

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 45 | Issue 20 | Feb. 19, 2020

THE PLAYOFFS ARE COMING

*Students join Golden Grizzlies
basketball for pep rally to
celebrate upcoming Horizon
League tournament*

WHAT'S NEW AT OU
Board of Trustees discusses
campus initiatives, new online MBA
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DIGITAL TEACHING TOOLS
Program offers courses for faculty to
learn effective online teaching
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STUDENT SUCCESS
Oakland to take part in nationwide
data literacy initiative
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PHOTO BY NICOLE MORSFIELD

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



WINTER WONDER LAKE As spring break approaches, campus is covered in snow, students shiver on their way to classes and Bear Lake remains frozen. PHOTO / ASHLEY AVERILL

THE OAKLAND POST

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7 LETTERS TO LANSING

OU Writing Center hosts bipartisan workshop on addressing legislators
Photo/Sergio Montanez



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SPREADING SUSTAINABILITY

Campus administrators work to make food packaging more sustainable
Photo/Sophie Hume



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CONFRONTING CANCER

Freshman battling brain cancer receives unconventional treatment
Photo/Bryan McCullough

VOTE AND CONNECT AT:
oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR SPRING BREAK?

- A) HAVING A MIDLIFE CRISIS
- B) NETFLIX AND NO CHILL
- C) WORKING (ON MY IMMINENT SELF-DEMISE)
- D) OBNOXIOUSLY POSTING VACATION SELFIES

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY?

36%

A) GETTING SHITFACED TO FORGET I'M SINGLE

7%

B) OBNOXIOUS PDA TO MAKE SINGLE PEOPLE UNCOMFORTABLE

16%

C) BUYING LAST-MINUTE CHOCOLATE AND FLOWERS

42%

D) THE ONLY THING I'M "DOING" ON V-DAY IS HOMEWORK ;)

CORRECTIONS CORNER: Last week, The Oakland Post published a story titled "OUCS announces candidates for 2020-2021 school year." The article misspelled two candidates' names — Ethan Bradley and Makarila Gaston. These errors have been corrected online. The Oakland Post apologizes for the error. We correct all known errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

LOOKING BACK

1999 campus-wide initiative promotes student health

AUTUMN PAGE

Staff Reporter

In 1999, Oakland University kicked off a campus-wide initiative to promote and encourage students to live a healthy lifestyle.

Administration collaborated with the Graham Health Center (GHC), the Recreation Center and ARAMARK Food Services to bring the “Fit For Life” campaign to life. These companies would help guide students to healthy food and exercise choices.

“With the opening of the campus Rec Center, we decided we should have other new initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle,” said Mary Beth Snyder, vice president for student affairs at the time.

The “Fit for Life” program began by making students aware about what food choices are available on campus. It started in the cafeterias and aimed to eventually migrate into the Pioneer Food Court. In the Vandenberg cafeteria, if the food



The goal of the program is to educate people about eating low fat diet and eating high calcium.

KAREN OLSEN
PAST GHC CLINICAL DIRECTOR



served had 20% or less fat calories or if it had 20% or less of the recommended daily dose of calcium, then it would receive the label “Fit for Life.”

This collaboration evolved to “create a climate at Oakland that promotes a healthy lifestyle, and certainly nutrition is a part of it,” Snyder said.

The next step in the initiative, accord-

ing to Gibson, was to label foods with nutritional information. The “Fit for Life” labels first appeared two weeks prior to this initiative in Vandenberg, and according to ARAMARK Director Delta Gibson, it would move into the food court. ARAMARK supplied the food in Vandenberg and partly in the food court.

Coordinating efforts between departments was no small task, according to Mila Padgett, then a fitness and wellness coordinator at the Rec Center.

“You have no idea how hard it was to get all the food services on the same page,” Padgett said. “Everyone has been working together, and it’s really been a team effort.”

The “Fit for Life” program integrated into activities at the Rec Center, too. Padgett developed a “Fit for Life” plan, which included exercise, stress management and other aspects of well-being.

“My goal is to develop a wellness series that will have presentations on dealing with stress, eating healthy and a variety of topics that hit wellness,”

Padgett said.

She also planned to tailor and change the fitness assessment to meet the criteria of the “Fit for Life” program. Students had the option to have an overall physical health evaluation, aimed to determine their specific needs. The fee for students who wanted a fitness assessment was \$15, while the fee was \$25 for other Rec Center members.

“The goal of the program is to educate people about eating low fat diet and eating high calcium,” said Karen Olsen, clinical director of the GHC at the time.

Brochures and posters with information on the program were available in areas like the Rec Center and the food court. At the food court and in Vandenberg, there were table tents set up all week to promote the program when it launched.

The Rec Center still offers dozens of programs and classes to promote healthy living and activity. Today, the Rec Center provides group classes and personal training, along with different student well-being programs and healthy habit tips.

THE OAKLAND POST IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 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.

Position effective late April 2020.

Applications will be accepted through **March 6, 2020.**

Applicants can send resume, cover letter and work samples to editorial adviser **Garry Gilbert** at **gjgilbert@oakland.edu**

BOT honors distinguished professors, announces new online MBA

TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

Professor promotions and program changes were among the topics discussed at the most recent Oakland University Board of Trustees (BOT) formal session, which took place Monday, Feb. 10 in the Oakland Center.

Advisory board reports

The meeting began with a series of updates from the advisory boards for the Golden Grizzlies Champions Club (GGCC) and the Young Alumni Chapter.

The GGCC, the official fundraising arm of OU Athletics, was represented by advisory board chair Anne Dieters-Williams and vice chair Mark Guthrie. According to their report, the GGCC has received \$246,457.51 in philanthropic gifts since its inception, all of which goes toward offering financial support to student athletes.

The Young Alumni Chapter was represented by Kristen Macha, assistant director of alumni engagement, and Young Alumni Chapter Chair Amy Ring Cebalak. The organization's purpose is to encourage continued engagement in the campus community among young alumni beyond their four years at OU. The Young Alumni Chapter has seen a 100% giving rate from its members within the last four consecutive years.

President's report

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz provided the BOT with progress reports for several ongoing campus initiatives, including the recently launched Golden Grizzlies Graduate program, which was comprised of nine graduates in the fall 2019 semester. The goal of the program is to increase degree completion among students with college credits who have not completed their degrees. The program has 20 additional degree candidates scheduled to graduate this spring, with 126 total participants.

Additionally, Pescovitz announced a 10.1% increase in transfer students for the fall 2019 semester — more than any competing institutions across the state.

"This requires a huge amount of effort — it doesn't just happen," she said, "but it is a reflection of the fact that Oakland is



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

From left: Linda Pavonetti, Vijayan Sugumaran and Karen Sheridan were appointed to the rank of distinguished professor at the Board of Trustees meeting Monday, Feb. 10.

increasingly a university of choice."

Pescovitz also reported an increase in employer recruitment for OU students. Among the statistics she shared was a 90% employment rate for current OU graduates.

"Our contributions to the Michigan economy are significant," Pescovitz said. "These students are receiving extraordinary employment, and they are working at top jobs, and I am really, really proud of this."

Among other highlights were the \$535,252 raised during the All University Fund Drive, the \$273,475 raised in the OU/University of Detroit Mercy Annual Giving Challenge, the establishment of seven new endowments and a recap of last month's Keeper of the Dream celebration.

Online MBA announced

Michael Mazzeo, dean of the School of Business Administration (SBA), was also present at the BOT meeting to discuss the school's current and future endeavors. His presentation was largely focused on student success, including the ACHIEVE program and the student-managed investment fund.

Mazzeo also announced that, in correspondence with SBA's 50th anniversary, a new online Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is being implemented to assist in student retention and influence new enrollment.

