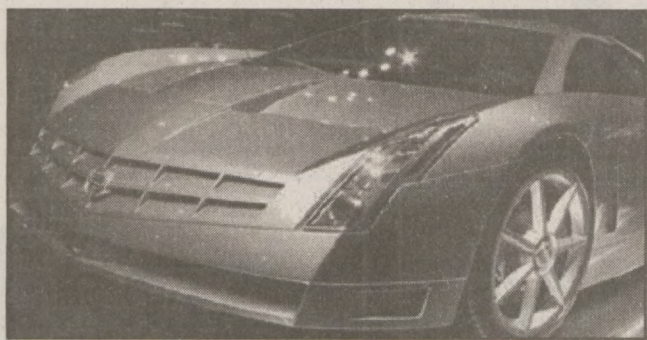


## LOCAL...



## North American International Auto Show

... Learn all you need to know before you go

A5

## SPORTS...



OU drops close one at UMKC

B5

## EDITORIAL...

A6

The Board of Trustees are under fire... again. This time it refused to honor wishes to create faculty liaison positions.



Snow Showers  
High 33°F  
Low 30°F

# THE OAKLAND POST

Student-run newspaper  
serving Oakland University's  
community. 10 cents

Wednesday • January 16, 2002 • www.oakpostonline.com

Award-winning  
independent newspaper  
THE OAKLAND SAIL, INC.

## The EDGE

• The University Senate meets at 3 p.m. tomorrow, in the Gold Rooms, Oakland Center. The group plans to discuss the fall 2002-winter 2003 academic calendar.

• Nostradamus is coming to OU at noon, Tuesday, Jan. 22, for a seminar on science and religion. The 16th century predictor of the future will be the center of the discussion, which is titled Nostradamus: Seer or Charlatan?!? The seminar will be led by Professor and Chair of Chemistry Michael Sevilla and will be held in the Oakland Room, OC.

• The Rec Center is offering a three for two special on sessions of message therapy throughout January. Students pay \$25 per half hour, all others \$30. Appointment times and all pricing information are available by calling 248.370.4910.

• Informational meetings will be held for alternative Master of Arts in teaching at 6 p.m., today in Clinton Township and at 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 24, in Bloomfield Hills. The meetings will address students looking to change careers and teach at the secondary level. Call Professional Development, 248.370.3033 for more details.

• Wellness Wednesday continues at noon, today, in the Rec Center. The seminar is titled The Year for You.

## IN THIS ISSUE

News Column... A3  
Letters... A6  
Horoscopes... B4  
Sports Scores... B5

# BOT throws out liaison idea

## Board says 'no' to faculty rep

By Cara Plowman  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The University Senate will discuss the Board's decision not to allow any faculty liaison positions at its 3 p.m. meeting tomorrow.

The addition of two faculty liaisons was one of 15 recommendations made by the Academic Affairs Review Committee report released last October. The liaison recommendation was endorsed by Interim Provost Virinder Moudgil and President Gary

Russi. Students currently have two, non-voting liaisons to the board. Board chair Ann Nicholson informed OU's interim Provost in a letter last week that the trustees would not create any liaison positions

to allow regular faculty input on matters that come before them.

One of the problems the AARC found during its investigation was a lack of communication between the Board and the rest of the campus.

After receiving Nicholson's letter, Moudgil sent an email to all faculty members announcing the Board's decision and encouraged faculty to use more informal activities with the board.

BOT continues on A8

# Parking headaches less for winter 2002

## 278 citations written

By Marc Hankins  
THE OAKLAND POST

Fewer students to park on OU's campus during the winter semester has meant fewer tickets issued by OUPD as the number of citations issued by police plummeted from 599 during the first week of fall classes to 278 for the past week.

The current ticket numbers are from parking violations issued between Monday, Jan. 7, and

Friday, Jan. 11, and represent a 54 percent decrease from citations issued during the same time period in the fall semester.

Despite the traditional drop in enrollment from the fall semester to the winter, however, students are still spending time searching for parking spaces and frequently settle for spots farther away from their classes.

On any given weekday, vehicles can be seen combing the aisles of

P-1, the main university lot west of North and South Foundation Halls, searching for the ever elusive parking space. If a commuter is not lucky enough to follow someone walking to their car to snatch a vacated spot, they usually have to travel to P-3, the dorm overflow lot located in the northwest corner of the university.

But some choose the illegal option of creating a new space in an undesignated area, such as the end of an aisle not lined for parking. OUPD has begun putting up barriers at the ends of



aisles to deter people from the temptation of illegal parking but not all commuters heed police

warnings, and many wind up with tickets when trying to beat

PARK continues on A4

**PARKING BLUES:** Typically during winter semester enrollment plummets, making parking easier. Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post

## Dancin' the night away

The OU dance team Images, finished third at its Division I national championship last week.

Please see B5

# Applications now being accepted

By Rachel Rybicki  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Student apartment applications can be picked up now in the housing office or at the housing reception desks in Vandenberg Hall.

All OU students who are 20 years or older are allowed to apply, however, current residence hall students will have first priority.

We want to provide a different style of housing for older stu-

dents than the traditional halls, Eleanor Reynolds, Director of University Housing said. As we assign the apartments out, we give priority to those who have lived on campus already. All students may apply, but students must know that we do have a priority system.

I'm not sure why that is, but if an 18 year old is willing to pay, they should be allowed to live in the student apartments, Katie McCracken, junior, elementary education said. I'd rather see

educational buildings or parking lots constructed first, but I'm a commuter.

The apartments are being built to not only increase the number of residents on campus, but to also enhance campus life.

We want to continue to enhance student life on campus, said Reynolds. We want to provide another option for students on campus and many students have said that they are interested in having a facility like that.

# Real Worlder Powell comes to OU Monday

By Adam L. Neal  
THE OAKLAND POST

His name may be familiar. His face may be familiar. He has written books, essays, articles and reviews for many major publications, but most recognize Kevin Powell best for his role on the first season of MTV's The Real World.

This is where Powell got his claim to fame and his start in the public eye. However, The Real World is not where he focuses his life.

Powell is known as a cultural critic and hip-hop historian. He has lectured on issues such as racism, sexism, American popular culture, Black and American history, Martin Luther King, Jr., contemporary literature, multiculturalism, and the history of hip-hop at dozens of colleges and universities across America, www.agoodblackman.com reported.

He will be hosting a lecture at Meadow Brook Theatre on Jan. 21 at noon. His lecture will include some of these cultural issues that he has focused on in the past. It is free of charge and tickets are not required.

It was suggested by the Student Life Lecture Board to Paul Franklin, coordinator of campus life, to bring Powell on campus. Franklin got in contact with Powell's agent, Andrew Walker, and set up the lecture.

We brought him in not because he was on The Real World, but because of his reputation, books, speaking ability and what he has been doing for his culture, Franklin said when asked

POWELL continues on A4



Kevin Powell

Noon,  
Jan. 21  
Meadow  
Brook  
Theatre

# Alleged computer thief apprehended in Vandenberg Hall last week

By Heather Clement  
ASSISTANT TO THE NEWS DEPT.

A residence hall resident suspected of stealing 10 Gateway computers from 202 Elliot Hall last August, was arrested in his

room in east Vandenberg Hall last Thursday.

The resident, Javier Madison, 20, was arraigned Monday in 52-3 District Court in Rochester Hills. He pled not guilty to larceny in a building.

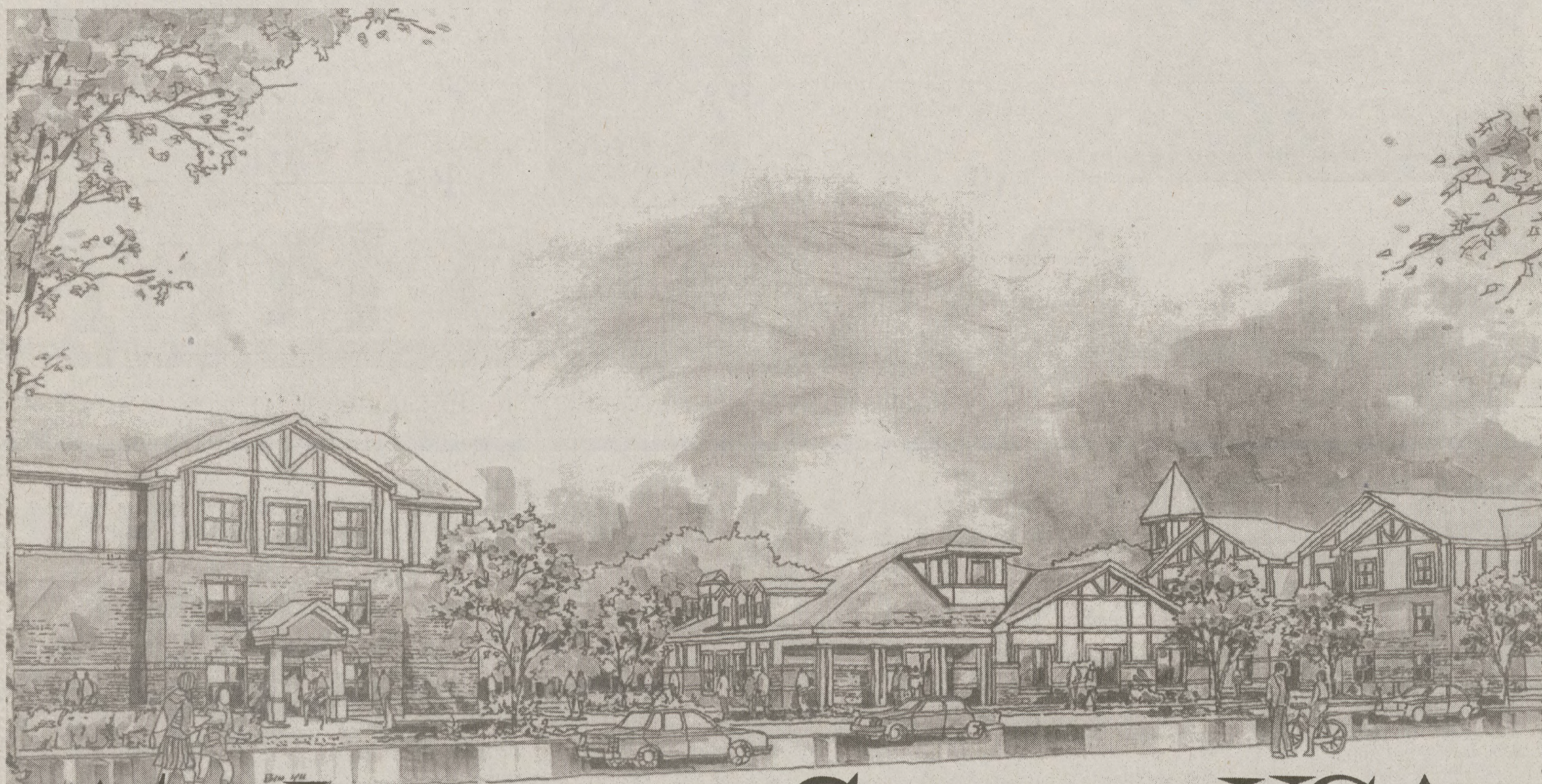
His preliminary hearing is scheduled for Tuesday Jan. 22, 2002. He has requested a court appointed attorney which has not yet been assigned. A \$20,000 bond was set by District Court Judge Lisa Asadoorian.

OU police said Madison was not registered for classes for the Winter 2002 term.

An OU custodian noticed a man boxing computers in 202 Elliot Hall on the night the thefts occurred. The custodian

asked the man what he was doing and he replied he was taking them to Dodge Hall. Another witness picked the suspect out of a group of police photos.

Madison is being held in the Oakland County Jail.



# At Home on Campus USA

## University Student Apartments

Opens fall 2002! Upperclassmen with previous residence hall living experience will have first priority to live in Oakland University's new student apartment housing complex. The apartment complex mixes independent living with the flare and flavor of campus life.

Complete with wireless computer connections in all bedrooms, University Student Apartments (USA) provides distinct educational and social advantages to residents pursuing an Oakland degree.

**The centrally located USA offers state-of-the-art living at an affordable price, including:**

- A central clubhouse for socializing and recreation
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- University phone service

**Applications are now available in 448 Hamlin Hall.**



University Housing  
448 Hamlin Hall  
(248) 370-3570

# CAMPUS NEWS

The Oakland Post

Wednesday • January 16, 2002

A3

## Meadow Brook earns grant

### Theatre awarded \$143,400

By Nikki Choluj  
THE OAKLAND POST

Keeping the show going will be easier this year after Meadow Brook Theatre, OU's professional theatre was awarded a \$143,400 grant through the Anchor Organization Program by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

MBT was one of 24 statewide arts and culture organizations that surpassed \$1.5 million in annual budgets to obtain the MCACA grant.

The announcement was made on Dec. 14 by the Governor's office and the MCACA. This is not the first time MBT has received a major grant. They have also been awarded anchor organization program grants from MCACA since the beginning of that program in 1993. MBT also annually received grants from the Michigan Arts Council since the 1970s.

"We're very pleased to have renewed support through the MCACA," said Gregg Bloomfield, managing director of MBT.

The theatre is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year as OU's professional theatre.

"People don't realize, that right here on campus MBT is the largest non-profit professional theatre in the state. A lot of people assume it's a student theatre," said Bloomfield.

MBT hires professional actors, including actors from the Actor's Equity Association. The theatre works under contract with the association, a labor union that has been in existence for 89 years and works in distinguishing more than 40,000 actors and managers in professional theaters across the country.

Meadow Brook is the only Michigan member of the League of Resident Theatres. It's an association of regional theatre companies around the US including the Arena Stage, Guthrie Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, and The Mark Taper Forum. "These are among the most prestigious," said



ACTING OUT: Meadow Brook Theatre is currently featuring *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. Photo courtesy of Meadow Brook Theatre

Bloomfield.

MBT produces seven plays each season from September to May and with three productions already completed, more productions are on the way. All productions are produced in house or co-produced through other professional theatres. The current play, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* will run from Jan. 9-Feb. 3.

The money given to MBT will be used for educational outreach activities in which 8,000 students are impacted including elementary, middle and high schools throughout Metro Detroit. There are a variety of programs involving student matinees, working with at risk students, activities that bring professionals to schools, and other curriculum including a summer program.

### NEWS COLUMN



Vesna Saveski

Student Body Vice President

### Leader makes school better

My name is Vesna Saveski and I am your Student Body Vice President. To some that means nothing, to me the title is evidence that I have found my passion.

I love to help people. I love to see people come in to the Student Congress office strained and leave relaxed. When it comes down to the nitty gritty, I am just trying to make OUSC a better place to be, one person at a time.

Thankfully I am not alone. Our school is growing larger every semester and with that growth I have also seen a big jump in the number of people who give their time to OUSC.

For the first time in Student Congress history, we have more people who want to be on Congress than seats available. The current legislators are part of the most diverse group ever assembled and they have the most passion that I have ever seen in Congress.

The combination of diversity and passion is what each legislator has in common. The willingness to give their time is what brings them together. They have made the choice to become involved with something bigger than themselves. The gift of time is how they make a difference.

On a campus that is famous for its detached commuter students, it is inspiring to see people make a commitment towards improvement not only for themselves but also for all of the 16,000 some students that attend OU.

Unfortunately not everyone has a lot of time to give. We all have busy lives and packed schedules. We all have obligations that sometimes take precedence over our own needs. Yes, you still may have to go to work when you are sick and that paper cannot always be turned in late, just because you have to go to work. The cycle is vicious, for some unstoppable.

On Monday, Jan. 21 you have an opportunity to take a break from the cycle. No classes are meeting that day but there are events to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Don't be afraid to take part in some of the activities, it may be the catalyst that you need to find a way to make difference in your own way.

I can say with confidence that I have made a difference at OUSC. Some may say that it is because I was elected to a position that gave me more opportunities to do so, but my title is not what has made an impact. I make a difference when I take the time to help a stressed freshman pick its classes, or when I take the time to listen to a student's problems and send them in the right direction to solve them.

I can say with confidence that I have made a difference at OUSC because I have put in time. You don't need much and each student on this campus has time. The trick is to use it wisely. Participating in the events on Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a great start but it should not be the end either. The bulletin boards are littered with flyers advertising events, take a moment to look them over. You might just find a spark for your passion.

