

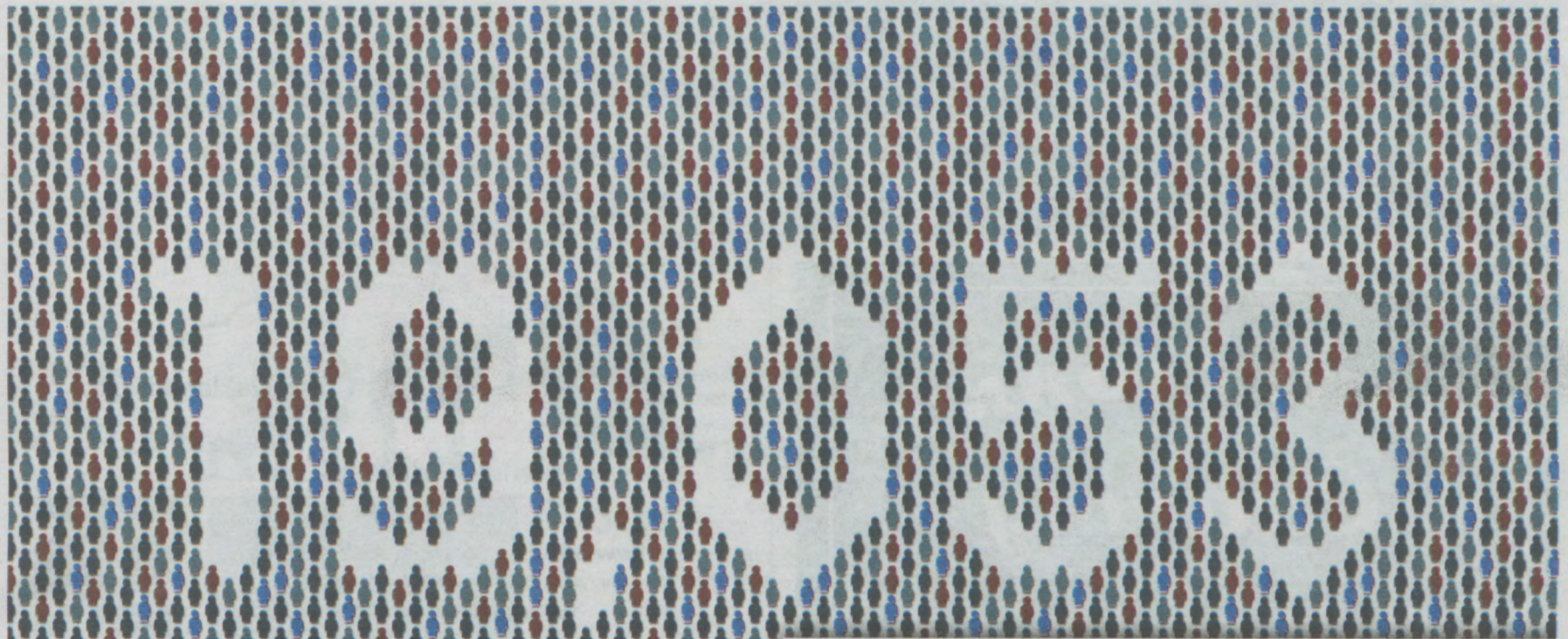
THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

October 6, 2010

www.oaklandpostonline.com

Volume 37 // Issue 9



students ... and counting

What does higher enrollment mean for everyone on campus?

pages 6 and 7



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Local marathon
comes full circle
at OU's campus
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FEATURES

Technology keeps
potential drivers
at home

page 17



THE SCENE

City guide highlights
the best of downtown
Birmingham

page 18



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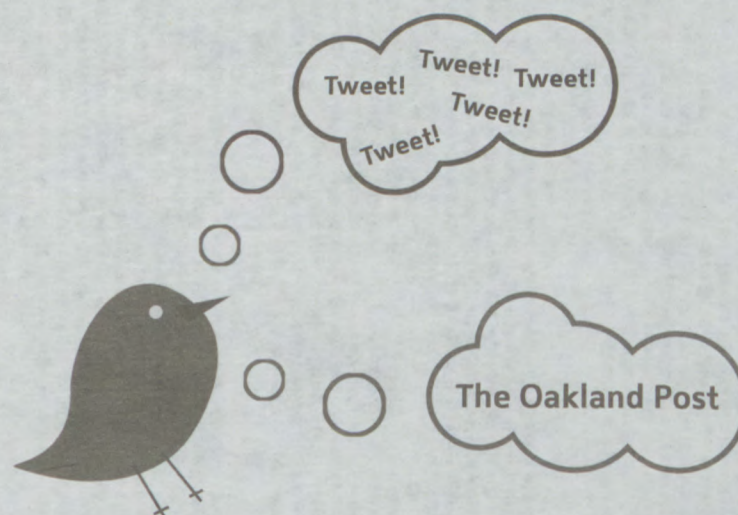


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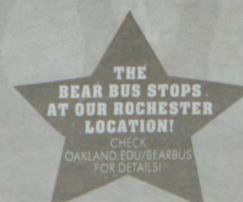
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October 6 - October 12, 2010



Stay tuned on Oct. 20 for a special section on Detroit and the local film industry.

THE OAKLAND POST

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STAFF EDITORIAL

The Oakland Post earns eleven awards, seeks student opinions

Every year, The Oakland Post submits entries to the Michigan Press Association, a trade association consisting of nearly 320 in-state newspapers.

In the 2010 College Contest, The Post won eleven awards, including first place in general excellence, in Division II, which consists of weekly student newspapers at four-year universities.

Additionally, The Post took first, second and third place in the column-writing category, with a variety of submissions.

Former reporter Jennifer Wood's column, "Survivor's recovery begins with the right resources" and Local Editor Annie Stodola's piece entitled "Organ donation affects more than just the ill," took first and third place, respectively, with their from the heart stories of personal tragedy. Second place winner "Having ha-has about ta-tas," by former Mouthing Off editor Dan Simons, took a humorous approach to cancer awareness promotion.

March's center feature documenting the men's basketball team's victory at the Summit League Tournament, "Oakland of Champions," designed by Jason Willis

and written by former Sports Editor Dan Fenner, won first place for sports page design.

"Courtroom to dorm room," an investigative report by former reporter Mas Rahman on Micah Fialka-Feldman's quest for campus residency, also took first place.

The Post also earned recognition for the following articles:

- Fenner's "Racking up school records" and former reporters Sean Garner and Zach Hallman's "Grizzlies on the Gridiron" recieved second place and an honorable mention, respectively, in the sports/news features category.

- "No confidence in vote," penned by former Editor-in-Chief Colleen J. Miller, took third place in editorial writing.

- Former Ads manager Mallory Lapanowski's house ad entry won first place.

- Rahman's "Addict hits 'rock bottom'" won second place in feature stories.

Last year, The Post won a total of five awards in addition to a General Excellence nod.

This time around, judges praised The Post because it "stood out due to its use of

graphics and eye-catching design."

We hope our paper stands out even more this year after completely overhauling design and layouts that had gone unchanged for many years.

But while we appreciate the feedback of the judges, we're more interested in hearing from our readers. It's your turn to critique us.

What are we doing right? What can we do better? What big stories are we missing? What would you like to see more of? What could you stand to see less of?

The aforementioned stories are your stories too. And with over 19,000 students currently enrolled at OU, we now have more stories to tell than ever.

Please comment on our website and our Facebook page. Direct message us on Twitter. E-mail us. Or if social media isn't your thing, send us an old-fashioned letter or stop by our office.

We're always here, constantly looking to find ways we can improve. And though we respect the opinion of MPA judges, we want to hear directly from the students we're serving.

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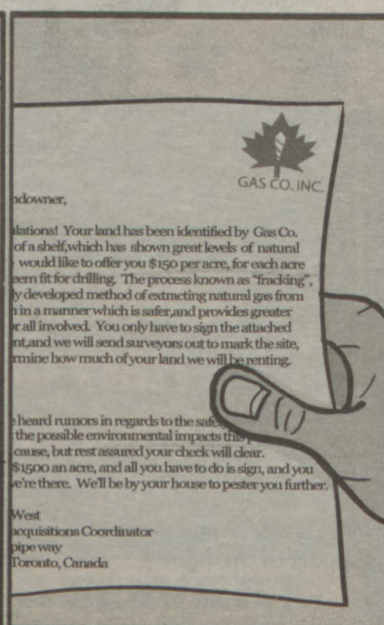
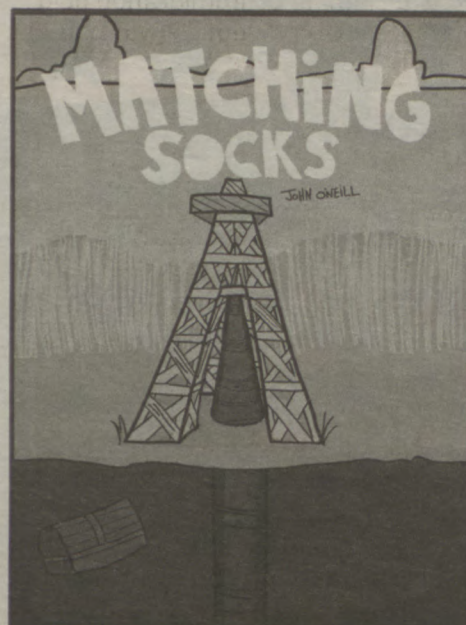
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Letter Policy:

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



Swapping books and getting votes

An update on what OUSC has been up to and what they have in store

September was quite the month for Oakland University Student Congress. Take a look at what we've done the last few weeks:

Welcome Week events. More than 200 students showed up to our OUSC bonfire to support and get people pumped up for the upcoming men's and women's soccer games. Attendees received what we like to think is a pretty sweet giveaway: Oakland Futbol T-shirts — this is a new phrase we hope will become a trend. Just two days later was a men's and women's doubleheader in which we gave out free vuvuzela horns to the first 200 students. We would like to hope that this obnoxious amount of noise somewhat helped in the men's team winning in overtime.

students to vote. Our Legislative Affairs Committee worked hard to get as many students registered to vote as possible. In just a few short weeks, we were able to get hundreds of students registered. Now is the time to educate students about the candidates and issues coming up in the very soon election.

swap program. This has already been a huge success on campus,



Brandon Gustafson and Amy Ring
OUSC Student Body President and Vice President

and it honestly came as quite a surprise to achieve this early in the year. A student from University of Michigan-Dearborn graciously contacted all of the public universities in Michigan asking if we would like to accept his offer of creating a free book swap program for the school. With the interest of potentially saving money for students, we quickly hopped on board. The site, www.oaklandbookswap.org, is up and running, already with several pages of books waiting to be swapped.

stages of a movie rental program. This was an initiative brought to us by student Dave Thompson. He told us that he would really like to see some sort of movie rental program on campus. We thought this was a great idea, and scheduled a meeting with University Housing to see if we

could work something out. We soon saw that when it comes to movies, there are a lot of different copyright issues, so we brainstormed about how we could get around this. Two ideas are at hand right now, and ideally we would like to instill both. The first is the idea of installing a centralized location such as the OC. The other is a movie donation program that would be focused in the residence halls in which students would donate old movies for other students to rent out. We will keep you posted on this initiative.

