

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

November 12, 2008

Volume 35, Number 11

## CAMPUS

Fialka-Feldman  
rallies for dorm  
rights with student  
support

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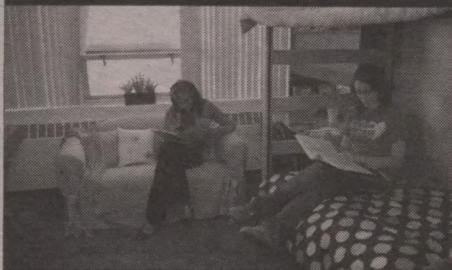
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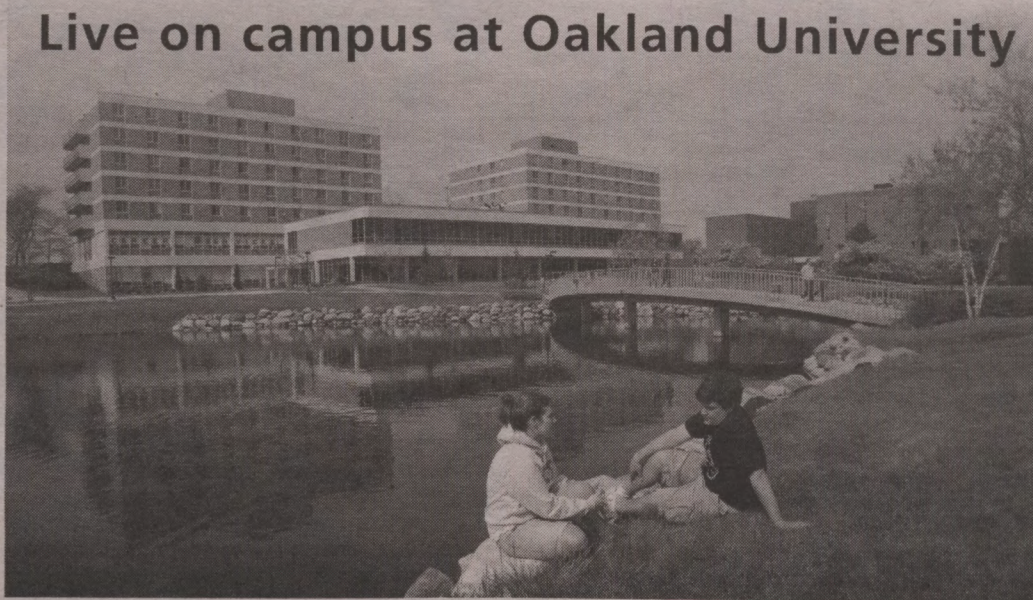


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THE OAKLAND POST  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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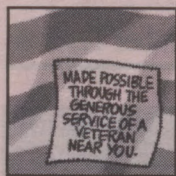
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Campus Editor Sean Garner touched upon the human side of Michigan's economic downturn.



## Campus page 8

Micah Fialka-Feldman continues his fight to live on campus after over a dozen people testified for him at the board of trustees meeting.



## Local page 10

Would you buy a house for \$100? See how a Waterford couple is giving locals an opportunity to buy their house at that miniscule price tag.



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Only 1.3 percent of voters supported third party candidates this year. Here are the voices of some students who voted third party.



## Sports page 18

As the OU men's soccer team hosts the Summit League Tournament, The Oakland Post looks at their rock in the net, goalkeeper Steve Clark.



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Scene/Mix Editor Amanda Meade and Copy Editor Colleen Miller dissect a rare phenomenon: bus accidents.



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Veterans Day is remembered all across the United States.



Ilija Milutinovic and Jessica Pike get ready to rule the Summit League. Get the scoop on men's and women's basketball.

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# Perspectives

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November 12, 2008

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Something's not right about extended Grizzlies' road trip

With temperatures dropping to their most frigid depths of the year and exam season approaching, it's about time that Oakland University students had something to look forward to.

Normally, we would be in a "hoops frenzy": talking trash with our friends at Michigan State, memorizing the nuances of the motion offense and counting down the days until OU's men's basketball opening home game.

Unfortunately, that won't happen this year for yet another month and there are getting conflicting reasons behind it.

In September, Director of Athletics Tracy Huth announced that the men's basketball home opener versus Rochester College, originally scheduled for Nov. 15, had been switched with an away game at Cleveland State Dec. 16.

"With The Summit League Men's Soccer Championship being held here at Oakland University, along with volleyball and women's basketball [games already scheduled for Nov. 15], we felt that moving the Rochester College game was in our best interest," Huth said.

Although this meant that the first nine games of the OU men's basketball team's schedule would be on the road and that they wouldn't play a home game until Dec. 7 against Toledo, the decision was understandable.

With that slate of games already scheduled for Nov. 15, we understood Huth's reasoning. The security of the students, faculty and student-athletes is of the utmost importance at sporting events. If OU could not confidently ensure us of that, we were happy to sacrifice the men's basketball game in favor of soccer, volleyball and women's basketball games.

However, Huth's account seems to conflict with the reasoning that men's basketball head coach Greg Kampe gave Friday as to why the home opener was switched.

"It was set, and one of the teams we're playing [Cleveland State] wanted to move a date, and to entice us to move the date they said they could get Syracuse to play us for two years ... and we're going to make \$200,000 playing Syracuse. All of a sudden, you look at

that schedule and I didn't even realize there were nine in a row," Kampe said.

Renowned programs like Syracuse often pay to play traditionally "weaker" programs like Oakland to pad their record. All of the \$200,000 OU makes off of the game will go directly to the university's athletic department.

Something smells foul in these conflicting accounts and the athletics department does not deserve a free throw.

We respect Kampe's desire to have his team on a so-called "national stage," playing in the famous Carrier Dome against the three-time NCAA Tournament Champion Syracuse Orange. We are sure that it will help him immensely in future recruiting and hey, \$200,000 is nothing to sneeze at.

We are also sure that the OU men's basketball team is excited for the opportunity to play David to Syracuse's Goliath. If this match-up, scheduled for Nov. 21, were televised, we would take great pride and joy in cheering on our classmates to victory.

However, if Kampe's account is true, we disagree with the decision of the athletics department to reschedule the home opener to Dec. 7.

The excitement on campus is palpable as Kampe prepares to lead his mixture of talented freshmen and all-league veterans such as Johnathon Jones, Derick Nelson and Erik Kangas to the NCAA Tournament and beyond.

A great effort takes place on campus every day to dilute the "commuter fee." Decisions such as this (which, if Kampe's account is true, do not seem to benefit current students in any way) undermine these efforts.

We encourage you to cheer for the OU women's basketball team in the absence of the men's team and beyond. As you will read in this issue, head coach Beckie Francis has put together quite a squad of her own that should prove to be just as entertaining and successful as the men's team.

Let's show the athletics department that we have a lot of love to give and that we are disgusted that we can't give it.



JEFF PARKER/Florida Today

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

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

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*- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States*



# The telling effects of a poor Michigan economy

**Sean Garner**  
Campus Editor



It has been a long time since I read anything that so moved and troubled me as the lead story on the front page of Sunday's Oakland Press. The headline read, "Suicides on the rise," and the story told powerfully disturbing anecdotes about two men who, in the some of the toughest economic times Michigan has seen in decades, felt their lives were spinning so far out of control that they decided to give up all together.

One man, a 57-year-old father of two grown children, faced the prospect of losing his job with the inevitable additional consequence of losing his house, which he shared with his wife and 25-year-old daughter. The other was a young man with a four-year-old son who had recently lost his job. His finances were so bad that he had to postpone getting married to his fiancée, who had also been fired. In

addition to the mountain of fiscal responsibilities, the younger man was facing possible jail time due to a drug addiction.

The article states that suicides in Oakland County are up 18 percent from a year ago.

What struck me most about these cases were that both of these men were, in a sense, victims of modernity. Both appeared to be decent men whose top priority was providing a living for their families, but each were caught up the fluid and chaotic nature of modern society.

The younger man even went as far as to say he was doing his fiancée "a favor" by ending his life. Such an attitude is easy to sympathize with in a world where people are expected to be more than just sources of love and compassion for the closest people in their lives, but are also expected to be material providers. In tough times, it can be hard to prioritize these roles.

Even those of us who do not have responsibilities to anyone but ourselves. For the ambitious among us in particular, there are always the stresses of taking all the right steps in order to meet our goals. In tough times, these goals

become more elusive with more people fighting for fewer opportunities.

When people become consumed by their goals, it is easy to understand why they lose perspective. It is easy to sympathize with people who become so determined, so single-minded, that they begin to think in black-and-white terms: success and failure. What has me most worried is how do so many decent people lose touch with their basic human values?

If you asked the families of both men, I am sure they would say they would rather have their loved one with them no matter how trying the circumstances. They are likely to carry feelings of guilt, sorrow and anguish for a very long time. What these struggling men forgot is that the human consequences infinitely outweighed whatever financial turmoil laid ahead.

While suicide is an extreme behavior that few families will have to deal with, the factors that cause it are anything but extreme. As times get hard, the effects of a down economy can be seen far more deeply than in the resale value of our homes. They are reflected in the mood and attitude of the people around us. It is easy for a rich man to say money

doesn't matter. Most of us know, however, it does matter. It matters a lot.

However, money only holds the power we give it. In the richest, most prosperous nation in the history of the world, it is easy to become attached to the real and symbolic power of money, but as clichéd as it might sound, money has no influence on the things that really matter.

My family is going through fiscal hardships to some degree right now, just as I prepare to become a successful, independent adult. My parents' occupations right now are tied to two of America's most endangered industries; automotive and computer programming. Our stocks are down, down and down. Both my brother and I will be entering a virtually barren job market.

Some would say I am not as well off as I used to be. However, I have a wonderfully caring and supportive family that does not love me any less than it ever has: I have a sharp and discerning mind with a strong moral center, and I keep growing and becoming a better person each and every day. If any of those things were not the case, then I would indeed be in a crisis.

## STUDENT LIFE WEEKLY

David Schwartz, Ph.D.  
Graham Counseling Center

## HOT TOPIC



### Fighting off the winter blues, part 2

Last week in this column the "winter blues" and Seasonal Affective Disorder were described. This week we are offering you some tips and suggestions for protecting yourself against the "winter blues" and SAD.

Doctors are unsure of the causes of SAD, but heredity, age, and your body's chemistry all seem to be important factors. Many researchers believe that the reduced sunlight during the winter may disrupt our body's natural processes. Here are some things you can do to protect yourself from developing the winter blues or SAD:

**Exercise:** Exercising not only keeps you physically healthy, but it gives you more energy throughout the day.

**Get outside:** Take a walk, even if it is only a short one.

**Eat a healthy diet:** Try to avoid eating too many carbohydrates or processed foods. These foods will often decrease your energy levels.

**Get some sun:** The amount of sunlight we get can have a direct effect on our moods.

**Avoid using alcohol or binge drinking:** Alcohol is a depressant and can

negatively affect your mood.

Remember to relax and treat yourself well: Try to do something nice for yourself at least once a day.

**Lean on friends and family:** We all need our social support networks at times. These are the people that we can turn to when we are feeling down. Don't be afraid to ask them for help.

Most people experience some days when they feel down. However, if you feel down for many days at a time and you find that life is often without much pleasure, see your doctor or a mental health professional. This is particularly important if you notice that your sleep patterns and appetite have changed, and certainly so if you think about suicide. There is help right here on campus at the Graham Counseling Center. Students receive the first six sessions for free and subsequent sessions for only a nominal fee. In addition, the Graham Counseling Center is offering a workshop on anxiety and depression on November 12, 12-1 p.m. in the Lake Michigan Room of the Oakland Center and November 13, 4-5 p.m. in the lounge at Hamlin Hall.



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## Micah's fight continues

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Senior Reporter

Although it appears that the Oakland University administration is not budging on its stance, Micah Fialka-Feldman has not stopped his campaign to live on campus.

Instead, his campaign has gained a wave of momentum and has garnered support from many students. Fialka-Feldman has been working with a number of individuals, including some from the OU Student Congress, working alongside him to change OU policy to allow him and other students in the OPTIONS program to live in campus housing.

This was evident during the latest OU board of trustees' formal session Wednesday Nov. 5. At that meeting about 20 people, ranging from his parents, schoolmates, OU student body president and vice president, professors and activists from OU, other universities, other states and even one person from Canada, spoke in support of his cause to the trustees and the OU administration.

After an hour and a half of speeches, the trustees adjourned the meeting without discussing the subject or directing the administration to make any changes.

Fialka-Feldman said he was not discouraged and that he plans to speak and have supporters speak on his behalf to the trustees at every formal session unless OU changes its policy.

He also plans on holding an informa-

tional gathering on Nov. 19 that will be an open forum to students, faculty, administration and the public to discuss this petition.

OUSC Vice President Daniel Evola said he is trying to get student representatives from other colleges to come to join a possible statewide inclusiveness effort.

Fialka-Feldman is also considering taking legal action to get the policy changed through the courts. His lawyer Chris Davis of Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service said they will make a decision by Friday.

"I don't want to go to the courts, but if I have to, I will," Fialka-Feldman said.

Samir Hanna, a student liaison to the board of trustees, said he's "never seen so many students feel so strongly about something."

"In light of all the student support, I would think the board of trustees might reconsider their decision," Hanna said.

Evola said he and others will keep the momentum going and show this is something students care about.

"The university needs to know this issue won't go away," Evola said.

Fialka-Feldman has petitioned to live on campus starting fall 2007, and has been denied at least five times since, the latest occurring on Nov. 7, 2008.

