

Men's soccer defeats MSU in round
one of NCAA Division I National
Championship Tournament

page 19



THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

November 28, 2007

Volume 33, Number 43

are we **BORN BAD?**

In her new book 'Evil Genes,' OU professor
Barbara Oakley suggests a striking
connection between genetics and evil

page 6

Cover illustration by Dustin Alexander

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Don't forget about the basics during this hectic season. Plus, Don Imus and nuclear weapons are tackled by columnists.



Campus page 6

Stay informed with the new plasma TVs in the Oakland Center that broadcast OU TV. Plus, find out about a new student org, STUD.



Local page 10

The Detroit Institute of Arts celebrates its reopening. Plus, downtown Rochester lights up for the holidays.



you page 12

Could you have a drinking problem? Find out the signs and learn when to stop drinking. Plus, get the runway look for less.



The Mix page 16

So you thought you were eating okay? Deceiving fast foods and the healthier choices made by OU students.



Sports page 19

Men's soccer makes history at College Cup Tournament and men's basketball nearly pulls off upset of top-25 ranked Michigan State.



the Scene page 24

Behind the scenes with Taylor Swift and a review of the Bob Dylan bio-pic, "I'm Not There." Plus, Mario enters new territory for the Nintendo Wii.



MOUTHING OFF page 27

Take a trip to the alien universe of Black Friday. Plus, follow one man's heroic journey on his quest to conquer the turducken.



Nation | World page 30

Redskins' safety Sean Taylor dies after being shot in his home. Plus, French youths riot in Parisian suburbs, firing at officers and setting cars on fire.

FREE

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Find out how on
page 31.

FREE

Perspectives

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November 28, 2007

STAFF EDITORIAL

Don't let the stress of the season get you down

The season is upon us. Snow. Finals. Stress.

One cannot help but feel overwhelmed in the chaotic sprint to the finish of the fall semester.

As we complete our respective classes, we must not allow the commotion to dominate our well-being.

In fact, in these times of intensity, we should have the most serene composure.

The solution is simple.

Rather than offer the dollar-store self-help book response, one merely needs to understand the situation.

As the weather becomes cold, gloomy and unbearable, the mood of others is greatly affected. Subconsciously, we often are influenced by the external conditions. Our surroundings always play a role in our overall composition.

Once we realize this, we only need to be prepared for the effects that the external events will bring us. Taking our emotions by the horns, we can lead into the problems already armed and ready with the tools needed to overcome external influences.

An effort to intentionally acknowledge the realities of seasonal depression will do wonders compared to ignoring the issue entirely.

With the large amount of work already on your plate, the last thing that needs to hold you back is the weather.

Of course, the most pressing problem is that regarding the end-of-the-semester rush of papers, tests and projects.

We fail to pay attention to some easy alternatives to inundating stress.

The best solution is to stop the stress from marinating and the discourse from becoming too negative.

It is easy to just reflect the solutions to problems of stress. Application is obviously a different story.

However, there are often some impor-

tant simplicities that are forgotten.

Amidst the stress, we overlook these basic notions.

Such things like practicality and realism are forfeited for negative thoughts and expectations.

For instance, stress often accompanies narcissistic complaints that add to an unpleasant environment. We whine and cry about our upcoming projects and woes rather than channeling the energy to get the work done.

We hear the yells of, "I am so stressed," or "I can't wait until these two weeks are over!"

This collective angst boils into an atmosphere of tension that does little to assist in productive studying.

Several of our conversations transform into an analysis of the huge amount of work we have to complete.

Our complaints and agonies are a prime topic for too much of our interaction.

When it comes down to it, our stress only gets to us when we make it out to be stress. There is only so much that we can do in a certain moment of time.

Energy should be placed on completing that project in the moment. When one is completing the actual task at hand, the stress may diminish — focus is on the event exclusively.

Ultimately, most stress is concocted in our minds. Broadcasting and browbeating only cultivate the growth of a stressful environment.

With the seasonal shift and the concluding semester, it is quite easy to fall victim to the overwhelming situation.

Limit negative talk and stay in the moment.

There is enough energy already needed to study and get through the daily grind of late November and early December. We need not let stress or the weather get in our way.



RJ MATSON, The St. Louis Post Dispatch/Cagle Cartoons

The first DMV

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

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— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Media perpetuated Imus' sexism



Don Imus will once again host a nationally syndicated talk radio show. When the new "Imus in the Morning" show goes live from Citadel's WABC in New York on Dec. 3, it will happen almost eight months to the day after Imus and his sidekick, Bernard McGuiirk, made racially and sexually degrading remarks about the Rutgers women's basketball team.

I cannot help but wonder what this means in the grand scheme of things. Perhaps, and especially for Imus fans, it all came down to a simple case of forgive and forget.

High profile friends of Imus were practically tripping over each other to defend

him on the grounds of free speech. Opie and Anthony, Bill Maher, Pat Buchanan, and others carried the "Much Ado About Nothing" flag from day one.

Still, an argument can be made for the fact that Imus learned his lesson and will surely think again before using such derogatory terms. After all, it was Imus' edginess that endeared him to his listeners and viewers. With a tongue that sharp he was bound to slip sometime.

I am bothered by what this means in the bigger picture, specifically the precedent that it sets. From now on, under standard Imus operating procedure, a shock jock has the wiggle room to make a tasteless comment and reap all of the benefits.

Sure, he or she may lose their show and become vilified by the offended group du jour. But if the right apologies are offered to the right people and the host stays true to the fan base, the next big offer is only eight months away.

Don't forget about the multi-million dollar settlement with their former

employers, too.

Controversy equals ratings, and the Imus-Rutgers situation will likely prove to be just controversial enough to help raise Citadel's stock.

Why take a respectful stand against a guy that is bound to bring in a boatload of money for you?

The Forstmann brothers need to fuel their yachts, right?

I was a bit more troubled during the actual fallout of the remarks when the most important voice of all was left out of the dialogue: the black woman.

Somewhere along the way, people seemed to make it all about race and not enough about sexism. I tend to agree with Jason Whitlock when he writes in the Kansas City Star that Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson were motivated by the spotlight and not the defense of the Rutgers women's basketball team.

No one seemed to leave any room for African-American women to share their feelings on the matter. The male-dominated voices of the NAACP got what

they asked for when NBC and CBS radio cancelled "Imus in the Morning," then they all just went home.

The Rutgers players received their opportunity to speak out, but it was behind closed doors. Just seven days and there remained no more dialogue left to be had. Imus was on the cover of Time, and everyone moved on without hearing from the truly offended.

And now, eight months later, everyone and everything will be back to where they started. Imus will be on the radio, some of the Rutgers players will be focused on returning to the Women's Final Four, and America still does not seem to get it.

It is absolutely certain to happen again. An old white media man will cross the line of taste and we will all be forced to watch this saga unfold one more time.

The media will miss the point, the victims will not be given the podium and the old white man will still have his microphone.

The Cold War is over, but the arms race isn't

Guest Column



There are currently about 10,000 nuclear warheads maintained by the United States, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Ten thousand.

And that is not counting the thousands possessed by Russia, or the hundreds possessed by India, Pakistan, China, Israel, France and the United Kingdom.

The quest for political power and absolute hegemony has led to a suicidal buildup of arms that are unfit for this world.

There can be no sane argument for the use of nuclear weapons. Their main purpose is the wholesale destruction of cities, killing all inhabitants and destroying the infrastructure of the offending nation.

The use of nuclear weapons cannot even be justified in response to a nuclear first strike. How selfish it is to decide that since our nation is doomed we must doom the rest of the world. Of course a response is appropriate, but not one that will destroy all of humanity.

Some say we need nuclear weapons as a deterrent for other nuclear nations. A better deterrent is a strong conventional military and a strict non-interventionist foreign policy.

If the United States stopped attempting to force its will upon other nations through nuclear saber rattling there

would be a lot less nuclear tension between everyone involved. At least a sane policy change and a strong conventional military doesn't run the risk of destroying all intelligent life on the planet.

Nuclear proliferation and nuclear arms races are not relics of the Cold War. Even today, nuclear arms are being developed and improved in many countries, including the U.S.

This includes new delivery methods, advanced missiles and new techniques designed to maximize target destruction. The inter continental ballistic missile currently stocked by the U.S. is the Minuteman III. It can be equipped with upwards of three nuclear warheads with a power of 350 kilotons each. All together they pack about 60-times the power of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. This is all in a single missile.

President George W. Bush has made it clear that he has no intention of halting the use of nuclear weapons. During his regime the Reliable Replacement Warhead program has proceeded unhindered.

This program is going to allow new warhead designs and directly violate the spirit of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty the U.S. has signed.

This is not the message the United States government needs to be sending. Tensions are still very high between the U.S. and Russia as was made apparent recently when Bush tried to set up a missile defense system in Eastern Europe. This caused a significant backlash from Russia and threatened to start a new arms race.

Human civilization has made so much progress in government, technology and science in the past millennium. Yet the progress of weaponry has far outpaced the progress of our maturity.

The power of our bombs has increased by many factors of ten over the past thousand years, but our interactions on the world stage still resemble that of animals. We rake the

ground with our hooves and charge and crash our horns" together all to prove who is the biggest, meanest animal around.

Only now when we rake the ground, we are arming our nuclear warheads, and when we crash our horns, we are annihilating entire civilizations. Same behavior, bigger stakes.

At risk in our modern environment is the very survival of our species. We have the capability to destroy all life on this planet. Innocent civilians who have no qualms with the general populace of the "enemy" nation halfway around the globe are slaughtered for the sake of their great leader's ego.

We are at a critical point in the evolution of our species. On one hand we can put aside differences which, genetically speaking, are extremely insignificant and work together to better all of mankind. Or we can turn our home planet into a thermonuclear furnace, an irradiated, uninhabitable ember without a sign of life on it.

All the progress of our world, all the budding artists and their predecessors, all the poets, all the scientists, all the great discoverers, all the great inventors, wiped from the record because a few elite couldn't stop behaving like animals.

We like to think of ourselves in the U.S. as a great moral example for the rest of the world. At least that is what we should desire.

We need to set an example. We need to immediately dismantle every nuclear weapon we have — no exceptions. We cannot stand up and lament the acquisition of light nuclear technology by Iran while we sit on our precious pile of warheads.

When we destroy ours, then we may legitimately criticize the rest of the world for their irresponsible behavior. Until then our military is just as big a threat to us as any supposed nuclear threat overseas.

Understanding evil

*Is it in
the genes?*

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI
Editor in Chief

Once a week, evil comes to Oakland University.

It's studied and analyzed. And for three hours every Monday night, it even takes center stage.

It is on such nights that less than 10 master's students gather in a classroom tucked away in the corner of OU's Science and Engineering Building's ground floor to discuss the content of Dr. Barbara Oakley's book and the implications of its science on our world and history.

Oakley, an associate professor of engineering at Oakland, is the author of the recently published "Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed, and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend."

A book six years in the making, "Evil Genes" uses historical figures, cooking recipes and lactose intolerance to address the science behind evil people.

It is an eclectic approach from an eclectic woman.

"We are taught, incorrectly, that everyone is basically good," Oakley said. "It's very, very important that we recognize what science is telling us."

According to Oakley, it is possible that evil tendencies in people are determined, at least in part, by genetics.

"Evil Genes" is the result of compiling research done by various scholars over the

past 50 years.

Incorporating the study with her own personal experiences of evil people, Oakley takes her readers on a hitchhiking journey through brain mechanics, psychopathy and good old-fashioned drama and suspense.

And yes, her sister really did steal her mother's boyfriend.

"Evil Genes" is Oakley's second contribution to bookstore shelves.

Her first work, "Hair of the Dog: Tales From Aboard a Russian Trawler," chronicles her experiences as a Russian translator working with the KGB.

Other entries on this professor's resume include teaching in Manchuria, working as a U.S. Army captain, contributing to the New York Times and working as a radio operator at the South Pole Station in Antarctica where she met her husband, Philip.

"Saying yes [to his marriage proposal] was the smartest thing I ever did," Oakley said.

Twenty-five years later, the Oakleys have tripled in number, boasting two daughters, ages 16 and 18, and two adopted sons from Kosovo, ages 27 and 28.

Oakley's eldest daughter currently is a student at Oakland, a fine educational opportunity, according to Oakley.

see OAKLEY on Page 7



Photos by DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Dr. Barbara Oakley, an associate professor of engineering at Oakland University, is the author of the recently published book "Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed, and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend." She proposes that evil is something that is a result of a person's genetic makeup. "It's very, very important that we recognize what science is telling us," she said.



WHAT SHE'S READING

"The Blank Slate"
by Steven Pinker

"The Nurture Assumption"
by Judith Rich Harris

"The New Thought Police: Inside the
Left's Assault on Free Speech and Free
Minds"
by Tammy Bruce

"Forty Ways to Look at Winston
Churchill: A Brief Account of a Long Life"
by Gretchen Rubin

"Whatever you might believe about the role of genetics versus environment, 'Evil Genes' will take you somewhere you haven't been. Barbara Oakley brilliantly reveals the falseness of one of the ego's evil little lies: that all our behavior is decided by us."

Gavin DeBecker

Best-selling author of "The Gift of Fear"

OAKLEY from Page 6

PROFESSOR'S BOOK PRESENTS NEW THEORIES ON EVIL AND ITS CAUSES

She argues that the Ivy League experience often is hindered by the high level of competition among professors.

