

THE OAKLAND POST

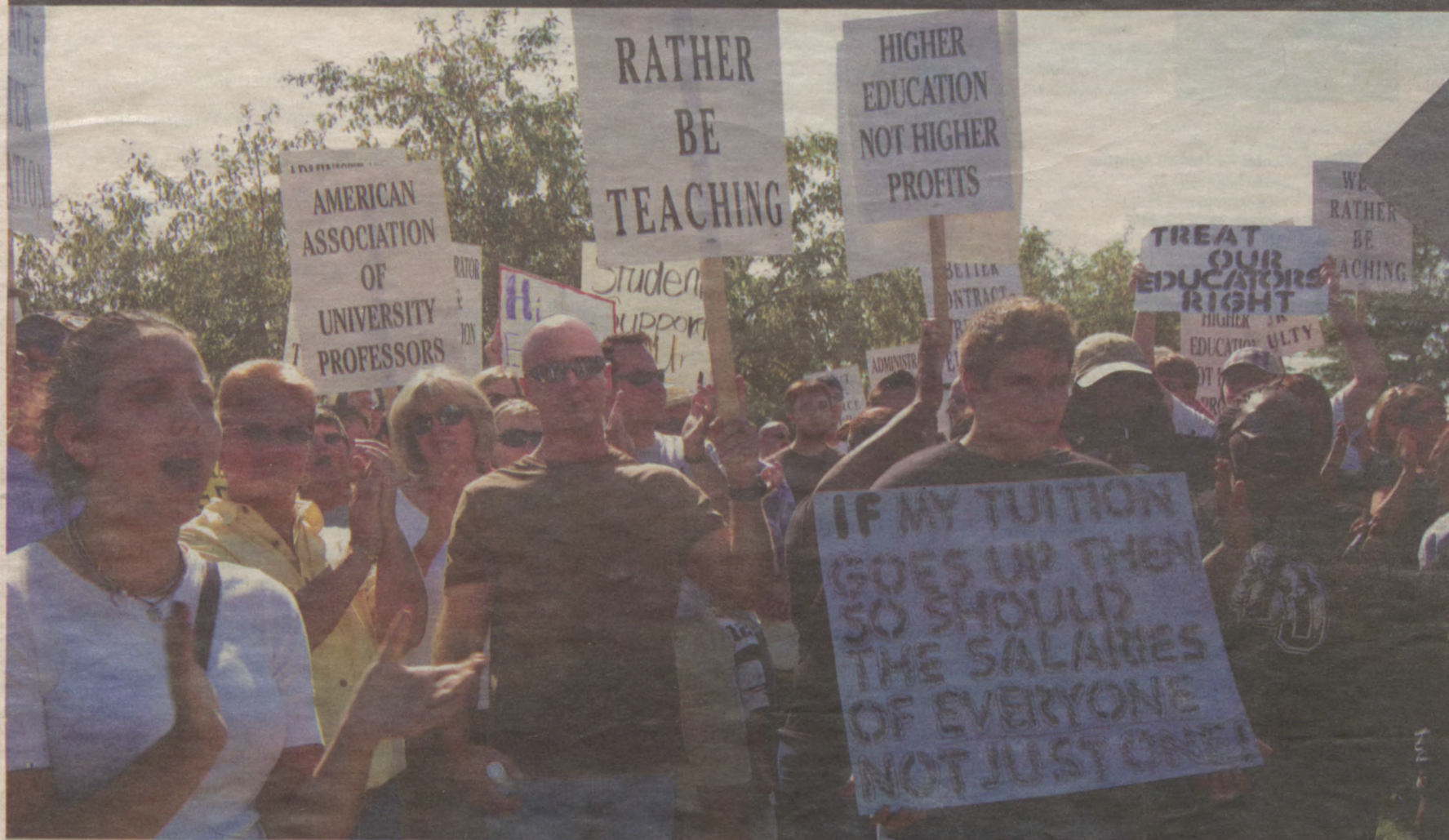
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

September 9, 2009

Volume 36, Number 5



DRAWING THE LINE



PAGES 6 & 7

Catch up on the issues standing between the Oakland administration and the faculty union in the ongoing strike and negotiations.

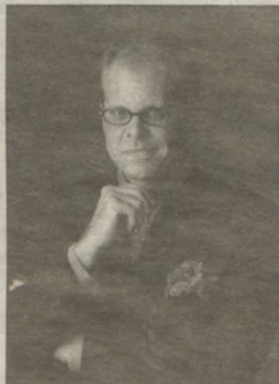


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ALTON BROWN

An American food personality, cinematographer, author and actor, Alton Brown is the creator and host of the Food Network television show *Good Eats* as well the miniseries *Feasting on Asphalt* and *Feasting on Waves*. In addition to being the main commentator on *Iron Chef America*, Brown is also the author of several books on cooking and a regular contributor to *Bon Appétit* and *Men's Journal* magazines.

He brings a knowledge and enthusiasm for the science of cooking and a humorous approach to his shows. *Bon Appétit* magazine named him Cooking Teacher of the Year in 2004, and he was named Best Food Guru by *Atlanta* magazine in 2005. *Good Eats* was awarded the Best T.V. Food Journalism Award by the James Beard Foundation in 2000, and the show was also awarded a Peabody Award in 2006.

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

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by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

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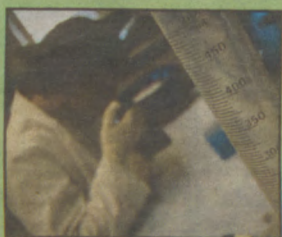
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Blogosphere

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THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Perspectives

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September 9, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

Picketing 114 isn't enough

The first e-bills are paid, the beds are made, the curfews kissed goodbye, textbooks are purchased and work schedules are adjusted.

The galaxy seemed to be aligned when The Oakland Post ran a "Welcome" cover on the first week back. In retrospect, the sentiment was premature.

The cancellation of classes certainly hinders our ability to get the education we signed up for at Oakland University. But there is one thing we did learn last week. The faculty strike, by any name and regardless of virtue, isn't a good model for customer service.

What both sides seem to have forgotten is that us students are sitting around waiting for the "merchandise" for which we have already started paying.

Like any paying customer, the students at this university should be treated with respect, and receive a modicum of credit for our intelligence. There is absolutely no reason why students and faculty should be kept in the dark on what it is that's being negotiated.

The university keeps reiterating its policy, which is a refusal to discuss ongoing negotiations.

But when we're at a point where a service is not being delivered upon payment, we should at least have the right

to know the specifics about why our lives are being put on hold.

At the July board of trustees meetings, the cost of an OU education was compared to the cost of a 2009 Chevy Impala SS. Both are nearly \$34,000. Except if you walked into any Chevy dealership and dropped off a down payment, you'd likely be driving away in your investment on the same day.

Apparently our education is on back order.

Regardless of the way the administration and the faculty look at it, the students are the consumers. We are the customers, the shareholders and the product.

We pay three quarters of OU's salaries and we are investing in not only ourselves but also any capital investments for the university.

No, we do not want to be taught by professors who don't stand up for themselves. We want to know that our teachers are role models with a moral compass and strong convictions. But we eventually need to get to those classes to benefit anything from having those strong professors.

Both sides of the negotiation have their reasons for not wanting to settle for the other side's demands. We understand that, and those issues are laid out

in the Campus section of this paper, although reaching an understanding of those issues based on what either side has to say about them is not easy.

In a recent press release from OU, students and parents were assured the university "will do whatever it takes to deliver a top-notch educational experience."

Whatever it takes means whatever it takes, not whatever you're willing to sacrifice to an extent. The AAUP told The Post late Tuesday that OU kept presenting the same contract terms even after a judge ordered negotiations to continue. Hello, you have to be talking and compromising to negotiate. This isn't a trial, we can't have a jury.

When we enroll in a class and pay the tuition, we enter into our own contract with the university. And right now, the university administration is not fulfilling its end of the contract. It is on them to work out a contract that our professors' union finds fair.

Although it's refreshing to see students getting involved, Picketing 114 is not going to count come time to apply for graduation.

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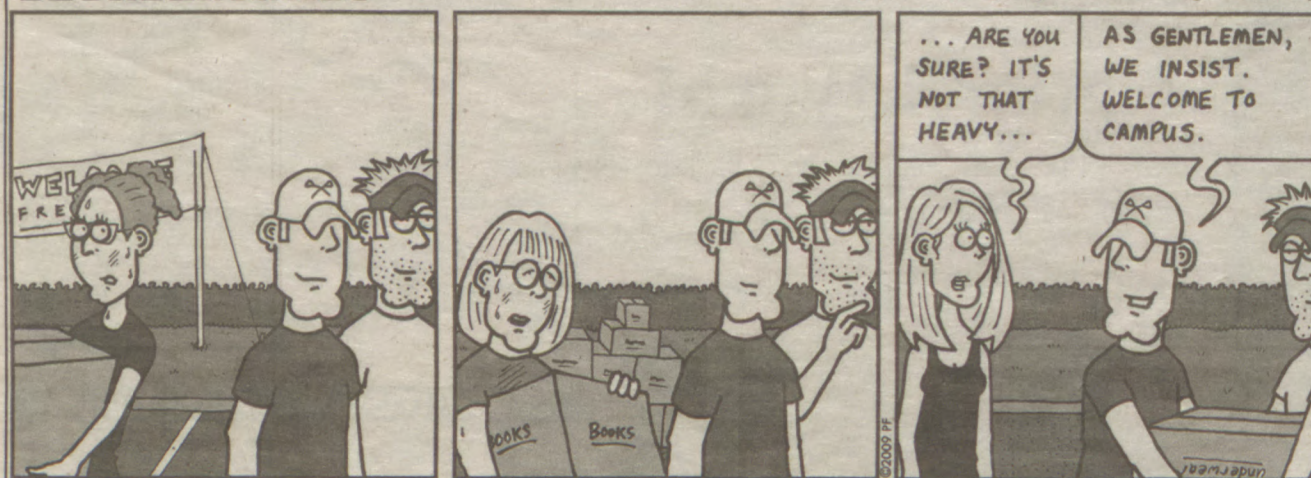
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Letter Policy:

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by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)



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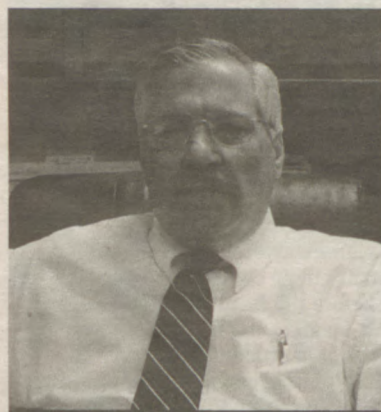
• In the Scene's Rochester City Guide on Sept. 2, the map was labeled as Rochester Hills.

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

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

You can prevent campus crime



OUPD Chief
LUCIDO

Many things go into making Oakland University a very safe campus community, and not the least of these are efforts on the part of students, staff, faculty and visitors to help the Oakland University Police Department in crime prevention measures and campus safety initiatives.

