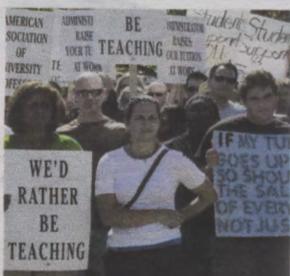
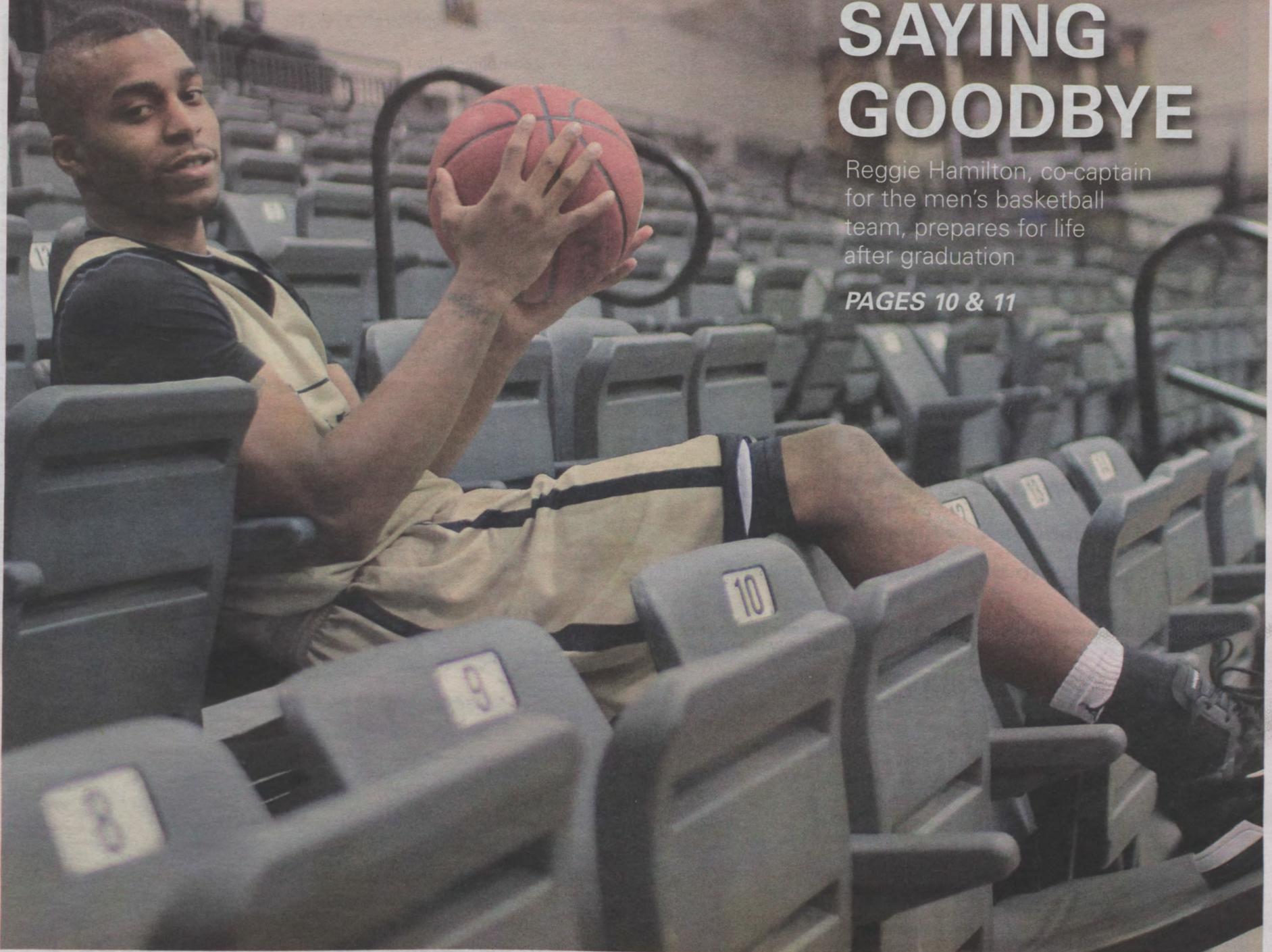


SAYING GOODBYE

Reggie Hamilton, co-captain for the men's basketball team, prepares for life after graduation

PAGES 10 & 11



DIFFICULT DECISIONS

AAUP, Oakland University meet to develop new teacher's contracts

PAGE 6



BUILDING PLANS

Growth in engineering majors encourages school to build new facility

PAGE 7



DIFFERENT TUNES

A music professor spends his time in the Opera scene

PAGE 18

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Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center

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Personnel thisweek

February 15, 2012 // Volume 38. Issue 23



onthe web

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www.oaklandpostonline.com or youtube.com/TheOaklandPostOnline



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

UNWINDING WITH FRIENDS // Cal Magler, a freshman mechanical engineering major, Ryan Beck, a sophomore finance major and David Koponen, a freshman environmental science major took some time off from school work in Bumpers Game Room located in the lower level of The Oakland Center. 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 are you doing for Spring Break?

- A Vacationing
- B Sleeping
- C Homework
- D What's a break?

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What adds the most stress to your day at OU?

A) Moodle

17 votes | 15%

B) GrizzNet

16 votes | 14%

C) Parking

61 votes | 55%

D) Chartwells

17 votes | 15%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 18, 1970

A series of thefts in Vandenberg Hall totaled more than \$2,000 worth of jewelry, stereos, TVs, money, sweaters, small appliances and a portable typewriter.

FEBRUARY 17, 1971

A bomb went off in Oakland University President Donald O'Dowd's office, causing extensive damage to both his office, his secretary's office and a conference room. The deliberate bombing caused a fire, which took about 20 minutes to bring under control.

FEBRUARY 13, 2002

OU officials pulled the plug on a WXOU broadcast they felt was controversial, after hearing complaints from at least two staff members. The broadcast contained sexually suggestive material.



9

CAMPUS

Oakland University's Student Organic Farm hosted an event about their future goals to make the campus more sustainable with organic foods and farming.



12

SPORTS

A varsity softball player thought she would never walk again after a spinal surgery. Less than a year later, the player has made major progress in her rehabilitation.



15

LOCAL

A local cupcake shop sells a wide variety of treats that they don't bake themselves. The shop instead imports their goods from all around Metro Detroit.

BY THE NUMBERS

25

number of OUSC legislators seats

46

number of years WXOU has been on the air

6

number of intermural sports

216

number of student organizations

10

number of club sports

STAFF EDITORIAL

This page is for opinions — make yours known, too

Right now, you are reading the staff editorial — the opinion of The Oakland Post's editorial board.

And it's exactly that. An opinion.

Last week's editorial created a stir on our website. Between it and the unfortunate death of Ron DeRoo, we collected 90 comments — something unusual for a normal news week.

After reading some of the comments, we realized many people were confused about what an editorial is and what a journalist is supposed to do.

Maybe we're just being presumptuous by expecting everyone to know the difference between the two, but we don't mean to be.

For those that don't know, this page is devoted to the opinions of The Oakland Post editorial board. It starts our perspectives section, which is full of columns and opinion pieces from various staff members, faculty members and students.

You have your chance to voice your opinions, too.

The Oakland Post accepts letters to the editor, perspectives and comments on our website. There, you have a chance to either agree or disagree with what we say or let your voice be heard.

Though we usually try to write about concerns often relating to stories in the current issue, we aim to write about what we think is important and significant.

The editorial board collects opinion pieces on a myriad of topics. Just let us know if you have any ideas.

As journalists, our ultimate goal is providing news to the general public — good or bad.

On this page, we're able to do it in a way that allows us to take a stand on whichever issue we feel strongest about.

Each week, the editorial board gets together to plan the editorial for the next week's issue.

Though we usually try to write about concerns often relating to stories in the current issue, we aim to write about what we think is important and significant.

And sometimes through our research we come across facts that trouble us.

We're not into "gotcha journalism" but we do try to uphold our watchdog role.

And we're not the only ones that should be paying attention to these issues.

Everything we discuss pertains to you.

In upcoming issues of The Oakland Post, we will be dissecting many different topics:

■ AAUP and Oakland University contract negotiations. We're curious to see how this period plays out. Last time, there was a strike before a decision was made.

■ Parking issues. What's going to happen when cars collide for parking lot one after the Human Health and new dorm buildings are finished?

■ Retention rates. How do Oakland University students compare to other schools?

■ Tuition for next year. Increase, decrease, evaporate?

■ Administrator salaries. How much do the people in the presidential cabinet make? How much do they compare to other salaries?

■ The moat at the Human Health Building. Yes, a moat. See this week's Mouthing Off. There's more come from us, later.