University of Michigan student body president. The news has been covering the story like crazy, and it was important to us that congress quickly act in support of Chris Armstrong, U-M's first openly gay student body president who has been publicly attacked for his sexuality by Michigan's Assistant Attorney General Andrew Shirvell. OUSC passed a resolution Monday showing our support for Armstrong's case. Other university student governments are considering following suit. All local media have been notified of this decision.

cardboard cutouts. For those of

you who don't know, we have ridiculous cardboard cutouts of ourselves to promote OUSC initiatives and events. Unfortunately, we were found in a pine tree by the residence halls. Thank you, Missy Degrandis and Kyle Minton for your assistance in finding us and assuring our safe return. You will soon again see our cardboard cutout proudly standing in various locations around campus, possibly alongside a security guard to ensure this does not happen again.

These are the main things we have been doing. Here is what is to come:

Tailgate 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8, at the patio by the Grizz Statue. Free food and hot pink OUSC headbands. The women's volleyball game starts at 7 p.m.

Oct. 12 in the fireside lounge. Can't make it to an OUSC meeting on Mondays? Want to meet those who represent you and care about student issues? This is your chance. We would love to chat with you and hear about the topics you think are important to tackle before the end of the academic year.

Wednesdays at noon on WXOU 88.3 FM. Tune in to hear weekly OUSC and university updates.

date is yet to be determined.

As always, feel free to stop by our office at 62 Oakland Center or e-mail us with questions, comments and concerns. You can oakland.edu



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PERSPECTIVES ONLINE

Letter to the Editor: A Rochester Hills resident says the debate on immigration held at OU on Sept. 27 was one-sided.



www.oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Do you use a Bridge Card?

yes — 2 (8%)

no — 24 (92%)

CURRENT POLL // Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

Do you think your ability to learn has ever been affected by the number of students in the class?

yes

no

CORRECTIONS CORNER

In last week's story "Exploring human rights growth," we reported that the PS 114 class taught by Laura Landolt is "introduction to world politics." The actual name of the course is "issues in world politics."

The photos that ran with "Behind 'The Social Network'" were provided courtesy of Columbia Tristar Marketing Group, Inc.

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact.

If you know of an error, please e-mail managing@oaklandpostonline.com or call 248.370.2537.

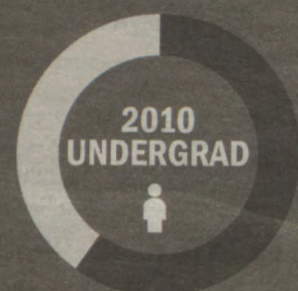
You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

Enrollment exceeds 19K

Record growth raises new concerns about campus preparedness

2010 TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

Information from OU Office of Institutional Research and Assessment



Female - 9,347 - 60.2%
Male - 6,183 - 39.8%
Total - 15,530



Female - 2,336 - 66.3%
Male - 1,187 - 33.7%
Total - 3,523

TOTAL 19,053

By KAY NGUYEN
Editor-in-Chief

A growing campus comes with higher expenses, but at some point it may also infringe on the higher education experience.

History was made when the largest Oakland University undergraduate class entered classrooms on and off campus this fall.

Since its humble beginnings in 1959, when a complete fall headcount reported 570 OU students, the university has grown to accommodate an all-time high of 19,053 students in 2010.

"As a person who is responsible, I was pleased to see overall that we are up," said Mary Beth Snyder, vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. "It's a modest increase, but it shows the strength of Oakland in attracting very good students."

Each year, the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment or OIRA collects information about the demographics of the school. This year's headcount was completed Sept. 23.

"Any growth is a good rate because if we're not growing, we're dying," Mick Ide, a groundskeeper and 1999 grad, said. "I am very pleased to see the university growing as such a rate."

Counting it out

In addition to the record-breaking enrollment numbers that increased 1.7 percent from last year, there was an 8.8 percent rise in transfer students.

The Office of the Registrar has a specific team whose goal is to assist transfer students with a smoother transition into OU and offers programs like the upcoming transfer student orientation scheduled for Oct. 28.

"I think the economy is a factor in the growth we've seen in transfers," Snyder said. "What I believe is happening is that families are deciding that they can afford a community college for two years ... they're economizing."

She said that transfer requirements have

been articulated to area feeder schools like Macomb and Oakland Community Colleges "quite well" and thinks OU "will see increased numbers of transfer students over the next few years."

The transfer team won an award this year from the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

More students, presence

In addition to the economic trends noted for the increase in transfer students, Snyder also believes that a higher number of scholarship students is a reason enrollment numbers are going up. She said this adds to a "healthy academic reputation."

"It's about quality academic programs that have gained some stature and an unbelievably talented faculty," Oakland director of media relations Ted Montgomery said.

Three years ago, the scholarship policy was changed so that scholarships could be guaranteed for four years as long as the student met academic eligibility. OU's offer is unlike many other colleges, Snyder said.

Chemistry professor Joel Russell has been teaching at OU for many years and has seen a steady increase in class size, but said they have not yet reached full capacity.

Jim Zentmeyer, director of University Housing, said the increased numbers bode well "to the concept that something very special is going on at OU."

"The OU student is coming to campus stronger, better prepared and in a position to seek the most out of their education," Zentmeyer said. "That will have a solid impact on retention numbers so that a student that comes to OU is able to succeed at OU."

There is no indication thus far of a rise in retention or graduation rates over the span of enrollment growth, according to data presented by the OIRA.

Though admissions standards are not rising, Zentmeyer and Snyder said that the quality of incoming students is going up. That is true, as the OIRA reports that this year's incoming class had an average high school grade point average of 3.3 and the average ACT score was 22.4, up from last

year's average of 22.

"The university's strategic goal is to grow, but it's equally important that we grow in a way that increases the academic profile," said Eleanor Reynolds, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and director of undergraduate admissions.

Russell said he feels students are coming in less prepared because more students are being admitted and the amounts in which average scores are going up is so small that it is "not detectable."

In 1982, the school adopted a 'vision statement' to better spell out its role in Michigan higher education. One of the components is the "2020 Vision," which lists the goals the university wants to achieve by the year 2020.

An aspect of the plan that has come under some scrutiny is the hope that "future growth and enrollment will continue toward a 25,000 student target, with growth also in faculty, staff, campus and student services, and technology enhancements."

As OU Student Congress student services director, Brett McIsaac must create projects and present solutions to concerns raised by students. He hopes that more students on campus will mean that more of the initiatives proposed by the Congress will be implemented.

"We will adjust our services accordingly as (larger) numbers come," McIsaac, a junior biomedical engineering major, said. "There is no need to adjust now and we will just have to expand if we want more students."

To McIsaac, the university's 2020 goal will put OU above its competitors, which he said seems to be Grand Valley State University in terms of admissions requirements and size.

Reynolds said OU now has a more well-known presence in surrounding communities and around the state.

"It's fun to go into communities and find out they know who and where we are," Reynolds said. "We're targeting students in a strategic way."

Continued on page 7

TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

1998-2010 (Undergraduate and Graduate)

Information from OU Office of Institutional Research and Assessment



14,289	14,726	15,235	15,875	16,059	16,576	16,902	17,339	17,737	18,082	18,169	18,920	19,053
'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10

ENROLLMENT

continued from page 6

Reynolds and McIsaac believe that Oakland will become a destination that will begin to contend with traditional in-state, first-choice schools.

"Growth is good for the university because it makes us a lot more comparable to U of M and State," McIsaac said.

The number of campus tours given on weekdays has doubled and Reynolds said Saturday tours are also filled with prospective students and their families.

Snyder said that while she can't promise it will be true, she thinks 25,000 students is "an attainable goal" and that "in time, Oakland will be that size."

"With the economy and changing demographics, we'll probably meet that in the next five years," she said.

Brandon Hanna, a sophomore majoring in biology, serves as the Student Activities Funding Board Chair. The SAFB divides student activities money between over 200 student organizations.

"There has definitely been an increase already in the number of student organizations," said Hanna, who took on the job at the end of August.

According to Russell, the university will probably hire more part-time faculty to meet the higher demand as more students come in.

"Having a lot of part-time faculty short-changes the student," said Russell, who explained that because most part-time faculty will work at multiple institutions and therefore not be focused on OU, the "quality of faculty will go down for students."

He also said the ability to have a say in academic governance would be hindered as more part-time faculty members are hired.

Pressure on Housing

Jacqui Stephens, a junior majoring in

communication, has lived on campus since she began taking classes, and believes OU is growing too quickly.

Stephens is one of many students who applied for a single room and did not get assigned one due to an increase in housing contracts and said OU should "get more dorm rooms" and "expand to meet demand."

She also said she enjoys partaking in the "campus experience" and the convenience of not having to commute, but does not get along well with others in close quarters. Stephens believes her chances of ever securing a single room now are even smaller due to increased enrollment.

"If they expanded more, they would have more singles," Stephens said. "How are enrollment increases making things better on this small campus?"

Zentmeyer admitted that the increase "has definitely put some limitations on us as far as flexibility."

Along with the thirteenth straight year of enrollment increases, the squeeze on limited campus housing has also been tightened as the number of housing contracts near the maximum number of beds on campus and waiting lists are implemented.

"There was a 9 to 10 percent increase in housing contracts from last year," Zentmeyer said, noting that enrollment grew by 1.7 percent over the same period. "We are seeing a greater growth in housing (interest) that's outpacing enrollment."

Turning single rooms into doubles maximized campus housing and rooms that could accommodate three were used to do so, much to the ire of students like Stephens.

Zentmeyer said that housing alternatives were considered and accounted for this year, though every student who applied ended up receiving an on-campus housing assignment.

Snyder said OU has "definitely planned to expand housing to meet the demand." Last summer, a master plan was presented to the Board of Trustees for a new housing

complex that would create apartment-style living for about 400 students.

The project has not gone back to the board for approval yet, but Snyder is hoping it will be done some time within the next year.

Zentmeyer said any additional building would take cooperation from "the entire university" because the housing department is self-supporting and does not receive money from general funds.

"It would be housing's responsibility to fund that debt," Zentmeyer said.

The proposal was tabled last November due to that very issue, since the construction would cost around \$28 million.

"We won't ever become a big residential campus, but I do foresee the day where we have about 4,000 out of 25,000 living on campus," Snyder said. "That is still critical math for student involvement and school spirit."