"The MBA market in general is on a decline, but not in southeast Michigan," Mazzeo said.

The new program will officially launch in the fall 2020 semester. The school's previously existing executive MBA program has also been relaunched with a more leadership-based focus.

Professor appointments

The BOT also unanimously approved a request to appoint Linda Pavonetti (School of Education and Human Services), Karen Sheridan (School of Music, Theatre and Dance) and Vijayan Sugumaran (School of Business Administration) to the rank of distinguished professor.

"These professors are outstanding examples of people who are not only really excellent in their discipline, but also people who have been here a long time and committed a lot of their career and lives to Oakland University," said Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost James Lentini. "They really fit the bill for people who make a real impact on the institution and on our students."

The distinction includes a one-time salary stipend of \$2,500 and an annual supplies and services allocation of \$1,500, up to five years, to be paid from the provost's discretionary fund.

The professors' appointment will go into effect Aug. 15.

Charter renewals

The BOT meeting concluded with charter renewals for Four Corners Montessori Academy, Universal Academy and Weston Preparatory Academy, all of which operate under the Office of Public School Academies at OU.

Universal Academy came under fire at the August 2019 BOT meeting after students alleged that administrators were diminishing the quality of their education. According to PSA Executive Director Judeen Bartos, those conditions have improved drastically since then, largely thanks to site visits and ongoing meetings between the PSA office and student, parent and faculty groups.

"I think [the communication is] much better," she said. "There has been a different tone and a different experience this year in the school."

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Monday, April 6 at 2 p.m. in Founders Ballroom A.

Center for Civic Engagement to host mock caucus event

RACHEL BASELA

Life&Arts Editor

For the first time in Oakland University history, the Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) will be hosting a mock presidential primary caucus. The event will follow the lead of a democratic Iowa-style caucus, and students will find that it's much different than the average primary in which Michiganders are used to participating.

The mock caucus will take place Thursday, March 3 from 4-6 p.m. in the Oakland Center banquet rooms. Food and beverages will be served after the caucusing takes place, followed by a discussion led by the CCE.

Professor David Dulio is the director of the CCE. He started the initiative to bring a caucus event to OU students.

Different from the standard presidential primary where there are secret ballots and strict

campaigning policies, a caucus allows candidate representatives to argue for their candidate to the voters in the room.

"Primaries and caucuses are both in the category of what I would call a nominating contest," Dulio said. "All 50 states, the territories, people living abroad, they will all have a chance to participate in a nominating contest. It's up to the state [to decide] which one that's going to be — whether a caucus or a primary."

Each representative will have an area of the room where they encourage voters to join them through arguments made in support of their candidate. Essentially, heads are counted when every voter aligns themselves with a candidate, and each group that has less than 15% of support from the room will be eliminated.

"If a preference group does not have 15% support out of the entire caucus-going crowd, that group is deemed to be nonviable," Dulio said. "In that case, those folks who are in a non-

viable group can go to their second choice."

From the second alignment, the winning candidate is chosen.

"It is those results that are then taken forward through the rest of the caucus process beyond that first step," Dulio said.

To prepare for the mock caucus, Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) Civic Affairs Director Ethan Bradley recommended some online resources for learning about the candidates.

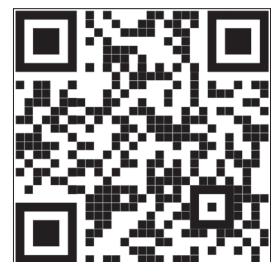
"The Campus Election Engagement Project has a detailed guide on the process of getting registered and voting," Bradley said via email. "Politico has an extraordinarily detailed and easy-to-navigate guide on the political views of each candidate."

At the event, OUSC will provide paper forms for students to register to vote. Since Michigan's primary election is a week away from the mock caucus, students will have to

provide that paper form to the election inspectors at their precinct when voting.

"Michigan residents can vote on March 10 if they register to vote online or by mail before Feb. 24, or if they register at their local (city or township, not county) clerk on or before the day of the election," Bradley said via email. "Online registration and other information are available at mi.gov/vote."

Students can RSVP for the Iowa-style mock caucus by following the QR code.



Changes in tech courses made by e-LIS

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

According to a 2019 survey of faculty attitudes on technology, American faculty members — whether reluctantly or enthusiastically — are increasingly participating in accepting the validity of online education.

In order to provide better technical support to professors with online systems, professors at Oakland University are given the stipend after completion of Quality Online Teaching Certification Courses (QOTCC), created by e-Learning and Instructional Support (e-LIS).

Designed for a variety of purposes, e-LIS offers software support, workshops, online best practices and instructional design assistance to the OU community.

One of the courses offered by the e-LIS is a QOTCC. It is created for the professors at OU to focus on how to teach effectively in the online environment for a stipend of \$1,000. Last year, however, e-LIS added a new part to its course, splitting the stipend into two — \$700 for part one and \$300 for part two of the course.

Shaun Moore is the director of e-LIS and a professor for the Department of Writing and Rhetoric who develops web applications and helps the faculty and students with the online classes.

“We have gotten many comments from professors that it’d be great to add an additional part to the course for advanced learning,” Moore said.

According to Moore, part one, which has existed in the past, is designed for instructions on course design, pedagogy, quality assurance and accessibility. Part two — the new part of the course — covers digital accessibility, synchronous learning, online group projects and advanced quizzing as a continuation of part one.

By taking this two-part online certification course, professors can earn up to \$1,000 of stipend.

Gina Choi is a chairperson of the Student Activities Funding Board for Student Congress. She said the e-LIS committee has been wanting to split the stipend amount, which will encourage the professors to take both parts of the certification course.

Benefits for the professors in receiving e-Learning and Instructional Support not only include QCTCC, but they also include online course review and Moodle mentors, etc.

The professors have received e-LIS for various reasons, such as building course materials. The faculty used to be trained on instructional technologies such as Moodle and WebEx through one-on-one training, group training and scheduled workshops.

Moore said any faculty member can also make one-on-one appointments at the e-LIS office, located in Kresge Library, for help with software tools. Additionally, they can meet with instructional design staff members to receive tips and advice on how to make their Moodle course more effective.

“The faculty can either go onto the e-LIS support portal to find the contact information for walk-in help or fill out a support request for one-on-one appointment,” Moore said. “This way, they can get assistance with Moodle, Panopto, WebEx, etc.”

These approaches have not only provided general support for faculty, but it also has supported online learning initiatives, including incentive programs and special e-learning events.

With diverse resources, Moore said e-LIS will continue to enhance the courses for many professors in the future and strive to reach out to all faculty members and students to provide guidance and technical support all year long.

CETL Learning Tips: Keep calm, and have a tech backup plan

**DAN ARNOLD
& NIC BONGERS**

e-LIS Faculty Members

There are a few feelings worse than losing a paper or glaring at a frozen online exam page. This week, our Moodle friends Dan Arnold and Nic Bongers give really important steps toward protecting your hard work and having a plan when tech issues happen. Do them today ... really!

At this point in the semester, you’re likely compiling a lot of work in papers, notes, presentations and more. Protect that work by having a technology backup plan to make sure you can always access your documents and act effectively when your computer crashes or you lose internet access mid-online exam. This learning tip focuses on preventing such frustrations so that you can focus on the important part — the learning.

Use the cloud. Have you ever been writing an assignment and your computer crashes? What about that time you forgot to bring your thumb drive and couldn’t access your assignment? Google Drive is your friend, a free cloud storage service that you get as part of your OU Gmail account. You can create and store all

sorts of documents, including papers, PDFs, presentations and spreadsheets.

