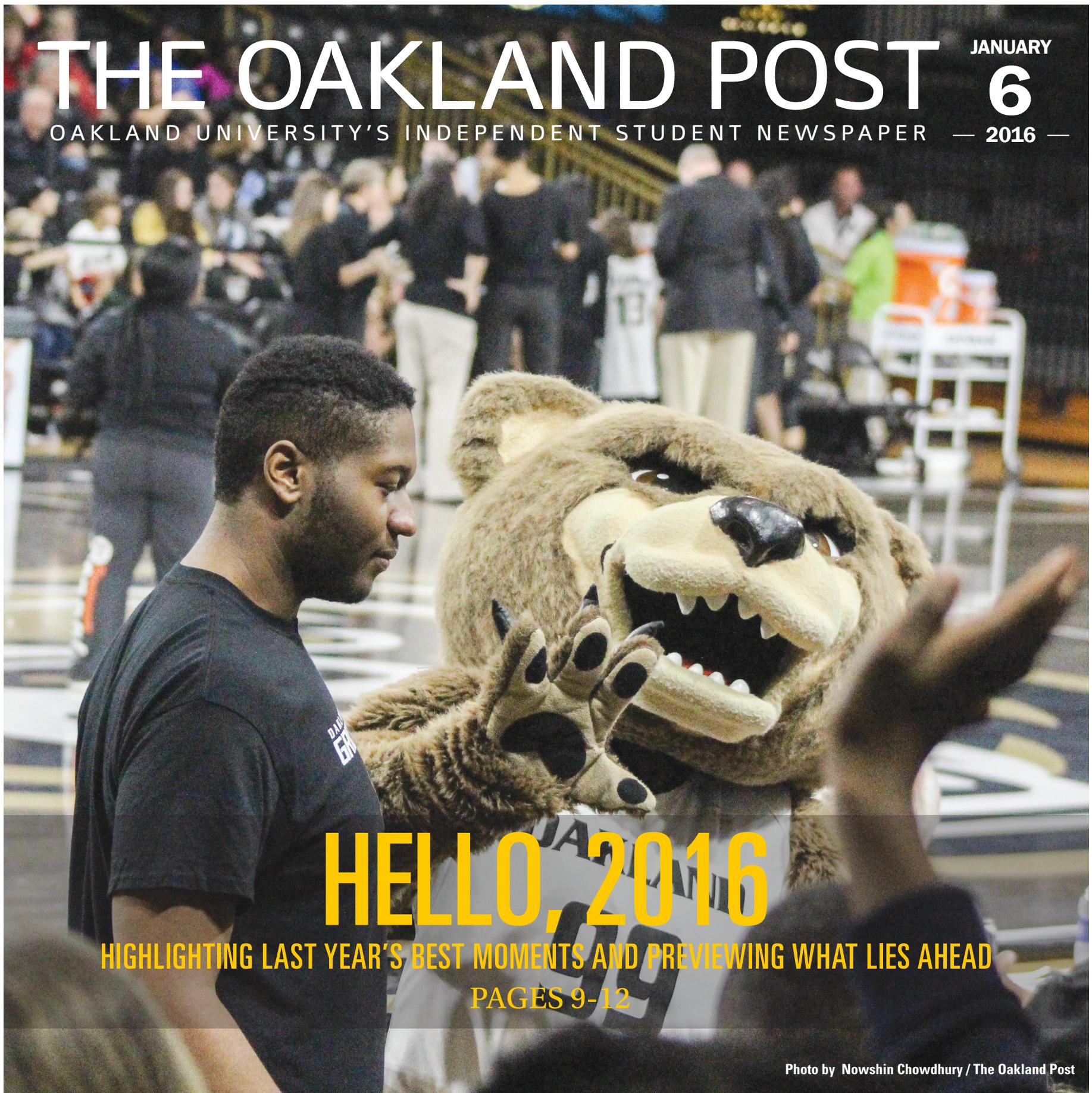


THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2016 —

JANUARY
6



HELLO, 2016

HIGHLIGHTING LAST YEAR'S BEST MOMENTS AND PREVIEWING WHAT LIES AHEAD
PAGES 9-12

Photo by Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

LOVE YOUR MELON.
Campus crew looks to improve lives
of those battling childhood cancer
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A SPECIAL VACATION.
Med students spend portion of winter
break providing service in Nicaragua
PAGE 8

LEVI STRONG.
Club football receives courage, hope
and strength from teammate
PAGE 20

thisweek

January 6, 2016 // Volume 41. Issue 14



ontheweb

Ann Arbor kid looks to take the cake in Food Network competition. Full story on oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

GRIZZLIES STAY GOLDEN // The women's basketball team won all of the four scheduled games over break including two home and two away games. The Golden Grizzlies' current record is 9-4 overall.

Dongfu Han // The Oakland Post

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What are you looking forward to most in 2016?

- A** The Presidential Election, love me some good campaigning.
- B** The Summer Olympics, love me some good athletes.
- C** Graduating and entering the real world...wait
- D** ALL THE SUPERHERO MOVIES!!!

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Upcoming plans for the winter break?

- A)** Turn off my alarm and sleep for a week.
15 votes
- B)** Literal Netflix and chill.
20 votes
- C)** Recovering from this semester; emotionally, mentally, and financially.
40 votes
- D)** Seeing Santa at the mall and asking for a higher GPA.
15 votes

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

January 7, 1998

Lines were so long at the cashier's office that they almost reached South Foundation Hall.

January 8, 1997

New fast food options came to the Oakland Center. Options included Taco Bell, Burger King and Pizza Hut.

January 11, 1988

A fire behind Kresge Library destroyed a \$150,000 piece of equipment and forced about 100 people to evacuate.

January 7, 2015

Oakland students remembered Cody Petzold after he passed away the morning of Dec. 26.

— Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, web editor



6

LEARN TO LOVE YOUR MELON

Originally founded by students, the Love Your Melon organization strives to improve the welfare of children afflicted with cancer, through hats.



10-11

YEAR IN REVIEW

Look back at the year at Oakland University through photos. See some of the most talked about events and happenings that took place on campus.



19

STAYING SHIPLEY STRONG

After failing to repeat such a strong opening year, the Golden Grizzlies rally back with the help of one student who faces his own battles every day.

BY THE NUMBERS

2015 Review

\$399.99

the cost of the holiday season's 'hottest' items, the "Swagway"

54

number of years that the US and Cuba had no international relations

127,180,004

the number of views on 2015's most watched Youtube video, Silento's "Watch Me"

5-4

the ruling in favor of same-sex marriage on June 26th

From the staff: Another year in the books

The 365 days that made up 2015 were unique to each of us: Some of you finished your first semester of college, others walked across the stage in a cap and gown to put the staple on your last, and then there's the group of us who lie somewhere in between the two, trying to organize the chaos before it's our turn to cross the finish line.

Regardless of which group you fall under, Oakland University is a place we can all say played a role

in our year, whether it was minor or major.

The staff at the Oakland Post enjoyed covering the highs and the lows of 2015. From feel-good feature stories about members of our campus community, to tensions increasing over the tuition raise and chief operating officer hiring and celebratory chronicles of league championships, the news that came week after week at Oakland kept us busy.

Inside this issue, we reflect on the times we shared,

display the photos we loved and remember the people we lost. We also preview the moments awaiting us in the following months during the winter 2016 semester and highlight the events you won't want to miss.

We hope to continue to serve and inform the campus community through our work published in the paper weekly and online daily. We want to thank you for reading the Post and wish all of campus luck as we embark on another semester as Golden Grizzlies.

Editors pick favorite Oakland memory of 2015

Kristen Davis, Editor-in-Chief: Covering the Horizon League softball tournament at Oakland in May and watching the Golden Grizzlies win it all. The team was doubted from the beginning of the season and it was amazing to see them come out on top.

Scott Davis, Managing Editor: Meeting Laverne Cox when she came to campus during the fall semester. Orange is the New Black is one of my favorite shows and her speech was really inspiring.

Nowshin Chowdhury, Photo Editor: Watching We The Kings perform at the spring festival was my favorite memory. My friend Hanna kept requesting that they sing "Check Yes Juliet" and they ended up performing it.

Megan Carson, Chief Copy Editor: Going to Ohio with the Oakland University Ballroom Dance Club. It was a great bonding experience for the team and we ate a lot of good food.

Rachel Williams, Campus Editor: Meeting new people and working for the Post. I've made lifelong friendships at Oakland.

Grace Turner, Life Editor: I absolutely adored 2015's Meadow Brook Ball. Spending an evening in a mansion is magical.

Cheyenne Kramer, Web Editor: My favorite moment from 2015 here at OU was when the LGBT studies minor was brought to campus. As part of the LGBT community myself it meant a lot for the university to recognize the history and struggles groups of people go through even today on our campus and around the world.

Corrections Corner

In our Dec. 2 issue, we published a photo along with our story about an Oakland University student who interns with the Bottomless Toy Chest in Birmingham. The photo featured the student holding a "Grizz Gives to Kids" sweater, but the sweater is not affiliated with the Bottomless Toy Chest. Instead, the sweater is actually part of Oakland University Student Congress' initiative to give gifts to families during the holiday season. We apologize for our mistake and we apologize to anybody it may have offended.