Vesna Saveski is the Student Body Vice President and a junior majoring in communication. Email her at [vesnasaveski@yahoo.com](mailto:vesnasaveski@yahoo.com).

## Student organizations pay tribute to legacy

By Jennifer Decker  
COPY EDITOR

Starting with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Day and concluding with the gala Keeper of the Dream Banquet, the African-American Celebration 2002: Heroes of Life is sure to offer something for everyone.

The celebration will kick off with a campus march on Jan. 21 at 11:30 a.m. Participants are asked to meet in the first floor foyer of Vandenberg Halls near the mailboxes.

It commemorates (King's) life and the march is for all students, said Joan Love, admissions processing operations manager and celebration co-

chair.

Kelli Van Buren, celebration co-chair, Learning Resources said, "We can never tire of (giving) recognition for things Dr. King did and his accomplishments as a leader."

Kevin Powell, author of *Keepin' It Real* Post MTV Reflections on Race, Sex and Politics, will give a lecture at noon followed by a book signing and reception.

A canned food drive for the Oakland County Food Bank and a candlelight vigil in celebration of King's life will also be held later that evening.

Service is in my bones. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is probably the most important African-American figure,

Love said.

Paul Franklin, coordinator of campus programs said, "All cultures have rich backgrounds. Celebrating all cultures is important to the university. Learning helps to avoid ignorance. Stereotypes of particular cultures are usually due to ignorance."

Other highlights of the celebration include a presentation on racial profiling, workshops, films and exhibits.

Student Program Board is also hosting Rhythms Den: Flipsyde. Other programs during the month-long celebration include the Hilarious Religious Comedy Tour, comedian Kivin Rogers, Akanke Dance Troupe's Reggae Dance-a-Thon, slam poet Kirk Nugent, Cass

Tech's Poet's Society and a Gospel Extravaganza.

Erin Jackson, freshman, secondary education, said he feels it's a good thing to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and said, "I don't like the point that (African-American Celebration) is only recognized in February."

Rounding-out the celebration, Martin Luther King, Jr. III will be the keynote speaker for the 10th Anniversary of the Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Awards Banquet on Feb. 20 from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Shotwell Pavilion. Cost is \$100 per ticket. The Banquet honors OUSC stu-

**CELEBRATION continues on A8**

## African-American celebration calendar of events this week

### Monday, Jan. 21

☛Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Day. A march to kick-off the celebration will begin 11:30 a.m. in the first floor foyer of Vandenberg Halls near the mailboxes. The march is hosted by the Association of Black Students.

☛A candle light vigil and celebration will be held at 7 p.m. in the Gold Rooms in the OC to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life.

☛Author Kevin Powell will be speaking at noon in Meadow Brook Theatre, a book signing and reception will follow at 1:30 p.m. in the Pioneer food court.

☛A canned food drive for the Oakland County Food Bank will be held at 2:30 p.m. in Fireside Lounge, OC.

### Tuesday, Jan. 22-Friday, Feb. 15

☛Legacy of Heroes: A Treasure Search through Campus Exhibits will be in Kresge Library. The Kresge Library is open Mon. - Thurs. from 8 a.m.-11:30 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and is open on Sun. from noon-11:30 p.m.

## OUSC focuses on diversity to represent student body equally

By Lisa Cali  
MANAGING EDITOR

Members of OU Student Congress continuously focus on the goal of representing students from racially, ethnically and religiously diverse backgrounds equally.

With the approval of four new legislators this semester, OUSC has filled all 25 legislative positions for the semester, and accomplished its goal of having students from differing backgrounds to represent OU's student body.

I've been told by our advisers that this is the most diverse Congress OU has ever seen, Student Body President Derek Dickow said. Students from OUSC rep-

resent at least 30 countries throughout the world. People think when you're in college, you're not in the real world. But

we are, and we have to be able to work with everyone on Congress.

Currently, OUSC is comprised of the executive board and 25 legislators. Of those members, there are both white and black students, as well as Chaldean,

Jewish, Armenian, Macedonian, Turkish, Albanian, Latino and Italian members. Out of the four newly appointed legisla-

tors, two come from outside the U.S.

E. Victor Helb, Jr., one of the new legislators, said he wanted to join Congress to make positive impact by personal involvement.

Helb, who was born in South Africa, said he hopes to be the voice in OUSC for

those he represents. My presence here allows me to bring

**My presence here allows me to bring forward the voice of those I represent.**

E. Victor Helb, Jr.  
newly appointed  
OUSC legislator



### CRIME WATCH

• A Pontiac resident, Dwayne Moses, 22, was arrested in Vandenberg Hall on Jan. 10, on a Southfield warrant for retail fraud.

He was arrested in August but failed to appear for his court date and a warrant was issued.

He pled guilty on January 15 in 46th District Court in Southfield and is currently serv-

ing 45 days in the Oakland County Jail.

• On Jan. 13, OU Police responded to a call, shortly after 3 a.m., that underage students were drinking in Anibal Hall.

When Police asked a male student, 18, to take a breathalyzer test he agreed. His blood alcohol level was reportedly .063. Police

also confiscated a pint of Jack Daniels from the refrigerator. The student was ticketed for minor in possession on alcohol.

In an unrelated incident, another 18-year-old male student on a different floor was asked if he had been drinking. He allegedly said he had consumed two or three beers in the parking lot. Police asked the student

to take a breathalyzer that tested his blood alcohol at .04. Police confiscated 14 Bud light beers and a pint of Chivas Regal Scotch from the refrigerator. The student was ticketed for Minor in Possession of Alcohol.

• A staff member at the Rec Center on Jan. 7, noticed that someone had spray painted graf-

fiti on the south east side of the building. The words "HPV + warts here" were in gold paint with an arrow underneath pointing toward the Rec Center doors. Police followed footprints down the hill where they were lost among other footprints of people who had previously been sled-ding. No arrests have been made.

PARK

continued from A1

the system.

It's a situation that OU police Lieutenant Mel Gilroy has become all too familiar with but says the congestion has tapered, due the fact that fewer students attend during the winter semester.

We are nowhere close to the capacity breaker we were in the fall, Gilroy said. We're down about 2,000 students. We did not have the kind of compression we had in the fall.

Regarding students' choice of parking, Gilroy said, People focus on the big lot, adding that many people aren't willing to consider parking that may be farther away from the building they want to reach. He cited a call he had received from a man who tried to talk his way out of a ticket after illegally parking on an undesignated grassy area. The man's effort was unsuccessful.

The parking congestion problem is not new to OU, and the fall of 2000 prompted a study by Walker Parking Consultants to determine possible solutions the university could implement over the next 20 years.

The study predicted that if no spaces were added and enrollment continued to grow at its current rate

there would be a 635 spot parking deficit as early as 2005.

Hoping to curtail the already evident parking problem, last December, the Board of Trustees approved the design of a new 500-space parking structure to be located at the lower playing fields on Pioneer Drive. The plans for the structure are almost finished, and bids will be sought from contractors sometime in February. The goal for completion is set for before the fall semester 2002.

In the meantime, a new overflow lot located south of Pioneer Drive near Library Drive has been finished and is ready for use.

The lot, which has about 170 spaces, is designed to relieve congestion in the parking areas between the Science and Engineering Building and Varner Hall.

Also intended to help with parking problems was the decision to no longer reserve spaces in P-1 for those attending Wednesday matinee shows at Meadow Brook Theatre.

However, as Hamlin Hall resident April Freeman, freshman, elementary education, can attest to, students that live on campus have begun to experience parking woes as much as those who commute to OU.

Sometimes I have to park way in the adjacent lot, Freeman said of finding a spot near the dorms. When asked if she has seen an

improvement in the situation now compared to the fall semester Freeman replied, No, I think it's gotten worse.

Freeman, who walks to all of her classes but uses her car to get to and from her job, said she doesn't drive to other spots on campus because of the difficulty finding a parking space. She said the lots by the library and Varner Hall are always packed.

Freeman suggested designating pieces of the various parking lots for the specific dorm closest to them. For the dorms at other universities it's not a problem, Freeman said.

Director of Media Relations Ted Montgomery expects that parking tensions will ease as the semester goes on but warns that students may not always be able to find the most convenient spot.

The first two weeks are pretty hairy, Montgomery said, adding that the university has had far less complaints than the fall, so far.

Looking forward to the construction of the parking structure, Montgomery said, We think it will help the problem, but we are always looking at ways to ease congestion.

Montgomery suggested students arrive early for classes, call police if unsure about parking and check the OU parking website ([www3.oakland.edu/oakland/parking](http://www3.oakland.edu/oakland/parking)) that has been set up to keep commuters informed.

POWELL

continued from A1

about why they decided on Powell.

Powell grew up an only child of a single mother in the ghetto of Jersey City, New Jersey.

The hardest part of my childhood was the poverty and misery of being born and raised in the ghetto, he said. And then as I began to develop independent thoughts, wondering why certain people lived in the ghetto while others did not.

This is when Powell decided to focus and make something of his life. He attended Rutgers University studying Political Science and English. He was very involved as a student activist on campus.

From college to journalism, Powell freelanced for many magazines and newspapers such as The Black American, San Francisco Weekly, Rolling Stone and others. Powell also wrote stories for Vibe magazine and later became a senior writer for the publication.

While with Vibe magazine, he interviewed celebrities such as Colin Powell, Snoop Dogg, Dr. Dre, Spike Lee, Aaliyah, Suge Knight and Tupac Shakur, among others.

Powell is an inspiration to many. However, even with his many celebrity interviews, his inspiration focuses on his mother.

My mother is my major inspiration because she was born and raised in a shack in the low country of South Carolina, during the segregation era in America, he explained in an interview with The Oakland Post. ... My mother has spent her entire life dealing with racism, sexism, and classism...

Anything I do, I owe to her. Period.

MTV didn't hear the last of Powell after The Real World. The television station had him write and host the award-winning MTV special Straight from the Hood. The documentary dealt with Los Angeles youths before and after the 1992 riots.


I was already a working journalist, and simply transferred what I knew about gathering information from newspapers and magazines to the documentary world.

Taking his journalism career to another level, Powell also has written many books. His first book, In the Tradition: An Anthology of Young Black Writers, was published in 1993. His other published books are Keepin It Real: Post-MTV Reflections on Race, Sex, and Politics (1997) and Step Into a World: A Global Anthology of the New Black Literature (2000). Powell is working on another book, Who's Gonna Take the Weight, which is set to be published in fall of 2002.

Not only is he a writer and speaker, but Powell also concentrates on youth organizations and youth activism. He is most famous in this field for his Get Up On It nonprofit organization that he created and coordinated with co-founder Darwin Beauvais. This program was geared to create awareness of social and political issues among young people.

Powell's future plans are uncertain, but when asked about them he said, Activism takes on many forms. Sometimes it will come via my writing in magazines and newspapers, sometimes it will come via poetry, sometimes it will come via my lectures at colleges such as Oakland University, and sometimes it is the simple act of trying to provide guidance to someone less fortunate than myself. As long as there is oppression and misery and pain in the world, my social consciousness is always going to demand action.

Powell is currently living in Brooklyn, New York, where he continues to be a successful writer and speaker.




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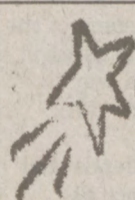
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**The Oakland University  
Eye Research Institute  
Summer Undergraduate  
Research Program, 2002**

Conduct independent research projects under the guidance of ERI faculty. Up to four Research Fellowships of \$3,000 each will be awarded for the period May 13 - August 2, 2002. The program is intended for Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are contemplating careers in biological and biomedical research or teaching. Research interests of the ERI faculty include cyclic nucleotides in retina, retinal gene therapy, biochemistry of the lens and cataract, photoreceptor structure and disease, physiology, biochemistry of retina, gene expression, retinal ganglion cell death in disease and development. For information and an application form, contact Ms. Paulette Realy, 407 Dodge Hall. 248.370.2390



## CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401 • 248-370-2400 • [csa@oakland.edu](mailto:csa@oakland.edu) • [www3.oakland.edu/cuentstudents/csa](http://www3.oakland.edu/cuentstudents/csa)

**OU's Annual Winter Carnival**  
*Thursday, January 17*

- \* Student and Greek Organizations Day
- \* Hot Chocolate Give-a-way around campus
- \* Balloon Man Dan
- \* Frozen York Peppermint Patties Give-a-way
- \* SPB Mainstage featuring comedian Mike Siegal

**Have an Artic Blast!**

**CSA Personal Enrichment Series**

Wednesday, January 23  
*Balancing Your Life*


Monday, January 28  
*Household Financial and Credit Management*

Wednesday, January 30  
*Time Management*

*All programs will take place in the Fireside Lounge, OC. You are invited to bring your lunch.*

**African-American Celebration 2002: Heroes for Life**  
*January 21 through February 20.*

Oakland University




**Campus College Bowl Competition**

College Bowl is a knowledge and trivia game that challenges the mind. OU will be sponsoring a campus tournament on Saturday, January 26, 2002 to determine the top college bowl team on campus. The first place team will win a total of \$600 in prizes and the right to represent Oakland University in the Regional College Bowl Tournament. The entry fee for a 4 person team is only \$20. Information and entry forms available at the CSA Service Window.

**The Winter Blood Drive**

The Winter Blood Drive will take place on Monday-Wednesday, January 28-January 30. The drive will be in the OC Gold Rooms from 9:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m.. To make an appointment call (248) 370-2400 or go online to <http://giveblood.redcross.org>. The code word will be OUBLOOD.

The nation's blood supply has dropped to pre-September 11 levels. There is currently a critical need for platelets which only have a shelf life of 5-days. Save a life and give blood!



**ACUI Region 7 Qualifying Games Tournaments**  
**Saturday, January 19, 2002**  
**Beginning at noon in Bumpers Games Room**

Oakland University will try to find the best players to represent Oakland University at the ACUI Region 7 Games Tournament to be held this year at Oakland University the weekend of February 15 - February 17. The entry fee is only \$5.00 per person. Competitions will be held in the following events: Billiards (9-Ball), Table Tennis, Chess, and Euchre (2 person teams)

**AT THE CSA SERVICE WINDOW**

**\*Reservations for:**

- Mama Mia (February 3)
- South Pacific (February 7 and 10)
- The Vagina Monologues (February 21)
- Dance Theatre of Harlem (February 27)
- Cinderella (March 10)
- David Copperfield (March 17)

**\*Sign-up for:**

- OU College Bowl - Campus Tournament (Jan. 26)
- SPB's Annual Ski Trip to Shanty Creek (Jan. 25-27)
- SPB's Winter Break Trip to Atlanta (Feb. 27 - Mar. 3)

**Student and Greek Organizations Officer Training**  
*Thursday, January 24*  
*5:00 p.m. in the Lake Michigan Room, OC*  
for all new Student and Greek Organization Officers

**SLLB Presents:**  
**Kevin Powell**  
*"Looking for Martin: Are Dr. King and His Dream Still Relevant?"*

**Monday, January 21**  
**Noon in Meadow Brook Theatre**  
*Local Ticket sale and rehearsal!*

# LOCAL NEWS

The Oakland Post

Wednesday • January 16, 2002

A 5

## Triangle urges ExxonMobil boycott

By Jennifer Decker  
COPY EDITOR

Michigan's largest organization of gay activists has formally joined the Coalition to Promote Equality at ExxonMobil and declared a boycott of the corporate giant.

We are proud to join the coalition because we believe anti-gay discrimination is wrong," said Sean Kosofsky, director of policy for Triangle Foundation, Michigan's largest organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons.

In 1999, Exxon and Mobil merged to become the world's largest corporation and also the first U.S. employer to rescind a non-discrimination policy covering sexual orientation. Executives closed the domestic partner benefits program to any additional employees.

The Coalition to Promote Equality at ExxonMobil was formed in October of 2001. Its goal is to make the company include sexual orientation and gender identity in its

written non-discrimination policy and provide domestic partnership benefits to all employees.

