

Feb. 14, 2018

NO MERCY FOR DETROIT

The Grizz Gang makes lots of noise as Men's Basketball
defeats Detroit Mercy in intense rivalry game

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LETTER GRADES

Grading system to change this fall
to letter grade scale

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HIGH ROPES

Trustees introduce plan and funding
for recreation expansion

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EXPANSION PROGRESS

Christopher Reed talks safety and
schedule concerns of the OC

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK

PREGAME PARTY // Before the fan-favorite rivalry game against the University of Detroit Mercy, alumni gathered in the Oakland Center to relive younger days and hang out with everyone's favorite mascot: The Grizz.
Photo // Brendan Triola

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What do you wish was a Winter Olympics award?

- A "Biggest snowboarding faceplant"
- B "Most vigorous curling sweeper"
- C "Best hockey boxing match"
- D "Most stylish team uniforms"

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What did you think of the Super Bowl?

- A) Fly Eagles, fly!
17 votes | 49%
- B) It's impossible for me to care less
7 votes | 20%
- C) The kid who took a selfie with JT tho
7 votes | 20%
- D) The Tom Brady era is over
4 votes | 11%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

February 16, 1962

Michigan State University - Oakland held its first dramatic play with "Alice in Wonderland."

February 14, 1963

MSU - Oakland officially became Oakland University, totally independent of Michigan State University.

February 14, 1996

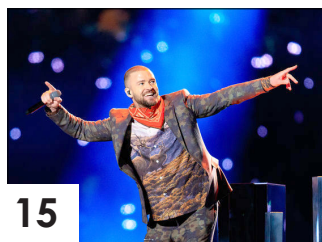
The residence halls on campus got cable so students could live with a TV in their rooms.



9

BUCKETS AND BARS

Reporter Mike Pearce matches MBB players with similar rappers
Photo// Brendan Triola



15

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

"Man of the Woods" holds a unique sound, but is it any good?
Photo// Billboard



19

VALENTINE'S DAY

Take some advice from a guy who has absolutely no game
Photo// Erin O'Neill

BY THE NUMBERS FASHION WEEK

2,601

Models appeared in 2018 Spring Fashion Week shows

36.9%

Of the models were men and women of color

31

Transgender models walked on the runway

90

Plus-sized models took the stage over the week

Looking Back

Digital class registration begins



Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

Today, we all have portable computers. Whether it be a laptop, tablet or phone, many of us have technology right at our fingertips. The hardest part of course registration is waking up on time to get in the classes you want. And if your dream class is filled up, you can quickly browse for another class to take its place.

But in 1986, the Oakland University campus was stunned by the idea of computer registration. After four years of planning, students would be able to register for spring 1986 classes through a computer.

There were 12 computer terminals available for students to use, though during registration as little as five were available at once. These were IBM computers, and Oakland hired temporary "specially trained operators" to assist students in the registration process.

The Registrar at the time, Lawrence Bartalucci, told The Oakland Sail, the student newspaper at the time, that each student would only need about five minutes to register for their classes at these terminals.

However, there was the risk that most students at the time had no clue how to use one of these machines.

Because of the risks of college students not knowing how to use a computer, there were two open houses in the Oakland Center for students to get a first look at the new process. In

addition, faculty and staff were trained on the new system prior to student registration.

"When you're on-line, you need to know what you're doing," Laura Schartman, assistant registrar, said. "You can't tie up computer time. Students will need to be prepared."

Professors needed to be prepared, as well. Part of this process gave professors the opportunity to watch their courses fill up, and if they noticed an influx of students all signing up for one course, they were able to go in at the same time and reserve a larger room if needed.

Students at the time were advised to have back up courses planned, as they would not be allowed to look up alternative classes at the terminal.

At the time, this online system was not tied to financial aid, though they eventually planned to link the two departments.

In the beginning of April 1986, students were able to use the system for the first time.

"It was ten times better than my previous experience," one student who used this new system told The Sail. "Regular registration was a joke."

When students actually went to use the system, they faced a process time anywhere from five to 20 minutes. Some students said the experience was "very unmemorable," and that it didn't save time.

However, it's safe to say that most students agree today that computers make the thought of human interaction while registering for classes seem like torture.



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Corrections Corner: The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact

Know of an error? Let us know at editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

Reverting to letter grades

Beginning fall 2018, Oakland will implement new grading system changing student GPAs

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

An initiative of an Oakland University Student Congress President from the past is finally coming into fruition. The 2015-16 OUSC President, Nick Walter, set out to fix what he called the “Big 4.” He wanted more electrical outlets, more swag, more study space and more 4.0’s for students.

He accomplished all four. OUSC gave out plenty of swag that year, more electrical outlets were added to the Oakland Center, an OC renovation was set in motion that we’re now experiencing and Oakland created a committee to change its grading scale from grade point averages to letter grades.

“

“Every current student at Oakland through the summer of 2018 is going to follow our current numeric grading scale. So their academic history is going to be numerically graded and starting in the fall, they’ll see letter grades.”

Tricia Westergaard
Interim Registrar

“I’ve said it before, and it still is true for me: If OUSC had accomplished absolutely nothing this year, nothing at all, and yet we had fixed this grading scale, I would consider it one of the most successful administrations of all time,” Walter said in his final President’s report.

The problem with Oakland’s grading scale was that it was one of the hardest in the state. Back in 1963, the Oakland University Senate voted to create a 0.5-4.2 grading scale that went through few changes throughout the years. Then, starting in 2009, Oakland put in the system we have today. Under that system, a 4.0-3.6 is seen as an A while 3.0-3.5 is

seen as a B.

Assigning letter grades to such a wide range of GPAs resulted in Oakland students appearing to have worse grades than they actually do when it comes time to apply for graduate education. So, starting in fall 2018, Oakland will assign letter grades for classes instead of individual GPAs.

“This is going to be more like many other institutions,” said Tricia Westergaard, the interim registrar. “It’ll help students when they look at their transcripts compared to other students from other schools who might be competing for seats in graduate programs. So, I think it will just help our students be more competitive as they’re taking their next steps.”

When the new scale takes effect in September 2018, students who have already received GPAs will keep those numeric grades on their transcripts and simply receive letter grades moving forward. Students’ cumulative GPAs will still remain part of the grading process after this change.

“Every current student at Oakland through the summer of 2018 is going to follow our current numeric grading scale,” Westergaard said. “So their academic history is going to be numerically graded and starting in the fall, they’ll see letter grades. Nothing from a historical standpoint will change.”

On top of the change to letter grading, the registrar is bringing another change that will help students earn better grades. In the cumulative GPA, the second decimal point will now be rounded up based on the third decimal point.

“So a student with a 2.999 grade point average would be rounded to a 3.0 starting this fall,” Westergaard said. “And a student with a 2.991 would stay with a 2.99. Students will either see the same GPA or a slightly rounded higher GPA.”

Westergaard says both of these changes should make students more competitive in graduate school and scholarship applications. As the change nears in the fall, the Office of the Registrar and departmental academic advising will be open to helping students with questions.

POLICE FILES

Suspicious persons

On Jan. 27 at 11:31 p.m., a Jet’s Pizza employee came to the OUPD dispatch window and spoke with an officer regarding a suspicious individual he had first encountered at his own store, making a violent and loud disturbance, who he believed he saw again at Oak View Hall while delivering pizzas. Officers were able to make contact with the individual, who they suspected was displaying signs of schizophrenia. He yelled about God, Jesus and Mohammad and threatened to kill and behead officers multiple times. Officers brought the man into custody and transferred him to OUPD booking. He was then transferred to a hospital to receive treatment.

A phone painter

A student arrived at 8:45 a.m. on Jan. 26 to make a report of larceny at the Oakland University Police Department. He stated that around midnight on Jan. 15, while playing on the baseball club team at the Sporting Dome, he lost his phone. He was unable to locate it, began searching the internet and believed that he had found it being sold on Facebook, as the two phones shared the same dent in the back. The seller seemed to be selling multiple phones. The complainant believed that the one that is his, the seller painted a rose gold color to sell and what he believed to be an altered timestamp on the photo. The complainant tried to contact the seller with no response, with police waiting for further theft verification to move forward.

The basketball brawl continues

A fight over a call on the court ensued on Dec. 8, 2017, where one player punched another in the face. The police, since the report was made, have been attempting to contact the suspect. After multiple failed attempts, police contacted the victim again who stated that he just wanted a written apology. Officers explained to him they cannot force the suspect to apologize to him.

Compiled by Mary Siring,
Staff Reporter

THE OAKLAND POST IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A SPORTS EDITOR

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- Attending Tuesday night production to ensure accuracy of stories

ATTRIBUTES

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- Be able to work on tight deadlines and ensure stories are published on the website in a timely manner

Position effective May of 2018
Applications will be accepted through March 24

Applicants can send a resume, cover letter and three writing samples to

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

High ropes course coming to campus



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz discussed the new high ropes adventure and challenge course on Feb. 5.

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

Joining the Meadow Brook Hall and crowd-drawing athletic events, a high ropes adventure and challenge course will be the latest installment of attractions that draw people to campus.

The Oakland University Board of Trustees voted on Monday, Feb. 5 to authorize the negotiation of a contract to lease three acres of currently unused land on the corner of Adams and Walton to TreeRunner Adventure Parks.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to partner with a local group," said Greg Jordan, director of University Recreation and Well-Being. "It's a win-win [with] benefits to students, benefits to the community, benefits to the university and fun. If you get a physical fitness component and have fun at the same time, there's nothing wrong with that."

The partnership is a result of the task force created by Oakland's previous president, George Hynd, and led by Chief Operating Officer Scott Kunselman and Vice President for Student Affairs Glenn McIntosh, with the intention of finding partnership opportunities with a focus on student life.

The course is expected to open in late June or early July of 2018, with a signed contract potentially occurring in the next six to eight weeks and construction, which will have no impact on student life, is estimated to take around 12 weeks.

A student discount will likely bring the ticket cost for the two and a half to three hour experience down to \$20 for OU students.