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

Corrections Corner

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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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COLUMN

Your voice. Heard. (Period)

Last summer, while brainstorming the Oakland University Student Congress' marketing approach, our membership decided that it wanted students to recognize OUSC as a dependable, available, and straightforward organization.

We shortened the previous administration's tag line from "Let your voice be heard" to "Your Voice. Heard." An emphasis was added by the periods after each statement.

However, to turn this tag line into reality, Congress did (and still does) much more than just "hear" you.

We represent your ideas, suggestions and concerns in University Senate Committees, meetings with administrators and Board of Trustees and by directly organizing efforts for the benefit of all students.

Since last week's Oakland Post editorial, there have been questions raised about the operations and focus of Student Congress. I would like to take some time to highlight some of our answers.

OU Student Congress has confidence in saying that it effectively represents the Student Body by spending student money responsibly and living up to "Your Voice. Heard."

However it's understood that this is an opinion, and so I would like to elaborate upon some reasoning.

One concern mentioned spending OUSC funds (and thus student tuition money) on giveaways and other event promotional material.

The intended result of this investment is to



BEN EVESLAGE
guest columnist

increase student participation in events and programs on campus.

Congress believes that its expenses are justified by the overwhelmingly large turnout at events this year.

This includes approximately 1000 students at Arabian Nights, 400 at the Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf speaking engagement, 600 at Post Secret Live and many other standing-room-only events.

This addresses the No. 1 concern brought to our administration during our campaign: "There's nothing to do at OU."

We would also like to hear from students about what their favorite giveaways are, so that we can better promote events and engage students.

In addition, we believe that our other campus efforts such as the 24 hour Kresge Library and reduced Chartwells prices for student organizations, in combination with our educational and diversity focused events have come together to contribute to an overall, enhanced college experience — a central aim of OUSC.

For the other concerns, including safety on campus and parking issues, OUSC has been actively engaged in administrative meetings to address these concerns.

Congress representatives have directed OU administrators on how to improve parking by placing signage throughout campus to notify students of the many non-P1 parking lots.

Just because many people ignore the fact that P1 is not the only lot on campus, it does not justify building a parking structure there.

However, sustained pressure from Congress does pay-off when the need is present and resources available.

For instance, Congress' efforts and pressure led to expanded parking by SEB some years ago and increased signage at the beginning of this year.

Currently, studies have shown that OU has enough parking for all students on the busiest day of the year, and our largest issue has been termed a "walking problem" rather than a "parking problem."

One comment on The Oakland Post's website suggested that student organizations should work together to tackle these issues.

This has been an objective of the OU Student Congress since day one, with the aim of representing students in a transparent and effective manner throughout all organizations.

We hope to be an agent of cooperation and accountability for all organizations.

It's our job and passion to serve the students in this manner.

Please come into the Congress office or attend General Body Meetings on Mondays at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the Oakland Center to voice concerns, questions and ideas.

To get involved in OUSC, visit us on our website www.oakland.edu/ousc

You can also learn about all of the events and programs from Student Congress by signing up for our email blast: www.oakland.edu/getinvolved

Ben Eveslage is the student body vice president at Oakland University.. Email him at bsevesla@oakland.edu

You could fill this space

Advertise your next event in The Oakland Post. For more information, email ads@oaklandpostonline.com

Contract negotiations resume

The summer of 2012 brings teacher contract negotiations for Oakland

By Chris Lauritsen
Senior Reporter

With the current teacher contract expiring before the start of next fall semester, Oakland University and the American Association of University Professors will begin negotiations for a new agreement this summer.

"So far we are following a typical preliminary negotiating schedule," Karen Miller, OU AAUP president, said.

According to Miller, a year before contract negotiations are scheduled to start, the AAUP elects a bargaining team.

From there, the group goes through recent agreements that other schools have come to with their teachers' union, and speaks with representatives from OU's various departments in order to get a clear set of issues to bring up during the negotiations.

Issues facing instructors

Miller explained that governance issues tend to inflame the faculty the most. She said that the faculty believes that it is important for them to be able to come up with their own curriculum.

According to Michael Latcha, OU AAUP chief negotiator, professors are also worried about retaining their right to intellectual property. He believes that if intellectual property rights are changed it would be much harder to attract new faculty.

"Currently faculty own everything they produce ... the university would like that to change," Latcha said.

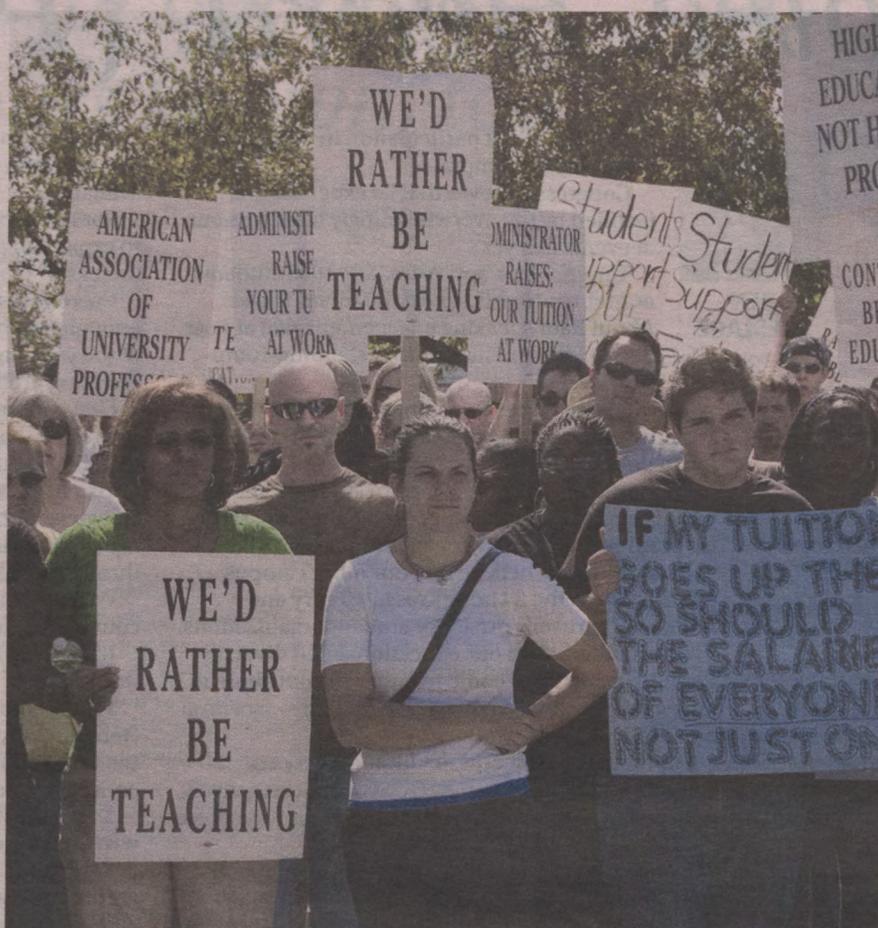
Miller believes another problem for the university is the ability to keep the professors that are already on staff with the pay scale that is currently in place.

She explained that AAUP uses data from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources to gage the average teacher's pay.

"If we want to continue to grow Oakland University into a nationally recognized school we will have to compete with schools like UM (who are in the upper tier of the CUPA-HR grading scale)," Miller said. "Really good people are out there, we just know other institutions are fighting over the same people."

With the current agreement faculty received a three percent pay increase this year.

"If you have anything less than a three percent pay increase you are actually



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

In 2009, contract disputes between Oakland University and the OU American Association of University Professors caused a one-week strike that postponed the start of the school year.

losing salary," Miller said. "The reason for this is because over the last two decades the rate of inflation has been around three percent."

According to Miller, another issue that is facing the faculty is compression.

"This happens when people at the top of the pay scale begin to get pay-stripped by those at the bottom of the pay scale — we have some new faculty making more than existing faculty," she said.

Miller said that "we should be embarrassed" over the current pay scale for supplemental instructors.

Currently, supplemental instructors are paid \$1,061 a credit hour unless they have taught at OU for eight years, when their pay increases to \$1,284 a credit hour.

"It is nuts that we do that," she said. "We have almost as many special lecturers as full-time faculty. In Oakland's defense this is a nation wide problem. Every state university is doing this and community colleges are far worse."

An idea of what's to come

Neither Miller nor Latcha expect anything like what occurred in 2009 — a one-

week strike that postponed classes.

"In the year leading up to the 2009 strike there had been growing resentment between the two sides (AAUP and OU) over the issue of governance," Miller said. "We were at a stage where no one was backing down on any issues. Thankfully many of the sticking issues are behind us."

According to Provost Virinder Moudgil, the school will soon hear the Governor's and Legislature's plans on funding higher education in Michigan.

