

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 7, 2007

Volume 33, Number 21

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Paul Gully is **MOUTHING OFF** again. This week he takes on the silly sins of the states of the union **page 24**

The crabs you encounter during that date on the beach in this week's **SEX**, **page 10**

kampe the man in black

Men's basketball head coach walks the line of steadfast determination

Before the Mid-Con basketball tournament tipped off last Saturday, men's basketball Head Coach Greg Kampe shared with The Post what his expectations were.

"We're going there to win the thing," he said flat out and without pause.

We all know now that fate had other plans, but Kampe's play-to-win philosophy never wavered. Peer into Kampe's determined mind in an intense round of Q&A **page 19**



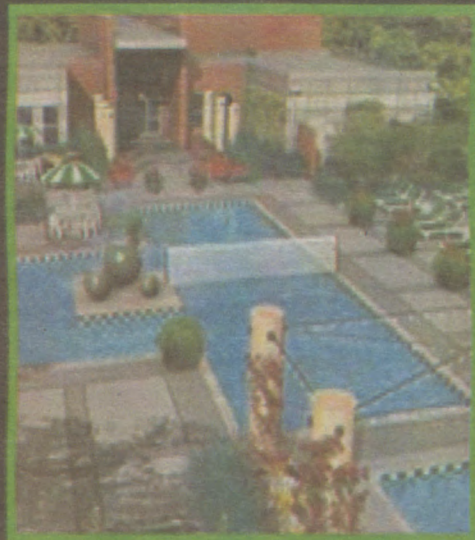
**WOMEN ALSO
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ROBERTS IN
CHAMPIONSHIP**

Nicole Piggott, Riikka Terava and April Kidd wear the heartbreak across their sad faces as they watch the final seconds of their season fade away.

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EDITORIAL

Jeff Kranitz
Editor in Chief
editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

Kelly Kozlowski
Managing Editor
managing@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-2537

Kevin Alford
Photo Editor
photo@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

Mark Goethals
Lead Ads Manager
advertising@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4269

Kara O'Connell
The Mix/Scene Editor
local@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4267

Crystal Nelson
Ads Manager
advertising@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4269

Erin Mallard
You Editor
features@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4267

Jillian Field
Assistant Ads Manager
advertising@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4269

Samantha Franz
Sports Editor
sports@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-2849

Heather Holm
Assistant Ads Manager
advertising@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

Elizabeth Perales
Local News/Copy Editor
editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

Chris Goeth
Distribution Manager
editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

Paul Gully
Assistant News Editor
editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

SENIOR REPORTERS
Maria Vitale
Rob Tate
Jesse Dunsmore
Owen Sexton

Celeste Filiatrault
Graphics/Web master
photo@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

ADVISOR
Holly Gilbert
editor@oakpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268



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Full coverage on Keeper of the Dream, the bookstore renovations, a visit from Steven A. Smith and loads more...



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Our staff editorial this week takes a look at addiction in America



YOU page 9

This is where the stuff goes for campus you will tease to campus from this



The Mix page 12

This is where the stuff goes for campus you will tease to campus from this



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Senior Reporter Paul Gully talks with Macomb Co. Sheriff Mark Hackel



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Men's and women's basketball coverage from the Mid-Con tournament



the Scene page 21

A trifecta of film reviews: "Ghost Rider," "300" and "Black Snake Moan"



MOUTHING OFF page 23

Contributing Reporter Robert M. Pylar recaps all the insanity from last month

By the time you've reached this piece, the changes to The Post are apparent. The Post, under the direction of new Editor in Chief Jeff Kranitz, is taking on bolder design and content. Over the next two months, look for provocative writing complemented by compelling visual detail. Our mission is unchanging, to bring YOU the news YOU need to know. This new format should help us accomplish our goals.

Kranitz is taking over for former editor Kelly Reynolds, who you can check out at the Clarkston News. Kranitz started at the Post in the winter of 2006 and spent the first semester and a half of this year as the Post's managing editor. His focus, by extension the focus of the entire staff, is to increase the quality of the news you consume without compromise.

We hope you enjoy the changes, please feel free to contact us with comments or concerns about them. This is your paper, and your input is always appreciated.

— The Oakland Post

Keepers of the dream

Prestigious award given to dedicated students

By PAUL GULLY
Assistant News Editor

Having spent a lifetime surrounded by some of the influential speakers of our time — close friend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and late husband Ossie Davis — it was no surprise that prominent civil right activist and Academy award nominated actress, Ruby Dee delivered a compelling, passionate keynote address at the 15th annual Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Awards Celebration Friday, Feb. 23.

Breaking from the tradition of past keynote addresses, Dee chose to read several passages from the likes of W.E.B. Du Bois, her late husband, and of her own, rather than delivering a formal speech.

"I'm not really what you would call a speaker, but I'm getting better at it," said Dee, garnering laughter from the several hundred in attendance in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

Dee's emotional oration covered King's dream, vision and struggle for civil rights.

"Martin Luther King was a preacher, a teacher; he was a man of the people, for the people," she read. "A man who let his Godness shine through."

"I thought the crowd was touched by what Ms. Dee had to say," said Omar

Brown-El, director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives. Brown-El, who helped coordinate the event, got to spend personal time with Dee. "She was very down to earth and very open," Brown-El said. "She talked very openly about her life and her family. She was very interested in being here at OU and was glad that we rescheduled with her," Brown-El added.

The Keeper of the Dream Scholarship award recognizes Oakland University students who have demonstrated strong citizenship, scholarship and leadership in breaking down cultural stereotypes and promoting interracial understanding.

Junior mechanical engineering major, Brandon Svenson; junior psychology major, Tiffanye Teagarden; junior math and English major, Sean Buono; junior economics major, Kwame Everett; junior music and communications major, Matthew Kelly; and junior political science major, Aaron Kochenderfer were the six Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Award recipients for this year.

"This year's scholarship winners have helped carry out Dr. King's dream of unification, equality and justice," said Oakland University President Gary Russi. "I'm very proud of each and every one of the winners."

Following the awards celebration, the



CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post
Scholarship winner, Tiffanye Teagarden, poses with her award at the 15th annual Keeper of the Dream awards celebration. Ruby Dee gave the keynote address at the event Feb. 23.

honorees were treated to a private luncheon, where Dee and scholarship sponsors were in attendance.

The event was originally slated to take place on January 15, but was postponed due to inclement weather conditions, which was a factor in the lower-than-expected attendance of the event.

However, according to Mary Beth Snyder, vice president of Student Affairs,

the problem will be rectified next year.

Snyder served as mistress of ceremonies for the event, filling in for WDIV news anchor, Carmen Harlan, who was unable to attend the event due to the date change.

For more information on the Keeper of the Dream Awards Scholarship, visit the Center for Multicultural Initiatives Web site or the Dean of Students Office.

ESPN personality offers insight to students

By ROB TATE
Senior Reporter

Sunday mornings on ESPN won't be the same anymore with new co-host Stephen A. Smith delivering straightforward sports coverage in his trademark brash style.

Oakland University students had the chance to hear Smith's thoughts in person during a lecture on campus Feb. 22. Smith presented the story of his career in journalism and took dozens of sports questions. He also touched upon a subject that many people run into every day:

prejudice and racism.

Citing a scholarship to Winston Salem State as a turning point in his life, Smith said, "That's how my life started. You reach moments in your life where you don't know what's coming your way and don't even know it when it's there."

When a serious knee injury devastated Smith's basketball career, he gave up his dreams as an athlete and turned his interest to media. With humble beginnings as a newspaper writer, Smith is now one of the big hitters in sports media, co-hosting Sportscenter during a

prime time slot.

Crediting his success to the education he received, Smith said he enjoys traveling to college campuses to speak to students about sports, school and his story.

To those interested in sports media, Smith said, "You got to try to do your job, you got to develop reports through players, you got to cultivate your resources, try to be as objective as you possibly could be and go about the business of doing your job."

Smith also offered insight on the topic of race relations in the media, mention-

ing his experiences with athletes having higher expectations of reporters who share their ethnicity.

According to Smith, black athletes sometimes expect black reporters to fully understand their perspective, no questions asked, while tolerating a lack of awareness from white reporters.

"(An athlete) will accuse a reporter of playing the race card when it's actually them," Smith said. "That's what reporters of African-American decent go through today. That's the challenge. You have to have alligator skin."

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Scott's art has often been the topic of public debate. He first earned national attention as a student at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Among his news-making pieces, "What Is the Proper Way to Display a U.S. Flag?" made waves among the federal government.

Focusing on a variety of media including, photography, installation, sculpture and screenprinting, Scott's work has been displayed widely including at the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Brooklyn Museum, Socrates Sculpture Park, and many other national and international galleries and museums.

His lecture is held in conjunction with the opening of Oakland University Art Gallery's exhibit, "Tergloba," which opens March 10.

Friday, March 9
3 - 5 p.m.**Gold Rooms, Oakland Center**For more information, contact the
College of Arts and Sciences at (248) 370-2140.This event is part of the College of Arts and Sciences
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KEVIN ALFORD/The Oakland Post

The Oakland University bookstore remains open for business during its remodeling.

Bookstore breakdown

By **JESSE DUNSMORE**
Senior Reporter

Walking down the hallway in the basement of the Oakland Center, it is hard not to notice the bookshelves and display stands against the walls outside the bookstore.

But next week, the furniture should be where it belongs — in a newly-remodeled bookstore.

According to Director of Business Operations Analysis Peggy Cooke, the store was last remodeled in 1999. Barnes & Noble college division has operated the store since 2001.

As part of the bookstore chain's 2006 contract with the university, Barnes & Noble invested \$550,000 in the project, which included the construction of The Book Nook on the first floor of the OC.

"I think one of the things is to make it a more retail-oriented store," said Cooke. "They won't have the (interior) walls; (students) will be able to see a lot better in the store. Just kind of updating the retail experience for the students."

Bookstore manager Debbie Ogg highlighted changes including new light fixtures, a large, central information desk, repainted colors and a "slat wall" for merchandising.

Ogg also said the new bookstore layout will have a more "open" line of sight for shoppers.

"When you guys walk in here now, you can see where you want to go," Ogg said. "There aren't any walls in your way."

According to Ogg, a customer should be able to see whatever product he or she is looking for from anywhere in the store.

Although the bookstore is open during construction, only part of the sales floor contains merchandise. Items not found on shelves are stored elsewhere and still available upon request. "It might not be dis-

played attractively," Ogg said, "but we didn't get rid of anything."

James Batcheler, a senior computer engineering major, said the construction didn't make it difficult for him to find what he was looking for. He also said he thought the remodeling was a good idea.

"The old design was a little confusing to find things, the way they organized books and stuff like that," Batcheler said.

Cooke said the project is completely funded by Barnes & Noble, and according to Ogg, the store will not be increasing any prices to fund it.

The construction faced some delays early on. Cooke said the freight elevator in the OC wasn't functional, pushing back the original goal of completing the project in December of 2006.