To date, our efforts as a community have been effective. Crime statistics and other relevant data indicate that Oakland University is one of the safest locations in Oakland County. This is reassuring not only to those already here on campus, but to prospective students and parents who are making decisions about where to invest in a college education.

As a community, we must continue to be vigilant in our efforts to maintain a safe learning environment. The university administration and the OUPD will certainly continue to do all in their power toward this end.

This year, for example, we will introduce an improved and updated blue light emergency

phone system. These on-campus phones, which dial directly to the emergency dispatch center, will also work as loudspeakers to send live audio broadcasts on campus. With them, we will be able to communicate important information more quickly and efficiently during emergency situations.

Other campus safety initiatives we've implemented in recent years include boosting OUPD staffing levels; expanding community safety education, training and equip-

ment; and upgrading security technology throughout the campus.

In addition, we have enhanced our emergency evacuation process, safety alert notifications and emergency lockdown procedures. We have and will continue to build on our cooperative working relationships with surrounding law enforcement agencies and other emergency first responders.

All members of the campus community should know that we are equipped to send text message alerts to cell phones in the event of a major campus emergency. We encourage those who haven't already subscribed to receive the alerts to sign up at www.oakland.edu/ready, our comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Website.

Those on campus should also know that our Dispatch Communications Center is now capable of receiving text message tips and reports through a dedicated computer system. Because our ability to reply to text messages is limited, and to enhance our ability to respond appropriately to emergency calls, we always prefer to receive reports or notifications by voice --- 911 from campus phones or (248) 370-3333 from cell phones. However, if you ever find yourself in a dangerous situation and you cannot call or would feel more comfortable texting our dispatcher for assistance, you may send a text message to 911@oakland.edu. You may also e-mail our dispatcher at this address.

I am certain we'd all agree that these are necessary and important initiatives, and you can rest assured that the OUPD will continue to research developments in the field of emergency preparedness and analyze crisis situations in order to learn how we can improve our own plans.

Meanwhile, I urge you to spend a few minutes visiting our Emergency Preparedness website, www.oakland.edu/ready. Here you will find all of our emergency procedures, as well as a link to an online course on how to recognize and report warning signs of potentially violent behavior.

If we work together as a team with each of us remaining vigilant in our efforts, I'm confident we all will enjoy a safe and successful educational experience this year.

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Pushing the issues: *Who is saying what in the OU-union negotiations*

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Senior Reporter

Issue	OU administration	Faculty union	Status
Salary Raise	AAUP declined an 11 percent raise over three years that OU offered.	The 11 percent is inaccurate because it includes not only the salary, but also benefits and merit pay. It said it would be willing to give up a raise if it meant victory on the faculty governance issue.	AAUP said they almost reached an agreement late Monday night, but the contract as a whole has not been agreed upon.
Summer Pay	The claim that administrators are trying to take away ... summer pay ... is completely inaccurate," said President Gary Russi.	OU was initially trying to give less pay for faculty teaching summer classes, but recently has stopped insisting on this.	This issue appears to be resolved, but contract as a whole has not been agreed upon.
Shared Governance	"The faculty's role in shared governance of the university will not be impacted in any way," said Russi.	This is the most important issue of all. OU is trying to remove or decrease faculty input in academics, but maintaining faculty input benefits students because faculty knows more than administration about academics. OU demanded Monday that AAUP withdraw its unfair labor practice lawsuit about Russi's signature on a '99 document not being valid. This was the dealbreaker.	Judge ruled in AAUP's favor for the unfair labor practice lawsuit in question, but OU is appealing that decision. Unclear what OU demanded and AAUP responded, because no negotiation documents are being made public by either side. AAUP filed another unfair labor practice lawsuit last Wednesday because it believes OU didn't bargain fairly. This issue is still ongoing.
Health Care	"OU has offered faculty members a choice of three HMO plans - HAP, BlueCare Network and Priority Health - all at no cost," said Russi.	OU offered a two-tiered plan that will make "less healthy people" pay more and it will not accept such a discriminatory plan. AAUP said it will be the first time a university in Michigan will do so, and doesn't want to set a bad trend.	This issue is still ongoing.
Tenure	"Faculty members with tenure and those on tenure tracks are protected, as is the summer pay of all faculty," said Russi.	Tenure of current faculty members was not an issue, but OU first tried to institute hiring of more fixed-term faculty in the future instead of tenure-track faculty, which would reduce the quality of newly hired faculty and thus education. OU has since stopped insisting on this.	This issue appears to be resolved, but the contract as a whole has not been agreed upon.
OU's Finance	OU has an A2 Moody's credit report rating and \$110 million in reserve bank. Some money is used for emergencies, some for regular payments like payroll, and some kept in the reserves so OU's credit rating doesn't drop, which benefit students. It would cost \$594,000 to give all faculty a 1 percent raise. OU will not use undergraduate tuition to fund upcoming medical school.	At first, the union said OU had AAA rating and \$150 million in bank, but has acknowledged later this is not true. OU can afford to make students pay less tuition and give faculty and staff raises. AAUP suspects undergraduate tuition will be used to finance upcoming medical school.	Unclear whether OU can afford to lower student tuition and raise employee salaries.
Intellectual Property	No comment was available at press time.	OU tried to have more administration ownership of faculty's intellectual property, which is not only unfair, but would also result in less research collaboration of OU faculty and other organizations.	AAUP said this issue has been resolved, but the contract as a whole has not been agreed upon.
Faculty Research and Travel Pay	OU offered an increase in this.	OU initially offered no increase in this, but has since offered an increase.	This issue appears to be resolved, but the contract as a whole has not been agreed upon.
Legality	This is an illegal strike. Earlier, it also used the term illegal work stoppage.	This is a legal unfair labor practice protest. Earlier, it also used the term legal job action.	Strikes are illegal in Michigan, but it's unclear if using a different name to describe a similar action makes this legal.

Oakland University is trying to force its faculty to go back to teaching classes, even before the faculty contracts are agreed upon. Going back to class is "for the benefit of students who have been deprived of instruction they expect and deserve," according to a press release.

The OU administration and the faculty union will be in the Oakland County Circuit Court Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 10 a.m., when OU will ask judge Edward Sosnick to tell the teachers to work while bargaining is going on. The judge ordered both sides to keep negotiating until 10 a.m., but negotiations broke down Tuesday night, and no further bargaining meetings are scheduled.

The union said OU's negotiating team offered the same unacceptable proposals they have been making and refused to budge, so the union's team left.

Both the administration and the union said they are hopeful that the judge will see it their way.

Joel Russell, president of OU's chapter of American Association of University professors that represents about 600 faculty members, said at a rally Tuesday afternoon that he was at one of these hearings before, and then, the judge sent both teams into a different room and told them to stay until the matter is settled.

"We think this will happen again," Russell said. But he said that if the judge ruled in OU's favor and ordered faculty to resume teaching classes, the faculty will do so. "I hate saying that."

The division of the student affairs and enrollment management said there will be a meeting Wednesday to discuss whether the academic calendar will be changed to reflect the four days of classes missed so far.

OU officially canceled classes for Wednesday.



Read the full story as it develops on the new Oakland Post website and read our previous coverage. Also follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/oakpost), Twitter (www.twitter.com/theoaklandpost), and Flickr (www.flickr.com/photos/theoaklandpost).

Table compiled by The Oakland Post staff

Negotiators for Oakland University Administration

William Connellan

Consulting and Chair of the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce

William Connellan is a former member of the OU administration and was also a member of the journalism faculty. He retired from the university in 2008.

Peggy Cooke

Assistant Vice President for Resource Management

In addition to being involved in academic affairs, Cooke is also a part of the Oakland University bi-weekly Self-Study Core Group, which provides aid and advice on the process of self-study.

Ron Sudol

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Rhetoric Professor

Previously the interim dean of the college of arts and sciences, Sudol has worked at Oakland since September 2001.

Leigh Settlemoir Dzwik

Assistant Vice President for Academic Human Resources

Dzwik has worked for academic affairs since 2002 and serves on multiple committees including the Human Resources Advisory Council, Academic Affairs Administrative Group, and the Security Advisory Council.

Michael A. Latcha

Ph. D. Associate Professor of the Mechanical Engineering Department

Latcha instructs a handful of other mechanical engineering courses. Latcha and his associates were also published in the Journal of Education Engineering after designing a unique approach to the senior capstone project.

David Garfinkle

Ph. D. Physics Professor

In addition to teaching physics courses at Oakland, Garfinkle also does research in numerical relativity including properties of singularities, critical gravitational collapse and cosmic censorship.

AT THE ROUND TABLE

Written by Jennifer Wood
Designed by Jason Willis

Frances C. Jackson

Ph. D. Associate Professor of Nursing

Jackson teaches courses at both the graduate and undergraduate nursing level and has also done research on HIV/AIDS and the older African American as well as Cultural/Ethnic/Racial Influences on End-of-Life Preferences.

Scott Barnes

Executive Director AAUP

Barnes is the OU contact for the American Association of University Professors, which aims to improve the quality of OU and uphold faculty rights and due process.

James F. Cipielewski

Ph. D. Associate Professor of the School of Education and Human Resources and Chair of Reading and Language Arts

Cipielewski instructs teacher education courses including 490 and Master's Projects courses.

Photo courtesy of Niki Sublime
www.flickr.com/people/nikisublime

Negotiators for the American Association of University Professors

Signs taken down from res hall windows, policy stated as cause

By SEAN GARNER AND MELISSA BUKOWSKI

Senior Reporter and Contributing Reporter

In the midst of one of the most controversial events in campus history, many students are taking a stand. Several showed up at a picketing rally organized Thursday by the AAUP, and nearly 450 students have joined two Facebook groups declaring support for the faculty.

However, one group of students has apparently been told to avoid the fray.

According to several resident assistants, they've been instructed by their superiors to keep their opinions about the labor dispute to themselves. Some were advised by e-mail, some by text and some by word of mouth. None of which were able to be confirmed.

One resident assistant, who agreed to speak on the record but wished to remain anonymous, said that an e-mail sent from the housing department first prohibited resident assistants from attending AAUP functions. Then the orders were amended to say that RAs couldn't publicly demonstrate support or opposition. The resident assistant said they had to distance themselves from a student organization with which they were involved.

"I was upset, because my student org was protesting, and I was about to protest with them too when I got the e-mail telling me I couldn't do that," the resident assistant said. "I just kind of removed myself by saying I was a housing employee, and it would cause a conflict of interest."

Dave Tindall, assistant director of university hous-



Signs supporting faculty were displayed by students in Vandenberg Hall windows over the weekend. Students were allegedly asked by resident assistants to take the signs down.

ing, said resident assistants were never restricted from attending the picketing rally.

"The RA's could have attended during non-work hours," Tindall said. "During work hours they have responsibilities that require them to be within the residence halls."

The housing department also instructed resident assistants to avoid speaking with the media, according to several resident assistants, all of whom asked to remain anonymous.

