

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

November 14, 2007

Volume 33, Number 42

OU faculty and staff have enjoyed their own personal subdivision for more than 40 years. Find out why some fear their homes could become

Fading spaces page 4

Just a few steps away from your classes...
**On Campus Housing Available
WINTER SEMESTER '08**



**COMMUTERS,
PUT A BRAKE ON
THE
COMMUTE
TO CAMPUS**

AMENITIES INCLUDE:

- 24/7 Heating ♦ All you can eat meals ♦ Phone service ♦ Cable TV ♦
Wireless Internet ♦ FREE Laundry ♦ Fully furnished room/apartment
♦ Fewer visits to the GAS pump ♦ Chance to participate in programming
and extracurricular activities ♦ Experience leadership positions ♦
Access to diverse experiences and people ♦ Opportunity to live
independently ♦ Steps away from athletic events, campus resources and
student programs

Applications Available NOW for the Residence
Halls and University Student Apartments at the
Department of University Housing
448 Hamlin Hall
(248) 370-3570
housing@oakland.edu



THIS WEEK 11.14.07



Perspectives page 6

A startling statistic gives reason to reconsider our consumerism-driven generation



Campus page 8

OU gets ready for its annual Grizzdance Film Festival. Plus, find out what the university is doing to deal with the state budget situation.



you page 13

Breaking the ice — two OU competitive figure skaters take their passion to the rink. Plus, learn about the lead actors in "Steel Pier"



The Mix page 16

What to do at OU! Plus, Keep the Jenna Jameson talk out of the board meetings and other tips on what not to do at work.



Sports page 18

Women's soccer heads to Purdue for the NCAA tournament and both basketball teams tear it up in their home openers.



Local page 23

Former President Bill Clinton visits Detroit to speak about humanity. And, find out how you can share the wealth this holiday season.



the Scene page 26

The scoop on Johnny Depp starring as a bloody barber and a picture of Dustin Hoffman kissing Natalie Portman.



MOUTHING OFF page 28

Discover the unbiased art of journalism. Plus, senior reporter Jesse Dunsmore takes on prayer.



Nation | World page 30

Plus, it was that a 'date-rape' drug-related substance was found in re-called toy beads.

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIAL

Kelly Kozlowski
Editor in Chief
oakposteditor@gmail.com
(248) 370-4268

Paul Gully
Managing Editor
oakpostmanaging@gmail.com
(248) 370-2537

Dustin Alexander
Photo Editor
oakpostphoto@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

Celeste Filiatrault
Graphics/Web master
oakpostphoto@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

Liz Perales
Campus Editor
oaklandpostcampus@gmail.com
(248) 370-4267

Rob Tate
Assistant Sports Editor
oakpostsports@gmail.com
(248) 370-4268

Samantha Franz
Sports Editor
oakpostsports@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

SENIOR REPORTERS
Jesse Dunsmore
C.M. Graski
Brittany Ochinsky
Nick Degel
oakposteditor@gmail.com
(248) 370-4268

Sara Kandel
Mix/Scene Editor
oakpostfeatures@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

STAFF INTERNS
Adam Roberts
Dan Tallant
Tracy Wawrzyniak

Tyler Cameron
Local Editor
oakpostlocal@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

John Gardner
Web Master
(248) 370-4268

Alex Cherup
Mouthing Off Editor
oakposteditor@gmail.com
(248) 370-4267

Wendy Lyons
Copy Editor
(248) 370-4268

Lindsey Wojcik
You Editor
oakpostfeatures@gmail.com
(248) 370-4268

ADVISOR
Holly Gilbert
Dept. of Journalism
(248) 370-4268
shreve@oakland.edu

ADVERTISING | MARKETING

Crystal Nelson
Lead Ads Manager
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
(248) 370-4269

Owen Sexton
Marketing Director
oakpostmarketing@gmail.com
(248) 370-4266

Celeste Filiatrault
Asst. Ads Manager
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
(248) 370-4269

Maria Vitale
Asst. Ads Manager
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
(248) 370-4269

Heather Holm
Asst. Ads Manager
oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
(248) 370-4269

FREE

Win a FREE iPod
-plus lots of other
great prizes.
Find out how on
page 31.

FREE

The houses that OU built

Several OU staff members have concerns regarding the faculty subdivision; university offers reassurance

By PAUL GULLY AND
NICK DEGEL
Managing Editor and Senior
Reporter

For nearly three years Kathleen Pfeiffer and her husband Todd Estes have lived in a subdivision they consider to be wonderfully unique.

The two, both of whom are associate professors at Oakland University, live in Meadow Brook Subdivision, a neighborhood where the answers to endless questions may be as close as a walk down the street, where deer routinely roam through yards and feed from the hands of residents, where they feel comfortable raising their two young children.

"It's a kind of community, the likes of which, really don't exist in many other places," said Pfeiffer, an associate professor of English.

However, Pfeiffer and Estes fear, as do many of the neighborhood residents, that they may eventually be forced from their home — not by the state or city, but by their employer.

Oakland University, however, insists it has no such plans.

Unknown to most, OU owns land on the east side of Adams Road, which since 1959, has been designated as a faculty subdivision — that is, only OU faculty and staff are permitted to live there.

While tenants own the houses they live in, they pay a monthly ground lease to OU for the rental of the property and land.

According to OU Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder, 55 houses currently occupy the 157-acre parcel located between



A photo of the vacant house scheduled to be demolished sometime before the end of this year, according to Mary Beth Snyder.

the OU fraternity houses and Avon Road.

The subdivision occupies 54 of the 157 acres.

Recent concerns over the university's intentions for the subdivision arose this spring, when homeowners in the neighborhood received a letter from Snyder, explaining that the university reserved the right to manage its property in whatever way it saw fit, according to Pfeiffer.

Suspensions grew when the subdivision's president Uni Susskind, a resident of the neighborhood since 1961, received a letter from OU several months later, explaining that plans were made to demolish a vacant house that was up for sale in the subdivision.

While several residents of the subdivision

said that there was interest in the house, Snyder maintains there was little.

"The one home that was taken off the market had been sitting empty for a long time. We decided, after a period of not having any interest in the home, ... perhaps [due to] the economy, that we would eliminate it and turn the land into a common area," Snyder said.

While residents fear that the university is planning on phasing out the subdivision, Snyder remains adamant that the university has no plans to do so.

"There are absolutely no such plans," Snyder said.

According to Snyder the decision to demolish the vacant house is a business decision, and every decision regarding houses in the

neighborhood is made on a property-by-property basis.

If a house in the subdivision is up for sale and doesn't sell after a year, the university is obligated to buy it back.

"We want to maintain the value of the homes in the sub, and a case can be made that having empty homes for long periods of time is not going to help the rest of the homeowners maintain the value of their homes," Snyder said.

"We're having to put in money to keep the property up on empty homes — to keep them heated to the point where the pipes don't freeze," she said. "We have to maintain those kinds of things."

In Oakland University's Physical Master Plan for 2001-2020, it states that the involved task force did not foresee an alternative use for the land currently used for the Meadow Brook Subdivision due to the long-term lease commitments involved.

Despite the administration's reassurances, many residents in the subdivision are still fearful of the university's intentions.

Susskind questioned whether demolishing a house would actually maintain the value of houses in the neighborhood, or rather, do the opposite by scaring off potential buyers.

Susskind addressed OU's board of trustees at a formal meeting to ask that the board reconsider the planned demolition of the home.

"They said they were going to get back to me," said Susskind of the board of trustees. "No one did."

Vicent Khapoya, a political science professor who has called the neighborhood his home for 22 years, said that, a little more than a year ago, OU's former director of housing Eleanor

"We want to maintain the value of the homes in the sub."

-Mary Beth Snyder, Vice President of Student Affairs at OU

continued from page 4

Reynolds told him that the university had "plans to use the land for development" and "phase out the subdivision."

Reynolds denied that she made the statement, saying that Khapoya may have mistaken her for someone else.

Not all residents of the subdivision are as leery of the university's intentions.

"Faculty in the sub tend to attribute Machiavellian traits to the university that may not necessarily be true," said Floyd Willoughby, associate professor of management and marketing, a resident of the subdivision.

"The faculty here cast a suspicious eye on the administration," he added.

Recently, a neighborhood subcommittee was formed by several residents, with hopes of better communicating with OU's administration about the neighborhood and its future.

The seven-member group also aspires to help facilitate the leasing and selling of the houses in the neighborhood.

"We love this house, and the prospect of demolition is really troubling," Pfeiffer said of her and Estes. "So if we had to move, I don't know what we would do."

What's in a name?

Matilda Wilson envisioned Oakland University as the "Harvard of the Midwest." Street names in the faculty subdivision kept true to that ambition.

Cambridge

England's University of Cambridge is the second oldest university in the English speaking world

Heidelberg

The Ruprecht Karl University of Heidelberg is Germany's oldest university founded in 1386

McGill

McGill University is a highly regarded medical school in Montreal, Quebec

Sorbonne

Sorbonne is the name commonly used to refer to the University of Paris



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Resident Uni Susskind serves as president of the faculty subdivision. She has lived in the neighborhood since 1961 in one of the first homes built in the subdivision. Her late husband, Norman Susskind, taught French at OU from 1960-89.

On the map:

Meadow Brook Subdivision is located on the east side of Adams Rd. between Walton and Avon



NOV 12-25

Champion

25% OFF

cozy fleece you can roll out of bed with

Barnes & Noble at Oakland University

Visit us on the lower level of the Oakland Center.

Perspectives

6

www.oaklandpostonline.com

November 14, 2007

STAFF EDITORIAL

Overcome your wants, understand your needs

Consumerism is the pulse of the modern American heartbeat. It finds its way into every facet of today's lifestyle.

America's youth have been hypnotized by the lure of the cellophane-wrapped world of products and paper money.

According to a recent report in the Christian Science Monitor, in the article "Credit-Card Generation Could Learn From Elders," by columnist Marilyn Gardner, the children of today, on average, spend 500 times more than their parents spent in their youth. This is even after inflation is taken into account.

Our society has raised an army of teenage consumerists ready to pounce on the next price tag.

The advertising and marketing campaigns all have the same message of more, more, more.

Billboards make the individual feel special, as if they are assisting each person on their respective roads to the next rest area of purchasing nirvana.

We start to feel like we can get whatever we want. And when get what we want, we immediately begin to desire something else.

Bob Dylan once said: "if only" is a state of mind we get into when we feel deprived."

The ultimate transient joy of satisfying our desire is just part of the deprivation.

Consumerism is about the transience that offers the impression of giving but, in reality, is only taking.

The cheap rewards and happiness make us more deprived.

It is no surprise that the adolescents of the past decade are casualties of this phenomenon.

We fail to understand that the fulfillment of a desire is secondary. Overcoming that desire or wish or want is what matters most.

Monetary materialism offers the former as

best option. It narrows the kaleidoscope of satisfaction.

We feel as if the opposite is the case — that wealth is divine, and demand everything at a faster price.

Success is not pleasure or a well-fed wallet. Our generation is a refugee of the "want" mentality.

Wants are placed before mind set.

The escape from the halls of materialism requires some internal improvement. The best remedy is resetting priorities.

Stand above want, desire and wish.

Understand values other than materialism. There is genuine worth to so many other aspects of existence not linked to monetary factors.

Concentrate on an improved overall life — one that is not for sale.

Work to overcome stress by conducting a more balanced lifestyle that begins in arenas both mental and physical.

Look at value in terms of use rather than economical or fiscal.

Understand the importance of simplicity.

Take time to master one's emotions and not allow them to overpower or control.

The least we can do is learn some moderation.

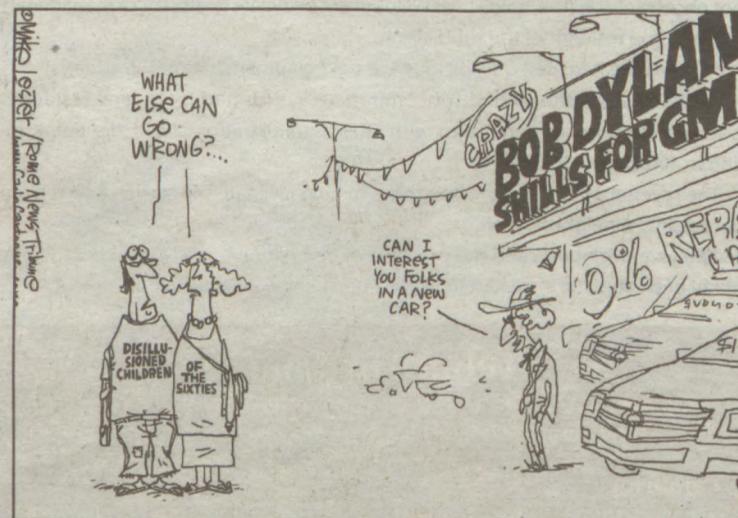
Consumerism will work best if we break away from its power. Once we get out of the "if only" state of mind, consumerism is an ally — a tool to supply the need rather than want.

From this perspective we would never dream of spending 500 times anyone, especially in our days of borderline college-student bankruptcy.

Naturally, we are inundated today with substantially more commercialization.

Nonetheless, one does not need to satisfy the requirements of the profit makers.

"If only" can be overcome.



Mike Lester, The Rome News-Tribune/CAGLE CARTOONS

... the voice of a generation?

What do you think? Have a news tip?

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. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.

CORRECTIONS CORNER

From the Nov. 7 issue:

- Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett's name was incorrectly spelled.
- It was reported that Darryl "DMC" McDaniels was to visit OU on Nov. 7. The correct date of the scheduled event was Nov. 8.
- The co-host of WXOU's "Fatty and the Ego" is Patrick Kyc.
- It was reported that Princeton's swim team was to open their season in Rochester, MI. They actually opened their season at home.

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

Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



Stefanie Zebrowski
Freshman, Undecided
Major



Brett Socia
Sophomore, Journalism
Major



Stephen Sharper
Junior, Sociology Major,
Pres. of Sociology Club



Dr. Linda Schweitzer
Associate Professor of
Chemistry

What shows are you most worried about missing due to Hollywood writers striking?

Desperate Housewives. Actually, I am not that worried because they have episodes written up until, I think, Christmas.

Scrubs would be a bad one to miss, but I think they are done with that. For the most part, I watch more sports and stuff on the Discovery Channel and History Channel.

I don't watch a whole lot of TV ... I would miss House, though.

I don't watch that many sitcoms or regular programs. I think [the writers] are a bunch of cry babies. They make a lot of money. So even if the shows are good I'm not going to be upset.

