

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 45 | Issue 1 | Sept. 4, 2019



A CHANGING CAMPUS

Board of Trustees announces \$3 million renovation for Dodge Hall

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VENERABLE VISITORS

Comedian Chris D'Elia and Emmy winner Karamo Brown coming to OU

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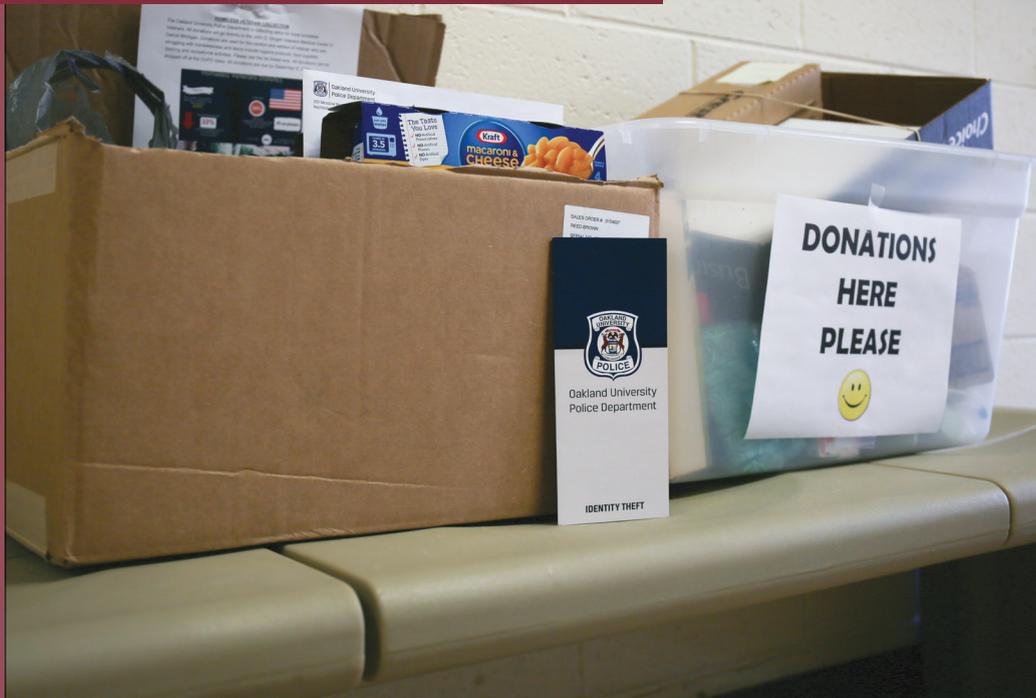
ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Grizzlies basketball begins with road-heavy schedules

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THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



DONATIONS FOR VETERANS OUPD is collecting donations, such as food and clothing, for homeless veterans. Items can be dropped off at Police & Support Services through Sept. 8. PHOTO / SERGIO MONTANEZ

THE OAKLAND POST

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Meet the new director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance at OU. Photo/JLBoone Photography



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A zombie novel written by an OU alumnus about the "fleshpocalypse." Photo/Gerald Dean Rice



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FGL spiced up the summer when they performed at DTE Theater. Photo/Ryan Pini

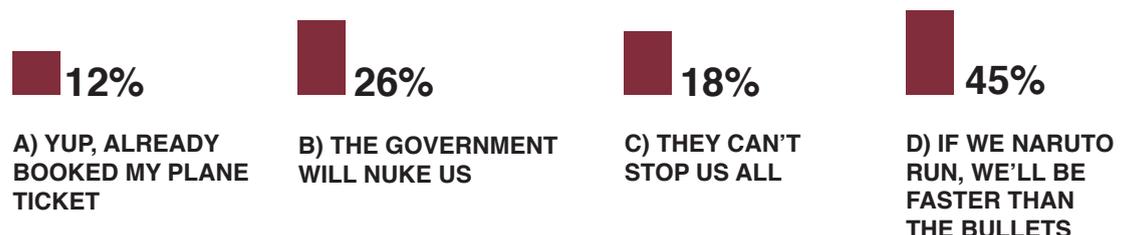
POLL OF THE WEEK

ARE YOU READY FOR SCHOOL TO START AGAIN?

- A) YASSS, I LOVE LEARNING!
- B) COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS UNTIL NEXT SUMMER
- C) EHH...I GUESS?
- D) NO, I'D RATHER STICK MY HEAD IN A VOLCANO

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

ARE YOU GOING TO STORM AREA 51?



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Cleaning slates and keeping gates this school year



TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

Dear readers,

Four years ago, I was an apprehensive kid with a wild stubborn streak and a private school-filtered perspective on life. My narrow-minded stance on college and the ominous imminence of adulthood loomed over me like a dark cloud — I wasn't there because I wanted to be, but because I had to be.

The idea of “getting involved” in college irked me far more than it excited me, and nothing was going to change my mind.

Or so I thought.

Needless to say, I'm not the same person I was back then, because if I was, I wouldn't be introducing myself as the new editor-in-chief of The Oakland Post.

But rather than dwell too much on my past, I'd like to focus on how it has impacted my future and where I hope to take The Post in the next year.

One of the things that has inspired me so much in my time as a Golden Grizzly is the diversity reflected on Oakland University's campus. I spent the first 14 years of my academic career submerged in uniformity and surrounded by people who came from predominantly similar backgrounds. It's an unwelcome familiarity that, thankfully, OU's student body transcends.

Yet, many of those students' voices still feel unheard.

As a journalist, my job is to tell stories, and as editor-in-chief, I've been given the platform to tell those stories in a way that few individuals are able to do. While it may seem hard to believe coming from someone who physically embodies white male privilege, this job has given me the chance to meet people whose stories are far different than my own and just as wor-

thy of being told. I understand the opportunity I've been given to lead this newspaper and hope to use it to foster an environment of empathy and inclusion, not only in our newsroom, but in the broader OU community as well.

There's a communication theory that synonymizes journalists with “gatekeepers” in that we have the power to control what information is public knowledge, a role that our staff wholeheartedly embraces. The Post is in the rare position of operating independently from the university itself, and as such, we have an obligation to hold the university accountable for the things it does, both right and wrong. We are the voice of the students, not the university, and in the coming year, it is my top priority to firmly establish and progress our role as advocates for the student body.

As a news organization, we will not only continue to cover the things that define OU at its surface — administration, academics, athletics and activities — but also what defines OU at its core: the community that comprises it.

As I mentioned earlier, my transition to college was far from smooth. I felt like the world had thrown me to the wolves, and I had no one to call for backup.

But once I realized there was more to

college than classes and found my place in the campus community, it completely changed my perspective. I stopped viewing college as a punishment and started seeing it as an opportunity for new beginnings.

With that in mind, I implore you all to make the most of your college experience. Whether this is the beginning or end of your journey, it's never too early or late. College is all about opportunities — it's where you get to be who you want to be, not who somebody else tells you to be. Once I learned that, my time at OU became some of the most informative and transformative years of my life.

So, to the panic-stricken freshman or the terrified transfer student reading this, know that I've been where you are. I know what it's like to feel like no one is there or listening. That's why I owe it to the student body to use my platform to be the person who is there, fighting and writing for them.

Don't be afraid to put yourself out there. If I didn't have someone tell me that three years ago, I wouldn't be signing this letter now as the editor-in-chief of The Oakland Post.

Sincerely,

Trevor Tyle, 2019-2020 Editor-in-Chief

MEET THE NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ASHLEY AVERILL

Copy Editor

Inclusion and advocacy — these are just two of the key principles senior Trevor Tyle brings to the table as the newly appointed editor-in-chief of The Oakland Post.

He takes his new role and responsibility to his readers very seriously.

“We are an independent student newspaper, written by students and for students,” he said. “At the end of the day, what we write is being written for the students. They're the ones who matter.”

Tyle, alongside fellow seniors Katie LaDuke, managing editor, and Katie Valley, content editor, make up this year's editing trifecta leading the charge of The Oakland Post for the 2019-2020 school year.

Editor-in-chief of The Post isn't the only title Tyle holds at Oakland University. In addition to being a full-time student, he is also the marketing assistant for the School of Education and Human Services on campus.

Born and raised in Royal Oak, and now a resident of Clawson, 21-year-old Tyle jokes that he feels like he lives at Oakland because of how much time he spends there.

“Trevor is one of the hardest working individuals I have ever met,” LaDuke said. “He has a lot on his plate with all of his jobs but juggles them all seamlessly.”

Tyle is majoring in journalism, while double minoring in both Spanish language and cinema studies. He incorporates



Trevor is one of the hardest working individuals I have ever met. He has a lot on his plate with all of his jobs but juggles them all seamlessly.

KATIE LADUKE
MANAGING EDITOR OF THE POST

his film studies into his work at The Post by writing movie reviews, which he has done since he was first hired. Writing his reviews has “reignited” the passion he has had for film since watching “Star Wars” with his father when he was younger, a moment he said “changed [his] entire life.”

Tyle joined The Post in early 2017 as a staff reporter under the recommendation of one of his professors, Dr. Chiaoning Su.

“I didn't know a lot of the things journalists probably should know, but I quickly found my way,” Tyle said of his early days working at The Post. “I'm grateful that I had peo-

ple who believed in me and helped me get where I needed to be, though. I couldn't have made it this far on my own.”

