



THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's
Independent Student
Newspaper

Nov. 29, 2017

LIGHT IT UP

Downtown Rochester glows with holiday
spirit for the Big, Bright Light Show
PAGE 10

ART PROF AWARDED

Studio Art Professor Clark given
Distinguished Service Award
PAGE 8

HOLIDAY WALK

Meadow Brook cuts ribbon on this
year's Holiday Walk
PAGE 11

JALEN IS BACK

Hayes returns to basketball after
suspension
PAGE 18



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING // The city of Rochester brought community members together for a Thanksgiving meal. Many international students at Oakland University experienced the feast for the first time at the event.
Photo // Sam Boggs

Submit a photo to editor@oaklandpostonline.com to be featured. View all submissions at oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

How much money are you spending for Christmas?

- A Everybody is getting a card
- B Lol I'm straight up broke
- C Santa has nothing on me
- D Sending thoughts and prayers

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

How you feeling about Thanksgiving this year?

- A) I'll be drinking at the kids' table
20 votes | 35%
- B) Politics with my uncle...
7 votes | 12%
- C) The Thanksgiving 30 is worth it
17 votes | 30%
- D) I'm thankful for Black Friday
13 votes | 23%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

November 30, 1987

The Oakland Post ran a story on 12 student attempted suicide cases over a span of only four months.

November 30, 1994

Oakland University denied a proposal that would have benefitted students, staff and faculty in the LGBT community.

November 29, 2000

The Post reported on why sign language is not seen as a foreign language by Oakland University.



7

S.O.P.E. DINNER

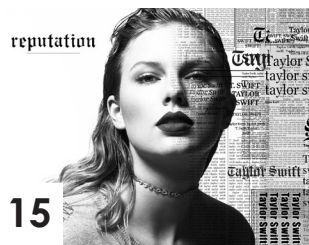
Find out what goes into the making of S.O.P.E.'s all-organic dinner
Photo // S.O.P.E.



14

POLITICAL FOCUS

Web Editor John Bozick gives all the facts on The Paradise Papers
Photo // Elyse Gregory



15

REPUTATION

Taylor Swift's new album boasts a new sound, but also nods to her longtime fans
Photo // Billboard

BY THE NUMBERS

COFFEE AND COLLEGE

54%

Of American adults drink coffee on a daily basis

3

Cups is the average coffee consumption of drinkers

5%

Drink coffee with a meal other than breakfast

\$40 bil.

The amount America spends on coffee every year

Harvard University

Staff Editorial

Letter from the editor

Local journalism shines the most when emergencies cause the community to rally around it: Let's not let that die away

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

Hey readers,

The Post's editors and I have this group chat. When we're not communicating entirely through GIFs, we use it to let each other know if something newsworthy is going on and to decide if we should write a story or not.



So, I was sitting in my apartment last Monday listening to Taylor Swift's new album when one of our editors, Cheyanne, told us all to check the news. An area by the Great Lakes Crossing outlet mall had burst into flames, and we were all confused as to what could have happened. I was sitting

there hoping that nobody, especially my roommate that was out, was hurt.

I'm a journalist, I wanted some answers. I turned on the TV, but there was no coverage. So I checked Facebook.

One of WXYZ Channel 7's reporters was parked outside of Great Lakes with Facebook Live coverage pointed directly at the flames. He had no idea what had happened either, but he kept repeating the things he did know so everybody watching could have some peace of mind. He told me and everybody else watching what police were doing to contain the flames and prevent injury.

I sat on my couch watching with him and became significantly less worried.

In the decline of newspapers, local news outlets have been hurt the most. These hard work-

ing reporters have had to trim their staffs and do more work because news simply isn't profitable anymore. Advertising dollars are much more friendly to newsrooms that bring in a large audience, which usually is not the case for local news outlets.

It's not that people don't care about local news. The Washington Post actually found that local happenings are what entice most people to turn on the TV or pick up a newspaper. But I'm from a small town, and the interest of a few hundred people just isn't enough to draw in advertisers. That is why massive news outlets like the New York Times or even The Detroit Free press have not struggled as much as smaller newspapers have.

The big problem with that is that The New York Times isn't going to tell people when a construction site in southeastern Michigan bursts into flames. Only places like The Oakland Press, Channel 7 and The Post are going to care when a local emergency happens.

Local journalism matters whether it's on air or in print. What has kept The Post afloat for all this time is our dedication to the Oakland University-based news that readers cannot get anywhere else. It's the same case with Oakland County's news outlets.

Journalists get a lot of grief nowadays, but the reality is that we all care about the communities we report on.

I shared Channel 7's live feed on Facebook on Monday night. As a journalist, it was cool to see so many others do the same. It was even better to see the encouragement and answers The Post's small article gave people that night. After all, that's what we do this for.

So, I encourage you all to support your local and hometown news outlets. Most of us are just out there trying to do the right thing for the communities we serve. When you think that the mall has burst into flames, those reporters will be on the front lines trying to get you some answers.

Sincerely,
Shelby Tankersley



THE OAKLAND
POST

Address 61 Oakland Center,
Rochester, MI 48306
Phone 248.370.2537 or 248.370.4268
Web www.oaklandpostonline.com
Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com

editorial board

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief
editor@oaklandpostonline.com
248.370.4268

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor
ckramer@oakland.edu
248.370.2537

Elyse Gregory
Photo Editor
photos@oaklandpostonline.com
248.370.4266

John Bozick
Web Editor
jcbozick@oakland.edu

editors

Connor McNeely Campus Editor
camcneely@oakland.edu

Laurel Kraus Life Editor
lmkraus@oakland.edu

Skylar Tolfree Sports Editor
stolfree@oakland.edu

Simon Albaugh Social Media Editor
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
Dakota Brecht Staff Reporter
Sadie Layher Staff Intern
Edward Zilincik Staff Intern
Kade Messner Staff Intern

advertising

Caroline Wallis Ads Director
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
248.370.2105

Don Ritenburgh Business Adviser
ritenbur@oakland.edu
248.370.2533

BE A PART OF THIS

WRITE FOR THE OAKLAND POST!

We're looking for contributors
from **ANY MAJOR OR
BACKGROUND**

Attend a staff meeting!
MONDAYS @ 11 a.m.
in OC Basement or contact
editor@oaklandpostonline.com

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

find us on Issuu
issuu.com/op86



Looking Back

Great Lakes Crossing: The mall that Oakland University loves today



The Oakland Post Archives

Construction kept Oakland Post photographers from getting close in the beginning stages.

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

Many of us are familiar with the nine districts that make up the Great Lakes Crossing outlet mall just miles from campus, whether it be from the Black Friday sales or from the fire across the street from it just a couple weeks ago.

What many don't know is that the mall is as old as many of the students currently attending Oakland University. The "supermall" opened in November 1998, and by March of that year it was planned to be an outlet mall.

But when opening a \$200 million mall, workers are needed to get it running. The Oakland Post reported in March of 1998 that there was a shortage of labor in Oakland County because of a low unemployment rate of 2 percent.

One of the hyped features of the upcoming mall was a "Steven Spielberg-inspired virtual reality restaurant" known as GameWorks. It was one of few that existed outside of California's Disneyland.

An online search reveals that GameWorks closed in 2010 after Sega reorganized and the portion of their company running the location filed for bankruptcy in 2004. The Oakland Press explained the location was one of the major fixtures of the outlet mall.

Today, this space in the mall is occupied by the Sea Life aquarium, which is the largest aquarium in the state.

One of the locations planned at launch, according to The Oakland Post's 1998 article, was Rainforest Café. Ironically, this restaurant is located right by where the

Bear Bus drops students off each weekend in District 6 of the mall.

However, originally, the mall was not planned to have "Districts". The original concept was for the mall's interior to look like wooden boathouses in the Upper Peninsula and for stores to be arranged in "neighborhoods" according to what type of merchandise the stores sold.

This concept is still somewhat in place, with District 6 being mostly food and entertainment, though the other districts' concepts are a bit more complicated to grasp.

Great Lakes Crossing was not conceived as an outlet mall. Rather, it was planned as a traditional mall. A Vice President of Taubman Centers developers in Auburn Hills, Christopher Tennyson said that at the time there were plans for a possible casino in Oakland County. Because this set up Auburn Hills as a tourist destination, there were plans set in place to build a hotel nearby as well.

The mall was officially named Great Lakes Crossing. However, in 2010, it went through a rebranding officially changing its name to Great Lakes Crossing Outlet Mall, bringing in a slew of new stores such as a Lord and Taylor outlet.

Now Great Lakes Crossing has become a tourist destination in and of itself. Besides the aforementioned Sea Life, Great Lakes Crossing hosts the only Round One arcade in the state, and hosts the first location of IT'Sugar in the state of Michigan.

One thing has never changed. Just like 19 years ago, Great Lakes Crossing is still a popular location for OU students to find that part-time job for the holidays.

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

THE OAKLAND POST



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Housing over 600 students, numerous citations are given out to those who reside in Hamlin Hall.

“Treasures” of housing residents

Sadie Layher
Staff Intern

Resident Assistants get hired to deal with students living on-campus at their worst. When university breaks happen, it's up to the RAs to go through every room and make sure the building is closed properly. Doors must be locked and windows must be shut. During these closing shifts, RAs come across everything from the weird to the gross.

A few RAs agreed to tell The Oakland Post some of the most outlandish things they've encountered throughout their time.

Jewel Hohman is a third year RA who has two years in Hamlin Hall and one year in Hill House. As a veteran RA, she has found many weird objects that students left behind in their rooms.

“

“My best guess is they were using it as a seat. But this was a pretty hefty tire, and I don't know how they got it in without someone noticing or saying anything.”

Richard Williamson
Resident Assistant

Upon closing the residence halls for the summer, there was a mysterious note found on a student's desk. The note read: “This is all I have left after OU tuition was raised.” The note was not left by itself. With it was also a piece of gum as well as 17 cents found.

Second year RA Richard Williamson has been helping the freshmen in Hamlin Hall this academic year. It is no mystery that freshman tend to hide things in very incon-

spicuous spots throughout the residence halls.

