

Lawsuit plays out in court

By REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Attorneys for OU's Board of Trustees and *The Oakland Post* are awaiting a judge's decision on whether the BOT violated the Michigan Open Meetings Act during a secret meeting on the budget forecast in January.

The Post's lawsuit against the BOT was argued on May 14 and no decision has been made yet.

The Post is suing the BOT over a secret meeting that was held on campus on Jan. 15. Six of the eight member Board were present for what it called a briefing about the state of higher education with the new governor.

The Post contends the Board violated Michigan's Open Meetings Act which requires public bodies to conduct business in the open. The Board said it is not covered by OMA because of a case known as *Federated Publications vs. Michigan State University*.

The Post's attorney, Herschel Fink, told Oakland County Circuit Court Judge, Richard Kuhn, that OU's BOT is "a creature of the legislature" and the "legislature can impose positions on its creation." He said the Board is required to obey the Open Meetings Act.

"It is the fundamental right of people to see government in action," Fink said.

Fink said the Federated case is limited to presidential searches. He said selecting presidents is a unique situation and that is why those meetings can be closed.

One of OU's six attorneys, Roderick Daane, said requiring the Board to meet in public compromises its constitutional autonomy.

"This case has less to do with autonomy and more to do with arrogance," Fink said in response.

Fink reminded the judge that the Board admitted it violated the Open Meetings Act, it just isn't subject to it.

Daane told the judge allegations like these have been brought up against the Board before and the attorney general and prosecutor declined to take those cases, just as they have in this case.

Daane, who represented MSU in the Federated Case, said this case should have never been filed.

"The defendant was under no obligation to open the meeting held in January," Daane said.

He said OMA is an intrusion on the university and the *The Post's* claims against the BOT lack merit.

Daane asked the judge for relief and for no decision to be made.

Board backs tuition hike

By REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

OU's Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase of 9.91 percent or \$250 per semester for the average student, starting in the fall. This decision comes a month after Trustee Chairman Henry Baskin told the administration to come back with a figure under 12 percent, which was originally proposed by the administration.

According to Lynne Schaefer, vice president of finance and administration, the state appropriation committee's reduction to Oakland University is expected to be 10 percent or \$5,239,000 for fiscal year 2004. The reduction cut OU's state funding 3.5 percent below the fiscal year 2002 level.

"We are looking at non-discretionary cost increases that total about \$6.9 million," Schaefer told the Board.

The non-discretionary costs include salaries, financial aid, enrollment growth, utilities and bank fees.

"Those two factors, the state budget reduction and those non-discretionary cost increases left us with a budget shortfall of over \$12 million," Schaefer said.

She said OU responded by working with the deans of the college and schools along with other administrators to make cuts to the budget.

"The university has identified budget reductions totaling about \$5.5 million," Schaefer told the Board, which still leaves a budget shortfall of \$6,635,000. "In order to balance that budget, given that shortfall, a tuition increase of 9.91 percent is necessary."

The new resident undergraduate average tuition rate for 30 credit hours will be just above \$5,500, which represents an increase over current amounts of about

\$250 per semester.

"I can't afford an increase. I may have to stop my college education because of this. My family doesn't help me. I'm struggling to pay it right now," said Lydia Ladah, junior.

"My parents are paying, but I feel bad, so I am going to be a guest student at other schools so it won't be as expensive," said Lisa Ludescher, junior.

"I'm on scholarship, but I'm from Denmark and I can't afford to pay for my college," Line Jensen, freshman said. "In Denmark, the government pays, but here, I can't afford it if I had to pay myself."

However, some students were more positive.

"It's not so bad because we're still one of the cheaper schools," said Mike Yokoski, junior.

The Board also approved a \$2 increase in course fees, which are associated with

lab equipment and computer use.

Schaefer said those fees haven't been raised in a few years.

In order to adjust for the lost \$5.5 million, President Russi said more jobs were cut.

"We have cut or reduced in hours some 60 positions, including 21 full-time faculty positions. This represents the equivalent of 44 full-time positions across the university," Russi said. "Remaining employees in many areas will have to take on additional work loads."

He said the hiring freeze enacted in March remains in effect and the executive and upper-level academic administrators' salaries have been frozen. He also added that two academic programs, one in nursing and one in health science, have been eliminated.

Russi told the Trustees the cuts nega-

Please see TUITION on A8.

Ensemble faces battle

By REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In a surprise shift, the OU Board of Trustees, in front of a packed meeting room last Wednesday, approved a five-year contract that spun off the Meadow Brook Theatre to a newly formed ensemble group.

The decision followed a month of intense negotiations and a barrage of publicity as OU weighed either closing MBT or letting theater impresario Joe Nederlander run it. Though the show will go on for now, the future of the theater is not guaranteed.

"Frankly, it's going to be a tough job for them to do this,"

said Trustee David Doyle.

The Committee to Save Meadow Brook Theatre is made up of people who didn't want MBT to become a home to traveling shows, but wanted it to stay a regional theater, said Sarah Warren, committee chairperson. The group members came up with a proposal creating a non-profit theater ensemble. The proposal was chosen by the Board of Trustees after Joe Nederlander withdrew his proposal on June 3.

According to Lynne Schaefer, vice president of finance and administration, in 1997 OU wrote off a \$1.2 million deficit the theater had been carrying since 1989. She said since 1997,

Please see ENSEMBLE on A8.



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post
OU and community members pack Elliott Hall to hear the Board's approval of The Meadow Brook Theatre Ensemble.

Studio art major wins approval

By TRACY ESTES
SENIOR CAMPUS LIFE WRITER

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously Wednesday to resurrect the Studio Art major in the Art and Art History department.

Though the department was offering Studio Art as a minor, special instructor and coordinator for the Studio Art program, Andrea Eis, said she believes that a major in the field "will give students a strong liberal arts education as well as technical, aesthetic and conceptual expertise in Studio Art, a combination that will serve them well as they head into a career, or to graduate work in the field."

The major's courses will be offered to all students at OU and will be a combination of technique, aesthetics,

critical writing and practical career development for students to receive a well rounded education with a B.A. in Studio Art.

The differences between the major and the minor of Studio Art is the "depth and breadth of the learning," said Eis.

Students will be responsible for taking a number of introductory courses, specializing in either drawing, painting or photography, as well as art history courses to understand the progression of art and contemporary art.

A senior thesis will be required for graduation including an exhibition of the students' artwork at Meadow Brook Art Gallery.

Junior Dan Maslach, mechanical engineering said, "Only those that are talented will succeed in an art major. I don't have the knack for it, but for those that do,

it could be a great thing."

OU had a Studio Art major until 1975 when, after downsizing, it became a minor only. Now, the Art and Art History department feels that it is important to reestablish this opportunity for future students.

There have been a number of students from many different majors interested in the program, such as Art History, Communications, and the Sciences.

"Students will be able to declare Studio Art as a major as of fall 2003," said Eis. She also said that students have been interested in the idea of the new major since discussion began in 2001, and the department will be contacting those interested as soon as possible.

"We have a list of over 50 current students who are interested in the program," said Eis.

Explosion rattles Engineering Building

By ELIZABETH GORECKI
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

A chemistry professor was slightly injured May 26, after an explosion in his lab. He was hospitalized overnight at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital Medical

Center with cuts to his chest, face, neck and arms.

Ferman Chavez, professor of Chemistry, was working on a research project in SEB 236 when it exploded.

When OUPD arrived, Chavez was conscious and alert. Chavez

told OUPD that he was working with a solution containing iron per chlorate and dimethyl sulfoxide. He said that while distilling the solution, the vacuum trap got plugged and caused pressure to build up in the flask and cause the explosion.

Chavez fled the room looking for help. Akbar Khan, a U-M student studying in the building with a friend, saw Chavez coming down the hallway and took him into room 222 for safety and called 911.

Khan told police that while he

was studying, he heard what sounded like a "large carbon dioxide explosion" right before he ran out into the hallway.

Marcin Markowicz, graduate student, was working in his lab at the time. He told police he

Please see EXPLOSION on A8.

Construction makes some commutes tricky

By TRACY ESTES
SENIOR CAMPUS LIFE WRITER

The unsafe bridge on University Drive over I-75 is closed causing many headaches for commuters on the roads, including many students and faculty at OU.

The bridge had a detailed inspection by a team of Michigan Department of Transportation engineers who reported a deterioration in the bridge beams that support the bridge deck.

According to a MDOT press release issue in early May when the bridge was closed, the placement of supports under the bridge will force a lane closure in both directions on I-75. Repairs will

likely take most of the summer.

Allan Schneck, the Operations Engineer for the construction project, said, "we have tried to place many advanced warning signs of detours on the roads for people to see, in order to escape possible confusion and problems."

The construction is expected to last until August, during which motorists will need to follow detours for both east and westbound University Drive.

"Safety is very important and we don't want to put any of our motorists in danger," said Schneck.

Student Mike Cook said, "I think they should have figured out a way to keep at least one

lane of traffic passing on the University overpass, because the traffic is diverted over to close to where I live and it is causing a lot of accidents."

