

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 44 | Issue 23 | Mar. 20, 2019

OAKLAND MOURNS WITH CHRISTCHURCH

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know before you vote

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PHOTO BY ELYSE GREGORY

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



WILDLIFE ON CAMPUS A squirrel rests in a tree outside the Oakland Center on Tuesday, March 19. As the polar vortex ends and temperatures rise back up into the 40s, wildlife reemerges on campus. PHOTO / NICOLE MORSFIELD

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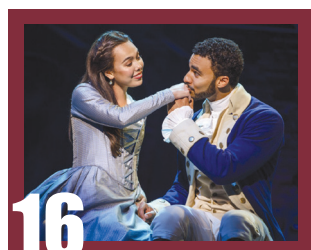
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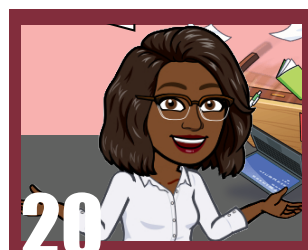
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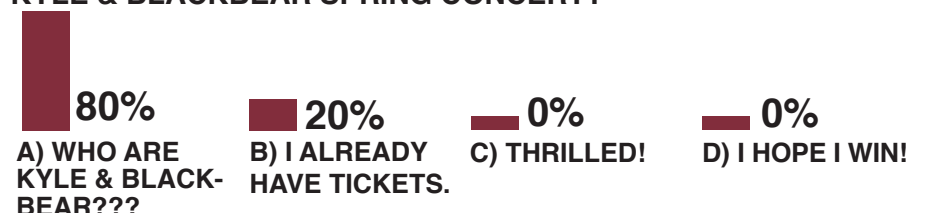
POLL OF THE WEEK

HAVE YOU SUBMITTED A VOTE FOR THE OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS ELECTION?

- A) YES!
- B) NOT YET!
- C) NOPE! I DON'T PLAN TO.
- D) WHAT ELECTION???

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU WON TICKETS TO THE KYLE & BLACKBEAR SPRING CONCERT?



SPRING CONCERT CONTEST: The first 3 people to bring in a completed copy of the puzzles page on Tuesday, March 26, at 12:30 p.m. will win 2 free tickets to the Blackbear and KYLE concert on Friday, April 12, at 7 p.m. Students must present their OU ID to receive the tickets.

LOOKING BACK

JCPenney

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OU revised alcohol policy to allow closed-door drinking

In 1986, the new policy caused mixed feelings

BRIDGET JANIS
Staff Reporter

Ring in the new year can be full of new resolutions for a lot of people, but if someone under 21 has a goal to drink more alcohol in college, Oakland University has made that difficult to achieve. To kick off the new year in 1986, OU created a revised alcohol policy.

The new policy clearly stated that all students under 21 were prohibited from drinking in their dorms or anywhere else in the residence halls, and any and all floor parties, and pre-parties that happen before floor parties, are not allowed.

The policy did allow students who were 21 to drink alcoholic beverages, but they had to be alone with their rooms or suite doors closed. A quarter-keg permit could also be submitted to the housing office, which allowed a 21-year-old resident to have a quarter-keg in their room if the permit was submitted and approved 24 hours before.

"We were starting to experience some problems early last semester; discipline situations where alcohol was involved had started to increase," said Eleanor Lewellen, Residence Halls director at the time. "This is when the Area Hall Committee put together ways to help students exercise control and encourage responsible drinking."

When adding this policy, OU began to encourage any students with alcohol problems to join the Alcohol Awareness Committee and go to sponsored programs like Alcohol Awareness Week.

Some students began to express the new

policy was a violation of their rights.

Linda Burdette, a resident at the time said, "I don't drink, but drinking is legal at 21. If a person so chooses [to drink], they should have the right in the privacy of their own room."

There were some students who saw the positive effects the policy would have.

"I think the policy is fair," then resident Tom Ziska said. "If you have attained the age of 21, it doesn't really matter whether the door is open or closed. It's to keep the resident assistants from having to check I.D.s or determine who is drinking and who is not."

The new policy ended up affecting students' opportunity to drink on the bus while on a spring break trip to Daytona Beach when OU changed their agreement with their travel company, Echo Travel.

The legalities in the contract pointed toward who would be responsible for the passengers and their safety. Cameron Brunet-Koch, then assistant dean of students, said the university's legal counsel wanted to make sure OU would not be liable for the safety of someone that was injured while consuming alcohol.

Again, some students did find the upside to the situation. Rob Miller, a then senior in sociology, said how he was happy with this change noting, "There won't be as much litter on the bus, and you don't have long lines for the bathroom."

While some people viewed this new policy change as a way to limit the drinking habits of the community and giving responsibility to those who chose to drink, others saw it as unfair and limiting their rights.

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Campus to showcase work at fifth CETL Instructional Fair

The fair will take place on April 3 from 2-4 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Room B

KATIE VALLEY

Campus Editor

Faculty and students of all disciplines will come together to share teaching ideas at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning's (CETL) fifth Instructional Fair on April 3 from 2-4 p.m. in the Oakland Center's Banquet Room B.

Through poster presentations, faculty share instructional strategies, active learning techniques, discussion structures, writing assignments and other activities to help others incorporate better techniques into their learning disciplines.

Student engagement is one of the main components of the fair. Christina Moore, CETL virtual faculty developer, is coordinating the event, which is also cosponsored by the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee. Moore said the best professors are often the ones who connect with their students, so the Instructional Fair will also include students as presenters.

"Student engagement is a 'high impact practice,' or a learning practice that has a lasting influence on students," she said. "By encouraging faculty to invite their students to present teaching strategies with them, we not only expect students to get presentation experience but see firsthand how valuable their perspective is to faculty. Also, inviting student participation emphasizes that effective teaching puts students first."

Presenters will speak about a variety of topics. Previous topics have included students' emotional health, technology in the classroom, Moodle and active learning.

Dr. Helena Riha, professor of linguistics and international studies and OU Excellence in Teaching Award recipient of 2016, will be presenting at the fair for the third time.

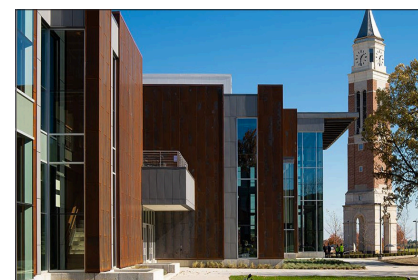
"Each year, I've learned unique and useful teaching tips when I interact with other presenters at the Instructional Fair," Riha said. "As a past winner of the Teaching Award, I also enjoy sharing my ideas with others. It's very interesting to hear how in-

structors plan to adapt my methods in their own classrooms based on their teaching styles. I learn a lot from my discussions with both presenters and attendees."

Journalism professor Adina Schneeweis will present about diversity storytelling, spotlighting a digital archive that will be a "rich mosaic of the OU community." Her students created project instructions for other professors to apply the work to their own classes by sharing their diversity-related digital stories.

Red Douglas, graduate student and writing consultant and mentor at the OU Writing Center, will be presenting at the fair for the first time. Her group's presentation will focus on the impacts of publishing student work.

CETL's mission is to enhance "student success and learning by supporting the overall success of the faculty and the university community through pedagogical, professional and leadership development opportunities," according to founding director Dr. Judith Ableser on the CETL website.



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
Students and Faculty will both be contributing to the CETL Instructional Fair.

Moore said the Instructional Fair is a great place for professors to see the work of faculty members and embody CETL's drive toward improved classroom success.

"It's easy for professors to be isolated in their own classrooms and never know what the colleague next door or in the next building over are doing," she said. "This is the one annual event that allows all OU faculty to get a glimpse into one another's classrooms."

POLICE FILES

Ugg, that hurt

A female student walked into the Oakland University Police Department to report she slipped and fell on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019. She stated she was walking south on the sidewalk between Pioneer Road and parking structure P29, slipped on ice and fell onto her rear end and back. She also stated her right foot was injured in the fall.

The officer on duty asked her how badly she was injured, and she commented that she was sore and "getting worse," at which point the officer asked her if she needed Emergency Medical Services called. She stated her injuries were not bad enough to require an ambulance.

The officer noted the student was wearing Ugg style boots with minimal tread. The report noted that the sidewalks had salt in areas, but some had been washed away by rain followed by a drop in temperature, creating icy conditions. The officer advised the student to report the injury to her supervisor at her earliest convenience. The student left with nothing further to report.

