

THE OAKLAND POST

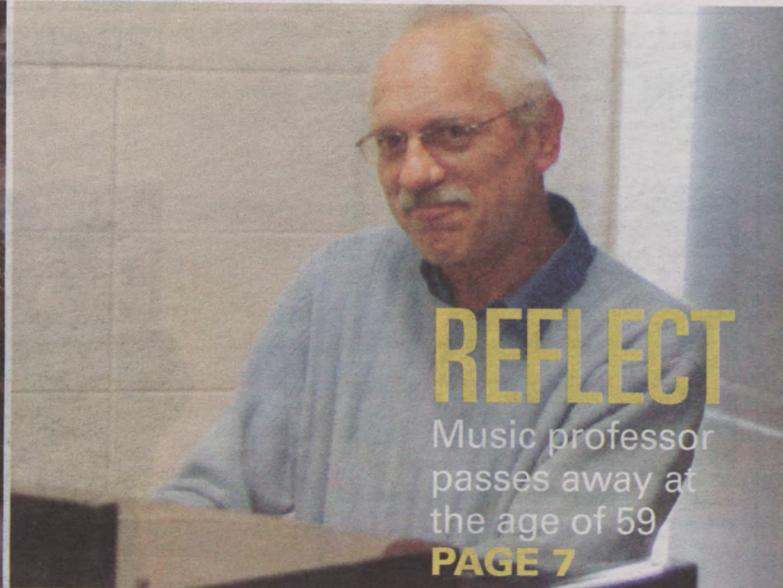
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

February
08
— 2012 —



DRAMA

'Mary Stewart' makes Michigan premiere
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REFLECT

Music professor passes away at the age of 59
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MEADOW BROOK BALL

Annual ball may occur twice next year
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SPORTS SWIMMERS WIN MICHIGAN USA OPEN **PAGE 12**

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Art gallery showcases artists
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this week

February 8, 2012 // Volume 38, Issue 22



on the web

Multimedia Reporters Jordan Reed and Brian Figurski ask the OU community what they would do if they received \$21 million. Watch the video online at www.oaklandpostonline.com or www.youtube.com/theoaklandpostonline



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

SHARING VIEWPOINTS // A protestor expresses his disapproval of the Obama administration outside the Oakland Center. A group of students gathered around to listen to the protestor's opinions on why he believes Obama should be impeached from office.

Tweet us your photos @theoaklandpost for your chance to be featured as next week's photo of the week.

Chelsea Bistue // *The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to photos@oaklandpostonline.com for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

What adds the most stress to your day at OU?

- A Moodle
- B GrizzNet
- C Parking
- D Chartwells

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

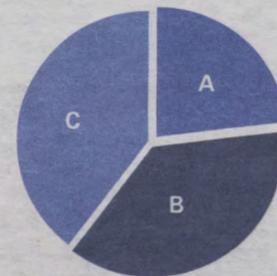
LAST WEEK'S POLL

Who do you want to win the Super Bowl?

A) New York Giants
12 votes | 22%

B) New England Patriots
16 votes | 36%

C) I just watch for the commercials
19 votes | 42%



THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 4, 1980

Buckminster Fuller lectured before a crowd. During the three hour presentation, he spoke about his ideas, philosophy and touched on the struggle between the U.S. and the USSR.

FEBRUARY 7, 1964

OU received \$75,000 to build a performing arts center. The Meadow Brook Music Festival was intended to make OU's campus a center for performing arts in the major Detroit area.

FEBRUARY 14, 1977

As part of a three-part energy conservation effort, OU lowered the temperature of all buildings to 65 degrees. The University had previously saved \$89,000 on electrical bills and \$185,000 on gas bills by reducing building hours and shutting down buildings over breaks.



CAMPUS

7. The Oakland University Formula Society of Engineers, or the Grizzlies Racing team, is working to complete work on a car for a yearly tournament. The car will be judged on design, safety and design.



SPORTS

12. The OU men's and women's swimming teams placed high at the Michigan USA Open held in the Aquatics Center on campus right before the Summit League Championship, which begins Feb. 5.



LIFE

16-17. Twin brothers are gaining fame on YouTube with a game-inspired mini-series. The brother's debut video received 300,000 views in its first day and now has over one million.



MOUTHING OFF

20. Multimedia Reporters Brian Figurski and Jordan Reed declare their candidacy for Student Body President and Vice President in the upcoming OUSC election.

BY THE NUMBERS

110

number of rooms in Meadow Brook Hall

1971

year Meadow Brook Hall was open to the public

1970

first OU Meadow Brook Ball

\$4,000,000

cost to build Meadow Brook Hall in 1926

6

rank of Meadow Brook Hall on the list of Largest Historic Homes in the U.S.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Your voice. Heard. Just kidding

What has the Oakland University Student Congress been spending your student money on?

We'll break it down for you.

Last semester, OUSC spent \$10,800 of their \$86,301 fall budget on giveaways and \$32,950 on events. A grand total of \$43,750 on programming alone, according to the "draft" budget they gave to The Oakland Post.

Programming that could have come out of the Student Program Board's \$155,550 budget.

In their running expenses budget, which was obtained from their adviser after difficulties obtaining it from OUSC, \$1,270 was spent on bracelets — including three bracelets from Tiffany & Co. — that were given away to students at the Arabian Nights event they co-sponsored with SPB.

They also spent \$2,000 on office renovations — including \$1,000 on office chairs — and \$1,000 on jackets for themselves.

Further, the money they are spending comes from you, the students.

Every year, \$27.50 of each student's tuition goes towards the Student Activities Fee, which is then split among the direct funded organizations.

Of that amount, OUSC gets 16 percent.

While we understand that some programming is required to have a successful organization, we think that OUSC could have spent their money on what they promised — representing the voice of students.

OUSC has not only spent more than half of their budget on giveaways and events, but they have also gone into the negatives this year in their main account, which, according to their own bylaws, must maintain a balance of \$5,000.

The organization is currently \$1,696 in debt even with the extra student money they received from a \$2.50 increase in the Student Activities Fee last year.

Even with that extra \$7,697 of your money, they still overspent.

While we understand that some programming is required to have a successful organization, we think OUSC could have spent their money doing what they promised — representing the voice of students.

If you ask any student their biggest complaint against the university,

most would say parking. A topic that has been avoided by the current OUSC administration until this point.

However, parking still remains a huge issue on campus.

Though the current administration has addressed the issues with university officials there have been no solutions. Their current plan consists of using signs to address the problem.

Not much has been done to repair the Bear Buses, a transportation device last year's administration started, recently either.

In fact, OUSC didn't realize there were any problems with the buses. But, according to a Bear Bus driver, they have many issues, including nearly bald tires and brake problems.

OUSC's mission statement states that OUSC "aims to meet the needs and address the concerns of our fellow students and encourage students to voice their ideas to help us create the best possible 'Oakland experience.'"

There are plenty of needs and concerns at OU currently, but the present OUSC administration has failed to formally address them.

The staff editorial is written weekly by members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.



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Letters to the Editor

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



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EDITORIAL

What about donating to liberal arts?

Oakland philanthropists should embrace school's liberal arts, not ignore them

It is impossible to not be thankful for the extraordinary generosity of the Scharf family over the years toward Oakland University.

Kudos is also due to the administration for it's success at landing this most recent donation.

Nevertheless, for more than a few faculty, especially those of us in the College of Arts and Sciences, there is a concern that the emphasis on donations and fundraising over recent years ignores what so many of us view as the essential mission of the institution.

When I came to OU over twenty years ago I knew little of the place. It just so happened that a senior faculty member in my graduate school had grown up in Bloomfield Hills and told me that while it definitely was a "junior" university in the Michigan scheme of things she understood that its strength was that it provided a quality undergraduate education in the liberal arts.

My subsequent research found that the school indeed advertised this aspect of itself proudly and claimed that providing a liberal education was the original vision of the university upon its founding.

It is still mentioned on occasion these days but now the school advertises itself in terms of it being a good value and an excellent place to obtain job skills.

Part of this is perhaps an inevitable result of the times we live in, where "training," an activity which



SEAN MORAN

guest columnist

previously took place outside of universities, has wormed its way into the public's imagining of what a college education is all about.

This happens despite the constant reiteration that the liberal arts (and I mean by that not only the humanities, arts and social sciences, but the "hard" sciences as well) are the core, the very foundation, of our efforts here.

On paper the statistics might seem to bear that out.

The college enrolls more than half the students and majors, employs more than half of the faculty, delivers well in excess of half of the credit hours (providing essential services to the professional schools which is not returned in kind) and does all this at a cheaper cost as well.

Yet every time one turns around there is endless news of the medical and professional schools, new support and building for the engineering school (in spite of its downward enrollment trend over the past five years) and the glories of our athletic teams.

Now we see this huge donation, an undeniable blessing for the university but a mixed message to those of us who believe that to be truly educated one has to know some Shakespeare, know how our political system works, does not find Beethoven to be an oversized slobbering dog, and has to have the ability to think critically about a variety of subjects.

I live in Birmingham. It is full of highly "successful" people, but few of them are truly educated. In fact, they are mostly spectacularly ill-informed,

unsure which Roosevelt came first, think of Tom Clancy as a first rate writer of fiction, think that liberals and socialists are one and the same and think American exceptionalism is a historically certain fact.

The issue of the role of the liberal arts within the academe is going through challenging times.

Much of this challenge is due to the collective ignorance and philistinism of our civic leaders.

Are we to merely reinforce this ignorance with neglect?

That is why it is critically important for institutions such as OU to insist that these things are essential and need to be seen as such.

And yet, I cannot feel that with all of the university's growth and success, the "core" feels ill-used and under-recognized.

Cannot any major donor be convinced to leave the golf clubs behind and support the things that are the foundation of our culture and tradition?

As it has gone so far, one wonders if the liberal arts are truly valued here and if they are not truly supported, beyond the lip service, then really, they will be not be valued anywhere.

Of course the golfers probably won't notice one way or the other.

Sean Moran is an associate professor of history at Oakland University.

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Bored during lunch?

Come talk to us.

Members of The Oakland Post will be tabling every Wednesday at noon in the Oakland Center.

Stop by to pick up a copy of the current issue, comment about what you've read, pitch story ideas or get involved.

The Oakland Post.
Your campus. Your news.



Arrests pursued for January's crimes

Recent crime coverage brings Oakland University Police Department processes into the spotlight

By Sarah Hunton
Campus Editor

No arrests have been made for the Jan. 6 knife pulling incident or Jan. 10 WXOU larceny. The suspects in both cases have been identified, however.



