



Students at OU for the most part have positive attitudes towards homosexuality. Pride Forum, formerly GALA, conducted an informal survey on homosexuality in the OC on March 24 and 25. The survey consisted of 25 questions, and it was distributed to students in the OC.

-Features
Page 7

In response to growing student concerns regarding campus safety, Student Congress invited OU Police Chief Richard Leonard and Lt. Mel Gilroy to attend its Monday meeting to discuss recent car break-ins. Leonard said there are several groups specializing in larceny from autos, targeting mostly air bags, which are presently in high demand.

-Campus News
Page 3



OU Assistant Coach for women's soccer Nick O'Shea said that most likely three women's players from the 1996 GLIAC Champion Pioneers would be re-shirted for the 1997 campaign.

-Sports
Page 9

POST INFORMATION

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THE OAKLAND POST

WEEKLY CAMPUS NEWSPAPER

Resident prepares to
campaign for additional,
safer overnite parking.

-Opinion
Page 4

Larceny activities subside last week

By JAIME SHELTON
News Editor

The string of larcenies seem to be on hold this week.

Though 13 thefts from autos were reported last week, leaving many cars damaged, police were relieved when only one more break-in was reported.

"We have moved into a suppression mode," said OU Police Lt. Mel Gilroy.

At this point, police are still following leads, but no arrests have been made.

Gilroy said the decrease in LFAs could

be a result of many factors. These include the surrounding high schools' spring breaks have ended and presence of surveillance crews from the Waterford Police Department and Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

Gilroy said Auburn Hills Police Department may have arrested a suspect that could be involved in the LFAs in the city and on OU's campus.

Gilroy said another reason for the suppression could be that the individuals responsible for the LFAs have simply moved on to another location.

"Sometimes, you just get hit hard," Gilroy said.

According to Gilroy, OU Police have received tips and are checking out leads that may proceed to an arrest.

"We're not just sitting back," Gilroy said.

In last week's LFAs, vehicle owners reported missing airbags, sound systems and CDs. The hardest hit areas were residence halls lots.

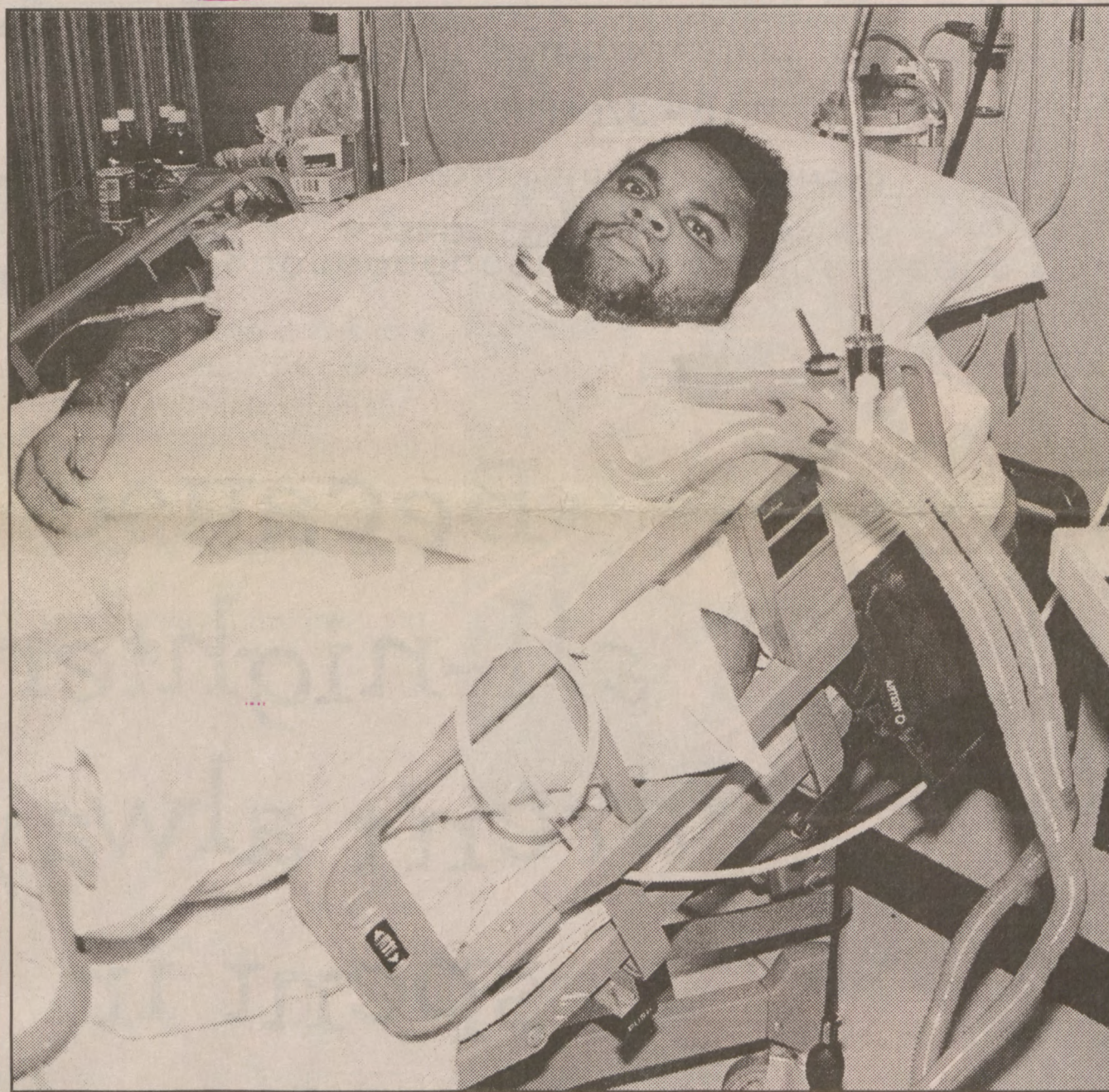
•Police address campus safety at Monday's Student Congress meeting. Page 3.



"We have moved into a suppression mode,"
Mel Gilroy
OU Police Lieutenant

STRUGGLING WITH PARALYSIS

Student hospitalized from undiagnosed virus



By JEANNEE KIRKALDY
Features Editor

Imagine one day waking up feeling a little discomfort in the neck and arms and hours later being paralyzed from the neck down.

Roosevelt Dawson, 20, a biology sophomore, recently was forced to withdraw from winter classes when he was infected by a still unidentified virus that has left him paralyzed.

Early in the month of January, Dawson experienced pains in his neck, but thought it was just sore muscles, said Tamika Powell, undecided freshman and Dawson's girlfriend.

On Jan. 18, Dawson began experiencing sharp pains, and not long after his right arm began to move slowly. Alarmed, Dawson called EMS, and shortly later his other arm began to move slowly.

EMS picked Dawson up at his Van Wagoner dorm room and transported him to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital. Upon arrival, the EMS paramedics allowed Dawson to walk into the emergency room.

However, between the distance from the ambulance to the front door, Dawson fell. He had then lost the use of his legs.

"It was a real surprise," said Powell. "He was upset, it was a shock, and he didn't know what was going on," she said.

Two days later doctors diagnosed Dawson with Guillan-Barre, a curable blood disorder. He was then transferred to Harper Hospital in Detroit, where he has remained.

Dawson was relieved to find out the disorder was curable. Unfortunately, following his first treatment, he was informed the virus was not Guillan-Barre.

Today, nearly three months later, doctors still do not know what has left him paralyzed.

"They have tested him for everything under the moon," said Lonnica Batties, political science senior and Dawson's cousin.

Batties said doctors have ruled out spinal meningitis, a stroke, a heart attack and cancer.

UNFOUNDED SYMPTOMS: Roosevelt Dawson, sophomore, is paralyzed in a bed at Harper Hospital.

See DAWSON page 6

Sketch released, police seek leads in CSC case

BY HEIDI HEDQUIST
Editor-in-Chief

OU Police are looking for leads in an October criminal sexual conduct case reported to police last month.

Last week, the Oakland County Sheriff Department released a composite sketch of what the alleged suspect looks like in hopes of generating tips in the CSC case.

The incident allegedly occurred last October.

The complainant met the suspect off campus. He later returned with her to her on-campus residence.

According to OU Police Lt. Mel Gilroy, the complainant does not know the man's name.

In the original report, the suspect was described as a white male in his mid-20s. He is approximately 5' 10", thin build and clean shaven.

He is also described as having heavy acne around the chin and neck area.

His hair is light blond which was then close shaven around the ears. It was also spiked straight up on top of his head.

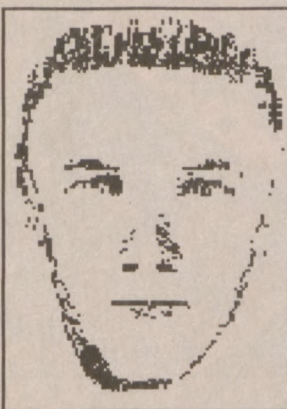
The report also described the suspect as "dirty" in appearance.

At this time, OU Police have no leads in the case.

According to Gilroy, the complainant did not report the incident until March. However, he said the delay does not necessarily make the claim less valid.

The report is one of five CSC's which have been reported on campus since last semester.

Anyone with any information regarding the suspect should call OU Police at 810/370-3331.



Composite Courtesy/OCSD

Jail bond set at \$10,000 for student activist

By SUZY SCHOLZ
Assistant News Editor

OU student and animal rights activist Gary Yourofsky was released last Thursday from the Chatham County Jail in Ontario, Canada.

He posted a \$10,000 bond after spending more than a week and a half behind bars.

Yourofsky, along with four other Michigan residents, had been jailed since March 30 for allegedly breaking into the Ebert Fur Farm and releasing 1,500 minks in a protest against the fur industry.

The five accused are now free, after posting the bond. This was about \$7,500 American dollars.

The activists are due back in court for another appearance on April 25.

The decision on bond came Wednesday about 5 p.m., after Chatham Justice of the Peace Elaine Babcock heard testimony.

However, Yourofsky and the other

accused were not released until Thursday because the offices had already closed for the day.

Yourofsky faces a maximum of two years in prison on charges which include mischief and conspiracy for breaking and entering.

Co-owner of Ebert Fur Farm, Tom McLellan, estimated his monetary losses at \$500,000.

Additionally, Ebert Fur Farm was raided two weeks prior to this incident, at which time, according to McLellan, 400 minks were released. A group named the Earth Liberation Front took claim to the event shortly later in a letter to the Toronto Sun.

Early news reports had stated that police believed the five were affiliated with the Earth Liberation Front and involved in the prior incident.

Yourofsky, however, denies involvement.

