

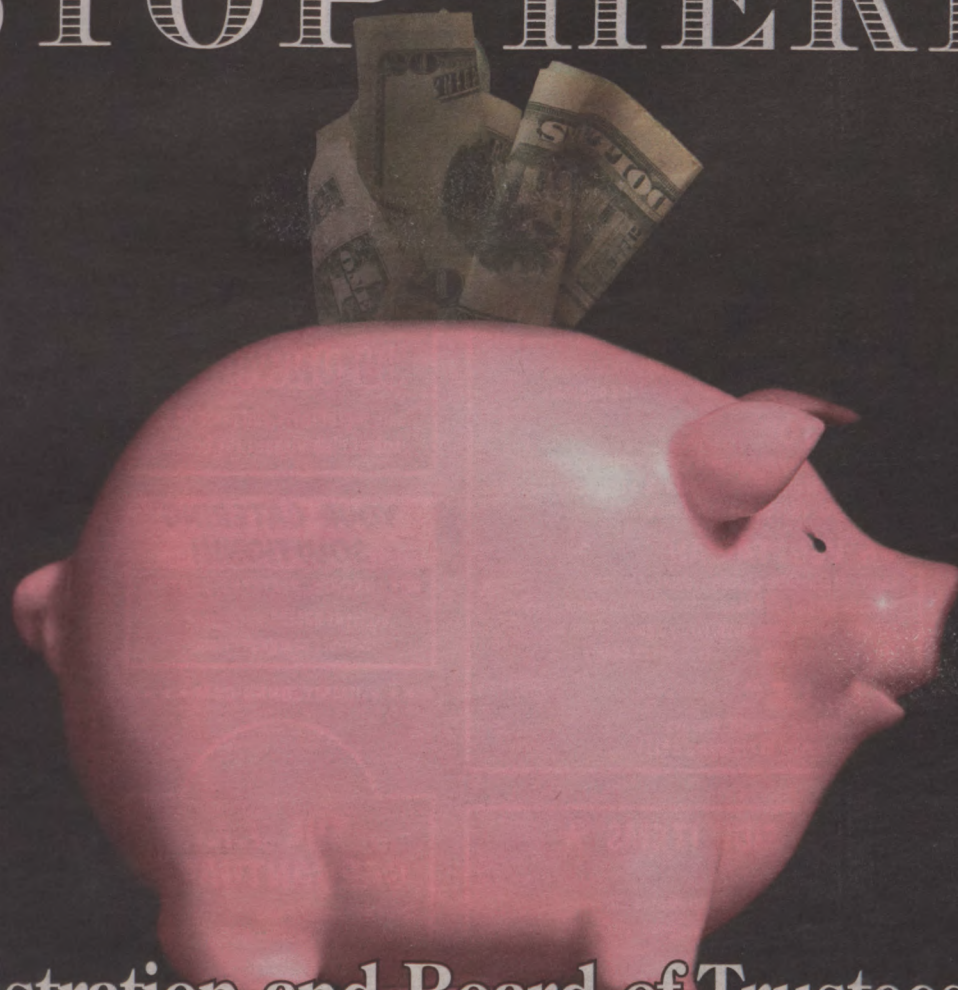
THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

February 13, 2008

Volume 33, Number 50

THE BUCKS STOP HERE



OU administration and Board of Trustees decide to reserve decision on \$4.8 million deferred payment

Cover illustration by Dustin Alexander

Story on page 6

Students react to decision to hold on to \$4.8 million deferred payment

Story on page 6

The Post interviews Marcia Dyson of upcoming 'Dyson vs. Dyson' lecture

Story on page 8

OU hoops falls to rival Oral Roberts over weekend

Story on page 16

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THIS WEEK 2.13.08



Perspectives page 4

Who's idea was it to schedule the Board of Trustees meeting during spring break? Plus, an SDS member pushes for more student activism.



Campus page 6

The administration and Board of Trustees decide to hold on to the \$4.8 million deferred payment OU received from the state.



Local page 10

More college grads needed to boost Michigan's economy, according to a new study. Plus, protesters gather to rally against Scientology.



The Mix page 12

With Valentine's Day around the corner, OU students share experiences with bad dates and creative significant others.



you page 14

As temperatures hover near freezing, OU students are forced to find ways to beat the chill.



Sports page 16

It's amazing what three years can do — read about the rise of OU's track program. Also, results from the latest basketball road trips.



the Scene page 20

Reviews of Vampire Weekend's debut album and Bullet For My Valentine's latest release, "Scream Aim Fire." Plus, check out 2008 Grammy winners.



MOUTHING OFF page 22

A major viral marketing outbreak affects Rochester. Plus, is Kwame's "text-flirting" scandal our business?



Nation | World page 24

Six detainees are charged with murder and war crimes for their alleged involvement in the Sept. 11 attacks. Plus, a South Korean landmark is destroyed in a fire.

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Cover story

page 6

Perspectives

4

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February 13, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Board's decision to push meeting to winter recess is unacceptable

The meeting of the Board of Trustees is in session ... or is it?

Oakland University's Board of Trustees holds a monthly meeting to discuss university issues and concerns.

The board's February get-together has gone through some adjustments that may not be favorable to all.

The assembly is normally scheduled to take place on the first Wednesday of every month.

Unfortunately, the first week of February has come and gone and there still has been no clam-bake.

This, in itself, is somewhat odd.

Even more surprising, however, is the rescheduled date. The Board of Trustees has picked Feb. 28 as the date to hold the meeting, a day the university is on break.

The rationale for the date change, according to the university administration, was due to the lack of "substantive agenda items ready in time for the meeting," originally scheduled for Feb. 6.

This, however, does not mean that the meeting should be rescheduled over winter recess. The sporadic shift, in itself, is troubling, however the exact choice of date is more suspicious than anything else.

The reality is that there is plenty to discuss. And it doesn't take a rocket scientist to link the rescheduled date to the hot-button issue on campus — the \$4.8 million deferred payment the university received in October 2007.

The move is questionable, with possible elements of impropriety. With the current issue at hand, whether intentional or not, one cannot help but be concerned.

By coincidence, one of the most important decisions of the semester involves the \$4.8 million. The money was promised to go back to the students. However, there are a variety of possibilities as to the specific nature of how it will be returned.

Options include improvements on campus, mitigation of tuition for

2009 or a direct refund to students (see page 6).

The problem is not in regard to the money itself, but rather the fact that students may not be present because of the fact that classes are not in session.

Decisions made regarding the university should be made while the university is open. The Board of Trustees' meetings are open to the public for a reason — so that members of the Oakland University population (faculty, students and others) can participate. It is how democracy works.

It is not justifiable, regardless of the circumstances, to allow such outcomes when students are away.

The only thing worse than learning about important school matters during a hedonistic trip to paradise is learning about important school matters a week after a hedonistic trip to paradise when the damage has already been done.

So, the meeting will be in session ... but at what cost?



JOHN DARKOW, Columbia Daily Tribune, Missouri/Cagle Cartoons

What do you think? Have a news tip?

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By mail:

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

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

Corrections from the last edition (Feb. 6, 2008) of The Oakland Post:

- "Russi delivers State of the University address" should have been attributed to senior reporter Adam Roberts. A byline was not given.
- In "Nothing to Protest" the band Protest the Hero was incorrectly classified as a punk rock band. Hero is more accurately described as a metal band.

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

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— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Becoming Generation WHY

Student for a democratic Society member calls for increased activism

Guest Column

Michael Westphal
Member of Students for
a democratic Society



Every generation faces new and unique challenges, crises and wars that could potentially affect the entire world.

A new generation of children born in the late-80s and the early-90s is beginning to send its first representatives into the world.

But are we ready? And who are we?

A recent article by New York Times journalist Thomas Friedman has labeled us as "Generation Q" because we are "quiet Americans ... quietly pursuing (our) idealism, at home and abroad."

Corporate media isn't reporting the modicum of student activism, so students really don't know that the movement has already started. However, maybe there is some truth to Friedman's argument.

Others call us "Generation Y." Most sociologists say Generation Y is the largest generation since the baby-boomers. Keep in mind that the baby-boomers' first representatives became the most active generation of students in opposition to war, sexism, racism, poverty, homophobia and pollution.

Now it's our turn to step up to the plate.

The government in power, which includes both Democrats and Republicans, has been the greediest government imaginable.

Our generation will have to pay the national debt that those in office have

made worse.

Our generation will have to suffer the environmental damage they have accumulated.

Our generation will have to continue to fight their unending wars.

This is a crisis — one that past generations have minimally diverted.

We may not be so lucky.

Our enemies are capitalism, war and imperialism, racism, sexism, pollution and environmental destruction, the government and the state, corporations, nationalism, homophobia and the inhumanity of humanity.

These are all pieces of the same puzzle that needs to be solved for a lasting peace

and prosperity for all. If all of this sounds crazy or too idealistic, then the establishment's control of society and the education system

has worked — you've been brainwashed.

Let's take a look at some numbers: Our national debt is roughly \$9 trillion. If we add unfunded promises like Social Security, it's nearly \$59 trillion, according to a USA Today article.

Political historian and author Chalmers Johnson claims the U.S. military budget is at least \$1.1 trillion when all funds involving all departments of the military are tallied.

The deaths of U.S. troops will reach 4,000 very soon.

Bush and his top aides made "false statements" 935 times leading up to the Iraq War, according to the Center for Public Integrity and its affiliated group,

the Fund for Independence in Journalism.

The latest study by the British polling group Opinion Research Business claims 1.12 million Iraqis have died as a result of the U.S. invasion. Some recent studies calculate a smaller number somewhere between 50,000 and 100,000. Regardless, all of these numbers are simply outrageous!

According to a Los Angeles Times article, in the last month, the U.S. has dropped about 100,000 pounds of bombs on Iraq. There is no end in sight to this madness.

