

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

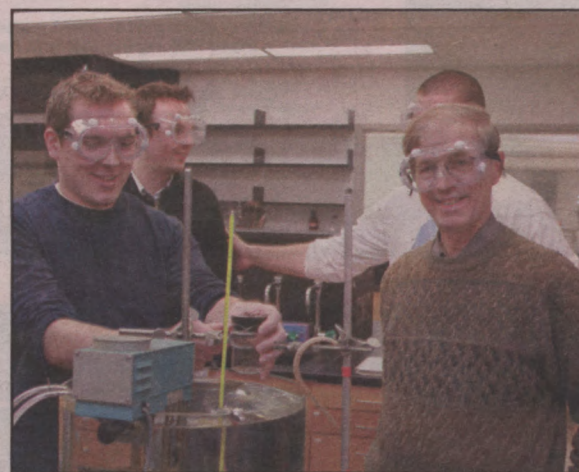
February 20, 2008

Volume 33, Number 51



## Expanding OU

What's in store  
and  
what's at stake?



**SPECIAL CENTERPIECE:** OU students and staff pay respects to a university in mourning with a signed memorial dedicated to Northern Illinois University on page 14-15



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# THIS WEEK 2.20.08

THE OAKLAND POST  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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## Perspectives page 4

With the latest series of campus shootings, let's be sure not to overlook or downplay the severity of the issue.



## Campus page 6

The Association of Black Students presents the Hollywood Fashion Show. Plus, the first candidate for OU's medical school dean position gives presentation.



## Local page 11

Republican Presidential hopeful John McCain makes his way to Michigan. Plus, local residents lobby for the recycling of outdated televisions.



## the Scene page 12

Sick of the same old slice? Think outside the box and check out a few dine-in pizza joints. Plus, a review of upcoming the Will Ferrell flick "Semi-Pro."



## you page 18

Take a closer look at the No. 1 killer in the U.S. Plus, students share their thoughts on the Northern Illinois University shooting.



## The Mix page 20

OU students discuss weird vacation happenings and top vacation destination wishes.



## Sports page 22

Catch spring fever with OU baseball and softball previews. Plus, men's basketball suffers disappointing loss to IPFW.



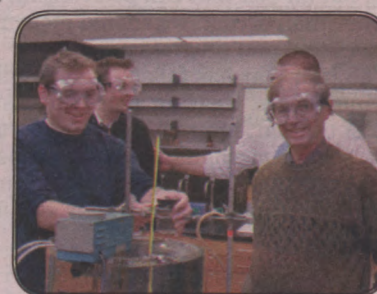
## MOUTHING OFF page 27

The drive-by media takes on Rush Limbaugh's recent endorsement in the 2008 presidential race.



## Nation | World page 28

After 49 years in power, Fidel Castro steps down as Cuba's leader. Plus, 143 million pounds of beef is recalled after an investigation uncovers possible animal abuse.



Cover story

page 16



# Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

February 20, 2008

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# The recent campus shootings must not be overlooked or forgotten

The tragedy on another college campus is a reminder of the destruction that a human being is capable of committing.

The shooting at Northern Illinois University leaves us stunned.

The candid horror of the event, like those of the past, is a grim reality that we must grapple with and move on from the best way we can.

Unfortunately, we live in a society where these catastrophes happen often.

Four other school shootings occurred in the weeks before the incident at NIU.

Although the Northern Illinois shooting dominated the news media, any other school shooting should be met with the same gravity.

Each one is a tragedy.

However, the worst reaction that comes from an overabundance of something is indifference.

An increased amount of any tragedy often leads to a withdrawn perspective that decreases the severity of the issue — we become desensitized to the issue.

To ensure the realization of the full gravity of the situation, we must not succumb to becoming detached from events such as school shootings.

The large number of school shootings should not be viewed as an unsolvable evil, but an evil that can be overcome. Rather than accept, we should mourn, understand and progress.

The Iraq War has fallen under similar circumstances. Hearing about the casualties of the war, after an extended occupation, sounds mechanical and less substantive. Once these tragedies become commonplace, some of the reality is absent.

We forget we are at war. We forget the toll and the tragedy. We forget actual lives are lost.

This is unfortunate — a war, a school shooting or any other tragedy is no less awful than any other, whether or not it is a common or an isolated incident.

We should not marginalize. A murder is a murder, and the number of murders does not diminish anything. A war is a war. We should not disassociate.

School shootings are the same.

It often feels as if we have built up a tolerance. Reporting on the shootings seems to be merely going through the motions.

The reports on each shooting is the same. Some are covered more than others, while others are sensationalized. Lurid details, at times, are given more attention.

Nonetheless, the focus should be on the gravity of each situation.

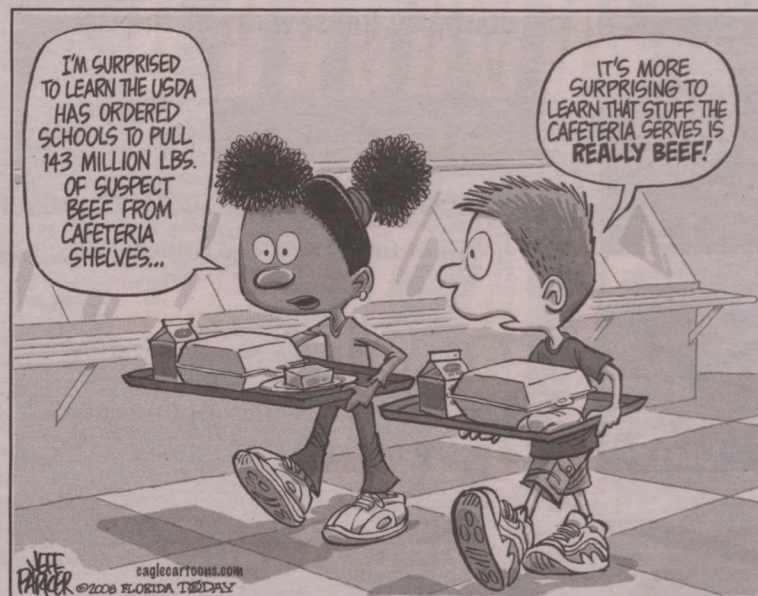
Upon each tragedy, we can then attempt to comprehend what exactly is going on so improvements can be made.

The portrayal of the school shootings frames the tragedies as events that happen, rather than events that can be overcome.

So, what we must remember is to remain in touch with the events of similar communities. As students, we are not far from such experiences.

We should never give in to looking past, or beyond school shootings.

The best move forward is this: Accept the tragedy and provide sympathy and respect, and reflect on how our society is and how we can each do our part to improve it.



JEFF PARKER, Florida Today/Cagle Cartoons

**What do you think? Have a news tip?**

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

## CORRECTIONS CORNER

Corrections from the last edition (Feb. 13, 2008) of The Oakland Post:

- Harry Belafonte's name was misspelled in the Letter to the Editor (page 5).
- The graphic work done to the first image in Mouth Off (page 22) should have been attributed to Celeste Filiatrault.
- "Thief requests longer prison term" (page 10) should have been attributed to the Associated Press.

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

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— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States



# The Academy gets it wrong

*All too often, the Oscar for Best Picture goes to forgettable films*

**Kyle Phaneuf**  
Guest Columnist



1976 was a landmark year for cinema, producing some of the greatest films ever made by a few of the most acclaimed directors of the time. This single year gave the cinemathèques of the world films by such auteurs as Bernardo Bertolucci, Sidney Lumet, Alan J. Pakula and Martin Scorsese, responsible for films that are still lauded today as quintessential examples of the medium.

Bertolucci's "1900" was a sociological look at sex and survival in the early 20th century. Lumet's "Network" examined America's increasingly isolated and apathetic way of life. Pakula's "All the President's Men" portrays the events leading up to the Watergate scandal and Scorsese's character study "Taxi Driver" followed a misguided anti-hero through the most vicious streets of New York City.

They were all powerful, political films with strong messages, often beautiful

cinematography and understated emotional resonance. They were films that set standards still upheld today by serious film makers and still greatly appreciated by serious film fans.

But the best picture of the 1976 as decided by the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences: "Rocky," Sylvester Stallone's underdog sports story filled with training montages set to "Gonna Fly Now."

Granted, "Rocky" was an extremely popular film that resonated with the general public, but it hasn't exactly aged well and it's rarely revered in quite the same way other works are.

In fewer words: the Academy got it wrong, and it's far from the only time.

Consider "Gone With the Wind" beating out the beloved "Wizard of Oz" in 1939.

Or "How Green Was My Valley" taking the award over oft-considered "greatest film of all time," "Citizen Kane" in 1941.

The musical "My Fair Lady" won in 1964 over Stanley Kubrick's "Dr. Strangelove" and the melodrama

"Kramer vs. Kramer" took Best Picture honors in 1979 over Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now."

Perhaps the most important director of the 1990s, Quentin Tarantino, was overlooked twice at the Academy Awards. In 1994 his masterpiece, "Pulp Fiction," lost to "Forrest Gump" of all things, and in 1997, "Jackie Brown" was passed on in favor of "Titanic."

"Jackie Brown" may not have been the most important or even one of the

best works of Tarantino, but the fact that "Titanic" won at all is pretty embarrassing in and of itself. And the less said of such recent crowd-

pleasing but ultimately empty works like "American Beauty" and "Crash," two Best Picture winners surely some at the Academy are already regretting, the better.

Which brings us to the present, only a few days away from the 2008 Academy Award ceremony. This past year was a similarly exceptional year for film, bringing work from the likes of Lumet (again), thriller veteran David Cronenberg,

niche-hero Wes Anderson, the versatile Joel and Ethan Cohen and the always impressive Paul Thomas Anderson.

The Cohen Brother's "No Country for Old Men" and Thomas Anderson's "There Will be Blood" are both nominated for Best Picture this year, but, inexplicably, so is "Juno," an inoffensive but entirely unremarkable comedy directed by Jason Reitman, a director classified as "Wes Anderson-lite" by film critic Tate Dersh. But why isn't Wes Anderson himself mentioned?

So why do forgettable films so often win top honors from an organization that prides itself on its film expertise?

The Academy is frequently accused of bureaucratic tendencies and criticized for rewarding directors and actors retroactively, years after their best work and at someone else's expense.

But maybe these tastemakers (and make no mistake, the Oscars have a big influence on ticket, rental and DVD sales) simply don't have very good taste.

Either way, even though the Oscars really shouldn't be important, they are. The Academy is an institution that affects the entire industry, so film fans can only hope for the best come Feb. 24, when the 80th annual Academy Awards will likely result in plenty more questionable decrees.

**"The fact that 'Titanic' won at all is pretty embarrassing in and of itself."**

## It's time for the university to make a decision regarding the \$4.8 million deferred payment

**Mark Medaugh**  
Guest Columnist



In 2007 the state of Michigan decided to defer a \$4.8 million payment and rescind about \$1 million in operating costs payments to Oakland University because of the looming issues with the budget.

Tuition rocketed up 13.9 percent, causing an increase of almost \$1,000 to students for the year, mainly due to this loss of funding.

The increase was initially met with harsh criticism, and then with grumbling

acceptance. We understood that even though the university was hurting our pocketbooks the state had hurt its even more.

But then November of 2007 rolled around, and Public Act 136 of 2007 was signed by the governor, which essentially allowed to the state to refund the \$4.8 million to the university coffers.

Last fall, while other schools proposed plans for compensating students in some way, our leadership asked for time and for patience. Their request was heard and, again, grudgingly accepted.

But the administration has had time, and they've had our patience.

While other universities have decided what to do with the money they've received, our leadership continues to stall.

It's as if our leadership would have us pay into an Oakland University Social

Security plan — a plan for which we'll never qualify.

The university leadership has repeatedly stated that they want student opinions on this issue, yet a Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled during spring break.

Essentially, part of the increase was a loan that the OU took out from the students.

They now have the money to pay that loan back, and they should.

Students should not have to take out more loans than they already do because Oakland wants to default on its own.

It has been said that giving back the money to the students would be "irresponsible" financial planning. This makes, at best, little, and, at worst, no sense at all.

It's like saying it is irresponsible to pay one's bills on time. I promise that our bill

collectors won't understand that argument.

What the leadership of OU seems to have forgotten is what the true meaning of being a university is: it is to educate, not to be a profit-generating business.

Should a portion of this \$4.8 million come back to our pockets — that's perfectly acceptable. Should it be spent on improvements to the various facilities and labs — well, that's acceptable too.

Waiting on this crucial decision for the next month, quarter, fiscal year, or profit report — that is what is truly unacceptable.

The point of leadership is to lead, not to hide; to make decisions, not deferrals; to do what is right, not necessarily what is easy.

It's time for our leadership to step up to the challenge and make a call — they'll have plenty of time to analyze it later.





AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
(Left) The models who took part in ABS' "Hollywood Fashion Show" walk out for the finale of the event. The night was a collection of music, film and clothing of all different styles from formal attire to urban and casual wear (above).

## Striking a pose

*ABS' "Hollywood Fashion Show" heats up for Varner Recital Hall crowd*

By SHANEIA CALDWELL  
Contributing Reporter

Fashion reached new heights while colliding with films during the "Hollywood Fashion Show: A Red Carpet Affair," on Sunday Feb. 17. The event, hosted by the Association of Black Students, used fashion to demonstrate and celebrate cultural diversity.

"The goal of the fashion show is to promote unity, diversity and student leadership through fashion," said DeAnne Whitfield, ABS programming Chair.

ABS has been hosting fashion shows since 2001.

This year's event was held in Varner Recital Hall which was transformed into a movie theater, complete with red carpet, theater lighting and a movie screen.

