

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

January 14, 2009

Volume 35, Number 15

FULLY CHARGED

AUTOMAKERS PLUG
INTO ECO-FRIENDLY
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Following monthlong
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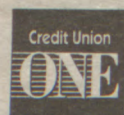
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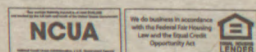
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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Get Posted!

Where do your classmates commute from? What time does your professor go to bed? Find answers to these questions and more daily as The Oakland Post begins to blog.

This week on
oaklandpostonline.com.



Perspectives page 4

A reader sends in her dissenting opinion to last week's column about women's roles in love and relationships.



Campus page 6

OU and Beaumont team up on stem cell research, advances offer hope on a myriad of diseases.



you page 10

Find out why a faculty member lives a drug and alcohol free lifestyle.



Local page 12

The North American International Auto Show joins the green effort with stylish, eco-friendly vehicles among old favorites.



The Mix page 14

Original vs. remake: OU students talk about their favorite cover songs and cover songs that we all could have gone without.



Sports page 16

Catch an exclusive glimpse at Larry Wright, the St. John's transfer who could be a new spark for OU men's basketball.



MOUTHING OFF page 20

Assuming the role of a government agent proves too much for Oakland Post senior reporter Rory McCarty.



the Scene page 21

With award season upon us, The Oakland Post checks out the winners, the losers and other celebrities at Golden Globes.



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Senator Hillary Clinton calls for diplomacy at Secretary of State confirmation hearing.

Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

January 14, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

Auto pilot down to the auto show

After dropping thousands of dollars on textbooks and tuition, possibly the last thing that you want to do is drive your tin can to Detroit and pay 12 bucks for a ticket to the 2009 North American International Auto Show.

The loan requested by the auto industry late last year seems more superfluous than ever in the wake of Joe College's latest economic troubles. And their separate-corporate-jets transportation seems sickening as we drive through the latest blinding snowstorm.

With that in mind, The Oakland Post isn't requesting that you go to the auto show because you want to. We want you to go because you have to.

Regardless of whether we're happy to swallow \$34 billion in bridge loans to the Big Three to pay for mistakes their own management made, we're not walking away empty-handed.

American automakers will be using the auto show as an opportunity to show consumers and the rest of the industry that they can compete in the global market. There will also be more breathing room on the showroom room floor as Japanese automakers such as Nissan, Mitsubishi and Suzuki have all opted out of the NAIAS. But Chinese automakers, like BYD, will have a greater presence than before.

Maybe the global competition is finally catching up with top executives, but American automakers seem to be making an effort to fulfill consumer demand for environmentally-friendly rides.

In addition to supporting emerging automotive technologies, attending the NAIAS is also an endorsement of for the men and women that still have jobs in the American auto industry.

Auto industry layoffs contributed to the soaring national unemployment rate that hit 7.2 percent last month. According to the Labor Department, the number of

manufacturing jobs was reduced to less than 13 million and the loss of 149,000 factory jobs helped contribute to the worst unemployment rate since 1945. The future of the American manufacturing industry also looks grim and it's being held on to by a thread by American auto companies.

The automakers need to see that their efforts to produce eco-friendly vehicles aren't fruitless and that they are supported. Many of the zero emissions cars shown are still just concepts, and may never make production if there isn't a positive response from the public.

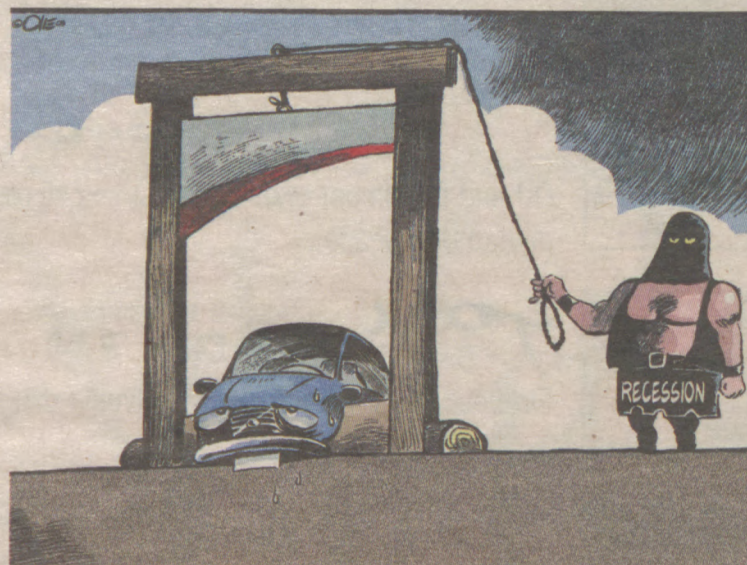
It isn't just the concept cars that are depending on us for a future, it's the workers too. The direction that automakers take after the auto show could give laid off employees the hope of someday getting their jobs back.

Finally, attending the NAIAS is an endorsement of Detroit as the "Motor City." Regardless of who we want to be or who we wish we were, the fact remains that motor oil has figuratively powered our hometown for almost a century. Nevermind that the auto companies would benefit by your ticket dollars, consider the models, caterers, flooring and display companies whose paychecks are kept above water thanks to the NAIAS.

For most of us, winter in Detroit is spent in some variation of a bathtub for six months, whining about melancholia and trying to work up the motivation to dig our cars out of the snow drift. The NAIAS is the one constant in Detroit during winter that is a positive influence.

Nobody's going to expect that you buy the cars that will be on display. After all, few short of the auto companies' CEOs can afford many of them.

However, we need to show the American auto companies that we are capable of putting our money where our mouths are in demanding our economy back. Our pride back.



OLLE JOHANSSON/Cagle Cartoons

What do you think? Have a news tip? Send your comments to The Oakland Post or stop in the office, 61 Oakland Center.

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

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- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

A rebuttal: No such thing as "just" a housewife

Katie Wolf
Guest Columnist



I have a serious problem with last week's Perspectives column. Although I think Amanda Meade meant well, she did more harm than good. "Yet, with all the freedoms that women are now entitled to, there are still some women who dream of being housewives."

Disdain is dripping from her words. What is so wrong with being a housewife? The women's movement was meant to give women the right to choose how they would spend their lives, not condemn them for their choices. The women's movement was meant to open doors to all possibilities — but why does that mean we have to close the door to the possibility of being a housewife? Why are we criticizing women for taking advantage of the freedom to do what they want?

Here's a reminder: Being "just" a housewife is hard work. It is a gross misinterpretation if society thinks that the role of a housewife is easy. There is the standard cooking, cleaning and laundry, which can take up most of the day. There's getting the children ready for school, helping them with their homework and vol-

unteering at their schools. There's driving the children to and from basketball practice, piano lessons and the occasional playdate — and that's only after they're old enough. Until a child is old enough to go to school, he or she needs to be under constant supervision.

A housewife is a woman that contributes just as much as her husband does. A relationship should be an equal partnership. Both people involved should bring something to the table, and a housewife brings more than dinner. On the other side of the same coin, a husband brings more than a paycheck.

I agree when Meade said that a woman should not depend solely on a man. However I think it would have been better to say that one individual should not depend on another. Self-reliance is important no matter what gender a person is. A woman's plans can be based on whatever she wants them to be — as long as she takes into account that plans can change (and often do).

It would be more realistic to criticize a woman for putting too much stock in one plan — whether it be a family or a career. A woman is naive to believe that life is a fairy tale and everything turns out perfectly. A woman is brave to strive for her dreams. It is a sad day when we look down on a woman for choosing to devote her life to her children.

"A relationship should be an equal partnership. Both people involved should bring something to the table, and a housewife brings more than dinner."

It is also a sad day when we neglect to examine situations outside the nuclear family consisting of a man, woman and their children. There are single mothers. There are lesbian and gay couples. There are stay-at-home fathers. There are single fathers. It is impor-

tant to remember that the world is changing.

Consider the fathers. They deserve a little credit. Instead of painting them as obsolete we should be giving them a break. In today's world, no matter what freedoms and equalities women have accomplished, let's face it: there is still an extreme amount of pressure upon the men of the world to be the provider.

Not all men are singing along to the lyrics of songs that depict women as sexual objects. But maybe it's time to cut down on the "I Am Woman, Hear Me Roar." If we really want equality we should be giving credit where credit is due — for both women and men.

Women need to stop being judged for their choices, and instead be celebrated. Women can find happiness in their careers as police officers and nurses. Women can find happiness in the joys of motherhood and being a wife. Or, they can find it in doing both, or neither. A woman does need to look within herself to find happiness. It doesn't really matter how she finds it though. It's just important that she does.

STUDENT LIFE WEEKLY

By Cathy Berrahou
Financial Aid

HOT TOPIC



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By now, you may have seen, heard, or read about Oakland University's dedication to help you explore every financial opportunity available to fund your college education.

Today, more than 60 percent of OU students are attending with the help of financial assistance totaling more than \$87 million. This includes federal, state, institutional and external resources.

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- * Read your award notification carefully for additional document requirements.

- * Send documents to the Financial Aid Office immediately upon request.

- * If you have questions, ask the Financial Aid Office for help.

Don't miss out on funding opportunities. Following these steps will help you find the best solution for keeping your OU education affordable. Remember, you can afford this!

For further assistance contact the Financial Aid Office at 120 North Foundation Hall, 248-370-2550, or finaid@oakland.edu.

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING STUDENT AWARDS:

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Nominees for the 2009 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in Winter 2009 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2008.

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 of a 3.5 or higher GPA.

HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

Nominees must be graduating in Winter 2009 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2008.

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 community.

A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required.

Nomination forms are available online at www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/ under "Scholarships and Awards" or at 144 Oakland Center. Call 370-3352 for more information. Deadline for both awards is Monday, February 2, 2009.

