The change is actually better for the students."

For more information on the OUSC elections, visit www.oakland.edu/ousc or stop by 62 Oakland Center.



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Campus briefs

Fialka-Feldman denied

Judge Patrick Duggan ruled on Thursday, Feb. 5 against Micah Fialka-Feldman's injunction against the board of trustees requesting that he be permitted to live in campus housing while his lawsuit against the board goes through the courts.

Fialka-Feldman said he's now awaiting the date for the preliminary hearing of the lawsuit.

One day before the judge's decision, three people appealed to the board on his behalf. The board adjourned the meeting without discussing the matter in public.

Fialka-Feldman is not eligible to live on campus because he is not a fully matriculated student. Visit www.oaklandpostonline.com for past coverage of this case.

— Sean Garner contributed to this report

Second alert system test

The second testing of the alert notification system on Tuesday, Feb. 10 apparently went off without a hitch, following an unsuccessful one last October.

"We could only hear scratchy noises and mumbling," said sophomore Kristen Marshall of the October test. Some didn't receive a call at all.

Oakland University tried to fix the problem, and after the test Tuesday at 1 p.m., some students and staff reported properly receiving the alert.

"I could hear it perfectly," said Markhanna McBurrows, an undergraduate admissions representative.

OU Police Department is planning a campus-wide speaker system that could broadcast in an emergency. OUPD plans to initiate the system in the next several months.

— Mackenzie Roger, Brad Slazinski and Ashleigh Quinn contributed to this report

'Bloody' on stage

By DANIEL HIEBERT
You/Local Editor

About halfway into Oakland University's production of "Bloody Bess," a cannon was wheeled out onstage and aimed directly at the front row. The audience knew it was just a stage prop, and that there was nothing to be afraid of, but some of them couldn't help lean to one side just in case.

"Bloody Bess" opened last Thursday, Feb. 5, performed by a cast almost entirely composed of OU theatre and musical theatre majors. It's a tale of revenge and intrigue on the high seas featuring the crew of the pirate ship "God's Love."

The play centers on Elizabeth Presberty, daughter of the wealthy governor of a Caribbean island nation. She is promptly abducted by pirates and held for ransom. Through a series of violent events, Elizabeth finds herself as acting captain of the pirate ship.

Directed by John Manfredi, managing director of Meadow Brook Theatre — whose credits as a fight choreographer include "The Pirates of Penzance," "Macbeth" and "Real Stories of the Highway Patrol" — the production is a unique re-imagining of the original script. The play was adapted as if it was

being shot as a 1930s motion picture.

In the opening minutes of the play, a character had his tongue cut out of his mouth and tossed limply onstage, while the pirates mocked his emotional weakness. Offstage, a buzzer went off, the lights came up and the actors went about calling for coffee, make-up, or talking excitedly about the last scene.

Parsons picked up the tongue like an uncooked piece of bacon and looked around for someone to give it to.

Fight captain and acting major student Will Luchin said safety was top priority.

Luchin acted alongside Chris Rozanski as the play's duo of antagonists, Johnathan Oxenham and Commodore Reynard Eaton.

"Originally, Bloody Bess, was a straight-up drama," said Rozanski. "But in our production we were able to play with it and make it lighter and funnier."

Both Rozanski and Luchin have other projects on the way. Rozanski will perform a senior showcase in New York and Chicago, and hopes to land an acting job or an agent.

Luchin will play the lead in an one-page play in Manhattan.

Bloody Bess runs in Varner Studio Theatre in Varner Hall through Feb. 15. Showtimes are Feb. 12-14 at 8 p.m., Feb. 13 at 10 p.m. and Feb. 15 at 2 p.m.

POLICEFILES

On Feb. 2, OUPD was dispatched to 212 Van Wagoner Hall. A female resident said she had smoked marijuana in her room recently, and turned over 1/16 of an ounce of marijuana, two pipes, a bong, a marijuana grinder, a joint, and some alcohol. She was given a citation for marijuana use.

On Feb. 2, OUPD was dispatched to South Hamlin Hall for a call about a minor in possession of alcohol. One minor resident had a PBT of 0.8, and said he and his roommate drank four 16.9-ounce bottles of alcohol. The other student was unconscious and was transported to a hospital. Both were cited with MIP's.



Web Exclusives this week:

- What happened at the first "Word of Mouth" open-mic night?
- What issues are the Association of Black Students concerned about?

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Bing leads polls in mayoral race

Former Detroit Piston gains six-point advantage over Cockrel

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

Detroit mayoral candidate Dave Bing's message of change isn't exactly the freshest of the political season, but it has mobilized hundreds of Detroiters to join his campaign and has helped to secure his lead in the polls.

Bing is one of the candidates in the Feb. 24 special election to determine who will serve the final seven months of former mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's term. He has never run for public office but has been a household name in the Motor City for over 40 years. Bing had a Hall of Fame career as a point guard for the Detroit Pistons, and stayed connected to the city of Detroit through his business and philanthropic ventures.

Now he is involved in a tight three-way race with interim mayor Ken Cockrel Jr. and former Deputy Mayor Freman Hendrix. According to local source tv20detroit.com, a poll released Jan. 15 showed Bing leading the candidates for the Feb. 24 Democratic primary with 28 percent support. Cockrel is trailing at 22 percent and Hendrix at 13 percent. Twelve other candidates have each yielded less than 5 percent support. Twenty-two percent remain undecided.

Carolyn Warrior, along with more than a dozen others who attended a Bing campaign volunteer training session on Saturday, said that she chose Bing — who has lived in Detroit since he was drafted by the Pistons in 1967 — because he has his finger on the pulse of the city and knows what needs to be done to remedy its shortcomings.

"I live in the city of Detroit and I see all the change that needs to be made," Warrior said. "I came to a decision that Dave Bing would be a good mayor for the city because of his dedication to the city and because of what he has contributed to the city in terms of working with programs for the youth, and bringing employment to the city by bringing businesses to Detroit. I also think he has a lot of integrity."

Bing retired from the NBA in 1978 and opened Bing Steel in 1980, which had annual sales figures of over \$60 million by 1990 making it the tenth-largest black-



Candidates for the office of Detroit mayor are shown. The upcoming special nonpartisan February primary to fill the remainder of Kwame Kilpatrick's second term could well be one of the most pivotal elections in city history.

STF/Associated Press

owned industrial company in America, according to Black Enterprise. In 1989, he raised \$373,000 to save high school sports in Detroit from being cut for budgetary reasons.

Jason Dean, a San Diego native currently living in Detroit, worked the phones during the volunteer training session. He said he thinks Bing's business experience can help raise Detroit's low self-image.