A parking problem

Parking is another constant student concern as more students come to campus.

"Parking is going to be even more screwed," said Emily Cutlip, a junior English major. "OU is a great place to go, but that was the first thing I thought of when enrollment went up."

As a commuter, Hanna said he makes sure he arrives on campus early to avoid fighting for parking.

However, he said he does understand the discontentment voiced by those who attend afternoon classes because it is the busiest time.

"Physical facilities must go along with the growth," professor Russell said. "We might not be able to adequately serve students without additional money since more students mean more expenses."

Ide said he sees plenty of spaces available on any given day and said that turf parking prepared by Grounds and Maintenance before the beginning of the 2010-11 school year

was never utilized.

McIsaac, who spearheaded the creation of the Bear Bus parking shuttle, said there is no parking issue according to data collected by the OU Police Department.

"There hasn't been a time when all parking was at full capacity, and that's just counting spots in concrete parking lots," McIsaac said.

The program is currently being expanded, he said.

Covering new ground

Ide's largest concern is the ability of grounds and maintenance workers to keep up with the physical growth of the campus as new buildings and parking lots are added.

"It is getting harder and harder to cover all areas with existing personnel as we're adding buildings and parking lots," said Ide, who is the vice president of the Campus Maintenance and Trade union.

He said that work is still getting done, however, even with it being "tougher to get everything cleaned off in time for students, faculty and staff to arrive."

Though many cringe at the thought of having to compete with more students for seemingly scarce resources like parking or housing, administrators and students are seeing it as a positive thing for campus life.

"Students are becoming much more involved," Zentmeyer said of students living on campus. "It's more of a desired location now."

"We will need to spend more money on organizations, but membership will hopefully be increased too," Hanna said. "It works both ways and I do think that increased enrollment means increased involvement."

Snyder said she believes as more people live on a campus, the more active campus life becomes.

"Even if you commute, OU is like being at a university in almost every aspect," Cutlip said. "I definitely think this could bring more to campus activities."

Police Files

Missing "Bear Bus Stop" sign

On Monday, Sept. 27 OUPD was notified that a sign denoting a stop for the Bear Bus was taken from P-11. The sign is valued at \$50 and is believed to have been taken sometime between Sept. 24 and Sept. 27.

Missing hubcap

On Tuesday, Sept. 28 a student reported a missing hubcap from her vehicle in P-35.

The hubcap was missing from the driver's side of the vehicle and the student is certain it was stolen as she inspects her vehicle on a regular basis. There are no suspects at this time.

Assault and battery

Tuesday, Sept. 28 OU officers responded to an assault and battery in progress at Hamlin Hall. Two females were reported to be fighting with another woman in one of the residence rooms. There was no one present at the residence when officers arrived.

Upon access, the officers noted brown hair on the floor. The officers advised the hall RA to notify OUPD when the residents returned. When interviewed, the three women involved said there was a verbal argument that escalated into a physical fight. Minor injuries were noted but no medical attention was needed.

Larceny in SEB

On Thursday, Sept. 30 an employee filed a police report regarding a possible breaking and entering to her office located in Science and Engineering Building. The woman reported the movement of some desk contents as well as the possibility of missing money. The investigation is ongoing.

— Compiled by Jen Bucciarelli,
Assistant Campus Editor

Spirit sails as WOCOU nears

By JAKE THIELEN
Staff Reporter

The Week of Champions at Oakland University runs from Monday, Oct. 11 until Friday, Oct. 15.

Center for Student Activities director Jean Ann Miller said that the annual Week of Champions is a spirit week that takes the place of homecoming, since OU does not have a football team.

"Part of it's an introduction to the basketball season with the Grizz Madness, but it also is just a reflection of spirit, about people who are champions on this campus," Miller said.

The week-long celebration kicks off with Matilda Wilson's 127th Birthday Bash, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 11. The Birthday Bash will feature JD's dueling pianos, as well as free food and giveaways.

WOCOU culminates with OU Grizz Madness at 8 p.m. on Oct. 15. Grizz Madness is the kickoff party for the men's and women's basketball teams. Oct. 15 is the first day that college basketball teams are allowed to hold practices under NCAA rules.

This year's Grizz Madness offers a lot

more than just the chance to watch basketball practice.

"It's like a big student, faculty, staff, alumni get-together to support the athletic department, because they're a huge contribution to this campus and campus life," Miller said.

At 8:30 p.m., there will be a block party in P-16 featuring free food, a DJ and performances by OU's cheer and dance teams.

The pep rally for the athletic teams begins at 10 p.m. in the O'Rena. Students can enter to win one of two tuition awards for the winter semester. Students must be present to win the awards.

At 11 p.m., the finals of the Grizz Gang and Buffalo Wild Wings Blazin' Challenge will take place. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card to Buffalo Wild Wings, and second place will receive \$50.

Students can register for the contest from noon to 1 p.m. on Oct. 13 in the Oakland Center food court. The elimination round is scheduled to take place from noon to 1 p.m. on Oct. 14, in the area between North and South Foundation halls.

Miller said CSA will also be trying to start a new tradition on campus called "Guard the OU Sail," to discourage students from walk-

ing on the sail on the sidewalk in between the Foundation halls during WOCOU.

"It's like sacred ground," Miller said. "We want students to start thinking about that, as to not walk on it."

Several student organizations are hosting WOCOU events as well.

The Student Program Board will be presenting "Coming Out with the Real World," an interactive discussion panel on tolerance and LGBT culture which features three former cast members of MTV's "The Real World." The event will be held on Oct. 11, which is National Coming Out Day, from 7-9 p.m. at Meadow Brook Theatre.

SPB will also be hosting a talent show, "OU's Got Talent," which is scheduled to be held on Oct. 12. From 8-11 p.m. at Meadow Brook Theatre. The winner will take home a grand prize valued at \$1,000.

The Gender and Sexuality Center will be hosting Women's Wednesdays, an event aimed at dispelling the myths about lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, on Oct. 13 from noon to 1 p.m. in Fireside Lounge.

All WOCOU events are free and open to all students. For a complete list of WOCOU events, visit the CSA website at www.oakland.edu/csa

New athletic program to promote reading

By JEN BUCCIARELLI
Assistant Campus Editor

Both the OU men's and women's basketball teams have partnered with the Auburn Hills Public Library for a new program, the Grizz Reading Club, that kicked off last week.

Initiated by Kate Boylan, coordinator of athletic promotions at OU, the program is geared toward encouraging students from first grade through eighth grade to read.

The club kicked off last Wednesday at the Auburn Hills Public Library. More than half of the estimated 70 guests were children eager to sign up for the program.

As a motivation to read, the OU Athletic Department has promised to give students two

free tickets to the O'Rena for select basketball games this season upon completion of four novels of choice.

One can join the program by visiting the youth desk at the Auburn Hills Public Library and asking for the Grizz Club bookmark. Students must be in the first through eighth grade, and the club is open to all schools.

Each participant receives a Grizz Club bookmark that will be used to keep track of the four books.

The books are referred to as a free throw for the first, a jump shot for the second, a layup for completing three and a slam dunk for the final book.

Once the students have completed a bookmark with the list of their four novels, the bookmark needs to be turned in to

the Auburn Hills Public Library.

Upon verification of completion, the student's bookmark will be sent to the OU Athletic Department, who will send the tickets and any other information to the recipients.

Students can complete the program as many as eight times during the season.

Other prizes to acknowledge accomplishment include a Golden Grizzlies autographed poster, a voucher for a free hot dog and beverage at a game as well as the official Golden Grizzlies T-shirt.

All Grizz Reading Club participants will also be recognized on the arena video board at half time during select games as well as a special ceremony from center court and a fan tunnel experience too.

All children participating will also have the chance to be entered in the grand prize drawing. The winner will receive a guest appearance at the student's school, by an OU basketball team member. Winners will be announced on Feb. 17.

The Grizz Reading Club will run through the month of February and Boylan hopes it will be a program that OU and the AHPL can continue in the future.

"This has really turned into a great partnership with the Auburn Hills Public Library," Boylan said. "OU Athletics looks forward to a great year of continued work together for the youth of the community."

For more information, please contact the Auburn Hills Public Library.

What employers really look for

By KAITLYN CHORNOBY

Campus Editor

Hoping to recruit college students, several employers visited Oakland University and Lawrence Tech during the Fall Career Fair and the Tech X 2 Expo and accepted résumés and interviews from interested students.

For recruiters looking to hire, a student's marketability stretches beyond a well-presented résumé.

Chris Buchanan, a technical recruiter for Computer and Engineering Services, Inc., said he does not focus on looking for résumés, but rather talking to students to find out about their background and what the individual is looking for in a career.

"Unfortunately, there is not a résumé clearing house where all these students can do and learn how to make a super-star resume," said Buchanan. "We get feedback a lot from our client customers on what they like to see on résumés, so I'm constantly sharing that feedback."

Buchanan said he constantly works with candidates to improve résumés.

Buchanan said freshmen and sophomores would benefit from learning about how recruiting processes work before senior year, even if they don't offer a resume to employers at the job fairs. He encourages students to learn about the "hidden job market" as they continue through college.

"I wish Lawrence Tech and OU didn't have class today so that every single (student) can come," Buchanan said.

Offering full time employment for sales associates at OU's Fall Career Fair, Aflac recruiters were pleased with the amount of student interest they received.

"When students take initiative to build a connection, it impresses me and I like to return their hard work with support however possible," said Miranda Azzam, a college recruiter for Aflac.

Azzam said although every hiring manager has their own criteria, job related experience, a high GPA and chosen academic classes play a role in giving a student an advantage when applying for positions.

Aflac recruiters look for behavioral competencies that parallel with Aflac's culture and individuals who have a genuine passion to help and serve the company and community. Aflac also encourages students to use classroom projects as a means of learning more about employers and to shadow pro-

fessionals in their field of interest.

Ryan Kramer, a recruiter for Compuware attending the Tech X 2 expo, stressed the importance of first impressions.

Kramer said a potential employee's presented confidence level, handshake and attire speak to recruiters before a résumé is handed over.

Kramer said he first asks himself if he can see the individual working in the Compuware field and if they initially present themselves as an employee before an interview is conducted.

To help assist students preparing to apply for employment, OU Career Services offers many workshops and has consultants available for students.

Carol Anne Ketelsen, a career consultant at the Career Services office, works with students to improve their résumés, conduct mock interviews and eventually apply for an internship.

Ketelsen said OUCS works with the Advising Resource Center (ARC) to initially find out what a student excels at in their major. Once a major is declared, students can turn to career advising to bring a broad major down to a specific area.

OUCS offers résumé guides and information on their site, but students can make an appointment with a consultant to sit down and work on making it as professional as possible.

"It's not an autobiography," said Ketelsen. "It's supposed to be a snippet of your life, looking at the most important things."