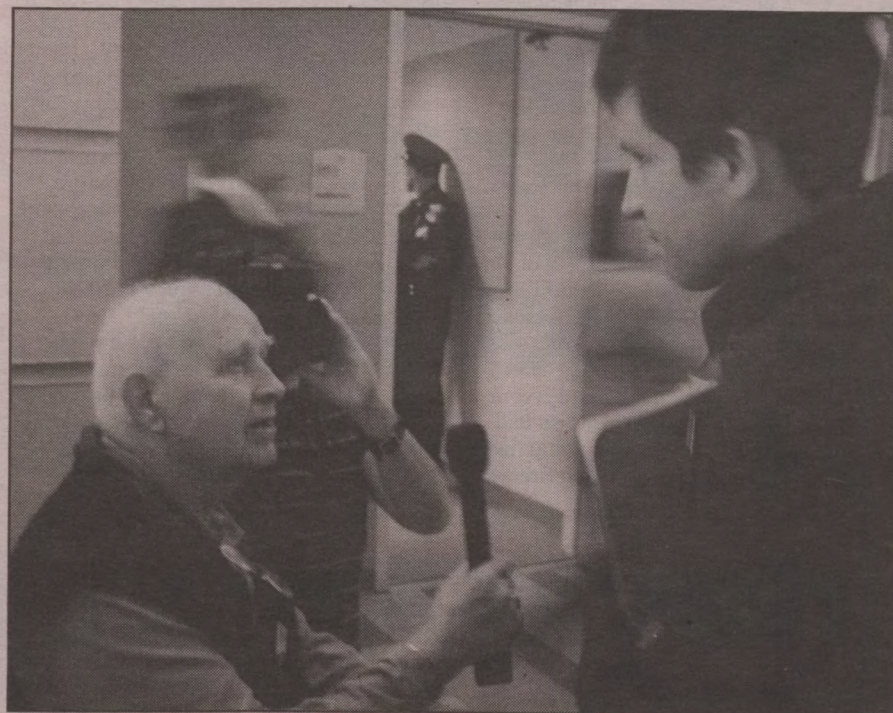
He started getting strong student attention after he presented his cause to the board of trustees at their last formal session on Sept. 17.

At the meeting, he and some of his supporters talked about why he and the other OPTIONS students should be allowed to live in campus housing, even if only on a trial-period basis.

The trustees instructed the OU administration to review its housing policies and afterwards, Fialka-Feldman was once again told in a letter sent by Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder that he would not be permitted to live in the campus dorms or apartments because he was not in a degree program.

Fialka-Feldman attends classes at OU through OU's unique OPTIONS program, which attempts to provide eligible students with mild cognitive disabilities "a fully inclusive, age appropriate post-secondary education experience," and currently serves 10 such students, who pay the tuition for the classes they attend.

Supporters of this petition say that



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post  
Fialka-Feldman was interviewed by local media after the board of trustees meeting, including this reporter. Fialka-Feldman's story has been featured on local news stations and in newspapers

the fact that OPTIONS students are not allowed to live on campus is not being fully inclusive, and that the socializing aspect that comes from dorm-living would benefit these students as well as make OU a pioneer.

Since Sept. 17, Fialka-Feldman, with the help of some OUSC members, has collected over 1,000 signatures from students in support of his petition and presented the signatures to the board at the meeting on Nov. 5.

His campaign has also garnered local media attention, from the likes of The Detroit News, Fox 2 WJBK and WDIV Channel 4.

He has also attracted the attention of many local and national disability rights activists, many of whom vocalized their support of Fialka-Feldman and his cause at the Nov. 5 board of trustees meeting.

Snyder explained the reasoning behind her decision not to allow OPTIONS students to live the dorms.

She believes the purpose of the residence halls is to "provide considerable independence plus convenient access to the support systems that help them earn

a degree."

She pointed out that Fialka-Feldman is neither seeking a degree nor eligible to do so because he was not admitted normally.

"Moreover, [OPTIONS students'] presence in a group living environment imposes added oversight and responsibility on the staff, most of who are students themselves," she said.

Fialka-Feldman said he will not cause any added oversight, but if he is allowed to live in the dorms on a trial basis and causes problems then OU administrators can change their mind.

"I have friends on campus who can help me if I need it," he said.

Edgewood College in Wisconsin has a program similar to OU's OPTIONS called Cutting-Edge that lets students with mild cognitive disabilities attend classes, but it decided not to let the added oversight get in the way of providing those students with a college dorm-living experience.

Edgewood started a pilot program to let the Cutting-Edge students live in the dorms on winter 2008 semester.



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post  
Disability rights activist and friend of Fialka-Feldman Judith Snow (left) traveled from Toronto to speak on Fialka-Feldman's behalf.



# OU Filmmakers gear up for Grizzdance

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

Though Oakland University lacks a film program, the Grizzdance Film Festival gives aspiring filmmakers the chance to have their work viewed by the public.

The fourth annual Grizzdance Film Festival will begin today and will run through Friday in the Oakland Center. The event is free for all students.

The films are judged by a panel of 10 people from both on and off campus in the categories of comedy, art, romance, horror, drama, music video and TV production.

The prize money includes \$750, \$500, and \$250 for first, second and third places.

Another \$500 is divided up among "best of" categories for individual genres and outstanding productions.

A student choice award also lets students cast a vote for the film they liked the best.

Entrees must be 15 minutes or less, but Grizzdance president Sean Buono

said that Grizzdance encourages all different kinds of subject matter.

"Our [reason for] starting it was that our university doesn't cater to a lot of students that are into film and acting," said Grizzdance vice president Beth Miller.

Films will be screened between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on each day of the festival, with the awards ceremony to be held at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Buono said that interest in Grizzdance has grown over the last three years.



Photo courtesy of Ryan Falcheck  
Ryan Falcheck's Grizzdance entry, "Crawl Space" (pictured above) is also available at youtube.com. Falcheck plays a man suffering from chronic blackouts.

"A lot more people have recognized Grizzdance, and more people are just excited to see their peers' films," Buono said.

However, this year's Grizzdance has seen fewer entries than previous years, in what Miller called a dry year, with only eight films in the competition category.

Though she might be disappointed in the number of entries, she says the volume of films is not the most important element of the festival.

"Personally I would rather have qual-

ity than quantity," Miller said.

Aside from the competition entries, Grizzdance features a showing of the film, "Pendragon: Sword of his Father," a feature length film presented by OU students Aaron and Marilyn Burns of Burns Family Studios, is making its world premiere at Grizzdance on Wednesday at 7.

The story of "Pendragon" follows Artos Pendragon, who fights against the Saxon invasion of Britain in the fifth century. Brauer, the president of Brauer Productions, is the guest of honor for Grizzdance and will be giving a keynote speech on Nov. 14.

Brauer Productions has worked on films with Michigan residents Tim Allen and Jeff Daniels, including Jeff Daniels 2001 independent film, "Escanaba in da Moonlight" which will also be shown at Grizzdance Thursday.

"We hope for him to come and speak and inspire the filmmakers," Miller said.

— For more information on some of the entries in the 2008 Grizzdance Film Festival, log on to our website at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com).

For more information  
[www.oakland.edu/gsc](http://www.oakland.edu/gsc)

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## POLICEFILES

On Nov. 3. OUPD were dispatched to the Science and Engineering Building to respond to a fire alarm. The alarm was traced to ducts located inside of room 143. The Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived and declared the building to be safe for occupancy.

OUPD were informed Nov. 3 to be on the lookout for juveniles throwing objects at cars on Walton Boulevard across from the University Student Apartments. Oakland County Sheriff's Department stopped a vehicle stating that it contained two cartons of eggs and a toy rifle on the back seat and floor. The suspects, all alleged OU students, were sent on their way by deputies.

Students evacuated Hamlin Hall on Nov. 5 due to a fire alarm. OUPD responded and were informed that the alarm was set off by someone who had burnt bacon. A resident of Hamlin Hall verified that they had been cooking bacon inside their apartment and set the alarms off accidentally. Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived and cleared the scene.



# Chartwells, students working to address issues

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Senior Reporter

Three weeks after students expressed their issues with Chartwells Food Services, it now looks like Chartwells is making good on its promise to keep the lines of communication open with Oakland University students.

Monday, several OU student representatives met with Chartwells directors to discuss the student concerns that were raised at the Oct. 19 OU Student Congress meeting.

Danielle Fallis, chairperson of OUSC's Student Activities Funding Board, was at the most recent meeting, and said that Chartwells seemed to be trying to solve the students' issues and that she was hopeful that progress will be made from this and future meetings.

"I think a lot will come from this," Fallis said. "It seems like Chartwells is really trying to address all of the problems that were talked about at that OUSC meeting."

Some of the solutions being talked about are the creation of student focus groups to discuss Chartwells catering services and getting student input on the food being offered in the dining hall in Vandenberg and the Pioneer Food Court in the Oakland Center.

Chartwells is OU's sole food service provider for Vandenberg Dining Hall and Pioneer Food Court. Chartwells also caters food to student organizations for events and meetings.

At the Oct. 19 meeting, one of the problems many students complained about was the costliness of Chartwells-catered food. Students said this was because Chartwells is the only company allowed to cater food in the OC and Vandenberg Hall. Some suggested students should be able to bring in food from the outside.

But Richard Fekel, director of the OC, said that getting rid of the catering-exclusivity clause with the OC and adding competition would be unfair to Chartwells because Chartwells makes significant contributions to the development of the OC and the food court.

Fallis said at the Oct. 19 meeting that while student organizations are held accountable and have to pay fees if they're late in ordering, accountability did not go both ways. Now, Fallis said Chartwells will have to pay fees if they're late.

Chartwells has also started to include a survey form with every catered order, in an effort to get stu-

dent feedback about its services.

Another issue that several students talked about on Oct. 19 was that Chartwells was not able to offer certain ethnic/international food of high quality. Andrew Willows, director of Chartwells, said that student organizations who want these types of food should go to the Chartwells office in the OC and talk about it with the chef.

"If you tell us what you're looking for, our chef can definitely work with you," Willows said.

Rami Haddad, president of the Lebanese Club, was one of the more vocal students that expressed his frustration with this problem, and he took Chartwells up on the offer.

Haddad invited the Chartwells chef to a Lebanese restaurant and showed him the type of food he would like to have Chartwells catered.

Afterward, the chef made some Lebanese food and gave Haddad a taste test last Friday.

"I was very impressed with the food he made for us," Haddad said. "But the quoted price was still too expensive."

Fallis said they discussed the creation of focus group, a solution offered by Chartwells, and that the group will consist of about a dozen student representatives. Fallis also said students will meet with Chartwells about once every two weeks.

Catering isn't the only thing Chartwells is discussing with students. Hawra Abogilal, an OUSC legislator, said on Oct. 19 that she didn't feel there was enough vegan or organic food available in the OU food courts. She said that while she hasn't seen the addition of any organic food, she appreciated an increase of healthy foods like whole wheat pasta and brown rice.

OUSC President Steve Clark said that one of the things currently discussed is an attempt to get the \$5 footlong deals on Subway sandwiches that are available in regular Subway restaurants but not in the one in the OC.

Clark said the focus groups will discuss with Chartwells creating a new menu for catering. He said Chartwells previously eliminated some choices to create a "favorites" menu, but now they said they'll scrap their menu and create a new menu with student input. They will also offer taste tests for student organizations that want food catered.

Clark said he thought the discussions are going well. "Obviously, nothing concrete has been done yet, but it's a good start," he said.

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# Artist uses ambiguity to challenge ideas

*Sculptor from Africa uses familiar objects to make one-of-a-kind images*

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

You enter to the sound of scuffling shoes on a gym floor and the whine of a drill. The walls are painted a bright pink that's described as "Pepto-Bismol color." At each of the corners of the room, you're greeted by the image of a man with an overenthusiastic "saccharine smile." It's certainly a unique art gallery from a unique artist.

Chido Johnson's gallery, "domestified angst: second recording," is on display at the Oakland University Art Gallery in Wilson Hall until Nov. 23. Johnson will be giving his artists' talk on Nov. 18 at 2 p.m.

Johnson was born in Rhodesia in 1969, the son of American missionaries, and lived in Zimbabwe for most of his childhood. He learned four African languages before he learned English, and didn't make a white friend until he attended the University of Georgia.

Johnson's eclectic upbringing forms much of the basis for his art, like his childhood love of spaghetti western movies in his sculpture "i want to be a cowboy."

In "i want to be a cowboy," a huddled figure representing Johnson wears a cowboy hat and sits on a cabinet that overlooks a shag carpet cut in the shape of Almeria, Spain, where spaghetti westerns with Clint Eastwood were first made. Of course, most patrons wouldn't recognize the shape of the city by glancing at the painting.

"When the general public comes in here, they need to have a visceral experience with it," Dick Goody, director of the OU Art Gallery said.

Another of Johnson's sculptures, "i believe I can fly" features cement sculptures of a figure that represents Johnson himself, smiling, with arms outstretched as if it were flying.

The figures rest on a shelf and are surrounded by the materials and mold that were used to make them. Some of the "i believe I can fly" sculptures were done by OU students who were instructed by Johnson.

During the opening reception Saturday, Johnson moved one of the sculptures from "i believe I can fly" from inside the art gallery to out onto the front sidewalk of Wilson Hall.

Wherever "i believe I can fly" is on display, Johnson moves the sculptures around regularly outside the exhibition.

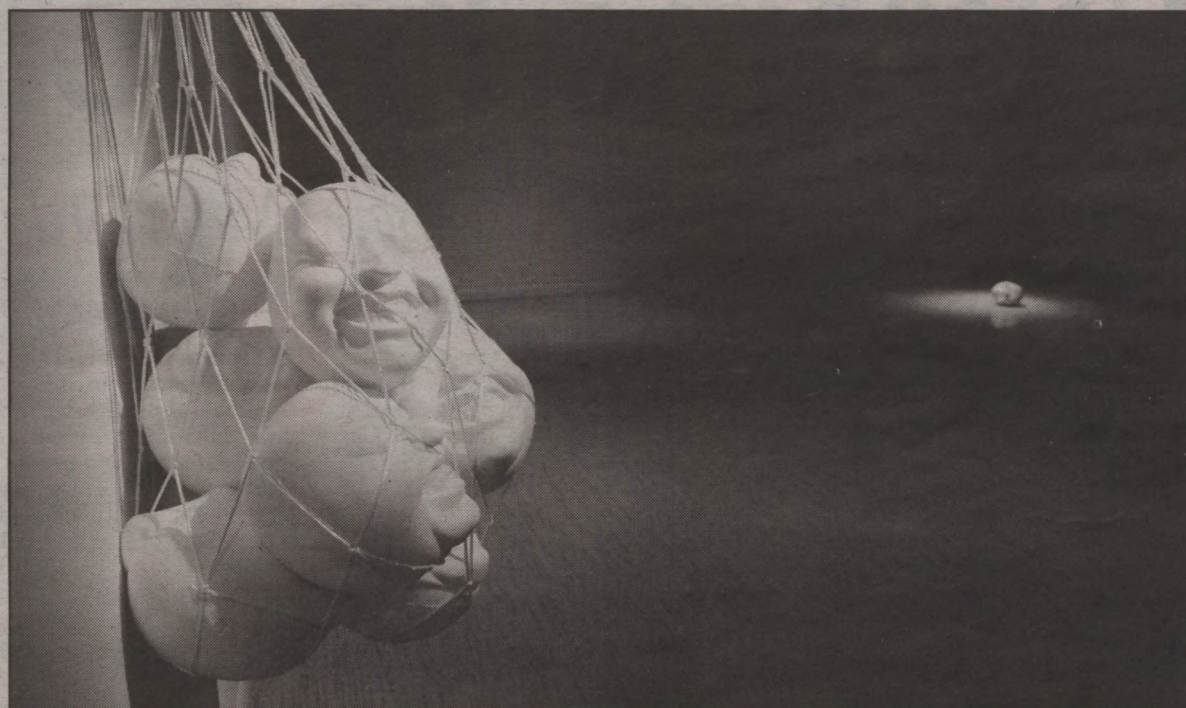
"They're trying to save the world," Johnson said. "It's like that kind of internal faith."

