

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

October 8, 2008

Volume 35, Number 6

CAMPUS

Students alerted
of vague threat by
text message

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marathon attracts
thousands to OU's
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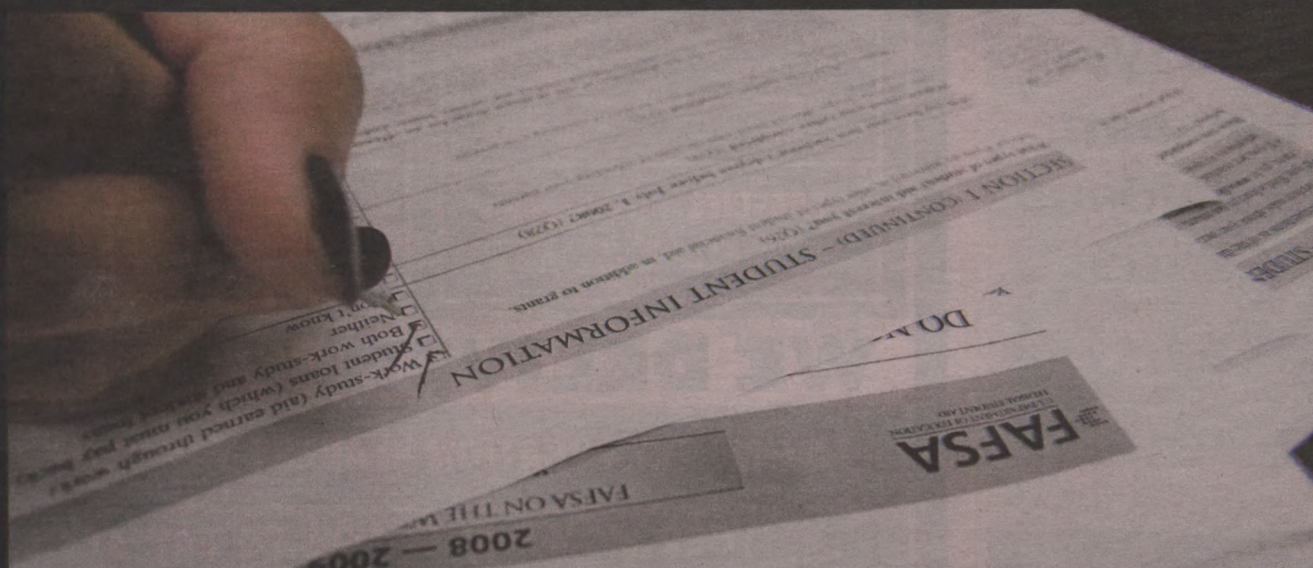
Detroit Pistons
head coach
Michael Curry
shows off 2008-09
team at the O'Rena

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How Wall Street is affecting OUR street

THE Kalamazoo



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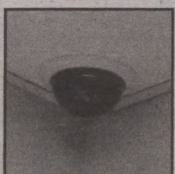


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Perspectives page 4

Joanne Talarek of the Graham Health Center tells students what they need to know before getting a flu shot.



Campus page 8

Find out why students living on campus have even more reason to be on their best behavior. Also, a new building is coming to campus.



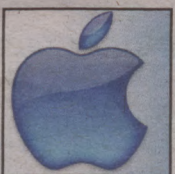
Local page 12

The Brooksie Way run is a hit, thousands compete. Plus, Yates Cider Mill is ready for the fall crowds.



you page 14

See how the apples in your cider got there. Also, find out what it was like on the trail as a Brooksie runner shares his experience.



The Mix page 17

"I'm a Mac. And I'm a PC." Students decide which of the two make their lives easier. Plus, students talk about computers they wish they had money to buy.



Sports page 19

The Oakland Post uncovers what happens after an athlete suffers an injury. Also, the Detroit Pistons hit the hardwood at the O'Rena.



the Scene page 23

WXOU's "Robo-Robb" talks to The Oakland Post about his many endeavors. Plus, check out unique Internet websites and what they have to offer.



MOUTHING OFF page 25

Voting for dummies. Get quick tips to make rocking the vote Nov. 4 a memorable day. Also, what did "Fraggle Rock" really teach us?



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AIG blasted by lawmakers for extravagant spending just days after their government lifeline. Plus, the second Presidential debate.

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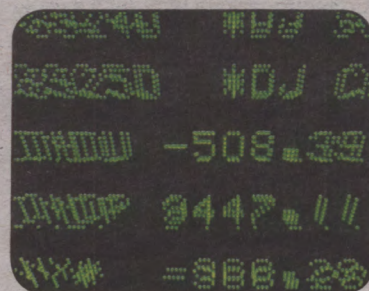
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Market goes down. Bailout goes up. Find out how current economic woes will affect you.

Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

October 8, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Students are not free to ignore market woes

The American people have been whipped by Wall Street since last month.

The federal government is intervening with a \$700 billion bailout to address concerns over the greatest financial meltdown since the Great Depression.

According to the Associated Press, the stock market has fallen 33 percent since a record close a year ago above 14,000 points. Through Tuesday, it suffered its largest five-day point decline ever.

Oakland University students don't need to look far to find examples of the new grim realities created by the crisis on Wall Street — a lot of us feel the hurt right here in Michigan.

Despite what little we may have currently invested in the stock market, we all need to pay attention to the current economic crisis.

According to Realty Trac, one out of every 475 households in Michigan received a foreclosure notice, the eighth highest foreclosure rate in America.

After graduation, it will be hard to find a job as unemployment continues to climb, and it will be even harder in Michigan.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate rose to its highest level in five years at 6.1 percent. Michigan has the worst unemployment rate in the United States, at 8.9 percent.

Everything from smokes to smarts will cost more.

Tuition rates at OU have gone up approximately 60 percent in the past six years, from \$5,301 per year in 2002 to \$8,324 now.

As credit markets tighten, it's going to be harder to get a loan. Banks are less likely to issue private loans for tuition costs and students may have to look elsewhere for ways to pay for college.

For those of you still asking, "What

does that have to do with the price of tea in China?" consider that, according to the Daily Telegraph, the price of tea in China has gone up 40 percent since 2007.

Sure, a lot of us students may not have stock market investments or have parents who do, but the stock market crisis will affect almost all of us. If this worrisome trend continues, it will be hard to find students not affected negatively by it in some way.

A lot of students don't know where to start in order to adapt to this crisis and not become one of its victims.

They get drowned in all the numbers and jargon of the media and the experts and don't understand what they can do.

The most effective way that we can take control of our future and try to be financially secure is by taking our studies seriously. We can no longer afford to breeze through as the number of jobs in the state will be limited and go only to the best and the brightest, and not to those who just tried to get by doing only the bare minimum.

Students should go beyond career counseling and do extensive research on the job availability in their prospective fields well before graduation.

In this financially uncertain period, this may not be the time to give in to our impulses and buy the collection of Faberge eggs we've been dreaming of.

"Dear Prudence" should no longer just be the name of a Beatles song to us — it should be our mantra. Let's take a lesson from all of those who lost their homes to foreclosure and stop spending money we don't have.

Finally, students should realize that their opinions matter to their elected officials; they will listen to you.

Raise a fuss and raise a holler because you're not too young to vote any more.



MIKE KEEFE/The Denver Post

What do you think? Have a news tip?

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Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
61 Oakland Center
Rochester, MI 48309

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

On page 5 of the Oct. 1, 2008 issue Karen Clemmons Lloyd's name was spelled incorrectly.

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

Things you need to know about the flu vaccine

Guest Columnist
Director,
Graham Health Center
Joanne
Talarek RN, MSN, ANP

There are likely as many excuses for not getting an annual flu vaccine as there are people who don't get them — and I think I've heard most of them.

Some people believe the flu vaccine does not work, and, indeed, the 2007 serum was not as well matched to the circulating strains of the influenza virus as we would have liked, providing only about 60 percent protection. The Centers for Disease Control has predicted a much better match this year, so the vaccine should be 70-90 percent effective in preventing infection. Those who do become infected will likely have a less severe illness with lower rates of complications and death if they have been vaccinated.

My favorite excuse is, "Every time I get the flu shot, I get the flu." I respond, "Just like babies can be fussy for a day or two after getting their 'shots,' so can grown-ups!" Because the vaccine is synthesized from inactivated virus, it isn't possible to get influenza from the shot. All immunizations can cause mild fatigue, headache, body aches or slight elevation in temperature

as the body's immune system gears up and responds to the vaccine. Extra fluids, Tylenol or ibuprofen, plenty of sleep and avoiding alcohol will relieve these symptoms. The worst side effect you are likely to get is a sore arm. If you don't want a shot, try the nasal spray. It is made from a weakened live vaccine and should not be given to the very young, elderly, or patients with compromised immune systems.

Other patients tell me, "I'm healthy; I never get the flu." While most complications and death occur in patients who are less than 2 years old or over 65, it is important for everyone to get the flu vaccine. Each year 5-20 percent of Americans get the flu, causing 200,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths. Those "uncomplicated" cases cause many problems: lost school and work days, spoiled vacations, and poor performance on exams, for example. These patients spread infection to those less able to recover.

Influenza is an upper respiratory infection. Flu typically starts with a sore throat and runny, stuffy nose. The illness quickly progresses to fever, headache, body aches, dry cough and extreme fatigue. Sometimes in children, stomach nausea, vomiting or diarrhea may accompany the flu, but these are not the primary symptoms. Complications include pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, or worsening of other conditions such as asthma, diabetes or congestive heart failure.

Flu is mainly spread through coughing and sneezing, or touching your mouth or nose after having touched

surfaces with flu virus on them. People may be contagious for one day before symptoms develop and up to five days after.

In addition to vaccination, healthy habits may help prevent the spread of flu. Hand washing is key to preventing the spread of any infection. When hand washing is not possible, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose. Cover your cough/sneeze with disposable tissue and wash your hands afterward — or cough into your upper sleeve when a tissue is not available. Avoid close contact with people who are ill and stay home when you are sick if possible.

There are many good reasons to get vaccinated against the flu. The only good reasons NOT get flu shots to include severe egg allergy (get the nasal spray form of the vaccination), history of Guillain-Barre Syndrome following flu vaccine, or current illness with fever. These folks should wait until they are well to receive their vaccine. For more information, check the Infection Prevention and Control website at www.oakland.edu/ouipc or the Graham Health Center website at www.oakland.edu/ghc.

Flu vaccines are available for \$15 at Graham Health Center every Thursday morning in October between 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., or by appointment — call (248) 370-2341. For HAP or Blue Care Network coverage, the Visiting Nurse Association will be giving flu shots at the Employee Health Fair 10 a.m.-2p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29.

STUDENT LIFE WEEKLY

Asperger's syndrome

HOT TOPIC

Asperger's syndrome is a developmental disorder on the autism spectrum in which people have severe difficulties understanding how to interact socially.

"Aspergers is very much a two-way social communication disorder," said Linda Sisson, director of Oakland University Disability Support Services.

People with Asperger's have difficulties in areas of social skills and the development of routines. It may be hard for a person with Asperger's to key in on certain verbal and nonverbal cues in conversation. It is also common for them to develop limited interests as well as a dislike for day-to-day change in routines.

People with Asperger's can also have problems with fine motor skills and exhibit unusual facial expressions, body postures and gestures.

Individuals with Asperger's can also have normal to above normal intelligence. "Some do (have) extremely high IQs. They could out math you on any day of the week. Depending on their skill set ... they can have some really strong gifts," Sisson said.

Though a person with Asperger's may appear to be aloof and disinter-

ested in social interaction, they want relationships just as anyone else would.

"[Students with Asperger's] want what all young people want. They want to be successful in college, they hope to meet the right girl, they hope to have a successful career someday," Sisson said.

Disabilities Support Services, located in North Foundation Hall, offers services to all students with disabilities, including those with Asperger's.

"The difficulty for a student with Asperger's is that they are very intelligent and they know what needs to be done but they don't know how to go about asking for help when they need it," Sisson said. For these students DSS provides the Peer Transition Consultant Program, coordinated by Kelley Watson.

"[Students with Asperger's] are paired with a student who has been at OU for at least one year, and is familiar with student resources," Sisson said.

Peers involved in the program help students with Asperger's to navigate the day-to-day functions of being a college student, according to Sisson.

—Information collected from health.yahoo.com, udel.edu/bkirby/asperger/, and researchautism.org.

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Plunging toward rock bottom

Making sense of things can be hard as economic downturns hit close to home for students, families and university funding

By PAUL GULLY
Special Projects Editor

August 31, 2008 — it was just two days before Courtney Rix was to begin her freshman year of college and her family had just found a place to live, mere weeks before they were to be kicked out of the home she grew up in.

Due to rising mortgage costs, coupled with the fact that her father was out of a job, the Rix's Shelby Township house became one of the more than 100,000 foreclosed in Michigan in 2008, according to **RealtyTrac.com**, a national online foreclosure information website.

Rix, the first in her family to attend college, had been accepted to and planned on attending the Lyman Briggs College at Michigan State University. But because of her family's financial difficulties she quickly came to terms with the fact that MSU wouldn't be in her future.