The venue was packed with students, alumni and parents. A total of 20 models participated in the show, according to Whitfield.

Each scene began with a clip from a film connected to its fashion theme.

"The concept is to connect fashion with films that are popular in the African-American culture," said Whitfield,

who acted as director of the event.

After event host Dr. Darrius from FM 98 WJLB opened with remarks, the show started with the "Casual Scene." A clip from "Two Can Play That Game" was shown and was proceeded by models strutting down the red carpet in denim and trendy tops as the latest R&B hits boomed through speakers, orchestrated by DJ Mo Beatz.

The "Sleepwear Scene" was paired with the movie "House Party 2." Pattern and character flannel bottoms of various lengths with matching tank-tops were the focus of this section.

During the "Business-Wear Scene," models sported clothes that exemplified the proper way to dress when graduating and heading into the job market. The scene was teamed up with the 1992 film, "Boomerang."

Women were dressed in simple black skirts topped with white blouses and vests, and paired with pumps. The key pieces for men included slacks, vests, blazers and white oxfords, accented with a tie. The color palette



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
The "Hollywood Fashion Show" was presented as a part of Oakland University's African-American Celebration Month.

See ABS Hollywood Fashion Show on Page 7



continued from page 6

## ABS HOLLYWOOD FASHION SHOW

ranged from white to black and to an array of greys in between.

"I liked the business scene, but I wanted to see more vibrant colors," said freshman Marquida Rush.

The clothing was provided by Urban Behavior, 5-7-9, Vanity, Sanrio, Windsor, and Man Alive.

Several student designers' works took center stage during the "Designers Special Scene." Models carrying decorative handmade cigar box purses by Kamesha Cogborn, marched out in red artsy t-shirts by Jam Art, sashayed in Designs by Marcella and swaggered in Defined Clothing.

A clip from the Academy Award nominated film, "The Devil Wears Prada," was coupled with this theme.

After the intermission, dancers from the FYI dance group competed with battling dance moves.

Over-sized jewelry, baggy jeans, graphic hoodies and printed T-shirts were featured during the "Urban Scene" after a clip of "Brown Sugar" was played.

A picturesque image of a beach was painted as models cat-walked to reggae music in tropical swim wear paired with denim and cargo. A clip from the movie "How Stella Got Her Groove Back" complemented the scene.

The models, who rehearsed twice a week for the last two months, were allowed a break from the red carpet during the Greek scene. Six National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations took the stage.

A clip from "School Daze" was shown and the Greek organizations strolled around the stage wearing Greek paraphernalia. The audience screamed and cheered for the sororities and fraternities.

The show ended as the models reemerged in elegant red and black satin gowns, big-night ruffled dresses suitable for a ball, and whimsical cocktail dresses fitting for a formal party.

The highlight of the final section was a strapless white puffy dress embroidered with impressionistic black flowers and a splash of silver sequins. The ladies modeling these evening garments were paired with gentlemen in black tailored suits. The final theme was partnered with a clip from the classic film, "Scarface."

"We truly intended to make this event extremely classy," said Whitfield.

The fashion show was part of OU's African-American Celebration Month, "Reflecting Truth through the Understanding of Our Historical Inspirations."

## OU to switch to trimester this spring

BY STEVE STAEGER  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's move to a trimester schedule was made to benefit students applying for financial aid, according to Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder.

The change in scheduling, announced last week, will combine the spring and summer semesters into one 15-week semester.

"In the financial aid world, you can't award aid that bridges over two defined semesters or terms," Snyder said.

According to Snyder, some nursing classes over the spring and summer take place over a 15-week period, which previously hindered students from getting financial aid since the classes took place over two separately defined semesters.

Another reason for the change was to give departments the opportunity to offer more classes that students need

and want, according to Snyder.

"By doing this, we will be in line with other doctoral and research universities around the country," Snyder said.

The summer semester, as it will now be called, will consist of different periods of classes.

"Within that umbrella, you can have different sections so that as long as you define them in your calendar, students are qualified for aid during the time they are enrolled," Snyder said.

Full 15-week classes will be offered during the summer semester, along with seven-week, four-week, and two-week classes.

Snyder said that during the first year of this change, she estimates that approximately 90 percent of the classes will remain in the seven-week system.

According to Snyder, the change will make it easier for students with special schedules and those who have a hard time scheduling classes over the summer, like school teachers.

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# Dyson vs. Dyson debates Cosby

*Experts discuss election, "Come on People" and the Kwame scandal*

By JOHN DROKE  
Staff Intern

In a debate at the Oakland Center, Rev. Marcia Dyson and her husband Dr. Michael Eric Dyson discussed their views on Bill Cosby's statements about the diminishing state of Black America.

They also talked about current issues that are in the news today.

The debate, on Feb. 18, was monitored by Dr. Jude Nixon, director of the Honors College and professor of English at Oakland University.

Both Dysons began the debate by praising each other's accomplishments and credibility to address the topics that were to be tackled.

Michael led off the debate by talking about Cosby, the famous comedian and TV star who wrote "Come on People: On the Path from Victims to Victors."

In his book, Cosby called for parents to take a more active role in raising children and strengthening families, and questioned the influence of hip-hop and its negative effect on black youth—statements that Michael deemed "irresponsible and shallow."

"Children reflect upon the parents income," Michael said. "Minimum wage parents can't do all that wealthier parents can."

Michael also went on to say that in 45 years of comedy Cosby refused to touch on race and social critique. "Just because you were mad at poor negroes, you don't have the right to say them things. Be responsible," Michael said.

Marcia Dyson agreed with her husband on the point that Cosby's statements were a bit harsh and mean-spirited to the black community but defended Cosby by talking about the great things he has done in the community.

Both Dysons agreed that it is up to the parents to do everything possible to be responsible and raise their children the right way.

The audience applauded with approval of the Dysons' agreement that it was easy for Cosby to make

such statements without complete knowledge of the situation.

The next segment of the lecture touched on the current presidential race. Michael supports Barack Obama, while Marcia supports Hillary Clinton.

Both said it is important that we act as a society, not basing our choice of candidate on race or gender but rather on what they can do for us as citizens of America.

"I hope the next president gets not only better texts in the schools, but more in-depth American history content in the texts," Marcia said.

While Marcia claims that the fact that Clinton is a woman had no impact on her choice of candidate, her husband argued that there is nothing wrong with voting with a gender bias.

"Why not take some legitimate pride in a woman president?"

Michael said. "It's a huge step for women who have had limited opportunity in politics."

When asked about Obama, Michael reminded the audience that a black president will not stop racism, racial profiling or poverty, but will promote the idea that blacks, whites, browns and everyone in between will have to work together to make a change.

The speakers briefly touched on the current situation with Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, a friend of both Dysons. Both agreed that Kilpatrick has done much for the city of Detroit and since admitting to his mistakes involving alleged inpropriety, the media should back off of him.

"If Kwame should be kicked out of office then so should many other politicians," Marcia said.

The final topic of the night touched upon the effect of the media and entertainment in how blacks are portrayed.

"Most black actors can't get serious roles in the movies," Michael said.

Both Dysons concluded and agreed that the media tends to portray a race the way they want to and, although it is disturbing, it is up to us to challenge the credibility of the stuff we watch on TV.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Dr. Michael Eric Dyson (top) and Rev. Marcia Dyson (bottom) took part in the "Dyson vs. Dyson" debate on Monday, Feb. 18, where they addressed topics raised by Bill Cosby in "Come on People: On the Path from Victims to Victors." The event was part of OU's African-American Celebration Month.

## POLICEFILES

The Auburn Hills Fire Department was called to the Recreation and Athletic center on Feb. 11. A student was injured while playing basketball and suspected that he had broken his finger. The student was transported to Crittenton Hospital by the fire department.

Hamlin Hall was evacuated at approximately 9:30 pm on Feb. 13 when police responded to a dryer in the third floor laundry room that had caught fire. The dryer was still smoking after having been sprayed with a fire extinguisher. The Auburn Hills Fire Department were called and declared the building safe for students to return.

A student contacted police on Feb. 15

after \$50 was stolen out of his wallet. The student left his wallet and cell phone in an unlocked locker while he worked out at the Recreation and Athletic Center. Police investigated the scene but currently have no suspects in the robbery. All students are advised to use locks when they keep their personal belongings in lockers at the Rec.

Police were called to Hamlin Hall on Feb. 17 to investigate a report of a missing cell phone. A student left her cell phone sitting on a table in her dorm room while she went down the hall to a friend's room. When she returned she realized the phone was missing. Police interviewed several students in the dorm but were unable to locate the phone.



# Med school dean candidate revealed

By ADAM ROBERTS & STEVE STAEGER

Senior Reporters

Oakland University introduced the first of three potential candidates for dean of its medical school Tuesday during a meet-and-greet reception.

Dr. Charles J. Shanley, senior vice president for surgical services and chair of the department of surgery at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak gave a presentation and answered questions, attempting to sell himself to a crowd of nearly 100 university administrators and faculty.

Shanley spoke about the changing technology in the medical field and how education must adapt to prepare students to practice medicine in the 21st century.

"We are uniquely positioned with an open canvas to address that need with the new medical school," Shanley said.

He also emphasized the need for teamwork in the both the classroom and the operating room.

"To sum it up, we're looking for general leadership, innovation and someone who is looking to the future," said Dr. Ken Hightower, dean of the School of Health Sciences. "We want someone who is looking at what the physician of 2020 will look like."

The two other candidates will give similar presentations in the near future,

although Provost Virinder Moudgil said there is no rush to make a decision.

Moudgil also said that the university could still choose someone outside the three candidates scheduled to give presentations.

Shanley said that his knowledge of both Oakland University and Beaumont would help him in the job.

He is no stranger to Oakland University, as he is a research professor in Health Sciences and a member of the steering committee for the new medical school.

"The ideal candidate should be one who has an appreciation of the difference of operations and activities of a public university and a clinical hospital and be able to merge both into one unit,"



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
Dr. Charles J. Shanley is the first of three potential candidates for the title of dean of the new OU medical school.

Moudgil said.

"The medical industry is experiencing an explosion in medical knowledge since the turn of the century," Shanley said.

From advances in medical imaging technology to exciting breakthroughs in robotics, medical education is constantly evolving, which means a greater emphasis must be placed on information

technology and communication in education, according to Shanley.

Faculty members in the audience questioned the viability of cooperation between the medical school and the rest of the academic units on campus, something Shanley outlined as a goal for the future of OU.

"One of the dean's (of the new medical school) top priorities will be development, and funding for innovation is depen-

dant upon our success in development," Shanley said, when asked about the role of the dean in fundraising and management of the new school. He went on to say he looks forward to learning from OU about fundraising, citing the success of the recent capital campaign.

"Partnership to lead innovation in patient-centered medical education and research" is the mission statement for the new medical school. Whether Shanley becomes its dean or an unnamed candidate is selected, the same principles of technological advancement and teamwork will apply, according to Moudgil.

"All three are very distinguished candidates, and they all have a vision and picture for the future," Moudgil said.

The next candidate for the position will visit campus in March and deliver a similar address, according to Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder.

Snyder said that the other candidates have not been identified yet.

In April, President Gary Russi announced the partnership with Beaumont Hospital with the intent to create a new medical school.

According to the medical school's Web page on the OU site, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education is currently conducting a site survey and will until the end of the month.

Snyder said the charter class for the medical school is slated to start in fall of 2010.

# Marx sighting at Oakland University

## REVIEW

By ALEX CHERUP

Mouthing Off Editor

"Do you resent my coming back and irritating you? Look at it this way. It is the second coming. Christ couldn't make it, so Marx came."

Came to Oakland University, that is. The Political Science Department hosted a performance of eminent professor and activist Howard Zinn's one-man show "Marx in Soho" Monday, Feb. 18 in the Varner Recital Hall to more than 100 faculty, students and visitors.

Polemic, engaging and topical, the show presents political philosopher Karl Marx.

It was Marx unplugged, as one of history's most famous — or infamous — minds candidly discussed philosophy, capitalism,

and love.

Political science instructor Dr. Alan Epstein said the play best captured Marx's "continued relevance and just the fact he was a human being."

After a brief introduction from Political Science department chair Dr. Paul Kubicek, Pink Floyd's "Money" played as Karl Marx, played by Robert Weick, entered the theatre and took the minimalist stage of a table, two chairs and many abstract ideas.

During his near hour and a half on stage, Weick brought Marx to life. Dressed in traditional garb and a beard that is best described as "Marxist," Weick took Zinn's words and presented Marx as an impassioned observer and caring member of society.

"Why have I returned? To clear my name!" Marx states at the onset of the play; and that is exactly what he does, building a strong case for himself.

Manifesto in hand, occasionally seated,

other times preaching from a soapbox, Marx told it like it was and is.

Marx discussed the wooing of his wife Jennifer, the tension involving his female servant, Lenchen, his relationship with his daughter and his interaction with other political thinkers, such as Mikhail Bakunin.

Marx became a living, breathing and beer-drinking man, a round character beyond the dry and dense persona found within his philosophical works.

It made Marx accessible rather than distant, a comrade rather than a bore from yesteryear.

The play also worked well to tie in the political world after Marx's death. There are implicit references to Joseph Stalin, and Ronald Reagan, in addition to the continuing struggles of contemporary society.

"Marxism, as a movement, was just beginning to roll this whole posthumous analysis of history that tells us what

Marx would have thought of our own history in a really complete way," said philosophy instructor Pat Trentacoste.

The show provides for an opportunity for Marx to admit mistakes.

"I confess," Marx said in the play, "I did not reckon with capitalism's ingeniousness in surviving."

Weick, as Marx, was extraordinary — from appearance, to passion; it equaled Hal Holbrook's "Mark Twain Tonight!"

