

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

February 18, 2009

Volume 35, Number 20

QUIET PRESENCE

Senior playwright to showcase one-page play in
off-off-Broadway festival in Manhattan [page 16](#)

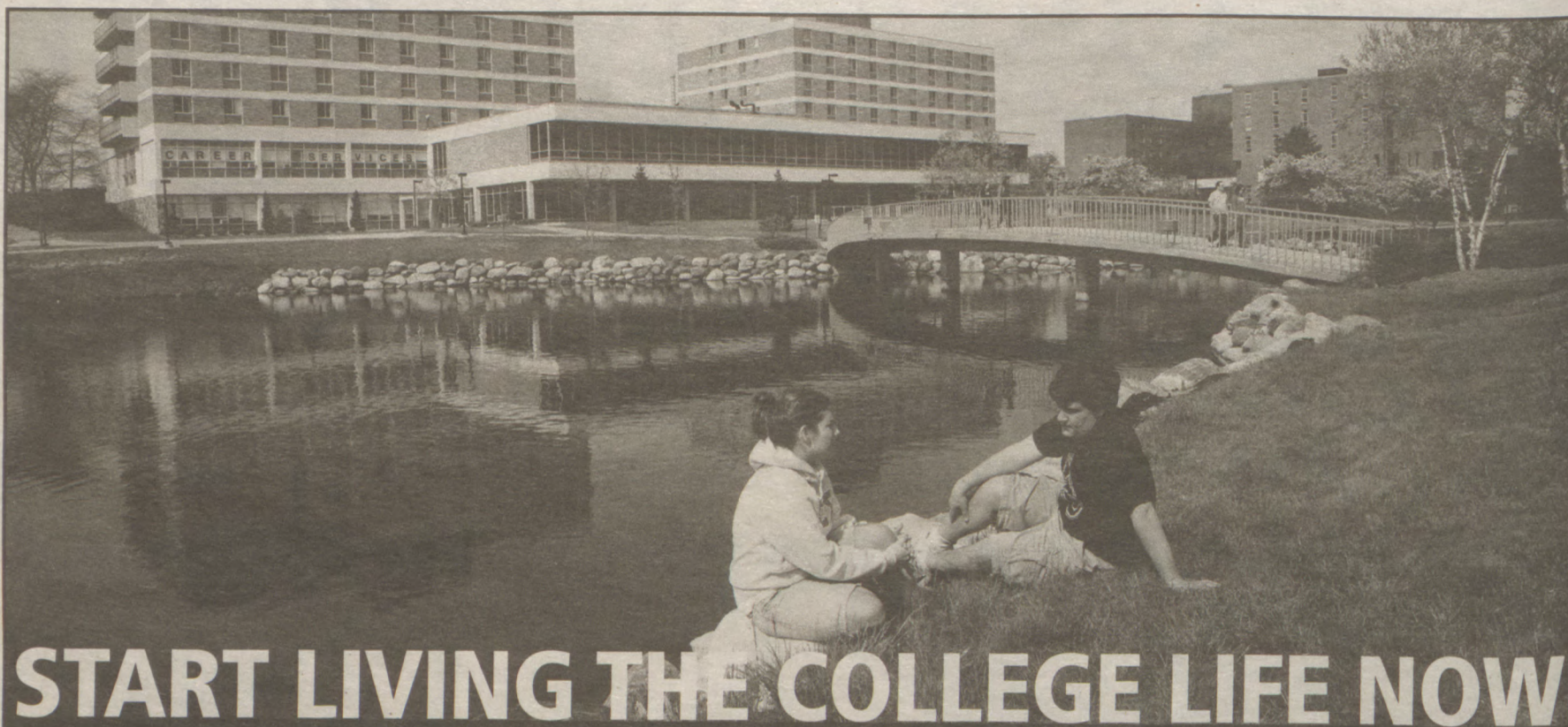


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GM said it might need more money to stay alive, up to \$30 billion total.

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Cover photo by BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

Quietly coming alive

Like many of us, you may not have the opportunity to see senior Franco Vitella's play "The Quiet Present" live in New York City. However, The Oakland Post delivers an exclusive slideshow of Tuesday's rehearsal.

Only on
oaklandpostonline.com.

Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

February 18, 2009

STAFF EDITORIAL

Journalism 2.0 = @ your service

Newspapers are a dying, yet cherished icon of our past, like carburetors and landlines. They're possibly the most fail-safe way to get news, but are becoming obsolete in a push by mainstream media to find faster, cheaper and easier ways to reach mass audiences.

As early as a 1981 report on KRON San Francisco, the media has been reporting on the inevitable demise of printed newspapers as the world goes digital. Even then it was acknowledged that we would get "all of our newspapers and magazines by home computer."

Twenty-eight years later, professional and college journalists alike are still reporting on the uncertain direction of journalism with a touch of irony via Twitter feeds, Flickr Photostreams, Tumblr blogs and other applications.

Meanwhile, mainstream media is embracing new media and its potential for story telling and interactivity with readers. The New York Times gave example on how to effectively accompany traditional newspaper reporting online in its coverage of the US Airways Flight 1549 crash landing on the Hudson. They posted online updates, invited witnesses to submit photos and linked to video from MSNBC all on the day of the incident. The online reports were followed by a polished piece in print the next day. In doing this, The Times kept itself relevant and competitive with radio and TV news outlets that can deliver on the spot. All of these techniques reach out to different groups of news consumers.

Most other mainstream media are taking note and making adjustments to the old business model. The Detroit Free Press, for example, cut its home deliv-

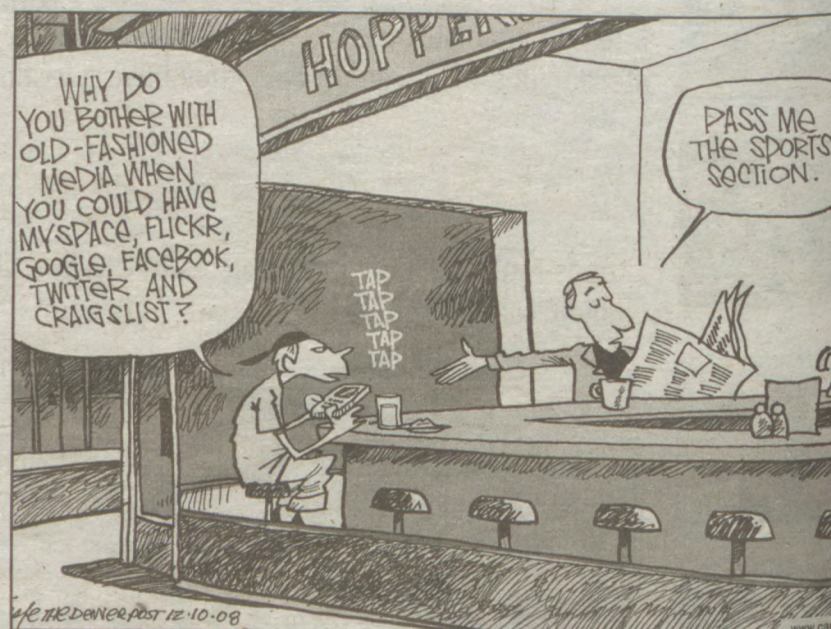
ery to three days a week to accommodate younger readers that get their news online. Although the average age of The Oakland Post's readers is presumably much younger than that of the national average, 50, we aren't going to be putting a stop payment on the check to the printer. Being a free weekly newspaper put out by and for the Oakland University community puts The Post in a unique position.

But that doesn't mean The Oakland Post should be complacent. We are making partnerships with WXOU and SVP to bring students more information and entertainment without duplicating or competing with what other students are already creating. Look for web exclusive stories, videos and other alternative story telling on **Oaklandpostonline.com**. Post reporters will be on the air Fridays at 2 p.m. on 88.3 FM WXOU, discussing the biggest stories on campus. These are just a few ways The Oakland Post is thinking outside the print edition.

With that in mind, The Oakland Post is looking for feedback on its ventures into the World Wide Web and partnerships with other student organizations. For journalism to truly go 2.0, there needs to be a constant and robust discussion among journalists and readers.

What would keep you coming back to the website, what types of stories do you like to read in the print edition? Twitter or ISSUU? Sports or satire? Your comments and suggestions could be general or specific, philosophical or logistic.

The door is literally open on Mondays and Tuesdays for your feedback and suggestions. Help guide us towards a solution for the next generation of news.



MIKE KEEFE/The Denver Post, Cagle Cartoons

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

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Letter Policy:

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

• The Police Files on page 9 of the Feb. 11 issue should have said that one minor resident had a PBT of .08.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call (248) 370-2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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

- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Hey TV, there's no one way to be gay

Katie Wolf Guest Columnist



Is it OK to invite gay men to baby showers? According to ABC's "Brothers and Sisters," the answer is yes. For clarification, here is a rundown of the characters: Nora Walker is the mother. Tommy, Sarah, Kitty, Kevin and Justin are the Walker children. Scotty is Kevin's husband, and Saul is Nora's gay brother. Robert is Kitty's husband.

Now that you're caught up — or as caught up as you possibly can be with a word count — Kitty and Robert are adopting a child, and in this episode Nora throws a baby shower. The guest list includes all the women in Kitty's life, plus Kevin, Scotty and Saul.

When asked by her granddaughter Paige why Tommy isn't invited to the baby shower, Nora replied, "Honey, it's a baby shower. You only invite girls to baby showers. That's the tradition." Paige gives her a confused look and points out that there are men being invited.

Nora gave a long pause, and a look of understanding dawned on Paige's face paired with her saying, "Ohh, I get it."

I don't get it. What's next, wedding showers? Bachelorette parties? On second thought, that last one might be completely appropriate. But I'm not alone in my confusion. Saul was unhappy with his invitation. He said, "I also happen to be annoyed and insulted ... I didn't come out of the closet to become a cliché."

I'm not entirely sure what the right way to portray gay men in the media is. But I think it's safe to say that the wrong way is to lump them into the same category as women.

In 1987 R.W. Connell studied the way we view masculinity and femininity in the media. Some of this research has become outdated, but there are still many truths to what Connell uncovered. Men that fit under the hegemonic masculinity category are men who are aggressive, ambitious and self-reliant. Heterosexuality is an important part of hegemonic masculinity. Men that fit under the alternative masculinity category are "men of color, non-native born men and gay males." Part of Connell's distinction is that men in the former category maintain dominance over those in the latter.

But who says that a gay man is any less masculine than a straight one? Who says that heterosexual men are the only ones who can display traits of masculinity? With the perpetuation of the stereotype that gay men identify better with women than with straight men, the

media is usually who is saying so. And that's not to say that there are gay men who don't identify better with women. But certainly not all of them do, and that's the problem. The media only shows a small portion of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, thus confusing the audience about who they really are.

Let's not even get started on who gets to decide what constitutes as masculine or feminine behavior. That could take a lifetime. In fact, it's taken many lifetimes to develop those social norms.

Programs like "Brothers and Sisters," "Will and Grace," or "Grey's Anatomy" have made enormous strides in depicting the alarmingly underrepresented gay community. But it seems as though whenever the writers of these programs get a little stuck, or need something juicy, they revert back to stereotypes.