After he began writing stories, he was soon promoted to a reporter. He eventually applied for and took over as campus editor, then life and arts editor — all while still writing stories and movie reviews.

At the end of his junior year, Tyle began the application process for editor-in-chief.

“It just felt like I needed to do it for myself and for the staff of The Post,” he said. “I had a lot of ideas I wanted to implement there.”

After barely two months in the position and three publications under his belt this year, Tyle has already begun turning some of his many ideas for The Post into reality.

One of the most impactful changes he hopes to enact is making The Post's website compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), meaning web content is accessible to everyone, including those with auditory and visual disabilities.

“Working with Trevor has been fantastic — he's compassionate, empathetic and he cares about what's going on in our lives,” Valley said. “Compassion is the perfect word to describe him and what he does.”

Tyle hopes he can have a hand in lasting change and making his mark on The Post in his year as editor-in-chief.

“I want to create a publication that has a positive effect on both the university and the community,” he said. “I've only got a year to do it, so it's time to get to work.”



Budget cuts in 2004 left many unemployed

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

The 2004 academic year was plagued by budget cuts that affected many Oakland University students and faculty. Many students' and staff members' jobs were in jeopardy, and available spots for incoming freshmen were being questioned.

Many students at the time relied on on-campus jobs to help pay for their bills and groceries. Jazmine Cobb, then a senior, depended on her job in the Oakland Center since she didn't have a car on campus. Cobb used to work at the Reservation Office of the OC, but lost her job as a result of the budget cuts.

According to Richard Fekel, the director of the Oakland Center at the time, some of the jobs in the OC were cut to make up for the extra cost of adding new expansions to the building. He said utilities, maintenance, cleaning supplies and other necessary items for the OC were all being added up in the cost.

"The expansion has played probably the largest role in us trying to diligently manage our budget this year," Fekel said.

More than 1,000 students at the time relied on OU for employment. These budget cuts were due to the state government's attempts to balance out the budget by tak-

ing state funding away from higher education.

"The number of student employees and amount of earnings can fluctuate from year to year," said Cindy Hermsen, director of financial aid. "It depends on the needs of the hiring department, the number of hours a student works and funding levels from the federal state and campus departments."

Some jobs at the time were ultimately safe from the budget cuts. Student employment within the organizations of WXOU, Student Congress and The Oakland Post is funded differently than other student jobs in the OC. These organizations are funded by the Student Activity fee or advertising revenue.

In addition to returning students that were affected by these budget cuts, incoming freshmen in the fall of 2004 were also affected.

Then-President Gary Russi said some incoming freshmen would have to be put on an enrollment waitlist during a budget briefing meeting.

The university also had to take other cost-saving measures by outsourcing, partnership, electricity deregulation purchases and working toward a "paperless" university.

Additionally, then-Vice President for Academic Affairs Viriinder Moudgil said 28 faculty positions would be

released. OU's media relations director at the time, Ted Montgomery, said the hiring for those 28 positions would be frozen and they would not be filled.

These faculty cuts were done in hopes of keeping the quality of the education on campus, but OU was hoping to find more options to help support the upcoming school year.

While no changes were expected for OU's funding at the time, Russi believed going over enrollment management, external funding, streamlining operations, partnerships and OU's location would help the administration work toward the university's continued success.



THE OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES

Many OC employees were stripped of their positions.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Oakland is in need of an Office of Sustainability

WILLIAM MCMULLIN

Contributor

Dear editor,

I'm glad students are working to make Oakland University more sustainable. However, it is critical that OU opens an Office of Sustainability, just like Western Michigan University, Wayne State University, University of Michigan and many other colleges in the state. Reputable colleges have been active for years in reducing their carbon footprints, energy use, water use, waste and so much more.

There are many great sustainability initiatives OU can implement, including improving energy efficiency of campus buildings, slowly switching out urinals with low-flow urinals and composting leftover food scraps from the dining halls, just to name a few.

The purchasing department can require departments to use post-consumer recycled paper, switch purchasing of carpeting that contains harmful chemicals to carpeting that is healthier, require wood and paper products be Forest Stewardship Council certified, switch staff clothing to Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) certified clothing, require all electronics be Energy Star certified, recommend electronics be Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) certified to reduce exposure to harmful chemicals, and require that 70% of cleaning supplies used on campus have the Green Seal logo.

We need an Office of Sustainability now to focus on greening the campus.

Sincerely,

William McMullin
Custodian, Oakland University

This letter was written in response to a piece our Aug. 7 issue titled "OU expands efforts to become a greener campus."

NOW ACCEPTING: CONTRIBUTORS

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CAMPUS

University approves \$3 million Dodge Hall renovation

TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

Campus updates, Title IX, athletics and a \$3 million renovation for Dodge Hall were addressed on Aug. 12 by the Oakland University Board of Trustees (BOT).

President's Report

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz began the meeting with a presentation highlighting summer activities for OU students, including study abroad opportunities in Israel, Greece and England, the new campus fitness court and the recently completed renovations to the Anne V. Nicholson apartments.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director and Title IX Coordinator Chad Martinez also outlined the significance of Title IX, a federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in federally funded education programs. In response to the rising sexual harassment accusations across the nation in recent years, Martinez reported the number of faculty and staff participating in OU's online awareness training had increased.

Athletic Director Steve Waterfield was also present during the BOT meeting to discuss his first year at the university and

his goals for athletics moving forward.

"One of the things that became quite evident to me this first year was the pride and passion people have for Oakland University," he said. "It gives me so much hope and optimism for the direction the athletics department will go."

According to Waterfield, athletics has shown significant progress in community engagement and academic success. This past year, 176 of OU's student athletes were named to the Horizon League Academic Honor Roll, the highest number of all schools in the league. He said the department has also shown considerable growth in areas relating to diversity, equity and inclusion.

"Based on the most recently available NCAA grad rates report, our gender representation on the men's and women's sports mirror closely the overall OU student population," he said. "Our African American representation [also] exceeds the university level."

Dodge Hall renovations

The BOT unanimously approved a renovation project in Dodge Hall, which is expected to be funded by a \$3 million bond approved at the June 10 BOT meeting.

"That space was originally vacated

as part of the move of the engineering school into their new building, and since then, it's proven to be an area in need of some updates," said Chief Operating Officer Scott Kunselman. "The new layout... ultimately improves the space in terms of its efficiency."

The project is expected to create new laboratory and office spaces for the College of Arts and Sciences. No time estimate for the project's potential start date was given. Dodge Hall joins the likes of Varner, South Foundation and Wilson Hall as one of several renovation projects to be approved by the Board of Trustees in the past year.

Purchasing property

The BOT also unanimously approved the purchase of property at 3300 University Drive, which will be funded by a \$78 million bond approved at the June 10 BOT meeting.

Kunselman noted the property's proximity to OU's main campus was within walking distance and would be "assignable to faculty research and other needs." According to Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost James Lentini, the property purchase will resolve issues regarding a lack of research labs for applied research in engineering

and other areas of study.

Kunselman estimated that more urgent renovations to the property could be completed in a matter of months, while he hopes to have it completed in its entirety within two to three years.

Additional agenda items

Shortly before the BOT approved several proposed university personnel actions, Lentini recognized four professors who were being considered for promotion to associate professor with tenure — Randal Westrick (biological sciences), Elizabeth Kattner (dance), Tomoko Wakabayashi (human development and child studies) and Virginia Uhley (foundational medicinal studies). He also introduced Amy Tully as the new director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance.

The meeting concluded with students from Universal Academy, one of OU's Public School Academies, addressing the BOT with regard to alleged administrative and curriculum-based issues in their school. This is outlined in a companion piece published on The Oakland Post's website.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Monday, Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. in Banquet Room A.

Chris D'Elia to perform stand-up routine on campus in October

JORDAN JEWELL

Engagement Editor

As the fall 2019 semester rapidly approaches, the annual homecoming festivities are being planned. This year's two-day event will feature a comedy show from actor and stand-up comedian Chris D'Elia.

On Friday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m., D'Elia will perform a stand-up routine in the Founders Ballrooms in the Oakland Center. Tickets to this event will be free to Oakland University students, faculty, staff and alumni.

"SAFAC wanted to go big this year," said Jean Ann Miller, senior director of the Office for Student Involvement. "There was a poll conducted with a lot of great comics on it. Chris D'Elia came out on top."

In addition to his three Netflix comedy specials, D'Elia has been featured on the streaming service's 2019 series "Comedians of the World." His other projects include his popular podcast "Congratulations with Chris D'Elia," a role in the popular Netflix series "You" and appearances on mul-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAFAC

Actor and stand-up comedian Chris D'Elia has had three Netflix specials and is currently on his Follow the Leader Tour.

iple network television shows, including ABC's "The Good Doctor" and NBC's "Undateable."

D'Elia is currently touring the United States on his Follow the Leader Tour. In addition to his visit to OU, he will be performing at the Masonic Temple in Detroit on Nov. 6 and 7.

"We are really excited to have such a big name

here on campus," said Samantha Miller, marketing director for the Student Program Board. "We believe Chris D'Elia is a perfect act to not only get the attention of staff and students, but to get alumni back on campus and raise attendance of Homecoming events."

Free tickets for OU students, as well as faculty, staff and alumni, will become available on the first day of fall semester classes, Wednesday, Sept. 4 at the OSI ticket window in the basement of the Oakland Center. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis with a two-ticket per person limit.

