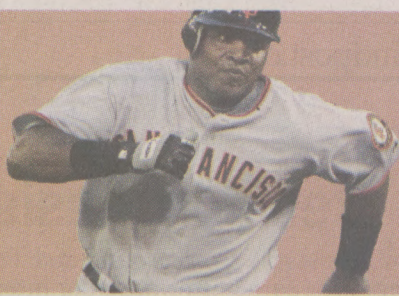


**Bashing  
Barry  
Bonds  
-B2**



**Quit  
The  
Stick  
-A8**



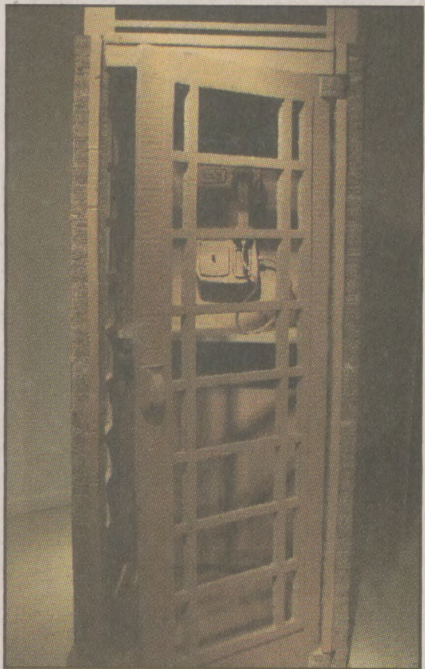
# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

January 17, 2007

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Volume 33, Number 15



## ART EXHIBIT OPENS

Telegraph makes their Detroit debut at the Oakland University Art Gallery. — B1

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JT stars in new flick. Did it bring the heat or leave audiences out in the cold? Find out in The Post's review.

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Film features OU student Micah Fialka-Feldman.

Sports — B4

**Men's hockey falls to MSU.**  
Grizzlies played hard but could not pull ahead for a win against the Spartans.



## Online post causes chaos

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

What started as an online group supporting two former RAs may end with harassment charges against the group's founder.

Between semesters, freshman J.P. Palms formed a Facebook group called, "let CHRIS and TERRA

stay!!!" in response to the termination of North Hamlin RA Chris Young and the resignation of South Hamlin RA Terra Donnelly.

"It was more of a friends support thing, just to show your appreciation for two good friends," Palms said.

Young and Donnelly said they were charged with violating several policies after they signed two

intoxicated minors—friends of Young—into Hamlin Hall on Dec 9. Young said he was terminated; Donnelly said she resigned. The Housing Office refused to comment on the charges.

On Jan. 1, Young, who was Palms' suitemate for the Fall 2006 semester, said he posted pictures of South Hamlin Hall Director Julie

Wojciechowski on the group's page. The pictures showed her with alcoholic beverages at an unidentified bar or club.

"I made the group over break," Palms said, "and right when I got back, I had already a letter in my

Please see **GROUP/A2**



## Freeze Frame

CHARLES GRASKI/  
The Oakland Post

Mother Nature makes her comeback this week after record highs, bringing ice and frigid lows to the area and across the Midwest.

## Michigan, Midwest under deep freeze; threatening lives, industries

By BEN DOBBIN  
Associated Press Writer

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — Power lines were down, highways were treacherous and spring-like temperatures were only a memory Tuesday

in parts of the Northeast in the wake of the storm that earlier had plastered the Midwest and Plains with a heavy shell of ice.

The death toll from the storm was at least 46 in seven states.

The weight of the ice snapped

tree limbs, shorted out transformers and made power lines sag, knocking out current to about 145,000 customers in New York state and New Hampshire on Monday, though service had been restored for roughly half of them by Tuesday morning.

"If you live here long enough, you just know the power's going to go out twice a year, at least. You don't worry about it," said Scott Towne,

Please see **WEATHER/A2**

## 34,000 Iraqi civilians killed last year says U.N.

By STEVEN R. HURST  
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Twin car bombs tore through a leading Baghdad university as students left classes Tuesday in the deadliest attack in Iraq in nearly two months, and the United Nations reported 34,452 civilians were slain last year, nearly three times more than the government reported.

A total of 142 Iraqis were killed or found dead Tuesday, in what appeared to be a renewed campaign of Sunni insurgent violence against Shiite targets. The sharp uptick in deadly attacks coincided with the release of U.N. figures that showed

an average of 94 civilians died each day in sectarian bloodshed in 2006.

The blasts wrecked two small buses as students at Al-Mustansiriya University were lining up for the ride home at about 3:45 p.m., according to Taqi al-Moussawi, a university dean. At least 65 students died.

The attackers stationed a man wearing a suicide belt in the expected path of fleeing students to take even more lives, but he was spotted and shot by security men before he could blow himself up, the dean said.

Please see **IRAQ/A2**



PAUL SANCYA/  
The Associated Press  
Troy Clarke, President, General Motors North America presents the Chevrolet Camaro convertible concept, left, and the 2008 Chevrolet Malibu at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2007.

## Auto show a success

By CRAIG A. COLE  
Contributing Reporter

Detroit's version of Mardi gras opened to the public on Saturday January 13th. Running through January 21st, the North American International Auto Show is the biggest event to hit the Motor City this side of last year's Super Bowl. Compounding the excitement, the

show is celebrating its 100th birthday.

Filling downtown's COBO hall, the NAIAS is an industry proving ground where manufacturers can show off new concept vehicles, spot industry trends and gauge public reaction to vehicles on display.

Please see **NAIAS/A6**

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News tip? Call (248) 370-4268



■ See if your favorites walked away with a Golden Globe. — A8



GROUP  
Cont. from A1

mailbox about this.”

He had received a discipline report from the housing office—he was being charged with harassment. The report mentioned the photos, the group description and a letter posted on the group’s “recent news” section. Palms said the letter, written by Assistant Director of Residence Life Christine Cleary to RA and Senior Staff, was given to him anonymously.

In the letter, Cleary called the group’s information “not accurate and not complete,” and encouraged RAs to “look into the discipline history of it’s founder and question his general attitude toward Resident Assistants.”

Cleary said she could not discuss whether Palms had a disciplinary record at OU, but confirmed she had written the letter.

Young, 20, said he posted the images because he had been told he was an unfit role model and was accused of drinking on Dec. 9. He denies drinking alcohol that night.

“Julie [Wojciechowski]...has pictures posted on Facebook of her partying, obviously drunk, with beers in hand,” said Young, “and I thought...even if she is old enough that’s still not the image you want to give off.”

According to Wojciechowski, 22, the images were from a friend’s page, but she was “tagged” in

them. She also said she was not drunk in any of the photos.

“And none of those pictures of me are drinking underage,” she said, “or with anyone else that’s underage, or anywhere on campus property, either.”

“I have no judgment about anyone who is 21 years or older engaging in that behavior; that is a perfectly legal thing to be doing,” said Cleary. “My stance as an employer is when such behaviors impact an employee’s ability to do their job.”

Last Thursday, Palms met with Associate Director of University Housing Rebecca Wickham for a disciplinary hearing. Donnelly accompanied him as his advisor.

After the hearing, Palms and Donnelly said Wickham told them if the pictures were removed and some other changes made, the harassment charge could be dropped.

The pictures were removed from the page Thursday night. As of Jan. 15, the group’s description had been changed and Cleary’s letter had been replaced by a message from Donnelly.

The message explains the reason for the changes and the events leading up to her and Young’s charges. It also includes an urge to members to keep a “positive spin” on their posts.

“This group is a support system,” the message reads, “and you are showing that you support Chris and myself now as well as when we were RAs.” It was not immediately clear if charges had been dropped against Palms. At press time the group has 241 members.

Resident assistants lose jobs

Former resident assistants Chris Young and Terra Donnelly said they were given the choice of resigning or being terminated after bringing intoxicated minors to their hall in December.

Young, 20, said he and two non-student friends were at another friend’s apartment early morning Dec. 9. His underage friends were drinking alcohol, but he wasn’t, said Young.

He brought them back to Hamlin Hall around 3 a.m., where he and Donnelly each signed in one of them. They all went to Donnelly’s room. At some point during the next two hours, their guests left while Young and Donnelly slept.

Donnelly said around 5 a.m. Hall Director Laura Christensen and Nightwatch Supervisor Nick Desrochers arrived to question her about the situation.

Donnelly then called the Nightwatch worker on duty when the guests were signed in. Donnelly said she was angry and “used profanity” because she felt the worker, a friend, had “told on” her.

Later, she said, she and Young were charged with violating the drug and alcohol policy and the guest policy. Donnelly was also charged with staff harassment for the phone call.

In separate meetings with Assistant Director of Residence Life Christine Cleary on Dec. 13, Donnelly and Young said they were given the option of resigning or being terminated.

“They asked me to resign, and I resigned... Everything was amazing up until that point, and I wanted that on my resume,” said Donnelly.

Young said he didn’t resign. “I was more upset at the time...and told them ‘If you’re gonna fire me, go ahead,’ basically.”

“They acted as if in my situation they would have sent them (the intoxicated guests) home,” said Young.

“The Housing Department said, ‘You could have gotten them a hotel, a taxi’—and it’s true, but we had no money,” said Donnelly. “What were we supposed to do?”

Young said he didn’t drive his friends home because they had plans for the next day and they lived on-campus at Wayne State University.

Cleary said she couldn’t comment on the former RAs’ charges due to the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act and OU policies.

“The whole situation was unfortunate, and it’s sad to us that they’re gone now,” said North Hamlin Hall Director Rachel Blakesley. “Both Terra and Chris were outstanding at connecting with their residents.”

“I think Terra was an amazing RA,” North Hamlin HD Julie Wojciechowski said. “She was a great person and she was great in her position. However, we hold everyone to the same rules and standards that we would to myself or any other resident in this building.”

—Jesse Dunsmore

WEATHER  
Cont. from A1

owner of Rondac Pet Services near Saratoga Springs, N.Y., where portable generators provided light and heat for about two-dozen dogs. “You make all the plans in advance that you can.”

Scores of schools canceled classes or opened late Tuesday in New Hampshire and upstate New York in the Northeast and Oklahoma and Texas on the southern Plains.

The storm had largely blown out of New England by Tuesday morning, leaving up 10 inches of snow in western Maine.

A wave of arctic air trailed the storm, dropping temperatures into the single digits as far south as Kansas and Missouri. The 7 a.m.

temperature Tuesday at Kansas City, Mo., was just 2 degrees, while Bismarck, N.D., had a reading of 16 below zero, with a wind chill of 31 below, the National Weather Service reported.

Cold air also was moving into the East, where temperatures have been far above normal in recent weeks and the ground has been bare of snow.

Instead of skiers, the unseasonable weather has drawn out golfers and bicyclists.

Icy roads cut into Martin Luther King Jr. holiday observances from Albany, N.Y., to Austin, Texas, where officials in both states canceled gubernatorial inauguration parades Tuesday.

More power outages were possible in New Hampshire as wind battered ice-laden branches. “We are restoring some and adding more,” Public Service Co. spokeswoman Mary-Jo

Boisvert said Tuesday morning. Some New York customers might have to wait until Thursday, the utility National Grid estimated.

In hard-hit Missouri, the utility company Ameren said it would probably not have everyone’s lights back on until Wednesday night. As of Tuesday morning, about 215,000 homes and businesses still had no electricity.

The White House said Tuesday that 34 Missouri counties and St. Louis had been declared a major disaster area, making federal funding available. A similar federal disaster declaration was approved Sunday for Oklahoma.

About 100,000 homes and businesses were still waiting for power Tuesday in Oklahoma, some of them waiting since the storm’s first wave struck on Friday. Ice built up by

sleet and freezing rain was 4 inches thick in places. The Army Corps of Engineers assigned soldiers to deliver 100 emergency generators to the McAlester area.

Customers in some rural parts of Oklahoma might have to wait until next week for service, said Stan Whiteford of Public Service Co. of Oklahoma. “There are a lot of places where virtually everything is destroyed. In some cases, entire electric services will have to be rebuilt,” he said.

More than 200,000 customers in Michigan also lost power and about 86,000 of them were still blacked out Tuesday.

Waves of freezing rain, sleet and snow since Friday had been blamed for at least 17 deaths in Oklahoma, eight in Missouri, eight in Iowa, four in New York, five in Texas, three in Michigan and one

in Maine.

Washington state’s Puget Sound area, known for off-and-on drizzle rather than freezing winter weather, was hit by another round of snow Tuesday, snarling traffic and closing schools for more than 380,000 students. The Oregon Legislature delayed hearings and sessions until afternoon because of the weather.

In California, three nights of freezing weather had destroyed up to three-quarters of the state’s \$1 billion citrus crop, according to an estimate issued Monday. Other crops, including avocados and strawberries, also suffered damage.

“This is one of those freezes that, unfortunately, we’ll all remember,” said A.G. Kawamura, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Classifieds

Services

**Sunday evening Catholic Mass** for Oakland University students. Across the street at St. John Fisher 3665 E. Walton Blvd. First Sunday of Each Month at 7 p.m. Social follows. Also, winter retreat January 19th through the 21st. All are welcome. www.ou-campusministry.com 248.370.2189

Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation, DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER, 10 a.m. Sunday Services held in American Legion Hall at corner of Third and Walnut. UU’s seek a world community of peace, and emphasize the search for spiritual meaning rather than teaching a particular creed. www.paintcreek.org; 248.202.1711

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For Lease: A 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Auburn Hills 2 car garage \$1395 monthly. Conrad 248-703-9790

**Help Create a Family.** Infertility Office in Rochester Hills seeks healthy women between the ages of 22 and 32 to serve as egg donors. Qualified candidates will be compensated for their involvement in our program. Please leave a message where you can be reached for Shoshanna to set-up an interview 1 (586) 997-7247.

Help Wanted/Childcare

Part time administrative assistant needed in Psychologist’s office in Clarkston/Lake Orion area. Need computer experience in Microsoft Access, Excel, Word, Outlook, Publisher. Weekdays, flexible hours. Call 248-396-4793.

Love children? We’re looking for a nanny to care for our infant in our Rochester Hills home. 30 hrs/wk. Experience a plus. Call 248-207-7678.