According to Principal at TreeRunner Adventure Parks Gaal Karp, OU will have between five and 12 different courses, and degrees of challenge, within the experience as well as an estimated 20,000 climbers each year.

Since negotiations are still taking place, it is unclear what the blueprints of the course

will look like. But it is expected to have a large variety of horizontal climbing obstacles such as tarzan swings, rolling logs, tight ropes, swinging disks and the favorite: ziplines. The main decks, which the obstacles branch off of, are typically suspended 10 to 30 feet in the air depending on the trees in the area.

Karp reported around 20 staff members will be needed to run the course and the majority will be Oakland students. Other opportunities exist in potential internships including in marketing, in leadership in regard to a team building program and even in hospitality and tourism.

"Being at the university, there's such a great opportunity to engage the students with different means of being active but also learning to work together and different networking that can happen," said Amanda McClellan, business manager of TreeRunner Adventure Parks Grand Rapids location.

Both OU and TreeRunner Adventure Parks' first concern is with climber safety, for which there will be industry-leading harnesses, followed by protecting the environment.

Arborists will be involved in the entirety of the building process, determining whether platforms should be secured to trees using compression or nails and will return for annual inspections according to Jordan, who also serves on the campus environment committee.

The course poses no financial risk to the University and may even bring in a percentage of commission based on sales, dependent on the contract negotiations.

The course will be open seven days a week during the summer, on Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays during the spring and early fall months and on weekdays for group registrations.

"It's an opportunity to put down your phones, laptops and social media and get outdoors," Karp said.

Reflection room to be included in OC update

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

With all the new announced locations in the Oakland Center, it's hard to believe the OC will be seeing yet another new student facility.

This time, it's to provide students with a reflection room in the lower level, located next to the Bear Cave.

"This is something that has taken on a lot of prominence in other unions and student centers around the country, where you have space where students can come to meditate or pray or just reflect in general," Chris Reed, director of the OC, said. "It's non-denominational. It's not specific to any one religion. It's just a place where students can get away."

Reed also said the room will most likely be technology-free to ensure students can easily "step away from the buzz that's going on on campus and take a few minutes to escape mentally."

The OC reflection room will be different from the one in Kresge Library. Reed affirmed that, as long as the OC is open, the reflection room will be open. Unlike Kresge's reflection room, it will not be reservable.

"We want it to be something that there's no barriers to using it," he said. "You can come in and use it as you wish, and without feeling like you're encroaching on anybody else's space."

During the Ask Ora event held on Jan. 31, it was confirmed the room was being implemented due to student demand. Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh and his staff were commended for "listening to the students about their concerns about having a place to worship [and] meditate," according to David Archbold, director of the International Students and Scholars Office.

"Hopefully that meets the needs of students as we continue to grow as a university," McIntosh said.

Though construction will not officially begin until approximately May 1, there are already plans for the layout of the room. A footwash station will be available near the room's entrance, while the room color is expected to be a calm shade of green. Conversations are currently being held

about lighting, which Reed said will be "somewhat like a mood light so you can set the lighting to what will help you achieve the best reflection for your personal level." Additionally, the room will offer minimal seating.

"These rooms are becoming so valuable for students on campuses," Reed said. "I know that one of the big pushes on campus is student success. We all need the opportunity to kind of escape those pressures and those stressors that bring us down or set us back at times."

The idea has already sparked student excitement.

"That's so cool, and definitely something I'm going to use," Oakland University junior John McQuillen said. "The OC always has so many people in it, so it'll be nice to have a dedicated space for quiet that people can go to and pray about the stresses of college, work and life."

This is something that has taken on a lot of prominence in other unions and students centers around the country, where you have space where students can come to meditate or pray or just reflect in general.

Chris Reed
Director of the Oakland Center

However, despite student anticipation, Reed emphasized the room's purpose will be for personal reflection rather than socializing.

"I think that this is a chance for students to have that opportunity, that it's a space specifically designed for it where they're not going to be distracted by technology or by other people socializing or creating distractions just through their general conversations," he said.

The reflection room is expected to be available for students when the rest of the OC expansion opens in the fall.

U of M Professor brings Polish history to life

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

University of Michigan Professor Brian Porter-Szúcs presented in the evening on Tuesday, Feb. 6 in Banquet Room A in the Oakland Center, discussing Polish history and the idea of martyrdom.

According to Porter-Szúcs, Israel and Poland have had a tough and strained relationship even before the World Wars. Poland has recently been in hot water after its passing of the new "Holocaust Law." The Polish-Israeli conflict is more of a free speech controversy.

The legislation states, "Anyone who publicly and contrary to the facts accuses the Polish nation or the Polish state of responsibility or co-responsibility for crimes carried out by German III Reich, or other crimes against humanity, crimes against peace, or war crimes - will be subject to a fine or imprisonment for up to three years."

Porter-Szúcs, who has studied Polish history for over 30 years, began his argument with what exactly the Polish nation is because there is not a definition.

"There is not a single person who is to take responsibility for the crimes," he said. "Does Hamtramck Polish count as part of the Polish nation?"

Next, Porter-Szúcs explored how history can be analyzed in a literary sense. The same genre and tropes can be applied to many events in history, and it is historians who work with these types of narratives. Martyrdom is a theme Poland has been playing at for generations.

In order to play on this sub-genre of tragedy, the narrative requires a sad ending, the main character must elicit sympathy and pity, the tragic conclusion is necessary and inevitable and the hero must be an innocent and virtuous victim, brought down by an external evil.

"This way of talking about World War II has become extremely common in national narratives especially in Eastern Europe," Porter-Szúcs said.

There is no room for nuance and ambig-



Brendan Triola / The Oakland Post

Professor Porter-Szúcs talks about Poland. It is in these types of narratives. There is no space for mixed motives, bad people who do good things or good people who do bad things. There is a requirement to have sharply drawn categories of good and evil.

"You're going to step on someone's narrative regardless of how you talk about World War II," Porter-Szúcs said.

Martyrdom strips out the human nature in the narrative as they pose for the saint trope. The audience, whether it be readers or not, feels empathy for this character despite knowing the end of them is near. Since Poland is often the saint in this context, we, the audience, sympathize with Poland. The country lost 15 percent of its population during the course of World War II.

Porter-Szúcs put the statistics into a simpler concept. He showed a map of what part of the United States would look like without 15 percent of its population. That would mean all of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin would be destroyed and have no population. This population loss took place mostly during the occupations era of the war.

"We all want to believe we would be the ones to save those lives but in reality most of us would not do it because of the sacrifice it requires," Porter-Szúcs said. "The overwhelming majority of individuals responded to the Holocaust by trying to get by and live out their lives."

Graduate Students talk about their experiences with sexual assault

A talk about the statistics of rape culture and how faculty should handle sexual assault cases

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

The Organization to End Violence Against Women hosted a talk on Tuesday, Feb. 13. Three graduate students, talked about the prevalence of sexual assault at Oakland University resources available to students, and the after effects of experiencing trauma.

Travis Ray, a second year Ph.D student, started the lecture with a discussion of the climate survey Dr. Michelle Purdy completed a few years ago and what those results mean to students.

This survey was the result of data from 117 men and 294 women entering their freshman year at Oakland. Of them, 36 percent of women and 15 percent of men were sexually assaulted since the age of 14.

Ray pointed out that many assaults happen while under the influence of alcohol or drugs and said these inhibitors prevent parties involved from perceiving intentions.

"We are not as good at perceiving intentions as we may believe," he said.

Next to speak was Samantha Nagy, a second year master's student. Her talk was focused on the after effects of sexual assault and how trauma affects a person.

She explained that anywhere between 12 and 50 percent of sexual assault cases end with someone experiencing a "freeze" response. Nagy said that although most people know about a flight or fight response, there's actually a third response that happens when a person cannot run away or fight off the problem.

Nagy said that survivors of sexual assault are up to 15 times more likely to commit suicide. In addition, survivors experience higher levels of depression, alcoholism and drug problems.

"No one's good time is worth any of this," Nagy said.

The final speaker, Daniel Lanni, talked about the resources available to students at OU who experience sexual assault.

He explained that at OU, if a victim isn't ready to report their assault to the police, they can only go to community resources or Graham Health Center.

"Talks like this should be better attended. This is a relatively safe campus, but we need to know that this happens off campus to our students. We can do a lot more than we are."

Michelle Purdy
Doctor of Psychology

There's the Sexual Assault and Violence initiative on campus, which provides some instruction to faculty on how to handle sexual assault, but unlike Michigan State University and the University of Michigan, there is no office for violence against women.

"We should have some place for people to go to," Lanni said.

Nagy said that the goal of the event was to present information from Purdy's research.

"The title is the most important message," she said. "It's on us to change the culture of our campus."

Purdy said that it's going to take a lot more effort than just group lectures to change this culture.

"I told my students to encourage everyone to take ownership, make their talks a 'we' statement, not a 'you' statement," she said.

Purdy said that there's no easy way to make everyone know about sexual assault.

"Talks like this should be better attended," Purdy said. "This is a relatively safe campus, but we need to know that this happens off campus to our students. We can do a lot more than we are."

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DECA competes at D.C. destination

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

Since 1946, the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) has been encouraging both high school and college students to actively work on skills with business and marketing. At Oakland University, all members of DECA have qualified to move onto Internationals, a much larger competition.

"Collegiate DECA at Oakland University is a business organization which offers students a unique opportunity to perfect the hard and soft skills of business through professional development events, creative problem solving and international competitions," President of DECA Anthony Piazza said. "It's exciting to see all of the members place for this competition. It's a big deal because you don't usually see such large groups participate from other chapters. Confidence is the key to success when it comes to these competitions."

Internationals will take place in Washington D.C. in April. To meet financial needs of such a trip, DECA will be looking to the university for funds as well as

fundraising opportunities through restaurants like Chipotle. The group will also accept donations from any businesses, faculty and anyone who will give to the cause. DECA members will pay for the rest of the balance.

