

# THE OAKLAND POST

OCTOBER

14

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2015 —

## AIN'T I A WOMAN

ACTRESS AND LGBTQ+ ADVOCATE  
LAVERNE COX VISITS CAMPUS

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OAKLAND  
UNIVERSITY



Photo by Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

### SETTING THE BAR.

Enrollment reaches  
record-breaking number

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Advice from campus experts  
on do's and don'ts

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### LEPLEY CENTER.

Reasons campus needs another  
athletics facility

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# thisweek

October 14, 2012 // Volume 41. Issue 7



## ontheweb

Check out the full interview with Orange is the New Black actress Laverne Cox on [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**ROCKING AND 'LOLL'ING** // The Student Program Board held "Rock & LOL" on Friday, Oct. 9 outside of Oak View Hall. A live comedy act by Zoltan Kaszas was followed by a performance from Brett & Co.

Bohdanna Cherstylo // The Oakland Post

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## POLL OF THE WEEK

Midterms are upon us already! How do you feel about it?

- A) Everthing hurts and I'm dying :)
- B) I'm a rare individual who's actually prepared!
- C) My books are still wrapped in plastic...
- D) [Pauses Netflix] WHAT MIDTERMS!?

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## LAST WEEK'S POLL

What is your attitude towards McDonalds having all day breakfast?

- A) I'm happy about it, pancakes all day!  
6 votes
- B) I don't really care, call me when Chipotle delivers.  
19 votes
- C) Boo! McDonalds should be ashamed!  
2 votes
- D) I CAN'T HEAR YOU OVER ALL THESE HASH BROWNS  
22 votes

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### October 16, 1991

Due to cutbacks, between 20 and 30 studio art students were threatened with their program being removed.

### October 12, 1994

Professor Amy Blake lectured on women's studies about the essential protection of lesbian and gay students. However, sexual orientation was not added to the equal rights policy at this time.

### October 16, 1996

The statue outside of Kresge Library, called Saints and Sinners, turned 20 years old in October. It's 39 years old this year.

—Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, Staff Reporter



7

### ACROSS THE POND

This year the Oakland University Honors College prepares for an inaugural video conference with the Rochester Grammar School, based in Kent, England.



11

### GREAT PLAINS BECOME GREATER

The opening week for the Music, Theater, and Dance performance of Oklahoma! The Musical. Seats were packed as students took the stage.



19

### GRIZZLY OAKS REOPENING

After two years being out of commission, the eighteen hole disc golf course located on campus is up and running again.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Transgender stats

33%

Of transgender youths have attempted suicide

90%

Of transgender students feel unsafe at school

74%

Of transgender persons have been sexually harassed at school

50%

Of transgender youths will attempt suicide by their 20th birthday

19%

Of transgender persons are refused treatment because of their gender identity



## Editorial: Is there no urgency in making campus more accessible?

**Kristen Davis**  
Editor-in-Chief

The fall semester of my sophomore year in 2014, I was walking to the restroom in Elliott Hall before my morning class. I held the door for a woman in a wheelchair because there was no automatic button to open it.

I remember how thankful she was, but immediately following her gratitude was a rant.

The clearly frustrated student expressed anger towards Oakland's campus for not being very handicap friendly.

She talked about that particular restroom door and the parking, reflecting on how there wasn't enough handicap spaces for her that morning near the building, so she had to park far away.

She added that the door I held for her wasn't the only one she had problems with — non-automatic doors were an issue she dealt with frequently on campus.

My heart broke for her.

Just last week, students met in Oak View Hall (OVH) to discuss this same issue.

The problem of lack of accessibility for disabled students still exists a year later. Why hasn't anything been done about it?

According to Ryan Fox and Elijah Sanders, the students leading the way in making changes around campus, Dodge Hall, Hannah Hall, the Mathematics and Science Center — formerly known as the Science and Engineering Building — and Fitzgerald Hall are completely inaccessible.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that buildings built after Jan. 26, 1992 be accessible, that's why this is legal, since these buildings were built before

then. But, in my opinion, that doesn't make it acceptable.

Sanders and Student Body President Nick Walter both said the lack of buttons on both interior and exterior doors is the biggest accessibility complaint.

Not only is maneuvering a chair through a door a hassle, but it's also potentially dangerous and could result in injury.

Sanders, who is handicapped, also added that the only accessible bathroom in Varner Hall is inconveniently located on the second floor. It's also been broken for the last year.

Linda Sisson, director of Disability Support Services (DSS), said the only requirement for interior doors is that they weigh a certain amount.

She added that automatic doors are much more welcoming, though, and a goal of DSS is to make everything on campus accessible, regardless of what is legally required.

It costs roughly \$6,000 to install an automatic opener on a door, according to Fox.

John Beaghan, vice president for finance and administration at OU, said automatic doors on new buildings are paid via the building's project budget.

For existing buildings, the money comes from Oakland's general maintenance fund.

According to the university's budget, the general fund is \$27.7 million for fiscal year 2016.

Another problem is the elevators. Walter said the elevator in the Oakland Center is frequently down and one of the elevators in Varner doesn't work altogether.

In OVH, the elevator on the upperclassmen side has been down for three weeks. Fox said at one point, two of

the three elevators in OVH weren't working.

What might seem like an inconvenience for you because you have to take the stairs up a flight is a much larger inconvenience for someone who is disabled and isn't able to take the alternative route.

Sanders said at first, OU had its objections to fixing these changes, but after the meeting last week, the university seems more supportive.

But where is OU's sense of urgency in fixing these issues?

The goal of this article isn't to discredit what Oakland already does to accommodate disabled students, but rather to speed up the process of making these additional adjustments.

As students of OU, we're the ones who will lead the way in this charge. If enough of us express concern and bring awareness to the severity of this issue to administration, change will follow.

One way to do this is by contacting Glenn McIntosh, the vice president of student affairs at OU. His email is [mcintosh@oakland.edu](mailto:mcintosh@oakland.edu). The Oakland Post encourages you to be professional when contacting him.

Also, contact a legislator or attend an OUSC meeting, which are held every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Center, to speak on the issue.

Lastly, report problems to maintenance so things like elevators and restrooms get fixed quicker. Getting maintenance more involved is another goal of Fox and Sander's efforts.

I think it goes without saying that being disabled comes with its own obstacles. Let's not make our campus another obstacle for those who have faced enough already.



THE OAKLAND POST

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### Corrections Corner

Last issue, we published a letter to the editor in which we spelled the author's name wrong. The proper spelling of his name is Chase Hulderman. We apologize for our error.

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

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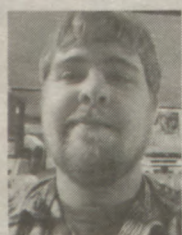


## The Real Deal: Let's talk about sex ed

Why public school sex education needs to teach more than "abstinence only," "no means no"

Ryan Fox  
Contributor

Not surprisingly, a lot of student organizations on campus have been talking about sex. It is a topic that comes up commonly in our social circles, in our humor, and in our discussions.



RYAN FOX  
Contributor

In college young people learn a lot about sex. It is often true that students are sheltered by their parents and are shell shocked by the sudden wave of information that hits them once they leave home for the first time. This is in part due to the strict focus on abstinence-on-

ly education in public schools. Public school districts will not dare discuss with students anything about sex that goes beyond simply not having it. Most of us here at OU can agree that abstinence-only education doesn't work, and in this article I will overview some of the things we should be teaching our kids in sex ed.

### Learning about consent and orientation

One of the most crucial aspects of sex education that we should be teaching students is the meaning of consent. We need to give kids a clear definition of what sexual consent means, and we need to explain how serious it is when you pressure someone into doing something that they are not comfortable with. If we teach kids how to have safe and responsible sex where they make sure that everyone involved is explicitly consent-

ing and enjoying it, we can see some major problems in our society begin to be resolved. We would see a decrease in sexual assault, sexual harassment, and all-around discomfort.

It would be greatly beneficial to give students a course that can explain sexual orientations. By sitting down with students and discussing what exactly the difference between gender, sexuality, and sex is we can help further understanding and hopefully move towards greater equality for the LGBTQ+ community. Students could also understand their own sexuality better, and would hopefully discover their own sexual orientation early on.

### Quality of sex ed must improve

Better sex ed classes could also teach students what resources are available to them.

They can learn where to get birth control, condoms, and other forms of contraception. This would lead to a decrease in teen pregnancy. This also has benefits for those who are pro-life since it is statistically proven that the more contraceptives there are in a society, the less abortions. Explaining resources to students also encourages them to practice healthy habits, such as getting tested for STDs. This would help combat the spread of STDs among young people.

### Talk and learn

Considering all of these benefits, one has to ask: "Why aren't we teaching kids with better sex ed courses?" Well, the answer is as simple as you might think.

America still grasps on to a long-held belief that simply talking about something (i.e. sex) will make it happen. This has been proven untrue in

countless empirical studies, and yet still persists in public opinion. This line of thinking has proven not to only hinder progress, but it also harms those who have to suffer through the systems they perpetuate.

Many young people today have been sheltered from any talk of sex other than how it works, and this is causing a great deal of problems. Many young people have uncomfortable and negative first-time sexual experiences because they know so little about what sex is supposed to be like. Many young people contract STDs and become pregnant all because no one ever explained to them how to have safe sex.

Abstinence-only education not only doesn't work, but it is irresponsible and doesn't prepare future generations for the knowledge they need to be sexually active adults.

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## Grizzlies on the Prowl



*"What's your favorite show to binge watch on Netflix?"*



**Megan Healy, senior,  
psychology**

"I do not have a Netflix account, but I love to binge watch Supernatural and Outlander."



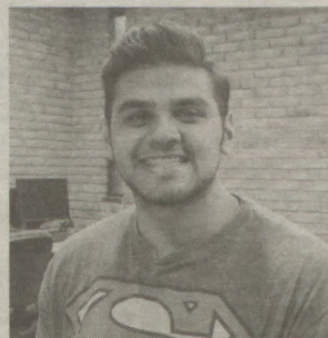
**Paige Fanning, junior  
radiologic technology**

"Orange is the New Black and Breaking Bad!"