Missing wallet

An officer met with a student in the Oak View Hall lobby for a larceny report on the afternoon of Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019. The student said she was unable to locate her wallet after moving back into her dorm in Oak View. She checked out a rolling bin from the desk at approximately 3 p.m. and believed she may have left her wallet in it when she returned the bin.

The desk staff stated the bin was empty when it was returned. The student checked her room, car and surrounding parking lot area for it. She stated the wallet contained credit cards and approximately \$200 in gift cards to JCPenney and Bed Bath & Beyond.

The officer checked the sidewalks around the building and trash cans in the area. The officer also called the six people listed as checking out bins after the student, though none of them reported seeing a wallet. No suspect was found, and the student cancelled her credit cards in response to the larceny.

**Compiled by
Ben Hume, Staff Reporter**

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RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

President Pescovitz addressed students' questions about accessibility and diversity.

Students speak up about their concerns at Ask Ora

DEAN VAGLIA
Staff Reporter

In everyday life, opportunities to speak truth to power come few and far between. At Oakland University, they happen every semester.

On the night of March 18, OU President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz faced the students at Ask Ora. The event took place in the lobby of Oak View Hall and was moderated by Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh.

Before questioning began, Pescovitz commented on the terrorist attacks in New Zealand. The attacks, carried out on two mosques by a white supremacist, claimed the lives of 50 people.

"I really believe that we here at Oakland University cannot just leave these kinds of incidents alone without acknowledging them, without speaking with a clarion voice, without rising up in protest and saying to ourselves and to others that we reject — with no uncertain terms — hatred of all forms," Pescovitz said.

Following a moment of silence, students pressed Pescovitz on the struggles at OU.

"I think it is really interesting when you talk about critical thinking skills and transferable skills as a priority for success in college when you just gave an example of most students' worst fear [failing a final]," French major Melaena Caldwell said. "Especially because for a lot of my scholarships, if I do fail a class I do not get [the scholarships] back — which is a huge academic pressure for someone who barely knows what she wants to do as a French major."

Pescovitz responded in turn with her view on student success.

"I recommend that you do the best you can in college and get the best grades that you can," she said. "If you, for some reason, fall short of graduating with honors,

I do not think that it means you will be a failure for the rest of your life."

Ashley Mosseri brought up the struggles for disabled students on campus.

"I know that when you guys built the new Oakland Center (OC)... you tried to make it as accessible as possible, but it does not really feel like that," Mosseri said.

Mosseri claimed that the expansion "feels like a maze" to navigate. Mosseri is unable to use stairs, and the elevators contain a "toxic chemical smell" that makes them hard to breathe in and the basement of the OC unreachable.

McIntosh responded to Mosseri, asking her to visit the OC offices to explain the elevator issues further.

Destinee Rule, Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) diversity and inclusion director, spoke out about several topics. She brought to Pescovitz's attention the hostile language of Financial Aid Office emails, with warnings like: "Avoid cancellation of your financial aid by completing your requirements posted on MySAIL within 14 days."

Another point by Rule was the lack of diversity among OU faculty, especially in the president's mostly white cabinet.

"You want [students of color] to feel successful and you want us to feel represented, and you want us to feel included, but I cannot see myself in these positions," Rule said. "I cannot see myself getting past my bachelor's. I can barely go to someone outside the Center for Multicultural Initiatives (CMI) if I want to talk to someone that is of color."

Pescovitz responded by agreeing with Rule and pointing out difficulties in hiring professors.

"Just think of where we are recruiting from," Pescovitz said. "All of [the potential professors] have to graduate, they have to get masters, they have to get PhDs, then they have to be recruited by the universities that are looking to recruit from these various fields."

Your health matters: Take time to make 'human connections'



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
Oakland University President

All of us have been there: The moment when our phone or tablet gives us a uniquely 21st-century electronic nudge.

And then, as a Pavlovian response, we pick up our handy connection to the electronic world and scroll through the latest list of text messages, emails and images.

In moments, we're transported to what's happening in someone else's world or to the latest popular distraction on YouTube.

If you're reaching for your phone and asking yourself, "What's next?" then, you might want to ask, "Do I have healthy social media habits?"

At some point, our electronic gadgets are controlling us, rather than vice versa. At a time in your life when your time is precious and effective time management is the difference between an average and a good grade, you might want to consider how you use social media.

Time spent on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or Snapchat can be well spent connecting with family and friends. Indeed, I keep up with my daughters, son, in-law children and grandchildren by viewing snippets of their lives on social media.

If not controlled, however, social media can be an endless distraction and lead to a range of unhealthy habits.

Remember: Social media is a medium. Nothing can substitute for the real thing: Talking face-to-face and having a firsthand experience by making a connection with another person.

While social media keeps us in touch and part of a community, it can also breed a sense of isolation, and with a front-row seat to someone's "exciting life," it's not unusual to think that we don't measure up.

Take a moment to ask yourself: How often do you allow yourself to substitute a "social media" experience for a real connection? If you think of your phone as "your best friend," then, well... we have to talk.

Here's a simple approach to evaluate and get control of your social media habits.

Identify the following:

Frequency

How frequently do you check your phone and use social media? Do you feel anxious when you're not updated on the latest social media posting or text?

Are you enjoying social media? Or is it stressful and worrisome because you wonder how you're being perceived, or that you'll miss something?

What's your purpose?

Know your intention. Are you catching up with a friend? Checking email? Or do you turn to social media to feel validated? Do you feel your self-image slipping away because you can't stop making comparisons?

Escape or distraction

Trying to look busy by hiding in your phone isn't a good habit. If you're resorting to "getting lost" in the cybersphere when things are getting uncomfortable, that's not a good choice. You probably need to find ways to cope — not escape.

If you're struggling to respond to the above questions, you might want to better manage your social media habits.

Track yourself

Check the actual time spent on social media. There are apps that can track your time. Set limits. Rather than constantly checking for updates, set a time to look for updates. And, give yourself downtime. Unplug.

What's your experience?

Set your agenda when it comes to what you're looking for on social media. Stick to it. Unmanaged time probably will lead to unmanageable emotions and thoughts.

Who am I?

Don't get lost in an e-personality. Remember your ethics, values and responsibility follow you everywhere, even in the social media world.

Social media isn't going anywhere. There are so many great things about social media, but that doesn't mean it should completely shape our behavior.

While it's healthy to use social media to keep connected with friends and family, keep informed, advertise and network. Don't forget to make time for the best connection of all — a human connection.

If you're feeling overwhelmed by social media, consider talking with an OU counselor. Call 248-370-3465, or visit: <https://www.oakland.edu/oucc/>

We are here for you.



RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

Kober has guest starred on a number of shows like "Real Husbands of Hollywood".

Jen Kober visits OU, new guest star in two future Netflix shows

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

With the school year close to an end, many students are filled with stress.

Oakland University and Student Program Board (SPB), as part of the Pride Month activities, gave students the opportunity to attend a comedy show by Jen Kober to give them time to relax and enjoy a couple of jokes.

Kober has guest starred in many things such as "The Middle," as food court maven Brenda and "Real Husbands of Hollywood" as Joan. She said apart from TV, there's joy in seeing shows live.

"I think it's always important to see a live performance, I think being in a room with other people connecting over this one thing we're all kinda focused on is also very important," Kober said. "I think it's super cool that you guys are up enough on current events — you have to be smart to get comedy, comedy is not for dumb people. Well, not my comedy, I hope."

Kober was the 2017 winner of NPR's Snap Judgement Comedic Performance of the Year for her "Girl Scout Cookie Carper" story. Also, she was awarded the 2018 Comedic Performance of the Year for her story, "How I was Saved By Waffles."

"This is the only skill I have, like literally I would always be talking in class and my teachers were always like, 'Stop distracting everyone, stop trying to make everyone laugh,'" she said, "but like I couldn't. It was always in me to do."

Throughout her bid, Kober used stand-up, storytelling and interactions with the audience to create her comedy. Kober

talked about many topics throughout her show. She started out with Eggo waffles, went to Trump, moved on to jokes about her life with her wife being a vegan, made comments on drugs and told stories about her grandmother.

Kober's favorite jokes in her shows are the ones about her Nana. She said her Nana always accuses her of talking about her in her shows.

"I love talking about my Nana, she's so funny and she will say anything" Kober said. "I have never in my life heard things come out of this woman's mouth, and I'm like, 'Oh, my god, you're 88. She gets what's it's like to live this big full life. She doesn't care what she says anymore. She's going to say what she likes, and that's it.'"