Internationals consist of two parts: teams and individuals. People who are working together to present their scenario will be given an hour to prepare, while individual presentations will only be given half an hour. No matter which part a person is in, each presentation will only have 15 minutes to pitch a product to the judges.

"My individual was in marketing management and my partner and I did marketing communications," Sanjay Antani, a DECA member said. "I placed for both areas, but competitions will only allow for you to participate in one. Since my partner qualified with me, we're going as a team."

During last week's competition, four of the groups and three individual members came in first place. Additionally, two groups and one individual placed in second, while one individual placed third. Various subjects were presented on,

such as international marketing, business ethics and human resources management.

"It's been a great experience," Abigail Makelim, sophomore and first year member said. I placed second in the marketing communications category, which qualified me to Internationals in D.C. I think that everyone gets to gain a lot of leadership experience by being in this club."

Each individual and group is given what is called a case study. They will essentially create an improvisation for each scenario based off real-life business situations. Once the person or group is ready, they present to judges to show how well they can handle various business-related problems.

"It's been a fantastic social outlet, especially if you're a commuter," Antani said. "You have to get involved and find people with similar interests and DECA has definitely really made me do that. I've made a lot of friends, especially upperclassmen, who have become mentors, as well as really help me later on in life. I encourage everyone to give it a chance."

In addition to the relationships DECA members have built, they also feel a sense of pride for their accomplishments.

"I just wanted to say I'm incredibly proud of this team," Piazza said. "They have made this last year very special. It's been a great journey."

16 DECA members placed for Internationals

Amanda Abi-Samra
Sanjay Antani
Erika Barker
Ben Byrne
Renato Capelj
Rianna Goetting
Jahnnavi Gudi
Kirsten Hewson
Abby Makelim
Marek Nagy
Anthony Piazza
Puja Shah
Raymond Stoves
Megan Tack
Alex Timmis
Kournie Woodcox

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The Oakland Post Archives

Many of the entrances in the student center have closed; the emergency exits have moved to new spots during the renovation.

OC expansion comes with headaches

Building director Chris Reed answers about student concerns

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

Despite the excitement that comes with new construction on campus, many are now feeling the growing pains that come with renovation.

In addition to the recently announced reflection room, the basement of the Oakland Center will also have a gender neutral bathroom. However, there are safety concerns present in the basement today, ranging from exposed wires to the apparent lack of fire escapes.

The firm behind the expansion, Christman Construction Company, did not get back in touch with The Oakland Post regarding possible safety concerns students had regarding the expansion. However, Christopher Reed, director of the Oakland Center, sat down with The Post to answer questions about the construction process.

We've had four different flooding instances. Were these floods the result of construction, and could they have been prevented?

[The first three floods] were the result of construction... In general, they probably could have been prevented. The first one in August, we just got overwhelmed with an amount of rain we don't normally get... It overwhelmed an area where we had

a sub pump and it got covered in mud, and that's what caused that flood. Yes, construction exposed that part of the building that normally wasn't exposed, with all the rain, the mud covered it and it caused the large flood we're recovering from.

The second one... outside the banquet rooms and the Au Bon Pain area was because of a latch from somebody going on the roof and not closing it properly. So, the cold air got in that evening and the pipe cracked, and part of it fell off the wall. That was the biggest human error, where they just did not follow up on what they were doing.

The third one was a frozen pipe, and again it could have been prevented. It was something that wasn't very well known from previous drawings of the building... It was on a wall that was traditionally an interior wall, but because of construction became an external one. When we had those temperatures hovering at or below zero for several weeks, the pipe just couldn't handle it anymore and it burst.

Do these floods affect the finances and money of the construction project?

It doesn't impact the budget at all because they're all things covered by insurance... The project budget is not impacted directly by them, there might be some small things, but those would

usually fall under an insurance claim anyway. Who picks up those insurance claims varies on level of responsibility in each case, and I don't really want to get into details on that.

If anything, and I hate to put a bright light on it, but it benefited in ways we were not anticipating. I think the Student Technology Center is a great example, they were not going to have any work done... and now they have a brand new space, and we were not anticipating doing that.

Are there emergency exits in the basement? If so, how were students notified of these?

The Bear Cave got narrowed down because they put a secondary fire escape in. Before we could start closing off the former egress that went to the former patio, we had to put a secondary egress point. That hallway that's by the equipment check out with the two double doors is the emergency egress. If there were an emergency in the basement and you cannot access the stairs, there is that secondary point of egress. There was not anything formal sent out to inform the campus community of the emergency exits that were installed. As part of their installation new emergency exits signs were posted in the hallways outside each new egress path, and the doors were labeled as emergency exits only.

Professors start political campaign boot camp



Sadie Layher / The Oakland Post

John Klemanski and David Dulio created a self-driven political sciences course.

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

Political Science professors, David Dulio and John Klemanski started a new PACE course for political campaigning to help students who have public office aspirations.

PACE stands for professional and continuing education, and this course is available to anyone regardless of major. It teaches individuals how to effectively run for office or manage a campaign. There is already a similar class taught by Dulio and Klemanski. However, this course is condensed into six weeks.

This course is also less academic, as testing will not be involved and it is more self-driven. The cost is \$250 per person and it acts as a blending between a workshop and a course because it is more how-to and practical.

"This would not be on an individualized basis but more general of how to run a campaign... less specific details such as a person's campaign message," Klemanski said.

The boot camp-like course is an effort that fits in with community engagement and civic engagement, which is one of Oakland University's main initiatives.

"The political climate today has energized people as never before to get involved and consider running for office," said Dulio, director of political science. "Our hope is to capture some of that interest and teach political newcomers and strategists some tricks of the trade that might be just what they need to run a successful campaign."

The original 14-week course is worth four credits, has required textbooks and exams and goes

into more depth about political campaigns. The decision to readably make the new course available was simply because of how many open seats there are this year. 2018 is the election year for almost all of seats in Congress including Rick Snyder's seat as Michigan's Governor.

For most, political campaigns are vague and what is required to run is often something forgotten or rarely thought about. In the boot camp course, students will learn all about filing to run and the requirements to be an active member in local, regional and national government.

"The goal would be that they could effectively run for office in a political campaign and [be] armed with enough skill to be successful," Klemanski stated.

The students in the PACE program would be expected to anticipate running for office or be managing a campaign soon after the course. Toward the end of the 14-week version, students would be writing a campaign plan for a real life candidate based on what they learned in the curriculum, whereas the six-week version would be working on that in exercises throughout the shorter time period.

"There is a science to political science, we want to do a district and voter analysis to know about who votes... and being able to mobilize them, which may not be obvious to the average person," Klemanski explained.

Both professors reported the course and the information it provides will always be useful and there are always people who are looking to run for office. They hope it will spur more interest in young people to either run or to vote.

Men's basketball stars as rappers

Design by AuJenee Hirsch // Photos courtesy of Billboard and The Oakland Post archives

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

Every rapper is unique. Whether it be a signature line or signature style, there is something special about every rap artist.

Six Golden Grizzlies have played over 500 minutes this season through 26 games. Here are the rappers those six best resemble.



Brailen Neely as Quavo

Quavo is a rapper who can take over a song or dish out some heat as a feature artist on a hook. He has a great all around rap game.

The assists leader on the team, Brailen Neely, can dish it out with the best of them and drop points in with ease as well. A multi-talented player with the ability to set up his teammates, just as Quavo sets his fellow artists up when he features.

A Quavo lyric that describes Neely is, "You might think I'm too aggressive / But really I think I'm too passive."

For the record, we Golden Grizzly fans enjoy the smooth handles and aggressive play. Stay aggressive Brailen, do not listen to the haters.



Isaiah Brock as Jay-Z

Jay-Z has been killing the game forever, and when everyone counted him out, he dropped "4:44," showing the world he still has it. Jay-Z is a leader in the rap game.

A self made man, works hard at what he does, and consistently is at peak performance. Sound familiar?

Isaiah Brock is always a central force of the team. When everyone counted him out, he gained his eligibility and averages 7.6 rebounds per game and almost three blocks per game.

A Jay-Z lyric that describes Brock is, "(Ball so hard) This s*** weird / We ain't even s'posed to be here / (Ball so hard) Since we here it's only right that we'd be fair." It is fair to say Brock is a force on the low block.



Jalen Hayes as Gucci Mane

Gucci Mane came back stronger than ever after his prison bid, dropping hits like "I Get the Bag" and "Met Gala." Gucci's flow is effortless, and he's always on point.

After a grades-related fiasco, Jalen Hayes was unfairly forced to sit out four games in the NCAA's version of prison. Since then, he has come back with a vengeance, averaging 19 points per game and eight rebounds a game.

A Gucci Mane lyric that describes Hayes is, "Fresh out the feds in this mothaf**** / And they still ain't ready yet for a mothaf****."

#FreeJalen and #FreeGucci both resulted in some major comebacks.



Nick Daniels as Lil' Yachty

Fast, fun, fire. These three F's describe Lil' Yachty's rap game. On "From the D to the A" he spits absolute fire, on "Night Call" he's more low key and fun.

Yachty is also a goofy guy. On "Peek a boo" he made a mistake saying "she blow that **** like a cello." Because he thought a cello was what "Squidward played." That's a clarinet, Yachty.

When we see Nick Daniels dancing during shoot-around, it's not hard to think of the fun-loving and talented Lil' Yachty. Daniels is the type of player that will drain a 3-pointer in transition, then hit the folks during the timeout the other team takes.

A Lil' Yachty lyric that describes Daniels is, "I got gold all on my necklace, tatted up my arms / Now my mama

think I'm reckless."

Every team needs a fun guy like Daniels, and the rap game needs the fun rappers like Lil' Yachty.



Martez Walker as 21 Savage

21 Savage is famous for his phrase, "Issa Knife." He's a straight-faced, fire spitting, chart-topping rapper who can body any beat.

21 Savage deals with knives, while Martez Walker deals with long range daggers. They might as well rename the four point play "the Martez Walker" after dropping back-to-back four-pointers on Michigan State University.