Tindall indicated that, while he did not know about a housing department gag order, it would be consistent

with the demands of resident assistants.

"I am unaware of any residence hall staff member receiving such a warning," Tindall said. "However, residence hall staff members are held to a different standard of behavior than general residents."

Director of OU's media relations, Ted Montgomery, said there's no university-wide ban on speaking to the media.

Some of the resident assistants contacted said the restrictions regarding media contact were reasonable and not an intrusion on their freedom of speech. Others were disturbed by the mandates.

Freshman Michelle Poterek said she was asked to remove a sign she had posted outside her dorm room window.

"We hung a sign that says 'Injury to one is an injury to all,'" she said. "I find it ironic that my RA told me 'you have to take that down' because she was getting a hard time from a supervisor. The people here tell you to find what you're passionate about and participate in that."

According to Tindall, any sign placed in a window is a violation.

"On page 31 of the housing student handbook, the Window and Outside Wall Policy states 'for health and safety reasons, as well as for the appearance of the buildings, banners, fliers, posters and other forms of advertisement are not allowed to hang outside from balconies, lounge windows or individual room windows,'" Tindall said. "Therefore, residents are not allowed to place signs in their windows."

— Brad Slazinski contributed to this report

OU launches new slogan, billboards to change

By COLLEEN J. MILLER
Editor in Chief

Come mid-September, Oakland University will have a new marketing slogan on its local billboards.

The "You can afford this" campaign will be replaced with the transitional slogan, "A smart investment," which is already displayed on the OU homepage.

"We decided at the beginning of the 'You can afford this' campaign that it was never meant to be the main message for OU," said Michelle Moser, director of integrated marketing for the university. "It was more of a response to the economy."

Moser said the affordability campaign served its purpose, which was to draw attention to the increased financial aid opportunities and the relatively low tuition rates. Even with the tuition increase, OU is still in the middle of the pack of state universities.

"We still have comparable tuition for the education you get," Moser said.

The new slogan isn't necessarily a marketing campaign, because it is meant to reintroduce the quality aspect of the university into public view before settling on a universal message or tagline



Photo courtesy of FreeFoodAtOU.com
An Oakland University billboard located off of I-75 near Great Lakes Crossing Mall was defaced. The billboards are slated to display the new, transitional slogan "A smart investment" by mid-September.

for OU. The tagline that preceded the affordability campaign was "See what all the excitement is about" and appeared on billboards and all admissions materials.

"It's pretty much the same with every college if they offer what you're looking for," said senior Mike Wilson. "It is worth it."

Many students have expressed discon-

tent on social networking sites with the slogan in light of the tuition increase. For example, there is a Facebook group with 99 members called "You can afford this = worst slogan ever."

"It's an ironic slogan. Because in these times, a lot of people are struggling and saying you can afford this when you're not attending classes, I'm paying for

a class I can't go to," said sophomore Aliana Scott. "It's a frustrating investment."

Ted Montgomery, director of media relations for OU, said the negative comments made about the campaign were not necessarily a consensus. But Moser said she takes criticism into consideration.

"We moderate social media and blogs. The plan all along was never to stick with it but of course we want to make as many people happy as we can without diluting our recruitment message."

Moser also said that her office focuses on reaching prospective students and their parents through marketing campaigns, and their main goal is to attract them to want to learn more.

"The problem with the billboard is you have about five words you can put on there," Moser said. "You have to pick something that's going to lead people in and hopefully drive people to the web."

The transitional slogan will probably last throughout the academic year and Moser said a tagline may be developed next summer.

— Brad Slazinski contributed to this report



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Graffiti found on campus

Many students waking up early Saturday morning were surprised to find graffiti scrawled on the sidewalks behind Vandenberg Hall.

These messages appeared on several sidewalks on campus — big, black, spray-painted words containing jumbled messages which left most onlookers more confused than intrigued.

By 11 a.m. Sunday, the majority of the graffiti was removed by OU Grounds Maintenance. One employee, while washing the sidewalk, said they worked 11 hours Saturday to clear the messages and had been working since 6 a.m. Sunday to finish cleaning the university of the spray paint.

The messages were first reported a little before 7 a.m. Saturday morning. Police believe the suspect wrote the messages some time after midnight Friday.

OUPD Chief Samuel Lucido said the messages "expressed personal, political views" and were not a threat to anyone on campus. They also were not related to the ongoing faculty negotiations and work stoppage.

Lucido said that OUPD was not amused by the incident, as this type of graffiti is very expensive for the university to clean up.

"This is not just a gag," Lucido said. "This is disrespect to the whole community."

OUPD is continuing to investigate and advised that anyone with any information should contact them at (248) 370-3331.

— Melissa Bukowski, Contributing Reporter

POLICE FILES

On Aug. 22, a man who was not an OU student called OUPD, claiming to be locked out of his car. Upon contact with the complainant, OUPD observed a strong odor of alcohol and noticed that he had bloodshot, watery eyes. The man, who was under-aged with a prior citation for minor in possession, said he had a lot to drink but that he had not consumed alcohol in over 11 hours. He claimed that his father had recently been killed in an automobile accident, and he was having a hard time dealing with it. The complainant was cited for MIP and released to the custody of his mother.

On Aug. 24, OUPD performed a routine traffic stop at the intersection of Walton Boulevard and East Oakland Drive after observing a multi-colored Cadillac traveling 67 miles per hour in a 45 mph zone. When the officer approached the car and asked the driver for his license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance, the driver could not provide his license. When the officer performed a standard background check, he discovered the driver had an arrest warrant in Pontiac for simple assault. The driver was taken into custody and later released on \$500 bond.

On Aug. 31, OUPD responded to a complaint from a residence hall director, who claimed that two male students in the in Vandenberg Hall were listed as being restricted from the residence halls. After a search, it was confirmed that both men had received Persona Non Grata letters. One of the students was arrested on the scene. After he was photographed and fingerprinted, OUPD found that the student also had an outstanding warrant for a traffic violation in Detroit. The student was released without bail. The other student was advised to contact Dean of Students Karen Lloyd about their status on campus housing.

Bike share program rolls on

By **MIKE SANDULA**
Staff Reporter

With the launch of Oakland University's bike share program, students now have a healthy way of getting around campus quickly.

The OU Bike Share Kickoff took place Thursday outside the Oakland Center between North and South Foundation halls. Hosted by Student Congress, the main event was the inaugural bike ride, where OUSC legislators and faculty members rode together.

"It's a lot more healthy than getting into your car and driving from building to building," said Anthony Ivone, a student legislator.

OU's departments of Housing, Student Affairs, OUSC and the president's office, who also funds it, sponsor the program. There are currently 34 bikes, which are all labeled with a yellow "Oakland University Bike Share" sticker and equipped with horns. Half of the bikes are expected to soon have basket.

Twenty of the bikes were purchased from Livernois Bike Shop in Detroit and the rest were picked up by OU's Housing department and refurbished by Livernois.

"They knew it was an eco-friendly wellness program so they worked with us on costs," said Glenn McIntosh, dean of students. The bike shop will also be visiting campus to repair bikes when necessary.

There are plans to furnish 60 bikes, but the administration wants to see a demand before increasing the supply.

"If the demand is there, we'll keep adding more," McIntosh said.

All bikes have a number stamped onto the top of the handlebars and are registered with OUPD. Bikes are free for students to use and will be operating under the honor system, which will be monitored by two student employees.

The bike monitors, who will work under the Sustainability Outreach Peer Educator program, will ensure even distribution of the bikes throughout campus — so there aren't 20 bikes in front of the Oakland Center and none in front of Varner Hall — and document needed repairs.

Bikes will be parked at bike racks throughout campus and stored during the winter. The program includes seven more bike rack locations.

Erica Moorer, SOPE supervisor, hopes the program will prove to be effective and therefore expanded.

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Real-world scientific research

By MIKE SCUSSEL
Contributing Reporter

Assessing the impact of vegetation on element behavior in the soil environment. Two-dimensional gas chromatographic separation and quantification of fatty acid methyl ester contamination in aviation fuel. Synthesis of acyclic enol ester from ketoketene dimers.

Sound like science fiction?

These are some of the research projects Oakland University students worked on over the summer as part of the undergraduate summer research program in the chemistry and biology departments.

Others may have been basking in the sunshine, but participants in the program have worked since May on real-life research scenarios. They presented their findings to an audience of their families, colleagues and peers in August.

Students with an interest in scientific research, regardless of class standing or level of experience, were invited to apply.

A total of 17 students were accepted into the program after an unprecedented amount of funding was made available by grants from outside organizations dedicated to supporting scientific research.

Those who were selected were trained to operate as scientists by working one-on-one on a project with a mentor, a chemistry or biology professor, who has expertise in their field of interest.

Nick Vietto is a student participant who originally intended to go to medical school but later decided to go into research. During the program, Vietto worked with Dr. Susmit Suvas, a biology professor, to complete a study exploring the pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases.

"You set your own ability to become what you want to," Vietto said. "You don't have a boss. You have a mentor."

Though students do not earn credit during the summer program, at the end of the program, the participant usually has the opportunity to commit to a long-term research project with the mentor for the credit, which is required to graduate in most science degrees.

James Edwards spent some his time



A participant in the program works on research in the lab during an internship program through the chemistry and biology departments this past summer.

in the program organizing a study with the research staff of Beaumont Hospital. He examined strands of human DNA that he isolated from blood taken from patients recruited for his study.

"I happened to get involved in research that had something to do with a medical background," said Edwards. "I'm certain this wasn't by chance, with the fact that I wanted to get into nursing."

He was looking at the relationship between specific combinations of genes believed to be linked to chronic post-surgical pain in patients.

"My week usually broke up into one or two mornings at Beaumont a week which would include three to four hours of work, primarily meeting with patients, working with the research nurse, doing scoring of applications, and helping with the data manipulation," Edwards said.

After following all the necessary protocols, blood would be delivered from the hospital to a sterile location in Dr. Douglas Wendell's biology lab for Edwards to research.

The results of his findings were cor-

related with data obtained in the field by personal interviews he conducted with patients after they agreed to participate in his study.

To other student researchers in the program, the expression "in the field" meant literally, in the field.

Talia Sebastian, a student in the program, collected soil from the Oakland University nature preserve and also went to Detroit to obtain soil where the level of contaminants was determined to be higher. She used the soil to grow a series of plants. She then monitored the levels of contaminants over time to see whether the plants were absorbing the toxins and removing them from the soil.

According to Dr. Edith Chopin, a chemistry professor, if a plant variety were discovered to have an exceptional ability to remove the contaminants, it could have significant environmental applications.

Their theory is that a contaminated area could potentially be restored to ideal growing conditions after one or more generations of the plants are grown in

the soil.

For many, participation in the same research program is a landmark on the path to achieving a degree, and can be a deciding factor in their decision to either continue in research in graduate school or to enter medical school.

After becoming acquainted with the policies and procedures of research in organic chemistry lab, Eric Salo, a student participant, said he felt comfortable conducting his research.

