

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

APRIL  
**18**  
—2012—



## FLASHBACKS

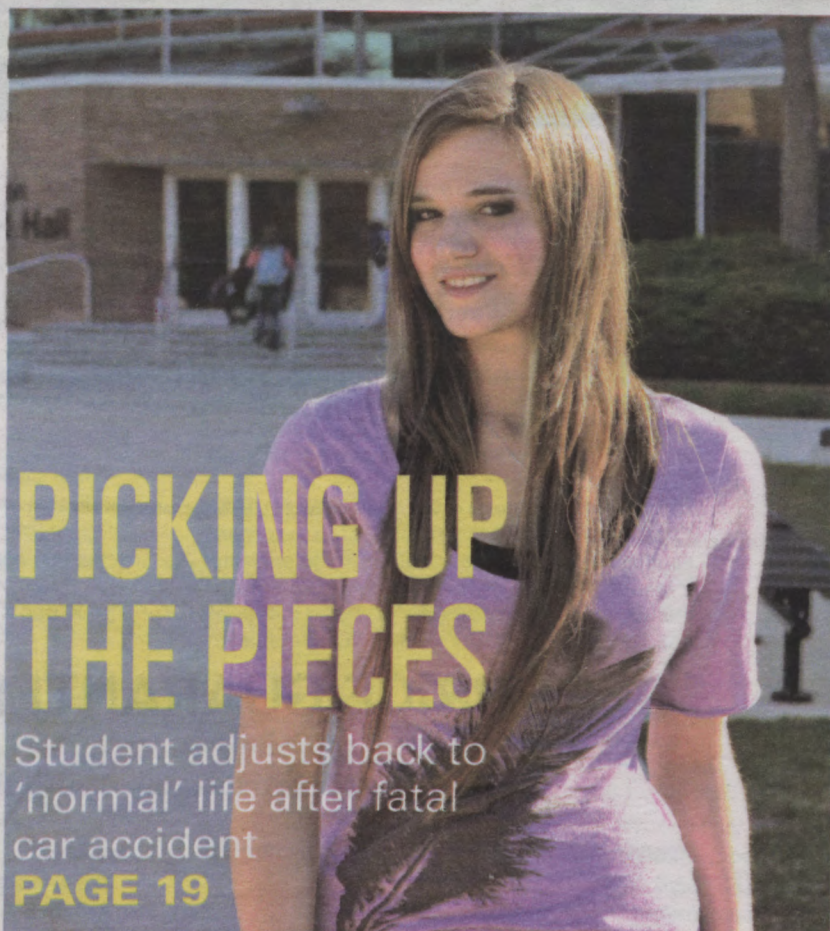
Memories of OU retold  
**PAGES 12 & 13**



## CREATING THEIR NAME

Women's lacrosse team  
hopes to become university-  
recognized sport

**PAGE 14**



## PICKING UP THE PIECES

Student adjusts back to  
'normal' life after fatal  
car accident

**PAGE 19**





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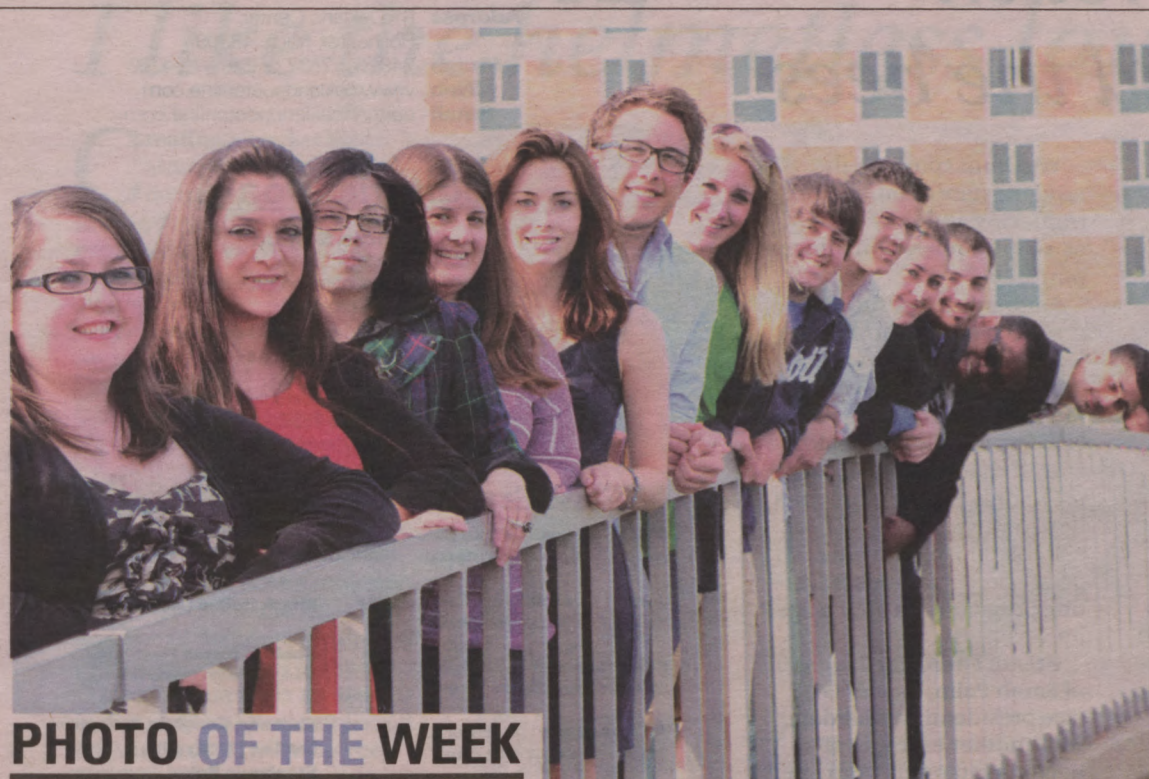
# thisweek

April 18, 2012 // Volume 38. Issue 31



## ontheweb

Miss out on Grizzlypalooza Pt. 2? Check out all of the photos and our exclusive interview with Gym Class Heroes drummer Matt McGinley on our website at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

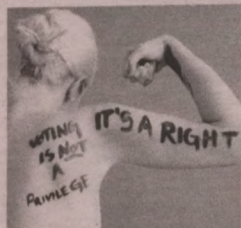
**GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK** // The staff of The Oakland Post would like to thank you for a great semester. Keep up to date, as we will continue to cover Oakland University during the summer — both online and in print. Have a great break, Grizzlies. // Tweet us your photos @theoaklandpost for your chance to be featured as next week's photo of the week. *Holly Gilbert // The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to [photos@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:photos@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)



### CAMPUS

**10.** Students and the GSC took back the night, marching in a protest against sexual violence. The event was meant to bring awareness to the cause and help victims as they heal mentally and physically.



### LOCAL

**18.** Men and women from across the state are uniting in Lansing. The protests are organized by "Unite Women," a group that raises awareness for women's rights — including reproductive rights.



### SPORTS

**15.** Sports editor Kevin Roman-chik discusses the evolution of the Oakland Athletics brand and it's positive future. New leagues, advertising strategies and the promotion of a new practice facility are discussed.



### LIFE

**22.** One of this season's biggest trends is being spotted all around campus. Students express their thoughts on the color blocking trend that is versatile and adds a pop of color to an outfit.

## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are you doing this summer?

- A** Internship
- B** Going on vacation
- C** Working
- D** Taking classes

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

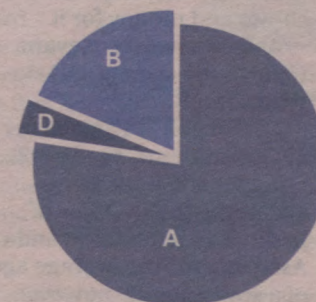
What is your stance on internships?

**A) They should be paid**  
38 votes | 79%

**B) They should be unpaid**  
1 votes | 2%

**C) Why am I doing an internship?**  
0 votes | 0%

**D) It's necessary**  
9 votes | 19%



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### APRIL 19, 1979

An arsonist attacked the Van Wagoner House twice in one week, raising the total blazes to seven. The unknown assailant favored setting fire to shower curtains on the sixth floor within the previous 10 weeks.

### APRIL 19, 1972

A plan for a three-year bachelor's degree was approved by the University Senate for the fall semester. Freshman who have successful academic records and requirements of the university were welcome to apply for the accelerated program.

### APRIL 17, 1996

The Board of Trustees offered Interim President Gary Russi the official seat to initial negative feedback. The decision was made without consultation of the university faculty or community members, leading to consideration of a vote censure against the board.

## BY THE NUMBERS SOFTBALL & BASEBALL

35

all-time OU baseball all-conference players for Division I

727

all-time wins for the baseball program

28

number of professional baseball players that have played for OU

1980

OU softball's inaugural season

5

softball team appearances in the Summit League Tournament



## STAFF EDITORIAL

### *It's a little late to preach about the birds and the bees*

**O**n Monday, the Student Program Board brought in 'Teen Mom' reality star Maci Bookout to speak at Oakland University.

Yes, this is the same Bookout from the MTV show, which documents the glorified life of teenage moms.

It's ironic that 200 years ago, someone would be given a scarlet letter for having premarital sex, but now they're getting television shows and money for it.

At least it was a relevant topic to the average OU student. Or not.

For the fall 2012 semester, 10,366 students, aged 17-22, attended the university, according to the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. The average age of a student is 23, however.

Unless it is abnormal for 23-year-olds to have children, then the statement about this speaking engagement being a relevant topic was sarcastic.

Bookout also cost \$8,000 to come over and speak to a bunch of college kids who know what condoms and abstinence are by now.

SPB also bought mugs and mints decorated with her face to pass out to students. Were not sure how are mugs and mints are advocating against pregnancies though.

All of these facts lie amidst

It's ironic that 200 years ago, someone would be given a scarlet letter for having premarital sex, but now they're getting television shows and money for it.

the fact that teen pregnancy is lower than it has been in decades.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy reports teen pregnancy has declined by 44 percent from 1991 to 2010.

So why did we bring over the philosophies of MTV to speak to us the dangers of teen pregnancy to an audience of adults?

We're trying to figure that out, too.

Recently, Sheryl WuDunn spoke on campus at the 2012 Women's Symposium.

WuDunn was the first Asian-American to be hired by The New York Times and win the Pulitzer prize (for her reporting on the Tiananmen Square protests).

Even with that kind of résumé, she only cost \$10,000 to speak at Oakland.

Besides the fact she has a more prestigious résumé than Bookout, she is a much more relevant speaker.

WuDunn spoke on the modern state of human sex trafficking and how women can turn "oppression into opportunity."

Human trafficking is a grave but lesser known topic worldwide. It is currently the fastest growing criminal industry, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For only \$2,000 more than Bookout.

Bookout isn't the only person to get famous by getting pregnant at a young age, however.

Bristol Palin, the daughter of Sarah Palin, former GOP vice presidential candidate, was another example of becoming famous from her teen pregnancy.

