

# THE OAKLAND POST

OCTOBER  
29

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2014 —

## ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sure, OU's residential life is growing, but what about its afterlife? Check out the official list of rumored campus hauntings.

PAGE 8

Midterms and class leaving the upcoming election last on your mind? The Post has got you covered with our student election guide.

PAGE 12

The basketball season is right around the corner, but this year you may not even have to leave your couch to catch the action.

PAGE 17



## PAY TO PLAY

OU Brass Band qualifies for spot in prestigious British festival, but struggles to raise necessary funds PAGE 19

Photo by Erika Barker/ The Oakland Post



# thisweek

October 29, 2014 // Volume 40. Issue 41



## ontheweb

For the first time ever, The American Medical Women's Association at Oakland University William Beaumont (OUWB) School of Medicine will be hosting a Women's Health Conference in hopes of empowering women to stay healthy. Read more at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com).



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**LET THEM EAT CAKE //** Flanked by student helpers, Center for Student Activities Director Jean Ann Miller dishes out a slice of cake to celebrate Matilda Dodge's 131st birthday. Students passing through the food court were invited to partake in the sweet festivities.

Photo by Katherine Cagle/The Oakland Post

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## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are you doing for Halloween?

- A** Dressing up as my midterm grades. Talk about scary!
- B** Plotting for the sweet morning-after candy sales.
- C** Getting my boo-gie on. Nothing scarier than asking a ghoul to dance.
- D** Bobbing for apples. Deal with it.

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## LAST WEEK'S POLL

How has the news of the on-campus assault affected you?

- A** I don't feel comfortable alone at night.  
30.4%
- B** I didn't feel safe before this.  
8.7%
- C** I still feel pretty safe on campus.  
56.5%
- D** Haven't heard about it.  
4.3%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### October 30, 1964

Construction began on "Oakland's brand new all-male dorm," Van Wagoner House this week in 1964. The original project cost the University \$825,000 and was built to the same design as Hill House.

### October 29, 1996

In a clear sign of changing times, the front page headline of the Oakland Post read "Mid-term grades online." Prior to that, students had no effective means of finding out their midterm grades before the end of the semester was approaching.

### October 30, 1996

Demolition of what used to be the campus recreation building, Lepley Sports Center, began during the week to make room for Oakland new fitness and recreation center.

-Compiled by Jackson Gilbert, Sports Editor



14

### IN THE WINNER'S CLUB

The Oakland University Football Club took on and defeated Ohio State at the Great Lakes Eastern Conference matchup last Saturday.



17

### WRITE TO LIFE

Novelist Steven Gillis stopped by OU on Wednesday, Oct. 22 to discuss his new book and talk about the life of a writer.



23

### A GLOBAL CONNECTION

Good food, great entertainment and memorable company defined the atmosphere of International Night on Friday, Oct. 24.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Halloween edition



35

millions of pounds of candy corn are produced each year

1978

Halloween, the first in a series of horror movies, came out

252

the average amount of licks it takes to get to the center of one of the most popular candies, the Tootsie Pop

10%

pet owners who admit to dressing their pets in Halloween costumes

31

last day of the Celtic calendar. Halloween was originally a pagan holiday honoring the dead



# Editorial

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Nothing's scarier than apathy

By Oona Goodin-Smith  
Editor-in-Chief

Rubber bats and synthetic spider webs dangle from doorways as the squirrels have begun their yearly assault on porch jack-o-lanterns and flocks of the fearless venture to haunted houses.

The Halloween scare is in the air, and this week, Oakland University students have the opportunity to make perhaps one of the most scary choices of all: the decision not to vote in the midterm election on November 4.

Sure, it's easy not to care, easy to lay your overscheduled mid-semester's full hand on the table and play the apathetic card. It's easy to remain passive, to lie down and let the constant barrage of political messages wash over you as you let the midterm election pass. It's easy not to vote.

In fact, according to Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), in the 2010 midterm election, only an estimated 24 percent of all eligible young people ages 18 to 29 voted. 76 percent took the easy route.

Perhaps more startling, in the past election, the rate of young people with college

degrees "saw the greatest decline in voting rates compared to their counterparts with less education in 2010" as voter turnout dropped from 41 percent in 2006 to 37.4 percent, according to CIRCLE.

Citing "too busy, conflicting work" as the top excuse given by young college non-voters, the site suggests that electing local officials simply isn't a major consideration in the lives of many busy college students.

"I think it's just a time thing. I haven't actually looked into local elections and who's running and what they're running for, I think it's been so busy with my own life," said Oakland business senior Mindy Cao, echoing the concerns of many.

Understandable? Yes. Acceptable? No.

While, according to thinkprogress.org, 80 percent of U.S. college students often must balance an average 12 hours of courses with around 19 hours of work each week, not to mention social lives and the occasional time to sleep, leaving little time for anything else, the decisions made or not made at next Tuesday's polls will affect our lives for the next four years, and perhaps, alter history forever.

With campaign platforms focusing heavily on education spending, healthcare, and the job market, it is our generation at stake on Tuesday's ballots.

Thus, we at *The Oakland Post* urge all of OU to participate in the upcoming midterm election and, to borrow from our own student congress, "let your voice be heard."

We're not telling you how to vote; as an objective media source that's not our job. We're simply telling you to vote, to educate yourself (perhaps even using our election guide on page 12), and to have a say in your future as a citizen of the state and country. It's your right and civic duty as an American citizen.

In the words of former President Franklin D. Roosevelt, "Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."

Don't deprive yourself of choice this voting season., OU. After all, nothing's more scary than apathy.

Contact Editor-in-Chief Oona Goodin-Smith at [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com).

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



THE OAKLAND POST

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## Letters to the Editor

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



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# Perspectives

## Letter to the Editor: Disappointed in comic regrets

**H**ello,  
I must say that I am a little disappointed that the Post regrets running the Note to Self cartoon.

It's just a cartoon and anyone looking that hard to be offended by it really has too much time on their hands. Anyone can be offended by almost anything that is in any newspaper.

You can be sorry that people may have taken offense, but not that you put it in the paper to begin with.

That said, I think the cartoon is funny, and nowhere in the cartoon does it state that the bear is in the fraternity.

He is just at a fraternity

function that happens to be serving beer (shocking).

Also, the fact that he can't seem to read has no reflection on the fraternity function that he is attending.

He's a bear, and he's been having some humorous difficulties since the semester started. That's all it is.

The people who are offended and demanding a front page apology really need to get over themselves.

I highly doubt that anyone involved in the cartoon actually sat down and tried to come up with an idea that would offend the "Greek Community" on campus. They just aren't that

important!

I really hope that you continue to run the cartoons of the OU Bear in future issues of the paper.

Maybe you could run one where he is trying to pledge a fraternity and he isn't accepted because he can't read... haha!

But wait, you might offend the other bears on campus who can read!

Thanks for your time,  
Sandra Krasiecko

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Comments?  
Complaints?**

**Write a**

**Letter to the Editor!**

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information, class standing  
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## Perspectives

# Opinion: Vote right on your upcoming midterm

Nicholas Walter  
The Student Statesman



Knowing the horror we students have of midterms, it is with some caution that I write a column on midterms.

But this is a different kind of midterm. I am speaking, of course, about the midterm elections that will take place next Tuesday, Nov. 4.

You know the format of the paper: the first half is background material, while the second half is raw opinion.

I am just going to focus on the Michigan Senate race in this article, mostly because that is the race I know the most about.

Here are the facts about the two leading candidates (for the record, I will not be talking about third parties, just the two big ones: Democrat and Republican. How much space do you think I have?):

Terri Lynn Land, former two-term Michigan Secretary of State, is the Republican. Her campaign centers on repealing Obamacare and replacing it with something better, fixing our state's crumbling roads and keeping jobs in Michigan.

Gary Peters, U.S. Congressman from the 14 District, is the Democrat. His campaign centers on promoting green

energy instead of oil and coal, increasing education funding and raising taxes for affluent Americans.

Before we move on, and just in case anybody was wondering, I do NOT work for either campaign.

What struck me as most odd when considering whether to vote for Gary or Terri was Gary's weird position on something called petcoke (I'd never heard of it before, but apparently it's a byproduct of oil production).