"The timing of the project couldn't have been worse," said Daniel Niezurawski, Electrical and Plumbing Maintenance Foreman. He said repairs to the elevator, currently shut down due to an oil leak, were delayed during the repair company's contract discussions with the university.

Work on the bookstore was then set to begin in February. Project Manager and Coordinator Scott Little said that although his company, National Interiors, began construction 10 days later than he had planned, the job is now ahead of schedule, and should be completed by March 12.

Ogg said her staff has assisted the construction team to speed the project along. "Between them and my staff just working so well together... it's put them about a week ahead."

According to Cooke, once the project is completed, the Oakland University Bookstore will be renamed "Barnes & Noble at Oakland University," and the Book Nook will be renamed "The Grizz Express."

Letters come highly recommended

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

Is going to class simply a routine for you? Is earning decent grades the yardstick for your academic success?

This may be enough to add some extra punch to a resume, but letters of recommendation are what determine the outcome of an interview, strengthen a portfolio, or bolster the appeal of a graduate degree application in most cases, according to Professor of Psychology Dr. Cynthia Sifonis.

Sifonis believes that many students understand that letters of recommendation are important, but too few know the best way to acquire them. Her lecture, "How to Get Letters of Recommendation," will demystify this process so that students of all types can take their education to the next level.

Sifonis said establishing rapport is the most crucial aspect of getting a good letter of recommendation.

"The letter itself involves getting to know your professor a lot better than just attending class and getting good grades. This way, they can write about your academic potential, creativity, communication skills and work ethic. These are the kinds of things that stand

out to employers and graduate schools," said Dr. Sifonis.

Participating in internships, assisting in labs, becoming a student assistant and being actively involved in clubs is essential to maintaining this rapport. These activities also better acquaint the student with the professor on a more personal level. "Do not just show up and do as you are asked, go above and beyond. Stand out."

"If a professor can't write you a strong letter of recommendation, they'll say that," Sifonis said. "Listen to that, because if they do, it will be a letter that doesn't stand out at all, and this is why you need to make sure you're involved with someone that can."

Sifonis will also be giving advice about how to choose the right professor and what steps one can take to stand out so that professors will write strong letters of recommendation.

In addition to establishing rapport and choosing the right professor to write the letter, Sifonis will discuss other tips for students in need of letters.

The lecture is scheduled to take place Friday in Lake Superior Room A of the Oakland Center. All are encouraged to attend, ask questions and be noticed!

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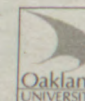
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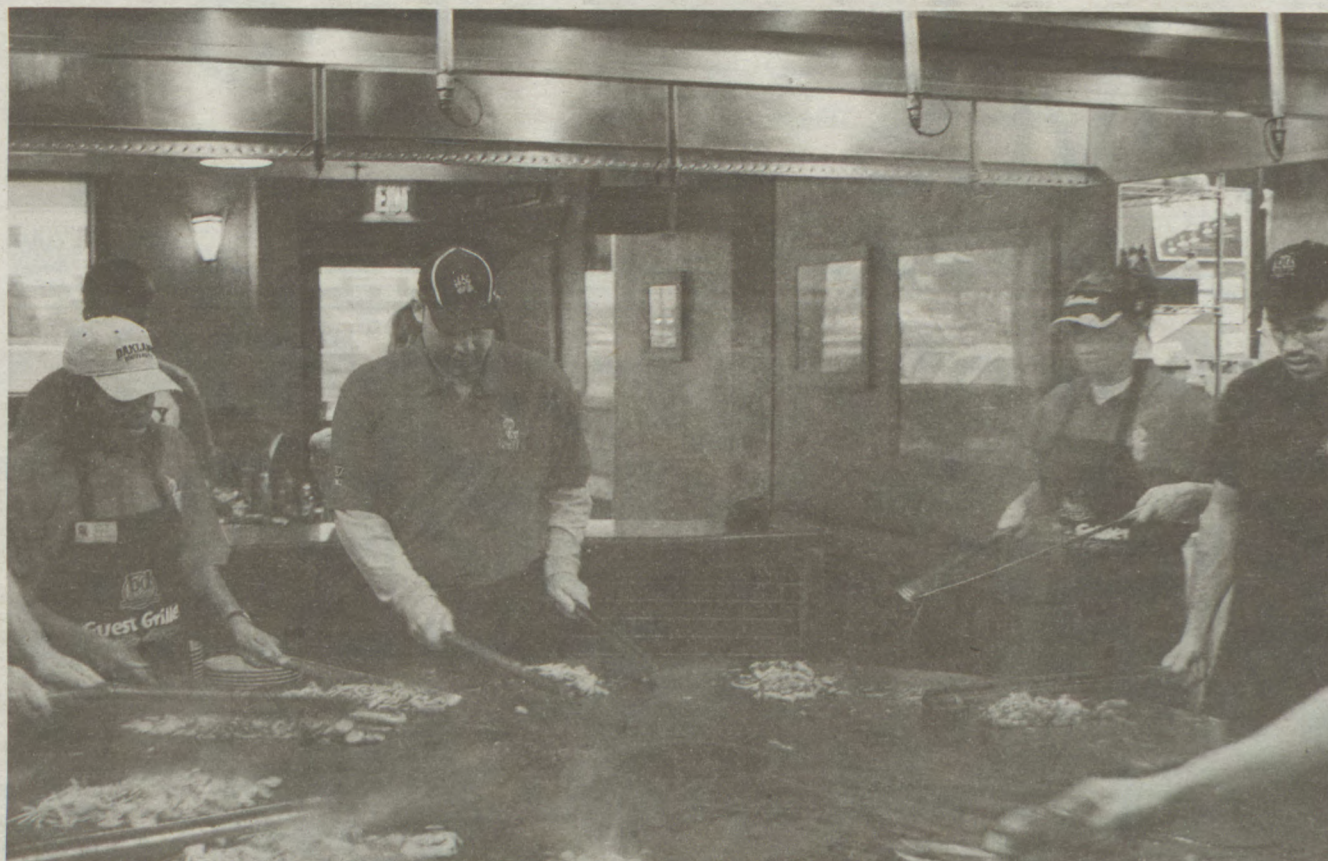
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Look for upcoming coverage of the OU Student Congress elections in the Oakland Post.



Oakland University coaches focus their eyes and efforts on endless stir fry combinations in an effort to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

CHARLES GRASKI/The Oakland Post



DUSTIN ALEXANDER/The Oakland Post
Kempe grills for bills at bd's Mongolian Barbeque.

OU coaches cook for a cause

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

The 600-degree, six-hundred pound grill sizzled purposefully Thursday night at bd's Mongolian Barbeque of Auburn Hills, as Oakland University coaches marked the second annual serving of Coaches Vs. Cancer.

This year's guest grillers were Oakland University Men's Basketball Head Coach Greg Kempe, Associate Head Coach Jeff Smith, Women's Associate Coach Ayesha Whitfield, and Associate Coach Katie

Wolfe. They volunteered their evenings to raise money for Coaches Vs. Cancer, a partnership between the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the American Cancer Society.

"It's great, I have a lot of fun doing it, and it's for a great cause. Hopefully we're able to raise enough money to help someone out," said Kempe.

Patrons were encouraged to make donations while they waited for their dishes to be cooked by the coaching staff, who grilled like professionals.

"All of the money that's raised at the

grill is donated to Coaches Vs. Cancer," said Mark Dansaw, Regional Director of bd's Mongolian Barbeque.

Parking was certainly scarce, as over 100 patrons turned out to support the coaches in their fight against cancer. The anticipated goal for donations this year was to exceed the \$1200 raised last year.

"Following the event, a gift will be made to the American Cancer Society on behalf of Oakland University with the money raised by Coaches Vs. Cancer," said Jim Norton, Associate Director of Athletics.

The restaurant was chosen for the

event for its proximity to OU, variety of dishes, generosity and professionalism of staff and because of its partnership with the university.

"We do different events at different restaurants," Norton said. "We tend to hold events at restaurants that support us."

For those who would still like to donate, checks can be made out to the American Cancer Society and delivered to Norton at the OU Athletics administration office located in the Athletics Center. For a list of sponsors, click on the "Sponsors" link at www.ougrizzlies.com.

Students promote better health through food, fun and massages

By CHARLES GRASKI
Contributing Reporter

If you're like many people, working out and eating healthy are usually replaced with a bag of chips and Dr. Phil. Two Oakland University students understand this and are organizing a free and fun way for you to get back on track.

Wellness, Health Promotion and Injury Prevention students Lisa Nelson and Ashley Wright have committed themselves to not only be dedicated to health and well-

ness themselves, but to assist others in achieving their own goals.

To that end, the two have paired up to organize Wellness Promotion Day as the culminating event of their senior year.

"In the past, people have done an injury prevention day and also a walk, but Lisa and I are passionate more so about the wellness and health promotion aspect of our programs, which is why we chose to organize Wellness Promotion Day," Wright said.

Wellness Promotion Day is comprised of three series of events: the Information Health Fair, the Wellness Lecture Series

and Group Fitness Classes.

The Information Health Fair will offer free yoga, Chinese medicine, health and fitness assessments provided by personal trainers, life coaching, laughter therapy and chiropractic care.

Whole Foods Market will provide free food and beverages, and free five-minute massages will also be available.

The Wellness Lecture Series will feature twenty-five minute lectures including "Laugh Your Way to Health," "Exercise and Intensity," "Stress Management" and "Detoxification."

The Group Fitness series will offer free ab labs, step aerobics, strength training, yoga, strength training, and triathlon training.

Nelson and Wright said they are hoping for a big turnout. "If they haven't made a change to improve an unhealthy aspect of their lifestyle, or eliminate it completely, we hope our event will equip people with the information and inspiration to make a change," Nelson said.

Wellness Promotion Day is free and open to the public and scheduled to take place at the OU Recreation Center on March 14 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Perspectives

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March 7, 2007

EDITORIAL

Americans have a drunken view of addiction - and it's past the legal limit

It's been more than 50 years since the American Medical Association defined addiction as a bio-physical disease, yet the general public still regards it as an individual weakness or moral deficiency.

Drugs and alcohol completely hijack the brains of people who suffer from the disease. There is an area in all of our brains — located in the frontal lobe — that is commonly referred to as the "pleasure center." The pleasure center regulates the flow of the natural chemicals produced in our bodies — chemicals associated with pleasure, long-term memory, planning and drive, according to the AMA.

The AMA, and countless other credible and respected people in the medical field have produced evidence that shows how introducing foreign mind and mood altering chemicals into the brain causes it to grow lazy. The drugs and alcohol artificially — and with an exponentially greater effect — create the same feelings that are produced naturally, allowing our brains to take a break.

A genetic predisposition and/or chronic usage can actually change our brains physically by making the break that occurs when we use drugs or alcohol a permanent one. The brain then becomes dependant on those foreign chemicals just to maintain the status quo.