For some of the participants, the stress of pushing the brink of scientific discovery in the real world took an emotional toll.

Matt Naden, who worked with Dr. Ferman Chavez, said he began smoking cigarettes as a result of the stress of the work, although there is no scientific evidence which links his new habit with his involvement in the program.

Other participants, like Jenny Day, found other ways to cope with the stress while still being productive in the lab.

While investigating the mechanisms involved in certain pathways related to cardiovascular disease and diabetes, she said she still found time to socialize with other students doing research.

"It was a lot of waiting," Day said. "Sometimes we would go out to lunch and have our little timers with us."

Salo had also adopted his own methods to keep cool. According to his lab mates, he made a ritual out of singing in the lab.

The participants all say they share a passion for science and discovery, which helped them bond.

"I've learned more in the lab in the three months I've been here than I have in my two years at Oakland," said Salo of his summer experience. "It's crazy how much of a difference it made."



For more photos from the Undergraduate Summer Research Program, check out www.oaklandpostonline.com.

OU art alum pursues jazz career

By MICHELLE CARPENTER
Contributing Writer

Chris Ams - an Oakland University graduate, creative triple-threat and musical force to be reckoned with - is living the life of a starving artist. It doesn't bother him a bit.

Like the jazz music that is his greatest passion, Ams is making the most of his life as an unsigned musician by being flexible and trusting that improvisation will be the source of his success.

A recent graduate of OU's Studio Art program, Ams is not leaving behind his lifelong passion for music. In fact, the 24-year-old maintains that he declared an art major only to avoid studying music theory in depth.

"I was way more willing to hate art than music at that time" said Ams, a self-taught guitarist and singer who writes pieces by ear.

Though he has minimal classical training, a steady stream of performances has garnered an impressive local following. He is persistent in getting exposure for his original material, but Ams is also careful to keep the attention of the crowd by playing improvised and imaginative covers of such popular songs as Al Green's "Love and Happiness" and Amy Winehouse's "Rehab."

"If you are going to do it the same way, go to a bar and do karaoke," Ams said of imbibing longtime favorites with his own eclectic musical style.

This open-mindedness about music is exactly what has Ams so excited about the future of his most recent project, a band comprised of five musicians working together to create a theme album that flows with lyrical continuity and carefully crafted music.

Their differing stylistic tastes are surprisingly cohesive and, Ams said, allow the music to "be placed in a genre without limiting it to that genre." He said this makes him more aware of the way the parts work together. The band plans to complete an EP by September and follow up with a full-length CD soon thereafter.

Being able to recognize the progression of music is crucial for a jazz musician like Ams, who relies heavily on improvisation both in the studio and onstage. By identifying the role of each of the five instruments, Ams can improvise accordingly for a cohesive and fresh live performance.

In addition, recorded material will be more versatile and require less mastering and equalizing. Ams said excessive retouching can produce a "manufactured" sound, something he tries to avoid at all costs.

Knowing such details about the indus-

try has been both a blessing and a curse for Ams.

"People like the same recycled garbage they hear on the radio," he said, noting the countless times that agents and bands have tried to make him suppress his style, which he describes as a combination of soul and jazz, often combined with a percussion sound that is reminiscent of R&B.

Ams is careful to avoid working with people who will limit his creative freedom or misrepresent his musical style. As a result, he is cautious of the music industry and prides himself on being a self-sufficient musician. He looks forward to working with an agent and label that is enthusiastic about his creative style.

Having a sense of direction has been Ams' mainstay both on the business and performance sides of his budding music career. "When you are trying to make it, you have to have an idea. You have to have a direction. You have to know where you are going and know how you are going to get there," he said.

Ams has known since his first live performance of "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" in the elementary school talent show that performing was his passion. Throughout his school years, Ams remained involved in acting and musical theater with the Macomb Junior Players group, All the World's a Stage.

While studying at OU, Ams auditioned for the Jazz Choir. Led by Danny Jordan, who Ams cites as a major personal influence, the group is normally exclusive to those pursuing degrees in music.

Jordan himself was a highly sought-after musician who performed extensively as a pianist and arranger with Hitsville USA and Jobete Music during Motown's peak in Detroit. He later created the jazz program at OU. Jordan passed away in May.

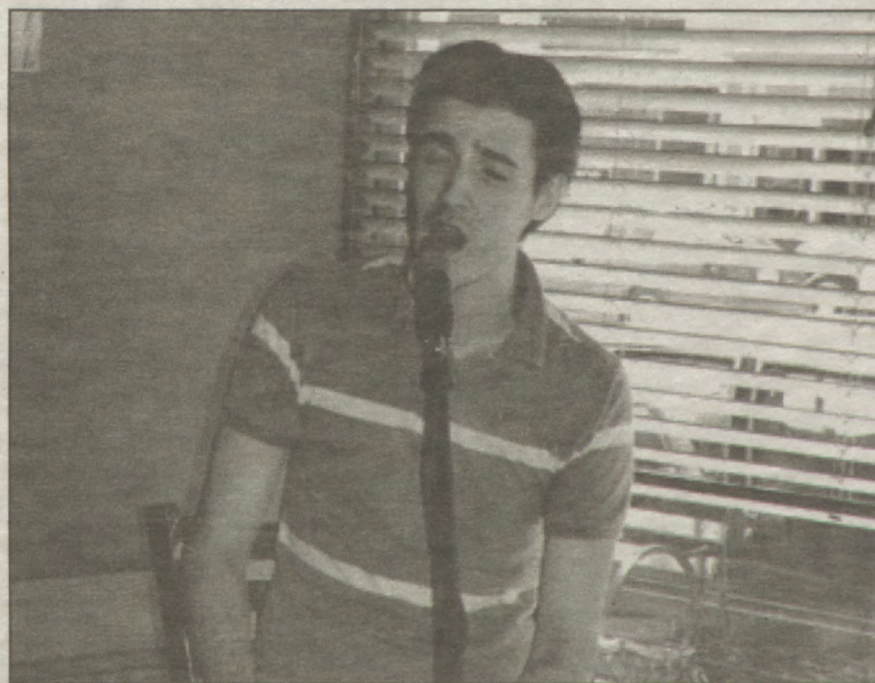
Though Ams claims that his audition rendition of "Georgia" wasn't his best performance as he forgot some of the lyrics midway, Jordan was impressed and allowed him to join the group.

He sang with Jordan for the following two years. Ams saw Jordan's death as a personal loss, as well as a loss for the musical community at Oakland University.

Ams said this is not the life for everyone. He said the musician's lifestyle is full of criticism, manipulation and exposure. This is the price Chris Ams pays, and yet he wouldn't have it any other way.

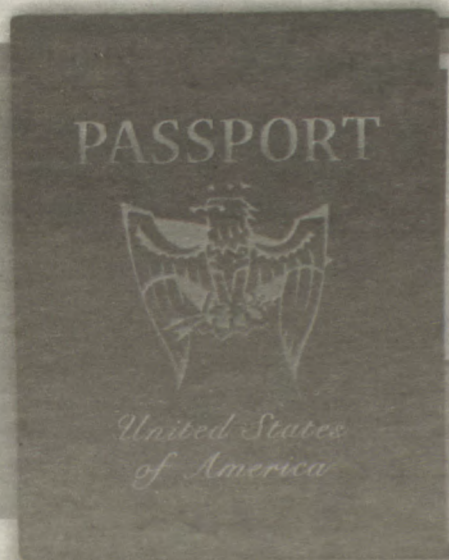
"I wanted something with a little more dirt," he said.

His material is available online at <http://www.myspace.com/cjams7>.



MICHELLE CARPENTER/The Oakland Post
OU alumnus Chris Ams performs his original jazz material and creative covers. Ams has gained a local following through several performances in the area recently.

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Code of Academic and Non-Academic Student Conduct

Code of Student Conduct Purpose

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

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

Jurisdiction

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

Judicial Process

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

Nonacademic Conduct Regulations

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

Imminent Danger/Emergency Suspension

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

Academic Conduct Regulations

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

Following are some examples of academic dishonesty:

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

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

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

Student Organization Regulations

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

Hazing Policy

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

Student Organization Conduct

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

Judicial Procedures

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

1. **Complaint:** A complaint of misconduct is usually written and includes specific allegations or charges. Any faculty, staff or student who is aware of possible student misconduct is requested to report the alleged violation to the dean of students.
2. **Interview:** Upon receipt of a complaint or report of alleged student misconduct, the accused student shall meet with the dean of students or assistant dean of students for an interview to determine if a university hearing is required. The accused student may have an adviser, who must be a member of the Oakland University community, present at the interview and shall be informed of the alleged violation and advised of his/her rights.
3. **Notice:** Upon determination of the need for a disciplinary hearing, the accused student will receive written notification. Written notice includes a statement of the alleged misconduct with sufficient particulars to enable the accused student to prepare his/her defense, the date, time and place of any hearing, and the names of witnesses who are scheduled to appear at the hearing. Normally, notice is provided at least 72 hours in advance of any hearing.

Hearing Types

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

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

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

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

There are seven types of conduct hearings at the university depending on the nature of the infraction. *Student nonacademic conduct cases will be addressed in either a University Conduct Committee Hearing or a University Conduct Administrative Hearing:*

• University Conduct Committee

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

• University Conduct Administrative Hearing

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

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

• Academic Conduct Committee

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

• Academic Conduct Administrative Hearing

This hearing is used when the student accepts responsibility for the alleged violation. The dean of students may choose to hold an administrative hearing conducted by the chair of the Academic Conduct Committee. The dean of students, faculty member bringing the case, the student charged and his/her adviser will be present. The hearing is held to decide an appropriate sanction. Once the chair, dean of students, and faculty member bringing the case agree on a sanction, the case is concluded and all appeal rights are waived.

• Residence Hall Hearing

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

• Student Organization Conduct Hearing

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

• Student Organization Administrative Hearing

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

Hearing Procedures

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

University Sanctions

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

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

tions imposed, if any.

Disciplinary Findings

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

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

Expelled or Suspended Student Refund Policy

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

Appeal Procedures

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

1. Substantial new evidence, which was not available at the hearing and/or;
 2. Procedural error that significantly affected the outcome of the case.
- *New evidence cannot be considered if a student refused to attend a hearing.
*Severity of the sanctions imposed is not grounds for an appeal.

Nonacademic Conduct Right of Appeal

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

Academic Conduct Right of Appeal

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

Form of the Appeal

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

Acceptance or Rejection of the Appeal

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

Student Rights

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

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

Health Related Emergencies

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

Re-enrollment Process

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

The student must complete the following:

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

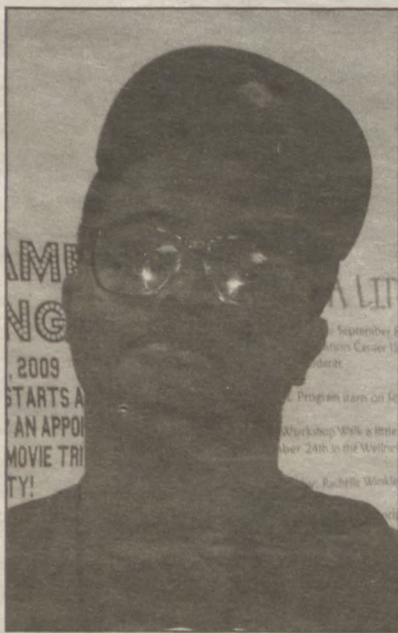
Questions regarding the judicial process or incidents of a disciplinary nature should be directed to the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, (248) 370-3352.