Following the show, there was a question and answer period with Weick that included questions ranging from the future plans for the show to Marxist theory.

Monday's performance marked the 135th for Weick. Over the past three years, he has taken "Marx in Soho" to schools and colleges around the country.

There is talk of an eventual video recording of the show, but no definitive decisions have been made.



# Breaking from recess norms

*Some students use their vacation for service rather than parties*

By ADAM ROBERTS  
Senior Reporter

For most students, spring break means sleeping in and hanging out with friends. Not so for 14 OU students who are giving back to the community through the Center for Student Activities (CSA) alternative spring break program.

The students are to leave Saturday for New York City, where they will be working over seven hours a day on service learning projects.

OU partnered with the Youth Service Opportunity Program (YSOP), which will organize projects for the students to participate in. These activities include sorting food at a food bank, painting buildings and preparing dinner one night for the homeless at a nearby shelter.

Students are paying for the trip out of their own pockets. Though they have raised money with bake sales and other fundraising efforts, students will have to put up \$650 of their own money to participate.

To keep costs low, the group will stay in a youth

hostel.

From 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day they will volunteer on site around New York City. Afterward, the group is to go back to the YSOP headquarters to reflect on their day's work.

"It shows the great generosity of this diverse group of students," said Jean Ann Miller, director of the CSA and trip supervisor.

The traveling spring breakers will be responsible for navigating New York City and finding their destination each morning.

The culture shock of big city life and using public transportation is sure to be a challenge for some of the volunteers, according to Miller.

After the work is done, the students are planning activities together to take advantage of their free time in the Big Apple.

The alternative spring break program is the centerpiece of the CSA's new Volunteer Center. It will also serve as February's service learning opportunity.

This is the first year of the new alternative spring break program and the first such trip to a major urban

area, although a similar trip to South Carolina was taken several years ago.

The CSA's plan is to offer similar volunteer programs in the future. A Detroit-centered service program will take place during one weekend of the next fall semester.

Students are looking forward to the trip, whether they are individuals who have made volunteering a regular part of their routine, or those who are giving back for the first time.

"Helping in the community is great," said Angie Freeman, 21, a senior who is planning on taking part in the trip.

For some the trip was something they fell into.

"I saw a flyer about it and it piqued my interest," said Violet Niedbala, 19, a sophomore who has been raising money for the trip.

"I'm going to enjoy making others' days a little brighter," Niedbala said.

It's not all about the volunteering though.

"I mean, it's New York," said Freeman, who made it clear the big city has its own draw.

## Xpressiv B.T.Z. stomps Varner Recital Hall

By BRENDAN LOSINSKI  
Staff Intern

"Very exciting," "creative" and "amazing" are words the audience used to describe Xpressiv B.T.Z.'s performance on Feb. 15 at Varner Hall.

Varner Recital Hall usually plays host to choirs, symphonies and plays, but Xpressiv brought something unique to the Oakland University theater venue.

Xpressiv B.T.Z. is a new student organization at Oakland University that combines dance, drill, step and musical improvisation to put on a show.

Their performances fuse all these elements together and add some of Xpressiv's own personal styles.

In the show, ordinary objects like brooms, buckets and plungers became musical instruments to create, what the organization refers to as, "an outrageous and harmonic sound."

The audience was greeted by a DJ, an MC who amused and interacted with the audience between acts, and trashcans used as drums that lined the edge of the stage.

OU senior Angie Freeman started the group, modeling it after the Broadway

show "Stomp."

Inspired by her brother Khaid, a current member of "Stomp," Freeman tried out for the show herself.

Although she was turned down, it did not stop her from creating Xpressiv B.T.Z.

"She still got her dream," said the group's vice-president Sheila West.

According to members, the group stands out due to the fact that, unlike a choir or band, other schools are not trying what Xpressiv does.

"No one else is doing this, that's what really makes us original," West said.

Xpressiv is scheduled to perform again Feb. 21, paying tribute to what they call "neo-soul." West said that the response from the campus has been appreciated and, because of the popularity, they will definitely be starting up again next fall.

"You just have to have a desire to step, dance," West said. "What I love is that we're not just a club here; we're a family."

Freeman said her goal for Oakland University is a simple one:

"I wanted to bring something different to OU, and you've never seen music with trashcans."

## This week in OU history

### 10 years ago...

#### Gaming center raises concern

A proposed casino in Rochester Hills had OU divided about whether gambling near campus would be a good thing. A conference hosted at OU about the proposed casino drew local residents who weren't happy about the prospect of a casino in Rochester Hills. The casino would have been adjacent to I-75 between Joslyn Rd. and Harmon Rd., kitty-corner to where Great Lakes Crossing Mall was built.

### 15 years ago...

#### Pigeons reprieved from Poison

Students flooded Biological Science Professor Frank Giblin with phone calls, including one death threat, after plans to poison "problem pigeons" were made public. The pigeons were causing considerable damage to the Dodge Hall roof and making work in the nearby lab a smelly proposition. To the relief of concerned students, the pigeons received a full pardon.

### 25 years ago...

#### Programs cut by Board

In response to the CAMP report, which outlined ways for the University to set priorities and save money, several programs as well as two schools were cut. This marked the end of the School of Performing Arts as well as the Charter College. Program cuts included majors in dance and theatre.

-Information taken from archived issues of the Oakland Post  
-Compiled by Adam Roberts, Senior Reporter



## Analog televisions put out to pasture

Demonstrators from local offices of Clean Water Action take their concerns to the public in front of the Federal Building on East Liberty Street in Ann Arbor, Friday afternoon, Feb. 15, 2008. Protesters were urging TV manufacturers to take back their old sets for recycling after the switch to digital broadcasts next year. According to [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov), "an important benefit of the switch to all-digital broadcasting is that it will free up parts of the valuable broadcast spectrum for public safety communications (such as police, fire departments, and rescue squads). Also, some of the spectrum will be auctioned to companies that will be able to provide consumers with more advanced wireless services (such as wireless broadband)." In addition, the move to digital provides consumers with more high-quality video and sound, while simultaneously opening up more programming options.



ELIYAHU GURFINKEL, Ann Arbor News/Associated Press

## McCain on his way to Troy

By KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN  
Associated Press Political Writer

LANSING, Mich. — Republican presidential candidate John McCain plans to tour Ford's Wayne Stamping and Assembly plant Thursday and meet with Detroit Three executives before heading to Troy for an evening fundraiser, his campaign confirmed Tuesday.

The Arizona senator has at times knocked heads with the domestic auto-makers — Ford Motor Co., General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC — over tougher fuel efficiency and emission standards.

And McCain left himself open to criticism when he said before Michigan's Jan. 15 primary that some lost manufacturing jobs weren't coming back, one reason he was promising to do more to train displaced workers.

Michigan native Mitt Romney, whose father ran American Motors Corp. before becoming governor of Michigan in the 1960s, beat McCain in the primary in part because he promised not to give up on those jobs.

But the political landscape has shift-

ed in the past month. Romney's now out of the race and McCain is closing in on the GOP nomination.

And if McCain is blunt when he speaks Thursday about disappearing jobs, he's going to be talking to hard-nosed domestic auto executives who know his assessment reflects the facts. All three companies have shed tens of thousands of workers and are trying to entice more to take buyouts so they can bring their U.S. work forces more in line with demand for their vehicles.

McCain calls his blunt talk an example of the "straight talk" that is an essential part of his political profile. He's a big proponent of free trade, noting before the primary that "if you go up and see the border between Michigan and Canada, you'll see truckers lined up for miles."

But McCain also knows he needs to be supportive of workers hurting in a state with the nation's highest unemployment rate.

"We have to take care of these displaced workers. That will be one of my highest priorities so they can have another chance to be part of the economy," McCain told reporters Tuesday in

Ohio. "We cannot leave people behind in the heartland of America, whether it is Michigan, Ohio or Illinois or other parts of America that relied on a manufacturing base."

For McCain, it's all about reaching out to a powerful constituency in a state he hopes might finally go Republican this year, something it hasn't done since George H.W. Bush won Michigan in 1988.

McCain wants workers — some of them blue-collar, conservative Democrats who backed Ronald Reagan — to know that he understands their concerns about how shifts in the global economy threaten their way of life.

Democratic candidates Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama last week stopped at GM plants — Clinton in Maryland and Ohio, Obama in Wisconsin — with promises to increase jobs and help rebuild the middle class.

Thursday's \$1,000-per-person fundraiser at Troy's Somerset Inn hotel, expected to draw about 500 people, could give many donors who backed other candidates a chance to get on board with McCain.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Man charged with stuffing theft

MIDLAND, Mich. (AP) — Police have arrested a 32-year-old man suspected of stealing 217 cases of Pepperidge Farm stuffing mix.

The stuff went missing last week from a storage trailer in Midland. Deputy Police Chief Robert Lane says area distributors have access to the trailer, and the suspect worked for one of the distributors.

The Midland Daily News and WSGW-AM say the man was arrested over the weekend at his home in Bentley in northern Bay County.

Lane says prosecutors have been asked to charge the man with embezzlement. The 157 cases of stuffing recovered by police is being held as evidence.

### City council requests evidence

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit City Council is asking the state Supreme Court to refuse a request by Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick to stop the release of documents related to a whistleblowers' lawsuit settlement.

The council's request was filed Tuesday.

Kilpatrick and city lawyers claim the documents are part of mediation during the \$8.4 million settlement of last summer's suit by two former officers.

The documents also are related to references to intimate and sexually explicit text messages involving Kilpatrick and his top aide.

### UM garden houses possible pot

ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Students in a University of Michigan biology project had been assigned to grow herbs, vegetables, annuals and perennials.

Police are trying to find out whether someone's green thumb also was being used to grow pot.

The Ann Arbor News reports 11 small green plants believed to be marijuana were seized from a greenhouse in the school's Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor Township, near its main Ann Arbor campus.

The plants were mixed in with the project, which involves about 80 students. Samples were sent to the Michigan State Police for testing.



# The Scene

12

www.oaklandpostonline.com

February 20, 2008

## Savor a unique pizza pie

### REVIEW

By **NICOLE JACOB**  
Contributing Reporter

Craving the delicious taste of pizza but sick of the usual late night deliveries from Hungry Howie's, Domino's and Pizza Hut? Think out of the box with one of these three dine-in pizza restaurants the next time you get that hankering for something cheesy, saucy and crusty.

#### BUDDY'S PIZZA

Buddy's Pizza, located across the street from Oakland University's campus, is pizza that is made slightly different than the norm. Unlike other pizzerias, the sauce is on top of the cheese and the cheese is baked right on to the bread.

Buddy's menu is very diverse, and for those who aren't pizza fans or want to try something different, there are many choices. Appetizers include everything from breadsticks to a veggie sampler, with prices ranging from \$2 to \$8.

Save room for Detroit's number-one-voted square deep-dish pizza. Buddy's main dish comes in

almost any variety imaginable, with prices starting at \$7.

You can choose from 12 different specialty pizzas, including Margherita pizza, Greek pizza, Hawaiian pizza and Veggie pizza. They also serve an array of pasta dishes and sandwiches.

Buddy's also serves parties and hosts large groups or just a few friends. There is also a daily lunch special, which changes everyday.

Buddy's features a full bar, with a selection of beer and wine on the drink menu.

They also have a few options to satisfy that sweet tooth. Indulge in assorted sundaes with Sanders Hot Fudge.

Fresh-baked cookies are also available.

Buddy's has a laid back and traditional setting. Three wide-screen TVs hang from the ceiling for entertainment. Wireless Internet is available to create the perfect homework setting during slow hours.

The waitstaff is very friendly, down to earth, courteous and prompt.

For more information on the menu or to find locations, visit [www.buddyspizza.com](http://www.buddyspizza.com).

#### TOWER PIZZA

If you prefer a smaller, less expensive pizza outing, Tower Pizza is just the place to go to. Located on Main Street in downtown Rochester, Tower Pizza is not far from OU.

Most pizzas range from \$4.50 to \$7. Tower Pizza can add up to 19 different toppings on your pizza to create the masterpiece you crave. There are a handful of subs and salads you can order as well.

Tower is unique in a way that will keep you coming back for more. You get a sense of home in the quiet and calm surroundings inside, with the daily bustle of Main Street right outside the window. The tables are covered with a sheet of paper that you can draw on with crayons provided.

Tower Pizza is a great place to get together with a small group of friends or to simply study in peace.

Tower Pizza delivers and takes carryout orders as well.

To place an order or to get more information, call (248) 651-4660.



Above, the laid back lobby of Jo Angela's Pizza and Deli is an inviting place to enjoy a slice. Below, Tower Pizza offers up to 19 different toppings for customers to create their own masterpiece.

#### JO ANGELA'S PIZZA AND DELI

If a slice of home is what you're looking for, you don't need to look past Jo Angela's Pizza and Deli, located on Auburn Road between Squirrel Road and Adams Road.

The concept is a lot like that of a fast-food restaurant. You order your food at the front counter and pay first. If you are dining in, the staff lets you know when your order is ready and you go pick it up at the counter where you ordered.

You can call in a pickup order for later if you aren't planning on sticking around.

There are plenty of tables and booths for seating. It's very laid back, quiet and casual.

One wall of Jo Angela's is covered with bricks showing pictures of different nature scenes. The entire dining area is very clean and organized.

Well worth the modest prices, Jo Angela's menu offers everything from onion rings to lasagna.

Pizzas, which can be ordered either round or square start at \$4, and go up from there, depending on the size and toppings.

You can also order from a huge menu of sandwiches, subs and hamburgers and choose side dishes like fries, onion rings or bread sticks.

Specialty dinners, which start at \$7, include lasagna, spaghetti and barbecue ribs.