"The differences [between Detroit and San Diego] are more in the way people deal with business in the city," Dean said. "I think a lot of Detroiters have a negative attitude towards their city. That kind of comes out in the way they treat it. Back in San Diego, when you got your house it was your pride and joy, you took care of it. Here it's like something you can walk away from. It's like it holds no value."

Bing spokesperson Meagan Pitts, who worked on

Polling Report

Dave Bing — 28%

Ken Cockrel Jr. — 22%

Freman Hendrix — 13%

Undecided — 22%

Source: tv20detroit.com.com

Kilpatrick's campaigns in 2001 and 2005, said that she chose to work for Bing because of his entrepreneurial experience. Coupled with his commitment to Detroit it makes him the ideal candidate to lead the city.

"It made the most sense in the world to work on [Bing's] campaign," Pitts said. "Dave has been here for well over 40 years, and in that time his plant has burned down twice and he has continued to stay here in the city of Detroit. He has built homes in the city and he has employed thousands of Detroiters. He is a household name, and I think Detroit needs to be run like a business."

Pitts said Bing's first mission would be to make Detroit a safer city. Bing has said that he will voluntarily forfeit his salary as mayor, and devote it to the police department.

"That could put four or five more police officers on the street," Pitts said. "That may not sound like a lot, but any kind of addition to the police department as far as officers are concerned greatly helps the city of Detroit and the residents, visitors and the people who come into work here everyday."

Bing's top priorities include creating jobs and encouraging entrepreneurship among Detroit residents. On his website, bingformayor.com, Bing says that he will provide tax incentives for Detroiters who create jobs in the city. Bing emphasized "green technologies" as a particular source of economic stimulus.

Status Update:

Highlights from Ken Cockrel Jr.'s State of the City address Tuesday, Feb. 10

- Claimed Big Three is facing "perfect storm of adversity," but vowed that they will overcome with "courage, fortitude and ingenuity." Said America needs Detroit to be auto power.
- Slashed his salary by 20 percent to alleviate financial tension.
- Condemned city for accepting kickbacks from contractors in exchange for favorable treatment. "In the past, this city's contracting practices have not always been the most transparent or accountable," he said.
- Claimed the best way for Detroit to become more economically viable is to invest in green energy.
- Applauded conversion of former MGM Grand temporary casino into Detroit Central Studios.
- Advocated the proposed expansion of Cobo Hall in spite of 4-4 dead lock in city council vote.
- Plans to merge the city's two bus systems. Also promoted potential light rail system.

Source: Fox 2 News

State chooses new prison health care

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press Writer

LANSING — Fighting to curb rising prison health costs and stem criticism over inadequate care, Michigan on Tuesday chose a new company to help treat state prisoners with medical problems.

Brentwood, Tenn.-based Prison Health Services won a three-year, \$326 million contract and will take over for St. Louis-based Correctional Medical Services starting April 1.

CMS has been overseeing hospital and specialty care for the Michigan Department of Corrections for a decade. But a year ago, a review ordered by Gov. Jennifer Granholm revealed that most doctors, nurse practitioners and physician assistants hired by CMS were seeing too few inmates a day.

The new contract is structured differently than the current contract and includes a target price for health care. Any costs above the amount will be

shared between the state and PHS, up to a cap. PHS will be responsible for costs above the cap, which was not specified.

"Ultimately, there will be cost reduction," corrections spokesman John Cordell said of the new "risk-sharing" model. Cordell did not specify an amount.

A portion of the corrections department's prisoner health costs is paid to private companies. Overall, prison health costs rose more than 50 percent between the 2004 fiscal year and 2008 fiscal year, from \$146 million to \$225 million.

Lawrence Pomeroy, president of state corrections at PHS, said the company will be ready to take over in April.

CMS spokesman Ken Fields said the company will work to ensure a smooth transition.

The American Civil Liberties Union's National Prison Project has criticized the state's decision to go with PHS, saying it has a worse reputation than CMS.



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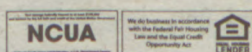
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Do you have plans for Valentine's Day?

In Medieval times people who couldn't write their names signed with an 'X'. The 'X' was then kissed to show sincerity. Many believe this is how the 'X' symbol became synonymous with the kiss.

According to hersheys.com.

The trend of exchanging cards and gifts for Valentine's Day began in the 17th century.

According to indobase.com.

For every 100 single women in their 20s there are 119 single men.

According to history.com.



"Yes, I am hanging out with my friend Anne. We're going to Starbucks, Olgas and to see a movie."

Kaitlin King
Freshman, secondary education



"Yeah, I am going to see 'Confessions of a Shopaholic' with a girl."

Eric Salo
Sophomore, biochemistry



"I'm single, so I'm probably going to hang out with friends and have a girls night."

Lynn McCurry
Sophomore, psychology

What's the worst present you've ever been given from an admirer?



"It was in the sixth grade. I got this really big white bear and it was really nice, then when I went to my next class three girls all had the same bear from the same guy."

Rachael Reed
Freshman, health science



"Honestly, I think it's me giving the gifts and me not receiving anything in return. It's more for the girl."

Eric Ulicny
Sophomore, computer science



"The worst present I was given was a lot of nice things, but it came from a guy who used to stalk me so it wasn't too nice coming from him."

Brandy Ellison
Freshman, physical therapy

Would you rather...

Fart on a date or have a booger fly out of your nose and onto your date?



"I'd rather fart, it's less offensive."

Carla Butwin

Junior, studio art



"Pass gas because then I'd blame it on her."

Ryan Gargano

Senior, photography

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Mahard making movies

Theater lecturer at OU makes his mark in locally filmed flicks

By KAY NGUYEN
Staff Reporter

It was 1976. A young actor by the name of Thomas D. Mahard packed everything he had into a Toyota that had no radio, left Maine, and headed for the West Coast. He had big dreams, and wanted to "try it as an actor."

After a cross-country road trip with stops in Buffalo and Colorado, Mahard picked up a Drama-Logue newspaper, looked for auditions and booked an unpaid role by the end of his first night in Los Angeles.

After moving from coast to coast, he eventually made his home in Flint. At 58, he now teaches as a special lecturer in the theater department as Oakland University as well as in actors' workshops in between acting gigs.

After acting in Clint Eastwood's Michigan-filmed 2008 blockbuster "Gran Torino" as Mel, Mahard is now slated to appear in "Betty Ann Waters," starring Academy Award winner Hilary Swank. His character, coincidentally, is a professor from Boston.

The upcoming project, to be shot in Ann Arbor and scheduled to be released later this year, will also allow him to work with Minnie Driver, whom he "adores."

"Working on [Gran Torino] was really awesome," said Mahard. "I was there the very first day of shooting; Clint just walked into the room and put everyone at ease with his low-key attitude."

The scene was filmed at a VFW hall in Warren. Mahard's other film roles in "Hoffa," "Stardust" and "Youth in Revolt" have also been shot in Michigan.