Consultants also help students get internships to put on their résumé. OUCS works hand-in-hand with the academic departments to try to get students something in the field — paid or unpaid.

"Not only does an internship help you decide what you want to do, but really what you don't want to do," Ketelsen said.

Ketelsen said whether an internship is paid or unpaid, multiple internships and a variety of experience stands out to employers.

OUCS offers mock interviews, where students arrive at a certain time dressed professionally with their resume. Students are asked questions similar to what they may experience in a real interview.

After the interview, consultants will discuss with the student about the positives and offer constructive criticism. Advisors look at attire, non-verbal communication, handshake and eye contact as well as the



BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post
The "So You Think You Can Dress" fashion show showcased professional attire. The show was held on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

résumé and quality of answers.

"If somebody doesn't tell you (that) you spoke too quickly, or you're wiggling all over the place, or you didn't have good eye contact... an employer is not going to say, 'Here's why I'm not going to hire you,'" said Ketelsen.

OUCS hosts specialized workshops and information sessions. They also bring in companies, including the Peace Corps and BMW, who want to come to campus and talk about the company to build up momentum and get students excited.

Ketelsen said students should focus on getting involved at OU and in the community, in addition to working internships.

"Somebody who's gotten a 4.0 and has done nothing but school is not near as marketable as somebody who did a 3.5 or a 3.0, got experience (and) was involved on campus and in their community," said Ketelsen.

Students can call the reception desk to set up an appointment with a career consultant and visit www.oakland.edu/careerservices for additional information.

The English department is hosting a career fair for English majors on Wednesday, Oct. 13 in Lake Superior B in the Oakland Center. The event runs from 4-5:30 p.m.

campus briefs

Go for the Gold

High school seniors thinking of enrolling to Oakland University have a chance to learn about what it's like to attend OU through the Go for the Gold program.

The program, which is set from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 9, will include information about admissions, requirements, orientation, next steps, housing and campus life.

To register, use the online reservation system or call 800-OAK-UNIV.

Issues, campaigns and election

Oakland University's Office of Government Relations is sponsoring a forum and candidate reception for Issues, Campaigns and Election 2010. The event is set for 1-6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 8, in the Oakland Center.

The forum seeks to educate the community about voting preparations, the continuing state budget crisis, higher education concern and campaign politics.

Company performance

The Department of Music, Theatre and Dance will be putting on a performance of the musical Company. The showtimes are on Thursday, Oct. 7, at 8 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 8, at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 9, at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 14, at 8 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 15, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 16, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 17, at 2 p.m.

Both showings on Saturday, Oct. 16 feature shadow-signed performances by Terp Theatre. Performances are in Varner Studio Theatre. Admission is \$17 for general audiences, \$9 for students and all 10 a.m. matinee shows.

Compiled by Peter Behnke,
Staff Intern



Photo by BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

Recent Brooksie Way marathon promotes healthy living and draws large crowds to Oakland's campus

By **ROSS MAGHIELSE**
Sports Editor

Oakland University hosted the third running of the Brooksie Way Half Marathon and 5K Sunday, with the race starting off Walton Boulevard near Adams Road and finishing in front of Meadow Brook Hall.

The race was started in 2008 by Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, in memory of his late son Brooks Stuart Patterson, or "Brooksie" as he was often called, who died in an accident in 2007.

Oakland has hosted the race in all three years of its existence and saw the largest crowd in race history — nearly 5,000 people — pour onto campus for the event last weekend.

"The Brooksie Way is growing in popularity and is evolving into an event that many Oakland County citizens now automatically put on their calendars every fall," Oakland University President Dr. Gary Russi said. "It's just another of the many ways that Brooks (Patterson) has helped to improve the quality of life for Oakland County residents."

Patterson said he created the race to "promote healthy lifestyles" in Oakland County and is pleased with the development of the race.

"It's started to take root in the community," Patterson said. "The first year (2008) we didn't know what to expect and then 4,000 people showed up on race day. Oakland University has been a great host to us over the years and holding the race there lines up perfectly. They can handle the crowd and we get good support from the cross country teams at OU and the personnel there and

then we give a donation as well."

Dr. Russi also added that hosting the race at OU allows the university to showcase itself and become more involved with the community.

"Other than the obvious fact that our campus provides a picturesque setting for the start and finish of the Brooksie Way Half Marathon, it also demonstrates our deep level of support for Brooks Patterson's commitment to encourage Oakland County citizens to become more physically active," Russi said.

"The first year (2008) we didn't know what to expect and then 4,000 people showed up on race day."

— **L. Brooks Patterson,**
Oakland County Executive

Winning the race this year was 29-year-old Howell resident Leo Foley with a time of 1:14:33. Foley ran collegiately at Aquinas College and starred in high school at Flint Powers Catholic.

"The hills are a lot better when you're fit, which I'm not, so it was kind of brutal for me out there today," Foley said between deep breaths after he crossed the finish line. "That first long hill on the seventh mile (on Tienken Road) was tough, I was kind of done after that and just tried to keep the pace and survive from there."

Foley uses the Brooksie Way as a training exercise for the Philadelphia Marathon

in November and said he plans on running in the event for years to come.

"It's a good race, and they do a good job organizing it and I like the course," Foley said. "I've run it all three years and it's been fun so I mine as well just keep going with it."

Among the biggest concerns voiced about the race in years past have been in regards to the numerous road closures it causes Sunday morning. Race director Deb Kiertzner and other members of the race team said they have taken continuous steps to improve traffic issues.

"Traffic issues have been the biggest concern for us in doing this and we've continued to work with the people living in those areas of the course," Kiertzner said. "A major challenge has been with people trying to get to church Sunday morning and we've worked with every church on the course to find alternate ways for people to get there and the overall reception has been good. A lot of the churches on the course that were concerned about the event a couple years ago are now setting up water stations for the race, so the community as a whole has really bought in."

Kiertzner also praised OU as a great venue for the event.

"I can't say enough about our partnership with OU, the folks there have been wonderful to work with," Kiertzner said. "So many people from the Oakland community get involved and do a great job. We have the cross country teams, sororities and the staff from the rec center all helping out. The finish line by Meadow Brook gives us plenty of room and it's just the perfect setting to end the race."

Oakland's campus also hosted an expanded post-race celebration featuring a variety of food vendors, live music and family entertainment.

"We wanted to create an event with an atmosphere where families can come out and enjoy their afternoon instead of just coming for the race and then going home right after," Patterson said of the expanded post-race area set up near Meadow Brook Hall.

"It's expanding every year. We've added a lot to the post-race festivities where families can come out and enjoy live music, bring their kids to all the different carnival-type games we've added this year and enjoy the increased amount of vendors. This event is meant to be for the community so we're always looking for ways to make it more enjoyable for people and I think the community has bought in big time. People are throwing parties in their backyards for this now and we've had great support in terms of volunteers."

Patterson also set up the Brooksie Way Mini-grant Program, which takes the revenue generated from the race and puts it back into health and fitness programs throughout Oakland County.

"We set up the Brooksie Mini-grants as a way to find great fitness and health programs going on in the community and to generate funding for those programs," Patterson said. "This whole event is about helping people in our community live healthy lifestyles and those mini-grants are designed to help better those opportunities."

This year, a total of \$10,600 was generated for 11 different fitness projects in Oakland County.



Photos by BRETT SOCIA/The Oakland Post

Top: Onlookers cheer on runners competing in the Brookside Way Half Marathon as they cross the finish line. Below: Shane Logan of Pontiac, Mich., added his own challenge to the race by drinking a beer at every mile marker.

Runner pops top at every mile

By EMMY LUCAS
Contributing Reporter

Running 13.1 miles is a daunting task for the average person. Shane Logan, 32, of Pontiac, Mich., added his own challenges to that task when he participated in the Brookside Way Half Marathon Sunday.

While most runners wait for the water station to hydrate, Logan, who refers to himself as "Big Daddy" and even registered under the alias, opted for his own kind of energy boost — a can of Bud Light at every mile.

Logan's inspiration to attempt the 13 beers in 13 miles challenge came after reading an article of another runner that accomplished the feat in a time of approximately four hours. Logan said he knew he could beat it, and set out to achieve his goal this past Sunday.

Donning a bright orange hat, Logan was hard to miss out front as he held a large lead through the first mile before peeling off to the side for his first of 13 beer stops right after the one-mile mark. Logan was still in the thick of things at the second mile marker but his frequent stops eventually dropped him out of sight and allowed fellow runner and friend, Leo Foley of Howell, to pull away with the win.

Logan said his goal was to "Go out in the lead and drink a beer at every mile."

In the early stages of the race, Logan could be seen trotting backward and chatting with fellow runners, a plan he had kept to himself once race day grew near.

The beer definitely slowed Logan's pace, and caused him to get sick around the four or five mile mark. Which one it was, Logan understandably could not recall.

"Drinking beer takes time, and it got harder to drink," Logan explained.

Former elite runner and friend of Logan, Mike Franko, rode the course on a bike and carried a backpack full of beer. Franko supplied Logan with each can and served as his designated driver for the ride home.

Poor hydration strategy aside, Logan finished with an impressive time of 1:29:09 and was only a little under 15 minutes behind Foley's winning time of 1:14:33. Logan said he would have beat Foley "No problem" if beer wasn't in the equation.

This was Logan's first time participating in the Brookside Way and he said he hopes to be able to participate in upcoming years, sans the brewski.

Logan currently works as an electrician and has recently returned to school at Oakland Community College, where he runs for the cross country team. As clearly the oldest member of the OCC squad, Logan's teammates simply refer to him only as "Big Daddy."



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For information about other CSA events, visit our website at:

www.oakland.edu/csa

Water polo making a comeback

By RYAN HEGEDUS

Senior Reporter

After an attempt to put together a coed water polo team fell through several years ago, juniors Elizabeth Jacobs and Kristina Cornell jumped at the chance to revitalize the effort this semester.

They succeeded in creating the team and now take on the challenge of garnering student interest and marketing the sport. Through word-of-mouth, fliers around campus and an ad on OUTV, the team hopes its message is heard by fellow water polo enthusiasts at Oakland University.

"We just started meeting with people, so we'll see how it goes," said Cornell, the team's vice president. "Right now, we have about 50 people on our Facebook group and we've had people e-mail us about joining. I would say at least 20 people for sure (are

thinking of joining)."

Funding is another issue for any new club sport, but fortunately the two polo pioneers already have most of their needed equipment.

"Right now, we have minimal funding because we're new, but next semester, we'll get some help," said Jacobs, the team president. "We already have the nets, the balls, the caps, all the equipment and the pool in the Rec Center."

With the team still in a building mode, practices are serving as scrimmages and meetings are taking place poolside. A schedule hasn't been put together yet, but Jacobs has communicated with prospective opponents. The season, once started, would go through the rest of the school year.