On the one hand, he is arguing, consistent with his campaign about green energy, that petcoke is bad. On the other hand though, it happens that he owns \$20,000 in a company that produces petcoke. That doesn't make sense. You can't truthfully argue against something that you profit from. It's hypocritical.

I like Terri in large part because of her Obamacare position. Everyone agrees: we can't just repeal it. Terri's idea is to repeal Obamacare and replace it with something better that includes the ability to buy insurance from out-of-state.

Good plan, right?

We can buy less expensive cars, clothes, food and, good grief, even guns across state lines; why not insurance?

You may agree; you may not. Hopefully, though, this article made you think about that one last midterm this semester, that oh-so-important Nov. 4 election.

## WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

Submit an opinion column to  
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# Campus

## Grizzlies on the Prowl



*"What is your favorite Halloween activity?"*



**Sahar Rammaha, biology, freshman**

"Going to haunted corn mazes. I like how they chase after you. It's more thrilling and suspenseful."



**Ari Berlin, operations management, junior**

"Eating the candy. My mom buys candy for Halloween and I like to eat the leftovers."



**Amanda Zurowski, accounting, junior**

"I like dressing up my dog for Halloween and picking out his costume. I don't like haunted houses or scary movies."



**Elvedin Causevic, electrical engineering, freshman**

"I like to go costume shopping and take my little sister to go trick-or-treating."

— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury, Photographer

## POLICE FILES

### Marijuana use in North Hamlin Hall

OUPD was dispatched to North Hamlin Hall for a report of marijuana use Oct. 25 at 11:50 p.m.

Outside of the apartment, officers could smell burnt marijuana. Officers were invited in by a student and his roommate.

Officers questioned them, and they admitted to smoking marijuana about 10 minutes earlier.

The students were given citations.

### Counterfeit money use at Cafe O'Bears

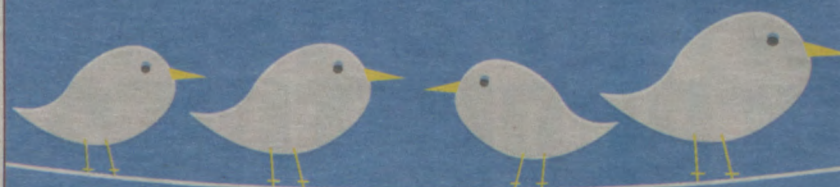
Officers were dispatched to Cafe O'Bears in reference to a woman who tried to use a counterfeit bill Oct. 22 at 12:03 p.m.

Officers spoke with the cafe's manager, who discovered the fake \$20 bill with a counterfeit marker. The woman who tried to use the bill said she received it at a Kroger two days earlier. She said she was very upset because she didn't know it was fake.

The woman was released without incident and the bill was placed into evidence.

— Compiled by Haley Kotwicki  
Chief Copy Editor

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Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

The Science and Engineering Building houses a variety of different classes from film to biology because of its large lecture halls and theater-style seating.

# Three's a crowd

*Multiple engineering buildings draw confusion but each serve purpose for program's rapid expansion*

**Selah Fischer**  
Staff Reporter

Three different engineering buildings at one university can be a bit confusing, yet each one serves a different purpose at Oakland and allows students to thrive in their chosen field.

"Between lectures and labs we need all the space possible," freshman Kelly Whalen said. "Engineering is said to be the fastest-growing major, so we all need a lot of space to work in."

Between Dodge Hall, The Science and Engineering Building and the new Engineering Center on campus, there are many differences between the three that a lot of people on campus are unaware of.

"I, myself, have wondered what would be done about the confusion with having three buildings with 'engineering' in the title, and how the university would be addressing it," said Jane Dietrich, Executive Secretary of the School of Engineering and Computer Science. "We had many lost students the first few weeks of classes who arrived in the Engineering Center only to find out their classes

were in SEB."

Dodge Hall was the first engineering building constructed, the Science and Engineering Building was second, followed by the Engineering Center most recently. Dodge Hall is still able to function for lectures and graduate research,

The Science and Engineering Building has a cross-section of degrees through various academic units on campus while the Engineering Center is dedicated to the ultimate undergraduate experience.

"Most of my lectures took place in SEB and my labs were mainly in Dodge Hall," said Ryan Adams, an engineering graduate from Oakland. "When I first looked around the new engineering building I was very impressed."

"I think current students will be inspired by the beautiful industrial design of the building and the amenities inside will allow them to thrive."

While they all have necessary technology and learning space, the newest building provides the most modern technology and atmosphere.

The new Engineering Center is a 127,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility located next to Dodge

Hall and the Kresge Library.

"The new Engineering Center allows the School of Engineering and Computer Science the ability to showcase our capabilities," said Richard Rachner, Development Officer of the School of Engineering and Computer Science. "In addition, it's a great venue to showcase the value proposition for our students."

The building also showcases OU's capabilities in industry partnerships and was constructed with the students in mind.

"Dean Chamra wanted the new Engineering Center to be more than just a building students take classes in, but a spot for students to spend the day, take a class, work in a lab, study and eat lunch and dinner in," Rachner said. "From our first month of operation, I would say that goal has been achieved."

As of now, there are no specific plans to further expand the engineering department.

However, the school is always looking to keep up with new technologies and provide sufficient space so students are prepared to enter the workforce.



# Aramark contract re-approved

*After months of extensions, the lowest bidder's contract is approved*

Kaylee Kean  
Managing Editor,

Alexis Cantwell  
Contributor

After months of waiting, the Finance and Administration Division of the Facilities Management Department has finally received an answer on its custodial contracts: Aramark, the lowest bidder, will continue to provide the bulk of OU's cleaning service.

Six trustees supported the five-year contract, one opposed and one abstained at the Board's formal session on Wednesday, Oct. 22.

Trustee Richard Flynn, who abstained due to conflict of interest but said he felt compelled to give his opinion, said the common thread raised throughout his six years of Board service is that of protecting the integrity and reputation of Oakland.

"We protect our reputation by always doing what is legal, what is honorable and ethical, what is fair and just for Oakland University, its employees and the community at large," Flynn said. "And we expect everyone affiliated with Oakland University to abide by the same standard."

Flynn said while he had nothing against Aramark personally, he was disturbed by recent investigations by the Detroit Free Press of the serious food service problems and inappropriate behavior by Aramark employees in Michigan.

"Does the university want to continue expanding its business relationship with a company that has the potential to harm the stellar reputation that took decades to nurture?" Flynn asked. "Maybe it won't cause any harm, but do we dare take the risk? As for one, I'm not willing to take that risk."

Trustee Ronald Robinson, the opposing vote, said this outsourcing was an issue of economic inequality as well. He spoke of a childhood friend's father, who was a custodian for a Detroit public school, and said the man made enough to live well and support his children.

"I hope the same for Aramark custodians, but I think that their near-poverty wages will result in a more difficult economic situation for them to overcome," he said. "Oakland University has more than just a financial responsibility to the students and to the state; they also have a social responsibility, and I don't think moving to this outsourcing contract with

these low, really near-poverty level wages really meets that social responsibility that we have."

Chair Mark Schlusel addressed this after the contract was officially approved, saying that the administration actually negotiated further with Aramark and obtained an increase in the minimum wage to \$9 an hour as opposed to the previous \$8.10 an hour without additional cost to Oakland.

"Frankly I want to commend those on this Board who fought so vigilantly for the employees," he said. "It's because of their efforts that we achieved this result."

## President's report

The meeting also included the first presidential report, something that President George Hynd and the Board said will continue in an effort to keep the university regularly updated.

Hynd began by thanking OU for the warm welcome it has provided for him and his family.

"This has been an extraordinary transition," Hynd said. "The proverbial metaphor of drinking from the firehose, I think, applies to this. It seems like every day there's another firehose that I need to drink out of."

Hynd said he has spent the past 60 days on meeting with media and government and community leaders, spreading a message of positive growth and movement. His next 30 days will be more internally focused—he is meeting with top supporters and donors, alumni leaders and others to discuss partnership opportunities and an overall strategic plan for Oakland.

"We'd like to get to the Board of Trustees by February a strategic plan that you feel you can endorse," Hynd said.

Hynd also said that Oakland has been identified in recent surveys as having the second safest campus in the state, something that should be recognized despite the recent campus assault.