Although she has been actively campaigning for abstinence, the whole concept is ludicrous, as the Associated Press reported Palin charged anywhere from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per appearance.

Unfortunately, today a lack of morals can make you rich, and your face can be placed on mint containers and coffee mugs.

And your school will pay for it.

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



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#### Corrections Corner

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

- The Skateboard Club of Oakland University will have their on-campus competition on Friday, April 27.

#### Letters to the Editor

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



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EDITORIAL

# Thinking head first: Why I like the helmetless law

Creating a bucket list is almost as common as owning a smartphone. Jotting down the activities and experiences one would like to accomplish before their demise.

I crossed one of those experiences off my list two weeks ago. I rode my motorcycle through the Florida Keys without wearing a helmet. As a motorcycle rider, it is was one of the most joyous and freeing experiences of my life.



**CHRIS HAGAN**

guest columnist

It just so happens an article in The Oakland Post published on April 3 dealt with the very same issue.

Guest columnist Josh Solar argued against repealing Michigan's motorcycle helmet law. He was very much for keeping the helmet law in the Mitten. It was my trip to the Keys and riding over 300 miles "helmetless" that compelled me to write a rebuttal.

"I don't understand why people would want to ride without a helmet," Solar said in the sixth graph of his article.

The simplest answer I can give is, it's kind of like not wearing a condom during sex. It's more risky but it just feels better without one.

I want to make it a point that Solar is 100 percent right when he talks about the statistical data regarding wearing a helmet. It does attribute to higher survival rates and does help prevent brain injury. But when have we as a society ever listened or cared about statistics?

Smoking is statistically linked to lung cancer, yet people still do it. UV sun exposure is statistically linked to skin cancer, but all the women I saw in Key West were getting a nice, golden tan.

It seems to make a difference when something catastrophic happens in the person's life or

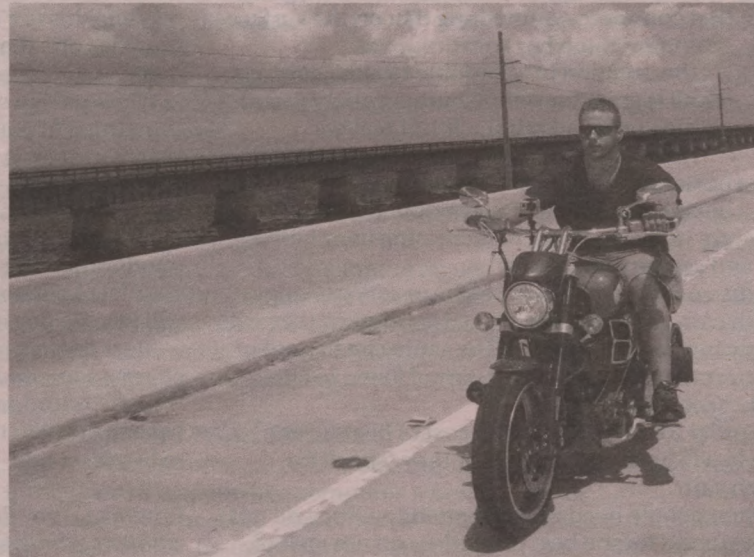


Photo courtesy of Cory Schons  
Chris Hagan had the opportunity to ride his motorcycle helmetless while on vacation in Key West, Fla. a few weeks ago. He said the experience changed the way he views state-regulated helmet laws for the better.

someone close to them.

I'm not going to bore anybody with statistics or numbers or try to refute the data given by Solar. The law has been lifted and seeing helmet-less riders is now a reality.

I've been a firefighter and EMT approaching five years. I've seen death and dismemberment after motorcycle crashes. I, too, have been in a motorcycle accident that sent me to the ER. I've seen and lived through what could happen in an accident and I still support the repealed law.

A motorcyclist is untethered to an engine with wheels. A sudden stop, like that caused from an accident, will most definitely affect the entire body.

Injuries could include severe bone fractures — those fractures could lacerate arteries near the pelvis and arms, resulting in severing bleeding both internally and externally. A laceration of both femoral arteries could lead to cardiac arrest in minutes and the brain and head could be just fine.

Recently, a firefighter was telling me a story of a conversation he had with his grand-

father years back. This very same helmet controversy was brought up and the grandfather had his own theory on the matter and it was, "the only difference a helmet makes is whether or not it's going to be an open or closed casket."

Point is, the risk of severe injury or death is present regardless of the helmet. Every time you shift down into first, you're automatically increasing your chance of death.

You can guarantee that you'll see me "riding free" through Oakland County atop my 1700cc candy red, Yamaha Warrior. And if I do meet my fate, I would have gone out with peace running through my veins.

To the motorcyclist, it's freeing. The wind in your hair on a hot summer day, listening to the engine roar down the road is as calming as yoga.

Chris Hagan graduated from Oakland University with a degree in journalism in 2011. He has worked as a firefighter and EMT for the last five years.

Email him at [chagan88@att.net](mailto:chagan88@att.net)

EDITORIAL

# Looking forward: OUSC anticipates next year

In just a few short days, the semester will come to an end, signaling the end of the Ben Eveslage/Elisa Malile administration for the Oakland University Student Congress. In all honesty, the last year has flown by so fast. But not without a little bit of excitement for where Oakland University is now compared to a year ago.

This is where the Wolf/Williford administration is hoping to start off.

Ever since the beginning of our campaign, OUSC President Samantha Wolf and I have been doing what we can to remain realistic while still giving the students the very best options.

We've already begun taking a step in the right direction by bringing in some of the brightest and best student leaders at OU to be a part of our executive board.

The Wolf/Williford administration has big hopes for the next year. With initiatives that include a Scantron machine in the library, more student organization collaboration and communication, lobbying for the increased use of Moodle and so many more things, the next year is sure to be filled with much needed changes.

We are so excited and determined to begin giving the students what they deserve. Every voice and every concern should be met with every intention of focusing on solutions, in both the short and long-term time frames. We're keeping the students and their voices our number one priority.

With this being said, we want to make sure each student has every opportunity to get involved. We want to interact with everyone in a variety of ways. Whether it is via electronic blast, newsletter, or fireside chat, we want to assist you in your hopes of getting your concerns addressed.

This begins with action.

From the very first day in office, the Wolf/Williford administration hopes to hit the ground running. We're going to be working from our first day in office to the last day in office, writing our own story and leaving our legacy on the students of OU.

I personally want to let everyone who is reading this column know we encourage each and every one of you to get involved and make this university what you want it to be. After all, it's not every day you get to take action for what you're passionate about and voice your opinions about it.

It is, and will be forever, one of my greatest pleasures to be able to serve the students in any way that I can, and I assure you that the new administration is going to do what they can to make sure that your voice is constantly heard.

Robbie Williford is the Vice President for the Oakland University Student Congress.

Email him at [rjwillif@oakland.edu](mailto:rjwillif@oakland.edu)



**ROBBIE WILLIFORD**

guest columnist



EDITORIAL

# What ever happened to my choice?

*Health care bill forces people into program, regardless of one's desire*

Simply for taking a breath of air as you read this article, the U.S. government would like to force you to buy a service.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau there are 313,376,955 people currently living in the U.S.

These people are free to buy services as they choose. The U.S. only requires people to pay taxes, they do not currently force people to buy a service simply for breathing.

That could all change if the health care bill does not get repealed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Under the new health care bill (other wise known as 'Obamacare' or the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act) people in the U.S. would be required to buy health Insurance from a private health Insurance company if they did not qualify for the expanded federal-state Medicaid program that is currently in place.

This means that simply for having a heart beat you are being forced into an act of commerce so



**CHRIS LAURITSEN**  
senior reporter

that the federal government can then regulate that commerce, something that on the surface seems anything but constitutional.

The notation of affordable health coverage for all is great for selling bumper stickers and gaining popularity but it is not realistic.

Health insurance companies are not in the business of losing money, they are not in the business of seeing their bottom line slip. They are in the business of increasing their bottom line and seeing profits grow.

If the cost of health care begins to slip, causing health care companies to make less money, they will simply increase their price. The same can be said of doctors offices, which are all part of living in a free market economy.

In order to truly change the cost of health care, people will have to change how they "shop" for health care.

When people need medical attention, they do not shop around for the best price, they do not go looking for special deals, they go to the best doctor in the

area and ask for his services.

While this is a completely understandable decision, it is one that people should realize will cost them.

When you go shopping for a car, you look for something in your price range. If you earn \$25,000 a year, you are not going to go to your nearest Bugatti dealership to pick out your new car. You will go to a car dealership that offers cars in your price range.

The same should be done when it comes to the purchasing of health coverage or when you visit your local doctors office. If you want the best you will have to pay of it.

Most doctors services are never going to be free of charge, someone will always have to pay for it.

There is nothing wrong with a system where you have the option to buy a service and the option not to buy a service.

Contact Senior Reporter Christopher Lauritsen via email at [cklaurit@oakland.edu](mailto:cklaurit@oakland.edu) or follow him on Twitter @ChrisLaurtsen



## LBS 100 Exploration of the Arts and Sciences!

Think of some of the most important yet most difficult problems facing humanity right now. What comes to mind? The economic crisis? Overpopulation? Violence? Climate change? Depletion of natural resources?

One characteristic of these problems is that they are caused by the interaction of a variety of factors. This is also the reason why these are difficult problems. Solving them requires interdisciplinary understanding and collaboration.

Solving complex problems also requires creativity. But how do you increase creativity? One way is through interdisciplinary understanding and collaboration.

In this course, you will learn how to adopt an interdisciplinary perspective to use insights from the Arts, Sciences and Humanities to increase both your critical and creative problem solving skills by focusing on the interdisciplinary topic of "Creativity Across the Disciplines."

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## SECS faculty express concern over dean

*Professors discuss informal vote of no confidence, hope to send message*

By Megan Semeraz  
and Jordan Gonzalez  
Managing Editor,  
Assistant Campus Editor

With a new building in the works, on the outside Oakland University's School of Engineering and Computer Science seems to be thriving. On the inside, however, tension is rising among some faculty members.

On April 12, SECS faculty received an email petition with a document titled "Bill of Particulars of a Vote of No Confidence regarding Dean (of the School of Engineering) Louay Chamra."



Louay Chamra,  
Dean of SECS

Chamra said on April 15, there has been no OU American Association of University Professors or SECS Faculty Assembly sanctioned proposal for a vote of no confidence.

"The vote of no confidence was ill conceived and devised in complete secrecy by a few disgruntled faculty," Chamra said. "With no faculty debate or discussion, and without any due process, the proposed vote of no confidence just surfaced out of nowhere ... A private company was contracted by that small disgruntled group to conduct the vote. Due to an overwhelming faculty support for the dean and opposition to the proposed vote and the lack of transparency and lack of due process, the group decided to stop their attempt to conduct the vote."