A few of Johnson's works confront social norms when he wants to reinterpret a piece of art that someone else made. His piece "me me me" features a faux African "airport art" sculpture, like the kind that would be sold in a gift shop.

Johnson carved a smiling sculpture of himself out of the existing sculpture.

Johnson's piece "the birth of bob" does the same thing to Sandro Botticelli's painting "The Birth of Venus," except that the Venus has been blotted out with white paint, leaving only the background. In its place, four nearby sculptures of Johnson's avatar, Bob, stand naked in bowls that float on water.

Bob appears in many of Johnson's works and always with a wide but somewhat unsettling smile. Johnson said the name Bob comes from a character in an Enzyte commercial.



Above, Johnson's sculpture "playball" was on display in its own room and was accompanied by an audio recording of the heads being kick around a gymnasium. Below, "smile" was carved in ebony, and a video of its making was displayed nearby.

Bob's smile is sometimes a stoic one in Johnson's works. In his piece "smile," a wooden figurine of Bob with a scarred face and a nonetheless enthusiastic smile watches a video playing on the opposite wall of itself being carved by a Dremel drill. The drill makes a noise akin to a dentist's drill.

"It's like I'm not going to let you see me cry. It's like I'm faking my happiness," Johnson said.

Another piece of self-flagellating art on display is "playball," where a series of soccer balls shaped like Johnson's head have been kicked around one room of the art gallery, leaving dirt marks all over the soccer balls and the walls.

A soundtrack of the balls being kicked plays in the room. Patrons that look carefully will notice the Nike logo on the back of each of the Johnson heads.

The Nike logo is not the only hint of a consumer product clashing with created art in Johnson's work.

His work "buck.it" features the lower half of a person carved out of wood, but the upper half is made of Home Depot buckets stacked on top of each other, stretching up above the ceiling of the art gallery.

"One of the things about Chido is that his work is often an amalgam of more than one thing," Goody said.

Goody said the work is a combination of a "ready-made" work of art and a crafted one. Even the "smile" figurine is resting on an Ikea table. "The spiritual value of the figure goes up compared to the Ikea table," Goody said.

Johnson said that he always uses himself as the subject for his art because it's the only real source he knows, and he could never truly claim to know another person.

Johnson said he hoped people who came to see his art gallery would leave it with questions.





## Extreme home selling

*Couple holds contest to sell their Waterford home in rough market*

By RORY MCCARTY  
Senior Reporter

In the current economic climate, some families have found that selling a house can be almost impossible. Finding a buyer willing to pay the full price is difficult in the current real estate market.

The VanDevelder family had been trying for two years to sell their house unsuccessfully. So they found an alternative solution: instead of selling the house to one person, sell it to 2,500.

The VanDevelders said they decided to raffle their house by selling \$100 tickets to many people, giving each of them an opportunity to win the house. They said their intention was to keep selling tickets until they sold 2,500 tickets, then randomly select a winner who would actually receive full ownership of the house.

Joe VanDevelder, of Waterford, came up with the idea after seeing similar house raffles done in places such as Hawaii and Arizona. The first day they began selling tickets, they had sold 250 in the space of a few hours. But after only half a day, they had to put the raffle on hold.

"Our attorney gave us a bump in the road with the raffle," Joe said. Shortly

after the raffle began, their attorney called to tell them to stop selling tickets because it constituted a form of gambling, which is prohibited by law for individual citizens rather than organizations.

Joe came up with the alternative plan of having a short essay contest with a \$100 entry fee rather than a raffle. Entrants would be required to write

an essay of 20 words or less on the back of their raffle ticket to explain why they need to win the VanDevelder house. Joe said that "the details are being ironed out," but the winner will be selected

by a city official or someone unbiased to keep from having a conflict of interest.

According to Joe's attorney, Phillip Strehle, what they have in mind is to make a panel of three people from different backgrounds to judge objectively.

"The most important thing is to eliminate the element of chance. We want it as anonymous as possible," Strehle said.

People who've bought multiple tickets

will be able to submit multiple essays which will each be judged individually as the entries will remain anonymous to the judges, according to Strehle.

Strehle also suggested choosing judges from different professions, such as an English teacher or a priest. "They'll give legitimacy to it because they'll be pillars in their community," he said.

**"Everybody's losing their homes. This is a one last hope for somebody."**

— Penelope VanDevelder

The VanDevelders are optimistic that when the essay contest gets started, the remaining tickets will be sold quickly, based on how many people have tried to buy tickets during the

transitional period.

"We thought it would take 30 to 60 days, but the response has been astronomical," VanDevelder said. "It wouldn't have taken two weeks."

Joe's wife, Penelope, shares her husband's astonishment to the response they've received from hopeful winners.

"You would not believe the response," Penelope said. "They all came back when

the ticket booth was closed and they were all devastated."

Penelope said that the poor state of the economy has actually contributed to the demand for raffle tickets. "Even though this is a bad time, people are pounding on the door, saying, 'I have to buy a ticket because I'm going to be homeless soon,'" she said.

Penelope said that that she and her husband quit their jobs when they first put their house up for sale, thinking that it would sell quickly. Joe had a landscaping company which he sold so that they could move, but in the current economic climate he's ended up working cutting lawns and plowing snow.

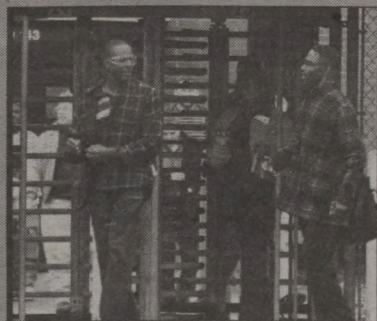
"Everybody's losing their jobs. Everybody's losing their homes. This is a one last hope for somebody," she said.

Joe said that once the house is sold, they'll either move to Houghton Lake or Colorado. "Either a little north or a helluva lot west," he said.

But Joe said he's positive that someone will win the house, "free and clear."

"You gotta see this place and you'd be more than happy to scribble out a ticket," Joe said. The VanDevelders are continuing the raffle/essay contest through their website, [rafflejoeshouse.com](http://rafflejoeshouse.com).

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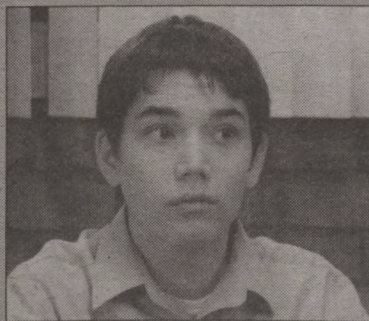
PAUL SANCYA/Associated Press

Above: Auto workers leave the General Motors Powertrain facility in Warren on Friday, Nov. 7. General Motors Corp. said it lost \$2.5 billion in the third quarter and warned that it could run out of cash in 2009. GM also said it has suspended talks to acquire Chrysler, and said its cash burn for the quarter accelerated to \$6.9 billion due to a severe U.S. auto sales slump.

Below: Conservation Officer Steve Orange checks a bait pile in Sparta, Mich., that was spotted from the air by plane Thursday afternoon, Nov. 6, 2008. The Michigan DNR conservation officers did a special enforcement of the no-baiting rules for deer hunters due to Chronic Wasting Disease.



HOLLYN JOHNSON/Associated Press



ALAN WARREN/Associated Press

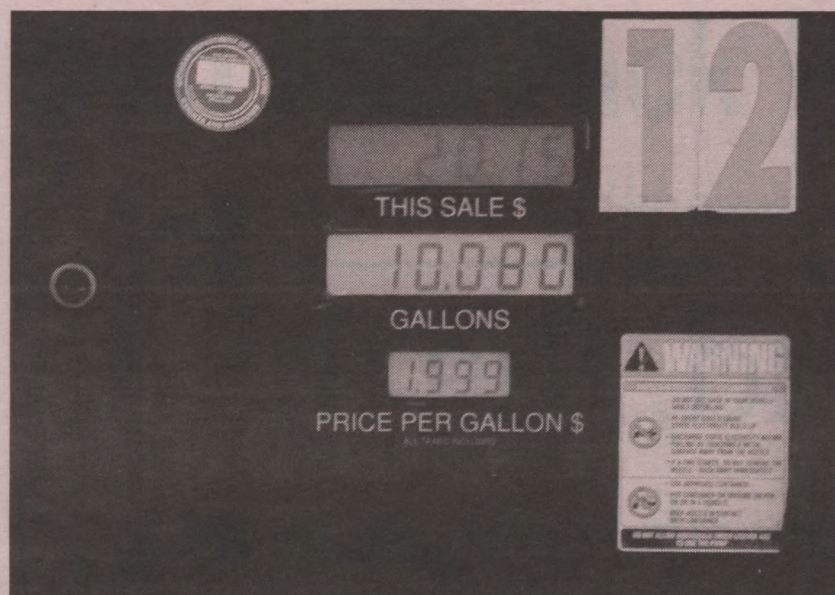
Above: Ryan Grossman, 17, of Saline, listens to testimony during a preliminary hearing in front of Judge J. Cedric Simpson at the District Court in Ann Arbor, Mich., on Thursday, Nov. 6. Grossman is charged with possessing explosives. Police say the teen from Washtenaw County built bombs and threatened students.

Below: Veterans Remembrance project historian Eloise Havens places a flag holder at Andrew J. Impson's grave in Pine Hill Cemetery in Kentwood, Mich. Friday, Nov. 7.



HOLLYN JOHNSON/Associated Press





PAUL SANCYA/Associated Press

A gas pump is shown in Detroit. Gov. Jennifer Granholm and lawmakers are considering eliminating Michigan's 19-cents-a-gallon gasoline tax and replacing it with a tax on the wholesale price of gas. Lawmakers are in session Wednesday and Thursday.

## Gas tax talks continue

By DAVID EGGERT  
Associated Press Writer

LANSING — Advocates of spending more on Michigan roads said Monday the Legislature has enough time before year's end to raise vehicle registration fees and possibly reconfigure the 19-cents-a-gallon gasoline tax.

The lame-duck session after the November election is when lawmakers may be more willing to pass unpopular fee or tax increases. But time is short, and even legislators who agree action is needed are unsure whether much will get done before next year.

The Transportation Funding Task Force, which was created by Gov. Jennifer Granholm and the Legislature, released a report Monday saying transportation spending must be doubled to maintain a "good" level of investment in roads, bridges, airports and public transit.

"Something needs to be done sooner rather than later. There really is a crisis coming in funding," said Senate Transportation Chairman Jud Gilbert, an Algonac Republican and one of four lawmakers on the 13-member task force.

Gilbert and another panel member, Democratic Rep. Pam Byrnes of Washtenaw County's Lyndon Township, said a viable short-term option in lame duck would be increasing vehicle registration fees. Legislation introduced in 2007 to boost registration fees by half has gone nowhere so far.

Another option is legislation that would let counties impose their own gasoline taxes, vehicle registration fees and driver's license fees.

Rich Studley, co-chair of the task force and head of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said a "prime candidate" in lame duck would be converting the per-gallon gasoline tax to a tax on the wholesale price of gas.

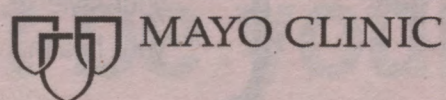
Swapping the taxes would let revenues rise or fall with changing fuel prices rather than tie gas revenues so strongly to consumption, which is falling as motorists drive more fuel-efficient cars or cut back on buying gas to cope with prices that topped \$4 per gallon a few months ago. Because the gas tax was last raised in 1997, by 4 cents a gallon, revenue has mostly been stagnant for a decade.

"Even if you just set it at a revenue-neutral level to maintain the status quo, the next time we have a spike in gasoline prices, that would prevent us from suffering a decline in revenue for our transportation system," Studley said.

Lawmakers are in session Wednesday and Thursday, then break two weeks for deer hunting and Thanksgiving. They return in December for one to three weeks.

Task force members, who held press conferences Monday in Southfield, Lansing and Grand Rapids, said action in lame duck could lay the groundwork for debate on other funding ideas in the future.

One option that could be considered next year is toll-financed construction or expansion of highways. Long-term options mentioned in the report include increasing the 6 percent sales tax by a penny on the dollar and dedicating the extra revenue to transportation. That would require voter approval.



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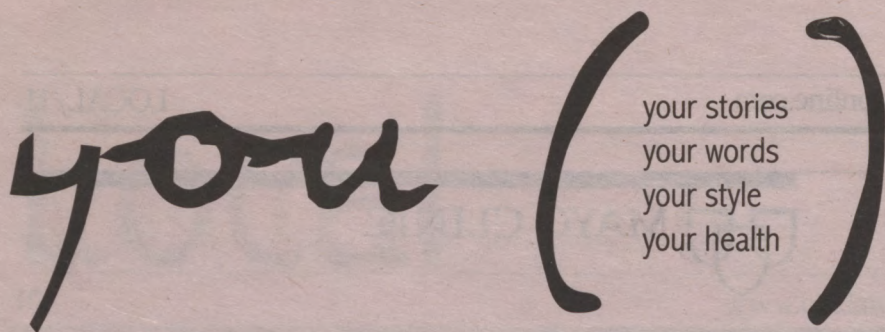
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# The few, the proud, the thirds

*Third party supporters share their thoughts on the election process*

By MASUDUR RAHMAN  
Senior Reporter

Of the American citizens who voted for the 2008 presidential election, 98.7 percent voted for either Barack Obama or John McCain according to [ap.org](http://ap.org). Some of the 1.3 percent of voters who voted for one of the other four candidates, or wrote in a candidate, are Oakland University students.

While some of these OU students were unsatisfied with this year's election process, some were hopeful for the future of third-party candidates.

## No face time

A shared belief held among the third-party supporters is that their candidates were not given enough media coverage.

Mike Parsons, a senior communications major who voted for Libertarian candidate Bob Barr, said that the fact that the three debates between Obama and McCain were on a lot of channels while the single debate between the four third-party candidates was only shown on CNN speaks for itself.

