

THE OAKLAND Post

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Campus News

Online harassment is a new form of crime plaguing internet users. OUPD reports online harassment has also been affecting the OU community. •A3

Campus Life

A second installment of Welcome Week is going on right now. •B3



Sports

Men lose to Valpo by three to record their 11th straight loss. •B1



Perspectives Student Body President, Jonathan Parks, updates the OU community on Congress' accomplishments and goals. •A7

Captured

BY LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Two Detroit men have been arrested and arraigned for an armed robbery that took place on OU's campus last month. At about 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 2, two subjects entered an OU dorm room and asked to use the phone, said

OU's Police Department (OUPD) Chief Samuel Lucido. The men returned and robbed the resident ten minutes later. Lucido said the student was restrained, and the men took a laptop computer, a cell phone and other items. "This was a crime of opportunity," said Lucido.

Within 24 hours of the crime, Auburn Hills Police Department helped make composite sketches of the suspects which were posted around campus and in the local media. These composites led to "quite a few" tips, said Lucido. OUPD officers apprehended the first



Laura Angus/The Oakland Post
Carly Russell, sophomore, lets herself into Fitzgerald House. Due to the armed robbery that occurred last month, security is tighter in Anibal, Fitzgerald, Hill and Van Wagoner Houses.

Please see CRIME on A6.

Tragic end to 'intense' life

BY REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

While many students were studying for finals and preparing for Winter break, others were dealing with the loss of a friend and loved one. Noah Lakin, sophomore psychology major, was killed when his car skidded on an icy patch of road on Dec. 13 in Auburn Hills. He is remembered by those who knew him as 'a legend.' A man, his friend and OU sophomore, Danny Lewkowicz called "Noah the Great" in a poem he wrote for Mr. Lakin's funeral.

"Noah was exuberant, high spirited and extremely intelligent," said his mother, Cecilia Lakin. "He pushed himself physically."

She said Mr. Lakin enjoyed skydiving and snowboarding and he could turn a back flip from a standing position.

Lewkowicz said that is how he met Mr. Lakin. In 1998, they had a high school speech class together. They were asked to demonstrate something and Lewkowicz said Mr. Lakin went up on stage and did a backflip.

He said Mr. Lakin was "Mr. Intensity," and that was proven by the things they did, including walking around town dressed up one night, for no reason in particular.

Mr. Lakin was the third member of his immediate family to attend OU. While he was a psychology major he had recently started taking theater classes at OU, and his mother said he was really enjoying it.

"He had made a really nice group of friends at OU," Lakin said. "He really enjoyed being with them."

Mr. Lakin recently joined the Honors College and was highly involved with organizing the Euchre Tournament the college was planning on hosting.

Now the students in the Honors College are planning on using the tournament to honor him. Every year when the tournament is held, the proceeds will go to a scholarship in Mr. Lakin's memory.

The tournament is scheduled to be held in late February or March.

"Noah was very present in the Honors College. He was here almost every day," said Dawn Deitsch, administrative secretary in the Honors



Photo courtesy of Cecilia Lakin
Noah Lakin, sophomore, was killed in a car accident Dec. 13. He was heavily involved with the Honors College.

College. "We miss him a lot." Outside of OU, Mr. Lakin spent his time working at Boyne County Sports, cooking and reading.

He had recently been reading up on wine, inspired by his father's career in the wine industry.

Lewkowicz said Mr. Lakin had recently been practicing break dancing, a skill he was able to show off at the Fall Ball at Meadow Brook Hall.

"By the end of the song, we were in a groove, and I got one thing to say Noah, 'I like the way you move,'" Lewkowicz wrote in the poem.

According to Lewkowicz, the death of his friend reminds him just how precious and fragile life is, and how much of an impact Mr. Lakin made on his life.

He said while he is starting the semester off without his friend, Mr. Lakin will always impact his thoughts, his actions and his ideals in life.

Lakin said she was so proud of the number of people who attended the funeral, people who she didn't even know he knew, and said he was such a polite man.

At the luncheon after the funeral, Lakin said people told stories about Noah for more than two hours. She said it gave Mr. Lakin the chance to have his dream of becoming a legend, at least for the day.

"He was a handful, but—wow—he was a character. He was an unforgettable person," Lakin said.

Bid farewell to break



Student Affairs greeted students to the new semester by handing out free donuts, cider, hot chocolate and information to students yesterday as part of Welcome Week II.

The first Welcome Week was held in September, and this time, the week hold events designed to help students kick-off the winter semester.

For a rundown of the week, including a story on the Association of Black Students' Ice Breaker II dance and the featured Friday Night Live comedian, see B3.

OU earns top honors

BY LOREEN BAHRI
THE OAKLAND POST

OU has often been overshadowed by the bigger schools in the state, but lately, it has been gaining national attention.

OU's Beaumont Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia has been picked as sixth in the United States in the 2004 edition of "U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools."

In addition, OU was ranked as one of the top 20 most underrated schools in the U.S. by the "The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges" 2004 edition.

This year, The Carnegie Foundation also acknowledged OU for its "Doctoral/Research University-Intensive" and for OU's strong commitment to graduate education through doctoral programs.

The Foundation is a primary research center for policy studies about teaching and is national and international.

OU has gained recognition over the years. It received positive attention in the past by "The Princeton Review," which named OU in its first edition of "The Best Midwestern Colleges, 150 Great Schools to Consider"

Please see HONORS on A6.

Searching for a new home

Students have resources when deciding where to live after college

BY SARAH CULVER
THE OAKLAND POST

The day when students have to "grow-up," get a job, move out and decide what they want to do with their lives is looming, no matter what their grade level.

For many students, those thoughts pose a fundamental question, "Do I really want to stay in Michigan?"

Antonio Augustyniak, a sophomore majoring in human resources, knows his answer to that.

"I'd rather move out of the country and get a job, something on an international basis. I've been to Europe

four times and really like it," he said.

Augustyniak plans on finding a job in Michigan until he has an opportunity to take an international assignment.

Joanne Duybash, career experience secretary at OU's Career Services said students frequently come in and inquire about jobs offered outside Michigan. She said OU's e-Recruiting connects to a national job bank and students can view listings posted across the country.

For many others the question is answered by circumstance, rather than a desire

to move out of state.

"I couldn't leave my family. I am going to be certified as a teacher in Michigan and wouldn't be certified anywhere else. But, if I were to move, it would be to somewhere warm, like Florida," said Lindsay Boose, junior.

For many people, money is an important concern in determining whether to move to a new city or state.

"I also think the cost of living would affect my decision to stay or move. The cost of living here is a lot higher, even than in Macomb County. The salaries would not compare," said Boose

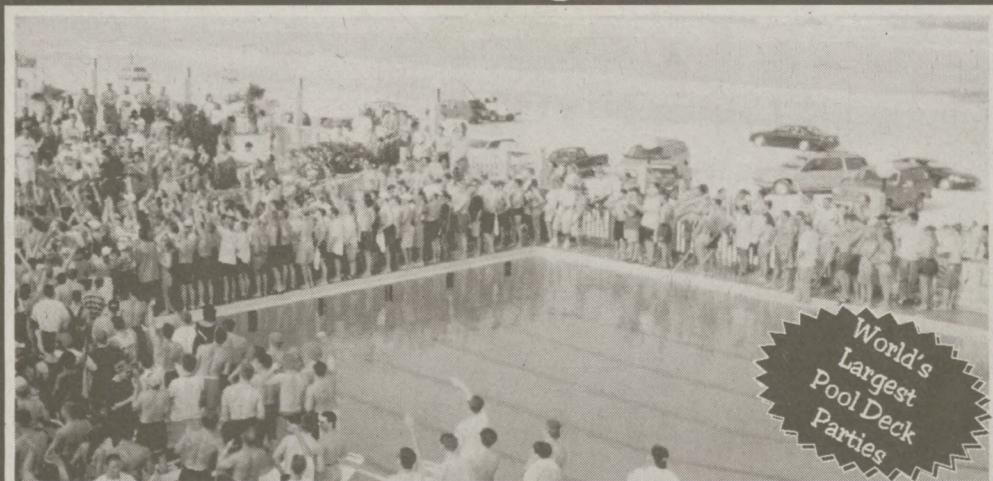
The Internet offers many resources that measure the cost of living by determining how much more or less expensive it is to live in a particular city. The city also may be rated in a number of different categories including housing, health, food and transportation.

In most cases, a salary, home and destination state is needed to calculate the approximate cost of living.

If a user does not know an approximate salary, some Web sites also offer a salary calculator. The salary calculator can also be helpful in

Please see LIFE on A6.

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For more information:

Contact the Office of New Student Programs at (248) 370-3260
or e-mail nsp@oakland.edu.



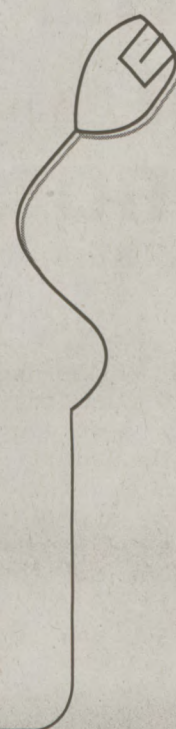
How to join:

Register through the invitation you received at your Oakland e-mail account. Just go to the link provided in the e-mail and follow the simple instructions.

Congratulations!

Sergey Rozov and Colleen Haggerty

gained additional benefits from Freshman OUtlook when they each received a \$250 gift check at the end of the fall semester for logging onto all 15 Fall 2003 messages.



Online harassment on rise

By LIBBY BAKER
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

E-mail harassment is on the rise at OU and it's affecting both students and faculty.

The exact number of e-mail complaints filed cannot be determined because similar complaints, like telephone harassment, are grouped together within the same category.

Still, Lt. Mel Gilroy from OU's Police Department (OUPD) said there has been a definite spike in the number of harassment complaints filed.

Gilroy said many of the complaints the OUPD deals with involve students receiving unwanted e-mail from a former boyfriend or girlfriend. Some messages are relatively harmless, while others contain an enormous level of threatening language.

Additionally, the department has also received harassment complaints from a limited number of faculty members.

Jeff Dehn, a graduate student at OU, isn't too worried about the rise in complaints.

"It's never happened to me and I'm not really concerned about it," Dehn said.

Because e-mail accounts are easy to

obtain, messages can often be tricky to track down.

"Relatively anonymous e-mail accounts make it difficult to trace," said Gilroy. "Sometimes we know (the perpetrator), but many times we do not know."

Despite the difficulties, Gilroy said, persons filing complaints often are not seeking any legal action.

"They don't want to prosecute," Gilroy said. "They just want the person to stop."

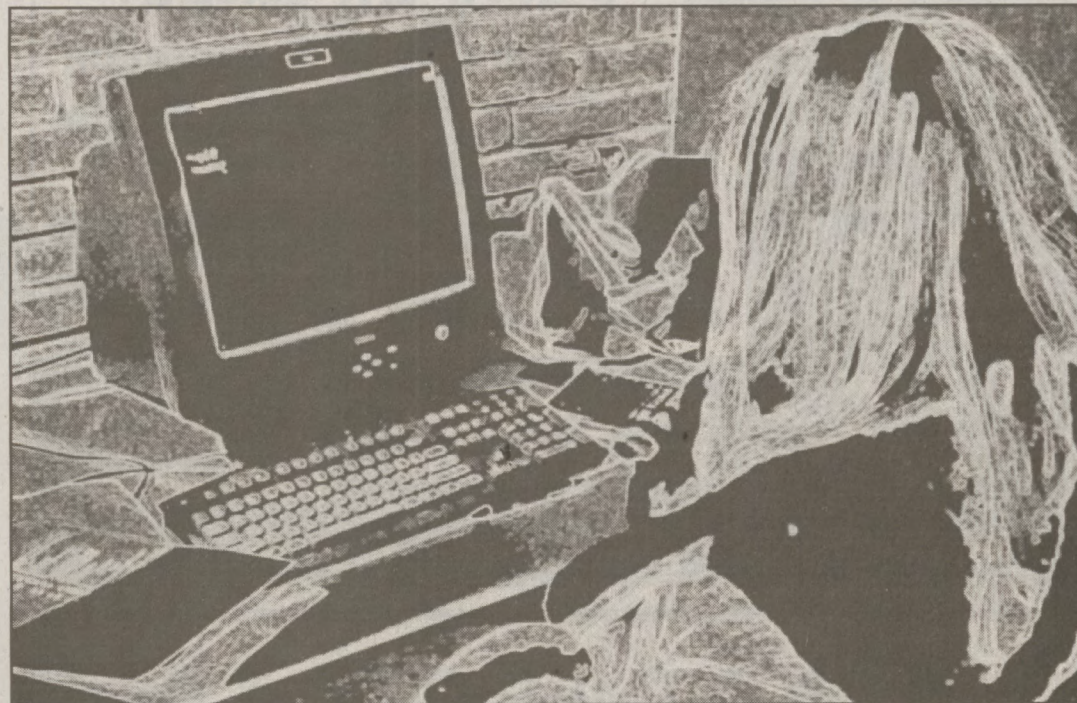
Because e-mail is such a prominent method for communication, available to nearly everyone, prevention of e-mail harassment is nearly impossible.

"The open nature of e-mail makes it difficult to completely shut the door," Gilroy said.

Prevention may be impossible, but students can use common sense tactics to protect themselves.

"Don't give personal information to strangers," Gilroy said.

Further, students and faculty receiving harassing or threatening e-mail messages should contact the OUPD at (248) 370-3331 to report such incidents.



Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post

Unwanted and threatening e-mails are increasing on OU's campus, and students, faculty and staff have filed complaints about this problem.

Program helps OU students

By TARA FUGATE
THE OAKLAND POST

Diana Walcott, junior, is in her second year as an Orientation Group Leader (OGL), a leadership program that trains OU students to help incoming freshman make the adjustment from high school to college.

Walcott said the experience has changed her.

"I'm more outgoing and more involved," she said. "I feel like I belong."

It is the job of the OGL to make the transition easier and less confusing, said Walcott.

The position requires a lot of commitment, especially during orientation week, when hours are irregular.

Kristy Chene, the assistant director of New Student Programs, mirrors Walcott's feelings about the program.

It is important for potential OGLs to have a strong desire to help students and

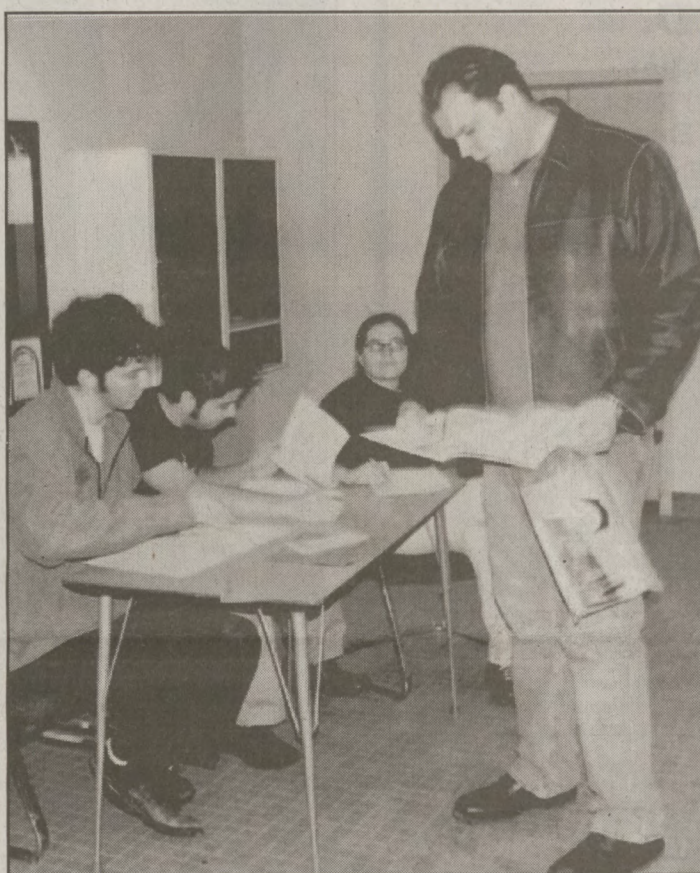
their parents become acquainted with OU, have a lot of school spirit and a positive attitude, said Chene. She also stressed a grade point average of at least 2.25.

