

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 12, 2008

Volume 33, Number 53

Defeated



A disappointing end for both men's and women's hoops in Tulsa

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Three OU students share their thoughts as candidates for the position of Student Body President

Campus

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The world of the Web—what happens in the digital universe and why you should know about it

YOU

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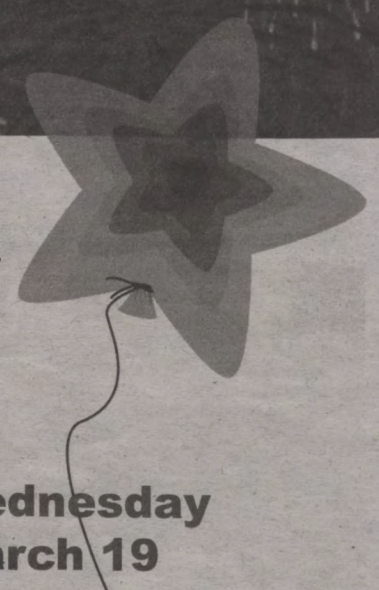
Late-night calls from Hillary Clinton. Would you pick up the phone?

Mouthing Off

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OU Residence Halls 2008-09 EARLY SIGN UP

The Residence Halls Fall early sign-up is the process through which current University Housing students can elect to remain in on-campus housing for the upcoming academic year (Fall-Winter 2008-09). The information below highlights more your options and the complete timeline of the process. Detailed information was sent via email.



Wednesday | Thursday
March 12 | March 13

PHASE 1:
Resign for your current room /
same style

Location:
Housing Office,
448 Hamlin Hall

Time:
8:00am-6:00pm

Monday
March 17

PHASE 2:
Roommate Choice / Group
Sign-up / 6 West Vandenberg
/ Small Halls Doubles

Location:
Housing Office
448 Hamlin Hall

Time:
8:00am-6pm

Wednesday
March 19

PHASE 3:
Carnival

Location:
Vandenberg 1st Floor
Lounge

Time:
7:30am-5:30pm

LINE UP DRAWING:

In order to avoid safety issues resulting from students standing in line during the early morning hours to sign up for single rooms or specific buildings, we will conduct a random number drawing for the first 300 students in line for Phase 3. Beginning at the Midnight Breakfast at the Vandenberg Dining Center 10:30pm-1:00am Tuesday, March 11, students will be able to draw a number for a reserved space in line at the Phase 3 Carnival. Students with a reserved place in line will be serviced in number order starting at 7:30am on Wednesday, March 19.

Students submitting contracts during the early sign-up period will NOT be required to pay the \$100.00 down payment.

Are you living on campus next year?

THIS WEEK 3.12.08

THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Create a pottery masterpiece at Creative Arts Studio in Royal Oak / Check out a preview of hit Broadway musicals coming to Detroit



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Full coverage from Tulsa—how OU basketball rose and fell in the Summit League Championship Tournament / Baseball making a comeback



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March 12, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Democracy for sale— will Michigan buy in?

So the presidential game is still on.

This week, we had the primary on the bayou, in Mississippi, and before that, in Cheney's country, Wyoming.

Still, the democratic race to the nomination is close — there is no clear victor yet. Trips to Pennsylvania, Indiana, and New Mexico, among others, are still planned.

So some states are still awaiting the campaigns of presidential hopefuls. A few states, however, were not big destinations for the two candidates, one of which is Michigan.

Not two months ago, we had a major fiasco regarding our state's primary.

The waters have still not settled.

Both Barack and Hillary are hoping for the 2,025 delegates needed for the nod at the Democratic Convention in Denver this August.

But, no one is ready to nod.

It's still neck and neck — Barack has a little over 100 more delegates than his opponent.

And in the realm of superdelegates, Hillary is currently in the lead. Many still have not affiliated with either candidate, such as ex-presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich.

Nonetheless, the future may pose an important question — what if the total number of delegates for both does not reach 2,025? What should be done?

We could take the democratic route and offer the candidate with the majority number of delegates the honor of running for president.

The candidate with fewer delegates may even concede.

We could also turn the count over to the Superdelegates.

Or we could offer Michigan and Florida an actual say in the matter. Our representation was damaged due to the actions resulting from party politics.

Why can't we provide our voice to impact the race?

The last primary will take place in Puerto Rico, a Commonwealth.

A better option is to offer two major states a fair chance.

Estimates point to a figure of \$10 million required to have another primary in Michigan, and much more in Florida. But can a cost be put on democracy? In such a close race, every voice needs to be heard in an attempt to ensure the best representation of voters.

The hefty sum can come from a variety of sources. Possibilities include our state, the Democratic Party or the candidate's campaigns themselves.

The party and candidates, for their best interest, should offer to foot the bill. Rather than spend money on ads and smearing, the dough should be designated to ensure democracy.

Michigan and Florida are major players, and can offer some apparently much-needed delegates.

The state economy is in no position to purchase anything with this price tag. Howard Dean, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, prefers the party money be used toward winning the general election in November.