As a relatively straight person, I realize that I might be the wrong person to be addressing this issue. Or maybe I'm the perfect candidate, because I have no personal stock in this. No matter what, it bothers me that people in the LGBT community — gay men in particular — get pigeonholed into a very small category, when heterosexuals get to display all the colors of their personality rainbows (no pun intended).

Probably the most important thing to take away from this "Brothers and Sisters" episode is what Scotty said: "There's no one way to be gay." The rest of the media needs to take heed. There is no one way to be gay, and there is no one way to portray gay men in the media.

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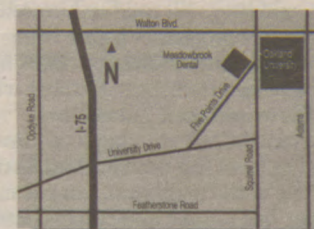
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Just across from the university.

Med school progress ongoing

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

Getting accredited as a medical school is a lengthy, meticulous process, but Oakland University officials say they are confident they are on the right track.

After being approved as an academic unit by the OU board of trustees on Feb. 4, the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine is currently working towards receiving accreditation, developing the curriculum and hiring faculty.

The trustees also approved the hiring of four associate deans: Dr. David Felten, Dr. John Musich, Dr. Angela Nuzzarello and Dr. Michele Raible.

Dr. Virindir Moudgil, provost at OU, addressed the OU Senate — a secondary legislative body made up of OU faculty and administrators — on Feb. 12 and updated the senate on the progress of the medical school.

The school's first class, limited to 50 students, is scheduled to begin their studies in the fall of 2010.

Under the planned curriculum, students will spend the first two years taking classes on the OU campus before moving on to Beaumont for the final two years of clinical training.

Getting accreditation

Moudgil said that the medical school is still in the process of meeting the requirements set by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education, the major accrediting body for medical schools in the United States, before they will consider accreditation. One of these was recently fulfilled by hiring four associate deans, bringing the total up to six.

Moudgil said LCME guidelines require medical schools to hire about three full-time professors for each of the seven disciplines laid out in LCME guidelines.

He said they will need to hire roughly 20 full-time professors before being considered for accreditation. That figure increased from 14 in October when LCME revised their guidelines.

Current LCME standards require the school to have full-time backup faculty in case one of the professors can not make class or has to take an extended leave.

Hiring faculty

Dean Dr. Robert Folberg is currently interviewing candidates for the faculty positions. Lorna Bearup, Folberg's assistant, said the school has received about

400 applications to fill the full-time positions, as well as an undetermined number of part-time positions.

Folberg was not available to comment, but Moudgil said Folberg is "aggressively recruiting" faculty from Beaumont.

Felten and Musich, two of the associate deans, will work through Beaumont. Moudgil said this will help alleviate the financial burden on OU because they will not have to pay the Beaumont faculty.

"You have the expertise of someone who actually does this for a living as opposed to someone who teaches but has never seen a patient," he added.

Faculty hired by the medical school, if tenured, will retain their tenure, Moudgil said. Faculty hired by Beaumont will not be eligible for tenure from OU.

"I think it is a good measure to protect the students," Moudgil said.

"The financial pieces are being worked out relatively smoothly, but there are still some things that have to be worked out," said Ronald Mattei, assistant dean.

Working with others

Moudgil thanked OU faculty for recently voting 228-18 in favor of including the medical school as an academic unit of the university.

This vote will allow the medical school to work with the OU chapter of American Association of University Professors, which in turn, will allow OU faculty to be directly involved in the hiring of the initial medical school faculty.

Folberg has dual appointment with OU and Beaumont, and will oversee all faculty at both institutions. Moudgil said this is vital for holding Beaumont faculty to the standards of other OU professors.

"All of the physicians who claim to be academic or are involved with any teaching and research will report to [Folberg]," Moudgil said. "It is a huge implication. Beaumont faculty will be responsible to the university."

Third time's the charm

The current venture with Beaumont is OU's third attempt at establishing a medical school. The first was in the 1960s when they tried to create one with Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital. Later, OU tried to create one with Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

"This time we are making sure that we do not engage in activities and obligations that will create trouble for this program," Moudgil said.



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post
(From left to right) Deans Ronald Mattei, Michele Raible, Linda Gillum and Angela Nuzzarello.

Meet the new deans

Name: Linda Gillum

Job title: Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Faculty Development

Duties: Develop curriculum and recruit faculty.

Before: She comes from University of Michigan's med school and has been in the field of academic medicine for 30 years.

Now: "It gives me the opportunity to be on the cutting edge as far as creating a new medical school."

Name: Ronald Mattei

Job title: Assistant Dean

Duties: Mainly overseeing the financial operations as well as recruiting and processing faculty.

Before: He was all set to enjoy retirement in October after teaching health sciences at OU, but three days later, Folberg asked him to return as Assistant Dean, and he accepted.

Now: "The university is fulfilling its obligation to the community by creating this school, and it's just great to be a part of it."

Name: Angela Nuzzarello

Job title: Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry

Duties: Student health and counseling services, etc.

Before: She comes from Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, where she had the same duties.

Now: "There's a lot of opportunities for collaboration [on] an undergraduate campus."

Name: Michele Raible

Job title: Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education and Clinical Assistant Professor of Pathology

Duties: Develop the curriculum.

Before: She practiced medicine as a hematologist and oncologist.

Now: "It seems like most physicians are teachers at one level or another."

• Associate Deans David Felten and John Musich weren't available for comment by press time.

OU may lose 3% of state funding next year

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Campus Editor

The tuition rate could rise again next year for Oakland University students.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm released her fiscal year 2010 budget recommendation for the state of Michigan on Wednesday, Feb. 11. Part of her recommendation was a 3 percent cut in state aid for public universities in Michigan.

Although it's a possibility, OU administration said that it's too soon to tell if tuition will be increased.

"We are way too early in the budget process to speculate as to whether there will be a tuition increase," said OU spokesperson Ted Montgomery.

The recommendation has not yet been approved, and final approval is not expected until later this summer.

If approved, this would mean OU would lose about \$1.6 million in funding from the state. In 2008-09, OU received \$51.9 million from the state. Under the governor's proposed budget, OU would receive \$50.3 million in 2009-10.

The state funding is not enough to cover OU's budget. The remainder must be raised from student tuition.

In 2008-09, \$127 million — about 72 percent of OU's \$170 million budget — was covered by tuition.

If the state aid cut for next year is approved, OU would have two options: decrease next year's budget cost somehow or increase the tuition rate to make up for the loss.

Granholm proposed offsetting the loss in funding for the universities by offering part of the \$787 billion federal stimulus package to public universities that keep next year's tuition rate the same as this year's.

Michigan is slated to receive about \$7 billion of the package, which President Barack Obama signed into law on Tuesday.

However, it's too soon to tell if OU will take this offer, especially given that the tuition freeze proposal has not been approved by the Michigan legislature yet.

Montgomery said it's unclear if OU will benefit from the stimulus package.

"Remember that the governor may not have discretion to mete out the money as she sees fits," he said. "That may be dictated by the federal government. In other words, it might not be hers to give away."

Montgomery said that the OU administration is currently developing the budget for next year.

"Preliminary budget talks are underway, but remember, it's hard to craft a budget when you don't know what kind of money you have to work with," he said.



For previous coverage of the tuition freeze proposal, visit www.oaklandpostonline.com

State aid for some of the public universities in 2009-10 under Gov. Granholm's budget proposal

University of Michigan Ann Arbor: \$316 million
Michigan State University: \$284 million
Wayne State University: \$214 million
Central Michigan University: \$80 million
Eastern Michigan University: \$78 million
Grand Valley State University: \$62 million
Oakland University: \$50 million

— Associated Press

State aid given to OU

1998-99: \$42.5 million
1999-00: \$44.3 million
2000-01: \$48.1 million
2001-02: \$52.9 million
2002-03: \$52.4 million
2003-04: \$50.5 million
2004-05: \$46.6 million
2005-06: \$47.2 million
2006-07: \$51.5 million
2007-08: \$46.6 million
2008-09: \$51.9 million
2009-10: (proposed) \$50.3 million

Percent of OU cost paid by tuition

2008-09: 72%
2009-10: To be determined.

— OU's report to its board of trustees



Web Exclusives this week:

- What is the "essence of manhood?"
 - How do political science professors think the new presidential administration will affect you?
 - Half of the semester is gone already. How can you salvage the rest?
- Find out by visiting www.oaklandpostonline.com

You're going on spring break, but The Oakland Post is not. We don't have a print issue next Wednesday, but we will be updating content on our Website daily.

Web Exclusives that will be online by Friday, Feb. 20

- What do OU supporters of Israel and Palestine have to say?
- What does recently-elected Gary Peters plan to do in Congress?
- Watch a slideshow about what happened on European Night.
- How does Arab Nationalism affect you?

• Blogs on 10 different topics updated Monday-Friday.

Now Accepting.....

Applications and Nominations for:

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



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Oakland University Board of Trustees Web Page

Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by March 31, 2009

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

Play shows other side of 'King Kong'

By MACKENZIE ROGER
Staff Reporter

For playwright Jack Neary, January was all about a gorilla. Not just any gorilla, but an often-unseen, 30-foot-tall one named King Kong.

The play "Kong's Night Out" was performed Saturday, Feb. 14 at Meadow Brook Theatre. Neary wrote and directed play, and an all-new cast performed it.

The play is a spin-off of the movie classic "King Kong." It's set in the hotel room before Kong's death on the Empire State Building, showing what happened the night Ann Darrow was taken from her hotel room.

The play begins with theater producer Myron Siegel, played by Oakland University alumnus Christopher Howe, on the night of the debut of his newest play "Foxy Felicia." That same night, rival producer Carl Denham, played by Wayne Parker, has planned to unveil his newest attraction "King Kong."

Denham has a history of often sabotaging Siegel's plays. Siegel's right-hand man Little Willie, played by Christo Savalas, is infatuated with Daisy, played by Kady Zadora.

Adding to the plot, Siegel's wife is having an affair with Denham, and he also has to deal with investor Darrow — whom the ape desires — and her fiancé.

"Kong's Night Out" began approximately six years ago, and has been in production twice before. The two previous runs shared several actors, but the cast of the current run is entirely new.

The play boasting a cast with such talent as Cindy Williams — who played Shirley in the '80s sitcom "Laverne and Shirley" — as Sally Charmaine and OU alumnus Christopher Howe as Myron Siegel.

"Cindy and Eddy [Mekka] were cast by the theater, Christo Savalas actually was cast through a video on the Internet, and the rest were cast at auditions in September," Neary said.

Pre-production ran smoothly, except for one problem.

"The rehearsal room was much smaller than the stage," Neary added. "We spent a whole day on learning to make the movements bigger."

Opening night at Meadow Brook was a success, with virtually every seat being occupied. Most in the audience were couples celebrating Valentine's Day. For several audience members, however, "Kong" was less than tasteful.

But for audience member Nicki Brandenburg, "Kong" was exceptional, and allowed her to see Williams live in a performance.