Nations torn apart by war and unsustainable economies aren't democratic, aren't secure, aren't peaceful to their neighbors.

So what can we — Generation Q or Generation Y — do?

Let's pledge to become

**"Let's pledge to become
Generation WHY — from now on
we will question everything."**

Generation WHY — from now on we will question everything, which will hopefully allow us to find a true democracy — a participatory democracy with a participatory economy.

We'll ask, why fight Bush's wars? Why do we have an American Empire that has military bases in over 130 countries? Why is there no universal health care system here? Why is our tuition going up when all education should be free? We'll question why the rich are getting richer while the poor are getting poorer.

These questions will start the beginning of a long journey and we don't have all of the answers now, though ignoring our problems is the worst thing to do.

We have the power to harness a mass movement and break free from this tyranny.

Here is a lesson they don't teach in school: Democracy takes place on the streets — not in the White House.

Democracy is not vested in Congress either, but rather in the people they fail to represent.

The political farce of the Democratic and Republican presidential primaries is a pandemic.

All mainstream candidates support the continual occupation of Iraq in some way, which means they all support the war indefinitely. Once again, the movement has already started. The foundation for a new democratic nation exists in activism.

The times are changing. Join social and political student organizations, participate in protests.

Every third Friday of every month there is the Iraq Moratorium, a nation-wide protest against the war.

What we need, as Lincoln once said, is government of the people, by the people, for the people.

If we don't wake up now, it might be too late.

To end on a quasi-good note, several years ago, a seventh-grader asked me, "What is the opposite of progress?"

I was puzzled, so I shrugged my shoulders and waited for the punch line.

He exclaimed, "Congress!"

I replied, "I know you didn't learn that in school," and thought that there may be hope for the next generation, after all.

But if we do nothing now, they will be facing an impossible task. Whether we like it or not, we have the responsibility to make the world a better place.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

One of the things I love most about Oakland University is the incredible level of speakers and scholars it brings in.

I get a great sense of accomplishment by actively engaging myself in discussions and posing questions to speakers.

Since coming to this university, I've been to countless events and posed numerous questions to speakers.

But as much as I love to participate in these talks, I've noticed a growing trend in recent events that is frustrating and unfair.

Three times this semester my voice has been stifled when I have had a question that I believed was meaningful and relevant.

The first time I was unable to pose a question was, by far, the most disappointing. After seeing the legendary Harry Belafonte speak, I was among the first

to emerge to a microphone in order to address him.

After Belafonte was asked two questions, I was next in line.

However, before I could ask my questions, those in attendance were informed that no further questions would be taken. Here I was — the only student in line to ask a question — and I wasn't given a chance to be heard because of a time constraint.

To me, an educational institution exists to serve the student body, and letting them ask questions in the midst of countless adults is one way that this duty could be carried out.

The second time was during the lecture of a prospective professor in a department. Although I personally found my question very relevant, it must not have been worth the small amount of time that we had because I was passed over once more.

Finally, at a philosophy lecture featuring a renowned scholar sharing his take on the existence of God, I was silenced once more.

I do admit that the guest speaker did field questions

for quite some time. But, when I finally thought of one to ask, the facilitator thanked the professor for speaking and the applause ensued.

Who implemented the rule that events must end at a non-negotiable time?

Oftentimes there are no activities after a lecture is over and the room sits there for hours until it is cleaned up. Why not let people ask questions as long as there is an audience to hear?

After three incidences in one month I began to ask myself if Oakland University really cares about student opinions.

As much as I love Oakland University for a plethora of reasons, I can't help but feel cheated when I consistently show my support for university events by not only showing up, but actively trying to engage a guest, only to be snubbed.

— Stephen Sharper
Sociology major
President of Sociology Club

Students may not see \$4.8 million soon

By **STEVE STAEGER**
Senior Reporter

The \$4.8 million deferred payment Oakland University received from the state of Michigan last fall will remain in the bank and out of students' pockets for now, according to OU's Vice President for Finance and Administration John Beaghan.

"The university has been holding the deferred payment since it was received in mid-October, waiting to see how the state's 2008 fiscal year projections and 2009 budget planning pay out," Beaghan said. "There continues to be significant uncertainty related to these two issues."

If held until the 2009 Michigan budget is projected, one of the possible uses for the funds would be to mitigate a potential tuition increase in the coming 2008-09 academic year, according to Trustee Chair Dennis Pawley.

"We're going to hold onto the money until April after we get a feel for the financial state of Michigan," Pawley said.

This solution sits well with some students. In fact, 49 percent of students polled by The Oakland Post thought that saving the money to prevent future tuition increases was the best solution.

"(They should) save to prevent tuition increase because a lot of students are already in debt with student loans," said Scott Gillam, a senior management information systems student.

Tom Mahrle, a sophomore Spanish major, also agreed, saying, "If it got refunded back to students, then students probably would not save and would blow it on other things rather than tuition." But Oakland University Student Body President Rob Meyer doesn't like that solu-

tion, and he isn't alone.

"It's great that it would prevent tuition increases down the road, but the '08 budget is not the '09 budget," said Meyer.

"Using the money that way is completely wrong because the money is for the students of this academic year," Meyer said.

Last summer, the OU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to raise tuition by 13.9 percent to cover the lack of funding from the state.

The Oakland Post reported in August 2007 that, "According to Pawley, in the case that the university does receive its state funding, the board also has set up a clause in which they would attempt to give money back to students. He said, 'We did commit to this in the event that it happens.'"

The administration has reached out to student leaders like Meyer and OUSC members for suggestions on how the money should be spent, but there is no promise that they will do whatever the students want, according to OUSC members.

At Monday's meeting, OUSC passed a ballot referendum that seeks students' opinions about the issue for the upcoming student body election.

The election will take place March 24-26.

The referendum will place an item on the ballot asking students how they want the administration to handle the issue.

The first option would be a complete refund of the total amount to students.

The second scenario would refund half of the total amount to students and would

put half of the amount toward improving various facets of campus, such as facilities and labs.

Finally, the third option would invest the entire amount into campus improvements.

"The most ideal solution that students probably think of is to get their money back," Meyer said.

According to a poll conducted by The Oakland Post, 38 percent of students agree with that statement.

Sophomore Mandy Pawlowski thinks all of the money should be refunded.

"We pay a lot and need stuff more than the university," said Pawlowski.

Kristy Denha, a sophomore political science major agrees.

"Tuition is outrageously high for a commuter school and what else does the university need?" she said.

But Meyer is skeptical of the possibility of a refund and Pawley said it's not the way the Board of Trustees

is considering to use the money at the current time.

"I would love to take that money and give it back to the students [right now]," said Pawley. "But that would be irresponsible."

Another solution that Pawley mentioned was using the money for campus improvements, and according to some administrators, the university could use a lot.

OU Provost Dr. Virinder Moudgil and various other administrators took Meyer and other student leaders on a tour of chemistry and biology labs around campus that could use improvements.

"They aren't really up-to-date at all," said Meyer. "In fact, they're actually pretty gross."

The OUSC has included the labs in their referendum and also proposes spending some of the money to move OU's Career Services department from their current offices in Vandenberg Hall to North Foundation Hall where they would have offices near other vital campus departments.

"Career Services is an important part of the university and they are currently working out of old dorm rooms over in Vandenberg," Meyer said.

Only 12 percent of students polled by The Oakland Post were in favor of using the money to make improvements to the campus.

Sophomore Kellen Stannis wants a certain campus improvement.

"Save the money to improve parking," Stannis said.

Stephanie Hiltunen, a sophomore business student has a solution to the long cold winter walks on OU's campus: "I think we should save the money to build improvements, like skywalks," she said.

The final decision regarding how to use the money rests in the hands of the Board of Trustees, which hasn't had a formal meeting since Jan. 9.

The board usually meets on the first Wednesday of every month, but has postponed their February meeting until Feb. 28, during OU's winter recess.

"I think it's a bit ironic that they are meeting when no students are around," said Meyer.

Although Pawley says the issue of the deferred payment's allocation will not be discussed until April, OUSC is encouraging students to attend the February Board meeting.

"We want to have a presence there to show them how much the students care about this issue," said Meyer.

In the meantime, OUSC is surveying students to predict the outcome of the ballot issue.

Surveys are available in the OUSC office and in other offices throughout the Oakland Center.

Meyer will host a forum on Tuesday, Feb. 19, from 12-1 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge of the OC. During this session, Meyer will answer student questions about the issue.

He also encourages students to contact him at any time with questions. His contact information can be found online at www.oakland.edu/ousc.



OUSC President Rob Meyer

Deferred Payment Timeline

July 2007

The university becomes aware that its 2007 appropriations will be cut by two late actions by the state. The university decides that if they receive a deferred payment for the month of August, or additional payments for 2008, the money will be passed to the students in one form or another.

October 2007

The university receives the deferred August payment of \$4.8 million from the state. The university decides to wait on deciding how to spend the money until the Michigan "revenue-estimating conference" takes place on Jan. 11, 2008 which they contend will paint a clearer picture of the fiscal year.

January 2008

The Oakland Post meets with OU president Gary Russi who says that he will begin meeting with student leaders to discuss the allocations of the \$4.8 million.

February 2008

It is determined that the university will continue to hold on to the deferred payment until more information becomes available on the 2009 financial outlook. Trustee Chair Dennis Pawley tells the Oakland Post that the Board of Trustees will not discuss how to allocate the money until April 2008.

THE OAKLAND POST POLL:

Do students know about the \$4.8 million?

Yes	36%
No	64%

What should be done with the money?