If you prefer to use Microsoft Word instead of Google’s comparable product, Docs, then you can simply use Microsoft’s cloud storage system, OneDrive. As an OU student, you have free access to OneDrive, along with a variety of other Microsoft programs, by logging into the Office 365 website using your OU email and password. You can even download the latest versions of Microsoft Office to your laptop or desktop computer.

Have a plan B for computer and internet.

In addition to using cloud storage, it’s always best to have a backup plan for online exams. What happens when your apartment Wi-Fi is disconnected? Deciding where will you go ahead of time — Kresge Library, your local library, McDonald’s, Starbucks, a friend’s house or on-campus location — can make the difference in getting your exam done on time.

For written answers in exams, draft outside of the browser. For essay questions and papers, type your answers on a Word or Google document first, then copy and paste your response into Moodle. In the unlikely

event that Moodle freezes or you lose your internet connection, you’ll still have a copy of your answer saved on your computer.

How does your professor work with tech mishaps? Your professor may have their own technology backup plan on the syllabus. If they don’t, then it’s a good idea to ask them if they have any preference on how you handle any technology-related issues. Ideally, you should know this information at least a couple of days before the assignment or exam opens so that you aren’t trying to figure it out in the midst of a crisis situation.

Call Moodle Help. If you experience any Moodle-related issues at any time, including during your midterm, please contact Moodle support immediately for assistance. You can always use the Get Help button at the top of any Moodle page to find our contact information and hours of availability. We have extended evening hours during the week as well as on the weekend.

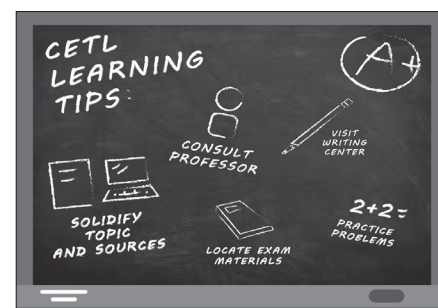
Plan for all of these things today! Having a plan in place before something happens will greatly reduce any stress or anxiety should something happen during your midterm. While it won’t completely

eliminate all stress, it’s much less stressful to know what to do beforehand instead of reacting in the moment.

We wish you luck and success on your projects and exams, and hope you enjoy a well-deserved break!

Dan Arnold and Nic Bongers work in e-Learning and Instructional Support to help faculty and students with all things Moodle. They earned their doctorates at Oakland University and teach here as well.

If you would like to contribute a learning tip to this column, contact Christina Moore at cmamoore@oakland.edu.



JIMMY WILLIAMS | GRAPHIC DESIGNER
These tips should help your productivity and safeguard your work.

Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society



Dr. Nancy Tuana discusses

RACIAL CLIMATES

March 5, 2020

7–9 p.m.

Oakland Center, Banquet Room A

Environmental and climate justice efforts have focused on disproportionate impacts of anthropogenic climate change on communities impacted by racist prejudices and on low-income communities. Such a focus on injustices concerning current impacts of climate change and other environmental harms obscures the underlying legacies of oppression that are woven into our shared climate. What is needed is recognition of racial climates. Targeting the lineages of the values, concepts, and practices that ground current climate regimes, in this case those animated by (though never exclusively by) racism, provides an understanding of the ways lineages of oppression and environmental exploitation are interwoven.

Join us for this thought-provoking lecture.

Admission is **FREE**, but reservations are requested.

To reserve your space, call (248) 370-3390 or email zimmerm2@oakland.edu.



Designed to tackle some of today's compelling issues — from war to religion to sexual ethics — the Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society sparks serious, thought-provoking discussions between scholars, students and the community.

CAMPUS

OU Writing Center puts on bipartisan 'Letters to Lansing' event

BEN HUME

Web Editor

Students assembled at Kresge Library on Tuesday, Feb. 11, to celebrate civic engagement with their local representatives.

The Oakland University Writing Center teamed up with the College Republicans of OU, the College Democrats of OU, and the OU Center for Civic Engagement to hold a bipartisan workshop on how to address letters to local representatives. House Republican Andrea Schroeder of the 43rd District and House Democrat Rosemary Bayer of the 12th District spoke alongside writing center consultants Red Douglas and Rachael Baker.

Dr. David Dulio, director of the Center for Civic Engagement, started the night with a word about the importance of this event in regard to civic duty.

"One of the goals for the [Center for Civic Engagement] is to make Oakland University a convener of conversation about issues of public importance, but to do it in the right way," Dulio said, "in a civil manner, a respectful manner, a deliberative manner that can be productive, and what you'll hear about tonight is the productive part."

He spoke about the unique opportunity being provided — the spokespeople — after giving students a presentation not only about how to write and address mail to government officials, but also a crash course on how local government operates.

"You have the opportunity to write letters, and I would

even broaden it to communicate with elected officials. It's their job to listen to you," Dulio said. "You are their constituents. They work for you. If you can get your point across to them in an effective manner — which is what tonight is all about — that's a really great thing, not only for you and what you think is important, but for democracy broadly."

Douglas introduced the goals for the night and what the writing center hoped to provide everyone attending, from better government understanding to the proper etiquette when addressing a government official.

"Our objectives with this brief presentation are to discover who represents you or at least teach you how to figure that information out yourself, discover where to send your letter, discover proper formatting and language ...

and then, really basic, how to address your letter," Douglas said. "You wouldn't believe how many people actually don't know how to do that."

After Douglas and Baker briefed the audience on how to find their local representatives and write to them, representatives Schroeder and Bayer offered their perspectives on why a bipartisan event like the "Letters to Lansing" is so important.

"I take every opportunity I can to speak, especially to young people, about engagement and being a part of the government, and just being active," Schroeder said. "When I was in high school and in college, I wasn't active and engaged, and I never had aspirations to be a politician or an elected official, but I have learned and have really encouraged my kids ... to remain engaged on what's happening."

The writing center hopes to organize similar events twice a year to celebrate civic engagement and bipartisanship on campus, as they were pleased with the outcome of the first event. Dr. Sherry Wynn Perdue, director of the writing center, plans to continue hosting bipartisan, writing-based events like "Letters to Lansing."

"I'm really excited at the level of engagement that we observed, but for me the best part was the way that our two guests interacted with each other and demonstrated true governance in action against what we see on the national stage, I thought that was important," Wynn Perdue said. "I just got done talking with Dr. Dulio, and we're going to do this every semester. We're hoping to grow it to the point where this space won't contain it and we'll have to find a bigger space for it."



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER

Graduate consultant Red Douglas speaks at the writing center workshop on addressing letters to local representatives Tuesday, Feb. 11.



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Wednesday, March 18 | 5-7 p.m. | Oakland Center Founders Ballrooms

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POLICE FILES

Pawley Hall larcenies

An Oakland University police officer was dispatched to Pawley Hall on Thursday, Jan. 7 to report a possible string of larcenies that have been occurring in the building. The officer met with two women who stated they had noticed a few items had come up missing from the third floor advising center of the building.

The victim of the theft said her brown Louis Vuitton purse was taken from her office sometime overnight. She stated that her credit cards and license were inside the purse when she last saw it on Monday, Dec. 16 when she used a credit card for lunch that day. She noticed it missing on Tuesday, Dec. 17 and believes it was taken off her desk. The woman also said that her purse is worth almost \$700 and said her office was locked at the time.

On that same night, there were also reports of three other larcenies in the same building. There were three bottles of hand lotion stolen from the Lowry Child Care Center and a bluetooth speaker stolen from a different room of the child care center. The thefts are assumed to be linked to the purse, but there are currently no suspects.

Compiled by Ben Hume,
Web Editor

Campus increases sustainability efforts in OC, Hillcrest, Vandenberg

by Lauren Reid | design by Erin O'Neill | graphics by Jimmy Williams

The Oakland Center (OC) and the cafeterias in Hillcrest and Vandenberg halls are working to improve campus sustainability. Measures have been taken to implement new packaging, biodegradable utensils (coming soon) and rebranded waste and recycling in the OC — and that's only the beginning.

