

POST ISSUE

Dear readers:

This week marks the last issue of The Post for the semester. Thank you for a great 2006, see you in 2007. Check out www.theoaklandpost.com for breaking news over the break.

Also inside

Campus - A3

Free music available on-line to students New system provides legal alternative for OU students who enjoy downloading.

the Mix — A10

A dish you can pass for a holiday party Get a recipe, tips for that pesky dish to pass at holiday parties.

Features - B1

What do you want for the holidays? Don't know what to get

for those on your list? See what other students have on their list.

Legends of the fall The Post wraps up the semester with the best and the worst of Oakland University athletics.



SIX MORE YEARS

STAFF REPORTS

Do you know who Gary Russi is? If not, it may be wise to get to know him and what he is about.

Oakland University President Gary Russi's job is secure for another six years, according to a press release. This means, that no matter who you are or what year you are, it is probable that the Russi administration will be continuing its reign even after you graduate.

The unanimous decision made at a Board of Trustees meeting, according to trustee Henry Baskin, decided Russi's fate even though many of the details, including the date of the decision and the number of trustees present, remain unclear.

"I know it was at the last formal board meeting," said Baskin, which, according to BOT records would have been a "special formal meeting" held Nov. 1. However, there was no mention of the reappointment at the meeting, attended by The Post and News @ OU, nor was there any mention of the reappointment in the meeting agenda.

Minutes from the meeting are not available on the BOT's Web site, and were not available to The Post.

The announcement, made through a press release, stated Russi's contract is extended through 2012 and that the university will establish an endowment to finance two distinguished professorships in Russi's

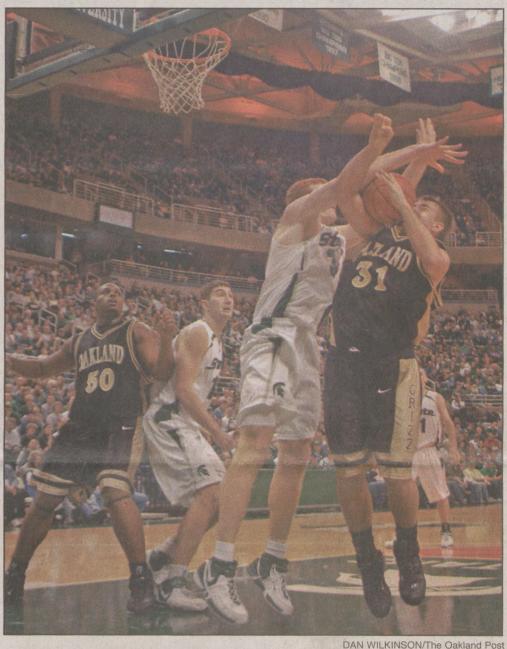
According to a story in The Detroit Free Press and a recommendation in the Nov. 1 meeting agenda on the BOT's Web site, Russi's salary was increased by 3.2 percent, bring-

ing his annual salary \$230,827. However, no details of the increase in salary were made available or released to The Post.

"I am humbled in particular by the endowment to fund two professorships in the School of Health Sciences. The professorships will help attract and retain world-class faculty, individuals that will enrich our students' lives academically and culturally. In addition, they will

Please see RUSSVA2

SNUFFED OUT



The Golden Grizzlies's lackluster first half turned out to be their downfall in their non-conference matchup against Michigan State University last Saturday, with a score of 71-53. Though OU battled back from a 27 point first half deficit and cut the Spartans lead to 15 in the second half, the effort turned out to be too little, too late. — Get full coverage on B4



Thanksgiving reflections on man's best friend

By DAVID THOMAS **Guest Columnist**

Oct. 31, 2006 (Halloween) ...

My dog died today. His name was Cody. Or Cody-Hound, The Code-Man, or Cody-Bum, he answered to all four.

The tumor came out of nowhere. I left home for less than a week and it was

But he seemed fine. He acted as his old self. Mooching for pretzels, following us everywhere, begging us to rub his hairy belly.

The cancer spread so fast. I got a call from my mom during my Monday night class. I knew it was something about Cody.

COMMENTARY

I immediately left my class and called her back. He had an aggressive tumor and his cancer was at a stage three level, four is the worst.

He was acting lethargic, not eating, and was struggling to breathe. I

He was lying there, in the laundry room, his room. He liked the cool tile floor. I laid down next to him. petted him on his head, and told him to stay strong.

His head perked up for a

Please see CODY/A2

No prescription required for Plan B

Morning after pill now at drugstores and on campus

By KELLY KOZLOWSKI & KARLEE SCHULTE Assistant Features Editor & Contributing Reporter

Boy meets girl. Sperm meets egg. And now that it's offered over the counter, the Plan B morning after pill is meeting fresh controversy.

Approved in late August, Plan B may now be purchased without a prescription at pharmacies and

drugstores to customers over the age of 18.

The pill, which is used by women to prevent pregnancy, is a progestin hormone that changes the womb and cervical mucus to make it more difficult for an egg to meet the sperm or attach to

the wall of the womb. It is commonly used in the case of contraceptive failure or unprotected

intercourse. A dose of Plan B consists of two tablets. The consumer Web site for Plan B instructs users to take both pills within 72 hours of sexual intercourse for maximum effectiveness, which is 89 percent.

If a doctor instructs the medicine should be taken in a different format, then follow his or her directions.

The Web site also states that "it will not work if you are already pregnant, and it will not affect an existing pregnancy.

The truth of that statement is debated between those who argue that life does not begin at conception and those who argue that a living being is formed at the instant egg and sperm meet.

Also up for discussion is the effect that over-the-counter availability will have on the rate of sexual activity among students.

Director of the Graham Health Center at OU, Joanne Talarek, MSN, RN, CS, said she does not anticipate any effect.

"If fear of pregnancy was the thing that was decreasing sexual activity, then we'd either see more people in here getting medication, or we'd see less activity," she said.

Aimee Coldren, intern at the Gender and Sexuality Center said, "I do not think that more college students will be sexually active as a result of Plan B being more available. There are already so many different contraceptives widely available for college students to take advantage of, that I suspect one more option will not suddenly inspire a new flurry of sexual activ-

It is strongly noted that this pill is not the only form of protection that

Please see PILL/A2

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Campus News A3 A2 Perspectives B1 Sports .. News tip? Call (248) 370-4268



■ Do you have a favorite holiday tradition? See what your peers said they enjoyed the most.

- A2

Pro-life speaker shares story, stance

By WENDY LYONS Contributing Reporter

"Caucasian and of large build," was the sole description that the adoption records provided of Rebecca Kiessling's biological father. "That sounds like a police description," Kiessling, a pre-law student at the time, thought. "Was my mom raped?"

Over 50 students filled the Fireside Lounge last Tuesday to hear nationally-renowned pro-life speaker Rebecca Kiessling share her life story and her message that every human life has value.

Having grown up adopted, Kiessling always dreamed of finding her birth parents. When she was 18 years old, she requested her adoption records and learned, to her horror, that she had been the product of a brutal rape perpetrated by a serial rapist. "I was devastated. I felt so ugly and unwanted," said Kiessling. At the time, she thought, "Who is going to love me? Who's ever going to want to marry me?"

Self-worth was something Kiessling struggled with growing up. Being told by her adoptive parents - as so many kids are - that she was adopted because they couldn't have children of their own, she felt like she was "second best, a last resort ... I was there to meet their needs," said Kiessling.

Now, as a rape-baby, she felt like she had two strikes against her. In a society where one's worth is often measured by success, Kiessling said she was "deteriorating on the inside over issues of value.

Despite fears that her birth mother would hate her, a year later, a judge appointed a confidential intermediary, and Kiessling and her mother, Joann, were reunited.

Curious, Kiessling asked Joann if she had thought about aborting the pregnancy. To her dismay, Joann said that if abortion had been legal at the time, yes, she would have aborted her. In fact, she was scheduled for a back-alley abortion when Detroit was hit by one of the worst snowstorms of the century. It was days before it stopped snowing, and the roads were cleared. By then, Joann decided she was too far along to abort, and Kiessling's life was spared.

It is no wonder that Kiessling is so passionate about sharing her perspective on abortion. After all, she was in the unique position of being on the receiving end of the abortion stance. And the odds were stacked against

her. Even those who oppose abortion often make an exception in cases of rape. Either way, Kiessling says it is like society telling her, "I think your mother should have been able to abort you," or, "If I had my way, you'd be dead right now.

"It hurts," she said. For Kiessling, this isn't a detached theoretical argument about women's rights. As a baby conceived in rape, it was literally a matter of her life and death. "People don't put a face to this issue," and Kiessling wants to change

While Kiessling is very grateful that she was not aborted, with over 25,000 abortions taking place in Michigan last year, she can't just say, "At least my life was spared" and ignore the rest. "You'd be an outspoken pro-life advocate, too, if it had been you," she said.

And Kiessling practices what she preaches.

Married for over eight years, she and her husband have five children. The two eldest were adopted first, so that they would always know they were wanted and were a first choice, not a last resort. Like Kiessling herself, one of her adopted children was conceived in rape. A third adopted

child was born with special needs and unexpectedly died after only 33 days as a result of doctors' errors. On that difficult day, Kiessling had to fight doctors who suggested discontinuing vital treatment in order to hasten her baby's death. If she were to survive, her "quality of life" might be diminished, they cautioned. "They didn't know her value," Kiessling said, "and they definitely don't know their own value.

Professionally, she is a family law attorney living in Rochester Hills. Kiessling received international attention on four pro-bono cases that involved protection of the unborn dealing with frozen embryos, rape and abortion. She wrote a 43-page essay entitled, "The Right of the Unborn Child Not to be Unjustly Killed – a philosophy of rights approach," which she says logically examines and disputes prominent pro-choice arguments. And the organization Feminists for Life named Kiessling one of their "Remarkable Pro-Life Women.

In the end, it is all a matter of how one chooses to look at something. Good can be born from tragedy. "If you asked my birth mother today," Kiessling said, "she'd say I was a blessing to her."

Event info:

The event was hosted by Students for Life at OU.

If you'd like more information on this campus organization, contact Monica at

mtmajche@oaklandedu. ■ Their next meeting is Nov. 22, 12 - 1 p.m., in the Lake Huron Room of the Oakland Center

Kiessling's next local presentation will be held in Detroit at Wayne State University, Dec. 5 at 5 p.m. in the Bernath Auditorium in UGL.

Further information can be found at www.rebeccakiessling.com

CODY Cont. from A1

second to acknowledge my presence. He knew I was there

Cody was 12-years-old. He went blind at age 10 and then deaf within

the last year of his life. He could not longer run and play like he used to.

He had also gone through a surgery where they removed multiple tumors to check them for cancer and one of his toes where one tumor had infected it. Cody had been through his fair share of troubles.

He was all passed that now. But a new challenge faced him.

A challenge he was too tired to face. And it was okay. He didn't deserve to suffer anymore.

I laid with him all night on the floor of my parent's bedroom.

I wanted to make sure he was com-

He didn't sleep at all and neither did I. He had a fever, he was weak, his breathing was getting worse and worse. I prayed for a miracle.

I couldn't lose him now, I wasn't ready. He was, but I wasn't. Is that fair? He had gone through so much in the last few years of his life and now this?

This morning he could barely walk (much less run). He hadn't eaten in a day. We had to do it. We didn't want him to suffer anymore.

He didn't deserve it. He was too good to me and my family. I carried him to the van and held

him for most of the ride. When we were almost there he jumped down and sat between my dad (who was driving) and my mom (sitting passenger).

They both petted him until he laid down. Then my brother and I rubbed

All four of us were trying to comfort him. It was only fair, he spent the last 12 years comforting us.

I carried him into the room. Mom laid down his Cody-pillow and Cody-blanket (he slept with them every night).

I told him it was okay now and he could rest. He didn't have to fight anymore. I told him I loved him.

It was so quick. The vet injected it and his head laid down into my hands. Like he was falling asleep. I closed his eyes

We wrapped him in his Cody-blanket and pillow and I carried him back to the van. I held him the entire way home. I rested my head on his side and remembered all the good memories he had brought to this family.

I remembered how my dad didn't even want a dog and how he and Cody became best friends. I remembered all the drapes he chewed up as a puppy and how mad Mom got.

And how he would instantly make

her forgive him with that cute Cody-

I thought about how he would run down errant ping-pong balls when me and my brother would play in the basement. And how he sometimes gave them back.

