

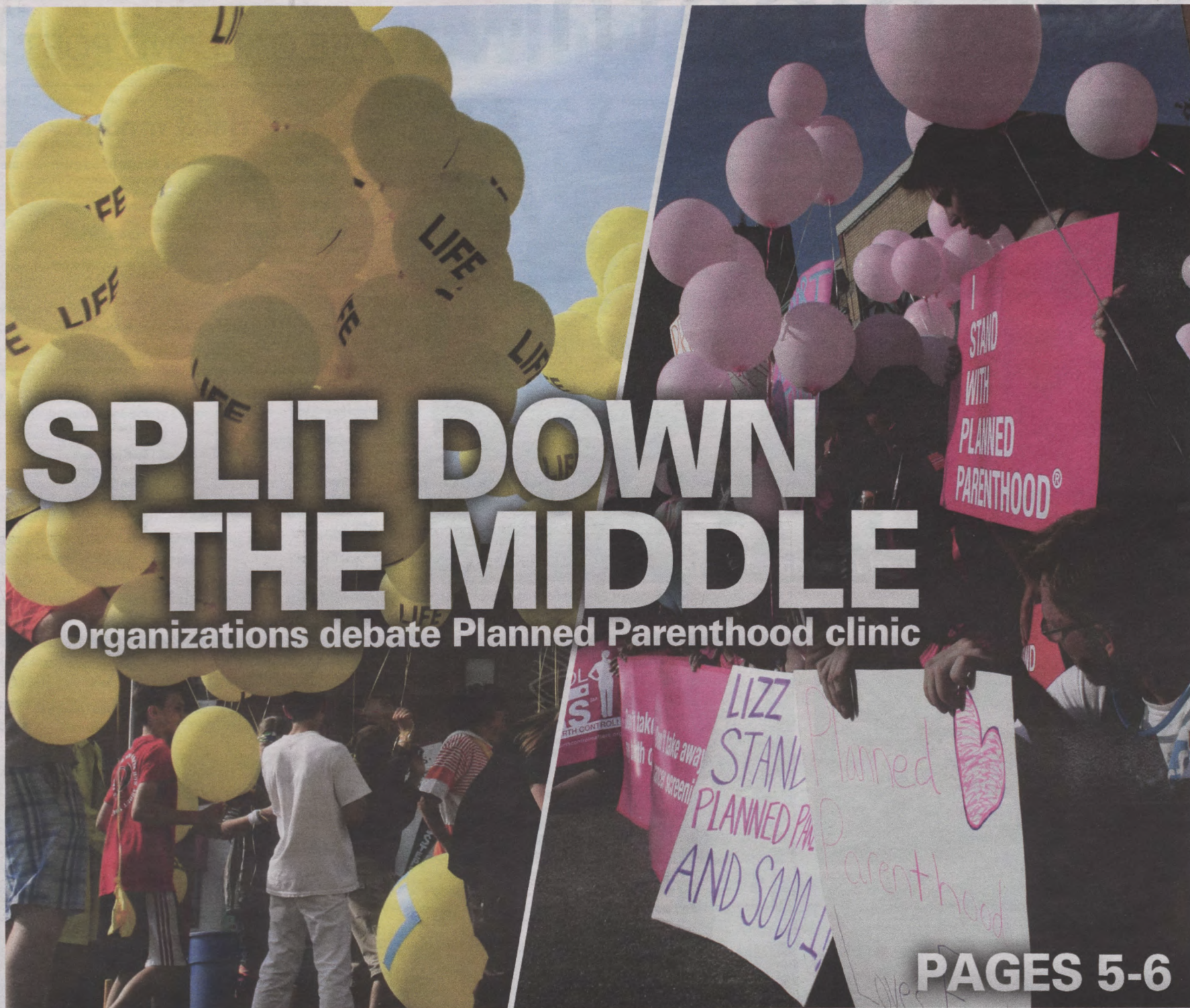
THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

July 20, 2011

www.oaklandpostonline.com

Volume 38 // Issue 3



SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE

Organizations debate Planned Parenthood clinic

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Local ice cream parlors thrive

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this month

July 20 — August 30, 2011



Quidditch at The Henry Ford // Friday, July 15

JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

The Oakland Owls competed in their first quidditch tournament at The Henry Ford Museum against Michigan State University. The team participated in two games and taught clinics to interested spectators. Though they didn't win either match, they were still awarded a trophy featuring Henry Ford on a broom.



6 LOCAL // Cargill, a family-owned food producer, will be donating \$40,000 in food supplies to six local companies to fight world hunger.



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THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Grizzlies' growing pains

Having to make do with scant amounts of resources is often a reality in times of economic turmoil, but lowered amounts of state appropriations will affect Oakland University's foundation as an institute of higher learning disproportionately.

Oakland students are due to pay 7 percent more for tuition than last year. The figure represents the largest tuition hike for the upcoming school year among Michigan public universities.

That's just the tip of the iceberg, though. As reported by The Oakland Post's Kevin Graham and Andrew Craig, the state's investment in the school for the upcoming school year amounts to only 19 percent of its operating costs.

That makes us think of the old adage about growing children needing food and plenty of it. While OU can by no means be equated with a five-year-old stuffing peas up its nose, it is experiencing a time of growth that is in danger of being stifled.

We understand cuts are occurring statewide and every school is affected. The problem lies in the fact that Oakland was never even on a level playing field when it came to state appropriations.

Currently, OU will stand to receive 35 percent less than the state average in funding per student. It's hard to grow strong

when a school has less money than other competitors and is still expected to keep in accordance with the same benchmarks.

We don't know why there is such a disparity in resources available to OU students compared to other schools, but we do know it's a huge disadvantage. A lack of money affects every level of school function from basic necessities like campus maintenance to student life and — the most essential — education programs.

The school is growing, yet we're hindered by these cuts at a time when we're trying to redefine ourselves and build a brand.

Earlier this year, OU President Gary Russi tasked the school with defining its brand. Even though branding and imaging have been the subjects of a myriad of meetings with students, staff and faculty and an all-day conference that brought together hundreds of movers and shakers from the community, it's hard to see how the school can grow at this point in time.

All at the Creating the Future II confer-

ence brought up a plethora of solutions, but fundraising and finding ways to increase revenue were not the primary focus.

The school is growing — both in population, academics and athletic stature — yet we're hindered by these cuts at a time when we're trying to redefine ourselves and build a brand.

It feels like we're trying to take two steps forward, but the budget cuts are pushing us back. We're limiting what we're trying to offer people, making the school ill-equipped for the higher education race.

As the young school garners more recognition through a strengthened, growing alumni network, top-notch degree programs, increased student involvement and high-performing athletics, we're seeing more of a budget crisis.

The school is at the start of its grand debut on the national stage with basketball star Keith Benson ascending to his newfound fame in the NBA. The doors of the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine open in less than a month.

Fresh eyes are turning to Oakland County, Michigan (Not California).

The school needs to be able to represent itself in its full form, not as a shell of itself crippled by dwindling amounts of state funding.

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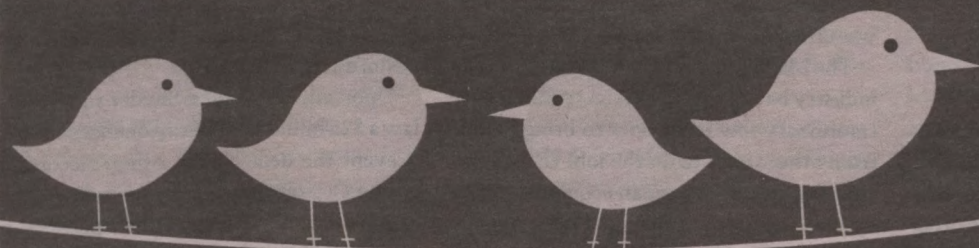
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OU needs to reach out to Wayne County

Oakland University is a great school with a lot to offer. Students living in Oakland and Macomb counties are aware of this, but the same may not be true for those from Wayne County.

If you were to ask various students at Oakland where they are from, chances are that the majority will name a place in either Oakland or Macomb.

Though there are students that come from other parts of Michigan and even outside of the state, according to Oakland's office of institutional studies, 77.8 percent the university's students, graduate and undergraduate, come from Macomb and Oakland counties.

Nearly one out of three OU students come from Macomb County thanks in part to the outreach program it has launched there.

Students from Utica and Shelby

Township are not far from the main campus, but those aren't the only communities represented in Macomb.

Many of these students can take advantage of the opportunity to take courses at the Macomb campus in Clinton Township, or in the newly opened campus in Mount Clemens.

Despite the strong presence of students from Oakland and Macomb counties, OU only has 7.3 percent of students from Wayne County, which is the most populous county in Metro Detroit.

Currently, Oakland does not have a formal partnership with Wayne County Community College.

Most students in Wayne that decide to go to a local university choose Wayne State, Detroit Mercy or University of Michigan-Dearborn instead of making the



Seth Walker
Staff Reporter

journey to OU. Only a few students in this county are choosing to enroll at Oakland, and that's alarming.

Though this can be understandable to an extent as Wayne students have multiple options for local schools to attend within their county, students should not ignore what OU has to offer.

Instead, Oakland should do more to attract students from Wayne so Metro Detroit can be fully represented on campus.

Wayne State, a local university

often compared with Oakland, has a reputation for attracting students from all three counties in Metro Detroit with its location in Detroit's cultural center, and it's many programs.

According to Wayne State's website, 46 percent of the university's students come from Wayne County, 22.7 percent come from Oakland and 15.7 percent of students come from Macomb.

In fact, there have been students who have transferred to Wayne State from Oakland in many instances.

In order for Oakland to be taken more seriously as a school, it should consider increasing its efforts to attract students from Wayne while its trying to configure its brand.

Currently, Oakland does not have a problem attracting student athletes from Wayne since

it is one of the two main Division I schools in Metro Detroit along with Detroit Mercy.

However, Oakland will require another strategy to lure other students from this county.