Jo Angela's is a perfect spot to grab a bite to eat while studying or to get together with friends. The staff is very friendly and down to earth.

Jo Angela's is open 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. on Friday and noon- 9 p.m. on Saturday.

To place an order, call (248) 852-9400.



# Ferrell takes to hardwood

## REVIEW

By LINDSEY WOJCIK  
Scene/Mix Editor

First, he was NASCAR driver Ricky Bobby. Then, he became figure skater Chazz Michaels Michael. Now, Will Ferrell is back as a basketball team's owner, coach and player Jackie Moon in "Semi-Pro."

Set to a 1976 backdrop, "Semi-Pro" follows the story of the Michigan Flint Tropics, a team in the ABA basketball league that rivaled the NBA.

One-hit-wonder Moon fulfills his dreams of owning a basketball team after he buys the Tropics with a fortune he earned from his hit single "Love Me Sexy."

The future of the Tropics, one of the ABA's worst teams, is at risk after Moon learns that the ABA will merge with the NBA at season's end, with only the top four teams continuing on to the NBA.

Intent on joining the NBA, Moon



Amazon.com

steps up his game and recruits ex-Boston Celtics player Ed Monix (Woody Harrelson) to team up with the Tropics' star player Clarence Withers (Andre Benjamin) to vie for a top spot in the ABA.

As the team's owner, Moon uses outlandish promotional tactics to raise audience attendance. The most memorable of which are when Moon rollerskates down a ramp over the team's cheerleaders, wrestles a bear and has the Tropics' players perform a choreographed half-time show.

The humor is not as crude as other Ferrell movies and the situational comedy is what keeps the audience laughing.

Moon's character is not much of a stretch for Ferrell, who has played a number of sports stars, but the nostalgic '70s feel of "Semi-Pro" makes it more entertaining than his past performances.

"Semi-Pro" opens nationwide Feb. 29.

# 'In Bruges' loses its way

## REVIEW

By KYLE PHANEUF  
Contributing Reporter

The problem with "In Bruges," the new film from director Martin McDonagh, is that it isn't sure what film it's trying to be.

Is it a dark comedy? A drug-fueled surrealist buddy comedy? Is it a Tarantino-esque crime flick infused with stylized dialogue? Or is it a serious melodrama?

In the beginning, at least, it's the story of two hit men, Ray (Colin Farrell) and Ken (Brendan Gleeson), fresh off a successful job and ordered to leave London for the titular city in Belgium to wait for the heat to die down.

Ken is happy to explore the preserved Medieval architecture of the country while Ray can't wait to get away from the "old buildings and that" and back into the city. For a while that's the film.

Ray arches his eyebrows while obviously being bored as Ken drags him to ancient churches, and art museums.

The dialogue maintains a steady 50-50 ratio of clunkers to genuinely funny lines and "In Bruges" seems content to be a

movie about just that. Then things start to get weird.

A girl gets involved, bringing the romance; the hit men's employer shows up in town, bringing the action; and their own back story is fleshed out, bringing the drama.

All the while, things get more surreal and somewhere between the drug-dealing girlfriend and the racist dwarf, it becomes difficult to tell which parts are supposed to be funny and which aren't.

Not that there's anything wrong with blending genres, but "Bruges" consistently stumbles with its own tone, featuring comic moments that jarringly turn sour, then sad, then funny again.

And as the film sinks deeper into surrealism, it becomes more difficult to take seriously, while, simultaneously, asking the audience to take it more seriously.

All that being said, "In Bruges" is entertaining, and if you're just looking for a good popcorn movie, you could do a lot worse.

If only it were a bit more consistent, "Bruges" would be a much easier film to digest. It simply doesn't ever go in one direction far enough to benefit from the constant digressions.

# Nastasia plays Pike Room

## REVIEW

By OLIVIA OLSON  
Contributing Reporter

In anticipation of singer/songwriter Nina Nastasia's performance, the Pike Room in Pontiac's Crofoot was set for tranquil ambiance.

Multicolored streamers hung from the ceiling and cool white lights illuminated a single microphone on the venue's modest stage.

New York acoustic folk singer Nastasia took the stage, dressed simply in black and equipped with only her acoustic guitar, to the relief of those in attendance who sat through two weak opening acts.

With such limited accoutrements, Nastasia proved how little a musician truly needs to perform well-crafted songs in a dynamic and entertaining way.

At times she barely whispered the lyrics into the microphone, and at others she leaned back, eyes closed and belted out with unchecked enthusiasm.

Nastasia's guitar playing was undeniably limited — she seldom strayed from basic finger picking patterns and simplistic strumming. But her unique vocals recalled Neko Case in their consistent clarity and strength.

Highlights "Stormy Weather" and "Our Day Trip" were examples of songs

adeptly written as narratives, which paid a respectable tribute to the folk tradition of telling stories through song.

Before the audience was granted Nastasia's performance, they were charged with the unfortunate task of sitting through opener Spanish Castles.

The band revolved wholly around the fact that their lead singer and guitarist was able to play in the Spanish style, and in taking themselves altogether too seriously, they became a veritable parody of themselves, creating music that seemed best fit for a children's pirate movie.

Next to perform was Zoos of Berlin, which combined the folk rock aesthetic of the Byrds with the psychedelia of Jim Morrison. Whether or not they had the lyrical prowess of Morrison, however, was not apparent as the instrumentation overpowered the vocals almost entirely.

While the group performed well together and were unique in their particular niche of moody and experimental rock, they often erred on the side of soullessness. The occasional addition of the trumpet warmed up the sound and giving it the heart it was otherwise regrettably lacking.

Nastasia's uninhibited performance saved the show from its less than satisfactory beginning by revisiting lyrics with literary merit and music rich in complexity, regardless of its simplistic presentation.



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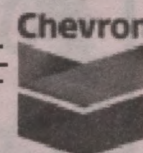
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On our minds, and in our hearts

Our campus community sends thoughts to friends, colleagues and families of the victims. May you find peace and strength.



GAYLE DUBOWSKI



DANIEL PARMENTER

On our minds, and in our hearts

On Feb. 14, five students were killed and 15 injured in a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University when a former NIU graduate student opened fire on a geology class before turning the gun on himself.

Our campus community sends thoughts to friends, colleagues and families of the victims. May you find peace and strength.

CATALINA GARCIA

GAYLE DUBOWSKI

RYANNE MACE

JULIANA GEHANT

DANIEL PARMENTER



Handwritten signatures and names, including: Julie, Mary Beth, Kate, Mike, Thomas, Angela, Cechin, John, Elizabeth, Charles, Ben, Mary, Elizabeth, Charles, Nicholas, Emilee, Linoski, Maria, Vital, Bobby, Chaise, Mean, James, Kelly, Sarah, Dade, Caitlin, Beilfuss, Jhonk, Austin, Margaret, Megan, and many others.



# Where are we growing?

*Students and staff talk about the ups and downs of a university on the fast track to the big time*

By TIM RATH  
Contributing Reporter

It seems as if every other week, our previously small-time Oakland University makes the mainstream media for something new.

Recently, the Detroit Free Press reported on social activist Harry Belafonte's speech at the Keeper of the Dream Scholarship ceremony. In December, the men's and women's basketball teams made ESPN's Sportscenter for big victories over top-25 teams.

## SETTING THE AGENDA

While prospective students may see these as incentives to attend OU, Gary Russi sees them a different way.

Since Russi took over as president of OU in 1996, he has presided over the greatest period of growth in the school's history. Attendance has grown by more than 4,000, academic programs have almost doubled, and a medical school is set to be completed by 2010.

Every headline is a benchmark on OU's growth chart, yet, he's not finished.

According to OU's 2020 Vision Web page, Russi hopes that by 2020, OU will continue towards its 25,000 student target, extending its reach into the community through its development of satellite campuses and offering student-centered education, with flexible learning methods and improved classroom and housing facilities."

## WORRIES CONTINUE TO MOUNT

However, as continued improvements to campus life could benefit future classes of OU students and a stronger selection of academic programs may please their parents, scattered worries that current students are overlooked remain as OU administration faces the future.

According to the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA), incoming freshman tuition rates have risen every year since 2000. In recent years, students protesting this have reached the headlines of various local newspapers.

Sure enough, the feeling is still prevalent among OU students. Of 100 students polled by the Oakland Post, 61 percent believe that the 2007 tuition increase of nearly 14 percent was unnecessary to maintain the school's standard of education.

## THE TRADE OFF

However, most appear to support the growing rates if they result in a higher national profile for OU. In a 2007 poll taken by the Research and Review Legislative Committee, half of students polled would agree to another tuition increase in order to fund a football program.

"Let's say you want to go to grad school in California, they might have only heard of OU because of its jump to Division I athletics," said Joey Gunnells, a senior secondary education major. "Any improvement made to OU now or in the future benefits [current students] because the profile of the school has grown."

Students that don't plan on leaving Michigan are happy about the expansion for different reasons.

"Adding the programs that they have makes the university a better place for my kids to go to," said Amanda Vanderford, a junior elementary education major.

Other students share a similar sentiment.

"Instead of a lot of commuters and a small number of on-campus residents, parents will start to think, 'Let's send our kids there,'" said Anthony Halfman, a freshman business major.

That idea could soon be shared by not only Michigan residents but by high school seniors from out of state. In a Jan. 23 interview with The Oakland Post, President Russi said that "selected markets around the country" are being chosen as recruiting areas for future students.

## A WORD FROM THE EXPERTS

If the numbers hold, those students will be happy with their college choice. According to a 2003 study by OIRA, 84 percent of all first-time college students at Oakland said that if they could start their first semester over again, they'd choose to remain at OU.

According to a 2007 Detroit News article, in order to house these



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Students line the halls of the Oakland Center, choosing the floor as a lunch table substitute. An overflowing food court area is a common sight during the lunch rush at OU.

prospective out of state students, OU administration plans on increasing the number of on-campus residents from 1,800 to 2,500, along with building a stronger Greek presence. While current students understand that this doesn't affect them directly, they support the steps that OU is taking to provide a traditional college atmosphere for future classes.

## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

"Though a Greek life may not directly contribute to the academic qualities of a school, it definitely attracts other

students looking for a 'college life' that contributes to the national profile and adds value to my degree," Gunnells said.

"Local students come here wanting to have the same experiences as their friends that go away to college," said Amy Ring, a sophomore Spanish major. "It would be great to look back in 10 years with pride at the prestige that OU would have."



Photo courtesy of Amy Ring  
Sophomore Amy Ring shows some Grizzly spirit before a basketball game.

A majority of students polled by The Oakland Post feel that OU is accommodating the growing demands of dining, housing, Webmail, and the number of classes being offered. Some students went further in detailing how OU could achieve its traditional college atmosphere.

"Freshmen should have to live on campus," said Abby Bartoni, a freshman nursing major. "There needs to be different choices of classes and majors."

## IT'S NOT JUST STUDENTS

Some faculty echoed that sentiment, believing that the academic reputation of OU has taken a backseat amid the idea of a top-notch university in suburban Detroit.

As perfect a pair as Rochester in autumn and football season may seem, several faculty remarked that expanding the athletics program beyond what it is now is not in the school's best interests at the moment.

"The programs at Central Michigan, Western Michigan and Eastern Michigan do not regularly attract huge crowds," pointed out journalism professor Garry Gilbert. "Frankly, I'm not sure there's room for another Division I football program in the state."



According to the Research and Review Legislative Committee poll, 78% of OU students said that they would agree to a football program even if it resulted in higher enrollment and larger class sizes. Several faculty members remarked that Oakland's past growth has been at the expense of faculty and academic programs, and that further sacrifice would be disastrous.

"Look at the level of student support for the current athletic programs. How many students attend our basketball, swimming, and soccer events?" said Joel Russell, a chemistry professor at Oakland for 41 years. "We are already using funds to support athletics that could support our academic programs. Football would make this diversion of funds much worse."

### EVENING THE PLAYING FIELD

In addition, there remains a question as to the logic of adding this expensive branch to the athletics program in a sport that only men play. According to OIRA, female students outnumber male students at OU almost 2-to-1.

"Whatever athletic programs that are added should also be attractive to women," said history professor Mary Karasch. "I would support adding a hockey rink instead because women skaters could use it rather than a football stadium."

### EDUCATION A VIRTUAL REALITY

In addition, there is a fear that educational standards will fall as headcounts rise. As some students and faculty said, the advent of online classes allows for an impersonal relationship between student and subject that hurts them as they advance in study, despite its short-term luxury.

"In the classroom, I can adapt the direction of my class on the spot," said Russell. "For the online class, I must anticipate what would be best for students I have never met... I believe that students gain from face-to-face contact with faculty and fellow students in the

classroom setting."

"Online classes are convenient for commuters like me, but I don't take them, because I like a face-to-face relationship with the professors I take, especially in my higher-level classes," said Gunnells. "It's more beneficial to hear information spoken to you than it is to read it on a screen."

Satellite campuses such as those at the Macomb University Center and Cooley Law School are another strategy that OU administration has embraced, partly in order to fight the clogged parking lots and keep the student-to-faculty ratio low.

"(Teaching) at satellite campuses was an isolating experience," said Karasch. I drove a long way to teach a class, and my only contact with students was in the classroom. There were no opportunities for them to come to my office or just to meet for coffee. It was very impersonal, and I have not done it since."

As Russell alluded to, online classes and satellite campuses also allow for a neutral relationship between the student body members themselves. Special Instructor Alan Epstein believes that eliminating that is the true key to the "traditional college atmosphere" that OU seeks.

### USE AS SUGGESTED

"For students to spend less time studying, eating and passing time in their vehicles and more time interacting with one another... would make for a richer undergraduate experience," Epstein said.