We buried Cody in my mother's garden underneath my parent's bedroom window.

Close to the house, close to us, that's where he'd have wanted to be. I made a cross and wrote his name, birthday, and the day he died, Oct.

Halloween won't have the same meaning ever again. It will be a day to commemorate my dog Cody

A day to remember all the things he brought to my family.

How he showed us love, compassion, and forgiveness. It will be a day to think back about all the funny things he did. And to remember how smart he was.

Nov. 23, 2006 (Thanksgiving) ...

I'll think about Cody every day for the rest of my life. He was my dog, my brother, and my best friend. It was his time.

He lived a good life. He was loved more than any dog has ever been loved. And of all of the emotions I'm feeling right now, I can feel happy knowing that he knew how much he was loved and appreciated.

I am thankful for all the years that me and my family got to spend with him.

That little dog taught us so much in his 12 short years here on earth. I will miss him forever.

But I will always be thankful for having him in my life.

He isn't suffering anymore. He can see. He can hear. And he can run.

PILL Cont. from A1

is needed to avert pregnancy. Plan B should not be mistaken for the birth control pill.

"I think they call it Plan B for a reason," Coldren said. "This shouldn't be the first thing you consider.'

does not protect the HIV infection or any other sexually transmitted diseases.

Pharmacists say it should be used if a day was missed with the birth

control pill, other protection failed or a form of sexual assault had taken place.

"Plan B has an especially beneficial use in society because it can help prevent a woman who has been sexually assaulted from becoming pregnant," said Coldren.

President of Students for Life at OU, Monica Majcher, disagrees.

"I would not recommend this pill to any women trying to avoid pregnancy or in the instance of rape," said Majcher. "A beautiful child can be the gift of something good resulting from something bad.

Majcher questions the use of birth control methods, particularly in pill form.

"Remember that pills are prescribed by doctors to cure diseases and should be taken when something is wrong with the body. A woman's fertility is not a disease, and a child being conceived through sexual intercourse means that something went right, not wrong."

Plan B can be obtained at many local drugstores including Rite Aid, Walgreens and CVS and costs between \$40 and \$45 per dose with a valid

driver's license. Plan B is also available at the Graham Health Center at OU for \$25.

For more information visit the Graham Health Center at OU or go to www.go2planb.com.

Common Side Effects associated with Plan B include:

Nausea

Abdominal Pain

Tiredness Headache

Menstrual Changes Dizziness

Breast lenderness

Vomiting

RUSSI Cont. from A1

provide enhanced opportunities for research in the health sciences. The endowment will no doubt make a difference on Oakland's campus," said Russi.

Russi joined Oakland University in 1993 as vice president of academic affairs. He was then appointed interim president in 1995 and then was named president in June of 1996.

"During the years I've known the president, I've never ceased to be astounded by his capacity for hard work and his abiding passion for Oakland University — its students, faculty, staff and alumni. President Russi spends every single day working to make Oakland University just a little better than it was yesterday," chairman of the board, Dennis Pawley said in

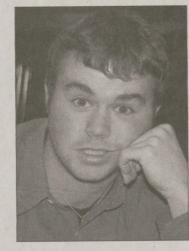
a statement. "Through his commitment to rigorous academics and instruction, President Russi has led Oakland University to a lofty status among the nation's doctoral/research universities.

The Dec. 6 Board of Trustees meeting was cancelled due to the fact that the "Administration doesn't have anything for the board to approve at this time," said a spokesperson for the board. The next scheduled formal board meeting is Feb. 10, 2007.

> - Kelly Reynolds, Rob Tate and Jesse Dunsmore contributed to this report.

FROM A1

Q: What is your favorite holiday tradition?



A: Reading the Christmas Story in the Bible.

> **Mitch Mountney** Senior **Business**



A: Buying a Christmas tree and decorating it.

> Tom Butler Freshman Biology

Classifieds

Help Wanted

Seeking individuals with measurable passion for fitness for trainer positions at personal training studio in Downtown Rochester. Flexible hours. Respond by phone 248.651.5810, Fax 248.651.5791 or email to philanderson@fitnesstogether.com

Lube Technician at Quality Oil Change Auto Service Center across from Oakland University. Part or Full time. Good wages 248.318.1321.

Visual artist seeking camera operator. 248.542.4675 trom@trom.us

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Large home for lease, 3+ bdrm./2 bath/2 car gar., appliances, S of Walton, W of Squirrel. \$1300/mo. (248) 276-0477

Services

Sunday evening Catholic Mass for Oakland University students. Across the street at St. John Fisher 3665 E. Walton Blvd. First Sunday of Each Month at 7 p.m. Social follows. All are welcome. www.oucampusministry.com 248.370.2189

Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation. DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER. 10 a.m. Sunday Services held in American Legion Hall at corner of Third and Walnut. UU's seek a world community of peace, and emphasize the search for spiritual meaning rather than teaching a particular creed. www. paintcreek.org; (586) 268-5899.

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A: Lighting the Christmas

> Tamara Kukuk Junior Marketing



A: Going home and opening gifts on Christmas Eve

> Charmane Hogan Junior **Human Resources**

 Dennis K. Pawley, chair of the Oakland University Board of Trustees, during the announcement of Russi's contract extrension through 2012.

Walking for peace



Tibetan monk Lama Lhanang Rinpoche helped promote universal peace during Native American Celebration Week by conducting several activities last Wednesday, which included a ceremonial fire outside of the Oakland Center. Students were first introduced to Rinpoche earlier that day in the OC's Fireside Lounge at a lecture he delivered during which he encouraged audience members to maintain a healthy attitude during the winter months. Refocus your energy and don't become a Grinch this holiday season, Ripoche said. The event was coordinated by the Native American Student Association. To read more about Lama Lhanang go to www.wisdompath.org.

Troy Athens alumnus concerned over lost identities

By ALEX CHERUP Contributing Reporter

Tommy Cupples is a graduate of Troy Athens High School, class of 2004.

He is currently a junior at Oakland University, pursuing a major in business and

He is also worried that he is not the only Tommy Cupples in the world.

Cupples' worry is like that of most other Troy Athens alumni from the graduating classes between 1994 and 2004 who had their names, addresses, grades and social security numbers lost by the Troy School District. The information was stored on a

guidance office computer hard drive that was either lost or stolen in mid-August.

Identity theft is the nation's fastest growing crime, according to the Federal Trade Commission.

A recent survey revealed that over 9 million people around the country were the victims of identity theft in

The school district sent out two letters to the affected students. The first letter notified students of the identity losses and the second made them aware of the discounted rates the district is offering for credit monitoring systems.

The district chose Lifelock as it's credit monitoring service

because, "it's proactive and provides immediate protection," said Tim McAvoy, director of the Troy School District's community relations.

Alumni are offered the service at no extra cost for 14 months. The discounted rate offers \$90 worth of savings for each year the individual chooses to use the service, according to second letter, which was dated Oct. 19.

Some are not satisfied with the way the district has

"It's not enough — the district should pay for all monitoring," said Athens alumni Heather Emerick, who is currently an English major

Others have used the internet to voice their protests. Troyathensvoice.com was constructed for this reason and has received endorsements from over 200 affected Athens

There is also a Facebook group called "Troy Athens Lost my Social Securty Number, Now I'm Pissed." The group has 313 members, including many OU students. Comments made on the group's wall range in emotion from angry to concerned. Some have even approached the situation with humor.

"They can have my soc. number," writes one Facebook user. "Anyone who wants my debt can have it.'

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Q: What will be your single most important new year's resolution?



A: "Lose weight, I'm actually going to go work out now!"

> Zariniah Rashid Freshman Undecided



A: "To do better in school and get good grades."

> James Soliman Sophomore Computer Science



A: "Bear down, concentrate more on school and pass college."

> **Tom Popescu** Junior Physical Therapy

POLICEFILES

- Upon returning to campus Nov. 20, after a weekend trip home, a Hamlin Hall resident reported a missing X-box 360, as well as a spare wallet with his high school ID and an extra drivers license. Thinking he had lost his license last year, he had gotten a replacement but found the original. Prior to leaving for the weekend, the student locked the exterior door to his room but left the interior door to his room unlocked.
- A female student complained of being shaky and lightheaded Nov. 20 in Wilson Hall. She refused to go to the hospital, saying that she was taking a new prescription medication and had not eaten breakfast. Auburn Hills Fire Department paramedics treated her on the scene.
- Sometimes a towel isn't enough to deter a thief. One female student found this out the hard way. after leaving her purse in an unlocked locker in the Rec Center. Although she placed a towel over her purse and checked on it periodically throughout the evening, when she returned to the locker room at 9:00 p.m. her purse and wallet were missing, along with \$5. The rest of the contents of the purse and wallet were left in the locker.
- OUPD filed a malicious destruction of property report on Nov. 24 after a joy rider decided to do some off-roading on the Katke-Cousins Golf Course. A driver traveling down Meadowbrook Hall decided to cruise right onto the course - across the 15th and 16th holes, causing damage to the turf. Somebody made off with the flagsticks from greens at the 15th and 16th holes, as well. The golf course superintendent estimates the damage around \$500. There are no suspects at this time.

Online service hopes to cause less 'Ruckus' for music downloaders

By JESSE DUNSMORE Senior Reporter

Oakland students will soon be able to download music for free with a service called Ruckus — but they won't have to worry about raising a ruckus in the recording industry.

"Ruckus is an online music downloading system where all of our students will be able to log in just like

an iTunes-like system, and they'll be able to stream music for free," said Brandon Bernier, Director of the Student Technology Center.

Ruckus is a legal downloading service, similar to iTunes. Unlike iTunes, though, Ruckus users pay a subscription fee in exchange for unlimited music downloads to their computers. Starting Dec. 4, students at OU won't. need to pay for the service.

According to Ruckus's Web site, 1.5 million songs are available for free download to a user's computer. Downloaded music must be purchased in order to burn it to a CD, and only mp3 players compatible with PlaysForSure Subscription will play Ruckus-downloaded music. iPods are not compatible.

Bernier said that songs need to be "renewed" regularly after downloading, a process which is also free to students. After graduation, renewal is no longer free, though the service offers an alumni discount.

Bernier cited online music piracy as a major motivation for bringing the program to OU.

"The illegal downloading became a real big problem, not just on Oakland's campus but on college campuses in general," said Bernier,

"and one of the best ways that all the different higher education institutions have found to combat that is to provide a free music service so that students can listen to it.'

Not only is the service free, said Bernier and Sternburgh, it's fast. Because music is downloaded from an on-campus server, both of them confirmed that a complete album can be downloaded in under a minute.

Not wise to quit a job without a backup plan

Resist the urge to impulsively let go of position

By MARIA VITALE Senior Reporter

Do you have the "I hate my job" blues? Well if you are looking to change jobs, there are some important things to consider before making the move.

Director of Career Services at Oakland University, Bob Thomas gave some of the Do's and Don'ts of quitting

First, you should make a list of pros and cons to make sure that you really want to leave your job. "Make sure you thoroughly consider the pros and cons and seek out help with a mentor or your peers," said Thomas.

Next you should let your supervisor know that you are looking around and explore your options at your current job. Depending on your reason for leaving, it is possible for negotiations to be made at your present job to keep you there.

If you still want to change jobs, then you should begin a thorough study of the prospective job. You should know whom you are working for and exactly what the job entails. It is also important to have an understanding that it matches up with your needs, and to consider the benefits as well as the salary said

Once you decide that you are leaving, you should give at least two weeks notice to your employer. They may ask you to stay longer, but you are not required to stay longer than two weeks

Give an appropriate resignation letter. Your resignation letter should be professional and include the reasons you are leaving as well as what you have learned from your experience there that you can take with you.

Be careful not to burn your bridges when you leave your job, you should always leave on a positive note. If you do burn your bridges, you should go back and find an individual who will be a positive reference for you, or go back and repair the relationship that was damaged. Also, make sure to get a commitment from your positive source that they will vouch for you and get a good idea what they would say about you.

When leaving your job you may have

an exit interview with the human resources personnel. At the exit interview it is important to be upfront about any issues and to make sure that you give constructive criticism as well as positive feedback. It is also important that you discuss any concerns you have with your supervisor before going to Human Resources for the exit inter-

It is also vital to have a new job lined up before you quit your current place of employment. It is much harder to find a job when you are unemployed. When potential employers see a gap in employment they may think something was wrong. Also, "not having a period of unemployment shows that you can hold down a job," said Thomas.