Oakland benefits from a great location in suburban Detroit.

This is not to downgrade Wayne State, it is a great school with its own advantages, but students in Wayne should be aware of the alternatives that Oakland offers.

They should also know about the programs offered at Oakland such as journalism, communications, nursing and elementary education.

If students in Wayne are aware of the advantages that Oakland provides, then they will not view the idea of going one county up as being too inconvenient to get a college education.

Michigan's film tax incentive creates more debt, not jobs

George Clooney is spotted walking the streets of Ann Arbor. Hugh "The Wolverine" Jackman shops at a local market in Franklin. Gerard Butler hangs out at South Bar in Birmingham. Award winning actors and actresses have been gracing Michigan with their presence and talent.

But why Michigan? The climate is far from rewarding or reliable for shooting a movie, and never before had the state been known for its abundance in actors. Why are movies with multi-billion dollar budgets deciding to film in the big mitten?

The answer — tax incentives. In 2008, Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law a film incentive program to attract jobs to Michigan. According to Michigan.gov, the laws provide a 40 percent refundable or transferable tax credit for producing films in Michigan, with an added two percent rebate for movies that film in core communities.

So far, it seems everyone is a winner. Now my weekends can be spent following these Hollywood stars, the unemployment rate should soon drop and movie executives



Haley Jonna
Staff Reporter

can film for cheap rates.

All this would be great if it weren't creating an even larger dent in our state's deficit.

Let's talk economics. In our state's constitution, along with the majority of other states in the union, every fiscal year our deficit must be balanced, as to avoid creating a debt. Simply put, the state cannot spend more money than is brought in through taxes and other revenues. This explains why much of the funding for public schools and other programs have been cut — not because they are unnecessary or unworthy of funding, but because Michigan does not have the money.

So, with money even being deducted from school funds, the state cannot afford the rebates offered to the movie companies. While many people felt the economic stimulation through increased spending and employment, the industry still has not created a sufficient amount of jobs to pay the state back. The income it produced within the state does not match the amount that was offered in incentives.

The Michigan tax incentives to the movie industry have allowed movies to film for extraordinary low rates, only to bring people from other states to do the job. Crain's Detroit Business addresses an economic report by the nonpartisan Senate Fiscal Agency that says, "... About \$37.5 million in credits during the 2008-09 fiscal year reflected nearly \$98 million in private spending. But nearly half of the spending left Michigan and didn't contribute to economic activity in the state."

In regular terms, this translates to say that the movie industry is bringing employees from out of state to do jobs that Michigan residents are perfectly capable of

doing. While some are receiving employment through the new industry, it is at the expense of the state.

The report continues to say that the credits have created a few jobs and publicity for Michigan, but at a very high cost.

This employment is only temporary because as soon as the incentives dwindle, the movie industry will relocate to a state that offers a better deal, and the people are, once again, unemployed.

Upon entering office, Snyder signed into law a \$25 million dollar cap on incentives to prevent the deficit from rising. According to the Detroit Free Press, the industry has already shrunk, and actors and production companies have already begun to leave.

So, while it may be fun to have celebrities in our back yard, the state should not be left to fund their productions. We should consider the costs over the benefits. While on the surface Michigan may appear to benefit from the enticement of Hollywood, in reality, it's truly running us dry.

George Clooney, Hugh Jackman, we'll miss you.

The life or death situation

Student organizations support Planned Parenthood efforts at OU

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**
Managing Content Editor

When "The Daily Show's" Lizz Winstead brought her Planned Parenthood comedy to Pontiac earlier this month, not everyone thought it was funny.

Protestors from both sides of the abortion debate came to be seen and heard. Yellow balloons with the word "LIFE" lined one side of the street, along with myriad pro-life supporters of all ages, including a sign help up by a toddler.

On the other side of the road, pink balloons helped pro-choice advocates get their message out. Oakland University students, along with many other Planned Parenthood workers sang songs, chanted and rallied against their opponents.

Planned Parenthood, a family health care provider, has received a lot of local attention lately because of the new facility scheduled to open soon in Auburn Hills. Its proximity to OU has prompted heated discussions between those who want it and those who want it gone. The fact the organization provides abortion services, even though that is a very small percentage of their practice, is typically the hot-button issue.

A contingent of OU students were among the crowd in front of the theater, including Elisa Mailile, OU Student Body Vice President, who has been a supporter of Planned Parenthood for five years.

A pro-choice advocate, she believes every woman deserves a fair choice in the important decisions that affect their lives.

"I believe that Planned Parenthood is important for women's health," she said. "It's very crucial to have one near campus. When I heard students telling me that they don't have health care and have to drive all the way to Livonia or Ann Arbor to get an annual exam or birth control, it's devastating."

With a number of OU students, including Gay Straight Alliance President Alexa Van Vilet, Mailile rallied against pro-life, supporting the organization and all it stands for.

While doing so, pro-life supporters, in-



Pro-life advocates brought balloons and music to dance along to as they protested against the Planned Parenthood supporters.

KAITLYN CHORNOBY/The Oakland Post

cluding a priest, ran up and down the streets carrying balloons while a conga line of youth group females danced on both sides of the street.

Winstead completed her show successfully, with no incidents from the impassioned, peaceful crowd.

Getting a start

Planned Parenthood, which currently operates more than 800 clinics in the U.S., has been in the reproductive health care business for more than 90 years, according to the organization's website. In 2010, Planned Parenthood patient visits accounted for 60 percent of contraception visits, 16 percent for pregnancy tests, 10 percent for STI testing and treatment, 10 percent for cancer

screening and prevention, two percent for prenatal services and two percent for abortion services, according to Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan.

"Planned Parenthood has done more (for people) than any other organization out there," Desiree Cooper, director of community relations for PPMSM regions, said. "Our issue is to make sure everyone, when they find that they are having a child, has options."

The Opposition

But not everyone agrees. The organization has a long history of opposition from pro-life advocates, as well as those critical of its policies that condone contraception.

Monica Migliorino Miller, director for Citizens for a Pro-life Society, works with

pro-life supporters in Oakland County to keep people at the new building every day, picketing and praying for its obstruction.

"I think any place that kills innocent human life is always a bad idea, no matter where it goes," she said. "The issue is abortion, not contraception. I think more students are going to be getting abortions at that clinic if it happens to open. I feel that the death of any innocent unborn child is a tragedy ... it's something that everybody should be opposed to."

Though the mission of the company is to, "ensure broad public

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PARENTHOOD

continued from page 5

access to reproductive health care through medical services, education and advocacy," Barb Yagley, a vigil coordinator for 40 Days for Life, believes the company is encouraging minors to deceive their parents.

"Planned Parenthood, beyond the fact that they do abortions, severs relationships between mothers and their daughters by encouraging teenagers to come to them for their sexual education and birth control, without requiring parental consent," she said. "They are underhanded and sneaky about encouraging teenagers to go behind their parents back."

Stacy Swimp, the president of the Fredrick Douglas Foundation of Michigan, claims the organization is trying to exterminate the African American population.

"Margaret Sanger, who founded Planned Parenthood, wrote in a letter to Clarence Gamble that she wanted to exterminate the Negro population," he said. "The fact that they are positioning abortion clinics in black communities alerts us to the fact that the sinister agenda of Planned Parenthood is to commit genocide against black children."

Planned Parenthood director Cooper disagreed, saying the largest cause of abortions is from unplanned pregnancies, which is what the organization is trying to prevent.

"We're about giving equal help to everyone that needs it," she said. "Nationally, the abortion rates are often higher for communities of color and impoverished communities because of the lack of access to birth control. Planned Parenthood is one of the few organizations that really provides that access and if we had more access and more options in those communities, we'd have less unwanted pregnancies and the abortion rates will go down. This is not a question of race ... we don't rope people in and hold them against their will ... we hope they will come in earlier to get help and plan for a

family ... by doing that, the abortion rate will go down in all communities."

Campus speaks out

"I think that a Planned Parenthood so close to both our university, other colleges and also the city of Pontiac is beneficial in many ways," Catherine Pannell, a senior majoring in social work, said. "College students may be reluctant to use on campus resources, so with Planned Parenthood, they can go straight to professionals for services they might not otherwise seek. For the people of Pontiac, it's beneficial because of the limited resources provided in the city. This will be a tremendous help to those who can sometimes not afford to provide for their families, let alone pay a medical bill or fee to be tested or treated for sexual conditions."

At Oakland, various student organizations are working together to make the campus more Planned Parenthood-friendly, starting with GSA, SAGA and Women and Gender Studies students.

"I believe that college is a time in someone's life when they have the freedom to come out and be who they are," Malile said. "The GSC is a safe place for students to go to. I love what SAGA stands for. They are advocating for everyone and bringing issues to the table that people don't acknowledge."

Van Vilet hopes the organizations will help make the school more well-rounded.

"Through communicating with different organizations outside of campus, the GSA will be hosting programs in the fall to promote women's advocacy and awareness about health and legislation, especially in relation to pay equity and Title IX," Van Vilet said. "I am also reaching out to Oakland County's Women Advisory Commission to utilize their knowledge and programs to bring here."

Both a pro-life advocate and a Planned Parenthood supporter, Pannell is working with Van Vilet and other OU students to promote and encourage support to the new sexual health organization, "sex



Photos by KAITLYN CHORNOBY/The Oakland Post

TOP: Pro-life advocates brought balloons and music to dance along to as they protested against the Planned Parenthood supporters. BELOW: Oakland students gathered in front of the Crofoot Ballroom in downtown Pontiac to show their support for Planned Parenthood before a comedy show on the subject.

that will be launched this year.