**Jordan Cowser, freshman,  
health & sciences**

"Orange is the New Black."



**Oma Buksh, junior,  
biology**

"I don't have a Netflix, but I adore Game of Thrones."

— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury,  
Photographer

## POLICE BRIEFS

### Golf cart joy riding

OUPD was called to P1 due to two students joy riding in a golf cart on Sept. 14. Two male students had stolen an Oakland University golf cart from outside South Foundation Hall and drove it all the way to Dodge Hall. After that, one of the students left while the other went to his class in Wilson Hall. When OUPD caught up with the student in class, he reported that he and his friend had already been told not to do it again. Oakland decided not to press charges because no damage was done to campus or the vehicle.

### Substance abuse on campus

Officers were called Hamlin Hall on Sept. 23 to investigate marijuana use from students. The student himself had contacted OUPD saying that he wanted to do the right thing. He cooperated and gave the officers all of the drugs he had in his possession. The student had 1.365 ounces of marijuana in his room. The student was unwilling to share where he received the drug due to fear of getting the other person in trouble. The student was then given a citation and there has been no further incident.

— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,  
Staff Reporter

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# Oakland sees record-breaking enrollment



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

OU has experienced 17 consecutive years of growth, with record-breaking numbers this year.

*Number of students enrolled as Golden Grizzlies, amount of on-campus residents continue to rise*

**Sarah Lawrence**  
Staff Intern

Marking the 17th consecutive year of enrollment growth, 20,711 students enrolled at OU for the 2015-2016 academic year. This 200-student increase marked a record number of 17,161 undergraduate students, 2,716 of which are in their first year at any college.

This also prompted significant growth in the number of on-campus residents. For the first time, OU has filled every on-campus dorm room, including Oak View Hall, placing nearly 100 students on a waiting list for permanent housing.

In addition to the jump in housing numbers, the Honors College welcomed its largest freshman class to date. This group of 315 students, 40 percent of whom are presidential scholars (achieving a 3.9 cumulative high school GPA and scored 31 or above on ACT), pushed for an additional small group in the required HC100 course.

"We're thrilled to welcome such a large class of Honors College freshmen," Karen Conn, Honors College office assistant, said. "Dr. Harper is very focused on drawing students in with our highly competitive programs, in addition to placing a strong emphasis on building relationships with our students. We formed an additional group for our HC100 course as a way to maintain emphasis on the 'small college within a big college' feel, and to ensure our students receive all of the attention they need."

The spike in the overall rate of enroll-

ment makes Oakland University one of the top-choice universities in the state, despite its age.

"If you compare Oakland University to The University of Michigan, which has been around for nearly 200 years, it's remarkable to see a young university like ours gain such popularity," Brian Beirley, Oakland University director of media relations, said. "It's a great time to be at OU. There are so many exciting things happening on campus, which is essential to our growing reputation. We're only getting better."

As part of its growing reputation, Oakland has maintained its status as the "hidden gem of Oakland County," as administrators in all departments remain focused on the importance of low student-faculty ratios and developing professional relationships with students.

"We are always looking for new ways to connect with our students, and keep to the path of increased enrollment," Dawn Aubry, director of admissions, said. "Our strong team of professional and clerical technicians along with our student admissions ambassadors help make it possible to review and improve our processes to help our students succeed through our campus tours, visits and recruitment events."

Oakland's aspiration to rise has proved successful with the dramatic overall increase in enrollment. OU has proved to be one of the top-choice institutions in Michigan with a strong focus on improving student services and programs for the future.

▶ **20,711** ◀

TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

## THE BREAKDOWN

↑ **315**

INCOMING  
HONORS COLLEGE  
FRESHMEN

▶ **126**

PRESIDENTIAL  
SCHOLARS

[ 3.9 GPA & 31 ACT ]

▶ **17,171**

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

▶ **3,550**

GRADUATE STUDENTS

**2,716**

FIRST TIME AT  
ANY COLLEGE  
STUDENTS





Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

Dr. Graeme Harper thought of the idea to link Oakland University with other colleges across the globe.

## Linking up from across the pond

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Staff Reporter

The year 2017 marks major anniversaries for Rochester. It is the 200th anniversary of Rochester, Michigan, the 60th anniversary of Oakland University, and the 40th anniversary of the Honors College.

The anniversary celebrations started on Sept. 25, when the Honors College students video linked with high school students at the Rochester Grammar School in Kent, England.

This sort of video link isn't uncommon for the Honors College. Last year, students had the opportunity to speak with college students in Seoul, South Korea, and this year, students had the opportunity to video link and learn about alternative Chinese Medicines.

"It's all about sharing traditions," Dr. Graeme Harper, Dean of the Honors College said.

"It was always the point to put students at the front. They're the ones who had all the neat ideas about what to do with this link"

Dr. Graeme Harper  
Dean of the Honors College

This particular link isn't a one-time only event. It's something that will happen consistently throughout the next year, which will culminate in 2017 with what Dr. Harper hopes to be physical visits to and from both Rochesters.

Julia Teatro, a freshman at the Honors College, said that the part she looked forward to the most was taking the other students on a virtual tour of events happening in Rochester, Michigan, and attending virtual tours of events taking place in Kent.

"I'm most excited to take them into a college classroom to see what American college is like," she said.

This event wasn't something pre-conceived between the two schools either. Dr. Harper got the idea one day and sent an email to the principal of the Rochester Grammar School, and the rest just unfolded quickly, leading to the video link.

"It was always the point to put students at the front," he said, "They're the ones who had all the neat ideas about what to do with this link."

The Honors College also allows for opportunities for all students on campus to get involved. Dr. Harper said that any student is more than welcome to attend events that are hosted through the Honors College, and current freshmen and sophomores can still join the Honors College program if they have a 3.5 GPA or higher.

## OUPD receives 2nd on-campus sexual assault report of year

*Once again, report is filed after social media meet-up goes wrong*

**Kristen Davis &  
Rachel Williams**  
Editor-in-Chief, Staff Reporter

The Oakland University Police Department received the second on-campus sexual assault report of the year on Monday, Oct. 12.

The report states that the assault happened between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8 in West Vandenberg Hall.

The suspect is described as a "Hispanic male with dark brown hair, approximately 20 years old, standing 6 feet tall and weighing between 160 and 180 pounds," according to the alert issued campus-wide by OUPD immediately after the report was filed.

The person who filed the report met the suspect on a social media website.

No arrests have been made, but OUPD is investigating the incident.

Coincidentally, the attack occurred exactly one month after the first sexual assault on Sept. 8.

As stated above, the most recent assault happened on Oct. 8 and a report was filed on Monday, Oct. 12. The September assault was reported on Sept. 15, also a few days following the incident.

Chief of Police Mark Gordon stated that it is common for assaults to be reported days, even weeks or months, after an inci-

dent. This is typically because of the shock that the survivor experiences.

As in the case of the assault back in Sept., the two met on social media, this time through the popular dating application Tinder.

According to OUPD, contact was made between the two, the female informed the male assailant of her location and let him into West Vandenberg Hall on Oct. 8. The assault occurred shortly after.

OUPD is currently working on the case, following up with the survivor and witnesses who heard of the attack from the survivor. They have designated a detective to follow the investigation as well.

"She has cooperated with police, she's made a police report and we are actively investigating it," Gordon assured, concerning the survivor and follow-up.

The attacker is not an Oakland student, but is still at large.

This was not a random attack, though students should continue to be cautious, travel in groups when possible and inform friends of their whereabouts when traveling late at night.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact OUPD at (248) 370-3331.

Anonymous tips can also be left at [www.oupd.com/tip](http://www.oupd.com/tip).

### THIS WEEK AROUND CAMPUS

**OCT. 14**

**All day** SPB - OU's Got Talent Digital Auditions

**8 p.m.** Oklahoma! in Varner Studio Theater

**OCT. 15**

**5 p.m.** Oklahoma! in Varner Studio Theater

**OCT. 16**

**10 a.m.** Oklahoma! in Varner Studio Theater

**4 p.m.** SPB's Bubble Soccer Tournament on the Upper Fields

**OCT. 17**

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Music, Theater and Dance Day

**Noon** La Tomatina: A Giant Tomato Fight hosted by OUSC at Meadow Brook Field

**OCT. 18**

**2 p.m.** Oklahoma! in Varner Studio Theater

**All day** Cranbrook's Halloween Science Event

**OCT. 19**

**12-5 p.m.** Stimulus/Response/Affect event in Wilson Hall

**OCT. 20**

**8 p.m.** Women's Volleyball: Oakland vs Milwaukee in Milwaukee, WI





photograph courtesy of Alvin Pitris / The Oakland Post

The American Marketing Association (AMA) at Oakland University held their first Marketing Week from Oct. 5 through 8.

# Introducing Marketing Week

*American Marketing Association kicks off a week of fundraising and networking*

**Rachel Williams**  
Staff Reporter

**T**he American Marketing Association (AMA) at Oakland University held its first Marketing Week from Oct. 5 - Oct. 8.

AMA held events from Monday through Thursday, advertising and fundraising for the group and providing networking opportunities for Oakland students.

"The purpose and motivation for Marketing Week and all AMA events is to develop aspiring businessmen and women, by hosting a variety of diverse marketing-related events with representatives from high-profile companies," co-president of AMA at Oakland University Alvin Pitris said.

Some highlights from the week included a speech by Rob Mattina, vice president of marketing for the Detroit Red Wings, about sports marketing on Oct. 5 and the sixth annual Business Fashion Show on Oct. 6, hosted by Joey Namou of Channel 955.

The fashion show demonstrated interview attire do's and don'ts. The crowd had to guess what was wrong

with each ensemble and won prizes for correct answers.