He is explosive and deadly. Just like 21 Savage embodies beats, Walker embodies defenses with his long range jumper and 17.6 points per game.

A 21 Savage lyric that describes Walker is, "So many shots the neighbor looked at the calendar / Thought it was Fourth of July."]

Martez puts up a different, less fatal kind of shot than 21 Savage does of course, even though his threes are quite deadly for the opponent.



Kendrick Nunn as Kendrick Lamar

This one is obvious. Not just by the name, but by the pure dominance Kendrick Lamar and Kendrick Nunn both exemplify.

Kendrick Lamar is the best in the game right now, and absolutely carries any song he chooses. The second leading scorer in the NCAA with 26 points per game, Nunn runs the game. Do not mess with either Kendrick, or you will be exposed.

A Kendrick lyric that describes Nunn is, "B****, where you when I was walkin'? / Now I run the game, got the whole world talkin'."

The whole world BETTER be talking about Nunn.

Victorious win against UDM

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

White t-shirts covering every seat in the O-Rena, ESPN2 calling the game, Grizz Gang in full effect. Oakland's rival Detroit Mercy was in the building for the second game of the Metro Series, and the energy in the stadium was felt from the opening tip.

A 3-pointer by senior guard Kendrick Nunn put the Golden Grizzlies up 13-0 after five minutes. The crowd was roaring and Detroit Mercy was facing a deficit similar to the one they faced on Jan. 20 in their own building.

The Titans rallied quickly, going on a 17-3 run over three minutes and taking a 17-16 point lead with 12 minutes remaining in the half.

"That's what rivalry games are about," Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "They were about to get embarrassed and we were shell shocked by it."

Oakland fell further behind after UDM's Kameron Chatman and Jermaine Jackson Jr. dropped in three quick 3-pointers, widening the gap to seven points. After a missed wide open 3-pointer and subsequent missed follow-up jumper by Nunn, the Golden Grizzlies walked back into the locker room down 45-38.

Detroit Mercy relied on 3-pointers in the first half to get the lead, hitting 10 of 16 from beyond the arc. Chatman led the team with 13 points, while senior Jalen Hayes was the leading scorer for Oakland with nine.

The second half had a much different story than the first as Oakland increased the defensive pressure and forced turnovers to begin the final 20 minutes. In the second half, the Titans missed all six 3-pointers the team attempted.

"We just stayed in front of the ball," Oakland senior guard Martez Walker said. "They didn't get any wide open shots. They were making a lot of their wide open shots in the first, so we made adjustments. We switched onto people, and guarded the ball."

In addition to an increased defensive

effort, shots were falling for the Golden Grizzlies. Nunn had 21 of his game-high 28 points in the second half, and Oakland was able to regain the lead after 3-pointers from both him and senior guard Nick Daniels.

Once Oakland took the lead, they never gave it back. From the 15 minute mark on in the second half, Oakland either had the lead or the game was tied.

With three and half minutes to go, Oakland led by five points. Sophomore Chris Palombizio hit Hayes with a backdoor pass for an easy layup, and recorded two blocks on the defensive end.

"I'd like to shout out Chris Palombizio," Kampe said. "He played seven really good minutes for us, and made some key plays down the stretch."

The Golden Grizzlies were able to hold on to the lead and were victorious, winning 87-78 on national television. Kampe and the players credited Grizz Gang for creating an energetic atmosphere.

"The TV looked good because the Grizz Gang once again were sensational," he said. "They're the best student section. You can't downplay what they mean to us. Game day at the O'Rena is something special and it's because of our student section, the Blacktop, our marketing department, they work so hard."

The win was the final regular season win over Detroit Mercy for Daniels and Walker, who both were visibly excited after the game, running into Grizz Gang and hugging the students.

"8-2 in the Metro Series games — it's very emotional," Daniels said. "There were a lot of emotions going through my body. I love Grizz Gang. They bring the emotion to the game, and that's why we play so hard."

"ESPN just didn't decide to put Oakland on, they put us on because we win, and are one of the top mid-major teams in the nation," Kampe said. "They come because they want to come here. That's big time basketball. I'm proud of everyone who puts an effort into this, because it's world class."





Teams collide in Giving Challenge

Dakota Brecht
Staff Reporter

On the court, the Golden Grizzlies and Detroit Mercy Titans went after each other with everything they had on Friday, Feb. 9, and the Black and Gold came out victorious. Off the court, there was nothing but kindness being spread by Oakland and Detroit Mercy fans alike. The third annual Giving Challenge was a huge success and both universities couldn't be happier.

It has become an object of school pride to win the Giving Challenge for both sides, but the main focus has always been to raise money for certain

things on campus. As much as these two teams have differences, it is always a good thing to see two schools come together to benefit one another. Oakland University's Athletic's page explained it like this:

"Alumni and fans have the power to help Oakland win," it reads. "The challenge is all about the number of donors, not dollars. Your support will impact our current and future students at Oakland University, while directly benefiting the area you're most passionate about – academics, programs or campus needs."

The event ran from Feb. 5-9 and every donor counted as one point. It was an extremely close battle, but Detroit Mer-

cy just edged out Oakland with a score of 697-683. This win by the Titans broke the 1-1 tie in the series and gives Detroit Mercy bragging rights for at least the next year.

The Giving Challenge blew up this year and was all over social media. Oakland alumnus, Anthony Gallina has had a huge part in starting this fundraiser and he has been very active on social media, encouraging more people to donate. Gallina did everything from wearing a Grizz mask at work to waving the Oakland flag at Elliott Tower in the bitter cold.

"The Giving Challenge is a great way for both schools to show their school

spirit, while raising funds for their respective universities," Gallina said.

Some of the areas that university community members could have donated to this year at Oakland were for need and merit based scholarships, greatest area of need determined by the university or a location of your own choosing.

"The funds raised often spread across campus from scholarships for students, to programs and other great funds," Gallina said. "The competition has grown each year."

Win or lose, for Golden Grizzly fans and Titans fans, it is a great tradition that will continue to take place for many years to come.



Designed by Mina Fuqua // Photos by Elyse Gregory & Brendan Triola

Oakland tennis calls for *leadership* from young staff

Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

A collegiate sport rarity is happening on the tennis courts for the second consecutive season—Oakland University tennis does not have any seniors on the 2017-18 season roster.

This year's team is comprised of two juniors, five sophomores and one freshman compared to last season's two sophomores and six freshmen. Just two years ago, the team was mainly upper-classmen with five seniors and three freshmen.

"We're expecting really good things," Head Coach Heather Redshaw said. "We have a young group with a bunch of sophomores that have a year under their belt. We kind of get it a little bit more than we did last year. It's really good to see."

Last year, the team ended with an overall 8-13 record.

Still early into this year's season, the Golden Grizzlies have dropped their first two matches

against Western Michigan University and Utah State. However, sophomores Samantha Gallo-way and Alexandra Whall along with freshman Darya Maltseva picked up victories in singles. In doubles, the Maltseva-Whall pair also picked up a win at No. 2.

"Everyone has been fighting really well [in matches]," Whall said. "In practice, we always talk about being more as a group and more as a team. I think the more matches we play, the better we get. We've been really competitive with some really good teams."

Since the team is relatively young and only holds eight student-athletes, everyone is expected to be a leader. Being great at the sport is not enough. Players have to demonstrate hard work in class while also supporting their teammates.

"I think we all need to learn a little bit from our mistakes and then be leaders on and off the court," Redshaw said.

The team's current captain is Whall. In her freshman cam-

paign, she was 7-13 for singles. At the No. 3 spot, she went 7-6. With doubles, Whall and Gallo-way were 3-6 in the No. 1 spot.

"It's being a leader on and off the court, so making sure I get good grades and helping anyone out that I can," Whall said.

The two juniors, Sofia Borcuti and Dasha Artamonova, add an extra layer of experience.

"They've been through championships," Redshaw said. "They are our No. 1 doubles team as a pair, so that does show that they've been around. They get it, so we expect them to do the right things."

Transitioning from junior teams to NCAA Division I athletics can be challenging. While many girls on the team played with each other at the junior level, they viewed the sport as solo competition.

Cheering for teammates was not always done because of the focus on individual performances. The transition to Division I opens an opportunity to make the school and team look good but also feel good.



Photo courtesy of Jose Juarez

The tennis team is made up of two juniors and five sophomores and one freshman.

"I think coming in from juniors, everyone played for themselves," sophomore Allison Motea said. "It never really was a team thing. Over the year, we've all made huge improvements."

Besides coming together as a cohesive unit, the team is also working on keeping energy up past doubles into singles.

"Once we win the doubles point, it feels so good to go play singles," Motea said. "We're so energetic and so happy. There's

less pressure, but at the same time you go on the court with such a better attitude."

The team is looking forward to putting what they have been working on in practices to use in Horizon League games. Horizon League play opens on Saturday, March 24 against UIC.

"It's just really fun to bond all together, especially when we do well and in Horizon League play," Whall said. "The whole atmosphere is different."

The Sporting Blitz

WBB @ NKU: On Thursday, Feb. 8, Oakland women's basketball kicked off a two-game road trip against Northern Kentucky. The Golden Grizzlies lost 66-59.

Sha'Keya Graves led the team with 18 points while picking up three assists and two steals. Taylor Gleason had a game-high seven assists with 14 points. With nine rebounds and nine points, Leah Somerfield just missed another double-double.

Track and Field: Oakland track and field participated in both the GVSU Big Meet and Tiffin Grand Prix on Saturday, Feb. 10.

At the Big Meet with a time of 4:11.54, Andrew Bowman placed first in the mile. Napoleon Outlaw finished third (7.03) in the 60m dash. In the 60m hurdles, Andrew Storm finished fourth (8.34), and Brandon Davis placed third in both the long jump (22 ft., 6.25 in.) and the triple jump (43 ft., 2.5 in.) For the women, Madison Leigh placed second in the mile with a time of 5:00.04. Andrea Koenigs-knecht finished third in the 800m (2:17.03) and Olivia Kane tied for fourth in the pole vault (10 ft., 8.75 in.)

