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■ **Detroit Winter Blast heats up — A7**



DATES FOR DEGREES

Find new ideas for great dates based on majors and concentrations.

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'Project Clean Plate' raises awareness and shows reality of wasted food

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The Post has complete Grammy wrap-up
See 2007 Grammy Award Winners and highlights from the big night

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Varner Studio Theater welcomes dark mystery 'Rimers of Elritch'

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Grizzlies win at home against long-time rival
Men's basketball celebrates third victory over Valpo rivals



Rude awakening

By the time OU students noticed the furious flames and smoke Friday morning, Jermaine Boulden had been up for hours.

His home was completely destroyed by the blaze that engulfed the 16-unit condo complex Greenstone Blvd. across from campus. Boulden considers himself lucky because his wife and two young children escaped from the tragedy unharmed.

At 3 a.m. Friday, Boulden's wife woke him because she noticed smoke in their condo. Almost simultaneously, smoke detectors began blaring, as if to substantiate her terrifying observation.

As their condo filled with thick, heavy smoke, Boulden raced to his children's room to wake them and get them out of their burning home.

"I didn't notice any flames," said Boulden. "All I saw was a ton of smoke."

Please see **FIRE/A2**



Women's winning streak continues

By **ROB TATE**
Senior Reporter

Two more wins. It's something the OU women's basketball has done relatively easy lately, but these last two wins were two entirely different games. One game was a walk in the park and the other was an all out battle. But wins are wins and Oakland has done a great job at getting them lately, reeling off 10 straight.

The Golden Grizzlies continued their streak Saturday with a dominate performance over the Valparaiso Crusaders with a score of 65-44.

Oakland took the lead for good in the first half with less than seven

minutes to go on a three pointer from sophomore April Kidd, who had a solid afternoon. Kidd contributed eight points, five rebounds and three steals in 16 minutes of action off the bench.

Oakland dominated in the second half, coming out of the locker room with a 13-2 run in the first five and a half minutes of the half, including four points from senior Nicole Piggott.

"We just increased the intensity on the ball. When we put even more ball pressure it helps our post defense," Head Coach Becki Francis said. "We always tell our team to

Please see **B-BALL/A2**

See what happens when two students go without their credit cards for a week

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**

I've had a credit card since I was 18 and I used it moderately up until recently, when I began relying on it heavily. It's right up there with my cell phone, laptop and iPod of things I thought I could never live without, so when I found out I would have to go a week without using my credit card, I started to panic.

I hardly ever carry cash on me

Please see **OCHTINSKY/A2**

By **ROB TATE**

Doesn't it seem like the world is run on credit cards these days? What is the point of cash when I can just swipe, sign and leave?

What is the point of cash anyways? In most cases I take my entire paycheck from both my jobs and put them in my checking account. Most of the time I take \$20 out just in case, and charge everything else.

Please see **TATE/A2**

COMMENTARY

Valentine's Day on \$20

By **HEATHER HOLM**
Contributing Reporter

So you've landed a date for Valentines ... but you need to come up with that perfect date.

The traditional dinner and a movie is always a great idea, but if you really want to make an impression while staying on a budget, listen up!

With many college student short on cash we may not be able to afford something big and expensive, but who says it has to be. All you have to do is get creative! Making s'mores over the stove, baking cookies or hitting up the local coffee shop and bookstore together

can be just as perfect.

The little things count. Do something small and out of the ordinary. As long as you're together and enjoying yourselves, who cares what it is! Here are some date ideas that you can fit into your budget:

Ideas at around or under \$20:

1. Dress up, stay in!
Dress your best, and then prepare a romantic meal in with your sweetie.
Look up a recipe and pick up a few groceries beforehand.

Please see **V-DAY/A2**

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News tip? Call (248) 370-4268



■ **Everything you need to know about potential presidential candidates and student's reactions.**

—A9

OCHTINSKY

Cont. from A1

these days. When I do, I usually end up throwing whatever change I have into my pants pockets and forget to take it out at the end of the day. It seems so much more convenient to slide your credit card through the machine. Yeah, it's a pain to have to sign the receipt, especially since my name is so long, but it's just an automatic response to pull out the credit card.

I struggled to break that habit through the first day or so. I would open my wallet, have a "Where the heck is my credit card?" moment and then it hit me that I had to get out the cash. After that, it wasn't too bad. The most awkward part about it was having to pay cash at the gas station. I can't even tell you the last time I did that. Restaurants were right up there too, but regular stores were no big deal.

Having only cash made me more aware of how much I was spending, especially because I had allotted myself a certain amount of money to get through the week. Had I paid with credit, I wouldn't have thought twice about how much my bill came to at the store, but on more than one occasion I thought to myself "That cost HOW much!?" I also realized that bottled water at my work went from 99 cents to \$1.29, which made my jaw drop.

For the most part, I didn't spend as much as I thought I would, which is a good thing. It was mainly on the essentials, food and gas. It was nice to not panic when my bill at the post office came to 87 cents that I would have to charge less than a dollar. I'm not a big fan of carrying change around, which was one of the week's downfalls.

It's hard to say whether I'll go back to primarily paying with credit or if I'll keep using cash. I'm sure my bank account would greatly appreciate it if I used cash or I'll think twice before spending.

TATE

Cont. from A1

I got my first credit card in 2003 when I graduated from high school and I use it 85 percent of the time that I'm making purchases, especially expensive ones. So I was challenged to go one week without my card and just use cash on everything. I jumped at the idea thinking that it would be a breeze. I'm not a big shopper and I don't spend a lot of money on wants, mostly I spend on needs like food and my car.

When I gave up my credit card and ATM card, I pulled just \$80 cash out of my checking account to live on for the week. The last thing I did was fill-up my car because that is the one place that I couldn't tell you the last time I paid cash at.

Once my card was given up (I

took Brittany's and she took mine so that we weren't tempted to use them), I started thinking about the "What If's?" What if I need some extra cash and the bank is closed? What if I have to buy something in an extreme situation and I don't have enough money? Would I have to beg my parents or friends to save me?

I had planned to just not spend a lot of money during the week but a few things came up. I started my experiment last Tuesday afternoon and I ended spending money on lunch and dinner here on campus because I was working all day.

Wednesday went well because I managed to avoid anywhere I would spend money. Thursday I had planned for the same thing, but another whole day on campus and a dinner invitation came up with friends and I managed to spend \$20. Friday I went to the bar with some

buddies at home and spent about \$10 on dinner and \$8 on a couple drinks. That didn't really do too much damage.

Sunday came and started to think about the week ahead. A big holiday is coming up, Valentine's Day. I wanted to go on the FTD website to order some flowers for my girlfriend but guess what? No credit card, what a pain! I made it through Monday on \$15 and when I got my credit card back yesterday, my total cash I had left was \$9.

Overall, I thought the experiment went well but I did notice a slight dependency I have on my credit card. There are so many things you can use it for now-a-days that it doesn't even cross your mind how you pay for things on a daily basis. It is too easy to just go out whenever you feel like it knowing that you don't have to worry about how much cash you are carrying and that makes life so much simpler.

V-DAY

Cont. from A1

2. See a romantic movie.

In theatres now: "Because I Said So," "Catch and Release," "Music and Lyrics." Check the atres for show times.

3. Visit an art gallery

— The OU Art Gallery, free admission for students. www.oakland.edu/ouag

— The Detroit Institute of Arts

Tickets cost \$6. Call (313) 833.7900 or visit the DIA's Web site, www.dia.org for hours and directions.

— Cranbrook Institute of Science, tickets cost \$8 for adults. Visit http://www.science.cranbrook.edu for more information.

4. Attend a poetry reading or performance at a local coffee shop.

Many performances are free, but some may cost a few bucks to get in and of course, grab something to drink while you're there!

5. Check out a restaurant or shop you've never been to.

Know that place you drive past every day on the way to class or work? Try it out! You never know you what you may be missing out on!

6. Go ice skating.

— Campus Martius Park in downtown Detroit is holding a Valentine's Day Skate special

today from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. for \$20 per couple. Price includes admission, skate rental, pizza and pop, along with free parking from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Compuware Parking Garage. Regular admission to the rink is \$7 plus \$3 for skate rentals.

— If you already have skates, head for a nearby lake or pond to pass the time, then stop for hot chocolate.

Ideas at around \$20 per person:

1. Attend a concert; check out Ticketmaster's website for current and upcoming events.

2/14 – Valentines Day Ball,

Emerald Theatre

2/15 – Newsboys, at the State Theatre.

2/17 – Jack's Mannequin, at the State Theatre.

2. Rock Climbing.

Starter Packages are \$39 per person at Planet Rock in Pontiac.

Package includes a day pass for instruction, shoe rental, harness rental, basic instruction, chalk bag and extra day pass for a return visit. (248) 334.3904

3. Treat yourself and/or your sweetie to a massage.

\$35 per person for a half hour massage by a student masseuse at the Michigan School of Myomassology located at 3116 W. 12 Mile Road, Downtown Berkley. (248) 542.7228

4. Take a class together.

Pewabic Pottery in Detroit is offering a Young Adults Night, Friday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. \$35 fee per person. For more information, visit http://www.pewabic.com

5. Go to the Detroit Science Center.

— The center's current exhibit, "Our Body – The Universe Within" costs around \$25 per person.

— Visit the IMAX Dome or Dassault Systèmes Planetarium.

Adult tickets cost around \$12 per person.

For hours and show times check out http://www.detroit-sciencecenter.org.

6. Check out a comedy club. Depending on the night and location, prices can start at \$2 per person.

— Previews for the 29th Review, The Second City, Detroit. Tickets are \$15-\$20 per person. Check for show times and prices at http://www.secondcity.com

— The Comedy Castle, Royal Oak. Tickets range from \$6 to \$15 per person, pending show and night, http://www.comedy-castle.com

If you're willing to spend a bit more than \$20 per person, take a massage lesson. For \$75 per person, or \$60 each for you and your sweetie, you can enroll in six-hour Massage 101 classes at the Michigan School of Myomassology.

B-BALL

Cont. from A1

come out in the second half and try to win the first ten possessions."

Piggott led all scorers on the game netting 18 on eight of 14 shooting. Piggott wasn't surprised at extraordinary amount of success they have had lately.

"We all work so hard in practice and we are very focused and you can throughout everybody on our team, every single person, everyone is focused and that we all have the same goal," Piggott. "It's such a big win; every game is a big win."

OU's lockdown defense held the Crusaders to 25 percent shooting and 14 percent from three point land.

"We didn't shoot the best percentage in the first half but at least Valpo's was worse. That's what's been helping us win," Francis said.

Monday night's game wasn't a pretty game or a well played game for Oakland, but all that matters is notching that all important W. The Western Illinois Westerwinds gave OU all they could handle but were stopped short, 55-52.

OU got off to a rocky start in the first half, turning the ball over five times in the first five minutes. But WIU

had a rougher time with ball control, committing 15 turnovers in the first half alone and 22 on the game. Coming into the game, WIU had averaged 16.3 per game.

The game was a seesaw battle the entire way with the score being tied 13 times and 11 lead changes on the night. Both teams had a hard time shooting, OU shot 39.1 percent and WIU shot 40.4 percent on the night.

Oakland got a superb effort from their own version of MJ, freshman Melissa Jeltima that is. Jeltima gave Oakland the lead with 1:17 left in the game as her lay-up gave Oakland a 50-48 advantage. Jeltima sparked the team off the bench with 12 points and a career high four steals.

"It was a lot of fun, we really hadn't had that in while," Jeltima said about the closeness of the game. It was Oakland's closest game since a 68-64 overtime victory at Oral Roberts on Jan. 29.

"It's really important (to play in a close game) because we know when we go to Mid-Cons (tournament) every game is going to be close," Pike added.

After a missed lay-up by WIU, OU sophomore Rikka Terava was fouled on the next possession and sank her two free throws. WIU followed that up with a tip-in by Stephanie Lovingood to bring the score back within

two at 52-50

Oakland carried the ball up the court but their momentum was stopped momentarily by a shot clock discrepancy. On the inbound play, senior Bonnie Baker tossed the ball to Terava, who turned around and found Pike wide open in stride for a lay-up and a foul with 16 seconds left. After Pike hit the free throw, WIU brought the game back within three with a quick lay-up by Deedee Murphy. But WIU was unable to foul Oakland on the inbound and time ran out on the Westerwinds.

"It was exciting," Pike said about her three point play that decided the game. "But it was all the plays before that and the defensive stops and the rebounding that won the game."

Francis doesn't really want her team to think about the winning streak though.

"We are just focused on the next game, playing well, improve in the area that we need to improve in and just and things will just happen," Francis said. "We're not really talking about it, we're not really focused on it, we're not looking at the standings. We are just focused on the next practice and the next game."

Up next for Oakland are road games at Southern Utah on Saturday and at UMKC on Monday.

Classifieds

Employment

Sunday evening Catholic Mass for Oakland University students. Across the street at St. John Fisher 3665 E. Walton Blvd. First Sunday of Each Month at 7 p.m. Social follows. All are welcome. www.oucampusministry.com 248.370.2189

Student wanted for laboratory work. Sophomore or Junior science student to assist with laboratory project involving UV light and cataract (gel electrophoresis, purification or recombinant proteins, immunostaining, conducting experiments etc.) \$7.00 per hour. If interested, email Frank Giblin at giblan@oakland.edu Include your major, career goals, approx grade point average, estimated graduation date, hours available to work this semester and in the summer.

Services

Seeking individuals with measurable passion for fitness for ftrainer positions at personal training studio in Downtown Rochester. Flexible hours. Respond by phone (248) 651.5810, Fax (248)651.5791 or email to philanderson@fitness-together.com

Childcare

Part-time in-house nanny position for baby in downtown Rochester. May start work immediately. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, hours somewhat negotiable. Pay negotiable. Must have infant CPR certification, prior childcare experience and references. Call Julie at 248-608-5422.

Part time babysitter needed. Flexible hours. Must be kind, energetic and athletic. Twelve dollars per hour. Transportation required .Call Jennifer at 248 821 9048 to arrange interview.

Part-Time Baby-sitter Wanted In our Lake Orion home for Three beautiful and energetic children ages 5 years, 3 years, and 8 months. One day per week, 9:00am to 5:00 PM Tuesday or Thursday. Some Evening and weekends possible. Must love to play with children. Nonsmoker. EXCELLENT PAY!! Must have experience and references. Call 248 814-8767.

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Want to work for your student newspaper? Our current Editor in Chief is graduating, so, The Post will be hiring a new Editor to start in the spring semester. If you are interested in applying, please drop off a cover letter, resume, three references and three to five writing samples to 61 OC by March 9 or call (248) 370-4268 for more information.

Enter for a chance to win \$25!!!

Circle the correct answer for each question. Completed forms should be placed inside the box located outside The Oakland Post in the basement of the Oakland Center, office 61, no later than 5 p.m. Monday.