Other marketing professionals such as Steve St. Germain from Universal McCann, a global media company, spoke during the week. AMA at OU hosted a bake sale on Thursday morning and held a bonfire in the evening, which was open to all OU students.

"These events give students the opportunity to not only network and mingle with other students, but it allows them to network with potential employers," Pitris said. "Events are energetic and fun and provide insights into the latest business and marketing trends from prominent speakers."

Last year's business fashion show pulled in over 100 people, and this year's events had an average of more than 60 attendees, respectively.

The National American Marketing Association was founded in 1953, with the intent of seeking "answers for the future that would propel business growth and elevate the role of marketing," according to the AMA website.

The funds raised from Marketing Week events will go towards sending AMA board members to a national conference.

Grace McClain of AMA added that at the conference, students "market AMA at OU...[and] get to market with people from other public universities."

At last year's conference, the group won three awards: Outstanding Fundraising, Outstanding Community and Social Impact, and Outstanding Membership.

Marketing Week participants and AMA members are passionate about their work and want to bring greater awareness to their group and the university.

"My personal favorite part of Marketing Week and all events is personally meeting and interacting with students and our guest speakers," Pitris said, enjoying the first Marketing Week's turnout.

If you are interested in finding out more about AMA at Oakland or joining the group, visit [marketingatou.com](http://marketingatou.com).

## How to join AMA

1. Complete the AMA Oakland University Member Information Sheet
2. Pay the OU AMA branch \$15 dues
3. Complete the online AMA National Application
4. Follow/Like AMA on Social Media
5. Join AMA on GrizzOrgs

## BEST CIDER MILL IN EACH COUNTY

### MACOMB: BLAKE'S ORCHARD & CIDER MILL



photo courtesy of blakefarm.com

Blake's is the total package. Sporting an orchard, cider mill and Haunted Blake's, it's the perfect attraction for any autumn lover.

Its spacious general store and cafe offers Michigan-made goods, such as jams and salsa. Looking to turn a cider mill run into date night? Blake's brand new Hard Cider House and Winery is sure to hit just the right spot.

### OAKLAND: FRANKLIN CIDER MILL



photo courtesy of franklincidermill.com

Franklin's main attractions are its warm doughnuts (which are so fresh that you can watch them bake before your eyes!) and their cider slush. Add in the tree-lined walkways bursting with autumn colors, and you have a crisp-weather winner.

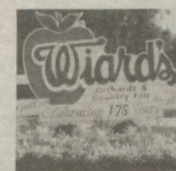


photo courtesy of wiards.com

### WASHTENAW: WIARD'S ORCHARDS & COUNTRY FAIR

Nearing its 180th birthday, Wiard's is one of the oldest cider mills in the state.

Boasting a myriad of activities — such as apple and pumpkin orchards, miniature golf, paintball, a corn maze and haunted attractions galore — it's almost enough to make you forget the cider! But be sure to remember, because it, along with the homemade pies, are delicious.

### WAYNE: PARMENTER'S NORTHVILLE CIDER MILL



photo courtesy of northvillecider.com

With craft booths, wagon rides, and an amazing selection of food, Parmenter's is a solid favorite. Their doughnuts have a complexity of spices, and their homemade apple butter and cider are decadent. Throw in their "chow mill," which sells Dearborn Sausage Co. hot dogs and kielbasa, and you'll be hooked.

— Compiled by Morgan Dean,  
Copy Editor



# Talkin' Trash program reveals garbage problem on campus

*OUSC's environmental program encounters major trash build-ups*

Jake Smith  
Staff Intern

Oakland University's Student Congress gathered support, split up into teams and set out Thursday Oct. 8 in an effort to clean up campus for "Talkin' Trash."

"It's shocking how much trash is out there that you can't see," Katie Rose, OUSC's Environmental, Health, and Wellness Director and the host of the program said.

"I walked around the Oakland Center, which we think is generally a cleaner area on campus,

and I picked up tons of trash that accumulated within the shrubs and plants."

Trash collected ranged from newspapers to assorted food court trash to mounds of cigarette butts.

In just two hours, OUSC and student volunteers picked up nine garbage bags worth of trash totalling over 70 pounds, and that wasn't even all of it around camps.

"I think the leading cause [of the trash around campus] would be students not making the extra effort to clean up after themselves, and OU not providing enough resources for disposing trash and cigarette butts," Rose said.

"The problem we're facing now is that administration doesn't make recycling a prior-

ity, so it's difficult to get them to care enough to supply the bins. They also won't allow us to put the bins outside even if Student Congress were to supply them."

While OUSC is working to get more trash and recycling bins around campus, events like Talkin' Trash will continue to try improving the problem on the student's side by raising awareness on the ill effects of missing the trash or recycling bins.

With roughly 30 students attending, the event participants were able to cover all of the main areas of campus.

"I was happy with the turnout, but the more students participating, the better," Rose said.

"I think it was shocking for everyone who participated how much trash was collected and how much was still around



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Volunteers for the OU Student Congress' Talkin' Trash event collected 70 pounds of garbage from all around campus in only two hours.

campus. I'm hoping that other students noticed participants cleaning up campus and were encouraged to make conscious efforts to keep campus clean."

Because of Talkin' Trash's success, OUSC is considering hosting the event again next spring so more volunteers get the chance to clean up campus.

**MORE INFO** Visit OUSC's website at [www.oakland.edu/ousc](http://www.oakland.edu/ousc), or like their Facebook page for more information on upcoming events and updates on possible Talkin' Trash events in the future.

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# From Alabama to New York, #TransIsBeautiful

Special guest lecturer  
Laverne Cox spoke  
on growing up trans

Cheyenne Kramer  
Staff Reporter

Activist and star of "Orange is the New Black" Laverne Cox spoke on Oct. 8 in the O'rena. She offered her own experiences for the audience to think over and talked about how intersectionality shaped her life and experiences.

"Trans is beautiful, and I'm a proud African American transgender woman," Cox said.

Much of Cox's message centered on the transgender community in America right now. She stated that this year alone, around 20 transgender women have been killed and that over 50 percent of all homicides against the LGBT community were cases where the victim was a trans woman of color.

Cox talked about her own "gender trouble," a concept coined by Judith Butler in her book of the same name, who ironically was speaking in the Oakland Center during Cox's lecture. Cox went through her life expressing her gender identity in ways that were considered atypical. She knew she was a woman, despite not being assigned that gender at birth.

She paused about 45 minutes into her speech to collect herself — the content she was bringing to the audience was something personal and emotional to her, especially since the amount of violence towards transgender women of color is so high.

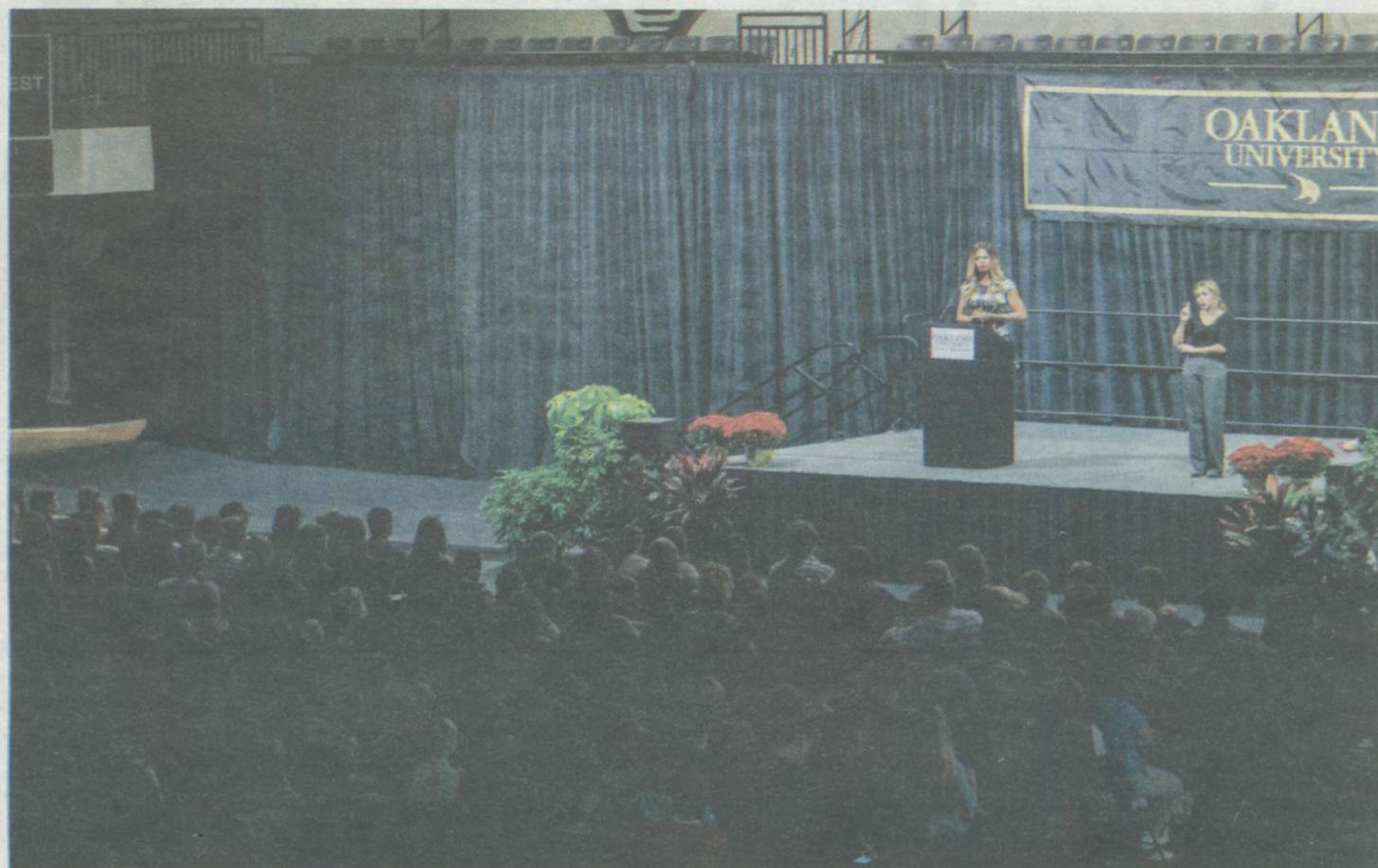
"I know I could be those women," Cox said as she reflected on the weight of these killings.