Kober will be part of the cast in two new Netflix original shows. She will be guest starring as Officer Lafayette in RuPaul's "AJ and the Queen," which is about an unfortunate drag queen traveling across America with an 11-year-old.

The other show Kober will make an appearance in is "Dead to Me" as a co-star with Linda Cardellini, Christina Applegate and Ed Asner.

"I'm excited for everyone to see" she said. "I think I've been doing a lot of line shows, and the stuff I'm doing now hasn't been on TV yet, so it's so new, and it's so much fun. You know you get excited for people to see it. I feel like Britney Spears right before her album comes out, and you don't know how good the songs are — but she knows how good the songs are — then they're really good Britney Spears songs."

To see more about Kober's comedy shows, guest appearances and upcoming Netflix originals, visit her website: <http://www.jenkober.com>.

JCPenney partners with OU to offer discounts, giveaways

LAUREL KRAUS

Managing Editor

With both the Spring Career Fair on April 2 and graduation season approaching, the need for professional clothing may be on many to-do lists.

The JCPenney Suit Up Event will take place after hours at Oakland Mall on Sunday, March 24 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at which Oakland University, Lawrence Tech University, Macomb Community College, Oakland Community College and Rochester College students can receive 40 percent off career clothing and accompanying accessories such as shoes.

"Not everybody can afford to just walk into a store and purchase a suit at a non-discounted price, so I really think this just gives our students a fantastic opportunity to have some nice merchandise at a discounted price," said Kelly Dorner, director of Career Services at OU.

While JCPenney will supply a larger stock of career clothing on site than normal for the event, the 40 percent can be combined with any already-existing discounts as well.

"They have some pretty good sales to begin with, so very likely some of their career clothes will already be discounted in one way, shape or form," Dorner said.

Additionally, JCPenney will be offering free hair consultations in the hair salon and have staff available to do measurements for suit fittings, while Sephora will be doing free mini-makeovers and giveaways, although their merchandise is not included as part of the 40 percent off. The portrait studio will also be offering discounted headshots for students to update their

LinkedIn profiles.

"We are constantly looking at new ways to make the events more beneficial, fun and appealing to students," said Ken Bohn, director of Store Events at JCPenney. "In fact, we have several event additions planned for fall of 2019 that we believe will be fantastic updates to the program."

This is the first time OU will be partnering with JCPenney for this event, but it has been successful for over 200 other colleges and universities nationally just this year according to Bohn.

OU discovered the event through collaboration with career services at Eastern Michigan University.

"One of the things that I think our career services office does quite well is we really keep a finger on the pulse of what other institutions are doing for their students that seem to work," Dorner said.

She also stated the JCPenney Suit Up Event will benefit all OU students no matter their age or class standing.

"It's never too early to start thinking about internships, so I absolutely would suggest any freshman out there to have the appropriate clothing so they can feel prepared to attend things on campus... or potentially interview in the future," she said. "That future could be as soon as this summer."

Grizz buses will be available to take students to and from Oakland Mall during the event and will be picking up at Hamlin Circle.

"You just never know when you're going to need career clothes," Dorner said. "That next interview or internship or some type of professional opportunity could be right around the corner... It's important to be able to present that appropriate professional image."



COURTESY OF FLICKR

The JCPenny Suit Up Event will be at Oakland Mall 6-9 p.m. on Sunday March 24.

International scholars assist professors through PI Academy

TAYLOR CRUMLEY
Staff Reporter

A total of 28 Oakland University faculty members in all areas of study will be receiving an external mentor from prestigious universities across the globe.

The program that is supporting this growth in OU faculty is called PI Academy for Research and Engagement. According to their website, this program provides professional development in research, as well as training and workshops to develop OU faculty's skills and their network throughout disciplines.

Two of the 28 professors who will be receiving mentors through PI Academy are Matthew May, assistant professor of sociology, and Christopher Wilson, professor of physical therapy.

"My research focuses on the relationship between religion, work-life balance, and mental health," May said. "Dr. Pearce [May's PI Academy mentor] is also a sociologist of religion with similar research interests and many years of experience in my field."

OU has recently moved up to the second-highest tier in the Carnegie Classification of Higher Education. Programs like the PI Academy, according to May, can keep OU a competitive university in research.

He also said the goal of the PI Academy is to help professors get funding for research, prepare grant applications and to aid in carrying out their research.

"Part of college is learning about the latest research in an area," May said. "This is especially true with something like sociology, where what we know about people is always changing. Thus, doing good research makes me a better instructor, and this definitely makes OU a better place to learn."

Wilson's field of study is the prevention of the negative health outcomes that come along with getting older, as well as chronic illnesses. He says he is fortunate to have Dr. Andrew Guccione from George Mason University coming to assist him.

"In addition to providing guidance and advice on my research projects, he will be able to provide advice and guidance on my

personal and professional development as a teacher and researcher," Wilson said.

“

It is great to work for a university that cares about the development and growth of its faculty members through programs like the PI Academy. This empowers us to be better teachers, researchers and to best serve the community.

CHRISTOPHER WILSON
PROFESSOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

”

The help from Guccione has already inspired many ideas for the OU School of Health Sciences Home-based Older Person Upstreaming Prevention Physical Therapy (HOP-UP-PT) program. This program is designed to provide early prevention for senior citizens at risk

of being homebound.

"Dr. Guccione will be providing lectures to the first-year doctor of physical therapy students on professional development," Wilson said.

Along with mentoring OU faculty, the visiting scholars will also be doing a series of special lectures on campus that are open to all students, faculty and the general public. More information on the dates and topics of these lectures can be found on the PI Academy home page.

"PI Academy mentors are obligated to work with their mentees for 12 months, but I hope this is a relationship that lasts for many years," May said.

The resources that the PI Academy provides for OU's faculty can be used and applied across all areas of study on campus and help make connections between different fields of research.

"It is great to work for a university that cares about the development and growth of its faculty members through programs like the PI Academy," Wilson said. "This empowers us to be better teachers, researchers and to best serve the community."

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Professor completes second feature film documentary: 'Call Us Ishmael'

David Shaerf explores subculture of literary classic 'Moby Dick' to get people interested

MIKAYLA COX
Contributor

Assistant professor of creative writing and cinema at Oakland University, David Shaerf, has recently finished his second feature film documentary, "Call Us Ishmael."

The film explores a subculture that admires and cherishes what many consider the literary masterpiece "Moby Dick." These fans dedicate massive amounts of time to explore its timeless themes. Large marathon reading sessions, such as the New Bedford Moby-Dick Marathon are conventions for those who want to read aloud the over 500 pages of "Moby Dick."

The documentary also notes artists who were inspired by Herman Melville, the author of "Moby Dick," to represent the novel in other art forms. The work of illustrator Mat Kish, who made an art piece for every chapter of "Moby Dick," is mentioned, along with the famous performance artist Laurie Anderson who made her mark in this subculture with her art piece titled "Songs and Stories from Moby Dick."

The subculture is passionate about this literary classic. Shaerf's documentary hopes to revive this passion in the minds and hearts of those unfamiliar, intimidated or unappeased by the book.

"My hope was to reach people who had not read 'Moby Dick,'" Shaerf said. "It would allow people to feel they have a sense of agency in approaching 'Moby Dick'... [Melville] talks about race, sexuality, politics and religion in ways that are not dissimilar to how we think about now."

Since the film's 2017 debut at The Detroit Freep Film Festival, it has been screened across the country. To name a few, the film has been a part of the Yonkers

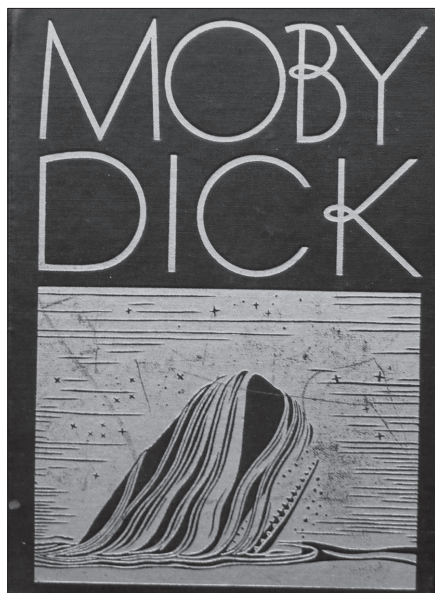


PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTREST
The timeless classic inspired the film.

Film Festival in New York, DOCUTAH International Documentary Film Festival in Utah and The Adrian Film Festival in Michigan. Shaerf hopes to continue to gain exposure and have his film reach out into the educational market once given to distributors.