"I loved Cindy," she said. "She was amazing, I'm hoping she'll sign my DVD



Photo courtesy of Rick Smith of Rick's Photography
Little Willie looks on as Daisy prepares for her role as the 'fake' Daisy in the play within the play.

cover."

Saturday's performance also brought another treat for audience members. Tickets for a raffle were sold for \$3, with the winner receiving two visitor passes to the Empire State Building in New York City and a basket full of Kong mementos.

"I thought the raffle was really cool," OU student Linda Camen said. "People

can go to New York and be where 'King Kong' was set."

"Kong's Night Out" continues its run until March 8, with several performances with sign language accommodations for the deaf and scene descriptions for the visually-impaired.

Visit www.mbtheatre.com for a full schedule of performances.

Student radio station and SVP win awards

By KAY NGUYEN
Staff Reporter

The Michigan Association of Broadcasters recently awarded state honors to WXOU radio station and Student Video Productions for achievements in their respective fields.

WXOU and SVP are organizations run by Oakland University students. WXOU produces radio shows that can be heard on 88.3 FM, and SVP produces television shows for channel OUTV.

"I was very excited when I found out, since we have been working so hard for recognition," said Erik Anderson, program director of both SVP and WXOU. "Michigan State and Central Michigan usually get a lot of awards, and we are excited that we were able to take a couple from them."

Freshman communications major Matt Pocket snagged a first-place award for WXOU in the sports play-by-play category. His broadcast of the Michigan high school Division II football state championships clinched him the illustrious honor.

"When I sent in my entry, it was just a 'let's just see what happens' feeling," Pocket said. "When I got the voicemail from Erik, it was the biggest surprise of my life."

Pocket won another state award for his work in high school sports radio last year and has aspirations of



MASUDUR RAHMAN/The Oakland Post
Matt Pocket prepares for a show at WXOU radio station.

becoming a professional play-by-play commentator. He was courted by Spring Arbor University, another awards powerhouse, but chose to come to OU because of the opportunities presented to him.

"Sometimes I sit back and think about things and think: wow, I am doing Division I college basketball play-by-play," Pocket said. "[Oakland] has helped me get my foot in the door and winning this award will definitely help with my career."

Anderson, Mike Parsons, and Chuck Kanouse earned an honorable mention in the station activities report category.

The project involved creating a short essay and a demo tape that highlighted the station's community involvement throughout the year.

Along with senior journalism major Kim Yonick, Anderson also won a second place award for SVP in the best college television talk show category. Their half-hour technology talk show "Best Tech" features the latest in everything from tech news to movies to video games.

"I think that it is awesome and it is good to see fellow students and members of SVP put their work out there," said SVP president Demetrios Anastasiow. "I am glad they did well."

As producer, Yonick's responsibilities range from planning shows and their content to editing. As program director, Anderson "oversees anything on the air."

"It is great when all the hard work you put into something is recognized," Yonick said. "After I found out, I thought that maybe I could do this after I graduate."

Awards will be given out at the Great Lakes Broadcasting Conference & Expo on March 11.

After the recent success, Anderson, a junior, is just looking ahead to the future.

"We hope to win more awards next year," Anderson said.

Student presidential candidates announced

By MASUDUR RAHMAN
Campus Editor

Oakland University Student Congress announced the candidates for student body president, vice president and OUSC legislators Tuesday, Feb. 17. The deadline applications was Monday, Feb. 16.

The student body presidential and vice-presidential candidates won't have to face an incumbent ticket, because president Dan Evola is not running for re-election, instead choosing to run as one of the 22 OUSC legislator candidates. Vice president Jordan Twardy is graduating this semester.

Jennifer Doptis, election coordinator, said the candidates aren't allowed to start campaigning until March 2, after the OUSC general meeting ends. This means they can't pass out campaign literature or hang signs until then.

On March 5, there is a "meet and mingle" event to let students get to know the candidates. Currently it's booked in the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center, but Doptis said that could change.

Three of the four presidential tickets are composed of current OUSC members.

The tickets are:

- **Anthony Ivone** (president) and **Jackie Craite** (vice president)
- **Janelle Arbuckle** (president) and **Nick McCormick** (vice president)
- **Kristin Dayag** (president) and **Saman Waquad** (vice president)
- **Mark Medaugh** (president) and **Ashley Marthen** (vice president)

There will be three debates after spring break. The first is for the presidential candidates on March 9 in the OC Fireside Lounge. The vice presidential candidates debate is on March 10 in the Pioneer Food Court at noon. The final presidential candidates debate is on March 18 in the OC Gold Rooms at noon.

Voting days are March 21 through March 23. Students can vote only on the OUSC website. Election results will be made available on March 27.

Visit www.oakland.edu/ousc to read the campaign platforms of the candidates.

Go to www.oaklandpostonline.com for the OUSC legislator candidates.

Read future issues of The Oakland Post for further coverage of the elections.

Coming Up On Campus

Look out for these events after returning from spring break

- **Spotlight: Lecture by Jeffrey Zaslow, the co-author of "The Last Lecture"**

The Oakland Post invites you to attend the event at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3 in the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center. You may have heard of or read the award-winning book "The Last Lecture," or at least heard of it. Months before pancreatic cancer claimed his life, professor Randy Pausch gave his final lecture to his students at Carnegie Mellon University. Jeffrey Zaslow, a Wall Street Journal columnist, attended this lecture, and then co-wrote the book with Pausch. Oakland University's journalism department is co-hosting this event, which is free and open to the public. A book signing will follow the event. Part of the proceeds of Zaslow's speech will go toward the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and the Randy Pausch Honorary Fund at Carnegie Mellon University.

Other events after spring break:

- **"Love & Sex Poetry Reading":** Monday, March 2, from 3-4 p.m. on the 4th floor of Kresge Library.
- **"Authors at OU: A Celebration of the Journal":** Wednesday, March 4, from 2-4 p.m. on the 4th floor of Kresge Library.
- **"What Does it Mean to be a Transgender Woman?":** Thursday, March 5, from noon-1 p.m. in the Gold Room B of the Oakland Center.
- **"Hunger Banquet":** Thursday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center.

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Helping high schoolers

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

Some Pontiac Central High School freshmen are looking up to several Oakland University students to guide them as role models.

Since January, members of Revive, Educate, Dream, Change Our World have been working with OU's Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs and the mentoring program Winning Futures.

Jessica Reese, REDCOW's vice president, said every mentor in Winning Futures at Pontiac Central High is a member of REDCOW.

"They serve as a positive role model [the students] can adapt to," said Jonathan Parks, REDCOW's advisor from Pre-College Programs department.

Though part of Parks' job is to advise REDCOW on things like what sort of projects they should take on, he said they already had it figured out.

"They had a plan, they knew exactly what they wanted to do," Parks said.

"They just hit the ground running ... All the pieces just jelled."

"We get the mentees to talk about their

strengths and weaknesses, and we help them learn leadership roles and how it can help them in college," Reese said.

She said mentors in REDCOW get to know students better by putting songs that make them happy and sad together on a CD. They also talked about how attitude is important to leadership.

Reese said she also made Valentine cards with her mentees to deliver to American House senior citizen homes.

REDCOW was formed last September.

"We felt like the campus was missing something, and we wanted to fill that void," said Norris Chase, president.

Reese said the goal of REDCOW is "to provide social and political awareness through community service, campus involvement and academic enrichment."

Since the formation, members worked in a haunted house and packaged clothes to be shipped across the world for Remnant Project Ministries. Future plans include forming a team for Relay for Life in March and working with Habitat for Humanity in April.

REDCOW also hosts study nights in the Oakland Center's Lake Michigan Room on Mondays and Thursdays, where everyone is welcome to attend.

POLICEFILES

On Feb. 10, a female student reported that her black Dell laptop computer was stolen from the women's bathroom in the second floor of Varner Hall. She said the laptop was in a red bag that she left out of her sight for five minutes. The red bag was later turned in, with textbooks with the victim's name, but the \$1,200-\$1,500 laptop was not found.

On Feb. 11, a female student reported that her backpack was stolen from the lounge in the women's bathroom in North Foundation Hall. She said another female was nearby when she went to the bathroom for five minutes, and when she returned, her backpack was gone, as was the other female. The victim also said three to four other students came

and went at that time, but OUPD didn't conclude anything.

On Feb. 11, a female student reported that her backpack was stolen near the women's bathroom in the lower level of the Oakland Center. She said she set it in a chair in the bathroom while she applied makeup at the sink for 15 minutes, and that it was taken during that time. She said a female came and used the bathroom during that time, but OUPD didn't conclude anything.

On Feb. 12, a male student reported that he lost his wallet in Kresge Library. He said his wallet had his driver's license, OU Spirit Card and debit card. He said he canceled his debit card, and requested a new Spirit Card.

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Jeffrey
ZASLOW

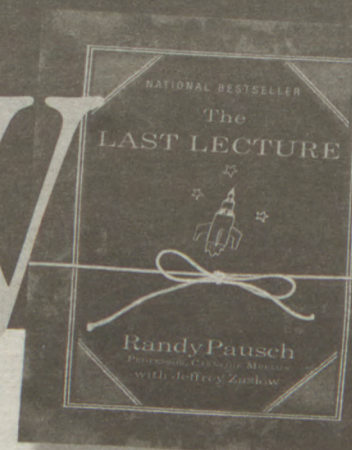
Please join us for a conversation with the co-author
of the international best-seller 'The Last Lecture.'
Mr. Zaslow also is an acclaimed journalist who writes
the popular 'Moving On' column for The Wall Street Journal.

Admission is FREE. Donations to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network are encouraged.

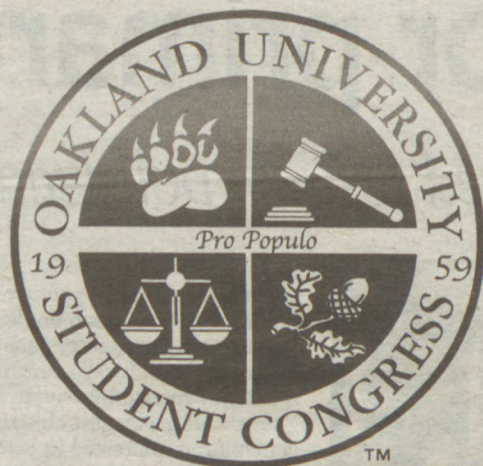
TUESDAY, March 3, 6:30 p.m.

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Candidates gear up for primary

Televised debate turns up heat on overlooked issues, poll leaders

By SEAN GARNER
Senior Reporter

The polls might say they won't win, but that didn't prevent four candidates for Detroit mayor from mixing it up verbally in front of a capacity audience.

Freman Hendrix, Coleman Young Jr., Jonathan Edison and Jerroll Sanders debated Tuesday night at Ambassador for Christ Church in Redford. The debate preceded the special primary by eight days. The candidates discussed matters of concern to Detroit residents, such as the public school system, the future of Cobo Hall, public safety and the best ways to lift Detroit out its \$300 million budget deficit.

The event, which was broadcast on the Detroit affiliate of the Christian Television Network, was marked by bold statements and an energetic audience.