"Sustainability will always be at the forefront of what we do," said Chris Reed, director of the OC.

Reed mentioned the OC has already eliminated styrofoam packaging from the Pioneer Food Court, with the help of Chartwells, OU's campus food service provider. Chick-fil-A and Panda Express have seen new, paper-based alternatives to previously styrofoam products.

Utensil dispensers are also on their way in the Pioneer Food Court, as opposed to individually wrapped utensil packages. Rebranded recycling and waste has allowed for colored labels (blue for recycling and black for landfill), ensuring guests know how to dispose of their used products.

"Students want to make better choices," said Erin Meyers, an associate professor of communication and member of the Faculty, Student, Staff Alliance for Climate and Environment (FSSACE) on campus. "I was excited to find out from [Reed] that initiatives are in progress."

Not only are changes being implemented in the OC, but in the Hillcrest and Vandenberg cafeterias as well. According to Mark McCormic, resident district manager at Chartwells, they have installed fryer oil holding tanks in the OC and residence halls to "eliminate thousands of large, plastic drums of oil from the landfill along with the cardboard boxes they come in."

Chartwells also moved to a reusable,

eco-friendly takeout container in residence halls. McCormic said this transition has eliminated over 50,000 takeout containers.

The push for sustainability won't stop here, as more motions are in progress. According to Reed, the OC is working to incorporate visual examples of acceptable recycling and landfill items for proper disposal, as well as create an additional food waste location. Reed anticipates these changes to be up-and-running by fall 2020.

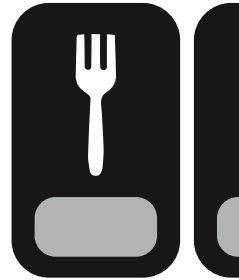
Additional initiatives on the way include hand dryers, low to zero waste events and meetings and a reduction in paper products for marketing purposes, such as posters and banners. Reduction of paper advertising could also lead to less ink and printer usage.

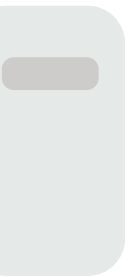
"The OC is very concerned about the environment and impact we have locally, nationally and globally," Reed said. "We work closely and collaboratively with our public-private partners here at the Oakland Center on improving our sustainability efforts and making positive changes for the environment that benefit students, faculty, staff, our P3 partners, the OC and Oakland University."

Reed is hopeful that student knowledge of active sustainability measures being taken in the OC and other campus locations will make them more comfortable when participating in events or purchasing items.

"When students, faculty and staff hear about what is being done, there is quite often surprise," he said. "[Guests] then have a positive outlook on what is being done to improve sustainability in the Oakland Center."

"We will always be looking for ways to improve our sustainability efforts, while not having a negative impact on the services provided. We are open to feedback, new ideas and ways to improve."





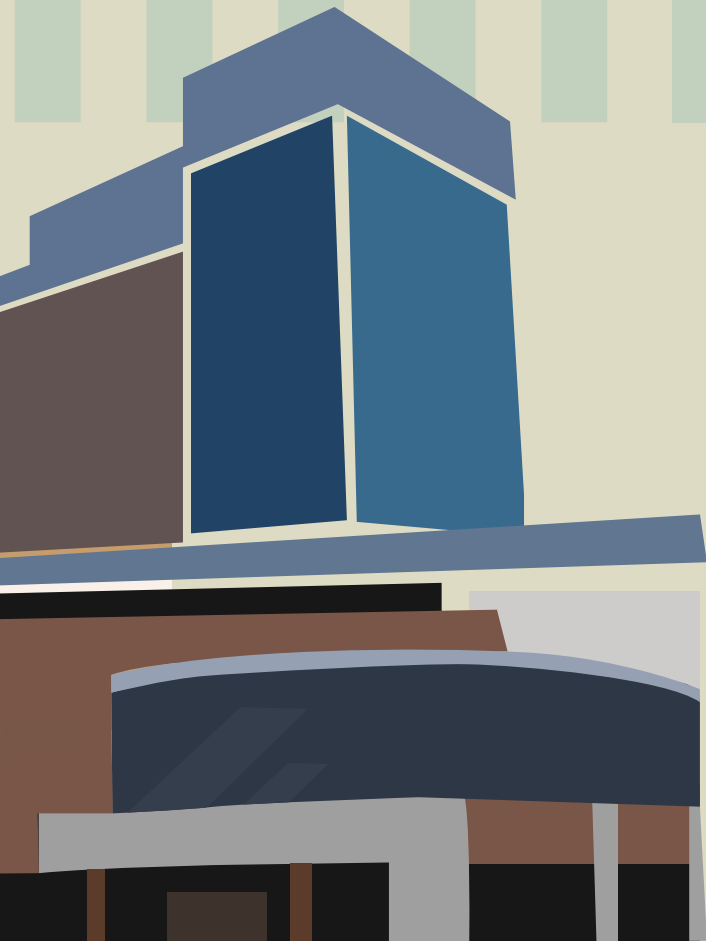
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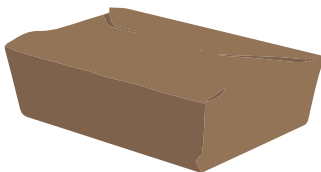
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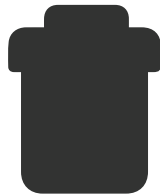
STYROFOAM
ELIMINATION



PAPER
ALTERNATIVES



ECO-FRIENDLY
TAKEOUT CONTAINER



REBRANDING/
COLORED LABELS



ZERO WASTE
EVENTS/MEETINGS



REDUCTION
OF PAPER MARKETING

Data Literacy Institute research aids in student success

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) and Association for Institutional Research (AIR) have selected Oakland University as one of 12 universities to take part in a nationwide initiative to further student success goals by increasing data literacy on campus.

Facilitated through the APLU's Powered by Public initiative, OU and other universities will have 20 staff and faculty members trained by the AIR's Data Literacy Institute on how to read and analyze data.

"The goal of Powered by Public is to help increase student success, graduation [and] retention [rates] across the U.S.," said Anne Hitt, associate provost and a liaison to the APLU.

The Data Literacy Institute's work is divided into two parts. First, 20 faculty and staff members will be selected and put through a 60-hour training program specifically tailored to the needs of the university by the AIR. After the training is complete, they will be tasked with using data collected by the OU Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA) to work on a project designed to further the univer-

sity's goal of student success.

When it comes to student success, OU measures it in a few different ways.

"[OU] has data," Hitt said. "We have grades, we have attendance records, we have transcripts. We have success rates in courses ... Sometimes we know if a student has been active in, say, student

government. We can say, 'You did these extracurricular things, and that seems to correspond to student success.'"

All of this data is in the hands of the OIRA, which already analyzes it on a regular basis. With the opportunity given by the application part of the Powered by Public initiative, OIRA Director and

APLU Liaison Song Yan believes the data will be read in a different way than before.

"We are really excited about this," Yan said. "I think from an institutional research point, we are more excited about how we are going to get a whole cross-campus, different office units being involved in [data analysis]. Oakland University has been using data for making decisions, and we have been pretty good at this, but I think this is another way for us to improve our use of data to make decisions."

The Data Literacy Institute classes will begin around the fall 2020 semester and should be completed in time to begin the application project around the winter 2021 semester. While the exact goal of the project and what data will be used in it are currently unclear, some ideas about what it might include reforming gateway courses or researching the effectiveness of certain programs, such as internships or courses.