"Mix that with the fact that the only third-party candidate the average semi-informed voter ever heard of was Ralph Nader really shows that the other candidates were ignored," Parsons said.

Andrew Bashi, a senior international relations major who voted for independent candidate Ralph Nader, said that the corporations and the media control of the debates and that the third-party candidates were "terribly treated" this year, just as in the past.

"Ralph Nader did more for this country than anybody else who ran, but they still wouldn't give him access to the debates," Bashi said.

He said that not letting all of the candidates participate in the debates is undemocratic and not only unfair to the candidates but also to the public that didn't know about the choices they had.

Dana Hadrill, a senior majoring in international relations with a minor in journalism, also blamed the media

for covering the candidates unequally. Hadrill did a write-in vote for Ron Paul, who ran as a Republican in the primaries but lost to John McCain. Hadrill said she believed the media dictated the front-runners early.

## Two-party system

It's no secret that much of American politics is run by the two major parties: Democrat and Republican. Bashi said that the two-party system is a joke and needs rethinking.

"I think that when you have a third-party underdog-type candidate, they have a built-in appeal of being less corrupted than the major candidates," Parsons said. "Call me cynical, but as soon as somebody becomes a player in either the Democratic or Republican party, it's safe to assume they've been bought off."

Hadrill said that she didn't feel there was a big difference in the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates this year. She said the issue closest to her is the war in Iraq, and felt that both McCain and Obama would continue President Bush's policies.

## Why support them?

Bashi said he's a fan of Nader since he was 10 years old, and that he supports almost all of Nader's policies. He said he especially likes Nader's policy for peaceful relations with other countries, civil liberties, cutting down military costs and instead use that money for infrastructure and universal health care.

Bashi describes his policies as social-democratic and said that he's been on the left side of the political spectrum most of his life.

"I was leaning over to the Libertarian side for a while, but I recently came back to my roots," he said.

Parsons said that although he wasn't very excited about Barr, he felt Barr's principles matched with his after researching them. Parsons especially agreed with Barr's stance on small gov-

ernment and his strict adherence to the Constitution.

Parsons said that although people in support of small government and economic conservatism usually vote Republican, "these last eight years has shown us that the Republicans seem to be the party of big government and frivolous spending."

Although Paul ran as a Republican, he seemed to many like a third-party candidate because he wasn't invited to some Republican primary debates. He also ran for president in 1988 as a Libertarian.

Hadrill said she supported Paul throughout the primaries and, although he wasn't on the ballot, decided to write in a vote for him because she didn't support any of the listed candidates. She said she voted with her conscience and didn't feel she threw away her vote.

## No sore losers

Bashi, Hadrill and Parsons said they hoped Obama will make a good president.

"If he's not worse than Bush, I'll be happy," Hadrill said.

Parsons said that despite his favored candidate not winning, he was happy with this year's election.

"It was refreshing to see the person with the popular vote win the presidency, along with the optimism that seems to come with a brand new president."

Bashi said he hoped that the things Obama promised would come true, but that it won't happen unless people demand accountability from the government. "It's up to us," he said.

## Third can be a charm

Bashi, Hadrill and Parsons said in the future they would like to see more media coverage given to the third-party candidates.

Bashi said the debates should be held by the government in a fair manner.

Hadrill said people should stop whining about unfair media coverage and do things like grassroots campaigns.

Parsons refuted the claim that vot-

ing third party is purely symbolic and impractical.

"The popular opinion about voting third party is that you're throwing your vote away or inadvertently voting for one of the major candidates," Parsons said. "But what most people don't realize is that a third-party candidate only needs 10 percent of the popular vote to receive federal funding for the next campaign."

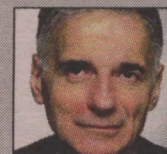
## Where do they rank?

So how many votes did the third party presidential candidates attract in the 2008 election?

Barack Obama (D): 65,974,96

John McCain (R): 57,775,796

— [ap.org](http://ap.org)



Ralph Nader  
(independent):  
684,577

— [ap.org](http://ap.org)



Bob Barr  
(Libertarian):  
503,372

— [ap.org](http://ap.org)



Chuck Baldwin  
(Constitution):  
180,265

— [cbsnews.com](http://cbsnews.com)



Cynthia McKinney  
(Green): 120,390

— [ap.org](http://ap.org)



# Don't let Jack Frost be your bully

*Get ready to battle the winter cold and have a little fun doing it*

By KATHLEEN QUANDT  
Staff Intern

As the cold weather blows in, some students may wonder what they should do to stay happy, healthy and warm on campus.

During the cold and sometimes dreary fall and winter months, maintaining a positive mood can be a challenge for some. Staying indoors and not getting enough sunlight can put a damper on the way you feel.

Allison Rossetto, a sophomore in engineering biology, feels the affect of the weather when it gets colder.

"It kind of makes me more tired," Rossetto said. "I think it does [that to] a lot of people just because it gets dark so early."

Joanne Talarek, director of Graham Health Center, said that staying active will help improve your mood.

"Exercise is a good way to improve your mood whether you're exercising outdoors or indoors," Talarek said. "Exercise increases your natural serotonin levels which will improve your mood."

Other things you can do to improve your mood, According to Talarek, is to decrease stress by taking good care of yourself and doing nice things for yourself, get enough rest and avoid stimulants such as nicotine and caffeine, and alcohol which is a depressant.

Fighting the cold by dressing for the weather is a common concern for students. A hat, scarf and gloves are essentials for winter but there are right and wrong ways to keep warm.

Michael Muscat, a junior marketing major, said a beanie, mittens or gloves, a thermal shirt or socks, a sweater and hoodies are on his list of winter wear.

Rossetto said that in addition to a hat, scarf, gloves and sweaters she puts on a lot of layers.

Talarek said it is good to wear layers, and to avoid wearing thermal underwear underneath clothes to class.

"In terms of thermal underwear for going to class, the risk is that you're sitting in class for a couple of hours, becoming overheated and sweaty and now that clothing is damp so when you go outdoors — now you have on damp clothing that becomes cold very easily and doesn't insulate," she said.

Talarek said we lose heat through our head so wearing a hat is a good idea. Other precautions are to make sure your feet are warm and dry and that your hands and ears are covered for any length of time to avoid frostbite.

Even though bad weather and sicknesses can come to mind, cold weather can provide unique ways to have during the winter season.

Muscat likes snowboarding and skiing during the winter.

Rossetto spends time with her younger siblings in the winter.

"I ice skate," Rossetto said. "I have younger sisters, I take them and their friends sledding and that sort of thing. I take my dog outside and make her play in the snow."

The cold weather is also a popular time for winter sports, including ice hockey.

"I play hockey so from time to time I play hockey outside," said Krista Sheppard, a senior nursing and Spanish major.

In addition to winter sports and activities, there are other things to enjoy.

For Muscat, the holidays make the cold weather worth it.

Though Sheppard thinks the cold weather isn't as bad as everyone makes it out to be.

"The changing of the air — it seems like the cold air is fresher," she said.

Sometimes the only thing people like about the cold months is when they come to an end. Muscat said his least favorite thing is how the season seems to drag on.

"You just want the warm to come back because you can only take the cold for so long," Muscat said.

## 2008-09 Lecture Series

Presented by OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S Student Life Lecture Board and Student Program Board



### DR. DREW PINSKY

Millions of listeners came to know Dr. Drew Pinsky, more popularly known as "Dr. Drew," as the co-host of the nationally syndicated radio call-in program "Loveline." When the show expanded into a television format in 1996 and enjoyed an unprecedented five-year run on MTV, Pinsky's loyal and appreciative fan base grew to include millions of additional young viewers seeking Pinsky's compassionate, intelligent and non-judgmental answers to their tough — and often embarrassing — questions.

Today "Loveline," which is syndicated by Westwood One, can be heard on more than 100 radio stations across the country, five nights a week. In addition, Pinsky is currently the star of the VH1 show "Celebrity Rehab with Dr. Drew," and the host of the Discovery Health Channel's "Strictly Sex with Dr. Drew," an hour-long program that addresses common health problems and offers advice and related information to viewers. He also recently hosted an hour-long special on Lance Armstrong titled "Lance Armstrong: Stories of Survival." The special offered an exclusive, intimate conversation with Armstrong on what it means to survive and "live strong."

Pinsky is a practicing American board-certified internist and addiction medicine specialist. He is currently the medical director for the Department of Chemical Dependency Services at Las Encinas Hospital and a staff member at Huntington Memorial Hospital, both of which are located in Pasadena, California. He also serves on the faculty at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California as assistant clinical professor of psychiatry, and continues to run a private practice.

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# Pike breaks down walls

By TIM RATH  
Sports Editor

The J.B.'s "The Grunt — Pt. 2," Prince's performance at halftime of Super Bowl XLI and The Game's free-style "300 Bars."

Very few of us are lucky enough to have the improvisational ability necessary to truly "live in the moment," where there is no stopgap between the thought of what needs to be done and what is done. That's what Jessica Pike does.

The senior shooting guard seems to float on the court like a marionette, guided by head coach Beckie Francis, doing exactly what is needed in any given situation. Whether drawing a charge, stealing the ball or sinking another dagger of a jump shot deep in the heart of nationally-ranked opposition, Pike always seems to be at the right place, at the right time, without making it look particularly hard.

This isn't to imply that Pike has a walkie-talkie to heaven. Breaking down that barrier in the mind that confines the rest of us is the result of her experiences as a young girl who drew up plays with her friends rather than play with Barbie's, as an eighth-grader who destroyed her older sister's varsity high school basketball team and as a young woman who e-mailed Finnish strangers who would become future teammates.

It's been said that in order to understand the present and future, you need to know your history. What took Pike from highly-touted freshman to Summit League Pre-Season Player of the Year?



Although they both started at OU in 2005, it wasn't until their junior year that Pike and point guard Riikka Terava began living together on campus.

Cultural differences could have come between them, seeing as Pike is a native of Clawson and Terava hails from Helsinki, Finland.

Spending most every waking moment together, from basketball, to classwork, to living in the same apartment, could have also made things difficult. However, Terava said that Pike is very easy to get along with on and off of the court.

"We all study hard, play hard, we like the same things and go to the movies together on our movie nights. It's just the same thing for both of us," Terava said. "I don't even think we've had a fight in two years living together."

As difficult as that may be to believe, it becomes easier to understand considering how Pike and Terava's friendship came to be.

"She was the first one of all of the students to e-mail me before I even came to the U.S.," Terava said. "I didn't know anyone here and she just e-mailed me because she wanted to get to know me and I just loved her for that."

## Freshman

Pike's career at OU began after a childhood filled with hardwood and leather. She played organized ball for Lahser Summer League, her middle school and Clawson High School. By the time she reached freshman year, Jessica was already challenging her older sister Andrea's varsity basketball squad.

"Jessica used to hang out with my friends and I on the team when she was in eighth or ninth grade," Andrea said. "By the time she hit high school, she was the only reason we were winning. Before she was on the team, we won a handful of games. She turned that program around. They won a district title and she broke a million records."

However, Pike's love of the game of basketball was born even before her baby teeth were out.

With the help of a neighborhood friend, Jessica would draw up strategies on the playground and stay outside all day, just playing basketball. "She was really little from the time she was young until she hit high school, but she was really fast," Andrea said. "Obviously, she's grown in more ways than physically, as a leader she's become much more vocal."

## Sophomore



Now it makes sense because she's such a fantastic player, but back then it would really throw a wrench into practice."

Pike averaged 3.6 points, 1.9 rebounds and 11.8 minutes per game for a team that went 15-16 before going on a tear in the Summit League Championship Tournament that culminated with a win over Western Illinois, 65-56. "I learned why she was destroying us all the time: she was so coachable," Francis said.

Beckie Francis could remember Pike's freshman year at OU for a lot of reasons.

She could remember Pike's first field goal as a Golden Grizzly, a three-pointer in overtime against Buffalo to secure a victory or that Pike played as a freshman in OU's loss to Ohio State in the NCAA Tournament.

Instead, she prefers to recall, with a laugh, how Pike tended to ruin her strategies for running practice. "We were switching up the teams with starters and non-starters and I had Pike on the second team, or the scout team," Francis said. "Pike always destroyed us and I used to get so mad."



Now entrenched in her role as a senior leader on the team, Pike has drawn rave reviews from coaches and underclassmen who speak warmly of her guidance on the court.

"She's helped me on the court and off the court with frustrations that I've had. She's just someone to talk to," said freshman guard Sharise Calhoun. "People like her have made it easy for me."

Associate head coach Eric Stephan agreed with the sentiment.

"The leadership in the locker room is something that Pike has picked up where [graduated, former OU player] Charlese [Greer] left off. She gives us everything she has every day and the younger players pick up and go with that attitude."

In preparing to improve upon last season's 20-10 overall record and second-round loss in the Summit League Tournament to Oral Roberts, Pike has taken up some unconventional training habits.

This summer, she participated in Ride For Life, a tri-state bike trek to benefit ALS research, with teammates Aubrey Freshour and Melissa Jeltema.

"The three of us joined and I don't think anything we could have done would have prepared us for the



mountains," Freshour said.

Pike, a wellness and health promotion major also took a trip to Swaziland for her senior project on HIV/AIDS education programs.

"She loved Africa so much, it really showed off her passion to help people," said Andrea Pike. "She used to have me proofread her papers and now she sounds like more of an adult than I do."



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

### At a glance

**HEAD COACH:** Beckie Francis — at Oakland: 144-92, nine years; overall: 174-140, 12 years.

**2007-08 FINISH:** 20-10 overall, 12-6 Summit League (2nd); lost in Summit League Tournament semi-finals to Oral Roberts.

**2008-09 HYPE:** Jessica Pike was named Summit League Pre-Season Player of the Year and Melissa Jeltema was named to the Pre-Season All-Summit League Second Team.

**INCOMING FRESHMEN:** Guards Kira Carter (Indianapolis, Ind./North Central) and Sharise Calhoun (Toledo, Ohio/Central Catholic) could see major minutes this season backing up Pike.

**GRADUATED SENIORS:** Liz Sowers (4.4 minutes per game) and Rachel Bryer (3.9 mpg) did not see major minutes last season, but the team will have to find a replacement for bench sparkplug Charlese Greer (13.8 mpg, 7.5 rpg, 3.2 rpg).