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Part time Marketing, Flexible Hours Business/Marketing Majors Apply Call 248 375 1330 Ask for Chris or Paul

Seeking individuals with measurable passion for fitness for ftrainer positions at personal training studio in Downtown Rochester. Flexible hours. Respond by phone (248) 651.5810, Fax (248)651.5791 or email to philanderson@fitnesstogether.com

Part-time nanny wanted, minimum 15 hours a week; additional hours available. Must be experienced, reliable with references. Non-smoker. Please call 248-444-4494.

Students needed to work with our autistic son. Great experience for social work, education, psychology and related majors. Flexible hours and training provided. Sterling Heights, 17 and Dequindre. 586-795-9344.

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IRAQ

Cont. from A1

“The only guilt of our martyred students is that they pursued education. They belong to all religions, sects and ethnic groups,” said an angry al-Moussawi, himself a Shiite. “The terrorists want to stop education...Those students had nothing to do with politics.”

After the explosions, a rescue worker and three men in civilian clothes scrambled through the debris to carry a charred victim away in a sheet. Firefighters in yellow helmets examined the charred wreckage of anashed-in, overturned minivan.

The university’s well-shaded campus occupies several square blocks in north central Baghdad, a mostly Shiite area. The school ranks second among institutions of higher education in Iraq. Founded in 1963, it was named after one of the oldest Islamic schools, established in the 13th century during the Abbasid dynasty that ruled the Muslim world. Thousands attend the university, known especially for its colleges of science, literature and education.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki blamed the attack on “terrorists and Saddamists” seeking revenge for Monday’s hanging of two of Saddam Hussein’s top aides, convicted with him for the slaying of 148 Shiite men and boys after a 1982 assassination attempt in the northern town of Dujai.

The violence Tuesday against Shiites may signal a campaign by Sunni insurgents to shed as much blood as possible before the deployment of 21,500 more American troops. Most of the additional U.S. troops will be used to back up the Iraqi army in a security sweep to rid the capital of Sunni and Shiite gunmen.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, in Kuwait for a meeting with eight Arab nations to discuss ways to keep Iraq from sliding into civil war, sought to lower any expectations that the troop buildup would quickly pacify the country.

“Violent people will always be able to kill innocent people,” she said. “So even with the new security plan, with the will and capability of the Iraqi government and with American forces to help reinforce Iraqi forces, there is still going to be violence.”

She said the U.N. civilian death figures differ from others. “But whatever the number of civilians who have died in Iraq \_ and there obviously are competing numbers \_ but whatever the number is, it’s too many,” she said.

Tuesday’s death toll from the al-Mustansiriya bombings made it the single most deadly attack against civilians in Iraq since Nov. 23, when a series of car bombs and mortar attacks by suspected al-Qaida in Iraq fighters in Baghdad’s Sadr City Shiite slum killed at least 215 people.

The U.N. civilian casualty count for last year was announced in Baghdad by Gianni Magazzeni, the chief of the U.N. Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad. He said 34,452 civilians died — an average of 94 a day — and

36,685 were wounded.

But Dr. Hakem al-Zamili, Iraq’s deputy health minister, told The Associated Press the United Nations may be using unreliable sources for its casualty count. “They might be taking the figures from people who are opposed to the government or to the Americans,” he said. “They are not accurate.” He said he would provide Iraqi government figures later this week.

In early January, a compilation of Iraqi government figures put last year’s civilian deaths at just 12,357. The numbers are gathered monthly by the AP from reports by three Iraqi agencies.

When asked about the difference, Magazzeni said the U.N. figures were compiled from information obtained through the Iraqi Health Ministry, hospitals across the country and the Medico-Legal Institute in Baghdad.

He criticized the government for allowing much of the violence to go unpunished, saying urgent action was needed to re-establish law and order in the country to prevent its slide into all-out civil war.

“Without significant progress in the rule of law, sectarian violence will continue indefinitely and eventually spiral out of control,” he warned.

The U.N. report also said that 30,842 people were detained in the country as of Dec. 31, including 14,534 held in U.S. military-run prisons.

At least 470,094 people throughout Iraq have been forced to leave their homes since the bombing of an important Shiite shrine, the Golden Dome mosque in Samarra, in February, the U.N. accounting said.

The report said the violence has disrupted education by forcing schools and universities to close, as well as sending professionals fleeing from the country.

In a summary of the report posted on its Web site Tuesday, UNAMI said Iraq’s women were particularly vulnerable, citing cases where young women were abducted by armed militia and late discovered sexually assaulted, tortured or murdered. In many cases, the agency said, families refuse to retrieve the bodies out of shame.

As bombs detonated at Al-Mustansiriya University on Tuesday, there were a series of other attacks on Shiite neighborhoods in central Baghdad.

A bomb planted on a motorcycle exploded in a used auto and motorcycle parts market in a Shiite neighborhood. As people rushed to aide the victims of the first blast, a suicide car bomber drove his car into the crowd. Fifteen people died.

Raid Abbas, a 26-year-old who received shrapnel wounds in the attack said he went to the market because the city had been quieter over the past two weeks.

“Shortly after midday, I heard an explosion. Motorcycles were flying in the air, people were falling dead and wounded,” he said from his hospital bed.

About 45 minutes later, gunmen riding two motorcycles and in a van fired on another outdoor market in a mainly Shiite neighborhood near Sadr City. Police said at least 11 people were killed.



## Renewing the vision

*Ceremony marks start of African-American Celebration Month*

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI  
Campus News Editor

As far as civil rights are concerned, 1957 was a very big year. Half a century later, Terrance McClain seems convinced that 2007 also has potential.

McClain, vice president of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education, recently received a master's degree in counseling from Oakland University. He was invited back to OU by the African-American Celebration Month Committee to deliver the keynote address at this year's AACM opening ceremony Monday, Jan. 15.

The festivities began with a welcome from AACM Student Co-Chair Shalonda Dennis and continued with a vocal performance by OU alumni LaWanda Smith-Nance.

McClain later took the stage to address an audience of students and faculty in the Pioneer Food Court. Incorporating a captivating speaking style, McClain moved the audience to applause multiple times throughout the 15-minute oration.

"We can proudly declare this afternoon that 'Through the strength of my ancestors: still I rise,'" McClain said, keeping with this year's AACM theme.

He went on to explore a hypothetical world without African-American contribution.

Questioning a society that would

lack inventions such as elevators, refrigerators, mops and traffic signals, McClain reminded listeners that African-Americans are responsible for many of mankind's great achievements.

He also stressed the need for education across races. "Regardless of the color of their skin, they all need an education."

Recognizing the areas where we lack an appreciation for diversity, McClain offered more than just criticism in response.

"We're getting there," he said. "It takes people who really care about humanity to take us where we need to go."

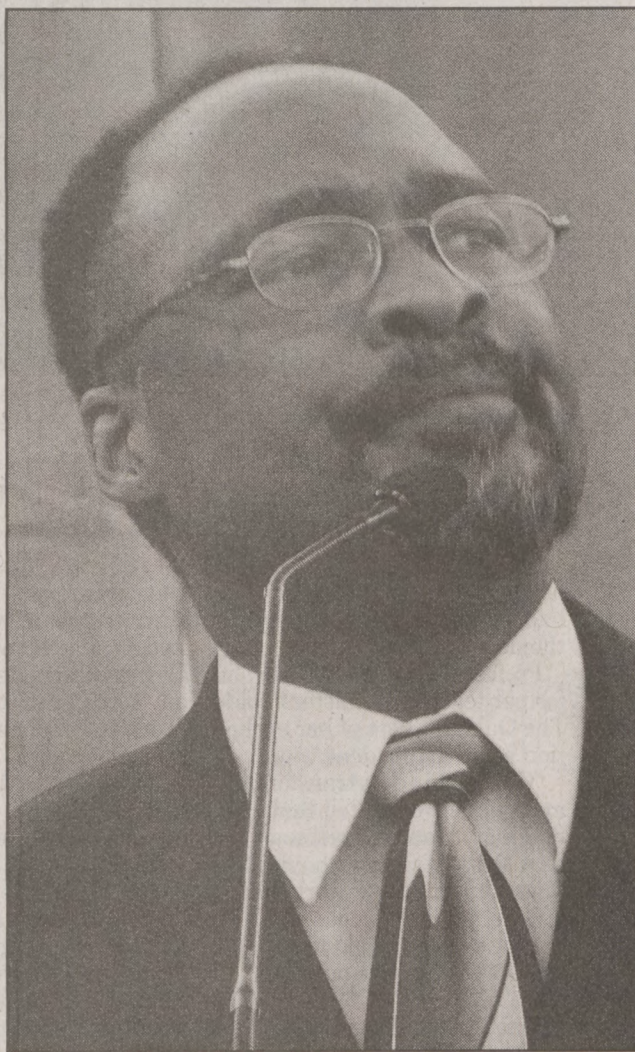
Where exactly is that?

The destination appears to be the greatness that humanity is capable of.

"Our progress has become stunted, and we are now re-polarizing," McClain said. "Many of us have been satisfied with the acceptance of cultural diversity as opposed to genuinely celebrating the racial diversity that contributes to the strength of our great nation."

AACM is designed to recognize and celebrate such diversity through a variety of events, speakers and activities.

For more information about African-American Celebration Month, visit the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, or check out the University Web site calendar.



CHARLES GRASKI / The Oakland Post  
Terrance McClain addresses a crowd during the opening ceremony of African-American Celebration Month.

### WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

**Q: Which African-American in history has been the most influential to you and why?**



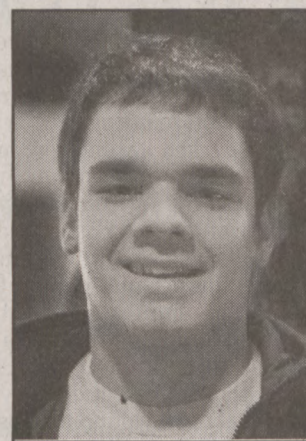
**A:** Oprah Winfrey because she's been a philanthropist throughout the world.

**Yakela Roberson**  
Sophomore  
Medical Lab Science



**A:** Tyler Perry. He's a playwright. He came from nothing and was pretty much to the point where he was homeless, and he has built up all of this and he still stays grounded.

**Janaye Dixon**  
Freshman  
Communication



**A:** Martin Luther King Jr. because he made people realize how wrong segregation was.

**Dan Papiheu**  
Sophomore  
Political Science

## News In Brief

### Free Day at the Rec Center

The Oakland Rec Center is sponsoring a free day Saturday, Jan. 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visitors can take advantage of fitness classes, arts and crafts, dietician/trainer information sessions, games, prizes and membership incentives. For more information, call (248) 370-2663 or e-mail kcherrin@oakland.edu.

### Last Day for 100% Tuition Refund

Jan. 18 is the last day that students may claim a 100 percent tuition refund for dropped classes. Drop unwanted credits using SAIL online or stop by the Registrar's Office. Beginning Jan. 19, students may withdraw from classes with a "W" grade and no tuition refund.

### Sledding at "The Fridge"

Bring a sled and some friends and join the Student Program Board at "The Fridge," a local toboggan run, Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the Center for Student Activities. Call (248) 370-4295 for more information.

### Register for the OU College Bowl Tournament

Convinced you're smarter than your GPA suggests? Prove it at the 2007 OU College Bowl this weekend. Students can register now to compete in a tournament of questions Saturday, Jan. 20 in the Oakland Center. Sign up at the Center for Student Activities as a single player or as a team of up to five members. Registration is \$10 per team. First place receives \$400 and the opportunity to represent OU at the Association of College Unions International Region 7 College Bowl Competition in February.

### Winter Blood Drive

OU students can donate blood in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms Monday, Jan. 22 through Wednesday, Jan. 24. Volunteers will be available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Students wishing to make an appointment can choose from two options: 1) Go to www.givelife.org and use the sponsor code "oublood" to choose a date and time to donate. 2) Call the Center for Student Activities at (248) 370-2400. Walk-ins are also welcome.

## POLICEFILES

■ A resident advisor of Hamlin Hall contacted OUPD regarding a possible violation of the substance abuse policy. Upon entering the dorm room, the officer noted that the smell of alcohol was present. Of the six students present in the room, four were issued minor in possession citations after failing breathalyzer tests.

■ OUPD was dispatched to the P-5 parking lot after a student reported that her car had been vandalized. The responding officer noted that a scratch approximately one foot in length on the driver's side doors of the vehicle.

■ An officer was called to the Hamlin Hall dorm rooms in response to a possible larceny of his laptop. The student stated that he had let a man, posing as a maintenance worker, into his room and then fell asleep. Upon waking up several minutes later, he realized his laptop was missing.

■ An OUPD officer was dispatched to the P-5 parking lot to investigate a shattered passenger window of a vehicle. The officer located the owner of the car, who was unaware of the damage. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time.

## Black, white and Brown-El all over

### CMI Director plugs cultural awareness at OU

By HEATHER HOLM  
Contributing Reporter

"I think that a university setting is a very unique place to be. It allows students from a variety of backgrounds to come together and to learn from one another," said OU's Center for Multicultural Initiatives Director Omar Brown-El. Diversity is all over our campus. It's something that all students, faculty and staff should embrace. "The world is fast becoming global," said Brown-El. "We have so much access to people across the globe that it would be in your best interest to learn more about different people on earth as opposed to what's comfortable with yourself."

Prior to becoming director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, Brown-El was employed by the city of Detroit.

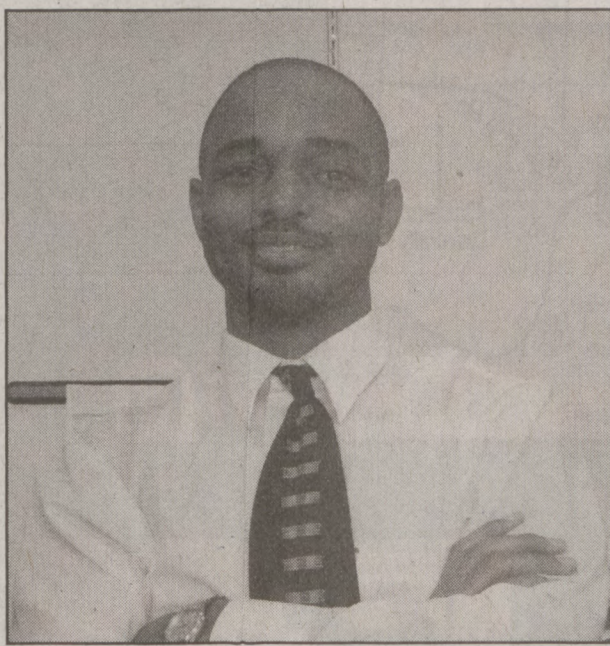
"It sort of came full circle for me after I graduated and went to work for the City of Detroit. There was an opportu-

nity to come back to the university and to begin to work with students, and what better place to work for than an office that I helped create," Brown-El said.