With the holidays coming up, are you at all concerned about purchasing toys because of the recent toy recalls due to contaminated paint?

A little bit. But recalls are going to happen anyway, regardless of how much you try to control what goes into the toys. The best thing we can do is try to avoid things that may have a chance of being recalled.

I think so. It will hurt the stores that import more stuff from China, like say Walmart. But you kind of run the risk when you have everything made overseas with different standards.

Fortunately, as far as I know, the toys are pretty generic and they aren't anything that are going to be in any huge demand. ... If I was a parent, it would definitely have an effect on my buying.

Yes. I have nieces and nephews and I will be buying natural products. ... I am also concerned about over utilization of resources, and we should not foster a consumerist culture.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner; is there anything that you're particularly thankful for?

I am thankful that I have a good job that can pay for my house, phone and kitten.

Any day above ground is a good one.

I am thankful I had an interesting fall, both academically and socially.

I am a water chemist and I am always thankful for clean water. We have taken so much for granted.

The Detroit Pistons are off to a 5-1 start. What are your expectations for the duration of the season?

Not sure. Whenever I have followed the Pistons, they usually start off really well and then bomb.

I have discredited the NBA entirely. When you have a dozen or so referees caught in casinos [and] you give them a slap on the wrist and say don't do that again, it's kind of a conflict of interest.

Well, with the Pistons, it is always difficult, especially early on in the season. They have this bad habit of having a great season, and then they get in the playoffs, it seems that the interest is gone.

They have a good shot at going all the way. They got robbed by crooked refs last time.

Whadya Think?

Want to be a future panelist for "Four on Four"?
Do you have some great ideas for panel questions?
Get in on the action. For more information, or to
send us a column, email the Perspectives editor at
oakpostmanaging.com.

Gear up for Grizzdance

2007 film festival to feature new awards, student events

By **JESSE DUNSMORE**
Senior Reporter

The third annual Grizzdance Film Festival will be held in the Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center Nov. 15-16.

Grizzdance, its name inspired by the Sundance Film Festival, is a competitive student film festival sponsored by more than a dozen campus organizations.

Originally organized by the Honors College Student Association and Student Video Productions, the festival now involves such diverse co-sponsors as the department of English, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives and the Gay-Straight Alliance.

Sean Buono, president of Grizzdance Film Festival and an Oakland University student, said he hoped to draw more attention this year than in the past.

Following a "kind of pitiful" Facebook campaign last year, Buono said, the festival stepped-up advertising.

They also have secured speaker Greg Bennick for the awards ceremony, which is to be held following a 7 p.m. dinner in the Banquet Rooms of the OC.

As a side event, the documentary "Flight from Death," which Bennick co-produced, is to be shown in Gold Rooms B and C of the OC at 7 p.m. Nov. 15.

Buono said that in the past, the dinner was an invitation-only event.

It typically attracted about 100 people, mostly filmmakers and donors.

Now that it's open to all students, Buono said, he would like to see more than 150 people attend.

"That'd be fantastic if we were able to pack the banquets," he said.

Attendees to the banquet should wear business attire if possible, Buono said, but no one will be turned away because of his or her clothing.

"We're trying to make it an elegant, fun activity for faculty and staff and

students all to enjoy at an equal level," he said.

According to Buono, the dinner is to feature Chartwells food, announcement of the winners of the first through third-place awards and a showing of some of the films.

The 11 entered student films are to compete for a variety of awards, including best acting, best editing, best musical editing and a new category — best school spirit.

The festival also will include best in category awards, given only in those categories containing three or more films.

This year also features best in comedy and best in television production awards.

Other than the Student Choice Award, which is decided by student vote, all awards are granted by a panel of 10 judges, Buono said.

The panel is to be composed of six students and four faculty and staff.

The overall first-, second- and third-place award winners are to be given \$750, \$500 and \$250, respectively.

The ten remaining prizes go to other winners in the form of \$50 Spiritcash.

Buono said that he never has helped produce a film himself. But, he said, he enjoys seeing other students' work.

"I like the spoof — the exaggerated comedy — because you can get a lot of reaction in that 10-12 minutes," he said.

According to Buono, dramas dominated the awards last year, but he expects that comedies will make a comeback this time.

Megan Herald, a freshman majoring in studio art photography, is the treasurer for the Grizzdance Film Festival.

"I think it's a beautiful way to show art," Herald said. "You've got movements and lighting. Just the collaboration of all the different techniques — I think it's really beautiful."

"It's one of the coolest events on campus," Buono said.

THE GRIZZDANCE HOPEFULS



Photo from Sadeer Farjo

THE FINAL LIST

For the past three weeks, The Oakland Post has featured students and alumni who have hopes of their films being recognized at the 2007 Grizzdance Film Festival Nov. 15-16. Here is the complete list of this year's filmmakers and the title of the film they have entered. The films can be viewed in the Fireside Lounge of the Oakland Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ballots also can be cast for the Student Choice Award. See the Grizzdance page on Facebook for information.

PETER BANACHOWSKI — "RENT-A-COP"
KATIE SIMOPOLOUS — "DRESSING ROOM"
RYAN FALCHEK — "DAWN OF CONFUSION"
SADEER FARJO — "NUMBERS 1 & 2"
TOM LINDELL — "OVERCOMING PARKER"
BRIAN PAPANDREA — "TRAINING DAY 2"
JARED RADTKE — "LORD SAVE OUR SOULS"
COURTNEY BROOKS — "PIMP MY DORM"
YVONNE SZYMCAK — "STRANGER WALKING"
CRYSTAL WITHERELL — "NATIVE AMERICAN DANCE"
BLAKE O. KLEINER — "BLUE"

THE GRIZZDANCE EVENTS

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

■ Daytime screenings of all entries
11-3 p.m. in Oakland Center
Fireside Lounge

■ "Flight From Death" showing
7 p.m. in Oakland Center
Gold Rooms B and C

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

■ Daytime screenings of all entries
11-3 p.m. in Oakland Center
Fireside Lounge

■ Awards Banquet
7-8 p.m. in the Oakland Center
Banquet Rooms

■ Awards Ceremony
8-9 p.m. in the Oakland Center
Banquet Rooms

DMC gets real on hip-hop today

Rapper shares thoughts, frustrations

By ALEX CHERUP
Mouthing Off Editor

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives hosted Darryl "DMC" McDaniels in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms on Nov. 8 as part of Oakland University's Cultural Awareness Week.

McDaniels, 43, was a member of the now-retired rap group RUN-DMC.

The rapper spoke for an hour and a half about his career, as well as the past, present and future of hip-hop.

About 100 people attended the free event.

After the lecture, McDaniels took time to answer audience questions and sign autographs.

The evening started with Omar Brown-El, director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, and Student Program Board president Tamara Kukuk offering opening words.

A brief introductory video played before McDaniels made his appearance.

McDaniels' energy remained constant throughout the entire lecture as he spoke of his influences and his love for hip-hop.

"Hip-hop is the total experience of a B-Boy or B-girl, regardless of race, creed, culture or ethnicity," McDaniels said.

He talked about his ascent toward superstardom — going from his beginnings as a straight-A student in Hollis, Queens to his enrollment at St. Johns University.

According to McDaniels, his love affair with hip-hop began in 1978 when he was a seventh grader at a Catholic high school.

He recounted his attachment to the new sounds of hip-hop, which were fresh compared to the then-popular disco.

"We would rap and go get high and rap and play basketball," he said.

McDaniels emphasized the age of RUN-DMC's members — late teens — when they first hit it big.

This perception of the world from this age, he said, provided the fodder for the lyrics, whether they were about his shoes or Christmas.

"We took the beat from the street and put it on TV," he said.

He only had good things to say about other old school rappers, such as Public Enemy and Kurtis Blow.



DARRYL "DMC" MCDANIELS

According to McDaniels, old school was not an era, but a so-called consciousness.

"It pisses me off that people look at old school as a time period," he said.

McDaniels also expressed anger toward the state of hip-hop today.

According to McDaniels, many of today's hip-hop artists are missing the point and have "no growth."

McDaniels criticized the image of the genre and those in power, who McDaniels says are "dead wrong."

"[The] industry has polluted rap. If the music industry ended tomorrow, hip-hop would still be here," he said.

According to McDaniels, there is an important distinction: "Rap is what we do, not what we are."

McDaniels admitted to his fair share of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. He emphasized, however, that he left this off his records.

As for current rappers, McDaniels said, this is not the case. He said that he sees other motivations and attitudes.

"MTV Cribs shows results, not progress. Do we really know what they are saying?" he said. "Excuses don't explain and explanations don't excuse. Hip-hop is about solutions."

McDaniels also directly challenged those who have carried the torch after him.

"Rappers with money should buy a coffin and have a funeral because playtime is over," he said.

The audience became involved in the lecture, often nodding in agreement.

Jeannette Purcell, an English major, said that she enjoyed McDaniels' spirit.

"DMC showed that living is a real connection we all as human beings have," she said. "In his view, the true essence of hip-hop promotes growth and peace throughout the world."

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives also offered other events throughout last week as part of the 2007 Cultural Awareness Week.

This year's theme was "Mission Possible: 50 Years of Embracing Change."

The organization's next featured speaker is scheduled to be singer and activist Harry Belafonte for the annual Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Award Celebration on Jan. 21.

HE WHO DELIVERS

FAST

DELIVERS

BEST!

FREAKY
FAST!

JIMMY JOHN'S
Since 1983
GOURMET SANDWICHES

FREAKY
GOOD!

AMERICA'S #1 SANDWICH DELIVERY!

TO FIND THE LOCATION NEAREST YOU
VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM

JIMMYJOHNS.COM

©2007 JIMMY JOHN'S FRANCHISE, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

POLICEFILES

A person was stuck in an elevator Nov. 11 in Varner Hall, but was able to get out. She said that while she was stuck, she detected a burning odor. Oakland University police investigated, and an elevator company was called to make sure it was functioning.

A student in the P-1 parking lot pulled into a space Nov. 7 as another car left. Shortly after the student got out of her car, a person in a black Jeep pulled up

and began to yell, threatening to beat her and vandalize her car. The student took down the license plate of the Jeep and reported it to OUPD.

OUPD responded to a call from the University Student Apartments about a fight between two roommates Nov. 8. An argument over closet space resulted in pushing and shoving inside the closet. It escalated in the living room where flip-flops and a juice bottle were thrown. The students had minor injuries, and they filled out mutual combatant reports.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

With repairs to its radio tower, the improved WXOU signal now can be heard in communities other than just Oakland University.

WXOU gets enhanced signal

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

At the lowest end of the broadcast spectrum, Oakland University's radio station — 88.3 WXOU — never had the strongest signal. But now the station can be heard loud and clear in places never imagined.

In the summer of 2006, lightning struck the radio tower, on Bald Mountain, about seven miles north of the university.

The storm knocked out the three phone circuits that connected WXOU to the tower.

Phone company SBC was sent to fix the problem and thought they had. But according to WXOU, the signal quality was poor.

"The signal was coming in very weak, very garbled and staticky, even to the point where all the audio was coming through one channel," said Pat Kyc, WXOU program director.

The station dealt with the problem for more than a year while they looked for an engineer to fix it.

Since WXOU is a nonprofit organization, finding the funds to hire someone to fix the signal was difficult.

Christine Stover, coordinator of broadcast services at WXOU, hired Keith Fraley in late October.

"Our former engineer, Oakland alumnus Andrew Salive, took a job with Clear Channel in Ann Arbor in 2006 and could no longer serve Oakland University," said Stover. "When we got hit by lightning, we did not have an engineer to check on the work that SBC had

conducted on our equipment to restore the signal."

Operations Manager Steve Staeger located Fraley, who works for the Birmingham and Bloomfield school districts.

What Fraley discovered was that the phone company had crossed two of the three phone lines, and radios were unable to pick up the signal because of it.

After it was fixed, the quality was back to its original sound, and WXOU now can be heard in more areas.

According to Kyc, WXOU now can be heard in areas in Macomb County.

"My show producer [Brian Young] was in the 23 and Van Dyke area, and he said he was picking up the show [Fatty and the Ego] crystal clear," he said.

While picking up the signal in new areas raises some questions, Stover said it's legitimate, and the station is not in violation of any FCC regulations.

"Since the sound quality of WXOU had been so terrible over the course of this year, it just seems like the signal has been increased, when in fact, it has not," Stover said.

Now that WXOU can be heard in the communities around Oakland University's campus, the station said it will continue to appeal to both the college population and those outside the university.

"Part of our mission statement is to service not only the Oakland University community, but also the communities surrounding us," Kyc said. "We want to provide an alternative source of news, information and entertainment, too."

Crafters sought for OC arts, crafts fair

By ADAM ROBERTS
Staff Intern

Whether it's crafted out of wood, metal, glass or fabric, your crafts are wanted at the annual Oakland Center Art, Book and Gift Fair.

For more than two decades, craftspeople from a variety of fields have gathered at Oakland University to sell their wares to the public.

"Faculty and students really look forward to this event every year," said Kim Carlsen, administrative secretary for the Oakland Center.

The Dec. 4 event is to run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It features a walk-by format that will make it easy for students to browse between classes.

"There have been some unique shops in the past few years," Carlsen said. "One especially popular table last year featured African-themed jewelry."

That table and other jewelry sellers are to be back this year.

Other items are to include denim purses, health and beauty aids, stained glass and ethnic arts.

This year, fresh holiday greens and Christmas crafts also are to be featured, Carlsen said.

The Fair started about 25 years ago and has remained popular. But not everything has remained the same.

"Everything used to be handmade, but that's not the case anymore," Carlsen said.

The organizers, however, are always on the lookout for those who take pride in crafting their own original, handmade items.

Registration is to remain open until Nov. 21 for those who wish to sell their arts and crafts at the fair.

It is \$35 for students, faculty and staff to run a 3- by 8-foot table. The cost is \$40 for those not at OU.

Vendors at the fair get to keep all profits they make from sales.

Staffing, materials and security of the tables are the responsibility of the participating vendors.

Those who wish to sell items at the fair should contact Kim Carlsen at 248-370-3245, or in Room 118 of the Oakland Center.

Oakland University Student Congress Elections



Commission

If you can be unbiased and are willing to help the student body... pick up an application in the OUSC office today or online at www.oakland.edu/ouse and be a part of something great!



For more information, contact Election Commission Chair, Crystal Merrell: cmerrell@oakland.edu

OU alumna releases new book

Motivational lecture encourages audience to aim high in life

By TRACY WAWRZYNIAK
Staff Intern

Sandra Agazzi Chimenti, author of "The Real Me: Awakening Your True Self — Positive Affirmations for Empowering Your Life," gave a motivational lecture in the Fireside Lounge of the Oakland Center Nov. 12.