"I have no affiliation with the falla-

See ACTIVIST page 6

CIPO THIS WEEK

CIPO Programs

The 19th Annual Student Organization Recognition Night

On this past Friday, April 11, 1997, awards were presented to student organizations and individuals who helped make 1996/97 a wonderful year. This years winners are:

MOST INNOVATIVE PROGRAM AWARDS:

Academic/Educational

Graduate Counseling Student Association (for their Spring Conference-"Grief Counseling and Counseling Issues in the New Millennium" & Sister to Sister (for their Breast Cancer Awareness Seminar)

Sports/Recreation

Lacrosse Club (for the new direction & development this sport has had on the OU's campus)

Cultural/Religious/Political

Marian Cenacle (for their involvement with December to Remember)

Entertainment/Performance

SATE (for their Bowl-A-Rama)

DIVERSITY/MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMMING

Indian Students Association (for their Entertainment Nights)

MOST ORIGINAL PUBLICITY/PROMOTION AWARD

Alpha Kappa Psi (for their Winter Rush Programs) & Students for the Advancement of Mathematics (for their kaledocycle publicity)

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMMING

OASIS, Beta Alpha Psi, & Financial Management Association (for their coordinated efforts of their calendar of events/programs for the year) & Gamma Phi Beta Sorority & Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (for their noon program on the "Significant Steps by women towards Racial Equality)

BEST OUTSTANDING TRADITIONAL EVENT

Sigma Pi Fraternity (for their Pig Roast)

GREEK ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Overall Highest GPA---Zeta Phi Beta Sorority & Theta Tau Fraternity

Most Improved GPA ---Alpha Kappa Sigma Sorority & Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity

CAMPUS LEADERSHIP

Carol Ayoub from Gamma Phi Bets Sorority
Ann MacDonald from Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
Gabe Gabzoul from Sigma Pi Fraternity

CAMPUS SERVICE

Angela Dodson from Alpha Delta Pi Sorority

COMMITMENT TO NON-ALCOHOLIC PROGRAMS

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity

MOST OUTSTANDING PROGRAM OF ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Greek Council at Oakland University

MOST PROMISING STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Lacrosse Club (for their vision as a student organization of 36 members to a club sport who compete against other schools across the state.)

CAMPUS SERVICE AWARD

Red Cross /Community Service

COMMUNITY SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY

OASIS (for their free tax help program) & Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (for their Stork's Nest Baby Shower, food baskets for Focus hope, & being volunteers for the Keeper of the Dream and Make a Difference Day)

OPPORTUNITY AWARDS

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority
Society for Human Resource Management
Student for the Advancement of Mathematics
Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity
Le Club Francais
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity
National Society of Black Engineers
Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
Law Society
Graduate Counseling Student Association

LINK AWARDS

Kenneth York--SHRM
David Doane--SHRM
Stacey Hahn--Le Club Francais
W. David Jaymes--Le Club Francais
David Moroz--SATE
Tom Discenna--WXOU
JeanAnn Miller-- Meadow Brook Ball Committee
Stu Hyke--Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Alpha Kappa Psi

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR

Dr. Lizabeth Barclay

Quote of the Week

"Let's not lose sight of one thing, that it all started with a mouse!"

Walt Disney

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CAMPUS NEWS

Police discuss campus safety issues

By LIDIJA MILIC
Staff Writer

In response to growing student concerns regarding campus safety, Student Congress invited OU Police Chief Richard Leonard and Lt. Mel Gilroy to attend its Monday meeting to discuss recent car break-ins.

Leonard said there are several groups specializing in larceny from autos (LFA), targeting mostly air bags which are presently in high demand.

Leonard also said that groups probably operating on OU campus are amateurs and thus more destructive in break-ins, which resulted in severe damages to cars.

"(These crimes), unfortunately, point out that we're human, and we live in a real world," Leonard said. "It doesn't just happen in other places. We're not the only ones being vandalized."

Leonard added that "the bad guys" often have more sophisticated tools and radio equipment than the police.

Gilroy commented on the letters to the editor published in last week's issue of THE POST.

He said students were not aware of all the measures taken by OUPD after the larcenies were discovered, such as notifying students promptly of their break-ins.

Gilroy said that cameras covering the campus parking lots are not as efficient as students assume. In order to maximize coverage, they minimize the images, he said.

This makes it difficult to see what is actually happening in a parking lot, Gilroy said.

Gilroy also said OUPD does not have enough dispatchers who know how to handle the video viewing equipment.

"OUPD has nine patrol officers and four sergeants, a total of 13 uniforms," Gilroy said.

"With me and the director, there are 15 ... personnel (certified police officers) ... and four professional dispatchers," Gilroy said.

Gilroy said a recent Department of

Education study reported the average number of police personnel on major university campuses is 1.5 per 1,000 students.

"We're seven officers below that average," he said. However, he said the study did not take into account crime rates at these universities.

Gilroy appealed to the Congress to invite students to learn about OUPD, so they can base their expectations of campus safety on factual knowledge.

"(In each shift) we have two patrol officers and someone in the communications center," Gilroy said. "Otherwise... we're trying to adjust to our resources."

Gilroy asked for Congress' support for increased funding from OU.

OUPD expects to employ another dispatcher in fall 1997 term, but more funding needs to be available to provide more coverage.

"Safety is conspicuous in its absence. It's not conspicuous when things are going well," he said.



Post Photo/Nelson May

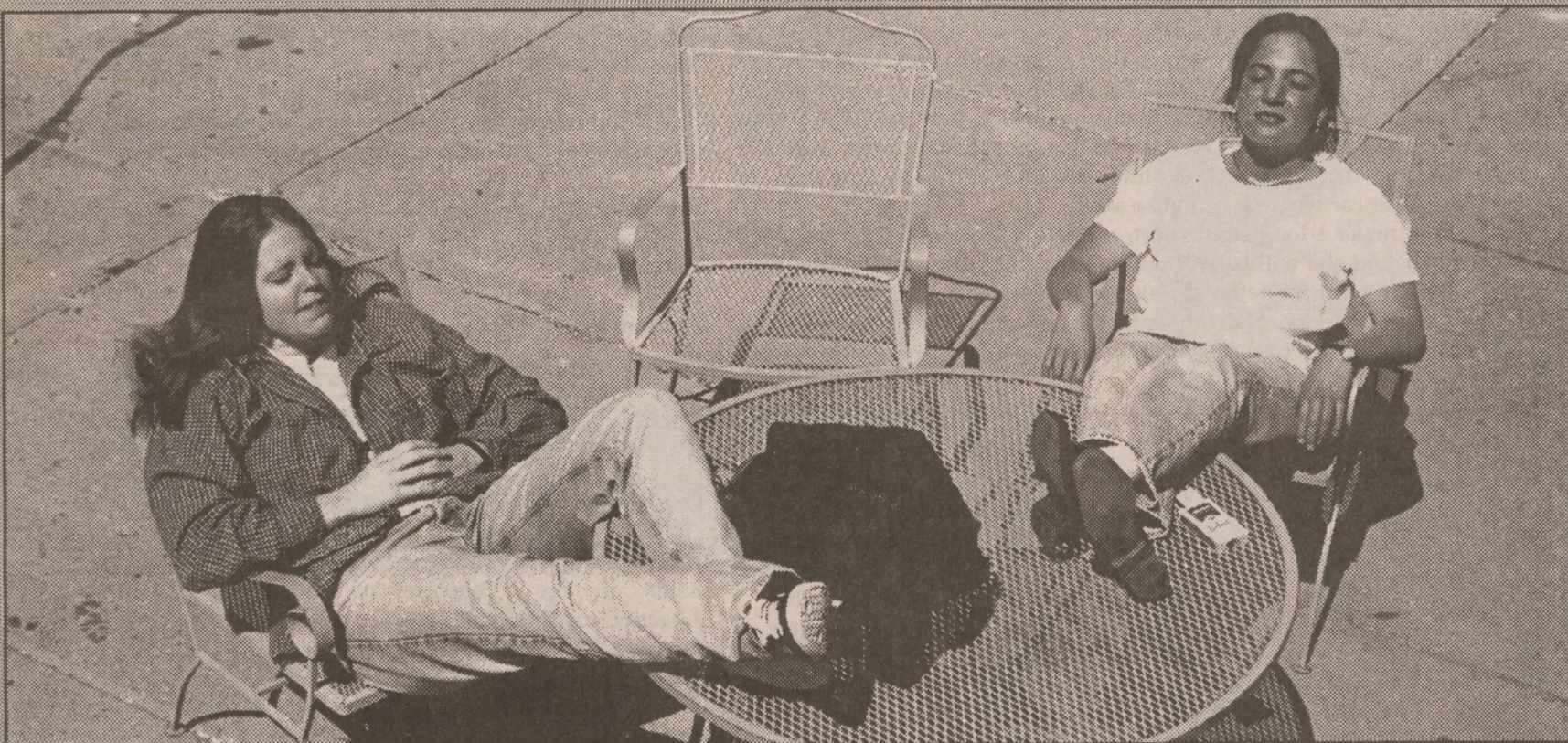
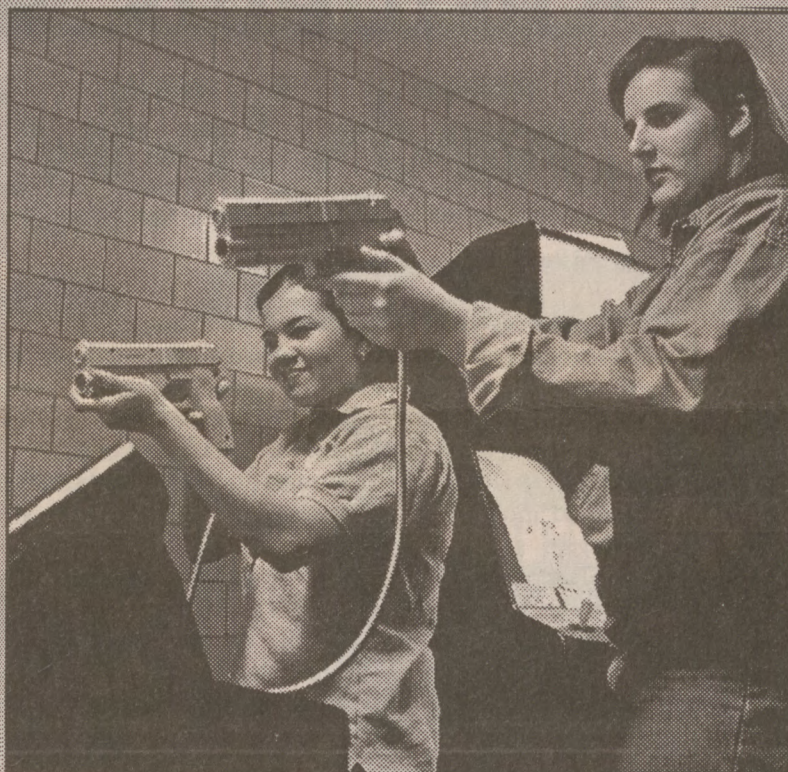
SAFETY CONCERNS: OU Police Chief Richard Leonard fielded questions about campus safety at Congress' meeting Monday. Police are following leads in last week's 13 reported car break-ins.