"I think it's important to realize that on campus we work very hard... this is a safe place to be," Hynd said, mentioning the 82 blue light stations, several hundred security cameras indoors and out, and OUPD's visual escort service. "And we really do want to respect the fact that we have a reputation as being one of the safest campuses in Michigan."

The next formal session will be on Monday, Dec. 1 at 2 p.m., and will be the last planned session of the fall semester.

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## THIS WEEK AROUND CAMPUS

OCT.  
29

12-1:30 p.m.  
"General Education - Why, What and How" Workshop, 200A Elliott Hall

12-5 p.m. American Marketing Association Cider & Doughnut Sale, Elliott Hall

OCT.  
30

4-6 p.m.  
Circle of Sisterhood, 128 Oakland Center

6:30-9:30 p.m. Dinner & Movie at Meadow Brook Hall, tickets may be purchased at grizzlink.oualumni.com/hitchcock2014

OCT.  
31

11 a.m.-4 p.m. OU Beaumont Biomedical Research Symposium, Banquet Rooms in the Oakland Center

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. CyberOU Event, Engineering Center

NOV.  
1

9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Education and Human Services Day, Oakland Center

12-5 p.m. "Shadows of the Invisible" Art Exhibit, 208 Wilson Hall

NOV.  
2

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Water Aerobics Certification course, Recreation and Athletics Center

2-3 p.m. Artist's Talk: Michael Flomen, 208 Wilson Hall

NOV.  
3

12 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Constructive Alignment Workshop, 200A Elliott Hall

12-1 p.m. Religion and politics discussions, Lake Superior A, the Oakland Center

NOV.  
4

4-6 p.m. Mast of Social Work Open House, Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center

8-11 p.m. Math Tutor Night, free snacks and scantrons, 208 Oak View Hall





Jasmine French / The Oakland Post

Joey Travolta sponsors and runs a summer film camp for enterprising filmmakers with autism.

## OUCARES for filmmaking

*Joey Travolta teams up with OU volunteers, provides opportunity for youth with autism to create their own films*

Jasmine French  
Staff Reporter

OUCARES presents a film showcasing the talents and creativity of youth who are on the autism spectrum. "Mr. Joey's Block" premiered in the banquet rooms Saturday evening, Oct. 25, created during the film summer camp of 2014 under the guidance of actor, producer and director Joey Travolta.

Within a two week span, participants learned to write, direct, act and edit their films. "OU was really the ones who got everything started," Travolta said.

According to Travolta, about eleven years ago he interviewed a teenaged boy with autism that featured in a film festival, and led up to a feature-length film entitled "Normal People Scare Me".

Articles were published about Travolta mentoring children and teens. OU saw these articles and reached out to Travolta.

"I called back and said why don't I come and bring my crew," Travolta said.

"This year the film is for children between the ages of 11-18," OUCARES Director Kathy Sweeny said.

According to Sweeny, the film camp is one of six in the country and is in its ninth year of operation.

Jared Weinberg, age 20, had his last year as a participant in the camp. According to his mother Tracey, Jared started out as a participant at age 11.

"My experience was totally amazing," Weinberg said. "During this film camp it feels like you're in another world."

"For me as a mom it was one of the best things that we've found," Tracey Weinberg said. "We knew right away that Jared wanted to do something like this because he loves movies. He feels comfortable here, so we're going to miss it very much."

Travolta discussed what the participants gain from the camp.

"They get so excited about the process of making a film because it's so collaborative in nature that you're forced to work together and be creative together and through that pro-

cess you learn to communicate," Travolta said.

Travolta was a special education instructor at an orphanage during the early 70s in New Jersey and then went into the entertainment business.

"I loved working with the kids and I put all of my money back into the schools," Travolta said. "These kids will blow your mind and it's a matter of finding what their gift is and then presenting it to the world."

He also discussed how intuitive the kids are and how those producing gained from the experience as well.

"When we have our screening and they get to show what they did and how they've collaborated, whether you're an editor, whether you're on the production team or the crew, you're a part of something and it's something you can share with people," Travolta said.

For more information go to [www.oakland.edu/oucares](http://www.oakland.edu/oucares) or email [oucares@oakland.edu](mailto:oucares@oakland.edu)

## 'We are just not happy with our bodies'

Cheyenne Kramer  
Staff Intern

Thursday, Oct. 26, Dr. Erin Meyers of the Department of Communications and Journalism took the podium to talk to students about the issues related to how media affects how people sees their bodies.

Meyers said it's a problem for women, men and even children nationwide, in a talk co-sponsored by the To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA) organization and the Feminist Activism Forum.

"We are just not happy with our bodies" she said, citing that 91 percent of college women on college campuses have tried to control weight through dieting, and that 97 percent of women said they had at least one negative thought on their bodies per day.

Even more shocking, Dr. Meyers said that many participants in this study reported having 35, 50 or even 100-plus negative thoughts about themselves per day.

The talk focused on teaching students that what is seen in media affects how people see their bodies. She referenced how even the models seen on TV aren't even what the models themselves look like.

Over 25 million Americans suffer from some kind of eating disorders, Meyers noted.

"We all have bodies," she said. "But the media encourages us to look at our bodies in a negative way."

Meyers said that the media's influence is not the only factor in determining a cause for eating disorders: sometimes, psychological, family and social aspects are important, too.

However, she clarified that ads were still important because they're always around us. According to the presentation, the average American sees 5,000 ads per day, both in passive and aggressive formats.

"We have to challenge, critique and recognize how the media reinforces our negative and narrow views on our bodies, and celebrate when the media does offer more diverse and positive views on body image," Meyers said.

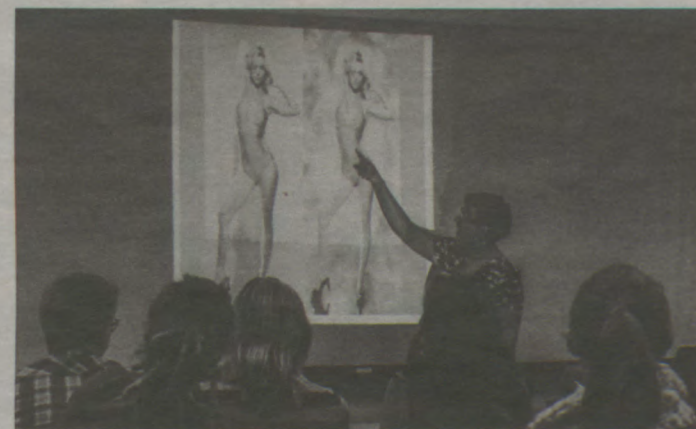
Kelsey Green, To Write Love on Her Arms representative, said that students could get involved in various ways.

"Some members of TWLOHA have been writing positive messages on sticky notes and putting them across campus to help people feel more confident about themselves," Green said. "We also pass our guilt-free candy to tell students its okay to take a break one in awhile."

During the talk, Dr. Meyers brought up a few activities students can get involved in with regards to body positivity.

"Students can pledge to be 'Fat Talk' free, and can actively think about how their words matter."

Students can also get involved with 'Love Your Body' week, coming up this winter," Meyers said.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

"We all have bodies," Dr. Meyers said during her talk Thursday, Oct. 26. "But the media encourages us to look at our bodies in a negative way."





Photo courtesy of Timothy Pontzer

Students in English 200 lead a discussion with residents and members of Grace Centers of Hope.

## Stories connect community

### English course holds class in homeless shelter

Timothy Pontzer  
Contributor

Last Thursday, a group of Oakland students met for their biweekly English course. However, instead of assembling in their normal Pawley Hall classroom, they gathered at a homeless shelter in Pontiac, roughly six miles away from campus.

Led by Professor Rachel Smydra, the English 200 class entitled 'Making Literary Connections' encourages students to not limit themselves to the four walls of a university lecture hall. Instead, she wants the largely freshman class of 14 to take the lessons they learn and share that with the outside world.

"Reading literature in a classroom always generates good discussion, however moving students off campus facilitates a different kind of experience that allows them to rethink how they themselves connect to course material," Smydra said.

By the end of the month, Smydra's class will make three trips to Grace Centers of Hope, the largest and oldest homeless shelter in Oakland County. Established in 1942, the non-profit Christian organization offers a rehabilitation campus for men,

women and children who have abused drugs, alcohol or a combination of both.