“I walked into my lounge on six South and noticed a tile was moved aside,” Williamson said. “I stood up on a chair to move it back and as I looked up at the tile, I noticed at least two dozen of those little green New Testament bibles the old guys hand out. I decided to keep them up there, they might still be there.”

He also found a car tire being used as a seat in one of the rooms.

“We wouldn't normally check that sort of thing, but it seemed odd at the time,” Williamson said. “My best guess is they were using it as a seat. But this was a pretty hefty tire, and I don't know how they got it in without someone noticing or saying anything.”

The last thing the second year RA noticed was an Oakland University Police Department traffic cone in a very peculiar spot. These students living there had decided to decorate their toilet with a bright orange traffic cone, as they sat it right on top of the toilet tank.

One RA who asked to remain anonymous out of respect for their resident found an air conditioner the size of a dresser inside one of the rooms. The RA had to write a citation for the students. But the question remains, how did the students move in with a massive air conditioner without being noticed?

Another anonymous RA managed to find 12 empty bottles of wine inside of a room, which totals to around 304.8 ounces of wine consumed in presumably one room. This RA also had to write citations for these residents.

So remember, hide your things when moving out for a break. Or we could just follow the rules (but that would be too easy, wouldn't it?)

Study abroad takes Beijing



Photo courtesy of Oakland University China Study Abroad

The program allows for students to experience living in China for a over a month, allowing the opportunity for to get further acquainted with the culture.

Connor McNeeley
Campus Editor

Sometimes it isn't until people start college that they realize their complacent in their social comfort zone. College can be both an intimidating and opportunistic platform for expanding personal comfort levels.

The ultimate icebreaker experience for college students in earning their independence doesn't always happen on campus. It sometimes happens on the other side of the planet. And Oakland University's Beijing in Spring program one such opportunity.

Every other year, the Department of Modern Language and Literatures offers all OU students and guest students the opportunity to experience Chinese culture first-hand for longer than a month. From May 9 to June 18, participants can earn up to 12 credits studying abroad. Following the intensive 4-week language and culture study, students will explore many of China's landmarks including the Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Ming Tombs and Forbidden City.

Program advisor of Modern Languages and Literatures, Dr. Melanie Chang said students who go on the trip will be exposed new people, new perspectives and new ways of life.

“They will grow in ways they can't by staying on campus,” Chang said.

A major focus of the trip is the linguistic immersion into a Mandarin Chinese-speaking environment and to make friends with Chinese students that are

interested in learning about other cultures. Students will stay at the China Foreign Affairs University, which was founded in 1955.

Once classes are finished, the trip will finish with a nine-day tour of sites in Northern and Southern China to learn about its most important historic, natural and modern wonders. Hotel accommodations, air-conditioned private bus transportation and English speaking local guides are included in the total price.

The entire cost for the trip is \$6,830; \$2,700 for language classes and lodging at CFAU with access to the library, computer labs, internet connection and more; \$1,690 for field trips, weekend excursions, special meals and entertainment admissions; \$1,090 for the nine-day tour; and \$1,350 for round trip airfare.

To help support the cost of the trip, there are several scholarships that students can apply for. The scholarships can be found on OU's website. Such scholarships are offered by for international education, Honors College and modern languages and literatures.

Those interested in attending the Beijing study abroad trip must fill out the application by Jan. 16 And be sure to prepare for all the traveling.

“Physically, of course, it definitely helps to stay active before leaving for Beijing. Mentally, I would say always keep a healthy sense of adventure, try different things. A student of mine tried ‘fried crickets,’ Chang said. It's a huge city and lots of walking can be expected.”

POLICE FILES

A P1 altercation

On Nov. 3 at 1:30 p.m., a couple got in a fist fight in their parked car. The male was taken to the OUPD station. According to the female, the male was displeased that she had been talking to another male on the phone and proceeded to punch her in the left side of her face. He got out of the vehicle and tried to pull her out by her legs and then punched her again two or three times. A male passerby then intervened and convinced him to stop, later calling OUPD to report the incident. According to the male, she began slapping him on the sides of his head when he became aggravated and asked her to get out, he proceeded to try to remove her himself, stating that this was the only time that he had put his hands on her. He was issued a citation for assault and battery, photographed, fingerprinted and released.

Cash and Adderall

At 3:55 p.m. on Nov. 6, a student came to the Oakland University Police Department station to report stolen money and medication. She and two friends went to the Engineering Center to study around 7:30 p.m. All three went into a lecture hall for about two hours. The victim stated that about \$300 cash and a few tablets of Adderall were missing from her purse, which was located in the right corner room behind the chair. An empty pill bottle was left and nothing else was taken. She was advised to not leave her belongings unattended again.

*Compiled by Mary Siring
Staff Reporter*

Detroit Promise comes to OU full-time

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

As of 2015, around 60 percent of Americans had not obtained an associate degree or higher, according to Forbes. Oakland University has entered a full partnership with the Detroit Promise Program beginning fall of 2018 to provide Detroit students with the opportunity to combat that statistic.

"We're trying to create a culture and an understanding in Detroit that if you graduate high school, there is a pathway for you to go on to higher education," said Greg Handel, vice president of education on the Detroit Regional Chamber.

The Detroit Promise Program, established in 2013, is a scholarship program in which Detroit students are offered the ability to attend either two or four years of college tuition-free.

"Most of our students come from Oakland and Macomb County," said Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Oakland, James Lentini. "We'd like to actually expand our opportunities for Wayne County students, and Detroit students in particular with the Detroit Promise, to be able to attend Oakland."

For the previous two years, Oakland has participated through accepting up to five students in the program each year, but with the full partnership it will now be accepting an unlimited number.

"We are trying to increase our presence in the Detroit area," Director of Financial Aid Cindy Hermesen said. "I think this is another step toward Oakland University expressing our interest in providing access to students throughout the entire state."

Students who have lived in the city all four years of

high school and have graduated from a Detroit school, achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and earned a minimum score of either 21 on the ACT or 1060 on the SAT, are automatically eligible for the scholarship but must register with the Detroit Chamber of Commerce.

Since Michigan Governor Rick Snyder announced the idea for such a program in 2011, the Detroit Regional Chamber has been responsible for managing it, with funding from the Michigan Education Excellence Foundation.

The Detroit Promise Program is considered a last dollar scholarship, which means that Oakland will first accept and apply all other scholarships and/or grants that a student is eligible for before utilizing the program's scholarship to pay any remaining tuition balance.

"We build on existing sources

of support so that we're really leveraging our resources in a way that allow us to be sustainable," Handel said.

While the Detroit Promise Program fully covers tuition costs, it does not aid in books or housing.

"We understand that there are still barriers to students being able to continue, but we've removed a major one," Handel said.

Under the program, five classes have graduated from high school and moved into the community college program and two classes have moved into the four-year university program, according to Handel.

As similar scholarship offered at OU is The Wade H. McCree Scholarship Program, which holds the same academic requirements as the Detroit Promise Program, but awards full tuition to students in Detroit, Pontiac and Royal Oak who are nominated by their school districts.

THE OAKLAND POST

VISIT US ONLINE



www.oaklandpostonline.com

A clean, healthy meal starts with S.O.P.E.



Photo courtesy of S.O.P.E.

All of the dishes made for the Thanksgiving dinner used organic ingredients and were homemade.

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

The Sustaining Our Planet Earth (S.O.P.E.) organization hosted its annual organic Thanksgiving dinner for about 40 students before the Thanksgiving break.

S.O.P.E. partnered with the Student Organic Farm on campus which provided some of the raw ingredients for the meal. The group also visited stores such as Whole Foods and Sam's Club to gather ingredients. All dishes served were homemade and organic-based, letting students enjoy a meal unlike many of the others they can find on campus.

Events like this allow for students with interests in organic food and a healthy lifestyle to interact and bond with one another, according to Eric Henkel, the annual events coordinator for S.O.P.E.

"S.O.P.E. hopes to spread awareness of more natural, organic, and healthier eating options to Oakland's campus," he said.

Setting up for the event can take up to eight hours to prepare the dishes and to decorate the Ann V. Nicholson's 4000 apartments and create presentations. With that much planning and preparing, ambassadors occasionally run into road blocks.

"The biggest task is figuring out everyone's schedule and planning accordingly," said Morgan Sumpter, the Campus Initiative Coordinator for

S.O.P.E.

To counteract some of the scheduling issues and time problems a larger event could entail, the group creates agendas and goals for their programs so they can better use their given time, according to Sumpter.

Though S.O.P.E. doesn't typically enlist volunteers for the setup of the dinner, it does offer all students an opportunity to join in eco-friendly programs on campus and accepts ideas that are shared.

S.O.P.E. is connected to the Housing programs at OU for students to explore and appreciate their environment. Every week, it takes all the recycling from all Housing units to their pick-up location.

"S.O.P.E. tries to aim high with its goals of making OU a more sustainable campus, but it also needs the help from students to do so," Sumpter said.

Anyone interested in joining as a volunteer or learning more information can stop by S.O.P.E.'s office at 150A in West Vandenberg Hall.

The executive board of this initiative are all paid as Oakland University Housing employees. Applications for S.O.P.E. jobs go live in the spring alongside Desk Attendant and Resident Hall Association executive board positions.

Applications for Resident Assistant, Night Watch and Academic Peer Mentor positions are currently live.

"We aim to bring students together to have good company and a good meal," Sumpter said.

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

Art professor gets awarded by peers

Eugene Clark receives prestigious award, participates in ArtPrize



Photo courtesy of Eugene Clark

Art and Art History Professor Eugene Clark teaches studio art to students during his 30th year at Oakland University.

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

Awards and newfound success aren't just for the students of Oakland University.

Art and Art History Professor Eugene Clark recently received the Distinguished Service Award from the Michigan Art Education Association, an association founded in 1949 to provide a networking opportunity and support for visual art educators throughout Michigan.

"It was a wonderful experience," Clark said. "The MAEA presented the award to me during an awards banquet at Cobo Center during their annual arts conference."

He was also featured in ArtPrize, an open, independently organized art competition which takes place each fall in Grand Rapids, Mich.