In addition, the program offers students involved a variety of rewards and benefits. The position of an OGL is not all work. It is a great way to socialize and meet new friends.

Often, the OGLs are the first people incoming students will meet. It offers students the chance to meet new people and further develop communication, leadership and teamwork skills.

Also, the program offers students extensive networking with the faculty and staff around campus.

"It really gets you known around campus," said Walcott. "Having your group members and members of the faculty recognize you, it's like a celebrity status for a while."



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post

Orientation Group Leaders assist transfer students on Monday in O'Dowd Hall.

Other perks that come along with being an OGL is a \$1,500 stipend, free residence hall room during orientations and training and a \$200 meal card.

Walcott strongly recommends this program to anyone who is interested.

She became involved in the program after hearing the testimonies of some of her friends who had participated in the program.

There are many steps on

the road to becoming an OGL, but Walcott said she was not disappointed and only has good things to say about the OGL program.

Phase one runs from noon-1 p.m. on Jan. 13-15. All sessions are held in the Oakland Room in the OC.

Those interested should attend one of these days to learn more about the program and apply.

Applications are then due

Please see OGL on A8.

Black alum group formed

By TRACY ESTES
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

The OU Alumni Association (OUAA) is working to reunite people who have lost contact with the university after graduation with the addition of a new chapter program.

The purpose of creating chapters in the OUAA is to help maintain the relationships between alumni and to keep them connected to OU.

The Black Alumni Chapter is officially the first of many to come to OUAA.

Formed by volunteer alum-

ni, "members will act as ambassadors between OU and the black community, and provide programs through social, cultural and educational enrichment to encourage minority involvement," said Adrienne Bass, director of Alumni Relations.

Bass said that volunteers and leaders have been networking and planning events over the past few years to help build interest and support.

"This chapter has had a strong history at OU," said Bass.

The Black Alumni Chapter was present at OU many years ago but, due to a lack of leadership and members, fell apart. Now the chapter is back underway and membership includes about 50 alumni and friends thus far.

"The chapter's alumni leaders anticipate that their membership will grow as the chapter increases its level of involvement in campus activities," said Bass.

Membership is open to all OUAA members and their friends, and also welcomes involvement from students on

campus.

Anthony Thornton graduated from OU in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in history. He helped to organized the Black Alumni Chapter and hopes it makes an impact on the future in terms of support for OU.

"Our goal is to promote OU and get alumni involved with the students and former alumni," he said. "Alumni are important in raising funds for the university and getting others interested in the university."

Please see OUAA on A8.

Staff health costs go up

By KATIE STOUT
THE OAKLAND POST

As most students are aware, many cuts in spending have been made at universities and colleges across the state, including OU.

OU is anticipating cuts in areas such as employee health insurance and other benefits.

"Effective Jan. 1, 2004, the projected gross increase of healthcare costs for the employees of OU is 16.12 percent combined for all medical plans," said Ron Watson, assistant vice president for University Human Resources.

Health care costs are on the rise at OU because of rising health care costs nationally, which have increased from 15 to 40 percent, depending on the service and location of the plans, said Watson.

The price of health care has increased across the country. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation Web site, which is a non-profit organization focusing on the major health care issues facing the country, the average premium rose almost 14 percent this year. This is the third year of double-digit increases.

Employees are being forced to pick up more of the cost for their own health insurance by increased co-pays and deductibles, according to the Web site. Employers blame the increase on the rising costs of prescription drugs and hospital visits.

The Kaiser Family Foundation states that health maintenance organizations (HMOs), like the Health Alliance Plan (HAP), remain the least costly, while Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are most expensive.

"I truly wasn't expecting a decrease in benefits. Health care options are a part of our OUPSA-MEA/NEA contract, which is a valuable benefit for all concerned," said Joyce McGathy, administrative secretary for Biological Science.

OU is currently assessing other options to keep the cost of health care down, said Watson. Ideas that are being examined are plan design changes, working with the current health care carriers to reduce their costs and possibly changing carriers who offer more competitive pricing for the same or other benefits.

OU offers many different options for their faculty and non-faculty staff members. Employees can choose from Blue Cross/Blue Shield, the Blue Care Network or the HAP. According to OU's Web site, the preferred choice is the Blue Care Network because members can choose their physician from a list of providers. The HMO/HAP requires its members to see specific physicians.

For more information about specific plan options, go to www2.oakland.edu/erd/benes.cfm.

"If the university needs to start charging me a co-pay due to the budget crisis, I guess I understand, but we'll have to see just how big a bite out my paycheck this is going to mean," said Professor and Chair of Art History, Susan Wood.

"(University Human Resources) has also worked with the OU Health Benefits Council and are participating with the other 15 state colleges and universities to determine if there are ways we can reduce health care costs by working together," said Watson.

"One must have good health care," said McGathy.

Please see HEALTH on A8.

Police Beat

• A male fell down the stairs in O'Dowd Hall on Dec. 19. The stairs were not wet, but he may have slipped due to wet shoes. He went to Graham Health Center for treatment of a possible arm fracture.

• A fire extinguisher box was smashed in the University Student

Apartment.

A female student heard a loud bang outside her University Student Apartment. When she opened her door, she saw the box had been destroyed.

• A male student was pulled over for speeding at University and Squirrel on Jan 4. The driver could not

provide a driver's license and was arrested and his vehicle was towed. He was released with a citation for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

• A male and female were sitting in a parked car in Lot P-1 when a vehicle backed into theirs causing damage to the rear bumper. The

other driver fled when the male got out of his vehicle to speak with the individual.

• A student was transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital for evaluation after being sick for three days. The female student in Hamlin Hall began feeling ill on Dec. 1. She still felt ill the follow-

ing day and began throwing up every hour. The following day, the vomiting became more frequent and the student was unable to keep any food down.

• A female student mailed six money orders to OU to cover tuition expenses, and then received a statement from the University show-

ing she still owed \$500.

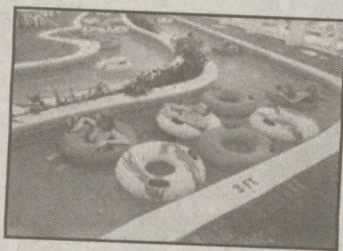
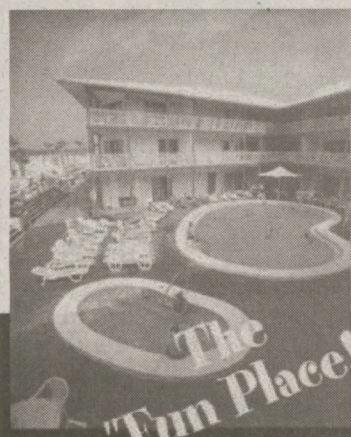
She contacted Western Union for copies of the money orders, and one money order was paid to an individual the student did not know.

She contacted the Student Account office and was told no one by that name worked there. The case is still open.

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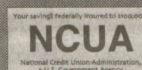


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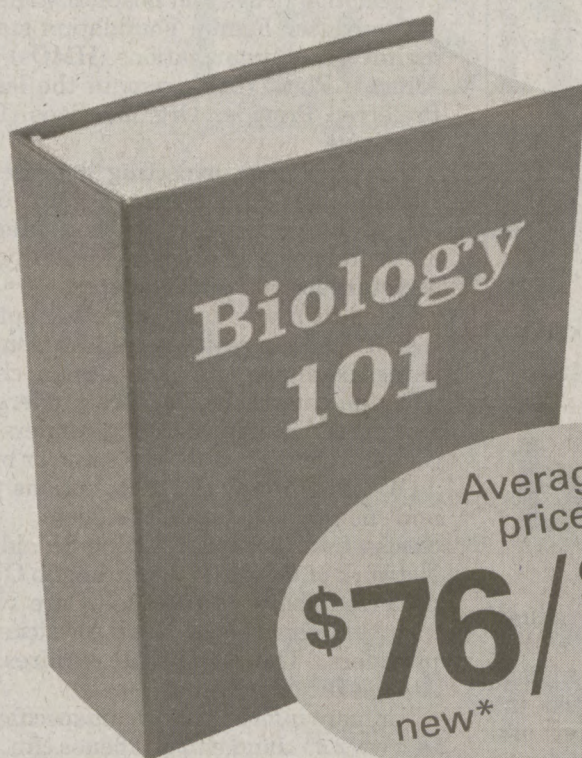
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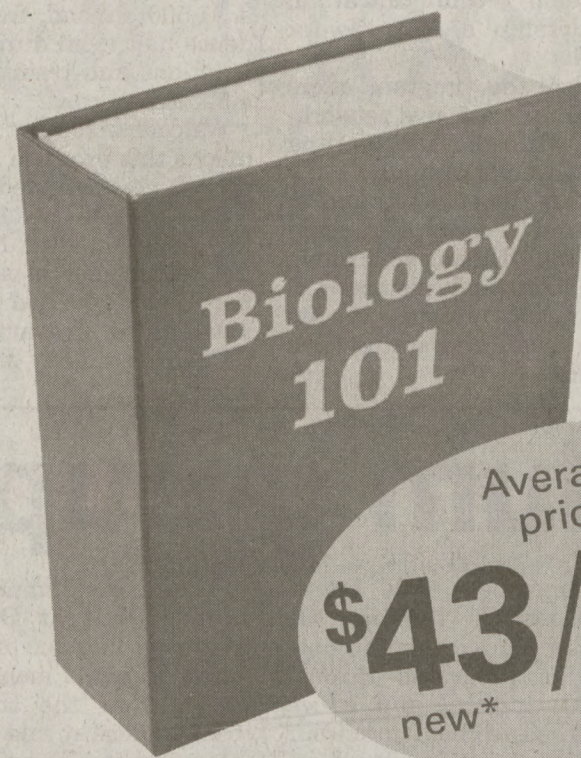
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Sex stashed under counters for 2004

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The start of the New Year brought more than celebration and cold weather to Michigan. As of Jan. 1, three new laws took effect, but one is not a resolution upon which everyone agrees.

This new law was designed to limit the display of certain types of explicit or obscene material in stores. It states storeowners must display sexually explicit magazines and other materials in separate, monitored areas in an attempt to keep children from being exposed to it.

The new law also requires the bottom two-thirds of magazines be covered if on display and makes it a misdemeanor for retailers to let minors view the material.



David Killkenney/The Oakland Post
The new law requires the bottom two-thirds of explicit magazines to be covered.

Storeowners face a maximum punishment of a \$5,000 fine and up to 90 days in jail if they do not keep sexually explicit material in a separate area or covered.

The Michigan Family Forum, a group that, according to its Web site michiganfamily.org, is dedicated to "strengthening Michigan families through public advocacy,

education and collaboration" has been trying to get this bill passed for the past three legislative sessions.

"We've supported this from the beginning," said Brad Snively, executive director for the group. "It has been through a rigorous testing process and in the end, we have a really good law to protect our children."

Kapil Farora works at a 7-11 in Sterling Heights. He said the new law would not affect him because his store has always taken steps to keep explicit magazines out of the hands of children.

"The ones in front of the counter are wrapped and the rest are kept under the front counter," Farora said.

Not everyone agrees with this new law. Executive Director of Media Coalition Inc., David Horowitz, said the new law might

Please see LAW on A8.

Global Glance

•A 55-year-old grandmother, Venus Taylor, was sentenced to six years probation after a radio station taped her making verbal threats to her 13-year-old granddaughter. The Georgia woman was arrested after a disc jockey took a call and heard the child yelling. On the tape of the call, police heard Taylor call the child names and threaten to beat her. She told her granddaughter she hated her and should have left her in a foster home. The girl and two other children Taylor was caring for are staying with relatives.

•French search and rescue teams believe they have located the black box from the French Airlines plane that crashed into the Red Sea on its way from Cairo to Paris, killing all 148 people onboard. French officials said they detected a signal they believe is from the plane's emergency beacon. The beacon could lead recovery teams to the flight recorder and the voice recorder, both important keys in determining the cause of the crash. France has been using robotic submarines, military planes and a military ship to help with the search and investigation.

•North Korea reported it will stop testing and producing nuclear weapons as well as stop the operation of its nuclear power industry. In exchange, the country wants to be taken off the U.S.'s terrorism list and be supplied with oil and other energy resources. Last week, North Korea said it might consider letting a U.S. delegation visit the nuclear facility which the U.S. suspects is used for making nuclear weapons. Representatives from the U.S. and North Korea will be getting together for talks as soon as February.

•South African Airways and Thomas Cook Airways, a European airline, vowed Tuesday to cancel international flights rather than comply with U.S. demands to carry armed air marshals on some flights into the U.S. South African Airways said it would not, at this time, meet the U.S.'s demands and Thomas Cook Airways said it would use air marshals under no circumstances. At least 16 inbound U.S. flights have been cancelled or delayed since New Year's Eve for security reasons and officials feel this is a just policy. The U.S. is also scrutinizing outgoing flights and incoming foreigners.

Global goof

•A law student at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. should have looked up "fraud" online before he tried to sell his seat in a popular Constitutional Law class on eBay. The student, Ryan Vesico, sent out an e-mail to hundreds of his fellow law students encouraging them to bid on his seat in the fall semester class. The law school's dean responded with his own e-mail telling Vesico to cancel the auction and meet with her about a legal matter. Since the class nor the "seat" he was auctioning off were his, she said he could be charged with fraud. No legal action was taken and no punishment was given by the school. The professor of the class said he took the event as a compliment and a show of "capitalism at its best."

—Compiled by Elizabeth Gorecki,
Local News Editor

Information taken from
various news sources.

Pine Knob Ski Patrol best in U.S.

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

To some, skiing is a fun winter sport full of speedy downhill action and beautiful scenery. But for those more comfortable on the bunny slope, it can be a scary and sometimes painful event.

Whether a skier has "caught the edge," fallen because his ski dug into the snow, or been the victim of a "yardsale," a wipe-out in which skis, poles, mittens and hats end up strewn across the mountainside, it is important to have a good ski patrol to help.

Winter sports enthusiasts hitting the slopes at Pine Knob this season don't have to worry because they will be in the hands of the best ski patrol in the nation.

The Pine Knob Ski Patrol was the recipient of the 2003 National Outstanding Patrol award by the National Ski Patrol making it the best patrol in the nation.

The volunteer patrol beat out more than 600 other patrols from across the country, including those from areas in the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains.

Besides the Patrol award, the National Ski Patrol also honored individual members. Ty Damon won the Regions Outstanding Instructor Award and Karen Werner was awarded the title of Outstanding Administrator. The patrol also earned the training award for the region.

Patrols from across the country compete by answering questions about the number of certified patrollers they have, community involvement, and the amount of activity on the slopes.

Rebecca Ayers, communications director for the National Ski Patrol awarded the titles.

"You can't always judge the excellence of the patrol by the size of the mountain," she said at the awards banquet.