Outlined in the document are 14 points of why there is a lack of confidence in Chamra as a university leader. The original document listed items that said Chamra:

- Has often and repeatedly acted vindictively against faculty members who have publicly or privately disagreed with him.

- Has unreasonably denied not only sabbaticals, but also promotions to faculty, selectively focusing only on facts that suit his purpose so as to harm those toward whom he seeks retribution or control over.

- Uses the summer, when many faculty are absent, to take actions contrary to the wishes of the faculty.

According to Lorenzo Smith, associate dean of engineering, there has been no formal call for a vote of no confidence.

"There have been recent emails revolving around conversations about serious problems some faculty members claim to have with their relationship with the dean — this is true," Smith said.

Typically, votes of no confidence are about sending a message and have no official impact.

President of AAUP at OU and Chair of the Department of History, Karen Miller, said she has not heard anything regarding this case.

There is no available count of faculty who intend to vote against Chamra, but The Oakland Post has obtained emails that indicate at least 10 tenured faculty members are behind the vote.

### Support from faculty

Ishwar Sethi, professor of computer science and former computer science and engineering department chair, said he has heard of four or five people who have come forward to support the dean.

Those people, Sethi said, are the current chairs and another faculty member. He believes many have not come forward because they are afraid their jobs are at risk.

"A lot of our faculty are young and a lot of them aren't tenured — certainly, I wouldn't even want them to say anything," Sethi said. "I don't want any harm to come to them. Even if they come to me for advice, I tell them 'you guys stay in the background.' It is the senior people, if something needs to be said, they should be the ones saying it."

Last fall, there were discussions and meetings about similar problems, according to Sethi. The group was asked to attempt to get along by Provost Virinder Moudgil.

"There is a group of faculty that did go and meet the provost and told him these are the issues and this is what is going on," Sethi said. "And I believe, the provost was aware of all of this turmoil back in fall last year and he sent out a message that said 'look here, the school is likely to get a new building — the Board of Trustees are looking at approving a new building, so if you guys do something like this, your building will be in jeopardy, it would be good if you guys tried to work together.'"

Current chair of Industrial and Systems Engineering Robert Van Til, said what he is seeing right now are rumors of a vote of no confidence, but he would need to see full details before making a decision himself.

### Removal of department chairs

Sethi and Barbara Oakley, associate professor of industrial and systems engineering, said all four department chairs were removed from their positions after the dean was put into power.

Dean Chamra became dean of engineering and computer science Oct. 5, 2009, according to the university news archives.

"If you look into the school, he came in, the first thing he did was change the chair of mechanical engineering Gary Barber. He was doing a good job ... then, basically, he changed me, then he changed the EC (electrical and computer engineering) chair, then he changed the ISE (industrial and systems engineering) chair," Sethi said. "So, basically, all the four chairs in this school are the chairs that are appointed by him ... three out of four of them were on the search committee that selected him (Chamra)."

Sethi had been appointed chair for four terms — beginning in 1999.

### Professors denied promotion

According to the BOT documents from March 28, two associate professors with tenure, Oakley and Sankar Sengupta, industrial and systems engineering professor, were denied promotion to full professor. Sengupta was also denied in March 2, 2010, according to BOT documents.

Chamra declined to comment about why Sengupta was denied promotion.

Four additional faculty members at OU were also denied promotion on March 23.

Oakley said she was shocked about not being promoted.

"I simply cannot understand it. My record sailed through," she said. "All of my external recommendations were stellar ... my research was stellar. I'm giving an invited speech to the National Academy of Sciences in January."

Chamra said Oakley was denied due to her lack of grants and will be able to try for promotion when she meets the requirements. She can reapply for promotion at any point in time.

Oakley said she was told by Chamra she was denied promotion because her research was not engineering-focused.

"I guess I wasn't aware that my research had to be business," Oakley said.

Oakley said she will keep working really hard at the research she believes is important to do, but feels the given reasons didn't motivate his decision to not promote her.

## POLICE FILES

### Vehicle damaged in P5

On April 5, police met with a female student in parking lot 5 regarding her damaged vehicle. The student said she parked and locked her vehicle on April 3 at 2:30 p.m. Upon returning, she noticed one door had been damaged and bent and was unable to close properly. She also noticed the seatbelt was slammed in the door and the door was now unlocked. No items were stolen and there are currently no suspects.

### Items stolen from two vehicles in P5

On April 6 and 7, there were two separate larcenies involving stereo system face plates from vehicles in parking lot five. The first larceny involved a female victim who said she parked her vehicle at 9:30 p.m. on April 6. Upon returning the next day at 8 a.m., she noticed the stereo system face plate and a GPS were stolen. The second larceny involved a male victim who said he parked his vehicle in parking lot five at 11:30 p.m. April 6. The next day at 7:10 p.m., he discovered his face plate was stolen. In both cases, there was no forced entry due to the vehicles being left unlocked.

### Student vehicles used without owner's permission

Police were dispatched to parking lot 17 for a possible larceny on April 12. Upon returning to his vehicle at approximately 12:35 a.m., a male student said he saw two males inside his vehicle. The student yelled at the men and they took off running while another vehicle drove away.

At 12:45 a.m., police stopped a vehicle driving toward parking lot 17. After further investigation, the occupants said they had been in the student's vehicle in an attempt to play a practical joke by moving their teammate's vehicle. The four occupants and the male student are all members of the OU baseball team. The student was not aware they were his teammates at the time of the incident, and he does not want to prosecute.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski,  
Staff Intern



## Behind the scene with MTV's 'Teen Mom'

*Bookout: 'I actually had to talk him into having sex'*

By Sarah Hunton  
Senior Reporter

At a time when teen pregnancy is at a record low, according to a Center for Disease Control's report, Maci Bookout's lecture about her teen pregnancy seems to come at a time when dialogue about such topics seems to be opening up.

Her speaking engagement on April 16 was the first time she brought her son, Bentley too.

Following the lecture, Bookout answered questions from audience members and met with fans, who recognize her from MTV, for photos and autographs.

### Maci's story without cameras, before the baby

To a crowd of over 400 people, Bookout told her story, beginning with what life was like before she got pregnant. She was looking forward to playing softball in college.

Maci explained her experience about being a mom and MTV.

"I actually had to talk him into having sex," she said.

According to Maci, she spent 37 hours in labor.

"It's cool hearing her actual story from her point of view instead of just watching it on MTV," Stacy Johnson, a junior majoring in business, said.

As a self identified "non-people person," Bookout said it is strange that her fans feel like they know her, even though she enjoys meeting them.

"I really just like to be able to have, like an open conversation with people my age," she said. "I

feel like it makes a much bigger impact on them when their peer is doing it rather than someone who's like a parent, or a teacher... It's just fun. It's like I'm hanging out with my friends."

### Plans for the future

Bookout said this current season will be her last on MTV's Teen Mom. Since quitting, she said many opportunities have come her way.

"I'm ready to move on, I'm not a teen anymore and I'm ready to focus on me."

Maci Bookout,  
Teen Mom

"I'm ready to move on," she said. "I'm not a teen anymore and I'm ready to focus on me, Bentley, school and my career."

She is currently studying me-



SARAH HUNTON/The Oakland Post

Maci Bookout with her three-year-old son, Bentley.

dia technology and creative writing.

Bookout did not disclose on her future plans.

### Fans respond

Alex Krum, 23, attended the lecture with her brother Devin, 22, and two-year-old son Blake. Although a little older than Maci, Krum was able to relate to her through the experiences Maci went through.

"Being young and having a child makes you mature very quickly," she said.

Devin Krum explained he likes to do anything that helps out in taking care of his nephew. He also acknowledged watching "16 and Pregnant" and "Teen Mom."

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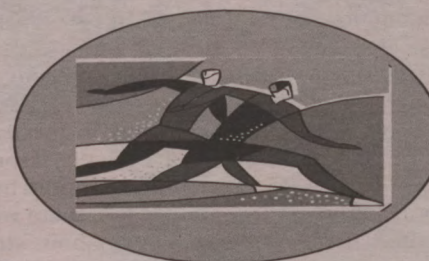
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# Wilson award winners inspired by campus life

*Recipients say secret to success is getting involved on campus, finding niche, taking opportunities*

By Kevin Graham  
Staff Reporter

Emily Tissot and Maxwell Van Raaphorst know a little bit about getting involved.

Mixing their experiences, they have traveled from the humid coasts of the Dominican Republic to the classical villas of Spain, published articles in scholarly journals and founded clubs.

Tissot and Van Raaphorst, who served as this year's student liaisons to the Oakland University Board of Trustees, have been named the recipients of the 2012 Wilson awards — presented to one male and one female senior each year — recognizing outstanding academic, leadership and citizenship qualities.

Amidst the backdrop of exotic travels and fancy titles, their best advice to students is to start off at "home."

## 'Everything is an opportunity'

Tissot, a double major in Spanish and anthropology, applied to Oakland while doing a year of service in the Dominican Republic. There, she taught English, public health and worked in a nursing home.

Emily Tissot

In addition, Tissot has done service work in Peru.

Since returning to the U.S., she has applied this spirit of involvement and service to OU. Tissot is an active member of the Honors College, president and founder of the OU Spanish Club and a BOT liaison.

She has also served as resident assistant in housing, participated in an OU sponsored archaeological dig in Israel and published and contributed to the first Modern Languages Journal.

Tissot said her professors were a big influence on her involvement.

"I see in everything I do an opportunity to learn in some way, or to gain knowledge from someone," she said. "I started being involved because I saw all these professors that were super involved. I knew that spending time with them was going to enhance my education beyond the classroom."

Tissot said students wishing to grow more from their college experience

should attend office hours with their professors.

"Just sit and have a conversation with them," she said. "Enjoy the knowledge that they're trying give you. Make sure to get involved with different groups on campus, anything you're passionate about."

## Finding your passion

Van Raaphorst has studied abroad in Oviedo, Spain, co-authored an article published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society and served on the student program board and student life lecture board at OU.

The biochemistry major also helped organize an OU-hosted Science Olympiad competition and worked as an orientation group leader.

He said his involvement was just a matter of wanting to take advantage of the opportunities put in front of him.

"My mother said once that OU was like a 5-star hotel, in the fact it had so many amenities to offer," he said. "Get your free T-shirts, join a student org, talk to your professor after class, do an (intramural) sport. It's all free, so use it."

He emphasized the importance of students finding something they enjoy doing.

"I can thank my involvement on campus for many life skills such as: public speaking, small group facilitation, conflict resolution and many more quality life skills," he said. "Find your passion and excel in it. You will meet some cool cats along the way."

Van Raaphorst plans to finish research with Dr. Nesson Kerrigan and work in industry before going back to school to get his master's in chemistry and business administration.

Tissot and Van Raaphorst will be recognized during the commencement ceremony.