"I exhibited a large, outdoor sculpture titled 'the homeless are not faceless,' attempting to bring attention to the problem that plagues the U.S. and elsewhere," he said. "The entire experience was positive."

Clark is a Michigan native born in Northwest Detroit. He received his Bachelor's of Fine Arts from the College for Creative Studies, his Master's of Fine Arts in Drawing from Wayne State University and Post-graduate study in printmaking at Cranbrook Academy of Art.

During his time at CCS, he studied with and assisted acclaimed figure artist and anatomist Russell Keeter.

"I owe him a lot for all of the knowledge he has passed on to me," Clark said. "I'm very grateful."

Clark is in his 30th year of teaching, with the last eight years teaching art and art his-

tory at Oakland.

"After teaching in the Summer Art Intensive at OU in 2008 and 2009, it became a natural transition to join the studio art program," Clark said. "I enjoy the ability to discuss content and explore concepts within the student work through the critique process. I find students at OU to be very open to new ideas and willing to define new ways of thinking."

The professor not only works with a variety of mediums including acrylic paint, charcoal, pen, digital media, photography and sculpture, but he has also created his own puppet show.

"I lived and worked in New York City in the mid-'90s," Clark said. "During this time, I studied with Jim Henson Associated and the Muppets. I was selected to study at the Eugene I'Neil Theater Center in Connecticut, learning the fine art of puppetry with Jane Henson and internationally known puppeteer George Latshaw."

Clark has performed at the Cleveland Public Theater as part of their performance art festival, the Greenwich Village Center Theater in New York and the Puppet Art Theater in Detroit.

"My interest in puppetry extends longer than my teaching career," he said. "It's going on 45 years now."

Clark certainly has plans for the future, as well. He is in the process of trying to secure a gallery for a two-person exhibition titled "Serious Work" in collaboration with fellow artist, Will Cares.

"He and I went to graduate school together at Wayne and have found a synergy between our work that we are excited to share," Clark said. "I am interested in continuing to push myself to try new things and work with new materials."

MTD provides gateway

Sophomore Hannah Faith Stevens discusses program scholarship

Kade Messner
Staff Intern

Oakland University sophomore, Hannah Faith Stevens was nominated for the Irene Ryan Award due to her performance in OU's fall musical comedy "Bullets Over Broadway."

To become eligible for such a nomination, student actors must perform in both participating and associate productions. Then, these students gain consideration for regional scholarships.

Stevens performed a couple of solos throughout the production as the crazy showgirl Olive Neal, gaining her recognition for the scholarship nomination.

During each main show at OU, one or two students get nominated for the Irene Ryan. Along with Stevens, five other Oakland University students received a nomination due to their excellent performances this year. Those five other students are Olivia Ursu, Emily Hadick, Tony Sharp, Brandon Santana and Lily Talevski.

"Being nominated for the Irene Ryan shows me that all of my hard work and determination over the years is paying off," Stevens said. "I am beyond excited to compete with my friends and to represent OU."

This competition for the Irene Ryan award takes place in January at the American College Theatre Festival in Indianapolis.

During the competition, Stevens and her classmates will perform a variety of different acts.

"I will sing a solo, a duet, and perform

a scene with my acting partner and best friend Emily Grossutti," Stevens said. "There are three rounds to this competition. In each round, you get more time added on to your songs/scene to show more of your work."

Dating back to 1972, the Irene Ryan Foundation of Encino, California, rewards students scholarships for their outstanding performances in each regional festival.

Being most remembered by her role in "The Beverly Hillbillies" as Granny Clampett, Irene Ryan's generosity makes it possible for students to earn more scholarship money to pay for college.



Photographer's Name / The Oakland Post

Hannah Faith Stevens was nominated for the Irene Ryan Award for her performance as Olivia Neal in Oakland's production of "Bullets Over Broadway."

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>

ADVERTISE ANYTHING*
Need something?
Want something
Want to provide something?

Books
Cars
Garage Sales
Rent

Babysitting
Help Wanted
Carpools
Misc., etc.

The politically driven Paul Kubicek

OU professor discusses his background, current academic work and OU's Model United Nations Club

Jessica Leydet
Staff Intern

Because the state of the world is constantly evolving, political science is a dynamic field to study and teach. Political science Professor Paul Kubicek is a firm believer and teacher of the idea that there is never a "right" answer for any given political issue.

Kubicek went to college at Georgetown University in Washington. After graduating, he passed the Foreign Service exam and was offered a job by the State Department. He decided to go to graduate school instead and finished his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1995.

"I started studying Russian," Kubicek said. "I remember the first year Russian classes were every day for two hours starting at 8 a.m. in part because Gorbachev had come to power and it seemed that interesting things

were happening over there."

"I really enjoyed being engaged with global issues, and quickly realized that law school was not going to be a good fit for me," he said.

After graduate school, Kubicek pursued what he refers to as the most significant experience in his career, teaching in Turkey from 1995-98. Even though the focus of his work was the former USSR and Eastern Europe, he developed a passing fascination with the country during the time he spent there.

"I have traveled all around Turkey, including near the border with Syria, and am really impressed by the culture, the history, the food and the people, and it still boggles my mind to think that I spent three years living there," Kubicek said.

Most of Kubicek's recent work has been on Turkey and academic work for scholarly journals; he has been a consultant for Freedom House, which

publishes yearly rankings of countries based on their respect for political and civil rights.

"I really enjoy that it is meaningful, important work that is read by many, including, alas, the Turkish government, which is one reason why at present I would be persona non grata in Turkey," Kubicek said.

His most recent book was on Islam and democracy, including a chapter on Turkey. It was an outgrowth both of wider debates about the compatibility of Islam and democracy, and discussions that came out of some of his political science classes.

Kubicek said he is always supportive of student work and eager to help them explore questions that interest them.

"I also encourage student research and have published three papers with OU students, on topics such as the EU's policy in Darfur, Russian nationalism and gender equality in Africa,

the last of which was an entirely new topic for me," he said.

Kubicek said he would like to believe his experience adds both to the course offerings in the department as well as other opportunities, such as OU's Model United Nations club (MUN), which he started nine years ago and has grown into a success.

The club attends Model United Nations Conferences each semester and sponsors events on campus to discuss and debate international issues.

"A lot of my energy now is directed at MUN, and I really enjoy seeing students take such an active interest in the club and be ambitious about what they want to do," Kubicek said. "It was, for example, students who convinced me we could host a high school MUN conference on campus, and for the next couple of months we'll be spending a lot of time getting ready for what is now the third 'annual' OUMUN conference this March."

Piano program offers opportunity for students

Event featured various holiday tunes and classic duets

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Since Oakland University's School of Music, Theatre and Dance is now officially its own school under the College of Arts and Sciences, the former department has been putting together various events to unite the undergraduate students.

OU's Music Program put on the Piano Program Concert on Nov. 19 to celebrate the holiday season with music, including holiday favorites written for two pianos and piano duets such as Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.

Tian Tian, assistant professor of music piano, had the original idea of creating the Piano Program Concert. She said the event was created for two distinct reasons.

"The first reason was to have the whole department work on a project together," Tian said. "The second reason was it was a way for us to raise scholarship money to help bring more students into the program and build a

stronger program in doing so."

The faculty played during half of the Piano Program Concert, including two different arrangements of "The Sleigh Ride," three Waltzes from various Disney Movies and Scaroumuche by Milhaud. Students followed by playing a two-piano arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker.

"We hope to have this concert as an annual event that people will come continue to come to," Tian said. "We would also like to run more concerts in the future in general. A lot of the audience expressed that they enjoyed the concert very much and encouraged us to run it every year. The faculty and students also loved putting the whole event together."

The music program at OU provides students with a wide range of experiences, while allowing them to receive significant attention from the faculty. An event such as the Piano Program Concert is an example of bridging the disconnect between college students and professors.

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



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.



Light it up

downtown

What's better during the holidays, the snow or the lights?

Monday Nov. 20 marked the start of the holiday season in downtown Rochester, as residents and business owners alike gathered for the "Big, Bright Light Show," an annual event that quite literally illuminates the whole town.

This year an estimated 1.5 million lights were used, a number nearly matched by the millions of people who come to view the lights every year, according to the Rochester Gazette.

It takes over a month to cover the local businesses in the festive lights. By Oct. 2, crews had already begun the preparation for the big show, which extends from the South Bridge on Main Street to University Drive. Additional buildings on Fourth Street are also decorated with lights.

"The Rochester lights are a great way to bring the holiday spirit to a historic town," said resident Myles Murphy, one of many in attendance at the kickoff celebration.

The event, which coincided with Rochester's annual Lagniappe celebration—"lagniappe" means "a little something extra" in Creole—included free carriage rides, street carolers and the opportunity for children to visit with Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and their reindeer.

Since it began in 2006, the display has become a staple in many locals' holiday celebrations.

"Many years ago, it was tradition for families to drive around the neighborhoods and look at the light displays," said local business owner Pamela Krampf of Antiques

and Fine Jewelry by Pamela. "The 'Big, Bright Light Show' continues the old tradition in a big way."

The annual spectacle is just 10 minutes from Oakland University's main campus, making it a much sought-out holiday attraction for OU students.

"I would totally recommend other students give it a try, especially if they come from a town that doesn't do something like that," said freshman Kendall Niestroy. "I'm not from around here and have only heard about the Rochester lights, [but have] never seen them, so it was a really cool experience for me."

"The Big, Bright Light Show" exposes many of the local businesses to the show's millions of spectators.

"Of course for businesses, including mine, it helps remind our customers we are here, and [it's] the opportunity for new customers to find us," Krampf said. "I am grateful to supporters of the 'Big, Bright Light Show.'"

The positive impacts of the show expand beyond exposure. Many businesses experience a significant increase in sales as a result.

"The lights downtown definitely give our sales a huge boost," added Andy Buss from the shop MI State of Mind. "For about a month, we are able to count on two or three days per week of extremely good sales. They turn a 'really good' downtown location into one of the best in the state."