Cox also spoke about how as a child, she didn't understand the idea that boys and girls were different. To her, she always knew she wasn't a "boy," and therefore, didn't understand that there was a difference between genders.

However, gaining the confidence to exist in a violent world was hard for her. She told the audience that when she was in sixth grade, she attempted suicide.

"I didn't associate transgender with success," she said.

It wasn't until later in her narrative that Cox said, "I had accepted my womanhood finally, and the



Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Student Life Lecture Board and the Gender and Sexuality Center invited Emmy nominated actress Laverne Cox to speak about her life and work.

world didn't reflect this back to me," she said.

Cox was born and raised in Alabama as a very active member of her church, which had a profound impact on her throughout her life and career. She has an identical twin brother, and despite the bullying she faced in school nearly every day, she went on to become a dance and acting major, leading to her role in the Netflix original series "Orange is the New Black."

Despite the hardships in her life, she made a difference in the lives of others through her activism. Corey Maison, a girl who recently rose to virtual fame after a video of her receiving her first dosage of hormone therapy went viral, was invited by OU to hear Cox speak.

"If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't be here today. I wouldn't know what transgender was. She's an inspiration," Maison said.

Cox has started a hashtag online, #TransIsBeautiful, about transgender individuals to share pictures and stories of themselves to tell their stories in a similar way as Cox told hers.



Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

When viral video sensation Corey Maison was shown receiving her first dose of hormones, OU Communication and Marketing reached out to Maison's family and invited them to meet Laverne Cox at OU.

## Laverne's advice to trans students

Below is a compilation of things she said that could give students the acceptance and experiences that they are looking for while coming to terms with their own gender identity.

1. "Trans is beautiful."
2. "Misgendering a transgender person is an act of violence."
3. "It feels empowering to say to the world, 'I don't deserve to be treated this way.'"
4. "Pronouns matter, by the way."
5. "I did it. I was able to do it."
6. "You don't have to do this alone."
7. "I'm confident now, but I haven't always been. I was terrified. You have to project confidence, though."
8. "Something in me said screw it. Something like that exists inside of everyone."
9. "Fake [confidence] 'til you make it."



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1

# Oh, what a beautiful mornin'!

*Music, Theatre and Dance performs first show of the year: Oklahoma!*

Erin Ben-Moche / Erica Barker  
Contributor / Photographer



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4



5

Oklahoma! opened to the public Wednesday, Oct. 7 in the Stage Theatre at Varner.

The story follows the relationship between the dashing cowboy Curly McLain, played by Garrett Markgraf and Mitchell Aiello and the innocent farm girl Laurey Williams, played by Emily Hadick and Emma Griffith.

The young love becomes complicated when a creepy farmer Jud Fry, played by David Bashaw fights for Laurey's attention. The show also focuses on the rivalry between the farmers and cowmen during the early settlement of the new America.

Oklahoma! will run Oct. 14-17, at 8 p.m. Matinees Oct. 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 2 p.m. and a morning performance at 10 a.m on Oct. 16.

To read the full review of Oklahoma!, visit [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com).

1. Oklahoma! was the first collaborative work between Rodgers and Hammerstein and is now considered a classic.

2. The actors had wonderful chemistry on stage be continued to grow as actors during each rehearsal.

3. During rehearsals, the actors researched their characters in depth in order to master their roles.

4. The set stretches out beyond the stage in into the stands, allowing the audience to feel like they are a part of the community in Oklahoma.

5. Emily Hadick plays the role of Laurey Williams. Her understudy is Emma Griffith.





Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

Lauren Podell, current reporter and anchor for WDIV-TV Channel 4, speaks to Oakland students at the sixth annual Student to Professional Conference.

## Eleven takeaways from Podell's speech

1. Experiment with college courses
2. Focus on what you love
3. Never be afraid of taking an opportunity of getting involved
4. Network and build relationships
5. Say thank you on paper
6. Be a leader and take control of your career
7. Use social media as a tool, but don't fall into a technology hole
8. Don't give up after you fail
9. Don't expect too much too quickly
10. Never stop learning
11. Become as educated as you possible about your career

# From student to professional

*OU graduate shares her undergrad story, offers career advice to OU students at conference*

**Kristen Davis**  
Editor-in-Chief

**O**akland alumna Lauren Podell landed her job at WDIV-TV Channel 4 before she even had a college degree.

The 2008 College of Arts and Sciences graduate was one of two people selected out of over 300 to be a traffic reporter at the station after it held an open tryout for the position in November of 2007.

She was just a 22-year-old junior in college, but she had to go from student to professional rather quickly.

"It was a surreal way to get into the business and from that moment, when I got in that way, I knew I had to work really hard to stay there," Podell said.

"I wanted to prove myself. I was 22, I was still in college, I didn't have a degree and I wanted to show people that I was worthy."

Prove herself is exactly what she did. Since she began at Channel 4 eight years ago, she has worked her way from a traffic reporter to a general assignment reporter and anchor for the station.

This journey is what she discussed in her speech on Oct. 10 at Oakland's sixth annual Student to Professional Conference. She also offered career advice and professional guidance for students in attendance on the sunny weekend afternoon.

### Becoming a Golden Grizzly

When Podell took her first tour of Oakland, she and her father Doug, who has been involved in radio for over three decades in Detroit, decided to visit the campus radio station in the basement of the Oakland Center.

She introduced herself and after asking how to get involved, she was handed an application on the spot — a move that essentially decided her future.

"Before I was even enrolled as a student, Oakland University was willing to take me on and have me be a part of their radio station where at a lot of other universities, that experience was untouchable until later years," Podell said.

"Right then, I knew this was the place for me. There was nothing holding me back, they just wanted people who wanted to be there and I wanted to be there."

Radio is where Podell gives most of her credit since she didn't get into television and journalism until the end of her college career.

"The fact that WXOU and Oakland University allowed me an opportunity is definitely what helped shape what I'm doing now," she explained.

"If they wouldn't have let me do that, I don't know where I would be. My extra time that I spent at OU has made me a little less fearful of the real world. I think that's what college is all about."

She hosted her own show about local music and according to Christine Stover, who was the adviser for WXOU and is currently full-time adjunct faculty at OU, Podell was a "force."

"At her time, she was one of the only women that we had on the radio. Radio is typically really male-dominated, and she was one of the only female DJs that we had that did it by herself," Stover said. "She was just on top of her game the entire time."

Podell was also one of the only freshman to host their own show and Stover said it was her confidence that allowed her to do this — something Stover believes is the reason why she's still successful today.

"She exudes confidence and she seems genuine and trustworthy when you interact with her," Stover explained. "She didn't need 'the degree' because she got the job before she had the degree, but what is entailed in that degree helped her tremendously."

### Guidance for OU students

Podell's advice for Oakland students specifically is to embrace campus and get involved in as much as possible, and this isn't limited to just career-oriented activities.

She encourages students to join clubs and attend events to meet people —

something she wishes she would've done more.

She said that if she could redo one thing during her undergraduate years here, she would've attended more Oakland basketball games.

"While I did spend a lot of time with WXOU and OUTV, I didn't embrace some of the fun other activities that OU had to offer," Podell said. "Don't be afraid, that's why you're there at Oakland. If there's something you love, go for it. If you don't know what you love, try and try again."

### A visible success story

Although Podell admits that her job is stressful, she said she loves what she does and feels it's important for everyone to love what they do.

Stover added that just because Oakland is a commuter school, that doesn't mean there aren't successful people. She said Podell is a good representation of this.

"If you look at the alumni listings of some of the most amazing people that have come from Oakland, an Oakland education can lead you just about anywhere," Stover explained. "Lauren is great because she's a representation of that at such a young age. She's visible, she's really involved in community and she's just everywhere so it's this constant reminder that it can be done."



# TEDx Oakland University speaker series: Alumnus Gregg Garrett and Take Root

Rachel Williams  
Staff Reporter

Gregg Garrett, CEO and president of CGS Advisors, LLC and Oakland alumnus, will present his talk titled "Are you Brave Enough to Connect?" on Oct. 23 at TEDx Oakland University.

"CGS is a boutique advisory firm that works with corporate leaders on their most strategic transformations," Garrett said.

CGS Advisors, LLC works with technology driven businesses in applying growth strategies. Garrett broke the company's functions into three areas: transformation management, enterprise innovation and connected world programs.

He spoke about his time at Oakland, where he received a bachelor's degree in systems engineering. He said he met lifelong friends on Oakland's campus, including his wife.

"It was the kind of place that encouraged you to make your own path," he said.

When he returns to OU, Garrett will expand on his concept of "corporate bravery," which encourages corporate leaders to be innovative in their adaptation to the new "connected" world.

"Are you Brave Enough to Connect?" will explore how the world is in the midst of a massive technological enabled disruption," Garrett said. "It will challenge the audience to question if they are prepared for this shift and what they may need to consider as they lead into this new world."

Garrett said he's excited to personally interact with the Oakland community and conference attendees and glean inspiration from the other speakers.

## Take Root

Take Root is a professional dance company at Oakland set to present at the TEDx Oakland University conference. The group was formed by Ali Woerner and Thayer Jonutz in 2013, combining their respective dance companies.

"We formed the company knowing we wanted to connect with as many different groups of people as possible within the community," Woerner said. "We form roots within each community."

The group gained non-profit status in 2014 and holds monthly events such as "Dance for Parkinson's Disease" classes, as well as an annual show at OU. Beyond that, the com-

pany teaches master classes at all levels and does outreach with those who suffered spinal cord and brain injuries.