Winding down

ALMOST OVER: As the semester draws to a close, the OC gets more quiet. Students use the lounges to read and catch up on sleep, while others use the lunch hour to see friends during study breaks.

Some students unwind in the game room, but others enjoyed the spring sunshine as a chance to relax.

The last day of classes is Thursday, and exams begin Saturday morning.



Post Photos/Nelson May

Proposed bill to open more crime statistics

College campuses across the nation could soon be allowed access to more crime information.

Congressmen John Duncan, Jr., Tennessee Republican, and Charles Schumer, New York Democrat, introduced a bill designed to close loopholes with institutions to withhold crime statistics.

S. Daniel Carter, vice president for Security on Campus, Inc., (SOC) a national campus security advocacy, said the proposed legislation is important.

"For too long image conscious administrators have put their students at risk by withholding crime report information, and this bill will end that practice," said Carter, in a prepared statement.

According to the proposed Accuracy in Campus Crime Reporting Act of 1997 (ACCRA), campus police logs will be required open to the university community.

The ACCRA would also require campus police to add common crimes, such as theft, to annual statistics made public. It would also end confidentiality for students accused of criminal activity and open private on-campus disciplinary proceedings.

"University disciplinary boards are the only closed courtrooms in America," said Jennifer Markiewicz in a statement. Markiewicz is involved in a law suit seeking access to closed disciplinary hearings at Miami University in Oxford-Ohio.

"The secrecy they have been allowed to operate under only serves to paralyze the entire community...," Markiewicz added.

If passed, ACCRA would also require an automatic penalty of one percent federal funding for violators. This includes publishing incomplete or inaccurate crime statistics.

FOUNDERS' DAY

OU will celebrate its first Founders' Day this Friday. Events include a faculty recognition luncheon and the opening of the Science and Engineering Building. President Gary Russi's inaugural ceremony is also on the agenda. It takes place at 4:30 p.m.

Sign language spurs debate

By JAN OAKLEY
Special Writer

Controversy has reignited again over the possibility of adding an American Sign Language (ASL) option to the general education language requirement list.

However, the decision to count ASL is likely to be delayed into the spring term, and perhaps into next fall.

The controversy began when Student Congress passed a resolution requesting ASL be acceptable as fulfilling the general education

requirement for language. The resolution was passed after receiving a petition signed by 1,600 students.

During a Congress meeting last semester, Modern Languages and Literature Chair David Jaymes raised no objections to the proposal.

In response to Congress' initiative, the Department of Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism formally proposed the change to the General Education Committee and the College of Arts and Sciences Committee on Instruction.

Associate Professor of German Barbara Mabee, also the University General Education Committee chair, was unable to attend either meeting due to health issues.

To ensure a fair discussion, the committee has decided to wait until Mabee is able to attend.

Professor of Communication Shea Howell served as the spokesperson for the department to the General Education Committee.

"Historically, American Sign Language has been shunned.

See LANGUAGE page 6

Two fire extinguishers stolen by campus wiring employee

An employee from Clawson Communications was caught allegedly stealing two fire extinguishers from the new science building.

Clawson Communications is the company doing the Internet wiring of some campus buildings.

The man was handcuffed and escorted to the OU Police Department after an officer saw the man leave the science building carrying the fire



extinguishers.

In a written statement to police, the man said he was

early to work that day, and decided to go to McDonald's to get a coffee.

As he left the building, he noticed the fire extinguishers and felt he could use them.

After taking them from the building, he allegedly placed them in his 1990 green Chevy four-door. Police arrested him soon after.

A photo and prints were taken. He was released pending a warrant.

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A newspaper owned and published by the Oakland Sail, Inc. All Letters to the Editor must include a name, phone number, class rank and field of study. Letters over 400 words will not be accepted. All letters are property of The Oakland Post and are subject to editing. The deadline for Letters to the Editor is Friday before 5 p.m.

EDITOR'S VIEW

Strength to survive

Most college students spend their time worrying about exams and what to do on Friday night. Occasionally, they may worry about their health and eating right but rarely will they think that they could lose it all in the blink of an eye.

Young people usually believe that they are invincible and they won't really have to be concerned until they reach middle age.

Then suddenly something happens and they are forced to understand that health problems and tragedy can strike anyone at any moment and without any reason.

A 20-year-old OU student is lying in a hospital bed right now unable to move or carry-on his usual routine of activities. Roosevelt Dawson's paralysis is a phenomenon which at this point in time no one can explain.

Dawson's precedent should open the eyes of all students and make them realize they should cherish each day they have.

Life is short as it is, and it can change forever in an instant. Everyone should, every once in a while truly live the experiences they are having while they can.

Not only is it important to appreciate your own life, but the lives of those around you.

Dawson's loved ones have shown amazing strength and love for him as they have remained at his side and have done all they can to help him through these terrible times.

Additionally, often it's hard to know what to do to help people in these situations, but it's amazing what a card or small gift can do. As students enter exams it wouldn't hurt to pick up a card for Dawson when they go to buy scantrons at the bookstore or give a couple of dollars to help keep the television on in the hospital.

Dawson and his family appear to be facing their troubles head on and are not allowing themselves to be beaten.

Dawson himself, believes he will walk again and we hope he will be back on his feet.

These people are all examples of models of strength.

Time and time again stories will be told of people who supposedly could not recover that somehow are completely healed.

Mental health can be just as important as the physical when it comes to recovery.

If people remain confident and battle whatever comes their way, often they can make it through even the bleakest of scenarios. This appears to be the case with Dawson and his loved ones.

All of their strength of character and faith will hopefully prevail and perhaps soon we will welcome Dawson back on campus.

Until that time, everyone must appreciate the time and gifts they have.

Additionally, they should strive to obtain the emotional strength which can support the physical when it seems to be failing them or someone they love.

By keeping up morale and hope no matter how bleak the situation appears diseases and losses can be overcome.

Life is far too precious and far too many obstacles arise to ever give up. If Dawson and his family can keep fighting, so should others.

OPINION



Letters to the Editor

Residents' overnight parking needs to be revamped at OU

Dear Editor:

I am writing you in regards to the parking situation for residence halls students on campus. I have been a resident in Anibal House for two years now and never has the parking situation been as bad as it has. The parking lot in front of Pryale only has 18 parking spaces which must be shared between students living in Anibal, Fitzgerald, and staff in Pryale. Most residents and guests in Anibal and Fitzgerald must resort to parking on the hill right next to married housing.

On Thursday night, April 3, my fiancée came up to visit me here on campus. No parking spots were available in front of Pryale and so she was forced to park on the hill. We received a phone call around midnight from the police stating that her car had been broken into and for us to go check to see if anything was stolen. As we got up to the hill there was a mob of people slowly forming. A total of 7 cars had been broken into.

The cars had been vandalized in various ways. In some the locks had been de-cored, in others the sun roofs were smashed. The thieves had pried up the lip on the drivers side door on my fiancée's car. Not successful with that, she smashed the window and started rummaging through various possessions in her car. They went through her glovebox and trunk taking what they wanted. We were forced to drive back to Port Huron at 2:00 in the morning in order to park her car where it would be safe.

To make a long story short, a total of \$1,500.00 of damage was done, and she will be without a car for almost a week. Next time she'll think twice before driving up to visit me on campus.

As a Residence Hall Student, I get very concerned about crime on campus. When over \$10,000.00 worth of damage can be done to cars

in a parking lot that I always park I naturally start to worry for the safety of not only myself, but also that of my guests that come and visit. This portrays a very negative image of the University and the surrounding area. Part of the attraction to me of this university was how secure I felt living here. With rampant vandalism like this happening, part of that security was lost.

I propose that a secure lot for Residence Halls students only be built right between Anibal and Pryale, and also right in front of Hamlin and Vandenberg. Many of the residents I have talked to have expressed interest in paying for a parking sticker in order to park closer to their respective dorms. The school could generate revenue from selling stickers, and additional security for these lots could be paid for by ticketing those students parked there illegally. Residence Lots would require additional security anyways because our cars are parked here 24 hours. We're here long after all the commuter students, and staff are home.

I am starting a letter writing campaign here at OU to improve parking conditions. Anyone interested please contact me at mbhoxsie@oakland.edu. If we work together, we can improve parking conditions for next year.

Many thanks to Eleanor Reynolds and Lt. Mel Gilroy for sitting down with me and answering my many questions and concerns. I appreciate your patience.

Sincerely,

Matt Hoxsie
 Senior
 Computer Engineering

Letter Stereotypes Greek Organizations

Dear Editor:

I am writing a response to the letter on the "Displays of Affection too Public in the OC". First of all, I agree that there are other suitable places for a couple to display their affection for one another but my opinion is, don't look, don't stare.

However, the purpose of my letter is to attack your comment on the Greek organizations. How do you know for a fact that all Greek organizations "beat each other up"? True, there have been incidents involving hazing, but as a member of a Greek organization myself, we prohibit hazing as (does) OU and other Greek organizations.

My organization has better things to do with time than "swallow goldfish and sing songs." We do have songs, but they are sung for special occasions such as ceremonies or when we serenade another fraternity because of friendship. You have basically stereotyped the Greek organizations by believing that all we do is "sing songs", "swallow goldfish" or beat each other up."

You are not aware that Greek organizations get up early on a Saturday morning to help out at the Ronald Mc Donald House such as my sorority does, or make philanthropy baskets, "sing" Christmas songs to terminally ill children at hospitals and walk or rollerblade in fundraising events for cancer, AIDS, muscular dystrophy or other worthy causes.

Seems to me that you're too busy to notice these things that Greek organizations are involved in by noticing the local "masturbator", "OC peep shows" and "stimulating study time" at the library. Too bad you're probably graduating because if you weren't, I'd urge you to rush a Greek organization and see for yourself what we do with our time. But then again, because of your narrow-mindedness, I would hope no one would want you as a member.

Sincerely,

Diane Frkan
 Junior
 English
 Alpha Delta Pi

Graduation Application Poor Process

Dear Editor:

I thank Donald J. Gillespie for expressing his dissatisfaction with the commencement process here at OU. I find it very discouraging. Along with this, however, there is another process I find very unfair. This is the application for graduation process.