This helps to understand the lengths addicts travel to get their fix. The brain is fooled into thinking that survival depends on the continued processing of those chemicals. Consequently, addicts are compelled to seek out and use their drug of choice in the same way that the human species gravitates towards water and other natural resources to help ensure survival.

Webster's Dictionary defines insanity, in part, as repeating the same behavior and expecting different results. Why in the world would a sane person continue to engage in a behavior that they know is destroying themselves and the relationships they share with those they love?

This should all make it clear why such

behavior is not a sign of weakness.

However, as many recovering addicts say, one is not responsible for their disease, but entirely responsible for their recovery. And make no mistake — recovery is possible, provided that one has access to a network of support in the form of professional treatment and understanding from those around them.

Stigmatizing addicts into feeling ashamed for being what they are does nothing but cause the type of mental anguish that forces many people to pick up their addiction in the first place.

Dr. Mark Menestrina, director of the detox program at Brighton Hospital told the Detroit Free Press recently that while addicts make up only five percent of the population, they consume over 50 percent of the drugs and alcohol.

"I was arrested 12 times before I got into a recovery program," Menestrina was quoted saying in last Sunday's edition of the Free Press. "But we just don't treat addiction like the disease the AMA declared it is way back in 1956."

Throwing addicts in jail without treating their disease is a total waste of resources. At best, incarceration can only provide a temporary respite from active addiction — and at worst it can expose an addict to a world in which every kind of drug imaginable is only a few dollars or sexual acts away.

We've evolved significantly when it comes to the way we perceive other substances that were once looked at as benign. Most of us are probably too young to remember when cigarette smoking was considered fashionable.

Attitudes change, yes, but it'll take a strong national movement to reverse the public's current notion on addiction. Such a movement may be right around the corner — HBO is about to air a documentary called "The ADDICTION Project," which, according to their Web site, is an unprecedented multi-platform campaign aimed at helping Americans understand addiction as a chronic but treatable brain disease. Check it out.

— The Oakland Post



The fight for the American dream didn't end with Washington crossing the Delaware — but nor did it end with the civil rights movement.

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

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Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
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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

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

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— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

you (your stories
your words
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March 7, 2007

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HFCS-free: Real food for real people

Why you may want to consider an alternative eating style

By KYLE PHANEUF
Contributing Reporter

I'm at my local Kroger grocer, nearly identical, I'm sure, to your own, and I'm here on a mission. I want to make a lunch absolutely free of high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), an artificial sweetener I've recently been warned against.

It shows up in a lot of expected places. All brands of soda Kroger carries, for example, place it second on the ingredients list. Most pre-packaged cookies are sweetened with HFCS as well. That means Oreos, Chips Ahoy!, and Nilla Wafers are out of the question.

But it appears in some unexpected places too. Iced tea and lemonade seem like healthier alternatives to soda, but their ingredients list reads largely the same. Minute Maid, Nestea and Brisk all contain HFCS, as well as nearly all juices marketed towards children, including Sunny Delight, Hi-C and Capri Sun.

And even if I replace cookies for purportedly healthier snacks, I still end up with HFCS in my lunch. Snack Wells, which advertises low fat, no cholesterol and low sodium, includes HFCS in their snacks. Most surprising, so does Nature Valley granola bars, despite the "100% Natural" label on the box.

Even my sandwich isn't safe. HFCS turns up in some lunch meats, Miracle Whip, and even the bread they're in the middle of. It's not just Wonder Bread, either. Almost every loaf of bread I checked contained HFCS, even the 100 percent whole grain varieties.

So what is high fructose corn syrup? And is it safe to be consuming such high quantities of it on a daily basis?

The short answer is that HFCS is corn syrup treated with enzymes, substances that trigger a chemical reaction, to make it sweeter. While the United States Food and Drug Administration finds it safe to consume in its current use, not everyone agrees with them.

Peter Havel, a nutrition researcher at the University of California, has studied the effects of fructose on the human metabolic system.

"Fructose doesn't appear to signal the hormonal systems involved in the long-term regulation of food intake and ener-

gy metabolism," he said. "[It] appears to behave more like fat with respect to the hormones involved in body weight regulation."

Havel's hypothesis is backed up by some highly regarded sources.

In 2004, the Journal of the American Medical Association published a study in which over 50,000 American female nurses free of diabetes and other chronic diseases were followed for eight years. The end result: those women that consumed one or more HFCS sweetened sodas a day experienced significant weight gain and a higher risk of type two diabetes, 741 confirmed cases in all.

JAMA's study was one of the first major attempts to research the growing presence of HFCS in American diets, but a quick look at the numbers offers even more evidence.

According to physician Dr. Gabe Mirkin, HFCS was first developed in the early '70s and introduced into American diets in the early '80s, becoming so popular that use of cane sugar decreased as it was eclipsed by HFCS in the late '90s.

The Center for Disease Control has tracked the rise of adult obesity in America since 1990 and found that in the last 12 years, obesity rates have risen from an average of 11.6 percent to 22.1 percent.

That's not to say that HFCS is solely responsible for adult obesity rates (processed foods as a whole became considerably more common in the same time period), but it does raise questions about the advantages of the substance.

Adding to the confusion is the fact that HFCS replaced most cane sugar use largely due to high U.S. sugar tariffs — tariffs that exist because of continued lobbying pressure and finance from agricultural corporations like Archer Daniels Midland.

In fact, the Organic Consumers Association reported Archer Daniels Midland gained a \$113 million profit in the first quarter of 2006 alone after increasing their asking price for HFCS.

Despite the prevalence of HFCS in American food products, healthier alternatives are available.

It's not only important to stay away from processed foods, but also to check the



Celeste Filiatrault/ THE OAKLAND POST

Think you're corn syrup savvy? Take our quiz! Which of these items have HFCS? Which are HFCS-free? Answers on the bottom of A10

labels, even on seemingly healthier items. And while fructose-free alternatives do exist, it'll often take a trip to a specialty health food store and cost more money.

But it could be worth it. As perhaps

the first generation consuming HFCS our whole lives, and having no solid conclusion yet on the repercussions, avoiding this ubiquitous food additive may pay off in the long run.



Did somebody have a little too much fun on spring break? Feeling a little funny down there? Here are some common symptoms associated with STDs:

Crabs: small blood-feeding parasites

- Fever and fatigue may occur if you are bitten by large amounts of crabs

- Itching
- Rust-colored spots on your underclothes from bleeding bites

Chlamydia: bacterial infection, which can lead to female reproductive organ damage

- Abnormal vaginal discharge
- Bleeding between menstruations
- Burning urination
- Fever or nausea
- Lower back or abdominal pain
- Pain during sex

Genital Herpes: viral infection manifesting as surface wounds

- Abnormal vaginal discharge or pain when urinating

- Fever, headache and muscle aches
- Painful small red bumps, blisters or open sores on or around the genital region or rectum

- Pain in legs, buttocks or genital area
- Swollen glands in the genital area

Gonorrhea: bacterial infection causing inflammation of genital mucus membranes

- Anal discharge, itching or bleeding
- Painful bowel movements or urination
- Bleeding between menstruations
- Yellowish or bloody vaginal discharge

Hepatitis B / C: viral disease which affects the liver

- Abdominal or joint pain
- Dark-colored urine or diarrhea
- Loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting
- Yellowing skin or whites of the eyes

Human Papillomavirus (HPV): viral disease which may lead to cervical cancer

- Flat or raised warts
- Lesions or warts may be on the cervix, vagina, anus or thigh

*This is hard to detect. Always have a routine Pap test after having sexual relations with your partner.

Syphilis: bacterial infection affecting body organs including the genitals, brain, skin and nervous tissue

- Fever, headaches
- Hair loss
- Skin rash on palms or feet
- Sore throat or swollen lymph glands

If you suspect you have an STD, seek medical attention as soon as possible. Some cases may worsen if left untreated over a long period of time. For more information, visit www.GirlsHealth.gov

This is a bi-weekly column. Please email any questions or topic suggestions to cafiat@oakland.edu with the word "SEX" in the subject line or use the drop box located in front of The Oakland Post.

Answers to quiz on A9:

Products with HFCS:	HFCS-Free Alternatives:
Edy's Ice Cream (17)	Haagen-Dazs (10) Available: In most grocery stores
Yoplait Yogurt (16)	Dannon All Natural (13) Available: In most grocery stores
Arizona Green Tea (6)	Snapple Green Tea (3) Available: In most grocery stores
Brownberry Whole Grain bread (11)	Aunt Millie's Bread (7) Available: In most grocery stores
Wishbone Ranch Dressing	Hidden Valley Ranch Dressing (19) Available: In most grocery stores
Nesquick Chocolate Milk (12)	Silk Chocolate Soymilk (5) Available: In most grocery stores
Aunt Jemima Maple Syrup (9)	100% Pure Maple Syrup (4) Available: In specialty grocers and health food stores
Pop-Tarts (18)	Nature's Path Toaster Pastries (15) Available: In specialty grocers and health food stores
Oreos (14)	Organic Oreos (1) Available: In specialty grocers and health food stores
Cheerios (8)	Full Circle Honey Nut Toasted Oats (2) Available: Busch's Food Store



Oakland University Presents
The 2006-2007 Student Life Lecture Series

Lisa Ling

The Importance of a Global Perspective

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

7:00 p.m. in the

Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

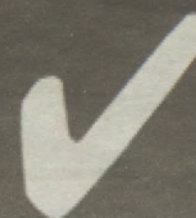
This lecture is free. No tickets are required.

Seating is on a first come basis.

Lisa Ling is the host of *National Geographic Ultimate Explorer*, the flagship television series of National Geographic that airs weekly on MSNBC. She also serves as a special contributor for *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Lisa gained national attention as the co-host of *The View* and as a reporter for *Channel One News*.

The lecture will be interpreted for the deaf. Anyone with special needs should call CSA at (248) 370-2400. Presented with the support of student tuition, Division of Student Affairs, and Student Program Board.

Mark Your Calendar



FOR
SPRING,
SUMMER
AND FALL
2007!

Oakland University is working to make it easier than ever for you to plan your future here. As a result, the university is introducing several changes, including:

- Starting registration for spring and summer courses in mid March (Monday, March 19, 2007)
- Opening registration for the fall semester before students finish winter courses (registration opens Monday, April 2, 2007, winter classes end Wednesday, April 18, 2007, finals April 20-26, 2007)
- Starting fall classes after Labor Day (Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2007)
- Moving the start time for the first day of the fall semester to 5 p.m., following New Student Convocation

NEW FOR FALL 2007

As part of these changes, OU is also introducing a de-registration policy effective Fall 2007. De-registration means students who are not in good financial standing by early August (have not paid all prior semester balances in full) will be taken out of their fall classes. To ensure you remain in good financial standing, make sure you pay your OU bills on or before their due dates.



Important Dates to Remember

To help you make your plans for 2007, please note the following important registration, financial aid disbursement and bill due dates.