"Until we analyze the data and we really look at it carefully and we balance it with other things ... we do not know what the answers are," Hitt said. "[The project is about] figuring out what data we can access and what it tells us in support of student success."



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Oakland was selected to take part in a nationwide initiative to increase data literacy on campus.



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OUWB professors to host education research ‘unconference’

LAUREN REID

Staff Reporter

This spring, two Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB) assistant professors Stephanie Attardi and Victoria Roach will launch an “unconference” focusing on anatomy education research.

Scheduled for Saturday, June 6 in Toronto, the event is geared toward anyone interested in multiple fields, including but not limited to medicine, nursing and physical therapy.

The idea behind the “unconference” is to create a collaborative, casual environment ideal for feedback rather than a standard conference that focuses on completed research. The unconference allows for effective collaboration and discussion in a non-intimidating setting, where participants can bring research that is in progress or its early stages.

“We’ve found that the most productive aspects of a conference take place outside of the sessions — in the hallways and during the coffee breaks,” Roach said. “We thought it would be great if there was a whole conference devoted to the informal, idea-generating, networking environment that flows out of the traditional conference setting.”

Working with their colleagues, Kristina Lisk and Danielle Bentley of the University of Toronto, Attardi and Roach began planning the event.

The agenda includes a keynote address from Dr. Ni-



COURTESY OF OUWB

OUWB assistant professors Stefanie Attardi and Victoria Roach will launch an “unconference” in June.

cole Woods who will “set the pace for the day,” according to Roach. Following will be breakout sessions and various consultations, where participants will receive “logistical and methodological feedback” on their respective endeavors.

Participating researchers can develop rigorous studies and knowledge, which in turn will improve anatomy edu-

cation for students, according to Attardi.

A unique aspect of the unconference is breakout room content will be voted on by participants the day of, allowing for topics to be relevant and interesting. Participants can then informally move around throughout the day and take in a plethora of new information.

“I’m excited for some lively discussions and debates,” Attardi said. “I’m hoping that the informal setting [where everyone is on the same level] will allow for respectful and intriguing discussion about various approaches. I think it will be productive — I’m excited to see it play out.”

Since there is no traditional stage with a speaker all day, Attardi hopes participants will feel comfortable enough to vocalize their ideas. The day will conclude with Harvard Macy Institute Step Back Consultations, which is an emerging model used to gather group feedback.

According to Roach, this unconference is the first to be aimed at an international audience. In the past, events like this have been small and local, but this event will hopefully attract participants from various communities.

Attardi said the organizers want participants to “leave at the end of the day with a more rigorous study design that they are going to pursue.”

Capped at 45 attendees, this event requires an application to ensure participants are serious about the field. There is no cost to attend the unconference and students at any level are welcome, enabling them to network and expand their knowledge. For more information on event specifics or to submit an application, visit the conference website.

CETL hosts sixth annual instructional fair

LIZ KOVAC

Engagement Editor

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) will host its sixth annual Instructional Fair on Thursday, April 2.

The event is similar to a science fair, except students, staff and faculty present teaching tips.

“We’ve had presentations from posters, to computer demonstrations, to virtual reality stations,” CETL Virtual Faculty Developer Christina Moore said.

Faculty and staff can present individually or with students.

“Over the years, we’ve seen a growth of student involvement in the fair,” Moore said.

Jessica Rico, special lecturer in the Department of Writing and Rhetoric at Oakland University, presented at the fair last year.

“I think this is an excellent benefit to involve students in the learning

process and to teach students that here at Oakland, their experiences and voices matter to all of us,” she said. “I would definitely suggest that other staff and students be involved in the fair. I saw some amazing presentations where students and instructors collaborated to create a project to share.”

If a student and professor want to participate in the fair, they have to sign up together as a unit.

Dr. Felicita Arzu Carmichael, assistant professor of writing and rhetoric, presented at the Instructional Fair with her students last year and stress that seeing how students interact with their professors and their material is a key aspect of the fair.

“The conversations my students had with attendees were so valuable to me because it allowed me to understand more about their learning and my own teaching,” Carmichael said.

According to Moore, the Instructional Fair is an opportunity

for staff and faculty to network and share excitement for engaging classroom practices.

“The fair is a way for faculty to feel less isolated and know what each other are implementing in their own classrooms,” she said.

No matter their area of focus, the fair offers faculty and staff the chance to share and gain insights of effective teaching strategies.

“I think it is important to increase communication between the different departments at Oakland,” Rico said. “Attending the event is a great way to network. I have met people at these events in many departments that I would not normally come into contact with.”

Moore is head organizer of the Instructional Fair. While the event takes place in April, she books a venue for the event in November and works throughout the following months to promote CETL’s call for proposals and the fair itself.

“The fair has a broad representation from various disciplines,” Moore said. “Anything teaching and learning related is a collective effort. Teaching can seem isolating. Your teaching becomes a lot more exciting when you collaborate and have a support system.”

According to Moore, a university should be an ecosystem where staff and faculty work together to let students fulfill their potential. She believes the event is an integral part of that ecosystem.

The Instructional Fair will be held in Banquet Room A in the Oakland Center on Thursday, April 2 from 2-4 p.m. For more information, visit CETL’s Instructional Fair page on OU’s website.

“I encourage other faculty to share in this collaborative experience with their students at the OU Instructional Fair,” Carmichael said.

The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, Feb. 21.

Freshman receives unconventional treatment to fight brain cancer

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

Overcoming the life expectancy of cancer can be considered as unusual and sometimes impossible. Sam Kell, a freshman at Oakland University, did just that and is getting an unusual treatment to fight this obstacle.

Kell was diagnosed with glioblastoma in his freshman year of high school. With its average life expectancy of 12 to 18 months, glioblastoma is an aggressive, fast-growing form of brain cancer. As a young man, Kell was devastated after the diagnosis.

"I was really struggling in pretty much every area in my life," Kell said. "I did not want to go to Stoney Creek [High School], and I was physically and mentally exhausted for months even before being diagnosed."

For the past three-and-a-half years, Kell has been on two experimental treatments — according to the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital at the University of Michigan—medication and Optune.

The medication, led by Pediatric Oncologist Carl Koschmann, involves DNA and RNA genomic sequencing. This method figures out which mutation was the cause of his cancer and then provides the most efficient, unconventional treatment for that mutation.

This eventually led the doctors to treat his cancer with a drug called "everolimus," which is generally used to prevent rejection of organ transplants.

In addition to the medication, Kell also wears a portable

device called Optune.

"It is a medical device made for stopping tumor progression, rather than killing cells," Kell said. "A technology called tumor-treating fields magnetically holds cancerous cells together by sending electrical impulses through 'arrays' (the stickers on my head), and keeps them from dividing and either forming or spreading into another tumor."

Kell was the first pediatric patient to use Optune. While this device is typically for patients who have had a recurrence of glioblastoma after surgery and treatment, he has never gone through recurrence.

Despite facing cancer, Kell didn't lose his positivity.



COURTESY OF BRYAN MCCULLOUGH

Sam Kell looking at his wearable device, which creates electric fields aimed to stop or slow the divide of the glioblastoma tumor cells.

Rather than living his life with negativity and depression, he appreciates every day and tries to overcome this disease with daily devotions with his family.

"My mom and I have done daily devotions together since the time I was diagnosed, and we still try to do them every day while I am living on campus," he said. "I have realized whether I beat the cancer or not, God has a bigger, better plan than I do. Keeping Jesus at the center my life has been extremely important, and having full trust in him has really kept me sane in very hard times."

Kell's positivity didn't end with devotion, however. His passion for basketball led him to earn a special job.

He is a student manager for OU's men's basketball team. During his high school years, he was involved in the varsity basketball team at a Division I school. Kell said he wanted to continue to develop his love for basketball along with advancing his academics.