Shaerf recalls the whole experience as a labor of love, seeing as production and attaining resources for the film were not easy. He started production back in 2011 and later was helped in the filming process by another OU professor in the creative writing department, Adam Gould.

The documentary was the source of an enormous amount of time and hard work, with the filmmaking process lasting about seven years. Shaerf recalls that the biggest struggle during the filmmaking process was having limited resources.

"Filmmaking is a collaborative art form... trying to make a film with one or two people is a hard thing to do," he said.

With the filmmaking process over, Shaerf is left to reflect on his work, work out the legal aspects of the film and watch as it gains exposure. He hopes to share the knowledge and lessons he learned with his students and other young filmmakers.

His biggest piece of advice - "Love your subject...if you're going to undertake a long process, you owe it to the subject, to be completely invested...a commitment to your subject is probably the most important thing."

“Love your subject...if you're going to undertake a long process, you owe it to the subject, to be completely invested...a commitment to your subject is probably the most important thing.”

DAVID SHAERF
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

THE OP

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English professor inspires students with passion for diversity

Dr. L. Bailey McDaniel creates a safe environment for students to discuss diversity issues in books

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

In Sandra Cisneros' novel "Caramelo," the Spanish term "hocicona" is used to describe someone who draws attention to unpleasant truths that are ignored by others. L. Bailey McDaniel is a hocicona.

McDaniel is a professor within the Oakland University Department of English whose classes and research focus on the works and lives of ethnic-American and female authors. She grew up in a large family of Maltese immigrants, moving around Oakland and Wayne counties, which is an experience that defines who she is.

Originally earning a degree in Economics from the University of Michigan, McDaniel spent five years in New York trying to get a career in acting. When that turned out to be unsatisfying, a pivot to teaching was the change she needed.

"I wanted to do something that I felt was more significant and contributed to other people," McDaniel said. "Books have always been a constant companion in my life, so I wanted to share that passion with other people."

In class, McDaniel's passion for books is matched by her passion for teaching about ethnic and female authors.

"Since I was a very young person, I have always been aware of the imbalances of power that exist in our world," she said. "The ways that literature and cultural studies explores and reflects back those imbalances seems like a compelling way to devote your time to study."

The texts that McDaniel covers tend to feature disturbing and uncomfortable events including sexism, colorism and war-induced post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). This can make some students uncomfortable, something McDaniel accounts for.

"[Students] are always encouraged to ask questions or make comments, [and know] that there is no wrong answer, too," student Natali Mladenovik said. "This makes us as students have a positive and encouraging environment to speak in, which I think makes our class participate more than any other random classroom down the hall."

McDaniel is able to create an environment where students can speak freely about uncomfortable topics by simply being herself. Between her upbringing and field of study, McDaniel believes the diversity of professors at OU is lacking — something she believes is a disservice to all students.

"We are all better served, we are all better people when everyone has access

to the playing field and multiple experiences and perspectives," she said. "Research shows unequivocally that students of color benefit when they see themselves represented in faculty in almost too many ways to count."

According to McDaniel, some of the ways students of color benefit from a diverse faculty are from having shared experiences with their professors, as well as the confidence boost that comes from seeing someone like them succeed.

Students of color are not the only ones to benefit from a diverse faculty.

"In my experience, white students at OU are curious, open minded and aware," McDaniel said. "But if they only ever have white professors — because professors bring their experiences and their cultures to the classroom unavoidably — they are getting a narrower experience and education than they otherwise would."

This desire for a diverse OU is not lost on students.

"I think it is really important that we have more diverse faculty because perspectives outside of the dominant culture should be heard by students and faculty alike to encourage an environment of equality and acceptance," English major Chanel Hermiz said. "I hope [McDaniel] is successful in her efforts."



PHOTO COURTESY OF KOBO
Dr. McDaniel advocates for diversity.

McDaniel currently has a book out, "(Re)Constructing Maternal Performance in Twentieth-Century American Drama," and is working on her second book on shame and identity within African American drama.

Neurology Club encourages students to learn about brains

JORDAN JEWELL

Engagement Editor

Oakland University's Neurology Club celebrated Brain Awareness Month for the first time this week. Club President, Gina Chippi, hopes that it'll become an annual celebration.

"The message of Brain Awareness week is so important to everyone, not just science majors," Chippi said. "Progress in biomedical research impacts everyone in some way, whether it be a friend or family member being able to receive a life-saving treatment due to new developments in brain research or a new device to help aid in the early diagnosis of a brain disease or disorder."

The Neurology Club is open to all OU students who want to gain a better understanding of how the mind works. Meetings and events are held on a monthly basis.

"We've hosted similar events, such as 'Protecting Your Noggin,' where we encourage brain health and safety," Chippi said. "During that event, we focused on safety while driving and how to stabilize the c-spine

with c-collars."

Dr. Gustavo Patino, assistant professor of neuroscience at Oakland, spoke at the club's Brain Awareness Week event about neuroanatomy.

"I have a deep passion for neuroscience, so the Neurology Club was intriguing to me right off the bat," said Brendan Veit, Neurology Club's vice president. "What was so appealing to me at the meetings was how well of a job speakers did at giving presentations and how interactive they were with the members at the meeting."

For Valentine's day, the club hosted their "Love on the Brain" event, which focused on hormones and how they affect relationships.

In addition to speaking events, the Neurology Club also hosts movie nights. On Feb. 15, students gathered to watch "Brain on Fire." The film, starring Chloë Grace Moretz and Jenny Slate, focuses on a journalist and her struggle with voices in her head and seizures.

"As the VP, I have had the chance to set up a handful of these meetings and meet some wonderful professionals as well as Neurology

Club members," Veit said. "It is an experience that has definitely shaped my time as a student here at OU, and I would not trade it for the world."

Neurology Club encourages all students to learn about the brain, and speakers often set aside time at the end of their talks for students and faculty to ask questions.

"The questions often lead to some really thought-provoking conversations," Veit said. "It provides insights that you might not consider and information about career paths that students might not have thought about otherwise."

Other events, like Mind Matters, are hosted prior to midterms and finals. These events teach students "hacks" to study and perform better on exams.

"We also have events that teach the importance of mindfulness, meditation and nutrition and how these things can impact the brain in a positive way," Chippi said.

Students interested in joining the Neurology Club can find more information on GrizzOrgs or by emailing Gina Chippi at gmchippi@oakland.edu.

OUSC elections: wha



story by Patrick Sullivan // design by Mina Fuqua // photo illustration Prakhya Chilukri // photos by Elyse Gregory

The Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) presidential election runs from today through March 27, and there are a lot of questions flying through the air. Who you should vote for, what policies each candidate stands for and how this election will directly affect students are just a few concerns that students need to know before voting.

We sat down with the three primary running mates and discussed who they are, what their policies are and why they are running to help the students decide who to vote for in this presidential election.

Get to know your candidates favorites

SONG

Julia: Paradise by Coldplay

Rule: Superposition by Young the Giant

Advice for freshman/students

Julia: "Don't feel pressured to get involved, but know when you do there will be so many people that can help you out."

Destinee: "When you think of your past life and what you've experienced, that creates who you are now. Don't ever forget where you came from."

MOVIE

Josh: Pans Labyrinth

Wentzel: All The President's Men and The Social Network

Advice for students

Wentzel: "Be proud of your school. Enjoy where you are."

Robinson: "Don't be too nervous to get involved. A great way to get accustomed to college life is to get involved early."

FOOD

Hill: Steak and potatoes

Bennett: Been a vegetarian for two years, and I don't regret being a vegetarian. But sometimes I drive past Taco Loco, and I get sad.

Advice for students

Hill: "One of the coolest things about OU is that you can branch outside of your major. Don't stay in your lane."

LEFT Destinee Rule and **RIGHT** Julia Alexander, president and vice president respectively.

LEFT Joshua Robinson and **RIGHT** Joe Wentzel, president and vice president respectively.

LEFT Mackenzie Hill and **RIGHT** Owen Bennett, president and vice president respectively.

at you need to know



"Destinee and I have a lot of different involvement on campus in a lot of different areas. We have outreach to groups that past presidents and vice presidents in Congress may not have had, and while we wouldn't say we could voice the student issues better, we would be able to understand those issues better."

Destinee Rule
Presidential candidate

The first candidates we sat down with were Destinee Rule and Julia Alexander, two junior political science majors running for president and vice president respectively. Rule and Alexander currently sit on OUSC, with Rule being the diversity and inclusion director and Alexander co-chairing the Student Activities Funding Board. Both candidates won the 2019 Keeper of the Dream Award on campus.