At the Tiffin Grand Prix, Tyler Beeson and Kenton Rivard placed sixth and seventh consecutively in the weight throw with the same mark of 52 ft. In shot put, Kia Boykin placed fifth (40 ft., 4.75 in.) Mary Moore and Gabby Cyriax came in third (49 ft., 11 in.) and fourth (49 ft., 8.25 in.) respectively, in the weight throw.

On Friday, Feb. 16th, the Black and Gold will compete at the University of Michigan Silverston Invitation.

WBB @ Wright State: Women's basketball went down to Dayton, Ohio to visit Wright State on Saturday, Feb. 10. The Black and Gold dropped a close match-up 80-75.

Taylor Jones and Somerfield both led scorers with 16 points each. Jones added six rebounds and three assists while Somerfield recorded five rebounds and two assists. In a second half rally, Gleason put up 123 points followed by Graves' 12 points. With eight points, Mercy Agwaniru was one point away from a season high.

The Golden Grizzlies take on IUPUI on Thursday, Feb. 15 at the O'rena.

Compiled by Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

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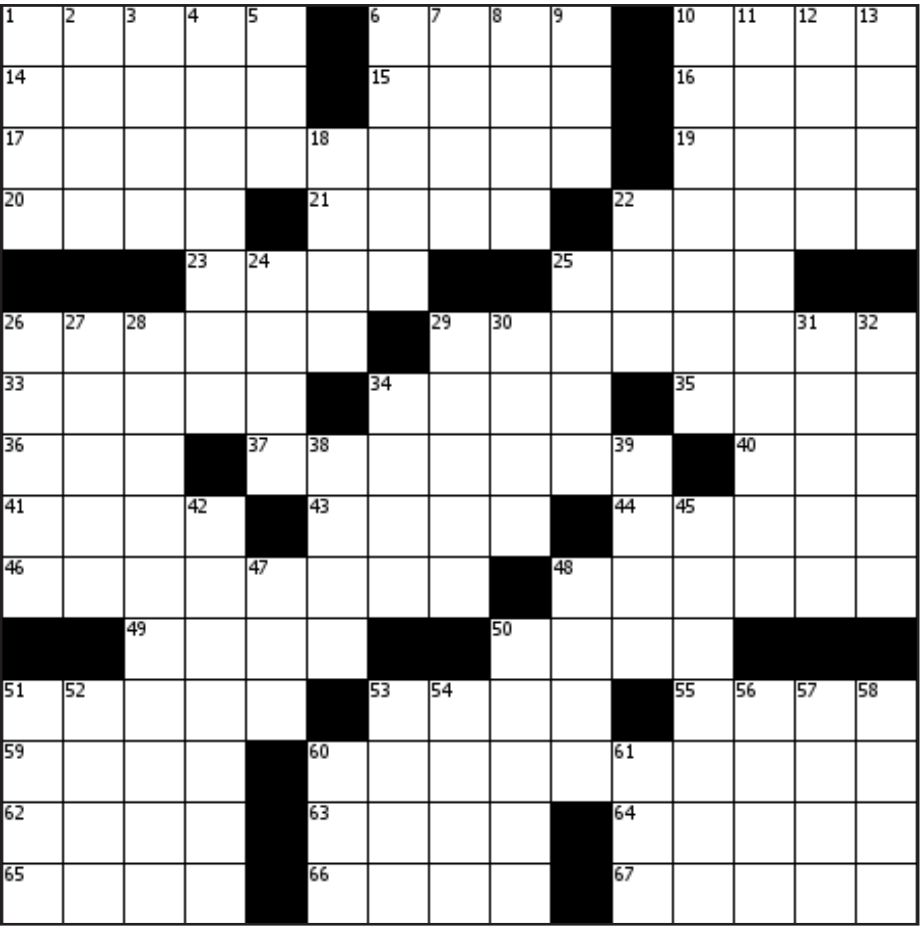
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Puzzles



Across

1. Postpone
6. Once more
10. Bakery employee
14. Pseudonym
15. Roman emperor
16. Shredded
17. Link
19. In the middle of
20. _____ the waters
21. Elongated fish
22. Guinness and Baldwin
23. Building wings
25. Slipped
26. Hidden fact
29. French writer
33. Hoisting machine
34. 18-wheeler
35. Destitution
36. Vase
37. Sale acknowledgment
40. Badger
41. Bookie's concerns
43. Skin growth
44. From this place
46. Certain connectors
48. Beliefs
49. Hideout
50. Rock group

51. Rose barb

53. Hero shop

55. Exam type

59. Certain debts

60. Slow down

62. Slangy negative

63. Tooth discomfort

64. Formal necktie

65. Imitator

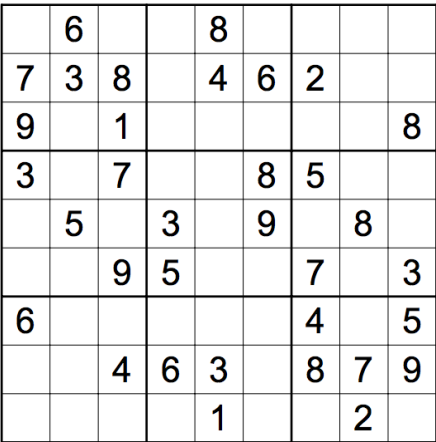
66. Temperament

67. Abounds

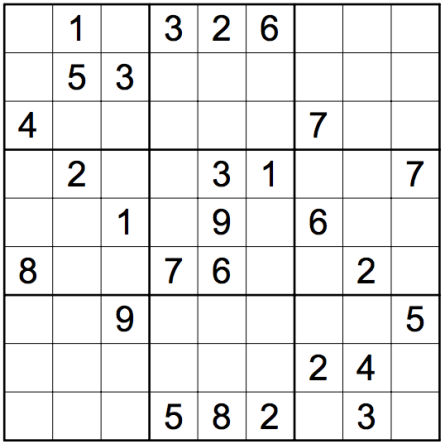
Down

1. Diplomacy
2. Burn balm
3. Storage boxes
4. Camper's lamp
5. WNW's opposite
6. Stakes
7. Playwright _____ Simon
8. Greek deity
9. Gained victory
10. From Rome
11. Ellen DeGeneres, e.g.
12. Musician _____
Clapton
13. Cincinnati baseballers
18. Highland Scot
22. Key near the space bar
24. Sly glance
25. Slide
26. _____ diver
27. Miscalculated
28. Melon variety
29. Changes direction
30. Fail to include
31. Respond
32. Borders
34. "The Lion King"
villain
38. Water jug
39. At that time
42. More thinly scattered
45. Approve
47. Metal container
48. Kite feature
50. Run, as colors
51. Songstress _____
Turner
52. Earring type
53. Art _____
54. Yodeler's feedback
56. Speed contest
57. Minute particle
58. Leases
60. River blocker
61. Devour

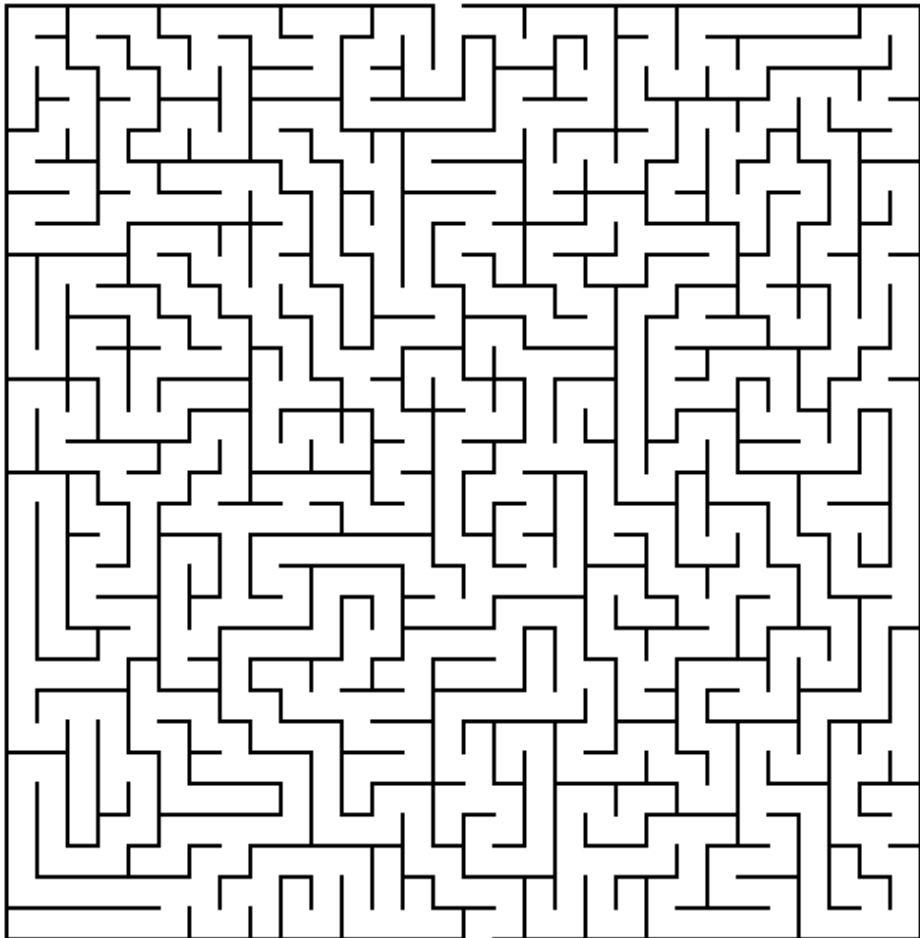
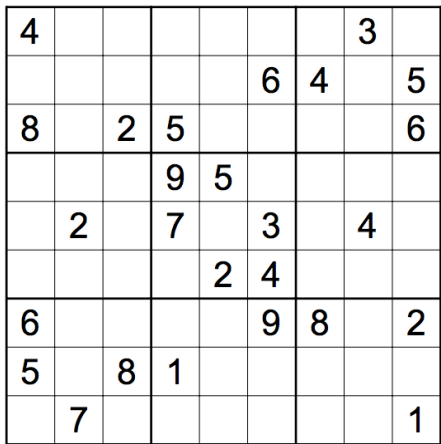
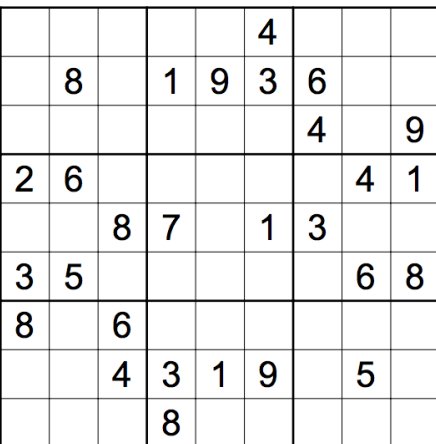
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



The Pyeongchang Olympics gets political



John Bozick
Web Editor

The Olympics has long been a time for peace and cooperation among the world's nations, yet despite this rare show of diplomacy, politics has often been shunned under Rule 50 of the Olympic Charter.