Monday, March 19, 2007	Spring and Summer 2007 registration begins
Monday, April 2, 2007	Fall 2007 registration begins
Wednesday, April 18, 2007	Winter 2007 classes end, 10 p.m. (finals April 20-26)
Friday, April 27, 2007	Financial aid disbursement for Spring 2007
Monday, May 7, 2007	Spring classes begin, 7:30 a.m.
Thursday, May 10, 2007	Spring 2007 payment due
Friday, May 11, 2007	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the Spring 2007 semester and receive a 100% refund. Financial aid, scholarships and grants are based on the number of registered credits as of 11:59 p.m.
Sunday, June 10, 2007	Summer 2007 payment due
Wednesday, June 20, 2007	Fall 2007 registration ends for undergraduates (graduate students may continue to register)
Friday, June 22, 2007	Financial aid disbursement for Summer 2007
Monday, July 2, 2007	Summer classes begin, 7:30 a.m.
Monday, July 9, 2007	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the Summer 2007 semester and receive a 100% refund. Financial aid, scholarships and grants are based on the number of registered credits as of 11:59 p.m.
Thursday, August 23, 2007	Fall 2007 registration re-opens for undergraduate students
Saturday, August 25, 2007	Financial aid disbursement for Fall 2007
Tuesday, September 4, 2007	New Student Convocation, 3-5 p.m. Fall 2007 classes begin, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, September 18, 2007	Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the Fall 2007 semester and receive a 100% refund. Financial aid, scholarships and grants are based on the number of registered credits as of 11:59 p.m.
Thursday, September 20, 2007	Fall 2007 payment due

For more information about all semester important dates, to access class schedules when available and to register for classes, visit the Office of the Registrar Web site at www2.oakland.edu/registrar or click the SAIL button on the OU home page.

For more information about your OU account and how to pay your bill, visit the Student Business Services Web site at www.oakland.edu/sbs. For instructions on how to use eBill or to pay your bill online, visit www.oakland.edu/ebill.

For information about Financial Aid, visit the Financial Aid Web site at www.oakland.edu/financialaid.



Where Innovation and Opportunity Meet.

Toco Giuseppe



"Going to Gus O'Connors with the rugby team. That was probably the best thing about break."

"I saw a lot of old friends over the break. A lot of them had break the same time as me, which was nice."

Dana Bilunes



"I went to the Red Ox for drinks, that was about it."

Jacob Terrell

"My girlfriend and I spent a lot of time together. We went to the Cranbrook Museum and stuff."



Jennifer Le



"I got to sleep when ever and wake up when ever. That was the best. I was supposed to go to California, but the tickets were too expensive. My grandma lives there and some friends too."

Post Card

"I went to Houghton Lake with my boyfriend and his friends and got to snowmobile for the first time in my life. It was sweet."



Meagan Mentor

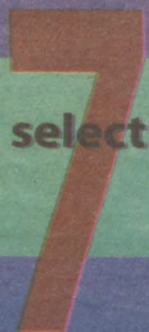
"I went to this sweet graffiti party at MSU and wrote obscenities on each other."



Kelly Henry

THE WEEK AFTER BREAK

1. You had forgotten how gross the chicken tenders from Chick Filet are
2. What was my classroom number again?
3. You're not sure where you left your text books
4. That paper is *still* due this week
5. Oakland still has a parking problem
6. Your tan instantly fades in the harsh winter conditions
7. You learned that what happens on spring break doesn't stay on spring break, the hard way



Have you seen
something COOL?
TELL US ABOUT IT.



The Post wants to know where you party, eat and play.
Keep us informed. theoaklandpost@gmail.com.

OAKLAND SOCIOLOGY MAJOR

**Sarah
Carleton's**
**playlist of the
week**

1. Belle and Sebastien - Piazza, New York Catcher

2. Joiya - June/July

3. Sigur Ros - Glosoli

4. Regina Spektor - Fidelity

5. Bright Eyes - When the Curious Girl

6. Tegan and Sara - You Wouldn't Like Me

7. New Order - Age of Consent

8. Modern English - Melt With You

9. Pedro the Lion - When They
Really Get to Know You They
Will Run10. Tilly and the Wall - You
and I Misbehaving

11. Sia - Breathe Me

12. Kings of Convenience
- I'd Rather Dance With You

13. The Shins - So Says I

14. Neutral Milk Hotel - In
the Aeroplane Over the Sea

Josh Laub/Independent Photographer



What's in your cup?



Michelle Kaminski, Freshman Nursing Major

Caramel Macchiato

Starbucks
1 - 2 times per week

"I've been a customer at Starbucks
for awhile and the coffee here [at
school] kinda sucks."



Sandra Mierzeiewski, Senior English Major

Coffee, skim milk + Splenda

Caribou
at least 1 - 4 times per week

"I drink coffee all the time and
whenever I go to Caribou I end up staying
there and doing homework for 2 hours"



Kevin Alford/The Oakland Post

Oakland Fans hope for the best at Rochester Mills Brewery during a Mid-Con viewing party.

OU experience helps Hackel

By PAUL GULLY
Assistant News Editor

Macomb County Sheriff Mark Hackel has been surrounded by thousands of questions from eager media over the past month, and Oakland University played a role in preparing him for this frenzy. A key leader in the case of the murder of Washington Twp. resident Tara Lynn Grant, Hackel previously took a journalism class at OU in hopes of learning about the other side of the press conference. Because of this experience, Hackel said that he has been able to gain perspective into the media and how they can cooperate with the law enforcement when working high-profile cases such as the one currently making national headlines.

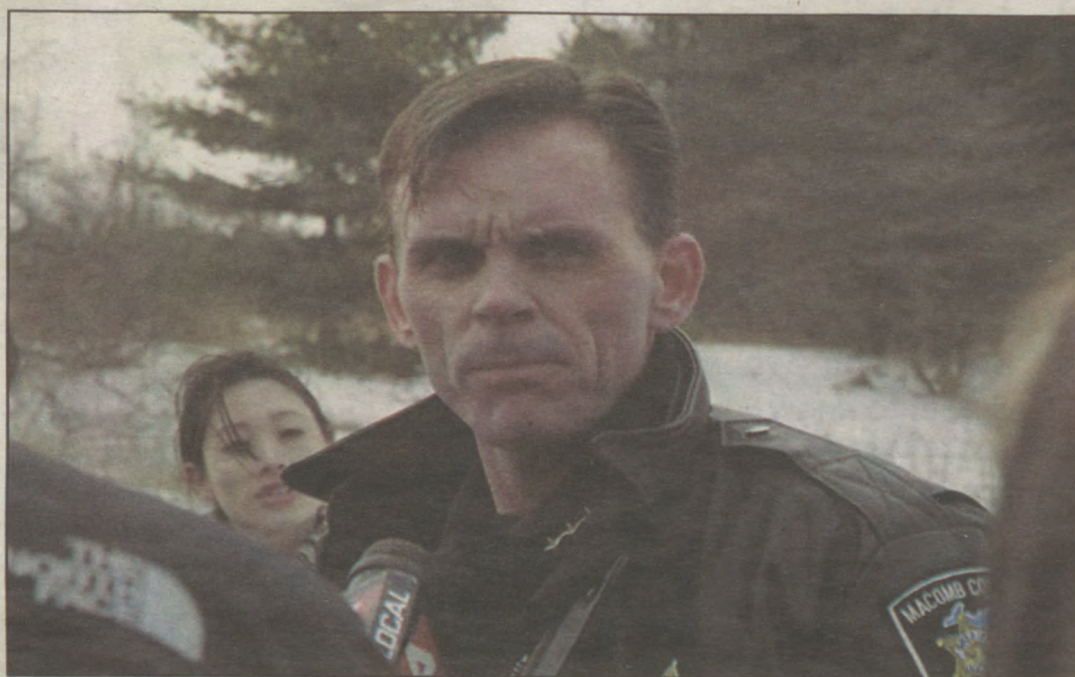
Q: What was it like dealing with the whole media frenzy that's been surrounding the Grant case?

A: You know what, you have to take it in stride. From the onset of this case, we recognized we had to get the word out... You had to engage the media to help get [the] word out, hoping that she was just missing. Once we started doing that, and started recognizing the media's interest in it... it helped us in the investigation. When we started realizing that foul play may have been a factor... the media started asking a lot of questions and started pushing for answers. So you can't get distracted by that, you can't move a case too fast in the wrong direction and start forgetting about people's individual constitutional rights just because of the pressure that the media can put on us. You have to maintain your focus and be methodical in laying out your case so you don't lose it. To say that we were getting too much pressure, or the media was pushing us, that's a bad excuse. We have to be able to control that, and the media respects and understand that. It's kind of a mutual relationship. Sometimes there's tension, there are going to be some controversial issues, we're going to get some criticism, and if you make a mistake and say something wrong or inappropriate, you own up to it. I've gotten into conflicts with reporters before and I'll be the first to apologize for it afterwards. And in this case, there was one occasion for that and when I got a little feisty, I did call back the next day and apologize for being a little tempered... we had an understanding and we had a better respect for one another. This case, I think, progressed forward because we were able to work a lot of things out through the media. And quite honestly, this case is a perfect example. [Stephen Grant] didn't want to talk to us, but he wanted to talk to the media.

Q: I wanted to touch on that. Was that aspect of the case frustrating?

A: No, not really. I saw it as very peculiar, so I thought, well, let's engage him in conversation and let him talk to the media. He had this issue, in my opinion, with myself and his sister-in-law. There was this need to want to clarify, there was this need excuse, the need to want to be the victim and he kept portraying himself as such. We got to watch some things being played out, some contradicting statements that he made. It really helped us focus our attention a little bit more, by allowing to him to engage us through the media.

Continued on p. 15



WAYNE EDWIN SMITH/The Associated Press/The Detroit News
Macomb County Sheriff Mark Hackel speaks to reporters as Macomb County Sheriffs, State Police and Metro Park police search for evidence and additional body parts of Tara Lynn Grant in the woods near Stoney Creek Metropark, in Washington Township, Mich., Saturday March 3.

How it unfolded...

- | | | |
|----------|---|---|
| Feb. 9— | Tara Lynn Grant, 34, last seen alive. | home and Mount Clemens business where he worked. |
| Feb. 14— | Stephen Grant, 37, reports wife missing. | Grant lets deputies in, then leaves with his sister, according to Griem. |
| Feb. 15— | Grant pulled over for traffic infraction; held for six hours, according to his attorney David Griem. | March 3— Investigators found what is believed to be the torso of Tara Lynn Grant in the garage of her home. |
| Feb. 20— | Police given series of e-mails by woman who identified herself as Grant's ex-girlfriend; indicated Grant suspected his wife was having an affair. | March 4— Authorities capture Grant in Wilderness State Park; held at a Petoskey hospital; treated for frostbite and hypothermia. |
| Feb. 24— | Police conduct unsuccessful 4 1/2-hour search of Stony Creek Metropark and surrounding woods. | March 5— Grant released from hospital; jailed in Macomb County; told investigators he killed his wife at their home while their two children were asleep. |
| March 2— | Magistrate authorizes search warrant for Grants' | |

What's next...