"Having the film industry come to Michigan is fabulous for the state and industry," Mahard said. "It not only means a lot to actors, but also to electricians, truck drivers — basically everyone in Michigan."

Some other notables Mahard has worked alongside include Danny DeVito, Jack Nicholson and Karl Malden.

Early Life

Mahard got an early start in the business from his father, a set designer. He spent much of his time backstage with actors like Vincent Price.

Mahard initially aspired to be an English teacher and basketball coach. A knee injury stemming from basketball sidelined Mahard during his time at Maine's Bates College, pushing him back into the theater.

After college, Mahard spent about four years in Los Angeles. There he learned about the business both in and out of the classroom.

"My first paid acting job in L.A. was a radio drama,"

Mahard said. "It never got produced and I only got paid \$26, but it nonetheless gave me a start as well as my first union card."

He worked the usual odd jobs to supplement his meager acting income. Mahard took work painting houses, delivering the Los Angeles Times and even wrote game show trivia questions.

The Boston-area native eventually came to Michigan after his years on the West Coast and got steady work for the first time. Mahard found work doing productions at Meadowbrook Theatre, commercials and film work.

"I made money doing what I love," Mahard said. "It was great."

"I figure it was better living in Michigan and getting work than being unemployed in New York City."

—Thomas D. Mahard

Made in Michigan

Though he has enjoyed working in big cities like Los Angeles, Chicago and New York, Mahard decided to live in Michigan because of the opportunities presented to him.

"I figure it was better living in Michigan and getting work than being unemployed in New York City," Mahard said.

Mahard's acting roles are in Michigan; he has made the state his home since the early 1980s. At Meadowbrook Theatre alone, Mahard has acted in over 60 stage productions and recently finished the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol."

"I have probably done about 995 performances of 'A Christmas Carol' over the last 20 years," said Mahard. "I would still really like to do 'King Lear' or act in 'Our Town' as the stage director."

Paying it forward

Mahard teaches two Intro to Theatre classes and an acting class for non-majors this semester. After working at Meadowbrook Theatre, Mahard was invited to teach



Photo courtesy of Thomas D. Mahard
Oakland University's special lecturer, Thomas D. Mahard, adds Hilary Swank, Clint Eastwood and Minnie Driver to the list of actors that he has worked alongside of in films.

part time at OU in the early 1990s.

"Tom is an extraordinary teacher," said close friend and OU graduate Wendy Wagner. "He's got an uncanny ability to pull talents from a student that they never knew they had."

Though he enjoys teaching, its main purpose is to allow him to keep acting professionally. Mahard teaches classes based on availability: usually at times when there are no rehearsals for his acting projects.

"He sees something in each student and is passionate about what he does," said senior Deven Khrucell. "He is positive, but honest."

Although he has worked with Oscar winners and on numerous stage productions, Mahard considers something else his greatest achievement.

"The birth of my daughter, Katie, made all of the rejection and disappointment of working in the business worth it, though," Mahard said.

Wrestling down the barriers

Jacob Orban combats with his opponents and doubters on the mat

By JARED PURCELL
Sports Editor

Jacob Orban began learning how to walk later than everyone else. It wasn't because he was weak and it wasn't because he was afraid; it was because he didn't have fully-grown legs. Just under his left knee and at his right knee is where Orban's story different from almost everyone else. At age 4, Orban got his first pair of prosthetic legs.

"My mom told me that I used to need help going from sitting on the ground to back up in a chair," Orban said.

Fast forward 14 years: Orban's now a freshman at Oakland University — and an experienced wrestler. Orban has found success with OU's wrestling club, mounting a 6-4 record so far this season, including a win at team nationals.

"I think the reason I found wrestling was because of my legs," Orban said. "And then again, it was also me paving the way."

The road less traveled

It's hard to notice anything different about Orban when he's walking around in jeans. He's looks like a 6-foot-2-inch young man with an athletic build. Being born without full legs is something Jacob that is different about Jacob — and that's where the differences end.

Kelly Jones, Orban's mother, never felt that Jacob should be treated as "different." When Orban decided that he wanted to wrestle, the only concern that came to his mother's mind was "oh my God, we have to worry about weight." No one ever worried about legs.

"The whole time growing up, we didn't treat him any different," Jones said. "He was just like anyone in the house. He was expected to get good grades in school like everybody else was."

The youngest of five children in a family of athletes, sports was a part of Orban's life and his family saw no reason to keep him from participating.

Not only did Orban begin wrestling as a sixth grader, he also played football in middle school and high school. He was a backup defensive lineman and holder in field goal situations.

"My mom has been behind me since I started," Orban said. "She was leery at first, but definitely decided to just go behind me."

The territory

Questions, strangers and staring are all things that Orban has learned to deal with. He is happy to answer any questions, but he wishes the staring would stop.

"The staring aspect [can be irritating]," Orban said. "I understand that everyone is curious. I'd rather someone come up to me and ask questions rather than just sit back and stare."



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post
Jacob Orban has lived without the use of full legs his whole life and has still led a successful wrestling career.

Another thing that Orban has to think about is getting around. Although he can manage well with his prosthetics, sometimes walking around on OU's campus is challenging.

"It's a lot of walking for me," Orban said of campus life. "I'm not used to that much ... with the legs, sometimes walking constantly over days all the way across campus, it [wears] on me. But I make due with that."

Still, Orban admits that the hardest part about campus is living so close to the cafeteria. As a wrestler who needs to cut weight a lot, it's hard to resist the tempting aromas that travel through the dorm halls.

"When you're cutting weight and it's close to dinner time ... and all you smell is that food, it sucks," Orban said. "That's the worst feeling ever."

Orban admits that he has noticed that some of his



Photo courtesy of Jacob Orban
Orban currently has a 6-4 record as a freshman with OU wrestling.

opponents don't look at him as an equal — until they get on the mat.

"I've seen tons of people look at me ... they'll be warming up hard and then see me and be like, 'Oh, I have him, it's no big deal.' Then, for the first 30-45 seconds of the match, it's like a slap of reality to their face and they're like, 'Whoa, I underestimated him.'"

Jones says that once people can get past their insecurities, Orban can teach you a lot.

"He's just somebody that you really need to get to know because he's got a lot of good things to offer to anybody."

Getting hooked

Wrestling came naturally to Orban when he first started. He was wooed by the sport immediately.

"The first tournament I went to, I won my first match 10-0," Orban said. "I was pretty much hooked after that. I've had the desire in me ever since."

Orban became a four-year letter winner at Alpena High School. He also made the 100 win mark in his high school career.

"It was my senior year at team districts when I got my hundreth win," Orban said. "It was in front of my school staff, my family, my friends ... it was one of my best matches in high school."