This past summer, the group traveled to Berlin, Germany and Seoul, South Korea to perform.

The company is comprised of five dancers, including Jonutz and Woerner. They work closely with Kerro Knox, associate professor of theatre, as their lighting designer; Christa Koerner, who handles costume design; and Jeremy Barnett, visiting assistant professor of theatre scenic design, who is their scenic designer.

The group's presentation on Oct. 23 will begin with Jonutz and Woerner introducing the group and their connections in the community. Then, a trio will perform a piece called "Unorganized Elbows".

"Take Root's kinesthetic connections to one another and their audience creates thoughtful and visceral works of art," according to the TEDx Oakland University website.

"We hope the audience gets a glimpse into what we do as a company and how we use dance as a tool for all kinds of communities to connect with one another," Woerner said.

## Speaker Profiles



### GREGG GARRETT

Before coming to work for CGS, Garrett worked for Volkswagen, Deutsche Telekom and Ernst & Young's Management Consulting.



### TAKE ROOT

"Take Root commands attention with their intricate, thought provoking details and unrestricted vision," according to TEDx Oakland University's website.

## Colleges look to make application process more approachable

*More than 80 schools form a group that can help students pay for higher education*

Shelby Tankersly  
Staff Reporter

Over 80 schools across the country have formed the Coalition for College Access, Affordability, and Success, which aims to improve the college application process for students applying to these institutions. On top of that, the schools plan to increase their numbers when they get started next spring.

The Coalition involves schools such as Yale, Dartmouth, Michigan State and Ohio State, along with many other esteemed universities

seeking to make themselves more approachable. Big colleges and private universities often cost money to apply to, and the Coalition might change that.

The Coalition has developed free online tools that will assist in the college admission experience and the initial platform will be available to all high school students starting in April of next year.

"Our nation has been in the midst of an important public policy dialogue about whether college is affordable and whether it has value — can students, especially low- and

moderate-income students, be successful and graduate without going deeply into debt? This Coalition helps to answer that question with a resounding YES," according to the Coalition's website.

The Coalition wants to keep its schools successful, so they are only accepting universities that have a graduation rate of over 70 percent within six years. When they formed back in 2014, they only invited the best of the best, which is why so many of their schools are well established or Ivy League schools. As more schools grow, we can expect the Coalition to grow as well.

So, where does OU fit into this?

"Institutions were invited to join the Coalition if they experience a six-year gradu-

ation rate of over 70 percent. Oakland's six-year graduation rate is currently 45.6 percent," Shane Lewis and Emily Stepanian-Bennett, who both work in admissions with OU said, in an email interview in which they collaborated to answer the questions.

However, OU currently boasts a free and fairly simple application process, which is something not many successful schools are able to say.

"The undergraduate admission application here at Oakland is comparable in length to other moderately-selective institutions in the state. The application itself generally takes a student no more than thirty minutes to complete. If students choose to provide an essay the application may take longer to complete," Lewis

and Stepanian-Bennett said.

OU also experiences a fair amount of applications every year.

"The Undergraduate Admissions Office processes over 21,000 applications per year," they said. "Other similarly-sized institutions in the state see comparable numbers."

However, they believe the number of applications is due to high school students taking college more seriously, not necessarily because it is free.

This seriousness also happens to be one of the considerations the Coalition takes into mind. They aim to offer the platform to any high school student, which includes freshmen. One of their main goals is to allow students to get a head start on their futures.



# Utilizing 'Social Network'-ing

*Social media, used correctly, can help advance your professional status*

Alexus Bomar  
Staff Intern

Social media has become so commonplace that OU's Communications and Marketing department uses it to inform the community of the many things happening on and around campus.

Within the communications and marketing team is a social media staff composed of the director of marketing, two strategists, an interactive designer and interns.

Colleen Campbell, digital public relations manager, is one of the people in charge of all of Oakland's social media accounts.

"Social media has given me my livelihood," Campbell said. "It's my job here at OU and it's cool to see it become a profession."

Every social media platform is useful in some way.

"I think a useful social media depends on the person and their interest," Campbell said.

For example, one person may use Pinterest for inspiration, while another may post pictures on Instagram if they are a photographer.

Social media can also help people find a job. Amy Ring, career consultant with Career Services and one of two liaisons for the College of Arts and Sciences, helps create relationships between employers and students in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Social media is a form of networking, and networking is an extremely critical component to the job search nowadays," Ring said.

LinkedIn is something that Ring used to obtain her first job out of graduate school and considers it to be one of the most useful social media tools. She added that there is a "find alumni" tool, which helps search for OU alumni in various locations and industries.

"That tool is critical because alumni from OU have been in the student's shoes before and are almost always willing to give back," Ring said.

Ring's advice to students is to not be afraid to appropriately ask connections for other connections because doing so helped her land her first full-time job. She also said it's valuable to share with anyone that you are job searching because you never know who has the perfect job waiting for you.

"If social media is used correctly, there



Bohdanna Cherstylo / The Oakland Post

Colleen Campbell, digital media public relations manager, offers advice on how to use social media professionally.

shouldn't be any cons," Ring said. "It has become extremely common for employers to search for candidates on any social media, they really want to see how you are representing yourself and how you could potentially represent them."

Ring suggests that one of the easiest ways to manage your personal brand is to Google yourself and see what comes up. It's up to the student to change what shows up and what doesn't.

## Social Media Do's and Don'ts from Digital Public Relations Manager Colleen Campbell

### Do:

- Be intentional about everything you post, making sure it matches up with the public image you are aiming for.
- Establish yourself as a thought leader by sharing insight on topics that interest you.
- Connect with mentors, influencers and people you meet throughout your college experience and career.

### Don't:

- Use social media as a sounding board or place to rant. Seek appropriate channels for reporting serious issues.
- Post anything you wouldn't want your employer, parents, or professors to see.
- Underestimate how far your one-off comment could go. Remember The Dress?

# TAKE ME HOME TONIGHT



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# Around the world in a semester

*The International Education Office encourages students to studying abroad, step out of comfort zone*

Parris Page  
Staff Intern

The International Education Office held a Study Abroad Fair to get students who are looking to broaden their horizons, while also trying something new.

Oakland University students can study abroad in more than 40 countries around the world, or study away at nearly 200 universities in North America.

The goal for the International Education Office is to provide students with life changing opportunities.

Study abroad student adviser Casey Stribbel, who studied in South Korea during the summer of 2015, started applying for her program during the winter semester 2015.

"I knew that Oakland had really good study abroad programs and after I applied, I met with advisors who helped me through the rest of the process," Stribbel said.

For any students who are interested in studying abroad, there is a series of steps that need to be taken in order to do so.

Students must first create an International Education account, that can be found under the study abroad section on Oakland's website, then can proceed by looking up the different programs that OU offers.

After that is done, the application process begins. Each program has different GPA requirements — an academic and personal reference are

needed, followed by a disciplinary clearance and approval form.

Studying abroad can be very beneficial to students.

"It was really nice and it helped me to get out of my comfort zone, while knowing there's more in the world than what's in your community," Stribbel said.

The cost for each program differs, so while going through the application process to study abroad, students are advised to attend an information session and to make an advising appointment with an advisor in the International Education office. Students can apply for financial aid and for the many different scholarships that are available for certain study abroad programs.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Students look at information on different countries that are part of the study abroad program at the Study Abroad Fair.

## Student nursing organization provides tips, skills for future

*SNAOU has become known around OU's campus as a premier group for preparing undergraduates*

Shana Bosley  
Contributor

Student Nurses Association of Oakland University (SNAOU) invites all nursing and pre-nursing majors to join their organization to gain substantial experience and valuable connections in the world of nursing.

"SNAOU's goal is to network, and volunteer opportunities to both nursing and pre-nursing majors, Justin Walukonis, president of SNAOU, said.

In addition, the SNAOU website says, "Leadership, networking, and community service are ways to make the student nurse valuable in today's workforce."

SNAOU works to fine tune and enhance the portfolios and resumes of nursing and pre-nursing students by offering opportunities of volunteer work, meeting professionals in their fields, and more.

For example, SNAOU recently held a fundraiser for St. Baldrick's Foundation. St. Baldrick's raises money in support of children's cancer research

by sponsoring people to shave their heads. SNAOU members and School of Nursing Faculty joined together to raise over \$1,000 for children's cancer research.

They also organize social events to bring students together in order to promote productivity and long-lasting relationships between colleagues.

By working with SNAOU, students can find ways to stand out from other applicants when job searching.

"Students have many unique opportunities as members of SNAOU. For example, upon graduation, members are distinguished with a special honors cord," Walukonis said. "SNAOU offers many opportunities for volunteer-work, which can separate one candidate from another during a job interview."

SNAOU gets students ready for the workplace in many aspects, some of which include procedural practices and broader, discussable issues.

"Students are exposed to multiple issues in nursing, including disease processes, and NCLEX (National Council

Licensure Examination) preparation. In November, we will have a representative from Kaplan come and speak to students. Kaplan is an NCLEX preparation organization and will be giving away one free test preparation guide (\$500 value). In the past, SNAOU members have attended conferences concerning cancer, infectious diseases, and many other issues in nursing. Each month, we have representatives from Career Services, Kaplan, Easter Seals, and School of Nursing Graduate Admissions speak about different opportunities for Nursing Students," Walukonis said.

Overall, SNAOU works to polish nursing and pre-nursing students to be well-rounded, experienced and open-minded. Their website offers many avenues that students can take to work on different aspects of their nursing careers. One can find lectures, volunteer work, fundraisers, collaborations and more through their thorough services.

According to their website, SNAOU seeks to "promote and encourage participation in community affairs and

"Nursing school can be extremely stressful. SNAOU offers the opportunity meet and network with other students and thereby gather support."