"Attendees can expect comedy at its absolute finest," Miller said. "Chris is a major star and his stand-ups are hilarious."

Homecoming weekend begins Friday, Oct. 11. Day one consists of several events for members and alumni of the OU community, including a homecoming brunch, class reunions, the swimming and diving teams' meet against Milwaukee, and Grizz Madnezz. Saturday, Oct. 12 includes the Homecoming Festival and men's and women's soccer matches.

Welcome Week events greet new and returning students

Some classic events as well as new ones will be coming to campus this fall for everyone

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

New year, new welcome week.

As new students enter and old faces return, Oakland University puts out its best and brightest to make OU feel like home. While Welcome Week staples like GrizzFest and the Sigma Pi pig roast return for 2019, a few new events have been added to the calendar.

On Wednesday, Sept. 4, the Office for Student Involvement (OSI) will be holding a new celebration for all incoming international students. Simply called “Welcome to OU,” the event will run from 4-6 p.m. in Banquet Room A of the Oakland Center to feature student organizations and American foods.

“[Welcome to OU] is just trying to get our students that are on campus to meet and greet our international students and vice versa so that [the students] can develop some new friendships and new connections with American students,” said Jean Ann Miller, OSI senior director.

As Thursday morning brings the lively and busy GrizzFest from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) plans to knock it back with the first ever OUSC Pours & S’mores Bonfire and BYOB party.

“I wanted to do a bonfire just as a fun event,” OUSC Vice President Julia Alexander said. “I feel like in the past, people have thought of Student Congress as a little uptight and a little serious, so we wanted to do something casual like a bonfire as a recruiting event to get people involved in the Congress.”

While the OUSC team found the idea of a bonfire inviting enough, making the event a BYOB seemed like the natural progression. With the party nature of BYOB, Alexander hopes Pours & S’mores opens up OUSC to previously untapped keghorts of students.

But the mix of beer, college students and the nighttime has historically produced mixed results. OUSC knows this and has plans for it.

“We are going to have a check in at the front,” Alexander said. “So you will bring your state ID if you want to drink, and then everyone has to bring their OU ID because it is an event for OU students.”

Should things get out of hand, OUSC President Destinee Rule said OUPD would be there to step in.

“We are trying to set the precedent that we are students trying to have fun and that we want our friends and our peers to be safe,” Rule said, “but also to comply with what the university wants for safety reasons.”

Drinks are limited to non-glass bottles under 24 ounces, and no drinking games are allowed into the event. Pours & S’mores will run from 8:30-11 p.m. at the Recreation and Athletic Outdoor Complex’s bonfire pit and P11 on Sept. 5.



We are trying to set the precedent that we are students trying to have fun and that we want our friends and peers to be safe, but also to comply with what the university wants for safety reasons.

DESTINEE RULE
OUSC PRESIDENT



Campus radio station WXOU is also providing a live concert experience for the Student Program Board (SPB) carnival on Sept. 6. From 6-8 p.m., the north side of the Oakland Center will be rocked by two local bands with ties to OU: Duff Raybarb and Tall Boy.

According to WXOU’s Wade Panizzoli, Tall Boy is an indie-rock alternative group with a sound reminiscent of Beech Fossils and Weezer. The band played its first show in March 2019 and has also played at the Loving Touch in Ferndale alongside grunge band Antighost and Flint-based alt-rock band Baggage.

Duff Raybarb is a classic rock trio reminiscent of Greta Van Fleet and played a show at The Habitat in March 2019.

A DJ is also planned to play during the SPB carnival from 5-10 p.m.

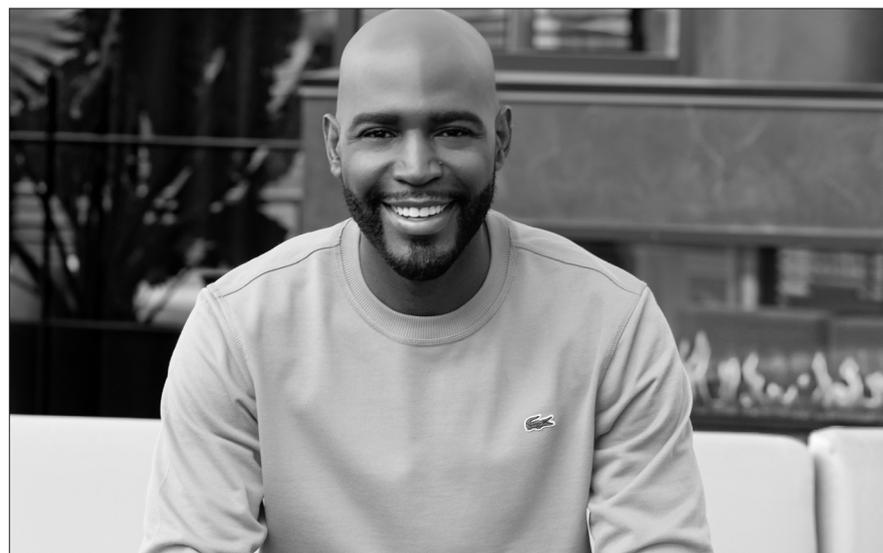


PHOTO COURTESY OF KEPLER SPEAKERS

The “Queer Eye” star is one of two celebrities coming to campus this October.

‘Queer Eye’ star Karamo Brown to visit campus

TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

Reality television star and author Karamo Brown is set to speak at Oakland University on Wednesday, Oct. 9 as part of this year’s homecoming festivities.

A three-time Emmy Award winner, Brown currently stars as the culture expert on the recently renewed Netflix reboot of “Queer Eye” and is scheduled to compete in the upcoming 28th season of “Dancing with the Stars,” which premieres Monday, Sept. 16 on ABC. In 2004, he made history as the first openly-gay African American in reality television with his debut television appearance on MTV’s “The Real World.” He also recently appeared in Taylor Swift’s music video for “You Need to Calm Down,” which took home the MTV Video Music Award for Video of the Year last week.

Brown’s visit will be one of two major celebrity appearances on campus that week, as comedian Chris D’Elia is also expected to perform a stand-up routine on Friday, Oct. 11. According to Jean Ann Miller, senior director of the Office for Student Involvement (OSI), having two influential stars at OU in the same week will be both exciting and stressful.

“We have someone major in terms of noted individuals coming to campus, and it just happened to be the same week,” she said. “What a wow factor — no one should be complaining about what we’re offering here.”

In addition to speaking, Brown is also expected to do a book signing. He previously authored a memoir titled “Karamo: My Story of Embracing Purpose, Healing and Hope,” and his

upcoming children’s book, “I Am Perfectly Designed,” is co-authored with his son, Jason, and will be released Nov. 5, 2019. Miller said she is in talks with the Barnes & Noble Bookstore on campus to make Brown’s work available for purchase ahead of his visit.

Brown is also a well-respected activist, particularly for the LGBTQIA+ community. He has a self-titled podcast where he offers advice to people on situations affecting their everyday lives. In 2018, he received the Human Rights Campaign Visibility Award. He was invited by the Obama administration to collaborate on pro-LGBTQIA+ youth policies and legislation, and has since personally joined forces with Barack Obama to support the Obama Foundation and the My Brother’s Keeper Alliance.

Brown’s talk is a ticketed event, but will be free for all OU students, faculty, staff and alumni with a two-per-person limit. The event will also be open to members of the general public. Tickets will become available on Monday, Sept. 9 and can be obtained at the OSI service window in the basement of the Oakland Center.

“When we are making it available to the community surrounding us, then it’s almost like a community service that we offer,” Miller said. “People can see this very distinguished person and have the opportunity to come and see him for free, and hear a phenomenal message.”

The event will be co-sponsored by the Student Life Lecture Board, Oakland University Credit Union and the Gender and Sexuality Center. For more information or to request special assistance, contact the OSI at (248) 370-2400 or osi@oakland.edu.

POLICE FILES

Parking Lot Scuffle

Oakland University Police dispatch was called to report a heated argument between two male subjects in the P-13 parking lot, near the Athletic Dome, on the evening of June 10. Two officers were dispatched to the call. On the way there, dispatch advised that the situation had evolved into a verbal altercation. The officers were also informed that a white Ford pickup truck involved in the incident was attempting to leave the scene. One of the officers activated their overhead lights and siren in an attempt to catch up to the vehicle leaving the scene.

One officer was able to catch up with the pickup truck and make contact with the driver. The male in the driver's seat claimed he had just been assaulted by his father-in-law. He said his wife had been cheating on him and he just wanted to get his son out of the situation, who was sitting in the back seat. He explained to the officer what happened during the altercation, including how he had been slapped and kept his father-in-law at bay with a chair. The officer confirmed they saw marks on his cheek and blood on his door.

The father-in-law and wife arrived on the scene in separate vehicles. The second officer went to meet with them while the first stayed with the pickup truck. While speaking, the officer discovered the wife was the victim of domestic violence and was not comfortable sharing at the time. The father-in-law corroborated this and said he was just worried about his daughter's safety, and he was hoping they could go home with her son for the night. When the officer went back to the pickup truck, they talked with the son, and he confirmed he wanted to go home with his mom. The father affirmed he was happy with the arrangement, and the scene was cleared without further incident.

