

# THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's  
Independent Student  
Newspaper

Nov. 15, 2017

## BACK ON THE BLACKTOP

### VP ADVANCEMENT

Oakland begins search for head  
of fundraising

PAGE 4

### GLAMOUR SUMMIT

Second annual Women of the Year  
guests speak

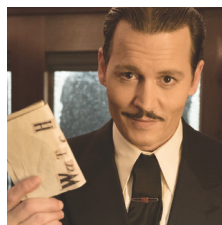
PAGE 17

### HEART RESEARCH

Professor undertakes study on  
cardiovascular disease

PAGE 19





## onthe web

Staff Reporter Trevor Tyle thinks "Murder on Orient Express" is a great telling for those new to the story. PHOTO // IMDb  
[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**DAY OF SERVICE** // On Nov. 8, students had the opportunity to volunteer on campus during OU Day of Service. The Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center hosted different opportunities to help those in need.

Photo // Nicole Mosfield

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

## POLL OF THE WEEK

How are you feeling about Thanksgiving this year?

- A** I'll be drinking at the kids' table
- B** Politics with my uncle...
- C** The Thanksgiving 30 is worth it
- D** I'm thankful for Black Friday

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

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

Are you ready for Oakland's basketball teams to hit the court?

- A) #GrizzGangForever**  
15 votes | 44%
- B) I've got season tickets**  
5 votes | 15%
- C) I don't watch sports ball**  
10 votes | 29%
- D) Need to learn the fight song first**  
4 votes | 12%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### November 11, 1966

The ground on which the Dodge Hall of Engineering would be built was broken. It was the largest building on campus.

### November 17, 1967

Oakland University students actually blew up one of the vending machines on campus. It isn't clear why.

### November 19, 1997

Students who live on campus were unhappy with the Vandenberg Dining Hall's options.



7

### POLITICAL FOCUS

Web Editor John Bozick explore the JFK Files in this week's installment  
Photo // Elyse Gregory



8

### JIGSAW

"Jigsaw" made for one-too-many installments in the "Saw" franchise  
Photo // IMDb



9

### FOOTBALL WINS

Oakland's club Football team won conference play-offs once again.  
Photo // Elyse Gregory

## BY THE NUMBERS MEN'S B-BALL

34.5

Kendrick Nunn's average points per game

2

New assistant coaches have added to the team

34

Years Greg Kampe has been with Oakland

2-0

Men's basketball's season record as of print time

# Looking Back

## The Post's Sex Edition

*The questionable cover featured two student editors in bed. Surveyed over a hundred of students on sex and habits*

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Managing Editor

College newspapers are meant to challenge what is expected from a news organization. But, most people don't expect to be confronted with a cover story featuring a female student taking her top off.

Well, that's exactly what happened in 2008. The Oakland Post ran such a cover photo with a two page spread talking about sex at Oakland University.

The story began with the editor-in-chief and the managing editor interviewing a student who had recently ended a serious relationship. The story talked about the emotional side of sex.

Then the story got a bit more serious. The Oakland Post ran a "Let's Talk About Sex" survey. There were 136 students polled, totaling 97 women and 39 men.

Some of the numbers The Post found were startling. About 12 percent of respondents didn't use any form protection while having sex. Nearly 70 percent of sexually active men had never been tested for STIs.

The most startling statistic of all? Only about 60 percent of respondents said they did not feel their first sexual experience was the result of pressure.

The article argued that men don't actively seek out healthcare related to sexual health as women often do.

"It's like trying to get a guy to ask for directions. It's that exact impulse," said Dr. Drew Pinsky, one expert interviewed in the sex edition.

This issue was startling in another way: the photos used were of the soon-to-be managing editor and the then-sports editor of The Oakland Post. They were not in a relationship with one another, but the photos were staged to be used in the paper.

Said cover photo had the woman taking her shirt off, shot from behind, sitting on top of the man.

This issue, according to Garry Gilbert, the advisor for the Oakland Post, sold out. Everyone on campus wanted to get their hands on this steamy issue of the paper.

In addition, this issue won the Editor-in-Chief Lindsey Wojcik and Managing Editor Nick Degel an award from the Michigan College Press Association.

"That was one of my favorite stories during my time at OU," Wojcik said.

This wasn't the first sex issue Oakland's student newspaper ran. One of the events that led to the downfall of The Oakland Observer was the 1963 sex survey.

Wolf Metzger, an Austrian transfer student, came to OU to be part of The Oakland Observer. One of the first things he did once he became editor-in-chief in 1963 was to put out a poll of students in Fitzgerald House about where they

had sex and who they did it with.

Chancellor "Woody" Varner was not too pleased and worried the survey would tarnish the reputation of the university. Varner even questioned whether or not the paper had the right to conduct this survey. Today, there is no doubt this survey would be legal and allowed, albeit still a little controversial.

Instead of publishing the survey, Metzger decided to run a story detailing the censorship Varner had created for The Observer's story. Varner tried to convince The Observer staff not to publish that piece as well. Apparently, Varner spent three hours trying to convince the staff not to run the piece.

Instead, Metzger sent it to the printers. University administration sided with Varner, and soon he had all copies of this issue destroyed.

This issue does not exist in any known archive of The Oakland Observer, and thus the results were lost.

The Monday following the original publication, Metzger was removed as editor-in-chief. Outside news organizations began reporting on this story, but often took Varner's side.

In a way, this was the beginning of the end for The Observer. This sex story was the first noted example of university censorship of the paper, and only a few years later, The Observer was killed off by the university.



*The Oakland Post Archives*  
Two students posed for for the 2008 sex edition of The Oakland Post.



THE OAKLAND  
POST

**Address** 61 Oakland Center,  
Rochester, MI 48306  
**Phone** 248.370.2537 or 248.370.4268  
**Web** [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)  
**Email** [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com)

### editorial board

**Shelby Tankersley**  
Editor-in-Chief  
[editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com)  
248.370.4268

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Managing Editor  
[ckramer@oakland.edu](mailto:ckramer@oakland.edu)  
248.370.2537

**Elyse Gregory**  
Photo Editor  
[photos@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:photos@oaklandpostonline.com)  
248.370.4266

**John Bozick**  
Web Editor  
[jcbozick@oakland.edu](mailto:jcbozick@oakland.edu)

### editors

**Connor McNeely** Campus Editor  
[camcneely@oakland.edu](mailto:camcneely@oakland.edu)

**Laurel Kraus** Life Editor  
[lmkraus@oakland.edu](mailto:lmkraus@oakland.edu)

**Skylar Tolfree** Sports Editor  
[stolfree@oakland.edu](mailto:stolfree@oakland.edu)

**Simon Albaugh** Social Media Editor  
[saalbaugh@oakland.edu](mailto:saalbaugh@oakland.edu)

### copy & visual

**AuJene Hirsch** Chief Copy Editor  
**Megan Luffinen** Copy Editor  
**Mina Fuqua** Copy Editor  
**Alexa Caccamo** Copy Editor  
**Erin O'Neill** Graphic Designer  
**Prakhy Chilikuri** Graphic Assistant

**Mary Mitchell** Photographer  
**Nicole Morsfield** Photographer  
**Samantha Boggs** Photographer  
**Taylor Stinson** Photographer

### writers

**Katie LaDuke** Staff Reporter  
**Falin Hakeem** Staff Reporter  
**Mary Siring** Staff Reporter  
**Trevor Tyle** Staff Reporter  
**Darcy Dulapa** Staff Reporter  
**Ariel Themm** Staff Reporter  
**Katarina Kovac** Staff Reporter  
**Sadie Layher** Staff Intern  
**Edward Zilincik** Staff Intern  
**Kade Messner** Staff Intern  
**Dakota Brecht** Staff Intern

### advertising

**Caroline Wallis** Ads Director  
[ads@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:ads@oaklandpostonline.com)  
248.370.4269

**Whitney Roemer** Ads Assistant  
**Angela Gebert** Ads Assistant

### distribution

**Rachel Burnett** Distribution Director  
**Maxwell Pelkey** Distributor  
**Christian Hiltz** Distributor  
**Austin Souver** Distributor  
**Dean Vaglia** Distributor  
**Michael Hartwick** Distributor

### advising

**Garry Gilbert** Editorial Adviser  
[gjgilber@oakland.edu](mailto:gjgilber@oakland.edu)  
248.370.2105

**Don Ritenburgh** Business Adviser  
[ritenbur@oakland.edu](mailto:ritenbur@oakland.edu)  
248.370.2533

follow us on Twitter  
[@theoaklandpost](https://twitter.com/theoaklandpost)

follow us on Snapchat  
[theoaklandpost](https://www.snapchat.com/add/theoaklandpost)

follow us on Instagram  
[@theoaklandpost](https://www.instagram.com/theoaklandpost)

find us on Facebook  
[facebook.com/theoakpost](https://facebook.com/theoakpost)

find us on Issuu  
[issuu.com/op86](https://issuu.com/op86)





## The search is on

*Vice President of University will not have a public interview process*

**Shelby Tankersley**  
Editor-In-Chief

**A**nother year, another national search for an administrative position.

The Oct. 16 Oakland University Board of Trustees meeting gave the OK to start a national search for a Vice President of University Advancement. A growing trend in higher education, the position focuses on fundraising, evaluating current university funds and gaining donors — a job that usually falls on the university president.

With state funding to universities dwindling, many are creating the position in efforts to continue university growth. A simple online search reaps dozens of schools who are trying to boost fundraising efforts.

This is a growing problem for Oakland especially, as the 2017 state appropriation amount for Oakland was more than \$20 million below the state average. Only about 18 percent of Oakland's total funding comes from the state of Michigan.

“

“An advancement position will be working with deans and others behind the scenes.”

James Lentini  
Provost

The university has formed a search committee to review and interview applicants, that is chaired by Provost James Lentini. The committee has representatives from the BOT, the School of Engineering and Computer Sciences, Campaign and Stewardship, Communications and Marketing, Athletics and the Golf and Learning Center. According to Lentini, the committee is hoping to fill the position before 2017 comes to an end.