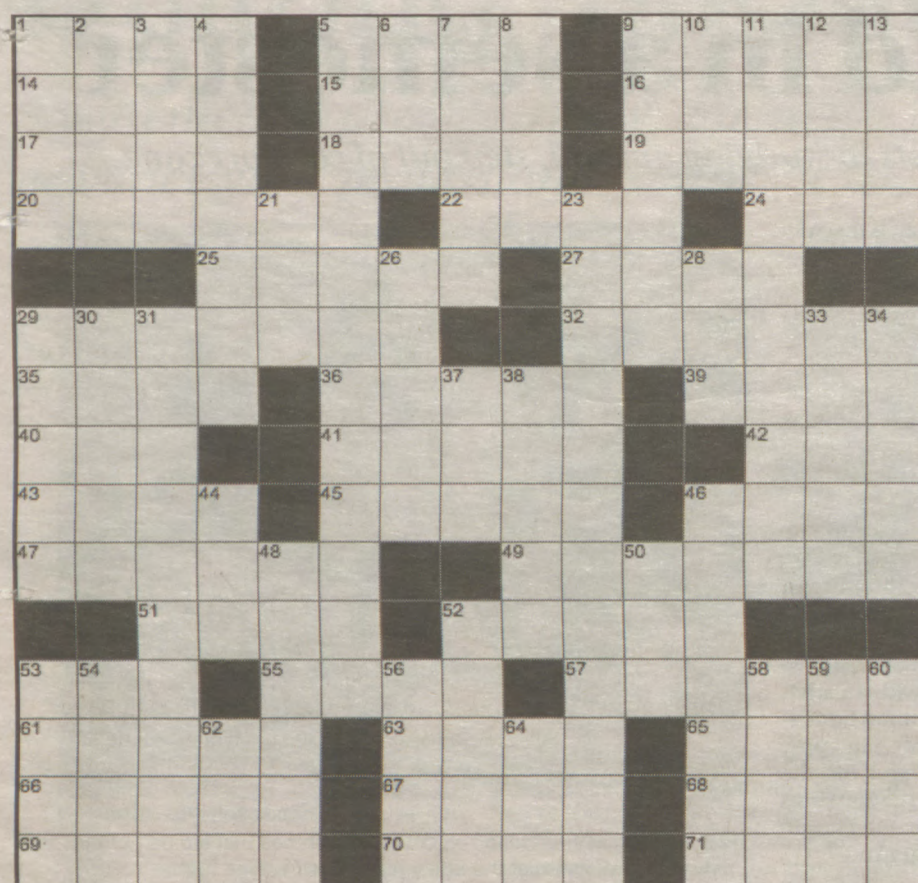
Justin Walukonis  
President of SNAOU

resolution of related social issues; represent nursing students and promote the nursing profession to potential nursing students, institutions, and the community; promote and encourage participation in recruitment efforts, student activities, and educational opportunities."

SNAOU makes itself available to students by means of a membership form. One can join for as long as they want from six months for \$9 to three years for \$41.



# Puzzles



## Across

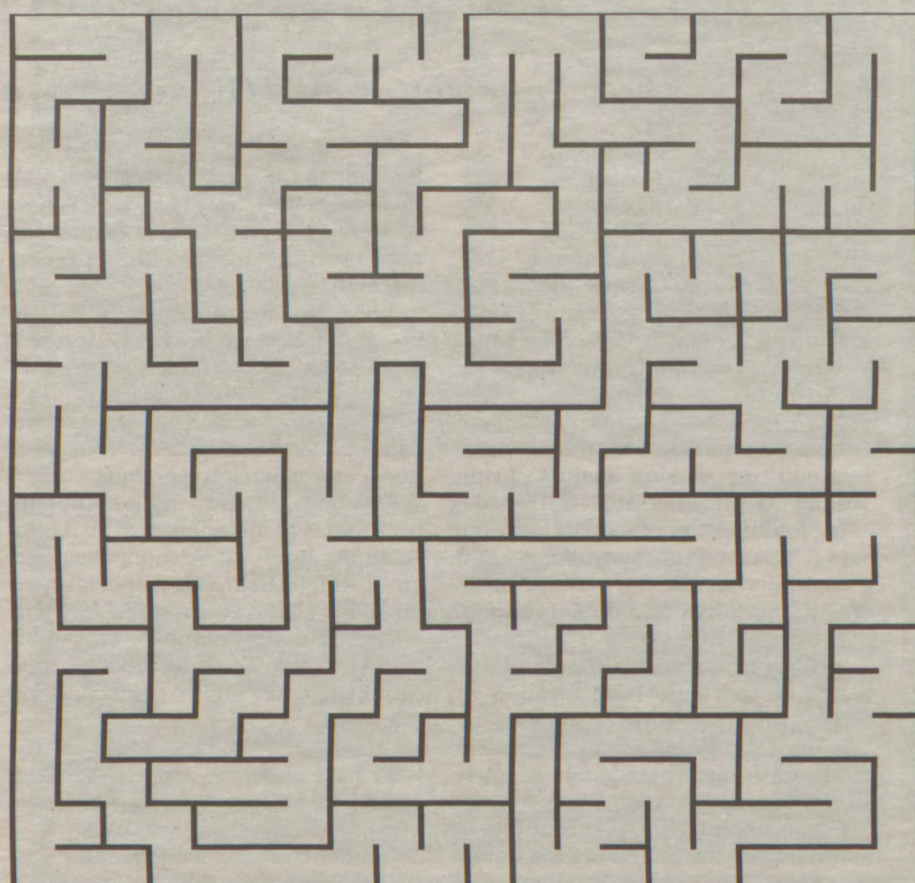
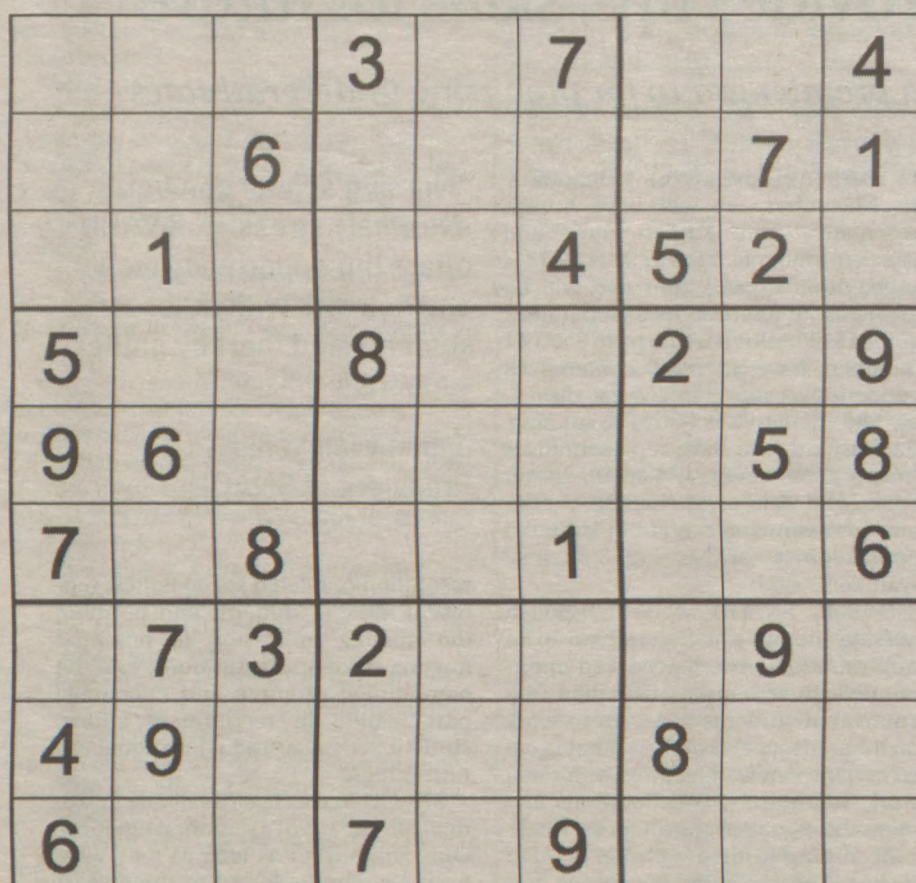
- 1: Piercing tools  
5: Delight, as a comedy club crowd  
9: Couples  
14: Kind of acid  
15: Fleshy fruit  
16: Arm bones  
17: Impetuous  
18: October birthstone  
19: Mother-of-pearl  
20: Come into view  
22: Trellis piece  
24: Pinot Noir or Merlot  
25: Dugout gear  
27: Dole (out)  
29: Slander  
32: Shower type  
35: Snapple selections  
36: Prickly plants  
39: Lunar effect  
40: Out of work? (abbr.)  
41: Felt bad  
42: Container  
43: Colored eye part  
45: Oil source  
46: Stumblebum  
47: Classify  
49: It doesn't make all the stops  
51: Fruit for flavoring gin

- 52: Old newsboy's call  
53: Electrify  
55: Send sprawling  
57: Caught some z's  
61: Slowly, to Solti  
63: Gray wolf  
65: Give birth to  
66: Basketry twig  
67: Non-clashing color  
68: Firm head  
69: Olympic weapons  
70: Finder's cries  
71: Make a putt

## Down

- 1: Mystique  
2: Envelop  
3: Thpeak like thith  
4: Elaborate plans  
5: One who knows the score  
6: Cut off  
7: Accumulate  
8: Loud utterance  
9: Gridiron specialist  
10: In the manner of  
11: Awesome!  
12: Exceptional  
13: Watermelon beginning  
21: Tune  
23: Using both sides with equal frequency (like the

- letters in this puzzle's answer grid?)  
26: Instruct  
28: \_\_\_ for tat  
29: Well-lit lobbies  
30: Visionaries  
31: Fancy pastry  
33: 'Ciao' in Chihuahua  
34: Provides with  
37: Dance part?  
38: Outdated communication service  
44: Helios, to the Romans  
46: Attends without an invitation  
48: Blades of choppers  
50: Start to mature?  
52: Geological span  
53: Burn soother  
54: Winged stinger  
56: Some intestinal divisions  
58: Stand on the corner?  
59: '\_\_\_ Cowgirls Get the Blues'  
60: Knock out  
62: 'Golly!'  
64: Two-piece piece