When attempting follow up calls the following day, OUPD was unable to contact any of the parties involved in the incident, but at the time no one wished to press charges. OUPD was able to later get ahold of the wife, and she answered additional questions about security footage from before the altercation. They encouraged her to report the assault or any threats to her well-being to the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

*Compiled by Ben Hume,
Web Editor*

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FALL 2019 PAYMENT DUE DATE



The fall semester is here — start it off right and avoid any last-minute financial surprises by being proactive.

Reminder: the fall payment due date was August 15. If you haven't paid your account balance in full, it is past due. Please contact Student Financial Services immediately.

You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full. Consider all your financial options. An OU payment plan helps spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments and be sure to pay your installments on time. Obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds are other options for you. Know which charges can be paid with your financial aid (an authorization may be needed) and which charges you must pay out-of-pocket.

We are here to help. If you need help understanding payment options or how to pay for your education, please contact Student Financial Services at (248) 370-2550 or stop by North Foundation Hall, Room 120, as soon as possible.



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Free, confidential and easily treated: Graham Health Center offers STD testing

story by Taylor McDaniel // design by Erin O'Neill // graphics by Jimmy Williams



PROTECT AGAINST STDs

One in two people will get a sexually transmitted disease by the time they are 25 years old.

In fact, the STDs gonorrhea and chlamydia reached an all-time high in 2017. This was the fourth year in a row these infections had rapidly increased in the United States.

Nancy Jansen, director of the Graham Health Center, confirmed the number of cases is rising for both STDs.

STDs are on the rise despite young people having less sex, according to the Archives of Sexual Behavior journal.

Why?

There are many theories: from the increase in casual dating apps like Tinder and Grindr, to the rise in high-risk sexual behaviors associated with opioid use and addiction, and the fact that fewer people are wearing condoms while participating in sex. Condoms are the only way to prevent STDs — other than not having sex at all — and that not only includes vaginal sex, but oral and anal as well.

In a 2017 survey of Oakland University students by the American College Health Association, of those who reported participating in vaginal intercourse, only 61.7% used a condom as a form of contraception, leaving the other roughly 40% of students vulnerable.

“Honestly, what I really think it has to do with is that people engage in risky behaviors a lot of times because they think it won’t happen to them,” said Dr. Annette Feravich, a special lecturer at OU.

Luckily, the Graham Health Center on campus provides free urine testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea — the first and second most common notifiable conditions in the United States, respectively. The free testing is provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Between July 2018 and July 2019, 272 took the test. Out of these almost 300 people, 14% tested positive for

either chlamydia or gonorrhea. These diseases are often easily treatable, though they have serious and permanent consequences if left undetected.

For women, both chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), an infection of a woman’s reproductive organs. If not caught early, severe consequences of PID can lead to long-term pelvic/abdominal pain, Fallopian tubal blockage, ectopic pregnancy (pregnancy occurring outside the womb) and infertility. Although rare, men can also become sterile from an untreated STD.

Jansen said the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends sexually active people — especially women ages 15-24 — get tested once a year.

Testing at the GHC is available any time the office is open. There is a short form to fill out, you give a urine sample — be sure to leave an hour between the last time you urinate and supply the sample — and then you’re all set.

The office will contact you if the results are positive to get you in right away for treatment (\$10 for medication in office). Jansen also mentioned that if a patient is uncomfortable with the office contacting them, the patient can reach out instead.

“Once you begin treatment, [STDs] are eliminated from your body within seven days, if not sooner,” Jansen said.

Simple, easy, quick, classified and convenient — it just takes a few minutes to prevent potentially lifelong problems. Plus, you get a sticker on your way out.

The GHC will be hosting a sexual health expo on Thursday, Sept. 12 that includes additional information on on-campus resources for sexual health, as well as free STD testing. For more information on the Graham Health Center and other upcoming events hosted by the center, visit oakland.edu/ghc.

Approximately **50%** of STDs are found in people between the **ages of 15 and 24**.

Many people do not experience symptoms as a result of contracting an STD, so the only surefire way to know if you have one is to **get tested**.

Some STDs, such as HIV, can be fatal, so **treatment is crucial**.



WELCOME WEEK @ OAKLAND UNIVERSITY - FALL SEMESTER 2019

Tuesday, September 3 - Wednesday, September 11

Wednesday, September 4 FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

- **Student Program Board (SPB) Hump Day**
Noon-1 p.m., Elliott Tower
- **Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC), International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO), and Office for Student Involvement (OSI) Golden Grizzly "Meet & Greet" for International Students**
4-6 p.m., Banquet Room A, Oakland Center
- **Center for Multicultural Initiatives Welcome BBQ**
6-8:30 p.m., Elliott Tower
- **National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Yard Show & Greek Fair**
9-11 p.m., Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

Thursday, September 5

- **Fall Grizz Fest - Student Organizations, Business & Volunteer Fair**
11 a.m.-1 p.m., Elliott Tower
- **Kickoff of Thursday Night MAINSTAGE featuring Comedian Michael Dean Ester**
7-8 p.m., The Habitat
- **Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) Pours & S'mores (Bonfire & BYOB)**
8:30-11 p.m., Bonfire Pit, Recreation and Athletic Outdoor Complex and P11 Parking Lot

Friday, September 6

- **Graham Health Center "Free to Pee" & OU Counseling Center Open House**
11 a.m.-1 p.m., Graham Health Center
- **Academic Affairs & ISSO International Welcome Reception**
3-5 p.m., Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center
- **Student Program Board (SPB) Carnival & 25th Annual Sigma Pi Pig Roast**
5-10 p.m., North Side of the Oakland Center
- **WXOU Live Concert**
6-8 p.m., North Side of the Oakland Center
- **Student Video Productions (SVP) Outdoor Movie featuring "Us"**
8-10 p.m., North Side of the Oakland Center

Saturday, September 7

- **Office for Student Involvement (OSI) Student Organization Officer Training**
10 a.m.-1 p.m., Room 201, Dodge Hall
- **Office for Student Involvement (OSI) & Residence Life Association (RLA) Welcome Event: Hypnotist AnnaRose**
7-9 p.m., Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

Sunday, September 8

- **Panhellenic Council (CPH) & Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) Sorority Recruitment Orientation**
2 p.m., Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

- **Athletics Department OU Women's Soccer vs University of Notre Dame**
4-9 p.m., Oakland Soccer Field
- **Grizz Gang Bowling Party**
7-10 p.m., Classic Lanes, Rochester Hills

Monday, September 9

- **Office for Student Involvement (OSI) & American Red Cross Blood Drive**
9 a.m.-9 p.m., Room 128-130, Oakland Center
- **North Foundation Hall & Student Services Open House**
11 a.m.-1 p.m., North Foundation Hall
- **The Tutoring Center "Meet & Greet"**
11 a.m.-1 p.m., 103 North Foundation Hall

Tuesday, September 10

- **State of Michigan Secretary of State Mobile Office - Voter Registration and Full SOS Services**
10 a.m.-3 p.m., Mall Area, Between North and South Foundation Halls
- **The Tutoring Center Drop-In Algebra Review**
10 a.m.-4 p.m., 103 North Foundation Hall
- **University Recreation & Well-Being "Find Your Fit"**
7-10 p.m., Recreation Center
- **Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) & Office for Student Involvement (OSI) "The Walk" to Meadow Brook Hall**
9-11 p.m., Meet at Hamlin Circle

Wednesday, September 11 OU UNITY DAY

- **Student Veterans of OU 9-11 Remembrance & Road March for Hunger**
11 a.m.-2 p.m., Elliott Tower
- **SAFAC & Lower Level of the Oakland Center Open House**
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Lower Level, Oakland Center
- **Golden Key International Honour Society and Student Video Productions (SVP) Movie, Munchies, & Therapy Dogs featuring "Monsters University"**
5-7 p.m., The Habitat, Oakland Center
- **National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) & Greek Council "All We Do is Step, Stroll, and Hop" featuring Rasheed Cromwell, JD**
7-9 p.m., Founder Ballrooms A-B, Oakland Center

► Tickets for **Chris D'Elia "Follow the Leader" Comedy Show** on Friday, October 11, available on **Wednesday, September 4**, at 9 a.m. at the OSI Service Window, Room 49, Oakland Center. Tickets are FREE for OU students, faculty, staff, and alumni. There is a maximum of two tickets per person.

► Tickets for **"An Evening with Queer Eye's Karamo Brown"** on Wednesday, October 9, available on **Monday, September 9**, at 9 a.m. at the OSI Service Window, Room 49, Oakland Center. Tickets are FREE for OU students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the public. There is a maximum of two tickets per person.

Carolina native hired as School of Music, Theatre and Dance director

KATELYN HILL

Staff Intern

North Carolina native Amy Tully has become the new director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance (SMTD), bringing her years as a professional flutist to the students of Oakland University.

“What attracted me to this position is being able to work with three really fine performing arts departments,” Tully said. “Even though I see myself as a flutist, I identify so easily with other performing artists because I understand the grit, I understand the time, I understand the sweat and tears and I understand the toll it takes on the body.”

Tully lived in South Carolina for 20 years and worked as an orchestral flutist, chamber musician and a solo artist. She was also a professor, teaching music history and flute classes, before becoming the associate dean at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina.

Her favorite experiences have been whenever she played Beethoven or played a new piece of music, especially when a composer wrote it specifically for her.

One of the highlights of her collegiate understanding of music was going to a performance of “The Marriage of Figaro” by Mozart. She said, between the scenery, costumes, dancing, acting and singing, she saw the blending of so many different kinds of artistic creativity.