"When Kim Mills, the (Human Rights Campaign) educational director, spoke at the May 2000 shareholder meeting, ExxonMobil CEO, Lee Raymond accused her of asking for special rights for a class of people. The company turned off her microphone, but she demanded that it be turned back on. She then countered that the shareholder coalition was looking for equal rights. At that point, Raymond told Mills to go pass a federal law," Timothy Carson, assistant organizer of the HRC, said.

A statement on ExxonMobil's website reads, "ExxonMobil Corporation policy prohibits any form of discrimination or harassment, including sexual orientation, in any workplace."

Officials at ExxonMobil declined further comment. "All employers should offer their employees benefits," Kosofsky said. "If our partner's dying or our partner's pregnant, we don't get the same benefits that straight people do."

A statement on ExxonMobil's website said, "Lastly, it should be understood that our decision regarding domestic partner benefits is not intended as a social policy statement...It is simply a business decision designed to efficiently, fairly and effectively apply our benefit programs."

Kosofsky disagreed and questioned ExxonMobil's protection of the welfare of its workers.

"They don't value their gay and lesbian employees at all," he said. "How is healthcare for gay and lesbians a political issue? My right to get a physical twice a year is not a political issue... This is the health, safety and welfare of the populace."

Nick Zetuna, manager of the Mobil gas station at Rochester and Livernois said business has been down the last few months. He attributes it to the economy rather than the boycott.

"Since Christmas, we've been losing volume. It's not just Mobil, but Shell and everyone else," he said.



## Evaluating charities

**Q. What should I look for in a charity and how should I evaluate one?**

A. First, learn what exactly it does with the donations it receives. What problems is it addressing, and how does it aim to solve or lessen them?

If possible, learn about the successes the organization has had in the past and the lessons it's gleaned from mistakes. Find out what plans it has for the future -- what are its goals, its new initiatives? These days you can usually learn a lot about a charity at its website.

Examine its financial record, too. Ideally, the charity will lay out its finances clearly on its website. You should be able to see what percentage of dollars donated go toward actual program work rather than administrative or fund-raising efforts.

The higher that percentage, the better, for the most part. Many sources recommend that 60 percent or more be spent on program work, but a little digging will yield outstanding organizations that apply 80 percent or 90 percent or more to program work.

Still, don't automatically begrudge a charity, especially a small one, its necessary overhead expenses.

It does need to maintain a photocopier, pay some salaries, and fund some travel. Also keep in mind that many charities are extremely effective with their fund-raising money. If they're able to bring in a few dollars of donations for each dollar they spend on mailings, then that money is well spent.

You can dig deeper into the numbers, too. Even if an organization says that 75 percent of its income goes toward its good works, see if you can get an itemized breakdown. The organization might be including a sheet of educational facts in its fund-raising mailings, and counting that as program work instead of marketing. A term to look out for is "public education" -- that's often used for items that are essentially fund-raising in nature.

Ask for or look up the organization's most recent annual report and IRS Form 990 filing. (You'll find many organizations' 990 forms at GuideStar.org.)

These should offer important details about where money comes from and goes. Inquire whether the charity is registered with federal, state, or local authorities.

You can look up the charity's record with one or more of the watchdog organizations that evaluate charities -- such as Give.org.

You might also contact the Better Business Bureau or the local attorney general's office to see if there have been any complaints about the organization.

This question and answer is adapted from The Motley Fool Money Guide: Answers to Your Questions About Saving, Spending and Investing. For answers to this and 499 other common money questions, check it out -- it's a handy resource.

**WRITE US!** The Motley Fool aims to inform, amuse and enrich every day at [www.fool.com](http://www.fool.com). Ask the Fool your own question or submit stories or tips to [FoolU@fool.com](mailto:FoolU@fool.com).

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Christina Gonzalez/The Oakland Post  
START YOUR ENGINES: The Cadillac Cien (above) and the Cooper Mini are two of the many concept vehicles showcased at the 2002 North American International Auto Show.

The North American International Auto Show runs through Monday, Jan. 21 at the Cobo Center in Detroit.

Showtimes are 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information, visit [www.naias.com](http://www.naias.com).



## Auto show drives Motown

*Annual event expected to draw more than 700,000*

By Christina Gonzalez  
THE OAKLAND POST

A high octane boost for any auto enthusiast's heart, the 2002 North American International Auto Show opened its doors to the public Jan. 12.

The NAIAS runs 10 a.m.-10 p.m. through Jan. 21 at Cobo Center in Detroit. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

Entering its 14th year as an international event, NAIAS unveiled some of the most fascinating vehicles in the world. More than two dozen production cars were introduced and nearly three dozen concept vehicles presented. The NAIAS has debuted more than 700 new concept and production vehicles since it became international in 1989.

Cobo Conference and Exhibition Hall, located in Downtown Detroit, has housed the NAIAS since it moved there in 1965.

The show has almost a century of history tied into the Detroit automotive industry.

In 1907, the event was small, with just 17 exhibitors and a display of 33 vehicles.

Called the Detroit Auto Show, it was held at Beller's Beer Garden near the Belle Isle Bridge. In 1910 it moved to Wayne Gardens, the largest space in the city at the time. It moved around, to Cross Town Garage in 1919, the Ford Building in 1920, Morgan and Wright's Building in 1921-22 and the Detroit Artillery Armory in 1957 before settling in Cobo.

Now celebrating its 86th year, the NAIAS is one of the longest running auto shows in the country. The Detroit Auto Show became NAIAS 14 years ago after a year of planning. It is also the only auto show in the United States to earn the sanction of the Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles (OICA), a Paris-based alliance of automotive trade associations and manufacturers from around the world.

Among the more than three dozen concept vehicles presented are the Willys2, the

Cadillac Cien and the Ford GT40. The Willys2 sports a high-tech machined appearance while retaining hints of its ancestor's, the World War II Willys MB, design. The Willys2 is powered by a 1.6-liter in-line four cylinder engine that is supercharged to deliver 160 horsepower. It uses frame-web technology with a one-piece carbon fiber body on an aluminum frame.

The Cadillac Cien is a two-seat mid-engine concept powered by a 750-horsepower all-aluminum Northstar XV12 concept engine. Displacement on Demand allows the engine to run on six cylinders or twelve to maximize fuel economy and direct gasoline injection combustion offers increased engine power, improved fuel economy and reduced emissions. As Cadillac celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2002, the concept's name, Cien is quite appropriate as it means "one hundred."

The 2002 NAIAS offers something for just

**AUTO continues on A8**

## Student finds her home on ship at sea

By Heather Clement  
ASSISTANT TO THE NEWS DEPT.

*\*Editor's Note: This is the continuation of a two part series begun last week.*

Alexandra Lesia Zurkiwskyj, senior, communication, started out on the voyage of her life on Aug. 31, 2001.

Zurkiwskyj flew to Vancouver, Canada to board the USS Universe with 650 other students from across the U.S., 200 faculty and crew and some faculty family members.

The ship would be her home and school for the next 100 days.

The students studied while the ship was at sea. Zurkiwskyj's fall schedule included Marine Biology, Myth Folklore and International Film Studies, all courses she received credit for at OU.

All students were also required to take a class called CORE that taught them about the culture of the next country they would be visiting. Students had to write a paper or take a specific field trip while in port and make a presentation about their experiences when they returned to the ship.

Students could take directed trips or travel on their own, but both large trips and small trips could be taken with the school. Students could also stay overnight in port, but that could be costly.

"Staying local is more fun, not as regimented and cheaper," she said.

According to Zurkiwskyj, the menu on board was cafeteria food and not bad but sometimes monotonous. She looked forward to eating food on land, even though some of it was "scary," and made a habit of sampling the authentic cuisine in port. She refrained from fresh vegetables and fresh water due to the possibility of illness, and stuck to cooked foods when eating in a country.

They walked in country, and she didn't bring snacks with her. She even had to buy a new pair of jeans in Singapore.

"Because of the change of life style, I lost weight," Zurkiwskyj said.

The trip was scheduled to go to Japan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, and India, but Sept.

**SEA continues on A8**

### NATIONAL NEWS

## Search for al-Qaida continues, White House weakens environmental regulations

• On Tuesday, U.S. troops discovered a hidden al-Qaida complex just outside an airport occupied by the Marines, prompting an extensive search of several Afghan locations where terrorists may have hidden complexes. Warplanes have been striking buildings and caves in eastern Afghanistan, but the Pentagon has indicated there may be

Taliban or al-Qaida hidden at few locations.

• Despite protest from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Bush administration Monday weakened rules of the Clean Water Act designed to protect streams, swamps and wetlands. The changes will make it easier for developers, mining companies and others

to get permits to dredge and fill wetlands.

• President Bush noted unemployment hit a six-year high last month, and said Tuesday an increase in free trade may help remedy the problem. He seeks authority to negotiate "fast-track" trade agreements, which would allow the United States to increase the amount of goods sent abroad.

# PERSPECTIVES

The Oakland Post

Wednesday • January 16, 2002

A 6

## Editorial

### Board should rethink liaison decision

The news is not going to be on the university website. Nor is it going to be discussed during the February Board of Trustees meeting. The fact that the Board decided not to implement a key recommendation, the creation of a new faculty liaison position, made by the Academic Affairs Review Committee last October probably wouldn't have ever seen the light of day.

But this is a Board oversight that deserves attention.

The University Senate plans to meet tomorrow to discuss the Trustees' action (or inaction), but unless it continues to fight for the position, which would give the faculty a voice at Board meetings, this issue will go away, just like all the others.

The students of this campus have a voice. Two liaisons, currently Adam Kochenderfer and Kimberly Langley, sit in on all meetings and contribute to discussions accordingly.

And while the Board seems not to pay attention to the student liaisons, their opinions are recorded (if not by the Trustees, then at least by audience members).

Having a professor work with the Board on important university issues gives the Trustees another perspective to consider before making a decision.

Many people on this campus will no doubt regard this Board mistake as one in a line of many. Last spring, after President Gary Russi fired former Provost Louis Esposito with little explanation given, the board saw no evil; in late October, when the committee reviewing Russi's decision, as well as, the division of Academic Affairs, released its report which essentially slapped Russi on the wrist, the Board heard no evil.

And when the Board rewarded Russi with a 6 percent raise and a deferred \$50,000 bonus, it spoke volumes to anyone who was listening.

We urge the Trustees to discuss this in full, in public at the February board meeting. We urge them to reconsider this misguided decision.

This is just one more way for the Board to avoid learning the real problems this campus is facing. It's as if the Trustees are running this campus from a drifting Fantasy Island. Every time they ignore legitimate complaints, they drift farther away from the mainland.

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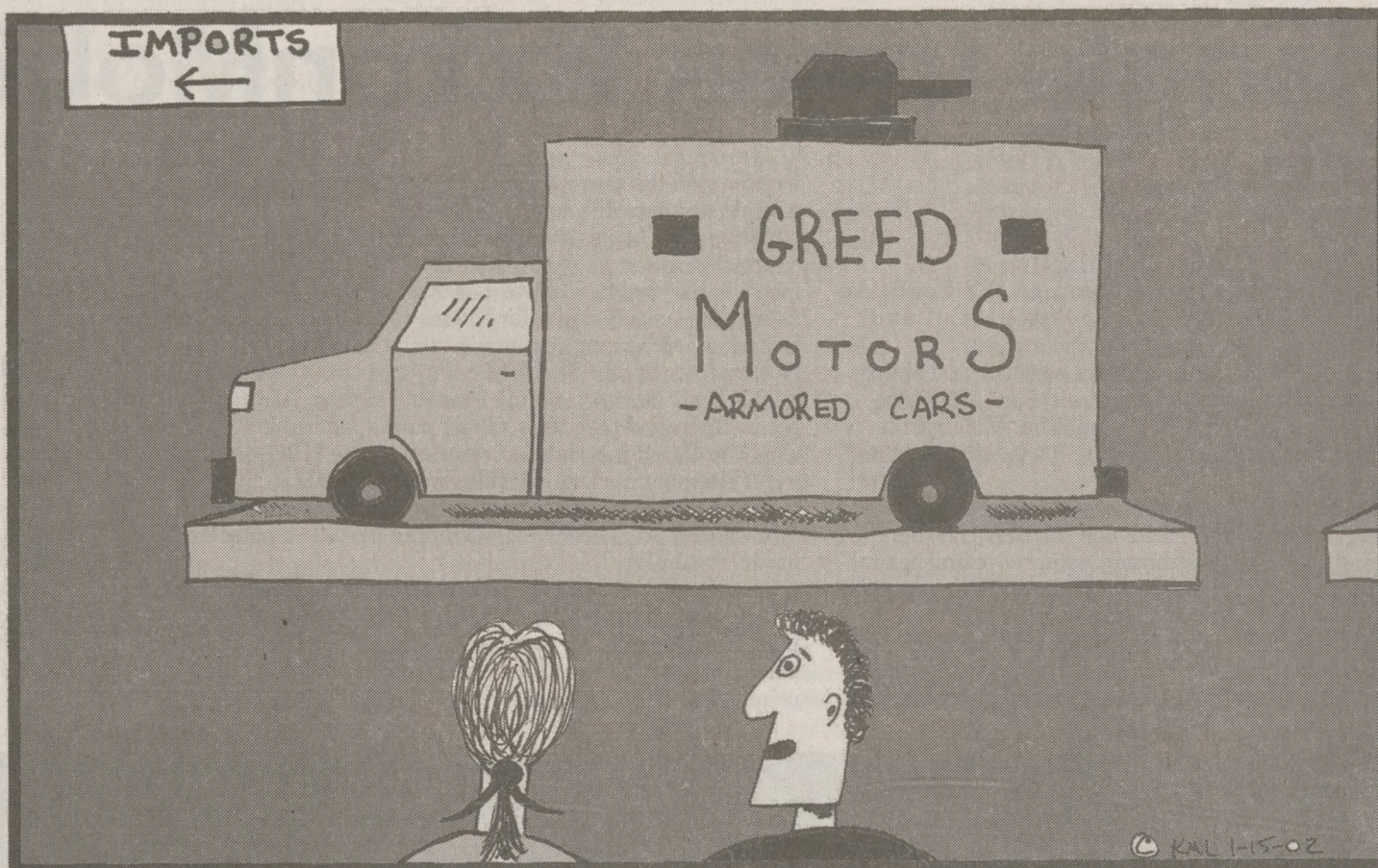
Advisor, Jane Briggs-Bunting.

Volume 28 Issue 16

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"Our new armored car for 2002! It's capable of carrying 6% more cash....we nicknamed it the "Russi".

## Letter to the Editor

### Jean Day a success for Leukemia

Dear Editor,  
I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the people of Kresge Library for participating in a Jeans Day on Friday, Jan. 4.

The day raised \$97 for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

Faculty and staff got to wear their favorite pair of jeans and pay \$5, which went to a great cause.

My niece has leukemia and is one of the biggest heroes in my life. The people here are so wonderful for helping me with this cause.

They all felt great for being comfortable and knowing the reason was a good one.

I would also like to thank Dean of the Library Elaine Didier for letting this event happen and Brenda Pierce for

helping me to get this together so fast.

I would like to see this event happen in other areas of campus, such as, maybe, President Gary Russi's office.

Thank you all again.

Daryl Gouin  
Custodian  
Kresge Library

All letters to the editor must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Please limit letters to 400 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Post uses discretion and may reject any letter for any reason. Letters become property of The Post.

## FEATURED COLUMNIST

### Dream could get lost in post-Sept. 11 injustices

I have a dream. I have a dream that one day, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers... I have a dream today

-Martin Luther King Jr.

As we prepare to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day next Monday, we should be reminded of what King stood for. Among those things was freedom from persecution, equality and dignity for all people, not just a select few.



Christine L. Mobley

guest columnist

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, some have lost sight of these precious freedoms that King so emphatically fought for.

Today, instead of living in harmony with one another, there are those who are faced with the same prejudices that King battled all those years ago.

There are Muslims and others of Middle Eastern descent that have been violated by the public, eyed as if the tragedy that has befallen our country is somehow their fault.

It's time to embrace the dreams that King personified - to treat all of God's creatures with the respect they deserve.

It's time to protect the freedoms we have and to fight for the freedoms we should have, as King did.

Last October, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft began chipping away at what should be an automatic freedom, the public's right to know, specifically the Freedom of Information Act. This act allows the public to obtain certain information about the government and other public bodies.