“Fundraising has been important to public institutions like OU for many, many years now,” Lentini

said. “A lot of mid-sized institutions or young ones like Oakland wouldn’t have had to spend a lot of resources on raising funds in the past. But, that has changed dramatically in the past few years.”

According to Lentini, the Vice President of University Advancement will lead a team of individuals whose sole purpose is to fundraise for the university. This person will also work closely with people such as college deans and the president’s cabinet, who have many alumni connections and ties to potential donors.

“We have been looking for how to make a fundraising operation that will be robust and able to fund itself,” Lentini said. “It’s required, really, of all public institutions now. Having the systematic pieces in place to raise funds on a sustained basis is what we’re really looking for.”

Though a national search is being conducted and in-person interviews with the committee will eventually take place, there are no plans to do open forums with the final candidates like Oakland has done with some positions in the past.

“An advancement position will be working with deans and others behind the scenes,” Lentini said. “The position is not one that is outwardly facing the campus, so we don’t think we’ll do open forums with the campus. The other challenge with searches is that you’re likely hiring someone who currently has a position somewhere else. So we want to get the best applicants while not putting them in jeopardy of losing their job.”

He then looked back to presidential applicant Carl Camden, who stepped down from his position as CEO of Kelly Services not long after being announced as one of two finalists for Oakland’s presidency.

With situations like that and the fact that the individual will not work closely with students and faculty, the interview process will only involve those in the search committee.

The interview process is planned to begin at the end of this month and finalists to be selected shortly after.

According to Lentini, Oakland wants to compensate for public funding loss without putting the burden on tuition as quickly as it can.

## Police Files

### A hit and run

On Oct. 29, an Oakland University Police Department officer was dispatched to P36 for a report of a hit and run accident. Dispatch was advised that the caller witnessed a blue SUV with an orange Detroit “D” on the back window strike a silver Pontiac G6 and then drive off. Dispatch, upon reviewing camera footage, watched the event take place and observed the suspect drive to the P32 parking structure and park. The driver, later identified, was seen getting out of her car and walking to class. She was issued a ticket for failure to report an accident.

### “Only a little”

On Oct. 28, OUPD officers were dispatched to a residence where two intoxicated females had been reported. The two were sitting on a bench, one holding the other while petting her hair and telling her to “sit up, people are around.” The officers introduced themselves. One female stated her name and the other mutter “I’m okay.” When asked if she knew where she was, she responded “I’m okay.” Both females said they drank “only a little.” At this point, one female began to drool and then throw up on herself. One was cited for an MIP, the other was not due to the concern of her medical well-being.

### Kresge combatants

At 11:14 p.m. on Oct. 25, OUPD was dispatched in response to a report of a male and female fighting outside the main doors of Kresge Library. The two were dating and were arguing outside. Both were reluctant and vague in sharing details, denying any serious altercation. The footage from Kresge, however, showed the male punching the female and knocking her into the bushes, kicking her, slamming her face against a concrete pillar, and pulling her out of the bushes by her hair. The decision was made to take the male into custody for domestic assault & battery and MDOP.

Compiled by Mary Siring, staff reporter






# SAFAC

## DOLLAR DAY

HURRICANE RELIEF AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY  
NOVEMBER 20TH - 21ST, 9 AM - 6:30 PM








# Student Government Conference draws crowds

Ten schools attend Oakland University event, representatives discuss issues affecting students

Kade Messner  
Staff Intern

Oakland University's Student Congress held a Student Government Conference, where student government representatives from schools all across the state of Michigan came to gather and discuss issues affecting students.

In all, 10 schools attended the con-

ference: Oakland University, Eastern Michigan University, Western Michigan University, Northern Michigan University, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, University of Michigan-Flint, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Lake Superior State University, Grand Valley State University and Wayne State University.

"I decided that I wanted to organize this conference so that we can pro-

mote cooperation between the many student governments from around the state, share ideas and work together on issues important to students in Michigan," Legislative Affairs Director for OUSC, Ryan Fox said.

Running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., students from all of the schools met in lecture halls in the Human Health Building to hear presentations from Grand Valley State University, Western Michigan University, Northern Michigan University and Oakland University. Student government officials presented on what they hope to accomplish and their various successful projects in the past and how they carried them out.

Oakland University Student Congress discussed how different student governments from around Michigan can work together to lobby the state to increase overall funding to public universities, which would lower tuition costs. State funding is a growing concern, especially in Michigan. OUSC hoped that schools could agree on an activism plan that involves petitions

to state legislators.

If the action of increasing funding to public universities happens, OUSC hopes that public universities can avoid raising tuition to cover increasing costs.

"The fact that Oakland students are fighting and lobbying for lower college costs is super cool," attendee Joe Emmendorfer said. "As a college student who deals with paying a part of high tuition, it would be awesome if student government could be successful in lowering costs for me as well as all of the other students around the state of Michigan."

Along with presentations, the conference hosted a number of workshops so that members of other student governments could share their thoughts on problems involving diversity, health on campus, and increasing college costs.

Student interested in joining OUSC can easily get involved. The students meet every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Oakland Room inside the Oakland Center. Being open to all students, anyone may sit in on a meeting.



Photo courtesy of Oakland University Student Congress

The OUSC Conference took place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 11 in the Human Health Building.

## "Our motto is to **SUPPORT, UPLIFT** and **EMPOWER**"

Grizzlies Response Awareness and Suicide Prevention (GRASP) holds workshop to offer guidance

Ariel Themm  
Staff Reporter

According to a recent survey by the Grizzlies Response Awareness and Suicide Prevention (GRASP) group, 13 percent of Oakland University students surveyed considered taking their own life in the past 30 days. To try and prevent this, GRASP set up a workshop for students to learn about suicide prevention on Nov. 7.

### Tip #1

Talk in private, but do not promise confidentiality because it may be a serious situation to the point where authorities should be notified. Make sure they know you are someone they can trust.

High risk groups include commuters, nontraditional students, LGBTQIA+

students, international young people and veterans. Common risk factors can include economic distress, mental illness and substance abuse. Terry Dibble, a special lecturer for the School of Health Sciences, presented the information and the dos and don'ts when interacting with those feeling suicidal.

### Tip #2

Even though it may be difficult, be direct with them. Learn to recognize the signs. It's important not to leave an actively suicidal person alone.

"A part of the issue is that people don't know how to reach out to others for help," Dibble said. "We find ourselves occupied with our busy schedules or being on our phones."

OU offers many resources to those struggling, and even in the local community suicidal people can find the

right help. Aside from faith-based communities and OUPD, there is the OU Gender and Sexuality Center, OU Veterans Support Services, OU International Students Office, Center for Multicultural Initiatives, Disability Support Services and the Graham Counseling Center.

Student organizations such as Actively Moving Forward will work with students dealing with stressful situations as well as grief care. AMF hosts support meetings in the Human Health Building in room 2045 from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

### Tip #3

Remind them that suicide is a permanent solution for a temporary problem.

"Our motto is to support, uplift, and empower which we apply when help-

ing students deal with grief," Abbey Kootsillas, a junior and member of AMF said. "We are currently trying to reach out to the student body and be a useful resource when dealing with heavy topics."

### Tip #4

It's important to understand them and their point of view. Express willingness to help rather than ignoring or minimizing their pain.

Warning signs that are seen in suicidal people are typically: talking about wanting to kill themselves, expressing their desire to end their pain and a feeling that they are a burden to others.

"Helping someone that is suicidal is like giving them CPR," Dibble said. "There are basic things we can do until we get that person more help."



## Oakland University: Home of the future CEO's and stock brokers

*The Princeton Review ranked Oakland University as one of the best business schools in the country*

Ariel Themm  
Staff Reporter

The Princeton Review ranked Oakland University's School of Business among the best in the nation based off a survey of 23,000 students and administrators from over 260 schools.

Michael Mazzeo, Dean of the School of Business, has been in his position for years.

"I think that what we really have here is special faculty where we have high human touch approach," Mazzeo said.

"We offer the Achieve program and we really want to help all the students with their development as well as with their career objectives."

The Achieve Program is there to help business students prepare, practice and perform in order to further themselves for their future careers. About 88 percent of the students have said they felt better prepared for situations such as interviews with professionals.

"Most school of businesses don't have this," Mazzeo said. "This is a required course for our school. We are not just focused the education we offer but again on that development how you set your resume, how you interface with employers but also not just how you do in a class but the other aspects that have lots of value."

OU's School of Business offers a variety of different departments in areas of finance, marketing, decision and information science, and economics. Mazzeo said about 80 percent of students have connections to receive a full-time job or

internship. 95 percent of students have placement goals. In addition, 2019 will mark the 50th year of the program existing at OU.

Students like Tyler Chrysler, a junior studying finance, find themselves greatly supported by the staff as well as finding themselves to be thoroughly trained for future jobs.

"In my classes, there's a lot of development you go through but it's great because you are taught all this important information so that it you can see the actual application rather than just theory," Chrysler said. It also helps that the professors here are so passionate about what they do and it shows in how they present the material."

One of the many tasks they take on is they trade with \$2 million of the Kresge Foundation Money in a live profile called the Student Man Investment Fund.

This is part of their teaching styles in active learning, where students can take on projects hands-on to receive full experience of what they are actively pursuing in their major.

"If anyone is curious about the business school, anyone can hang around Elliot Hall and try and talk to one of the professors, they're always happy to discuss business with students," Chrysler said.

If any students are more interested in learning about the Business School, contact counselors and visit OU's website for more details about enrolling in its undergraduate or graduate programs.

# NOW HIRING: Campus Editor

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Write one story per week
- Mentor four reporters and edit their work
- Attend weekly budget and editors' meetings
- Work closely with the editorial board in production of the weekly newspaper

## ATTRIBUTES

- Should be detailed and have a strong grasp of AP Style
- Should be comfortable working in a group-intensive environment

## POSITION EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST

Interested applicants can send a resume, cover letter and three writing samples to:

Editor-in-Chief Shelby Tankersley  
at [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com)



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Elliott Hall is home to OU'S School of Business where students prepare for jobs in the future.