The pressure to frequently publish work does not always allow for thinking that deviates from the norm.

"You get more from coming to Oakland than from Harvard" because you're taught outside the box, Oakley said.

OU students can attest to Oakley's boxless approach to teaching.

Rob Wachler, a student in OU's master of arts in liberal studies program, described Oakley as "transparent" and "out of the box."

Fellow master's student Lori Heublein credited Oakley's novelty to her long list of varied experiences.

"Other professors, they travel. But she's the first I've met with such an exotic history," Heublein said.

Both Wachler and Heublein are finishing a semester in Oakley's Evil Genes course at OU.

Oakley was asked to teach the class, which incorporates the medical science of genetics in a simultaneous psychological study of human behavior.

As an engineering professor, Oakley may not seem like the most likely candidate to teach the subject.

But she says that researching outside of one's disciplines often can yield fresh results and new ideas.

Though Oakley's students are in a master's program at OU, their educational status is not meant to intimidate.

Oakley's book is written for the masses.

"It's an easy read for people who are not scientifically minded," said Coleen Genette, a master's student at Oakland.

Wachler agreed, calling it "the kind of book [you

would] walk into a bookstore and read."

In addition, the small class recognized the many merits of having presented such an accessible analysis of science.

"It gives some hope to parents whose children are bad or evil. You always are made to feel that it's your fault," said Helen Basberg, an OU master's student. "[Evil Genes] is an 'Oh, wow!' kind of book."

In addition to praises from students, Oakley has received positive feedback from a number of established authors and scholars, namely Cormac McCarthy, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of "The Road" and "All the Pretty Horses."

Oakley said that McCarthy personally sent six pages of notes and suggestions to her after calling to say that he loved her book.

For information, go to www.barbaraoakley.com.

THE GRIZZDANCE WINNERS

After a successful event Nov. 15-16, the third annual Grizzdance Film Festival has announced the 2007 winners.

BEST EDITING

Lord Save Our Souls – Jared Radtke

BEST ACTING

Lord Save Our Souls – Jared Radtke

SPECIAL EFFECTS

Blue – Blake O. Kleiner

COMEDY

Dawn of Confusion – Ryan Falchek

MUSIC EDITING

Lord Save Our Souls – Jared Radtke

TELEVISION

PRODUCTION

Rent-A-Cop – Peter Banachowski

COSTUME DESIGN

Dawn of Confusion – Ryan Falchek

STUDENT CHOICE

Overcoming Parker – Tom Lindell

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Overcoming Parker – Tom Lindell

OVERALL

1st Place

Lord Save Our Souls – Jared Radtke

2nd Place

Overcoming Parker – Tom Lindell

3rd Place

Dawn of Confusion – Ryan Falchek

DIRECTING

Lord Save Our Souls – Jared Radtke

STORY/WRITING

Overcoming Parker – Tom Lindell

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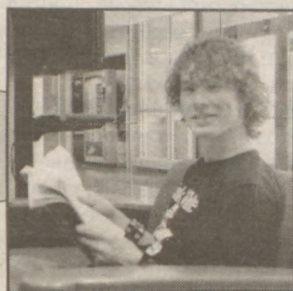
Name: Andrew Bashi
Major: International Relations
Year: Junior
What he's reading: "Uncertainty lingers on budget despite recent break"
Favorite section in The Post: Mouthing Off

The goods:
 a Barnes & Noble gift card



Name: Allasandra Walkowiak
Major: Biology
Year: Sophomore
What she's reading: "Clinton speaks on world issues"
Favorite section in The Post: Campus

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Name: Nick Rorick
Major: Business
Year: Sophomore
What he's reading: "WXOU gets enhanced signal"
Favorite section in The Post: Perspectives

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Name: Mike Cojocari
Major: Computer Science Engineering
Year: Graduate
What he's reading: "Gearing up for Grizzdance"
Favorite section in The Post: Campus

The goods:
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University awards honorary doctorate

By NICK DEGEL
 Senior Reporter

Oakland University Academic Affairs has awarded an honorary doctorate of science to Stephan Sharf for his long commitment to academic excellence at OU.

The Oakland University Board of Trustees approved the award in a consent agenda at the Nov. 7 formal meeting.

"Stephan Sharf has been a valued friend to Oakland University for many, many years," OU President Gary Russi said. "His contributions and service to OU have had a tremendous impact on the entire university community — students, faculty and staff."

Sharf served as director of the OU Foundation 1985-2005 and as a Board of Trustees member 1987-1994.

"I can think of no one more deserving of this honor than Stephan Sharf," said Provost Virinder Moudgil, who also is vice president of academic affairs at OU.

An engineer by trade, Sharf was a

perfect candidate for an honorary doctorate in science.

His contributions to the university also include the establishment of scholarships for DaimlerChrysler employees and their families, as well as support for the development of the R & S Golf Course.

"The indelible stamp he has made on Oakland will last forever," Moudgil said.

According to academic affairs, honorary degrees can be awarded to anyone with an accomplished career in the areas of academia, business, government, the profession and all areas of public affairs. They cannot be awarded to current employees of Oakland University.

To protect the distinction of the degrees, they only are to be awarded to individuals of special merit who have made significant contributions to society.

"It has been our great fortune to count Stephan Sharf as a good friend, and his legacy to this campus will live on for generations to come," Russi said.

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Contact Cressie Smith at
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STITCHES Doll Project: Women Living with HIV

Friday, November 30th
 12PM – 1PM
 Fireside Lounge, OC

STITCHES Doll Project shares the artistic stories of women living with HIV. The project gives women a safe place to voice their feelings about how HIV has affected their lives, but it is also a gift that others can learn from.

Dolls are displayed in the OC lower level display case November 6 - December 15.

Winter Wonderland

Saturday, December 1st
 11AM – 2PM
 Banquet Rooms, OC

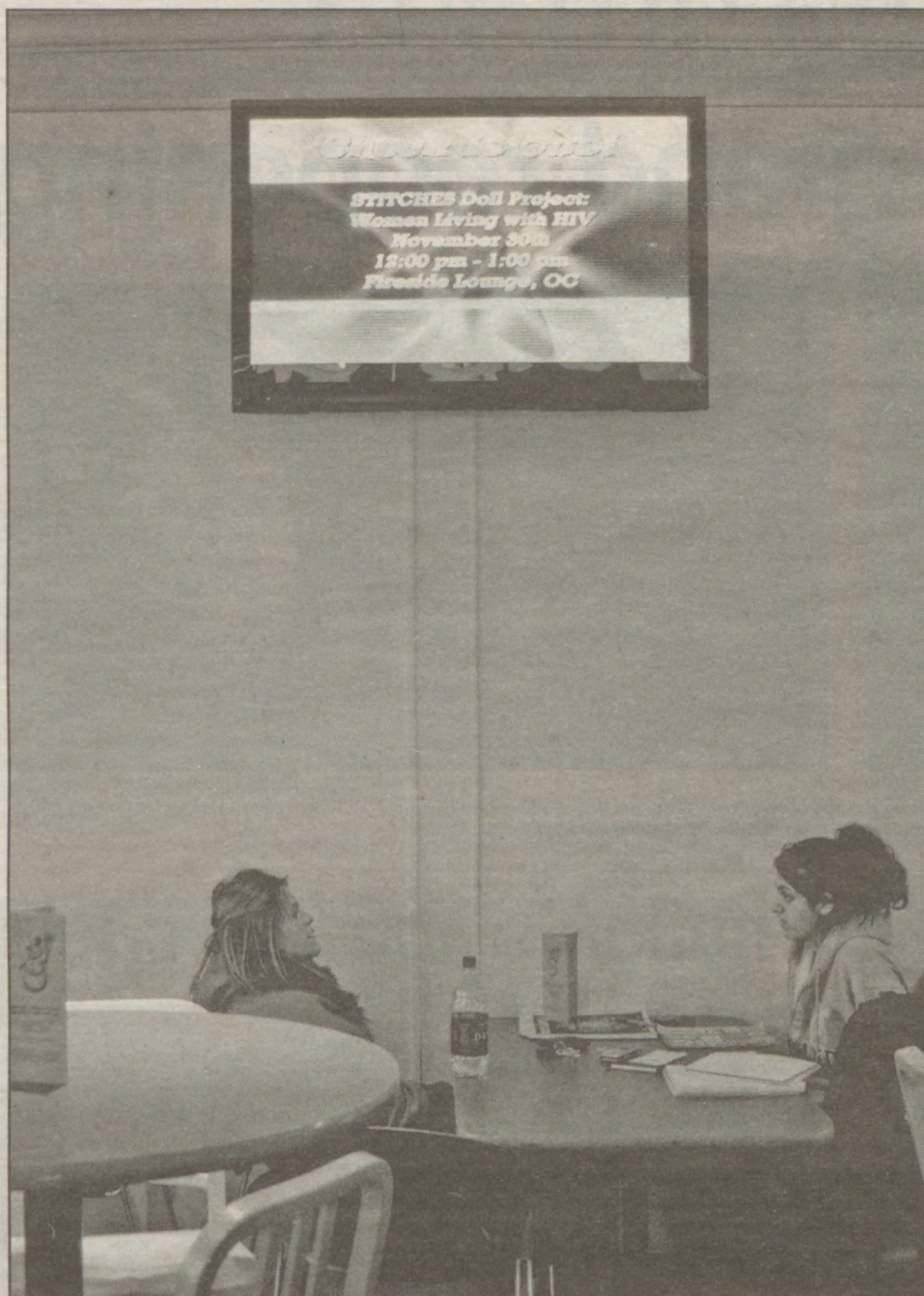
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Tuesday, December 4th • 11AM – 1PM • Gold Rooms, OC

STUDENTS CAN STAY TUNED IN AT THE OC



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Plasma televisions have been installed in the Oakland Center this semester to broadcast OU's student programming, OU TV. According to Courtney Brooks, president of student video production, the project has been in the works since early spring. "It has been a really big promo for our channel. It really increased our viewership," Brooks said. OU TV has a variety of student programming, including entertainment and news.

POLICEFILES

A student reported Nov. 13 that his car parked in a lot near the 4000 University Student Apartments had eggs on the hood. The incident appeared to be random because more eggs were found on a nearby car.

Oakland University police responded Nov. 15 to investigate a suspicious odor coming from a room in Van Wagoner House. A student answered the

door and confessed to smoking marijuana. OUPD confiscated a bag containing marijuana and various paraphernalia. The student was arrested.

A driving dispute that began between two women at Great Lakes Crossing Nov. 19 escalated when the two returned to the fourth floor of South Hamlin. A verbal altercation ensued between the two women, and they both threatened to assault each other. Other residents separated the two before the incident became physical. The hall director filed a report to the OUPD.

Group aims to alter disability stereotypes

STUD works to help students understand each other better

By JARED PURCELL
Contributing Reporter

Students with disabilities at Oakland University have created a new student organization for both disabled and non-disabled students to have a better understanding of each other.

The new group, Students Toward Understanding Disabilities (STUD), was the brainchild of Brian Wigman, a student at OU.

The group said that it has had some great turnouts early on in its development.

At its opening-night meeting Oct. 31, about 20 people showed up to discuss goals and the future of the group.

Attendees also shared stories and fresh ideas.

"I don't care if you have a disability or not — you treat people like people," said Wigman, who has cerebral palsy.

Wigman is the co-president of STUD along with Oakland University student Laura White, who is blind.

"We had both been sort of thinking of the idea, but Brian was the one who actually had the courage to say 'Why don't we do this?'" White said. "It's also a chance to advocate for change and for positive effects in society instead of the negative stereotypes and attitudinal barriers."

STUD made its first appearance on Facebook, a popular Web site among students.

The group is open to anyone inside or outside of Oakland University as a place where people can talk about their experiences with those with disabilities.

At last count, STUD has 355 Facebook members from different parts of the state, country and world.

Philip Zupon has been a student at Oakland University since 2004, and he is glad that a group such as this has been created.

"This is the first time I've ever seen any type of group interested in advocating people with dis-

abilities," said Zupon, who has Asperger's syndrome, which is a form of autism. "I always wanted to start a group like this, but I never thought that anyone would ever be interested."

Linda Sisson, director of disability support services at OU, believes that STUD has a lot of potential to make a positive impact on campus.

"This is for, about, and with the students," Sisson said. "It's totally necessary."

"The students have to want this and push this forward, and I'm here to support them. I think we have some very passionate people involved. The time is right," she said.

STUD says that it believes that the common understanding of what "normal" means has to be redefined.

"For all of my life, I've been kind of hiding behind the curtains trying to come across as some 'average Joe' normal guy ... waiting for the day when I can finally speak out and say, 'Look I have a disability, and there are many people like me,'" Zupon said.

"This group means so much to me," Wigman said. "These guys are family. It's just remarkable. This group means an incredible amount for all of us."

The group said that it hopes having a clever acronym will encourage even more students to get involved.

"It's catchy, it's cute, it's a good idea, it's attention getting and the looks that we were getting from the people at the café around us were priceless," White said.

"Who doesn't want to be a STUD?" Wigman asked.

For information on the group and future meetings, go to www.freewebs.com/oustud.

People interested in getting involved with STUD can join the Facebook group at <http://oakland.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6321855241>.

The group also can be contacted by e-mail at studgrizz@yahoo.com.

DIA celebrates grand reopening

Weekend of free admission attracts new visitors

The Associated Press

The DIA is celebrating its grand reopening following a six-year, \$158 million renovation.