A graduate of Oakland, he obtained both his bachelor's degree and master's degree here. During his time as an undergrad, he participated in numerous student groups. Although at the time, Oakland didn't have an office similar to the CMI. "We were insisting that we had an office on campus that would serve underrepresented students," said Brown-El. "At that time there was no office. I was part of that group that advocated to have an office like this on campus to have some representation."

Thanks to the work of Brown-El and fellow students, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives was established in 1993, originally under the Office of Minority Equity.

After being informally in charge of the CMI for



**Brown-El**

CHARLES GRASKI / The Oakland Post

over four years, Brown-El worked as interim director beginning in October 2005 and was officially appointed the center's director in June of 2006.

As director he works together with the entire staff of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives.

"Our responsibility in terms of our mission is to increase the recruitment, retention and graduation of all students, but particularly underrepresented students. Underrepresented students being three ethnic groups, African American, Native

American and Latino students."

Brown-El works with other groups and departments across campus in order to come up with better options and methods when it comes to recruiting students, particularly those that fall into the minority category. Through this, he works to increase retention and graduation rates, along with bringing a voice to those students.

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives is located in 134 North Foundation Hall and is open to all students. The center offers scholarships, opportunities for book loans, peer mentors, and a program for freshmen called Students First.

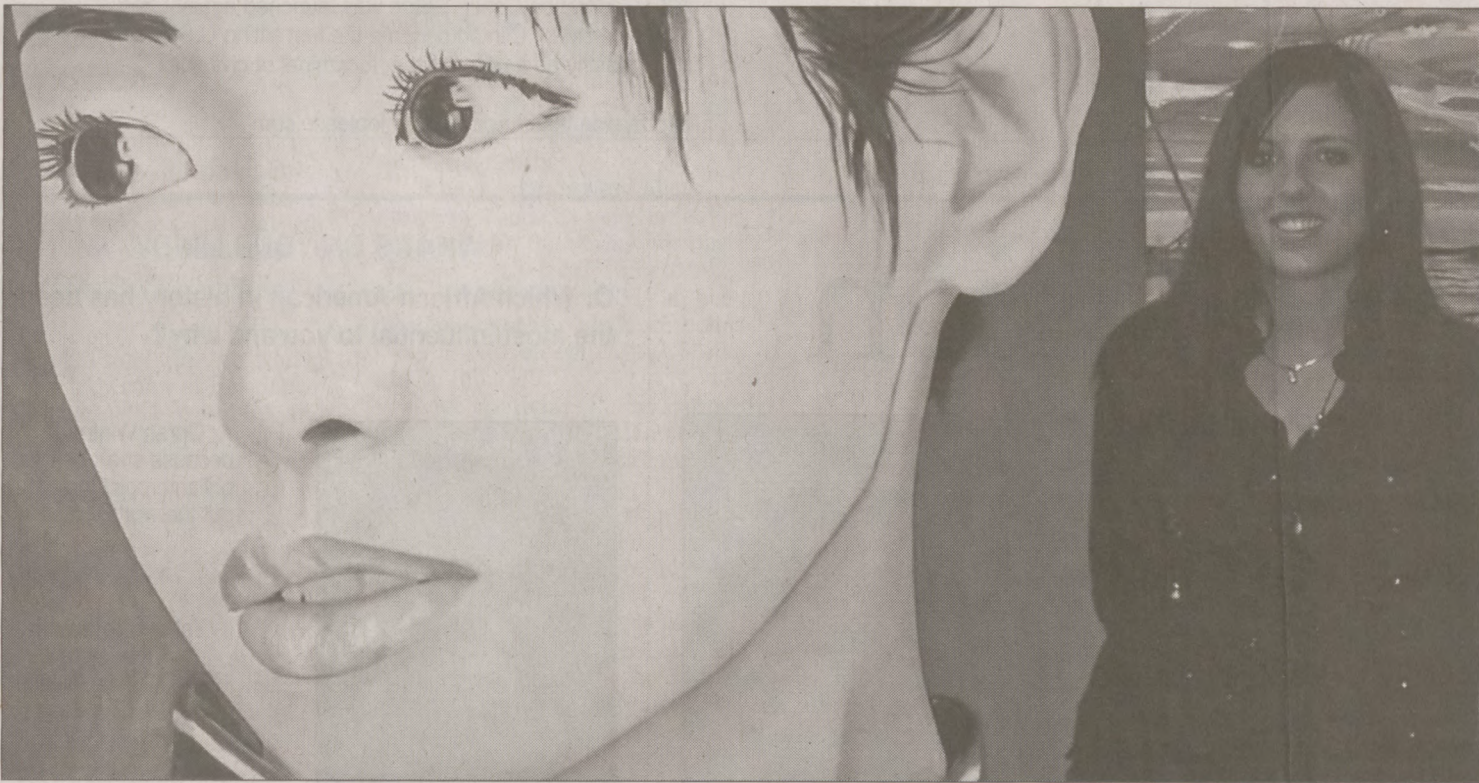
"Diversity is everywhere," said Brown-El. "It's not just based on ethnicity, so we have to take advantage of that. If we don't diversify ourselves, then society, in my opinion, will no longer exist."

## Detroit Tigers at OU Today

Detroit Tiger athletes and coaches are scheduled to visit OU today at 3 p.m. at the O'rena. See Sheffield, Ordonez, Granderson, Bonderman, Rogers, Inge and more. First 250 through the doors receive Detroit Tiger rally towels.

Want to make money and write for your student newspaper? Come to The Post's weekly writer's meetings Monday's at 1:30 p.m. in 61 OC.





Sara Masters poses next to her oil painting, "Culturebloom." The painting is currently on display in the Anderson House of Representatives in Lansing. Photo courtesy of Sara Masters

## OU student art paints capital city

By OWEN SEXTON  
Senior Reporter

Travel to Lansing and you'll find something more inspirational than barking politicians.

Art by college students is sharing space with Michigan lawmakers. Oakland University student, Sara Masters, has received state-wide recognition for her work. "Art in the Senate and Art in the House" is a new program, created two years ago, that features art by students from Michigan's 15 state universities. Each university chooses two of its best artists to have their work displayed in Lansing. For one year, the students' art is displayed inside the Anderson House of Representatives and the Senate Building.

Masters' oil painting, "Culturebloom," was selected to be the feature piece for the program. Her painting now hangs on the first floor of the Anderson House of Representatives. The feature piece is also being used to help advertise the program.

"It's definitely pretty excit-

ing," Masters said. "I worked very hard for my senior thesis show this past April."

The 5-by-4-foot portrait of a young Asian woman was just one of the pieces from Masters' senior thesis. Despite the 23-year-old's verdurous talent, Masters credits her professors for her success as an artist.

"They know exactly how we feel. They get us to think," she said. "I could not have gotten as far as I have with my oil painting if it weren't for my professors."

In fact, Masters came to Oakland with no intention of majoring in studio art. Having never taken an art class in high school, she had yet to realize her potential as an artist. In 2004, Masters took an oil painting class which sparked her interest in art.

"My professor was great, and I knew that was what I wanted to do," she said.

Masters' enthusiasm to paint originated from feelings of anger and frustration surrounding the death of her father. Rather than creating the equivalent of a psychological open wound encapsulating

her father's death, Masters had greater success exploring themes of serenity.

Professor Dick Goody, a former teacher of Masters, told The Oakland Post of her evolution as an art student.

"One could see a transformation. One could tell that making art and everything that that entails was having a huge impact on her work ethic and her ability to focus on a trajectory that would lead to this sort of positive outcome," he said.

Masters' thesis work explored the artificial and superficial qualities of female beauty. She became interested in the fracture between cosmetic superficiality and the personality within. Her paintings signify the universal concepts and emotions involved in the presentation of female beauty and the vulnerability of the self within.

This month, the Oakland University Board of Trustees recognized Masters. Board members spoke enthusiastically of Masters' work and the success of the studio art program. President

Gary Russi mentioned that "Culturebloom" will be exhibited in all brochures published by the Presidents Council, an advisory group composed of presidents from all 15 state universities.

"It's a wonderful recognition," Russi said. "It's going to be seen everywhere."

Studio art is a new program at Oakland. This is the third year of the program, and it is already receiving praise from faculty and the surrounding community. Students are showing their artwork in local galleries. The Museum of New Art and the Oakland County Galleria in Pontiac feature art by Oakland students.

Dr. Virinder Moudgil, Provost of Academic Affairs, said that the new studio art program has grown immensely in the past three years, surpassing original projections for studio majors. The new K-12 certification in art education at OU could double those numbers in the near future.

Masters has returned to Oakland to receive her art education certification and hopes to become an art teacher.

## Cut fat, not class

By ROB TATE  
Senior Reporter

Students that are on a new diet — thanks to their new year's resolution — shouldn't fret when it comes to sticking to it. There are plenty of ways to keep up with exercise and eating well while living on campus or spending most of your day at Oakland University.

Although many OU students may not realize it, they have the potential to get some extra exercise every day. According to a Nutrition and College guide put out by the Rec. Center, adding 30 minutes of walking each day could result in an eight-pound weight loss in one year. Add a little bit of cardio to your day by not worrying about how close you park your car to your destination.

Taking a trip across campus to the Rec. Center is as easy as it gets to keep up with the exercise portion of your new year's resolution. To accommodate the early birds on campus, the Rec. Center opens at 5:30 a.m. Monday-Friday and at 9 a.m. on the weekends. A great way to cap a stressful day of classes is to end it with a workout. The Rec. Center closes at 11 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 p.m. Friday-Sunday.

The fitness room features over 100 pieces of cardio and strength training fixtures, according to the Rec. Center Web site. Trainers and fitness room attendants are always on duty if you have any questions regarding the use of the machines.

If you want to try something different, the Rec. Center also offers group exercise classes ranging from yoga to cycling. The listing of classes is available at the OU

Rec. Center Web site.

Are you a little nervous about choosing the right foods to eat at the food court? Here are some items to look for and some items you'll want to avoid in order to lose those extra pounds.

According to the Nutrition and College guide, one smart food choice is the mixed greens salad from Wild Greens. A good way to cut the fat is to use only one ladle of dressing and try to stay with something low fat such as raspberry vinaigrette or balsamic. Adding baked chicken or eggs to the salad is good if you want some added protein.

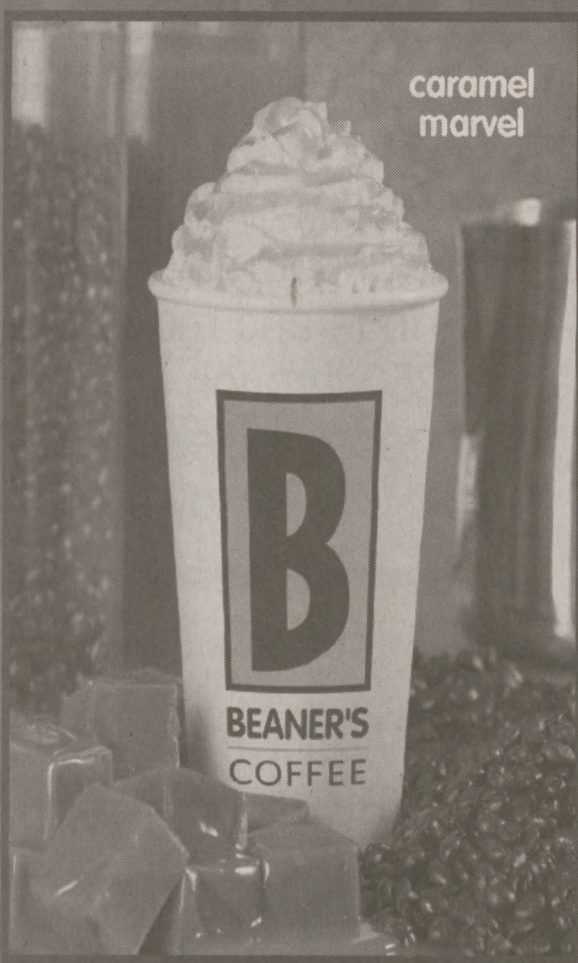
Other foods that would fit into most diets include any Subway sandwich on whole-wheat bread without mayonnaise, grilled foods from the center court, Chick-fil-A's charbroiled chicken sandwich without a buttered bun and any broth-based soup. And always top it off with water.

Many of the items you will want to avoid at the food court are pretty obvious. Pizza, fries, burgers, fried chicken sandwiches, chicken nuggets, heavy cream soups, muffins and bagels can add fat and calories really fast. Also, one simple thing to throw out of your diet is soda. The extra sugar and caffeine in your system might help keep you awake for class, but it isn't healthy in the long run.

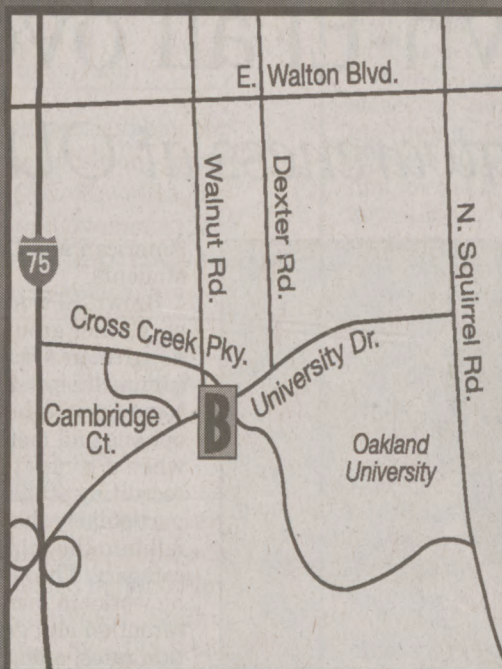
As always, you should consult with a doctor before starting any diet regimen or exercise program. Graham Health Center, on campus, provides diet counseling for weight loss, cholesterol control and promotion of healthy eating habits. For more information, visit [www2.oakland.edu/GHC/](http://www2.oakland.edu/GHC/).

