

STANDING UP SPEAKING OUT

MILLIONS COME TOGETHER TO MARCH
FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS WORLDWIDE
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Kresge Library unveils Michigan's
first MindKare Kiosk
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Donald Trump sworn in as 45th
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CELEBRATION.
Football Club hosts banquet
following successful season
PAGE 20



Photo by Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post



ontheweb

Ohayocon 2017, an anime convention held in Columbus, had some major kinks in it this year. Check out our web editor's firsthand account online. PHOTO / Cheyanne Kramer
www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

'SUITED' UP // The Oakland University Women and Gender Studies Program showed the HBO documentary "Suited" at its 33rd annual film festival on Saturday, Jan. 21. A panel discussion including professors and students was held following the screening. TAYLOR STINSON // *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's your favorite alternative fact?

- A** The Earth is flat
- B** OU is affordable
- C** Climate change is a myth
- D** We need guns to fight the grizzly bears on campus

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

How will you be spending Inauguration Day?

- A) Drunk and despairing**
30 votes | 25%
- B) Ushering in a new era!**
27 votes | 22%
- C) Protesting in the streets**
13 votes | 11%
- D) Binge watching Netflix, as usual**
51 votes | 42%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

JANUARY 16, 1970

As a protest against the proposal of Don O'Dowd becoming chancellor of OU, 42 students left their elected and appointed posts. Chancellor Woody Varner had resigned days after the decision to make OU an independent university.

JANUARY 30, 1989

Student congress unanimously voted to keep the lake named "Beer Lake," saying students always called it by that name, anyway. Critics said the name "Beer Lake" was harmful to OU's reputation.

JANUARY 28, 1998

The design plans for the basement of the Oakland Center were revealed. They included a game room (now The Bear Cave), an enclosed study area, and entrances and bathrooms that complied with the American Disabilities Act. After-hours access for student congress, WXOU, and other downstairs student organizations were also included in this original plan.



7

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

New hangout off I-75 offers beer, bombowling and Michigan's largest TV. Check out the HUB Stadium for pizza, burgers and a fun night out. PHOTO / Ian Levinson



9

BABY BUMPS

Without a university-wide maternity leave policy, pregnant professors must turn to their department heads for direction. PHOTO / Taylor Stinson



17

BOUNCING AROUND

Senior volleyball player Jessica Dood just returned from Europe, where an agency led to her professional volleyball exposure. PHOTO / Ian Levinson

BY THE NUMBERS

INAUGURATION DAY

31 million

watched Trump's inauguration on TV (compared to 37.8 million who watched Obama's in 2009)

570,557

recorded trips on D.C.'s metro on Trump's Inauguration Day

1.1 million

recorded trips on D.C.'s metro on Obama's Inauguration Day in 2009

1 million+

protested in Women's Marches around the world on Jan. 21

www.washingtonpost.com/
www.snopes.com/trump-inauguration-viewership/

Looking Back



The Oakland Post Archives

Oakland University student Roosevelt Dawson sought the assistance of Jack Kevorkian at the age of 21.

Roosevelt Dawson and Dr. Death

Cheyenne Kramer
Web Editor

Roosevelt Dawson was a 20-year-old biology student at Oakland University. On Jan. 18, 1997, he began experiencing sharp pains. Then, he began to notice movement in his arms was slowing down and called an ambulance. He was picked up from his room in Van Wagoner Hall and transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.

He walked into the emergency room, but collapsed before reaching the door. He then lost use of his legs. Days later, he was diagnosed with a curable blood disorder, but this diagnosis was reversed after his first treatment.

Three months after his admittance to the hospital, he was left undiagnosed and paralyzed.

Doctors knew from tests that it wasn't spinal meningitis, a stroke, a heart attack or cancer. The cause was determined to be inflamed tissue in his upper neck, which also left him unable to breathe on his own.

His mother, Brenda Neal Dawson, said her son watched TV and listened to music to pass the time. The family passed blue bows out around campus as a way to raise money to keep the TV at the hospital on for her Dawson. In addition, the bows served as a symbol for the campus community to support a fellow student.

Over a year after he was first admitted to the hospital, Dawson decided to take his own life with the aid of Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

At that time, Dawson was 21 and was the youngest person to seek assisted suicide from the infamous "Dr. Death."

Lawyer Geoffrey Feiger represented both Kevorkian and Dawson, and said that the pair had spoken over the phone numerous times before Dawson's death.

Dawson died with his mother by his side, according to a CBS article. His last words were "I love you" to his mother, repeated three times.

He was being treated in a Grand Rapids hospital before he left to end his own life. A

psychiatrist tried to have him held in the hospital involuntarily, but that request was denied.

According to an article written by the National Right to Life, police came to Dawson's home prior to his death to try and prevent his assisted suicide. The report said family would not allow police in until Kevorkian's lawyers arrived on the scene. By then, Dawson was dead.

"There's a slight solace in that he got to come home, got to be with his mother and got to die in peace," Feiger said in an interview with the Associated Press.

"He should be remembered after the day of the service, not just today," said Kevorkian, who attended the memorial service.

In addition to the memorial service held by the family, OU's Association of Black Students held a candlelight vigil in his honor, where over 70 people came to show support.

Kevorkian himself passed away in 2011 after being admitted to Beaumont Hospital for kidney and respiratory problems.



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If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center, 312 Meadow Brook Road, Rochester, MI 48309.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Lakhana Peou, director of Programs for Screening for Mental Health, displays the functions of the new MindKare kiosk.

Kresge unveils MindKare Kiosk

Michigan's first online mental health screening platform debuts at library

Gina Navaroli
Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, Oakland University's Kresge Library unveiled Michigan's first MindKare Kiosk program. A \$27,000 grant from the Flinn Foundation provides an interactive screen test in order to help with mental health.

The program gives students an anonymous opportunity to seek information regarding six mental health issues, including depression and anxiety. It also screens for other disorders, including bipolar disorder, eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse.

Taylor McKune, president of Active Minds at OU and senior health science major, explained the kiosk.

"It serves as a simple way for students to confidently check in on their mental health," McKune said. "Just as we monitor our physical health through doctors' visits, blood work and vital signs, it is equally important to assess and understand our mental health. The kiosk normalizes that experience for students in a quick and user-friendly way."

McKune said the kiosk runs a two-minute questionnaire. The test ends with results and recommendations for mental health resources appropriate for the user. As for its accuracy, McKune explained that

the intention of the program is to be more educational than diagnostic.

"The kiosk adapts the Screening for Mental Health's online screening platform," she said.

"While a complete clinical evaluation is recommended as a follow-up, the screening is an accurate tool in identifying potential mental health risks."

McKune said she believes the installation will impact students' knowledge about mental health.

"Many students recognize that they are feeling or behaving differently, but may not always translate those symptoms to mental illness," she said. "Taking that screening is the first step in identifying mental health risks and getting connected with the appropriate community resources."

The kiosk is an effective way to fight the stigma against mental health disorders.

"This kiosk normalizes the experience of a mental health checkup and emphasizes the importance of understanding your mental health status," McKune said.

Abbie Haelewyn, a senior-year master's program student in the Department of Counseling, agreed that the kiosk is a useful tool for her peers, as students have high stress and are therefore more at risk.

"The location is key," Haelewyn said. "It is in the library, where it is

quiet, [and] it has a privacy screen. It is definitely going to [collect] a lot of data, too. When we [the counseling department] run the data, we can target a specific area where needs are most. We get research done so much quicker, because it is technology."

McKune said the screening data is anonymous and confidential.

Neelam Mehta, a senior-year master's student and clinical mental health major, appreciates the accessibility of the kiosk.

"There [are] wonderful referrals for community resources if you are not necessarily interested in getting help on campus," Mehta said. "I think it is helping to reduce the stigma of mental health by being so open and accessible, and it is a wonderful addition to the campus."

Mehta believes mental health is an important topic on college campuses.

"I think mental well-being should be as important as physical well-being," Mehta said. "It should increase [students' knowledge about mental health] quite a bit, especially for people that have gone through traumatic experiences or just regular stresses of being a student. Being a student, there are lots of commitments [and] balances with work life, home life, school life."

The MindKare Kiosk is available 24/7 on Kresge Library's ground floor, near the circulation desk.

Career Fair set to be biggest one yet

Laurel Kraus
Staff Reporter

The 2017 Winter Career Fair will take place in the Oakland University Recreation and Well-Being Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 25.

There will be 125 companies in attendance that are looking for both interns and employees, with another 20 on a waiting list.

"This year's Winter Career Fair is the biggest career fair that we've had to date," said Kaitlyn Barbas, marketing and event coordinator for Career Services. "It's really exciting to know that this many companies are excited about recruiting OU students and alumni."

Opportunities are going to be available for most majors, with fewer opportunities for students in health sciences, nursing and elementary education, due to the fact that these programs often have rotational programs within their schools.

"It [the career fair] really gives students the opportunity to kind of see what they want to get into in terms of specifics," said Julian Enghausser, OU freshman and journalism major.

Students are expected to wear professional clothing and bring résumés, as well as their Oakland IDs.

Upon arrival, attendees will receive a handout which will consist of a list of the employers, their booth numbers, the majors they're looking for and their job opportunities.

According to Barbas, automotive companies such as General Motors and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles are often some of the largest draws.

"We have a lot of bigger companies looking for engineering specifically, so American Axle Manufacturing hires a ton of our students," Barbas said. "On the liberal arts, business side, United Shore hires tons of our students every year."

OU will be providing a LinkedIn photo booth at the event in order to take headshots of any interested students, free of charge, for LinkedIn and Handshake profiles.

"Employers are really perusing through Handshake recently, looking for students who have completed profiles and students who have uploaded résumés," Barbas said.

There will also be a Handshake station run by Career Services staff, giving students the opportunity to work on résumés, profiles and discuss employers.

Students who participate in this station will be eligible to receive a free T-shirt or pen.

Past career fairs have reached around 600 student attendees, but Career Services' goal for Wednesday is 700.

Other upcoming Career Services events include an Internship Mixer from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on February 14, and a Government and Non-profit Mixer from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 8. Both are in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

Registration is not required for the 2017 Winter Career Fair or the Mixers.

For more information on this or other Career Services events, email careers@oakland.edu or call (248) 370-3250.

Poetry contest to combine visual, literary arts

Robert Ogg
Staff Reporter

Reading poetry — whether a Civil War poem by Walt Whitman, a romantic couplet or a foreboding piece by Edgar Allan Poe — can evoke a powerful emotional response.

Writing poetry can also be a therapeutic experience that allows the writer to present a feeling or memory to others through the power of words.

Those who enjoy writing poetry can participate in the Oakland University Department of English Ekphrasis Poetry Contest.

“Ekphrasis is a mode of writing — which appears across all genres of writing, from poetry to fiction to literary nonfiction — which, simply, describes in words a visual work of art,” said Katie Hartsock, an English professor at OU. “This can be a painting or a sculpture or a photograph, religious icons or temple walls, even sophisti-

cated housewares or weaponry, or anything we might call an ‘art object.’”

In other words, ekphrasis poetry is written in response to art.

Hartsock cited numerous examples of ekphrasis poetry, including W. H. Auden’s “Musee des Beaux Arts,” Michael Dumais’ “Joseph Cornell, with Box,” John Keats’ “Ode on a Grecian Urn,” and Marianne Boruch’s “Little Wife.”

Hartsock said ekphrasis poetry has been around for centuries.

“In Homer’s ‘Iliad,’ the poet describes the shield of Achilles,” Hartsock said. “Most often poets imply how they interpret a work of art, or what it means to them personally, thus revealing a meaning they see already operating within the piece, or giving it a meaning it might not previously have had.”