Visitors to the newly renovated Detroit Institute of Arts were greeted with 32 consecutive hours of free admission beginning Friday, Nov. 23.

But that changed permanently Tuesday as the suggested \$6 admission is being scrapped for a mandatory \$8 fee, the Detroit Free Press reported.

DIA officials got their wish Tuesday when the Detroit City Council approved the fee hike. Council members also are looking at a proposal by the DIA to offer free admission to Detroit residents one day each week. That plan could be approved as

early as next week.

Under the old policy, the average visitor paid only \$2.50, officials said.

About 300,000 people passed through the museum last year.

A mandatory fee could raise \$1 million to \$2 million each year in additional income, chief operating officer Nettie Seabrooks told the Free Press.

The DIA's operating deficits have been between \$12 million and \$15 million each year.

The DIA is closed Mondays and Tuesdays, and is open Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. — 5 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. — 10 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. — 6 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.dia.org/>.



KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL, Detroit Free Press/Associated Press
Museum attendees end their night Saturday at the DIA in downtown Detroit by viewing sculptures in the newly renovated building.

Mayors meet to discuss the nation's housing crisis

By DAVID RUNK

The Associated Press

A mortgage industry group agreed Tuesday to help the nation's mayors raise public awareness about ways to avoid falling into foreclosure as part of an effort to address the nation's housing crisis.

The agreement was announced following a meeting in Detroit organized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and attended by mayors from across the country. The Mortgage Bankers Association also plans to help cities get access to information on homes in foreclosure to ensure those properties don't blight neighborhoods.

"The foreclosure crisis has the potential to break the backbone of our economy," said Douglas Palmer, mayor of Trenton, N.J., and president of the mayors' group following the meeting at the MGM Grand Detroit hotel.

The day-long National Forum on Homeownership Preservation and Foreclosures was closed to the media, but mayors said progress was made. The mayors' plan to discuss the housing crisis again at a Conference of Mayors meeting in January.

Representatives of community groups and the mortgage industry were among those in attendance.

Paul Richman, senior director for

government affairs for the Mortgage Bankers Association, said his group plans to send a camera crew to the January meeting to allow mayors to tape public service announcements. Last week, the association introduced a public service announcement in Detroit on the issue starring mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. And Richman said other mayors would be able to create similar spots in January.

"The lenders are trying," Richman said. "This is a new situation for a lot of lenders. ... It's a process. It's not going to happen overnight."

Richman said the association also plans to use its Web site to help give cities access to information about properties in foreclosure and companies responsible for keeping up those homes.

The housing market slump has made it harder for financially strapped home buyers to sell their homes and avoid missing payments or losing their homes in foreclosure. Increasingly, many borrowers who took out adjustable-rate mortgages and other loans with monthly payments that increase after an initial period also are finding they can't afford their payments.

John Taylor, president and chief executive of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, said it's clear from the meeting that the mayors under-

stand the scope of the mortgage problem and the potential for it to further harm the economy. But he said more needs to be done in Washington, D.C. to address the problem.

"The mayors are getting it," Taylor said. "I really sense that."

Kilpatrick and others placed some of the blame for the housing crisis on Wall Street investors who profited from loans that eventually went sour. While the mayors want to get Wall Street representatives to the table, Kilpatrick said they weren't invited to the Detroit meeting.

Before Tuesday's gathering, the mayors' group released a report that said rising foreclosures will lead to billions of dollars in lost economic activity next year in the nation's major metropolitan areas. But it said homeowners and financial institutions have the ability to work together to contain the effects.

Prepared for the Conference of Mayors by forecasting and consulting firm Global Insight, the report said weak residential investment, lower spending and income in the construction industry and curtailed consumer spending because of falling home values will combine to hold back the nation's economic activity.

"The wave of foreclosures that has rippled across the U.S. has already battered some of our largest financial institutions, created ghost towns of once vibrant

neighborhoods — and it's not over yet," the report said.

The biggest losses in economic activity are projected for some of the nation's largest metropolitan areas. New York is expected to lose \$10.4 billion in economic activity in 2008, followed by Los Angeles at \$8.3 billion, Dallas and Washington at \$4 billion each, and Chicago at \$3.9 billion. The Detroit area is No. 7 on that list, with \$3.2 billion in lost economic activity.

The report estimates U.S. gross domestic product growth in 2008 will be 1.9 percent, coming in about \$166 billion — or one percentage point — lower as a result of mortgage problems.

The report also projects property values will decline by \$1.2 trillion in 2008, due in part to the foreclosure crisis, with drops in home prices across the U.S. averaging 7 percent. And it said the loss of property, sales and real estate transfer taxes will hurt local and state governments.

But homeowners, banks, holders of mortgage-backed securities and loan servicers can work together to ease the economic effects, the report said. Agreeing to new payment terms on some loans, for example, could make the difference between a family keeping a home and losing it in foreclosure.

Let the city shine

Millions of lights adorn buildings in Downtown Rochester

By TYLER CAMERON
Local News Editor

Every holiday season, downtown Rochester lights up like Las Vegas with millions of lights decorating the buildings.

From the south bridge to University Dr., all the buildings on Main Street will be covered, along with East and West Fourth Streets.

Other holiday festivities include the Snowflake Spectacular on the Western Knitting Mill on Water St., as well as lighted displays on Walnut Blvd. from Third St. to W. University Dr. and a Dancing Tree of Lights at the Depot Plaza at E. University Dr. and Water St.

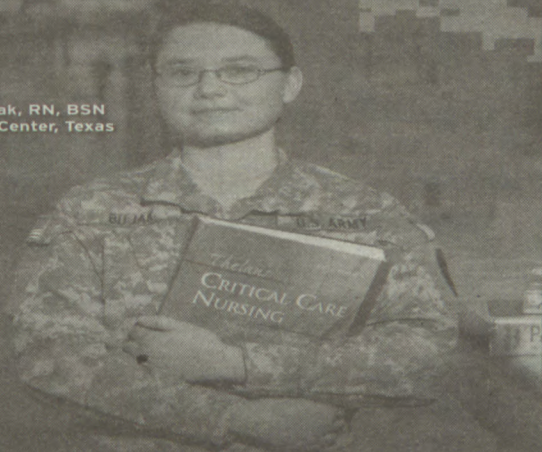
The Big, Bright Light Show debuted Nov. 26, and the displays are lit every night through Dec. 31. For more information on The Big, Bright Light Show, visit <http://www.downtownrochestermi.com/Events.aspx>.



Drivers in downtown Rochester enjoy the mesmerizing and colorful lights of The Big, Bright Light Show. Every evening until Dec. 31, the downtown area lights up and offers a beautiful spectacle for anyone fortunate enough to be passing by.

DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

1st Lt. Malgorzata Bujak, RN, BSN
Brooke Army Medical Center, Texas



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The booze overload

Learn when to stop drinking and the signs of an alcohol problem

By STACIE BARTMAN
Contributing Reporter

You're home for the holidays, celebrating at a party — a deserved break from classes. You turn your attention for only a second to see a friend collapse.

In a panic, people are yelling, "Wake up! Wake up! Open your eyes!"

College is a time for getting an education, making new friends and memories and going to parties.

It is also a time when alcohol can become abused, the results of which can lead to physical and mental illness, with serious cases having the potential to result in death.

"It's not where you drink, what you drink, how much you drink or who you drink with. It's what happens when you drink," said Jacqueline Castine, of the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority.

Knowing when to stop, the problem signs and becoming fully educated on what alcohol is, as well as where to

seek help, are the basic essentials to alcohol awareness, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

According to MedicinePlus, a U.S. National Library of Medicine, and the National Institutes of Health, alcohol abuse is defined as men who consume 15 or more drinks a week, women who consume 12 or more drinks a week or anyone who consumes five or more drinks per occasion at least once a week. All are at risk for developing alcoholism.

One drink is defined as a 12-ounce bottle of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine or a 1 1/2-ounce shot of liquor, according to MedicinePlus.

Alcohol is a depressant causing decreased alertness, emotional instability, and reduced social inhibitions. Impairment of reaction time, and motor skills are challenged, inability to operate a vehicle and vomiting or unconsciousness can result according to the institute.

Jackie Grimm, a junior communications major states that she feels "students



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

According to www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov, a person's blood alcohol concentration can continue to rise even after he or she has stopped drinking or passed out.

are aware that it inhibits you from doing a lot of things you could normally do. However, I don't think they realize the long-term effects as much and how much it can affect others in their lives."

According to Michigan law it is illegal to drive with a blood alcohol content over .08. Michigan State Police reported 6,542 drinking-and-driving arrests for Oakland County in 2006.

"Know your limits. Educate yourself, and know when you or a friend of yours is getting intoxicated," said Auburn Hills Crime Prevention police officer Michael Kayzyak.

"There is nothing wrong with letting loose and having a good time on a Friday night. Just know when to stop," he said.

According to the institute, excessive drinking in a small amount of time could be due to stress and should not go unrecognized as a potential problem.

Consumption in a small period of time is defined as binge drinking. According to the MayoClinic, "binge drinking is a common cause of alcohol poisoning."

Signs of alcohol poisoning are mental confusion, stupor, coma, nonresponsiveness, vomiting, seizures, slow breathing (fewer than eight breaths per minute), irregular breathing (10 seconds or more between breaths), hypothermia (low

body temperature) and bluish skin color or paleness, according to www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov.

"A person's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) can continue to rise even after he or she has stopped drinking or passed out. Alcohol in the stomach and intestine continues to enter the bloodstream and circulate throughout the body," according to the Web site.

Common myths about sobering up, which are defined as false by the Web site, include drinking black coffee, taking a cold bath or shower, sleeping it off or walking it off.

"Friends should worry about each other, especially when it concerns something as crucial as drinking" said Benji Elmgren, a junior political science major.

Some signs that drinking may be more in control of your life than you are aware of are: regular daily intake of large amounts, regular heavy drinking limited to weekends, long periods of sobriety with binges of daily heavy drinking lasting for weeks or months and heavy drinking limited to periods of stress according to the Web site.

Contact Oakland County PACE unit at 1-888-350-0900 ext. 85200 for information about awareness or help.

Are you drinking too much?

Answer these questions, then score yourself according to the key.

1. Have you ever thought you should cut down on your drinking?
2. Has your drinking caused any problems for you with school, friends, family or work?
3. Has anyone ever told you that you drink too much?
4. Do you drink when you're alone?
5. Have you ever thought that your life might be better if you could stop drinking?

Key: If you answered yes to any one of these questions, this is a sign that you have a problem with alcohol. If you answered yes to any two, the chances are that you do have a problem with alcohol. If you answered yes to three or more, you definitely have a problem with alcohol.

For a complete list of questions visit www.self-renewal.com/tests_alcohol.htm.

Save your pennies this holiday season

Learn how to shop for gifts without breaking the bank

By **TIM RATH**
Contributing Reporter

Credit card companies see college students much like hunters see turkeys. They wait patiently all year for the right time to strike then lure us into situations using calls they know we like.

However, while turkey-hunting season may be over, debtors season is right around the corner.

Fear not. With a little knowledge and financial responsibility by your side, you can avoid spending the winter semester under a cloud of debt from the holiday season.

Giovanna Briggs knows how you feel. As a banker at TCF Bank in Rochester Hills, she understands the temptation to go beyond your means while holiday shopping.

"As a growing adult, you want to show your family that you can afford nice things for them, and after all, 'tis the season for overspending," she said.

However, it doesn't have to end up that way.

"Most banks offer an account that deducts as much as you want from your checks all year and puts it into a Christmas fund. We cut you a check in mid-October ... and then you can go shopping," Briggs said.

"This is a good way to avoid the enticement of credit all together. When the cash is gone, you're done shopping."

Granted, good credit will help immensely with future major purchases. In the meantime, however, most college students should be careful of when to use the plastic seducers.

"I only use mine a couple of times a month, exclusively for things I need," said Oakland University senior Joe Gunnells. "I only keep one card ... always looking around for better interest rates. And I make sure that I pay the bill off right away."

However, credit card debt doesn't need to invade your space like relatives over the holidays. Basic financial responsibility will go a long way to ensure a fat wallet.

"College students need to remember what they have," Briggs said. "Overdraft fees can snowball to the point where you're paying hundreds for small purchases ... because ATM cards let you go negative. If everyone balanced their checkbook, we'd never make any money."

Gunnells agrees. "With the economy the way that it is, it looks like the rebel of 2008 balances their checkbook," he said. "I like to get affordable gifts for people that I feel good about buying for: family, close friends ... I simply don't let enough people into my heart to go into debt."

Of course, you don't have to play the Grinch this year. "Books are key for friends," he continues. "One good book can all but guarantee good conversation all year and a nice gift for me next Christmas ... responsibility is key."

Whatever your method, it seems that self-restraint, responsibility and knowledge of self should ensure a New Year's Eve without debt hangover.

AVOID HOLIDAY DEBT

1. Set spending limits — Look at your monthly budget to figure out what you can ideally spend to set aside for holiday spending without going into debt.
2. Make a list — Make a list of all the people you need or want to buy gifts for, including small gifts which can add up.
3. Set a limit — Set a limit on how much you want to spend on each person on your list and make sure it doesn't exceed your spending limit.
4. Decide where to shop — If you don't wait until the last minute you'll have time to comparison shop.