Lastly, before leaving your place of employment, you should follow up on the projects you've started as well as clean house. Your computer should be cleaned of any personal files, and you should also organize your e-mails.

If all else fails, just remember that professionalism is key. "Some one who is professional all the time is someone who is sought out," said Thomas. "Always resign professionally; you take the job professionally, you leave it professionally.

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CAMPUS RUNDOWN

Find out how to narrow down career choices for com majors Communication majors often worry that their degree is too broad and unrefined for many desired careers. Learn what's available Wednesday, Nov. 29, from 5-6 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the Oakland Center. Tracy Fuerst of Magna International will discuss the various options open to Communication majors. Fuerst is the Director of Corporate Communications and Media Relations at Magna International and has first hand experience leading the public relations efforts of the most diversified automotive supplier in the world. This event is free and open to all. Dinner will be served.

Grant allows foreign film series to continue in spring

Alysa Hunton, constituent researcher for the University Relations division at Oakland University, completed the final project for her master's degree in liberal studies last October by showing a series of classic foreign films. Her mission to expose more people to the international film industry received a boost when she was recently awarded a grant by the Tournees Film Festival, a vearly programmer designed to support modern French cinema on American university and college campuses. The grant has enabled Hunton to continue the series in the spring by showing five current French films.

Move over Paris — OU puts fashion on display

Auditions will take place Thursday at 7 p.m. for models interested in the 2006 Association of Black Student's Fashion Show. This year's show is called "Back for the First Time, Still So Grown and Sexy," and is open to all ethnicities, genders, shapes and sizes. Sign up at the CSA service window.

Credit Union ONE recognizes honors college students

Oakland University's on-campus financial institution, Credit Union ONE, awarded 12 scholarships to OU students, three of which included full tuition, room and board and \$500 to purchase books. The scholarships were made available through the university's Honors College, where applications were assessed by a review board. Bethany Brichta, Sara Gerhardt and Ashley McIntosh were awarded the full-ride scholarships, and the following individuals were awarded the \$2000 scholarship: Christopher Basnett, Emily Fisher, Lana Brown, Grace Gahman, Jessica Menyhart, Nicolas Ventimiglia, Kathleen Cavanaugh, Jenna Bourdeau and Megan Opie.

Irvin comments entirely culpable

By KYLE MAGIN Special Projects Reporter

If Michael Irvin had an instant messenger away message, it may contain the acronym "j/k." J/K, for those of you who aren't IM savvy, is short for just kidding. That's what Irvin; the former Dallas Cowboy and current ESPN analyst claims he was doing when he made a racially insensitive joke about cur; rent Cowboy quarterback Tony

"(Romo) doesn't look like he's that type of an athlete. But he is. He is, man. I don't know . . . some brother down in that line some-where . . . I don't know who saw what or where, his great-great-great-grandma ran over in the 'hood or something went down.

Irvin made the comments on ESPN radio host Dan Patrick's show last week. When Patrick confronted him about the quote, asking if that was the only way Romo could be a great athlete, Irvin continued to dig a grand-canyon sized ditch.

"That's not the only way, but it's certainly one way," Irvin said. "If great-great-great-great-great great-great grandma pulled one of them studs up out of the barn [and said], 'Come on in here for a second,' you know, and they go out and work in the yard. You know, back in the day.'

Never mind that Irvin is black, and that a white analyst making the same remark would have been fired before the next commercial break. Forget that this is the same Irvin who was pulled over two years ago with a crack pipe, insisting that it belonged to a friend and he was hiding it for him. Or was known as a maverick during his playing

days, a man who did drugs, cavorted with many women, showed up to court in luxurious fur coats and still dominated the field

Simply remember that Irvin is an enormous personality on the nation's premier sports network. a network where he's seen every Monday night at the pre-game set for Monday Night Football. In addition, Irvin makes many appearances throughout the week on the network. With that sort of exposure comes huge responsibility.

Irvin needs to take accountability for his actions and quotes. The prudent thing for the playmaker to do is to resign his position at ESPN and show America that intolerant remarks, made in jest or not, should

COMMENTARY

Racial stereotyping, even when made by a black man, hurts everyone. It hurt Romo's family, who may be tied through confusion to a slave- owning past. It hurts ESPN, which strives for thoughtful and credible commentary, not the foul bit of locker-room humor that Irvin felt compelled to share with America. It certainly hurts the black community, which probably doesn't uniformly support Irvin's

view, even if it was a joke. Irvin issued an apology, acknowledging

that his comments were inappropriate, then defended them. He said that he tries to bring the fans into the locker-room and this sort of joking is permissible there. Kids hear what Irvin said and assume it's okay to joke and think that way, or worse yet, take him seriously and assume that because of their skin color they are destined to become athletes or not.

In a society that strives for equality, lets extend the same courtesy to Irvin that was extended to Rush Limbaugh when he made an insensitive remark and ask that he not reappear on our TV.

Help raise money for childhood cancer research

Program to launch a letter sending campaign to ask for donations

By ROB TATE Senior Reporter

Tonight in the Pioneer Room at the Oakland Recreation Center, students have a wonderful opportunity to raise money for a worthy cause by participating in the Up' til Dawn writing

Up' til Dawn is a program that is run at over 150 college campuses nationwide and is sponsored by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital that raises money and gives the volunteers a chance to do something great with their time and for a great cause, but also it's a celebration. The money that is raised goes towards things like surgery, physical therapy and other medical needs.

"It really gives me a good feeling to be helping out with such a great organization. They really do put the children and their families first," said OU Executive Director of the Up' til Dawn program, Allison Brunner.

How the program works is students show up with addresses of relatives and friends and they send out a premade letters asking for a small donation. Last year, 200 students, alumni and faculty participated and this year Brunner is expecting 300-400 with a

goal of \$35,000 to be raised. Last year \$8,500 was raised with the biggest donation being \$240.

"No family ever has to pay for anything at St. Jude, and that makes it unique. In order for that to continue though, St. Jude depends on public contributions and programs like Up 'til Dawn," Brunner said.

It isn't too late for students to help out. All you need to do is show up anytime between 5:30 and 10:30 p.m. tonight. You must bring your Student I.D. card and as many addresses as possible. Students who participate can receive prizes including a drawing for a Video iPod. There will also be free food and entertainment.

"I think people would still participate if there weren't any prizes, but it's certainly a good incentive to get more people to come. I really like to think that everyone would do it just because these children do not deserve to be sick and going through chemo and surgeries," Brunner added.

The fundraiser commences with an all-night party on Feb. 16, 2007 where students can hang out with the patients of St. Jude that the money was raised for.

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CSA SERVICE WINDOW EVENTS

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- Spamalot
- Irving Berlin's White Christmas
- Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker · Joffrey Ballet's "The Nutcracker"
- Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy
- I Can't Stop Loving You

Winter Wonderland 2006

Saturday, December 2 11am – 1pm Gold Rooms, OC

OU students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to bring their children to a FREE holiday carnival that includes games, arts and crafts, music, food and even Santa!

SPB - Ski Trip Crystal Mountain January 19th – 21st, 2006

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Upcoming Events

CSA Learn 2 Lead Series:

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Thursday, November 30 5pm - 6pm Lake Michigan Room,

Digital Photography

(CSA's Lunch & Learn Series)

Thursday, November 30 Noon – 1pm Lake Superior B, OC

Snacks Provided!

CSA Annual Leadership Retreat

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Twas the WEEK Before Finals...

TODAY, NOVEMBER 29 Commuter Council Presents: Karaoke! Fireside Lounge, OC

Unveiling of the Student Organization

Holiday Tree & Hot Chocolate CSA Office, 49 OC

All-In Poker Tournament Lake Superior Room B, OC 6:30pm

Up 'Til Dawn Letter Writing Pioneer Room, Rec Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 **World Aids Day**

Gospel Choir Fall Concert 201 Dodge Hall 7pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 Winter Wonderland Gold Rooms, OC

Men's Basketball vs. Milwaukee

Women's Basketball vs. Rochester College

ALL WEEK! **Reach Salvation Army Kettle** EDITORIAL

Mass transit system could revive Detroit economy

Earlier this month the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) released the long-awaited results of a study they conducted to explore the possibilities of constructing a mass transit operation that would connect Detroit with Ann Arbor.

Many were expecting a detail-heavy report that would help to answer the decades old question of whether such a system would be practical and useful in southeastern Michigan.

What they got instead was a weak PowerPoint presentation that - without providing any real empirical evidence - concluded that the project was a no-go because the price tag was too high for the amount of potential riders that exist.

Proposals for these types of projects have been tossed around for years, and some of them have even been implemented — with remarkable inefficiency (observe the wonderfully impractical People Mover).

Addressing the need for mass transit in this town is nothing new or profound. The federal government already has \$100 million tucked away for us to use if we can come up with a system that meets their approval, and is matched by a \$20 million investment of our own.

Now that Detroit seems poised to experience a revival, it's time to get the show on the road — or rather off the road — and into faster moving trains that streamline people in and out of the city and surrounding communities.

Just brainstorming here, but how about an express train running along Woodward between Pontiac and downtown Detroit? A route along Gratiot could serve east-siders and a line down Grand River would take care of those on the west side.

These are just ideas, but the bottom line is that this town needs rapid transit. Downtown is offering several new attractions that have the potential to become hugely popular – especially during the holidays, including ice-skating at Campus Martius, shopping for clothing, accessory and furni-ture at new boutiques on Woodward and plenty of new restaurants and

As a corollary, a mass transit sys-

tem would bring job opportunities to a city and state grappling with unemployment. It would be a tremendous advantage for Detroiters who are pressed for transportation to hop on a rail system and get to work in Oakland or Macomb County without having to rely on the pathetic city bus system. It would mobilize an otherwise stationary section of the population, allowing them cheap access to jobs and opportunities not otherwise afforded to them. Parents of public school students, unhappy with their children's education, can simply send them to a school of their choice for a minimal investment — fare there and back — for a vastly improved education. Conversely, Oakland students would benefit from the ability to get

to a downtown internship without battling I-75 at rush hour.

Isn't it time that Detroit join Chicago, its major Great Lakes neighbor, in connecting its backyard? While Detroit languishes, for a variety of reasons, Chicago maintained a steady economy fueled by shopping and jobs downtown. It's time to put a dent in the region's downward slide by ensuring a vibrant, viable downtown that is easily accessible. The people exchange will benefit both ends of the economic spectrum, bringing shopping dollars down from Oakland County and bringing jobs to

—The Oakland Post

GUEST COLUMN

Low turnout for cultural awareness week a sign of student apathy

By STEPHEN SHARPER Guest Columnist

I recently attended many events during Oakland's cultural awareness week. My first impression was disappointment at the fact that very little people showed up at many of the events. Given the large number of students at OU of various ethnic and cultural backgrounds, I would have expected not only a large number of students, but a very diverse number as well. As the week progressed and I continued to attend more and more events and programs, and to see less and less people, I began to feel that there was a definite lack of interest about cultural diversity among OU's students

At the end of the week, a kick off was held in the Oakland Center to sort of remind everyone of what cultural diversity was about, why it was important, and what it's implications were for out community at Oakland, the United States, and the world. We all arrived at some concrete conclusions about the importance

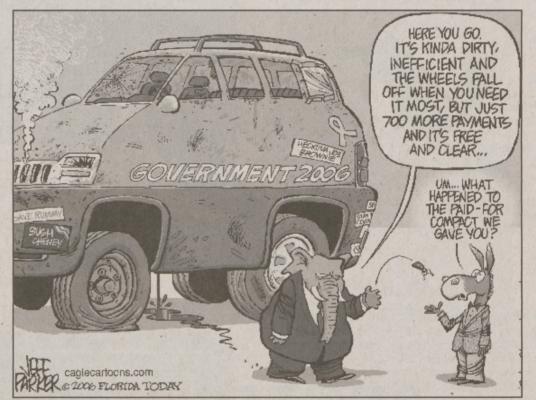
of the involvement of every member of a community if that community were to be successful in adequately supplying the needs of it's members. We defined culture as imperative for human growth and development, and essential for our survival. We agreed that significant achievements have been made in our country and around the world by members of different ethnic and cultural identities and how each one was an important contribution to our present society.

