

Life

Feeling Greedy?  
Learn how to play network game shows.

B1

On Campus

Students gambled the night away at Casino Night.

A3

Local

OU's programs expand with the use of Distance Learning.

A6

Sports

Feeling restless inside? Get out on the ice and fish.

B5

Today

Mostly Cloudy  
High 37  
Low 11



A6

# The OAKLAND POST

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## FAST facts

**Poetry Reading**

OU poets Rebecca Emlinger Roberts, Joseph Sheltraw, Maureen Dunphy, and Jeff Vande Zande will be reading their work at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22nd in Rooms 129-130 of the OC. The event is sponsored by the Writing for Success Committee and is free. Anyone with questions can call Vande Zande at (248) 370-4364.

**Racial Profiling Symposium**

"Driving While Black: The Road to Understanding" will be held from 6-8 p.m. on February 17th in Varner Hall. A panel of law enforcement officials, attorneys, educators and African American and Hispanic leaders will address the issue of racial profiling during traffic stops. Chuck Stokes, director of public affairs for WXYZ, Channel 7 will be moderating the discussion.

**Keeper of the Dream**

OU's Eighth Annual Keeper of the Dream Awards Banquet will be held from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23rd at Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion. Tickets are \$75 per person, and all students, faculty, staff and public are welcome. For more information call (248) 370-4909.

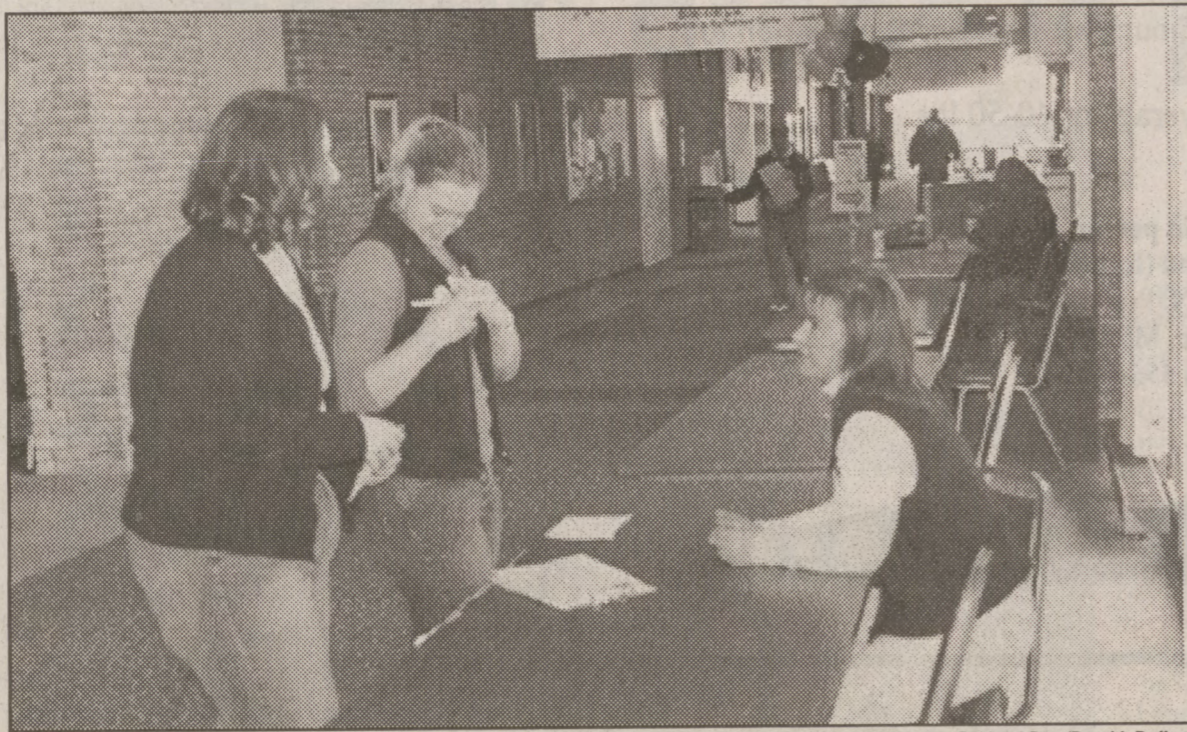
**Oakland Journal Launch Party**

Faculty, staff, students, alumni are invited to meet the authors and pick up a copy of the OU Journal. 3-5 p.m. Feb. 18, in the Fireside Lounge.