The first-place winner of the Department of English’s contest will receive \$200, while second and third place will receive \$100

and \$50, respectively.

The contest is available to students and alumni of all majors, as well as staff and faculty.

Contestants may submit up to three entries. The only requirements are that the total length of all three entries must be under 100 lines, the poems must be typed, and authors must include an image or other method of identifying what the poem is written in response to.

Also, a separate page including the author’s name, email, phone number and the title of the poem must be included with the submission.

“My advice to readers wanting to enter the contest is to pick a work of art with which you have a meaningful relationship, and let the unique meaning of that relationship come through in the poem, whether it’s interpretation, or revealing how the artwork has meant something important to you,” Hartsock said.

Natalie Cole, another English

EKPHRASIS POETRY CONTEST
Describing a Work of Art Through Writing

The Ekphrasis Contest challenges writers to create an evocative poetic description of an art object, original or reproduction, including but not limited to painting, sculpture, photography, and folk art.

- Contest is open to all OU students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Submit up to 3 poems, typed. Total length of all poems should not exceed 100 lines. Include an image of the artwork you are responding to or identify the piece that is the basis for each poem.
- Author's name MUST NOT appear on the poems. Include with entry a page with writer's name, email, and phone number, plus poem title(s). You MUST identify yourself as a student, grad student, faculty, staff, or alum.
- Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Wednesday, March 15, 2017.
 - Place entry in Prof. Katie Hartsock's box in the English mail room (O'Dowd)
 - Mail to: Ekphrasis Contest, c/o Katie Hartsock, English, 544 O'Dowd, Oakland Univ., Rochester, MI 48309
 - Email entry to OUEkphrasis@gmail.com
- Winning entries/winners announced on web & Facebook. Poets invited to read at the English Dept.'s annual Poetry Bash on Friday, April 14, 2017, 5-7 pm, in the OC's Oakland Room.

DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2017
1st PLACE: \$200
2nd PLACE: \$100
3rd PLACE: \$50

Three additional prizes of \$50 each will be awarded to faculty, staff, grad students, or alumni. Questions? Contact Katie Hartsock at hartsock@oakland.edu

professor at OU, echoed Hartsock’s advice.

“My advice to students entering the ekphrasis contest is to choose to write about a work of art that you keep coming back to, and one that makes you think, that puzzles you or makes you wonder,” Cole said.

The deadline to enter the Ekphrasis Poetry Contest is March 15, 2017.

Entries may be emailed to OUEkphrasis@gmail.com or placed directly in Katie Hartsock’s mailbox in the English department’s mailroom on the fifth floor of O’Dowd Hall.

2017 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Now accepting nominations.

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 2017 or have graduated in summer or fall 2016
- 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 2017 or have graduated in summer or fall 2016
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/deanofstudents/dean_awards. The deadline for all application materials is Monday, February 13, 2017.

For questions, contact:

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

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MLK Day of Service brings together OU community

Amy Swanson
Staff Reporter

Honor the work of Martin Luther King Jr. by uniting with other volunteers at Oakland University's MLK Day of Service.

Many diverse nonprofits are taking part in the event, which takes place on Jan. 28. These include Green Living Science, ReStore Farmington, the Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County, the Dream Center of Pontiac, St. Christine's Food Pantry and HarborChase of Auburn Hills.

The day begins with registration from 9-9:30 a.m. in South Foundation Hall's Fishbowl Lounge.

After arriving at the designated site locations, the service projects will commence, wrapping up around 1 p.m.

Volunteers are responsible for transportation to their sites and back home, with carpooling recommended.

Lunch will be provided.

People will be allowed to register on the GrizzOrgs website up until the day of the event, but the sooner the better. Once they are signed up, volunteers will be emailed their site location within the next day. Those already registered will get priority when it comes to their site preferences.

All are welcome to participate, as organizers appreciate anyone's help and support.

MLK Day of Service is an annual event that has been going on for a little over 10 years.

Hannah Clark, graduate assistant of Leadership and Service Learning at the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, planned this particular day from beginning to end.

"It's a great way to see different nonprofits in our area," Clark said. "You can better yourself by serving others,

finding a new hobby or what you're passionate about."

Amy Joa, retention coordinator for the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, feels similarly, as people may learn about how they want to spend their free time in the future.

"In addition to gaining all the usual benefits of volunteering, students who participate with MLK Day of Service will get a chance to get to know/meet other folks on campus who also want to make a positive impact and difference in the lives of others," she said.

The experience will also strengthen one's résumé, and the CSA can be used as a reference. Volunteers will even score a free T-shirt.

It is one of many events held during OU's African American Celebration Month. Stretching from Jan. 16 to Feb. 15, this month celebrates the various historical and cultural contributions

that African Americans have made in the past, present and future, according to the celebration month's webpage.

As a member of the African American Celebration Month Committee, Joa said this event captures one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s goals.

"MLK Day of Service reflects Dr. King's missions because bringing people together to serve their community is the essence of everything he stood for," she said.

Clark said the celebration month's committee has played a major role in the Day of Service and is glad to be in collaboration with the event.

Joa summarized the value of this opportunity:

"Events like MLK Day of Service are so important because it reminds our campus community — faculty, staff, students — that we're a part of an even bigger off-campus community."

OUCARES hosts workshop for people with autism

Gina Navaroli
Staff Reporter

In the grand scheme of everyday life, it can be difficult to find time for relaxation and self-care. For individuals affected by autism spectrum disorder, relaxation can seem even further out of reach.

On Jan. 19, the Oakland University Center for Autism (OUCARES) welcomed individuals with autism, parents, caregivers, educators, therapists and social workers to discuss the health benefits of meditation specifically designed for those with autism.

The event, called "Help Yourself and Meditate," featured guest speaker Jennifer Giordano, a doctor of osteopathic medicine and psychiatrist.

"[This event is] improving quality of life of individuals with autism, their families and [the] larger community," said Kristen Rohrbeck, director of OUCARES.

Rohrbeck said Giordano works with individuals with special needs to develop self-regulation techniques through meditation. These techniques are especially beneficial for

autistic individuals, who may struggle with emotional coping.

"A lot of times, people with autism have difficulties in coping with anxiety, and they do not know how to [deal] with negative emotions or stressful situations," Rohrbeck said. "Meditation could potentially be a great way for them to self-regulate and deal with those difficult emotions."

According to Rohrbeck, traditional treatment does not include meditation.

"Traditional medicine is often giving people a pill," Rohrbeck said. "This is just a different way of going about that. We are really trying to get that across through this event."

OUCARES strives to build autism awareness, increase inclusion opportunities and provide supportive programs for families and individuals affected by autism, according to its website.

Events like this help the organization meet these goals.

"The families oftentimes do not have coping strategies, either," Rohrbeck said. "This can be a great way for parents to de-stress, unwind, learn how to refocus their attention



Ian Levinson / The Oakland Post

On Jan. 19, OUCARES welcomed individuals with autism, parents, caregivers, educators, therapists and social workers to discuss the health benefits of meditation specifically designed for those with autism.

and energy [in order to] feel confident in caring for the loved one."

Rohrbeck began meditating within the last month and said she feels more focused and present in the moment.

"I have two little girls at home, and meditation helps clear your head and focus on yourself and understand that you are important," she said.

Giordano spoke about the history of mediation and common misconceptions that deter people from meditating. She also gave a 15-minute

session of Isha Kriya, which is a type of free, guided meditation.

"[Meditation] gives the opportunity to become more aware and to create some distance between oneself and one's thoughts and emotions," Giordano said. "Once a person is aware of their thought process and experiences some distance from it, naturally, suffering is relieved."

Giordano said people who meditate are seeking stress relief. Common health benefit pursuits include reduced blood pressure, pain relief, improved sleep, as

well as existential aspects.

"[Meditation] has put me deeply in touch with myself [and] the deepest part of me," Giordano said. "In that, has brought forth a joy and love for life that I did not know was possible. It has brought me back to life from being a stressed, worried and tense person to someone who feels passionate, vibrant, and free."

Overall, Giordano said meditation has helped her become "in touch with the amazing natural buoyant joy of simply being alive."



Ian Levinson / The Oakland Post

Featuring a menu of food made from scratch, the HUB hopes to surprise customers with affordable food.

Grizzlies go Hubbin'

Ethan Fogle
Intern Reporter

Passing by Interstate 75, one may have noticed that the huge beer bottle, a remnant of the long-gone Big Buck Brewery, is no more, along with big-buck signage.

In its place is a bold white sign with black trim that simply says "HUB."

The HUB Stadium (HUB stands for "House of Urban Bombowling") opened its doors earlier this month, introducing a pastime that hasn't left the city of Detroit.

Bombowling, beer and a from-scratch kitchen hope to lure in locals to the unique hybrid of entertainment and recreation.

Walking into the venue, the sound of bowling pins violently falling to the floor and top-40 music fill the space.

Walking down the venue's floor, the poured concrete further solidifies the industrial warehouse vibe associated with other local fowling lanes.

"Millennials are our target audience," said Brian Hussey, project manager.

On both sides, black netting protects customers from any incoming pins or footballs being tossed around in the fowling lanes.

Past the lanes, there are banquet rooms to the left and right, and a second fully stocked bar between them. Just above the bar is Michigan's largest TV, measuring an impressive 240 inches.

Bombowling

The HUB features 16 bombowling lanes. Bombowling, which is just another term for fowling, is best described as bowling with a football.

Popularized in tailgating, fowling involves throwing a football from a specified distance at 10 bowling pins arranged just like they are in a typical game of bowling.

Although the HUB's bombowling is in the early stages, "We eventually want to have round-robin-like leagues," Hussey said.

"We would love to have college students come in," he said. "It's a tailgating type of game and makes sense for Oakland students to be part of our atmosphere."

Entertainment

Besides the bombowling, The HUB also has live DJs Thursday through Saturday nights to keep the bombowling going well past midnight.

The giant TV also serves as a main source of entertainment during big games.

"All the speakers are dialed into the television, and the whole place fills with cheers and boos, depending on what team you root for," Hussey said.

Bar and menu

The word "stadium" in the name suggests stadium-quality food. That expectation could not be more wrong.

Featuring a menu full of food made from scratch daily, the HUB hopes to surprise customers with affordable food. A \$5 cheeseburger or an \$8 large pizza, anyone?

Another feature to look for in the future are the use of iPads.

"Still in beta trials, we are eventually going to have iPads at every table, and they will be your servers," Hussey said.

Things to know

The HUB Stadium is still trying a lot of things out, and their rates for bombowling change, but it is most affordable when done in groups.

For \$15 a person, there is unlimited bombowling on eight of the 16 lanes. These lanes are winner stays.

The other eight lanes can be reserved for private parties.

The HUB is located at 2550 Takata Drive in Auburn Hills. Hours are 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Sunday.

Native American musical duo set to perform at Varner

Laurel Kraus
Staff Reporter

Spirits Rising, a Native American musical duo, will perform at 8 p.m. on Jan. 28 in Varner Recital Hall, as part of Oakland University's Professional Artist Series.

Joe Reilly and Allison Radell will be showcasing original music, best described on their website as "incorporating elements of jazz, folk, blues, hip-hop, rock and traditional Native American music."

Their songs, such as "Idle No More" and "Sacred Fire," can be found for free at SpiritsRisingMusic.com.

"I think a huge vision for us as Spirits Rising is letting people know that Native culture and Native people [are] still living today, and it's evolving," said Radell, who is also assistant director of International Students and Scholars at OU. "We don't live in museums."

The pair will be joined on stage by Associate Professor of Music Mark Stone on percussion and his wife Lesley-Anne Stone on vocals. Gaye-lynn McKinney will also play drums, and Jacob Warren will play bass.