## Political Focus: JFK papers released

*Documents detailing the assassination of former U.S. president*

**John Bozick**  
Web Editor

On October 28 President Donald Trump officially signed off the release of over 2,800 previously classified pages from the investigation surrounding the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. While this newest dump of information is sure to keep conspiracy theorists entertained, it also offers some new insight into secret CIA plots against Cuba and into who the CIA and the federal government thought was responsible for Kennedy's death at the time.

While not every aspect of the papers was tied to the overall assassination investigation, the information is still incredibly interesting and worth looking at. These are some of the craziest findings of the papers, involving not only JFK, but Fidel Castro and even Frank Sinatra.

### Sex Parties

One of the oddest documents uncovered was an FBI memo from 1960 discussing a "high profile Hollywood call girl" who would have information revolving about the investigation into "high profile sex parties" attended and hosted by JFK.

Allegedly, then-senator Kennedy, his good friend Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and a few other of Kennedy's friends were involved in scandalous parties of such sort, at least according to the opinions of the then famous private investigator, Fred Otash, who was investigating the claim during Kennedy's death.

### CIA plot to kill Castro

The documents uncovered multiple plots to kill Cu-

ban leader Fidel Castro, some of which involved a contaminated diving body suit delivered to him by "Bridge of Spies" lawyer James B. Donovan while they were negotiating the release of Bay of Pigs prisoners. Castro, a fan of diving, was also supposed to be targeted by a booby-trapped seashell planted in one of the areas he frequented on his diving endeavors.

These two instances were just a few of the plots revealed against the Cuban leader, others of which involved a hypodermic needle shooting pen.

### Soviet Union involvement and worries

One file revealed that the Soviet Union at the time believed Lee Harvey Oswald was a maniac, and that they feared war with the U.S. following Kennedy's assassination. According to the document, the Soviets feared an "irresponsible general" would try to launch a missile at them triggering nuclear war in the aftermath of JFK's death.

Other documents suggest the Soviets actually felt Vice President Lyndon Johnson was responsible for the assassination, and that the KGB was believed to have extensive data outlining the relationship between Johnson and the Kennedy family.

### VP Johnson and the KKK

One of the weirder releases was from an internal FBI report in which an informant allegedly claimed to have "documented proof" regarding Johnson and his ties to the Ku Klux Klan. Claiming he was a member during his early political career, documents proof was never actually provided and the investigation was abandoned.



### The real assassin?

While some may believe that Oswald killed Kennedy, a document does seem to look into whether he was a CIA agent, however it does little to reveal any information. Richard Helms, the former CIA director was pressed on whether or not Oswald was a CIA agent; however, the document seemingly cuts off before his answer was recorded.

Given that officials are still skimming the thousands of pages of documents, more information will be revealed in the future, perhaps revealing even more outrageous scenarios that followed the JFK assassination.

## There is no free lunch: The GOP tax plan

**Isaac Martin**  
Political Contributor

There once was an old king who yearned to pass down the wisdom of the ages to his people before he passed on. He spared no expense in assembling the finest cohort of professors, philosophers and thinkers the kingdom had ever seen to condense that wisdom into a palatable size. After five years of debate and discussion, the cadre of intellectuals presented the king with six magnificent, massive tomes lined with maxims and musings from sages, scholars and savants.

Despite this vast array of knowledge, the king remained unimpressed: Few among his subjects would read one let alone six of these volumes. So began 10 long years of writing and rewriting, condensing and crystallizing until one aged economist hit upon five words which seemed to encapsulate nearly all the

wisdom of the ancients.

The well-worn phrase he settled upon, "there is no free lunch," reveals a truth as intuitive as elementary math and as inviolable the law of gravity. This expression is sometimes referred to as "Economics in five words" and will serve as the theme for this column's next three installments as we examine tax policy, college tuition and healthcare.

On Thursday, Nov. 9, the U.S. Senate Finance Committee released a new tax plan drawing no shortage of criticisms. But, there are some positives.

The Senate plan, unveiled a week after its counterpart in the House of Representatives, shares many of the same salient features. The most prominent among the commonalities is a sharp decrease in taxes on businesses from 35 percent to 20 percent, though the Senate plan delays the cut till 2019. Both plans also give fairly large cuts to low income earners; the nonpartisan Joint Commit-

tee on Taxation posits that taxes would decline by 10.4 percent for those earning between \$20,000 - \$30,000.

Additionally, the standard deduction is being raised from \$6k to \$12k, a massive increase for the 70 percent of Americans who opt for this simple approach to taxes.

The differences primarily center on deductions individuals can claim on their income tax. In the upper house, Senators from many purple states are voting "no" on the Senate's plan because it would hit their constituents hard. Currently, these taxpayers suffer from steep state and local taxes, but are able to deduct those from their IRS filings. The Senate plan would eliminate that break, though the House plan would keep it. Additionally, the House cut deductions on medical expenses and interest from student loans.

Conservative leaders in the House appear primed to acquiesce to the Senate's

plan. "I see us taking it," said Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) last week. "If you look at every major issue that comes before the 115th Congress, we do what the Senate wants."

However, this does not add up to a conservative capitulation, says Rep. Dave Brat (R-VA).

"Our red line as a caucus will be, we basically have to stay with the framework," he said, citing a 20 percent corporate tax rate and a middle class tax cut among other items. "If the agreement fails to achieve those basic metrics, then this group, and I think many more in our conference, will cross the red line fairly quickly."

There is no clear reconciliation between the two plans. In the long run, this plan would decrease the Federal revenue by approximately \$309 Billion. As with everything, reducing the average American's taxes comes at cost.

There ain't no free lunch.



# “Daddy’s Home 2” is familiar, but a whole lot of fun

Trevor Tyle  
Staff Reporter

When you have a movie starring Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg, it’s almost bound to be somewhat funny no matter how cheesy it is.

The duo previously co-starred in “The Other Guys” and “Daddy’s Home,” giving a solid indication of their chemistry. With the release of the latter film’s holiday-themed sequel, “Daddy’s Home 2,” Ferrell and Wahlberg prove their chemistry doesn’t falter for a moment.

The original film, released in 2015, is pretty straightforward—it’s dad versus stepdad. After Sara (Linda Cardellini), a mom of two, marries Brad (Ferrell), her children’s biological father Dusty (Wahlberg) returns which leads to the children’s father and stepfather competing for their affection.

By “Daddy’s Home 2,” Brad and Dusty have put aside their differences—in fact, they’re almost friends. However, the holidays unsurprisingly bring out the worst in them. After deciding to celebrate Christmas together for the sake of their children, Brad and Dusty’s fathers (John Lithgow and Mel Gibson, respectively) decide to impose on the festivities.

While Brad and his father get along

almost too well—the pair greet each other with a lengthy kiss on the lips, Dusty and his father, Kurt, have a more incompatible relationship triggered by Kurt’s crude remarks and lack of self-control. To make matters worse, Roger (John Cena), the father of Dusty’s stepdaughter shows up, creating what may be one of the family’s most chaotic Christmases yet.

The film is undeniably cheesy, but in a (mostly) good way. Though it may be one of many comedies with little substance to it, it serves its purpose. It may not be the most original idea—“A Bad Moms Christmas” is essentially the same film, except with, well, moms—but it’s still unsurprisingly entertaining. While it lacks the classic feel of films like “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” or “Elf,” take it for what it’s worth.

On the subject of the latter, audiences will be quick to pick up on some subtle nods to Ferrell’s most notable Christmas film. At one point in the film, his character leaves to look for his father, who the family somehow has forgotten in the middle of the woods while trying to find a Christmas tree. Of course, this calls for him to begin repeatedly whining the word “dad” in typical Buddy the Elf fashion.

Though much of the humor is based



Photo courtesy of IMDb

“Daddy’s Home 2” is rated as a PG-13 comedy film starring Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg.

on the ridiculousness of cast members like Ferrell and Wahlberg, Gibson is actually the standout member of the ensemble cast. If Gibson being able to keep a straight face while telling a joke to children that begins with, “Two dead hookers wash up on the shore...” doesn’t indicate his remarkable acting skills, I’m not sure what does. His forthright sarcasm and brutal honesty are the cherry on top for the Oscar winner, whose role in this film is a re-

freshing change from the more serious works with which he is often associated. Overall, “Daddy’s Home 2” has its ups and downs, but its all-star cast and indisputable humor make it worth the ride. It’s exactly what you’d expect from a film fronted by Ferrell and Wahlberg—foolish, festive and a whole lot of fun.

**Rating: 3.5/5 stars**

# “Jigsaw” makes for one-too-many installments

Nicole Morsfield  
Photographer

*Spoiler Alert: This review contains plot spoilers.*

It pains me to say that I’m disappointed after waiting seven years for the new installment of the “Saw” franchise. Now, if you’re a fan of horror movies in general, then you’ll probably like “Jigsaw.” It contains all the ingredients of a good slasher flick: blood, gore and suspense. But I grew up with “Saw,” so perhaps my expectations were a bit unrealistic.

“Jigsaw” is set 10 years after the death of infamous killer John Kramer, “Saw”’s original psychopath. Police chase down a man who claims a game will be starting soon with the lives of five people on the line. Soon enough, in comes the bodies with jigsaw pieces cut from their skin.

Investigations uncover that DNA left at the scenes and under victims’ fingernails belong to Kramer himself. Cue

the gasps from everyone in the theatre. Seriously? In “Saw III,” Kramer’s throat was very clearly slit with a saw blade. We watched the autopsy in “Saw IV.”

Come on, guys, he’s dead.

What bothered me the most about “Jigsaw” was the lack of connectivity to the previous films. For the most part, each new film progresses the story of the last. Plus, even if the events of the next movie occur in the future, there’s always some reference to the previous, whether in flashbacks or mentions of an old character’s name.

Remember Dr. Lawrence Gordon? Detective Mark Hoffman? Both apprentices of Kramer appeared in the final scene of “Saw 3D: The Final Chapter.” Gordon left Hoffman to die in the iconic bathroom where Gordon sawed off his own foot in the first movie. Everyone was hoping that actor Cary Elwes’s name was deliberately left off of the cast list so he could surprise audiences by reprising his role as Gordon.