Some of the policies and changes that both Rule and Alexander want to make include more transparency between the

Board of Trustees and students, the creation of a women and family center on campus, and to push awareness to residents that live on campus and commuters on the resources available to them.

"Destinee and I have a lot of different involvement on campus in a lot of different areas," Alexander said when asked what set them apart from other candidates. "We have outreach to groups that past presidents and vice presidents in Congress may not have had, and while we wouldn't say we could voice the student issues better, we would be able to

understand those issues better."

The Center for Multicultural Initiatives, the First Year Advising Center and the Gender and Sexuality Center are just a few of the organizations that the candidates have worked with in the past.

"How can you fight for someone you don't know?" Rule said. "How can you support groups and communities that you don't know? Don't get me wrong, me and Julia don't know everyone on campus, but we're involved in a lot of communities on campus."



The second duo on the ticket for this election are Joshua Robinson and Joe Wentzel. Robinson and Wentzel are currently freshmen members of the Honors College.

Robinson works for the Student Program Board and is involved with several honors fraternities and School of Business organizations, while Wentzel works at the Career Services office and is involved with the university's pep band.

If elected, Robinson and Wentzel want to focus on increased support for Greek Life on campus, a better process when it comes to the name change policy, and a better road of communication between students and

the administration.

"If you want to change your name there is a very long process, and if you can't change your name that can cause some issues around campus," Wentzel said in regard to the name change policy.

Other possible policies that Wentzel and Robinson proposed were a touch up of the guest policy and Nightwatch in the resident halls, a change to a few of the parking areas on campus for commuters and residents, and increased reliability with Chartwells menus.

"We want OUSC to be known," Wentzel said. "We want people to know us and be comfortably around us so they could come into our office."

Joe Wentzel
VP candidate

"We want OUSC to be known. We want people to know us and be comfortably around us so they could come into our office."



"We believe that [through] increasing the efficiency [of Student Congress] we'll be able to accomplish so much more than previous administrations. This is really why we came to the table with our ticket."

Mackenzie Hill
Presidential candidate

The third and final ticket for this year's election consists of Mackenzie Hill and Owen Bennett, a fourth year mechanical engineer and a second year economics major respectively. Hill has been a part of around 25 student organizations, ranging from SPB to swing dancing to the Outdoor Adventure Club, and is currently a part of the OUSC. Bennett joined SPB his first year at OU and has also done work with the School of Business Administration's Ideas 2 Business Incubator.

With Hill and Bennett's campaign, they both are focusing on three differ-

ent tenets: efficiency, communication and student organization representation, with plans for several smaller problems as well, like hours for dining on campus.

"We believe that [through] increasing the efficiency [of Student Congress] we'll be able to accomplish so much more than previous administrations," Hill said. "This is really why we came to the table with our ticket."

For efficiency, Hill wants to make OUSC itself all come together and focus on singular problems and expand what already exists rather than creating new positions.

When it comes to student org representation, they want the university to provide more support to different groups on campus. Specifically, they want organizations to be able to fundraise and have more legal protection within the university. They also stressed inclusion when it comes to student organizations.

"We want to make sure the things we say we want to do actually get done by the end of the term," Bennett said. "If there's only one thing I can do when I walk away from this administration, [it] is restoring at least one person's faith in government on campus."

Students remember nostalgic treats

Popular candies include Bazooka Squeeze Tubes and Fruit Roll-Up tongue tattoos

ALYSSA OCHSS

Staff Reporter

After a long day of grade school, there was nothing like going home, ripping open a snack and eating it until the hunger finally passed. But what foods did we eat back in the 1990s or 2000s?

Perhaps you remember chewing on a Razzle until it finally turned to gum. Maybe you remember sticking your tongue to a piece of a Fruit Roll Up to get the tattoo to print on it. Maybe you poured an entire handful of Gripz in your hand and, in one fell swoop, shoved them in your mouth. Each of these scenarios is plausible to the students growing up in this generation.

Students currently at Oakland University range in age from 18-years-old and up, with many of the current seniors being right around 21 to 22-years-old. This puts the freshmen being born in 2000 to 2001 and many seniors being born from 1996 to 1997.

This generation is right on the cusp of the new millennium, and, depending

on where you look, it's the tail end of the Millennial generation or the beginning of the Gen Z generation.

Snacks and food items from this generation include Push Pops, Kid Cuisines, Trix Yogurt, Wonder Balls and a variety of kid-centered snacks and foods.

The most popular food items Oakland students thought of were Fruit Roll-Ups and candies like the Bazooka Squeeze Tubes Bubble Gum.

Megan Adam, a freshman and an environmental science major, remembered a type of candy that turned to gum after you chewed it.

"I only remember candy because that was a big part of my childhood," Adam said. "I remember the squeeze tubes of just straight sugar that turned into gum after a while."

Adam couldn't remember the exact brand of candy it was, but products that did similar things include Razzles and Bubble Jug. Razzles are circular candies that come in a package, and Bubble Jug is powdered candy that comes in a bright pink jug.

Bazooka bubble gum is better known as little, rectangular pieces of gum that often had comic strips inside the wrappers. According to Old Time Candy, the gum came to the United States after World War II. The Bazooka Squeeze Tubes came after the success of the bubble gum and the company marketed the squeeze tubes on posters as "the most exciting bubble gum to come along in 100 years."

Fruit Roll-Ups, Gushers and Fruit by the Foot are still around, but they still hold some of the students' favorite childhood memories. Anna Scott, a sophomore and a pre-social work major, remembers Fruit Roll-Ups.

"My friends and I would always try to get the tattoos on our tongues," Scott said. "With the Fruit by the Foot, we would always see how long they really were."

According to a Mental Floss article, the tongue tattoos came out in the early 2000s and they were instantly taken in by children which may be why people of this generation remember it so vividly. In the article they also mention the



ALYSSA OCHSS | STAFF REPORTER
Popular candies include Bazooka Squeeze Tubes and Fruit Roll-Up tongue tattoos.

development for the snack started back in 1975.

Many children who wanted the full Fruit by the Foot experience would hold the end of the treat in between their teeth and unravel it all, seeing just how long it was and savoring every bite.

Like Fruit by the Foot, our childhoods never seemed to end. With Bazooka Squeeze Tubes and Bubble Jug being long lost delicacies, the memories of them may last forever.



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PUZZLES

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- Across**

 - 1. Platter
 - 5. Overweight
 - 10. Ripened
 - 14. Not there
 - 15. ____ energy
 - 16. Distribute
 - 17. Kitchen hot spot
 - 18. Similar
 - 20. Dash
 - 21. Damon or Dillon
 - 22. Wrong
 - 23. More adjacent
 - 25. Harvest
 - 28. Oriental
 - 30. Mythical giant
 - 34. Breakfast bread
 - 37. Enjoy a book
 - 38. Snake formation
 - 39. Memory loss
 - 41. Methods
 - 43. Lincoln's coin
 - 44. Positive
 - 46. Outdated
 - 47. Change for a five
 - 48. Ralph Waldo ____
 - 50. Lead
 - 51. Shudder
 - 55. Takes it easy
 - 59. Fatigue
- Down**

 - 1. Rose barb
 - 2. Musical show
 - 3. Sports building
 - 4. Desire
 - 5. Academy Awards
 - 6. Winter shoe
 - 7. Shade source (2 wds.)
 - 8. Sucker
 - 9. Time period
 - 10. Eve's mate
 - 11. Asian desert
 - 12. Building wings
 - 13. Disappointing grades
 - 19. Musical genre
 - 21. Vegetarians' taboos
 - 24. Adjusts again
 - 26. Pencil rubber
 - 27. Singer ____ Williams
 - 29. Serious injury
- 30. Gasoline classification
 - 31. Exits
 - 32. Edges
 - 33. If not
 - 34. Mexican treat
 - 35. Portent
 - 36. Diarist ____ Frank
 - 40. Words of comprehension (2 wds.)
 - 42. Fern "seed"
 - 45. Bureaucratic delay (2 wds.)
 - 49. Accent
 - 50. FDR's successor
 - 52. Newswoman ____ Shriver
 - 53. Aromas
 - 54. Thorny blooms
 - 55. Source
 - 56. Subsides
 - 57. Sow's chow
 - 58. Binds
 - 60. News story
 - 63. Naval officer (abbr.)
 - 64. Stool pigeon
 - 65. Psychic ability (abbr.)