Last fall, I had to apply for graduation in June. I did so and everything appeared to be in order for me to graduate in June and then go to Japan to teach in July.

When I registered for classes for this winter, nobody told me that I didn't sign up for

enough 300 level courses in sociology to graduate.

It wasn't until I sat down with my adviser that I found out I shouldn't have taken his 200 level course but another 300 level one that was less interesting.

I accepted my mistake and moved on. It wasn't until last week that my parents, not me, received a letter that said I needed to remove my name from the graduating list.

When I went to the office this morning, I was very upset to find that my \$30 that I spent to apply would not transfer to the spring and I would have to reapply all over again.

Although upset still, I accept my mistake and hopefully other students who think they are graduating will seriously look into their qualifications before applying.

Sincerely,

Greg Kreiner
 Senior
 Sociology

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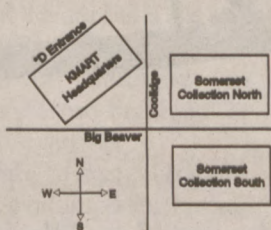
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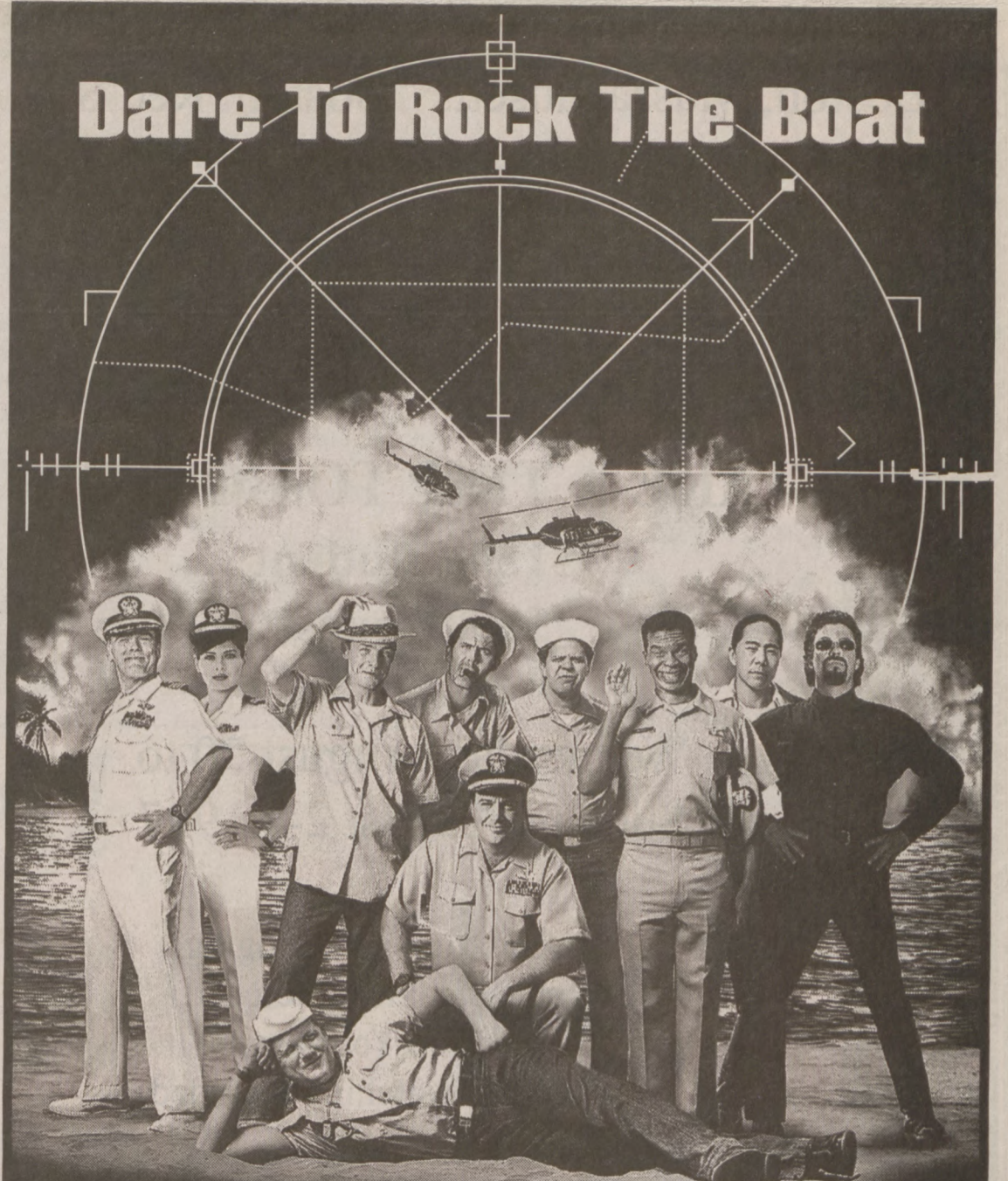
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Activist

Continued from page 1

cious Earth Liberation Front (ELF) or any law-breaking human rights or animal rights organizations ... I am simply a true humanitarian who opposes every form of oppression and discrimination," he said in a prepared statement.

Yourofsky has been actively involved in fighting and education about animal rights.

He is the president of ADAPTT (Animals Deserve Adequate Protection Today and Tomorrow), a non-profit animal advocacy organization which publishes a monthly newsletter.

ADAPTT's mission statement reads, in part, "We are uncompromisingly opposed to the so-called sport of hunting and the wearing of animal skin, mainly fur, but also including leather, wool, down, etc. Plus, ADAPTT supports the eventual phasing out of animals for food consumption."

Yourofsky could not comment on the specifics of the case. However, in a statement to THE POST, he said, "I am a true humanitarian who opposes the worldwide, ignominious philosophies of injustice and inequity ... It is beyond absurdity and more along the lines of insidiousness that the media, the courts and a large portion of society would label a true humanitarian as a terrorist! A comment of that nature is an institutionalized, discriminatory malapropism."

Language

Continued from page 3

Frankly, universities have a despicable record of ignoring the language of a significant people. It's old prejudice held over in the universities. There's no other rationale," Howell said at the committee's April 11 meeting.

Nathan Longan, assistant professor of Russian and spokesperson for the modern languages and literatures department, worried that all students were not required to take two years of a foreign language at OU. Only three majors outside of MLL require two semesters: music, commu-

nication and journalism.

"American Sign Language is not a language system foreign in the sense we understand. American Sign Language limits a student's opportunity to learn about different literatures and political systems," Longan said.

According to OU's undergraduate catalogue, the general education language studies is required because "The systematic study of foreign language or language systems will help students become aware that people think, behave and perceive reality in ways related to the languages they speak."

Currently, general education requirements for language studies can only be filled by for-

ign languages numbered 114 or above, applied language studies course (ALS 176) or semantics (COM 207).

ASL courses fulfill the communication and journalism co-requisite requirements.

The department hopes to accommodate its students by also allowing them to use ASL to fulfill general education requirements, as well.

COM 114 and COM 115 are the ASL courses offered at OU.

The committee will meet again April 21. Substitute Committee Chair Andrei Slavin, associate professor of physics, said the committee will probably not vote on the issue at that time since Mabee will likely be absent.

Dawson

Continued from page 1

Although doctors don't know what has struck Dawson, they do know it is some sort of virus caused from a mass of inflamed tissue on his spine (upper neck), said Powell.

"They can't figure out what the inflamed tissue is or why it's inflamed," she said.

In addition to not being able to move, Dawson cannot breathe on his own and is unable to communicate because he is on a respirator.

"One week ago his lungs collapsed, and he had to have emergency surgery," said Batties.

"He is doing pretty good for the situation that he is in," said Powell. "He is positive that he is going to recover," she added.

Dawson's mother Brenda Neal Dawson, said her son watches TV and listens to music to keep himself occupied.

Brenda also said her son is often visited by family and friends, including his three brothers, Rayshon Dawson, 19, James Garner, 10, and Dallas Garner, 9.

Recently, Batties said she

has began handing out blue bows on campus.

The bows are to both represent Dawson and raise money to help pay to keep the TV on at the hospital, said Batties.

Brenda would like to thank Powell, and the OU and Greek organizations for all of their support, and she asks that everyone keeps Dawson and his family in their prayers.

If you would like to make a donation to The Rose Fund, please contact Lonnica Batties at (810) 370-3658.

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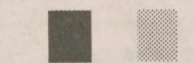
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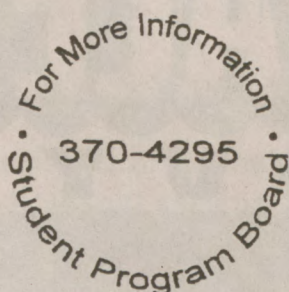
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SPB has planned a trip to the Cheat River in West Virginia June 20-22 for OU students. Cost is \$75 per OU student & \$175 per guest. Price includes rafting, transportation & lunch on day of rafting trip. Sign-up begins on April 17 at the CPO Service Window. Anyone needing special assistance please call 370-4295.

FEATURES

Survey reveals positivity

Pride Forum does survey to hear OU's views on sexual alternatives

By JEANNEE KIRKALDY
Features Editor

Students at OU for the most part, have positive attitudes towards homosexuality.

Pride Forum, formerly known as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA), conducted an informal survey on homosexuality in the OC on March 24 and 25.

The 25 question campus survey that was distributed to students in Pioneer Court and in the immediate vicinity was developed by Sean Kosofsky, political science junior and Pride Forum member, Christian Marcillo, biology junior and Pride Forum member, and Shea Howell, professor of communications and Pride Forum advisor.

Howell said there has been no systematic surveys on the outlook of homosexuality on campus.

Howell said a systematic outlook will give a more accurate view of what

people actually think.

Marcillo said the purpose of the survey was to see what types of programs (Pride Forum) should be doing on campus. He said there wasn't much of a point to educate people on issues that they don't need to be educated on.

"From the survey the results were more positive than I thought they would be," said Marcillo.

"We were aware that there would be some people who would just fill it out for fun or unjustly," said Marcillo.

Overall, Marcillo said people who participated seemed eager and felt they were truthful and fair.

"It provoked some thought when they were filling it out," said Marcillo.

More than 400 students were surveyed and 390 of those made up the final results. Surveys with only one or two questions answered were eliminated.

Marcillo said that although the results were positive, none of the results were above 75% in most of the questions regarding acceptance.

Sixty-six point nine percent of the participants were female, 53.6% of the participants were between the ages of 17

and 20, 76.7% of the participants were caucasian, 36.6% of the participants were Roman Catholic and 96.5% of the participants were heterosexual.

Results revealed that 76.4% of the people surveyed did know someone who was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered.

Sixteen percent had a family member and 46.3% had coworkers who were lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered.