Patrol members agree, saying that small hills may have more skiers that need to be looked after since more are probably families or beginners.

Pam King, the Pine Knob Ski Patrol Director, is very proud of her team and their achievements.

"I don't think people realize how well trained they are," King said. "Many have medical backgrounds on top of their patroller training."

On the Pine Knob Patrol, four volunteers are doctors and many others are nurses and EMTs.

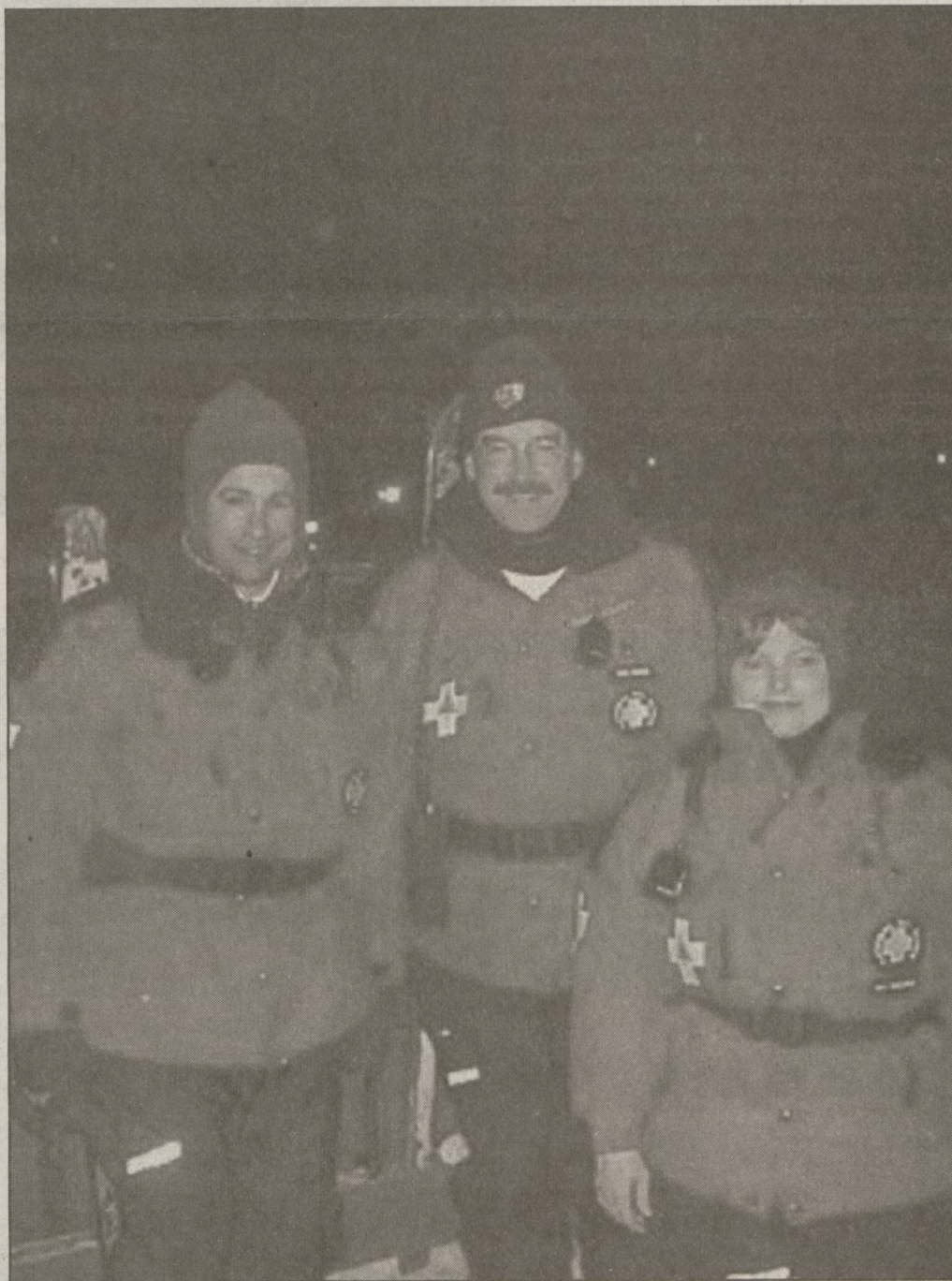
Mike Carter of the patrol said he likes working at Pine Knob because of the team.

"We all get along and have fun," he said. "We get to ski, help people, and have a good time."

Anyone can apply to be a Pine Knob Ski Patrol volunteer.

Interested members should contact the King at Pammyking8384@aol.com to get an application, arrange an interview and take a ski proficiency exam.

Patrollers work two five-hour shifts a week and



Courtesy of Pine Knob Ski Patrol
The Pine Knob Ski Patrol received eight awards for their 2003 season.

take part in fundraisers. In addition, the ski area provides a personal season pass for first year candidates and a family pass for all candidates and

patrollers after their first full ski season.

Pine Knob is open for skiing weekdays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Pine Knob management encourages guests to call ahead for hill conditions and operating times at (248) 625-0800 ext. 1.

to let residents do it at their own convenience instead of the court house's business hours."

To take advantage of the service, residents should visit www.co.oakland.mi.us and look under online services. If a ticket is unable to be paid online, a red bar alert will appear in place of the ticket.

There is a fee for the service, based on the price of the ticket. According to the Web site, the fees don't fully cover the cost of the service because they were designed with the users in mind.

Phil Bertolini, the director of the Department of Information and Technology said the new site is secure and the service represents another achievement in Oakland's ongoing eGovernment Initiative.

"By using technology to facilitate these routine transactions in a self-service environment, we can use our valuable internal resources for tasks that need more personal attention," Bertolini said.

He also said that other courts may join and make services available online in the future.

Oakland County tries speedy new way to pay

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The only thing worse than getting a ticket is finding time to go down to the courthouse to pay it.

Oakland County is trying to help residents save time by allowing them to pay the fines online.

Beginning in December, the four divisions of the 52nd District Court, located in Rochester Hills, Novi, Troy and Clarkston, have started accepting credit card payments online for tickets for civil infractions. Drivers can pay single or multiple tickets before their due dates with

a Visa or MasterCard.

It takes about five days after a ticket is issued for it to appear in the online database, according to the Oakland County Web site. Online users then enter their ticket number and last name or driver's license number to access their ticket.

Before this service was made available, tickets could only be paid in person at the courthouse or through the mail.

Craig Stover was at the Rochester Hills location to pay a parking ticket this week because he did not know about the new service.

"If I knew I could have paid the ticket from home, I would have," Stover said. "It's a good idea

HONORS

Continued from A1

survey, back in 1992. The 'Best Colleges' survey provides information about college ranking, based on student ratings of their schools and their experiences at them.

OU was also chosen as one of the top universities in the Midwest by the "U.S. News and World Report" in 2002.

Andrew Miller, freshman, said he wanted to major in Elementary Education and heard that OU had a better education program than most other schools.

"Oakland is a fun school" Miller said. "It's so easy to find out information about classes before you take them."

Junior Brian Quail said OU seemed like "the best choice" for him.

"I read that they had a good computer science

school, which is my major" Quail said. "I wanted to live at home... and save money."

The university is facing a challenge of keeping the high quality education in the times of a budget deficit.

"Oakland continues to reach new heights in areas of instructional innovation, focused academic degree programs and offerings, research accomplishments from both faculty and student researchers, and in campus life," said OU president Gary Russi. "More and more, we are becoming known as a university that truly prepares learners for the workplace, is responsive to the community we serve and is committed to providing a distinctive and meaningful education -- especially during these challenging economic times."

LIFE

Continued from A1

contract negotiations for a new job or salary increase.

An independent comparison between three free Web sites offering cost of living comparisons done for this story determined Washington D.C., Seattle and Boston consistently ranked in the top five. Los Angeles and New York City appeared in the top five twice and Philadelphia appeared once.

For students like Boose who think about a warmer climate, Phoenix had the cheapest average cost of living and Los Angeles had the highest.

The comparison found Detroit had an average rank of 11 out of 14.

More detailed information on a city, even if it is not a large one, can be found by going directly to a Web site used in this survey.

One free Web site included in this survey, Bestplaces.net, features side-by-side comparisons of two selected cities and states against the national average, with category comparisons that include crime, climate and schools.

The Web site also offers a "Find Your Best Place" survey for users who do not necessarily know what city would suit them best. After selecting a profile such as "single," "active couple" or "with kids," a user answers questions from more than 40 categories to determine their "ideal" city/state location.

Bestplaces.net bases its reports on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, Census Bureau, National Association of Home Builders and sur-

veys.

It is important to remember dependability of information can vary from site-to-site.

The free Web site Cityrating.com presents city information in bar-graph form. Although a cost of living rating is not given, salary comparisons are presented. A "Top Ten Cities in the U.S." list is also provided on the homepage.

For individuals looking for a more detailed report, the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (ACCRA), publishes the Cost of Living Index available at www.coli.org for \$65 to \$295. ACCRA relies on recognition from the U.S. Census Bureau, CNN Money and the President's Council of Economic Advisors.

Are you planning a wedding or have you gotten married during your college career? E-mail Rebecca at rlwyatt@oakland.edu to be apart of a story planning a wedding while in college.

CRIME

Continued from A1

suspect, Kerron Embry, 18, on Dec. 22. On Dec. 30, the Oakland County Sheriff's Fugitive Apprehension team arrested the second, Christopher Walston, 18. A court date has not been set for either, said Lucido.

It has been 20-25 years since an incident like this has happened on OU's campus, said Lucido. And now, he said, OU is still safe.

"OU has an extremely safe record," said Lucido. "I feel it was a very isolated incident, but as we know our students need to practice safety (precautions)."

Lucido advised students be alert, especially when alone.

Residence Halls Council president Mario Hagar, sophomore, said students should keep an eye out for unfamiliar people and suspicious behavior, but living in the dorms is still safe.

"My door is unlocked right now," he said. "I think it's still safe."

To protect its residents, Anibal, Fitzgerald, Van Wagoner and Hill Houses are under 24-hour restriction, meaning residents and their guests

are the only ones with access to the dorms.

Another response to the robbery is a long-term plan that will heighten security measures in the dorms, said Vice President of Student Affairs, Mary Beth Snyder.

"I encourage students to give us their ideas about the plan," she said.

Snyder also said she is grateful that students have reaffirmed their commitment to campus safety.

"Our record shows that Oakland has always been a very safe environment with one of its top priorities being round-the-clock protection of students who live in the residence halls," she said.

Lucido said he is proud of OUPD officers, and is thankful to the OU community for the investigation efforts.

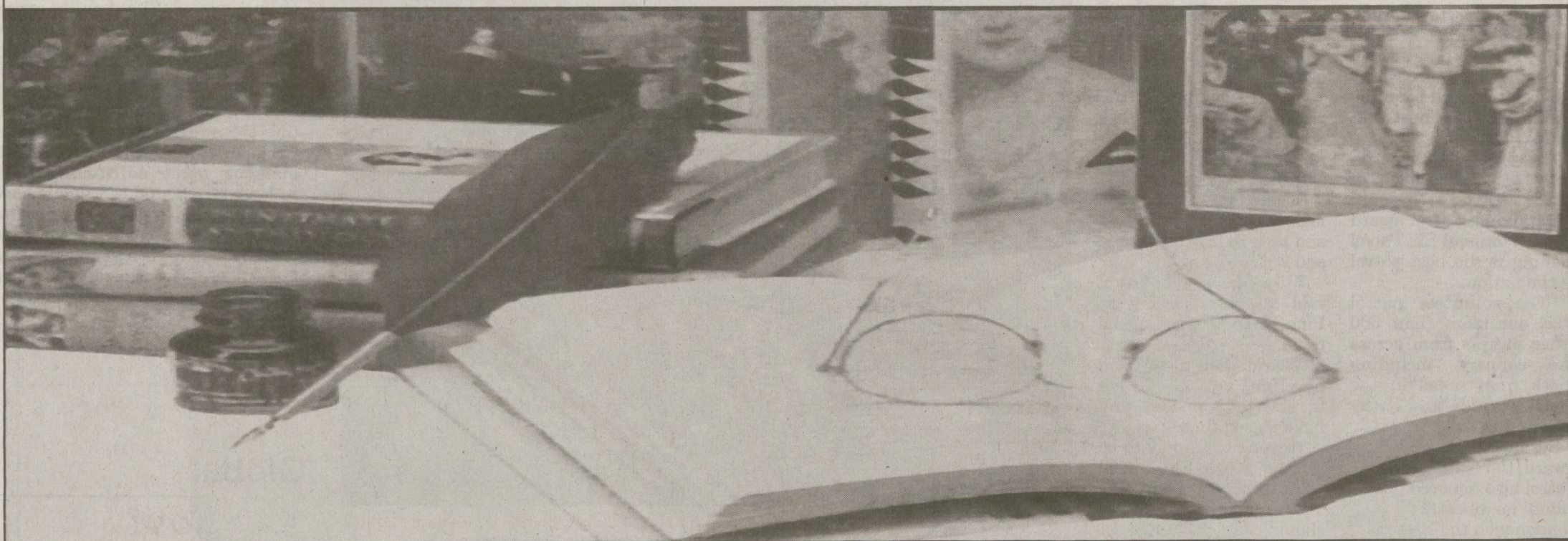
"I am very thankful for the tremendous cooperation from the entire university (in this investigation)," he said. "That's what community policing is all about--it's everyone taking responsibly for crime control and prevention."

Like The Post's new design? Hate it? Have an opinion one way or the other?

We want to hear it.

In order to make the newspaper better for the readers we need to hear from you. Please e-mail editor@oakpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268 with your comments about this week's issue.

The Oakland University Bookstore



A bookstore dedicated to your dream

WINTER RUSH HOURS:

Monday-Thursday | Jan 5-8 | 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday | Jan 9 | 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
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Sunday | Jan 11 | Noon-4 p.m.
Monday | Jan 12 | 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday | Jan 13-15 | 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Friday | Jan 16 | 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday | January 17-18 | CLOSED

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Perspectives

Editor: Rebecca Wyatt editor@oakpostonline.com

Coming up:
Columns from students and alumni.

January 7, 2004 • A7

Resolutions can be fulfilled, with the help of others

Editorial at a glance

The Issue: People make resolutions for the New Year.

Our stance: We should resolve to admit when we need help and use the help that others can give us.

The start of a New Year is typically the time when people set resolutions for themselves. A fresh start to a possibly failed resolution from last year. These resolutions can range from dieting or spending more time with family, to attending church every week or cursing less.

People make these resolutions knowing it's an uphill battle. Resolving to make a change in your life is like a recipe. The resolution is like the pot. You have to fill it with a lot of will-power, quite a bit of

patience and self-understanding, but the one ingredient people often forget is the dash of help.

Some of the most famous characters in history had "sidekicks."

Maybe things would have been different if Batman didn't have Robin, Mario didn't have Luigi, Yogi didn't have Boo-boo or Garfield didn't have Odie.

These are the characters we grew up with, characters we learned life lessons from as children. Maybe we should carry

the one lesson with us that was stressed throughout the shows. Friends are what's important.

They support us when the going gets tough.

Everyone has his or her own talents, and we lose so much when we try to do something alone and fail.

So, maybe instead our resolution should be to accept we are sometimes wrong and need help. Perhaps there would be less animosity in the world, maybe there would be less fighting. Maybe we could all just work together

to make the world a better place.

We can combine our talents, our support and our confidence in each other to accomplish so much more.