Cinema professor Kyle Edwards agreed. "College should be a time in which you develop a certain level of social and cultural awareness, sensitivity to other viewpoints, and emotional maturity," he said. "The classroom experience can only go so far in doing that, and I favor those extracurricular programs that can help shape our students into more well-rounded individuals."

"Providing still more activities on campus to give students concrete reasons to linger and mix, such as a regularized film program... a better stocked library...



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
Journalism professor Garry Gilbert instructs a class of students in Vandenberg Hall. Vandenberg doubles as a residence hall and an academic facility, offering classes below dorm rooms and a dining hall.

would also be helpful," Epstein continued.

Despite the perceived reclusive tendencies of the student body, a 2002 study from OIRA offers that students appear inspired and happy. "Keeping up to date" with politics is increasing in importance, and the same study shows that 70% of first-time students rate their undergraduate experience as good or excellent.

Even those tuition rates, which have more than doubled in the past 10 years, don't seem to bother students much, as long as they're spent wisely.

"Two-thirds of the tuition hike we took was meant to shore up money lost by the delayed payment of state funding to OU... which was returned to us by lobbying in Lansing this past fall,"

noted Student Services Director Jordan Twardy. "What irritates me is that we spend money on ice sculptures and the OU Hummer instead of putting money into projects that would benefit a wider group of students."

The common complaint continued to abound as the Oakland Post asked students for the biggest area that OU could

work on in accommodating a larger headcount. 76% of students polled suggested more parking structures to eliminate long walks to class.

The consensus appeared to be that while OU students' sense of idealism is as strong as the grizzly bear they're named after, they aren't interested in sacrificing the value of their degrees for more newspaper headlines.



NAME/The Oakland Post  
Student Services director Jordan Twardy suggests funding projects that benefit a larger number of students.

Speaking  
SO out



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post  
OUSC President Rob Meyer (right) leads a forum in Fireside Lounge Tuesday. The forum served as an opportunity for students (left) to hear more about the deferred payment that the OU administration is holding and voice their thoughts and concerns about how it is eventually used.





# Getting to know a killer

*February draws focus to heart disease and its grip on Americans*

By JARED PURCELL  
You Editor

Valentine's Day is not the only day involving hearts in February. In fact, everyday in February is a heart day since the month is also known as American Heart Month.

Congress started American Heart Month in 1963 and many health and medical organizations, including the American Heart Association, have joined in full support of the movement. The ultimate goal for many health organizations is to raise awareness and funds for research in order to combat the alarming levels of cardiovascular diseases.

CVD remains the No. 1 killer of Americans. The AHA reports that 36 percent of the 2.4 million deaths in America are due to CVD.

Types of CVD include stroke, high blood pressure, congestive heart failure, congenital cardiovascular defects, hardening of the arteries and other diseases of the circulatory system.

Oakland students were polled on what they thought was the number one killer in America and only 34 percent correctly answered heart disease.

Senior communications major Christina Linguido believes that America's problem with obesity is one of the main contributors to the rise in CVD.

"Our country is very obese," said Linguido. "People don't take care of themselves enough. We eat fast food and we're always on the go that people don't have the time to do anything healthy."

Dr. David E. Haines is the chief of cardiovascular medicine at Beaumont Hospitals and he affirms Linguido's thoughts.

"Obesity directly has an adverse effect on the heart," said Haines. "The epidemic of obesity is undoing what we've done in advances. Unfortunately, the better we get at treating the diseases, the worse patients get at taking care of themselves."

Cigarette smoking is also another risk factor for heart disease. Smoking causes those who are young and healthy to develop heart diseases earlier in life.

According to a Nov. 2007 Associated Press article, there is a recent surge of heart disease death rates in women under 45. Some experts believe that obesity and other risk factors contribute to the problem.

For nearly every age group, heart disease is a top five killer and it steadily moves up the list at around age 20 according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The AHA reports that 105.2 million people age 20 or older high are at risk of heart disease because they have cholesterol levels at or above 200mg/dL. Normal is considered below 200mg/dL.

"If people have a history of cardiovascular disease in their family, they should get their heart checked starting in their college years," said Haines. "Get checked at least every five years until you are 40 and then more often after."

Haines recommended that a healthy lifestyle is the best way to avoid CVD.

"A healthy diet should emphasize leafy vegetables, carbohydrates and minimize fats and minimize large servings of meat," said Haines. "Eating fish is good, baked or broiled. Fish oil capsules are good for omega 3 fatty-acids. You can also climb the stairs instead of using an elevator or take bigger and better-paced steps when walking."

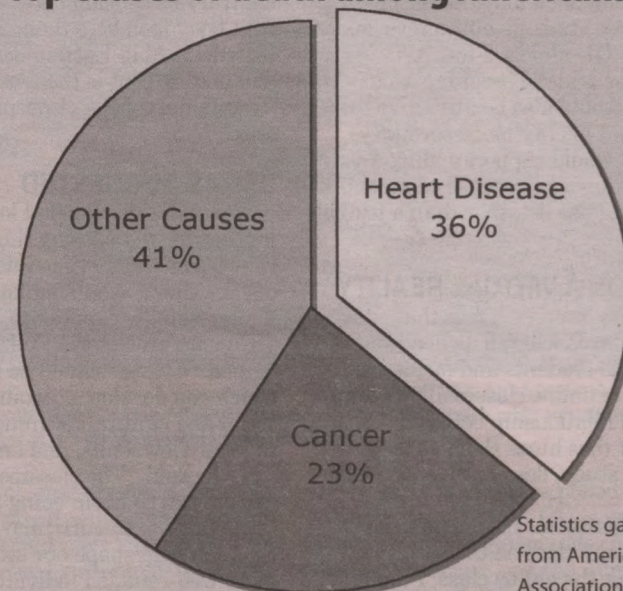
If cardiovascular problems are still an issue even though you lead an active lifestyle, there are medications such as Lipitor and other treatments that can help combat heart problems.

Haines said that anyone looking to know more about heart health can check out Beaumont Hospital's free checklist tool available on their Web site at [www.beaumont-hospitals.com](http://www.beaumont-hospitals.com). The AHA also has information available to educate the public about the different kinds of CVD on their Web site at [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org).

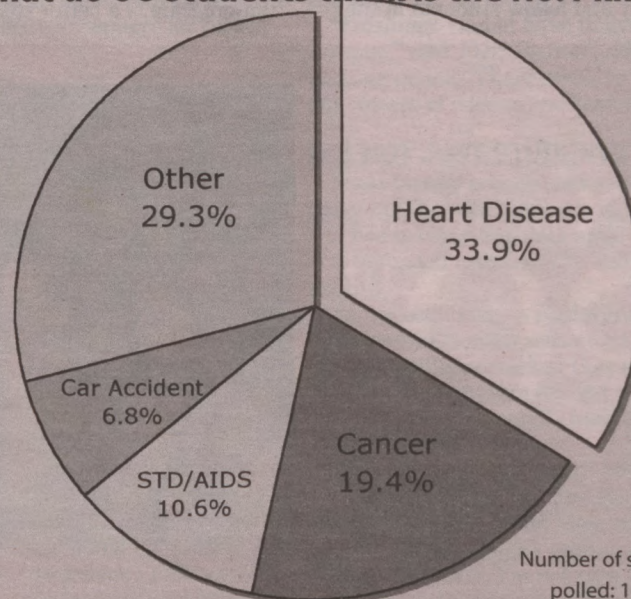
Emily Black, a freshman communications major at Oakland, encourages everyone to act now in order to combat future heart problems that may arise.

"If you're too out of shape, your heart can be affected," said Black. "If you don't do something now, it will affect you later on."

**Top causes of death among Americans**

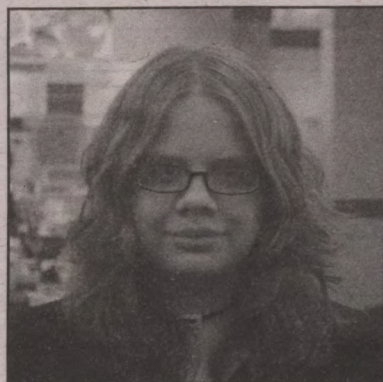


**What do OU students think is the No.1 killer?**



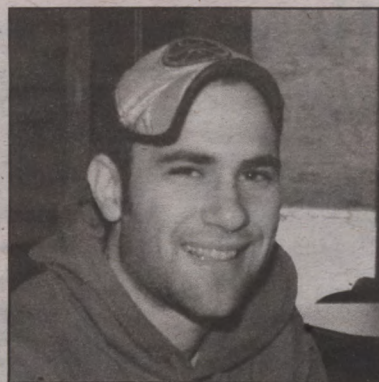


# OU students react to NIU campus shooting



"Violence is going to happen. I mean, it's not something you can stop. I guess what worries me is that anyone can just walk on the campus. They don't even have to be a student here."

Kristina Khoury  
Junior, English and Women's Studies



"I actually have a friend who went there, and he recently transferred to Ferris State. I actually kind of forgot that he transferred, so I was very worried, and called about him. But we have to recognize that it's something that is occurring all the time."

Kevin Keel  
Junior, Sociology



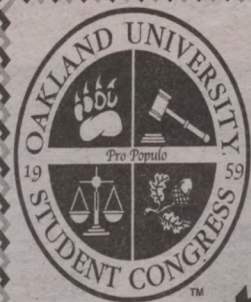
"Well of course it makes me uncomfortable. I think that the government has to do something about gun control. It could be us, too, you know what I mean? I think the government has to take some serious steps about gun control."

Azgur Yumruk  
Senior, Political Science



"I do feel safe here because I'm a nightwatch in Hamlin Hall so I am the security. We do a very good job with making sure the right people have the proper ID to get into the school."

Shamiko French  
Freshman, Communications



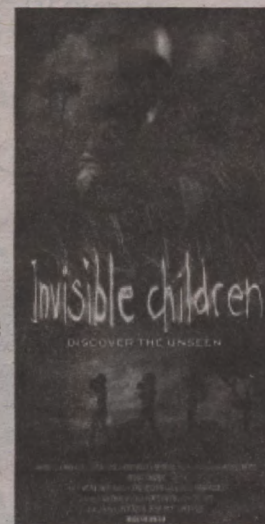
**Check out OUSC This Week  
at These Events!**

**The Legislative and Multicultural Affairs  
Committee presents Invisible Child!**

**Thursday, February 21, 2008 at 6:00pm in  
the Vandenberg Lounge**

**Free snacks will be provided!**

**Contact LMA Director Kristin Dayag for more  
details: [kadayag@oakland.edu](mailto:kadayag@oakland.edu)**



**Technology Advancement Program (TAP)  
Team Challenge Presentation!**

**Thursday, February 21, 2008 at Noon in Fireside Lounge**

**Free snacks will be provided!**

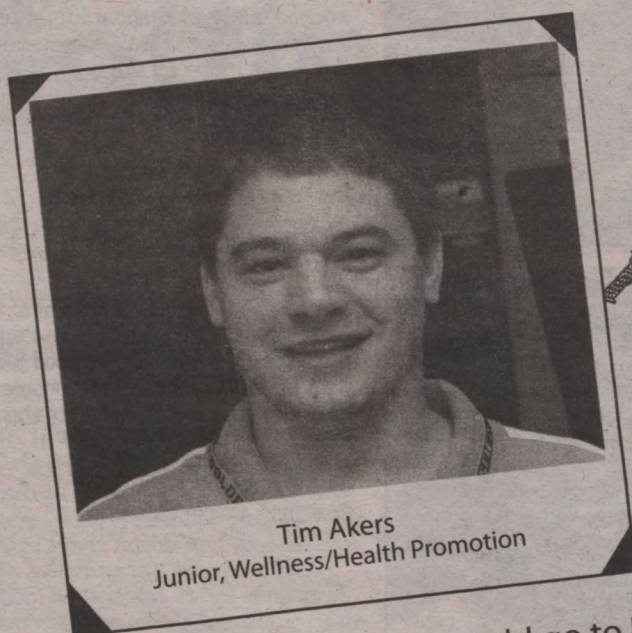
**Contact Jordan Twardy at [jdtwardy@oakland.edu](mailto:jdtwardy@oakland.edu) for  
more details!**





## Excursion aspirations

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?



Tim Akers  
Junior, Wellness/Health Promotion



"If I could travel anywhere I would go to France because their social service and lifestyle is more conducive to a healthy lifestyle and healthy living. I think it would be a great place to live."



Michelle Dick  
Junior, International Studies



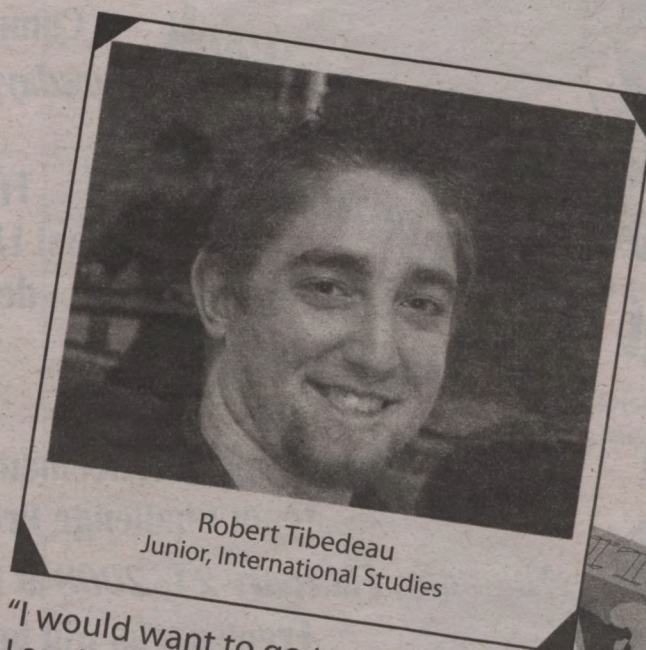
"Australia, so I can surf, and it seems like it would be a fun place."