I understand that 10 years have passed, but still there is not a single flashback or mention of Gordon or any

of Jigsaw’s apprentices. In fact, the only actor from any of the previous seven films who returned for the eighth was Tobin Bell, who plays Kramer. The audience is forced to abandon the complex story line that the franchise worked for six years to establish.

The plot itself is a little interesting, but it’s nothing special. The plot resembled previous films a little too closely. I’m not the first person to say that the film’s main game was incredibly similar to the one in “Saw V.” But it was one of the first things I noticed at the theater. Five people who have not faced consequences for their detrimental mistakes are forced into a series of violent “games.” They should be working together; instead they choose to argue to their deaths. Fun little story there, but we saw that three movies ago.

The one redeeming quality of “Jigsaw” was Bell’s performance as the Jigsaw killer. He’s deranged and intimidating, but oddly caring at the same time.

If you watch the “Saw” films for the blood and guts instead of the storyline, then you’ll most likely enjoy “Jigsaw.”

I love gory films, but I also love continuity. As Jigsaw would say, “make your choice,” but to me, “Saw 3D: The Final Chapter” should have really been the final chapter.



Photo courtesy of IMDb

**Rating: 3/5 stars**



## The Golden Grizzlies take home a win from Illinois' Robert Morris University

Darcy Dulapa  
Staff Reporter

The air was crisp, the fans were bundled up in winter attire and the scoreboard was anxiously counting down the minutes before the Golden Grizzlies club football team stormed the field.

The Golden Grizzlies played Illinois' Robert Morris University, who had a record of 5-2 before they played Oakland for the NCFE Great Lakes Conference Championship title.

It's playoff football time, and the Golden Grizzlies are looking to continue their 22-straight winning streak. Spoiler alert: that's exactly what the team did, beating RMU's club football team 12-6.

"Everyone's 0-0 right now," weakside linebacker and center Zack Eaglen said. "It's playoffs,

so it's win or go home and we just have to play with our hearts."

The Golden Grizzlies didn't have a problem playing with hearts in fact, that might have been the team's secret weapon.

Oakland started the game off fierce when six minutes into the first quarter, RMU fumbled the ball and outside linebacker Luke Dushaj picked it up and ran 70 yards for a touchdown.

"It felt absolutely amazing, there's nothing like scoring a touchdown like that," Dushaj said. "Not only was it the first score of the game, but it came on a drive where they were moving the ball and it looked like they might score, so it was a big momentum swing for us."

The crowd roared, the cowbells rang and the beads in the water bottles were shaken, as Oakland was now up 6-0.

"As the crowd got more wild,

it pumped the whole team up," wide receiver Tramon Wiley said. "It got us elevated, it got us ready to go and that's how we prevailed and finished."

In the second quarter, quarterback Ben Hajciar went for a fake hand off and ran the ball himself for a touchdown.

RMU blocked Chris Polite's field goal kick for the extra point, keeping Oakland at 12 points.

Oakland held it's own for three quarters without allowing RMU to score. It wasn't until 14 minutes into the third quarter that RMU scored their first touchdown, but was unsuccessful with scoring the extra point.

Both teams fought it out in the fourth quarter, but Oakland stayed on top and took the win over RMU 12-6.

Wide receiver Jonathan Craven said he and his team prepared for this game the same



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Oakland University's Club Football team beats RMU with a score of 12-6.

way they prepare for every game: Head Coach Tom Menas puts them in the best spots and from there, it's up to the boys to carry out their roles.

"All we could do was execute, that's it," Craven said. "Now I'm ready for next week."

Wiley said the team plans on preparing for the next playoff game by studying the other team, building their strength and giving their all during prac-

tice.

"Today it was pretty tough," Wiley said. "They were a good team, and I love them. It was our third time playing them, so it was a challenge but we prevailed like always."

The club team has two more practices this week before they take off for the NCFE playoff game in Erie PA. Saturday, Nov. 18, where they hope to continue the massive winning streak.

## WINTER 2018 PAYMENT DUE DATES

OAKLAND  
UNIVERSITY

The winter semester is just around the corner — start it off right and avoid any last-minute surprises by being proactive now with all your financial business.

Consider all your financial options, including OU payment plans, which help spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **November 16** — tuition and housing charges posted on student accounts
- **November 16** — payment plan opens
- **December 15** — payment due date

You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full by enrolling in a payment plan and paying your installments on time, obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds.

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

**VIEW** all payment and cancellation (drop) dates and **LEARN** how to avoid cancellation (drop) at [oakland.edu/financialservices](http://oakland.edu/financialservices), then Payments & Refunds, then Payments & Cancellation



# MEN'S BASKETBALL IS BACK



Skylar Tolfree, Katie LaDuke, Dary Dulapa and Dakota Brecht  
Sports Editor and Staff Reporters

The lights dimmed, but the atmosphere in the O'rena didn't. The Golden Grizzlies made a powerful entrance to get the crowd on its feet. The student section was packed, from painted chests to smiling faces, the Grizz Gang showed up to passionately root on their Golden Grizzlies.

The Grizz Gang did not stop cheering from the moment the basketball team entered the O'rena until the final buzzer.

"I think [the Grizz Gang is] a huge factor, and Coach Greg Kampe even said it gives the players that extra little motivation," Grizz Gang President Jake Wolok said. "For a smaller school we definitely rank up there as one of the loudest student sections and definitely the loudest in the Horizon League."

The game got off to a quick start as Fort Wayne put up four points on Oakland. Isaiah Brock quickly put Oakland on the scoreboard and the rest of the Golden Grizzlies shortly followed suit.

The Grizz Gang was in rare form as Martez Walker swished the first 3-pointer of the evening.

"Everything we do is for the students and we planned this out two months ago in advance and we have everything that we want and all that matters is that the students get excited, and that's what college basketball is all about, the atmosphere," Wolok said.

The ball was fumbled around a bit by both sides, but control was on its way when the baskets started pouring in. Leading scorers in the first half were Kendrick Nunn, who put up 17 points, followed by Martez Walker with 15 points, and both Brock and Nick Daniels shared 6 points each.

When Kendrick Nunn was asked on how he got out of his early game slump, he said:

"When the shots aren't falling you gotta find other ways to make plays. I just went with Martez... and he just kept telling me to keep going."

Both teams went up and down the Blacktop in the first half. Approaching the end of the half, Oakland was up 45-26 when Daniels got the ball and made a buzzer-beater 3-point basket to end the half.

During the halftime show, Oakland University and Oakland Athletics were honored with the university's third McCafferty trophy. Director of Oakland Athletics Jeff Konya presented the trophy to university President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz.

At the start of the second half, the Golden Grizzlies were a new team. The passion was written on their faces and in their every move.

From the first minute of the game to the close, the Golden Grizzlies kept the lead. In the second half, Nunn put up 19 more points, totaling 36 in the entire game. Walker ended the game with 17 points in total, Daniels with 12, and James Beck with 9. All in all, the boys showed up to play their hearts out and that was known by the numbers portrayed on the scoreboard.

As the game drew to a close, things slowed down during the last few minutes on Oakland's side, but the team managed to keep the lead and finish off strong, beating Fort Wayne by 14 points with the final score being 85-71.

Nunn said the fans are what kept him going throughout the game.

"It felt great, I thank the Grizz Gang and everybody else for coming out," he said. "I see how rowdy it can get in here and I want to thank everybody for coming."



## FAST FACTS FROM OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Men's basketball

2017 is Oakland's

The Nov. 10 game was

Men's basketball ended exhib

The Golden Grizzlies had the most  
Walker and Kendrick Nunn





2017 is Greg Kampe's 34th season

Freshman James Beck got his first career start in the Nov. 10 game

Fort Wayne won its previous three games against Oakland

ball has two new assistant coaches: Tony Jones and Mychal Covington

men's basketball's first year being polled No. 1 in the preseason poll

the largest home opening crowd since joining the Horizon League

position play averaging 100.3 points a game while holding opponents to 74.0

st players on the preseason all-league teams: Jalen Hayes, Martez

## STAT LEADERS

Points: Nunn with 36

FGs: Nunn with 11 of 21 attempts

3-pointers: Nunn with 5 of 11 attempts

FTs: Nunn with 9 of 10 attempts and Walker with 8 of 9 attempts

Rebounds: Brock with 12

Assists: Nunn and Neely with 6

Turnovers: Nunn and Walker with 5

Minutes Played: Nunn with 37



# OUVB dominates UIC last regular season match



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Sammy Condon goes up, up and beyond to get that point for the Golden Grizzlies.

**Dakota Brecht**  
Staff Intern

One game away from the Horizon League Volleyball Tournament the women's volleyball team went toe to toe against the UIC Flames with hopes of finishing off the regular season on a strong note. The Golden Grizzlies are coming in on a hot streak with wins in five out of their last six games.

The first set was a back and forth battle where UIC eventually prevailed and took it 25-

21. Freshman Jamie Walling led Oakland with five kills and a block along with it. Senior Darien Bandel added three kills and a dig while senior Darrin Rice tacked on five digs as well. Down in a quick 1-0 hole the Black and Gold looked to bounce back in the second set.

In another set filled with controversial calls and coaches challenge cards flying in left and right, the tension in the air was palpable. This didn't phase the Golden Grizzlies one bit, the team did just what it needed to



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Lindsay Wightman serving as OUVB takes control of the match against UIC.

and dominated the second set with a score of 25-19. It was block after block for Oakland as they had six in the second set. Krysteena Davis led the team in that category with a solid three blocks. Meanwhile, Bandel put up a smooth six kills to lead all scorers. With the game tied at one set a piece, both teams came out of the gates firing in the third set.

Oakland continued its dominance in the third set as they cruised to a 25-18 set win. Bandel, Davis and Walling led the way as the Golden Grizzlies made quick work of UIC. Up 2-1 in the game and with just two sets to go the Black and Gold looked to finish UIC off in the fourth.

