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"If you can dodge a class ...

You can dodge a ball." Go behind the scenes in OU's Club Dodgeball.



Grizzdance honors OU film

By LIRIA IVEZAJ
Contributing Reporter

"Take a script and make it into something that has value to the world."

That is what Joey Travolta, an actor, director, producer, writer and the brother of actor John Travolta, advised student filmmakers to do at the Oakland University Second Annual Grizzdance Awards ceremony, held Friday, Nov. 17 in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center.

Hosted by the Grizzdance Student Organization, the award show ceremony followed a daytime screening in the Fireside Lounge, where students were able to vote for their favorite film. Following the screening was a banquet for the participants.

During the daytime screening, films were viewed in sectional theatres. The visitors filled up their plates and seats to watch the films entered, and from there, they were free to vote for their favorite film.

After viewing a couple of the contestants' films, sophomore Brittany Martin, a human resource development major, seemed to like the film, "Hurricane Katrina: Six Months Later," directed by Matthew Sewicki, the best.

"It seemed more like home for me because I knew people who lived there," Martin said. "You could tell the person who directed it had a more heartfelt, personal view."

The reason Martin liked the film was because documentaries were just as interesting to her, as the average mainstream films.

Please see GRIZZDANCE/A2

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Bush pays unwelcome visit

ED WRAY/AP Photo
Indonesian men hold a sign during a protest against the visit by U.S. President George W. Bush Monday, in Bogor, Indonesia. Police were probing unconfirmed reports that a suicide bomber was planning an attack during President Bush's visit to Indonesia, where thousands rallied against American foreign policy in the Mideast and the Iraq war.

Lack of funding, recognition forcing players away from OU

By BRIAN BLEAU
Contributing Reporter

Oakland University's Division 1 hockey team, which has won two national championship games in the past three years, is facing a losing battle when it comes to lack of recognition from the university, funding and consequently, keeping its players from transferring to other schools.

On the subject of the indifference of the OU administration toward the hockey program, Assistant Captain Will McMahon said that he would like to see the school recognize the amount of effort, time and money that players put into the team and the university.

"The team draws the attention of countless hockey recruits each year," said McMahon. "Guys that would normally attend community colleges are coming to Oakland for one reason, to play hockey." McMahon brings up a valid point. Between the two Grizzly hockey teams (Division 1 and Division 3), the rosters are made up of 48 student athletes — many of which came to OU specifically because of the hockey program.

Depending on class standing, full-time tuition at Oakland University hovers around \$6,000 per semester

for in-state students; of the 48 hockey players at OU, 47 are from Michigan — simple logic tells us that this body of students sends a significant amount of money, recognition and publicity in the direction of the university. It seems though, that this is strictly a one-way street.

After participating in rigorous tryout camps in July and September, OU players selected to represent their school on the ice are welcomed to the organization with a \$2,000 bill that they must pay in order to suit up in the old, recycled jerseys that are supplied to them; jerseys which, in many cases, don't even fit.

At Grand Valley State University, it costs around \$700 per player to skate for their team, but according to GVSU freshman forward Devon Banda the players have many opportunities to participate in fundraising activities and gain sponsorships to cut, and even eliminate, the fee. Likewise, at Michigan State, Spartan players pay \$1,200 to play at the club level, and receive discounted ice time as the school has an arena on campus.

OU's ACHA arch-nemesis Davenport University

Please see FUNDS/A2

NYC rights group calls Saddam trial 'questionable'

NEW YORK (AP) — Human Rights Watch said Monday that former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was not given a fair trial, claiming in a report that attorneys and judges undermined the legitimacy of the process by staging repeated walkouts and failing to uphold standards of international law.

In a 97-page report, the group called the guilty verdict "questionable" and said the Iraqi High Tribunal was not equipped to handle such a complex case. The document was based on observation of the trial and interviews with court officials, lawyers and other key parties, the group said.