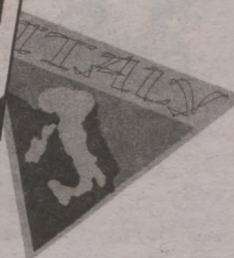
Nadia Kahn  
Junior, Biology



"India, because half of my family lives there and I've never met them."



Robert Tibedeau  
Junior, International Studies



"I would want to go to Italy because I am Italian and I would want to see Rome and explore."



## One-item suitcase

If you had to travel with only one item, what would it be?



"If I could only travel with one item, it would be my cell phone. If not that, then my lip gloss."

Chanel Stragne  
Senior, Public Policy/  
Administration

"I would take my hookah because it's a necessity in my life and it gets me through my day."

John Rohlman  
Freshman, Communication



"I would take toilet paper because it's a necessity."

Jenny Torrelba  
Sophomore, Special Education

"It would probably be my camera so I could capture everything that happens."

Dara Nong  
Senior, Journalism



## Traveling nightmares

What's the weirdest thing that's happened to you on vacation?



"I formed a blood clot in my eye by hitting my eye on the bottom of a pool in Orlando, Fla."

Janise Larkins  
Senior, Psychology



"I went to a water park and my bathing suit top came off. It was weird and embarrassing at the same time."

Brittany White  
Junior, Political Science

### Oakland University Eye Research Program

#### Summer Undergraduate Program in Eye Research

May 12 – August 1, 2008

Ideal S.U.P.E.R. candidates will be Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are pursuing careers in biomedical research or teaching. Up to six students will be assigned to one of six research laboratories, working directly with ERI faculty. This training program includes: lab safety, sound research design, vision sciences seminar series, a \$3,000 scholarship, independent research, and audio-visual presentation of work. ERI scientists explore the bio-chemical, physiological and molecular aspects of eye function and development. ERI research expands the understanding of ocular diseases such as cataract, retinal degenerations, and glaucoma.

Application packages may be obtained on line at  
<http://www.oakland.edu/eri>.

**Deadline for applications: MARCH 7, 2008**



## Grizzlies flounder against IPFW

*Former OU forward David Carson nets 18 for the Mastodons while Golden Grizzlies make marks in record books*

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — Men's basketball head coach Greg Kampe called it.

Back in an Oct. 2007 interview with The Oakland Post, Kampe referred to first-year Summit League contender IPFW as a "dark horse" to win the conference tournament in March.

While there are still two weeks remaining in the regular season, IPFW has gone from a team in limbo after their transition to Division I a few years ago to fourth place in the Summit League standings, sweeping their series with Oakland University this season with a 71-66 victory Saturday night.

IPFW had previously only won one game on the road this season at Centenary College on Feb. 7.

The Golden Grizzlies maintained a lead for most of the first half, shooting 54 percent from the field, compared to the Mastodons' 35 percent. The home team carried a 32-26 lead going into the break.

But the Mastodons took advantage of a 21-11 run in the second half's first seven minutes and gained a 41-40 lead, their first since the opening minute of the first half.

Oakland continued to put points on the board, but a 14-2 run by IPFW had the Grizzlies staring at an 11-point deficit with 7:18 to go.

Freshman Will Hudson sparked the Golden Grizzlies with a dunk with 6:46 to go, which sparked a 14-4 rally that brought them within one point with 2:30 left in the game.

Hudson, whose playing time has varied this season, clocked in 23 minutes off the bench and contributed nine points, seven rebounds, one block and a steal.

But mistakes down the stretch and a game-sealing 3-pointer by IPFW's Scott DeWitt with 47 ticks on the clock handed Oakland its second loss in three games, 71-66.

"I thought we defended them very

well for 30 of the 40 minutes," Kampe said. "There was an eight- or 10-minute stretch, where they just went by us off the dribble and their post players scored at will on us inside."

"We talk about how young we are, but that loss can't be attributed to youth. We had a chance to make some plays down the stretch with some veterans and did not get it done."

One of the veterans in question was junior Derick Nelson. While he scored a team-high 18 points, he only made five of his 12 free throws, including a missed one-and-one opportunity with 1:25 in the game that could have given Oakland a 63-62 lead.

Despite his performance, Nelson became the seventh Golden Grizzly since joining Division I to score over 1,000 points in a career. His total now stands at 1,004.

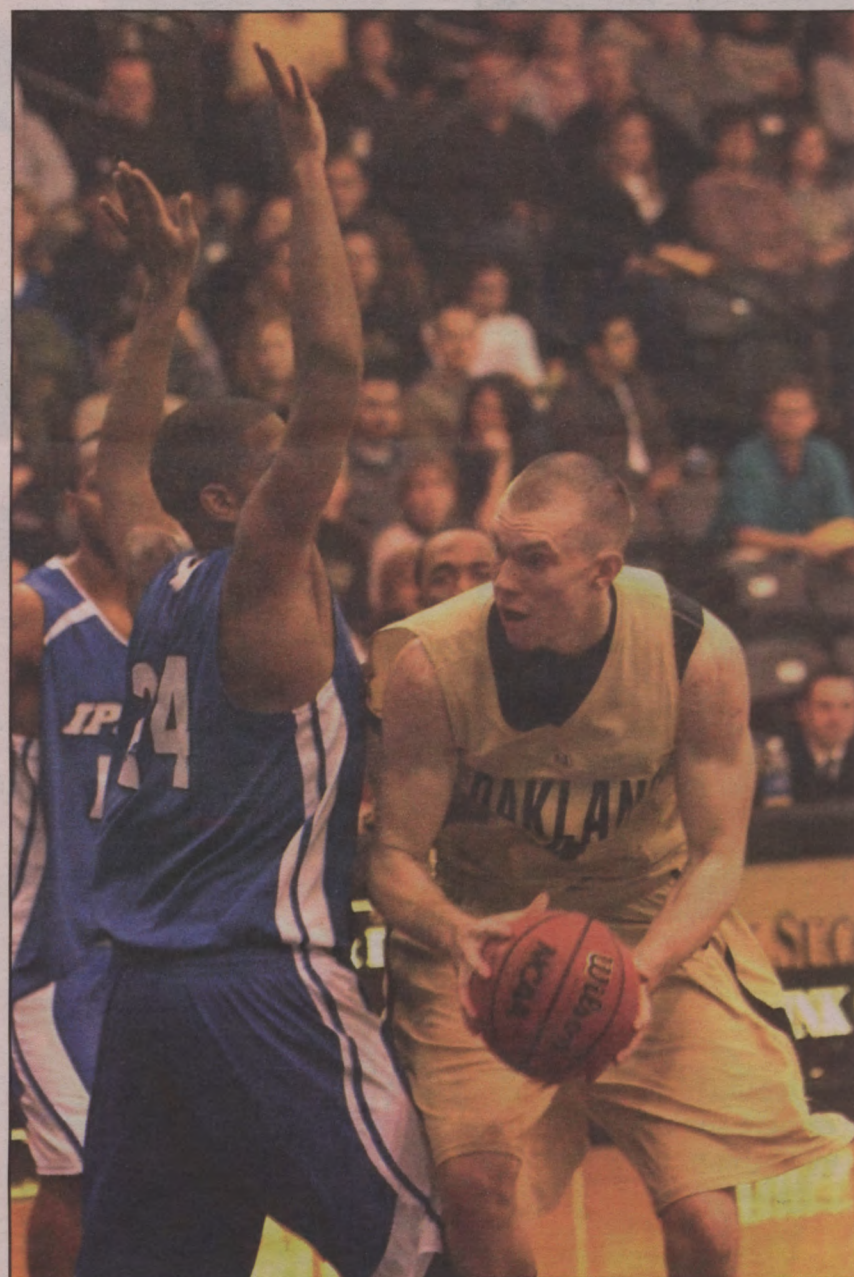
Nelson wasn't the only Golden Grizzly to create a notch in the record books. Senior Patrick McCloskey set the all-time record for most games played in a career with 119 games and sophomore Johnathon Jones' eight assists Saturday night brought him to the second place all-time in OU's Division I contention for assists in a season with 155. Jones is also ranked 18th in the NCAA in assists, averaging 6.2 assists per game.

The only other Golden Grizzly in double figures Saturday night was junior Erik Kangas, who netted 16 points, including four 3-pointers.

IPFW senior David Carson, who played his first two college seasons as a Golden Grizzly, returned to the O'Rena for the first time since his transfer and scored 18 points, a career-high in Mastodon uniform.

"He played a good game and made some good shots for them," said Kampe of his former player.

The Golden Grizzlies have their final two home games of the season this week, taking on IUPUI Thursday, Feb. 21 and concluding with Western Illinois University Saturday, Feb. 23. Thursday's game will be televised on Fox Sports Detroit at 7:30 p.m.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Oakland freshman Will Hudson looks to create some space in the paint against former Golden Grizzly and current IPFW forward, David Carson (24). Carson had a game-high 18 points in his first trip back to the O'Rena since his transfer. Hudson had a near double-double with nine points and seven rebounds in the loss.



## BASEBALL PREVIEW

# New coach, new attitude

*First-year head coach John Musachio returns 22 players*

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**  
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's baseball program hasn't had a winning season in the past seven years.

However, what may set this year's baseball team apart from years past isn't just a new head coach, but rather the attitude, the work ethic, and most importantly, the attention to detail.

"The thing I like about this team is it comes to work every single day and pays attention to detail," said first-year coach John Musachio. "Any time you have a team that pays attention to detail like our young men have, you have a chance to do something special."

Musachio spent the past three years coaching alongside former head coach Dylan Putnam, first at Michigan State where Putnam served as an assistant coach and Musachio a volunteer assistant, and then as Putnam's assistant when he came to Oakland in 2005.

Following Putnam's resignation at the conclusion of last season, Musachio was promoted to the head coach position last summer and is trying to integrate the former coach's strategies into his own game plan.

"I'm definitely plugging in some of the things he plugged in that worked," said Musachio. "Obviously, if you get a hundred coaches, you're going to get things done a hundred different ways, so we're doing a few things differently."

Having been with the program for the past two years, Musachio is familiar with the ins and outs of the department and has recruited most of the players himself, making it not only an easy transition for him, but for the players as well.

"They knew what to expect and there weren't really any surprises when I took over," he said.

Since taking over as head coach, Musachio has noticed marked improvement in his team's attitude and work ethic. Players come to practice every single day ready to play and give it 100 percent both physically on the field and in the classroom, maintaining a cumulative 3.04 GPA for the fall semester this year, according to Musachio.

While the team isn't necessarily ready for the first pitch today, their goal is to be ready by the season opener in Lexington, Ky., Tuesday, Feb. 26.

"We're not quite where we want to be hitting, where we want to be pitching or defensively yet, but we're not too far off,"

said Musachio.

The Golden Grizzlies return 22 players from last year's squad and bring in another 20 newcomers to bolster the lineup. Key players returning are left fielder Justin Wilson, who Musachio tabbed as one of the "best players in the region and best outfielders in the country," right fielder Dan Ryan, an "outstanding hitter" and All Mid-Con selection last year and shortstop Andy Stafford.

Newcomers to keep an eye out for are third-baseman Scott Sexton, switch-hitter Eric Ogg and right-handed pitchers Greg Welke and Shane McCatty.

The most depth, however, will be on the mound. Seniors Matt Trausch and Mike Takashima are still competing for the opening day start, but Musachio is confident that his other senior pitchers, Dan Stinchcombe and Brad Knoll will have big years as well.

"[Trausch and Takashima] can go out there and shut down anybody in the country," Musachio said. "Looking back, our pitching hasn't been as good as we needed it to be, but this group has accepted the challenge."

"If we pitch well and pick up and throw the ball across the diamond, I think we're going to have a lot of success."

The preseason Summit League coaches' poll has Oakland tabbed for a sixth-place finish in the conference, ahead of only North Dakota State and IPFW, both Summit League newcomers.

Oral Roberts has won the past 10 championships — a league record — and is expected to keep the streak alive.

Western Illinois, Centenary, South Dakota State and Southern Utah are all picked to finish above the Grizzlies, but Musachio doesn't pay much attention to preseason rankings and encourages his team to follow suit.

"I think our young men see that as a little bit of a challenge," he said of the sixth-place ranking. "I'm not surprised that's where they picked us, but the beautiful thing about it is they'll never see us coming."

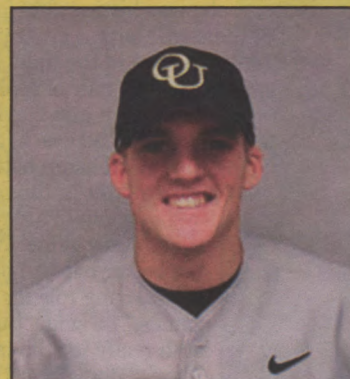
While the rest of the university suffers from spring fever, the baseball team migrates south for non-conference games against Kentucky, Tennessee Tech, George Washington and Tulane before returning home in mid-March.