He also said the construction on I-75 is making his drive home every couple weeks stressful due to the dangers of the abrupt traffic changes.

Possible detours for I-75 and University include westbound University directed to south Squirrel Rd. to westbound M-59 and then to northbound Opdyke Rd.

Eastbound drivers will be directed to S. Opdyke Rd. To eastbound M-59, to northbound Squirrel Rd.



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post
The closure of University Drive over I-75 due to construction has many students looking for alternate routes to campus.

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June 11, 2003

The Oakland Post

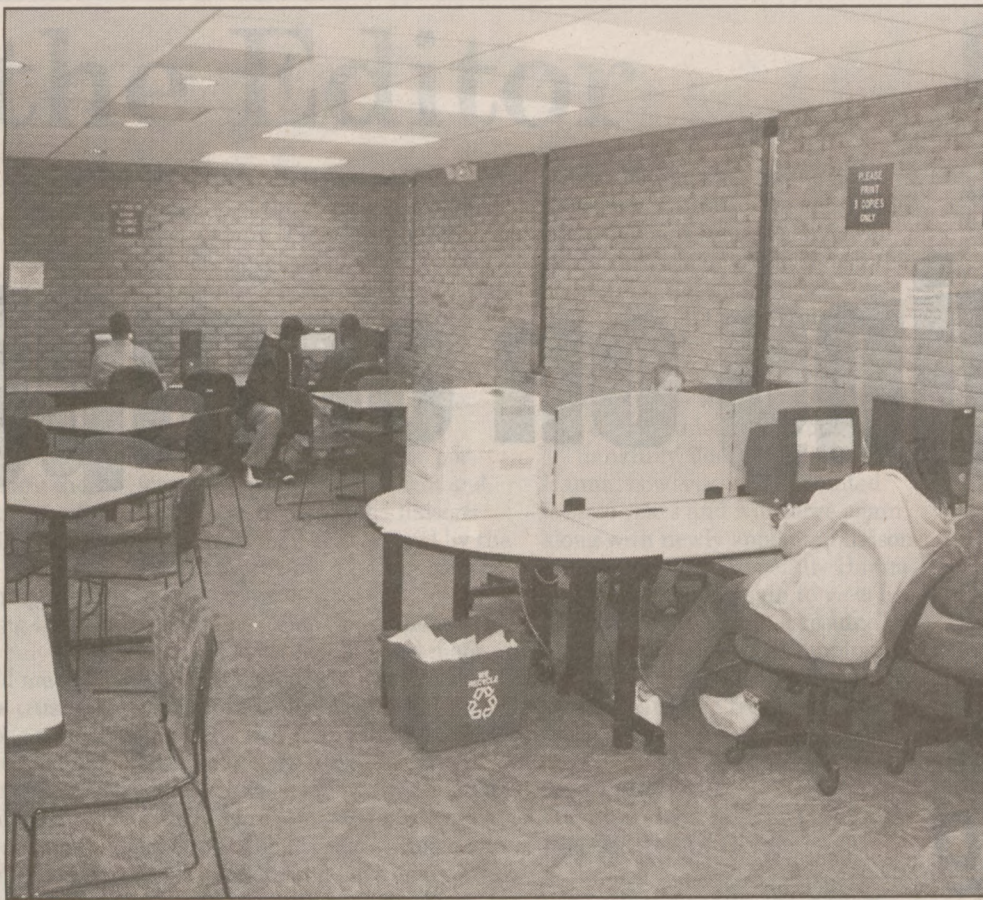
A3

Virus hits network

By LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

A virus known as W32.Bugbear.B@mm worm has swept through campus, causing headaches for University Technology Services and students, staff and faculty. At about 11 a.m. Friday, UTS first noticed the virus, said Teresa Rowe, assistant vice president of Tech Services. She said the virus spreads by grabbing stored emails in Outlook Express, Outlook and other email services, and mixes them together. She said the virus sends out scrambled messages with an attachment. "We believe that's how it transmits itself," she said. She said that as of Monday afternoon, out of 5,000 devices that connect to the OU network in a day, there were 250 infected computers. "We just need to visit the computer and clean up the virus," she said. "With most people, we were about to take care of it." She said UTS expected to have the virus mostly cleaned out of the system by yesterday.

Please see VIRUS on page A8



Tech Services department is working to repair damages caused by a computer virus that hit campus Friday.

SIFE wins award

By SARA-BETH O'CONNER
THE OAKLAND POST

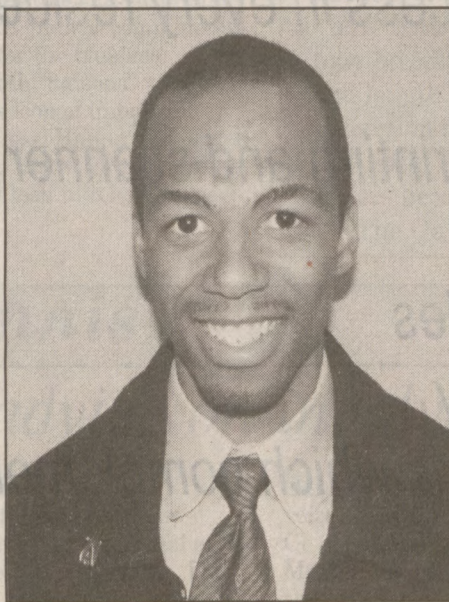
OU's Students in Free Enterprise team placed in the top 12 at its national competition and won its regional competition this spring. In the club's second year of competition, the students advanced further than any other second year team. At the competition the students presented the projects they worked on for the past year. "One thing that makes us different from other teams is that we memorize the whole 24 minute speech (rather than improvise it)," said former president Nancy Hastings. This memorization is important, she said, because if any group goes over the time limit, they will be cut off and not allowed to finish their presentation. This year's project included 17 separate plans, which helped more than 3,000 people worldwide. "For example, we had 25 11th graders, during the summer, live on campus and compete in business projects," said faculty adviser Mark Simon. "Last year businesses (ranged from) a personal pay-as- Please see SIFE on page A8

New liaison to take seat

By ADAM DEMENIUK
THE OAKLAND POST

Giving OU students a voice, Lenny Compton has joined Rhonda Hanna to serve as student liaison to the Board of Trustees. Compton's appointment begins in July and will last one year. Student liaisons may serve up to two years. Compton, honored by President George W. Bush in January for his work with AmeriCorps, said OU's budget issue is a big concern with students this year. "I want to reach out to the bulk of the students and affirm some of their concerns to the board. I want to make sure some of the student services are not eliminated," Compton said. As student liaison, Compton's responsibilities include attending all BOT meetings, providing student views and opin-

ions to the board, periodically report on BOT activities to student groups and participate in an orientation program, according to OU's website. Student liaisons are not allowed to attend closed meetings. The selection process for a student liaison comes from student and staff recommendations. "The Vice President for Student Affairs appoints a screening committee comprised of two students, including a University Student Congress representative ... one staff and one faculty member, to recommend at least five names of students (from applications and nominations) to the president for the appointment of two student liaisons," according to OU's website. Mary Beth Snyder, vice president for student affairs, said Compton was selected based upon his strong university serv-



Dan McDuffee/The Oakland Post
Senior Lenny Compton will take his post as student liaison to the BOT in July.

ice record, involvement in student organizations, academic achievements and leadership. "This is an individual with a deep interest in the university. He knows how the university works," said Snyder. Six students applied for the student liaison position, according to Snyder. Please see LIAISON on page A8

Lunch woes

By RAQUEL DIONES & CHRISTINA PIERSON
THE OAKLAND POST

Hungry for lunch? Don't plan on heading to the Oakland Center's Pioneer Food Court. Spring and summer students looking for Subway or Noble Romans on campus are out of luck during a major renovation and expansion project in the kitchen. The upgrades are part of the OC expansion. They are refurbishing and expanding the kitchens in the food court by taking down walls and adding coolers. Chartwells dining service provides food service for more than 230 colleges and universities. It currently runs the food program at OU. There are three other places around campus that sell food. Smoothies, packaged sandwiches and salads can be found across from Pioneer Food Court. On the second floor of the School of School of Education and Human Services Building, soups, sandwiches and snacks are available. The Vandenberg

Hall cafeteria offers all-you-can-eat, buffet lunch and dinner for students, teachers and visitors. Lunch is \$6 and dinner is \$7. There are a variety of meals to choose from such as Italian foods and freshly made salads and sandwiches. Food is served throughout the day. Food will be cooking again in Pioneer Food Court at the beginning of the fall semester, when construction is complete. Subway, Noble Romans, and Chick-fil-A will be ready for the lunch rushes. Andrew Willows, Chartwells district manager, said that a coffee house will be added to the list of vendors. Chartwells is currently accepting applications for employment. "We love students to work for us," said Ronda Redmond, director of dining. Students will be cross-trained to work at several of the food courts and catering. For more information contact Redmond at (248) 370-4378 or Jay Mularoni at (248) 370-3590.