As pleased as I was to hear what my fellow students as well as faculty members of Oakland had to say about the importance of cultural diversity, and the involvement of different people, I was still disappointed by the lack of turn out at this and many other events this week. My point simply is that it seems as though not enough students at Oakland see cultural diversity as something extremely important and relative to their daily lives.

I think part of the problem is that not enough Oakland students consider themselves or effectively contribute to

a cultural diversity event. I heard from one student that when he thinks of cultural diversity he doesn't think of himself, or rather he automatically rules out the possibility of him being included. One of the things we discussed on Friday's exercise was that every member of a community had a culture and had a contribution to make to a diverse community. There are also various types of cultures that vary between people who are all part of a larger culture. Sub-cultures and counter cultures, for example

At the end of Friday's discussion we all left with the idea of celebrating cultural diversity all year round and not excluding it to a single week. The implications of this idea are plentiful, and are sure to break down a lot of barriers and offer new learning experiences for a lot of people. I just can't help but feel as though not enough people got the message. Let us hope next year that more students than ever before decide to participate in cultural diversity week so that we can learn from each make new friends, and break down stereotypes.



"Driven into the Dirt" By Jeff Parker

GUEST COLUMN

Foreign student sees 'colorful' society behind Hollywood simplicities

By DUSAN SPASOJEVIC Guest Columnist

My first time in the States was as a graduate student conference at Pittsburgh University. We were given A3 folders with a world map on it, and since it was not large enough for all details and continent shapes, it has to be simplified. I looked for my country or region, but the Balkans were not there. Apparently, whoever drew the map had to simplify, and just decide to delete the Balkan peninsula. It helped me to understand

the perspective of the average viewer from your side of Atlantic.

Therefore, I started my talks with Oakland University students explaining what country I came from. I did not expect that they would know much, but I was hoping that they learned something for their own sake. I believe that cultural awareness helps with your own dilemmas and uncertainties.

I would usually start lectures by speaking about the glorious days of Serbian democratic revolution and the youth and students involvement in it, but would

finish talking about lethargy of today's students; we agreed that it's a common problem for Serbia and America. Furthermore, I've learned that most societies have similar problems. Standards, expectations and ability to solve them are what make the differ-

For those who have never been to the U.S., Hollywood can fill in the blanks. Movies portray the average American life so accurately that you feel as if you've been American in a previous life. Pancakes, cereals, papers in front of the house, life in the suburbs

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Collegiate

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— these simplifying symbols of American life welcome you as soon as you set foot on American soil.

But behind this average image lies a colorful society which is, as most other world societies, hard to be acquainted with without spending some time within it. The two-party system sounded so boring before witnessing the passionate elections that just passed — I witnessed many people debate politics over fries and beer. Visiting a small town children's parade showed me the meaning of community. And a few days with an American family once again

stressed hospitably.

The typical question for someone returning back from the US is, "could you live there?" It's the European way of debating economical and political facts, and the "American advantage." I enjoyed the diversity of food (the Arabic restaurant made me feel like at home), and back at home, I'm already wasting too much time watching CSI. In America you play football and call it soccer. But listen, I know that it might be bad for the car industry, but honestly, I think you people should walk more!

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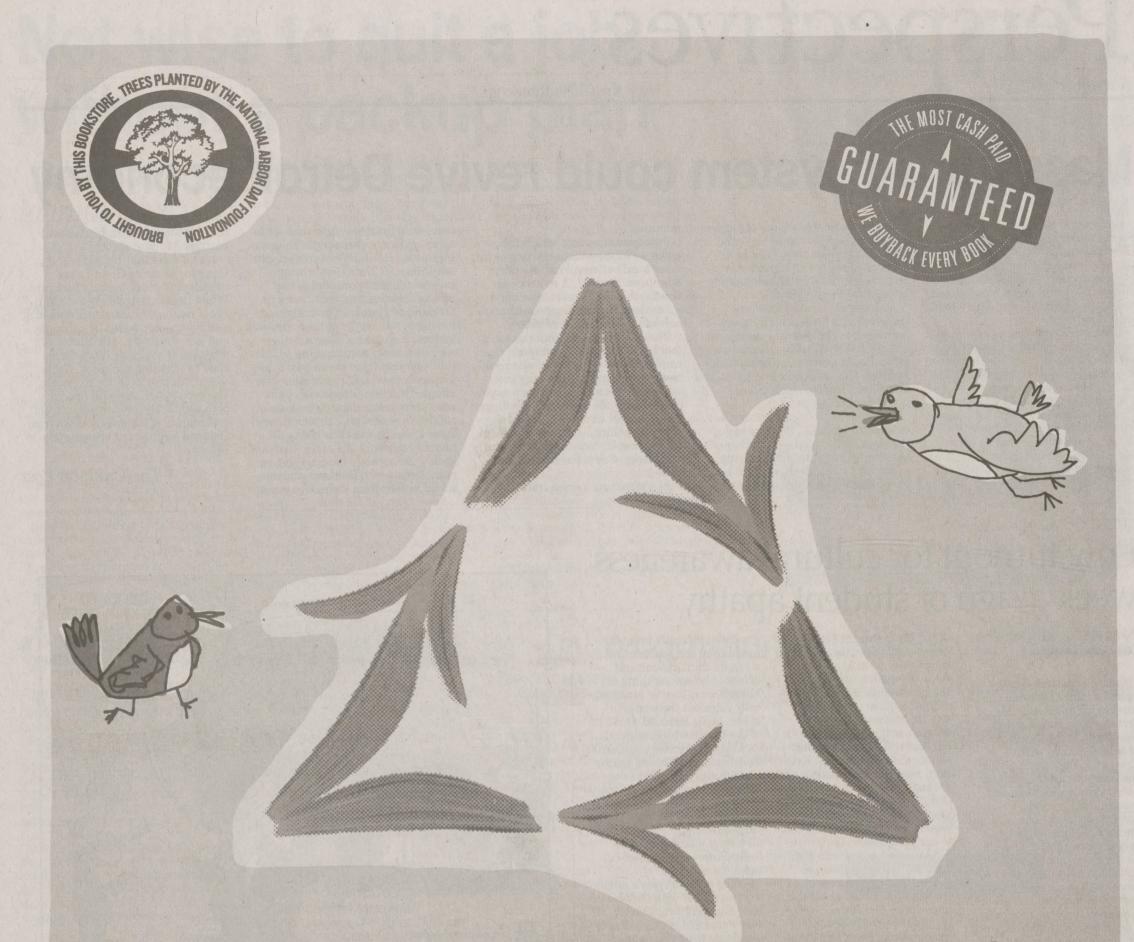
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The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail editor@oakpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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Michigan lawmakers hear debate about medical marijuana

By TIM MARTIN Associated Press Writer

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A proposal to allow the use of marijuana for medical reasons in Michigan received a rare legislative hearing

The bill, sponsored by Democratic Rep. LaMar Lemmons III of Detroit, would block prosecution of patients with "debilitating medical conditions" who grow or use marijuana for treatment purposes. Eleven states and several cities — including Detroit and Ann Arbor — have adopted similar measures in the past decade, usually through ballot proposals approved by voters.

Supporters of statewide legalization may have to go the same route. The bill discussed Tuesday is not likely to pass before the legislative session concludes at the end of the year.

The Marijuana Policy Project, a national advocacy group, says a petition drive in Michigan is possible at some point.

The legislation discussed Tuesday in the House Government Operations Committee would protect people who use marijuana to treat cancer, glaucoma, AIDS or other conditions. The patient would need a signed certification from a doctor to allow the marijuana use.

The main benefits, patients say, are pain relief, anti-inflammation and relief from nausea.

"I'm a living subject. I'm the proof," said Irvin Rosenfeld, a Florida stockbroker and a member of a federal program that allows him to use marijuana legally. "I'm a productive member of society because I have the right medicine.'

Benjamin Jones of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence said he is against the bill. He said marijuana should have to go through the same federal testing procedures as other drugs before it could be approved for

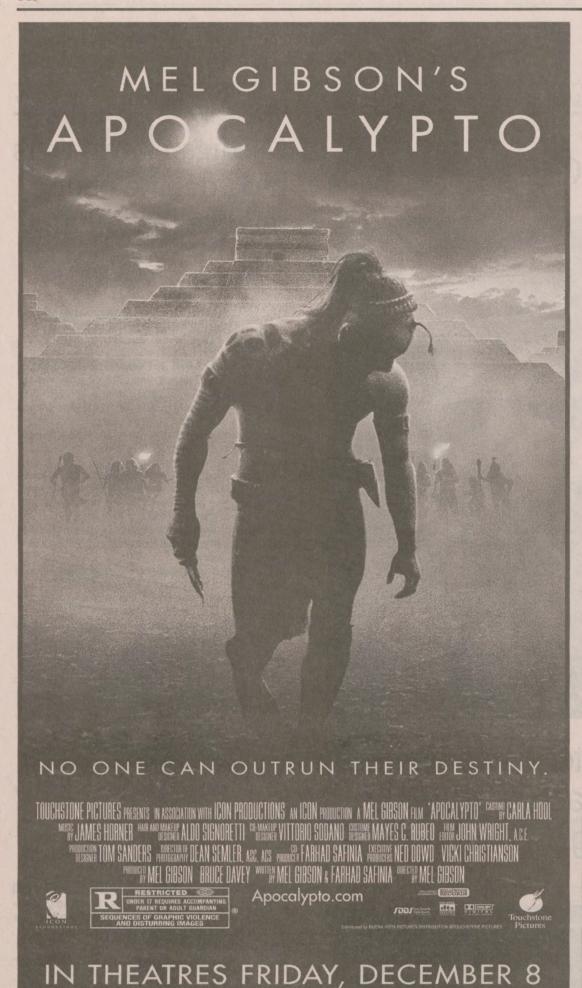
LOCAL IN BRIEF

Google, others criticize Michigan cable TV bill LANSING, Mich. (AP) - Opponents of Michigan legislation designed to ease telephone providers' entry into the cable TV market got a boost Tuesday from Google Inc., which criticized the bill for not stopping telecommunications companies from playing favorites with Internet content. Google, consumer groups and others urged state lawmakers to back a concept known as "net neutrality" to keep companies that run networks from discriminating against Web traffic based on which sites pay the most. "We want them to preserve the open and competitive atmosphere that their control over the infrastructure could be used to jeopardize," Andrew McLaughlin, Google's senior policy counsel, said of companies such as Comcast Corp. and AT&T Inc. But Consumers for Innovative Technology, a group backing the legislation, said Internet regulation is a federal issue, not a state concern. "The current legislation is the result of months of debate, negotiations and compromise in the Michigan Legislature," said Lavonia Perryman Fairfax, the group's executive director. "It should not be modified or derailed at the 11th hour over an issue that is entirely unrelated to the subject of this bill." Legislation recently passed by the state House and pending in the Senate would let phone companies get a statewide franchise without having to negotiate in every community.

Schools challenge Bush's No Child mandates CINCINNATI (AP) — A federal appeals court panel was asked Tuesday to revive a lawsuit challenging the way government-mandated programs are funded. The National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers union, and school districts in Michigan. Vermont and Texas, had sued to block the No Child Left Behind law, President Bush's signature education policy. Their lawsuit, in which they argued that schools should not have to comply with requirements that were not paid for by the federal government, was dismissed in November 2005 by U.S. District Judge Bernard A. Friedman, based in Detroit, Attorney Robert Chanin, representing the Pontiac, Mich., school district and the other plaintiffs, argued in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that states submitted compliance plans based on their understanding of the level of government support that would be provided. But Congress appropriated far less than needed, leaving local school districts to make up the difference, he said.

Governor's business tax plan to lower rates LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Michigan businesses would see their overall tax rate drop to what the Granholm administration says is the nation's lowest rate under a new tax plan the administration plans to release Wednesday, The Associated Press has learned. Businesses would be taxed at a rate of 0.125 percent on their gross receipts and assets, while profits would be taxed at a rate of 1.875 percent, according to two of the people who were briefed on the plan by administration officials. Both spoke Tuesday on condition of anonymity because the plan had not yet been released. Unlike the current Single Business Tax, the new tax wouldn't include payroll or benefits such as health insurance in calculating what's due. It's designed to bring in the same amount of tax revenue that businesses now pay, but it lowers the tax rate and broadens the base.