Head coach  
Beckie Francis

### Roster

(\* Returning starter; 2007-08 averages)

3 Courtney Walters G 5-4 SO

COMMENT: May not get much playing time, showcases team's guard depth

4 Jessica Pike\* G 5-8 SR

Versatility keeps opposing coaches awake at night (16.3 ppg, 4.1 rpg, 1.9 spg)

10 Melissa Jeltema\* G 5-9 JR

Can shoot from the arc and muscle inside, often guards players much taller

11 Stacey Farrell G 5-6 SO

Stats belie this bench sparkplug's impact, keeping the team running (2.0 ppg, 2.5 apg)

20 Riikka Terava\* G 5-6 SR

Like a coach on the floor, guides Francis' motion offense masterfully (3.7 ppg, 3.4 apg)

22 Brittany Carnago C 6-3 SO

Future star should see playing time increase with experience (4.5 ppg, 1.1 bpg)

23 April Kidd\* G 5-6 SR

May be Grizzlies' most complete player with driving ability and defensive tenacity

25 Anna Patritto F 5-11 SO

Agent of chaos should see playing time increase with Charlese Greer's graduation

30 Kirstie Malone G 5-10 SO

Hoping to bounce back from injury to provide depth at guard (1.8 ppg, 1.3 rpg)

32 Hanna Reising\* F 5-11 JR

Offensive versatility needed for team to compete (11.8 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 2.4 apg)

33 Aubrey Freshour G 5-11 RS JR

Works well with Farrell in second-unit fast breaks (2.0 ppg, 1.7 rpg)

34 Sharise Calhoun G 5-5 FR

Impressing coaches and fans early with driving ability and shooting touch

35 Kira Carter G 5-7 FR

Could see major minutes thanks to defensive hustle and deft passing

nior

Senior

The women's basketball schedule includes such national powerhouses as Georgia, Marquette and Purdue. Pike's team has changed, from the insertion of smooth-passing sophomore center Brittany Carnago into the starting lineup to the new bench, with fast-breaking Stacey Farrell and Freshour, to post tornadoes Anna Patritto and Kristie Malone.

Despite these facts and her penchant for taking on philanthropic causes, Pike seems comfortable at Midnite Madnezz dressed as a member of Poison. She plays Rock Band and listens to The Academy Is. She giggles incessantly during press conferences.

"She's just a big goofball," Andrea Pike said.

When asked about her selection as Summit League Pre-Season Player of the Year, Pike is her typically flippant self.

"It's flattering to get that honor this early in the season, but it's that — just an honor," she said. "I don't feel a whole lot of extra pressure, I just go out there and play."

Pike doesn't seem to dominate the Summit League because she figures that's what you do with God-given talent. Rather, she does it for the same reason she has always done things; because, hey, life's short and why not?

It's an unknown whether or not the women's basketball team will live up to their pre-season number-two conference ranking, but with Pike as a leader it's clear that they will have fun in their triumph. For the team, a look at the past reveals that the future is now.



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[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)  
for live-blogs of every home  
basketball game this season.



# Diverse group highlights OU

*Milutinovic leads talented freshmen class next to veterans*

By TOM MURPHY JR.  
Senior Reporter

With all five of last season's starters returning and perhaps the best recruiting class in the history of the program, Oakland University men's basketball coach Greg Kampe has a lot to be excited about this season.

His biggest problem may be distributing playing time. Kampe said that he will be using a 10-man rotation.

"If we can get 10 guys who can play and figure out a way to spread out the minutes, I guarantee that come crunch time you will see our veterans out there. I trust them, I know we can win with them," Kampe said. "The younger guys are going to have to prove themselves."

Among returning starters for the Grizzlies are junior point guard Johnathon Jones, senior guard Erik Kangas, senior forward Derick Nelson, redshirt sophomore center Keith Benson and senior center Dan Waterstradt.

"The excitement for me comes from the fact that we have an experienced group of veterans," Kampe said.

The team will be tested early. They begin the season with nine straight road games including trips to Oregon (Nov. 17) Syracuse (Nov. 21) Iowa (Nov. 23) and Kansas State (Nov. 25).

"I think playing those teams really makes us tough for our conference," Jones said. "With the team we have assembled, we can really get our name out there headed into the conference season. I think we can knock off a couple of those teams, I think we can be ranked. That's how good our team is and one of our goals is to be ranked."

The Grizzlies are ranked third in the Summit League preseason poll. Jones and Nelson were named to the preseason Summit League first team and Kangas was named to the second team. Jones was also named to the Preseason Mid-Major Men's Basketball All-America Team, announced by **Collegeinsider.com**.

"It feels good to be honored but I just have to go out there and prove to my team that I am worthy of that accolade," Jones said. "I have to elevate my game even more to prove it wasn't a fluke, it pushes me to be better."

While the veterans are earning honors for what they did at the collegiate level last season, all of the freshmen have received recognition for what they did at the high school level. Freshman guard Drew Maynard was ranked as

the 36th best shooting guard in the country by **ESPN.com**, freshman guard Blake Cushingberry was rated the sixth best high school player in Michigan by **BankHoops.com**, freshman guard Matt Samuels was ranked as one of the top 150 players in the country both his junior and senior year. Freshman forward Jay Thames was ranked as the 36th best power forward in the nation by **ESPN.com**.

But perhaps the most intriguing player in Kampe's freshman class is seven foot center Ilija Milutinovic. He passed up playing professionally in Europe in order to come to OU in hopes of perusing a career in the NBA. Milutinovic has the skills to make an impact this season but according to Kampe, first he must learn the "American" style of game that the Grizzlies play.

Milutinovic, who is from Nis, Serbia, said that growing up he did not focus on just playing in the post. He has an all-around game and at this point may be more comfortable playing on the wing as opposed to playing inside the post.

"His skills are off the charts with the ball," Kampe said. "But he's got to get Americanized. Basically he's got a very European game right now and that's good if we can Americanize him so he can have both."

Kampe said that right now, if Milutinovic wants to earn playing time he needs to work on is his defense and rebounding in the paint.

"I have improved," Milutinovic said. "But I need to improve more. I am ready to work at it. I understand what [Kampe] is trying to do by making me play more like a big man."

Milutinovic said that ultimately he would like to be a Rasheed Wallace type player.

"He's got the jumper and the inside game," Milutinovic said. "He's an overall player, he can do anything."

For Jones having such a unique player as Milutinovic on the floor can create more options.

"He can really put the ball on the floor and when I'm driving and kicking to a big man out there on the wing, they really don't respect him as much, so he's going to be open," Jones said. "And with his ability to drive to the basket, [that] really opens up the floor."

The Grizzlies also added junior guard Larry Wright to the roster. However, Wright, who transferred from St. Johns, will not be eligible to play this season due to NCAA transfer rules.



TIM RATH/The Oakland Post

Ilija Milutinovic skies over a defender for a hook shot in a recent practice. Milutinovic was actively pursued by the likes of Oregon State before deciding to go to college at OU.

Two games that highlight the Grizzlies schedule this season are Michigan (Dec. 20) and Michigan State (Dec. 27). Both games will be played at the Palace of Auburn Hills and both games will be aired on FSN Detroit.

"I think anytime you play in the biggest basketball venue in the world, which I think the Palace is, you have to perform," Kampe said. "We'll be on the marquee for a week or two before the game and when you walk onto that stage you have to perform."

Last season OU nearly upset the Spartans at the Breslin Center in East Lansing falling by a score of 75-71.

"Personally, I'm really [ticked] off," Waterstradt said about MSU. "We should have beaten them and we let it slip through our fingers."

Waterstradt said that even though both games are around the holidays the team is going to be extremely focused.

But Kampe and the rest of the team

know that it may not really matter what the team does in the early season if they do not win the conference. Being a mid-major, most of the time the only way to get into the NCAA championship tournament is to win the conference championship. Participating in March Madness is the real prize.



Check out  
[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)  
for a look at Coach Kampe's  
silver anniversary at OU.



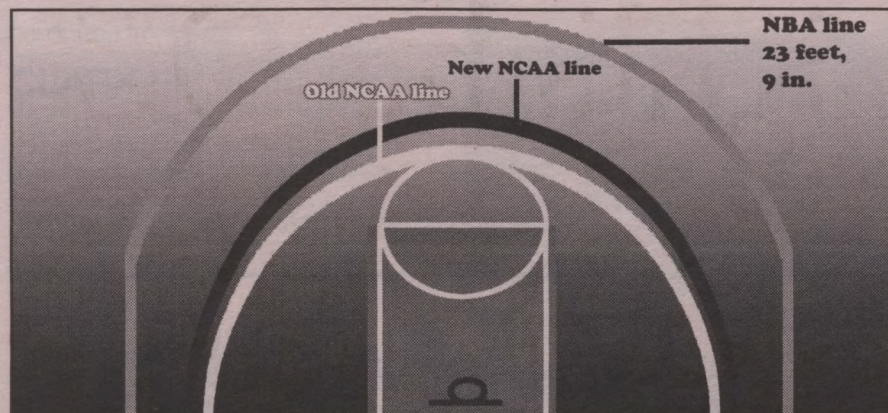


Illustration by DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post  
Beginning this season, the NCAA three-point line will be at 20 feet, 9 inches for men's teams.

# Threes for all

## Grizzlies react to NCAA ruling

By JOE GUZMAN  
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University senior guard Erik Kangas made eight consecutive 3-pointers during a shooting drill last Tuesday. And when one just happened to spin out, another string of nothing-but-net heat-seekers found the bottom of the basket.

Twenty years after the 3-point line was implemented into the NCAA, the Playing Rules Oversight Committee approved to extend it from 19 feet 9 inches to 20 feet 9 inches. Despite the change, Oakland's sharp-shooter doesn't believe this will have any effect on his game.

"I feel like a lot of my shots came from farther back anyway," said Kangas.

Last year, despite playing in only 26 of the team's 31 games because of a shoulder injury, Kangas led the Summit League with 3.3 triples per game. He finished the season ranking second in the league with 87 three-pointers made, while shooting 41 percent, good enough for eighth in the league.

For a player such as Kangas, who makes his living from beyond the arch, the extra foot is of little concern; but it could affect teams that lack depth from long range.

"It fits our style pretty well because we have quite a few guys who can hit it pretty deep. So I think that plays well to our advantage," he said.

Head coach Greg Kampe believes the rule change will not affect the team.

"Our guys that can shoot it can shoot it deep. [The distance] has never been an issue for Kangas," Kampe said. "Derick Nelson can shoot it, Larry Wright can shoot. Then the guys who have come in; [Blake] Cushingberry and [Drew]

Maynard both shoot it with ease."

Last year the Grizzlies, ranked among the lower half in the conference at three-pointers made and attempted, and three-point percentage. This could have been a direct effect of Kangas' injury. Of the team's 523 attempts at three-point shots, 212 of those were taken by him. With a focus on spreading the ball around and the added depth to this year's roster, the team shouldn't have to rely on him as much.

Dan Waterstradt, OU's 6-foot-10-inch center, believes the big men will benefit.

"That extra flip can bring a defense out, like we had against Bowling Green," he said. "We spread that defense out and got some pretty easy buckets in the paint."

As for who will be most affected, Kampe believes it will be schools at the major level, which rely more on pure athletes and drivers rather than good jump-shooters.

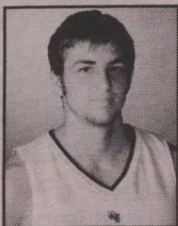
"Through the mid-major level you see kids that aren't athletic enough to play for a Michigan State but can really shoot, so

they play for a team like us," Kampe said.

Those who also could be affected by this change are the women's teams, who are keeping the old three-point line. Having two lines separated by a foot could cause problems when having a split-second to locate their line and measure the shot.

As for his own team, Kampe will continue to focus on high percentage shots; getting layups, short jump shots, and hitting the three when it's open. Wherever the NCAA decides on placing the line, it's not even an issue for him.

"It's there, there's the 3-point line, shoot from behind it," Kampe said.



Senior Erik Kangas

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### At a glance

**HEAD COACH:** Greg Kampe — at Oakland and overall: 396-301 in 24 years

**2007-08 FINISH:** 17-14 overall, 12-7 Summit League (3rd); lost in Summit League Tournament semi-finals to IUPUI.

**2008-09 HYPE:** Johnathon Jones was named to the 2008-09 Preseason Mid-Major Men's Basketball All-America Team. Derick Nelson was named to the Pre-Season All-Summit League First Team and Erik Kangas was named to the Pre-Season All-Summit League Second Team.

**INCOMING FRESHMEN:** Ilija Milutinovic (Nis, Serbia/Milestone Christian Academy [Mo.]), Drew Maynard (Lake Orion), Blake Cushingberry (Romeo), Matt Samuels (Washington D.C./Patterson [N.C.]), and Jay Thames (Port Huron Northern) could make an impact this season.

**GRADUATED SENIORS:** The losses of Patrick McCloskey (3.8 rpg) and Brandon Cassise (9.7 ppg) will be felt in practice and game-time.



Head coach  
Greg Kampe

### Roster

(\* Returning starter; 2007-08 averages)

1 Derick Nelson\* F 6-5 SR

COMMENT: Will thrive under new, more spread-out offensive scheme

2 Larry Wright G 6-2 JR

St. John's transfer should ease transition from Cassise era at guard once eligible

4 Will Hudson F 6-9 SO

Versatile sparkplug should continue to improve off of the bench (3.5 ppg, 3.0 rpg)

12 Matt Samuels G 6-0 FR

Super-athletic Jones backup can jump out of the gym

20 Ilija Milutinovic C 7-0 FR

Will be a Summit League force once he gains muscle and "Americanizes" his game

21 Ricky Bieszki G 6-2 SR

Sharpshooter could see increased playing time after Cassise's graduation

22 Blake Cushingberry G 6-4 FR

Muscular, tall guard is the best bet of immediate freshman contributors

23 Johnathon Jones\* G 5-11 JR

Should improve on already spectacular numbers (6.0 apg, 1.81 assist/turnover ratio)

30 Erik Kangas\* G 6-3 SR

Best of Grizzlies' sharpshooters provides senior leadership (14.6 ppg)

31 Drew Maynard G 6-7 FR

Ranked No. 37 of shooting guards by ESPN.com

32 John Kast G 6-2 JR

Super athlete hopes to see increased minutes in spread-out offense

34 Keith Benson C 6-11 RS SO

Hoping to improve defensive effort despite strong numbers (1.81 bpg)

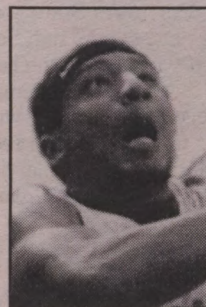
44 Jay Thames F 6-9 FR

Highly-touted freshman provides depth at forward

45 Dan Waterstradt\* C 6-10 RS SR

The emotional core of the Grizzlies provides strong offensive presence (4.5 rpg)

## THAT'S NOT MY NAME!



"J.J." "Strat." While these nicknames suffice for their function, we here in The Oakland Post sports department feel that they do not do these athletes justice in the personality department. For help, we turn to you, the reader. E-mail your best, most creative nickname for Golden Grizzlies star forward Derick Nelson to [trath@oakland.edu](mailto:trath@oakland.edu) for the chance to win a prize. The winner will be announced in next week's issue.