SAE places 13 in worldwide contest

By SARA-BETH O'CONNER
THE OAKLAND POST

OU's Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) finished 13 out of 140 teams worldwide in the 2003 collegiate design Series Formula SAE competition at the Pontiac Silverdome on May 14-18. Associate Professor of Engineering and SAE adviser Brian Sangeorzan said, "The Formula SAE competition is the largest and most difficult student competition of its kind anywhere in the world."

This marks the best performance ever for the group in this competition. Last year SAE finished 123rd. The award-winning vehicle could travel from 0-60 miles per hour in 3.6 seconds. "It is faster than any U.S. vehicle," said Kevin Kolath, vehicle design manager and masters student in mechanical engineering at OU. "A Viper or Corvette takes 4.5 seconds." The vehicle, which is a scaled down version of an Indianapolis 500 car, was built from scratch and SAE only had to buy a few

components to build it. The racer was three feet tall, 50 inches wide and 70 inches long. Kolath said only 35 out of the 140 registered vehicles passed the entrance test. OU's SAE was one of them. Early planning helped the team out, said Sangeorzan. It finished computer manufacturing in the winter and had time to test the racer before they went to the competition. Sangeorzan said the team began building the car in spring 2002. The team started with designing the frame and suspen-

sion and creating a virtual model. He said the team was able to test the vehicle prior to the competition, which was critical for the success. "We had component failures and minor engineering changes that had to be addressed," he said. Sangeorzan said the team expected to have a competitive vehicle, but "in racing you can never predict everything." He attributes much of the success to the competence and dedication of the students, and a little

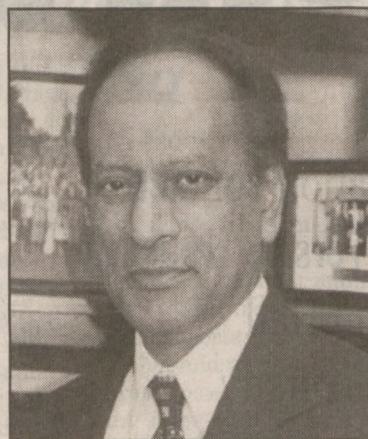
bit of luck. He said he estimates more than 4,000 person-hours were logged by OU's SAE in preparation for the competition. Sangeorzan said Board of Trustees member, David Fischer and OU supporter Stephan Scharf contributed to the project financially. "We also could not have done it without (their) financial support," he said. "Although it's fun to build and test the cars, the competition demands real engineering design/analysis work and business skills," said Sangeorzan.

Sangeorzan said the team will be losing some members to graduation, but there will still be many members for next year's competition. He said the team will begin designing this summer and expects to begin building the new car in the fall. "Regardless of our exact results, this is a great learning experience for our students," he said. Students from any major interested in joining the team should contact Sangeorzan at (248) 370-2236.

Moudgil stays

After two years of service as interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, Virinder Moudgil is now dropping the "interim" from his title. At the May 2 Board of Trustees meeting, Moudgil was appointed Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost. Moudgil was appointed as interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost in 2001, a three year term. He said President Garry Russi told him at the time that in two years his performance would be evaluated. "He said he will ask different

segments of campus and then see what direction we want to go in," said Moudgil. Russi surveyed the faculty, deans and others on Moudgil's performance in the spring. Moudgil received overwhelming support from all segments of the university. Moudgil said the campus community shared his vision and supported his goals, allowing him to be able to spend the rest of his time here building academic affairs. "It gives you a little better opportunity to craft a vision for academic affairs at Oakland," said



Oakland University
Virinder Moudgil
Moudgil. "It empowers you to do what you want to do."

By LAURA ANGUS
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Survey says TV on top

By LUISE BOLLEBER
SARA-BETH O'CONNER & ASHLEIGH TOPLES
THE OAKLAND POST

Television is the number one source of news for people 18-34, according to the results of a pilot survey conducted this spring by OU journalism students. "If I can see it, I can believe it more," said Jason Kady, a 22 year-old student from OU. Kady's sentiments were shared by many other respondents, who would prefer a visual approach to newsgathering. In addition, most of those surveyed also cited the convenience of TV as the reason they don't make the effort to read newspapers. "I enjoy watching the news as I'm getting

ready in the morning and when I get home from work," said Tammy Kuntz. The 23-year-old also said she can watch TV while performing other tasks. Internet is the second most preferred source for obtaining the news. Newspaper came only after radio as a news source of choice. A majority of respondents said they just don't have time to read the newspaper. "I have intentions of sitting down to read the paper in depth but never actually do it," said Mark Doyon, 32. Other reasons for not reading the paper are cost and ink stains left on hands, as well as articles that jump to other pages. The purpose of this study, which collected

Please see SURVEY on page A8

Crime Watch

• OUPD Chief Samuel Lucido received a call from the FBI on May 2. The FBI officer said a bomb threat was emailed to Cobo Hall from an OU computer terminal. OUPD and university officials located the source of the threatening email. A suspect submitted to a voluntary interview

by the FBI. The case has been turned over to the FBI.

• A 19-year-old female student was attacked by a squirrel on May 2 while she was walking on the sidewalk east of Beer Lake. The gray squirrel bit her leg. The woman pulled the squirrel from

her and used her backpack to shield herself as she ran away. She was treated and released by Crittenton Medical Center.

• On May 1, OUPD received a medical emergency call to the lower basketball courts of the Rec Center. Two male students were

playing basketball and collided, knocking heads. One sustained possible head injuries and the other sustained a cut above his left eye and possible eye injuries. They were taken to the hospital.

• A female student called OUPD after she went into labor

on April 18 in the Student Apartments. OUPD officers stood by until the arrival of Community Ambulance. She was transported to St. Joseph's Hospital in Pontiac.

• A female intern at Graham Health Center who is a grad stu-

dent from Wayne State University called OUPD on April 9 after receiving a threatening voice mail. She played the message for an OUPD officer. The woman could not identify the voice. OUPD told her to call OUPD if she received any more threats or felt uncomfortable.

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June 11, 2003

The Oakland Post

A5

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
This is in response to Nikita Thomas' featured column, "Affirmative action not a 'black' issue." I agree that it is not only a black issue, but a national one. It affects every person in nearly every job and school.

I was, however, deeply angered by the many mistakes made in the article. First, Thomas says that affirmative action asks that women and 'people of color' (now isn't that putting a black face on the issue?) are placed in the application pools of jobs and colleges. This is wrong, anyone can apply, affirmative action gets minorities a big step in the door, simply because they are minorities. In twenty years, when the black and Hispanics out number whites, will there be programs to help them out? Probably not.

Another mistake I found in the article is the assumption that inner-city schools get a worse education than suburban ones, because they don't get as much money. Actually, the state gives equal money for all students in all schools. I went to a poor school, and still managed to do well on the ACT. So the money aspect really doesn't exist.

So if we actually look past all the race issues that cause the controversy around affirmative action, we'll see that all it is is an excuse

for minorities.

**Kirstin Sommer
Freshman
Pre-journalism**

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Dear Editor:
OU's student liaisons to the Board of Trustees are supposed to represent students and share their concerns, thoughts and ideas with the trustees. However, Rhonda Hanna and David Jewell spent the entire last year ignoring important issues rather than bringing them to the board. Hanna, the only liaison who actually attended meetings, focused on being the trustees' one-woman public relations team, politely agreeing with and championing the Board's every move.

Liaisons are given the opportunity to speak at Board meetings, and when Hanna does so, she only offers comments that praise the Board's actions. The Board wrongfully barred the public from attending a January meeting, which drew more public concern than any other event last year (more than 1,200 people signed a petition urging the Board to be more open with its business), but Hanna never spoke about the issue at a meeting. The one time Hanna did express a valid student concern about the high cost of golf-

ing at Sharf Golf Course, Bill Rodgers, of the course, responded with a smug "I'll look into that," and she never publicly followed through. If Hanna did pursue the matter with Rogers outside of a Board meeting, it was never shared with the students. Prices, at least to my knowledge, never dropped.

As despicable as their job performance was, it's downright sad to see how unaware the liaisons are of how they are received by the Board. Each time a liaison speaks at a meeting, a "why-are-they-wasting-our-time" look washes over the faces of the Board members. Unfortunately, it's almost understandable—liaisons have given the Board no reason to take them seriously. Instead of being outraged when she wasn't invited to the Board's closed January meeting, Rhonda just shrugged her shoulders and once again proclaimed her faith that the Board can do no wrong.

At the Board's May 7 meeting, Hanna and Jewell gave end of the year speeches that not surprisingly oozed with endless compliments and praise for the trustees. Although both "liaisons" were left out of the loop of important Board business, Hanna and Jewell thanked the Board for giving them a first hand look into how it operates.

As sickening as it was to listen their endless praise, the most ludicrous moment came when Jewell called the students who signed the petition for Board openness "apathetic." Jewell's statement, in addition to being unbearably ignorant, is completely demeaning to not only those who signed it, but also every student on campus.

Thankfully, Jewell has left. Hanna, however, was appointed for two years and will serve again, along with newly appointed liaison Lenny Compton. Hopefully Hanna will wake up and begin to view her position as more than a resume builder, and hopefully Compton has the guts she lacks to speak up to the Board and truly represent the students.