1. What time did fire fighters extinguish the fire at The Boulevards?
a. 3:30 am
b. 6:00 am
c. 11:30 am
d. 7:00 am

2. Where are performances of "The Rimers of Eldrich" held?
a. Varner Hall
b. Meadow Brooke Theatre
c. The Palace of Auburn Hills
d. The Player's Club Theatre

3. Who will Oakland's Men's Basketball team play Saturday night?
a. Valpo
b. Southern Utah
c. Michigan State
d. Indiana University

4. Mystic Tanning turns your skin the color of what?
a. French Bread
b. A Peach
c. A Lobster
d. A Pumpkin

5. Staying in can be a great and cheap way to celebrate Valentine's Day?
a. True
b. False

6. Who is Robert J. Einhorn?
a. A Nascar Driver
b. A State Representative
c. A former State Senator
d. A former State Department Official

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News In Brief

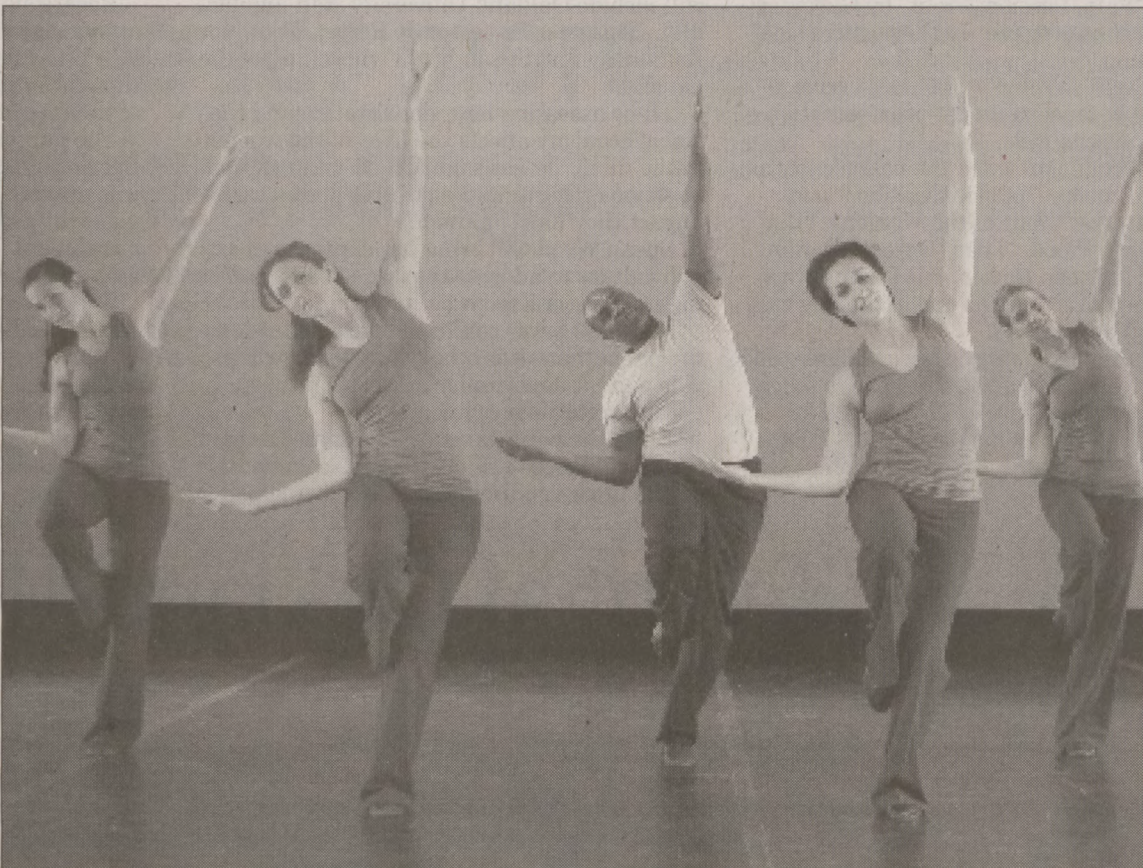
Grad student open house
 Talk to graduate faculty and admissions staff members at an open house Thursday, Feb. 15 from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. Students planning to apply to graduate school at Oakland University can submit applications at the event and waive the \$50 fee. A copy of the application is available online. For more information call (248) 370-3167.

What's a love language?
 Words of affirmation, physical touch, gifts, acts of service and quality time are the five love languages to be discussed at a presentation sponsored by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Thursday, Feb. 15 in Fireside Lounge. The event begins at noon and promises free Valentine's treats. All students are welcome.

FNL at VBH
 Friday Night Live comes to the Vandenberg Dining Center Friday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. The event features Jen Kobert as the special guest. FNL events are open to all OU students.

Drunk or what?
 Alcohol & Spring Break Awareness Week kicks off Monday, Feb. 19 with free tropical snacks and punch in Fireside Lounge. Events continue throughout the week with a "What's your favorite slang term for being drunk?" exhibit in the Oakland Center all day Tuesday and "Alcohol Awareness 101" in the OC main hallway Wednesday noon-1 p.m. For a full schedule of events, visit the Center for Student Activities.

Poetry jam
 A poetry jam focusing on the theme of African-American Celebration Month hits the Oakland Center Thursday, Feb. 15 from 5-6 p.m. Hosted by the Honors College Student Association, OUSC and Men of One Accord, the event is scheduled to take place in Lake Superior rooms A and B of the OC.



PAVLO BOSYY/Oakland University
 OU Professor Gregory Patterson choreographed and danced several numbers with members of the Oakland University Repertory Dance Company.

Dance recital breaks norms

By VICKY LEFEBVRE
 Contributing Reporter

Technology and choreography tangoed at Varner Recital Hall on Saturday night. "Breaking New Territory," a performance put on by Oakland University's Music, Theatre and Dance Department, featured pieces by M/M Movement Projects and Patterson Rhythm Pace Dance Company.

The recital combined elements of classic live dance performance with works engineered on film that set it apart from typical dance recitals.

"This show is for the YouTube generation," said Mariah Malec, assistant professor of dance at OU and the artistic director of M/M Movement Projects. "We are incorporating dance and technology into the program to make dance more accessible."

Malec's company focuses on various disciplines including live dance, dance for the camera, and multimedia performance.

One of Malec's pieces, "Untitled #2," was a dance for the camera piece shown in Saturday's performance.

"Untitled #2" featured members of OU's diving team doing various jumps into the air, using unique camera angles and film cuts. The divers showed a grace and athleticism parallel to a dancer's.

Gregory Patterson, associate professor of dance at OU and a former diver, was also in the piece. His company, Patterson Rhythm Pace Dance Company, was the other half to this joint performance.

His choreography mixed classic jazz style with a contemporary twist, using very sultry

and bluesy music to complement the smooth, yet sharp, movements. The piece he was most excited about was called "Five."

"It has intricate rhythms and is very interesting visually to watch," Patterson said.

The work had great use of space and was ongoing in that the dancers never stopped moving while on stage. It used interesting partnering and had layered choreography so that it was like watching two dances simultaneously.

Shows like "Breaking New Territory" may be the direction that performance is taking by combining different artstries to reach a broader audience. Malec said she liked this different approach but is still in favor of classic dance recitals.

"Nothing can ever replace live performance," she said.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

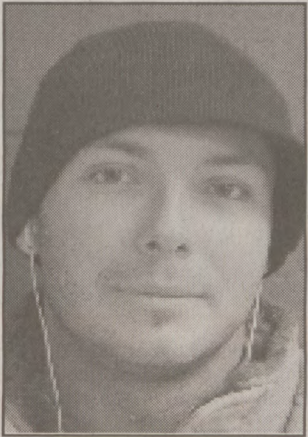
Q: What is your favorite song to dance to?



A: Anything Nelly Furtado sings. Her music is really energetic.
Ronee Harvey
 Junior
 Medical Lab Science



A: "Upgrade" by Beyonce. It's fun and has a good beat to it, and it makes you want to move.
Kim Miller
 Senior
 Biology



A: Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean" because it's the greatest song alive.
John Pitoniak
 Senior
 Journalism

ONE STUDENT'S VIEW

Junior accounting major, Charde Payne attended the "Diversity: Facts & Myths" transition workshop Tuesday. Read about her experience and the opinions of other OU students who also attended.

Going to this workshop was an interesting experience. It made me realize which attitudes I really have toward diversity and which ones I hope to avoid. The workshop identified eight different reactions to diversity, including repulsion, pity, tolerance, acceptance, support, admiration, appreciation and nurturance. The discussion was a refreshing reminder that we all have unique characteristics and those differences should be celebrated, not discriminated.

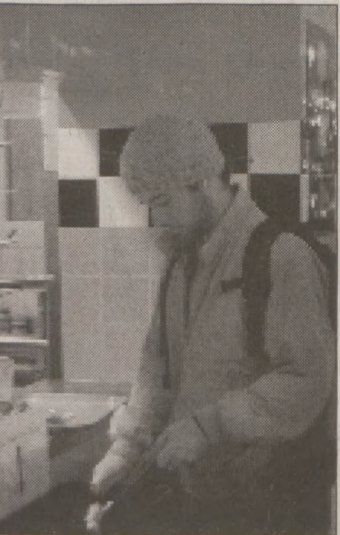
—CHARDE PAYNE
 Contributing Reporter

Students cut back to feed the hungry

'Project Clean Plate' raises awareness on campus



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post
 Brian Craig (left), Assistant Director of Residential Dining, and Patrick Strzymski (right), Director of Residential Dining.



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post
 A student empties his plate into the designated "Clean Plate" trash bin.

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI
 Campus News Editor

The days of trading carrot sticks for snack packs are long gone. This is college, after all. We're grown-ups now. We eat pizza for breakfast and stacks of pancakes at 3 a.m.

Okay, so maybe the menu hasn't changed all that much, but the quantities certainly have. We consume rather large amounts of food, and with great consumption comes the risk of great excess.

The staff at the Vandenberg dining center at Oakland University is raising awareness about that risk through the new "Project Clean Plate" initiative that launched Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Originally a corporate idea, "Clean Plate" was chosen from a list of options by Director of Resident Dining Patrick Strzymski and Assistant Director of Resident Dining Brian Craig. The two are responsible for, among other things, following dining trends and creating initiatives to educate their diners.

In an effort to decrease waste, "Clean Plate" urges students to pay more attention to the amounts of food they spoon onto their plates at each meal.

The buffet-style service at the Vandenberg dining center allows students to choose from a variety of foods every day. It also creates a potential for over-eating and wasted leftover food. Students pay for entrance into the center and are then free to consume as much as they like from the seven different food stations and salad and deli bar.

As part of the "Project Clean Plate," leftover food is collected in separate trash bins at the end of each meal, and the excess food is weighed at the end of each day to determine the amount of wasted food per person.

The total number of pounds wasted is tabulated at the end of each week and progress is charted from week to week. Goals for decreasing the amount of waste are pre-set by the VBH dining center staff, and donations are made to the Oakland County Food Bank each time a goal is reached. In essence, the student diners will determine how much OU donates to the hungry.

According to Craig, the response from the students has been very positive.

"The moment you talk about feeding the hungry, people are interested," Craig said. "It's nice to see that we have such a caring group of students at Oakland."

Craig and Strzymski kicked off the first day of "Clean Plate" clearing plates themselves while explaining the program to students. "We're educating the client," Strzymski said. "Take what you want, but eat what you take."

"Clean Plate" is a way to "keep people cognizant of what they're taking," Craig said. "But we're not asking you to stop eating. If you want to come in and eat 15 hotdogs, then do it."

Both Craig and Strzymski stress the reality that diners at OU are privileged. "We live in Oakland County and think there's nothing wrong,"

Craig said. "The reality is that people do need help. Walk down the street and you might see 200 people lined up at a soup kitchen."

"Having an environment like this is a privilege," Strzymski said. "Sometimes people abuse it without knowing they're abusing it. We can help."

THE NUMBERS

Tuesday, Feb. 6	140 lbs wasted
Wednesday, Feb. 7	124 lbs wasted
Thursday, Feb. 8	128 lbs wasted
Friday, Feb. 9	98 lbs wasted
Grand Total:	over 490 lbs or 982 meals

sex

Everyone has different sexual preferences, and on the campus of OU we accept them all.

ethnicity

There is a lot of diversity on OU's campus. Ethnicity is not really a factor, but for the majority, there is really no interaction between different races.

size

People do not discriminate because of weight at OU. Individuals put themselves in over/underweight categories.

age

If one person is older than everyone else, discussing age can be uncomfortable.

disability

People with visible disabilities are discriminated against.

These comments were compiled based on Payne's observations of group dialogue at the workshop. They are not direct quotations from individual sources.

Films seek to shock & awe

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

The 2007 Women's Studies Film Festival will provide a representation of the dubious phenomenon that we, and every other citizen of planet Earth, have come to depend on: globalization. The event will be held Saturday, Feb. 17 and will feature 7 1/2 hours of film, food and panel discussions.

This year is the 25th anniversary of the festival and will coordinate with the theme of the Oakland University Arts and Sciences Department: global citizenship. This theme was chosen because it is interdisciplinary by nature and is evident in events, course offerings and programs. Professor Jo Reger, director of women's studies, chose to explore this theme to show how globalization affects women.

"Nalini by Day, Nancy by Night" by Sonali Gulati and "Pain, Passion, Profit" by Gurinder Chada were chosen to convey the positive side of globalization.

"Lilya 4-Ever" directed by Lukas Moodyson was selected because of its apt representation of the tragic and cruel side.

"These selections provided the balance, both the good and the bad, of globalization," said Art Historian and Chair of the Women's Film Festival, Susan Wood. "There were other films that could have been chosen, but I didn't want the audience to leave at the end of the day feeling completely depressed."

"We try to provide a mix of feature films and documentaries with panel discussions to follow, to address the issues in the films as well as invite guest participation," Wood said. "Film is an excellent medium for communication as well as for educating people."

There will be two panel discussions which will include Oakland University staff and faculty. This year Professor Jo Reger, OU alumna Kellie Hay and Susan Wood will comprise the panel.

"I'll be assessing how globalization and the global economy affects the lives of the women in the films," Reger said. "I'll be asking specific questions regarding the positive and negative impact they have on them."

Susan Wood will bring her expertise of art and culture to address the issue of sex trafficking in Eastern Europe.

There are fewer confirmed participants on the panel than usual this year, which will provide a great opportunity for those in the audience to voice their opinions.

"Since the panel is relatively small this year, we thought we would make some comments on the films and then progress into an open

forum," said Wood.

Reger said while globalization is often more antagonistic to the progress of stagnant Third World nations than to flourishing G-8 nations, there is still an irrefutable amount of benefits of the interdependency among all nations.

The purpose of these films, according to Reger, is to both shock and awe, and, most importantly, to realize that our comfy vantage point in the United States is not an island amid a turbulent sea. We are all involved, and we are all capable of making right a systemic wrong.

There is an \$8 entry fee from students and seniors and a \$12 general admission fee. Students wishing to attend for course credit and/or elect to bring their own lunch may attend the event for a \$5 fee. The event will be held in room 156 North Foundation Hall and begins at 9:30 a.m.

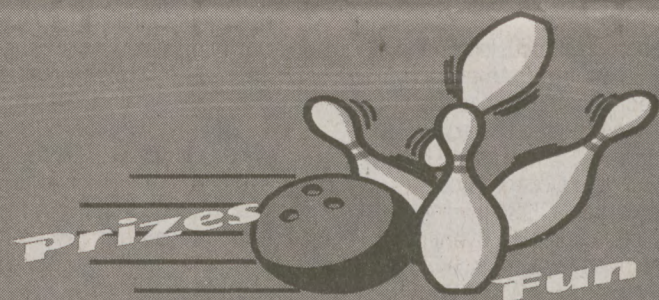
For more information, call (248) 370-2154.

A taste of something different at Oakland University



CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post
The "Taste of Africa Gala" gave OU students an opportunity to experience different food, music and culture Friday, Feb. 9 in the Oakland Center banquet rooms. Offering food catered from a variety of restaurants, the gala served up a menu of classic African-American cuisine. Multiple musical performances, ranging from instrumental to vocal, set the scene while vendors displayed merchandise available for purchase. The event was organized by the African-American Celebration Month Committee as part of the ongoing celebration of African-American culture.