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

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



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The Real Deal: Welcome Back

Resolve to register to vote, educate yourself and vote in the most pivotal election yet

Aditya Tiwari & Ryan Fox
Contributors

Hello everyone, we hope you had a wonderful break and holiday season and we hope this new semester finds you all in good health.

Formalities aside, with the coming of the new year, we ask you to make yet another resolution.

This year if you are 18 or older, or will be 18 by November, we ask you to register and vote in the 2016 elections. This election is quickly escalating to one of the most pivotal in our history, with some starkly contrasting, and highly controversial ideas on both sides of the table. With world changing battles being waged on issues like gun control, climate change and police brutality whoever we elect as our nation's next leader is going to

determine the future of our children and our planet.

However it is not just the presidential race that is going to centrally define the issues and actions that will define and heavily impact our generation; it is also imperative for you to also pay attention to congressional, state, and local elections.

Contrary to popular opinion, the president does not hold all the cards when it comes to our government, and government inaction is often the result of our primary branch of government: Congress.

Each U.S. Representative represents around 700,000 people like you, and each Senator represents their entire



ADITYA TIWARI
Contributor



RYAN FOX
Contributor

state. Yet, in spite of their obligation and duty to represent and act, often times they are more concerned with fundraising

for their contingent re-elections, and spend less time on focusing on their constituents. Furthermore, it becomes more and more apparent that they benefit from the general ignorance of most people for being unable to name their own federal and state representatives.

However, it is easy to find out exactly who represents you in our state and federal government.

If you head to <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>, you can easily find your district, and the repre-

sentatives in the house and senate.

Similarly, if you need to know your state representatives here and there, head to <http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/>.

With that knowledge, you are also given the means to contact them, and ways to find out exactly what they're doing, and with this you can then decide if you would want to support them later on, or vote them out for someone who you can ascertain to be a better leader.

With that, we urge you to head to the polls this year armed with knowledge, empowered with the ability as a member of a democratic society to choose who leads.

We hope this semester is the best yet, and we wish you the best of luck this new year. We hope you continue to follow our column, and remember to keep an eye out for what's true, and what's not.

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Grizzlies on the Prowl

'How do you feel about New Year's resolutions and did you make any?'



Cyle Cook

"New Year's resolutions aren't worth it, and I think it's a fake thing people do at the start of the new year to get attention."



Tara Aziz

"My New Year's resolution is to lose weight. But honestly, I would say grades before friends, because that really messed me up last year."



Joseph Hodges

"I don't have one but I honestly have no clue why not."

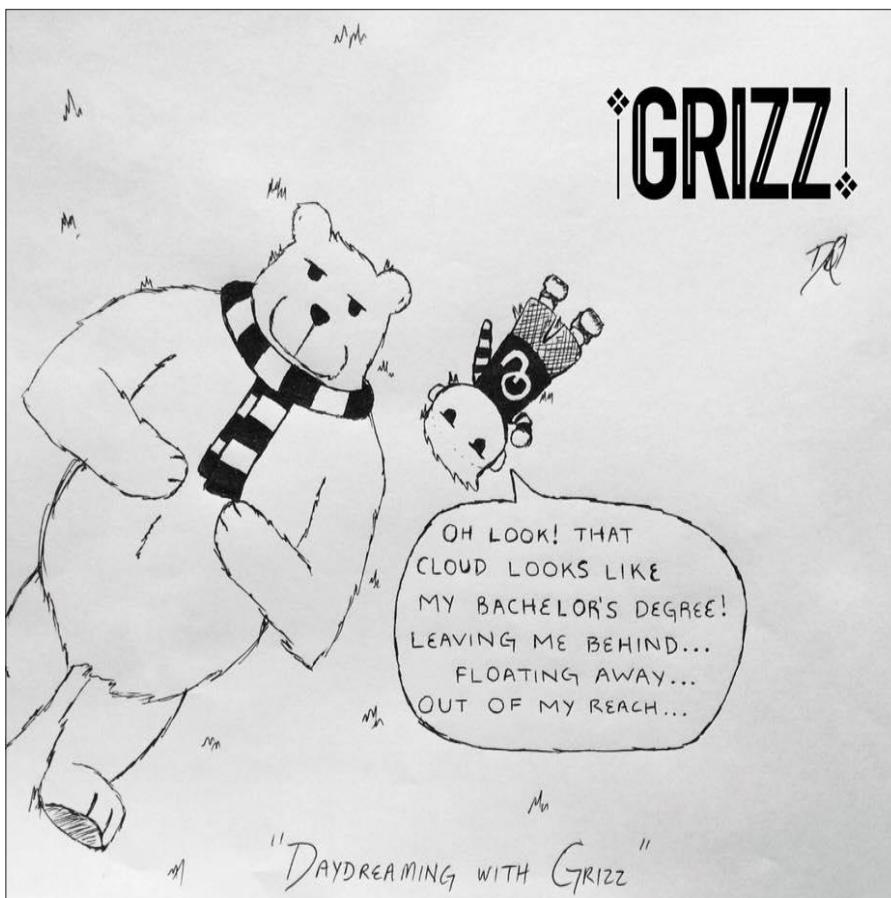


Jasmine Semma

"I don't have one. I don't think that it should have to take until the new year to do things to better myself"

— Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, Web Editor

Grizz Comics



— By Derek Queen, Contributing Illustrator



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Muslim students feel welcome at OU

Rachel Williams
Campus Editor

Following ISIS terrorist attacks around the world, U.S. leaders are faced with dealing with immigration and foreign policy issues that have become controversial and polarizing.

At the same time, there has been debate concerning whether or not to accept not only Syrian refugees, but also anyone of the Muslim faith into the country.

Because some of the terrorists are affiliated with the Islamic faith, other followers of the religion have been subject to questioning, judgment and scorn.

Ahmad Mahmoud, international relations major, and Sumayya Master, marketing major and president of the Muslim Students Association (MSA) at Oakland University, both explained that despite this, they feel safe on Oakland's campus.

Mahmoud was born in Iraq and came to the United States in the beginning of 2009 to escape the war going on in his birth country. He is now a U.S. citizen and transferred to Oakland in the fall.

He explained that he feels safe on Oakland's campus, but unsafe at certain times in areas off campus.

His main concern is the safety of his wife who wears a

traditional scarf on her head as part of their faith and is more easily identified as Muslim.

Mahmoud described a time when his wife was approached by a stranger who asked her opinion on ISIS and the terrorist attacks going on in the world.

"I came to the United States looking for equality, freedom, justice," Mahmoud said. "And that's what makes the United States a great country, or maybe the best country in the world. In my opinion, if the United States' politics goes against justice and equality, [the U.S.] will go back as a country."

Master expressed similar

sentiments, while commenting on the work of the MSA.

"We try to have events that may capture the attention of non-Muslims as well so they can learn more about who we are as Muslims and what our religion is all about," Master explained. "We strive to bring peace and understanding between all members of the OU community."

The MSA has been around for over 10 years and continues to hold events where students can learn more about the Islamic faith or discuss a relationship with God.

Muslims like Master and Mahmoud feel that ISIS and other terrorist groups who may ascribe to the Muslim re-

ligion are not representative of the entire religion.

"I'm deeply saddened at the portrayal of Muslims and our religion," Master said. "I've always been taught and have believed that Islam is a religion of peace."

Despite this false portrayal of his religion, Mahmoud is still glad to be a United States citizen and Oakland University student.

"I am glad to be a part of this society," Mahmoud said. "This country gave me justice, gave me freedom, gave me education. My country did not."

For further information on the MSA, find them on Griz-zOrgs or Twitter at twitter.com/OU_MSA.

'Love Your Melon' gains a new branch courtesy of OU students

Organization aims to increase donations for young cancer patients, keep spirits going strong

Sarah Lawrence
Staff Reporter

As part of a nationwide movement to improve the lives of children battling the hardships of cancer, a group of 20 Oakland University students have developed a new branch of the Love Your Melon organization.

Love Your Melon is an organization founded by two students from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn. in 2012, whose mission is to provide a hat to every child battling cancer in America. The group is partnered with CureSearch and The Pinky Swear Foundation.

To date, more than 2,500 college students across the country have signed on as ambassadors to sell and donate hats to the cause.

"When I heard about Love Your Melon (LYM) and their mission, I wanted to find a way to become involved as soon as possible," Alisha Wheeler, junior at Oakland and founder of the Oakland University LYM Campus Crew, said. "After visiting the website, I con-

tacted the organization about starting our own Campus Crew, and they got us started right away."

The Oakland University LYM Campus Crew is an exclusive crew composed of students determined to improve the lives of children battling all types of childhood cancer through promoting, representing and selling Love Your Melon products.

Additionally, LYM ambassadors work to represent the brand through their personal engagements and coordination with various charitable programming initiatives.

"In order to complete activities such as home visits, personal deliveries and hospital visits, we are required to earn a certain number of credits," Wheeler said. "One credit is the equivalent of one Love Your Melon item sold."

The Oakland University LYM Campus Crew has earned 114 credits so far, and members are looking forward to various opportunities to complete home and hospital visits dressed as superheroes.