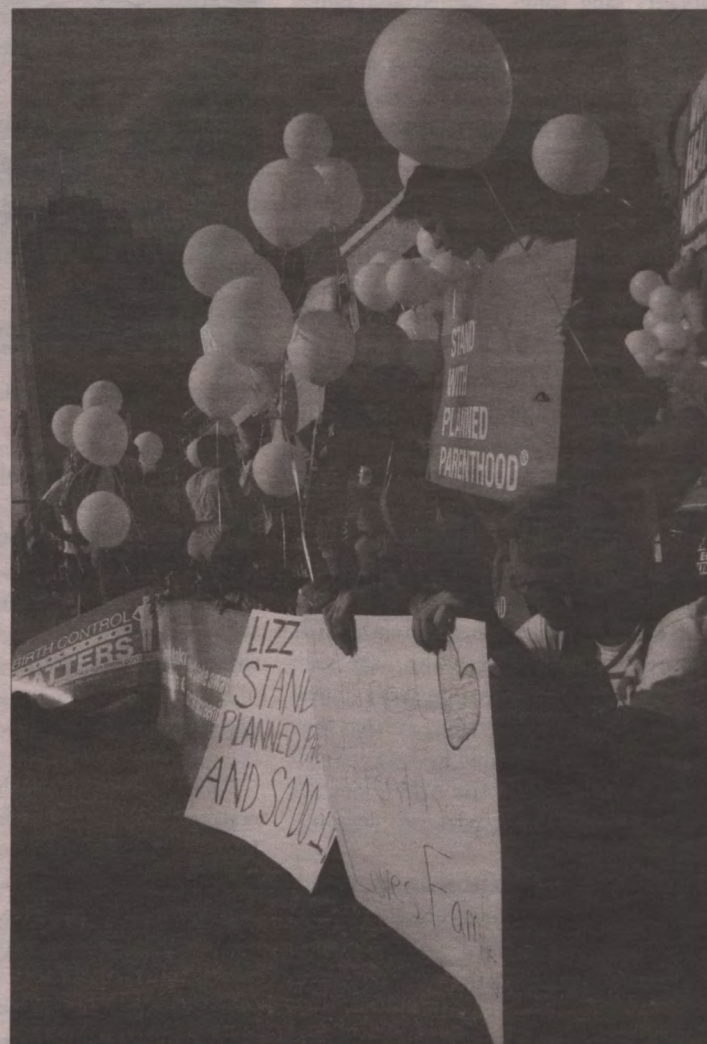
"The main purpose (of sex) is to promote and educate students on sexual awareness," Pannell, president of the organization, said. "We plan on having different seminars and our main thing is to have a seminar for incoming freshman."

Pannell believes children don't choose whether they come into the world, but she also believes some Planned Parenthood efforts are important for women.

"Planned Parenthood gives different options for women," Pannell said. "I am pro-life and I support Planned Parenthood for every other service they provide except abortions."

Anne Wolf, a senior majoring in psychology, was the president of the student organization Students for Life last year.

"When other students want to go through Planned Parenthood, they are supporting an abortion-like agenda, which includes killing unborn babies," she said. "That's where we have a problem ... we really want to enforce that no matter what lifestyle or choices are made, abortion kills unborn babies."



State funding reduced, officials get innovative

By KEVIN GRAHAM

Staff Reporter

While the new budget cuts at the state level present new and difficult challenges for both Oakland University administrators and student leadership, both sides continue their commitment to achieve the best possible outcome for students.

OU raised tuition by seven percent for the 2011 school year, amounting to \$8.4 million in additional funding for the university, to recoup gaps left by cuts to funding for higher education at the state level.

For fiscal year 2012, the state will only end up covering 19 percent of Oakland's operating budget leaving over 80 percent to be made up through student tuition. By comparison, the average state funding nationally as of February 2011 was around 65 percent, according to a study by State Higher Education Executive Offices, an organization with members representing over 57 state higher education finance boards and committees.

With 15 percent axed from the higher education appropriations in the new budget passed by Gov. Snyder and the state legislature, universities statewide have begun to feel the pinch, and Oakland is no exception.

More reductions, more responsibility

With a \$43 million state allocation, a \$7.6 million reduction from last year, Oakland currently only receives about \$2719 per student from the state of Michigan. This is just over 35 percent below the state average of \$4170 per student and puts Oakland at third lowest in the state in terms of appropriations.

Working in this environment, Director of Media Relations Ted Montgomery said that it was important for Oakland to maintain fiscal responsibility. He cited \$45 million in reduced budget and cost containment measures over the last decade, including eliminating positions, renegotiating contracts, and pushing back maintenance projects.

Of the state's 15 public universities, Oakland's tuition is sixth lowest. OU charges \$2470 under the state average per student. He also pointed out several ways in which Oakland distinguishes itself from other schools.

"OU has no fees; no application fee, no registration fee, no parking fee, no course fee, no lab fee, no transcript fee, no graduation fee," he said.

The school's budget hit has been somewhat lessened by the fact that enrollment has increased and there are more students to pay tuition.

The effect on students

Student programs are feeling the pressure of the budget problems as well. Student Congress president Benjamin

Eveslage said it's definitely a different feeling than in years past.

"Numerous OUSC planned events and programs are competing for a leaner portion of the budget," he said.

A sophomore majoring in international studies, Eveslage mentioned that he understood that the university's main objective was to not have to sacrifice educational quality.

"They were able to cut their costs and re-organize it so that they maintained the academic quality without spending money on unnecessary items," he said.

One of the factors Eveslage mentioned that helped mitigate the losses was an approved increase in the student activities fee of \$2.50 which goes toward student organizations.

Student Congress, in partnership with the administration, is contributing \$10,000 of its allotted funds in order to make the library available to students 24 hours a day, five days a week as part of a pilot program. He felt that the timing of this cannot be more important with the opening of the medical school this fall, which required a 24 hour on-campus study facility to receive accreditation.

Eveslage feels that such a facility should not only be available, but also needs to have certain conveniences in order to succeed.

"They won't go there unless they have coffee," Eveslage said. "They won't go there unless they have food. If you have to leave, you'll just go to Starbucks."

To that end, Eveslage said Student Congress is putting together data to help convince Chartwells, which has the contract to provide the school's catering needs to keep facilities open on a 24-hour basis.

Plans for future budgets

In addition to the school library project, one of the broader goals of OUSC is to work with the administration in securing further funding for Oakland University's future.

"(The students) need more advocacy in Lansing for higher education funding," Eveslage said, adding that with the Human Health building and engineering school construction, he felt a strong case could be made to lawmakers that Oakland was making a considerable push in the areas of research and development.

OUSC is also trying to conserve funds wherever possible. In particular, they are putting meeting materials online, something he estimates saves them about 300 pages per session.

They have also tried to partner with area businesses to sponsor events that would normally come out of the OUSC budget.

Although students face higher tuition rates, each department on campus is striving to ensure the evolution and development of the university.

Police Files

Individual Arrested for Marijuana Possession

On June 24, during patrol an OUPD officer came upon two parked cars in a dark parking lot near the Meadowbrook storage facility. One vehicle contained one female, the other vehicle contained two males. The individuals stated they were switching cars. During a search of the vehicle containing the two males, in the passenger's seat, officers came across of a bag that contained what is believed to be a marijuana pipe containing marijuana residue, a Cherry Coke plastic bottle converted into a smoking device, and prescription bottle containing seeds and stems that tested positive for marijuana. The male driver and female driver of the other vehicle were released while the passenger was arrested and transported to Oakland County Jail.

Assault in Oakland Parking Lot

On June 20, a student reported a possible assault on herself in a parking lot on campus. The assault occurred between the student and a male whom she became friends with in 2006. They had lost contact with each other until a few weeks prior to the incident where they met up and had sexual intercourse, which was said to be the cause of the argument. The male was upset with the female because she refused to take the "plan B pill." When the female student tried to get out the car, the male grabbed her wrist and held on for about one minute. The male released her but then proceeded to grab her cell phone. Once it was returned, the female student went to another location to compose herself and alert the OUPD.

Attempted Suicide in USA Apartment

On June 25, a student contacted OUPD stating he was concerned about text messages that he had received from a student who might be attempting suicide. Officers arrived at the apartment of the student to find their visibly distraught and concealing a cutting tool. The Dean of Students was alerted of the situation and soon after, Rochester Hills Fire Department took the student to a nearby hospital for further care.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,
Scene Editor

PSE, OU agree to extension

By **KEVIN GRAHAM**
Staff Reporter

Oakland's athletic department announced a one-year extension of its contract with Palace Sports and Entertainment giving them exclusive rights to sell Oakland's sponsorship and advertising.

The deal, initially signed in 2007, focuses mainly on print, radio and television advertisements for Oakland, while covering the men's and women's sports teams occasionally.

Oakland Director of Athletic Communications Scott MacDonald discussed the benefit of the deal for OU.

"We see a percentage of the sale of sponsorship based on the amount sold," he said, adding that the actual amount tends to vary from year to year.

The deal is the first of its kind for the Palace organization, which had previously only sold sponsorship and advertising for its own venues.

Executive Vice President for Palace Sports and Entertainment Dan Hauser talked about a couple unique advantages Oakland receives from the partnership.

"What we're able to do because of our contacts and our clients list, we're able to go to our clients and get them involved in Oakland versus Oakland doing it," he said. "They just don't have those relationships. Basically what they're doing is, we're able to utilize our relationships to help further their business."

He said that the relationship has already paid off in terms of added exposure for the program.

"They've had more games on radio and television than they've ever had. Through our relationships, we were able to assist them in getting a really good radio deal on (1130AM) WDFN," Hauser said. "We were also able to work with our partner Fox Sports Detroit and get three games per year on Fox Sports Detroit, so that's a real positive."

"We look to, even on the radio games, to keep improving those and then TV, we always look at how those are being handled to get quality games on there that work with their schedule."

Not only does Oakland benefit from the agreement, Hauser explained PSE has seen the agreement beneficial through a three-part partnership with Oakland and together they have developed a good relationship.

"We like our association, we look at Oakland as a great partner of ours in many ways," he said. "We manage Meadowbrook, which is very important for both parties, that's part of the partnership."