The 2018 Winter Olympic Games started off as a different affair, as with the tone for most events in the world today, politics and political statements have run rampant throughout the games.

This year's Winter Olympics has been characterized by one thing, the semi-unified Korean team that marched under one flag during the opening ceremony and skated under a combined women's hockey team. A rare move since the two countries technically remain at war, this has seen a slight thaw in relations throughout the Korean Peninsula.

Yet while this sign of peace between the two Koreas has been celebrated by many, Vice President Mike Pence, who attended the games opening ceremony, has assured the world that we have never been more unified in isolating North Korea.

"There is no daylight between the United States, the Republic of Korea, and Japan on the need to continue to isolate North Korea economically and diplomatically until they aban-

don their nuclear ballistic missile program," said Pence while attending the 2018 games opening ceremony.

Pence, who did not stand for the combined Korean teams anthem during the opening ceremony, has used his attendance at the games to continue the Trump administration's anti-North Korea campaign. The Vice President was seated mere feet away from the sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Kim Yo-jong.

Yet, while US-North Korean continue to give each other the silent treatment, the games did see a rare moment of peace between the two rival Korea's outside of the games, as Kim Jong Un formally extended an invitation for a state visit to Pyongyang to South Korean President, and firm advocate for relations with the North, Moon Jae-in.

Moon responded positively to this request, stating, "Let us make it happen by creating the necessary conditions in the future."

Moon shocked the world during an

unexpected handshake with the Kim Yo-jung and Kim Yon-nam. Yo-jung was also the first member of the ruling North Korean family dynasty to set foot in the South since her grandfather Kim II-sung, was last in the south during the fall of Seoul during the Korean War.

A meeting between Moon and Un would be monumental given that the two countries have never ceased the Korean War, remaining separated by the infamous demilitarized zone since 1953, when a formal ceasefire was signed that ended the fighting in the Korean war. Both countries have remained in a formal state of war since then, with multiple skirmishes occurring around the militarized border.

In a time when Washington seems more and more irrational in its actions, this sign of peace among the two Koreas provides a sigh of relief for much of the world. If Moon and Un's meeting is a success, perhaps a more peaceful end to the crisis on the Korean Peninsula is possible.

THE OAKLAND POST IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2018-19 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The EIC is responsible for the management and production of The Oakland Post and reports to a board of directors. Responsibilities include:

- Updating the website daily and overseeing the production of the weekly newspaper
- Recruiting editorial staff members and determining job responsibilities
- Deciding what is fit to print in the weekly newspaper
- Creating and maintaining relationships with university and department officials
- Working with the advertising and distribution directors to oversee those departments
- Organizing and submitting staff payroll every week
- Mentoring, guiding and teaching the staff to create quality journalism
- Overseeing The Post's administrative functions and assisting in creating a yearly budget
- Representing The Post on the SAFAC board
- Being available to readers with complaints, corrections and suggestions
- Working closely with The Post's editorial and financial advisers
- Being a collected and professional leader for the staff

Applicants do not have to be journalism majors, but should be:

- Excellent writers and communicators with great command of AP Style and news media standards
- Excellent with people and have the patience and heart to manage a group of peers

Compensation includes weekly pay and a tuition stipend. Position effective late April 2018
Applications will be accepted through Feb. 17, 2018. Applicants can send a resume, cover letter and work samples to editorial adviser Garry Gilbert at gjgilber@oakland.edu

JT's new album could be great, but isn't

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

Justin Timberlake is back, but he certainly didn't bring sexy with him this time.

The pop star's fifth studio album, "Man of the Woods," hit shelves on Feb. 2, just two days before his Super Bowl LII half-time show performance and comes fresh off the success of his "Trolls" theme, "Can't Stop the Feeling," though none of its content is even remotely comparable to that song.

The album blends the Southern blues music Timberlake grew up on with a more modern sound, heavily influenced by the electronic and funk music explored on earlier albums like "FutureSex/LoveSounds."

The decision was a bold one on Timberlake's part. He reportedly worked with "Can't Stop the Feeling" collaborator Max Martin on this record, though he eventually strayed away from the trendier pop sound for which the hitmak-

er is known—and given the song's massive success, it would've been an easy route to take.

Instead, he opted to fuse the work of returning collaborators like Timbaland and newcomers like Chris Stapleton. In some ways, the eclectic nature of the album works, but in others, well... Let's just say funk and flannel don't mesh together all that well.

Half of the album consists of pop and R&B-influenced songs unconventionally tailored for radio. The other is a failed attempt at conveying a "rustic" theme, teetering between country and pop without succeeding at either.

With songs like lead single "Filthy," the Pharrell-produced "Midnight Summer Jam" and the trap-influenced "Supplies," Timberlake offers just enough enjoyable pop tunes for audiences to forgive much of the album's mediocrity.

Many of the album's later songs, however, venture into the cringe worthy lumberjack territory that JT tries so hard to make

work. Songs like "Flannel" and "Livin' Off the Land" are so over-the-top in Timberlake's "one with nature" aesthetic that their catchy melodies can't even save them. (And just for the record, no one believes a celebrity of his caliber is really that connected to nature—or reality, for that matter.)

Listeners should be relieved none of the songs are much longer than five minutes—in contrast to the pointlessly extensive intros and outros that plagued Timberlake's previous albums. But don't worry, instead, Timberlake has graced us with equally unnecessary interludes voiced by his wife, actress Jessica Biel, which almost boast the same sense of self-involvement you'd expect from a Beyoncé album.

"Man of the Woods" has two stellar collaborations, though, both of which carry the substance and style much of the album lacks. The former, a throwback soul track titled "Morning Light," features Alicia Keys and is one of the true signs of the album's tru-



Photo courtesy of Billboard

est signs of artistic growth. Chris Stapleton duet "Say Something" is also marvelously innovative, and could easily become a crossover hit to country radio.

"Man of the Woods" has some spellbinding highs and some equally disappointing lows. Nothing on the album even remotely compares to masterpieces such as "Mirrors" or "Drink You Away" from "The 20/20 Experience," nor does Timberlake even

come close to touching iconic hits such as "SexyBack" or "Rock Your Body." Simply put, JT is better than this.

Though Timberlake offered us a potentially great album, what we got is just OK. The expectations may have been unfairly high, but "Man of the Woods" still fails to live up to the quality of its predecessors.

Rating: 3/5 stars

What it's like to be an intern during *Spring Fashion Week*

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Feb. 6 (Six days before the Zimmermann show)

4:00 p.m.: I just landed in New York City and have the Zimmermann store re-opening event in SoHo to be at by 6:00 p.m. I grab my bag from luggage claim and sprint out of LaGuardia, looking like utter insanity, to catch a cab.

6:00 p.m.: I arrive just in time. I hug my boss and am introduced to the rest of the Zimmermann team. The doors open and VIP guests begin to arrive.

7:30 p.m.: Katie Holmes just walked by, looked me up and down and said, "Nice dress!" Does this mean I can die happy now? You bet.

8:00 p.m.: I take over coat check and am overwhelmed by the amount of designer coats I have to keep track of. Note to self: DO NOT LOSE THE GUCCI COAT THAT BELONGS TO SAMANTHA BARRY, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF GLAMOUR MAGAZINE.

9:30 p.m.: I finally leave the store and head back to my apartment to crash.

Feb. 9 (Three days before the Zimmermann show)

1:00 p.m.: I arrived at the Zimmermann

office early this morning, and I haven't sat down once yet. I started the morning off with sending out sample pieces to VIP show guests, as well as to Vogue for an editorial shoot.

7:00 p.m.: The President of the company asks us if we can stay late and steam the samples in the showroom. She tells us that she will allow us to take a free sample in compensation for staying late, as well as provide us with pizza for dinner. None of us could pass up a \$1K sample (or free pizza), so we happily agreed to stay.

9:30 p.m.: I finally leave the office.

Feb. 12 (Day of the Zimmermann show)

10:00 a.m.: I arrive at Spring Studios where the Zimmermann show will be taking place. Then I receive my credentials and head upstairs to the runway.

12:00 p.m.: I help Laura Brown, the InStyle Magazine editor-in-chief, find her seat in the front row, as well as influencer Olivia Palermo. It's showtime.

12:15 p.m.: Detailed lace and leather Victorian-esque looks grace the runway. The collection feels inspired by the Australian outback and is incredibly stunning.

1:30 p.m.: Myself and the rest of the Zimmermann team head back to the office to clip press and social media posts from the show.

7:00 p.m.: I've been compiling press clippings into a PowerPoint for five hours. My fingers are cramping and my back aches as I haven't moved once from my office chair. The grind never stops.

7:30 p.m.: I finally head out of the office.

Feb. 13 (Day of the Gabriela Hearst show)

8:00 a.m.: I arrive at the show venue with ridiculously pronounced bags under my eyes.