Mark Gordon,
Captain, OUPD

"From my understanding, they have a suspect already and I think they're still trying to ready the case for prosecution," said Phil Berard, general manager of WXOU and cinema studies student.

According to Lieutenant Mel Gilroy of the Oakland University Police Department, an arrest warrant request for the WXOU suspect is currently being reviewed by the prosecutor, however the warrant is not for the WXOU case.

The suspect is also believed to be involved in crimes that took place in other areas of the Oakland Center, for which an arrest warrant is currently being pursued.

"Investigations often take some time. We have to be able to provide evidence to support our beliefs in these cases," Gilroy said. "We obviously have a focus in these investigations."

Berard said that he understood that the police had to follow protocol that he wasn't very familiar with, however it is also difficult to be patient and wait to see how the stolen equipment will be replaced.

"We all felt real violated by what happened, and betrayed, because you know, the person that committed the crime work(ed) here, so we're all pretty blood thirsty," Berard said. "I don't feel that the police aren't working on our case, and I can't even say that they aren't working their hardest, we just wish the process moved a little quicker."

The Oakland County Prosecutor could not be reached for comment on this case.

OUPD was unable to comment on the status of the Jan. 10 suspect for press time.

According to Captain Mark Gordon of OUPD, there are many stages in arresting a suspect in a crime.

When crimes occur, victims must file a police report. The police department then tries to identify a suspect using a variety of methods including reviewing any video that was taken, gathering witness statements, victims statements and suspect statements.

Sometimes there is not enough in-

formation for suspects to be identified, and if this is so, the case remains open.

Once the police have as much information as they can gather about the crime, they present a prosecutor's package to the county explaining why this case should be pursued in court. The package can then take 24 hours to a week and a half for the prosecutor to review. If the suspect is already taken into custody because community safety is at risk, then the processing time is shorter.

After the prosecutor returns the package, three things may happen. An arrest warrant is issued for the suspect, a furtherance is ordered, meaning that more information is needed before a warrant may be issued or the warrant request is denied.

If OUPD is given the arrest warrant they then must contact the suspect. The suspect is advised that an arrest warrant has been issued and that he must turn himself in for processing. At this point, the police are seeking cooperation on behalf of the suspect.

The suspect is then taken before the magistrate at the 52-3 Oakland County District Court for an arraignment. Here a not guilty plea is entered and a bond is set based on the warrant and crime. The bond, which may be cash or a personal word to appear in court, ensures that the suspect will show up for the next court hearing.

If a cash bond has been posted, it

is returned to the suspect at the next court appearance.

Two weeks after the arraignment, the suspect attends a preliminary exam where he or she may enter a guilty, not guilty or no contest plea. If the suspect pleads guilty, a sentencing date is established.

If the suspect pleads not guilty, then the subsequent steps depend on the type of crime. If the crime is a misdemeanor then a trial is set up in district court. If the crime is a felony, the case goes to a circuit court and sentencing is scheduled after.

There are a few places in this process that may slow down the prosecution of a suspect. Sometimes it may take a while for a suspect to be identified. A furtherance can also hold up the process. Strategies the defense attorney may take advantage of can cause delays in the process as well.

Captain Gordon attributes the high rate of solving campus crime to the good relationship the department has with the community. He said due to the bond between the OU community and the police, witnesses come forward more easily than in areas where the police may not be respected.

"We don't solve all of the cases," Gordon said, "but we do solve many of them."

Contact campus editor Sarah Hunton via email at sjhunton@oakland.edu

Current OUSC administration not running again

By Kevin Graham
Staff Reporter

Student Congress will be under new leadership next year as the administration of Benjamin Eveslage and Elisa Malile has decided not to run for re-election.

Malile, a senior sociology major, explained the decision.

"I've gotten some opportunities and Ben's gotten some opportunities so we think that it's better that we just step down and let someone else run," she said.

Eveslage wants to finish strong.

"(It's) also just to lead our executive board through the rest of the semester strongly with the initiatives we do have planned so we're not distracted by running again," the junior international relations major said.

OUSC has three presidential tickets and 35 legislators on this year's ballot. One presidential ticket and 23 legislators will be selected.

The candidates for president and vice president of OUSC are James Sklar and Thomas Chen, Samantha Wolf and Robbie Williford and Louis Fairman and Jacob Bogarin.

Sklar, a sophomore majoring in political science, said that if elected, he would like to build a community feel at OU.

"We want to improve the experiences that students get while going to OU," he said. "We want to bring that experience not to just students that live on-campus but we want to bring that experience to commuters as well."

Some of his planned initiatives are to bring back the free Scantron program, renovate the residence hall basketball and volleyball courts and putting a Grizz Express in Vandenberg Hall.

Robbie Williford explained why he is running as Samantha Wolf's vice presidential nominee.

"We both want to do everything that we can for the students, commuters, on-campus residents, Greek life students, athletes or just regular students who go to Oakland and want to see a difference being made," he said.

Williford and Wolf want to facilitate better communication between students and the administration. They plan to have meetings with university leadership regarding what can be done about the parking



Oakland Post file photo

Benjamin Eveslage and Elisa Malile will not seek re-election for the 2012/2013 school year.

situation on campus.

Candidates Louis Fairman and Jacob Bogarin could not be reached at press time.

Contact staff reporter Kevin Graham via email at kpgraham@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @KevinGraham88



SARAH BLANCHETTE / The Oakland Post

Darren Duff (LEFT), Wayne Thibodeau (CENTER) and Melissa Brode (RIGHT) tell students how to market themselves to future employers.

Speed networking tips and tricks

Students learn how to present themselves

By Sarah Blanchette
Staff Intern

Preparing for the job market today is a step that one must take in order to become prepared for life after graduation.

On Feb. 1, Career Services hosted a class in the Oakland Center that explained the ins and outs of participating in a speed networking event. The class prepared students for the speed networking event to take place Feb. 10 in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center.

Career Services intern Melissa Brode and peer mentor Darren Duff, led the class. Both are Oakland University students who began working with Career Services in order to help other students explore their job fields.

The idea of a speed networking session is to make contacts with professionals that are in your future job field.

According to Brode and Duff, there are many benefits to attending one of these events including acquiring an interview for a job, the possibility for an internship, knowledge of what is involved in a real world job and gaining a better idea of what employers expect.

At the Feb. 10 event, students will be given a personal schedule that tells students who to speak with and when. Students will be able to meet and talk with professionals for a total of five minutes each, and possibly meet with them afterwards during the afterglow, which is new to this year's speed networking affair.

When meeting with each professional, it is expected that students give a 30 second "elevator speech" that tells them who you are, what your major is, and what you are looking for in the job field.

"You only get one chance to make a first impression — I cannot say that enough," Duff said.

Brode suggests that before the event, make sure to have an updated resume and some form of business card that provides the employer with contact information. Students are encouraged to bring multiple copies of both the resume and business cards.

"In response to having a professional appearance online, make sure that your social media websites are professional," Brode said.

To check out future events visit oakland.edu/careerservices

Contact staff intern Sarah Blanchette via email at sblanch@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @S_Blanche_

HOWTO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON EMPLOYERS

DO:

■ Dress professionally. **Men:** Suit (black, dark blue, gray, brown, muted pin stripes), sensible tie, no jewelry, light cologne. **Women:** Pant suit, skirt (must be below the knee), nylons (neutral color), closed toe heels (three inch maximum), light perfume, conservative make-up and nail polish.

■ Know your strengths and weaknesses.

■ Listen to the employers. No matter what field they are in, even if they differ from yours, they will have things to say that can help you in the long run.

■ Follow up with the employers that you speak with.

DON'T:

■ Forget to wash your hands and manicure your nails. You will be shaking a lot of hands.

■ Be late for networking event — it's unprofessional.

■ Forget to ask the employers questions about themselves and their jobs.

■ Forget to smile.

POLICE FILES

Disorderly conduct, Vandenberg

On Wednesday, Jan. 29 at approximately 3:15 a.m., Oakland University police officers were on patrol near Vandenberg Hall when they noticed a man urinating from the fourth floor balcony. Police arrived on the floor and noticed loud noises coming from one room. Police spoke with the three occupants who stated that they had not been on the balcony. Police recognized a sleeping male subject and arrested him for urinating in public. After being handcuffed, the subject began to vomit. Police removed the handcuffs and requested medical assistance. The subject took a preliminary breath test with the result of .203 and was later taken to St. Joseph Hospital. He was cited with disorderly conduct and minor in possession.

Theft from Chick-Fil-A

On Friday, Jan. 31, OUPD made contact with a representative from Chartwells who said she was standing with a male subject who had stolen a sandwich from the Chick-Fil-A in the Oakland Center. Police spoke with the subject who admitted to the theft. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the station. After being cuffed to the booking bench and read his Miranda Rights the subject told police that he put the sandwich in an inside pocket of his coat and left the service area without paying for it. He also said he was unsure why he stole the sandwich. He was printed, photographed and then released. The representative from Chartwells does not want to prosecute.

Explosives near Hamlin Hall

On Saturday, Feb. 4 around 1 a.m., OU police were dispatched to the area between Hamlin and Van Wagoner halls for an explosives complaint. A male student reported hearing three or four loud explosions in the area. "Bottle bomb" devices were found in the area before on two occasions. The south side of Hamlin Hall had the two devices that were live that were likely thrown from a south-facing Hamlin window. To prevent injury, police rendered the live devices safe. There are no suspects.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski,
Staff Intern



LEX LEE/The Oakland Post

Grizzlies Racing members Jorge Sugañes and Justin Donajkowski, both seniors, work on the GRX 2 in order to be ready for competition.

Grizzlies Racing team gears up for competition

Formula's Society of Automotive Engineers build a car to compete in FSAE West California Tournament

By Sarah Blanchette
Staff Intern

Oakland University's Formula Society of Automotive Engineers, also known as Grizzlies Racing, is currently working on the GRX 2, a car that tops previous year's projects in terms of technology and capabilities.

The team is also preparing for a yearly tournament that occurs in May at Michigan International Speedway.

"This year currently has the most potential," Evan Fischer, president of OU's SAE chapter, said. This (year) seems like a pretty special year."

Over the past three years, OU's racing team has grown from eight people to 40.

As the team grows, so does the amount of sponsors that supports them. Currently, there are 29 sponsors, which include students and Alumni Association.