**Department of Campus Recreation
Intramural Sports**



WHEN:

**Friday, February 16, 2006
9:30p.m. - Midnight**

WHERE:

**Avon North Hill Lanes
150 W. Tienken Rd.
Rochester, MI**

WHO'S INVITED:

***Free to all currently enrolled
OU Students w/proper ID**



***Participation is limited
to the first 200 registered
bowlers. All bowlers must
sign-up by February 15, 2007
in order to participate in this
event. Participants may sign-up
to bowl at the Recreation Center,
Welcome Desk during normal
business hours.**

**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS ONLY.**



EDITORIAL

Society ripe for more progressive change

The past 50 years in America can be summed up in many ways, not the least of which would be to call it a period of tumultuous change and progressive thinking.

In recent years, though, after making such tremendous strides forward with the civil rights, feminist and gay rights movements, it was beginning to seem as if we were growing complacent.

Thankfully there has been a refreshing turn of events these past few months.

Through a series of "firsts" — the first female speaker of the house, the first Muslim elected to Congress, the first two black head coaches in the

Super Bowl and some non-traditional early presidential candidates — it looks like we might finally be getting back on the right track.

Harvard University has just named Drew Gilpin Faust the first female president in the school's 371 year history — only two years since former president Lawrence Summer's remarks that genetic gender differences may explain why so few women succeed at careers in science.

Hollywood finally seems to be coming around, as well. This year a record five black actors were nominated for an Oscar.

Over time we'll be able to

measure the contributions made by those previously mentioned. But the merit and overall worth of these people is not the issue here.

What is remarkable is that all of the mentioned individuals obtained their prominent status without any regards to their sex, race or religion.

That's the ultimate goal, right? Somebody else once articulated it perfectly... something about people being judged based on the content of their character.

We hope these recent developments have everybody feeling as refreshed as we do. Let's keep it going.

— The Oakland Post

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

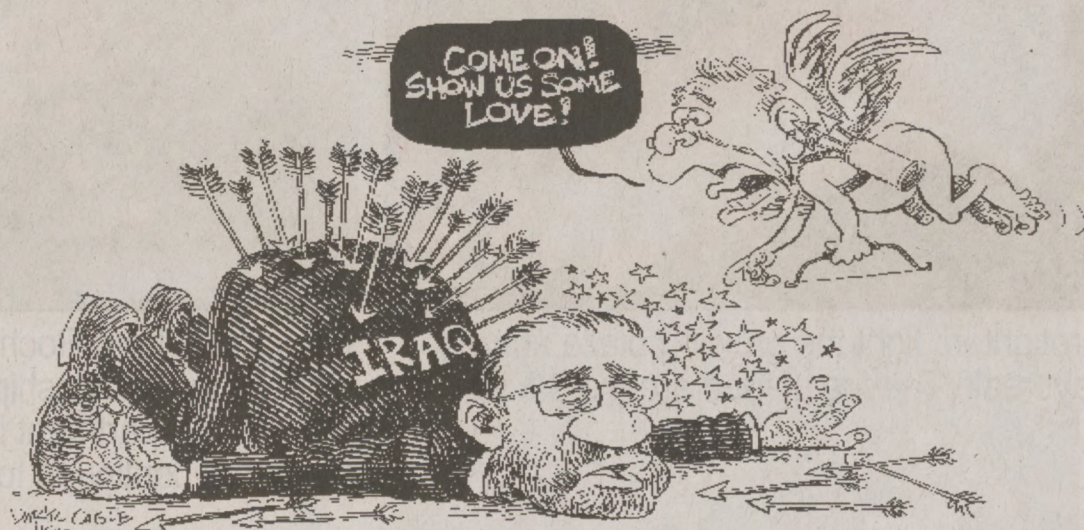
I hope in the future the fact that 63 percent of Oakland University's population is female and working toward a college degree will be taken into consideration. [Regarding the inappropriateness of running a Hooter's ad in a college newspaper].

Females are inundated continuously with value based on physical attributes. Here, at Oakland University a person's value is based on intelligence and ability. Thank you.

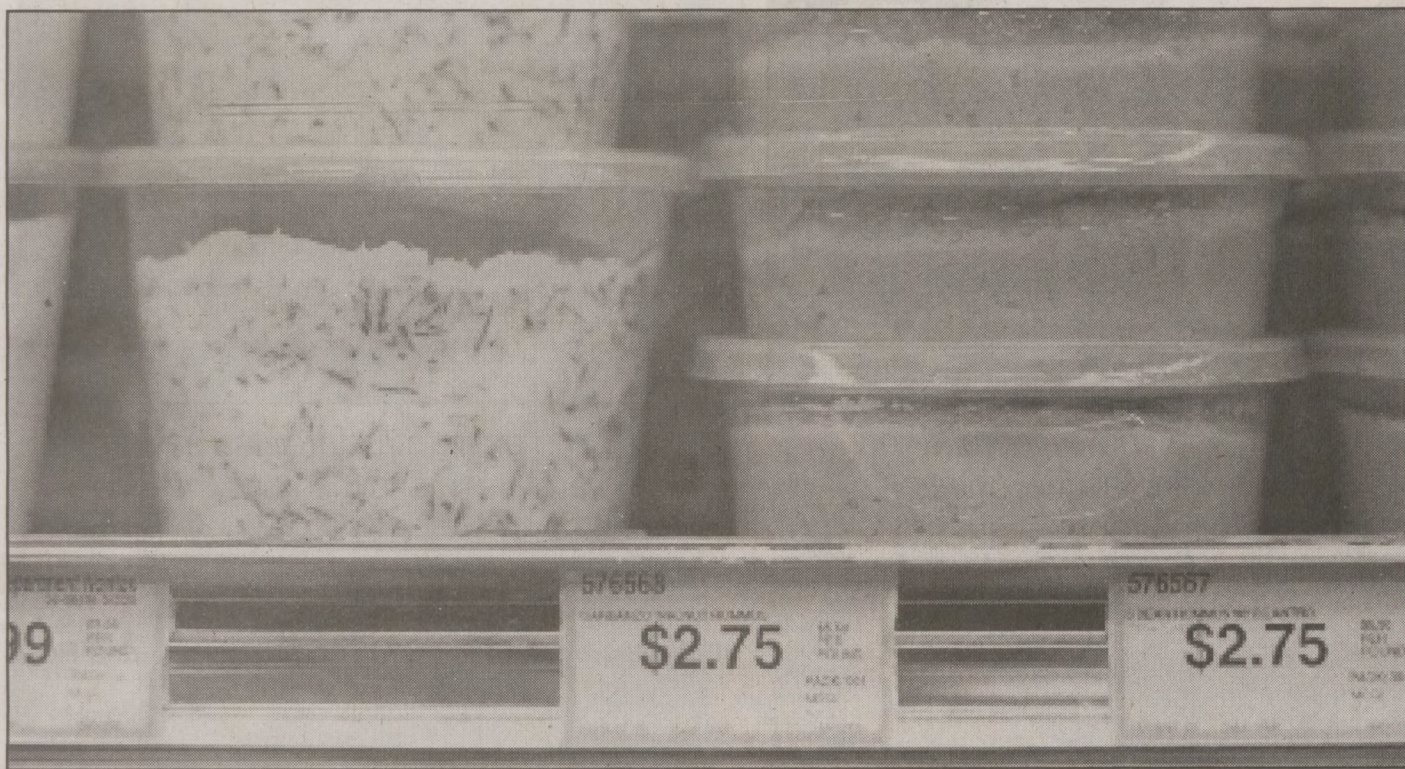
— Mary F. Zeppelin

Special Instructor

Teacher Development & Educational Studies



Perhaps it's time for "Cupid" to realize that the arrows he's using don't work



Food containers like these, along with many other kinds of plastics, may soon be made mostly from corn and other plant-based materials.

Eco-safe plastics on the horizon

EDITORS NOTE: In this issue of *The Oakland Post* we are introducing a new column called *EarthTalk*

Dear EarthTalk: Dairy products, like yogurt, always seem to come in packages of low recyclability. Why aren't these containers more recyclable? And isn't there a more eco-friendly container these companies could use?

— John Marble
Portland, ME

The ability to recycle a plastic item rests with many factors, including its material, its usability in new products once it has been broken down into its original components, and whether a market is in place that can facilitate transactions of the recycled materials from sellers to buyers.

Recycling polypropylene (designated with a "5"), the material used in many food containers, is technically possible. The challenge is in separating it from other plastics, including its own many variations, once it arrives at the waste station and beyond.

Because of the difficulty and expense of sorting, collecting, cleaning and

reprocessing plastics of all kinds, in many places it is only economically viable to recycle a few select types.

Environmentally friendly alternatives to polypropylene and other plastics are beginning to be developed, however. NatureWorks, a division of Cargill, has developed a corn-based plastic called polylactic acid (PLA). While it looks and functions like other plastics, PLA is fully biodegradable, because it is derived from plant-based materials. Whether it is composted or landfilled, it will biodegrade into its constituent organic parts, though there are debates as to how long that process takes.

Another pioneering company is Massachusetts-based Metabolix, which has partnered with corporate giant Archer Daniels Midland to make corn plastics that the company claims will "biodegrade benignly in a wide range of environments, including marine and wetlands."

A handful of natural foods companies

and retailers, including Newman's Own Organics, Del Monte Fresh Produce and Wild Oats Markets, are already using corn plastic for some of their packaging, though not yet to replace heat-resistant polypropylene. Analysts expect such plant-based alternatives to come on stronger and stronger in the days ahead as petroleum becomes more expensive and more politically unstable. Even Coca-Cola has started experimenting with replacing its traditional plastic soda bottles with a corn-based alternative. And last October, as part of its "green" overhaul, Wal-Mart announced it would replace 114 million plastic produce containers per year with PLA varieties, sparing about 800,000 barrels of oil annually.

CONTACTS: NatureWorks: www.nature-worksllc.com; Metabolix: www.metabolix.com; The Society of the Plastics Industry: www.plasticsindustry.org.

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com



Should we give a hoot?

Guest Column

Jo Reger
Associate Professor
Director of
Women's Studies



Page A4 of the Jan. 31, 2007 Oakland Post features a half-page advertisement for the restaurant chain Hooters. In large print next to a shorts and tight T-shirt clad woman, the ad proclaims "Troy now has a pair of Hooters!"

Despite the obvious grade school appeal of the claim "a pair of hooters," should we care that Hooters — in existence since 1983 with 120 restaurants — has opened yet another? Should we care that some of the residents of Troy, a city that sees itself as "family-friendly," have been protesting the restaurant's attempt to expand to a new location?

The addition of another Hooters restaurant brings more than concerns about traffic, city atmosphere and alcoholic consumption. It raises troubling questions regarding how women are viewed in U.S. culture. Why, when women have made such gains in society, are we returning to a time when women are blatantly portrayed for their physical attributes and nothing more?

Ariel Levy, author of the book "Female Chauvinist Pigs: Women and the Rise of Raunch Culture," offers an explanation. She argues that we are seeing a rise of women who objectify themselves and other women, and labels them "female chauvinist pigs." Women do this, Levy explains, because they

see exploitation as a way to get ahead in a society where men and women are still not equal. She likens this FCP phenomenon to the subversive Uncle Tom character in Harriet Beecher Stowe's classic novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" — a black man who seeks to ingratiate himself to the powerful whites around him. However, she argues that playing to the powerful, be it men or cultural ideas of women as sex objects, is a form of faux empowerment — something illusory, temporary, and ultimately self defeating.

The second wave of the U.S. women's movement, which began in the 1960s and '70s, was made up of activists, both women and men, who argued that women need to be viewed as more than objects prized for meeting societal standards for beauty and sex appeal. Instead, they worked to have women integrated in all levels of the workforce and education. It is ironic then, that in 2007, the very thing that so many of that generation worked against is displayed in an ad in a college paper.

I invite everyone who defends or decries Hooters and what it symbolizes to attend a talk by Ariel Levy Tuesday, March 27 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center. This talk, sponsored by the Department of Women's Studies, the Office of the Provost, the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, promises to spark an important dialogue on our campus about the role of women in the 21st century.

FEEDBACK

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:

editor@oakpostonline.com

By mail:

Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
61 Oakland Center
Rochester, MI 48309

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

In her guest column on last week's Perspectives page, Joann Bautti-Roche's name was misspelled and her given title was incorrect. Bautti-Roche is not the president of the Gender and Sexuality Center, as printed. She is in fact the graduate student intern of GSC and acts as coordinator/manager.

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.



THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Anatomy of the fire



Firefighters fight the growing blaze around daybreak. The fire started around 3 a.m.



Firefighters from Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township assisted the Auburn Hills Fire Department in putting out the fire which still continued to burn around 8 a.m.



Smoke consumes the entire 16-unit building with on-lookers watching as their homes are destroyed.



By 11:30 a.m. firefighters had the flames under control, but continued to spray water onto the site in order to control hot spots.



Heavy machinery rips down the charred remains of the building as firefighters continue to douse the rubble.



Tuesday, the entire structure has been removed and fresh snow covers the scorched earth.

All Photos by CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post

Now Accepting.....

Applications and Nominations for:

Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

The role of the Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees is to serve as a non-voting resource on all student issues at monthly meetings of the Board.



Term of Office:

- ♦ July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 or 2009
- ♦ Must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- ♦ Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- ♦ Must not hold any other major elected campus office

Applications are available at:

Student Affairs Office – 144 Oakland Center
 Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center
 Center for Student Activities – 49 Oakland Center
**Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by
 March 31, 2007**

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

Fire consumes entire complex

FIRE Cont. from A1

Boulden had no way of knowing the fire was just one floor above him. He had only a few minutes to get his family to safety.

The family was able to escape to the parking lot in front of their building. Realizing his family would not stay warm in the freezing cold, Boulden ran back into the burning building several times, frantically trying to gather warm clothes for his family.

"I tried to get what I could," said Boulden. "I was in and out so many times I started to hack all over the place."

Braving the dangerous conditions once more, Boulden dashed inside to dial 911. He discovered the phone line was dead and fumbled around for his cell phone.

Back outside, Boulden was able to call the fire department. Within minutes, the Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived.

Everyone inside the building

managed to get out safely.

By this time, smoke had completely concealed the front of the building. Flames became visible out of the top of the building as firefighters began spraying the blaze with water.

The frigid morning temperatures complicated firefighting efforts. Hoses and hydrants froze while everything surrounding the building was encased in thick ice.

Auburn Hills Fire Inspector Fred Solomon said the fire started in the attic over a unit on the south end of the building. The flames spread throughout the attic, collapsing the roof and eating through fire stops.

Firefighters didn't get the blaze under control until 11:30 a.m. but everyone inside the building, located within The Boulevard complex in Auburn Hills, managed to get out safely. By the time the flames were brought under control, barely a skeleton of the building and a pile of charred debris were all that remained.

Firefighters from Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland

Township assisted the Auburn Hills crew. The American Red Cross and The Purple Heart were also on the scene.

Later that afternoon, Boulden watched as his home was torn apart by heavy machinery to extinguish smoldering rubble.

In order to protect Boulden from the winter elements, firefighters provided him items from a firefighter's uniform including a jacket, pants and boots.

Although he was only able to rescue a few handfuls of items from the home before it totally burned, thankfully not all was lost for the Boulden family.

Many of their valuable possessions sat safely in a storage unit while the fire burned. The family had been living in the apartment temporarily while they waited for a new home to be built in Rochester.