As the new director of the SMTD, Tully hopes to show the community how hard the students work, bringing forth more opportunities for scholarships. She also wants to look at the curriculum and degrees of the different programs and find ways to improve upon what has already been put in place.

One of her main goals, though, is to prepare students for a life in the performing arts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JLBOONE PHOTOGRAPHY
Tully intends to provide resources for SMTD students to prepare them for success in a career of performing arts.

“I want to nurture our students, and what I mean by that is preparing them for a life in the performing arts,” she said. “Sometimes it’s not going to be easy. If we don’t nurture the next generation, then what are we doing?”

Tully said one major thing she sees at Oakland is how educating students is the main priority for the professors. She wants students to know the same applies for her.

She hopes students see they are welcome to come talk to her because she understands what it is like to be in their position.

“I’ve been in those foundations classes that either were kicking your butt, or you were bored and you just have to get through it,” she said. “I have been there in those late night rehearsals, those late night performances. I’ve been in the practice mode where you are just too tired to keep going.”

Her years of experience will not only help with connecting with students, though. Tully said her history as a performing artist will also help her with her new

position as director.

She believes that you can’t be a freelance musician or solo artist without first being organized, paying attention and understanding non-artistic things such as contracts.

In her 10-15 years playing in orchestras and organizing chamber music, she said another requisite was to be able to balance her schedule. Between practicing, preparing to teach during the week and maintaining a social life, being able to balance a schedule is vital and an attribute she carries with her to OU.

Overall, Tully said Oakland is very welcoming and feels that people really want others to succeed, an attribute which isn’t always present in a university setting.

While every school at OU has its challenges, she believes this is the most student-centered place she’s ever worked, a trait she feels is incredibly important.

“If this is your passion, don’t give up,” she said. “There’s times it’s hard and it’s very physically and emotionally draining, but in the end it’s worth it.”

Partnering with Metro Detroit Youth Groups

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

With helping out in the community being a main focus for many staff, faculty and students this year, Oakland University decided to partner with Metro Detroit Youth Groups to provide guidance and mentoring help in the process.

While partnering with the Metro Detroit Youth Groups, OU will help many young lives, especially within the Durfee community and Durfee Elementary-Middle School in Detroit.

“Our talent will help them reach more young people who are striving to improve their lives and the lives of the community,” said Dr. Kevin Corcoran, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “In doing so, our students will learn so much about themselves as well as about the community.”

The Metro Detroit Youth Clubs has a mission to help the younger generation reach its full potential. They have been offering many programs for 60 years, working with schools, businesses, volunteers, the community and other organizations along the way.

“We partner with a number of local groups and organizations in our effort to advance community engagement at Oakland University,” Glenn McIntosh, vice president for student affairs and chief diversity officer. “It’s one of our four strategic goals, along with student success, research, community engagement, [and] diversity, equity and inclusion, so this is really an extension of that goal.”

OU plans to bring outreach, academic, sports and mentoring programs to the partnership this year.

“I am always impressed by the grit and dedication on our campus,” Corcoran said. “We hope to match our talents and skills with community needs

and aspirations.”

Students on campus are able to get involved in volunteering by attending different volunteer days. For the mentoring programs, OU hopes to get Oakland University Student Congress, Residence Hall Association and other student organizations involved in the project.

“We will be working through different academic departments and Student Affairs departments to offer opportunities for students to volunteer,” McIntosh said. “The Center for Student Engagement will have different volunteer days.”

The OU community hopes to help improve the academic values within this atmosphere. When looking at the Durfee community, the rate for both academic and literacy performances tends to be lower. OU sees a mutual benefit from partnering with Detroit on the Durfee Project that can be impactful for both parties.

“Our sweet spot is taking our students who, while they’re here at the university, they grow and develop, so when we talk about revitalizing a community, it’s a perfect fit,” McIntosh said. “We learn and we grow as a result of being in those kinds of communities and they benefit from us being in their community.”

As well as partnering with the Metro Detroit Youth Clubs, OU has been working with Marygrove College by doing a teach-out. This allows students to transfer to OU after the closing of the college at the end of the year.

OU plans on continuing its presence in the Detroit community and allowing partnerships with Metro Detroit Youth Groups to grow more in the future. OU also has hope in creating partnerships with more organizations in the coming year.

Students voice concern over tuition increase

Oakland University one of many schools contributing to the rising cost of education

Dean Vaglia

Staff Reporter

During the June 10 meeting of the Oakland University Board of Trustees (BOT), the Board unanimously voted to raise student tuition. The 4.4% increase — roughly \$20 per credit — is based on then-yet-to-be-approved state funding as a part of the university's "transparent pricing strategy."

As the BOT raises rates on students, one can only wonder how the students feel about this change.

"[The tuition increase] is actually pretty disappointing, honestly," said junior Abu Bangurah. "The reason why most people go to OU is because of its cheap tuition. Increasing by that much sort of negates some students from coming to this university, in my opinion."

Prior to the June 10 increase, the average tuition for a full-time resident first-year student was estimated at \$12,892.50. For the fall 2019 and winter 2020 semesters, full-time resident freshmen can expect to pay \$13,462.50 — an increase of \$570.

With a hike in price, students are expected to be curious about what their money is going toward. Junior Sanjay Antani speaks for the spending-skeptical students.

"I would not be opposed to a tuition increase if the revenue was allocated the right way, but they are not spending it properly," Antani said. "They still have a

“

[The tuition increase] is actually pretty disappointing, honestly. The reason why most people go to OU is because of its cheap tuition. Increasing by that much sort of negates some students from coming to this university, in my opinion.

ABU BANGURAH
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY JUNIOR

”

parking problem. They can pay faculty and staff more. Places that need additional financial help are not getting it."

While issues like the parking problem speak for themselves, faculty and facility spending can be expected to increase. A Bachelor of Science in nutrition degree that is expected to add 10 new courses was

unanimously approved by the BOT at the same meeting, alongside approving \$78 million in upgrades for Varner Hall and the creation of a student athlete development center and basketball practice facility.

The BOT's pastime of raising the cost of tuition is something well known to longtime students, according to senior Brandon Kuiawa.

"I am not going to say I like [the tuition increase]," Kuiawa said. "It is not the best thing. Since I started [at OU] three years ago, I definitely noticed a jump in my bill from my first year. I am just hoping to get out before they really spike it up."

The BOT increased tuition every year for the past three years, by 3.8% in 2016, 3.74% in 2017, 3.8% in 2018 and 4.4% in 2019.

Kuiawa is not the only senior who views graduation as a way to escape creeping tuition costs.

"I am not really a big fan of [the tuition increase]," said senior Hannah Roberts. "It makes me glad that I am going into my senior year and will not have to keep paying, as it seems to keep increasing."

Despite all the gripes about serial increases and questionable spending, some students see rising tuition a disappointing fact of life at OU.

"Obviously [the tuition increase] kind of sucks because it is more money you have to pay, but it is worth it," junior Anthony Dombrowski said. "I am happy to be at OU."

Local author, OU alumnus releases new book 'Part-time Zombie'

KATIE VALLEY

Content Editor

An '80s-horror inspired novel about a part-time zombie named Alice who must decide between humanity or being the forerunner of the coming "fleshpocalypse" is an Oakland University alumnus' latest novel.

Gerald Dean Rice, who graduated from OU in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in English, released the book "Part-time Zombie" in May through Melted Brain Books after distributing part of it as a free chapbook.

Rice lives in Troy with his wife and children and has been publishing his work since 2010. He's self-published short stories, edited an anthology and had the book "Dead 'til Dawn" published by Kindle Press in 2017.

Since growing up in the 1980s, Rice decided he wanted to write a book that included the tropes and clichés of the generation. He said the book's literary style avoids filler content by having events happen quickly, named a "throwing-everything-at-the-wall kind of writing."

Rice had two old movies in mind while

writing "Part-time Zombie": "From Beyond," released in 1986 (directed by Stuart Gordon) and "The Fly," also released in 1986 (directed by David Cronenberg). Rice said he pulled "body horror" elements from that book, along with breaking movie traditions, such as the final survivor, damsel-in-distress female character.

"In a lot of horror movies, the main female character of the story is helpless and waiting for a guy to rescue her," he said. "I intentionally flipped that because I wanted a strong female character ... [The plot] was really more of a 'final guy' character, and in many respects he was the one who needed to be rescued because he's a human surrounded by all of these supernatural forces — including [Alice]."

The book is aimed toward anyone who loves or loved horror, likes humor or enjoys the two combined.

While attending OU, Rice wrote and submitted pieces to online magazines. He said he wanted to write poetry like poet and novelist Sylvia Plath and fiction like author of African American literature Zora Neale Hurston.

Rice said OU prepared him well for the writing world because he learned more

about how people interact to increase the depth of his characters. One particular poetry professor exposed him to different forms of thinking and another class about Emily Dickinson helped shape him as a writer.

"OU was essential in preparing me for the writing world by helping me to become aware of other authors, of not just reading for face value," he said. "I think it helped me to become a more in-depth reader."

In the future, Rice is looking to secure a major publisher for his newest work "The Bureau of Retired Spells & Broken Magic," which he originally started during National Novel Writing Month, about magic mixed with concepts from the show "Law and Order."

For students who wish to become published authors, Rice offers some advice, mainly to avoid letting self-doubt hinder the completion of work.