Hendrix received perhaps the largest applause of the night when he criticized interim Mayor Ken Cockrel Jr.'s handling of the proposed expansion of Cobo Hall, accusing him of pandering to business interests.

"Cockrel brags about how he was able to work out the Cobo Hall plan in only three months. I would submit to you that for what he gave away, he could have done it in three days," said Hendrix.

Cockrel wasn't the only frontrunner in absentia to receive heat from the candidates in attendance. Edison voiced his attitudes toward Bing, garnering mixed reactions from the audience.

"Dave Bing didn't even live in Detroit," Edison said. "He hasn't been around. He doesn't know what ails this city. My question to Dave Bing is, 'Why do



SEAN GARNER/The Oakland Post

Mayoral candidates involved the Feb. 24 non-partisan primary participated in a televised debate hosted by Angelo Henderson of WCHB 1200 AM and Glenn Plummer of Ambassador for Christ Church. (From Left) Johnathan Edison, Jerroll Sanders, Henderson, Plummer, Freman Hendrix and Coleman Young Jr.

you want to come to our city in order to invade our city?"

The candidates spent a considerable portion of the debate discussing educational policies. Jerroll Sanders, a longtime employee of Detroit Public Schools said one of the major problems is that students in Detroit don't understand that education can be a gateway to financial prosperity.

"A while back we had a workshop called, 'How you can become a millionaire,' and it helped students understand the connection between their educa-

tion and their potential earnings in the future," Sanders said. "It inspired students to want to learn, and that is the impression I want to leave on the kids of the city of Detroit."

Young, a 26-year-old representative in the state legislature and son of Coleman Young who served as Detroit's mayor from 1974-1993, said recent cuts in the Detroit Public Schools, coupled with the millions of dollars lost in the city's contracting scandal rivals criminal behavior.

"If you steal from our kids, then you're stealing from the city, and you should go

to jail," Young said.

Young suggested a young reader program that has been implemented in cities across the country such as New York City and Chicago which he said is entirely funded by private donations. Young said his biggest objective is to get children interested in learning when they are young before they become cynical about education.

The two candidates with the most votes in the Feb. 24 primary will face each other in a runoff election May 5. Although there will be 15 candidates on the ballot, most polls indicate that the primary is essentially a three-way race.

According to a tracking "robo-poll" by michiganliberal.com, Hendrix was the only candidate in attendance who has a realistic chance of making the May ballot. Hendrix is polling at 17 percent, trailing former Piston Dave Bing at 31 percent and interim mayor Ken Cockrel Jr. at 26 percent.

Clarence Thornton, a 71-year-old lifelong resident of Detroit, said he resists the notion that the candidates in attendance have little chance to win.

"I don't think Bing is as strong as they make him out to be," Thornton said. "Believe me, Cockrel is not as strong as people think." Thornton said he is supporting Coleman Young in the Feb. 24 primary. "His hands are clean," Thornton said. "We have Hendrix, who was in [former Mayor Dennis] Archer's administration. They did more damage to us than anyone, and they profited from their time in office. Jerroll Sanders says she's been in the schools for umpteen years, but all you have to do is look at the state of our schools right now. It's a disgrace."

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KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/Detroit Free Press, Associated Press

(Left) Kate Kelly, 24, of Waterford, and James Sullivan after he proposed on the replica of the U.S.S. Enterprise bridge at the grand opening of the Star Trek exhibit at the Detroit Science Center on Saturday, Feb. 14. If couples proposed during the opening of the exhibit they were entered into a drawing to have their wedding at the exhibit.



CARLOS OSORIO/Associated Press

(Left) A child practice dummy at the Surgical Learning Center at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. The Beaumont Commercialization Center allows medical device manufacturers to use the Surgical Learning Center with its simulated operating rooms to help develop and test medical technology



RYAN EVON/Morning Sun, Associated Press

(Left) Firefighters battle the flames fully engulfing the Horr Trading Post in Sherman Township, Mich., early in the morning on Tuesday, Feb. 17. The store had been closed for about eight years before reopening in 2005.

Meeting to cull outcry

By RORY MCCARTY
Senior Reporter

A meeting on deer management held by the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and Department of Natural Resources will be held Tuesday, Feb. 24 at Meadow Brook Hall.

The meeting is part of a statewide tour which will, among other things, address Rochester Hills' approach to preventing deer-car collisions. The previously imposed deer cull was halted due largely to public outcry. City councilman Mike Webber also said that the effort hadn't been as successful as he had hoped.

According to MUCC resource policy specialist David Nyberg, the Meadow Brook Hall meeting will give regular citizens the opportunity to talk to a deer advisory team comprised of experts in a diverse range of fields affected by the deer problem. Nyberg said that the MUCC approached the DNR last year to create a deer management program, part of which included the creation of the Michigan Deer Advisory Team.

"Part of that group's job is to go out and talk to citizens about what concerns them," Nyberg said.

Nyberg said the meeting will begin with a DNR representative explaining what is currently going on, and then the floor will be opened up for citizen comments.

In recent weeks, outcry from some Rochester Hills residents has been enough to put together a petition to attempt to have Rochester Hills city council president Greg Hooper and councilman J. Martin Brennan removed from office. Cooper and Brennan were two of the four council members who voted for the deer cull.

Nyberg said all of the comments from the meeting will be documented, and the Deer Advisory Team will incorporate it into a recommendation that will be sent to the Natural Resource Commission.

Nyberg said that the deer management plan is comprehensive for many issues.

"Issues affecting people in Oakland County are going to be drastically different from those in the U.P.," he said. "Every region in Michigan — whether you're concerned about a deer eating your shrubs or the size of antlers on a buck — has concerns."

The meeting will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and will be open to the public.

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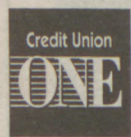
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Is the economy affecting your plans for spring break?



"No, the first weekend I am going up north with my family. The rest of the week I am staying home. It's not the economy that is affecting my decision to stay home, I have just chosen not to go anywhere."

Paul Schweiger
Junior,
computer information technology



"I did [have plans] but because of the economy, I can't take the trip. I was supposed to visit my sister and aunt in South Carolina with my family."

Courtney Kulikowski
Sophomore, business management



"The economy isn't affecting my plans, school is. I have research projects to do so I don't get to go away."

Justin Kulwicki
Junior, environmental science



"I am going to South Carolina to build houses for Habitat for Humanity. The economy is not affecting my break because I raised all my money for the trip by collecting cans and bottles."

Violet Niedbala
Junior, pre-medical laboratory science

If money was no issue, what would be your ideal vacation?



"I'd probably go to Cancún and party with friends."

Julian Hermiz
Senior,
computer science and engineering



"Taking my son to see the Myan Ruins in Mexico, I've seen them and I'd like to share it with him."

Shawn Harig
Senior, history/sociology



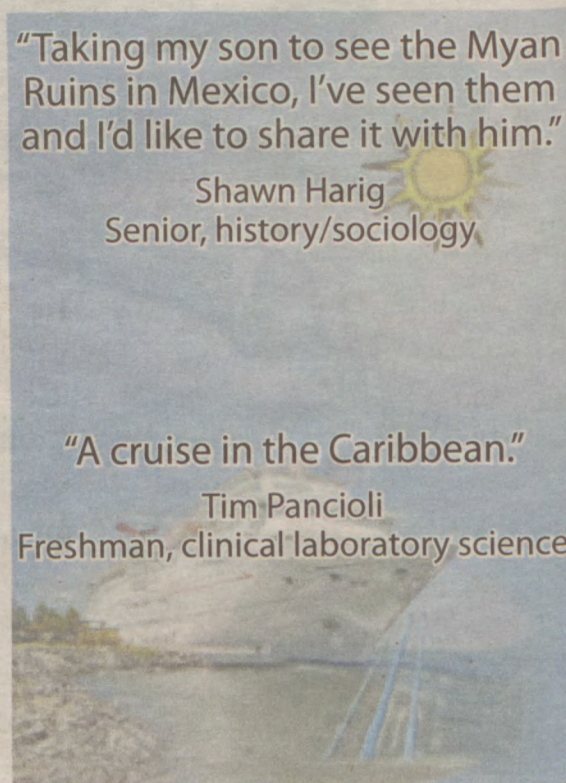
"My ultimate spring break would be going to Miami, Florida with all my friends."

Chaniece Coleman
Freshman, nursing



"A cruise in the Caribbean."

Tim Pancioli
Freshman, clinical laboratory science



Would you rather...

Go somewhere warm by yourself or stay at home with your friends?



"Staying with my friends because I don't think it would be any fun without my friends."

Tiffany Wolfe
Sophomore, journalism



"Go somewhere warm by myself because I need warmth, I love the heat."

Rykel Peacock
Freshman, health sciences



Top 10 spring break hot spots for 2009

According to about.com.

1. Cancún, Mexico
2. Bahamas and Jamaica
3. Panama City, Florida
4. Acapulco, Mexico
5. Miami and South Beach, Florida
6. South Padre Island, Texas
7. Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan
8. North American ski resorts
9. Europe
10. Baja, Mexico

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In 5 New York Minutes

One-page play written by OU student to show in Manhattan

By LINDSEY WOJCIK
Editor in Chief

Just west of the over-stimulating lights and bustling activity of Times Square is Manhattan's theater district. Marquee are splashed with Broadway's biggest productions and the stars who deliver the entertainment.

Scattered throughout New York City a smaller, less conventional theater community exists that is known as off-off-Broadway. It is in that venue that Oakland University senior Franco Vitella will debut his one-page play "The Quiet Present."

Vitella will drive nearly 10 hours and over 600 miles to New York City this weekend to debut the five minute performance in the "Zero to Sixty: One Page Play Festival" on Feb. 21 at the Where Eagles Dare theater on W. 36th Street.

"This I wrote just playing around. I never thought anything would actually happen with it. Then I came across [Zero to Sixty] and I said 'It's one page and I'll submit it,'" Vitella said.

Vitella said he didn't expect his play to be selected; it was more of a shot in the dark. "It seemed like it was more for people who are in New York and it would be a lot easier but they sent me an e-mail and asked if I was interested."

According to the festival's producer, John Chatterton, most of the one-page plays in the festival are from New York playwrights, but he could recall Vitella's play.

"I remember [Franco] was delighted to be in the festival and took a great effort to be in it," Chatterton said.

As producer, Chatterton said he read many plays before choosing the 40 that will be showcased.

"I'm looking for plays that make a statement in a very short amount of time and have a twist at the end, so that's what I need to see in a play," Chatterton said he saw those qualities in "The Quiet Present."

"It shows the mind of a very strange individual," Chatterton said.

Taking it to the [NYC] streets

Having roughly 19 days to prepare, Vitella said he didn't really have much time for auditions.

"I kind of just put the message out to anybody I thought would be interested in being involved. So it was basically anyone who said yes," he said.

Director Robert Glowacki said he was a bit overwhelmed at first.

"It started on Facebook like everything does nowadays. He sent us a message and said 'hey I have this play, it's only five minutes and we have two weeks to put it up and take it to New York City.' So at first it

was like this huge daunting task."