"The Oakland Grizzlies have played basketball games at the Palace, last year they played Michigan State and it was a great game and they play Michigan coming up this year here, so that's part of the partnership. The third part of it is the relationship that we're able to bring and it's a partnership, not just one facet here or there. We just think it's good for us to associate ourselves with Oakland and I think they



KEVIN ROMANCHIK/The Oakland Post

A scoreboard was one addition to Oakland that the Palace Sports and Entertainment was able to bring to OU.

have the same feeling."

Along with receiving exposure, several improvements to the O'Rena have come from the advertising from PSE and has led to increased advertising interest in Oakland.

"They did a beautiful job putting a new scoreboard in a year ago," Hauser said. "So there are some opportunities with advertising sponsorships."

Although the extension is just for a year, Hauser explained PSE hopes to have another extension after the agreement expires.

Benson brought OU respect, recruiting

COLUMN

He put up 1,903 points, grabbed 1,103 rebounds, surpassed 300 blocked shots, was named two-time Summit Player of the Year and finally, helped bring home back-to-back Summit League Championships.

Keith Benson did it all for the Oakland University basketball program.

But there's been nothing bigger than what he accomplished on June 23 by being drafted by the Atlanta Hawks and becoming the first Golden Grizzly to ever be drafted in the NBA Draft for Oakland University.



Michael Horan
Sports Editor

He put Oakland basketball on the sport's world map.

Let's be honest, before Keith Benson, the sports world hardly had an idea Oakland University existed.

Sure, they were a Cinderella team in the 2005 NCAA Tournament, and had Rawle Marshall,

who went undrafted and eventually played in the NBA for a couple seasons, but nobody really remembers that team, except for people from around here in the Oakland area.

Benson solidified Oakland as a legitimate contender, someone who could hang with the big boys, and he showed that almost every time he stepped out in the spotlight.

As a junior, Benson took center stage in the opening round of the NCAA Tournament against No. 18 Pittsburgh, leading all scorers with 28 points and nine rebounds.

He solidified his dominance as a senior earning a double-double

against then No. 7 Michigan State and then No. 7 Tennessee.

So what does this mean for Oakland now? Recognition and recruiting.

With the performances of Benson and the rest of the Oakland basketball program, people around the country now recognize Oakland as more than just a Cinderella squad.

By pushing Pittsburgh in the first half of the 2010 Tournament, upsetting Tennessee and nearly upsetting Michigan State in the regular season, and lastly Texas in the 2011 NCAA Tournament, Oakland received national attention.

With this attention, brings

recruiting, not only locally, but around the country as well.

People see how Coach Kampe and the Oakland basketball staff molded Benson and the other Grizzly players and know they're going to get that same type of coaching and recognition from NBA scouts if they continue to make NCAA tournaments.

Keith Benson did a lot more than just bring hardware to the hallways at the O'Rena. He helped develop what could be continuous legitimacy for the basketball program for years to come and hopefully many more future NBA draft picks to Oakland University basketball.

Becoming a club sport

Funding, governing body keys to being considered Club Sport

By **MICHAEL HORAN**
Sports Editor

The Oakland Owls took "flight" on their broomsticks in their first ever quidditch match against Michigan State University last Friday, however, they were competing as a student organization rather than a club sport.

Although a physical activity and considered competitive, quidditch — a game derived from J.K. Rowling's popular series Harry Potter — was considered better off as a student organization.

"Quidditch fits right into that, it could've been one or the other," Dan Bettmann, Coordinator of club and intramural sports said. "There are probably a half a dozen that are like that, there's probably a few other student orgs (organizations) that could be considered clubs if they saw greater benefit for what we have to offer, but really the benefits are very similar as far as how much money you can get funded and being recognized by the university."

Bettmann explained quidditch was not denied as a club sport because it wasn't considered an actual sport, but funding played a large role in the decision.

"When you get into the definition of a sport it kind of gets tricky," Bettmann

said. "I don't necessarily think it was that, it just seemed like it would fit better in student orgs based on how student orgs does their funding."

The Oakland Owls were unhappy at first, but decided it would be better off as a student organization.

"At first we were discouraged and although it's a sport to us, we're happy having funding to do events through the CSA," Lisa Coppola, vice president of the quidditch team, said.

According to Bettmann, both club sports and student organizations are directly funded from the Student Activities Funding Board and afforded the same amount of money, but what they spend the money on is one of the main differences.

"A club sport has a few restrictions on what you can actually request money for," Bettmann said. "You can only get it for equipment and field space if we don't offer it, like ice."

"The reason we kind of split off from funding purposes is that majority of student orgs money is based off of meetings, speakers and food."

"So having speakers come in and they spend their money on food to get people come to the speakers or meeting then doing group work, as far as all of our clubs which

are more of the competitive, so they're traveling, they're having eligibility things with the registrar, they're competing, not all compete, but they are doing some sort of physical activity where we have waivers."

Although quidditch was denied, Bettmann explained club sports aren't all that hard to start as long as they fit the requirements.

"You look at clubs that we don't have that would make sense, that would be extremely easy to start," Bettmann said. "A basketball club, we don't have a men's or women's basketball club. The reason being, there hasn't been many students that have approached saying they want to start that."

"If they wanted to, they could be an active club in a week or so because there are clubs in the area, there's facility space on hand, a governing body, all those things and you could find interest quickly."

Despite basketball being considered easy to start, student's interest plays a huge part in why many clubs haven't been created.

"That's a big part of Oakland University students, a lot of them choose not to be involved and then claim they don't know the opportunities are available to them," Bettmann said. "A lot of the times when we do surveys, we'll get feedback and they didn't know intramural sports were an option on



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post
Oakland Owls playing quidditch.

campus, so we try to advertise as much as possible, but when you have a student base that does live off campus and the majority works 20-40 hours a week it's hard to get their attention and say use your free time in a club sport or intramural sports."

Sports and activities that show proven interest and fit the requirements of a club sport will be given an opportunity for review, according to Bettmann.

U.S. Women affect OU soccer campers

By **KEVIN ROMANCHIK**
Scene Editor

For three weeks this summer, much of the United States was captivated by what is regarded by many to be "the most beautiful game on earth."

It wasn't the U.S. Men's Soccer team that was creating a buzz throughout social media networks worldwide, rather, the U.S. Women's National Team was the talk of the 2011 World Cup tournament in the host nation of Germany.

While it seemed like destiny for the USA to finish their run after defeating tournament favorite Brazil by hoisting the trophy, the women fell short losing 3-1 in penalty kicks to Japan.

Outside of a disappointing loss, it may be a positive experience in that more eyes are on the sport, specifically for women's soccer.

Nick O'Shea, head coach of the Oakland's women's soccer team, believes that the recent popularity of the United States Women's National Team can be traced back to previous success in prior World Cups.

"In 1999, when the World Cup was here and they won it, (there was) an explosion in young females wanting to participate, play more and take it more serious," O'Shea said.

Throughout the summer, both Oakland men's and women's soccer teams have been holding soccer camps for children of all ages.

The engaging positive personalities of this United States women's team like those of goalkeeper Hope Solo and forward Abby Wambach and many others, are also affecting youth interest by serving as role models to the potential stars of the future.

"The young females are embracing it," O'Shea said. "Obviously when you have role models that you want to emulate, (that) will push them to work harder and play more."

Coming off of the 2010 season with a record of 12-5-3 and going undefeated in conference play, the team still has things to build upon.

"We want to get better with the ball," O'Shea said. "We want to become a more positional team and create over the course of the game instead of quick strikes and instead dominate possession."



KEVIN ROMANCHIK/The Oakland Post
Participants of the OU Soccer Camp watch the U.S. Women's National Team in the World Cup Final.

With a tough upcoming schedule and growing interest in the sport, there is hope that the future of women's soccer will continue to shine brighter, not only on the ground of Oakland University, but nationwide.

THREE UNIQUE TREATS

Family-owned ice cream shops thrive in local communities

By Brittany Haney • Staff Intern

Dairy Queen, Cold Stone Creamery, Baskin-Robbins, Maggie Moo's. The list of ice cream shops could go on forever, but what about the small, family-owned parlors that compete with these franchise giants? They're still around and business is booming.

Whether it's a passed down family heirloom or just a shop inspired by the love for the delicious summer treat, they all share the same dedication for the business.

One of the most well known shops near downtown Royal Oak is Ray's Ice Cream.

Owner Tom Stevens took over the business from his father, Dale, who inherited it from his parents Raymond and Bernice before him. The shop originally opened in 1958.

"Our last name was already used by another dairy up in Saginaw," Stevens said. "So my dad decided to name it after his grandpa."

With black and white checkered floors, bar stools wrapping around an original soda bar, and the giant ice cream sundae in the window the shop itself is a step back in time.

The vintage décor might draw in a wandering eye, but the original slow churned ice cream keeps the community coming back for more.

"We've maintained our recipe too since we've been here, you know, we use a very high butterfat and natural ingredients," Stevens said.

Ray's offers a menu of over 40 different flavors of ice cream, anywhere from peanut butter banana, deemed the "Fat Elvis" to a more unique flavor of ice cream, Cinnamon. The originals like Vanilla, Chocolate and Superman can still be found on the menu for those who love to keep it simple.

North of Ray's, Grandma's Ice Cream

Parlor in Holly can easily be seen from the road in a bright pink farmhouse.

Featuring the well-known Cook's Dairy ice cream, Grandma's has been a place for fun since 1984 when Nick Nichols purchased the building, along with having Oakhaven farm close by.

"When I was growing up my dad loved ice cream, and as a kid I also loved ice cream," Nichols said. "On the fourth of July I used to have Cook's come over as just kind of an experiment to see how ice cream would sell [at the shop's location]."

Cook's most popular flavors featured at Grandma's are Blue Moo (a Cook's version of the Blue Moon) Moosetracks and Holy Cow.

Along with selling top of the line ice cream, Nick and Pam are looking to put out their produce from the farm on the weekend to help boost business.