Fifteen residents from Grace Centers, ages 20 to 57, are participating in the sessions, which involve the reading of a short story out loud followed by open dialogue within the entire group. "We haven't done anything like this before," said Kim Philip, Director of Education and Career Development at Grace Centers. "I hope this experience will allow the participants from OU to have more insight into homelessness, and I hope that our residents will gain an appreciation for literature."

The short stories explore topics such as enchantment, recognition, character development, unreliable narrator and more, spurring lively discussions between the Golden Grizzlies and their newfound classmates.

"Red Seven" by C.B. Christensen was used as the text for the first week, and it features the death of a loved one in a family and the toll that it takes on the characters.

Austin Heard, an 18-year-old English major in Smydra's class led one of the small groups. He boldly told a story of how his older brother died while he was only a young boy. This caused each of the other four members of his group, all Grace residents, to also share a story of the death of someone special.

"It was amazing that I was

able to relate and connect with everyone, and I am truly grateful for the experience," Heard said.

In Heard's group, Duane, a member, really enjoyed the proceedings.

"This was something new," Duane said. "I always loved grammar and literature, but I lost interest in school and was kind of a rebel. I dropped out at 16, and I have never gotten the chance to take a college course."

Duane, 29, is a recovering heroin addict and was homeless for much of last year. After being clean for 16 months, he relapsed and overdosed. Last Monday marked two months of no drugs for Duane.

"I liked the interaction, and the story wasn't too complicated," Duane said. "I have an open mind, and I'd really like to go to college to become an addiction therapist."

Duane's story is just one of many that Smydra's students have learned during this adventure outside the classroom.

"Sending the students to Grace Centers allows them to interact, observe and reflect on what people from different backgrounds, educational levels and interests gain from reading a short story," Smydra said.

"I hope the experience makes students engage more fully with a text and that after reading it, the curiosity about the things that make and don't make sense linger."

## Varner updates depends on Michigan government

### Administrators send second capital outlay to expand art buildings

Ali DeRees  
Campus & Administration  
Editor

New state-of-the-art buildings are opening each year across campus. As enrollment increases, so must the spaces to teach students.

A significant number of faculty, graduate assistants, student and others involved with the College of Arts and Sciences do not have offices or the necessary space to do their work.

A capital outlay request was submitted last year to Lansing and was denied. Now, a second capital outlay request has been sent to the Michigan legislature for an expansion of Varner Hall.

"This would mean that they would provide some funding or a percentage of funding for building academic spaces," said Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. James Lentini.

The \$100 million plus expansion of Varner has been on OU's to do list for a while now, according to Lentini.

Lentini said part of this could be attributed to Governor Snyder.

"Since he has been governor, he has not provided funding for capital outlay," Lentini said.

Submission of outlay material was different this year according to Lentini. The proposal was resubmitted to the state and Dr. Lentini and President George Hynd presented the proposal to a senate subcommittee.

"We hope that legislators will understand the need, we are a growing institution," Lentini said.

Lentini explained that even though the whole project will not be funded, every dollar counts.

"If they come up with even a third or a quarter of it, it gets us at least going," he said.

Lentini is aware that there are faculty without spaces and "inadequate numbers of seats in rooms."

Varner houses many of the programs within the College of Arts and Sciences, the only college found on the university and provides the highest number of credits according to Lentini.

"No matter what major you're in, you're taking courses in the arts and sciences," Lentini said.

Aside from lack of office and other teaching spaces, there is a significant absence in performing spaces for those in the music, theatre and dance programs.

"We do not have enough space to run our programs," said Jackie Wiggins, Chair of the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance and Professor of Music Education.

The 1971 building was not built acoustically for the arts, Wiggins said. With the overall structure and interconnected ventilation system, music heard throughout the classrooms can be a disturbance.

Wiggins said she was told a wing would be built to house music, theatre and dance and that the original hall would be renovated to house other programs such as the social sciences and arts.

"If we had a choice, our first priority would be a concert hall and proscenium theatre," Wiggins said.

She said that those pursuing professional acting must know how to perform in a proscenium theatre just like singers and those who play instruments must learn to fill a large concert hall. Concert halls and theatres cannot be funded by state money, according to Wiggins. These additions must be funded by donations and funds raised, but Wiggins is still eager for a renovation of Varner hall that has been in the works for more than 20 years.

"It's something that we all hold our breath for," Wiggins said.



# Oakland's got spirits

*Ghosts, demonic voices and vanishing students — do you know OU's untold tales?*

Shelby Tankersley  
Staff Intern

Every college has its own spooky stories, but at OU many students and faculty have reason to believe the stories are true. Meadow Brook Hall, Three East Vandenberg and Hill House—each have ghost stories tied to them.

## Meadow Brook mystery

The Meadow Brook estate was once home to John Dodge and Matilda Wilson. They had two children: Danny, who died while on his honeymoon, and Anna, who died at the age of five from sickness. The spirits of the children and Dodge are said to haunt the mansion and surrounding areas.

Adam Panchenko, recruitment adviser, shared some of the things that are said to happen at Meadow Brook. "You can hear children playing upstairs in the John Dodge House," he said.

He also told the story of hole 17 at the golf course.

"One of the workers was doing his rounds to tell people the course was closing, and he ran into a man dressed in traditional golfing gear," Panchenko said. "He told the man they were closing and drove over a hill. When he got over the hill, he found that the man's golf cart flipped on its side with a wooden golf club lying on the ground."

"He got the cart towed back to the pro shop, which at the time was Danny's cabin, put the golf club inside, and locked up. He later went back to double check that the cabin was locked, and found the golf club outside against a wall, almost like Danny was offering it to him. He took it home and has had it along with a picture of hole 17 hung on his wall since that day."

He said Meadowbrook has been experiencing increased activity due to the fact that October

25 marks Dodge's 150th birthday.

## Dorm demons

The dorm stories are only known by a small group of people. University Housing Director Jim Zentmyer said that even he doesn't know of all housing's haunted tales.

The third floor of East Vandenberg is also said to be haunted, according to Panchenko. "Some say there was an exorcism."

In short, a frat rush went wrong and two boys unexplainably turned up missing, according to Panchenko. The resident assistant room down the hall has experienced paranormal activity ever since.

Panchenko, who actually used to live in one of the haunted rooms, said he felt somebody walking on him one night. He said another resident felt somebody sitting on her. He also said there have been various other incidents of unexplained events: one resident found that his box fan would fall over every night at the same time, and when he finally unplugged it, he found that it would still flop up and down on its own.

Despite all of the paranormal activity, Panchenko said that whatever was roaming Three East is completely harmless.

"I heard there was an exorcism there," sophomore Krystal Commons said. "I wanted to live on that floor," she said, since she found it intriguing.

Hill House is also said to have a spirit. Panchenko said that an RA reported seeing a shadowy figure roaming the halls and paranormal activity has been reported there over the years.

If spooky is what you are seeking this spirited season, according to Adam Panchenko, OU is in no short supply.

Contact Staff Intern Shelby Tankersley at [srtankersley@oakland.edu](mailto:srtankersley@oakland.edu)



East Vandenberg Hall: where the spirits of the deceased roam on a regular basis. Or do they?

Katherine Cagle / The Oakland Post

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### Why did you register?

"I believe I went to the Secretary of State to renew my driver's license. At that point they asked if I wanted to register while I was there and I did... I voted in the last presidential election."

Mindy Cao, fifth year, business

### What do you know about the current election?

"Not a clue." Jessica Prucknic, sophomore, pre-business

"Nothing at all." Melissa Johnson, sophomore, computer engineering

### Are you registered to vote?

"I actually haven't registered to vote yet."

Anna Nguyen, sophomore, biochemistry

### Why aren't you registered?

"I'm not a big political person so I just don't have the care to do it."

Jon Calbert, sophomore, computer science

# WE THE

Story by Kaylee Kean and Ali DeR

### ELECTION TIME IS ALMOST HERE. HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

General Elections are Tuesday, Nov. 4, and the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. for voters, young and old, to have their say in who runs the state.

In honor of that, here's a quick guide to a few candidates, proposals and general election and registration facts and concerns, provided by various organizations dedicated to keeping students informed and aware of the power of voting and the power of those who are being voted on.