"We would play at Oakland and scrimmage against each other. We've been talking to Central (Michigan) and Albion,

schools that have coed teams," Jacobs said.

"We'd like to eventually set up matches and play in tournaments."

The first meeting took place Oct. 5, but there will be meetings every Tuesday and Thursday at the Recreation and Athletic Center from 9-10 p.m.

The desire to play water polo started before Jacobs and Cornell were even students at OU.

"I actually started as an eighth grader on a high school swimming team, and it was just very boring swimming back and forth, so I started playing water polo," Cornell said. "It's very competitive and takes a lot of strategy."

Jacobs also preferred the excitement of water polo as opposed to swimming.

"I swam in high school, but I wanted to find something else to do because I didn't swim all year round," she said. "It takes a lot

of teamwork but you build camaraderie."

For more information, students can contact Jacobs at etjacobs@oakland.edu or join the team's Facebook group, "OU Water Polo."

"Anyone who wants to play can join. We're looking for people who want to come to every practice, people who really love the sport like we do," Cornell said. "We want to continue it after we're gone, not just have it die out after this semester."

SPORTS ONLINE



Look for exclusive online coverage of Wednesday's men's soccer match against No. 1 Akron.

Women's soccer finds early success in Summit League

GAME OF THE WEEK

By TOM BARRY

Staff Reporter

In the classic 1993 film "Groundhog Day," Bill Murray's character is forced to re-live the same day over and over again.

The script could have been rewritten to apply to the Oakland's University women's soccer team as the Golden Grizzlies defeated South Dakota State, 2-1, Sunday at the OU Soccer Field. Oakland (6-4-1, 2-0-0 Summit League) trailed 1-0 early on, but tied the game on a goal from midfielder Nicole DeLuca and later took the lead as forward Serena San Cartier scored.

The result was similar to Friday's match against North Dakota State in Pontiac, as the Grizzlies trailed 1-0, but Cartier evened the score this time and DeLuca put Oakland ahead for good in a 2-1 victory.

"These wins were especially important as South Dakota State and North Dakota State were picked two and three to win the Summit League," Oakland coach Nick O'Shea said. "So to beat them both on the same weekend at the start of conference play, that's huge."

South Dakota State (6-2-3, 1-1-0) struck first with a goal just 18 seconds into the match when midfielder Tory Schiltgen found forward Danni Healy on a breakaway in the Oakland zone for a 1-0 Jackrabbits lead.

Healy outraced the Oakland defenders from the 18-yard area and the ball just got past Grizzlies goalkeeper Shannon Coley.

However, O'Shea said he didn't need to discuss the mistake with his team. The players fixed it themselves.

"They knew they messed up," O'Shea said. "They knew that was a mistake and they didn't need to hear it from (the coaches). They

just went out and carried on with the game plan."

The persistence and patience of the Grizzlies paid off when South Dakota State got whistled for a foul as Oakland midfielder Shannon Doyle was brought down hard to the pitch.

DeLuca was awarded the penalty kick and scored, tying the game at 1-1 in the 38th minute. The goal was DeLuca's sixth of the season and puts her in a tie for first in the Summit League.

Oakland completed its comeback a little more than two minutes later when Kristen Steffes found Cartier on a cross in front of the net. Cartier's goal put the Grizzlies up 2-1 in the 41st minute. It was Cartier's second goal this season. She's now scored in two consecutive games.

O'Shea credited the Grizzlies' deep bench for putting them back in the game.

"When we scored those two

goals, we had made, of the 10 field players that started, we had made eight substitutions," O'Shea said. "So we had eight different players from the start. Shannon Doyle sneaks in and gets the touch that took her out, that's the energy they have."

Despite being outshot, 14-8, Oakland had the better scoring opportunities throughout the game. The Jackrabbits were held to two quality chances in the second half.

Cartier tried to effectively end the game in the 88th minute with another near score, but was met by the Jackrabbits goalie who saved the shot to prevent another score.

In a season of highs and lows for Oakland, it may be coming up on the summit.

The Grizzlies opened the season with a 16-0 win over Rochester College and then proceeded to lose their next four games without

scoring a goal. Since then, Oakland is on a six-game unbeaten streak, having won its last five.

With the weekend sweep, Oakland has now won its first two games in Summit League play with seven more to go.

"Five wins gets you pretty much into that conference tournament," O'Shea said. "We're three wins away from that now with only two games played, so it's extremely important."

Up next for Oakland is a two-game road trip to the southernmost schools in the Summit League. The Grizzlies begin on Friday in Tulsa, Okla., against Oral Roberts, and finish up on Sunday in Shreveport, La., against Centenary.

"We haven't started preparing for (the road trip) yet," O'Shea said. "We're actually going to take a break (and give the players some time off) for a few days and then go back at it."

Local briefs: DSO on strike, Pure Michigan

By ANNIE STODOLA and KAY NGUYEN
Local Editor and Editor-in-Chief

Ford launches online reality show

Ford is launching a reality program called "Focus: Rally America" and is accepting applications from those interested in participating through mid-November.

The show, produced by the same team as "The Amazing Race," will be broadcast via online video site Hulu. With an end goal of winning \$100,000, six teams of two will be partaking in a five-week race.

Ford hopes to market the Focus in a similar fashion to its Fiesta Movement campaign. Those interested can apply at www.focusrally.com. There are also in-person auditions all across the country, but no stops in Detroit.

Ilitch in talks to purchase Pistons

Detroit Pistons owner Karen Davidson has reportedly given Mike Ilitch a 30-day window to complete a deal that would sell the basketball team to Ilitch.

Ilitch is currently the owner of the Detroit Red Wings and the Detroit Tigers, as well as the founder and owner of Little Caesar's.

Ilitch has indicated that part of his reasoning for pur-

chasing the team is to ensure that another potential buyer would not move the Pistons from Detroit.

In a similar situation, the Detroit Shock women's basketball team was purchased and moved to Oklahoma earlier this year.

If the sale was completed, there is speculation that Ilitch would develop a new basketball arena in downtown Detroit, moving the Pistons from their current home at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The details of the potential deal are still in the works, but many local sports experts remain unsure if Ilitch and his family would be able to complete the deal.

Pure Michigan campaign budget cut

Although the Pure Michigan campaign has been evaluated as a success in its efforts to promote Michigan tourism, the state has cut the campaign's budget.

The campaign received \$28 million in 2009, but only received \$17 million this year and will receive \$5.4 million in the fiscal year of 2010-11.

Prior to the cuts, the Pure Michigan series of commercials featured the voice of actor and Michigan native Tim Allen and highlighted tourist spots across the state, including annual festivals and vacation locations.

No new Pure Michigan commercials will be produced

this fall due to the lack of funding.

The campaign has, however, been able to continue to market itself through the sales of a new Pure Michigan merchandise line, carried out by a Grand Rapids corporation.

Organizers are hopeful that the revenue from merchandise sales will generate funding for future Pure Michigan commercials.

While campaign officials said that they are aware the merchandise funding will not entirely sustain Pure Michigan, they hope it will help keep the campaign afloat until the state budget allows funding for the commercials.

The line, which includes apparel and other souvenir items, is available at www.puremichiganstore.org

DSO members go on strike

Musicians from the Detroit Symphony orchestra have been on the picket lines since Monday, Oct. 4. They are protesting a final contract offer that presented a 33 percent wage cut.

Rehearsals for the season's opening concert are slated to begin Oct. 7, but it is unknown whether DSO members will return to their seats in time.

All DSO educational programs and the Paradise Jazz Series will continue in the meantime, according to DSO President Anne Parsons.



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Applications are now available. To learn more, visit oakland.edu/kod or e-mail Bridget Green, assistant director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, at bgreen@oakland.edu.

All applicants must have a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits each term for fall 2011 and winter 2012 (eight credits for graduate students).

Applications are due **Friday, October 15**.



Global News

ON OCTOBER 6 IN HISTORY:

1889 — The Moulin Rouge in Paris opened its doors to the public for the first time.
1890 — Polygamy was outlawed by the Mormon Church.
1928 — War-torn China was reunited under the Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek.
1973 — Syria and Egypt attacked Israel during the Yom Kippur holiday.
1981 — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat was assassinated in Cairo.

1 United States

Faisal Shahzad, the Pakistani immigrant who tried to detonate a car bomb in Times Square, was sentenced to life in prison on Tuesday. U.S. District Judge Miriam Cedarbaum told him she hoped he would use some of his time behind bars thinking carefully about whether the Quran really wants him "to kill lots of people." In June, Shahzad pleaded guilty to charges that carry a mandatory life-term. At sentencing, Shahzad said that, "I'm happy with the deal that God has given me."

2 Hungary

The reservoir of an alumina plant in western Hungary burst on Monday, flooding several towns with red sludge. At least two people have died, seven are missing and several dozen have been injured. The incident affected localities such as Kolontar and Devecser near the plant in the town of Ajka, 100 miles southwest of Budapest. The National Disaster Management Directorate says the sludge, a waste product in aluminum production, contains metals and is toxic if ingested.

3 Pakistan

The Pentagon said on Tuesday that U.S. and NATO forces have killed more than 100 fighters from a Pakistan-based faction of the Taliban over the past two weeks. Pentagon press secretary Geoff Morrell said the killings targeted the Haqqani network in eastern Afghanistan, an Islamist group and offshoot of the Taliban with ties to al-Qaida. The Pentagon has generally been reluctant to provide specific body counts in Afghanistan. The network is considered one of the main threats to U.S. forces in Afghanistan.

4 Brazil

Less than a week after its debut in Brazil, Google Street View has provided viewers with close-up images of dead bodies. One of the images posted last week shows a body covered up and surrounded by blood spots on a busy avenue in Rio de Janeiro. Other sources reported that bodies also showed up in street images of other cities in Brazil. Google said in a statement on Tuesday that "all images of the bodies were removed" from the mapping service.

5 Congo

U.N. and Congolese forces arrested a rebel commander for alleged mass rapes in eastern Congo on Tuesday. The Mai-Mai commander, identified as "Lt. Col." Mayele is suspected of being one of the commanders in the Walikale area July 30 to Aug. 2 when about 250 women were repeatedly gang raped. Margot Wallstrom, responsible for U.N. efforts to combat sexual violence in conflict, called it "a victory for justice, especially for the many women who have suffered rapes and other forms of sexual violence."

6 Indonesia

Flash flooding and mudslides are blamed for at least 56 deaths in a remote corner of eastern Indonesia. Dozens more are missing as rescuers still struggle to reach a hard-hit village in West Papua state. Hundreds of homes were destroyed and officials said that some residents are using their bare hands to search for survivors. Many roads are underwater and areas have been hit by power blackouts, making it difficult for rescue crews to reach the scene.

