

On the heels of the Auto Show, GM is trying to get more people into its cars by giving them away at the push of a button. •A5

Sports
Men's basketball finally gets out of the losing slump, beating University of Missouri-Kansas City •B1.



Campus



OU students are heading to China for a lesson in culture. •A3

Perspectives

Student gives her view on the education responsibilities involving black history •A7

Year could be Corps last

BY LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

AmeriCorps Oakland may be in its final year, even though an appropriations bill for non-profit organizations passed in the U.S. Senate on Thursday.

OU's 10-year-old program is the oldest in the state, and funding from the government is on a sliding scale, said Carol Ann Ketelsen, program manager for Career Services and former AmeriCorps Oakland program manager. The government expects each pro-



Laura Angus/The Oakland Post
Linda Barnes, AmeriCorps Program Manager, and senior Crystal Wilkerson work in the AmeriCorps office in Vandenberg Hall. Due to lack of funding, this may be the organization's last year at OU.

gram to get support from the community, so next year OU's AmeriCorps should be 100 percent supported by donations from the community it serves.

Although this year was supposed to be the first year going without the support, the government stepped in to support 25 percent of the

Please see CORPS on A6.

Survey dumped

2004-2005 calendar changes will stick

BY REBECCA WYATT
& LAURA ANGUS
THE OAKLAND POST

A Senate member's quest for student and faculty input on a massive 2004-2005 academic calendar overhaul has been scratched.

Next semester, fall classes are scheduled to start before Labor Day and winter break will start a week later.

Headed by Senate member Joel Russell, a survey was started to poll students and faculty on what they thought of starting earlier in the year, but the survey has been axed.

Russell said if the survey is still distributed, it will be changed to address the 2005-2006 school year, which will be discussed by the Board of Trustees (BOT) during its May meeting. The AAUP will certainly survey faculty though, he said.

Ronald Sudol, associate provost, said the survey was

proposed, but the options didn't thoroughly explain to students and faculty why the term should start earlier.

"No one has told me yet what the disadvantages are of starting before Labor Day," Sudol said. He said he doesn't think an extended vacation is a valid academic reason for starting later.

Sudol said the summer class schedule was not going to be adjusted to accommodate the early start.

Russell said the survey should include the implications of the options, but he was told he was being biased with them.

He said starting before Labor Day, and having a break so quickly could cause problems for classes.

"Are students going to take those first classes seriously?" he said.

He also said advisors are concerned students won't show up for advising sessions.

Sudol said, in the past,

surveys of OU students haven't been a fair representation due to lack of participation, and this proposed survey may not even be a good judge of what students want. He said the university schedule should be made based on the calendar, not a survey.

According to OU Registrar, Steven Shablin, 11 of the 15 Michigan public universities would be starting the 2004-2005 school year before Labor Day. He said U-M Dearborn, U-M Ann Arbor and Wayne State will start after the holiday. Shablin said Lake Superior State will also start after Labor Day but it operates under a quarter system so it can't be considered equal.

Due to the cycle of calendar dates, Labor Day would fall on Sept. 6, meaning classes couldn't start until Sept. 7. OU has to complete 14-weeks of classes, rather

Please see SURVEY on A6.

Storm keeps broadcaster from lecture

BY REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Yesterday's snow storm kept more than students and faculty from campus, Channel 7 "Action News" reporter Cheryl Chodun also had to reschedule her trip to OU.

Chodun was scheduled to speak Tuesday but rescheduled for next week.

Chodun graduated from Wayne State University and studied journalism at OU. She didn't venture far from the area when it came to her career.

She has been covering news in the area for years. She was a reporter for the Birmingham Eccentric and the Detroit News Sunday magazine before joining WXYZ in 1978, according to WXYZ's Web site.

She started her career at WXYZ as a writer and producer and has been a reporter for the station since 1988, the Web site said.

Chodun has been honored during her career with an Edward R. Murrow award and two Emmys for general excellence in reporting.

Chodun has rescheduled her visit for Tuesday, Feb. 3 at noon in the Gold Room C of the Oakland Center.



Photo courtesy of WXYZ
Cheryl Chodun

Netting votes

Students sign up electronically for caucus.



Laura Angus/The Oakland Post

State Representative David Woodward helps senior Kellie Riddel apply online to vote in the 2004 Michigan Democratic Presidential Caucus in the OC yesterday. Michigan is the first state to use the Internet in its caucuses, and about 400,000 Michiganders are expected to vote either by the net, mail or in person for the Feb. 7 caucus. For more information, check out www.applytovote.com.

OUSC hears students' plans for MBH

BY LIBBY BAKER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

In the end it may be the students who save Meadow Brook Hall.

OU senior Erin McCarthy and Tom Hopkins presented a proposal to save the landmark during OU's Student Congress (OUSC) meeting on Monday.

"We feel that we do not want the University to lose Meadow Brook Hall," McCarthy said, "because it was the foundation on which this University was built."

McCarthy and Hopkins, both employees at Meadow Brook Hall, propose that students pay \$20 per semester. This fee would be added on to a student's semester bill, much like the Rec Center charge.

In exchange for the semester fee, students would have a

plethora of opportunities at the Hall including free tours and events as well as possible job and internship positions.

McCarthy said they would look to create a Student Advisory Board "that would determine what the money is used for."

The creation of a Student Advisory Board would generate additional leadership positions for students, McCarthy said.

McCarthy and Hopkins said they welcome support and student opinion. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about the proposal today and tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. during informational meetings at the Hall.

The two will present their proposal to the Board of Trustees (BOT) during its monthly meeting at 4 p.m. on Feb. 4 in Elliott Hall.

In other business:

- Congress approved a new legislator, Sarah Cook.

"I'll do anything I can do to listen to the student body and make whatever they want work, if it's feasible," Cook said.

- Congress approved OU student, George Nahas, as a member of the Student Activities Funding Board (SAFB).

SAFB chair, Michael McGuinness, said Nahas had an impressive desire to learn more about SAFB and be included in the decision making process.

"We had an additional individual who consistently showed interest," McGuinness said. "He seems to have the thirst for it."

- Congress discussed the issue of campus speed limits. Some students feel the limits are set

Please see OUSC on A6.

Constitutional campaign: growing with the students

BY LIBBY BAKER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

The Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) Constitutional Commission set out its plan during the group's first meeting on Friday.

Brian Welch, director of legislative affairs and chair of the commission, said the current Constitution, approved in 1994 by the Board of Trustees (BOT), does not adequately reflect the size of the university and the needs of OU students.

"The current Constitution has a lot of holes in it," he said. "We need to create a document that will last

into the future... it needs to reflect where Oakland University will be in 10 years."

The commission plans to review the current Constitution as well as Constitutions from other universities around the country before deciding exactly what changes should be made.

Welch said the commission will work to create a document that is fitting for a university consistently growing in size.

"We need to have it deal with broader issues and make it as simple as possible," he said.

The Commission will meet again at 4 p.m. Friday.

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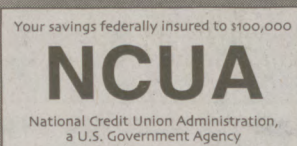
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Students trek to Beijing

By LIBBY BAKER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Thirteen OU students are busy preparing for and anticipating a journey that will take them to China for a six-week academic and cultural experience.

The group, which departs on May 9 and returns June 19, will spend nearly 25 hours a week intensely studying the Chinese language, history and culture of the country.

Students will also take a special topics course on Modern China taught by Alan Epstein, OU professor of international studies and political science, who will accompany the students to Beijing.

"The idea was to provide students with this opportunity to study Chinese and Chinese related things in China, and to get a feel for the place rather than just having a kind of tourist experience," Epstein said.

According to Epstein, in the past, OU had a strong reputation for being the "center for the study of things Chinese," but this status has since faded. This trip is a small effort to rekindle what has been lost.

The first five weeks of the trip will be spent at the Foreign Affairs

University in Beijing, which opened in 1955 and originally trained China's professional diplomatic personnel.

OU has developed a relationship with the university and this trip will further strengthen the ties between the two. Last year, the public administration department at OU hosted a visiting scholar from the Foreign Affairs University, and this year Pat Piskulich, a member of the OU Public Administration department, will travel to Beijing.

"We're really lucky to have that tie, because it's a very exclusive kind of institution," Epstein said.

Time spent in the classroom will be broken up by excursion trips to places such as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China.

The sixth week is devoted to a cross-country trip via train that will take students to Xi'an, Shanghai and Nanjing.

This spring's trip marks only the second time OU students have participated in this trip to China. The first trip was in 2002.

Efforts to organize a trip last year were halted by limited student interest and the SARS outbreak.

After last year's disappointment, the committee immediately began



Photo courtesy of Katie Van Gorder

Katie Van Gorder, junior and president of OU's China club, sits on the Great Wall in China. She said she looks forward to sightseeing and being immersed in the Chinese language during OU's trip to Beijing.

planning for this year's trip, according to Epstein.

Low student interest last year was partly due to the high cost of the trip, and the committee worked hard during the past year to offer a trip that was more

affordable for students.

"Last year we were pretty devastated when we just couldn't go," Epstein said. "So we doubled our efforts this year to make sure that we do."

To reduce the overall price, stu-

dents have the option of enrolling for four, eight or 12 OU credits. This allows students to have control over the cost they will bear.

"It gives people a way to be flexi-

Please see CHINA on A8.

Historic trial comes to life

By LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

A trial that changed the face of American schools will be reenacted by Cooley Law School students and faculty next week.

Cooley Law School students and faculty are performing monologues from the movie "Separate but Equal" which is based on the 1954 Brown versus Board of Education trial that desegregated public facilities, including schools.

Marcia Spivey, a second year Cooley student and president of the Student Bar Association Diversity Coalition (SBADC) said they organized the reenactment because it's the 50 year anniversary of the trial.

"I think that what we're presenting is a legal history," she said. "I think that in our world ... we take for granted the luxuries afforded to us."

Melissa Pope, deputy director of the JD Program at Cooley will perform, as well as

Cooley students Spivey and Mary Barnes.

"Brown versus Board marks such an important change in our county's history," said Pope. "It's important to remember what others sacrificed for our rights."

Pope said the event will be fun, and it will give students a more in-depth view of the desegregation of schools.

"There's sort of this view that all of a sudden, segregation was abolished ... but it took years," she said. "I think that it will really enrich people's understanding."

Also, a pictorial exhibition on African American Rebels in Law will be on display during the event.

This event is part of the Minority Law School Recruitment Month, which is a national effort to encourage minority students to get interested in practicing law.

For more information on the SBADC, or for a full copy of the script for the show, contact Spivey at spiveym@cooley.edu.

P.S.

Cooley Law School's Brown vs. Board performance will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 3 in the Banquet Rooms of the OC

Student awarded for engine design

By ROQAYA ASHMAWEY
THE OAKLAND POST

He graduated from OU in 1990 with a Bachelor's of Engineering, double majoring in mechanical and electrical engineering.

This month, 13 years after his graduation, Bill Edwards received a Ward's Auto World Ten Best Engine Award.

In the week before the annual Auto Show, Edwards was awarded for developing the "least expensive supercharged engine of the world," he said.

From concept to production, the project took a total of five years.

In 1997, Chrysler and BMW were on a joint venture to build a "supercharged engine" for the new Mini Cooper S, Edwards said. What makes this engine special, he added, is its output, "a little over 100 horses per liter."

Edwards said he was responsible for design, testing and development of the supercharged engine.

Working with six base engineers, he said

Please see ENGINE on A8.

Center to test for anxiety

By TARA FUGATE
THE OAKLAND POST

The pressure of college life can get to everyone once in a while, but for some, it can escalate into full-blown anxiety.

On Jan. 28, OU's Counseling Center, which is part of Graham Health Center, will be testing students' anxiety levels.

The screening entails a five-minute pencil and

paper test and based on the answers given, counselors will be able to assess how the anxiety is manifested, said Dr. Pamela Warner, a psychologist at the Counseling Center.

The test screens for panic disorders, social anxiety, general anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, post traumatic stress and major depression.

"The idea behind it is to inform folks about wellness

and mental health issues—to help them recognize problems and get the help that they need," said Warner.

The assessment is the first step to getting the help these individuals need.

"It can be individual therapy to discuss irrational fears, beliefs or thoughts and challenge them. The goal of therapy is to develop better coping skills," said Warner.

Please see SCREEN on A8.

OU professor to curate exhibit of fakes

By KRISTIN SOMMER
THE OAKLAND POST

When James Scotford started making "ancient" relics at his Michigan farm in 1894, he could not have foreseen the controversy they would set off. Even after more than 100 years, they are still a topic of conversation.

Thanks in part to the dedication of Dr. Richard Stamps, the relics are back home in Michigan and currently on display at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. Stamps, associate professor of anthropology at OU, was named guest curator of the exhibit

it when it opened last November.

"As a result of his research of the relics, he was an obvious choice (to be guest curator)," State Archeologist John Halsey said.

Anthropology Club President Dan Dybowski said Stamps deserved the recognition.

"He was really the one behind finding that they were fraudulent," Dybowski said.

Stamps' involvement with the Michigan Relics started in 1977 when he was in the right place at the right time, Stamps said.

The relics were in storage in a museum in Salt Lake City then, and since he was from Michigan,

Stamps was asked to look them over and give a professional opinion on whether they were fake or not.

There were nearly 800 pieces in the collection, and, after close examination, Stamps determined they were fakes.

According to Stamps, Scotford and his partners made the relics and then planted them around Michigan. On weekends they would take groups of people to dig for the relics.

The relics were made from clay, copper and slate. They contained coins, pipes, tools, boxes, cups and

Please see RELICS on A8.



Photo courtesy of Richard Stamps

Some of the "ancient" relics that Richard Stamps, associate professor of anthropology studied and helped bring back to Michigan.

Police Beat

• An officer responded to an alarm coming from the Shotwell Pavilion Jan. 20. The responding officer ran a license plate check on a lone vehicle parked outside and discovered that there was a warrant from the Dearborn Police Department for the owner's arrest. The officer contacted the woman and

had her come to the OUPD to pay her \$200 bond. The woman was informed about her court date and later released.

• A student parked her car in the P-16 parking lot at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 21. When she returned about a half hour later, her back window was completely

shattered. The responding officer felt the extreme cold could have been the cause or a straight center punch to the glass. There are no suspects at this time.

• Two students where caught with marijuana in their dorm room in Fitzgerald House Jan. 22. The responding officer could

smell a strong odor in the room and on the students. He also found a seed and stems from the plant on the bed. The students did not deny the accusations of having and smoking the drug. There wasn't enough evidence to test the substances and no tickets were issued.

• A staff member from

Cooley Law School in O'Dowd Hall fainted Jan. 23. The woman said she felt as if she were not getting enough oxygen to her brain causing her to feel light-headed. An ambulance was called and the woman was transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.