"By visiting these kids and giving



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

Students at Oakland University have extended a branch of Love Your Melon, an organization that provides hats to children battling cancer.

them the chance to meet their favorite superheroes, we help provide an experience they will never forget as well as allow them to visit with individuals outside of their immediate family and medical staff," Wheeler said.

Although the Oakland University Love Your Melon Crew is not accepting new crew members, individuals may show their support through purchasing LYM products on loveyourmelon.com and following the Crew on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

All Love Your Melon products are

made in the United States and are softly woven for children that have lost their hair. For every LYM product purchased, 50 percent of the net proceeds are donated to cancer research and immediate support for families.

"The challenges these kids go through on a daily basis are unimaginable for college kids like us, but we strive to make their day a little better," Wheeler said. "Anything we can do to help is worth it and it is such a cool opportunity to hear their stories and make them smile."

With ordering system repaired, options will open up for Chick-fil-A

Students to see expanded Chick-fil-A menu at OU

Cheyenne Kramer
Web Editor

The Oakland Center is often thought of as the go-to place across campus to grab a bite to eat with its now expanded Chick-fil-A and the arrival of Moe's Southwest Grill. However, many students may never stop to think about the different menu options that are offered at the full restaurants of these chains.

According to Chick-fil-A's website, there are countless food options the Oakland University location does not have. Some examples include grilled chicken nuggets, multiple signature

salad options and, of course, the Chick-fil-A staple milkshakes.

After a 3.5 million dollar expansion to the Pioneer Food Court, only a few more options have been added to the menu at the Oakland location. Currently students can now get spicy chicken as well as limited breakfast options, which were not included in the older version of the franchise.

Some students are not upset with the limited menu options as a larger variety may not prove worthwhile.

"I don't think they need more food options [at Chick-fil-A] because I feel like having all the options would be overwhelming and people might take longer in line doing so," Natalie Kreps, sophomore, said. "They also probably wouldn't use most of the stock they get with newer options because people will de-

fault to the transfer meal."

However, the Chick-fil-A on campus was originally conceived to have more options than it currently has.

"We had a problem with the university Black Board System, so instead of taking orders digitally and having them prepared, we have to use paper tickets," Mark McCormic, resident district manager at Chartwells, said.

"We actually started out the fall semester with more options, but the line practically never moved, so we had to cut back."

However, the problem with the Black Board System will hopefully be repaired within the coming month, according to McCormic.

"This fix will hopefully bring more options, like soft serve and frozen lemonade," he said.

Some of these dessert options



Dongfu Han / The Oakland Post

After a \$3.5 million expansion to the Pioneer Food Court, the Chick-Fil-A at Oakland University has only added a few more options to the menu.

and other menu items will soon to be brought to the Chick-fil-A Express will not be added to transfer meals.

"It's too hard to keep track of, plus all of the core menu items are already present," McCormic said.

Despite the current menu op-

tions, students still line up to get a taste of what is currently Michigan's only accessible Chick-fil-A location. Competition will soon arise as a new location is coming to Lansing.

For more information visit oakland.edu/chartwells or Chick-fil-A's website.

THE OAKLAND POST

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Grizzlies head to Central America to help local communities

During winter break, students traveled to Nicaragua to learn, provide medical assistance to those in need

Rachel Williams
Campus Editor

On Dec. 16, 55 Oakland University students headed to Nicaragua as part of the Global Brigades-Medical team. The team visited two communities within the country in order to provide medical and public health assistance.

The group was created as part of the larger international Global Brigades non-profit. The organization provides economic and medical care to communities throughout the world, mainly through university student volunteers and service teams.

Before they set out on their trip, the brigade raised funds to purchase various drugs to provide to patients in need while in Nicaragua.

The students started their trip in Las Mangas of Matagalpa for three days. During that time, they set up a system for patients to go through stations like triage, a medical examination, and then either a gynecological or dental examination. Beyond this, a station was set up for Nicaraguan children to learn about the importance of dental hygiene.

In their time at the clinic, students estimated that they served approximately 1,000 community members. The group assisted doctors and observed patients as well as distributed proper medication.

From here, the students traveled to El Naranjo for the public health section of the trip.

Casey Kepczynski, a health sciences major, explained the work that the brigade completed while in El Naranjo.

“Our brigade was split up into three groups to build three different homes,” Kepczynski said. “The families whose homes we were building were also hard at work participating and showing us what to do.”

The three groups laid down concrete flooring, built a bathroom and a septic tank.

“I felt like I was actually making a difference by building a home for a family that would forever be grateful,” Kepczynski commented.

Students were able to work one-on-one with Nicaraguan people throughout the trip from the medical clinic to the public health work.

“As well as being a medical brigade and bringing help to people physically, I believe that we were able to bring hope and compassion,” student volunteer and nursing major Nicole Weber said.

The trip gave students the opportunity to do real world work for their respective



Photo courtesy of Casey Kepczynski

Over fifty Oakland University students traveled down to Nicaragua on Dec. 16 as part of the Global Brigades-Medical Team.

fields of study while giving back to those in need. A group leader, translators and the Nicaraguan doctors assisted in breaking down language barriers to make the trip as personal as possible.

“As an Oakland student, I am very proud to say that Oakland University is so positively represented in Nicaragua and that 55 students were willing to donate their time and resources to the amazing people of Nicaragua,” Weber said.

Kepczynski reflected on the trip with similar feelings of pride and gratitude.

“I hope my career one day will give me that same fulfillment,” she said. “I encourage any Oakland student to take the opportunity if they’re able to, even if they’re not going into health care.”

For more information on Global Brigades or how you can get involved, visit the Global Brigades-Medical page on GrizzOrgs or globalbrigades.org.

THE TRIP BY THE NUMBERS

1,000 community members

55 OU student volunteers

2 different communities aided

1 unforgettable experience

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TOP HEADLINES of 2015

Here are some of the biggest stories the Oakland Post covered this year:

TUITION RAISES: An informal board of trustees' meeting this summer ended with a decision to violate the state cap of 3.2 percent and instead raise tuition 8.4 percent for the 2015-16 academic year. Administration said the raise was necessary because the state doesn't provide the proper funding for Oakland University to function the way it wants to, but a majority of students and the university community were outraged.

OC RECEIVES RENOVATIONS: Students returned to campus this fall and were delightfully greeted by new dining options in the Oak-

land Center and the Bear Cave, which took the place of Bumper's Game Room. New seating was installed a few weeks into the semester as well.

HYND COMPLETES FIRST YEAR: University President George Hynd finished his first year in the position in 2015.

COO POSITION SPARKS CONTROVERSY: After the board of trustees decided to create a chief operating officer position and then hire a former trustee Scott Kunselman to fill the position without conducting a national search or informing campus of their actions, the university community again was upset with the board's lack of transparency. Kun-

selman officially took office on Dec. 1.

OAKLAND CHORALE PERFORMS WITH "THE WORLD'S GREATEST ROCK AND ROLL BAND": The OU Chorale performed alongside the Rolling Stones during their July 8 concert at Comerica Park. The band invited local choirs to its 15-city zip code tour.

MEADOW BROOK THEATER CELEBRATES FIVE DECADES: Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theater began its 50th season on Oct. 7, 2015. The season included seven different productions.

GOLDEN GRIZZLIES BRING HOMETRO-

PHIES: Men's and women's swimming and diving, softball, men's and women's cross country, and men's and women's soccer all brought home Horizon League championships in 2015 for Oakland. The Golden Grizzlies also claimed the Metro Series for winning the year's rivalry over Detroit and the McCafferty trophy, which marked the first time Oakland won an all-sports trophy in 41 years of athletic competition.

SORORITY RECRUITMENT SETS RECORD: Oakland University's College Panhellenic Council had a record-breaking 135 women join the Greek community in 2015, making the average chapter size on campus 98. The numbers were the

largest sorority recruitment to date at Oakland and also make the sorority community the largest it has ever been.

OUBW GRADUATES FIRST CLASS: The William Beaumont School of Medicine's charter class took its steps across the stage for the first time as an accredited program in May of 2015. Forty-seven students graduated from OUBW.

OAKLAND SEES RECORD ENROLLMENT: Marking 17 consecutive years of growth, the Golden Grizzlies community grew into the largest it has ever been in 2015 with a record enrollment of 20,711 students.

IN REMEMBRANCE of ...

Peter Binkert, former professor and chair of the Department of Linguistics, died Feb. 10. He worked at OU from 1970 to his retirement in



Photo courtesy of Lynch & Sons Funeral

2014 and formed the English as a second language (ESL) program at OU in the 1990s. He camped, kayaked, spent time with family and visited the Opera in his spare time.

John "Jack" Barnard, professor emeritus was the labor historian for the history department until he retired in 1997. Barnard's specialty was the history of labor unions in Detroit, and he published two books on the topic. He moved to Cape Cod shortly before he died and was



Photo courtesy of Lynch & Sons Funeral

also known for his kindness. "He was just a marvelously warm and generous person," Daniel Clark, associate professor in the Department of History, said.

Brett Marihugh, Navy SEAL and graduate student at OU, died two days after a training accident on April 24. He would have received his Master of Public Administration on



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Navy

May 1. "What came through for me was that he was just an exuberant, enthusiastic individual," Diane Hartmus, associate professor and internship director, said.