Prevent Tuition Increase	49%
Student Refund	38%
Campus Improvements	12%

Take part in this poll in the Mix at www.oaklandpostonline.com

Talent search



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post

Citizen Smile performed at OU Rising Stars' second of three tryouts on Feb. 9 in Varner Hall. Judges will choose a field of six to compete in the "Battle of the OU Stars" live performance on OUTV. The final day for solo and group acts to tryout is Feb. 16. Group acts must have at least one OU student as a member. For more information, contact Demetrios Anastasiow at dganasta@oakland.edu.

POLICEFILES

Police were summoned to Vandenberg Hall on Feb. 7 on an assault and battery call. Two students were involved in a verbal dispute that escalated after one student punched the other. Police interviewed both parties as well as a witness. Neither of the students was charged with a crime.

The fire alarm was set off in Varner Hall on Feb. 7. The Auburn Hills Fire Department responded to the scene and found that the alarm was set off by a smoke machine being tested in the auditorium for a performance that evening.

Two students were arrested Feb. 8 at the 3000 building of the University Apartments. Police were contacted by other residents of the building because of the strong odor of marijuana in the hallway. While searching the apartment police found the marijuana in the trash can and arrested the students.

Two police officers came across a student urinating next to a vehicle on Feb. 9. The student made no effort to hide his actions. The student was arrested and issued a citation for disorderly conduct.

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Marcia Dyson previews upcoming lecture

By STACIE L. BARTMAN
Staff Intern

Rev. Marcia Dyson describes the "Dyson vs. Dyson" lecture, to be presented in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center on Feb. 18, as a "pleasant conversation on agreeing to disagree on a lot of issues."

The discussion between Marcia and her husband, Michael Eric Dyson, will center upon a debate over issues expressed by Bill Cosby in his book, "Come on People," which comments on the state of black America and his series of call-outs.

Marcia falls in agreement with Cosby. "It's not anything new; it's an old message," Marcia said of Cosby's views. "We've had those conversations around the dining room table."

On the other hand, Michael does not support Cosby's belief. He states in his book "Is Bill Cosby Right?" that Cosby is "attacking the poor and making tragic use of his public capital."

Marcia said she feels anyone can abuse a situation, but said Bill Cosby is "an elderly person who has done great things in the African-American Community."

"Those who do not have the same financial stability should be taken care of by the government," said Marcia in reference to what she and her husband agree upon in Bill Cosby's book. She feels everyone has to be responsible for their children and due child support should be paid.

Marcia supports Michael and his beliefs, and does not

feel that their differing views have any affect on their marriage.

"I'm a grown woman and he's a grown man; since we are both free agents to our opinions we can agree to disagree," she said. "Things that he writes, most of the time, I wholeheartedly agree and a lot of the things he writes and says, I object to."

Marcia said she is an independent woman with a prominent husband and feels she is not "dictated by the rule of his pen and his books."

Marcia is a well-respected woman within the African-American community. She is a regular columnist for Essence magazine and successful speaker and writer in the spiritual community.

"Michael is an intellectual," Marcia said. Essence magazine named him as one of the "50 Most Inspiring African-Americans," and the Washington Post calls him a "superstar professor."

The Dysons are both ministers. "In our ministry we both walk in the same path," she said. However, she admits that her beliefs are a bit more radical than those of her husband.

Having a household split on political views, it's no surprise that Marcia supports Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton while Michael supports Senator Barack Obama.

"We are both very diverse and not just stuck on one thing," Marcia said.

Marcia hopes that OU students come away from the lecture knowing that a couple who loves each other do not have to bend to each other's beliefs all the time.



Photo courtesy of Paul Franklin

Rev. Marcia Dyson and her husband Dr. Michael Eric Dyson will discuss their differing opinions at "Dyson vs. Dyson" this Saturday. The topic of Bill Cosby's book will head the debate.

This week in OU history

■ Ten years ago this week:

OU announces events to passers-by

An electronic sign on the corner of Walton Boulevard and Adams Road was set to be hooked up for the first time, displaying information about sports, the arts, and important dates.

Also—Nancy Schmitz (assistant V.P. for student affairs) was named director of the Graham Health Center.

■ Fifteen years ago this week:

Bookstore was to get \$110,000 facelift

After signing a contract with Barnes & Noble (in the spring of 1992), the company announced they would invest around \$110,000 to renovate OU's bookstore. The revamp includes a new "power aisle," a tile main path running from the front entrance to the back customer service desk.

■ Twenty-five years ago this week:

Camped out for a job

Students were camping out overnight outside of the job placement office to be one of the 15 people allowed to sign up for interviews with potential employers. Those that were not in the select 15 each week were allowed to sign up as alternates, in case someone higher on the list dropped out. Forty students were lined up by 2 a.m. and some students waited 9 ½ hours to get put on the list.

—Information taken from archived issues of the Oakland Post
—Compiled by Adam Roberts, Senior Reporter

Meadow Brook Road reopens to traffic



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Meadow Brook Road has been reopened now that work on the collapsed culvert, which began in October, has been completed. The road is temporarily covered with gravel and will be repaved in the spring when the weather warms up again.

'Chekhov in Yalta' at Varner Theatre

Semi-biographical play on famous playwright showing until Feb. 17

REVIEW

By **BRENDAN LOSINSKI**
Staff Intern

People are often as fascinated with the author of a great story as they are with the story itself. That is the premise behind John Driver and Jeffrey Haddow's play "Chekhov in Yalta," which is now being performed at Varner Theatre.

The play tells the story of the famous writer and playwright Anton Pavlovich Chekhov during his declining years.

The action takes place at Chekhov's villa in Yalta on the shores of the Black Sea.

Chekhov has come to relax to improve his deteriorating health. His vacation is interrupted by a troupe of actors and producers from Moscow trying to both cajole and convince Chekhov

to give them his newest play.

The plot is based on actual events that took place in the spring of 1900 and characters are all Chekhov's actual family and friends. Like the film "Shakespeare in Love" the actual lives of the characters are embellished but the story is similar to reality.

Also like that film, certain events in the play mirror the stories that Chekhov would write.

"Chekhov in Yalta" takes the relationships of the characters seriously and does not ignore the tumultuous times that they lived in.

It is a comedy with both clever dialogue and funny characters.

The performance's director Tom Suda and the actors should get credit for enhancing this comedy with their staging and performances.

However, a good portion of the humor depends on being familiar with Chekhov's plays, so some audience members may not understand all the

references. It may help to know who iconic novelist Leo Tolstoy and legendary playwright Henrik Ibsen are as well.

Despite pre-requisite knowledge, there is still plenty of humor and drama in "Chekhov in Yalta" for those who have never read a word of Chekhov.

The play is student-produced, and most of the cast and crew are made up of Oakland students.

Adrienne Podjun is particularly well-cast in the play's most dramatic role as Olga, who is involved in a complicated romance with Chekhov. She projects the emotional uncertainty of her role to the audience without resorting to melodrama.

Suda and costume supervisor Donna Buckley traveled to the Ukraine in December to lend authenticity to the performance. Their efforts paid off, as the costumes and set look excellent.

The set is small, but well-made.

Interpreting Chekhov's villa patio, it offers a good view into the interior of the house.

It also fits with the small Varner studio. In fact, the tiny theatre helps the performance by giving everyone in the audience a front-row seat.

Suda uses this to his advantage by utilizing the space immediately surrounding the theatre's seats in the actions sequences.

Suda said that at the heart of the performance is fun. "In a story about a bunch of actors and directors barging in on a playwright, [the fun] is that theatre people get to play theatre people," he said. "It's like a license to steal."

"Chekhov in Yalta" will be playing at the Varner Studio Theatre until Feb. 17.

For times and ticket information call (248) 370-3013 or visit www.oakland.edu/mtd.

New mural to be painted in the basement of the OC

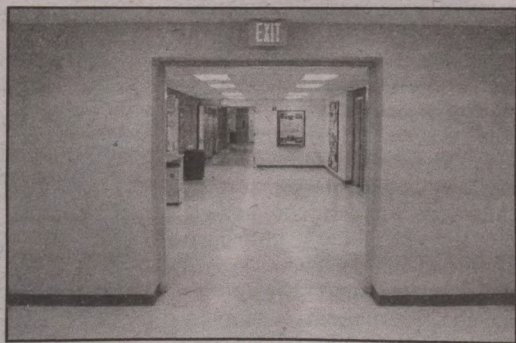
By **AMANDA SAOUD**
Staff Intern

The basement of the Oakland Center will be getting a makeover this spring. A floor-to-ceiling photographic mural, similar to the one in the O'Rena, is being planned to stretch from the bookstore to Bumpers Game Room.

"It's a project I've been wanting to do since I was elected last spring," said Student Body President Rob Meyer. "The Oakland Center is so sterile. This will be a way to liven up the building."

Meyer hopes that by creating the mural, the OC will take on more of an identity of a student union that students can connect with, similar to the student unions at larger schools.

"The collage is going to be all sorts of photos from the communications and marketing department of Oakland University throughout its history," Meyer said. "The history of



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
The halls of the lower floor in the OC will be receiving an artist's touch, with a mural planned to stretch from the OU Bookstore to Bumper's Game Room.

the school is literally going to be on the walls. "We also collected photos from current student organizations to use."

The project, jointly funded by OUSC, The Student Program Board, and SAFB, is expected to begin in April. Meyer has been planning the mural with OUSC and SPB and hopes to have it completed by the time freshman orientations start in June.

Oakland University Eye Research Program

Summer Undergraduate Program in Eye Research

May 12 – August 1, 2008

Ideal S.U.P.E.R. candidates will be Oakland University sophomores or juniors who are pursuing careers in biomedical research or teaching. Up to six students will be assigned to one of six research laboratories, working directly with ERI faculty. This training program includes: lab safety, sound research design, vision sciences

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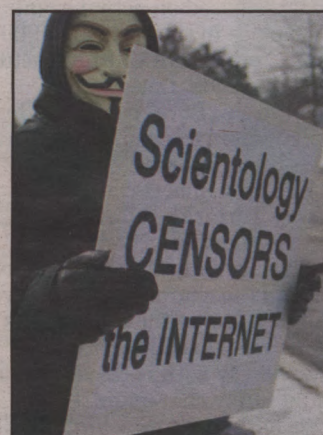
Application packages may be obtained on line at <http://www.oakland.edu/eri>.