"We are confident that Oakland University's faculty will continue to provide our students with a high-quality uninterrupted education that will pave the way for a bright and prosperous future for them, and for the State of Michigan," he said. "To be sure, there are some challenges for the parties to manage in their discussions. We are confident that those challenges can and will be addressed fairly in our negotiations."

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

POLICE BRIEFS

Marijuana use in parking lot

While on routine patrol on Wednesday, Feb. 8 at approximately 1:15 a.m., police noticed a parked vehicle behind the Ann V. Nicholson apartments. At approximately 1:30 a.m., police observed the same vehicle parked in parking lot 11. Police approached the driver side window and noticed the smell of marijuana. The driver stated he had smoked marijuana in his vehicle, but not within the last few hours. Police found marijuana in the center console as well as drug paraphernalia within the vehicle. The second male suspect gave police a cigarette box containing marijuana. Both men were cited for marijuana use and released. Police confiscated the marijuana and the paraphernalia.

Larceny from a student's vehicle

On Wednesday, Feb. 8, police met with a male student who said that his radio had been taken from his vehicle. The student said that he parked his vehicle on Monday, Feb. 6 in parking lot five and returned to his vehicle at 7:25 p.m. on Feb. 8. The student said he noticed papers scattered throughout his vehicle and the radio was taken from the dashboard. The vehicle was not locked during the time of the theft and there were no signs of forced entry. The student did not notice anything else missing and there are currently no suspects.

Assault in Vandenberg Hall

On Friday, Feb. 10 at 12:26 p.m., OUPD was dispatched to Vandenberg Hall for a report of assault and battery. The female victim said that at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9, she had gotten into an argument with her suite mate. The victim said that during the argument, her suite mate pushed her onto her bed. The victim said that she then hit her suite mate and a fight began. Police made contact with the suspect who also said she had pushed the victim down and a fight began. A female student who witnessed the fight said the suspect was the first to make physical contact. Both parties were advised by OUPD to avoid contact. The victim does not want to prosecute.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski,
Staff Intern

Increase in engineering students leads to expansion

By Damien Dennis
Staff Reporter

The School of Engineering and Computer Science at Oakland University is scheduled to begin construction on a new engineering facility this coming fall semester.

The estimated cost of the project is projected to be \$75 million and is designed to accommodate a growing engineering population and related student organizations on campus. Construction is projected to last two years with a completion date anticipated in 2014.

"It's extremely important for us to focus on the students," Lorenzo Smith, SECS associate dean of engineering and computer sciences, said. "And even if we forget about our research needs, we need to be building, if for no other reason, for the sake of the students."

The building will be built to the east of Kresge Library and Dodge Hall. It will take over a portion of parking lot 36.

According to Smith, Dodge Hall is too small to meet the department's needs and the teaching labs are not large enough or properly equipped.

"It's extremely important for us to focus on the students ... if for no other reason, for the sake of the students."

Lorenzo Smith,
Associate Dean of Engineering and Computer Science

The building itself will have a courtyard where engineering related student organizations, such as the Society of Automotive Engineers can work on their projects and get together. The building will also feature a 200-seat lecture hall, wider hallways, classrooms and more office space for faculty.

Enrollment in the engineering program rose 10 percent in the last five years and is one of

the factors in the decision to begin construction on the new building. The recent rebirth of the auto industry in the area has helped enrolment to increase significantly.

"This building was designed to accommodate an increase in enrollment," Smith said. "And when we get to the point where we're bursting at the seams, well, that's a good problem to have and we'll worry about it when the time comes."

"In a couple months will be the ceremonial groundbreaking and at the end of summer, fall 2012 will be the actual groundbreaking," Smith said.

Mike Laba, a junior majoring in engineering, sees the new building as a benefit to current and future engineering students at OU.

"A new building would be useful and open more opportunities for classes to stay on campus and not have to rely on OU's satellite office at center campus at Macomb University Center for overflow," Laba said.



Photo Courtesy of the Department of Engineering and Computer Science
The School of Engineering and Computer Science will start construction on the new facility, estimated to cost around \$75 million, in fall 2012.

Laba transferred to OU in fall 2011 from Western Michigan University due to OU's reputation in engineering education.

"Oakland professors are passionate about their teaching," he said.

Senior mechanical engineering major, Jorge Sugrañes, shares similar feelings towards the engineering classes at OU.

"From the classes I am taking right now, the biggest has around 26 students and the smallest around 17 students," Sugrañes said. "I prefer smaller classes because of that same reason. The professors interact

better with the students, making the hard material easier to understand."

He feels that a new building may cause an issue primarily with parking.

"Maybe making a complete new building wouldn't be the best idea, but adding an extension to the one we have right now would be better," Sugrañes said.

Contact staff reporter Damien Dennis via email at djdennis@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @djdennisOU

Students for Life expresses opinions on rights through baby shower

Organization hosts pro-life baby shower to raise awareness of human rights issues

By Shannon Coughlin
Staff Photographer

It was Friday evening and attendees were gathered in the Oakland Center. Along with the giveaways, other freebies also included free food and diapers.

That's right, diapers.

In order to help raise awareness, giveaways and a guest speaker comprised a pro-life baby shower hosted by students for Life on Feb. 10.

"The group's primary goal is to spread awareness and education about the dignity of unborn children and the negative emotional and physical effects that abortions have on women," Megan Wolf, treasurer of Students for Life, said.

The group hosts a pro-life baby shower every year, which benefits Crossroads

Pregnancy Center, in Auburn Hills.

"Students for Life is also concerned with all human rights issues, from conception to natural death, that pertain to the termination of life," she said.

Since 1984, the center's purpose has been to help those in need by providing counseling, ultrasounds, material support, parenting classes and sexual education to over 2,000 women and families every year.

All of the services offered are confidential and completely free of charge. So the center is supported by monetary and material donations from those who participated.

Tim Stickel, executive director of Crossroads Pregnancy Center and Oakland University alum, spoke to students at the pro-life baby shower about the services

offered by the center.

He shared his beliefs about the importance of changing people's minds about abortion and encouraging pregnant women to choose life for their unborn children.

Along with Stickel's talk about the center's current projects and needs, the baby shower offered students a meal provided by Chartwell's, complementary bags of popcorn, bracelets from the center and a few baby shower games for fun.

Students for Life asked that guests bring a baby gift to the event to be dominated to the clinic.

For more information, contact Megan Wolf at mmwolf@oakland.edu.

Students interested in joining students for life can request to be a part of the Grizz Orgs group online.

Contact photographer Shannon Coughlin via email at sjcoughl@oakland.edu

MORE INFO

PURPOSE

Students for Life expressed opinion and educated attendees on human rights issues at a pro-life baby shower.

GOAL

The baby shower benefitted and supported the Crossroads Pregnancy Center, located on the corner of Squirrel and S. Boulevard, in Auburn Hills. The center has been serving women and unborn children since 1984.

For more information about the student organizations, contact president Nick Rolling at nrrollin@oakland.edu

Educational Resource Lab to hold China workshop

Instructors create connection between Oakland and China

By Kevin Graham
Staff Reporter

The Educational Resource Laboratory is reaching out to students to educate them about the culture and language of China.

The ERL will be hosting the 2012 China Workshop beginning March 7. The event intends to introduce participants to the Chinese language and culture.

The six-week workshop, which costs \$65, will run on Wednesdays from March 7 through April 11 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The event will be led by three graduate students — Xiangqun

Li, Mei An and Deqi Sun — native Chinese speakers fluent in English.

"I believe it will be beneficial for (the) U.S. and China in (the) long run, because (the) U.S. and China will need to learn from each other and work closely together for their political, educational, social and economic developments in the 21st century, that in turn will benefit the global village," Li, director of the Center for Education Exchange, said.

Workshop participants will learn useful daily expressions and phrases. In addition, they will study traditional Chinese life views, current living conditions and social activities. The sessions will also look at geographic features, festivals, food and music.

Barbara Begin Campbell is the

coordinator of ERL and believes that the connections between the U.S. and China are growing.

"I think that Oakland University has many ties to academic facilities in China, as well as we have a Chinese population here on campus," she said.

According to Li, the course has drawn interest from a diverse group of people.

"The participants are not just OU students," he said. "They are people from the surrounding areas: business professionals, educators, government employees, travelers and those who are interested in learning about China."

Li said workshops like this one are important for understanding in a global society.

"Knowing about a foreign language and culture is always important, because you can get the



LEX LEE/The Oakland Post

The workshop will take place in the Educational Resource Lab in Pawley Hall.

first hand, (authentic) information regarding the target nation," he said. "It is important also because the world is truly becoming a global village and all the nations need to learn from and respect each other."

