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# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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## Grizz logo released to retailers

By KRISTIN SOMMER  
Senior Reporter

You won't have to go to Alaska to hunt down Grizzly gear this winter. Officially licensed merchandise will soon be at retailers across metro Detroit.

The athletics department is actively pursuing an agreement with a licensing group to market the Grizzly logo, said Jim Norton, associate director of athletics.

"We just have to dot the i's and cross the t's," said Greg Kampe, interim director of athletics.

This move will put Oakland University merchandise on the shelves of local retailers.

All items will need approval from the athletics department and the licensing group before being distributed to stores.

The group will protect the integrity of the logo

and market it to stores like Steve & Barry's University Sportswear, Norton said. "It's a big target," Norton said of the retailer. "We need to be there."

If everything goes according to plan, Grizzly gear will be available in the near future.

"It's our goal to have the stuff in the stores for the Christmas season," Kampe said.

The athletics department decided to pursue releasing the license earlier this semester when Greg Kampe took over for Jack Mehl as athletics director.

"Whenever there's a change in leadership, you evaluate everything," Kampe said.

During the review, it became apparent that releasing the logo is what the fans wanted, he said. "We believe it's the right thing to do."

"I think it's a very positive event," said Mary Beth Snyder, vice president of Student Affairs.

"I think what we're going to finally achieve is greater access to Grizzly apparel, more variety available to the students and a wider range of prices. We're going to see more students wearing Grizzly gear."

Many students do not own Grizzly items because of the cost and inability to find them off campus.

"If (costs) were more along the lines of what other schools' apparel is, I would buy it," senior Jason Inenstedt said.

OU currently has a partnership with several local Meijer stores to carry a limited line of

apparel with the Grizzly insignia.

"My boyfriend (and I) went to the mall, but couldn't find it," sophomore Courtney McCracken said.

"It will be nice for it to be other places," senior Amber Nagel said. "It will get the name out there more."

Part of the change will mean closing the Grizz Outlet in Vandenberg Hall and the Grizz Store in the O'Rena.

The Outlet closed last Thursday, but the store will stay open as it liquidates its merchandise.

Prices in the Grizz Store are currently reduced by 50 to 75 percent. After the store closes, Grizzly gear will still be available on campus.

OU Bookstore will become the exclusive on

Please see GRIZZ on A8



## Credit or debit? Students get options in food courts

By ERIN MALLARD  
Contributing Reporter

Maybe students are too busy talking on their cell phones, thinking about exams or digging for change in their pockets.

Whatever the cause, many students are unaware of the latest technological advancement in the Oakland Center: students may now use their credit and debit cards to make purchases in both Pioneer Food Court and Ritazza.

"We wanted to make it something to help the students ... to make it as user-friendly as possible," said Shannon Walterhouse, financial administrator for Chartwells, the company that provides Oakland University's campus dining services.

Visa and MasterCard, as well as debit cards with these logos and Diner's Cards are accepted.

Despite signs taped to cash registers throughout the OC, not all students knew that, as of the beginning of October, they could use their credit or debit cards to make purchases.

Ayesha Master, a student at OU, didn't notice the sign on the register at Ritazza until after she had already made her purchase with cash. She said she would have used a credit card if she had known she could use it.

According to Tony Nixon, who works at Ritazza, "As they (students) use up more of their declining balance, we're seeing more and more credit be used."

Chartwells hopes to have the system installed in Pawley Hall's "Out Takes Café" by December and in Vandenberg Hall by the end of the week.

"We're phasing it in to make sure it's successful one operation at a time," said Andrew Willow, Chartwells resident district manager.

A concern voiced among students and staff is that it may take longer to get through checkout lines, since customers will have to wait for credit and debit card

Please see CHARTWELLS on A8



## Grizzlies block out Mustangs

Left: Junior Nicole Piggott (5) drives past a defender in OU's come-from-behind win against Western Ontario on Monday night. OU trailed 32-28 at halftime, but ultimately beat the Mustangs 68-63. The exhibition win was a warm-up for their season opener this Friday at Wisconsin-Milwaukee at 8 p.m. Piggott, a preseason first-team all-conference member, finished with 15 points.

Right: Senior Jayme Wilson shoots over a Mustang's defender on her way to 16 points Monday night. Wilson, a preseason first-team all-conference selection along with Piggott, added three rebounds and five assists. Despite being outshot 51 percent to 39 percent, OU was able to make their comeback in the second half — due in large part to their shooting 18-20 from the free-throw line.

Dante Ciullo/The Oakland Post



## Project reconstructs accident-prone I-75

By PAUL KAMPE  
Local News Editor

An overdue safety project undertaken by the Michigan Department of Transportation will reduce the number of cross-median accidents along I-75 in Auburn Hills and Independence Township.

The safety rail starts south of the M-15 overpass in Clarkston and will stretch 8 miles to Joslyn Road in Auburn Hills, near an existing rail built in 1999.

The state government has picked up the tab for the project, with the \$1.9 million in funding coming from a pool of funds.

Cement barriers divide the expressway as it progresses south of M-24, Lapeer Road.

MDOT selected Right Way Fence to construct the guardrail.

Work began in mid-October, and completion is expected by Dec. 15.

The work has progressed 7 miles to a point near Baldwin Road in Auburn Hills so far.

The construction has been taking place on the southbound side of the freeway, with a construction zone speed limit of 45 mph in place.

MDOT is hoping that the guardrail will reduce the number of cross-median accidents, where one car loses control and travels across the dividing section of the freeway and enters the opposing direction's traffic. Along this stretch of I-75, fatalities have been a typical result of the accidents.

"We had a lot of concerns from

first responders and police about crossing accidents in the area," said MDOT spokesman Rob Morosi.

Morosi stressed that this stretch of expressway has a narrow median that does not offer enough recovery time for drivers facing an ensuing loss of control of their vehicle.

Fire departments of both Independence Township and Auburn Hills are relieved by the

Please see INTERSTATE on A8

## Company asks FDA to stop carbon monoxide use in meat packaging

WASHINGTON (AP) — A food and spice company is petitioning the FDA to prohibit the use of carbon monoxide in consumer meat packaging, saying that the practice, done to keep the meat red and fresh-looking, can hide spoilage.

Kalsec Inc., of Kalamazoo, Mich.,

which packages meat using traditional methods without carbon monoxide, is challenging the notion that carbon monoxide in food is safe.

The FDA accepted the practice as safe last year in response to requests from two other food companies. It is

outlawed in the European Union.

"The use of carbon monoxide in fresh meat packaging produces an artificially intense, persistent red color in meat that can simulate the look of fresh meat and mask the natural signs of aging and spoilage that

consumers depend on in making safe food choices, including browning and telltale odors," the company said in its petition.

An industry group disputed the company's argument.

"The scientific evidence supports

the safety of this packing technology," said James H. Hodges, president of the American Meat Institute Foundation.

"It is unfortunate that this competitive attack may create food safety concerns when there are none here."

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