Forging ahead with stem cell research

OU/Beaumont Hospital's collaboration to benefit from Prop 2 passage

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Campus Editor

Three Oakland University professors, with the help of researchers from Beaumont Hospitals, may be close to tapping the benefits of stem cells while avoiding this controversy.

Human embryonic stem cell research is controversial in the United States because human embryos are destroyed in the process. At the same time, many scientists claim that human embryonic stem cell research has the most potential to cure diseases.

Rasul Chaudhry Ph. D, a professor of molecular biology at OU, said that an ongoing research project has been able to take umbilical cord blood cells and turn them into isolated cells that look primitively similar to embryonic stem cells. He said this is advantageous because they were able to do this with adult cells and no destruction of embryos was necessary.

The project is funded by OU and Beaumont Hospitals.

Working with Chaudhry on this project are Dr. Sumi Dinda and Dr. Anne Mitchell from OU, with Dr. Donald Taylor and Dr. Joseph Love from Beaumont Hospitals.

Chaudhry said the potential benefits from this finding are significant.

"This could be applied to many health uses and cure diseases," he said.

He said they were close to being done with the research, and hoped to have the findings published in a scientific journal soon, but he did not give a date.

"Our research is never over," he said. "Even when [the findings] are published, we still go on."

Other stem cell research at OU

Research based on stem cells started at OU in 2002. Chaudhry said it first started with mouse embryonic stem cells, and gradually moved into human stem cells.

Some of the OU-based research published since then could potentially cure

blindness, Alzheimer's Disease and Parkinson's Disease and regrow bones.

Other than professors in the department of biological sciences, others collaborating on these research projects include faculty members from the school of health sciences, school of nursing and the Eye Research Institute.

Scientists from Beaumont Hospitals and Providence Hospital also collaborated on the research projects. These institutions also helped fund the research, along with OU.

One ongoing research project by OU's Department of Biological Sciences and Beaumont Hospitals could potentially restore sight to the blind.

The project started 3-4 years ago, Chaudhry said, and is still ongoing.

For this, they injected neural derivatives of stem cells into defective eyes of mice models. Chaudhry said they were able to successfully regenerate neural tissues in the mice models.

Another research project done could potentially lead to regrow brittle bones of humans.

Chaudhry said they injected needles and made holes in the bones of rabbits, and by treating them with stem cells, were able to regenerate bone disks. He said they plan to do human trials soon.

"This can lead to helping old people whose bones are brittle," he said.

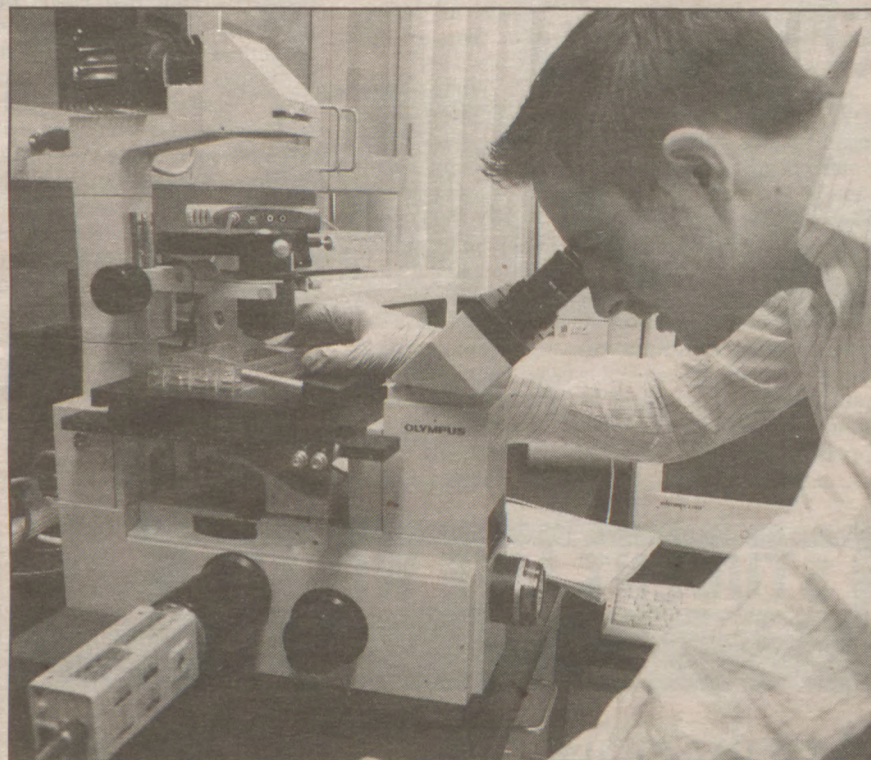
An upcoming research project that is also a collaboration between OU and Beaumont Hospitals is one that would try to do nerve regeneration with stem

cells. A potential practical benefit of this is curing incontinence, Chaudhry said.

Last year, OU and Beaumont Hospitals sponsored a public not-for-profit cord blood bank.

This would store consenting people's cord blood for free, whereas private blood banks charge money, and the people can use their blood if they need it future, to treat diseases like blood cancer.

One catch is that the cord blood would be used for research at OU and Beaumont Hospitals. Chaudhry said the stored blood helps in his research.



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post
Dennis Churchill, an undergraduate student and a lab assistant, looks at cells through a microscope.

Recent change in law

The state of Michigan voted in November to pass Proposal 2, which now allows human embryonic stem cell research in Michigan. The law allows embryos, the ones that would otherwise be thrown out by fertility clinics, to be used instead for research.

Chaudhry said that the new law could benefit stem cell research at OU.

"Although right now the most promising research we're doing is with cord blood cells, this [law change] can help us lead to more funding," he said.

Dr. Bradley Roth, an OU professor who was recently appointed the director of OU's Biomedical Research Center, agreed. He said it would provide scientists with additional sources of funding.

Chaudhry said there is another benefit.

Embryos are used to create stem cell lines. Before, researchers in Michigan could only use already-created stem cell lines approved by President George W.

Bush, and not grow any new ones.

Chaudhry said that if a stem cell line is found to be unusable, they can now isolate new stem cell lines from the embryos in the fertility clinics, something they were unable to do so before because of Michigan laws.

Students assist in research

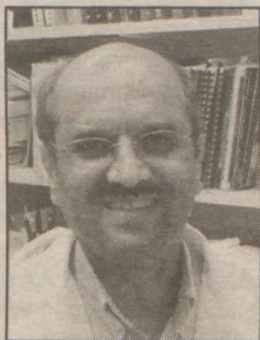
There are several undergraduate OU students assisting Chaudhry and others with their research.

"They do the bulk of the work," Chaudhry said of the student assistants.

Dennis Churchill, senior biology major, and Jackie Craite, freshman psychology major, are two of the student assistants and said their experience is rewarding.

Churchill said they do things like isolating cell lines and feeding cell cultures.

"It's demanding to be here every day to take care of the cells," he said. "They need to be fed, or they'll differentiate too soon."



Chaudhry

Student sues Oakland University

No decision made by court on Micah Fialka-Feldman's case yet

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

Micah Fialka-Feldman's campaign to be allowed to live in a campus residence could drag on for years to come.

Fialka-Feldman showed up with his lawyers at Eastern District Federal Court Tuesday, Jan. 13, hoping that the court would approve an injunction he filed, which would allow him to live on campus while his case against the Oakland University board of trustees goes through the judicial process.

The hearing ended with Judge Patrick J. Duggan not ruling for or against the motion, saying he would "take the matter under advisement."

Fialka-Feldman's lawyer, Chris Davis said he expects a decision in the motion to be made within a few weeks, and regardless of the outcome, the case will not go to trial for about a year.

Fialka-Feldman, who has a mild cognitive disability that makes reading and other things difficult, takes classes at OU through the OPTIONS program. He is not permitted to live on campus because he was not admitted to OU through the traditional admissions process.

Fialka-Feldman currently uses the public transit system to get to and from OU everyday and said it is important to

him to get into the dormitories as soon as possible because of the driving conditions this time of year.

"It's just really hard waiting for the buses during the winter," Fialka-Feldman said. "I think the judge will rule in my favor, because I think he knows I am a student."

Davis argued in front of Duggan that OU had violated the United States Fair Housing Act, and the only reason Fialka-Feldman was not being given equal access to fair housing was because of his disability.

"We are asking for a reasonable accommodation that would not create any added undue burdens on the university," Davis argued. "Mr. Fialka-Feldman pays full tuition and takes a full course load, and yet he will not have an equal opportunity because of his disability."

Robert Boonin, the lawyer arguing on behalf of the board of trustees, said there is no way of knowing that the only reason Fialka-Feldman is not permitted to live on campus is his disability, and that making an exception for him would set a bad precedent.

"Mr. Fialka-Feldman is asking that the core academic requirements of all the other students living on campus not be applied to him," Boonin said. "If you just start waiving requirements, there is no

telling where it might lead."

Boonin also argued that Fialka-Feldman is "asking the court to tell OU to redefine who its students are."

Andrew Bashi, a friend and supporter of Fialka-Feldman said Fialka-Feldman is indeed asking OU to redefine what a student is, and that is not a bad thing.

"That's the strength of his entire case," Bashi said. "He should be applauded for raising this question. What is a student? Is a student just someone who gets a degree, takes a certain number of credits? I just refuse to believe that."

Fialka-Feldman said he has been under a considerable amount of pressure since he raised the issue at a board of trustees meeting in September, but he is committed to seeing the case through to its conclusion.

"Sometimes I think I want to stop doing it, but if I stop, nothing will change at Oakland," Fialka-Feldman said. "It is tiring and hard."



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post
Micah Fialka-Feldman has attended OU classes since 2003 and has been petitioning to live on campus since fall 2007.