"Basketball has been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember," he said. "I am so thankful to Coach [Greg] Kampe, the coaching staff, the players and other managers for making this a great experience."

The most important lesson he has learned from this experience is that people should not worry about something they can't control. With this mindset, he tries to keep an optimistic attitude which he believes will take away the burden of cancer.

"When people are diagnosed with cancer, they realize how precious time is," he said. "Focusing on what's next is a great way to look at life, and keeping a positive mindset is always helpful when battling cancer."

Beaumont doctor receives \$1.6 million grant for research

KATELYN HILL

Staff Reporter

A \$1.6 million grant has recently been awarded to study an aggressive form of brain cancer.

Dr. Prakash Chinnaiyan, M.D., is a physician scientist in the Beaumont Health department of radiation oncology and a professor at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB).

He is also the principal investigator of a study looking at glioblastoma, a fast-growing, therapy resistant form of brain cancer.

"The long-term survival is limited," Chinnaiyan said. "A majority of the patients unfortunately succumb to disease progression within two years of diagnosis."

According to Chinnaiyan, his laboratory focuses on metabolic reprogramming in tumors, rather than on the individual genes. By looking at the metabolism, they can learn how the cancer utilizes metabolites, the end product of metabolism, and nutrients to build DNA and RNA and maintain their cellular functions.

Currently, one of the only treatment options for glioblastoma is surgery to remove a bulk of the tumor, if possible, and undergoing radiation and chemotherapy. This has been the standard treatment for quite a while, since all other therapies have proven to be relatively ineffective.

The main reason it has been ineffective is due to how infiltrative the cancer is. Though parts of the tumor can be removed, the cancer cells invade the normal cells in the surrounding area, making it difficult to treat.

This current study is built off of a decade worth of work, all in the hopes to find a new method of treatment for this aggressive cancer.

"It's potentially a more effective therapy where more patients are surviving longer and having a better quality of life," Chinnaiyan said. "If we can improve the percentage of patients having two, three, four year survival, that would be considered a success."

The study consists of various projects, including ongoing research looking at the metabolic relationship between the amino acids and the cancer, as well as how diet modifications can short-circuit

the metabolism of these tumors.

This specific project, which has received the grant, is looking at how the tumors are using and are dependent upon the fatty acids found naturally in the human body in order to grow.

According to Chinnaiyan, what makes the tumors unique is the heterogeneity within an individual tumor, meaning certain regions of the tumor have low blood supply and therefore low nutrients.

"They don't have the regular nutrients, and so fatty acids are one of the ways that these tumors can sort of adapt to the unique microenvironment," he said.

The \$1.6 million grant was awarded by the National Institute Health (NIH) and is one of the higher-level grants awarded by the NIH.

According to Chinnaiyan, the success rate for grants of this caliber to be accepted is low, with only around 10% of applications getting funded.

"Most of the grants are really built off of several years of preliminary data to support the findings," he said. "The grant itself is peer reviewed at the NIH by experts in the field and it's sort of

ranked accordingly."

Looking forward, Chinnaiyan's lab will continue to conduct research toward this ongoing study to find new ways of treating glioblastoma.



COURTESY OF OUWB

OUWB professor Prakash Chinnaiyan was awarded a \$1.6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

OPINION

Trump fires two key witnesses for revenge

AUTUMN PAGE

Staff Reporter

President Donald Trump fired two key witnesses from his impeachment trial on Saturday, Feb. 8. Alexander Vindman was the top Ukraine expert at the National Security Council and Gordon Sondland was the U.S. Ambassador to the European Union. It's speculated Trump made this move as a type of revenge — and I believe it.

Why do I believe it? Well, their termination was meant to send a message, an adviser to Trump told CNN. The adviser said the firings of the major impeachment witnesses was meant to declare siding against the president will not be tolerated.

Are you kidding? Firing two people because they have a difference in opinion? Especially about politics, one of the most controversial topics out there — petty as hell.

Both officials provided important information about Trump during the public hearings. Sondland said the president sought a “quid pro quo” with Ukraine’s leader, and Vindman criticized Trump’s conduct during a phone call in July with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as “improper.”

This move results in Trump reaching a new all-time low, and I had no idea he could go any lower than he already was. Trump has done a lot of questionable and downright insane things, but this takes the cake. Firing them because they stood up against a Cheeto of a president? If I was in their position, I’d do the same damn thing.

I know we have all seen the recent Getty Images pictures that just came out of Trump. If you haven’t, you’re welcome.

Fellow politicians have spoken out about the firings, Sen. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., who’s the ranking member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called the dismissals “clear political retaliation, the likes of which is seen only in authoritarian countries around the world.”

“Those who suggested President Trump’s behavior would improve following his impeachment have



been proven wrong. I sincerely hope that all members of Congress condemn this latest reprehensible, yet sadly predictable conduct by President Trump,” Menendez said.

I think most people would agree with Menendez, Trump has always acted like a child, and this really shows it.

Trump’s reasons for firing Vindman, which were given on Twitter of course, were that “he was very insubordinate, reported contents of my ‘perfect’ calls incorrectly, & was given a horrendous report by his superior, the man he reported to, who publicly stated that Vindman had problems with judgment, adhering to the chain of command and leaking information.”

If he was doing all of this, why not fire him sooner? If this was such an issue, why wait until his press secretary made comments about his opponents needing to “pay a price?”

Vindman was escorted out of the White House by security and told his services were no longer needed, according to his attorney.

“I was advised today that the president intends to recall me effective immediately as United States Ambassador to the European Union,” Sondland said in a statement on Friday, Feb. 7.

“I am grateful to President Trump for having given me the opportunity to serve, to Secretary Pompeo for his consistent support and to the exceptional and dedicated professionals at the U.S. Mission to the European Union,” Sondland said.

Not only that, Vindman’s twin brother, Lt. Col. Yevgeny Vindman, an Army officer who also worked on the National Security Council staff, was removed from his post as well, according to the New York Times.

I’m disappointed, but not surprised, to say that we shouldn’t expect anything less from Trump. Three people lost their jobs — one by association. I admire the respect and dignity that these three men gave about their terminations.

Donald J. Trump could LITERALLY never.



COURTESY OF IMDB

The teen rom-com did not live up to the hype from the first installment on Netflix.

‘To All the Boys’ sequel doesn’t meet expectations

BRIDGET JANIS

Contributor

The sequel to the heartfelt Netflix original movie “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” was released Wednesday, Feb. 12, just in time for Galentine’s Day. “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” was even cringier than the first.

With Lara Jean Covey (Lana Condor) finally officially dating popular lacrosse player Peter Kavinsky (Noah Centineo), you’d think she had it all. The boy, the romance and the popularity. But just as things start to feel somewhat off with Peter, John Ambrose McClaren (Jordan Fisher), another recipient of the love letters, writes her back.

Lara Jean feels Peter is getting distant, so she tries to catch his eye more often. She dresses up for his lacrosse games and is a more visible girlfriend. Since her efforts seem to go unnoticed, she feels she didn’t read the “girlfriend handbook.”

While Peter appears too busy for Lara Jean, John Ambrose ends up volunteering at the same retirement home as her. When they meet again, the audience feels like a spark is about to happen.

Throughout the rest of the movie, Lara Jean tries to decide between Peter and John Ambrose. When John Ambrose brings up getting the old gang from seventh grade back together to dig up an old time capsule they buried, Lara Jean has to go through the awkward situation of having John Ambrose and Peter in the same room.

While John is completely unaware of Lara Jean and Peter’s relationship, it has

the audience on the edge of their seats waiting to see how Lara Jean is going to handle this situation.

I loved watching Lara Jean and Peter falling in love a year and a half ago in “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before,” but this film didn’t hold as much interest as the first one.