"It's [the event is] going to be a reflection of our music," Reilly said. "We're going to have some traditional Native American dancers with us, so they'll be dancing while we're performing. We'll have a full band with us and the dancers, so it's gonna be a pretty interactive and powerful performance."

Tickets are \$14 for general admission and \$8 for students, and can be found at StarTickets.com.

Reilly and Radell met while working at a youth program for American Indian Health and Family Services in Detroit and began writing music together as their relationship evolved.

"For me personally, I usually get inspired while I'm driving, and I'll hear something, and that's really where it starts," Radell said. "I always feel like when I'm writing, it's like a passing through me, so it's like coming from someplace else and coming through me in that sort of way."

Spirits Rising's first performance was at NativeFest in Mount Pleasant a few years ago, and the pair's hope for the future is simply to continue having the opportunity to perform.

"I hope we continue to grow, like have more opportunities to perform and share our music and our message, and that we grow together as a couple too," Reilly said. "We're engaged right now, so I'm hoping in a few years that we're married and still happy together and making music together."

"We stand with Standing Rock" T-shirts will be sold at the event for \$20, with proceeds benefiting the Michigan camp at Standing Rock.

There will also be a dance workshop at 1 p.m. the same day in 109 Varner Hall, consisting of participant-involved Native American dance.

"I think our campus community should realize that Native American music and dance is the original music of Michigan," Stone said. "I think it's really important, in addition to all the diverse things that we do, we have the opportunity to experience the oldest musical tradition, the oldest dance tradition of where we live."

For inquires on the event, contact Stone at stone@oakland.edu.



Photo courtesy of Spirits Rising

Spirits Rising, a dynamic musical duo, will be performing at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28, following a workshop on Native American music and dance.

Fire & Ice Festival celebrates 10th anniversary despite temps

Organizers find alternative activities to sledding, skiing

Faith Brody
Life Editor

Despite warmer-than-average temperatures and dense fog, people young and old flocked to downtown Rochester for the 10th annual Fire & Ice Festival.

The festival, which typically features cold-weather activities like skating, sledding and skiing, had to modify the activities due to the unseasonably warm weather experienced Jan. 20, 21 and 22.

"The festival committee is replacing some of its winter-driven events with a variety of outdoor family-friendly activities

from Oakland County Parks and Recreation," stated the Downtown Rochester website.

"I was pretty impressed with the way the organizers of Fire & Ice quickly found alternatives for activities that needed colder weather," said Melissa McDonald, an Oakland University senior and finance major. "It was not the best year, but it was still fun."

McDonald has gone to Fire & Ice for the past three years and always looks forward to the festival.

The trademark ice sculptures that lined Main Street, which thrived in previous colder festivals, partially melted due to the warmth. Some even completely slid off their tables and shattered.

"My favorite part was the ice carving competition, even though most of them started to melt," McDonald said. "Unfortunately,

when we went, most of the ice sculptures on Main Street were melting away."

Despite the weather, Kristi Trevarrow, the executive director of Rochester Downtown Development Authority, estimated that approximately 50,000 people attended the festival.

Besides ice sculptures and the Big, Bright Light Show (the lights decorating the buildings), the Fire & Ice Festival hosted zip lines, a 25-foot rock-climbing tower, a beer tent, food trucks, carriage rides, a pet adoption tent, fireworks Friday and Saturday night and a 5K on Sunday, according to the website.

According to McDonald, the thick fog that permeated the Rochester area throughout the weekend partially obstructed the view of the fireworks.

Trevarrow said the fog was "definitely a challenge."

But that didn't stop the



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Artists carved the event's traditional ice sculptures, but they did not last long.

crowds. Fire & Ice usually draws a large crowd throughout the weekend. According to Crain's Detroit Business, downtown businesses usually see a 25-to-30 percent jump in revenue during the festival weekend.

OU students and nearby residents could take a break from the dire parking situations they're accustomed to and take a shuttle bus from the Rochester Hills Buffalo Wild Wings straight

to downtown.

The Fire & Ice Festival has been a uniting event throughout the community for its 10 years.

"We hear so often that the festival is one of the favorite events of the year, with many special memories being made," Trevarrow said.

For other events coming up in the Rochester area, visit downtownrochester.com or oakgov.com.

JAN. 25 - JAN. 31

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>10 A.M. - 1 P.M. Winter Career Fair Recreation Center</p> <p>11 A.M. - 2 P.M. Free Speech at Oakland University Hosted by Young Americans for Liberty Oakland Center</p> <p>7:30 - 9:30 P.M. Small Halls Got Talent Van Wagoner House, Main Lounge</p> <p>7:30 - 9:30 P.M. OU Brass Band Concert Varner Recital Hall</p>	<p>9:30 - 10:30 P.M. Radiologic Technology Program Info Session 5015 Human Health Building</p> <p>6 - 9 P.M. Black Cinema Movie Night Hosted by the Center for Multicultural Initiatives Oakland Center, Gold Room C</p> <p>6 - 9 P.M. International Allies Organization Winter Kick-Off Oakland Center, Gold Room A</p>	<p>LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR WINTER OR SUMMER GRADUATION Visit oakland.edu/registrar</p> <p>6 P.M. Winterfest Tailgate Parking Lot 16</p> <p>9 P.M. Men's basketball vs. Green Bay O'rena</p>	<p>9 A.M. - 1 P.M. MLK Day of Service Register on GrizzOrgs</p> <p>1 - 2 P.M. Spirits Rising "The Heartbeat: Workshop on Native American Music and Dance" 109 Varner Hall</p> <p>8 - 10 P.M. Spirits Rising Performance Varner Recital Hall</p> <p>8 P.M. - 1 A.M. Meadow Brook Ball* Meadow Brook Hall *Tickets required</p>	<p>8 A.M. - 5 P.M. Go Red Week Celebration Various locations on campus</p> <p>6 - 8 P.M. LinkedIn Workshop Hosted by the Association of Nonprofit Professionals 204 Elliott Hall</p>	<p>3:30 - 4:30 P.M. Radiology Technology Information Session 5015 Human Health Building</p>
SUNDAY					
<p>1 P.M. Men's basketball vs. Milwaukee O'rena</p>					

No existing policy for maternity leave at Oakland

Each pregnancy presents different situations faculty must solve on their own

Christian Miller
Staff Reporter

Oakland University has come a long way from its former 1957-self, but why do the university's modern maternity leave policies still reflect an archaic style of thought?

Currently, no standard university-wide procedure exists for women who are expecting. Rather, the decision rests with the deans and chairs of each department.

At Oakland, the only major break an expecting parent receives is from the Family and Medical Leave Act. Passed with bipartisan support in 1993, the FMLA entitles eligible employees of covered employers to take an unpaid, 12-week job-protected leave for specified family and medical reasons while remaining covered by health insurance.

Sure, this may sound wonderful, but with semesters that are 16 weeks long, faculty seeking FMLA support face other complications, as well.

Jeff Youngquist, chair of the Department of Communication and Journalism, encounters these issues first hand.

"There is no maternity leave policy," Youngquist said. "There are things that we do, but there is no formal maternity leave. The university does not have what you would call 'a maternity leave policy.' It is a problem for the faculty because it is unpaid, first of all — think about what that would be like with a newborn."

Youngquist also commented on the existing difficulties with current practices.

"A 12-week leave never quite works right, so we have to think up things to accommodate," he said. "[Faculty] come back to work, but what do they do? We can't just stick them in a classroom halfway through the semester, or conversely take them out. What we've done here is develop service projects, 'service' meaning things that can be done administratively to help the department."

Although faculty members returning from maternity leave are assigned these projects, there are still issues regarding the actual type of work that will be performed.

"We have to come up with something for each person each time this occurs," Youngquist said. "There is no consistency. Every time a pregnancy occurs, it



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Faculty members Joanne Freed (left) and Erin Meyers (right) are both expecting mothers who will soon be taking time off for maternity leave.

is a whole new thing we have to figure out. We need something better. We could have something better. Many institutions out there have maternity leave policies that are more compassionate than what we have here, which is nothing."

Jennifer Heisler, former chair of the department, has conducted scholarly research in the area of academic motherhood and has also dealt with Oakland's maternity leave instructions personally.

"Usually the process goes: the faculty member tells the department chair, the department chair and/or the faculty member goes to Academic Human Resources, which then lays out the FMLA contract," Heisler said. "Then, the chair goes to the dean of the certain college, and finally, the two discuss a service project that the faculty member can perform in order to be compensated for the remaining four weeks when the individual returns."

Heisler expanded on the service project details.

"The chair then comes back and informs the faculty member about the decision regarding the service project," she said. "The faculty member is then left with the decision of either saying 'Yes,' or saying 'No,' but then not being paid because of the declination. It's really unfair because it means that the process is dependent on the goodwill of your chair and the goodwill of your dean. There is absolutely no standard for what women

are asked to do for that paycheck."

Heisler also offered her thoughts on the existing faculty contract.

"Everything about being a faculty member with Oakland is governed by our contract with the university," she said. "It could cover the issue of maternity/paternity leave, but it doesn't. I do know that it has been passionately brought to the bargaining table in the past two negotiations, but unfortunately, the language was not included in our final contracts. Ultimately, the burden is placed on the family to manage and make up the income that is lost."

Many colleges sprawled across the state have better provisions for expecting parents, including the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Grand Valley State University.

Via email, Libby Ciliberti, OU's chief human resources officer, pinpointed possible scenarios currently available to faculty.

"Oakland University may provide employees paid leave during the 12 weeks FMLA," Ciliberti said. "The amount of paid leave varies depending upon the employee group and related accrual policies. These paid leaves can go up to six months."

Ciliberti added that, during the leaves, employee staff positions are held open for six months, unless special circumstances would result in adverse impact to university operations. Faculty may also

be approved for unpaid leave for lengths of up to one year for reasons including child care.

She provided further information regarding leaves in a digital brochure published by OU, titled "Academic Human Resources for Work-Life Satisfaction."

Despite the idyllic possibilities laid out by Academic Human Resources, the benefits that faculty actually receive contrast widely.

Erin Meyers, an associate professor of communication at Oakland, is currently expecting and identified some problems with current policies.

"I think it is very frustrating," she said. "I know several other women on campus who are pregnant and due similar times to myself, and we all talk with one another to make sure we are all getting the same kind of benefits because that's really the only resource we have. We don't have vacation and sick days as faculty members, so you can't amass those to extend your leave in any way, unlike the corporate world."

Meyers reiterated the ambiguity within current practices.