October jobless rates dropped across Michigan LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in labor markets across Michigan declined in October, state officials said Tuesday. All 17 of Michigan's labor market regions had lower rates than in September. State officials said that change is typical because people who hold summer jobs and don't work in other seasons leave the labor market. That lowers the unadjusted unemployment rates. The state had more than 4.4 million seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in October, up by 10,000 jobs from September levels. The biggest factor was a gain of 26,000 jobs at state and local schools and universities.



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1. Dog is truly man's (and women's) best friend.
True

2. A film festival on campus is featuring what kind of films?
a. Hollywood
b. student made
c. professor made
d. foreign

3. What local area high school as suffered from identity theft? a. Rochester Adams

b. Troy Athens c. Utica d. Southfield

4. Gear's of War is a video game featuring what style of game play?

d. massively multiplayer

a. tactical shooter
b. role playing
c. simulation

5. Oakland University played Michigan State University in basketball over the weekend. True

False

6. You can attend a de-stress

zone on _____ this week.
a. None
b. Friday

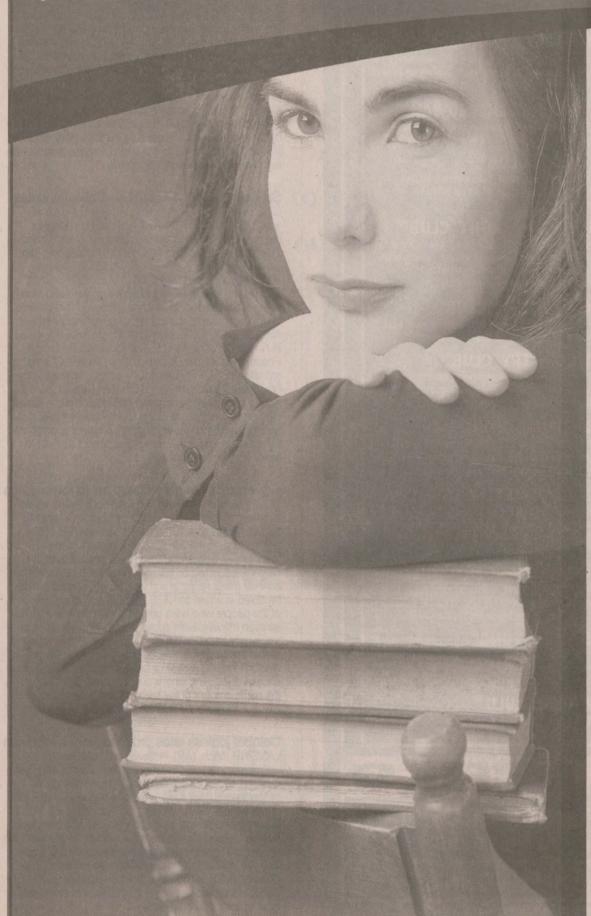
b. Friday c. Today d. Thursday

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Dec. 1, 1878 - 1st White House telephone installed
Dec. 4, 1976 - Liz Taylor's 7th marriage (John Warner)

Dec. 4, 1976 - Liz Taylor's 7th marriage (John Warner)
Dec. 5, 1776 - 1st US fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa (William & Mary)

Don't get fat, break even

Hitting the gym serves as holiday detox

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY
Contributing Reporter

The holidays are quickly approaching and you know what that means. Spending quality time with the family, presents and of course, endless amounts of food. But you might want to think twice before picking up that extra drumstick if you don't want to spend the rest of your free time from now until eternity working it off at the gym.

While it may seem like you're getting a balanced meal and eating from each of the food groups, the calories add up quickly. And indulging in the post-dinner slice or two of pumpkin pie won't help matters either.

A single slice of Sara Lee pumpkin pie contains 260

calories. Garnishing it off with two tablespoons of Reddi Whip whipped cream adds another 15 calories. Although it might not seem like much, chances are that after dinner alone, you've consumed more than the recommended 2000 calories

Although it might seem like a hassle to make the trek all the way across campus to the OU Rec Center, especially in the dead of winter, it's easier than you think to burn off

those extra calories.

Johnny Chase, a personal trainer at the Rec Center recommends either 30 minutes of cardio three times a week or two to four times per week with strength training.

"Doing cardio three times a week will help maintain your weight, over three times a Activity Estimated czzalories burned in 30
Housework 99
Bowling 103
Sex 144
Skateboarding 171
Downhill

week at 30 minutes will help you burn off the extra weight," said Chase. "Strength training will help you build lean muscle. The more muscle you have, the more calories you

Skiing

Don't worry about fitting your whole exercise routine into one session. If you're pressed for time, consider splitting it up into two 15-minute workouts. Of course, more than 30 minutes is acceptable, but you shouldn't exceed an hour per segment.

297

Keep in mind that exercise alone will not trim that waistline. A sensible diet is a must to repair the damages done during the holiday season.

Quebec recognized as a nation within Canada

By BETH DUFF-BROWN The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Parliament formally recognized Quebec as a nation within Canada Monday, a symbolic gesture that has led to a Cabinet resignation and ignited concerns over a renewed push for the French-speaking province's independence.

The motion presented by Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper, which calls Quebec a nation within a united Canada, is largely symbolic in that it requires no constitutional amendment or change of law. The opposition Liberals and New Democrats supported the motion, so it passed

easily through the House of Commons.

It was devised by Harper to pre-empt a similar attempt by the Bloc Quebecois, the separatist party in Parliament that represents Quebec, whose members also reluctantly backed the resolution once they realized they had been outflanked by Harper.

"This government believes strongly that the time has come for national reconciliation," Harper told the House of Commons hours before the Monday night vote.

Monday night vote.

But others fear the recognition will be divisive, re-igniting hope among Quebec separatists for an independent nation and other ethnic and indige-

nous groups to demand similar nationhood.

Michael Chong resigned earlier in the day as the intergovernmental affairs minister, saying he couldn't accept the "ethnic nationalism" implicit in Harper's historic initiative.

Harper's historic initiative.
"I believe in this great country of ours and I believe in one nation, undivided, called Canada, based on civic and not ethnic nationalism," he said.

The people of Quebec have twice voted down referendums seeking independence from Canada; the last one narrowly defeated in 1995. Though there are some in Quebec still longing for sovereignty, most Quebecois wish to remain an integral part of Canada.



Tom Hanson/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs Minister and Minister of Sport Michael Chong announces his resignation in Ottawa, Monday.

NOTABLE NUMBERS

A9

4th

leading cause of death in the world: AIDS

211%

growth in online traffice for consumer electronics on Friday, Nov. 17

4

the number of months Kid Rock and Pamela Anderson were married before filing for divorce, announced Nov. 27

\$44.9 MILLION

the weekend's profit for "Casino Royale" stomped into the number two spot, under "Happy Feet"

to say LEAST

" No one, not even the president, is above the law."

Caroline Fredrickson, the director of the ACLU's office in Washington commenting on the Justice Department watchdog plan to review the domestic spying program

LOOKING FOR A BIGGER AUDIENCE?

The Oakland Post wants to feature Oakland University musicians in upcoming issues. If you or someone you know is looking to make their mark on the world of music contact your student paper at:

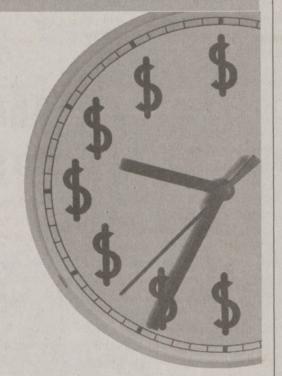
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THE WORLD IN BRIEF

U.S. jet crashes in Iraq, mortar fire sets huge blaze at oil facility in north BAGHDAD, Iraq — Mortar rounds crashed into an oil processing facility near the northern city of Kirkuk on Monday, igniting a huge blaze, and a U.S. Air Force jet with one pilot crashed while supporting American soldiers fighting in Anbar province, a hotbed of Iraq's Sunni Arab insurgency. The fire at the pipeline filtering facility shut down the flow of crude to the massive Beiji refinery to the southwest, according to an official at the North Oil Co., who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters. The flames erupted at 6:30 p.m. and burned for several hours before they were extinguished, the U.S. military said. The facility is 15 miles northwest of Kirkuk, a city which sits amid some of Iraq's richest crude oil deposits. Earlier Monday, a bomb exploded beneath an oil pipeline south of Baghdad and set it on fire, and Iraqi and American forces were deployed to secure the area, police said. No injuries were reported in the 7:30 a.m. blast near Mahmoudiya, about 20 miles south of Baghdad, said police 1st Lt. Haider Satar. The fire was put out about noon. The pipeline carries crude oil from storage tanks in nearby Latifiyah to the Dora refinery in Baghdad.

White House says Iraq violence in 'new phase,' — step up in diplomacy TALLINN, Estonia — President Bush intensified diplomatic efforts on Monday to quell rising violence in Iraq and Afghanistan, turning to allies as his national security adviser said the conflict in Iraq had entered "a new phase" requiring changes. "Obviously everyone would agree things are not proceeding well enough or fast enough," National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley told reporters aboard Air Force One as Bush flew eastward. The president was spending Monday night in this tiny Baltic nation ahead of a two-day NATO summit in Riga, Latvia, expected to deal with deteriorating conditions in Afghanistan, where NATO has 32,000 troops. Both Estonia and Latvia are former Soviet republics that are strong allies in the war on terror. Bush will head to Amman, Jordan, for talks Wednesday and Thursday with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and King Abdullah of Jordan.

Justice Department watchdog to review domestic spying program WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has begun an internal investigation into its handling of information gathered in

the government's domestic spying program. However, Democrats criticized the review as too narrow to determine whether the program violated federal law. The inquiry by Glenn A. Fine, the department's inspector general, will focus on the role of Justice prosecutors and agents in carrying out the warrantless surveillance program run by the National Security Agency. Fine's investigation is not expected to address whether the controversial program is an unconstitutional expansion of presidential power, as its critics and a federal judge in Detroit have charged. "After conducting initial inquiries into the program, we have decided to open a program review that will examine the department's controls and use of information related to the program," Fine wrote in a letter dated Monday to House Judiciary Committee leaders. The four-paragraph letter was obtained by The Associated Press. Justice Department spokesman Brian Roehrkasse said the agency welcomes the review: "We expect that this review will assist Justice Department personnel in ensuring that the department's activities comply with the legal requirements that govern the operation of the program."

Heart implant tested to prevent strokes from irregular heartbeat

WASHINGTON — At least 120,000 Americans a year suffer strokes because of a common irregular heartbeat - one that's on the rise, hard to treat and can shoot deadly blood clots straight to the brain. Now doctors are experimenting with a new way to prevent those brain attacks: a tiny device that seals off a little section of the jiggling heart where the clots form. If it works — and a major study is under way - the Watchman device might provide longneeded protection for thousands of people with atrial fibrillation, whose main hope now is a problematic blood-thinning drug that too many can't tolerate. "I don't think I'm biased, but it could potentially revolutionize a-fib, which is a ton of people," says Dr. Steven Almany, vice chief of cardiology at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich. He has implanted the Watchman into more than a dozen patients so far. About 2.8 million Americans have atrial fibrillation, the most common type of irregular heartbeat. It is most common among the elderly, and cases are increasing as the population grays. A-fib occurs when the heart's top chambers, called the atria, get out of sync with the bottom chambers' pumping. The atria speed up, sometimes so fast that they quiver like a bag of worms. Blood pools inside a pocket of the heart, allowing clots to form.

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Name: Kevin Alford

Favorite Platform:

Xbox 360

Favorite Game:

Red Dead Revolver,

Resident Evil 4, Dead

Risina

Favorite Game

Developer:

Capcom

Favorite In-game

Character:

Frank West from

Dead Rising

First year as a gamer:

1989 on the NES

THIS VS. THAT

Self-proclaimed experts in the world of gaming, team up to show down on "Gears of War"

By KEVIN ALFORD **Contributing Reporter**

Emergence Day, Nov. 12, 2006; the last day previous generation graphics will ever please you. "Gears of War" has been the most anticipated game for the Xbox 360 to date, and the second most preordered game ever, following Halo 2, according to IGN.com.

"Gears of War" is a mostly typical shooting game based on a mostly typical sci-fi storyline. You're a badass ex-prisoner who has to save the world with a handful of men and a bucket full of bravado. Ho-hum, how original. Only it's not boring, it's not stereotypical and it's not the same.