"Our non-conference schedule, once again, is very tough. We don't have any gimmies," Musachio said. "Every non-conference game is going to be a challenge for us, but it's going to prepare us for



Head coach  
John Musachio

## THE GRIZZ FILES



JUSTIN WILSON

Major: Elementary Education  
Year: Junior

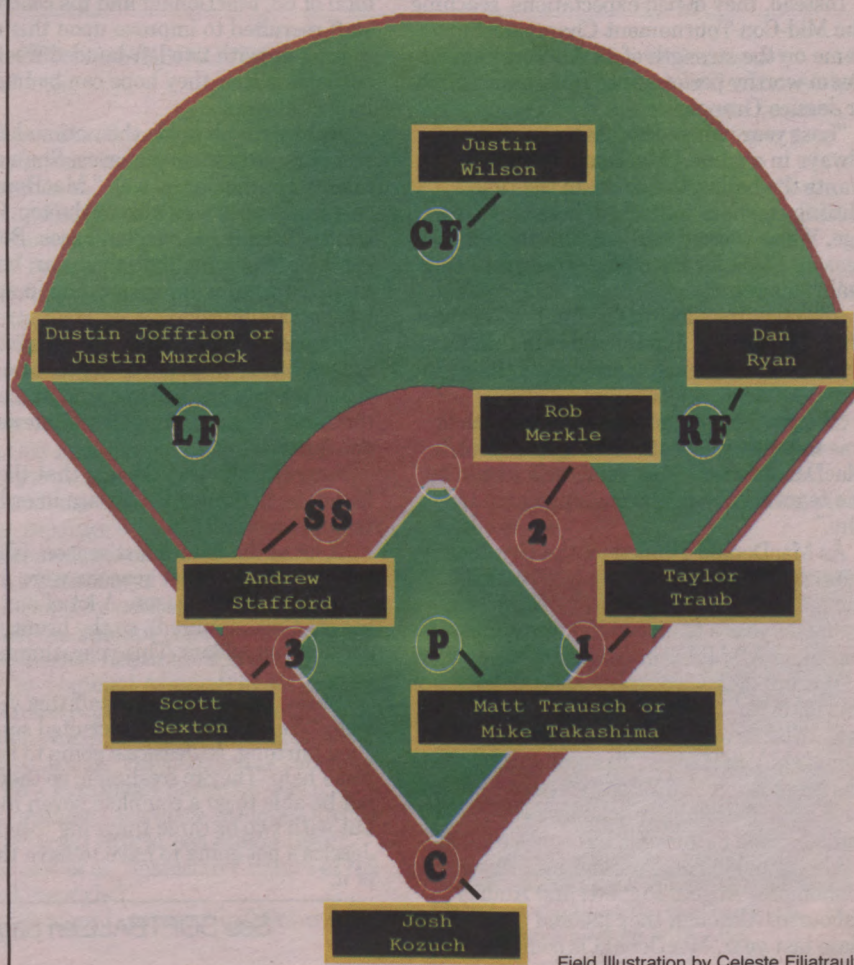
A Blissfield High '05 grad

Led OU with a .350 batting average  
last season

The first team All-Conference  
member had 30 RBIs last season.

Information and photo courtesy of OU Athletics

## Projected Starting Lineups





## SOFTBALL PREVIEW

# Softball team looking to improve

*Pitching ace Jessica Granger leads Golden Grizzlies onto the field*

By TIM RATH  
Contributing Reporter

As cliché as it may seem, all too often, coaches tend to use disrespect as a motivational tool. Some even go so far as to hunt for it.

If he chooses to, Oakland University softball head coach Glenn MacDonald won't have to search hard.

"My peers picked us to finish fifth in the conference," he said of the Summit League preseason softball poll, announced by the league office Friday. "We didn't even get one first-place vote — it surprised me a little bit, seeing as we didn't lose a lot in terms of talent, we had a very young team ... and we're bringing back the best pitcher in the conference. Evidently, they all think they're going to have her number."

Last year, it was the Mid-Con Tournament that was surprised.

With a record of 21-36 and playing teams with better records, the Golden Grizzlies were not expected to advance very far.

Instead, they defied expectations, reaching the Mid-Con Tournament Championship game on the strength of an All-Tournament Team-worthy performance from junior pitcher Jessica Granger.

"Last year, when Jess threw, we were always in a game," MacDonald said. "She wants the ball in the circle all the time. Hitting is where we lacked, because of our age. We've worked hard on that this off-season. I look for us to be a stronger hitting team this year."

Although they lost in the final to Southern Utah University, MacDonald said that those rejected odds are just a preview of things to come.

"We reached our goal last year, which was to make the conference tournament," MacDonald said. "This year, we'd like to be the team that wins the championship trophy."

As MacDonald alluded to, the Grizzlies' quest for the championship will be aided by the team's experienced roster. Six starters from last year's team remain, including second team All-Mid-Con shortstop Julie Owen.

"(Owen) is the sparkplug and the leader on this team ... she's the catalyst," MacDonald said. "She never gets caught 'watching' the game; she's in it for a full seven innings. She has great range ... I've moved her to second base from shortstop, to take away from right-handed batters hitting opposite field."

Also returning a year older and wiser are sophomores Angela Righetti and Audrey Sabourin. Although they labored at the plate last year, MacDonald is counting on

improvement.

"Audrey didn't hit the ball so well last year, but she's crushing it now," he said. "(Righetti) was struggling for most of the year, but when it got down to the key time of the year, she was hitting .300 for me. I think both of them will have a great year."

To replace Owen in the field, MacDonald is depending upon a pair of sophomore shortstops, Ashley Sullivan and Hayley Emerson.

According to the head coach, a competition for playing time will ensure better hitting from that position later in the season.

"I'm going to alternate them every other game. Whoever has the better bat will probably win the starting role for conference games," he said. "But they're both ready to step in this year. They're doing great at the fielding aspect of it. That's what has allowed me to move Julie over to second base."

Another area of focus for the Grizzlies this off-season has been speed. They finished last season with 33 stolen bases, far below their opponents' combined

total of 63. MacDonald and his coaching staff recruited to improve upon this number, coming up with two left-handed freshman outfielders that they hope can be immediate impact players.

"Kelsey Krych holds the national high school record for stolen bases. She's a very talented outfielder as well," MacDonald said. "Alyssa Deacon was also in the top-10 for the state of Michigan in stolen bases. Both will get a lot of playing time this year, because they add what we were missing in speed and left-handed hitting."

The last area of focus for the Grizzlies' off-season has been pitching depth. The team relied heavily on Granger, and in making the First Team All-Mid-Con Conference, she delivered.

However, MacDonald said that the load had to be lightened for his ace in order to take the next step.

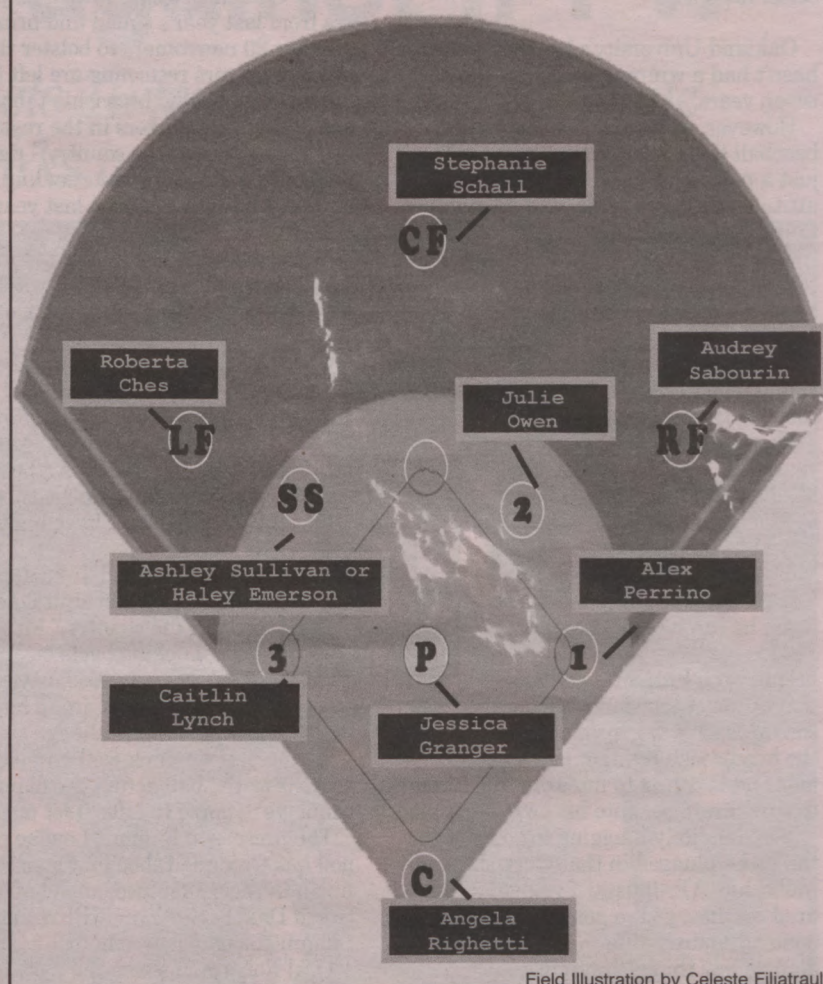
"A lot of the games last season, [that] we lost through weather reasons were made up at the end of the season. A lot of our pitching staff was (injured), so the brunt fell on Jessica's shoulders. This year, things are different," he said.

"I have six pitchers on staff this year," he said. "We went out and recruited some very good pitching, so Jessica's going to have some help. They're freshmen, so they may not be able to go a complete seven innings, but with two or three throwing together—Jessica's not going to have to have the brunt of it."



Head coach  
Glenn MacDonald

## Projected Starting Lineups



Field Illustration by Celeste Filiatrault

## THE GRIZZ FILES



JESSICA GRANGER

Major: Elementary Education  
Year: Junior

A Troy High '05 grad

Her 19 wins last season is the second-highest in OU's record books

First team All-Conference in her first OU season

Information and photo courtesy of OU Athletics

See SOFTBALL on page 26



# Despite injuries, OU women top IPFW

## Jeltema picks up slack for the Golden Grizzlies with a double-double

By **TIM RATH**  
Contributing Reporter

ROCHESTER — Following a Jan. 19 loss to IPFW, the Oakland University women's basketball team just hadn't looked like itself.

The Golden Grizzlies seemed to be playing a different style than the team that went 12-4 before the trip to IPFW which began their 2-5 skid.

On Saturday, the Grizzlies appeared to turn things around, as they topped IPFW 79-65 by forcing fouls and playing tough defense.

"It's 'the Cobra,'" said junior guard April Kidd of a nickname born from her tenacious defense. "I move when they're not expecting it."

Kidd struck early with aggressive defense in the first half, as two open-court steals led to fast-break opportunities and a 40-31 lead at the break.

Kidd continued to fill up the stat sheet, finishing with 14 points, 11 rebounds and three assists.

Sophomore guard Melissa Jeltema led OU with 16 points and 13 rebounds, notching her sixth double-double of the season. Senior Charlese Greer and junior Jessica Pike both chipped in 15 points, while freshman Anna Pattrino scored 11 and grabbed five rebounds starting in place of sophomore Hanna Reising, who is day-to-day with a sore foot.

"We've been preaching to Anna all week that, 'You are a stud,'" said head coach Beckie Francis. "She really showed it ... Her attacking early took all kinds of pres-

sure off of Pike in the second half."

The Grizzlies' second half was much like the first, as they dominated in the paint. Their lead rarely fell below 10 points. OU pushed the lead to as many as 17 in the closing seconds after a flurry of jump shots from Pike, before a last-second basket by IPFW closed the gap to 15.

The victory was emotional for Francis as the Grizzlies have maintained a position in the top half of the Summit League standings, withstanding a flood of injuries.

"It's indescribable how good this win feels with the adversity we've gone through," she said. "We have Bible study with Fellowship for Christian Athletes ... (Greer) led it this week, and she picked a really great verse about how adversity teaches endurance, and endurance teaches character, and character produces hope."

"I just want to be ... the spark," Greer said. "I like to attack the basket, its part of my role as a person on the team to bring energy offensively and defensively."

The Grizzlies have every right to be hopeful when Greer is in the game. The win pushes their record to 10-0 on the year when she scores 10 or more points, while her defense frustrated the taller IPFW front court.

OU out-rebounded IPFW by a margin of 52-27, and forced 10 steals. The win pushes their record to 15-9 overall, 8-6 within the Summit League.

The Grizzlies' next challenge is against IUPUI, Saturday at the O'Rena at 3:30 p.m.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Melissa Jeltema (10) takes a text book jump shot over IPFW's Courtney Reed last Saturday. Jeltema scored 16 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in the win over the Mastodons.

## Grillin' it up for a cause



Photos courtesy of Oakland University Athletics  
Oakland University head basketball coaches Greg Kampe (left) and Beckie Francis (right) grill up orders last Wednesday at BD's Mongolian Barbecue for a Coaches vs. Cancer fundraiser. The event raised over \$1200 for cancer research.

By **CHRIS WARBINGTON**  
Staff Intern

Over \$1200 was raised in the name of cancer research in the the third annual Coaches vs. Cancer event, held at BD's Mongolian Barbecue Wednesday Feb. 13.

The event is held every year with the goal being to inform people about ways to prevent cancer and to raise money for further cancer research.

The guest grillers, all associated with Oakland University basketball teams, included the head coaches of the men's and women's teams, Greg Kampe and Beckie Francis.

Approximately 150 guests were in attendance for the event that required two separate seating times to accommodate the large crowd.

As time neared for the event to begin, the empty restaurant began to fill. In no time, the amount of people doubled and the coaches began their grilling.

The National Association of Basketball Coaches began the fundraiser in 1993, when North Carolina State basketball coach Jimmy Valvano died of cancer.

Bd's Mongolian Barbecue was chosen, according to Associate Athletic Director of Internal Operations Simon Dover, because of its "interactive nature of the cooking style."

"It's a good partnership," Dover said.

"The American Cancer Society gets awareness and Mongolian Barbecue (also a sponsor of OU athletics) gets business. It's a way for Oakland athletics to give back to the community."