Ashcroft is encouraging governmental and public bodies to deny FOIA requests. He even states that the Department of Justice will back up the unwarranted denials. This is a most heinous restriction on the most fundamental of freedoms.

While racial profiling, airport searches and wiretaps are violating people, they do so in the name of protecting Americans' rights.

It's currently being debated

whether attorney/client privileged conversations can be listened to if there is probable cause to believe that terrorist plots are being hatched. These conversations are privileged for a reason. We can't let the government hide beneath the guise of Sept. 11 and violate people because of their race or religious beliefs.

This is just another attempt to whittle down our freedoms.

As Americans, it is our right, our privilege and our duty to speak out against such injustices in the spirit of King.

This holiday, in remembrance of the great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., let's remember to protect our freedoms and honor this planet's most important race - the human one.

Guest Columnist Christine L. Mobley is a senior majoring in journalism. Send comments to [oakpost@oakland.edu](mailto:oakpost@oakland.edu)

## OTHER VIEWS

### Freedom of information lost in the hands of terrorism

#### WIRE STORY

The President didn't ask the networks for television time. The attorney general didn't hold a press conference. The media didn't report any dramatic change in governmental policy. As a result, most Americans had no idea that one of their most precious freedoms disappeared on Oct. 12, 2001.

Yet it happened. In a memo that slipped beneath the politi-

cal radar, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft vigorously urged federal agencies to resist most Freedom of Information Act requests made by American citizens.

Passed in 1974 in the wake of the Watergate scandal, the Freedom of Information Act has been hailed as one of our greatest democratic reforms. It allows ordinary citizens to hold the government accountable by

requesting and scrutinizing public documents and records.

Without it, journalists, newspapers, historians and watchdog groups would never be able to keep the government honest. It was our post-Watergate reward, the act that allows us to know what our elected officials do, rather than what they say. It is our national sunshine law, legislation that forces agencies to disclose their public records and

documents.

Yet without fanfare, the attorney general simply quashed the FOIA.

So, rather than asking federal officials to pay special attention to the public's right to know, which might collide with the government's need to safeguard security, Ashcroft instead asked them to consider whether insti-

FOIA continues on A7

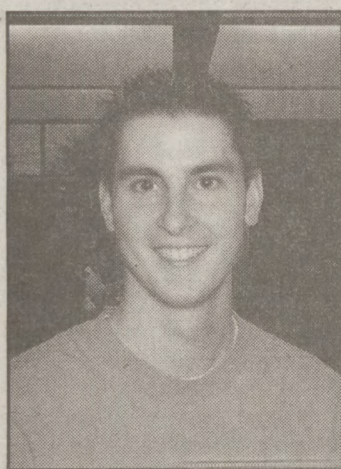
## Quote of the Week

Life is uncertain.  
Eat dessert first.

- Ernestine Ulmer

## On the STREET

*If you could design a car for the Auto Show, what would you call it?*

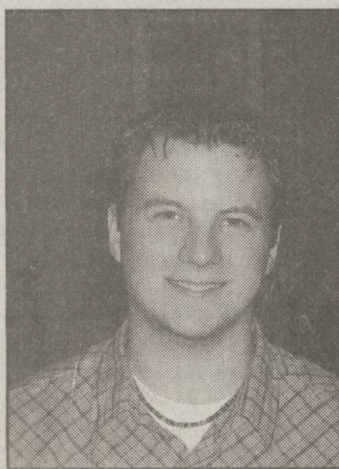


### Inertia

-Bill Bieniek  
senior  
mechanical  
engineering

### The Ninja Car

-Joe VanMarcke  
senior  
communication



### The Grandma Mobile

-Rachael Smith  
junior  
elementary  
education



### Predator

-Matt Garrett  
sophomore  
communication



### The Swinger Mobile

-Aaron Perez  
sophomore  
journalism



### The Dragon

-Kristin Glasgow  
senior  
psychology



## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION DAY

Monday, January 21, 2002

### ABS Campus March

11:30 a.m.-Noon  
Meet at the First Floor Foyer, Vandenberg Hall

### Student Life Lecture Board Presents: Kevin Powell

(Author of *Keepin' It Real* - Post-MTV Reflections on Race, Sex and Politics)  
Noon-1:30 p.m.  
Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall (Tickets not required for this lecture.)

### Book Signing & Reception for Kevin Powell

1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Pioneer Food Court, Oakland Center

### OU Community Service Project: Canned Food Drive for the Oakland County Food Bank

OU students, faculty and staff are requested to drop off at least one non-perishable food item which will be donated to the Oakland County Food Bank. The non-perishable food items can be dropped off in the Fireside Lounge throughout the day on January 21.  
2:30-5:00 p.m.  
Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

### Candlelight Vigil & Celebration of MLK, Jr.'s Life (ABS Open House)

Keynote Speaker: Omar Brown, former president of the Association of Black Students  
Announcement of the 5th Annual All Campus Essay Contest in Commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
FREE Birthday cake and ice cream.  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Gold Rooms, Oakland Center

## AFRICAN-AMERICAN CELEBRATION 2002: HEROES OF LIFE

January 21-February 20, 2002

when years have rolled past and when the blazing light of truth is focused on this marvelous age in which we live -- men and women will know and children will be taught that we have a finer land, a better people, a more noble civilization -- because these humble children of God were willing to suffer for righteousness' sake.

MLK, Jr.'s Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech  
December 1964

## PLACEMENT AND CAREER SERVICES PRESENTS

# Career Prep Week

January 22—25, 2002

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

#### Tuesday, January 22

12:00-1:00 pm Fireside Lounge, OC  
*Dress for Success Seminar*  
5:00-6:00 pm Room 127, OC  
*Behavioral Interviewing Seminar*

#### Wednesday, January 23

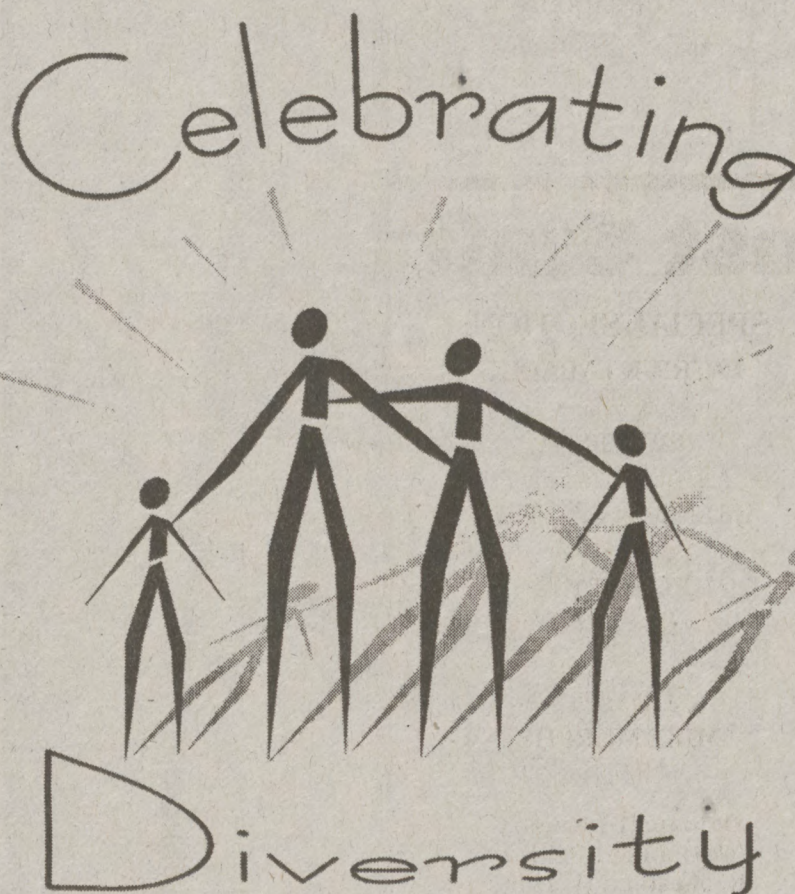
12:00-1:00 pm Fireside Lounge, OC  
*Marketing Yourself in an Unstable Economy Seminar*  
5:00-6:00 pm Room 126-127, OC  
*Major Confusion: What Can You Do With Your Degree? Workshop*

#### Thursday, January 24

11:00 am -3:00 pm Gold Rooms, OC  
*Diversity Career Fair*  
12:00-1:00 pm Fireside Lounge, OC  
*Use Diversity To Your Advantage Workshop*

#### Friday, January 25

9:00 am- 4:00 pm Oakland Room, OC  
*Mock Interviews*  
11:00 am-1:00 pm Fireside Lounge, OC  
*Employer Open House*



Placement & Career Services  
Oakland University  
275 W. Vandenberg Hall  
248-370-3250  
Web address:

<http://phoenix.placement.oakland.edu>

## FOIA

continued from A6

tutional, commercial and personal privacy interests could be implicated by disclosure of the information. Even more disturbing, he wrote: When you carefully consider FOIA requests and decide to withhold records, in whole or in part, you can be assured that the Department of Justice will defend your decisions unless they lack a sound legal basis or present an unwarranted risk of adverse impact on the ability of other agencies to protect other important records.

Somehow, this memo never surfaced. When coupled with President Bush's Nov. 1 executive order that allows him to seal all presidential records since 1980, the effect is positively chilling.

In the aftermath of Sept. 11, we have witnessed a flurry of federal orders designed to beef up the nation's security. Many anti-terrorist measures have carefully balanced the public's right to know with the government's responsibility to protect its citizens.

Who, for example, would argue against taking detailed plans of nuclear reactors, oil refineries or reservoirs off the Internet? No one. Almost all Americans agree, that the nation's security is our highest priority.

Yet half the country is also worried that the government might use the fear of terrorism as a pretext for protecting officials from public scrutiny.

Now we know that they have good reason to worry. For more than a quarter of a century, the Freedom of Information Act has ratified the public's right to know what the government, its agencies and its officials have done. It has substituted transparency for secrecy and we, as a democracy, have benefited from the truths that been extracted from public records.

It is important to remember that all classified documents are protected from FOIA requests and unavailable to the public. True, some revelations may disgrace public officials or even result in criminal charges, but that is the consequence -- or shall we say, the punishment? -- for violating the public trust.

No one disputes that we must safeguard our national security. All of us want to protect our nation from further acts of terrorism. But we must never allow the public's right to know, enshrined in the Freedom of Information Act, be suppressed for the sake of official convenience.

[www.oakpostonline.com](http://www.oakpostonline.com)

Deadline: Jan 20

## SKI TRIP

\$120 / Students

\$200 / Guests

JANUARY 25TH - 27TH

## Shanty Creek Ski Resort

Ticket price includes transportation, lodging at the resort, and lift tickets!

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE CSA SERVICE WINDOW, 49 OC

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Student Program BoardFor more information, call (248)370-4295,  
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to see how we can help  
you cut corners to  
succeed![sony.com/Slackers/termpaperblues](http://sony.com/Slackers/termpaperblues)

## SEA

continued from A5

11 changed the route.

"Originally, we were supposed to go up to Egypt and then up the Mediterranean to Croatia, Turkey and Italy. After Sept. 11 they rerouted us so we went to Seychelles Isles," Zurkiwskyj said. "We were supposed to go to Kenya but we got rerouted the day before because there was a lot of anti-American stuff going on."

Students traveled in India with bodyguards because of the numerous anti-American demonstrations taking place, but the mood in Japan was very different.

"We were a day away from Japan in the Pacific, on Sept. 11, Zurkiwskyj said. "The Japanese response was really, really great.

They'd come up to us, even if they couldn't speak our language, which most of them couldn't, and make it known that they were giving us their comfort."

The trip had a definite impact on Zurkiwskyj's life.

Zurkiwskyj now sees other people as just people. They are my friends. Ethnicity does not stand out because I was the minority for three months. I see America different."

Zurkiwskyj's firsthand view of the Communist governments in Vietnam and Cuba remains one of her most vivid memories.

"They really want America over there. I'm sure most of it was propaganda, but they want America to like them. They don't want the embargo," Zurkiwskyj

said. "They welcomed us with open arms. The students of Havana put on a really good welcome for us. They offered free tourist trips to the botanical gardens."

They also had the opportunity to see Cuban President Fidel Castro speak for a lengthy 4 1/2 hours.

Although she missed her family, Zurkiwskyj said she was not ready to come home.

"I still want to go back. I could have lived on that ship for 100 days even without stopping in any countries, which was, of course, the best part," Zurkiwskyj said.

For more information on the Semester At Sea program, go to [www.semesteratsea.com](http://www.semesteratsea.com).

## AUTO

continued from A5

about everyone.

Attendee Alison Gardener was very enamored of the new PT Cruiser. "It's leaner, yet still cute like the current model. I'm already waiting to drive mine off the showroom floor!"

Another interesting vehicle to make an appearance was the Cooper Mini. There are many aficionados of the tiny vehicle, including Mike Salsbury.

"I have one at home I'm restoring," he said as sat in one at the NAIAS. "These are great! Too many wonderful cars just disappear and are never seen again. It goes to show that fans can keep a car popular and alive enough to merit its return."

Still other attendees preferred the full-tilt adrenaline rockets. Christine Hessler described the

Porsche Carrera GT as "an absolutely singular vehicle. When they unveiled the concept vehicle at last year's show, I knew I'd have to have one. A Carrera GT is like a prowling cat."

Although the NAIAS's key attractions are the vehicles on display, another major component for more than 20 years has been the Charity Preview.

Held on the evening preceding the formal opening of the show, the Charity Preview has become one of the largest, single-night fundraising events in the world. The 2001 Charity Preview raised \$6.125 million and has raised more than \$32 million for children's charities, like Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan and the Detroit

Institute for Children, since its inception. More than 17,000 people attended the 2002 Charity Preview.

Cars are not the only thing this year's NAIAS offers. A new feature this year is the NAIAS Food Court, a tasty selection of food that includes pizza and Philly Steak sandwiches. It is located on the main floor of Cobo Arena.

Year after year the North American International Auto Show offers a spectacular like no other. It draws an incredible number of people, 769,714 in 2001. This year more than 700,000 are expected to attend. On opening night, 96,724 people crowded Cobo Center to view the incredible assemblage of vehicles.

## BOT

continued from A1

Nicholson pointed out that she and other Board members have found the faculty lunches and visits to schools and departments that have been scheduled in the past to be most informative, and the Board encourages the administration to facilitate similar opportunities for Trustees to meet and talk with faculty members in the future. Moudgil's letter to the faculty stated.

Moudgil said he hopes to help keep the lines of communication open between the Board and the faculty.

The chairperson has extended a friendly hand, said Moudgil. Let us do something and continue to build.

Some faculty members said they felt discouraged by the Board's decision.

Like most faculty, I'm not too happy about it, said Professor and Chair of Political Science Vincent Khapoya. I think we should utilize the options we have right now and try to go back to them and try to persuade

them.

Professor of Sociology Gary Shepherd, who chaired the AARC, was disappointed by the Board's inaction, as well.

I think it's unwise of the Board not to follow up with a recommendation our committee made. There's a reason that our committee made that recommendation, he said.

Shepherd pointed out that of the 15 recommendations made in the report, the faculty liaison suggestion was the only one that pertained to the BOT. All of the others were suggestions for the Academic Affairs division, the president and others.

After talking about the issue with Nicholson, Shepherd said he felt he hadn't changed her mind.

(I) expressed my hope that the Board reconsider its initial decision, he said, adding that the Board can benefit from listening to input for the whole university.

An avid participant in campus politics, Professor of

Communication Sharon Howell said she thinks the Board needs education.

I cannot imagine a less effective model for a university than a Board that doesn't want to learn, Howell said.

This is yet another sign of the inability of this Board of Trustees to be present in the 21st century. Chrysler has U.A.W. people sitting on their board. Students sit on our Board.

Discrediting Nicholson's statement that the Board would like to attend more faculty lunches and other functions, Howell said, The offer that the Board will attend other venues is completely without foundation. She added that since she came to OU, only two Trustees have ever showed up to department functions.

Many faculty members agreed that the issue would not go away. Khapoya said, I don't think this is the end of it.

## CELEBRATION

continued from A3

dents who have made significant contributions in promoting racial harmony by demonstrating strong citizenship, scholarship and leadership.