For past coverage of this case, visit
www.oaklandpostonline.com

New director plans to get more research funding

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

After three years without a leader, Oakland University's Center for Biomedical Research now has a director, and the result could be more research opportunities for students. Dr. Bradley Roth, a physics professor at OU, was recently appointed to the position.

Roth fills the position left vacant by Denis Callewaert, who still remains on the OU faculty as a chemistry professor.

Roth said one of his main priorities on his new job will be to develop a more efficient method of distributing money to faculty researchers.

"My main goal right now is to take the money we have and use it in the best way possible to get as much external funding as we can," Roth said. "When we didn't have a leader, the money didn't go through a peer review system to decide who was doing the best research ... That is something I would like to re-establish."

Kathy Moore, the associate dean of the College of Arts of Sciences, said that Roth's years of contributions to the CBR, along with his reputation as a mentor, made

him the ideal first choice to fill the position.

"There wasn't a posted position. This job is appointed," Moore said. "Dr. Roth came with the appropriate skills to administer and run a center. He was certainly the consensus candidate."

Roth, who has a doctorate from Vanderbilt University, said that even without centralized leadership OU faculty members have done research that is impressive given the program's limitations.

"We have people working on cancer. We have people working on radiation damage. One of the people here in the physics department works on cartilage and trying to understand arthritis," Roth said. "There's just a lot of research going on ... a lot of cutting edge research."

Roth also said that some faculty members have been working on stem cell research and the approval of Proposal 2 in November will provide those scientists and the CBR with additional sources of funding.

Roth said many professors have received funding from the National Institute of Health, which Roth — a former fellow at the NIH — said means "almost by definition very valuable research."

In addition to facilitating faculty with projects, Roth said he also wants to make the CBR even more avail-

able to students, particularly undergraduates. He said that providing such opportunities would be in keeping with the school's philosophy.

"At Oakland, we really value undergraduate research," Roth said. "Undergraduates can actually get in the lab and write published papers, and that is something you don't find at every school."

Moore said Roth's ability to make himself available to curious and ambitious students is one of the reasons he was appointed director of CBR.

"Dr. Roth has just an outstanding track record of mentoring students at both the undergraduate level and at the graduate level," Moore said. "The students make presentations, they have publication, they get awards. Some faculty just have a real talent for working with students and Dr. Roth is certainly one of them."

Roth said the goal of the research initially will not be to develop medicines and equipment to be used, but to work on the preliminary stages of those developments.

"Until we get the [Oakland University William Beaumont Medical School] at least, it is not going to too much aimed at finding clinical applications," Roth said. "It's more of the basic research that will lead to those clinical applications."

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Read about the fun things going on in campus from Jan. 14 to Jan 21, and their times and locations.

Look at where crimes happened on campus with an interactive map of the campus with OU Police Department reports.

For all this and more, visit www.oaklandpostonline.com

Students to see inauguration

By LINDSEY WOJCIK
Editor in Chief

A group of over 100 Oakland University students will go to Washington D.C. on Jan. 20 to hear President-elect Barack Obama deliver his presidential inauguration speech in person. The Associated Press said the crowd could be one million people.

The trip is courtesy of OU's Center for Student Activities. CSA sold tickets to the inauguration as part of the "Explore a City a Month" program in conjunction with the College of Arts and Sciences according to CSA director Jean Ann Miller. Four coach buses will transport the students to the Capitol.

"The first bus is being subsidized by Oakland University Student Congress," Miller said. "The first bus sold out within a couple hours because the tickets were only \$30.

"We were only going to take two buses originally. Due to demand and the availability of additional buses, we added two more," she said.

Tickets for the three other buses cost \$80 and all four buses have sold out. Miller said snacks will be provided but no hotel accommodations were made.

"We're arranging to rent a space

at a community center outside of Washington, D.C. where the students can use their restrooms to freshen up or change clothes," she said.

Kristin Dayag, the multicultural affairs director of OUSC, helped create the initiative on campus to get students to register to vote this year but said her work with voter registration had nothing to do with her desire to attend Obama's inauguration.

She said she wanted to attend because she sees similarities between Martin Luther King Jr. and Obama.

"I know that I wasn't born to see the day that Martin Luther King spoke in front of the Lincoln Memorial, but I love hearing his 'I have a Dream' speech over and over again," she said.

"That was a historic moment that I wish I lived to see, and now that I have a chance — I wouldn't miss Barack Obama's inauguration for the world."

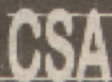
Student body vice president Jordan Twardy said he voted for Obama and wanted to go too because he met John McCain, Obama and Hillary Clinton during the campaign.

"It would be awesome to see the winner get sworn in," Twardy said. "Plus, how many chances will I have in life to actually do this, you know?"

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Friday, March 6, 2009 @ 5:00 PM

To register or for questions:
Contact Jean Szura
mick@oakland.edu or 248.370.2024

POLICEFILES

On Jan. 10, OUPD was dispatched to Hamlin Hall for a Minor In Possession call. OUPD found three students in an apparent state of intoxication. After preliminary blood tests, they were all found to be over the legal limit, and were all given MIP citations.

On Jan. 10, OUPD responded to a call from Hamlin Hall. A female student was being threatened by a man, and when her fiancé approached to help, the man threatened her fiancé as well. A warrant will be issued for the "threatening" man, and OUPD is requesting he be banned from campus.

On Jan. 11, a female student reported a threat to OUPD that she said she received from her ex-boyfriend. She said he said he would kill her because he thought she was responsible for their breakup.

On Jan. 12, OUPD responded to a call from a student resident of East Vandenberg Hall who complained about his roommate having a knife in his possession and said his roommate has an anger problem. OUPD found a knife in the roommate's possession, and issued a Weapons and Explosives citation to the owner. The knife was confiscated by OUPD.

**LEAD
DON'T
FOLLOW**

Culture and nature inspire 'meditative' art

By JANICE WILLIAMS
Staff Reporter

With stark white walls and bright lighting, entering into Jae Won Lee's art exhibition "Internal Distance(s)" can give viewers the impression of being in a dreamy or heavenly state.

The exhibition made its debut at the Oakland University Art Gallery Saturday, Jan. 10. Lee's art ranges from "inlaying" ceramic art to needle art made by poking holes on paper. She said her inspirations included Michigan winter, her Korean background and flora.

"Snow Flower Tomb," for example, is influenced by Michigan winter.

Lee said she is also influenced by her backyard garden, and many of her needle-piece artworks have a floral pattern. Lee said she was inspired to create "A Lunar Garden," one of her needle-art pieces, while looking out of her window one night and seeing the way her garden appeared in the moonlight.

"It's about sharing, but I don't shout. I'm mute or quietly whispering. So if you hear it, that's great, but I don't expect everyone to get it," she said. "My work is very quiet and very meditative."



Jae Won Lee said she was inspired to make "Mongyudowondo" (Sleepwalking Around a Peach Garden) after waking from a surgery last year and remembering a painting, "Utopia of Asia", a peach garden that signified paradise she learned about as a young girl in Korea.

Lee also embraces her Korean heritage in her artwork.

"I am fascinated by flower patterns in traditional [Korean] garments," she said. "They have beautiful patterns and colors, so I emulate what I remember from my mom's closet."

Her Korean influence can be seen in her hanging creation "Mongyudowondo" (Sleepwalking Around a Peach Garden). She said "Mongyudowondo" is meant to give viewers a feeling of floating between reality and fantasy or a divine place.

Dick Goody, curator of the gallery, said he was delighted to be giving students the opportunity to see work that isn't generally studied in OU's art program.

John Corso, a professor of contemporary art at OU, said that Lee's art is "very beautiful, very small pieces that you have to spend time with. It's nothing you can absorb across the room."

"People are so busy they don't want to slow down and really focus on something, but my work requires that kind of focus," Lee said. "It's like quiet time."

Lee's exhibition is free to the public and can be seen Monday through Friday until Feb. 22, from noon to 5 p.m., at OU Art Gallery in Wilson Hall.

'Rainbow' shines on Garland in Meadow Brook show

By BRANDY FREY
Contributing Reporter

It's April 23, 1961. Judy Garland, the "World's Greatest Entertainer," is preparing for her legendary Carnegie Hall concert. A stagehand knocks on her door and tells her it's time.

She walks on stage, and as she's performing her opening number "When You're Smiling (The Whole World Smiles With You)," memories come flooding back to her. Voices from her past echo through the theatre, bringing both pleasant and painful memories.

This is the opening scene for the musical play "Beyond the Rainbow" now playing at Meadow Brook Theatre.

"Beyond the Rainbow" deals openly with controversial issues surrounding "The Wizard of Oz" star Garland, like her dependence on drugs and alcohol, and how people in her life used her — from her mother to her husbands.

The audience watched, through flashbacks, the many highs and lows of Garland's life: losing her father, getting into drugs, dealing with financial woes and two troubled marriages.

The cast is not made up of Oakland University students, but instead

of members of the Actor's Equity Association. Travis Walter, the artistic administrator of Meadow Brook Theatre, directed the play, written by William Randall Beard. Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck played the present Garland, while Andrea Mellos played Judy in the flashbacks.

Walters said he wanted the audience to "be touched by the trials, obstacles, heartaches and addictions that Judy Garland or any child of MGM faced."

"What a remarkable star she turned out to be, despite the studio controlling her very existence," he said. "I want them to celebrate her life and talent."

"All Judy needed in her life was an advocate who looked out for her best interest and let her be who she was, but she never had that," said Mellos. "So many people exploited her."

Alison Wilson, an OU student who saw the play, said she thought the show was different from what Meadow Brook Theatre usually shows.

"Judy's father and husband were both gay. I've never seen that here before," she said.

The play runs through Feb. 1 and tickets range from \$24-\$39. Showtimes can be found on mbtheatre.com.