"I am glad everyone is okay," said Boulden. "You always hear sad stories of people dying in fires on the news."



Firefighting equipment was affected by frigid conditions as water was quickly freezing and ice was rapidly forming over the surrounding areas.

Winter celebration a 'blast'

By CHARLES M. GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

Who would have thought that one place in Southeast Michigan could have a 200-foot ice slide, free ice-skating, dog sledding, over 75 local musical talents, public marshmallow roasting and dozens of local food vendors all situated conveniently at the heart of a major city?

Well that's exactly what was found this weekend at the 2007 Detroit Winter Blast.

Produced by Jonathan Witz and Associates, DWB debuted in 2005 to celebrate Detroit's hosting of Super Bowl XL. Though turnout for the original event was over one million, around 300,000 guests were expected to turn out this year.

The DWB featured all of the usual attractions plus two new additions: snowboard and snowmobile demonstrations.

But the main attractions were the returning favorites.

Dog sled demonstrations featuring professional mushers Jim Warren and Amanda Vogel were held everyday throughout the weekend, and for a donation to The Detroit Humane Society, rides were given between shows.

The Snow Slide returned this year, now with four lanes. The

popular activity produced lines with over three-hour waits.

"Of course it's worth it," one local man said. "I love it, but especially my kids love it."

Compuware Corp. once again sponsored free ice-skating for those wishing to partake in free activities. Professional skating exhibitions were also performed on the rink throughout the day. In addition, free snowshoes were provided by REI for guests to trek through the snow.

Local musical talent, including TJ Kelly, Basiks, The Project and Millish, performed live on two stages. For young audiences, there was a stage featuring clowns, magic shows, puppetry, poetry, juggling and comedians.

While most of the activities were in or near Campus Martius Park there were also several off-site activities.

Local wireless company Metro PCS sponsored the "Dine in the D" program in collaboration with local restaurants offering guests 15 to 25 percent off of their dining bill. Children were also able to see "Sesame Street Live" at the Fox Theatre.

The Detroit Winter Blast ran Feb. 9 to Feb. 11. Due to the event's continued success, the DWB is becoming a mainstay of the Detroit winter scene.



In addition to all of the usual attractions at the Detroit Winter Blast such as dog sled demonstrations, free ice-skating, local musical talent, public marshmallow roasting and a 200-foot ice slide were two new features including a snowmobile demonstration and this snowboard demonstration.

CARRA PAYNE/The Oakland Post

Southeast Michigan's very own abominable snowman stood greeting adults and children and welcoming them to Detroit's Winter Blast 2007.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

This local girl takes a ride on the 200-foot ice slide. The slide has been featured at the Winter Blast every year since its debut in 2005.



CARRA PAYNE/The Oakland Post

Several public marshmallow roasting stations such as this one were set up for visitors to enjoy a warm treat in the cold weather.



Alcohol & Spring Break Awareness Week February 19-23, 2007

Grizzlies are SMART about Spring Break!!!
(Students Managing Alcohol Responsibly Together)

Monday, February 19

Alcohol and Spring Break Awareness Fair
FREE food, drinks and games. Drawing for a "Non-Alcoholic Spring Break Goodie Basket."
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Friends Lounge and Main Hallway, Oakland Center

"Let's Talk About IT!" A Program on Sexual Assault and Date Rape

Featuring Kelly Washington and Rebecca Underhill from CWWUSA
1:00-1:30 p.m. Friends Lounge, Oakland Center

Tuesday, February 20

Te: "What's your favorite long term for being drunk?"
11:00-1:00 p.m. Friends Lounge, Oakland Center

Wednesday, February 21

Alcohol Awareness 10
1:00-1:30 p.m. Main Hallway, Oakland Center

Midnight Brawl (open to residence hall students only)

10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Vandenbergh Dining Center, Vandenbergh Hall

Hypnotist Keith Karhut's "Hypnotic Intoxication" Show

Midnight - 1:00 a.m., Vandenbergh Dining Center, Vandenbergh Hall

Our Spring Break (aka, Winter Break) begins Saturday, February 24. Classes resume on Monday, March 5.

Golden Grizzlies are SMART (Students Managing Alcohol Responsibly Together) about Spring Break. Golden Grizzlies KNOW their boundaries...

KNOW that drinking and driving can kill.

KNOW that you can take home or last for a safe ride home.

KNOW that you can make responsible decisions to protect yourself from dangerous situations.

KNOW that it is legal for persons under age 21 to possess alcohol in a 50 state.

KNOW your limits for safe exposure.

"When you go out, it's better to have a plan, to know where you are going, to make decisions in advance that will keep you and your friends safe. Have a healthy and fun spring break."

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Number 9: We are a full service salon and spa.

Number 8: We have a great location.

Number 7: We have a great staff.

Number 6: We have a great atmosphere.

Number 5: We have a great location.

Number 4: We have a great staff.

Number 3: We have a great atmosphere.

Number 2: We have a great location.

Number 1: We have a great staff.

We turn walk-ins into shut-outs!



Oakland County Executive's son killed

Separate snowmobile accidents leave 3 local men dead

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLAS TOWNSHIP, Mich.—Separate snowmobile crashes in recent days across the state left three people dead, including the son of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, authorities said.

Brooks Patterson, 28, of Lake Orion, died after the snowmobile on which he was a passenger collided Saturday night with another snowmobile on Lake Shinaug in Genesee County, the sheriff's department told the Detroit Free Press.

The driver, a 48-year-old Goodrich man, was in critical condition at an area hospital.

In St. Clair County, the sheriff's department said a 46-year-old man was riding on the Swan Creek Canal when he lost control and crashed early Sunday, the Times Herald of Port Huron reported.

The man was taken to an area hospital, where he later died.

Meanwhile, Donald L. Spencer, 47, of Kochville Township, died after a snowmobile crash late Friday in Bay County's Frankenlust Township, The Saginaw News reported. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Spencer was riding in a group of snowmobiles on the Saginaw River when his snowmobile struck a railroad bridge pillar, The Bay City Times reported.

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Bush makes fresh pitch for free-trade policies as way to keep economy healthy

By JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Free-trade policies making it easier for U.S. companies to sell their products around the globe are an important ingredient to the economy's vitality, President Bush said Monday as he projected another year of good — though somewhat slower — economic growth.

Bush, in his annual economic report to Congress, made a fresh pitch for breaking down trade barriers and energizing global trade talks. He called on Congress to extend his authority to negotiate free-trade deals, a request that likely will face an uphill battle in the Democrat-controlled Congress.

"This authority is essential to completing good trade agreements," Bush wrote in the introduction to the report. "The Congress must renew it if we are to improve our competitiveness in the global economy."

With the United States racking up record trade deficits and facing intense competition from rapidly growing China and India, global trade tensions have intensified.

Democrats blame Bush's free-trade policies for contributing to the trade deficit, costing U.S. factories jobs and exposing U.S. workers to unfair competition from low-wage countries.

Against that backdrop, Bush faces a daunting challenge in getting Congress to renew the Trade Promotion Authority, also known as fast-track authority. It lets the president negotiate trade deals that

Congress must approve without amendments. That authority expires on July 1.

The Bush administration argues that the way to deal with the trade deficit is through free-trade policies that make it easier for U.S. companies to do business abroad. Getting China to move to a more flexible currency system, another administration goal, also would help U.S. exporters.

Critics contend that China is keeping its currency artificially low, giving Chinese companies a big trade advantage over U.S. companies. The United States has a record \$202 billion trade deficit with China alone, the greatest ever with a single country.

Irrked by China's currency and trade policies, some Democrats and Republicans in Congress want to impose hefty tariffs on Chinese made goods flowing into the United States.

On other matters, Bush talked about restraining growth in Medicare and Medicaid and the need to financially shore up Social Security as a wave of retiring baby boomers will place massive strains on the government's resources.

And, he promoted his plan to balance the budget while not raising taxes.

Bush, in a budget plan sent to Congress last week, proposed balancing the budget by 2012, three years after he has left office. That would be done by spending restraints. Bush's plan would make his first-term tax cuts permanent, which the administration says is key to maintaining economic growth.

Democrats, now in control of Congress, charged that the

president's budget plan works only on paper and that it is based on overly optimistic assumptions about how much revenue the economy will generate and leaves out expensive items, such as further war costs after 2009.

"Our economy is on the move and we can keep it that way by continuing to pursue sound economic policy based on free-market principles," Bush said.

Looking back on last year, Bush said the economy turned in a solid performance despite the ill effects of the residential real estate bust.

The economy grew by 3.4 percent last year, as measured by gross domestic product from the fourth quarter of 2005 to the fourth quarter of 2006.

The president's report projects that economic growth will slow to 2.9 percent this year, reflecting lingering fallout from the housing slump. Next year growth will pick up, with the economy expanding by 3.1 percent.

"The economy is projected to settle into a steady state," according to the report.

The nation's unemployment rate, which averaged a six-year low of 4.6 percent in 2006, should hold steady at that rate this year and then edge up to 4.8 percent in 2008, the White House estimates.

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, is expected to edge up 2.6 percent both this year and next. Last year, consumer prices rose by 2.5 percent, the smallest increase in three years. The improvement came as once-surging energy prices calmed down.

Oakland University Eye Research Program

Summer Undergraduate Program in Eye Research

May 14 – August 3, 2007

Ideal S.U.P.E.R. candidates will be Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are pursuing careers in biomedical research or teaching. Up to six students will be assigned to one of six research laboratories, working directly with ERI faculty. This training program includes: lab safety, sound research design, vision sciences seminar series, a \$3,000 scholarship, independent research, and audio-visual presentation of work. ERI scientists explore the biochemical, physiological and molecular aspects of eye function and development. ERI research expands the understanding of ocular diseases such as cataract, retinal degenerations, and glaucoma. Application packages may be obtained from Ms. Paulette Realy, 416 Dodge Hall, (248) 370-2390, or on line at <http://www.oakland.edu/eri>.
Deadline for applications:
MARCH 2, 2007

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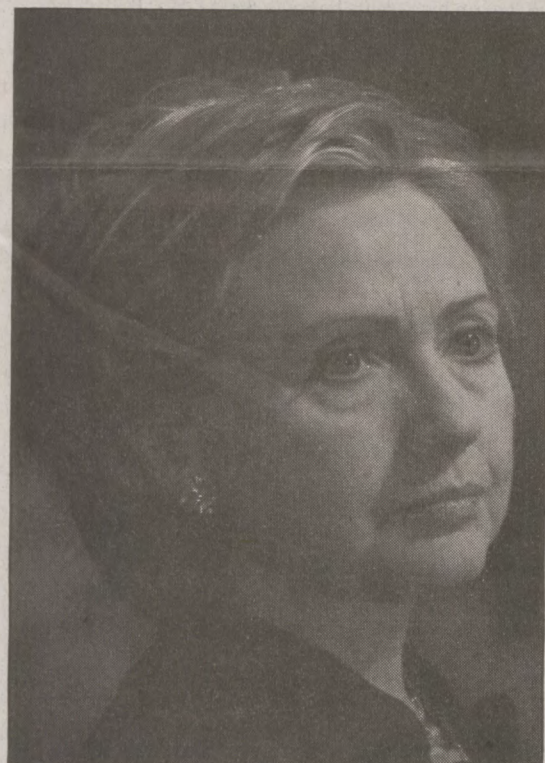
February 14, 2007

Personal guide to potential presidents

You've probably noticed that every time you turn on the news or open the newspaper, there is another story about the presidential race of 2008 and another contender in the mix. But do you really know who the potential candidates are, where they are from or what they stand for? Because the race is heating up so quickly and there are so many names being tossed into the hat, The Post has decided to break it down. Below is a list of all democrats and republicans who have filed for candidacy with the Federal Election Committee and those who have formed presidential exploratory committees.

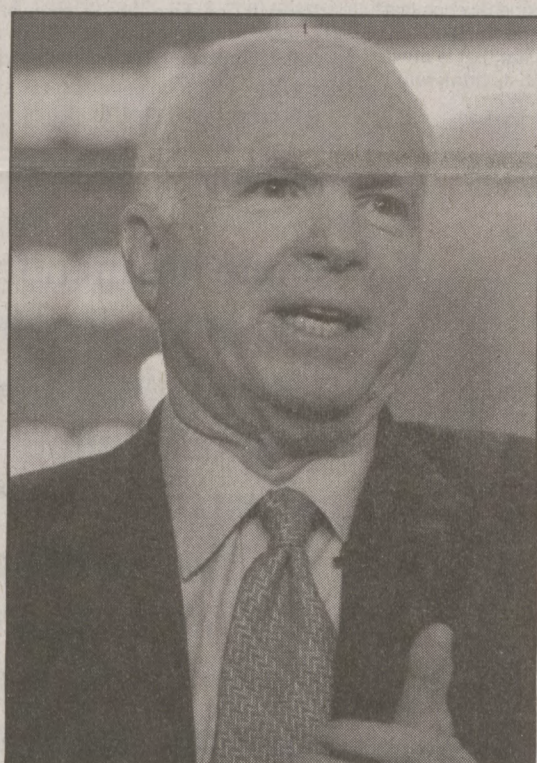
Democrats

The Candidates	JOE BIDEN	HILLARY CLINTON	CHRISTOPHER DODD	JOHN EDWARDS	DENNIS KUCINICH	BARACK OBAMA	TOM VILSACK
AGE	64	59	63	53	60	45	56
POLITICAL EXPERIENCE	Presidential candidate 1988; U.S. Senate: 1972-Present	U.S. Senator: 2000-Present	U.S. House of Representatives: 1975-1981; U.S. Senate: 1981-Present	Democratic nominee for Vice President in 2004, U.S. Senate 1999-2005	Mayor of Cleveland: 1977-1979; U.S. House of Representatives: 1997-Present; Presidential candidate in 2004	U.S. Senator: 2003-Present	Governor of Iowa: 1998-2006
HOME-TOWN	New Castle County, Del.	Chicago, Ill.	Williamantic, Conn.	Robbins, N.C.	Cleveland, Ohio	Honolulu, Hi	Pittsburgh, Penn.
FAMILY	Wife: Jill Tracy; Children: Beau, Hunter, Ashley	Husband: former President William J. Clinton; Children: Chelsea	Wife: Jackie Clegg; Children: Grace Christina	Wife: Elizabeth; Children: Wade (deceased), Cate, Emma Claire, Jack	Wife: Elizabeth Harper	Wife: Michelle; Children: Malia and Sasha	Wife: Christie; Children: Jess, Doug
WHAT DO YOU THINK?	"He sounds familiar — I'm not really sure." — Mike Poley Sophomore	"She hasn't spoke out against the war, but I like her because she's a woman, and she brings a woman's perspective to terrorism, race, and affirmative action. As a woman and a minority, I can relate to her" — Tia Jenkins Senior	"Don't know much about him." — Alan Knapp Senior	"He's in a very unique position. He's trying to stand out from Obama and Clinton." — Student Body President Madayln Miller Senior	"I am familiar with him, but I do not know anything about him." — Taylor Hellbuck Sophomore	"I've heard that he's relatively inexperienced when it comes to politics ... looks aren't everything, I don't know if he'll be able to do the job." — Paul Klimecki Senior	"Like many other presidential candidates, many are coming from governorship." — Chris Goeth Senior