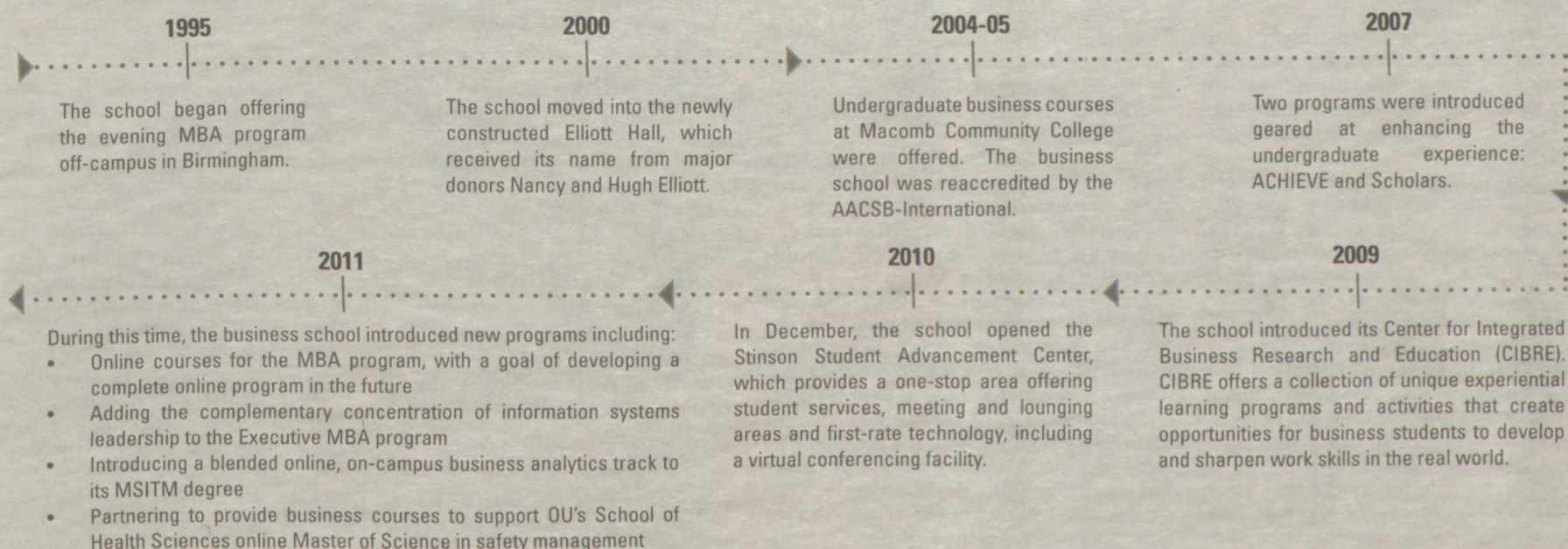




# themix

## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: OAKLAND UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

The Princeton Review recently named Oakland University as one of the best business schools. Oakland is profiled in the 2016 edition of its annual book, "The Best 295 Business Schools." Here is a timeline of the Oakland University School of Business:



### BY THE NUMBERS School of Business

**1:21**

The faculty to student ratio in the school

**3rd**

The ranking of OU's program in Michigan for the Best College Value

**1/182**

OU's school of business is one out of 180 to be accredited by the AACSB

**64%**

The amount of Oakland business students that have a job at graduation

**\$32,404**

The average student loan debt from a student of the business school

### YAKS of the WEEK

**Yik Yak:**  
The voice of the people

1. "Roses are red, my name is Dave, this poem makes no sense, microwave."
2. "Next time you're cold you should stand in a corner because it's usually about 90 degrees."
3. "On October 3rd, he asked me what day it was."
4. "My momma's so fat her blood type is ragu."
5. "Dear today, no."
6. "Use the coupon code 'Netflix' to get 40 percent off your next exam."
7. "My parents never apologized for making me ugly."
8. "6 a.m. alarm label: Go print your paper or fail college."
9. "Why do bad grades happen to good people?"
10. "Shout out to all of us in the parking lot just sitting in our cars."



**BONUS:** "High school: I can't believe they're wearing sweats, bum. College: Dude, that person is wearing a Pokémon blanket! What a boss."

— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,  
Staff Reporter



## Lepley looks to live again

*New renovation could revitalize athletics department*

**Grace Turner**  
Staff Reporter

**O**akland University's Athletic Center has a dirty little secret — the Lepley Sports Center.

Connected to the polished Athletic Center and Recreation Center, Lepley seems like a parasite — a blob of storage space and an empty swimming pool. The athletics department hopes to change that with a \$6.9 million facelift.

"We envision this as a flip the house," Jeffrey Konya, director of athletics, said. "The space is good."

The department wants to repurpose the center to include a basketball practice court, two classrooms, a nutrition area, offices and an athlete lounge.

Konya explained that the renovation goes along with the department's goal of enhancing the student-athlete experience. Teams would get more practice time and student-athletes would have their own space.

The basketball practice court would allow them to train during the summer when the O'rena is used for high school graduations and other events. Last summer, Konya estimated that the court in the O'rena wasn't available to OU teams 70 percent of the time. Most summers aren't as bad, but practice time is still lost.

With the practice court, the O'rena would be available for outside events all summer, which could generate more revenue for the university.

The classrooms would be used for classes during the day and athlete meetings at night.

The offices would help to unclog staff space. Some offices in the Athletics Center house up to five staffers, Konya said.

The lounge is crucial to enhancing the

student-athlete experience, since Konya said they currently don't have a place to call home.

"We only have one space for everybody," Padraic McMeel, senior associate athletics director for external relations, said.

Student-athletes hang out in the halls or locker rooms, encouraging teams to keep to themselves, Konya and McMeel added.

"The lounge allows for them to all intermingle," McMeel said.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this proposal is that it puts OU's athletic department on the same level as its competition.

"It lets us get back to even," Konya said.

Peer universities already have what this renovation has to offer.

Konya presented the idea to the Facilities Committee at their meeting on Sept. 28.

While \$6.9 million sounds like a lot of money, the renovation is by far the least expensive of the four ideas that were presented, which ranged in cost estimated from \$32 million to \$77 million. The renovation is much cheaper than the other project ideas because the building already exists.

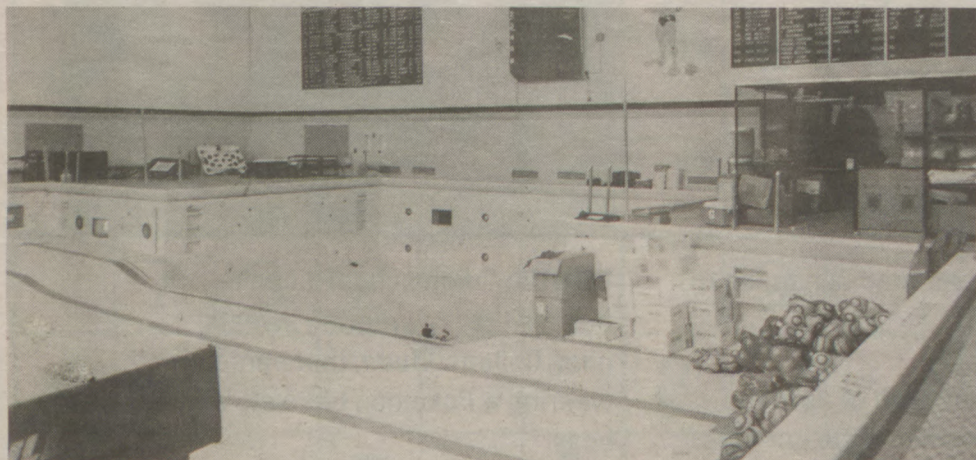
Next, the department has to present a request for proposal to the Facilities Committee, which will include blueprints, renderings and a more specific cost.

The department is looking for potential donors.

The Lepley Sports Center was built in 1962 and hasn't been used for a decade.

The best part is that the athletic department will barely be affected during construction, McMeel said. The project is estimated to take about four to six months and won't interfere with practices. Only the track team's locker room will have to be temporarily relocated.

"It's not a massive disruption," McMeel said.



Dongfu Han / The Oakland Post

The Lepley Sports Center was built in 1962. For the last decade, it has been used as a storage space.

## The cost of competition

*Oakland to cover student-athletes cost of attendance*

**Sean Gardner**  
Web Editor

**F**ollowing a decision from April, universities in the Horizon League can now pay certain athletes cost of attendance.

"The cost of attendance is not a scholarship," Scott MacDonald, senior assistant athletic director for public relations, said. "It is a financial payment to student-athletes. Just like if they had a job."

According to an article on the Oakland athletics webpage, "The Horizon League Board of Directors unanimously passed cost-of-attendance, mandating the measure in men's basketball and for at least an equal number of female student-athletes in a League-sponsored sport or sports."

At Oakland University, this breaks down to 16 student-athletes within three sports — men's and women's basketball and volleyball.

The process of implementing the cost of attendance is slow and takes time. Currently, the athletic department is implementing the cost of attendance in three phases, which will be completed in three years time.

"By the time we reach the third year (2017-18), 32 student-athletes will receive cost of attendance, including [men's and women's basketball, volleyball] along with women's soccer," MacDonald said.

As stated by the Horizon League, the cost of attendance mandates that basketball have the cost of attendance covered. For adding other sports and thereby the other student-athletes, Oakland looks at the McCafferty points awards.

"It is earmarked for men's basketball and we have the option to allocate it to women's sports," Jeff Konya, director of athletics, said.

"There are certain team sports that can acquire, in the women's category, more points for the insti-

tution and that seemed like a good place to start."