Deadline for applications: MARCH 7, 2008

Masked protest of Scientology

Protesters gather across the street from the Church of Scientology of Michigan, located at 12 Mile Road and Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills, Mich., to rally against "the vile nature of several policies" of Scientology. Over 100 participants, including members of the group "Anonymous," attended the event on Sunday, Feb. 10, in conjunction with a world-wide protest of the Church of Scientology.

Photos courtesy of Amber Dietz



NEWS IN BRIEF

Thief requests longer prison term

ADRIAN, Mich. — Facing no more than a year in the county jail for robbery, a 32-year-old man asked a judge for a prison term instead — saying it would improve his chances of rehabilitation.

Michael Thomas Isaacson got what he asked for Thursday when Lenawee County Circuit Court Judge Timothy P. Pickard sentenced him to 17 months to 15 years in state prison, with a recommendation for a psychological evaluation and counseling.

Isaacson pleaded guilty to an unarmed robbery charge last month in a Dec. 2 robbery of an Adrian Cinema employee. State sentencing guidelines called for no more than one year in the county jail.

Isaacson told Pickard he believes programs available in state prisons will help him "get back on [his] feet."

Michigan chasing college grads

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

LANSING, Mich. — A new study says Michigan and three of its largest cities — Detroit, Grand Rapids and Lansing — are lagging other states and cities in creating high-wage jobs that require a college degree.

That fact could doom the state to second-class status unless more is done to increase the proportion of college graduates in Michigan, particularly in the state's major metropolitan areas, according to the study released Monday by Ann Arbor-based Michigan Future Inc.

Between 2000 and 2006, Michigan remained 34th in the country in the percentage of population aged 25 or more that has a bachelor's degree. During that same time period, it saw its per-capita income fall from 16th to 26th nationally.

The situation is largely due to all the auto manufacturing jobs the state has lost. To bounce back, the study says Michigan needs to have more residents get college degrees so it can compete for jobs in information, finance and insurance, management, professional and technical services, health care and education.

"Our best guess is that, unless we substantially increase the proportion of college-educated adults in Michigan — particularly in our biggest metropolitan areas — we will continue to trend downwards in the per capita income ranking toward the mid-30s," the study says.

"Building a strong knowledge-based economy in metropolitan Detroit, Grand Rapids and Lansing is the central challenge we must meet if we are to create prosperity in Michigan."

The report notes that thriving, major metropolitan areas are one factor that all 10 states — except Wyoming — with the highest per capita income have in common. In general, all of those metropolitan areas have an even higher per capita income rate than the state they're in, and a high proportion of well-educated residents.

Michigan Future President Lou Glazer said in a phone interview that the state is on the wrong track trying to give cutting-edge businesses startup money through the 21st Century Jobs Fund or repeatedly cutting taxes to try to lure businesses here.

"Our basic sense is, if you cannot change the maps — the maps being where the talent is located — then you can't grow a knowledge economy here," he said. "We need a new agenda. We're not working on the talent part of it."

The report calls for more investment in higher education, something that has suffered as the state has struggled with tight budgets in recent years, leading Michigan to have one of the nation's worst records for additional investments in higher education.

Michigan's 15 state universities are getting less in state aid for operations now than they did in the 2002 fiscal year, resulting in tuition increases that sometimes have risen to double digit percentages. Gov. Jennifer Granholm

last week proposed giving an overall 3 percent increase to universities in the next budget year.

The report also calls for more investment — public and private — in downtown areas of major cities to make them more attractive to young, highly educated workers.

"Places that are doing well have made ... revitalizing central city neighborhoods — transit, arts, outdoor parks — the priorities," Glazer said, pointing to Chicago's investment in Millennium Park, which has drawn private investors to the surrounding area and made the city a draw for young professionals, including Michiganders.

"All these kids who graduate and go to Chicago, they're taking the Michigan economy with them," he said.

Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd said the governor agrees more Michigan residents need a college education.

"The governor's goal is to double the number of college graduates or people with certified training in this state," Boyd said. "We have taken numerous steps to work toward that goal, whether it's the more rigorous high school graduation requirements, the Michigan Promise Scholarships or the new 21st Century Schools Fund."

Funding for the study was provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Hudson-Webber Foundation and the Hubert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation.

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GM tackling hard financial times

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
Associated Press Auto Writer

DETROIT — General Motors Corp., weighed down by the weakened U.S. economy, reported a \$38.7 billion loss for 2007 on Tuesday, the largest annual loss ever for an automotive company, and promptly offered a new round of buyouts to 74,000 U.S. hourly workers in hopes of replacing some of them with lower-paid employees.

GM Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner said the company made significant progress in 2007, reducing structural costs in North America, negotiating a historic labor agreement with the United Auto Workers union and growing aggressively in emerging markets such as Latin America and Asia.

But it was hit by continuing losses in North America and at GMAC Financial Services, which is reeling from the U.S. mortgage crisis. The huge loss was mostly due to a \$39 billion charge for unused tax credits that GM was forced to take after its three-year cumulative earnings worsened.

"We're pleased with the positive improvement trend in our automotive results, especially given the challenging conditions in important markets like the U.S. and Germany, but we have more work to do to achieve acceptable profitability and positive cash flow," Wagoner said in a statement.

GM offered the buyouts Tuesday to U.S. workers represented by the UAW. The UAW represents around 98 percent of GM's U.S. hourly workers, with smaller unions representing the rest, spokesman Dan Flores said.

GM wouldn't say how many workers it hopes to shed or how much it expects the buyouts to cost, but under its new contract with the UAW, it will be able to replace up to 16,000 workers doing non-assembly jobs with new employees who will be paid half the old wage of \$28 per hour.

UAW President Ron Gettelfinger said he expects fewer than 20,000 workers to take the buyout.

Gettelfinger said the union understood that more buyouts would be coming when it agreed to the contract last fall.

"We didn't go into the contract blind. We're proud of our membership. There are certain things we cannot control," he said during an interview Tuesday morning on "The Paul W. Smith Show" on WJR-AM.

Under the offer, retirement-eligible

workers could get between \$45,000 and \$62,500, depending on their skill level, as an incentive to retire with full pension and health benefits. Other workers will have the option to retire early or take up to \$140,000 to leave the company with no pension or health care. In all, GM has 46,000 workers who qualify for the retirement or near-retirement options, including 21,500 workers who have 30 years of service.

Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC already have announced similar buyout offers. Henderson said GM increased its offer to match Ford and Chrysler.

The 2007 loss topped GM's previous record in 1992, when the company lost \$23.4 billion because of a change in health care accounting, according to Standard & Poor's Compustat.

GM's North American division posted a \$1.5 billion loss for the year, nearly identical to its \$1.6 billion loss in 2006. GM North America also reported a loss of \$1.1 billion in the fourth quarter, compared with a loss of \$129 million in the year-ago quarter.

Wagoner said the weak U.S. economy and high commodity prices hurt turnaround efforts in North America despite hit products like the Chevrolet Malibu and a trio of new crossovers. He said GM's decision to reduce low-profit sales to daily rental companies by 110,000 in 2007 also affected U.S. sales.

Henderson said that while 2008 will be difficult, the company sees the potential for significant earnings increases by 2010 or 2011 once it reduces its work force and labor costs and transfers its retiree health-care costs to a new UAW-run trust.

GM was profitable in every region outside North America. GM's Latin America, Middle East and Africa division reported a record \$1.3 billion in earnings, more than double that of 2006. GM's Asia Pacific division earned \$744 million, up from \$403 million in 2006. GM Europe, which saw market share losses in Germany but gains in Russia and elsewhere, reported a profit of \$55 million, down from a profit of \$357 million in 2006.

GM reported \$181 billion in revenues for the year, down from \$206 billion in 2006.

GM, the world's largest automaker, barely retained that title in 2007, selling just 3,000 more vehicles than Toyota Motor Corp. GM sold a total of 9,369,524 vehicles worldwide, up 3 percent from the year before.

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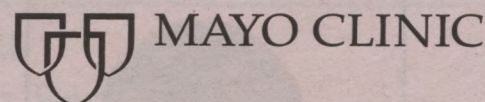
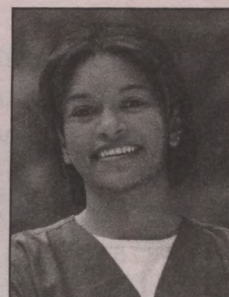
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Hating dating?

What is the worst date you've ever been on?

"My senior prom. I went with a friend of mine and I had torn ligaments in my ankle during football practice three weeks before, and I couldn't move around too much and my date was out with friends, which left me by myself."

Matt Wright
Junior, Political Science



"The worst date was when I started getting back into dating after the end of a relationship. We went out for dinner and a movie, and in the car on the way to dinner he was blasting Michael Jackson, but really overdoing it. When we were having dinner, he was constantly contradicting himself, and then on the ride home he started rapping in the car. By the end of the night, I was done with him."

Candice Stokes
Junior, Social Work

"A double date, not my date, but my friend's date. He went out with a girl he had met online through MySpace who had said she was a beauty pageant queen. Let's say she wasn't what we had expected, and we had to put up with her all night."

Justin Bowman
Sophomore, Psychology



Be Mine

Creativity counts

What is the most creative gift a significant other has given you?



"Tickets to see Marilyn Manson."

Lauren Rogers
Freshman, Psychology



"A surprise birthday with all of my friends."

Stefania Mastracco
Senior, Information Tech.

Online dating

Would you ever date someone you met online? Why or why not?