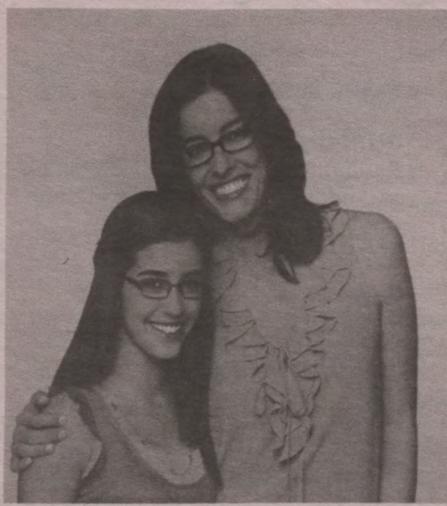
MORE INFO

To register for the workshop, visit www.oakland.edu/erl Registration requires a \$65 check. Contact Karen Reeves at 248-370-4230 or via email at kareeves@oakland.edu

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

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Creating an organic, sustainable campus

Student organization encourages an organic and green campus

By Jordan Gonzalez
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's Student Organic Farm organization spoke about its future goals to further engage the university in creating sustainable campus living on Feb. 6 as well as the history of the SOF.

The event, Sustainability and Creativity Zone, featured several lectures and a free organic meal, which included organic produce from the school's farm located at the corner of Adams and Butler roads.

Fay Hansen, associate professor of biology and SOF's adviser, said the purpose of the event was to lay out goals and ideas and strategize with those who are interested.

She hopes for different academic organizations and departments, such as marketing and graphic arts, to utilize their different strengths to work to create that sustainability and creativity zone.

"The idea of the Sustainability and Creativity Zone is to engage students as stakeholders in shaping the activities and serving their needs," Hansen said.

The farm has three abandoned chicken coops, that the SOF plans to remodel into sustainable structures that will work with the farm to serve the needs of the students.

Originally, Hansen wanted to see the coops remodeled into a co-op living area that would be maintained by students who would cook and grow their own food. The idea was denied, but Hansen and the SOF have other ideas for the coops, including an art studio and a licensed kitchen that would serve organic food.

"(The art studio) would be the creative version of the Rec Center," Hansen said.

Since the university doesn't allow students to prepare food, she suggested having a partnership with one of the culinary schools to create a cafe.

Many of the proposed ideas originated from the collaboration between OU and Lawrence Tec in 2011 when Hansen contacted Joongsu Kim, associate professor and director of LTU's Detroit Studio, about working on a grant proposal.

OU received a \$25,000 STEM service



SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

Oakland University's Student Organic Farm hosted The Sustainability and Creativity Zone event which featured lectures and a free organic meal which included foods from the school's local farm on the corner of Adams and Butler roads on Feb. 6.

learning grant from the Midwest Campus Compact. The grant funded grant partners, which were Lawrence Tech, The Michigan Young Farmers Association and the Baldwin Center.

Students address issues

Kim said students from his environmental psychology class investigated the farm in the spring of 2011, where they laid the foundation for his junior architecture design studio project for fall 2011.

"The junior design studio focused on developing the site design proposals and building design proposals for the three existing chicken coops on the study site," Kim said.

The students addressed concerns such as sustainability, historic preservation, accessibility and more. Each of the 16 students arrived at a different conclusion, leaving many options for the SOF.

They hope the documentation will benefit Dr. Hansen's next steps.

According to Kim, the students at the Detroit studio are currently document-

ing the results of the research, planning and design processes that directed last year's design studio.

"We hope the documentation, when completed, will benefit Dr. Hansen's next steps and also similar projects in the future," Kim said.

Jared Bogdanov-Hanna, formerly the farm manager, said the farm has produced 2,000 pounds of produce in 25 varieties and offered over 100 students, faculty and staff an enriching education in urban farming this past year, along with providing fresh, organic produce to the Pontiac area. Another 1,000 pounds was produced at the Baldwin Center's Hoop House, a structure that allows gardening for 10 months of the year.

Season leads to expansion

"The 2011 season was extremely successful, with the SOF exceeding its goals of creating an educational center, a farm to school program, and support the food security and food sovereignty of the local community," Bogdanov-Hanna said.

Bogdanov-Hanna, an OU alum, was the farm manager for 2011 before the grant expired. He said he still plans on being involved with the SOF, and shares similar goals with Dr. Hansen.

"We would also like to further develop a farm to school program with Chartwells, getting student grown organic produce into the dorms," Bogdanov-Hanna said.

To learn more about the Student Organic Farmers or the Campus Student Organic Farm, contact Dr. Fay Hansen at hansensm@oakland.edu, or the president of SOF, Danielle Bockart, at studentorganicfarmersou@gmail.com.

For more information on the Baldwin Center, a comprehensive human services agency, contact Alex Plum at aplum@baldwincenter.org.

Read more about the Michigan Young Farmers Association, a statewide nonprofit organization, visit their website at www.michiganyoungfarmercoalition.org

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

"I want my story to be 'He was one of the hardest working players to come through the Oakland doors.'"

Reggie Hamilton

'Heo

Written by Kevin Romanchik
Designed by Rifath Hoque



art and Soul'

With just 15 seconds left in the first half, IPFW's Frank Gaines hit a 3-pointer to tie up the game.

What happened next is what makes Oakland senior co-captain Reggie Hamilton the invaluable player he is.

Hamilton dribbled the ball and made his way to the 3-point line. As the ball glided out of his hands and through the air, the crowd took a collective deep breath.

Swish. Just like he planned.

All season long, Hamilton has been the go-to guy when the Golden Grizzlies have needed him.

This play, from Saturday's win, is just one example, among hundreds, of Hamilton's scoring prowess. Currently among the nation's Division I leaders, Hamilton ranks second in the country with an average of 24.6 points per game.

"He is a very complex young man, yet he is simple in that he wants to win really bad," Greg Kampe, head coach of the Oakland University men's basketball team, said. "It's been good for me to coach someone like him."

The beginning

Growing up in Chicago, basketball was a big part of his early childhood. Hamilton said his first basketball coach was his father.

Being on the shorter side growing up, Hamilton said he tried to emulate players with similar characteristics like former Philadelphia 76ers guard, Allen Iverson.

During his preps career at Thornwood High School, Hamilton lettered in both basketball and football. He led his team to a 23-7 record as a senior and the state tournament as a junior.

"(Hamilton) always had goals for himself," Bob Curran, former head basketball coach at Thornwood High School, said. "When someone would tell him that he was too short, not strong enough or not quick enough, he would rise up to the challenge and our kids fed off that."

The transfer

In January 2009, after a year and a half stint at UMKC, Hamilton asked to be released from his scholarship to explore his options. Upon his release, he started to gain the attention from the coaching staff at OU.

"I thought he had some flaws in his game that we could help him perfect and thought he could flourish in our style of play," Kampe said. "In the dribble-drive offense, the pace of play we have, he is a phenomenal player — one of the best."

Per NCAA transfer rules, Hamilton had to sit out for the 2009-2010 season.

Hamilton said being in a new place was more difficult than he anticipated.

"My beginning here was rough," Hamilton said. "I had no friends. After workouts I would go back home, sit in my room and wait for the next workout. It was all worth it though ... I had to walk in (former point guard) Johnathon Jones' shoes."

During his time off of the court, he had to compete with Jones, who was considered one of the Summit League's elite guards and a highly regarded member of the Golden Grizzlies family.

"When I was at UMKC, I would always look at Johnathon Jones' stats. If there wasn't a TV game, I would look and see what he did in the box scores ... I really wanted to be competitive with him," Hamilton said.

Kampe believes Hamilton was a catalyst for the 2009-10 Oakland team, specifically as a contributing factor for Jones' successful season through their one-on-one battles in practice.

"If you talk to Johnathon Jones, Reggie pushed him (during the year)," Kampe said. "Johnathon will swear that he had that great year because of Reggie."

The influence

Even early in his high school career, Hamilton's drive was infectious to the players around him.

"He was one of the hardest workers that I've ever coached," Curran said. "We'd be coming back from a game and he would be trying to get someone to play him one-on-one while waiting for rides."

That mentality didn't stop when he left the high school gym either.

"Kids follow him by his example," Kampe said. "He's always working. When other players are going to get water (during practice), Reggie is going to the line to shoot free throws."

Players like sophomore Ryan Bass have

followed his example on and off the court.

"(Hamilton taught me) how to work hard everyday. He has that type of attitude that you can't really learn. It's something that you're born with," Bass said. "He's one of the hardest workers that I've ever seen. Being able to play with him, first and foremost, is an honor."

Curran said his "never quit" attitude was always present, no matter the opponent.

The senior season

Currently, Hamilton sits a mere 0.5 points per game behind Weber State's Damian Lillard in the nation's scoring title race.

He is also among the leaders in 3-point baskets and free throws made.

With increasing attention from national media and opposing coaches with each big game, Hamilton is managing to keep focused.