• Standing in the hallway

on the second floor of VanWagoner Hall, a student passed out and was unconscious for quite some time Jan. 25. The girl had eaten throughout the day and had been taking an antibiotic and an antihistamine. An ambulance was called and the girl was taken to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital for treatment.



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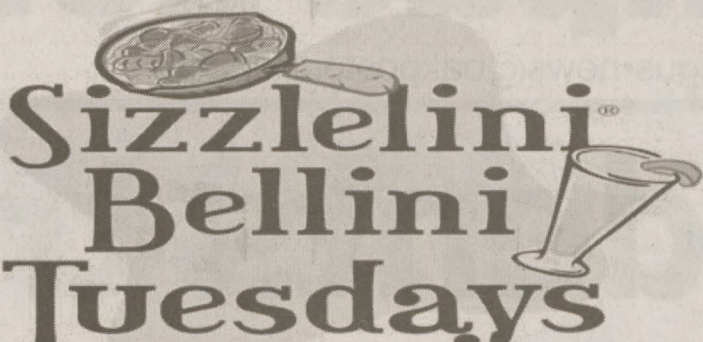
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February 2
Educational Pathways of African Americans
...with Dr. Charles Beady, Jr., President of Piney Woods Historically Black Boarding School
11 AM - 1 PM - Gold Rooms, OC

February 3
Cooley Law School: Brown vs. Board of Education Mock Trial
5 PM - Banquet Rooms, OC

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Saturday, February 7, 2004
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Meadow Brook Hall

Tickets are on sale now at the CSA Ticket Window! (\$40/couple; \$20/single).

CSA SERVICE WINDOW

Discount tickets for the following shows and events are available to members of the Oakland University community. You can purchase tickets or pick up a detailed schedule of dates, times and prices at the CSA Service Window, 49 Oakland Center.

- Moving Out (Feb. 15)
- Annie (Feb. 15)
- Pistons vs. Milwaukee Bucks (Feb. 18)
- Cinemashow (Feb. 24)
- Grease (Feb. 24)
- The Ten Tenors (Feb. 26)
- Dance Theatre of Harlem (Mar. 4)
- Disney on Ice - Monsters Inc. (Mar. 6)
- Jesus Christ: Superstar (Mar. 9, 14)
- Mozart and Mahler (Mar. 11)
- Smucker's Stars on Ice (Mar. 20)
- Miss Saigon (Mar. 23, 28)
- Pistons vs. New York Knicks (Mar. 27)

- Salute to the Duke with Doc Severinsen (Mar. 28)
- A Streetcar Named Desire (Apr. 1)
- Monk Presents "Monk on Monk Too" (Apr. 8)
- Pistons vs. Toronto Raptors (Apr. 9)
- Perlman's "Fantastic Symphony" (Apr. 18)
- The Magic Flute (Apr. 28, 30)
- The Pirates of Penzance (May 12, 14)
- Greig's Great Concerto (May 13)
- Perlman Conducts the Masters (May 23)
- Lion King (May 26, 27, 30)
- Signature Jarvi (June 6)
- The Pearl Fishers (June 9, 11)

ON CAMPUS EVENTS: TICKETS AND SIGN-UPS

- Taste of Africa Gala (Feb. 6)
- Meadow Brook Winter Ball 2004 (Feb. 7)
- SPB: Trip to New York City (Feb. 19-24)

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February 9-13, 2004

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Local News

Editor: Elizabeth Gorecki • local@oakpostonline.com

Coming up:
Tips for students on filing
taxes.

January 28, 2004 • A5

Hot button, free cars

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Why do students line up at the CSA booth during WOCOU week? Why do they run to the food court at noon when there is an event going on?

Maybe because they like to see what's happening on campus. Or maybe it's to get that free frisbee, shirt or handful of cookies.

Everyone likes getting free stuff, especially students, who don't have a lot of extra money to spend.

General Motors (GM) recognized this phenomenon and started a new giveaway.

In a 56-day campaign called the

Hot Button Game, GM will give away 1,000 new GM vehicles.

To play, drivers can visit a participating GM dealer and pushing the OnStar "Hot Button" in a designated vehicle. After pushing the button, the players are connected to an OnStar operator who tells them if they are winners.

So far, the game has been a successful marketing tool, according to local dealerships.

While there hasn't been a rise in sales due to the game, there has been a rise in the people that come to the dealership, said Jeff Caul of Buff Whelan Chevrolet in Sterling Heights.

"Most people just come and hit the button," Caul said. "Right now is a slow time and this is getting

GM to seek potential buyers."

Carol Shine of the Pat Moran Oldsmobile-GMC Truck in Rochester said she has seen similar effects of the game.

"Everybody wants something for free so everyone is interested in trying to win," Shine said. "There haven't been any extra sales because of the game, but it gets people who might buy in the future into the dealership."

Senior Anna Small played the Hot Button game earlier this month.

"It's good marketing on the part of GM. It's a good way to get younger buyers into the showrooms," she said.

While sales aren't higher than normal because of the game, the

campaign is helping GM's strategy to win new customers.

"This campaign encourages consumers to experience what GM has to offer in an exciting, fun and unique way," Garry Neel, executive vice president of McCann Detroit said in a press release.

To play, students must be at least 21, have a valid driver's license, be a U.S. resident and visit a participating dealer.

The game ends Feb. 29 so with chances of what GM says are one in 5,500, the company urges everyone to get out and hit the Hot Button.

For more information on the game or to find a local dealer, visit www.gm.com/hotbutton.

Global Glance

•A worm that looks like a normal e-mail message is plaguing the nation. The malicious program began spreading Monday and it has been described by experts as the largest virus-like outbreak in months. The worm infects computers using Windows operating systems. Besides sending out tainted e-mail, the program opens up a backdoor for hackers to use later. The worm could let hackers install programs that log keystrokes to gain access to victims passwords and credit card numbers.

•An 11-story building collapsed Monday near Cairo, Egypt, killing at least 10 people. Rescue workers believe at least four more people are trapped inside. Officials have been using bulldozers and cranes to clear the debris as hope of finding survivors fades. A fire broke out in a ground-floor appliance store and spread throughout the building. Police said the building was over 20-years-old and that the owner illegally added four floors. In fact, less than a week before the collapse, tenants complained to police saying renovations to the first floor appliance store could damage the building's foundation.

•Mexican authorities found 11 bodies this weekend buried behind what they believe is a drug traffickers safe house near the U.S. border. Officials said the victims were most likely killed because of trafficking related activities. The property is thought to belong to one of Mexico's major drug traffickers who was arrested in Texas earlier this year. Police think these bodies may be connected to a recent wave of drug-related violence caused by the arrest of several important drug lords and traffickers.

•Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of the Movement for Democratic Change in Zimbabwe was charged this week with plotting to assassinate Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwean leader. In court yesterday, Tsvangirai said a Canadian-based political consultant had tried to convince him of the need for the assassination but he denied he had agreed to the plot. The charges came before the 2002 presidential election in which the two were opponents. The main evidence in the case is a grainy, barely audible four-hour video, secretly recorded with the consultant, in which Tsvangirai is accused of calling for Mugabe's "elimination." This case carries the death penalty if Tsvangirai is convicted.

Global goof

•A Pennsylvania man admitted to having a shrimp in his pants. This weekend, Johnny Rodriguez pleaded guilty to stuffing \$73 worth of shrimp down his pants in an attempt to steal the seafood. According to court records, a store clerk saw Rodriguez looking suspicious with his belt undone and confronted him. After being caught, Rodriguez began to remove bags of shrimp from in his pants but ran off with four bags before police arrived. The judge in the case has deferred sentencing.

~Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki,
Local News Editor

Information taken from
various news sources.

Controversial club opens

Deja Vu debuts despite the city's protests

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Detroit has added another name to its list of 43 adult entertainment establishments. After battling the city in court, Déjà Vu opened its doors to the public Jan. 14.

Detroit City Council officials have tried to prevent the topless bar from opening in downtown Detroit since the proposal in January 2003, said Councilwoman Sharon McPhail.

One of the ways the city tried to stop the opening was by denying the club's request for a building permit, City Council President Maryann Mahaffey said in a press release when the proposition was made.

"I'm only speculating that they think they can go ahead with their original plans and we'll be forced to agree," she said. "The answer is no. They're wasting their money."

A Federal Court ruling recently said that the city's efforts to pre-

vent the club from opening violated the owner's First Amendment rights.

McPhail said the club took the favorable ruling to mean they could open even though she said the ruling "stipulated building, not topless entertainment."

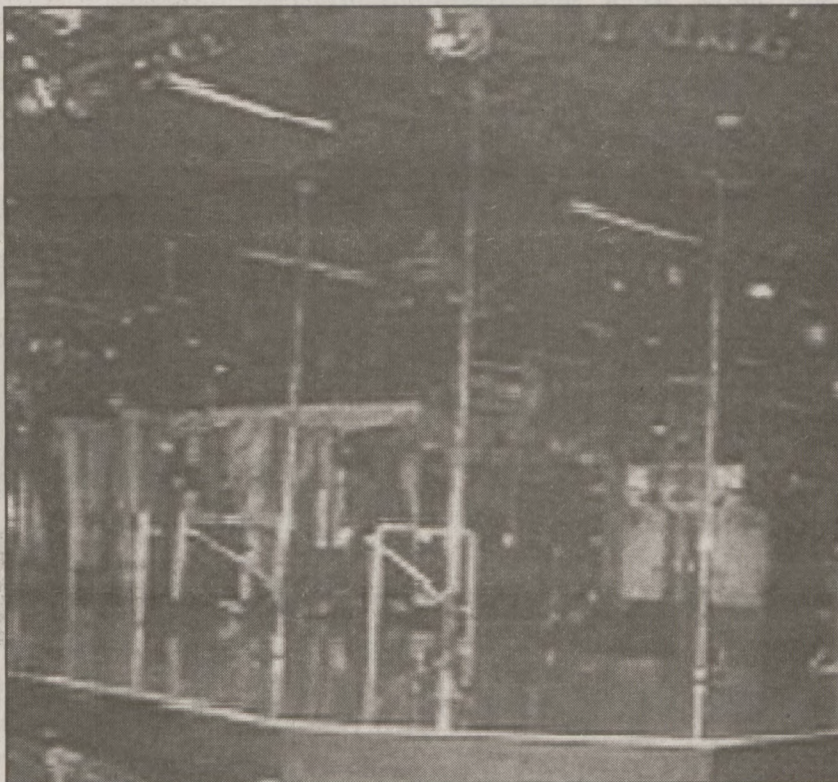
McPhail also said the club's liquor license is in three companies names and that the club does not have a topless entertainment permit.

Brad Shafer, a lawyer for Déjà Vu, told the press, the new owner's are currently trying to get the liquor license and topless activity permit transferred from the previous owners and until then the building's owners will run the club using their liquor licenses and topless activity permit.

"What they are doing is not legal," McPhail said. "There is a loophole in the state law that we are hoping to fill."

Shafer could not be reached for further comment.

Please see CLUB on A8.



Larry Flynt's Hustler Club in Ill. is owned by the same company that owns Detroit's new Déjà Vu.



Courtesy of Oakland County Schools
Doctors say it is important for kids to walk and stay active year round.

Kid's hoof-it for health

By LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Oakland County is asking students to count their steps this spring in a new program officials hope will change children's habits and attitudes about health.

More than 300 schools are being asked to have their third and fourth grade students wear pedometers to measure the amount they walk in a day. The children will keep a daily log and will be turned into teachers each week.

"Health officials are saying this generation of young children could be the first to not outlive their parents," said Bob Dustman, Media and Communications officer for Oakland County.

Dustman said Oakland County executive L. Brooks Patterson came up with the idea

during a trip to Pritikin Health Center in Fla.

He said Patterson heard about the possible health problems of the younger generation and was surprised.

"I think it just caught him off guard," said Dustman.

Health officials are saying this is America's most sedentary generation, said Dustman. With video games, television and other in-door activities that dominate people's time, it is no surprise.

Freshman Mike Van Hese said he was not an active child.

"I played video games," he said. "I went swimming a few times, but that got old. I played soccer once."

Now that he is an adult, Van Hese is no more physically active than he was back then.

"I have a car, that's the limit of my physical activity," he said.

Nicole Smith, freshman, said

she has been active since her youth.

"I played softball since I was six years old, and I was always in some extra curricular activity," she said. "(Now) I exercise a couple times a week and I try to participate in sports as much as possible."

Dustman said GM and Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital are donating \$125,000 to help pay the cost of the pedometers.

The program will begin March 9 and last five weeks. On May 8, there will be a "big family fitness day" at the Detroit Zoo. Prizes like trail bikes and passes to the Detroit Zoo and Oakland County parks will be given to participants.

For more information about the "Count Your Steps" program, check out www.countyoursteps.org.

State celebrates coin's release

By TRACY ESTES
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Although it was cold and snowing outside, a few hundred people gathered at the capital building in Lansing to celebrate the release of the Michigan state quarter into circulation Monday Jan. 26.

Michigan was the 26th state to join the union in 1837 so Jan. 26 was an appropriate day for the release. Michigan is also the first state quarter released in 2004.

"The ceremony was short, but a big success," said Sarah Lapshan, spokesperson for the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries. "There were at least 1,000 quarters for our free quarter exchange with the children and our bank sponsor, Capitol National Bank had between \$14,000-\$15,000 in the new state quarter."

Lapshan said there were about 1,500 people making their way through the day's events, including a museum display and costumed interpreters.

Governor Jennifer Granholm declared the 26th as 'State Quarter Day in the Classrooms' in Michigan.

"It is important for teachers to include the history of Michigan in their lesson plans," said Lapshan.

One of the events of the celebration included Larry Massie, a story teller, sharing a story about the importance of the Great Lakes to Michigan.

"Michigan is a pretty central state and known for its location, in the heart of the Great Lakes," said Lapshan. "This was one of the reasons for choosing the design on the quarter."

Michiganders are excited about the coin's debut.

"I try to get at least one of all the state quarters," said junior Holly Williams. "Being from Michigan makes this one special."

Banks and shops said people have been anxious for the release.

"Quite a few people collect these," said Steve Lathey of Abbott's Coinex of Birmingham. "People here have been asking about it for



Courtesy www.mi.gov
The new quarter displays the Great Lakes

some time."

The new quarter should be available for distribution in banks and stores throughout the state by early next week.

Do you want to be a reporter for OU's award winning, student-run newspaper?

Come to The Oakland Post Mondays at noon to pick up a story. If you can't make it e-mail Rebecca at editor@oakpostonline.com with what type of story you want to write.

SURVEY

Continued from A1

than 13 or less by some other institutions because OU has 4-credit classes while most institutions only have 3-credit classes.