# Sports

November 12, 2008

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## The winner's mentality

*Clark brings concentrated effort to Summit League Tournament*

By PAUL GULLY  
Special Projects Editor

Steve Clark is alone in a locker room. It's just minutes before the Oakland University men's soccer team's second round match in the Niagara University Tournament in New York. His eyes are closed. His iPod is set to The Killers' "Smile Like You Mean It." OU's senior goalkeeper and team captain (and student body president) is going through a little pre-game mental preparation.

He flows from the Warrior 2, his favorite yoga pose, to the Updog, focusing all his thoughts on the upcoming 90-minute battle. "I'm good. In fact, I'm too good," he tells himself. As he finishes up his routine a few minutes later, he lets out a pumped-up yell, spins around and opens his eyes.

Turns out Clark's no longer alone. The Grizzlies' opponent, Coastal Carolina University, has entered the room and have just caught the end of Clark's pre-game yoga display. Clark doesn't say a word and walks out of the room to join his teammates. He's ready to go.

The Golden Grizzlies end up winning the Niagara tournament handily, beating Niagara University and Coastal Carolina. Clark makes a total of eight stops during the two games, but both opposing teams are able to put one by him, something that most of OU's opponents this year have been unable to do.

The 6-foot-2-inch, 190-pound product of Mason, Mich., has put together a season that ranks among the best in the country. Clark's 10 shutouts put him in the top five in the nation; his goals against average (0.584) ranks 12th in Division I competition; his save percentage (.839) 22nd.

His coaches attest Clark's stellar season to his commitment, work ethic and a desire to succeed that is second to none. And all these things are true. But these qualities existed last year when his goals against average was nearly double this

year's (1.03) and had he almost half as many shutouts (6).

Clark attributes his improvement to being more mentally prepared. And in a sport where a goalkeeper may only see a minute or two of real action during a 90-minute game, a sharp mind can be the difference between reacting a split second quicker to punch it wide.

"I think the mental side of sports sometimes gets neglected. You spend all this time working on the physical aspect of the game, but it doesn't matter how good you are physically if you can't prepare yourself mentally when game day comes around," Clark said.

"I really focused on my mental game this year because I've always been a really good soccer player, but just some days I wasn't very good because my mind let down my body. I read a couple books and I actually started doing yoga," he said.

Clark has come a long way, both on and off of the soccer field since his arrival on campus in 2003, from living in a tent to being a pro soccer prospect and student body president.

Though he was an All State goalkeeper his senior year at Mason High School on a team that was among the best in the state, there wasn't major interest in Clark by college programs. He was only recruited by a few schools and received just one scholarship offer, a partial ride, from the University of Cincinnati Bearcats.

Oakland offered him a spot as a preferred walk-on.

"They pretty much told me, 'We're not going to give you money, but you'll have

**He put a bar across his backseat to hang clothes on and spent nights there.**



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Senior Steve Clark rolls toward the Summit League Tournament having recorded 10 shutouts.

a spot and a chance to someday play," said Clark.

Because he was paying his own way through college, he chose OU — it was lighter on the wallet.

Clark redshirted his first year and didn't see a second of playing time the next. Waiting for someday was a lot tougher than Clark had originally anticipated.

"It was rough. I went from being 'big time' in high school to coming here, where no one thinks you're good. It's hard to work your butt off in practice and then see the team go on trips and have to stay home because you don't travel with them [as a redshirt]," Clark said.

"I went pretty crazy. I was edgy, temperamental; I was borderline out of con-

trol because I wasn't playing."

To make matters worse, during Clark's second year at OU, he spent a few months living in a tent in the woods after issues with his financial aid and apartment arose unexpectedly.

"I was left with \$400. I could have probably asked my parents for money, but I'm from a small town and I wanted to go through college myself," Clark said.

So with his remaining cash, Clark bought a tent and got a meal plan from Chartwells. He grabbed a few blankets, turned his car trunk into a makeshift closet and put a bar across his backseat to hang clothes on and spent nights there for a few months.

See Clark on page 19



continued from page 18

**CLARK**

Eventually, Clark moved in with a friend as he moved up the depth chart.

During his redshirt sophomore season, Clark was able to take the field in two games. He started 15 the following year. By 2007, he was an All-Summit League first team goalkeeper.

"I have to give Steve a lot of credit. He's worked very, very hard. As far as I'm concerned, he's one of the top goalkeepers in the country," said men's head soccer coach Gary Parsons. "And he's got the talent to play professionally."

The team's assistant coach Eric Pogue, who recruited Clark in high school, shared Parsons' sentiments. "I think one of the question marks with Steve in the past was that everyone questioned his focus," Pogue said. "And I think he's done a tremendous job, on his own, of making sure that he's more mentally prepared."

Last year's team set the standard from which all subsequent teams will be judged. The team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship tournament, further than any other team in any sport in OU athletics' history.

And after last year's run, the team's goal is the top prize at the NCAA Tournament.

**What's going on this weekend?**

— *The men's soccer team* begins the Summit League Championship Tournament with a match-up against IUPUI at the OU Soccer Field Friday at 11 a.m. The winner from that match will play the winner of the UMKC/Western Illinois match Sunday at noon.

— *The volleyball team* plays at home against Western Illinois Friday at 4 p.m. and IUPUI Saturday at 7 p.m.

— *The women's basketball team* kicks off their home schedule with a game against Columbia Friday at 7:30.

— *The women's swimming and diving team* hit the water to take on Akron at home. The meet begins at 1 p.m.

"I expect to make the national championship, to be completely honest. And you know, maybe some will think that that's kind of a lofty goal ... but I know what our team is capable of better than anyone," Clark said.

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# Golden Grizzlies Game of the Week



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Junior forward Cody Austin measures the defense against Slippery Rock Friday.

## MEN'S HOCKEY

# OU falls to Panthers, tops Slippery Rock

By KYLE BAUER  
Contributing Reporter

It's a story of two teams going in opposite directions.

Davenport, undefeated. Oakland, underachieving.

The story remained the same — behind goaltender Eddie Wheeler's first shutout of the season, the Panthers beat OU Saturday 5-0.

In the first period Davenport took five penalties in a row. The Panthers penalty kill contained Oakland. Wheeler stood strong, turning away shot after shot.

"Wheeler was great, but we were also great defensively deep in our zone," said Davenport forward Rick Gadwa.

Oakland goalie Collin Chase struggled and was pulled for the fourth time this season. Head coach Sean Hogan remains confident in his veteran goaltender.

"Collin is still the same guy who got us to a national championship in 2007. He comes focused, he'll be fine," Hogan said.

Oakland transfer Jonah Rogowski, now playing for Davenport, had two goals against his former team, opening scoring midway through the first period. His second goal came early in the third.

"I fooled [Alex] Pikunas. He had it in front, I told him to play it, so he dropped it and I put it in," Rogowski said.

Hogan surmised the loss and Oakland's performance at this point in the year. "We get out muscled by too many teams. We're going to have to dig deeper."

The night before, the Grizzlies fared much better against the Slippery Rock Pride at home. Scoring double digit goals for the first time since 2006, Oakland beat the Pride 10-2.

Kevin Kranker, Kyle McMahon and Rick Delecke combined for 15 points. Kranker had four goals and an assist, McMahon had a goal and four assists and Delecke in his first game back from a separated shoulder, had five assists.

"Delecke was big coming back. He could anchor any line," McMahon said of Delecke.

Hogan pointed to execution.

"They worked the system. Dump the puck deep, get possession and cycle the puck to the front of the net. Kranker's line did that to perfection."

With the weekend split Oakland now stands with a 5-6-3 record and have dropped to 18th in the ACHA rankings.

BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Above, sophomore forward Jesse Worell attempts to capitalize on a rebound against Slippery Rock Friday. At right, sophomore defenseman Dennis Capa pushes the puck against the defense.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post  
Freshman goaltender Alex Pikunas turns away a shot from a Slippery Rock forward Friday.



# The Scene

November 12, 2008

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Bands nominated for a Woodie this year include She & Him (left), All Time Low (right), Santogold and Vampire Weekend. The awards show will air on mtvU, mtvU.com and Palladia on Nov. 19. Photos courtesy of mtvU

## Waiting for an mtvU Woodie

By AMANDA MEADE  
Scene/Mix Editor

MTV's college network, mtvU, is set to air this year's edition of the Woodies, the award show that honors music voted on by college students.

Catch the award show when it premieres Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. on mtvU, [mtvU.com](http://mtvU.com) and Palladia. Palladia is a high definition music related network associated with MTV.

Four of the nominated Woodie artists and award show performers talked to The Oakland Post in a college conference call Nov. 6.

Ezra Koenig, lead vocalist and guitarist of

### Vampire Weekend

Nominated for Best Video Woodie for "Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa"

Indie-rock band Vampire Weekend is from New York and have been together since 2006. They have a full length album and an EP under their belt.

"I've always been in a band since I was about 12. I always wanted [music] to be a part of my life in some way," Koenig said.

Koenig has been part of a rap group, played the saxophone in a jazz band and was in a ska-punk band prior to Vampire Weekend.

"We grew up listening to these styles of music, it makes sense to put it together. At the same time I think sometimes you get an idea that sounds good together but really it just doesn't work," Koenig said.

"We would only go ahead with the ideas that made natural sense," he said.

The guys of Vampire Weekend just finished touring overseas and are now making their way through the East Coast.

"We've kind of been on tour nonstop. We spend a lot of time traveling and performing," Koenig said.

### Santogold

Nominated for Woodie of the Year

Her real name is Santi White, and she is a songwriter, vocalist and producer.

We'd tell you what genre of music she was but even she had difficulty explaining it.

"I'm not that good at describing [my music]. There's a little bit of punk, indie rock, electronic and nu wave. It's just a match up of all those styles in one," she said.

"There's no one word I'd use to describe it, pretty much it defies classification. If there is one word you could say it's genreless," White said.

White has worked with many artists, from Ashlee Simpson to N.E.R.D.

"I've always wanted to play with Devo because growing up they were my favorite band," she said.

Similar to the other artists, White was flattered to be nominated for Woodie of the year.

"I think it's great because unfortunately a lot of the award shows are so far removed from actual music listeners," White said.

White is on tour throughout the next few months in the U.K. and Australia.

Alex Gaskarth, lead vocalist and guitarist of

### All Time Low

Nominated for Breaking Woodie

All Time Low might just be another pop-punk band, but Gaskarth has reason to believe otherwise.

"I think what's really unique about this band is, one, our amount of energy and, two, we've tried to maintain our fan base," he said.

All Time Low is now headlining "The Compromising of Integrity, Morality and Principles in Exchange for Money Tour," which will be hitting The Fillmore on Nov. 21.

"For the most part [touring is] actually just a really good time. We have an amazing time on the road," Gaskarth said. "Towards the end of a tour we get a little bit homesick. If that's the worst part of the job I'm not too worried about it."

Gaskarth expressed his happiness over his band being nominated for a Woodie.

"It's kind of mind-blowing really. It says a lot about how much progress the band has made over the past few years. It's very cool to be nominated and I'm very excited about it," he said.

Zoey Deschanel, vocalist, pianist and banjo player of

### She & Him

Nominated for Left Field Woodie

You might recognize her name from the silver screen — Deschanel, also an actress, has been in films like "Elf," "Bridge to Terabithia" and "The Happening."

But, her indie-rock band's nomination isn't for her acting, it's for her singing, piano and banjo playing instead.

"I've been doing a lot of music, I love doing music. It's very satisfying to see a project, putting out a record," Deschanel said.

"I still like doing movies too. It's so rewarding to have two amazing jobs, I couldn't complain," she said.

Deschanel said she also felt honored to be nominated for a Woodie award.

"I think it's great because college is an important time and I think people are finding their own unique voices," Deschanel said.

"I think it's exciting. I'm happy to be recognized by a group of people who are more educated but not necessarily in the profession. I think it's a big compliment," she said.



# Reminiscing a rock 'n' roll road trip

By JOE GUZMAN  
Contributing Reporter

For those who find time in their busy school and work schedules to make it to a concert, the venue is important. Some enjoy the intimacy of a hole-in-the-wall bar while others favor a deafening performance alongside 20,000 screaming fans. It's a case of different strokes for different folks, but one thing we all share is the anticipation of catching our favorite acts when they roll into town.

But with the rise of outdoor music festivals such as Lollapalooza in Chicago and Coachella in California, sometimes we are forced to leave our familiar digs in order to witness once-in-a-lifetime gigs. It is at these events that the venue, the artist and the performance drown under the weight of the full adventure.

During the spring of 1984, Oakland University senior nursing student David Wozniak was your average 21-year-old, only a couple years removed from high school and waiting on life.

In May of that year, six old high school buddies packed into Wozniak's late '70s green Dodge Dart to join 50,000 others

in Kalamazoo for the "American Rock Festival," a 24-hour straight showcase of continuous hair-metal glory. Ten bands in all, the lineup consisted of artists such as Whitesnake, Ozzy Osbourne, Quiet Riot and Mötley Crüe.

Life after high school found Wozniak's group losing touch, and this was a chance to reconvene for a unique musical experience. But for Wozniak the trip wasn't made for love of the music or any specific band; in fact he said he didn't care for most of the performing acts.

"I was more of an R&B guy at that time," Wozniak said.

It wasn't the compilation of the day's hottest acts nor was it the farm it was held at, it was the chance for this formerly close group of guys to re-connect.

"We weren't there for any specific band," Wozniak said. "We were just there for the experience."

Leaving Detroit around 11:30 p.m. on a Friday, Wozniak remembers navigating the dirt roads of Kalamazoo between 3 and 4 a.m. On the way, people were parked and camped out, guiding the way for Wozniak and his friends.

"As we were driving people would flag

us down ... we would party on the side of the highway," Wozniak said.

Eager to reach the venue in the blackness of the country with directions dependent on a friend's memory, a distant bonfire was their glowing beacon marking the destination. The group eventually reached the outskirts of the farm where the festival was to take place, and with no hotels to stay at they parked and slept in the car.