11:15 a.m.: I try to sneak into the closed off area where photographers with credentials take pictures. A man came up to me and said, "Absolutely not. You're just an intern. You can't go back there." Nevertheless, with much persistence, I maneuvered my way in.

12:30 p.m.: The show is over as soon as it started. The models trickle back in and I assist with undressing.

1:30 p.m.: As I leave the venue I couldn't feel more thankful to have participated in my second season of fashion week. Catching a glimpse of the unbelievable craftsmanship of the clothes and watching artists create intricate makeup looks was more inspiring than I could have ever imagined this time around.

See you soon, New York.



Katarina Kovac / The Oakland Post

Two models pose for a photographer at a show. New York Fashion Week was Feb. 8-16.



Photo Courtesy of Billboard

"Beautiful People Will Ruin Your Life" is the fourth album of the British indie pop band.

The Wombats: The Cure to your Valentine's Day heartache

Jessica Leydet
Staff Intern

British Indie pop band The Wombats released their fourth studio album, "Beautiful People Will Ruin Your Life," on Friday, Feb. 9.

The album paints an entirely different picture of life and love than any of the band's past albums. This is arguably because the band's lead singer, Matthew Murphy, recently settled down in Los Angeles with his wife and has made it very public that moving there has helped him find happiness, despite his battle with depression.

The song "I Don't Know Why I Like You But I Do" describes falling in love in a far more auspicious way than "Greek Tragedy," a popular song off of their last album "Glitterbug," that speaks of love as if it were—well, a Greek tragedy at worst.

The new song describes a situation where you like someone but you can't explain why, it just feels right. The lyrics, "you're in the DNA between the molecules / you're in the beside place and all else I look / You're in the subtext and all the overtones / you're in the telly sales that dominate my phone" evoke the same feeling of intensity and dependency that a person feels when they first fall in love with someone.

The songs on this album also manage to radiate the same metaphoric lyricism for which The Wombats are so well-known for the track "Ice Cream" depicts wanting to be with someone so badly that you feel like ice cream melting in the sun, waiting for things to spark. The cho-

rus describes the whirlwind of conflicting emotions and obsession that you feel when you are crushing on someone, "Everything gets blurry, am I right where you want me? / Melting like an ice cream in the sun / He's low and she's high, but I take it offline / Is there really such a thing as too much fun?"

This album may be more mature in terms of the more introspective lyrics, but it still manages to provide the same party anthem, blow your speakers out feeling of past tracks like "Let's Dance to Joy Division" and "Moving to New York," both of which feature on their first album, "A Guide to Love, Loss and Desperation."

Another new track "Turn" released as a single on Dec. 6, 2017, describes being overwhelmed with nostalgia for younger days. It makes you long for the nights that felt like they were never going to end with lyrics like, "I want to get college girl drunk tonight / No morning fears, no mountains to climb / They say the best memories are the ones that we forget." This is one of my favorite songs on the album because it radiates positive vibes and is definitely a song you'll want to add to your party playlist.

Overall, I definitely recommend this album to music lovers. I would give the album a perfect score for being versatile in that it provides a little something for everyone, all the way from party tunes to love songs, but with The Wombats' signature plucky guitar and techno sound.

Rating: 5/5 stars

AWOLNATION new album "rocks"

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

The band, known for razor synths and electro-pop production, give fans exactly what they love with "Here Come the Runts."

AWOLNATION is an alternative rock band formed and fronted by vocalist Aaron Bruno. Their biggest hit, "Sail," dropped in 2011 along with their first studio album "Megalithic Symphony," and has been certified 6x platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America.

It was here that AWOLNATION set the precedent of its experimental style — from the sharp, dubstep-esque beats of "Sail" and "Not Your Fault," to electro-pop "Kill Your Heroes," to the swing, vocal heavy "All I Need." AWOLNATION put many styles into one album, a tactic that could potentially go horribly wrong but worked incredibly well.

Since then, multiple big hit singles have been released such as "Hollow Moon," "I Am," "Woman Woman" and "Passion."

AWOLNATION recently released its third installment, "Here Come The Runts," on Feb. 2, 2017, continuing a fulfilling legacy.

"Here Come the Runts" is much like their previous installments, "Megalithic Symphony" and "Run." Each have a mash-up of styles and each perform those styles particularly well.

The album begins with "Here Come the Runts," obviously, a very fitting opener. This track sets listeners up for the entirety of the album. Within just three minutes and 19 seconds, the band packs multiple styles as well as classic lyrics and vocals.

Within this 14-track installment are multiple notable tunes that stand out from the rest.

"Tall, Tall Tale" is one instance of a very

steady and continual production. In many tracks, the band will change tempos or styles, but "Tall, Tall Tale" keeps a very steady one. The vocals are just as monotone, in this sense, maintaining a quiet, rolling vocal. How much movement there is within this track is astounding, as it is particularly contained in comparison to many other tunes that will change tempo or production style halfway through.

"Cannonball" is a breath of fresh, familiar air. Not necessarily familiar for the band but for classic alternative rock. The tempo and production are reminiscent of classic alternative that was popular at the time of AWOLNATION's birth with an upbeat drum beat and electric guitar.

"Table For One" is "Here Come the Runts" slow track. It almost seems out of place, but considering how experimental the band is, nothing could really be out of place. The steady drum beat leading to a very invigorating electronic one, and the pairing of this with Aaron Bruno's iconic vocals makes for a track that is meant to be listened to and loved.

With how production heavy the band is, it's easy to get caught up in electronic beats and forget about lyrics, which is a shame as the lyrics are incredibly thoughtful and deserve much more recognition. Tracks like "Table For One" in the newest installment or "Headrest For My Soul" in "Run" highlight the talent of the lyric writing that AWOLNATION is capable of. It's unfortunate to find that sometimes the production can cloud such innovative lyrics, but it just takes a listener to spend the time to get to know the album.

Overall, AWOLNATION has produced another great addition to its legacy, holding fast to a style that works.

Rating: 4/5 stars

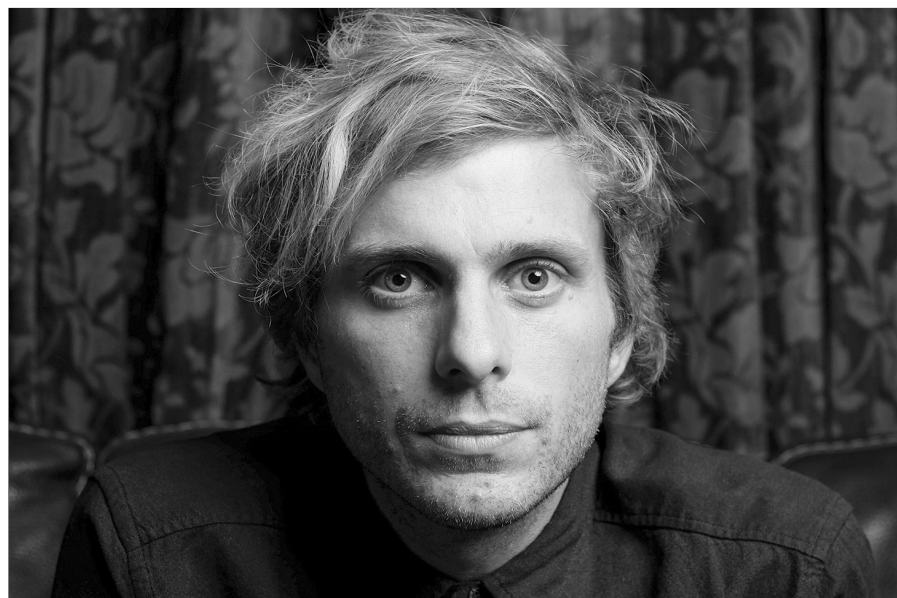


Photo Courtesy of Billboard

"AWOLNATION" is an electro-pop band that started in 2009 and led by Aaron Bruno.

Investigating cryptocurrency: Dirty money with a high demand

Emily Morris
Staff Intern

It is dirty, disposable and, most importantly, in high demand. Money is a constant factor in many college experiences—especially when choosing classes, housing and meals—but what if one choice could alleviate some of the pressure? Cryptocurrency has infected investment, offering extreme rewards and losses dependent on timing. But despite the risk, some have taken the plunge.

“The lack of regulation provides the ability for completely anonymous transactions and the ability to hold your money without any sort of government needing to know about it, like a virtual version of gold,” said Colin Murphy, an Oakland University student and cryptocurrency investor.

However, the retention of value holds many more risks than venturing into a precious metal market. Focusing around investments in Bitcoin, for example, could have skyrocketed to over 16 times the original amount between 2013 and this past December, according to CoinDesk. Any type of investment has the potential to rise and fall, of course, but cryptocurrency, being still in its adolescent stage, is often welcome to even more risk. There’s always a reward possibility as well, though.

Before cryptocurrency became a house-

hold word, some had already begun investigating its vitality. According to Bitcoin Success Stories, Kristoffer Koch, while attending college in 2009, invested a mere \$26.60 in the Bitcoin market solely because he was currently writing a thesis about encryption. By simply doing his research, he became roughly \$866,000 richer. Although successful experiences are enticing, not everyone has had the same remarkable outcomes as the more advertised exciting outcomes.

“Many people who have gotten rich from cryptocurrency are similar to Forrest Gump accidentally becoming rich from Apple computers,” Murphy said. “He didn’t know what an Apple computer did, or why he was suddenly a lot richer. But he did know he didn’t have to worry about money anymore.”

Hence, there’s debate about intentionality regarding investing in any cryptocurrency because the market is so unpredictable. Not every experience involving cryptocurrency has alluded to a “get rich quick” scheme, but whether due to simple luck or strategy, many have had good fortune related to cryptocurrency. Hence, the elephant in the room is whether this intuitive currency design is here to stay.