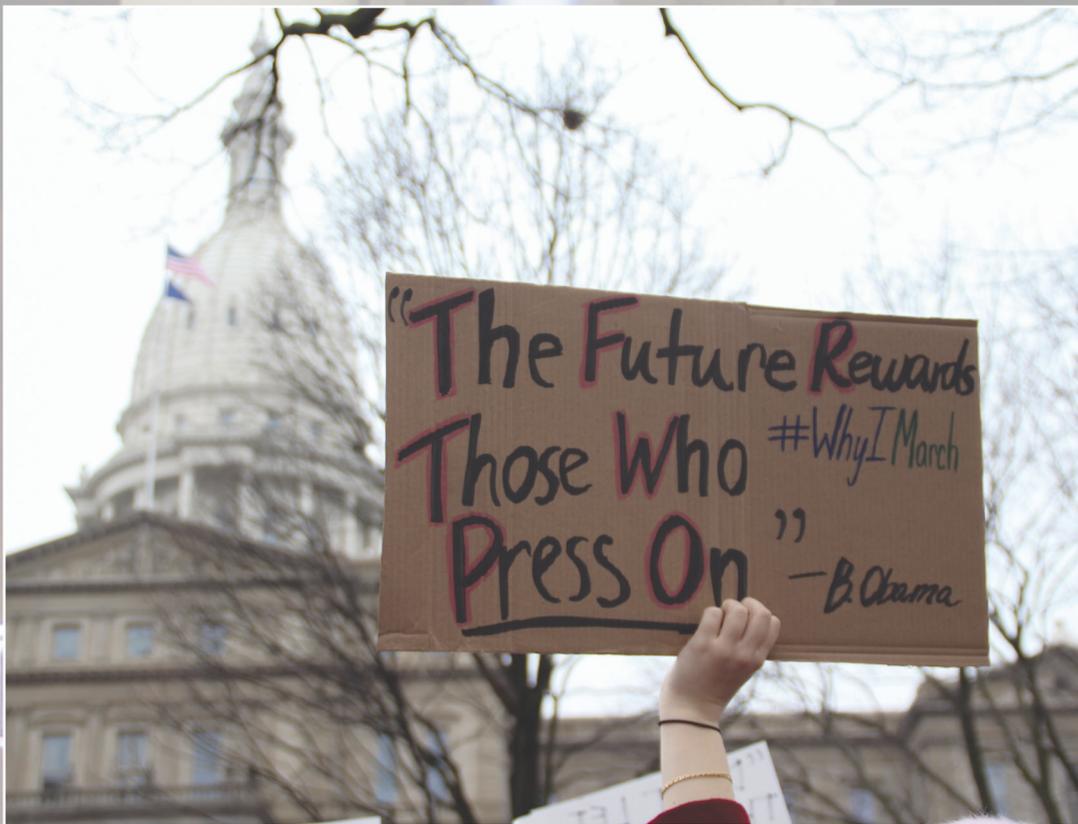
"It is frustrating because you get this basic checklist from the university, work it out and then it's all nebulous," Meyers said. "I've been at other institutions, never taking advantage of the leave, but knew of people who did that got entire semesters off. It's really up to the whim of the department and the dean."



WOMEN MARCH

on **LANSING**

PHOTOS BY | NOWSHIN CHOWDHURY | PHOTO EDITOR
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A FIGHT FOR EVERYBODY

Men, women and even children came together for the Women's March on Lansing. The march was one of the more than 600 sister marches organized in conjunction with the march in Washington, D.C.

Over 8,000 people from all walks of life united for the Women's March on Lansing, taking a stand against intolerance.

Held on Jan. 21, this sister event to the Women's March on Washington took place on the steps and lawn of the State Capitol Building. It was one of more than 600 other marches held around the world, according to the Lansing State Journal.

A sea of women and men of different races and ages could be seen raising clever signs. There were children on their parents' shoulders and a guy in a bear costume. The crowd grew so large that surrounding streets were shut down to accommodate the march.

The protesters gathered to voice their opinions on issues like women's rights, health care and the Flint water crisis.

"The original idea for the march was in solidarity with the Women's March on Washington and in response to the rash of hate and bias crimes that swept Michigan and the nation in November," said Sarah Kathryn Eisenberg, a co-organizer of the March on Lansing. "Since that time, we have shifted to not just standing against bigotry and hatred, but standing for a Michigan that respects and protects all its citizens, that celebrates diversity and nurtures the human potential in each of us."

In addition to a musical performance by the Sistrum Women's Chorus, participants were fueled by the powerful words of various public leaders. This included Democratic candidate for governor Gretchen Whitmer, as well as Dr. Farha Abbasi from the Michigan Muslim Community Council.

The protesters used their vast per-

sonal experiences to voice ways to get involved and make a real difference.

Although the original plan was to march through the city, this became impossible due to cost, as organizers could not obtain the \$5-million insurance coverage that was needed, according to MarchOnLansing.org.

Instead, they decided to make it a symbolic march, with people trekking to the State Capitol in protest.

Leading up to the rally, the event's Facebook page received some trolling with inappropriate and even hostile comments. These were taken seriously and reported to the police for further investigation.

Eisenberg said it is essential to remember where hatred comes from.

"Those who would lash out at you, those who would silence you, only do so because they are afraid of what you are saying and doing," she said. "They are afraid that somehow you threaten them, and they retaliate out of fear and ignorance. In responding to them, it is important to heed the words of Michelle Obama: 'When they go low, we go high.' Show them the mature, measured and respectful tone that demonstrates to them that you are neither afraid nor a threat."

March attendees were able to stop by informational tables hosted by organizations like Planned Parenthood and Black Lives Matter.

"We wanted to give people the chance to see what was in their community and how they can help," said Meg McElhone, another organizer of the March on Lansing.

The March on Lansing partnered with Women Organize Michigan,

which puts on free inclusive summits across Michigan to discuss and advance progressive causes, according to its website.

The goal of these summits is to translate passion into specific action.

Women Organize Michigan's website states: "Raising awareness is important. Cultivating outrage is important. These are the things that call people to action. But when it stops there, when your only action is sharing outrage and spreading information, we have failed to make any lasting changes."

Courtney Bryson, a communication major at Oakland University, made the long haul to Washington, D.C. for its Women's March.

"It was absolutely incredible and inspiring to be surrounded by so many people all fighting for social justice," she said.

Bryson made it clear that she didn't attend in protest against the country's new president, but rather as a way to show elected officials that she will continue standing firm in her beliefs.

The values of the Women's March on Washington stemmed from the belief that "Women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights," as stated in its Guiding Vision and Definition of Principles, which goes on to include, "We believe Gender Justice is Racial Justice is Economic Justice."

While organizers originally expected around 200,000 people, it is believed crowds grew to as many as half a million, according to The Washington Post.

"I'll always remember this experience, and I think the march is creating conversations surrounding white feminism versus intersectional feminism,

and how we can all be more inclusive, considering there wasn't a particularly overwhelming representation of trans women and people of color," said Bryson. "The march definitely put me in check and reminded me of my own privilege and to use that to help others whenever possible."

Eisenberg said it is especially important for young adults to get involved.

"It is vitally important to the health of our state and our nation that we as citizens take an active role in directing our lawmakers and advocating for our rights and the rights of our friends and neighbors," she said. "Young people, even those who are too young to vote or unable to vote due to citizenship status, can have an enormous impact if they are willing to stand up and make their voices heard. They can shape the future they want for themselves and their communities."

To continue forward, the Women's March launched a new campaign called "10 Actions for the First 100 Days." Every 10 days, the campaign will instruct followers to take a certain collective action.

The first action asks individuals to write a postcard to their senators regarding what matters most to them and how they plan to fight for it. For more information on the project, visit www.womensmarch.com/100/.

Eisenberg summed up the march, echoing a sentiment often attributed to Mahatma Gandhi:

"WE ALL NEED TO BE THE CHANGE WE WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD."

Political Focus: Race relations and the Trump presidency

Melissa Deatsch
Sports Editor

President Donald Trump's election win has come with concern from many different communities fearing for their safety and rights. Political Focus has examined the concerns of many immigrants and members of the LGBT community in articles since the election.



Inauguration Day has come and gone, and the nation has said goodbye to its first African-American president and sworn in its 45th, whose campaign was littered with controversial statements surrounding the racial tension that exists in the U.S.

Many civil rights groups are now in fear of what's to come. This week's Political Focus will address the legitimacy of some of the many concerns surrounding race relations and the Trump presidency.

Trump's racist history

The Hillary Clinton campaign hit Trump hard with historical evidence of Trump's racial discrimination. It pointed to a racial discrimination lawsuit in 1973 against Trump's real estate company. The lawsuit was based on evidence that "black people were told no apartments were available in Trump properties," while white people "were immediately offered apartments" during the same timeframe.

Trump's response to this during the first presidential debate was not much more than to say the suit was settled "with no admission of guilt" and that this was a lawsuit commonly brought against real estate companies at that time.

Another anger-inducing fact dug up from Trump's past were his claims, dating back to 2011, that then-President Barack Obama was not born in the U.S. This claim, made with no basis in reality and with no presentation of evidence, seemed to many like an attempt to undermine the legitimacy of the country's first African-American president.

Racially ignorant comments on the campaign trail

In an attempt to appeal to more black voters, Trump said the following at a rally in Dimondale, Michigan:

"Look at how much African-American communities are suffering from Democratic control. To those, I say the following: What do you have to lose by trying something new like Trump? What do you have to lose? You live in your poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs, 58 percent of your youth is un-

employed. What the hell do you have to lose?"

There are a couple of things to note. First, at the time, the official unemployment rate for black youths aged 16-19 was 25.2 percent, not 58 percent, according to USA Today.

Second, many people viewed this statement as painting with a broad brush to assume this is the situation for all black voters and that they had no other option than to vote for Trump.

The 8 percent he did convince

Trump did secure the vote of 8 percent of black voters on Election Day. This is relatively average for Republican candidates. Romney had 6 percent in 2012, but according to the PEW Research Center, Republicans tend to receive an average of 8-12 percent of black votes.

So, how did Trump convince 8 percent to vote for him among all of these racism concerns?

Lydia O'Neal of the International Business Times explained, "conservative black voters across the U.S. pointed to the sluggish economic recovery and immigration-friendly policies under the Obama administration as a driver in their support for Trump."

In his campaign, Trump said he intends to bring manufacturing jobs back to the U.S., create a childcare tax deduction for the working middle class and expand city law enforcement.

Conservative black voters across the U.S. pointed to the sluggish economic recovery and immigration-friendly policies under the Obama administration as a driver in their support for Trump.

Lydia O'Neal
International Business Times

These policies are seen to conservative black voters as better ways to combat the issues concerning African-Americans than those put forth by President Obama or Hillary Clinton.

The 8 percent saw the benefits that

could come from the implementation of these policies as greater concerns than any of the aforementioned issues of racial discrimination and ignorance.

Looking to the future

A big concern going forward is that the presidential victory of an arguably racist man legitimizes white-supremacist views that have resulted in the loss of so many innocent lives.

A victory party for Trump thrown by the Ku Klux Klan made many people nervous, as well as a series of racist graffiti that appeared across the country upon Trump's win. Trump has dismissed the graffiti and the KKK, calling their efforts "repulsive."

In regard to Trump's policies, the country anxiously waits to see which of his campaign promises will become reality.

In addition to that, will the policies that he's able to implement bring more benefits to the black community than those put forth by past Democrats?

As black conservative activist John Gool told the International Business Times, "If Donald Trump delivers what he promised, he will flip the black vote. If he does not, he'll lose the 8 percent he got."

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The tender truth: My argument on abortion

Isaac Martin
Political Contributor

Last week, our nation paused to commemorate a great American hero, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This past Sunday, we remembered the beginning of a new battle for human rights that began only five years after Dr. King's death.

In 1963, he led the now-famous March on Washington, where he presented the nation with his great dream. This Friday, hundreds of thousands will gather in Washington, D.C. at the annual March for Life to help finish the work Dr. King began — ensuring liberty and justice for all. The debate on life has raged for over 40 years and centers around three primary questions.

What about rape and incest?

A common question often raised in this debate is, "What about abortions in the case of traumatic scenarios like rape?"



There are two answers to this legitimate question.

First, according to research Wm. Robert Johnston, citing state statistic, if you were to add up all the abortions done because of rape, incest, risk to maternal health, risk to the mother's life and health issues to the baby, this would comprise less than 2 percent of all abortions in the U.S. Over 98 percent of all abortions are done out of convenience, rather than concern over health or trauma. We can't justify abortion in general by saying the primary purpose is to help the victims of rape.