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

www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/

09/09/09

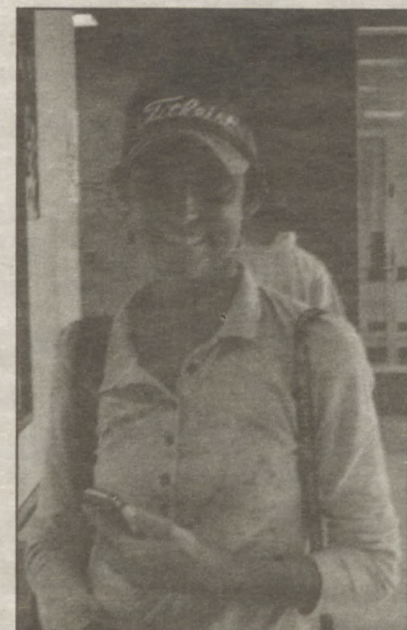
How have you spent your first week at school?



"Staying up late, watching movies and hanging out."
Demond Stepp



"Hanging out in my dorm. I've visited home a couple of times."
Tony Avila



"I've spent my first week of school golfing."
Madison Robb



"Going around to every event with students on campus, since we're a new fraternity (TKE). We're also trying to get more involved academically and in the dorms."
Nick McCormick
Ryan Lara



"Playing catch."
Travis Shock (middle) and friends

Welcome Week events 9/9-9/11

- InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Welcome Picnic & Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
Wednesday, 4-9 p.m., outdoors ... between the OC and Beer Lake
- Grizzdance Festival: "The Pursuit of Happyness"
Wednesday, 8 p.m., outdoors, north side of O'Dowd Hall
- Grizzfest: Student and Greek organizations fair
Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center- main hallway, lower level and patio
- GSC, LGBT ERG & GSA: LGBTQA Welcome Reception
Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., OC patio (rain site: Gold Room A, OC)

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TOWNHOMES

Market offers fresh, local fare

By JENNIFER WOOD
Staff Reporter

The scene at the Royal Oak Farmers Market early morning Sept. 6 was hardly an average Saturday morning.

Vendors had been hauling in everything from baked goods and produce to baseball cards, handmade crafts and hand-me-down books since 5 a.m. Crowds started to fill the 20,000 square foot Civic Center.

"When I say I got here early, I mean four in the morning," said Market Master Gwen Ross who oversees all of the building activity during the market hours each week.

With over 80 vendors and stands that have sprawled out to the parking lot, the Royal Oak Farmers Market has come a long way since its humble beginning as a truck stand in 1925.

Open Fridays through Sundays, the market gives the community the chance to buy farm-fresh produce and other assorted grocery items. It also allows them to support local farmers and entrepreneurs while keeping the small community feeling in an otherwise hip and growing city.

"The Market is the heart of Royal Oak. Everything spills out from here. It's not like a store; people come here for years, then raise their families and bring them," Ross said of the market environment. "It's social as well."

Ashley Smoger, who was handing out samples of homemade gnocchi from Clinton Township-based Tracina's Gourmet Specialties, has worked the

Royal Oak Farmers Market as well as a handful of other local markets.

"This market is great. Without farmers' markets we [Tracina's] wouldn't have business," Smoger said. "We are only in select stores and do most of our selling out of markets."

In addition to veteran vendors, the Royal Oak Farmers Market continuously brings in new merchants and products to increase shopper interest and diversity.

"I've been coming here for over 20 years. There is always something new," said Pat Holmes of Birmingham.

"I don't drive anymore, but I get out here whenever I can," added Holmes, who was joined by her daughter Liz Carter.

"I live in Kentucky and have never been to the market. We haven't bought anything yet, but we have our eye on some things. We won't leave empty handed," Carter said.

Dorothy Rehm, founder of Sunbears Just Bones gourmet dog treats, was a first-time seller in the Royal Oak Farmers Market this past weekend.

"I lost my job back in October and in November I was feeling down and I looked at my dog and he seemed to be sad too," Rehm said. "We decided to make some treats."

Rehm makes her five different flavors of dog treats without artificial flavoring and sells them at markets in the surrounding area.

In addition to the usual Friday and Saturday market, on Sundays the building transforms into what resembles an



JENNIFER WOOD/The Oakland Post
Customers look over the displays at the Royal Oak Farmers Market on Sept. 6. The market is open Fridays through Sundays in the Civic Center in Royal Oak.

enormous garage sale for the weekly flea market.

"Every Sunday, aside from holidays, for the past 35 years we have had vendors wanting to be a part of the flea market," Ross said.

Next month the market will celebrate its 84th anniversary at the annual Oktoberfest celebration Saturday, Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

The party will include live music by The Good Times Orchestra, a silent auction, food and locally brewed beer from

Lily's Seafood Grill & Brewery.

Tickets for the celebration are \$5, available at the market office and proceeds benefit Boys and Girls clubs of south Oakland County.

The Royal Oak Farmers Market is located inside the Civic Center, at 316 E. 11 Mile Road.

For information on the farmers market including hours of operation and other upcoming events, visit <http://www.ci.royal-oak.mi.us/farmersmkt> or call (248)-246-FARM.

Drew Barrymore to host local skating event

By ANNIE STODOLA
Local/You Editor

Drew Barrymore wants Detroit-area residents to roller skate with her.

In conjunction with the release of her latest project, a film about a female roller derby team called "Whip It," Barrymore is hosting a roller skating event at Bonaventure Family Skating Center in Farmington Friday, Sept. 11.

Barrymore produced the movie, which stars Ellen Page from the film "Juno." The movie comes to theaters Oct. 2.

Barrymore is returning to the area to generate publicity for the movie, which was filmed in Michigan last year. The movie also features several area roller derby girls who will sign autographs and take photos at the rollerskating event.

Denise Koziara, marketing director for Bonaventure, said the rink was recommended by Clear Channel Communications for the event.

She expects the film and the event to be successful largely due to the relatability of the film and the increasing interest in roller derby.

"Rollerskating is an affordable activity and good for people from preschoolers to seniors," Koziara said. "We've seen a huge interest in roller derby, which is something new and fresh, yet it's been around for a long time, which makes it very relatable."

Although Bonaventure does not have its own derby league, the Detroit Derby Girls practice at its sister rink, Skatin' Station II in Canton.

In addition to Barrymore's appearance and screening of the movie, Mojo from radio station 95.5 will give away prizes

from the station and certificates from Bonaventure.

The event, sponsored by 95.5, Fox Searchlight pictures, and Metro Times, takes place from 3-6 p.m. Admission is free and attendees can either bring their own skates or rent a pair for \$2.

Attendance at the event is limited to the first 955 people in line at the skating rink. Bonaventure Skating Center is located at 24505 Halsted Road. For questions, call 248-476-2200 or visit bonaventureskate.com.

Local news briefs: Tax plans, coal plant proposal reviews

Police: Drunken Mich. man nabbed while questioning cop

FRASER — Authorities say a drunken 40-year-old man was arrested for impersonating a police officer in Fraser after he tried to question a plainclothes detective patrolling in an unmarked car.

Police say David Dabbs of Clinton Township was arrested Thursday night after telling the detective that he was an off-duty police officer and asking her where she was going. Police say he didn't have police ID.

The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press report Dabbs had a 0.20 blood-alcohol level, over twice the amount 0.08 limit.

Dabbs is charged with operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, impersonating a police officer and having open alcohol in a vehicle.

A person who answered a telephone listing for Dabbs on Saturday hung up the phone on an Associated Press reporter.

Business groups argue against Mich. tax increases

EAST LANSING — Gov. Jennifer Granholm has released a plan to cut spending by more than \$550 million while raising that much in additional revenue to fill a shortfall in the general fund.

The governor put out written details Tuesday on how she would close a \$1.8 billion general fund in the budget year that starts Oct. 1.

Her plan includes trimming some business tax breaks, including the film credits.

It also would lessen an increase in a tax credit for the working poor, increase liquor license fees, expand the 6 percent sales tax to live entertainment, service contracts and vending machine sales and raise the cigarette tax rate to \$2.25 a pack, among other changes.

Her comments came after several Michigan business organizations said Tuesday they want lawmakers to cut spending and improve government efficiency rather than raise taxes.

Wayne State law school examines Detroit governance

DETROIT — Wayne State University is presenting a symposium on proposed changes in the Detroit City Council that will appear on the November ballot.

The event runs from 3-6 p.m. Sept. 16 and is called "Moving Toward City Council by Districts: A Step in the Right Direction for Detroit?"

It's being held at the law school's Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium.

On Nov. 3, 2009, Detroit voters will decide whether to amend the city charter to change the way city council members are elected.

All nine council members now run citywide. The proposal would have seven members elected from districts with two elected citywide.

Voters also will choose a nine-member Charter Review Commission to examine the charter as a whole.

Mich. coal plant proposals get negative reviews

LANSING — The Michigan Public Service Commission is giving negative reviews to proposals for two coal-fired power plants.

Commission staffers said Tuesday that Wolverine Power Cooperative has failed to show a need for the plant it wants to build in Rogers City.

In a separate report, the staffers also say Consumers Energy hasn't made the case for a new coal plant near Bay City unless some of the company's existing power generation is taken offline.

Both analyses were submitted to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, which will decide whether to issue air quality permits needed for the plants to be built.

Spokesman Robert McCann says the department will review the Public Service Commission reports and hopes to decide about both plants by year's end.

Source: The Associated Press

Rep. seeks fuel reform

By JOHN FLESHER

Associated Press Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY — Suppliers should provide Michigan motorists with fuels that produce less of the gases that cause global warming, advocates and a state legislator said Tuesday.

Rep. Lee Gonzales, D-Flint, said he was introducing a bill to establish a "low-carbon fuel standard." It would require oil refineries and fuel blenders to reduce greenhouse gases generated from fuel sales and production by 10 percent over the next decade.

Suppliers could meet the requirement by changing their fuel mixes to boost content of alternative ingredients such as cellulosic ethanol, which comes from wood and other plant matter.

They also could reduce emissions given off as fuels are produced, or buy credits from utilities that supply electricity for low-carbon, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

Gonzales announced his legislation during a phone conference with representatives of The Ecology Center and Environment Michigan. The advocacy groups released a report that said the low-carbon fuel standard would help

the state economy by promoting use of waste material from Michigan forests and farms.

"Michigan is uniquely qualified to contribute to and benefit from the emerging bioeconomy," said Steve Pueppke, director of Michigan State University's Office of Bio-Based Economy.