Orban came to OU due to the recruiting efforts of Kyle Nieporte, OU's wrestling club president.

"I did not know he had prosthetic legs until he got here," Nieporte admits. "I knew that he did well in his high school career — he was one of the guys who was recruited in a letter that went out. As soon as he contacted me and told me what weight he was at, the initial

See Orban on page 16

Continued from page 15

ORBAN

thing is that we [needed] guys in his weight class."

Orban decided to come to OU because he wanted to compete at the next level, even though he wasn't a big name scholarship prospect.

"Kyle showed interest in me so I knew that Oakland wanted me to wrestle for them," Orban said. "And that's what I wanted — a school that wanted me to compete for them."

David Pietrowski is the assistant coach of the OU wrestling team and was impressed with what Orban brought to the table.

"He is incredibly committed and dedicated," Pietrowski said. "It's always wonderful when you see somebody who overcomes challenges because it shows everyone else to stop whining about your problems, get up and do something about it."

Proving them wrong

To those who know him, Orban is at his best when being told he can't do something.

"He's a very determined young man,"

Jones said. "Anyone tells him he can't do it, he's going to prove you wrong."

In fact, Orban's ability to start low on his opponent — because he competes without prosthetics — means that he can use his upper body strength to his advantage.

"He does have more of an advantage in my opinion," Nieport said of the fact that he wrestles without the prosthetics on. "We went out two a huge NCAA meet at the beginning of the year and he won a match or two against guys from other colleges that [had scholarships]. I think it had a lot to do with the fact that they were underestimating the fact of how strong he really is."

Pietrowski thinks that Orban can teach everyone a good life lesson with what he has managed to accomplish.

"We all have strengths and weaknesses and that's true about everything," Pietrowski said. "You work with your strengths and you overcome your weaknesses and Jacob is a perfect example of that."

Orban said that without wrestling, he'd probably be a "bum." In wrestling, he has found something where he can be the standard.

"I love wrestling. It's the one sport you're allowed to beat the crap out of someone," Orban said. "The major part in my eyes was that, on the mat, I felt like an equal."

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Golden Grizzlies Games of the Week

HOMECOMING BASKETBALL VS CENTENARY

Men: Benson, Kangas lift OU in a comeback battle

By JOE GUZMAN
Senior Reporter

Home was truly sweet for the Oakland University men's basketball team on Saturday, Feb. 7. The game that evening marked the first ever homecoming basketball game for OU. The team battled through a slow start and won 78-65 against Centenary College in front of a packed O'Rena.

Despite being down 3-13 after the first 5 1/2 minutes, the team fought through the aggressive Centenary defense to finally take the lead 35-34 on two consecutive Eric Kangas 3-pointers seconds before halftime.

"We came out a little flat, coming off the emotion of Thursday night," said OU head coach Greg Kampe. "Then [Kangas] made two outstanding bombs to get us the lead. Then we went into halftime up one, probably playing the worst first half of basketball we played all year."

The team came out for the second half with much more intensity, led by the inspired, all-around play of guard Blake Cushingberry. With his team up 56-50 with just under eight minutes to go, Cushingberry hit his first of two late second-half 3-pointers, with the second one coming just three minutes later to extend the lead to 68-54 to hold off the Gents from Centenary.

Cushingberry said that his game has been get-

ting better due to a raise in confidence.

"I felt like I've had a whole lot of confidence the whole year, but the shots weren't just falling for me," Cushingberry said. "No matter how many shots I missed this year, coach Kampe kept telling me I got to shoot the ball because it's going to fall sooner or later. Really, I just needed to step up and hit shots when we needed them."

He finished the game one rebound shy of a double-double, scoring seven of his 11 points in the second half, and recorded the only assist not distributed by point guard Johnathon Jones.

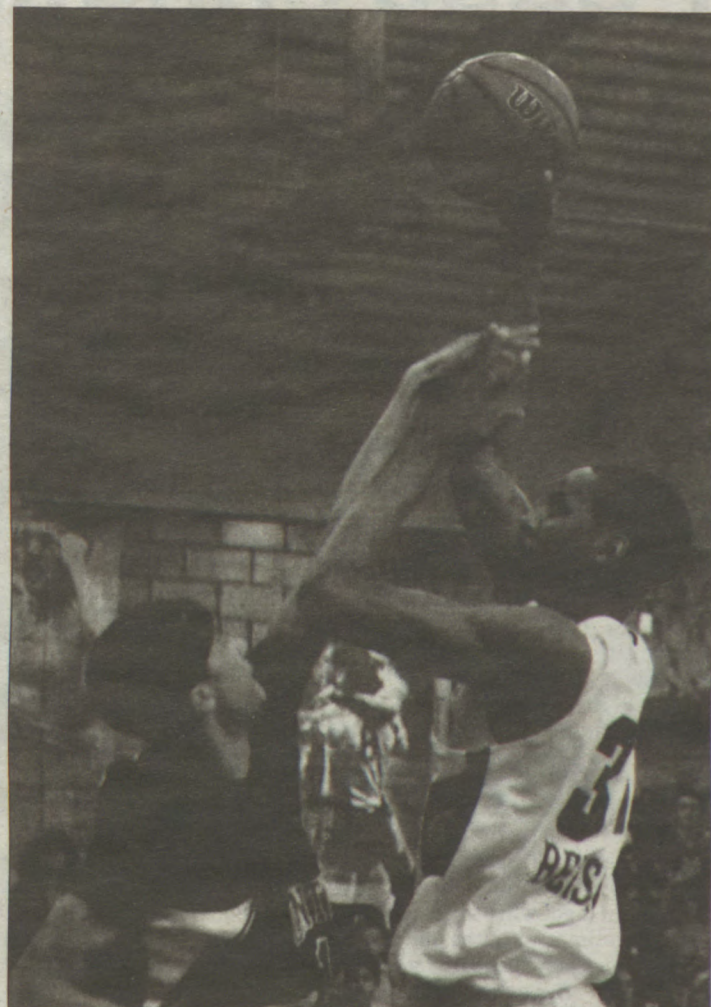
The biggest difference in the second half was team defense and better ball control. Centenary had 16 points off of nine OU turnovers in the first half. In the second half the Golden Grizzlies gave up the ball only four more times for the game.

According to Kampe the key to the win was the play of Jones, who finished with 13 points and 12 assists, going 11-for-12 on his free throws.

"No matter how Kangas plays or Hudson or anybody else, we go as Johnathon goes," he said. "In the first half he was terrible and we were terrible."

Forward Keith Benson led the team with 26 points, going 8-9 from the field and 10-15 from the free throw line. He also grabbed seven rebounds and made four blocks.

The win extends the Golden Grizzlies home winning streak to 10.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Keith Benson's 26 points were good enough for his season high as he shot 8-9 from the field and 10-5 at the free throw line in OU's 78-65 victory.