— Compiled by Rhiannon Zielinski,
Senior Reporter from AP Reports

WORLD IN NUMBERS

16

Percentage of adults in U.S. without health insurance.

26

Percentage of adults in U.S. that have Government health insurance.

45

Percentage of adults in U.S. that have employer-based health insurance.

Gay suicides prompt supporters to speak up

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**
Staff Reporter

In the past three weeks, five gay teens have committed suicide. It's an unfortunate trend among gay teens that has people outraged.

Thirteen-year-old Seth Walsh, 13-year-old Asher Brown and 18-year-old Tyler Clementi are just some of the teenagers whose names are making headlines after taking their own lives as a result of severe harassment from their peers. They are just a few of the teens that have committed suicide in the past three weeks.

Clementi, a freshman at Rutgers University, jumped to his death from the George Washington Bridge after his college roommate posted video of him having a sexual encounter with another man. It is claimed that Clementi's roommate, freshman Dharun Ravi, streamed the video live inviting others to watch the feed from the dorm room.

Brown shot himself after his family said

he was "bullied to death" for being picked on for his small size and accusations of being homosexual. Brown's parents say his death was the result of harassment from students at Hamilton Middle School in Houston.

Walsh died last week after spending nine days on life support from hanging himself. The teen took his own life after enduring relentless bullying.

"It's absolutely devastating to see this happen and in such a short time frame and know that the things that led to these young people killing themselves is allowed to go on," said James Bialk, vice president for the Gay Straight Alliance and work study student for the Gender & Sexuality Center.

The recent suicides have sparked a national debate and awareness about the treatment of gay youth.

"People use the Internet often times anonymously to just vent hatred and their ugliest thoughts and these use it in a way that obviously can turn out to be a tragedy," Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder said.

Recently, there has been a tremendous outreach from celebrities to the gay community.

Ellen DeGeneres spoke to her viewers about the recent deaths, saying, "This needs to be a wake-up call to everyone that teenage bullying and teasing is an epidemic in this country and the death rate is climbing."

For students who are struggling with gender and sexuality issues or feel like they may be a victim of harassment, offices on campus including the Gender and Sexuality Center, the Gay Straight Alliance and the Center for Multicultural Initiatives are open to all students.

"If they're dealing with something that they just need to talk about, we're here to listen and if it's something that they need a little more help with, we have all kinds of references and referrals and be able to find ways to get them help," Bialk said.

The Gender and Sexuality Center offers the S.A.F.E. program (Students, Administrators and Faculty for Equality.)

The S.A.F.E. program is dedicated to

providing support to anyone who is dealing with sexual orientation or gender equality issues. Students who feel that they are being threatened or targeted are encouraged to seek help at any of the campus offices.

"People should let us know if they feel like they are being targeted," Snyder said.

Oakland University is currently dealing with a harassment case in which specific students were targeted on Facebook.

"We're trying to find out who's behind it," Snyder said. "You don't have to look. You don't have to be friends with the individual, and that's where privacy issues get a bit skewed."

Harassment cases on campus are taken very seriously. If the case does not meet the standards for some kind of a misdemeanor or felony charge, the case would go into the school conduct system where the student could be charged with harassment or face expulsion from school.

The GSC can be found in the basement of the Oakland Center or by calling coordinator Melissa Pope at 248-370-4333.

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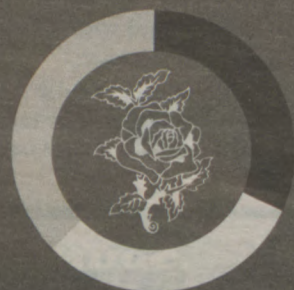
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Tattoo acceptance in the workplace

While some companies are willing to hire people with tattoos, others refuse

TATTOO SURVEY

Out of 100 people surveyed...



- 32 have plans to get tattoos
- 31 have tattoos
- 37 never plan on getting one



- 44 people think that tattoos do not affect getting a job
- 56 people think that tattoos would or could affect getting a job

By JAMIE GASPER
Staff Reporter

Despite the growing popularity among the general public, work places have not really changed their tune.

Junior Jacquelyn Terry has to adhere to a strict dress code even at an entry-level job.

"I work at McDonalds and they have a no tattoo policy," Terry said. "I have to wear a small sleeve to cover the one on my arm and a band aid on the one on my finger."

Starbucks is also strict on appearance standards. The baristas must remove all facial piercings, have no more than two earrings in at a time and cover all tattoos.

"Tattoos have symbolized many things, but responsibility isn't one of them," Dianne Lounsberry, a Starbucks manager, said. "In the work place we want a professional responsible appearance."

Other places taking a strict stand to uphold the polished appearance include Charlotte Russe, Cracker Barrel and Cold Stone Creamery, where men are not permitted to wear earrings, and the women that wear them must make sure they're no larger than a nickel.

However, with strict policies in place for the workplace, it makes one wonder just how the tattoo industry can successfully thrive.

In a poll among Oakland University students, those with no ink were the ones that had the notion that tattoos would negatively affect their career future. Those with tattoos saw no harm in having them.

Despite changing attitudes when it comes to tattoos, poll results show that many still have reserved attitudes toward ink.

One student found them to be a problem when his tattoos cost him a job.

Jordan Tomich, a senior majoring in information technology, has seven tattoos. After an interview for a job, Tomich was denied the position due to his tattoos.

Despite the setback, he said he does not regret getting them because

each one has its own special meaning.

Samantha Rutkowski, a junior, is holding off of tattoos for other reasons.

"I don't have a tattoo because I don't care about anything that much," Rutkowski said. "You have to truly care about something to have it tattooed on your body forever."

A tattoo is a permanent choice that was once very radical.

"I'm not sure what it was like in the past, as far as tattoos and their level of social acceptability, but I can say that it's rare to see an older instructor with one," Jeremy Stephison, writing and rhetoric professor, said. "I don't know if that's any indication, though I imagine it is."

"You truly have to care about something to have it tattooed on your body forever."

— Samantha Rutkowski,
Junior

Stephison has a small Greek word tattooed on his wrist and has maintained his professional career at OU.

"In academia, and especially in the humanities, I think that tattoos are for professors what goatees are for youth pastors: not all of us have them, but it is certainly not unusual if we do," Stephison said.

Stephison is just one example of a professor with ink.

"My thesis advisor had an enormous lizard tattooed on her shoulder, and the chair of the writing and rhetoric department has a lizard tattooed on his inner arm," Stephison said. "I don't know what it's like in science or engineering, but in humanities, people tend to be a lot more open to those forms of self-expression."

Placement is also a key factor when getting a tattoo.

In a 2010 Pew Research Center poll, 72 percent of those polled with tattoos had them in a place easily hidden.

With the rapid growth of the tattoo industry, people are finding ways to take part in the tattooed community without harming their career future.

Recently introduced ultraviolet light tattoos offer customers the ability to have a "hidden" tattoo.

"I first heard about UV tattoos when I was flipping through TV stations one day," sophomore Justine Roy said. "I stopped on this show that was talking about them and it sparked my interest."

UV tattoos, or black light tattoos, are just one of the new techniques on the market. These tattoos are made with special ink that becomes visible under a black light, though the tattoo itself is invisible in regular light.

"I like that fact that you can't really see them unless they are exposed to black light," Roy said. "I think it is definitely a plus for someone that wants to get a tattoo but, because of their job, can't."

UV tattoos are applied in same way as a traditional tattoo; they just require more work in the application process, due to the ink not showing up in regular light.

According to Roy, a downside to these tattoos is that people get them so other people can see them, and getting one that can only be seen under a black light defeats the purpose.

UV tattoos have been shown to cause skin irritation due to the phosphorus present in the ink and have not yet been deemed 100 percent safe by the FDA.

Individual tattoo parlors are making their own phosphorus free ink, which they claim to be completely safe. Only specific tattoo parlors offer the ink. They are also more expensive because of the rare commodity.

Various factors are considered when deciding when to get a tattoo. Placement, meaning, and future job concerns are just a few of the many concerns people have.

Although most workplaces reject tattoos right now, tattoo advances and general popularity may one day make tattoos a social norm that is accepted everywhere.

Internet advances affect driving

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**
Features Editor

Today's environment is dominated by technology. From computers to cell phones to iPods, the list is never-ending. A lot of teenagers have decided to put off getting their drivers licenses.

As today's technology continues to advance, less and less teenagers are getting their licenses once they turn 16, according to a study done by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2008. The study stated that 30.7 percent of 16-year-olds got their licenses compared to the 44.7 percent that did so in 1988.

"Part of the reason I don't have my license is hesitance, maybe even a phobia," said Luke Phillips, a junior majoring in communications. "When it all boils down, I feel like it's my own sheer self-confidence and unwillingness that's stopping me from getting it."

While there are various reasons for people to not get their license, some people think that the Internet is what is causing the problem, and having a license is not entirely necessary anymore.

"There really isn't a need to go out and do stuff anymore," said Andrew Wahnschaff, a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering. "Not just the Internet, but technology has given us the ability to connect with people from all over. I can watch a game and text message my friends instead of getting everyone together to watch it as one. It just makes my busy life a hell of a lot easier."

In other ways, driving a car is practically a necessity, especially in Michigan, where having a car is almost as common as owning a toothbrush.

"We have five cars in my family," said Nicole Schlagel, a sophomore majoring in kinesiology. "I usually drive about one hour a day during the week, and three hours a day over the weekend. My car is necessary in order to get to my family and friends, and I lug things around that I couldn't carry if I were walking."

Other people don't bother with a vehicle due to economic reasons. Although some say the recession is almost over, gas prices are still climbing, and owning a car is a luxury to some people.

"I get rides to school, and I'm at the whim of other people, as far as when they're available to take me," Phillips said. "Although the independence is



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

Less people have been getting their licenses recently due to Internet luxuries.

gone, and that's the worst part of it."

For others, the Internet is a haven — a place to find any information you need — and a way to communicate with the people globally, at least to Jeremy Tadros, a freshman majoring in secondary education with a focus in history.

"I probably spend at least six hours on the Internet daily, including Skype and Facebook," Tadros said. "I think I'm somewhat addicted. I use it to stay connected to my friends."

For some college students, the Internet is even more of a resource when friends are at colleges all over the world. Computer programs like Skype and the website Facebook give people the ability to talk to anyone without worrying about the long distance or many miles that are in between them.

"My boyfriend Josh and I recently started using Skype a lot more so that we can actually see each other," said Alyssa Mayer, a sophomore majoring in elementary education. "I think that it really helps because then it's almost like he's sitting there talking to me."

In a Pew Internet & American Life Project poll that was completed in 2010, 74 percent of people polled use the Internet at least occasionally.

"I still have people over to play video games, but if you have a lot of people it's sometimes more convenient to do it online," Tadros said. "I can talk to my friends who have moved away to college or I don't get to see on a regular basis. For example, I play Xbox LIVE a lot with my cousin

who lives in Dearborn."