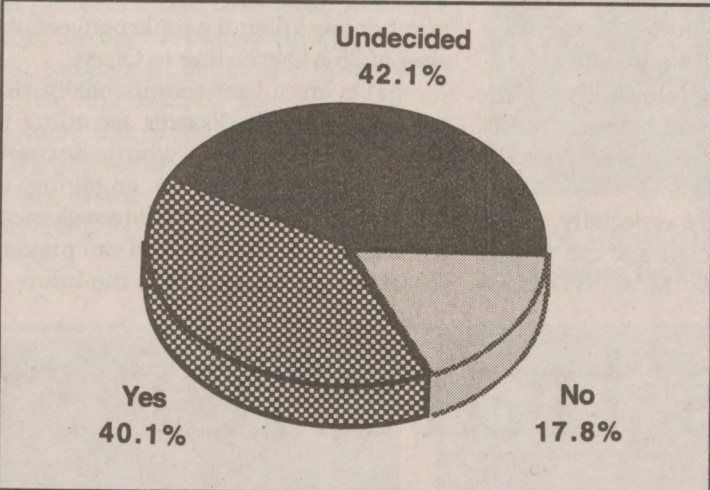
The survey also revealed that the majority of the participants would be accepting if they found their brother, sister or best friend to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered.

In cases such as finding one's mother or father to be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered, 35.9% said they would be upset and 35.2% said they would feel indifferent if their minister was lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered.

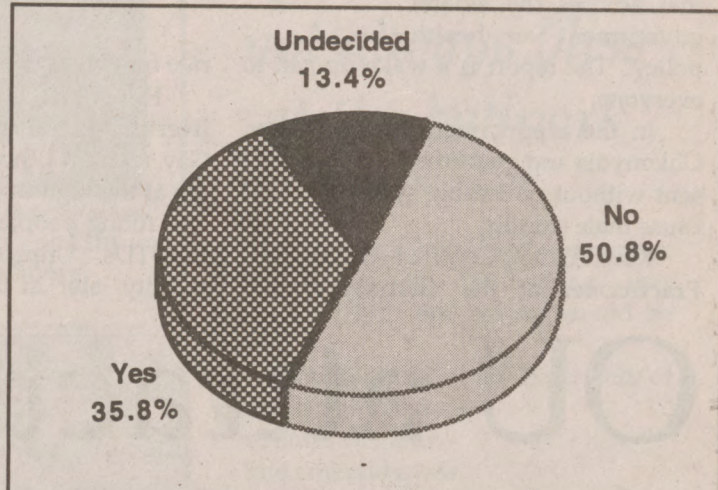
dered.

Fifty-three point seven percent of the participants felt that same-sex couples should have the right to marry. Furthermore, 44.3% felt that same-sex couples should have the right to adopt children, 74.6% felt that homosexuals should have the right to work with children and 55.7% felt that homosexuality

See SURVEY page 11



SUPPORTIVE ATMOSPHERE: 40.1% of the participants surveyed felt that the atmosphere at OU is supportive of sexual minorities.



RIGHT OR WRONG: 50.8% of participants felt, according to their own values, that homosexuality is not morally wrong.



TIME TO GATHER: Seniors gathered in the Fireside Lounge of the OC last Wednesday to receive an OU lapel pin from President Russi at the first Senior Send off.

First Senior Send-Off considered success

By DIANNE FLORKA
Staff Writer

Smiles, congratulations, laughter and celebration abounded at the First Senior Send-Off held last Wednesday at the Oakland Center's Fireside Lounge.

Approximately 250 seniors and 55 guests enjoyed the cheerful atmosphere, snacks and the accomplishment of many years hard work.

The seniors were congratulated by peers and mentors alike.

President Gary D. Russi acknowledged the graduates, "We wanted to thank you in a special way for the time you took in earning your degree. Commencement is a time for your family and friends to gather and celebrate."

"Today, we are taking time as a community to gather and celebrate and say good-bye in a personal way," Russi added.

A banner representing the 1997 graduating class was unveiled. Russi explained that it will hang in the OC and that others will also be designed to

represent future classes.

After his remarks, Russi conducted a pinning ceremony where each senior received an OU lapel pin. Russi then toasted the graduates again expressing his congratulations with best wishes for a successful future.

Seniors took the time to join in the celebration for many reasons. Angela Caponi, General Studies major, said, "I wanted to convince myself I was actually graduating."

Jill Gibson, Systems Engineering major, explained, "After working hard for so many years, I feel it's important to recognize your own accomplishments."

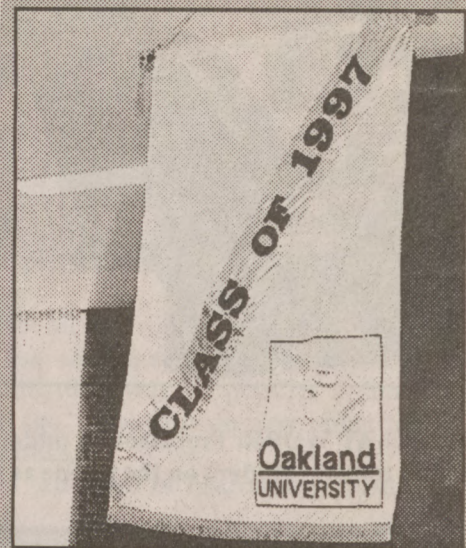
"I'm excited about finally graduating," said Rosie Raudonis, General Studies major. "I'm walking because I'm proud of what I accomplished," she added.

Echoing these sentiments were Kelly Morgan and Terri Charison, both Human Resources and Development majors.

"I thought it was a resounding success," said Mary Beth Snyder, Vice

President of student affairs.

Snyder also said she was amazed at the big response that was received for the first time event.



NEW TRADITION: Early in the Senior Send-Off presentation a banner was unveiled that will represent the 1996-'97 senior class. The banner will later be used at reunions and alumni functions.

Tomsich honored as 1997 winner

By DIANNE FLORKA
Staff Writer

Anticipation grew as guests began filling the Oakland Room for the Fourth Annual Outstanding Teacher Award presented by the Golden Key Honor



ALL SMILES: David Tomsich was happy to accept this year's teacher of the year award from Golden Key.

Society.

Eric Osborn, President, welcomed faculty, students and guests. "Teachers were nominated by the students not the faculty or university," said Osborn. It was difficult this year," he continued, "in that we received a record-breaking 23 nominations."

Visits were made to each class and the instructor was evaluated for enthusiasm, class participation and student involvement. "It was difficult to choose only one winner from a field of so many excellent nominees," said Osborn.

Osborn then turned over the microphone to Donna Kennedy-Williams, Vice President. "As Eric indicated, because of the quality and number of nominees, the committee had a very difficult time in deciding on one winner for this award," said Kennedy-Williams.

She then presented June Miller,

School of Nursing and Robert Wiggins, School of Education and Human Services with honorable mention certificates.

Citing his phenomenal high energy and overwhelming support of students, Kennedy-Williams presented the 1997 Outstanding Teacher Award to David Tomsich from the Physical Therapy Department.

"I am overwhelmed," said Tomsich. "It's very difficult for me to accept this recognition. The award should go to my students from whom I have learned so much."

Tomsich is a part time professor at Oakland University and works full time at the Henry Ford Athletic Center. He requested these parting words to his students, saying they would understand, "Go function!"

Other nominees were: Biology -



BEING RECOGNIZED: Donna Kennedy-Williams, right, presented part-time professor of physical therapy David Tomsich, center, the 1997 Outstanding Teacher Award.

Barry Winkler; Business English - Rachel Smydra; Chemistry - Gerald Compton, Ghassan Saed, Robert Stern; Education - Ronald Swartz, Dennis Travis; Engineering - Ka C. Cheok, Hoda Zohdy; English - Natalie Cole, Bruce Mann; German - Barbara Mabae; History - Carl Barnes, Roy Kotynek; Industrial Health - Sherryll Schultz; International Studies - Mary Karasch; Japanese - Seigo Nakao; Physical Therapy - Robert Jarski; Psychology - Lawrence Lilliston; Theater - Karen

Sheridan.

The Golden Key Honor Society is comprised of 250 chapters throughout the world.

"One million dollars in scholarships have been awarded," said Osborn. He encouraged sophomores to actively participate in the groups many functions.

Osborn, citing that Golden Key members represent the top 15 percent of the university said, "You are not only the leaders in your class but the future leaders of the world."

STD's on the rise

Time to become aware

By DIANNE FLORKA
Staff Writer

April is STD Awareness Month according to ASHA, the American Social Health Association, in North Carolina.

STD is an acronym for Sexually Transmitted Diseases that cause a myriad of problems for both women and men. In a recent report by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) entitled *The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting STDs*, "At least 15 percent of all infertility cases in American women are caused by pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), a complication of untreated STDs."

The IOM is a private, nonprofit organization that advises the federal government on health policy. The report is a wake up call to everyone.

In the report, men fare no better. Chlamydia and gonorrhea are often present without noticeable symptoms and cause male sterility.

Karen Olsen, Certified Adult Nurse Practitioner at the Graham Health

Center echoes the report, "Incidents of STDs is on the rise, primarily HPV (Human Papilloma Virus), chlamydia, gonorrhea, Hepatitis B and HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)."

"Male anatomy allows for earlier detection of chlamydia and gonorrhea. The same is not true for women," Olsen added. According to Olsen, women have no symptoms and risk infertility in later life.

"Several treatments are available in treating chlamydia and gonorrhea including laser surgery and liquid nitrogen," said Olsen. Once successfully treated, there is a low occurrence rate for chlamydia and gonorrhea.

Hepatitis B is a viral infection of the liver that is transmitted by body fluids. Gay men and those who share needles are at the highest risk.

Young people are especially at risk for STDs. Unprotected sex can impair fertility later in life. Most STD infec-

tions occur in people under the age of 25.

Adolescents are at the highest risk since they are biologically more susceptible to infection and participate in unprotected sex more often than adults according to the IOM.

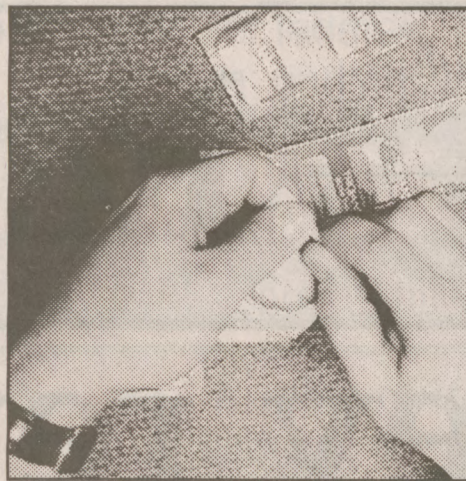
Infants can also contract STDs from their mothers and face damage to the central nervous system.