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## EDITORIAL

# A pill a day keeps effort and hard work at bay

It seems as if the pharmaceutical industry has the answer for everything these days. To quote a favorite local construction company's television jingle, there's "no job too big, no job too small!"

Are you hungry, angry, lonely or tired? Do you have restless legs? Is hair growing in the wrong places — or not growing in the right places? Can't concentrate? Are you concentrating too much? Do you go to sleep at night and wake up in the morning?

Yeah, that last one is made up (another Chris Rock reference) — but now it doesn't seem so ridiculous to think that it may be forthcoming.

In case you missed it, the American Journal of Psychiatry published a study earlier this month that suggests the antidepressant pill Paxil may help hypochondriacs be less fearful about being sick.

And for those who don't know, a hypochondriac is a person who has a health phobia — an unfounded fear from thinking they are sick all the time.

A Washington Post headline said it all: "And now, a real pill for your

unreal illness."

Hypochondriasis is a very real and potentially very serious condition. According to the standard manual of mental disorders, it can prompt people to go doctor shopping, abuse sick time at work and become complete invalids.

The first controlled study compared a group of hypochondriacs given Paxil with a group that received sugar pills and another group that received psychological talk therapy.

The medication was successful at lowering that group's fears about imaginary illnesses.

Before the study, one 40-year-old who described his fear of dying in his sleep as an 8 on a scale of 1 to 10 said his fear level dropped to 4 after six weeks of taking the drug.

So what's the problem? The same study also revealed that hypochondriacs who received cognitive behavior therapy also improved — as much as those who took the pill.

Oh, and by the way — the study was funded by an "educational grant" from Glaxo SmithKlein, the pharmaceutical manufacturers who just happen to make Paxil, according to the

Washington Post.

Aside from the obvious bias contained within the study and its proud publication, this is only the latest chapter in what continues to be a laughable and dangerous trend in Western medicine.

We're getting lazy.

Real problems need to be dealt with real solutions, not a quick fix in the form of a pill. While drugs continue to provide invaluable help for a myriad of illnesses, they are being pushed and prescribed far too often. All of the largest pharmaceutical companies are publicly owned entities that are sold and traded on the stock market. Shareholders care most about one thing — increasing stock value (not to be confused with your health and well-being).

All of this enables and sustains the current trend of popping wonder pills to solve certain "mental disorders" and other afflictions instead of staring them in the face and learning to cope through difficult and challenging psychological therapy.

— The Oakland Post

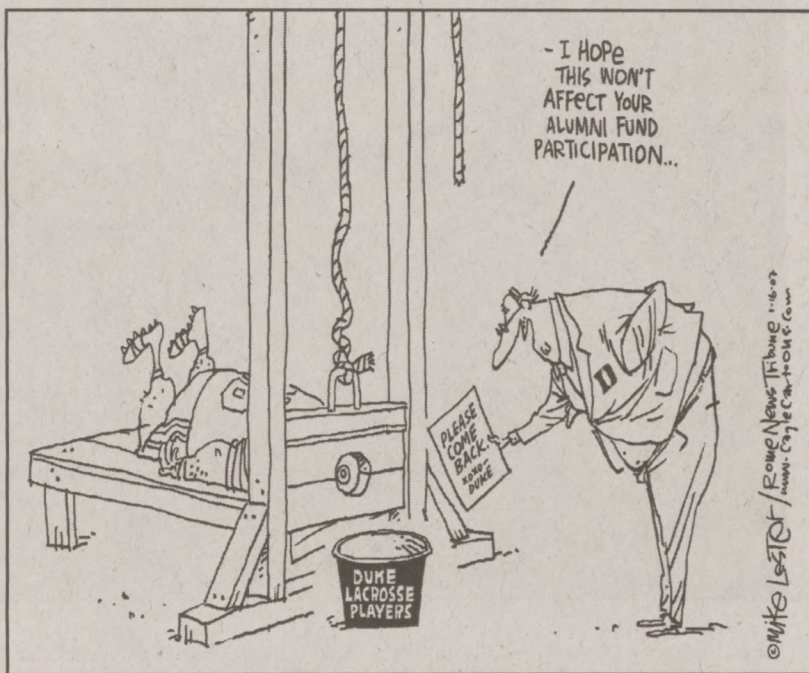
## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Paul Gully,  
I was rather confused with your column "Global Warming Ruined My Christmas" ("Mouthing Off," Jan. 11) because you seemed to have missed a rather large part of why our winter has been so warm up until recently. The phenomena El Niño has caused our temperatures to be abnormally high this season and the reason our area is getting hit by more rain than snow. Global warming had nothing to do with it, nor is

there enough long-term study to even say global warming is the result of human intervention or by planetary cycles like it has done in the past. However, I do still think the human species needs to protect the environment we live in.

Global warming did not ruin your Christmas, El Niño did.  
Thank you.

Joe Donaldson  
Sophomore  
Anthropology



An absolutely conditional relationship

# Due process is non-negotiable — even for the elite

## Staff Column

Kyle Magin  
Special Projects  
Reporter

Innocent until proven guilty, the motto on which our entire legal system rests, is a point of pride for many Americans. The notion that one's legal status is fluid until a jury returns a verdict is a sacred right, taught since grade school and solidified through countless civics classes.

Collin Finnerty and Reade

Seligmann, two former Duke Lacrosse players, have been denied that right by the American people and North Carolina District Attorney Mike Nifong.

The two players were implicated in the criminal case regarding the sexual assault of an African-American stripper at a party last year, held by the lacrosse team at an off-campus house.

Since details of the case have been released, none of the players involved have been convicted of any wrongdoing. No sperm discovered in the accuser belonged to the players, and her story has been so inconsistent that the prosecution dropped rape charges against the athletes.

Since the story first broke, Nifong has painted the players guilty in the media, capitalizing on deep-seated biases both in the Durham area and throughout the nation. He knew that nobody draws more ire than wealthy white college boys, and saw his chance to put aristocracy on trial and behind bars.

In short, Nifong went into the case thinking he had an easy slam-dunk, the kind of case that opens the door to political stardom, and now he may be fighting to save his career.

America watched, along with Nifong, as women's advocacy groups marched against the alleged rapists, as civil rights leaders condemned the racist institution that fostered

these monsters. It listened as countless "experts" attacked the frat-boy, boozier mentality that is apparently pervasive in the lacrosse community. Members of the media told us about the racial disparity in Durham, how the poor, mostly black community is often at odds with the rich, mostly white institution that is Duke. Even within the state of North Carolina, Duke is viewed as an outsider, a school attended by wealthy Yankees.

Where are these experts now? Where are the marches and protests for due process, for the basic rights of the players? Apologies are owed to the players in a case that is evaporating in front of the prosecution's eyes. The women's advocacy and civil

rights groups need to stand up and take accountability for their irresponsibility, for not investigating the facts of the case and preying upon biases. Nifong has asked off the case and may face disbarment for his utter disregard for the legal system.

This is a gut check for America, a time to reassess the core values associated with our democracy.

We need to stop selling out every time a hotshot prosecutor comes along with a sensational case and look at the situation objectively.

It's time to stop making rash decisions based on emotion and start reviewing the entire situation with our heads, giving both sides an equal chance.

# Global warming concerns are more than just hype

## Guest Column

Jessica Henry  
President of SPIN

Drowning polar bears from melting glaciers, drought that causes starvation and what some say is the most carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that the world has ever seen — what do all these things have in common? Global warming.

Global warming — is it fact or fiction? Many people refute that the world is warming up due to human existence and its actions, but there is much science out there that proves

there is a direct correlation between humans and the globe's atmosphere.

For those of you who may not know what global warming is, it's the warming of the earth caused by greenhouse gases such as methane, water vapor and carbon dioxide (just to name a few) that we, the earth's inhabitants, are dumping into the air. These gases trap heat from the sun within the earth's atmosphere, hence warming the planet like a turkey in the oven from the outside in.

There are many scientists that have data to prove there is a direct correlation between greenhouse gases and the warming of the earth. The first study was done in 1958 at Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii. The study showed a direct relationship between gas levels, such as

methane and carbon dioxide, with temperature.

Another study in 2001 published in an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Journal, stated:

"Today, carbon dioxide levels are 30 percent higher than pre-industrial levels — higher than they have been in the last 420,000 years and are probably at the highest levels in the past 20 million years. Studies of the Earth's climate history have shown that even small, natural changes in carbon dioxide levels were generally accompanied by significant shifts in the global average temperature. We have already experienced a 1°F increase in global temperature in the past century, and we can expect significant warming in the next century if we fail to act to decrease green-

house gas emissions."

The studies and journals are endless yet no one seems to be listening.

If you are still not convinced, okay. But don't you think that even if we are not causing the earth to warm that we still have a stewardship to the planet and to everyone else that lives in it? According to the latest United States Census Bureau report, there are about 6,569,563,601 people on the planet and about 280,000,000 in the U.S.

Yet the U.S. consumes about 50 percent of the world's oil with only 15 percent of the world's population. The U.S. must recede on its consuming habits; there are just not enough resources to supply our needs and the needs of the rest of the world. This means changing our habits for others

if not for global warming.

The world is like a bank account with no deposit and very slow interest. There is only a certain amount of money in that bank and the faster it is spent the less time there is for the interest to replace it.

It is difficult to write only 500 words about such an important subject. The truth about global warming is that many people just don't want to believe it. How can we do so much damage? The earth is a delicate ecosystem with a balance that must be kept by all creatures including the human race. Although the earth has its cycles and might be warming up naturally, we are definitely increasing the rate of that cycle by a dangerous amount with our spending habits in just a short period of time.



**THE OAKLAND POST**  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

By e-mail: editor@oakpostonline.com

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

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

## CORRECTIONS CORNER

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

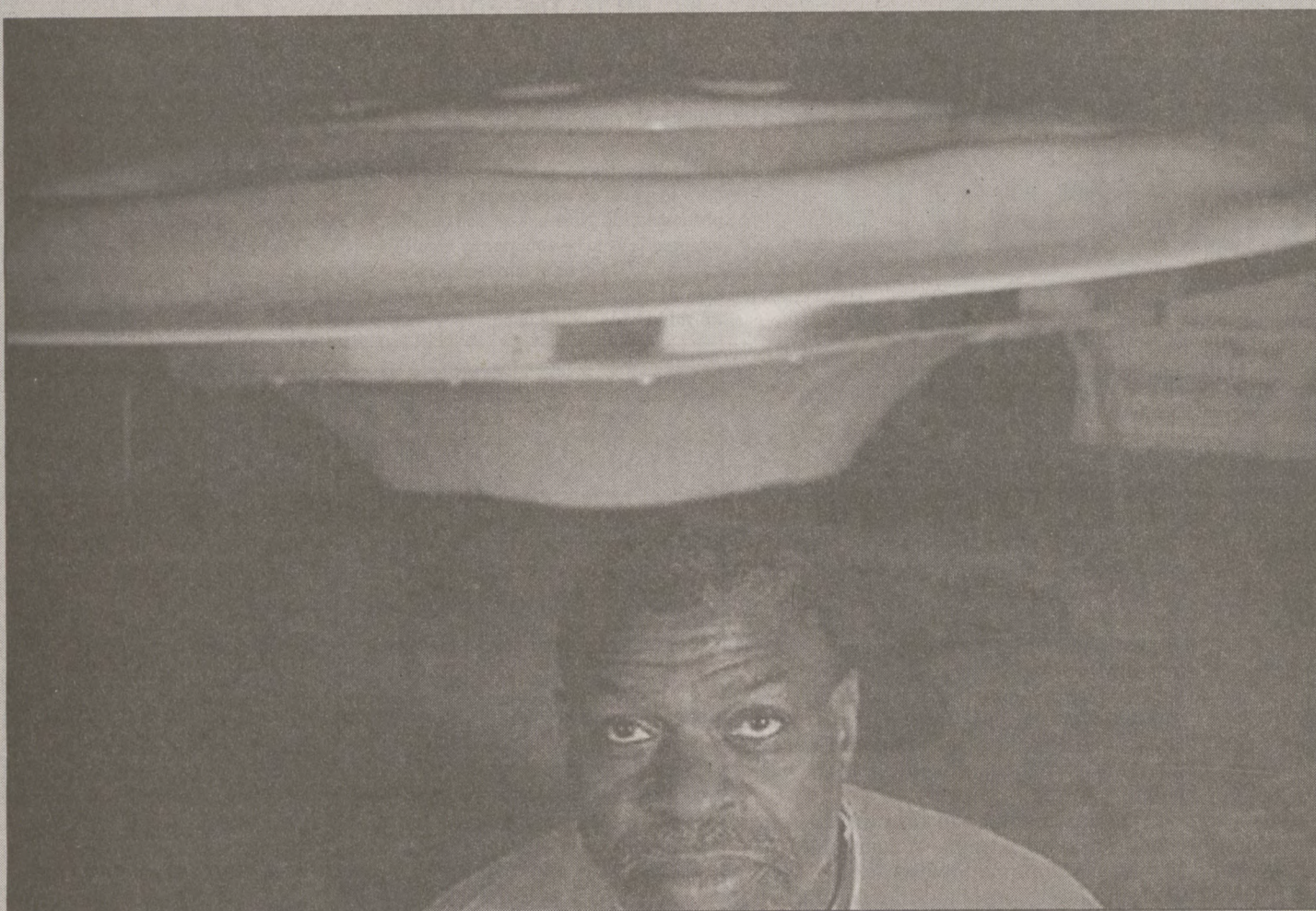
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.  
— The First Amendment of the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



## QUOTE OF THE DAY ...

"When he starts it up, we'll know either it was the biggest folly of all time or one of the most ingenious inventions of all time."

— Pastor D.L. Bradley, on Alfie Carrington's flying saucer.



RASHAUN RUCKER/Detroit Free Press

Alfie Carrington, 57, shows his vertical-lift aircraft, or flying saucer, Friday, Dec. 22, 2006, in Clinton Township, Mich. The 14-foot-wide aircraft is being built in a rented storage garage in Clinton Township. Carrington works on it during his free time. "Why drive when you can fly 500 mph?" he asked.