"No, never, because people are crazy. It's not safe and I can't kiss my computer screen."

Bridney Perry
Freshman, Pre-Business



"I wouldn't because I think non-verbal cues when you're talking to someone are important and you can't get that on the Internet."

Matt Passmore
Junior, Marketing

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The 2007-2008 Student Life Lecture Series

Dyson vs. Dyson

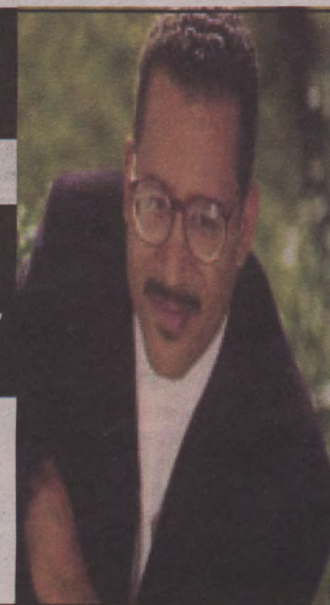
The State of Black America: Is Bill Cosby Right?

Monday, February 18, 2008

7:00 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

featuring

Reverend Marcia Dyson and Dr. Michael Eric Dyson
and moderated by Dr. Jude Nixon



This lecture is free. No tickets are required. Seating is on a first come basis.
This program is sponsored by the Student Life Lecture Board and the Student Program. Board

February weather numbs campus

OU students brave the winter chill in pursuit of higher education

By JESSE DUNSMORE
Senior Reporter

The blasted white expanse lasts for what seems like miles. Structures may or may not be visible from a distance, depending on the wind. Figures appear and disappear throughout the all-consuming white haze, hurrying along, struggling to cover as much skin as possible, lest they suffer death or injury from exposure.

Occasionally, one mutters the universal sentiment: "Damn, it's cold!"

It's not a scene from another post-apocalyptic movie — it's the February walk between classes at OU.

Among the comments overheard: "It's so freaking cold!"

"Seriously, this school never closes."

"Woah!" (from the third person in a row to slip on the ice in front of the Oakland Center entrance).

One male student was spotted en route from South Foundation Hall to the Oakland Center wearing a t-shirt. He was unavailable for comment because he was running too fast to catch.

Sophomore Mike Smith had a jacket, but that was the extent of his winter precautions. "No hat, no gloves—I'm kind of roughing it," said Smith.

More appropriately-dressed students still weren't exactly comfortable with the weather.

"I've got thermals on, and a pair of pajama pants and another pair of pants and two tank tops, a t-shirt and a sweater," said visibly cold English major Rachel Harbin, laughing.

Harbin, an English major, says that in the summer, in light traffic, getting to school would be a 15-minute drive for her. Right now it takes her up to 45 minutes.

"And I'm only six miles away, so

it's pretty frustrating," she said. "The hardest part is when you have to walk clear across campus, and it's snowing and sleeting out, and it's terrible. There's nothing you can do, because going out in the parking lot and driving takes just as long, and you're cold."

Juniors Alli Prell and George Ristoske both move as fast as they can between classes to conserve body heat.

Cold weather isn't just uncomfortable; it poses real health risks. If you begin to exhibit symptoms of hypothermia (slurred speech, slow breathing, cold, pale skin, or fatigue) while exposed to the elements, get out of the cold and remove any wet clothing, says MayoClinic.com

Also, frostbite can occur to exposed tissues. Keep as much skin covered as possible. Frostbitten skin is hard, pale and cold. Never warm it by rubbing, and don't warm it if it's just going to freeze again soon, as this will damage the tissue more. Seek medical help if numbness lasts during warming.

Things aren't going to get any better this week if weather reports are to be believed. Forecasts call for a 14 degree low Wednesday, 13 Thursday, and 7 Friday. That's not accounting for the wind chill which caused physical therapy major Elizabeth Clinton's eyes to water on her way to the Science and Engineering Building from the OC.

Clinton was dressed warmly, but she's from North Carolina. "I have to put on five million layers," she said. She said she wishes the school had heated skywalks between buildings.

Her mom commutes, and has night classes. "She always calls and asks me if school's gonna get canceled because it's really dangerous to drive for her."

Sophomore Adam Grubius had only one thing to say about the weather: "We're in Michigan."



JESSE DUNSMORE/The Oakland Post

Students Elizabeth Clinton (above) and Rachel Harbin (below) pose en route to and from classes at Oakland University, sporting varied forms of cold-weather apparel. The winter season is both inconvenient and potentially dangerous, especially for students commuting to and from campus. This year's cold season has brought some of the country's most frigid weather to Oakland County.



JESSE DUNSMORE/The Oakland Post



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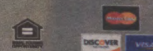


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Sports

16

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February 13, 2008

Nelson leads the way for men's basketball on the road

By DAN TALLANT
Contributing Reporter

The Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team (13-11 overall, 8-5 conference) took a road trip last weekend down south to face conference rivals Oral Roberts (17-5, 12-0) and Centenary (9-15, 3-9). Oakland split the two contests, beating up on Centenary, but falling hard to Oral Roberts.

Game one of the road trip took place Thursday against the first-place ORU Golden Eagles. Oakland shot a miserable 30 percent from the field, managing to score only 53 points compared to 60 for Oral Roberts.

Although cold shooting was problematic for both teams, Oakland suffered the most, failing to convert on its first 13 shots of the second half. The cold streak kept the Grizzlies from scoring until just over seven minutes into the second half.

The game was close all the way through until Oral Roberts' Robert Jarvis sank six straight free throws to close out Oakland.

OU junior Derick Nelson led the Grizzlies with 13 points. Junior Erik Kangas and sophomore Jonathon Jones added 12 points each in the loss.

With the win, Oral Roberts extended its home win-

ning streak to 24 straight conference games. The Golden Eagles also continued their dominance of the Summit League, extending their conference record to 11-0.

Leaving empty-handed from Tulsa, the Grizzlies looked to turn the road trip around with a win at Centenary.

Oakland led by as many as 40 points in the contest and easily strutted off with a 97-61 victory against Centenary College at the Golden Dome.

OU dominated the whole contest on Saturday, with five Golden Grizzlies in double figures.

Nelson led the team again, dropping a game-high 22 points. Assistance also came from Kangas who sank 4-of-8 from beyond-the-arc on his way to a 14-point performance. Other double-digit scorers included freshmen Tim Williams, Will Hudson and Peter Bunn who scored 13, 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Jones dished out 11 assists in the contest.

The 36-point victory by the Grizzlies was the largest defeat that the Golden Dome has witnessed in its existence.

"Any time you win by more than 10 points in a league game, you're happy," head coach Greg Kampe said in a press release. "We caught them at the right time and shots went down for us early."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post file photo

Derick Nelson (seen here Feb. 2 against South Dakota State) was the Golden Grizzlies' leading scorer in both road games this past week. Nelson scored 22 against Centenary and 13 against ORU.

Notes: Golden Grizzly senior Brandon Cassise did not make the trip due to personal reasons. Cassise is currently fourth on the team in scoring, averaging 9.4 points per game. Cassise has missed four games so far this season. There was no reason given for Cassise's absence.

Assistant Sports Editor Rob Tate contributed to this report.

Road trip starts well, ends in devastation

Lady Golden Grizzlies stumble down the stretch, go 2-6 in their last eight games

By TIM RATH
Contributing Reporter

The Oakland University women's basketball team faced a fork in road on its trip this weekend.

The Golden Grizzlies (14-9 overall, 7-6 conference) could have played Saturday as if low on fuel, showing the effects of three straight heartbreaking losses.

Instead, they squashed Centenary like roadkill en route to a 72-55 victory.

Sophomore forward Hanna Reising led the way, filling up the stat sheet with 18 points, four rebounds, four assists, and five steals. Junior guard Jessica Pike added 18 points and three assists, while sophomore guard Melissa Jeltama scored 11 on 5-of-6 shooting to round out the Grizzlies scoring in double figures.

OU and Centenary exchanged leads for the first 10 minutes of the game, drawing at 17-17 with 9:50 to go in the half after a 3-pointer by Pike. Another three from Pike jump-started a 15-6 Grizzlies run that ended the

first half at 32-23 in OU's favor.

Reising pushed the lead to 13 points, 38-25, with 17:21 to play in the second half. Centenary responded with a seven-point run to draw within six.

The Grizzlies took control of the game after that, widening the margin by as many as 21 with 1:45 to go in the game, eventually cruising to the final score of 72-55.

Centenary out-rebounded the Grizzlies 34-33 on the strength of 6-foot-2 forward Anne Farrell. However, OU managed to grab 24 turnovers from the Ladies, and out-shot them by a one percent margin.

During the first half of Monday night's game at Oral Roberts, OU appeared to have kept the momentum going.

They led by as many as 13, eventually taking a 10-point lead into halftime on the strength of 59 percent shooting and nine forced turnovers.

However, the Grizzlies just couldn't get started in the second half. Their shooting dropped to 23 percent and

they were out-scored 37-20, falling to ORU, 73-66.

Jeltama notched her fifth double-double of the season, leading the Grizzlies in the losing effort with 14 points, 15 rebounds, two steals, two blocks and two assists. Pike added 11 points, while junior guard April Kidd scored 13 and grabbed six rebounds.

The Grizzlies' 10 point advantage was quickly pushed to 12 at the beginning of the second half, but from there, ORU began to chip away. A 17-4 run ended with 8:46 to go in the game and OU ahead by a score of 54-53.

The Grizzlies fought to maintain the lead over the next three minutes, getting ahead by as many as five with 5:17 left to play. However, Oakland couldn't hold off the Golden Eagles as they took a 68-66 lead with 1:47 to go, and the Grizzlies forced six turnovers over the last two minutes to cement the victory.