Perry Badia died May 14 following a traffic accident on OU's campus. Badia was 54 and loved to cook and run. He was an avid Spartans fan and sold computer and software packages. "He was a very, very good dad," Michele Topalian said, a



Photo courtesy of Michele Topalian

close friend. Badia is survived by two daughters, two sisters, his parents and his previous wife. Badia lived in Rochester.

Patrick McNeill died May 15 as an audio visual engineer for classroom support and instructional technical services from 1966 to 2005. He was also a part-time police officer for the Oxford Village Police



Photo courtesy of George Preisinger

until 2005 and loved to build things, including a jet engine that he kept in his garage. "He was a jokester," Sgt. Mike Solwold said, who worked with McNeill on the force for about 10 years.

Susan Cee, office assistant passed away on May 28. She worked at OU from 1988 to 2004 in three different office jobs. "[Cee] made people



Photo courtesy of Modetz Funeral Home

feel welcome...She made them feel at ease and encouraged them," said Gail Ryckman, manager of employment for University Human Resources.

Dennis Yezbick, clerical-technical who worked mostly with the Oakland Center, passed away on Sept. 18. Before working at OU, Yezbick was a city council member and Parks and Recreation Commission



Photo courtesy of Lynch & Sons Funeral

member for Walled Lake. "He was a wonderful person and will be truly missed," Lori Marsh, office assistant at the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, said.

Dave DeWulf, former golf coach, passed away on Oct. 23. He coached men and women's teams. "It is with great sadness that we



Photo courtesy of goldengrizzlies.com

learned of Coach DeWulf's passing. Dave brought in quality student-athletes that excelled in the classroom and on the golf course," Scott MacDonald, senior assistant athletic director, said.

TOP PHOTOS

of

2015

FEBRUARY 15 METRO SERIES

The Golden Grizzlies competed against the Detroit Titans for the Metro Series event at the O'rena on Sunday, Feb. 15 in front of a record-setting O'rena crowd of 4,101. The Golden Grizzlies dominated in the game, pulling off an 83-78 win. The NCAA qualified 2004-05 men's team was honored during the game and the new black top design was announced.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

CLOCK TOWER

For \$20, sum graduates wen to climb up inside the cl and explore the the campus fr This was the students were a go inside the cl and the next the 2015 winter g were allowed



Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

APRIL 17 SPRINGFEST

SPB hosted the annual spring festival on April 17, which included many activities, such as a battle of the bands contest, a performance from We The Kings and a paint party thrown by Paint U.



**APRIL
R CLIMB**
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 same.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

THINGS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED

The Black and Gold Awards



Photo by Nowshin Chowdhury

The Black and Gold Awards, hosted at the Fox Theater in Detroit on April 20, honored student athletes and celebrated winning the Metro Series. Oakland plans to make this an annual event.

Mock Fire Demonstration



Photo by Dani Cojocari

On Wednesday, Sept. 9, the Rochester and Auburn Hills fire departments held a mock fire demonstration on campus for students to see how having sprinklers effect the dorm rooms.

SPB's Annual Fall Carnival



Photo by Nowshin Chowdhury

The Student Program Board put on their annual Fall Carnival on Friday, Sept. 11. Students enjoyed a pig roast and elephant ears as well as carnival rides and other activities.

Point Guard Kay Felder



Photo by Dave Jackson

Kay Felder started the men's basketball season with a dunk at the game against Adrian College in the O'rena on Saturday, Oct. 31. It was the first home exhibition game for the Golden Grizzlies.

NOVEMBER 19 CANDLE LIGHT VIGIL

On Thursday, Nov. 19, more than 250 students came together to march in defense for peace after the terrorist attacks in Paris. Students met by the Elliott clock tower and lit candles for the event.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

APRIL 29 HYND'S INAUGURATION

President George Hynd was inaugurated as the sixth president of Oakland University on Wednesday, April 29. Preparation for the inauguration began early in the week with decorations in the Oakland Center and performances at Elliott Tower. Students and staff members spoke their praises about the newly-elected president.



Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

KEEPING YOU POSTED in 2016



Photo by Katherine Cagle



Photo by Dani Cojocari



Photo by Erik Barker

TOP LEFT Students are sure to be camping out in the OC in order to score tickets to different SPB trips. **TOP RIGHT** Oakland looks to continue Horizon League Success. **LEFT** Student Body President Nick Walter and vice president Madison Kubinski will continue to tend to students' needs.

GOLDEN GRIZZLY 2016 BUCKET LIST

CASINO NIGHT

Start your year with the biggest event of the winter semester's Welcome Week. The Student Program Board will be turning the Oakland Center into a casino on Saturday Jan. 9 from 7 p.m. to midnight. The event will feature live comedy and 'mocktails' while you play classic casino games for a chance to win prizes.

MEN'S BASKETBALL HORIZON LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

Big changes were made to this year's men's basketball Horizon League championship when the league announced their partnership with Olympia Entertainment. This year, and for the next five years, the Horizon League Tournament will be played in the city of Detroit. Oakland fans will have a chance to flood the Joe Louis Arena in early March to cheer on their Golden Grizzlies.

BEAR PONG: THE NONALCOHOLIC SOCIAL EVENT

In February, Oakland University Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) will be joining forces with a variety of other student orgs to host a giant water pong tournament. Anyone can create a team of two and join the double elimination bracket play tournament. Specific details on location and time are still in the works. The event planners are working on setting up a website that will contain all the necessary information and allow participants to sign up with their team.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

The price of a membership to the Oakland Recreation Center is built into your tuition so you might as well use it. The Recreation Center offers a lot of ways to get moving without having to design your own workout, such as group exercise classes and intramural sports. There's a long list of sports you can join this year from basketball to dodgeball. Check out the list on the Rec Center website.

MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

This year make sure to see a concert at the Meadow Brook Music Festival. The venue holds more than 7,700 people total and offers seating in the pavilion or on the lawn. Open from May to September, the site tends to host 40-50 concerts each summer. In the past, those concerts have included names as big as Imagine Dragons and Iggy Azalea. Some of this year's artists include The 1975 and Bryan Adams.

Written by Melissa Deatsch,
Staff Reporter

Scott Davis, Rachel Williams, Alexis Bomar
Managing Editor, Campus Editor,
Staff Reporter

There will certainly be a lot of newsworthy events happening not only this semester, but for all of 2016. Keeping up with the Oakland Post is a great way to stay informed on all that is going on. Here are some big events and potential moments that the Post will have its eye on.

SPB trip takes students to the happiest place on earth

Student Program Board will be taking students to Disney World for their annual Winter Break trip. The trip will go from Feb. 20 to Feb. 27. Tickets are \$395 and cover transportation, lodging and a pass to the park. Ticket sales dates are yet to be announced, so keep your eye out.

Grizzlies take the Windy City

Additionally, SPB will be hosting a trip to Chicago on April 2. The Board has fun activities planned throughout the winter and fall semester. Visit www.oakland.edu/spb for more information.

Oakland looks to dominate Horizon League tournaments

Winter sports will kick into high gear as many of the teams will begin to compete in league play. Swimming and diving will compete in many meets throughout January and February all leading

up to the Horizon League Championships in the Oakland Aquatic Center Feb. 24-27. The Golden Grizzlies have won 31 consecutive conference championships.

Men's and women's basketball will continue Horizon League play, leading to the league tournament in March and hopefully landing a spot in the NCAA Tournament. An off-the-court story to keep an eye on: former Detroit News columnist and 97.1 FM radio show host, Terry Foster, will be a beat writer for the men's basketball team on goldengrizzlies.com.

Spring sports will start back up again as track and field, baseball, softball, women's tennis and golf look to continue Oakland's successful sports year.

'It's On US' program promotes awareness

Oakland University Student Congress will kick off their "It's On Us" sexual assault awareness program on Jan. 6 from noon to 1 p.m. The event will take place in the Oakland Center in the Fireside Lounge.

Student Body President continues to keep students informed

Student elections will be happening again this spring, but before that happens current Student Body President Nick Walter continues to work towards a better OU for students. As he did this past fall, Walter will continue to write a monthly President's Report on the latest developments in Student Congress. His updates include

what he is doing to help bring more swag, more outlets, more space and more 4.0s on campus.

Student orgs participate in involvement fair

Student organizations can participate in the Winter Involvement and Volunteer Fair on Jan. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Oakland Center main hallway.

Construction of new residence halls will begin

As reported back in December, the Board of Trustees approved construction on new residence halls on South Campus. Renovations for West Vandenberg Hall are scheduled for summer 2016. The Post will update readers as more information becomes available.

Updates on the new chief operating officer

The Post will also follow the progress of Oakland's new chief operating officer, Scott Kunselman. Kunselman met with the editors of the Oakland Post in December to receive feedback and ideas for improvement in Oakland's facilities.

Follow the events and programs offered by Student Congress and the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development on their respective pages on Oakland's website.

All of these events are just the ones we are anticipating, though there will surely be many more that pop up. Keep informed with all that is going on on-campus with the Oakland Post.

Oakland faculty remains concerned over COO hiring

With Kunselman officially taking office, many staff members still feel unsure of the board's decision

Grace Turner
Life Editor

Tension rose at Oakland University's Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting on Dec. 2 over the new Chief Operating Officer (COO) position.