Additionally, Oakland is responsible for paying for the cost of attendance. However, an NCAA grant given to the university allows them to use those funds for cost of attendance.

### RECRUITING

Where cost of attendance would seem to be sticky is in recruiting and getting players to commit to a specific university.

Eric Prisbell of USA Today Sports wrote in a 2014 article, "The full cost of attendance is generally between \$2,000 and \$5,000 per year more than the value of the respective school's athletic scholarship because it accounts for various miscellaneous expenses."

This comes down to areas like cost of living and transportation expenses, along with other expenses an average college student may have a year.

"It is part of their financial aid distribution. Instead of a full grant and aid, it is a full grant plus cost of attendance," Konya said. "Cost of attendance is things like gas, car insurance, travel — to and from home, and supplemental supplies for course work."

This can be an added incentive for the recruiting process. Although every institution in the Horizon League schools has committed to the cost of attendance model, not all conferences or colleges have.

The change that can happen during recruitment is something that Konya sees as a positive and will help Oakland thrive.

"When you are comparing where we are in the market place to other conferences or institutions who have not made that decision, or made the decision to not go to the cost of attendance model, I think that helps us in terms of recruiting," Konya said. "[It] helps us tell our story about Oakland athletics and not let cost of attendance or scholarships be an inhibitor from attracting the best and brightest students to campus."

At the end of the three-year phase, Konya would like to be able to extend the opportunities to more students and extend beyond the main sports, but still keep the proportion between men and women's sports.



## Stroede to mow down competition

*Runner to lead the team to victory in Horizon League*

Katlynn Emaus  
Staff Reporter

Oakland's men's cross country team is 12 runners deep. However, the four junior boys on the team, Andrew Bowman, Jacob Bowman, Bryce Stroede and Chris Scott, have a chance to change the program forever, according to head coach Paul Rice.

"We have a young team this year and the success this fall will set us on a great path for next fall," Rice said. "This group of guys know that what we have here could be a dynasty."

Stroede is the key component of this group. As a freshman, Stroede qualified for USA Junior Nationals in the outdoor 5,000 meter with a time of 14:23. With nationals being in early July and cross country training starting in early August, Rice and Stroede came to an agreement to give him a break from competition his sophomore year and have Stroede redshirt.

"We discussed getting used to higher milage training," Rice explained.

"Last fall we cranked up the mileage and it was easier to do that without racing. Last year he focused on the training and now he is focused on keeping up that milage while competing."

Rice applied this training mechanism to the whole team, and the results were obvious. At the Louisville Classic on Oct. 3., six of the top seven male runners achieved personal best times in the 8K. This brought Oakland into the spotlight at the meet.

"Louisville was an exciting meet for me," Rice said. "The guys dominated that race and we were under the radar. It was our debut and Bryce was a big part of it."

Stroede was not the fastest runner from Oakland at Louisville, however. Jacob Bowman, a member of the elite junior class, won the event for Oakland in a personal best of 24:48.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Bryce Stroede, junior cross country runner, is determined to help the Grizzlies bring home a Horizon League championship title this year.

"One of the reasons why we are as good as we are right now is because of that class," Rice said. "The Bowman brothers are pushed by Bryce; he is the catalyst."

Stroede believes the team dynamic has changed from his previous years of experience. He explained it as "coming in with a common goal and doing everything we can to help each other improve."

This provides a positive atmosphere that allows the best training and competing to take place. Stroede and Rice have a common goal for the team.

"Our goal this season is to bring home a Horizon League championship to OU in a couple weeks and to have a great showing at our Regional meet," Stroede said. "I didn't set any personal goals this season, everything was more team oriented."

Stroede is pleased with the season thus far. Watching Rice's training fall into place and seeing the performance is making

"We have a young team this year and the success this fall will set us on a great path for next fall. This group of guys know that what we have here could be a dynasty."

Paul Rice  
Men's cross country coach

Stroede eager to see progression for the rest of the team.

The Horizon League's Championships will take place in Dayton, Ohio on Oct. 31st. Oakland is ready for it.

"The juniors want to send the seniors out on top, put a ring on their finger," Rice said. "To prove to the Horizon and the region that we are building something tough to beat when we are running our best. I'm excited to see what Dayton will bring us."

## Renovated Grizzly Oaks welcomes disc golfers

*After two-year hiatus, Oakland's course reopens*

Anthony Spak  
Contributor

Grizzly Oaks, Oakland University's 18-hole disc golf course, is up and running once again.

The original course, opened in 2009, was closed in 2013 during the construction of the Recreation and Outdoor Athletic Complex (ROAC), formerly known as "The Upper Fields." As of Sept. 3, the first day of classes, the course has been officially open for play.

"Nine holes from the original course opened in 2009 remain the same," Director of Campus Recreation Greg Jordan said.

"Of the nine new holes, four holes have either a new tee or a new bucket location. The remaining five holes are brand new."

Campus Recreation oversees the course and works with OU Grounds for mowing and other maintenance. Campus Recreation student employees also provide cleanup support.

In a previous Oakland Post story from last fall, it was reported that the course would open in Spring 2015. Jordan says the reopening process was pushed back until fall 2015 due to the completion

of the ROAC, and rearranging the course around it.

"Taking the time to explore as many options as possible to recapture the five lost holes took a couple of months to process," Jordan said. "When design was finally developed, completion took a couple of more months."

Danya Youssef, a recent alumnus from July of 2015, has been playing the course for the past four years, including during the construction period.

"I'd say it's a tough course," Youssef said just after coming off of the course, scoring five birdies. "It was cool that [Campus Recreation] maintained their challenging course in the smaller area of space that they were given."

Youssef believes that new additions to the course, including reflective chain basket markers and an increased number of trashcans, have created a better playing experience.

"I'd like to see more student involvement," Youssef said. "We have a great course in our backyard and not many schools do."

Jordan anticipates that the reopening of the course will entice more students to try out the course.

"My bet is that interest in forming a [disc golf] club will develop," Jordan said. "I'm sure we will have some intramural programs planned in the spring."



Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

Grizzly Oaks disc golf course is now open to students and the public.



# Recaps: Golden Grizzlies have a busy weekend

## Men's soccer falls to CSU in overtime

Jackson Gilbert  
Sports Editor

**O**akland University men's soccer team lost a Saturday night match-up against the Cleveland State Vikings 4-3 in overtime.

Oakland fell behind 2-0 early in the game with goals from CSU's Jake Lagania and Sergio Manesio. Over a 20-minute stretch in the second half, Oakland scored three straight goals from Gerald Ben, Austin Ricci and Alex Sertwatka to regain a 3-2 lead in the match.

Almost immediately after Sertwatka's goal in the 68th minute, the Vikings answered with a second goal from Jake Lagania.

The match would go into overtime despite Oakland's continued attack with 25 total shots, 11 of which were on goal.

Five minutes into the first OT period, Sergio Manesio netted a free kick that captured the victory for CSU.

After the game, Oakland head coach



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Eric Pogue was critical of his team's efforts.

"We find ways to help the other team win games, we found a way to dig ourselves into a two-goal hole early," Pogue said.

Cleveland State scored four goals on only five shots on goal.

"I think all four goals were gifted by us to Cleveland State, we just can't keep doing this," Pogue said. "We're going to have to find a way to rebound."

Oakland will travel to Green Bay this weekend for a league match with the Phoenix.

## Volleyball earns straight set victory

**T**he women's volleyball team earned a straight set victory over the Youngstown State Penguins on Saturday afternoon.

Oakland dominated the first two sets 25-18 and 25-16 and then came out after halftime and squeaked out a 27-25 score in the deciding third set.

"I thought our offense really flowed today," head coach Rob Beam said after the match.

"On the defensive end, we were able to really hold them to a low efficiency."

On her 21st birthday, Melissa Deatsch turned in an ascendant performance, recording 16 kills and nine digs on a .517 hitting percentage.

"She's such a key to our team, she's at the very elite level," Beam said.

The game was also important because it was Oakland's "pink game" to support breast cancer research during the October awareness month.

The Golden Grizzlies will be on the road next weekend at Northern Kentucky Friday at 7 p.m. and at Wright State Saturday at 4 p.m.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post



Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

## Swim and dive dominates Green Bay

**I**n what can only be described as a thorough and complete thrashing, the Oakland University swim and dive team defeated the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Phoenix on Saturday afternoon.

The men's final score was 198-97 while the women won by a slightly slimmer margin, 168-125.

"Overall it went really well. We got home really late last night from Notre Dame, I was surprised at the number of athletes that felt better today," head coach Pete Hovland said.

Two separate athletes earned four vic-

tories for the Golden Grizzlies — Rachel Waite and Tuomas Kiviluoma.

Waite earned the crown in the 200-yard IM, the 100 breast, the 200 breast and the 200 medley relay.

Kiviluoma captured the 100 freestyle, the 200 freestyle, the 200 medley relay, and the 400 freestyle relay.

"We've trained very very hard and I think we're finally starting to see the benefits from that," Hovland said.

The men and women's team will both swim again on Oct. 16 at Bowling Green in the Tom Stubbs Relays.

# FREE PIZZA CUTTER



- 1) Bring your friend to the OU Credit Union branch in the Oakland Center
- 2) Your friend joins OU Credit Union
- 3) You both receive a free pizza cutter



## WIN PIZZA FOR A YEAR

All members and new members who receive a pizza cutter will be entered to win free pizza for a year from Buddy's Pizza!



[www.oucreditunion.org](http://www.oucreditunion.org)



One (1) OU Credit Union member who participates in the referral promotion between 9/21/2015 and 10/31/2015 will be randomly selected to win a year's worth of free pizza. Winner's account must be in good standing. Chances of winning are based on number of entries during promotional period. Full contest details are available at [oucreditunion.org/specials/contests/pizzareferral](http://oucreditunion.org/specials/contests/pizzareferral). Not valid in conjunction with any other member referral promotions.