The Grizzlies return home Saturday to play the IPFW at the Athletics Center O'Rena. Tip-off is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

Laying the foundation

Men's and women's track teams showing growth in third season

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

With a well-established cross country program, Oakland University's runners now have the opportunity to participate in up to three sports with the recent additions of both indoor and outdoor track teams.

In the spring of 2006, outdoor track became an official sport on campus. The Golden Grizzlies are currently immersed in the school's first indoor track season. These two recent additions now allow distance runners to compete in all three sports and non-distance runners to participate in two sports.

In previous years, the indoor season was more of a preparation for the outdoor season, but now the teams are competing with other schools, culminating in the Summit League championship Feb. 29 through March 1, held at Western Illinois University.

Paul Rice has been OU's cross country coach for the past 10 years and has established his team as one of the best in the Summit League. Now, Rice looks to carry that success over to both indoor and outdoor track.

"Our men's cross country team has won several championships and we're successful because we're very deep," said Rice. "You don't have guys that are ever comfortable; they never get a chance to sit back. They're always looking over their shoulder and wanting to defend their spot. That's what we're trying to do across the board."

While the university doesn't have indoor or outdoor facilities on campus, the Grizzlies make do with what's easily accessible.

Rice has measured a 175-meter track in the soccer dome, which is about 25 meters short of a standard track, but has a soft surface to run on, eliminating the wear and tear on the athletes' bodies. The Grizzlies also use the Shotwell Pavilion, which has an old indoor track for field events and hurdles.

During the outdoor season, the Grizzlies make a short trip to Avondale High School to practice and both indoor and outdoor teams compete on the road

all season.

"The closest we've been to having a home [indoor] meet was one we co-hosted at Macomb Community College with Macomb and U-D Mercy," said Rice.

An outdoor facility is on the horizon, however, as Oakland has been tabbed to host the outdoor Summit League championship in 2011. Rice hopes to raise enough money in the next two or three years.

"It's really not as expensive as you'd think. All we're looking for is an eight-lane track with fencing. When you want to build a whole stadium is when it gets expensive," he said. "At the college level, you can't just go to a high school and host a meet."

With a very young squad, the track program is still trying to establish itself, but the strong points are in the men's long- and middle-distance events. Also up-and-coming are the women's sprinters.

Though it seems like every time you turn around, a school record is falling this indoor season, that notion may be a little misleading.

"Breaking school records is great, but the reality of it is we started at square one [this season], so every week, we should be breaking records; we should be improving," said Rice.

He foresees several school records being broken in the outdoor season with the addition of the indoor season as the outdoor team will be more prepared for this spring because they are able to compete almost year-round.

The team is mostly made up of freshmen and sophomores, as last year was the first crack Rice and his staff had at recruiting. Word didn't get out that there would be a team in 2006 until May of the previous year, after the high school seasons were already over.

And with participation around 50 to 55 for the men and 35 to 40 for the women, Rice can now focus on filling holes and bringing in quality runners.

"We can now be more selective and continue to bring in quality runners, which creates competition within the team," said Rice.

THE GRIZZ FILES

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK TEAM
MEMBERS WHO ARE MAKING NOISE THIS SEASON



ZACK JONES

Major: Linguistics
Year: Freshman
Event: Distance

Set the OU record for the
5000-meter run May 4 with a time
of 14:31.97

Ran the third fastest 3000-meter
in the conference Feb. 2 with a
time of 8:35.81



MELISSA MARTINEZ

Major: Undecided
Year: Sophomore
Event: Sprints

Broke OU's 200-meter dash record
April 4 with a time of 26.84 seconds

Set the school record for the
300-meter dash with a time of
42.96 seconds.



KEVIN LUCE

Major: Computer Science and
Engineering
Year: Freshman
Event: Hurdles

Set school records in the 110- and
400-meter hurdles May 4 with
times of 15.14 and 56.14 seconds,
respectively

*The Summit League Indoor Championships will
be held Feb. 29-March 1 at Western Illinois
University at the Westwood Sports
and Expo Center.*

Compiled by John Droke, Staff Intern
Info and photos courtesy of OU Athletics

Club Hockey Sweeps Spartans



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Tony Yearego (71) weaves in on Michigan State's defense in Thursday night's game at the Onyx. The Grizzlies beat the Spartans in a shootout both Thursday and Saturday, prevailing 4-3 both days. Yearego, the team's defensive leading scorer, finished the weekend with a goal and an assist. The Grizzlies will find out their first-round opponent for this year's national championship tournament (March 1-5 in Rochester, N.Y.) this week. For full game coverage and more, check out www.oaklandpostonline.com.

CO-GRIZZ OF THE WEEK

Beckie Francis and Greg Kampe



Both basketball head coaches, along with members of their staffs, will be guest grillers at BD's Mongolian Barbeque Feb. 13 as part of Coaches vs. Cancer.



Photos courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

In Case You Missed It...

Basketball coaches hit the grill for Coaches vs. Cancer

Oakland University basketball coaches Greg Kampe and Beckie Francis will be teaming up this Wednesday, Feb. 13 to raise money for cancer at BD's Mongolian Barbeque on University Drive.

As guest grillers, Kampe and Francis and their assistant coaches will turn up the heat as they grill food on the 2,000-pound, 600-degree grill, raising tips to benefit Coaches vs. Cancer.

Coaches vs. Cancer is a collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC), pioneered by former University of Missouri men's basketball coach Norm Stewart. Stewart, a cancer survivor, started the program by asking fans to pledge money for every three-point shot his team made in a season.

The partnership between the ACS and the NABC began in 1993 and has raised nearly \$40 million with the help of over 500 Division I, II and III college basketball coaches.

This is the third year Kampe and Francis have participated as guest grillers.

There are two seatings for the event, the first at 6 p.m. followed by a 7:30 p.m. seating.

Golden Grizzly women's soccer nets eight signees

With the initial signing date for soccer recruits well underway, Oakland University's women's soccer program has added eight new faces for the 2008 season.

Coach Nick O'Shea will bring in defenders Jessica Conrad (Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Prince Andrew High School), Kenzie Timm (Saginaw, Mich., Saginaw Heritage High School) and Rachel Reed (Sterling Heights, Mich., Bishop Foley High School); midfielders Shannon Doyle (Lake Orion, Mich., Lake Orion High School) and Sarah Lynch (Mississauga, Ontario, St. Martin High School); and forwards Leanne Fomenko (Courtice, Ontario, Courtice Secondary School) and Amy Trendall (Sterling Heights, Mich., Stevenson High School).

Also joining the Golden Grizzlies is midfielder Deanna Colarossi (Burlington, Ontario, Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School), who O'Shea calls a "very talented versatile player who can help in a number of places."

— Brittany Ochtinsky, Senior Reporter

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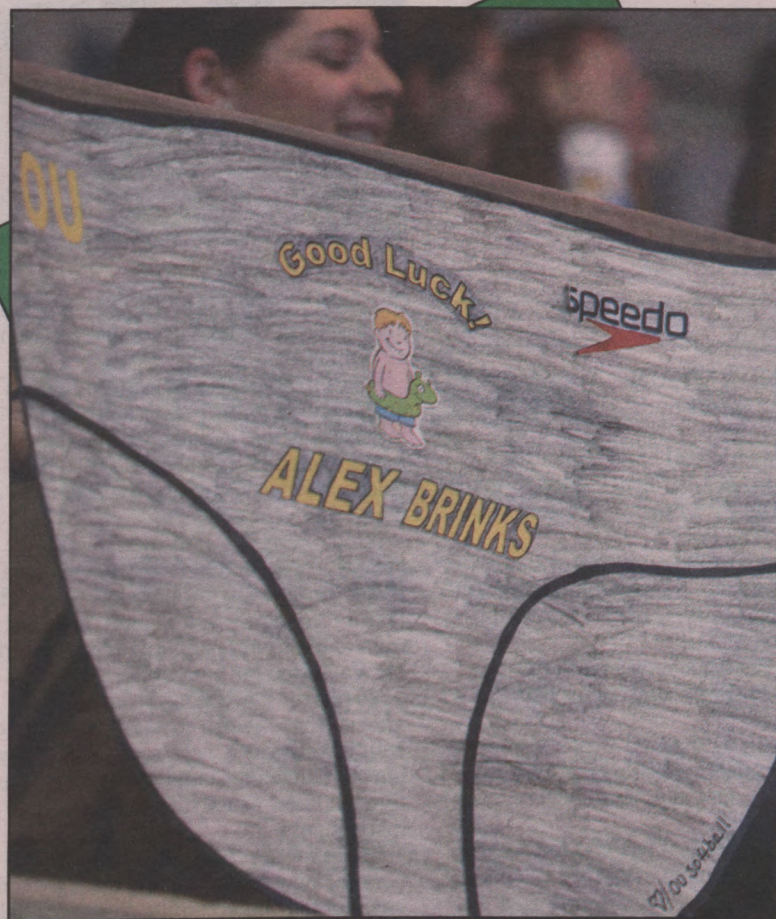
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BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

This is one of the many creative signs brought by the women's softball team to the men's and women's swimming and diving meet Jan. 19.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Anthony Gallina, Ben Fielder and Adam Panchenko of the OU Spirit Squad, now a staple at home basketball games, prepare to launch T-shirts into the audience.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Members of the men's swimming and diving team literally paint themselves with school spirit at a men's basketball game.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Softball players Jessica Granger and Caitlin Lynch take a break from cheering on the swimming and diving teams.

The Scene

20

www.oaklandpostonline.com

February 13, 2008

Vampire Weekend can't be classified

REVIEW

By OLIVIA OLSON
Contributing Reporter

Trying to classify Vampire Weekend's self-titled debut is pointless. Any and all attempts to do so will be in vain, and laughably so.

It is the band's astonishing ability to fuse a myriad of styles and genres that allows them to successfully thwart every musical convention that is recognized today.