"To be honest, it's hard not to think about it because a lot of people are talking about it. It's everywhere," Hamilton said. "But every time I step on the court, I remember what I'm going out there for. The bigger picture is trying to get Oakland University a win. If I score 40 to do it — that's the cherry on the cake."

Hamilton has had a Summit League-best 10 games of 30 points or more and has reached double figures in 31 consecutive games dating back to last season.

He largely attributes his statistical dominance to the successful players around him.

"I'm thankful for what I've accomplished, but I know why I've accomplished it," Hamilton said. "I have great players around me as well like Travis Bader and Drew Valentine — those guys put in just as much work as I do. If they don't (work), I don't get those opportunities (to score)."

The end

Wednesday night, Hamilton will walk onto the court of the O'rena for his final home game as a member of the Golden Grizzlies when Southern Utah comes to town.

For Kampe and Hamilton alike, it's going to be a tough night on many levels.

"It's an emotional thing when you have

a young man that's been the heart and soul of the team for the year," Kampe said. "(Senior night is a) part of the process, but every year on this day, it's a sad day. You're celebrating it, but it's a sad day because of how much he means to the program."

More so than any other game, there will be plenty of supporters for Hamilton and other seniors.

"Emotions are definitely going to be running high," Hamilton said. "I'll be thinking about even my first day of college. I'll get a chance to play in front of some family members that haven't got to see me since I was young."

The future

According to Kampe, Hamilton is going to get a shot at playing professional basketball. Whether it's in the NBA or overseas, he's going to face elite competition that will test his skills more than ever.

"Everyone out there knows he can score the ball. He's an NBA scorer, there's no doubt about that," Kampe said. "The question is if he is big enough, and can he defend (at the NBA level)."

Hamilton said he's determined make the most of whatever opportunities he may receive to crack the NBA.

"Growing up no one ever thought you could mention my name and NBA in the same sentence," he said. "Even if it doesn't happen, just to have people talking about it is a blessing."

Outside of the numbers, accolades and records, Hamilton said he wants his work ethic to be his lasting perception by the Oakland program.

"I want my story to be, 'He was one of the hardest working players to come through the Oakland doors,'" Hamilton said. "I sacrificed a lot in the gym. (I came in at) 6 a.m. and back later that night. Not to mention the practice in between."

But where does Hamilton rank among the Oakland greats?

"I'm not going to rank him, but if you started a conversation about great players in Oakland University's history, Reggie Hamilton will go down in that conversation," Kampe said. "He is a great scorer, great leader, great winner and he is a great assist man."

REGGIE HAMILTON BY THE NUMBERS

24.6

Reggie's points per game (as of Feb. 12) currently second in the nation

41

Reggie's season and career high in points (Dec. 17 at Valparaiso)

97

Career starts by Reggie Hamilton

114

Career games played by Reggie Hamilton

.443%

Career field goal percentage by Reggie

498

Career assists by Reggie

664

Reggie's total points this season, currently first in the nation

Moving upward

Softball player, temporarily paralysed from surgery, determined to play again

By Emma Claucherty
Staff Reporter

Last summer, the doctors told the father of senior and varsity Softball player Kylie Schalz that his daughter would never walk again.

Today, Schalz talks about being back on the Oakland Softball field by next year.

"I have really bad scoliosis which is a curvature of the spine," Schalz said. "I found out I had it in grade school. I had to wear a back brace in grade school and the beginning of high school."

Schalz spent half her athletic career knowing she would eventually have to get surgery on her spine. The only question was when.

"I knew by senior year of high school I would eventually need surgery," Schalz said. "We were just trying to prolong it until after college softball."

Schalz's plan changed after her junior year of college, however.

Surgical support

"We did a lot of lifting my junior year and the curve in my back got 17 degrees worse," Schalz said. "I had to be put in emergency surgery to get rods put in my back fused to my spine."

Schalz went in for surgery last June.

If the surgery had gone correctly, the recovery was supposed to take a few months. Due to the medical complication, Schalz would have a far longer and difficult recovery.

"When I was out of the surgery I couldn't move or feel anything from the (mid-chest) down," Schalz said. "I didn't move or feel anything for three to four weeks."

Recovery was a very slow process for Schalz. She spent the summer at the Rehabilitation Center of Chicago.

"My surgeon would come in every day and visit me," she said. He would open a paperclip and poke me to see if I could feel it. He would be breaking skin and I couldn't feel it. Finally I started little by little feeling certain places. I started wiggling my toes and moving my knee a millimeter."

Teammate Colleen Zimmerman came to visit Schalz in the hospital.



Photo courtesy of the Schalz family

After having surgery in June, Kylie Schalz has worked through rehab to return to the field. The Schalz family knew she would need surgery at some point in her career.

"Watching what she had gone through with the surgery was very difficult for me at first, but I was right there by her side shortly after it happened," Zimmerman said. "We had a lot of fun pushing her around downtown Chicago. At that time she had no feeling from her armpits down ... she has made so much progress since then."

Despite the long struggle, Schalz refused to be discouraged.

"I always had that attitude where I thought this wasn't going to stop me," Schalz said. "I'm only 21-years-old. I have a long life ahead of me."

Schalz has had a lot of support from teammates and coaches through this long recovery process.

"I talked to my coach right when it happened," she said. "She told me the team was here for me and would do whatever it takes to get me better. Todd (Wolfiem) had been helping me a lot in the weight room. He does my therapy three days a week and Brianna (Moyer) does it two days."

For therapy, Schalz must do full-body exercises, as well as core and cardio to regain strength.

"She is exceeding where I thought

she would be at this point in time," athletic trainer Brianna Moyer said. "She is not even a year out of her surgery and she is walking. She is hitting off a tee right now."

Increasing inspiration

The softball team was deeply shaken when they first heard about Schalz's surgery.

"When they found out what had happened to me after they were all devastated," Schalz said. "My whole team has been so supportive. They have been pushing me and in a way I think I've been pushing them."

Schalz has become a model of strength for her friends and teammates, though.

"She has taught me a lot about life. It is too short — no matter what you are going through if you believe and trust in yourself you can do anything," Zimmerman said. "She has also taught me to cherish everything, because you never know what can happen tomorrow."

Schalz's personality and character has conditioned her to overcome this challenge with strength.

"Kylie is one of those people who is so driven it is insane," teammate Danielle Dulberg said. "I have faith that she will continue to progress because she is so motivated to succeed and she is someone that I truly look up to."

Schalz has no remorse over her surgery. She views it as an learning experience that has effected her career plans.

"After being in a wheelchair for a few months, it makes you realize what needs to be changed in the disability world," Schalz said. "I think I would be a perfect candidate to design stuff because I have been on both sides."

"The best part has been the people I've met and the stories I've heard," Schalz said. "People have said to me 'you are so inspiring' I'm not trying to be inspiring; I'm just trying to get better. The fact that it has affected other people makes me feel great."

Contact staff reporter Emma Claucherty via email at emclauch@oakland.edu

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Compiled by Timothy Pontzer, Senior Reporter

Calhoun reaches 1,000 in loss against IPFW

The Oakland University women's basketball team dropped its fourth straight game, losing to IPFW 52-45 on Saturday. Former Pontiac Central High standout Stephanie Rosado was too much for the Golden Grizzlies to handle, scoring 20 points and collecting eight rebounds for the Mastodons.

The win marked the first time that IPFW had won on the road this season and snapped a six game losing streak.

The Golden Grizzlies were without senior center Brittany Carnago, who missed her third straight game with an undisclosed illness.

Carnago's absence was felt by the Golden Grizzlies in the paint, with Oakland losing the

rebounding battle 37-29.

The lone bright spot for Oakland occurred midway through the first half when senior guard Sharise Calhoun going over 1,000 points in her career. Junior forward Bethany Watterworth paced OU with 19 points and Calhoun chipped in 12.

The Golden Grizzlies continue their season on Saturday facing Southern Utah at 3:30 p.m. at the O'rena.

Track and field compete at Grand Valley State

The Oakland University men's and women's track and field team participated in the "Big Meet" over the weekend at GVSU. The competition involves over 1,800 athletes representing over 50 schools over the course of two days.

Senior Desiree Pettiford earned a third place finish in the 200-meter dash and Serena SanCartier finished fifth in the 60-meter hurdles.

Freshman Katelynne Hartman finished seventh in the shot put and senior Jennifer Lane earned a top-10 finish in the high jump.

For the men, senior Ryan Balzer finished 15th in the high jump. Freshman Nick Bobek finished 16th in the 60-meter hurdles and senior David Magnotte finished 27th in the

800-meter run.

OU continues its season on Feb. 24 with The Summit League Indoor Championships, which will be hosted by IPFW.

Hockey team drops regular season finale to Adrian

The Oakland University hockey team finished the regular season with a close 2-1 loss to the Adrian Bulldogs on Sunday night.