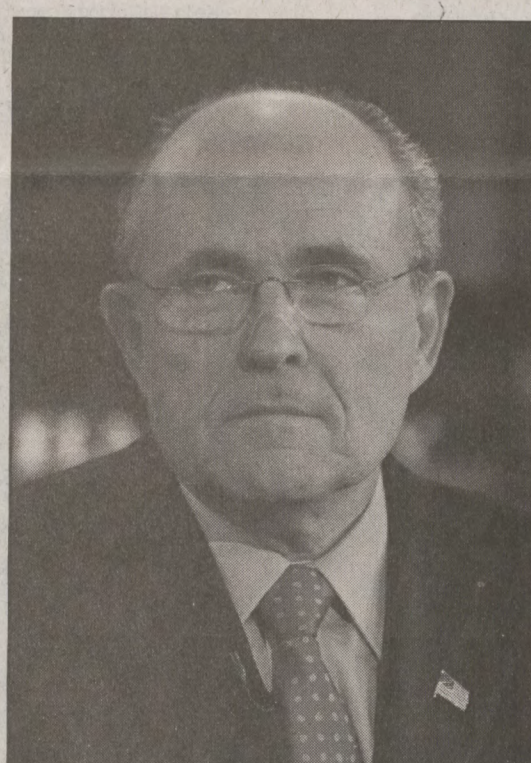
Hillary Rodham Clinton

JIM COLE/AP Photo



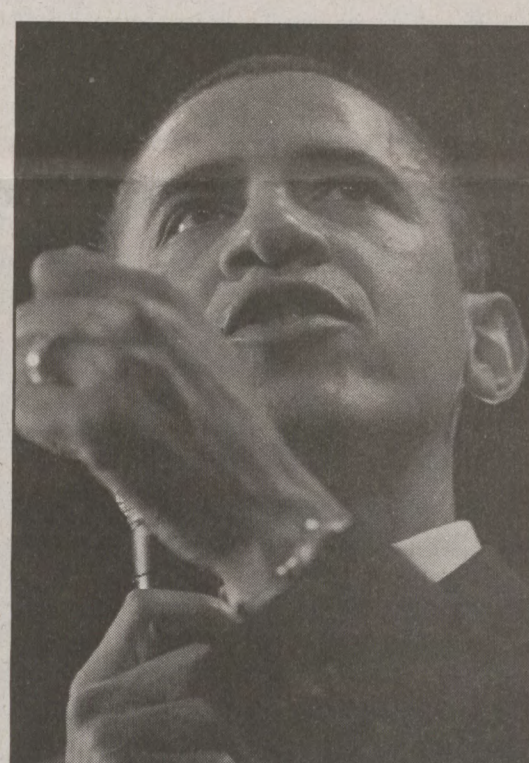
John McCain

LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE/AP Photo/ABC News



Rudolph Giuliani

ADAM ROUNTREE/AP Photo



Barack Obama

CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP Photo

Republicans

The Candidates	SAM BROWNBACK	MIKE HUCKABEE	RUDOLPH GIULIANI	JOHN MCCAIN	RON PAUL	MITT ROMNEY	TOMMY THOMPSON
AGE	50	51	62	70	71	59	65
POLITICAL EXPERIENCE	U.S. Senator: 1996-Present; U.S. House of Representatives: 1995-1996; Kansas Secretary of Agriculture 1986-1993	Governor of Arkansas: 1996-2007; Arkansas Lt. Governor: 1993-1996	Associate U.S. Attorney General: 1981; Mayor of New York City: 1993	U.S. Senator: 1986-Present	U.S. House of Representatives 1979-1985 and 1997- present; Libertarian Presidential Candidate: 1988	Governor of Massachusetts: 2003-2007, Chairman of the Republican Governors Association	Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: 2001-2005; Governor of Wisconsin: 1987-2001; Representative, Wisconsin State Assembly: 1966-1973
HOME-TOWN	Parker, Kan.	Hope, Ark.	Garden City South, NY	Born in Coco Solo, schooled in Alexandria, Va.	Pittsburg, Pa.	Bloomfield Hills, Mich.	Elroy, Wis.
FAMILY	Wife: Mary; Children: Elizabeth, Andy, Abby, Mark and Jenna	Wife: Janet; Children: John, David and Sarah	Wife: Judith; Children: Andrew and Caroline, Stepdaughter: Whitney	Wife: Cindy; Children: Doug, Andy, Sydney, Meghan, Jack, James and Bridget	Wife: Carol; Five children	Wife: Ann; Children: Tagg, Matt, Josh, Ben and Craig	Wife: Sue Ann; Children: Kelli, Tommi and Jason
WHAT DO YOU THINK?	"This is Oakland University, and I'm not from here." — Jobin Valiyakallumkal, Freshman	"I don't know this guy" — Paul Sternad, Junior	"He's pretty liberal as a republican; it will be interesting to see how his views sit with his conservative base. I'm interested in what he will do about issues of social justice, see how he helps the poor and neglected." — Andy Kozlowski Sophomore	"I like him because he is old-school, a Vietnam vet who understands how wars should be fought. I think that he has firm views that can bring democrats and republicans together." — John Kernan Senior	"I know Rudy Giuliani, but I've never heard of Paul." — Emily Beckerman Senior	"I don't know who he is." — Amber Dietz Sophomore	"I've never heard of him." — Kenez Modest Junior

Nuclear deal postpones big issues of disarmament

By ALEXA OLESEN
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — A hard-won disarmament pact that the United States struck with North Korea on Tuesday requires the communist nation to halt its nuclear programs in exchange for oil while leaving the ultimate abandonment of those weapons projects to a potentially troubled future.

In a sign of potential problems to come, North Korea's state news agency said the country was receiving 1 million tons of oil for a "temporary suspension" of its nuclear facilities — and failed to mention the full disarmament for which the agreement calls.

It wasn't clear if the report represented an attempt by the government to backtrack on the deal, or was simply a statement of bluster for a deeply impoverished domestic audience that Pyongyang has rallied around the nuclear program as a cause for national pride.

And by tackling so many issues in a process likely to take years, the deal

could unravel, pulled apart by differing agendas of its six signers, which also include China, South Korea, Russia and Japan.

"We have a lot of work to do," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill told reporters. "It's certainly not the end of the process, it's really just the end of the beginning of the process."

Nevertheless, the agreement marks a turnabout for North Korea, which rattled the world only four months ago when it tested a nuclear device. If Pyongyang follows through with its promises, they would be the first moves the communist state has made to scale back its atomic development since it kicked out international inspectors and restarted its sole operating nuclear reactor in 2003.

"These talks represent the best opportunity to use diplomacy to address North Korea's nuclear programs," President Bush said in a statement. "They reflect the common commitment of the participants to a Korean Peninsula that is free of nuclear weapons."

Robert J. Einhorn, a former State Department official who visited North Korea with then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, said Americans should applaud the agreement, but he predicted it would come under heavy questioning from both the right and the left.

He said, "I think a number of people are going to ask the question, 'Couldn't this deal have been concluded three or four years ago before North Korea conducted its nuclear test and acquired enough additional plutonium to build anywhere from six to 10 nuclear weapons?'"

The accord, completed at a Chinese government guesthouse by negotiators from six countries after tortuous talks, lays out an ambitious agenda. It sets a firm 60-day timetable for North Korea to seal its main nuclear reactor and begin accounting for other nuclear programs.

Within that time, more talks are planned on ending the hostilities between North Korea and the United States and Japan that have made northeast Asia a tense corner of the

world. In return, North Korea will receive 50,000 tons of heavy fuel oil, a modest down payment on a promised 1 million tons in oil or aid of a similar value if it ultimately disarms. One million tons of oil would be equivalent to more than two-thirds of North Korea's entire oil consumption in 2004, according to the CIA Factbook. Hill said the aid package was worth about \$250 million at current prices.

In the negotiations, envoys debated who would pay for North Korea's disarmament. China, the U.S., South Korea and Russia agreed to foot the bill though Moscow may contribute in the form of debt relief. Japan has refused to provide aid until Pyongyang fully accounts for the abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea.

"We understand it marks the first concrete step by North Korea toward its nuclear dismantlement," Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said after the accord was struck in Beijing. "But our position that Japan cannot provide support without a resolution of the abduction issue is unchanged."

Disarmament, however, is likely to

remain the thorniest problem.

"What if North Korea doesn't show them to inspectors, if they say we've stopped this and shut down that, what if they say you have to trust us?" said Liu Gongliang, a physicist at China's Institute of Applied Physics and Computational Mathematics who has followed North Korea's nuclear program for the Chinese government.

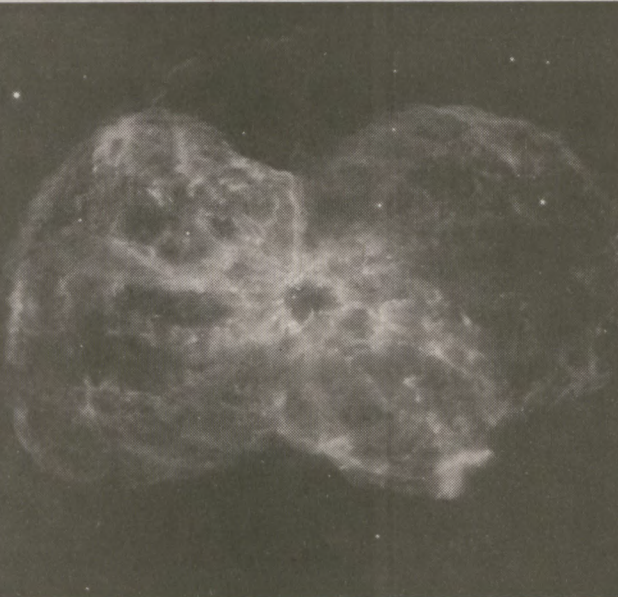
Under the deal, the North is required to seal its main nuclear reactor and related facilities at Yongbyon, north of the capital, within 60 days and allow inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Senior IAEA figures have met regularly with North Korean diplomats in past months preparing for such a mission, and a diplomat familiar with the status of preparations told The Associated Press that IAEA inspectors could be on site "within days" once given the go-ahead.

But no timetable was set for a final declaration by North Korea of all its nuclear programs and their ultimate dismantling.



AP Photo/The Daily Advertiser, P.C. Piazza
Residents look over the ruins of a two-story home that had the upper level torn off in the path of a suspected tornado in the Breau Bridge area of south-central Louisiana in this aerial view early Tuesday.



AP Photo/NASA, European Space Agency, and Keith Noll of the Space Telescope Science Institute.
In this image made available by NASA, The Hubble Space Telescope catches the "last hurrah" of a dying star that is much like Earth's sun and is a preview of what scientists think will happen to the sun in about 5 billion years.



HARRISON WILDE/AP Photo/The Palladium-Times
Randall Converse shovels snow off the roof on his parents house in Scriba, N.Y. Friday, Feb. 9, 2007. While the northern Plains and Northeast shiver in dangerously cold temperatures, the folks in upstate New York are keeping warm shoveling snow, lots of snow.

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The Oakland Post is building a campus community. If you're the voice, we're the microphone. We want to know what is going on in your student organization. The Oakland Post will be inviting various student orgs to meet in the near future, to discuss events and issues of importance in your organization.

AA/ Alanon Meeting On-Campus

Alcoholic Anonymous/Alanon Meetings on-campus every Thursday at noon in the Graham Health Center's Conference Room on the Counseling Center side.

DIA enters final stage of renovation



CARLOS OSORIO/The Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) - The Detroit Institute of Arts is entering the final phase of its six-year, \$158 million renovation and expansion that is increasing its gallery space by about 30 percent. The museum announced Tuesday that it has raised more than \$80 million of its \$180 million goal for the "Great Art, New Start" capital campaign, which is supporting the renovation as well as the museum's endowment.

Republican Rep. from Georgia dies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Charles Norwood Jr., a blunt-spoken Georgia Republican who sold his dental practice and ran for Congress at age 52, died Tuesday after battling cancer and lung disease. Norwood, 65, died at his home in Augusta, Ga., his spokesman said. House members debating the war in Iraq interrupted proceedings for two moments of silence in his honor. Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue called Norwood an "incredible example of strength and dedication" and ordered flags to be lowered at all state buildings. The vacancy created by his death will be filled by a special election.

Libby and Cheney won't testify

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a dramatic twist, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby on Tuesday abandoned plans to testify in his own defense and decided against calling his former boss, Vice President Dick Cheney, to help defend him in the CIA leak trial. The announcement in U.S. District Court by defense attorney Theodore Wells came after several days in which Libby's attorneys had inched in that direction. The formal reversal in their announced tactics prompted Judge Reggie Walton to advise them the decision would limit how far they could go in using memory flaws as Libby's defense to perjury and obstruction charges.

Dr. Zhivago throws mean left hook

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Omar Sharif pleaded no contest Tuesday to misdemeanor battery and was ordered to take an anger management course for punching a parking valet who refused to accept his European currency. The Egyptian-born actor is most famous for his roles in "Doctor Zhivago" and "Lawrence of Arabia." Superior Court Judge Richard A. Stone placed Sharif on two years' probation and ordered a 15-hour anger management program, which he can take in Egypt. Sharif was also ordered to stay 100 yards away from the victim, witnesses and the restaurant where the incident occurred.

NOTABLE NUMBERS

100

Number of bands, including our very own White Stripes, scheduled to perform at this year's Bonnaroo Music Festival in Tennessee. The event takes place in June.

6,000

Minimum number of federal lawsuits filed by emergency workers who aided in the rescue operation and nine-month cleanup following 9/11, alleging that the city and its contractors were negligent in monitoring the air.

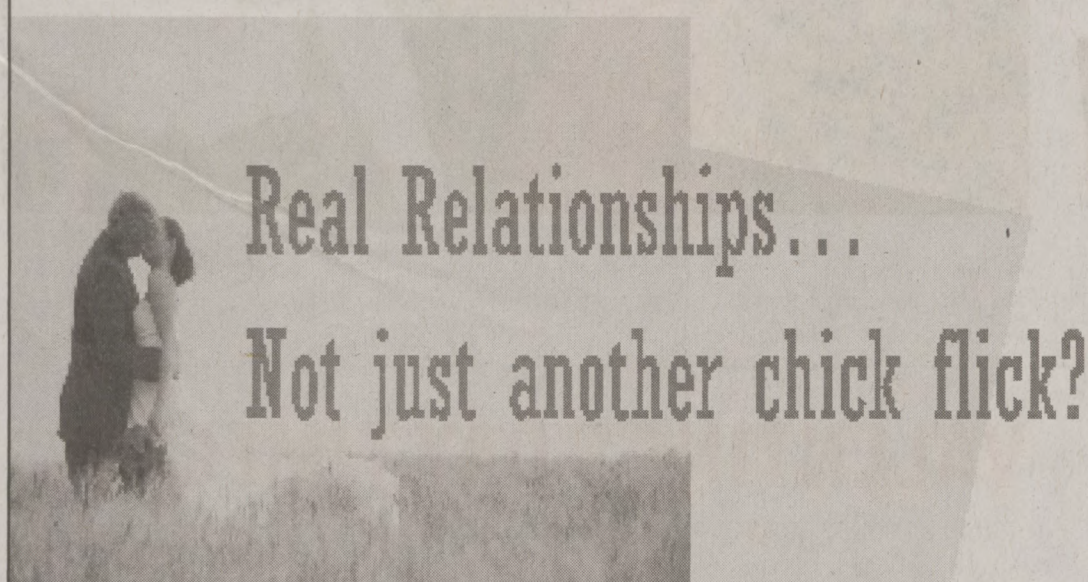
\$393,000,000

Dollars costing U.S. health care system per year, resulting from respiratory ailments, mental trauma and other problems that arose after the 9/11 attacks in NYC.

to say
the
LEAST

"The intelligence has gone cold on Osama bin Laden."