The light show will run from 5:00 p.m. to midnight every night through Jan. 7, 2018. For more information, visit the city website.



The Meadow Brook *Holiday Walk*



What better way to kick off the holiday season than with a magical display of Christmas decorations at the 46th annual Meadow Brook Holiday Walk? Opening night, which was sponsored by the Oakland University Credit Union, was on Tuesday, Nov. 21 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. inside Meadow Brook Hall.

An array of opulently decorated gold and burgundy Christmas trees surrounded the dimly lit estate as Santa jollily walked down the stairs to officiate the cutting of the ribbon ceremony with Mayor of the City of Rochester Cathy Daldin.

"This is a gem, truly one of the best gems the community has and we're very fortunate to all share it together," she said.

Guests got to enjoy cookies and hot cocoa as they toured the four-level mansion in which each room featured a different holiday theme.

"The most exciting part is showing guests around talking about the

history with those who have never visited the mansion," said Katie Weatherly, who has been a part of the staff at Meadow Brook for two and a half years. "I never feel sad coming into work. How could you?"

The bedroom level is on the third floor, where both Danny and Francis Dodge's wings come complete with a guestroom and the nanny's room. Matilda Dodge Wilson's room is also located on the third floor as well as Alfred Wilson's.

The fourth floor is where the children's playroom, storage, archives and Matilda's salon are all located. Now the director's office, curators and programmer's offices are there as well. Many of the Christmas decorations were from storage on the fourth floor.

"There's a lot of manpower, a lot of planning that goes into this but it shows," Marketing and Community Relations Assistant Faith Brody said. "We've got it down to a science."

According to Brody, plans for marketing and branding as well as plans for decoration themes were already in motion for the Holiday Walk since August.

"If you've never been, you must take some time and visit cross this off your bucket list," Mayor of the City of Rochester Hills and Oakland alumnus Bryan Barnett said.

The event is officially open to the public from Nov. 24 through Dec. 23, its longest run they've had to date. The mansion is open from 11 p.m. to 5 p.m. every day, and will extend its hours from Dec. 18-23 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. for their Holiday Lights and Winter Nights tours.

The mansion will also be hosting an OU night on Dec. 11 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. where all students, staff and alumni are welcome. Tickets for Oakland students for the Holiday Walk are \$5.

For more information about these events, please visit Meadow Brook Hall's website.

Fast fashion is killing the environment

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Let's be honest here, who doesn't love the feeling of getting new clothes? While purchasing new clothing can be incredibly exciting, the detrimental environmental impact of these purchases are, unfortunately, unknown to many.

Retailers such as Forever 21, Zara and H&M are known in the industry as fast fashion because of their ability to turnover new items quickly. The clothes are cheaply made and charged at low prices. As a result, consumers feel like they are able to purchase a lot of these cheap items. But in actuality, the price of cheap fashion is quite high in terms of environmental damage.

If you're buying fast fashion, you're destroying the planet.

When natural fibers like cotton, linen and silk, or synthetic fibers created from plant-based cellulose like rayon, Tencel and modal used in fast fashion clothing are buried in a landfill, they have the ability to act like food waste through

producing the potent greenhouse gas methane as they degrade. But unlike banana peels, you can't compost old clothes, even if they're made of natural materials.

"Natural fibers go through a lot of unnatural processes on their way to becoming clothing," said Jason Kibbey, CEO of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, in a public statement. "They've been bleached, dyed, printed on, scoured in chemical baths."

Scientists have been able to determine that those chemicals used to make fast fashion clothing can leach from the textiles into groundwater. Burning the items can release those toxins into the air, causing diseases.

Synthetic fibers such as polyester, nylon and acrylic are essentially a type of plastic made from petroleum, which means they take thousands of years to biodegrade.

According to a report by the Fast Company, the global apparel industry produced 150 billion garments in 2010, enough to provide 20 new articles of clothing for every person on the planet.

It's only gotten worse since then.

The major issue right now is that we don't keep our clothes and the amount of clothing production needed to meet our new level of demand creates a plethora of both environmental and human rights issues.

"Natural fibers go through a lot of unnatural processes on their way to becoming clothing. They've been bleached, dyed, printed on, scoured in chemical baths."

John Kibbey
CEO of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition

Most consumers assume when they donate their clothes to charities, the clothes are being recycled or given to genuinely less fortunate people. What they don't know is there are actually too many second hand clothes being donated.

In order to combat the environmental detriment of fast fashion, consumers should consider buying pre-worn fashion. It's sustainable, keeps your money from going to businesses that exploit workers and is easier than ever with the rise of sites like The Real Real and Vestiaire Collective. Buying fewer things of higher quality while directing your budget away from multiple throwaway items to one or two really nice things that will last for multiple years is key.

Before a consumer buys any piece of clothing or an accessory, they should consider finding out a little bit about where and how it's made as well. They should avoid companies that aren't up to the highest environmental standards.

It's no accident that shopping has become such an absorbing and compulsive activity: The reasons are in our neurology, economics, culture and technology. We don't need to necessarily give up shopping as a whole, but to protect our environment, we certainly need to be more selective with

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

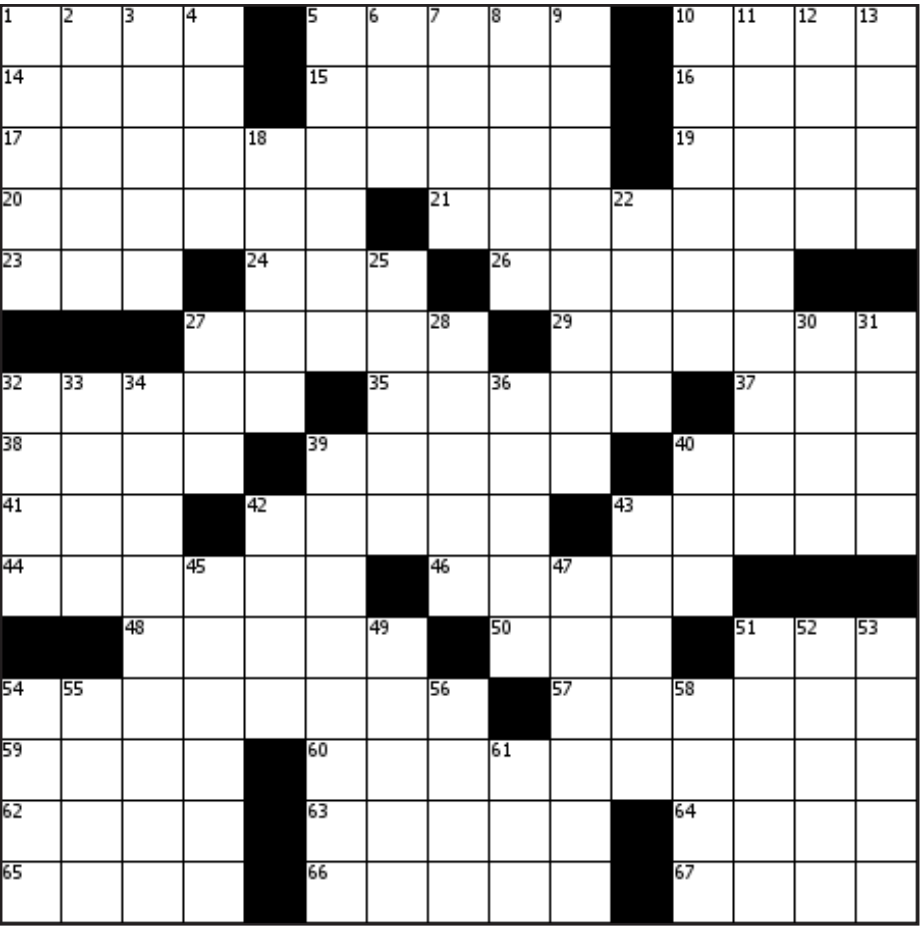
You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full by enrolling in a payment plan and paying your installments on time, obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds.

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, then Payments & Refunds, then Payments & Cancellation



Puzzles



Across

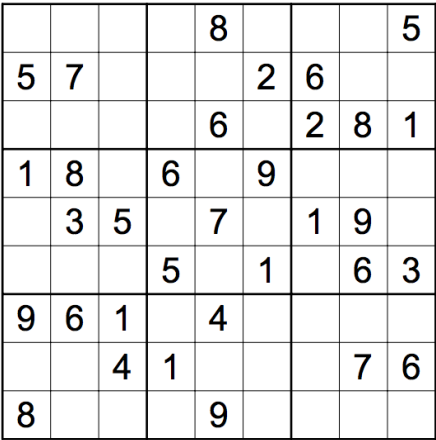
- 1. Wile E. Coyote's brand
- 5. Singer LaBelle
- 10. Went over the limit
- 14. Like air in Denver
- 15. UFO passenger
- 16. Friend
- 17. Sticker items
- 19. Reflect deeply
- 20. Some Oldsmobiles
- 21. Believes tentatively
- 23. Singer John's title
- 24. Part of UCLA
- 26. Rice side dish
- 27. Odometer division
- 29. Used something up
- 32. Elaborate celebrations
- 35. All gone, as food
- 37. Site of the Tell legend
- 38. Fired ruthlessly
- 39. Like Al Yankovic
- 40. Former QB Tarkenton
- 41. Spot for a rubdown
- 42. Syrup provider
- 43. Row partner
- 44. Alley prowler
- 46. Twilled fabric
- 48. Partake in a parade
- 50. Transgression
- 51. Conductance unit

- 54. Share the writing
- 57. Hold
- 59. Endowments support them
- 60. Theoretical structures
- 62. Hook's underling
- 63. "The Odd Couple" role
- 64. Happiness
- 65. Dame Myra
- 66. Brewpub's lineup
- 67. Separate by type

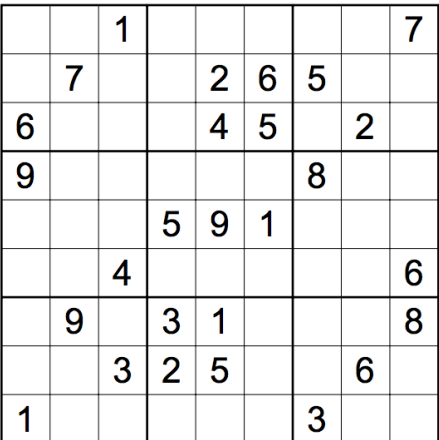
Down

- 1. Country album?
- 2. Texas foodstuff
- 3. Muckworm
- 4. ___'acte
- 5. Man of the cloth
- 6. Former boxing champ
- 7. Involuntary contractions
- 8. Prepare to drive?
- 9. Helped by a pep talk
- 10. Pacific islander
- 11. Golf attire
- 12. "May I get you anything ___?"
- 13. Loses the gray, say
- 18. Magnet ends
- 22. Scheme
- 25. Expensive
- 27. One of the Kennedys
- 28. Calls, as a cab
- 30. Russian mountain range
- 31. Fork feature
- 32. Go without food
- 33. Certain NL baseball player
- 34. Those in matching uniforms
- 36. Forest denizens
- 39. Vest pocket item
- 40. Giant word?
- 42. Shopper's heaven
- 43. Former Veep Spiro
- 45. Flag-waving occasions
- 47. Contract addenda
- 49. Gymnast's apparatus
- 51. Thomas of "That Girl"
- 52. Path finder
- 53. First sign
- 54. Word with crop or register
- 55. "Coffee, Tea ___?"
- 56. It starts and ends with a line
- 58. Clothing
- 61. Just scratch the surface?