Based on a 14-week schedule and the fixed commencement date of the Saturday after finals, commencements would take place on Dec. 25. Under the new calendar commencements would be one week earlier.

Sudol said the date change has gone through all the appropriate avenues including Student Congress, University Senate and was approved by the Board of Trustees (BOT) at the June 2, 2003 meeting.

According to Sudol, a committee looked at other alternatives for commencement dates to keep from having to move the university's start date.

One option was to put it earlier in December, meaning graduates would complete commencement exercises before completely final exams.

"It creates an awkward situation for graduates," Sudol said.

According to Sudol, another option was to put commencements later in January, but he said that created logistical problems for the university. He said while it is feasible, graduation would have to be planned and sporting events scheduled around it. This means the O'Rena would have to be set up for graduation in a very short period of time to accommodate sporting events and also disassembled just as quickly.

Sudol said there is also a greater chance of hazardous weather, which could cause numerous problems including an extra cost to the university to maintain the property of the campus.

"It's bad enough in late December but it would be even worse in January," Sudol said.

Snow removers would have to be hired at an overtime rate to haul away the snow and keep visitors safe and in these times of budget cuts, he said that is not a price OU can afford to pay.

He also cited problems for the graduation planning staff by having a later commencement ceremony. He said planning a graduation for a university is like planning a wedding, it takes at least six months. And, he said, right before the proposed January commencements, the university would be shutting down for the holiday break, a key planning period.

"It would add to cost and anxiety and opportunity for screw ups," Sudol said. "We've got three years experience with the third week of December and it's been very successful."

Attendance at winter graduation is up, Sudol said and he speculated it was because families are in visiting for the holidays.

"We've not had a single complaint about the December commencements so there is no reason to change it, other than in some years it forces the school year to begin before Labor Day."

Sudol said the university could rearrange the schedule if it excluded the study period allotted to students right before finals. Due to scheduling this semester, the study period was, according to Sudol, an "embarrassing" five hours. For the 2004 Fall semester it is scheduled for a full day.

"I like the idea of students having a study day," Sudol said.

He said it allows the professors to have office hours and students a chance to study. Of course some people wouldn't take advantage of it, said Sudol, but it would be an option.

Sudol said all of the reasons for changing the start of the school year were based on academic needs.

The school year has also undergone another scheduling change. Winter break 2005 is scheduled to be held one week later than normal.

Student Congress (OUSC) under the leadership of then-president Brian Tomina, approached the University about changing the winter break date after students petitioned for the break to line up with other Michigan universities.

Current student body President Jonathan Parks, senior, said OUSC was presented with several options for the academic calendar and Congress agreed the one going into effect in the fall was the best choice.

Sudol said he has not been given any academic reason for the schedule change and it has caused a few problems for different colleges. He said in the college of nursing it creates a gap during the students' clinicals, where the students work in the nursing environment. It splits the semester in uneven proportions rather than at a half-way point, he said.

"We probably should have solicited more feedback on winter break before we did that," Sudol said.

While Russell is still contesting the change of the academic start date, Sudol said if the university starts before Labor Day this year, it would be something it would try to do every year.

With the proposed calendar, OU could start classes after Labor Day in 2007 and 2008 and still accommodate the December graduation, however, Sudol said it is highly unlikely the university would do that in those years.

"If you have to start before Labor Day some of the time, you should do it all of the time," Sudol said.

Russell said in the AAUP contract negotiated this year, one stipulation is that classes can't start prior to the Wednesday before Labor Day. He also said the administration is obliged to get the AAUP's opinion on all calendars, and the Senate must be consulted on all matters of academic importance.

The 2005-2006 school year will be presented to the BOT tentatively at the May working session, Sudol said. He said any student feedback regarding the two schedule changes should be made within the next month. As of right now the 2005-2006 academic year will start before Labor Day.

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CORPS

Continued from A1

\$200,000 needed for training, uniforms and other supplies.

"That's \$50,000 that won't be there next year," said Ketelsen.

The Federal government would continue to support the living wages of its members, said Ketelsen, but as far as the supplies side goes, next year OU will be on its own.

AmeriCorps Oakland's major donors include the United Way, Greater Pontiac Community Coalition.

"OU has always been financially supportive," she said.

Ketelsen said OU normally provides about \$30,000 to \$70,000 a year.

"That's money that OU doesn't have," she said.

She said it's important to give the community appropriate notification about the future of the program, since all of the volunteers in Pontiac Schools will be pulled out.

OU AmeriCorps' 30 members work one on one with students in the Pontiac School District, giving them attention that teachers in a large classroom generally can't, said Ketelsen.

Also, they teach students conflict resolution, work to help resolve minor conflicts in the schools and organize after school and summer programs in Pontiac schools.

"We don't get any support from the city of

Pontiac," she said. "I know they don't have an abundance of money laying around, I just think money is tight."

Linda Barnes, program director of AmeriCorps Oakland, said she hopes the program can survive the tight times.

"We really hope it stays because it's doing a lot of good for the community," she said.

Not only would Pontiac Schools be hit hard by the possible cut, but so would the 30 members of AmeriCorps Oakland.

Junior Michael McGuinness, a member and OU's representative to the AmeriCorps state membership council, said finances for the students involved is important. Members can help themselves while helping others, as they receive financial academic awards for doing 900 hours of community service each semester.

"A big bulk of my tuition is paid for (by the award)," he said. "Individuals won't have that opportunity."

He said AmeriCorps Oakland serves an important role in serving the community, that it is disheartening that this might be the last year.

"We just fulfill so many roles that its hard to imagine us not around," he said.

The decision will be made in March or April as far as the fate of AmeriCorps Oakland, said Ketelsen.

OUSC

Continued from A1

too low and should be increased.

The issue was referred to the Research and Review Committee for further discussion.

•Congress said they want the University to clarify its policy on canceling classes due to inclement weather. They said it is unclear what criteria the University uses

to make a decision and asked that this be clarified.

OUSC president Jonathan Parks and vice-president Kenton Lewis expect to discuss the issue this week during a meeting with OU president Gary Russi.

•Shaquonda Binion, OUSC administrative assistant, said she is beginning

the election process and needs individuals to serve on the election commission.

Commission sign-up began on Jan. 26. Contact Binion for more information.

•Parks said he will give his Presidential Address on Feb. 9 in the Banquet Room at the OC.


LAST WEEK TO APPLY!!!

2004 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards AND..

2004 Human Relations Award

Nominees for the 2004 Matilda R. and Alfred G. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in April 2004 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2003. The awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders, and responsible citizens to the Oakland University community. Nominees must have a strong academic record, usually a 3.3 or higher GPA.

Nominees must be graduating in April 2004 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2003. The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to inter-group understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the university.



Time is running out though!

Now Available online!

Deadline, January 30, 2004

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Deadline for both awards is Friday, January 30, 2004.

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TAMARA BEDRICKY

Saturday, January 31, 2004, 8 PM, Vandenberg Dining Room

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Free refreshments and admission.

Graham Health Center

Do you have the flu? The influenza "flu" virus lives in your lungs. It is a respiratory illness usually including sudden onset of headache and/or body ache, dry cough, chills and fever. It used to be that if you had the flu, you just had to ride it out and get plenty of fluids and rest. These are still important, but now there are prescription medications that can help in the early stages of the flu. Graham Health Center encourages you to see your health care provider within the first 48 hours of illness because these medications need to be started right away to be effective. Call us at ext. 2341 for an appointment.

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Applications still available in the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center or online at www2.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/.

Please see our display ad on this page in this edition for more information.

Deadline is Friday, January 30, 2004 for both awards.

African-American Celebration 2004

Celebrating Freedom through Education

January 19-February 19, 2004

includes the following event.

Taste of Africa Gala

Friday, February 6, 2004, 4-7 PM, Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

African and West Caribbean food and music, vendors with clothing, oils, lotions, jewelry.

Campus Rec Happenings

Intramural Sports

Sign up today to participate in the upcoming IM Sports Rally Volleyball season. FREE to all currently enrolled Oakland University and Recreation Center members. Registration deadline is 2/6/04.

Aquatics

Learn to scuba by spring break! SCUBA classes will be February 7 and 14. Classes will be held in the Aquatic Center from 2-8 PM. Discover SCUBA will be the second class date. Call 370-4534 for additional information and cost.

Wellness Wednesday

January 28, 2004, 12:05-1 PM, Meditation for Inner Peace, Dr. Ilanya Maarin

February 11, 2004, 12:05-1 PM, The Natural Healing of Self Acupressure, Dr. Yu Fang

Career Services

Diversity Career Fair

Thursday, January 29, 2004

OC Banquet Rooms, 11 AM-3 PM

Get a step ahead of your competition. Remember to bring plenty of resumes! Open to all students and academic majors. During the Career Fair, there will also be a Stop Discrimination in Employment Panel Discussion from 12-1 PM in the Fireside Lounge, OC. All students are welcome.

Save The Date!

REALITY OF INTERNSHIPS PANEL DISCUSSION

Tuesday, February 17, 2004

Noon-1 PM, Gold Rooms, OC

Interested in gaining valuable work experience prior to graduation? Learn how to locate and make the most out of an internship.

Mock Behavioral Interviews

Are you looking for a job or need to improve your interview skills? This is an opportunity that you cannot afford to miss!

Friday, January 30, 2004, 9 AM-4 PM, Oakland Room, Oakland Center

One of the best ways to prepare for an employment interview! Gain experience answering behavioral and other types of questions likely to be asked by recruiters. Each session will last 30 minutes and include an interview and feedback session with a local employer. This is only a practice interview. Pre-registration is required via eRecruiting@OU

For more information, click on <http://www2.oakland.edu/careerservices/upcoming/Mocks/Winter2004.htm> or call 248-370-2101.

Perspectives

Editor: Rebecca Wyatt • editor@oakpostonline.com

Coming up:
Column from Trustee
Dennis Pawley.

January 28, 2004 • A7

Editorial at a glance

The Issue:
Reality TV is flooding the airwaves and viewers are hooked.

Our stance:
Reality TV is far from real life as we know it.

There are a lot of reality shows on just about every television channel these days.

From "Survivor" to "Average Joe" and "The Bachelor" to "The Apprentice," we are bombarded with these "reality" TV shows.

The problem is the shows are so out of touch with reality, it's almost hard to watch.

On these shows people are stranded in tropical places, asked to choose one from a plethora of pretty women to marry,

competing for a woman out of their league or even trying to run a business owned by a multi-millionaire.

This is about as real as Gilligan's Island; yeah we can buy that.

MTV's "The Real World" is a prime example. This show monitors seven strangers as they try to live and work together in a house and at a job most people would envy.

The current cast is sailing the Stars and Stripes, a sailboat that

won the America's Cup.

Are we supposed to see this as the "real world?"

These aren't the things that happen to every day people in every day life.

The problem is real life is too boring for a show. Most of the lives of people attending OU would be getting up, taking care of family business, driving to school, sitting in classes, going to work and sleeping. No one would watch that because it's too normal.

These shows try to jazz

up what they call "real life" and make it seem like our everyday lives appear boring.

But while the networks are responsible for exploiting the lives of people who just want to have some fun, we are drawn to it. If we weren't, why would just about every television network have its own form of reality TV?

Rather than watching 16 "average" men compete against a group of good-looking guys for the chance with a former

Miss America contestant, we could be out in the real world, talking to actual people, or living actual lives.

When you wake up in the morning and go through your daily routine, remember those shows are not reality. They are fantasy.

Otherwise no one would want to participate in the show, it would just be the same old thing.

Take a tip from the show, live in the moment and create your own reality.

Talk Back *The OU community responds to The Post and events around campus*

DEAR EDITOR,

I would like to say a few words regarding Elizabeth's (Gorecki) article. I could not agree more with Elizabeth. I understand where she is coming from regarding the fact that people seem to be unappreciative. I am a delivery driver at one of the local "pizza joints" in Auburn Hills.

When people call up and ask to have a delivery, they obviously know that someone will be coming to their house shortly with dinner and when I get there, most of the time people do not have their money ready and let me to stand out in the cold while they put their dog away, bring the children to the door to help take in dinner and grab their money to pay.

When they get to the door, I

usually get comments like "Boy its cold out here isn't it," or "They let a female deliver, isn't that dangerous?" (while I am thinking (1) yes, its freezing, and (2) females have drivers licenses don't they, and isn't it just as dangerous for the males, too?)

Then only to receive either the coin change that they would have gotten back, or a buck or two. Most of the time, I receive an average of \$2-3 for every delivery I take, not to mention the wear and tear that it puts on my car. Most people that I have talked to say that they don't tip well because the store charges a delivery fee.

Here's a little secret ... out of that delivery charge, the driver only gets a portion of that. Where I work for example, the store charges \$2.75 for delivery

and I receive a \$1 of that. If a couple dollars is too much for the people being served to O show appreciation, whether they are going out to eat, or having food brought to them, then perhaps they should stay home and use their own oven and prepare their own meals.

Thank-you for letting me vent a little.

SARA REVERS
SENIOR

In last week's issue, Coleman Young was incorrectly identified as Colin Powell.

All Talk Back letters must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Letters must be limited to 350 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Post uses discretion and may reject letters for any reason. Letters become property of The Oakland Post. E-mail letters to editor@oakpostonline.com or drop off at 61 Oakland Center.

Student questions diversity in education



KANIQUA DANIEL
Campus Life Editor

As the editor of our Campus Life section, I come to the student body with a sincere apology for the last issue.

To celebrate Black History Month, the section featured famous African Americans in an article introducing African American Celebration 2004.

A close friend of mine approached me with the newspaper. Mike Williams, senior, asked, "Who told you this was ColIn Powell?"

I made a huge mistake. With poor editing skills, rushing like usual, I allowed a picture of Coleman Young to be captioned as ColIn Powell.

My first emotion was embarrassment. How could I, a black student, have made such a mistake? To have an error in one of the most important articles uplifting Black icons in The Post was like an insult; not only to myself, but blacks all over campus.

But, then again, is it just an insult to blacks? Why wouldn't it be an insult to all students on campus?

Many people have grown comfortable with the notion Black History pertains solely to black people; like it's a separate issue from all other historical events.

We have Black History Month, a separate month, to celebrate the triumph of black people. We have an African American History course filled with mostly black people, and we have all of these special events to uplift the dreams and goals of black people.

Why is Black History made separate? It's our history, everybody's history, regardless if you're black, white, Hispanic or purple.

Don't get me wrong, I appreciate all the hard work students and faculty put into making Black History Month a success. But are we having all of

these events to perhaps make up for the lack of teaching going on in the classroom?

Williams feels OU doesn't put enough emphasis into educating students on black history. I feel my middle school didn't either.

I am a graduate of Pontiac Northern High School, and I've lived in Pontiac all of my life.