Matt Toter made 23 saves for the Golden Grizzlies (19-14-2) as well as stopping two of the three chances in the shootout.

Oakland took the lead in the second period, with Jordan MacDonald scoring the first goal of the game, assisted by Alex Hoffman. The Bulldogs tied the game late in the third with a goal of their own to force overtime.

After neither team scored in the extra frame, the game was pushed to a shootout. Adrian managed to sneak one past Toter, and the Golden Grizzlies failed to convert on their three shootout chances.

Oakland received a point in the standings for the shootout loss to finish the season with 46 points in the GLCHL conference. That total gives OU the top spot in the league, and an autobid to the National Tournament.

The Golden Grizzlies continue the season with a first round bye in next weekend's

GLCHL playoffs, hosted by Adrian.

Depending on the results of the Friday night games, the Golden Grizzlies will play on Saturday at either 5 p.m. or 8 p.m.

Women's tennis falls to Western Michigan

The Oakland University women's tennis team competed at Western Michigan on Sunday. Senior Caitlin Young won games in both singles and doubles play, but the Golden Grizzlies (0-5) ultimately lost every match.

Sophomore Grace Keating partnered with Young in No. 1 doubles play, where they lost 8-4. Freshman Brittany Baxter teamed up with senior Demi Georgakopoulos where they fell 8-2 in the No. 2 doubles match.

Oakland was forced to forfeit matches in doubles and singles due to injury.

There hasn't been any release on the future of the injured Grizzlies.

Women's tennis team returns on Feb. 20 at Webber International in Babson Park, FLA.

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

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Senior night is a night too special to miss

If you're still someone who uses Facebook, maybe you've noticed that memes (not just at Oakland) have grabbed some popularity amongst students lately — poking fun at various aspects of campus life.

I'm sure this is nothing new for anyone with friends at the University of Michigan or Michigan State University, taking jabs at lack of campus life or football team.

What you won't find at those schools? A near-guarantee that on a daily basis you can walk through one particular building on campus (for example, The Oakland Center) and run into college basketball players frequently.

True, despite the celebrity status of basketball players — they're just people, too. But students at a sprawling, largely populated campus such as in East Lansing, players face more stardom, and there's not that same near-guarantee for students.

Mid-major fans or students of a school are always going to try and toot their horns about a respective player or team to make up for a typical lack of recognition.

That's not what makes it "special." But Wednesday night at the O'rena is senior night for Oakland's men's basketball team, and it's celebrating the near ending of something that's very special.

It's funny, too — because it celebrates two players that have spent less than your typical amount of time at a school.

Laval Lucas-Perry was a unique player in many

ways when word spread that he'd be transferring from U-M to Oakland. Name another player that was rated in the top 100 of his high school class who's attended Oakland?



**BRYAN
EVERSON**
staff reporter

To my knowledge, that player doesn't exist. Laval wasn't going to set any records coming in and playing as a Golden Grizzly for one year. But if you think this team wins as many games as it has without him, you're mistaken.

His defensive in some games has been a difference-maker, and he's dropped in excess of 20 points in a game several times as well.

I don't know all the reasons why Laval chose to transfer to Oakland, but the coaching staff and the environment is a commonly cited reason for a lot of Oakland players. As a broadcaster, writer and Grizz Gang member, he's brought more than just something you can find in a stat box.

I had the opportunity to watch his younger brother, Patrick, who nearly ended up playing here this year. Their parents are some of the nicest people I've met covering basketball, and it's a part of the reason I look forward to coming to work — if you can call a game of hoops work.

Selfishly, had Patrick ended up here, I would have enjoyed it much more for the fact of getting to talk to them for another couple of years.

Like a poor man trying to buy a gift for a billionaire, it's hard to find that which hasn't been said about Reggie Hamilton.

Fans know why the guy who's put on number 23 is

special: he's our Mr. Big Shot. He signals to the student section after he drains that emotional basket.

He's also the guy who's scored more points than any other player in D-I college basketball this season.

I can't speak for sportswriters everywhere, but Reggie is the reason why I don't aspire to make (many) thousands of dollars more as a doctor or a lawyer.

Having the chance to meet and cover a guy like him is why I don't mind pouring countless hours into what I do.

Reggie is someone who doesn't become what he is no matter how many hundreds of jumpers you take in the gym after practice. To me, he is college basketball.

Years from now, Oakland fans might be able to read about Laval and Reggie in a media guide.

Great players come and go, and more guys will come through this campus and take your breath away with a shot or a pass.

Think of Wednesday night as a historical eclipse — that which comes once in a great while, not to be missed.

You can read about it, but watching them streak through the O'rena for likely the last time is something special.

Contact staff reporter Bryan Everson via email at beverson@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter @ [BryanWXOU](https://twitter.com/BryanWXOU)

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Give it to me baby

Cupcake shop imports
treats from local stores

By Nichole Seguin
Editor-in-Chief



Babycakes Cafe doesn't have an oven. In fact, the store doesn't even bake cupcakes.

Collaborating with Rockin' Cupcakes in Rochester and Peteet's Famous Cheesecakes in Detroit, the location imports all of its goods from local areas.

That doesn't stop people from coming in, though.

According to owner Pam Ferguson, the store has been getting heavy traffic since it first opened.

1. Babycakes Cafe is located at 51090 Romeo Plank Road in Macomb, Mich. The store is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

2. The 'Oh Baby Bumpy Cake' is different from the 'Rolling Stone' cupcake at Rockin' Cupcakes. Instead of a bumpy icing, it has a personally created swirl. "There's more frosting this way," Ferguson said.

3. One of the more popular flavors at Babycakes is the "Luscious Red Velvet" cupcake. It's moist red velvet with a cream cheese frosting.

4. The carrot cupcake, a carrot base with lemon cream cheese frosting and topped with toasted coconut, is a well-liked item, according to Ferguson.

5. Picked up from Peteet's Famous Cheesecakes in Detroit, the store also sells mini cheesecake cupcakes. The selection varies every week.

CHELSEA BISTUE/The Oakland Post

President Obama unveils plan to help keep college costs low

Proposed budget seeks to boost education spending

By Christopher Lauritsen
Senior Reporter

President Barack Obama is sending Congress a new budget that seeks to boost spending in areas like education.

The new plan for higher education centers on rewarding colleges and universities that keep the total cost of attending their school down.

President Obama wants to reward schools that have a responsible tuition policy, provide good value to students and their families and encourage schools to serve low-income students.

"I think that it's great that the government is addressing education because education is valuable," said Elisa Malile, Oakland University Student Congress vice president. "I believe that everyone should have an opportunity for higher education and if you look at middle schools and elementary schools, they lack the resources needed to enhance our education, so I think a program like this is perfect."

The current formula that is used to decide how much federal funding a school will receive has no incentives for schools to keep tuition costs low.

President Obama's new plan will shift money away from schools with rising tuition and give it to schools that, according to a press release from The White House, "act responsibly,

focus on setting a responsible tuition policy, provide a good value education and ensure that higher numbers of low-income students complete their education."

Students also will be rewarded depending on what college they choose to attend.

A student who is attending a college that met the new standards of keeping costs down will get substantially more in federal aid than a student attending a college that failed to meet these standards.

As part of the proposal, the campus based aid will increase to \$10 billion annually.

This increase will come at no additional cost to tax payers.

According to a statement, this increase will come at no additional cost to tax payers.

Per statement from the White

House, "President Obama is also proposing that new tools be provided to students and families with information on higher education, presented in a comparable and easy-to-understand format."

According to a White House statement, President Obama has also increased the maximum amount a student can receive from the Pell Grant to \$5,635 — up \$905 since 2008.

President Obama also proposed to double the amount of work-study jobs that are available to students.

According to the Federal Student Aid website, "a work-study provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses."

Subsidized Stafford student loans are set to double this summer from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent.

To combat this, President Obama has asked Congress to prevent the increase and save the average college student with

loans over \$1,000.

In his State of the Union Address, President Obama said, "Of course, it's not enough for us to increase student aid ... states also need to do their part, by making higher education a higher priority in their budgets. And colleges and universities have to do their part by working to keep costs down."

President Obama hopes that these new policies, "will promote change in the state systems of higher education."

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

MORE INFO

Under Obama's outline, the deficit would decline to \$901 billion in 2013, with improvements shrinking the deficit to \$575 billion in 2018

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The math behind disease

Professor applies mathematics expertise to Chagas and Cholera

By Kevin Graham
Staff Reporter

An Oakland University professor is using mathematical models to track the spread of life-threatening illnesses across populations.

Anna Spagnuolo, who teaches calculus I and II in the department of math and statistics, became interested in the practical applications of math early in her college career.



Anna Spagnuolo,
Professor

"I particularly enjoyed learning the motivation behind solving mathematics problems," she said. "Whether it be to get a result in physics or to count the number of license plates that could be made using a certain number of letters and numbers."