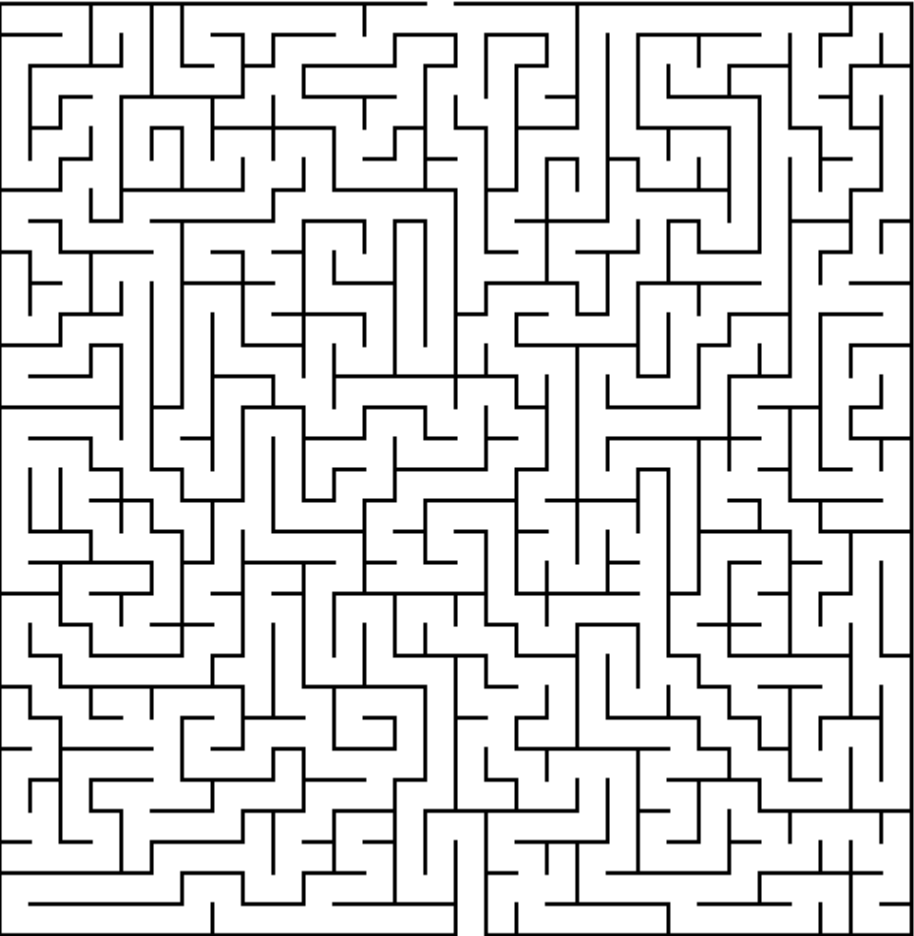
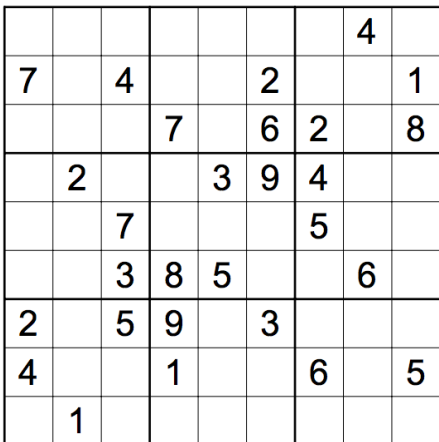
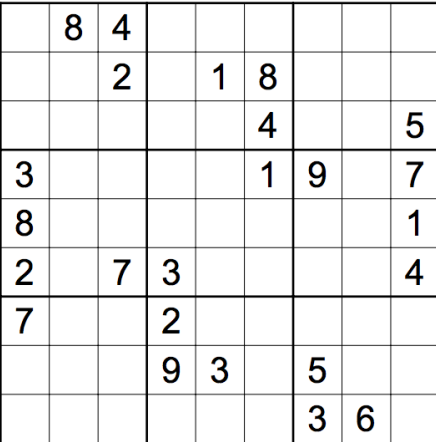
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



The Paradise Papers expose billionaires



John Bozick
Web Editor

On Nov. 5 a massive leak of 13.4 million electronic documents exposed the financial dealings of many of the world's wealthiest people. Dubbed The Paradise Papers, the leak has shown the tax loopholes that everyone from the Queen of England to the entire Apple Corpora-

tion use to "legally" build their wealth.

The leak of the millions of files has revealed the secretive tax havens of countless businesses, heads of state as well as entertainment and sports stars. The data was originally obtained by the German newspaper "Süddeutsche Zeitung," and has been since shared between the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, the British Broadcasting Corporation, and The New York Times.

Essentially, what was a revealed shows how many of the global elite avoid paying taxes in their home country by using so-called "tax havens" to store money. One such company that focuses on this is the Bermudan law firm Appleby.

This company helps corporations and wealthy people reduce their tax burdens by helping to set up offshore ac-

counts in places like the Cayman Islands. It is through this that corporations such as Nike have seen their global tax rate plunge from 34.9 percent in 2007 to 13.2 percent last year.

While drawing a decent amount of attention across the pond. In the United States, the revelation has seen little news despite the revelation that many in Trump's cabinet have been involved in off-shore dealings. One of the few people in the U.S. government to even remotely talk about the leak was Vermont Senator, and everyone's favorite granddad, Bernie Sanders.

Speaking on the matter, Sanders warned of a global oligarchy: "The major issue of our time is the rapid movement toward international oligarchy in which a handful of billionaires own and control a significant part of the global economy. The Paradise Pa-

pers show how these billionaires and multinational corporations get richer by hiding their wealth and profits and avoid paying their fair share of taxes."

“The major issue of our time is the rapid movement toward international oligarchy in which a handful of billionaires own and control a significant part of the global economy.”

Bernie Sanders
Senator of Vermont

The Trump administration was not without its fair share of revelations from the leak as Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross was found to have ties to a Russian oligarch currently

facing sanctions. He was also found to have ties to a shipping company owned by Vladimir Putin's son-in-law.

While Ross' did sign an ethics agreement upon taking office that stated he was going to retain ties to several investment partnerships, he did not specify that they were used to keep ties to the shipping company. This instance has led to calls for Ross's investigation, while Ross himself has said that he will most likely sell his shares in the company.

The Paradise Papers have revealed more secrets than can be named in a short article, yet it has shown how the global elite of the world have continued to undermine the tax laws of their country. While other countries have vowed to crackdown on these loopholes, the response in the U.S. has continued to remain fairly quiet.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A PHOTOGRAPHER

RESPONSIBILITIES & ATTRIBUTES



Must attend campus, community and sporting events



Be able to attend budget meetings



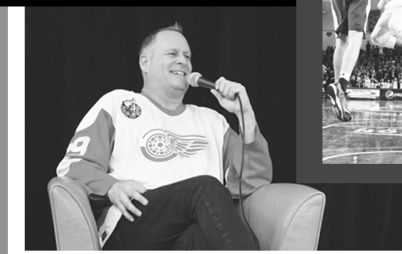
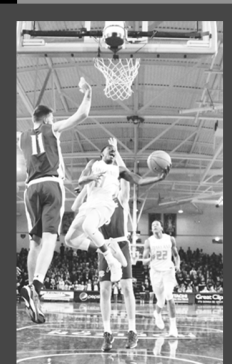
Know how to work with a DSLR



Have a creative eye

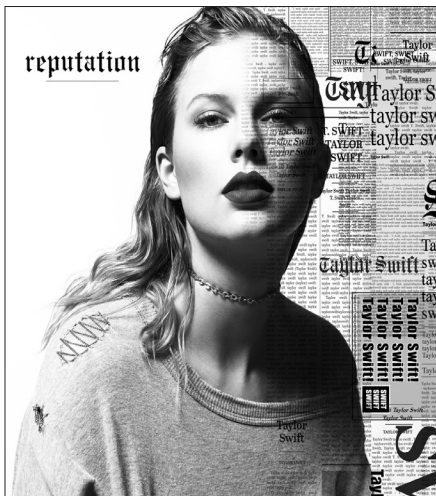


Must have a flexible schedule



Interested applicants can send a resume and three samples of unique photographs to Editor-in-Chief Shelby Tankersley at editor@oaklandpostonline.com

Taylor Swift cements her bad girl status in “Reputation”



Courtesy of Billboard

“Reputation” brings out a new Taylor Swift.

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

The old Taylor can’t come to the phone right now... why? Cause she’s too busy reinventing herself, topping the charts and breaking records with her highly anticipated studio album “Reputation,” which was officially released on Nov. 10.