On Nov. 5, the court sentenced Saddam and two other senior members of his regime

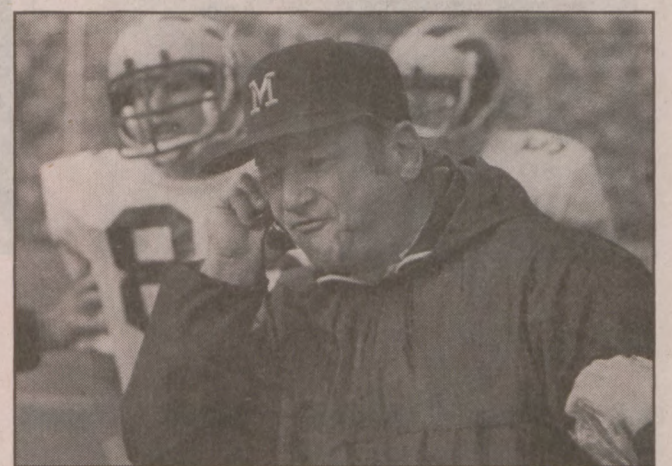
to death by hanging for ordering the execution of nearly 150 Shiite Muslims from the Iraqi city of Dujail following a 1982 attempt on Saddam's life.

The New York-based rights group said it found "serious procedural flaws," citing shortcomings in the timely disclosure of incriminating evidence. It also said that the defendants were not allowed to properly confront witnesses, and that the judges at times did not maintain an impartial demeanor.

"The court's conduct, as documented in

Please see TRIAL/A2

MICHIGAN REMEMBERS BO — A6



AP FILE PHOTO
Michigan coach Bo Schembechler listens to his headset along the sideline during a college football game against Michigan State, in this Oct. 8, 1977 photo in East Lansing. Schembechler, the winningest coach in Michigan football history, died Friday after collapsing during the taping of a television show, according to three Detroit TV stations. He was 77.

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Guess who on-campus loves these foods for thanksgiving. —A2

GRIZZDANCE

Cont. from A1

"I'm more interested in real-life experiences, because I feel like I'm learning something," Martin said.

Although the idea for an OU film festival began in 2005, the GSO was officially initiated a year later in March by Sean Buono and Dana Chrisman, representatives of The Honors College Student Association, and Tim Atwood, representative for Student Video Productions and president of OU's Film Makers Guild.

With the dedication of GSO, and the assistance of other organizations, Grizzdance officially started a tradition, making it OU's second annual year, Friday night.

The Film Makers Guild, HCSA, Student Program Board, The Department of English, SVP, and other organizations sponsored this year's event.

Josh Corbin, a finance

major, took home five awards for his film "Yellow," winning first place in Best Director, Best Drama, Best Story and Best Editing.

According to Corbin, his piece was geared mainly towards the American people, with a focusing on the sensitive subject of terrorism. "Yellow," which takes place 10 years from now — was originally inspired by an article Corbin once read in a magazine.

"It proposed this theory that if terrorists ever obtained concealable nuclear weapons, it would be possible that they would hire some desperate, down-on-his-luck deadbeat American to so-called "deliver" the bomb for some tempting amount of money," Corbin said. "So I took that possibility into consideration and started to think to myself, 'what would drive a person, an American, to go to such lengths as to partake in a terrorist attack that would claim the lives of thousands of Americans?'"

Starring in the film

are Dario Nalli, Brittany Macdonald, Robert Emmett Young, Vamsi Divi, Brad Voorhees and Ozgur Yumruk.

Third-place winner Blake O. Kleiner, an English major, also directed a drama, the film "Amber Alert."

"Amber Alert' is the story of a kidnapping from the perspective of those left behind to wait," Kleiner said. "It's ending shows that even the smallest, most common mistakes can end up affecting huge consequences."

Kleiner said film is not only a hobby, but a passion and something he could see himself doing down the road.