"Your first draft isn't supposed to be great," he said. "Your first draft is just supposed to be getting that idea onto the page ... The most important thing is to write and keep writing and deny that voice that's telling you that it's crap and to scrap it because that's just normal self-doubt. I'm

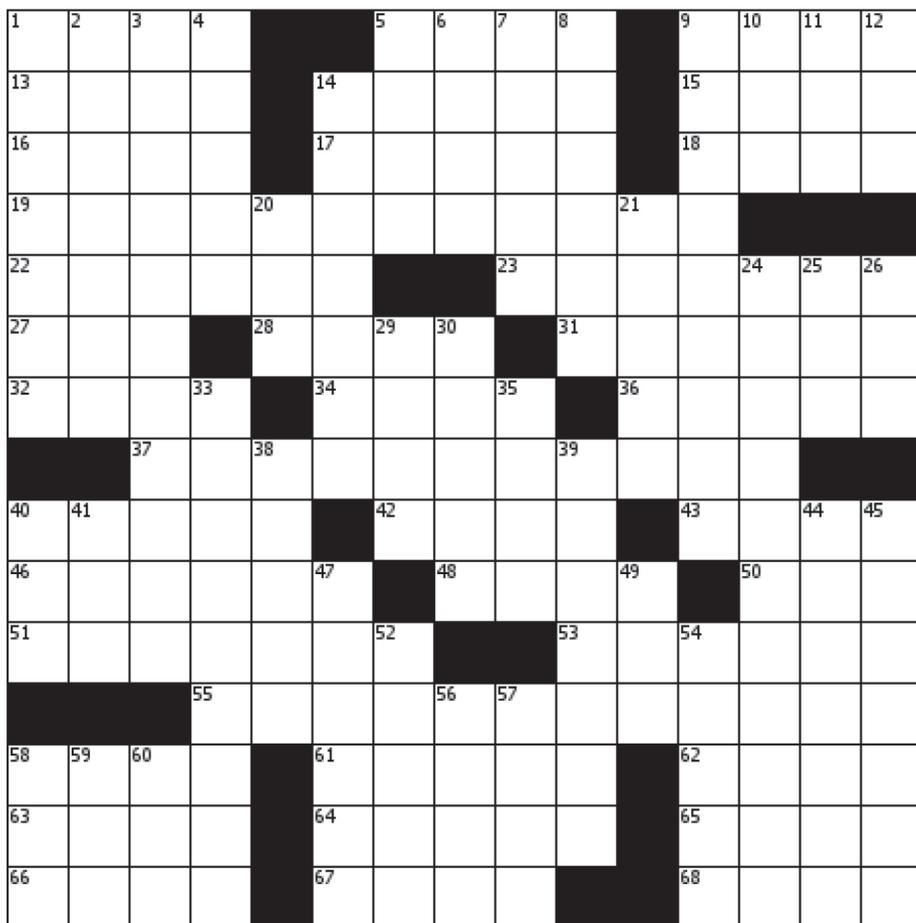


PHOTO COURTESY OF GERALD DEAN RICE
Protagonist Alice faces a humanitarian dilemma in the new horror novel.

sure it happens to the best writers."

"Part-time Zombie" is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Smashwords, Overdrive, and everywhere eBooks are sold and in print exclusively from Melted Brain Books.

PUZZLES



Across

- 1. Seethe
- 5. Cuts corners, in a way
- 9. Brief passing comments?
- 13. Clued in about
- 14. Sound of the northwest
- 15. TV's "Warrior Princess"
- 16. 24 hrs. ago
- 17. "___ and Her Men" (Bergman film)
- 18. Some House votes
- 19. Harvard's theater group
- 22. Fall colors
- 23. Branch headquarters?
- 27. Treasure of Montezuma
- 28. Imbibes, but delicately
- 31. Flamenco dancer, often
- 32. Place for kings or queens
- 34. N.Y.C. area near the Village
- 36. Former Israeli politico
- 37. Flo's comeback at Mel's Diner
- 40. Like the Tower of Pisa
- 42. El Misti's place
- 43. Geological periods
- 46. Got to the bottom of the barrel?

48. Flat fee

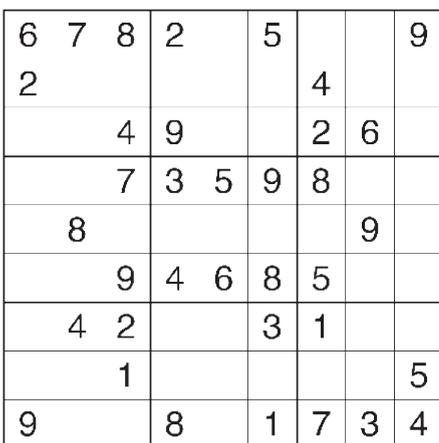
- 50. Romanian money
- 51. McCourt book (with "Ashes")
- 53. Old salt
- 55. "Get Shorty" actor
- 58. Auto pioneer Ferrari
- 61. Hawaiian singing star
- 62. Type of window
- 63. "... ___ good cheer"
- 64. Boo-boo
- 65. Uffizi Gallery attraction
- 66. ___ Bourguignonne
- 67. Kenny G's need
- 68. Not new50. Long-necked swimmers

Down

- 1. Man's early years
- 2. 4,840 square yards
- 3. "I'm appalled!"
- 4. Ms. Lenya
- 5. "Star Trek" navigator
- 6. Like fine wine
- 7. "Cheers" actor George
- 8. Energetic folks take them
- 9. Treat, as bottled water
- 10. Honeycomb inhabitant
- 11. Pig ___ poke
- 12. ___ in turkey

- 14. Tummy enzymes
- 20. Wks. and wks.
- 21. "___ say more?"
- 24. Small brigade?
- 25. "Are you a man ___ mouse?"
- 26. Prospector's need
- 29. Grandeur
- 30. More timid
- 33. Like some characters on "The Sopranos"
- 35. Shrek, for one
- 38. Shoulder wrap
- 39. Seeks the office of
- 40. Constellation near Scorpius
- 41. George Hamilton's trademark
- 44. Stork's delivery
- 45. Sweetened
- 47. Ramble
- 49. Leaves for a break?
- 52. Sleep noisily
- 54. Chilean pianist Claudio
- 56. About, formally speaking
- 57. Did a smithy's job
- 58. Fall back, as a tide
- 59. Born, on the society pages
- 60. Orange Muppet

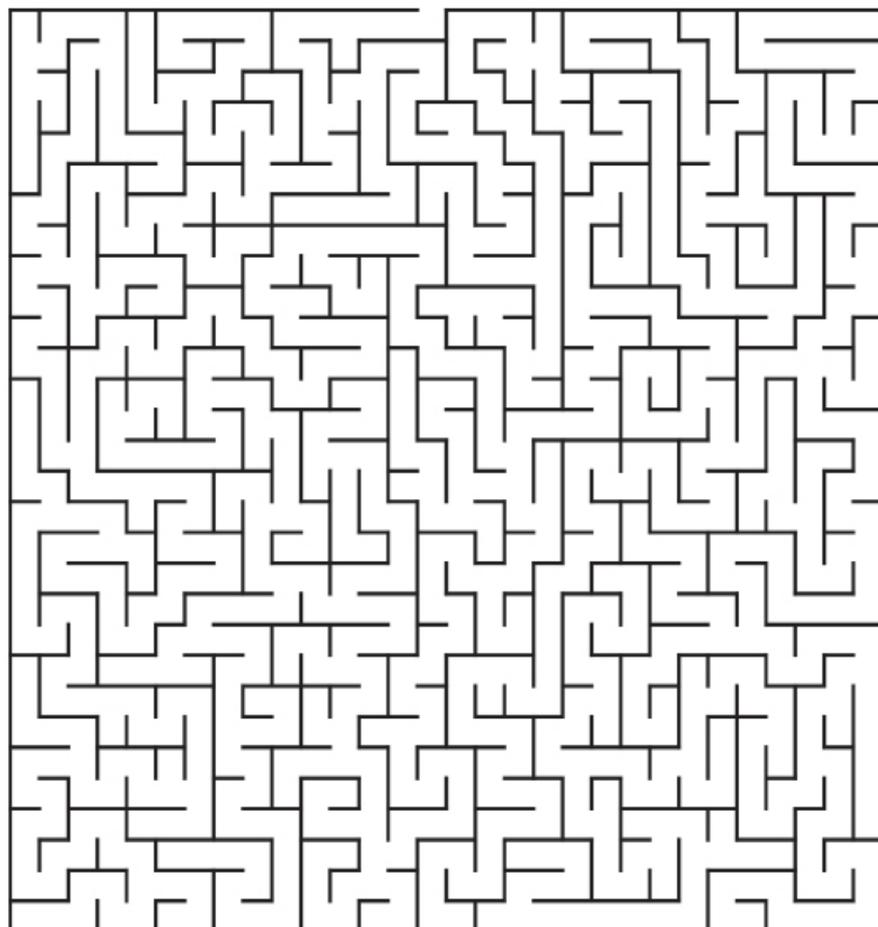
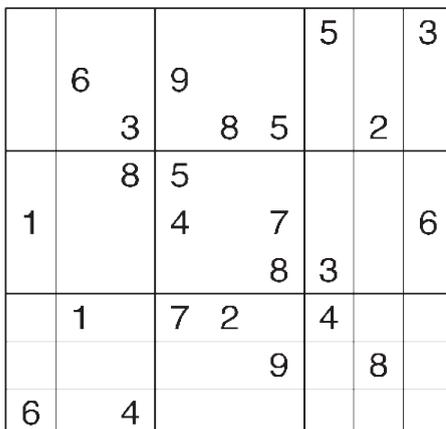
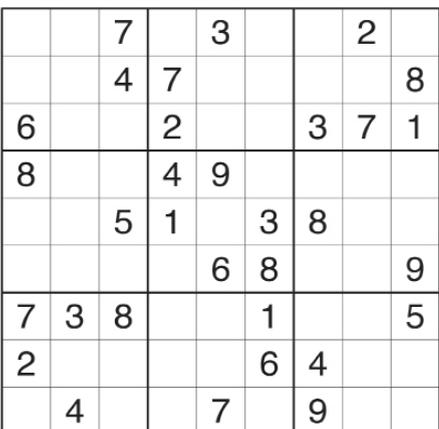
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



Can't say Michigan ain't country

The country crew gave fans a packed performance

RACHEL BASELA

Life&Arts Editor

The boys of country music visited DTE Energy Music Theater in Clarkston, Michigan, on Aug. 10 as part of their “Can’t Say I Ain’t Country” tour. Hardy, Canaan Smith, Morgan Wallen, Dan + Shay and Florida Georgia Line performed in this order starting at 7 p.m. Each group brought a sense of individuality and high-energy to the stage that evening.