The discussion, "Discover Your Power to Succeed," encouraged the audience — a mix of students and local residents — to "let go of the past and not worry about the future."

The Oakland University alumna referred to her book — her first nonfiction endeavor — and its "Seven Aspects of Spiritual Awakening" to encourage the audience to release negative energy and go for their dreams.

"It was informative, educational and enlightening," said Dan Platz, an area resident.

Chimenti said that her 9-year journey in self-publishing through her company, Creative Books and Music L.L.C., was a process. She took time out to be a parent and teach self-parenting classes, as well as work on other writing projects.

Chimenti holds a master's in early childhood education and a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education.

"I'm glad I got my degrees at Oakland University. I really liked the instructors and the classes," she said. "I felt like I learned how to learn."

Chimenti said now she spends most of her time traveling, promoting her book and lecturing.

"People have been very excited. It's been well received," Chimenti said.

She emphasized that the book is not an autobiography.

"It is about awakening your true self," Chimenti said.

According to Chimenti, "The Real Me" contains guides, exercises and positive reinforcements. It also contains "Seven Aspects of Spiritual Awakening," including communication, apology and forgiveness, as well as sharing gifts and talents.

"The book evolved, changed and grew as I did," she said. "I wrote it first for me and then to share it with everyone."



SANDRA AGAZZI CHIMENTI

Critics of her approach, Chimenti said, "can do whatever they need to do, and that's OK. If they benefit from it, it's to their benefit. This is spiritual, not religious."

Chimenti also rejects the label of self-help.

"This is for anybody. It's helped so many people," she said.

Area resident Barbara Mihalic, who attended the lecture, said, "It was wonderful, very inspiring."

"I'm very proud of it," Chimenti said.

In addition to her book, Chimenti also is looking ahead to local television appearances and future speaking engagements.

Already having a large repertoire, Chimenti, who also plays the piano, said that she resisted the urge to play at the Fireside Lounge. But she said she hopes to incorporate her music into her lectures in the future.

The event was sponsored by the university's Gender and Sexuality Center.

Following the lecture, Chimenti answered questions and signed copies of her book.

"The Real Me Awakening Your True Self — Positive Affirmations for Empowering Your Life" is to be available at creativebooksandmusic.com Nov. 27.

Chimenti said that she also hopes to offer DVDs at her Web site in the future for those who cannot attend her lectures.

Uncertainty lingers on budget despite recent break

University gets \$4.8 million payment, but delays plans to spend it on students

By NICK DEGEL
Senior Reporter

Oakland University caught a financial break Oct. 16 when it received a deferred August payment of \$4.8 million from the state of Michigan.

Vice President for Finance and Administration John Beaghan reported this before the Oakland University Board of Trustees and university President Gary Russi at last week's Finance, Audit and Investment Committee meeting.

With the uncertainty surrounding the state budget, the university was unsure whether they would receive the payment.

"We were hopeful, but we were not counting on it," Beaghan said.

In July, OU became aware that its 2007 appropriations would be cut substantially by two late actions from the state government.

The university decided that if it received the delayed August payment or additional '08 funds, the money would be passed on to the students in some form.

Some ideas offered in the July Board report were expanded course offerings, needed technology and facility improvements, incremental financial aid and reim-

bursement of depleted reserves.

"We didn't know for sure, but there were some ideas of how we might use the funds," Beaghan said.

But in light of recent action in the state Legislature to repeal the 6 percent services tax originally set to start Dec. 1, OU has decided to not spend the money on anything for now.

The Detroit Free Press reported Nov. 9 that the elimination of the services tax would create a \$614 million hole in the state budget.

OU expects to see this hole filled with deeper cuts on higher education. So the university is opting for a "conservative and cautious" approach on spending until a clearer picture of the state budget emerges.

"We have had midyear budget cuts the last three years," Beaghan said. "We get our appropriations at the beginning of the year, and we have no clue if we'll truly get all that money throughout the year or not. They gave us the August payment, but are they going to give us the November payment? Are they going to give us next August's payment?"

It was this uncertainty that led to some distrust in the state's current budget.

The state has set aside \$51.9 million to be given to OU in the 2008 fiscal year, but the administration is

preparing to work with significantly less funding, projecting an '08 budget of only \$46.6 million.

"The only thing we can do to run this place and be wise stewards of the state's money and the student's money is to be very cautious," Beaghan said.

With large cuts in funds, the university had to implement a 13.9-percent increase in tuition this year.

However, because of careful planning by the university, Russi said in an e-mail to faculty and staff that there will not be a midyear tuition hike.

The discussion for the use of the \$4.8 million is not to reopen until the state reevaluates its budget, which is expected to occur at a conference in January.

But Beaghan said OU typically is leery of the results.

"Last January, they had a revenue consensus conference and said they would be fine and projected their revenues. And two months later they said they were wrong, so they did an executive order to cut our payment," Beaghan said. "Two months later, they decided they were still wrong by even more so they cut us some more."

"Our position is wait and see because we're not convinced that the revenue consensus conference will have accurate numbers."

In the meantime, the student liaisons to the Board of Trustees are to meet with OU Student Congress to develop more ideas on how to benefit students.

"We would really like to hear ideas from the students about what they would like to see done with the money," student liaison Samir Hannah said. "We're representatives of the students, so we want to know what they really think."

THE HILLS

Bar & Grille

6810 N. Rochester Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48306

(In Papa Joe's Plaza.)

(248) 652.4455

www.thehillzbar.com

Monday: 1/2 off pitchers & pizza all day

Tuesday: 1/2 off wine all day & \$2 pints, bottles & wells after 9pm

Wednesday: \$3 Coors Light Tall Boys, \$3.50 Long Islands, 3 for \$13 bombs after 9pm

Thursday: \$2 off all martinis & \$2 Coors Light Bottles after 9pm

Friday: \$2 Miller Lite Pints & \$10 fishbowls after 9pm

Saturday: \$2 Bud Lite Pints & \$10 Sake Bombs after 9pm

November Beer of the Month:

\$2



22OZ.
TALLBOYS

Every day after 9pm!

Pistons Games:

\$3 Bud & Bud Lite 22oz. Tallboys & \$5 fry bricks

Red Wings Games:

\$2 Molson pints & 50 cent wings

ALWAYS REMEMBER TO DRINK
RESPONSIBLY AND HAVE A
DESIGNATED DRIVER.

free wi-fi

The BEST drink specials in Rochester!

Watch NBA League Pass, NFL Sunday Ticket, NHL Center Ice, ESPN Gameplan NCAA Football & Basketball packages on our 30 HD Plasmas & 193" HD Projector!

Classifieds

Employment

Youth activities Organization is looking for responsible, energetic, individuals with cheerleading experience. Must enjoy working with children and have excellent communication skills. Part time evenings. Call 1-800-940-7469.ext. 204



Hostesses, Waitresses and Event Girls: the Post Bar in Auburn Hills is looking for high-energy, personable staff to join our team. Great earning potential and various shifts available. Please call 248-370-8909. Ask for Dave

Spring Break 2008. Sell Trips, Earn Cash and Go Free. Call for group discounts. Best Prices Guaranteed! Best Parties! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, S. Padre, Florida. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

Babysitter wanted in my home in Shelby Township for fun 3-year-old girl. Mondays and Tuesdays from approximately 8 am till 7:30 pm. Call Jenn at 586 909-0744.

For Rent/Sale

Auburn Hills, 1 bedroom condominium for rent/ option to buy. 700 Sq. Ft. Completely Updated. Second Floor. \$550/month. Includes water and car port. (248) 224-9097

Room for rent in Rochester—available now!! Private bedroom in a condominium shared with one other person. Peaceful natural wooded setting. 3.5 miles to OU. Parking. Laundry. Nonsmoker only. Price negotiable. Contact Josh: 248-346-6510 or rochester.michigan.rental@gmail.com

Services

BLURRY VISION? NEED NEW CONTACT LENSES? Discounted eyeglass exams \$38 and contact lens exams \$74 with student ID! Schedule your fast, fun, and friendly eye exam today with the independent optometrists at Target Optical, located within the Target department store on Brown Rd. near Great Lakes Crossing mall. Call 248-393-8117 today!

GET NOTICED!! Advertise with the Oakland Post
www.oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com (248) 370-4269

The competitive edge

Figure skating passion takes two OU students far at championship

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

Figure skater Lindsey Weber was on her way to the Olympic trials when she sustained a back injury in 2005 and had near-career-ending surgery the following year.

At the time, Weber was ranked in the Top 10 at Nationals and had her goals set on the Olympics. With those hopes crushed and a back that couldn't hold up to the demands of training, she retired from competitive skating and began to focus on coaching. Weber has spent the past four years coaching three- to 19-year-old figure skaters at the Onyx in Rochester.

But last summer, she returned from retirement to compete in the National Collegiate Figure Skating Championship, representing Oakland University.

Weber said her mother — who was also a competitive figure skater and coach — influenced her to begin skating when she was 18 months old.

"It was kind of hard going back this time because I wasn't able to train as much," said Weber, who adjusted her training schedule from four hours a day on the ice and two off the ice, in her prime, to just half an hour a day, three times a week in preparation for the National Collegiate Championship.

At the National Collegiate Championship, Weber met Ameena Sheikh, an incoming freshman who moved from Lexington, Ky. to Michigan to further her figure skating career three years ago.

The championship was hosted by Miami University of Ohio, and Weber and Sheikh were among 45 entrants in their class.

Linsey Stucks from Oklahoma State placed first, but Weber and Sheikh were right on her heels in second and third places, respectfully.

"Probably the most exciting part of finishing second was that I wasn't able to train how Ameena is able to or a lot of the other kids because that's their sole focus," said Weber.

Also representing OU were Jonathan Cassar, who placed fourth in the senior men's class and Nina Olivero, who finished sixth in the junior ladies' class.

While Weber is finishing up her degree in human resource development, Sheikh, who began skating when she was six years old, is just embarking on her collegiate skating career.

"I definitely want to go as far as I can in skating," Sheikh said. "In a perfect world, I would place top three at the Senior Ladies Nationals and compete in the World Championship and Olympic games."

Training to fulfill such goals can be tough, though.

"The hardest part has to be the sacrifices you make as a competitive skater. Not only do you have to train your body and mind 24 hours a day, 365 days a year but you are also making the choice to give up several things in life," she said.

If that doesn't pan out, Sheikh is pursuing a degree in communications with a minor in journalism and hopes to use her success as a figure skater to further a career in broadcasting.

Sheikh just considers herself lucky that she's made it as far as she has.

"The actual percentage of people that even get as far as I have in skating is extremely low," she said. "People give up so much for this time-draining and costly sport for what they consider not a success, leaving them bitter."

"In other words, skating is a lifestyle and you either choose to completely and utterly live it to the fullest, or you don't, and if you don't, you have no chance to succeed at all."



Photos courtesy of Lindsey Weber

Junior Lindsey Weber took home second place in the National Collegiate Championship.



OU freshman Ameena Sheikh, Oklahoma State student Linsey Stucks and OU junior Lindsey Weber show off their medals at the 2007 National Collegiate Championship.

Taking center stage

Business major debuts as a triple-threat in musical 'Steel Pier'

By C.M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter

Last year, the green room of Varner Hall was teeming with talent, passion and one business major among many theater veterans.

That future pilot was Oakland University business student Lee Bushman, who had set his sights on the daring and dashing male lead of the Tony-nominated musical, "Steel Pier."

Becoming flying ace Bill Kelly was a long and challenging journey, a journey which Bushman took a confident nose-dive straight into.

"When I was in that green room, considering playing Bill Kelly in a room full of students that had more experience than I, the general attitude was that I couldn't do it. That lit a fire under my butt to just tune them out and go for it," Bushman said.

He had previously acted in four plays for community theatre, "A Flea in Her Ear," "Almost Main," "Out of Sight, Out of Murder" and "Elephant Man."

Having no dancing or singing experience, and less than a year of acting experience in community theatre, Bushman spent the Summer of 2007 utterly dedicated to honing his raw skills to become the crackpot pilot he

knew that he could be.

He chartered a flight in a small prop plane, and worked intensely with a personal trainer all summer long.

"Lee's energy is out of this world. I thought I was energetic, but he's much more energetic than I am. He's got such a positive outlook on life, it's very moving," Kara Kimmer, who plays Rita, said.

Bushman also took ballroom dancing lessons, and trained daily with OU Assistant Professor of Theatre Fred Love to fine-tune his singing, which was the toughest aspect of his training.

"I can't really read music. I can learn music by hearing it. I listened to the 'Steel Pier' score, and learned the songs as best I could, and would go over it with Fred afterward," Bushman said.

"We'd get together once a week for about 45 minutes. He'd pick a song, I'd sing it, and then he would coach me on singing method," he said.

Over time, Bushman learned how to use his voice, even though he felt as though he was in over his head.

Ultimately he proved to himself and everyone else, including the green room naysayers, that he could do it.

"Steel Pier" Director Michael Gillespie agrees.

"I would say that Lee's skills as actor, dancer and singer were not raw, but as yet unrefined. He has come a very long way in all three areas over the summer over the course of rehearsals," Gillespie said.

"He's the kind of student and actor who, when you give him a note, he goes home and works it over and comes back having changed for the better," he added.

Kimmer says that he would often go home after a day of rehearsals and practice his dancing in his living room long into the night.

Bushman says that he strives to bring the intensity that Tom Cruise brings to a role, and hopes to one day get his big break in Hollywood.

"If Lee says he's going to Hollywood, then he'll do it. He's a very determined young man — and determination is a huge part of the recipe for success," Gillespie said.

See Bushman in his debut as a triple-threat performer in "Steel Pier," now through Nov. 17 in the Studio Theatre of Varner Recital Hall.



Photo from OU Department of Music, Theatre and Dance
Lee Bushman and Kara Kimmer star in Oakland University's fall musical "Steel Pier," now through Nov. 17 at the Varner Studio Stage Theatre. Tickets are \$16 general admission and \$6 for students.



Photo from Lee Bushman
Lee Bushman stars as Bill Kelly in "Steel Pier."

3 BEDROOMS
3 ROOMMATES
\$353 EACH



5 Minutes to OU!!!



Auburn Hills 248-852-7550



**10 Mins. to
Great Lakes Crossing**
2.5 Baths
BIG Washer/Dryer
Dishwasher, Microwave
Cool Pool, Tennis
Fitness Center

Just \$353/Roommate

*conditions apply

Westbury Village
TOWNHOUSES

www.KaffanCommunities.com

Multitasker 'steels' the show

OU music, theatre and dance major takes the female lead in Varner Studio's musical 'Steel Pier'

By C.M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter

Oakland University music, theatre and dance student Kara Kimmer began her life as a triple-threat performer when she was cast in "Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat — Tour of Joseph" at 11 years old.