Scholarship Opportunities for Fall '09 - Win '10

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The Oakland University Alumni Association will be accepting applications for several \$3,000 one year, non-renewable scholarships.

- College of Arts and Sciences
- School of Business Administration
- School of Education and Human Services
- School of Engineering and Computer Science
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Nursing
- Honors College
- Black Alumni Affiliate

These scholarships are open to any undergraduate student who will have junior or senior status by Fall 2009. Scholarship recipients must have two or more full-time semesters remaining in their academic program and must have a 3.0 GPA in their major field of study and a cumulative 3.0 GPA at OU.

Applications are also being accepted for the following one year, non-renewable scholarships:

- **Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration \$5,000** (open to juniors and seniors with at least 3.4 cumulative GPA)
- **Thomas A. Yatooma School of Engineering Alumni Memorial \$3,000** (open to juniors and seniors with a 3.25 cumulative GPA)
- **Legacy Scholarship \$3,000** (open to freshman and sophomores whose parent or grandparent is a graduate of Oakland and a member of the OUAA)
- **Returning Alumni Scholarship \$3,000** (open to students who have earned a degree from OU and are returning to pursue a second degree. Must be admitted to a program and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA)
- **Working Student Scholarship \$2,000** (open to all OU students who are working at least 20 hours per week in addition to pursuing a degree. Must have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA)

Scholarship Applications are available now on the alumni website at www.oualumni.com. Contact Carol Carpenter at the John Dodge House (248) 364-6140 or cmcarpen@oakland.edu for more information. Completed applications for all OUAA scholarships must be submitted by February 13, 2009 in order to be considered.

Flying solo as a Straight Edger

A faculty member sticks with the his counterculture lifestyle

By JOE GUZMAN
Staff Reporter

Mike Palmer sits in front of his laptop in his small office located on the third floor of the science and engineering building. A couple of Rubik's Cubes sit atop a shelf above his desk and various textbooks are strewn about the room — objects that could be considered typical for a faculty member of the math department to have in an office.

An old, yellow 10-speed waits inside the office for Palmer's day of Math 141 lectures to be over. Lying against a wall under the room's lone window is a protest sign that reads: "ASK ME WHY. YES ON 1, YES ON 2," indicating his support for stem cell research and legalizing medical marijuana.

His face is hidden behind big, brown plastic-rimmed glasses and a thick beard resembling Tom Hanks' in "Cast Away." When asked about the first thing he does when he finds free time away from the office, he replied, "I love cycling." He said that he custom-built his bike this past September, making sense of the mismatched, red and blue handle bars on the body of a 1977 Schwinn Le Tour cycle.

Along with cycling, Palmer is an avid Ultimate Frisbee competitor, as well as the vice president of the Michigan Skeptical Society and College Libertarians at Oakland University.

Although some may question his preferred mode of transportation, his liberal point of view, or even his personal style, as a 24-year-old who has already earned an M.A. in mathematics and acquired a faculty position, Palmer has no reason to question himself.

He said he never wants to leave any room for doubting himself, and it is for that reason that he lives the Straight Edge lifestyle.

"I want to be able to experience this world as it is, as I am, at all times," Palmer said.

Defining a subculture

The Straight Edge movement originated out of the hard-core punk scene in the early '80s. In response to the self-destructive and generally hopeless messages that characterized early punk music of the '70s, the Straight Edge subculture was an attempt to regain self-worth and promote self-control for those who were tired of punk's excessive promotion of sex, drugs and alcohol.

Ian MacKaye, leader of the band Minor Threat and later, Fugazi, could be considered the father of the Straight Edge movement. In 1980, Minor Threat gave the emerging subculture its name with its song "Straight Edge," which provided the movement's philosophy in its lyrics:



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Straight Edger and Oakland University faculty member Mike Palmer shows off the "XxX" tattoos on his side. Palmer said his tattoos, which are three mirrored birds forming X's, are something permanent symbolizing that some things in life are temporary.

I'm a person just like you
But I've got better things to do
Than sit around and f--- my head
Hang out with the living dead
Snort white sh-- up my nose
Pass out at the shows
I don't even think about speed
That's something I just don't need
I've got the straight edge

It is common practice for Straight Edgers to identify themselves with an "xXx," a symbol adopted from the "X" that bars write on the hands of minors at all-age punk rock shows. As the movement grew, the mark

became the symbol of solidarity, of declaring oneself as part of the hardcore punk community.

Rebelling against rebellion

In hindsight, the excesses of punk culture were bound to catch up with it, and as punk became trendier in pop culture, it was inevitable for a counterculture to actively discourage what it originally promoted.

With every cultural and lifestyle movement that develops there is always an offshoot that defies the norms of the culture against which it's rebelling.

Graham Cassano, assistant professor of sociology at Oakland University, hesitates to generalize any subculture with such broad strokes because meanings can differ from one community to another.

"The practices of subcultures depend very much upon local contexts," Cassano said, "and any 'educated' social scientific viewpoint would stress a close study of a particular community."

What Cassano found most interesting about the Straight Edge movement was how it seemed to co-opt the original spirit of the punk revolution to meet the values of the American fundamentalist tradition.

"It appropriates the styles of bands like the Stooges and the New York Dolls and transforms the near revolutionary attitude of those bands into a set of meanings and practices that resemble nothing so much as the repressive attitudes of many mainstream fundamentalist protestant sects."

Cassano doesn't mean to criticize fundamentalist Protestants or Straight Edge punks, but uses the word "repressive" in its social science sense.

"I am certain, some Straight Edgers have maintained the original rebellious spirit of punk, but in broad strokes Straight Edge seems to be the latest expression of an American fundamentalist tradition that reaches back to the prerepublican founders of the first American colonies. In this sense, it is a much more American version of 'punk' than were the original punks."

In spite of Cassano's analysis of how the movement relates to some puritanical ethos, Straight Edge culture has no affiliation with religion. Living this lifestyle is based on self-regulation for the sake of one's own well-being.

Any religious affiliation or motivation behind choosing to live Straight Edge would contradict this philosophy, to keep one's body pure without the fear of punishment from some supernatural authority.

Above the influence

Palmer, a self-proclaimed Atheist and skeptic, said he was somewhat religious when he was growing up,

but has since shed his religion. His initial motivation to become Straight Edge, when he was a 15-year-old student at Dakota High School, was based on naive fear. But, he also admits that there was a self-righteous motivation as well.

"I wanted to be above the influence," Palmer said. "I felt like I was better than people who did drink, smoke, or do drugs."

Although he acknowledges that he had a close-minded mentality while growing up, he was never part of what he refers to as "The Courage Crew," an extreme segment of Straight Edgers that push their beliefs on nonfollowers.

In recent years the intolerant factions have given the Straight Edge movement some bad press. According to **deseretnews.com**, in 1998 two Straight Edge teens were sentenced to prison for the murder of a 15-year-old non-Straight Edger in Salt Lake City.

Palmer does not recall witnessing any violence while he was more a part of the scene in high school, just simply refers to the less tolerant members as "dicks."

"If you were at a concert that allowed smoking," he said, "you probably might have it knocked out of your hand, someone might get in your face about it."

Although he was never violent about

"If you were at a concert that allowed smoking you probably might have it knocked out of your hand, someone might get in your face about it."

— Mike Palmer, faculty

it himself, he admits to being rude to others about it. "I definitely was condescending towards those who disagreed with me."

This mentality changed as he matured and met more people while living in the dorms at OU. It was also his introduction into Libertarianism that helped dislodge the "I need to tell you what to do" mentality he had held. It helped him understand that every person has the right to learn from their own decisions.

"I realized that doing drugs doesn't make you a bad person, that doing drugs doesn't make you an idiot," he said. "There are idiots who do drugs, the same way there are idiots who drive cars, and I just happened to meet a bunch of idiots in high school."

He simply needed the experience of living and working with people who could consume alcohol and drugs responsibly to

realize that the stereotypes he held were painted by a very bad sample.

Now, he is not only more tolerant of non-Straight Edgers, he has no Straight Edge friends at all.

"Basically all my Straight Edge friends that got me in the scene broke edge after high school," he said. "The friends I have now — some drink, some smoke pot, and that's OK. It's been a growing process, but everyone

knows I'm Straight Edge, and I'm at the point now that it's out in the open and no one cares. I do my thing, they do theirs."



The Oakland Post wants to know what you have planned for Inauguration Day, Jan. 20. How will you watch Obama get sworn in as the 44th president?

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Shift into eco-friendly gear

Automakers to showcase a new direction at the 2009 NAIAS

By COLLEEN J. MILLER
Managing Editor

It's that time of year again, when metro Detroiters can put away their bowling balls for a week and mosey down to Cobo Center to take in eye-popping autos and the newest technologies.

The North American International Auto Show is opening its doors to the public Saturday, Jan. 18 and will remain open through Sunday, Jan. 25. It will be open every day from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. except the last Sunday when it will close at 7 p.m.

Automakers show their green side

One recurring theme at this year's show is a push towards attractive, eco-friendly vehicles. The showroom floor is loaded with new and old models alike utilizing fuel cell, lithium ion and other eco-friendly technology. They range from those aimed at mass production like the Chevy Volt to those like the California based Fisker's Karma aiming for an annual production of 15,000.

Starting at \$87,900, the plug-in Karma is priced well into the hundred thousand dollar range for the "eco-chic" top of the line model, essentially the vegan version, made with no animal parts.

The company's founder, Henrik Fisker, brought his design experience with Aston Martin to the table for the Karma. It can run 50 miles emissions-free before switching to its direct-injection 260 horsepower motor

which then charges the lithium-ion battery.

The Chevy Volt, on the other hand, is designed to "move more than 75 percent of America's daily commuters," according to the vehicle's website. It can go 40 miles per day without producing any emissions, also using lithium-ion technology with a gas engine for extended range. While an MSRP has not been released, it is expected to be much more affordable.