Instead, Rix decided that she would go to Oakland University. Rather than living in MSU's dorms, she would be living at home — in a Rochester Hills townhouse where she shares a bedroom with her 10-year-old sister.

"I'm still kind of getting used to this new environment; I'm still not used to this whole thing," Rix said. "It has been a really stressful period."

Rix's story is not unique. Most people aren't losing their houses, but due to the current status of the credit market and the financial "crisis," many people are losing money in investments, access to loans, and sleep and peace of mind.

But what does this mean for you, a student attending OU? And what does it mean for OU itself?

Student loans jeopardized?

Fortunately for Rix, upon enrolling at OU, she received a federal grant that covered most of her tuition. The remaining balance was covered by a scholarship.

However, for students around the country who don't receive scholarships or qualify for grants, college may be just a little harder to attend in the coming months.

While federally funded loans will most likely not be affected by the recent credit developments, according to Ron Tracy, Ph.D., OU's associate dean of the School of Business Administration, future loans



RICHARD DREW/Associated Press
A board at the New York Stock Exchange shows the closing number for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Tuesday, Oct. 7. Oakland University experts say that when the misery worsens on Wall Street, the OU community could eventually feel the pain. The Dow Jones industrials suffered two-day loss of more than 875 points, amid escalating worries about credit markets and financial sector.

from private lenders may be jeopardized.

Because of the current state of the credit market, banks and private lenders such as Sallie Mae and Citibank may be less willing to lend money, which could have a direct impact on both current and prospective college students.

"The big issue is future loans because the credit market right now is so tight," Tracy said. "That's the whole reason for this [bailout] — to go and bring liquidity and confidence back to the credit market. That can certainly affect future student loans."

Mohan Tanniru, dean of the SBA, agreed with his colleague, saying that there are potentially significant ramifications for students.

"Most of our education system today doesn't depend on paying through cash. Most of the time people don't have that kind of money, so that means they have to take a loan," Tanniru said. "If they have trouble getting a loan, or it comes

with a high interest rate ... it may mean that a potential student might have to delay their education, or have to choose a cheaper alternative."

However, Tracy believes that if the student loan industry was adversely affected in the near future, the federal government would intervene and use "more of its borrowing power against it to guarantee student loans."

According to Cindy Hermesen, Oakland's director of financial aid, OU students have not experienced any negative affects with regard to private lenders. Hermesen said that the financial aid office has always cautioned students about taking loans from private lenders, and that only a small percent of enrolled students have them.

While a large number of students rely on student loans, many depend on their parents for their education funding. But the economic crisis is whittling away jobs and savings.

In the case that a student's family experiences "a significant change in financial circumstances which is beyond their control," Hermesen recommends filling out an unusual circumstances form, which are available in OU's financial aid website.

University fund raising

The current state of the credit market will almost certainly have an effect on the university itself.

OU relies on fund raising and endowments — funds or property donated to an institution to be invested — for a number of purposes, including building and facility renovations, student scholarships and faculty positions.

According to John Beaghan, OU's vice president of finance and administration, while university endowments have taken a bit of a hit this year, it had little impact on OU's current operations.

"We've lost some money in endowment investments that were invested in equity," Beaghan said. "But these are long-term investments that will turn around. In the end, they will out earn other types of investments."

Tracy echoed Beaghan's sentiments. "There's little doubt in my mind that endowments across the country have gone down. But I don't foresee any lasting affects because, in the long term, the stock market has been a very good place to put it," he said. "What's always the problem is if you have to take your money out during this downswing — not if you can wait it out."

And ultimately, as it is with most university endowments, safeguards are put into place to help guard against any long-term, negative effects that an economic downturn may have.

While long-term investments may be relatively safe, continuing to bring in money may prove difficult in such an economic climate.

"A lot of donors suddenly saw a lot of their money evaporate ... which [may cause them] to delay their decision to contribute to a charitable cause, like endowments, student scholarships and things of that nature," Tanniru said.

However, according to OU's Vice President of University Relations Susan Davies Goepp, who is also in charge of the university's fund raising, the state of the economy has had little impact on the

university's ability to raise funds. Goepf also said that she doesn't foresee any significant drops either.

"We've looked at the history of economic downturns and have learned that there has still been growth in fund raising in the United States, especially in higher education," Goepf said. "People want to invest in the future and they know that even though it's an economic downturn, we need an educated public."

Certain uncertainty

While there is no precise way to predict the outcome of the country's current financial downturn — how long it will last, when things may begin to turn around — Tracy and Tanniru, along with the majority of economists, agree that it may take time.

Tracy said he expects the country to fall into a year-long recession, beginning sometime this quarter, which will directly affect the job market for everyone.

Though Tanniru is a bit more optimistic when it comes to a possible timetable, he hopes to see an upturn by mid 2009. He also believes that the biggest effect on students will be their ability to find a job.

"Well, obviously, the biggest problem for [students] is employment. And until the [economic] and employment situation improves, there's going to be some uncertainty," Tanniru said.

Just last month alone, the government reported that 159,000 jobs were lost.

There are also student concerns about whether taxpayers will have to foot the bill for the \$840 billion bailout package.

According to Tracy, there are several ways the government could handle the bailout's steep price tag. It could print more money, raise taxes, or borrow it, which Tracy says is the likely solution.

There is, however, a small chance that, if it is successful, the bailout could lead to a profit for the government, in which case, taxpayers would not be burdened with the bill.

"This is a little different from what the government usually spends money on, because here they're spending money on an asset," said Tracy. "They aren't buy-

ing a bridge or [constructing] a building, they're buying something that can be sold. So there is a decent chance that this won't cost very much. It could actually make money. ... There is a risk, but it shouldn't be a horrible risk."

The bigger concern for Tracy is whether or not the government's bailout plan will remedy the credit crisis.

"I'm not 100 percent sure it will fix the problem," he said. "And that's the bigger problem, to do it and then find out six months from now that it wasn't sufficient and doesn't fix things."

However, Tracy does concede that action was needed.

"This is a major issue, there's no

question about it. Without addressing it, this is the kind of thing that can send the economy into a tailspin," Tracy said, careful not to use the term "depression."

It seems at a time like this, the only thing anyone is sure of is uncertainty.

"This is a major issue, there's no question about it. Without addressing it, this is the kind of thing that can send the economy into a tailspin."

— Ron Tracy, associate dean of the School of Business Administration

The Bailout Breakdown

The series of events leading up to the nation's current financial situation.

SEPT. 15 — Lehman Brothers, a global financial services firm, files bankruptcy, the largest failure of an investment bank in 18 years.

SEPT. 29 — United States lawmakers reject a \$700 billion bailout plan for the financial industry.

OCT. 4 — President George W. Bush signs a \$700 billion financial bailout package shortly after the U.S. House passes the revised rescue measure.

OCT. 6-7 — Following the passage of the government's revised bailout plan, the Dow Jones industrials suffered a two-day loss of more than 875 points.

2008-09 Lecture Series



The Honorable MADELEINE ALBRIGHT Former U.S. Secretary of State

The first female U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright served as a part of the Bill Clinton administration from 1997 until the end of his term in 2001. She also served as the Ambassador of the United States to the United Nations from 1993 until 1997. Renowned during her time in office for her courage and her straightforward "tell it like it is" personality, Albright offers audiences a unique, no-holds-barred account of service at the highest level of American government.

Speaking with humor, insight and eloquence, Albright will share moments from her career and her life as a refugee girl who rose to become the world's most powerful woman. Sketching a vivid portrait of her time as the Secretary of State, she'll offer candid descriptions of foreign leaders that she encountered throughout the world. Albright will also explore America's role in the larger global community, and share her perspective on current regional conflicts, the future of democracy and the challenges of ensuring security while building peace.

Tuesday, October 14, 2008

7 p.m. in the O'rena at the Recreation and Athletics Center

Tickets for this lecture are \$20 for the general public and free to Oakland University students, faculty and staff. Tickets for the general public are available at the Center for Student Activities Service Window, 49 Oakland Center, and through Ticketmaster outlets. Free student, faculty and staff tickets are available exclusively at the CSA Service Window. Tickets will also be available at the door the night of the event, if not sold out.

The Oakland Center is located on the main campus of Oakland University, one mile east of I-75 off the University Drive exit. Free parking is available in lot P-1.

For more information about this program, or to request special assistance with attending this lecture, please call the Center for Student Activities at (248) 370-2400. Additional information can also be found on Oakland University's Web site at www.oakland.edu/csa.

This program is co-sponsored with the Office of the Senior Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Provost and is the 2008 Varner Vitality Seminar.



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Presented by OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S Student Life Lecture Board

Res halls to be watched

OUPD: Security cameras are part of residence hall safety

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

Oakland University has made a concerted effort over the past year to make its residence halls safer, and they are not done yet.

The installation of security cameras around campus residence halls started last week, and is expected to be up and running by the end of October.

These closed-circuit television cameras are being placed at the entrances and public lobby areas of the residence halls, but not the student apartments.

According to director of housing Lionel Maten and Oakland University Police Department's administrative lieutenant Mark Gordon, no cameras will be placed on the floors where the students live. Maten said cameras will also be placed in Hamlin Hall's computer lab to protect the \$37,000 in merchandise there.

These cameras will not only enable OUPD to monitor these places through an Internet-based live feed, but also allow OUPD to go back and review the event because the cameras record continually in a Digital Video Recorded format, Gordon said. He added that OUPD will only review past recordings if an instance occurs that needs investigating, and that the videos will not be kept for more than 90 days because of university policies. Maten said the videos will be accessible only to OUPD and assistant director of housing David Tindall.

Gordon said there were many benefits of having these cameras in place.

"In a criminal event, it will give us a chance to review what happened," he said. "This surveying tool is a very good tool."

He said the cameras can serve as a preventative method as well.

"If people know there are these cameras in place, it works as a crime-deterrent effect," he said.

Another way the cameras can be used is to monitor locations on a live basis. Gordon said since there are many closed-circuit TV cameras on campus (in parking lots, the Oakland Center, the Recreation Center, computer labs, and other places), OUPD can't monitor them all at the

same time, but it is possible for them to cycle back to the cameras in residence halls periodically and monitor them.

"[Being able to monitor camera feeds live] can be helpful if there's a special event going on in one of those places, so we can keep an eye on them as it happens," Gordon said.

Maten said these cameras are part of a ten-year capital asset management plan that OU housing initiated two years ago. "The first layer [of the plan] is maintaining the facility's infrastructure," Maten said. He said this included things like upgrading elevators over the summer.

"There is also a second layer... the cosmetic improvements," he said. He said such projects included furniture and carpet replacements done over the summer, as well as adding some bike racks.

Maten said OU housing works with resident students for these things, and some students asked for security cameras.

Gordon said OUPD received the request from housing for these cameras in May and that they've been planning the logistics of it since.

Another part of the security upgrades of residence halls is the card-reader access system that

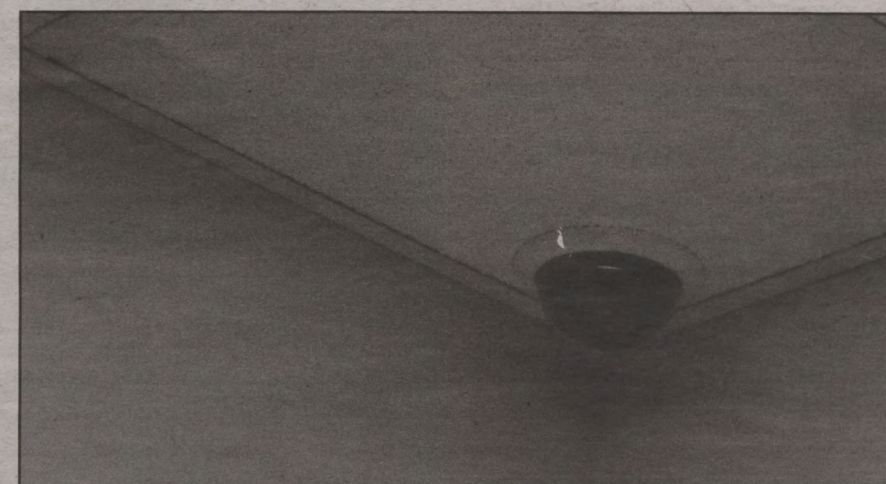
started this semester. For the first time at OU, going up to the residence floors of Hamlin Hall and the Vandenberg Halls require students to swipe their Grizz ID cards on the card-readers.

Maten said only students who live in the dorms will be able to go up to the residence floors, but no ID is required to enter the public areas, such as classrooms and lobbies, except after 8 p.m. He also said students who live in Hamlin can go to the residence halls in Vandenberg, and vice versa.

If the doors to the residence halls are kept open 20 seconds, an alarm goes off that doesn't turn off until someone shuts the doors.

Maten said this is standard and neces-

"Don't think of it like Big Brother. It's just helping with the investigations."



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Security cameras like the one above will soon be installed near the entrances and in the main lobby area of all residence, but not the Student Apartments.

sary because if someone were to prop a door open, the point of having the system would be rendered useless.

Maten also said that housing keeps a database of whose ID is used to open

doors and when, but that the database will only be given to OUPD if they ask for it for an investigation.

"Don't think of it like Big Brother," Maten said. "It's just helping with investigations."