According to The New York Times, the album was produced by Jack Antonoff, Max Martin and Swift herself.

The album was unlike anything Swift has done in the past, even though we saw a glimpse of her edgier side in “Bad Blood” in her last album, “1989.” “Reputation” is aggressive, edgy and independent. No knight in shining armor riding on a

white horse, no teardrops on her guitar. If I could describe “Reputation” in one word, it would be BAM! (I bet you just read that in Chef Emeril’s voice.)

At first, I was skeptical of the new Taylor. However, every pop princess has to get her rebellious bad girl phase out of her system, even if it’s only for a single project. Britney

Spears went through her “My Prerogative” phase, Christina Aguilera had her iconic “Dirrrty” phase and Rihanna was a good girl gone bad, except her phase actually stuck.

It is now Swift’s turn to take the reins, one of the world’s biggest country-turned-pop artists who has finally unleashed her interpretation of the bad girl, which has probably been brewing inside of her for years. I knew it had to happen eventually between the Calvin Harris, Tom Hiddleston, Katy Perry and Kanye West drama. Surely, this was the last straw for TSwift. (Insert snake emoji)

Of course, it wouldn’t be a Taylor Swift album if there weren’t any sneaky, detailed lyrics weaved into almost every track.

“Getaway Car” was rumored to be about Tom Hiddleston and Calvin Harris. *Sips tea.* In the first verse she sings, “I struck a match and blew your mind/ But didn’t mean it/ and you didn’t see it.” Could this be referring to

Hiddleswift’s short-lived romance?

In “I Did Something Bad” Swift sings “But if he drops my name, then I owe him nothin’ / And if he spends my change, then he had it coming.” Definitely a jab at Kanye West as he mentioned Swift in his song “Famous” last year.

There were plenty more examples of lyrics with hidden meanings, but I’ll leave those up to the Swifties to decipher.

My favorites from Reputation had to be “Dress,” “New Year’s Day” and “Delicate.” All three songs were tenderer and less malicious, even though malicious is always fun too. The songs sounded like they could’ve easily belonged to one of her previous albums.

The old Taylor is still there making great music that her long-time fans will adore, even if Swift insists the old Taylor is dead and gone. But for those who are new to TSwift music, “Reputation” is far from what they might expect from the former teenage country star.

The Song Lineup

1. ...Ready for it?
2. End game (Featuring Future and Ed Sheeran)
3. I Did Something Bad
4. Don’t Blame Me
5. Delicate
6. Look What You Made Me Do
7. So it Goes...
8. Gorgeous
9. Getaway Car
10. King of my Heart
11. Dancing With Our Hands Tied
12. Dress
13. This is Why We Can’t Have Nice Things
14. Call it What You Want
15. New Year’s Day

“Justice League” is the year’s most anticipated letdown

Trevor Tyle
Staff Reporter

Zack Snyder’s “Justice League” was one of the most anticipated films of the year, but it didn’t take long to become one of 2017’s biggest disappointments.

Riding off the success of “Wonder Woman,” it should’ve been easy for DC to fix the mistakes of films like “Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice” and “Suicide Squad,” but instead it replicated them.

“Justice League” takes place in the wake of the events of “Dawn of Justice,” which concluded with the death of Superman (Henry Cavill). With a new, unforeseen threat to humanity on the rise, Batman (Ben Affleck) assembles a team of powerful forces—Wonder Woman (Gal Gadot), Flash (Ezra Miller), Aquaman (Jason Momoa) and Cyborg (Ray Fisher)—to hinder the attack.

Despite the larger threat at hand, an alien warlord named Steppenwolf (Ciarán Hinds), it is the internal conflict each of the heroes individually face that will ultimately test them, leaving audiences to wonder if they will save the world or destroy it.

While Snyder directed the film, he was not involved in its post-production and reshoots due to his daughter’s death. DC brought in Joss Whedon, who is responsible for Marvel’s “The Avengers” and “Avengers: Age of Ultron” critical and commercial successes. Despite Whedon’s involvement, he was unable to replicate what made the “Avengers” so great.

For starters, the bulk of the movie is all over the place. Before the heroes actually team up, the film focuses on them all individually, bouncing around from character arc to character arc without providing anything that’s actually relevant to the

story. Three out of the five main characters have yet to have a big screen debut, leaving many audience members either confused or unbothered by their presence in the film.

Unfortunately, the ending does not make up for many of the filler scenes in the film’s first half.

There is plenty of action, although it’s hardly exciting. The most interesting fight is actually against one, (die-hard fans of these films, they can probably guess who it is). Despite this, the tactic is old. (Newsflash, DC—Marvel’s “Captain America: Civil War” already did the whole ‘hero versus hero’ thing, and they did it better.)

The cast chemistry is also, for the most part, rather weak. There is little time for any of the major players’ stories to be properly developed, though all of them—sans the previously

introduced Batman and Wonder Woman—need it. The lack of exposition is extremely detrimental to the film as it leaves little emotional impact. While Aquaman, Flash and Cyborg all have immense potential, audiences still probably won’t care about them by the end of the film.

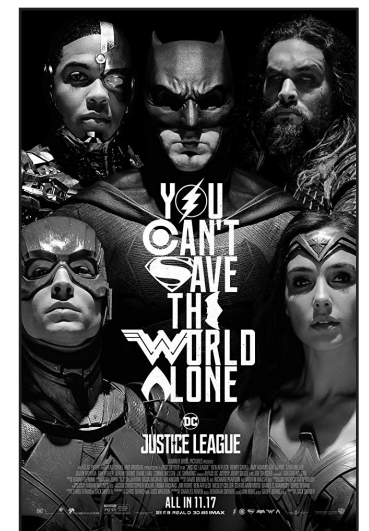
Gadot shines as Wonder Woman—probably the film’s sole saving grace—while the rest of the cast is pretty much just ok. Affleck’s performance is particularly questionable, as he wavers between scarily serious and laughably bad in his portrayal of Batman. He’s also kind of a jerk, which is the only consistent character quality he possesses.

In short, “Justice League” is a convoluted mess of a film with little substance. It’s choppy, occasionally boring and, for the most part, too incoherent for anyone to actually be enter-

tained by it.

If you only see one superhero film this holiday season, go see “Thor: Ragnarok” instead

Rating: 2.5/5 stars



Courtesy of IMDB

The cast of DC’s Justice League.



Cheyenne Kramer / The Oakland Post

Pokémon's newest games bring players back to the Alola region for a new, exciting adventures.

Game proposes new challenge for players

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

Pokémon might be known as being a family-friendly, all ages franchise, but oh my god, Ultra Sun and Ultra Moon are tough games.

As with every single Pokémon game before them, Ultra Sun and Ultra Moon came out as two separate versions. Like Sun and Moon, both games are set twelve hours apart and for the most part follow the same general plot with only small variations between the two versions.

I was a huge fan of Sun and Moon, especially with how many callbacks there were for fans who've followed the series as long as they've been alive, like myself. I especially loved the Alola forms, where generation one Pokémon got an Alola-region update.

I was hoping for more this time around, but alas, that wasn't to be the case. There are a few new Pokémon to watch out for, though.

The plot of the games starts off pretty similarly in both Pokémon Sun and Moon, initially making me worry since I ended up getting both versions. There are some subtle differences, but nothing within the first seven hours of gameplay that really makes it important to run out and grab both versions right away.

The games do deviate from Sun and Moon eventually. These aren't just retellings of Sun and Moon, as some of the advertisements made these games out to be. Instead, they feel like a completely new story, set in the same region and world as Sun and Moon.

As with before, you have the same three starter Pokémon options of Popplio, Rowlett and Litten. I felt similarly

when I played Black and White 2 here, because I felt like I had a chance to play with a different starter than I did the first time around.

I felt that every game after Pokémon X and Y were pretty easy. I chalked this up to getting older, but Ultra Sun and Ultra Moon really threw a hammer into this mindset. These games in the first seven hours alone are insanely hard, but not so hard that I don't want to play them. Instead, the games pose challenges to the player that make you want to try over and over again.

Personally, I'm stuck at Lana's water trial. Yes, these games go back to the Sun and Moon's Island Challenges and don't have you facing off against the Pokémon League like you do in the original six generations.

What I loved, though, were the callbacks to old villains. I personally have always had a soft spot for Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire, and seeing Archie and Maxie return not in their Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire designs, but in their original Ruby, Sapphire and Emerald designs made these games instant buys for me.

If you've never picked up a Pokémon game, I would still recommend this one. It's challenging and doesn't feel like a kid's game at all. The game gives you options if you need them in order to overcome challenges, such as giving you the Exp. Share early on in the game and allowing you to face off against a Totem Pokémon right away instead of going through the entire trial again.

The games don't force you to know anything previous on Pokémon to enjoy them, but for those of us who know every single Pokedex entry, there's still new and challenging things for us to enjoy.

Killer meals with your Thanksgiving leftovers

AuJenee Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

Disclaimer: These recipes came from my memory as I simply eyeballed what I was making rather than properly measuring everything out.

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday, mainly because it's the one day of the year I can stuff my face with a crap ton of food and not be judged. But I also love the smell of honey baked ham, turkey, sweet potato pie and peach cobbler coming from my kitchen. Not to mention eating four plates of food and regretting those decisions later in the day. But with all that food comes A LOT of leftovers.

This year my family had a ton of turkey and ingredients leftover from the holiday. Now I absolutely HATE wasting food, so I've come up with two killer recipes that you can make with your Thanksgiving leftovers.

Sunny side up turkey hash

Ingredients

6 Russet potatoes (use eight potatoes if they're small)
4 tsp. olive oil
1 small onion
3 cloves of garlic
1 green bell pepper (or whatever kind you want because they're all pretty tasty)
3 cups of shredded leftover white and dark meat roast turkey
8 large eggs
Desired amount of salt, pepper and thyme for seasoning

Directions

-In a medium pot of cold water over high heat, bring potatoes and one teaspoon salt to a boil. Cook for five minutes, drain potatoes and set

aside.