Another STD, human papillomavirus, has no symptoms but is closely linked with cancer of both male and female genitals. Many STDs increase the risk of HIV infection.

"Every hour of every day, someone under the age of 20 is infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS," said Olsen repeating a report from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

HIV babies are born to infected mothers. The statistics show a rise in HIV among teenagers. AIDS is the number one killer of people between the ages of 25-44 according to Olsen.

STDs are a tremendous health risk and an economic disaster according to the IOM. Everyone who is sexually active, especially those engaging in unprotected sex, is advised to seek medical testing. Early detection can prevent disastrous consequences in the future.



Post Photo/Nelson Moy

PROTECT YOURSELF: Condoms can help stop STDs, but abstinence is the only way to 100% protection.

Olsen gives the following risk reductions: practice abstinence, limit partners, know your partners (if taking drugs, having other partners), if sexually active, insist on using condoms and use the condoms consistently.

The use of latex condoms is very important. Natural skin condoms have microscopic pores which allows the STDs to penetrate and therefore, offers no protection.

For those allergic to latex, Olsen suggests polyurethane. In addition, the use of a spermicidal jelly or cream increases the action against STDs when used in conjunction with a condom. Another plus, the use of condoms and spermicidal jelly/cream acts as a contraceptive equal to being on the pill.



Gregory Mackey

Creatine, muscle maker or ridiculous rip-off?

This week I'm going to cover a more serious topic; and some of you are out there thinking, "Geez, Greg! It's about time you stopped writing about all that esoteric crap like 'web-sites' and 'using 'The Force''!"

What I'm talking about is a supplement that has been getting a lot of attention lately and may very well be the safe alternative to anabolic steroids: Creatine Monohydrate, used by a number of Olympic athletes. But just what is "creatine" anyway? Does it work, and how? Is it safe?

The logic behind creatine monohydrate supplementation is to increase the amount of the high energy compound creatine phosphate (CP) in muscle. In times of high energy demand like sprinting or heavy weight-lifting; the active muscles can use the chemical energy stored in creatine phosphate to contract more forcefully.

When the muscles run out of CP they must use other methods to generate energy that are not as fast to keep up with the demand causing fatigue and performance levels begin to drop off. Creatine naturally occurs in meats like beef, pork, and lamb (like cholesterol, creatine is found only in animal products). Unfortunately, to get creatine this way one would have to eat so many steaks that they would have a heart attack before getting enough creatine to benefit them.

The real question here is — does creatine really work? According to the current scientific literature, it does. Ten out of 18 research studies showed those that got a creatine supplement significantly improved their performance over those that got only a starch-filled placebo.

One study had a number of weight lifters increase both their max bench presses and the number of times they could bench 70% of this maximum after receiving 20 g of creatine supplement for 28 days. Those receiving a placebo did not improve their performance.

So can every athlete expect an increase in performance by adding a little creatine to their diet? The answer here is no.

Creatine monohydrate only seems to work in those who participate in high speed, high power events with rest periods of 5 minutes or less. It doesn't appear to improve the performance of those who compete in endurance type events or those that have long rest periods.

Another study in Australia involving elite swimmers; those ingesting creatine did not improve their performance over those that had taken a "Polycose" look-alike.

So if you're on the swim team and thinking of suckin' down a couple of bottles of "Creatine Gold" in anticipation of the jump to Division I — Sorry, my man! Of course, creatine only works if you do. Then again, if you don't work out, nothing (not even steroids) will work.

The current scientific literature does not speak of any side-effects associated with the use of creatine. Adam Schlecter (USA Bodybuilding Champion and Fitness Director at CMI Health & Tennis Club) says that, in his experience, "overdosing" on creatine-containing supplements (recommended dose is 7 - 20 g) can cause water retention and frequent urination.

For best results, Adam suggests the best time to take creatine is 30 minutes before an exercise session and to avoid drinking coffee. As creatine monohydrate is a relatively new supplement, there is no research out as to the long-term effects of taking it.

While the jury is still out on that topic, creatine seems to be safe for the time being. Now if you'll excuse me, I've got a paper to write.

OU attracts transfer students

Oakland gives students more personal attention and social interaction

By DANIELLE ELBAZ
Staff Writer

As a freshman, college can be both an exciting and overwhelming experience. Students leave the familiar surroundings of their home and the comfort of their families. They find themselves trapped in a small dorm room, miles away from what they know.

Campus is filled with unfamiliar faces.

Dorm life can also be an awful experience for most, and classes consist of 100 to 600 students. An assigned student number becomes a freshman's only identity.

This is why OU is so irresistible for a majority of students. While some students are thriving for a more personal environment others are looking for more excitement.

Students that begin their academic career at a very small college may find it hard to adjust without much social interaction.

Sara Yagemen, a sophomore French

major, began her academic career at Kalamazoo College. She thought it was too small and far away from home.

"I wasn't ready to handle it. I didn't adjust well because the environment was too small," said Yagemen.

She is now attending OU and enjoys her peers and professors. Yagemen likes commuting and feels better knowing she is closer to home.

"There is better interaction with people here, I didn't have anything in common with the students in Kalamazoo," said Yagemen.

The larger colleges and universities provide a broad spectrum of social activities. To students new to this sort of environment these activities can serve as a distraction.

The constant commotion combined with the lack of personal contact with the professor, can cause a student to immediately become discouraged. For some the only solution is to retreat and regroup.

Mandi Felhandler, an OU sophomore, left Michigan State University for the comforts of a smaller school. Her options were limited to in-state colleges.

"I really wanted a safe school to attend, one that you actually see your professor. At MSU you only see your teacher's assistant, here you're not just a number," said Felhandler.

Senior Karen Pierce also had a simi-

lar experience. She attended Indiana University, but after a year she longed for the comforts of home.

Pierce reaped the benefits of being at OU. She was able to attend OU as a guest student. This allowed her to determine if she wanted to stay or not.

After one semester Pierce was sure that OU was right for her. The academic standards were exceptional and they accepted all of her transfer credits.

"At first it was hard to adapt socially because the majority of students commute, but ultimately the quality of classes was the main focus," said Pierce.

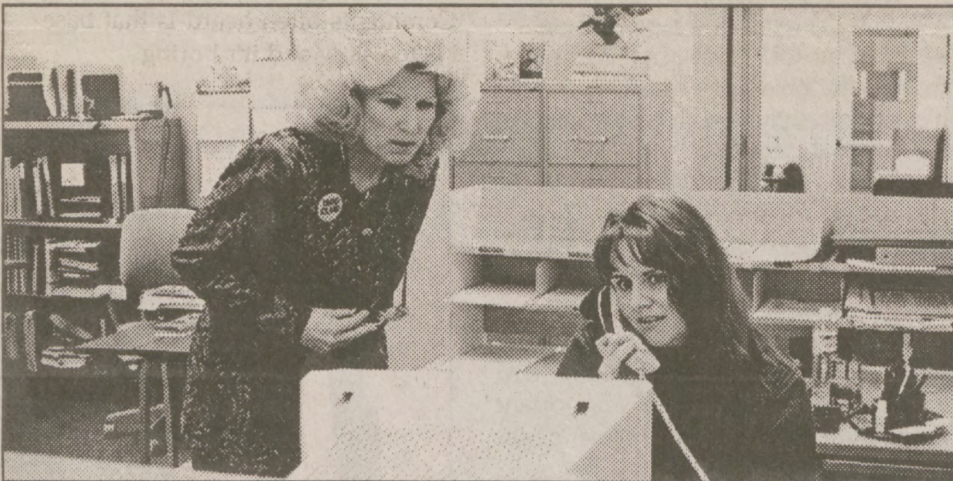
OU offers a variety of different options that appeal to its students.

"OU strives for academic excellence," said Rosemary Robinson, an Arts & Sciences advisor.

Two major concerns at OU are class size and faculty interaction. There are a high percentage of Ph.D.'s in OU's faculty. Most professors care about the success of their students, they are not just numbers said Robinson.

OU is divided into six categories consisting of: College of Arts and Sciences, schools of Business Administration, Education and Human Services, Engineering and Computer Science, Health Sciences and Nursing.

The university has a program of



Post Photo/Nelson Moy

HARD AT WORK: Processor of undergrad transfer students Lori Kay (sitting) aids a transfer student on the phone as functional supervisor Carol Drouin looks on.

OU EVENTS

Relationships and Surviving Break-ups will be presented at noon in the Fireside Lounge.

MUSIC

Bush, with Veruca Salt, will be performing at the Palace this Saturday. Tickets are \$25 and the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

The Righteous Brothers will be performing at the Fox theatre, today and every day until Sunday. Call the Fox Theatre for more info.

Lord of Word and the Disciples of Bass along with special guest Kinnie Star will perform at the Shelter on Monday. All ages are welcome. Tickets are \$8 and doors open at 7:30.

G.E. Smith, the leader of the Saturday Night Live Band, will be performing at the Magic Bag Saturday. Doors open at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$12.

Jeru the Damaja wsg D.J. Shadow will be at the Majestic Theatre Friday. All ages are welcome, doors open at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$10 in advance.

THEATRE

The Eisenhower Dance Ensemble (EDE) will be presenting its final concert of the 1996-97 season this Friday. They will be performing *Premieres*, with four newly created dance works and two of their traditional works. It will be going on at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$16. Call (810)362-9329 for more info.

A puppet show for children, *The Adventure of Davey and Charlie*, will be performed this Saturday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Studio Theatre. Call (313)377-2972 for ticket info and location info.

ART

Michael Camille, a University of Chicago professor of art history, will give his lecture *Gothic Ivorys and the Medieval Art of Love* at the DIA's lecture hall this Saturday at 2 p.m. He will explore the imagery of courtship and desire in ivory carvings. The lecture is free with museum admission (\$4 adults, \$1 children and students, members free).

OTHER

Beverly Hills Ninja, starring Chris Farley and Chris Rock, will be played at the Magic Bag tonight. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the film starts at 9:30 p.m. Over 18 welcome and \$2 for entrance.

The Twelfth Annual Access Ability Awards, presented by Oakland County Cable Communications Corporation, will be held tomorrow at OCC, Royal Oak Campus Auditorium, at 7 p.m. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding creative achievements in Public, Educational and Municipal Access Programming. For more info, call (810)589-7778.

Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure, a five-kilometer run/walk and one mile fun walk, is going on Saturday at the Detroit Zoo. The entry fee is \$30- but there will be no registration on the day of the race. Entry forms are available at Jacobson's, JCPenney, Pier 1 Imports, area running stores, or by calling the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, at (800) KARMANOS (527-6266), or the Motor City Striders hotline, (810)544-9099.