"We're going to open our vegetable stand again," Nichols said. "We've always been known for our great corn. Everything else is great, but the corn is the greatest."

With fall quick approaching the Nichols family also offers fun things to do around their farm. Pumpkin picking, a petting zoo and a corn maze and even piles of hay provide different fun choices for families.

Even farther north is the small town of

Hadley (just outside of downtown Lapeer) where John Wallace, owner of The Parlour tends to his ice cream shop and pizza place.

Also coated in pastel pink paint, The Parlour offers the best of the Michigan's own Ashby's Ice Cream and their own shop-made pizzas, calzones, pasta and salads.

"We originally bought it [the shop] in the early '90s," Wallace said. "My wife ran it for a long time, about eight years and we ended up selling it in 2000 [and I] reopened it about four years ago."

The Parlour is now a year-round business with many growing beyond ice cream to offer many different sorbets, sundaes, shakes and malts to choose from.

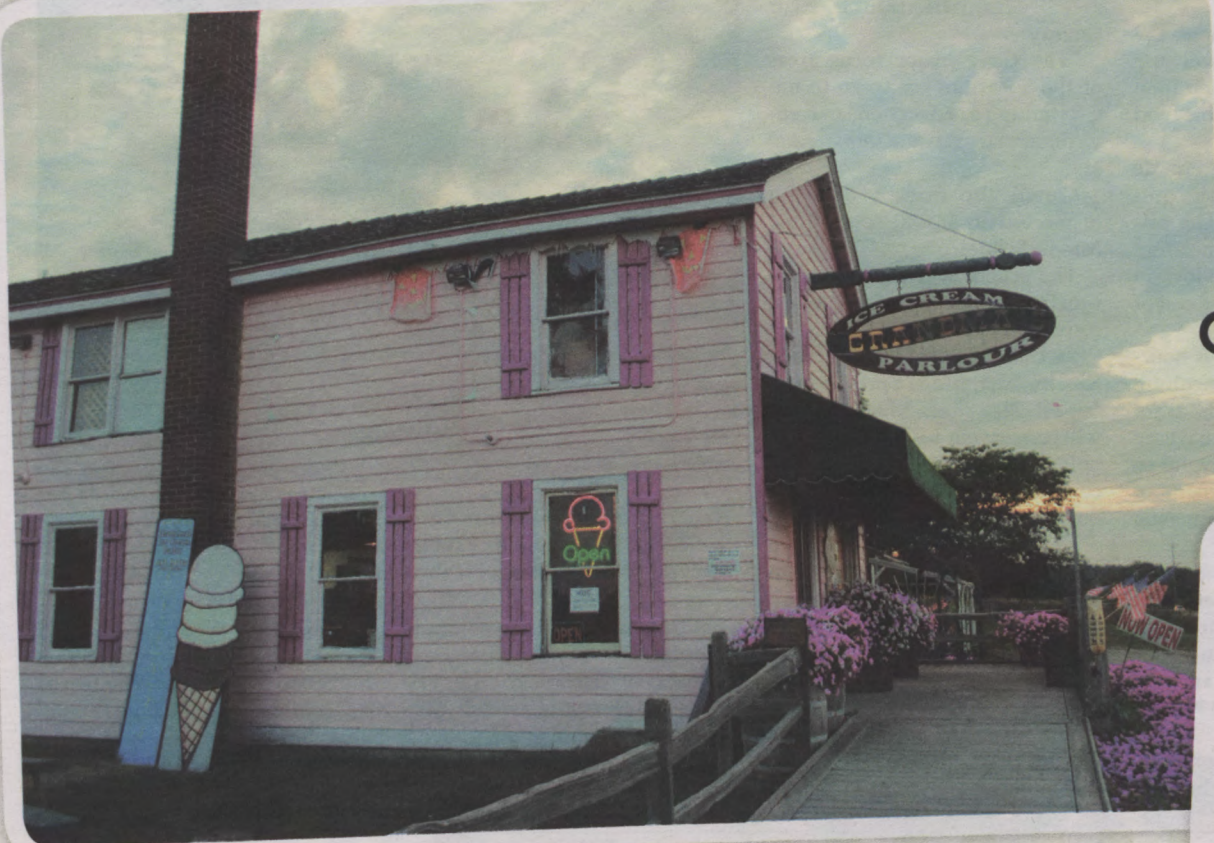
"We buy our ice cream from Ashby's, a Michigan company. They have about 60 flavors," Wallace said. "We keep a lot of the normal flavors and then just rotate through some of the other ones."

With the most popular flavors appealing to kids, like Superman and Blue Moon, the adult flavors like Butter Pecan, Cookie Dough and the original Vanilla are maintaining their popularity.

The slogan, "Peace, Love, & Ice Cream" printed on the shops sign, and also on T-shirts adorning the walls inside makes this parlor a fun place to discover off the beaten path.

With many ice cream shops out there to choose from, these are only a few of the privately owned parlors in the area.

Each one has something to offer something. Always reasonably priced, one can order a single scoop of any flavor with a waffle cone for about \$3.00 at any of these locations.



**GRANDMA'S ICE
CREAM PARLOUR**

14586 Dixie Hwy, Holly



RAY'S ICE CREAM

4233 Coolidge, Royal Oak

THE PARLOUR

3527 Hadley Road, Metamora



Cargill to donate 40K to local food banks

By STEPHANIE PREWEDA
Staff Intern

Family owned food producer Cargill, recently took a stand against hunger by donating \$40,000 worth of food supplies to six local companies in St. Clair, Mich.

"Nobody should struggle with hunger from lack of food, so meeting that need is something we want to help accomplish," Keith Klug, plant manager at Cargill's salt facility in St. Clair said. "One of the best ways Cargill has found to tackle challenges of nutrition and hunger is through donating to local networks and food banks."

Donated money came directly from Cargill budgets that donations are made from, as well as several other funds.

The Salvation Army, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Port Huron, the St. Clair Council on Aging, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan and the Algonac Food Pantry are among the non-profit organizations who received a

donation from Cargill.

The Salvation Army and the Algonac Food Pantry will use Cargill's donation to fill their food pantries with non-perishable food items and canned goods.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will use the donation to provide for those in need. The primary function of the organization is to aide families who run low on funds or food stamps at the end of the year.

"Cargill's ultimate goal is nourishing people through agriculture and food. Getting foods from where they are produced to where they are needed. From surplus to places where there are deficits of food," Mark Klein, spokesperson for Cargill, said.

The St. Clair Council on Aging will use Cargill's donation to purchase new equipment for meal preparation and delivery to homebound seniors, as well as food vouchers for seniors with limited incomes.

Also, the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan will fund 24 human-

service organizations in St. Clair County.

"The three major focus areas of the donations are to go to nutrition/health, education and environmental stewardship," Klug said.

Cargill also made a donation of more than \$5,000 to St. Clair Middle School.

The school will use the donation to purchase three Smartboard response systems.

St. Clair Middle School teacher, Kim Burkart, said in a press release for PR Newswire, "this donation will provide our teachers the technological resources they need to complement traditional lessons in our classrooms."

The Smartboard response systems will allow teachers to instantly track quiz results and lesson comprehension, making lessons more interactive and increasing learning comprehension.

But this isn't the first time Cargill has donated to local communities.



SIERRA SOLEIMANI /The Oakland Post

As part of a donation from Cargill international food producer, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Port Huron was able to stock their shelves with food items for those in need.

In December 2010, Cargill made a donation of \$10,000 to Algonac Elementary School to the Friday Food Program, which provides low income students with backpacks of ready-to-eat food every Friday. And on Octo-

ber 16, 2009 (World food day) Cargill donated a total of \$3.3 million to combat global hunger as a part of their "Nourishing People" challenge. As a result, food banks were able to stock their shelves for the holiday season.

Families gather at Village for story readings

By RAYMOND ANDRE
Senior Reporter

The Village of Rochester Hills shopping center's Festival Park is blanketed, literally.

Here, dozens of families sit patiently atop their cloths for "Books, Buddies & Blankets" summer story readings held each Wednesday at The Village in conjunction with the Rochester Hills Public Library.

This is the third year that the RHPL has worked with The Village, according to Jaclyn Miller, a youth librarian who has been with the Rochester Hills Public Library for five years. She describes the event as, "story time at the mall, open to all."

A reader selects stories, she says, often based on a theme, and reads them to children and their families.

Children can earn points on punch-cards, with a prize to be won for the most punches earned at the end of summer.

So far the program has been a success, Miller said. "I'd call it a win."

It is 10 a.m. and traffic at The Village has not quite picked up yet. Dragon flies buzz

as the sun crests opposite. The Village's gazebo, casting a natural atomic spotlight upon Sarah Smith-Conlan, Rochester Hills Public Library's early childhood specialist, seemingly magnifying her effervescent confidence.

She presses play on a portable stereo, loosing a minstrel tune before greeting children and their parents with gentle self-assurance, beginning a thirty minute story session in the theme of "fractured fairy tales," or as she explains to the sometimes riveted children, "stories you've heard, but with a twist."

These are stories like Jack and the Beanstalk, as told by a misunderstood giant, or the tale of what possessed that ambulatory egg, Humpty Dumpty, to climb to such perilous heights, or maybe just a classic story told a different way, like Smith-Conlan's telling of Goldilocks and the Three Bears played on her stereo as she uses English sign language to tell the story.

Smith-Conlan says she picks stories that appeal to a variety of ages, like rhymes and interactive tales with songs.

"You need to be able to appeal to both babies and kids," she said, smiling.

This is her third year with the Rochester Hills Public Library, and she says the summer reading events, like Books, Buddies & Blankets, have always had a, "really good turnout."

"Most of the readings have about 50 people. Families and children show up," Smith-Conlan said.

Events like the readings at The Village, Smith-Conlan said, are frequent and with similar turnouts.

"Here at the mall, they'll have readings every Wednesday, but the library's next reading will be at the Rochester Hills Public Library on the 26th of July," she said.