Michael Hardy, who goes by “Hardy,” ran out on stage wearing a Britney Spears t-shirt. He sang his set with gusto and had that classic country twang. Hardy finished off his set by discussing his journey from being a songwriter in Nashville to making a well-known name for himself as a performer, and then, of course, shot-gunned a beer for the screaming audience.

Canaan Smith performed twice. He came out to the front of the stage with an acoustic guitar around his neck, followed by a backup singer who played acoustic beside him and a bassist to bring the group together. The three men played a short set to entertain the crowd while the stage was set up for Morgan Wallen and then Dan + Shay. Smith seemed extremely grateful for the opportunity to be an entertainer at such a large and popular concert, and he introduced the next groups with excitement.

Morgan Wallen had that country swagger that only a guy with a mullet can bring. The swanky hairdo and the classic country

persona had the crowd engaged throughout his entire set as he asked questions and shared personal stories about his time in the limelight.

Dan + Shay wooed the audience with their personal bromance and their lyrical romance. The power-duo thanked the crowd on multiple occasions for coming to the show and urged the chorus of the audience to raise their voices as they sang along to classics like “Tequila” and “Speechless.” The two singers brought out the best in the concertgoers, as the couples swayed to the music and the rest dreamt of a love like the one that Dan + Shay sang of.

Florida Georgia Line, the headlining group, had a stage set-up complete with over-the-top LED lights, fireworks and moving pieces. The audience seemed to know all the words to every song, and FGL used this to their advantage as they asked the crowd to take over singing a few lines. Not only did the duo deliver with their special effects and music, they also got sappy when talking about their wives and their kids, which hit home to the family-oriented crowd.

Overall, each of the groups entertained the audience in individual and special ways. However, one common theme throughout the evening was classic country romance, and it brought the crowd together like nothing else. You can’t say Michigan ain’t country after being a part of an evening with these southern boys.



RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley of FGL took the stage in their first of two MI shows.

Barstool Sports and the conservative stance on labor

CEO Dave Portnoy revealed just how much he did not support his employees unionizing



BEN HUME

Web Editor

Barstool Sports has long been the subject of controversy on its social media outlets for a number of reasons, but now CEO Dave Portnoy is in hot water for another reason — union busting.

Portnoy tweeted about his negative views on unions after hearing his workers wanted to unionize. His stance directly opposes workers’ rights protected by the National Labor Rights Act of 1935, and he is anything but subtle about his opinions.

Rafi Letzter replied to his tweet on Aug. 12, saying that for anyone employed by Barstool that wanted to have a private chat about the unionization process, his “DMs are open.” Portnoy replied, “If you work for @barstoolsports and DM this man I will fire you on the spot.”

Yes, that threat is definitely as illegal as it looks.

It didn’t take long for labor lawyers to start weighing in, and David Rosenfeld was the one to take the charge. He hopes that the National Labor Relations Board, which is now investigating the charges against Portnoy and Barstool, will manage to wrench at least an apology out of the defiant Portnoy, who kept tweeting follow-ups to his original tweet, such as hoping his employees unionize “just so I can crush it and reassert

my dominance.”

By this time, even the U.S. Department of Labor chimed in with a toll-free hotline for those who felt they were being targeted against the law. This brought in Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D), who sided with and reaffirmed the labor laws Portnoy was breaking, which of course led to the one and only Donald Trump Jr. giving his two cents about the matter by the afternoon of Aug. 13.

After the dust had settled, the inquiries into Barstool continued, and the NLRB case at this point is still open. With unions and worker benefits becoming one of many contentious topics in national discourse, it felt right to use this particular event as an example of how the United States needs to change the way it looks at labor.

Why is a man that directly threatens the well-being of his employees and holds opinions that are dangerous to the health of those he writes about held as the poster child of conservative economics? His habit of stirring up controversy runs back far before this particular engagement, like when he refused to apologize after saying a 20-year-old female employee would be too ugly for camera in five years. Or when one of Barstool Sports’ writers was fired after he wrote an article joking about a missing college student later found dead.

His company is related to so many individual incidents of mistreatment, endangerment and political incorrectness that it’s hard to understand why it still exists. Until you see that the company has grown with a \$25 million investment from the media holding company The Chernin Group. Then, you remember that the things that matter to companies like Portnoy’s aren’t if they treat women like human beings, or give living wages to their employees or if they’re politically correct. It starts to make sense then why unions and workers’ rights aren’t at the top of their economic priorities, and why they’re used as collateral for Twitter controversy.

The only thing that matters is Barstool’s bottom line.

SPORTS

Oakland soccer players win title with Flint City Bucks

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

This off-season, multiple Golden Grizzlies kept playing soccer while classes were out, playing for the Flint City Bucks of the USL League 2.

The Bucks went on to win the national championship, beating Reading FC in overtime 1-0. The title winning team had Spencer Nolff, Dylan Borczak and Elliot Bentley, three Oakland University students who kept improving, playing against other D1 athletes.

“Playing in the off-season keeps you sharp,” Nolff said. “It keeps you fit and keeps your mentality strong. You don’t have breaks so it keeps you strong to keep getting touches on the ball.”

Nolff was excited to play in Flint, which is 11 miles away from his hometown of Grand Blanc. At Grand Blanc High School, he was a part of a team that went undefeated in the regular season. Playing professional soccer close to home was an experience he was eager to have.

“It was awesome to see so many people from my area come and support,” Nolff said. “It’s huge also for the city of Flint, and to see a lot of people I knew there was amazing.”

This was Borczak’s first season at the USL League 2 level. He saw significant regular season minutes and played in three playoff games en route to the championship.

Borczak saw consistent action for the first time for Oakland in 2018, and said he

and others on the team saw improvement in him over the summer. This is something he hopes to carry into the fall with the Golden Grizzlies.

“Winning the championship was mind-blowing honestly,” Borczak said. “I didn’t expect to win, to be honest. I don’t think many other people expected us to win, but we pulled it out, somehow.”

Coming into the season, players expected to contend for a title with the Bucks, but as the season progressed and injuries took place, the championship odds seemed lower than at first. The team was on the verge of missing the postseason and survived a scare when they forced penalty kicks with 10 seconds remaining in their first playoff game.



“It was awesome to see many people from my area come and support.”

SPENCER NOLFF
OU SOCCER PLAYER



“At the beginning of the year, I thought we had the best team in the league,” Nolff said. “A couple injuries happened and the national championship didn’t seem as realistic, but it always stayed in the back of our heads.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF MLIVE

Three OU soccer players win a national championship with the Flint City Bucks of the USL League 2.

This was the first season for the Bucks playing in Flint at Atwood Stadium. The franchise used to be located in Pontiac. When the owner, Dan Duggan, moved the team, he promised the city of Flint a title.

The team won three national titles while in Pontiac, so the franchise has a history of success at the national level.

“The Bucks are a very storied team and every year they get the quality of players to compete for a national championship,” Nolff said.

For the first season in Flint, the team had sizable crowds. The home opener

had a packed stadium reaching around 6,000 spectators.

“The first game of the year against Detroit, there were 6,000 people there, which is the most I’ve ever played in front of,” Borczak said. “In the semifinals and finals there was 6,000-7,000 there as well. It was great to have the city of Flint support us.”

The Golden Grizzlies soccer team returns to its home turf on Saturday, Sept. 14 to play its first Horizon League match against the Cleveland State Vikings at 7 p.m.

Basketball non-conference schedules released

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

After two seasons that fell short of the goal — a Horizon League title — both the men’s and women’s basketball teams have retooled and are reloaded for the 2019-2020 season.

Both teams face off against big-name opponents from power five conferences, before entering conference play in January. As for now, the only schedules released are the non-conference ones. Here are some key match-ups for both the women’s and men’s basketball teams.

Women’s Basketball

The women’s basketball team has four home games against non-Horizon League teams. The first is also their season opener. They will host Bradley University on Friday, Nov. 8 and immediately follow that game up

with a Nov. 11 match-up against Concordia College. Last season, the women faced off against Bradley, but lost by nine points.