In order to raise money Vitella and his crew held a stage reading on Sunday, Feb. 8, of another play he wrote.

"We raised some money and so we have enough to cover our travel expenses, at least to get there and back."

With hotel and gas expenses, Vitella said the trip will cost roughly \$600. The drive will also be the first trip to New York for some of the students. Glowacki said in order to prepare for the trip the cast and crew have been rehearsing almost every day.

Fierce competition

OU lecturer, Kitty Dubin, who is also a professional playwright, said the playwriting field is very hard to break through.

"It's highly competitive and very few plays are chosen. It's a very tough thing to be involved in, you have to really love doing it," she said.

Dubin also said that it is very unusual for students to debut plays in New York City before they graduate.

"I think New York has a certain cache and myself, when I had my first play done in New York, I was so excited. I think it's neat that he's driving there and being with other theater students. It will be an adventure, an experience and he will learn things from it," she said.

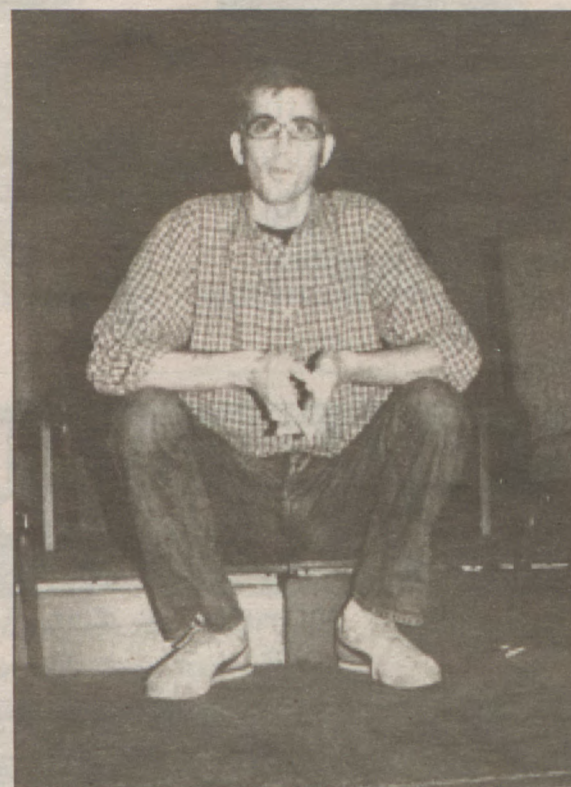
Dubin had Vitella in both of her playwriting classes and said that unlike many of her students, it's remarkable that Vitella has continued to write plays outside of class.

"He's very prolific and very disciplined, and very inventive and original. Usually people need a deadline for writing and Franco can give himself a deadline and he will write and produce as opposed to needing an external deadline."

A story coming to life

Vitella has produced three other plays at OU and two others that have been produced in the metro Detroit area. "The Quiet Present" derived from his full-length play "Come Beauty" that was produced at OU in 2007. The characters in "The Quiet Present" Ori, a lonely mute boy and Tat, the corpse of Ori's dead friend are extensions of "Come Beauty."

"He actually kills her in ['Come Beauty'] by accident again. 'The Quiet Present' would be sort of like a sequel or a right after 'Come Beauty' and what they're left with. He's by himself and it's just him and the girl," Vitella said.



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

OU senior Franco Vitella perches on the steps inside the Varner Hall practice lab during rehearsal of his one-page play. Vitella and cast will travel to Manhattan to perform on Feb. 21.

Glowacki, a senior theater major who worked with Vitella on "Come Beauty," said he enjoyed "The Quiet Present" a little more than its predecessor.

"It gets a little bit more into Ori's character than 'Come Beauty.' Really, this character is more candid and allows you more, as an audience viewer, to relate to things but also in the character is a challenge that he didn't have in 'Come Beauty,'" Glowacki said.

"Because we have to get all of this out in five minutes I think it's a little bit more in your face and a little more avant-garde than 'Come Beauty,'" he said.

The fact that the play has very few lines may contribute to the candidness of Ori's character. Senior theater major Will Luchin, who plays Ori, described "The Quiet Present" as more of a physical play.

"It's very interesting. It's a one-page play that's all physical. I mean there's literally no lines. It's a little difficult to get across," Luchin said.



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

(Clockwise from upper-left) Will Luchin and Lauren Rich rehearse a scene while Robert Glowacki observes and offers direction. Luchin plays the male lead Ori and also serves as the play's fight coordinator. Rich remains limp and lifeless for much of the performance.

Lauren Rich, a junior theater major who plays Tat, said the story line is unlike anything she has done in the past.

"I've never really done anything that was abstract before," Rich said. "The story is very interesting and it's kind of cool that even though I'm dead I can teach the other character Ori some things along the way."

Portrait of a mute

While Vitella said he didn't draw anything from his own experiences for the story, his own interests in looking for answers inspired "Come Beauty."

"That's what 'Come Beauty' is more about, trying to find answers and just getting more questions. As far as 'The Quiet Present' goes, it's just playing around with these interesting characters," he said.

"He thinks she's alive, so he kind of does things with her like, pal kind of stuff until it kind of goes too far and he accidentally stabs her with a sword," Vitella said.

"The Quiet Present" will be Luchin's first time working with Vitella and he said the role was a blessing in disguise because he's always wanted to work with him.

"I enjoy this character a lot because he doesn't get a chance to figure out what's going on in his head. The character has a whole dark past and subconscious in his mind that's constantly running," Luchin said. "There's a whole lot of moments of light hearted comedy because he's trying to get over his really dark past."

Luchin also serves as the fight coordinator for "The Quiet Present."

"It's essentially me lifting Lauren Rich for about five minutes and carrying her to different ends of the stage and she has to fall sometimes on her own."

Rich assists Luchin with the physical movements.

"It's a challenge not to move and to try not to breathe a lot. It's interest-

ing having to help because you can't be completely limp because when he's picking me up and stuff you have to help him without it making it look like I'm moving," Rich said.

The Big Payoff

Regardless of how physically draining a one-page play with virtually no lines can be, the opportunity of working in an off-off-Broadway play in New York City is worth it.

"Off-off-Broadway for us is a compliment to be able to walk right in and not have to audition. This is Franco's project and we're all doing our best to help, but at the same time it's a huge benefit to all us," Luchin said.

Glowacki agreed that while performing in New York City will be beneficial to his budding career, it will also help put OU's theater department on the map.

"I think it's a really good chance to showcase to New York what Oakland can do as a theater program," he said. "We're trying to show that Oakland has an up-and-coming theater department and we're growing in numbers not only in musical theater and production, but also in playwriting."

Rich couldn't express her excitement enough for the trip and said the performance will also help her future career.

As for Vitella, he said he never really thought about debuting a play in New York City before graduation.

"It's sort of like an unwritten thing, if you want to make it in theater it's in New York City. I mean this isn't the hugest thing but it almost seems silly that I'm bothering to even take a one-page play and going through all of this but it's worth it for that."

While the bright lights of Manhattan's theater district may seem enticing, Vitella said the experiences that OU's small community has afforded him are things he will never forget.

"The coolest stuff I've done has been here with people I know. I'm glad I get to take people I know."

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WMU
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Musical duo comfy in 'Corduroy'

By MACKENZIE ROGER
Staff Reporter

A guitar and a trumpet. Strings and air. Two simple, distinct sounds that, in the band Corduroy, work in literal harmony.

Since Christina Droscha's freshman year, she has musically collaborated with then OU sophomore Lauren Donnay. One year ago, the two formed a duo called Corduroy.

Droscha's mother stressed the importance of a musical background for both Droscha and her two sisters. Both siblings played the piano, but Droscha — in an effort to branch out — took up guitar at age 5, and hasn't looked back.

"It was important to my mom that we all did something musical," she said.

The two are looking into recording a CD by the end of the semester, possibly through Terry Herald, sound technician and technical coordinator of OU's music, theatre and dance department.

For right now though, Corduroy live their daily lives as normally as possible, performing at small, intimate open-mic nights throughout the state.

Throughout high school, Droscha combined her love of music with athletic and academic pursuits, playing both soccer

and basketball, while also participating in the National Honor Society. Despite her involvement, Droscha still found it difficult to make close friends.

"Most of the friends I had in high school were through those activities," she said. "I couldn't really talk to them about stuff ... it was a very shallow environment."

Following her high school graduation, Droscha came to OU and had a difficult first year.

"My freshman year was hard, not being near family and having to find something else," she said.

In an effort to find that "something else," Droscha turned to music, and found a close friend in Donnay. The two have known each other for three years and counting, and last year chose to call themselves Corduroy.

"We picked the name because ... it symbolized comfort for both of us," said Donnay. Droscha plays guitar and does lead vocals, and Donnay plays the trumpet and gyl, an African percussion instrument.

For the duo, inspiration comes in the name of Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco, who serves as a muse for both Donnay and Droscha.

"Ani is a very aggressive guitar

player," said Donnay. "Her style is very similar to Christina's."

"[Donnay's] musical style is very improvisatory, and similar to [the band] Umphrey McGee's style," said Droscha of Donnay's trumpet playing.

Currently, Droscha is a junior and a resident assistant on the fourth floor in West Vandenberg. In her leadership role, she tries to give to other students what she lacked her freshman year.

"I wanted to be an RA because I really like being a part of a community away from home," Droscha said.

Next year, Droscha will graduate with a bachelor's degree in integrated studies. She hopes to be accepted into a trade school and, ultimately, become a carpenter. Last December, Donnay graduated with a degree in music education for K-12. They are also looking into moving out of Michigan within the next several years.

Neither Droscha nor Donnay plan to give up on music.

"We really just love doing music," said Droscha. "We don't want to lose our passion ... by pushing too hard."

Corduroy perform weekly at the Word of Mouth open-mic night in the Fishy Lounge of West Vandenberg, including Wednesday, March 4 at 9:30 p.m.



BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post
Christina Droscha (left) and Lauren Donnay make up the musical duo Corduroy, tune up outside on the steps of the Oakland Center.

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3. Earn Money

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The 'Unold' story of swimming

Polish swimmer creates a dominant career at Oakland University

By MACKENZIE ROGER
AND JARED PURCELL
Staff Reporter/Sports Editor

As a child growing up in his native town Slaska, Poland, Marcin Unold had one thing on his mind: swimming. That one word has become a defining and successful aspect of Unold's life.

In his third year of NCAA eligibility swimming with Oakland University, Unold has a chance to add to his successful collegiate career at the Summit League Championship, which begins Thursday and ends Saturday.

In last year's Summit League Championship, Unold broke school records in the 100 and 200 yard backstroke, along with being a part of the record-holding 200 and 400 medley relays.

"Marcin is extremely talented, if not the most talented swimmer that I've coached in the past 30 years," said OU head coach Pete Hovland. "And he hasn't even reached his potential yet."

In 2008, Unold was named the Summit League's Swimmer of the Year, made an impressive showing at the NCAA Championships — coming in fifth in the 200 back with a time of 1:42.03. Unold also came in ninth in the 100 back, with many of the swimmers placing above him graduating last year.