With the help we could get from each other, the possibilities are endless. Anything is an obtainable goal with the support of the people around us. We can get the push to run the extra mile or put down the second donut to help us lose the weight. We can get the help to get out of bed early on a Sunday morning and go to church.

Maybe we could even do better on a test or homework if we asked our teacher for a little extra guidance. We can conquer our fears with a little push from the people who have all the confidence in us.

The first step is acknowledging we need the help and then accepting it when someone offers. So if you've already made your resolution, amend it. Include the ability to ask for help. Remember, asking for help is not a sign of failing, not reaching your goal is.

Talk Back *The OU community responds to The Post and events around campus*

Dear Editor:

Can the Oakland Post publish a fair and balanced Editorial page? The point-counterpoint column in the Dec. 3 edition asks the question, if the U.S. should pull its troops out of Iraq? As a reader, we clearly learn quickly in the yes and no editorials that both writers think it's a joke that the U.S. ever went into Iraq. It's a fact that Iraq never accounted for weapons that were discovered after Desert Storm. That is enough reason by itself for the U.S. to lead an invasion into Iraq. No! Well maybe the fact that rape and torture rooms were running 24 hours straight in Iraq, one would think this gives the U.S. more reason for going into Iraq.

Both of the columns made it seem as if it was a foregone conclusion

that the U.S. should have never had the war in Iraq. If the Oakland Post can not provide equal time every time for the students of Oakland University then something must be done.

Expect a student led newspaper to be delivered to the students of Oakland University in January. This Newspaper will be a voice of reason, logic and thought. We will do our best to inform students of state and local news, national news and campus news. Be assured that we will get the opinions and ideas often left out of the Oakland Post. Well thought out conservative ideology will be delivered to the students of Oakland University.

GRANT H. ALLEN
ASSISTANT MEDIA DIRECTOR
COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

All Talk Back letters must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Letters must be limited to 350 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Post uses discretion and may reject letters for any reason.

Letters become property of The Oakland Post. E-mail letters to editor@oakpostonline.com or drop off at 61 Oakland Center.

Student Body President provides semester update



JONATHAN PARKS
Student Body President

Hello this is Jonathan Parks, your current Student Body President. On behalf of Student Congress, we would like to welcome all students back for the winter semester. We have some exciting things planned for 2004, but before we get into that, I would like to give some quick updates.

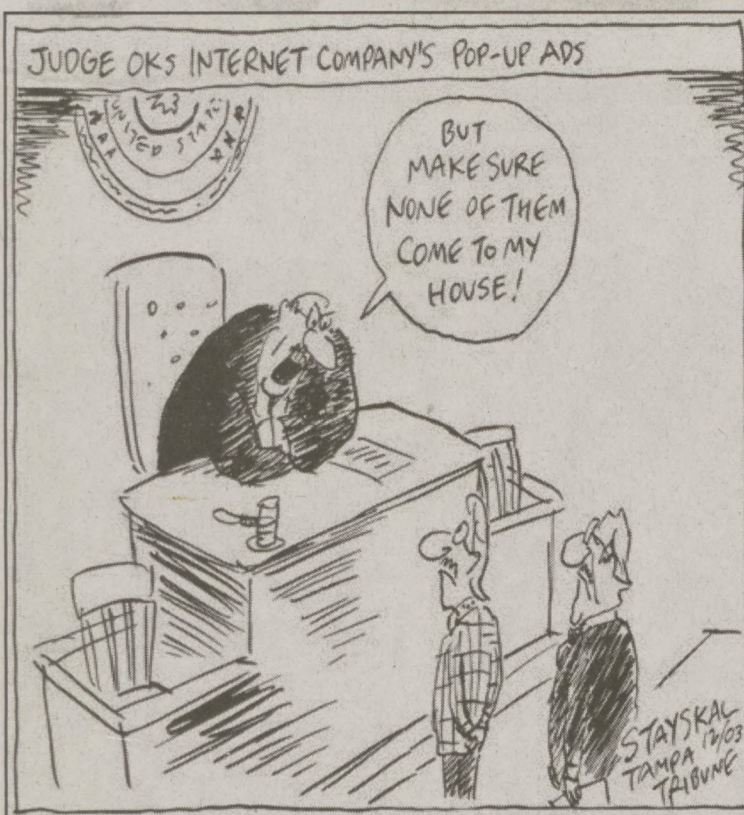
During fall semester, OUSC received several complaints about the parking that surrounds Anibal and Fitzgerald, two dormitories that currently hold about 156 students, and only offer overnight parking for forty, leaving others to walk from the hill late at night. Well I am proud to announce that due to the help of Montrell Porter, the whole lot is now opened up to the students that stay in Anibal and Fitzgerald. This will be a trial run. Surveys will be given during this semester to see if this will be the best thing for the student body.

Currently we are working on handing out some book vouchers to students. We hoped to have had this achieved over the break, but will have things finalized by Friday. We also

worked out a deal with the food court that enables us to give out fifty-cent discount cards to students throughout the semester. They will be handed out at random, so there is nothing you have to do to receive them, besides being in the right place at the right time.

Another of the things that we are looking to do this year is to have a State of The Student Body Address. A lot of changes were made this year, and I want to give the student body an in-depth explanation of these changes. In addition, I would like to give some insight as to how the sub-committees of OUSC are supposed to operate. Because of questions that have been brought to me, it leads me to believe that a clear understanding is not present among the student body.

In closing, I would like to remind students that my executive board along with congress' main focus is to maintain and improve student life and protect student rights. To continue this, we need your help. We have legislative seats available, as well as Student Allocation Funding Board positions. Get involved. Help make a difference. I wish you all the best this semester, and as always, our door is open and any suggestions are always welcome.



Winter semester Board of Trustee meetings

- Jan. 7, 2004
- Feb. 4, 2004
- March 3, 2004
- April 7, 2004

Meetings are held at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of Elliott Hall.

Should recent Mad Cow discovery change our eating habits?

YES

By LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

The discovery of mad cow disease in the United States is an indication that many things need to change in the way we eat and the way our food is produced.

According to the North American Meat Processors Association, Americans consumed about 219 pounds of meat per capita in 2002.

With more than 250 million people living in the U.S., that means a lot of meat has to be produced every year.

This large amount of meat causes a lowering of processing standards. Such as, feeding cows meat from dead cows, or feeding people "downer" or sick cows.

This causes problems, such as mad cow disease.

The human form of mad cow disease is untreatable and fatal.

It causes its victims to lose their ability to think and control their bodies. There have only been about 100 human cases reported worldwide, but it is something to be a little wary about.

The fact that it took almost two weeks for the meat from the cow to be tracked down also causes concern, at least for me.

It seems like the meat industry should be able to track down diseased meat much more quickly than that. The huge amounts of meat produced each day, though, prevents quick tracking.

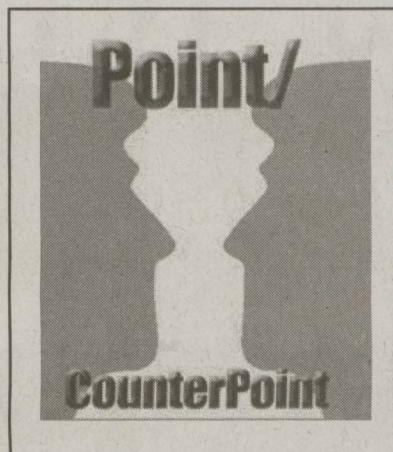
Not everyone should become a vegetarian, but we should consider how much meat we eat in a day. We should consider even cutting out red meat, which can cause a lot of problems other than the rare mad cow disease.

Luckily, this mad cow scare is bringing about a lot of changes, but not enough. People should take their health into their own hands, and make good choices about their diets, regardless of safety precautions.

NO

By REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

When the discovery of mad cow disease made headlines in the US last week, a lot of Americans started re-examining the way they eat.



Not me, and I don't think there is any reason for people to consider cutting beef out of their diets because of one instance of mad cow disease.

Let's look at the facts. This is the first case of

mad cow disease in the U.S. More than 100 people have died from eating beef that was tainted with the mad cow disease, all of which have occurred overseas, mainly in Britain.

Even the U.S. Department of Agriculture says the risk of contracting mad cow disease by eating the meat that came from the infected cow is low.

Michigan residents have less to

think about since the infected meat never even made it to our state borders, but still some people are thinking of cutting beef out of their diets entirely because of this scare.

Mad cow disease is transmitted through the brain and the spinal cord of the cow, which are separated from the meat humans eat.

The risk of getting the human form of mad cow disease is so minute, and getting it from eating contaminated meat isn't the only way of contracting it. Almost 85 percent of the time the disease appears spontaneously in the victim with no known cause.

Eating beef can also cause heart problems, stroke and obesity, but that doesn't mean we should stop eating it. There are a lot of benefits that come from beef including iron and protein.

We take a lot of risks every day. We get in cars and airplanes that could crash. Our houses could catch on fire. We could even receive a bomb in the mail. All of these things "could" happen. We should not let this dramatic scare involving meat keep us from something we like to eat. If it does, then maybe we should also consider not driving, flying or getting mail anymore either.

The Oakland Post 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309 www.oakpostonline.com

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Volume 30 • Issue 14

HEALTH

Continued from A3

"Hopefully the increase will be across the board, not just for selected groups of people on campus. We are all part of a 'working team,' cuts should be fair and across the board."

OU does have campus programs in place to help educate its employees about living a healthy lifestyle. Wellness Wednesday and 10K A Day are both programs that are aimed to educate.

At this time, no benefits are being dropped, but minor changes will be

implemented.

"The faculty benefit changes will include prescription drugs, office visits, and emergency room co-pays," said Watson. "The non-faculty benefit changes will only affect the emergency room co-pays in the HMO plan."

McGathy said that some initiatives must also come from employees.

"We're a campus team and in this situation together," said McGathy.

LAW

Continued from A5

be unconstitutionally denying adults the right to browse the material.

"The law doesn't change the kinds of material that are illegal to sell, it simply changes the display," Snavelly said.

Horowitz agrees that minors should not view the magazines, but he and his group feel the law is infringing on the rights of adults.

"How do we do this without barring access to adults who have a right to it," said Horowitz.

Snavelly said that most places already have separate access, like adult bookstores and video stores.

The Media Coalition Inc. will decide this week whether or not to file a lawsuit over the new law.

Snavelly said this law is similar to laws in place in other states and he feels it can withstand a constitutional challenge.

"People certainly have the right to oppose it but the Supreme Court has been very consistent with laws that restrict pornography," Snavelly said.

Horowitz and Media Coalition Inc. are also concerned about other effects of the new law.

While the law is meant to keep the Playboys and

Penthouses out of the hands of minors, Horowitz said it could be applied to art books that are not sealed, paintings and listening stations at stores where shoppers can listen to music before buying CDs.

Snavelly said this is unlikely.

"It essentially deals with sexually explicit visual matter that is harmful to minors," he said.

He added that since music is not visual, it will not apply.

Other legislation that went into effect Jan. 1 includes a law making it a felony to throw objects like

rocks at moving vehicles and cause serious injury.

The maximum penalty under the new law is \$2,000 and four years in prison for injuring someone, \$5,000 and 10 years in prison for causing serious impairment and \$10,000 and 15 years for killing a person.

The third law makes it a felony to make or use "e-bombs," experimental electromagnetic pulse devices that fry electrical equipment. This felony carries a penalty of 15 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

OGL

Continued from A3

by 5 p.m. on Jan. 16.

Phase two runs from noon to 1 p.m. on Jan. 21 in rooms 126-127 in the OC.

There are also two sessions on Jan. 22 in the Oakland Room. The first session lasts from noon-1 p.m., and the second is in the evening, from 5:15-6:15 p.m.

In phase two, potential OGLs take part in icebreaker sessions and are observed while interacting with their peers. A select group will be chosen and invited to phase three.

It is advised that those interested do not sign up on the same days as their friends and come ready to participate.

For more information, contact the Office of New Students Programs at 134 North Foundation Hall or call (248) 370-3260.

OUAA

Continued from A3

Currently, the chapter has held several meetings and there is going to be an election held from 3-4:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 in the Wellness Room of the Recreation Center to vote on the chapter's executive committee.

OUAA is hoping there will be more chapters created in the future with the growth of the campus.

Lisa Cooper, senior, said that she could see herself joining the Black Alumni Chapter after her graduation in May.

"I would like to stay involved on campus even after I graduate," she said. "I would like to stay up to date with what's going on at Oakland and this chapter is a good idea."

Want to write stories, take pictures or pitch your ideas?

If the answer is yes, come to The Oakland Post.

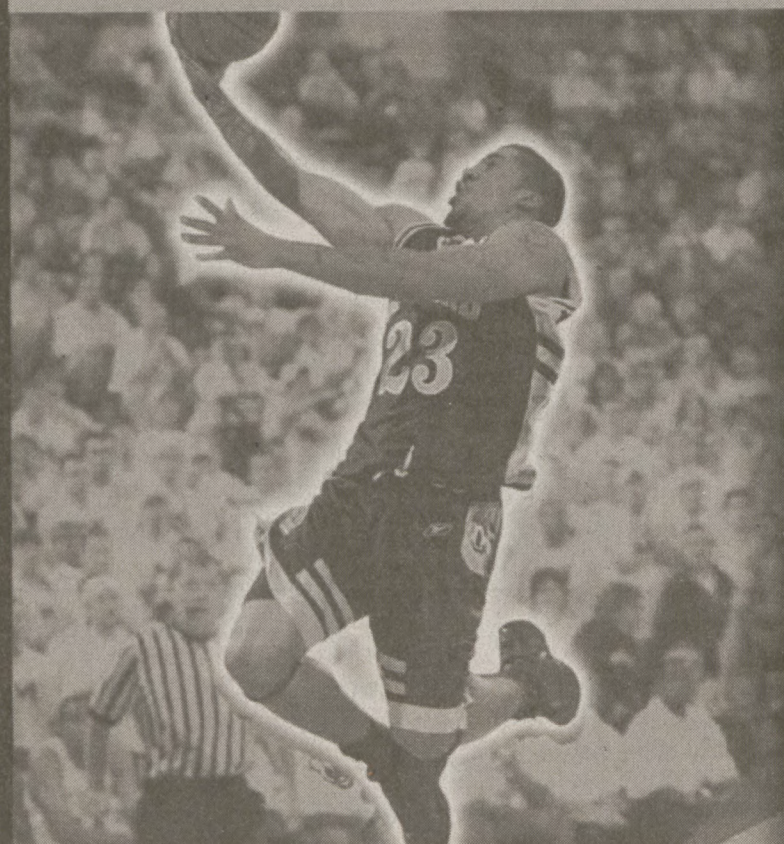
Our story meetings are held Mondays at noon and all willing students are invited to come pick up a story.

The Oakland Post is located at 61 Oakland Center (in the basement, next to WXOU and Bumpers Game Room).

For more information, call Rebecca at (248) 370-4268 or e-mail editor@oakpostonline.com

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Another tough loss

OU men's basketball remains winless against Valpo

By DAVE PEMBERTON
THE OAKLAND POST

OU's all-time losing streak to Valparaiso University reached 11 games with a heart-breaking 79-76 loss Saturday in the 'O'rena. After senior guard Mike Helms missed a three pointer at the buzzer that would have tied the game, the packed crowd at the 'O'rena was left stunned.

The Golden Grizzlies went into halftime with a 41-39 lead and shooting 85 percent from the free throw line. The free throw line would not be good to OU in the second half, however, as it shot a dismal six for 17 from the charity stripe.