Barry Winkler, professor emeritus from biomedical sciences, voiced concerns about how Scott Kunselman, a previous BOT member, was hired.

Kunselman retired from the BOT two days before the COO position was introduced and offered to him.

"This appointment was made in the absence of a public advertisement of the position's responsibilities and in the absence of a national, open search," Winkler said.

"In effect, both the president and the board ignored board-approved authorizations governing hiring policies, procedures and regulations."

Typically, administrative positions are filled after a search process is complete. Because this wasn't the case for Kunselman, Winkler disapproved of the hire.

"I therefore ask you to rescind this decision and activate an open search process," Winkler said. "And if you don't, then I actually would call upon Mr. Kunselman to do the right thing and resign."

Mark Schluskel, BOT chair, defended how they filled the COO position.

"The board has acted with complete integrity on this issue," Schluskel said.

"The board establishes its own policy, and if it establishes a new position, it can establish the parameters by which it chooses to fill that position."

While the BOT has the power to create and fill administrative positions like Kunselman's, some faculty members hold views similar to Winkler's.

The American Association of University Professors at OU (AAUP), which serves as the faculty union, had a forum the day after the BOT meeting to gauge faculty responses.

"Faculty think that the COO hiring has been done in flawed process," said Kenneth Mitton, AAUP president and associate professor of biomedical sciences.

There are also concerns that there is not yet a job description.

"This role could have an enormous impact on the academic mission of the institution," said Karen Miller, associate

professor of history.

However, editors of the Oakland Post met with Kunselman to talk about facilities and ways to improve campus infra-

"The board establishes its own policy, and if it establishes a new position, it can establish the parameters by which it chooses to fill that position."

Mark Schluskel
Board of Trustees chairman

structure. The discussion did not deal with academics.

Some faculty want to know why the AAUP didn't launch a vote of no confidence, Miller said. A vote of no confidence is a list of grievances that sometimes calls for a resignation or reversal.

"Generally speaking, they cause a change in behavior," Miller said. "It's embarrassing to have a vote of no confidence."

However, AAUP hopes to find other ways to address disagreements.

"As long as we have those kinds of avenues open, the executive committee would sort of hope we wouldn't have to go down that road," Miller said.

Some faculty met with President Hynd, James Lentini, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, and Schluskel on Dec. 7 to discuss the new position. Hynd, Lentini and Schluskel reiterated that the hiring process was conducted correctly, Miller said.

Winkler was the only person from the faculty side of things to speak out at the BOT meeting. Some faculty members didn't want to because they were afraid for their positions, Mitton said.

"Technically, everything is approved by the Board of Trustees," Mitton said. This includes promotions and tenure.

However, at the BOT meeting, Schluskel invited feedback.

"We would welcome faculty members here coming much more often and engaging in the positive process of helping to build this university by helping us make positive advancements in this university," Schluskel said.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

Retired Oakland University professor Barry Winkler directly addressed the Oakland University Board of Trustees about his concerns with the process used in the hiring of Scott Kunselman.

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Meadow Brook Mansion lights up for holidays

Themed holiday walk takes visitors on a tour around the mansion, view artifacts not usually on display

Faith Brody
Copy Editor

The Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall is an annual event that starts the day after Thanksgiving, and spans three weeks until right before Christmas.

Shannon O'Berski, director of marketing and community relations at Meadow Brook, said the Holiday Walk was originally only a week long and has become a "long-standing tradition."

"People are going to see things they're not normally able to see," O'Berski said of the 44-year-old tradition.

Guests purchased tickets in the mansion's garage and took self-guided tours around the mansion. Docents were at hand to bring the Dodge and Wilson family to life and to provide insight. Garlands, gowns and 44 Christmas trees were displayed around the sprawling mansion.

Adult tickets were \$20, although if students presented their Grizzly ID the admission

price was \$5.

In order to get Meadow Brook ready for the hundreds of people who enjoyed the festivities, preparations began about two weeks in advance.

O'Berski explained that a decorator usually comes in with a team and works closely with the mansion staff to create their vision. Then, a group of volunteers come in to tidy up the mansion and prep the rooms. Finally, the decorator's crew transforms it into a Christmas wonderland.

The Holiday Walks usually have themes. This year's theme, "The Era of Etiquette and Art of Gracious Living," was shown by table settings around the house.

One room was set up for a summer tea, another had commemorative china that Matilda Dodge Wilson bought for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation. These artifacts are tucked away in the attic for most of the year, but were on full display during the walk to show how graciously the Dodges and Wilsons lived.

Former Holiday Walk themes included "Around the World,"

"People are going to see things they're not normally able to see [in the mansion]."

Shannon O'Berski
Director of Marketing and Community Relations at Meadow Brook

"Sounds of the Season" and "Treasures of Childhood."

O'Berski suggested that in the future students should take advantage of "OU Night" at the mansion. This year's OU Night was held on Dec. 14 from 5 to 9 p.m. Students and their guests enjoyed a discounted rate and refreshments.

Guests also had the option to purchase a ticket to "Holiday Tea," which happened on the afternoons of Dec. 8 and 15 and included Holiday Walk admission. "Startlight Stroll" and meals with Santa also take place at the mansion during the holidays.



Photos contributed by Shannon O'Berski

TOP There was a table setting in the living room of the mansion during "The Era of Etiquette and Art of Gracious Living" Holiday Walk. **ABOVE** Meadow Brook Hall is bright and cheery during the Holiday Walks that happen every holiday season.

Does high school thoroughly prepare students for college?

Study shows though number of students earning high school diplomas has risen, many aren't academically ready for college

Shelby Tankersley
Staff Reporter

We all know that high school and college are two completely different things.

College often asks a lot more from a student than high school and can require more time and effort. Compared to college, high school can seem like a breeze.

The New York Times recently published an article exploring the problems of this concept. According to the article, the U.S. has more high school graduates than ever before. But when those graduates get to college or the work force, their high school education seems to have left them unprepared for the future.

"It is a pattern repeated in other school

districts across the state and country — urban, suburban and rural — where the number of students earning high school diplomas has risen to historic peaks, yet measures of academic readiness for college or jobs are much lower," The New York Times said. "This has led educators to question the real value of a high school diploma and whether graduation requirements are too easy."

Erica Kloski, a double major in linguistics and English, said that since high school, she has valued her grades consistently and understands that good grades are important in order to succeed.

"I always studied because even if I didn't get into the school I wanted to be in, good ethics and being studious sets you up to do well," Kloski said.

Kloski said that she thinks that high school prepared her to enter college and was part of the reason she cared about doing well.

"My school cared about offering classes that prepared you for college," Kloski said. "I think my school genuinely cared about preparing us to do well, but we also had the money to have resources to get things that would help us succeed."

Kloski said that her alma mater shifted its focus from college prep to tests like the ACT during her freshman year at OU. Kloski is now a sophomore. She said that it's disappointing to see them focus on tests instead of preparing their students to do well when they leave high school.

"I know so many people that did well in high school and now they've dropped out of college. And it's so important to actually prepare the student to take college seriously."

Regarding the topic of standardized

tests, The New York Times said that the average ACT score has showed that students in some states don't have a good enough score to even be accepted into a good college, let alone do well at a university.

If colleges around the country are losing these freshmen, how is OU doing at making sure students return for a sophomore year? According to Shane Lewis, interim associate director and communications coordinator for Undergraduate Admissions, OU welcomed its largest class ever of 2,713 freshmen in the fall of 2015, but how many of them actually stay?

Lewis said that OU works to keep first-year students through programs that help them, like the First Year Advising Center and COM 101, a class designed specifically to acclimate freshman to OU and its campus.

With 76.4 percent of freshmen returning, Lewis said that OU hopes to keep freshmen coming back each year.

Don't fret failing, strive for succeeding

If proper steps aren't taken after failing a college course, students could face many additional issues

Parris Page
Staff Intern

As the winter semester begins, it means that most Oakland University students have successfully made it through the fall semester. But what about the students who didn't make it? Many students don't know what happens if they fail a class. There is a process and steps that should be taken if that happens.

Kelly Gianetto, academic advisor for the College of Arts and Sciences, stated that students should always meet with their academic advisor if they fail a course to help them determine what steps to take next.

"They may need to repeat the course or the 0.0 grade will affect their GPA," Gianetto said.

The conversation about a failed course will be individualized to the student's situation. This depends on the student's GPA before and after the semester. In extreme cases, a student may be put on probation or dismissed. The Office of the Registrar will notify the student via email.

"The required GPA needed to pass a class would depend on what requirement the course is being used for (Gen Ed, major, co-req, etc.). The catalog is the best resource to find out what grade each course needs to pass," Gianetto said via email.

There are also students who receive scholarships and need to maintain a certain GPA in order to keep that scholarship.

"The eligibility and renewal criteria for each award is determined by

the awarding organization," Cindy Hermsen, director of financial aid, said. "Most awards require a minimum cumulative GPA as well as semester and cumulative credit completion."

"If a student drops below an award required GPA or credit completion, the student will no longer be eligible to receive the award. There are awards in which a student can regain eligibility by reaching the required cumulative GPA and/or credit completion in a future semester; however, some awards might not offer reinstatement," Hermsen said.