**Ann Zaniewski
OU alum and former Oakland
Post Editor In Chief**

All letters to the editor must include a name, class rank and field of study or OU affiliation. Please limit letters to 450 words. Letters may be edited for content and length. The Post uses discretion and may reject any letter for any reason. Letters become property of The Oakland Post.

Editor's View

While the Board of Trustees may have come through for the people who were destined to keep Meadow Brook Theatre a regional theater, it has still ignored the more than 1,200 students, faculty and staff who signed a petition asking it to be more open. The BOT is still operating in isolation often without full information.

The Board has lost touch with the true meaning of the university and instead of seeing the Grizzly black and gold it is purely seeing green.

The proposal of Joe Nederlander to lease Meadow Brook Theatre came as a shock to most people on campus and those affiliated with the theater itself. That's

because OU's administration and Board of Trustees again left the campus community in the dark when it came to making a decision on an integral part of the university.

Had the plan to lease the theater been publicly announced before the Board meeting where Nederlander's proposal was discussed, it is possible more proposals could have been generated and tension would not have grown.

The Board wanted to consider the proposal because it could make money not only for the theater, but also for the university. As it was, the binge of media publicity, including editorial, spurred the BOT to delay its decision. It wasn't until the Committee To Save Meadow Brook Theatre came up with its Ensemble plan, a plan to make money that the Board actively start listening.

The students, faculty and community members are the ones with the true understanding of the university, and what is important to their education. While the

Board, this time, finally listened to the students it needs to do so at all times.

We understand that Board positions are held by people with full-time jobs and other things going on in their lives, but the Trustees need to understand how their decisions affect the students and faculty to make OU the focus of their lives.

BOT Chairman Henry Baskin, in May, called the theater a non-integral part of the education of students. Yet the Board was overwhelmed by student testimonials of how the Theatre has helped them and been important to their education. The community packed the BOT's house to illustrate this.

The students' voices need to be heard. Lately, students on this campus have shown they have more passion about the university than the Board thought. All of the students,

alumni, faculty and staff which packed Elliott Hall for the MBT decisions caused overflow rooms to be opened.

All of the students, staff and faculty that signed the petition *The Post* circulated asking the Board to be more open showed the Board students do care.

The Post urges Board members to come to campus, not just for meetings public or otherwise, and talk with students and see what they really want in their four-plus years at OU. We invite Board members to write columns and letters to the paper explaining their stance on issues.

In these hard economic times the Board and the students need to work together to make do with what is available. *The Post* urges the Board to take the initiative and make that happen.

Editorial at a glance

The Issue: OU's Board of Trustees and its relationship with students.

Our stance: The Board is out of touch.

Alumni columnist

Former student gives words of advice on involvement



MIKE MURPHY

2001 OU Alumnus

I was told this was all here for me.

At many schools, there's a stereotype of the renowned professor who is too occupied with his research and academic prestige to put time into teaching. Classes are taught entirely by teaching assistants, of whom they've obviously never heard. This system leaves students (especially freshmen, who see this a lot) unsatisfied. They've paid for an exceptional course from a brilliant intellectual with decades of experience, and ended up learning fundamentals from well-meaning graduate students who cannot make up in technique what they expend in effort. That's the way many colleges are, they say.

At new student convocation seven years ago, I was told that Oakland University was different. That this university exists for the students. That class sizes are generally small, and that our education from start to finish will be provided by respected intellectuals

and working professionals working in their spare time. I was also told that the needs and concerns of the student body would be listened to, respected and considered.

To be fair, that was generally true. On-campus housing was at maximum capacity one year, showing a demand for more and better accommodations; two years later the Department of University Housing made room for 500 students in brand new on-campus apartments. The Recreation and Athletic Center is a tremendous facility and badly needed when it was built - as is the new parking garage.

As years passed I saw the university making some decisions that were generally unpopular with the student body. The Sharf Golf course was quite unpopular with students who considered it an unnecessary expenditure of time, money and valuable real estate.

The Board of Trustees continues to have meetings that may or may not be in violation of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, despite the wishes of students and scrutiny it can expect from the local media. *The Post* and *The Oakland Press*, who are understandably sensitive to such issues. You'd think they'd be overly cautious about any for-

mal or informal meetings.

Now, the future of Meadow Brook Theatre as an original artistic institution is in question. It's about to be spun off like a sitcom because the university is responsible for its debt and it hasn't been making enough money. Student opposition is understandably prominent, but it's hard to mount a concerted fight against anything over the spring and summer semesters (which is an awfully convenient time to make an unpopular change).

The transient nature of student attendance at a university puts them at a serious disadvantage in shaping its direction and decisions. Most of the people who rallied against the golf course - if you listen, you can hear it hemorrhaging money - have graduated. Most of the administration who made the decision to build it are still here.

It doesn't have to be that way. If you're reading this, you're probably a student, and this is my message from beyond: This is your university. Own it.

If you haven't before, it's past time to start. And if you're about to begin your four (or more) year career here, own it now and run with it. Whatever it is you want to happen (or not happen) at

Oakland, fight for it. Make your voices heard. You want football? Go get it. You want an ice rink? Make it happen. You want original theatre, not a touring company? Fight for it and don't quit.

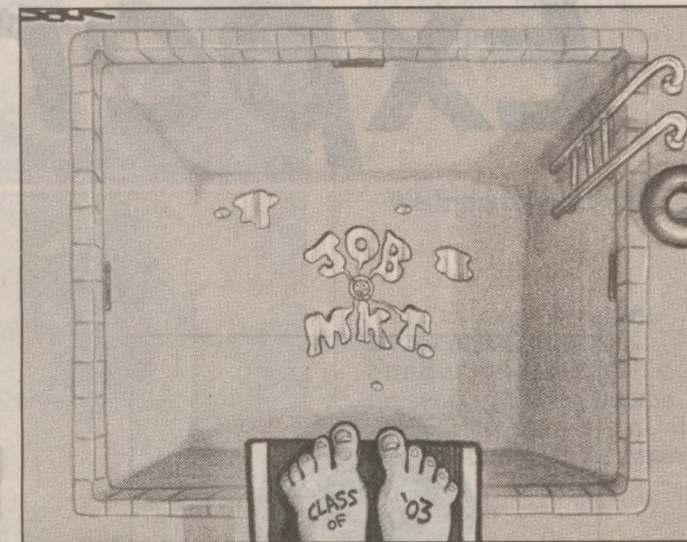
They may have the staying power, and you may be gone by 2007. But you have the trump card; you're the reason why all of this is here, and why it's all happening. You're the customer. And the customer is always right.

I was told that this was all here for me, and it was. But I realized, too late, that it wasn't being handed to me. I had to seize it. So do you.

I can't do it for you; I'm too old. My time's over. You have to decide as a class if you're going to make noise, assume leadership positions, call for meetings and demand accountability, or if you're going to take what you can get from Oakland and move on.

When you've paid your tuition bill, you've bought a college experience. It's yours. Use it. Fight for it. Own it.

Mike Murphy, a College of Arts and Science 2001 graduate, is a freelance writer and web designer.



Point / Counterpoint

Should female athletes be allowed to compete with males?

Yes

ADAM HITCH
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Professional sport leagues all bill themselves as showcasing the top talent from around the world, never mentioning they are exclusive to any race or creed. They also never formally discriminate on the basis of gender. Their foundations are based on having the top athletes, men and women.

The world of female athletics is full of examples of athletes completely dominating the competition with supposed masculine talent. Women's tennis is a perfect example with the Williams' sisters completely dominating the competition and only major upsets preventing them from consistently meeting in finals. Another player, second seed Kim Clijsters of Belgium, prepares for tournaments by playing boyfriend Leyton Hewitt a top ranked male player.

The Ladies Professional Golf Association showcases many women with talent similar to their male counterparts. Annika Sorenstam is one example, finishing ahead of eight male golfers at the Memorial Tournament. Another golfer Suzzy Waldorf will be taking part in the

Greater Hartford Open later in the summer. These two women both have short games that rival most men.

Golf and tennis are sports that do not require physical contact. This does not mean the major professional sports baseball, basketball, football, hockey and soccer should exclude women because of their physicality. Considering the well-known physical nature of these sports a female athlete would simply take a risk similar to her male counterparts. Their participation would depend solely if they were willing to take this risk.

The professional hockey leagues in Europe allow women to play with the men. The marquee example is Hayley Wickenheiser, nicknamed the female Wayne Gretzky, for her play on the Canadian Women's hockey team. She was a productive member of a team in the Finish Professional League and will continue playing in that league for the upcoming season.

If females have the skills to compete why not let them? If they choose to compete, then they accept the risk of injury and we should not worry any further.

No

REBECCA WYATT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

While it's true females fight everyday for equal rights, I am convinced females should not make the move to play in the men's leagues of professional sports.

Men and women belong in two separate sports worlds. Based on anatomy alone it's hard for a woman to compete with a man. Women don't have the same physical strengths as men do and this impedes their ability to compete in the same ways.