"It's the only thing in my life I've ever felt completely myself doing. When you start writing down the quirky works of your imagination when you're eight, odds are, you'll want to be a writer or a filmmaker," Kleiner said.

While many of the films fell into more traditional genres, there were also several non-traditional films.

In these nearly silent pieces,

the only storytelling was through subtitles and actions — no speaking, no narrator.

Two such films were "The Determiner" by journalism major, Yvonne Szymczak — who won Best Art Film award — and "Viewing the Politically Correct World" by political science major, Ryan Maggid.

According to Maggid, his film was more video art than film. "It would be best served being projected in a gallery, rather than a theater setting," Maggid said.

Maggid's film took place at an abandoned building in Detroit, next to the Michigan Central Station.

The building was covered with profane graffiti. After photographing the wall, Maggid realized that his vision could be more than just a black and white photograph.

"I thought the idea could be expanded upon. What the text said, and the fact that it was graffiti, was a powerful statement of hate and anger," Maggid said.

Maggid set up a video camera and taped himself painting over the graffiti with a dry rolling paintbrush. He did this for about three minutes into the film.

No matter how much you paint over the wall, it still remained the same, he said. "Hate still prevailed."

Travolta, added to the awards show and lit up the stage with his speech.

He stressed the importance of practical experience, college education and the advantage of personal inspirations as support.

Travolta also talked about the role of a filmmaker, and gave tips of success to aspiring filmmakers.

"As a producer, as a director, you should know all aspects (of filmmaking)," Travolta said. "Your crew becomes your family, and as a director, you have to lead that crew."

Travolta also talked about his inspirations as a filmmaker in the industry.

One of his inspirations he mentioned was director Martin

Scorsese.

"It's not because he's Italian like me," Travolta joked. "I like his body of work."

According to Travolta, his biggest inspiration, by far, was his father.

Today, he uses his father's life lessons and incorporates them into his work. "My father taught the most important lesson, and that's inclusion. He made everybody feel like family, and that's what I try to do on sets and productions."

The Award ceremony ended with an encore for the winners and participants, with photographs of the winners and Travolta, and of course, autographs.

But what summed up the evening perfectly was a quote by Corbin about his role in filmmaking.

"When it comes to making movies, I swear, it's the most important thing on my plate," he said. "I want to make people laugh, cry and all that jazz, but more importantly, I want to make people think."

FUNDS

Cont. from A1

presents one of the most attractive playing opportunities for ACHA players, an opportunity that lured two members of last year's OU national championship team into transferring

there.

Davenport, a team expected to make a solid run for the ACHA Division II title this year, charges players nothing for ice time, jerseys, warm-ups, equipment, meals on the road or transportation. Other necessities such as skate sharpening, tape, showering materials and equipment repairs are covered by the Panthers as well.

"The (Davenport) team is conducted much like an NCAA college team in a highly professional manner," said Panthers forward Jonah Rogowski, one of the players that transferred from OU after last season. "Unlike OU, hockey is treated equally with all other sports."

Rogowski also alluded to the fact that Davenport hockey is featured on the school's Web site, something that

has still not been accomplished by the Grizzlies, even after becoming OU's most successful team in recent years.

In light of the concerning lack of help from the university, OU student Lauren MacLeod has formed the OU Hockey Fan Club which holds fundraisers and other special events to help the team deal with soaring operating costs. To get involved, visit the

club's Web site at <http://hockeyfanclub.tripod.com/>. For up-to-date team info, schedules, results, and more, log on to the OU hockey Web site at www.oaklandhockey.org.

Students are urged to get involved to help maintain the OU's status as a premier ACHA team and to help keep OU on the map as a prime destination for top hockey recruits.

TRIAL

Cont. from A1

this report, reflects a basic lack of understanding of fundamental fair trial principles, and how to uphold them in the conduct of a relatively complex trial," the report said. "The result is a trial that did not meet key fair trial standards. Under such circumstances, the soundness of the verdict is questionable."