Inspiration strikes

After having completed her undergraduate and master's work at OU, Spagnuolo said her breakthrough moment occurred while completing her doctoral degree at Purdue.

One day, a speaker came to talk about the spread of cesium-137, a radioactive isotope of a metallic element, and the effect it had on an impoverished area of Brazil.

"The speaker went into detail about how children discovered it and put it on the rocks they were playing with to make them glow," she said.

The Environmental Protection Agency says high levels of exposure to the isotope can lead to death — four people died in the incident, a result of the community being unaware of the danger.

The speaker's tragic story inspired Spagnuolo to study the spread of nu-

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Anna Spagnuolo,
Mathematics Professor

clear waste.

At the beginning of the new millennium, there was a proposal to store radioactive material in containers in the Yucca Mountains in Nevada.

Spagnuolo said in her doctoral thesis that as cracks developed in the mountainside, the waste would flow more rapidly into the surrounding reservoir.

Although she does not know if her publication factored into the decision, the plan has been put on hold.

The work begins

More recently, Spagnuolo has focused her attention on the spread of two potentially deadly diseases: cholera and Chagas disease.

Cholera is spread by ingesting water contaminated with the bacteria.

According to the World Health Organization, in the last two years there have been outbreaks in parts of the Caribbean, Africa, India and Southeast Asia.

Once inside the body, the bacterium depletes its victim of water and necessary electrolytes. It can kill within three days.

Spagnuolo was able to use a 3-D model of the human intestine along with equations to simulate the spread of the illness on a computer.

"One of the computer outcomes shows that if an inexpensive water treatment or medication can be found that stops the bacteria from swimming, then bacterial colonization would be greatly reduced so that less water would be secreted in the intestine," she said. "In this case, the patient could survive the infection."

Disease by the numbers

Spagnuolo's colleague Libin Rong, an associate professor in the department of mathematics and statistics, described what makes her work so difficult.

"She usually formulates the system into a complicated partial differential equation," he said. "That means there are several variables involved. The numerical method to solve this equation is difficult, so we really need to develop some new methods to solve these equations."

Spagnuolo has also tracked Chagas disease through a process of mathematical modeling.

Chagas disease, found in Central and South America, is spread to mammals through bugs infected with a parasite.

According to the National Institutes of Health, symptoms include fever and fatigue in the acute stage. Later stages, which can come as late as 20 years after the initial infection, may be characterized by abdominal pain and difficulties swallowing.

One of Spagnuolo's tests centered on the hypothesis that placing chickens that are not affected by the disease in a village could reduce the spread of the disease to humans and domesticated pets on the theory that the bugs would bite the chickens more frequently.

"Our mathematical simulations reveal that the answer is no," she said. "It turns out that, under our model assumptions, adding chickens to the village homes actually increases the total number of bugs in the homes. And, as a result, the number of infected humans and infected domestic mammals also increases."

Insecticides don't work either. Enough bugs survive that in five years that the infected population is the same as it was prior to spraying.

Spagnuolo said that keeping pets outside the home could help alleviate the problem, along with thicker plaster walls.

Spagnuolo is now working on a project in conjunction with researchers at several universities to help FEMA determine the outcome of hurricanes for emergency preparedness.

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

LEARN MORE

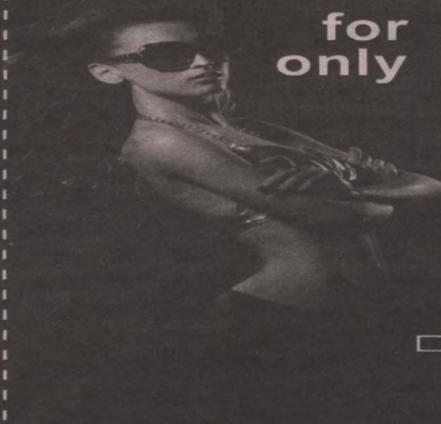
At euler.oakland.edu/chagas/ users can input variables such as the number of bugs infected with a parasite, and the mortality rates of cats and dogs. After changing these and other variables, the user can then get a graphical print out charting the spread of the disease.

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Operatic teachings

Professor brings opera to students

By Sarah Blanchette
Staff Intern

Assistant Professor of Music Drake Dantzler is a well-known vocalist of today's opera scene.

He has appeared in productions such as "Pride and Prejudice: the Musical," "Sweeney Todd," "The Merry Widow" and countless others.

This past January, Dantzler brought the university's first student opera production, "Così fan Tutte," to the Varner Recital Hall stage. In addition to this university first, Dantzler agrees that the students at Oakland University should be made aware of the Opera Program.

Before becoming involved in opera, Dantzler went to college to explore careers in math and economics.

Dantzler chose to add teaching to his career in honor of a teacher that he had at Vanderbilt College.

"Teaching is great, it is very rewarding," he said.

Dantzler feels teaching allows him to give back to the student body, especially the opera and voice majors here at OU.

In order for an opera student to reach Doctorate level in their degrees, the time spent on schooling totals nine years.

Current junior, Constantine Novotny, has been a student of Dantzler's for a year and a half.

"Dr. D (is) our most important link to the world of professional singers," he said. "(He is) the closest professor to our age and thus can give us the best idea of what the world is like for young singers after we finish school."

Throughout his time as an opera student, Novotny values the lessons taught by Dantzler.

"A pretty voice is not the only thing that a singer needs to have in order to succeed — we also need to be able to act. In every rehearsal for the opera or every opera workshop class he hugely focuses on bringing out the actor in us and how to keep the audience interested," Novotny said.

To learn more visit www.drakedantzler.com or contact Dantzler at dantzler@oakland.edu.

Contact staff intern Sarah Blanchette via email at scblanch@oakland.edu

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Assistant professor Drake Dantzler performs locally

April 2

Recital of Opera, Operetta and Musical Theatre
Warren, Ill.

May 18

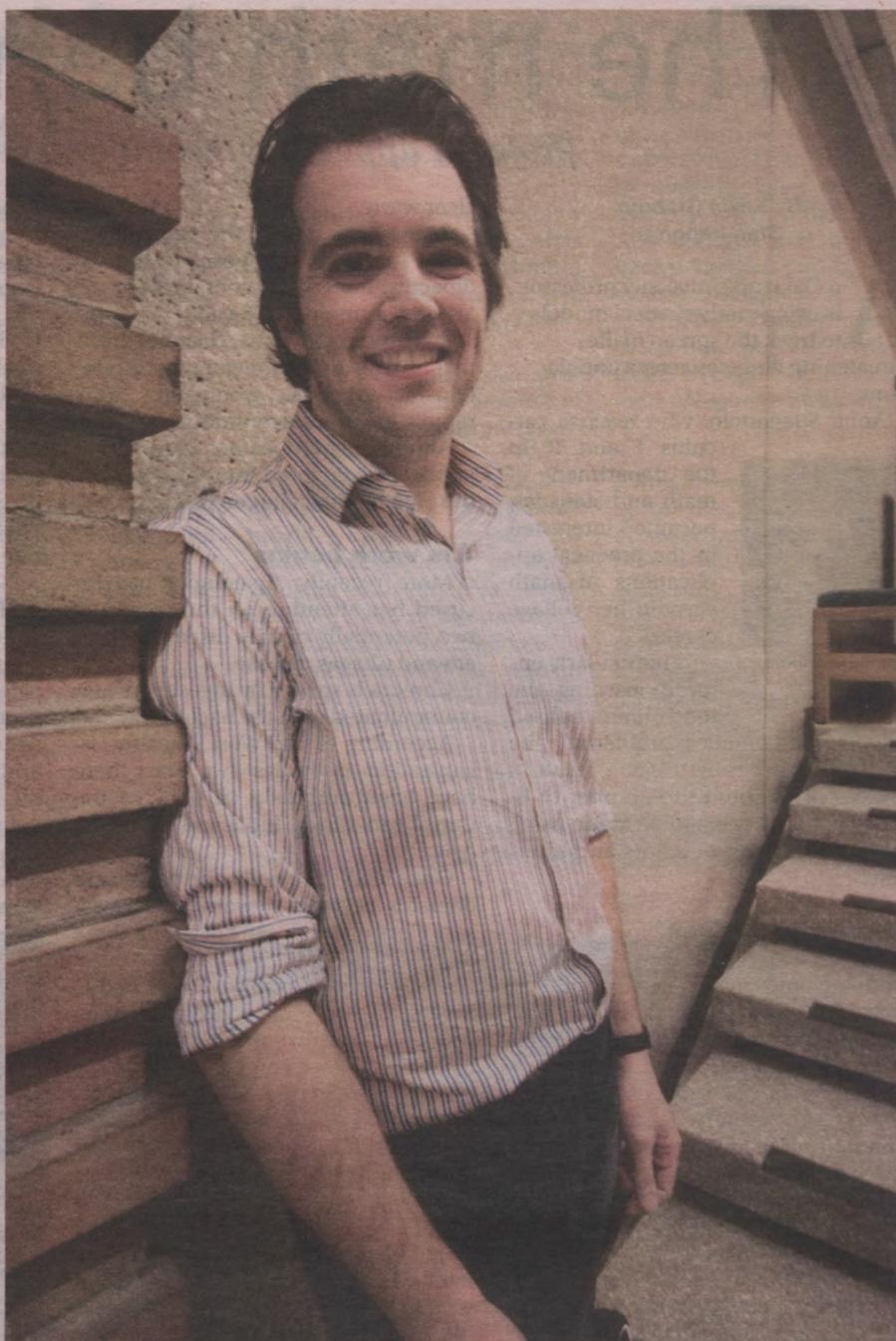
Haydn: The Creation
First United Methodist
Brighton, Mich.