The summer readings at The Village's gazebo represent only a portion of the library's summer reading program, which follows the theme of "One World: many stories."

Other events put on by the Rochester Hills Public Library as part of the summer reading program include: under the awning story times and raise a reader.

"At the library we hold 15 story readings during the school year," Smith-Conlan said. "Not all story readings at the village have a RHPL storyteller. Sometimes The Village has guest speakers from throughout the community," she said.

Nevertheless, the events are promoted at and by the library, nurturing the relationship the Rochester Hills Public Library has founded with The Village.

"Our partnership with The Village is great," Smith-Conlan said, "I like it."

The Books, Buddies & Blankets event was day 16 as a part of the 94 Days of Summer itinerary put out by patch.com.

The event is free and open to all, and meets at the gazebo area at The Village of Rochester Hills from 10-10:30a.m. every Wednesday through August 24.

Information regarding the Rochester Hills Public Library summer reading program and scheduled Books, Buddies and Blankets story tellings can be found at its websites at, www.rhpl.org/events/summer-reading or <http://rochester.patch.com/events/books-buddies-and-blankets>.

Bill supports bigger degrees

By MEGAN SEMERAZ

Senior Reporter

Two-year colleges may soon be able to offer a handful of bachelor's degrees including nursing if House Bill 4496 is adopted.

According to AP reports, a proposed bill would allow 2-year community colleges to offer bachelor degree programs such as cement technology, maritime technology, nursing and energy production.

The measure was approved by the Michigan House on June 23 by a vote of 67 to 43.

Many Michigan universities, including OU, have shown concern over the legislation.

Oakland University has joined with 11 other schools to oppose the bill.

"We feel that the current law governing the granting of college degrees in Michigan is effective," Rochelle Black, vice presi-

dent for government relations at OU, said.

"This bill has not yet been made law and, as such, we cannot speak specifically on what its impact would be."

Student response to the bill has varied. Saving money was one benefit to attending a community college for four years.

Alexis Stone, sophomore biochemistry major at Oakland Community College said: "It would be good — it's going to be a lot cheaper. If you can get your degree here, then do it."

Simon Omekanda, a graduate student of electrical engineering, isn't second-guessing his OU education. Even if a 2-year college had offered a higher degree, he still would've chosen to come to Oakland.

"I still would've come here because it's more prestigious to go to OU and they're

more...advanced in their programs than... OCC," Omekanda said.

The university title is a main reason students still choose to come to OU.

Adrienne Leone, a graduate student majoring in human resources and development, stressed the importance of a school's name and what it implies.

"I feel like they are still going to be called Macomb (Community College) or OCC or something like that. I feel like if you go to a college and you graduate from here or U of M or something, you have that university name attached," Leone said. "Not that they're bad schools ... but I feel like you'd still have that name with your degree."

"Even though the money would be great, I don't know how many people would really want to say that they got their degree

at a community college, unfortunately. I'd rather say I got my degree from OU than from here (OCC)," Stone said.

When it comes to the decision students make on where to attend school, Black is confident OU will continue to shine and provide quality education.

"We can say that Oakland offers a wide array of academically rigorous, highly competitive bachelor degree programs that continue to make the university a first-choice destination for a steadily growing number of college students. We have every confidence that students will continue to see the tremendous benefit of investing in an OU education," Black said.

The bill has been referred to the Senate Education Committee. The bill will likely be reviewed this fall.

NEWS BRIEFS

A look at significant current news events from around the globe:

1. United States

Parents of a 6-year-old boy who died after a fall down the stairs in a historic San Diego mansion July 11 had been involved in previous altercations.

According to police records, in 2008, Jonah Shacknai, a pharmaceutical tycoon, reported that his wife Dina Shacknai had tried to choke him.

In 2009, Dina told police that her husband had elbowed her in the chest after she refused to read her son a bedtime story. No arrests were made in either incident.

Two days after Shacknai's son fell down the stairs, his girlfriend, Rebecca Zahau was found dead, hanging from the second-floor balcony on the mansion with her wrists and ankles bound. Suicide has not been ruled out. Investigators have not made any connections between the two incidents.

2. Mexico

Tropical Storm Dora has reached near-hurricane force in the Pacific Ocean on Tuesday, but the storm would not affect Mexico.

The storm's proximity to the Mexican coastline prompted Mexican authorities to issue heavy-rain warnings in the Pacific Mexican states of Oaxaca and Guerrero.

The storm could become a major hurricane Wednesday.

3. Guinea

President of Guinea survived an assassination attempt Tuesday when a gunman came to his home and pounded his bedroom with heavy artillery. The attack throws doubt into the country's first democratically elected government.

President Alpha Conde was saved because he was sleeping in a different room at the time.

Grenades landed inside the compound, killing one of the president's bodyguards.

The president addressed the nation, instructing to remain calm and that the attack would not alter any of the democratic changes that took place seven months ago.



4. Russia

Young, female fans of Vladimir Putin have gathered together in a group called "Putin's Army" to support his return to presidency. Members of the group shot a racy video of women who tout Putin's virtues as a national leader and an "awesome man."

The video has since gone viral. Putin served a double term as president from 2000 to 2008. It is unclear how the group began, but a website called "Putin's Army" claims it has 800 members.

5. Kenya

A maritime industry group posted videos on YouTube Tuesday of four Filipinos and two Danes being held hostage by Somali pirates.

Pirates from East Africa often seek millions of dollars to release the ships and crews that they hijacked off the coast. Though the group has made hostage videos in the past, they have never posted them to websites like YouTube.

In the videos, the pirate is asking the crew questions. One crew

member is asking for government help in freeing them. He said that the crew is suffering health problems and they are often afraid.

The six men seen in the video are being filmed by a pirate, while three masked men hold weapons in the background.

There has not been a demand for ransom in this particular case.

— Compiled from AP Reports by Megan Semeraz, Senior Reporter

Dig in Israel attracts OU

Experts believe they have discovered ancient biblical city

By SARAH WOJCIK
Features Editor

Oakland University students are getting their hands dirty and unearthing ancient history in Israel.

Twelve students made the journey to Israel for three weeks this summer to take part in an excavation on the border of ancient Israel and Philistine dating back to around 1000 BC — the Iron Age and era of the biblical King David.

Professor Mike Pytlik, who teaches Archaeology of Israel (AN 392) during the winter semester, began taking students to the site in the summer of 2009 and the trip has expanded every year.

"We focus on making it a field school for our archaeology students and anthropology students. They not only participate in the excavation, but they have certain things they do while they're on the site, assignments if you will," Pytlik said.

Some of the students' assignments include working with the Hebrew University staff to sort and analyze pottery, taking measurements and making drawings.

"(The trip) was an eye-opener and reconfirmed what we learned in the classroom," Heather Grewette, a senior majoring in anthropology, said. "Working with other students at such an important site was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for me."

The opportunity, however, is not limited to archaeology and anthropology majors.

Kayla Horn, a senior studying nursing, went on the trip this summer.

"I cannot express in words at all how I felt standing there and being somewhere that someone lived and thrived in 3,000 years ago," Horn said. "Holding those things in your hands — it's indescribable."

Also present at the dig were students from Southern Adventist University, students and staff from Hebrew University and individuals interested in joining the scene.

Pytlik and others believe that the site, just 23 miles or so from Jerusalem, is an Israelite border port mentioned in the biblical story of David and Goliath.

"We think we're digging one of those sites mentioned in that story and we have some good evidence that supports that," Pytlik said.

Among the evidence is the fact that the site's name, Sha'arayim, means "two gates"



Courtesy of Mike Pytlik
Students were in Israel from June 12 through July 3. The group and some Israeli friends pose in Gamla with the Oakland University flag.

in Hebrew and a two-gated city was cited in the biblical story.

"All of the cities in the Iron Age and most all the cities in Israel, even in later periods, had only one gate," Pytlik said. "(Sha'arayim) is the only site yet known in the whole country that has two gates."

While there this summer, the Israeli news came out to film the careful extraction of a large iron spearhead by Emily Tissot, an anthropology student at OU.

Other news organizations such as CNN, BBC, National Geographic and the New York Times, according to Pytlik, have also featured the site.

"It's a very interesting site because of all the questions (surrounding) the extent of David's kingdom (and whether) David was a real king," he said.

Piecing information together, such as the time period, the pottery, the chronology, the dates, the geographic reference and the biblical story gives archaeologists a little more detail about David's kingdom.

"This trip has made me think that I'd rather stay in archaeology than continue on in cultural anthropology like I had originally planned," Grewette, who will graduate in December, said.

The whole site is about six to seven acres and encompasses an oval-shaped walled settlement comprised of approximately 100 houses.

Among the findings at the site are tremendous amounts of pottery, iron jewelry, vessels with olive pits and grain preserved inside of them and, most notably, an inscription pre-dating the earliest Hebrew writing ever found.

"In 2008, the oldest Hebrew inscription was found on a piece of pottery, which is now quite famous, quite an important find," Pytlik said.

Adding to the mystery of Sha'arayim, it was only used probably for 50 or 60 years and then destroyed and abruptly abandoned, according to Pytlik, only to be settled again about 500 or 600 years later during the Hellenistic period.

Students also enjoyed excursions on the weekends.

Their destinations included ancient sites such as Socoh and Azekah (both mentioned in the David and Goliath narrative), Hippos and Gamla. Students experienced staying in both a kibbutz and a hotel in Jerusalem. They visited the Dead Sea, as well as the Temple Mount and the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

"(I loved) how they consider Jerusalem as part of their life, culture, duty. It was amazing to be a part of that," Horn said. "It was so moving to put your hand on the (Western Wall), so old and incredible."

Thanks to generous donor funds and research grants, the students only had to



Courtesy of Mike Pytlik
Junior Mike Henson, an anthropology major, uncovers Iron Age (circa 1000 BC) pottery at the site.

supply about half the cost of the trip.

If interested about the class and/or trip, contact Mike Pytlik at pytlik@oakland.edu.