Students with any questions concerning their awards can contact the Student Financial Services Office in 120 North Foundation Hall. They can also telephone the office at 248-370-2550 or send an email to finservices@

oakland.edu. Students can also refer to the academic advising page found on Oakland's website for more information and to set up an appointment with an advisor.

SOME QUICK FACTS

- A student may repeat a course three times (for a total of four attempts)
- The fourth attempt requires an approved petition and plan of study by the chairperson of the major's department
- All grades will always show on the student's transcript, but only the most recent grade is the one calculated into the GPA

Spak sparks Pontiac from within

OU student looks to help revitalize city through internship

Adam Kenney
Contributor

Internships are commonplace among college students and are often seen as being just a part of the curriculum. Another class to take. A requirement.

Few students have the chance to reignite the spirit of an entire city, brainstorm with a city mayor and leave a lasting imprint.

Anthony Spak does.

Spak is the current music director at Oakland University's radio broadcast station, WXOU, and most recently has found himself interning for the city of Pontiac working on "The Spirit of Pontiac" newsletter.

Not unlike many cities around the United States, Pontiac is a city in need of a new image. The Oakland University to Pontiac Initiative seeks to revitalize and refresh Pontiac, and to eliminate any current stigma surrounding the city.

Bordering counties, resi-

dents and students have had enough.

"We think of Pontiac as a wasteland," Spak said. "But Pontiac has good bones."

Spak's mission: To inform and elevate the good stories that exist in Pontiac.

"The Spirit of Pontiac" newsletter will contain stories that have their own voice.

"This is not just an Oakland Press crime shadow reporting," Spak said, speaking on the city's notorious reputation for receiving bad press.

"People get shot in Royal Oak too. But their news is balanced out, people hear about the good things happening in other towns. Pontiac doesn't have that right now."

"The Spirit of Pontiac" newsletter seeks to link three aspects of the city together through both print and online communication, ideally linking together city government with residents, local businesses with city government and Pontiac residents with business owners.

Spak underlined the importance and the need for communication in Pontiac.

"Everyone wants the same thing but there isn't a way to communicate," Spak said. "When a city doesn't communicate, things don't go well."

The intent of the quarterly-published newsletter will focus on closing the communication gap between residents and city government, to act as an outlet for residents to voice concerns and to communicate information to the city's residents.

Spak outlined that his writing process begins with a meeting with the mayor. Afterwards, roughly three to four story ideas are discussed, then reviewed from a journalistic aspect. This leaves Spak roughly a month to find sources, interview and write.

"It's my hope that every resident can read about the good things happening in Pontiac," Spak said. "I want the residents of Pontiac to have access to information about what is



Photo courtesy of Jackson Gilbert

Oakland University student Anthony Spak speaks with a Pontiac resident about the Micah 6 Community Garden for a story he wrote.

happening in their city and to be able to have pride in their community."

John Kenney, a former Pontiac resident, is relieved a new view on Pontiac is being shown.

"After a while you begin to be able to predict the news. It's the same negative story on a constant loop," Kenney said. "It is nice to hear good things about a town I have roots in."

Alongside a professional relationship with Pontiac, Spak shares a personal connection with the city as well.

"My family owned property in Pontiac when I was growing up. I remember walking around Dixieland flea market with my family on the weekends," Spak said.

He added that it's nice to see change happening in a city he spent time in growing up.

Road trip to Texas results in 'worst Christmas ever'

Shelby Tankersly
Staff Reporter

Have you ever seen "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"? Well, I'm basically the Grinch. Not in the sense that I hate Christmas, but because I can be a bit of a sarcastic jerk who doesn't like to leave her home and socialize with the rest of Whoville.

This Christmas, my family drove to Texas to see my dad's family. That's right. We drove. For 19 hours. I would've rather stayed home with my book and fuzzy socks.

But, I mostly didn't want to go because I had a feeling it would be a disaster.

If you think getting a Red Rider Gun and almost shooting your eye out is a disaster, I'm pretty sure this Christmas topped that.

On top of driving, we also slept in the car the first night because it was cheaper. My grandfather said he would help us rent a van to drive in, but the vehicle we got was smaller than the car my mother drives. Wonderful.

Sleeping in the car didn't seem like a problem until I awoke rolled up like an armadillo with a cooler jammed in my back. But hey, now I know I can make myself the size of a backpack if need be.

Needless to say, none of us slept all that much. But we got to Texas the next day, got to our hotel and crashed. Once we were all rested, my family and I hung out with my dad's family for a few days. They're nice, it was kind of fun. Well, it

was fun for a little while anyway.

The Houston Zoo has a light show during the winter, so we decided to go a few days before Christmas.

Big. Mistake.

My grandparents led us around the zoo cutting in lines and stopping for bathroom breaks literally every 10 minutes. After one of those breaks my grandfather told the grandkids that he lost his virginity in the bathroom.

Dude, gross.

But whatever, we only had two more days left there and I was sure that Christmas would at least be a little fun. Surprise: I was wrong.

Grandfather had told us the night before that he had stuff to cook Christmas dinner with. Well, I don't know if he forgot or if he's a compulsive liar, but come Christmas, there was no food in their house. After lots of sighs and glares all around, we decided to go to Luby's Cafeteria. Sounds legit.

The food wasn't all that bad. The bad part was the small lump that formed on my head after my 18-year-old cousin threw a rock at it while we were waiting for our food. Because in Hick Town USA, that's funny.

The day after Christmas we blew out of Texas real fast. I don't think I've ever felt more relief than when I saw the Michigan welcome sign on the highway.

So, that was Christmas 2015 folks. If anything, it's a great story to tell. And since I'm a writer, I'm always down for a good story.

TOP-5 QUOTES MOST COMMONLY UTTERED BY OU STUDENTS IN 2015

1. "Why do MY tuition dollars pay for the university to have a clocktower?"
2. *drives past completely empty, recently constructed parking structure* "There's not enough parking spots, parking at Oakland sucks!"
3. "Wow, I'm getting a really nice calf workout from all these hills."
4. "What's a COO?"
5. "How do you pronounce 'Au Bon Pain'?"

2016 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

THE ALFRED G. AND MATILDA R. WILSON AWARDS recognize one female senior student and one male senior student who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

THE HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/dean_awards or in 144 Oakland Center. The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 15, 2016.

For questions, contact:

Dean of Students Office | 144 Oakland Center | (248) 370-3352



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TOP 10 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

- 1. MEET DRAKE.** Hoping that that hotline will bling and we hang out back to back.
- 2. COMBAT MY CAFFEINE ADDICTION.** I don't need coffee, I'm fine. Seriously, I'm fine.
- 3. STOP SWIPING RIGHT BASED ON ZODIAC SIGNS.** That is all.
- 4. FULLY EMBRACE MY INNER BELIEBER.** You don't like Justin, what do you mean?
- 5. SCORE ADELE TICKETS.** Who doesn't want those primo nose bleed \$800 tickets to see Adele at the Palace this summer?
- 6. BUY FRANK OCEAN'S NEW ALBUM.** Oh, wait.
- 7. WATCH MORE OAKLAND MEN'S BASKETBALL.** See the Golden Grizzlies bring it at the Horizon League Tournament.
- 8. VISIT KRESGE LIBRARY.** Going to the library at least once before finals week couldn't hurt, right?
- 9. EAT MORE GREEN THINGS.** Such as kale and green Sour Patch kids.
- 10. LEARN HOW TO HIT THE QUAN.** And also how to pronounce quinoa (keen-wuah).