However, both candidates are now using plenty of money in the short term just to gain the party nomination. Over \$ 100 million has been spent on Hillary's campaign, for many things not nearly as important as ensuring democracy.

If there is any further confusion in the candidate selection process, the hopefuls should turn to Michigan.

Democrat or Republican, we here in Michigan can then get the democracy we deserve.



ADAM ZYGLIS, The Buffalo News/Cagle Cartoons

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to
The Oakland Post.

By e-mail:

oakpostmanaging@gmail.com

By mail:

Letter to the Editor
The Oakland Post
61 Oakland Center
Rochester, MI 48309

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

CORRECTIONS CORNER

Corrections from the last edition (March 5, 2008) of The Oakland Post:

■ In "Students give back in NYC for spring break" (page 21), it was incorrectly reported that the Alternative Spring Break participants traveled to New York on Saturday, March 1. Students actually went on Saturday, Feb. 23.

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

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States

Four on Four

four panelists share their take on four topics



Erik Broo
Senior, Finance Major



Vikas Vij
Senior,
Political Science Major



Don Haffner
Graduate Student, History



Kristina Borck
Senior, Psychology Major

In the Democratic Presidential primary election, it's feasible that neither candidate will reach the 2,025 delegates needed to win their party's nomination. In such a case, do you think if one candidate wins the popular vote and the majority of delegates, the other candidate should bow out of the race, or do you think the superdelegates should decide the outcome?

It's my understanding that the only reason there were superdelegates ... is because the powers back then could not trust the American public to make a vote. [It] kind of defeats the purpose of democracy.

I think superdelegates should decide. Otherwise, I think it could get messy if you go with the first one. It would be cleaner and easier.

I would like to see the person who got the most delegates from the election and caucuses become the candidate. But the Democratic Party has set up their structure and it's not for me to decide how they do it.

Maybe the superdelegates because a lot of the lower people actually have no idea what's going on, it seems like. Then again, I would want to see who these superdelegates were.

With the recent wave of campus shootings, do you feel safe at Oakland University?

Not as safe as I'd like. It can happen anywhere. I don't know what could be done aside from, and I'm not saying I support this, the teachers themselves having guns.

Yes and no, because this is Rochester Hills; nothing really does down over here. Looking at what has happened at other campuses, they're pretty safe and then some weirdo comes out of nowhere, shooting up the place.

Yes, but I feel safer when I am in my car. Even though there have been a couple campus shootings, the chances of being shot on campus are less than the chances of being in a car crash.

Yes, I do. No specific reasons. I know that the shootings were kind of random; I know they could happen at any school. But they are so rare that the chances of me getting caught up in one seems very small.

Do you think the university has made the right decisions regarding potential snow days recently?

I have to disagree with them. I have about a 25-mile drive to and from campus, so I have to deal with it. My car can handle it, but I understand that some people's can't.

Most people are commuters so I guess the roads are not clean all the time. I think it's more on the people. The university can't do anything about it, unless its like 12 inches or a foot of snow, then I guess I would understand.

I think it would be better to close when there is a bad snow storm because most of the students here are commuting and it can be rather dangerous. There have been two Tuesday nights after class when I've had a difficult time getting home.

I remember driving home on a Tuesday night, and saying to myself "If I'm dead, what good is this degree?" as I was driving down a very snowy [road]. I hate snow driving and I was so upset that classes weren't canceled a few times this semester.

Do you think the New England Patriots' success since 2001 is at all tarnished as a result of the recent allegations that they illegally video taped their opponents?

As far as I'm concerned, yes. I've discredited their accomplishments a little bit. I've [followed] more of the public opinion of what happened. But from what I understand its been alleged since 2001, so this legacy of sorts that they've had, could have very well been based on cheating.

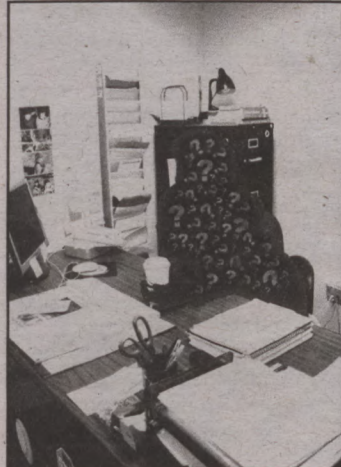
I think the Patriots, after loosing to the Giants, aren't going to have much hype this year.

No, that doesn't bother me. I used to live in Boston; I think it's whining by the other teams, personally.

It's the same as taking steroids. It's cheating. What's the point of a game like that? I can imagine their fans wouldn't want to go as much because it's like 'I rooted for this team, for the people that they were.'

The Oakland Post needs a boss.

Are you the one we're looking for?



**EDITOR
-IN-
CHIEF:**

The Oakland Post is looking for a student (any major) to manage the newspaper staff May 2008-09. To apply for the position, please submit your resume, writing clips and references to:

61 Oakland Center or oakposteditor@gmail.com
Attn. Kelly Kozlowski

All applicants must be enrolled through May 2009.
Position is paid with tuition reimbursement.