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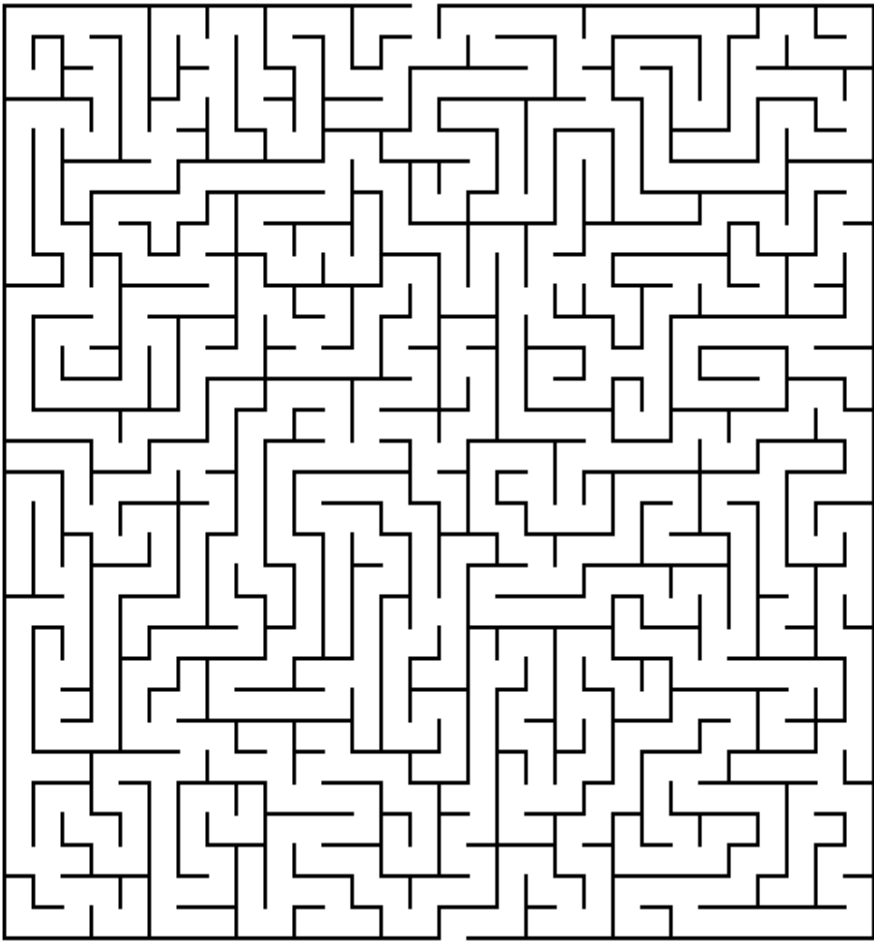
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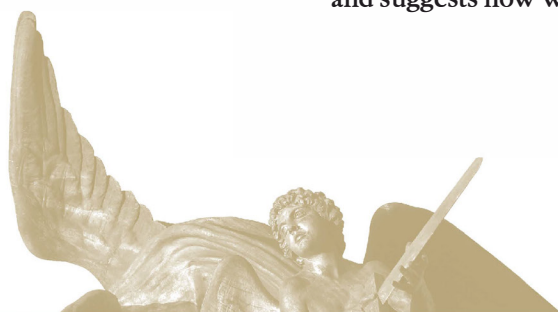
Social conflicts, embodied in race, religion, class and gender, create our identities.

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Scandal shows critical flaws in higher education



BEN HUME

Staff Reporter

Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin were the first two of a multitude of wealthy parents caught and charged with bribing colleges to get

their children accepted.

It comes as a surprise to no one, especially those in the higher education community, that wealth structurally allows privileged families to get into more prestigious colleges.

In the past, the United States has generally ignored these monetary manipulations that happen behind closed doors because they worked within the imperfect system. Some colleges transparently prefer the children and grandchildren of alumni, with investigations into Harvard University showing that legacy applicants were over five times more likely to get in than any other applicant.

Over the last week, these closed-door dealings have come to the surface as upwards of 50 wealthy parents have been indicted of various crazy schemes to cheat their children into the most selective universities.

For context, the majority of the schools targeted in this scheme are very selective, all having lower than 50 percent acceptance rates, with the majority being Ivy League caliber schools with sub-10 percent acceptance rates. For the general American public, the average college accepts two-thirds of their applicants.

To get around these statistical barriers, the guilty parents of these students manipulated the fact these universities are tax-exempt and taxpayer supported through federal and state funding. Selective institutions like the Ivy Leagues justify barring the taxpaying masses from their universities by saying they admit students based on merit. I will repeat that, because that already feeble excuse is now being completely overturned. Yale does not have to accept everyone that applies, even though they pay for their existence through taxes, because they claim to accept based on merit.

The existence of legacy admissions and even athletic recruitment bends this claim. The bribery that is coming to the surface may force a permanent change in this policy.

On top of the already terrible manipulation of the system, careful analysis by critics of the system found something especially disturbing: according to NPR, in some cases, payments that were effectively bribes to university officials were funneled through charitable foundations to the universities, meaning the bribers also could claim tax exemptions and get their money

back.

The education system before higher education is already classist, with poor communities being disproportionately affected by a lack of education as opposed to rich families that can afford a private education. Research has shown that low-income students make up just 3 percent of America's most selective colleges, not even counting the poor racial diversity.

Carrying this issue to the college level and making sure the already poor communities have an even worse chance at an education should be a crime.

And thankfully it is, because many of these parents are being charged with racketeering. This has been at the federal level, which only includes the parents and does not include charges against the students or universities. Two Stanford students are filing a separate class-action lawsuit against USC, Yale and UCLA.

With these lawsuits taking off, one can only hope that the long-standing issues regarding classism and corruption in education across the United States will finally see the reform it desperately needs.

The U.S border crisis is demanding a resolution

TIMOTHY KANDOW

Contributor

It shut down the government. It has deeply divided Washington D.C. and the American voting electorate.

On Feb. 15, 2019, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency at the southern border calling for the construction of a border wall. This effectively would tap into and allocate defense reserve funds to pay for a barrier between the United States and Mexico.

On March 14, 2019, the House and Senate voted to reject the national emergency, setting up Trump's first veto which he used the next day. The Senate will likely not have sufficient votes to override Trump's veto, but the division over a border wall in D.C. still exists.

The heart of the border wall

debate is the following question: is there a crisis on the southern border between the U.S. and Mexico?

Democrats, Republicans and Independents alike would mostly agree that if there was, allocation of funds would be justified and would warrant the need for more funds, more border personnel and newer technology. Hence, the subject to examine is the severity or existence of the "crisis" surrounding the southern border.

It's important to first note that the president does hold the authority to claim a national emergency if he deems it, as stated in the National Emergencies Act. It states, "during the period of a national emergency, of any special or extraordinary power, the President is authorized to declare such national emergency." It later states the reasons and application for termination to which the current



Congress used and enacted.

The first thing to examine is total apprehensions at the border. Since 2001, illegal crossings and apprehensions have declined. In 2018, the border agents apprehended about 467,000 people. So far in the fiscal year 2019, apprehensions are up 90 percent. Since 2008, the Obama and Trump Administrations have deployed more

agents and have invested in more technology to help border agents.

The intent of Trump's national emergency is to avert this crisis once and for all by making apprehensions easier for agents. On top of this, Customs and Border Protection data shows across the country in the fiscal year 2018, immigration officials encountered 16,831 "criminal aliens" and would be flagged by officials at legal ports of entry or airports as being "inadmissible" into the United States.

According to the most recent figures, the Department of Homeland Security claims about 20 percent of illegal border crossers make it into the country, adding to the already massive illegal population in the U.S. of about 12 million.

The intent of a border wall is to force illegal immigrants

into a port of entry. This allows for the border agents to inspect the immigrants more effectively and efficiently. More drugs have been seized at the port of entries than not, showing the success of the border entries.

A recent survey conducted by the National Border Patrol Council in 2018 concluded that "Border Patrol agents say they can't be much clearer: They want more walls along the U.S.-Mexico border."

Said best by the Chief of the United States Border Patrol, "We certainly do need a wall. Talk to any border agent and they will tell you that."

One must respect the individuals on the spot of the crisis and cannot ignore their call for action. This border wall represents something greater than simply a barrier. It has become a symbol of a crisis which must be averted.

The views expressed in Opinion do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

'Hamilton' blows Fisher Theatre audience away

AUJENEE HIRSCH
Editor-in-Chief

The most thrilling theatrical experience in a generation decided to shoot their shot in Detroit.