OU's disappointing free throw shooting in the second half was very clear when the crowd and Grizzly head coach Greg Kampe erupted in an exaggerated celebration when junior forward Courtney Scott hit his first free throw of the half.

"There is nothing I can say to defend missing free throws at home in a must-win game," said Kampe.

Despite its poor free throw shooting, OU still had a chance to win the game. OU led for most of the second half until Valpo took a 64-61 lead with 6:47 left in the game.

The two teams then traded baskets and OU took the lead back with 3:10 left after senior forward Kelly Williams hit two straight three pointers. Valpo answered with its own three pointer by junior

guard Miguel Ali Berdiel to take a 73-71 lead with 2:45 left.

The Golden Grizzlies tied the game at 75 with 52 seconds left when Helms hit a jump shot. Helms then made a critical mistake with 39 seconds left when he committed a foul while attempting to steal the ball. Valpo capitalized hitting both free throws to take a 77-75 lead.

With 18.9 seconds left in the game, Valpo fouled Helms who made one of two free throws to bring OU within one. But that would be the closest the game would get after Valpo hit two more free throws to take a 79-76 lead with 8.7 seconds left.

Helms got a good look for a three pointer to tie the game but couldn't get it to fall as time expired.

"Amazing things happen when we play this team," said Kampe. "This year we were picked to win the Mid-Con so it's the hardest loss to Valpo we have

had. In my view, the better team didn't win tonight, but that is not an insult to Valpo and their coaching staff, that's a compliment to them and their hard work."

OU played solid defensively but didn't have a good shooting night.

"I feel we played good defensively, but you never look good when you shoot 37 percent," Kampe said.

The players felt the disappointment of the conference-opening home loss.

"It hurts because we



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post
Senior Grizzly guard Mike Helms (left) drives in the lane and looks for the pass in OU's 79-76 loss to Valparaiso University Saturday evening in the 'O'rena.

know we should have beat them," said junior forward Rawle Marshall. "But we have to give them credit. They are a solid team and they hit big shots."

Helms led all scorers with 31 points, and also had three blocks and four assists. Marshall added 20 points and three steals.

Redshirt freshman cen-

ter David Ritzema had arguably his best collegiate game as he led OU with 10 rebounds and went 4-4 from the free throw line.

In a rare Monday night game, the Grizzlies defeated Western Illinois University, 74-73 on a three-pointer by Marshall as time expired.

OU will continue a

stretch that has the squad playing four games in eight days with an 8 p.m. (7 p.m. EST) Thursday road matchup with Chicago State University.

The Grizzlies will wrap up the difficult conference-opening week with a 6 p.m. Saturday tip-off against Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis.

Game Preview

Who: OU (7-7, 1-1) vs IUPUI (9-4, 2-0)

When: 6 p.m. Sat.

What: OU takes on last year's Mid-Con representative to the NCAA tournament in an early conference matchup.

Five in a row for swimmers

By DANA UTZ
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

For the fifth consecutive year, the OU men's and women's swimming and diving teams each captured the top spot at the Mid-Con Conference Championships.

The men's team finished with a score of 935 points while Western Illinois University finished second with 680 points.

"Oakland has a long standing tradition of success," said head coach Pete Hovland. "The Golden Grizzlies have done exceptionally well at the Division I level and we hope to continue the winning streak."

In the women's competition, the Golden Grizzlies finished strong with a final score of 1,057 points, eclipsing the 1,000-point mark for the fifth straight year. The Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis came in second with 630 points.

Through the first two days of the championship, the men's team captured first place in every event and the women's team touched first in all but one race.

The women's relay teams were on a winning streak throughout the three-day championship.

In the 200-yard medley relay on the first day, junior Oksana Strelets, senior Shelley Aurit, senior Tanya Korniyenko, and freshman Jenna Dejonge shattered an 11-year-old Mid-Con championship record with a time of 1:46.72.

In the 800-yard freestyle relay that same day, sophomore Line Jensen, junior Karoline Freytag, senior Angela Simetkosky and Korniyenko broke another 11-year-old Mid-Con record with a time of 7:36.05.

On the second day, the women's relay team was going for another

win, this time in the 400-yard medley relay. Junior Tara Berringer, junior Lindsey Unrath, Korniyenko and Strelets broke an 11-year-old Mid-Con record once again with a time of 3:51.55.

The men's 200-yard medley relay team won the event for the fourth year in a row with a team of junior Chris Sullivan, freshman Hunor Ma'te, sophomore Eric Gusa and senior Sean Broadbent with a time of 1:32.61.

The men's 200-yard freestyle relay team composed of Sullivan, Gusa, Broadbent and sophomore Andy Munoz won the event for the sixth straight year with a final time of 1:24.61.

Sophomore Nick McCollum won the 400-yard individual medley for the second year in a row finishing with a time of 4:04.51.

Golden Grizzlies were awarded many honors after dominating the championship, which took place Dec. 4-6 in Indianapolis.

"I was very pleased with the way the teams performed," Hovland said. "This year we did not have to sacrifice any practices or yards in training, this will help the team to prepare for the National Independent Conference Championship that will be held in late February (at OU)."

The Mid-Con Men's Swimmer of the Year was Sullivan who won three individual events and was part of four winning relays.

Ma'te, who set a championship record the second day with a time of 54.55 in the 100-yard breaststroke, was named the conference Newcomer of the Year on the men's side. The time is also a NCAA 'B' qualifying time.

The Mid-Con Women's Swimmer of the Year was Korniyenko who broke her own record in the 100-yard butterfly, winning the event with a time of 54.57. The second



Freshman Amanda Burwell

day in the 200-yard fly, she broke her own championship record from last year by almost four seconds with a time of 1:59.42, also a NCAA 'B' qualifying time.

The Mid-Con Women's Newcomer of the Year was freshman Amanda Burwell.

Sophomore Linda Keskey edged out teammate freshman Liz Herrington for the honor of Mid-Con Women's Diver of the Year by less than three points, winning the award for the second straight year.

For the fourth time in five seasons OU's head coach Pete Hovland won the title of Mid-Con Men's Coach of the Year.

"It is a prestigious award to receive coach of the year," said Hovland. "Receiving the award means that the athletes are performing their best and the other coaches recognize the hard work being put into the team."

Both the men's and women's squads were honored with all-conference recognition on the first and second teams.

Broadbent, junior Blaine Dolcetti, Gusa, Ma'te, McCollum, Munoz, senior Tony Smucler, Sullivan and freshman Bryon Tansel filled all but two spots on the men's first team, with senior Doug Fiore, junior Martin Moen and freshman John VanPortfleet earning places on the men's second team.

All but one spot on the women's all-conference first team belonged to Golden Grizzly swimmers. Aurit, Berringer, Burwell, Dejonge, Freytag, Jensen, Keskey, Korniyenko, sophomore Maria Musialczyk, Simetkosky, Strelets and junior Lindsey Unrath all filled the team.

Herrington and Holly Miller were honored with placement on the all-conference second team.

Back from their Christmas training trip, the Grizzlies men's and women's squads will practice for another week before returning to competition at 6 p.m. on Friday Jan. 16 against Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.



BRENDAN STEVENS

Sports Editor

*Even in loss,
college spirit
shows*

Whoever said it's not whether you win or lose but how you play the game wasn't entirely wrong.

Saturday, the OU men's basketball team fell short of defeating Valparaiso University, but made progress toward becoming a strong Division I program.

Despite all the performances on the court, the one I was most impressed by was from a previously nonexistent group in the 'O'rena: The proverbial "sixth man."

It's true the early season game against the University of Missouri had higher attendance, but I think there was a difference in the type of fan.

For that game against Mizzou, fans bought tickets to come awe in the splendor of the visiting Tigers. No one gave the Grizzlies a chance.

OU almost shocked its opponent, as well as the crowd by nearly pulling off the unthinkable upset. But it was okay, the team competed with top-ranked competition.

Are the tides changing?

Saturday marked not only the beginning of the Mid-Con season for the Grizzlies, but also a chance for them to begin proving the high expectations many have.

As the favorite to win the conference, this was supposed to be the year OU's winless streak to Valpo was snapped. And people weren't just saying that, they believed it.

Okay. So the team is still winless, 0-11, versus the Crusaders, but there are small victories to come from even the toughest of losses.

Saturday, the fans thought it was going to happen.

They didn't hope or wish it would. They didn't use voodoo to attack Valpo's players in a desperate attempt to gain the advantage.

They watched the team with "Oakland" on the front of its jerseys get outplayed by a less talented Crusader squad. The Grizzlies, in all actuality, were the better team, for the first time.

And the fans knew it, and got excited about it.

Senior guard Mike Helms had two blocks that adjectives can't describe. One led to a two-handed slam dunk by junior guard Rawle Marshall.

To say the crowd appreciated the rejections, as well as the emphatic jam, would be an understatement.

But the crowd was also observant, erupting in an exaggerated cheer when junior forward Courtney Scott hit a free throw less than midway through the second half. Even head coach Greg Kampe showed his sarcastic relief.

The crowd recognized the trend and realized its significance because they were paying attention to the game, not just waiting for alley-oops and other such above the rim play. What made things even more interesting was the faithful Valpo contingent that followed the Crusaders.

An entire section of the 'O'rena was filled by Valpo fans, and I suspect not all of them were relatives.

Both the home and visiting fans brought their "A" game.

My challenge: Keep it up.

OU basketball fans have proven they know how to show support, but there is still a need to do it consistently.

When that consistency is achieved, support for the other programs will follow.

But the first domino has to fall.

Brendan Stevens is a junior majoring in journalism. Send comments to sports@oakpostonline.com.

ON
TAP
@
OU

Check out the times and dates below to get a jump on what's going in OU athletics this week and beyond. All times are local.

Men's Basketball

Thursday Jan. 8, 8 p.m.
@ Chicago State Univ.
Saturday Jan. 10, 6 p.m.
vs. IUPUI
(@ 'O'rena)

Women's Basketball

Saturday Jan. 10, 3:30 p.m.
vs. IUPUI
(@ 'O'rena)
Monday Jan. 12, 8 p.m.
@ Chicago State Univ.

Men's & Women's
Swimming & Diving

Friday Jan. 16 6 p.m.
@ Eastern Michigan Univ.

Men's Club Hockey

(DII)
Univ. of Wisconsin tourny
Friday Jan. 9, TBA
vs. St. Cloud Univ.
Saturday Jan. 10, TBA
vs. Central Michigan
Sunday Jan. 11, TBA
@ Univ. of Wisconsin
(DIII)
Friday Jan. 9, 7 p.m.
@ Kalamazoo College
Saturday Jan. 10, 6:30 p.m.
vs. Jackson CC

Women's Club
Hockey

Friday Jan. 16, 7 p.m.
@ Western Michigan Univ.
Saturday Jan. 17, 9:45 p.m.
vs. Western Michigan Univ.
(@ ONYX in Rochester)

Identity still missing

By BRENDAN STEVENS
THE OAKLAND POST

Poor shooting proved too much for the OU women's basketball team to overcome as the Golden Grizzlies fell to Valparaiso University Saturday, 61-56.

OU fought back from a seven-point halftime deficit to tie the game at 46 with more than eight minutes to play, but the Crusaders would not relinquish control of the contest, going on a 12-2 run to build a double-digit lead.

The Grizzlies pulled back within four on a layup by junior guard Leigh Tully with less than a minute remaining.

Valpo hit only three of its six free throws down the stretch but OU was unable to hit shots down the stretch.

OU head coach Eileen Shea-Hilliard would not write the loss off to conference opening jitters.

"This opener against Valpo should be an easy one to get up for," she said. "I'm worried."

Shea-Hilliard said she may not get the opportunity to calm her fears until Monday night when the Grizzlies would tip off against Western Illinois University (WIU) as the team struggles to find its identity.

Junior Grizzly forward Amanda Batcha said the team has been dealing with the identity process for awhile.

"We need to get an attitude about our team and how well we really can (play)," she said. "We just need to realize it. We are good and we need to play like it."

As a team, the Grizzlies struggled from the floor throughout the game, shooting only 32.2 percent from the field, including a 29 percent mark in the second half.

After a long pause, Shea-Hilliard said the most disappointing part of the loss was her team's inability to take advantage of its own momen-

tum or Valpo's miscues.

"(Valpo) kept trying to give us opportunities to get back in (the game)," she said. "We got all the opportunities in the world."

Freshman center Tamra Braun was the Crusaders most potent offensive weapon, going a school record 10 for 10 from the field en route to a game-high 24 points. She also went four for four from the free throw line and grabbed a game-high 14 rebounds.

Shea-Hilliard said she was not caught off guard by the 6-foot-4 freshman's post presence, but that her outside shot was a surprise.

"We gave her six or eight points in the same thing we told everybody that she was going to do," Shea-Hilliard said. "She had a great game for (Valpo). People got her the ball."

With the exception of Braun, no Crusader shot better than 50 percent from the floor.

Valpo junior forward Jenna Stangler shot 5-10 for 10 points and teammate senior guard Kathryn Knoester went 3-7 from the field and hit four of her six free throws to tally 11 points.

OU outrebounded Valpo, 38-34, led by Batcha and junior center Petra Manakova

who had 12 and eight rebounds, respectively.

Sophomore OU guard Jayme Wilson went 6-16 from the field to match Manakova from the team lead with 13 points.

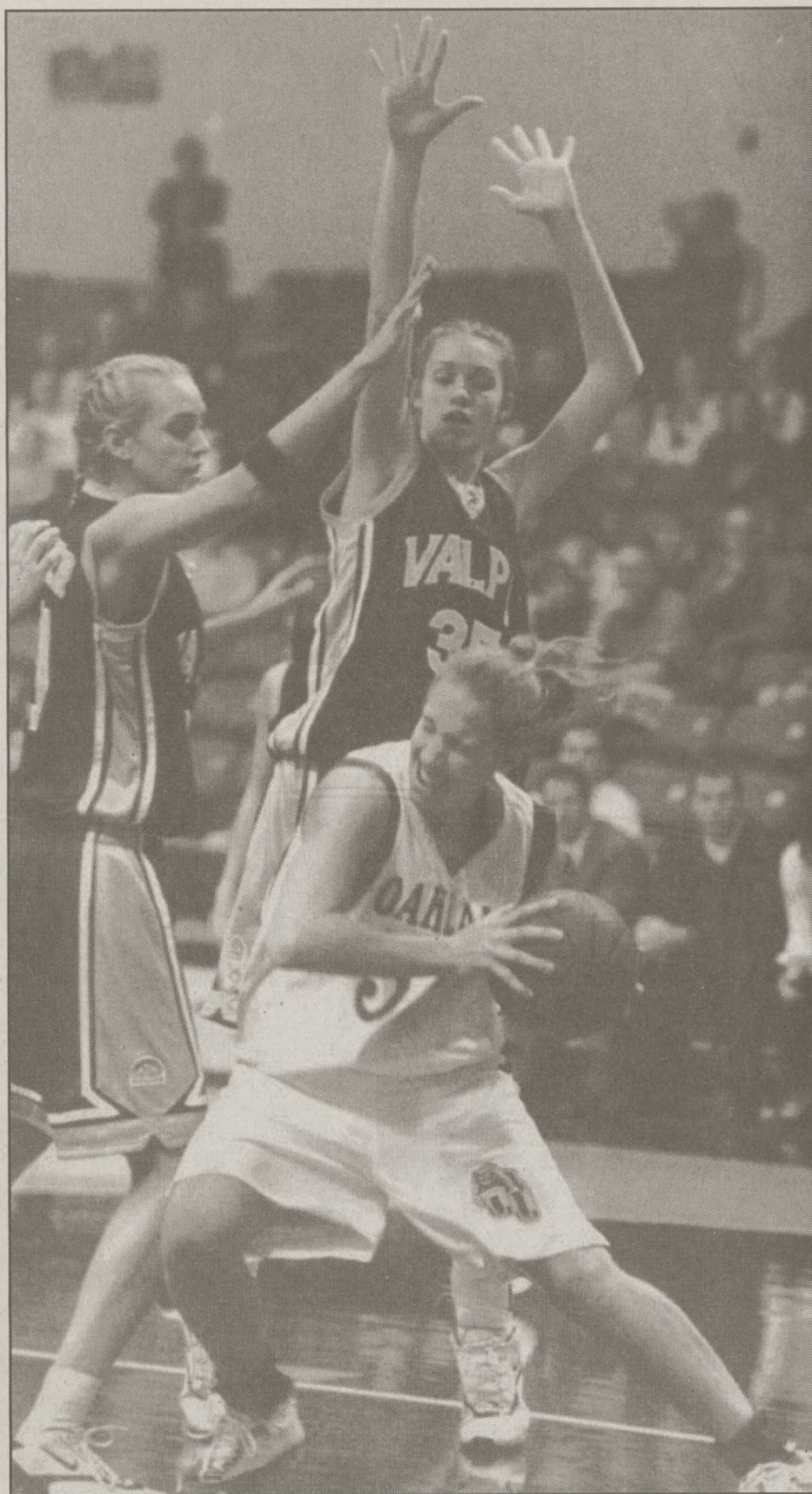
Monday night in Macomb, Ill. the Grizzlies lost to WIU, 83-67.