The movie seemed all over the place, and the vibe was extremely different between the two films. The writers made Peter look way worse than they should have — he was the most romantic part of the first movie, yet he was given almost no good qualities in the second.

But when Lara Jean chooses who she really wants to be with, I wasn’t surprised — I was happy about it.

John Ambrose popped up in the post-credits scene of “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before,” played by Jordan Burtchett, but in “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You,” he was played by Fisher. Many true fans of the first movie caught this recasting and were shocked as Burtchett fit the character’s description in the book a little more.

This movie was definitely not as good as the first, but it still is fun to watch with your girlfriends for a laid back movie night. It had all the classic love story criteria: the drama, the romance, the love. “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” really can bring that warm feeling into the viewers’ hearts.

Now book fans are curious to see if the next book, “Always and Forever, Lara Jean,” will become a movie, and if it does, will it be better than the second? One can only hope.

Rating: 3/5 love letters

Men's basketball wins second game in a row, 72-64

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

The Youngstown State Penguins and the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies have history.

Every Golden Grizzlies fan knows the way the 2017 Horizon League Tournament ended for Oakland. In Youngstown, the Penguins once again beat the Golden Grizzlies on a last-second layup by Darius Quisenberry, winning 61-60 on Jan. 9.

In the O'rena, the Golden Grizzlies came out on top, 72-64.

The main difference between the Jan. 9 game and the game on Saturday, Feb. 15 was the guard play of Tray Maddox and Rashad Williams. Williams was still inactive in the previous match-up. In his first eight games with Oakland, Williams took the scoring lead away from Xavier Hill-Mais, scoring 21.4 points per game. Williams made his impact early on, hitting a deep 3-pointer and flexing to the crowd.

Lions cornerback Darius Slay was in attendance, sitting court side. The Pro Bowl defender was looking to attend either an Oakland or University of Detroit Mercy game on Thursday, Feb. 13, but ended up attending the Saturday game instead.

"This is my first time here," Slay said. "It's nice — it's a really nice school. It's been a good first time coming here."

Kevin Kangu came off the bench, but added 13 points in 27 minutes. Kangu hit three 3-point shots, something he hadn't done the entire season. Kangu's 14 points were the most he has scored in a conference game.

"He [Kangu] went in early and against the press he did something really stupid, and I got mad and yanked him," Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "Two minutes later I put him back in and for some reason ... he was really good the rest of the game. All the pressure he put on himself went away. Kevin Kangu is one of the nicest kids I've ever had on my team, he's a very hard worker. To see success like that made everybody happy."

Oakland's defense provided them with an early lead. The Penguins were 5-19 through the first 12 minutes, scoring 13 points. The Golden Grizzlies were slightly better, shooting 8-20 (40%). At the eight minute media timeout, the Golden Grizzlies led 20-13. After the 16-minute mark, Oakland went on a 15-2 run.

After Youngstown tied the game at 22, Oakland was able to pull ahead and take the halftime lead, 31-24. Maddox led the Golden Grizzlies with 10 points and Wil-

liams had eight.

Kampe praised Maddox's effort, saying it was the "best full game he's played during his time here."

Williams continued his scoring in the second half, hitting two 3-pointers. Oakland stretched their lead to 12 points after eight minutes, with Maddox and Williams providing most of the offense. The Golden Grizzlies hit three consecutive shots, while the Penguins were without a point in three minutes.

Oakland was able to maintain a double-digit lead throughout the remainder of the second half after leading by at most 18. Eleven Golden Grizzlies saw action, with four finishing in double figures. Hill-Mais led the team in scoring with 20 points, recorded a double-double with 11 rebounds and added three blocks.

Hill-Mais struggled to get his offensive game going in the first half, but in the second he got his shots to fall.

"In these type of games if you can just keep going no matter what happens to you, nine times out of 10 good stuff happens," Hill-Mais said. "Lucky for us, we had more good stuff happen than bad. My teammates picked me up when I was struggling early on and had my back."

The next game for the men's basketball team is at the O'rena against the Milwaukee Panthers on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.



SAM SUMMERS | PHOTOGRAPHER
Men's basketball claims a 72-64 victory over YSU on Saturday, Feb. 15.

The Sporting Blitz

While the men's basketball team returned for the first time in multiple weeks, many other teams took to the road — either in the beginning of their season or in the Horizon League grind.

Tennis

The tennis team took part in their third weekend of competition, facing the University of Findlay and Ball State University. The two days of competition were mirror images of each other. The Golden Grizzlies beat Findlay 7-0 and lost to Ball State 0-7.

Against Findlay in the sweep, the Golden Grizzlies went 6-0 in singles play. Ava Thielman took down Samantha Sweet in the No. 1 singles match 6-3, 6-1. Nirva Patel lost her first set in the No. 2 singles match 2-6, but rallied to win the next two sets 6-3, 6-3. Victoria Kurz and Samantha Galloway both won their matches easily, never winning a set by less than five points.

In the doubles matches, Thielman and Kurz took down the No. 1 doubles team with a 6-2 win. Darya Maltseva and Alexandra Whall also won the No. 2 doubles match 6-2. Coincidentally, the No. 3 doubles team of Aarja Chakraborty and Patel won their No. 3 match by the same score, 6-2.

Against Ball State, the team was unable to capture a point, losing 0-7. Chakraborty and Thielman won their first sets, but lost the next two in their singles matches. Up next for the tennis team is a match-up against Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Women's basketball

Acting Head Coach Ke'Sha Blanton and the women's basketball team took to Wisconsin for a road trip against the University of Milwaukee and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. The Golden Grizzlies lost both games in Wisconsin, falling to 5-9 in the Horizon League standings.

Against Milwaukee on Thursday, Feb. 13, the Golden Grizzlies fell behind early and were unable to mount a comeback. Kahlaijah Dean led the team in scoring with 19 points, with two-time reigning Horizon League Freshman of the Week Alona Blackwell adding 13 points and three 3-pointers.

The team struggled shooting from 3-point range. Blackwell's three were the only 3-pointers the team would score, shooting 3-20 (15%). Blackwell also recorded four steals. Two other Golden Grizzlies recorded double-digit points, with Chloe Guingrich (11) and

Kayla Luchenbach (10) adding points.

Against Green Bay, the second quarter proved to be pivotal for the Golden Grizzlies. The first quarter was close, with Green Bay leading 19-18, but in the second quarter, the Phoenix outscored Oakland 20-1. After that point, the Phoenix added to their lead with a 20-14 third quarter and eventually won the game, 76-51.

Blackwell was the only player to record more than 10 points, finishing with 11 on 3-9 shooting. The Golden Grizzlies as a whole shot 32.7% from the field and 40.9% from 3-point range. The Phoenix forced 24 Oakland turnovers, and stole the ball 13 times. Frankie Wurtz scored 28 points for Green Bay on 11-15 shooting.

The Golden Grizzlies continue their road trip in Ohio, facing off against the Cleveland State Vikings on Friday, Feb. 21 and the Youngstown State Penguins on Sunday, Feb. 23. The Penguins are tied with Oakland at 5-9 in conference, and the Vikings are two games ahead of Oakland at 7-7. The team returns home Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. against the No. 3 Wright State Raiders.

Compiled by Michael Pearce,
Sports Editor

The Sweetheart Hot Dog: Slam dunk or air ball?

MICHAEL PEARCE
Sports Editor

Candy hearts on top of a chili dog ... understandably never done before. Over Valentine's Day weekend, the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies put on a promo called the "Sweetheart Dog," with Sweetheart candies on top of a National Coney Island coney dog.