Stephen Grant was arraigned yesterday on charges of first-degree murder and dismemberment of a body. If convicted, he faces life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Judge Denis LeDuc ordered that Grant be held without bond, and a preliminary examination has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 20.

Grant's attorney, David Griem, said Sunday that he would no longer represent Grant because of irreconcilable differences. The judge will appoint a lawyer for Grant.

The Grants have two children, a 6-year-old girl and a 4-year-old boy, who have been staying with relatives. At a child custody hearing Tuesday afternoon, a Macomb County juvenile court referee suspended Stephen Grant's parental rights and placed them under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Human Services.

HACKEL

cont. from p. 14

Q: Is this the biggest case that you've had to deal with, as far as national coverage?

A: This definitely was one that drew more attention, especially nationally, than others that we have had. It was more being available, being accessible... you had to be on top of everything that was going on, so that you're getting out correct information. The media is always accusing you of not getting it out, or hiding things, and sometimes it's unfortunate when you don't give out information, there's this feeling of speculation that goes on, and then people make an assumption, as to what the reporter has written and what's out there, as opposed to what truly is the issue. Unfortunately, sometimes we can't give out that information because of how critical it is to the investigation. Sometimes we're waiting for all the pieces to come together.

Q: Was it tough dealing with all the extra scrutiny that went along with the case?

A: No, because I think most of the scrutiny came from the attorney and obviously [Stephen Grant]. The accusations that we were being too aggressive and harassing the client, I can deal with that. I have to deal with that all the time. Or whether or not we should have gone in sooner—we knew what we were doing, we were very methodical and in the end when it gets played out in court... everyone will understand what we did and why we did it. I'm very much at peace with this case.... We had one media outlet for this case, and that was me. I had to understand every aspect of this case

that I could. I had to understand public perception, understand what was going on from the defense side, understand the family's concerns with certain issues, there's so many things that you have to pay attention to... That was my job and everyone in the department understood that and they did their job. And they did a remarkable job...

Q: I know you can't get into the details of the case too much, but with Grant cooperating with the media, and not with you guys, was it tough building a case, or did it make your job easier?

A: Well it didn't help when he first came to our doorstep on Valentine's Day, and dropped off the complaint that his wife was missing, and then left. We went back to the house, and asked if we could talk to him further, and that was just purely an interview to talk about his wife missing, and then all of the sudden, there was this hesitation, and he [felt] we were getting too aggressive... It was very peculiar for us, it kind of raised an eyebrow. We were like, 'What's going on here? Something doesn't make sense.' The lack of cooperation from him and the aggressive nature of the comments from the attorney criticizing the investigation were very curious to us... [I felt] we had to look beyond all that and find out what really is going on... We started looking at it from that angle, like, 'Something isn't right here.'

Q: Were you surprised at all when Grant came out with his confession?

A: When he called us and said that he wanted to talk...he made some admissions... I don't want to say it was surprising, it was definitely something that coincided with what we had in the investigation.

"Anything that saves water for power generation downstream is a benefit to the Board of Light and Power and hydro-generation," Juntilla said. UPPCO is seeking amendments to its operating license that would make rebuilding the Dead River Hydroelectric Project economically feasible.

According to prosecutor, Howell High School books are not obscene
HOWELL, Mich. (AP) — Books used in Howell High School classes that had drawn claims that they are profane and pornographic do not violate any obscenity laws, the Livingston County prosecutor said Monday. The Livingston Organization for Values in Education objected to books by Pulitzer Prize-winner Toni Morrison, Richard Wright, Kurt Vonnegut and Erin Gruwell, who wrote "The Freedom Writers Diary." The group sent letters to the offices of the U.S. attorney, state attorney general and Livingston County prosecutor that ask for opinions on whether the books violate laws on obscenity and distribution of materials that are harmful to minors. To be legally defined as pornography, a book must be found to appeal only to readers' prurient interest in sex and have no literary or educational value. In a letter to the group, county Prosecutor David Morse said the books don't meet the legal definition of obscenity. The federal and state offices sent the matter to the FBI. The investigation could take up to a month.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

2 dead after ambulance crash in U.P.
SKANDIA TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Two people inside a speeding ambulance on an emergency run died after the vehicle crashed into a logging truck along an Upper Peninsula roadway, state police said. A tractor-trailer driven by Ronald Constantino, 67, was stopped Monday on the shoulder of U.S. 41 in Marquette County's Skandia Township waiting for traffic to clear when a Delta County ambulance heading to Marquette General Hospital rear-ended the truck, police said. Investigators found no evidence of braking or loss of control before the collision. There were four people in the ambulance. A patient, 38-year-old Carrie Roberts of Escanaba, and a crew member, Lisa Hansen, 32, of Cornell, both died at the scene. Ambulance driver Natalia Jauquet, 25, and another crew member, Ryan Peterson, 29, were hospitalized. Constantino was uninjured.

Silver Lake in Marquette to be restored
MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP) — The Marquette Board of Light and Power has voted to support the Upper Peninsula Power Co. in its efforts to restore Silver Lake. The board decided recently to send a letter of support to UPPCO, which supports the restoration project as a whole, according to BLP Director Kirby Juntilla, The Mining Journal reported.

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All of my tasty sub sandwiches are a full 8 inches of homemade French bread, fresh veggies and the finest meats & cheese I can buy! And if it matters to you, we slice everything fresh everyday in this store, right here where you can see it. (No mystery meat here!)

#1 PEPE®

Real applewood smoked ham and provolone cheese garnished with lettuce, tomato, and mayo.

#2 BIG JOHN®

Medium rare choice roast beef, topped with yummy mayo, lettuce, and tomato.

#3 SORRY CHUCKIE™

Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#4 TURKEY TOM®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)

#5 VITO®

The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)

#6 VEGETARIAN

Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only...peace dude!)

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Bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
(The only better BLT is mama's BLT)

★ SIDE ITEMS ★

- ★ Soda Pop
- ★ Giant chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin cookie
- ★ Real potato chips or jumbo kosher dill pickle
- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

FREEBIES (SUBS & CLUBS ONLY)

Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.

PLAIN SLIMS™

Any Sub minus the veggies and sauce

SLIM 1 Ham & cheese

SLIM 2 Roast Beef

SLIM 3 Tuna salad

SLIM 4 Turkey breast

SLIM 5 Salami, capicola, cheese

SLIM 6 Double provolone

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Same ingredients and price of the sub or club without the bread.

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This sandwich was invented by Jimmy John's brother Huey. It's huge enough to feed the hungriest of all humans! Tons of genoa salami, sliced smoked ham, capicola, roast beef, turkey & provolone, jammed into one of our homemade french buns then smothered with onions, mayo, lettuce, tomato, & our homemade Italian dressing.

OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER. THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES. BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET. BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

Jimmy John

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My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on my fresh baked thick sliced 7-grain bread or my famous homemade french bread!

#7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB

A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#8 BILLY CLUB®

Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®

Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav' to order hot peppers, just ask!)

#10 HUNTER'S CLUB®

A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#11 COUNTRY CLUB®

Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, & mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#12 BEACH CLUB®

Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®

Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

#14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB®

Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!

#15 CLUB TUNA®

The same as our #3 Sorry Chuckie except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

#16 CLUB LULU™

Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)

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ANOTHER HEARTBREAKER

By Samantha Franz
Sports Editor

TULSA, Okla. — Head coach Greg Kampe mentioned at Monday's press conference after advancing to the Mid-Con championship game, that the team would most likely be wearing black uniforms.

Here's the thing: Oakland hasn't won a single game wearing black.

Talk about rolling the dice.

In an action-at-every-turn showdown between OU and reigning Mid-Con champions Oral Roberts University, the Golden Grizzlies fell in the final seconds to the Golden Eagles, 71-67.

Considering the fact that Oakland bowed out in the first round as a low seed in last year's tournament, the Golden Grizzlies had one hell of a run this season.

Oklahoma dreamin'

It all started with a dream and a desire for Head Coach Greg Kampe. He referred to the 2005-2006 season as "the worst season we ever had" and in his eyes, it was time for a change.

This season, he saw something missing in his roster and he absolutely loved it.

He was missing a super star.

"Not one guy is going to average 21 points," he said back in November before regular season action. "I don't see that with this team. I see that we're going to have a lot of different guys that, on any given night, can score. And if we're going to win, that's what's going to have to happen."

And happen it did. The "team first" attitude led them all the way to a second place seeding in the Mid-Con tournament, hot on the heels of arch rival Oral Roberts.

Takin' it easy

The first hurdle to clear was the seventh seeded Leathernecks of Western Illinois Saturday. The Golden Grizzlies split the series with WIU during the regular season, including a 65-64 loss during the last leg of conference play.

But this rematch was anything but a nail biter and Oakland cruised to an easy 74-57 victory.

"Obviously, we were ready to play," said Kampe. "I think Western had a season-changing win at our place and I think that really motivated us."

Senior Rick Billings set a career high in 3-point field goals, sinking four treys in the first half. Oakland carried a 41-19 at half time, even when WIU began to show signs of life, but had no choice but to bow out in

the quarter final round.

"I have a great coaching staff and they did a wonderful job preparing these guys for what Western does. We took it away from them in the first ten minutes of the game, so it was very pleasing," Kampe said.

Too close for comfort

After having Sunday off, it would be Grizzly versus Kangaroo, as Oakland took on red-hot UMKC Monday. The sixth seeded Kangaroos knocked off third seed Vlapo Sunday night, thus building a reputation as "the Mid-Con team that could." But Oakland derailed those championship game dreams for UMKC and after a bumpy start, OU came out on top, 83-79.

In the first half, it looked like Oakland's day of rest was more of a curse than a gift. OU didn't lead once and shot 40 percent from the field. Meanwhile, UMKC was still high off their upset victory over Valpo and the normally stagnant Tim Blackwell nailed 13 points for the Kangaroos. At the half, Oakland was down 40-32.

The Golden Grizzlies hovered just below and couldn't break through for the lead until junior Pat McCloskey, known primarily for his size and defensive ability, started an eight point run for the team with 9:45 remaining in the game. Within one minute, the Golden Grizzlies jumped ahead to their first lead of the game, 64-59.

But UMKC wasn't ready to have their championship dashed into the ground just yet. The game went back and forth between two points and seven second half ties up until 16 seconds remaining, when two Erik Kangas free throws put the Grizzlies up by five points.

Mid-Con first team member Quinton Day proved why he earned that honor when he nailed a 3-pointer with 11 seconds to go, making the score 81-79. Fellow first team member and clutch shooter Vova Severovas went to the free throw line one second later and sank both shots. Oakland hung on to their lead for the 83-79 win.

Sophomore Derick Nelson led all scorers on the court with 23 points.

"He stepped up and made some big plays for us and that's what we needed from him," said senior Shawn Hopes. "On any given night, somebody will step up and do that. Tonight was his night."

Meanwhile, Kampe got the match up he wanted: the number one seeded Golden Eagles of Oral Roberts for the championship game.