This seems to be the only way to survive in the contemporary music industry, for to be unoriginal is to become obsolete before a first single is released. Luckily for them, Vampire Weekend hemorrhages originality.

Anyone who knows Regina Spektor's music is familiar with the idea of amalgamating punk and classical music, and the satisfaction the finished product can bring when it is done well.

Vampire Weekend manages to accomplish the same task, but in a different way. Strings are showcased rather than Spektor's heralded piano, and punk is far from the only genre that is mixed in.

The highlight on the album is

"M79," a staggering track that epitomizes diversity by featuring highlights of classical instrumentation paired with a reggae beat and punk vocals.

"I Stand Corrected" is impressive in that it is a slower song, which, for many young bands, can be a difficult task to accomplish. The music swirls around vocalist Ezra Koenig, threatening to sweep him away. However, he stands his ground and maintains his reserve throughout.

"One (Blake's Got A New Face)" is another standout track that employs Spektor-esque antics to create musical interest; the band coughs, sniffs, and croons with vocal contortions, using their own voices as unusual instrumentation.

The album is generally fun and colorful with more than a couple catchy tunes. But Vampire Weekend is not background music best experienced on a summer drive with the windows down and a pile of people in the backseat; its artistic merit demands your full attention, and will, no doubt, garner your most sincere respect.

More than anything, it is a sensory album — it sparkles, it glows with warmth, it flits around the room, and it hits every tastebud on the musical pallet.

Bullet for My Valentine 'Screams' in sophomore release

REVIEW

By AMANDA MEADE
Contributing Reporter

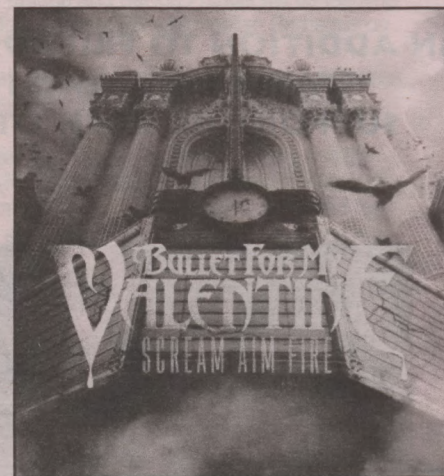
Mainstream metal band Bullet for My Valentine is back with their new album "Scream Aim Fire," two years after the release of "The Poison."

The band was definitely not wasting any time between the two albums, rocking out with bands like Guns N Roses, Iron Maiden and Metallica.

Despite the time between albums, "Scream Aim Fire" continues where the band left off.

Songs such as the title track, "Scream Aim Fire" and "End of Days" stay consistent with the last album, and every track is radio-friendly.

Fans of Bullet for My Valentine, and even those who have not heard the band, can appreciate lead singer Matt Tuck's unique vocals, Michael Paget's style on



Amazon.com

the guitar and "Moose" Thomas' amazing ability on the drums, using just the right amount of bass pedal.

Songs like "Hearts Burst into Flames" and "Forever and Always" are both intensely strong ballads, which is not a new concept for the band. These two tracks may be a couple of the strongest on the album.

While "Scream Aim Fire" is by no means poorly produced, there just wasn't a real sense of any progression since "The Poison." Regardless, it is more material from a great band, and any true Bullet for My Valentine fan can appreciate that.

No matter how mainstream or commercial these Welsh rockers may be, they definitely deserve more radio play. They have an amazing sound about them, and they all know exactly how to play their instruments.

Bullet for My Valentine plans to support the new record with at least two more years of touring according to www.bulletformyvalentine1.com.

Winehouse nabs five Grammy awards

Pop-singer Amy Winehouse came out on top at this year's Grammys, taking home the awards for record of the year, song of the year, best new artist, best female pop vocal performance and best pop vocal album. Other big winners included:

ALBUM OF THE YEAR — HERBIE HANCOCK, "RIVER: THE JONI LETERS"

BEST MALE POP VOCAL PERFORMANCE — JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE, "WHAT GOES AROUND ... COMES AROUND"

BEST POP PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCALS — MAROON FIVE, "MAKES ME WONDER"

BEST ROCK PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCALS — THE WHITE STRIPES, "ICKY THUMP"

BEST ROCK ALBUM — FOO FIGHTERS, "ECHOES, SILENCE, PATIENCE & GRACE"

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF WINNERS VISIT WWW.OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM.



KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/The Associated Press
Amy Winehouse, who took home five awards, performs live, via satellite, from London during the 50th Annual Grammy Awards on Sunday, Feb. 10, in Los Angeles.

Presented by: MSU Federal Credit Union & Career Services

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MOUTHING OFF

22

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The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post

February 13, 2008

OU infected with viral ads

Campus quarantined in latest development of epidemic

By JESSE DUNSMORE
Senior Reporter

The following article is a satirical rendition and should not be mistaken for actual news.

To clarify: Do NOT ask your biology professors why you haven't ever heard of this happening.

ROCHESTER — Police have blocked off Walton Boulevard in preparation for cleanup efforts following what local medical officials are calling one of the worst and most contagious outbreaks of viral marketing ever seen in Oakland County.

"We've mobilized our HAZMAT team," said an officer who wished to remain anonymous, standing well outside the quarantine zone encompassing the entire OU campus and the stretch of Walton in front of the university.

"In the meantime, I'm staying the hell out of there."

According to initial reports, the outbreak started when Kevin Wagner, a resident of West Vandenberg Hall, accessed a secret page on the Web site of local apocalyptic rock band Metal Horde.

"Kevin was just staring at his screen all wide-eyed," said Wagner's roommate Tom Meldrum. "All of a sudden he sneezed. Then he looked kind of confused. That's when the screaming started."

According to witnesses, Wagner was only the first of over 100 residents to begin involuntarily yelling the band's slogans while running uncontrollably throughout the building, infecting everyone

they touched.

Among the statements vocalized by the infected and visibly terrified crowd: "Fight the machine," "Flee the reformatting" and "Have you been replicated?"

All of these have appeared on stickers applied to light poles across campus in the previous weeks.

The students also compulsively destroyed all computers and most other technology, while yelling lyrics to the band's single, "Kill the Signal." Meldrum managed to avoid being infected by the viral marketing.

"I jumped out the freaking window," he told The Post via telephone from his room at Crittendon Hospital. "My cousin was all into the new 'Batman' movie, and checked out some Joker site."

"The doctors say he should be able to stop grinning and giggling in a couple weeks, but I've got too much homework to give up time like that."

After the infection spread through both East and West Vandenberg, affected residents sprinted across the parking lot toward Walton, shouting "Fall back!" and "Retreat!" while pantomiming firing guns over their shoulders and making laser sound effects with their mouths.

Traffic was disrupted when the students reached the street and simultaneously projectile-vomited approximately 12,000 demo CDs into the eastbound lanes.

The mass infection is only the latest strain in the rash of viral marketing campaigns plaguing the nation.

Nonprofit organizations have gotten in on the game as



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
A victim of the Disneydermitis bacterium begins to show signs of viral marketing for a new Mickey Mouse show.



AMBER DIETZ/The Oakland Post
In this file photo, a curious fan suffers the effects of a viral Web site for the upcoming Batman film, "The Dark Knight." A Centers for Disease Control press release said the results typically last 3 weeks or "until laughing to death."

well. As part of an awareness campaign in fall of 2007, the American Red Cross began airdropping bags of blood to form a large red cross that NASA said was visible from orbit.

Hummer last year stole 3,000 H2s from their own customers and returned them in the form of compacted lumps of scrap metal to advertise their new H3 model.

Following Cartoon Network's use of a tractor beam to hold the moon in place over the U.S. for 12 hours last January to promote the film "Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters," mass flooding along coastal regions cost the country an estimated \$7 billion in repairs.

"Though the damage was considerable [with the moon incident]," said FEMA spokesperson Gus Spencer, "the human cost of these viral campaigns is arguably greater.

At least most people swam to safety then, and no one, say, developed a permanent rash in the image of Meatwad."

Virologist Nadine Smith says the real damage began once marketers gained access to bioweaponry.

"Before Warner Bros. hired all those rogue government scientists, the worst thing any of us were prepared for was a repeat of the 'Die Hard' incident," she said, referring to the mid-2007 blackout of the entire eastern seaboard in preparation for the release of "Live Free or Die Hard." "But now, we've got to deal with annoying cryptic commercials, staged interviews for stars to tout their latest crappy movie, and entire districts of New York being transformed into ravenous photosensitive cannibal-vampire ... things."

Smith added that the completion of the vaccine for the "I Am Legend" virus was "close, very close."

At press time, police estimated all but a few of the infected had been hospitalized and treated for "severe and uncontrollable rocking out," and most had stopped trying to destroy the medical equipment in their rooms.

The casualties are the worst OU has seen since Jan. 17, the eve of the release of "Cloverfield," when a student canceled classes for the day by unexpectedly mutating into a 50-story-tall monster and consuming Meadowbrook Hall. Authorities are working with major movie studios and advertising agencies to help contain viral marketing outbreaks.

"Typically, a few weeks of rest with absolutely no media exposure is all it takes for the body to fight these types of infection off," said Smith. "At least for now. I've heard George Romero is working on a new film. I'm stockpiling ammo."

Kwame can 'text flirt' if he wants to

By JOHN MICHAEL
Guest Columnist

Text messaging is a great invention. An even better invention is "text-flirting" — a method of technological courtship.

It's great! It puts everyone at the height of their game, it gives you the ability to take your time and think of witty responses instead of just blurting out something idiotic into a telephone, which usually causes the dreaded awkward silence, which in turn leads to lots of "umms" and "aahs" and inevitably results in you not scoring.

Anyway, texting in the past couple years has really seemed to become a lot more popular. It seems so natural nowadays to just send a text message in place of a phone call. But I got a hunch that Kwame is nostalgic for the good old days before text-flirting when we used to just spit game over the phone.