After rocketing 1,200 percent just this past year, Bitcoin has taken dramatic turns in 2018, plummeting 30 percent last Thursday, Feb. 8, then jumping 30 percent the follow-



Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Colin Murphy is a cryptocurrency investor who knows everything about money and transactions.

ing day, according to CNBC. The extreme changes in vitality leave many uncertain about the market within any cryptocurrency. In fact, Murphy recently decided to cut his gains from his investments, as have many others as cryptocurrency becomes riskier. Even so, there’s still some hope these fluctuations are only due to cryptocurrency still adjusting to becoming an original currency.

“There’s a legion of people out there right now that see this as a great buying oppor-

tunity,” said Spencer Bogart, a researcher at Blockchain Capital.

With that view, cryptocurrency can almost do no wrong between rapid and unpredictable changes in the market. Of course, only the future will tell how feasible cryptocurrency actually is, but the public has entire control of the amount of investment focused into cryptocurrency. As of now, there doesn’t seem to be a shortage of interest, because the cryptocurrency conversation seems to be just beginning.

How to spot fake news regarding health

Jordan Jewell
Staff Intern

There’s a juice to cure every illness. Cutting gluten out of your diet will make you lose weight shockingly fast. If you swallow your gum, it will sit in your stomach for seven years before you digest it. These health myths were the topic of this month’s RecWell series.

“Don’t Be Duped: How to Spot Fake News” was a presentation hosted by Charlie Rinehart on Wednesday, Feb. 7 in the RecWell Center. Rinehart specializes in teaching people how to spot harmful or biased information in the health and wellness field.

“In today’s society, a lot of people like to pick their team, put on that hat and believe everything that their team presents to them,” Rinehart said.

He believes that people are more inclined to believe health information based on its presentation rather than the facts that lie behind it.

The presentation highlights eight fal-

lacies that often appear in health discussions. These fallacies, or “untruths,” include bandwagon arguments, correlation versus causation, hasty generalizations, dogmatism, slippery slope, false authority, anonymous authority and untested hypotheses.

Erica Wallace, Health and Wellness Coordinator at Oakland University, organized the presentation to remind students that not everything you read online is true.

“It’s easy to see someone like Gwyneth Paltrow, a supposed ‘health guru,’ pushing a product, and immediately subscribe to everything she’s saying,” Wallace said. “It’s important to understand that these celebrities are making a profit off the products they are pushing.”

Rinehart brought two graduate students along with him to present the popular fallacies. Evan O’Hara and Courtney Stockman touched on the different ways that health news can be biased or completely misconstrued. They gave countless examples ranging from “doctors”

with fake credentials to companies trying to push products with no prior research.

“There are over 7 billion people on this planet,” Stockman said. “And we all have different bodies that will react differently to health methods.”

She continued to explain that going vegan might not be the reason some people live longer and activated charcoal might not be the cure to all digestion issues.

Rinehart emphasized that being healthy is considered very trendy.

“Most multivitamins just give you very expensive urine,” he said of vitamins and “miracle pills.”

When one student commented on the Kardashians and their lifestyle methods, the conversation turned to how many health products are marketed toward women.

“It all comes back to the idea of the mediocre man,” Rinehart said. Media often presents us with TV shows featuring a mediocre husband and a seemingly perfect wife who is picking up his slack. “We act like men can be average



Brendan Triola / The Oakland Post

Rinehart lectured on how to spot biased news.

and women have to be above average at all times, and it creates a market for these ‘miracle’ health products.”

The RecWell Series hosts presentations each month on different physical and mental health topics. March’s talk will be on the topic of “Finding Peace” and April’s will be hosted by Erica Wallace and will focus on the idea of “Getting Your Life Together.”

For more information students can visit the University Recreation and Well-Being website.

Grizzlies race Formula SAE cars to the finish line

Engineering students design “GRX7” racecar for competitions, provides experience and opportunity for all majors

Dean Vaglia
Distributor

Many people dream of driving a racecar, but these students are doing it for real. Grizzlies Racing is Oakland University’s team in the Formula SAE competition. Based out of the Engineering Center, Grizzlies Racing takes the student-designed “GRX7” racecar to FSAE events across the country while providing team members with practical engineering experience.

Along with certification tests, there are four different events: Skid Pad, a race designed to test the car’s handling of G-forces; Acceleration, a test of the car’s speed; and Autocross, a time-based race on a slalom course, all test racers’ skills. But it is the Endurance event that stands out the most. It’s the ultimate test of reliability. The Endurance test has teams drive cars at full throttle for half an hour. The event is so intense that only 20 percent of the cars entered finish the event.

“It is supposed to simulate a year’s worth of driving,” Grizzlies Racing member Thomas Weiss said.

FSAE is not just about the getting the fastest time, however. It helps to be fast, but reliability will get teams more points.

According to Grizzlies Racing member Adam Delbeke, preparations for the next competition begin as soon as the current competition ends. From the day the team gets back to Oakland, they look over what they liked and disliked from the car used and what

can be changed to help performance. Once changes have been made to the car, testing begins.

“The day we get the car done we’re down in [parking lot] P35 shaking the car down,” Grizzlies Racing member Gavin McPherson said. “We set up test tracks, time trials and drivers get a feel for the car and test the new suspension.”

Grizzlies Racing competes at FSAE Lincoln in Lincoln, Neb. and at FSAE Michigan at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich. The Michigan event is the most important of the two, attracting teams from United States and around the world.

FSAE Michigan also attracts high level engineering companies like SpaceX and NASCAR teams, as one member of an Austrian team found out.

“One of their lead engineers for suspension, he got called by a NASCAR team and they paid for him to... fly to their facility and interview,” Weiss said. “He didn’t even ask for the job. That was just based off of his presentation at the competition.”

To those who are interested in joining Grizzlies Racing, but are afraid that they can only be engineers to get in, you’re in luck. The team is open to anyone who is willing to lend a hand, regardless of major.

“We have business majors and are trying to recruit more on the team. Advertising majors, marketing majors, anyone, we’ll gladly take them” Delbeke said.

The next event for Grizzlies Racing will be FSAE Michigan at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich. from May 9-12 and will be open to the public.



Photo courtesy of Kurisu Fambro

BOTTOM: A look at the rear of the GRX7 racecar and the Honda engine hiding behind the driver’s seat.
TOP: Wet weather testing for the GRX7 racecar.

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A lonely boy's guide to Valentine's Day

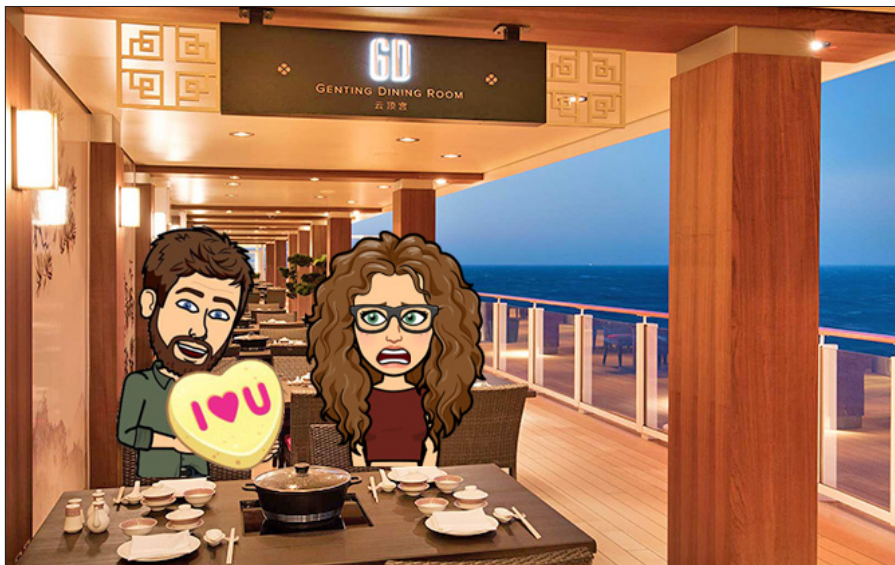


Photo illustration by Erin O'Neill / The Oakland Post

No pressure. You just have to pick the right dinner and order the right food and talk about the right stuff.

Simon Albaugh
Social Media Editor

I'll admit, I don't know the intricacies of Valentine's Day. I don't know who pays for the meal in this day and age or whether a hug means that they're marriage material or not.

But I do know one thing, and that's the fact that I was assigned this topic before I could fully explain my romantic deficiencies.

So the first thing you have to do is pick a restaurant. I don't know if it's important whether it's a McDonald's or a Michelin-starred bistro. Just make sure it's not the wrong choice. I picked the wrong restaurant on a practice date with my mother, and we had to dine and dash while tipping the valet 45 cents.

Then you need to pick a movie. I really like the Disney movies on Netflix. My roommates can always tell when I've watched a movie I like because I always order a full-size cutout of a Disney princess to practice kissing on.

A gift is always a good idea, too. I once went to Costco to get one of those four-foot teddy bears for a first date. I think the girl was horrified by how thoughtful I was for buying it to commemorate a first date. Although it was really sad to know that she stopped talking to me. Probably because she just couldn't think of a way to top my gift.

The most important thing to remember is that you need to show people respect when they decide to spend time with you. The more things you do to re-

spect them, the more they like you.

Order their food for them, open every single door and if they're chilly just take off your t-shirt in the middle of a restaurant so they can have extra layers in the cold. It doesn't hurt to frantically find the manager to yell that your future wife is freezing in his or her cheap food stand.

Don't forget to introduce them to your mother. I like to bring my mother on every first date. She's a great judge of people. You can just tell by the way my mother stares at every movement that my date makes until it almost becomes too much. I really appreciate my mother.

Now for date ideas. Valentine's Day is the big night for every date, so take them to someplace special to you. Last year I took my date to paintball and shot her in the face. It's really important to help them participate in the things you love.

And finally, make sure that they know they're special to you. There was this one time when a squirrel was staring at the food a girl was eating. When she said it was really annoying to have the squirrel watching her, I ran off and grabbed the squirrel to make him apologize.

That might not have been the best way to do it, but a similar gesture would work really well.

Best of luck to all of you in trying to get people to marry you. I know it's hard, but just know at least your mother is always around to help.

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