While there's no feature that shatters your mind, or makes you forget every game you've played previously, every aspect of "Gears" has been tweaked and perfected to a point far beyond most titles. The level of detail and amount of fine-tuning even makes Halo look more like a wannabe contender. than the reigning champion of console shooting games.

While the graphics are not lifelike, they're nothing short of amazing. The exaggerated world portrayed in "Gears" looks so much better then anything you've ever played before, you simply won't be satisfied with the graphics of any other game currently on the

On par with the graphics,

though less noticeable, is the sound design.

"It's impressive and dynamic, the surround is phenomenal," said Monique Chase, sound editor for the Macomb County based Detroit Chop Shop, a sound engineering facility. "It's hard to make up sounds for things that don't exist, but they nailed it, spot-on."

The biggest let down comes from the multi-player segments of "Gears of War." Where as similar games support 16 to 32 players online at once, "Gears" maxes out at 8. If you think that's bad, the single console version goes no higher than two.

Despite it's shortcomings, all multi-player aspects of "Gears" are involving and fun. Even when only playing one-on-one, the action is quick and exciting. Those of us with Xbox Live will find much joy and chest thumping via online versus games, with four-on-four teams competing for each other's blood and ultimate bragging rights.

If you like to shoot things, get "Gears of War." If you've ever wanted to chainsaw your friends in half, get "Gears of War." If you have no interest in games like Halo, but are looking for a fun combat game, get "Gears of War."

If "Gears of War" represents what games we've got to look forward to, then the future is bright **Contributing Reporter**

"Gears of War" is loaded to the gills with everything it takes to bring the hurt to any and all

"Gears of War" follows Marcus Fenix, an old war hero who was imprisoned for treason in the face of the growing threat of the Locust. The only goal of the locusts is to eliminate every last human on earth. The war has gotten desperate to the point of Fenix being paroled and returned to active duty.

The game managed not only to live up to the hype established through commercials and the MTV special, but far surpass it in almost every conceivable way.

"Gears of War" finally proves what next-gen gaming is really all about; this game throws you right into the fire and never lets

Where Gears really flourishes, however, is its multiplayer. There are two options, cooperative and versus. Co-op is a two-player affair which can either be experienced in split screen on a single Xbox 360 or over the internet. The online co-op is flawless and allows the players to communicate as if they were sitting in the

Versus mode, however, is the shining beacon in an already stellar game. Available are three

modes: warzone, assassination and execution (the only way to kill an opponent is to deliver a close-range special kill, such as sawing your opponent in half with the Chainsaw Bayonet on your Lancer Assault Rifle)

Each mode gives the player a unique take on multiplayer. Games can consist of anywhere from two to eight players and through speedy play and frantic battles prove to rival games in the still-popular PC Game, "Half-Life Counter Strike."

The multiplayer maps all vary in size, setting-up and leaving options open for endless tactics and counter-tactics from simple run-and-gun to a carefully placed decoy for setting up an ambush.

One of the most intriguing features is active reload system. In past games a player merely had to hit a button to reload, but "Gears" implements a system requiring precision for a faster reload. While a simple press of the reload button works, in a rapid-fire situation, a well-timed second press of the button cuts the reload time in half. Through innovation, gorgeous graphical design, and flawless functionality, "Gears of War" has truly taken the nextgen version of the action genre and set a new bar for all other games to reach, regardless of the console.



Name: Erik Westfall **Favorite Platform:** PC **Favorite Game:** Halo II, Counter Strike and Starcraft **Favorite Game Developer:** Blizzard **Favorite In-game Character: Master Chief from Halo** First year as a gamer: Somewhere around the **launch of Super Mario** World, 1991



select



A dish to pass

won't pass on By JULIET KRAFT



Holidays are the perfect occasion to spend time with family and friends and to enjoy your favorite foods. However, college students tend to be faced with a dilemma when it comes to contributing to the array of food and drink offered during these gatherings. Not only are most college students underage, but most are also dealing with financial issues. Therefore coming up with a dish that is both non-alcoholic

"There are always traditional dishes such as green bean casserole or deviled eggs that are fairly inexpensive to make, but because they are common items at holiday parties you may run into the issue of duplicate dishes," says

He says that the Internet is a great tool for finding uncommon, yet inexpensive

"A really easy dish to make that goes well with most holiday meals is a baked macaroni. The ingredients are simple, most would be items that are already around the house, and the few that you would have to purchase are relatively cheap," says Zamborsky.

He recommends searching different Web sites that post recipes to find something that would be right for your

The low down on how to slow down

TOP SEVEN RESULTS OF

STRESS

ACCORDING TO THE AIS

1. Frequent headaches, jaw clenching or pain 2. Gritting, grinding teeth

3. Stuttering or stammering 4. Tremors, trembling of lips, hands 5. Neck ache, back pain, muscle spasms

6. Light headedness, faintness, dizziness

7. Ringing, buzzing or "popping" sounds

How to stay stress free during the finals frenzy By BETH HOLLAND **Contributing Reporter**

As finals lurk around the cornermost students experience a high level of stress.

According to the American Institute of Stress (AIS), stress can result in anything ranging from frequent headaches, excess anxiety, insomnia, poor sexual desire or performance, and trouble learning new information.

Luckily for Oakland students, there are many activities being offered on campus to help decrease their stress during finals.

Thursday, Nov. 30 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms, the Student Program Board (SPB) is putting on its annual De-Stress Zone. SPB is providing free food, games, arts and crafts and music. Some of the counselors from Graham Health and Counseling Center will also be on hand.

Although some people do strive

on stress, there are limitations and it is best to realize those limitations before it gets out of hand.

Stress relievers are taking breaks during study sessions, walking, rocking out to your favorite music and aromatherapy. There are plenty of ways to reduce stress, it's up to the individual to find out what works best for them and follow through with it.

For more information on relieving your stress or to test the amount of stress in your life visit the American Institute of Stress Web site at http://www.stress.org

And this semester, skip the venti Starbuck's for a late-night cramming session and get a good night's sleep. Lack of sleep results in short-term memory loss, so staying up late and stressing isn't worth it if you are just going to forget it when that scantron lands in your lap.



photo illustration by Dan Wilkinson

Mean it this year

Resolutions to make and how to keep them By NINA GOJCAJ **Contributing Reporter**

We have all heard it before; This year I will commit to my New Year's resolutions to study better, lose weight or stop biting my nails, to name a few.

Well, this year will be "the year" you (and I) keep those promises.

It's one o'clock in the morning. A cup of coffee sits in your left hand, highlighter in right hand and textbook in your lap.

Sound familiar? If pulling an allnighter before an exam is the norm for you, I see a brick wall in your future.

Charles E. Clark, Jr., Director of the Academic Skills Center says, "Students need to make a schedule to manage their time efficiently. Find out when you learn best and study in that time frame this way you will focus and understand the material."

For more help, tutoring hours are available Monday to Wednesday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 103 North Founda-

out of sheer boredom or restlessness, but did you know that behavior can also be a sign of stress or anxiety and

in rare cases, even Obsessive Compulsive Disorder?

Dr. Bela Chopp, director of Oakland University Counseling Center, says, "19 to 20 percent of young adults bite their nails seriously. It is a way for them to cope with stress. The best way to deal is to identify the triggers by logging them into a

The Counseling Center is located in the Graham Health Center. The first six sessions are free to registered OU students. Learn more at www2. oakland.edu/GHC/geninfo.cfm.

The road to better nutrition and health can be as simple as grabbing a slice of wheat versus white or taking the stairs versus the elevator.

"Everybody can make time to work out. When you are studying for finals, take a 1/2 hour break and go to the Recreation Center to burn some calories and increase your energy levels," said Assistant Athletic Trainer David N. McAuliffe (ATC, CSCS).

If you don't eat right and stay fit, Typically, students bite their nails you will not have the energy to study for finals, therefore, you will be biting your nails all the way to class, that is if you have any left by then.

Something to make that your friends **Contributing Reporter**



and inexpensive can be a difficult task for students.

Noah Zamborsky, a chef at the Palace Grill, says that there are actually a lot of options

holiday party. Ingredients 4 cups elbow macaroni noodles 4 cups sharp cheddar cheese, shredded 2 eggs, beaten ½ cup sour cream

Salt and pepper to taste Instructions

4 tablespoons butter melted

cup milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cook macaroni al dente, drain and rinse. Stir in 3 cups cheddar cheese. In a separate bowl, combine remaining ingredients and add to the macaroni mixture and stir. Pour macaroni mixture into a casserole dish and bake for 30-45 minutes. Top with 1 cup of cheese and bake again until cheese has melted.

"Huntington said we have a clash of civilization, but we have a clash

- Achmat Salie, new coordinator of Islamic Studies

All OU wants for Christmas

Pony, Nintendo top students wish lists

By LINDSEY WOJCIK Contributing Reporter

In the classic holiday movie "A Christmas Story," young Ralphie Parker desperately wants a Red Ryder BB Gun for Christmas. Although his parents, teacher and even Santa Claus tell him, "He'll shoot his eye out," he does not get

Like Ralphie, some Oakland University students have their hearts set one special gift. Students with wish lists yet to be written or wondering what gift all their friends are really

pining for may find some inspiration here. Mathew Barr, senior, mechanical engineering major, may be preparing for his future if the Big Three continue to cut employees. A Fender Stratocaster Guitar, available for \$399.99-\$434.99 at Guitar Cente, tops his wish list.

"My guitar right now is a cheapo and a new one would inspire me to practice more and perhaps take lessons.'

Gabrielle High, sophomore, business major, wants to invest her time in a hot new product-she's asking for a Nintendo Wii, available for \$249.99 at Target.

"The Nintendo Wii has really great graphics." Maria Mets, freshman undecided major, has been devoted to her Christmas wish for most of her life. She wants a horse, priced at \$2,500-\$10,000 plus care and maintenance in classified ads, horsecity.com or auctions.

"I've been riding for seven years. I really like to ride and I don't have a horse. I've been asking my parents for a horse for six years and I haven't gotten one yet. I don't think this year will be different, I'll probably end up getting

Paige Sherrod, freshman nursing major, has a request that's practical for any Michigan student. "I want the Coach rain boots in brown because I think they are cute.

The boots are available for \$118 at The Coach Store at the Somerset Collection.

Matthew Kassa, junior sign language major, is asking for a gift he can share with friends, or even strangers.

On his wish list: Microsoft's Xbox 360 Live, \$399.99 at Best Buy or Toys 'R Us

"I want a Xbox 360 because the new graphics are really good and you are able to challenge

people at different stations.' George Newman, sophomore communications

major, is holding nothing back on his wish list. He's asking for a 2006 Cadillac Escalade, available for \$53,850-\$58,805 new or \$25,995

used at Cadillac Dealers "I like the way the Escalade looks and the comfort of it.'

Santa might need a bigger sleigh.





QUOTE OF THE DAY ...



Left to right: Sophmore George Newman, Freshman Maria Mets and Junior Matthew Kassa







Left to right: Cadillac Escalade, horse and Xbox 360

New semester brings new minors

Religious Studies program expands course offerings

By NORA GOTHAMY Contributing Reporter

Three new minors will be available for the winter semester. Although they won't be officially advertised until after the publicity campaign scheduled for next semester, students can take courses in Christianity, Islamic, and

The role of religion in the world today is highly significant, particularly these three," said Gary Shepherd, Director of Religious Studies.

The three religions are intertwined historically, politically and theologically. As Shepherd explained, there is "shared theology found in all three of these traditions.'

Shepherd hopes that the new minors will contribute to the reduction of stereotypes due to

"This could be a catalyst for greater understanding, rational discussion and development of new appreciation for religious faiths outside of one's own," said Shepherd.

The three programs were approved years ago but have been waiting for funding.

When the funding for the Judaic and Islamic programs came in, the College of Arts and Sciences decided to go ahead and offer all three

"OU has always offered a concentration in religious studies but mostly as a comparative religion course and overview of world religions,"

The Islamic Studies Minor will be provided in

addition to this concentration, with some overlapping coursework, but more developed topics about Islam.

The introductory course to Islamic Studies, or REL 300, will be available Winter Semester. Each of two sections will be taught by one of two new part-time faculty members, Achmat Salie and Ali Suleiman.

"Huntington said we have a clash of civilization, but we have a clash of ignorance, said Salie, new coordinator of Islamic Studies, in reference to Harvard professor Samuel P. Huntington's book "The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order."