"Donnie Osmond was the lead, and the experience was really what inspired me to pursue a career of being a performer," Kimmer said.

She grew up in the small town of Durand, Mich., where the closest theater was a community theater in Owosso which she got involved in during high school.

When she came to OU in 2003, Kimmer spent her first year here as a techie. She did the lighting and patchwork for her first OU production.

"Everyone thought I was a techie," Kimmer said. "After that positive experience, I auditioned for 'Into the Woods' and didn't make it. I worked as a dresser for that production. In 2004, I auditioned for 'Pirates of Penzance' at the Detroit Opera House and got the part."

The following year, she honed her dancing skills as a member of the Detroit Pistons dance team, Auto Motion. After

two years, she returned to OU to perform in "Urine Town," directed by Michael Gillespie.

She was also in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the musical "By Jupiter," and "The Rimers of Eldritch."

"That was the first really serious part I've played," Kimmer said of "The Rimers of Eldritch."

"I played a very serious matronly role when I was usually cast in very whimsical roles," Kimmer said.

After honing her skills as a triple-threat performer, she landed the female lead of "Steel Pier" as Rita, whose male counterpart is played by Lee Bushman.

As Rita does for Bill in the musical, Kimmer taught Bushman how to dance.

"She is a terrific dancer with long years of training behind her and a year-long stint with the Detroit Pistons," Gillespie said.

"Kara and Lee do a lot of dancing together in the show. And in fact, her character teaches his how to dance, so the onstage action reflects the offstage situation in a charming way," Gillespie said.

What has helped Kimmer out more than anything — much to the protests of her friends and family — is that she multitasks — a lot.

In addition to taking classes at OU, she is also a fitness instructor at the Rochester YMCA and is the choreographer for three local productions.

"Right now, I'm doing the choreography for the Rochester High School production of 'Little Shop of Horrors,' Jewish Academy's 'Beauty and the Beast' and the Village Players' production of 'Alice in Wonderland,'" Kimmer said.

"At the same time, I'm also rehearsing the dances for 'Steel Pier,' but I wouldn't say it's a bad thing. It keeps me from confining myself to a box that I can't get out of performance-wise. I feel that this schedule gives me the experiences I need to remain innovative."

Kimmer said, sometimes, she feels she will fall into a scenario where she performs certain dances or delivers lines in the same way from production to production, which is the opposite of what she strives for. Her goal is to deliver the lines in front of an audience and appear to be saying the lines for the first time.

"This is something I feel I need to keep working at. It's the essence of acting," Kimmer said. "I'd also like to work on getting better at dancing on 3-inch heels."

Following "Steel Pier," she will continue to do as she typically does and drive



Photo courtesy of Maxwell Bolton
Kara Kimmer stars as Rita in "Steel Pier."

to auditions in Chicago and, sometimes, New York. Ideally, she'd like to perform in anything Bob Fosse has worked on.

The late musical theater choreographer, film director and theater director is appealing because of his unique and sensual style of dancing, she said.

"I'll know I've made it, though, when I'm performing on Broadway with my future husband, children and my family and friends sitting in the front row sharing that moment with me," Kimmer said.

Caught reading The Post



Name: Brad Roemmich
Major: Information Technology
Year: Sophomore
What he's reading:
"Taking on the D.C. triathlon"
Favorite section in The Post:
You

The goods:
a Barnes & Noble
gift card



Name: Marshall Stephens
Major: English
Year: Senior
What he's reading:
"Four on Four"
Favorite section in The Post:
Mouthing Off

The goods:
a Barnes &
Noble gift
card

Name: Jessica Neville
Major: Psychology
Year: Sophomore
What she's reading:
"Lies my preacher told me"
Favorite section in The Post:
Mouthing Off

The goods:
a Barnes &
Noble gift card



Name: Elisha Jenkins
Major: Nursing
Year: Sophomore
What she's reading:
"Mayo Clinic ad"
Favorite section in The Post:
Police Files

The goods:
a Barnes &
Noble gift
card



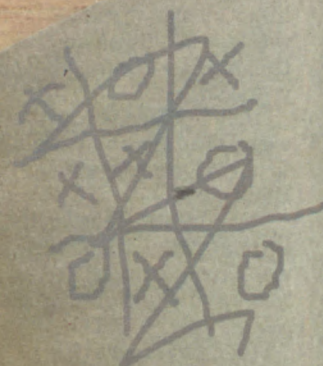


What to do?

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT, ANTHONY BURKE DEFENDS EARTH AS A ONE-MAN-ARMY FROM AN ALIEN OUTBREAK IN THE ARCADE CLASSIC "AREA 51." BUMPER'S IS LOCATED IN THE BASEMENT OF THE OAKLAND CENTER AND IS OPEN 10 A.M. TO 11 P.M. MON.-THURS. AND 10 A.M. TO 11 P.M. FRIDAY. THE GAME ROOM HAS EIGHT LCD FLAT-SCREEN TELEVISIONS AND XBOX 360S WITH AN ARSENAL OF GAMES. PLUS TABLE TENNIS, POOL AND THAT ANNOYING CRANE GAME.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT, HEATHER KREPP SETTLES INTO A COMFY CHAIR, AND IS TAKEN AWAY TO ANOTHER TIME AND PLACE BY THE CRACKLING FIRE, THE UNPARALLELED SOUND OF A GRAND PIANO, AND A GOOD BOOK. THE FIRESIDE LOUNGE IS OPEN DAILY PER THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF THE OAKLAND CENTER, AND IS LOCATED ON THE MAIN FLOOR.

OAKLAND STUDENTS TAKE A BREAK FROM THEIR STUDIES, AND TAKE OUT SOME OF THEIR STRESS IN A FRIENDLY CO-OPERATIVE GAME OF "HALO 3" IN THE BUMPER'S GAME ROOM. WATCH OUT FOR THAT PLASMA GRENADE!



A PORTAL THAT APPEARS ON SATURDAY AT NOON IN THE GRASSY AREA NORTH OF THE OAKLAND CENTER. BEAR LAKE, A RELENTLESS BATTLE OF TITANS. DAGON HR. OUT MORE



↑
 THAT APPEARS EVERY
 AT NOON OPENS
 THE OAKLAND CENTER,
 RASSY KNOLL BEFORE
 A SEGMENT OF A
 LESS AND UNENDING
 OF THE LIVE-ACTION-
 PLAYING-GAME (LARP)
 HIR TAKES PLACE. FIND
 MORE AT DAGORHIR.COM.

↑
 MEAGHAN ZEOLI, REGISTERED
 YOGA INSTRUCTOR, BREATHE
 DEEP AND BECOMES ONE WITH
 UTTER CALM, A BEAUTIFUL
 SYNERGY OF THE SPIRITUAL AND
 THE REAL.
 YOGA CLASS IS MON.-FRI. FROM
 12:10-1:10

PHOTOS BY C.M. GRASKI/THE OAKLAND POST
 ILLUSTRATIONS BY CELESTE FILIATRAULT/THE OAKLAND POST

SELECT 7

CAREER BLUNDERS

1. LUNCH BREAK MARGARITAS
2. HITTING ON YOUR BOSS
3. DIRTY JOKES AND/OR TMI
4. LOUDLY RAPPING ALONG WITH EASY E
5. TRYING TO CONVINCE YOUR CO-WORKERS THAT YOU'RE OWED THOSE STICKIE NOTES
6. CONVINCING YOURSELF THAT WORK OWES YOU STUFF
7. TALKING ABOUT JENNA JAMESON'S LATEST HIT AT THE STAFF MEETING

DROLL

DROLL (ADJ): AMUSING IN A WRY OR ODD WAY.

EXAMPLE: HE THOUGHT SECOND LIFE'S GAME IRONY TO BE DROLL.

WWW.DICTIONARY.COM

WHAT IS YOUR
 FAVORITE THING
 TO DO AT OU?



"I LIKE TO WALK AROUND CAMPUS LATE AT NIGHT WITH FRIENDS. IT MAKES FOR GOOD CONVERSATION AND WE SEE THE DEER."

STACY LUTZ
 SENIOR/ MUSIC
 EDUCATION

Reaching the Boyle-ing point

Junior Jessica Boyle nets three goals to help win conference tournament

By DAN TALLANT
Staff Intern

ROCHESTER — In 2006, the Oakland University women's soccer team defeated Southern Utah and Western Illinois in the Mid-Con Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

History repeated itself Friday as the Golden Grizzlies defeated Southern Utah 2-1 and Sunday when the team overtook top-seeded Western Illinois 3-1 to win the Summit League Championship again.

The tournament win is the seventh in the last eight years for Oakland and the first Summit League win since it was renamed.

With the temperature less than 50 degrees on Friday, junior Jessica Boyle took control of the game and scored twice, leading Oakland to the victory.

"I think they came out a little nervous with the home crowd and being in the conference tournament," head coach Nick O'Shea said. "We calmed them down at half time and we came out with the win."

Southern Utah opened the scoring with a goal off a shot from about 20 yards out, scored by Makell Hansen, just five minutes and 22 seconds into the match. Hansen's goal ended up being the final one of the season for Southern Utah as Oakland came back six minutes later and tied the game up.

After receiving a ball from senior Kristi Tomczyk just outside the box, Boyle came streaking in and beat the keeper one-on-one.

Southern Utah came out firing in the second half, but freshman Elizabeth Watza came up with some huge saves to keep the game tied. Watza ended the game with four saves.

Oakland finally broke the tie when

Tomczyk was shoved down by a SUU defender and the ball came out to Boyle, who smoked the ball past the goalkeeper for her second goal of the game.

Assisting on both of Boyle's goals was Tomczyk.

Oakland, who played their semifinal game directly after Western Illinois took on Oral Roberts, knew who their opponent would be on Sunday.

The championship game was a highly anticipated matchup after last year's championship game, which was decided in a shootout.

This year, OU didn't let it get that close.

Oakland came out in the first half scoring two goals and recording nine shots to one Western Illinois shot.

"I thought they were amazing," O'Shea said of his team's effort at the start of the game. "They came out very motivated and full of energy."

A free kick was awarded to junior Kristi Evans, and she took full advantage off it netting the shot on a blast from just outside the box.

About five minutes

later, senior defender Kristi Mitchell moved the ball up to Tomczyk, who was deep inside the box and easily beat the goalkeeper.

The second half began the same way with Oakland controlling the possession. The Golden Grizzlies scored again to go up three with about 25 minutes to play.

Boyle scored her third goal of the tournament when Tomczyk brought the ball down and sent a pass across the front of the net for the easy one-timer.

In the last 20 minutes of play, Western Illinois kept control of the ball and was aggressive on offense.

They scored late in the game off a corner kick, but it was not enough to overcome the Golden Grizzlies.

See Women's Soccer on Page 19



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Jessica Boyle (12) pumps her fist as Western Illinois goalkeeper Megan Tyk anguishes in defeat during Sunday's Summit League championship game. The goal was Boyle's third of the tournament, earning her Most Valuable Player honors.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Oakland head coach Nick O'Shea (far right, back row) poses with his 2007 Summit League Champion Golden Grizzlies. Oakland has won two straight conference championships and holds a 7-1 record all-time in the championship game. Oakland will battle Purdue University Friday Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Oakland ties UMKC in Summit League regular season finale

Teams to meet again in first round of conference tournament

By **ROB TATE**
Assistant Sports Editor

The Oakland University men's soccer team came one game short of a perfect conference record in the regular season with a 1-1 tie against UMKC Saturday.

Coming into the game, Oakland (9-6-3, 5-0-1 conference) had not let up a single goal in conference play until UMKC (7-7-4, 2-2-2) forward Brian Harris beat junior goalkeeper Steve Clark in the 56th minute off a pass from Garret Guthrie.

Prior to Harris' goal, Oakland senior Michael Reyes got the Golden Grizzlies on the board with a goal in the 11th minute.

OU striker Sebby Harris earned his

second assist of the season on the play.

Clark had a very impressive season in conference play, with a 0.17 goals against average and a .941 save percentage — both tops in The Summit League in conference games only. Clark was also Summit League defensive player of the week for the week of Oct. 1.

Oakland's season will continue at the Summit League conference tournament this weekend at IUPUI.

After a disappointing 2006 season, in which the Golden Grizzlies didn't make it to the conference tournament, Oakland will look to winning their first conference tournament championship since 2002 and their first NCAA Tournament bid since 2003 when they entered as an at-large team.



Goalkeeper Steve Clark (seen here Sept. 26 against the University of Michigan) will look to continue his dominance in goal against Summit League foes this season at The Summit League tournament this weekend at IUPUI.

BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

There will be no Oakland Post published the week of Thanksgiving.

Follow the Golden Grizzlies men's soccer team in the Summit League conference tournament this weekend on oaklandpostsports.blogspot.com



2007 SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT FAST FACTS

- Semifinals will be Friday and the championship is scheduled to take place Sunday at IUPUI in Indiana
- Oakland will play UMKC at 2:30 p.m. Friday
- The winner will play either IUPUI or Oral Roberts Sunday, Nov. 18 at noon
- Oakland is 9-3-2 all-time versus UMKC
- Michael Reyes is the only current Golden Grizzly to score a goal against UMKC

continued from Page 18

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Summit League Championship Tournament's Most Valuable Player was awarded to Boyle. She scored three out of Oakland's five goals in the tournament.

"It's a huge relief that we won," Boyle said. "It was good because they were the No. 1 seed and we knocked them off."

O'Shea very much agreed with the tournament's decision to award Boyle.

"She's been a valuable player all year long," O'Shea said. "Jessica's a quiet leader and performs well because of her effort and determination."

The Golden Grizzlies have made the conference tournament nine years in a row and have a 7-1 record in championship games.

"It's hard to express because that's what we plan on doing," O'Shea said. "It always gives us something to aspire to."



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Oakland defender Kristi Mitchell (19) reacts to a play made by Southern Utah's Jessica Heninger (11) during Friday's semifinal game. Oakland won 2-1.

NCAA TOURNAMENT FIRST ROUND



#15 Oakland Golden Grizzlies
10-7-2

@



#2 Purdue Boilermakers
19-2-2

Team Leaders

Goals:
Kristi Tomczyk (9)
Assists:
Tomczyk (7)

Goals:
Loredana Riverosa and
Parrissa Eyorokon (12)
Assists:
Shauna Stapleton (11)

Friday, Nov. 16, 2 p.m. at Purdue University
If Oakland Advances to second round, game played Sunday, Nov. 18

Yo, Adrian!