On Wednesday, Dec. 18, fans will get the chance to see the Golden Grizzlies face off against an in-state foe, the Central Michigan Chippewas. Last season, the two teams faced off early in November, and Central Michigan won on their home court, 104-61. This season, the Golden Grizzlies get home court advantage and more games to prepare.

Some key road games for the women’s basketball team include: Michigan State University (MSU), the University of Michigan (U of M) and Florida International University. The Spartans and Golden Grizzlies will face off in the Breslin Center in East Lansing on Wednesday, Nov. 20. Last season, the Golden Grizzlies played both U of M and MSU on the home court, but will have to make the trip to the other schools this year.

Men’s Basketball

Similar to the women’s basketball team, the men’s team will have a road-heavy non-conference schedule to start the season, as is typical for Head Coach Greg Kampe. Kampe uses the non-conference schedule to prepare his team for the conference schedule, giving them difficult teams to face off against to build team chemistry and confidence.

This season will be no different, with only three home games that will count toward their final win-loss record. The team will have two exhibition games, however, against Rochester University and Saginaw Valley State University. Those exhibition games will not affect the final record, but will provide fans and coaches a chance to look at all of the new players that will be representing Oakland University this year.

The official home opener for the men’s team will be against Goshen College of

Indiana on Tuesday, Nov. 5. After that, the next home game will not be until two weeks later, against Hartford. Last year, the Golden Grizzlies played Hartford on their home court, losing a close game, 82-87. After the rematch against Hartford at home, the team will take a long road trip where they will play multiple teams that they played last season.

Rematches against Northern Illinois University, Syracuse University, University of Toledo and long-time opponent MSU will fill out the road trip, before the month-long drought will end on Dec. 21, where the Golden Grizzlies return home to play Fairfield, a team they beat in a tight match-up, 87-86.

The non-conference schedule for both teams is very road-heavy, but for mid-major teams like Oakland, it is more about learning from playing tough competition on the road than dominating small schools at home.

The roadblocks to my problems

KATIE LADUKE

Managing Editor

Ah, Michigan. The state with two seasons: winter and construction. I know it's been said time and time again, but it seems every construction season gets even messier and more chaotic than the year before.

While I love the Mitten State for its beautiful lakes and horrible sports teams, the person in charge of these rerouted traffic patterns seems to not have any clue how Michigan roads work.

Every main artery of highways seems to have at least one of Michigan's state flower, the lovely orange and white traffic barrels, protruding into at least one perfectly good lane. Yes, I-94, I-696, I-75 and M-59 — all of the fastest routes to get literally anywhere — have been taken hostage by MDOT.

My usual painless 25-minute drive to Oakland has now turned into a 50-minute headache thanks to the ever-evolving traffic patterns. This doesn't even count the hour-and-a-half it takes to get home.

I know it can't just be me that sees all of these construction cones lining the highways and absolutely no workers in sight. Why, why, why do they have to block whole ass lanes when nothing is even being worked on? If anyone knows the people in charge of these whack planning schedules, give them my number. I just wanna talk.

Don't even get me started on the I-75 construction. They ripped miles of highway from the ground, shutting down complete portions of the northbound side. It literally

looks like a scene from an apocalypse with the city in ruins.

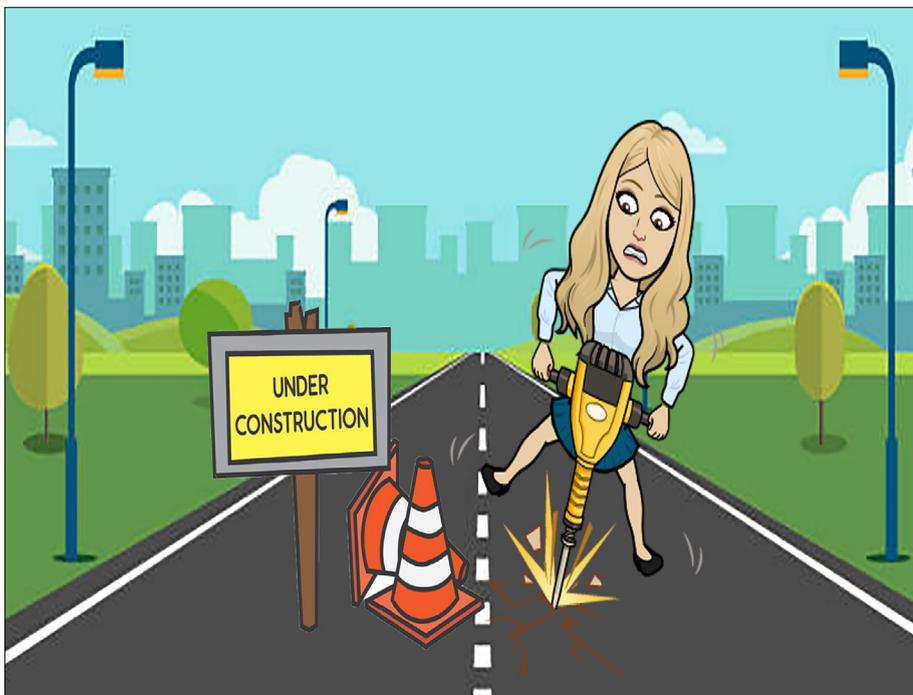
Now, since traffic has been rerouted to the other side with two lanes squashed between cement blocks, there is no room to even move an inch out of place. There isn't even a shoulder to pull off to for car trouble or accidents. If you find yourself in one of those predicaments, all I have to say is good luck.

The entire stretch of I-696 was completely redone all of last year. Literally all year. You couldn't even drive on one side. So, why are they still shutting down lanes? I need answers because it honestly just seems like they make up their own rules and schedules.

Nothing pisses me off more than seeing those orange and white barrels. It actually makes my blood boil the more I see them on different roads. If I had a crappy car, I would totally knock a few out. I'm not gonna call out names, but I do have the hook up on two of the skinny traffic cones. Hit me up if you're interested.

I honestly think some construction workers try their hardest to irritate drivers. I've noticed lately that cones have gradually gotten a lot closer to lines than in the past. Some days I have the urge to stop my car in the middle of traffic to put the cones back farther, so when Becky in the lane next to me decides to swerve at me, I won't be kissing those barrels.

Obviously construction won't be disappearing anytime soon, but it definitely feels good to bitch about it, even if it is the same thing every year. Here's to another construction season almost in the books.



ASHLEY AVERILL | COPY EDITOR

Nothing says Michigan roads like the sight of orange traffic barrels gleaming in the sunlight.



ASHLEY AVERILL | COPY EDITOR

The days of drinking Four Loko and regretting our decisions return with "Four Loko Seltzer."

Three things you'll do after drinking a "Four Loko Seltzer"

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

White Claw is dead. The king is here. Four Loko has ruined White Claw's existence and will reportedly be ushering in a new Four Loko Seltzer with 14% alcohol by volume.

There ain't no laws when you're drinking FOUR LOKO BABYYYYYYY!!! This will change the game. This will lead to more drunken rants and texts to ex-lovers than ever before. I, for one, cannot wait. This is exactly what the world needs. With all this 5% by volume garbage, we needed a seltzer with more kick, more "ruin your life" to it. Now, we have it.

With that being said, Four Loko Seltzer is upon us, and here are 3 things you'll do after a few seltzers from the king of puke, Four Loko.

1. FaceTime your boss

Texting an ex is child's play. When you drink a couple of these bad boys, you'll be slurring words like no other while FaceTiming your boss from the portapotty at a concert saying you're "sick" and "can't make it in tomorrow." One look at the pathetic state you're in, and your boss will completely understand why you can't come in. They won't even be mad; they'll just pity you for putting your internal organs through the hellfire of Four Loko.

In a way, this is better than texting your ex because they will just be annoyed and potentially angered by your actions. Pity goes a long way in life, and gaining pity with someone in charge of your paychecks is something that I think Four Loko Seltzer can provide.

2. Mysteriously end up in a McDonald's drive-thru

"How did I get here?" You say to the

drive-thru speaker at McDonald's as you begrudgingly order three McChickens, two Big Macs and a large fry. You know how you got there, you pathetic weasel. You drank six Four Loko limes, and you stumbled your way into the closest place that will serve your pathetic ass at an ungodly hour. Not only are you at a McDonald's injecting 3000 calories into your bloodstream, you are STANDING in the drive-thru line.

That isn't even how a drive-thru works, dude. Go home. Nevertheless you persist, and it's because your rational thinking sector of your brain has powered off for the night. All thanks to a bubbly surprise that you picked up from the party store. You'll never learn, but damn, those Big Macs are hitting different.

3. Cause property damage

Similar to any Kyle or Andy Bernard from The Office, you might encounter some extreme rage at one point or another during this intoxication period. What you will inevitably do is the most Kyle thing of all, break shit. Whether it be the drywall or the flooring or the furniture you recently assembled from that furniture place that feeds people horse meat, something will inevitably end up broken. You will wake up with a headache, a feeling of immense despair and a home that resembles what a typical home would look like if a tornado ran through it. To be frank, a tornado did run through it. You were that tornado. Get it together.

Thanks for reading this elongated warning label for a Four Loko product. If you didn't know the dangers, now you do. If you enjoy your dignity, property and wallet, I'd recommend staying away from this product. But then again, all of those things are temporary. Glory is eternal. Drink up, mis amigos.