Lin-Manuel Miranda's Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning musical "Hamilton" came to life at The Fisher Theatre in downtown Detroit on Tuesday, March 12. Metro Detroiters of all ages came together to sit down and watch a tale of romance, drama, scandal and freedom for the \$10 founding father, Alexander Hamilton.

Based on Ron Chernow's masterful biography, "Hamilton" tells the story of the scrappy and dashing immigrant Alexander Hamilton as he works his way up the ranks of the newly founded American political system to leave a lasting legacy — which he accomplished since he established our current banking system.

The performance was absolutely breathtaking from the very first moment the music started. It gave the entire audience chills — thanks to Miranda's often unsung musical accomplice, Alex Lacamoire.

Lacamoire really outdid himself with this arrangement. I loved how the music arrangements didn't seem to overpower



PHOTO COURTESY OF WXYZ DETROIT

The phenomenally talented cast brings a heartbreaking performance to Detroit.

the lyrics in the musical — which happens quite a bit in other musical productions I have seen — but rather the music enhanced the lyrics, and helped the audience understand the feelings behind the words.

Perhaps one of the things I enjoyed the most about the show — LOL, who am I kidding? I loved the whole damn thing — was the set, which was very unique since the entire performance was based off of one set design. Sure, there were parts of the set that moved in order to make it seem like there was a new design, but in actuality it was the exact same thing.

I also really loved how the center of the stage moved in a circle. It helped create the illusion the characters were walking along a path, when in reality they were moving in one spot.

The choreography of the show was thrilling, edgy, original and hella sexy! The costumes gave the cast members plenty of room to perform various flips, pirouettes and fight scenes. In addition to the choreographed dance routines, there was a lot of freestyle dancing as well — I particularly enjoyed the dancing in "The Reynolds Pamphlet."

But of course, no great theatre performance would be complete without the phenomenal talents of the cast members. Edred Utomi was absolutely amazeballs as the titular role Alexander Hamilton. Utomi was able to bring just the right amount of grit, intellect and charm to the stage, which made for a very natural and heartbreaking performance — especially at the end.

Utomi wasn't the only one that brought his A-game to the stage, Hannah Cruz and Peter Matthew Smith, gave a performance worthy of winning a Tony as Eliza Hamilton and King George, respectively. Smith was absolutely hilarious as the only white character in the entire show — he brought the right amount of snobbery for a pompous king.

Cruz took the role of the leading lady and made it all her own. She gave a breathtaking performance, and her vocal talent blew the audience away — especially when almost everyone in the audience teared up with her performance of "Burn."

If you haven't had the chance to go see "Hamilton" you must go see it! It is a show everyone in the family can enjoy — trust me I took my mom, and she hates musicals but absolutely loved "Hamilton."

Rating: 5/5 stars

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Celebrities defy the odds in new political rom-com ‘Long Shot’

TREVOR TYLE
Life&Arts Editor

There’s nothing really appealing about a film that’s labelled a “political romantic comedy.” I mean, come on, how many people really like politics or rom-coms?

But that’s exactly how Seth Rogen and Charlize Theron’s new film, “Long Shot,” is being marketed, and in spite of my initial reservations, it’s beyond a pleasant surprise.

The film follows Fred Flarsky (Rogen), a journalist who quits his job after the newspaper he works for is bought out by conservative media conglomerate Wembley Media. While mourning his employment, he reconnects with Charlotte Field (Theron), his former babysitter and the current secretary of state.

Charlotte is pursuing the American presidency in 2020 and preparing for a rigorous campaign, which she hopes will culminate in an endorsement from the current president (Bob Odenkirk). Despite the reservations of her team (June Diane Raphael and Ravi Patel), she hires Fred as her speech writer. But his appointment to her staff quickly develops into a passionate romance, one that poses the threat of jeopardizing

Charlotte’s career — and her chances at becoming the first female president.

“Long Shot” is incredibly ambitious — seemingly to a fault — in trying to fit within the constraints of so many genres, many of which are difficult to do successfully. But it flourishes in spite of those odds, creating a film that perfectly balances gritty politics with tear-inducing comedy.

Much of this can be attributed to the brilliantly crafted writing team of Dan Sterling (“The Office”) and Liz Hannah (“The Post”). Sterling’s clear mastery of comedy, combined with Hannah’s undeniable understanding of politics, makes for a wonderful collaboration that is worth revisiting for future projects. Direction from Jonathan Levine (“Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates”) completes the creative package, guaranteeing this film is undoubtedly one of the funniest of the year.

But that’s not the film’s only dream team. I was, naturally, surprised to learn Rogen and Theron would be playing opposite each other in a romantic comedy — which is, perhaps, a bit shallow on my part. (Theron being “out of Rogen’s league” is both a crucial plot point and an important life lesson that features prominently in this film.) But

their combined forces are truly magnificent. Rogen is known for his natural comedic ability, but Theron — who has dabbled in comedy projects before — is surprisingly hilarious. (I say “surprisingly” only because of the overpowering memorability of her more serious roles.)

Needless to say, “Long Shot” is a film that thrives on chemistry. And while Rogen and Theron steal the show, the film’s supporting cast — which also includes O’Shea Jackson Jr. and a remarkable Andy Serkis — provides some stellar performances as well. My only true complaint is the brief appearance of “Friends” star Lisa Kudrow, whose character is criminally reduced to one scene.

On the political spectrum, “Long Shot” makes some very clear digs at Republicans. Wembley Media is an obvious jab at Fox News, while Odenkirk’s character — a dimwitted television star-turned-president — is an undeniable jab at Donald Trump’s history as a celebrity before becoming commander in chief. In spite of that, this is a film that mostly appeals to both sides.

“Long Shot” is a nearly flawless film that drives home the long-overdue universal messages of bipartisan



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB
“Long Shot” is set to hit theaters May 3.

agreement, the sexist double standards of American politics and beauty extending beyond the surface. And it will still have you roaring with laughter for the entirety of its two-hour duration. Unfortunately, its May 3 release date may jeopardize its box office success (“Avengers: Endgame” hits theaters just one week prior), but make no mistake — this film is one worth seeing.

Rating: 4.5/5 stars

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Softball star wraps up Golden Grizzly career

DEVIN BOATWRIGHT
Staff Reporter

Senior Brittney Miller is attempting to end her final year of softball with a bang.

Miller started her sporting career playing baseball when she was only three years old. She made the switch to softball not too long after, and has been loving the sport ever since.

"After I turned eight, I switched to softball," Miller said. "I played one year of rec ball then went straight to travel fast pitch, and I loved it. I played all throughout middle and high school and continued to appreciate the sport. I remember watching girls on TV play, and I always wanted to be as good as them. Once I found out that you can get scholarships for playing, I went to as many camps as I could and worked as hard as possible to get to where I am now."

Miller got her start playing when she was a freshman at Oakland University. Since 2016, Miller has started in more than 40 games every season. She believes that finding consistencies elevates the way her and the team play overall.

"Being a part of this team since I was a freshman has been a crazy, unpredictable journey," Miller said. "However, I think that my goal has stayed the same throughout every year and that's just to get better. The team and I strive to be better everyday.



JUAN JUAREZ | OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
In 2018, Miller hit .277 with a team-best 10 doubles and 30 RBIs while scoring 16 runs.

If we come up short, we continue to stay motivated and continue to move forward no matter what. We all know that finding that consistency in our play is one of our key focuses, so if we can figure that out every time we meet then we're doing what we need to do."

Come game day, Miller and the softball squad always try to win but also to go out on the field and enjoy themselves. As a senior, Miller doesn't feel that she sets the expectation for anyone other than herself and just wants her team to play to the best of their abilities.

"I don't feel any pressure because I'm a senior, if anything, there's pressure to perform because we just want to win," Miller said. "We don't have any set captains or leaders on the team so we just go out there, have fun, and play the game to the best of our abilities. I never get the feeling of setting the standard or expectation for anyone other than myself."

Miller does not plan to play softball outside of college. However, as she ventures into her new chapter of life, she had very encouraging words for the team and players that will follow.

"The best advice I have is to really indulge yourself in every moment you play," she said. "It truly goes by fast, and before you know it you'll be a senior like me trying to plan out your future. There will be times when you don't feel like going to practice, you feel like giving up or just feel that your body can't take it anymore. However, the payoff is so worth it, you will meet long lasting friends and really figure out who you are as a person. So hang in there and you won't regret it, I promise."