Unold returned home to Poland in the summer of 2008, and made the Polish Olympic team but missed the Olympic qualifying standard for the 100 backstroke.

Despite high expectations always surrounding Unold's performances, hype and pressure are the last things on his mind.

"I never put the pressure on me," Unold said. "I never said I wanted to go to the USA and be the best swimmer in the world ... I just want to do the best I can."

Getting his feet wet

For the last 15 years, the 22-year-old Unold has been competitively swimming in Poland, going back home in the summers and for periods in the winter.

Since January 2007, he has been living in the United States and swimming with the OU men's swim team. Before that, in Poland, he swam for multiple teams, the main one being the Oswiecim swim club where he swam for three years.

Unold's OU teammate Dawid Tatarczyk has followed much the same schedule. Both swam for Oswiecim, and attended Szkola Mistrzostwa Spolowego — a high school for athletes in Poland — where they lived in dorms. If Unold was around, Tatarczyk was usually close by.

"We raced each other since we were small kids," Tatarczyk said. "When we started [swimming together], I would say we were even. When he went to high school, he started to get better though."

In early 2007, Tatarczyk left Poland to swim for

OU, where he thrived under coach Pete Hovland's guidance.

Because Unold spent a year as an exchange student in Chicago while in high school, he had to wait one more year in school in Poland before he could go to the states with his friend.

"Dawid is my age," Unold said. "But I couldn't go [to OU] the same year because I was an exchange student for a year in high school."

In mid-October of that year while in Poland for a visit, Tatarczyk informed Unold about OU's dominance within the league and the team's search for new swimmers.

Although Unold almost decided to attend Purdue, an immediate scholarship wasn't offered which led to him to keep searching for other schools. Unold and coach Hovland conversed for around three months prior to Unold's commitment to OU. To Hovland, Unold was a recruit that they didn't want to lose.

"I was pretty dissatisfied when I heard he was considering Purdue," Hovland said. "He had the possibility of being the best recruit we would have signed in school history at the time. [I was] elated when he was going to accept our offer after all."

Helping greatly in Unold's transition was the fact that there was already a small group of foreign swimmers on the team including Agnes Solan and Tatarczyk, who are Polish as well.

"We can understand each other better," Unold said of his fellow Polish swimmers.

"I think he was more adjusted and adapted easier because of them," Hovland said.

Both Unold and Tatarczyk found comfort in knowing that they were swimming together again.

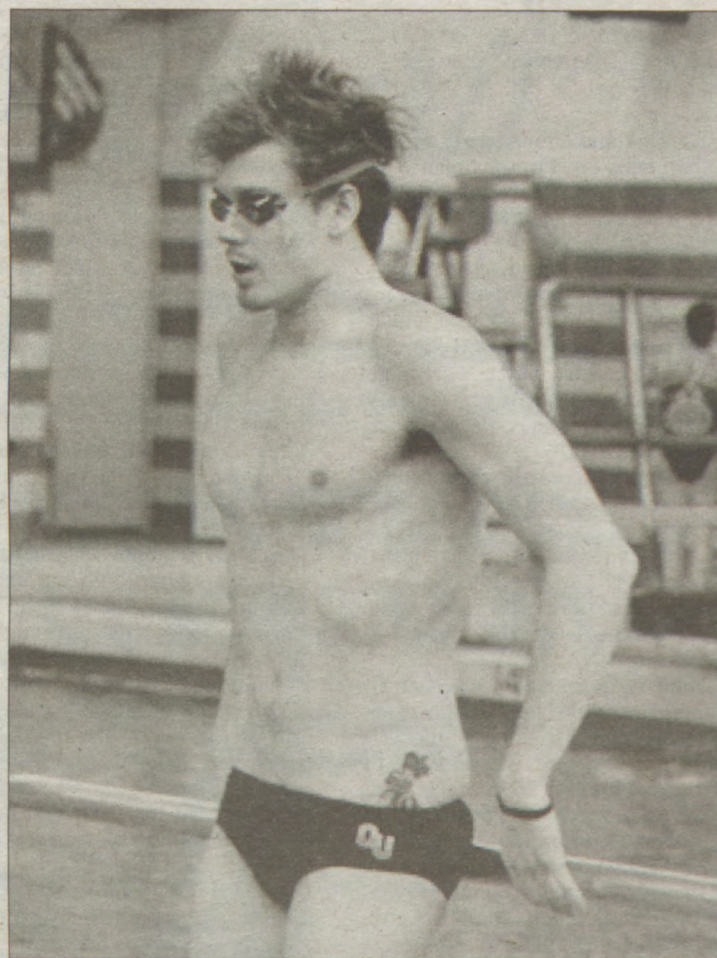
"It helps to know someone from where you came from," Tatarczyk said. "It makes the change easier."

Unold now lives in the student apartments, close by teammate Tatarczyk. Although Unold said they aren't inseparable, they don't mind being around each other a lot.

"He is laid back and likes to joke around," Tatarczyk said. "It'd be a shame if he wasn't here."

All work, no sleep

Between September and February, Unold's days as an OU swimmer usually begin at 5:30 a.m., in the pool by 6, practice until 8, then breakfast, studying and classes until afternoon practice begins at 3 and lasts till 6.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Marcin Unold takes accomplishments and records in stride as an OU swimmer.

After practice is dinner and more studying until he falls asleep between 1 and 2 in the morning. Unold estimates that he averages between 4-5 hours of sleep per night.

Keeping a schedule that would incapacitate most of his peers, Unold admits that it can feel overwhelming at times.

"It's a lot of stress from everyone," Unold said. "Because I proved I can do well under pressure."

Each morning, practice consists of between 5,000 and 6,000 yards in the pool, with the afternoon practices sporting a 45-minute weight session followed by 6,000-7,000 additional yards.

Although he said he still enjoys swimming and finds it fun, Unold is quick to note some of the hardships that

See Unold on page 21

Golden Grizzlies Game of the Week

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS IPFW

Benson, Kangas keep men perfect at home

By JOE GUZMAN
Senior Reporter

The Oakland University men's basketball team (16-11, 9-5) finished a three-game home stand Saturday evening with a win against IPFW (10-15, 5-9), 83-72. The team is undefeated at the O'Rena this season.

The last time the two teams met in December, 3-point menace senior Eric Kangas went off for 39 points in a 93-88 win at Fort Wayne. Fortunately for the Grizzlies, IPFW's attention to Kangas allowed the rest of the team to show off its depth.

Sophomore center Keith Benson led the Golden Grizzlies with 23 points, 9 rebounds and 6 blocks, tying the all-time blocks record with 101 in just two seasons at OU. Meanwhile, Kangas was still able to rack up 13 points on 5-10 from the field and 3-7 from 3-point range.

After the game, OU head coach Greg Kampe acknowledged the play of the freshman duo of Blake Cushingberry and Drew Maynard, who combined for 27 points on 11 for 16 from the field.

"We got our typical play out of the rest of our veterans, but we had one of our freshmen in the first half and one in the second half," he said. "Maynard played just an outstanding first half, and I went with Blake in the second half just because defensively he's a little bit ahead of Drew for the scheme we were running."

Maynard's 13 points in the first half kept OU in the game as IPFW came out playing with an aggressive, suffocating defense. IPFW caused 11 first-half turnovers despite OU outrebounding the Mastodons 20-11. Leading by nine with two minutes left in the half, IPFW scored six unanswered points, cutting the lead to 37-34 on a jumper at the buzzer.

Kampe gave credit to IPFW for coming into the O'Rena and changing their defensive game plan, citing his team's turnovers.

"Their pressure on the ball created issues for us," he said. "They did a nice job of disrupting the flow [of our game]."

IPFW came out ready for an upset in the second half, using the momentum of the first. At the 14:04 mark former OU forward David Carson hit a three to give his team the lead 48-47.

But moments later, as he did last week against Centenary, Cushingberry came through in the clutch by hitting a three and jumper, sparking a 12-0 OU run. He also contributed 10 rebounds for the game, six in the second half.

"Who would have thought we would have had an easy victory, and Kangas was kind of nondescript," head coach Greg Kampe said after the game. "They did everything they could to take him out of the game, and we didn't force feed it to him and that goes back to [junior Jonathan Jones]."

OU point guard and last week's Summit League Player of the Week honoree, Jones battled through IPFW's pressure, en route to orchestrating the second-half outburst. He scored eight points while setting a new career high in assists with 15, also breaking the school's single-game assist record since it joined Division I.

"Once I get through the initial pressure and get into the paint, it opens everything up," Jones said. "I have Kangas on the wing, Cushingberry one the wing, Benson down low, it just opens up our game and allows us to play better."

After the game, IPFW head coach Dane Fife acknowledged how his team neutralized Kangas and Jones for the most part, but couldn't cover the firepower of the Golden Grizzlies depth.

"It was kind of pick your poison tonight," Fife said. "We did a nice job stopping Kangas and Jones, but we let their role players really stick it to us."

Before the game the players, cheerleaders and fans wore pink to acknowledge breast cancer awareness month. Coach Kampe recognized the program's long history with the Coaches vs. Cancer program that brings attention to the cause.

"Sometimes when you can take your status in the community and reach out to help people, I think it's important that you do it," he said.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Keith Benson tied OU's all-time blocks record with his 101st against IPFW in Saturday's victory.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Erik Kangas logged a 13 points against IPFW.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Drew Maynard scored 13 points in the first half.

The lucky seven

University announces 22nd class to be inducted in the Hall of Honor

By JARED PURCELL
Sports Editor

The Oakland University's department of athletics has announced the 2009 inductees to the Hollie L. Lepley Athletic Hall of Honor.

The seven inductees include Becki Bach Simmons (women's swimming and diving, 1993-97), Ericka Burns (women's softball, 2000-03), John Eley (men's basketball, 1969-72), Giovanni Gentile (men's soccer, 1991-94), Ashley McGhee (women's soccer, 1998-2001), David Paxton (men's swimming and diving, 1994-97) and Anita Rapp (women's soccer, 1997-2001).

"The individuals selected represent the very best of our championship tradition here at Oakland and it is our privilege to have the opportunity to honor them," said Director of Athletics Tracy Huth.

OU's men's and women's swimming head coach Pete Hovland was glad to see his former swimmer, Paxton, honored in such a way.

"David truly was an outstanding athlete," Hovland said. "I've been blessed over the years with all kinds of quality athletes that come through our door ... and David was no exception."

Paxton was a part of four consecutive Division II national championship teams and a 17-time All-American with OU.

Simmons was All-American eight times as a diver for OU.

"[Simmons] was someone that came into our program with a lot of talent and a lot of untapped potential," said Huth, who was the head women's swimming and diving coach during Bach's career. "[Simmons] worked extremely hard to make herself into one of the top divers that Oakland has ever had."

Burns holds 12 OU career offensive records in softball including batting average (.392), hits (265), runs (127), doubles (42), triples (24), and home runs (19).

McGhee and Rapp played together and led OU to its first ever NCAA Division I tournament. McGhee holds the record for goals (49) and Rapp became the first OU student athlete ever to win an Olympic gold medal in 2000 while playing for Norway.