Women: Winning the 'war'

By JARED PURCELL
Sports Editor

Saturday night, the women's basketball team made Oakland University's first ever homecoming game one for the fans to remember.

The Golden Grizzlies (18-5, 10-2) managed to pull away from Centenary College (4-18, 2-9) in the second half to give OU the 67-56 victory and put three players in double figures.

"When we play, I tell the players that there are little wars within the game. I felt like during the opening four minutes Centenary won the war," said OU head coach Beckie Francis. "Then I challenged [the team] and we won a bunch of little wars after that."

Senior guard Jessica Pike scored 18 while senior guard April Kidd scored 15 and had nine rebounds. Sophomore Brittany Carnago scored 14 with eight rebounds and a pair of blocks.

OU found itself locked in a 17-17 tie 8 minutes and 18 seconds into the game after giving up a 7-0 run. After gaining a short lead but struggling to pull away, OU finished on a 12-3 in the final 4:13 of the

half and never gave up the lead.

"We bear down with mental toughness and get the job done," Carnago said. "We try to get a stop every time. When our defense is good our offense works."

With junior forward Hanna Reising out with an injured ankle and junior guard Melissa Jeltema out as well, the bench stepped up to the call. Sophomore Kirstie Malone played one of her most solid games of the season, logging 20 minutes and scoring all seven of her points in the second half.

"[Malone] played awesome," Carnago said. "She had a really good opportunity to come out and play and prove herself ... She came out and got a lot of boards tonight and shot like 50 percent from the floor. I was excited for her."

Even though the bench provided only 12 points for OU, Francis praised the play of the bench players on a solid game and for playing the necessary roles.

"I'm proud to have this kind of confidence in my bench," Francis said. "I'm proud of how hard they work everyday in practice. They proved that they understand their role and they're willing to step in at any time."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
April Kidd was one rebound away from reaching a double-double.

Pogue announced as head coach

Former assistant men's soccer coach will have big shoes to fill come May

By JOE GUZMAN
Senior Reporter

After seven years as assistant coach of the Oakland University men's soccer team, Eric Pogue will officially take over as head coach May 1. The news comes just two weeks after the retirement of former head coach Gary Parsons. Pogue will enter the 2009 season as the fifth coach in the program's 36-year history.

His promotion was announced in a press release last Wednesday by OU Director of Athletics Tracy Huth.

"Eric has been with the men's soccer program for the past seven seasons and has assisted with the development of one of the top programs in the Midwest," Huth said in the press release. "He has proven that he is a top recruiter and coach, and we look forward to his continued success here at Oakland University."

Hired in 2002, Pogue has the daunting task of following in the footsteps of one of the state of Michigan's coaching icons. A three-time Summit League Coach of the Year, Parsons announced the end to his 23-year-long chapter of his life, in which his 363 wins leaves him as the all-time winningest coach in League history.

"When Gary hired me we talked about being his eventual successor after about 7-10 years," said Pogue. "He gave me every opportunity to help run the Oakland soccer program in all aspects, so when the time came for him to move on, I would be ready to step in."

Pogue first got wind that Parsons was leaning towards retirement at the end of this season. The two talked about how the team had rebounded over the last two seasons after a disappointing 2006 season.

"He was just so proud of the way our guys performed over the past two years," Pogue said. "But all the other aspects of running a top NCAA Division 1 program were wearing on him. He felt like the timing was right to step down and start a new era in Oakland soccer."

"When he made his final decision to retire back in December, Tracy Huth and I sat down and had a great conversation about the direction of the program and

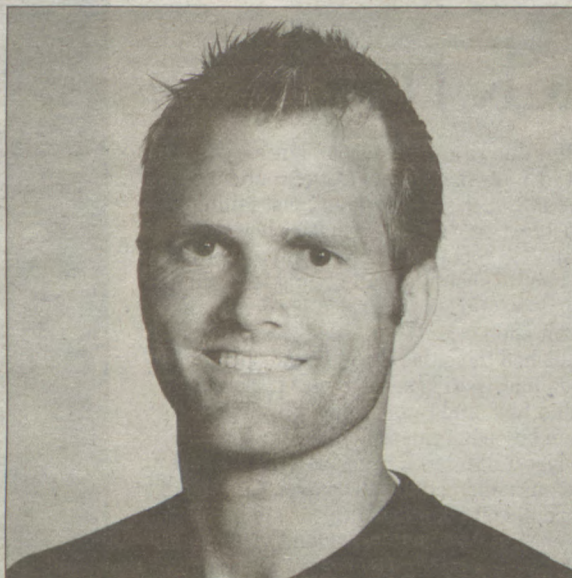


Photo courtesy of OU Athletics

Eric Pogue assisted the men's soccer team for the last seven years.

I felt comfortable that our goals and aspirations for Oakland soccer were very similar."

Pogue's seven years under Parsons allowed him to learn the ins and outs of leading a successful NCAA Division 1 program. His promotion ensures that the program is focused on continuing at the same level of excellence.

"I have said all along that I am a product of my environment and everything I learned about coaching, I learned from Gary," said Pogue. "He ran a tight ship at Oakland where discipline, hard work, honesty and integrity are demanded and players are held accountable on the field, in the classroom and off the field."

Pogue's established relationship with the team will allow for an easy transition.

"Having been around the program for seven years, I recruited all of them and they see all the hard work and effort I have put into helping make Oakland University men's soccer a success," he said.

Although some players were surprised by Parsons' retirement this year, they knew it was coming, and were happy to see the long-time assistant promoted.

"I think [the team] already has eased into [Pogue] as the new coach," said forward Sebastian Harris. "We know him, we know what he's all about."

"Eric has a good rapport with everyone," said junior defender Stew Givens. "For the most part he has done quite a bit of the recruiting, so most guys have dealt a lot with him, so I think it will be smooth transition."

Although the team is focused on working harder to ensure they don't suffer a let down next season, defender/midfielder Machel James feels that the intensity of Parsons' coaching style might be missed.

"When Gary swears players listen, they jump, they react," James said. "Eric is a calm guy, cool, collected. I'll say [the players] will listen no matter what, but some might miss the swearing."

Pogue confirmed that the message will be the same. Only how he communicates with the players will set him apart from Parsons.

"The formula for success doesn't change, just the way it is communicated to the players," he said. "Oakland soccer will always be a blue-collar, hard-working, disciplined, defensive-minded and team-oriented group. Those are the pillars for success here at Oakland."

According to goalkeeper Mitch Hillebrandt both coaches convey the same things, but where Parsons does it with intimidation, Pogue is more of a player's coach. With that said, he doesn't feel the team will become complacent without Parsons' intensity.