"I think on national television, future student-athletes that are watching are going to

look at the Mid-Con and say, 'that's damn good basketball.'"

The greater they are, they harder they fall

7 p.m. EST, in front of ESPN cameras and a national audience, it was time for prime time basketball. This was the Mid-Con championship. The winner would earn an automatic bid in the NCAA tournament. The loser would have to bury their heads in their hands on the ride home.

The Grizzlies faced more than a 12-man roster Tuesday night. A massive army of ORU fans, who screamed at their top of their lungs, shook the arena bleachers with stomping, and wore more body paint than Mel Gibson in "Braveheart."

"There weren't too many friendly faces in the crowd," Kampe said. "But I think we did great with that."

The first half could have easily been called, "The Golden Grizzlies Show," as the team remained on top, thanks in huge part to a certain sophomore from DeWitt with a flame thrower from the three point arc.

Kangas nailed six three-pointers in the first half and led all players with 20 points going in to the first half.

Despite nine lead changes and five first half ties, Oakland had their largest lead of the night going into the locker rooms, with an 11 point advantage, 45-34.

Then, in the second half, it all fell apart. The Golden Grizzlies shot a dismal 22 percent from the field in the second half as ORU's defense out Oakland out of business for the season.

Kangas was heavily guarded on the perimeter and Nelson, after having a statistical dream of a night Monday, couldn't find the basket for a point once.

The Golden Grizzlies hung in despite problems, but it was a jump shot by Golden Eagle Ken Tutt that sent the Grizzlies back on the bus, empty handed by a score of 71-67.

"We shot 22 percent in the second half. You can't win a championship game like that," Kampe said. "Some people might say it was our defense (that lost the game). I'm going to tell you that I think it was our offense."

When Kampe asked for a close game at Monday's press conference, there is no doubt in anybody's mind that he got his wish.

"I'm happy the game went that way. Obviously, we would have been happier if we could hang on and win the game. But it was one great basketball game and it's a shame there had to be a loser."



Jose Juarez/Special to the Oakland Post



Jose Juarez/Special to the Oakland Post

Done, but not defeated. Grizzlies work hard and play hard in Tuesday's Mid-Con Championship game.

UNDERDOG VICTORY

*Oakland hockey bites and
kicks their way from the
bottom to the very top*

By **BRITTANY OCHTINSKY**
Contributing Reporter

Forget a sponsorship from Nike. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of funding was out of the question. It was difficult to get a reservation on some ice on a regular basis. And somehow Oakland hockey came home as National Champions.

Apparently all it takes is a few thousand dollars from a university, two practices a week and a lot of heart to pull off a National Championship victory. And you'd be hard-pressed to find a team with more heart than the Golden Grizzlies.

Last Sunday proved that when it came down to the line, it's anyone's game a National Championship. The tenth-seeded Grizzlies defeated number one Penn State in the finals 5-1.

Will McMahon made the most of his final 60 minutes in a Grizzlies' jersey, as he netted four goals and assisted on linemate Brent Cooper's empty-net goal in the final minute of play, helping his team win the

National Championship in its first season in the ACHA's Division 1.

"I'm unbelievably excited," said McMahon's mom, Sandy. "With Will retiring, it's very emotional, but it's the best scenario I could have picked for him to go out."

Down 1-0 in the second period, McMahon capitalized on the power play as he redirected a shot from defenseman Tim Michaels.

With one period remaining in his career and the National Championship on the line, McMahon exploded in the third, scoring three goals in an eight-minute span. Two came shorthanded, including one off a Penn State turnover in their own defensive zone.

"The funny thing is, even when we're shorthanded and we put Will and Coop out there, we still think we're at even strength and we have an opportunity to score," said Head Coach Sean Hogan.

If it weren't for McMahon, the Grizzlies might not have played in the finals. When Illinois tied up Saturday's game 2-2 with 1:19 left in regulation, McMahon extended his career once more when he netted the



game-winner with 59 seconds remaining.

Jon Paul Ferrari won the draw off the faceoff and sent the puck back to the defense. Michaels chipped the puck into the neutral zone, where Cooper picked it up, trapping Illinois' offense. McMahon was left open and walked in all alone on goalie Mike DeGeorge.

"I hope Will decides to move on and try to play in the minor leagues," said Hogan. "At least give it a year, you never know. If he doesn't give it a shot, he'll kick himself for it the rest of his life."

McMahon's efforts in the tournament led him to be named Most Valuable Player. He finished with 12 points (8 goals, 4 assists) in four games.

"It's not bad, but I'm just glad we won," said McMahon. "That's the most impor-

tant thing, the rest is just the icing on the cake. They could have given it to Cooper or Chase, there were other guys who stepped up."

Cooper and goaltender Collin Chase were both honored for their performances when they were named to the First Team All-Tournament, along with defenseman Adam Chornoby.

Chase made 146 saves in the tournament, including 46 against the Icers on Sunday.

"Once they scored, I shook it off pretty well," said Chase. "I just tried to hold them at one and it gave us a chance to crack their goalie. Every time we score one, we can't help but score more. That's just the way it goes."

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INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

Friday, March 30
5:30PM - 8:30PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Student Life Lecture Board Presents:

Lisa Ling

Tuesday, March 13
7PM
Banquet Rooms, OC

Lisa Ling is the host of National Geographic Ultimate Explorer, Co-hosted "The View, one of four hosts of "Scratch" and reported for Channel One News. The lecture is **free** and seating will be available on a first come basis. The lecture will be interpreted for the deaf.

Anyone needing special assistance should call the Center for Student Activities at (248) 370-2400.

Photography Workshop

Wednesday, March 7
NOON - 1PM
Fireside Lounge, OC

Get Ready for the Annual Photo Contest!

Professional photographer John Stormzand will give hints on how to take and display photographs for the contest.

Student & Greek Organization

RECOGNITION NIGHT

Wednesday, April 11th

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CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS

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

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- Swan Lake
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- Abduction From Seraglio
- Romeo and Juliet

Sun sets on the season, but the future is bright

Women's basketball season ends in Tulsa tourney

By: Rob Tate
Senior Reporter

TULSA, Okla.- The Oakland University women's basketball team brought a little taste of home down to Oklahoma for the Mid-Con Tournament.

The ladies reflected Tulsa's temperatures by playing red-hot basketball during the first two rounds. Things went south and OU got as cold as Oral Roberts took full advantage. The Golden Grizzlies hibernated through the championship game in front of a home crowd ruckus alongside the rowdy Oral Roberts faithful fans.

Head Coach Becki Francis reached her second tournament final game in a row but her Golden Grizzlies came up on the short-end this time, dropping the final game to ORU 72-55 to clinch the all important automatic bid to the Women's NCAA Tournament.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game. It's always a tough game with Oral Roberts," Francis said. "Their players and their staff deserve a lot of credit, they were not going to let us come in and take this from them."

Things got off to a decent start for Oakland. OU got out to to an eight point lead with 8:30 remaining in the first half. But ORU player Jenny Hardin started the momentum shift, nailing a 3-pointer that got the ball rolling in a positive direction for the Golden Eagles.

After giving up the lead with 4:33 left in the first, Oakland managed to tie things back up with a jumper by senior Nicole Piggott with four seconds on the clock to knot things up at 35 apiece going into the break.

But that's the last time Oakland would have a chance. ORU came out on all cylinders in the second half, raining threes from all corners of the court, sinking Oakland for good.

"I think we got stuck in their game plan," sophomore Jessica Pike said. What ultimately buried Oakland was a hard time defending the three.

Oakland got a great effort from Pike and Piggott, who were named to the All-Tournament team along with ORU's senior forward Elisha Turek, Hardin and Watman. Turek also brought home the MVP honor for the tournament.

Pike led the way with 18 points.

The season however isn't over for Oakland. The loser of the Mid-Con final receives a bid into the Women's National Invitational Tournament.

"We still have a postseason. It is strange especially when you try to focus on one goal and now you have this other really nice goal, the WNIT," Francis said.

Oakland will found out sometime next week who their opponent will be.

Not very Lady-like

It wasn't all gloom and doom down in Tulsa this week. Oakland played phenom-

enal in the first two rounds of the tournament, first destroying the Centenary Ladies in the quarterfinals on Saturday and then knocking off IUPUI in the semi-finals.

Oakland managed to hold Centenary to 27 percent shooting, and disrupted their offense with 13 steals. Pike and sophomore Rikka Terrava had four swipes apiece.

IUPU Ouch

Oakland University women's basketball took care of business on Monday and put them one step closer to a 2007 championship with a 75-60 thumping of the IUPUI Jaguars.

"We just wanted to go out there and get back to the championship game," Pike said.

Pike continued her success against IUPUI this season, showing poise and an excellent shooting day. Pike went for 23 points on the game, one short of her career high that she clinched back in February at IUPUI.

Freshman forward Hanna Reising had a solid game as well, netting 14 points on the afternoon, a grabbing a career high nine rebounds. The 5-11 Reising had a tough cover defensively for parts of the game, being matched up on IUPUI 6-5 freshman center Julia Whitted.

"Hanna doesn't play like a freshman, so when I think about Hanna, I don't think of her as a freshman. I just know she is going to step up and play really big," Pike said of her teammate.

Piggott didn't have her greatest day offensively, but the win is all that matters. Piggott only shot one for nine on the game but made up for it with a career high nine free throws made to total 11 points.

"I think the nice thing about our team is that if you struggle it doesn't matter because somebody else is there to have your back and pick up the slack," Piggott said.

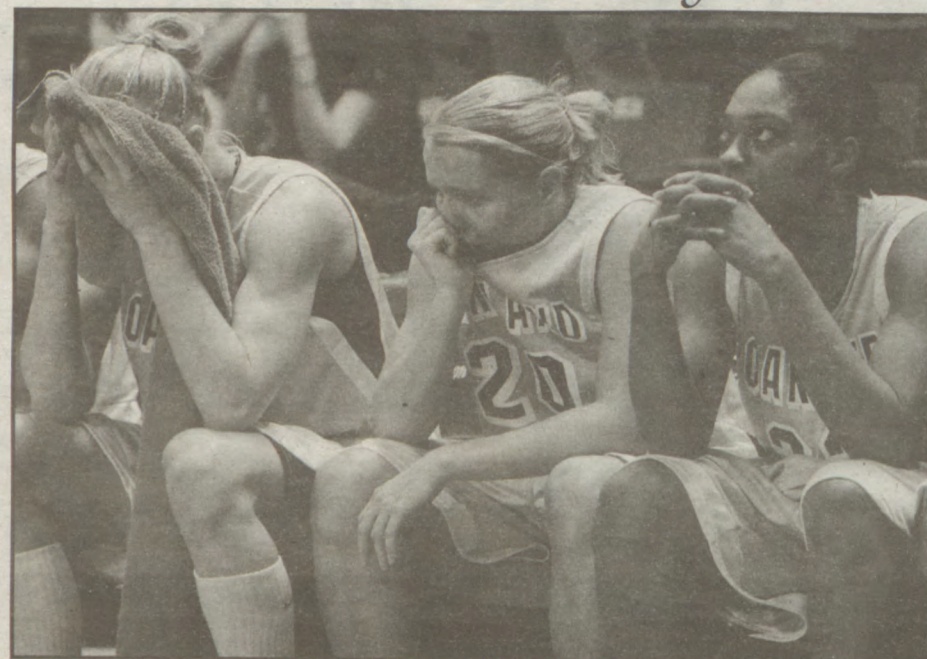
Last Thoughts

There's nothing to fret about. The future is very bright with Pike, Reising and freshman Melissa Jeltima all having a superb season.