Source: www.financialplan.about.com

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High-end fashion for less money

Designers Vera Wang and Roberto Cavalli launch lines at affordable prices

By SHANEIA CALDWELL
Contributing Reporter

At times, students flip through magazines eyeing high-end fashion designer clothing. We imagine ourselves in a Vera Wang satin top or Roberto Cavalli dress.

Many feel that this high-end fashion is unattainable and seems to live on another planet. Many can only wish those silhouettes were a part of their wardrobe.

But this year, high-fashion designers like Vera Wang and Roberto Cavalli along with celebrity designer Sarah Jessica Parker proved they aren't married to high-end and costly fashion. The designers have launched lines in lower-end stores.

Now, students living on a budget can experience high glamour at a low price.

"We don't have any money to buy nice dresses. We see a bag for \$800 on TV, and say we want it, and now we can have it," said senior elementary education major, Casey Hartley, who says she loves to shop.

From the runway to the red carpet, from the store aisle to college dorms, almost everyone can be stylish while wearing Simply Vera by Vera Wang.

Wang, known for her bridal wear, has introduced a line that can be bought by more than just the elite. The line launched in Kohl's stores in early September.

Simply Vera has real estate in almost every department of the store, whether it's apparel, jewelry, shoes, undergarments, sleepwear, handbags or bedding. However, Simply Vera is Kohl's highest-priced brand.

The collection encompasses everything from pleated waist skirts to satin pants to color block tops to jeweled jackets. The items range from \$38 to \$118.

"They [Simply Vera clothes] looked like they came out of Vogue magazine. She has beautiful dresses," said Brittany Atkinson freshman business major.

The line includes ample everyday staples such as denim, knit tops, tank tops, cardigans and scoop neck tees. The

most expensive items are coats which range from \$128 to \$158.

"I think it's great that the clothes are in Kohl's," freshman Tara Felock said. "It gives us more for our money, and we can still be fashionable."

Italian designer Roberto Cavalli has also aimed to cater to people of all economic backgrounds.

Cavalli introduced an affordable line in the Sweden-based Hennes and Mauritz on Nov. 8. The line was only released in 10 U.S. stores, with the Chicago store on Michigan Avenue being the closest to OU.

"It gives us more options with our fashion," senior Lisa Squiers said. Squiers said she thinks it is a good idea for designers to put lines in budget-priced stores.

Cavalli's collection consists of 20 men's and 25 women's pieces, including underwear and accessories.

Prices range from \$12.49 for animal print stockings to \$59 for a mandarin collared shirt to \$68 for jeans. The most expensive item in the line is a gown for \$349.

Sarah Jessica Parker, who starred as fashion icon Carrie Bradshaw on "Sex and the City," has also been bitten by the fashion bug. Parker released a line exclusively at Steve & Barry's stores on June 7.

"I've seen Sara Jessica Parker clothes and I think they're so cute," Felock said. "You can mix and match."

Parker's collection, Bitten, consists of apparel, swimwear, loungewear, costume jewelry, handbags, belts, sunglasses and shoes.

Most pieces retail for \$19.98 or less. "The cheaper the clothes, the better," Hartley said.



SHANEIA CALDWELL/The Oakland Post
Junior Deanna Dillworth models a Simply Vera ensemble. The sale price is about \$140.70. The metallic hand bag is \$39.20 on sale.

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Isaac Mizrahi for Target


Nicole Miller's new less-expensive line at JC Penney

Actress Amanda Bynes' Dear at Steve & Barry's

Eleven by Venus Williams at Steve & Barry's

Starbury by Stephon Marbury at Steve & Barry's

Daisy Fuentes' new less-expensive line at Kohl's



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Nutrition Facts

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Servings Per Container ???

Amount Per Serving

Calories 420 Calories from Fat 90

	% Daily Value*
Total Fat	10 (G)
Saturated Fat	2 (G)
Trans Fat	0 (G)
Cholesterol	70 (MG)
Sodium	1190 (MG)
Total Carbohydrate	51 (G)
Dietary Fiber	4 (G)
Sugars	11 (G)
Protein	32 (G)

Vitamin A 4% • Vitamin C 10%

Calcium 8% • Iron 20%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.



"Grilled chicken breast with
broccoli and rice."

Stan Vespie
Junior, Biochemistry



Burger King V



"I typically eat
vegetables, anything
green is good
— cucumbers, green
peppers, salads."

Stefan St. Louis
Sophomore, Business

Taco Bell Mexican Pizza



Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 7.6 OZ

Servings Per Container ???

Amount Per Serving

Calories 530 Calories from Fat 270

	% Daily Value*
Total Fat	30 (G)
Saturated Fat	8 (G)
Trans Fat	1 (G)
Cholesterol	40 (G)
Sodium	1000 (MG)
Total Carbohydrate	46 (G)
Dietary Fiber	7 (G)
Sugars	20 (G)

Protein

Vitamin A 3% • Vitamin C 8%

Calcium 35% • Iron 20%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.



Subway 6-inch Meatball Marinara Toasted Sub

KS



Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 13.3 OZ
Servings Per Container ???

Amount Per Serving

Calories 560 Calories from Fat 220

% Daily Value*

Total Fat	24 (G)
Saturated Fat	11 (G)
Trans Fat	1 (G)
Cholesterol	45 (MG)
Sodium	1590 (MG)
Total Carbohydrate	53 (G)
Dietary Fiber	8 (G)
Sugars	13 (G)
Protein	24 (G)

Vitamin A 15% • Vitamin C 60%

Calcium 20% • Iron 40%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs:



"Fruits — apples and grapes
are my favorite."

Syed Mesbahuddin
Sophomore, Biology

THINGS WE DO TO ENSURE CARDIOLOGISTS DON'T GO OUT OF BUSINESS

1. WE FRY EVERYTHING FROM CHICKEN TO CARROTS
2. WE HAVE DECIDED SEX IS THE ONLY WORK OUT WE NEED
3. WE DESPITE THE RESEARCH AND COST WE STILL LIGHT UP
4. WE EAT HOT DOGS STUFFED WITH CHEESE AND WRAPPED WITH BACON
5. WE CALL IT EXERCISE WHEN WE TAKE THE STAIRS
6. WE EVEN ORDER OUR SUSHI TEMPURA
7. WE PLAN OUR AFTER WORK ACTIVITIES AROUND TV

7
Select

g Whopper with Cheese

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size 11.1 OZ
Servings Per Container ???

Amount Per Serving

Calories 760 Calories from Fat 420

% Daily Value*

Total Fat	47 (G)
Saturated Fat	16 (G)
Trans Fat	1.5 (G)
Cholesterol	115 (MG)
Sodium	1450 (MG)
Total Carbohydrate	52 (G)
Dietary Fiber	3 (G)
Sugars	11 (G)
Protein	33 (G)

Vitamin A ??? • Vitamin C ???

Calcium ??? • Iron ???

*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs:



"I love to eat salads,
especially Caesar salads."

Sandy Habib
Sophomore, Biology

WORD OF THE WEEK:

ARBITRATE

ARBITRATE(V): TO JUDGE A DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO
OPPOSING PARTIES

AHR-BI-TRAYT

EXAMPLE: THE STUDENT WITH THE HIGHEST MARK
WAS CHOSEN TO ARBITRATE THE DEBATE.

SOURCE: WWW.DICTIONARY.COM

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Conquering Sparta

Men's soccer team defeats Michigan State, advances to second round of NCAA College Cup against Notre Dame

By **ROB TATE**
Assistant Sports Editor

EAST LANSING — It was freezing cold, and with mud smeared all over their jerseys, the Golden Grizzlies men's soccer team was victorious.

For the first time since Oakland University joined the ranks of NCAA Division I athletics, a Golden Grizzly team will play past the first round of an NCAA Tournament in any team sport after defeating Michigan State Saturday, 2-1.

It was exciting, nerve racking, bloody, muddy and as physical and brutal as a classic American football game.

The buzz around Old Campus Field at Michigan State University was how physical the Golden Grizzlies played. Little did the MSU faithful know, this is what Oakland soccer is all about and it isn't for the faint of heart.

After 90 minutes of intense, physical action, the Golden Grizzlies had their win and will welcome a couple more days of practice to prepare for the next round.

Who would have known that a team could get themselves pumped up by committing a couple of yellow card inducing fouls? Well, Oakland did just that Saturday.

Michigan State took advantage of some Oakland turnovers in the backfield and the Spartans capitalized with two shots on goal in the 31st minute. Spartan forward Spencer Thompson was denied at the 30:11 mark, which was tipped by Oakland goalkeeper Steve Clark and went over the net. On the ensuing corner kick, Raushawn McKenzie headed the ball on net, but Clark made another big save.

The physical play picked up from there. Oakland junior midfielder Piotr Nowak earned a yellow card on a slide tackle and less than two minutes later, fellow midfielder Gabe Hernandez picked up a yellow card of his own, also for a slide tackle.

The calls on the field must have charged up the Golden Grizzlies, because they came out firing from there.

Eighteen seconds after Hernandez's yellow card, Oakland intercepted the free kick by the Spartans. Senior Michael Reyes, who just entered the game off the bench, came screaming up the sideline at the loose ball, crossed a pass to Nowak who pounded the ball in the back of the net for his fifth goal of the season.

Reyes has been a huge part of Oakland's postseason success, earning the Most Valuable Player award at

The Summit League conference tournament Nov. 18.

"He has just been unbelievable coming off the bench," head coach Gary Parsons said of Reyes. "My two assistant coaches said to start him, but when I do, he is only so good."

Reyes has accepted his role of coming off the bench this season in stride.

"Coach has me on the bench, but sometimes I have to make a difference just to get him to start me, but I have to do something off the bench too. You just have to be strong for your teammates," Reyes said.

Oakland was excited, but not satisfied with its first goal. One minute and 10 seconds later, junior Martin Sandell rang one off the crossbar. After the Spartans cleared the ball out of bounds, Sandell sent a corner kick high in front of the net where sophomore Stew Givens headed the ball off the post.

Arguably the turning point in Oakland's victory involved a Michigan State player's mistake.

In the last minute of the second half, McKenzie took a swipe at a Golden Grizzly player after Clark wrapped the ball in the goal area. McKenzie was given a red card and the Spartans had to play short-handed the rest of the game.

It didn't take Oakland long to take advantage of the error in the second half. Sophomore forward Stefan St. Louis, who joined the team late in the season, scored his third goal of the season in the 46th minute off a Logan Lyon pass.

Parsons has stressed the importance of getting multiple goal leads all season.

"Getting two goals was important. In fact, I kind of wanted three," Parsons said afterwards.

Oakland maintained constant pressure on Michigan State the rest of the way, but were unable to put another ball past Michigan State goalkeeper Chris Austin.



Photo Courtesy of Michigan State University Sports Information
Oakland University soccer players celebrate their big 2-1 victory in the first round of the NCAA College Cup tournament in East Lansing. The Golden Grizzlies will move on to play Notre Dame.

The course of action was still physical in the second half. Givens took an elbow to the face from Spartan Kevin Reiman and had noticeable blood on his front teeth after the game.

Spartan Dave Hertel played a majority of the second half with a plug in his nose after taking a shot during the course of action.

Clark couldn't keep his shut-out in check, however, as Spartan Doug DeMartin was tripped up in the goal area in the 80th minute. DeMartin was awarded a penalty kick and Clark stopped the initial shot, but DeMartin pounded in the rebound for his Big Ten leading 12th goal of the season.

"I thought it got very loose at the end," Parsons said of his team's defense. "But that has been our forte all year; our back line and our goalkeeper are very good."

Oakland had one last scare with 26 seconds left in the game; MSU was awarded a free shot, just outside the goal area. Once the shot was blocked and cleared the Golden Grizzlies celebrated their big victory.

"Certainly both teams played well at certain times of the game. They put a lot of pressure on us at the end because they were going for broke and we started letting them dictate the play a little bit," Parsons said.

See Men's Soccer on Page 20



2

NCAA College Cup First Round



1

Parsons turns things around in 2007

By ROB TATE
Assistant Sports Editor

EAST LANSING — One of the best things about sports is redemption. To say that having one losing season out of 27 was tough to swallow for Oakland head coach Gary Parsons is an understatement.

Parsons was not used to losing. But in 2006, his Golden Grizzlies went 5-12-1 and were not able to play in the conference tournament on their home turf last season.

Not including this season, in which Oakland has gone 12-6-3 and will continue on to the second round of the NCAA Tournament at Notre Dame Wednesday, Gary Parsons has a career .703 winning percentage and has led the team to the NCAA Division II finals three times, in 1986, 1994 and 1996.

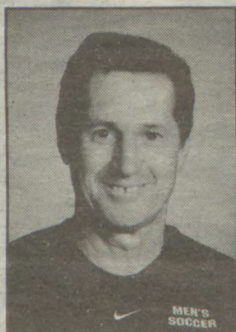
Speaking with Parsons before the season, he was not happy with the 2006 performance and he re-tailored his roster.

"It didn't feel good [having a losing season]. We made changes in the team, the players that remained on the team work very hard and we expect to be better this year," Parsons said back in August before the season started.

And Parsons has seen great results, especially winning Oakland University's first ever first round victory in a national tournament since joining Division I in 1997.

"It was a very tough for Gary last year; it was his first losing season as a coach," Oakland Athletic Director Tracy Huth said. "He was disappointed. You have got to give a lot of credit after last year to come back and be able to work as hard as they did to put all the right pieces together. [Gary's] leadership just trickled on down to all the players."