"I think we're playing harder right now because of the past two seasons. We definitely don't want to go into a slump and have a losing season," Hillebrandt said. "We just want to keep going up and up, and I think [Pogue] can take the program to the next level."

GRIZZ OF THE WEEK

April Kidd

Women's Basketball

Year: Senior

Major: Communications

After being one rebound away from a double-double against Centenary, Kidd exploded for a career high 28 points along with seven assists in a stunning OT victory vs. Oral Roberts.



Photo courtesy of OU Athletics

Coming attractions

GAME SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF FEB. 11-17

MEN'S BASKETBALL

2/14 vs IPFW — 6 p.m. (O'Rena)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2/14 vs IPFW — 3:30 p.m. (O'Rena)

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

2/14 @ Akron Invitational — All day

ICE HOCKEY

2/14 vs. Davenport — 8:30 p.m.
(Onyx Arena, Rochester)

WRESTLING

2/15 @ University of Toledo Dual
Tourney (Toledo)

The Scene

February 11, 2009

www.oaklandpostonline.com

19



Jason returns

Jared Padalecki is hooked on horror in the latest 'Friday the 13th'

By **AMANDA MEADE**
Scene/Mix Editor

After 11 "Friday the 13th" movies, the films have become more of a franchise than horror flicks.

The 12th and latest edition combines several of the previous films and creates a re-imagining as opposed to just another sequel.

Jared Padalecki plays Clay Miller in the film, a concerned brother whose sister, Whitney (Amanda Righetti), has gone missing in the woods.

Padalecki took part in a college conference call that involved The Oakland Post on Feb. 9.

The actor talked about the procession of "Friday the 13th" films and the difference between this and other editions.

"Jason got a little cheesy towards the number 12 of his installments. Like 'Jason Goes to the Moon,' 'Jason Shops at Target,' 'Jason and the Muppets,'" Padalecki said. "The guys who put together 'The Texas Chainsaw Massacre' remake and the 'Amityville Horror' remake, they're also behind the 'Friday the 13th' remake. If you see any of those, you see how they are new and sexy and hip and scary but they still pay homage to the originals."

Padalecki said that while nothing eerie happened on the set of the film, he had plenty of other stories.

"In one scene we were filming on top

of a bus. In the middle of the take before they even called cut we just started dancing. Like, having a dance-a-thon on the top of the bus," Padalecki said. "It was five in the morning and I'm all beat up and having a dance-a-thon with Jason Voorhees."

The actor said he also felt slightly threatened during one scene.

"We were shooting a scene and there's a part where my character's head smashes through one of the bus windows. I was wondering how they were going to do it, they're like 'Alright well here's the candy glass that you're going to smash your face through.' I was like 'Not to sound like a pretty boy actor but I'm going to smash my face into some glass.'"

Padalecki said big stunts are not one of his fortes.

"I did some of the fight scenes. I think I heard Harrison Ford say 'I don't do stunts, I run, jump and fall.' I guess that's how I feel. I run around, jump around and fall. The big stunts, I definitely have my stuntman do those," Padalecki said.

Padalecki talked about his favorite murder scene in the movie — don't worry, it won't spoil anything.

"My favorite death scene is when Jason kills the police officer. So when I go to answer the door and I see Jason pop up behind the police officer and shove a fireplace poker through his head and explode in my face, that's kind of

that for me. That's where the movie just goes into hyperdrive," Padalecki said.

Jason Voorhees might be a crazy killer, but Padalecki said the psycho might have somewhat of a heart in this installment.

"I think you see a more human side of Jason. He's not going to be crying in the corner and we're all going to go 'Ah poor Jason.' He's still a crazed serial killer, but we do see that he's a scared human protecting his sacred ground."

The actor has appeared in both TV shows and film, like the "Gilmore Girls" and "Supernatural" on TV and movies like "House of Wax," but he said he prefers working in films.

"You have more time to really devote to your character. I fly out to Vancouver tomorrow to shoot 'Supernatural' and I have no idea what I'm shooting tomorrow. I haven't seen the script, I'll probably have six to eight pages of stuff that I'll read tomorrow for the first time," Padalecki said.

"With film, I really got time to familiarize myself with the character and get some idea of what I wanted to do."

Although Padalecki prefers film, he does enjoy working on "Supernatural" with his co-star in the show, Jensen Ackles.

"There is no competition, we're pretty close buddies, we get along really well. We've been working together for many years now," Padalecki said.



Photos courtesy of John P. Johnson
(Left) Jason Voorhees is back and continues to terrorize vacationing young adults at Camp Crystal Lake. (Above) Jared Padalecki stars in the latest edition of the franchise "Friday the 13th" films.

"It feels like I have a buddy. I think that we both know that we're not really competition for each other. It's good to know a guy that's happy for my success and vice versa. That sounds cheesy and Brady Bunch but it's cool."

Ackles incidently has recently starred in the 3-D horror flick "My Bloody Valentine."

Padalecki has played several thriller/horror roles and said he enjoyed the "Friday the 13th" series even before he got the role.

"I was a fan of the movie, a fan of the franchise and a fan of the genre, and for me, for my role specifically ... I get to go head to head with Jason more than once," Padalecki said.

"So it was really cool having grown up watching this movie and never think that you'd be a part of it to all the sudden there you are on set fighting Jason — it's really cool."

The actor cited "The Shining" as his favorite horror flick.

"I know it's not a classic horror movie but I think that movie to this day still scares me more than any other movie," Padalecki said. "Wickedly shot. Sometimes some of the shots give me nightmares and I can't even watch it. It's like a 30 second shot and I'm terrified."

"Friday the 13th" hits theaters Friday, Feb. 13. Find out more and watch the trailer at

www.fridaythe13thmovie.com.



(Above and right) Alt-rockers Lights Resolve have set out on a non-profit tour with band SHIROCK. Photos courtesy of Big Picture Media



NY rockers 'light' it up

By AMANDA MEADE
Scene/Mix Editor

New York-based alternative rock band Lights Resolve has two EPs under its belt and has toured with bands like The Used, Panic at the Disco and Dashboard Confessional.

The band is about to embark on the Everything Burns Tour with headliner SHIROCK. Lights Resolve will be hitting the stage at the Majestic Theatre on Friday, Feb. 13. It is part of a non-profit tour that will team up with a different local charity at every city they visit. They will be benefiting the Goodwill and United Way programs to help decrease poverty in Detroit.

Frontman Matt Reich talked with The Post about his band, their tour and future plans.

called me up to sing their song "Box Full of Sharp Objects" with them on a bunch of nights and that was just an incredible moment too. Unreal experience.

The Post: Some of your band's lyrics were referred to as "emo" by Spin Magazine. How do you feel about that?