May 20

Haydn: The Creation
First Congregational
Ann Arbor, Mich.

May 19

Haydn:
The Creation
Christ Church Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.



SARAH BLANCHETTE/The Oakland Post

Aside from his own music career, assistant professor Drake Dantzler has sparked the joy of opera in the department of music, theatre and dance and students alike.

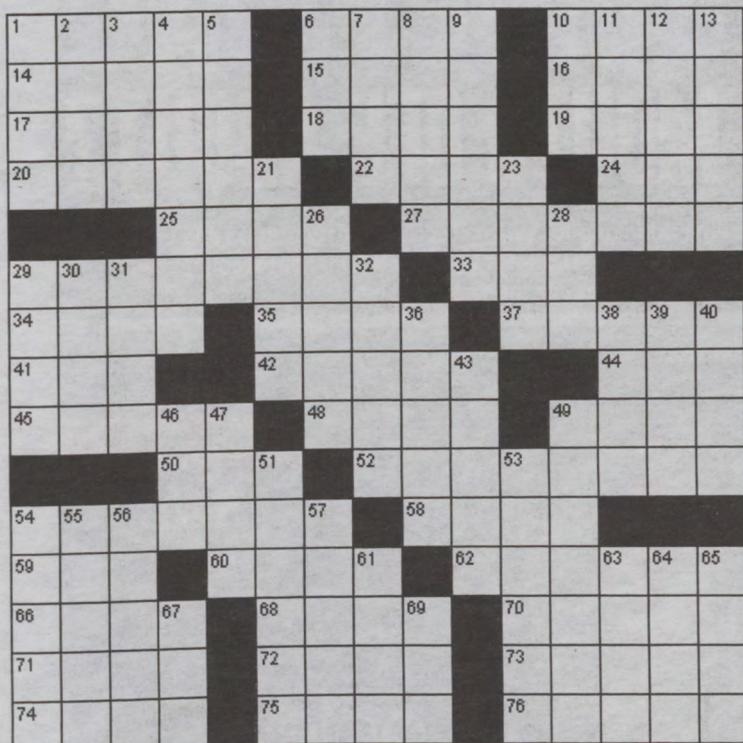
Puzzles

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

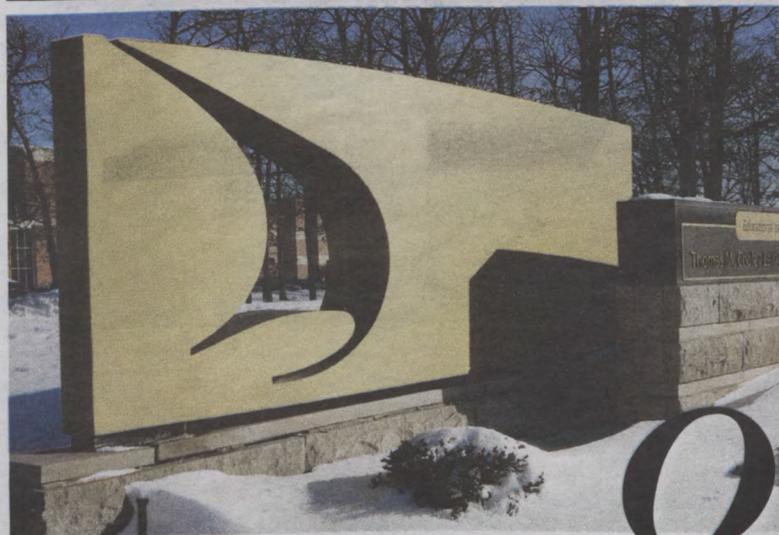
1. Barter
6. Charity
10. Adore
14. Small bird
15. Closed circuit
16. Metallic element
17. Paragon
18. Having little money or possessions
19. Diplomacy
20. System of measurement
22. Set of three
24. Seafarer
25. Small island
27. Statuesque
29. Steady
33. Epoch
34. Radiate
35. Object of worship
37. Personnel
41. Exploration site
42. Design theme
44. Fish eggs

45. Air, Earth, Fire, Water, ___
48. Breaker
49. Portable shelter
50. Large tub
52. Able to read and write
54. Whole number
58. Desperate
59. Spoil
60. Hitch
62. Storage space
66. Partiality
68. At the peak
70. Stage whisper
71. Malevolence
72. Square root of eighty-one
73. South Pacific monarchy
74. Contradict
75. Worn in ancient Rome
76. Spiritual being

DOWN

1. Neat
2. Traveled by horse
3. Assist, usually in wrongdoing
4. Writer
5. Join the military
6. Mountain
7. Plunder
8. Ties up a boat
9. Fairy
10. Illuminated
11. Talk pompously
12. Outspoken
13. Way in
21. Assert
23. Paddles
26. Empower
28. Cheapness
29. Yield
30. Leave out
31. Near
32. Sum
36. Ashen
38. Region
39. Typeface
40. Fiesta
43. Putrid
46. The night before
47. Tatters
49. Perfidy
51. Rent-paying occupant
53. Misprints
54. Implant
55. Callow
56. Form of transport
57. Quantitative relation
61. Percussion instrument
63. Offstage area
64. Sharpness
65. Actual
67. Cunning
69. Small vegetable

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SATIRE

A moat? Why is Oakland University building a moat?

By Brian Figurski
Multimedia Reporter

There are a lot of things on campus that need to be tended to with funding — parking lot problems, new building, finding a funny Mouthing Off writer, digging a moat, so on and so forth.

Wait, what? A moat? What's the importance of building a moat?

That's a good question with no sufficient answer, as that is where more funds are being funneled.

The current response to a flurry of nasty tweets and Internet bashings is that the moat will be constructed around the Human Health Building to minimize its impact on the environment and preserve the marshy ecosystem. It'll be a great home for Oakland County's natural inhabitants of crocodiles, piranhas and lampreys.

I imagine masses donned in sheath armor, gathered together encompassing a round table when this topic came to surface. Please leave your swords at the door.

While this is a sporadic and offbeat initiative, I think this could open up a drawbridge of opportunities.

The first of my hopes is that I can finally achieve my proposed bachelor's degree in medieval weaponry. I have immense skills with battle-axes and morning stars. To use my God-given talent I've been blessed with would be wonderful.

I've said it since I became a Golden Grizzly a creative writing degree is useless in the real world. We need to accommodate to the revival of fifth century battle apparel.

I'm still the only member of "Medieval Weaponry at OU" on Facebook.

Speaking of being a proud bear — sorry, Grizz, we're condemning you into the iron maiden. We can be the Golden Gladiators or Dragonslayers. Perhaps that'd get the card-wielding students in the dungeons of the Oakland Center to come out and play.

I've said multiple times we need more sporting events on campus. Now we can capitalize on the situation — jousting! And wouldn't it be more exciting to watch the swim team race each other while avoiding the jaws of death from sea creatures, and the track team outrun flaming arrows being pelted from the peaks of the castle keep?

OU Student Congress will no longer have a president, nor will it be a democracy of any kind. The king of campus shall rule the plebeians below.

Seriously, what's next? The construction of a concrete wall surrounding campus, built by the peasants ... erm, freshmen? We can pull up the drawbridge to keep the haters out, and the transfer students. Hell, draw it up when students go to transfer out like a real monarchy would.

I understand the good intentions of building a moat, but I don't think its creation is going to look very professional. It sounds like a joke, and when it finally fills to the brim with murky muddy water and the fanfare of French horns cascades on campus, the school will be scoffed upon.

I'm not sure anything can stop the impending arrival of this dreaded trench besides a good ol' uprising, but I'll be damned if we let a potentate rise to power and I don't get crowned the kingdom jest. That, or crucified and burned alive, just as our European counterparts would've wanted.



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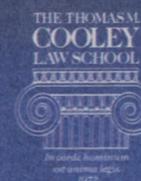
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