More photos are available online at www.oaklandpostonline.com

Alluring spin on Rochester history

By **MEGAN SEMERAZ**
Senior Reporter

If you ever drive through downtown Rochester, take a stroll around Oakland University's campus or even stop for cider and donuts at Yates Cider Mill, you may not be thinking about who and what stood there years before you. But for two Meadow Brook Hall employees, uncovering the secrets and the history of Rochester's past is a part of their everyday lives.

In their most recent historical venture, Meredith Long, curator at MBH, and Madelyn Rzakowski, program and events coordinator at MBH, conducted extensive research and wrote a book titled "Images of America: Rochester and Rochester Hills."

"It is a general history of Rochester and Rochester Hills told through photographs. Photographs tell so much about the history of a town, so we have historical black and white photographs, mainly," Rzakowski said.

The book, published by Arcadia Publishing, is a part of a series that focuses on towns and cities across the United States. Each book in the series follows a specific format of photographs and short



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post
Meredith Long and Madelyn Rzakowski compiled a history of Rochester and Rochester Hills told through photographs.

captions.

"They focus on photographs because, quite frankly, sometimes people think they don't like history and so these books are kind of that first book they might say 'oh wow that looks really interesting' and then they pick it up and see all of these great photographs," Long said.

The photos throughout the book contain area landmarks, buildings and notable residents in

the town's history. Through their research, Long and Rzakowski were able to provide additional information in the captions of what is happening behind the scenes in every single photo.

"We interpret the history of them ... You can pretty much go through the book looking at the photographs," Rzakowski said. "Then if you want more details beyond what you can see, we have kind of what they're all

about and how they are associated with Rochester residents and businesses."

"Slowly (the readers) start to realize, 'I do want to read these captions' and they read the captions and they find out how wonderful their community is," Long said.

Shannon O'Berski, marketing and communications manager at MBH, thought both Rzakowski and Long did a good job on the book.

"I think the book is great. It allows the reader to experience local history in a fun and engaging way. It takes a lot of talent and perseverance to write a book — they definitely have both," O'Berski said.

The idea for the book came when Long took a tour of the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition. The tour guide happened to be the author of "Images of America: Detroit's Historic Fort Wayne."

"He had just talked to the editor a couple days before and she had specifically mentioned really wanting to get a book about Rochester written," Long said.

"There had been no one who had stood up to say that they'd write it for them ... so I looked over at Madelyn and I said, 'Wanna write

a book with me?'"

Long, who has worked at MBH for five years, has a bachelor's degree in historic preservation, a graduate degree in historic preservation and a post-baccalaureate certificate in fine art conservation.

Rzakowski graduated in 2009 with a degree in art history and art education. She began working at MBH as a volunteer two years ago.

"We worked really well together being able to say what interested us, so I think the book is fairly dynamic because we each have parts ... she loves preservation and how cities are built and business and I love the social history."

"Images of America: Rochester and Rochester Hills" is now available at the Meadow Brook Hall gift shop, along with area books retailers.

OU students can tour Meadow Brook Hall free of charge and adults are \$15.

"Behind the Ropes" tours run every Saturday and Sunday through Sept. 4 with tours at noon and 1 p.m. The tour includes rarely seen areas of MBH.

For more information, go to www.meadowbrookhall.org

CASA leaders seek to give aid to Chaldean refugees

By **HALEY JONNA**
Staff Reporter

Founded in the 1980s, the originators of the Chaldean American Student Association hoped to create a program that would encourage Chaldean Americans to complete their degrees.

As Chaldeans migrated from Iraq to Michigan, few were able to conform to the strict standards of American schools. Support for the students completing their studies at universities was a necessity.

"As it has become more common for Chaldean Americans to complete their degrees, I have found that the goal and mission of CASA has changed," Chanel Shina, president of CASA, said. "We now strive to bring Chaldean students together and also to support our community's charities."

Another goal of CASA includes portraying the Chaldean community positively.

Vice President Janel Ayar is not concerned with negative stereotypes, but with the lack of awareness of the community's potential.

"We hope to create an image for the Chaldean community, rather than to expunge any," Ayar said. "Even in

Iraq, Chaldeans were a minority, but somehow gained the respect of the majority. Our mission is to do that here at Oakland University."

With membership typically standing at about thirty members, the productivity of the club has fluctuated with leadership. Shina and Ayar are both excited to make changes within the organization, hoping to get involved with other cultural groups at Oakland.

With CASA branches existing at more than half of the colleges in Michigan, the OU CASA has gained the reputation of hosting an annual fashion show that brings in high numbers in donations.

CASA also sponsors weekly events such as bowling nights, food drives, a powderpuff football game and an annual trip to Cedar Point.

The new leaders for the 2011-12 academic school year have made giving back to their community a priority.

"My hope for the coming year is that we raise more money for refugees. With the opportunities and resources we have, we should be giving back more," Ayar said.

The refugees she refers to are Chaldean runaways from Iraq who have fled to America in order to avoid religious persecution. Shina and Ayar are clear that this cause will



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post
Chanel Shina and Janel Ayar, president and vice president of the Chaldean American Student Association.

be first among those they support.

The Chaldean American Student Association is open to all members of any race. The club is scheduled to meet once a month in the Oakland Center.

For more information, refer to the CASA Facebook page, "Chaldean American Student Association — OU Chapter."

'Vitality' invigorates OU dance scene

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**
Local Editor

Watch out dance team, Oakland University has a new competitive dance club on campus.

Vitality Dance was founded this year by coach Sara Porzondek after she left her coaching position on Oakland's dance team and saw an opportunity to start OU's first dance club.

"From 2008 to March 2011, I was the coach of the OU Dance Team, which performs at athletic events," Porzondek said. "I decided to leave that position because the dance team was not getting the recognition and appreciation it deserved from that department."

Vitality Dance is an organization for dancers trained in jazz, lyrical and contemporary dance with a focus on studio type dancing rather than poms style dancing. The club will have a mixture of large group performances as well as solo performances show-



OU's dance club, Vitality Dance, practices Tuesdays and Thursdays at Deborah's Stage Door during the summer. Ashley Allison does practices her technique in front of a mirror.

JESSICA CARMICHAEL/The Oakland Post

casing a mixture of contemporary, modern, lyrical and jazz dancing.

As a competitive dance club, the group will be attending at least one dance competition during their season.

All 11 members have prior studio dance experience and four are former members of the OU dance team. Porzondek says that

a solid jazz and technical dance background is helpful, but not required to join the club.

"Once you graduate high school, you really cannot dance at a lot of studios because they cut the age off for competition," Ashley Allison, secretary of Vitality Dance, said. "The only thing left was a college team, but I wasn't on

dance team so I knew I couldn't do poms style dancing ... so this is a great opportunity."

While the team has not yet had any group performances, they expect to put on a large showcase at the end of their season that will contain numerous large and small group performances.

They also hope to perform at

campus and local events like the Involvement Fair, Greek Fest in September and the Rochester Christmas Parade.

"Our club is so new that a lot is still up in the air. We are definitely open to new ideas and suggestions. We will definitely be doing performances at OU, as well as local and potentially national competitions," member Christina Shalawlyo said.

The club also plans on taking part in community services.

"A lot of girls are involved with outside groups, such as church or work groups that often work with the community," Porzondek said.

Another round of tryouts will be held Sept. 27th. During the fall, practices will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays in the recreation center.

For more information, email President Katie Bowe or check out www.facebook.com/oaklanduniversityvitalitydance

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KEVIN ROMANCHIK/The Oakland Post

Jenine Brown, theory instructor for the Music Preparatory Division, spends time with potential music students, helping to extend their skills in both composition and theory.

Composing for the future

Oakland faculty offers classical music workshops for local kids

By **SARAH HUNTON**
Staff Reporter

The Music Preparatory Program at Oakland University will be hosting two music composition workshops during the final two weeks of July.

The first workshop, the Intensive Musicianship and Composition Workshop, will take place July 18-22 from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. The second workshop, the Creative Computer Composition Workshop, will take place July 25-29 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Both are geared towards instrumental and vocal students aged 12-18.

The Intensive Musicianship and Composition Workshop will teach students to develop their aural skills through sight-singing exercises in the first hour of the class. For the second hour of the class students will develop basic piano skills including playing scales and triads.

In the final hour of the class, students will compose variations on a musical theme by Mozart. According to Jenine Brown, the teacher of the course, learning to compose based off the example of Mozart is a good place to begin.

"The musical language of Western classical music was very much commodified with Mozart ... (composers after Mozart) really looked to Mozart as a composer to both

imitate and do what they wanted to do with," Brown said. "I also chose him because he tends to be the easiest thing to start with when you are first composing."

Students will only need a background in music notation. No further music theory knowledge or piano skills are necessary.

In the Creative Computer Composition Workshop participants will be using free web-based tools, such as Myna and Audacity, to create musical compositions. With these programs, students will be able to access the work they complete during the workshop on their home computers.

In addition to composing, participants will learn about creating and editing recordings and looping tracks.

Melissa Hoag, Assistant Professor of Music Theory at OU, also believes that hosting these workshops will benefit students who wish to pursue music at OU.

"The summer workshops the Preparatory Division offers provide important outreach to the community," Hoag said. "An entry-level encounter with composition can be a valuable enrichment experience, and will make use of music theory knowledge. For those who plan to continue with music as their focus of study in college, the fundamentals in music theory course (MUT 111) offered at OU is an excellent opportunity to prepare for university studies."

Brown, a Ph.D. candidate in music theory at the Eastman School of Music, will teach both of the workshops. Brown teaches music theory and composition courses through OU's Music Preparatory Division and believes that music theory is an integral aspect in learning to become a better musician.

"Music theory teaches you a particular way of talking about music," Brown said. "There's lots of terminology that especially younger students can learn in order to communicate better with their teachers and with other musicians about what they are playing. It gives them a better way to talk about what they want to do, or what they are going to do musically."