The card-reader access system has not yet been placed in the other dorms or student apartments on campus, but Maten said that housing's goal is to eventually install the system in all of them. He said he preferred a phased approach because the economic burden is less on the students this way. He said they also plan to put security cameras in student apartments in the future.

"I believe staging this over several years is a better option because it's cheaper for the students," Maten said.

He said the card-reader access system cost about \$50,000 and the security cam-

eras in residence halls will cost about \$100,000, but none of this money came from OU's governmental funding or student tuitions.

OU housing is an auxiliary system, and separate from the rest of OU, meaning that it runs on a separate budget from OU's academic facilities, Maten said. Although OU housing needs the OU board of trustees approval for actions, OU housing doesn't receive any federal or state funding, nor does it receive any money from student tuitions. He said OU housing funds come only from rooming and boarding payments of resident students.

Most students The Oakland Post spoke with supported the security measures.

However, some students like Marie Fisher-Dowell, did wonder why it took so long to get these security measures in place.

"Really, these kinds of things should've been here in the first place," Fisher-Dowell said. "When [OU housing] first [built the buildings], these are the first things they should've done."

Like most, freshman Kaneisha Brown, agreed that this will improve security at OU and makes them feel safer.

"I'm glad the security can look at [the video recordings] if something happens," Brown said.

Day of retreat for those with autism

By BRANDY FREY
Contributing Reporter

Raising a child with autism can be difficult, but for one day in early October, parents and children suffering from this difficult condition had a chance to have and meet others with the same struggles.

Oakland University's Center for Autism Research, Education and Support put on Family Fun Day in the Rec Center on Saturday, Oct. 4. It was an event for people with autism and their families.

There were several activities for the families in attendance, including swimming, art therapy, a fun and games room, a caricature artist, and a sensory station. Janet Graetz is an assistant professor at OU and part of the OUCARES program. She said the purpose of the events was to provide an opportunity for autistic children and their families to network with those in similar situations.

"The family can come and have an opportunity to get information on resources that are in the community," Graetz said. "The second thing is to have

a great fun day with your kids and to be able to have them in a safe environment where there are appropriate activities that are geared toward an individual with autism. The third thing is the parents get to talk with other families who have a child with autism as well."

Magda Girao, an occupational therapist for the Kaufman Center, said people with autism "can't screen out stimuli." This becomes "overwhelming," and the children can't focus or could become "so overwhelmed they shut down."

The goal of occupational therapy, according to Girao, is to "bring [the autistic children] to the middle."

"Most of the autistic kids are so intelligent and that gets missed because of their motor deficits and their inability to interpret sensory information," she said.

At the art station, run by Anne Geraldes, the children made family trees. Art therapy, according to Geraldes "provides help with sensory issues, motor skills and socialization. It is also a good way for parents to interact with their child." In addition, "Art therapy provides an outlet of expression."

The sensory station was sponsored by the Kaufman Center of West Bloomfield. The sensory station had an obstacle course, a medicine ball race, a balance walk, a "crash and bump" station, and a fine motor skills station where there was playdough. The sensory station offered a wide variety of activities that help train the children to overcome various sensory deficiencies.

There was a fun and games station where there were five inflatables for the kids to play on, donated by Pump It Up. "Kids with autism love to bounce, love that feeling of movement in their bodies," Graetz said.

The event was very family oriented. One mother, Diane, brought both her sons, one who is autistic and one who is not, because she wanted her son Nick "to see other families that deal with [an autistic member of the family]."

A group of adults from a semi-independent living community in Shelby Township called Creative Care also appeared. Lisa Martindale, a manager of the facility, works with autistic people from childhood to adulthood.

"To see [autistic people] as children and go to adults that can function on their own, its amazing to see," Martindale said.

OUCARES provides an "all around enrichment" according to Geraldes. The program, according to Graetz, "covers the activities that we always had in place but now it also covers the education and research aspect as well."

Graetz is involved in the education, the teaching aspect. "I teach graduate students who are seeking their endorsement in autism, and then also I'm involved in research in autism," she said.

Volunteers were a big part of the program. There are many volunteer opportunities for OUCARES. Geraldes, the teacher of the art therapy session, said that art education students at OU volunteered in her part of the program, as well as high school students doing community service. Some of the volunteers were from the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity. Those interested in volunteering for OUCARES can contact them at www.oakland.edu/oucaries.

Week of Champions at Oakland University

WOCCOU 2008

Marvelyn Brown

Emmy Award Winner and AIDS activist.

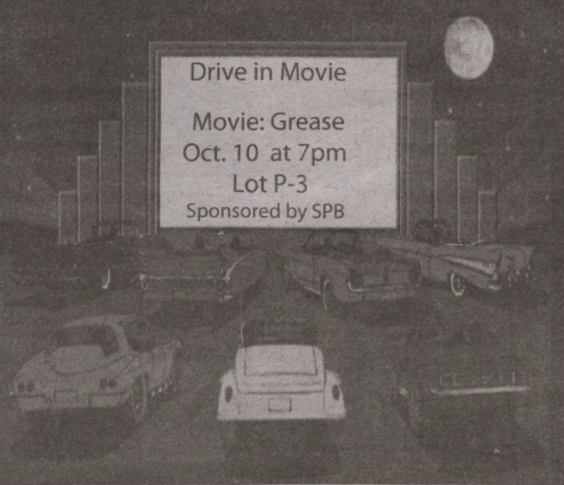
Oct. 9 at 7pm
in the Gold Rooms



the naked truth
marvelyn brown

Drive in Movie

Movie: Grease
Oct. 10 at 7pm
Lot P-3
Sponsored by SPB



WOCCOU WILL
ROCK U!!!

October 13 - 17

for a list
of events:
www.oakland.edu/csa

POLICEFILES

On Oct. 1 OUPD responded to a report in the University Student Apartments of a strong odor of marijuana that required a fan to clear the air. A smoking pipe was found at the scene but the owner was not discovered. It was field tested for marijuana and found positive.

OUPD responded to a fire alarm in North Hamlin Hall on Oct. 2. A student reported that they had burnt a package of Easy Mac in the microwave. Auburn Hill Fire Department arrived and cleared the scene.

On Oct. 4, OUPD were dispatched to the basement of the Oakland Center where

many items were reported tipped over or thrown. The items in disarray included chairs, tables, advertising signs and a newspaper bin, stretching from the lower landing of the stairway to Bumpers Game Room. A surveillance video of the scene will be reviewed.

OUPD responded to a student's complaint on Oct. 5. The student reported that when they parked their vehicle in the P-5 parking lot, it had a quarter tank of gas in it. When the student returned, however, the gas gauge read empty. Police checked on and around the vehicle for signs of gas but none were present.

Oakland gets \$40 million from state

OU to use state money for building for Health Science, Nursing

By SHELLY LATSHAW
Staff Reporter

Oakland University will receive \$40 million in state funding to build a new human health building that will house the School of Health Science and the School of Nursing.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law a bill passed by the Michigan Legislature appropriating funds for university projects.

The state funding for OU's proposed human health building was originally omitted from Granholm's list of recommended universities.

Through the efforts of lobbyists and lawmakers, OU was able to obtain a share of the state's \$220 million for university project funding.

Professor Richard Stamps, a mem-

ber of OU's Campus Development and Environment Committee, hails the state's funds as a step toward expanding healthcare education. Enrollment in OU's SHS increased 14 percent from last year along with an increase of 12 percent in the SON.

"The enrollment growth has placed great stress on lab and teaching space," Stamps said. "Some of us are sharing labs in ways that are not conducive to the most productive research."

The new human health building proposal calls for a 157,300 square-foot building that will accommodate both the SHS and SON, and will cost \$61 billion. Plans for the new building include interactive media and simulation labs as well as a public health clinic for hands-on student training.

The Michigan State Medical Society

reports an expected 38 percent of state physicians to retire by the year 2020, contributing to a shortage of doctors.

Melanie Brim, director of the Bureau of Health Professions in the Department of Community Health has cited the general aging of the state's population as another reason for the shortage as doctors, nurses and medical professionals are reaching the age of retirement.

"One role of the university is to respond to the needs of the citizens who support us," Stamps said. "With an aging population there is increased need for health care."

With plans still in its infancy, the location of the new human health building has not been determined. Dr. Fay Hansen, associate professor of biological sciences and member of the Campus Development and Environment

Committee, said that while the administration is considering whether or not to locate the new building with the new Oakland University William Beaumont School on Medicine slated for 2010, the corner of Walton and Adams roads has also been discussed.

The new Human Health building will provide OU students with advanced resources and research opportunities in health professions while designating the university as a leader in the health education field.

The community and the state will also benefit as newly trained graduates enter the medical professional fields, which will help to combat the impending shortages in the state's health care field.

"The question is not why do we need the space now," Stamps said, "we have needed it for several years."

Threat in bathroom lead to first usage of OUPD text messaging alert system

By SEAN GARNER
Campus Editor

The Oakland University Police Department was notified of a threatening statement written on a bathroom wall in South Foundation Hall on Oct. 1.

OUPD responded to the threat by sending a text message alert warning to students and faculty of the threat. It was the first non-test alert sent since the program was implemented this summer.

OUPD Chief Sam Lucido said the threat was "very vague," and there is no apparent reason for students to be overly concerned. He said the text alert was simply an attempt by OUPD to be more proactive with threats than they may have been in the past.

"In keeping with our more refined way of doing things when these kinds of issues come up, we're going to better err on the side of safety and security," Lucido said. "It is also part of our new and continued effort to keep our community informed."

OUPD Lieutenant Mel Gilroy said the threat was brought to the police's attention by a student who reported the threat by phone.

OUPD then dispatched police officers to the building where the threat was made.

It was not long before the text alert was sent out to those who signed up for the alert system.

"The whole thing was handled within minutes," Gilroy said. "Once our officers arrived they determined the nature and seriousness of the threat, and then we decided to alert the community. It was all done very quickly."

Lucido maintained that the threats are in no apparent way connected to the threat that caused OU to close campus for two days in April.

Former student Tory Dantuma later made a similar threat to the one that closed OU, pled guilty to a misdemeanor.

According to Lucido, there was no serious consideration given to closing the campus or canceling classes once again.

"Just a few years ago, with something like this, we probably wouldn't have made an announcement," Lucido said. "University campuses across the country are now much more open in terms of providing information to the campus community even if the

information is limited like it was [Wednesday]."

In keeping with standard operating procedure, OUPD did not initially release specific details about the most recent case such as the exact location of the threat or its exact language.

Gilroy said OUPD do not release this type of information until charges are filed, and the same procedure was followed in the Dantuma case.

Lucido also said they currently have no suspects or leads.

"When it goes to the court and becomes part of a public process, that's when we release more of that type of information."

Gilroy said that in the future, alerting students and faculty in a similarly urgent manner to the text message will not only be a priority, it will be a necessity.

"We've gotten to the point where releasing information to the campus community as soon as we can is pretty much mandatory," Gilroy said. "There are laws in place that pretty much require us to get this information out to the students whenever a threat like this is made, even if it is not all that serious."



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Coming Out

Melissa Pope, director of victim services at Triangle Foundation, speaks about gay Wyoming college student Mathew Shephard on the 10th anniversary of his murder on Monday, Oct. 6. OU's Gender and Sexuality Center is hosting different events this week in celebration of National Coming Out Week.

Chaldeans discuss Assyrian persecution

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

With similar cultures and similar faiths, a number of Chaldean students at Oakland University are empathetic to the struggles of Assyrians in Iraq.

The showing of the documentary film "My Assyrian Nation on the Edge" last Wednesday sparked a lively discussion among student attendees.

The event was sponsored by OU's Chaldean American Student Association to raise awareness about the persecution of the Assyrians in Iraq and took place at noon at the Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center.

The half-hour film showed the testimony made to the United States Congress on June 30, 2006 by actress, filmmaker and activist Rosie Malek-Yonan, interspersed with graphic images of bombed Assyrian churches in Iraq and Assyrians victims of violence.

In her testimony, she highlighted the "genocide" and persecution the Assyrians had been suffering since 2003 after the U.S. invaded Iraq.

Malek-Yonan's testimony eventually led to the Congress allocating \$10 million to help the Assyrians in Iraq in July 2007.

The Assyrians are an ethnic minority

group mainly in Iraq and surrounding countries. When asked why a Chaldean organization is hosting an event raising awareness about the plight of the Assyrian people, Chaldean members of CASA said they don't see themselves as too different from the Assyrians.

"To me, the only difference is that they speak a different language than I do," Sara Alsakka said. She said she's a Chaldean born in Iraq and that her parents left Iraq as refugees when she was 9 years old.

Lawrence Mansour, vice president of CASA, said another difference between Assyrians and Chaldeans is the sect of Christianity they practice. Chaldeans practice Chaldean Catholicism, while Assyrians practice different sects, including Orthodox.