The world has realized these limitations, that why we have the LPGA and WNBA. Now, many may argue these sports don't have quite as much public support at the PGA and the NBA, but the players inspire lots of little girls to be basketball players, soccer players and golfers.

But it seems like all the women care about is who is watching them. I believe the women who do this are just trying to be the first, rather than actually entertain the sports fans. It's all about publicity.

But what if these women who try to make it in the men's sports world can't succeed? What if they turn out

to be like Manon Rheume who tried to play professional men's hockey with the Tampa Bay Lightning? How is that helping boost the confidence of little girls everywhere who look up to them?

If the rules are changed at professional levels where does it stop? Should the LPGA and the PGA merge? Should collegiate level sports be merged into unisex teams? If the rules were changed all around men and women, boys and girls would be outraged. They would say women weren't getting a fair shot. And what about the men that are cut from their own league because women are taking the spots, it's highly unlikely he could go join the woman's league, or that he would even try.

Unless a woman is beating every other woman on the court, field or course every time she competes I just don't see why she would want to make the move to the men's league.

I'm all for seeing a woman beat a man, but I think women and men have different physical abilities, and that is why there are separate leagues.

When it comes to battles of the mind there is no doubt in my mind that women and men do equally compete.

The Oakland Post 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309

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Coming up:
An update on pro racquet-
ball player Jack Huczek.

Sports

Sports Info:
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June 11, 2003

The Oakland Post

A6

Softball repeats history

By ADAM HITCH
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

As Yogi Berra once said, "It's déjà vu all over again." The Golden Grizzlies softball team ended its season for the second year in a row in the NCAA regional championship game.

The similarities continue, as the Grizzlies advanced for the second year in a row and second time in their history by again winning the Mid-Con tournament in dramatic fashion.

They swept all three games on the final day capping it with a 2-1 victory over University of Missouri-Kansas City on the arm of senior pitcher Julie Anderson who pitched a complete game allowing a run on three hits and a walk.

Senior third baseman Ericka Burns captured her second consecutive tournament MVP batting .692 with six runs, six RBI, two doubles, two triples, and a home run.

The victory placed them against the second seed, defending champion California Golden Bears in the opening game of the NCAA Tournament.

The Grizzlies battled hard before losing 8-0 in six innings. Anderson took the loss giving up one run and four hits in two innings while striking out four.

This placed them in an elimination match against rival Western Michigan Broncos.

Taking the lead for good in the sixth, the Grizzlies prevailed with a 4-3 victory.

Sophomore pitcher Nicole Marzano took the win, pitching 2.2 innings of relief while not allowing a run on two hits and a walk.

She also struck out five. The victory marked the team's second win in NCAA tournament play. The win last year also coming after an opening round loss.

The victory marked the team's

third victory in four games against its inter-state rival.

The season ended in a 5-0 loss at the Regional Championship to Notre Dame.

The Grizzlies managed five hits but no runs while the Irish collected two runs on six hits before chasing Anderson from the game with two outs in the fifth.

Anderson did strikeout two but saw her record for the season drop to 16-11.

The season was a success, as the team set a school record with its 34th win of the season, Mike Tomlinson's first as coach.

Overall, the team ended with a record of 34-26-1 while capturing its second consecutive Mid-Con Tournament title.

Coach Mike Tomlinson says, "The season was a great success as we had nine of our 20 players make all conference, had the Mid-Con pitcher of the year, the Mid-Con player of the year and the co-coach of the year."

The honors he was referring to were Marzano being named Pitcher of the Year, Burns capturing Player of the Year honors, and Tomlinson sharing Coach of the Year honors with Laurel Simmons of Southern Utah. Another honor of note, Anderson was named Mid-Con Student Athlete of the Month for April.

"The only goal we missed was winning the conference outright but we do have a great incoming class."

"The players all had high school grade point averages and should fit in perfectly with next year's team."

After the season ending loss at the hands of the Fighting Irish, Tomlinson remarked "we came here and played some tough teams, I think we surprised a lot of people, for a four year program, we've reached the NCAA Regionals two years in a row, which is an achievement in itself."



Bob Knoska/File photo

Senior pitcher Julie Anderson goes through her windup in a game earlier this season. Anderson was named Mid-Con Student Athlete for the month of April.

Grizzly Recap

Going Pro - Another OU baseball pitcher will join the professional ranks.

Left-handed hurler Brent Brown was drafted by the world champion Anaheim Angels in the 22nd round of the Major League Baseball draft.

Brown, the 660th overall pick, with a record of 7-13 and a 7.32 ERA in his OU career, and tallied a strikeouts per innings pitched ratio of 1.06 (164 strikeouts in 155 innings).

Grizzly pitchers David Viane and Jared Thomas were drafted in last year's MLB draft.

Losing streak holds baseball back - Holding a 7-4 record in the conference with eight league games left, the OU baseball team looked to be in good position to qualify for the Mid-Con post-season tournament.

Eight straight losses to end the season, however, dashed those hopes. The Grizzlies lost back-to-back doubleheaders to both Oral Roberts University and Southern Utah University.

OU finished fifth in the conference with a league record of 7-12 and an overall mark of 20-33.

Sophomore Kyle Boehm, relief pitcher, and Will Tollison, outfielder, earned individual recognition despite the dismal performance of the team by being named to the all conference first team.

Fellow sophomore utilityman John Sullivan and junior starting pitcher Dominic Carmosino were rewarded with second team all conference honors.

Oral Roberts sweeps golf championship - Home course advantage wasn't enough to help the OU men's and women's golf overcome the powerhouse Oral Roberts University squads.

The Golden Eagles swept both titles in the three-round Mid-Con Conference Championship.

On the men's side, ORU defeated second-place Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis by 12 strokes.

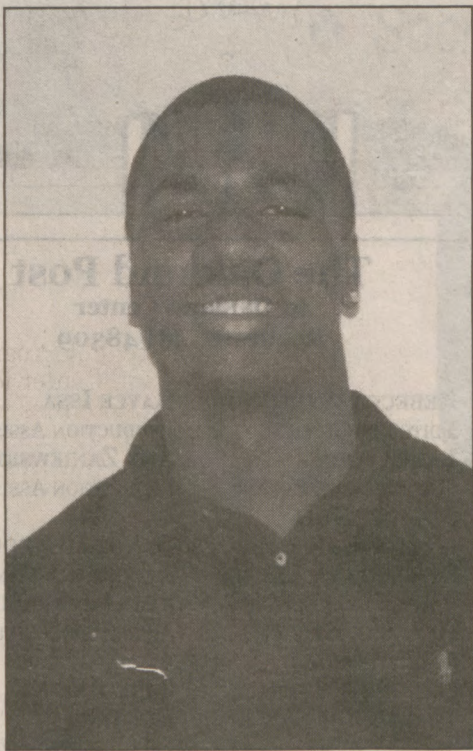
The female Golden Eagles dominated by a greater margin, overpowering the nearest challenger, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, by 57 strokes.

The Grizzlies had strong showings from both sides despite ORU runaway victories. The men finished in third place after a final round score of 299 gave them a three-day score of 899, while the women finished fifth.

Senior Brian Stuard was OU's strongest male performer, finishing in a tie for second thanks to a final round score of 69, giving him a 219 total.

Junior Mara Mazzoni topped the Grizzly women, finishing in fifth place with a 241.

Experience is Here!



Jonathan Parks,
President

Meet your 2003-2004

Oakland University

Student Congress President

and Vice-President



Kenton Lewis,
Vice-President

Get Involved...

You are already a legislator, you just don't know it. Call ext. 4290 for information on involvement and meeting times or come visit us in the basement of the O.C. (Office 62).

June 11, 2003

The Oakland Post

A7

Summer fun around OU

BY NICOLE PEEPLES
THE OAKLAND POST

Get up and get out. There's only three months of summer before fall term begins. There's no better way to enjoy summer than to check out the events and entertainment around OU.

The area is filled with many venues, which can surely lighten a boring day. From art exhibits to concerts, sport events to shopping, there is something for everyone.

This summer, Meadow Brook Music Festival at OU will host 36 concerts.

On June 14, Detroit's radio station, W98.7, will present "The Smooth Jazzfest." Children can enjoy Detroit Public TV's "Kids Club Live with Elmo and Friends" June 25. Delight your taste buds at the Michigan Wine

and Food Festival June 27 - 29. If that's not enough, Norah Jones (July 5), Tracy Chapman (July 8), and Tori Amos (August 15) will all perform their number one songs.

Concerts are not the only thing on campus that will be drawing crowds. The Meadow Brook Art Gallery exhibit of contemporary art, "Detroit Now," is on display from June 6-29. Call the gallery at (248) 370-3005 for hours and ticket prices.

The Dave Matthews Band is coming to the Palace of Auburn Hills on July 2. Also at the Palace and a few miles from OU, The "JUSTIFIED and STRIPPED" tour, starring Grammy Award nominees Justin Timberlake and Christina Aguilera. They will perform hits from their current albums July 25.

The women's basketball season has started; join the Detroit Shock for home games at the Palace. Tickets range from \$5 to \$30.