Gentile was a second-team All-American sweeper as a senior and was a member of four NCAA tournament teams that posted a combined 63-15-8 record.

"He was one of our best players," said former men's soccer coach Gary Parsons. "He was an excellent leader that led by example."

Eley is still in the top 10 in rebounds at OU (690) and, at the end of his tenure, he held OU records in scoring (1,085 points).

The selected group of athletes will be officially inducted at the annual Hall of Honor induction ceremony on April 25 at the O'Rena.

Continued from page 19

UNOLD

have come with his work ethic.

"I get tired," Unold said. "I've been doing this for 15 years, I just want get enough sleep, you know, go to bed at a normal time and have a normal life."

As bright of a future as he has, Unold said that he will only continue to swim until it no longer makes him happy.

Student athlete

As successful as Unold has been as a swimmer, he always believes that there is more to accomplish.

"I tell myself that I never know

enough," Unold said. "A lot of other people walk around thinking that they know everything but I don't think that way."

Hovland believes that Unold lives up to his motto by the way he carries himself around the team.

"You can tell that he is a student of the sport," Hovland said. "You'll see him help other kids on the team. He's very very astute."

After watching Unold grow into the swimmer he is today, Tatarczyk still manages to be surprised by Unold's urgency to compete.

"He's extremely competitive," Tatarczyk said. "When you get someone like him, you never know what'll happen."

— Brad Slazinski contributed to this report.

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ICE HOCKEY

2/20 @ PSU, 9 p.m. (State College, PA)
 2/21 @ PSU, 9 p.m. (State College, PA)
 2/28 vs GVSU, 8:30 p.m. (Onyx Arena)

WRESTLING

2/28 @ Conference Tournament (GVSU)

Coming attractions

GAME SCHEDULE FOR FEB. 18-MARCH 3

MEN'S BASKETBALL

2/19 @ W. Illinois, 8 p.m. (Macomb, IL)
 2/21 @ IUPUI, 7 p.m. (Indianapolis)
 2/26 vs Southern Utah, 7 p.m. (O'Rena)
 2/28 vs UMKC, 6 p.m. (O'Rena)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2/21 @ IUPUI, 4:30 p.m. (Indianapolis)
 2/23 @ W. Illinois, 8 p.m. (Macomb, IL)
 2/28 vs UMKC, 3:30 p.m. (O'Rena)
 3/2 vs Southern Utah, 7 p.m. (O'Rena)

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

2/26-2/28 @ Summit League
 Championships (Sterling, IL)

SWIMMING AND DIVING

2/19-2/21 — Summit League
 Championships @ Oakland University

Watch for LIVE BLOGS of each day
 of the Swimming and Diving Summit
 League championships at
www.oaklandpostonline.com

**BASEBALL**

2/21 @ E. Kentucky (Richmond, KY)
 2/24 @ Charlotte (Charlotte, NC)

SOFTBALL

2/20-2/26 @ GSU Eagle Classic
 2/28-3/1 @ E. Kentucky Tournament

POST GAME

After watching Nate "Kryptonite" Robinson's jump over opponent Dwight "Superman" Howard in the NBA's slam dunk competition, it comes as no surprise that Robinson won. I mean, how often can a 5-foot-9 guy say he jumped over a 6-foot-11 guy en route to slamming a basketball into a hoop?

Since sports editor Jared Purcell is also 5-foot-9, we figured we'd let him try some extreme jumping attempts because he's so sure that his mad hops can rival Robinson's. Here are Purcell's four jumps of awesomeness.

- 1) Jumping over a rock
= Success
- 2) Jumping over a larger rock
= Great success
- 3) Spike a ball over a volleyball net
= Easy peasy



MATT YORK/Associated Press

- 4) Jumping over 6-foot-4 You/Local
Editor Dan Hiebert = Priceless

*Make sure to check out Tim Rath's video blog on the slam dunk competition at Oaklandpostonline.com.



Photos by BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

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The Scene

February 18, 2009

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23

And the Oscar goes to...

The Oscars are upon us again, and the nominees are...

Performance by an actor in a leading role

Richard Jenkins in
"The Visitor"

Frank Langella in
"Frost/Nixon"

Sean Penn in "Milk"

Brad Pitt in "The Curious
Case of Benjamin Button"

Mickey Rourke in
"The Wrestler"

Performance by an actor in a supporting role

Josh Brolin in "Milk"

Robert Downey Jr. in
"Tropic Thunder"

Philip Seymour Hoffman in
"Doubt"

Heath Ledger in
"The Dark Knight"

Michael Shannon in
"Revolutionary Road"

Performance by an actress in a leading role

Anne Hathaway in
"Rachel Getting Married"

Angelina Jolie in
"Changeling"

Melissa Leo in
"Frozen River"

Meryl Streep in "Doubt"

Kate Winslet in
"The Reader"

Performance by an actress in a supporting role

Amy Adams in "Doubt"

Penélope Cruz in
"Vicky Cristina Barcelona"

Viola Davis in "Doubt"

Taraji P. Henson in
"The Curious Case of
Benjamin Button"

Marisa Tomei in
"The Wrestler"

Best foreign language film of the year

"The Baader Meinhof
Complex" - Germany

"The Class" - France

"Departures" - Japan

"Revanche" - Austria

"Waltz with Bashir" - Israel

Best motion picture of the year

"The Curious Case of
Benjamin Button"

"Frost/Nixon"

"Milk"

"The Reader"

"Slumdog Millionaire"

The 81st Academy Awards
air Sunday, Feb. 22 on
ABC at 8 p.m.

Top ten most nominated films of 2008

1. "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" - 13
2. "Slumdog Millionaire" - 10
3. "The Dark Knight" - 8
4. "Milk" - 8
5. "WALL-E" - 6
6. "Doubt" - 5
7. "Frost/Nixon" - 5
8. "The Reader" - 5
9. "Changeling" - 3
10. "Revolutionary Road" - 3

Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Quick Oscar facts

Kate Winslet is the youngest person to receive six Oscar nominations, a mere age 33 with her nod for "The Reader."

With 13 Oscar nods, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" is not the most nominated movie ever. It is trumped by "Titanic" and "All About Eve," with 14 nominations each.

Meryl Streep is Oscar's most nominated performer, with this year bringing her total to 15. She has three more than Katharine Hepburn and Jack Nicholson, who each have 12. According to huffingtonpost.com.

The Oakland Post will be live blogging the Academy Awards.

Go to www.oaklandpostonline.com.

We'll also be twittering the event.

Go to www.twitter.com/theoaklandpost.



EVAN AGOSTINI/AP file photo
Conan O'Brien will take over "The Tonight Show" June 1.

O'Brien moves to Leno's spot

By LINDSEY WOJCIK
Editor in Chief

COLUMN

Nearly three years ago I drove 300 miles to Chicago, waited seven hours in line with hundreds of people to be part of a live audience for a special taping of "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" at the Chicago Theater. The adrenaline of being a front row audience member is an experience I'll never forget and now, during O'Brien's last week as host of "Late Night," it's an experience that is more meaningful to me.

For 13 years the Harvard-educated talk show host brought an intellectual humor combined with a sometimes-immature silliness to NBC's 12:35 a.m. time slot. Side-kick Andy Richter left the show in 2000 but drummer Max Weinberg has led The Max Weinberg 7 since the shows debuted.

This week marks the end of an era as O'Brien wraps up his time in studio 6A of New York city's Rockefeller center and begins his trek to Los Angeles to take over "The Tonight Show" at 11 p.m. on NBC in June.

As O'Brien bids his farewell, a bit of nostalgia-kicks in. Masturbating Bear and Triumph the Insult Comic Dog became household names, and sketches like "If They Mated" and "In the Year 2000" encouraged viewers to think about what could never really happen. Mannerisms during his monologue and the infamous

string dance have become staples of "Late Night."

Many wonder if O'Brien's unique comedy will translate in an earlier time slot. Will the sketches mature? Will the monologues become as dull as Jay Leno's? While contracts are still ongoing with Max Weinberg, most of the band's members and the show's writers will be with O'Brien on "The Tonight Show," according to USA Today. With that in mind I think it's safe to say that "The Tonight Show" will be a smooth transition for its new host.

Although O'Brien's new time slot will allow me to sleep a little longer on weeknights, my feelings of exhausted jubilation at the end of every episode of "Late Night" are sure to remain. O'Brien may be in a different city, but his intellectual comedy will always have a home with me.



QUICK HITS

The Oakland Post staff reviews a new movie, album and newly released DVD.

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under "Web Exclusives" to check them out.

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MOUTHING OFF

The views expressed in Mouting Off do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Oakland Post

February 18, 2009

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Alternative spring break

Trust a journalist, we've been there (and maybe came back)

By **TIM RATH**
Web Editor

In recent times, new technologies and economic hardships have drastically changed the way newspapers do business.

We here at The Oakland Post are not immune to these changes; in fact, our inability to adapt has forced us to quickly go the way of the dodo bird — extinct. As such, we're getting out of the newspaper business entirely to enter the world of travel marketing.

Why travel marketing, you ask? Well, years of theorizing exactly what you, the average student at Oakland University, "really wants" out of your college experience has led us to only one conclusion: You want to leave OU and never return.

Thankfully, with spring break right around the corner, the options for such an escape are plentiful. Although we here at The Oakland Post are out of the wordsmithing game, we remain committed to giving you what you really want.

With that in mind, please consider one of the exquisite vacation packages we now offer as part of our new, spring break travel campaign we call, "I Mean It: Anywhere But Here." Really, consider it. Please. We're in trouble.

Mariana Trench Marinaland

While your friends are partying near the water in the beaten trails of Cabo San Lucas and South Padre Island, you'll be having a more-fulfilling experience, partying in the water — 6.8 miles deep in the Pacific Ocean. Once you've lived on a diet of nothing but Tang in a nosebleed-inducing high-pressure environment, you'll wonder how you ever did without! The tiny, bolted-in windows of

your submarine offer thrilling views of ethereal species like the seven-arm octopus, immortal jellyfish and oarfish that God never wanted you to see. \$2,000 per person, \$1,850 for OU students.

Cape Horn Safari

You say you like sailing? How about sailing through large gusts of wind, icebergs and waves the size of skyscrapers? If so, a cruise around this "sailors' graveyard" may be right up your alley: two weeks spent encircling the southern tip of Chile despite the presence of the more easily-navigated Panama Canal to the north. Upon your return, you'll be the talk of the class: "You got sunburned on your cruise? That sucks. I was attacked by the Chilean Navy. Yeah, they don't have an ointment for that yet. Pansy." \$2,500 per person, \$2,000 for OU students, stowaways are free.

Afghanistan Adventure

OK, maybe the water's not your thing. That's cool — what about Afghanistan's endorheic Sistan Basin, one of the driest regions in the world? We'll drop you from a helicopter into the desolate desert with a bottle of Dasani water and an AK-47 for the "authentic" experience. You'll be sleeping in only the most rat-infested of caves, being kicked awake by only the wildest horses and fleeing in terror from only the most violent of American

bounty hunters. It's great for families with children! \$1,800 per person, \$1,400 for OU students.