– Compiled by Scott Davis and Rachel Williams,
Managing Editor and Campus Editor

YAKS of the WEEK

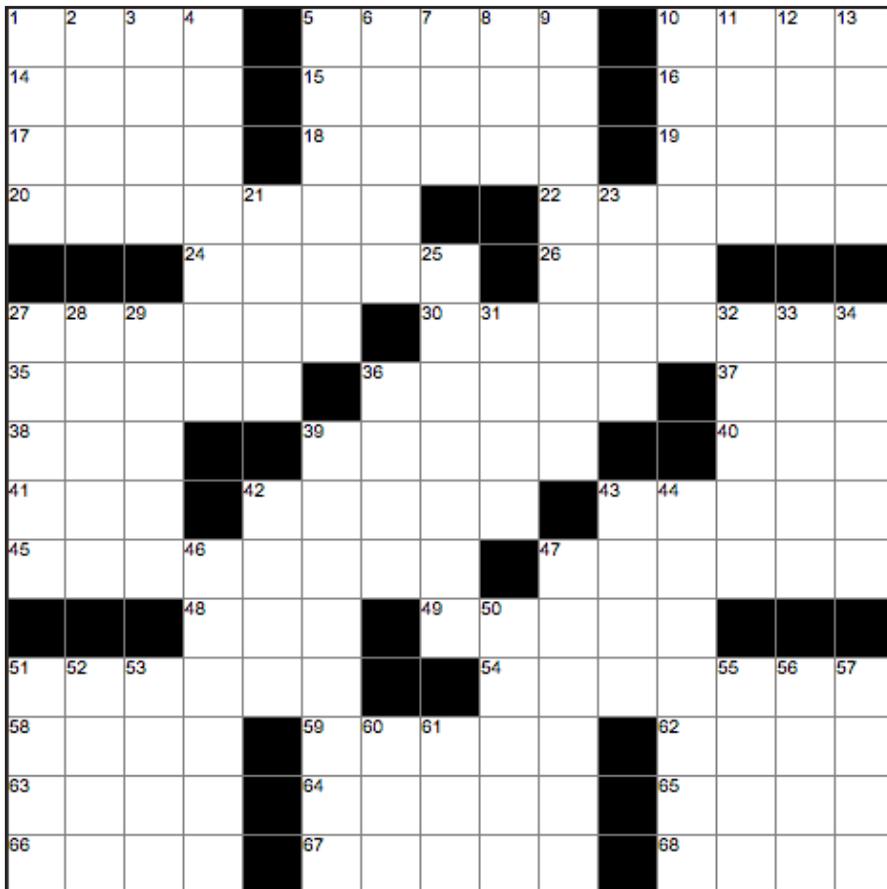
Yik Yak:
The voice
of the
people



1. "An iPhone charger should be called apple juice."
2. "Don't be offended if someone doesn't answer your text. Their phone is either 'on silent' or 'right in front of their lying face.'"
3. "Kinda want to tell my puppy I love him, but... We haven't been together very long, I don't want to come off as clingy."
4. "I have a more emotional connection to R2D2 than any other character in Star Wars."
5. "Shout out to my friends for not inviting me to their New Year's plans."
6. "A highway in France has been closed off after 20 tons of mayo spilled and caught on fire. This, combined with a dash of coriander and two cups of flour, is a literal recipe for disaster."
7. "New year, who dis?"
8. "Taylor Swift and Nicki Manaj discuss the media 'pitting women against each other' the only way they know how: pitting themselves against each other."
9. "I'm so mad. I ordered a pizza last year and it still hasn't arrived."
10. "I'm the nerd who has already checked moodle and I don't care."

– Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,
Staff Reporter

Puzzles



Across

- 1: Confront
- 5: Title holder?
- 10: Take nothing in
- 14: Entrecht or jeté
- 15: Mexican cuisine
- 16: Dubai VIP
- 17: Geological time periods
- 18: About
- 19: Extinct flightless bird
- 20: Permit
- 22: Obsessed
- 24: Vegges out
- 26: Van Gogh's love offering
- 27: Where to get coiffures
- 30: Fertilizer components
- 36: Districts
- 37: Food scrap
- 38: Crew implement
- 39: Maidenhair and water clover, e.g.
- 40: Deep distress
- 41: Ending of many WWW addresses
- 42: Wets thoroughly
- 43: Black-and-white zoo attraction
- 45: Feature of some doors
- 47: Answered with cheek

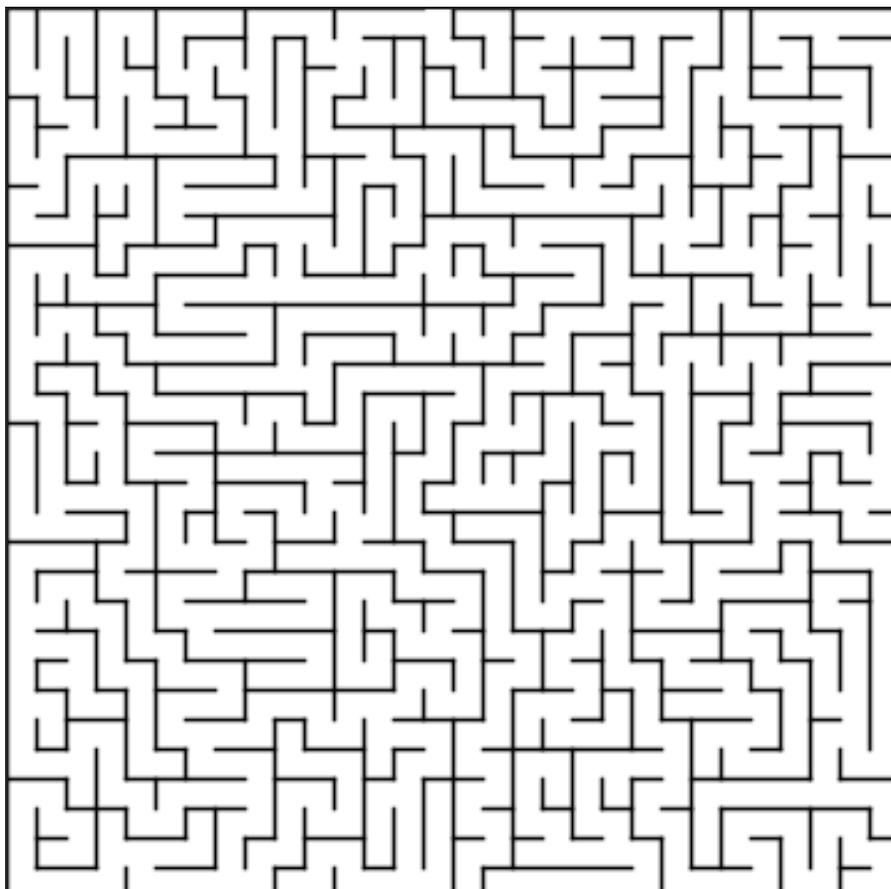
48: Nonsense

- 49: Yards of grass
- 51: More risqué
- 54: Fine fabric
- 58: Feels poorly
- 59: Itching (to)
- 62: Common tater
- 63: Footnote word
- 64: 9-Down output
- 65: Keep an eye on
- 66: Morning moistures
- 67: Comes down hard
- 68: Rock gently

Down

- 1: Head for the hills
- 2: Many millennia
- 3: Underworld lingo
- 4: Greek vowel
- 5: Blocks
- 6: Committee
- 7: 'PUSH FOR ___'
- 8: Dauphin's denial
- 9: Art connoisseurs (var.)
- 10: Felt hat
- 11: All over the place
- 12: Fries, often
- 13: Trampled (on)
- 21: Use a grasping device at the barbecue

- 23: Galley propellers
- 25: Do some shoal-searching
- 27: Bend a bit
- 28: Clued in
- 29: Uppercase
- 31: Roadside stops
- 32: Whistle stops
- 33: Destroy by degrees
- 34: Lieu
- 36: Enthusiasm
- 39: Ottoman, e.g.
- 42: Loafer, for instance
- 43: Puff like a pooped pup
- 44: Hockey stats
- 46: Light benders
- 47: Bee complexes
- 50: Crosswise to the keel
- 51: Midnight trip to the fridge
- 52: Subordinate staffer
- 53: Ball of yarn
- 55: Do a spit take
- 56: Sandwich fish
- 57: Small whirlpool
- 60: Had a bite
- 61: 'Golly!'



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8	5			7				
	3		9	4		8		
		8				7		3
7	4		8		9		1	6
3		9				2		
		3		1	8		7	
				2			4	9
	7		4			3		

Poor defensive efforts result in first league loss for Oakland



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Nick Daniels squares up to the basket in the men's basketball game against Youngstown State on Jan. 4. Daniels had a career-high 21 points and sunk six three-pointers in the 100-98 loss.

Scott Davis
Managing Editor

The Golden Grizzlies lost their first Horizon League game of the season on a last second tip-in, falling to the Youngstown State Penguins 100-98 Monday night at the O'rena.

Playing their third game in six nights, the Golden Grizzlies seemed to come out a little sluggish and gave Youngstown State a lot of open looks, especially from three, where the Penguins shot 50 percent for the night.

Kay Felder led the way for Oakland in scoring with 23 points, continuing his streak of scoring 20 points or more in every game this season. He also tied his career-high with 14 assists. The Golden Grizzlies featured a balanced scoring attack as five players scored double figures, including a career-high 21 from

Nick Daniels. Jalen Hayes recorded his sixth double-double of the season with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

Head coach Greg Kampe told reporters after the game that the offense was not the issue, but the defense and effort was disheartening.

"You are supposed to win when you score 98 points at home, it was all about our defense," Kampe said. "Every team has games like this, but great teams find ways to win and we found a way to lose."

The game came down to the wire as both teams traded leads late in the second half, but it was tied at 98 in the final seconds. Youngstown State missed a layup, but tipped the ball back in with one second remaining.

The referees discussed the call for several minutes, as it was unclear if they got the shot off in time or if there was of-

fensive goaltending, but they gave the Penguins the basket and Oakland could not get a shot off before the buzzer.

It was a tough loss for a team that has big aspirations in the Horizon League, especially with the preseason favorite Valparaiso heading into town Friday night.

Felder told reporters afterwards that the game was not an example of looking forward to Friday, but simply not being ready to play on this specific night.

"Definitely a wake up call, we are going to have to get ready for the next one. We can't do the same things tonight on Friday," Felder said.

Oakland hosts Valparaiso at 7 p.m. on Friday at the O'rena.

It will be a white out game and the first 200 fans get an Oakland University rally towel. The game will also be televised on ESPN 2.

Felder feels 'no pressure' after non-conference season draws nationwide attention

Kristen Davis
Editor-in-Chief

If you've followed Oakland University men's basketball at all the last three years, you already know who Kay Felder is.

