



After splitting over the weekend, the women's soccer team will need help to make the conference tournament.

-B5



Be sure to check out A8 for a review of both



presidential candidates' platforms for Tuesday's election.

50 cents

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War is 'good copy' for media industry

By ROQAYA ESHMAWI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Tom Brokaw declared war before the president did. So do politics make media? Or do media make politics?

According to a panel of media political science experts, the media can sometimes make politics, influencing voters' decisions, overplaying select images into the public mind and even declaring war.

When the president connected al-Qaeda to Iraq the media did not question him, said Interim Director of Journalism Mike Lewis.



"(It) gave us propaganda from the government instead of exploring what happened behind 9/11.

"We accepted this untrue story ... as rationale for sending our sons and daughters to die," he said.

The power of the media was shown as it pushed the U.S. into war.

"War," he said, means "big stories," which means "big ratings," and that means "big money."

America was known as the nation that stands for human rights, but now, he said, it is known as "the nation that uses torture and humiliation with weapons."

Professor of journalism, Neal Shine, talked of a Baghdad correspondent from The Wall Street Journal, Farnaz Fassihi, who e-mailed friends about her experiences in Iraq.

Her anecdote found its way to the public. According to Shine, Fassihi wrote, "Iraqis are saying that under the Americans it has been a raging and barbar-

ic guerrilla war ... the genie of terrorism has been unleashed on this country as a result of American's mistakes."

The Wall Street Journal later explained, he said, that Fassihi is leaving her post in Baghdad for a vacation that will end sometime after the election.

"Today's media needs to get from where they are to a better place ... to where Farnaz Fassihi would take us if she was allowed to," Shine said.

He also commented on the media phrase "rebuilding Iraq."

"Hell, we better change that logo; we're not rebuilding it, we're breaking it." Please see MEDIA on A4

TAKE PART IN THE PROCESS. Election Day is Tuesday Nov. 2. Be sure to let your voice be heard by casting a ballot.

Proposal talks still dragging

By LIBBY BAKER AND ALLISON BRUNNER
THE OAKLAND POST

OU's Student Congress (OUSC) passage of a resolution urging students to vote no on Proposal 2 continues to cause a stir.

The original resolution (05-05), passed during the Oct. 4 meeting by an 11-3 vote, has raised concerns from some students who feel OUSC should not be telling students how to vote on issues, especially those as controversial as Proposal 2.

A resolution, sponsored by legislator Doug Merriam, which would have apologized to the student body and nullified resolution 05-05, was not placed on the meeting agenda.

He said congress should have educated students on the issue and not urged them to vote one way or another. He also said the passage of 05-05 has caused increased hurt and pain, and created an unhealthy atmosphere where students are afraid to discuss their opinions.

"If you can't be free on a college campus to voice your opinion, where can you do it?" he said.

Please see OUSC on A4

Writers take the stage for charity

By ADESINA WHEELER
THE OAKLAND POST

They don't call them the 'Rock Bottom' Remainers for nothing.

If all the band members happen to strike the same chord at the same time, they are genuinely shocked.

And if they all manage to begin a song together, they are as surprised as the audience.

And what they lack in musical talent, they definitely make up in volume.

But the Remainers are still able to sell out venues across the country.

In their real lives, the members are best-selling authors such as Dave Barry, Amy Tan, Mitch Albom, Stephen King, Scott Turow, Frank McCourt, Roy Blount, Ridley Pearson, Cathi Goldmark, Greg Isles and Roger McGuinn.

"When we tour, it's like a camp with my favorite writer, but writing never comes up," said Mitch Albom, author of "The Five People You Meet In Heaven."

"We mostly listen to Dave Barry telling booger jokes."

In their fantasy lives, they are rock stars. Not good rock stars maybe, but still rock stars.

"I have no talent ... I am the true rock bottom," said Scott Turow, author of "The Burden of Truth."

"For everyone else, it's a name. For me, it's an adjective."