With the big victory over Michigan State Saturday, don't expect Oakland to lie down. Coming into the game against the Spartans, Oakland knew



Gary Parsons

they had a solid chance to beat them. With six victories against the Spartans since 1998, including a victory last season in Rochester, there was a buzz around the field Saturday that playing Michigan State was a winnable game.

"Obviously this means a tremendous amount [to the university], especially because we came so close before," Huth said. "We were close the last two times the men were in [the tournament]."

The reason for it being such a winnable game is the coaching of Gary Parsons, whose teams have always performed well against the bigger programs.

"We didn't come here thinking that it was any bigger game than [playing] Michigan State always is," Parsons said Saturday.

And the season isn't over yet. Oakland has yet another winnable game in the second round against Notre Dame.

A quick glance at Notre

Dame's season credentials show that they had a couple common opponents that both Oakland and the Fighting Irish played against this season.

Notre Dame lost to Michigan State 1-0 but they also beat Michigan handily 3-0, whereas Oakland lost to U of M at home, 2-0.

"[They are] an outstanding team," Parsons said of Notre Dame. "Other than the fact of them being outstanding, I haven't seen the tape of them so I'll get a chance to see it before we play them. We will just prepare the best we can."

Notre Dame is 12-4-5 this season, coming off a Nov. 18 loss to Connecticut in the Big East championship final. Oakland has never played the Fighting Irish since joining NCAA Division I.

"I think what makes the men's soccer tournament interesting is there are only 48 teams so this first round is so huge because if you can win, now all the sudden you are in the final 32 and you never know what can happen," Huth said.

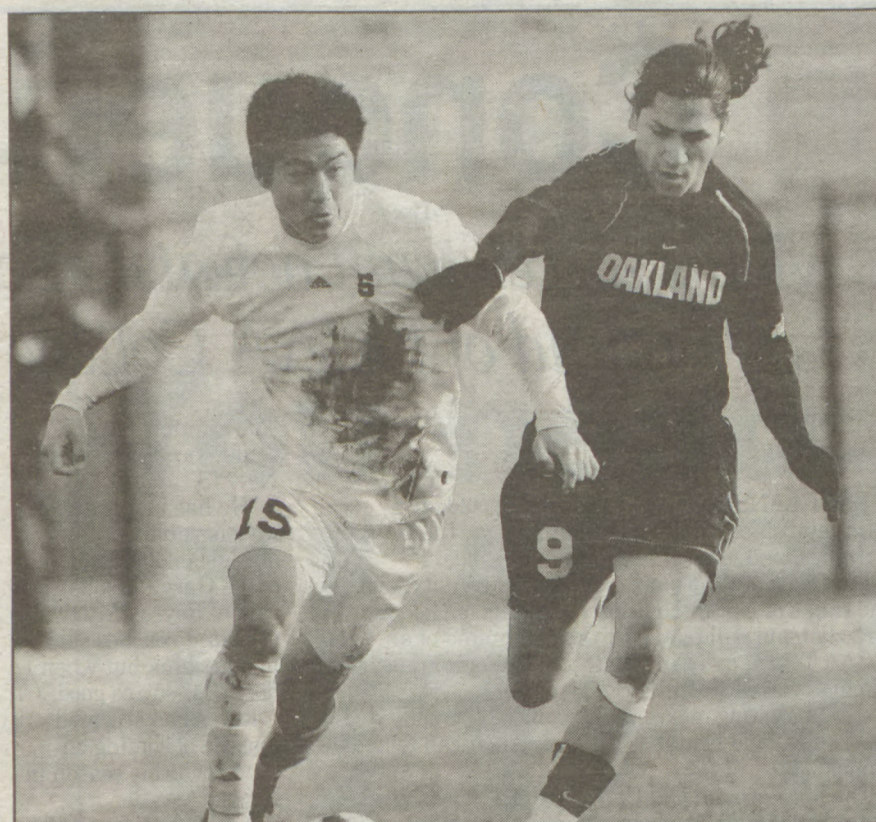


Photo Courtesy of Michigan State University Sports Information
Oakland senior Michael Reyes (9) battles Michigan State forward Dave Hertel (15) for the ball Saturday. Reyes entered the game late in the first half and helped set up the first goal of the game by Piotr Nowak.

NCAA TOURNAMENT SECOND ROUND



Oakland University

@

Wednesday Nov. 28
7:30 p.m.
South Bend, Ind.



Notre Dame

Oakland Leading Goal Scorers: Michael Reyes and Sebbby Harris (6)
Notre Dame Leading Goal Scorer: Joseph Lapira (7)

continued from Page 19

MEN'S SOCCER

The win offers the seniors on the team at least a few more days in their college career.

"I tell you what, [this is] my senior year, it couldn't be any better," co-captain Adam Brent said. "[Winning] at State's home place too. They beat us earlier in the season; it was my first loss to them. It feels good to get revenge."

Likewise, Reyes was extremely happy to continue his senior season.

"It feels great, I couldn't be any happier," Reyes said.

Reyes transferred to Oakland last season from East Central College in Missouri.

"It's my second year here, my senior year. I have to get out of here with something exciting," Reyes added.

Oakland will play the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame in the NCAA tournament second round Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m.

Nowak is ineligible to play against Notre Dame due to eight yellow cards this season.

OU almost crashes Sparty party

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

EAST LANSING — What a difference a year makes.

In last year's annual matchup between Michigan State (4-1) and Oakland University (2-3), the Golden Grizzlies fell into a 40-13 hole at the half and barely got over the 50-point mark, losing 71-53 at the Breslin Center.

This year, the game was played to a different tune. Despite the absence of Erik Kangas at the three-point line and several mistakes along the way, the Golden Grizzlies came very close to stealing a win away from the 10th ranked team in the nation, falling 75-71 in a edge-of-your-seat battle.

"I'm disappointed, very disappointed we couldn't finish this," head coach Greg Kampe said. "But I'm very pleased we had the opportunity to come here and play. Michigan State sets the standard for college basketball in the state of Michigan and to be able to perform on the same floor as them is an honor and privilege. I was very proud of the way our team played today."

The game was a physical bout from the opening tip. The first half saw 10 lead changes and each team remained within four points of each other before Oakland University began to pull away with layups by juniors Dan Waterstradt and Derick Nelson.

Before a stunned crowd of 14,759 at the Breslin Center, Oakland had taken a seven-point lead with 5:47 remaining in the half.

But Big Ten standout Drew Neitzel hit a clutch 3-pointer, his only trey of the game, with 4:41 to go, sparking a run that took the Spartans from 18 points to 33 in the half's final four minutes and OU found themselves down 33-27 at the half.

After halftime, OU drew first blood in the first 15 seconds, thanks to a 3-pointer by senior Brandon Cassise.

The Golden Grizzlies went on from there to cut MSU's lead to as little as two points, but the Spartans

always had an answer to an Oakland threat, thanks to a stellar performance by junior Goran Sutton.

After a relatively quiet outing against UCLA, Sutton notched 15 points and posted a career-high 20 rebounds against OU, including 11 on the offensive end, which is more than half of what the Golden Grizzlies collected as a team.

Oakland had opportunities to tie, even surpass, the Spartans in the final minute, but Cassise and sophomore Jonathon Jones chose to throw up three-point attempts rather than drive the lane and drawing the foul.

The Golden Grizzlies shot only 14 percent from three-point land in the second half, going 2-14. Despite that, they walked away with only a four-point loss.

"If Michigan State went to North Carolina to play without Drew Neitzel, they would have to find other ways to score," Kampe said.

"We came to Michigan State without our leading scorer and we had to maneuver and find other ways to score. Brandon (Cassise) and JJ (Jones) shot a lot of three's. Now, we didn't shoot that good tonight, but we only lost by a few points. Look what we did without knocking down all the shots."

Cassise paved the way for Oakland with 20 points, shooting 5-17 from the three-point arc. Other top scorers for the Golden Grizzlies were Nelson with 19 points and nine rebounds and Jones, who tallied 12 points and six assists.

"I give Oakland credit," Izzo said of the game. "Every time we gained a lead, they kept fighting back."

The Golden Grizzlies hope get their record back to .500 as they head to Xavier Wednesday, Nov. 28 to take on the Musketeers at 7 p.m. on FSN Regional and 88.3 WXOU.

Xavier (4-1) recently took down the No. 8 ranked Indiana Hoosiers in 80-65 finish at the Chicago Invitational Challenge. They are ranked 23rd in the AP Poll and 25th in the USA/ESPN Coaches Poll.



AL GOLIDS/The Associated Press

Junior Shane Lawal's six points and three blocks were no match for MSU's Goran Sutton, who netted 15 points, pulled down 20 rebounds and swatted away two shots in Saturday's contest at the Breslin Center.

Mistakes hinder Grizzlies' upset chances

By ADAM ROBERTS
Staff Intern

In a prizefight reminiscent of "Frazier-Ali" the Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team ended up a couple of shots short of knocking out the No. 10 team in the country, Michigan State University.

While the effort and preparation of Coach Greg Kampe's squad should be applauded, this game was marked by missed opportunities from start to finish.

The backcourt struggled from the perimeter, and the team ended up hitting 6 of 27 three-point shots, many of those were forced up down the stretch when Oakland had plenty of time left to run the offense.

When asked about it after the game, Coach Kampe said he had no problem with the three-point barrage, saying that throwing the ball up and going to get it was one thing Oakland does well.

I, respectfully, disagree. Oakland was 2 for 14 from behind the arc in the second half. Despite 20 offensive boards in the game, that is a killer.

The young big men played well on both ends of the floor for the entire game, keeping Oakland close when

the outside shooting was stagnant.

However, they couldn't seem to get a body on Goran Sutton, who had 20 rebounds and provided MSU with second and third chances down the stretch when Oakland could have potentially pulled ahead.

Jonathan Jones was the court general Oakland desperately needed from the point guard position the past two years, dishing out seven assists to go along with zero turnovers. He also did a great job containing All-American Drew Neitzel.

There were just too many lapses and mistakes for Oakland though, and looking at the game as a whole, one has to consider it a huge disappointment.

Oakland was up four points with 4:46 left in the first half when Jones and Derick Nelson were taken out of the game. A Drew Naymick dunk for MSU was followed by a missed jumper by Oakland guard Tim Williams.

Next, Durrell Summers hit a jump shot for MSU, and Jones' replacement, Peter Bunn, threw the ball away, leading to two more points for Michigan State.

At the 1:04 mark, starters Nelson and Jones were on the bench and watched MSU set up a six-point swing, sparking a momentum shift that Oakland never quite recovered from.

COMMENTARY

Another wasted opportunity came in the final minute of the game, when Oakland was down by three with 38 seconds left. They chose to foul quickly, sending one of the best free throw shooters in the country, Neitzel, to the line with 34 seconds left.

There was about a three-second differential between the shot clock and the game clock, so they didn't have to foul. At least they could have forced MSU to inbound the ball to someone other than Neitzel.

Later, after a Dan Waterstradt tip-in, Oakland was down by three once again, now with 24 seconds left. Instead of fouling immediately, Oakland tried to force a turnover and wasted 14 seconds off the clock before once again fouling Neitzel.

In the end, it was these types of mistakes that kept the Golden Grizzlies from pulling off the upset. Still, Oakland showed just how talented and deep they are, playing a more complete game from start to finish than did Tom Izzo's Spartans. They even did this without their best player from a year ago, Erik Kangas.

MSU standout Raymar Morgan said after the game that Oakland would be able to compete in the Big Ten. Here's hoping they can take the intensity they displayed against MSU and compete in the Summit League.

Oakland defeats CMU, looks forward to Georgia

By **ROB TATE**
Assistant Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — In what could have been the proverbial “trap game,” the Oakland University women’s basketball team didn’t overlook Central Michigan University Sunday afternoon. The Golden Grizzlies lead from start to finish, winning 74-53.

Wedge in between arguably Oakland’s toughest stretch of games, one might think that this game would have been the one overlooked.

In their current four-game stretch, Oakland lost to No. 24 ranked Auburn Wednesday, beat Central Michigan Sunday, travel to No. 7 Georgia Thursday and will host No. 21 Florida State Sunday.

To Oakland’s (3-1) credit, they didn’t take the Chippewas (2-3) for granted, who defeated Oakland handily last season in Mt. Pleasant, 69-57.

“I’ve just been thinking about this game since last year. I’ve been waiting for it and a few other players [as well]. We have some rivals [on CMU] so it was a good one for us,” junior guard April Kidd said.

After starting with the combination of Jessica Pike, Kidd, Rikka Terava, Melissa Jeltima and Hanna Reising the first three games of the season, head

coach Beckie Francis inserted freshman Anna Patriitto (5-foot-11) into the starting lineup against Central Michigan in place of Kidd to match up with the taller Dana Westover (6-foot-2).

“We just like her strength, her rebounding and we wanted her to come in and play post defense against Westover,” Francis said of Patriitto. “We just wanted to see how she would handle the start.”

As a result, Westover was held to just two points.

Although statically Patriitto didn’t have her best game, scoring only two points, it allowed Kidd to come off the bench, which Francis feels is good for the team.

“I might keep this lineup because April Kidd gives us a nice spark [off the bench] and she is so fast. And Charlese (Greer) has just been unstoppable; we are really trying hard to get her the ball,” Francis said.