For more information regarding the Wilson Awards and other awards, visit [www.oakland.edu/dean\\_awards](http://www.oakland.edu/dean_awards)

Contact Staff Reporter Kevin Graham via email at [kpgraham@oakland.edu](mailto:kpgraham@oakland.edu) or follow him on Twitter @KevinGraham88

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1

SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

# March against the silence

By Shannon Coughlin  
Photographer

Students and members of the community were welcomed to "Take Back the Night" on Tuesday to speak out or learn about sexual violence against women.

It was organized by the Gender and Sexuality Center and Haven, a sexual assault support and advocacy center in Oakland County.

Liz Oakes, an advocate at Haven, said sexual violence happens more often than people think.

"It happens to people of all classes, of all races. It happens to people in your own neighborhood.

She said the event was meant to bring awareness to the issue and help survivors understand that has happened to them is not their fault.

**1.** Two poets that performed during a rally outside of O'Dowd Hall before the march. After the march, the stage and microphone were left open for victims of sexual violence to go up and talk about their experiences.

**2.** Students shared their experiences by decorating T-shirts that are part of the Gender and Sexuality Center's ongoing collection.

**3.** Haven Advocate Liz Oakes and GSC Coordinator Grace Wojcik lead and motivate the march with megaphones.

**4.** The group shouted "no more violence, no more rape," during the awareness in a march around Oakland University's campus.



2



3



4





STEFAN PELAK/The Oakland Post

**LEFT:** Oakland University hosted a Pinball Expo, which displayed various companies and machines, old and new. **TOP:** Greg Freres, co-owner of Whizbang Pinball, LLC, based in Chicago, shows off their latest machine, Big Juicy Melons. **BOTTOM:** The 2012 Stern AC/DC machine was hooked up to a live scoreboard for the pinball tournaments.

# Fist full of change

*Annual Michigan Pinball Expo rolls to campus*

By Stefan Pelak  
Staff Intern

The sense of nostalgia permeated the room as people had opportunity to play old machines and a chance to experience the latest trends in pinball.

The Michigan Pinball Expo was hosted by Oakland University this past weekend from April 12-15.

People ranging from seasoned and grizzled pinball tournament kings, to their children, turned up to play more than 150 machines held by private collectors and showcased by pinball companies.

That sense of reliving childhood memories ran deep in many of the people attending. With some of the games dating back to the 1940s, people relived their fondest childhood moments, re-played their first pinball game again.

Along with the old however, came many new machines. One such machine, called Big Juicy Melons, was showcased by Whizbang Pinball, LLC,

an American pinball company headquartered in Chicago.

According to Greg Freres, co-owner of Whizbang, developing the machine took much time, patience and research. From its rules, to the pin-up inspired art on the playing field as well as on the back board, everything was hand made Whizbang Pinball, LLC.

"We bought four old (pinball) games and we completely reconfigured them into one game," Freres said.

Another featured game was the 2012 Stern AC/DC machines, which were hooked to live score board and had their boards projected onto a screen for tournament play.

The most anticipated machine, however, was the Wizard of Oz machine made by N.J. based Jersey Jack Pinball.

The machine, one of which was being raffled off at the expo, features many "industry firsts," including a 26-inch LCD screen in the backboard showing clips and characters from the movie, custom sounds and animations that represent a new trend in pinball

manufacturers to incorporating more modern technologies.

"More (manufacturers) are trending towards LCD TVs," John Kosmal, the event's director, said. "It's making games more modern."

Modern technology has impacted the way machines are being made.

"The 1990s are when you saw an explosion of the depth of rules," Freres said. "Now, with better (computer) chips, it's opened even more exciting opportunities."

Even with all the innovations in developing and manufacturing pinball machines, many attendees preferred the older machines, with wood and metal construction and their well-worn buttons and edges.

"It's not like a video game," Kosmal said. "Each time you play, it's unique. There's always a different way to approach your goal, and that's what people like. It's the feel of it."

Contact Staff Intern Stefan Peklak  
via email at stefanpelak@gmail.com

## PINBALL FACTS

### HISTORY

From the 1940s through the 1970s, pinball was banned in most of America's major cities, such as New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. The justification was that pinball was a game of chance and not reason.

### SYMBOL OF REBELLION

Since pinball was banned for many years in the U.S., it was a symbol of youth rebellion. Many movies produced during that time portrayed pinball machines as a statement of rebellion.

### SPOOKY BEST SELLER

The bestselling pinball machine today is "The Addams Family" themed machine, which was made in 1991 by Midway Games Inc.

Facts provided by  
[www.popularmerchanics.com](http://www.popularmerchanics.com)

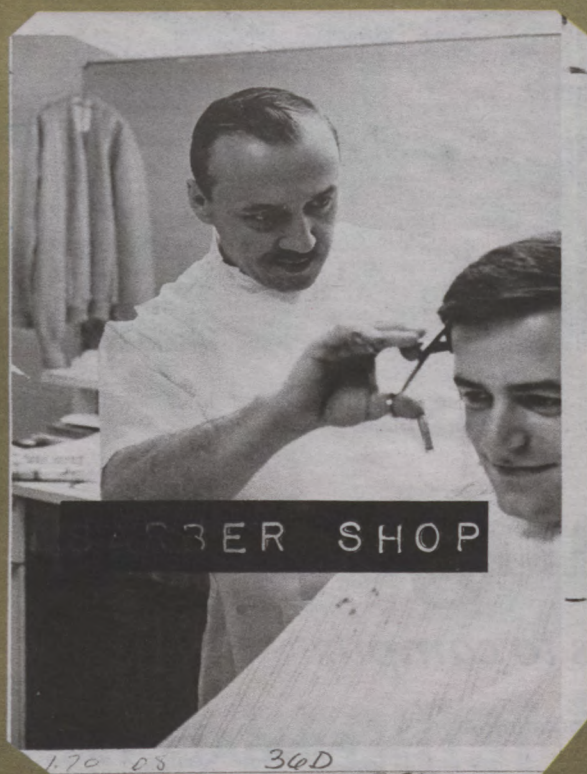


The Oakland Center used to house a unisex barber shop, according to an Oakland University Handbook from 1980 to 1981. The barber shop may have opened in 1964, according to Linda Hildebrand, coordinator of the Kresge Library archives.

The salon was called "The Shag Shop" and Director of the Center for Student Activities Director Jean Ann Miller remembers it being in the OC during the 1970s through the early 1980s.

According to Miller, The Shag Shop was located in the basement of the OC in the area where the Lake Huron room is currently located. The salon eventually moved its operation to Lake Orion, she said.

"The guy who ran it was a character," Miller said. "He went by 'Wild Bill.'" Next door to the salon, where the Lake Michigan room is currently located, there also used to be a dry cleaners, Miller said.



Oakland University used to have two water towers on its campus, and the one in the photograph is the larger of the two. The larger tower once stood in the area where the Science and Engineering Building is currently located, according to Associate Professor of Anthropology Richard Stamps.

When Meadow Brook Farm was built, there was no fire department in a close enough proximity, according to Stamps.

"They built their own fire protection system," he said.

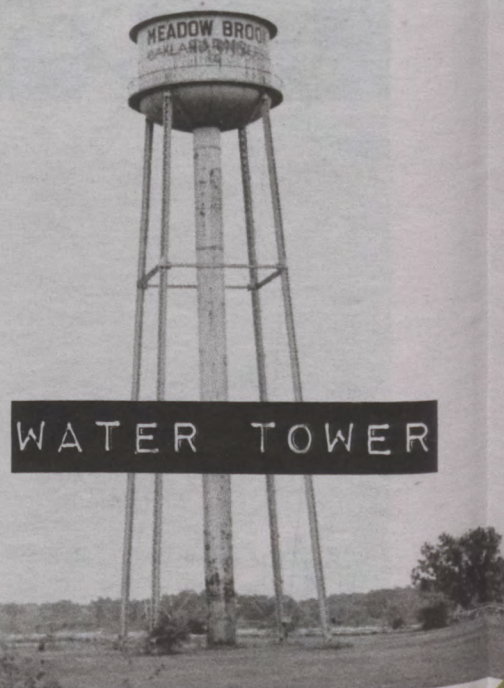
Throughout campus are small structures that resemble houses and are made out of stone. Within the structures are wound-up hoses that provided water from the towers.

"We had our own little built in fire department," Stamps said.

Stamps recalls the water tower being at OU in 1974, but is not certain when it was torn down.

The tower was torn down as a safety precaution because students may have climbed up them, according to Stamps.

"OU was afraid it was a danger to students," he said.



Written by Natalie Popovaki  
Design by Rifath Hoque

# SHADES OF YESTERDAY

Stories retold through photos that add to the history of Oakland University





JAN 1967

On the hill near the O'rena and Recreation Center, there was once a ski tow. This photo was taken in January 1967. According to Hildebrand, in 1978 there were ski rentals and a small shack on top of the hill.

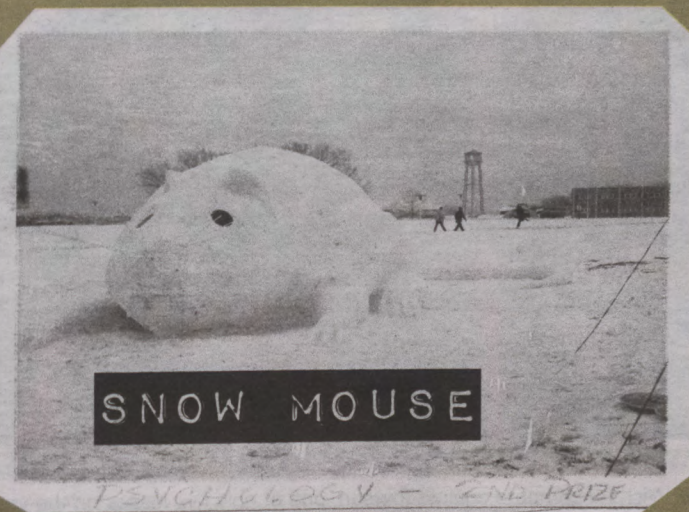
The ski tow ran down the hill toward the current location of the baseball fields, according to Miller.

According to Stamps, when he first came to OU in 1974, students and visitors would toboggan on the same hill and use food trays from the cafeteria as sleds. Skiing and sledding are no longer permitted on the hill.

"(OU) stopped them to ensure the safety of students and others," Stamps said.

Stamps also believes there was once a ski jump in a different location that was a part of Meadow Brook Farms.

"Apparently the Dodges had (a ski jump) on the property south of Butler Road across the street from where the apartments are today," Stamps said.



SNOW MOUSE

PSYCHOLOGY - 2ND PRIZE

The Department of Psychology held onto this photo, which seems to be from a snow sculpture competition, according to Hildebrand. The snow mouse won second place in an unknown competition.

Miller is not exactly sure when this photo was taken. But she believes it may have been taken during one of the winter festivals at OU.

Campus Information, Programs and Organizations is now known as the Center for Student Activities. CIPO used to hold the winter festival in January during the middle to late 1980s.

"(CIPO) used to put on winter carnivals as a precursor to homecoming," Jean Ann Miller, director for the CSA, said.