Second, even if coping with rape or incest was the primary purpose of abortion, this still wouldn't mean abortion is the best decision for either the mother or the child. In rape, a woman's consent is pillaged.

In abortion, her maternity is stolen. Abortion doesn't end the hurt, it perpetuates it.

“
There is more to this issue than simply data and statistics — it affects real people with real stories.”

Whose health comes first, the woman's or the baby's?

Many attempt to justify abortion by saying that it is to a woman's medical benefit to have an abortion. But just what are the health effects if you do opt for an abortion?

A growing body of clinical research indicates there are several substantial side effects of abortion.

For example, according to Americans United for Life, if a woman carries her first pregnancy to full term, her body receives a protective effect from breast cancer and her risk of developing the cancer decreases.

However, if a woman chooses to abort her first pregnancy, she loses that protective effect and can't get it back — you only have one first pregnancy.

I'm not trying to use scare tactics, I just want to warn you that it isn't just the baby's health that's risked by abortion.

The bottom line: Is it a baby?

Some would argue that abortion doesn't jeopardize a baby at all. "It's just a fetus," they say.

However, while their term "fetus" is not bad in and of itself, it obscures the intention

of those in the medical profession who use it.

Doctors often use very technical language to describe medical procedures and conditions. They use the word "fetus," not to say that it isn't a baby, but rather to refer to the stage of development that the baby is in, similarly to the way we use the word "teenager."

Would you argue that a 2-year-old is not a human because she is a toddler? No, that would be ludicrous. Yet, unfortunately, a perfectly good word ("fetus") has led many of us to think of the child not as a precious life, but rather as a glob of tissue. This couldn't be further from the truth.

Tender truth

There is more to this issue than simply data and statistics — it affects real people with real stories. Though I don't have firsthand experience with abortion, I do know loss.

You see, when I was 11, my mom miscarried a pregnancy at 20 weeks.

One day, I was expectantly looking forward to a new baby brother or sister, and the next day I felt hollow inside, dazed and wondering if this could really be happening.

After the baby, named Mercy, was delivered, I refused to see her. I was expecting to see a tangled mass of tissue. But one day, as I was scrolling through pictures, I was riveted by a picture of a miniature, fully-formed hand. It was her's. She wasn't bloody; she was beautiful.

Abortion is a sensitive subject. It is wrong to kill an innocent child. Yet, there must be a tenderness toward all involved. As Dr. King said, "Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

How about you? Will you speak for the speechless? Will you love?

Isaac Martin can be contacted at johnqwilberforce@gmail.com.

Bleak Trump speech promises power to the people

John Bozick
Social Media Editor

After a night of protests and a lackluster inauguration concert, Donald J. Trump is officially the 45th President of the United States. T



Taking the oath shortly after the clock struck noon on Jan. 20, President Trump vowed to usher in an age where "it's going to be America first."

The president began his speech by saying, "We, the citizens of America, are now joined in a great national effort to rebuild our country and restore its promise for all of our people."

This was the overall tone of Trump's inaugural address.

Instead of inspiring hope like presidents of the past, Trump gave a very dark, dystopian tone to his speech, which was fitting for the rainy day on which the inauguration took place.

Trump's speech, in a way, resonated his "drain the swamp" policy.

"What truly matters is not which party controls our government, but whether our government is controlled by the people," he said. "January 20th, 2017, will be remembered as the day the people became the rulers of this nation again."

Trump, almost exactly quoting Bane from Christopher Nolan's 2012 film "The Dark Knight Rises," stated, "Today's ceremony, however, has very special meaning. Because today, we are not merely transferring power from one administration to another or from one party to another. But we are transferring power from Washington, D.C. and giving it back to you, the people."

Speaking in a way that traditional Republicans would almost never agree with, Trump criticized "the establishment," saying that Inauguration Day belonged to the people, and that the forgotten people of the U.S. will "be forgotten no longer."

Instead of trying to bring

a fractured nation together through ideas of peace, hope and unification, Trump talked of "mothers and children trapped in poverty," "rusted-out factories scattered like tombstones," a broken education system and lives lost due to drug abuse and gang violence.

This is when the president proclaimed that "this American carnage" stops once and for all.

Despite his previous statements, however, Trump vowed to put America first, above everything else.

"The oath of office I take today is an oath of allegiance to all Americans," he said.

Trump criticized the fact that the U.S. has constantly defended other countries' borders, all while ignoring its own. He made accusations that our infrastructure has fallen into "disrepair and decay" due to us spending trillions of dollars overseas.

He also said that we will re-enforce our alliances with other nations and work toward a more peaceful world, albeit with our interests coming before those of our allies, as "it is the right of all nations to put their own interests first."

Trump then said that strengthening these alliances will "unite the civilized world against radical Islamic terrorism."

Shortly after ending his speech, Trump's first act as president was the signing of a waiver allowing James "Mad Dog" Mattis to become Secretary of Defense.

Later in the night, he issued his first executive order, which directed all agencies to start transitioning away from the Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as "Obamacare."

The repealing of the Affordable Care Act was one of Trump's many campaign promises, and his first executive order showed that he will take this promise seriously.

President Trump is expected to take further measures against the Affordable Care Act in the coming weeks. We can expect the Republican-controlled Senate to come up with a replacement, as it has previously promised.

Millennials vs. everybody, or so we think

Ethan Fogle
Staff Reporter



A few weeks ago, NBA commissioner Adam Silver announced that the NBA is looking into the possibility of fans paying to watch the final five minutes of NBA games.

“Obviously people, particularly millennials, have increasingly short attention spans, so it’s something as a business we need to pay attention to,” Silver said.

The stereotypes given to millennials by older generations are well-known: laziness, feeling a sense of entitlement, being soft, not knowing what hard work is and having a short attention span, just to name a few.

The pokes at millennials gained local attention when radio talk show hosts on 97.1 The Ticket discussed the topic for several days.

They mentioned the stereotypes associated with millennials. Some agreed with the stereotypes, and others disagreed.

They then asked listeners to call in and answer a couple of simple questions: “Does the term millennial have a negative connotation, and is the connotation actually true?”

Angry millennials called up to disagree with the stereotypes, saying that all older generations blame the newest generation for society’s problems.

Members of older generations called up to validate the stereotypes with their personal experiences.

Some millennials even said that the stereotypes about their generation are true.

So, where lies the truth? Probably somewhere in-between these opinions.

What millennials do well

First things first, millennials are not lazy. That 40-hour work week that Henry Ford came up with over 100 years ago? Well, it doesn’t apply to our generation.

According to ManPowerGroup.com, millennials in the U.S., on average, work 45 hours a week.

U.S. census data from 1970 to 1990 show the average person worked just un-

der 40 hours a week.

Working more than our elders, millennials often do not have the same job prospects that their parents and grandparents had, as the days of plentiful factory jobs are long-gone.

Pew Research polls say that millennials are more accepting of social differences, as well. Millennials favor the legalization of gay marriage more than any other generation.

Diversity is something millennials do not fray from. A Harvard University Poll found that 80 percent of people age 18-24 have a friend of a different race or ethnicity, while 55 percent of millennials also said they have a friend who has a different sexual orientation than them.

Millennials are certainly a hardworking bunch and more accepting than previous generations.

What millennials need to work on

Critics of the millennial generation often say that we need to understand what it feels like to lose. Participation trophies are a favorite metaphor of millennial critics.

“ Millennials need to be more accepting of failure and constructive criticism. We need to understand that failure can often lead to opportunity and listening to criticism can be useful.

Although partially due to the way millennials were raised, this criticism has some truth to it.

We grew up with our parents telling us we could do anything. Even if we did lose or fail, they would tell us the opposite.

Millennials need to be more accepting of failure and constructive criticism. We need to understand that failure can often lead to opportunity and listening to criticism can be useful.

Coming out of college, millennials can’t expect to get top-level positions; they must work hard (something we already do) and climb the ranks of the companies we work for, just like generations before us.

Instead of reporting on reactions to tragedies, honor the victims

We shouldn’t let politics get in the way of respectfully reporting on traumatic events

Simon Albaugh
Staff Reporter

Nobody needs to be prodded into remembering the last time former-President Barack Obama stated his position



on increased gun control in the wake of a mass shooting. While this isn’t a direct call from the media for such legislation, the mere fact that Obama stated this opinion certainly was heavily reported on, as opposed to focusing on the shooting itself.

Another example: Fox News’ refusal to condemn the Charleston Church Shooting as a racially motivated attack provided the network with a podium to showcase its thoughts on the alleged “War on Christians.”

Both used a tragedy to further a nearly irrelevant political point. Of course, both instances were heavily scrutinized by proponents of the opposing viewpoint.

Instead of taking advantage of the lives lost to further political agendas, news organizations should foster the opportunity to process national tragedies. An act that would rekindle a connection with others will hopefully create a nation more resilient to such violent efforts.

National news organizations will typically focus on the larger political implications of a tragedy that specifically showcases their ideology’s viewpoint on a debated issue.

Oakland University professor of politics and political communication, Terri Towner, described this practice as a business strategy used in accumulating a larger audience.

“Multiple studies have shown that Fox News covers with a conservative slant,” Towner said. “In fact, this approach has proved a smart business strategy for Fox News, garnering more viewers than CNN.”

The reason for this could be due to the incentive of profit for many ideologically-focused news networks like Fox News or MSNBC.

Also, as explained by OU professor of political science, John Klemanski, people are more likely to consume news that affirms their established worldviews.

“People who already have a certain view tend to find and consume media outlets that agree with them,” Klemanski said. “This is called ‘selective exposure.’”

By providing a consistent political slant that appeals to the worldview of a liberal or conservative audience, news networks are more likely to be consumed with increasing regularity. This results in increasing profit for these large networks,

“ By providing a consistent political slant that appeals to the worldview of a liberal or conservative audience, news networks are more likely to be consumed with increasing regularity.

reaffirming the established business model in inappropriate situations like national tragedies.

This conclusion comes after the shooting of eight people at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in Miami, Florida, reported by CBS Miami. The local news organization did not immediately attach a political purpose to the shooting, allowing coverage to focus on the victims.

The focus on the victims, I feel, allows a public interest in the well-being of a community after such a tragedy strikes,

which is an angle that should be the major political focus of the audience.

Allowing for national attention to be focused on the well-being of the victims provides a stronger network of support among cities and municipalities. And since this could happen in any place, the support would almost be an insurance policy for when a community experiences this sort of trauma.

I don’t see this as a possibility in the near future, but rather a result of a general public that’s increasingly aware of the media’s function in our society — one that knows the power of communication is in its hands.

Just to be clear, I didn’t write this because I hate the media and see it as totally biased. I wrote this with the philosophy that if one truly believes in an institution, then criticism is a necessary component in its progress toward perfection. I also wrote this with the goal of increasing awareness of the system of communication that impacts everyone’s daily lives.

‘Westworld’: A blend of genres maintains storytelling strength

Lawson Robinson
Movie Columnist

Jonathan Nolan, brother of Christopher Nolan, and his wife Lisa Joy worked together to craft HBO’s “Westworld.” This television show boasts great acting, strong direction and rewarding storytelling. It even ranks as one of HBO’s most-watched programs.

Based on the pilot alone, “Westworld” is a treat for fans of blending genres.

In a futuristic world, the Westworld theme park allows citizens to indulge in escapism in a simulated Wild West. Out on the great plains, visitors can interact with an immense number of intricately crafted, humanoid robots acting out various narratives throughout the park.

Although this show does not maintain a single director throughout, it has strong enough direction to carry out the overall narrative. “Westworld” manipulates signifiers and themes from both the Western and science fiction genres, which allows viewers to play along with the

“
If it’s such a wonderful place out there, why are you all clamoring to get in here?”