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## Meeting battles graduation issue



**SIGN ON THE LINE:** Two students sign a petition to move commencement to Baldwin Pavilion. Senior Carrie Goclan tries to get students involved in the issue.

By Lisa Remsing  
OF THE OAKLAND POST

OU students may be a step closer to winning the battle to keep commencement ceremonies at Baldwin Pavilion. Last Thursday, Student Body President, Nick Mitchell, and Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees, Bonefacio DeLaRosa, met with OU President Gary Russi to discuss student concerns.

"Overall, he seemed positive. He listened to what we had to say, and we listened to what he had to say," said DeLaRosa. "We were on the same page." "The meeting went really well, I left with a positive attitude," said Mitchell.

According to DeLaRosa,

President Russi seemed to have no problem keeping commencement at Baldwin Pavilion, but his main concern was still the timing, and holding graduation in early May as opposed to June.

At the OU Student Congress meeting on Monday, commencement was once again on the agenda, this time in the form of a resolution.

The resolution, authored by member Carina Moore, stated "...the Oakland University Student Congress support and advocate on behalf of the student body for the commencements to be held at Meadow Brook Music Festival and assist the students in achieving this goal."

In addition to the resolution, OUSC is in the process of passing a bill that would allocate \$225 of

its budget to purchase banners and materials for flyers to generate more awareness among students.

Carrie Goclan, senior, human resource development, has been leading student efforts along with Rick Durso, senior, education. "We feel happy that Dr. Russi wants to make this a win-win situation, however we feel our battle isn't over," said Goclan. "We found out that night students have no idea what is going on. We want to reach out and let them know," she said.

According to Goclan, nearly 2,000 signatures have been collected, and they hope to collect another 1,000 signatures by Friday. She has seen petitions at local malls, has seen them pre

RUSSI continues on A5

## Former professor brings his views to Honors College

By Brent Chismark  
OF THE OAKLAND POST

A future worldwide unification of secular and sacred thought could have its beginnings at OU. The Honors College, along with Campus Ministry presented the first of three "Life Seminars" last Wednesday.

The seminars are a chance for the OU community to hear presenters and discuss issues raised by the tensions between science and religion. Upcoming seminars will be held from noon to 1 p.m. March 8 and April 12 in the Honors College facility at 112 East Vandenberg Hall.

"Is an Interface between Science and Religion Possible?" presented by retired OU philosophy Professor Richard Brooks, set the tone for the remaining seminars. It was attended by around 20 faculty, students and alumni, though faculty held the majority.

The theme of Brooks' speech, that both modern science and traditional religion must "give up something" for a unified perspective, was supported by his look at both modern science's strive for reductionism, and traditional religion's dogma and doctrines.

Brooks' challenge to modern science was to admit that it doesn't have the answers to everything, and to give up its claim of know-

ing them. Charles Mabee, protestant chaplain of Campus Ministry, who introduced Brooks said, "Science currently determines the intellectual perimeters of everyday public life in the West...It must recognize the limitations of the 'eye of the flesh.'"

Challenging traditional religious practices to give up literalist teachings, Brooks spoke of how some beliefs of theologians are demonstrably false. He cited orthodox Christian examples such as virgin birth, resurrection and a physical and anthropomorphic view of heaven and god.

Brooks also posed the question of whether or not a paid clergy will exist in the future.

Mabee believes this is a provocative issue. As the director of a Master of Divinity program in Detroit, he finds that students don't "quit their day jobs," as they "understand the advantage, or even necessity, of keeping part of their lives anchored in the secular world."