-In a large skillet, heat 2 tablespoons of oil over medium-low heat. Sauté onion and garlic until soft, stirring occasionally for about five minutes. Add bell pepper, thyme, pepper, and salt, and sauté for about three more minutes.

-Increase heat to medium-high, add 1 tablespoon more oil, potatoes and turkey and cook, for about five minutes, stirring occasionally. Add 1/4 cup water and stir to mix. Cover, reduce heat to low, and cook for 10 minutes more. Remove hash from heat and cover loosely with foil.

-In two large nonstick skillets over medium heat, heat 2 teaspoons oil in each. Add four eggs to each pan and fry until whites are cooked, about 4 minutes. Divide hash among serving plates and top each with a fried egg, taking care not to break yolks.

Super easy cranberry pecan turkey salad

Ingredients

3 cups shredded leftover turkey
1/4 cup onion, finely chopped
1/3 cup dried cranberries
1/3 cup sliced pecans
2 Tablespoons Fresh Parsley, finely chopped
3/4 - 1 Cup Mayonnaise (I recommend starting out with 3/4 cup of mayo and then adding more if the salad needs more moisture)
2 Teaspoons Apple Cider Vinegar
Salt and Pepper, to taste

Directions

Put all of the ingredients into a bowl. I mean all of them. And mix it well. Chill in refrigerator for at least 20 minutes before serving.



AuJenee Hirsch / The Oakland Post

Chief Copy Editor takes a chance and turns traditional Thanksgiving food into self made recipes.

Record breaking season for OU diver

Junior Joe Smith broke the university's record

Sadie Layher
Staff Intern

It's not very often that an athlete breaks his own personal record and the university's record at the same time. But, that is exactly what diver Joe Smith accomplished.

Smith is always pushing himself to exceed his goals and aims as high as he can. His goal is to end the 2017-18 season with 380 points for 1 meter and 400 points on the 3 meter dives.

He says one thing that keeps him on track to reach his goals is having a strict schedule. Time management is one of the many opponents that student athletes face. Sometimes, it is the athletes' most difficult opponent.

"I think that a lot of college athletes get really good at time management," Smith said. "This year especially I have had to turn down a bunch of invitations for things because my workload is getting larger and practice consumes so much of the day."

In the midst of all his business, Smith has incredible motivation to keep moving forward and become successful in his academic and athletic endeavors. He did not stop trying after he recently beat Oakland's diving record, he is continually trying to beat the record he set.

"One thing that always motivates me is my failures. . . I'm not satisfied with being average and I think that that is what drives me to train harder and study longer," Smith said.

The athlete has had some famous competition in diving. Most people think of basketball players or football players meeting the definition of "big-leaguers," but Smith has gone head-to-head against Olympians.

Michael Hixon and Steele Johnson both received medals at the Rio Summer Olympics in 2016, and Smith has competed against both. Smith has also competed against James Connor, who was also at the 2016 Olympics but did not place. Smith said he does not have any specific diving idol he looks up to, but he admires anyone who can maintain a nice body line throughout their dives.



Photo courtesy of Oakland Athletics

Smith has real talent—he even competed against Olympians divers Micheal Hixon and Steele Johnson before their debut in Rio 2016.

In collegiate sports there is the possibility of meeting famous athletes but Smith said, "I am not going to sugarcoat college athletics, it's real hard. Classes are going to be difficult, practices will be difficult, and life always throws the unexpected."

Smith understands how difficult it can be as a freshman starting college while also trying to find jobs and playing collegiate level sports.

"Lean on your teammates and coaches for help because I can guarantee they have been in the exact same situation," he said.

Smith is only a junior at Oakland and has another season to aim higher and move farther along in his competition. For the second time this season he has been named the Horizon League's Diver of the Week. He currently holds the record at 362.40 points for the three-meter dive.

We will be seeing Smith and the other Golden Grizzlies swim and dive for the Zippy Invitational on Dec. 1-3. The teams hope to bring some wins home for Oakland and continue to be a force to be reckoned with in the Horizon League.

The Sporting Blitz

WBB @ MSU: Oakland women's basketball traveled to East Lansing on Monday, Nov. 13 to take on Michigan State University. The Golden Grizzlies ultimately fell to the Spartans 95-63 after second quarter scoring troubles.

Leah Somerfield led the team with 17 points and also added six rebounds and two assists. Taylor Jones and Sha'Keya Graves each put up 12 points, and Taylor Gleason had the most assists with three.

WBB @ Northwestern: The Golden Grizzlies fell to Northwestern University 88-70 as women's basketball visited Evanston, Ill. on Thursday, Nov. 16.

Offensively, Graves led the Golden Grizzlies with 20 points, and Taylor Jones added 17 of her own. Nikita Telesford put up two blocks and two assists while also scoring a season-high 10 points. On defense, Mercy Agwaniru grabbed four rebounds and two assists.

Volleyball @ Green Bay: Oakland volleyball ended its season with a three set loss to Green Bay in Cleveland, Ohio on Saturday, Nov. 18.

In her final game as a Golden Grizzly, Sammy Condon recorded nine kills, four service aces and three blocks. Darien Bandel also added nine kills. On defense, Darrin Rice led with 16 digs while Lindsay Wightman and Jordan Lentz each had eight.

Oakland finished the season with a 17-12 record overall and a 12-4 league record.

MBB @ Toledo: Men's basketball fell to the University of Toledo 87-74 on Saturday, Nov. 18 in Toledo, Ohio.

Walker recorded a career high eight rebounds while leading the team with 29 points. Nunn also added 24 points, and James Beck recorded his first career double-double with 11 points and 10 boards.

This loss breaks Oakland's six game win streak over a Mid-American Conference (MAC) team.

WBB vs Niagara: On Sunday, Nov. 19, women's basketball came out with a victory against Niagara on the Blacktop. The final score came to 67-59.

With her double-double, Somerfield put up a game high 16 points while also grabbing 12 rebounds. Also scoring in double digits, Jones and Cierra Bond added 15 and 14 points, respectively. Agwaniru recorded a career-high 11 rebounds while also adding four points, two assists, a steal and a block.

MBB @ Syracuse: Men's basketball traveled to New York to go up against Syracuse on Monday, Nov. 20. Oakland was topped 74-50.

Walker led the Golden Grizzlies with 14 points while recording three rebounds, one block and one assist. Nunn put up 12 points and three rounds with Beck scoring eight and adding five rebounds.

WBB @ Michigan: Women's basketball fell 78-69 to the University of Michigan on Wednesday, Nov. 23 in Ann Arbor.

Graves scored 19 points to lead the Golden Grizzlies, while Bond and Gleason both had double digits with 14 and 12 points, respectively. Somerfield also recorded seven rebounds with nine points.

MBB @ Kansas: On Friday, Nov. 24, men's basketball fell 102-59 to No. 3 Kansas University in Lawrence, Kan.

Leading the Golden Grizzlies, Nunn put up 23 points while recording five rebounds. Jalen Hayes added 14 points and five rebounds in his first game back. Walker also added seven points of his own.

Compiled by Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

Jalen Hayes returns

The basketball player expresses gratitude to play again

Darcy Dulapa
Staff Reporter

Jalen Hayes, power forward for the Golden Grizzlies and three-time All-Horizon League forward, has served his four-game suspension from the NCAA and played in his first season game Friday against the University of Kansas Jayhawks.

Hayes is an human resource development major. That department requires all of its students to pass HR classes with a 2.8. Hayes received a 2.5 in one of his summer HR classes, causing an NCAA suspension to follow. Shy by just .3, the NCAA caught wind of the grade and suspended him for 17 games.

"It didn't process with me at first," Hayes said. "It started out with the

suspension being almost the whole season, so we appealed it, and Kampe told me there was a good chance that the appeal would work, and I wouldn't have to miss many games."

After sending in the first appeal, the NCAA dropped the 17-game suspension to only seven games. Feeling hopeful, Hayes appealed again, and it dwindled down to four games. He tried appealing once more, but did not have much luck, leaving him stuck with the 4-game suspension, but he explained his gratitude for it not being the entire season.

"I talked to my teammates and they were really supportive, and my family was too," Hayes said. "They told me four games would go by fast and not to worry about it, plus I was still able to practice, so I just took it

one day at a time."

Given Hayes' circumstance, he was still able to find a silver lining in his gray cloud. He explained how it was somewhat rewarding sitting on the bench because he was able to see his team from a different perspective, helping him realize what they need to work on.

"It's weird because I don't get to see that when I'm out there," Hayes said. "I had the perspective of seeing all five guys and how we box out, what we need to work on and little things like that. I can see a coach's viewpoint now when they're yelling at us it looks a lot worse from the sideline than on the court."

With a score of 102-59, Kansas, who is ranked #3 in the nation, took the win over Oakland. But Hayes ex-



The Oakland Post Archives

Hayes was on a seven game suspension but is now back on the court.

plained he is just happy to be playing again after his suspension.

"It's more like butterflies rather than nerves thinking about being back out there," Hayes said. "I'll probably be a little nervous and have some jitters, but it'll be fun."

Hayes finished his first game back with 14 points.

Now that Hayes is back in action,

he has high hopes for the team this season. He anticipates winning the Horizon League Championship, and hopes to make a decent dent in the NCAA tournament.

Hayes will play in his first home game of the season on Thursday, Nov 30, and hopes his fellow Golden Grizzlies will come out to show their support.

NOW HIRING DISTRIBUTORS



**RESPONSIBILITY:
+ DELIVER NEWSPAPERS
TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS
ON CAMPUS**

**INTERESTED APPLICANTS CAN SEND RESUME
TO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SHELBY TANKERSLY AT:
EDITOR@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM**

**APPLICANTS SHOULD:
+ BE FRIENDLY
+ HAVE A FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
+ ENJOY TALKING TO OTHERS**

Volleyball player named Horizon League Player of the Year



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Darien Bandel averaged 4.34 kills per set and led the Horizon League with a total of 482 kills.

Dakota Brecht
Staff Reporter

Picture this: One year old Darien Bandel chasing a volleyball around the floor with her parents watching close by.

This has been Darien's life for as long as she can remember and she cherishes every second when she's playing the sport she loves.