In terms of producing the car, the team plans to evolve last year's car in order to move forward.

The changes in design for the 2012 car include a frame made of tube steel, redesigned petals, a new exhaust and an aerodynamic under tray that will reduce lift by 10 pounds.

"We are developing a wireless link to (the) car's computers," John Smerczak, senior and lead electrical engineer at OU, said. "This will allow us to data log and live stream information from the car while we are testing and racing. This is a huge step forward for our team and car."

The team spends, on average, 80 hours a week building the car.

"We have more power per pound than a Porsche 911 or Chevy Corvette and a wheelbase as short as a golf cart," Smerczak said. "There will be five microcontrollers on the 2012 car that will work faster and smarter than the driver."

The date to finish the car is set for April 1, but it is possible that the team will work on the car until later that month.

After the car is completed, the team uses a month's time to test their creation.

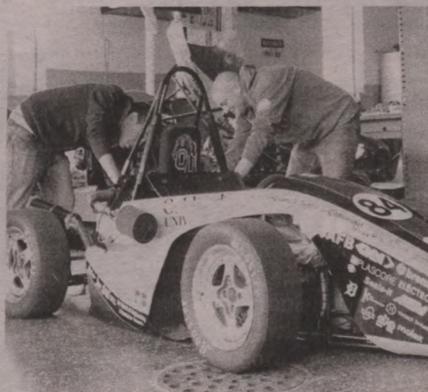
In order to test the car, the team elects a driver through a series of tryouts. The driver operates the car during competitions.

The car will be judged on its design, fabrication and safety. Another factor that comes into the judging process is how easily the car can be mass produced. The highest possible score that a design can receive is 1,000 points.

Last year, Grizzlies Racing was awarded 11th place overall in the FSAE West California Tournament.

For more information, check out their website at grizzliesracing.com

Contact staff intern Sarah Blanchette via email at sblanch@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @S_Blanche.



LEX LEE/The Oakland Post

Adjustments and tweaks are made to the car.

Music lecturer passes away at age of 59

By Nichole Seguin
and Megan Semeraz
Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

Professor Ron DeRoo, a special lecturer at Oakland University, passed away unexpectedly Monday night. He was 59.

DeRoo taught Cultural Foundations and Historical Development of Rock Music, a course that was popular among many students. It was the only class he taught this semester.



Ron DeRoo,
special lecturer

Muriel Mader, administrative secretary for the music, theatre and dance department, confirmed his death to The Oakland Post on Tuesday.

DeRoo learned to play piano at the age of seven and had over 50 years of experience.

After graduating from Central Michigan University, DeRoo spent a year touring with his college pop-rock band, Freestyle, before coming to OU and receiving a Master's of Music in classical piano with a focus in choral music, keyboard and jazz studies.

His rock music course had hit or exceeded capacity every semester it has been offered since 2000.

Students responded to the news on The Oakland Post's website and Facebook page.

"Ron DeRoo was an extraordinary teacher who touched the lives of many, including my own," Laura Harding said. "(I'm) saddened to hear of his death. Please keep the DeRoo family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of a husband, and a father. He will be missed."

Previously, DeRoo was the music and choir director at Waterford Mott High School between 1985 and 2008.

It was there that he was discovered by the department's chairman.

"Shocked at the news of DeRoo's passing," Tim Tottingham said. "DeRoo brought the best out of his students and its to him I thank for keeping music alive in schools ... the music industry has taken a huge hit today. My heart is with his family today. DeRoo, you will be missed. Thank you for everything you did for me and music."

Funeral arrangements for DeRoo are yet to be determined.

Energy management program gives students an edge

Students and professionals learn to cut business costs

By Chris Lauritsen
Senior Reporter

OU INC has teamed up with the School of Business Administration and the School of Engineering and Computer Science to give Oakland University students the opportunity to learn about energy management alongside industry professionals.

The Energy Management Certificate Program is designed to give OU students and professionals tools to better understand how to cut energy costs and boost bottom line profits.

This is the second year of the program, and the first year that it has been open to students.

The program is broken down

"It's not about being green for environmental sake but it is about being green for your bottom line."

Scott Jenney,
Ming Scientific vice president of business development

into three sections and runs for a total of six accelerated weeks.

"We are hoping programs like this can provide good quality workers in the energy efficiency industry," said Kenneth J. Hedrick, Chevron Senior Business Development Manager of the Midwest.

Classes in the program include fundamentals of energy and energy management, analysis of energy alternatives and implementation of energy strategies.

The course allows participants to further their knowledge

about energy management even if they already have jobs in the energy sector.

"It allows me to really do my job better," Saurav Shrestha, an electrical specialist at Toyota, said. "In the school I went to they did not really go in as much depth as they do in this course."

According to Scott Jenney, vice president of business development for Ming Scientific, energy management is about savings.

"More and more energy has an impact on everyone's life no matter where you are going," Robert Uptegraff, a visiting instructor in accounting, said.

Class sessions focus on technologies that are available to improve energy efficiency and how to determine when these technologies make business sense.

"It's not just about being green for environmental sake but it is about being green for your bottom line. Those two do often line

up," Jenney said.

The class not only speaks to businesses, but also touches on how to improve energy efficiency in residential properties.

"Changing out windows just for saving money on energy probably isn't worth it," Chris Kobus, professor of engineering and computer science, said. "It just all depends on the house. I would suggest that everyone gets an energy assessment, especially if your house was built before the year 2000."

According to Kobus, an energy assessment will give the homeowners a full report on where they are losing energy.

One aspect of an energy assessment is the use of thermal cameras to pinpoint where a building is losing energy.

Kobus said that thermal cameras are becoming the most important tools. They take pictures of the surface temperature of any object in a room.

The program also allows members of the class to get hands-on experience with new tools of the industry.

Contact senior reporter Chris Lauritsen via email at cklaurit@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @ChrisLauritsen

MORE INFO

Cost: \$2,000 including all materials and lunch for each of the classes

When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

Contact: Maureen Callaghan at 248-412-3235 or via email at mpcallag@oakland.edu. Visit www.oakland.edu/energymgmt for further registration information and future class dates

STUDENT VIDEO PRODUCTIONS

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OAKLAND.EDU/OUTV

OAKLANDSVP@GMAIL.COM

Tired of searching for parking?

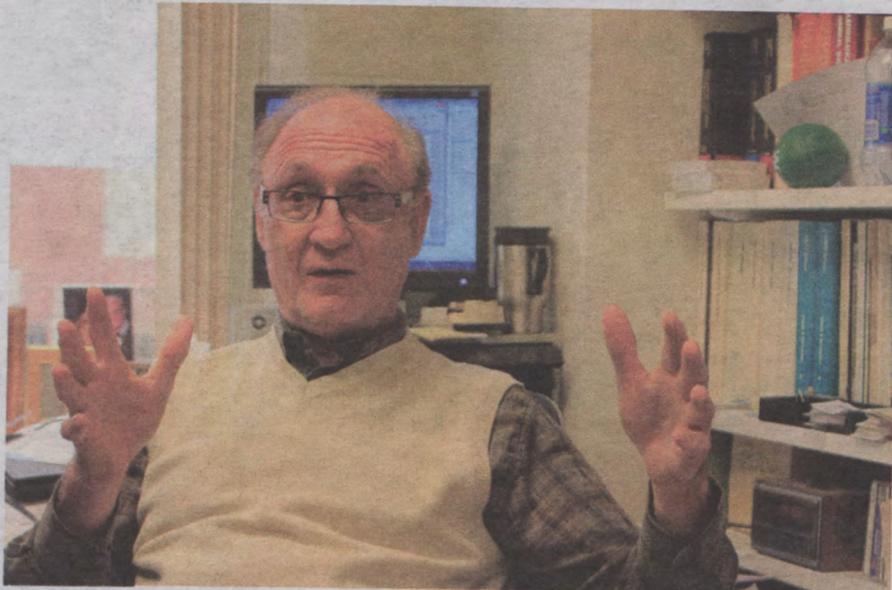


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Do our challenges on SCVNGR and earn your chance to win your own parking spot for a month and \$50 Spirit Cash!



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LEX LEE/The Oakland Post

Associated Dean and professor of macroeconomics, Ron Tracy, explains the new ECN course.

Economics department makes changes to curriculum

By Jordan Gonzalez
Senior Reporter

Say goodbye to ECN 200. After the winter 2012 semester, ECN 200, principles of macroeconomics, will no longer be offered at Oakland University.

Instead, ECN 202, or principles of global macroeconomics, will replace the course.

An entirely new class, ECN 160, introduction to global economy, will also be offered.

The changes, which take effect in the fall 2012 semester, are to emphasize and prioritize the teaching of the global economy.

According to Ron Tracy, associate dean and professor of macroeconomics, knowledge of the global economy is vital to economics.

"(The global economy) is so important. Things happen so much faster, and everybody is tied to everybody," Tracy said. "There is almost no such thing as an isolated economy anymore."

According to Tracy, the problem was with the old setup, which encouraged macroeconomics (ECN 200) to be taught before microeconomics (ECN 201).

Since microeconomics is vital to understanding macroeconomics, professors would spend a considerable amount of time teaching microeconomics in the macroeconomics class. This prevented the teaching of global economics in any sort of depth.

"Global economics weren't being

talked about in class. It was often talked (about) at the end of the syllabus, and you know what happens at the end of the syllabus," Tracy said.

"The new system is more practical and allows for a deeper understanding of macroeconomics and global economics by rearranging the order that the classes are taught. Anandi Sahu, chairman of the department of economic and professor of economics, said.

According to Sahu, concepts such as GDP, foreign demand and comparative advantage can now be explored in detail. For instance, he said instead of simply mentioning foreign trade, they will explain what exactly that means to the U.S., John Deere, Boeing and Hollywood movies.

He also stressed the importance of encouraging students to take microeconomics (ECN 201) as a prerequisite for macroeconomics (ECN 202).

The idea began in 2009 when Tracy and professor Nivedita Mukherji, who also teaches macroeconomics, began the early proposals.

By the 2010-2011 academic year, the plans had been passed.

Students who took ECN 200, or transferred the equivalent of ECN 200, will not be required to take any additional course.

The new class, ECN 160, introduction to global economics, will be offered on-line for the time being, and is an introduction to economics.