The Golden Grizzlies showed

no mercy in the fourth and final set as they dispatched the flames with a score of 25-19 and a 3-1 game win. Over the course of the game, Bandel led the way with a total of 18 kills. Davis put up an astounding 8 total block assists and RS sophomore Jordan Lentz had an outstanding 41 assists for the day.

Riding this solid win streak into the Horizon League tournament which starts on Friday November 17 the seniors for the Black and Gold will look to lead the team to victory. When asked on what it would mean to win the tournament Condon and Rice had this to say:

"It would mean everything to us, last year was a heartbreak

and this year is just different, we can feel it," Rice said.

"Just everything, we've been thinking about this basically since last season ended and we want to see just how far we can go and how far we can push this team and we want to go to the end," Condon said.

When Bandel was asked on how the play of the underclassmen has benefited this team throughout the season she said:

"Our freshman are amazing, they've dialed in and they just really feed off of what the older girls do but like I said they're amazing and they don't need the leadership, they're leaders on their own."

Assistant coach Gabe Schmidt has always been a face of positivity for the girls out on the floor. He is always the first person off the bench to congratulate his players as they come off the court.

"I just want the first thing they hear to be a positive voice instead of their own voice," Schmidt said. "As a coach I've always found it best to have a positive standpoint and then make corrections later. After today we have found our stride and we know what kind of level we need to play at. I believe we will be coming home with the Horizon League trophy."

## Club sports highlight: The OU Running Club

**Katie LaDuke**  
Staff Reporter

No runner ever gets left behind with Oakland University's Running Club. The Running Club was first started in 2012 to promote a common interest of staying healthy and running.

Oakland University is one of seven colleges in Michigan that is a part of the National Intercollegiate Running Club Association (NIRCA). This allows for Running Club to still compete in races at a college level, but it does not involve the full commitment a Division I sport requires.

The club has participated in a variety of races including 5Ks, 10Ks, half-marathons, cross country meets and other road

races such as the Brookside Way.

Most recently, Running Club ventured to Central Michigan University for the Chip Trails race on Saturday, Oct. 21. For the men's 8K, freshman Charles Zhou finished seventh and President Sarah Smith came in 10th in the women's 6K.

"We're aiming to do one meet a semester, and then other road races as they come along," Smith said.

Although many members have experience running cross country in high school, Running Club is willing to work with people of all levels and experience. Even if there is someone just starting out or trying to return to the sport after a few years off, Running Club is eager to hit the trails

around campus with new members.

Unlike other club sports at Oakland, there is no formal try-out for Running Club. There are currently around 25 rostered members, but the club is always accepting new members. Interested students are encouraged to reach out to members or to simply just show up to practices.

"It's a nice space where a bunch of people, who enjoy a common hobby, get together and bond through running," freshman member Luis Carcamo said.

As the weather gets colder, Running Club will continue to brave the elements and have practice outside. The club runs in wind, snow, sun and rain—everything except lightning.

There are also a lot of roads and trails that the runners follow around campus. Usually there is not a set route for runs, but members have gone through the woods and around the golf course.

"If we feel adventurous, we'll just go out and run wherever," freshman Andrew Chen said.

However, safety goes along with wherever the runners go. Some cars, especially when turning right, do not particularly pay a lot of attention to runners, so members have to be diligent when crossing streets and intersections.

Oakland's campus is also covered in hills. Secretary Rachel Zeile explained that runners have to go slow down hills or they could end up falling.

Not everything the club does has to do with running. Members stretch and do ab workouts too. Some members even enjoy a game of basketball or volleyball occasionally. This past Halloween, runners took to campus dressed in costumes and passed out candy.

"People think we're super intense and super hardcore, but we're really chill," Zeile said.

Running club is proud of the community they have built within themselves and the friendships they have fostered. The club wants the group to be a fun place where people can come to relieve stress and to run with others.

"No matter who you are, no matter what experience you have with running, you're always welcome," Carcamo said.





Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Oakland Athletics is making brand new adjustments to the O'rena to make the patrons experience more exciting.

## New changes to the O'rena

**Katie LaDuke**  
Staff Reporter

As fans start filling into the O'rena for basketball season they may be distracted by the cheering and music. But this year, there's a few things that have changed.

Oakland Athletics constantly gets feedback from the community, and at the end of each year, Athletics makes an effort to review all of this feedback.

Padraic McMeel, Deputy Athletic Director, wants to make it clear that the game day experience for the fans is a top priority for Athletics.

"We will always listen to our folks, and if we can implement and do those things then we will do it if it makes [the experience] better," McMeel said.

As of recently, Oakland has been setting the standard for game day experience in the Horizon League. Much of this has to do with getting fans involved as much as possible and connected with the games on an emotional level.

"We have incredible young people that are representing Oakland University day-in and day-out," McMeel said. "Our ultimate hopes are that [students] will always be fans, so when they graduate they'll still want to come back, become season ticket holders, enjoy games, bring their fam-

ilies and things along those lines."

In order to make these changes happen, Athletics works with the university as a whole to have conversations and come with a compromise that will benefit both sides.

### Alcohol sales

For the first time through a new liquor license that has been put together for the university, the O'rena will officially be able to sell alcohol. However, this aspect is not for the general public just yet. These sales will be contained to the two areas that are for use by those who donate to Athletics.

### The GrizzGang's VIP program

GrizzGang is the student organization that works with athletics to support the teams and to help create the student experience. This is the first year the program is doing a VIP program that allows early entry to games, a VIP shirt and lanyard, availability for bus trips and opportunities to exclusive giveaways. At Midnight Madnezz, GrizzGang gave away a free road trip with the men's and women's basketball teams to two VIP members.

"The VIP program is a great benefit to our great student basketball fans," Jake Wolok, president of GrizzGang, said. "There will also be many more VIP exclusive giveaways at GrizzGang's Home Opener Tailgate on Nov. 10."

### New spotlights

The lighting in the O'rena is a partnership with university since they do many events in there such as convocation. Different spotlights are being added at various points around the O'rena, which allows for various displays when the O'rena is dark. These lights are still being tested for the upcoming basketball season.

### Wireless camera

As a way to help with promotion and fan interaction, a new wireless camera will be making its way through the stands. This will happen mainly during pre-game, media timeouts and half-time and it can be seen on the video board.

"We did this for the Detroit game last year and had a tremendous response," McMeel said. "We wanted to add that to the games this year for both the men's and women's."

### Exhibition games

Every year, men's usually has just one exhibition game, which was scheduled for Nov. 6 against Davenport. The team has now added two additional ones. The closed Oct. 29 scrimmage against Central Michigan University had been changed to a hurricane relief exhibition game where all ticket proceeds went to the American Red Cross to help the recent hurricane victims. The last exhibition game was against Rochester College and is set for Nov. 2.

## The Golden Grizzlies defeat the Privateers

**Dakota Brecht**  
Staff Intern

With the home opener behind them, the Oakland University men's basketball team looked to continue its hot start against a solid New Orleans team on Nov. 13. Privateers, coming in off of a loss to St. John's in their season opener. Both squads knew this was going to be a hard fought battle and the players came ready to fight.

The Golden Grizzlies got off to a great start going up 18-6 only six minutes into the game. Kendrick Nunn and Martez Walker both went 2-2 from deep and defense was dominating the Privateers' Walker knocked in another three and the team never looked back from there in the first half.

The Black and Gold tacked onto that lead, running it all the way up to 31-12 with nine minutes to go. As the half drew to a close, Nunn sent in an alley-oop at the buzzer to put Oakland up 46-26. Nunn and Walker led all scorers with 16 and 11 points respectively. Meanwhile, the Golden Grizzlies shot at a 60 percent from the field. Oakland looked to continue this impressive outing into the second half.

The Privateers fought hard to start the second half and brought the game within 16 points with five minutes down. This little rebellion didn't last long as the Black and Gold ramped up the pressure and brought the lead to 65-44 halfway through the second. Nunn was having yet another fantastic shooting performance from outside going 6-10 at this point of the game.

Junior Julius Palmer was having

a solid day on the boards and was getting a lot of playing time in relief for sophomore Isaiah Brock. With five minutes left to go in the game the Golden Grizzlies had a solid 78-58 lead and coasted to the finish.

The final score was 87-68, a complete rout of New Orleans by Oakland. Walker led the team in scoring with 25 points but Nunn was not far behind with 24. Walker and James Beck led Oakland with rebounds (7) and Brailen Neely with assists (7).

It was a great showing for the Golden Grizzlies and Head Coach Greg Kampe was very pleased with the performance of his guys.

"I don't know if we can play any better than we did the first 10-12 minutes of that game. We really took it to an NCAA team," he said. "I am very pleased to beat that team, a 20 win team that was in the NCAA tournament last year. I thought the first half was almost clinical defensively for us. I couldn't be anymore pleased for the start of this year."

Top scorer for the game, Walker, had this to say on the team's performance as a whole:

"That's my type of game right there, I love playing the battles and coach has been challenging us all week in practice telling us they're gonna fight us and they came out like he said but we answered."

The Golden Grizzlies are off on a four game road trip that takes them to Toledo this upcoming Saturday and then to two powerhouse teams in Syracuse and Kansas. They wrap it up with a game against Oral Roberts before finally returning home to play Texas Southern on Nov. 30.



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

The Men's Basketball team did Oakland University proud once again by beating New Orleans The Privateers' with the help of Nuun and Walker.