The Magic Bag will present Troma Films Detroit Premiere of "Sgt. Kabukiman-N.Y.P.D." this Tuesday. Special appearances will be made by Sgt. Kabukiman and The Toxic Avenger! Doors open at 8 p.m., the film starts at 9:30 p.m., no cover charge, 21+ welcome.

Rick Bloom, columnist for the Detroit Free Press Business Section, will discuss business issues at the Southfield Public Library tonight at 6 p.m. Among his topics will be wills, trusts, estate planning and investing. Q & A will also be included.

Sure Things

SPORTS

Three soccer players to red-shirt

By DAVID CAMERON
Sports Editor

OU Assistant Coach for women's soccer Nick O' Shea said that most likely three women's players from the 1996 GLIAC Champion Pioneers would be red-shirted for the 1997 campaign.

Juniors Erin Gallagher and Brooke Kairies, along with sophomore Cathy Miniuk, who led the conference in points (39) and goals (15), will be given red-shirt status next season.

Kairies led the GLIAC in assists with 17 in 1996 and OU had their best season in their three-year existence, going 16-3 and barely missed receiving an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

Bloomburg University and Adelphi University earned the last two spots from the Northeast region.

"That's the plan — to red-shirt them

(Miniuk, Gallagher and Kairies), " O' Shea said. " So that they would have one year of eligibility remaining. I'd rather have a fifth-year senior (playing) than a freshman."

Gallagher, selected as the GLIAC co-Freshman of the Year after the 1995 season said the decision was made "a couple months ago" and that since next season will be one of transition into Division I-AAA, as OU will play as an independent, the coaching staff's choice is the best for the team.

Miniuk garnered All-GLIAC honors after the 1995 season.

The program's three-year mark is 35-13-3 and only one match, Gallagher said kept the women from making their first-ever tournament appearance — a 2-1 loss on Oct. 19 to Lock Haven University.

"One game," Gallagher lamented. "And if we (OU) would've won the

game in the rain, we would have been in (the NCAA tournament)."

Last season's team set records for wins (16), fewest goals against (15), goals for (76) and shutouts (11).

The Pioneers suffered their losses against two Division II schools (St. Joseph's College and LU), and an Division I school (Eastern Michigan University).

Gallagher said that OU's schedule has gotten remarkably tougher from the first year (1994) and that because in women's soccer, the NCAA perhaps made it somewhat tougher to get to the post-season because the GLIAC doesn't have an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

The 1996 team finished ranked No. 21 in the nation and defeated Tiffin University 3-0 in their home finale.



Post Photo/Bob Knoska

KOOL KICK: OU junior Erin Gallagher looks to score.



David Cameron

*Baseball and
fickle fans —
not always bliss
at the ballpark*

Stability.

Tradition.
An experience that a son or daughter would remember. "Something" that when their kids are grown, would be passed on.

This "something" is the experience of going to a ballgame.

A baseball game
The emerald grass.

Walking up the tunnel and seeing your favorite player or team out on the field, made the experience that much more meaningful.

With each passing day, here in the scapegoat-filled 1990's, baseball and other sports are constantly scrutinized.

The fans and people in the media world say 'owners of pro teams — they don't care about us.'

They are right. The owners don't and the players may not want to have anything to do with the fans.

This is sad. Even tragic.

Baseball is the scapegoat sport for the 90s.

Comments often heard is that baseball is too slow and it's boring.

Fans ask why the season starts this early, in April when the Midwest is dealing with snow and freezing temperatures.

They say that baseball's players are paid too much money.

This is probably all true. The season begins too early. I question the salary structure. I also question whether or not the players have the right type of attitude.

Not all of the criticism is justified. Like the stereotypical white-male bashing that was so popular a short time ago, baseball is an easy target for the critics.

I am tired of hearing this. Really tired.

Thinking of feeling the need to defend a great sport against undue scorn.

OU's baseball team was rained/snowed out last weekend. In the major leagues, last Saturday's Chicago-Detroit game was canceled too. It was made up as a Sunday double header. Maybe the sporting gods are telling schedule-makers something.

Maybe baseball is too slow.

This is a sport though, that has survived and thrived through the years with only minor changes.

This is a sport that as far back as the 1880's, fans and sportswriters alike believed that players were earning too much money.

Our society works in cycles.

The NBA wasn't always as popular as they are now in the 1990s.

As recently as the late 1970s, the NBA was going towards bankruptcy.

The NHL didn't always have the following as the league does now.

Even football grew as television grew among America's baby boomers and many point to the 1958 NFL Championship contest pitting the Baltimore Colts and the New York Giants, as football's coming out party with the public.

So, clearly there is evidence that a fickle public is nothing new.

I like stability.

I like the three-run homer, making the shoe-string catch and sitting in the center field bleachers.

Crash Davis, the catcher in "Bull Durham" said "I believe in the church of baseball".

We all should believe in that church.

What do we have too lose?

Excuse me, I have a ballgame to catch.

Boron is brilliant as OU downs Siena 8-0

By DAVID CAMERON
Sports Editor

The pitch that got away.

Junior Jason Boron and the Pioneers had a seemingly routine day against NAIA foe Siena Heights College last Thursday afternoon except for one thing — Boron was working on a no-hitter.

OU (12-10, 5-3 GLIAC) had little trouble with the Saints with an 8-0 win, but if not for a two-out double in the ninth, Boron and OU would have had their first nine-inning no-hitter ever.

Jason Folgman's double to center field broke up the gem and Boron will take the win, albeit blemished somewhat.

"I was pretty pissed that I hung him (Folgman) a curveball," Boron said following OU's home opening win. "I should've thrown him a fastball."

Boron said the 8-0 margin helped him on the mound.

"Hitters hit well," he said. "(This) took a lot of pressure off me, so I could just throw my game."

He improved to 1-2 on the season. Senior reliever Aaron Phillips came on after Folgman's double and struckout Chris Ogden on a sidearm fastball.

Senior catcher Ted Vlaz cranked two home runs — a two run shot in the second inning and then another in the fourth. The homers give Vlaz a team-leading six for the season, which is more than any one OU player hit last year. Vlaz had a chance to tie the Pioneer home run record for a game (last set in 1990 when Dave Szpak had three against Olivet), but walked in the OU seventh, his last at-bat for the game.

Vlaz said that he is pleased at how he has been swinging the bat.

"The last couple weeks I have felt that I've been struggling a little bit," he said. "Because, I don't know — maybe it was the cold weather or what ; I just didn't feel comfortable at the plate. But the last couple of days I've been feeling real good (and) things have been working out for me — it just came together today."

OU's only home game in the last week came against SHC. Alma College told OU baseball coach Steve Lyon that the Scots were concerned about the 40 degree temperatures. In what was to be OU's home opener, there was no baseball and AC forfeited the game to the Pioneers.

Last weekend, the Pioneers four-game series against GLIAC rival Northwood was postponed due to a combination of snow and rain.

Yesterday, OU hosted Michigan Christian College at Pioneer Field but game results were not available by the time this issue went to print.



Post Photo/Bob Knoska

SWINGING TOUGH: OU senior third baseman Jeff Harwood takes a cut during a game last season. Harwood, in his last season as a Pioneer, is tied for the team lead in triples (1). In 1996, he tied for the team lead in steals and was named 1st team All-Conference by the GLIAC, after batting .347 in league play. Harwood was second on the team in on-base percentage (.504).

Pioneer spring and summer sport calender

Baseball, April 17-May 7 (starting times and dates subject to change)
Golf

Wed., Apr. 16 — at Wayne State University, 2 p.m. (vs. WSU '97: 0-0)

Thur., Apr. 17 — at Siena Heights, 3 p.m. (vs. SHC '97: 1-0)

Thur., Apr. 17 — at Adrian, 7 p.m. (vs. AC '97: 0-0)

Sat., Apr. 19 — Saginaw Valley at home, 1 p.m. (vs. SVSU '97: 0-0)

Sun., Apr. 20 — Saginaw Valley at home, 12 p.m.

Sat. Apr. 26 — Mercyhurst (Pa.) at home, 1 p.m. (vs. MC '97: 0-0)

Sun. Apr. 27 — Mercyhurst (Pa.) at home, 12 p.m.

Tue. Apr. 29 — at Detroit Mercy, 3 p.m. (vs. U of D '97: 0-0)

Sat., May 3 — Ashland (OH.), 1 p.m. (vs. AU '97: 0-0)

Sun., May 4 — Ashland (OH.), 12 p.m.

Tue., May 6 — at Eastern Michigan University, 1 p.m. (vs. EMU '97: 0-1)

Wed., May 7 — at Wayne State University, 2 p.m.

Thur., May 8 — at Alma, 3 p.m. (vs. AC '97: 1-0) (forfeit win on April 9)

April 25-26 — at the Bay Valley Invitational, Saginaw

April 27-28 — at the Ferris State Invitational, Big Rapids

May 1 — at the Motor City Intercollegiate Tournament, South Lyon

May 2-3, — the team hosts the Pioneer Invitational

May 7-9 — at the NCAA regional qualifying match, Indianapolis, Ind.

May 9-10 — at the Grand Valley Invitational, Allendale

May 15-16, — the team hosts the GLIAC Championships

May 20-23 — at the NCAA Division II National Championships, Scottsdale, Az.

*Come and watch the Pioneers play
Saginaw Valley State this weekend at Pioneer
Field behind Lepley*

Pioneer of the Week



Ted Vlaz
5-9
catcher

Vlaz smacked two home runs in OU's 8-0 win against Siena Heights last Thursday.

The two homers gives him six for the season and he is batting .349.

The Pioneer sports week

Wed. Apr. 16

•Baseball team is at Wayne State University, Detroit, 2 p.m. (DH)*

Thur. Apr. 17

•Baseball team is at Siena Heights College for a single game, 3 p.m.

Sat. Apr. 19-Sun. Apr. 20

•Baseball team is at home for a four-game series (two doubleheaders each day) against Saginaw Valley State University. Saturday's games begin at 1 p.m.; Sunday's start at 12 p.m.

* Denotes GLIAC game.
** Home games in bold type.

Upcoming Lacrosse Games

4/20 — Albion

4/27 — at Albion

5/3 — Calvin

5/10 — Great Lakes Lacrosse

Wild Pitches

•OU is 1st in both GLIAC ERA (2.47) and field percentage (.967).

•Jason Boron has a GLIAC batting average of .368 (7-for-19).

International talent

By HEIDI HEDQUIST and
JEANNEE KIRKALDY
Editor In Chief and Features Editor

Mixed among the many athletes at OU people can find an array of students from all over the world.

Whether recruited at international events or desiring a change of pace, athletes from almost all corners of the world have chosen OU as the place to compete and study abroad.