Contact senior reporter Jordan Gonzalez via email at jrgonzal@oakland.edu

CAMPUS BRIEFS

History professor gives lecture series about Nazi power

"The History Comes Alive" Lecture Series will feature a lecture on "The Seize and Consolidation of Nazi Power from 1933-1934," Feb. 8 from 7-9 p.m. Associate Professor Derek Hastings, will speak on the developments that enabled the Hitler administration to consolidate power to a unprecedented degree. For more information on the lecture series visit www.oakland.edu/events

Students for Life hosts pro-life baby shower for donations

On Friday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. Students For Life at Oakland University will host a pro-life baby shower in the Oakland Room in the Oakland Center.

Donations of baby items for Crossroads Pregnancy Center, located in Auburn Hills, will be collected.

A dinner will be provided for all those who attend. For more information, contact oustudents4life@gmail.com

Celebrate the culture of Africa with CMI and SPB

Part of African American month, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives and The Student Program Board is hosting "Taste of Africa Gala," on Feb. 10, from 4p.m. to 7p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center. The event will feature African and African American cuisine, dance, drumming and spirituals, and more. For more information visit www.oakland.edu/aacmevents

OC offers free drinking I.Q. test

The Oakland Center is hosting a free alcohol screening across from the Pioneer Food Court. Feb. 15 from 11a.m. to 1p.m. The screening includes testing to check drinking I.Q.'s and help finding the limit of drinks a person can consume. Students will be able to speak with a professional about safe drinking and test at a "virtual bar."

Compiled by Misha Mayhand
Staff Intern

csa@oakland.edu
248-370-2400

Center for Student Activities **CSA**

www.oakland.edu/csa

Annual Day Trip to Chicago

\$10 for Oakland Students, Faculty & Staff
\$15 for guests

Saturday, April 14 6:00am to 2:00am

Tickets go on sale February 8"



Leadership and Volunteer Center

Presents:

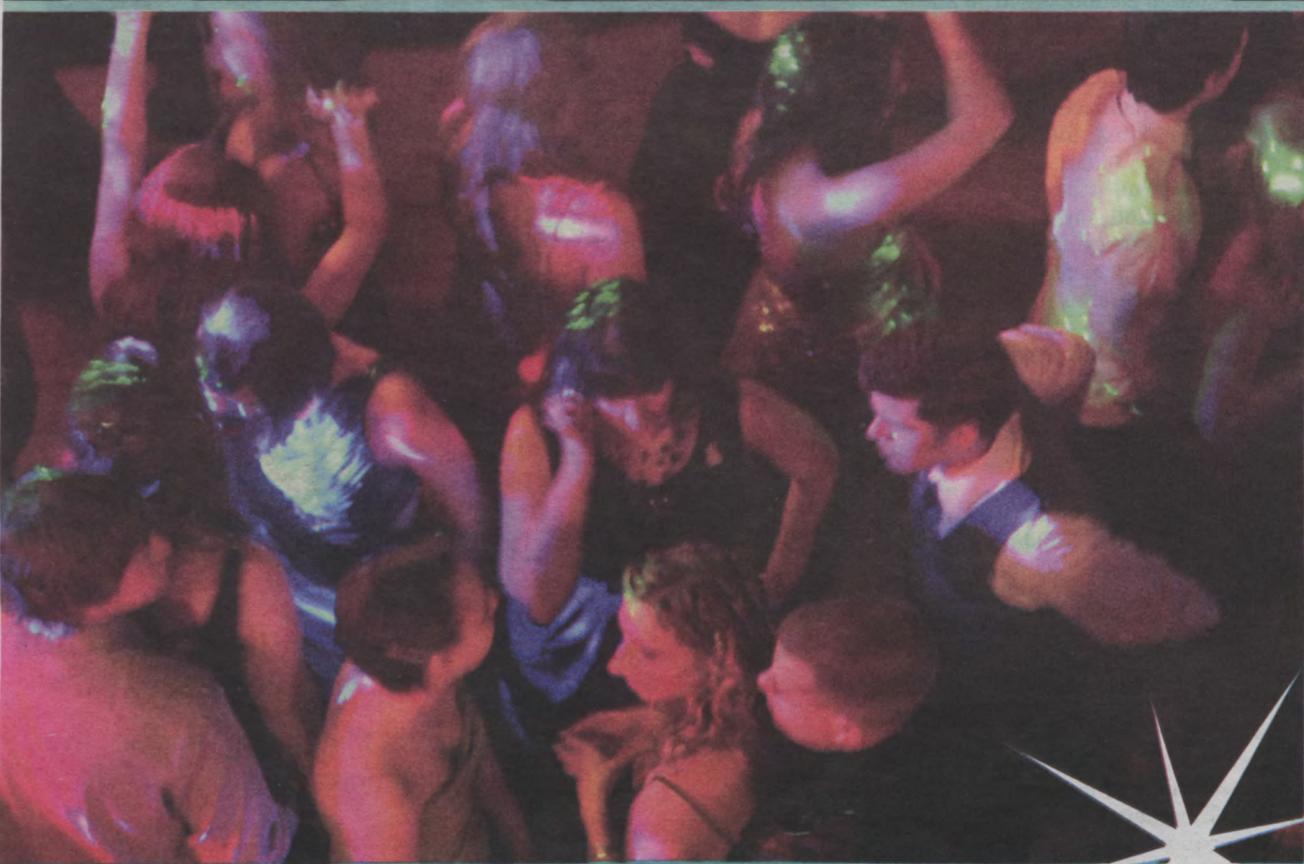


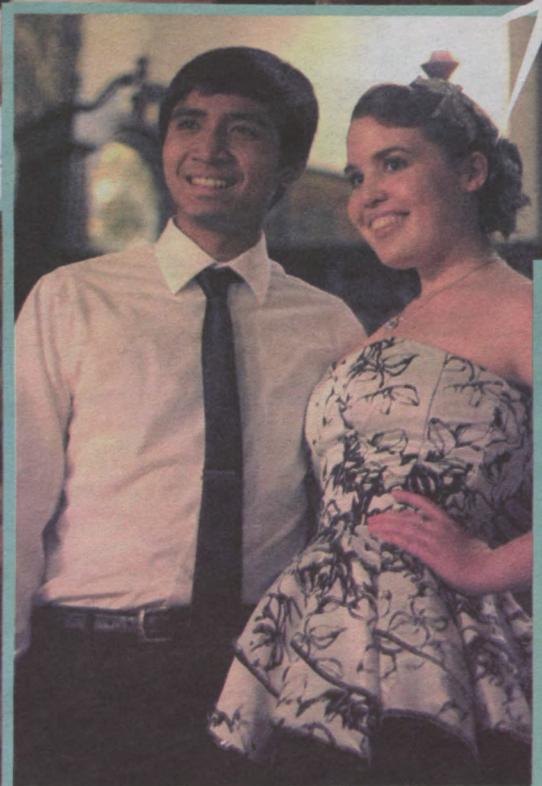
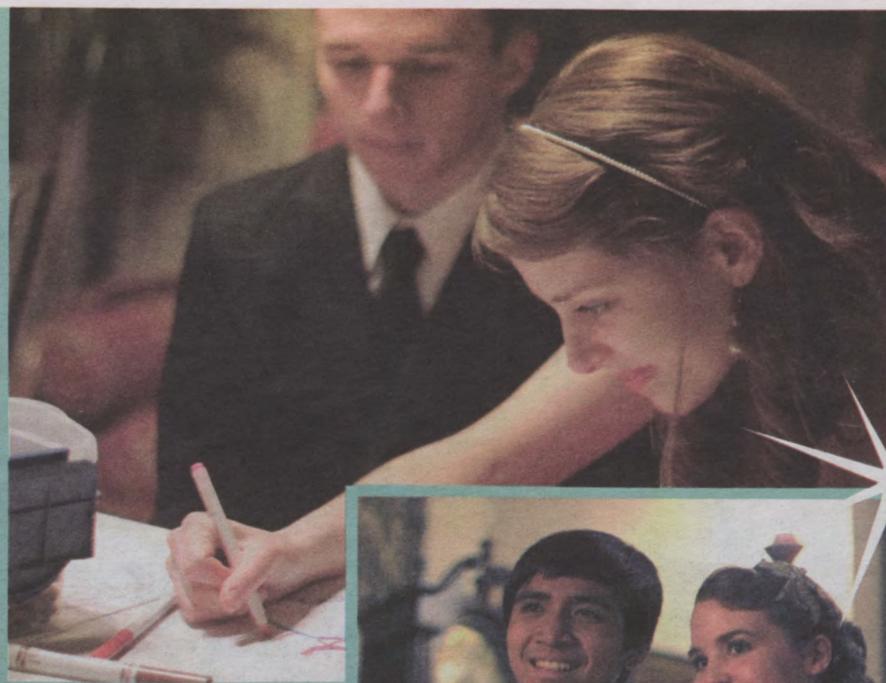
Registration Ends February 10th

Catalyst is a new leadership program that will be the spark in a life-long process of learning, exploration, and action.

Designed for individuals who are committed to the exploration of possibility, personal integrity, and increasing their capacity to lead.

Register: www.oakland.edu/catalyst





Glitz and *Glamour*

GRIZZLIES SPARKLE AT MEADOW BROOK BALL

Written by Stephanie Preweda

Designed by Rifath Hoque

Photos by Nichole Seguin

Diamonds frosted the Meadow Brook Ball as Oakland University students entered the mansion's grounds. The theme of the ball, "Diamonds are a Grizzly's Best Friend," was chosen unanimously over "the roaring 20s."

"We all liked the idea of decorating the mansion in sparkles and being able to add OU spirit by having grizzlies be a part of the theme made it perfect," Maria Willett, president of the Meadow Brook Ball Committee, said.