About 70 cents of every dollar that Michigan motorists spend on transportation fuel — about \$14 billion annually — leaves the state because most of the fuel comes from elsewhere, the report said.

Using fuel with less carbon and more homegrown ingredients "will reduce Michigan's vulnerability to oil price shocks by encouraging the production of more of our own fuel," the report said.

Electricity is the most fuel-efficient means of powering vehicles, the report said, followed by biofuels made from corn stalks, switchgrass, logging debris and similar material. It advised against using biofuels that contain the edible parts of corn plants, soybeans or other foods.

With Michigan's vast woodlands and diverse agriculture, Pueppke said, "We can produce lots of biomass in ways that don't interfere with the food system."

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The Scene

18

www.oaklandpostonline.com

September 9, 2009

Women in review: Child, Chanel, Fox

Julie and Julia

By KATIE JACOB
Copy editor

In the summer movie, "Julie and Julia," released August 7, the lives of the two women neatly intersect. Julia Child (portrayed in a slightly over-the-top performance by Academy Award-winning actress Meryl Streep), author of the iconic "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" leads Julie Powell (Amy Adams) on her journey to find meaning in her life by cooking her way through the 534 recipes included in the cookbook, while blogging about it.

The movie is based on a novel by Powell, whose blog, "THE JULIE /JULIA PROJECT" garnered a lot of attention, both from her followers and in the media. By the time she got around to cooking through Julia's masterpiece, 365 days after she began.

Julie is a talented, but so far failed writer who wrote half a novel that no one wanted to publish. She's trying to figure out what she can do to improve her life which includes working at an unfulfilling day job.

Julie loves to cook. She explains to her exceptionally patient and loving husband Eric (Chris Messina), "I love it when I come home after a day at work when nothing is sure, you can come home and know when you add chocolate to egg yolks and milk, it will get thick." They come up with the idea that Julie will cook and write the blog.

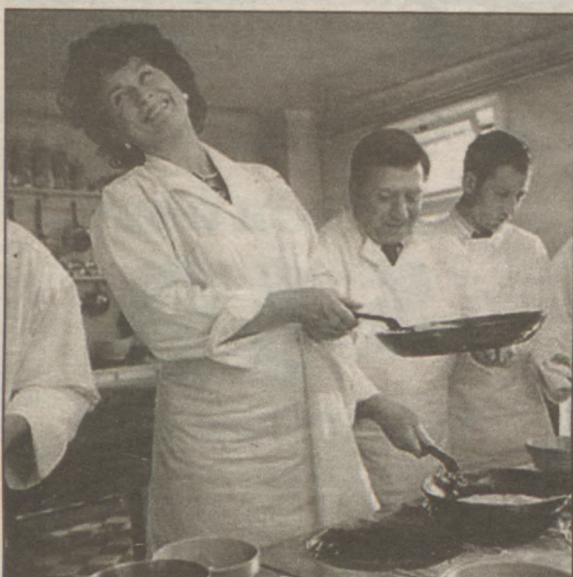


Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures International
Meryl Streep plays famous chef Julia Childs in "Julie and Julia."

Fast forward (backward) to Paris as Julia asks her husband Paul (played by the excellent and elegant actor Stanley Tucci) "What should I do, do you think?" Paul responds, "What is it that you really like to do?" Julia's answer, of course, is "to eat." Soon she is enrolled in Le Cordon Blue cooking school in a class for professional chefs, learning to boil eggs, flip omelets and chop onions with aplomb. She tells Paul, "I have been looking for a career all my life and I found it."

The movie contains many clever sequences where the women's lives overlap, one

where Julie, dressed like Julia in signature pearls and shirtwaist, serves dinner to her friends. Cut to Paris: there's Julia in pearls, serving dinner to her friends.

Julia Child did have an oversized personality, matched by an oversized physique and booming voice, but Streep plays her too much like a caricature.

In fact, at times in the movie Julia resembles Dan Aykroyd's hysterical Saturday Night Live send-up of her (it's included in the movie), than a real person.

In the end, Julia's iconic classic was published and as Paul predicted, it changed the way we think about food in America. And in 2004 Julie Powell wrote her last blog post about the woman who changed her life.

"Bon Appétit."



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics
Audrey Tautou plays a young Coco Chanel in "Coco Before Chanel."

Coco Before Chanel

By ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL
Scene/Mix editor

Coco Chanel's influence on fashion is often taken for granted, due to the fact that it is so engrained in modern design aesthetics. The iconic woman who gave the world its most seductive scent, women the freedom from corsets and lace, and believed "simplicity" out-stated accessories, is now the feature of a biopic about her early life and times.

The French actress Audrey Tautou, of "Amélie" and "The Da Vinci Code," plays Chanel in director Anne Fontaine's depiction of her days leading up to the creation of the Chanel empire.

Tautou portrays Chanel stunningly, complemented by her darkish looks and charming on-screen presence. And while the design process is shown in effect, the motif of the movie rests in Chanel's strong affinity for speaking her mind against threats of conformity and judgment.

The movie was released in France April 22, 2009 and will be in limited release in the U.S. on Sept. 25. Check the Main Art Theatre (Royal Oak) and Maple Art Theatre (Bloomfield Hills) for potential showings.

Jennifer's Body

By ALEXIS CHINONIS-TOMRELL
Scene/Mix editor

Megan Fox's first lead role casts her as Jennifer, a demonic, popular girl out for the blood of high school boys. Screenwriter Diablo Cody makes quite a departure from her "Juno" days in this horror comedy, named after Hole's 1994 hit "Jennifer's Body."

In hopes of increasing their chances of getting a record deal, a band attempts to sacrifice Jennifer. The satantic ritual backfires and Jennifer becomes possessed with a taste for man flesh. The only one who can stop the wave of Succubus-like destruction is best friend, Needy, played by Amanda Seyfried of "Mean Girls" and "Mamma Mia!"

Megan Fox plays the role with startling ease, by way of her mean good looks and naturally intimidating presence. Adam Brody of "The OC" plays Nikolai Wolf, the film's antagonist. The campy characters and acting style guarantees it a spot in the B-movie hall of fame.

"Carrie" meet Jennifer, the new queen of high school mayhem. The movie will be released Sept. 18.

Bizarre days for video games

By CHRIS DARIN
Contributing Reporter

What do blow-up horse saddles, Doritos, pornography and Tetris have in common? They're all current topics in game news. From the bizarre to the mundane, here is everything of interest in the past two weeks of gaming.

With price cuts popping up everywhere for iterations of the PS3 and Xbox 360, Nintendo has been hard at work maintaining its dominance. This has only gotten harder, as both Sony and Microsoft intend to release motion-sensitive control systems in competition with the Wii.

Jesse Divnich, analyst for Electronic Entertainment Design and Research, has expressed a sincere need for Nintendo to up its game if it's going to remain competitive, calling for a similar price cut for the Wii. The Wii would need to be dropped to \$199 — \$100 cheaper than the Xbox Elite and PS3 Slim.

Fear not though, Nintendo fans, even though Nintendo has made no motion to remain competitively priced, they are not without trump cards. This is where the

adolescent girls playing Tetris over a three month span. In this time the girls exhibited greater cognitive functions and a "thicker cortex."

Doritos, on the other hand, always increase matter in areas we expect. This year Frito-Lay is teaming up with Microsoft to offer a competition where users submit their game idea for a chance to not only have it produced and win \$50,000, but receive a "sweet gig working as a Doritos gaming consultant," according to their website.

They explain that the pitch doesn't actually have to have Doritos in it; it just has to take "the essence and intensity that is Doritos and bring that out in your breakthrough game concept." The pitches need to be shared via video. The winning game will be marketed on Xbox Live Arcade. Readers interested in learning more or competing should head over to UnlockXbox.com to check it out.

Gaming news isn't just for adolescents and people who still eat Doritos. Siliconera recently reported on a company called Silicon Xtal, long associated with creating integrated circuits and Xbox 360 hardware.

The San Jose based manufacturer recently registered the name SexBox, in order to create a "video gaming console comprised of hardware with unique controls which plays Adult Only Rated video game software titles."

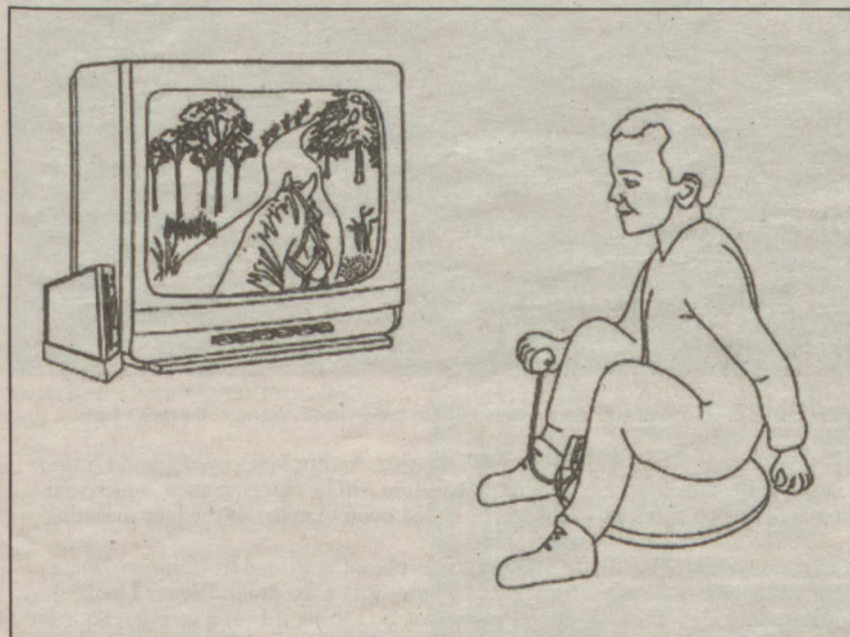
Well. At least they're upfront about it. The registration document goes at length to describe how the hardware might also be used as a gateway for things like adult multiplayer games. Yes, you read that correctly.

Entrepreneurs reading this article may be wise to get on the shaggin' wagon and register the name "World of Sexcraft," considering this console could disappear into obscurity or strike it big. That is, of course, if Microsoft doesn't try to claim infringement over the name SexBox.

On the local front, gamers looking for their fix (mixed with a dash of sociability) should look into OU's Gaming Guild. Contact Mike Conn, mconn@oakland.edu.

For more video game news check out:

gamespot.com, kotaku.co or g4tv.com



The released diagram for the Wii's blow-up saddle.

Photo courtesy of Siliconera blog

blow-up saddle comes into play. A patent filed in January by Nintendo expresses a new game peripheral (a device or unit that operates separately, but is connected to it) that is described as "an inflatable air cushion or other type seat."

Included diagrams feature a strange, grumpy-looking child with a claw-like hand wielding this new peripheral as if it were reins. Although the initial diagram displays a horse, really this could turn into a number of different gaming situations.