"As soon as I could walk I was playing with the ball and I was even playing pick-up games with my parents when I was seven or eight," Bandel said. "My parents both play and that's actually how they met, so I feel like I was kind of destined to play."

Coming into the season, Bandel had high expectations. But she soared above and beyond those expectations, and produced one of the best seasons in Oakland's history. Over the course of the regular season, Bandel averaged 4.34 kills per set and a total of 482 kills which led the Horizon League.

This explosive offensive performance did not go unnoticed and Bandel garnered some serious hardware. She was named to All-League First Team, Offensive Player of the Year and the Horizon League Player of the Year, the highest award given to any player.

Head Coach Rob Beam has had the pleasure of coaching Bandel for all four of her seasons at Oakland and he had a lot to say on her season.

"Being named Player of the Year, along with Offensive Player of the Year, is a tremendous honor for Darien, as well as our

program," Beam said. "She was outstanding all season against every level of opponent. She carried a huge load for our team and delivered time and again, despite our opponent's focusing their defensive energy on stopping her."

One person Bandel gives a ton of praise and thanks to is her setter Jordan Lentz. Lentz is a sophomore at Oakland and one of the team captains.

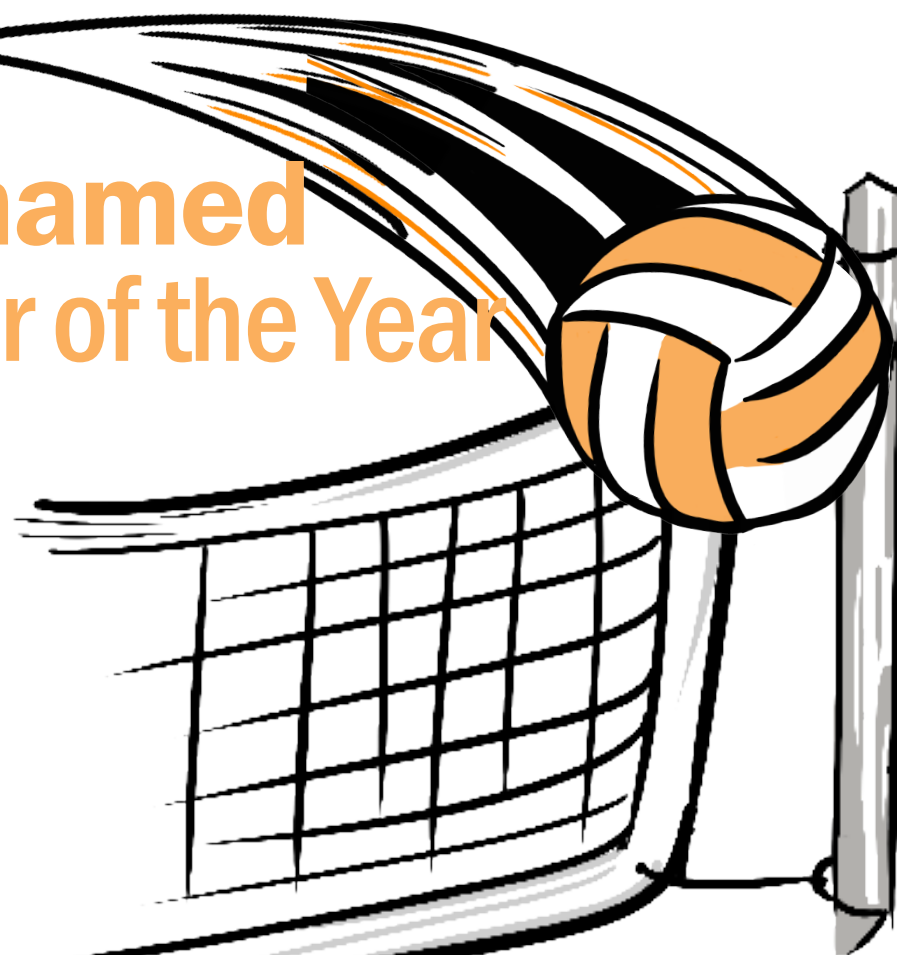
"She [Lentz] has already lived up to her expectations, she's already sixth in our program in assists and it's only been two years," Bandel said. "She's a huge part of this team and we wouldn't be where we are without her."

Another one of the things that has had a huge impact on Bandel's volleyball career is her coaches.

"I've had such a good long relationship with him [Beam], he's family," she said. "Eric my assistant coach he got me into my AAU team when I was 16 and he's absolutely a huge part of what I am today. My other assistant coach Claire, she's our mom and she's been a huge part as well. Our volunteer assistant coach Gabe, he's become even less of a coach and more of a best friend to me."

After a fantastic senior season for Bandel, the kills might not stop here. According to Beam, a career in professional volleyball is not out of the question for Bandel.

"We have recently discussed her playing professionally after she graduates and I think her dynamic ability, big arm and now ball control skill, will make her very attractive at the next level," he said.



14 DARIEN BANDEL
SENIOR FROM ORTONVILLE, MI

**RANKED FIRST IN THE
LEAGUE IN POINTS AND
POINTS PER SET**

**PLAYED 122 MATCHES IN
2016 - RANKED 2ND ALL-TIME
IN A SINGLE SEASON**

**RANKS INSIDE THE
NCAA TOP-25 IN POINTS
AND KILLS PER SET**

Graphics by Erin O'Neill and Prakhya Chilukuri / Graphic Designer and Graphics Assistant

The real meaning of Thanksgiving

Hint: To find this, you have to miss dinner and drink beers with your uncle in his garage

Simon Albaugh
Social Media Editor

Let me just start this article by saying that I didn't actually eat Thanksgiving dinner. I had every intention to, but I missed it.

Instead, my uncle and I drank beer and smoked cigarettes in his barn as we complained about the government.

This is profound, and not because we're breaking the establishment of celebrating the death of Native Americans. It's profound because I'm getting a degree that some would consider useless, while he's been working since he was 10 years old.

But mostly because I had to explain to my parents why missing dinner was actually a good thing.

You see, my uncle is a farmer. And those McDonald's commercials all made me believe that farmers are these handsome men

in denim and flannels. I thought they wake up before sunrise and carry the world's food supply on their shoulders all day.

That's not entirely true. My uncle's barn has two important components: a garage for fixing tractors and a refrigerator for beers to be enjoyed while fixing tractors. It's a complex system, he explained. "You wouldn't get it," he joked.

And while this may seem like an awful realization about where our food comes from, it's not the entirety of the truth. My uncle also has a library entirely for the history of the soil, the biggest grain buyers, tractor parts catalogues and a modest collection of Hustler magazines.

He's a certified mechanic, former city council member and someone I have literally never seen without a mustache.

The fact of the matter is that there's a definite difference be-

tween the two of us. But that didn't stop us from skipping a family dinner to get drunk in his barn. And I learned something from that.

I learned I entirely trust the people that make our food. We need to keep it in their hands instead of letting corporations like Monsanto screw it up. They run the greatest profession based on profit, not quality. Would you trust a priest to guide your faith if he gets a commission based on whatever God gives you? Suddenly that raise you prayed for doesn't seem like such divine luck anymore.

I trust these people because they've been doing it since they were kids, learning that hard work is a virtue that should be praised more than talent, connections, intelligence, and even prestige. Suddenly President Donald Trump doesn't seem so great if everywhere he got in life

was the product of his father's work for him.

And I trust them because they know best. They study the land they farm more precisely than I study journalistic techniques. Yeah, let that sink in as you've made it this far into the article.

After I talked to my uncle for so long, I finally went inside with a good buzz to eat some of the food he grew. And while I trust him to grow it, I admit what I really wanted at that moment was a double quarter pounder with cheese.



Photo illustration by Prakyha Chilukuri

Albaugh and his farming uncle drink to the best of life this Thanksgiving.

Stephen Armica fights Black Friday tradition with his fists



Photo illustration by Erin O'Neill

Stephen Armica, AKA the "Thanksgiving Warrior," got into fifteen fights on Black Friday alone.

Simon Albaugh
Social Media Editor

For most people, Black Friday is all about the deals. You walk in, get yourself a television for 80 percent off and come home thinking you're a more fulfilled person.

That's not the case for Stephen Armica.

Armica, the satirist for The Oakland Post, doesn't spend Black Friday like most people. For him, the holiday's about enjoying the people around him.

"I mean, there's nothing that brings people together more than Black Friday," Armica said. "And I thought the best way to enjoy that would be to get in fights with everybody."

Armica, a self-described black belt in "whatever the hell I damn feel like" says that people actually enjoy fighting with him.

"Look at the facts, man," he said. "You've got people that are pissed off about their jobs, pissed off about spending absurd amounts of money all the time and blame the world for all of it. So people need that sort of thing."

Black Friday has a long tradition of violence. In America, there has been a recorded 14 deaths and 110 injuries since Black Friday's inception, according to one watchdog site.

Nobody needs prodding to look for videos of stampeding customers breaking through glass doors. But the question remains: What does this say about the world we live in?

"Honestly, I think we've turned into a culture that praises the things we can buy more than the people that we share our time with," Armica said. "And maybe what we really need is a punch, square in the jaw to remind us of that."

Armica is a self-described "Thanksgiving Warrior." He spends much of his free time throughout the year training with a

punching bag in his parent's basement, along with working toward the legal fees required.

This year, Armica said he got in fifteen fights on Black Friday alone. He planned on bringing a pair of brass knuckles, but reminded himself that would be cheating.

"I mean, people need a wake-up call, but maybe three pounds of metal to the eye socket at 30 mph just wouldn't do the trick," Armica said. "But make sure to put on the record that I damn-near almost did it."

Today, Armica is preparing for his court date. He lined up his suit and tie, organized the necessary documents and watched lawyer dramas to think about his best line of defense. But he also made sure to look down at a photograph he took after one of his fights.

He stared longingly at the photo, sighing and even tearing up a bit.

"You know," he said, "This is exactly why I do it. To show people what they're really doing."

Then he turned the photo around.

It was a picture of a blood-stained "My Little Pony" aisle at a Toys R Us.

Maybe he's better off in jail.