This is far from covering everything: more information can be found on Michigan's and the Secretary of State's websites, or in Voter Guides found outside of the Oakland University Student Congress office. The Voter Guides provide extensive information on each candidate for each position being voted on, and cover their views and aspirations.

*Most of this information was compiled from the League of Women Voters of Michigan's 2014 Nonpartisan Voter Guide or from the Campus Vote Project's Student Voting Guide.*

### RUNNING FOR GOVERNOR

The governor of Michigan will serve a four-year term and may serve a maximum of two full terms. The state's executive powers are vested in him/her.

**Rick Snyder, Republican.** He is the current governor, and says his focus is on re-inventing Michigan with more and better jobs, a revitalized educational system, and revamping focus to providing great service to the state's people.

**Mark Schauer, Democratic.** Schauer, a former congressman, wants to focus on investing in high-tech research to attract jobs, to reverse Snyder's cuts to education and to repeal Snyder's pension tax.

**Mary Buzman, Libertarian,** said she would fix the roads by cutting the budget, eliminate unnecessary regulations that drive up costs, and reduce crime and end the costly war on drugs with a legalization of marijuana.

**Mark McFarlin, U.S. Taxpayers,** is a Democrat-gone-Republican who wants to end wolf hunting and repeal the right-to-work law, as well as legalize and tax marijuana.

**Paul Homeniuk, Green,** said he wants to focus on education, infrastructure and jobs.

## Quick tips for

The General Election Registration Deadline was Oct. 6, but students can still register for upcoming elections at polling place locations or online at <http://www.michigan.gov/vote/>.

Students can register to vote at their school address if they plan to reside there for a time, or can choose to register at their home address if they plan to return after college.

To register, students need their Michigan driver's license or state ID number, or the last four digits of their Social Security number.



# PEOPLE

DeRees

Design by Benjamin DerMiner

## PROPOSAL 14-1

This proposal would establish and authorize an annual hunting season for wolves, providing criminal penalties for unlawful possession of wolves but protecting those who lawfully capture or destroy a wolf. Hunters would be required to obtain a wolf hunting license, and a Wolf Management Advisory Council would be formed to make recommendations to the legislature.

## PROPOSAL 14-2

This proposal would allow the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to designate certain animals as game, including wolves, and would allow the NRC to set the wolf hunting season. It would also grant the legislature sole authority to remove wolves (and other species) from the list of designated game animals, and would eliminate the hunting and fishing licensing fee for military members.

## PROPOSED CITY CHARTER CHANGE

There is also a proposal to amend Rochester Hills' City Charter; this amendment would increase the amount the city may levy for funding of the fire department up to three mills.

## COMMON CONCERNS addressed by the Student Voting Guide for Michigan (Campus Vote Project)

Registering and voting won't affect federal financial aid such as Pell Grants, Perks or Stafford loans or dependency status on FAFSA.

If on scholarship, it's important to confirm that residency in a particular place isn't a requirement of the scholarship – if it is, register in the right area.

When registering, the addresses on a Michigan driver's license and a voter registration record must match. It is easy to change either on the Secretary of State's website.

Registering to vote will not prevent parents from claiming students as dependents.

If you registered to vote by mail or third-party registration, you must vote in person on Election Day or cast an absentee ballot in person at a municipal clerk's office. If you registered in person, you can vote absentee – the only exceptions for these rules are for voters on active military duty, voters suffering from a disability or voters over 60.

## What do you know about the local elections?

"I watch the news about American government, but I don't know a lot about it. I'm an international student... so for me, who is in charge of America is not a big deal with me but (I do) want to see what happens."

Mei Shuai, transfer from China

## Why are you not as interested in local elections?

"I think it's just a time thing. I haven't actually looked into local elections and who's running and what they're running for, I think it's been so busy with my own life."

Mindy Cao

## What would get you more interested and involved?

"I think it would be after graduation, after I'm in the workforce and in my own house and everything like that – that's when I think I would start to care more, if ever."

Jon Calbert

## What will you be voting on?

Definitely on proposals 1 & 2 and on the State Senate. "Those are things I'm aware of."

Scott Knight, registered to vote

## first-time voters

To vote, students need any legitimate photo ID to make the process go by faster. If they don't have one, they can sign an affidavit saying they don't have it on them and can vote a ballot that will be counted on Election Day.

There is a polling place locator on Michigan's website. Voters must cast ballots in the correct precinct, so confirm the precinct ahead of time and get in the correct line.

To vote absentee, apply to your township or city clerk by mail or in person by 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1. The return deadline is 8 p.m. on Election Day.





Jared Wagester scored a touchdown on a 70-yard pass in the second quarter of the game against Ohio State. Oakland is currently undefeated.

## Grizzlies still going for the gold

*Oakland's undefeated football club triumphs over Ohio State 48-3*

**Jimmy Halmhuber**  
Staff Intern

**O**akland University (6-0) took on Ohio State (1-3) in club football Saturday in a Great Lakes Eastern Conference matchup in which Oakland won 48-3.

"This was a statement game to show we are the real deal," running back Austin Heminger said. Oakland's defense forced three fumbles and two interceptions. The game was all Oakland. This gave offense many opportunities to score.

"The key to winning today's game was teamwork. Everybody was doing their job; everybody did well," head football coach Chris Pickney said. "They were like a well-oiled machine on both sides of the ball. On offense we were hard to stop and on defense we were all over Ohio State."

Because Ohio State had forfeited multiple games, their record was 1-2 while Oakland was going strong with a record of 5-0. Their roster of 38 was

tiny compared to Oakland's 100. While Oakland had more than enough subs, Ohio State had the same people playing multiple positions.

To start the game, Oakland won the toss and deferred. It only took two series until Oakland's Luke Dushaj forced a fumble and brought it back for a touchdown. In the next series, Oakland forced another fumble and scored a few plays later with a five yard run by Benny Sorrentino. Ohio State then went down the field and scored their only points of the game (a field goal) to end the first quarter.

The second quarter was much of the same. Ohio State couldn't get anything going, while Oakland just kept piling on the points. Ohio State did recover one fumble, but it was deep in their zone. Oakland scored two touchdowns in the second. One touchdown was by Mitch Kuula on a nine yard throw and another by Jared Wagester on a 70-yard pass.

Ohio State struggled in the third quarter, recovering their own fumble and bad snap in back-to-back plays.

After being forcefully tackled by an Oakland lineman, OSU's punter was out for the rest of the game. Oakland kept up the pressure, forcing an interception by David Brosky, which set up a 23-yard touchdown for Wagester. In the next drive for Ohio State, Oakland intercepted it again, but then fumbled the next play.

In the fourth quarter, Oakland continued to exert its dominance by throwing a 10-yard pass to Brandon Tucker for a touchdown on the first play of the quarter. With the next series, Oakland came right down the field and ran in a 45-yard touchdown courtesy of Mathew Franklin.

"The defense made great stops when they needed to and got the offense the ball back in good positions," Heminger said. He said he believes that once they establish the running game, they are unstoppable.

The Golden Grizzlies are now looking forward to their final Great Lakes Eastern Conference game at Auburn Hills Civic Center Football Field Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. against Wright State (4-1).

## THE SPORTING BLITZ

### Credit Union increases sponsorship with Golden Grizzlies

Director of Athletics Jeff Konya announced that the OU Credit Union increased its sponsorship with the Golden Grizzlies and is set to reach more than a half million dollars over the next nine years.

### Cross Country

Cameron Karagitz led OU in the men's 5K at the Eastern Michigan University's Fall Classic held Oct. 24. Karagitz finished 33<sup>rd</sup> out of 104 runners with a time of 16:02.9 while Alana Koepf led the women's team with a time of 19:57.9. No team scores were recorded.

Both teams will travel to Kenosha, Wisconsin for the Horizon League Championships Saturday, Nov. 1.

### Swimming & Diving

Aleksander Danielewski secured three individual wins while Tricia Grant and Takara Martin each won two for the women's team at the Oct. 25 double dual against Northwestern University and University of Illinois Chicago, hosted by Northwestern.

The men's team defeated UIC 169-124 but fell 155-134 to Northwestern. The women's team won over UIC 204-93 and were bested by the Wildcats 180-111.