FREDERICK W. OBEAR

Some may think Cafe O'Bears is just a play off of Oakland's Golden Grizzly mascot, but it is actually the name of a former OU provost.

Frederick Woods Obear became an assistant professor of chemistry at Michigan State University-Oakland in 1960, and in 1970 he became the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, according to the OU Chronicles.

According to Hildebrand, Obear and his wife, Trisha, were the first "chaperones" of a dormitory on campus. In the fall of 1961, the couple became head residents and lived in the first men's dormitory on campus, Fitzgerald House, according to the OU Chronicles.

The living arrangement was the idea of OU's first chancellor, D.B. "Woody" Varner. The concept was to have faculty members as head residents rather than a professional dormitory staff, according to the OU Chronicles.

The couple, as well as 64 male residents, were supposed to move into the dorm at the beginning of the semester, but the building was not ready for roughly three months after the original move in date.

The Obears lived in the dorms for two years and then moved to the faculty subdivision. While living at the dorms, the couple had their oldest son, Jeff.



# Best team you've never heard of

*Amid success, women's lacrosse team hopes to break in as an official sport*

By Timothy Pontzer  
Senior Reporter

One Oakland University team has risen to the occasion this season.

Composed of 17 student-athletes, this team has successfully defended a division title for the sixth year in a row and has beaten powerhouse teams such as the University of Michigan and West Virginia.

However, this team fails to attract large crowds. In fact, many students on campus do not even know of the existence of this defending champion.

The team in question? The Oakland women's lacrosse team. Ranked No. 8 in the nation in the Women's Collegiate Lacrosse Association Division II poll, the team sports a 10-5 record.

"It is really unfortunate that we don't get the same recognition that other sports do," Jessica Burke, a freshman defender, said. "We compete nationally and we've given Oakland lacrosse a good reputation, yet no one would know."

The squad sports the black and gold in their matches, but lack the key distinction of being a varsity team. Instead, they're a club without any scholarship players who must pay to play.

According to head coach Towbey Kassa, each player must pay at least \$1,500 to cover expenses for equipment, travel and officials.

Players still must work extra jobs and come up with extra finances on top of what they already pay for their education.

"People don't realize the hard work and dedication that goes into this," Burke said. "Many of us work two or three jobs to afford playing."

## Not a 'cupcake schedule'

That dedication has paid off for the Golden Grizzlies this season as they won four games over Division I opponents such as Central Michigan and Michigan State.

While Kassa was pleased with the wins over the big name schools, he pointed to some of their losses as signs of the strength of his team.



Photo courtesy of Paul Burke

Sophomore defender Andrea Kot (8) and junior midfielder Debi Wich (7) compete against Towson, one of only five losses on the year.

"I am really proud of our five losses," Kassa said. "We played North Carolina tough, and we took the No. 1 team in the country (Westminster) to double overtime."

On Saturday, the girls will head to Columbus, Ohio for the WCLL Conference Championships as the No. 1 seed.

If Oakland wins the tournament, which would be its fourth straight, they will clinch the automatic qualifier for the National Tournament in Colorado in May.

Other teams in OU's conference pad their schedule with lesser opponents to build up their record and ranking, but the Golden Grizzlies prefer a trial by fire.

"We don't have a cupcake schedule," Burke said. "By showing that we can compete with the top teams, hopefully that will pay off in nationals."

Kassa cited the quality of the schedule as not only something to prepare his team, but also as a motivational tool.

"I put together a schedule that is

hard to be perfect in," Kassa said. "We proved that we were not scared of anyone."

## Experience at the top

While Kassa is quick to pass off the credit to his team, the players believe much of the success is a direct result of his guidance.

"In my six years as the head coach, I have worked very hard on putting out a good product on the field and giving young women a place to play competitively after high school" Kassa said. "Our goal as a team is to win nationals and one day help elevate to varsity status."

Before becoming a coach, Kassa was an All-American on the men's team at Oakland, serving as the captain from 1998-2002.

He played professionally for the Chicago Machine in the Major League Lacrosse for a season.

"Towbey (Kassa) is honestly the reason for most of our success," Kassa said. "He pours so much of his time and en-

ergy into this team and this program"

## Finishing the journey

If Kassa is the leader from the sidelines, junior midfielder Desiree Messina is the field general.

Messina, a co-captain of the team, leads the WCLL with 68 goals and 26 assists.

"(Messina) has an aggressive nature, (because) she wants it more than anyone else," Burke said. "Sometimes in practice I play defense against her, but there's no point because she will score through 17 people."

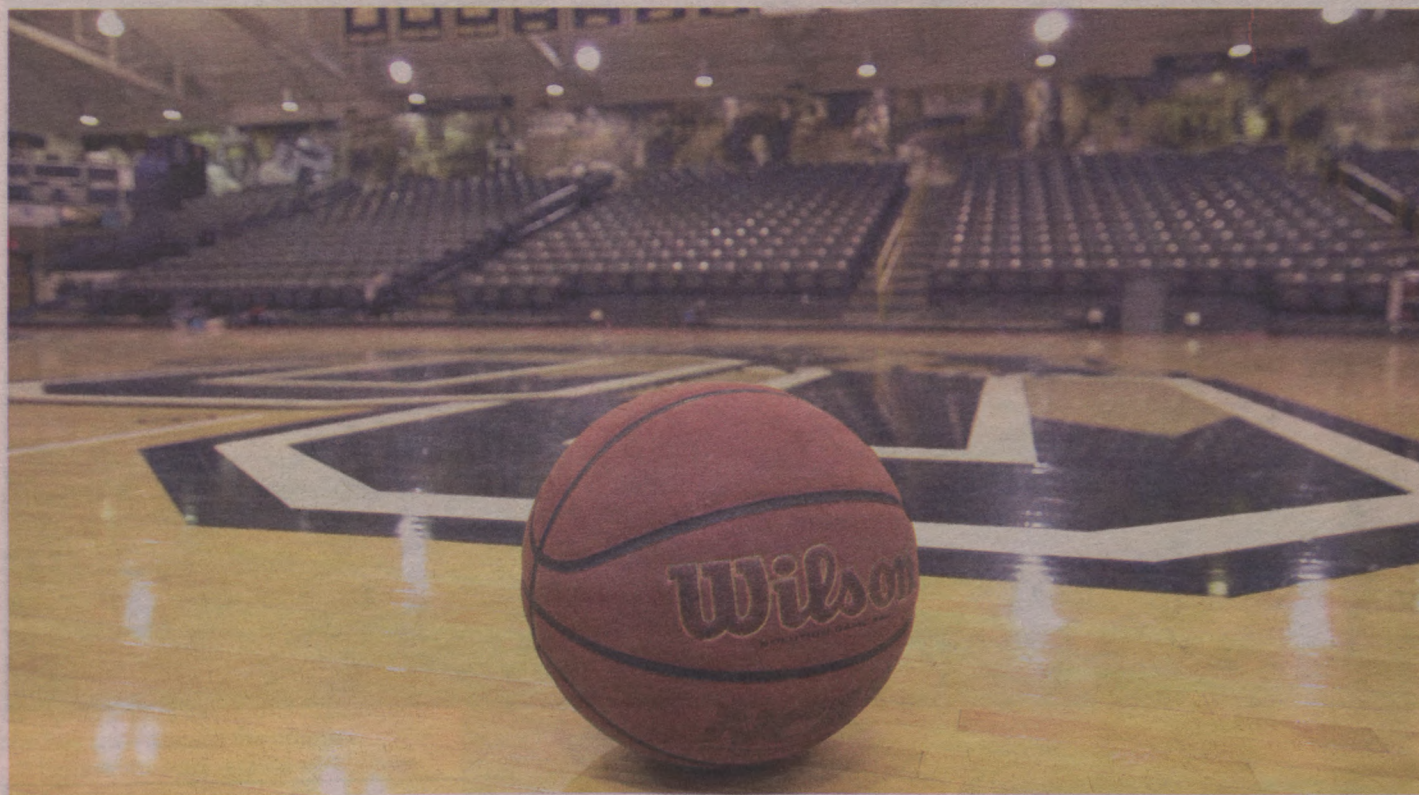
While Messina is the focal point of the team, she loves her teammates and the journey they have taken together.

"Being a member of such a competitive and successful team has given me an identity in college I never thought I would have," Messina said. "I definitely think we have the talent."

With the pieces all coming together, the team believes they can add another trophy, and more importantly, recognition from their peers.



# Movin' on up



JASON WILLIS / The Oakland Post

Documented success of two of Oakland's prominent programs in swimming and diving and basketball are examples of the university's growth.

*Oakland athletics has made strides over the years but there are still ways to improve their brand*

When I look around Oakland University, a 1964 lyric by folk legend Bob Dylan runs through my head.

"... The times they are a-changin'."

When you first pull into the University entrance, you immediately see the construction of the new Health Science building, which is ironic because Oakland's image is also under the knife.

The campus additions like the medical school and various degree programs, go hand-in-hand with what OU athletics has done the past 10 years: grow.

I've gotten to know the various coaches in my year as the sports editor of The Oakland Post. Most athletes and athletic staff members share a unique mentality of optimism, as well.

That may seem like an obvious quality, but there is a degree of pride that involves much more than wearing a jersey.

Although there is progress in terms

of interest, there are three ideas that I think will bring the Golden Grizzlies brand further into prominence.



KEVIN ROMANCHIK  
sports editor

COLUMN

## Advertise the product

Having classes in different buildings, I've gotten an idea of what the students think of the athletics here. Frankly, most of them are oblivious. I can't say I blame them.

You rarely see any commercials advertising the games and the O'rena sign is much too small. It's not uncommon to hear

of people driving right past it or not knowing where it's located at.

The leading scorer in the nation, Reggie Hamilton, passed under the nose of many students.

The Oakland Basketball All-Access series that premiered this season on Fox Sports Detroit is a good start, but outside of the website, I didn't hear hardly any buzz about it on local news or around campus.

To get more people at games, they'll have to put more money in advertising.

## 'If you build it, they will come'

The University of Michigan has opened both a brand new indoor football and practice facility in the past two years.

Opening a dedicated practice facility will put Oakland among the state's elite and will no doubt give them a recruiting advantage against schools in the Summit League and comparable in-state schools like University of Detroit-Mercy.

Head basketball coach Greg Kampe discussed the importance of a dedicated facility last December on WXOU.

This will no doubt come with a cost but a new facility is worth the investment.

## Time to jump ship

The Grizzlies need to move onto what I believe is greener pasture in the Horizon League. They might have their chance very soon.

ESPN's senior college basketball writer Andy Katz mentioned in late March Butler University has interest in moving to the Atlantic-10 conference and replacing Temple University, according to many sources.

If you're an OU basketball fan, you've no doubt heard the rumor of UDM blocking Oakland from the move to the more favorable and geographically-friendly conference, but it has never been offi-

## GRIZZLIES BOX SCORES

### BASEBALL vs. CMU

15-4

**LAST GAME** Head coach John Musachio said the loss

was the team's "most disappointing effort of the year."