Dolores Abernathy
Portrayed by Evan Rachel Wood

show as they try to sort out the complex narrative.

“Westworld” features the acting talent of Evan Rachel Wood, Thandie Newton, Ed Harris, Anthony Hopkins, James Marsden and Jeffrey Wright.

Ed Harris as The Man in Black is a classic Western archetype and enjoyable for those familiar with the genre. Wood, Newton and Wright, however, steal the show in their respective parts.

The only problem is that, at times, “Westworld” can be too ambitious with the intricacies of the overarching story. Viewers may feel lost sometimes, but the finale will reward those who finish the first season.

Rating: 4 out of 5 stars



Drew’s Review:

It’s time to rethink Run the Jewels’ position in rap

Drew Hagge
Music Columnist

Run the Jewels rendered virtually all music publications’ year-end lists useless with the release of “Run the Jewels 3” on Christmas Day. This release marked the third album in four years for the hip-hop super-group, featuring Killer Mike and El-P.

“Run the Jewels 3” maintains the same contained fury that’s been consistent throughout the group’s discography. Killer Mike’s powerful, and often political, lyrics have found a new home under El-P’s production.

This combination legitimately deserves comparisons to the music Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre created in the ‘90s.

The prevailing opinion held that the most impressive lyricism was written by Killer Mike, although El-P’s variety of rhyme schemes and patterns forced fans to recognize El-P as Killer Mike’s equal.

After the third straight album with critical acclaim, it’s now time to think about Run the Jewels’ status as one of the possible best groups in rap history. While many groups in hip-hop are responsible for some historically great albums, their shelf-life is often only a couple albums long.

Mobb Deep and N.W.A are prime examples of hip-hop groups with one album above all their others. Not-so-coincidentally, Mobb Deep’s “The Infamous” and N.W.A’s “Straight Outta Compton” are each group’s first project.

Run the Jewels’ first album (aptly named “Run the Jewels”), on the other hand, is widely considered their worst album. The group only showed growth from the first project on.

I’m not advocating that Run the Jewels has already equaled the heights of the genre’s best groups ever, like Outkast and A Tribe Called Quest. However, it doesn’t look like El-P and Killer Mike are showing any signs of slowing down.

The most heartbreaking book you’ll ever read: ‘A List of Cages’

Simon Albaugh
Staff Reporter

I’ve never read a book that so violently disturbed me while still reaffirming every semblance of determination of will in human nature as well as Robin Roe’s “A List of Cages,” published Jan. 10. This book, I will honestly say, is one of the best I’ve ever read.

The novel draws from the connecting stories of Adam, a high school senior with ADHD, and Julian, a freshman in foster care after the sudden deaths of both of his parents.

Adam and Julian are former foster brothers, as Julian was originally assigned to live with Adam and his mother. When an uncle comes out of nowhere to claim his familial rights to raising Julian, he is forced to leave Adam’s family.

Their rekindling relationship after this mysterious separation suddenly rockets both into the most trying period of their lives. While the ensuing events will change them from that point on, it’s up to them to take this opportunity to change for the better.

Roe is a practicing counselor for adolescents and draws on the common struggles that teenagers face, both small

and massive. And as the story deepens, this becomes an increasingly difficult prospect to imagine.

What’s most interesting about this book is its stark contrast in characters. It shows the most popular senior in school, Adam, with a polar opposite bully fodder, freshman Julian. It’s through this difference that the author could describe the complexity of high school so beautifully.

Adam’s capacity to care for people can only be matched by Julian’s need for acceptance. And as the story develops, the reader is forced to come to the realization that even in the world’s horrid imperfection, people can eventually be spared from its abuses.

The book brings their relationship to a startling climax that, I’ll admit, is emotionally difficult to read. But just as Roe took great care into building this terrifying ordeal for the characters, she put just as much into ensuring that their eventual happiness is equally inevitable.

This author is part of a young tradition of modern melodrama that Hanya Yanagihara and Donna Tartt worked hard to set the tone for. And while Roe doesn’t necessarily have the immense

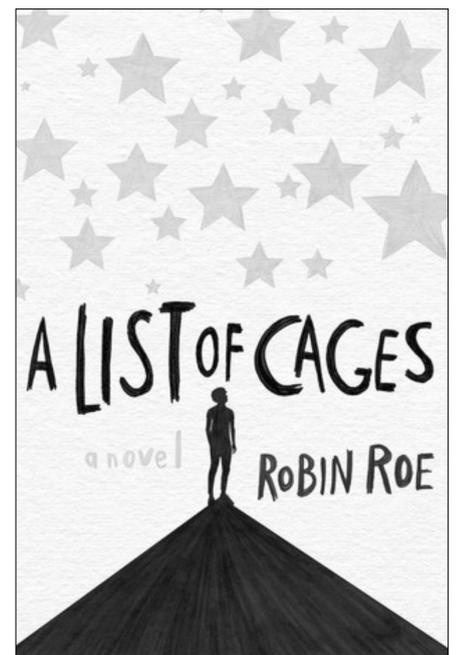
“
What’s most interesting about this book is its stark contrast in characters.”

literary talent that they do, the unique promise that she gives to her characters’ fate is likely to influence the genre in almost the same way.

This book is not for the reader who can’t handle heavy showing of suffering and tyranny of a character’s close relative, but the beauty it eventually shows is only from understanding such hellish conditions.

I would recommend this book to psychology, social work and all education majors because of its absolutely essential look at every level in a system that can both fail and rescue a child from what can only be described as a living hell.

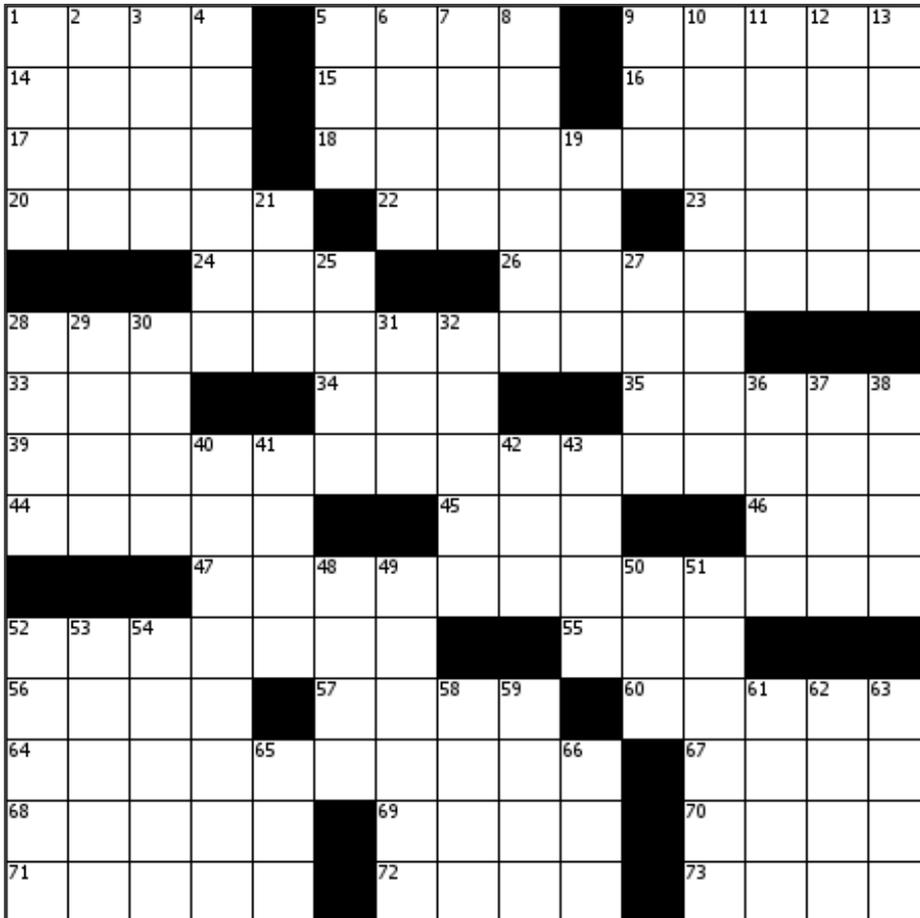
“A List of Cages” states that there are no evil people, only those who are unhappy. And just as that unhappiness can spread, I hope the eventual readers of this book can see Adam’s happiness as infectious to the same degree.



Rating: 5 out of 5 stars



Puzzles



Across

- 1: Uncertain
- 5: Sell
- 9: Haunting sound
- 12: Cause of a Macy's riot?
- 13: Snobbishly unfriendly
- 15: Till the ground
- 16: Castle feature
- 18: Demolish
- 19: Court divider
- 20: Subordinate staffer
- 21: Sacked
- 23: Head for the hills
- 24: Bend out of shape
- 25: Saturnalias
- 28: Court violation
- 32: Bad driver's shout
- 33: The death of the party?
- 34: Fly alone
- 35: Petroleum or propane
- 36: Uses Elmer's
- 37: Visit a run-down neighborhood
- 38: Stored to develop aroma, as tobacco
- 39: Loud utterance
- 40: Metric foot
- 41: Starred in high school sports
- 43: "... to the ___ of Tripoli"
- 45: Word in seven Hope titles

46: Reclined

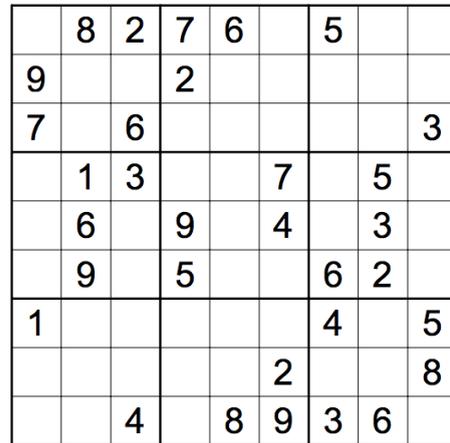
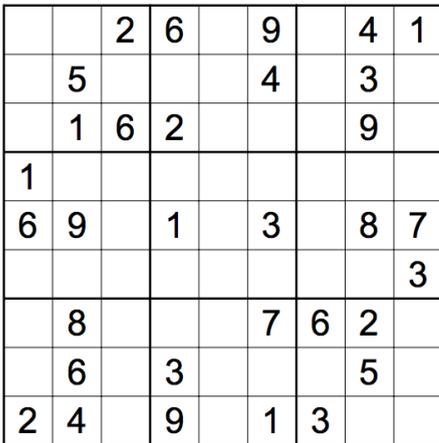
- 47: Burst of speed
- 50: Section in the credits
- 51: Quarterback Brady of the Patriots
- 54: NBA target
- 55: Glow during the moon's crescent phase
- 58: Baseball VIPs
- 59: Sudden outpouring
- 60: ___ nitrate
- 61: Player's peg
- 62: Merino mamas
- 63: Actual wording