I would like to encourage OUSC students, faculty and staff to attend this year's AAC 2002

programs and activities. African-American Celebration 2002 reflects the ongoing commitment to diversity and pluralism at Oakland University, said OUSC President Gary Russi in a press release.

The celebration is sponsored

by a variety of OUSC student organizations. For more information on any of the events of the African-American Celebration 2002: Heroes of Life, call the CSA office at 248.370.2400.

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• If you're looking to get away this spring break, make sure to stop by the CSA to sign up for the SPB spring break trip to Atlanta. From Feb. 27-Mar. 3, the trip costs \$125 for students. Space is limited so make it snappy and sign up today.

• Hit the slopes on the SPB ski trip to Shanty Creek Ski Resort Jan. 25-27. The price is \$125 for students. Sign up ends Jan. 20, so reserve your spot fast.

• Kevin Powell, real world alum, will be presenting *Looking for Martin: Are Dr. King and his Dream still relevant?* Sponsored by the Student Life Lecture Series, the lecture will be no cost. It will take place at noon Mon. Jan. 21 at Meadow Brook Theater.

• Looking for some fresh dance moves and some hot bodies? The Intrigue Hip Hop Dance team will be presenting *The 2nd Annual Hip Hop Phenomenon* on Fri. Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. in the Varner Recital Hall. Admission for students is free, and \$5 for others.

## SHOWS

• Mark your calendars, it-girl Alicia Keys will be bringing her neo-soul stylings to the State Theater in Detroit on Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at all Ticketmasters.

• Swing has been officially dead for about 3 years now. In case you're still clinging to one of the 90s most definitive fads check out *Big Bad Voodoo Daddy* Mon. Jan. 28 at St. Andrew's Hall in Detroit. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations.

• What comes to mind when you hear the words rock and roll? No doubt its aging action star Bruce Willis and his band, the Accelerators, who will be performing at *Clutch Cargo* s on Mon. Jan. 21. Doors are at 7 p.m. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

## OU alum creates religious doll

*Rabbi Says provides humor for Jews, Gentiles*

By Jo Randazzo

THE OAKLAND POST

OU alumnus Gary Barris is living his dream. Barris, who graduated in 1995 with a degree in communication with a concentration in marketing, enjoys marketing myself or my projects and right now he's doing both.

Barris appeared in the Sep. 5 edition of *The Oakland Post* featuring his cable television show *Rough Edge*, which highlighted his innovative celebrity interviews. Once again, Barris has returned to the media spotlight with another inventive idea: the Rabbi Says doll.

The doll is a soft ten-inch doll dressed in traditional Orthodox Jewish attire, complete with beard and side curls, with a small blank card attached to his hand. Its card can carry a message ideal for all occasions.

Barris said he got the idea for the Rabbi Says doll while walking through a Meijers store one Christmas season.

When I looked around me, I realized that there is nothing out there representing Judaism, said Barris.

Wanting to fill the niche, Barris began putting together prototypes of the doll. He wanted to design a doll that would be recognizable as a rabbi to the non-Jewish as well as a Jewish person, so Barris designed him as very traditional. He chose a rabbi persona because most people, Jewish and non-Jewish, identify with spiritual leaders.

We look to rabbis for advice and comfort and spiritual guidance, said Barris. But I'm not saying that a rabbi doll can replace a rabbi.

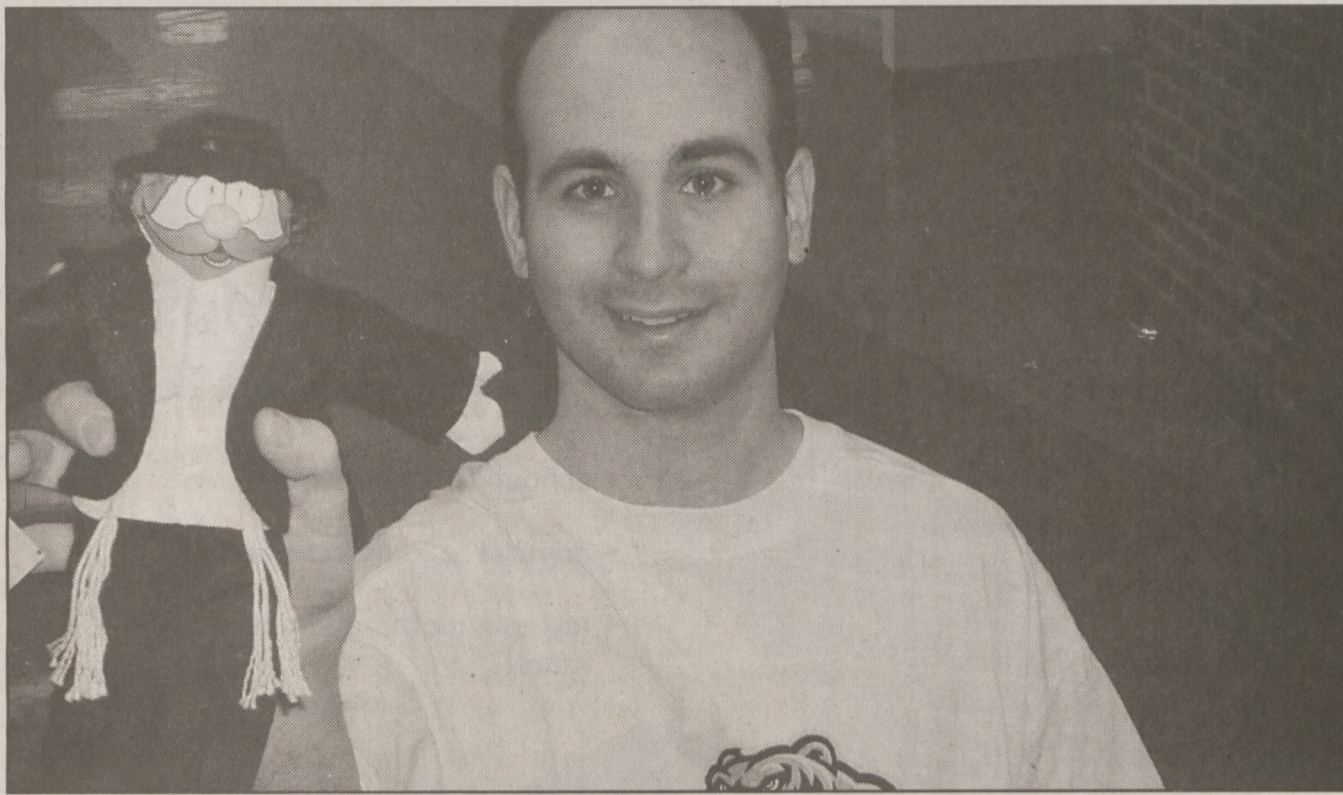
Barris said he researched his idea via the movies, including *Fiddler on the Roof* Neil Diamond's remake of *The Jazz Singer* and Mel Brooks' *History of the World Part I*.

He also consulted many not-so-Hollywood sources, including several area Orthodox rabbis, and through a coincidence, the daughter of the owner of a local Judaica gift and bookstore.

Chaskel Borenstein, manager of Borenstein's Books and Gifts in Oak Park, said that Barris approached his daughter and sought her advice on an idea he was developing.

I don't know why he thought they were Jewish, he said. My daughter told (Barris) some of the ideas he had were not so good, so he incorporated some of her ideas.

Borenstein's, which carries the doll in the store, said that they have been selling very well, a standpoint echoed by Avrohom Plotnik, owner of Spitzer's Hebrew



THAT'S NOT KOSHER: Gary Barris, an OU alumnus, displays his Rabbi Says Doll. The doll was inspired by Barris viewing of *Fiddler on the Roof* and Mel Brooks' *History of the World, Part I*. Barris also turned to real life rabbis in order to lend authenticity to his creation.

Bookstore in Southfield.

At Hanukkah, they were going like gangbusters - I couldn't keep them in the store, said Plotnik. It's a little quieter now that the holidays are over.

Plotnik said that his customers love the Rabbi Says doll.

One of my customers has a daughter who keeps it under her pillow. She's got to have her rabbi doll, said Plotnik.

The Rabbi Says is also carried in non-Judaica outlets, including several Hallmark stores in the Birmingham area, Daring Drugs in West Bloomfield, Brody's Clothing Outlet in West Bloomfield, several area Jax Carwashes, the Stage Deli, Slade's Gift Shop and the gift shop at Beaumont Hospital in West Bloomfield.

Barris hopes that The Rabbi Says doll will bring more of an awareness of Judaism into mainstream culture.

I want to make Judaism fun with The Rabbi Says Doll, kind of like Adam Sandler's *Chanukah Song*, said Barris.

Barris is happy with the success of his doll, but he

would like to see it become the official rabbi doll of people everywhere.

The biggest compliment is that it appeals to non-Jews. It's nice that people look beyond the religious lines, said Barris.

The concept that created The Rabbi Says doll is also sparking other ideas and directions for the humorous doll.

It can go anywhere, said Barris. You gotta think big and have dreams. Right now, I'm living my dream.

Plotnik was impressed with Barris' enthusiasm.

This young man has a lot of enthusiasm. It's great. It's wonderful. I love to see it, Plotnik said.

Barris said he embraces Judaism and loves the customs, which is why he designed The Rabbi Says. However, Barris said that many people didn't share his enthusiasm.

I didn't listen to the people who told me I couldn't do it. I'm living proof that if you believe in your dreams, anything can happen.

## Meadowbrook exhibit offers enrichment, cultural experience

*Harmony in Variation provides revealing glimpse at historical, contemporary Native American art*

By Christina Gonzalez

THE OAKLAND POST

With the advent of a new season, Meadow Brook Art Gallery unveils a grand vision of exploration and vibrant artistic tradition.

*Harmony and Variation - Form and Meaning in Native American Art*, is a collection of Native American art expressing the range of simplicity and complexity reflective of the great skills of Native American artisans.

From the visionary and compelling to the intricately crafted each piece reveals meaning and elements, inseparable from and intrinsic to the ethos of the Native American worldview.

The exhibit is a collaboration of institutions, including Cranbrook Institute of Science, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Flint Institute of Arts, Beloit College's Logan Museum of Anthropology, and several important private collections.

The Kwakiutl House Post is a particularly impressive and monumental piece of work. It depicts a bear, recognizable though stylized, twisting a hapless human in grip. It represents the truly personal, and for the viewer, unsettling articulation of cosmological vision of this Northwest Coast tribe.

Richard Stamps, professor and archaeology concentration advisor describes the exhibition as, a fantastic exhibit because it has a wide variety of pieces that show the wonderful ethnic diversity of the Native American community.

Although primarily a historical assemblage of artifacts, a contemporary Native American artist's works were included.

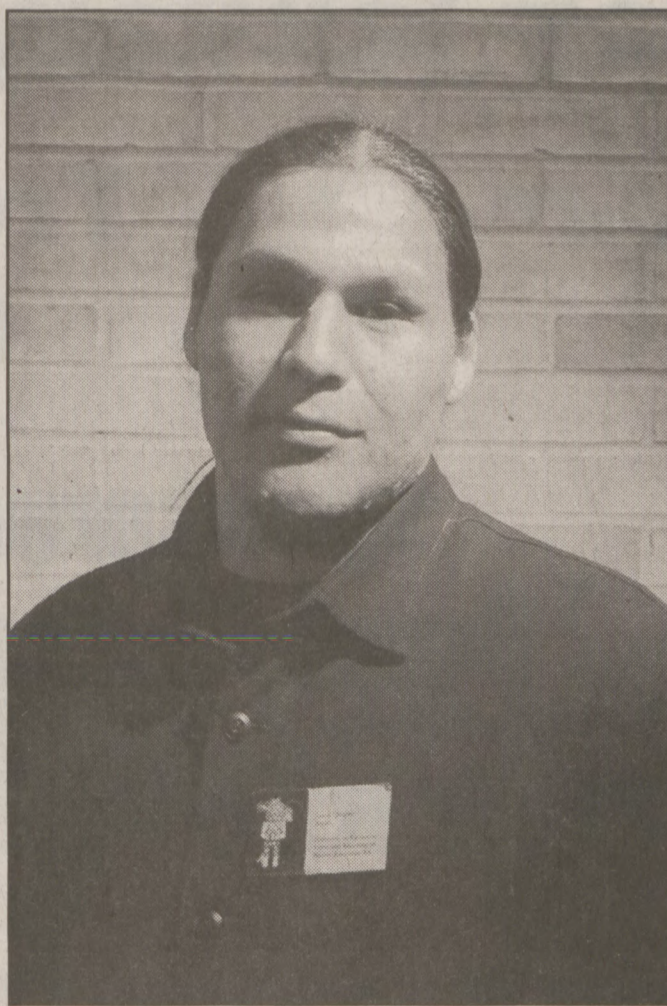
Jason Quigno, of the Ojibway, hails from Grand Rapids. Two of his magnificent stone sculptures were included in the exhibit. They are a harmony of motion and line, simplicity and elegance. At fourteen years of age, Jason knew the path he would follow and has worked stone for more than twelve years.

I see the spirit in the stone and through my hands it reveals itself, he said.

For Quigno, art is a way of life and has deep ties with his spirituality. While this deep connection is illustrated in other pieces, hearing Quigno describe his creative process rendered it in a personally meaningful way.

Stone is much more rewarding than any other medium, Quigno said as he described the different kinds of stone he uses in his sculptures.

Among the many attendees of Friday evening's opening

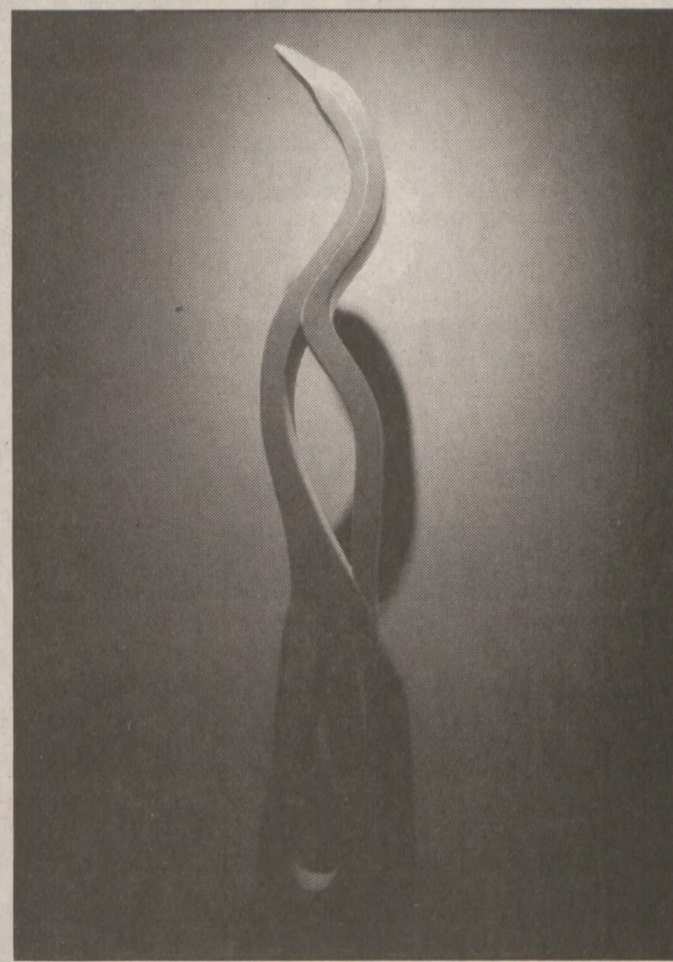


reception were educators and students, local residents, and artists. Catherine Peet, an artist specializing in mixed-media assemblages says that Native American art, mythology and spirituality has greatly influenced her own work.

My heart (particularly) goes out to those things that are visionary, Peet said.

Indeed, some pieces convey particularly compelling narratives.

An undertaking of this magnitude celebrates the efforts of the many individuals who donate their time and energy to bring to life the magic found in diversity, providing



Photos courtesy of Meadowbrook Art Gallery  
NATIVE AMERICAN: Native American Artist Jason Quigno of the Ojibway Tribe has a variety of stone sculptures on display at the Meadowbrook Art Gallery.

us with the opportunity to contemplate the meanings of creative expression. I am proud of the Oakland faculty and students who have put together and outstanding exhibition for the benefit of the community and area residents, said Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Virinder Moudgil said. I invite all our readers to take advantage of this outstanding facility of Oakland University, Moudgil added.