The glue that will hold the two worlds together after they shed their doctrines, according to Brooks, may be found in parapsychology. This point brought frowns to the faces of some of the attendees, but he justified his statements through scriptural examples from the Hindu Upanishads,

SEMINARS continues on A5

## Faculty votes on Senate amendments, elimination of ten members

Last Thursdays public meeting reviewed proposed changes to Senate's 1984 Constitution in order to unify body

By Brent Chismark  
OF THE OAKLAND POST

OU faculty is voting this week on the proposed amendments to the University Senate Constitution. These amendments, which reduce the diverse 60-member body to a 50-member faculty only body, will be on their way to the Board of Trustees in April and implemented in Fall 2000 if favored by the faculty.

Currently the Senate, operating under a 1984 revision of their con-

stitution, has voting seats for 43 faculty, seven deans, three students, three presidential appointees, two Administrative Professionals, the Director and a staff member of the Eye Research Institute and the Provost for a total of 61. Of them, only 54 seats are filled.

Proposals to change the Senate to a faculty only body have been periodically raised but gained widespread support last year when faculty input was bypassed on the development of a second golf

course.

The Senate approved a set of amendments in May of 1999 that would have reduced the number of student seats to one, the number of Administrative Professionals to one, the provost to an ex-officio seat and eliminate presidential appointments.

According to minutes of the October 21st, 1999 meeting, the Board of Trustees tabled these amendments, sending them back with revision requirements to change the body's name to the

"Faculty Senate," and the membership to 50 faculty, one student and two presidential appointments.

Provost Esposito said at the Jan. 20 meeting when the new amendments were passed that he believed the Board's reason for eliminating non-faculty members was for symmetry, so there would be a Faculty Senate, an AP assembly, and a Student Congress.

Joel Russell, president of the OU chapter of American Association of University Professors, said that the sponsors of the amended Senate

have indicated that they would invite the provost, AP's and students to Senate meetings, but "they just couldn't vote" according to the minutes.

The Senate passed the revised set of amendments with a bare quorum at the meeting. According to the official minutes, 32 of the 61 members attended.

The University Senate requires 31 senators attending for a quorum.

Fifteen senators voted for the passing of the amendments, ten

SENATE continues on A5

## Higher ed agenda on Dems, not GOP

2000 Presidential Candidates split half and half on higher education issues

By Jenn Madjarev  
OF THE OAKLAND POST

As Michigan voters go to the polls for Tuesday's Michigan Presidential Primary, the only real contest is on the GOP ballot.

The one name on the Democratic ballot is perennial candidate Lyndon La Rouche. Democratic frontrunners, U.S. Vice President, Al Gore and former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley opted to participate in the party-run caucuses on March 11.

The two leading Republican candidates, Texas Governor George W. Bush and Arizona Senator John McCain will be visiting Michigan over the weekend. Along with Bush and McCain, Republican Alan Keyes will be present on the Primary ticket.

Starting Sunday, state residents can expect a blitz of visits by the two GOP frontrunners. Among a flurry of issues, education ranks differently as a priority among the four major candidates.

Bush's website offers a detailed coverage on his viewpoints with popular issues. On the issue of education Bush said, "Even as many states embrace education reform, the federal government is mired in bureaucracy and mediocrity. The inertia of our education bureaucracy is a national problem, requiring a

national response...I don't want to tinker with the machinery of the federal role in education. I want to redefine that role entirely."

Bush does not focus as much attention to higher education issues, but he does propose a fresh start for the federal role in education. He is proposing a new federal-state pact offering freedom from regulation and bureaucratic red tape, in exchange for achievement.

As for McCain, his education focus does not expand onto higher education at all. According to one of his campaign volunteers, McCain's platform has not detailed any information regarding higher education.

Education ranks high on Gore's hot topic list. In a recent visit to Detroit, Gore discussed his plan to make colleges and universities more affordable. According to his website, Gore announced new details of his National Tuition Savings Program, which is designed to help families save for college. The plan allows families to invest funds in an account where their money will be protected from inflation and can be withdrawn to pay for higher education expenses tax-free. The plan will also guarantee the cost of tuition at any participating college or university in the country.

Gore also noted that Michigan has created 600,000 new jobs over the

CANDIDATES continues on A5

Get more information on the issues and the candidates at their web sites

- www.BillBradley.com
- www.AlGore2000.com
- www.McCain2000.com
- www.GeorgeWBush.com