The patent also describes potential force feedback to "inexpensively ... simulate, in the home, riding on a horseback or other animals." Past experience with force feedback dictates that in practice, this will end up with the device just shaking excessively.

On a more respectable note, two months later Nintendo filed a patent for a peripheral shaped like a football into which a Wii remote can be inserted. This seems more likely to manifest, considering all the hype for the Madden Wii game. The peripheral would allow players to control the game through simulated football playing.

The example in the diagram released shows a man clutching a Wii football attempting to either juke an angry man or rehearse for a local showing of "West Side Story." The materials don't indicate which one.

If you're fearing that the gaming world has lost its mind you'll be happy to know that a recent study from the Mind Research Network claims that one video game actually increases cognitive functions. The Network tracked the brain patterns of

AMERICAN
MARKETING
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Adrian Pittman

Tuesday, September 15

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Free event open to all OU majors

Golf teams set to tee off

By ADAM R. STROZYNSKI
Contributing Reporter

Expectations run high this fall as the Oakland University men's and women's golf teams open their lengthy season this month.

It is apparent when talking to Brian Costello, head coach of both teams, that he wants to win. Now entering his third year at the helm of OU's golf program, Costello has reshaped the men's and women's teams.

"We've changed the way we do things around here. We train harder and expectations are higher," said Costello. "Not to say winning wasn't important to [former] coach Wolf, I just don't think it was as important to him as it is to me ... I'd like to be the team in the summit league. I'd like to be a national contender."

Costello's "win now" attitude impacts not only the program, but the players too. The players mouth the same sentiment.

"Win a Conference Championship, that's it," said Frank McAuliffe, captain of the men's team.

That may be easier said than done. Between the men's and women's team there are a total of eight freshmen, making them an inexperienced group. Costello hopes to use these new young faces as motivation for his upperclassman.

"The freshman class is talented and will push our seniors," he said.

Highlighting this freshman class is Jakob Ziegler. Originally from Berlin, Ziegler played on the German national team.

"Ziegler is an incredible talent, probably the most talented freshman I have ever seen," Costello said.

Pulling talent from over 4,000 miles away is not an easy task, but is a challenge that Costello is up for. "Our recruiting is better, this will make us a better team," he said.

The young talent within the men's and women's teams will be guided by its veteran leadership.

"It's vital, without it we are in trouble," said Costello



Senior Frank McAuliffe spent the summer participating in local golf tournaments, and has been named captain of the men's team. JOSE JUAREZ/OU Athletic Communications

of the leadership of his seniors.

"I just want to be a leader and help the freshmen adapt. I was in their same situation not too long ago," McAuliffe said.

"I think he [Costello] wants me to rise up and take care of the team and to prove myself on the golf course."

McAuliffe plans to lead by example, managing himself on the golf course. "I think some of the younger guys have trouble with this, I just want to set a good example."

Costello has also named three captains for the women's team. "I have decided to go with tri-captains

Laura Kwiatkowski, Austin McDermid, and Lauren Gardner." All three will be entering their senior year and will be called upon to help out the four incoming freshmen.

McDermid is planning to lead by example. "I'm a senior, and when I was a freshman I know I looked up to the seniors. So I think if I set a good example for them, they will be able to learn from me and the other seniors. We have to set the bar high, get out here and practice and work hard. Do the best you can out here and make the freshmen and younger classmates work just as hard."

Oakland hosts weekend volleyball tournament

By MIKE SANDULA
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's women's volleyball team went 2-1, taking second place in the inaugural Golden Grizzly Invitational that they hosted on Saturday and Sunday.

They came into the tournament undefeated after sweeping at the West Virginia University Classic Aug. 28 and 29.

On their only Saturday match, OU lost all three sets to Wright State, who went undefeated and won the tournament.

Senior Adrienne Leone had 14 kills while sophomore Ashley Nevelle had 28 assists, but it wasn't enough as OU lost 25-17, 25-22 and 25-19.

On Sunday, OU beat their first opponent 3-2. OU won the first two sets against

North Texas 25-21 and 25-19. North Texas rallied back to win sets three and four, forcing a fifth set. In the final set, OU trailed 10-8 before going on a five-point run and holding on to win 15-12.

Junior Brittany Dunn, who was named the first Summit League Defensive Player of the Week for the season, turned in 20 digs. Leone and freshmen Meghan Bray and Alli Kirk each had 11 digs. Nevelle notched 39 assists during the match.

In their final match Sunday, OU swept Canisius. OU hit .314 for the match, holding Canisius to .048, allowing them to win with scores of 25-15, 25-22 and 25-13. Leone had 13 kills while Bray produced 10.

Nevelle, who recorded 95 assists over the weekend, and Bray were named to the all-tournament team.

With their weekend success, OU is already just three victories shy of matching their previous high win total since moving to Division I competition.

OU (5-1) begins Summit League play this week when they travel to play the University of Missouri-Kansas City (5-4) Thursday, Sept. 10 and Southern Utah (2-6) Saturday, Sept. 12. Both matches are scheduled for 7 p.m. starts.

Club rugby team opens new season

By DAUD YAR
Contributing Reporter

The Oakland University club rugby team kicked off their season Saturday by defeating University of Michigan-Dearborn 29-22.

Under the leadership of Brandon Jones, president of the club, the team has enjoyed a measure of success in recent seasons. Last year the team had a record of 6-3.

The team has added several newcomers this season, recruited from high schools in metro Detroit.

"We recruited from Birmingham, Dearborn and Holly high schools," Jones said. "There are probably four or five kids that go to Oakland [because of] the rugby team."

The team has always welcomed any and all interested students, regardless of their previous rugby experience. Many of the current players had not played organized rugby before.

Adam Park is an exception.

"I played for Howell High School for three years and was captain for two of those years," Park said. "I am nervous and excited about the season. I just can't wait to hit again."

With more diversity and experience on the team, players like Billy Dickenson, a second year player, can cut through the defense for the try.

"I basically get the ball from the inside center, make a few moves, and score," said Dickenson.

"Last year we played U-M Dearborn three times and won the last time without a few [of our] key players."

Five different players scored tries for the Grizzlies. (A try is comparable to a touchdown in football and is worth five points apiece).

Following a try, a kicker attempts to earn an additional two points by putting the ball through the goalposts in what is called a conversion.

Kicker Matt Masserant made two of five conversions on Saturday.

"We played great today and some of our new guys really impressed me," said Giuseppe Tocco, a veteran member of the team. "I'm getting old so I'm really just out there to help the guys out."

The team is operating without a coach this season, but Tocco and Jones are trying to make the best of the situation.

The next rugby match is Saturday, Sept. 12 at Western Michigan.

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College football needs no 'Messiah'

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

COLUMN

There is no other time of the year I look forward to more than the start of the college football season. The month of August moves along like long, sharp claws dragging slowly and deeply down my back, and the first kickoff in early September is like the claws finally detaching from my battered skin, leaving me tingly and alive.

However, the beginning of the following season brings with it a lot of baggage. This fall I will greatly anticipate the games and the pageantry, and utterly bemoan the excruciatingly excessive coverage of the top-ranked Florida Gators, and the object of the most insupportable hyperbole and mindless idol worship in modern sports history, Tim Tebow.

By this time, every sports fan west of Mars is aware of the Gators QB; he of 2007 Heisman Trophy fame and the subject of endless puff pieces that have grown this summer to include stories by ESPN.com's Ivan Maisel and a Sports Illustrated piece diplomatically titled, "You Have to Like Tim Tebow."

It is obvious the media likes, er, loves the home-schooled, touchdown-scoring, mission-preaching, Filipino child-circumcising, modern-day Messiah. But it is not

true that you have to like Tim Tebow, because I and the vast majority of my sports-following friends cannot stand the guy.

I speak for so many people whose opinions of this overhyped athlete are never expressed in any area of the media. It's as if sharing one bit of criticism over a guy ESPN dubbed as "The Chosen One," while he was still in high school is akin to calling Kim Jong Il a stark, raving lunatic on North Korean airwaves.

Let me qualify that all the commentary I am about to share by saying none of my vitriol should be attributed to envy. I, like most of my Tebow-bashing buddies, can recognize and appreciate a quality athlete when I see one, and Tebow is certainly that. My problem rests almost exclusively with the public personality of Tim Tebow, both the media's representation of him and the way he carries himself when the lights are on.

If you haven't checked out the feature ESPN ran about Tebow — search "Tebow man of god" in a YouTube field search and watch the first video that comes up. It is the epitome of PR disguised as an in-depth feature from a reputable national network. It is complete with Hallmark music, wistful commentary and zero personal insight, except when Tebow showed us a glimpse of his own self-righteousness when he said, "I could be spending my spring break having fun like other college kids, but instead (yada

yada yada, some cliched statement about Jesus, you get the point)."

That feature is just one of the remarkably nauseating media ass kissing that has permeated the sporting landscape to the point of inescapable ubiquity. I could write a whole separate column about Fox Sports announcer Thom Brennaman's wet kiss to the one they call Superman during Florida's 2008 BCS National Championship Game win over Oklahoma, but I only have so many words which to work with.

Unlike other athletes like Lance Armstrong, Tiger Woods or LeBron James whom I tire of simply because they receive too much attention, Tebow is truly aggravating. I knew I wasn't going to care for him during his freshman season with the Gators, before ESPN and other drones in the media turned the Tebow love up to 11.

In several interviews, he just seemed squirrely, awkward and as authentic as a \$5 Rolex. As the exposure has increased, it has become painfully obvious that there may never have been an athlete so eager to grandstand or demonstrate his own holiness.

That now famous speech he gave at the press conference following Florida's loss to Ole Miss last season, where he vowed that "You will never see a team work harder ... You will never see anyone push their team harder ..." may be enshrined on a plaque in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium,

but I couldn't help but cringe.

Every time I hear this bloated, corny, over-the-top homily, I can only think of all the insincere jerkwads I played sports with in high school who wanted to prove how good of a "leader" they were by ripping maudlin lines just like that. Speeches like that never motivated anyone when I was in high school, it just irritated the team and the guys wouldn't take it seriously.

My guess is that Florida's players didn't take it that seriously either, but because they went on to win the national championship, that speech will forever be pointed to as the turning point that saved their season, even though the Gators were immensely more talented than every other team they played that season.

And nobody seems to remember that he stormed off the field after that loss, refusing to shake the hand of any player from Ole Miss. There's nothing wrong with being temporarily bitter about losing a game you love, but if you're going to hold yourself up as some pillar of virtue, at least have the decency to show a little sportsmanship when things don't go your way.

Incidents like his Ole Miss speech and the rotating Bible verses that he displays prominently on his eye black every game illustrate his pomposity and indicate that he is not nearly the humble and centered role model he is made out to be.

Soccer match ends in tie

By ZACH HALLMAN
Staff Intern

After recording a pair of wins earlier in the week, the Oakland University men's soccer team played eighteenth-ranked Dayton to a 0-0 draw Sunday night in their home opener at the Ultimate Soccer Arena.