The exhibition *Harmony and Variation: Form and Meaning in Native American Art* runs from Jan. 11-Feb. 22 at Meadow Brook Art Gallery.

The Gallery is located at 208 Wilson Hall, across from Meadow Brook Theatre.

Gallery hours are Tues-Fri noon-5 p.m. and Sat. and Sun. 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free and open to the public.

# welcome students!



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- school & dorm supplies
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## Bookstore "Rush" Hours

Wednesday, January 16	8:00 - 7:00	Saturday, January 19	9:00 - 2:00
Thursday, January 17	8:00 - 7:00	Sunday, January 20	closed
Friday, January 18	8:00 - 4:00	Monday, January 21	9:00 - 3:00



What is there to do in January?  
Good question, we're glad you asked!  
SPB has the answer...



**Wednesday, January 16th - Gold Rooms - Noon-1pm - Winter Open House**  
Our Winter Open House gives you a peek inside SPB, lets you meet the chairs of the committees, and gives you an opportunity to become a member and learn more about our events!  
There will be FREE food and giveaways, so stop by and see us!

**Wednesday, January 16th - Gold Rooms - Noon - 7 - Karaoke**  
While you're checking out SPB, why don't you show off your skills?  
Jump on the mic and sing your heart out to your favorite tune!

**Thursday, January 17th - Gold Rooms - 7pm - Comedy Tonight**  
Join SPB as we welcome the hilarious comedy of Mike Siegel!  
He will be sure to have you falling out of your seats laughing!  
This event is totally FREE with FREE food!

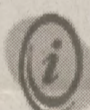
**Monday, January 21st - Meadow Brook Theater - 3pm - Kevin Powell**  
The Student Life Lecture Board with assistance from SPB is pleased to bring the dynamic speaker Kevin Powell. Although a member of the original New York "Real World" cast, he speaks on a much broader and deeper range of topics. This lecture is FREE to all students, faculty, and staff.

**Friday, January 25th - 27th - Northern Michigan - Shanty Creek Ski Trip**  
Back by popular demand, SPB is taking you for a weekend of skiing at Shanty Creek!  
How much you ask? A mere \$125 for students and \$200 for guests.  
Get your tickets now at the CSA box office in the lower level of the OC!

**Saturday, January 26th - Fireside Lounge - 8pm - Flipsyde**  
Straight from Dayton, Ohio, their name means ever changing, different, and to expect the unexpected. They bring together a sound that dates back to the early 70's and a hip-hop feel that seats them in the arena with 90's hit men like Blackstreet, Dru Hill, and K-Ci & JoJo.  
Treat yourself to a relaxing R & B environment with this Rhythms Den event!

**Tuesday, January 29th - Food Court - 7pm - Religious Comedy Tour**  
Think religion is old fashioned? Let us prove you wrong! Join us as we welcome the Religious Comedy Tour to OU! Come share a laugh with SPB! It's FREE, and there's FREE food!

**Don't forget! Friday, February 1st, is the deadline to sign up for the trip to Atlanta!**  
This is your last chance, so grab a friend and scurry on down to the CSA office to buy your tickets today!  
What a wonderful way to spend Spring Break, and it's only \$125 for OU students and \$200 for guests!



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## GOLDEN GRIZZLIES MEN'S

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### Saturday January 19 vs. IUPUI

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**Men: 6 p.m.**

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**First 500 fans at the women's game get free  
Doobie Brothers concert tickets!**



# Black steals show in ‘Orange County’

By Patrick Labadie  
LIFE EDITOR

If one were to look solely at the trailer for Orange County, it may seem as if it is just another wacky teen comedy from the folks at MTV. However, the film proves to be more than the gross out gags and drunken madness that have quickly become comedic pre-requisites of the teen genre. Orange County delivers the laughs with a genuine heart and wit that are not easy to come by these days.

Colin Hanks (Band of Brothers) plays Shaun Brumder, an Orange County teen, who spends his days surfing the gnarly waves of the Pacific. His life is turned upside down when he discovers a book lying on the beach. Suddenly, Brumder's dreams are changed from glory on his board to glory with his pen. Shaun dedicates himself to his writing and sends a story to his idol Marcus Skinner at Stanford, where Shaun hopes to study. With his high GPA and SAT scores he is a cinch to get into Stanford, until his dim witted guidance counselor (Lili Tomlin, Nashville) sends the wrong transcript to Stanford.

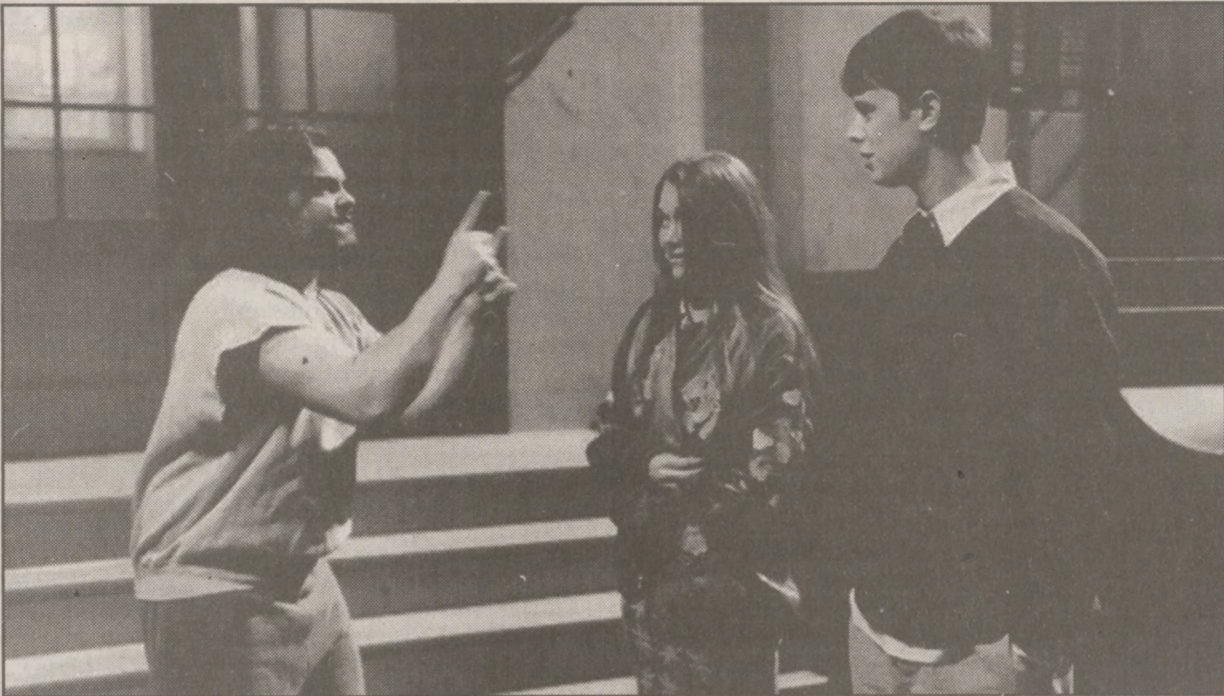
Needless to say, Shaun's world is thrown into upheaval, but his couch potato of an older brother Lance, played by the incomparable Jack Black

## Orange County



out of four cameras

**Starring:** Colin Hanks, Jack Black, Schuyler Fisk  
**Director:** Jake Kasdan



**BLACK JACK:** Jack Black, Schuyler Fisk, and Colin Hanks star in Orange County. Black, seen here providing the necessary comedic spunk, appears in his underwear for much of the film.

(High Fidelity), hatches a master plan to drive to Stanford and convince the dean of admissions to admit Shaun. Needless to say hijinx ensue and important lessons are learned.

The entire cast here is strong. Hanks carries the film here delivering a solid performance as the earnest and ambitious everyteen. Despite his occa-

sional blandness, Hanks, like his A-list father, has a likeability that is hard to put your finger on.

Good supporting work is also turned in by Schuyler Fisk, daughter of actress Sissy Spacek, as his supportive girlfriend, Catherine O'Hara as his out-of-it alcoholic mom, and John Lithgow as his workaholic dad. However, it is still the comedic

frenzy that is Jack Black that make this movie intensely watchable. Running around in his underwear for much of the film, Black is an overflowing fountain of comedy with his every move drenched in humor. Black is a true screen presence who is too talented to not be getting lead roles at this point (the forgettable Shallow Hal doesn't count).

In addition to solid acting, the writing by Mike White (Chuck and Buck), who also turns up in a humorous cameo, provides an offbeat sensibility that set Orange County apart from the rest of the pack. The characters here are instantly endearing and mature, a world apart from their beer-swilling, sex-crazed teen movie counterparts. White's script makes us truly feel for Shaun, which is harder than it sounds considering he is a privileged kid from the most affluent county in the US, whose biggest dilemma is that he can't get into Stanford (ever heard of a safety school?). White's endearing, well-drawn characters are full of heart and earnestness despite their more glaring flaws.

Also featured are cameos from such comedic talents as Chevy Chase, Ben Stiller, Adam Sandler, not to mention an uncredited cameo performance by Kevin Cline.

The film's only real slip up is a few unfortunate soundtrack choices that most likely came courtesy of MTV, who produced the film. MTV, for all its flaws has a remarkably good reputation for putting out quality films, including 1998's Office Space and 1999's Election.

Overall, the enjoyment factor is high, as long as moviegoers can leave their expectations at the door. What's left is a highly enjoyable popcorn picture that will no doubt leave the audience smiling long after the film has ended.



**WHODUNIT:** Ryan Phillippe and Kristin Scott Thomas star in Robert Altman's latest film Gosford Park.

Photo courtesy of USA Films

## Altman film delivers the goods

By Brian Urreta  
THE OAKLAND POST

In Gosford Park, acclaimed American director Robert Altman (Nashville, Short Cuts) has crafted a witty, sophisticated English who-done-it that is a pleasure for fans of the Agatha Christie novels of old.

Set in 1932 among the vast green hills of England's countryside, Gosford Park tells the tale of an eclectic group of aristocrats and their servants, who meet for a weekend shooting party. All goes well, or so they think, until their host Sir William McCordle (Michael Gambon, Sleepy Hollow) is murdered. The melee begins, as everyone becomes a suspect as the finger pointing begins.

Altman is at the top of his game here and Gosford Park has a cornucopia of splendors.

First and foremost, the acting is superb. Altman spared no expense to secure a sensational cast to portray his snobby and, often witless characters. Actors such as Kristin Scott Thomas (The English Patient), Jeremy

Northam (An Ideal Husband), and Emily Watson (Breaking the Waves) raise the caliber of the film with their sharp performances.

Two standout performances come from actresses Maggie Smith as Constance, and Kelly Macdonald (Trainspotting) as Constance's maid, Mary Macreochran.

Each actress in her own right deserves much praise for the performances. Smith as the snobbish dignitary is the perfect complement to Macdonald's nosy, yet

sheepish, servant. It's difficult to understand what it is that's so appealing about many of Altman's films.

For example, on the outside, Gosford Park is a film that deserves much attention while often moving at a slow pace. But it's the little things in his films that keep audiences entranced with what will happen next. Altman has a knack for overlapping dialogue between his mass array of characters.

He also has a wonderful sense of vision that shows through his

lovely settings and beautiful costume

designs. Even though he is in his 70s, Altman proves here that he is still the premier maestro of the ensemble piece.

The reason that this film works as an English mystery is the fact that it carries the power of anticipation. Altman weaves an intricate web of deceit and red herrings in order to keep the audience members on their toes.

Characters and audience members alike want to know.

Throughout the film Altman teases with grimacing faces and newfound deceptions among characters.

The praise being heaped on the film by critics is richly deserved because it is extremely difficult to pull off a good, old fashioned who-done-it in Hollywood these days.

Perhaps the one mystery that comes to mind when speaking upon Gosford Park is, how does one actually categorize the movie?

There are many dramatic elements for it to be considered a drama.

On that same note, the sharp dialogue between many of the guests are funny enough to be labeled a comedy.

Regardless of how it may be labeled, Gosford Park is a refreshingly wonderful film that brings the new year in right.

## Gosford Park



out of four movie cameras

**Starring:** Kristin Scott Thomas, Ryan Phillippe  
**Director:** Robert Altman

## Staff recommendations...



**Patrick Labadie**

Life Editor

**Favorite book:** *Nine Stories* by J.D. Salinger This book needs no introduction. Salinger is a genius in the true sense of the word. A must for anyone who enjoys American literature.

**Movie:** *Rushmore* Wes Anderson's 1998 masterpiece is a movie you either get, or you don't. The dry humor is definitely an acquired taste, but for those who understand, the film is rewarding to no end. Repeat viewings are a must to absorb all this intricately detailed film.

**CD:** *Stereolab - Sound Dust* One can't help but smile when listening to this record. The lush melodies and hypnotic vocals make this CD a must for any true music fan.

**TV Show:** *Iron Chef* Hands down the best show on television. The hour long cooking show provides the best head to head cooking action known to man. Much of the charm lies in the poor dubbing, and exotic ingredients, not to mention the flamboyant theatrics of Chairman Kaga. Fukui-san!

**Website:** [www.theonion.com](http://www.theonion.com) This site will never fail to provide laughs. A weekly publication, The Onion provides the best fake news in the business.

## CDS FOR SALE



### Cracker Forever

By Jim Vergeldt  
THE OAKLAND POST

It has been four years since Cracker released an album of new material, but it's worth the wait.

Forever is much more consistent and focused than the two albums that preceded it. While Gentleman's Blues and The Golden Age had their moments, they were both a little spotty.

This new CD is also very reminiscent of lead singer David Lowery's previous band, Camper Van Beethoven. Forever retains every bit of the country rock flavor that is Cracker's signature, but the sound is more diverse and more ornate.

The accordion and keyboard of Kenny Margolis are more prominently featured in some tracks. Bassist Brandy Wood is new to the band, adding soulful backing vocals to the mix. Mark Linkous of Sparklehorse adds some additional keys on some tracks, but it is the strings that bring classic Camper to mind.

Guests Chris Eubanks on the cello and Margaret White on the violin remind the listener of Camper Van Beethoven's heyday in the long-ago decade of the 1980s.

But the biggest resemblance to the old days is evidenced in the sense of humor

that has once again stepped forward.

Songs about monkeys, mermaids and beauty queens are just the beginning. The band even tries their hand at rap-rock on the last song, What You're Missing. It's certainly not going to be nominated for a Grammy, but that's not the point.

It's just musicians experimenting and having fun. Lead guitarist Johnny Hickman even addresses his striking resemblance to Richard Grieco.

Lowery has never been the type of musician to take himself or his band too seriously.

He's also never been one to sit back and churn out the same album over and over again.

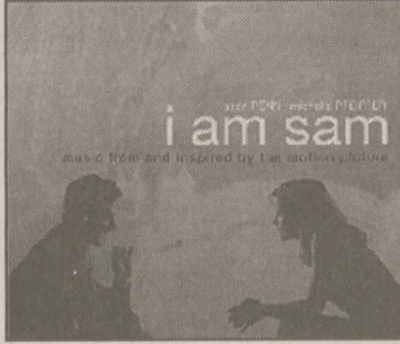
The very first notes of the lead track, Brides of Neptune, sound nothing like typical Cracker, and instead remind the listener of Mogwai or Sigur Ros.

Guarded By Monkeys opens with soft strings and keys, but quickly builds into a straight-ahead hard rocker as the entire band screams, You are so beautiful / You should be guarded by monkeys.

That's just the kind of strange compliment that one would expect from the man who also wrote songs like Take the Skinheads Bowling and Joe Stalin's Cadillac.

Lowery's singing and songwriting would not be complete without the subtle perfection of Hickman's guitar. Whether it's the country twang on the title track, or the soulful, blues-style single note on Sweet Magdalena of My Misfortune, Hickman's guitar is key to the Cracker sound.

This dose of Cracker soul will be available in stores Jan. 29.