The next morning Wozniak awoke to the smell of the extinguished bonfire and the sound of people making their way into the field. With morning hunger setting in, and the show scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., he was equipped with about 10 cases of Michelob but no food.

"The smell of the air was a combination of bonfire smoke, hay and alcohol," he said. "It was loud; at times we couldn't even hear the bands because people were just doing their own thing."

Someone they met during the show informed them of a McDonalds down the road, something he said he wished he would have known about before.

So, after drinking all morning and equipping themselves with arm bands,

the group set out for some lunch.

One of the members convinced the "McWaiter" to fry them up some hash browns. The boys returned with the hash browns, fillet-o-fish and the most vivid memory of the trip.

Reminiscing about an event that brought together the year's most electrifying musical acts, the performances were pushed into the background of Wozniak's memory. He recalled only the fuzziest details of Ozzy addressing the crowd about biting off another bat's head and White Snake ending the show at 11 a.m. the next morning.

What remained were vivid memories of the smells, sounds and bonding. Not what one would expect, but proof of an experience ingrained in Wozniak's mind.

"It was just the bonding; a bunch of us hadn't seen each other in about a year," he said. "So, on a bunch of different levels it was more the guys being together."

Witnessing a days worth of the most popular music of the period would be a memory to last a lifetime. But after over 20 years, what stays with Wozniak was the bonding, the re-connecting of six high school friends before life happened.

## The Showdown plans to grow

By MIKE SANDULA  
Contributing Reporter

Heavy metal band The Showdown is about making music they're proud of. Lead vocalist David Bunton says they just try to "always have fun no matter what."

The Oakland Post spoke with Bunton via telephone while the band made their way through the country on tour for their new album, Back Breaker.

They recently played at Clutch Cargo's with fellow metal heads Norma Jean. It wasn't their first time in Michigan. The band swung through Detroit last year for Ozzfest '07.

The album is conceptual, with all of the song titles referencing Greek gods. The band's guitar player, Josh Childers, writes the songs. The guys are all Christian, but Bunton said they don't label themselves a

Christian band because "it'd be weird to make money off that."

"A concept album is just a way to tell a story, and you can make it what you want it to be," Bunton said.

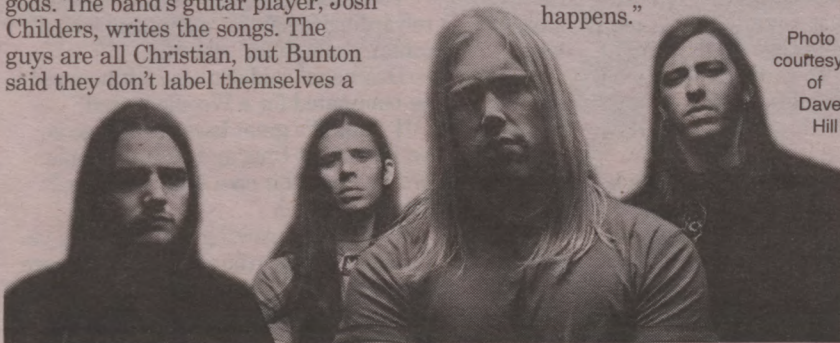
"It doesn't have to be set in stone," he said, hoping people just take away something positive from the record.

The album, the band's third, is their first with their new record label, Solid State Records. Their previous label was smaller and unable to keep up with The Showdown's desire to grow, according to Bunton.

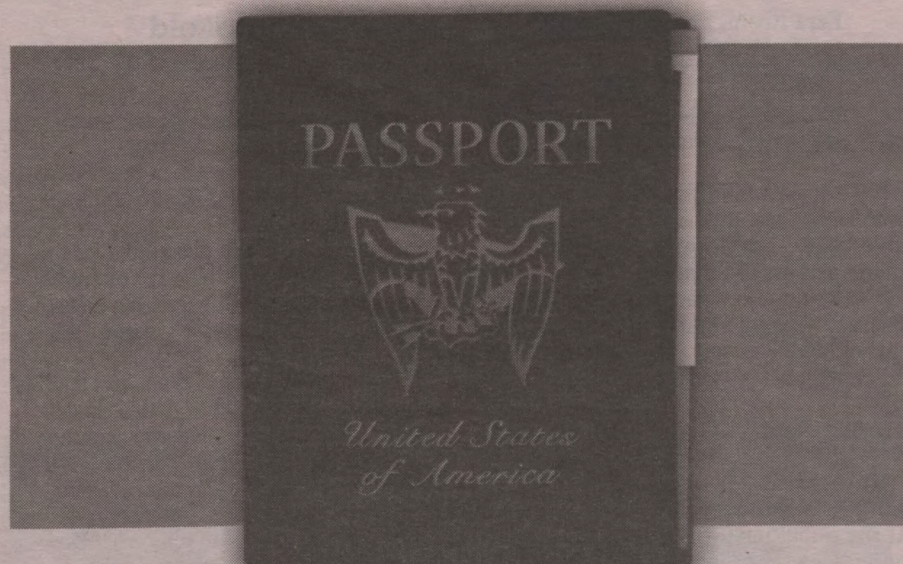
Bunton said they're currently enjoying being on the road for their new album, but have no set agenda after that.

"Nothing is locked down for next year," Bunton said. "Hopefully we do another record. We'll see what happens."

Photo  
courtesy  
of  
Dave  
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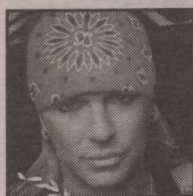
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# Finding your alternate reality in a TV show

## And you are?

Whether you're an avid watcher of reality TV shows or you've just noticed them while flipping through the channels, chances are you've been exposed to them in some way or another. Ever wonder who those people are, and how the hell they've got their own TV show? The Oakland Post answers these questions for you.



### Bret Michaels

Actually, his name is Bret Michael Sychak, and he is the lead singer for the '80s glam-rock band Poison. After two unsuccessful attempts at finding love on his own reality dating show, Sychak is coming back for a third round of "Rock of Love," only this time, it's on a tour bus.

### Flavor Flav

aka William Drayton, this rapper first earned fame as a part of the '80s rap group Public Enemy. Not only did he have three dating shows, but he was also a cast member in "The Surreal Life" on VH1. After three seasons of "Flavor of Love," Flav decided to not go with his third choice for romance and went back to his girlfriend before the shows even began.



### Tila Tequila

Her real name is Thien Thanh Thi Nguyen, so it's no surprise this Singapore-born reality girl chose to simplify with a stage name. Prior to her MTV shows "Shot at Love with Tila Tequila" and "Shot at Love II," you might have recognized her on MySpace as being one of the most popular artists.

She is yet another example of a reality-dating show gone

wrong, for her second attempt was as unsuccessful as the first. Hopefully she takes the hint and tries to find love the old-fashioned way.

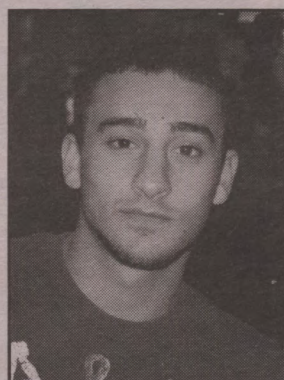
### New York

Ever since Flavor Flav gave Tiffany Pollard the name New York on the first season of "Flavor of Love," it seems as though people know her better by the nickname. Pollard made it to the last two ladies standing on the first "Flavor of Love," yet Flav decided to "roll with Hoopz" instead. On the second "Flavor of Love," Pollard was brought back to Flav's house, made it to the last two girls again and was still turned down. VH1 attempted to heal Pollard's heart by also giving her a dating show, which went for two seasons. Her second attempt seemed to be more successful than any other when she accepted a proposal from Tailor Made. In a third show about Pollard's hope to start an acting career in California, it seemed as though her and Tailor Made's relationship wasn't working out. "I Love New York 3" maybe?

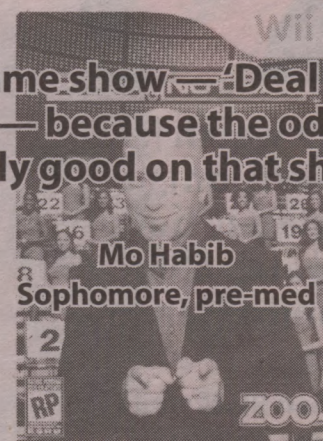


Photos courtesy of Amazon.com

## What reality show would you be on?



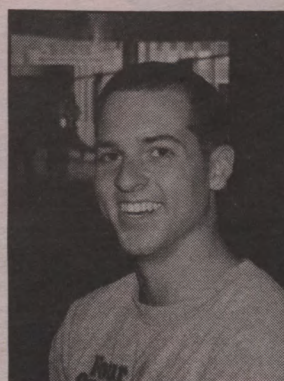
"A game show — 'Deal or No Deal' — because the odds are really good on that show."



"Maybe 'Amazing Race.' I like the aspect of working with a team and scavenger hunts."

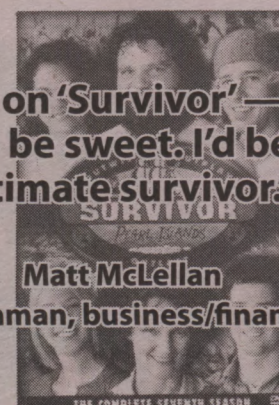
Shanelle Brown  
Senior, accounting

2008 CALENDAR



"I'd be on 'Survivor' — that would be sweet. I'd be the ultimate survivor."

Matt McLellan  
Freshman, business/finance





# What is your favorite reality TV show?



"I don't watch [reality television], it's completely bogus. I only watch ESPN and 'Two and a Half Men.'"

**Chad Blackstone**  
Freshman, business/finance



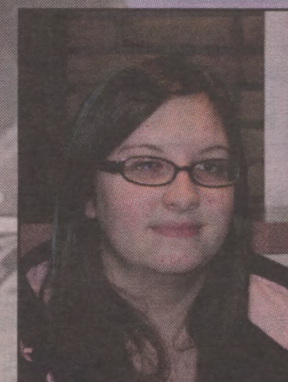
"I like 'Survivor.' I like the challenges, how the contestants work through them — I could never."

**Morgan Cardamone**  
Sophomore, nursing



"Favorite reality show would have to be 'The Real World' because they're always partying and fighting."

**Patrick Crossman**  
Junior, business



"I don't have a favorite show. I watch it for the entertainment even though it's not real."

**Laura Miller**  
Sophomore, undecided

The granddaddy of reality shows was "Candid Camera," which debuted in 1948.

According to  
**infoplease.com**

"The Real World" will be entering season 21 in 2009, and the cast will shack up in Brooklyn.

According to  
**observer.com**

## Champion Buy One Get One Sale at Bookstore

The temperatures may be cooling down, but sales are just warming up at Barnes & Noble at Oakland University. Between November 9 and November 30, you can buy any regular price Champion item and get a second (of equal or lesser value) at 50% off.

All men's and women's Champion apparel is included in the sale. It's a great opportunity to get an early jump on holiday shopping — right on campus. The bookstore offers a variety of Champion items bearing the school name and logo. Make sure your friends and family show their school pride from top to bottom.

Barnes & Noble at Oakland University is located in the lower level of the Oakland Center. Store hours are:

**Monday 8:00am to 5:00pm**  
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# MOUTHING OFF

November 12, 2008

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

25

## Anatomy of a bus accident

By AMANDA MEADE & COLLEEN MILLER  
Scene/Mix Editor & Copy Editor

What are the odds of being in a bus while it rails into an SUV? We have no idea, but we are sure it's so slim that we should feel very, very special.

Actually, in 2006 there were 12,362 buses involved in crashes according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. They are still counting the buses for 2007. We guess that the odds of us being in a bus crash, on our round trip bus ride to the shopping center, were much higher than dying in the round trip plane ride to Kansas City for the National College Media Convention, almost two weeks ago.

### 1. The moments before

At least we were sitting down on the way back or our managing editor would have realized one of his worst fears for the trip: his employees splattered on Main Street. We were standing right in front of the windshield on the way to our shopping extravaganza that included stops at a crayon store, a toy store and a store that only sold glittery stuff for 11-year-olds. Thankfully, between the two of us we bought two Wizard of Oz shot glasses, cheap sun glasses

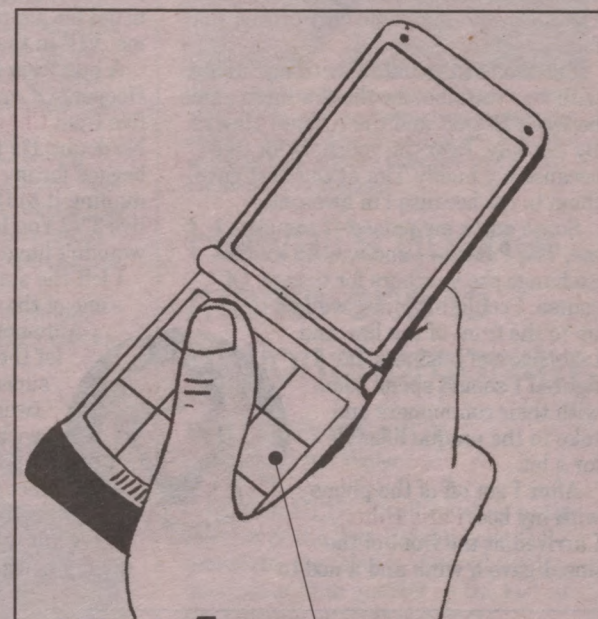
and a hideous orange necklace on clearance — otherwise the whole experience would have been completely fruitless.

We were in the front row behind the driver talking about how weird it would be if we got in a bus accident. With a perfect view out the windshield, you could see a vehicle accelerating through the upcoming intersection. Yes, the same intersection we were about to truck through at about 35 mph.

### 3. The wait

Instantly, the bus driver notified us that we were all going to have to stay on the bus until a police officer came and took all of our names and information. Yes, because all we wanted to do was remain on the transportation that had just smacked into another vehicle. Who knows what types of explosives were spewing out around us while the engine kept running.