The ability to order online has also started to cut the driving costs and need for some people. A good portion of retail stores and even restaurants have made themselves available on the Internet, allowing users to place their orders online and then either have them shipped to their home, or have them ready for pick up.

"Shopping online is something I do often," said Casey Korzen, a junior majoring in general management. "Being a busy college student, I find it very convenient. I don't have to worry about finding the time to get to the store to shop, and this is a lot faster. I especially love having my stuff delivered right to my door."

The popular movie rental website Netflix has also started to boom recently, according to Netflix stocks, which have gone up 475 percent in the past five years. The website allocates a selection of movies for its subscribers to stream online, and gives them the ability to make a queue that will get shipped to their home.

"I've had my Netflix account for a long time," Wahnschaff said. "My parents originally had the account, but I got my own separate account because it's convenient. Having the movies delivered to my house and being able to watch them whenever I want online has saved me a lot of time, not to mention a lot of money."

The Internet has provided many different luxuries for people, and it very well might replace the need for cars in the future.

40

professor profiles

Weekly spotlight on OU professors

Kanako Taku Professor of psychology

Sometimes the greatest ambition is fostered amid devastating tragedy.

Such is the case with Dr. Kanako Taku, a psychology professor who was born and raised in Japan and wanted to be a teacher since childhood.



"I wanted to be a person who could teach my teacher how to teach since I was six or seven years old," Taku said. "I thought that I could do it better."

However, her focus changed when she was a sophomore at Kobe University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in education.

The Great Hanshin earthquake, measuring 6.8 on the Moment magnitude scale, struck Kobe in January of 1995 claiming the lives of over 6,000 people and causing \$102.5 billion in damage.

Through her work as a volunteer with earthquake victims, Taku became fascinated with post-traumatic growth (PTG), a personal growing experience as a result of a struggle with a major life crisis or traumatic events.

Taku's research on PTG is published regularly.

In December, her doctoral dissertation, titled "Research On Post-Traumatic Growth: Psychological Changes As a Result of the Stressful Experiences Among Japanese Adolescents" will be published in Japan.

Students who took her classes had only good things to say, particularly noting on her ability to keep the class involved and laughing with her vibrant personality, jokes, morning exercises and a certain Japanese potty training video which is on YouTube.

"She is very informative and lots of examples are given," Hillary Bocknek, Taku's teaching assistant, said. "We had conversations and discussions on topics. Even though the tests were essay-based, we were actively involved in every topic so there was little need to study."

In her sparse free time, Taku enjoys learning martial arts, American slang and play-conducting her large CD collection of Brahms Symphony No. 1.

This semester, Taku is teaching PSY 251 statistics and research design and PSY 445 seminar in individual differences and personality psychology and wants to continue learning and teaching psychology until physically impossible.

—Sarah Wojcik, Staff Intern

BIRMINGHAM CITY GUIDE

WRITTEN BY JAMIE GASPER
DESIGNED BY JASON WILLIS

Cosi

With their signature flatbread as the basis of the menu, Cosi specializes in sandwiches, pizza and bagels. Rounding out the menu is a variety of soups, salads and desserts. For the early risers, there is a one-of-a-kind breakfast menu. The sophisticated, modern and warm atmosphere complete with interesting music from around the world, invites you to relax and savor the innovative flavors. Don't worry, a classy meal like this won't break the bank as many meals are under just \$10.

101 N. Old Woodward

The Palladium

A night at the Palladium is not the average night at the movies. This three-story movie theater is in a class all its own, with comfortable reclining seats and top-of-the-line projection equipment. The Palladium has been named Hour Magazine's Best Metro Detroit movie theater for eight consecutive years. Members from the ever-popular "Twilight" saga are just some of the many Hollywood A-listers the Palladium has drawn in. The Palladium won't break your budget either, they offer a matinee price of \$5 before 6 p.m. and just \$10 after 6 p.m.

250 N. Old Woodward

Pink Pump

If the vibrant pink walls and tables of shimmering jewels don't instantly draw you in, the friendly personable staff will make you feel right at home. Michigan's own Pink Pump is making its name known across the country as the first franchised women's shoe store. Pink Pump was named the best women's shoe store in 2010 by Real Detroit Weekly. This chic, trendy boutique carries many top name-brand shoes, as well as shelves of unique styles designed to fit every price budget. Owner Tawny Thieu strives to help women of every price range find their perfect fit.

150 W. Maple

The Cupcake Station

"Everyone loves a cupcake" is the motto of this unique bakery. Michigan's very first cupcake shop has been gaining buzz since the day it opened in 2006. Its biggest claim to fame is the Michigan bumpy cake, a cupcake that has been making national news. This unique concept takes an already gourmet cupcake and dips it in a chocolate shell. There are 25 unique cupcake flavors on hand every day, in three different sizes. The Cupcake Station is committed to more than just serving up confections, they're all about giving back to the community and offers numerous fundraising opportunities too.

136 N. Old Woodward

Zuma

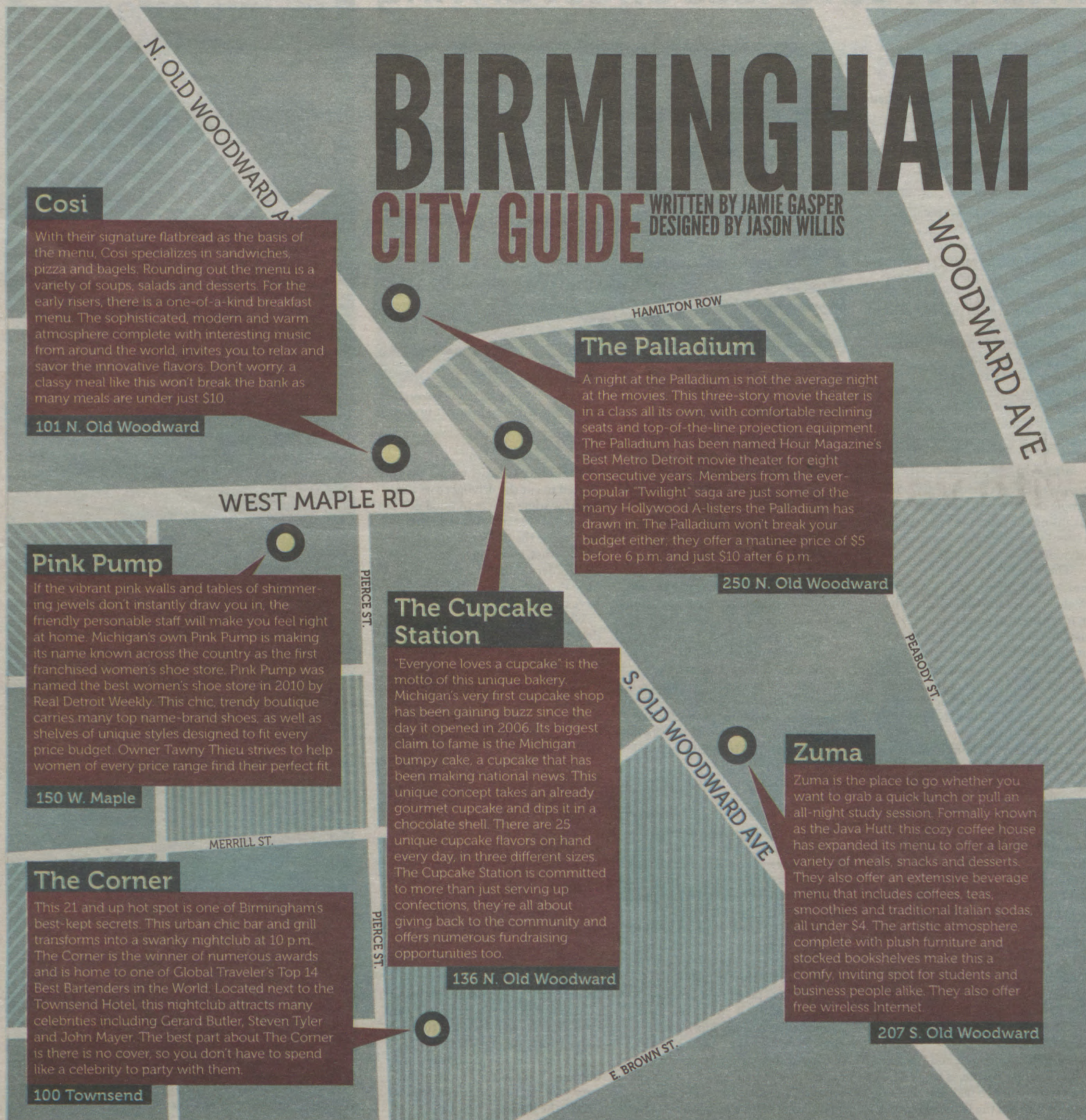
Zuma is the place to go whether you want to grab a quick lunch or pull an all-night study session. Formally known as the Java Hutt, this cozy coffee house has expanded its menu to offer a large variety of meals, snacks and desserts. They also offer an extensive beverage menu that includes coffees, teas, smoothies and traditional Italian sodas, all under \$4. The artistic atmosphere complete with plush furniture and stocked bookshelves make this a comfy, inviting spot for students and business people alike. They also offer free wireless Internet.

207 S. Old Woodward

The Corner

This 21 and up hot spot is one of Birmingham's best-kept secrets. This urban chic bar and grill transforms into a swanky nightclub at 10 p.m. The Corner is the winner of numerous awards and is home to one of Global Traveler's Top 14 Best Bartenders in the World. Located next to the Townsend Hotel, this nightclub attracts many celebrities including Gerard Butler, Steven Tyler and John Mayer. The best part about The Corner is there is no cover, so you don't have to spend like a celebrity to party with them.

100 Townsend





Photos courtesy of Meadow Brook Theatre

"Dracula" will run a 20-day performance series that graces the stage five days a week until the end of October.

Opera performance merges with vampire phenomenon

By **ANDREW CRAIG**
Contributing Reporter

It's no secret that the trend of vampire-crazed culture has created a large following.

This fall, a Meadow Brook Theatre production will attempt to captivate members of that audience.

The rock opera "Dracula" will preview on Oct. 6 and run until Oct. 31. Meadow Brook Theatre, adjacent to Wilson Hall, will have 27 "Dracula" performances this month.

Given the theme and its rising popularity, Meadow Brook Theatre will attempt to take advantage of the growing interest in vampires.

"It seemed like now was the optimal time to bring about this production," said Travis Walter, the artistic director at Meadow Brook Theatre.

Although the trend can be largely accredited to the cinematic release of the "Twilight" series, this production is no "Twilight," according to Chris Tefft, an ensemble member in the show.

"This is the real deal," Tefft said. "This is definitely a show for fans of 'Twilight,' but ours will have more of that blood and guts aspect — dark and beautiful."