### Soundtrack from the Motion Picture I Am Sam

Great soundtrack albums and great cover albums are all too rare, as is evidenced by the soundtrack to the film I Am Sam.

This compilation of Beatles covers doesn't deliver the results that are promised by the talent that has been assembled. Despite the wide range of artists on this CD, there is little distinction.

The Vines provide an unremarkable retread of I'm Only Sleeping. It is technically proficient, but no different than the original. In many cases the listener would be better off simply listening to their favorite Beatles album.

The Wallflowers deliver a cover of I'm Looking Through You in typically bland Wallflowers fashion, and Paul Westerberg whines Nowhere Man in an annoyingly nasal voice.

However, there are some gems include Ben Folds' revision of Golden Slumbers, Chocolate Genius on Julia and Eddie Vedder's solo acoustic version of You've Got to Hide Your Love Away. Vedder plays guitar, bass, snare drum, tambourine and harmonica on the track.

Grandaddy's version of Revolution is the standout. Unlike many of the bands on this disc, they rework the song to fit their own style.

The album closes with Grandaddy followed by Nick Cave's cover of Let It Be. The two best songs are at the very end, leaving the listener with a box of cracker jacks to sort through to find the prize at the bottom.

## MOVIE ONE-LINERS

Guess what movie each quote is from, then visit [www.oakpostonline.com](http://www.oakpostonline.com) to see if you're right

1. I'm shooting pool, Fats, when I miss, you can shoot.
2. I've applied for early admission to Oxford and the Sorbonne. Harvard is my safety.
3. One day the kids from the neighborhood carried my mother's groceries all the way home. You know why? It was outta respect.
4. This house is so full of people it makes me sick. When I grow up and get married, I'm living alone.

# A Student AFFAIRS

## Updating OU

The Student Affairs Staff would like to welcome back all students for winter semester 2002!

### Attention OU Students Great Grizzly \$100 Give Away

Come out to every OU men's home basketball game for your chance to win \$100 from OU's Division of Student Affairs. A lucky student who is at the arena in the first ten minutes of the game will have their name picked out of a hat during the 12-minute second half warning. The student, with valid ID, must be present to win the cash.

### Office of Equity

Is hiring peer mentors for the 2002-2003 academic year. Please pick up an application in 121 North Foundation Hall. Deadline for applications is 5 PM, February 15, 2002.

### Campus Recreation Happenings

- ¥ **Massage Therapy** welcome to January 2002 package. Buy 2 and get the 3rd FREE! Student and nonstudent rates. Sale ends Jan. 31st. Call 370-4910 to make an appointment for 1 hour to 1 1/2 hours.
- ¥ **Buddy Training** Personal training program. If you and a friend buy a 6-session package, the cost is \$135 or \$67.50 per person! All purchases must be prior to January 31st.
- ¥ **TGIF** Teens Getting into Fitness, a program designed for teenagers ages 13-15 years old. This program will allow the 13-15 year old access to the fitness center under the supervision of a parent/guardian.
- ¥ **Resist-A-Ball Class** Use the big colorful ball to get a great workout! Take a class.
- ¥ **Cross Training Essentials** The cross training essentials class is a 15-20 minute discussion followed by an actual cardio and strength workout. Entry-intermediate level class.
- ¥ **Ultimate Sports Challenge** for men and women is Saturday, February 9th. Deadline for entries is Feb. 4th.
- ¥ **Basketball Shoot Out** men and women. Saturdays beginning Feb. 2nd.
- ¥ **Campus Recreation Family Free Day**, Saturday, Feb. 16th. More information to follow.

The Advising Resource Center, 121 North Foundation Hall announces new "late" office hours now through January 31, 2002, Tuesday and Wednesday nights until 6:30 p.m., with last appointment at 6 p.m.

### Bumpers Games Room Winter Semester Hours

Monday through Friday, 10 AM-10 PM  
Saturday, 12 noon-7 PM  
Sunday, 3 PM-10 PM

### GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

Graham Health Center reminds you that it's not too late to sign up for the winter semester student insurance plan. Informational pamphlets are available in the lobby of the health center or you may call ext. 2341 to have one mailed to your home. Being caught without insurance can be a great expense. Check into your student insurance plan and pricing today.

### CAMPUS RECREATION-CORRECTED HOURS

Attention Students: Your membership to the Rec Center is included in your tuition and fees for Winter 2002. Be sure to have your OU SpiritCard ready when you enter. The Rec Center is open Monday-Thursday 6 AM-11 PM, Friday 6 AM-9 PM, Saturday 9 AM-9 PM and Sunday noon-11 PM.

## This Week

### Monday, January 21, noon, Meadow Brook Theatre

Oakland University presents the 2001-2002 Student Life Lecture Series with Kevin Powell speaking on "Looking for Martin: Are Dr. King and His 'Dream' Still Relevant?" Free admission. No tickets required.

### January 22-January 25, 2002

PLACEMENT AND CAREER SERVICES presents Career Prep Week. This week offers free workshops and seminars to help you get an edge on job searching techniques, career issues and marketing yourself in a difficult economy. Our Diversity Career Fair is on Thursday, January 24th from 11 AM-3 PM in the Gold Rooms, Oakland Center. Details on Prep Week can be found at our website at <http://phoenix.placement.oakland.edu> or call our office at 370-3250.

### Friday, January 25

Need to practice your behavioral interviewing skills before you begin your job interviews this semester? Students will have that opportunity on January 25 (the final day of Career Prep Week) when Placement & Career Services will host its annual Winter Semester behavioral mock interviews. Each interview is followed by the opportunity for feedback and a discussion with the interviewer. Advance registration is required. To schedule your 30-minute session, call or visit Placement & Career Services at 275 Vandenberg Hall West (370-3250). Don't delay schedules fill up quickly! Participants must submit a resume prior to the interview.

### Friday, January 25

7 PM, Vandenberg Cafeteria. RHP's Friday Night Live Winter 2002 Comedy Series presents comedian Elvira Kurt in her modest quest for worldwide comedy domination. Elvira's universal appeal has made her one of the hottest and most in-demand college acts in the country. She's been nominated as both U.S. College Comedian and Entertainer of the Year. Free admission and refreshments.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## JOBS

**Driver Wanted** to drive student from Oakland Twp (4 miles north of downtown Rochester off Rochester Rd.) to Prescription Fitness, 5210 Highland Rd. (M-59) Waterford, MI, Monday - Friday. Willing to pay for ride. Ask for Matthew 248.652.2940

**Troy Continuing Education** has immediate openings for after-school child care assistants. Flexible schedules. Starting pay \$8.70/hr. Ideal for students pursuing course work in education, social work or related fields. For information call 248.823.5155

**Professional photographer** needs female figure models. Excellent pay. Call 734.652.0062 or email paddy48161@yahoo.com for information.

**Childcare needed:** Part-time position available to care for our two daughters (3 years and 1 year) in our Bloomfield Hills home. Tuesday, Thursday, Fridays. Please call 248.647.9322

**Help Wanted:** Clean-cut reliable student with good driving record for summer outdoor work in Mount Clemens area. 6 days. \$300 - \$400 per week. 586.783.1577

**Part-Time help** wanted at Pic-A-Deli located in University Square. 3134 Walton Blvd. Rochester Hills. 248.355.1330

**Italian:** Translate/Transcribe from VHS tapes. Payment to be arranged. Contact Professor P. Singer. 248.370.2456

## JOBS

**Childcare needed** in (15/Halsted) W. Bloomfield home for 2-year-old boy. Mondays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Must be responsible, have references, be very energetic, creative and tons of fun! 248.926.3733

## FOR RENT

**Two Minutes** from campus. Patrick Henry Apartments. 1 month rent free. Spacious newly remodeled 1 bedroom from \$620. Dishwasher, Free heat and water. 248.373.7313

## SPRING BREAK

**Spring Break 2002** Jamaica, Cancun, Bahamas or Florida. Join Student Travel Services, America's #1 student tour operator. Promote trips at Oakland, earn cash or go free. Information/Reservations 800.648.4849 or [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com)

**Spring Break Party!** Indulge in FREE travel, drinks, food, and parties with the best DJs and celebrities in Cancun, Jamaica, Mazatlan and the Bahamas. Go to StudentCity.com, call 800.293.1443 or email sales@studentcity.com to find out more.

**Spring Break -** Nassau/Paradise Island, Cancun and Jamaica from \$459. Air, hotel, transfers, parties and more! Organize small group-earn FREE trips plus commissions! Call 800.GET.SUN.1

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## MISC.

Earn \$1,000 for your group. Work on campus to raise money for your student group or organization. Make your own schedule and earn \$5 per application. Please call 800.808.7450

### Be a S.T.A.R.!

Do you want a phenomenal leadership experience this summer? Are you interested in getting paid for embarking on an adventurous experience? If you answered yes to both questions, then you will make the perfect Orientation Group Leader! Interested students must attend one of the following information sessions:

★ Wednesday, January 23  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Or  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Wellness Room, REC

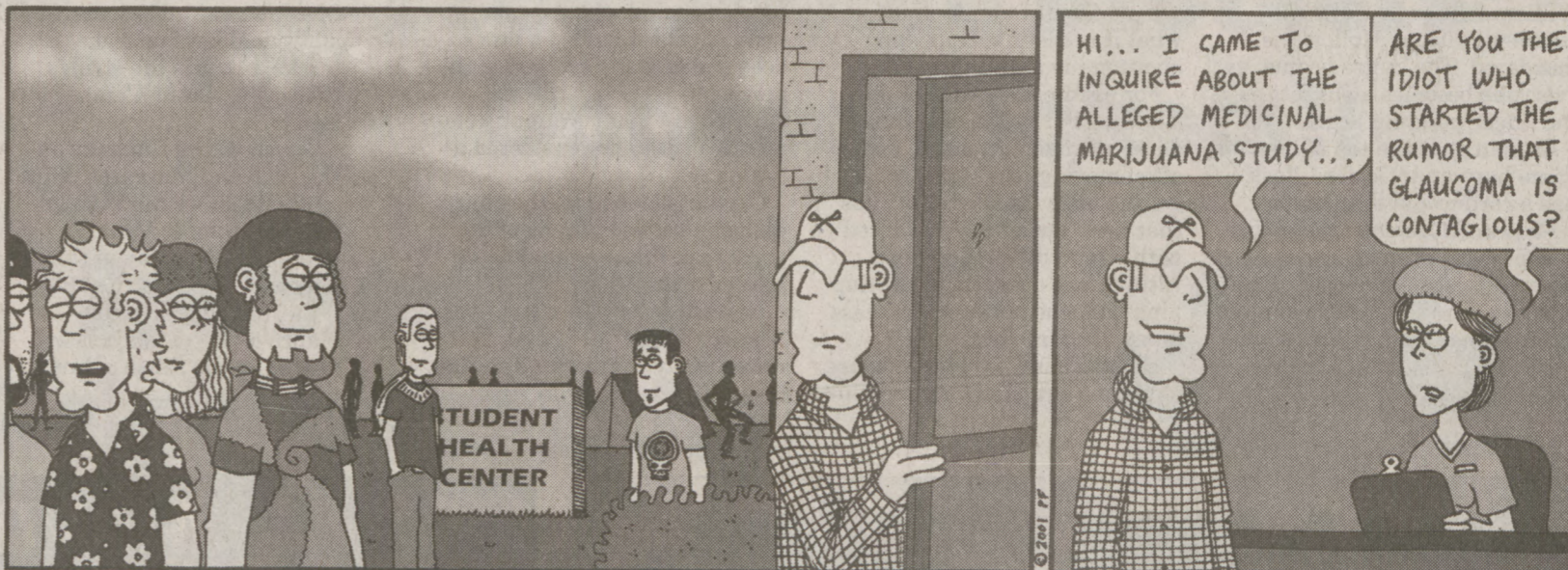
★ Thursday, January 24  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Or  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Wellness Room, REC

For more information, please contact the Office of New Student Programs:  
(248)370-3260  
[nsp@oakland.edu](mailto:nsp@oakland.edu)

Email your ad today...  
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The Oakland Post is looking for a new Circulation Manager. Job entails distributing the newspaper on campus from 9-11 a.m. Wednesday mornings. Earn \$30/week for a few hours of work. Apply at The Post, 61 Oakland Center, or call 248.370.4268 for more details. Must start immediately!

## LEX



## LEX



The  
EDGESCORE  
BOARD

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

January 10	
UMKC	72
Oakland	63
January 12	
Oral Roberts	93
Oakland	61

WOMEN'S  
BASKETBALL

January 12	
Oral Roberts	64
Oakland	53
January 14	
Oakland	81
UMKC	55

## MEN'S SWIMMING

January 11	
at Kenyon	
Oakland	1st

WOMEN'S  
SWIMMING

January 11	
at Kenyon	
Oakland	1st

## MEN'S CLUB HOCKEY

January 12	
Oakland	2
Ferris State	2

UPCOMING  
GAMES

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

• 6 p.m., Jan. 19 - IUPUI

WOMEN'S  
BASKETBALL

• 3:30 p.m., Jan. 19 - IUPUI

## MEN'S SWIMMING

• 4 p.m., Jan. 18 - Michigan State  
• 2 p.m., Jan. 19 - at Notre Dame

WOMEN'S  
SWIMMING

• 4 p.m., Jan. 18 - at Miami

## MEN'S CLUB HOCKEY

• 8:30 p.m., Jan. 18 - Ferris State Univ.  
• 8:30 p.m., Jan. 19 - Univ. of Michigan

WOMEN'S CLUB  
HOCKEY

• 10:30 p.m., Jan. 18 - at Michigan State  
• 9:45 p.m., Jan. 19 - at Michigan State

SPORTS  
TRIVIA

Between the men's and the women's basketball teams, who holds the record for the longest winning streak?

Find the answer at [www.oakpostonline.com](http://www.oakpostonline.com)

## Dance team finishes third at national meet

By Jim Vergeldt  
THE OAKLAND POST

The only OU team to come close to winning a national championship in Division I is the dance team, Images.

The team finished third in the College Dance Team National Championship at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla. on Saturday.

Combined with a second place finish last year and an eighth place in 2000, Images has solidified themselves as a team to watch.

Despite finishing one place lower than they had the year before, the team was not disappointed.

We worked incredibly hard for that third place, senior Kim Lewis said. In a way it feels like first.

Like any other sport, there is a process that a team must go through in order to compete for the national championship.

It begins with a video tape sent to the Universal Dance Association (UDA) at the end of October.

All teams that submit tapes are ranked, and UDA pays for the top two teams in each division to go to Orlando. Those teams also advance directly to the finals.

Big universities compete in Division IA, small schools are placed into the Open division and medium-size universities, like OU, compete in Division I.

Twenty-four Division I teams submitted tapes, and Images was ranked 11th.

Eighteen teams showed up to compete in the semifinals on Friday.

In the semifinals and the finals, the teams are scored on choreography, technique, timing, showmanship, crowd appeal and the difficulty and cre-



ativity of the dance. Teams must reach a minimum score in order to advance to the finals.

Images moved from 11th up to second in the semifinals, finishing behind Southwest Missouri State University.

Coach Terri Bossi was not surprised to see her team move on.

I thought it was unbelievable, she said. It was the best dance they had done at this time. It fell into place at the right time.

Junior Katee Hermansen was also happy with her team's performance in the semifinals.

I think we did really well, she said. The energy was really great and everything felt together.

Going into the finals Images was ranked fourth overall behind SMSU and the two teams that skipped directly to the finals, California State-Fullerton and the

University of Delaware. Bossi had no doubts that her team would do well in the finals.

I think our chances are excellent for finals, she said. I am completely and totally sure that those girls are going to hit that performance.

Images surpassed SMSU, and finished third behind Cal State-Fullerton and Delaware. Only 26 points separated Images from top-finisher Cal State-Fullerton.

The team was very happy with their performance.

I felt confident of the dance that we had and it helped having a good crowd to support us, Lewis said. I just wanted to beat the team that beat us in semis and we did.

In addition to their trophy and the recognition they receive, as a top three finisher Images will also be shown on ESPN, but a date and time has not yet been set.



Allison Lingenfelter/The Oakland Post  
SUCCESS: Coach Terri Bossi (above) showcases the team's trophy. Images (far above) finished third at the national competition last week.