Of the varsity sports at OU, the majority of international students participate in men's soccer and swimming.

Additionally, there is one international women's basketball player.

Ulrika Nilsson, 25, of Lulea Sweden, is currently completing her third year as a Lady Pioneer.

Nilsson came to Michigan with fiancée, Stefan Hortlund.

Hortlund was offered a job with a Swedish company, Planngahardech, an automobile supply company, in the Dearborn/Detroit area.

Shortly before making a final decision, Nilsson and Hortlund came to Michigan to find something for Nilsson to do.

Nilsson said she wanted to continue playing basketball and hadn't yet attended college.

Upon their arrival to metro Detroit Nilsson and Hortlund went to the Dearborn Public Library and researched colleges and basketball programs.

After visiting the library Nilsson began making phone calls to various university coaches.

Not long after coach Taylor called Nilsson back and asked her to come try out with the girls, she said.

Right away Nilsson signed the papers and she and Hortlund went home and packed their things, she said.

"I got quite lucky. They (the basketball team) had one scholarship available and they needed a point guard," said Nilsson.

At the time Nilsson said she had no idea what type of programs or how good the programs were OU had to offer.

Although culture and language is very different from that in Sweden, Nilsson said the hardest transition she had to make was adjusting to the basketball program.

"Sports are very big and very competitive (in the US) and it is great, but it was harder than I thought," said Nilsson.

"I came here and I think I was too humble and I wasn't mean enough. I took everything too personally..." said Nilsson. "I got tougher," she added.

Other international athletes agree that sports are different in America than in their homeland.



David Hall of England

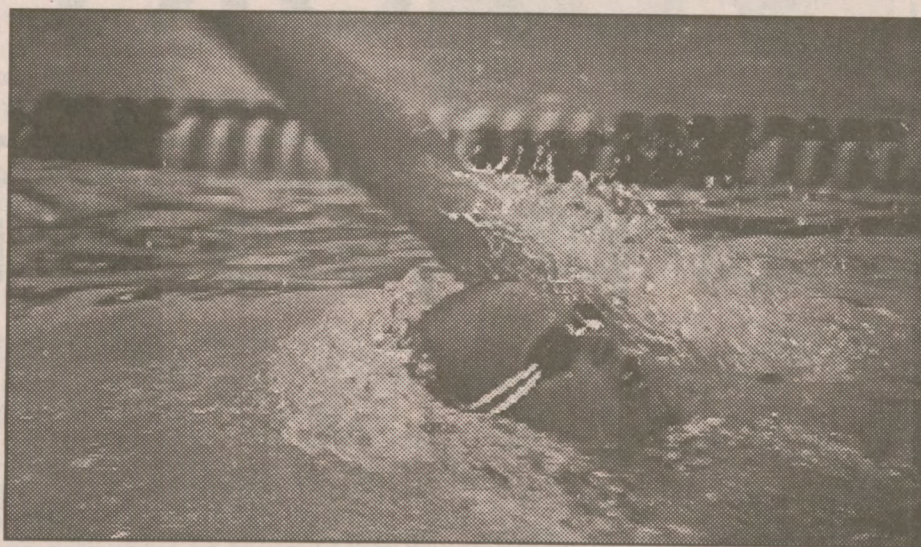
OU interm sports information director resigns, effective last Friday

By DAVID CAMERON
Sports Editor

Interim Sports Information Director Chrissie Hendrickson, hired in late January to handle Sports Information duties for 11-year veteran Andy Glantzman, resigned effective last Friday.

Hendrickson said she resigned because "The atmosphere in the athletic office in which I was working was not conducive to the duties in which I had to accomplish as Sports Information Director."

Hendrickson, 22, attended Xavier University in Cincinnati and was



Ido Meron of Israel

Viggo Anthonsen, freshman soccer player of Gjerdrum, Norway, feels that Americans and Europeans have different strengths and weaknesses.

"I think all American soccer athletes are good athletes, they may lack some of the tactical skills which Europeans have," said Anthonsen.

Anthonsen also stated it was easier in America to play soccer while pursuing an education.

Anthonsen and Gunnar Halvorsen, also from Gjerdrum, Norway, came to OU together.

Both freshmen chose OU after hearing about it from the soccer coach at the University of Wisconsin (U of W).

The Norwegians had originally planned to attend U of W, but felt their SAT scores would not be high enough.

After viewing a video of OU, Anthonsen and Halvorsen decided to join Coach Parsons' team.

Although, they later learned their SAT scores would have qualified for U of W, Anthonsen said they opted to stay at OU.

Two other soccer players from England, Paul Snape and Ryan Draper were recruited by Parsons while at a soccer trial.

The trial is a two day event for approximately 50 soccer players who are eligible and are members of professional clubs.

Of those participating, approximately 20 get picked up by various Division I and Division II schools.

Although Draper chose to return home after the fall semester, Snape chose to continue on at OU.

Snape also described differences between academics in America and his homeland.

He stated that in England students are not required to

focus on general education classes and instead concentrate more on particular majors.

Another British soccer player at OU, David Hall, agreed that there are differences in the university systems.

Hall came to OU after playing professionally for two years. He was recruited by one of OU's coaches and from conversations with him thought OU sounded like a good place to go.

Hall has attended OU for two years and plans to finish his degree here. He hopes to pursue a career involving soccer and plans to use his degree to fall back on.

Hall will remain in Michigan over the summer and will play for a team based out of Saginaw along with some other OU team members.

Many of OU's international athletes do return home for the summer months. Anthonsen said he plans to take the fall semester off to return to Norway. However he plans to return to OU in the winter. Nilsson will also return to Sweden for six weeks to visit family and will train with her home

See INTERNATIONAL page 11



Ulrika Nilsson of Sweden



Laura Schildt

What makes Tiger opening day so great

Who are these 42,749 people that attended the Detroit Tigers 1997 home opener on April 7, and don't they have a life?

Don't they have jobs? Is this how they like to spend a, not-so-spring, Monday afternoon? And can you tell me they truly enjoyed every minute of sitting outside when the thermometer read a very brisk 37 degrees with 23 mile per hour winds?

More than 40,000 people did not go to work on April 7. (Only 4,000 short of a sellout.) To give you an idea of how large this number is—take the population of Highland Park, approximately 20,000 times two. Therefore, you now know the reason it took you four hours to get a cup of coffee and seven hours to get a Big Mac, because in one day, 42,749 people probably called into work sick.

Would all these foolish people admit it was worth risking their jobs to sit outside for nine innings watching a team that had 109 losses last season? (The Tigers last home win was Aug. 30, 1996.)

What do these different types of people find interesting at Opening Day in Detroit? Were the shirtless beer drinking college guys chanting "Who cares!" as the Minnesota player's names were announced the thrill of the day? Or was the striker's sign reading, "Mitch Albom is a Foul Ball Scab" more exciting? And if you asked them what they remember most about the day they would say—the moment when the fans stood together cheering for a seven foot hot dog that was carried by the wind out onto left field.

Do these people call themselves diehard fans or extreme party animals? Was their leader an obnoxious man in the center field bleachers exposing his large beer gut while drinking a 20 oz Miller Genuine Draft bottle? (Well, until the fourth inning when he was escorted out of the stadium?)

I bet the fans all hissed and moaned as Justin Thompson walked the first two batters of the game, and then, cheered in the bottom of the 8th inning when a passed ball allowed the Tigers to score two runs making the score 8 to 4. (Detroit won 10 to 4)

So, what is the big deal about Opening Day at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull? Could the mere history of this ballpark make the event special? Or is it the thought of feasting on a traditional Tiger Stadium hot dog loaded with all the toppings that drew people from miles away to the intimate stadium filled with many different characters?

Do these people attend year after year like it's some ritual?

It was a grrrrreat day!

See you next year.

Oh and please, don't tell my boss.

THE OAKLAND POST is looking for writers, photographers and graphics people. Call 370-4265 if interested

Opening day thumbnail
Detroit vs. Minnesota

Final: Tigers 10,
Twins 4

•Detroit has been playing at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull every year since 1900.

Survey

Continued from page 7

should be discussed in public schools.

In questions regarding sexual issues, 55.6% said that sodomy (anal sex) shouldn't be illegal and 42% felt that homosexual males were at greater risk of becoming infected with HIV.

As for the atmosphere at OU 40.1% of the participants felt the

community to be supportive of sexual minorities and 54.3% felt themselves to be well informed on issues regarding homosexuality.

In the future, Marcillo said that Pride Forum plans on doing more surveys. Maybe not every year, but possibly every other year, he said.

The surveys will allow Pride Forum "To see what type of educational things we can do on campus and to see if we've made any improvements," said Marcillo.

Transfers

continued from page 8

Continuing Education and the Office of Graduate Study.

There are more than 350 faculty members teaching at OU and the students population is almost 14,000. This averages out to about 40 students per teacher. This is rare at most universities.

During Winter of 1997, the total number of new transfer students enrolled at OU is 581.

The age group of seventeen to twenty-two made up 46.4 percent of the total said Celeste Grice an Information Clerk in the Office of Institutional Research.

The ages between 35 to 44 make up 10.2 percent of the population said Grice.

OU possesses some of the beneficial aspects of the larger colleges. There are both fraternities and sororities on campus.

Dorm living is also available. Free tutorial services are provided on campus. The Career Placement Center and the Internship Office help provide the OU student an avenue into the job market.

All of OU's attributes combined is the reason that so many transfer students are satisfied with their decision.

"Transferring to OU was one of the best choices I could have made for my academic career," said Pierce.

International

Continued from page 10

team.

Another OU athlete planning to return home for a while is OU swimmer Ido Meron.

Meron, a native of Haifa, Israel will be returning home in two weeks to spend time with family and in July compete in the Maccabia Games.

Meron came to OU after he sent letters to several Division I and Division II universities.

Meron said most of the universities responded including OU men's head swim coach Pete Hovland.

Meron said OU was known to have a good program. "It just happened to be the right time for me and the right place," he

said. He said he is satisfied with his decision.

Overall the athletes felt they had made the right decision and enjoyed OU but often had pangs of homesickness.

"The first semester I was so busy I forgot I was homesick," said Snape.

Meron said that although family is in Israel, he also has a family at OU- his team.

Snape also gave a little bit of advice. He recommends that students invest in a vehicle.

Other international athletes who were unavailable for comment were: David Paxton and James Collins of England, Yoav Ritter and Amir Tal of Israel and Thiago Orso of Brazil.



Post Photo/ Jeannie Kirkaldy

Yoav Ritter of Israel
and
Thiago Orso of Brazil



Post Photos/ Bob Knoska



Amir Tal of Israel

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find the hidden
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