The majority of both populations live in Iraq, where most people are members of the Shiite sect of Islam. Many Assyrians and Chaldeans have been displaced and otherwise persecuted following the war in Iraq in 2003. Mansour

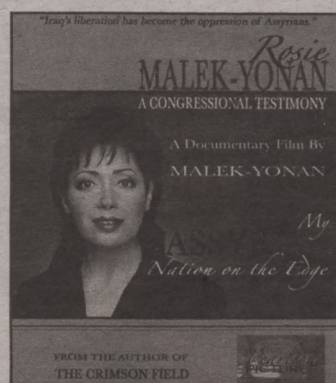


Photo Courtesy of Pearlida Pictures
"My Assyrian Nation on the Edge" provoked discussion at OU last week.

said most Assyrian refugees in the U.S. are concentrated in Chicago, while most Chaldeans are in the Detroit area.

After the film, Mansour and Ranna Mikha, president of CASA, told the people in the audience what had been happening to Assyrians in Iraq after Malek-Yonan's testimony in 2006.

Mikha said she was astonished that America only took in 13,000 Iraqi refugees while Sweden, which had no role in the war in Iraq, took in 40,000 refugees. She also denounced the continued persecution of the Assyrians in Iraq. Mansour estimated that there are currently 200,000 displaced refugees in need of a home.

Mansour said that he was concerned for the rights of the Christian minority in Iraq because the week before, Iraq eliminated the Christian representation in the Iraqi parliament.

In an interview after the event, a female student who identified herself

as Muslim said she objected to the film because of its "unfair" portrayal of Muslims.

"It seemed like the purpose of the film is to blame Islam for the violence done by people who happened to be Muslim," she said. "I would also put Muslim in quotations because I don't know any Muslims that would condone these acts."

In her testimony, Malek-Yonan quoted the following much-contested verse that many call "the Verse of the Sword" from the Islamic holy book Quran: "Fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them; seize them, beleaguer them and lie in wait for them in every stratagem of war."

During the public discussion, Mikha responded to a question from student Chris Dine by stressing that this event was not to blame Islam.

"The purpose of this is not meant to target Islam or Muslims. We only want to raise awareness about the persecution of the Christians in Iraq," she said.

The female Muslim student, who did not want her name published, also wondered what the U.S. government could do for the Assyrians.

"There are genocides going on everywhere in Darfur and in other places," she said. "And everyone is asking for America's help."

Entrepreneurship minor open to students of all majors

New program teaches students how to run their own business

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's School of Business Administration began one of its newest programs with the knowledge that businesspeople are not the only ones to start their own businesses.

Some students aspire to take the knowledge they gain in school and use it to start their own company.

However, a student not currently majoring in business who intends to start his or her own business may not know where to start.

That's what OU's minor program in entrepreneurship has been teaching since last year, and the program has just produced its first graduate.

The program is open to students of every discipline, and Wayne Blizman, who created the entrepreneurship minor with former business school Dean Jonathan Fiberman, says the minor can

be an excellent complement for business and non-business majors alike.

Blizman, who also teaches of one of the classes, Foundations of Entrepreneurship, ENT 300, said that the program would benefit non-business students who would like to make a living off of their chosen field of study. For instance, a dance major who was not interested in performing for a living could learn the tools needed to open their own studio.

The minor contains a total of six, three-credit courses. The classes also include concepts like "Creativity and Innovation," which is taught by psychology professor Cynthia Sifonis.

The program finishes with a Capstone course that focuses on incorporating all the elements together.

The idea for the minor came about when Blizman spoke to Fiberman, who believed that there was a need for such a program, and saw other universities

starting similar programs.

"Look what's going on in the Detroit area. Look at the automotive companies and suppliers laying off employees. People [who have been laid off] say 'why don't I just start my own business?'" Blizman said.

Blizman also pointed out that every business had to start somewhere.

"Bill Gates started out as an entrepreneur. Steve Jobs started out as an entrepreneur. Ford Motors was started by Henry Ford. He was an entrepreneur. If you think about it, almost every company was started by an entrepreneur," he said.

Blizman said that one of his goals is to expand the visibility of the program throughout OU. He said that student reaction so far has been positive, and most students who took the first course later decided to continue with the minor.

One student is Brennon Edwards, a senior public administration major who began taking the entrepreneurship

minor courses last winter.

"So far I've taken only the introductory course, but it was amazing," Edwards said.

Edwards said he is taking the minor to help him run a company with his twin brother, Alonzo.

In their company, Fraternal Easels, Edwards manages the business side of the company while his brother creates paintings that they sell.

Edwards is currently working on a business plan for Fraternal Easels as he prepares to graduate.

Edwards said that he's learned a great deal about managing a company from meeting with entrepreneurs who come in to assist in teaching the classes.

"One of the entrepreneurs ... took my business with my brother and saw a lot of potential in it," Edwards said. "It was so good that after almost every class, I'd call my brother and tell him the ideas I'd learned."

First 'Brooksie Way' triumphs

Thousands of area runners participate in the inaugural event

By KATELYN STANIS
Contributing Reporter

An estimated 4,000 people participated in the first Brooksie Way Half Marathon and 5K Race/Walk last Sunday, in Rochester Hills. The races began at the corner of Walton and Adams at 8 a.m. and ended at the Meadow Brook Hall.

Named in the memory of Brooks "Brooksie" Stuart Patterson, the son of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, the race gathered more runners than expected.

According to Patterson, the event was only expected to host 1,000 participants and four times that came out for the event. Patterson said most of the participation was derived through word of mouth and the association people had with his son who wanted to show their support.

"It started out as a quality of life event in Oakland County," Patterson said.

His daughter-in-law and grandchildren participated in the event and Patterson said they were all extremely proud of and excited about the race.

The music of Jackson Browne's "Running on Empty" played as runners and walkers began the half-marathon and 5K race. The Brooksie Way was created to promote healthy and active lifestyles for Oakland County residents.

Citizens Bank employees volunteered at the event by setting up and maintaining water stations. The employees wanted to be involved with a wellness awareness program, especially with the youth of today not always being active.

"Play games with your arms and legs and not your fingers so much," said Bob Peterson, Auburn Hills branch manager.

Medical teams stood by to provide medical assistance if needed. Exhaustion and dehydration are the main health risks associated for participants in races said the POH medical team — Dr. Todd Brown, Dr. Maybel Chu and Dr. Mike Remley.

"Health and fitness is something that the American population in general needs to focus on," Remley said. "Diabetes and high blood pressure are diseases exercise can help take care of."

The Oakland County Police Department helped to block off streets

and maintain security and safety around the event.

Sheriff Michael Bouchard said he thinks Oakland County is working to create a community that is aware of and active in health and fitness.

"We have built athletic facilities in buildings like the main jail and administration headquarters," Bouchard said.

Bouchard said through wellness incentive programs at work, employees who pledge to exercise are eligible for a \$100 credit card.

To fight against youth obesity, Bouchard said getting more wellness programs into schools is fundamental.

Todd and Beth Delano with their toddler daughter Annabella heard about the event from friends who knew Brooksie and decided to make the 5K a family event.

"Annabella was ready. She woke up this morning and asked, 'Which team am I on?'" Beth Delano said.

As a teacher in the Oxford School District, Delano is familiar with the rising issue of child obesity and said she and her husband are always playing with Annabella in the yard and trying to be an active family.

Scott Stanto was both a participant and training leader in The Brooksie Way. After undergoing three knee surgeries and one knee replacement, Stanto said he loves being involved in the race.

As training leader, Stanto prepared participants for the race by gradually walking up to ten miles.

Judy Marvin got involved with Crim Fitness Foundation, the co-sponsor of The Brooksie Way, when she retired.

"You set your own pace and own goal," said Marvin. "It's just wonderful."

Along with runners, four handcyclists participated in a half marathon race.

Fourteen year old Adam Rose and has completed 18 races as a hand cyclist since he began competing at age 12. He took first place with a time of 1:01:33.

"I saw a hand cyclist at a Crim race my dad was in," Rose said.

His father Don Rose said, "I said to



KATELYN STANIS/The Oakland Post
Water and sports drinks were available (top left) in large quantities to runners like Tracy Rizer (top right). Rizer and other runners were handed foil at the end of long races in order to prevent the body from losing heat too rapidly. Hanson's/Brook's runners Brian Sell and Mike Killburg (bottom) finished second and fourth respectively in the half marathon.

See "Brooksie" on page 13

Continued from page 12

BROOKSIE

Adam, 'Someday you'll be doing that.'

Don Rose has been participating in recreational running for 30 years.

"Anyone can do a 5K walk. You just have to get out and do it," Rose said. "If someone can do it with hands, someone can get out and do it with feet."

Patterson also said that proceeds will be divided between the Crim Fitness Foundation and the Brooksie Foundation. The Brooksie Foundation will use the money to make grants for local health programs.

Friends Craig Fitzpatrick and Steve Zagacki utilized the Brooksie Way Half Marathon as a training marathon. The two have competed in both the Detroit and Boston marathons.

They mutually agreed the Brooksie Way course was tough and it was good for training. Fitzpatrick and Zagacki tried to concentrate on their pace and heart rate until they reached the finish line.

Tracy Rizer and Leah Scharl had participated in other half marathons and agreed the Brooksie Way was challenging with its gradual hills and scenic wooded areas with the nice trails.

"My only complaint would be that the race did not start on time," Rizer said. She said the race was scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and took off at about 8:15 a.m.

Steve Huber, marketing and communications supervisor for Oakland County's Department of Economic Development and Community Affairs, said other minor issues occurred.

"There were some residents who were disappointed that their ability to move

freely on a Sunday morning was interrupted," Huber said. "We distributed 20,000 cards in the neighborhoods telling residents the race was coming but apparently the message did not get out to everyone."

Huber said one resident decided to volunteer and help with the race when he realized he would be unable to get out of his subdivision.

"We hope more people like him embrace the race and see it as a positive for the community," Huiber said.

David Levett ran the 5K and felt the race was short.

"I was surprised with my time but the course seemed a little short," Levett said.

He said a fellow runner had a GPS while running and the system did not match the course. Huber later confirmed that the course was shortened.

"There was a minor problem on the 5K race," Huber said. "The driver leading the race took a wrong turn at one point and the race was shortened by about a fifth of a mile. It was a mistake and we apologize for that."

Huber said committees will be meeting to discuss the race plan, preparation and execution and what can be done to improve the race for next year.

"We expect next year's race will be bigger and better than the inaugural year."

Whole Foods Market got involved at the finish line to promote a healthy lifestyle with all natural food options.

Other businesses were involved like CVS Pharmacy who set up a stand on the corner of Adams and Walton with cider, doughnuts and health information regarding the cold and flu.

"We work for the community," said Wendy Kniffen, CVS manager. "It's nice to see positive things going on in Michigan."

Leading the 'Way'

First Brooksie Way Half Marathon/5k run results

Half Marathon Men — Top 5

Patrick Rizzo 1:08:19
Brian Sell 1:08:19
Kyle O'Brian 1:08:19
Mike Kilburg 1:08:20
Leo Foley 1:11:25

5K Men — Top 5

Douglas Richards 14:32
Christopher Burns 15:16
Rob Basydlo 16:33
Alexander Tuttle 17:09
Terry Carmean 17:12

Half Marathon Women — Top 5

Ashley Anderson 1:22:01
Lisa Veneziano 1:26:07
Dori Downey 1:29:18
Caryn Maxwell 1:29:18
Deanna Skelcy 1:30:18

5K Women — Top 5

Gabrielle Thivierge 18:31
Jeanine McCloskey 19:06
Karen Donoughe 19:49
Maria Gerlando 20:05
Julie Winger 20:19

Fun and food for all during the fall season

Yates Cider Mill ready to entertain fall activity enthusiast once again

By CAITLIN CALLAGHAN
Contributing Reporter

As the leaves begin to change and the weather becomes crisp and cool, the mind of the college student turns to fall activities for the weekend, perhaps for a break from the grind of classes.

Autumn summons the arrival of the annual draw of the cider mill apples, but what cider mills are close to Oakland University? And just what do they offer beside the alluring drink of tangy cider and the sugary goodness of doughnuts that go hand-in-hand with the traditional fall drink?

Yates Cider Mill is one such local mill in Rochester Hills on Avon Road. The historical cider mill, built in 1863, offers all of the usual cider mill attractions. A cup of cider is just \$2.75 and the must-have accompanying donuts are just 60 cents each, very affordable for cost-conscious college student.

Besides cider and doughnuts, Yates offers other apple-related baked goods including apple pies, apple crisps, apple turnovers and caramel apples. Visitors can also see the cider press and watch apple cider being made.

The half-hour tours of the mill are scheduled Wednesday through Friday and must be booked in advance.

Yates' website, yatescidermill.com, describes the tour as "a short movie that highlights some behind-the-scenes operations at the cider mill. Each group also has the opportunity to watch the cider being pressed. See the cider being made, taste it fresh from our press to you. The tour ends with a donut and a small jug of apple cider for each person!"

A nature path lined with trees and falling leaves winds off to the right as you walk up a hill to the mill. This is the perfect place to go for a stroll as you munch on doughnuts and sip cider.

The tranquility of nature provides a nice diversion from the frantic rush of driving, work and classes. The Clinton River rushes alongside the trail, winding its way through the trees.

The comfortable fall weather combined with the beauty of nature is a big draw for most people who go to the cider mill, especially people with pets. Debbie Osten for instance, brought her

dog along.

"I come because of the weather, and it's dog friendly here. You are able to walk out in the nature, have the doughnuts and cider. It's altogether a nice afternoon," Osten said.