His freshman year, you watched him become the first player in program history to record a triple-double, tab seven or more assists in 16 games, make the Horizon League first team and earn the title of freshman of the year.

His sophomore year, you followed him as he repeated as a first team selection, became a mid-major All-American and a finalist for the Lou Henson award, which is given to the best mid-major player in the nation.

That same season, he was the only player in the country to average at least 17 points and seven assists a game, while finishing second in the nation with 7.6 assists per game and scoring over 20 points in 14 games.

So this year, it was no surprise to you when he was named preseason player of the year. That's because you've been witnessing the greatness exhibited on the court by the man who wears No. 20 for two and a half years already.

But the rest of the nation has just recently started to tune in. After his triumphant efforts in the nonconference portion of this season, Felder's name has made its way to household status across the country.

Against all 13 Division I teams Oakland faced, Felder scored over 20 points each match up, which included four 30-point games. His 26.8 points and 8.8 assists per game rank third and first in the NCAA, respectively, as of Jan. 5.

In addition to this, Felder held his own against the four Power Five teams Oakland faced, dropping 23 points on Georgia (SEC), 38 points on Washington (Pac-12), 37 on then-No. 1 Michigan State (Big 10) and 30 on No. 5 Virginia (ACC).

His performances on the hardwood since November have drawn attention from current NBA stars Draymond Green and Isaiah Thomas, and even retired NBA guard Allen Iverson.

Analysts Steven A. Smith and Dick Vitale joined the conversation about the point guard on social media after Felder led Oakland to a near upset of the No. 1 Michigan State Spartans on Dec. 22. His name was trending on Twitter during that game too, and Vitale later went on to name Felder player of the week in his weekly awards on Dec. 27.

The media attention hasn't stopped there. According to Scott MacDonald, assistant AD for public relations for the Golden Grizzlies, several media requests were made after Felder's performance at the Palace — a performance which MSU head coach Tom Izzo said was the best he'd seen, professional or collegiate, at the venue. Felder's stat line that night also included three rebounds, nine assists, two steals and just two turnovers.

The game was the second highlight on the midnight episode of SportsCenter that night. On 97.1 The Ticket, Terry Foster and Jamie Samuelsen held a discussion about Felder.

In an article written by Matt Norlander of CBS Sports on Dec. 24, Felder made the list of top-11 candidates for player of the year. Stories and profiles centered on the Detroit native have been featured in newspapers and news broadcasts across southeast Michigan, ESPN, USA Today, the Washington Post and several others.

It's obvious Felder has caught the attention of basketball experts and fans across the country. But for the avid Oakland basketball fans and Horizon League followers, we aren't surprised.

We knew what he was capable of since we first saw him play for the Black and Gold.

The nation just hadn't been watching.

And for Felder, the extra attention on himself and the team hasn't caused him to feel any extra pressure.

"It's the game of basketball and just what comes with it. I've been talking to my coaches and family about it and they say just take it, keep being humble and pray about it and everything will take care of itself," he said before the game against Virginia.

"I just play my game, play Oakland basketball."

Before this season started, head coach Greg Kampe said one of his goals was to post a winning nonconference record. Now that that's been accomplished — Oakland finished 8-5 — winning the league and tournament is next on the list.

League play began on Jan. 2 when Oakland defeated Cleveland State behind Felder's 20 points and 10 assists. The team lost its second league game of the year on Jan. 4 to Youngstown State behind Felder's 23 points and 14 assists.

With how much attention Felder has attracted, lots of eyes will be on Oakland as it continues its efforts to claim what is anticipated to be a rather competitive Horizon League.

Members of club football team stay 'Levi Strong'

Teammate's resilience despite medical battles provide hope, strength

Anthony Best
Contributor

A young Clarkston man helped bring purpose to an otherwise hopeless season for the football club at Oakland University.

The Golden Grizzlies, coming off an undefeated championship season in 2014, lost all hopes of a repeat in just their third game of the regular season.

In week two, Oakland suffered a loss to divisional opponent Michigan State. Despite 2015 being MSU's first year in the National Club Football Association, there was a rivalry brewing between these teams before the season had even began.

Michigan State handed Oakland its first loss in over a year, with a coaching staff comprised of two former head coaches and three former assistants of the Grizzlies' football club.

"I've been on the losing end of a lot of football games, but that had to have been the most difficult one of my career," Brian Khashola, senior linebacker for Oakland, said.

"A loss hurts no matter what and failing to meet the bar we set last year already made it harder, but seeing your former coaches move on and hand you that loss? It was like seeing your ex with someone better, and throwing it in your face."

Deflated, the team went into the next week's game with an ultimatum: lose the game and the season is done.

Oakland's hangover weighed them down as they suffered another divisional loss, this time to Miami of Ohio. That Miami team, ranked No. 1 in the NCAA, went on to compete against Middle Georgia State for the national title.

With most players on the team never having suffered a loss at Oakland, let alone two in a row, the players desperately needed a spark to push through their last three games.

Enter Levi Shipley

At 18 years old, Levi Shipley

has always had a passion for football. He is also living with autism and cerebral palsy. Unfortunately, the latter has kept him from playing the game he loves.

Rather than giving up on football, Shipley channeled his passion into support for his best friend.

"I met Levi in middle school. He was a bit younger than me, but he loved being around football and it didn't take long to see that he was an amazing person, so we developed a good friendship," Brenden Newvine, a standout offensive player for Oakland, said.

Despite transferring from Clarkston during high school, Newvine maintained his friendship with Shipley, a bond that is still strong today.

"I've played at two high schools and two colleges now, but Levi has supported me the whole way. Now that I'm playing near home again, he's come to every game and supported this team like it was his own," Newvine said.

While his support never wavered, Levi was managing another medical condition — cancer.

Levi Strong

The team adopted a new motto, "Levi Strong," to represent the courage and passion they needed to play with, while remembering that each moment they stand on the field is a gift not to be taken for granted.

Feeling that he and his teammates had lost sight of how lucky they were to play the game they loved, Newvine decided to share Shipley's story with the team.

"That was an eye-opener for us," Jim Bartsch, Oakland linebacker, said.

"We've had guys play with broken bones, torn muscles and we thought that was tough. To hear about everything he was dealing with and knowing that he was still out there supporting us, wishing he could be out there with us, that put things into perspective for us."



Photo courtesy of Mark Eaglen

Levi Shipley runs the ball in for a touchdown during the club football team's game against Ohio State. Despite battling autism, cerebral palsy and cancer, Shipley maintained a positive attitude that inspired the team this season.

After hearing about Shipley, the team unanimously decided that he needed to be a part of their brotherhood.

Shipley had begun attending practices when able, often leading the team break when a session would end. It didn't take long before team had adopted his strength.

With Shipley on the sidelines, Oakland managed a decisive victory over the Kodiaks from the University of Michigan-Flint, before embarking on a two-week road trip to end the season.

Trick-or-treat

On Oct. 31, the team traveled to Columbus, Ohio to take Great Lakes Conference rival, Ohio State.

Despite possessing the ball for most of the first half, untimely turnovers kept the Golden Grizzlies tied with OSU at the half.

"Ohio State had a good team, but I think our guys were playing well-beneath their abilities. It was a problem we experienced at times during the season," Jeff Allor, first year head coach of the football club, said.

A surprising half-time proposal proved to be the spark that the team had needed.

Making an unexpected arrival at the game earlier, Shipley had been given gear by the team so that he could get a more realistic game-like experience. While he

was away, the coaches had informed the players of an opportunity to make that experience even better.

Having come to an agreement with the officials and the opposing coaches, Shipley was going to be allowed to take the field on the last play of the game, if one team had a commanding lead and there was no chance for the other to win with that play.

The Golden Grizzlies responded with 21 unanswered points in the second half, taking a 28-7 lead and all but securing the victory.

Having done what was needed, the players and coaches informed Shipley that he was going in at running back as the offense got to the ball for one last play.

"I was crying. I didn't realize what was happening at first, but then I saw them put the ball in his hands," Kelly Egan, who had traveled from Warren, Mich. to watch her boyfriend play, said.

"You see things like this on TV and it touches your heart, but to be there and experience a moment like that with people you know and love, it was just amazing."

Lined up in the backfield, Shipley received the handoff from his best friend and never looked back.

"What Shipley did for this team, we could never repay him for, but it felt amazing to be able

to give him this experience. It's something we'll all cherish forever," Newvine said.

The moment he crossed the goal line, Oakland's sideline neglected the rules and rushed the field to celebrate with their newest teammate.

The 2015 season did not yield the kind of on-field success that the club had become accustomed to. Offensively, they struggled to hit their stride, while the defense ended the year with only eleven players healthy enough to take the field. But, in that moment, those struggles had vanished. As Shipley sat atop the shoulders of a mob of his teammates, life and the game of football were put into perspective while wins and losses became distant memories.

The greatest gift of all

At the season's end, there were no championship rings. No new trophy to display.

Instead of some hardware to look at occasionally, each player, coach and member had gained a life-long friend, while Shipley can proudly call them his teammates.

Season's end didn't mean the end for Shipley and the Golden Grizzlies. On a Thursday evening in November, the team gathered for a special celebration.

After aggressive treatment, doctors had informed Levi that he was cancer-free.