For those willing to travel a few extra miles north to DTE Music Theatre (formerly Pine Knob), there's a long list of summer concerts to choose from.

Among the stars stepping on the DTE stage are, Jimmy Buffet (June 6), Smokey Robinson (July 4), Ozzy Osbourne and Marilyn Manson (July 24-25). Blues artist BB King will also perform (August 22).

Using an AAA insurance card, students can purchase a ticket and get one free on selected events or gather friends and take advantage of the special discount for group tickets.

If these events don't appeal, then try a relaxing day at the

movies. The summer is always filled with hot releases and hot buttered popcorn. Local theaters will host new releases like, "The Hulk," an adaptation from the classic Marvel comic, "The Incredible Hulk." This action-packed movie, opening on June 20, stars Nick Nolte and Eric Bana.

On June 27, the angels are back. Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu and Bernie Mac take up the screen with action and adventure in "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle."

Another movie making a repeat this summer is, "Bad Boys II," with Martin Lawrence and Will Smith opening on July 18.

Among the events in downtown Rochester, a Farmer's Market, will be held from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. every Saturday until

October. An assortment of fresh produce and other items can be purchased.

Cool Nights in Downtown Pontiac, feature colorful fireworks, live entertainment and a variety of foods the week of July 4th.

The city of Ferndale organizes the "Ferndale Pub Crawl" on July 25. The event allows you to park your car and walk from pub to pub, enjoying drink specials.

During the third week of August, Berkley, Birmingham, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pontiac, Royal Oak and Pleasant Ridge will host "The Woodward Dream Cruise." This is the world's largest one-day celebration of more than 30,000 classic cars.

To find out more log on to: www.woodwardheritage.com.

Wednesday, June 11

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities will be presenting the Akwaaba African Ensemble and Pan-Africans Steel Drum Ensemble from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oakland Center patio.

Saturday, June 14

The Meadow Brook Music Festival will be presenting "Smooth Jazzfest" at 12:30 p.m.

Monday, June 16

Parent orientation for the fall semester will be held from 7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Room of the Rec Center.

Tuesday, June 17

The OU Summer Blood Drive will go on from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. in the Oakland Center, Gold Rooms.

Wednesday, June 18

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities will be presenting the Honkey-Tonk Piano by Stefan Kukurugya from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oakland Center patio.

Wednesday, July 9

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities will be presenting Sheila Landis from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oakland Center patio.

Wednesday, July 23

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities will be presenting The Terry Stevenson Duo from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oakland Center patio.

Wednesday, August 6

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities will be presenting "Opera Lite" does Broadway from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oakland Center patio.

Wednesday, August 27

The Center for Student Activities will be presenting the OU Bookstore Mexican Fiesta Bash from 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. in the OU Bookstore, Oakland Center.

Gallery welcomes "Detroit Now"

Local artists show contemporary work

BY LUISE BOLLEBER
THE OAKLAND POST

Before leaving campus for summer destinations, pay a visit to the Meadow Brook Art Gallery in Wilson Hall and enjoy a feast for the eyes.

"Detroit Now," is an exhibition of work by local contemporary artists brought together through a collaboration of four metro Detroit art organizations. The show will run concurrently at the Detroit Artists Market, Detroit Contemporary, Meadow Brook Art Gallery and Paint Creek Center for the Arts, with the work of four artists at each location.

What makes the exhibit at MBAG so engaging is the breadth and diversity of the artists' visions. Denise Whitebread Panning's piece entitled, "The Great Weight State," is a visual reward one reaches at the far end of the gallery. It is a site-specific work of art created exclusively for the Meadow Brook space.

Thousands of raindrop-shaped lead weights (about 7000) are suspended from the ceiling with fishing line, a blanket of green grass growing underneath. An amorphous, aquatic-themed video is projected through the "raindrops" onto the wall. The fishing line shimmers in the light, wonderfully mimicking falling rain, and supporting the weights in a view of rain frozen in time.

The overall effect is spellbinding. The video of underwater scenes invites the viewer into another dimension and almost inspires a dream-like sensation. This is a living, moving sculpture with the sod growing beneath the "rain" and slow-motion video drama highlighting the scene.

Shiva Ahmadi, born in Iran, acquired an MFA at Wayne State and has been working in Detroit for five years. With an approach that does not confine her to traditional canvas or picture plane surfaces, Ahmadi shares her Islamic and feminist-influenced perspective with works that spread out across a wall or floor. Using a variety of media including plaster, resin and tea herbs, her work reflects a culture of political oppression against women of all nationalities.

"In, Out, Nowhere," is a mixed media piece consisting of small mask-like constructions featuring female faces and figures and Farsi text (the language of Iran) imbedded under layers of clear, shiny, resin. The masks march in a straight line down the wall and into the space on the floor where the viewer would normally stand.

This invasion of the viewer's space demands more than a cursory glance, as one must literally watch where one

is stepping. The heavily embedded feminine images and indecipherable (to most) text create a feeling of distance perhaps reminiscent of a repressive culture that forces women behind doors and veils.

The paintings of Renata Palubinskas are startling in their precision and reminiscence of 15th century Flemish painting. Born in Lithuania and trained in art conservation and fine art, Palubinskas moved to the U.S. 10 years ago. Taking several months to complete a single painting, Palubinskas utilizes a glazing technique applying thin layers of color one after another.

The result is glistening, brilliant color on canvas or board, and an almost three-dimensional quality of objects painted with exquisite detail.

The artist creates a world of mythological creatures and skeletons and symbolically loaded apple trees. She favors children and child-like figures that stare out with wide eyes and somewhat troubled expressions.

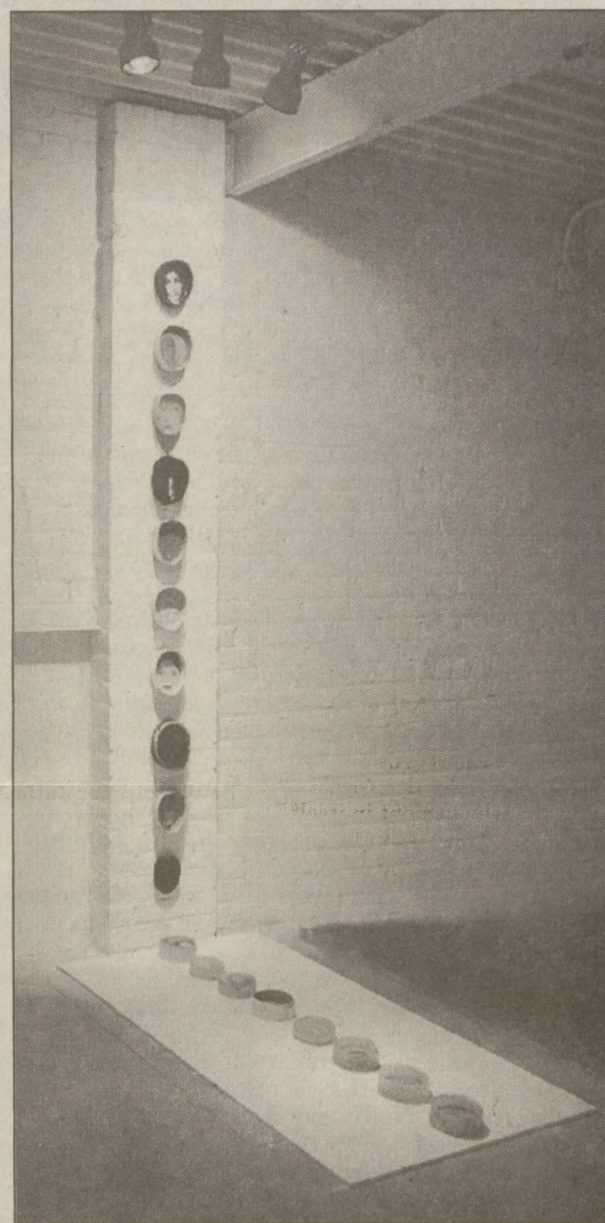
A disturbing scene such as the one in "Friends Forever," one of the smallest paintings, illustrates a young girl sitting on a bed, a skeleton sitting next to her holding her hand, two apple trees behind her and a smiling rat starting to crawl up her foot. The uncomfortable themes and bizarre animals are juxtaposed with idyllic, colorful settings. A feeling of unease pervades Palubinskas paintings, some of them seeming utterly nightmarish.

To round out this exhibit, Eric Meier's work swings to the opposite end of the spectrum with a collection of stark, linear, minimalist pieces, mostly in black and white.

Meier, a Detroit native, offers his inkjet creations and line drawings for contemplation. His work is graphic in nature but does not freely disclose its meaning. In a series called, "Chicken or the Egg Experiment," various configurations of chickens and tables in lined silhouette are depicted. The concept of this series may be obscure, but one can appreciate the simple lines, straightforward composition and monotone color.