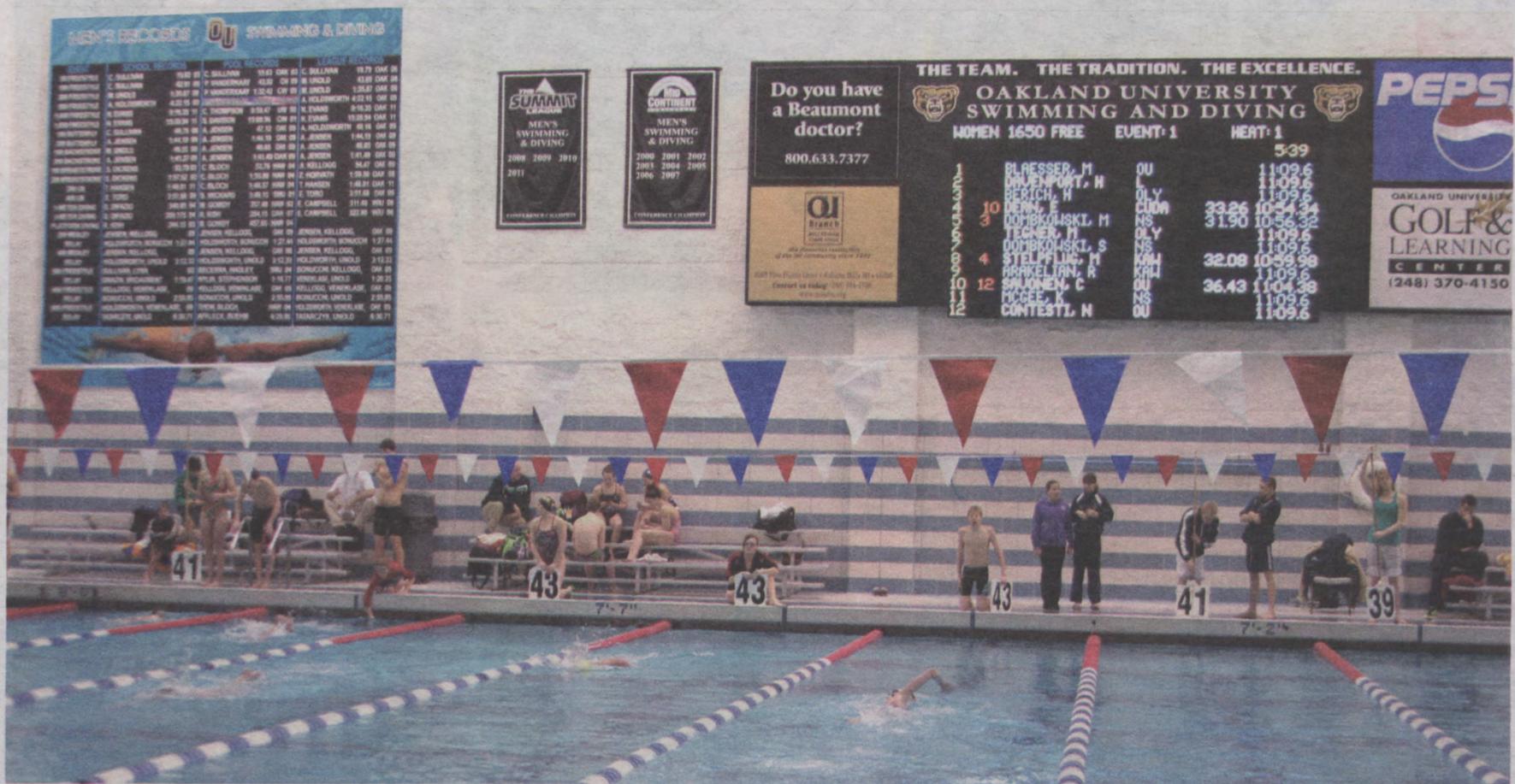
Attractions such as a dance floor, face and body paint, hors d'oeuvres, a relaxation room, caricatures and a living statue were all available to enjoy after a self-tour of the mansion.

"My favorite part was the whole ambiance of the building. I love that they hold the event in the Meadow Brook mansion," Catherine Twigg, junior and communications major, said.

A complimentary valet services was also available for students to take advantage of.

The maximum capacity for the mansion is 300, and the goal is to get more students to attend. The committee is now brainstorming the idea of having two dances next year.

"The Meadow Brook Ball has always been a fun experience for me and I would like to be able to share that with a bigger portion of our students," Willett said.



CHELSEA BISTUE/The Oakland Post

The OU Aquatic Center in the O'rena is hosting the Summit League Championship where the Grizzlies will have the chance to win their 13th consecutive conference title on Feb. 15 to 18.

Winning the weekend

Men's and women's swimming teams score high at Michigan USA Open

By Kevin Romanchik
Sports Editor

The Oakland University men's and women's swimming teams spent Super Bowl weekend placing high at the Michigan USA Open in the OU Aquatic Center.

Among the many successful Grizzlies, sophomore Grant Harding won the 100-meter freestyle on Saturday and the 100-meter backstroke on Sunday with a time of 57.32.

Harding also used the weekend to prepare for his Olympic trials in March. He also was named the Summit League Swimming and Diving Athlete of the Week.

"I was really surprised with how I competed," Harding said. "I didn't think I was going to finish with the times that I did."

The women also had a strong showing with Megan Hunter earning a second-place finish 100-back and Shelby Porter being the runner-up in the 200-breast.

"(The level of competition) was a lot higher than I expected," Hunter said. "I didn't realize there was going to be people making Olympic trial cuts. The amount of young people that were doing so well was surprising."

With the Summit League Championship just a week away, the Michigan USA Open serves as a tool for finishing the final roster.

The Summit League allows each participating school to bring 18 students for each men's and women's team to compete in the championship, but the conference allows four additional student-athletes to come swim only for exhibi-

tion, not for points.

Head Coach Pete Hovland explains that going into the Michigan USA Open, only 16 of 22 spots on each team were already filled. Those 32 total student-athletes didn't have to swim in the event.

"It's a fairly competitive meet," Hovland said. "It gives a number of the men and women on our team an opportunity to swim in a championship format. If they are fortunate to make one of the top 22 spots, at least they get to end their season (right)."

The men's and women's team are gearing up for potentially their 13th consecutive Summit League conference championship, but Hovland tries to limit the distraction of the looming streak as much as possible.

"We don't talk to the team much about winning 13 in

a row. They know its there," Hovland said. "We try to hammer home all season long that we have to focus on ourselves and to not worry about last year's team or streaks."

Along with maintaining their status at the top of the Summit League food chain as a priority, their performance in the championship has a greater meaning on the future recognition of Oakland swimming and diving.

In December, Oakland entered the top 10 mid-majors ranking with the men climbing to the seventh spot from 14th, and the women jumping from 13th to ninth. With two months left in the 2011-12 season, a strong finish can move them even further up.

"When we go into the year, we talk about being competitive amongst the best mid-majors programs in the country,"

Hovland said. "There are some pretty formidable programs that are ahead of us. We are going to have to have a really good championship meet if we want to continue to see this move up in those rankings."

Hovland stresses that Oakland's destiny is completely in their control.

"It comes right back to us," Hovland said. "There's no one that's going to help us. It is what it is and we will be judged strictly on where we are at the end of the season. We are going to have to be obviously better than we were in December to improve."

The Grizzlies are vocal about their confidence, too.

"Everyone (on the team) is looking good and strong," Harding said. "Shouldn't be too much of a problem."

The Summit League Championship begins on Wednesday, Feb. 15 and ends on Saturday, Feb. 18 in the OU Aquatic Center.

To read the full story with all the OU winners, visit www.oaklandpostonline.com

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Compiled by Timothy Pontzer,
Senior Reporter

Oakland survives double-overtime at Western Illinois

The Oakland University men's basketball team defeated Western Illinois 74-70 on Saturday night, winning its 11th consecutive game in Macomb, Ill.

Star senior guard Reggie Hamilton led the way for Oakland (13-13, 7-7 Summit League), scoring 40 points, fueled by a career high nine three-pointers. Hamilton's output was only a point shy of his career high that he set earlier this year at Valparaiso.

Hamilton was close to tying the OU record of 10 three-pointers set by sophomore guard Travis Bader earlier this season against IPFW on Jan. 26.

The Leathernecks (13-9, 7-6) were led by their own star senior in Ceola Clark III. Clark had 22 points, hitting five three-pointers, including a shot to tie the game at 50 with 38 seconds left and force the first overtime.

Hamilton responded with a clutch three of his own, hitting a shot from downtown with less than 40 seconds left to bring about the second overtime.

Oakland finally took control of the back and forth game in the second overtime with Bader and Hamilton hitting back-to-back threes. Bader finished with the long contest with 19 points.

The only other two players to score for Oakland were junior forward Drew Valentine with eight points and freshman center Corey Pet-

ros with five points. Both led the game with eight rebounds.

With the victory, Oakland snapped a two game slump. The Golden Grizzlies return home on Saturday to play IPFW at noon.

The game will be telecast live on Fox Sports Detroit.

OU women fall just short on the road at IUPUI

The Oakland women's basketball team dropped its third straight game losing 64-61 at IUPUI on Monday night.

The Jaguars (11-13, 6-6 Summit League) of IUPUI held off a furious Oakland comeback in the second half, snapping OU's eight game winning streak in the series between the two conference rivals.

Oakland (10-12, 6-7 Summit League) could not contain IUPUI's star player, junior Kerah Nelson, though.

Nelson, an all-conference player, notched a double-double with a game high 25 points and 14 rebounds.

For the Grizzlies, star junior forward Bethany Watterworth led the Oakland attack with 23 points and seven rebounds. Watterworth scored 17 of her points in the second half, to help fuel an attempt a comeback.

After seeing Oakland take an early lead in the first half, IUPUI responded with an 11-2 run to take a 35-26 lead into halftime.

Watterworth's second half performance allowed Oakland to rally and tie the game at 58-58 with less than two minutes to go. However, Oakland missed a jump shot for an opportunity to take the lead, and ultimately fell just short of completing the comeback.

Freshman guard Peyton Apsey made the most of her first career start, notching nine points. Oakland was without senior center Brittany Carnago for the second straight game, who sat out due to illness.

Oakland returns to the O'rena on Saturday to play IPFW at 3:30 p.m. as part of a double-header with the men's team.



KEVIN ROMANCHIK / The Oakland Post

Hamilton among best in two NCAA statistical categories

Reggie Hamilton has been the leader of the Oakland men's basketball team this season. The senior runs the point of a potent Oakland attack, quarterbacking the team on offense.

Hamilton is currently second in the NCAA with 24.3 points per game, only trailing Weber State's Damian Lillard who has 25.5 ppg.

Overall, Hamilton leads the nation in total points scored with 633. He is currently the only player in the NCAA to have topped the 600 point plateau of the season.

Hamilton has topped 40 points twice this season, notching his career high of 41 against Valparaiso on Dec. 17 and dropping 40 at Western Illinois on Feb. 4. In the highly anticipated game on ESPNU against Tennessee on Nov. 28, the star senior stepped up on the national stage, scoring 35 against one of the best teams from the SEC.