Grizzlies beat up Bulldogs after Friday's loss

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — It was a case of two extremes during Oakland University's men's basketball opening weekend.

Friday, they lost their starting shooting guard, Erik Kangas, to injury and fell to Wisconsin-Green Bay by a single point. Two days later, they trampled Division III opponent Adrian College by a decisive 40-point margin.

At the Resch Center in Green Bay, Wis., the Golden Grizzlies looked to make a statement in their season opener. What they got instead was a series of unfortunate events, as they fell to the Phoenix 76-75.

Kangas, chosen to the Summit League preseason first team, left the game in the first half after tearing a muscle in his shooting arm. He did not return to the game.

The Golden Grizzlies then had to overcome an 11-point deficit coming into the second half, thanks, in part, to 18 turnovers committed throughout the game.

While OU regained a four-point lead, thanks to sophomore Jonathon Jones' free throws with 5:17 remaining in the second half, the lead whittled away with two consecutive Oakland turnovers that swung the game back into Wisconsin-Green Bay's favor, giving them a four-point advantage.

The Golden Grizzlies never reached higher ground in the remainder of the game, though Jones sank a three-pointer with one second remaining to make the final score 76-75.

Senior Brandon Cassise led all scorers on the floor with 26 points, including shooting 5-11 from three-point territory. Other Grizzlies in double figures were Jones, with 14 points, and junior Derick Nelson, with 10 points and eight rebounds.

After leaving Green Bay with what head coach Greg Kampe called "a terrible taste in their mouths," the Golden Grizzlies found the cure they needed when the Adrian Bulldogs traveled to Grizzly Country for OU's home opener last Sunday.

Piggybacking on Nelson's double-double, the Golden Grizzlies made quick work of the Bulldogs by a loud and clear 86-46 margin. Nelson scored a career-high 24 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. He also snatched a career-high five steals.

The game began as a balanced attack from both sides, and the two teams remained within two points of each other

for the first six minutes of the game. After that, Oakland blew the game wide open, and by the time the buzzer signaled the end of the first half, the Golden Grizzlies led 41-19.

The second half was clearly a one-sided affair, as Oakland more than doubled their first-half point total and held the Bulldogs to a mere 27 points in the half.

Most of OU's freshmen players also got some quality minutes during the game. Will Hudson put up 12 points in addition to five rebounds and a game-high three blocks, while Keith Benson, Peter Bunn and Tim Williams combined for 19 of the points on the scoreboard.

"We would have loved to red-shirt him," Kampe said of Hudson, "because I think a year of getting bigger and stronger and living college life would have helped, but we need him. He's a guy who can score the ball for us, and he's going to get a lot more minutes."

Cassise, who finished the game with 10 points and four assists, started the game in place of Kangas, who sat on the sidelines with his right arm in a sling. Kampe was concerned about how the team would play in the absence of the flame-throwing shooter.

"We only took eight three-pointers, which changes our whole team," Kampe said. "Kangas will usually take eight himself, so it changed the way we play, and I wasn't sure how we would perform offensively. But I was very pleased with us. I was very pleased with the rebounding and our defense."

No wonder Kampe was so proud. The Golden Grizzlies clamped down on the boards and brought down 56 rebounds, compared to Adrian's 33, and held the Bulldogs to 24.6 percent shooting for the game.

Oakland University will next host Eastern Michigan University Saturday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. Kampe hopes Kangas will return for the tilt. But chances are he could be out for at least three weeks depending on how rehab goes.

GOING BIG TIME

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY AND FOX SPORTS DETROIT HAVE SIGNED A FOUR-YEAR DEAL TO BROADCAST OU MEN'S BASKETBALL GAMES, FOR 12 GAMES OVER FOUR YEARS.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Junior guard Jessica Pike drives the lane on a Marygrove College defender Monday night. Oakland crushed the Mustangs 107-40.

Coming out on fire

Pike scores career-high 26 points in home opener

By ROB TATE
Assistant Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — Playing small has worked out big so far for the Oakland University women's basketball team.

Head coach Beckie Francis decided to go with a starting lineup with experience rather than worry about size. Through two regular season games, it has worked out well, including a 107-40 thrashing of Marygrove College in Monday night's home-opener at the O'Rena.

The 67-point margin of victory is the second highest in school history since joining Division I and is the same score in which Oakland (2-0) beat Marygrove (2-4) last season — almost to the date — on Nov. 13, 2006.

All of Oakland's starting five are shorter than 5 foot 11 inches, but experience on the court is what Francis feels most confident in.

All five were a big part of last season's Mid-Con regular season championship team. Francis has started three guards and two forwards, with the addition of junior April Kidd to the starting line up.

Kidd has flourished thus far averaging nine points in two games, including 12 points Monday night.

"The reason April is starting is because she has a lot of experience," Francis said. "I was concerned about the size (of the team), but she is so fast, she leads us in rebounding in practice. I decided it didn't matter what the height was."

With the combination of more guards on the floor, Francis' motion offense and a weak opponent, Oakland was able to get a lot of ball movement, accumulating 35 total assists.

"I was very pleased at how unselfish our team was," Francis said. "You can tell by the number of assists — that is our motion offense — it's a passing offense where everybody gets the ball and everybody gets to shoot."

Junior co-captain Jessica Pike had a career high in points with 26. Until 9:49 left in the second half when Marygrove hit a three, Pike was out-scoring the Mustangs by herself 26-23. Pike also added six assists.

Thirteen of 14 Golden Grizzlies on the roster had at least a point on the night.

"We were trying to get everyone involved," Pike said. "That was kind of our game plan...to push the ball, to get out and run. We thought we were in a little bit better shape than they were, so we really emphasized pushing and posting tonight."

Sophomore forward Melissa Jeltrema had a solid night with 13 points and eight rebounds.

Oakland defeated Columbia University in the season opener last Friday in New York 67-52. Pike led the way with 23 points and seven rebounds.

The Golden Grizzlies tip-off next against Auburn Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. The game will be played at the O'Rena.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Sophomore Adrienne Leone leaps to spike the ball against Western Illinois last Saturday. It was the Golden Grizzlies' last match of the 2007 season and they set a DI record with eight wins.

Volleyball closes out record season

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

The first chapter of Oakland University's new and improved volleyball team is now in the record books. The Golden Grizzlies (8-21, 4-12 conference) closed out a monumental season last weekend with a home stand against Summit League opponents UMKC and Western Illinois.

The Grizzlies had been winless in their last 15 games heading into Friday's matchup with the Kangaroos, but snapped that streak in the first game.

"We're not ever focused on previous outcomes, we're focused on next performance," said head coach Rob Beam. "It actually never occurred to me that we had been swept four times in a row."

Oakland took the first two 30-19 and 30-23. But UMKC responded with two wins of their own, 30-24 and 31-29, to force the match to five games, where the Grizzlies came up with the 15-8 deciding win.

Oakland had already broken the school's Division I record for wins in a season with seven on Oct. 19 and added to that record last weekend.

Three Grizzlies notched double-doubles in Friday's match. Amy Golem had 22 kills and 22 digs, Katy Wilson finished the night with 31 assists and 13 digs and Adrienne Leone tallied 17 kills and 10 digs.

Before Saturday's match against Western Illinois, Oakland honored the team's only graduating senior, Monica Frechen. However, Frechen was unable to go out on a winning note, as the Westerwinds rallied from a one-game deficit to win the match.

"Monica is one of the most warm and giving people I've ever coached," Beam said. "She's the first athlete I've been around who gives every single one of her teammates a present on her senior night. If there isn't a neater thing that says more about a person, that's it."

The Grizzlies got off to a quick start when they won the first game 30-24, but faltered in the next three games, only tallying 18, 23 and 19 points, respectively.

Golem (13 kills, 13 digs), Wilson (29 assists, 14 digs) and Leone (19 kills, 10 digs) each had double-doubles for the second consecutive match.

Lauren Duquette etched her name in both OU and Summit League history for digs in a single season. Duquette finished the season with 619, and her 5.95 digs per game also earned her third place all-time in the Summit League.

In 2005, Duquette set the school record for most digs in a single season with 475, which she smashed several weeks ago.

Head Coach Rob Beam finished the season with the best record since Dan Schulte led the Grizzlies to an 8-19 record in 1998.

Not so g-r-r-reat

OU fails to earn stripes against Princeton

By SAMANTHA FRANZ
Sports Editor

After defeating a previously unbeaten Wright State team, the men's and women's swimming and diving teams had a lot of momentum going into last Friday's matchup against Princeton University.

Unfortunately, the Tigers were just too much for the Golden Grizzlies to handle. They were bested by scores of 178-122 for the men and 160-133 for the women.

Sophomore Marcin Unold continued to showcase his dominance in his events and took home first place honors in four individual competitions.

The relay team of Unold, senior Zoltan Horvath, senior Chris Tansel and junior Andy Kellogg won the 200-yard and 400-yard medley relays with times of 1:32.33 and 3:03.35, respectively.

As for the women's team, sophomore Agnes Solan made a statement by clocking an OU record time of 2:01.21 in the 200-yard backstroke, good for a NCAA championship qualifying time in the event.

Freshman diver Chelsea Oates, who recently garnered Summit League

Performer of the Week honors, took first place in both the one-and three-meter springboard events.

Another season-best time was set for freshman Emily Wilke, who finished second place in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:25.96.

The Golden Grizzlies will have two weeks to rest up and prepare for the Miami Invitational to be held in Oxford, Ohio Nov. 29 through Dec. 1.

THE DETAILS

THE MIAMI INVITATIONAL IS IN ITS 14TH YEAR

THE PRELIMINARIES WILL TAKE PLACE STARTING AT 9 A.M. FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AND THE FINALS WILL BE AT 6 P.M. THOSE SAME DAYS

AFTER THE MEET, THE GOLDEN GRIZZLIES WILL TRAIN IN FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA., DEC. 27 THROUGH JAN. 6, 2008.

GRIZZ OF THE WEEK

Jessica Boyle
Women's Soccer



Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

Year: Junior
Major: Medical Lab Sciences

In her second Grizz of the Week honor, Boyle netted three goals during the Summit League Tournament and recieved Most Valuable Player accolades.

STAY TUNED DURING BREAK!

THE NEXT EDITION OF THE OAKLAND POST WILL HIT NEWS STANDS NOV. 28. LOOK FOR COVERAGE OF MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. EASTERN MICHIGAN ON OUR BLOG: OAKLANDPOSTSPORTS.BLOGSPOT.COM

We need

been cri... and
it since o... ns
, and m... are
day and Tues...
with the total...
to be as high...
e finished...
ect at t'...
trucks...
nem w...
dirt," si...
duty at l...
oon. "I...
as fast...
the tru...

"T... said they tried to...
of... of the games one...
be... re, and a truckload w...
ortet stol... Moore said...
they figur... iacked to...
lexico to...
Jack K...
ndustrie...
ays hi...
uckload... bury the...
aterials... to pay fo...
ne of the exp...
ating said the reason...
gordo dump was se...
here no scav...

from th... sets an...
cooper... told...
What...
day af...
new pil...
with ci...
game c...
compu...
Moore...
pick up b...
onsents, and examine...
hand...
They have...

nts in th...
id not...
e said...
ason, b...
he floor...
mp was...
tes, ren...
game s...
elves...
for a n...
ains of sc...

You need



The Oakland Post is currently accepting applications for the following paid positions:

* Campus news editor

* You editor

* Copy editor

* Reporters

* Account executives

Send resume and clips to:
Kelly Kozlowski, editor-in-chief
The Oakland Post/61 OC
oakposteditor@gmail.com

Hockey dominates at Robert Morris

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporter

In the absence of Brent Cooper, captain of Oakland University's hockey team, a few of the team's quieter players made some noise and helped the Golden Grizzlies take home the trophy from the Robert Morris College Showcase last weekend.

"With losing any offensive threat like Cooper, our captain and leader on the team, players need to step up," said assistant captain Steve Piccoli. "Our first and second line needed to produce points, and they did. The third and fourth lines had a great three games, too."

Matthew Burke, Kyle McMahon and Dan Grzech each scored their first goals of the season. Piccoli broke a 10-game goalless streak and Matt Kowalczyk added his first in five games as the Grizzlies rebounded from Friday's loss against Adrian College and went on to beat Robert Morris University (Pa.) Saturday and Robert Morris College (Ill.) Sunday.

"The first game was one of the worst games we've played all year, head coach Sean Hogan said, but the first period of the final game was the best period of hockey we've played all year, so it was a huge, wide range of play."

Burke had the lone goal in Friday's 4-1 loss to Adrian. Collin Chase started his first game in net after sitting out the previous three with a back injury and stopped 18 shots.

"It was more or less a wake-up call," said Chase, referring to the team's reaction to the loss to Adrian. "We got

together as a team and started talking about some things and realized we've got to play at our level every game and not start playing down to other teams' levels."

In Saturday's 5-3 victory over RMU, Tony Yearego and Jesse Worrell each had a pair of goals and Piccoli added his first of two on the weekend. Chase stopped 23 shots in the win, improving his personal record to 4-5 this season.

The Grizzlies rounded out the showcase Sunday with a 6-4 win over RMC. Oakland got out to a 4-1 lead with goals from Kowalczyk and McMahon, while Jarrett Samp contributed a pair for the second weekend in a row. But the Eagles reeled off three straight goals to pull even. Piccoli struck again and Grzech netted Oakland's sixth goal of the night for the win.

"[My goal] definitely wasn't the prettiest, but getting the first one out of the way takes away a lot of the nervousness," McMahon said.

Although McMahon's brother Will is the team's all-time leading scorer, Kyle knows his role is to be a physical presence on the ice.

"I want to make a name for myself and not live in Will's shadow anymore," McMahon said. "I want to be one of the tougher guys anyone can look to if they need someone to back them up."

Three first-period Oakland goals on 22 shots was enough to chase RMC goalie Micha Robbins, and the Grizzlies fired another 19 on Dan Venet over the next two periods.

Chase stopped 24 more shots bringing his weekend total to 65 saves.



BRITTANY OCHTINSKY/The Oakland Post
Assistant coach J.R. Dunn, head coach Sean Hogan, assistant coach Gordie Schaeffler, and captains Steve Piccoli, Brent Cooper and Jarrett Samp pose proudly with the Robert Morris Showcase trophy.

