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# The Oakland Post

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## Double team

### OU and the City of Rochester partner up for opportunities

By REBECCA WYATT  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In an effort to give students and area residents something they have never had before, OU has teamed up with the city of Rochester to create a college town.

"We're interested in developing more of a presence in the surrounding communities, and Rochester, with so much business activity and our longtime associations, was a natural first choice," said OU President Gary Russi.

Mary Pezet, marketing manager for the Rochester Downtown Development Authority said the city is looking for ways to promote OU.

"We're looking for different venues so when you walk down the street you know it's a university town," Pezet said.

Russi said OU has always had a relationship with the city of Rochester but it was never officially recognized.

"This new agreement makes our relationship official and will allow us to work together to provide exciting and instructive new opportunities for our students, and to partner with a vibrant downtown area proximal to our campus," Russi said.

Pezet said OU approached the

city of Rochester earlier this semester about the venture. She said there will be many opportunities for students, faculty, staff and alumni including future discounts from Chamber of Commerce members.

Russi said students would gain from this partnership.

"It means our students will have increased opportunities for internships; they'll have the opportunity to contribute valuable hours of community service and to work on community development projects; most of all, it will enable our students to gain invaluable hands-on experience working with local businesses," Russi said.

According to Pezet, the city of Rochester will promote activities on campus and itself as OU's college town.

Russi said OU will endorse Rochester businesses on the OU Web site and in its publication.

"However, we do expect to see visible signs of OU's presence in downtown Rochester. Over time, we hope to see signs in

window, banners, etc., related to OU events, the Grizzlies and so on," Russi said.

The venture poses no cost to OU.

"When it comes down to having the opportunities in Rochester, I think it is a good choice," said junior, Andy Rabe.



OU President Gary Russi and Rochester Mayor Karen Lewis discuss the terms of the partnership between OU and Rochester at a press conference.

Margaret Pasikowski/The Oakland Post

## Shots fired in P-1 Lot

By LAURA ANGUS  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

OU's Police Department (OUPD) is still searching for information about an unidentified gunman who fired shots into the air in the main parking lot on Thursday night.

OUPD Chief Sam Lucido said an altercation took place just after 10 p.m. in the P-1 parking lot in front of the Foundation Halls.

One of the subjects involved allegedly produced a handgun and fired one or two shots in the air, said Lucido.

He said there were no reports of injury from the shots, and they were not aimed at anyone.

According to the police report from the incident, OUPD received a call about a possible fight. When the officer arrived, he observed approximately 10-12 people leaving the area, one of whom was bleeding from the left side of his forehead.

OUPD later found out that the victim got involved in the confrontation when he was leaving the Talent Show held in the Oakland Center (OC). He said after the shots were fired, he was hit above his left eye with what he believed was the gun.

The victim refused medical treatment on Thursday night, but told an OUPD officer he would seek treatment the following day.

The victim declined to comment to The Oakland Post.

Please see TEAM on A6.

Please see FIGHT on A6.

## Rallying for a statue



Laura Angus/The Oakland Post

A "For the Roar" Rally took over the Hamlin Circle Thursday. Students enjoyed free food, music and a visit from the Max and Erma's characters.

"For the Roar" is the initiative of three students, Chris Lutz, Paul Carlin and Jamie Stepanian-Bennett, to bring a mascot statue to campus. The group was raising awareness for the statue and recruiting volunteers to help with fundraising.

## Fall 2004 classes will start earlier

By LAURA ANGUS  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

The OU school year is going to look different beginning next year.

According to the Academic Calendar posted on the Registrar's Web site, the fall 2004 semester will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 30, 2004, before the Labor Day Holiday.

Registrar Steve Shablin said the change to the calendar was made for a number of reasons.

"(The change) makes us more consistent with other state institutions," said Shablin.

He said the change allows the fall study period for finals to last an entire day, rather than the usual five hours.

Starting before Labor Day moves Commencement up to Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004.

"It allows us to provide academic program information and financial information before the holiday closure," said Shablin.

He said this change does not extend the school year, because the semester will end on Monday, Dec. 6, 2004 as compared to the

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2003 end to this semester.

"We're not adding days to the academic calendar," said Shablin.

Nicole Leahey, junior, said she did not like the idea of starting early.

"I like starting after Labor Day," she said.

Another major change to the academic calendar is that winter recess during the winter 2005 semester will take place one week later than in previous years, said Shablin.

The break will begin Saturday, March 5, 2005 and will end on Monday, March 14, 2005.

During the winter 2004 semester, the break will run from Saturday, Feb. 21, 2004 to Monday, March 1, 2004.

Shablin said the change was made because of student requests to make spring break more in line with other institutions.

He said he attended a Student Congress meeting during the winter 2003 semester, and the legislators made that suggestion.

Joe Conflitti, senior, said he likes the change to the break.

"That's good because (our break) never coincides with everyone else's," he said.

## Students keep dream alive through services

By ELIZABETH GORECKI  
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. envisioned equality and harmony for all people when he gave his, "I Have a Dream" speech 40 years ago. Now, OU is recognizing students who are working to keep that dream alive.

The Dean of Students Office is accepting nominations for the 12th annual Keeper of the Dream Award.

According to Karen Lloyd, assistant dean of students, the award is presented to students who have shown

strong citizenship, scholarship and leadership in breaking down cultural stereotypes.

"The award was established in January 1993 to recognize Oakland University continuing undergraduate students who have contributed to interracial understanding

### Facts about applying:

- Applicants must have a 3.0 G.P.A
- Students must be returning for 2003-2004 school year.
- The 500 word essay and letters of recommendation are due to the Dean of Students by Oct. 31

and good will," she said.

Since its introduction, 40 students from a variety of majors and fields of study have been awarded the scholarship.

Aniesha Mitchell won one of the Keeper of the Dream scholarships in 2000. Mitchell graduated from OU in 2001

Please see DREAM on A6.

## Successful season

### Music Festival boasts best season to date

By ELIZABETH GORECKI  
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

Meadow Brook Music Festival had its most successful summer in the 10 years it has been under the management of Palace Sports and Entertainment (PS&E). This season, more than 170,000 guests flocked to the Music Festival to take part in more than 40 events.

Jeff Corey, director of public relations for PS&E,

attributes the good season to the wide variety of music acts and events.

"We had some big-name, current acts such as Beck, Carrot Top, 311, Ben Folds and more, in addition to our time honored DSO weekends," he said.

"If we booked a narrow range of entertainment types, we are limiting who would be interested in attending the events we host. To draw the number of patrons we drew, you

have to book a variety of events to appeal to the widespread entertainment tastes of the people of our area," Corey said.

Tom Wilson, president and CEO of PS&E, said one of the priorities this summer was to make the concert-going experience as affordable as possible.

"We did this by offering promotions such as \$10 tickets, by booking shows with reasonable prices and

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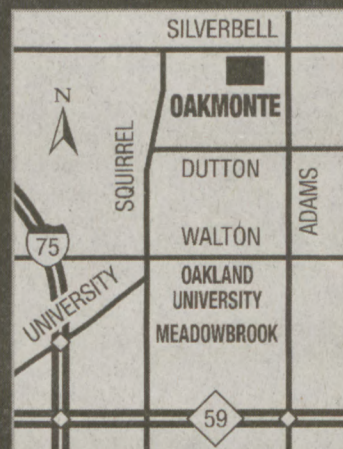
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