Puzzles

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
			20		21						22			
23	24	25		26					27					
28			29					30						
31						32	33					34	35	36
37					38	39					40			
41				42							43			
			44					45	46					
47	48	49					50	51				52		
53						54					55			
56						57					58	59	60	61
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

- Across**

  - 1. Wins in a walkover
  - 6. Show signs of life
  - 10. Interrogative word
  - 14. Soubise base
  - 15. Pitch
  - 16. Distinctive quality
  - 17. Mason's Street?
  - 18. Chords define them
  - 19. Hot tempers
  - 20. "Ask for a time-out!"
  - 23. Book end?
  - 26. Analogous
  - 27. Gladiator's stages
  - 28. Slip away, as time
  - 30. Opinionated equine
  - 31. Snooty attitudes
  - 32. Punch back instinctively
  - 34. First name among soccer legends
  - 37. "Get the music playing!"
  - 41. "Watch it, buster!"
  - 42. Rap sheet name
  - 43. Compressed data
  - 44. Cereal husk
  - 45. Less at ease
  - 47. Like this clue
  - 50. Cold coat
  - 52. It can follow you
- 53. "Surf the big wave!"
  - 56. Etiquette authority
  - 57. Shakespearean character
  - 58. Taxpayer's dread
  - 62. Euclid's lake
  - 63. "Braveheart" group
  - 64. Indurate
  - 65. Penury
  - 66. "The \_\_\_ of Katie Elder"
  - 67. Ditched cargo
- Down**

  - 1. Lightning attractor
  - 2. 1300 hours
  - 3. Wire measure
  - 4. Eleventh president
  - 5. Paradigms of sluggishness
  - 6. Pursue stealthily
  - 7. Rich cake
  - 8. Rainfall measure
  - 9. Scientific inquiry
  - 10. Imitated a siren
  - 11. Second largest of the Great Lakes
  - 12. Betel palm
  - 13. To-do list entries
  - 21. Taradiddle
  - 22. Largest Greek island
- 23. Spot's tether
  - 24. 12-pitch type
  - 25. Lollygag
  - 29. 23rd Greek letter
  - 30. Places for tumblers
  - 32. Uxmal sight
  - 33. Fed. smog watchdog
  - 34. Beatle suffix
  - 35. Surmise
  - 36. Think the world of
  - 38. Limestone terrane
  - 39. Rubber bands
  - 40. Hanks vehicle
  - 44. Started, as a computer
  - 45. Figure on an Australian stamp
  - 46. Get off track
  - 47. Where many go downhill
  - 48. Laundry, e.g.
  - 49. Famous riveter
  - 50. A daughter of King Lear
  - 51. Visual mnemonics
  - 54. Good circle?
  - 55. Moon goddess
  - 59. Thought it was groovy
  - 60. Long-term investment
  - 61. Gymnast's quest

NOVICE

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

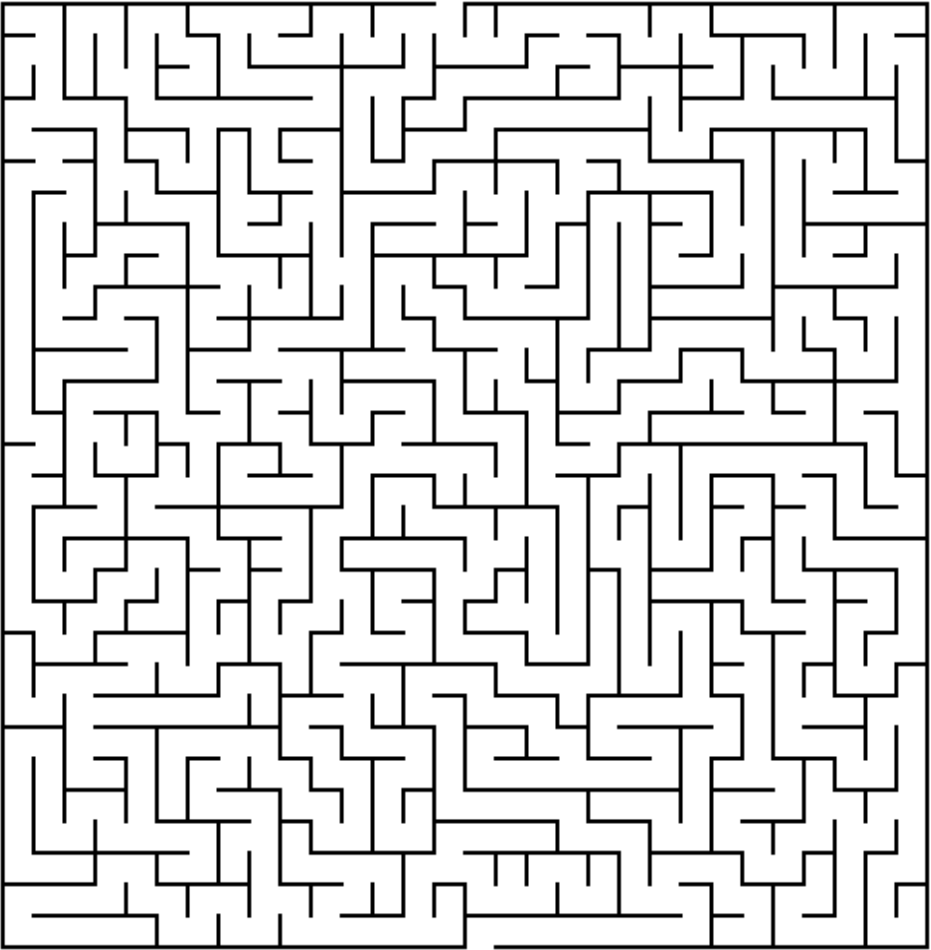
TOUGH

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

INTERMEDIATE

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

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





## The satirical truth about Fraternities

Stephen Armica  
Satirist

*Disclaimer: This article is written by a student who was part of a fraternity. It is meant to be in good fun. At The Post, we believe in making fun of everyone equally.*

This satirical article may startle you. It was not otherwise possible to emphasize the frightful toll of this phenomenon that is destroying the youth of America. Fraternities (or "frats") are quickly becoming the real public enemy number one.

Walking on campus, little Billy Freshman meets a lot of people. He sits with a group of friends he met from the residence halls during lunch. He's even had a few conversations with people in his classes. Yes, Billy is a good upstanding student.

Billy began studying for his MCAT the summer before his first year. His parents gave him a good upbringing, but dangerously let him take on the personality of what is known as a "Bro." Now, not only is he vulnerable, but also in serious danger.

Fraternity "recruiters" know this. They've been insidiously trained to identify these people by their fraternity partners and they actively seek these people out for their nefarious goals. You see, recruiters seek these people out for one reason and one reason only, to turn everyone into a "frat boy."

Billy made the fateful mistake on his way to class that first week. He wore a hat backwards. It was only moments before the recruiters locked eyes with poor Billy.

Recruiters may seem like well-meaning individuals at first. But always look into their

eyes. They're almost always high on Marihuana (See Reefer Madness for more information) and almost always hungover.

Billy Freshman quickly became ensnared into the ring of lies and deceit that is a Fraternity. At first, he enjoyed the parties, the friends and the weekends spent enjoying himself. But this quickly turned bad.

The fraternity life quickly changed Billy. Within a year, Billy went from what would've been an early admission to Harvard Medical School to someone who is preoccupied with interfraternity gossip and campus sports scores. He drinks almost a gallon of alcohol each day, and he lewdly jokes about certain areas of the anatomy every chance he has.

But this is not the end for Billy. Not only did he lose all of his potential as a pre-medical student. But he also lost his life!

One day, Billy is drinking



Photo courtesy of Erin O'Neill

from a beer bong while attempting to communicate with a fellow fraternity brother through a secret language known as fist bumps. He is drinking as fast as he can until he suddenly misses a fist bump and falls forward, causing him to choke on the beer bong. He's pronounced dead long before paramedics can arrive.

This frightful scourge on humanity is brainwashing our youth, killing those with the

most potential and inevitably causing global warming.

It's up to you, the educated one, to spread the truth about what you read today. Tell your friends, your family, even your children that fraternities are not "fun." They are not "Sick bro" and they are not "Tight AF Brah." They are dangerous and they are destroying our children, our youth.

It is up to you, the reader, to know these things.

## Proposals that didn't make it to print

Simon Albaugh  
Social Media Editor

Like icebergs, the majority of the work that goes into your weekly satire fix doesn't get shown. We've had thousands of wonderful ideas that couldn't make it in the issue with our advertising revenue remaining intact. But these ideas, although controversial, reflect the continued effort The Oakland Post makes to help you forget the sad reality for the next 500 words.

So, please enjoy a memorial service of these great ideas that died before their time in a tragic creative accident involving my boss threatening to fire me twice a week.

**1. AI's next leap forward? Breaking up with my a\*\*hole boyfriend for me.**

**2. Chocolate-covered potato chips is where God and the devil shake hands.**

**3. How to hire a stripper for Matilda Dodge Wilson's next Birthday celebration.**

**4. Romantic date ideas for when you finally realize autumn isn't fun.**

**5. Gentrified Detroit isn't edgy and cool anymore (we're talking to you, Dan Gilbert).**

**6. How to win at online political arguments, assuming you have nothing to hope for in life.**

**7. Not to be prejudiced, but people who leave gum under the desks and chairs should be sterilized.**

**8. How to steal issues of the Oakland Post and sell them on the black market in exchange for unmarked Kalashnikovs.**

**9. Did the Italian mafia actually pay for our university's opening? Probably not, but it doesn't hurt to ask.**

**10. The insidious truth the government doesn't want you to know about pumpkin spice lattes.**

**11. Ten phenomenological ideas that inspired the creators of "Dora the Explorer."**

**12. Why we are so passionate about**

**keeping you guys informed on important campus news (hint, we get paid).**

**13. One Oakland freshman's completely unrealistic goal of making the world a better place, and why we should all point and laugh at them.**

**14. Our yearly "Stephen Armica complaining about his sad life and holding the entire newsroom hostage with a spaghetti noodle until we finally agree to publish it out of pity" column.**

**15. Oakland professor is making everyone proud from their sabatistical researching Caribbean resorts.**

**16. Bernie Sanders campaign volunteer wakes up from coma: Nobody tells him what happened with the election.**

**17. Wanna know the worst thing about being on The Oakland Post? (Editor's note: there's nothing wrong with The Oakland Post. This writer was promptly ex-**

**pelled from the university).**

**18. Starbucks vs. Biggby: 10 comparisons that will distract you from the Mueller investigation without you even realizing it.**

**19. How to assert your dominance in the school parking lot with only \$2,000 in car repair costs.**

**20. Jennifer Lawrence joins us on campus to use a free bathroom and then nonchalantly gets back in her**

**car, hoping no one noticed.**

**21. How to set up your new Au Bon Pain Coffee IV System".**

**22. If you or a loved one has been affected by mesothelioma, you may be entitled to a free half hour of trying to be taught how to pronounce it.**

**23. 13 things you could be doing with your lunch hour if you weren't waiting for f\*\*\*ing long to get Subway.**

### FREE Pregnancy Tests

### FREE Limited Ultrasounds

### FREE STD Testing and Treatment

- ~ Comprehensive
- ~ Confidential
- ~ Caring

Crossroads Care Center  
3205 South Blvd.  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326  
www.crossroadspregnancy.org  
248.293.0070  
(Appointment preferred)



# Student Org Profile: The Glee Club

*These students came together to be part of the arts, but found friendship and a strong community*

Falin Hakeem  
Staff Reporter

Much like the famous TV show, the Glee Club at Oakland University is for students who love to sing, dance and play instruments. And before anyone asks, they do not strive to be just like the actors in the TV show. Instead, it's a place to make friends through a shared love of music.