The group will take the stage as rock stars at 7:30 p.m. at Clutch Cargo's in Pontiac



Above: The 'Rock Bottom' Remainers perform at an Inside Out charity concert earlier this year. Right: Best-selling author Dave Barry, a member of the Remainers, adds his vocals to the effort.

Saturday, Oct. 30 in an 18-and-older show to benefit the Inside Out Literary Arts Program.

Inside Out is a Detroit non-profit organization that places professional poets and fiction writers in Detroit Public Schools in order to increase literature, poetry and writing exposure in at risk students.

Tickets for the concert are \$35. VIP tickets, which

include meeting the band before the show, are available for \$150.

"This is the first year Inside Out Literary Arts and 'Rock Bottom' Remainers have done a benefit together," Inside Out Literary Arts Program Director Robert Fanning said.

"We hope to raise \$20,000," Fanning said. "We will divide that between Inside Out and

Photos courtesy of Daemrich Photography

America Score National Program."

The concert, sponsored by Borders, Starbucks, The Detroit Free Press, WJR Radio, Hyperion, Disney Hand, Gibson and Brilliance Audio, hopes to attract "booklovers and music lovers of all ages," said Fanning.

For tickets or information, call Clutch Cargo's at (248) 333-2362, or visit ticketmaster.com.



Political science prof retires after 44 years

By ROQAYA ESHMAWI
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Retiring from OU after 44 years, Shelly Appleton jokingly informed an audience of nearly 200 that he is running for president this year.

"The crowd from Washington, Maryland, North Carolina, California, Michigan and even Dubai, gathered Friday night to honor the distinguished professor of political science at his Last Lecture and Retirement Dinner.

"I have a surprise for you," Appleton said. "I didn't really ask you to come here just to mark my retirement, we asked you here to help launch my candidacy for the presidency."

The more serious part of his lecture focused on problems with the American political system.

"Instead of citizens choosing their representatives, their representatives are choosing their constituents," he said. "It makes the elections not very meaningful."

Most incumbents he said, worry most

about the primary, "where they have to appeal to party activists who are much more extreme on both sides than the general public, which is in the center."

This forces the public to make more extreme decisions, and Appleton said he feels that is one of the reasons "for polarization and the nastiness that we're seeing now in our political life."

Since the elections of 1948, Appleton said this year's election is the "nastiest campaigning" he has seen.

Please see PROF on A6



Roqaya Eshmawi/The Oakland Post
Professor Sheldon Appleton embraces a former student. Appleton is retiring after 44 years of teaching at OU.

Despite reports, sex is safe in Detroit

By TRACY ESTES
ASSISTANT LIFE EDITOR

Not only has the city of Detroit been labeled the fattest, it's also being called the STD capital of the nation.

Detroit came in dead last on a list of 101 of the largest cities in the nation for being the easiest place to catch an STD.

The information gathered for the article was based on data from 2002, taken from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Wende Berry, senior publicist for the Office of Public Information and Media Relations in Detroit for the Department of Health and Wellness Promotions said the article printed in Men's Fitness Magazine was absolutely not true.

"That data was outdated and Detroit is not even close to being last on that list anymore," said Berry.

The major STDs the story was based on were Syphilis, Chlamydia and Gonorrhea.

Please see STD on A4

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Are you feeling a draft?

Army recruiters can't fill their quotas. Re-enlistments are plummeting. Soldiers are being forced to stay past their contracted time.

Meanwhile, Iraq is a quagmire that's only going to get worse.

With America's armed forces already stretched to the breaking point in Iraq and Afghanistan, where are tomorrow's troops going to come from?

As college students today, we ought to seriously consider that question.

Oh yes, President Bush insists he won't bring back the draft. But remember: this is the same

president who swore that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. That Saddam was linked to 9/11. And that Iraqis would welcome us with open arms. He was dead wrong every time.

With George Bush stubbornly determined to go it alone, our allies won't join us. American troops will still be 90 percent of the "coalition." And 90 percent of its dead and wounded.

And the volunteer military will be a casualty of war.

So unless you like the idea of graduate school in Fallujah, we need to pay careful attention to what our president is saying, versus what it really means.

Now do you feel that draft?