OU Director of Athletics Tracy Huth, and University President Dr. Gary Russi also attended the event to show their support.

Dover said that the association may do an event with Buffalo Wild Wings in the future, as well.

In another cancer awareness event, the women's basketball team will be playing with pink shoelaces during their final home game of the season against Western Illinois Feb. 25. The team is encouraging fans to wear something pink to the game.



Men's basketball associate head coach Jeff Tungate shows his skills on the grill.



continued from Page 23

**BASEBALL**

Summit League play."

Over the past seven years, the Golden Grizzlies have compiled a woeful 152-288 record overall and 77-103 in league play. In 2000, the Grizzlies finished second in the Mid-Con with a 17-9 record.

Musachio hopes to follow in volleyball coach Rob Beam's footsteps of turning around a program in his first season

with the team and believes he has the keys to make that possible.

"I've never been around a better group of collegiate baseball players. From a character standpoint, it doesn't get much better than this," Musachio said. "It starts with character, that's why I have a really good feeling about this team."

continued from Page 24

**SOFTBALL**

Granger posted outstanding numbers last season, finishing with a 2.34 earned run average to compliment her 19-16 record and 166 strikeouts. However, with lowered expectations and more rest, MacDonald expects an even better season from her.

"If you look back at our schedule, we lost games (by a score of) 1-0 in 12 innings, 2-1 in 13 innings, and those were killers, because we couldn't generate that one run. But for her to pitch that strong, and with our improved hitting; I honestly feel that Jessica's going to win 25 games," he said.

As MacDonald continued discussing

Granger, the topic of disrespect came up again.

"One of the best games she threw was against Tennessee, even though we lost 7-0. At one point, they had the bases loaded, she worked a 3-2 count on their cleanup hitter, and threw a strikeout pitch. Because it was Tennessee, that ump gave her ball four. But she can play anyone; nobody intimidates her," he said.

The Grizzlies will kick off the season Friday at the Georgia Southern Tournament. Their first home game is March 29 against Western Illinois.

**GRIZZ OF THE WEEK**

Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

**Melissa Jeltema**

Year: Sophomore  
Major: Undecided

Jeltema notched a double-double against IPFW Saturday with 16 points and 13 rebounds. The 5-foot-9 guard also leads the team in rebounds, pulling down an average of 7.8 boards a game.

**The Summit League swims over to OU**

Oakland University will host this weekend's Summit League Swimming and Diving Championship, where both Oakland men's and women's teams look for their ninth consecutive league titles. Last year, the men totaled 982 points, beating out Centenary by 378.5 points while the women compiled 902 to beat Western Illinois by 377 points. Oakland has dominated the Summit League weekly awards this season, with the Grizzlies taking home 15 of a possible 30 awards. Agnes Sloan leads the women with three accolades and for the men, Marcin Unold has two. The tournament kicks off Thursday morning at 11 a.m.

—Brittany Ochtinsky, Senior Reporter

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# MOUTHING OFF

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February 20, 2008

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## El Rushbo says 'Obama!'

*The anatomy of an 'uncivil war' on the right that is wrong*

By ALEX CHERUP  
Mouting Off Editor

*Author's note: This column was written to and should be read to the song "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" from Dr. Strangelove. Trust me, it fits.*

There is an uncivil war brewing on the right.

On one side, drive-by McCainiacs. On the other side, real conservatives.

And stuck right in the middle, El Rushbo, or as he's better known Rush Hudson Limbaugh III.

Well, not really in the middle. His girth expands himself much closer to the "real conservative" side.

Or does it? It seems to be debateable. Hold your breath, and turn up "When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

The wallowing windbag has "endorsed" Democratic candidate Barack Obama.

Or as Limbaugh loves to call him: Barack Hussein Obama.

Yes, this is the truth. Between puffs of his expensive cigars, Limbaugh has offered into his microphone plated with 18-karat gold that he may in fact support Obama.

I almost needed some OxyContin to settle down.

Limbaugh for Obama?

Is the world over? Have we reached the end of space and time?

Surely, the universe is not made to handle such inconsistencies.

Should we now only believe the absurd?

Did Limbaugh forget that Obama's middle name is Hussein?

The reason, however, is a bit more irrational.

Limbaugh, quite frankly, cannot stand John Sidney McCain.

One thing is for certain — Sidney is not as powerful as Hussein.

King Rush finds McCain too moderate on issues like immigration and tax cuts, and decided to take the logical route by supporting a liberal.

Naturally, a liberal that has anti-conservative positions on taxes and immigration, in addition to many others.

As an amateur Limbaugh scholar and enthusiast, I have provided some analysis of the recent words of America's most annoying bully.

Take the following "Annotated Limbaugh" lines from his Feb. 13 broadcast regarding the senile candidate. The rationale behind the Obama endorsement will be understood.

The voice of broadcast excellence claimed Obama is "a blank canvas upon which anyone can project their fantasies and desires. ... He's saying nothing better than anyone in my lifetime ever has."

Apparently, Rushie doesn't listen to his own program.

Here, since Obama says "nothing," we can throw our own ideas onto

but there is also no reason to bring Ann Coulter into the conversation.

"Therefore, I would like today, to announce a tentative decision, I'm still thinking about it, to endorse Barack Obama," Rush later proclaimed. "Here's why: Barack Obama is pro-life. Barack Obama is a constitutionalist.

"Barack Obama is in favor of limited government ... Barack Obama is tax-cutter extraordinaire. Barack Obama makes my leg tingle when I hear him speak."

Please turn up your "When Johnny

McCain and is outraged at the conservative and Republican decision to promote McCain.

Bob Dole even wrote to Limbaugh, urging him to stop bashing McCain a few weeks ago.

Laura Ingraham and Ann Coulter have sided with Rush. Faithful listeners have enlisted in the Limbaugh army, offering to stay away from voting booths if McCain runs.

Limbaugh later added that "I'm not going to be endorsing Hillary or Obama — unless it's a joke to make a point."

Interestingly enough, his "joke" had the same sort of logic that all of his other "true" Limbaugh arguments possess.

Therefore, by strict Limbaughian logic, all of his arguments are jokes.

The Obama defense made as much sense as his defense that scientists were wrong that "fat is bad for you."

Brother against brother, or more accurately, very old men against fat men and annoying bitches, the right is in an uncivil war, and this Rush hour is far from over.

To see Rush more and more annoyed due to Republicans' selection of John Hussein

McCain (that sounds poetic) is the ultimate liberal high.

There is nothing better than seeing Limbaugh flail around behind his microphone looking like Jabba the Hutt being choked.

The only ones winning this uncivil war are the Limbaugh critics.

Rush OxyContin Limbaugh holistically defended his decision, claiming: "If I were to endorse McCain based on the current circumstances, I'd be looked at as a party hack."

And Rush, I must say, unlike many times in the past, you do not look like a party hack.

This time, my dear Rush, you only look like a hack.



Photo Illustration CELESTE FILIATRAULT  
Limbaugh the Hutt offers his drive-by support for Obama

him, just as Limbaugh throws his "ideas and facts" on his weekly "13.5 million listeners."

Limbo continued sometime after: "Everybody thinks he's [Obama] saying what they want. So they are able to project onto Obama their fantasies. So if they believed in allowing, um, pmmmmhhh, whoever, somebody marry a dog, they think Obama will support it."

For Limbaugh scholars, this is even a surprise. Marrying a dog? Not only is this a poor reference and a weak line,

Comes Marching Home" again.

Tingle? Here Mr. Limbaugh is confusing Obama with Limbaugh's illegal drugs and prescriptions.

I'm surprised the next line wasn't "Barack Obama is able to score me illegal pain killers."

So, Limbaugh's rationale is this: Obama is the best choice because he can be whatever you want him to be. Unfortunately, Maharushie, Obama is not one of your listeners.

Nonetheless, Limbaugh cannot stand



## Fidel Castro resigns, brother fills void

By ANITA SNOW  
Associated Press Writer

HAVANA — While Fidel Castro famously mesmerized his countrymen with dramatic, extemporaneous speeches stretching over hours, brother Raul is known for his businesslike, even boring delivery, rarely bothering to look up from prepared texts.

A full head shorter than his brother, Raul bares little resemblance to Fidel, and lacks his sibling's Romanesque profile and athletic physique.

But many believe Raul has been long underestimated in his brother's shadow. Though he has yet to deliver on any of the economic reforms he has hinted at while leading a caretaker government since 2006, Cubans seem excited that Raul's pragmatic style of leadership could bring

real improvements to their everyday lives.

They appreciated Raul's frank acknowledgment that Cuban salaries are too low for basic necessities, even in a communist society where food, rent, education and health care are heavily subsidized. They smiled and nodded when Raul angrily criticized officials who made excuses for a transportation system on "the point of collapse."

U.S. policy has long sought to undermine the succession from Fidel to Raul, despite his role as Cuba's constitutionally designated heir. Cuban exiles in Miami and Washington bureaucrats have dreamed that Cuba's communist system would die with Fidel, opening the door to a U.S.-style democracy and free markets.

But dispassionate Cuba watchers say Raul will likely rule the nation for the foreseeable future.

As the world's longest-ruling defense minister, Raul can count on the loyalty of top generals, the control of up to 50,000 active troops and an arsenal including Soviet-era tanks and fighter planes.

He also is a political hard-liner who belonged to a Communist youth group even before the revolution.

"Raul is younger than I, more energetic than I. He can count on much more time," said Fidel, when he officially designated Raul as his successor at a Communist Party congress in 1997.

In a rare 2001 interview, Raul encouraged the United States to make peace with Cuba while Fidel was still alive.

"I am among those who believe that it would be in imperialism's interest to try, with our irreconcilable differences, to normalize relations as much as possible during Fidel's life," Raul told state television.



DAVID GUTTENFELDER/Associated Press  
Pakistani supporters of the opposition party Muttahida Qaumi Movement party, celebrate at their party's headquarters in Karachi, Pakistan.

## Musharraf foes celebrate election win in Pakistan

By STEPHEN GRAHAM  
Associated Press Writer

LAHORE, Pakistan — The election was sweet revenge for Nawaz Sharif, a two-time prime minister ousted from power, forced into exile and only grudgingly allowed to return to Pakistan.

Voters flocked to opposition parties in Monday's parliamentary elections, repudiating the leadership of Sharif's bitter political enemy — President Pervez Musharraf, the one-time army commander who kicked him out of office eight years ago.

Under current law, Sharif won't be the next prime minister, because convictions related to his ouster in the 1999 coup barred him from seeking office. But as leader of a key opposition party, he will have a big say in the future course of this nuclear-armed nation and the fate of Musharraf.

Sharif campaigned on a platform demanding the president's ouster and he showed little mercy Tuesday, reminding reporters that Musharraf promised to step down whenever his people asked him to.

"And now people have given their verdict," Sharif said. He said political parties should work out a plan to "say goodbye to dictatorship forever."

According to partial results, Sharif's conservative Pakistan Muslim League-N party was in second place behind the party led by the late Benazir Bhutto, who was assassinated Dec. 27. The pro-Musharraf party was a distant third.

Zaffar Abbas, an editor at the newspaper Dawn, said Sharif benefited above all from his unflinching criticism of Musharraf, who imposed emergency rule in November, purged the judiciary and rounded up political opponents.

Sharif's party is secular but conservative and draws strong support from the middle class, especially in the cities.

### NIW BRIEFS

2-12 | Members of the Writers Guild of America vote to end the three-month WGA strike.

2-13 | The U.S. Senate passes legislation to ban the Central Intelligence Agency from using various interrogation methods including waterboarding.

2-14 | The U.S. Navy will use an SM-3 missile to shoot down the broken National Reconnaissance Office spy satellite containing hydrazine fuel.

2-15 | Political parties in Kenya agree to set up an independent panel to review the disputed 2007 presidential elections.

2-17 | U.S. President George W. Bush offers a \$700 million aid package to Tanzania to combat disease and poverty.

| The parliament of Kosovo declares independence from Serbia.

2-18 | Republican John McCain wins his party's Wisconsin presidential primary election. | Democrat Barack Obama wins his party's Wisconsin presidential primary.



NAM Y. HUH/Associated Press  
Students gather around a makeshift memorial Friday, Feb. 15, 2008 after a campus vigil on Northern Illinois University campus in DeKalb, Ill. A 27-year-old former student Stephen Kazmierczak opened fire Thursday in a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University, killing five people and wounding more than a dozen others before taking his own life.

## Slaughterhouse abuse leads to massive meat recall

By GREG RISLING  
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — An undercover video showing crippled and sick animals being shoved with forklifts has led to the largest beef recall in the United States and a scramble to find out if any of the meat is still destined for school children's lunches.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Sunday ordered the recall of 143 million pounds of beef from a Southern California slaughterhouse that is the subject of an animal-abuse investigation.

The recall will affect beef products dat-

ing to Feb. 1, 2006, that came from Chino-based Westland/Hallmark Meat Co., the federal agency said. The company provided meat to various federal programs.

Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer said his department has evidence that Westland did not routinely contact its veterinarian when cattle became non-ambulatory after passing inspection, violating health regulations.

A phone message left for Westland president Steve Mendell was not returned.

No illnesses have been linked to the newly recalled meat, and officials said the health threat was likely small.

Officials estimate that about 37 million pounds of the recalled beef went to school programs, but they believe most of the meat has most likely already been eaten.

Federal officials suspended operations at Westland/Hallmark after an undercover video from the Humane Society of the United States surfaced showing workers kicking, shocking and abusing "downer" animals that were apparently too sick or injured to walk into the slaughterhouse, and shoving crippled and sick animals with forklifts.

Two former employees, who have since been fired, were charged Friday.