At 3:30 p.m. Saturday the women will begin an OU basketball doubleheader against Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis in the 'O'rena. The Grizzly men will tip off against the Jaguars afterwards.

Conference play will continue on the road for OU at 7 p.m. Monday against Chicago State University.

Game Preview

Who: OU (7-6, 0-2) vs IUPUI (3-8, 1-1)
When: 3:30 p.m. Sat.
What: OU will look to end the two-game losing skid it has opened conference play with against the Jaguars.



Bob Knoska/The Oakland Post
Junior Grizzly forward Amanda Batcha fights for a rebound between two Valparaiso University opponents during OU's 61-56 loss Saturday afternoon in the 'O'rena.

Grizzlies ready for winter

By BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

As the winter semester begins at OU, the men's club hockey team is geared up for the second half of its season.

After going 15-2-3 during competition over the fall semester, the Grizzlies will look to bolster their hold on to the number-one ranking in the Central region of the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) Division II.

Currently, OU is riding a 17-game unbeaten streak and is also dominating competition in its conference, the Greater Midwest Hockey League (GMHL), with a 4-0-2 record.

Both the players and head coach Craig Furstenau credit hard work and attention to detail as the keys to maintaining the winning streak.

"At the beginning of the season, we weren't as focused and together as a team as we needed to be; it showed in our play during games," senior defenseman and team captain Karl Borgquist said. "We are now coming to the rink with the right frame of mind, and our work ethic has picked up in games and practices. In order to keep winning through the various scenarios, it simply comes down to keeping our focus."

Furstenau said the team is gelling together better than it has in the past and that everyone is having more fun.

"The guys get along real well both on and off the ice and I think guys want to earn the respect of their mates which leads to better work ethic," he said. "Even before big games, I have told these guys to just do what is expected of them and have fun. We're here to have fun, that's why we play this game."

In the fall, the Grizzlies had the advantage of playing 12 of their 20 games in their home arena, the ONYX in Rochester, but the team will not have the same comfort in the second half of the season. Of its ten scheduled contests, OU only plays two games at the ONYX.

The Grizzlies have used a team offensive attack to outscore opponents 113-55 thus far this season.

"The entire team has completely stepped up individually to make the team better," Borgquist said. "Everyone is playing with courage, heart and discipline. Our team has four lines that can score when needed, play solid defense, and simply contribute to the team."

Sophomore forward Will McMahon has been the squad's most prolific scorer, leading the team with 26 goals and adding 11 assists for a



Bob Knoska/File Photo
Freshman Grizzly forward Jon-Paul Ferrari brings the puck around his own net in a game against Great Midwest Hockey League foe the University of Miami-Ohio earlier this season.

team-high 37 points. He also leads the team with eight power play and five game-winning goals. Ironically, McMahon is also second on the team with 47 penalty minutes.

Forwards Ron Kolito, senior, and Ryan Teasedale, sophomore, have found a scoring groove as of late working together on the same line and trail only McMahon with 28 and 26 points, respectively.

At the blueline, Borgquist and junior defenseman Brian Bellioti are getting involved in the offense with 22 and 21 points, respectively.

Freshman forward Jon Paul Ferrari hasn't taken long to get acquainted with college club hockey, recording 19 points in as many games.

OU has used a dynamic duo between the posts this season. Goaltenders Shaun Zeldes, senior, and Chris Ballach, sophomore, have split time in 19 games and both have enjoyed success.

Ballach has faced 220 shots and allowed 20 goals in 9.3 games for a 2.15 goals against average, while Zeldes has been barraged with 315 shots and given up 32 goals in 9.6 games for

3.33 goals against average.

The Grizzlies will look to hold on to the number-one ranking in the region when they participate in a tournament hosted by the University of Wisconsin (U-W) this weekend.

OU will take on St. Cloud University Friday, Mankato State University Saturday and wraps up the tournament against tournament-host U-W.

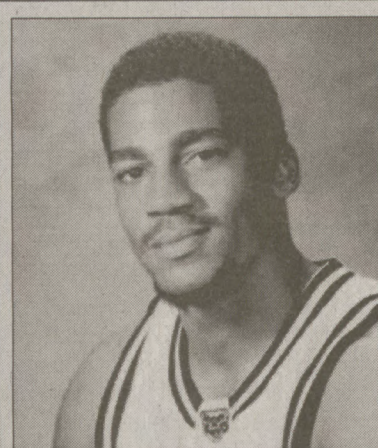
Still, Furstenau said, the top-ranking isn't everything.

"All I want is for us to be peaking going down the stretch," he said. "If we qualify for the tournament and we're clicking on all cylinders, then it won't matter if we're number one or number four."

"Last year, we were moving backwards heading down the stretch. I am doing things differently this year to make sure that doesn't happen again."

Game Preview

Who: OU vs St. Cloud, Mankato State & Univ. of Wisconsin
When: Friday-Sunday
What: The Grizzlies start up the second half of their season and look to continue their 17-game winning streak at a three-day tournament hosted by the University of Wisconsin over the weekend.



Mike Helms
Senior
Guard
Men's Basketball

In a 79-76 loss to Valparaiso University Saturday in the 'O'rena, Helms led OU with 31 points. He also recorded three blocks, four assists and five rebounds in 36 minutes of action. Helms currently leads the team with a 21.2 points per game scoring average.

BRENDAN STEVENS
SPORTS EDITOR

A 'Welcome' encore

Welcome Week II offers double dose of tradition

By KANIKUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Come out and enjoy the premiere of what OU hopes will become an annual event: Welcome Week II. The event started yesterday and will run through Saturday, Jan. 10 with a variety of activities for everyone to enjoy.

Usually only held during the first week of the fall semester, the Center for Students Activities (CSA) is now hosting a second edition of Welcome Week to kick off the winter semester.

Not only is this affair created to welcome existing OU students back, but also to provide a taste of what campus life is like for new students and some helpful hints as how to get involved.

Jean Ann Miller, director of CSA, said the whole intention for Welcome Week II is to get students excited about the new semester, and most importantly, to emphasize the importance of being involved on campus.

"We don't want the students to just go to class, we actually want them to be active on campus," said Miller. "All of the activities will be a lot of fun, and I expect a good outcome."

The first activity that started off Welcome Week II was Students Affairs' "Winter Treat" Social & Info Blast in the Fireside Lounge of the Oakland Center.

From 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., students were able to enjoy free hot chocolate, cider and donuts while getting some info about what's happening on OU's campus.

Today, students will be given the opportunity to meet and greet members of different groups on campus during "Student Organization Day" also held in the Fireside Lounge.

Members will be present to give information about their organization and promote upcoming events.

The Greek Council will also host a Hot Chocolate Giveaway from 9 a.m. to noon outdoors all over OU's main campus on Wednesday.

Another event from last year's Welcome Week is the Kresge Library Coffeehouse, which will run from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. tomorrow in the library's student lounge.

Students can get a free cup of coffee and learn about what Kresge Library has to offer.

Also on Thursday, Greek organizations on campus will have a College Bowl Demo in the Fireside Lounge.

Students from a combination of sororities and fraternities will compete in a trivia contest from noon-1 p.m.

"This event is actually designed to get people interested in the actual College Bowl Tournament," said Miller.

Scheduled for Jan. 24, the College Bowl Tournament is a nationwide competition that will allow the winning team from OU to compete against other regional teams.

The Friday Night Live series hosted by Residence Hall Programming will continue with comedienne Maria Bamford.

End the night by showing

off those New Year dance moves at the Association of Black Students' "Icebreaker 2 Dance." See supplemental stories for more details.

Welcome Week II will come to an end on Saturday, Jan. 10. Come out and support the home teams in the RAC O'Rena.

OU women's basketball team will take on IUPUI at 3:30 p.m. The men's team will also play IUPUI at 6 p.m.

Cindy Coleman, sophomore, admitted she has never attended any of the Welcome Week activities in the past, but plans to be more involved this semester.

"I can't say that I'll attend all of the events, but I will make it to some," Coleman said. "It sounds like Welcome Week (II) will be a lot of fun, and a great way for students to become more involved."

With all of this excitement going on, students will also have the opportunity to be benevolent during the winter season.

From Jan. 6-19, everyone is encouraged to donate mittens, hats, or gloves at "The Warming Tree."

During this community service event, charitable items will be placed on a tree, and then donated to different social service agencies throughout Pontiac on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 19.

For more information on Welcome Week II, visit CSA on-line at csa@oakland.edu, or call the office at (248) 370-2400.



Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post

Above: Student are enjoying free hot chocolate, donuts and cider as part of the Student Affairs "Winter Treat" Social and Info Blast.



Left: Students eat the treats and absorb the information about OU provided to them during the event, which is part of the Welcome Week II extravaganza continuing all week.

Today's events include a Greek Hot Chocolate Giveaway. The Greek orgs will be giving away hot chocolate all over campus from 9 a.m. to noon. Also, the Student Organizations Day will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Students will learn how to become part of their favorite organizations.

Stand-up comedian takes on OU

By KANIKUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Laugh the night away as Residence Hall Programming continues its Friday Night Live series with world-known comedienne Maria Bamford.

All are invited to enjoy a night of jokes and 'stomach aching' laughter at 7 p.m. in Vandenberg Hall.

Another activity held during Welcome Week II, Friday Night Live is brought to the student body as a reminder of what campus life guarantees: some fun events that are free and appealing to college students.

Although this will be Bamford's first appearance at Oakland, she is no newcomer to the field of comedy.

Bamford has performed her stand-up act three times on NBC's "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and on the popular late night talk show "The Conan O'Brien Show."

"I'm really proud to bring Bamford to Oakland because there are not a lot of women in stand-up comedy," said David Moroz, assistant director for university housing.

A big fan of Bamford, Moroz encourages not only students to attend, but faculty and staff members as well.

"Everyone needs a good laugh at the end of the week, and Bamford will definitely give a performance that anyone would enjoy," Moroz said.

Making her debut at theatres and comedy clubs in Minneapolis, Bamford worked as an office temp in Los Angeles until HBO invited her to the "U.S. Comedy Arts Festival" in Aspen, Colorado, according to her Web site.

Bamford's unique stand-up act, which is character-based, has landed her many roles in film and television series.

The 33-year-old comic starred in the feature film "Lucky Numbers" with John Travolta and childhood favorite "Stuart Little." Bamford has also been seen in the hit T.V. series "The Trouble with Norman" and "Dharma and Greg."

Bamford's talent goes far beyond T.V. shows and



Maria Bamford

Photo courtesy of Comedy Central

movies. She is a regular on Nickelodeon's animated series "CatDog." Bamford is the voice of Shriek-one of the Greaser dogs in the popular cartoon.

You can also hear her voice on BET's "Hey Monie," and animated comedy that explores the life of a single, professional, African-American women living in New York City.

To add to her credits, Bamford has been chosen as one the top 10 "Comics to Watch" by Variety, according to her Web site, and has a 30-minute Comedy Central Special that was rated #5 overall in a viewer poll of favorite comedians.

Valerie Vietto, junior, said she is really looking forward to seeing Bamford's act.

"I'll have to admit that before now, I never even heard of Maria Bamford," Vietto said. "But I've been to a couple of the Friday Night Live series performances, and I've always enjoyed myself."

Look for Bamford in the upcoming animated feature film "Barnyard," by Steve Odekerk.

You can also hear her voice in the Cartoon Network's "Home Movies" and "Charlotte's Web II."

To learn more about comedienne Maria Bamford, visit www.mariabamford.com.

Dance for diversity:

ABS Icebreaker is just hop, skip and bop away

By KANIKUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Once again, it's on. The Association of Black Students (ABS) will host their annual Icebreaker 2 Dance on Friday, Jan. 9 to get students pumped up for the winter semester.

A popular event held during the traditional Welcome Week in the fall semester, ABS brings the student body a sequel to celebrate Welcome Week II.

Students can dance the night away from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center.

The cost is \$5 for ABS members, \$6 for OU students, and \$7 for non-Oakland students. Proper I.D. is required, and each student is only allowed two guests.

There will be a live D.J., and a night of guaranteed fun according to Stefen J. Welch, ABS President.

"Last semester, the dance sold out at 11:30 p.m., so students better get there early," Welch said. "This is one of our biggest events, and we just want all Oakland students to come together and have a good time."

"I've attended all of the ABS Icebreakers, and they haven't let me down yet," said Nathan Cohen, junior.

As a student who tries to stay involved with the latest campus activities, Cohen said each year ABS has something new, "and every ABS event that I have attended has been nothing but fun."

Considering the dance is hosted by ABS, Welch stated that many students might feel that the dance, as well as many of their other activities, is only for black students.

"ABS appeals to students of every race, not just the African-American

student body," Welch said. "This is an organization that is very much into promoting diversity for students of every ethnicity, and we want everyone to benefit from ABS."

George Davis, ABS Vice-President agrees with Welch and would actually like to see ABS become more diverse.

"We want a variety of people to participate in our activities. And not just participate, but actually get involved with the organization and become a member of ABS," Davis said.

Serving as an umbrella organization, ABS fosters academic success, social environment, and political awareness, according to its mission statement.

ABS also collaborates with other organizations on campus to provide exciting activities that all students can benefit from, according to Welch.

On April 1, ABS will hold its annual ABS Ball, where students can show off their finest formal attire and take pleasure in an evening of elegance. ABS also provides ballroom lessons on campus, and a Male/Female Forum where individuals get together and discuss the many issues that most OU students face.

All ABS events are fundraisers that go towards scholarship funds and other programs held on campus, so watch for some fresh new events.

"The student body can expect a lot more from ABS this year, some of the old events and many others that they've never experienced before," said Welch.

To get the latest information on student events, contact the Center for Student Activities (CSA) at (248) 370-2400, or go online to csa@oakland.edu. To contact Stephen J. Welch, e-mail him at swelch@oakland.edu.

'Dozen' hits funny bone

12 kids steal the show in a movie about the strength of a family

BY REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Job, clothes and other possessions don't matter. One movie is trying to prove it's family that really makes the difference.