As the product of a poorly-funded school district, am I really one to blame for the lack of the knowledge I possess? Or, is it the educational background I derived from?

It's not just OU. My being educated on history can't begin in college. I should have entered this university already knowing my history, maybe looking to gain more knowledge.

This incident opened my eyes to many things. At first being embarrassed, I wanted to shy away from it all. But it's time to face reality: I don't know enough about black history.

I don't know enough about history period.

Questioning myself for days, doubting my ability to be a good editor, and ashamed to be an African-American, I began to wonder if I were alone?

How many other students are there at Oakland who, like myself, don't have the knowledge to differentiate between a photo of Coleman Young and Colin Powell without deep thought?

As opposed to denying the reality of my ignorance, I choose to bring my humiliation to the student body with the hope of opening somebody's eyes.

Maybe the student who feels ill prepared to discuss the Civil Rights Movement. Or, possibly the history professor who doesn't include the achievements of notable black men and women in his lectures because he feels it isn't necessary.

Something needs to change. Then again, maybe I need to put more effort into educating myself.



Should fall classes start before Labor Day?

YES

BY LIBBY BAKER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

OU's academic calendar will change come August.

Instead of starting the fall semester after the Labor Day holiday, we will begin the Monday before on Aug. 30.

This isn't all bad. Other universities around the state start about the same time (MSU and Western both start on Aug. 30).

We may lose a week of summer, but we gain those days back in December.

The new schedule will give students a couple of extra days in December to take a breath and catch up before the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

The major change in the winter semester will be that spring break is one week later. This means spring break will be in March instead of February, which seems more fitting. When has it ever felt like spring in February?

Further, OU's spring break will now be the same week as many other universities. Previously, we had to break before anyone else, but now, our week off will coincide with other universities.

As humans, our minds are programmed from an early age to resist change. We resist because

we fear change and we fear the unknown.

We like to know exactly what's next, hence our lives become rather predictable.

We drive the same way to school or work each day. We have fallen into the rut of daily life.

So when we are faced with a possible change, we approach it with apprehension because it will change our usual pattern.

Changing the academic calendar may only be a minor change in our lives, but we should face the change with an open mind.

Without ever making changes, we may miss out on some of the greatest opportunities in our lives.

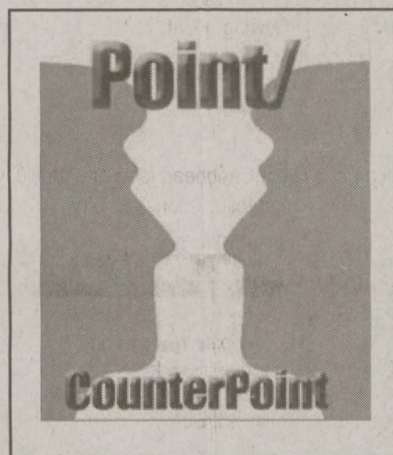
The different schedule is only a minor change, but it opens us up to the possibilities that come with change. And maybe we'll realize change isn't so bad, and we may even find the new academic calendar suits us much better

No

BY TRACY ESTES
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

What is the point of starting the fall semester before Labor Day? More study time, a longer winter break and a shorter term may seem like a good idea now. Students certainly want a longer break, but there is such a thing as too long of a break. It does get boring after a while and although everyone may complain about such a

long semester, some people would rather be in school than sitting at home doing the same thing over and over. Starting school before Labor Day actually makes the break shorter for those taking summer classes. For those over-achievers, or those just wanting to get ahead, there will be no break from school. For some, this may be a good thing, but for those wanting



The Oakland Post

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Volume 30 • Issue 17

RELICS

Continued from A3

other assorted artifacts. Scotford and his associates tried to convince the public they were remnants from an ancient civilization in Michigan.

The only problem with the relics, however, was they were obviously forged. The hieroglyphic-like writing found on some was copied from the dictionary, said Stamps.

Also, some of the clay pieces dissolved in water, proving they could not have survived in the ground for hundreds of years.

After Stamps told the museum of his findings, he persuaded them to return them to Michigan.

"I had been quietly lobbying behind the scenes for their return to Michigan, where they belonged," Stamps said.

Modern technology solved the mystery of the origin of the relics, however the mystery of why Scotford made them is still unsolved.

Stamps has some ideas, though.

"I think he did it for the fame and reputation, and to try to fool the scientists," he said.

ENGINE

Continued from A3

he was also responsible for "all unique applications."

As the project took form, Edwards became a team leader and was responsible for leading several other members of the team.

As part of the process, Edwards said he worked with BMW in Germany, Roeber in England, the engine plant in Brazil "and suppliers from all over the world."

Edwards, who obtained a Master's degree in mechanical engineering from OU in 2003, said he feels his studies gave him a solid fundamental back-

ground, with creative ways of thinking, and allowed him to be significantly involved in projects.

Brian Sangeorzan, associate professor in the School of Engineering and Computer Science, said the engineering core classes all engineering students are required to take provide them with cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills that should broaden their perspectives and approaches to problem solving.

He further characterized the curriculum as lab-intensive.

"Lab exercises and experiments are coupled closely with the theory, in an

attempt to both reinforce the theory and also provide practical, hands-on experience," he said.

Sangeorzan also said many of the faculty are "involved in both fundamental and applied research," which usually takes place in the automotive industry. He added that faculty members bring their experiences into the classrooms.

Edwards is currently working at Chrysler's lean manufacturing, which focuses on reducing wastes and solid engineering discipline. He is expected to speak at OU next month.

SCREEN

Continued from A3

Other things that can be helpful are learning relaxation techniques and talking about diet, nutrition and exercise. All of these are important factors in overcoming one's anxiety.

Depending on the intensity, medications can also be helpful in overcoming anxiety, said Warner.

"The idea (of the screening) is to screen as many people as possible, so that they can be directed to the correct resources," said Warner.

The assessment test is simple and does not require a lot of time. Once the tests are assessed, a counselor will be available to discuss the results.

"School can be stressful at times, but it's important to learn to manage your time and to relax," said Theresa Abela, freshman. "I think it's a really good idea that the counseling center is doing the anxiety screening. It could be really helpful to some."

The screening will be held in the Oakland Center, across from the Food Court, where students can be assessed from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

If students are unable to attend the screening and have further interest, call the OU counseling center at (248) 370-3465 and make an appointment.

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CLUB

Continued from A5

The loophole, according to McPhail, is that establishments need to have liquor licenses in order to apply for topless entertainment permits. Clubs have gotten around this by not serving alcohol and having entirely nude entertainment.

McPhail has proposed an ordinance she hopes will fill the hole in the law by requiring licenses for each type of entertainment. "The community absolutely supports the ordinance," she said.

"We want the downtown area to be a place with family entertainment, not strip clubs," McPhail said.

Not everyone agrees with the councilwoman though.

Ann, a manager at the Bouzouki Lounge in Downtown Detroit, said an industry like this is good for the city.

"It keeps people in Detroit," she said. "Why should they go elsewhere to do what they're going to do when the money can be kept in the city?"

Mike, a manager at Grind, also in downtown Detroit, thinks the business is beneficial for the city.

"I think the Detroit market is good," he said. "We're an entertainment venue, not a red-light district."

McPhail said citizens feel that is exactly what the strip clubs are creating.

"They are a well funded industry. They want to fill the town with activity

which creates tremendously bad second-hand effects; prostitution, drug use, basically a red light district," she said.

McPhail supported this by saying the new club was already cited for nude acts on its first night open.

For now, the club is operating on E. Congress in Downtown Detroit in the old Legends and Space building. The attorneys for the club said a transfer of ownership is planned so the new owners can apply for the right permits, and the city council will have an opportunity to deny the request. If the request is denied, the club will most likely file another First Amendment lawsuit.

CHINA

Continued from A3

ble and meet their budget," Epstein said.

Derrick Sobodash, a senior participating in the trip, said he was interested in going on last year's trip before it was canceled, but the cost really hindered him. He said although the cost of the trip is still relatively high, he has had a year to plan for it and is looking forward to the experience.

"There is only so much you can learn through textbooks," he said. "The cultural experience you get overseas is invaluable."

According to Epstein, the price of the trip ranges anywhere from \$3,700 to \$5,300 and includes nearly everything including airfare, insurance, housing in the dormitories,

two meals per day, tuition, daily excursions and the train trip across China.

Students can also apply for financial aid for additional assistance, and the group may also organize fundraising events to help cut costs.

Katie Van Gorder, junior and president of OU's China club, said she looks forward to sightseeing and being immersed in the Chinese language. She said the cultural experience a student receives while studying abroad is priceless.

"It's important to learn about different cultures," she said.

The trip is not exclusively reserved for

students with previous experience with the Chinese language. Students with no knowledge of the language are welcome to accompany the group and can be placed in a beginning level language class.

Additionally, OU is offering tutors at the Academic Skills Center so students can familiarize themselves with the language before departing.

Epstein said studying abroad, whether in China or somewhere else, offers students a unique opportunity to learn, not only, more about a different country and culture, but more about themselves as well.

"I think one of the most under appreciated

aspects of going abroad is how you learn so much more about yourself," he said. "You learn as much about the people you encounter as you do about yourself."

Epstein said there are still spots for additional students or OU community members to join the trip and said any student interested in going should immediately apply for a passport. The application packet is due Feb. 10.

For more information on the trip contact Professor Epstein (epstein@oakland.edu or 248-370-2358), Professor Richard Stamps, Professor Barbara Mabee or Instructor Michelle Tang.

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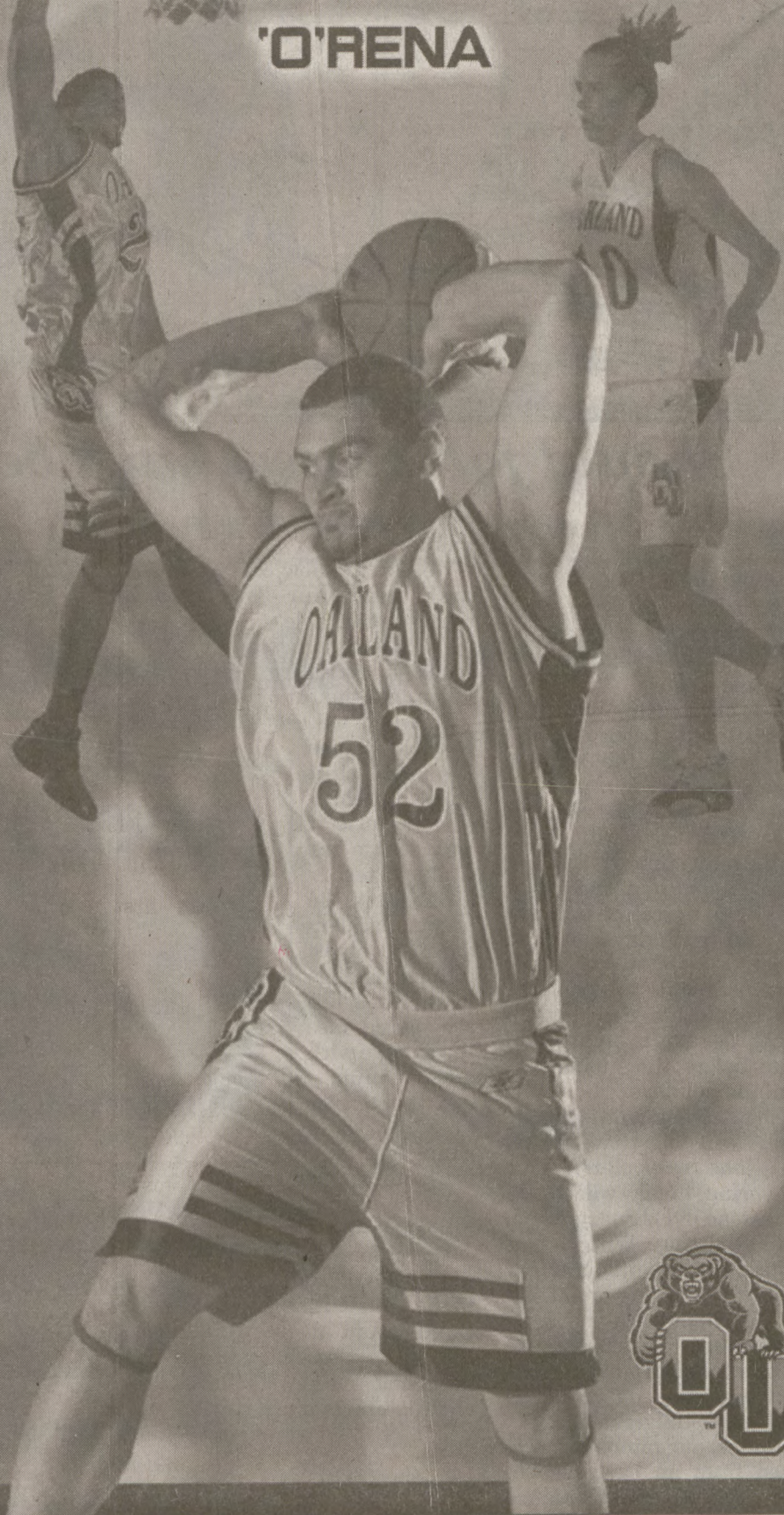
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Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post
Members of the OU men's basketball team hopefully watch as their teammates run a play in the last 2.3 seconds of Thursday's loss.

Last second shot does men in again

BY AARON WALKER
THE OAKLAND POST

OU student athletes, energetic children and shirtless frat boys sporting body paint were all a part of the 1,385 fans present to watch the OU men's basketball team's 68-70 loss to the Golden Eagles of Oral Roberts University (ORU) on Thursday night at the O'rena.

"I feel pretty bad for our players," OU head coach Greg Kampe said. "They gave a great effort tonight. They played very well. We still can't put the ball in the basket, but we battled and scratched and started to put it in in the second half."

The Golden Grizzlies jumped out to a 10-0 lead, while forcing three ORU turnovers, but the visitors responded with an 11-3 run of their own capped by a lay up by freshman ORU forward Caleb Green.

Junior OU forward Courtney Scott said the lack of a killer instinct comes down to the team's attitude.

"I think the biggest thing is we have to play with more emotion and play like we know we can," Scott said. "I think we get wrapped up, we get a little lax. Those first minutes we stretched it out real good and then we let them come back. When you got a lead like that, you've got to take full advantage of it."

Junior OU guard Rawle Marshall's baseline dunk placed the Grizzlies up by five with 3:50 remaining in the first half.

On the Eagles' following possession, freshman guard Ken Tutt wooed the crowd by going behind the back while splitting two defenders en route to a lay up.

Junior forward Courtney

Please see OU on B6

Off the schnide

BY DAVE PEMBERTON
THE OAKLAND POST

The losing streak is officially over for the OU men's basketball team.