Somewhere in between the exclusivity of the Karma and the superfluous Volt would be the ~~Dodge Circuit EV~~ prototype. It was unveiled as Chrysler's first electric vehicle. Chrysler isn't releasing the cost or a production date, if there will be one at all.

While this car has no engine to speak of, it boasts a 270 horsepower electric motor supported by a lithium-ion battery that can propel the vehicle from zero to 60 in less than five seconds.

Fisker is not the only California automaker in Detroit for the auto show. Tesla Motors, which also makes luxury electric cars, was invited to fill showroom space after several other auto companies pulled out, according to Rachel Konrad, Tesla's spokeswoman. This is actually Tesla's first auto show ever. Tesla is debuting their Roadster Sport, which goes for a modest

\$128,500. It goes from zero to 60 in 3.7 seconds and will be available in summer 2009.

Another sign of eco-friendly demand is on the specification sheets. Some manufacturers are now including information such as a "global warming score" and annual fuel costs. Other technological advances, unrelated to eco-consciousness, are finding their way into new cars and concepts at the auto show. It's all about electricity though, push-button door handles and push-button ignitions are popular in high-end vehicles.

Take a scenic drive inside Cobo

While the Karma and Tesla aren't among the vehicles being taken for a spin down in the Michigan Hall at Cobo, several new low emissions vehicles are. Saturn Vue, Ford Escape and Cadillac Escalade hybrids are among the vehicles being showcased in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's EcoXperience Ride and Drive.

Auto show attendees can hitch a ride with a professional driver on a scenic track, surrounded by live trees and lined with tulips and other plants, which occupies 70,000 sq. ft. of floor space on the lower level. The speed limit is only 10 mph on the track, though.

"The MEDC EcoXperience is the best way for automakers to bring to life the vehicles that have been on the drawing boards and could be in consumer garages very soon," NAIAS Executive Director Rod Alberts said.





DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Some cars are not so eco-friendly, but their sheer power and stunning features make it a shame to not pay them any mind. The Audi R8 5.2 FSI (at left) is an eye-catcher at the 2009 North American International Auto Show in Detroit with its cutting edge features. The Mercedes McLaren SLR Stirling Moss (at right) is also a must see at the auto show because it will probably never come back to the United States.

Bringin' Taurus back

Ford Motor Co. is bringing back its ace in the hole, the **Taurus**, after four years of absence. Like every new generation, the 2010 Taurus has a new body style. Say buh-bye to the jellybean window because she's back with a sophisticated look complete with Mustang-like curves on this full-size sedan.

Ford is also edging out the Toyota Camry and Honda Accord with the Fusion, which received Best in Class with its 34 mpg four banger.



Eye candy

There are plenty of fresh cars to feast your eyes on at this year's auto show.

Take the **Mercedes McLaren SLR Stirling Moss** edition. It's going to be the last of the SLRs made in a partnership between Mercedes and McLaren. It's priced at about \$1.01 million, but don't expect to see any in Birmingham as only 75 are going to be made and they are not certified for sale in the U.S. because of features like a tiny windshield, no roof and no windows. The 650 horsepower, supercharged V8 hits 217 mph. She goes zero to 62 mph in less than 3.5 seconds. Production will begin in May 2009.

Audi is also making a splash at the show with the **R8 5.2 FSI quattro**. The name is a mouthful, but the new 5.2-liter, 10 cylinder, 525 horsepower motor might render one speechless going from zero to 60 mph in 3.9 seconds and with a top speed of about 195 mph. A unique feature of the R8 is a "Launch Control" program controlled by a button that triggers a quick start. The R8 also features all-LED headlights as a standard. Audi is the first automaker to use LEDs for the high beam, low beam, daytime running lights and turn signals. Expect to see the R8 cruising around in summer 2009.

Fox body makeover

Ohio resident Doug Pelmar is teasing the auto show public with his '87 Mustang, one of 22 contenders for the Progressive Insurance Automotive X Prize of \$10 million. Pelmar and the others will have to participate in two long distance races, but Pelmar already drove his 'Stang cross-country, stopping only once for gas. He won't pop the hood or share his secrets, but the motor is a 400 horsepower V8 with 500 ft. lbs. of torque that gets about 100 mpg and runs on E85. He custom built the motor "from the oil pan to the intake."

He thinks he has a chance of winning, especially because of his choice in modifying a Mustang. "It's a popularity vote, everybody wants a Mustang," he said.

Pelmar and the Progressive Automotive X Prize group are hanging out downstairs in the Michigan Hall for NAIAS.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

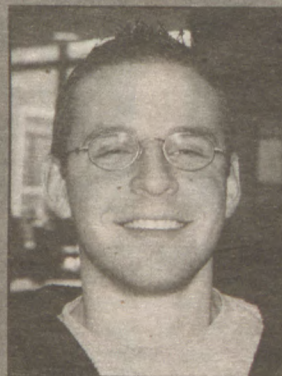
Doug Pelmar is confident he can win the \$10 million with his '87 Mustang with his mystery machine under the hood, which he drove cross-country averaging 100 mpg.

What is your favorite cover song?



"'Lollipop' was originally done by Lil Wayne [and redone by] Framing Hanley. I like both versions, but Framing Hanley is slowed down and just as good."

Marella Diakonov
Freshman, undecided



"I would probably say 'Boys of Summer' by The Ataris. Even though that version was modernized it didn't stray too much from the original."

Chris Ackerman
Junior, sociology



"Mariah Carey's version of 'I'll Be There.' I think it's better than the original."

Sonya Smith
Junior, communications

What songs could have gone without being re-made?



"Fall Out Boy's cover of Michael Jackson's 'Beat It,' because I am not a fan of Fall Out Boy or the song."

Scott Glowacz
Senior, communications



"'Smooth Criminal' by Alien Ant Farm. The way the song is sung seems like it changes the meaning of the song."

Paul Agyekum
Sophomore, Japanese

According to several sources, Youtube is cracking down on users with songs in their content that create copyright infringement, right down to the video of a 13-month-old girl dancing to a Prince song.

Would you rather...

Listen to an original version of a song or hear someone's own rendition?



"Definitely the original because you get the emotion and what's trying to be conveyed. The cover artist can sometimes change the meaning from the original artist."

Amy Leikert
Junior, Japanese/psychology



"Original. It's always better than the remake and the remake never lives up to the original."

Lauren Trudeau
Freshman, communications

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Don't forget to submit your photos for the winter semester photo contest.

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A warm winning welcome

Oakland returns to ice with a victory after a one-month hiatus

By JARED PURCELL
Sports Editor

After more than a month without hitting the ice to compete, the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies hockey team proved that scoring goals is like riding a bike — one never forgets.

OU (7-7-3 DI, 7-8-4 overall) overwhelmed Indiana University of Pennsylvania (9-8-0 DI, 9-8-0 overall) with a four-goal second period on Friday evening at the Onyx arena to take a 5-1 victory to kick off the 2009 half of the season.

With the score 1-1 after a period of play, OU freshman defenseman Joe Guenther scored his second goal of the game on a rebound just 1:15 into the second period.

OU head coach Sean Hogan admitted that he wasn't sure what to expect after such a long break without a game, but was happy with the overall result.

"I was nervous coming into the game," Hogan said. "I didn't want it to be like starting over. We play a very individualistic game sometimes and, in the first period, I think we showed that — I don't think we played that well. But in the second period we came out, we ran our systems."

OU freshman goalie Alex Pikunas found that it took a while to get back into the groove.

"I haven't had a game in over a month," said Pikunas. "Practice can only prepare you so much. I thought I was jumping around a little bit out there. I was just really anxious to get out there but not too much damage in the first period. It could have been worse."

Pikunas finished the game with 16 saves and the one goal he allowed was his best mark of the season.

Even with the big victory on the scoreboard, Guenther said he thinks that the team is not quite back to its full potential after such a long break.

"I feel the team, we were a little bit rusty but we started to get it together and played a good game in the end," Guenther said.

Senior John Parrish and freshman Jordan McDonald added two points each



OU senior forward John Parrish maneuvers the puck behind the net to create space. Parrish accounted for a goal and an assist en route to a 5-1 victory. BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

for OU; with a goal and an assist for Parrish and two assists for McDonald.

One facet of the game that OU continues to struggle with is the power play. OU went 0-5 with a man advantage against IUP.

"We're not doing the right things on the power play," Hogan said. "We're almost a better team five-on-five. The problem is we're not supporting each other on the ice. We're not running our power play the way we run it in practice. It's very, very frustrating for the coaching staff because we have an 11 percent power play, which is probably — if I had to guess — the worst in the ACHA."

OU is currently ranked No. 16 in the ACHA national tournament rankings, in which the top 16 teams make the tournament. Hogan made clear that they are closely watching where they are ranked.

"People say, 'Oh we don't watch the standings, we don't watch the scoreboard' but you have to," Hogan said. "I'm a firm believer that you have to know what you need to do to be successful. You need to know when you need to win and how you need to win. So we're very aware of where we are in the standings and we're going to have to get higher."



Freshman goalie Alex Pikunas makes one of his 16 saves in a contest where he allowed just one goal. BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Larry Wright waiting to break out

St. John's basketball transfer waits to play with his new teammates

By TOM MURPHY JR.
Senior Reporter

Last season as a sophomore, Saginaw native Larry Wright was a rising basketball star in the Big East Conference. Playing for the St. John's University Red Storm, he averaged 9.1 points per game and shot over 40 percent from behind the three point line.

Yet, when his mother Karen Wright injured her back, Larry had to make a choice. He chose to come home and take care of his mother and came to Oakland University to finish out his college basketball career.

"The main reason was my mother," Wright said of leaving St. Johns. "She wanted me to come back home and take care of her. She had surgery on her back and I feel like being closer to home I can do a lot for her, like take her to her doctor's appointments and things like that. She's doing a lot better now."