Allison  
Lingenfelter  
Guest Columnist

## Images' member stands proudly by third place finish

When I first saw the dance that we were taking to nationals I hated it.

I was not the only person who felt this way. The dance wasn't spectacular to me, until semifinals. This is when the dance came together, everyone hitting their moves and showing the attitude needed to perform the dance at the highest level.

I think I expected more when I first saw the dance, as did some of the team. We were returning to nationals to defend our second place finish with a dance I didn't think was good enough for us. We ended up changing a lot, but still something was missing. After talking to some of my teammates, I knew they felt the same.

Nothing else had seemed to change from last year. We were basically the same team, from the same sized school that everyone thinks is in California.

The difference from last year to this year is we came basically out of nowhere and set this incredible bar for ourselves. The first year the dance team went to nationals I was not a member of the team. They finished eighth. Making finals was the goal of the team that year, which was met.

After that the goal would be to improve - make finals and place higher than eighth. And improve we did. Last year we jumped from eighth to second place in Division I. We stood together waiting after finals to hear how we did, crying and excited because we knew that we had done well.

After they announced who received eighth place, we erupted because it wasn't us. Then the announcers called seventh, sixth, fifth, fourth, third, and finally we were announced at second place.

We went crazy, we didn't stop and even missed who was named the national champion. Onlookers would have thought that we were the national champions. To us though, it was in a way.

Nationals is the highest competition for a dance team. It's cheesy but I have watched teams on ESPN for years in awe of their talent. Then all of the sudden I am there, I am on a team that is on ESPN that other people watch hoping one day to be where I am.

Last year we walked around as small Oakland University sort of checking out what we were up against, with the full knowledge that we had a dance that would blow everyone away.

This year we had confidence, we were one of the teams to beat. People watched us to see what moves we had because we're different.

This year it seemed almost expected that we would do well, no matter where we qualified. We had created this high standard for ourselves. We tried to convince ourselves that it didn't matter what happened we were just there to do our best. But really if you were to ask any of us we were there to win. At least I can tell you that's what I wanted.

The weekend didn't end with a national championship, we got third. We still get to be on ESPN but something is missing. I think it's because we expected more than we got, but I'm not complaining. How often do you get to say you are on one of the best teams in the nation?

Allison Lingenfelter is a senior majoring in elementary education. Email her at [jbm04@aol.com](mailto:jbm04@aol.com)

## Grizzlies fall to .500 in Mid-Con, look to rebound after tough losses on mini road trip

## OU drops close one at UMKC, gets pounded at ORU

By Chad Mack  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The OU men's basketball team returns home from a two-game road trip that left the Grizzlies in a state of confusion with a lot of questions. What went wrong? How did it get that way? Where do they go from here?

We lost two games, said head coach Greg Kampe. We knew we weren't going to be 14-0 (in the Mid-Con). I think that losing them both is very hurtful to our chances of winning the league championship. But the focus isn't winning the league championship. The focus is a good seed and have a chance to win the tournament.

OU played at UMKC last Thursday and lost a close game in the final three minutes. The game was tied at 62 when UMKC scored on consecutive possessions and held OU in check.

We had a chance to win it, assistant coach Jennifer Johnston said. We just didn't get a couple of stops that we needed to. When you're tied with two minutes to go, that's how you win, by getting stops and rebounding. We just didn't pull through.

We lost that basketball game because we didn't rebound in the clutch, said Kampe. Our Achilles heel was our rebounding.

Saturday the team traveled to league leader Oral Roberts, where Expect a Miracle is printed behind each base line on the hard wood floor.

ORU was ready for OU blasting the Grizzlies 93-61.

OU shot an anemic 20 percent from the floor in the first half and trailed 50-18.

It was one of those games where nothing went our way, and everything went their way, said Johnston. There isn't too much you can do. Sometimes you just have those



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post  
GIMME THE BALL: Jason Rozycki makes a play for the ball. Rozycki found his touch against UMKC shooting 6-14 from three point land.

nights. At halftime there was a lot of frustration. It was one of those night where we just didn't have it.

They kicked the livin' tar out of us, said Kampe. We didn't play well, and Oral Roberts played great. There's really not much more to say about it. The game was

over, three minutes into (it). We played it out, got on the plane and came home. It's a loss. The bottom line was we weren't very good, and they were real good. We were down 70-29 at one point. It was very embarrassing. It might be the thing that points us in the right direction.

OU began the Mid-Con season with two victories at home and tied for first place. After two consecutive road losses the Grizzlies find themselves in the middle of the pack of the conference.

This weekend the team will regroup and face visiting IUPUI.

We just need to keep playing hard and working to improve, said Johnston. We got to stay together, stay as a team, keep confident and keep working to make each other better.

The team has an important stretch in front of it. It plays the next three games in the friendly confines of the Orena before playing an out of conference game at IPFW, a potential Mid-Con foe next season.

IUPUI is a half game behind ORU, and its only loss was to the Golden Eagles in Tulsa.

If the Grizzlies hope to compete with IUPUI and get back on the right track, they are going to have to contain the Jaguars big man, Charles Price. He has 23 blocked shots on the season and is averaging more than 11 points and seven rebounds.

That also means that the team will have to shoot better from the perimeter in order to neutralize Price's effectiveness.

OU needs to take advantage of the home court to be in good position to finish in the top tier in the conference and get a good seed for the post season tournament.

Our goal is to get to March and be the best team we can be in March, said Kampe.

## OUSC

continued from A3

my country's ex-prime minister to OU for a lecture or conference.

Student Body Vice President Vesna Saveski, one of two Macedonian members of OUSC, said she is thankful for being able to work with students of different backgrounds in the context of Congress.

There are countries in the world where I would not be allowed to be in the room with some of the people on Congress, let alone have an intelligent and meaningful conversation with them, and I am very thankful for that, Saveski said.

Other members of Congress, like Legislator Montrell Porter, felt that in joining OUSC, they could contribute to the goal of

diversity. Porter not only represents any students residing on-campus, but also the black community at OU.

When I joined I felt that diversity could be broader, Porter said. This being my second year on OUSC, I am proud to say that our Congress has met that goal in being diverse, and I feel that we represent diversity in all areas of culture.

According to Dickow, who is one of OUSC's Chaldean members, equal representation is one of Congress mission statements.

Maybe in past years there hasn't been (equal representation), and maybe this year there's not. But we work to be diversified, and I can't stress that enough, Dickow said. Everyone

on Congress is cooperative and willing to work together. There have never been any racial issues. That's one of the reasons I'm very proud to be a part of this team.

In addition to members who represent differing ethnic backgrounds, Congress also represents aspects of on-campus involvement.

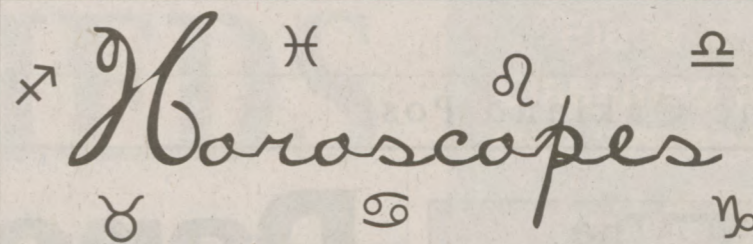
Porter, along with Administrative Assistant Kelly Lee reside on campus. Lee is a resident assistant and a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. Student Program Board Chairperson Justin Ewald and Legislator Mike Ginger represent the actions of SPB, and Legislative Affairs Director Matt Hudson is a member of Pi Sigma

Alpha, the political science honor society.

We need to have representation for all aspects of the student body due to the fact that we do represent a very diverse student body, Lee said.

Although OUSC strives to have members of different races and cultures, Dickow said it's also important to know when to ignore people's differences.

If you look at all these nationalities, you'll notice one thing remains constant when describing all these people: their willingness to work with the students of OU, Dickow said. It doesn't matter what you are. Somehow, some way, this Congress will find a way to work for you.



Like last week, this week will be filled with communication, social events and connecting. However, the superficial hobnobbing of the last seven days will be replaced with a true need to understand others and to be understood. For some this may mean expressing themselves to a love interest and chances are they will be heard loud and clear.

## ♈ Aries

You're probably more sensitive than usual this week; don't hesitate to take time to yourself. You might have a temporary career setback, but it will give you an opportunity to think about your future.

## ♉ Taurus

You may be holding back in a relationship and more than likely you are in control, but make sure you don't play too hard to get. Work on being flexible this week.

## ♊ Gemini

Traveling can be really beneficial, especially in relationship matters. Other people will do practically anything for you this week if you respect and acknowledge their power.

## ♋ Cancer

You'll have an opportunity to get something off your chest this week; just be careful to be sensitive to other people's feelings. Don't let self-doubt prevent you from taking a risk.

## ♌ Leo

You have the focus and the energy to take care of unfinished business. Avoid being too pessimistic in a new endeavor. Talk with a love interest about your feelings.

## ♍ Virgo

Trust your instinct when it comes to work decisions. Things are much more fun when you work with other people this week. Make time for romance.

## ♎ Libra

There are plenty of opportunities this week if you stay flexible. Quiet time at home helps put things in perspective. Romance may come from unusual places.

## ♏ Scorpio

Think about some money issues that have come up lately. Your romantic side may come out this week; find some way to express it.

## ♐ Sagittarius

Keep your eyes open for new money making opportunities this week. Make time to be at home, whether working around the house, hosting a party, or just resting.

## ♑ Capricorn

Let people around you know how you feel, especially those you're closest to. This is a great week to start something that you have been postponing as well as plan things for the future.

## ♒ Aquarius

You probably have a lot to say this week, so don't be afraid to let it all out. A project can go wrong if you overthink it. Listen to your gut when working with other people.

## ♓ Pisces

You can get almost anything done this week, especially if you ask for help. You have strong insights, so listen to your gut when it comes to making decisions.

Oakland University alum Damon Brown has studied the occult for ten years. A Chicago-based freelance writer, Damon currently contributes to Playboy.com, MSN.com, and The Source. He can be reached via his website at [www.geocities.com/nomadgames/](http://www.geocities.com/nomadgames/).

## Oakland University Presents:

## The 2000-2001 Student Life Lecture Series

## Kevin Powell



"Looking for Martin: Are Dr. King and His 'Dream' Still Relevant?"

Monday, January 21, 2002

Noon at Meadow Brook Theatre

*The lecture is free. Tickets are not required.*

This lecture will be interpreted for the deaf. Anyone needing special assistance to attend this lecture should call the Center for Student Activities Office at (248) 370-2400.

Presented with the support of the Office of Student Affairs, Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, and University Student Congress.

For additional information, call the Center for Student Activities Office at (248) 370-2400, or visit Oakland University's web site at [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu). Oakland University is located one mile east of I-75 exit 79 (University Drive).

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**WWW.OAKPOSTONLINE.COM**



# GET OUT

The Oakland Post

Wednesday • January 16, 2002

B 8

# birmingham

• written by Rachel Rybicki • photos by Dan McDuffee •

*This is the second part in a series on the most popular cities on Woodward Ave.*

The only other place in Oakland county where parking is as bad as at OU, is in downtown Birmingham, except on Sundays when parking is free.

That doesn't deter people from visiting the ultra-trendy downtown area.

There are really nice stores and it (downtown) is kept really clean, Colleen Huusko, manager of Caribou Coffee on Maple, said. This gives the city a sense of pride and shows that people care, according to Huusko.

Everything makes the town, but most importantly, the stores are fun to shop in, said Michelle McCoul, assistant manager of Frankie and Debbies, a women's boutique. They are like little treasure troves I guess, they carry things that aren't always found in the bigger stores in the malls and I think that that is part of the appeal.

And Rachael A-Woods agrees. A-Woods owns Art Loft, functional gifts and accents, in Birmingham. Her shop mainly carries small artisans from all over the world.

My main focus is functional art and handmade unique pieces not seen in department stores, A-Woods said. It can best be put like this. People come into a home with a piece from my store in it and it is more like a conversation piece, but the fact that it is functional as well is what sells it... these things here and around town are not for the mall crowd.

Brad Stern, Assistant Manager of Harmony House in Birmingham said the shops that are hard to find or have to be looked for are the ones to check out.

There are these little shops that are out of the way, like off of the main strip, but they are worth going to, definitely...they have a lot to offer. Like Shops at the Top, you wouldn't see these at the mall, they are like head-shops or what you would call hippie places, but they are very cool, said Stern.

A-Woods said she feels that not only do the small shops make the city but also the quality of the people.

The fact that it is a small town and quaint area makes it nice, A-Woods said.

The main shopping area is on Maple and Old Woodward, but it is a great town for a walk while shopping.

And while one can see a cross-section of shoppers during the day, in reality 96.1 percent of Birmingham's residents are white according to U.S. Census data. This contrasts sharply with Pontiac's community which is more racially diverse.

The beautiful city wasn't the only thing that store owners and patrons raved about.

The people around here are very knowledgeable, said A-Woods. They are friendly and smile and bring the kids in the store, it's just a great town.

I think that there is a little nicer



Clockwise: Inside the Art Loft, Java Hutt 24 hour coffee house, the old Uptown Birmingham movie theater and Birmingham's new and fancy Palladium movie theater. Birmingham has a population of 19,291 and a median family income of \$70,549.00.



class of people that shop here and visit here, and I am not being mean when saying that, it's overall though, employees and customers, said McCoul. The only thing that is awful is the parking... it is crazy, but Sundays are great because it is free, and most people can just spend the whole day walking around town.

A-Woods agrees with McCoul. The heart of the town is with the people, said A-Woods. This is the simple secret of the town. I have been in retail all of my life and I have sold everything from jewelry to houses, you name it, and there are not people like the people down here found just anywhere, they are a special kind of people.

Brad Stern, Assistant Manager of

Harmony House in Birmingham said the city is unique in comparison to other downtown areas.

It is a...pedestrian friendly town with everything... there is something for everyone, big stores and little shops, he said. Some of them are on the high end, upscale side of things, but they appeal to a different audience than those that would be in Royal Oak or whatever.

Some have said a strong sense of community can be felt around town and in the people that are encountered.

The town caters towards community and family, Stern said.

Birmingham also sponsors an alcohol-free New Year's Eve party.

So students can opt for an alterna-

tive to the run-of-the-mill bar scene. Events such as Art in the Park (display of local art work), the Birmingham Village Fair in Shain Park and the Woodward Dream Cruise always pull in the crowds.

It is a very scenic city and the way that the park is integrated is very convenient for people and families, he said.

Patricia Spadafore, co-owner of Imelda's, said she wouldn't have wanted her store anywhere other than Birmingham.

I didn't want it to be a mall store and neither did Jayme (Kirschner, co-owner), she said. And I am not bad-mouthing malls, I just feel there is a trend of people going back to some hometown roots, and in a mall there

are always the big stores, unlike here where there is variety and character.

Imelda's opened in 1997 and carries a variety of apparel.

The retail people in the businesses here have a strong pride about the city and it shows, it radiates in the town and there is a lot of pride...who wouldn't want to come down here?

Something new to the town is the Uptown Palladium 12, the city's new movie theater.

I think that it brings diversity to the town. Everyone wants to go there and see a show...the place has personality and is not generic like the other mundane theatres that are around now, Stern said. The city really is yours to discover, and I promise it will be worth your trip.

## WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN BIRMINGHAM

### ARTS

Uptown Birmingham 8 movie theater on Old Woodward for some off-beat art house titles in movies and other shows

Uptown Palladium 12, the new movie theater just off Old Woodward offering mainstream movies

### FOOD & DRINK

Phoenicia for traditional Middle Eastern food

Cosi for salads, sandwiches and pizzas

Java Hutt Cafe for 24 hour coffee specials and the opportunity to pull all-nighters with other college students

Gayle's Chocolates for tasty if somewhat expensive treats

(all on Old Woodward)

### SHOPPING

Imelda's Closet on W. Maple for women's shoes, clothes and accessories

Art Loft on E. Maple for home decor with flare

Anthropologie on W. Maple for alternative home decor and clothing

### PARKING

Main downtown parking structure on Pierce St. (a block away from the main strip)

Parking along Old Woodward is free on Sundays and after 9 p.m. during the week

Small business parking lot across the road from Gayle's Chocolates which can be used at night