Hamilton's play has helped Oakland to score 2048 points this season, the third most in all of NCAA Division I teams. Overall, Oakland is 17th in the nation with 78.8 points per game.

Men's hockey ties the 'Good Luck Duck' series at two

The OU hockey team came from behind to tie the Good Luck Duck series at two games apiece with a 5-4 victory at Davenport on

Saturday.

The Good Luck Duck series is an annual rivalry between the two GLCHL foes. The teams battle over a duck trophy in a best-of-five series every year.

The series is called the 'Good Luck Duck' because since 2007, the winner of the trophy has gone on to win nationals. When OU won the trophy in 2007, the Golden Grizzlies won the Division II National Championship. Since 2008, the Tigers from Davenport have won the Duck, and have then gone on to win Division I Nationals.

Oakland (19-13-1) went down 2-0 to the Panthers early in the first before mounting an impressive comeback. After going down 2-0 early in the first period and trailing 3-1 midway through the second, Oakland scored three unanswered goals.

Five different players scored for OU, with forward Billy Balent notching the game winner midway through the third.

Oakland continues the season when they host Adrian at the ONYX arena in Roch. on Friday at 8 p.m.

Golf team ranked eighth in Summit Preseason Poll

The Oakland men's golf team finished eighth in The Summit League Preseason Poll, a ranking that is voted on by the league's ten head coaches.

UMKC topped the poll with 74 points overall and three first place votes. IUPUI was close behind with 73 points, fueled by six first place votes. OU garnered 36 points in the poll, overall.

The Golden Grizzlies will open the spring season at Cal State Fullerton's tournament on Feb. 19-21. The 54-hole tournament will take place at Eisenhower Golf Course in Industry, Calif.

Contact senior reporter Timothy Pontzer via email at trpontze@oakland.edu and follow him on Twitter @timothy_pontzer

ON THE HORIZON

FEB. 11

All Day. Track and Field — Husky Classic in Seattle, Wash.

All Day. Track and Field — Grand Valley State Big Meet in Grand Rapids, Mich.

FEB. 11

Noon Men's basketball vs. IPFW in the O'rena.

3:30 p.m. Women's basketball vs. IPFW in the O'rena.

FEB. 12

1 p.m. Women's tennis at Western Michigan in Kalamazoo, Mich.

FEB. 15

All Day Swimming and Diving — Summit League Championship at OU Aquatic Center (Friday through Saturday).

7 p.m. Men's basketball against Southern Utah in the O'rena.

FEB. 18

3:30 p.m. Women's basketball team vs. Southern Utah in the O'rena.

5:05 p.m. ESPN BracketBusters — Men's basketball against Illinois State in Normal, Ill.

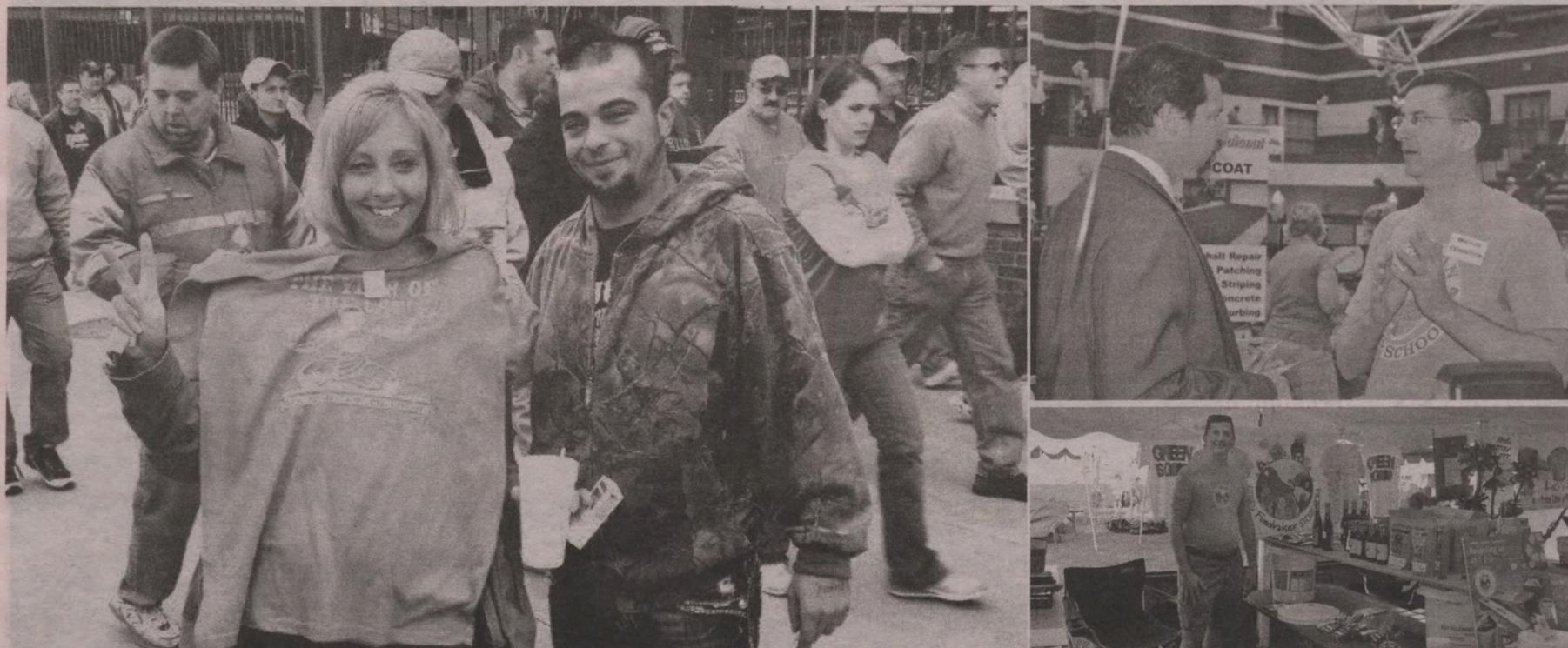
FEB. 19

All Day Men's golf open at Cal State Fullerton in Industry, Calif.

2 and 4 p.m. Softball doubleheader against Presbyterian in Clinton, S.C.

FEB. 20

6:30 p.m. Women's basketball vs. Oral Roberts in O'rena.



Photos courtesy of Don Sherman

LEFT: Supporters at the Thanksgiving parade in Downtown Detroit. The Green Fundraiser Store produced these 100 percent organic cotton shirts with the proceeds benefiting the Detroit Parade Company. **TOP:** Founder Don Sherman at the Orionwood Expo explaining the vision of The Green Fundraiser Store **BOTTOM:** The Green Fundraiser Store at the Green Living Festival 2011.

Cleaner and greener

Local awareness organization works with community to promote greener everyday living

By Natalie Popovski
Staff Intern

Some people may think that being “green” is only a lifestyle that can help create a cleaner environment. However, companies such as The Green Fundraiser Store are creating internships based on being “green.”

As an education, awareness and advocacy organization, The Green Fundraiser Store focuses on the importance of better recycling practices.

“Our goal is to create awareness and education on how to be more efficient recyclers by providing tools that will aid in the reduction of common household hazards from the waste stream,” according to the company’s website.

On their website, there are eco-friendly products and methods, educational components, Keep it Simple and Sustainable campaigns and a full selection of eco-friendly products.

Visitors can shop by category through a list of “green” products.

The website offers everything from environmentally friendly cleaning products, to compostable food containers to at home recycling systems.

The organization also promotes fundraisers that support schools, communities and civic groups through the sales of eco-friendly products.

Based out of Oxford, Mich., the company has already worked locally with Michigan Green Schools of Oakland County, the Oak Green Challenge and the Oakland County Fair.

“We have had what I think is a pretty amazing ‘global’ out reach with all we have done really right here in the Detroit area,” Don Sherman, founder of The Green Fundraiser Store, said. “I am perplexed with a 56 percent visitation rate from China.”

Sherman will be at Oakland University on Wednesday, Feb. 8 for an internship mixer for the website. He will be seeking interns for various positions for the company.

“We have 52 employers coming to

campus not to hire, but looking for interns ... we are hoping to get a lot of students to take advantage of this event,” Arline Sheffer, career services office assistant, said.

One internship position the company will offer is for green advocates. The interns’ duties will combine “green” knowledge with networking.

“(Green advocate interns) are speaking freely about the mission and vision of our goal of ‘green shifts’ we can make in the course of daily living,” Sherman said. “Plus being convincing and willing to connect us with organizations that will allow us to present to their constituents. That might be kids in a classroom or employees in a small business who are interested in ‘greening the office.’”

“The one most impactful thing that has come along in a while was the introduction of the internship program at OU,” Sherman said. “I attended a meeting in late 2011 that introduced the new vision of connecting the talent pool (student interns) to the business

who need the talent.”

Sherman credits the OU INCubator for providing business resources and information.

“(The OU INCubator) really opened my eyes on alternative ways to grow your business plan,” Sherman said.

The OU INCubator, which is located in the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion near Meadow Brook Hall, provides various resources and solutions for businesses and their growth.

Since the company is in its startup stages, it is uncertain whether or not the internship positions could lead to full-time positions.

“The biggest challenge as a startup is pretty much what most of us face. Limited resources (and) massive amounts of work to be done,” Sherman said.

For more information and to shop “green” visit www.greenfundraiser-store.com

Contact staff intern Natalie Popovski via email at npopovsk@oakland.edu



RACHEL RITZENTHALER/The Oakland Post

Owner of Firebrick Gallery, Christine Laikind. Firebrick Gallery has been open since 2008 and exclusively features Michigan artists.

Art gallery showcases artists, offers classes

Firebrick Gallery and Pottery Studio in downtown Rochester offers wide range of art workshops

By Rachel Ritzenthaler
Staff Intern

Firebrick Gallery and Pottery Studio in downtown Rochester provides local artists a place to create and display their artwork. The gallery, which represents over 40 local artists, displays everything from photography to ceramic masks.

There is also a gift shop where note cards, jewelry, home décor and other items all made by Michigan artists, are sold.

In the pottery studio, which is located in the back of the building, local artists can take part in several classes and workshops. Open studio memberships are available and cost \$130.

"Artists can also work on their own projects," Christine Laikind, owner of Firebrick, said.

Firebrick has been around for four years, however, Laikind took it over two years ago. According to Laikind, the mission of her business is to promote, edu-

cate and share art in the community.

"I don't want art to disappear," she said. "I appreciate the value art brings to our lives."