"There's no better time to start this program

When Greater Detroit Muslim community members proposed an Islamic Studies program to OU faculty, they were informed that a similar program had already been approved, awaiting only funding, said Shepherd.

In response, the local Muslim community raised enough funds to begin the program through a fund raising luncheon and word of mouth. They also expect to finance the program for the next five years.

Community members who initially approached the university were then instituted as a five person advisory board by Ronald Sudol, acting Dean of the College of Arts and

The advisory board recommended Salie as program coordinator to act as a liaison between the university and the Muslim community.

Salie will also have several tasks related to program development. "We hope to develop outreach programs and offer workshops and short courses on Islamic contemporary issues," said Advisory Board and Hiring Committee member Dr. Syed Nassar, Oakland University Professor of Engineering.

"I will be creating new courses in Islamic Studies that don't exist at all," said Salie.

"This is a great idea," said Attiya Younis, sophomore psychology and anthropology/sociology major, "It would definitely be an interest of mine to take this class in the future!"

For more information, contact Gary Shepherd at shepherd@oakland.edu

Assistant Features Editor Kelly Kozlowski contributed to this report.

Buy a sweater, save a life

Holiday purchases may benefit charities

Last holiday season

Americans spent \$435.6

billion during the

holiday season

according to the National

Retail Federation, and

this year they're expected

to spend even more.

By CRYSTAL NELSON Contributing Reporter

Mom wants a new sweater? Girlfriend wants an iPod? Why not give a gift that gives twice? Some products that shoppers are planning on buying anyway may support a

good cause. Last holiday season Americans spent \$435.6 billion during the holiday season according to the National Retail Federation, and this year they're expected to spend even more. Americans between the ages of 18 to 24 spent an average of \$481.25 last Christmas.

Often the brands we love work with organizations to create a product that gives proceeds to charities, just in time for the holiday season. Gap, Bath and Body Works, Claire's and Sephora are just some of the stores to create partnerships with such organizations.

Supported by the Gap, Motorola, American Express, Converse and Apple's iPod, The Global Fund (www. theglobalfund.org) launched its

Product Red line. A percentage of the sales from these products will support and raise awareness for the fight against HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Cargo, a make-up line at www. sephora.com, gives 100 percent of the proceeds from its greeting cards and gift tags to St. Jude Children's

Research Hospital (www.stjude.org), an organization dedicated to researching and treating children with cancer and other life threatening diseases.

To ensure that your holiday purchases are doing the maximum amount of good, a little research may be

necessary. Some companies place a cap on the amount that will be donated to charities. For example, Bath and Body Works donates a dollar from each purchase of their Holiday CD to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, but will donate a maximum amount of \$250,000. Your contribution may not actually reach the charity. In this case, it may be more helpful to donate to the organization directly.

Many organizations like St. Jude





Gift purchases can benefit more than just the recipient this holiday season. A portion of proceeds from purchases of Product Red line items, including products by Apple and Converse, support The Global Fund's fight against HIV/ AIDS in Africa.

Children's Research Hospital and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (www.aspca. org) sell their own merchandise and offer a selection of holiday items including cards, notepads and other gift assortments.

The Detroit Free Press reported American families are expected to donate five dollars less this year to charities than they did last year.

A five dollar decrease per household might seem like a small amount, but it could affect organizations that rely on donations; mainly charities and non-profit organizations.

Purchasing gifts that support organizations makes your money stretch a little further.



Alex Cherup, guest columnist

B2

Violent society is not victim of video games

By ALEX CHERUP **Guest Columnist**

Violence is a part of humanity. Where does it come from? Right-wing lapdogs injected with the self-righteous vaccine believe to have found the answer. Video games. According to these princes of the pristine, Nintendo and PlayStation simulations mocking reality are the roots of violence

I can understand this - I have thought before: if only Attila the Hun's parents could have kept him away from the joystick, 4th Century Europe would have not been so deadly.

With the recent release of Nintendo Wii and PlayStation 3, in addition to the upcoming holiday season, an assessment of the actual danger of video games is needed. And who better to do so than an angry comic who hasn't played a video game since boy bands were actually taken seriously. I view it as another way to attack censorship, or as I call it, Bleep-ology. This campaign for censorship is lead by lawyer Jack Thompson, an activist annoyingly relentless in his mission against what he believes is the undesirable trash of society.

The premise – violent video

games cause violence, at first appears sound. But, after actual critical analysis, one can see the claim has more holes in it than the zombie my kid cousin

just shot repeatedly in Doom. First, we must examine the morals of the gamer. When the systems were released to stores about a month ago, avid enthusiasts positioned themselves outside of Best Buy and similar retailers, eagerly awaiting the appearance of the product. They stood in line and eventually the doors opened. Let me repeat that - THEY WAITED IN LINE

A line is one of the most basic normative procedures, and these individuals, all of whom have a kill count of infinity on Grand Theft Auto, followed the unwritten rule of standing in line. I find anyone who abides by the moral theory of "No butts, no cuts, no coconuts," to not be a severe danger to society. I highly doubt this is an attribute of a serial killer. "Mr. Bundy, please take a number. We can hold your knife at the counter if you want.

Another claim Thompson and the censorship addicts (we can call them bleepers') continually cite is the notion that "the more violent games are played, the more

violence results in reality." I disagree, as does my good friend Mr. Logic. There are just as many violent games as there are sports games, such as Madden. Have you ever heard something to the effect of, "There is so much football lately because of those video games?" Logically speaking, if a violent video game leads kids to violence, then an athletic video game should lead kids to athletics. And is this true? Of course not - look at your average kid playing Nintendo. He's either in front of the television or being picked last in gym

Nonetheless, the King Bleeper Thompson is constantly ranting and raving about how violent the games make the user. Unfortunately, Thompson is incredibly more harm than the game itself. Nothing can make a gamer angrier than taking his game away from him. If Thompson is worried about gamer angst, he should shut up immediately. So when Thompson prays

to "the father, son and holy Bleep," what type of video game is he hoping for? A game where you donate to the Salvation Army? Go to Confessional? Help senior citizens cross the street? Thompson, come back to real-



Soldier Fortune II is one of the many violent video games that experts say causes society to increase violent ways.

ity. Video games are entertainment. I am sure my gaming friends are not interested in playing "Final Fantasy X: Humane Geriatric Care" or "Grand Donation Auto."

The bottom line, Mr. Thompson, is this: Violence and violent people have been around longer than video

The true rogues representing the intense evil mankind has offered never bought Bully illegally when they were twelve. The violent people are

violent, whether or not games are involved. Put more emphasis on the person and less on

Mr. Thompson, you should hate censorship the most - you were a victim of it. You were censored from intelligence.

Living at home has some benefits, mostly causes embarassment

By MIKE PARSONS Contributing Reporter

Eighteen was supposed to be the deadline. Growing up we were all convinced that, as soon as we turned 18 we were all going to magically make enough money to move into our own place and have the time of our lives

And if not 18, then definitely by 21. Well 18 quickly turned to 19 and then to 20; and now at 22 I'm not only still living with my parents, but I still

sleep on the top bunk.

For those of us in our 20s still living at home, life seems like it's standing still. We're stuck in some kind of weird purgatory where we're old enough to drink, vote, and buy things off eBay, but still have to pick the wet towels off the bathroom floor before mom has a fit.

Sure, there are the obvious benefits of living at home such as free rent, laundry and home-cooked meals. But there are also the myriad of challenges that us 20-somethings encounter every day, and I've made a list of them. I know there are many of you out there (mainly guys) who will totally relate to this stuff; and I'm sure that for those of you with your lives on track who are living it up away from home, you'll have a good

Having to put on pants as soon as I wake up because I wore the bocers with a hole in the crotch, and don't want to have mom getting an acci-

dental peak at all thats she's created. ■ Telling the girl you bring home

from the bar to keep it down because your parents have to get up for work in the morning. (This only applies to guys who, unlike me,

have "game.")

Waiting for mom and dad to go to bed and keeping it down when I want to express my love physically

Still having to erase the history on the computer when I visit mature

Being the guy that is never

allowed to go the "gentlemen's club"

until my room is clean.

year of high school still works). Watching a movie and having your mom walk into the room during the only sex scene in the entire film.

 Hiding my condoms in my old He-Man lunchbox so I don't get the "responsibility talk" again.

Having to invent numerous

"friends" whose houses I spend the

night at when I've been boozing all

night and can't make it home (usu-

ally the old stand by you've been

using since seventh grade and hav-

ing talked to since your sophomore

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Flying fists down Grizzlies Saturday night's all right for fighting

By BRITTANY OCHTINSKY Contributing Reporter

After dropping five straight games, losing players to illness and injury and slipping from the top ten in the ACHA Division I rankings, the only thing on Oakland University's Christmas list was to have a good run at the University of Michigan-Dearborn East-West Classic, held Nov. 24-26.

It appeared as though they got their wish Friday, when the Golden Grizzlies kicked off the weekend with a much-needed win over Eastern Michigan University, beating the Eagles 4-3.

Falling behind 1-0 in the first period, the Grizzlies wasted no time getting on the scoreboard in the second.

Senior Will McMahon began his scoring tear 0:33 into the period and added two more before the buzzer sounded, including a short-handed

marker late in the period.

"Having Will McMahon back was fantastic, he makes a huge difference in our lineup," said Head Coach Sean Hogan.

Senior JP Ferrari capped off the scoring for Oakland in the third with a power play goal. McMahon picked up an assist, giving him a hand in each of OU's four goals and senior Adam Charnoby finished the night with three assists

Junior Andrew Hansen was back to his winning ways in net, turning aside 42 shots and helping his team snap a five-game losing streak.

But the winning was short-lived as the Western Michigan University Stallions annihilated Oakland on Saturday afternoon, 8-1.

Freshman goalie Collin Chase surrendered five goals in the first period and was replaced by Hansen for the final 40 minutes of the game.

"Whenever the other team scores, we get down. I can see it on their faces, they get deflated," said Hogan.

McMahon scored the only goal for Oakland just past the halfway point in the first period. Things got ugly in the third period, as

Things got ugly in the third period, as five Grizzlies were tossed out of the game. Freshman Garrett Kondratek and senior Stephen Schaeffler both received game misconduct disqualifications and three players dropped the gloves, resulting in their departure from the game and an automatic one-game suspension each.

"Penalties are something we're going to address in practice this week. We can't be undisciplined," said Hogan. "It's coming out of frustration and our morale is low."

With senior Scott Elder and sophomores Tim Michaels and Jeff Einheuser unable to play in Sunday's game against U-M Dearborn, Hogan suited up only 13 skaters.

Despite playing with a depleted roster, the Grizzlies managed to keep up with the Wolves through the first two periods and were tied 3-3

heading into the third.

McMahon added a pair of goals, bringing his total for the weekend to six and freshman Kyle

DeMaggio scored his third of the season

DeMaggio scored his third of the season.

The Wolves capitalized on the worn-down
Grizzlies in the final period and reeled off three
goals in under three minutes.

Oakland responded less than a minute later with a goal from sophomore John Parrish. Gaining control of the puck in the neutral zone, Parrish beat two Wolves defenders and walked in all alone on goalie Stephen Yu.

"Parrish has been getting better each game. He has improved dramatically from last season to this season," said Hogan.

It was too little too late for the Grizzlies, as

the Wolves skated away with a 7-4 victory. Sunday's game marked Oakland's seventh loss in eight games and was also the sixth time in eight games that the team had given up five or more goals. OU looks to redeem themselves at the Blizzard in Buffalo on Dec. 1.

Women's basketball splits pair in road trip

By ROB TATE Senior Reporter

The Oakland University women's basketball team hopped on a bus and took a tour of Michigan during Thanksgiving break, coming away with a victory over Eastern Michigan last Wednesday and a loss to Central Michigan Sunday as they continued their five game road trip.

The Golden Grizzlies began the holiday with a pre-Thanksgiving snack against Eastern Michigan in Ypsilanti last Wednesday, coming away with a 68-62 victory.

Oakland struggled from the start, but managed an excellent second half to pull away for good, snapping a three game losing streak to EMU.

Head Coach Becki Francis switched up the starting line-up, from the first three games of the season. The changes included inserting red-hot freshman forward Hanna Reising and sophomore Rikka Terava, who saw her first action of the season.

Reising has had a strong start to her college career, averaging 20.7 points per game off the bench prior to the EMU game.

Oakland had a hard time getting their offense started, shooting 39 percent from the field and 0 for 4 from three point land in the first half against EMU.