After losing five straight Mid-Con games, OU defeated the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), 82-67, Saturday night in the O'rena. The victory gave the Golden Grizzlies their first Mid-Con home win of the season.

The first half started off even as the two teams battled back and forth until UMKC managed to take a five-point lead with 8:53 left in the first half.

Junior OU forward Rawle Marshall then hit a three pointer to tie the game at 26 with 6:57 left and the Grizzlies began to take over. OU went on a 21-4 run that gave OU a 44-30 lead at the end of the first half.

Before the first half was over, there was an odd incident at the O'rena. With 53 second left in the half and Marshall at the free throw line, the buzzer sounded and would not turn off.

The O'rena crowd, which included Detroit Pistons Chauncey Billups, Tayshaun Prince and Chucky Atkins was left holding its ears while the buzzer rang through the arena. Finally, the buzzer was turned off and, after a slight delay, the game resumed.

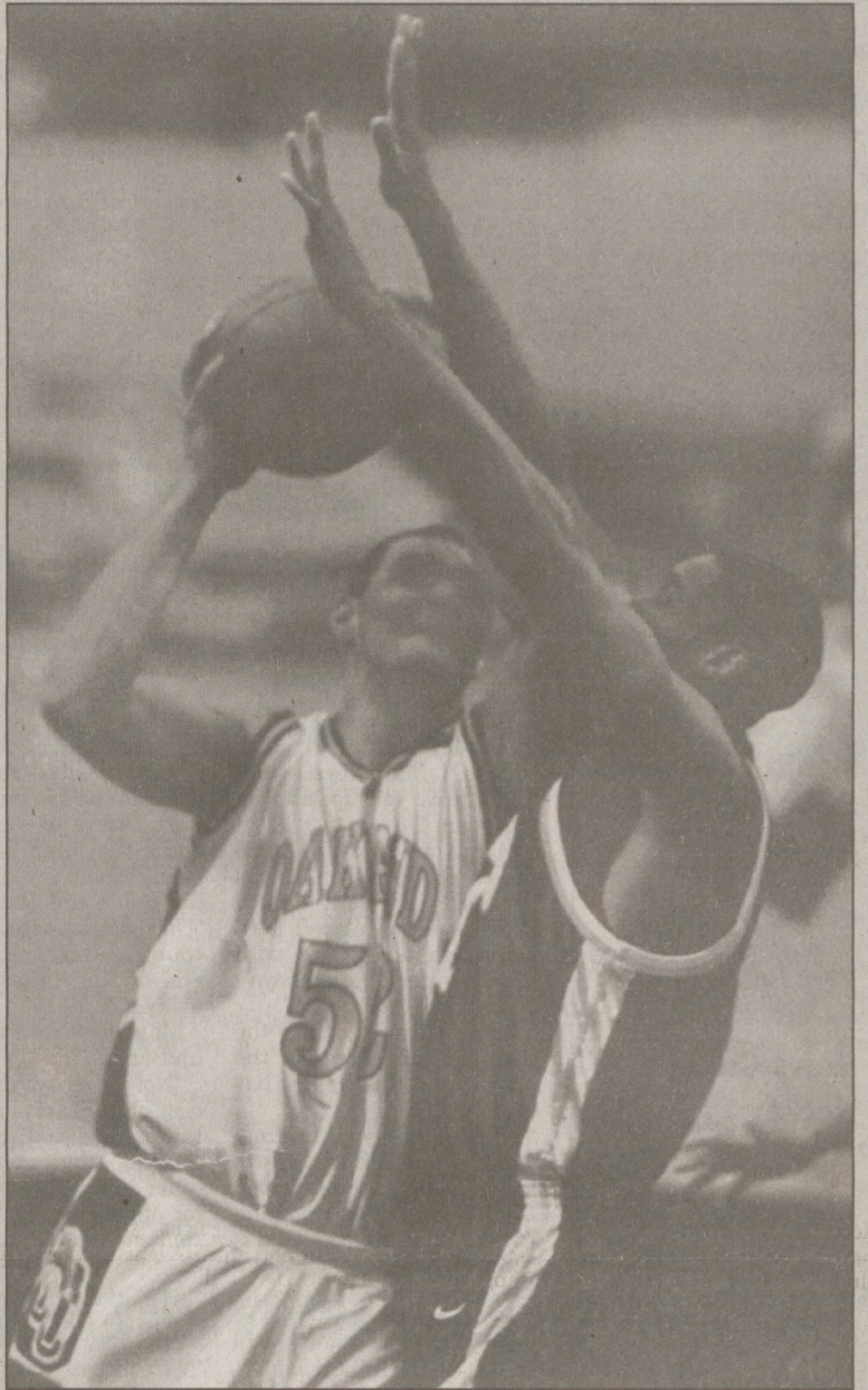
The second half was all Grizzlies as they pulled off the 15-point win. UMKC was never able to pull within 10 points the entire half. OU shot over 46 percent from the field and over 44 percent from behind the three-point arc.

Head coach Greg Kampe was pleased with his team's play.

"It feels good to win again," said Kampe. "I told my coaching staff with a few minutes to go that this is what it feels like to finally be in command of a game without it coming down to a last second play."

A large part of OU's dominance was

Please see VICTORY on B6



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post
Junior forward Courtney Scott fights for a basket inside.

Ugly, but still a win

BY MIKE LARSON
& BRENDAN STEVENS
THE OAKLAND POST

Outside, the weather has been cold and sloppy. Inside the O'rena Monday night when the OU women's basketball team took on Oral Roberts University (ORU), the play followed suit.

The Golden Grizzlies shot just 36.1 percent from the floor, turned the ball over 16 times and did not score for more than eight minutes to end the game. But they still defeated the Golden Eagles, 61-45.

"It's one of those (games) that's just a (win)," OU head coach Eileen Shea-Hilliard said. "It's a snowy Monday night. Everybody is in the middle of the conference (schedule). It was just nice to get a win. It wasn't pretty."

The players were relieved with the win, but realized they need to play better in order to continue the team's success through the remainder of the conference schedule.

"I think we played pretty sloppy, both teams, and I'm glad that we came out on top," junior forward Amanda Batcha said. "It was ugly."

Batcha recorded her second straight double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds, and came up four

assists shy of a triple-double with six helpers.

She also slowed down the Eagles' leading scorer, freshman forward Elisha Turek, helping to hold her to 10 points. Turek, who averages 14.5 points per game, was the only ORU player in double figures.

As a team, the Eagles turned the ball over 26 times and shot 38.1 percent from the floor.

Sophomore guard Jayme Wilson, who scored a game-high 20 points, said the win keeps Saturday's loss to the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) from snowballing.

"Anytime you play, I like to think you learn something," Wilson said. "You want to get on win streaks, not losing streaks. We had a nice home-

stand here. We have to go out on the road again. It's good to have a win to spring-board off of."

With a heart-breaking 78-72 loss to UMKC on Saturday, OU's four-game winning streak was snapped.

The Grizzlies gave UMKC, which remains

undefeated in the Mid-Con (7-0), a run for its money, forcing 10 lead changes throughout the game, but trailed for the last 14:17 of the contest.

OU came out of the gates hot, going on an 11-2 run in



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post
Junior forward Amanda Batcha puts pressure on Oral Roberts University freshman forward Elisha Turek in the Grizzlies 61-45 win over the Eagles Monday night.

the first five minutes, but the flames were doused by the pressure defense of UMKC. Over the next five minutes, the Kangaroos forced six turnovers and gained a 21-15 advantage.

The six-point margin would be the largest either team would enjoy for the rest of the half. The two teams traded points for the next ten minutes, tying the game five times. At half-time, UMKC had a slight lead, 37-36.

The Kangaroos, who were 0-5 all-time at the O'rena, came out of the locker room on a mission. They hopped on the back of sophomore Carlai Moore, who scored a game-high 28 points en route to a 78-72 victory.

Even in the losing effort,

the Grizzlies offense showed several bright spots with four players who scored in double digits. Junior Petra Manakova led the OU scoring with 18, followed closely by sophomore Anne Hafeli, who also had four assists, with 17 points. Batcha added 16 points and junior Leigh Tully had 11.

Batcha also tied for the game high with 11 rebounds and Wilson helped the cause by doling out five assists.

At 3:05 p.m. Saturday, OU takes its 12-7 overall record and 5-3 mark in the conference to Valparaiso University.

The Grizzlies take on Chicago State University at 7 p.m. Monday in a return to their home court in the O'rena.

OU sweeps

BY DANA UTZ
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

OU's men's and women's swimming and diving teams added another win to their records Saturday afternoon.

Both Golden Grizzly squads defeated their Kenyon College foes in Gambier, Ohio. The men beat the Lords 150-138, and the women beat the Ladies 164-135.

This victory extends the women's undefeated season, now 9-0.

"It's on their radar screen," OU swimming and diving coach Pete Hovland said of the player's awareness of the unblemished record. "It's something they're proud of. There's a level of excitement and pride about it."

Veteran leadership has been a key to the team's success this season, Hovland said.

"I think we've got some strong leaders," Hovland said. "We've got some very, very talented seniors and upper classmen. They're leaving their mark on this problem and are willing others to follow along with

them."

The men have struggled early this season, with a 4-2 record, after the loss of three would-be sophomores late in the summer.

Ehud Segal was called back to his home in Israel, Scott Dickens returned to Canada to train for a spot on his country's national team and another player was asked to leave the team due to disciplinary reasons.

The team also lost senior Sean Broadbent recently when he was diagnosed with mononucleosis.

"It's a very, very young team," Hovland said. "It's difficult for them to gel and to mature without that leadership on the top end. We've struggled a little bit with consistency and developing a cohesive group. We're going through a little adversity, but I think it will make the young ones stronger."

To start off the meet, sophomore Eric Lynn, junior Chris Sullivan, freshman Hunor Ma'te' and junior Blaine Dolcetti took first in the men's 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:34.07.

Please see SWIM on B6

At it again

BY BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

With a 6-1 win over Robert Morris University Saturday, the OU women's tennis squad opened up the second half of its season the right way.

The Golden Grizzlies earned the doubles point with victories at the one and two slots.

Senior Jennifer Erickson and freshman Brittney Maxey picked up 6-0, 6-0 wins in their singles matches, and freshmen Angela Trecole and Stephanie Potiris also won their matches in straight sets.

The victory improved the team's record to 3-4 for the season.

OU will not compete again until March 23.

ON TAP @ OU

Check out the times and dates below to get a jump on what's going on in OU athletics this week and beyond. All times are local.

Men's Basketball

Thurs. Jan. 29, 8:05 p.m.
@ Valparaiso
Sat. Jan. 31, Noon
vs. Chicago State
(@ O'rena)
(On Fox Sports Net)

Women's Basketball

Sat. Jan. 31, 3:05 p.m.
@ Valparaiso
Mon. Feb. 2, 7 p.m.
vs. Chicago State
(@ O'rena)

Men's & Women's Swimming & Diving

Fri. Jan. 30, 4 p.m.
vs. St. Bonaventure
(@ OU Aquatics Center)
Sat. Jan. 31, 1 p.m.
@ Michigan State

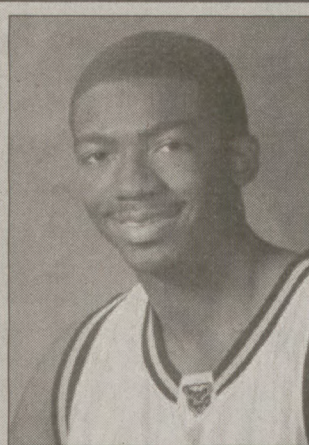
Men's Club Hockey

(DII)
Fri. Jan. 30, 8:30 p.m.
vs. Univ. of Michigan
(@ ONYX in Rochester)
(DIII)
Sat. Jan. 31, TBA
@ Northwood Univ.

Women's Club Hockey

Sat. Jan. 31, 7 p.m.
@ Northern Michigan
Sun. Feb. 1, 10 a.m.
@ Northern Michigan

Sports Spotlight



DeMarcus Ishmeal
Junior, Guard
Men's Basketball

Junior transfer guard DeMarcus Ishmeal recorded a career high 12 points in the OU men's basketball team's 82-67 win over the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Ishmeal also dished out four assists while playing 28 minutes off the bench for the Grizzlies.

BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

Wacky center fits in

Junior transfer is enjoying basketball, the Caf

BY BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

From the first time OU women's basketball head coach Eileen Shea-Hilliard met junior center Petra Manakova, she knew the Czech Republic native was goofy.

"She hadn't signed yet, so I went and recruited her and talked to her on the phone, and I didn't have any problem talking to her on the phone," Shea-Hilliard said. "But the first time I went and saw her play she knew we couldn't talk to her, but she accidentally dribbled the ball off her foot and came running over to where we were and was like, 'Hi.'"

A transfer from Illinois Central College, Manakova said her plan was always to come to OU but her standardized test scores weren't high enough.

"So they sent me to junior college," Manakova said. "We'll pick you up later, in two years."

Manakova said the main reason she came to OU was because assistant coach Petra Knoche played basketball in the States with the daughter of Manakova's high school coach.

Shea-Hilliard said the common bond between the player and the coach has been helpful.

"When you go over from another country, it helps to know there is one person there who knows you and speaks your language and is going to look out for you," she said.

But Manakova also fits in well with the team as a whole, Shea-Hilliard said.

"They are a good group of kids," she said. "They're very supportive of each other. I think they've done a nice job of embracing the new kids. They look out for each other. In a situation where we have newcomers that are playing a pretty big role, I think everyone's done a nice job of helping them along and looking out for each other."

Manakova is one of the newcomers that has had an immediate impact on the team. She is averaging 10 points and more than five rebounds while playing 23.8 minutes per contest, and also ranks third in the Mid-Con with 24 blocks this season.

Although Shea-Hilliard said potential is an ugly word, she said she has the ability to improve on both sides of the ball.

"She is a nice player," she said. "She could be an awfully, awfully, awfully good player, but it's something

that she has to do on a daily basis in practice and in games, and it's something she has to decide is important to her.

"I'd say right now she is a better offensive player than a defensive player, but there's no reason she can't be better at both."

Forward Sarah Yaksich, senior, and Amanda Batcha, junior, welcome Manakova's height and ability to challenge them in practice.

"It's been a new experience for me, being a senior. Ever since I've been here, I've always been the tallest one on the team," Yaksich, listed at 6-foot-1-inch, said. "So when Petra came in I was like, 'Wow, somebody taller than me, finally.' She's a good challenge everyday in practice. We're glad to have her in the post."

Batcha is happy to have Manakova on the team for other reasons, as well.

"It's really nice, too, because she's so much taller, I don't have to worry about doing the jump balls and losing them every game," the 6-foot tall Batcha said. "Now we can actually win a couple. And she gets to guard the tallest people instead of me."