**NEXT GAME** The Grizzlies look to rebound against Olivet at the OU Baseball Field at 3 p.m.

### SOFTBALL vs. SDSU

4-3

**LAST GAME** Brittany Doyle earned the win, throwing 2.1 innings in

relief and giving up no runs. Morgan Muron had two hits and RBIs, and Erin Galloway and Colleen Zimmerman each had two hits to beat the Jackrabbits.

**NEXT GAME** The Grizzlies will take on Toledo on Wednesday in a midweek doubleheader.

cially confirmed.

The possibility of an UDM and OU matchup could generate excitement in the Metro Detroit area, which has been predominately controlled by professional sports.

A move to the Horizon League, would cut travel costs more than half across the board.

Oakland has had success over Horizon teams like Valparaiso, formerly of the Summit League (then called the Mid-Con).

## Invested emotion

Oakland has done something crucial and done it correctly: created a core fan base — the Grizz Gang.

People cared that OU lost to Southern Utah in the Summit League Tournament in a disappointed fashion.

Seeing multiple tweets and comments from fans and students alike, voicing their disapproval isn't necessarily a bad thing. Emotion shows a bond is there.

People change, relationships come and go, but love for sports teams rarely does.

OU can capitalize on this student relationship by showing that school pride isn't only tied to academics, but also to the fields and courts of the campus.



# THE SPORTING BLITZ

Compiled by Timothy Pontzer,  
Senior Reporter

## Behind Ryan's play, Grizzlies move into first place

Senior centerfielder Tim Ryan collected the Summit League Player of the Week award on Monday. Ryan's performance over the past five games has led the Golden Grizzlies to the top of the Summit League standings, with a 10-24 record, 4-3 in the conference.

During the past week, Oakland went 4-1, fueled by the hot bat of Ryan. In that span, the senior hit .421 and extended his hitting streak to six games. Ryan swiped two bases, giving him a team-high 17 for the season. He only needs six more to set the school career-



Ryan

record of 80 stolen bases.

Oakland took three of the four games in a home series against IPFW this past week. Ryan went 7-for-16 in the four games against the Mastodons and hit a two-run homer in the series finale, an 11-6 victory.

Earlier this season, Ryan joined rare company, becoming just the third player in school history to reach 200 career hits.

## Women's golf takes second at Bowling Green tourney

The Oakland women's golf team concluded the regular season strong with a runner-up finish in the Dolores Black Falcon Invitational. The event, hosted by Bowling Green, featured schools such as Ohio, Detroit and Indianapolis.

Indianapolis was the only school able to better OU's final combined score of 636 (+60 for the course). Senior Liz Ecker led the Golden Grizzlies with a 156 (+12) over two rounds. Ecker led all players after the first day with a 73, but struggled the following round with an 83 in windy conditions.

Sophomore Cassandra Komma carded an 80 in the final round, while junior Mara



Kovac

Kovac was close behind, shooting an 81 to help Oakland secure the runner-up trophy.

The Golden Grizzlies look ahead to the Summit League Tournament on April 22-24. The event will be held in Primm, Nev.

## Coriasso leads men's golf in Louisiana competition

The Oakland softball team snapped a 16 game losing streak with two straight victories against the South Dakota State Jackrabbits.

By taking two of the three matchups in the home series, Oakland captured its first Summit League series of the season.

On Friday, Oakland took the nightcap of a doubleheader with the Jackrabbits in walk-off fashion, winning 6-5. Junior third baseman Erin

Galloway had three RBIs in the game, providing the game-winning win in the bottom of the seventh inning. Her hit capped off a four run barrage in the seventh, completing a comeback win. Junior Abbie Richardson earned the win, pitching a complete game, giving up runs and striking out five batters.

Galloway added two more hits in the



Galloway

game on Saturday, a 5-3 victory. Freshman Morgan Muron led the Oakland attack with two hits and two RBIs as the team improved to 5-31 on the year and 3-15 in the Summit League.

The season continues for the Grizzlies with a road doubleheader today at Toledo beginning at 2 p.m.

## Lithuanian big-man signs with men's basketball team

Viktoras Merkevcicius signed his National Letter of Intent to play college basketball at on April 12. Merkevcicius used his 6-foot-9 frame to dominate the paint in high school at Stoneridge Prep in Simi Valley, Calif.

A native of Vilkaviskis, Lithuania, Merkevcicius is exactly the kind of player Oakland head coach Greg Kampe is looking for.

"We are very excited to sign Viktor, because he meets a need we have," Kampe said. "I believe he can play the four or the five. He's a great free-throw shooter, good jump shooter, left-handed and will fit very well in our dribble-drive offense as a four. We believe he has a chance to play right away."

Contact Timothy Pontzer via email at [trpontze@oakland.edu](mailto:trpontze@oakland.edu) and follow him on Twitter @timothy\_pontzer

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# Trampoline park phenomenon

*Troy to become home to Michigan's first ever indoor trampoline park*

By Damien Dennis  
Senior Reporter

Amusement parks? Check. Water parks? Check. Trampoline parks? Check.

The city of Troy will feature the grand opening of the AirTime Trampoline and Game Park this June.

The park will be a large, 15,000 square-foot indoor facility with most of the space dedicated to interlocked trampolines and foam pits. The park in Troy will be the first of its kind in Michigan.

## Bringing the park to Michigan

Pam Wannemacher, co-founder of AirTime, described the idea of the trampoline park as coming from others she has seen around the country.

"I believe the idea started with a company called Sky Zone, who went on to turn their parks into a franchise," Wannemacher said. "Instead of doing a franchise, we wanted to do it a little bit differently."

AirTime looked at dozens of cities around the country for areas without a trampoline park and settled on the Detroit market due to demographics and population size in the area.

"We thought it was a great opportunity, especially seeing that the Detroit economy is bouncing back," Wannemacher said. "We wanted to be a part of that."

## Features of the park

The trampoline park will be located in the Troy Market Place on East Big Beaver Road in a 31,000 square-foot facility. The park will feature about 12,000 square-feet of open trampoline areas and more room for foam pits.

"Essentially, it's going to be wall-to-wall trampolines," Wannemacher said.

Areas of the park will be divided by age, such as seven and under, eight to 13 and 14 and up. The purpose is for the area to be safe so younger children can have their own areas to play.

Other features of the park will include two different dodgeball courts, one featuring trampoline play and the other being a traditional gymnasium style court. Gymnastics instructors will also be at the park to teach willing learners



Photo courtesy of AirTime Trampoline and Game Park

Michigan's first indoor trampoline park is coming to the Troy Market Place this June. The park will feature wall-to-wall trampolines and open jump areas, trampoline dodgeball and foam pits. Park representatives decided on the Detroit area due to its demographics.

"It seems as if the business is targeting a very small customer market which pretty much includes athletes interested in trampoline training and young kids to have fun."

Elizabeth Gretkierewicz,  
Health Science major

how to do tumbling, which is the purpose of the foam pits.

"The trampoline dodgeball court will probably be one of the more popular features of the park," Wannemacher said. "It's something other parks have done and it's a big attraction."

The overall cost of the project is over \$1 million, with much of the cost coming from the construction of the trampolines themselves.

While the facility in Troy already exists, AirTime has to remodel the building.

Some of the things they need to build

in the facility are restrooms, reception areas and offices.

## Reaching out

Participants will pay by the hour to use the park, with \$10 during the week and \$12 during the weekends after the park opens.

Wannemacher also hopes to reach out to the surrounding colleges, to help with fundraisers for student and Greek organizations at area colleges, such as Oakland University.

Elizabeth Gretkierewicz, a health science major, said the idea is a great one, but doesn't see much potential for those her age.

"It seems as if the business is targeting a very small customer market, which pretty much includes athletes interested in trampoline training and young kids to have fun," Gretkierewicz said.

The park is scheduled to open in June and is using social media to promote itself in the area.

"We cannot wait for Michigan to experience our trampoline (park)," Wan-

nemacher said.

For more information about the trampoline park and updates, visit [www.airtimetrampoline.com](http://www.airtimetrampoline.com)

Contact Staff Reporter Damien Dennis via email at [djdennis@oakland.edu](mailto:djdennis@oakland.edu) or follow him on Twitter @djdennisOU

## Park Information

**WHAT** AirTime Trampoline and Game Park features over 15,000 square feet of wall-to-wall trampolines, trampoline dodgeball and foam pits.

**WHEN** June 2012

**WHERE** Troy Market Place

**MORE INFORMATION** AirTime is dedicated to supporting local music, while offering a family-friendly, safe and exciting place to jump and experience airtime. For more information on Airtime Trampoline and Game Park, visit [www.airtimetrampoline.com](http://www.airtimetrampoline.com)



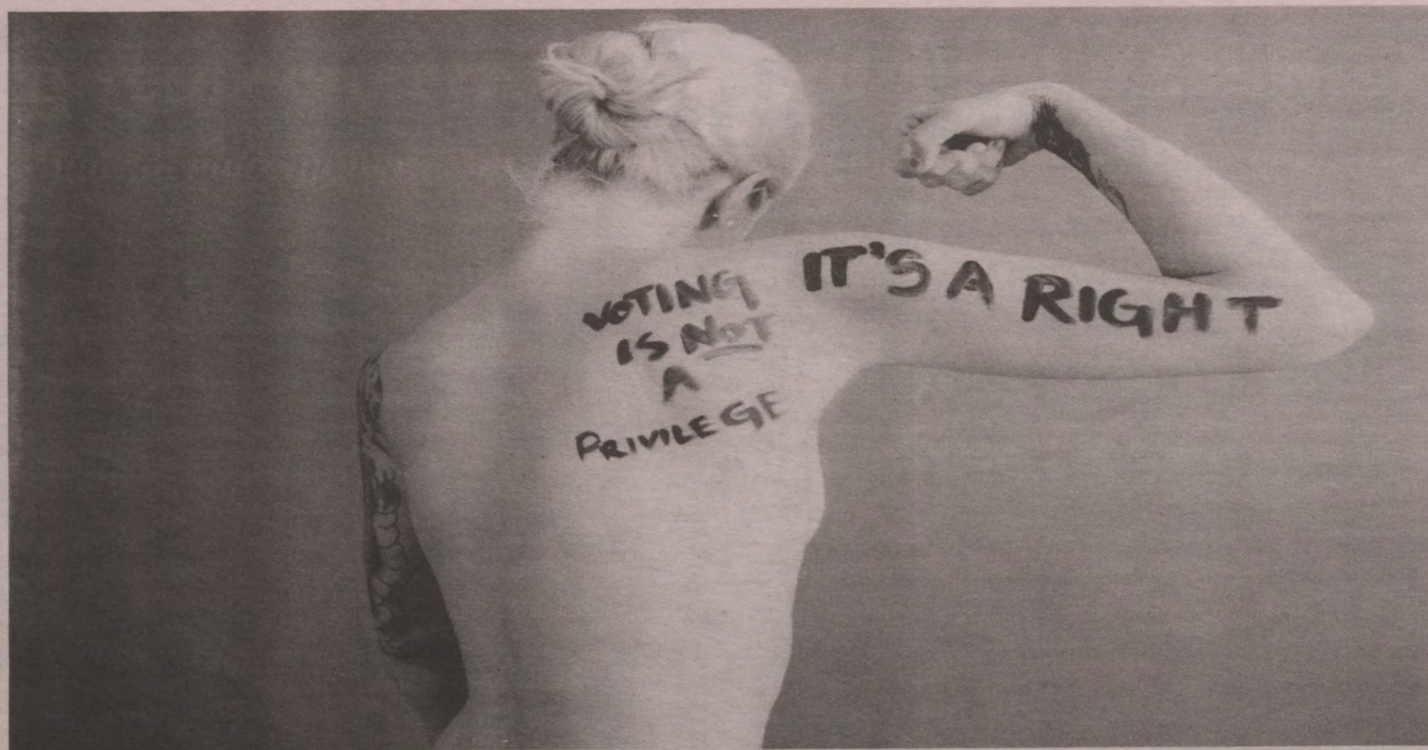


Photo courtesy of Liora K Photography for National Unite Against the War on Women

Both men and women are planning for a protest rally, organized by the Unite Women organization, that is set to take place at the state capitol on April 28. The protest will focus on women's reproductive rights, state voter registration laws and women's health programs.