Rudyard Kipling, "The Jungle Book" author, once said "the strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack." But "Cheaper By The Dozen" uses family members instead of wolves and unending humor and stunts to move the audience from laughter to tears and back again in one-hour and 55 minutes.

Steve Martin, whose family-friendly yet suggestive humor is reminiscent of his Father of the Bride role, plays Tom Baker, father of 12 and football coach.

Baker accepts his dream job coaching a Division I football team, also his alma mater, and uproots his family to Chicago from the rural area they all loved.

Shortly after the unhappy brood arrives in the new city, the mother, Kate, played by Bonnie Hunt, receives an offer from a publisher interested in her book about raising her family of 12 kids.

Kate heads to New York leaving Tom in charge of the dozen kids. Tom faces the challenges of performing well at his demanding job and keeping control of the craziness that erupts in the house.

The kids, disgruntled by the move, find every way possible to express their unhappiness with the move. From washing a sister's boyfriend's underwear in meat, which attracts every dog in the neighborhood, to escaping to a neighbor's birthday party and wreaking havoc with a snake, they prove there is nothing 12 kids can't do.

After Tom loses control of the house, Kate returns to try and rescue him, but it turns out the family is even more divided. The children are still upset about having to move, the mother is upset the father didn't ask for help, and Tom is upset his family is getting in the way of his new job.

It isn't until one of the kids suffers a loss that the family members are forced to choose what is most important to them.

The film moves along without using filler and fluff to expand the time length.

Besides being led by veterans Martin and Hunt, Hillary Duff ("Lizzie McGuire"), Piper Perabo ("Coyote Ugly"), Tom Welling ("Smallville") and Ashton Kutcher ("That 70s Show,"

"Punk'd") help round out the cast filled with lots of young, fresh faces.

Be prepared for a laugh-out-loud comedy when seeing this movie.

While the movie is fit for kids, there are some comedic references which will amuse the adults in the audience.

No doubt about it, the Bakers provide dozens of laughs for viewers of all ages.



Photos courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Above: A typically chaotic Baker family meal, featuring a pet frog landing in the breakfast eggs.

Left: Meet the Baker family, including Tom (Steve Martin), Kate (Bonnie Hunt), and Lorraine (Hillary Duff). Star cast also includes Ashton Kutcher.



Bikes rev up Palace

Dirt bikes provide heart-racing action

BY REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With Detroit being the Motor City, there are many events in the area going on that relate to automobiles, more than can be listed. One of them is a different kind of motor vehicle that will show it's stuff in the coming weeks to a different breed of fans, the motorcycle.

The International Freestyle Motocross Association will invade the Palace of Auburn Hills, bringing with it the high-flying, awe-inspiring tricks that make the event popular around the country.

Motocross is a competition involving dirt bikes and riders doing various tricks using ramps and jumps.

Patti Mapes, promotions manager for Clear Channel Entertainment, said the Motocross, which is in its third year at the Palace, will feature some new events. A few include new tricks and a doubles competition, in which two individuals ride at the same time to show off some dare-devil type stunts.

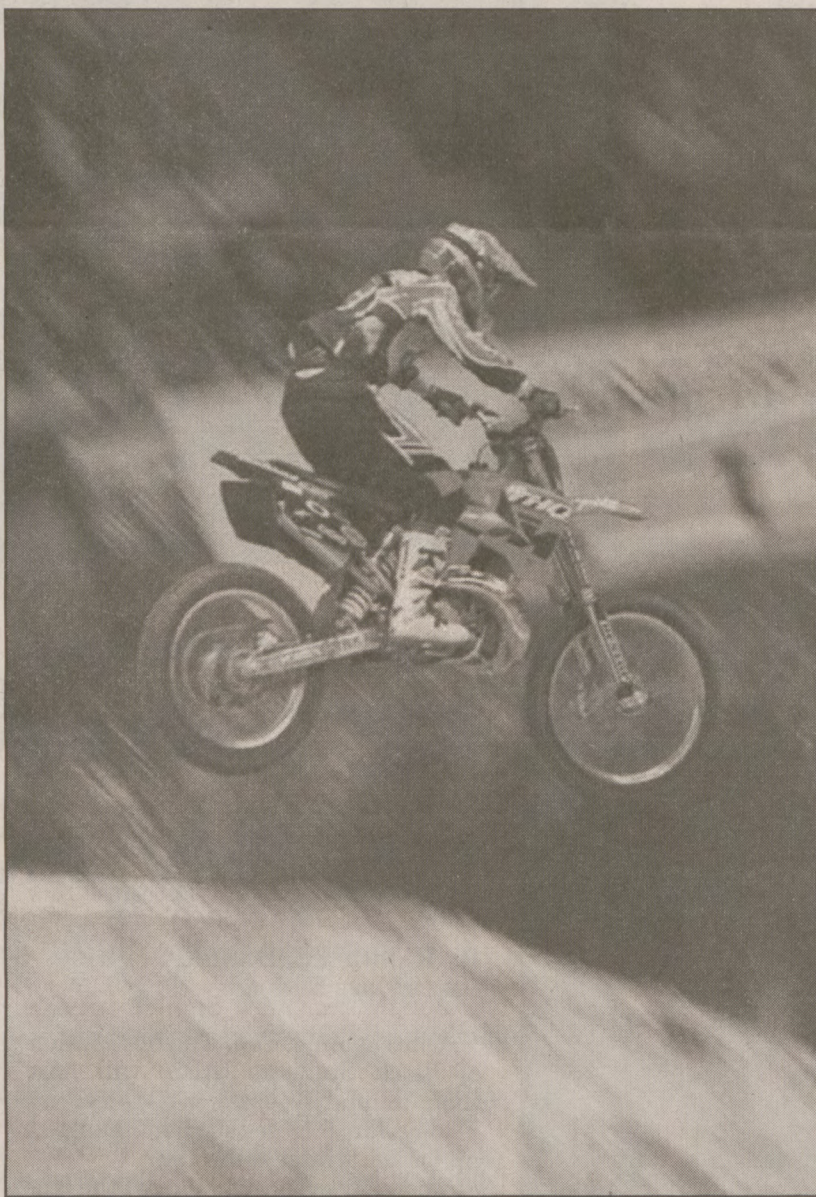
"This year we're doing something different," said Mapes. "It will be a more exciting show than viewers have ever seen before."

Riders will perform one and two minute runs packed with high-flying acrobatics and are scored by a panel of two-five judges. Each will be given an averaged score from each judge ranging from 0-100 points.

The competition is whittled down based on scores during multiple rounds until the rider with the top score is crowned champion.

Mapes said students might be familiar with some of the riders in the competition.

Drake McElroy, a 23 year-old from Fernley, Nev. has been featured in the X-Games, a national extreme sport event on T.V.



Photos courtesy of pacefmx.com

Above: Motocross rider does some high-flying tricks to entertain the crowd at last year's event.

Left: This fearless move is just a hint of what to expect at the Freestyle Motocross.

Earlier this year, McElroy placed fourth in the Gravity Games, another extreme sport event.

Mapes said there are also some up and coming riders who motocross fans should look out for.

Myles Richmond is a 19-year-old Cherry Valley, Calif., resident who has been voted Rookie of the Year and Most Improved Rider on the IFMA tour. Mapes said his tricks make him stand out as one of the next stars of the tour.

The Motocross has always had success at the Palace. Mapes hopes it will continue.

The Motocross will be in town

from Jan. 23-24. Tickets are \$32.50 for gold circle and range from \$17.50-\$22.50 outside of the circle. Kids 12 and under cost \$12.50 for all seats other than the gold circle.

The day of the show, tickets will cost \$2 more.

Groups of 15 or more can obtain a group rate by calling (248) 371-2055.

Mapes said there may be the possibility of a student discount on tickets to the event.

For more information, or to purchase tickets log on to www.palacenet.com or call (248) 645-6666.

Local church offers path to solutions

Welcome Missionary Baptist Church hosts its first ever Young Adult Conference

KANIQUA S. DANIEL
Campus Life Editor

In an effort to steer young adults off the path of problems and onto the road of solutions, Welcome Missionary Baptist Church will host its first Young Adult Conference and Forum.

Beginning Jan. 30-Feb. 1, everyone age 18-39 is welcome to receive valuable guidance on "Young Adults Facing the Complexities of Life." The conference will be held at the Centerpoint Marriott located at 3555 Centerpoint Parkway in Pontiac, Mich.

Considering this event will be hosted by a Baptist church, Pastor Douglas P. Jones felt that some may be hesitant to attend. As reassurance, Pastor Jones said this is an event for everyone regardless of your religion, or lack thereof.

"Our goal with the conference is to inform young people that we understand the complexities that one must face in life, especially as a young adult," Jones said, "With such issues, it is important for these individuals to know that there are solutions, and we want to put them on the right path to finding these solutions."

Jones said he wants participants to walk away being able to define what they believe in, and to have an understanding of the consequences that derive from different types of lifestyles.

As a young woman, Jovanna Bradley, Welcome Missionary Baptist Church member, said she could attest to the problems most people her age face. At 24, Bradley is certain the conference will be uplifting.

"Most of us are single, and we're all facing issues that aren't the easiest to deal with," Bradley said. "This

conference will offer guidance on how to deal with some of these problems. It's not about religion, it's about being young and trying to stay on track in a world filled with negativity."

Farasha Gage, OU student and co-chair of the Young Enthusiastic Saints (Y.E.S.) Ministry at Welcome, said she believes everyone can benefit from this event, especially her peers.

"Most college students face many of the issues that will be discussed at this conference," Gage said. "We all need help at some points in our lives, even if it is only words wisdom to help you throughout the day."

"To make matters even better, you can discuss your problems with people your age, people you can identify with and who are going through the same things that you are."

Topics of the conference will include: "Spiritual Warfare," "How to Make Your Change Permanent," "Being Christian and Living a Celibate Life," "Stand and Be A Man," "Living Holy in an Unholy World," and How Do I Define Christianity?

It is to the individual's preference as to which session one wishes to attend. There will also be a special event designated for each day.

The total cost for the three-day event is \$75 per person. The price includes Friday's event, Saturday's event, continental breakfast and lunch, Sunday brunch and a personal care package.

Make room reservations with the Marriott Hotel for Y.E.S. Conference Reservations at (248) 253-9800.

For more information, contact the church office at (248) 335-8740. Welcome Missionary Baptist Church is located in Pontiac, Mich and according to Pastor Jones, is always available to those in need.

Resolution

Some students find New Year's commitments to be a tradition while some see them as an aggravation

By KANIQUA S. DANIEL
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

With the start of each new year, what is the most popular promise nearly every human being makes on Jan. 1? A New Year's Resolution.

Many take part in the traditional pledge. It sometimes appears to be a necessary step for starting the new year off right.

From working out more to eating the right foods, people of all ages create these annual vows with the certainty of making a change.

According to some OU students, however, the only thing that appears to be certain about New Year's resolutions, is that they rarely ever last.

Renee Orow, junior, said she's not going to make a resolution this year because she never follows through.

"Every year, I say I'm going to make a change only to find myself doing the same things," Orow said. "Why even bother?"

Sean Nowicki isn't in favor of committing to fresh starts either.

"I've never been big on New Year's resolutions. They never seem to work out."

All students haven't lost hope in the trend of new beginnings. Christina Schulte, senior, said she always makes a list of new commitments, and not just one.

"I usually have about two or three, and I'm pretty good with following through each year," said Schulte.

In a random survey of OU students, most continued with the life-altering tradition. So, for all students who keep the resolution trend in style, here are the top 10 OU New Year's Resolutions for 2004:

1. Workout more/get into shape
2. Eat right
3. Stay on top of classes
4. Be on time
5. Spend more time with loved ones
6. Stop using profanity
7. Get organized
8. Save more money
9. Be a better person
10. Go to church more

A student who wished to

be unidentified gave the most unique resolution of all responses. The anonymous source stated his only promise to himself for the new year is, "not to repeat last year."

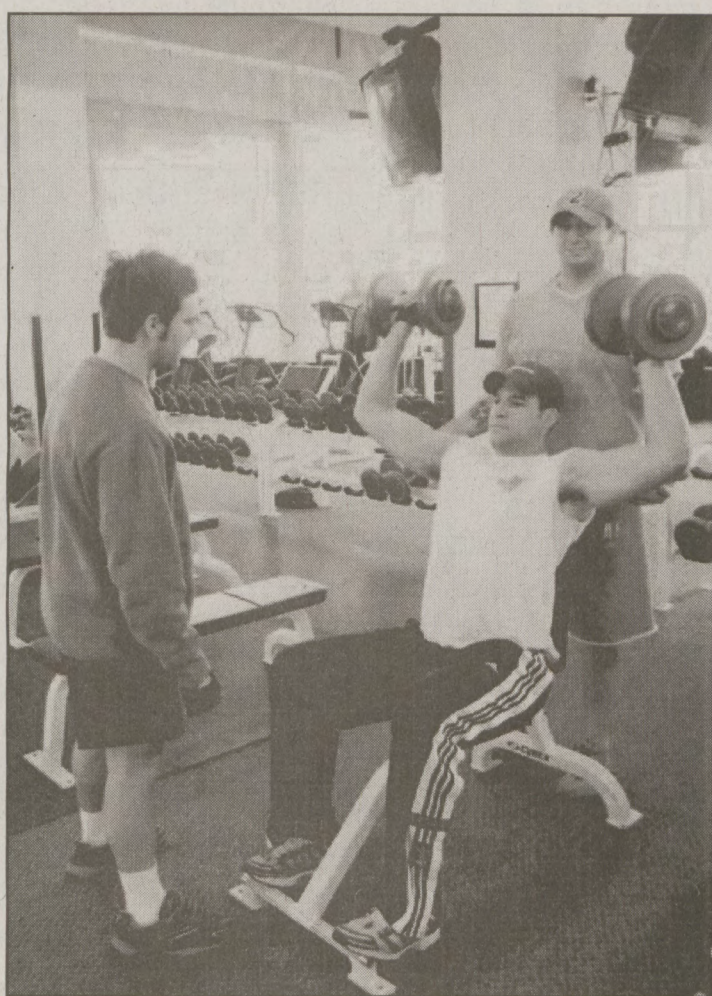
The source said, "I made a lot of mistakes last year. I didn't fulfill a lot of my goals, and basically, I'm just not where I want to be right now."

To get to a point where he can feel proud, the source said, "I'm going to stay focused this year, stop playing around, and handle my business like I should have been doing last year."

The young man stated that most students view their college years as fun and games, and his classmates need to get more serious.

"These are the times that prepare us for the real world, and we're too busy partying and getting drunk to see that," said the source. "Then after you're here for five or six years, you start to realize that it's time to get down to business; it's time to make a change. But I'm not waiting five years. I'm making a change now."

Rituals



Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post
Nick Shenduk, senior, and Peter Mamagona, freshman, watch Marc Granger, junior, pump some iron for a hot New Year body in the Rec. Center.

Relationships 101: Sex, Drugs, Rock and Relationships

Doctor addresses how to keep New Year's Resolutions

By DR. MARK GOULSTON
(KRT)

Dear Dr. Mark

Every year I make New Year's Resolutions and break them. Any tips for making ones that I keep?

RESOLVED at University of Rhode Island

Dear RESOLVED,

Nearly everybody makes New Year's Resolutions. And nearly every one breaks them—including experts who write columns like this one. Some tips that might help you to keep them this time include:

1. Be realistic—Don't confuse reasonable expectations with realistic expectations. Reasonable means "makes sense." Realistic means "likely to happen." It may be reasonable to stop smoking, start a new diet and begin exercising, but it may not be realistic to change all of them at once.