The Golden Grizzlies begin their home schedule Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. The women will host Ohio State and Youngstown State Friday at 6 p.m.

### Volleyball

Cassie Pelloni posted a match-high and season-high with 22 kills as Oakland defeated Youngstown State Oct. 25. OU remains tied for first place in the Horizon League, improving to 15-9 (7-2).

Melissa Deatsch tallied a double-double with 16 kills and 13 digs. Sammy Condon and Jessica Dood added 10 kills each. Ciara Schultz gained a career-high of 52 assists for the Golden Grizzlies.

The Golden Grizzlies begin a three-game road trip Friday, Oct. 31 when Oakland travels to Wright State for a 7 p.m. matchup.

-Compiled by Jake Alsko,  
Web Editor





Sean Gardner / The Oakland Post

The men's soccer team defeated MSU 2-0 on Wednesday night and will take on U of M Wednesday, Oct. 29.

## Men prove powerful on pitch

### No. 10 ranked soccer team defeated

**Matt Saulino**  
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University men's soccer team defeated No. 10 ranked Michigan State 2-0 Wednesday night with goals from Matt Rickard and Gavin Hoy.

In the Grizzlies' past eight games the team has gone 7-0-1 since starting 0-5.

Oakland has not beaten a ranked opponent since facing Drake in 2010.

"They're very good on attack, and they're very good on defense. They're a complete team," Head coach Eric Pogue said after the game.

"We knew we were going to have to put together a full game-plan, a full 90 minutes, and credit to the guys for executing the game-plan."

The first half was very defensive as both teams only found one real chance apiece. One was from OU forward Gerald Ben who found himself open in the box, but sent it high of the crossbar.

The Grizzlies outshot the Spartans 7-4 in the first half, and

14-9 on the game. The second half was a different story as the Grizzlies poured on the attack.

"I think we we're defending a lot, but we were getting a lot of opportunities off of counter-attacks. We cut their opportunities to a minimum," Pogue said.

The game grew more physical in towards the end of the game with Derek Nowak drawing a yellow card for Oakland and Raphael Reynolds receiving a two-handed push from a Michigan State player after a foul was called.

Oakland's Matt Rickard responded at the other end of the field when he started a play with a flip over his head to Gavin Hoy.

Hoy moved the ball to the other end of the field to Shawn Claud Lawson, who then found the Rickard back at the top of the box who was able to turn with the ball and put it in for Oakland's first goal with seven minutes remaining.

"I struck it with my left foot and it was able to go in," Rickard said, who came off the bench.

When Pogue put him in the game he said he was told to "make an impact."

Rickard did just that, and moments later the team was able to put the game away with

another goal from Gavin Hoy.

"I'd like to tell you that I can remember the goal, but all I remember was the ball hitting the back of the net," Pogue said.

"In terms of perseverance this team has proved it all season long."

This game marks the sixth consecutive shutout for the Grizzlies making it the longest such streak in their Division I era.

The men will take on Wright State this Saturday Oct. 25 in the team's final home game and senior night.

More information on the men Golden Grizzly soccer team such as statistics, schedules and roster information can be found at [ougrizzlies.com](http://ougrizzlies.com).

### MORE INFO

#### NEXT GAME

Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m. at University of Michigan

**WHERE YOU CAN WATCH IT**  
On BTN Plus

#### MORE INFORMATION

With a victory Wednesday, Oakland will have three consecutive victories over Big Ten teams.

## Women's soccer team fights to bitter end

### Win of a crucial game gives chance to move forward

**Scott Davis**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's women soccer team was able to pull out a crucial 2-1 victory over Horizon League foe, Cleveland State University.

The second to last game of the season took place on Saturday night as part of Blackout night where fans were encouraged to wear black to the game.

The first 100 fans also received a free Oakland University black beanie. The fans witnessed a close game as OU escaped with a one goal victory over CSU.

The women Golden Grizzlies were led by sophomore Alice Porter, who had two goals in the game which gives her five in the season. Porter was able to put the team up early as she converted on a penalty kick just 1:58 into the game.

OU dominated possession of the ball most of the game, but the CSU Vikings got on the board with a late first half goal off a corner kick.

The game was tied at halftime, but the Golden Grizzlies struck early in the first half as Porter scored

again from a Joan Sieja assist. OU was able to hang on as the Vikings had some chances late.

"I thought we started out the game really well by scoring as early as we did. We created a decent amount of chances early," said head coach Margaret Saurin.

The victory improved OU's record to 5-10-2, with a Horizon League record of 3-3-1.

The victory moves the Golden Grizzlies into fifth place in the Horizon League standings, and Cleveland State is now sixth.

OU will finish its regular season with senior night at home on Friday against Wright State at 7 p.m.

"Obviously going into the last game of the regular season we really need to make sure our players are fit, healthy and feeling fresh for the game which I think is really important for this point in the season," said coach Saurin. "We know it is going to be another battle like tonight was because Wright State is very good. We are just happy that we are going to be playing the game here and finishing up the regular season on home turf."

Wright State has an identical 3-3-1 Horizon League record, with a 6-9-1 record overall. This is the only meeting between these two schools this season.



Jacob Mulka / The Oakland Post

OU women's soccer defeated Cleveland State 2-1 on Saturday.





Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Starting center and basketball team captain Corey Petros has been working hard to ensure success in his final year.

## Petros pumped for final season

*New basketball captain prepares to fill big shoes of past players*

**Jackson Gilbert**  
Sports Editor

With the 2014 college basketball season quickly approaching, Corey Petros has been hard at work this off season readying himself for his final round. The senior, as well as new captain for this season, said he's ready for the challenge.

"I like the pressure, I've always had pressure on me for some reason. I'm following a long line of good leaders," Petros said. Those leaders include Keith Benson, Reggie Hamilton, and Travis Bader, all of whom were nationally recognized players for on-the-court performance.

Petros is entering his redshirt senior year and will be leaned on heavily as one of the top centers in the Horizon League. He has improved his strength and free throws in preparation for this year.

"Definitely been working on those, two of my weaknesses," Petros said.

This should help, considering Petros's best free-throw shooting season was only 56 percent from the line. Any improvement will pay dividends, especially with

the increased competition of the Horizon League.

Coming out of high school, ESPN had Petros graded as an 84. At that time, he was one of the better prospects to come to Oakland University. According to ESPN, Petros was also considering Bowling Green, Eastern Michigan and Detroit before choosing OU.

"They recruited me pretty hard, they went to every single one of my AAU games, they always made me feel like they were really interested. They made me feel at home," Petros said of Oakland's recruiting tactics, Kampe and the assistant coaches as well.

Petros said that Oakland's proximity to his home, Sterling Heights, played a big role in the decision.

"It was close to home, I can always get a home-cooked meal. That was always nice," Petros said.

He also said that the coaches were pivotal in his decision. He said he loves the coaches that are here and that he saw how they developed Keith Benson, also a center, into one of the better players in the country.

"He [Kampe] always had good bigs here, so that played a role in the decision," Petros said.

Since coming to OU, Petros has spent most of his career as the starting center and has played in some very exciting games.

"My first year playing against Tennessee, beating them against a sellout crowd was probably the best moment," Petros said.

His pregame routine is pretty vanilla. Petros said he likes to take a nap before the game and then walk over to the O'rena while listening to music. He spends some time in the hot tub to loosen up.

"Nothing too weird or superstitious," he said.

Grizz Gang leader Brittany Hall said the group hasn't made up any chants for Petros since he became captain.

"No cheers yet, but we'll be working on that as the season starts," Hall said.

She expressed her excitement for what Petros is going to bring to this season.

"He looks a lot stronger and more confident," Hall said. "The team is on his shoulders this year, we definitely couldn't say that last year."

## Oakland students help kids 'Trick or Suite'

*Athletes bring happy Halloween to sick children*

**Melissa Deatsch**  
Staff Intern

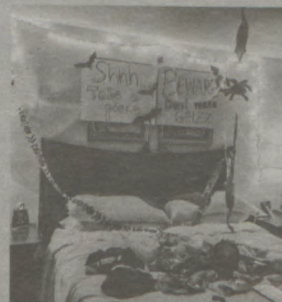


Photo by Melissa Deatsch

The student athletes at Oakland University participate in many community service events throughout the year. This year's new event, Trick or Suite, has been described by many of the student athletes as the best by far.