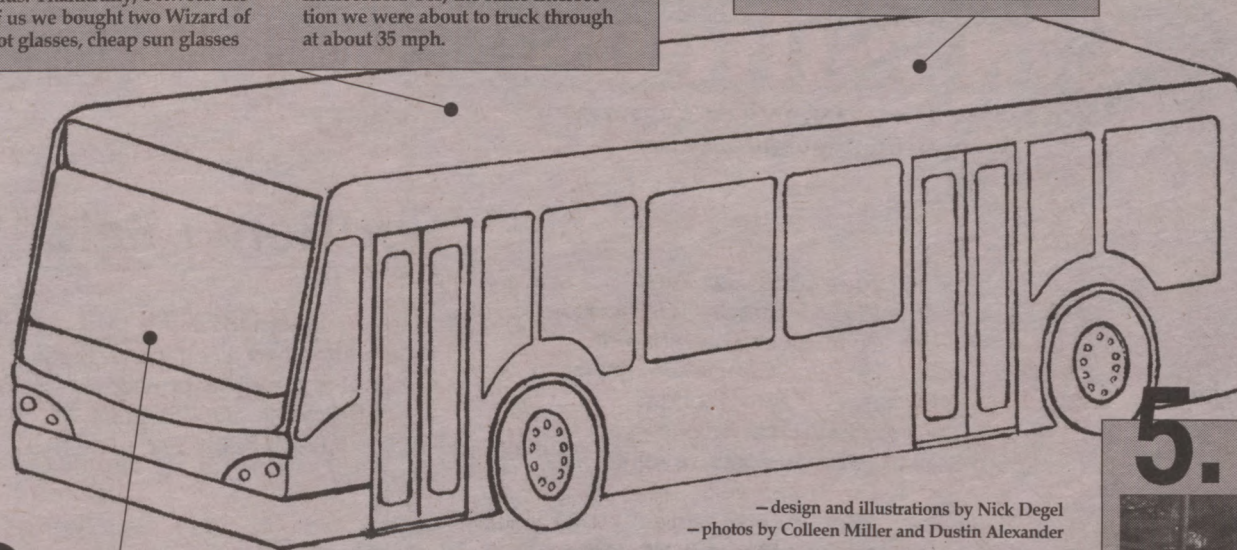
After three different officials made their way around the bus, each asking our names, ages and addresses, we still weren't free to go.



### 4. More waiting

The smell of ammonia from the man's pants across the aisle was starting to get to us, and text messages from our fellow staff members wanting to know when we were going to dinner bombarded our phones. Sorry you guys were hungry, but have a little compassion, we just escaped our deaths.

Paramedics had to beg a few passengers to be taken to the hospital, even though they weren't critically injured. The semi-hurt people were reluctant. We actually considered lying about an injury to go to the hospital just to get the hell off the bus.



— design and illustrations by Nick Degel  
— photos by Colleen Miller and Dustin Alexander

### 2. The impact

We did the "Woah" yell several seconds before the bus driver hit the brakes, and braced ourselves and watched as the bus t-boned the other vehicle and listened to the windshield pop and shatter.

Even though everybody was sitting, one woman was too distracted by her phone conversation and went flying down the aisle. Too bad her ass wasn't as stuck to her seat as her phone was to her hand, because she hung onto that celly the entire time.

Waiting to see whether our bus driver was actually still alive, we were surprised to realize no one seemed critically injured. The driver of the SUV stepped out of the vehicle, along with a small child and a woman, which we could only guess was his family. Glad to know that the lives of loved ones and a bus full of random strangers weren't worth the two-minute stop at a red light.



### 5. The walk



Finally, after about a half an hour, we were released from our close call. The driver offered the passengers another bus to board, but we preferred to hoof it. For some reason, our insisting to walk offended the bus driver, and the men sitting behind us joked and asked "what are the chances" this would happen again. Funny, we were just asking ourselves what were the chances of being in the first bus accident.



# Amazing J-Priceless aka J. Purcell

By JARED PURCELL  
You/Local Editor

Look, I've always known how awesome I am. Those lucky enough to be close to me call me J-Priceless because time with J is always priceless. A recent trip to The Palace of Auburn Hills for a Detroit Pistons preseason game only proved that fact.

I arrived at the Palace with my buddy, with two vouchers for the evening's game between Detroit and the Atlanta Hawks. By the way, I got the vouchers for free because my buddy Tim at the Post gave them to me because I'm awesome.

So we enter my palace — excuse me, The Palace — and wait in line to exchange the vouchers for tickets. Of course, I could have just walked up to the front of the line and taken care of business, but I figured I should spend some with their commoners and take in the unique lifestyle for a bit.

After I got off of the phone with my boo, **Paris Hilton**, I arrived at the front of the line. I gave a wink and a nod to

the woman in the booth and she reached down into a thin pile of tickets and handed me two. Bingo.

I give one ticket to my buddy and he looks at it in awe. I'm not surprised of course. Seven rows from the floor, \$115 tickets, staff ready to order and serve you food — the usual for a strapping guy like me. VIP in the house.

A hug from the mascot, Hooper? Of course. A high five from **Chauncey Billups**? No doubt. He practically begged for my autograph — I'm mailing it to Denver. Some face time on live TV? You bet. My Hollywood agent wouldn't have it any other way. Boo-ya.

I left the stadium arm in arm with some of the delightful members of the Automotion Dance Team and we let the champagne flow in my super-stretch limo. Rollin' on twenty-fo's is how it's done with JP.

After some clubbing and face time with the paparazzi, I retired to my crib. If you ever want to feel like a failure, just stop by my house sometime so you can see

all of the things you'll never be able to have.

My church in Birmingham has always been known for celebrity sightings, mainly from the world of sports. Steve Yzerman, Darren McCarty, Joey Harrington, Pat Verbeek, Manu

Ginobili, Kobe Bryant; all of them have decided to get holy at my church because it's the best place to get close to the greatness above — and in their midst. Sometimes, you can hear the hymns echoing my greatness with my personal favorite being "Ode to Jared."

Extreme Home Makeover worked on a house two blocks away from me. Wouldn't you know it, I got to personally meet the entire crew across the street from my house in a small diner parking lot. Call it a chance meeting if you want, but **Ty Pennington's** agent left with my personal phone number. Besides, I called them

over because it was my parent's wedding anniversary and my mom is a huge fan. Yeah, I'm a real family man.

You see, if greatness happens, I'm either causing it or bringing it. My awesomeness has even hit the political scene as well.

On election night, the staff was getting restless for results to come in so we wouldn't have to stay at the office all night. My editor in chief — who tells me that I'm her number one every day — told me that I should use my great awesomeness to get the results on faster. I said "I'll get on the phone with Washington right away." Twenty minutes later — I kid you not — Barack Obama is elected as the next president of the United States. Boom goes the dynamite.

J-Priceless knows what's up. I went home and sat by my **fire place** with the world's finest caviar, smiling to myself that I helped usher in history to the world. That's how I roll. For sho.



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## U.S., NATO supply route in Pakistan weak

By **RIAZ KHAN**  
Associated Press Writer

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Suspected Taliban fighters hijacked trucks carrying Humvees and other supplies for U.S.-led troops in Afghanistan, authorities said Tuesday after a brazen attack near the Khyber Pass that underscored the militants' grip across key mountain strongholds.

The assault highlighted the vulnerability of a vital supply route for the 65,000 U.S. and NATO forces battling a resurgent Taliban in landlocked Afghanistan. A significant amount of supplies for the Western forces go through Pakistan.

Attacks on convoys carrying food, fuel and other supplies are common on the road. But Monday's raid was especially large and well-organized. It also could

further strain U.S.-Pakistani relations over rooting out Taliban and al-Qaida militants along the border, which remain entrenched despite military offensives and U.S. missile strikes.

Some 60 masked militants blocked the route at several points before overpowering the convoy, said Fazal Mahmood, a government official in Khyber tribal region. He identified the attackers as members of Pakistan's Taliban movement.

Security forces traded fire with the gunmen, but were forced to retreat, he said. The militants took about 13 trucks along with the drivers, who were believed to be Pakistani.

A U.S. military spokesman in Afghanistan confirmed the thefts late Tuesday.

"There were some U.S. military mate-

rials that were taken — Humvees and water tank trailers," said Maj. John Redfield.

Later Monday, a separate group of insurgents halted a truck carrying what appeared to be a NATO jeep, setting the military vehicle on fire, Mahmood said. NATO officials could not immediately be reached for comment on that incident.

In the past, U.S. and NATO officials have played down their losses along the pass.

But earlier this year, NATO said it was trying to reduce its dependence on the route by negotiating with Russia and other nations to let it truck "non-lethal" supplies to Afghanistan through Central Asia.

Security forces, backed by helicopter gunships, hunted for the missing trucks and drivers.



Edmund Moy, director of the United States Mint, holds up a quarter commemorating the state of Hawaii. The Hawaii quarter is the last of the 50 state quarters to be released during the decade-old program.

## Hawaii's quarter marks end to national program

By **AUDREY MCAVOY**  
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU — Still reveling in the election of the first Hawaii-born U.S. president, the islands marked the issuance of its state quarter — the last in the 50-state quarter program.

Hawaii's banks began distributing the quarter Monday to hundreds of coin collectors in lines snaking down Bishop Street, the heart of the downtown business district.

Adults had to buy the coins in \$10 rolls, but Gov. Linda Lingle and U.S. Mint Director Ed Moy handed out free coins to children.

"We ask each of you to take the Hawaii quarter with you around the world and be ambassadors of aloha," said Jonathan Johnson, head of the Hawaii State Quarter Commission.

Don Horner, president of the Hawaii Bankers Association, reassured waiting collectors that the banks had enough coins for everyone. The U.S. Mint plans to make 520 million Hawaii coins before it ends the program.

The quarter shows King Kamehameha the Great, the Hawaiian warrior who united the Hawaiian islands under his rule in the early 1800s, standing with his left arm outstretched.

Underneath is a map of the main Hawaiian islands and the state's motto in Hawaiian, "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina I ka pono." The motto translates to "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness."

Horner explained the motto means people doing the right thing allows the people and land to endure. "That's a beautiful message of aloha to send out to all of the people in the world," he said.

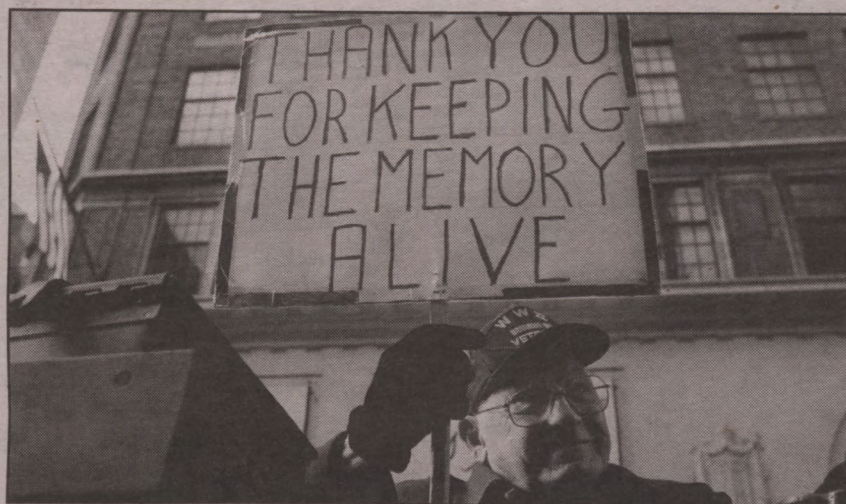
### NIW BRIEFS

**11-2** | Rival monk sects brawled at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem | Hurricane Paloma makes land fall in Cuba causing thousands to evacuate their homes.

**11-3** | President George W. Bush welcomes President-elect Barack Obama to the White House. | A plane leaving Frankfurt, Germany is forced to make an emergency landing after being struck multiple times by birds. | An outbreak of Cholera at a refugee camp in Congo has officials fearing that the outbreak could spread.

**11-4** | House Speaker Nancy Pelosi says that the House of Representatives will take on the topic of an aid package for automakers next week. | A woman is killed in Sao Paulo, Brazil when her deceased husband's coffin lands on her in a car accident.

## A nation honors its veterans



Rudy Castore, a World War II veteran, waves at a Veterans Day parade in New York, Tuesday.

## Gas prices continue to drop with crude oil now below \$60

By **JOHN PORRETTO**  
AP Energy Writer

HOUSTON — Retail gasoline prices dipped for a 17th week since July 4, falling below \$2 a gallon in a number of states and approaching \$1.50 at some service stations.

While consumers, worried about a weak job market and slumping investments, are grateful for the price relief, economic reports increasingly suggest they're hanging onto whatever savings they see at the pump.

Oil prices hit a 20-month low Tuesday as Wall Street offered yet more evidence that consumers have gone into hiding.

Retail gasoline prices fell overnight to a national average of \$2.22 a gallon, dragged down by the falling price of crude, which now costs 60 percent less per barrel than it did in mid-July. The average price for regular unleaded gasoline has fallen nearly 32 percent in the last month.

Light, sweet crude for December delivery fell \$3.08 to settle at \$59.33 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the lowest closing price since March 2007. Crude dipped a dollar lower in earlier trading.

The latest decline in crude prices comes two days ahead of a report from the International Energy Agency, which

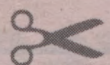
some analysts expect will cut its 2009 oil demand forecast for the third consecutive month.

Sharp swings in crude prices are taking place almost daily on the New York trading floor.

While the Nymex contract is now trading near first-half 2007 prices, the difference then between daily highs and lows was around \$1.50 a barrel. Now, the average daily range is around \$5.50 a barrel, with recent daily peaks at \$9.50, said analyst Olivier Jakob of Petromatrix in Switzerland.

Investors have grown increasingly leery about the swooning U.S. economy, which faces its worst recession in decades.





Let's talk about ...

# SEX

In preparation for next weeks cover story, we'd like to know exactly where you stand.

Name: Anonymous Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male

Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married

Sexual Orientation: ☐ In a Relationship

☐ Heterosexual ☐ Homosexual

☐ Bisexual ☐ Unsure

Do You Have Sex? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(If yes, please check all that apply)

☐ Manual ☐ Anal

☐ Vaginal ☐ Oral

☐ All of the above

How old were you when you had your first sexual experience? \_\_\_\_\_

How many partners have you had?

☐ 0-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-9 ☐ 10 or more

Do you use protection? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what kind? (check all that apply)

☐ Birth Control ☐ Pull out method

☐ Condoms ☐ None

☐ Spermicides

Have you been tested for STDs? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Answer the following statements by placing the number in the blank that best corresponds with the way you feel.

1-Strongly Disagree 3-Agree 5-Undecided

2-Disagree 4-Strongly Agree

\_\_\_ I feel emotionally attached to most of my sexual partners.

\_\_\_ I felt pressured into my first sexual experience.

\_\_\_ I have or would engage in a one-night stand.

\_\_\_ It is OK to have sex with someone who is not an exclusive partner.

Thanks! Now that you've filled out the survey, look outside our office door (61 Oakland Center) for the drop box and turn it in!

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