Student president hopefuls debate

By STEVE STAEGER
Senior Reporter

Football, \$4.8 million and campus life were major topics of discussion as the three candidates for next year's student body president faced off in a debate Monday in the Oakland Center.

Andrew Bashi, Steve Clark and Jordan Twardy answered questions posed by students, moderator Christine Stover and Oakland University Student Congress Elections Commission chair Joshua Miller.

When asked how OUSC needs improvement, all three candidates agreed that it needs to be a tool to improve campus life.

"We have 18,000 students, 48 major buildings, over 130 student organizations, and zero reason why we can't have any more events on campus," said Bashi.

Bashi said he thinks Oakland should offer students big events at least once a month, and if he had his way, it would be once a day.

By making campus more active, it would change the school's reputation, which is something that Clark thinks is direly needed.

"I want to make Oakland a place that's not like a JUCO (junior college), where people come for a year then transfer," Clark said.

Twardy thinks that OUSC should be a hub for student organizations to use resources and network with each other.

"Student orgs should be able to fund an event, plan an event and host an event in the same week," said Twardy. "That's how you increase campus life."

One of the proposed ways to increase campus life is the establishment of a football team. The candidates were asked if the university was lacking by not having a football team.

Each candidate felt that the university was lacking slightly, but a future football team is certainly not a lost cause.

Getting a football team is a step-by-step process that will take a long time, Clark said.

"In one year, will I be able to get a football team here as student body president? No," said Clark. He said that OUSC has to get the ball rolling on such a process, which may take many years.

Twardy agreed.

"My campaign is about laying the foundation so that when I'm done, the work will continue," said Twardy.

Twardy has already conducted a survey about OU getting a football team and said it was the most popular survey that OUSC ever conducted.

For Bashi, a football team is impossible until people are excited about other sports.

"There are great sports teams here that we don't capitalize on right now," said Bashi.

"We need to start getting people excited in the stuff we have now before we start investing millions," he added.

Speaking of millions, the candidates were also asked about the \$4.8 million deferred payment the university received from the state and is holding on to.

"Something needs to be done and I don't mean buying ice sculptures to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the university or a new OU Hummer," Twardy said.

But Bashi thinks that students demanding their money back may be a bit hasty.

"I want my check too, but if you think about it as an investment in our future, things start to change," said Bashi, who said that no matter his opinion he would do what the students wanted done.

Twardy already has experience on OUSC as a legislator and Student Services Director.

Clark was the captain of OU's soccer team and has lived both on and off campus.

Bashi is an Honors College student, who founded the Iraqi-American Student Alliance and is involved with many other campus groups.

Students can vote online starting March 24 through March 26.

Regina Carter to play with mentor at Varner



Photo courtesy of OU photo desk

Aside from receiving a Grammy nomination, Regina Carter is also the 206 recipient of the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

World-renowned violinist and Oakland University alumnus Regina Carter will be performing this Friday at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall with her former mentor Marvin "Doc" Holladay.

Carter became OU's artist-in-residence in the fall, and has since returned to campus to sit in with classes and pursue her own research in the therapeutic uses of music.

Carter took time out of her schedule to answer a few questions from The Oakland Post.

The Oakland Post: What impact did your time enrolled as a student at OU have on your career?

Regina Carter: The fact that OU was so close to Detroit was a definite plus. Several alums who lived in Detroit and surrounding areas would often come back to OU sitting in with the big band and doing some coaching.

We could zip down to the clubs in Detroit on jam session nights and put our practice to work.

Although OU was a large university, I always felt my professors in all the departments were in tune with their stu-

dents and very involved and approachable.

Post: How influential was Marvin "Doc" Holladay on your development as an artist?

Carter: Doc was extremely supportive of all of us. He would go to bat for us and the department in a minute.

He has a vast knowledge of many musical languages and their cultures and equipped us with that knowledge.

If there was a concert or restaurant that featured music or food from a culture we were studying, Doc would take us there so we were exposed to it first hand, so to speak.

It was evident he loved teaching and sharing information as much as he did performing.

Post: There have been so many highlights throughout your career, name one that particularly stands out?

Carter: I have been blessed with some incredible opportunities in my lifetime. I'd have to say though that performing with the late great bassist Ray Brown was an experience I'll always treasure.

He had many great stories from his days on the road playing with other greats and he also took time to make sure I had my finances in order. Mr. Brown was very much a father figure to all of the young musicians he invited on his stage.

Post: How are your studies in the therapeutic uses of music coming along?

Carter: It has taken me a while to get the ball rolling, but I'm very much enthralled with the information I'm digesting.

My perspective is very different now than from the time I attended OU in the '80s. "Living some" has its advantages.

Post: In your time as artist-in-residence, what are your impressions of the current music department at OU?

Carter: I sat in on a few classes during my first visit and it was encouraging to hear the level of musicianship of the students. Watching the professors pushing their students beyond their comfort levels also stirred some ideas in me.