The chief prosecutor, Jaafar al-Mousawi, defended the trial Monday, calling it "fair and transparent." The

verdict, he said, "was fair enough to a dictator who killed dozens of innocents."

"There were only simple administrative flaws that did not affect the verdict," he said.

The Iraqi court was created in 2003 after the U.S. invasion to prosecute cases of human rights violations in Iraq.

In the report, Human Rights Watch chastised defense lawyers for staging repeated walkouts, saying the tactic "created the strong impression that some counsel deliberately sought to delay or obstruct the course of the trial."

Chief defense counsel Khalil al-Dulaimi, who voiced support for the report's conclusions, defended attorneys' frequent boycotts of the proceedings.

"This was a political trial, not a legal one," he said by phone from Britain. "What can we do when the rights of the defense lawyers are breached in the courtroom, when they shut our mouths, when they threaten our lives?"

The report said defense lawyers were provided with inferior protection, with three being killed in the course of the trial. Witnesses, too, were left unprotected following their testimony, it said.

Defense attorneys were inadequately trained in international criminal law and their performance was "generally poor," the report said.

"No consistent and identifiable argument as to why the prosecution case was wrong or flawed was developed," it said.

Human Rights Watch, which is against the death penalty in general, also said the death sentence against Saddam is "an inherently cruel and inhumane punishment," and "in the wake of an unfair trial is indefensible."

An appeals court is expected to rule on the verdict and death sentence by mid-January. Saddam's defense team

must present an appeal to a higher, nine-judge panel by Dec. 5.

Last week, Saddam's lawyer complained that the court was ignoring his requests for documents to appeal the guilty verdict. There was no immediate comment from Iraqi court officials.

"The verdict against President Saddam Hussein is purely political and all the conditions of a fair trial _ as stipulated under international law _ have been gravely violated, including the right to appeal the verdict in a court of cassation," Saddam's chief lawyer Khalil al-Dulaimi said in a written statement.

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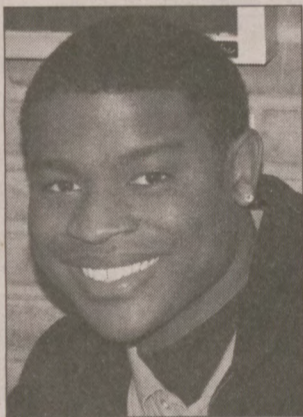
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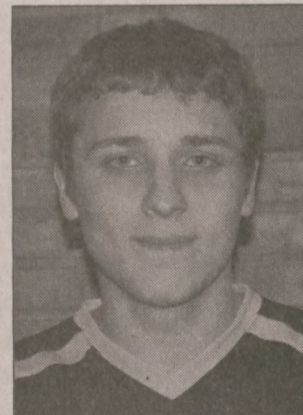
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Sophomore
English

STUFFING



Shelanna Scott
Senior
Communication

MASHED POTATOES



Jordan Twardy
Junior
Political Science/
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PUMPKIN PIE



Kristen Malmsten
Senior
Communication/
Biology

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- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>1. Which country does Sophia Gustafsson hail from?
a. Sweden
b. Finland
c. Germany
d. France</p> | <p>3. Annie Liebowitz has what kind of an exhibit at the Detroit Institute of art?
a. painting
b. sculpture
c. photography
d. drawing</p> | <p>5. What restaurant is having problems relocating to the City of Troy?
a. Ram's Horn
b. Hooters
c. Wendy's
d. Outback</p> |
| <p>2. What actor plays James Bond in "Casino Royale"?
a. Colin Farrell
b. Christopher Walken
c. Pierce Brosnan
d. Daniel Craig</p> | <p>4. Who spoke at Grizzdance?
a. Joey Travolta
b. Chim Richdles
c. Sarah Goutasi
d. Joe Edwards</p> | <p>6. There are no ways you can donate gifts on OU's campus for the less fortunate.
True
False</p> |