As a transfer student, Wright is ineligible for this season due to NCAA rules

and he currently can't play in games or travel with the team on road trips but he can practice.

"Man, I can't even begin to explain," Wright said of having to sit out the season. "It's so frustrating just watching on TV, watching my team play, it's hard. I can't go on the road, but I take it as an advantage to have a whole year to get better and stronger, to work on my ball handling and my shooting. I just look at it as a positive thing."

Junior point guard Johnathon Jones played with Wright for a summer for the AAU Michigan Mustangs team.

"We played for a summer and I knew about him in high school because he was a good player," Jones said. "We have a chemistry from playing in AAU together."

Wright said that having the opportunity to play with Jones again did have an impact when choosing to transfer to OU.

"When I came on my visit everything started to flash back in my head, all the fun times we had on the road with the

Mustangs," Wright said. "He's a good player and I look forward to playing with him for another year."

In high school, Wright played for the Saginaw Trojans. His senior year, he was runner up for Michigan's Mr. Basketball averaging 21 points, seven rebounds, four assists and three steals per game. He was named all-state, all-conference and the all-area "Dream Team."

While at St. Johns, he played in every game as a freshman averaging four points per game. In his Big East Tournament debut against then No. 18 Marquette, Wright played 19 minutes scoring 11 points and was 3-3 from behind the three-point line.

"It's like being on stage," Wright said of playing in the Big East. "There's cameras everywhere. You're playing against some of the best competition there is in college basketball every night. It's something you dream about as a kid. I was happy to be a part of it."

Now Wright is in the Summit League where the spotlights are a little dimmer

and there are a few less cameras, but OU head coach Greg Kampe feels that Wright will be a great addition to the OU lineup next season.

"Larry is a cross between Kangas and Jones," Kampe said. "He's not the ball handler that Jones is and not the shooter that Kangas is but he's a really good ball handler and a real good shooter. He's a kid that is going to be a unique player for us, we've never really had a guy that can come off a ball screen the way he can come off it with the dribble and yet still make jump shots. We're really excited about his progress."

Wright said that he can't wait until next year when he can get back into games and hopefully help the Grizzlies win a championship.

"The fans are going to know that I am hungry to win," Wright said. "I don't want to take any losses. I know losses happen but I'm hungry to win. I'm going to come out with a drive to push my teammates to make us better, to make Oakland better."

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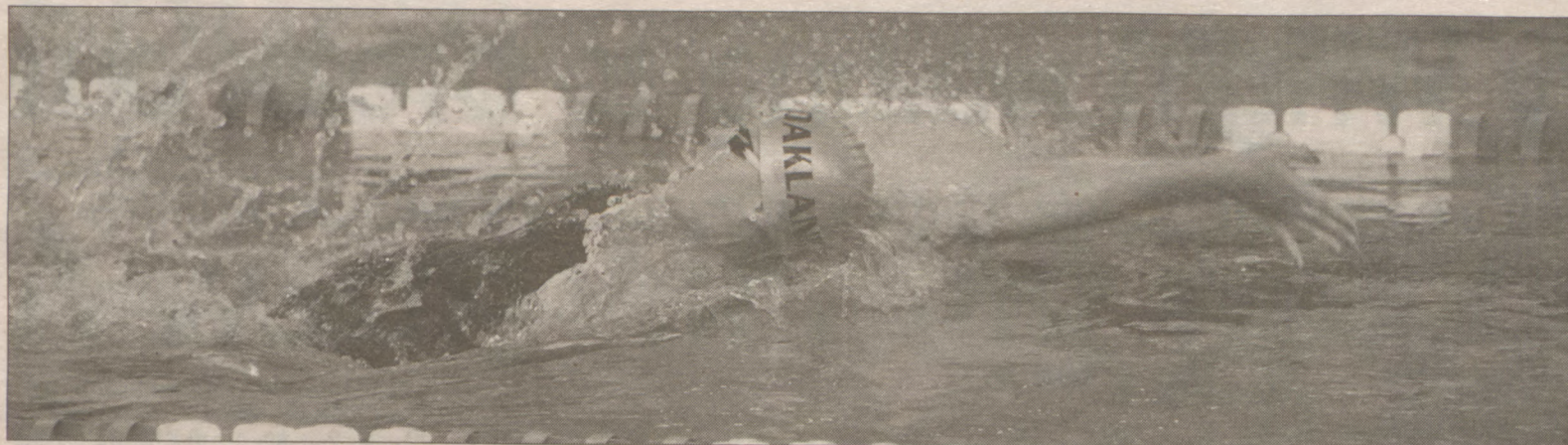
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BOB KNOSKA/
The Oakland Post
Agnes Solan finished first in four events to help lead the lady Grizzlies to a narrow victory over in-state rival Eastern Michigan. Her first place finish in the 200-yard individual medley set a team season best with a time of 2:05.92. She also finished first in the 200-yard medley relay, the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard backstroke.

Golden Grizzlies Game of the Week

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Rivalry match ends in victory for Grizz

By KATEY MEISNER
Contributing Reporter

Despite inclement weather, spectators packed the stands at Oakland University's Aquatic Center to watch Oakland University swim to victory over longtime rival, Eastern Michigan University.

The men won with a score of 151-147 and the women with a score of 154-144.

Head coach Pete Hovland emphasized the history surrounding the rivalry.

"It's definitely one of those rivalries," Hovland said, "they've been rivals even before I got here in 1979."

The men's meet came down to the final event in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Seniors Nick Bonucchi, Andy Kellogg and Justin Veneklas and junior Marcin Unold finished first with a time of 3:02.38. Seniors Aaron Holdsworth, Dawid Tatarczyk, and freshmen Tim Montague and Ben Vavra took third with a time of 3:09.04, giving OU a four-point victory for the men.

Freshman Anders Jensen earned three first-place finishes for the men. Jensen took first place in the 200-yard medley relay, the 100-yard backstroke, as well as the 200-yard backstroke. Jensen attributes the victory over Eastern Michigan mainly to the coach, hard work and practice.

Notably, senior Andy Kellogg took first in the 200-yard medley relay, the 100-yard breaststroke, the 100-yard freestyle and the 400-yard freestyle relay.

On the women's side, junior Agnes Solan racked up four first-place finishes for the women.

"I try to give 100 percent of myself," Solan said of her success in the pool. "I have a little bit of talent, but I really work hard."

Solan made season record time in the 200-yard individual medley with 2:05.92. She also finished first in the 200-yard medley relay, the 100-yard backstroke and the 200-yard backstroke.

"We really wanted to show that we are fast, and ready for the conference in February," Solan said.

Johanna Gustafsson took first in the 200-yard medley relay as well as the 100-yard breaststroke.

The men's top diver, Adam Ralph, was unable to participate due to a sprained ankle. The rest of the diving team was forced to step up and were able to excel in their events. Freshman Joe Smith earned a score of 281.62 in the three-meter dive, securing him first place in the event.

"Little Joe Smith wins the three meter of all boards. It gives us life and then we come back against their best swimmer and we win the 200 IM," Hovland said.

Sophomore diver, Chelsea Oates placed first in two events for the women as she scored 267.17 in the one-meter dive and 252.67 in the three-meter dive. Freshman Marcella Barretta finished behind Oates in each event.

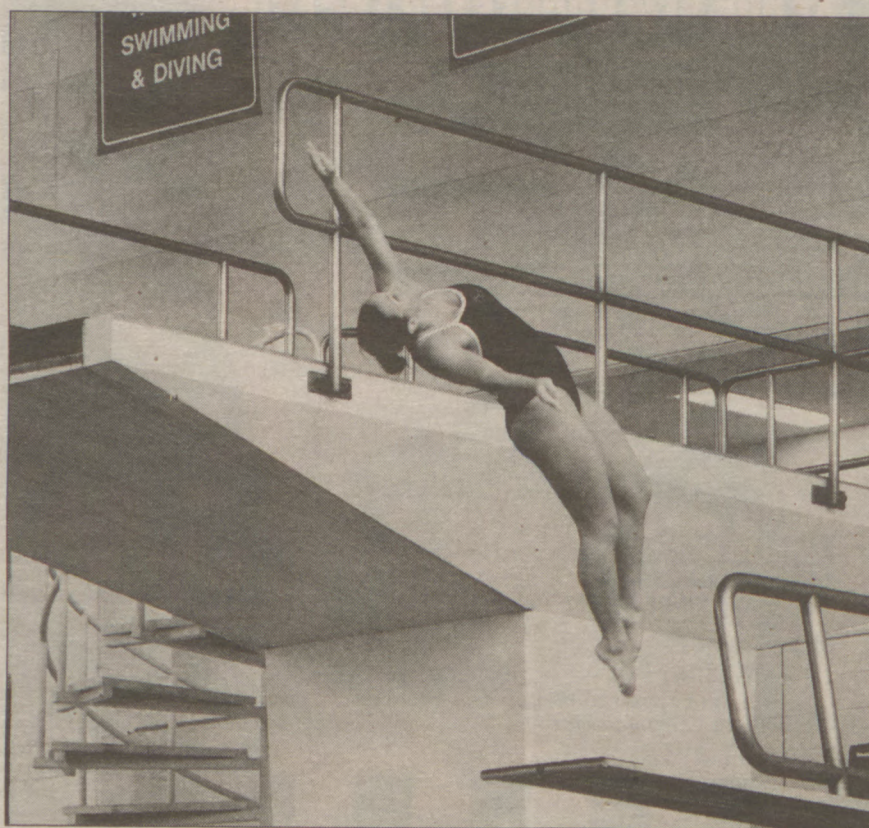
According to Hovland, OU hadn't done well against Eastern for a number of years. The win was of particular significance to both Hovland and his team.