Greer had a great game, providing 13 points off the bench, three points shy of her career high.

Sophomore forward Reising got the scoring started for Oakland early in the game. Reising had five of the Golden Grizzlies first seven points, totaling a season-high 19 points while adding four boards and two blocks.

Compared to last season when Reising averaged 16.8 points per game through

the first four games, Reising this season is only averaging 11.3.

But Reising’s offensive production doesn’t concern Francis.

“We don’t usually address things like that with our players. We just know that Hanna is a great player and a great shooter. Sometimes, teams will focus on Pike and maybe they had a focus on MJ (Melissa Jeltima) and they left Hanna open, I don’t know. But Hanna just practices so hard, she is bound to break out,” Francis said.

Pike added 17 points and Jeltima scored 11 while adding nine rebounds.

Oakland’s strong defense has also kept them in every game early on this season; opponents are on shooting just 35 percent from the floor.

“On defense we had a lot of momentum in the second half and we need to keep doing this to take it all the way,” Kidd said.

Even with a big game at Georgia on the horizon, Kidd won’t be backing down.

“I’m actually not nervous, I’m a little excited. We played Auburn [Wednesday], who are a top 25 in the nation so I have all the confidence in the world. I think we can take it to them,” Kidd said.

The game will tip at 7 p.m. Thursday in Athens, Ga.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Hanna Reising (32), seen here against Auburn Nov. 21, scored a season-high 19 points Sunday against Central Michigan.

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-David Denby, *The New Yorker*



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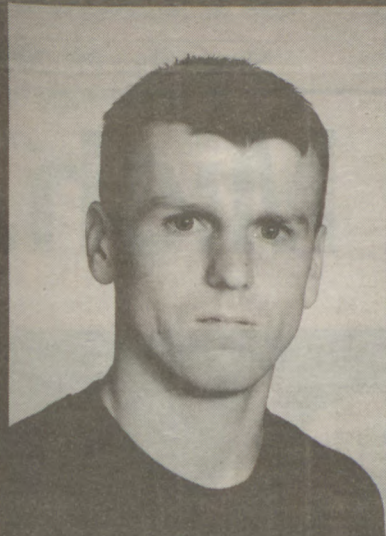
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GRIZZ OF THE WEEK



Piotr Nowak
Men's Soccer

Year: Junior
Major: Business

Nowak scored Oakland's first goal against MSU last Saturday. Nowak leads the team in points this season with five goals and nine assists.

Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

Catching up over break

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

While you were stuffing yourself into a turkey coma over Thanksgiving break, Oakland University athletics remained in full swing.

Don't worry, the Oakland Post is here to bring you up to speed. Here's what you missed:

SWAT team

Whoever said you need to score double-digit points to have a good game clearly has never seen Duquense University junior Shawn James play basketball.

True, he only scored one point, a lone free throw, in the Dukes 92-77 routing of Oakland University Nov. 20. But the 6-foot-10 post player also tallied six rebounds and 12 blocks, notching a new school record. No wonder he was chosen to be picked 17th overall in FoxSports.com's 2008 NBA mock draft.

"We've played some top five teams in here, including Michigan State when they went to the Final Four, and [Duquense] was one of the best teams we've ever faced," said head coach Greg Kampe. "You saw a hell of a team."

From the opening tip to the final buzzer, the game was a dog fight. Players hit the floor, crashed the boards and sent the ball sailing, thanks to a total of 24 blocks between the teams.

OU never led throughout the contest, though they experienced several scoring runs, resulting in four Golden Grizzlies

in double figures, including a career night for junior Shane Lawal, who had 10 points, 16 rebounds and five blocks.

The Golden Grizzlies had previously defeated Eastern Michigan University in an 86-71 decision Saturday. Six Grizzlies were in double figures, including junior Derick Nelson, who netted 21 points, nine rebounds and three steals.

Crazy No. 8

Oakland University's NCAA women's soccer tournament run skidded to a halt Nov. 16, as they couldn't get a shot past No. 8 ranked Purdue Boilermakers and fell 4-0, with all four of Purdue's goals coming in the second half.

"The team played well for the most part, but when you have a breakdown, teams of this caliber really punish you," said head coach Nick O'Shea in a press release.

"We really opened up after the first goal and they countered to get a second goal and we lost focus after that. It's always a goal to make it to the NCAA Tournament and we had a great season."

Returning starters from last year, such as senior Kristi Tomczyk, junior Kristi Evans and Summit League MVP Jessica Boyle helped step up Oakland's game, while newcomers like senior walk-on Jamie Hulet and goaltender Elizabeth Watza certainly turned some heads in their black and gold debut.

OU finished the season 10-8-2 and took home the inaugural Summit League title on their home field Nov. 11.

GIVING THE GRADE

Club hockey shows a lot of promise, but could also improve aspects of game

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's hockey team entered the season ranked third in the league, but at the halfway mark, the Golden Grizzlies have fallen to tenth, posting a 9-6 record.

The outcome isn't as sunny as some had expected from the defending national champions. Though the team struggles with consistency — whether it's playing a full 60 minutes or stringing together wins — steps are being taken in the right direction.

What's right: Balanced scoring

In years past, the Grizzlies have relied on one or two players to provide most of the goal scoring, but this year head coach Sean Hogan revamped his system to distribute goals more evenly.

The defense has contributed over a third of the team's goals, with Jarrett Samp right on Brent Cooper's heels for the team lead.

What's wrong: Falling behind

Every time you turn around, it seems the Grizzlies are fighting back after getting down a goal or two (or three).

Usually it starts as early as five minutes into the first period. Rarely does Oakland ever seem to get on the board first, but for some reason, will fight back tooth and nail and come up with a win.

Sometimes it's in the final minutes or seconds of the game, but in the end, the win is all that matters.

Who's on fire: Todd Orlando

The 6-foot-7-inch defenseman struggled with penalties in the beginning of the season, but has settled down and taken on a new role — scoring.

Orlando has been an effective tool on the power play with a solid shot from the point, but in order to do that, he needs to stay out of the box. He still gets called for a penalty or two a game, but he's using his head and keeping his cool.

Biggest surprise: Kevin Kranker

It only took one game for Kranker to prove he deserved a spot on the top line and that's where he's remained ever since. The four goals he's tallied this season aren't a fair representation of how hard he works every time he hits the ice.

Most improved: Jarrett Samp

Samp had four career goals in two previous seasons with the Grizzlies and has nearly doubled that in the first half of this season. Hogan had an inkling in the preseason that his defenseman would shine and Samp improves every game.

Most versatile: Tony Yearego

Yearego is arguably the best player on the ice at all times. Not only does he do a stellar job of defending Oakland's goal, but more often than not, he joins the rush and acts as a fourth forward for the Grizzlies.

COMMENTARY

HITTING THE ICE ONCE AGAIN

AFTER MORE THAN A TWO WEEK BREAK, OU WILL PLAY GRAND VALLEY AT 2:45 P.M. AT THE LAPEER POLAR PALACE IN LAPEER, MICH. FROM THERE, IT'S A TWO-GAME HOME SERIES AGAINST ADRIAN COLLEGE DEC. 8-9.

The Scene

24

www.oaklandpostonline.com

November 28, 2007

Country starlet plays Mich.

By ASHLEY ANN DESROCHERS
Contributing Reporter

Its 7:30 p.m., the lights are dimming at the packed Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. The crowd starts screaming. They are screaming for a girl, one girl. A girl that has a 10:30 p.m. curfew, 17 year-old country singer Taylor Swift.

Swift sang for thousands of screaming fans, Saturday Nov. 17, making Michigan her last tour stop for 2007.

She wore a custom-made black dress, the same one she wore at the Country Music Awards. She played her 12-string guitar and sang songs from her 2006 self-titled debut album.

During the show an announcement was made that her album, "Taylor Swift," went double platinum earlier that day.

Even though she was off key a few times during her 30-minute performance, she had the crowd up out of their seats singing along with her to songs that she wrote or co-wrote, including "Our Song," "Picture to Burn" and her big hit, "Tim McGraw."

Brad Paisley, whom she opened the show for along with Rodney Atkins, played numerous playful jokes on Swift throughout her set.

These pranks included setting up a machine to drop ping-pong balls on Swift, and another to douse her with Silly String.

The last was an unconvincing Tim McGraw impersonator, who walked

around the stage while Swift was singing the song "Tim McGraw."

According to her official Myspace page, Swift has been playing similar tricks on Paisley throughout their tour together. She lists her favorite pranks on the page.

She juggles being a straight-A student, according to her family, with being an award-winning musician and songwriter and still takes time to meet her fans.

Both Swift and her brother said that if you looked at her notebooks from school, you would see a mess of lyrics mixed in her math notes.

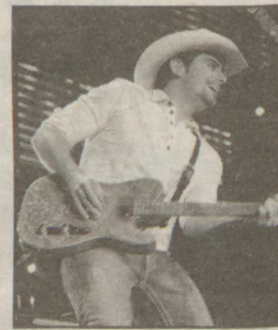
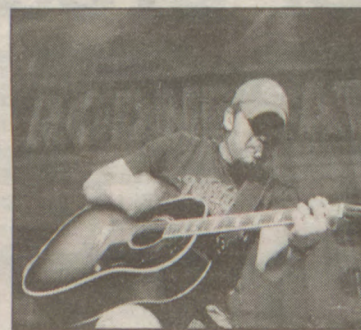
Swift said during a meet-and-greet prior to her Grand Rapids show that her favorite thing to do on tour is to meet her fans.

Rodney Atkins played a 40-minute set after Swift. While he definitely showed stage talent, the highlight of his performance was a joke he told about raising teenage daughters.

"When I married my wife, I inherited two daughters," Atkins started the joke. He ended the joke with a piece of advice: "For all of you daddies out there with teenage daughters, the best thing you can do when they (boys) knock on your door is just to stand behind them and fire up a chainsaw and see what happens."

Paisley's performance was an hour and a half. And included songs such as "Alcohol" and "Whisky Lullaby."

He threw blue guitar picks into the crowd while singing.



All photos by ASHLEY ANN DESROCHERS/The Oakland Post

Taylor Swift played in Grand Rapids, Mich (above) for the final show of a 2007 tour with fellow country stars Brad Paisley and Rodney Atkins, on Saturday, Nov. 17. Above from left to right Taylor Swift, Rodney Atkins and Brad Paisley.

Q & A with Taylor Swift

Oakland Post: Who influenced you the most in country music?

Taylor Swift: Oh my, there are so many — to name a few I would have to say Shania, The Dixie Chicks, Kenny Chesney, Garth Brooks, Faith Hill and Tim McGraw.

OP: How has the home schooling experience affected your music career?

TS: Being home-schooled has been a great experience. I felt that this year, which is my senior year, has been the best. It's awesome that I've been able to stay on the same path to graduating that I would have been on if I'd stayed in high school.

OP: Are you planing on attending college in the fall?

TS: No, because right now I am concentrating on my career. College means saying goodbye to my music career, and I just can't do that. There wouldn't be enough time to tour, to do interviews, meet-and-greets, TV appearances and everything else I need to do while going to college.

OP: Do you ever miss normal teenage life?

TS: No, I don't. Everyone wonders about the road not taken, but if I wasn't doing this then I would have missed out on the best moments I've had so far. I am still friends with the people I used to go to school with. I don't think that I have changed much.

OP: In the song "Tim McGraw," you wrote about dancing to a Tim McGraw song. What song was that?

TS: The song is called "Can't Tell Me Nothing," It is one of my favorite Tim McGraw songs.

Now for the fun ones....

OP: So, do you own any pets?

TS: I have a cat named Indi. For some reason, she hates everybody in the family except for me. I also have two Dobermans.

OP: What is your favorite color?

TS: White. It's weird I know.

Mario makes a hit comeback

By **ANDY KOZLOWSKI**
Contributing Reporter

What's a Nintendo system without Mario? The pleasantly plump plumber with the mustachioed mug and ridiculous Italian accent has been the face of videogames for over 20 years and is synonymous with the Nintendo name.

It's been five years since he last appeared in a major 3D adventure, but now he's returned to usher in the Wii's one-year anniversary with the release of "Super Mario Galaxy."

And fortunately for Wii (and you and me), no amount of hyperbole could do justice to the sheer magic and unadulterated fun to be had here.

"Galaxy" takes all the familiar Mario iconography—the green pipes, red bricks, gold coins and spotted mushrooms—and places them in a fresh, fantastical spin on the final frontier: outer space.

The levels span chains of planetoids that come in all shapes and sizes, some flat and some round, some the size of continents and others smaller than a car.

But this space setting isn't a gimmick; it allows the designers to play with gravity. Mario can leap off the edge of most plan-

etoids and rather than falling to his doom, he'll flip around to the other side and land upside-down, the camera deftly changing perspective on the fly.

The ability to approach platforms from any angle allows for an unprecedented level of complexity in the worlds Mario explores. And yet, the silky smooth controls, cinematic camera and pitch-perfect learning curve make the game effortless to pick up and play.

A second player can even join the fun using a Wii remote to control an onscreen cursor that can help (or hinder) the person playing Mario.

While gameplay is paramount, the presentation here is equally noteworthy. You wouldn't know from the look of "Galaxy" that the Wii lacks the raw horsepower of the competition because the game continually astounds with a level of audiovisual finesse befitting of an Xbox 360 or PlayStation 3 game. The art direction, animation and effects dazzle, and the orchestral soundtrack infuses Mario's world with a sense of whimsy and wonder delightful to the ears.

