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Community of Caring

Special section

W E D N E S D A Y

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ONE DOLLAR



DAVID PIERINI/Staff Photographer

ATHLETIC DIVERSITY: OPRF High School's Cori Conley is one of only two African-American players on the Huskie field hockey team.

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OPRF's other racial gap

By **TERRY DEAN**
Staff Reporter

While OPRF has tried to make strides in closing its racial academic achievement gap over the last two-plus decades, some athletic teams have also shown a racial gap in terms of student participation.

Increasing student involvement in all co-curriculars at the high school is something the adults in the building have encouraged. But getting more minority kids involved has been a particular push of late. Now a member of OPRF's school board is looking

See **RACIAL GAP** on page 9

'Salvage' budget in the works for 2013

Capital improvements get careful scrutiny

By **ANNA LOTHSON**
Staff Reporter

In terms of capital improvement projects in the 2013 budget, Oak Park will be keeping its belt as tight as possible.

The term "salvage" has been a recurring theme throughout the budget-discussion process in finance committee meetings, and the case was no different Monday night when Public Works Director John Wielebnicki ran through the plan for the upcoming year.

"2013 reflects the deferral of large building improvements," Wielebnicki said, which includes pushing back the building of a gun range and deferring fleet replacement.

In terms of equipment replacement in the village, however, there are a number of initiatives the village plans to tackle, such as updated computer equipment, and mobile

See **BUDGET** on page 14



JOHN HEDGES
Village trustee

**HEDGES SEEKS VMA
VILLAGE PRESIDENT
NOD**

*Pope decision within
two weeks*

Halley column, Page 5