— LT. GEN. KARL EIKENBERRY
the former commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, to CNN's Wolf Blitzer on Sunday



- Take an in-depth and humorous look at relationships
- Get a new perspective
- Learn about the root of all of our relationships
- Enjoy free food and meet new friends!

Thursday, February 15th

7:30pm

Oakland Room (O.C.)

Sponsored by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Free and open to all!!!

Thursday, Feb. 15

12:00pm Fireside Lounge

Free Valentine's Treats!

A presentation based on Dr. Gary Chapman's book

The Five Love Languages

Words of Affirmation

Physical Touch

Gifts

Acts of Service

Quality Time



How do you show love?

Sponsored by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
Food & Drink: Will.com!

2007 Grammy Awards

Highlights of the biggest night in music



Album of the Year
"Taking The Long Way"
by The Dixie Chicks
Best R&B Album
"The Breakthrough"
by Mary J. Blige
Song of the Year
"Not Ready to Make Nice"
performed by the Dixie Chicks
Alternative Music Album:
"St. Elsewhere"
by Gnarls Barkley
Best Rock Album
"Stadium Arcadium"
by The Red Hot Chilli Peppers
Best Pop Vocal Album
"Continuum" by John Mayer
Best Rap Album
"Release Therapy" by Ludacris
Best New Artist
Carrie Underwood
Male R&B Vocal Performance
"Heaven" by John Legend



All photos by Mark J. Terrill/AP Photo
FROM TOP: STING AND THE POLICE KICK OFF GRAMMY NIGHT AND THEIR REUNION TOUR. CHRISTINA AGUILERA BREAKS IT DOWN IN A TRIBUTE TO JAMES BROWN. NOMINEES MARY J. BLIGE AND LUDACRIS COLLABORATE DURING "RUNAWAY LOVE."

Grab the ball

Take your hubby to the gym

Story and Photograph by CHARLES GRASKI - Contributing Reporter



Begin by laying on the agility ball. Raise torso up, reaching for the medicine ball being held by your partner. Grab the ball out of his or her hands. Lower torso down to starting position, then raise back up and put the ball back in your partner's hands. This exercise should be performed until fatigued.

SEVEN THINGS YOU SHOULDN'T GIVE ON Valentine's Day

1. A partially consumed box of Chocolates
2. Diet pills or exercise videos
3. Any film starring Chuck Norris or Jenna Jameson
4. Cash
5. A gift certificate
6. Personal hygiene products
7. Anything purchased from a mini-mart

select

VALENTINE'S DAY TIMELINE

Story by RENEE RUITTO - Contributing Reporter

If you love Valentine's Day, you may wonder when Valentine's Day originated. And when and why we started buying chocolate, flowers and sexy things for our sweeties?

France and England decided February 14th was the beginning of bird mating season and was a day for romance. The first known Valentine greeting was in **1415** and can be found in the British Library of London, England.

Over 2000 years ago, the cacao tree was discovered, bearing seeds could be made into chocolate. During the **17th century**, chocolate was the fashionable drink of the upper-class in Europe. The first chocolate bar was made in the mid **-1800s** — just the beginning of temptation for many people.

The Necco conversation hearts were made in **1902** by the brother of the candy company's founder. At first, paper notes were stuck inside the hearts.

Believe it or not, push-up corsets were in ancient Greece. A later adaptation, Fredericks of Hollywood introduced the push-up bra in the **1950s** and hip-hugger and bikini panties in the **1960s**.

Some claim that the Christian church may have decided to celebrate Valentine's feast day in the middle of February 'Christianize' celebrations of the pagan Lupercalia festival.

In **1700**, the popular phrase we all love so much, "roses are red, violets are blue," became popular. The French decorated Valentine cards with gift paper, ribbons and lace in **1850**.

North America celebrated Valentine's Day for the first time in the 19th century by British settlers. Valentines of embossed paper and lace were produced in the United States after **1847**.

Men started giving women gifts of roses and chocolate during the second half of the **20th century**.

Dates for Degrees

*Clueless about where to take your date?
Try these concentration coordinated outings.*

By CARRA PAYNE
Contributing Reporter

Art History



Photo courtesy of The Detroit Institute of Arts

For the artsy types there is a wealth of collections at the newly renovated Detroit Institute of Arts in Downtown Detroit that any art history, fine art or design major could appreciate. The DIA is home to a wide selection of art, from the classics to more contemporary works, some of which are so full of passion, you and your Valentine should have no problem picking out your favorites.

The two of you can share a steamy beverage in the Kresge Court Coffee Stop or grab a bite in the newly renovated CaféDIA before stopping in the gift shop to buy trinkets to commemorate your romantic outing.

On this Valentine's Day it may be nice to give the gift of thoughtfulness along with that lovely stuffed animal and the flowers you have, undoubtedly, already purchased.

Try tailoring your date to fit your sweetie's major this Valentine's Day — it's a super simple way of showing your valentine how much you care and a definite way to score yourself points for being so intuitive.

Now, for some majors, the task may be a little simpler than with others, but a little creativity can send you on your way to a great themed date.

Biology



Photo courtesy of Detroit Zoological Society

For those concerned with nature, its beauty and conservation, The Detroit Zoo in Huntington Woods has a hot date location to warm you and your Valentine.

Both the Butterfly Garden and the Matilda Wilson Free Flight Aviary are available for you to enjoy in a warm and lush setting perfect for warming the frigid winter day. You can canoe along the winding paths and make like, well, a couple of lovebirds.

For more information, visit www.detroitzoo.org.

Business



CHARLES GRASKI/ The Oakland Post

For the budding entrepreneur in your business-minded Valentine, nothing says loving like commerce. You can't go wrong with the tried-and-true method of expressing devotion by shelling out cold, hard cash!

Spoil your significant other with gifts from Morley Candy Makers' downtown Rochester shop or a decadent treat from Godiva Boutique of Somerset South or Twelve Oaks Mall, and consider your Valentine's Day well spent.

Anatomy

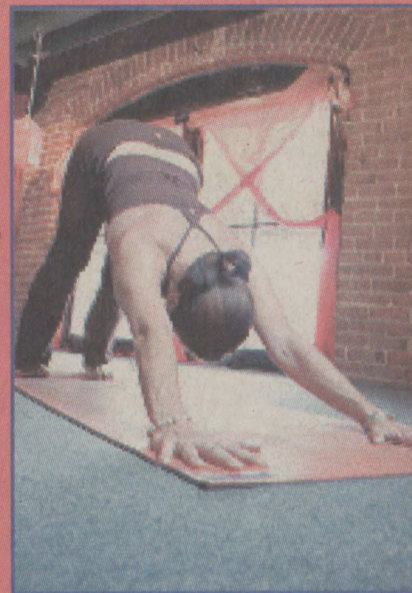


Photo courtesy of www.collyoga.com

For those of you whose Valentine may be a little more concerned with anatomical details a little finer than the heart — ahem — trying a yoga, dance or movement class may be a little more hands-on.

Body Waves/Dance Choir is a barefoot, free-form dance movement-meditation class offered by Ferndale's Center for Physical Arts Feb. 16.

This date gives performance art and dance majors something they can groove to while the group setting will be something sociology and communication majors can enjoy as well. Even if linguistics is your honey's choice of study, you can assure them that body language is the official language of love.

For more information, call (248) 547-3893.

REVIEW



Photo courtesy of the Department of Music, Theater, and Dance.

"The Rimers of Eldritch," a mystery by Lanford Wilson, premiered last week at Varner Studio Theater.

'Rimers of Eldritch' is deliciously dark

By RENA PETRASHKO
Contributing Reporter

"It's not our place to judge..." two Eldritch women gossip to each other about some strange goings-on in town before they proceed to do just that.

Lanford Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning mystery, "The Rimers of Eldritch" has brought a welcome frost to Oakland University's Varner Studio Theatre. "Rimers," a bygone term for frost, is set in the former mining town of Eldritch, where the population holds tightly to its religion and takes comfort in familiarity with each other and the routine of daily life.

A death occurs in Eldritch and we, as the audience, play voyeur to the reactions and personal lives of the various town residents.

"This play is really about judgment and misguided morality in so many ways," said Dennis

E. North, the play's director.

"Rimers" is a clarifying peek into human nature and our morbid curiosity with debauchery and death. At least a couple of the play's characters can easily be related to anyone in our own lives. At its worst, the play can make you uncomfortable with abrupt time changes and the separation between faith and compassion for our fellow man. At its best, the play and its characters connect with you, as the audience, as it weaves the relationships of the town's residents together with their frank and open dialogue.

North's choice to keep the actors on stage for the show's duration reminds us that the characters and their stories still exist while other story lines are performed.

The play makes great use of the set and its various levels, from the priest's sermons upon the pulpit at the highest level to the sins that

take place on the lowest.

"There are lots of lights and shadows, the scenes move quickly, and it goes back and forth in time," North said. "The way Lanford has written this (play) and the way we've staged it, it keeps you off guard. Lanford wrote a ghost play. It is ethereal."

The sable atmosphere of the play is reflected within the set and with the use of simple elements such as wood, netting and the contrast of light and shadow. Color is derived by the characters in costume and in voice, which highlights the talents of this dynamic ensemble. The layered dialogue covers an emotional range from wistful innocence to vengeful anger.

The "Rimers" cast showcases talented OU theatre department students with strong performances throughout the show. Each actor and actress brought uniqueness to his or her role.

"The biggest part of the director's job is to cast the play right. We have really fine actors; their growth from day one to now has just been a gift," North said.

Greg Anderson, a sophomore theatre performance major, plays Robert Conklin, who charms as he attempts to rise above his dead brother's reputation as the town's former sweetheart, which is more imagined than real.

Megan M. Michals, a freshman psychology major with a theatre performance minor, is believable as the handicapped Eva Jackson who wrestles between childhood and womanhood.

Katie C. Pierce, a senior musical theatre major, as Wilma Atkins, has great and subtle comedic timing and personifies the viciousness of gossip.

As the town's outcast, Skelly Manor, Reggie Rose II, a sophomore theatre performance major, morphs into a misunderstood old man with a booming voice and delivers his lines with an appealing rawness.

If you are looking for a light-hearted comedy, "Rimers" is not for you. It is unapologetically somber as it connects the Eldritch residents to each other and to the search for meaning in both life and death. Like a great chocolate confection, "The Rimers of Eldritch" is dark, delicious and not to be missed.

Performances are at the Varner Studio Theatre Feb. 15, 16 and 17 at 8 p.m.; Feb. 16 at 10 a.m.; and Feb. 11 and 18 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the Varner Box Office Tuesday-Friday from 3-6 p.m. or one hour before performances. Cost is \$12 per person for afternoon and evening performances, \$6 for the Feb. 16 matinee. You may purchase tickets online at www.starticketsplus.com. Discounted rates, available for OU students and faculty, must be purchased at the box office.



Fiesty Foods

By CELESETE FILIATRAULT
Contributing Reporter

So you're trying to get your partner in the mood, tonight? Try cooking him/her up a little love potion using these ingredients:

■ Asparagus

Not only is it phallic-shaped, it is loaded with vitamin E — a vitamin believed to encourage the production of sex hormones.

■ Chili Peppers

Capsaicin, the chemical that gives a pepper its heat also stimulates nerve endings, makes us perspire and raises our pulses. Some researchers believe eating spicy foods releases endorphins, the feel-good substance released by the brain in response to pain.

■ Chocolate

Big surprise, right? The melt-in-your-mouth bliss that chocolate leaves us with comes from a stimulant called phenylethylamine — a naturally occurring psychoactive compound. It has been linked to the release of serotonin and possibly dopamine.

■ Ginkgo

The same leaves that aid in memory recognition dilate blood vessels of the genitals and erectile tissue. However, since ginkgo widens blood vessels, it should not be taken with blood thinners such as aspirin.

■ Oysters

Let's not forget one of the oldest known aphrodisiacs! Romans first made the connection between the shellfish and libido in the second century A.D. Their effect may be attributed to high amounts of zinc, a mineral required for the production of testosterone. Not only is it the hormone responsible for the male sex drive, testosterone may help arousal in females.

They're not quite cupid's arrows, but they're worth a try. For more information, check out www.health.discovery.com/centers/sex/sex.html

This is a bi-weekly column. Please e-mail any questions, concerns or topic suggestions to cafiliat@oakland.edu with the word "SEX" in the subject line or use the drop box located in front of The Oakland Post.



Got a favorite (non-chain) java joint?
Tell the Post! Email editor@oakpostonline.com.
First 10 responses will receive \$10 to spend at the café of your choice.

A Walk to Remember

B2

www.theoaklandpost.com

February 14, 2007

EAST VANDENBERG DECORATES LOUNGES TO CELEBRATE AFRICAN AMERICAN CELEBRATION MONTH

By JESSE DUNSMORE
Senior Reporter

Instead of just relaxing or studying, visitors to East Vandenberg Hall's floor lounges got a history lesson last week. Residents of the hall decorated the East tower's floor lounges for "A Walk to Remember," a series of African-American history-themed displays.

"My favorite feature is that each floor had a different feel and a different creativity approach," said West Vandenberg Hall Director Lindsay McCullough, who coordinated the project. "I think the variety is definitely my favorite part."

The second floor's theme was "firsts". It identifies the first blacks to have accomplishments in a variety of categories, as well as other "firsts" that affected black people.

Floor three's theme was the transition of music in African American history. "It was really inter-

esting to see how music went from jazz to R&B to rap, and it's all brought together in our 2000's area with Kanye West and things like that," said R.A. Melissa Kuviak.

The fourth floor lounge, entitled "The Forest of Unrecognized Leaders," featured lesser-known leaders, like activist Medgar Evers. R.A. Pierre Witcher said, "The thing that appealed to me was...a lot of unrecognized leaders of that time, because they're really underrepresented compared to your Martin Luther Kings and Malcolm Xs."

A message on a window of 5 East's lounge read, "The people you see displayed here followed their dreams through various genres of work in their own 'Pursuit of Happiness.'" It featured accomplished blacks in the fields of business, sports, science, literature, law and politics. R.A. Josh Gipson, liked "Capital Hill," a section which included cutouts of pillars on the wall and photos of politicians like Barack Obama and Condoleezza Rice.

The sixth floor educated visitors about the

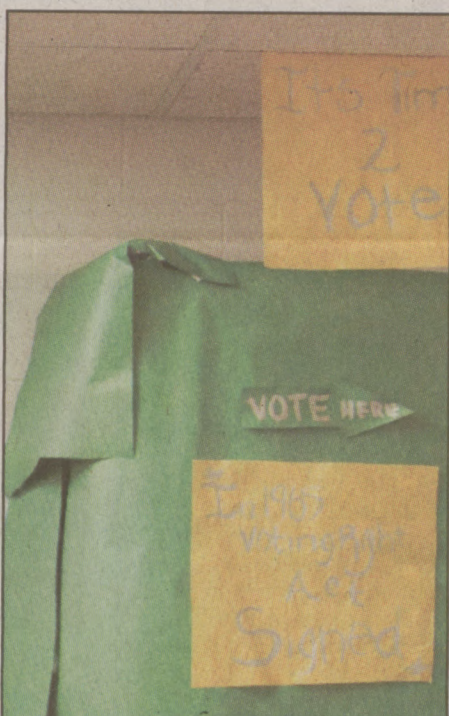
Underground Railroad. R.A. Christyn Mendyka, said her favorite feature was the "safehouse" — an area where couches and black plastic "walls" marked off a 12-foot by 15-foot section of the lounge. This was the average size of an area where up to 20 escaped slaves might stay. "I actually learned a lot through researching this, and I didn't know all the signals that were used to signal a runaway slave," she said.