One benefit to hosting these workshops at OU will be to prepare music students for their college coursework.

"One of the major things that incoming students are lacking in as far as a music student would be their background in theory," Daneen Stapleton, Outreach Coordinator for the Department of Music, Theater, and Dance, said. "At the high school level they just don't get as much theory as they need in order to be fully prepared at the college level."

For more information about these workshops, contact stapleto@oakland.edu or call (248) 370-2034.

New band begins to heat up

The Joy Formidable get ready for Lollapalooza Festival

By **BRIAN FIGURSKI**
Staff Reporter

The summer concert season is following suit of the weather and heating up, namely in the form of festivals playing host to some of the most promising new bands.

The Joy Formidable, based out of London, England, are one of those young groups who are likely to make an impending mark on music-goers this season.

The three-piece alternative rock group, rounded out by vocalist/guitarist Ritzy Bryan, back-up vocalist/bassist Rhidian Dafydd and drummer Matt Thomas, released their self-produced debut album "The Big Roar" early this year and have not ceased a relentless touring cycle to promote the album.

One of the biggest draws of The Joy Formidable lies in their cryptic lyrics, giving even their biggest fans a hard time trying

to decipher the meanings to their madness.

"We like having that sense of ambiguity, as long as it's because there is meaning to it," Bryan said. "The Joy Formidable is creating a state of confusion everywhere they go."

The veiled messages in their music may not be an intentional outcome, however.

"(I'm) not a big fan of dissecting anything that we do. We always say we were more concerned with writing and experimenting, seeing how the direction of the band would develop," Bryan said. "It's not like we're trying to make things too complicated for the sake of it."

The bands motive may not be to create lyrical confusion, but sonic chaos is a charm the band has down to a science. "The Big Roar" is the cumulative effort since The Joy Formidable formed, combining the upbeat poppy vocals provided by Bryan, which contrasts beautifully to the heavy, dense

sound of effect-laden guitar work. The addition of explosive rhythms and double-bass work from behind the kit unleashes their noisy inner-beast.

"I think if you looked through each of our record collections, you'd probably think we all come from quite different listening habits," Bryan said. "We hit a common ground and that's kind of magic when you all come from different tastes and come together and make something your own."

The Joy Formidable reception at gigs on American soil have been magnificent, suggesting a devout following stateside.

"I think we're fortunate, (but) you sort of make your own fortune in having a fan base," Bryan said. "There seems to be a genuine passion about music and the live experience. I think our audience leans toward having that wherever we are, in the UK and most definitely in the States."

The band will be in the midst of a festival cycle when they head to Lollapalooza in Grant Park in Chicago in the beginning of August, where the band will have some downtime to become fans as well as performers.

"It's a rarity to actually stick around (a festival) and get a proper feel, but I think they've given us the weekend off, which is exciting."

The band will be performing on the third day of Lollapalooza, starting the day on one of the main stages.

"We approach every gig the same, you got to play it like it's your last one, whether it's a tiny basement gig or a massive festival," Bryan said. "We've definitely done both ends of that spectrum."

The Joy Formidable doesn't need to speak much about their future endeavors — the music will tell you their goals are as big as their sound.



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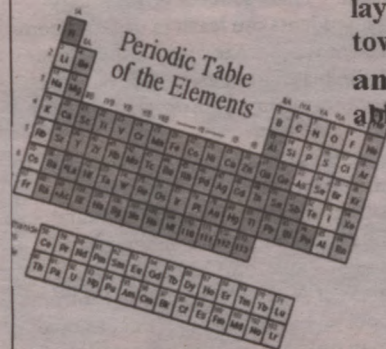
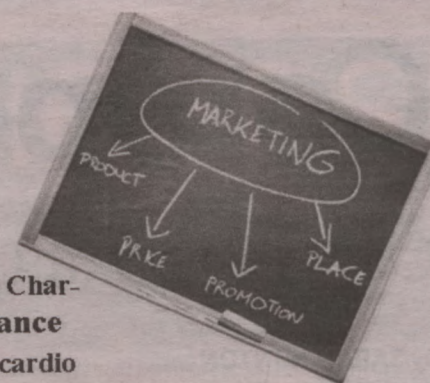
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Harry Potter lives on

COLUMN

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**
Managing Content Editor

Seven books, 10 years, a website and a theme park later, the Harry Potter legacy is ending for some people as the final installment in the movie series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" was released last Friday.

When I was in the first grade, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" came out. Though, the series didn't really start to become popular until I was in the fourth grade.

Throughout my life, the books and movies have always been there.

On my 16th birthday, instead of going out with my friends, I waited in line at the bookstore. A kid with a lightning bolt painted on her forehead and dressed in

Gryffindor house colors, all that mattered to me was what happened to Harry Potter with his next adventure.

Judging by the common release of all of J.K. Rowling's books and movies, it was no surprise that the final installment of the series would occur, once again, right around my birthday.

This time, however, it meant so much more.

For friends my age and myself included, the end of the movies pointed out that our childhoods as we knew it, were over. It especially held true to me, as I turn 20 today, just five days later.

There would be no more midnight premieres for the movies, no midnight lines for the books to come out, just memories of more than a decade of life.

But if you're like me, you know how to continue the magic.

As the founder and president of the

Muggle Quidditch League of Oakland University, I plan on keeping the series alive in my life.

The Oakland Owls and I competed last Friday, the same day the movie came out against Michigan State University at The Henry Ford Museum, to the likes of various news organizations. The turnout was spectacular and just the start of the headline-making the movies made this past weekend.

Beating all other records, the movie took in \$169 million in its opening weekend, according to The Associated Press.

From there, it's money making madness is supposed to continue.

Though the series has concluded and there are no more books, Harry Potter will continue to be present at OU.

Keep a look out for the Owls when we practice outside of the Oakland Center, and feel free to join in.

records & reels

INCUBUS // "If Not Now, When?"

The iconic band debuts their seventh album, the first effort in five years, and is a dramatic departure from the spasmodic efforts of their nü-metal days. The band's aggressive edge is replaced by a focus on simplistic and core songwriting. While fans of the S.C.I.E.N.C.E. era may be disappointed, Incubus has created a warm aesthetic, mainstreamed by Brandon Boyd's soaring, eclectic vocals.

PORTUGAL. THE MAN // "In the Mountain, In the Cloud"

While some bands grow complacent with limited studio releases, the band from Alaska has released over six full length albums since 2006. Growing musically from the electronic drum sound of their first album and from the classic rock sound of their second album, the more indie-folk based style of "In the Mountain, In the Cloud" proves the release is just another step in the groups prolific career.

"CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER" // 125 min. // PG-13

Hollywood continues pumping out action-packed superhero movies with floundering scripts. Captain America will challenge this wilting trend. Chris Evans plays Steve Rogers, a skinny lad with big fight, signing up for a secret military operation in World War II. The operation turns Rogers into a mass of bulging muscle, leading the U.S. against a villainous member of Hitler's armed forces. Expect women to swoon at the hero's physique and gym junkies to become green with envy.

— Compiled by Scene Editor Kevin Romanchik and Staff Reporter Brian Figurski

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Anthony case is an American media melee

By BRIAN FIGURSKI

Staff Reporter / Basically an attorney

The American judicial system has reached a new low, and we can thank the media for fueling that.

On July 5, 25-year-old Casey Anthony, indicted on charges of first-degree murder of her 3-year-old daughter, Caylee, was found not guilty in the state of Florida. I find it ironic that this domestic disappointment happened right after celebrating our country via explosives.

But Anthony was not convicted of the crime.

This is not the first time in great American history that something of this caliber has occurred. The O.J. Simpson trial in 1995 is the most infamous case of getting away with murder. Michael Bay accomplished this a few weeks ago with the release of the "Transformers 3" torture.

So why did the Casey Anthony Trial get so much publicity, even before the verdict was final? We've seen similar cases happen

before, and surely there are numerous other cases across the continents of sociopath parents on trial for child neglect, abuse and murder.

Thanks to social websites smartphones were built around, like Facebook, Twitter and the newly-born black sheep Google+, everybody who's nobody has some quip to give on the matter. Twitter accounts such as OSCaseyAnthony are a constant faucet dripping the blackened secretion of diluted information.

A lot of blood-hungry Americans are crying out via the World Wide Web, which has dubbed this case the first "Social Media trial of the century."

The judicial system needs to be adjusted to include these valid and credible opinions of Everyone, America.

The next big trial needs to be decided with whether guilty or not guilty gets more likes or hashtags. Every third check-in gets you an honorary vote.

A large majority of the country thinks Anthony is guilty. If you didn't know that,

you must not have a Twitter account.

Looking at the circumstantial evidence, one could see how that is a feasible verdict. Laundry bags and duct tape were found at the crime scene. A new forensic test discovered a hair in the trunk of Anthony's car that displayed signs of post-mortem decomposition.

A large majority of the country thinks Anthony is guilty. If you didn't know that, you must not have a Twitter account.

Her own parents even claimed her car smelled like death. That, or Anthony stopped by JC Penney's and picked up the new Paris Hilton perfume, Afterlife.

Regardless of her personal life or any prior "evidence," Anthony is off the hook, case closed. There is nothing but circumstantial evidence and unless you are part of the jury or the judge, your mild opinion isn't going

to change anything.

People forget that in this country you have to prove someone committed a crime, not put them on TV and say they did something. The Casey Anthony case has become the 21st Century Salem Witch Trial.

If you're still looking to point the finger of blame, you can look to the media hype of everyone in this country, because without their gasoline on what was once a small fire, the majority of us would have let this trial go right over our heads and kept on eating our Big Macs.

The best thing I can recommend for those still fuming is deep breaths, a handful of hydrocodone and a beer. Take a nice long nap after that concoction and if you're lucky, you won't wake up for whatever disaster is coming next, since the social media juggernauts are not even close to slowing.

Those still searching for reform, give it about a year and I'm sure Congress will change the stake-burning process to make it more convenient for all of us.

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