Reich: I'm always a fan of letting people interpret art how they want to interpret it and I have no problem with people labeling anything what they feel it should be labeled just because I think it's [a subjective] thing. Do I think that the lyrics are emo? It's not what I was going for at all.

The Post: How do you feel about downloading music illegally?

Reich: We're all about it. Just because you can't fight the beast, you can't be against it these days. The bad thing that has come of illegal downloading is that there's so much shit that you have to sift through to get to something good. It's becoming more and more difficult for really good bands to be heard because there's a million shit bands out there.

The Post: Where does the band hope to be in the next five years?

Reich: Well we're gonna tour our balls off because we love that. We've really spent the last two years out on the road traveling the country endlessly for no money and with huge bags under our eyes but it's all worth it. And we'll continue doing that.

Right now we're independent and we're happy, stuff is going extremely well for the band at this point. We're just going to keep on doing our thing, keep on writing while we can, keep on developing our live show into something that's really cool and different.

Find out more about Lights Resolve at www.myspace.com/lightsresolve.

The Oakland Post: Who are your influences and inspirations?

Matt Reich: Recently I've just been listening to a bunch of Sigur Ros. I like that idea of just building from nothing into something, kind of like the idea of our band, we're left with nothing and then we build around that.

I'm really excited for the next U2 album. I haven't seen a show in a really long time because we've been touring a bunch, but the day that we got home from our tour we got to see Kings of Leon at Madison Square Garden. It was pretty epic.

The Post: You've toured with a lot of big name bands, any cool on-the-road experiences?

Reich: When we were on the road with The Used, Quinn [Allman], the guitar player, actually played a song on guitar with us that we wrote, and it was just an incredible experience because I grew up listening to The Used. He really dug our music and dug our vibe and that's incredible to have one of your heroes feel like that towards your music.

Also on that tour Bert [McCracken]

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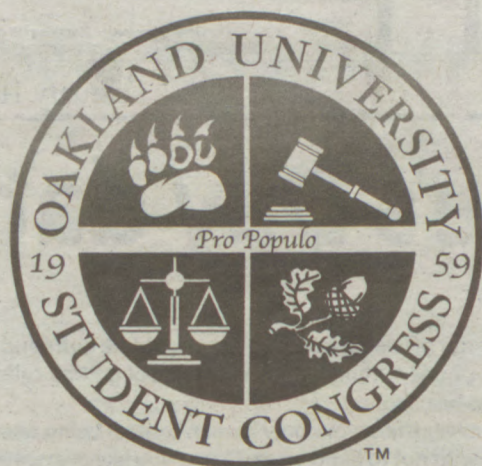
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Friday, February 6th, 3:00 pm (Lake Huron Room)

Wednesday, February 11th, 3:00 pm (Gold Room B)

Thursday, February 12th, 5:00 pm (Room 125)

Friday, February 13th, 3:00 pm (Gold Room B)

Contact Jennifer Doptis for more information: jldoptis@oakland.edu

MOUTHING OFF

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

22

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February 11, 2009

Choose your own Valentine's Day date

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

WARNING: Do not read this article straight through from beginning to end.

Dating is like navigating a complex and perilous maze of choices. Each decision you make can mean the difference between whether you find everlasting true love or end up sitting alone in a KFC, sobbing into your Famous Bowl. It's not unlike the "Choose Your Own Adventure" books that I grew up reading.

So with Valentine's Day fast approaching, here's my suggestions on how to get a date for the big day with a "Choose Your Own Adventure" style. And since the complete story fits on one page, you won't need to hold your thumb on the page you were on last in case you die.

Based on my own experience, the story will be written from a male perspective, but if you are so inclined, you can easily swap out the feminine pronouns with male ones and the references to romantic comedies with ones to Jason Statham movies.

› Section A

"Hello?" she answers.

"Uh ... hey. It's NameGoesHere. From class," you say nervously.

"How did you get this number?"

"Listen, Valentine's Day is this week, and I was just wondering if you'd be interested in going out to do something ... or something ..." you say, trying to sound more confident.

"What did you have in mind?" she asks.

IF you suggest going out to dinner, go to section D.

IF you suggest going bowling, go to section E.

IF you suggest staying in and watching TV or a movie, go to section F.

› Section B

You send her a message on Facebook and ask her to go see a romantic comedy. To your surprise, she agrees!

You're so excited you rush out and buy candy and flowers, and even a new dress shirt. The shirt is two sizes too big and actually doesn't match the rest of your outfit at all, making you look like a fancy clown, but you are too pumped to care!

You show up at her house at the agreed time and knock on the door. But when you are invited into her house, you instead find Chris Hansen.

"Why don't you take a seat," he says. You don't really want to but feel compelled to anyway.

"What are you doing here?"

"Erm," you reply.

"You think you're here to see a young girl named Gladys, don't you?"

"I think I have the wrong address. Is this not 547 Nooker Street?"

"What? No, this is 574 Nooker. Sorry about the confusion. You can go."

You decide to get away from Hansen as quickly as you can, but as you leave the house, four police officers tackle you to the ground and break your ribs in three places. You spend Valentine's Day in traction.

THE END

› START HERE

Valentine's Day is fast approaching, and there's a woman in your class that you're interested in asking out. You know each other pretty well from class, but have had little contact other than small talk like, "Did you study for the test?" and "If I furrow my brow and frown, does it make me look more or less like Clive Owen?"

What do you do?

IF you call her on the phone, go to section A.

IF you send a Facebook, message go to section B.

IF you instead watch her from a distance through a telescope, and build a shrine to her in your basement using a lock of her hair, which you sometimes stroke and talk to, go to section C.

› Section C

You decide you're better off doing nothing. Your would-be girlfriend moves away and changes her phone number after a year or so of getting calls from someone who breathes heavily.

Twenty years pass uneventfully, your only human contact being telemarketers, who you plead with not to hang up and leave you like everyone else in your life. You die suddenly one day of a heart attack and are found lying face down in a puddle of Mountain Dew.

Your epitaph reads that you died peacefully, although you're pretty sure you choked on your self-loathing and misery.

Your would-be girlfriend ended up miserable too though, if that's any consolation.

THE END

› Section D

You agree to meet your date at a Greek restaurant. You order an appetizer of saganaki, because it seems classy, and you've always been fascinated by food that is on fire.

However, the waiter, who is only working here as a summer job and is not very familiar with the cheese-lighting procedure, shouts "OPA!" with too much fervor, drops the plate and drops flaming cheese on your date. Now your date is on fire.

You try to extinguish her with water, but flaming cheese is like napalm — delicious napalm. Instead you run to the kitchen to get a fire extinguisher, but by the time you get there, she has already been extinguished by a good Samaritan with a flame retardant jacket. Your date leaves with paramedics, and the newspaper headlines the next day read, "WOMAN SET ON FIRE BY CHEESE, DATE FLEES IN TERROR."