# Local man trying to build flying saucer

*Clinton Township construction worker in process of creating a vertical-lift aircraft*

By STEVE NEAVLING  
Detroit Free Press

CLINTON TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Some people may call Alfie Carrington crazy or foolish.

How else do you describe a man who has spent more than half his life building a flying saucer?

A construction worker by day, Carrington spends his free time inside a rented storage garage in Macomb County's Clinton Township where he broods over a 14-foot-wide, carbon fiber, fiberglass vessel.

"Something genius is hiding away in Alfie's eccentricities," friend D.L. Bradley, a pastor in Clinton Township, said.

Thirty years ago, when Carrington was 27 and obsessed with science fiction, he set out to build a UFO look-alike. But something inside him cried out for more.

Inspired by ordinary Americans like Orville and Wilbur Wright, who piloted the first heavier-than-air aircraft 103 years ago, Carrington pored over books, magazines and studies about aviation. Never mind his lack of engineering experience.

He has spent nearly \$60,000 for some

of the materials he believes are needed to launch his creation — a lot for a man who drives a rusted 1986 Mercury Cougar.

Carrington does it because he believes he has discovered a simple design for an aircraft that aeronautical engineers have spent countless millions trying to build.

"People are going to say I'm nuts," Carrington shrugged.

Unlike aeronautical engineers who have tried to build vessels for commercial flight — most notably those who entered the X-Prize contest for a reusable, privately built suborbital spacecraft — Carrington's aim is more terrestrial. He wants to replace the automobile with a Jetsons-style vehicle.

"Why drive when you can fly 500 mph?" he asked.

Carrington has two patents on the design and a company called Vertex Aerospace. His work caught the attention of NASA, which invited him to a conference in the mid-1990s where engineers scratched their heads when he confessed he knew nothing about computers.

His idea is to fire up the vessel with a rotary engine to stimulate a magnetic levitation system to rotate the ship's two

discs. The discs would draw air into propeller blades.

"It's a simple concept," Carrington said. "There is no way this thing can't get off the ground because 40 percent of it is rotating."

Aeronautical engineers aren't so confident, especially considering the rotation speeds needed to lift the aircraft.

"Things spinning at those speeds are worrisome because of the stress from centrifugal force," explained Cornelis van Dam, professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering at the University of California-Davis, a leading aviation school. "If it's not properly designed and built, it will rip itself apart. I wouldn't want to stand next to it when it gets up to speed."

Even aerospace experts rely on other professionals to build such complex vessels, van Dam pointed out.

But Carrington doesn't have time for naysayers. In eight months, he hopes to launch his dream, assuming he can raise at least another \$40,000 to complete the project.

"When he starts it up, we'll know either it was the biggest folly of all time or one of the most ingenious inventions of all time," Bradley said.

## NAIAS

cont. from A1

It's also a great venue for those in the market for a new vehicle, as cross-shopping and comparisons can be made under one roof.

Not only is this annual event important to the automotive industry and consumers, it's also the location where the North American Car and Truck of the Year winners are announced. Voted on by a panel of nearly 50 automotive journalists, the awards recognize automotive excellence.

This year, General Motors swept the field by winning both coveted awards. The all-new Saturn Aura beat a freshly redesigned version of America's perennial best selling car, the Toyota Camry and Honda's compact, new-to-North-America, Fit. Chevrolet's fully redesigned Silverado pickup truck defeated Ford's all-new Edge cross-over utility vehicle (CUV) and Mazda's turbo-charged CX-7 CUV to take the prize.

From Jan. 13 to Jan. 20, the show runs from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. On Jan. 21, it's open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for seniors citizens and children between 7 and 12. Children 6 and younger are free.

Here are some of the product highlights of this year's show:

### ■ Chevrolet Volt

Chevy hints at the future of eco-friendly motoring with its Volt concept. The Volt is a four-door hybrid-type vehicle. Like traditional hybrids, the Volt has both an electric motor and a conventional internal combustion engine.

However, the Volt runs solely on electric power. The internal combustion engine never moves the car; it merely recharges the batteries.

GM estimates that the Volt will return up to 50 miles per gallon during highway driving.

### ■ Toyota Tundra

Toyota's Tundra pickup has never been a serious competitor to Detroit's big three. The current body style is smaller than other half-ton trucks, which has never given the Tundra workhorse credibility. Toyota is aiming to shift perceptions with its 2007 Tundra.

This fully redesigned truck features enough brawn and muscle to level the playing field with domestic manufacturers. With three cab choices and 31 models, the Tundra gives truck buyers choices never before offered by the previous Tundra.

### ■ Ford SYNC

Ford's SYNC is an in-car computing system that integrates cell phones, music players and vehicle entertainment systems through a voice-activated interface for a hands-free experience.

SYNC picks up calls from your cell phone and transfers them to the car by pressing the "push to talk" button on the steering wheel. SYNC plays audible text messages so drivers' eyes never leave the road.

SYNC supports voice-activated music playing. Drivers can select music media by song title, album, artist or genre.

SYNC supports nearly all types of USB media players, including Apple's iPod and Microsoft's Zune, and can recharge media devices plugged into its USB port.

SYNC is trilingual. It's fluent in English, Spanish and French.

SYNC will be offered exclusively on many 2007 Ford, Lincoln and Mercury vehicles.

### ■ Jaguar C-XF

This concept is a sedan and a design exercise that likely shows future Jaguar styling. The square grill and creased hood flow smoothly into the door skins. The rear has a horizontal silver stripe that integrates with the taillights and is emblazoned with "Jaguar."

The interior is sweeping and features electroluminescent mood lighting and a large, centrally mounted tachometer.

### ■ Mercedes Benz Concept Ocean Drive

The Concept Ocean Drive is a full-size, four-door, luxury convertible. Based on Mercedes-Benz's S-Class, the Concept Ocean Drive is a very large car.

The Concept Ocean Drive features a two-tone paint scheme, bird's-eye maple trim, 380 horsepower courtesy of a twin turbocharged 5.5-liter, 36-valve V12 and drop-dead gorgeous looks.

## LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### Local charter to transport Iraq soldiers' bodies

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — A Michigan air charter company received an \$11 million, six-month contract to bring home the bodies of American military personnel killed in the Iraq war. Kalitta Charters of Ypsilanti Township will carry caskets from Dover Air Force Base, Del. The policy change followed a complaint by John and Stacey Holley of San Diego, whose son was killed in Iraq. John Holley objected after he was told that his son's casket would be carried in the cargo area of a commercial plane, the Detroit Free Press reported.

Congress later changed the military's policies. Now, a plane transporting remains of a military person cannot be used for any other purpose.

### School buses vandalized

RIVERVIEW, Mich. (AP) — For the fifth time in less than a month, vandals deflated tires at a suburban Detroit school district. Seven buses at Riverview Public Schools had their tires deflated on Tuesday. Classes weren't canceled, but buses ran behind schedule. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson is offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for vandalizing school buses in his county.

## CENTER FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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

Student Program Board Presents:

**Michael Miller from High Impact Training!**

Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

**12PM**

Oakland Center Fireside Lounge  
**Headband Experiment:**  
*How Predispositions & Misconceptions about People Effect the way YOU treat them.*

**6PM**

Oakland Center Gold Rooms  
**"Get What You Want Out of College and Life"**

### 2007 Oakland University College Bowl Campus Tournament!

Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:30AM

Oakland Center Oakland Room

Winning team in the OU Campus Tournament will win a minimum of \$400 & will represent OU at the ACUI Region 7 College Bowl Competition.

Full teams of 4, partial teams and individuals may register at the CSA Service Window, 49 OC. Registration fees are only \$10 per team.

Student Program Board Trip:

### 'The Fridge' Toboggan Run

Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>  
Waterford Oaks

**Advance sign up is required at the CSA Service Window, 49 OC.**

**FREE for All OU Students**

### CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS

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

- Rent
- Color-ography
- Riverdance
- Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy
- The Rat Pack Is Back
- I Can't Stop Loving You
- Turnanot
- Sweet Charity
- Swan Lake
- Camelot
- Abduction From Seraglio
- Romeo and Juliet

### CSA "What is Spirituality" Presents: Spirituality and African-American Males

Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
7PM – 9PM  
Oakland Center Fireside Lounge

Charles Clark, director of the Academic Skills Center presents, "Spirituality and African-American Males."

### Detroit Tigers Winter Caravan

Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
3PM – 5PM  
Oakland University O'Rena

**Detroit Tiger players and coaches will visit OU!**  
Detroit Tiger rally towels will be given away to the first 250 people in attendance.

### Have a question?

Email us at  
csa@oakland.edu

### Winter 2007 Blood Drive

Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>  
9AM – 9PM  
Oakland Center Gold Rooms

Make an appointment online at [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) and use sponsor code **ublood** or contact the Center for Student Activities at 248-370-2400.



## THE WORLD IN BRIEF

### Bombing at Baghdad University Kills 65

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An explosion outside a Baghdad university as students were heading home for the day killed at least 65 people on Tuesday in the deadliest of several attacks on predominantly Shiite areas. The attacks — and the announcement of four U.S. military deaths — came on a day the United Nations said more than 34,000 Iraqi civilians died last year in sectarian violence. Attacks in Baghdad — including the university explosion, blasts at a marketplace for used motorcycles and a drive-by shooting — killed more than 100 people in a spasm of violence ahead of a promised drive by the Iraqi government and U.S. forces to secure the capital.

### Train cars derail, catch fire in Ky.

SHEPHERDSVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Several train cars, including at least one carrying liquid propane gas, derailed and exploded south of Louisville Tuesday, shutting down a nearby highway and forcing evacuations of homes, businesses and a school, authorities said. There were no immediate reports of injuries from the wreck that occurred about 8:50 a.m. EST, said Kentucky State Police dispatcher Joey Mattingly. The cause was under investigation.

### Spanish paper: Castro in 'grave' condition after 3 failed operations

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Fidel Castro has had at least three failed operations and complications from an intestinal infection, and the Cuban leader faces "a very grave prognosis," a Spanish newspaper reported Tuesday. A Cuban diplomat in Madrid said the reports were lies and declined to comment. "It's another lie and we are not going to talk about it. If anyone has to talk about Castro's illness, it's Havana," the diplomat said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of official policy. The newspaper El Pais cited two unidentified sources from the Gregorio Maranon hospital in the Spanish capital of Madrid. The facility employs surgeon Jose Luis Garcia Sabrido, who flew to Cuba in December to treat the 80-year-old Castro. In a report published on its Web site, El Pais said: "A grave infection in the large intestine, at least three failed operations and various complications have left the Cuban dictator, Fidel Castro, laid up with a very grave prognosis." Cuba has released little information on Castro's condition since he temporarily ceded power in July to his brother, Defense Minister Raul Castro, until he could recover from emergency intestinal surgery. El Pais' report, which could not immediately be confirmed, was a rare detailed description from a major media outlet about Castro's condition. The report was not made public in Cuba, where the government runs the media and Cubans have become accustomed to very limited details about their ailing leader's health.

## NOTABLE NUMBERS

50

People reported dead from a recent ice storm that stretched across the country

7

States reporting losses, including: Missouri, Oklahoma, Iowa, New York, Maine and Texas

5

Weeks that Carolyn Dorn, 52, spent alone in New Mexico's Gila National Forest before being rescued by two college students

154

Weight, in pounds, of Rusty, a pet Labrador Retriever from Cambridgeshire, England. Rusty's owners allowed him to gain almost 50 lbs. in only two years.

## OBAMA LAUNCHES WHITE HOUSE BID

By NEDRA PICKLER  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Barack Obama launched a presidential campaign Tuesday that would make him the first black to occupy the White House, and immediately tried to turn his political inexperience into an asset with voters seeking change.

The freshman Illinois senator and top contender for the Democratic nomination said the past six years have left the country in a precarious place and he promoted himself as the standard-bearer

for a new kind of politics.

"Our leaders in Washington seem incapable of working together in a practical, commonsense way," Obama said in a video posted on his Web site. "Politics has become so bitter and partisan, so gummed up by money and influence, that we can't tackle the big problems that demand solutions. And that's what we have to change first."

Obama filed paperwork forming a presidential exploratory committee that allows him to raise money and put together a campaign structure. He is expected

to announce a full-fledged candidacy on Feb. 10 in Springfield, Ill., where he can tout his experience in the state legislature and tap into the legacy of hometown hero Abraham Lincoln.

Obama's soft-spoken appeal on the stump, his unique background, his opposition to the Iraq war and his fresh face set him apart in a competitive race that also is expected to include front-runner Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York.

Obama has uncommon political talents, drawing adoring crowds even among the studious voters in New

Hampshire during a much-hyped visit there last month. His star has risen on the force of his personality and message of hope helped along by celebrity endorsements from the likes of Oprah Winfrey, billionaire investor Warren Buffett and actors Matt Damon and Edward Norton.

"I certainly didn't expect to find myself in this position a year ago," said Obama, who added that as he talked to Americans about a possible presidential campaign, "I've been struck by how hungry we all are for a different kind of politics."

to say  
the  
LEAST

"Thank you to every American who has not sued me so far."

— Sacha Baron Cohen, celebrating after winning the best actor award for comedy at the Golden Globes for his film "Borat"

## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL

WIN  
FULL  
SCHOLARSHIP  
TUITION

THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 18TH  
OU MEN

VS.  
SOUTHERN UTAH  
7PM

WIN CASH PRIZES!



STUDENTS ARE FREE!!  
WEAR YOUR OU  
BASKETBALL T-SHIRT

SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 20TH  
DOUBLEHEADER  
OU WOMEN VS. UMKC  
3:30PM  
OU MEN VS. UMKC  
6PM

MONDAY,  
JANUARY 22ND  
OU WOMEN  
VS.  
SOUTHERN UTAH  
7PM



COME SEE J.J. JUMPER  
THE NCAA MASCOT AT  
SATURDAY'S DOUBLEHEADER



## Brain Food

### Healthy alternatives for students

By Heather Holm  
Contributing Reporter

Think twice before taking that first bite. Do you know what's in your food or how healthy it is for you?

It's easy to get off track health wise when the work piles up. Between all of the time spent in class, studying, working, and for many, commuting back and forth on a regular basis, every free moment available is appreciated.