"It's a place for friends to come together and still be part of the arts on campus," said President of the club Natalie VandenHeuval.

“Students should join Glee Club because it's a really fun place to keep singing outside of choir and meet people with the same interests. All of the pieces we work with are showcased in a concert in April, so participating is another way to perform.”

Natalie VandenHeuval  
President of Glee Club  
Oakland University

VandenHeuval said the Glee Club started when a few students wanted a place to sing and perform without all of the travel and competitions that Gold Vibrations, OU's a capella group, participates in. For students who want to have fun while singing and dancing without the pressure of competition, this is the perfect fit.

The club has typically has between 15 to 25 members from

all majors and class standing. Although the club is for those who simply enjoy music, there is still a try-out process.

"The Glee Club entails some community involvement in the fall semester where we Christmas carol at nursing homes and the Rochester Christmas Parade," VandenHeuval said. "Winter semester we work on songs both as a full group and smaller ones. We sing all types of music, and the small groups are able to select their own songs to make for the best performances and most fun possible."

She said the most exciting part about being a part of the club is when a difficult piece finally clicks and makes all of the long rehearsals worth it. Much like any other club president, VandenHeuval feels a sense of reward from seeing her club's dedication finally turn into something they can be proud of.

"Students should join Glee Club because it's a really fun place to keep singing outside of a choir and meet people with the same interests," she said. "All of the pieces we work on are showcased in a concert in April, so participating is another way to perform."

VandenHeuval said the show had no part in the creation of Glee Club beyond having a similar type of group. Oakland students wanted an avenue to enjoy singing and dancing rather than following a pop culture fad.

"Making music is the inspiration for making this group," she said. "Students looking to join should know that we do audition at the beginning of each semester. The club accepts all majors and experience levels. Playing instruments and beat boxing are really great talents that we always are looking for."

For more information, visit the Glee Club's GrizzOrgs page.

## 2018 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Now accepting nominations.

- THE ALFRED G. AND MATILDA R. WILSON AWARDS (\$1,000 AWARD EACH)** recognize one female senior student and one male senior student who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**
- be graduating seniors in winter 2018 or have graduated in summer or fall 2017
  - have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA
- THE HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD (\$500 AWARD)** recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. Nominees must:
- be graduating seniors in winter 2018 or have graduated in summer or fall 2017
  - demonstrate service to the community
  - have a minimum 2.5 GPA
- Nomination forms are available at [oakland.edu/deanofstudents/dean\\_awards](http://oakland.edu/deanofstudents/dean_awards). Nominations are due by January 29. All application materials are due by February 5.

For questions, contact:  
Dean of Students Office | Vandenberg Hall, Room 120 | (248) 370-3352

## Classifieds

61 Oakland Center  
312 Meadow Brook Road  
Rochester, MI 48309

**Rates:**  
\$0.35 per word (\$7 min.)  
Unlimited Frequency  
STUDENT DISCOUNTS

### HELP WANTED: VALET PARKING

Valet parking attendants, must be 21 or older, must know how to drive a stick-shift, make up to \$30/hour. Call (248) 740-0900 or apply online at <http://firstclassvalet.com/valet-parking/employment-application>

<b>ADVERTISE ANYTHING*</b> Need something? Want something Want to provide something?	<b>Books Cars Garage Sales Rent</b>	<b>Babysitting Help Wanted Carpools Misc., etc.</b>
---	---	---



# These women are “Glamorous!”

The second annual “Women of the Year” event honors some of the most influential women

Katarina Kovac  
Staff Reporter

**T**alk about girl power: Glamour Magazine’s second annual Women of the Year live summit, held at the Brooklyn Museum on Nov. 13, featured panels, speeches and conversations pertinent to women’s lives in 2017.

The people at Glamour Magazine were kind enough to offer me a ticket to the day full of discussions on female empowerment.

The Summit started with a discussion of persistence and personal perseverance with Chelsea Clinton and Laverne Cox, who shared their thoughts on the need for optimism and the importance it can have for one’s outlook on life and success.

Clinton talked about moving into the White House at the age of 12 and how her parents, Hillary and Bill Clinton, raised her with the expectation of participation. She’d help her parents hold mock debates in preparation for the real ones which taught her “what politics is and what politics should be.”

Twins Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Bush, President George W. Bush’s daughters, promoted their new book “Sisters First” and took turns recounting their experience growing up as daughters and granddaughters of presidents and strong women.

On the Live Summit agenda sheet, the next guest was labeled, “surprise.” When former Vice President Joe Biden and his wife Dr. Jill Biden walked on stage, the crowd was on their feet, cheering wildly.

Glamour Editor-in-Chief Cindi Leive led a conversation with both Joe and Jill Biden that centered on changing the culture of sexual assault and abuse.

Joe Biden condemned the slew of men that have recently been accused of sexual harassment and shot down the idea they chose to behave that way because of the era they were raised in.

“Give me a break,” he said.



Katarina Kovac / The Oakland Post

“Women of The Year” was filled with empowering speeches with special guests such as actress Laverne Cox and Chelsea Clinton.

After the Bidens’ speech concluded, Joe Biden came up to me at the edge of the stage as I was sitting front row, bent over, looked me straight in the eyes and said, “If you’re wondering why I was staring at you the whole time, it’s because you really looked like you were paying attention, so thank you.”

Needless to say, he made my entire week. Or year. Or lifetime.

My favorite panel of the night was Band of Sisters featuring Sheila Nevins, American TV producer and President of HBO, and Jenna Lyons, former president and creative director of J.Crew (my ultimate hero).

I have gotten to know Lyons through a few personal exchanges, and she has to be the most genuine accomplished person who is a true force in the fashion industry.

Lyons and Nevins are a duo that share an unwavering sense of humility and grace that allow any audience to feel like their best friends. They discussed everything from their shared gynecologist to

stories from Nevins’ latest book.

When the opportunity to ask questions arose after their discussion, I jumped on it. Right when I was handed the microphone, Nevins (in her true wit) stated, “You can call our gynecologist, he’ll give you either of our numbers.”

I began to ask into the microphone, “You guys are both extremely successful and I was just wondering...” when Lyons cut me off as she stated, “I don’t have a job!”

In April 2017, Lyons left J.Crew after 26 years at the company. Despite her “I don’t have a job!” statement, the woman is extremely successful as she transformed J.Crew into a cultural phenomenon.

After Lyons’ comment, Nevins jokingly stated, “And I’m old! Honey, sit down and ask your question again.”

After falling to the floor laughing, I was able to finish my question stating, “What advice would you give to your younger self? When you were 20 or 19, what do

you wish you could have done differently or that you would have known?”

Nevins replied with, “I wish I had known Jenna. I wish I had the confidence to think I could.”

Me too, Sheila. Me too.

Later on, Maxine Waters also casually strolled into crazy applause while attendees ate lunch.

Tracee Ellis Ross, American actress, model and comedian spoke about how journaling changed her perspective.

“When we put ourselves first by doing things like saying no, speaking up...that kind of stuff is seen as threatening and scary and it’s certainly not what the patriarchy had in mind,” she said.

The Summit included major announcements from brands that centered on inclusivity and the celebration of all kinds of women. Barbie revealed its first doll to wear a hijab, modeled after Olympic medalist Ibtihaj Muhammad, and Aerie broke the news that Olympic gymnast Aly Raisman will be joining its team of role models.



# Kroger plans to launch its own clothing line

*By Fall 2018 shoppers will not only be able to purchase groceries but apparel as well*

Katarina Kovac  
Staff Reporter

**K**roger is launching a whole new line of products for its customers, and this time it's not something they can eat.

In an Amazon dominated world, Kroger is trying to stay competitive as it now aims to be a destination for more than just groceries. This is because Kroger is launching its own clothing line.

The supermarket chain announced that it will be launching a clothing line next fall as a part of "Kroger Restock," the company said. The plan will include a large amount of capital investments—around \$9 billion over the next three years.

"This new brand gives Kroger a chance to inspire and connect with our customers, offering effortless style every day — from elevated basics to fashionable highlights," Robert Clark, Kroger's senior vice president of merchandising told CNN.

The clothing line will launch with pieces for children, juniors, men and women.

The move to produce a clothing line comes because traditional grocery chains have faced increasing competition from all fronts.

Amazon's purchase of Whole Foods Market over the summer has raised concerns about the viability of traditional grocers, including Kroger. In an effort to combat the competition, Kroger decided to expand beyond groceries and focus on shopper's lifestyle.

The brand will first roll out across Fred Meyer and Kroger Marketplace stores, which account for 300 locations nationwide.

Another grocery chain that has previously taken the clothing line route is Lidl, a German-based grocer that's expanding rapidly across the nation, also sells apparel and recently launched a clothing line with celebrity de-

signer Heidi Klum.

Large chains such as Walmart, Meijer and Target are known for offering both groceries and clothing to customers within the same stores.

Target was one of the first to bring in big-name designers for collaborations on low-price collections. Its 2011 launch of a Missoni line was a major success both online and in stores. The chain quickly ran out of stock and items from the brand appeared on eBay and elsewhere for resale at inflated prices.