Outside, there is an ice-cream shop, for a cool treat to satisfy your sweet-tooth.

Yates also offers fudge from at their own Frankenmuth Fudge Shoppe. Visitors can watch fudge being made on the weekends outside in the fudge tent.

Muriel Ludwig, a worker at the mill who sells fudge, talked about her favorite flavors.

"I like the chocolate nut," Ludwig said. "The Turtle flavor is also good. It has both caramel and nuts in it."

Yates Cider Mill also sells a variety of apples outside in the apple tent, ranging from Gala to Granny Smith. They can be bought individually or in bags.

"The apples are all grown in Michigan, but they are not grown on our own orchards," said Brianna Peace, an employee of the mill.

The apples are grown for Yates by Jackson Brown Produce in Sparta, Michigan.

Also for sale are a number of apple related items, like apple butter and apple jam. Possibly the most unusual of these items is apple salsa.

"You eat the apple salsa like regular salsa. It's sweet at first, but then you do get a kick, but it's not too spicy," said Valerie Taylor, one of the managers at the mill.

For people bringing children, Yates offers several animal attractions on the weekends. There are chickens that can be fed and pony rides are also available on Saturdays and Sundays for \$4.

The fall weather, the beautiful nature, and the delicious food and fun attract cidergoers who visit Yates year after year.

Dave and Betty Haydu visit Yates each year with their three daughters.

"It was a beautiful day today so we decided to come, and we come every year," said Dave Haydu. "It became a tradition. It's a nice way to have fun and get out of the house to have the last hurrah of summer before fall starts."

Big life of a little apple

BY SHELLY LATSHAW
Staff Reporter

Touting one of the best ciders in the Metro-Detroit area is Blake's Farms, located in Armada. Started in 1946 by Gerald and Elisabeth Blake, the orchard was one of the first "pick your own" orchards in Michigan. They currently have three separate locations in Almont and Armada that include 500 acres of orchards and farmlands, a cider mill, a café, and family entertainment featuring train rides, pony rides, hayrides and cornfield mazes.

Blake's starts by growing a variety of orchard apples, up to 20 varieties throughout the year, ranging from sweet and crispy to tart and juicy. It is this mixture of sweet and tart that gives cider its unique taste. For apple cider, Blake's uses a blend of five different apples. It takes approximately 30 apples to make one gallon of cider.

I recently made a trip to visit Blake's Orchard and Cider Mill for a tutorial on the cider making process, and selfishly, to enjoy their fresh apple cider, caramel apples and homemade doughnuts. Here's the step by step, old-fashioned, but tried-and-true method of making this delicious cider!



First, boxes or bushels of apples are dumped onto a conveyer belt where they pass through the apple washer and sanitizer. One bushel of apples equals approximately 42 lbs.

The apple pulp
cloth" cider pr
in a fine cloth
cloth is then fo
and seeds, all



According to the Michigan Apple Committee, it takes six to 10 years for an apple seed to grow into a mature, fruit-bearing tree. In turn, each apple contains five carpels or seed sacs that form a five-point star shape; each carpel holds one to three seeds.



Next, the
move up
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pulp.

AN AMERICAN HERO

By **SHELLY LATSHAW**
Staff Reporter

The beginning of fall is heralded in by crisp, cool days amid the gold and red leaves that soon replace the greens of summer. Autumn celebrations are filled with hayrides, haunted houses and corn mazes as well as cider, doughnuts and pumpkin pies.

What most fall celebrations overlook is the birthday of America's legendary apple grower, Johnny Appleseed. Born on September 26, 1774, John Chapman was an

American pioneer nurseryman who introduced the apple to the Midwest.

Johnny Appleseed became an American icon; the popular image of him depicted Johnny spreading apple seeds everywhere he went. In actuality, he planted nurseries instead of orchards and sold the young apple trees to businesses such as cider mills and fruit markets. As part of the sales deal, Johnny asked for the apple seeds for free so he could continue to plant more apple trees.

— According to www.appleappetite.com



The pulp is then pumped onto a "rack and press" cider press. A large apple press board is covered with a cloth and filled with the ground apple pulp. The cloth is then folded over, which keeps in pieces of skin and seeds, allowing only the apple juice to drain.

The apple juice is then pumped into the bottle filler machine that pasteurizes the cider and fills it into the various half gallon and gallon bottles at a rate of 15 gallons per minute. The machine then caps the bottles and they are ready to purchase and enjoy.



Next, the apples move up the conveyor where they fall into the apple grinder, where they are ground into a fine pulp.

Another apple press board is then stacked on top of the previous one and the process is repeated again, up to four boards high. The weight of the filled boards creates pressure, which forces the apple juice to drain at an impressive 250 gallons per full press.

Photos by
SHELLY LATSHAW
The Oakland Post

Runner finds his 'way' at race

Why run a half marathon? One student found a simple answer

COLUMN

By **BRAD SLAZINSKI**
Contributing Reporter

While many were either sleeping in or waking up on Sunday Oct. 5, thousands of people were awake at 8 a.m. in Rochester Hills getting ready to run the Brooksie Way half marathon. I was one of those participants and I had a thought before I started this race — "why am I doing this?"

It was a challenge to see if I could finish my first race of over ten miles. People have various reasons for doing these things. Some use it to celebrate a change in their lifestyles, others see it as a unique challenge in their lives, and some do it to train for the Detroit Marathon. My goal was to finish and be able to live to tell about it.

Training for a half marathon was new to me. Whether I was at school or a job, training was a bit difficult due to time constraints — but I managed.

My serious training started in late August. Prior to that, I had just done some light running.

I would run around six to eight miles a day for a few weeks with only one day a week off. If I was pressed for time I would go at least four miles so I could still get a run in.

Around mid-September I started increasing the amount of miles I was running to ten. Running so far was difficult because my body wasn't used to it.

As September wore on, I found myself running ten miles more often. Then, in the week leading up to the Brooksie Way I started taking it easy.

That week I hit a snag when I pulled a calf muscle all because I simply stretched my legs. One moment I was watching a movie and I stretched out, the next it felt like someone took a baseball bat to the back of my leg.

I panicked mainly because, if it was bad, I wouldn't be able to run the Brooksie Way. I spent the rest of the day putting ice on the back of my leg and by the next day I felt better and was able to run.

Race day arrived and, while I looked forward to running my first half marathon, waking up at 6 a.m. wasn't the best thing in the world.

I arrived with about an hour to spare so I walked around trying to keep warm. Fortunately, it got warmer around race time and I was able to wear shorts.

Close to race time, I ran into some

friends of mine who have been runners for a while. One of them, Tara was running her second half marathon while my friend Josh was running his first. He also wanted a new challenge.

Anyone who has run a race of any distance that has large crowds will attest that the start can be very chaotic. The start of such races are bottlenecked and there are times when you get caught way too far back. You just want to get moving as quick as possible to avoid getting boxed in.

For those worried about time technology, no matter where you start, the clock will start as soon as your shoe — which has a chip tied to it — hits a mat fitted with the proper timing technology.

As I heard the word "go," I thought it was for the half marathon and as I cut across large groups of people I heard from the loud speakers that this start was for the 5k instead.

In frustration, I shook my head and stopped. A few minutes later, I heard the rules for the half marathon start and the standard "On your marks, set, go" roared over the crowd. I took off and, as soon as I hit the mat, my clock started.

The starts of races are weird especially if one hasn't raced in a long time.

For me it felt like a change of scenery, something new and exciting and different from my usual routine. For some experienced runners, it's just another day, another race.

The first part of the race started nicely — going right into the sun so we would be warm for a bit and going downhill for the first four and a half miles.

Running down Walton Road. I basically told myself that I am going to try and not get too excited so I won't tire out too early in the race. As I got to the Clinton River Trail which is surfaced with dirt, I remember thinking "my turf for now."

The whole trip through the trail was a flat, mostly straight path which was enjoyable and had great scenery.

At the sixth mile, I entered Paint Creek Trail, a place that I was familiar with having lived near it for a long time.

The race started going uphill, but only slightly. Hoping that this was temporary, I took it easy in hopes that there would be plenty of downhill to enjoy the rest of the race.

Unfortunately, I was wrong. As soon as I got out of Paint Creek Trail, it was uphill and very steep for the remainder of mile six. During that trek, there was the occasional comment from spectators saying that the uphill was almost done.

I was hoping that on the otherside of

the hill would be a nice long downhill in which I could lengthen my stride and just conserve some energy for the time being.

Sadly, it wasn't meant to be. The rest of the course, barring the last three miles, was just nothing but uphill to which my mind occasionally screamed out "Why do you keep doing this?"

I ignored my negative thoughts and kept going as the uphill just kept coming. Fortunately, there were the water tables every mile — even though I drank very little. It's near impossible to drink and run at the same time I learned. It did come in handy for keeping me cool. As I saw the mile ten sign I thought to myself, "three more to go."

The last three miles of the race was something of a relief for me. This part of the race was mostly downhill with the exception of one small upward incline in comparison to the other hills I'd seen.

When I made it to Walton and Adams, my mind was simply thinking "almost

done, almost done."

When I got near Meadow Brook Hall, which was where the finish was located, I started speeding up taking advantage of the downhill. I saw the finish hidden off behind the trees. I sped up and as soon as I approached the side entrance to Meadow Brook Hall, I felt like Road Runner in the Looney Tunes cartoons. I managed to pass a few people and as I finished I stumbled around, bent over panting like a dog and nearly vomited.

After the race, I spent most of my time getting over the fact that I ran 13 miles and lived. As soon as I was done I went home and slept for the rest of the day.

Overall, I did quite well for a first half marathon and finished 274th overall in a group of 2,339 runners.

As I conversed with a friend about this race, she asked, "Why do you do this to yourself?" I replied: "Because I enjoy it."

Keeper of the Dream Award

Applications Now Available!

The *Keeper of the Dream Award* was established to recognize Oakland University continuing undergraduate students who contribute to interracial understanding and good will. Awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 are available to students who have demonstrated strong citizenship, scholarship and leadership skills in breaking down cultural stereotypes and in promoting interracial understanding. The awards will be presented on Monday January 19, 2009 at the annual *Keeper of the Dream Celebration*, where Danny Glover will be the keynote speaker.

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

Would you consider yourself a PC or a Mac?



"PC, I guess, because it's easier to fumble around with and a Mac is more confusing."

Brandon Peavy
Freshman, elementary education



"Mac, because it's portable."

Colleen Krumholz
Sophomore, German



"PC. Macs are sweet, but when a lot of people start using them they'll get bugs just like PCs."

Danny Malendowski
Sophomore, public administration



This issue's photo contest winner is:

"Lake Huron Sunrise in Mackinaw City"

By Linda K. Pletz
Executive Secretary for the Senior Associate Provost

Think you can do better?
Send your best shot to the photo editor at dustinalexander18@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.

What is your favorite Internet browser?



2.1

"Firefox because I've been using it since it was FireBird and I have never had a reason to switch."

Steve Charteris
Sophomore, undecided



"Firefox because I like that it remembers the website if the Internet shuts down, and allows you to restore session."

Stephen Fleury
Junior, business

If you could purchase any computer within the next six months, what would it be?



"I am going to say Mac Air because air is essential to my existence."

Peter Banachowski
Junior, math



"MacBook Pro, I like it for working with photos. It's really light and reasonably priced. It's convenient too, because I use Skype a lot and there is already a camera built into the computer."

Christina Linguidi
Senior, communications

According to online interviews, female students are more likely to purchase Apple, Sony and Toshiba brands of computers, while males are more likely to buy Alienware, Dell and Lenovo.

According to
www.mpdailyfix.com.



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Following a breakdown

What happens after an Oakland athlete suffers an injury?

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

When former men's basketball player B-Jay Walker went down with a knee injury earlier this year, he knew something was very wrong.

So when the doctor told him he tore his ACL, he was devastated but he wasn't surprised.

"It was difficult," Walker said about hearing the doctor's diagnosis. "It was the worst that I could get as an athlete."

Walker already had the unfortunate experience of needing surgery in the past. He was forced to sit out the second half of his freshman season (2005-06) and the beginning of his sophomore season due to an injury that required reconstructive surgery on both of his shoulders.

"There were a lot of things I went through mentally and physically," Walker said. "Knowing that I want to [play] but can't do it wore a toll on me. I think it hurt my grades because of all the stress that I went through."

After the surgery, Walker made the decision that his playing days were over and began to pursue a career in coaching.

The risk of serious injury is always lurking for athletes. But with the advancement of medical procedures in recent years, career ending injuries such as Walker's are becoming less prevalent and athletes are getting back in the

game faster.

Dr. Joe Guettler an orthopedic surgeon with Beaumont Hospital who specializes in sports medicine is also the team orthopedic surgeon for OU athletics. He said that it is very rare to have to tell an athlete that their career is over.

"We've taken many procedures that used to be done through a large incision which kept the patient in the hospital for 2-3 days and also kept the patient in a cast or on crutches for an extended period of time and turned them into minimally invasive procedures," Guettler said. "A lot of times these procedures are done as outpatient procedures so the patient goes home the same day."