"Galaxy" looks and sounds as good as it plays.

A true masterpiece and the Wii's crown jewel, "Galaxy" is a must-play experience.



PHOTO COURTESY AMAZON.COM
Super Mario Galaxy is on sale now for \$49.99 and makes a great gift for any gamer with a Wii.

Behind 'The Mist': A talk with the film's director

By **YVONNE SZYMCAK**
Contributing Reporter

Filmmaker Frank Darabont adapted Stephen King's work in "The Green Mile" and is doing it again with his apocalyptic horror film, "The Mist."

"I've been a screenwriter first, and a director on occasion," Darabont said. "It's only recently that I decided to reverse that equation and get behind the cameras."

According to Darabont, "The Mist" isn't an average horror flick.

"The thing I loved about the story was that ultimately it ain't about the monsters outside, it's about the monsters, your friends and neighbors, that you're stuck with inside," he said, "what fear does to people, what panic does to people, and what happens when the rules are stripped away."

"I do feel very satisfied in the notion that it is a unique film. It's not gonna feel like someone else's movie, which is awesome," Darabont added.

Darabont said the hardest part of

making the film was trimming down the dialogue without hurting the character development.

"You're always trying to get to the essence of it, so you're always trying to cut stuff off without mangling it," he said.

He also spoke about the difficulties of adapting written novels to scripts for film, and the ability to expand the work with his opinions of it.

Darabont spoke on the differences between movies and books "They're two different languages; film and written fiction, and you have to translate as you go, and sometimes that winds up shifting things or consolidating things or expanding things. Then of course I have taken my own ideas that I'll bring to the table that his work triggers in me, and he's never minded that. He's always been very pleased with the results."

As with his other adapted works, King does not appear in this film much to the displeasure of the director.

"I actually wanted him to, but his schedule precluded. I was a little sad

about that. This of all things would have been the perfect thing for him to do a good cameo in, but he just wasn't available," Darabont said.

Darabont describes the style of the film as kind of ragged and similar to a documentary in the way it feels. He said that it was a completely different approach than the films he has made before.

"The films I've made before were all very painstaking and very carefully thought out in advance, and I knew what every camera move wanted to be," Darabont said.

According to the director, chemistry and support between the actors starring in the film was "exhilarating."

"I love when that kind of energy builds on the set because their barriers tend to come down—nobody is drawing a line around themselves. They're all part of a team and they feel like they're part of a team," Darabont said. "That can be tremendously exhilarating for them, and it's certainly exciting for me because then you're just mining gold

everyday as a director."

Darabont also talked about his Czech heritage and how it may have influenced his work. He said he wasn't born in the U.S. and came over on a boat when he was still a baby.

"I grew up with the grasp of a very dicey European history during the 20th century where anything could change on a dime, where comfort and safety could be taken away, and things could get ugly in a hurry," Darabont said. "So I've always valued America for the fact that there's generally stability here."

"I think that permeates your understanding of the world, and it certainly can help trickle into your work," he continued.

Taking a peek behind the scenes reveals the film was shot in Shreveport, La. where religion plays a key role in the lives of many. Many of the residents of Shreveport were extras in the film.

Marcia Gay Harden who plays Mrs. Carmody in the film, said that the extras helped the religious aspect of the apocalyptic screenplay.

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Another attempt at getting inside Dylan

By ALEX CHERUP
Mouthing Off Editor

Throughout his career, Bob Dylan has become famous for his mystery. Books, documentaries and interviews have attempted to present the true Bob Dylan.

"I'm Not There" is the first motion picture to take on the lofty and feasibly impossible task.

"I'm Not There" is the best way in which to take the big-screen journey through the myth and life of Dylan. We find Dylan unmasked, as a collection of different characters and attitudes ranging from the kid imposter to the shifting poet to the evangelical minister.

"I'm Not There" evolves like a Dylan song full of carnivals, hobos and love lost and found.

A total of six actors, including Richard Gere, Heath Ledger and Cate Blanchett portray the many faces of Dylan referencing myth, truth and lyric into an artistic melting pot. All actors are given different names and have their own independent story interwoven amongst the others.

The film combines the six stories – the rambling child who calls himself Woody Guthrie; the topical protest singer called Jack Rollins; the poet in interrogation named Arthur Rimbaud, the superstar in a collapsing relationship one Mr. Robbie Clark; the Dylan at the top of his fame called Jude Quinn; and the lone cowboy, the infamous Billy the Kid.

These stories are all creatively connected, oftentimes demonstrating the Similarity between the characters.

Peppered with occasional lines verbatim from Dylan, director Todd Haynes captures the metaphorical elusiveness and clarity of each persona.

Haynes presents the abstract and the concrete from Dylan's

life. The viewer encounters a diverse myraid of characters from Mr. Jones to Allen Ginsberg.

Assisted by a master soundtrack, filled with nonstop Dylan tunes, both original and covers, the movie provides a buffet for any Dylan enthusiast to consume.

The neophytes to Dylan lore and even some casual Dylan fans may miss some specific allusions. However can still appreciate the artistic presentation and more obvious references.

One need not be a Dylanologist or Dylanophile to enjoy the variety of cinematic styles employed by Haynes, or the uncanny resemblance of Blanchett to Dylan in 1965. Incidentally, Blanchett's performance is amazing and the pinnacle of what an actor can bring to the screen in a role.

After the 135 minutes, the viewer is left with the impression that a movie about Dylan could not succeed without such eccentric elements that refrain from straightforwardness.

Ultimately, as the title and song depict "I'm not there, I'm gone."

The movie also eloquently depicts interaction with Dylan and women, specifically that between Dylan incarnation Robbie Clark and his wife, Claire. The turmoil of the relationship progresses theatrically and efficiently on screen. Claire's character employs aspects of Dylan's real girlfriend Suze Roloto and first wife Sara Lowndes.

Other stand-out portrayals include Marcus Carl Franklin as the young kid Dylan, Julianne Moore as Alice Fabian, the female folk friend of the protest period Dylan, magnificently emulating Joan Baez; and David Cross as Allen Ginsberg.

Christian Bale as Jack Rollins, the early-period folk Dylan is the only disappointment. His Dylan impression is weak and seems to lack Dylan's essence.



PHOTO COUTRESY AMAZON.COM

THE NEW MOVIE COMEMORATING DYLAN'S LIFE, "I'M NOT THERE," IS IN THEATERS NOW. THE SOUNDTRACK IS IN STORES AND HAS SONGS FROM YO LA TENGO, THE BLACK KEYS, IRON AND WINE, CALEXICO AND THE HOLD STEADY. "I'M NOT THERE" OPENED NOV. 21 AT THE MAIN ART THEATER IN ROYAL OAK. CHECK OUT WWW.LANDMARKTHEATERS.COM FOR FILM LISTINGS.

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MOUTHING OFF

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The alien world of Black Friday

By C.M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter

As I emerged, and crouched behind the cover of my carrier, the moonlight guided my eyes to the encampment.

It was an extremely long row, invulnerable to being flanked, as they had positioned themselves with the great wall of the structure at their backs.

As I neared, I could see that four of them had positioned themselves around the largest cluster of domes near the glowing chasm of the structure.

The bodies of these sentinels were visibly weary, weakened from the watch. Yet, their eyes were nimble and keen, and they intercepted my approach with a volley of illwill.

They were layered in fluorescent and shiny skins that seemed to place their torsos, abdomens and lower extremities in odd proportion to their heads.

The intense glow that emitted from the peak of the structure cast an eerie hue onto the smoke that rose about their faces as they gazed into vast parchments.

They clutched them, allowing whatever they contained to nearly pull them in, entranced.

One noticed me observing, and stood as I crossed from the cold night into their lethargic ranks.

I distinguished the voice as belonging to one of their women.

"What are you doing?"

Her voice broke the desperate silence and escaped her mouth as though it had been held against its will, the vitality and substance screeching out of its vessel into the freezing twilight.

"Why are you here?" I asked.

She gazed upon me, as our society might muse on the sweet ignorance of a child.

Then, she revealed something in a murmur, carefully. It sounded as though I was being told of her first intimate experience.

She told me that a vision of silhouette effigies of her people danced. Their awkward, ventriloquized moves had spoken to her on a basic level.

She wanted to be like them, with instruments grafted to their skulls and breasts.

This had brought her to the encampment.

"What was it?" I asked.

She looked down at a spot on the parchment, longing for it, her voice trembled with excitement, "The iPod! I'm here for the iPod!"

An uncomfortable tingling flowed through me as she made her proclamation, I wanted to turn and escape this encampment.

She showed me the parchment, shaking as she did.

I did not respond, and then I looked over my shoulder as I heard the odd vibrations of a metal spring, and a slam!

I was, of course, standing outside of a local Best Buy, around 2 a.m.

That was not the narrative of a Terran infiltration of some alien world.

The company had been kind enough to place a portable toilet outside of their store for the encampment of dedicated shoppers.

"Last year I almost crapped my pants," a man told me.

I believed him: I could only imagine. And I could, too.

I think we all can picture how it is on the front lines, lying in wait since sundown for great deals on name brands.

These people were desperate. They were obsessed, the way they cradled their sale ads, gently stroking them, straightening out their crinkled, 80 percent recycled bodies.

They were, nonetheless, human.

What I thought I would find — I didn't.

I didn't find ravenous overweight cronies sporting 72-ounce containers of Pepsi purchased for \$1.79 at the gas station, provided they also buy 17 deep-fried taquitos at \$2.99 each, as I expected.

Stereotypes told me I should have expected, when I enter these stores at 5 a.m., that these people who had been sleeping side by side, would turn on each other, making a spectacle for everyone watching the replays of their greedy pandemonium on the afternoon news.

But I didn't see this.

People should swear at you if you happen to reach for something or stand by something they think they absolutely must have.

Yet they stand in wait, not actually picking up the item, contemplating it and nothing else, completely fixated on it for



Scenes captured from the landscape of Black Friday.

C.M. Graski/The Oakland Post

several moments.

Nobody bounced me out of the way with their hips as I reached for the last cheap, poorly manufactured laptop.

None of it happened to me. None of it happened to a lot of us.

I was humbled as I scouted the would-be cacophonous, chaotic landscape of Black Friday retail space, and found scarcely a sidelong glance or road-raging shop-a-holic.

I saw families walking hand in hand, sane clerks relaxing behind the counters. A leisurely air was everywhere.

It's sappy bullcrap, but that's what happened.

Big Bertha did not rampage through Kohl's with her purse.

Sammy Hardass didn't try to instigate a shoving match that would erupt into a

protracted battle over the last Nintendo Wii.

People were respectful, they seemed to have in mind the importance of simplicity and common decency.

Sales might be down for those companies that care enough to put a port-a-john out for you, but won't give you anything you actually need, and it seemed apparent that a lot of folks are picking up on that.

Gandhi proved we could live without things.

He also proved we can't live without each other.

So when that holiday shopping has you on the verge of a conniption fit this year, just step back, and remember you already have everything you need.

And just walk away.

Good luck, Chuckabee

Walker Texas Ranger endorses presidential candidate in video

By ALEX CHERUP
Mouthing Off Editor

Chuck Norris.

He does not sleep. He waits.
He has counted to infinity — twice.
He has two speeds — walk and kill.
And now he is campaigning for a presidential candidate.

"Chuck Norris doesn't endorse. He tells America how it's gonna be," says Republican candidate Mike Huckabee in his YouTube political ad. In the background, some frontier-Texas Ranger sounds chime, as the camera shoots to and fro between Chuck and Huck, as each compliment each other with one-line endorsements.

It puts Lonelygirl to shame.
Political ads have taken the new media by storm. Candidates have pounced on the use of grassroots tools, such as YouTube.

Not all are as glorious as the Chuck Norris cinematic adventure.
Now any schmuck with a webcam, a hint of a political opinion and some spare time between "Oprah" and "Dr. Phil" can create a commercial for a political candidate.

Some avant-garde advertisements get little attention, and others, like the sensationalized anti-Hillary



Clinton video from March that parodied Apple's 1984 Superbowl ad, cause much hullabaloo.

The video offered an Orwellian perception of Clinton. It was created by a Barrack Obama supporter.

The Chuck Norris ad hits a less intellectual demographic and not as large an audience. From "1984" to Bowflex commercials, we have covered the gamut.

Countless other ads have found their way into the political landscape, including the Norris piece, which has its own personal intrigue.

What makes Chuck's appearance the most interesting is his place in society. A conservative Hollywood celebrity, Norris is an endangered species.

Other members of the rare breed include such rarities like presidential candidate Fred Thompson, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Dennis Miller.

Apparently, GOP actors either become politicians or haven't said anything funny in the past decade. Honestly, Republican superstars are as uncommon as a funny Dennis Miller joke.



Many conservatives lament about the loudness of Hollywood liberals, and this candid commentary from a conservative actor's voice counters this philosophy.

A conservative candidate is valuing the opinion of made-for-TV movie actor,

more specifically, a man whose opinion I would more likely value on what workout is best than on who to vote for. Maybe I would trust Norris for input on what each candidate's workout plan should be.

Although Giuliani's plan is quite obvious. I think he is up to 20 9/11s per minute these days.

Needless to say, Norris is no authority on anything political.

He is no pundit. He is no scholar.

He is barely an actor.

And please, settle down. Seriously, would you take De Niro or Norris? Nicholson or Norris?