To think that all of Kwame's perverted, sexually charged, electronic messages have been printed, and stored in a manila folder somewhere in a detective's office makes me extremely curious.

I wonder what Kwame's text game is like: Is he that low-key type of seducer that softly and secretly woos his lover into his realm? Does he penetrate her soul with an intellectual sense of humor? Or is he a raunchy sexual deviant who floods his lover's ears with erotic and animalistic remarks?

I wonder if he was the corny type and used the term "chief of staff" as sexual innuendo — I sure would have.

Although some take it seriously, I find it much better to laugh about. Kwame is a joke. His apology was a joke.

If you thought Kwame was a filthy scumbag man-whore before his speech, you thought he was a filthy scumbag man-whore with above-average rhetoric skills after his speech. The only thing it did was provide some peace of mind for his supporters.

Anyone could have told you exactly how the speech was going to sound, and anyone with an education could have written it and gotten across the same message.

Like all face-saving public addresses, the entire thing was a farce; a big phony scripted show, with his wife sitting there

holding his hand, acting civil. I'm sure deep inside the only thing her hands wanted to clasp was his neck! When she spoke, she even sort of blinked or flinched when she said she loved him.

She held her gaze at him an extra second to make it look more real, but it came across as nothing but pure, bottled-up spite! Mrs. Kilpatrick looked as if she was on the verge of going ballistic throughout the whole speech.

But the thing that makes me most upset is that public speeches are forced.

The way the media promotes matters involving a public official's personal life must be addressed.

Remember the fuss back when Dick Cheney shot his hunting companion? People wanted a speech about it and he refused on the grounds that it had nothing to do with his job as vice president. The media lashed out and claimed that the Bush administration had no respect for the media and the public, but, in fact, this was not the case.

Dick just believed that it was a personal matter and that accidentally shooting a friend of his had nothing to do with American politics. And it doesn't.

The mayor screwing around with his work staff does not affect the city of Detroit. The only people who really suffer are his wife and kids.

The sex life of our mayor really should not matter to anyone besides his family. But, of course, the media makes it matter more than anything poor Kwame's ever done.

Besides adding another stain on his already tainted character, this "Sex, Lies, and Texting" scandal does nothing but improve local news ratings.

Many men cheat on their wives and have affairs. All marriages have problems. The affair doesn't directly affect his job as a mayor, just as it wouldn't if he was a used car salesman. It's only a big deal because he's the mayor of a struggling city.

I personally could care less who Kwame is sleeping with.

Yet even though Kwame has done a lot for the city economically, people will only remember him for his scandalous and selfish behavior.

That's just the way things work. I guess Kwame should have thought about that before he started text flirting.

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Center for Student Activities — 49 Oakland Center

Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by March 31, 2008

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This event is part of African American Celebration Month 2008

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2008-2009
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'MEET & GREET'

Monday, February 18
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128-130, OC.

Free food will be provided!

Gender and Sexuality Center:
THAT TIME OF THE WEEK

TODAY
12:30PM - 1:30PM
GSC (Lower Level OC)

Join us every Wednesday in the GSC. Each week a different gender and sexuality topic is chosen to facilitate communication and foster understanding among its participants, in a safe and structured environment.

Gender and Sexuality Center & Graham Health Center Present:
RISKY BUSINESS-- Sexual Assault Prevention

**Wednesday, February 20
6:30PM - 8PM
Oakland Room, OC**

Officer Nan Gelman, OUPD will share her expertise on the myths and misconceptions surrounding drinking and sexual assault, date-rape drugs and sex!

Free pizza and snacks provided!

Sept. 11 suspects charged with murder

By PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon on Monday charged six Guantanamo Bay detainees with murder and war crimes for the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Officials sought the death penalty in the unprecedented military tribunal case that has been clouded by revelations the key suspect suffered interrogation tactics that critics call torture.

Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Hartmann, the legal adviser to the tribunal system, announced that 169 charges had been sworn against six men "alleged to be responsible for the planning and execution of the attacks" in 2001 that killed nearly 3,000 people.

"These charges allege a long-term, highly sophisticated, organized plan by al-Qaida to attack the United States," Hartmann told a Pentagon press conference.

Officials said they'll seek the death penalty and hope to try all six together. That would make it the first capital trial under the terrorism-era military tribunal system.

Hartmann said the six include Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the suspected mastermind of the attacks in which hijackers flew planes into buildings in New York and Washington.

Asked what impact it will have on the case that Mohammed was subjected to waterboarding by CIA interrogators, Hartmann said it will be up to the tribunal judge to determine what evidence is allowed.

Mohammed al-Qahtani, one of the six being charged, also has alleged torture and last fall recanted a confession he said he made after he was beaten, abused and humiliated at Guantanamo. Officials have acknowledged that he was subjected to harsh treatment at the prison authorized

by former Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

The Center for Constitutional Rights, which represents al-Qahtani, called the tribunals "a perversion of justice" and a "morally reprehensible system."

Prosecutors have been working for years to assemble the case against suspects in the attacks that prompted the Bush administration to launch the global war on terror.

The men would be tried in the military tribunal system that was set up by the administration shortly after the start of the counterterrorism war. That system has been widely criticized for its rules on legal representation for suspects, hearings behind closed doors and past allegations of inmate abuse at Guantanamo.

But Hartmann said Monday that the defendants will get the same rights as U.S. soldiers tried under the military justice



South Korean firefighters attempt to extinguish a fire at South Korea's "No. 1 national treasure" Namdaemun in Seoul, South Korea.

Man admits he torched South Korea's most treasured landmark

By KWANG-TAE KIM
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea — Police said Tuesday that a 69-year-old man previously convicted of arson admitted to setting the fire in Seoul that destroyed the 14th-century gateway considered the country's most treasured landmark.

The suspect in the arson at the Namdaemun gate was arrested late Monday on Ganghwa Island, and investigated overnight at police headquarters in the capital.

The man spoke briefly with reporters Tuesday while being escorted from police headquarters to the district office.

"I cannot say enough how sorry I am, to my children and the public," said the suspect, who attempted to hide his identity.

The fire broke out Sunday night and burned down the wooden structure at the top of the Namdaemun gate, which once formed part of a wall that encircled the South Korean capital. The structure collapsed as hundreds of firefighters attempted to get the blaze under control, officials said.

On Sunday, the suspect poured a bottle of paint thinner on the floor of the wooden structure while leaving two other bottles nearby before setting it on fire, district police chief Kim Young-soo said in a televised news conference.

He said the suspect had complained about a land dispute with a development company, saying that he didn't get enough compensation for about 1,000 square feet of his residential land in Gyeonggi province.

Kim said the man had been charged in 2006 with setting fire to the Changgyeong Palace in Seoul.

The two-tiered wooden structure destroyed in this week's fire was declared South Korea's top national treasure in the 1960s. In 2006 the government opened it to the public for the first time in nearly a century.

The Cultural Heritage Administration said it would take at least three years and some \$21 million to fully restore the gate.

N | W BRIEFS

2-07 | The U.S. Congress approves a \$168 billion economic stimulus package and sends it to President Bush for his approval. | There are mass arrests in the U.S. and Italy in an anti-Mafia sweep.

2-09 | Yahoo! Inc. will decline a \$44.6 billion unsolicited takeover offer bid by Microsoft Corp.

2-12 | General Motors Corp., offers buyouts to 74,000 U.S. hourly workers.

Presidential Primaries:

2-07 | Republican Mitt Romney ends his bid for the Republican nomination.

2-09 | Republican Mike Huckabee wins the Kansas Republican Party caucus and the Louisiana primary. | Democrat Barack Obama wins Democratic Party caucuses in Nebraska, Washington and the U.S. Virgin Islands and the primary in Louisiana.

| Republican John McCain wins the Washington Republican primary.

2-10 | Obama wins the Maine caucus.

2-12 | Both McCain and Obama win the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia primaries for their respective parties

Volcanic eruption disrupts Ecuador



The church of the town of La Florida, in Ecuador, is seen back-dropped by a plume of steam and ashes from the Tungurahua volcano, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2008. The volcano spewed ash and incandescent rocks from its crater as experts warned that a more violent eruption is likely.

\$163 million worth of art stolen from fine-art museum

By ERNST E. ABEGG
Associated Press Writer

ZURICH, Switzerland — Three armed men in ski masks stole four paintings by Cezanne, Degas, van Gogh and Monet worth \$163.2 million from a Zurich museum in one of Europe's largest ever art heists, police said Monday.

The robbers, who were still at large, stole the paintings Sunday from the E.G. Buehrle Collection, one of Europe's finest private museums for Impressionist and post-Impressionist art, police said.

It was the largest art robbery in Switzerland's history and one of the biggest

ever in Europe, said Marco Cortesi, spokesman for the Zurich police.

The three masked men entered the museum a half-hour before closing Sunday, police said. While one of the men used a pistol to force museum personnel to the floor, the two others went into the exhibition hall and collected the four paintings.

A reward of about \$90,000 was offered for information leading to the recovery of the paintings — Claude Monet's "Poppy field at Vetheuil," Edgar Degas' "Ludovic Lepic and his Daughter," Vincent van Gogh's "Blooming Chestnut Branches," and Paul Cezanne's "Boy in the Red Waistcoat."

The FBI estimates the market for stolen

art at \$6 billion annually, and Interpol has about 30,000 pieces of stolen art in its database. While only a fraction of the stolen art is ever found, the theft of iconic objects is rarer because of the intense police work that follows and because the works are difficult to sell.

Lukas Gloor, the museum's director, said the robbers stole four of the collection's most important paintings. But, he said, they appeared to have taken the first four they came to, leaving even more valuable paintings hanging in the same room.

The stolen paintings were hung behind glass, and a security alarm went off when they were touched, Gloor said at a conference.