Clinton speaks on world issues

Former president touches on religion, disease and health care

By SARA KANDEL
Scene and Mix Editor

Live goŕpel music welcomed guests as they filed into the Max Fisher Music Center in Detroit, Wednesday Nov. 7. The event, "An evening with President Bill Clinton" sponsored by African American Family Magazine and Ford Motor Company started at 6 p.m.

Former President Clinton started speaking just before 7 p.m. to an applauding crowd. His speech, "Embracing our Common Humanity," covered a myriad of topics.

EVERYONE'S PROBLEMS

He started off by highlighting what he thinks are the three most urgent issues facing America and the world. The first he referred to as persistent inequality in health care, income and wages. The second, the inability to go further into the future the way we came. And third, the identity problems that result from so many races, religions and ethnicities constantly being thrown together at warp speed.

"It's not fair that smart kids in low income families don't get to go to school," Clinton said. He began with a statistic he did not source, stating that 130 million children around the world do not go to school.

His arguments were simple, grounded and fact-based. In his argument for better education, Clinton used statistics that suggest the more education a girl receives, the more likely she is to have fewer children.

"AIDS, Malaria and TB kill one in four people; they are diseases of the poor," said Clinton, before going on to tell a story of a young AIDS victim working with the Clinton Foundation using education to combat the spread of the disease in Africa.

HEALTHCARE

Clinton said he supports cheaper healthcare but also a more healthy society.

"We are the only wealthy country in the world that doesn't cover everybody," Clinton said. "We cover 89 percent of our people in the most expensive health care plans."

Drawing on his own experience with heart troubles and promoting healthy living, he spoke about what it means to be well and urged people to beware of trans fat intake, saying, "Trans fats change the way your metabolism works." Continuing on overall wellness Clinton also spoke about the increase of children with Type 2 Diabetes.

HELPING OUR PLANET

Clinton stated four reasons to explain why we cannot move forward in the future the way we got here: overpopulation, global warming, resource depletion and animal extinction.

"If we made a serious commitment to being more energy efficient it would create a whole lot of new jobs,"



NATI HARNIK/The Associated Press
Former President Bill Clinton spoke about various world issues last Wednesday, Nov. 7 at the Max Fisher Music Center in Detroit. The event, "An evening with President Bill Clinton," aimed to inspire people to be healthier, more active and more aware of problems like race, religion and ethnicity, as well as education, disease, health care and global warming.

Clinton said. He used the example of covering roof tops with green grass which would lower the costs of cooling in the summer and create new jobs — roof top landscapers — that could not be outsourced.

The Clinton Foundation works toward reducing greenhouse gases while improving the economy. His library recently won an award for being eco-friendly.

"I am a bleeding heart cheapskate," Clinton said in response to a question about how to become more "green." He told audience members that he uses energy-saving light bulbs in his home and offices because they are better for the environment and last four times as long as regular bulbs.

MAKING CHANGES

On the issue of race, Clinton joked about how he was once referred to as the first black president by famed author Toni Morrison.

Clinton said that he firmly believes religion, ethnicity and race do not matter in comparison to the fact that we are all human, a statement which received loud applause.

"This is what happens when people think our differences are more important than our common humanity," Clinton said about the terrorist attacks on the U.S. and the U.K.

Clinton ended the night trying to inspire people to make a change.

"It is not enough to be a concerned citizen of the 21st century, you have to be an active one."

To read transcripts of recent speeches made by former President Bill Clinton, go to

www.clintonfoundation.org

WSU receives federal grant

By GUS BURNS
Contributing Reporter

Detroit's Wayne State University has been awarded \$2.5 million as part of a federal grant to be used for treatment and research of area HIV and AIDS patients.

The grant proposal was written by the Wayne State Substance Abuse Clinical Research Division in February and was awarded to the university in September of this year. WSU was one of 60 universities awarded the grant and the only recipient in Michigan.

The school will receive \$500,000 annually over the next five years from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Dr. Mark Greenwald, associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral neurosciences, with the Substance Abuse and Research Division, said, "I have great hopes that we may provide the best possible care and develop new treatment studies."

Last year, the research arm of the WSU medical psychiatry department received a similarly sized federal grant to work with patients referred by the Detroit Medical Center HIV clinic. WSU intends to use the resources of both grants to provide a more comprehensive treatment program for patients, including both psychiatric and substance abuse treatment, in addition to the already existing clinical treatments.

"We are now a comprehensive and integrated model of health care for this population," Greenwald said. "We are going to try and wrap it all together."

The DMC HIV clinic is not currently equipped to deal with all of the needs that are inherent to patients with substance abuse and psychiatric problems. These patients are identified and referred to WSU for further treatment.

"I have great hopes that we may provide the best possible care, and this grant will provide us the opportunity to do that and allows us to conduct new treatment studies," Greenwald said.

Other contributions will go toward medications, counseling, testing, research and transportation assistance to patients needing to travel for treatment.

"We have over 10,000 HIV individuals in the city, and the impact is disproportionate. Sixty-four percent of all cases are in this metropolitan area, which makes up only 45 percent of the state population," said Greenburg, who is also concerned that a disproportionate amount of the patients are black male substance-abusers living below the poverty line.

The HIV clinic currently treats approximately 1,700 HIV and AIDS cases per year.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Barnett, Talbert honored by elections

Hard work lies ahead on their mission to improve Rochester Hills

By C.M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter

Last Tuesday, the voters of Rochester Hills decided that mayoral candidate, incumbent and Oakland University alumnus Bryan Barnett, can continue to serve. OU special instructor of communications, rhetoric and journalism, Beth Talbert, running for the position of Rochester School District board member, was also elected.

"A week ago when the results came back, I was absolutely thrilled. I was overwhelmed with the support that we had," Barnett said. "I ran on a vision of making Rochester Hills a better place to live, and the voters have entrusted me with that responsibility, which is very humbling."

Barnett sought to begin his second term by announcing that the CRIM, an event consisting of a 10-mile race, 5k family walk and other mid-distance races, will be hosted by the city in 2008. Between 2,000 and 3,000 runners are expected to compete, and approximately 10,000 visitors are anticipated.

"I didn't mention this during my campaign because I didn't want to run on a platform where I made promises that I couldn't keep," Barnett said.

Barnett won 77 percent over his opponent, City Councilman Erik Ambrozaitis, who received 22 percent

of the vote.

Ambrozaitis had accused Barnett and other elected city officials of overspending and accepting donations from private developers.

"It will definitely be a challenge as he remains on the council. We've spent the past six months outlining how we're different, but now we've got to rise above those differences in order to successfully run and improve the city," Barnett said.

Beth Talbert won 33 percent over Marty Sibert, who received 26 percent of the vote.

"I am pleased and humbled by the results," Talbert said. "I had a strong campaign team — including a number of OU students — and we all worked really hard. It's great to see the results of that effort. I think voters believed I would bring a fresh perspective and a focus on student success to the board."

She says that her first responsibility is to make certain she is up to speed on the budget, as well as the issues facing the district.

"Of particular interest to me are new K-12 reforms and what is being done to help prepare students for more rigorous high school requirements, specifically in the areas of math and science," Talbert said. "I am also interested in helping the district explore the possibility of an International Academy for our community."

CHECK OUT THESE LOCAL UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ **The Big, Bright Light Show**
Downtown Rochester
Nov. 26 - Dec. 31
5 - 11 p.m.

All the buildings on Main Street from the south bridge to University, along with East and West Fourth streets, will be covered in over a million points of light. There will be large lighted displays on Walnut from Third to University, a Dancing Tree of Lights at the Depot Plaza (E. University & Water), and The Snowflake Spectacular on the Western Knitting Mill on Water Street. The displays will be lit every evening. See [www.http://www.downtownrochester.com/events.aspx](http://www.downtownrochester.com/events.aspx) for more info.

◆ **Lagniappe**
Monday, Nov. 26, 2007
6 - 9 p.m.

Lagniappe (creole for "a little something extra") kicks-off the holiday season in downtown Rochester on Nov. 26. Merchants offer "lagniappe" to their customers as a token of appreciation for their support throughout the year. Carolers, free horse-drawn-carriage rides (sponsored by Main Street Deli and Studio One Salon), a visit from Santa and the debut of the 2007 Big, Bright Light Show will be taking place. See [www.http://www.downtownrochester.com/events.aspx](http://www.downtownrochester.com/events.aspx) for more info.

◆ **Gala Evening at the Movies**
Monday, Nov. 26, 2007
6:30 - 11 p.m.

Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, MI chapter (CCFA) is hosting its annual fundraising at The Uptown Palladium Theater in Birmingham, 250 North Old Woodward. The 30th annual "Gala Evening at the Movies" will feature a catered, pre-glow reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by a special presentation and a premiere showing of movie beginning at 8 p.m. Call the chapter office at 248-737-0900, or e-mail michigan@ccfa.org for more info.

◆ **Earthquake**
Detroit City Theater
Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2007
8:30 p.m.

A brand new comedy series heads to Detroit's very own City Theatre. Earthquake is a comedic performer. His slam-dunk comedic style has won him coveted spots on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend," VH-1's "The List," as well as a guest appearance on "Mad TV." Call 313-965-9500 for more info.

With great responsibility comes 'Great Decisions'

Experts speak on issues of economic importance in eight-part series

By SEAN GARNER
Contributing Reporter

The World Affairs Council is hosting an eight-part series of lectures titled "Great Decisions," and it features some of the top experts in the world in their fields.

"Great Decisions" begins Wednesday, Nov. 14 with Melissa Johns, of the World Bank, discussing matters of international economic importance. The event will take place at the Troy Marriott and cost \$10 to students who are not members of the World Affairs Council.

Currently, Wayne State students can receive college credit for taking part in Great Decisions.

Fred Pearson, an Oakland alumnus

who teaches at Wayne State, is one of the lead officials for the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at Wayne State and also chairs the World Affairs Council for the greater Detroit area.

According to Pearson, the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies offers opportunities for young people to become engaged in world affairs. Pearson says this is an opportunity he would like to make available to more college students in the area.

In his lecture titled "Ironies of World Politics" Sunday, Nov. 4 at Birmingham Community House, Pearson spoke of the lack of general interest in world affairs by young adults, leading into this week's "Great Decisions."

"Today's generation, I think, tends to

rely on electronic media a great deal," Pearson said. "While you can find serious analysis on electronic media, you have to look harder. People of that generation (senior citizens) realized that their fate and their security depended on what happened outside the United States."

Pearson is hardly a skeptic of this generation alone. While conceding that the youth of his generation during the Vietnam War were more involved in the issues of their time, Pearson is not pleased with the course his generation took.

"As they got older, I expected my generation to continue campaigning for things," Pearson said. "If we turn this country over now as we depart still with

unsolved social security, still unsolved health care, then I can't believe it. I can't believe that this would have been a failure of my generation."

Victor Donati is an official of the Center for New Thinking, the organization which invited Pearson to speak on Sunday.

Donati, a senior citizen, sees a disconnect between the civic involvement of the youth of his generation and that of today's youth.

"There is a certain cynicism in young people today," Donati said. "This is a crazy world we live in. With all the money we spend on armaments and things of that nature, and, yet, we still have bridges collapsing on us. I think they might have a right (to be cynical)."

Local food banks, charities need help reaching goals

By C.M. GRASKI AND
BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Senior Reporters

It's that time of year again when, if you are fortunate enough to have a home, expendable income and/or a supply of nonperishable food, you can make those holiday season donations. If you're among the hungry and homeless, it's this time of year when that desperate need for food and assistance packs some extra punch.

Gleaner's Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan has been working to fight hunger in the region since 1977. Its primary service areas are Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties.

As the third-oldest food bank in the United States, Gleaner's has been committed to turning surplus food, which otherwise would go to waste, into millions of delicious meals for hungry people in southeastern Michigan.

Despite community support and generous private-sector donations, Gleaner's is presently struggling to meet its monetary-donations goal, which will allow the organization to fill its depleted food stores.

"The current state of Michigan's economy has definitely attributed to our current shortage, actually more so than any other factor," said Gerry Brisson, vice president for development of GCFB. "That's why we're asking for money over food. Because for what the average consumer spends on a single food item, we are typically able to purchase 10 times that amount."

But there is still hope. Gleaner's reports that monetary donations are ahead over last year.

"The gap in the supply of food is because the percentage of food donations has been stagnant for the past few years at about 80 percent. We know that the community understands our situation, and even with the economy as it is, we know that people will turn out to help us this holiday season," Brisson said.

Beginning Nov. 19, all Kroger grocery stores and Charter One banks will be raising money and food for Gleaner's.

"This is our next big event. If you're shopping at Kroger, a donation can be added at the check out counter, and donation bins will be at both establishments for food donations," Brisson said.

Gleaner's is not the only charity in crisis. The Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team, a group comprised of local churches that provide temporary shelter and food to the homeless, has also seen a decline in donations.

Founded in 1988, the coalition of community churches circulates cots and bedding throughout their system, each providing temporary shelter for the local homeless.

"We're putting out a plea for money this year. We're also requesting McDonald's coupons, men's socks, short-sleeved shirts. These are the main things we need this year aside from money," said Jemetta Louis of the team.

The team's next event, a dinner dance, will be held this Saturday at St. Michael's in Sterling Heights, which will be.

All hope is not lost, however, as food

rescue organization Forgotten Harvest reports that donations are looking up this year.

"A food rescue organization, not a food bank, there's an important difference between them," Monica Luoma, Director of Communications and Events, said. "We physically rescue only perishable food from local health department-approved sources. These sources include grocers, restaurants, caterers and farmers. It's all food that is still edible, but is considered un-sellable."

Founded in 1990, emerging out of a grassroots movement, Forgotten Harvest has the same service area as Gleaner's, and is the third-largest food rescue organization in the United States.

They operate on 100 percent donations.

Their daily routine consists of making the rounds to food sources with 14 refrigerator trucks and two conversion vans, which are all donated, to rescue perishable food before it's thrown away.

"Last year, we moved 8.5 billion pounds of food. We've got over 375 donors in the area, including Whole Foods Market, Trader Joes, Kroger, Nino Salvaggio's, Panera Bread and Hollywood Market," Luoma said.

She says that the donations are usually a product of a standard not being met according to the specific guidelines of a food source, such as a box of single bananas that could not be sold or a dozen loaves of marble rye that happened to not sell during the day in which it was made.

While Forgotten Harvest does not have any formal events, it accepts donations year-round, which will sustain the orga-

nization and their operations for the year.

"We require quite a bit, as those 14 freezer trucks and two conversion vans guzzle \$120,000 in diesel fuel each year," Luoma said.

Holiday cards are also available on their Web site, www.forgottenharvest.org, and 100 percent of the cost is donated.