Even Travolta or Norris?

I rest my case.

Most of his fame comes from idiotic one-line jokes that are made about him just because he is a novelty famous person.

But that is what makes the ad worthwhile. Most of us are not experts, yet we value our own opinions.

A democracy is based on the individual opinion and free speech, whether you are a professor or do infomercials about exercise equipment. Avenues like YouTube provide ample space for this freedom of expression.

The gun-totting Chuckabee team is just one representation. Whether or not an individual personally takes such folly seriously is another matter.

And remember, no matter who you vote for, there is no chin behind Chuck Norris' beard, only another fist.

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The quest for turducken

By ADAM ROBERTS
Staff Intern

The mystical journey that was "turducken" started innocently enough about a month before Thanksgiving.

While perusing YouTube, I came across a video with this strange title.

I was oblivious to the fact that clicking on the link would change my life forever.

I sat entranced, watching a grand play unfold before my eyes: 30 minutes of instructions on how to turn four different birds into one glorious creation.

How can a turkey be stuffed with a duck, which is stuffed with a chicken, and finally stuffed with a Cornish game hen?

As I learned the process, I became more and more convinced that my destiny was to master this Holy Grail of gluttony.

By the time the video was over, I was calling everyone in my phonebook to spread the word of my discovery. The seeds were planted.

This year would be the year of the turducken.

As Thanksgiving approached, I

watched increasingly more complex instructional videos. Before long half my day became filled with research and daydreaming.

I bought the turkey first.

A plump 22 pound Rubenesque beauty.

Next came the duck, the most challenging ingredient.

I went to three grocery stores before a helpful butcher emerged from the meat cooler with a suitable six-pound specimen.

It was official, I had turducken fever.

The next 24 hours were a blur. I was busy gathering ingredients for three different kinds of stuffing, feverishly sharpening my knives, salivating and perspiring about the task ahead of me.

The trick to making a turducken is deboning the precarious poultry, a *fowl* task that nearly all the instructions prescribed to a butcher.

I started with the chicken.

Slicing and dicing my way along, I managed to get the bones out of the bird with minimum adversity.

My confidence at an all time high, I went right into the turkey, eventually

fileting myself along with the gobbler. A quick stop at the local emergency room and I was back to work.

Luckily, I had an abundance of food grade rubber gloves to cover up my sacrifices.

Slowly I managed to get all the birds deboned and in the refrigerator.

I spent the next two and a half hours making shrimp stuffing, sausage stuffing and cornbread stuffing.

These would be the layers between my birds.

With Thanksgiving only a day away, I knew there was no time to waste.

I layered the birds with the skill of a master brick mason.

The now flat layers of bird and stuffing were then pulled together, and as my father held the turkey closed — its initial incision hiding the cornucopia of goodness inside — I deftly sewed the bird shut, cross-stitching my way like a mad surgeon.

Visions of the dozens of Thanksgiving guests that we had hosted in previous years feasting on my creation made me gleam with pride.

It was then that my parents let me

know in no uncertain terms that six people, including myself, would be feasting this Thanksgiving.

Glancing at the recipe, I noticed that a bird somewhat smaller than the one I had just made, can feed a small army of 35.

"More leftovers for me," I thought, licking my lips like a crazed otter.

I put the turducken in the oven at 3 a.m. Thanksgiving morning, basting it and removing the drippings hour after hour.

Ten and a half hours later, dinner was served.

As I carved into the bird, my feeling of fulfillment was one I will probably never feel again.

It was everything I had dreamt it would be and more.

Juicy, succulent and flavorful are a few words that come to mind.

I had slain the mythical dragon of my dreams.

After dinner, I slipped into a turducken-induced coma.

Now I must prepare for next year, and before you ask, the leftovers are already long gone.

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KEVIN WOLF/Associated Press
Washington Redskins Sean Taylor, left, holds up a Redskins jersey with coach Joe Gibbs, in this April 2004 file photo. Taylor died early Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2007. He was 24.

NFL star Sean Taylor dies after being shot at his home

By MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press Writer

MIAMI — Pro Bowl safety Sean Taylor died Tuesday after he was shot in his home by an apparent intruder, leaving the Washington Redskins in mourning for a teammate who seemed to have reordered his life since becoming a father.

The 24-year-old player died at Jackson Memorial Hospital, where he had been airlifted after the shooting early Monday.

A string of mourners, including Taylor's father, visited the player's home and embraced outside. Authorities entered the home, but it was unclear what they were doing.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said the league will honor Taylor's memory at all games this weekend.

Fans already began a makeshift memorial by laying flowers on a field near the front entrance to the practice facility.

Redskins teammate Clinton Portis, who also played with Taylor at the University of Miami, said he sensed a new maturity in his close friend.

"It's hard to expect a man to grow up overnight," Portis said. "But ever since he had his child, it was like a new Sean, and everybody around here knew it. He was always smiling, always happy, always talking about his child."

Doctors had been encouraged late Monday when Taylor squeezed a nurse's hand, according to Vinny Cerrato, the Redskins' vice president of football operations. But family friend Richard Sharpstein said he was told Taylor never regained consciousness after being taken to the hospital, and he wasn't sure how he had squeezed the nurse's hand. He said Taylor's father told him the death occurred about 5:30 a.m.

Taylor, the fifth overall pick in the 2004 NFL draft following an All-American season at Miami, was shot early Monday in the upper leg, damaging the key femoral artery and causing significant blood loss.

Mideast peace talks to resume

By MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press Writer

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Israeli and Palestinian leaders agreed Tuesday to immediately resume long-stalled peace talks toward creating an independent Palestinian state by the end of next year, using the U.S.-arranged Mideast peace conference to launch the first serious and substantive negotiations in seven years.

In a joint statement read by President Bush, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas pledged:

"We express our determination to bring an end to bloodshed, suffering and decades of conflict between our peoples; to usher in a new era of peace, based on freedom, security, justice, dignity, respect and mutual recognition; to propagate a culture

of peace and nonviolence; to confront terrorism and incitement, whether committed by Palestinians or Israelis."

"We agree to immediately launch good-faith bilateral negotiations in order to conclude a peace treaty resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues without exception, as specified in previous agreements," it continued. "We agree to engage in vigorous, ongoing and continuous negotiations and shall make every effort to conclude an agreement before the end of 2008."

The agreement was reached after weeks of intense negotiations and it was not clear until Bush stepped to the podium in the majestic Memorial Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., that the two sides would come together on how to move forward on the path toward peace.

The first peace talks are to be held Dec.

12, Bush said, and are to continue biweekly after that.

Bush was followed by Abbas, who made an impassioned appeal to Israelis to support the peace process, saying that war and terrorism "belong to the past."

"Neither we nor you must beg for peace from the other. It is a joint interest for us and you," he said.

Next up, Olmert promised that "the negotiations will address all the issues which thus far have been evaded."

"We will not avoid any subject," he said. "While this will be an extremely difficult process for many of us, it is nevertheless inevitable. I know it. Many of my people know it. We are ready for it."

After reading aloud the freshly reached agreement, Bush shook hands with Abbas and Olmert. Then those leaders shook each other's hands.



THIBAUT CAMUS/Associated Press
Young residents of Villiers-le-Bel, a northern Paris suburb, vandalize an abandoned police car during clashes late Monday, Nov. 26, 2007. Rampaging youths threw Molotov cocktails and set fire to cars in a troubled neighborhood outside Paris on Monday, the second night of street violence. The youths rioted in Paris' suburbs, firing at officers and ramming burning cars into buildings. The riots were triggered by the deaths of two teens killed in a crash with a police patrol car on Sunday in Villiers-le-Bel. Residents claimed that officers left the crash scene without helping the teens, whose motorbike collided with the car. Officials cast doubt on the claim, but the internal police oversight agency was investigating.

Russian police detain scores of opposition protesters

By IRINA TITOVA
Associated Press Writer

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — Police rounded up scores of people demonstrating against President Vladimir Putin on Sunday, dragging protesters toward buses and beating some who tried to escape.

Hundreds of police armed with shields, body armor and truncheons bore down on demonstrators who chanted

"Russia without Putin!" in St. Petersburg. Among those detained was a likely contender in next March's presidential election, Boris Nemtsov.

"So many police proves they are afraid of us," Nemtsov told reporters before being taken away. Police said he was released soon after.

It was the second time in two days police have broken up an opposition demonstration in the run-up to Dec. 2 parlia-

mentary elections.

The vote has turned into a plebiscite whether Putin should retain power after stepping down as president next year after two consecutive terms. Putin heads the ticket of the dominant United Russia party in the parliamentary elections and has suggested he could become prime minister.

On Saturday, police detained dozens of anti-government demonstrators in Moscow,

including opposition leader and former chess champion Garry Kasparov, who was sentenced to five days in prison.

The Bush administration criticized "the aggressive tactics" of Russian authorities.

"We are troubled that Garry Kasparov and other leaders of the opposition have been arrested and detained," said Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the White House National Security Council.

Nation | World News Briefs

11-15 | Major League Baseball player Barry Bonds is indicted by a federal grand jury in San Francisco for perjury and obstruction of justice, having allegedly lied about his use of steroids. | The White House urges more sanctions on Iran. The International Atomic Energy Agency reports that Iran is still enriching uranium.

11-24 | Fueled by the Santa Ana winds, a wildfire in Malibu, Calif., destroyed 49 homes and has burned 4,720 acres, causing 10,000 people to evacuate.

11-25 | At least eight people are killed after part of the Fonte Nova stadium in Brazil collapses during a soccer game.

11-26 | Ousted Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif registered to run in Pakistan's parliamentary elections next month, while President Gen. Pervez Musharraf prepared to step down as army chief and be sworn in as its civilian leader.

OAKLAND'S

Best OFMETRO
DETROIT

2008

The Best of Metro: A cure for apathy?

When thinking about putting together any of our issues the staff at The Oakland Post wonder and consider how to get students involved. We considered this when putting together our first ever 'best of' ballot and love the response we are getting so far.

The idea of a best of issue has been a year in the making. The advertising and marketing departments, as well as staff, have joined forces to collaborate and promote this endeavor.

We chose to stick to the tri-county area because the majority of our students commute from there. There are plenty of businesses to choose from and we hope to help you discover new ones.

We hope this project will be a success and an annual tradition for the students as well as The Oakland Post. To make that happen, we need your help. Feedback and suggestions of our ballot are most welcome and can be directed to oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com.

Fill Out The Best of Metro Detroit and You Could Win Sweet Prizes!

Include your name, e-mail and phone number with your submission. December 5th is the last day to enter. Drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.

**Two \$25 gift cards to Barnes
& Noble**

**Three \$10 gift cards to
Caribou Coffee**

Five Oakland Post T-shirts

**Including an
iPod Nano!**

**Questions, comments or concerns?**

Please direct them to The Oakland Post's Marketing or Advertising Staff.

oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
oakpostmarketing@gmail.com

Rules of Entry:

Only Students of Oakland University are eligible to cast their votes on the 2008 'Best of' ballot. Oakland University alumni, staff, faculty as well as members of The Oakland Post are not eligible to cast their votes. Only one ballot entry per student will be accepted. Family members and significant others of The Oakland Post's staff are not eligible for prizes. A minimum of 15 items must be filled out for the ballot to be counted and to be eligible to win a prize. An Oakland University student ID must be presented by the winner at the time of pick up.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S Best of

Think you know the best eats, hangouts and local hot spots in the tri-county area? Then fill in your faves for the area and drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.

< 2008
BALLOT >

METRO DETROIT

< MUSIC & CULTURE >

Downtown Area: _____
Place to Meet New People: _____
Art Gallery: _____
Bowling Alley: _____
Salon: _____
Tanning Salon: _____
Spa: _____
Manicure/Pedicure: _____
Yoga Studio: _____
Fitness Center: _____
Concert Venue: _____
Local Band: _____
Record Store: _____

< MEDIA >

Source for Entertainment: _____
Local Magazine / News: _____
Morning Show: _____
Radio Station: _____

< ON CAMPUS >

Best place to eat: _____
Best Bathroom, explain.
Women's: _____
Men's: _____
Best place to take a nap: _____
Best distraction: _____
Vending Machine: _____
On campus event: _____
Best place to live
Off-Campus: _____
On-Campus: _____

< ATHLETICS >

Best Mascot: _____
Metro Detroit Sports Team: _____
Best Stadium: _____

< DINING >

Coney: _____
Italian: _____
Mexican: _____
Greek: _____
Chinese: _____
Thai: _____
Sushi: _____
Deli: _____
Burgers: _____
Coffee Shop: _____
Vegetarian Menu: _____
Ice Cream: _____
Pizza: _____
Appetizers: _____
Steakhouse: _____

< SHOPPING >

Best Mall: _____
Retail Store: _____
Place to buy Jeans: _____
Place to buy Shoes: _____
Place to buy Accessories: _____
Vintage Shop: _____
Bang For Your Buck: _____
Used Bookstore: _____
Local music store: _____

< BARS >

Sports Bar: _____
Martini Bar: _____
Micro Brewery: _____
Hookah Bar: _____
Bar with Live Music: _____
Dive Bar: _____
Best Happy Hour: _____

ENTER FOR THE CHANCE TO
WIN AN I-POD!

For a chance to win a sweet prize, fill in your basic contact info below. Ballots must be in by December 5, 2007.

Name: _____
E-mail: _____
Cell: () _____