Firebrick also boasts extracurricular happenings. They have an extended gallery space at Fieldstone Winery in Rochester and pair up with the winery monthly to hold special events.

The most recent event is a mosaic show featuring the work of artist Jacqueline Beauvais. It will run throughout the entire month of February.

Firebrick is currently featuring the following workshops: ceramic birdbath making, herb garden marker making and clay wind chime making.

Laikind teaches two of the featured workshops and ceramic artist Cheryl English teaches the third. They are two to three days long and are between \$25 and \$65 per person with all materials provided.

Spring classes are also coming up at Firebrick. They are geared toward teens

and adults and provide artists with a range of artistic skills.

As far as pottery goes, a clay sampler class, beginner and intermediate wheel throwing classes, hand building techniques with clay and clay tile making classes are being offered. There will also be a drawing and painting class.

Classes take place throughout the day and evening and cost between \$140 and \$225.

Laikind is very enthusiastic about her business and has high hopes for the future. She says her main goal is for Firebrick to continue being as successful as it's been.

Amanda Merrill, a photographer from Troy and recently admitted Oakland University student believes Laikind is on the right track with what she's doing.

"It shows off the talent of people that you know from everyday life," she said. "This could help influence aspiring artists to look more closely into things they look past daily."

Firebrick Gallery and Pottery Studio is open Tuesday and Wednesday 1 to 9 p.m., Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. For more information visit firebrickgalleryandpotterystudio.com or visit their Facebook page at [on.fb.me/zBiYoy](https://www.facebook.com/on.fb.me/zBiYoy)

Contact staff intern Rachel Ritzenthaler via email at ritzenthaler.rachel@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @rachelritz

THIS WEEK AROUND OAKLAND

FEB.
8

6:30 p.m. PAWS for Reading — Rochester Public Library

7 p.m. Cyberbullying Class — Rochester Public Library

FEB.
9

8 a.m. Michigan Business Advantage Rochester Team Meeting — Royal Park Hotel

7 p.m. Rochester Junior Woman's club meeting — Rochester Community House

7 p.m. Abraham Lincoln Presentation — Rochester Hills Public Library

7:30 p.m. Five Star Singles Connection: Birth Order Seminar — River Crest Banquet Facility and Catering

Feb.
10

6 p.m. Leukemia Lymphoma and Jack's Place for Autism Bowling Fundraiser — 29600 Stephenson Hwy., Royal Oak

7:30 p.m. Spring Family Campfire Night — Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

All Day 46th Annual Camper and RV Show — 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

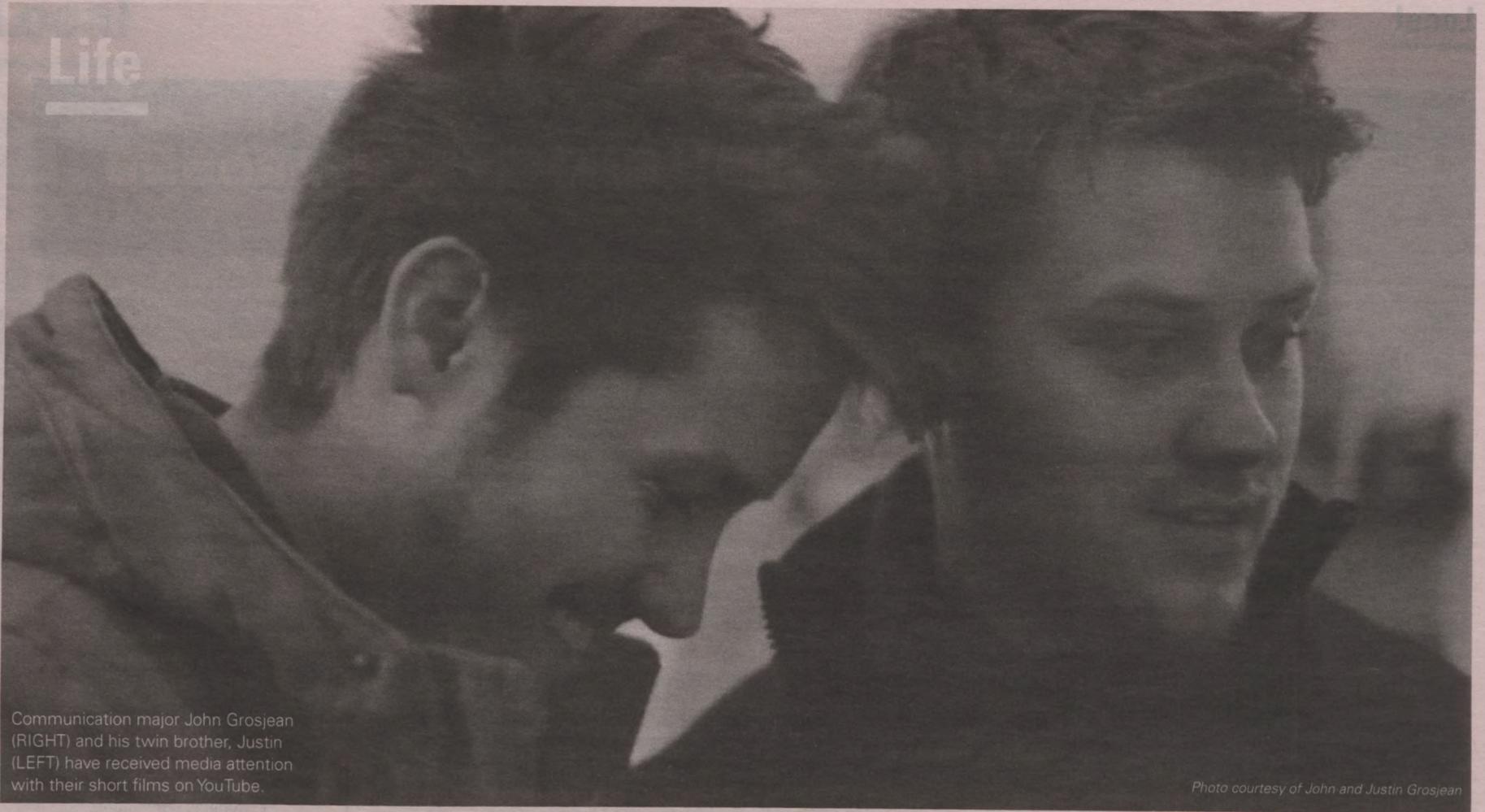
Feb.
11

7 a.m. Hearts and Flowers Craft Show — Royal Oak Farmers Market

9 a.m. Alternative Dance Night at Luna — Luna Lounge 1815 Main St., Royal Oak

Feb.
13

6 p.m. Daddy Daughter Sweetheart Dance — 6840 N. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills



Communication major John Grosjean (RIGHT) and his twin brother, Justin (LEFT) have received media attention with their short films on YouTube.

Photo courtesy of John and Justin Grosjean

Twin filmmakers: 'Skyrim 2012'

Grosjean brothers gain Internet fame with game-inspired mini-series

By Clare La Torre
Life Editor

The latest explosion in the gaming world is undoubtedly the RPG Skyrim, and if you're a fan, chances are you've seen the "Skyrim 2012" videos circling the Internet. Would you believe that those satirical short films started right here at Oakland University?

Communication and graphic design senior John Grosjean and his twin brother Justin, a senior at Michigan State University, posted the first video about three weeks ago on their YouTube channel, GroBroPros (short for Grosjean Brothers Productions), with low expectations.

The two debated uploading the video, but when they awoke the first morning after posting it, they were shocked. The video hit 300,000 views in just one day.

Please see GROSJEAN, page 17

Videos



Skyrim, Part I and II

The Grosjean Brothers Productions claim to fame.

In these shorts the brothers apply the world of Skyrim to modern day.

The two are planning on releasing more shorts, ending with a complete six to eight sketches in the entire series.

I'm Alive

A sickness spread over Metro Detroit and zombies take over.

After battling his way home, John discovers a hopeful note and is forced to travel back out in the newly claimed world of the undead in attempt to find his brother.

This short is a great example of the brothers technical and editorial skills, as well as their affinity for science-fiction.

The Leather Nazi

The short is describes as, "A Nazi with a fondness for leather displays his incompetent skills as an interrogator," on the GroBroPros YouTube channel.

A great display of the Grosjean brothers sense of humor and improvisational skills, this short isn't just for the gaming crowd.

Staycation

This short sketch shows what happens when a young couple lies about going on vacation and instead decides to spend a few days home alone unbothered.

Two clumsy robbers attempt to break in, unaware that the couple is still home.



GROSJEAN

continued from page 16

Gaining attention

Media has steadily highlighted John and Justin's work. Their videos have been featured on popular sites such as Kotaku, Game Informer, Digg, Reddit and more.

"It's really humbling and encouraging that people enjoy it so much," John said.

The first video in their Skyrim series hit one million views, including a 98 percent like ratio, in just two short weeks. This alone offered encouragement and assured the Grosjean's that their work was enjoyable, rather just another viral video.

The brothers have been contacted by the Phoenix Comicon, one of the largest conventions in the U.S., which draws people from all over the country, about featuring their short films.

It's a real honor, they both said.

"Typically films need to be submitted for such an opportunity," John said.

The convention sought out the brothers instead of the other way around.

The two are currently trying to find the money to get to the event.

John and Justin have also been contacted by CBS concerning their involvement in an up and coming TV show, though nothing has been set in stone yet.

Although the two do receive minor compensation due to their high views on YouTube, they say it's nothing they can live off of just yet. Instead, they're focusing on the exposure and the opportunity to build a dependable relationship with their fans.

"We'd still be doing it if we weren't getting paid," John said. "If you don't have viewers, what's the point?"

"WE NEVER SIT DOWN AND WRITE OUT LINE BY LINE WHAT WE WANT TO SAY. THAT'S TOO CONFINING."

John Grosjean

Communication and graphic design major

Twin talk

Any artistic expression within the confines of a group requires excellent communication, especially when it comes to the creative process. This is where John and Justin have a biological advantage.

"Being twins, we're always on the same wavelength," John said.

Geographical distance due to school has forced them to film without each other on occasion, but the two prefer



Photo courtesy of John and Justin Grosjean

John and Justin are working on merchandise, like this poster, to sell at Phoenix Comicon.

working with one another versus other students. Otherwise, it becomes too much of a battle, they said.

"Everyone is trying to make a name for themselves and get out of school," Justin said. "They become 'me-monsters.'"