MJR Theatres has also experienced some success alleviating the crisis of Gleaner's with their MJR Canned Film Fest, which was held Nov. 8 at the new MJR Theatre in the Partridge Creek Mall and was covered by local radio stations 96.3 FM and 93.1 FM.

"Last year, we only held this event at two theaters, and raised 9,630 pounds of food. This year, over 8,000 people attended, and 44,818 pounds of food were donated," Robyn Hansen, director of marketing and promotions, said.

Theaters in Brighton, Chesterfield, Sterling Heights, Partridge Creek, Southgate and Waterford participated and are likely to host the event next year, following a pending meeting.

"It was a huge success. I heard that Gleaner's was down this year. Hopefully, this will help them. It was a great project for the community and we hope to do even better next year," Hansen said.

If you have a home and typically have a full tummy every night, visit www.forgottenharvest.org, mcrest.org and gcfb.org to find out how to donate or volunteer this season.

If you're struggling to keep yourself and your loved ones fed or don't have a home to shield you from the cold, know that your community wants to help.

The skinny on sounds



By NICK DEGEL
Senior Reporter

To call Broken Social Scene a band is definitely an oversimplification. The term "artist collective" might fit the bill, but then where does that leave Kevin Drew's "Spirit If..."? He has always been one of the driving forces behind BSS, so what makes this one specifically a Kevin Drew album?

With such an all-encompassing title, confusion is completely understandable. If the Toronto-based collaborative "scene" is willing to blur the concept of the band, then imagine how they feel about the solo album.

"Spirit If..." is largely comprised of basement recordings from two years ago, and boasts a subdued version of the BSS sound most are used to. The album contains contributions from the usual suspects: Justin Peroff, Ohad Benchetrit, Charles Spearin and Brendan Canning, as well as cameos from Scott Kannberg (Pavement), Amy Milan (Stars), members of Metric and Leslie Feist, to name a few.

While the opening track, "Farwell to the Pressure Kids," is a flashflood of music overload — so much so that the lyrics are seemingly swallowed whole — the rest of the album features a focused approach to song writing.

The group can occasionally consist of up to 17 different members, so it is refreshing to see Drew's musical point-of-view stand on its own. "Safety Bricks" and "F—ked Up Kids" are examples of a firm step away from the "more is more" theory, while still presenting many intricate layers to be noticed upon further inspection.

The album also jumps all over the indie rock spectrum. "Broke Me Up" is a gentle lament of a folk track while "Big Love" is a larger-than-life digital track motivated by white-hot synthesizers.

"Back Out On The..." motors away in a Guided by Voices meets Mudhoney interstate rock fashion, thanks to a cameo from grunge rock icon J. Mascis (Dinosaur Jr.). "Gang Bang Suicide" is a dreamy feel-good track next to "Frightened Lives," where Drew waxes pseudo-philosophic on the 21st century.

Drew's ability to paint a focused spectrum is apparent in "Bodhi Sappy Weekend," a track born in one simple guitar lick and stretched into a beautiful track reminiscent of Stars, label mates and friends of Drew. To leave no stone unturned, the album finishes with the sing-along in "When It Begins."

Instead of waiting around for all of the BSS schedules to synchronize, Drew simply included the voices and talents of those around him at that particular moment in time. The process keeps true to the concept of the Broken Social Scene collective: good music played by good people — stop on by.



By ANN PETROUS
Contributing Reporter

For those of you who enjoy head-banging music with lyrics most can't understand, Enter Shikari's album, "Take to the Skies," is undoubtedly for you.

While listening to the album, I couldn't understand a single word the lead vocalist was saying. Screaming persists throughout the entire album.

This includes songs like "Anything Can Happen," "Mothership" and "Labyrinth."

The music brings visions of concerts with mosh pits and crowd surfing. If you are the sort of person who enjoys singing along with the artist, steer clear of Enter Shikari.

This album consists of 17 tracks of screaming nonsense, six of which are untitled musical interludes.

If the name of the band doesn't turn you away, then the music sure stands a chance. The album sounds like noise pollution from the minute the first song begins to play to the end of the last.

Warning: this record might leave a loud ringing in your ears. A good suggestion would be to have a bottle of aspirin on hand before listening to it. If this type of alt rock music is something you aren't used to, and even if you are, then the aspirin may still come in handy.

Enter Shikari: Not for all

Save the Date

Fun things worth thinking about doing

-Dane Cook
Nov. 24, 2007 7:00 p.m.
The Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

-The Nutcracker
Dec. 6- Dec. 9 2007 7:30 p.m.
Fox Theater
Detroit, MI 48201

-Trans Siberian Orchestra
Dec 26, 2007 8:00 p.m.
The Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

-The Producers
Jan. 10, 2008 7:30 p.m.
Dow Event Center
Saginaw, MI 48607

Presenting Kevin Drew

Opening Night



EVAN AGOSTINI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dustin Hoffman and Natalie Portman pose for a picture on the red carpet before the premiere of "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium" Sunday Nov. 11. The movie, written and directed by Zach Helm, will open to the public Friday, Nov. 16. Magorium (Hoffman) decides to hand over his magical toy shop which literally comes to life to the shy store manager, Molly Mahoney (Portman). When Molly takes over, accountant Henry (Jason Bateman) arrives to audit and the strange toys began to turn from bright colors to dull grays. Molly and Henry must find the magic to save the wonder emporium and all the toys within.

Music of a bloodied barber

By GRACE GAHMAN
Contributing Reporter

Tim Burton and his posse are back with their newest motion picture, "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street," starring Johnny Depp as the vindictive barber Sweeney Todd and Helena Bonham Carter as devoted Mrs. Lovett.

This adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's musical of the same name takes place in gritty, turn-of-the-century London.

The movie features Alan Rickman as the rapacious Judge Turpin, to whom Todd seeks revenge, and Sacha Baron Cohen (Borat) as Todd's corrupt competitor Signor Adolfo Pirelli.

Rated "R" for "Graphic bloody violence," Sweeney Todd is no campy musical. It focuses on the gruesome revenge Sweeney Todd takes on Judge Turpin for some cruel misdeeds he committed 15 years prior.

Todd ends up secretly killing his clean-shaven customers and hopes someday Judge Turpin will come into his shop so his revenge may be exacted.

Todd's shop sits atop Mrs. Lovett's meat-pie shop where the "worst pies in London" are made. When a quarrel develops between the traveling barber Signor Adolfo Pirelli and Todd the plot is set in motion.

Audiences will be surprised to hear Depp and his fellow cast members singing virtually all the dialogue of the film.

Some would accordingly call this musical thriller an opera.

Whether the cast's melodic prowess will be revealed in this complex musical score has yet to be determined. Judging from Burton's and Depp's other collaborations, however, it will certainly be an effective film.

Sweeney Todd arrives in theaters Friday, Dec. 21.

Night of the comical zombies

By T.J. WIETHORN AND
GRACE GAHMAN
Contributing Reporters

The traveling show, "Night of the Living Dead: The Musical," entertained patrons at the Detroit Majestic Theater, Saturday, Nov. 3.

The low budget, campy-fun musical was written by Thomas Hoagland with music and lyrics by Chad Kushuba.

But the baby of a budget wasn't a problem at all. From the first plywood car moving across the stage — think "The Flintstones," — to the very detailed, creative and creepy zombie costumes, everything the audience sees only adds to the experience.

The show tries very hard to be funny. And since most of the time it was, it worked out. At

times, however, the actors relied too heavily on mispronouncing words and overacting.

The final character played by Mike McGettigan, one of four played by him, was way too much to enjoy.

But other actors fulfilled their roles with energy and humor. Katie Galazka was especially vibrant as the voluptuous narrator.

As for the rock-style music, it delivers most of the time.

For a musical, though, there seemed to be a severe shortage of songs, and when there was a song, it wasn't terribly well-developed.

You'll be disappointed if you are expecting to see a spectacular extravaganza of amazement and wonder. But if you're simply in the mood for fun in a production you could make in your basement, then you're in luck.

Country star Patty Griffin releases hit concert DVD

By OLIVIA OLSON
Contributing reporter

At the beginning of Patty Griffin's newly released concert DVD "Live At the Artist's Den," the talented alt-country singer/songwriter describes how she was often advised to sing more quietly on her albums and how her refusal to do so was met with the chagrin of past publicists.

Griffin fans everywhere will find it difficult to suppress a subversive smirk when realizing that the chord progression playing in the background all the while is from one of her most explosive tunes "You Never Get What You Want."

While these fan-friendly details add tremendously, they are merely the icing on a particularly impressive and majestic cake.

The show is filmed at an old New York City synagogue, the beauty and splendor of which is matched only by Griffin's staggering vocals and incomparable compositions.

After years of being a mostly solo performer, Griffin is joined by a band for the majority of the show. This perfectly encapsu-

lates the essence of her most recent album, "Children Running Through."

This is not to say that the set list is comprised entirely of songs from one particular album. In fact, the show is remarkable in its breadth. There is something for every fan.

There is even a special treat in "The Moon Song," a track so new that it has not yet been released on any album.

A particular highlight from the show is "Trapeze," a vocally flawless performance that is stunning in its simplicity.

A full string band joins in on "Burgundy Shoes," which gathers momentum like a musical tidal wave throughout the tune.

Also, the very popular "Up on the Mountain (MLK Song)" was delivered with the strength and soul that such a gut-wrenchingly powerful song deserves.

Overall, the beautiful filming of such an intimate performance lives up to the genius of Patty Griffin.

It has the power to convert those who are yet unfamiliar with her music and intensify the devotion of her already loyal fan base.



MOUTHING OFF

28

www.oaklandpostonline.com

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

November 14, 2007

Something happened . . .

Journalism is a profession of facts, non-opinions and bathroom breaks

By C. M. GRASKI
Senior Reporter

I am a journalist.
I am an objective and fair source of unbiased opinions.

Want my opinion about the Iraq War?
I have no opinion.

Want to know what I think about 9/11 or the state of the health care system in our country?

I have no opinion.

Want to know what I think of those new trousers?

My hands are tied.

It is not my place to inform you with information based on my opinions.

What I can do, though, is much better: I can give you the facts, a condensed parlay with the fat of the land — information — for as long as you like.

There is always information to be consumed because there are always new facts.

Why?

It's simple. Something is always happening.

As soon as any given something happens, facts are produced, which settle onto host sources, which meander until they are seized by the media.

A reporter, such as I, would be dispatched to these sources and, ideally, to the very spot where something happened.

That's what makes news so exciting. It's about things that have happened.

Everyone will know what happened, so long as there's an article about it.

That's why it's called a story.

The news stories today aren't your grandmother's old fashioned hard news fluff.

Today, we deal with a lot more facts, which is really exciting.

Facts used to only come up in stories told among veteran journalists, not in war stories from the hallowed sites of somethings, but in stories of late night sightings while hiking in the Adirondacks.

So, we're very lucky because facts are far less elusive today than they were skulking in between tall pines and disappearing into the heights of misty mountains like they used to be fond of doing.

Now, it's almost to the point where I get so overwhelmed by how bountiful facts have become that it can feel like I'm dreaming them or pulling them from one of my sleep-deprived hallucinations.

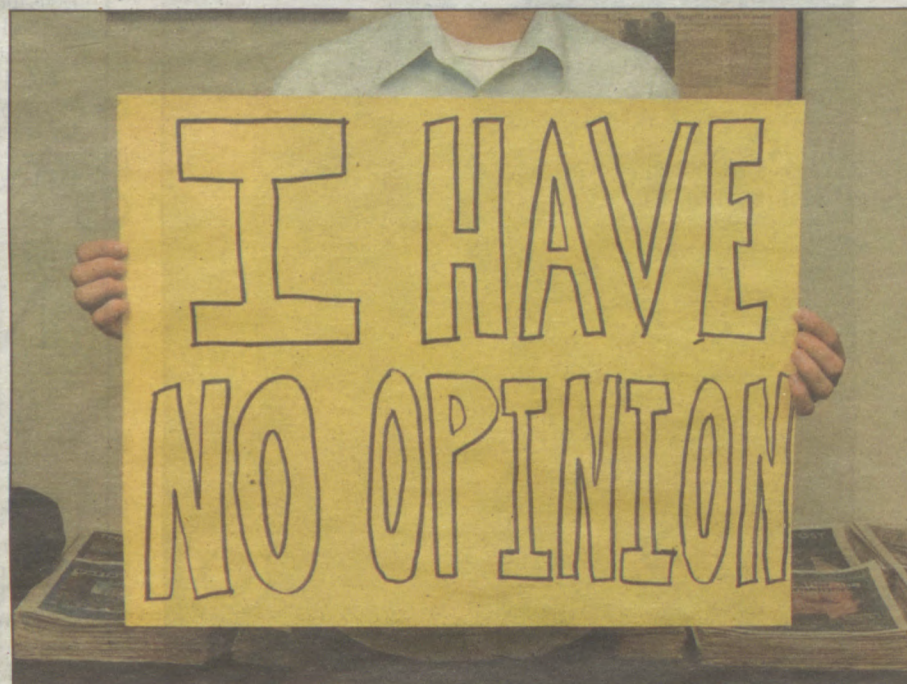
So I am sent to the site of something so that everyone can eventually know what happened by reading an article that comes from a process of harvesting facts from sources.

But the article won't write itself.

I'm never really certain of what the end result will be, but it will generally include facts and opinions from sources, photographs and some words.

Using my laptop computer, I typically use several hundred keystroke combinations, via a keyboard, to produce an intelligible pattern of letters, or words.

It's a very delicate process.



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post

Journalists have a brief response when asked about the war, the health care system or your trousers.

One or two cups of coffee are consumed.

One five-minute pacing session will occur before the lead is written.

Four bathroom breaks will be taken.

Three calls to friends and/or relatives will be made.

I'll watch the squirrels and blue jays taunt one another

at my bird feeder for around an hour, take a cat nap and leave for a few hours to try and get some early Christmas shopping done.

This is the article-writing process.

At some point, something known as e-mail will be used to send the article

almost instantaneously through some electronic hoopla to an editor.

At this point, the editor will prepare the article for mass dissemination. This will be done using an approved word processing program.

MS Works, Microsoft Office and Lotus Notes are good ones.

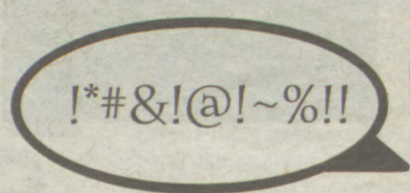
This process isn't really what I do, but I can tell you that it's quite magical.

None of us here in the newsroom is really sure about what is going to happen next.

That's not what we do.