Trick or Suite is an event put on by Embassy Suites Hotel in Troy. For six years, the hotel has partnered with Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan to give kids with leukemia, lymphoma and other blood-related disorders a chance to trick or treat. Due to their low immune systems, patients of these disorders are not always able to 'trick or treat' outdoors from house to house. Trick or Suite gives these children a way to celebrate Halloween.

A variety of different organizations throughout the community are given a suite in the hotel to decorate in any way that they want. This year, Oakland University Athletics signed up for a room. An organization within the athletes entitled Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), began planning for the event in their first meeting of the year.

Sara Cupp, a SAAC representative of the softball team, took charge of the event.

"The softball team decided to head the event because we all had a big interest in it, but there was so much help from the other teams as well at the event," Cupp said.

The athletes decorated their suite as a haunted

OU athletes decorated their room in the Embassy Suites Hotel as a haunted bear den.

bear den, an idea that Lyndsay Hill of the softball team came up with. Many of the athletes helped with the set up of the room while others dressed in costume and handed out candy to the kids. The teams that had games occurring during the event did their part by donating candy and decorations.

"I think that the event was very successful," Cupp said. "I think that the best part was seeing all of the kids' smiles as they walked through all of the different rooms."

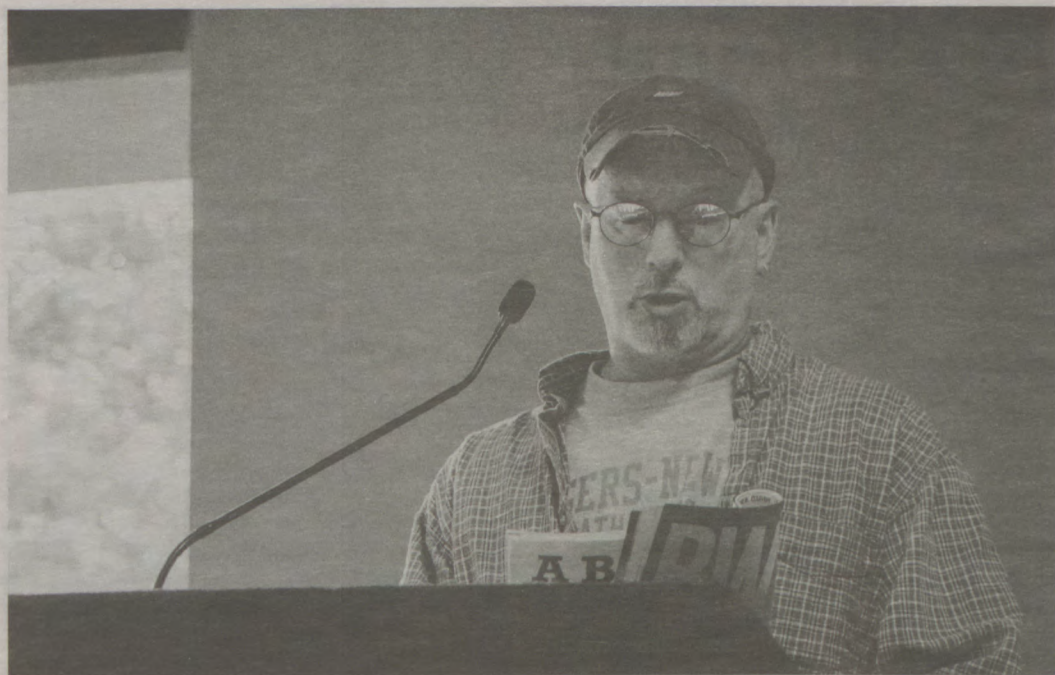
"I think that all of the athletes were just so happy that they could help these kids have fun while they are battling for their lives," Cupp said.

SAAC puts together a variety of community service events for student athletes to take part in throughout the year. The students consider giving back to the community a very important duty of theirs.

"When we as a athletic department can lend a helping hand in the community, it is a great feeling to be a part of," said Taylor Humm, SAAC president and volleyball captain.

"The impact it has on us is so different than going to the classroom or participating in collegiate athletics. It humbles you and shapes who you are in a very different way."





Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Steven Gillis spoke to students about his writing methods and what fiction should accomplish for the readers.

## 'Fiction should ask questions'

### Novelist discusses newest book, 'Benchere in Wonderland'

Kaleigh Jerzykowski  
Staff Reporter

Dressed in jeans, a plaid shirt, and a baseball cap with a frayed bill, novelist and publisher Steven Gillis shifted his weight at the podium in Gold Room A of the Oakland Center.

"I lean when I read," Gillis said as he cleared his throat, and he dove into the prologue of his newest novel, "Benchere in Wonderland," which he completed this September.

On Wednesday Oct. 22, Gillis performed a book reading and question-answer session with interested members of the OU community, providing insight on his creative process.

"Fiction should ask questions," Gillis said, emphasizing that all of his works set out to ask something.

Gillis said that "Benchere in Wonderland" explores questions like "what is the role of art," "can you make art for art's sake," and "if you don't have an audi-

ence, is it art?"

Gillis read the prologue of "Benchere in Wonderland," followed by a portion of the first chapter, which told the story of a middle-aged sculptor who loses his wife to cancer.

"I've never written a novel where the protagonist was close to my age," Gillis said, adding the detail that his own wife fought and won her own battle with cancer years ago.

"I'm asking a bigger question that's also more personal," Gillis said regarding the similarities between the struggles Benchere goes through in relation to his own life.

After captivating the audience with the reading of his excerpt, Gillis facilitated an open forum-style conversation in which he discussed his process as a writer and invited questions from those in attendance.

Gillis asked the audience, "Why do you write?" to which many responded in unison, "Because I have to."

Gillis, who is no stranger to the burning need to create and express one's self through artistic and literary means, said he understood.

"I'm a firm believer in following your gut," Gillis said, "[and] the more you write, the more you learn to follow your gut.

And if you're resisting the story, you're not following your gut."

One student asked Gillis how he knew when a work was completed or not. Gillis chuckled.

"It comes from experience," he said. "You've just got to know — you'll know."

Another student asked Gillis about what it's like for him to write anything in general.

"I'm a complete loner," Gillis said. "I work in isolation until the very end and then I let my editor see it."

"I didn't even take writing classes," he said, "except for some poetry classes at U of M."

"Every word's got to matter," Gillis said, "and you've got to know that...every aspect of it is important, because you're creating art."

The crowd was immersed in the informative and down-to-earth nature of Gillis' advice, which allowed for several questions to be asked which yielded meaningful answers for all in attendance.

Annie Gilson, associate professor of English and director of creative writing, said: "[Gillis] is a very big presence in Southeastern Michigan...I admire his work and his generosity and his energy, which have made him a shaping force to the literary community here."

## All men's and women's home basketball games to be televised this season

Scott Davis  
Staff Reporter

The OU men's basketball season is right around the corner, and the team held its media day on Tuesday for players and coaches to talk about the upcoming season and the new TV deal Oakland announced today.

This upcoming season will be head coach Greg Kampe's 31st season with OU, which is the third longest active streak in the country behind Syracuse's Jim Boeheim and Duke's Mike Krzyzewski. He says that this season will certainly be an interesting one as even though he has a lot of experience at this level, his team does not.

"We only have five players that have played in a college basketball game, and only three of those have played significant minutes... I think we are very talented, but how we grow up and what kind of leadership we get is going to determine our season," Kampe said.

Along with leadership being a key factor for the season, Kampe also emphasized that his team must be able to rebound and play defense if they want to compete in the Horizon League. He said that the league is very deep and features big, physical teams, and although the Golden Grizzlies will not change their style of play, rebounding and defending will deter-

mine if they can compete for a league championship.

Kampe did not speak much on the departure of Travis Bader, but he did say that Max Hooper, who transferred from St. John's earlier this year, will have to make some open outside shots. Plays will not be specifically run just for him as was for Bader the last two years, but Hooper's ability to make those shots will help the rest of the team with shot selection, according to Kampe.

Max Hooper also talked about how his role is not to replace Travis Bader, but to help the team win in whatever way they can.