But things looked up from there as the Golden Grizzlies trounced the Eagles in the second half, out-scoring them 40-29 while shooting 48 percent in the half.

Leading the way for Oakland was sophomore guard Jessica Pike with 23 points on eight of 18 shooting.

Pike also added seven points. Senior Nicole Piggott added 19 points and six boards to the cause. Reising added five points and Terava netted three points.

Oakland then traveled to Mt. Pleasant for a showdown with the Chippewa's of Central Michigan this past Sunday. OU came up

short, dropping the game 68-57.
Piggott led Oakland in scoring with 24
points on the afternoon, shooting 50 percent
from the field. Sophomore April Kidd was
second on the team in scoring with nine
points, contributing from her new role off the

Oakland ends its current road trip at Bowling Green University in Ohio tonight at 7 p.m. and the finally return home to the O'Rena for three straight games; starting with Rochester College on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Oakland is 2-3 on the season.

Golden Grizzly Notebook

Shooting the lights out
Junior Nicole Piggott is leading the
charge with 16.8 points per game.
Hot on her heels are freshman Hanna
Reising with 14.2 ppg and sophomore
Jessica Pike with 13.4 ppg.

Good for 1...2...3 points!
Reising leads the Golden Grizzly squad with a 66.7 percent accuracy rate from behind the three-point arc.

Rough on the road
Thus far, Oakland University is 1-3

Thus far, Oakland University is 1-3 away from the O'Rena, where they are 1-0 thus far. They look to add to the home win column on Dec. 2.

In Case You Missed It

Volleyball coach

resigns After four years as Head Coach of the volleyball team, Dave Schmidlin has announced his resignation, effective Nov. 30. His tenure is the longest since the team's reclassification to Division 1 in 1998. Though Schmidlin led the team twice to a school record for Mid-Con wins, the team went for a disappointing 1-25 this season.

Softball inks

another Kerry Brennan has committed to playing for OU's softball team next season. Last season, Brennan hit .432 and drove in 23 runs. A catcher at Dearborn High School, she earned first team all-league and all-district honors as a junior, racking up team MVP honors. She is also a member of National Honor Society.

Come cheer on your Golden Grizzlies over break!

Hockey Dec. 8

vs. Liberty University @ the Onyx 7 p.m

Men's Basketball Dec. 30 vs. Toledo @ the O'Rena Noon (FSN

Women's Basketball

Dec. 5 and 9
vs.
Toledo and
Marqette
@
the O'Rena
7 p.m and
2 p.m.

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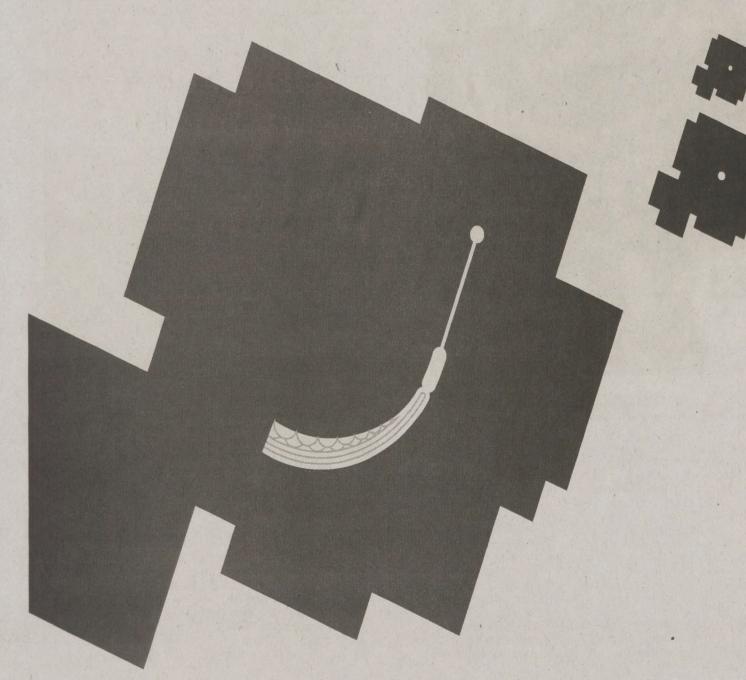
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LOOKING TO SNAP OUT OF A SLUMP ..

OU Hockey head coach Sean Hogan

November 29, 2006

Legends of the fall

And other tales of the 2006 season

By SAMANTHA FRANZ Sports Editor

Gather around, Grizzly fans, and let me tell you about the Golden Grizzlies of the fall 2006 season. It was a season full of components that would make for a great sports movie: victory, defeat, championship trophies, frustration, and the occasional flash flood. Here now is a recap of what has passed and an outlook of what is yet to come.

Remember the Grizzlies

It was a soccer season that finished on polar opposite ends of the spectrum, with freezing temperatures and flooded fields in between. The women's team overcame two of the top four ranked teams in the Mid-Con and bitter cold weather on their home turf to reserve their seat in the first round of the NCAA tourney, but fell to number-one ranked Notre Dame, 7-1. On the flip side, the men's team tasted the bitterness of their first below .500 season since the program's birth in 1973.

Failure to Launch

The young Golden Grizzlies volleyball roster took quite a proverbial beating this season, finishing 1-25, and just could not get a win streak going, even after several close matches. But after losing only one senior this year, there will be three returning seniors to step into the leadership role and 11 additional players with a year's experience under their belts. With the resignation of Head Coach Dave Schmidlin this week, the Golden Grizzlies will have a perfect opportunity to start over anew next season and wash away the remains of this single victory season.

Run, Grizzlies, Run!

And run they did. In fact, cross country ran all the way to a commendable 2006 season. After a season of top finishes and speedy times, the women's team placed third in the Mid-Con Championship and ended with a 26th place finish in a field of 30 at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional. Likewise, the men's team nabbed the second place spot at the Mid-Cons and ended the NCAA Regional with runners in the top half, including an 80th of 209 finish.

Love and Basketball

Well, the love is certainly present with the OU basketball program. Even if you are not a fan of the game, you can see the passion that these young ladies and gentleman play with. Right now, the men's and women's teams are in the middle of a tough preseason schedule, including some intense road trips, and thus far, are holding their own. As of press time, the women are 3-2 and the men currently stand at 4-3, after falling to Michigan State University.

In need of a "Miracle?"

Or at least in need of a revival. After moving up to Division I this year, this season has proved to be a far cry from OU hockey's previous championship run, as they are looking at a 7-8-1 record as of press time. Though they have slipped from the top ten in the ACHA ranking, they still sit in the 11th spot, and as long as they maintain a top 16 finish, they will be packing their bags for another trip to the ACHA DI tournament in Youngstown, Ohio, starting March 1.

Are you a "Swimfan" yet?

Because you should be. Whether they are sweeping teams in tri meets or earning Mid-Con Athlete of the Week accolades, this year's Golden Grizzly swim team has proven to be one to beat, as well as one to watch. You'll have your chance to cheer the Golden Grizzlies on when they return home for a meet against Hope College on Jan. 6.

Stroke of Genius

Don't let the title of "freshman" fool you. Two of OU's rising golf stars, Frank McAuliffe and Austin McDermaid, are fresh out of high school and racking up wins and Mid-Con honors faster than you can say, "Tiger Woods." The women's golf team hasn't had a finish lower than 4th place for the fall portion of the season. Meanwhile, the men's golf team has finished two outings in the top two thus far, first at the Butler Fall Invitational and second at the IPFW Invitational.

Going for the "Match Point"

After a rocky start at the Oakland-Detroit Fall Challenge and a 7-0 loss to Niagara, the Golden Grizzlies tennis team ended their fall schedule on a high note, with a 6-1 victory over St. Francis, Pa. Their season picks up on Feb. 24 with their first home match of the season against Dayton.



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Sophomore Kristi Evans aggressively charges the ball up the field against a Southern Utah University defender. This season, the Golden Grizzlies were on the winning end of the spectrum, unlike their men's program counterparts, taking the Mid-Con conference title and making a first round appearance in the NCAA tournament.

Grizzlies see green ... Spartan green

And neither coach is happy with the outcome

By SAMANTHA FRANZ Sports Editor

Usually when a team defeats an opponent by 18 points, the winning coach enters the post-game conference with a smile on his face and speaks highly of how his team played.

But at the Breslin Center, things run a little differently under the reign of Michigan State) head coach Tom Izzo. "If it keeps going this way, you can just start adding figures (losses) to the other column because there will be a bunch of

(losses) to the other column because there will be a bunch of them," said Izzo said. "My players better grow up because right now the immaturity is rearing its ugly head."

Outh What could have possibly gotten Izzo so fired up with

Ouch. What could have possibly gotten Izzo so fired up, with four players in double figures and the complete shut down of the Golden Grizzlies on the defensive glass?

Let's go back to the first half. For Oakland, the opening 20 minutes of play looked like an episode of "The Twilight Zone." MSU put up 40 points, with junior Drew Neitzel and sophomore Marquise Gray with 10 points apiece, and the Grizzlies were virtually non-existent on the defensive end, only grabbing six defensive boards compared to the Spartans 16. The most OU could muster was four points from sophomore Erik Kangas

"I don't think you can play a worst half of basketball than Oakland did in the first half," said head coach Greg Kampe. "You can give all the credit you want to Michigan State's defense. That's fine. I don't see it that way. I see it, we stunk."

The second half fared much better for OU. After a stinker of a first half, they started out with eight straight points out of the gate, including a one of freshman Johnathon Jones's three three-pointers for the game.

In fact, it looked like an entirely different game in the second half, with the Spartans running out of steam. The Grizzlies took full advantage and left the Spartans in the dust by out-shooting them 43 percent to 37 percent, collecting nine steals off of 12 Spartan turnovers, and out-scoring Izzo's boys

Perhaps it was the 14,759 fans in the Breslin Center that threw off OU in the first half, but if the Grizzlies would have stepped it up in the opening 20 minutes, the game would have gone a completely different direction. Kampe knew that going





DAN WILKINSON/The Oakland F Senior Shawn Hopes fails to grab a rebound over MSU center Goran Suton. An event like this one was not a one-time occurrence for the Grizzlies, as they were out-rebounded 43-28.

into Saturday's match up.

"We thought we were going to win," he said. "You can make me sound like an idiot and print that . . . We really believed coming in that we could compete with them. Privately, I think he (Izzo) knew that, which might be why they were so ready to play."

All in all, the Spartans played a great first half and the Golden Grizzlies bounced back to have a great second half. Neither team played the full 40 minutes, and that was what both coaches were so riled up about.

Oakland has one more road game in this six game series away from home, where they will face the Bearcats of Cincinnati today at 8 p.m.

Then, this Saturday, it's back to the O'Rena for a match up against Wisconsin-Milwaukee at 4 p.m., where the game will be broadcast on Comcast Local. The women's game follows at 6:30 p.m.



Oakland University

Scoring Leaders
Vova Severovas- 13 points
Derick Nelson- 12 points

Rebounding Leader Vova Severovas- 6 rebounds

Game Notes

Nine of Severovas's 13 points came from the free-throw line, where he shot 9-13 . . . Oakland's overall record now stands at 4-3 this season . . . After barely shooting 22 percent in the first half, the Golden Grizzlies bounced back and out-shot the Spartans 43.3 percent to 37.9 percent in the second half . . . Oakland trailed by as many as 30 points in the second half, with 7:13 remaining in the game . . . One stats column where the Golden Grizzlies held the advantage was in steals, where they grabbed 13 away from the Spartans.



Michigan State University

Scoring Leaders
Drew Neitzel- 21 points
Marquise Gray-14 points

Rebounding Leader Marquise Gray- 12 rebounds

Game Notes

Neitzel added an additional seven assists to his 21 point game for the Spartans . . . Gray's 12 rebounds and 14 points were career highs for the sophomore forward . . . In the first half, the Spartans cleaned up on the defensive glass, out-rebounding the Grizzlies 16-6 . . . Michigan State had some help from their bench, as they contributed 20 points to the win. . . MSU went 13-16 from behind the charity stripe . . . Even though it was Thanksgiving break, the Breslin Center was still a rather full house, as 14,759 fans packed the arena to cheer the teams on.

The Oakland team is a very good team. I watched them against Pittsburgh and Duquesne and they're not what they were in the first half and I don't know what we are right now.

-MSU Head Coach Tom Izzo