Everest Experience

Some of your classmates may spend spring break clubbing in New York City alongside the Olsen Twins, doing lines of coke off of Paris Hilton's breasts with a Krazy Straw and learning how to do the "Soulja Boy" once and for all, but where's the creativity in that? Where's the joy? We here are The Post know



Graphic illustrations by BROOKE HUG/The Oakland Post

Web Editor Tim Rath experienced the "I Mean It: Anywhere But Here" tour and approved.

where we'll be: getting our "Sir Edmund Hillary" on along the border of Nepal and China, trapping goats with the sherpa mountaineers and learning how to avoid frostbite. Oh yeah, that's hot.

Not only will you get the experience of scaling the world's largest peak, but we also offer survival training before the trip (walking to class at OU during Michigan winter should suffice if you can't make it) and psychiatric evaluations after (in case you come home with a new friend like Wilson in "Castaway"). \$1,600 per person, \$800 for OU students.

Mumbai Escape

If you thought that Bollywood films projected the Indian nation in a fascinating, thrilling light, just wait until you're trapped for two weeks in its largest city, Mumbai! Once again, you'll be getting an "authentic" Mumbai experience, living in slum pockets that encompass a mere 6 percent of the city's land, yet total 60 percent of its entire

population to create one of the most densely populated cities on the planet! You'll work low-paying, high-stress jobs to keep the economy moving by day, fend off nationalist construction crews by night and desperately try to stay healthy in-between! \$2,700 per person.

Remember, lots of newspapers-turned-travel-agents will make grandiose claims about the beautiful sights you'll see and exciting times you'll live with their vacation packages. However, only The Oakland Post's "I Mean It: Anywhere But Here" packages offer you the most honest opportunity to test your mind and spirit in the most extreme of locales. In fact, if you can imagine an area on this planet more intense than the ones

above, we'll send you on a weeklong voyage free of charge!*

*This offer is not valid for the city of Detroit.



Keep your blankets in beds, not on your back

By MIKE SANDULA
Guest Columnist

You've probably seen them before. It was one of those late nights that you could have gone to bed, but you decided to fight sleep for no real reason other than to watch some more TV. Maybe a good rerun or an enticing made-for-TV movie was on. Or perhaps you were mindlessly surfing through channels, content with the waves hitting you, unwilling to shut them off.

Then it appeared. They looked harmless; after all, they were made of fleece. The people wearing them seemed nice too, even if they were cheesier than the cast from "Full House."

But the combination of a blanket and a bathrobe just didn't add up.

The family looked too happy, too sure they looked cool, like when someone tries to impersonate an actor or a comedian and think they're doing it spot on, but you know it's nowhere close.

Then the scene transferred to a sporting event, and those same people were showing them off there, too.

What is this preposterous product I speak of? It's called a Snuggie.

That's right. Snuggie. Take a minute,

and maybe some paper towel, and try your best to absorb that.

For those who haven't seen the commercial, Snuggies are ... well, they're blankets with sleeves.

Apparently lots of people have spent years walking around, wrapped up in blankets, their arms feeling trapped, wondering, "If only there was some

way my hands could be free while my body remains warm."

That was the idea behind clothes; only, most clothes don't resemble a bedspread.

If you're like me, you laughed it off, thinking surely no one would buy a product with a name too lame for even a teddy bear. So you can imagine how crazy I went when I found out that these things have become a national craze.

Four million of them have been sold — and they've only been out since August.

That averages out to over 22,000 a day.

To put that in perspective, Oakland University's student body, as of fall 2007, totaled just over 18,000. Imagine

everyone on campus, plus a few extra thousand in the surrounding area, wearing one. A literal sea of blanket-shirts.

It's only a matter of time before that sea

becomes an ocean. To avoid drowning in said ocean, here's what to look out for: a line of suitable-for-public Snuggies coupled with more cheesy advertising:

The Beach Snuggie. Protects you from the sun's harmful rays and turns into a beach towel. The addition of a large pouch capable of holding Frisbees, magazines and your favorite sandwich make this a shoreside must.

The Golf Snuggie. Complete with tee holsters and a built-in ball bag, this

Snuggie serves as a comfy caddy out on the course.

The Corporate Snuggie. The single-breasted pocket is perfect for storing your BlackBerry and lends a classy touch while allowing you to add some warmth to your business meetings.

Product placements in popular sitcoms: I hate to admit it, but sadly, I can picture Michael Scott of "The Office" in a Corporate Snuggie.

A children's show with a cartoon Snuggie: sounds innocent enough, but I think Snuggies could be frightening for children — well, anyone really — because it'd be easy to pretend to be a blanket, only to attack people.

Imagine this scenario: 6-year-old Caitlyn goes to bed one night, thinking it's a night like any other, when her blanket, which she thought was a source of comfort and relaxation, betrays her. It turns out to be a Snuggie-wearing kidnapper. The sleeves allow for a sneak attack, making the incident all the more horrifying.

So in order to avoid becoming a fleece-clad nation that runs around scaring children, I think we should let clothes remain clothes and leave the blankets in bed.

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GM seeks up to \$30B in aid

By TOM KRISHER AND KEN THOMAS
Associated Press Writers

DETROIT — General Motors Corp., presenting a dire outlook for the future, said Tuesday it may need \$30 billion in total government financing to weather the economic downturn and would cut 47,000 jobs worldwide and shutter five more U.S. factories in a massive restructuring plan.

The automaker is already surviving on \$13.4 billion in federal loans and said in a plan submitted to the Treasury Department that it would seek an additional \$16.6 billion if economic conditions worsen, but it could achieve profitability in two years and repay its loans by 2017.

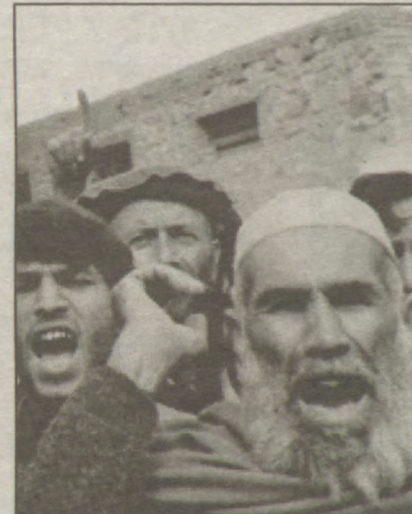
The U.S. automaker presented its turnaround plan to the Obama administration as it worked to win concessions from the United Auto Workers union and bondholders to dramatically resize the company. The UAW said it reached a tentative deal with GM, Chrysler LLC and Ford Motor Co. on contract changes but discussions were still under way about how the companies would fund union-run trust funds that will take over the companies' retiree health care obligations starting next year.

GM said it was making progress but had not yet achieved all the concessions from union workers, debt holders, dealers and suppliers that the Bush administration sought in the loan terms provided last December.

President Barack Obama's administration will review the plans from GM and Chrysler LLC but could pull the loans if they don't approve the turnaround plans by March 31. The review could be extended into April, but if the government demands the money back it would force the companies into bankruptcy.

GM predicted it could run out of money before the March deadline and said it is seeking the additional funding under a worst-case-scenario projection, as U.S. sales have plummeted to a 26-year low and auto sales have fallen in other parts of the world.

In December, GM said it may need \$18 billion in government financing but only got a commitment of \$13.4 billion, including \$4 billion received Tuesday.



RAHMAT GUL/Associated Press
Afghan villagers shout slogans against the U.S. and Afghan government during a demonstration following a U.S. operation on their village in Mehterlam, Afghanistan on Jan. 24. Worsening conflicts led to a 40 percent increase in Afghan civilian death in 2008.

N | W BRIEFS

02-11 | A series of tornadoes kill eight people in Oklahoma. | A 2,600-year-old Egyptian sarcophagus is lifted out of its burial chamber.

02-12 | An autopsy is performed on a body dragged by a car 20 miles in New York City.

02-13 | A British tabloid reports a 13-year-old boy is a father.

02-14 | Mexico City sets kissing record with 40,000 people kissing at the same time.

02-15 | Illinois Republican lawmakers call for U.S. Sen. Roland Burris' resignation during investigation of whether he perjured himself in Gov. Blagojevich's impeachment.

02-16 | A 200-pound chimpanzee is shot and killed after mauling a Connecticut woman.

| A court lifts the ban on identifying the arson suspect in Australian wildfires.

02-17 | President Obama signs the \$787 billion stimulus package.

Island riots result in chaos



DOMINIQUE CHOMEREAU-LAMOTTE/Associated Press
Burned-out cars and debris litter the street in the aftermath of a night of protests against high prices and low wages, in Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, Tuesday, Feb. 17.

Afghan deaths jump 40 percent

By JASON STRAZIUSO
Associated Press Writer

KABUL — The number of civilians killed in Afghanistan's worsening conflict jumped 40 percent to a new high last year, and more than half of the deaths were inflicted by Taliban insurgents and other militants, the United Nations said Tuesday.

The report said insurgents increasingly use roadside bombs, car bombs and suicide bombers in attacks that are "undertaken regardless of the impact on civilians." In the latest such attack, the U.S. military reported a roadside bomb killed five civilians Monday in Kandahar province.

Two of the worst civilian tolls from insurgent attacks came in a February suicide bombing at a dog fight in Kandahar that the U.N. said killed 67 civilians and a car bombing at the Indian Embassy last July that killed 55 civilians.

Commanders of U.S. and other international troops in Afghanistan have long sought to emphasize how militant attacks kill far more civilians than the soldiers or officials targeted.

The U.N. said a record 2,118 civilians died from violence last year, up from 1,523 the previous year.

Its report blamed insurgent attacks for 55 percent of the deaths. It said U.S., NATO and Afghan government forces accounted for 39 percent of those killed. No responsibility was determined for the remaining 130 deaths.

Changes on Facebook spark protests

Associated Press Report

NEW YORK — Tens of thousands of Facebook users are protesting new policies that they say grant the social-networking site the ability to control their information forever, even after they cancel their accounts.

Facebook's new terms of use, updated Feb. 4, largely went unnoticed until the popular consumer rights advocacy blog *Consumerist.com* pointed out the changes Sunday.

That prompted a clarification from Facebook's founder, Mark Zuckerberg, although the new terms remain in force.

Zuckerberg told users in a blog post Monday that "on Facebook, people own their information and control who they share it with."

When someone shares a photo, a message or a status update telling friends what they are up to at the moment, they first need to grant Facebook a license so the site can pass that information along to authorized friends, Zuckerberg said. Without the license, he said, Facebook wouldn't be able to help people share information.

Zuckerberg said the new terms are necessary to reflect the fact that friends may retain a copy of that message or

other information once a user shares it with them.

"Even if the person deactivates their account, their friend still has a copy of that message," Zuckerberg said. "We think this is the right way for Facebook to work, and it is consistent with how other services like e-mail work. One of the reasons we updated our terms was to make this more clear."

Zuckerberg did acknowledge that Facebook, which boasts 175 million users around the world, still has "work to do to communicate more clearly" about how information is shared on the site. The site has had previous run-ins with users

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