Fortunately, we don't have to pull out our personal copies of the food pyramid in order to make sure we're eating properly. By simply making small changes in what we eat every day can be all the difference in

maintaining a healthy and balanced diet.

With the New Year here and resolutions in full effect, setting aside a few minutes and ingredients can turn that bowl of ramen into a delicious and healthy meal - skip the drive-thru on the way home.

Even if you didn't resolve to become a healthier person this year at least take into consideration what you're putting into your body. As always, eat at least 2-3 servings of dairy, 2-3 servings of meat and beans, 2-4 servings of fruit and 3-5 servings of vegetables a day and keep oils and fats to a minimum.

### Unfried Chicken

#### Ingredients

1 Boiler Fryer Chicken (Around 3 lb. in size), cut up  
½ cup ranch dressing (reduced fat for a healthier alternative.)  
1 package Shake 'N Bake coating mix

#### Instructions:

Remove all skin, except from wings. Put chicken in Ziploc bag, then pour in dressing. Seal up bag and turn to coat all of the chicken. Refrigerate for 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Pour Shake 'N Bake onto a plate, then one by one, dip the chicken, fully covering each piece. Place chicken on a baking sheet, then bake for 40 - 45 minutes or until fully cooked.

### Ramen Noodle Salad

#### Ingredients

3 packages ramen noodles (without seasoning packages)  
¼ cup frozen corn  
½ cup Oriental-style vegetables  
½ cup frozen baby shrimp  
½ cup Italian dressing

#### Instructions:

Cook noodles in water for 3 minutes. Microwave corn and veggies in ½ cup of water for 3 minutes. Drain cooked shrimp in a colander, then pour the cooked noodles and vegetables over shrimp. Add Italian dressing and mix ingredients together.

#### Sources:

Recipezaar.com,  
Kraft Food & Family,  
www.zonya.com

### Turkey and Hot Mustard Roll Up

#### Ingredients

2 tsp. spicy mustard  
2 oz. sliced turkey breast (about 2 slices)  
2 baby carrots cut into lengthwise  
¼ cucumber, cut lengthwise  
½ tomato, cut into wedges  
¼ cup alfalfa sprouts

#### Instructions

Lay flat bread or tortillas out on a flat surface, spread cream cheese on top. Spread mustard on top of the cream cheese. Place turkey, carrots, cucumber, tomato and alfalfa sprouts in a row side by side. Roll, beginning at one of the longer edges. After rolling up, cut in half. Plastic wrap to keep together.

## HOW TO QUIT

### Cold turkey isn't the only option any more

By Maria Vitale  
Contributing Reporter

Another year has come and gone and with the New Year came new resolutions for self-improvement. While many people decided to lose weight or get in shape, you may be one of many who decided to quit smoking.

For some, smoking cessation may seem an insurmountable task, but the benefits may outweigh the work necessary to quit. According to cancer.org, "the health benefits of quitting smoking far exceed any risks from the less than 10-pound weight gain or any adverse psychological effects that may follow quitting."

Since we may not all have the will power to quit "cold turkey," one of the methods available includes Nicotine Replacement Therapy, such as gums, patches, inhalers, lozenges and sprays. In addition, there are non-medicinal methods such as hypnosis, acupuncture, laser therapy and using filters.

According to the internal medicine and acupuncture office of Dr. T.L. Tan in Rochester Hills, acupuncture therapy gets rid of withdrawal symptoms and cravings. They also say that 60 percent of patients successfully quit smoking after just one treatment.

What will work for you is totally dependent on your personality; but you should research your options to find what meets your needs, convenience and budget.

### Nicotine Replacement Therapy:

**Nicorette Gum:** Starter kit (2mg dose) \$45.59

**Nicoderm Patch:** Step 1 Pack \$31.99

**Commit lozenges:** 72 count (2mg dose) \$42.99

**Endit Smokeless Inhaler:** 2 pack \$5.49

**Nasal Spray:** Available only by prescription  
Available on drugstore.com

### Hypnosis:

\$595 (this particular association may require up to 3 sessions, but the most you will pay is \$595 with a lifetime guarantee.  
americanhypnosisclinic.com  
or 1-888-HYPNO-22

### Acupuncture:

\$75 for the first session, \$55 for any additional (65% are cured after first treatment).

**T.L. Tan M.D., P.C.**  
940 W Avon Rd  
Rochester Hills, MI 48307  
(248) 651-5604

### Laser therapy:

\$299 - One time session includes laser therapy, 30 day detox supplements and quitting smoking support pack.

**Freedom Laser Therapy**  
401 S. Washington Ave.  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 547-5600

### Filters:

**One Step at a Time Nicotine Addiction Withdrawal System:** \$16.89  
Available on drugstore.com

it's going down

WXOU

www.wxou.org

This Week on WXOU's  
**New's Weekly**

\* Complete coverage of African American History Month Kickoff

\* The Latest About All The Construction Around Campus

\* The Detroit Tigers Are On Campus

\* Spotlight on the Movies with Rich Luzenski

\* Plus an update on sports, entertainment and local news

88.3

Friday from  
1-2 P.M.  
FM

### THE BAND'S GONNA MAKE IT.

Are you an Oakland University musician, performer or artist?

The Mix is looking to feature talented students in an upcoming issue of The Oakland Post. Email your skills to: [editor@oakpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oakpostonline.com)

## Alpha Dog

### From the Mickey Mouse Club to the in-crowd

By Bryan Everson  
Contributing Reporter

From pop singing to pot smoking, Justin Timberlake sure has come a long way on screen.

In what could be labeled as a dramatic comedy, Timberlake shines brightest in Alpha Dog, based on the actual events of a kidnapping spearheaded by Jesse James Hollywood (played by Emile Hersh as Johnny Truelove). The film originally premiered at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, and the defense attorney for Hollywood attempted to block the national debut of the Nick Cassavetes' written and directed film.

Cassavetes may have directed the ever-popular chick flick "The Notebook," but "Alpha Dog" is a polar opposite. Based in the valley of Southern California where smoking, sex and surfing reign supreme, Hersh plays a B-list drug dealer whose father (Bruce Willis) knowingly supplies the drug funds. When a deal goes bad with Jake Mazursky, a junkie who appears to be on speed and who knows what else throughout the movie, Truelove and his crew (including pal Elvis, practically a shoe-shiner for the pack leader) pick up and kidnap his 15-year-old brother Zack in what turns into a string of decisions that eventually lead to the posse's downfall.

When Timberlake's character, Frankie, gets ditched for a night on the town to baby-sit the hostage, he strikes up a relationship with Zack, full of negative influence. When Timberlake takes him out on the town and the boy refuses a cigarette, he replies, "F--- that, it's good for you." Zack becomes a willing hostage, sooner than later, fitting right into the entourage's lifestyle of drinking, pot-smoking and, eventually, casual sex in a pool scene as seductive as Swimfan.

Although based on a true story, the film still has plenty of riveting twists that keep it unpredictable unless you're totally familiar with the events, which Cassavetes claims are about 75 percent accurate. It may leave viewers with a "What were they thinking?" feeling, but what really propels the film is the friendship that Frankie and Zack strike up. Timberlake pulls off a performance that will remind few of The "All New Mickey Mouse Club" and simultaneously delivers acting full of both wit and drama. The plot



HE LIKES HAVING HIS EGO RUBBED  
photo illustration by Celeste Filiatrault

comes off as something like a SoCal teenage version of "Blow," but Timberlake and the authenticity of it all drive this film up a notch and make it a flick worth seeing on the big screen.

### Overall Grade:

"plenty of riveting twists that keep it unpredictable"

B

## The Golden Globes

photo illustration by  
Celeste Filiatrault



Best Motion Picture - Musical Or Comedy:  
"Dream Girls"



Best Television Series - Musical Or Comedy:  
"Ugly Betty"



Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical Or Comedy:  
Sacha Cohen ("Borat")



Best Performance by an Actor In A Television Series - Musical Or Comedy:  
Alec Baldwin ("30 Rock")



Best Television Series - Drama:  
"Grey's Anatomy"



Cecil B. DeMille Award:  
Warren Beatty



# Micah's fight for inclusion

Award-winning film to premier

By CARRA PAYNE  
Contributing Reporter

At first glance Micah Fialka-Feldman appears to be an average Oakland University student — because he is. He has a hectic schedule with classes and a job, and still takes time to relax with his family and friends.

Fialka-Feldman's experience here at OU is the culmination of years of hard work, as is the case for many college students, but for Fialka-Feldman, this stage in his education is invaluable.

A cognitive impairment, that could be debilitating to his education, is neither a crutch nor an excuse for him, possibly because Fialka-Feldman mind is on more important things — like blazing trails for self-advocates everywhere — and making a noted start right here at home.

"Through the Same Door: Inclusion Includes College," a film about Fialka-Feldman's journey, is the 2006 winner of the TASH Image Award.

TASH, The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps, is an international organization that supports inclusion in education as well as advocacy.

The film, directed by U of M

graduate and independent film maker Paul Rossen, will premiere at Fialka-Feldman's alma mater, Berkeley High School on Sunday, Jan. 21, at 2 p.m.

Fialka-Feldman has been an advocate for the inclusion of students with learning disabilities in standard education programs by being living-proof that the system works.

And it couldn't have worked better for him.

Being given a chance to enjoy the same freedoms in education as his peers is an opportunity that Fialka-Feldman enjoys and doesn't see as any sort of struggle. "It's been cool coming to this college and it's been a nice experience," he said in regards to attending OU. "I feel fine. I have friends to help me get the homework and stuff."

Fialka-Feldman is currently enrolled in classes in career studies and educating children in art. His concentration of study is on politics.

The Berkeley School District and the inclusion programs that fostered his education there have been instrumental in Micah's success and currently promote his education here at OU.

In regards to his high school experience, Fialka-Feldman said "Going to school was good." When I asked if there was ever a time when he felt that his education was difficult, he quickly answered "Me? No — but you might want to ask my mom."

"The experience has been arduous and joyful at moments," said Fialka-Feldman's mother, Janice Fialka.

The process for including Fialka-Feldman into a regular classroom was met with mixed emotions by some of his teachers, but his family believed. "that being integrated in to the classroom was the way Micah was going to learn best," Janice Fialka said.

"My husband would always say, 'It's not just about Micah learning, it's about everybody else — his teachers and his peers- learning, and growing and being comfortable,'"

As a National Board Member and spokesman for Kids as Self-Advocates (KASA), Fialka-Feldman is a nationally recognized public speaker on behalf of himself and the many other students like him who have seen inclusion in a standard classroom setting benefit their education and esteem. "I get to meet cool people," he noted, "like former Democratic State Representative and Sen. Gilda Jacobs."

Fialka-Feldman has had numerous chances to interact with political figures during many of the conferences at which he has been a key speaker. "I was probably in the tenth grade when I started [public speaking]" he said.

Any high school student might be scared when charged with telling their personal story to hundreds of people at a time. However, Fialka-Feldman replied, "No, I don't get scared from that."

"Through the Same Door" chronicles Fialka-Feldman's life experience and the journey leading up to college, while illustrating the impact that inclusion can have on the education and life of a student like him.

"It's about me and going to college and choosing if you want to go to college and try something new — not just going to a program," he said.

For a preview or to purchase "Through the Same Door: Inclusion Includes College," visit [www.throughthesamedoor.com](http://www.throughthesamedoor.com). The DVD will also be available at the film's premiere.

You can read more about Fialka-Feldman, his family and their efforts for universal education at [www.danceofpartnership.com](http://www.danceofpartnership.com).



CELESTE FILIATRAULT/ The Oakland Post  
Micah Fialka-Feldman hasn't let his cognitive impairment get in the way of his education. "Through the Same Door," a film chronicling his experience, premiers Sunday at Berkeley High School.

## 'Telegraph' is art on the run

By CHARLES GRASKI  
Contributing Reporter

At the base of a 10-foot tall eggbeater, a panel discussion was held with the artist's collective "Telegraph," whose work is currently on display at Oakland University Art Gallery, prior to the exhibit's debut on Saturday evening.

The exhibit includes the work of artists Hartmut Austen, Haley Renee Bates, Fabio J. Fernandez, Shannon Goff ("Eggbeater" is one of her pieces), Tom Lauerma, Brent Sommerhauser and Christian Tedeschi. They got together two and a half years ago after having recently graduated — most from the Cranbrook Academy of Art — out of a desire for more opportunities to present their work.

Though they now live in different cities and lead tremendously busy professional lives, neither their creativity nor their ability to collaborate is inhibited.

"The distance apart, and meeting the challenges of telecommuting has better equipped the group to overcome artistic challenges and encourages us to be more creatively flexible," said Bates, the metal smith of the group.

Defining "Telegraph" took collaboration. "Telegraph" denotes the communication device and also the thoroughfare upon which people travel, which grows over time as need arises," explained Fernandez.

The impetus for "Telegraph" arose from "a necessity to show a different approach to an atmosphere not conducive to the artistic process, whatever that may be," said Tedeschi. Lauerma added that "the different working methods of group members also inspire work by teaching us freedom, alleviating prescribed or routine methods."

The definitive form of "Telegraph" is architectonic, meaning they have qualities, such as design and structure, which are characteristic of architecture. The art is minimal, and the mediums vary, but all reflect the collective interests of the group: momentum and activity.



CHARLES GRASKI/ The Oakland Post  
The members of the artist's collective "Telegraph," (left to right) Tom Lauerma, Christian Tedeschi, Brent Sommerhauser, Fabio J. Fernandez, Shannon Goff, Haley Renee Bates, and Hartmut Austen answered questions at a panel discussion on Saturday. Their work is currently on display at Oakland University Art Gallery. Behind them is "The Scream" by Austen.

lective interests of the group: momentum and activity.

"I'm changing every 30 seconds, why can't my work?" asked Tedeschi.

The pieces themselves are quite simple, yet they manage to conjure an array of unexpected feelings and memories, unlike anything steadfastly Formalist. There are no dominant styles or techniques the members of "Telegraph" feel obligated to uphold.

Goff's "Phone Booth," constructed of

cardboard, is simple, yet conveys "a feeling of an inescapable lack of privacy," she explained.