Miller and the rest of the softball team will be on the road traveling to Youngstown, Ohio to face off against the Youngstown State University Penguins for their first Horizon League game of the season. The competition is March 22-23, starting at 3 p.m. on Friday.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Baseball

The baseball team kicked off Horizon League play this past weekend against the University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC) Flames, playing three games in two days. The Golden Grizzlies could not leave Chicago with a win, going 0-3 in the series.

In the double-header on Saturday, UIC won both games by a combined seven run margin. The first game was a low-scoring affair, finishing 3-1. Oakland's lone run came in the top of the ninth inning on an RBI ground out to shortstop by Ryan Fitzgerald. UIC pitcher Jacob Key only allowed four hits in seven and a third innings, and the Oakland offense struggled to score any runs when he was in the game.

On Sunday, the Golden Grizzlies attempted to take a game from the Flames, but were unable to hold off the UIC offense once more. After giving up two runs in the fourth inning, Oakland was able to tie the game up at two after a Mario Camilletti knocked in a two-run single. UIC answered right back, scoring two runs in the sixth, which effectively ended the game. After the sixth, the Flames held onto their lead and closed out the series, winning the final game 4-2.

The baseball team continues Horizon League play against Youngstown State University on Friday, March 22 in Ohio.

Tennis

The tennis team traveled to Toledo, Ohio to take on the University of Toledo Rockets. The Golden Grizzlies were unable to carry their momentum from the previous weekend into this one, as they lost 4-3 to the Rockets.

Oakland was able to win two of three doubles matches against the Rockets. The doubles teams of Ava Thielman/Darya Maltseva and Samantha Galloway/Sofia Borcuti won 6-4 and 6-3, respectively.

In the singles matches, Oakland was unable to come out on top, winning two of six singles matches. Thielman and Borcuti defeated their opponents. Thielman defeated hers in three sets, while Borcuti swept her opponent in two straight sets. This performance set the tennis team's record at 6-6 for the season.

Competition continues for the tennis team on Friday, March 22 against the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Jaguars, kicking off Horizon League play.

Swim & Dive

Oakland Swim and Dive concluded their season on Saturday at the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) National Invitational. The team finished with seven top 10 finishes on the day, with the men coming in sixth place and the women in ninth.

Tony Eriksson recorded two fourth place finishes, one in the 100 IM and the other in the 400 freestyle relay. The 400 relay team featured Eriksson, Paul Huch, Will Gayne and Rudy Aguilar. Aguilar and Huch also competed in the 100 freestyle, where Huch placed fifth and Aguilar placed 14th.

For the women's swim and dive team, Susan LaGrand took seventh place in the 200 backstroke and Grace Shinske finished 11th. Katie Colwell also recorded a seventh place finish in the 100 freestyle.

This invitational wrapped up the season for both swim and dive teams in a season where both finished first in the Horizon League, extending their conference champion streaks to 41 (men) and 25 (women).

Compiled by Michael Pearce,
Sports Editor

Getting to know ultimate frisbee as they welcome newcomers

JONATHAN SAVICH
Staff Reporter

In 2014 the Oakland Outlaws were born, and since then the team has continued to expand their outreach.

Ultimate Frisbee 101

To understand the club, you must first understand the way of the game. Ultimate frisbee can feel and look like a football game with a disc. It's a seven on seven game, and the continuous play doesn't stop until a team scores. In order to score, you must catch the frisbee in the endzone, you can't run or walk with the disk, and once you catch it, you must use your momentum as quickly as you can.

Only being able to advance the disk by throwing it is what makes ultimate frisbee what many consider a unique, exciting battle of attrition. Frisbee is not a contact sport, so anytime you encroach on someone throwing or catching the disk it's a foul. There are also no officials at the club level, so the game calls to honor and self-officiating.

Each score is worth one point, games are typically played to a specified score such as 15 or until the 90 minute running



PHOTO COURTESY OF C.J. ROUND

The club hopes to one day join the USAU league in order to compete in national tournaments.

clock hits 0. Teams have an offensive line which mans the field when they receive the poll (throw off) and a defensive line that is on the field to send the polls. Position wise, there are handlers and cutters.

Handlers control the disk between each other while looking for the cutters to make a break for either a short dump or a deep huck. Handlers utilize their various kinds of throws like flicks, backhands, ham-

mers and other niche throws, while cutters run in either a horizontal stack or vertical stack of players to get open.

The club

Clarence Round, better known as C.J., is the team's active head coach, captain and president, and he's still an active player. Round coordinates team tournaments, team volunteering and he controls the

budget for the team. He also creates optimal lineups and plays while making all in-game adjustments to the team's strategies. The team has competed in two tournaments in each semester this year, and in one of the fall tournaments they took home the first place trophy.

Round's goal is to get the team into the USA Ultimate (USAU) league, an organized ultimate frisbee league where the team would have a regular schedule to compete regionally and possibly nationally. Getting into the USAU has been a goal of the team since they were founded, but it takes jumping through some rings.

The team has around 14-20 players and they are always looking to add new members. The team practices twice a week. Round bestows the fundamentals of the game like proper throwing form and having adequate knowledge of the game. Past that, Round is a firm believer that the club is ultimately for fun, team scrimmages, joking around and building relationships.

"It's a new sport for a lot of people, and you want people to continually play the sport and to have fun," Round said. "We're an open team to males and females. It's a cheap sport to play and we're all about having fun. Give ultimate a chance."

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Three ways to finish the semester strong

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

The winter semester is almost over, and we all need to get our act together. Winter sucks, and it makes our performance worse, no doubt about it. As someone who knows how to dig a hole and have to desperately climb out of it, here are my three tips to finish the semester strong and avoid disappointing your loved ones.

1. Cut off all of your friends

One way to focus all of your attention on school and work is cutting everyone important out of your life. You have to tell them it's not them, it's you, and move on with your life. After you get your crap together, then you can hit them with the classic "jk lol" and be best friends again. After the third or fourth time though, it won't work and they'll actually get rid of you, so you want to be careful with how liberally you use this.

Another way to cut off your friends is to stop showering. This trick is especially effective if you are a male, because guys stink like no other. If you stop showering, they'll practically cut themselves off for you. It's genius. For added effect, rub some onions and raw beef on your body to give yourself a

real pot roast type of scent.

2. Get your Cookie on

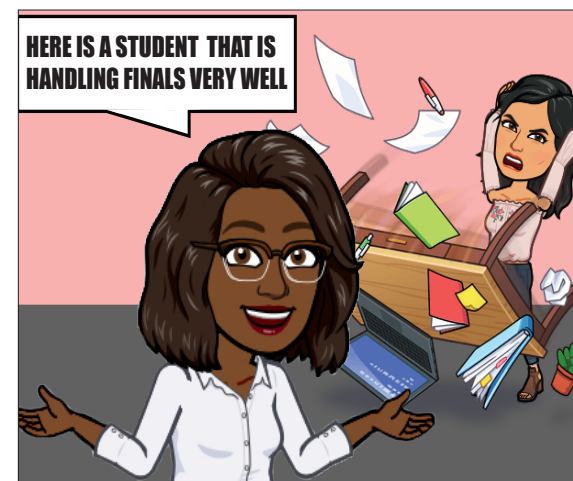
You guys remember Cookie from Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide? Simon Nelson Cook? The OGest of all OGs? If you want to pass your classes and not do any work, buy some thick-rimmed glasses and put a little microchip on them. The work will practically do itself. All A's in a second. Of course I am NOT condoning cheating at all, that'd be unethical. This isn't cheating, this is using your resources to fix the data that is presented.

Please don't sue me or kick me out for academic dishonesty. This is all I have.

3. Cry to your teachers

Nothing is more pathetic than an adult sobbing at the feet of another adult. Get shameless with this one, grovel and beg your teacher for percentage points. If you're persistent enough, they'll give you good grades just to shut you up. Trust me, this method is extremely effective, especially if you can get some snot flowing from the nostrils. There's nothing worse for a professor than a snotty, sniffly, teary-eyed college student at their feet, staining their dress shoes and getting snot on their khakis.

Think about something super sad, like an innocent animal dying or Oakland losing on a last-second



PRAKHYA CHILUKURI | GRAPHIC ASSISTANT
Make sure you do your best as the semester ends.

3-pointer in the Horizon League tournament. Let the tears flow as you think about Drew McDonald ending Oakland's hope of dancing in March Madness, and give your teacher hell.

Well I hope these tips helped you out, maybe your parents won't be disgusted with you like mine are with me.

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