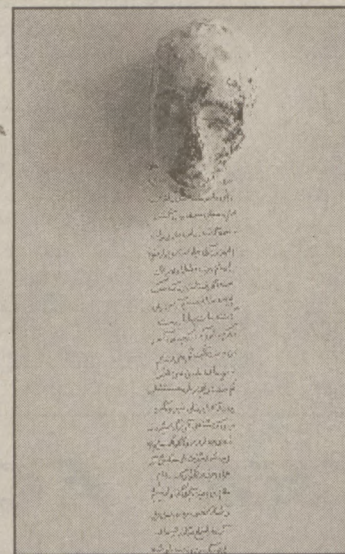
This exhibit by promising Detroit artists certainly stands on its own, but the quality of work beckons visitors to view the other three venues.

The other artists in this exhibition are Nolan Simon, Hartmut Austin, Mark Dancy, Melanie Manos, Laith Karmo, Christian Tedeshi, Senghor Reid, Fabio Fernandez, Riva Seyegh, Kai Kim, Marco Garcia, and James Stoja. "Detroit Now" is showing through June 29. Meadow Brook Art Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Above: "In, Out, Nowhere," by Shiva Ahmadi is one of many projects now showing at MBAG.

Right: "Faceless" by Shiva Ahmadi is also showing in the "Detroit NOW" exhibit at MBAG. "Detroit NOW" features 16 local artists in a variety of mediums. The show runs until June 29.



OU alums teach at top academy

BY JULIE BURTON
& ELIZABETH SULLINS
THE OAKLAND POST

International Academy, ranked number one public high school in the U.S., has close ties to OU.

"Newsweek" recently ranked the high school, located in Bloomfield Hills, the number one public high school in the nation. Teachers with special training and qualifications helped make the school, as well as the students, so successful. The school is also home to some faculty members who are OU alumni.

Patricia Steeby, assistant principal, Gretchen Parks, counselor, and Bettina Gamero, teacher and department head, are all OU graduates.

The requirements to become a teacher at the International Academy are stringent.

According to Bert Okma, the principal of the International Academy, applicants go through three interviews, teach one unit and receive student feedback regarding that unit.

The potential teacher must also have some international experience and achieve exemplary accomplishments outside of his/her education. Strong success in the candidate's academic career must be displayed by receiving mostly As in one's major area of study. After a teacher is hired, he/she is sent to training for a couple weeks.

Gamero, a graduate of OU's secondary education program, is currently a Spanish teacher and also the head of the Modern Language department at the International Academy. Gamero also worked in OU's Modern Language department as a special lecturer.

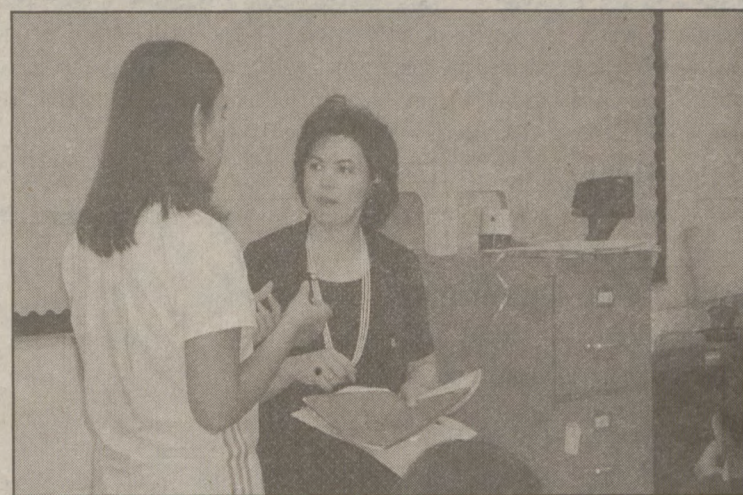
Gamero said OU gave her the tools to ultimately teach at the International Academy, a place she had always dreamed of working. She said this was, in part, due to her student teaching experience in Pontiac. There she encountered much diversity among the students, which helped prepare her for the diversity she would find at IA.

The diverse environment is one of the main reasons why the school excels, according to Le Dong Li, a professor of instructional systems technology here at OU. Li's son graduated from the International Academy in June.

Li believes the International Academy's success also stems from the rigorous curriculum and teacher methodology. The school's curriculum is based upon the International Baccalaureate program, which was established as a standard international pre-university curriculum.

At the academy the student-teacher relationship is unique in that the students receive a great deal of help from the teachers. The students also work in groups and partake in many practical, hands-on experiences.

The International Academy is a tuition-free high school of choice for students from 11 school districts in Oakland County. Potential students must submit an application, score well



International Academy teacher, Bettina Gamero, helps a student in a third-year junior Spanish class. Gamero is an OU alumna.

on an entrance exam and are eventually chosen by a lottery.

Graduates receive an International Baccalaureate diploma, which is recognized globally by colleges and universities.

The International Baccalaureate program is renowned for its high standards.

Graduates from this program may be admitted to the world's best colleges and universities. Li says the International Academy is "perfect for kids who want to swim in the ocean of scholarship."

TUITION

Continued from A1

tively impact OU forcing an increase in the student-to-faculty ratio, increased class sizes, reduced student advising and will create a "less-stable" technology infrastructure.

Trustee Rex Schlaybaugh said the Board has worked hard not to pass too much of the budget cuts on to students.

"What I would say on behalf of the entire Board is the seriousness which we looked at this matter," Schalybaugh said. "I think it is very easy just for many people to conclude that (the board should) just pass on the cost to the students."

He said the trustees and the

administration examined every aspect of the university operations to assure students were only paying what was necessary. He said passing the cost on to students isn't a good way to do business.

"I certainly don't believe, and I don't believe the other Trustees believe, that the easy answer is passing cost of the increase to the students. I want to assure them that we worked very hard in our recommendation," Schlaybaugh said.

The deans of the college and schools were forced to cut thousands from their budgets. The College of Arts and Sciences, the largest unit in the university,

slashed \$1,148,892 from its budget. The college also lost \$24,848 from its budget during mid-term cuts. The School of Education and Human Services also had to reduce its budget by \$207,637.

"I am still encouraging students to enroll in the programs offered by the School of Education and Human Services because I know the faculty and staff will continue to provide them with excellent learning experiences," said SEHS Dean Mary Otto.

She said faculty will be available for the students, despite larger class sizes.

Schaefer said times are uncertain, and there is the possibility of

additional mid-year cuts once again. She suggested the Board tap into the "rainy day fund" established at the Aug. 7, 2002 meeting, to help aid OU. The fund was created to provide support during times of state appropriation reductions. She also said the appropriation committee hasn't finalized its budget cuts and more reductions could still be needed.

This year the university used \$600,000 in one-time funds to get through mid-year budget cuts implemented by former governor John Engler before he left office and a second round of cuts by Governor Jennifer Granholm, she said.

SIFE

Continued from A3

you-go fitness facility to developing and selling a business computerized stovetop that included recipes."

What made this year's SIFE team different was experience and those involved, said Hastings.

"A lot more of the responsibility for everything was taken on by the students," Hastings said.

Students would put in anywhere from an hour to 30 hours a week on the projects, said Hastings.

Senior Amy Boughner helped create an Internet project to teach about entrepreneurship.

"We gave the kids clues and they had to find the answers to entrepreneur type questions," said Boughner. "I just really enjoy working with the kids and to find out what their ambitions are and to see how they get excited about something so simple."

Another exciting project for the students had young entrepreneurs from India working

with U.S. students developing an import export plan for diapers.

Simon said it's all about teaching the principles of free enterprise to different groups of people. Next year, they not only want to focus on poverty stricken people, but also people who are handicapped or hospitalized.

The awards SIFE won this year included regional champs, finalists in three separate exposition competitions: business ethics, entrepreneurship and teaching financial skills and second runner up in their bracket at the national competition.

Along with their sponsor SBC, SIFE won about \$5,000 that will be used to help with next year's projects.

SIFE also had six students win the President Service Leader Award.

LIAISON

Continued from A3

She said Compton will be talking to students in classes, in Student Congress, in other clubs, in the Oakland Center and across campus informally to gather student views. "That's how they develop opinions to formulate to the Board," she said.

With achievements such as working with AmeriCorps, the Association of Black Students and the Student Allocation Funding Board, Compton said he is "well connected" and most student leaders at OU know how concerned he is about the university.

"I would like to see students become more involved and aware of some of the issues that concern Oakland. I look forward to discussing any concerns and making sure that Oakland trustees are

doing things in the best interests of students," he said.

Minimum requirements for the student liaison position are a GPA of 2.5 or higher, 56 credits (28 from OU), a record of service to the campus or community and no disciplinary record at OU.

A liaison may not hold other leadership positions during his or her term of service to the Board.

Snyder said the liaison position builds good career skills and provides useful "hands on" experience.

"It gives students an opportunity to learn more about management issues in a large complex organization. It also gives students an opportunity to network with Board members," Snyder said.

Compton is a senior majoring in elementary education.

VIRUS

Continued from A3

"Once a virus is in the university, you're never really free of it," she said.

As of Monday, Rowe said she was still unsure of the source.

"We're still checking," she said.

According to Symantec.com, the virus is a variant of W32.Bugbear@mm.

The site said the virus is a mass-mailing worm that also spreads through networks.