Bates said her metal sculptures, "Miner's Fat Lamp" and "Hanging Betty," "remind us of under-recognized antiquated tin and copper lanterns," by re-creating them in a simple, but vague, form. As Fernandez said, "only by completely obliterating an object can you suspend it as it descends into the depths of history."

The members of "Telegraph" are happy to return to the Detroit scene, where they are welcomed with an open and flourishing artistic community. As for their future, Austen added in closing that "the group might be in the early stages of a magazine and may only be a core group now, but we see it now as a foundation upon which a larger community of artist collectives can grow."

The art is diverse, simple and undeniably moving. As members of a commuter university, students and staff of Oakland University understand the time constraints that may stifle the creative process. Each of us likely has an arduous endeavor that is meaningful, but may seem impractical and is consistently shadowed by obligation. A visit to "Telegraph" may inspire you to find a way to make time.

"Telegraph" runs Jan. 13 — Feb. 25. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. For more information, visit [www.telegraphart.com](http://www.telegraphart.com).



## SEX

Staff Column

Let's talk about everyone's favorite topic: SEX!

Welcome to The Oakland Post's newest column. Here you will find an array of topics covering everything from your everyday sexual health to exploring sexuality.

Since this is a new column, I think it would be polite to introduce myself. My name is Celeste Filiatrault and I am a junior majoring in journalism and minoring in marketing. I commute from a very small town 25 miles away and have had my fair share of dating princes and toads.

I want to make it clear that I am not a "sexpert." I do not have all the answers myself, but if there is a reliable explanation out there, I will find it. Hell, we may even get a word with Dr. Drew.

This column is designed to educate readers, who may be too timid to seek out sex-related information themselves, on the importance of a healthy sex life.

Stay tuned for the following topics:

- HPV
- Contraceptive options
- Female orgasm
- Toys and accessories
- STDs

Please email any questions, concerns or topic suggestions to [cafiliat@oakland.edu](mailto:cafiliat@oakland.edu) with the word "SEX" in the subject line. If you wish not to use your email, a drop box is located in front of The Oakland Post.

## Excuse me, mind your manners

Tips for dining and business etiquette

By JESSE DUNSMORE  
Senior Reporter

Baffled by seemingly excess silverware? Not sure if you should fill that empty square centimeter on your buffet plate? Pamela Barc, founder and executive director of training and consulting firm Etiquettes Edge, has the answers.

Barc presented a dining and business

etiquette luncheon Wednesday at the Oakland Center.

Throughout the presentation, Barc outlined etiquette in areas ranging from dining to job interviews.

Here are a few of her tips:

- For a multiple-course meal, the proper silverware is usually used from the "outside-in."
- At a buffet, resist the temptation

to pile on the food. "Keep it under five feet," Barc said jokingly. She said to only select two or three items. It's both polite and avoids accidents.

- While there's no need to drink alcohol at a gathering when it's being served, it's best to carry some kind of beverage in a glass, if only to "mirror" other people at the party.
- Eye contact is very important. The most common mistake people make, said Barc, is "looking too much, or not enough."

She added that blinking, nodding and occasional brief glances away indicate interest in another person. Avoid a "piercing" stare— don't go more than seven seconds without blinking or glancing elsewhere.

"People do not care what you know until they know that you care," said Barc.

In conversation, demonstrate interest

in what others are saying, and don't "talk shop."

Barc founded Etiquettes Edge a year ago out of a "need to draw awareness to traditional principles," and has since consulted a wide range of clients, from Boy Scout troops to Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Last year, the governor named Sept. 18 "Manners Matter Day," said Barc.

"The common thread through everything is that people are always watching," Barc said, "so we have to be on our best behavior all the time, minding our p's and q's."

She also said she believes that people want to return to traditional values of politeness.

"They're willing to do it; they just need the tools to know how to do it and where to do it."



# Mouthing Off

January 17, 2007

www.theoaklandpost.com

B2

## Voicemail O' DOOM

By PAUL GULLY AND KARA O'CONNELL  
Assistant News Editor & Special Projects Editor

I don't know about you, but I would be lost without my cell phone. I would literally give my right kneecap (or patella for all you pretentious people who prefer proper medical terminology) for my cell phone if given the choice between the two. They have so much to offer each and every person, from every walk of life.

Cell phones allow overprotective boyfriends and girlfriends to keep constant tabs on their significant other.

The "erase all" feature had to have been invented with the cheater demographic in mind, avoiding being caught in an unfaithful phone call. Even worse (or even better, depending on your faithfulness), the "delete one" option offers cheaters the ability to delete dirty phone calls one at a time while

still maintaining the appearance of a regular number of incoming and outgoing phone calls.

The "keylock" feature was created to prevent uninvited guests from snooping around the digital little black book of contacts. Of course you're able to use the excuse of protecting all of that "important" information that you're storing in the most reliable of ways; on your Razr and/or Chocolate (available in Mint/Cherry/White).

For the guy who tells outrageous stories that nobody ever believes, the camera feature provides a way to present visual evidence for the time he "had a threesome with the hot neighbor twins" or "punched Chuck Norris in the face because he accidentally scuffed up his new orange and purple Pumas." Sure it can be used for less important things like documenting Saddam's hanging, but who actually flips open their phone to share something like that?

To avoid the endless formality of the usual phone call, text messaging provides an easy way to get needed information from a person that you really don't want to talk to (a feature that I frequently utilize). The thumb cramps are worth the ability to space out in class and tell someone, "I'm thinking about you. I care."

However, for all the great benefits that the cell phone provides, there is one feature that is

slowly ruining my life: voicemail. I've grown so sick of voicemails that, although they take mere seconds to check, I refuse to! Every phone call starts with the voice on the other end asking "Uh ... did you listen to my voicemail?" Of course not! Why would I want to listen to you banter on distractedly while you drive home, explaining in great detail what you did today and why you so desperately need to contact me.

This of course becomes a problem when someone leaves an "I've been kidnapped and I'm trapped in someone's trunk ... and it smells terrible" kind of message. When I finally get around to checking that message, I can only assume it's too late.

In my experience I have categorized annoying voicemails into six specific groups that I will share in detail, in hopes you might avoid leaving these kinds of voicemails yourself.

1) The long, drawn out voicemail – similar to the situation listed above, involving far too much detail about the time, your location and the climate at the time leaving said voicemail.

2) The overdramatic, emergency voicemail – preceded by a series of "911" text messages, involving far too many mentions of "It's an emergency," only to result in a frantic call back revealing the true reasoning behind the call: he needed "that hot chick's phone number."

3) The no-voicemail voicemail – you've taken

the time to punch in your social security number, password and mother's maiden name only to discover that the potential voicemail is in fact a recording of someone hanging up on your crappy message

4) The drunk voicemail – it lands in your inbox at 4:12 a.m. full of promise, when halfway through the message that sixth shot of Knob Creek hits their blood stream resulting in a slur of obscenities and a series of "whoo-hooo's" and always ending in a profession of love – "I love you man."

5) The fast-talker voicemail – the phone number can never be written down and the message requires you to find your "repeat" button nine and a half times. Perhaps they fear the "Your message has timed out" prompt and feel they have to cram their life's history into one 15-second voicemail.

6) The mumbler voicemail– no, I'm not referring to the Dick Tracy character, it's the kind of person who seems to be neither drunk nor high and has suddenly taken up a foreign language for the use of your voicemail. There are no distinct enunciations, leading me to believe they are leaving a cryptic code in an attempt to avoid being monitored by "The Man."

Please dial responsibly and make sure you speak up after the tone.

## Dear Barry,

By KYLE MAGIN  
Special Projects Reporter

I've always thought of you as the preeminent horse's ass in the sports world, but what you've done in the last week has destroyed any shred of respect I held for you, the player. Everyone knows you're a mean-spirited S.O.B., completely self-focused and unable to connect with fans, writers and teammates. If there were a Bonds Sports Network, you'd be the charter subscriber. In your own head, you are completely infallible.

First, you tested positive for "greenies," or amphetamines for those of you not familiar with baseball's drug lexicon. Then, you blamed your test on teammate Mark Sweeney, saying that you got the stuff out of his locker without any clue about what it was. Days later, you denied the above report in a

transparent attempt to fix a relationship with an organization that has always had your back. Seriously?

How do you, of all people, not know exactly what you're putting in your system? Nobody has been more scrutinized in the last few years than you. You of all people should put anything you put in your body under a microscope. Not that the positive test surprised me, I imagine that at all times there is a small Walgreen's Pharmacy flowing through your "better-living-through-chemistry" body.

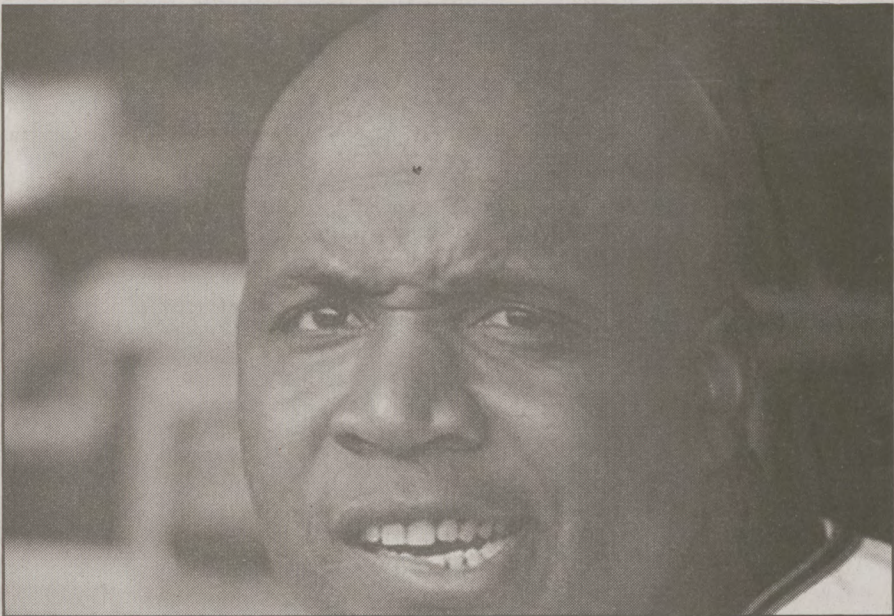
Shame on you for throwing your teammate under the bus, though. Shame on you for turning your back on the Giants, an organization which has supported you for every self-induced firestorm you've gotten yourself into.

How about taking accountability for the things you do, and honoring the sacred bond that teammates share? Say whatever you want about them to

their face, that's your right, but selling them out to the media destroys any vestige of respect anyone has for you. Team sports can be a foul place for some athletes, and having teammates who will have your back is comforting. The lowest circle of hell is reserved for those who betray, and I hope that Benedict Arnold is your cell-mate.

So Barry, pop another pill, hit some more bullshit home runs and enjoy the McGwire treatment when you come up for entry into the Hall of Fame. I'll take pleasure in watching as your time on the ballot runs up, and you sit alone in your home, friendless, as America moves on without you.

Baseball is a sport of records and memories, of stories handed down through the generations. Not telling my son about you when I wax poetically about my memories of baseball, about the greats of my childhood, will be a personal joy. In fifty years, your legacy will be that of a circus-freak sideshow, a joke on an "I Love the 2000's" show, no more significant than Ruben Studdard or an episode of "The Newlyweds."



Barry Bonds

ERIC RISBERG/AP Photo

## Nominations Now Being Accepted For The Following Student Awards:

### Wilson Awards.

Nominees for the 2007 Matilda R. Wilson and Alfred G. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in April 2007 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2006. The awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders, and responsible citizens to the Oakland University community. Nominees must have a strong record of a 3.5 or higher G.P.A.

### Human Relations Award.

Nominees must be graduating in April 2007 or have graduated in June, August, or December 2006. The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to inter-group understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the community. A minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 is required.

Nomination forms are available online at [www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents) under "Awards and Scholarships" or at 144 Oakland Center. Call 370.3352 for more information. Deadline for both awards is Friday, February 2, 2007.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Grizzlies go two-for- two

## Women sweep teams on roadtrip

By **ROB TATE**  
Senior Reporter

When the going got tough for the Oakland University women's basketball team, they responded in a big manner, good enough for a second place tie in the Mid-Con conference standings.

The Golden Grizzlies went 2-0 during their road-trip, with a 60-51 victory over Western Illinois Saturday, following that up with a 63-57 victory over Valparaiso Monday night. OU now holds two road victories over the current top two teams in the conference, which could be good for tie-breaking when the Mid-Con tournament rolls around in early March.

After a disappointing conference opener against IUPUI Jan. 8, a game in which OU blew a lead late and turned the ball over 18 times, The Grizzlies responded well by defeating the Western Illinois Westernwinds last Saturday. Oakland showed a huge improvement in ball protection, turning over the ball a season low 10 times.

Senior Bonnie Baker stepped up after a string of disappointing games to grab a career-high 12 rebounds, which are the most by any Golden Grizzly this season. Baker has had some struggles shooting as of late, but did chip in eight points against Valparaiso.

Sophomore Jessica Pike scored a game high 20 points to lead the way, shooting three for four from beyond-the-arc. Junior Charlese Greer added 11 points on three for three shooting and five for six from

the charity stripe.

OU gave Western Illinois fits all afternoon on defense. The Westerwinds had four players with eight points on the game, the most scored by any of their players that afternoon.

On Monday night, Pike led the way for the Golden Grizzlies at Valparaiso, netting 16 points on six of 13 shooting and hauled in seven rebounds, both game highs for Oakland. Sophomore guard Rikka Terava scored a season high 10 points and dished out three assists.

OU played pretty well on the defensive side of the ball. The Valparaiso Crusaders was held to only 38 percent from the field and shot nothing but blanks from beyond the arc, going five for 22.

The Golden Grizzlies were beasts on the boards, taking 40 away from Valpo, who only came up with 33.

Although they'll take a win anyway possible, Head Coach Becki Francis' team has had a hard time shooting lately. The Golden Grizzlies have shot an abysmal 37 percent in the four games since Christmas Break, but still have managed to go 2-2 during the stretch.

With the two victories, Oakland raises their record to 6-10 overall and 2-1 in the Mid-Con. OU comes back to the friendly confines of the O'Rena with a game against UMKC Saturday at 3:30 p.m. and then a 7 p.m. tilt versus Southern Utah Monday.