"This is huge," said Hovland, "my hat's off to both teams."

OU will compete next at Cleveland State University Friday, Jan. 16.



BOB KNOSKA/
The Oakland Post
At left, OU diver Joe Smith attempts to dive out of a tuck against Eastern Michigan. Smith took first place in the three-meter dive with a score of 281.62. Below, freshman Marcella Barretta attempts to jump into a spin. Barretta was All-American and all-state in high school. Barretta finished second to her teammate Chelsea Oates in both diving events.



Coming attractions

GAME SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF JAN. 14-20

Date, opponent, time (location)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

1/17 @ IPFW — 7:00 p.m. (Fort Wayne, Ind.)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1/17 @ IPFW — 4:30 p.m. (Fort Wayne, Ind.)

SWIMMING AND DIVING

1/16 @ Cleveland State — 5:00 p.m. (Cleveland, Ohio)

1/17 vs. Notre Dame (MEN ONLY) — 2:00 p.m. (Rochester, Mich.)

HOCKEY

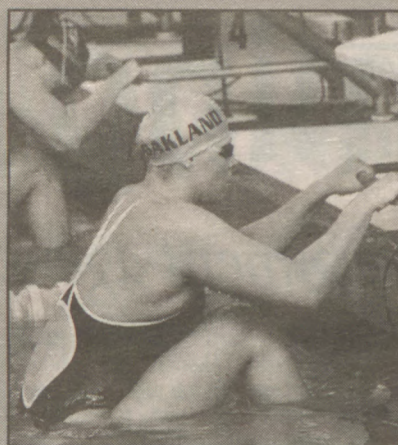
1/16 vs. Central Oklahoma — 8:30 p.m. (Onyx Arena, Rochester, Mich.)

1/17 vs. Central Oklahoma — 8:30 p.m. (Onyx Arena, Rochester, Mich.)

WRESTLING

1/17 vs. GVSU — 3:30 p.m. (Wrestling Wearhouse*, Rochester, Mich.)
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GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Agnes Solan Women's Swim

Year: RS junior
Major: Undecided

Four first-place finishes against Eastern Michigan University make this star swimmer an easy choice for the award.

Honorable Mention: Brittany Carnago recorded a triple-double in a women's basketball win over Centenary with 14 points, 11 blocks and 10 rebounds.

POST GAME

With the NCAA football national champion finally decided, college football fans saw the close to a bowl season that spanned 19 days and included 34 games.

Perhaps the most entertaining part of the college football season each year is seeing how many bowls get renamed by the most unusual sponsors.

With such classics as the Eaglebank Bowl, San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl, and — a personal favorite — the Papajohns.com Bowl, we thought of a few more sponsors who should get into the bowl mix to help extend the circus known as the college football bowl season:

1) *Porta John Toilet Bowl* — Let the battle for last place begin. It features the two worst teams fighting to not be labeled the worst of them all. Pride, baby, pride.

2) *Oaklandpostonline.com Bowl* — It will be the BEST BOWL EVER!

3) *Trojan Pure Pleasure Bowl* — A bowl where everyone wins.

4) *The Ford, GM, Chrysler Tries Hard Bowl* — For the teams that at least tried and ... well, you know. University of Michigan would have been a solid nominee for the bowl this season.

Photo illustrations by BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post



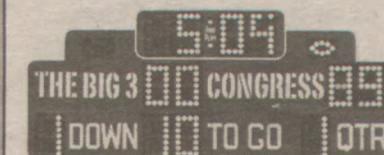
1.



2.



3.



4.

THE ROAD RUNDOWN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

1/8 @ Centenary — L, 80-60

1/10 @ Oral Roberts — L, 68-65 (OT)

Notes: After falling to Summit League bottom-feeder Centenary, Oakland came back with an inspired effort against Oral Roberts but fell short to its rival.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

1/10 @ Oral Roberts — W, 62-48

1/12 @ Centenary — W, 66-54

Notes: April Kidd records second double-double in a row in Oral Roberts game. The lady Grizzlies are now 9-1 in their last 10 games.

WRESTLING

1/10 @ Bowling Green State
Grand Valley State — L, 41-9
Bowling Green — W, 37-18
Ohio — W, 25-22

Notes: Oakland won seven of 11 matches against host BGSU.



Read home-game recaps of your favorite OU team at

www.oaklandpostonline.com

Becoming Jack Bauer

The role of a government agent is too much to handle for a reporter

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Every day, I grow more and more convinced that in order to survive our nation is entirely dependent upon Jack Bauer.

Of course, with his Inauguration right around the corner, President-elect Barack Obama's promises of defeating terrorism and stabilizing the economy has Americans excited for a "new dawn of leadership."

However, I know that none of his goals would be at all feasible without the "24" action hero, played by Kiefer Sutherland, that makes James Bond look like "The Naked Gun's" Frank Drebin.

I truly believe that the national crises we've endured over the past year (the banking collapse, sky-high gas prices, Madonna's divorce) can be traced back to the fact that the seventh season (or day, as the meticulous action of "24" takes one full season to complete a day in the life of Bauer) has been delayed for almost a year due to the 2007-08 Writers Guild of America strike.

Personally, I'm surprised that I've made it 24/7 for a year of own life without a new "Jack Bauer Power Hour" waiting for me every Monday at 8 p.m.

8:00:01

Take for example, last Monday. I woke up at 8 a.m., hungry after pleasant dreams that I foiled a terrorists' plot against Barack Obama. On the way to class, I passed a McDonald's drive-thru, where I stopped to ask if their Sausage McMuffin would provide me with the nutrients necessary to fight crime. The clerk dismissively replied that he had "no idea."

No idea, huh? If I were Bauer, I would have threatened to grab a moist towellette from burger boy's back pocket, cram it down his throat, wait for him to begin to digest it and then yank it out, taking his stomach lining with it. Jack Bauer doesn't put up with uncooperative informants and neither should I.

Who could forget the time that he shot Christopher Henderson's wife in the leg in an attempt to get him to give up information, or when he severed the fingers of the Russian Consulate General

with a cigar cutter? Bauer's methods of "interrogation" clearly need to be applied to more far-reaching aspects of my life, from foiling terror plots to ordering drive-through.

I left for home immediately after my failed interaction with the McDonald's clerk, which never would have happened in the first place if I had fresh Bauer to look forward to.

9:02:28

When I came home an hour later at 9 a.m., my dog Telly sat near the door. I thought that her barking was to welcome me back. Instead, she almost bit my arm when I reached down to pet her.

If I were Jack Bauer, I would never have to worry about losing my appendages in a familial setting. In fact, Bauer chopped off his partner in fighting terror, Chase Edmunds' arm with a hatchet when there was a virus-loaded time bomb strapped to it.

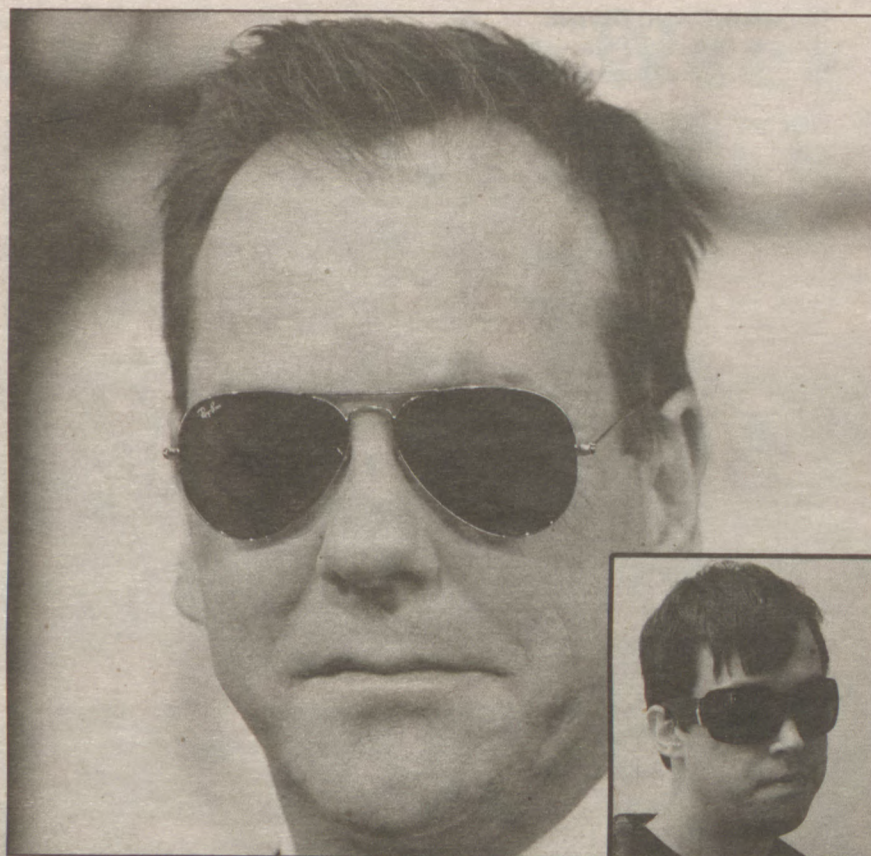
Who could forget the time that Bauer escaped capture by ripping out a terrorists' jugular vein with his teeth, then went on to save the United States from not one, but four nuclear explosions in one day? Bauer clearly has more control over other people's bodies than I have over my own.

10:10:36

At 10 a.m., I started driving to the office of The Oakland Post and quickly became annoyed when bad traffic on I-75 slowed to a crawl.

If I were Jack Bauer, I would never put up with this. It never takes Bauer more than 15 minutes to drive anywhere, even in the driver's hell that is downtown Los Angeles, thanks to his Counter-Terrorist Unit security clearance and his accomplished shouting ability. In fact, he once hijacked a commercial jet that a terrorist informant was riding on and forced the pilot at gunpoint to land it on the freeway.