THE END

› Section E

"How about we just stay in and watch TV or something?" you suggest. You haven't got the money to spend on food or bowling and you've got to work your way up to something.

"We could watch 'Grey's Anatomy,'" you add. Girls like "Grey's Anatomy," right?

"You like 'Grey's Anatomy'?" she asks, somewhat puzzled.

"I LOVE 'GREY'S ANATOMY!'" you exclaim over enthusiastically.

"What's your favorite episode?"

"Uh," you panic. "I like the one where the hospital capsizes and they have to climb out through the basement." You then realize you just described the plot of "The Poseidon Adventure."

She hangs up and you think fair enough.

THE END

› Section E

"How about we go bowling?" you ask cheerfully.

She explodes into tears at the mention of bowling.

"I'm sorry! You're right! It's too soon!" you say frantically.

"My brother was killed in a bowling accident," she explains. "He was pulled into the ball return and had both his arms ripped off ..."

"I'm sorry," you say, trying to console her.

"Then he tried to retrieve them with his face and ..." she starts crying again. After much time talking, you begin to make her feel better, and you agree to go out to dinner instead. You set a time to meet at the restaurant.

GO to Section D.

Senate, Fed, Treasury attack with \$3 trillion

By DAVID ESPO

Associated Press Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — On a single day filled with staggering sums, the Obama administration, Federal Reserve and Senate attacked the deepening economic crisis Tuesday with actions that could throw as much as \$3 trillion more in government and private funds into the fight against frozen credit markets and rising joblessness.

"It's gone deep. It's gotten worse," President Barack Obama said of the recession at a campaign-style appearance in Ft. Myers, Fla., where unemployment has reached double digits. "The situation we face could not be more serious."

If any more emphasis were needed, Wall Street investors sent stocks plunging, objecting that new rescue details

from the government were too sparse despite the huge numbers. The Dow Jones industrials dropped 382 points.

The president spoke shortly after Senate passage of an \$838 billion emergency economic stimulus bill cleared the way for talks with the House on a final compromise. In a display of urgency, White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel traveled to the Capitol in mid-afternoon for meetings with Democratic leaders as well as moderate senators whose views — and votes — will be key to any compromise.

Separately, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner outlined plans for spending much of the \$350 billion in financial bailout money recently cleared by Congress, and the Federal Reserve announced it would commit up to \$1 trillion to make loans more widely available

to consumers.

Taken together, the events marked at least a political watershed if not an economic turning point — the day the three-week old administration and its congressional allies assumed full control of the struggle against the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

The vote was 61-37 in the Senate to pass the stimulus, with moderate Republican Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe of Maine and Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania joining Democrats in support.

Even before the vote, Majority Leader Harry Reid and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi met with Obama at the White House to go over the task ahead.

The Democratic leaders have long pledged to have legislation on Obama's desk by mid-month.



EVAN AGOSTINI/Associated Press

In a Dec. 12, 2008 file photo singers Rihanna and Chris Brown perform at Madison Square Garden in New York. Rihanna and Brown were last minute Grammy absences Sunday and the subjects of police reports.

NIW BRIEFS

02-04 | Before being admitted as a bishop by the Roman Catholic Church, a prelate must recant his denial of the Holocaust.

02-05 | Somali pirates take off with \$3.2 million in ransom after freeing a ship they had in custody for over four months.

02-06 | Eighty-four children in Nigeria die from teething formula laced with chemical found in automotive antifreeze.

02-07 | Thirteen bears are rescued in China after years of having their bile harvested for Chinese medicines.

02-08 | Four die, including two American soldiers in a roadside bomb blast in Afghanistan while attempting to defuse it.

02-09 | Four prisoners are transferred from Guantanamo Bay to Iraqi custody.

02-10 | President Obama urges Congress to act now on the stimulus package in a televised news conference.

Arson suspected in wildfires



RICK RYCROFT/Associated Press

A dead horse that was trapped by raging fires lies at the side of the road near the community of Kinglake, Australia Monday, Feb. 9. Officials believe arson may be behind at least some of the more than 400 fires that tore a destructive path across southern Victoria state over the weekend.

Italian woman in right-to-die debate dies

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press Writer

ROME — A 38-year-old woman who ignited a fierce right-to-die debate that convulsed Italy and dragged in the Vatican died Monday just as lawmakers in Parliament rushed to pass a bill designed to keep her alive.

Eluana Englaro had been in a vegetative state since she was in a car accident 17 years ago. She died Monday night at the Udine clinic where she had been for the past week, said family attorney Vittorio Angiolini.

Englaro's doctors had said her condition was irreversible. Late last year, her

father won a decade-long court battle to allow her feeding tube to be removed, saying that was her wish. In line with the high court ruling, medical workers on Friday began suspending her food and water.

Italy does not allow euthanasia but patients have a right to refuse treatment. There is no law, however, that allows patients to give advance directions on what treatment they want if they become too incapacitated to state their wishes.

Backed by the Vatican, Premier Silvio Berlusconi's government passed an emergency decree Friday to prevent Englaro from having her feeding tube

disconnected. But the move led to a rare institutional crisis as the country's president, Giorgio Napolitano, rejected it on the grounds it defied court rulings.

The Englaro case has drawn comparisons with that of Terri Schiavo, the American woman who died in 2005 after a heated right-to-die debate.

Schiavo's feeding tube was removed in March 2005. Congress passed a bill to allow a federal court to review the Florida woman's case, and then President George W. Bush signed the bill into law. A federal judge refused to order the tube reinserted, a decision upheld by a federal appeals court and the Supreme Court.

Police: Rihanna is Brown's victim

By ANTHONY MCCARTNEY

Associated Press Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — Chris Brown's ad campaign with Wrigley was suspended Monday until his criminal case is resolved, and reports surfaced that pop superstar Rihanna, his longtime girlfriend and a fellow no-show at the Grammy Awards, was the woman who accused him of assault.

The Los Angeles Times, citing law enforcement officials familiar with the case and other sources it did not name, reported that Rihanna, whose full name is Robyn Rihanna Fenty, was the woman who told police that Brown had hurt her the night before the Grammy Awards.

A police statement released Sunday afternoon said Brown and an unidentified woman began arguing while riding in a car following a pre-Grammy party where they were spotted together Saturday night. The fight escalated when they got out of the car in the ritzy Hancock Park neighborhood, the report said, and Brown was gone by the time officers arrived.

The report indicated that the woman was injured, but Brown was booked only on suspicion of making a criminal threat, a felony, after walking into a police station Sunday night. Authorities said the district attorney could choose to expand the charges.

Brown was released after posting \$50,000 bail. Both he and Rihanna had backed out of their scheduled performances at the Grammy Awards.

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