"I think we had a lot of strong girls coming in as freshmen, and as you can see with our team this year, they don't play like freshmen. They bought into the system, even the newcomers bought into every single thing we do. That's what helped build the team," Piggott said.

"I think our coaching staff has done a good job of just recruiting a bunch of competitors. Everyone goes out there every night and just gives it their all, we just want to win," Pike said.

With Valparaiso leaving the conference and a wealth of talent on both squads, this will not be the last time you see Oakland and Oral Roberts facing off. A rivalry has begun and only time will tell what will become of it.



There's always next year. Lady Grizzlies hang their head as a long, hard season comes to an end. Jose Juarez/Special to the Oakland Post

GOOD LUCK Golden Grizzlies!

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**Below you'll find an
interview with Greg
Kampe that took place
the day before the tour-
nament began. Check out
www.oaklandpostsports.
blogspot.com for final
thoughts on the tourna-
ment from Kampe and
many others.**

OP: Having locked up the #2 seed in the Mid Con Tournament, last Saturday's win vs. Oral Roberts didn't mean much as far as the standing go, but what did it mean as far as preparing your team mentally for the tournament?

GK: Oral Roberts is a great team—they beat Kansas at Kansas—to do that you have to be good. I think it gave our kids the feeling to know that they can beat them ... If we would have lost on that last second shot, it would have been devastating...We've lost four times on last-second shots, that would have been the fifth and that would have been the straw that broke the camels back. So I'm very, very pleased that we were able to come back and win that game. We're going into the tournament feeling good about ourselves.

OP: Now, I didn't get a chance to catch the game, but I heard that there was some unorthodox play-calling at the end. What was your thought process going into the final moments of the game?

GK: Well, you have plays ready for those situations, that's what you practice for...there's not a whole lot you can do with 0.4 seconds to go. So it's our job to give our kids a chance to win, so we ran a play and it worked. If it hadn't worked, nobody would be talking about it, but it worked so we were able to win. It's a little bit different to pull it off with 0.4 seconds left ... We were fortunate that it worked.

OP: Is taking chances a big part of your MO as a coach?

GK: Well, I don't know if it's taking a chance—I mean there was 0.4 seconds to go. You gotta do something. And I would hope that our team is prepared for those situations. As coaches, you want to make sure that your team is prepared. And I would hope that we are. And it's my job to make sure that our kids are prepared... The kids executed the play. Kangus made the free-throws and Cassassie did a heck of a job in running the kid into Kangus. The credit goes to the players, not to me.

OP: Now I hate to put you on the spot here, just before the tournament is about to start, but what sort of expectations do you have for your team going in?

GK: We're going there to win the thing. We've played the whole season for these three days. We've put ourselves in a position that we have a good seed — if we win the first night, we get an off day. Our expectations are to go there and win.

OP: You've advanced the program tremendously in recent years. You've had a great deal of success on and off the court. As OU continues to grow, do you expect the program to follow suit?

GK: Oh, sure. Yes. We knew when we went Division I, 7 or 8 years ago, that this was a long process and it was a growing process. And that's my job right now—to help the program continue to grow and get bigger and better. We're to the point now to where we're in there competing with teams like Pittsburgh and Cincinnati—whom we lost to by four. Now we want to get to the point where we go in there and win. And I think we can do that.

OP: Where do you see the program in 5-10 years?

GK: Well I hope we'll be at a point where we're a consistent participant in the NCAA tournament, that would be the biggest thing for me. If in the next 10 years we could make the tournament three, four, five times, that would be something special. That's my goal for the program.

OP: Do you still see yourself with OU that far into the future?

GK: I hope so. I hope they still want me.

OP: Has the University and the administration been supportive of your program and everything you've wanted to accomplish.

GK: Oh yeah. We have a president who's very supportive. The number of students and kids who come to the game are growing and they're becoming more knowledgeable. And with the fans at the Valpo game and the fan base at the ORU game, it was a real collegiate atmosphere; it was big time at both of those games. And that's something special—it didn't used to be that way. To see the place sold out with all the balloons and the pom-poms and the noise. I'm very happy and very excited about where we've been and where we're going, and the support we get from the administration and the students.

OP: What did making the March Madness Tournament in 2005 do for the program as far as recruiting and expectations go?

GK: It gave us legitimacy. Now that we've been to the Big Dance, we're not out there trying to tell everybody what we're going to do, we can tell them what we've done. I think that's helped with recruiting and with growing the fan base. I think the students got caught up in the experience and want to experience it again.

OP: What's it like recruiting against power-

houses like Michigan State, U-M, and some of the other schools in the region?

You just have to go about your business and do your job and understand who you're recruiting against. You sell Oakland and hopefully you land one out of those 15 or 20 of those really good players...We got Derick Nelson and Erik Kangus two years ago, and Johnathon Jones this year. And if we can get another player like that in this class, you know, get one a year, we're going to be really good.

OP: You've kind of developed a reputation for distinct fashion sense when you're on the OU sideline. This week's cover dubs you as "the man in black." Is there a reason for your appearance and the attire?

GK: I used to wear a suit and tie and used to spend a lot of money on clothes, and then I got fat and I don't care about it anymore. I just want to be comfortable. And our school covers are black and gold, so I wear black.

OP: For a stretch in the middle of the season, you had your team sporting mismatch uniforms. What made you decide to do that?

GK: We were talking about being an "old school" team — a team with old fashion values. And we had lost a couple games on the road in our regular uniforms and we decided to just mix them together and we went to Valpo wearing the gold jersey with the black shorts, kind of like what they did in the old days when teams could only afford one pair of shorts and two jerseys, so we had talked about being old school, so we did that, and we won at Valpo. After we did it and won...we decided to stay with it.

And we pretty much stayed with it until we lost to Western Illinois; once that happened we just went back to wearing our regular uniforms.

OP: When you first got to OU and took over the basketball program, what expectations did you have coming in?

GK: Well I wanted to win a national championship. I was a very young coach, I think I was 28 years old at the time. I felt that I could come to Oakland and I could turn it into the national power at Division II and then I'd be the coach at UCLA some day. And then I found out when I got here that I really liked it here. This is where I want to live, this is where I want to coach and I've been fortunate enough that Oakland has allowed me to do that.

OP: Is there anything you'd like to see the university do to help the program that they're not currently doing now?

GK: Well, we need to improve our facilities, just not in basketball, in all of our facilities...From a basketball standpoint, we have to improve the locker room areas and those types of things. If we want to compete in the big time, we have to have big time facilities. I'm in the process right now of trying to raise money to do that. We have a campaign going where we want to raise \$50 million to improve our facilities and also, what we're trying to do is to get our scholarships endowed. If we can get a scholarship endowment, it would save the university a ton of money and hopefully we could funnel that money into facilities. That, to me, is the biggest challenge ahead of us.

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The Scene

21

www.theoaklandpost.com

March 7, 2007



Ghost Rider

A film with the potential to redeem Nicholas Cage's career
By Erik Westfall - Contributing Reporter

Oftentimes, movies based on comic books struggle to deliver in a way that's satisfactory to most moviegoers. It satisfies either those who know the comic well or the rest of those who go

just to see it. Ghost Rider is a film that tries very hard to bridge that gap.

Ghost Rider follows Johnny Blaze, a young man who performs motorcycle stunts in a circus-like act. After making a deal with the devil, his life changes forever. Some time after making the deal, the Mephistopheles (Peter Fonda) acts on the deal, making Blaze (Johnny Cage) become Ghost Rider. Mephistopheles agrees to release the curse if and only if Blaze can return Blackheart (Wes Bentley) to hell.

This movie's strongest success was in its CGI work. Seeing Ghost Rider riding up the side of a building with the windows melting behind him is a scene that produces nothing short of amazement. In addition to the graphics of Ghost Rider himself are the graphics of the four demons he must

battle. While not done in a revolutionary fashion, the use of CGI adds to the strength of this movie.

The acting was nothing Earth-shattering but was still solid. Especially notable was Peter Fonda's portrayal of Mephistopheles. There is no doubt of the evil of his character and Fonda brings that presence to the screen very well. Between Fonda's posture, sarcastic tone and cocky facial expression, the viewer can't help but feel as though Fonda was a great casting choice.

Where this movie falters however is its general lack of scenes involving Ghost Rider fighting his demons. While the scenes present are entertaining to watch, the infrequency of their use and the short length of them takes away from the best thing this film had going for it. Seeing such short segments leave the viewer wanting much more from the film.

All told, "Ghost Rider" is a good movie that doesn't quite deliver the amazing ride it purports itself to be. Those going into the theater with high expectations of an amazing movie will be sorely disappointed but those going in expecting to be entertained will find exactly what they wanted.



Black Snake Moan

Christina Ricci in white cotton panties
By Mike Caravaggio - Contributing Reporter

With its offbeat style and blues theme, "Black Snake Moan" is a film where some may be appalled, but others will be asking for more. In its deep-south, working class setting, a distraught young

woman, Rae (Christina Ricci), with a sexually-abused past is beaten and left to suffer on the side of a dirt, rural road after her boyfriend Ronnie (Justin Timberlake) leaves for the military.

As a blues-singing farmer, Lazarus (Samuel L. Jackson), is angered by his own problems with his wife leaving him for his younger brother, he suddenly finds the beaten Rae near his home. For a couple days, he tries to cure her sickness, but soon realizes that she needs to be cured for more than just a cough.

To prevent Rae from leaving, Lazarus chains her to a radiator and the rage begins to flow. He tries to implement a cure for her past sex-laden life. Tension brews between them, but Lazarus' father figure seems to have quite an effect and things start to take a 180 degree turn.

Ricci is charismatic in her role and shows much depth through her southern nasty-girl image. The southern setting and blues motif is perfect for the storyline and who better to star in it than Mr. Jackson himself. Timberlake plays a smaller role and somewhat stays true to his character's image, especially near the finale as his lack of masculinity comes in handy.

If you want to see something out-of-the-ordinary and a half-naked (sometimes more) Ricci, this will be sure to please. Others may be offended by its sexual, violent tone. Brewer does a great job to create an original storyline and hopefully is hard at work coming up with more unusual ideas.

300

This isn't Tony Curtis's Spartan Flick
By Jeff Kranitz - Managing Editor



I'll be honest. I thought "300" was going to be a total bust.