The two credit their exceptional communication skills to the unwavering trust they experience as siblings, and as identical twins on top of that.

Justin focused on the brothers' ability to understand each other despite verbal cues.

"I can meet him at the other end of the idea," Justin said, explaining their unique creative process.

Their celebrated social skills don't end with themselves. The brothers have received great feedback and praise for their socializing online.

John and Justin are persistent about communicating with their fan base and they try their best to include them in production decisions.

It's always beneficial to roll your ide-

as off of someone else first, they said.

Family production

What started as a childhood fascination has flourished into cinematic passion.

And it really is a family production. Aside from the two brothers, John's wife, Alaina is also part of the production team. She does all their cinematography.

The two said they had to give her a quick run-through with the basics, but that she swiftly acquired the talent.

"It's like (Alaina) has some kind of tri-pop arms — she's like a machine," Justin said.

As for the films, a lot of the work is improvised.

There are certain set arches and plot lines to hit, they both said, but never anything that can limit their work.

"We never sit down and write out line by line what we want to say," John said. "That's too confining."

From start to finish one of their films

takes about two weeks to complete.

What's next

The future is limitless for the ambitious Grosjean brothers.

The two have recently filed Grosjean Brothers Productions as an official company. Working as an LLC they can separate and manage their finances easier while building their repertoire.

They hope to do about six to eight episodes of their Skyrim series, the next of which they are currently working on.

They are also planning a series based off one of their other short films, "I'm Alive."

Right now the two get their music off a website for free, but they hope to use their own in the near future. John, who plays guitar, is ecstatic about the idea.

They're also working on establishing their own website, aside from social media sites.

The two have been recruited to shoot a music video for former American Idol contestant Drew Machak of Royal Oak.

Although they are incredibly grateful for the success and recognition they have received, the two aspire to convert to full-length features in the future.

With their college careers soon coming to a close, the brothers hope to make that a reality soon. As their schedules open up this summer they plan on producing films extending roughly 20 minutes.

The brothers have big plans in store for Grosjean Brother Productions and say they are prepared for the challenges that lie ahead.

Contact life editor Clare La Torre via email at cvtatorr@oakland.edu

Grosjean Brothers Productions

Watch

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grobropros@gmail.com

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www.indiegogo.com/Skyrim-2012-series-GroBroPros

Battle for Queen

'Mary Stuart' makes Michigan premiere

By Sarah Hunton
Campus Editor

Beginning Feb. 8, Meadow Brook Theatre will be presenting Peter Oswald's version of Schiller's "Mary Stuart," a historical drama about the days surrounding the death of Mary Queen of Scots.

The production is a Michigan premiere.

The play takes place while Mary is imprisoned by Queen Elizabeth I for the murder of Elizabeth's cousin, and Mary's husband, Henry Stuart.

Elizabeth has also placed Mary in prison for a more personal reason: Mary has laid claim to the English throne.

Throughout the play, Mary hopes to meet with Elizabeth in order to beg for a pardon. In actuality, there is no proof that this meeting ever occurred.

Although the play is a drama, director of the play Travis Walter believes that there are definitely some comedic moments.

"There's some great humor throughout the show, which is nice because it lightens the mood here and there," Walter said. "And those in-between moments are what makes the drama."

The play runs through March 4. Ticket prices vary depending on date, however students can receive \$10 tickets if purchased the day of the performance.

For more information visit www.mbtheatre.com



Photo courtesy of Rock Smith

Ruth Crawford (LEFT) as Queen Elizabeth and Julia Glander (RIGHT) as Mary, Queen of Scots in Mary Stuart at Meadow Brook Theatre. Tickets are available now.

Contact campus editor Sarah Hunton via email at sjhunton@oakland.edu

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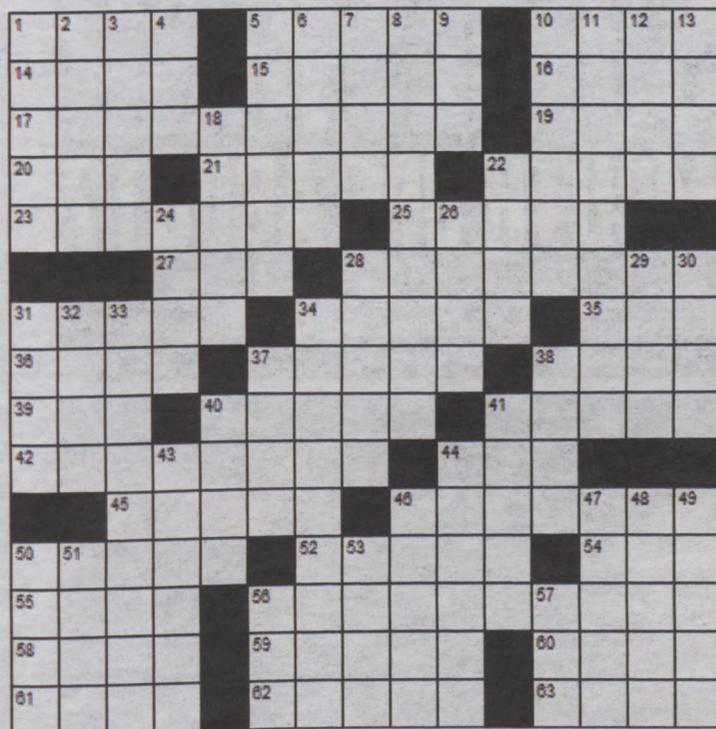
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Puzzles

OP WEEKLY CROSSWORD

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Answers are available online at www.oaklandpostonline.com



ACROSS

1. A young horse
5. Highly skilled
10. Tears
14. Murres
15. Embankment
16. Pearly-shelled mussel
17. Self-control
19. Goulash
20. Hair goop
21. A shoulder firearm
22. Strict
23. Chic
25. Not our
27. Consumed food
28. Inflexibly entrenched
31. Gown fabric
34. Adjust
35. Utilize
36. Dwarf buffalo
37. Dish
38. Norse god
39. Actress Lupino

40. Wash oneself
41. Extraordinary
42. Ladies' man
44. Caviar
45. Seraglio
46. A musician who performs alone
50. Points
52. Lyric poem
54. Female pronoun
55. At the peak of
56. A type of craftsman
58. Identical
59. Small finch
60. Attraction
61. Not now
62. Construct
63. Encounter

Down

1. Soft creamy candy
2. Bay window
3. Passageway
4. Varnish ingredient
5. Of mountainous areas
6. Dutch pottery city
7. Wicked
8. Pass into or through
9. T
10. Rural
11. Intermezzo
12. Jetty
13. Scattered
18. Angry
22. Dispatched
24. Big party
26. Expect and wish
28. Potato state
29. Largest continent
30. Fender blemish
31. A dog wags one
32. Annul
33. Highly offensive
34. A cockpit instrument
37. Cut back
38. Chocolate cookie
40. Taverns
41. Automaton
43. Occur
44. Rat or mouse
46. Relating to audible sound
47. Put out
48. Beach
49. Basic belief
50. Actors in a show
51. Salt Lake state
53. Minute opening
56. South southeast
57. A high alpine meadow

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Mouthing Off

SATIRE

Your ticket for a kind of brighter-ish future

By Brian Figurski
Multimedia Reporter

There has been quite a roar about the Oakland University Student Congress.

After forgetting to dangle the deadline for submitting candidacy, the circumstance has been labeled everything from 'sloppy' to 'fishy,' which I believe to be accurate, as the Oakland Center basement always smells like some trout chowder of sort.

The website has been blowing up with our own form of blogger debate coverage, from buttals to rebuttals to prebuttals and a picture a student uploaded mooning the camera.

There is a storm brewing for a shift of power on campus.

Since the OUSC has extended the deadline for candidacy, I take this offer as an open invitation to throw my hat in the political game and plot to democratically overthrow the student government!

While my personal experience is limited, my keen observation skill of recent Republican presidential debates tells me all I really have to do is dismiss the poor as peasants. Thanks for the lessons, Mitt Romney.

In need of a running mate, I've volunteered the services of Multimedia Reporter Jordan Reed. His shining optimism and workhorse ethic will strengthen and contrast many of my crude and pale points.

Since technically "The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post," I can lay out key points of my inevitable rise to infamy without disturbing the peace.

While I have many savory ideas for progressive change, one of the biggest issues that begs to be addressed on campus is the state of our food.

Everyone loves their speedy Subway, or the partially hydrogenated oils coating the Chick-Fil-A, but we're a blooming school and our food needs must be met. We're going to turn the OC into a food Mecca.

The underlying reason is to prevent racial prejudices. For example, Great Lakes Crossings food court is impervious to any type of filters. They have the spectrum covered on stereotypical foods for every member of society, being accepted with open arms and an army of eating utensils.

I may just have a Panda Express habit I can't seem to kick. The soy sauce patches do not stave off the cravings, as they would imply.

Another notice I've taken is a lack of camaraderie in peers. Some feel there is nothing to tie them together with their school, to really make them feel as if he or she is a cog in some machine bigger than them.

Hence we need more sporting events on campus. One of the main orders of business will be to invoke the barbaric rituals of the arena to the O'rena. Epic battles fought by sword and shield on blood soaked sand, where the victor reigns tall only after execution of the enemy.

I also move to get Spartacus off of television programming.

Perhaps in a more tame, watered-down version of decapitating wager my soon-to-be rival, Ben Eveslage can accept my challenge of might, sheathed in robe alone. It can be billed as a battle of the dolls, his doppelganger being the famous Ken doll (as he impersonated this past Halloween), and mine, a 1999 edition of 3-time WWF World Champion Mankind (That I looked identical to during the Halloween of 2005).

Another intense idea has me frothing at the edges of my mouth — solving the parking problems.

The reason for the parking idiocy eludes me. Maybe people are running late for class or they're too far up themselves that they don't notice their horizontal parking job.

Regardless, student involvement is a must. At the homecoming tailgate, the car smash was a big hit. Pun intended. See where this is going?

Enough with the tickets and stickers on windows, time to demolish the vehicles of perpetually bad parkers. Five volunteers will be granted sledgehammers and have permission from the board to pummel the reprimanded vehicle into particles.

If any of these issues apply for you, I've got your vote. If none are of interest, Mr. George Washington thinks you might want to change your mind — 25 cents still goes a long way.

I don't hold any grudges against the OUSC for any past missteps, to err is human, as I prove on a daily basis. If the student body is looking for a scapegoat for their grievances, I'll gladly bear the albatross.

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

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