According to Guettler, when an athlete suffers an injury, the first thing that happens is the athletic trainer treats them. If the injury is deemed serious the athlete is taken to the hospital. At the hospital, a physical examination is done followed by x-rays. Often other tests are performed such as an MRI.

"The MRI allows not only to look at the bones but the ligaments, the cartilage, the menisci and everything else," Guettler said.

After reviewing all the tests the doctor then determines the type of treatment needed. Many of the common injuries such as sprains and strains are treated with conservative measures including rest, ice, elevation and gentle compression.

The more serious injuries such as



MARK AVERY/Associated Press

Southern California football player Mark Sanchez lies on the ground after apparently suffering an injury in a game Oct. 4. According to Assistant Athletic Director Holly Kerstner, it would be against NCAA policy to take away his scholarship due to an injury suffered on the field.

ACL tears require surgery. According to Guettler, after it is confirmed that an athlete is going to need surgery the "prehab" process begins. This is the process of getting the athlete ready for surgery.

"You want to get the athlete ready for surgery so that they can have a quicker recovery," Guettler said. "We get their swelling down, get their motion back and build up their muscles a little bit."

After surgery, the rehabilitation process begins. Guettler said that athletes are put into an accelerated rehab program in order to get them back into competition as quickly and safely as possible. The rehab process usually begins a couple weeks after surgery. This entails working with a physical trainer and exercising the injury.

The rehab process lasts about three months. That is followed by the bridge process in which the athlete begins to build on what they did in rehab and involves some of the things that the athlete is going to do on the court or field. This process usually takes about

three months. After the bridge program the doctor will decide if it is safe for the athlete to return to the team and fully participate.

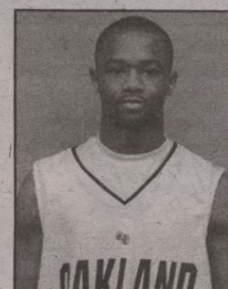
Walker has a different bridge he is going through, one that bridges the gap between athlete and coach. He said that even though he can't play, he is still involved with the team and that he did not lose his scholarship despite his injury.

Assistant Athletic Director Holly Kerstner said that it is against NCAA policy to take away a player's scholarship due to injury and often times

injured athletes will be given a role on the team in order to keep them involved.

Walker said that despite the disappointment of not being able to compete with his teammates his experiences have given him a better outlook on life and he knows that he can't take anything for granted.

"It's part of sports," Walker said. "Everybody gets dealt different hands."



Senior B-Jay Walker

Injuries Uncovered

In a May 2007 issue of the *Journal of Athletic Training*, the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) published a report of college athletes' injuries that had been ongoing since 1984. Among their findings:

- More than half of college athletes' injuries were to the lower extremities.
- Preseason practice injury rates were 2-3 times higher than injury rates recorded during the regular seasons.
- Competition injury rates were higher than practice.
- According to ncaa.org

Golf teammates dreaming big

Golden Grizzlies Carango and McNiff plan to play professionally

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

Social reformer Arnold Toynbee once said that "To blur the line between work and play is the supreme accomplishment."

Vince Carango and Robby McNiff III are hoping to do just that by getting paid to play the game they love.

Both Carango and McNiff are sophomores on the Oakland University golf team. Both have aspirations to eventually make the jump from college athlete to professional.

OU's head coach Brian Costello said both have the physical ability to make it to the highest level, but how they handle their remaining years in college will determine whether their dreams come true.

Costello knows what it takes; he has been a member of the PGA since 2000.

"It's a matter of how hard they work and how dedicated they are," Costello said. "Some guys get off on the wrong road and it can ruin your career in a hurry, those who stay focused are the ones who seem to make it."

Both Carango and McNiff said that they are completely focused on golf. Practice can be as long as seven hours a day with classes and study time mixed in between. During tournaments, they may be on the golf course up to ten hours a day.

"You have to be committed to every single shot. One bad shot can ruin your entire round," McNiff said. "It can definitely put a lot of stress on you, it can be exhausting."

Carango, a former wrestler at Lawton High School, said that it took a lot of discipline and hard work to get to the level that he is at now and that it is those same qualities that will help propel him further in the sport.

Carango said that when he was younger his family didn't have a lot of extra money so he had to take it upon himself to work in order to play golf.

"I fully understand that you get out what you put in," Carango said.

Costello believes that Carango's experience as a wrestler helps him with his



Oakland University Athletics

Above, teammates Frank McAuliffe (left) and Robby McNiff (right) survey the scene at an OU event in 2008. Below, Vince Carango tees off in 2008.

discipline and concentration on the golf course.

For McNiff, athletic talent runs in the family. His father Bob McNiff played golf professionally and his great uncle, Bill Wolski, played collegiate football at Notre Dame 1963-65 and professionally for the Atlanta Falcons in 1966, according to the OU athletics web site ougrizzlies.com.

Costello said that McNiff has an abundance of talent for golf but he has not reached his peak and can continue to improve.

"Robby's a very strong player," Costello said. "He's a solid ball striker, and a good putter. I do expect more out of him over the next few months and the next few years because he is an outstanding talent."

Costello had so much faith in McNiff's abilities as a golfer that when Costello decided to leave Belmont University (located in Nashville, Tenn.) and take the head coaching position at OU, he wanted to take McNiff with him. McNiff was a freshman at Belmont at the time.

"When I took the job here at OU, Robby was in the third week of his

freshman year at Belmont," Costello said. "I recruited Robby to come down to Belmont and I think Robby saw the opportunity here [at OU] as a way to get back closer to home."

For McNiff, originally a product of Muskegon, there were other reasons to make the move back to Michigan, according to Costello.

"We have the facilities Belmont could only dream of," Costello said. "The opportunity for Robby to play consistently was here as well, and that had to be very exciting for him."

Making the progression from OU's golf team to professional golf has been done before. Former OU golfer Brian Stuard (who played for OU from 2001-2005) is currently competing on the Nationwide Tour. The Nationwide Tour is the last stop before the bright lights and big money of the PGA tour.

Costello said that Stuard is a good role model for Carango and McNiff because he is an excellent example of the dedication it takes to make it to the pro level.

"It's a life commitment," Costello said. "You have to live it, breathe it, eat it, drink it. You can't have any other dis-



tractions outside of golf to be able to play at that level."

So far that is the kind of commitment that both Carango and McNiff have made and neither plan to stop anytime soon.

"Playing professionally is what I've always wanted to do," Carango said. "I'm starting to see progress and hopefully I'll keep going and if I keep working hard I think I can go pro."

By the Numbers:

GOLF
EDITION

18

Junior Austin McDermaid tied for 18th place at the Hawkeye Invitational Oct. 5.

2

The men's golf team shot a team-best 291 in round two of the Cleveland State Invitational Sept. 30.

80

Freshman Liz Ecker scored 80 in the final round of the Zippy Invitational Sept. 30, the 10th lowest score in the event.

Outlined in chalk



Volleyball head coach Rob Beam explains the game

With the score of the first game tied at 26-26 against conference rival South Dakota State on Saturday (see the recap at www.oaklandpostonline.com), Rob Beam knew that the next point scored would be crucial to the outcome of the game and possibly the match.

So, with a team of Adrienne Leone (15), Stephanie Parkin (3), Amy Golem (13), Leah Dupuie (7), Katy Wilson (18) and Lauren Duquette (8) all on the floor, he tried to confuse the serving Jackrabbits into allowing an important point on the return.

"Normally, we run a

6-2. This situation happens to have our setter in the front row."

Beam went on to explain that after a Grizzly (in this case, Duquette) "digs" the ball out to the setter (Wilson), it's up to her to make a good pass to one of the Oakland hitters by the net.

"Depending on the quality of our pass, we're forcing their middle blocker to make a choice of where to go. Then it's up to Katy to make a split-second decision of who to set up for a kill and the point: Leah Dupuie on the slide approach or Amy Golem coming up on the wide."

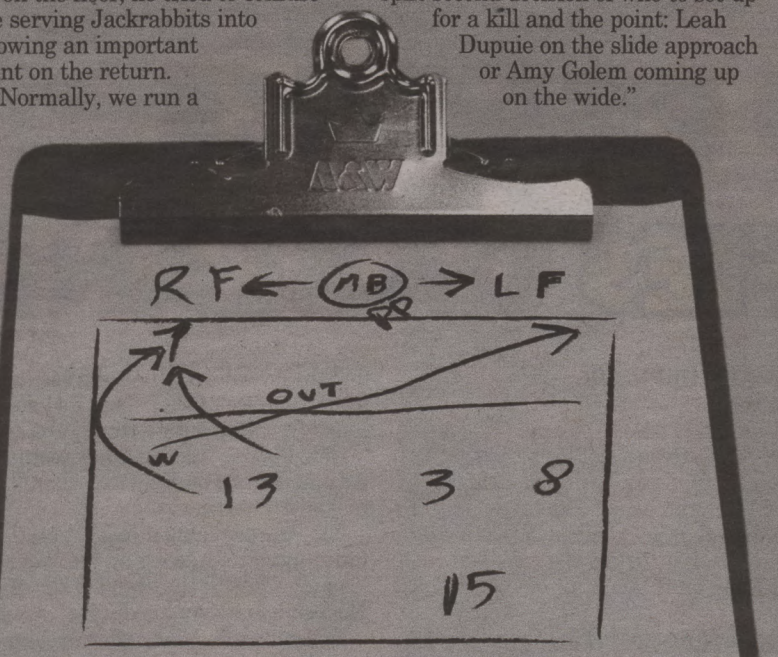


Photo credits: BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post, DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Out of town scores

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

The Grizzlies scored 204 points to place second at the Dennis Stark Invitational in South Bend, Ind. Friday. A team consisting of freshman Anders Jensen, junior Patrick Downing, freshman Joe Rodgers and junior Marcin Unold broke the meet record in the 400-yard backstroke relay with a time of 3:25.47.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Oakland University men's cross country team ran to an eighth place finish and the women's cross country team ranked 13th as both teams completed the Notre Dame Invitational in South Bend Friday. Junior Zack Jones finished first for OU and second overall with a time of 24:54.

WOMEN'S GOLF

The Grizzlies finished in 14th place with a total of 970 (+106) at the Hawkeye Invitational in Iowa City, Iowa over the weekend. Junior Austin McDermaid led the team with an 18th place finish, while senior Nikki Swan ended in a tie for 30th place and junior Laura Kwiatkowski finished in a tie for 61st place.

MEN'S SOCCER

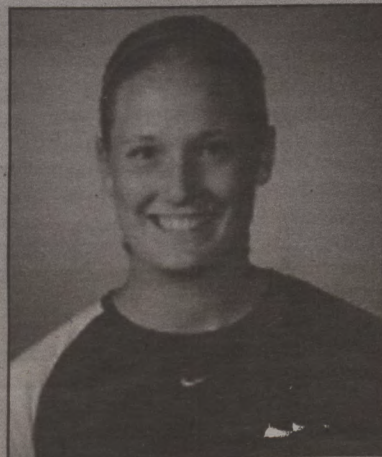
The No. 30 OU men's soccer team fell in overtime to Oral Roberts Saturday by a score of 1-0. Senior Steve Clark made three saves in the losing effort.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Grizzlies women's soccer team picked up its second and third wins of the season over the weekend with a 3-0 win at Centenary Friday and a 2-0 victory at Oral Roberts Sunday. Goalkeeper Kim Herbst collected eight saves in the two wins, while Deanna Colarossi, Shannon Doyle, Meghan Hartwig, Kristi Evans and Jessica Boyle all scored goals for the team. - Tim Rath, Sports Editor

Home game stories go online as soon as they finish.
www.oaklandpostonline.com

GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



Kim Herbst
Soccer

Year: Senior
Major: Health Sciences

Herbst notched two consecutive shutouts over the weekend at Centenary and Oral Roberts with eight total saves to win her first two games of the season.

Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

Drive-In Movie



Friday, October 10

D3 Parking Lot

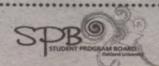
**Live music before the
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GREASE

GREASE





Above, Pistons forward Jason Maxiell throws down a thunderous dunk at the open practice on Thursday. Below, teammates Chauncey Billups, Rip Hamilton and Tayshaun Prince share a laugh.



Veteran starting point guard Chauncey Billups sizes up second-year backup point guard Rodney Stuckey. The O'Rena crowd responded to several highlight reel-worthy plays from both players.

PISTONS PRACTICE ELECTRIFIES OAKLAND

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

With the bitterness of losing in the conference finals for the third straight year fading into hope for the new season, basketball fans got their first look at the 2008-09 Detroit Pistons Thursday at the O'Rena on the campus of Oakland University.

New head coach Michael Curry said that the event was as much fun for the players as it appeared to be for the fans. "Fan support has been great," Curry said. "It's a great atmosphere [at OU], it's always a packed house. The [players] like coming over here to play so hopefully the fans enjoyed it as much as we did."

Despite many rumors about changes to the roster over the summer, most of the familiar faces were there, including all of last season's starting five.

The players started with stretching, followed by shooting drills. The majority of the practice was spent on scrimmaging.

Pistons guard Rodney Stuckey electrified

the crowd when he stole the ball from Chauncey Billups and fled down court, finishing with a thunderous slam.

New Pistons free agent acquisition Kwame Brown participated as well as rookie Walter Sharpe.