Luckily for all of you who missed this program, I, as the faithful sports editor of The Oakland Post, tried this dog. On Saturday, Feb. 15, a day removed from Valentine's Day, I embarked on a journey to the O'rena to try the infamous sweetheart dog, which caught the attention of national media personality Darren Rovell on Twitter.

I ate nothing but yogurt the morning before the Sweetheart Dog. I wanted to free room in case I absolutely loved it and wanted eight more. As I walked to the concession stand in the far corner, I was overcome by a sense of excitement, fear and gastrointestinal worry. I asked the man working if he had them, and he obliged. After paying a modest \$4.50, I was in possession of quite possibly the weirdest combination known to man.

I walked back to my seat on press row with my coney and cup of Sweethearts.

It was time. I carefully placed the candy on top and put out a Snapchat story to all my friends to show them just how mad I'd gone. Now, it was time to eat.

My first impression was: messy. The Sweetheart Dog has a lot going on. Hot dog, bun, candy, chili, onions and mustard. It is enough to put someone in the intensive care unit. Luckily, I have trained my body with years of Taco Bell, so I was able to hold up to the test.

What it lacks in cleanliness, the Sweetheart Dog makes up for in variety of flavor and texture. I'll give it that — it does not lack different flavors and textures. The dog goes from sweet to sour and from soft to rock hard in seconds.

Before trying the dog I sat down with John Ciszewski, associate athletic director for external operations in the athletics department, to find out the origins behind this sweet and salty creation.

"We want people to come to our games and say, 'It was a good time — win or lose, it was a good time,'" Ciszewski said. "The candy on the hot dog was probably my idea, but John our SID (Sports Information Director) and Maria [Rivera, senior assistant athletic director] came up with the name."

Athletics heavily promoted the Sweetheart Dog, creating multiple commercials which debuted on their social media ac-



COURTESY OF OAKLAND ATHLETICS

The "Sweetheart Dog" was available at the O'rena over Valentine's Day weekend.

counts, prompting reactions like "destroy it" and "this is vomitous."

"Kampe did his Guy Fieri impersonation, so we tweeted it out to him to try and get some national exposure," Ciszewski said. "We're just trying to get some attention to our basketball teams. We then turned it into a ticket package as well — for \$10, you get a ticket to the game and a

Sweetheart Dog."

While the dog does look a little abnormal, I believe that "vomitous" is too dramatic. The Sweetheart Dog is unique, not bad. On a 1-10 scale, I give it a six. While it is not an air ball, I would characterize it as a nice mid-range step-back jump shot that just rimmed out. Very creative, but very disturbing at the same time.

Brad Galli & Claire Galli
WXYZ Sports Anchor *OU Volleyball Coach*

7pm | The Habitat

Thursday, February 20

Food and Prizes available!

Presented By: **SVP & The Oakland Post**

The dirty truth behind the open concept Bear Cave

MICHAEL PEARCE
Sports Editor

Anyone who has walked through the Oakland Center has inevitably been assaulted with loud screams, yells and curse words coming from the Bear Cave.

The Bear Cave is Oakland University's premiere gaming center, where students can forego responsibilities and scream their hearts out throughout all hours of the day. Not only is the Bear Cave a good place to relax but it also has scientifically been proven to reduce stress levels, while at the same time increasing vocal damage.

"The screaming is without a doubt a great stress relief," said Gretchen Snyder, chief of mental health operations at the Graham Health Center. "However, our patients have expressed to us a dangerous amount of vocal damage. Their vocal chords look like a used paper towel put through a paper shredder."

The most common game played by gamers in the Bear Cave is "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate," which ironically is the only smashing these loud-mouthed, carpal tunnel-having screamers will be doing during their time at OU.

While the gamers have an impressive volume to them, nothing compares to the incessant racket that the air hockey players create on a daily basis. The air hockey players have recently been charted as making enough noise to register on The Richter Scale. Creator of The Richter Scale, Dick Richter, spoke on the danger of these simpletons.

"What bothers me the most about these creatures is the nature of the game they are playing," Richter said. "Air

hockey isn't even that fun. I would understand if they were playing a more exciting game, but air hockey? We need a CAT scan to determine if these creatures have brain damage."

The Bear Cave recently underwent renovations with the new Oakland Center remodel. Previously, the Bear Cave had a glass panel and a door that separated the common folk from the elite gamers, but now the glass panel is gone, and the Bear Cave is open for any who wish to enter the hellscape.

Recently, Oakland Post secret agents infiltrated the office of President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, and found secret documents revealing the true reason for the removal of the glass panel that separated the Bear Cave from the hallway.

The real reason? Torture.

"We believe that anyone foolish enough to work on our campus should be subjected to the most severe form of torture ... exploded eardrums," the document reads. "These moronic student employees working for The Oakland Post, WXOU, SPB, SAFB or Student Congress should be subjected to the screams and yells of the worlds most insufferable humans ... Redditors."

The jig is up, administration. Bring the glass back to the Bear Cave, us student employees demand respect. Not only are we driven mad by the incessant yelling, but events often held in The Habitat are interrupted by guttural screams over video games.

The Oakland Post attempted to speak to gamers and air hockey players in the Bear Cave, but they were too busy yelling and screaming to notice that other humans had entered their domain.



ASHLEY AVERILL | DESIGN EDITOR

Chaotic energy and animal-like sounds emanates from the Bear Cave at all hours.



ASHLEY AVERILL | DESIGN EDITOR

There's truly nothing like having a snowy spring break in the middle of February!

Working college students as spring breakers 2020

LAUREN KARMO
Campus Editor

no idea what they're missing.

Hang out with your mom and dad

We have almost made it, ladies and gents, we are almost there. Spring break — or more like winter break because it is FEBRUARY. The timing is beside the point. The real point is that we get over a whole week, a glorious nine days without any classes or education to worry about.

Now I know what the majority of you are thinking, what a perfect time to go on vacation! But you know what, not all of us can take the time off work or have enough money to go to Mexico or Jamaica, so fuck you, you lucky bastards. This is not for you because you will be sipping piña coladas on the beach, and I will be shivering my butt off watching your Instagram story. We are not the same. Here are some ideas for the broke, hard-working college student who needs to make the best of the February weather.

Go to the local Walmart

There is literally nothing else to do around here. We are all from small town U.S.A. (why else would we be at Oakland), and we all have our favorite local Walmart. Once you've gone to the run-down movie theater and you've eaten at the one chain restaurant, you will be driving around with your pals wondering what else you can do. Some one will hesitantly say, "What about the Walmart?" and you will all shrug and just go with it. There, you can observe the rotisserie chickens in their natural habitat and find some new type of Oreo to eat. Absolutely wild, right? Your friend in Cabo has

We love our parents so so much, so what else would we do but want to spend our entire break with them? While all your besties went on a Caribbean cruise without you, there's nothing like watching "Saturday Night Live" with your momma and pop because you're home on another Saturday. Again. Don't get me wrong, I love my parents, but hanging out with them as a last resort isn't the greatest. You don't even have homework to distract you from your lack of plans. By the end of break, you'll be begging to go back to class.

Go "off the goop" crazy on Feb. 29

Ah, the beloved leap year. I don't know if y'all know, but it only happens once every four years. Brazy, right? That means this day does not exist and nothing you do counts, so you might as well go all out. Throw an outrageous party, I'm talking about the biggest banger there ever was. I am by no means advocating for any illegal activity, but a lil' drinkie or two never hurt anyone. Recreational drug use could be fun. There are no rules on Feb. 29, it's like the extra reward you get for being good for four years straight. It's like Christmas, but fewer gifts and more wild times. Have so much fun you forget you're not somewhere warm relaxing.

Now go, and enjoy the best spring break of your life. You might not even notice the 8 a.m. wake ups for work or the under-10-degree weather.