Down

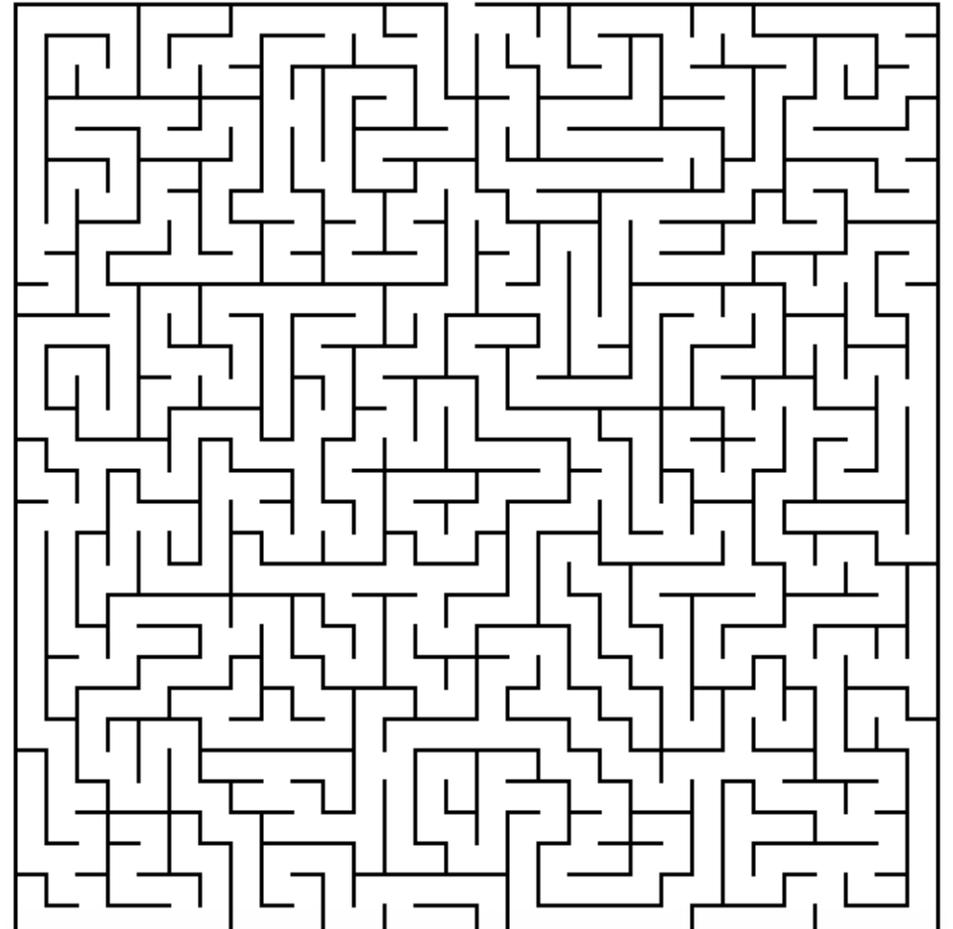
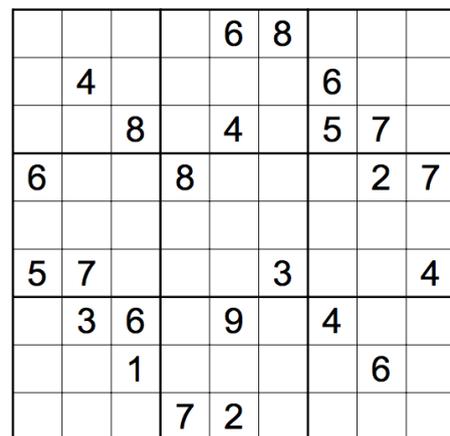
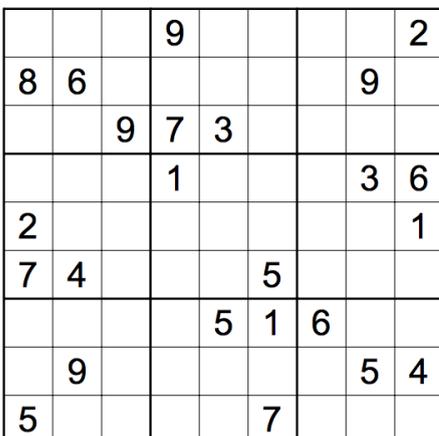
- 1: High spd. phone line
- 2: Meter reading
- 3: Not having enough carbonation
- 4: Archery bow wood
- 5: Fluctuates
- 6: Say 'c'est,' say
- 7: Connecting point
- 8: German shepherd, for one
- 9: Utter loudly
- 10: Primordial sludge
- 11: Was in the red
- 14: Some predatory carnivores
- 15: Line definition
- 17: Hayloft block

- 22: Many a time
- 23: Visits to the zoo, maybe
- 24: Edible mushroom
- 25: Butcher's leavings
- 26: It'll make you red in the face
- 27: Welcome guests
- 28: 'I'm So Lonesome I ___ Cry'
- 29: Canine kin
- 30: Feather in one's cap
- 31: The Pyramids, essentially
- 33: Run, as dye
- 36: Whirls
- 42: Many, many moons
- 43: Cumberbund's cousins
- 44: Pete Rose had 4,256 of them
- 46: Foamy pick-me-up
- 47: Bolted
- 48: Fleishy fruit
- 49: Lassoer's cord
- 50: Where something may stick
- 51: Magazine founded by Henry Luce
- 52: Figurine mineral
- 53: Cheesy sandwich
- 56: Musclebound brute
- 57: Ring toss item?
- 66: Take a gander at

NOVICE



INTERMEDIATE





Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

In her final season playing for the Golden Grizzlies, Jessica Dood became the seventh player in university history to surpass 1,000 career kills.

Jessica Dood hopes to play with pros

After finishing senior season, volleyball player travels to Europe to be scouted

AuJenee Hirsch
Staff Reporter

It all started in seventh grade when Jessica Dood tried out for Grandville Middle School's volleyball team. Even though Dood hated passing the ball because it hurt her arms, she grew to love the sport and continued on to play for the Golden Grizzlies. Now that her final college volleyball season is over, Dood wants to continue to move forward with volleyball.

From Jan. 4-16, Dood travelled Europe to gain some professional volleyball exposure and possibly spark the interest of some European teams.

"It was really cool and really fun," Dood said. "It's a lot different than here, just like the whole volleyball game, how it's played, the different culture, and obviously, the time zone too. That was weird to get used to."

Dood has had her sights set on a professional tour for while, but after Oakland head coach Rob Beam introduced her to Bring It Promotions LLC, a professional volleyball agency, she was able to execute the tour.

"In the sport of volleyball, Bring It Promotions is very well-known for running quality events," Beam said. "We've had

other athletes from Oakland attend with Bring It Promotions, and they've had good experiences . . . so it seemed like a natural fit for her."

“

It's a lot different than here, just like the whole volleyball game, how it's played, the different culture, and obviously, the time zone too. That was weird to get used to.

Jessica Dood
Oakland volleyball player

Since working with Dood for the past four years, Beam has seen a lot of improvement in her.

"We've seen skill improvement, like kind of refinement, in all the areas," Beam said. "I think she's good at just understanding the game and tactics and positional responsibilities and situational-like details. She's much better at that than she was four years ago, when she came in as a really raw, athletic freshman."

While on the tour, Dood travelled with other American volleyball players to play

with teams in Austria, Slovenia and Italy. They played the professional teams once a day, while European coaches would come watch them play in-person or via livestream.

While the tour was mainly for professional exposure, there was a lot of time for sightseeing. The group got to see Salzburg, Austria, where "The Sound of Music" was filmed, and the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp near Linz, Austria.

"I really like Austria a lot," Dood said. "All those teams were really nice, and they seemed like they had a good understanding of each other."

Beam said he believes that Dood has a good chance of becoming a successful professional volleyball player if she continues to pursue playing.

"I think there was a high level of interest in her," Beam said. "If she chose to pursue it, she probably would be putting in a couple years, and I truly believe she can advance through the divisions to make a good living playing professional volleyball."

The coaches watched the players in order to see which would be a good fit for their teams. There were some coaches interested in Dood, but she will not find out if a team has an offer for her until after

THE SPORTING BLITZ

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. NKU

79-70 Breaking a two-game losing streak, Oakland men's basketball (15-5, 5-2 HL) triumphed 79-70 over Northern Kentucky University (12-8, 3-4 HL) on the road on Friday, Jan. 20.

Sherron Dorsey-Walker led the Golden Grizzlies with 21 points and racked up nine rebounds during the game. Trailing closely behind Dorsey-Walker's efforts, Jaylen Hayes put 19 points on the scoreboard for Oakland and managed 11 rebounds.

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. WSU

88-67 The Golden Grizzlies were not as fortunate when facing Wright State University. Oakland took an 88-67 loss against the Raiders on Sunday, Jan. 22 at the Nutter Center.

Difficulty finding the net and foul trouble proved to be Oakland's downfalls. The Golden Grizzlies went 5-for-20 from the three-point line and had their three big men — Isaiah Brock, Xavier Hill-Mais and Brad Brechting — all foul out of the game.

Leading the team in points for the Golden Grizzlies was Martez Walker with 14. The only other Golden Grizzly to reach double digits was Nick Daniels with 10.

The loss against Wright State University puts Oakland 15-6, 5-3 Horizon League.

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. GREEN BAY
Jan. 27 at 9 p.m. ET
The Blacktop at the O'rena

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. MILWAUKEE
Jan. 29 at 1 p.m. ET
The Blacktop at the O'rena

Women's basketball beat by Cleveland

Katie LaDuke
Intern Reporter

Dropping the last three out of four games, the Oakland women's basketball team suffered another loss on the Blacktop against Cleveland State 74-62 on Friday, Jan. 20. The Golden Grizzlies moved to 3-4 in the Horizon League as they got deeper into conference play.

"This time of the year, it's all about wins," head coach Jeff Tungate explained. "It doesn't matter how you play. It's about getting wins, and we didn't get a win tonight."

Both Hannah Little and Leah Somerfield were among the scoreboard leaders. Little contributed 17 points to the Golden Grizzlies' 62 total, as well as eight rebounds. Somerfield did her part with 13 total points and also set a career high of four steals while matching Little's eight rebounds. Making her way into the top three, Nola Anderson put up 11 points of her own with two rebounds and two assists.

The Black and Gold came out in the first quarter immediately battling the Vikings for the coveted lead, but to no avail. Oakland played most of the first quarter slightly behind or tied and ended trailing by 1.

At the beginning of the new quarter, the Golden Grizzlies jumped up to a slim lead, only to let Cleveland tie the score up once again. Almost half-way into the second quarter, Oakland faced its biggest deficit of the game, with the score at 27-14.

Tension and frustration on the bench and on the court mounted, which resulted in players scrambling to close the gap. Even with the full-court press, Oakland struggled to stay up with Cleveland State, ending the quarter in another 1-point trail.

The start of the second half seemed like a breath of fresh air for the Black and Gold. The Golden Grizzlies jumped on a slim lead in the beginning, eventually pushing the score to 43-38 until the Vikings battled back and closed the gap. Much of the pe-



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Hannah Little led Oakland with 17 points in her 38 minutes on the floor. Oakland lost to Cleveland State 74-62 on Friday, Jan. 20 at the O'rena.

riod was then spent by both teams going back and forth with the wavering score.

"I thought the first three quarters, we did a pretty good job on a lot of things," Tungate said. "They got a lead, we came back. We executed our sets pretty well in that third quarter."

Oakland's offense struggled in the

fourth quarter, as the team only scored 4 points.

"You have to keep learning, but we're kinda beyond the learning curve, so now is the time to win basketball games," Tungate said.

The Golden Grizzlies return to the Blacktop at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 22 to face Youngstown State.

Win over Penguins breaks losing streak

Katie LaDuke
Intern Reporter

The dry spell is over for Oakland women's basketball. The Golden Grizzlies broke their three-game losing streak with a massive 80-54 win against Youngstown State University on Sunday, Jan. 22 at the O'rena.

The victory over the Penguins puts Oakland 10-9 overall and 4-4 in the Horizon League.

Over the game's duration, the Golden Grizzlies commanded the ball, leading for 37:36 of the match. Oakland also received a total of 17 points from free throws.

The first quarter saw Oakland double Youngstown 24-12 in points and 12-6 in rebounds. Oakland's ability to find the net proved pivotal.