Some jet-landing action sure would have come in handy then, as I unsuccessfully tried to channel Bauer and screamed at the cars in front of me that it was a issue of national security that I reach The Oakland Post office as quickly as I possibly could get there.



MATT SAYLES/AP, BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post
Senior reporter, Rory McCarty (inset) is no match for Counter-Terrorist Unit agent Jack Bauer, played by Kiefer Sutherland on "24." While McCarty spends his days writing, Bauer fights for U.S. safety.

11:34:44

I arrived at work at around 11 a.m. A while later, one of my co-workers, Tim Rath, said he was going to Mr. Pita for lunch and wondered if I wanted anything to eat.

Anything to eat? Does Jack Bauer stop to eat when terrorists run free? Not unless you count the cans of whoop-ass that he regularly opens. When Jack Bauer does eat, he doesn't let people see him. He does it during commercial breaks, or while President David Palmer is trying to stop his demon-wife from withholding medication from people in wheelchairs.

I couldn't figure what Tim was up to. Then I realized there was a leak within The Oakland Post. Tim had infiltrated the organization.

12:05:59

I forced my way into management's office after noon and declared that The Post had been compromised. We needed to lock down all the terminals, form a hard perimeter, and make sure that no one left the building.

I found myself being taken out of the building later by men in white shirts.

So, perhaps I overreacted a bit. But now that "24" is back on the air, I can rest easy getting my regular fix and trusting that Bauer will be able to resolve whatever crisis arises within a day's time.

There's no need to fret, America, I know we're in good hands.

Catch season seven of "24" on FOX Mondays at 8 p.m.

The Scene

January 14, 2009

www.oaklandpostonline.com

21



Kate Winslet steals the show

Winslet took home Globes for Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture — Drama for “Revolutionary Road” and Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture for “The Reader.”

Winslet seemed overwhelmed and shocked as she received her first Golden Globe. She especially thanked two men: “Revolutionary Road” co-star Leonardo DiCaprio and her husband, director Sam Mendes.

Her second acceptance speech was less dramatic, and she graciously recognized her fellow nominees.

And the winners are...

The 66th annual Golden Globe Awards took place at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills Sunday, Jan. 11.

The nominees ranged from “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button,” to “Slumdog Millionaire,” which received four Golden Globes. Heath Ledger posthumously received the award for

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture. Director Christopher Nolan accepted the award on his behalf and a scene from “Dark Knight” featuring Heath’s character, the Joker, was also shown in his honor.

The Oakland Post presents a few of the best nominees and award winners at the Golden Globes.



“30 Rock” rocks the night

Tina Fey and Tracy Morgan made a deal that if Barack Obama was elected, Morgan would be allowed to speak for the show from that moment on. Morgan confirmed that he was the face of post-racial America during the show’s acceptance speech.

Tina Fey told all of her Internet haters to “suck it.”

Altogether, “30 Rock” and its actors took home three Golden Globes.



Brangelina

Brad Pitt’s latest cinematic endeavor, “The Curious Case of Benjamin Button” was nominated for Best Motion Picture — Drama and Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Drama.

Angelina Jolie was also nominated for Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture — Drama for “Changeling.”

The couple might have gone home empty-handed, but they still managed to look fabulous all night.



Worst dressed?

Mickey Rourke won a Golden Globe for Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Drama, for his film, “The Wrestler.”

His three minute and 18 second long acceptance speech involved thanking his dogs and Axl Rose. Rourke also said “balls” when referring to men who have worked with him — twice.



Special honor

Steven Spielberg was given this year’s Cecil B. DeMille Award for his contributions to the field of entertainment.

All photos of the Golden Globe Awards are courtesy of © HPFA

2009 Keeper of the Dream Award Winners!



Lisa Daily Junior: Nursing

Norris Chase Senior: Business Management



Jasmine Rudolph Senior: Nursing and Biology of Engineering

Relando Thompkins Junior: Social Work



Congratulations on your scholastic achievement and leadership in challenging cultural stereotypes and promoting interracial understanding.

The awards will be presented at the Keeper of the Dream Award Scholarship Celebration on Monday, January 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the OC, Banquet Rooms.

The presentation will be followed by a key note speech by Danny Glover.

Clinton pledges to revitalize diplomacy

By ROBERT BURNS AND ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday that she intends to revitalize the mission of diplomacy in American foreign policy.

She called for a "smart power" strategy in the Middle East and implicitly criticizing the Bush administration for having downgraded the role of arms control.

At a daylong confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, President-elect Barack Obama's choice for secretary of state sailed smoothly through an array of non-contentious questions.

That is until two Republican committee members pressed her to take additional steps to ensure that former President Bill Clinton's global fundrais-

ing work does not pose even an appearance of conflict with her role as the chief U.S. diplomat. She said disclosure rules already in place were carefully crafted and adequate to avoid any conflict.

Clinton appeared headed for easy confirmation. She encountered no challenges to her basic vision for foreign policy.

Clinton, who will relinquish her seat in the Senate when confirmed, spoke confidently of Obama's intentions to renew American leadership in the world and to strengthen U.S. diplomacy.

"America cannot solve the most pressing problems on our own, and the world cannot solve them without America," she said.

"The best way to advance America's interest in reducing global threats and seizing global opportunities is to design and implement global solutions," Clinton said. "This isn't a philosophical point.

This is our reality."

In laying out a general outlook for American foreign policy under Obama, Clinton made it plain, citing policy themes that were familiar from Obama's presidential campaign — and in many cases her own — that the incoming Democratic administration wants to elevate the role of diplomacy.

She and Obama contend that the Bush administration relied too heavily on the military to carry out foreign policy and that it leaned too much on ideology and too little on pragmatism.

The Foreign Relations Committee planned to vote on Clinton's nomination on Thursday. If it approves her, she could gain full Senate confirmation as early as Inauguration Day.

The Senate also held confirmation hearings for other Obama choices for Cabinet and top White House positions.



ASHRAF AMRA/Associated Press

Palestinian relatives bury Hamas militant Mohammed Asaliya at Sheikh Radwan cemetery in Gaza City, Tuesday, Jan. 13. In crowded Gaza, relatives have always struggled to bury their dead. But Israel's shelling and deep ground incursion into the territory to crush militant group Hamas mean residents can't reach Martyrs Cemetery, Gaza City's only open graveyard on its eastern border with Israel, at a time when there's a rush of people needing burial.

N | W BRIEFS

01-09 | An Illinois couple gets married at a Taco Bell.

01-10 | More than two dozen students in London suspended for launching a hate campaign on Facebook against a teacher. | Vice President-elect Joe Biden pledged long-term U.S. support for Afghanistan.

01-11 | Ukraine allows a deal for experts to monitor Russian natural gas flow.

01-12 | Carnegie Endowment for International Peace estimates the cost of U.S. nuclear weapons-related programs exceeded \$52 billion last year.

01-13 | North Korea announced that they will hold onto their nuclear arsenal until satisfied U.S. isn't hiding any in South Korea. | An Austin strip club is sued in federal court by "American Idol" for hosting a "Stripper Idol" contest.

Phillie Eagles advance to NFC



BILL KOSTROUN/Associated Press

Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb (5) lunges into the end zone for a touchdown against the New York Giants during the first quarter of an NFL divisional playoff football game on Sunday, Jan. 11 at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. The Eagles won 23-11 will advance to the National Football Conference Championship Game.

Gazans seek out new places to bury their dead

By IBRAHIM BARZAK AND DIAA HADID

Associated Press Writers

GAZA CITY — One family buried a slain son over his grandfather. Another bundled up the tiny bodies of three young cousins and lowered them into the grave of a long-dead aunt. A man was laid to rest with his brother.

More than two weeks into the Israeli offensive that has killed more than 940 Palestinians, Gazans are struggling to find places to bury their dead. Cemeteries throughout Gaza City that were closed for new burials have now reopened.

"Gaza is all a graveyard," gravedigger Salman Omar said Tuesday as he shoveled earth in Gaza City's crammed Sheikh Radwan cemetery.

Just six miles wide and 25 miles long, Gaza has always suffered from a shortage of burial space. But Gazans say Israel's shelling and ground offensive have made it impossible for residents to reach Martyrs Cemetery — the only graveyard in the area with space to dig fresh graves.

The offensive is aimed at crushing the militant group Hamas and ending its rocket attacks on southern Israel. But Palestinian medical officials say roughly half the dead are civilians.

Salmonella linked to deaths, illness in 43 states

By ELIZABETH DUNBAR

Associated Press Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Health officials confirmed Tuesday that three deaths in Virginia and Minnesota are linked to a national salmonella outbreak.

Two adults in Virginia had salmonella when they died, though it's not clear that the illness is what killed them, said Michelle Perego, a spokeswoman for the Virginia Department of Health.

Minnesota health officials said an elderly woman in that state had the illness at the time of her death.

Health officials are urging nursing homes, hospitals, schools, universities

and restaurants to toss out specific containers of peanut butter linked to a salmonella outbreak in 43 states and possibly to the deaths of three people.

The recalled peanut butter — distributed by King Nut Companies of Ohio — was supplied only through food service providers and was not sold directly to consumers.

King Nut challenged the finding, saying it could not be the source of the nationwide outbreak since it distributes to only seven states.

The outbreak has sickened more than 400 people and Minnesota health officials announced Monday they had found a match between samples from a King Nut

container and the strains of salmonella bacteria making people sick across the country.

State health officials in Minnesota said most of its 30 confirmed cases there were linked to the King Nut brand, but they and health officials in other states are working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to figure out if there were other sources.

"The question is, who else distributes this product from Peanut Corporation? We're trying to find out where else this product would have gone," Doug Schultz, a spokesman for the Minnesota Department of Health, said Tuesday.

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