The game was played almost entirely between the 18-yard boxes with neither team able to put consistent pressure on the other team's goalkeeper. While Oakland attempted to play its offense through long balls to Stefan St. Louis, Dayton's defense would not allow St. Louis an inch of breathing space. Every time it seemed St. Louis had a chance to break free it was quickly negated as he was surrounded by at least two Dayton defensemen and forced to give up the ball. St. Louis broke free about 15 minutes into the second half, but had his shot at point-blank range stopped by Dayton's goalkeeper, redshirt freshman Josh Lavalee, who was making his first collegiate start.

Forward Makesi Lewis provided the only real excitement for Oakland on the offensive side of the ball, as he was able to take the ball from the midfield into the heart of Dayton's defense with regularity. His speed, skill, and strength made him difficult to knock off the ball, but his efforts failed to produce many chances.

Oakland's defense, which has allowed just one goal in three regular season matches, showed the crowd of nearly 500 that the rock solid play they witnessed in the exhibitions is likely to continue through the regular season. Dayton was just as unsuccessful as Oakland in attempts to generate any real offensive threats. Machel James and Vuk Popovic stood out for OU, as they simply would not allow Dayton any quality chances. Using their organization and strength to knock around Dayton's midfielders and attackers and disrupt the flow of Dayton's attack, the defense demonstrated that coach Eric Pogue's confidence in their ability is rightly founded.

If Mitch Hildebrant had any nerves before his first ever home opener as Oakland's starting keeper, he certainly did not let them get in his way. Hildebrant seemed to ooze confidence on the field. Whether he was barreling forward to gobble up a loose ball or grabbing a corner kick out of the air, the first-year starter did it swiftly and without hesitation. Dayton's best chance of the night came when forward Jeff Popella found himself with some space in front of Oakland's goal and fired a shot that looked like it had a real chance of going in. That was until Hildebrant made one of his best saves of the early season and stretched out, horizontal and in flight, to deflect the shot over the goal with one hand.



JOSE JUAREZ/OU Athletic Communications
Stefan St. Louis had three unsuccessful shots on goal on Sunday.

Although very happy with his team's strong start to the season, Pogue said he knows the defending Summit League Champions need to take the victories for what they are.

"I could not be more proud of the team at this stage of the season," Pogue said. "But we all realize that it is a long season and it is how you are playing in November that matters most."

Obama advises caution on what kids put on Facebook

By JULIE PACE
Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON, Va. — In a pep talk that kept clear of politics, President Barack Obama on Tuesday challenged the nation's students to take pride and ownership in their education — and stick with it even if they don't like every class or must overcome tough circumstances at home.

"Every single one of you has something that you're good at. Every single one of you has something to offer," Obama told students at Wakefield High School in suburban Arlington, Va., and children watching his speech on television in schools across the country. "And you have a responsibility to yourself to discover what that is."

Presidents often visit schools, and Obama was not the first one to offer a back-to-school address aimed at millions of students in every grade. Yet this speech came with a dose of controversy, as several conservative organizations and many concerned parents warned Obama was trying to sell his political agenda. That concern was caused in part by an accompanying administration lesson plan encouraging students to "help the president," which the White House later revised.

Obama preceded his broad-scale talk with a meeting with Wakefield students, where at one point he advised them to "be careful what you post on Facebook. Whatever you do, it will be pulled up later in your life."

Obama, accompanied by Education Secretary Arne Duncan, met with some 40 students gathered in a school library before the speech carried on ESPN and on the White House Web site.

"When I was your age," Obama said, "I was a little bit of a goof-off. My main goal was to get on the varsity basketball team and have fun."

The uproar over his speech followed him across the Potomac River, as his motorcade was greeted by a small band of protesters. One carried a sign exclaiming: "Mr. President, stay away from our kids."

Obama is not the first president to give such a school-opening talk, but his plans seemed to almost immediately get plunged in controversy. Critics accused him of overstepping his authority, and school districts in some areas decided not to provide their students access to his midday speech.

In his conversation with the Wakefield students, Obama said that not having a father at home "forced me to grow up faster."

One young person asked the president whom he would choose to dine with if he could make only one such selection.

"Gandhi," Obama replied. "He's somebody I find a lot of inspiration in. He inspired Dr. (Martin Luther) King" with his message of nonviolence.

"He ended up doing so much and changed the world just by the power of his ethics," Obama said of the inspirational leader Mahatma Gandhi. At another point, Obama told the students that "a lot of people are counting on me."

"There is no excuse for not trying," he said in the speech. He said students must be individually responsible for their education, and that it's important to work hard, pay attention in school and complete assignments.

"Whatever you resolve to do, I want you to commit to it," Obama said. "The truth is, being successful is hard. You won't love every subject that you study. You won't click with every teacher that you have."

"At the end of the day, we can have the most dedicated teachers, the most supportive parents and the best schools in the world, and none of it will matter unless all of you fulfill your responsibilities," the president said.



Associated Press
President Barack Obama

NIW BRIEFS

09-08 | PHOENIX (AP) — The Arizona Supreme Court says a man isn't entitled to use a state religious-freedom law to overturn his conviction for possessing marijuana while driving. The state high court's unanimous ruling Tuesday rejects Danny Ray Hardesty's argument that he's entitled to use the same defense allowed for peyote use in Native American sacramental rights. The justices said it's already been established that concerns about public safety and health give the government a compelling interest in restricting marijuana use. The court concluded that Hardesty's claims that he has a right to use marijuana whenever he pleases, including while driving, means nothing less restrictive than a ban would suffice.

09-08 | MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican President Felipe Calderon wants to eliminate the government departments of Tourism, Agrarian Reform and Public Administration to cut costs. Calderon says the move may save the government as much as 80 billion pesos (\$6 billion). Tourism will be taken over by the Economy Department, while a federal comptroller's office will assume the duties of the Public Administration Department. Agrarian Reform will be split between the Agriculture and the Social Development Departments. Calderon said Tuesday the money saved would be used to fight poverty. Mexico is suffering one of its worst economic downturns, with drops in oil production, remittances and tourism.

09-08 | LONDON (AP) — British doctors called for a ban on alcohol advertisements Tuesday, saying the move was necessary to challenge Britain's dangerous drinking culture. The British Medical Association argued in a report that a rapid increase in alcohol consumption among young Britons in recent years was being underpinned by "clever alcohol advertising" and that a prohibition on alcohol-related publicity was needed to help turn the situation around. "Our society is awash with pro-alcohol messaging and marketing," Dr. Vivienne Nathanson, the association's head of science and ethics, said in a statement. "We need to look beyond young people and at society as a whole." The association, which represents more than two-thirds of Britain's practicing doctors, has repeatedly warned of the dangers of the country's increasingly deadly drinking habit. In a widely publicized report last year, the association said Britain was among the hardest-drinking countries in Europe and noted its alcohol-related death rate had nearly doubled between 1991 and 2005 — from 6.9 to 12.9 per 100,000 people.

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MOUTHING OFF

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24

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September 9, 2009

Slacking satirist starts strike!

Nope, forget it, I'm not putting in a second headline. I'm protesting.

By DAN SIMONS
Mouththing Off Editor

That's it, I can't take it anymore. I'm going on strike. I'm just one man with only one page, people. How can I be expected to mouth off when so much is going on? This last week has turned the Post's office into an absolute war zone and here I sit, with far too much ammunition.

The university is stagnant, the professors are chanting and the students aren't learning anything. Every other university in the state is buzzing with football fever, while Oakland students are playing Madden in between checking for another e-mail from Mary Beth Snyder.

Russi vs. Russell, "Job Action" vs. "Illegal Strike," and OU vs. AAUP is all BS.

The Oakland Center is vacant, the classrooms are empty, and for the first time ever, I can get a decent parking spot at noon — which I'm fairly certain is a sign of the apocalypse.

Last week, I wrote a piece about the first day of school, and then there wasn't a first day of school. Thanks a lot, Oakland. Way to ruin my first column.

I was one of those unfortunate students who showed up last Thursday, bright and early at 8 a.m., only to wait 15 minutes, bitch and moan with everyone in the hallway, then leave. I talked to a girl, it was her first day of college. She drove all the way from Lapeer only to drive right back. What a great first impression of higher education.

With no class to go to, I helped out other Post reporters film some video for our website. I got my first taste of broadcast journalism when Paula Tutman from WDIV snuck around me and took over the interview. At least I learned something on my first day of school: Paula Tutman is a ninja.

WXYZ, Fox and WWJ also showed up. My mom called me to say my school was on the news — and as a journalism student still living at home, I should probably ask someone in the news van if they are hiring.

I watched the protests from a sizable distance. Now, I love getting pissed off and yelling as much as the next guy, but as a journalist, even just the editor of the joke section in the back of the paper, I was ethically obliged to remain objective and as neutral as possible. I wanted to make signs reading "I'm completely indifferent," "I don't have an opinion," or "I cannot take either side in this issue while employed at a newspaper because it is a breach of ethics and could possibly get me fired." I also contemplated standing behind the last professor in the march and starting a conga line, as long as I danced objectively.

The Associated Press picked up the story, and it was republished online by The New York Times. That's right kids, our school went from state joke to national embarrassment.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

The rest of the news staff, reporting on stuff. Something about a professor going into labor or something. I'm boycotting captions too.

I can't do this. I can't work like this. How can I be the jester to an army of clowns? I'm still trying to wash out the bitter taste from the atrocity that was "You Can Afford This."

There should be a connection being made between the strike and Labor Day, or a comparison between the professors union and the auto industry, or even Obama's controversial school speech and how none of us will be in a classroom to see it. I could be clever and make a metaphor, but I'm on strike.

Here's one: You don't have to learn anything yet, so go back into hibernation, Grizzlies.

It's all too much. I'm a kid in a candy store and I'm only allowed one handful. Maybe if I had another page or two I would be fine, but I figured my editor might need the pages to, oh I don't know, report on the historic bumbling of an organization that has stalled the learning of 18,000 students.

No more office smart ass, no more wheeled office chair derby with other editors, no more stealing stuff from the table outside the Student Congress office next door. This is a Mouththing Off mutiny, a strike, a job action.

There's a joke to be had there using the words "mouth"

and "action," but again, I'm protesting. Use your own imagination, mine is boycotting.

I'm still taking part in the office pool, however. We've each picked what time we think the university will send out the campus-wide e-mail announcing classes are back in session. Everyone in the pool has to write something nice on the Facebook wall of whoever gets the closest time.

My guess of 5 p.m. on Tuesday September 8 is looking like a very poor choice. And mine was one of the pessimistic guesses.

"Dan, shut up and get back to work," my managing editor, Katie Wolf, told me when I informed her that I was going on strike. I'll give it a week before she files a court order to force me back to work.

My only hope is that this whole fiasco lasts until the next issue, and maybe then I can give this debacle the proper literary lashing it deserves. But I'd much rather have to wake up early, trudge into classrooms and deal with "syllabus week" rather than write another bit about this whole thing.

Until then, I will keep fighting the good fight. It's not like I have to go to class or anything.