For Sharpe, being a rookie entails much more than learning the system and keeping up with the speed of the NBA. He also has to pay his dues.

"It's gonna be a long year for him," veteran Pistons forward Rasheed Wallace said. "He knows what it's going to be this year, [he's responsible for getting] the donuts and the coffee and going to get the paper four blocks away even though there is one right next to him."

For many of the Pistons stars, the off-season was spent taking time away from the game. However, Pistons forward Tayshaun Prince spent the summer helping the United States win a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Beijing.

"It was a lifetime opportunity," Prince said. "Not a lot of people get the opportunity to do something like that so it was very special."

Check out Tom Murphy Jr.'s exclusive video and more photos from the event at www.oaklandpostonline.com

The Scene

October 8, 2008

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Radio, writing, rap: 'Robo-Robb'

By ASHLEY WOHLGEMUTH
Contributing Reporter

Robb "Robo-Robb" Conrad Lauzon is a 24-year-old radio host, record label owner, writer and rapper who also happens to be a communications major at Oakland University.

Lauzon said he got involved in music during elementary school.

"When I was 8 I begged my dad to get me a trombone so I could play in the school band. The music teacher kicked me out because I couldn't learn to read the music. I played by reading slide positions," he said.

In 1992, Lauzon got in a horrible car accident that left him in a wheelchair. He couldn't play sports, so he started writing poetry and short stories on the stoop outside the playground instead.

"I eventually taught myself how to walk again and when I moved to Michigan from New Jersey, I tried to play the guitar but again I wasn't good at that," Lauzon said.

When Lauzon was 14, he started to rap and write on a daily basis for almost five years. "I have shoe boxes of lyrics in my closet," he said.

Lauzon's different mentors have motivated him over the years.

"I was inspired by my dad because he always taught me to appreciate and 'save the music,'" he said.

DJ Bullfrog was one of Flint's first DJs, and also one of Lauzon's mentors.

When Lauzon was 17, DJ Bullfrog brought him into the studio to record his first single and he never looked back. "He took me under his wing when he retired," Lauzon said.

In 2002, Lauzon took his graduation money and bought equipment to begin recording. In 2006, he officially launched the label for the release of "Soulbot," his first recording. Since then, he said he has spent a lot of time marketing his label and the artists on the label.

Hi-Hill is the subdivision in Lake Orion where Lauzon and T. McGee, another OU student and Lauzon's co-host on his radio show, grew up. They decided to name their rap group in high school "Hi-Hill" and when the group stopped working together he instead named the record label "Hi-Hill Recordings."

Odai Baylor, aka "Moonchild," is Lauzon's partner and producer.

Lauzon said he was inspired by Baylor's idea for the name "Robo-Robb,"



Photo courtesy of ROYGBIV
"Robo-Robb," Oakland University's "multi-threat" is promoting his latest album, "Save the Music," along with his many other endeavors, like a magazine, radio show and record label.

and that created a "robot" theme.

"Me and Moonchild's educations have helped us tremendously in our endeavors. Knowledge is power, and it is who you know plus the talent you have that will help us succeed," Lauzon said.

Lauzon has recorded five CDs and mixed tapes from 2006-08.

The "Save the Music" EP was the first time Lauzon and Baylor were on an album together. They put together eight songs and passed the demo out for free at concerts.

The album is a story, about "Robo-Robb" and "Moonchild's" attempt to save the music, "because music is in such a

terrible state of decay. At the end of the album I get killed, leaving an absence for a few years in my career," Lauzon said.

"The album basically starts after the 'Save the Music' war, which takes place years ahead of the time line we are painting with the current album 'Save the Music.' I get put back together after being destroyed and want to become human so I go through the seasons and falling in and out of love," Lauzon said.

In August of 2008 the "Save the Music" LP was released. Lauzon and Baylor added another eight songs and remastered and rerecorded everything.

"Before this album ends, me and

Moonchild are all ready to begin the war against the industry that is killing music," Lauzon said. "I would describe me and Moonchild's music as ahead of its time. Most of the time when I perform people do not know what to make of it. A lot of people like to say I am a genius. I personally would not consider my writing a genius, but I do believe I get that because it is something they have never heard before," Lauzon said.

Lauzon has also been hosting a radio show at OU for about a year and a half called "Robo-Robb Radio Wednesday," where they play all commercial R&B, Hip-Hop, and Electronic music, and interview people, talk politics, culture and current events. He also does "Robo-Robb Radio Saturdays" where he plays all local musicians of every genre and interviews up-and-coming artists.

Lauzon also started a magazine this year called "Invisible Subway." He has yet to be able to find a place to distribute his magazine, but said he passes them out at shows and always has copies on him on campus.

"I started the magazine because I feel I can change the world. I feel if I work hard enough I can start to change people's perceptions of the world and, in turn, they will assist me in changing the world," he said.

For a year now, Lauzon has been involved with a "beat" battle. The battles have recently found a new location and even more support from one of Detroit's hottest places, The Lager House in Corktown.

Here, producers compete with either on-the-spot "beats," or ones that they have pre-recorded. Judges determine the winner, and that person takes home a \$50 prize.

"The place is packed to the brim every month with regular local celebrities coming out in support of the event, i.e. Street Justice, LA Peace of the Cardi Boys, Leaf Erickson, USM and many more."

After Lauzon graduates he would like to tour the country and live in various cities and establish a fan base throughout the United States.

"I don't have any desire to start a nine to five job when I graduate. I know I can make it with hard work so I will continue to pursue my dream on the road outside of Michigan," Lauzon said.

Lauzon can be contacted at robobobb@hihillrecordings.com.

Discover hidden gems of the Internet

By JOSH DEFOUR
Contributing Reporter

The Internet, with its burgeoning cornucopia of pages, could be intimidating to those confined to social networking sites. The amount of unique and interesting content, however, should not go unnoticed.

To evolve and expand, websites need traffic and interest — otherwise the next Facebook or Youtube may never reach the mainstream audience it justly deserves.

Here is a list of some under appreciated gems of the web.

• **StumbleUpon** —
www.stumbleupon.com

The "Stumble," tool bar allows a streamlined way to "stumble" upon sites by shuffling the web to a preset of genres determined by the user.

Through a simple ratings system comprised of thumbs up and down buttons, the user dictates what they do or do not like. The ratings are then added to the user's Stumble profile so fellow "stumblers" can check out their friend's surfing discoveries. Through this

user network, bad sites stay unknown and cool sites appear more often. A useful feature is the integrated "channels" of the popular sites; imagine shuffling through highly rated Wikipedia entries or Youtube videos with a simple click.

• **Twitter** — www.twitter.com

Twitter is a program that can be as addictive, or as intrusive, as the user wants it to be.

This site has a box for entering whatever thoughts pop into the head of its users, and sends out a "tweet" to all of your friends. If you've subscribed to people who like to "express themselves" often, you'll be updated with everything from random musings to an invitation to join them at the nearby mall for some good old soliciting.

The universal compatibility of Twitter is what makes it so useful. If one is by a movie theater and is in need of a companion, a simple "tweet" from a cell phone would immediately be sent online for computers, other cell phones, and even certain websites to spread the request. Thus, it is almost impossible for the rest of the world to not know how much you "love cheesecake <3."

• **Hulu** — www.hulu.com

In the age of illegal digital distribution, many companies are trying to find a way to curb piracy without further restricting the consumer. Both Universal and News Corp. collaborated to create a revolutionary legal video distribution site that, if it succeeds, could change the face of legal online media distribution.

Featuring free, high quality, full length, streaming shows, movies and clips from popular networks and studios, Hulu champions as a generous alternative for those sick of the virus-ridden minefield of illegal file sharing. Due to its roots with the actual studios themselves, Hulu has unrivaled access to some of the best content on the tube — sometimes as recent as the day an episode premieres. The catch: a quick 15 second advertisement plays at the beginning and end of the file, but that is all that stands in between the consumer and free content.

• **Dropbox** —

www.getdropbox.com

An efficient and powerful file storage site/program, Dropbox allows users to sync and upload their files to a virtual hard drive that can be shared across the

Internet. The program allows any files that are dragged into the specified folder on your desktop to be automatically synced and stored online in your Dropbox profile.

What's different about Dropbox is that everything is controlled through a slick drag-and-drop interface. The program can be logged into from any browser or operating system. Your peers simply download whatever files they want from your profile and they can even view a slideshow of any photos you have stored.

• **Squarespace** —

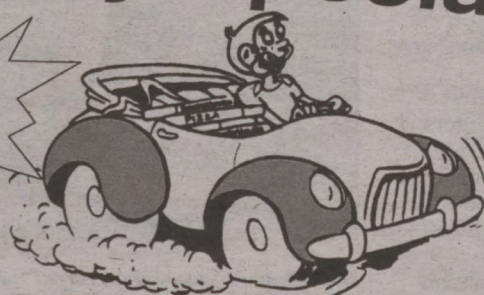
www.squarespace.com

Squarespace, an innovative website hosting company, offers an exclusive web-builder that works more like a fun drag-and-drop organizer than a web-builder.

Using simple tools and preset templates, users can create a unique and sophisticated blog, website, or photo gallery page with little to no prior knowledge of web development or coding. To further the usefulness of its services, Squarespace throws in hosting, e-mail, file storage, photo gallery, a forum, and a few more features to beef up a users site.

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MOUTHING OFF

October 8, 2008

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

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Complete Idiots Guide to voting

Tips on how to make an informed decision this November

By SEAN GARNER
Campus Editor

So it is one of those years again. That quadrennial occasion when the entire nation stops and listens with attentive optimism as two rich men brag about how they are going to save the world. It is truly amazing how, in a country of 300 million people, we always whittle down the Presidential race to the two smartest, noblest and most articulate statesmen anywhere. We must have some vetting process.

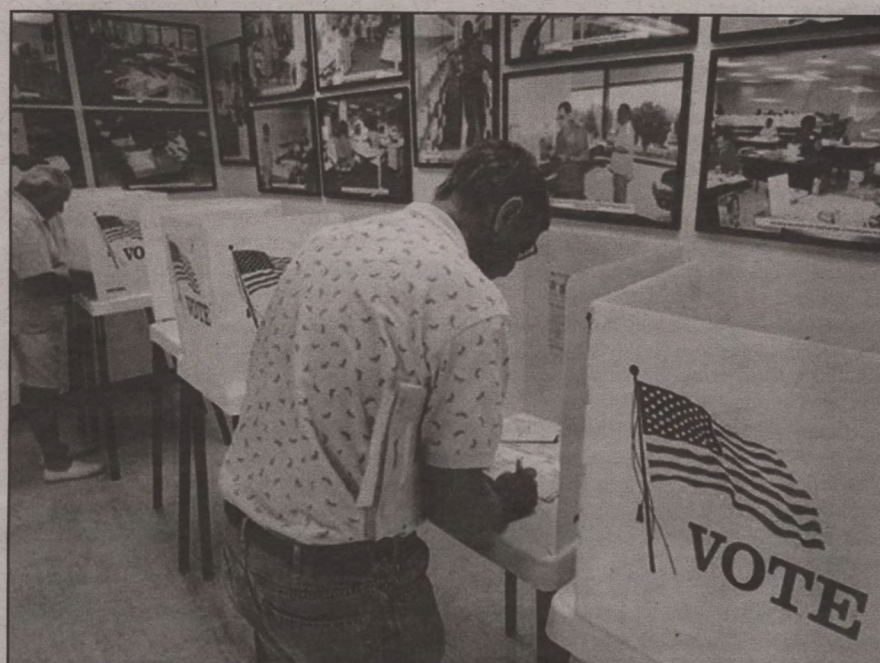
It is one of those years when we are constantly reminded of our most important civic duty: Voting. Voting is not only your responsibility to "the greatest country in the history of the world," but it also carries bragging rights. In most first world democracies, voting would simply make you a dime a dozen, an also-ran among the eighty to ninety percent of the population who vote. However, in America, this noble deed distinguishes you from about half of the voting age population.

However, it is not enough to touch a button on a computer system that is vulnerable to hackers. Voting is the end of a long process in which you, the citizen, should take every opportunity to become the best voter you can be. Don't know how to reach such a lofty goal? I have you covered with all the steps it takes to put the rest of the community to shame with your voting prowess.

Don't think too hard

When deciding who to vote for, it is important to remain firm in your views of the candidates. The best way to do this is to size up each candidate very quickly and develop unshakable opinions based on your first impression.

Try not to get caught up in nuance as it could compromise the intensity with which you support your candidate. If information comes out that paints your guy or gal in a potentially unflattering light, dismiss it out of hand and remain unflinching in support of your candidate no matter what common sense tells you. By all means, avoid any sober analysis of the facts. Critical thinking leads to a



NICK UT/Associated Press

Avoiding news sources and debates will help you determine how to rock the vote on Nov. 4.

critical headache.

Avoid watching the debates

Debates are sterile snoozefests with endless references to trivial matters like "foreign policy," "exploding national debt," "global warming," and other "critical challenges for the next generation."

Instead, watch the television coverage after the debates. They will sort through all the minutiae and tell you what is really important. It is far more critical to know who sighed or checked their watch at a slightly inappropriate moment than it is to be familiar with their stances on any of the issues.