The virus can take different forms and can also infect executable files. It also possesses keystroke-logging and backdoor capabilities.

Rowe said there is a removal tool that Tech Services has that can clean up the viruses effects.

The site said the virus also attempts to destroy antivirus and

firewall programs.

Jean Ann Miller, director of the CSA, said her area was affected by the virus, although not drastically.

She said it caused old messages to be resent, and it clogged up the email system.

Because they were warned about the virus, no one in the CSA office opened the attachments sent with the emails.

"I don't know what would have happened if we opened the attachments," she said.

Miller said the virus affected people throughout the U.S. and there were warnings on the internet about it.

For more information, or to report problems, call the Tech Help Desk at (248) 370-4357.

EXPLOSION

Continued from A1

heard a loud thump as if something had fallen over. When he went into the hallway to check, Chavez was already there.

Markowicz told police that iron per chlorate is highly explosive.

According to Jerry Compton, Laboratory Manager and Adjunct Assistant Professor, the OUPD, the Auburn Hills Fire Department, local EMS units, and the Department of Environmental Health and Safety staff all arrived within minutes.

"All emergency response units were amazingly efficient,"

Compton said the lab explosion caused no major destruction to the lab but a small amount of damage was done to the equipment.

"Damage was done to the fume hood that was used to contain the experiment and to some equipment in the fume hood. Several pieces of laboratory glassware were broken

also. The faculty member sustained cuts due to the flying pieces of glass."

Compton said the labs are properly equipped with necessary safety equipment.

"Both the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Environmental Health and Safety are constantly making sure that the appropriate safety equipment is readily available and useable. There are ongoing training sessions for those who work in the laboratory given by the Department of Environmental Health and Safety."

Compton said that a similar incident happened in 1985 in a chemistry research lab when a bottle containing reactive chemicals generated gases too quickly and the glass bottle exploded.

The lab was closed for one day for cleanup and research started again two days later. The repair costs are still being determined.

ENSEMBLE

Continued from A1

the university has been providing direct monetary and indirect support to the theater annually, but despite this effort, the theater has accumulated a \$318,000 deficit as of June 2002.

Warren said the Ensemble will not acquire the debt from the theater. She also said had Proposal K passed, the theater could have held out longer. Proposal K was a millage proposal for the Metropolitan Arts and Culture Council. The Council would have supported nonprofit regional institutions of history, science and arts, like MBT. It would have supported local arts and recreational programs.

The Ensemble still has financial obligations to OU.

According to the lease agreement, the Ensemble will pay \$1,000 per production week for a minimum of 37 weeks, except for the first production year, in which The Ensemble is only required to produce 30 weeks of theater.

The Ensemble must also pay the university \$.50 for each ticket sold above \$5.01.

There are also stipulations on how the Ensemble can conduct its fundraising. In the agreement, which takes effect July 1, the Ensemble's fundraising cannot "interfere with, jeopardize or supersede the University's development activities. The development plan will include without limitation the right of the University to review all potential donors and any material to be sent to potential donors."

"OU's division of University Relations will coordinate gift requests," said general counsel and secretary to the BOT, Victor Zambardi.

"They must be mutually acceptable and must not jeopardize the university's growth."

Zambardi said Sue Goepf, vice president of University Relations, will work with the theatre to coordinated solicitations. Fundraising will be timed so it does not conflict with OU's similar efforts.

The Ensemble proposal has many ideas on

how to keep the theater out of the red in the future. Among them, according to Nancy Rominger, a committee member, includes a total reorganization of the MBT staff.

"That's going to be a huge cost saver," Rominger said.

She said the Ensemble is an entirely new organization and current MBT employees will have to reapply for jobs.

Warren said right now the decisions on who will be Ensemble employees is up to the new Artistic Director, David Regal, who took the position once the Ensemble was in place.

"We're going to implement some new ideas," Warren said of some other changes that would be made.

She said there will be changes to the concession stand including prices and menu items. She also said there will be a slight increase in ticket prices. One area she thought was vital was grants, which she said the theatre will be pursuing.

Warren said a number of fundraisers have already been held for the Ensemble, including those at TGIFriday's, BD's Mongolian Barbecue and Max and Erma's, area restaurants. She said the three restaurants raised about \$4,000 for the Ensemble. However, she said the search for sponsors isn't over.

The five-year lease agreement with the Ensemble also calls for a closer relationship between the Ensemble and OU's Music, Theatre and Dance department.

"Meadow Brook Theatre has a long history of working pretty closely with MTD, and it is important to know this. But the Ensemble is likely to become more significantly linked," said MTD Chairman, Karl Boelter.

He said the internships offered to students will expand with the Ensemble. He also said MBT staff members and potential actors and directors will play a bigger role in the classroom. Boelter said there are also some long-

term goals including co-productions.

"This has been done a couple times in the past, and it can be a great opportunity for the professional theater to venture into certain kinds of literature that they can't do otherwise, and for the students to work more intimately with the seasoned professionals," Boelter said.

He also said the scene shop will continue to serve both MTD and the Ensemble, much the way it worked previously.

Virinder Moudgil, vice president of Academic Affairs and provost, said he supports the Ensemble's proposal because of the "great academic component."

Schlaybaugh thought the Ensemble was a positive proposal.

"I support this proposal because it's a chance for theater to continue," said Schlaybaugh.

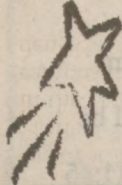
"We're committed to helping them succeed as well," said Schaefer.

The Ensemble, according to Rominger, is in the process of putting together a season of shows, which she said will include "A Christmas Carol," a MBT tradition. She said student discounted tickets and rush tickets will still be available.

"We as a Theatre Ensemble are very sensitive to the needs of the university and the needs of the students," Rominger said.

She said the Ensemble is also trying to resurrect the Outreach program, which was lost during the financial struggles of the Theatre. The program gives area school kids the chance to come in and work with the theater. She said it is just one thing the Ensemble can offer to the community and it will help distinguish Meadow Brook.

The Ensemble has proposed having one or two Trustees on its Board of directors. Baskin said he would look in to the legal liability of that but would consider it.



CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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The SPB/CSA 2003 Patio Concert Series

The Student Program Board and Center for Student Activities once again has planned an incredible series of enjoyable concerts for the Spring/Summer of 2003. The concerts are a diverse blend of talented musicians which will be a delight to the audiences' ears. The concerts will be held on the Oakland Center Patio from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the concerts will be held in the TV Lounge on the lower level of the Oakland Center. All concerts are on Wednesdays.

- June 11 **OU's African and Steel Drum Ensembles**
Akwaaba and Pan-Jumbies have been a highlight of the Patio Concerts for the past several years.
- June 18 **Honky-Tonk Piano by Stefan Kukurugya**
Although he is not Billy Joel, Stefan is definitely a "Piano Man." He has played all over the midwest, entertaining his audiences with his own brand of piano playing.
- July 9 **Sheila Landis**
This Rochester Jazz singer extraordinaire can sing with the best of them and in the process create a variety of moods from uplifting to sultry and everything in between.
- July 23 **Terry Stevenson Duo**
Blending their vocal talents and humor with guitar and keyboard, the duo can reproduce the sound of a full band, from classic rock-n-roll to big band.
- August 6 **"Opera Lite" Does Broadway**
If you like Broadway Musicals, this will be the concert for you as the "Opera Lite" Troupe sings the best of Broadway.

Discount Theatre Tickets Coming Attractions

The Center for Student Activities is pleased to announce it will once again provide discount theatre tickets to some of downtown Detroit's finest theatre productions and events at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Information concerning reservations for the 2003-2004 season will be available by August 1. Here is a partial list of offerings to give you an idea of what is coming for the 2003-2004 season.

Kiss Me Kate	Triple Espresso	The Masked Ball	Mama Mia
Kirov Ballet	Madame Butterfly	The Nutcracker	The Producers
Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular featuring the Rockettes			Moving Out
The Exonerated	Les Miserables	The Graduate	The Magic Flute
A Streetcar Named Desire	The Dance Theatre of Harlem		The Lion King
Jesus Christ Superstar	Pirates of Penzance	The Pearl Fishers	Detroit Pistons

In addition, we are pleased to announce that tickets for select shows of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (including summer shows at Meadow Brook Music Festival) and the Michigan Renaissance Festival will also be available at the CSA Service Window.



Give the Gift of Life! OU Summer Blood Drive Tuesday, June 17



Many Americans do not understand that blood must be regularly replenished so enough is on hand when an emergency strikes. Some donors do not see a need to give again unless there is an emergency. Emergencies happen every day. A single car accident can require 50 units of blood. People who donate blood on a repeating basis truly understand the significance of this selfless act. A person can safely donate once every 56 days.

Please make an appointment and encourage others to make an appointment as well! The Red Cross counts on Oakland University as one for the largest blood drive in Southeast Michigan. Help us make a difference and save lives. To make an appointment either call CSA at (248) 370-2400 or visit our website and click on "OU Summer Blood Drive" under coming events and then click on "Red Cross Donation Web Site." Walk-ins are accepted!