Both UMKC and Southern Utah are 2-1 in conference play.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Two for the road

## Away victories secure perfect Mid-Con record

By **SAMANTHA FRANZ**  
Sports Editor

To paraphrase the 80s metal geniuses that were Judas Priest, the Valparaiso Crusaders (2-2 conference, 7-10 overall) had another thing comin'.

After Oakland University (3-0, 10-9) beat Valpo at home for the first time in 16 tries last season, it would only be a matter of time before the Grizzlies would show up the Crusaders at their house.

Their time came Thursday, when OU defeated Valparaiso 81-76, due, in part, to their on-going ability to nail free throws come crunch time.

The first half seesawed between the two teams and the Crusaders maintained a 30-27 lead going into halftime, despite a late OU 10-point scoring run in the half's final minutes.

The second half kicked off with a 9-2 scoring run, seven of those coming from the hot hand of senior Vova Severovas. But the Crusaders refused to let up any steam, and with a free throw from Severovas at 14:28, the game was tied at 40 apiece.

From that point on, the game became a swap meet, as both teams traded points like

Wall Street investors trade stocks. But the Golden Grizzlies managed to hold on to their lead, until Valparaiso's Urule Igbavboa sank a jumper with 3:21 left, giving them a 66-65 lead.

With the game coming down to the wire, sophomore Erik Kangas, who, game by game, is more deserving of the nickname "Mr. Clutch," nailed a difficult three-pointer with 42 seconds remaining to give the Grizzlies the lead for good, 74-72. Seven for eight free-throw shooting helped OU keep the lead in their corner as the final buzzer rang.

Flying high off the momentum of the Valpo win, Oakland flew into Western Illinois' arena Saturday and took out the last-place Leathernecks (0-4, 4-14) by a score of 79-52.

Nine OU players contributed to the scoreboard, including a 14 point effort from Kangas and season-tying high 24 points from Severovas. Freshman point guard Jonathon Jones registered a career-high nine assists and Oakland had a season high of 23 total assists to only 12 turnovers.

The Golden Grizzlies hope to keep their conference record smudge-free as they take on Southern Utah University tomorrow and UMKC Saturday. Both games will be at home.

# Swimming Roundup

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**  
Contributing Reporter

## Men's Swimming and Diving Splits Decisions

The men's swimming and diving team fell short of visiting Notre Dame last Friday night, but bounced back with a win at Kenyon College on Saturday, 193-100.

Friday, Zoltan Hovarth swam to victory in the 100 breast and 200 breast. Nick Bonucci completed the 50 free in 21.50, the third fastest time by a Golden Grizzly this season. Marcin Unold also had the third fastest time by a Grizzly this season, as he finished second in the 200 back at 1:52.02.

The Grizzlies closed out the meet with a victory in the 400 relay. Unold, Andy Kellogg, Bonucci and Aaron Holdsworth finished with a season-best time of 3:06.22.

Unold kicked off the event with a split of 46.64, good for the fastest 100 time by an Oakland swimmer this year.

Saturday, Hovarth set pool records in the 100 back and the 200 IM. The Golden

Grizzlies finished 1-2-3 in three events, including the 100 back, 100 breast and the 100 free. Unold finished the 100 back with a season-best time of 50.88 for first place. Dawid Tatarczyk and Holdsworth finished 1-2 in both the 200 free and 500 free.

In diving, Ryan Kish, Adam Ralph, and Mike Ledesma placed 1-2-3 in both the 1-meter and 3-meter boards. Ralph and Ledesma set personal bests in both events.

**Women's swimming edged out**  
Host Kenyon College narrowly beat Oakland, with a score of 145-143 last Saturday.

Sophia Gustaffson was back in action, winning the 200 free, 200 fly and 500 free. Tara Baxter finished first in both the 100 back and 200 back. The Golden Grizzlies finished 1-2 in the 200 fly, 100 free and 500 free.

Missy Butcher set personal bests on the one meter board with 190.43 and followed it up with another personal best on the three-meter of 171.90. She placed first in both events.

The next meet is Friday at the Rec Center.

## Number Crunching

12

Golden Grizzly wins all-time vs. Valparaiso Crusaders.

22

Turnovers on road trip vs. the 18 in previous IUPUI game.

35

Minutes played by Jessica Pike vs. Valpo.

27

Bench points combined in both road wins.

## Saturday Double Header

Women's Game  
at 3:30 p.m.  
vs.  
UMKC

Men's Game  
at 6:00 p.m.  
vs.  
UMKC

Both games  
will be played  
in the O'Rena

# Diversity Career Fair

Presented by Career Services

Thursday, January 25, 2007

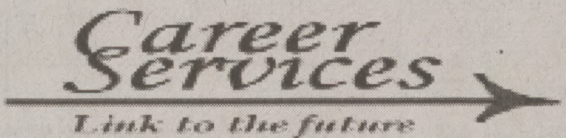
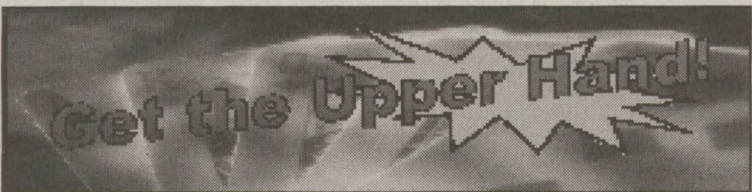
11:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

Oakland Center Banquet Rooms

### Participating Employers:

Volkswagen of America, Verizon Wireless, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, U.S. Army Tacom I.C.M.C., National City Bank, Allac, Hertz Corporation, U.S. Foodservice, Cross Roads for Youth, City Year Detroit, Wells Fargo Financial, and many more

All Students and Alumni Welcome.  
Professional Dress Preferred.  
Bring Your Student Spiritcard for Easy Entrance.



People with disabilities who need assistance to participate in these programs should contact the Office of Disability Support Services at 248-370-3266.



**BENDING IT LIKE ... TOM CRUISE?**  
After signing a \$250 million deal with the MLS's Los Angeles Galaxy, reports have emerged that David Beckham and his wife, former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham, are looking to be recruited to join the Scientology religion by none other than Mr. Couch Jumper himself, Tom Cruise.

# Grizzlies fall to Sparty

## Six-game win streak halted in 6-4 loss

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY  
Contributing Reporter

Riding on a six-game win streak, "losing" is not a term that has been a part of the Golden Grizzlies' vocabulary lately, but it snuck its way back in last Friday, as the Grizzlies dropped their first game since November to visiting opponent Michigan State.

The 6-4 loss ended a six-game winning streak and is probably one Head Coach Sean Hogan would rather forget.

"(Friday's) performance was terrible. It's like we weren't coached at all," said Hogan.

The Grizzlies have had a hard time coming from behind throughout the 2006-2007 season, and Friday was no exception.

The Spartans pulled ahead with a two-goal lead three times, and Oakland was unable to gain the lead at any point in the game.

Twice the Grizzlies came back to tie the game, and twice the Spartans responded with a pair of goals.

The one bright spot in an otherwise disappointing game was the efforts of assistant captain Will McMahon.

The casual fan would have never guessed McMahon had left the previous game with a shoulder injury based on his stellar performance Friday night.

"Will McMahon has been a star all season and all career," said Hogan. "He shows up every night ready to play and always makes something happen. You can't say enough about him."

McMahon was barely able to take shots during warm-ups, which raised a few eyebrows. But fans and teammates alike had no cause for concern, as he pushed through the pain and netted his fourth hat trick of the season, including two short-handed goals.

"On the penalty kill, obviously defense is first, but the other team is thinking all about offense on the power play," said McMahon. "The opportunity to score is always present on the penalty kill. You just have to be sure to protect your end first."

McMahon's linemate Brent Cooper had the other goal for Oakland, which pulled them even with Michigan State early in the third period.

But the Grizzlies' fate seemed to be sealed, as they were unable to convert on a lengthy 5-on-3 power play near the end of the game. Even with a sixth skater and a Spartan in the penalty box, Oakland couldn't buy a goal.

"We were very disappointed in not converting on the power play at the end," said Hogan. "We went over in practice what to do on a 5-on-3 and where we want the shots from. Guys started to do their own thing, and we failed to convert."

Hogan chose to rest goaltender Collin Chase, who appears to be emerging as the number one goalie, although Hogan has not officially acknowledged it. Instead, Jim Sardelli got the start in net and stopped 46 shots.

The loss shouldn't come as a surprise, as Michigan State has beat Oakland on home ice the last three seasons, including the Division II National Championship final in 2005.

"We need to be ready every night, and we were not prepared to win," said Hogan, who played for State's ACHA team between 1999 and 2001.

"When I played at MSU, we always had Oakland's number and beat them. It has been like that since I started coaching here in '03-'04. I don't know our record versus MSU, but I know it's not good."



AMBER DIETZ/  
The Oakland Post  
The Golden Grizzlies fought a hard battle against the MSU Spartans, but could never pull ahead with the lead.

# Golden Grizzly honored for athletic performance

## McMahon in same ranks as Jim Leyland, Chauncey Billups and Justin Verlander

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY  
Contributing Reporter

In his five seasons at Oakland University, forward Will McMahon has accumulated quite an impressive resume. A part of two American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II national championship teams, McMahon racked up a whopping 116 points last season. He was named the national scoring leader with 74 goals and 42 assists in 40 games and has also garnered the Division II National Player of the Year award the past three years.

Now, McMahon adds another accomplishment to his list: the Detroit Free Press has named him as one of 25 finalists for Michigan's top sports figure of 2006.

McMahon's picture and a short write-up were featured in last Friday's Free Press, along with the other finalists. He faces some tough competition, as several professional athletes are in the running as well. Among those nominated are Chauncey Billups, Carlos Guillen, Jim Leyland, Nicklas Lidstrom and Justin Verlander.

"I know I won't win, but just being considered for such an award is quite unbelievable," said McMahon.

But don't tell that to anyone who has joined the "Will

McMahon to win Michigan's Best for 2006" Facebook group. With over 100 members, he is sure to have plenty of supporters in the Detroit area willing to stuff the ballots.

McMahon's performance over the past four years has Golden Grizzlies' Head Coach Sean Hogan singing his praises.

"He is an effective leader on the ice, and players can see how good he is just by watching. He does things that most players at this level cannot do and does things that even make the coaches around the league amazed," said Hogan, who joined the team as an assistant coach in McMahon's sophomore season before taking over as head coach last year.

"He is effective in the locker room by being quiet, mostly, and saying the right thing when it is needed to be said," said Hogan.

Despite the buzz, McMahon maintains a level head. He credits his nomination with the improvement of Oakland's hockey program over the past four and a half years and realizes that it is great media attention for the team to see someone from OU up against some of the best professional athletes. He also hopes it will spark some interest from people who otherwise would have never come out to a game.

"Seeing the support of my parents buying ten copies of the paper and Coach Hogan buying a ton and passing them out at the game, it's a good feeling," said McMahon.

"The award is just as much for everyone a part of Oakland hockey as it is for me."

Readers can vote for their top three pick, using the ballot from last Friday's Sport section, on page 10D. Voting is open until tomorrow. To find out where to mail your ballot, visit [www.freep.com](http://www.freep.com).

## ACHA RANKINGS

The next rankings for D1 hockey will be released this Friday. The Golden Grizzlies currently sit at the 13th spot in the nation and need to stay in the top 16 in order to advance to the tournament in March.

# Post Panel Picks

## NFL Conference Playoff Edition

AMBER DIETZ/  
The Oakland Post



DUANE BURLESON/  
The Associated Press

Chris Webber greets fans before Monday's matchup against the Minnesota Timberwolves.



# CWebb comes home

By SAMANTHA FRANZ  
Sports Editor

After days of speculation, the rumors have finally been confirmed. Chris Webber, former University of Michigan standout and Fab Five member, will be returning to the Great Lakes State ... this time in Pistons red, white, and blue.

A five-time All-Star, Chris Webber has not won a NBA championship title in his 13 seasons in the league, even though he has 10 playoff appearances under his belt, including six with the Sacramento Kings.

Webber was waived by the Philadelphia 76ers last week, after the team bought out the remaining one and a half years on his contract.

Despite Webber's track record of controversies and recent injuries, Head Coach Flip Saunders is ready to accept Webber with open arms.

"We think Chris is going to be a great fit for

the way we play," Saunders said. "The guys are excited, I'm excited and the town's going to be excited."

Pistons center Nazr Mohammed, who recently found a new role of coming off the bench, is uneasy about Webber's return and wants out of the city if the 1993 Rookie of the Year cuts into his playing time.

"I came here to play," said Mohammed. "If I'm not in the plan, I would ask for a trade."

The Detroit Country Day alum is ready to get the bad taste of his Philadelphia days out of his mouth and pull Detroit out of its recent slump.

"I look forward to joining a roster of talented athletes and working towards a fourth NBA title for the Pistons and the great city of Detroit," Webber said.

Webber will wear no. 84 when he suits up to play, which could be as early as tonight against the Utah Jazz.

—The Associated Press contributed to this report

	Samantha Franz Sports Editor	Rob Tate Senior Reporter	Kyle Magin Special Projects Reporter	Paul Gully Assistant News Editor	Brad Doescher WXOU Sports
Saints at Bears	<b>BEARS</b> "The Saints are the Cinderella story of the NFL. But the Bears will trump with defense."	<b>SAINTS</b> "Bears' DT Harris is out and the Saints are the new 'America's Team'."	<b>BEARS</b> "Bears' defense controls the game in wintry, windy weather."	<b>BEARS</b> "The Bears should thrive in the winter environment and their D will finally come up big."	<b>SAINTS</b> "I believe the Bears D is starting to fall apart. Seahawks showed holes in 'Da Bears' D."
Patriots at Colts	<b>COLTS</b> "Man, this is rough for me. But I think this is the Year of the Peyton."	<b>PATRIOTS</b> "Pats will need to attack Indy's run defense and Tom Brady is 2-0 vs. Indy in the playoffs."	<b>COLTS</b> "Peyton Manning remembers he's the greatest QB ever, then plays like it."	<b>COLTS</b> "Still not sold on their D, but they're playing at home, and Peyton should finally show up."	<b>COLTS</b> "I believe that Manning will do it this year. The stadium will push the Colts over the Brady Bunch."