“This new brand gives Kroger a chance to inspire and connect with our customers, offering effortless style every day — from elevated basics to fashionable highlights.”

Robert Clark  
Senior Vice President of  
Merchandising

Target has since duplicated this success with limited edition launches tied to luxury designers including Victoria Beckham, Marni and others.

Some have claimed that it sounds like Kroger is having an identity crisis in terms of what the brand stands for. Kroger equals food. Could Neiman Marcus equal grocery? The majority of society would say no.

So why is Kroger, a store known for selling produce, launching a lifestyle clothing line?

Is the launch of a clothing line a ploy at creating a press release during the time of an Amazon-dominated market?

The question of whether or not people will actually try on a new pair of jeans as they shop for produce remains to be answered.

How long will it be before you won't just put gas in your car at Kroger, but you can buy the car there, too?

THIS COULD BE  
**YOU**

WRITE FOR **any**  
THE **major**  
POST

**any**  
background

Catch our staff meetings  
mondays @ 11 a.m.

or contact us at  
[editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com)

**THE OAKLAND POST**



# From the Bahamas to OU: New professor conducts heart research

*Caress Dean and her colleagues are focused on cardiovascular disease*

Laurel Kraus  
Life Editor

What do the Bahamas, Greece and Oakland University have in common? Caress Dean, an assistant professor in the Department of Public and Environmental Wellness.

With 4.5 percent of Oakland's students hailing from foreign countries. According to OU Fast Facts, the faculty also contribute to geographic diversity.

Born and raised in the Bahamas, Dean moved to the when she was 17 years old.

"It was just a slower pace, great food, clear waters," Dean said. "Some of my favorite memories are on Sundays. Instead of sitting at the dinner table eating, we would just make a picnic basket and have dinner at the beach."

Since much of the Bahamas' revenue comes from tourism, Dean said there weren't any options for getting a degree in anything other than hospitality at the time. So she came here in pursuit of a veterinary career. This eventually evolved into a career in public health.

She then had the opportunity to travel to the 2004 Olympics in Greece. As her grandmother is an avid track and field fan, Dean witnessed many of these events including a race with multiple world record holder Usain Bolt.

"It was awesome," Dean said. "You wanted to watch it yet video and take pictures at the same time, so it was just like I wanted to see this in person but I also wanted memorabilia."

Dean was hired by the university in August 2016 and currently teaches health policy and management on the master's level and health in personal and occupational environments.

She is also, along with Honors College student Sydney Rekar, conducting research on cardiovascular disease prevention and management.

"Right now, I'm focusing on cardiovascular disease because of its indirect, or somewhat indirect, impact on other conditions such as obesity [and] diabetes," Dean said.

This study is currently focused even further on the population of OU students, dealing with concepts such as the right amount of different food groups to eat, the target area for good blood pressure and how to decrease the risk of obesity.

The main channel of this research is a survey, which questions students on

physical activity levels, diets and knowledge on both blood pressure and cardiovascular health.

"We're hoping to get insights of the level of cardiovascular health among OU students that could inform future interventions and strategies," Dean said.

The survey will be open until Nov. 26, and the first person to complete it each week will receive a \$50 visa gift card.

Anyone interested in taking the survey can email Dean at [caressdean@oakland.edu](mailto:caressdean@oakland.edu)

"Cardiovascular disease has been the leading cause of death in the United States for decades, and we've made great strides to increase awareness and we're now seeing a decline," she said. "Due to the significant impact that it's having on the mortality rate as well as the economic cost, I just think it's something that we should be focusing on."

## From the American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular disease by the numbers:

→ On average, **one American dies** from cardiovascular disease **every 40 seconds**.

→ An estimated **34 percent** of the American population has high blood pressure.

→ More than **90 million** Americans have a diagnosis of cardiovascular disease.

→ Approximately **790,000 adults** in America experience a heart attack each year.



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Assistant Professor Caressa Dean was born and raised in the Bahamas, but moved to the U.S. at 17.

## 1% CASH BACK

OU Credit Union Platinum Plus Visa Credit Card



**Visit us in the Oakland Center to start earning 1% cash back on all purchases today!**



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

**OAKLAND  
UNIVERSITY™**

Credit Union

Members will earn 1% cash back on purchases. Cash back is not earned on tax payments, any unauthorized charges or transactions, cash advances, convenience checks, balance transfers, or fees of any kind. Account must be in good standing to redeem cash back. Returns result in the loss of cash back equal to amount returned. Negative cash back will be given if returns or credits exceed purchases.



# A “sweet” performance enters Varner

**AuJenee Hirsch**  
Chief Copy Editor

The chatter among the audience went silent as the lights went out in Varner Studio Theatre. In the pitch black darkness thunder clapped, followed by the sound of heavy rain. As the lights came back on, casting a dim glow on the stage, a boy was seen lying on the floor tossing and turning.

BOOM!

Another clash of thunder echoed throughout the theater and an African American man dressed in all white, dripping with water appeared in the doorway. The man in white walked over to the boy and knelt beside him.

“Remind him,” he said to the boy. “Tell him that one day.”

On Thursday, Nov. 8, the School of Music, Theatre and Dance put on Tarell Alvin McCraney’s third installment in “The Brother/Sister Plays,” “Marcus; Or the Secret of Sweet.” McCraney won the 2016 Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for the movie “Moonlight” which is based upon his play “In Moonlight, Black Boys Look Blue.”

Over the past year and a half, the Theatre Department produced the first two installments in the trilogy,

“In the Red and Brown Water” and “The Brothers Size,” but McCraney designed each part of the trilogy to be stand alone plays.

This is the first all African American production that Oakland University has put on where the majority of the actors are theatre majors.

The play focuses on Marcus Eshu, a 16-year-old boy who is on a journey to discover his own sexuality as well as learn about his late father, Elegba.

Musical theatre major, Brandon Santana, plays Marcus. Santana was also cast in the first installment, “In the Red and Brown Water” as Shango.

“I relate to Marcus in a lot of ways,” Santana said. “The biggest thing that stuck out for me was him being without a father and just trying to explore and find himself. Those are definitely things in my life where I felt shut out by society or people didn’t understand me. My dad being out of my life really affected me. So going into Marcus was like a dose of reality, a dose of humanity.”

“I think we’re [the black community] not portrayed in the media... honestly and it’s like we have stories that are just as powerful as those that are whitewashed,” Santana added.

The show also explores the

problems many members of the LGBTQIA+ community face while they’re trying to find their sexuality, especially those who are part of the LGBT community and African American.

“I think that’s why it’s so significant to tell [the story] so people can wake up and realize that this is a thing,” Jordan Taylor, who plays Shaunta Iyun, said. “It’s not something that’s going to go away, it’s not something that’s going to hide, we’re going to be prideful about it, the people in the LGBT community.”

Santana hopes that this play will be a learning experience for anyone that comes to see it.

“This is a queer play and I think this gives people voices in that community,” he said. “The thing is yes we want their voices to be heard and we want them to be the forefront, but we’re also inviting everyone else. This is important for people who are outside the LGBT community, outside the black community because we are educating them but also entertaining them, and that is such a wonderful thing that this play does.”

“Marcus; Or the Secret of Sweet” will be running at Varner Studio Theatre Nov. 16-19. Visit [oakland.edu/mtd](http://oakland.edu/mtd) for more information.



Photos by Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

## The Russian Revolution comes to OU



Nicole Morsfield / The Oakland Post

“Animal Farm” will be playing Nov. 15, the last day of the performance at OU.

**Mary Siring**  
Staff Reporter

Theater students at Oakland University brought George Orwell’s “Animal Farm” to life, starting a discussion of government corruption.

On Nov. 13, OU’s Company Class performed the first showing

of “Animal Farm” in Varner’s Lab Theater, a performance in which the students not only acted, but also built the set.

A panel by the Political Science Honors Society followed the first performance.

“We’re putting on the show, but we’re also doing design stuff,” said Alaina Whidby, a musical theater

major at Oakland who played the storyteller and was a dramaturg. “We’re doing tech jobs, marketing, that sort of thing.”

The production was an adaptation of George Orwell’s “Animal Farm,” an allegorical story that uses barnyard animals to demonstrate the events leading up to the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the Stalinist era of the Soviet Union, bringing up themes of corrupt government, an uneducated or passive population and having a revolution where best intentions become polluted.

“We see it in their world, and we see it today in the United States,” Whidby said. “It’s a story about the Russian Revolution, but these themes come up in our society. We like to think that we’ve gotten past corrupt government and we’ve gotten past dictatorships. But, if we really look at our world, there are a lot of things that we need to fix.”

Students took great care in representing these themes in a powerful, simple way.

“It demanded that we stay

simple,” said Anthony Guest, an associate theater professor at OU and the director of “Animal Farm.” “There are minimal props and minimal costumes. What becomes more important is the language in the story, not the lights and costumes.”

The actors did not dress like farm animals. Instead, the horse characters wore overalls and braided their hair and the pigs wore business suits.

“We wanted to make the point that humans are animals,” Whidby said. “There is that animal instinct inside of us and it just takes a spark to bring it out.”

Whidby played the part of the storyteller, which initially placed humans seen in everyday life into the world of “Animal Farm.”

Truly bringing to light the storytelling and whimsical aspect of the play was important for the production as well.

“It starts out as ‘oh, this is going to be a cute little story about some farm animals,’ which is the way revolutions start,” Guest said.

“There is a romantic sense of starting anew.”

The political climate today has fostered the productions of many politically strong plays such as “Animal Farm.”

“There’s a reason these plays are being done now,” Guest said. “Artists want a voice. You didn’t see many of these productions before.”

Themes of corrupt government, seen in Orwell’s “Animal Farm,” can be seen today as it was during the time of the book’s publication, allowing viewers to view the production in a different light based on the time that they live in.

“I hope that no matter how they feel, it gives them some pause and makes them think about their situation and their life if they do feel that the problems that we bring up in Animal Farm affect them,” Whidby said. “I hope that makes them think about it.”

“Animal Farm” has one more showing at OU on Nov. 15, and then will travel to 20 Front Street in Lake Orion for two more showings.