Manakova said that frees up Batcha.

"Now she can guard the best players and I guard the tallest," she said.

While they push each other in practice to prepare for opponents, the trio does compete against one another.

"We play one-on-one a lot and everybody always wants to win," Batcha said. "We always have to keep track of score and nobody wants to lose."

Both Yaksich and Manakova said Batcha wins more often than them, but Batcha insists it is even.

"Amanda gets those rebounds," Yaksich said. "She snatches them up."

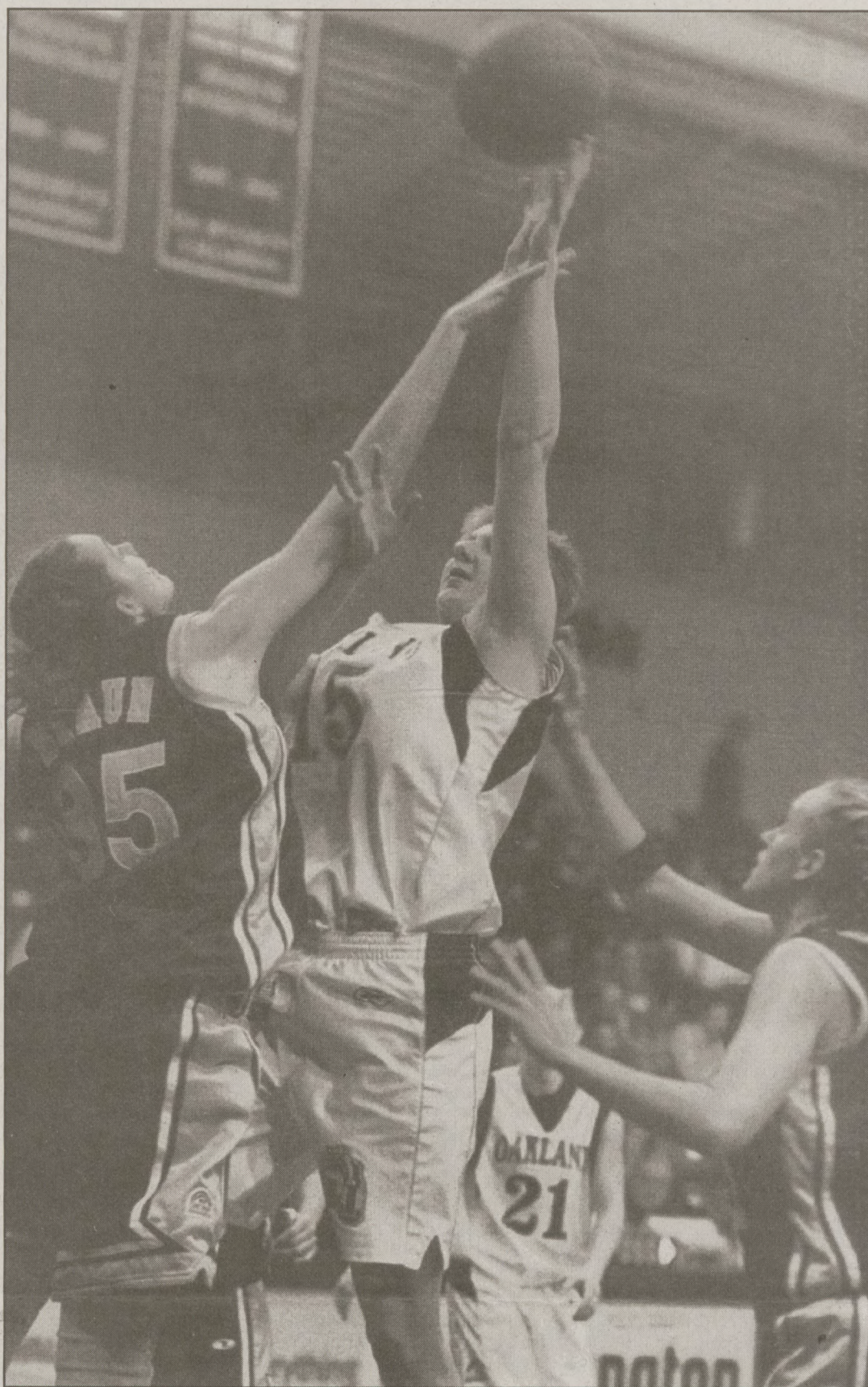
Batcha said the post players have bonded because of shared experience.

"We know what each other is going through, like the different things that the post has to deal with," she said.

Yaksich agreed.

"There's always going to be a special place in my heart (for post players)," she said. "We're a team, I love the guards, too, but post know what we go through. We do kind of have that bond. We know what we do and we have a lot of fun. I'm enjoying every minute of it."

But Manakova said she was worried fun wasn't part of the equation when she first began at OU.



Above: Junior forward Petra Manakova uses her height advantage to outreach her defender while attempting to hit a running floater.

Right: Manakova shoots one of her notorious mid-range jumpers. The junior transfer currently ranks third on the team, averaging 10 points per game.

"First, when I came here, the first practice, everyone had a straight face," Manakova said. "I was like 'What is that, I would like to have some fun.' I am used to laughing at practice. Everybody has to be focused but you have to have some fun."

"But it got better," she said with a sigh of relief.

Even Shea-Hilliard gets in on the fun.

"(Shea-Hilliard) knows that she can make jokes about us and things, so she knows that we are eventually going to start saying them back," Batcha said.

Shea-Hilliard said it's the way girls like to play basketball.

"Girls are different than guys. Girls need to have (fun)," she said. "I tell the

kids all the time, 'Play hard, play smart and we'll have some fun.' You don't want the kids to walk away from their college experience and all they remember is practices. So we try to have a little bit of fun, but not too much."

Manakova said she is enjoying basketball and a few other things beyond the court.

"I can go to Pistons games," she said, naming center Mehmet Okur as her favorite player. "I like the way he plays. He's smart."

Manakova, currently majoring in pre-general studies with a minor in Wellness, Health Promotions and Injury Prevention, said she doesn't have a lot of time between basketball and school, but



does enjoy always having something to do if she wants.

"I like the (dorm's) Caf," she said, running out of the locker room to interrupt an interview with Shea-Hilliard on Manakova.

That's Manakova.

Powerful play snaps streak

BY ANTHONY STACK
THE OAKLAND POST

The OU men's club ice hockey team surrendered its first loss in 22 games to the Michigan State University Spartans, 8-5, ending the Grizzlies' unbeaten streak and eight-game winning streak.

Senior Shaun Zeldes gave the team solid goaltending, but OU couldn't stay out of the penalty box, giving up six of the eight goals on the penalty kill.

The Grizzlies' loss to the Spartans is their first in the Great Midwest Hockey League (GMHL) this season.

In the first period, the Grizzlies opened up the scoring and then took back the lead after MSU tied it up, but they couldn't keep the Spartans from scoring.

At the end of the first peri-

od, the score was tied at two, with senior forward Marc Granger and sophomore forward Will McMahon getting the goals.

Even though the Grizzlies had chances throughout the second period, MSU kept them off the scoreboard and opened up a 3-2 lead.

The third period was suspenseful for OU, as the Spartans scored four goals to its one.

But the Grizzlies regained some life, starting a temporary comeback, scoring once on the power play and once on a converted shorthanded breakaway by McMahon.

That was the end of the short-lived comeback, however, and MSU managed to tally again before the game ended.

"(Coach) Craig (Furstenau) is relieved that the winning streak is over," and that now we don't have



OU men's club hockey works the puck through the neutral zone.

Bob Knoska/File Photo

as much pressure on us," Zeldes said. "He's relieved that we lost now instead of later in the playoffs. Last season, our big losses came later in the season and it's great that it's earlier this season, before the playoffs."

OU's next game is against the University of Michigan

at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Onyx Ice Arena in Rochester.

OU only has three more games remaining before the GMHL playoffs, which the players know is an important tournament.

"A lot is at stake," said Zeldes. "We realize that we

have to win the games in the GMHL playoffs to stay alive, and that's what we're going to do.

"We realize that we're beatable and not a perfect team. I think that we'll bounce right back and start playing great hockey again."

New name, same goals

Formerly known as the Office of Equity, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives continues to service minority students on campus

BY KANIQUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The Office of Equity has a new name, but the goal remains the same: to advocate and provide a home away from home for students of color on campus.

The agency's new title, Center for Multicultural Initiatives (CMI), was brought into play last summer for a few reasons, said Gloria A. Sosa, director of CMI.

Sosa said the need for a name change came about after the office held several focus groups with students, faculty and staff.

"(They) gave input about what the name meant as it stood and then what should be reflected in the name if it was changed," Sosa said. "We also consulted with University Communications and Marketing (C&M) to properly reflect the need of the university within the change."

By collaborating with C&M, conducting research studies and holding the focus groups, a new name

for the Office of Equity was born.

One reason for the change, according to Sosa, was while the word "equity" implies fairness and impartiality, it is now closely associated with money.

Also, Sosa said the name originally paralleled the State of Michigan office housed in Lansing that dealt with equality in education.

"It was the Michigan Office of Equity... but the current name change (Center for Multicultural Initiatives) more closely parallels and fully encompasses what we do," said Sosa.

Since its establishment in 1993, the CMI made a commitment to advancing diversity at OU by increasing the recruitment, retention and graduation of all students, with a particular focus on the underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, according to its Web site.

This group of students includes African Americans, Latinos and Native Americans.

With a plan to help minor-

ity students succeed, CMI offers events and success programs like "CMI After Hours," an interactive program aimed at confronting today's issues that affect students.

Other events include Hispanic Celebration, Cultural Celebration, African American Celebration and a Peer Mentor Program.

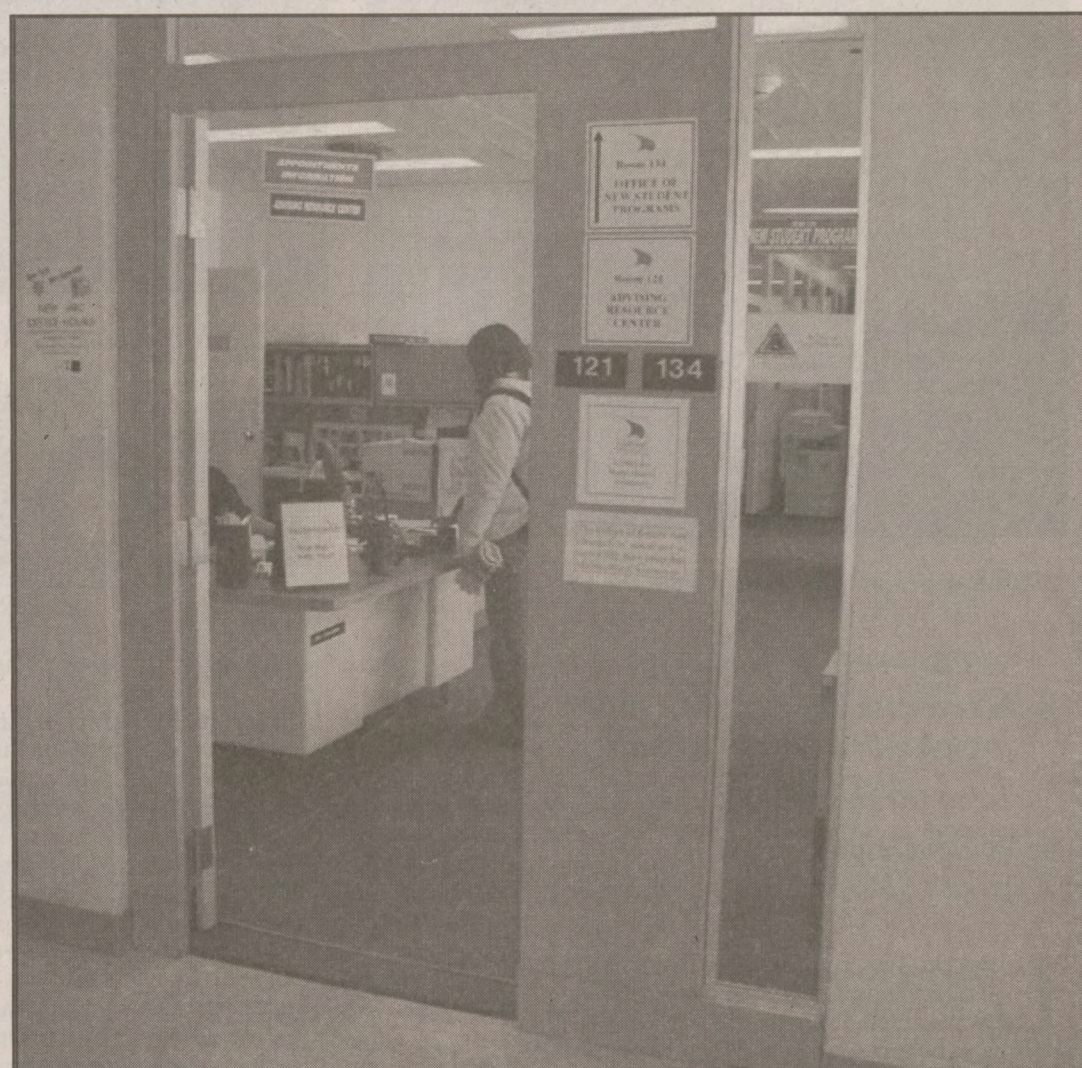
CMI also sponsors the OU Trustee Academic Success Scholarship (OUTAS), the Student Retention Fund Scholarship and the Keeper of the Dream Award.

OUTAS scholar LaToya Hearn, sophomore, frequents the CMI office and said the assistance she receives is invaluable.

"CMI has so much to offer for minority students," Hearn said. "Just this semester, I didn't have the money to purchase my books, and they helped me get the Sharpe Loan."

Hearn meets bi-weekly with Sosa for advising sessions.

"Even if I don't have an appointment to meet with Gloria, she'll change her



Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives offers different activities for students.

schedule just to make time for me," Hearn said. "That right there says enough to show how good CMI is."

Although the name of the office has changed, helping students such as Hearn remains to be the top priority of the CMI, according to Sosa.

"Our objective is to partner with the campus community to promote a diverse student population by connecting students, faculty and staff with diverse pro-

gramming and cultural social experiences for leadership and academic success," said Sosa.

Along with the new name, Sosa said the office has also made it a priority to develop new outreach initiatives such as the "Young Successful Women" workshop, the Student Leaders Forum and the now developing faculty-student lunches.

"Each program focuses on bringing diverse groups

together to cultivate strong bonds and connections," said Sosa. "In the coming year, an even more welcoming environment in the office, as well as another round of focus groups to continue to develop creative and relevant services for students will be introduced."

The CMI office is located at 121 North Foundation Hall and can be contacted at (248) 370-4404.