"Living in the Shadows of Yesterday," the seventh floor lounge, had more three-dimensional displays than any of the others. One wall was dominated by a brown and red schoolhouse, with information on it regarding Brown vs. The Board of Education, which decided that "separate but equal" school facilities for blacks were unconstitutional.

According to Mendyka, the decorations were meant to come down last Friday, but some of them still remain. "They'll be coming down, but we left them up, just because people were still interested in them; I think the more time we have it up is better."



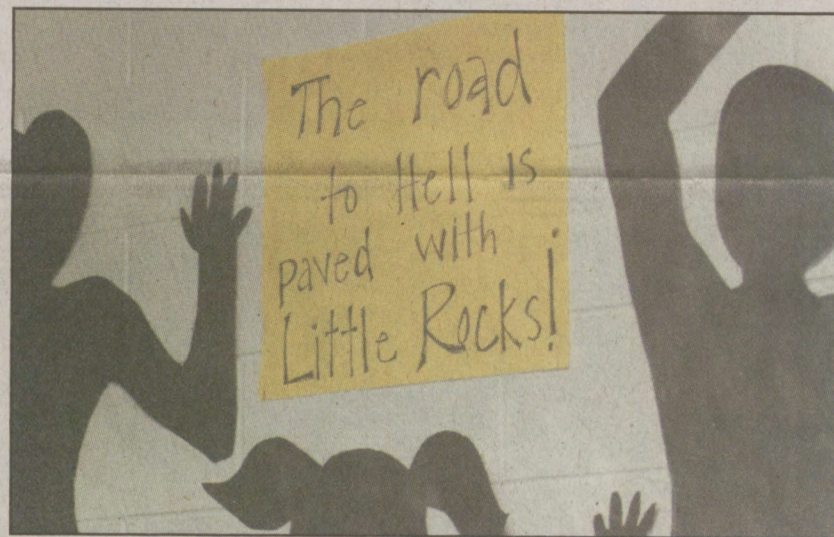
A jail cell made of bed frames occupies a corner of the seventh floor lounge. "The jail represented how many people were there for not committing a crime," said R.A. Yakela Roberson. The cell is covered in photographs of protests and mug shots of protesters, as well as a jail prisoner registry that includes Rosa Parks' name.



Another corner of the seventh floor lounge featured a "voting booth" made of paper attached to a couch stood on one end. The booth also held important dates, like the passage of the Voting Right Act.



A display of quilt patterns adorns one window of the sixth floor lounge. According to information under the display, quilts featuring these patterns would be hung in windows to help guide escaped slaves or offer warnings to them. For example, the Flying Geese pattern indicated a direction fugitives should take.



Roberson said the silhouettes lining the walls of her floor's lounge stood for the "faceless" people who influenced the civil rights movement. The picket sign shown here referred to the segregationist resistance to integration in Little Rock, Ark.

All photos by
CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post

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It's only snow

Michigan residents dismayed as winter rolls in for the 2007th time



KIICHIRO SATO/AP Photo

By KARA O'CONNELL
Special Projects Editor

Michigan: the land of the 30-second season. One of the only states where you can experience frostbite and sunburn in the same day. Why then, do we get our snowpanties in a bunch when Chuck Gaidica warns us, typically a week ahead of time, that we're going to have a winter storm?

What else do we expect? It is the Midwest. It is surrounded by the Great Lakes. Winter does roll around every — single — freaking — year. The tizzy that local news channels and the lunch time conversation wind themselves into, is a constant source of befuddlement.

There's always *that* guy. OU commuters know him well. He's the one in the SUV who is oblivious to the four inches of packed snow that's converted I-75 into a luge run. He's the one who zips between the lanes because he didn't leave enough time to get to work.

You can see his wheels lock every time he almost slams into you. He's the one that you wave your hands at, hoping he'll get the hint. And somehow, he's there. Every year. Just like February's guaranteed snowstorm.

He might be the same guy who is fishtailing through an empty parking lot for fun. Ultimately, the same person who winds up in a ditch and adds an hour to your commute home.

This is not to be confused with the kind soul who just happened to forget how to wipe the snow off of their car. They're somehow capable of ignoring the fact that their car has been converted into a low-rider, weighed down by nine inches of fresh powder on their roof. We've all experienced the white out conditions as they merge onto the freeway. With every surge of horsepower, another inch of snow whips from their hood, roof and bumper, covering your car like it's been hit with a snow pie to the face.

While half of the commute can be spent cursing the careless, the rest of the time is spent slamming our foreheads against the steering wheel, wringing our mittens as the rest of the road morphs into a cotton-ball-headed grandma driver (Note: I am not attacking all aspects of grandmothering. I am all for cookies/baked goods, handmade blankets and advice from our elders. I am merely observing grandma style driving methods).

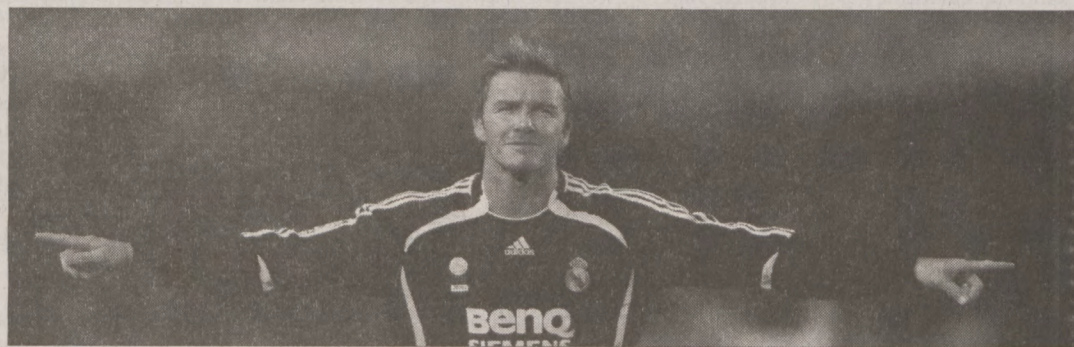
Turn off your emergency hazard lights. Everyone

(except for the guy in the SUV) is aware of the snow, everyone is on the same road as you. So unless your tires have frozen over, or you're going to pull over anytime soon, stop trying to psych everyone out. The blinking lights serve as yet another painful reminder that we are all at least 10 minutes late for our morning class.

Somewhere along the way, we are bound to drive past the seemingly impossible: the jogger. The snow could be up to their knees, every article of workout apparel could be completely ripe, their shoes could have holes in the toes and they would still be out there, chugging along in the snow. If you're not sure who this is, look for the person wearing very little reflective clothing in the dark who, with every frozen breath of air, appears to be at the edge of death.

The day ends and after climbing the Mt. Everest that is the hill from Pawley to Elliot, we arrive at the safe haven of our vehicles and prepare for round two — the journey home. Adding insult to injury, we always forget interior becomes a black hole as we open the driver side door, sucking in any available powder and landing directly onto the car seat. It's a frozen reminder of the painful journey home.

The commute home is equally as exhausting. We must tense, suffer and repeat in order to return home. The cycle happens all over again. Just like the snow. Just like the conditions. Just like it is, every — single — freaking — year.



ALVARO BARRIENTOS/AP PHOTO

BRING IT ON, BECKHAM

By PAUL GULLY
Assistant News Editor

I'm going to warn you ahead of time, this column is about soccer — yes, soccer. But stick with me. This was originally supposed to run a few weeks ago when the David Beckham news first made headlines. But because of some minor issues (mainly because I didn't have it done), the column was held — which at first concerned me.

I was worried that by holding the column, it would no longer be timely or relevant. But then I came to my senses — when is soccer ever relevant in the U.S.? I have to admit, I had to chuckle at my initial panic — and it was a good, hearty chuckle — a chuckle that a bitter, old, overweight, 65-year-old man, with a thick white mustache would make after watching a 7-year-old neighbor boy fall off of his Schwinn.

I almost feel as though it's taboo to discuss soccer right now. Outside of the World Cup, soccer conversation should be limited to Brandi Chastain and Mia Hamm (the only two semi-hot soccer players that came to mind). Other than that, soccer talk should be treated like sex tips from a Catholic priest — ignored and received with a look of disgust and confusion.

However, the Los Angeles Galaxy's recent signing of Beckham, a European soccer star and sex icon, made a huge splash in the U.S. sports market — reminiscent of the splash created by the red-headed, fat, freckled kid doing a cannonball in "The Sandlot."

Then several days later, American Claudio Reyna decided to return to the States from Europe to play soccer, signing with the New York Red Bulls.

The two signings have once again raised the questions as to whether soccer will become

a major sport in the States. But it begs the question, why is there such a need to make soccer relevant in America? So what if it's huge in every other country? Well, all but Canada — at least they got something right.

Monarchies have fared well in Europe, yet we have yet to give a king or queen an opportunity here, even though things can't get much worse than they are with our current head honcho. The metric system seems to be doing just fine everywhere — it wouldn't surprise me if metrics are the measuring system preferred by extraterrestrial life. But America is stuck on the English "base-10" system. So why all the fuss about incorporating soccer into America?

I don't want to come off as "anti-soccer" by any means. After all, youth soccer games are one of the few venues where you will find a flock of attractive moms gathered in one place. And soccer is probably the only thing that keeps Capri Sun in business.

However, America's disdain and general apathy for soccer is part of what makes this country what it is. Never mind the free speech, democratic government, or the amazingness that is Paris Hilton, the United States is great because it refuses to accept a sport whose main rival in this country is the WNBA.

We, as a nation, shouldn't be concerned with the lack of interest that soccer garners and should instead view it as yet another gift we are gracing the world with — you know, on top of the peace and order we are giving the Middle East.

We don't have to dominate the world in every major sport. Well ... what sport, other than football, do we dominate? Shoot. On second thought, maybe we do need soccer to get back at the world for beating us in baseball, basketball, hockey, tennis and every other sport we fail to medal in during world competition.

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Student rate available.

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Written a paper for an OU course in any discipline about how art, literature, politics, history, music, health care, theatre, science, business or society are shaped or influenced by gender? First Prize: \$100, Second Prize: \$50. Contact Professor Gilson at gilson@oakland.edu with questions. Deadline: Monday, March 12, 2007.

Women's Studies Annual Leadership and Service Awards

Nominate a student (or self-nominate) for the **WS Feminist Student Leadership Award** for unpaid leadership in the OU feminist community or **WS Feminist Service Award** for students providing substantial unpaid support for major events, organizations or grassroots movements. Not required to be WS majors or minors. Deadline: Monday, March 12, 2007.

Van Sell Scholarship

Requirements to qualify include 3.5 GPA in Women's Studies from at least 2 courses and financial need. Deadline: Monday, March 12, 2007.

For more information on award and scholarship criteria, essay submissions or the film festival contact: Women's Studies, 521 Varner Hall, 248-370-3221
E-mail: Graciela.Osterberg@oakland.edu

In Fidelity, postmaster's heart goes out to Valentine's Day crush

By JIM SUHR
Associated Press Writer

FIDELITY, Ill. (AP) — Among thousands of Valentine's Day mailings that have gravitated to this place over the years for the postmark so fitting for the holiday, a widow's loving plea instantly grabbed Peggy Ruyle's heartstrings.

Tucked in with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be given the Fidelity postmark, the old woman's note lamented losing her husband a year ago, six days after his 85th birthday and just months before the two would have marked 64 years as husband and wife.

"Among the flowers I will put on his grave" this month, the widow wrote, "I want to include this envelope stamped 'Fidelity.'"

Ruyle figures she's read the widow's note a dozen times, and it never gets easier.

"I choke up every time. I never got a letter this touching," says Ruyle, 61, who's been postmaster here for 13 years. "I can picture a little man and woman, sitting in a rocking chair or porch swing, just being happy. That's a good picture to have."

At this time of year, Ruyle absolutely loves her job and her small role in keeping romance alive, one postmark at a time.

Few ever see this Jersey County outpost, population 115. It is little more than a collection of weathered mobile homes 35 miles north of St. Louis, as the crow flies, and well off the beaten path.

But folks somehow have heard of Fidelity and its aluminum-sided, shack-like post office with white shutters, the only business in town.

Each year, Ruyle says, a couple hundred Valentine's Day mailings

come her way from around the globe, from as far away as Thailand. Fifty-three arrivals one recent morning included return addresses from Texas, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Florida.

Many requests include notes simply asking Ruyle for the postmark. Some are collecting postmarks with a shared theme, including Loveland, Colo.; Valentine, Texas; Kissimmee, Fla.; Romeo, Mich.; and Juliet, Ga.

Others, like the mournful widow, give what Ruyle calls windows into the sender's soul, "just a little piece of their life."

One woman wanted the enclosed stamped, self-addressed card sent "to my wonderful boyfriend."

"He is the love of my life and I couldn't be happier with him," the woman cooed. "It's funny how you meet the ones you fall in love with. We met a year ago at my work. I was work-

ing and he was the cute volunteer."

Connie Cooper recently drove 12 miles from the tiny town of Kane to get the Fidelity postmark on 10 "save the date" notices for her daughter's nuptials in September. She expects to be back with some 300 wedding invitations.

"This is neat, unique. Not many people are blessed with the name Fidelity," Cooper says.

By some accounts, folks here can thank a horse for that.

While researching the town's origins, Audrey Bohannon — Fidelity's historian, if you will — found that a Tennessee group passed through the area in 1829. When Joseph Russell's horse turned lame and couldn't get him back to Tennessee for business, Samuel Simmons volunteered one of his horses.

"That's true fidelity," Russell supposedly exclaimed to Simmons, who

stayed behind and built a log cabin. In 1850, Russell and his brother settled the town and eventually got it named Fidelity. The post office came four years later.

The town has seen better times, by some accounts once boasting an Army barracks, grain elevator, several doctors and dentists, a blacksmith shop and grocery stores — all long gone.

"Unfortunately, it's turning into a trailer town," Bohannon says. "People die, people move away and things change."

But not the post office or Ruyle. She puts her heart into obliging each request, delicately stamping each envelope by hand so the postmark won't smudge, then setting it aside to dry before moving on to the next.

"That's just a small thing, to make somebody happy for just a couple of minutes," said Ruyle, her own marriage more than four decades strong. "It's worth it."