Limit your sources of information

By all means, avoid any newspaper coverage of the debate, as they are likely to engage in pointless factual analysis. If, by chance, you do read a news story and some of the details do not conform to your steadfast opinions, it is your duty to mobilize a campaign to get the entire staff at that rag fired with no severance package.

Instead, choose one cable television demagogue, and one only, whose ideology is most similar to your own. Watch him every night, TiVo him if you have to, and be ready to recite his newest talking points on demand. If he has a radio show as well, make sure to take several hours off work every day in order to become even more versed in his rhetoric.

If your new hero says something you feel compelled to question, please resist the impulse. The man is on television, so he is obviously far more intelligent than you.

Be Rude

When discussing politics in professional or social situations, ditch civil, intellectually-based conversation in favor of violent screaming. Don't forget to drop in several lines verbatim from your talking head idol.

Also, it is perfectly permissible to get very personal. Insulting others on the basis of their race, gender, weight, religion, sexual orientation or unfortunate family situation is always a sure way to

strengthen your arguments and persuade others to adopt your political views. And never forget, the loudest person always wins.

Don't register

If voting is a right, what's with all the paperwork? You don't need to sign your name, address and social security number to speak, protest or assemble. So why should voting be any different?

Exercise your civic rights, and make a statement at the same time by showing up to your designated precinct that fateful day in November and insisting that you be allowed to vote. If your demand is rejected, be sure to make a scene. Use vulgar language and threaten the precinct person with physical violence. This is a guaranteed way to make friends with the local police department.

Vote third party

Some people vote for third party candidates because their ideology rests outside the political mainstream. Some vote third party because they believe the two-party system is inherently corruptible and unfair. I vote third party because it allows me to engage in that all-American past time: Whining.

I look at it this way, if you don't vote you have no right to complain. However, if you do vote and your candidate wins and turns out to be a cataclysmic d-bag, you also have no right to complain. In fact you are an accessory.

So do the only honorable thing and vote for somebody you know has no chance of winning. You'll get to stroke your self-righteous side by wearing that "I voted" sticker on the breast pocket of your Polo shirt, and you will in no way be implicated in the impending foul-ups which are all but inevitable.

So now you have all you need to be the best voter you possibly can. If anyone you know has issues with your decision-making process, tell them you know it is the best method around because you read it in a column by Sean Garner in The Oakland Post. If, for some inexplicable reason, they still have doubts, then turn them into the Department of Justice for treason at once.

Saying goodbye to Smurfette and hola to Dora

By JEANETTE WILLIAMS
Guest Columnist

There I am, 7-years-old and sitting cross-legged on the floor in front of our old wood-paneled television. It's 1990 and my blonde hair is crimped to unnatural volume, pulled back and to the side with a bulky Scrunchie.

My Barbie dolls sit next to me, stuffed haphazardly into a hot pink New Kids on the Block backpack. My younger brothers sit to the other side of me, alternating between munching lazily on Schwan's dixie cups and smashing their green Ninja Turtles action figures into each other, all while keeping one eye on the television.

From our compact positions we absorb our favorite cartoons and shows as they stream across the screen, one after the other, throughout the day. We watch "Fraggle Rock," "TaleSpin," "The Smurfs," "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," and "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

Eventually our mom comes home from work to relieve Nana (who, coincidentally, has been watching soap operas all day) and we're forced to turn off the boob tube to help with dinner.

This was our rainy-day summer routine, so it's really not surprising that I have some very strong memories and emotions tied to these shows. I even own some of them on DVD and I can still sing most of the theme songs.

Maybe it's nostalgia that causes me to cling white-knuckled to the idea that my shows are, without a doubt, the *best*, and that no other children's shows can possibly compare to the ones I grew up with — especially not the crap on TV for kids now. Up until very recently I would defend my shows tooth-and-nail if they were ever criticized.

Now I realize that those shows were mostly useless. Except for a select few programs, the shows didn't teach us much.

Really, what have we learned from these shows? Let's examine a few.

"The Smurfs." The lack of females in the Smurf population provides strong evidence that Smurfs can, indeed, reproduce asexually. Or Smurfette was *really* busy off-camera.

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles." We should all drink radioactive goo, mutate and fight crime while bearing the name of a renowned dead Italian artist.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." If

you follow that nice middle-aged man in the cardigan he'll take you to the Neighborhood of Make Believe.

Then there's my favorite — "Fraggle Rock." I believe Jim Henson, rest his soul, wants us to go spelunking through the wall in search of tiny communities of brightly colored rats. I tried this once as a child. My parents were not amused.

Some of the shows we watched were violent. The opening of "TaleSpin" shows Baloo being shot at three times.

Let's not forget "Looney Tunes," either. Tweety Bird was constantly putting the smack down on poor Sylvester, and it's possible that no cartoon character was as sorely abused as Wile E. Coyote was by the Road Runner.

Yeah, I used to think those shows were the absolute best and that no new show could ever compare.

Now I know better.

I thank my 2-year-old, Ethan, for inadvertently enlightening me.

The enlightenment began a few years ago as a massively pregnant version of myself balanced the remote on my gigantic belly. I had stopped channel surfing on Nick Jr., mostly because I was curious what kind of shows my kid would be watching in the next few years. "Dora the

Explorer" was coming on next.

As I watched the show for the first time I wondered: "What kind of a name is Dora? Why is she asking me questions? Why the heck is her head so big? Wait, is she speaking Spanish?"

A few minutes of "Dora" and I found myself speaking out loud, trying to correctly pronounce a Spanish word I'd never heard before. I couldn't believe it, our shows never taught us anything like this!

Indeed, today's shows like "Dora the Explorer," "The Backyardigans," "Blues Clues," and "The Wiggles," are very different from what we grew up with. They're mostly computer animated, totally politically correct and often quite educational. These shows are informative and interactive, frequently pausing to seek the child's participation and feedback.

Baloo never asked me to count with him. Papa Smurf definitely never implored me to yell "Azul" at my TV.

Aside from a handful of exceptional educational shows (think PBS), our shows didn't offer up anything more than visual and auditory stimulation occasionally attached to a watered-down moral lesson. They were entertaining, yes, but that was usually all they had to offer us.

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AIG still spending just days after bailout

By ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Less than a week after the federal government had to bail out American International Group Inc., the company sent executives on a \$440,000 retreat to a posh California resort, lawmakers investigating the company's meltdown said Tuesday.

The tab included \$23,380 worth of spa treatments for AIG employees at the coastal St. Regis resort south of Los Angeles even as the company tapped into an \$85 billion loan from the government it needed to stave off bankruptcy.

The retreat didn't include anyone from the financial products division that nearly drove AIG under, but lawmakers were still enraged over thousands of dollars spent on catered banquets, golf

outings and visits to the resort's spa and salon for executives of AIG's main U.S. life insurance subsidiary.

"Average Americans are suffering economically. They're losing their jobs, their homes and their health insurance," House Oversight Committee Chairman Henry Waxman, D-Calif., scolded the company during a lengthy opening statement. "Yet less than one week after the taxpayers rescued AIG, company executives could be found wining and dining at one of the most exclusive resorts in the nation."

The hearing disclosed that AIG executives hid the full range of its risky financial products from auditors as losses mounted, according to documents released Tuesday by a congressional panel examining the chain of events that forced the government to bail out the

conglomerate.

The panel sharply criticized AIG's former top executives, who cast blame on each other for the company's financial woes.

"You have cost my constituents and the taxpayers of this country \$85 billion and run into the ground one of the most respected insurance companies in the history of our country," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y.

AIG, crippled by huge losses linked to mortgage defaults, was forced last month to accept the \$85 billion government loan that gives the U.S. the right to an 80 percent stake in the company.

Waxman unveiled documents showing AIG executives hid the full extent of the firm's risky financial products from auditors, both outside and inside the firm, as losses mounted.



RON EDMONDS/Associated Press
Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., greets Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., at the start of a townhall style presidential debate at Belmont University, Tuesday night.

Obama, McCain clash in townhall style debate

By CHARLES BABINGTON
Associated Press Writers

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Barack Obama and John McCain clashed repeatedly over the causes and cures for the worst economic crisis in 80 years Tuesday night in a debate in which Republican McCain called for a sweeping new program to keep homeowners from foreclosure.

"It's my proposal. It's not Sen. Obama's proposal," McCain said at the outset of a debate he hoped could revive his fortunes in a presidential race trending toward his rival.

Democrat Obama said the current crisis was the "final verdict on the failed economic policies of the last eight years" that President Bush pursued and were "supported by Sen. McCain."

He contended that Bush, McCain and others had favored deregulation of the financial industry, predicting that would "let markets run wild and prosperity would rain down on all of us. It didn't happen."

The debate was the second of three between the two major party rivals, and the only one to feature a format in which voters posed questions to the candidates.

"It's good to be with you at a town hall meeting," McCain jabbed at his rival, who spurned the Republican's calls for numerous such joint appearances across the fall campaign.

They debated on a stage at Belmont University in a race that has lately favored Obama, both in national polls and in surveys in pivotal battleground states.

The two men also competed to demonstrate their qualifications as reformers at a time voters are clamoring for change.

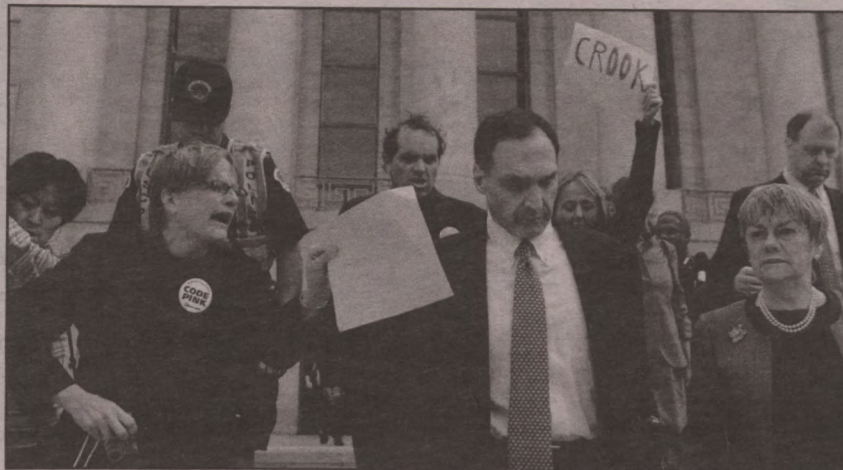
NIW BRIEFS

10-5 | Russia begins to dismantle positions they have held within Georgia since they crossed their borders in August. | A tractor trailer and a bus carrying applicants for prison jobs crashes in Alabama killing seven.

10-6 | Leaders of the Taliban and Afghan officials meet together in Saudi Arabia to share an important religious meal. The meeting was said not to be misconstrued as peace talks. | Two earthquakes hit Chinese ruled Tibet claiming the lives of 30 and destroying hundreds of homes while an earthquake in Kyrgyzstan nearly 60.

10-7 | The drug company industry informs the public that children under the ages of four should not be given cough and cold medicines. | The Supreme Court suggests that it will side with tobacco companies in blocking lawsuits over deceptive marketing of cigarettes.

Lehman Brothers chief faces the music



SUSAN WALSH/Associated Press
Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. Chief Executive Richard S. Fuld Jr., wearing tie, is heckled by protesters as he leaves Capitol Hill in Washington after testifying before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Monday, Oct. 6, 2008, on the collapse of Lehman Brothers.

Unrest in Thailand as protesters blockade Parliament

By SUTIN WANNABOVORN
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK, Thailand — Thai riot police clashed Tuesday with thousands of protesters who barricaded Parliament and vowed to block the government from exiting the building. A deputy prime minister resigned to take responsibility for the chaos.

More than 100 people were wounded, including two protesters who had parts of their legs blown off by what police said were exploding tear gas canisters.

The violence, which began shortly after 6 a.m. when police first cleared the street outside Parliament, surged again in late

afternoon, as the authorities fired countless volleys of tear gas to break through the protesters' cordon so lawmakers could leave.

Witnesses reported hearing gunshots, though who was firing them could not be determined. Some police had been armed with shotguns, and an AP Television News reporter saw a protester who was carrying a gun.

Rioting protesters also set fire to parked cars, trucks and vans.

About a mile away from the fighting, an unidentified person was killed when a Jeep SUV exploded near the headquarters of the Chart Thai Party, a member of the six-party coalition government of

Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat. Police said they suspected a bomb caused the blast, but could provide no other details.

Even before the violence escalated, Deputy Prime Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh resigned.

Chavalit, the deputy prime minister in charge of security, was seen as a key figure in helping the government to resolve the protesters' long-standing confrontation with the authorities.

"What happened was partly my responsibility in failing to resolve the conflict," he said in his resignation letter, according to Agriculture Minister Somsak Prisananantakul.

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- Apartments and Townhomes
- Water Included
- Sparkling Swimming Pool
- Covered Parking
- Pets Welcome



Timberlea Village
Apartments and Townhomes

(248) 652-3920

info@timberleavillage.com

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- Apartments and Townhomes
- Sparkling Swimming Pool
- Washer & Dryer (in select apt. homes)
- Beautiful Park-Like Setting