# Unite Women plans protest for women's rights at state capitol

## Organization plans rally on national scale

By Sarah Hunton  
Senior Reporter

Men and women across the state are uniting for a protest rally on April 28 at the state capitol in Lansing.

The rally, which was organized by an organization called "Unite Women," aims to raise awareness for women's rights, particularly reproductive rights, and include both genders in the process.

### The mission is born

The organization was born in the middle of February, after two women, Karen Teegarden from Michigan and Desiree Jordan from New York, discussed women's issues and wondered why women weren't "taking to the streets."

According to Unite Women's first press release, some of the largest issues facing women are "state voter registration laws that suppress voter turnout especially among poor women, seniors and minorities" and Texas Governor, Rick Perry's Texas Women's Health Program, which

ends funding to Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers.

Virginia Shidler is a senior history major who is concerned with the decisions current legislatures are making in regard to birth control and insurance.

"I think it's ridiculous that they're trying to pull a legitimate health tool away from women who actually need it," she said. "Birth control is also used to prevent hormonal imbalances and in some case actually aid in prevention of certain cancers."

### Expanding the organization

After quickly gaining popularity through social media, the movement organized this rally. The protest rally will take place on a national scale, meaning marches will be going on in every state capitol except for Springfield, Ill. Illinois's march will be in Chicago.

Caleb Files is a regional campus organizer for Unite Women and is a self-identified raging feminist. He believes equality is for everybody and reached out to the organization after becoming involved with an all male panel discussion on birth control. He currently attends the University of Missouri Kansas City and works full-time for Unite Women.

Files explained the rally's mission is to prove to legislatures that there are women who are interested in these issues.

"The end goal is that awareness is brought to the issues and to show that there are plenty of women in the US who do care about themselves, their bodies, and how they take care of them," he said.

He will be participating in Chicago's April 28 rally.

"I believe those who attend the rallies will see a sense of solidarity a coming together of like minded individuals and they will make those connections to continue this fight, we aren't going away," Files said. "This is only the beginning. These marches, all across the nation, are just the beginning to this continuing this conversation."

Many national organizations are endorsing this event including, Planned Parenthood, the National Organization of Women, the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health and the Feminist Peace Network.

For more information visit [www.unitewomen.org](http://www.unitewomen.org)

Contact Senior Reporter Sarah Hunton via email at [sjhunton@oakland.edu](mailto:sjhunton@oakland.edu)

## LOCAL BRIEFS

### Spring collectables show

The Rochester Community House will host a Spring Collectibles Show on Saturday, April 21.

Beginning at 10 a.m., visitors can see a display including dolls, stamps, sports memorabilia, trading cards and Frank Sinatra memorabilia, among others items. There will also be items for sale.

Admission costs \$3 for adults and children get in for free. For more information visit [www.rochestercommhouse.org](http://www.rochestercommhouse.org)

### Barnes and Noble to host book fair to benefit Troy library

The Troy Public Library will hold a book fair at Barnes and Noble Booksellers April 21-22.

For each sale made using a book fair voucher, a percentage will go toward the Troy Public Library.

There will also be face painting, earth day crafts, origami crafts and author signings from Carol McCloud and Dr. Steven Craig.

For more information contact Phillip Kwik at 248-619-7577. Vouchers are available at [www.troylibrary.info](http://www.troylibrary.info)

### Used book sale and fundraiser

The South Oakland YMCA in Royal Oak will host a used book sale and scholarship fundraiser from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, April 19.

This event is free and money raised will benefit the Strong Kids Scholarship, which provides scholarships towards memberships, children and adult sports programs and the YMCA's summer day camp.

### Mufflers and more car care fair

The Mufflers and More auto maintenance shop will host the Mufflers and More Car Care Fair. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 21.

The event is free and will include food, classic cars on display, a tour of the auto shop and free vehicle inspections with evaluations.

For more information, call 248-668-1200

Compiled by  
Natalie Popovski,  
Staff Intern



# 'Miracle Shannon' moves forward

*Student survives car crash, returns to 'normal' life*

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

Nearly six months ago, Oakland University students Jenna Balabuch, Rachel Ring and Shannon Waite were traveling to Detroit on southbound Interstate 75 when a driver rear-ended their stopped vehicle at 70 mph.

The three were traveling to the John K. King bookstore in Detroit for a Sigma Tau Delta English honor's society event.

Balabuch and Ring, best friends, were sitting in the backseat of the car and were killed. Waite, the driver, escaped the crash sustaining traumatic brain injuries that left her in a coma for weeks.

After the accident, Waite woke up in the hospital with no recollection of what had transpired.

"I actually don't remember the accident. I know what happened from other people, but it feels like a story," said Waite, a senior majoring in English literature and minoring in English as a second language. "I woke up in the hospital and had no idea of why I was there."

Unsure of what the doctors wanted to tell her, Waite's father, Don, told her she bumped her head.

"Once she woke up, she was quick to recover," he said. "There's no way I could have imagined being where we are today four to five months ago."

The brain injuries Waite sustained were enough to put her in critical condition, but she avoided broken bones and long-term effects — the reason she was given the nickname "miracle Shannon"



KEVIN ROMANCHIK/The Oakland Post

Shannon Waite was the sole survivor of a car crash on Interstate 75 last fall. She has a new look on life and is excited to get back to school.

by the OU community.

"When I woke up, I had piles and piles of cards and things," she said. "I remember, I don't remember much from the hospital, but I remember reading through them and telling my mom, 'it's really sad that it takes you either dying or almost dying to hear these nice things from people.' It would be nice if people could hear this kind of stuff every day."

Missing more than a month of school for her recovery, Waite was looking forward to getting back to her normal life of working four jobs, being a student and driving. Eager to apply for the OU Secondary Teacher Education Program, she was worried her recovery would put her a year behind, as the program starts each fall.

Waite also wanted to get back to her boyfriend, Karl Resch, an OU alum she has been dating for the past two and a half years.

"I think about it (the accident) a lot and it's just interesting how stuff can happen and how stuff cannot happen, and I don't understand how two other girls died and I walked away from it with no issues. It does make me think."

Shannon Waite, English major

Resch, who graduated in 2011 with a degree in engineering biology, said he spent a lot of time with Waite through her recovery, especially during the first few weeks. He said the accident changed their relationship, but for the better.

"It (the accident) puts a different spin on life, not just with me and her, but with me and everyone I know," Resch said. "It happened so quickly and it really kind of puts a lot of things into perspective. You realize when you're talking to someone, when you have a disagreement, some of the issues aren't that big of a deal anymore once it's all kind of

brought into perspective."

According to Resch, the couple met on Waite's first day at OU in August 2009, when she was first moving on campus. Now, she serves as a resident assistant in the Fitzgerald dorms and was anxious to return to the job.

Unfortunately for Waite, she lost touch with some of her friends during her recovery, but she hasn't let it set her back. After she was released from the hospital, she was quick to jump back into her busy lifestyle, make more friends and drive her new car.

"Shannon's incredibly determined and she definitely

has her mind made up as to what she wants and how she's going to go about achieving it," Resch said. "She views herself as having no limits."

Though Waite said she doesn't remember the accident, it's something she said will live with her for the rest of her life.

"I think about it (the accident) a lot and it's just interesting how stuff can happen and how stuff cannot happen and I don't understand how two other girls died and then I walked away from it with no issues. It does make me think."

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Photo courtesy of Jerry White, Jr.

Co-creator of the '90s Oakland County public access television show, "30 Minutes of Madness" will return to Michigan this summer to do another, final episode. The entire production will be filmed and made into a documentary — "20 Years of Madness."

# We're all a little mad

*Alum returns to Michigan for '30 Minutes of Madness' reunion*

By **Clare La Torre**  
Life Editor

"You can walk home with me," he said, with his 6-foot-seven-inch shadow casting along the warm Los Angeles sidewalk as he made his way home. Phone in hand, he made wide strides with his genuine and quirky smile on his face.

His witty offer travelled the distance of satellites to the other end of the conversation, and to the other end of the country, in Rochester, Mich. — his childhood home, and his soon to be destination.

Oakland University alumnus and current student of cinematic art at Southern California University, Jerry White, Jr., is the co-creator and producer of "30 Minutes of Madness" — an Oakland County public access television show from the 1990s.

After over a decade of falling out between members and a country-wide split of lifestyles, White is calling all his past collaborators back to the mitten for another episode.

## Going mad

It all began in 1990 when White was 14-years-old.

"We were just making silly skits in the streets with one of our dads video cameras," he said.

And so began "30 Minutes of Madness" — an MTV-generation skit show full of wild comedy, amateur editing and effects, and a charming sense of originality and resourcefulness.

"Meeting Jerry was exactly what being around Jerry (is) like — it was exciting and weird," Molly Brodak, OU alum, author and returning actor said. "(He) is a dreamer, but also has enough energy and excitement to get others caught up in his vision."

Before becoming a regular face on the camera, Brodak would pass out fliers for the show at her school. She looked up to White and the others for their passion at such a young age.

"His show was inspiring because I saw that it was just these local kids making art out of nothing — just having the creativity and discipline to make things they believed in," she said. "I honestly don't know if I would have grown into centering my life around creativity if I hadn't had these friends who valued making art over other things teenagers were doing, like drinking."

Brodak will also return to Michigan for the new episode.