In the first quarter alone, the Golden Grizzlies shot a field-goal percentage of 55.6, compared to Youngstown's 31.3 percent.

As the second half commenced, Oakland seemed to have lost some of the momentum it had found earlier in the game.

Although Youngstown converted points more effectively in the second quarter, Oakland still managed to outshoot the visitors 15-14. By halftime, Youngstown faced a 13-point deficit, with the score 39-26 Oakland.

After the intermission, Oakland seemed to have renewed its defensive vigor. Full-court presses and tight coverage in the key allowed the Golden

Grizzlies to minimize Youngstown's offensive efforts while maximizing their own.

Oakland concluded the third quarter by outscoring Youngstown 26-15 for a game score of 65-41.

Oakland sustained pressure on Youngstown and in the final quarter, outshot the Penguins 15-13.

"I think that our defense leads to offense," head coach Jeff Tungate said. "I thought we did a great job with our ball pressure. We had active hands and active feet."

Tungate stressed the importance of producing consistent action off the court.

"For us to be a good team, we've got to be high-intensity and high-energy," Tungate said. "I thought our defense the past three games has been really bad, but they came out and they guarded."

Members of Oakland's team expressed just how important the triumph over Youngstown was.

"I feel great," Graves said. "We stayed a team. We tried to bring as much energy as we could and really picked it up on the defensive end. Basically, we just played together."

Hannah Little recorded a career-high 19 rebounds with 19 points for her seventh double-double of the season, along with four steals and three blocks. She acknowledged her teammates' efforts as the driving force behind the win.

"We knew we had to step up," Little said. "Everyone did their jobs and played their roles. We like where our momentum is taking us and we just



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Hannah Little, with 19 points and 19 rebounds, led Oakland to its 80-54 win over Youngstown State on Sunday, Jan. 22 at the O'rena.

have to keep going up."

Other highlights of the game included Leah Somerfield posting her second career double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Taylor Gleason added 9 points to the scoreboard and tied a previous career high of six steals during the game, and Nicole Dodd tied a career best with three assists.

Nola Anderson contributed 9 points and matched a season-best of seven rebounds, while Sha'Keya Graves rounded off the team with a total of 15 points, accompanied by two assists and one rebound.

Oakland women's basketball will hit the road for its next game at 7 p.m. ET on Friday, Jan. 27 against Northern Kentucky University.

Oakland dance team shines in Orlando, takes 10th place

Katie LaDuke
Intern Reporter

After taking the summer to start fresh and rebuild as a team, first-year coach Beth Tomaszewski and the 2016-2017 Oakland dance team kept their eyes on Nationals. Doing just that, the Golden Grizzlies took third at their summer competition in Wisconsin to qualify and send them to Orlando, Florida, for the UDA College National Championship on Jan. 14.

“Our program hasn’t been to Nationals in a few years, so our main goal was to just do our best as a team to work for a good outcome,” freshman Jessica Hush said. “We practiced a lot more than usual to clean our dances.”

Since the girls took two numbers with them, a hip-hop

dance and a jazz dance, all of the extra practices surely played in the dance team’s favor by helping them secure 10th place at Nationals. The Golden Grizzlies missed moving on to the championship round for their Division I jazz and hip-hop routines by only 0.14 points.

“I had a great group of girls this year,” Tomaszewski said. “[The team] was a lot larger and stronger technically. Since no member of the team has been to Nationals at the college level, our goal for the season was ultimately to get to Nationals, which we accomplished. I was very impressed with our dances. The girls showed a lot of energy, great precision and overall passion on stage.”

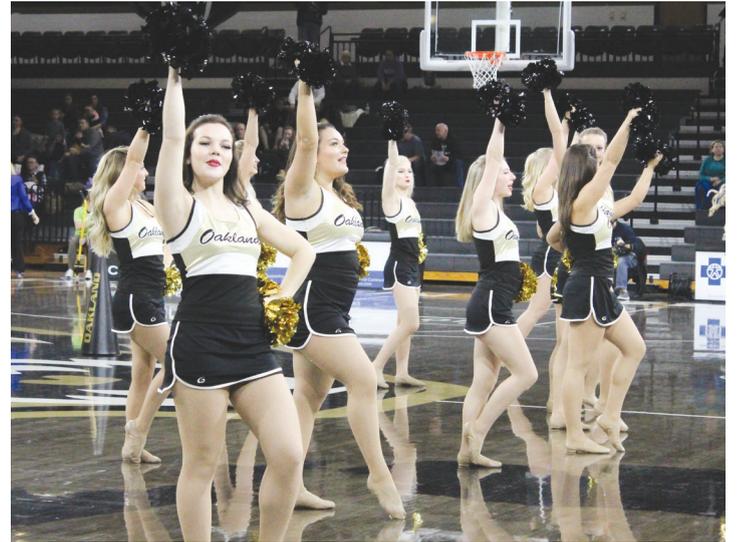
Besides taking the stage at competitions, the girls also have a hectic schedule at the O’rena year-round. From soccer season

to volleyball season to basketball season, they make sure to give their best performance on the sidelines and at halftime.

“We utilize every practice during the week,” Tomaszewski said. “We try to come up with innovative routines for the games and try to polish them.”

With Nationals under its belt, the team can finish this semester and start getting ready for the summer and next year. Since there are several seniors on the team, the Golden Grizzlies look to fill those spots as well as expand the team overall.

“Going into next year, we want to recruit more dancers,” Tomaszewski said. “There are some skills that just aren’t teachable, so we really look for those. We are going to continue to work on new and innovative routines to build upon the strengths of the current team in



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

The Oakland dance team performs during halftime at a basketball game.

order to get ready for Nationals again.”

“There are many lessons to take away from an experience of this caliber, not just the chance to be a part of a collegiate sports team.”

“Since we had the chance to go to Nationals this year, we know what to expect now,” sophomore Haley Fraeyman

explained. “We know [Nationals is] going to be stressful, and we know what we’re going to be fighting for.”

The Golden Grizzlies dance team will continue to perform at the men’s and women’s basketball home games for the rest of the season. More info about the team can be found on its Facebook page.

SECOND ANNUAL

WINTER FEST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Student Congress

FRIDAY | JANUARY 27TH

TAILGATE IS FROM 6PM-8PM | P16 | BYOB

GAME STARTS AT 9PM

MBB | O’RENA | #OaklandMBB | #WEARtheBEAR



-VS-



DODGE



Ian Levinson / The Oakland Post

On Monday, Jan. 23, the Football Club at Oakland University celebrated its successful season with a banquet.

Football Club hosts team banquet

Record-breaking 13 players get All-American Awards

AuJenee Hirsch
Staff Reporter

In honor of its 2016 championship win, the Football Club at Oakland University hosted a team banquet on Monday, Jan. 23, in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

On Dec. 3, 2016, the Golden Grizzlies (12-0) defeated the Middle Georgia State University Knights (7-4) in the National Club Football Association national championship game. At West Family Stadium in West Virginia, Oakland dominated and won 24-14, with the Knights unable to score in the second half.

The Golden Grizzlies made college club football history by becoming the first team to have 13 members make the All-American Team Selection. Among them, Raymond Artist received two All-American Awards for kick and punt returns, as well as wide receiver.

James Bartsch received special recognition and was given the Outstanding Community Service Award for his efforts of continuous community service that exceeded the required limit of community service hours.

The NCFA awarded Bobby Saad the Outstanding Defensive Player of the Year Award, while head coach Tom Menas received the 2016 NCFA Coach of the Year Award.

“He wore dual hats, and he wore them well and is most deserving of this title,” reads Menas’s certificate.

At the beginning of the banquet, Club President Chris Polite thanked the coaches, families and fans for supporting the team during the entire season. He then turned the mic over to Menas.

“Tonight is a night of celebration and reflection,” Menas said in the opening of his speech.

Menas told a story he had shared with the team about living their lives between the numbers — a lesson about opportunity and their accomplishments.

“On every tombstone, your life is laid out for strangers to see,” Menas said. “When they look at it they see the day you were born and the date you died, but they really don’t see any of your accomplishments. That’s that dash in between the numbers . . . the forty other [teammates] will know what your dash means.”

Menas reviewed the team’s accomplishments from this season and discussed the team’s motto: “Trust the process.”

The motto stems from five main points: recognize that eve-

ryone is the same, commitment, learn to be uncomfortable, understand what being a teammate means and be humble.

“Be unselfish, be confident, pick up some life tools, and above all, be fearless and durable,” Menas said.

Toward the end of the banquet, Menas stated that the team will not lose any games in the 2017 season.

“

Be unselfish, be confident,
pick up some life tools, and
above all, be fearless and
durable.

Tom Menas
Head coach

“When I say we’re not going to lose a game, I have no cares what the scoreboard says,” Menas said. “I’m talking about giving perfect effort. If we give perfect effort, regardless what players are here, we’ll be successful.”

The head coach also stated some of the things the 2017 season will bring. Next season’s motto will be “Perfect the process.”

“We know what it means now, and we’re going to work to perfect it,” he said.

For the first time, the Club Football at OU team will be hosting their games on-campus during the 2017 season.

Swim and dive drops matchup against MSU

Christian Miller
Staff Reporter

Seas of black and gold and green and white streamed into the Oakland Aquatic Center as the Golden Grizzlies clashed with the Michigan State Spartans during a dual swimming and diving meet on Saturday, Jan 21.

The Spartans emerged victorious, defeating Oakland’s women’s team 157-143 and its men’s 165-133.

The senior-day defeat was the men’s first home dual-meet loss to the Spartans since 2002.

Oakland’s Paul Huch won the 100 freestyle and backstroke, while also placing runner-up in the 200 medley relay. Huch was also on the winning 400 freestyle relay, accompanied by teammates Tony Eriksson, Andrew Binder and Jeremiah Morren.

Morren took first in the 50 free with a time of 20.55 seconds.

Joe Smith won the 3-meter boards at 346.80 and Tuomas Kiviluoma took first in the 100 butterfly in 49.06 seconds.

Oakland’s women’s teams earned similar accolades.

Takara Martin won both the 100 and 200 breaststroke with times of 1:03.96 and 2:20.39, respectively. Krissy Harmon won the 1,000 free, finishing at 10:23.47, and Holly Morren secured the 100 free at 50.62.

Patricia Aschan won the 200-yard backstroke, 200 freestyle and 200 IM.

“We had a lot of good things to take away from today’s meet,” said Pete Hovland, head swim

and dive coach. “Our relays were firing on all cylinders, and our seniors really stepped up.”

Four seniors from Oakland earned individual event wins.

“The fact that we have 16 seniors graduating today — eight women and eight men — really says a lot about the culture of our program,” he said. “I wanted to make sure the freshmen, sophomores and juniors really understood what it means to say goodbye to these individuals.”

Kiviluoma, a senior hailing from Espoo, Finland, reflected on his four years on the team.

“For me, being an international athlete has been something spectacular,” Kiviluoma said. “In Finland, swimming is a very individualized sport, and here it is all about the team. Having this team atmosphere at Oakland — all this tradition and winning culture we have — has definitely helped me grow as an adult and get along with people better.”

Echoing Kiviluoma’s sentiments, Martin celebrated the comradery she experienced.

“Being a senior, this day came a lot faster than I wish it did,” Martin said. “Coming here [from Ontario, Canada,] really taught me how having a bad day doesn’t just affect me, the same as having a good day doesn’t just affect me. Becoming a team captain and learning how to lead others in different ways has been tremendous.”

Oakland prepares for its next meet at 5 p.m. ET on Friday, Jan. 27 at Cleveland State University.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

With the loss against Michigan State behind them, the Golden Grizzlies are preparing for their next meet at Cleveland State University.