Don't get me wrong — I was amazed by the art direction and cinematography on display in writer Frank Miller's last graphic-novel-turned-film, "Sin City," — but felt that Miller and the rest of the crew's artistic visions got in the way and overpowered some crucial elements, like a clever plot.

I like glitz and pulp as much as the next person, but not at the expense of an engaging story that draws me in and makes me care

about the characters and the world they live in.

"300" accomplished that brilliantly and sunk its hooks in me like no other movie has done in a VERY long time.

The story is brilliant in its simplicity. Based on ancient historical records, "300" tells of the Spartan King Leonidas, whose hand was forced to lead approximately 300 of his soldiers into a suicide mission to repel an invading Persian army that numbered well over 100,000.

"300" masterfully blends a remarkable tale with beautiful imagery and wonderful visual effects — very much like "The Matrix." I strongly recommend this film to anyone who appreciates great filmmaking and great storytelling.

This place should get a crown

Noble Fish at a college student price
By Kara O'Connell - Special Projects Editor



It's such a relief to walk into a sushi place that doesn't have it's nose in the air. Although the Japanese market Noble Fish is located in "downtown" Clarkston, it's one of Detroit's tucked away treasures.

Noble Fish is as comprehensive as it is compact, where no table has more than two chairs, it's a self-order menu and the green tea comes out of a community pot. If you thought your sushi place had fresh ingredients, it's probably because Noble delivered it to them. Super fresh products make for an amazing meal at the relatively low cost. Check out the house specialty: the Noble Roll.

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The Residence Halls Fall Contract sign-up begins Monday, March 12, 2007

PHASE ONE: SAME HALL/SAME ROOM

Date: March 12-13, 2007

Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Housing Office, Hamlin Hall

PHASE TWO: A). ROOMMATE PICK-UP

B). GROUP HOUSING

Date: March 15 - 16, 2007

Time: 8:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Housing Office



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PHASE THREE: A). ANY HALL, ANY PLACE, ANY ROOM

B). USA Apartment Sign-up

Date: March 28 -30*

Time: 7:30am - 5:00pm

Location: March 28, OC Fireside Lounge

March 29-30, Housing Office

*Students can begin picking up their lottery numbers on March 12, 2007 for participation in Phase three. The office is open from 8:00am - 5:00pm.

STUDENTS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN EACH PHASE?

PHASE ONE:

- Hill Residents
- Van Wagoner Residents
- Vandenberg Residents
- Fitzgerald Residents

PHASE TWO:

- Groups of individuals who would like to live together of no fewer than 8 and no more than 12 (doubles only)
- Students chosen to room with residents who reclaimed their same room during Phase One

PHASE THREE:

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MOUTHING OFF

March 7, 2007

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This land is your land, this land is, uh, your land

By PAUL GULLY
Assistant News Editor

I'm glad to see Virginia politicians working hard on the job. On February 24, the Virginia General Assembly voted unanimously to apologize for their states role in slavery. How ridiculous is that? I'm glad a bunch of rich, white guys could get together for such a cause. I don't mean to sound insensitive — slavery was a terrible part of American history, and the country as a whole should feel "profound regret" for the disgusting, deplorable act — but what did Virginia's "apology" accomplish? The resolution, which was great from a PR standpoint, was nothing but an empty apology. What politician in their right mind would vote against such a

thing? Delegate Frank D. Hargrove, an 80-year-old Republican who angered black leaders last month saying that "black citizens should get over" slavery, even voted to pass the resolution.

But the Commonwealth's apology got me thinking: other states have made terrible blunders and have not apologized for any of them. At least Virginia had the gall ... The other 49 states in this union should follow suit and admit some of the mistakes they have made. And

while I have a feeling that this will never happen, I've taken it upon myself to get them started.

First and foremost, New York, you owe the world an apology for allowing one **Roseann Theresa O'Donnell** to be birthed within your borders. Don't get me

wrong New York, you've done some great things for this country — I'm a huge fan of your cheesecake and pizza, and you've effectively taught everyone that a pedestrian crossing an intersection is no obstacle for getting where you need to be — but I will never forgive you for your tragic mistake that occurred on the 21st of March in 1962.

Ohio. Where do I start with you? You need to

apologize for thinking that the rest of the nation was dumb enough to believe that the marijuana leaf

that's on your state's collegiate football team is a "buckeye." ... a buckeye? What the hell is a buckeye? Just come clean. You also need to beg for forgiveness when it comes to classless, vile fan base that support the Ohio State **Pot Leaves**. Sticking with football

teams, apologize that your pro team, the Cleveland Browns, really doesn't have a logo. Your helmets are orange ... just orange. Very creative. Moreover, a sincere, heartfelt "I'm sorry" is needed for your participation in clogging so many arteries around the country. For those of you who don't know, in 1900, Ohio gave America its first hot dog. Interestingly enough, since 1900, the rodent population in Ohio has been on a steady decline. You know what? I think this country should apologize for allowing you to be the 17th state admitted to the Union in 1803.

Hawaii, you owe me a personal apology. You talk a big game. You're supposed to be this tropical paradise filled with beautiful women and gorgeous beaches. And what

do I get when I visit? RAIN! Non-stop rain! And wind! I came expecting **exotic women with bronzed skin running around in coconut bras** and short shorts to be swarming the islands. But what

did I get? Gorgeous women (which was still a plus) running around in hoodies and ball caps. And let me tell you, I could not see coconut bras or bronzed skin because, though I have tried, I haven't quite honed my x-ray vision.

For hoarding all the beautiful people, **California,** you need to ask forgiveness for being so damn selfish. Share a little bit, spread the gorgeousness around. I'm sure Delaware could use a few hotties, they seem to be lacking in that area. Other states share their surplus. Florida disperses oranges to the rest of the nation; Maine produces 99 percent of all the blueberries in the country, and shares them liberally. So export some pretty faces this way, Cali!

A collective apology from **Arizona, Texas, Washington, California, Minnesota, New York, Indiana, Michigan, Connecticut, Illinois,** and (though not technically a state) the **District of Columbia** is necessary. Each of you needs to express deep regret for having WNBA franchises in your cities. Why must you harbor a talentless, waste of a league? The **WNBA** does nothing but take up precious air time on ESPN that could be spent on quality programming such as, you know, the World Series of Dominos or the Great Outdoor Games.

Now that I've sufficiently offended millions and millions of folks from both in and out of town, it's probably time to mention that although it can be fun to celebrate the petty differences between the various states of our union, one can never overlook the fact that we are all connected as Americans.

Problem is, as Americans, we are now easy targets for the rest of the world!



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Beware of the Ides of March

A crazy February can only mean one thing — a crazier March

By ROBERT M. PYLAR
Guest Columnist

In Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" the line, "Beware the Ides of March" is a notice of impending doom for the Roman emperor, predicting his murder on the Ides, or 15th, of March.

While today's words of warning are not a tip to avoid assassination (though it's always a good idea to not get assassinated), they are designed as a caution that this month should be every bit as bizarre and outrageous as the last. So while we shake off the winter break (and I shake off my **margarita** and SoCal smog induced headache), let's take some time to review a few moments from February — and give thanks for its abbreviated 28 days.

SPORTS — An NBA player has **come out of the closet!** Who was it? Was it LeBron? Was it Kobe? Surely, it was Nash? Not quite. After a month of rumors that a professional basketball player would openly admit to being gay, it finally happens and we get ... John Amaechi? Now I'm not knocking Mr. Amaechi, as he's shown a tremendous amount of courage (forget that his timing coincides with the release of his new book) and I'm sure he worked very hard at amassing career totals of roughly six points and two

rebounds per game, but we were promised much more in terms of star quality from the start. This story should have died quickly, but wait — in an unexpected turn of events, another former player, **Tim Hardaway**, announces on a radio program that he hates gay people and "wouldn't want [Amaechi] on my team." Naturally, a few days later, Hardaway retracted his statements, saying, "I don't hate gay people." The commentary was disingenuous at best, and it would have been more honest to say, "After consulting my agent and discussing my future opportunities in broadcasting, as well as the likelihood of decrease in my throwback jersey sales, I've decided that while I still hate gay people — it's not economically viable to a man's wallet to say so." Xenophobes everywhere applaud.

POLITICS — Shame on you if you are now not intimately familiar with the term "non-binding resolution," which, loosely translated, could mean, "criticism, without real action, placed 'on the record' for future use in mud-slinging campaign commercials." The U.S. House passed a non-binding resolution criticizing the president's plan for a surge in troop levels in Iraq. Democrats hail the vote as a victory against the president and his policies. Republicans shrug it off as the equivalent of a written warning received from a cop during

a traffic stop. Republicans say if the Democrats truly wanted to make a statement, they would cut off the funding that supports the war, knowing full well they could then use that decision against the Democrats in future elections by painting them as "anti-troop." Republicans, who criticized the measure as useless, proceeded to block a similar measure from coming to a vote in the Senate. Just to get this straight: We're

against the war, but we're for the funding to support the war, but we'll pass a resolution to say we're against it; and some say that House resolution is useless, but we will fight like hell to insure that an equally useless Senate resolution never comes to a vote. That sounds about right. While lives continue to be lost, our world standing erodes and our national security remains tenuous, we're playing politics as usual. On the bright side, I haven't heard much about a "bridge to nowhere," a bribery indictment or a juicy sex scandal in least three weeks. Keep up the good work!

ENTERTAINMENT — Only in America can a girl grow up in a trailer; become a Playboy model; marry an oil tycoon almost four times her age; move on to reality television (greatness?), which detailed her weight problems, drug problems, man problems, speaking coherently problems; and pass away only to become an even bigger story through questions and legal battles over her cause of death, the status of her remains and the mystery over the true father of her child (at last count, three men were jockeying for the honor and subsequent potential fortune that comes along with it). Mix in an estranged mother, an

attorney/executor of her will who is also her husband (or merely a life partner, depending on whether or not the ceremony is legally recognized) and a self-aggrandizing judge who seems

like he's more concerned with positioning himself as the heir-apparent to Judge Judy than in running a real-life courtroom, and you, my friends, have better-than-made-for-TV drama. The real beauty of it all is now that the fate of the remains of **Anna Nicole Smith** has been settled and Judge Larry Seidlin has now joined Judges Ito and Wopner in the "Pantheon of American Jurisprudence," we can move on to the Main Event: The paternity battle over the identity of the father of Smith's five-month-old daughter, featuring Howard K. Stern (the above mentioned attorney/maybe husband—NOT the radio jock known

for throwing **lunch meat** at the backsides of porn stars), an ex-boyfriend and Prince Frederick von Anhalt — who is married to Zsa Zsa Gabor and may actually be a real prince, but is really just another creepy old guy that Smith may or may not have

had sex with. Goodbye and good riddance, February — you offered us a little bit of everything: Governmental incompetence and infighting, the courage displayed in revealing one's true self and the hatred and fear that often follow that act as well as some always appreciated Hollywood dysfunction. Seriously, the most brilliant of creative types couldn't have made this stuff up.

But, beware the Ides of March.



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