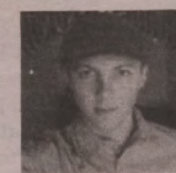
## PEOPLE INVOLVED



**Andrea Eis** Associate Professor of Art and Chair of Art and Art History Department. White cites Eis as his mentor.



**Molly Brodak** Alum and published author, Brodak has been a guest speaker at OU and will return to Michigan for 30 Minutes of Madness.



**Jeremy Royce** Graduating from USC school of cinema studies, Royce will be documenting the challenges of the new 30 Minutes of Madness.

Please see MADNESS, page 21



## MADNESS

continued from page 20

Jerry White, Jr.,  
OU alumnusFinding his  
inner filmmaker

White majored in German language and literature while at OU. It was then that his passion for film returned.

"The great thing about those language majors is that your final project can be just about anything," White said.

He began creating his own German language films. While working in the labs in the basement of Wilson Hall, and even sleeping in the halls when he put in late hours, he met Andrea Eis, associate professor of art and chair of the art and art history department.

"His projects were expansive and complex and he never wanted to simplify or scale back. He would work to the level he needed and beyond," Eis said. "It was more than work ethic — it was a passion for the work, for the vision that he wanted to realize."

White refers to Eis as his mentor, and thanks her for the motivation to

apply to graduate school.

"The inspiration went in both ways as well," Eis said. "But the end of Jerry's time at OU, I has started reviving my own film work, which had been dormant for several years. It was definitely because I was inspired by his creativity, innovative approaches and intense dedication."

## Tension builds

"30 Minutes of Madness" came to a halt when White and co-creator Joe Hornacek began to split apart. Creative differences and wavering priorities forced them to change directions in life.

"In the beginning it was fun because it started in high school and we could go to school the next day and talk about it with our friends," Hornacek said. "But after we graduated we had to take care of ourselves and the fact that we were all trying to go to college, live in the same house and hold (down) jobs was a bit of a headache for us."

Financing the project became an issue as well. Trying to financially support a creative project of such size, and trying to land on their feet as adults was difficult to do simultaneously.

"When you get to that point in your life, you get gratification from working hard and (you're) proud of the integrity that you have for taking care of the bills, so you do not have the mind set for (pressing) the record button and acting funny for the camera," Hornacek said.

## '20 Years of Madness'

"30 Minutes of Madness" spans 15 episodes. The new episode, which will be shot in Rochester this summer, will mark the 20-year anniversary.

To mark the achievement and to grasp the drama that envelopes the relationships of those involved, a documentary will be made of the final episode — "20 Years of Madness."

Directed by Jeremy Royce, the documentary will focus simultaneously on the history of the show and on the difficulties and challenges presented by the creation of a new episode — whether or not those involved will overcome them.

Royce cites the shows charm on its, "quirky, rough around the edges," style.

The show sparks enthusiasm because it is easily relatable for those who grew up with the arts and their

parent's video camera, but it weighs heavier because they ("30 Minutes of Madness") had the courage to present their work to the world while they were still learning, Royce said.

"I tell myself I wouldn't be doing it if I didn't have hope for them to reconcile and start making artwork together again," he said. "But a piece of me wonders if they'll face the same challenges and whether or not they'll choose to work together, or split up."

## Finding the means

White plans on returning to Michigan in mid-June to July. As of now, Royce and himself are trying to collect enough money to fund the trip East.

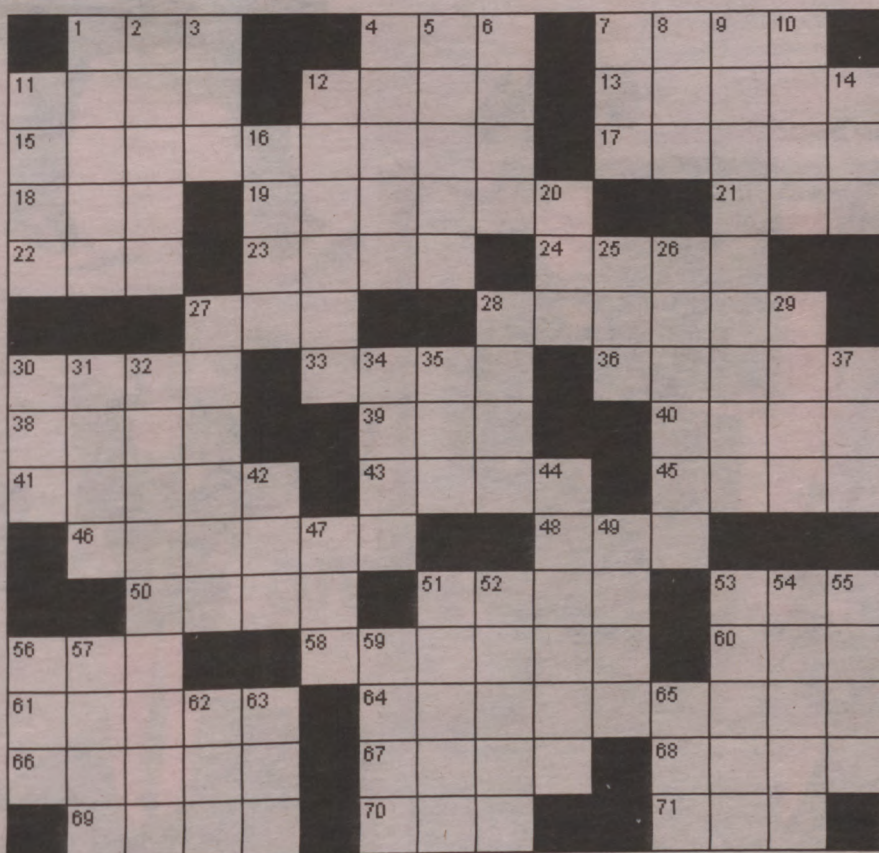
Whatever money they can raise will go towards renting a house for the crew to stay in during filming. Currently they have raised roughly \$2,500 of their \$12,000 goal with thanks to their page on Kickstarter <http://kck.st/op30MOM>

"I know most of us will probably be approaching this with some suspicion and doubts," Brodak said. "But I think it will be good for all of us."

Contact Life Editor Clare La Torre via email at [culatorr@oakland.edu](mailto:culatorr@oakland.edu)

# WEEKLY PUZZLES

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Answers are available online at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## ACROSS

1. Entanglement
4. Fuss
7. Run easily
11. Hemispherical roof
12. Not up and about
13. Pertaining to hearing
15. Represents a conjunction
17. Literary genre
18. Make lacework by knotting or looping
19. Help
21. Domestic companion
22. Unspecified amount
23. Swarm
24. Decide with authority
27. For each
28. Me
30. Opaque gem
33. Root vegetable
36. Book of maps
38. Valley
39. Golfing term
40. This place
41. Part of a church
43. Pace
45. Region
46. Misapplication
48. Entire

50. Bill of fare
51. Land measure
53. Rotating mechanism
56. Metal-bearing mineral
58. Spearfish
60. Chromaticity
61. Binary compound
64. Tirade
66. Foe
67. Bind with rope, chain or cord
68. Leave out
69. Genuine
70. Middle of a storm
71. Fish trap

## DOWN

1. Female
2. Vacuous
3. Insect
4. Humiliate
5. Coarse cotton fabric
6. Likelihood
7. Once around a course
8. Belonging to us
9. Mechanical device
10. Facilitate
11. Information
12. State categorically
14. Allow
16. Pace
20. Attempt
25. Country, initially
26. Deadly
27. Delight
28. To a greater extent
29. Taxi passenger
30. Eggs
31. Part of the hand
32. Measuring instrument
34. Recess
35. Rodent
37. Body of water
42. Operate
44. Outcast
47. Quantity of money
49. Give temporarily
51. Impressive display
52. Nearby
53. Percussion instrument
54. Inspection of accounting procedures
55. Encounter
56. Be indebted to
57. Rave
59. Fit
62. Flightless bird
63. Seed of the cereal grass
65. Male offspring



# A pop of color

*Students welcome spring with brightly colored denim*

Written and photographed by Stephanie Sokol / Photo Intern

One of this season's biggest trends is colored denim. Racks are stocked with pants in every hue — from peach to mint green, bright reds, to yellows.

With the color blocking trend, this versatile style works well when combined with many other colored tops.

"I love colored denim because it adds a pop of color to mix up your look," post bachelor student Claire Kwiatkowski said. "It's a really fun trend for spring and summer. My teal jeans are my favorite."

On campus, the top shades among students include green, brown, pink and white, though some people go for bolder hues like bright blues and orange.

Whether it's a pair of jeans, shorts or a jacket, colored denim is a top trend for spring, on OU's campus and beyond.





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# Mouthing Off

SATIRE

## Finals week: Don't you dare procrastinate

By Brian Figurski  
Multimedia Reporter

**T**he end is almost here. The finish line is just in reach. All that is left are these dreaded finals.

I can taste the vodka already. I'm so glad no campus staff monitors the contents of my "water" flask.

For those of you who had the extreme luxury of having lazy instructors who avoid finals week, you can go lay down in front of a speeding Bear Bus. For the majority of students who have an endurance test of piles of final exams, I'm here to help construct a solid study plan, now that last week's vomit sessions have been systematically purged.

This is my first serious battal-

ion of real exams. Having been a student at a community college, I can say truthfully Oakland University isn't as big of a joke in comparison.

Perhaps if I didn't spend the first five years after high school getting high in the back of an Astrovan, I would have set better goals and been cramming for tests earlier in life than cramming hash pipes.

I've come to find it's nearly impossible to get any studious work done on campus, although I find having ass cancer more rewarding than studying. The racket of rabbleroising kids and teen moms inane speech, encouraging pregnancy and the monetary rewards of televised humility. So many distractions prevent important information

from seeping into my mind.

The closest I've come to a successful study session has been barricading myself into a grandiose study room of Elliott Hall. Sweating profusely with intense focus, cramming every nook and cranny with passion, I was nearly done when some diabolical bastard had to come barging into the room, breaking my concentration.

Those study rooms really need locks.

The best place to plunge into books is void of all light. Take for instance the Oakland Center basement, which will also cut off your phone signal, secluding you into insecurity and prompting work to be done.

That or questioning the loyalty of your Hanging with Friends when multitudes of games have not updated in two hours. It isn't that difficult, just play a word, damn it! Cue the tears of loneliness.

Unless you really need to get on Moodle, it's best to put away your laptop so you don't surf

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

YouTube and get sucked into the holographic Tupac videos. Then again, you'll be forced to use GrizzNet, so a working Internet connection really isn't a viable option.

The best way to buckle down involves crumpling up this page immediately and tossing it aside. Quit being a crybaby and go find a dark corner to hit the books hard.

Distractions are aplenty at Oakland and there are only so many shady corners to curl up in. Find one quick, since the other three people who read this article might beat you to one.

I had a great year assisting you during your scholarly quests and venting my pessimistic perspectives.

Enjoy your summer break brimming with booze and sun basking.

I hope to write for you next year.

That is if I don't get kicked off staff for having sexual innuendos busting out of every article I've had published.



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