With Halloween rapidly approaching, the timing appears to suit the season. "For the past few years we've

tried to bring a literary classic to life in the fall and to make it a spooky one," Walter said. "Dracula seems to fit the criteria."

The play is adapted from the original novel, written by Bram Stoker.

Compared with other interpretations of "Dracula," this production relies heavily on authentic material.

Viewers can expect that much of the genuine substance of the original will be portrayed in the rock opera.

"It is, by name, a rock opera. But, I think it would be more appropriate to be considered a rock musical," said Tefft. "When people hear opera, it often gives the negative connotation of a dead art."

While focused on original content, the action and effects aim to provide an exciting, contemporary feel. The show will feature a six-piece live band, larger than any the theatre has seen in recent years.

Tefft describes the music as upbeat, exciting and soulful.

"There are lots of special effects and surprises that will hopefully make your jaw drop," Walter said. The Meadow Brook Theatre performance intends to deliver a unique and edgy rendition of the classic.

The theatre, formerly a branch of Oakland University's theatre department, has since established itself among the most reputable produc-

tion companies in Michigan. From its humble beginnings, it has evolved into one of the largest productions in the state.

As a unionized company, the theatre has been able to attract talent from across the nation.

"It's really exciting for me, as a young professional, to have the opportunity to work in a high-class institution," Tefft said. "Many work here year to year, and that's a great thing."

Students at Oakland provide an invaluable resource to Meadow Brook Theatre. Located in the heart of campus, it hopes to draw in students to enjoy the show.

"All of our productions can really benefit from the support of the Oakland community," said Tefft, who hopes the popularity of the shows will grow weekly.

"Word of mouth is a big reason people come to watch."

"We would love for our faithful subscribers to walk away feeling that they had a new experience at the theatre and for all of our new audience to be excited about things to come here at the theatre," said Walter.

Students can purchase \$10 tickets in advance or on the day of a performance at the box office with a valid student I.D. Ticketmaster is charging \$29.95 per ticket.

records & reels



LIFE AS WE KNOW IT //

112 mins // PG-13

Caterer Holly Berenson (Katherine Heigl) and network sports director Eric Messer (Josh Duhamel) are the godparents for young Sophie. After constant fighting, the couple has to learn to put their differences behind them and make it work for Sophie.

MY SOUL TO TAKE //

88 mins // R

Riverton has a dark legend that speaks of a serial killer who swore that he would return to murder seven children that were born on the day of his death. More than 16 years later, people are starting to disappear in the small town. One of the children, Adam, plans to save his friends.



SECRETARIAT // 116 mins // R

This film is based on the true story about the 1973 Triple Crown winner. Housewife Penny Chenery (Diane Lane) agrees to take over her father's horse stables with the help of veteran trainer Lucien Laurin (John Malkovich). Against all odds and with no horseracing experience, the duo helped create the first Triple Crown winner in 25 years.

FINGER ELEVEN //

"Life Turns Electric"

The band from our neighbor to the North has been a radio hit for years with songs like "One Thing" and "Paralyzer." With their new release, "Life Turns Electric," they hope to continue the progressive sound of "Them Vs. You Vs. Me" while including ballads like "Love's What You Left Me With."



KT TUNSTALL // "TIGER SUIT"

Having recorded in the same studio as U2 and David Bowie, KT Tunstall hopes to bring out their influences on "Tiger Suit." Combining her signature alternative rock sound with pop synthesizers, the Scotland native hopes to match the success she enjoyed with her original album.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik, Staff Reporter

Help fight cancer, grow a mustache

By RORY McCARTY
Mouthing Off Editor

As we enter into October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is already underway, with November quickly bringing on Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month. Friends can attest that I have both an irrational love of national awareness months and somewhat more logical hatred of cancer. Seriously, if cancer said "Hey" to me at a bar or something, I wouldn't even look up.

Pfft. Cancer. What a dickweed.

I understand that all the kids these days are promoting cancer awareness by not shaving. Organizations like "Mustaches vs. Cancer" are popularizing this idea. Coincidentally, "No Shave November" and "Novembeard" have been created to bring people to not shave for an entire month.

I decided, why not combine the two? Why not use facial hair to fight every kind of cancer? Why pick and choose which cancer I hate the most?

This is great, because it gives lots of men an excuse to grow facial hair when they would otherwise be ostracized.

"Hey Louis! What happened to your face? You look like Alan Moore/Grizzly Adams on casual Friday/Jim Morrison's during his final days."

"Oh this beard, you mean? Oh, I'm just growing that to help kids with cancer. Apparently you hate terminally-ill children?"

"What? How does..."

"You feel like an ass now."

I wanted to jump on this bandwagon as soon as it rolled past, but I have a problem. In past years, my attempts at growing facial hair have been disastrous. I've tried for weeks to grow a passable goatee, only to end up with the same amount of peach fuzz as Shaggy from Scooby-Doo.

Nevertheless, I've decided to grow a mustache to raise cancer awareness. It's not going to be easy, and it's not going to be fun, but I'll bet my considerable collection of novelty foam fingers that given enough time, I can grow a truly inspiring soup strainer. The future of cancer research depends on it.

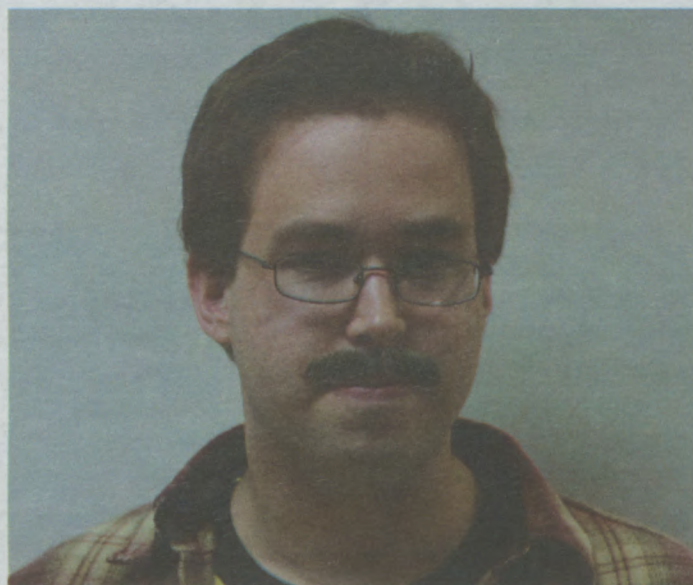


Photo illustration by CARLA BUTWIN/The Oakland Post
Mouthing Off Editor Rory McCarty's projected mustache after three months of intensive facial hair growth therapy, all in the name of combatting cancer.

May we present "Rory McCarty Mustache Chronicles."

Day 1

A mustache is a gamble, no doubt about it. Mustaches haven't been in style since the '70s, but it's the only place on my face where I can assure a reasonable coverage of facial hair.

When mustaches go right, they can be inspiring, like Magnum P.I. When they go wrong, your only recourse is to cover your face with a Phantom of the Opera-esque half mask and find a bell tower or crawlspace to live in.

But would my mustache turn out like a Tom Selleck-ian masterpiece, or would I look more like a pedophile? There was too much at stake. I had to seek out someone to train me.

I turned to Kyle Bauer, Oakland Post intern and grower of many mustaches. My new sensei explained the basics of upper lip coiffure.

To start, you have to visualize your ideal mustache. Immediately I pictured Lee Van Cleef and began to concentrate.

The Kyle Bauer Seven Day Method involves first wearing a tanktop or cutoff shirt for three days, or a leather jacket if it's winter. On the fourth day you must eat a 16-ounce steak. Then

for the last three days, it's necessary to wear copious amounts of Aqua Velva cologne. Bathe in it, if necessary.

"But be careful," Kyle said, falling into a thousand-yard stare, remembering epic mustachery of yore. "For some, the mustache is too much to handle. You may not like the person you become."

Kyle sent me home with a DVD boxed set of "My Name is Earl" to watch. I could feel my hair follicles tingling in anticipation.

Day 2

I hesitated while shaving today. Why not go all the way with it, I thought, and grow a matching set of mutton chops? Why not go for the full-on Bob Vila chinstrap I've always wanted? I quickly remembered my last attempt at a beard, the anguish it caused those people, the fines I had to pay and the community service hours I was assigned. I shaved everything but the upper lip without a moment's hesitation.

Day 3

Major setback today. Just as I was starting to have a few flecks of distinguish under my nose, the unthinkable happened. I met Burt Reynolds in an elevator. His mustache savagely beat mine. My

upper lip now trembles in fear at the very thought of watching "Cannonball Run." It's going to take serious therapy to coax it into growing again. A "Reno 911" marathon may be in order.

Day 4

I realized I need a support group if I'm going to make this work. I challenged the rest of the men in the Oakland Post to a mustache growing competition. The results were not what I expected. Mike Sandula grew a Grover Cleveland style in a matter of hours. Bryan Culver made himself a Fu Manchu almost as if to mock me.

Things are getting dire. My only hope is to try that experimental Rogaine diet I've heard about on the news and in poison control brochures.

Day 5

A mixed blessing today, as I got the first signs of a pencil-thin, yet still noticeable 'stash. However, I panicked when I tried to categorize it using the Geraldo Riviera/Chuck Norris Mustache Inventory. It seems I may be turning into Vincent Price. I've learned the whole monologue from "Thriller" just in case.

Moreover, I'm having doubts about my mustache growing ability. My mouth itches so much from the incredibly slow growing hair strands. And yet at the same time, I've already been mistaken for a magician. I may not be cut out to see this thing through.

The future

I may be doing more harm than good to the cause of raising cancer awareness with my mustache. When I meet new people, instead of them asking "Hey Rory, what's with the new mustache?" they mostly say "I have mace."

But honestly, I shouldn't need to grow lip festoonery to draw attention to the cause.

While I may joke about it, organizations like the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation are doing everything they can to raise money for cancer research.

For more information, visit www5.komen.org, pcaware.org, or ccalliance.org.



Halloween costumes expected to be popular in 2010

By RORY McCARTY
and friends
Mouthing Off Editor

10. Lady Gaga in a meat dress
9. LeBron James with mandatory inflated ego accessory
8. Christine O'Donnell, witch governor of Delaware; complete with anti-masturbation spell
7. Gulf of Mexico Charlie the Tuna, covered in crude oil
6. Tiger Woods; comes with Tiger Woods' personal harem
5. Snooki; recycle your Oopma Loompa costume from last year
4. Sexy version of your favorite childhood cartoon character, e.g. sexy Optimus Prime
3. Lindsay Lohan with press-on obscenity nails, SCRAM bracelet and cocaine residue
2. Elderly Sylvester Stallone, with colostomy bag on ammo belt
1. The legendary Construction Barrel Man

The Oakland Post reserves no rights to these ideas — feel free to take them.