2. Set specific goals—Most people have a clearer idea of how they want to feel (as in happier, healthier, richer) than they have a clear picture of what things need to be done to get there. You know the saying, "Where there's a will, there's a way." The reverse is more often true, i.e. "Where there's a way, there's a will." Have a step-by-step plan for how to achieve your goals.

3. Write it down—You wouldn't build a house without a blueprint, would you? Write

down what you need to stop doing and what you need to start doing to reach your goals. Writing down your goals and plans increases your commitment.

4. Tell other people—Telling other people you're going to do something increases your commitment. Select people that you respect and admire, and whose respect you would like to receive.

5. Use the buddy system—Partner with someone who is also trying to keep their New Year's resolutions to increase your dedication. Stopping negative habits and replacing them with positive behavior is easier when you have a buddy system with a good friend or co-worker. Doing New Year's Resolutions with another person reduces the pain of doing without that unhealthy habit you're trying to break.

6. Eliminate energy vampires—One reason you fall off diets and exercise programs is that you need a quick fix every time you deal with negative people or no-win situations. These can be so exhausting that you say "the heck with" your diet or exercise and grab a candy bar or bail on exercising. Find a way to reduce contact with these people and situations and you'll dramatically increase your energy and be able to stay on track.

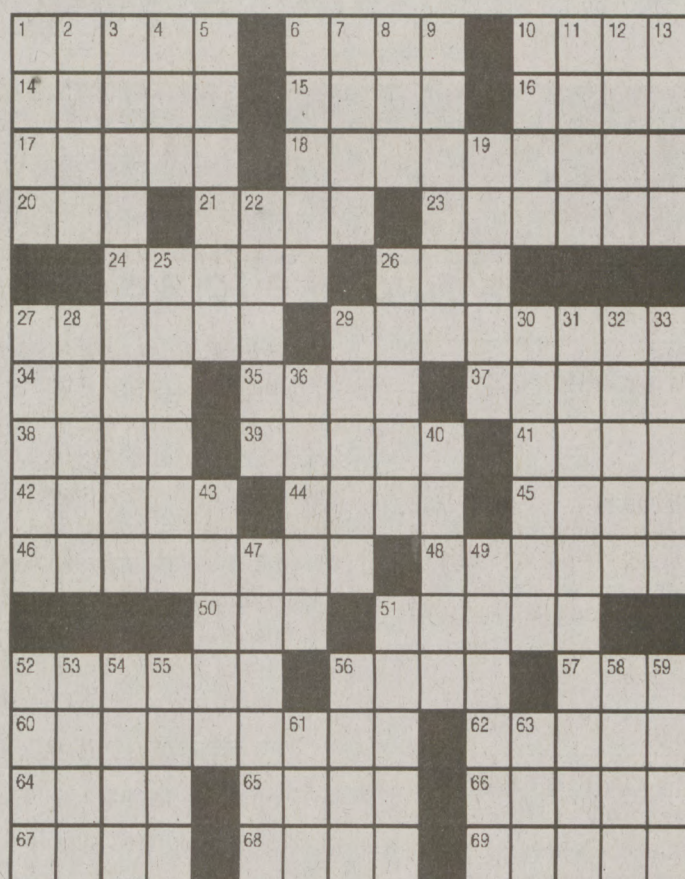
7. Stick with it—Realize that it takes 30 days for a change in behavior to become a habit (this may explain why they give out 30 day chips for maintaining sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous) and six months for a habit to become a natural part of your personality.

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Roadside lodging
 - 6 Buttonhole
 - 10 Love handles
 - 14 Expunge
 - 15 Singer Braxton
 - 16 Delicate fabric
 - 17 Big-band section
 - 18 "Six Days, Seven Nights" star
 - 20 Boxer Laila
 - 21 Phone opener
 - 23 Lab container
 - 24 Took a swig
 - 26 Cookie container
 - 27 Cylindrical shape
 - 29 Cook outside
 - 34 Les Etats—
 - 35 Thom of shoe stores
 - 37 Dry-heat bath
 - 38 Adore
 - 39 "Bullitt" director
 - 41 Drains
 - 42 Fall as ice
 - 44 Entree
 - 45 Shade source
 - 46 Termite eater
 - 48 Oak nuts
 - 50 Writer Grafton
 - 51 Boar or sow
 - 52 Made happy
 - 56 Untamed
 - 57 Droop
 - 60 Converted for computer use
 - 62 "J'accuse" author Zola
 - 64 Last word
 - 65 Musical sound
 - 66 Scope
 - 67 Doctor's Rx choices
 - 68 Installs grass
 - 69 "Blume in Love" star George

DOWN

- 1 Tableland
- 2 Kind of agreement
- 3 De Niro film
- 4 Map dir.
- 5 Rice vampire
- 6 Celery unit
- 7 Solitary



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01/10/04

Solutions

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|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 47 IRS reviews | 56 one's way (proceed) |
| 49 Apple drinks | 58 Gymnast Korbut |
| 51 Facets | 59 Unwrap fruit |
| 52 Dutch cheese | 61 San Diego attraction |
| 53 Margarita fruit | 63 West or Murray |
| 54 Got grayer | |
| 55 Metal canisters | |

Need advice? E-mail The Oakland Post Life Department at life@oakpostonline.com

THE LOW DOWN

Friday, Jan. 9

Professional Artist Series: "Love Letters," a play by A.R. Gurny will be held in the Varner Studio Theatre at 8 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 11

Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. hosts "Informational Tea" at 6 p.m. in the Wellness Center Classroom in the Rec. Center. Business attire required.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Glorify God Campus Ministry meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the OC.

Delta Sigma Theta Inc. will celebrate their "Founder's Day" from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the OC. tables.

SPB will host an Open House and Indoor Circus at noon in the Fireside Lounge.

Saturday, Jan. 17

Meadow Brook Art Gallery presents "Flowers of Insomnia" and Other Photos: a Retrospective by Rob Kangas. The opening reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. in 208 Wilson Hall. The exhibition runs from Jan. 9 through Feb. 22.

Monday, Jan. 19

Rape Aggression Defense System (R.A.D) teaches realistic self-defense tactics from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the Rec. Center.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

The College Republicans will have their winter semester lecture with Leroy Murdock at 7:30 p.m. in Banquet Room A.

Saturday, Jan. 24

The Chinese Spring Festival will take place from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Pioneer Room of the OC.

Thursday, Jan. 29

OU's Diversity Career Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Banquet Rooms A & B of the OC.

***OU Student Congress has open seats.**

Applications are available in the Student Congress office located at 62 OC.

***Career Services,** located at 275 W. Vandenberg Hall, provides free job search assistance.

***Dance With The Grizz Contest** is held at all men's basketball games. The winner will receive \$100.

***Studio Art Major** is now available. Contact Tamara Machmut-Jhathi, Departmental Advisor, at (248) 370-3389

***"Freshman Outlook"** is an interactive web-based program for first year students that provides information, e/weekly events, and resource links directly to your e-mail account. Log on to all 15 messages, and have a chance to win a \$250 gift check.

****"Do you have what it takes to be an OGL?"** Applications are due no later than Friday, Jan. 16 by 5 p.m. in the Office of New Student Programs located at 134 North Foundation Hall

The
Oakland
Post

Classifieds

DEADLINE: 12 NOON FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION

Classifieds only 35 cents per word; please 20 word minimum.
Call us today at **(248) 370-4269** to place your next classified!

Perhaps the classified section is not for you? Give us a call and we can customize one of our many display ad packages **JUST FOR YOU!** Call today...

HELP WANTED

Working mother needs a hand- Seeking a reliable, fun-loving person to care for a 7-year-old girl in our Bloomfield Twp. home. Enjoys arts & crafts, computer learning games and 1st grade homework. Help with light meal preparation & laundry a plus. After school hours, excellent pay. Email response to ablender@comcast.net

Boys & Girls Club needs Games Room Instructor, Part-time \$8-\$10/hour, Plan and conduct activities for youth. (248) 338-4775

Boys & Girls Club needs Membership Clerk, Part-time \$8-\$10/hour, Receptionist and computer skills needed. (248) 338-4775

Amateur photographer seeking female students to photograph for portfolio. No experience necessary. Call (248) 505-0374

Attention Students/Others, 2004 Expansion, Local company has many positions that must be filled immediately, \$17.25 base-appt, Flexible schedule-days, evenings, weekends available. Customer service/sales, Positions filling fast! (586) 786-1022 or www.workforstudents.com

FOR RENT

FREE Heat-One bedroom apartment in excellent condition. \$465/month. Near downtown Pontiac. Historic brick building-impressive architectural details. Call David (810) 678-8036

Roommate wanted to share new condo 5 min. from campus. Own BR/BA. All Amenities. \$550/month. Call Paul (248) 505-0374

MISC. FOR SALE

Need an extra \$36,000 a year? Vending route for sale. 50 high traffic locations. Cost \$5,000. 1-800-568-1392 or www.vendingthatworks.com

SPRING BREAK

#1 Spring Break Vacations! Mexico, Jamaica, Bahamas, Florida, Texas! Campus reps wanted! Best prices. Free parties & meals! 1-800-234-7007 or www.endless-summertours.com

#1 Spring Break Vacations! Cancun, Jamaica, Acapulco, Bahamas & Florida. Best parties, best hotels, best prices! Group discounts, organizers travel FREE! Space is limited! Book now & save! 1-800-234-7007 or www.endless-summertours.com

Spring Break 2004. Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator. Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, Florida. BIGGEST PARTIES, BEST CLUBS! Call for discounts: 800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

#1 SPRING BREAK COMPANY in Acapulco now offers 3 destinations! Go Loco in Acapulco, Party in Vallarta, or get Crazy in Cobo - with **BIANCHI-ROSSI TOURS**. Organize a group and travel FREE. Book now before it's too late! Call 800-875-4525 or www.bianchi-rossi.com

SPRING BREAK

PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA

Book early and save \$\$! 800 feet of Gulf Beach frontage, 2 Large outdoor swimming pools, Sailboat, Jet ski & parasail rentals, Lazy river ride & Water slide, Huge beachfront hot tub, Volleyball, Suites up to 12 people. PARTY ALL WEEK with a live band & DJ at the **Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort** (800) 488-8828 or www.sandpiperbeacon.com

FREE!!!

Beginning January 14th, the first 50 people who SEND AN EMAIL to the Post Ads Office are eligible to have their Secret Crush/Valentine's ad put in the upcoming February 11 issue! Did we mention it was FREE??

Email: advertising@oakpostonline.com
Include in your Subject line:
Code Crush
Please 30-word max., DUE FEB 6!

Do you have a secret crush on a friend of a friend and don't know how to tell them??

Now you have your chance, and there's NO excuses!!! And the best thing, it's FREE to the first 50 people!!!

Oakland University STUDENT AFFAIRS

(Please watch for the new and improved "Student Affairs Column" in the next issue!)

The Student Affairs Staff would like to welcome back all students for winter semester 2004!

CONGRATULATIONS

2004 KEEPER OF THE DREAM AWARD RECIPIENTS
George Davis III, Joi Durant, James Ellout, and Sophia Soldana

GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER

Graham Health Center welcomes back students and staff. Remember, we are open Monday-Friday 8 AM-5 PM to service your health care needs. Appointments are recommended and walk-ins are accepted as time permits. Please call ext. 2341 or email health@oakland.edu for further information.
GHC... The Place to be for a Healthy Me
370-2341
www2.oakland.edu/GHC/

CAREER SERVICES DIVERSITY CAREER FAIR

Thursday, January 29, 2004, 11 AM-3 PM
Banquet Rooms in the Oakland Center
Please visit the Career Services website at www.oakland.edu/careerservices for further information regarding the fair as well as upcoming career-related events throughout the month of January. Open to all majors!

Friday Night Live Presents Maria Bamford

Friday, January 9, 7 PM, Vandenberg Dining Center
In addition to performances at HBO's US Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, the prestigious Montreal Comedy Festival, The Tonight Show, Late Night with Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central and headlining clubs and colleges all across the country, Maria has appeared in the film Lucky Numbers with John Travolta, Stuart Little, and numerous TV shows including Dharma and Greg and Providence. Variety calls her one of the top 10 best comics to watch. The show is free and open to all OU students, faculty, staff, and their guests. Free refreshments.

GRAHAM COUNSELING CENTER

Need someone to talk to? The Counseling Center has personal counselors available. First six sessions are free. No long waiting list. Appointments generally available within 2-3 days. Call 370-3465 for an appointment or to get additional information.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER

103 North Foundation Hall, (248) 370-4215 would like to welcome students to the winter semester of 2004! We offer tutoring for most 100 and 200 level courses, and our tutors are students who have taken the courses you're taking. Stop by!

CAMPUS REC HAPPENINGS

Fitness and Wellness Center Employment Opportunity
The fitness area is interested in hiring four people for winter 2004 semester—preferably students studying exercise science or wellness, health promotion and injury prevention.
Contact Mila Padgett at 370-4732.

Attention Students

Your membership to the Rec Center is included in your tuition and fees for winter 2004. Be sure to have your OU SpiritCard ready when you enter. The Rec Center is open 6AM-11PM Sunday through Thursday, 6 AM-9 PM Friday, and 10 AM-9 PM Saturday.

CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

49 Oakland Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401
(248) 370-2400 • csa@oakland.edu • www3.oakland.edu/oakland/currentstudents/csa

Celebrate
"A Blast of Winter" during
Welcome Week II @ Oakland University
January 6-10, 2004

Wednesday, January 7

Greek Council Hot Chocolate Giveaway
9 AM-Noon
Outdoors, All Over OU's Main Campus
Student Organizations Day
11 AM-1 PM
Fireside Lounge & Main Hallway, OC

Thursday, January 8

Kresge Library Coffeehouse
8 AM-7 PM
Student Lounge, Kresge Library
Greek College Bowl Demo
Noon-1 PM
Fireside Lounge, OC

"The Warming Tree" - Donate a pair of mittens, gloves, or hat to keep those less fortunate warm.
January 6-19 in the Exhibit Lounge, OC.

Friday, January 9

Friday Night Live:
Comedienne Maria Bamford
7 PM
Vandenberg Dining Center, VBH

ABS Icebreaker 2 Dance
9 PM-1 AM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Saturday, January 10

OU Women's Basketball vs. IUPUI
3:30 PM
O'Rena, RAC

OU Men's Basketball vs. IUPUI
6 PM
O'Rena, RAC

CSA SERVICE WINDOW

Discount tickets for the following shows and events are available to members of the Oakland University community. You can pick up a detailed schedule of dates, times and prices at the CSA Service Window, 49 Oakland Center.

Tickets available for Winter 2004 include:

- Moving Out
- Grease
- Dance Theatre of Harlem
- Miss Saigon
- The Magic Flute
- Lion King
- Annie
- Cinemashow
- Jesus Christ: Superstar
- A Streetcar Named Desire
- The Pirates of Penzance
- The Pearl Fishers

ON CAMPUS EVENTS: TICKETS AND SIGN-UPS

- SPB: 2nd Annual Winter Bowling (Jan. 16)
- Meadow Brook Winter Ball (Feb. 7)
- Career Services: Business Etiquette Dinner (Jan. 22)

African-American Celebration Month

**"Celebrating Freedom
Through Education"**

January 19-February 19, 2004

Be on the lookout for a complete list of programs beginning January 12th!

**The CSA
Office would
like to
welcome you
back to OU
for the
Winter
Semester
2004!**