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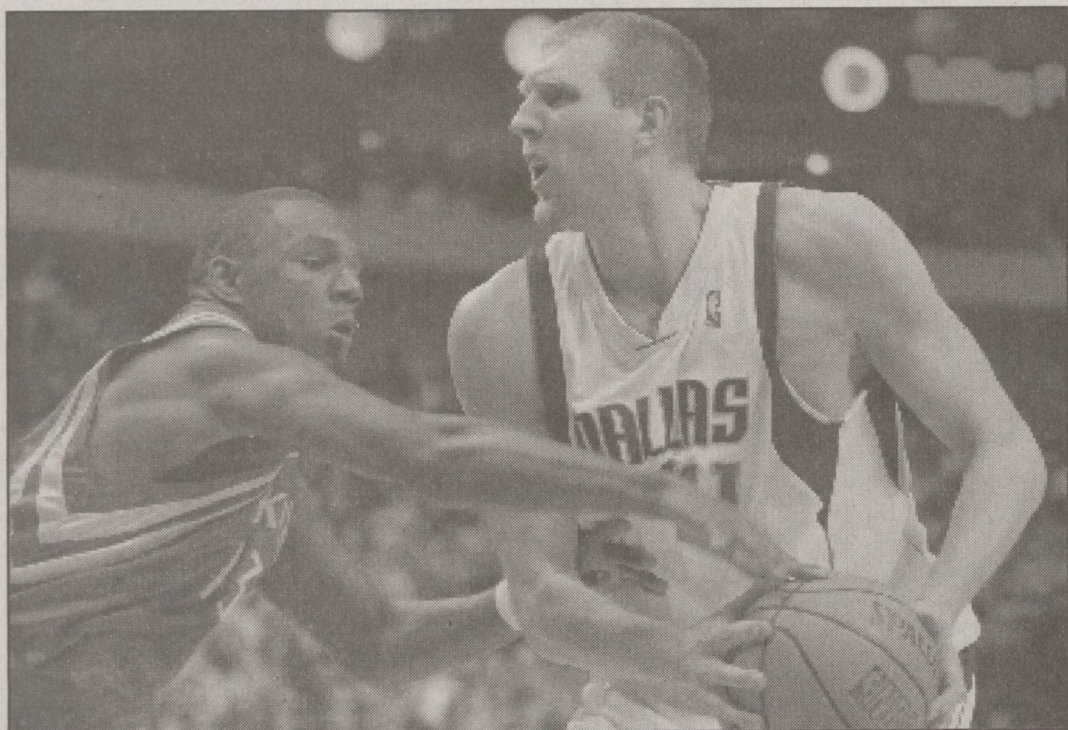
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MATT SLOCUM/The Associated Press
Dallas superstar Dirk Nowitzki looks to defend his 3-point shootout title in this weekend's All-Star Weekend in Las Vegas.

No weekend plans?

Check out some NBA All-Star action

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

Hey, we all know the Loverboy song- "Everybody's workin' for the weekend." Question is, what do you do once you get there? Don't feel like dropping ridiculous amounts of money on dinner and a movie or several trips to the bar? Being a fellow college student, I can't say I blame you.

How about staying in this weekend and watching some of the NBA's best showcase their talents at NBA All-Star weekend, this year in Las Vegas.

Friday, see if some of your favorite celebrities have skills in the All-Star Celebrity game. Then, the league's rising stars battle it out in the Rookie Challenge and Youth Jam.

Tune in for All-Star Saturday Night for a series of exciting competitions. These are the

Skills Challenge, Three-point Shootout, the Shooting Stars contest, and everybody's favorite, the Slam Dunk contest.

Finally, it's time for Sunday's All-Star game where the beasts of the east take on the best of the west at 8 p.m.

Some Contest Competitors

Skills Challenge Three Point Shootout

Kobe Bryant
Dwyane Wade
Steve Nash
LeBron James

Gilbert Arenas
Damon Jones
Jason Kapono
Mike Miller
Dirk Nowitzki
Jason Terry

Most events
will be on TNT.

Grizzlies get revenge

OU evens series with MSU this season

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Contributing Reporter

One may be the loneliest number, but one goal was all it took for the Golden Grizzlies to down the Michigan State Spartans Saturday night, as they turned up the heat in the frigid Suburban Ice Arena and narrowly escaped with a 6-5 win.

Two proved to be the magic number of the night, as the goals came in pairs for the Grizzlies. Matthew Burke, Kyle DeMaggio and Brent Cooper netted two goals apiece. Two goals came on the power play, two short-handed and two at even strength.

And with a three-goal lead in the third period, a win seemed almost inevitable, although it wasn't as easy as it sounds.

As it was Michigan State who dominated the last meeting between the two teams on Oakland's home ice, the roles were reversed and the Grizzlies held the lead most of the game. The Spartans were able to tie up the game twice but couldn't pull ahead.

The Grizzlies got off to a slow start in the first period, as Burke netted the lone goal to give his team a 1-0 advantage.

"The second period was our worst period," said Head Coach Sean Hogan. "I thought we came out flat. We ran around in the defensive zone and I felt we didn't run our forecheck, and our neutral zone trap on the penalty kill."

Despite Hogan's disappointment, DeMaggio scored once short-handed and once on the power play. With teammate Garrett Kondratek in the penalty box, DeMaggio beat Spartan goaltender Justin Sand. But the Spartans replied with a pair of goals to even out the score. And as DeMaggio gave his team the lead once more, the Spartans tied it up with a short-handed goal.

With Steve Piccoli down on the ice after getting slashed, the Spartans had a breakaway on Collin Chase. Frustrated that there wasn't a call on the slash, Piccoli retaliated and was assessed a five-minute disqualification, leaving his team down a man.

Piccoli's penalty carried over into the third, where Cooper scored the team's second short-handed goal while holding MSU scoreless. Burke and Cooper each scored again to give

the Grizzlies a three goal lead, which is one of the most difficult leads to hold in hockey.

With a two-man advantage late in the third period, the Spartans struck twice within 21 seconds to give the Grizzlies a wake-up call. Determined not to let it be the third consecutive game decided in overtime, Oakland held off the Spartans for the final 7:30.

"I was hoping we were going to score a few more goals in the third period and really make a statement," said Hogan. "It's still way too late in the season to be doing this, but we get lax with a lead. We really need to learn to bury a team."

"I don't think we played that bad," said Will McMahon. "We started showing some emotion when the calls started going against us. It sparked some fire under us and we started playing good. We just needed to pull off a win this close to the end."

The Grizzlies close out the regular season next weekend with games against the University of Delaware on Friday and Saturday at the Onyx and Penn State Sunday in Lapeer.

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Check out the
sports staff

blog at

[oaklandpostsports.](http://oaklandpostsports.blogspot.com)

blogspot.com

In Case You Missed It:

Track pays visit to EMU

Last Saturday, the track teams competed in the EMU Invitational, which was not team scored, but proved to be excellent practice for the Golden Grizzlies. Three Grizzlies finished in the top 10 for the women, including Asha and Lexi Esterline in the high jump and Danyel Mitchell in the 800M run. For the men, Kenny Wassus finished fourth in the 5000M run and Kevin Luce placed 10th in the 60M hurdles.

Piggott recognized by ESPN

For the second time in her career at OU, senior Nicole Piggott was named to ESPN The Magazine's Academic All-District team. Her 3.95 GPA earned the clinical lab science major a spot on this year's third team and in 2004-05, she was named to the first team. She has also accumulated honors on the Mid-Con Commissioner's List of Academic Excellence and was recognized several times by the Golden Grizzlies Excellence in Academics list.

OU falls flat to WIU in heart breaker

The Golden Grizzlies fell to last place Western Illinois last Thursday in front of thousands of shocked Grizzly fans with a score of 64-63. Oakland was defeated with a three-point play in the final seconds. Johnathon Jones missed what would have been the game winning shot.

—Compiled by Samantha Franz
and Brittany Ochtinsky
Sports Editor and Contributing Reporter

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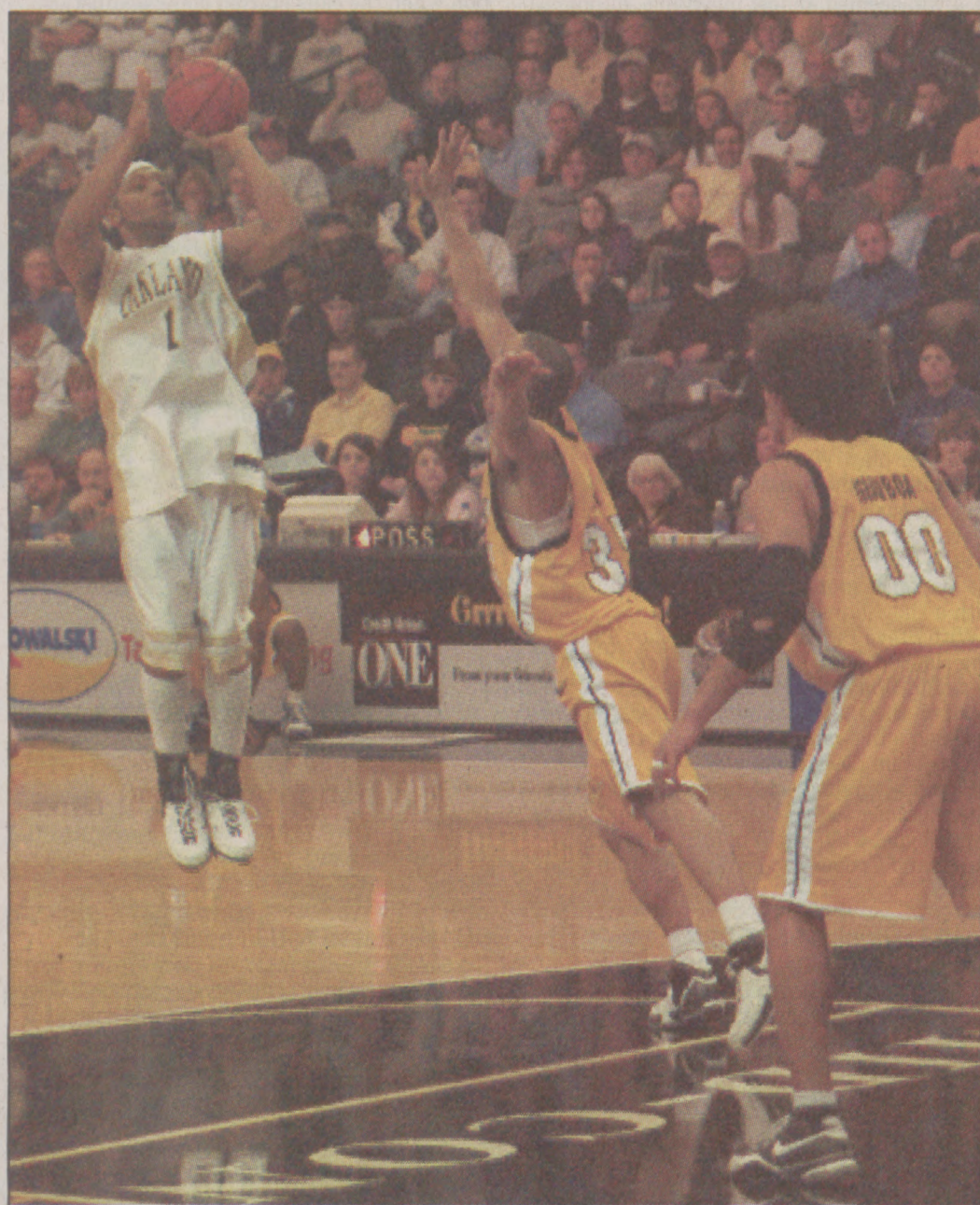
MOCAD

THE VOTES ARE IN!

The results of the Michigan's Best sports figure for 2006, a vote put on by the Detroit Free Press, are in. Tigers manager Jim Leyland walked away with top honors with 1,755 points. Oakland University hockey player Will McMahon came in 10th place in the vote with 272 points.

The Sweetest Sendoff

Grizzlies say farewell to Valpo in nail-biting fashion



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Sophomore Derick Nelson soars above the 3-point line to sink one of his treys Saturday night. Nelson started off on the bench this season, and his hard work and hustle has put him right back in the starting line up for the Golden Grizzlies.

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

Leave it to Confucius to perfectly sum up last week's round of Golden Grizzly basketball.

After falling 64-63 to last place Western Illinois Thursday night and stunning fans left and right, Oakland University needed to wash away the shock and prepare for an even bigger bump in the road. The Valparaiso Crusaders were coming to town for the last time as a Mid-Con opponent Saturday.

How would the Golden Grizzlies fare in this final battle of a bitter rivalry? Would Valpo break OU's two-game winning streak on them, or would the Grizzlies send them off into the Horizon League with an "L" in the scorebook?

Well, apparently good things happen in threes because OU defeated the Crusaders for the third time in a row with a 64-61 decision Saturday afternoon.

"When you lose a game like we lost the other night (to WIU), it takes a lot of character to come back and play and not panic," said Head Coach Greg Kampe. "And I thought we did that."

With more than 3,000 fans in attendance and plenty of black and gold gear and body paint, both teams put on quite a show in the first half.

Led by freshman Johnathon Jones's 12-point effort, the Grizzlies led by as many as six points before a series of turnovers plagued their offense about 11 minutes into the half. And just like that, Valpo had a nine point lead.

But a nine point run by Oakland brought them to a 25-25 tie. After that, three more ties would ensue before the half ended at a stalemate with a score of 32-32.

The second half started off with three quick ties before a lay-up by senior Vova Severovas put the Grizzlies up for the remainder of the game.

But it wasn't an easy lead to keep. Every time the Grizzlies would gain sufficient ground on them, the Crusaders would sink a basket, like clockwork, making the second half exciting and suspenseful for the rowdy crowd at the O'Rena.

After Johnathon Jones nailed his third 3-point-er of the night, and tied a career high in three-point field goals with 2:32 remaining, OU took a six-point lead and it appeared that it would last

for the remainder of the contest.

But Valpo wanted this win just as badly as Oakland, and they weren't about to lay down their arms. After two back-to-back baskets, it was suddenly down to two points with one minute remaining.

The game eventually came down to one of the game of basketball's most fundamental skills: free throws.

Sophomore Derick Nelson went to the charity stripe with 25 seconds to go and sank both his free throws to give Oakland a four point lead, 62-58. Then just nine seconds later, Crusader sophomore Brandon McPherson nailed a three-point shot to bring Valpo within one.

The next time, it was junior Brandon Cassise who was called to the free throw line, and twice he delivered for the Golden Grizzlies.

When the final 12 seconds passed, OU walked away with their final conference win over Valparaiso. Jones scored a career high 19 points.0

Kampe spoke highly of both Cassise and Nelson, particularly of Nelson's free throws that gave OU the final push they needed to stay ahead.

"It showed a lot about his character that he was able to come back and make those shots," he said. "Everybody in life fails. Champions are able to come back from failure, and that's what he did tonight."

The Grizzlies close out their road games this season with a road trip to UMKC tomorrow and a match up with Southern Utah Saturday evening.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Oakland University swimmers join the student fan section as they continue their support of Golden Grizzly basketball Saturday.

"When Red Wings great Vladimir Konstantinov got into the limo accident that ended his hockey career on June 13, 1997. They had just won their first Stanley Cup since the 1950s and to see the press conference on TV, not knowing if one of my favorite players was going to survive, was truly daunting on my 11-year-old heart."

—Samantha Franz
Sports Editor

"In 2003, the Red Wings lost to Anaheim in the playoffs. It was the very last game and Anaheim scored in overtime. It was the last goal."

—Scott Rogowski
Junior
Physical Therapy

"My heart breaking moment was when Robert Horry hit the game winning 3-pointer in overtime to beat the Pistons in game five of the 2005 NBA finals. That really upset me because I am a huge Pistons fan."

—Rob Tate
Senior Reporter

"When I was working at East Tennessee State, our men's basketball team were one of the top seeds going into the Southern Conference tournament. We looked forward to the rematch and it ended up going into overtime. We were down a point with a couple seconds left and we missed an easy shot as time expired. That one took a while to get over!"

—Phil Hess
Oakland University
Sports Information Director

I've got a crush on...



Photo from www.166.photo.bucket.com



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Brandon Inge

"He is a good player and a good Samaritan."

Amanda Bradybaugh
Junior
History



Photo from olympics.groovewatch.com



KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

Sasha Cohen

"From the first time I saw Sasha grace the ice in the 2002 Olympics, I was in love. She has the smile and legs of a Greek goddess."

Paul Gully
Asst. News Editor

Sports moments that broke our



Illustration by Celeste Filiatrault