The face behind the effort

A closer look into the life of Gloria Sosa, director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives

BY VIRGINIE PEROV
SENIOR LIFE WRITER

Like a few notes of Cuban music, director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives (CMI) at OU, Gloria A. Sosa, tries to communicate a cheerful energy to whomever comes in contact with her.

"My goal is to bring positivism to campus and spread it," said Sosa.

Since August 2001, Sosa has been the director of the CMI with a focus on promoting diversity on campus.

She has worked at OU for nine years, starting as a graduate assistant in the Office of Equity while pursuing her masters in counseling.

Sosa is currently working on her Ph.D., also in counseling, and plans to graduate in a year and a half.

Born to Cuban parents who migrated to the United States in 1952, Sosa and her siblings were all born in the U.S. but learned Spanish as their first language.

"When I was a child, I didn't even speak English nor did I know anything about the American culture," Sosa said.

Her goal as director of the CMI is to help faculty, staff and students to understand each other better.

She believes in collaboration throughout campus and in building awareness by involving the exterior community through partnerships.

"We have to provide students with a global understanding of the world,"

said Sosa. "For me, diversity means awareness and inclusion of others."

As a more specific objective for the CMI, Sosa wants to support student advocacy.

"We must assure that students of color have a voice and that this voice is heard on campus," said Sosa. "People tend to think that there is equity in education, but this is a fallacy."

Sosa believes in leading by example and working together.

"I love my job. I have a great position," said Sosa, "but I could not have done it without my supervisor, Glenn McIntosh, who taught me everything about running this place."

Glenn McIntosh is the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

Sosa truly enjoys the diversity of the work she does every day, but said she gets the most gratification out of the students.

"They energize and teach, give hope for the future and make it happen," said Sosa.

The CMI employs 10 to 20 students per year, as student-assistants or peer-mentors.

Senior Lonetta Postell is one of the student-assistants in the CMI office.

"I've been working for Gloria for three years and she's the best," Postell said. "She's always there when you need her, no matter what. She's also down to earth and I've learned a lot from her."

Sosa sometimes wishes the depart-

ment had more money for the scholarships.

"But it's up to me to make it happen," Sosa said.

Funding for the office comes from the Board of Trustees and the Academic Success Fund.

Sosa said each year, CMI draws up a proposal to the Board of Trustees for the finances that assist many students each year.

Scholarships such as the OU Trustee Academic Scholarship (OUTAS), and funding for the Peer Mentoring Program comes out of the Diversity Programming Fund.

On a personal level, Sosa is very proud of being able to play the guitar.

With a few neighbors, she has created a rock band in which she plays the guitar and is the lead singer.

Its name is "The Stretch Mouth." The group rehearses in Sosa's basement for now, but will experience the outdoors this summer by playing at different parties for friends and acquaintances.

Sosa is a strong believer in dreams.

"My dad was a doctor and his dream was to practice medicine in the United States. He realized his dream," said Sosa.

Her own dream is to educate as many people as she can about tolerance and acceptance.

"I want the students to realize their goal," said Sosa. "I want them to make the world the place they want it to be."



Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post

Gloria Sosa is the director of CMI.

AST sisters take on Valentine's Day charity

BY ALEXIS HOSEY
THE OAKLAND POST

Just to make a kid smile, the sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau (A.S.T.) are hosting Philanthropy Night at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 29 in the Fireside Lounge of the OC.

They will be making Valentine's Day cards for the children at Grace Center of Hope in Pontiac.

"Valentine's Day isn't just for the older crowd," said

Jenny Ignatowski, sorority activist. "It's also about putting a smile on a young child's face."

The group will create original Valentine's Day cards and deliver them to the center.

All are welcome to come out and support this event.

Atavia Jones, freshman, said it sounds like a good idea.

"Sure I'd go," Jones said. "I don't know if I'd ever join the sorority, but it would be

fun to make Valentine's Day cards, especially for little kids."

Joanna Wood, senior, feels the same way.

"The (Alpha Sigma) Tau's always seem to be doing something good," Wood said.

Monday, A.S.T. had an ice cream sundae social in the Fireside Lounge titled, "B.Y.O.B." (Bring Your Own Banana).

Another event that the ladies of A.S.T. will host is a "Toga! Toga! Toga!" party at

6:30 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Fireside Lounge.

Some other festivities the sorority has sponsored include "Singled Out," a spin-off of the MTV original game show, and a back-to-school drive to put together backpacks for kindergarten through 12th graders in the Macomb Intermediate School District.

In the future, A.S.T. will host another "Singled Out" game show on campus, and hold a penny drive for the

Michigan Humane Society.

According to Ignatowski, Alpha Sigma Tau was founded in 1899 at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti by Harriet Marx, Helena Rice, Adrice Rice, Eva O'Keefe, May Gephart, Mayene Tracy, Mable Chase and Ruth Dutcher.

The organization is the third oldest educational sorority at OU, and their motto is to be "Active, Self Reliant and Trustworthy."

Currently, there are 15

active sisters and two new members.

Jenny Ignatowski joined A.S.T. her freshman year during formal recruitment and said she wouldn't change it for the world.

"My role in A.S.T. is a strong supporter and activist," Ignatowski said. "I'm always on the go doing stuff for my chapter and stepping up to the plate."

To learn more about the sorority, e-mail Ignatowski at TauLuv21@yahoo.com.



Photo courtesy of www.occ.cc.mi.us
This photograph is entitled "From the passenger's side."



This untitled photograph is an excerpt from the Flowers of Insomnia series.

Photo courtesy of www.occ.cc.mi.us

Rob Kangas

**The artist presents
a retrospective of his work
at the Meadow Brook
Art Gallery**

By VIRGINIE PEROV
SENIOR LIFE WRITER

Last Sunday, the Meadow Brook Art Gallery was filled with over 200 visitors anxious to hear photographer Rob Kangas' presentation of the retrospective of his work.

This year, Kangas is celebrating his 25th year as an exhibiting artist.

His Meadow Brook exhibit is entitled "The Flowers of Insomnia and Other Photographs: a retrospective by Rob Kangas."

Kangas' exhibited work is composed of pieces where the artist plays with double and triple exposure of the same main subject.

His prints are large (22"x44") and panoramic.

"The special thing about Kangas' work is that it communicates his enthusiasm for the spontaneity of going out into the world and making images," said Dick Goody, director of the Meadow Brook Art Gallery.

The 80-minute lecture began with several childhood photographs of the artist, including one in which two-year-old Kangas is captured carrying an oversized Leica camera over his shoulder.

Kangas explained with humor that the vintage camera belonged to his amateur photographer father and represents his first call to photography.

Kangas graduated from the Center for Creative Studies (CCS) in 1980 and from the University of Michigan in 1985.

He started teaching at Oakland Community College in 1987 and has since gained the admiration of students and staff.

In his lecture, Kangas explained that when he graduated from CCS, he did not have enough money to go to graduate school right away.

Kangas then started doing street photography and learned long exposure techniques with his tripod.

"Using a tripod, nobody felt that I was sneaking up on them," Kangas said. "Sometimes people would just jump in the picture."

Kangas always aspired to be different by experimenting with various techniques and subjects, but mostly landscapes.

"I make my own rules and I also break my own rules," Kangas said.

For some time, Kangas was affected with insomnia and decided to go through the slides, representing flowers, his father had taken years before.

"My father had a nice eye for light and negative space," said Kangas "but it was a little cliché and I wanted to find a different way to represent that subject."

Kangas then started capturing images of flowers at night using long exposure techniques and this is how he created his Flowers of Insomnia series.

Kangas' body of work is composed mainly of color photographs and with this too,

Kangas experimented.

"Colors can get a little sweet," he said. "At one point, I wanted something a little more poisonous. It was pretty adventurous to go take pictures at night."

Kangas' lecture was well received and the audience showed its admiration by giving him a standing ovation.

"I really like what he does," said senior Roxy Steva. "It was very nice that he gave us an inside look at his work, kind of a behind the scene type of thing."

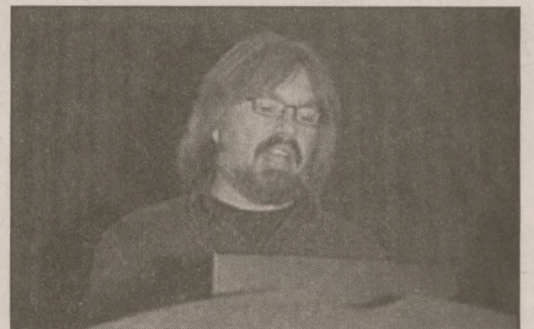


Photo courtesy of www.occ.cc.mi.us
Rob Kangas' lecture meets great success.

"The Da Vinci Code" mixes fiction and controversy: a hit at Catholic Church

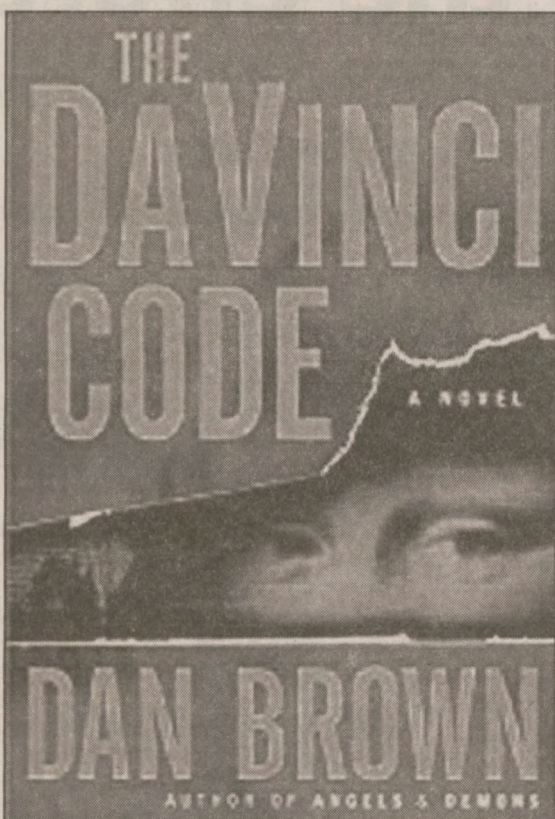


Photo courtesy of www.allbookstores.com
Brown's bestseller is raising controversy.

By SARA WEIGOLD
THE OAKLAND POST

After 43 weeks on the New York Times Bestseller list, "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown has firmly placed itself in the upper echelons of fiction.

"The Da Vinci Code" is a deeply involved, thoroughly researched and intricately woven tale that takes the reader on a fast-paced dash through Paris, London and Rome.

It is overflowing with facts about the symbolism behind many of today's most well known works of art, movies and people, by exploring the potential explanations of Mona Lisa's knowing smile and the man behind it; Leonardo Da Vinci.

This novel provides insight into architecture, nature, science and the divine proportion, physiology, femininity and history, such as the origins of Friday the 13th as a bad omen and the cross as a religious

symbol.

"The Da Vinci Code" presents you the world as a series of intensely interconnected events.

The story begins in Paris, where a curator of the Louvre is murdered for a secret he and three other members of a secret society have sworn to keep.

It isn't the murder that is the novelty, but the victim's actions as he is dying.

Before succumbing to death, he creates a message that draws Sophie Neveu, a cryptologist, and Robert Langdon, a religious symbolologist from Harvard, into a complex hunt for an ancient secret that could completely alter society.

Perhaps the reason "The Da Vinci Code" has enjoyed such a long run on the best seller list is because it explores the mystery behind the history of one of the world's largest corporations: the Catholic Church.

It is an unconventional, controversial interpretation of established religion and pur-

ports that "the early Christian church conned the world by propagating lies that devalued the female and tipped the scales in favor of the masculine."

This book also pokes fun at the best selling book of all time by saying "the Bible did not arrive by fax from Heaven."

"The Da Vinci Code" is interesting as well as entertaining book, but the ending is anticlimactic and a little disappointing.

While enjoying this book, keep in mind that although it is filled with fascinating facts, collectively, it is a work of fiction.

Other books by Dan Brown:

Digital Fortress: A technological thriller that delves into the super secretive National Security Agency and takes you on a fierce campaign to save the country.

Deception Point: A fast-paced perilous trek across the virtual-

ly uncharted, barren territory of the deep Arctic Circle that eloquently blends science and politics.

Angels and Demons: A riveting international tale that exposes a powerful secret society and introduces Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon.

For more information about the author, visit www.danbrown.com



"Educated Guess" finally out

**Difranco's new
release keeps its
promises and
stays away from
mainstream
influence**

By ANDREW DUPONT
THE OAKLAND POST

It's been more than 12 years since Ani Difranco has released a solo album, but her latest project, "Educated Guess," takes the idea of going solo to an extreme.

Not only does she provide the lead and backup vocals, Difranco plays every instrument, and recorded and mixed the entire album herself.

According to the album press release, all tracks were recorded on vintage reel-to-reel eight track recorders, either in Difranco's

home studio or a shack near New Orleans.

The result is a rustic sounding collection that barely falls into the category of studio albums.

Most of the songs have the same folksy sound as Difranco's previous albums and do not stand out.

However, the last track, entitled "Bubble," will make the most casual listener stop and turn up their stereo.

Dissonance between the syncopated Drop-D acoustic guitar and Difranco's off key head voice gives the song something listeners can't hear on MTV.

In addition to her songs, Difranco also reads several of her original poems on the album.

A few more poems are included in the CD insert along with three original works of art by Difranco.

On the down side, the album does have several drawbacks.

The poor sound quality is distracting, and while Difranco purposely left background noise like falling rain or a nearby train on the finished tracks, listeners may find it to be an annoying disturbance.

The poem tracks become awkward breaks in the rhythm of the album as well.

While fans of Difranco will enjoy this album, it probably won't attract any new ones.

Regardless, Difranco has never appeared to be an artist that cares about changing her style to attract new fans.

In 1997, Difranco wrote to the editor of "Ms" magazine, saying

"I mourn the co-modification and homogenization of music by the music industry, and I fear the

manufacture of consent by the corporately-controlled media. Last thing I want to do is feed the machine."

Difranco has a reputation for being independent and wanting creative control over her album content.

In 1990, she started Righteous Babe Records, through which she has released 16 of her 21 albums, including "Educated Guess."

By keeping her albums free of mainstream industry influence, Difranco has kept her messages clear.

Whether it's self-reliance, feminism, or patriotism, Difranco makes sure what you hear is



Photo courtesy of Righteous Babe Records

Ani Difranco's new CD stays faithful to the artist's style and will to remain apart.

exactly what she intends.

At a time where "musicians" who are mass-produced dominate the billboard charts, it is refreshing to see some artists actually mean it when they say, "it's all about the music."





Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post
Lucy VandePutte is described as a true leader.