We only write about things that have already happened.

That's why we're here. Because something is always happening.



GOT A BIG MOUTH?
WE'LL STUFF IT WITH \$20.

SUBMIT YOUR COLUMN FOR "MOUTHING OFF" TO
THEOAKLANDPOST@GMAIL.COM AND SCORE 20 BUCKS IF IT PRINTS.

Know to whom you pray

By **JESSE DUNSMORE**
Senior Reporter

When I see a headline like "Lies my preacher told me" (by Michael Palmer, in last week's issue), I try to avoid reading the column underneath, because, if I do, I'll feel compelled to write a rebuttal.

Well, last week I read it.

And Palmer raises some valid points on biblical issues.

But he also bases at least one argument — not against Christian doctrine specifically, but against the very existence of a god — on faulty logic.

The gist of this particular argument is that prayer doesn't work.

To prove this, Palmer cites an experiment that showed patients who knew they were prayed for fared no better — and sometimes worse — than those who didn't.

In other words, it's officially on record now that people who pray still die.

Palmer rightly warns us in his column to avoid "believing things just because they make us feel good."

Those type of beliefs are the foundation for crises of faith — with a harder, more mature view, that experiment doesn't begin to dent the existence of God.

But that view is considerably less comfortable. Here is where some people will feel extremely offended — one needs to ask: to what were these patients and their benefactors praying?

Allah, Amida Buddha, Jesus, L. Ron Hubbard, Odin, Zarathustra?

I have no authority to guarantee that a prayer to anyone will get the results you want. But Palmer's argument seems based on the very popular idea that if there was a God, that God would be an all-purpose, open-minded and generally uni-faith God.

This God wouldn't ask for any particular belief or have any defined personality. And nothing — limits, desires or identity — would be absolutely true about that God: otherwise, not everyone could get what they wanted.

That God isn't a person. It's a machine with a "Press here for free wishes" button.

If that's what you believe in, then I have to agree with Palmer: Your God doesn't exist.

If there is a God who answers prayer, that God has an identity. Palmer is right: prayer to a random deity will have the same success rate as prayer to a jack-o-lantern.

Once we admit that God has a distinct

personality, we have to admit that God has desires and goals like all sentient beings.

And here, we run into another soft, fluffy assumption that needs to be eviscerated.

We'd love to think God wants the same basic things we want. I won't say that God's goals would never match our own, but regardless of what ideas you have about God's position in the universe, you've got to admit our point of view isn't the same as God's.

God might view things in a much longer term than us and may place far more value on some things than we do — and far less on others.

How do you really know what God would want?

There are two ways to approach this problem.

You can assume God is just "out there" and completely beyond knowing. If that's the case, then God is not worth worrying about.

Or, you can assume God revealed Godself (and now I am really taking liberties with the English language to avoid gender-specificity) to humanity.

You'd need to decide how God did it. I can't tell you how to do that in this column, except to say that the answer

probably won't be the first comfortable idea you come up with.

Then you'd need to go to this source of knowledge, study hard and come up with answers for what God's priorities are.

If you asked me to lower your taxes, I couldn't. If you asked me to give you money based on the fact you said "please," I wouldn't. And if you asked for the time, but didn't say my name, look at me or direct your voice my way, I'm afraid I wouldn't give you that, either — who the heck are you asking?

So does it seem logical that anyone can pray to Anyone for anything and get a result?

To me, it seems like requesting a favor from the proper person, placing that favor within the boundaries of that person's ability and making sure you're asking for something that person would at least tolerate would ensure a better result.

And, believe me, there are plenty of other variables to consider. The worst thing you could do is not consider them.

Don't take a solution because it's easy and requires little thought — whether that solution is disillusioned atheism or "He works in mysterious ways."

I've got to stop reading these columns.

Center for Student Activities

CSA

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

Commuter Appreciation Week

November 12th – 16th

S.A.F.E.

(Students Administrators
& Faculty For Equality)

Ally Training

TODAY, November 14th
2PM – 3:30PM
Heritage Room, OC

Are you interested in
becoming an ally to our
LGBTQA community?

Contact
Joann Bautti-Roche at
jbauttir@oakland.edu.

CSA

Leadership Lecture Series Presents:

Charles Pugh
Fox 2 News Anchor

Thursday, November 15
12PM – 1PM
Banquet Room B, OC

Once [a] Month Opportunity:
Up Til' Dawn

TODAY, November 14th
5:30PM – 10:30PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Letter writing campaign
benefiting St. Jude Children's
Hospital. Contact Amanda at
alrymisz@oakland.edu to sign up!

Current Events Panel Discussion

TODAY, November 14th
12PM – 1PM
Fireside Lounge, OC

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING STUDENT AWARDS:

WILSON AWARDS

Nominees for the 2008 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in Winter 2008 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2007. 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 academic record of a 3.5 or higher GPA.

HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

Nominees must be graduating in Winter 2008 or have graduated in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2007. 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 GPA of 2.5 is required.

Nomination forms are available online at

www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/

under "Scholarships and Awards" or at 144 Oakland Center.

Call 370-3352 for more information.

Deadline for both awards is Monday, February 4, 2008.



HATEM MOUSSA/Associated Press
Palestinian Fatah supporters gather at a rally to mark the third anniversary of the death of former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza City, Nov. 12, 2007.

Hamas arrests Fatah activists

By IBRAHIM BARZAK
Associated Press Writer

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Hamas on Tuesday moved swiftly against its Fatah rivals in Gaza following a massive rally that ended in bloodshed, arresting 400 people in an overnight crackdown and promising "additional steps" against its bitter enemy.

The threat deepened tensions between the Palestinian rivals ahead of a U.S.-sponsored peace conference later this month and appeared to set the stage for Hamas to take even tougher action against Fatah.

The latest arrests followed Monday's huge rally by Fatah. Billed as a memorial for legendary Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, the event drew an estimated 250,000 people, making it Fatah's biggest show of force since the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June.

The event began peacefully, but quickly descended into mayhem and violence, with seven Fatah supporters — all civilians — killed and 85 people wounded as Hamas men opened fire on protesters.

Hazem Abu Shanab, a Fatah spokesman in Gaza, said the detainees included dozens of organizers of the rally.

Hamas officials blamed Fatah for provoking the violence.

Taher Nunu, a Hamas spokesman, said "some elements in the rally created an atmosphere of chaos." He also said speeches "were full of incitement against the government."

Gaza's Hamas government met to discuss the violence, he said. "The government will reconsider its policy toward Fatah and will take additional steps to protect the political and national and media movements in the streets of Gaza."

Since routing Fatah forces and taking control of Gaza, Hamas has ruled the area with an iron grip. It has banned virtually all Fatah activities, tortured Fatah supporters, closed pro-Fatah media and charities and broken up attempts by Fatah to hold organized prayers.

Crew questioned in SF Bay oil spill

By ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Federal investigators were considering Monday whether to file criminal charges against the crew members of a container ship that struck the Bay Bridge and ripped a gash in its fuel tank, creating the San Francisco Bay's worst oil spill in nearly two decades.

The ship was being detained at the Port of Oakland. Crew members of the Asia-based Cosco Busan were questioned on board the vessel beginning Sunday, said Coast Guard attorney Christopher Tribolet.

Any charges would likely fall under the negligence provisions of the Clean Water Act and the U.S. transportation code, Tribolet said.

The Coast Guard notified the U.S. attorney's office Saturday about problems involving management and communication between the officers on the ship's

bridge at the time of the crash. Capt. William Uberti, the U.S. Coast Guard commander for the bay region, declined to elaborate, except to say: "It was just the way that everybody interacted" on the bridge.

The bridge personnel included the helmsman, watch officer, and ship's master, as well as the pilot, Capt. John Cota, among the most experienced of the seamen who guide ships through the bay's treacherous waters.

It was unclear how many crew members were still aboard the ship Monday. Questioning began Sunday, and at least six members were found to have immigration or visa issues, authorities said. Foreign crew members on board any ship in U.S. ports need the permission of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol to disembark, Tribolet said.

Darrell Wilson, a representative for Regal Stone Ltd., the Hong Kong-based company that owns the Cosco Busan,

declined to comment on the investigation.

The ship struck the bridge early Wednesday, causing no structural damage to the span but leaking some 58,000 gallons of fuel oil into the bay. The thick, toxic fuel has fouled miles of coastline, forced the closure of nearly two dozen beaches and piers and killed dozens of seabirds.

Meanwhile, the head of the Coast Guard defended his agency's response to the spill while pledging a full and transparent investigation.

The Coast Guard has been criticized for a lag time of several hours between when agency officials learned that the spill was 58,000 gallons — not 140 as initially reported — and when that information was given to local officials and the public.

More than 10,000 gallons of oil had been recovered by Sunday, but much of the oil never will be, the Coast Guard said. Some will evaporate or dissipate and be absorbed into the ecosystem.



South Korean protest turns into a shoe-tossing affair

AHN YOUNG-JOON/Associated Press

South Korea protester hurls a shoe at a riot policeman during a rally against Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between South Korea and the United States in Seoul, South Korea, Sunday, Nov. 11, 2007. Tens of thousands of South Korean farmers and workers took to the streets of the capital Sunday, demanding that a free trade agreement between their country and the United States be scrapped.

Nation | World News Briefs

11-07 | At least eight people are killed and several injured in a school shooting in Finland | The U.S. dollar stumbles to new lows after Cheng Siwei, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, calls for China to shift more of its \$1.43 trillion of currency reserves into "stronger currencies," such as the euro.

11-08 | The United States Senate confirms Michael Mukasey as the Attorney General of the United States

11-09 | Stagehands belonging to the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees go on strike, shutting down most Broadway shows

11-13 | President Bush vetoes a health and education bill.

'Date-rape' drug-related substance found on recalled toys

By SCOTT MCDONALD
Associated Press Writer

BELJING — China's safety watchdog confirmed Saturday that toy beads recalled in the United States and Australia after sickening children contain a substance that can turn into the "date-rape" drug after ingested.

The toys, coated with the industrial chemical 1,4-butane-

diol, were made by the Wangqi Product Factory in Shenzhen, a city just over the border from Hong Kong, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine said in a statement.

When ingested, the chemical metabolizes into the "date-rape" drug gamma hydroxy butyrate, also known as GHB, which can cause breathing problems,

loss of consciousness, seizures, drowsiness, coma and death.

Millions of units of the popular toys, which are sold as Aqua Dots in the United States and as Bindeez in Australia, were recalled in those countries as well as Britain, Malaysia, Singapore and elsewhere this past week after children began falling sick from swallowing the toy's bead-like parts.

The recall is the latest in a

slew of product quality scandals that has tarnished China's image as an exporter of reliable goods.

The government has tried to shore up the country's reputation by increasing inspections, selectively punishing companies and launching a publicity campaign to boost quality.

At least nine children in the U.S. and three in Australia have fallen sick.

OAKLAND'S BEST OF METRO DETROIT 2008

The Best of Metro: A cure for apathy?

When thinking about putting together any of our issues the staff at The Oakland Post wonder and consider how to get students involved. We considered this when putting together our first ever 'best of' ballot and love the response we are getting so far.

The idea of a best of issue has been a year in the making. The advertising and marketing departments, as well as staff, have joined forces to collaborate and promote this endeavor.

We chose to stick to the tri-county area because the majority of our students commute from there. There are plenty of businesses to choose from and we hope to help you discover new ones.

We hope this project will be a success and an annual tradition for the students as well as The Oakland Post. To make that happen, we need your help. Feedback and suggestions of our ballot are most welcome and can be directed to oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com.

Rules of Entry:

Only Students of Oakland University are eligible to cast their votes on the 2008 'Best of' ballot. Oakland University alumni, staff, faculty as well as members of The Oakland Post are not eligible to cast their votes. Only one ballot entry per student will be accepted. Family members and significant others of The Oakland Post's staff are not eligible for prizes. A minimum of 15 items must be filled out for the ballot to be counted and to be eligible to win a prize. An Oakland University student ID must be presented by the winner at the time of pick up.

Questions, comments or concerns?

Please direct them to The Oakland Post's Marketing or Advertising Staff.

oaklandpostadvertising@gmail.com
oakpostmarketing@gmail.com

Fill Out The Best of Metro Detroit and You Could Win Sweet Prizes!

One iPod Nano

Two \$25 gift cards to Barnes and Noble

Three \$10 gift cards to Caribou Coffee

Five Oakland Post T-shirts

Include your name, e-mail and phone number with your submission. December 5th is the last day to enter. Drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S Best of

Think you know the best eats, hangouts and local hot spots in the tri-county area? Then fill in your faves for the area and drop your ballot off at The Post (61 Oakland Center) or in the slots under the newsstands.

< 2008
BALLOT >

METRO DETROIT

< MUSIC & CULTURE >

Downtown Area: _____
Place to Meet New People: _____
Art Gallery: _____
Bowling Alley: _____
Salon: _____
Tanning Salon: _____
Spa: _____
Manicure/Pedicure: _____
Yoga Studio: _____
Fitness Center: _____
Concert Venue: _____
Local Band: _____
Record Store: _____

< MEDIA >

Source for Entertainment: _____
Local Magazine / News: _____
Morning Show: _____
Radio Station: _____

< ON CAMPUS >

Best place to eat: _____
Best Bathroom, explain.
Women's: _____
Men's: _____
Best place to take a nap: _____
Best distraction: _____
Vending Machine: _____
On campus event: _____
Best place to live
Off-Campus: _____
On-Campus: _____

< ATHLETICS >

Best Mascot: _____
Metro Detroit Sports Team: _____
Best Stadium: _____

< DINING >

Coney: _____
Italian: _____
Mexican: _____
Greek: _____
Chinese: _____
Thai: _____
Sushi: _____
Deli: _____
Burgers: _____
Coffee Shop: _____
Vegetarian Menu: _____
Ice Cream: _____
Pizza: _____
Appetizers: _____
Steakhouse: _____

< SHOPPING >

Best Mall: _____
Retail Store: _____
Place to buy Jeans: _____
Place to buy Shoes: _____
Place to buy Accessories: _____
Vintage Shop: _____
Bang For Your Buck: _____
Used Bookstore: _____
Local music store: _____

< BARS >

Sports Bar: _____
Martini Bar: _____
Micro Brewery: _____
Hookah Bar: _____
Bar with Live Music: _____
Dive Bar: _____
Best Happy Hour: _____

ENTER FOR THE CHANCE TO
WIN AN I-POD!

For a chance to win a sweet prize, fill in your basic contact info below. Ballots must be in by December 5, 2007.

Name: _____
E-mail: _____
Cell: () _____