Lucy VandePutte

As a student leader, VandePutte advocates involvement on campus

By KANIQUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Lucy VandePutte, junior, is a busy woman. She has been identified as one of OU's top student leaders by a few fellow classmates, and enjoys every minute of it.

"I've had some great experiences being involved in so many organizations at OU," VandePutte said, "and I'm always looking for different ways to be involved on campus."

The 20-year-old Ortonville native is currently president of Collegiate Panhellenic (CPH), the governing body of CPH sororities on campus.

VandePutte also presided over Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority last year.

She has been affiliated with the sorority since her freshman year, and was an OGL (orientation group leader) last summer.

VandePutte is currently a member of the OU Leadership Institute, a group of student leaders brought together to help educate future student leaders with the knowledge they have gained at OU, and a peer leader for the freshman success "Connection Program."

She also is a leadership guide for "Discovery yOU," a mentoring program on campus and a resident assistant (RA) in Hamlin Hall.

During rare occasions of spare time, VandePutte exercises in the Rec. Center, and is working towards becoming a certified

personal trainer.

"She's smart, she's talented, she's just a great student," said Stefen J. Welch, fellow member of the OU Leadership Institute. "Lucy is one of those students who actually exemplifies the traits of a true leader."

Majoring in Wellness Health Promotion and Injury Prevention (WHP), VandePutte started the WHP Society two years ago, an organization created with a cardiovascular fitness challenge.

Any student majoring in WHP can join.

Of all the activities, VandePutte said being a member of the OU Leadership Institute is one of her favorites.

The group meets once a month on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

"Each time, we learn something new about the different schools OU has," VandePutte said. "It's a really good experience, and it allows us to gain knowledge in fields other than those we are studying."

Some examples are the School of Arts and Sciences, and the school of Business and Engineering.

VandePutte said she's always been heavily involved, and to future students, she offers a little advice:

"Take a look at all the different organization around campus and try to find something that will help you succeed," VandePutte said. "This will help you develop your own leadership skills, and not just as a student, but in life period."



THE LOW DOWN

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Anxiety Screening Day will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the OC.

Thursday, Jan. 29

A Diversity Career Fair will be held from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the OC Banquet Room.

The Career Prep Month 2004 will hold a panel discussion on the topic of Discrimination in Employment from 12-1 p.m. in the OC Fireside Lounge.

Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc. will present "Sex and Snacks," a discussion on Aids, STDs and prevention.

Join Alumni and friends of the DSO for "An Evening with Regina Carter" at 5:30 p.m. at the Max M. Fisher Music Center.

There will be a free reception and sneak preview of the Thoroughly Modern Tillie tour from 7-9 p.m. at the Meadow Brook Hall.

Friday, Jan. 30

There will be an Economics Seminar at 3:30 p.m., 232 Elliot Hall. The topic of the discussion will be "Teaching Games for the Classroom."

Career Prep Month 2004 will host mock behavioral interviews from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in the OC Oakland Room.

Saturday, Jan. 31

The Meadow Brook Hall ice skating rink will be open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Residence Halls Programming will host Saturday Night Sounds at 8 p.m. in Vandenberg Dining Center. The performer will be Tamara Bedricky. The show is free and open to everyone.

Gospel Choir of OU will perform during College Night 2004 at 6 p.m. (sharp!) in the OC Ballroom. The event is free.

Sunday, Feb. 1

The Meadow Brook Hall ice skating rink will be open from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 2

A theme discussion on Educational Pathways of Black-Americans will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the OC Gold Rooms.

The Department of Chemistry will host the Annual Sodium Demonstration from 8-9:07 a.m. in 195 Hannah Hall.

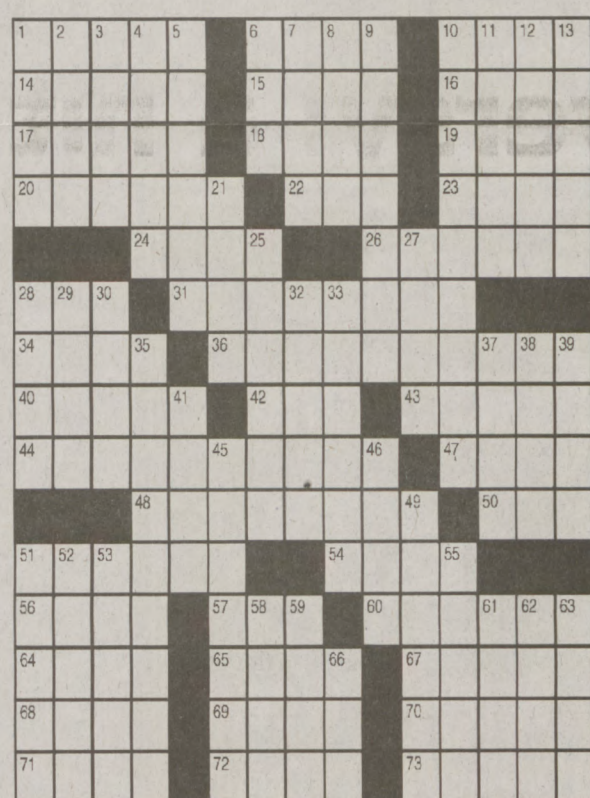
Tuesday, Feb. 3

Cooley Law School will host a mock trial of the historic case "Brown vs. The Board of Education" at 5 p.m. in the OC Banquet Room.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Decrees
6 Harrow blade
10 Play parts
14 Acquired family member
15 Redolence
16 _ mein
17 Frighten
18 Brief note
19 Hack
20 Samples
22 Ross or Red
23 "Exodus" writer
24 Petty quarrel
26 Old-time roofing material
28 Low mil. letters
31 More drowsy
34 Be a bookworm
36 Solid ground
40 Fervent
42 Barcelona aunt
43 Lake by Reno
44 U.S. leaders
47 Shakespearean king
48 Supervises
50 Rock composer Brian
51 Hay fever trigger
54 Blackthorn
56 Mongolia's place
57 Scottish cap
60 Liquid cosmetic
64 Gasp
65 PC picture
67 Pang
68 "A Death in the Family" author
69 Oxford or brogue
70 Dilapidated cars
71 Give temporarily
72 Examination
73 Physicist Mach

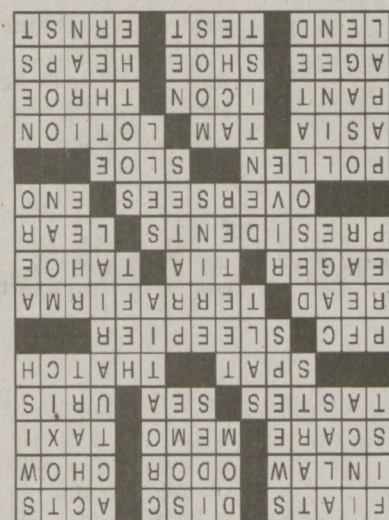
DOWN
1 Pugilist's weapon
2 Early Peruvian
3 Lamentor's lament
4 Small pies
5 Wields a broom
6 Actor DeLuise
7 Fateful day
8 Unspecified amount



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01/28/04

Solutions



46 Find a buyer
49 Placate
51 Of the Vatican
52 Missouri feeder
53 Type of closet
55 Old anesthetic
58 Pine
59 Bovine bellows
61 Persia, now
62 Butterfingers' exclamation
63 Brooding place
66 Fisherman's profit?

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) _ Today is an 8 _ You still have to work, but with any luck, you will not need to spend all of your time on the job. Delegate as much work as you can so that you have more time for games.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) _ Today is a 6 _ To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven. You have had a time for quick action, now take this

excuse to rest. Get back to basics and relax.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) _ Today is a 7 _ The most dangerous time is almost past. From here on, things look pretty good. You will now be in the mood to search out the best bargains. Nothing wrong with that.

one way or the other. Schedule some relaxation time with your friends. Entertain them with this latest story. Make them promise not to tell.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) _ Today is an 8 _ You will soon get the chance to report to the people in command. You will have to explain what you have done and accept responsibility, whether that means taking the credit or the blame.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) _ Today is a 7 _ Once the challenge has been met and mastered, you will feel good about yourself. If you have not reached that level yet, do not worry. Odds are good that you will.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) _ Today is a 6 _ You love to be swept away by love. Who does not? But be practical. You need to decide how much you can afford before you spend more than you have.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) _ Today is an 8 _ Part of your job now is to teach somebody else how to do your job. They will not have the same level of proficiency, of course. That is the idea, though _ get someone who can do the job even better.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) _ Today is a 7 _ After the vision comes all the hard work _ both the old tasks and the new ones you are inventing. Some of it requires improvisation.

HOROSCOPE

By LINDA C. BLACK
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Today's Birthday (Jan. 28). Wrap up the material you've discovered and take it back to the lab. The coming year is partly about digging but mostly about sorting and sifting. You do not even know what you have yet, so this certainly will not be boring.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) _ Today is a 7 _ Toss out the anchor, put on the brakes, or do whatever you must do to bring yourself back to reality. Then, when your craft is secured, tally up your winnings.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) _ Today is an 8 _ Things should start getting noticeably better pretty soon. You still cannot have everything you want, but you are getting more decisive. You can weed out the unnecessary and go for what is most important.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) _ Today is a 6 _ It may take a little while to come down from your recent adrenaline rush. If you can, find yourself a private place where you can hide out for a while.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) _ Today is a 7 _ The worst of it will soon be over, and your fate will be decided

The
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VICTORY

Continued from B1

the play of senior guard Mike Helms, who seemed to be everywhere.

Helms lead OU with 29 points, eight rebounds and a season-high five assists. He also had no turnovers.

"We finally got over that hump," said Helms. "Now we just have to continue to keep climbing. There is still a long way to the top."

Junior guard DeMarcus Ishmeal was also a big part of the Grizzlies' win. Ishmeal had a career-high 12 points, all in the second half.

Kampe was excited about the play of Ishmeal and the way he improved the way his teammates.

"If Ishmeal can continue to play at that level, it would really help our team because we would have a point presence," said Kampe. "I think more than anything what Ish did is, if you look at Mike Helms' stats, you see what Mike Helms could be if we had a true point guard."

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OU's great play in Saturday night's win could be credited to an unusual practice on Friday, according to coach Kampe.

"We didn't prepare like we usually do. We had some fun at practice," said Kampe. "We played a game where they could only shoot left-handed. It was interesting to see some of the shots that were taken. There was a lot of laughter out there, and boy we needed that."

Marshall finished the game with 19 points and led OU with three blocks. Junior forward Courtney Scott had six points and seven rebounds.

OU will look to win its second straight game at 8:05 p.m. Thursday at Valparaiso University.

OU's next game will be at noon Saturday against Chicago State University at home. The game's time was pushed forward from 6 p.m. because the contest will be aired on Fox Sports Net.

SWIM

Continued from B1

Sullivan set a pool record in the men's 50-yard freestyle, swimming a 20.36. He also won the 100-yard freestyle and the men's 100-yard butterfly with times of 45.56 and 50.38, respectively.

Ma'te' took two individual titles. With a time of 2:07.45, he defeated his competition in the men's 200-yard breaststroke and also took the men's 100-yard breaststroke swimming a 55.75.

Freshman Nick McCollum swam a 1:44.60 to capture a win in the men's 200-yard freestyle.

On the women's side, freshman Jenna DeJonge, junior Karoline Freytag, sophomore Line Jensen and senior Oksana Strelets won the women's 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:36.35, a new pool record.

Senior Tanya Korniyenko won three individual titles and set two pool records. She won the women's 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:06.24. She also captured the

title in the women's 100-yard butterfly (57.25) and the women's 200-yard individual medley (2:10.17).

Korniyenko also has a strong chance of qualifying for the NCAA Championships in the 200-yard butterfly, with a conference record time of 1:59.41 at the Mid-Con Championships. She also holds the conference record in the 100-yard butterfly, 54.57, also set at the Mid-Con Championships.

In the women's 50-yard freestyle and the women's 100-yard free Strelets dominated with times of 23.86 and 52.65, respectively.

Hovland said Strelets is swimming her fastest in-season times of her career, and if she continues to have strong performances could return to the NCAA Championships. She qualified for the championships her sophomore year.

Jensen won the women's 200-yard freestyle with a time of

1:55.36 and freshman Amanda Burwell took the women's 200-yard backstroke (2:09.58)

In diving, the women took 1-2-3 on both the one-meter and three-meter boards. Sophomore Linda Keskey took top spot on both boards with scores of 235.13 and 278.03, respectively. Freshman Liz Herrington and sophomore Andrea Endres received second and third.

For the men, freshman John VanPortfleet captured first on both boards with scores of 230.03 and 141.15 points, while sophomore Rafael Fauza, received second.

By the end of the meet, the Grizzlies broke five pool records and took 13 individual titles

Their next meet is at 4 p.m. Friday against St. Bonaventure at home in the OU Aquatics Center. Both squads then take on Michigan State University at 1 p.m. Saturday in East Lansing.

OU

Continued from B1

Scott excited Grizzly fans and gave OU a 28-27 lead on a two-handed slam with less than 3:00 remaining in the first half. That was OU's final basket of the half as Eagles responded with six straight points, giving them a 33-28 half time lead.

The Grizzlies began the second half sluggishly until senior guard Mike Helms leaped and blocked an ORU shot into the stands, which excited OU's crowd and team bench.

Helms wasn't through with spectacular plays for the night. More than five minutes into the half, Helms caught a backwards two-handed alley-oop from sophomore guard Pierre Dukes.

Although Helms finished the

game with 18 points, Scott with 17 and nine rebounds and Marshall rounded out the double-digit scorers posting 15, it was not enough for a Grizzly win.

Tutt drained a floater with 3.5 seconds remaining to give his team the win.

"How many times can a shot go in with less than four seconds to go in a game," Kampe said. "It's got to be some kind of record. We battled. We did the right things. We did what we had to do, and it just didn't work."

Helms hoisted a desperate three-pointer as time expired but came up short. The loss was the fifth of the last six where the deciding points were scored with

less than four seconds remaining.

Marshall's double-digit point total was in strong contrast to his five-point outing against Centenary last weekend. Kampe said the injured swingman looks like he is healing slowing but surely.

"I thought he played very well," Kampe said. "It was the first time in a long time that I've seen him play (well). Still, defensively, he's dragging the leg a little bit out there, but offensively, he did some really good things."

OU took on the University of Missouri-Kansas City Saturday evening in the O'rena.

Spring Break in Panama City Beach, Florida!

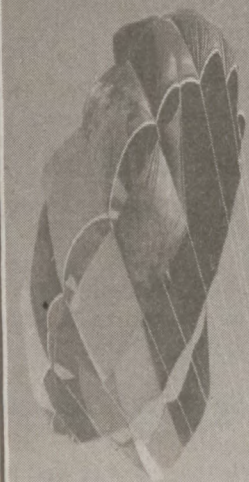
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