"The most important thing for this team is winning... Every team is different every year so we can't think of it as filling a void, I'm just going to think of it as helping this team by doing what I do best," Hooper said.

The team simultaneously announced that all men and women's home games will be aired 20 Detroit (WMYD-TV20) while many other games will be aired on Xfinity channel 900. There are also several nationally broadcast games throughout the season including games against Michigan State and Arizona.

The team will host an exhibition game this Saturday against Ferris State at 1 p.m. in the O'rena. The regular season starts on Nov 14 at Iowa State.

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# The science behind seeing

*Author speculates on visual perceptions of humans, animals*

Kaleigh Jerzykowski  
Staff Reporter

Walking onto the Meadow Brook Theater stage wearing jeans, a sport jacket and tennis shoes, James Elkins said, "We were having a great time rummaging around backstage."

Elkins — a critic, historian, scholar and author of 20 books spanning a vast range of art-related subject matters — visited Oakland University Tuesday, Oct. 22 as part of the Visiting Artist and Scholar Lecture Series, sponsored by the Department of Art and Art History.

"We found goggles," he said, and the crowd erupted with laughter. "There's a balloon back there, it's fabulous — great back there."

Elkins' humorous and light entrance on stage to present his lecture, "How to Use Your Eyes, How Some Animals Use Their Eyes," set the tone for his perspective on the material.

"This is a very speculative lecture," Elkins said. "There's nothing here that you can't argue with. It's hypothetical."

Elkins said that the whole idea for his lecture came as a response to criticism he received on his book, "How to Use Your Eyes," and as a way to clarify the theories that he explored in his writing.

Elkins broke his lecture into two parts — how humans see and how animals see — going in depth about the science that makes the eye work and how the brains of animals and humans are wired to interpret the images brought in by their ocular devices.

Cody VanderKaay, assistant professor of art and director of studio art, said that the two portions of the lecture that Elkins brought to OU were part of a much larger presentation that, unfortunately, he was not able to present in full.

In discussing how humans use their eyes, Elkins said "We instinctively search for meaning, even when there is no return for this action."

He pulled up images of butterfly wings among his examples to illustrate how people innately see an "eye" on the wing of a Monarch butterfly, when really, there is a simple mathematical formula into which the composition of all butterfly wings fall.

We ascribe meaning to this simple, natural pigmentation, he suggested,



Katherine Cagle / The Oakland Post

Cody VanderKaay, assistant professor of art and director of studio art, and Vagner Whitehead, associate professor of art, discuss set up with James Elkins.

and in doing that, we see what we want to see.

On the reverse, Elkins argued that there are some things that humans can't see, no matter how hard they try. He cued up a photograph of a landscape.

Elkins explained a teaching exercise he does with his students at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He said he asks students to stare at the landscape for an amount of time, turn around, and draw what they saw.

The students would inevitably leave out lots of detail. Elkins explained that this happens for two reasons.

"Some things are too boring to see," he said, "[and] some things are too complicated."

"You never get a full or reasonably full picture or description of the thing you're looking at," he said.

Eighty percent of what the optic nerve passes on to the visual cortex, or image processing portion of the brain, is not what you actually saw, he

explained.

Only 20 percent of what we "see" is actual, he said, and the brain compensates for the other 80 percent.

In speaking about the animal eye, Elkins went into detail in regards to how function affects structure. How an animal needs to use its eye, he said, will drastically impact the build of that particular eye.

Elkins gave examples ranging from a slug, to a giant squid, to the camouflaging abilities of a flounder.

"Can animals help illustrate how strange seeing is?" he asked, exploring his idea that there are linkages between animal and human sight that will allow for greater understanding of how both work if cross-examined.

Standing to a round of applause, Elkins left the stage.

"[Elkins] is one of the most notable scholars that this series has sponsored," VanderKaay said. "He's nationally recognized...our university benefits from events like this."

## WXOU's Top 10 Albums of the Week

10. Max Jury -  
"All I want: The Sonic  
Factory Sessions"

9. Caribou -  
"Our Love"

8. ALT-J -  
"This Is All Yours"

7. Ryan Adams -  
"Ryan Adams"

6. The Flying Lotus -  
"You're Dead"

5. Foxygen -  
"And Star Power"

4. Alex G. Dsu -  
"DSU"

3. Ty Segall -  
"Manipulator"

2. Electric Youth -  
"Innerworld"

1. King Tuff -  
"Black Moon Spell"

Tune into 88.3FM WXOU Radio  
to hear these hits all week or visit  
[www.wxou.org](http://www.wxou.org) for more.





Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

The Brass Band will travel to England to play in a festival that they qualified for by their performances.

## Will play for funding

*Brass ensemble attempts to raise funds to travel to Skegness, England after qualifying for 2015 Butlins Mineworker's festival*

Kevin Teller  
Staff Intern

While many student may not have heard much about the Oakland University Brass Band, it is anything but quiet in its recent achievements.

The group's dynamics and skill won them the title of North American Brass Band Association Champions last April. Following this, the band was presented with the unique opportunity to travel to Skegness, England for the 2015 Butlins Mineworker's Open Brass Band Festival.

Conductor Ken Kroesche, who has adorned his office with the trophies and banners that the band has won through the years, is quite pleased with how far the program itself has come. He spoke of when he first began teaching at the university, saying that there were only a handful of students that actually played brass instruments then.

Through the last 11 years, the band has grown considerably and, according to Kroesche, is only one of two traditional British-style bands in the country.

"I think for the band as a whole, it's just an honor to be invited to play there, and it means a great deal to get Oakland's name out of Michigan and outside of the United States."

Brendan Walters  
Brass Band percussionist

"Some of these brass bands are actually supported by companies," Kroesche said.

This is how the Butlins Mineworker's Open Brass Festival originally started.

It became a tradition in England for some of the mineworkers to actually play in the band that the company supported, making quite a dynamic shift to the level of prestige that the tradition has risen to in contemporary times.

Kroesche said that the OU Brass Band is the only one from a university to ever be invited to play at this festival, so the honor for OU is immense.

"I think for the band as a whole, it's just an honor to be invited to play there," percussionist Brendan Walters said. "And it means a great deal to get Oakland's name out of Michigan and outside of the United

States."

Walters is currently in his third semester playing in the band. He is grateful for the experiences that playing music has given him through the years.

To even have a brass band at a university is unique as not many schools have them. Walters said he loves the opportunity he has had to make music with this one.

By going to England, Walters hopes that the band can "show the world what a lot of time and effort can bring to the table."

Anyone wishing to aid the OU Brass Band in their trip can either visit their Facebook page or go to [www.isupportou.com/BrassBand](http://www.isupportou.com/BrassBand) to make a donation. All donations are tax deductible.

Donors can also send checks to Ken Kroesche's office in 207 Varner Hall.

## Owls are Grizzlies, too

*Despite several roadblocks, Quidditch team fights to be part of OU*

Sean Gardner  
Staff Reporter

Though they are a student organization at Oakland, the Muggle Quidditch League cannot identify with the university.

Owls United, formally known as the Oakland Owls, had to change their name because they are not an official team of the university. Using the school's name would violate copyright laws, and it would mean an end to funding for the league.

"We have events outside of OU, so they want to make sure whoever is representing the university is someone that is going to represent them in the best way possible," Ben Levon, Tournament and Game Planner for the OU Muggle Quidditch League, said.

Although they are not an official team or club sport, the funding they receive gets equipment and other basic necessities they need to operate.

"OU still takes care of us, it's just a pain to have to lug several bags across campus to the Rec Center every time we want to practice," Yahawa Ashaqua, President of the OU Muggle Quidditch League, said. "It would be so much more convenient if we could have storage space in the Rec Center, but we just aren't a priority, which sucks."



Courtesy of Corinne Jones

Owls United holds practices from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday evenings. New members are encouraged and welcome to join.

Funding for travel has also become an ongoing issue. Due to the cost, they cannot compete as much as other schools. Even getting practice times can be a struggle. Because they are a student organization, they are not a high priority for Rec Center availability.

The members take their love for Quidditch seriously and tried to obtain club sport status, but to no avail.

"We were denied as they saw our club as nothing but a fad, but here we are years later. More and more Quidditch teams keep forming across the United States," Ashaqua said.

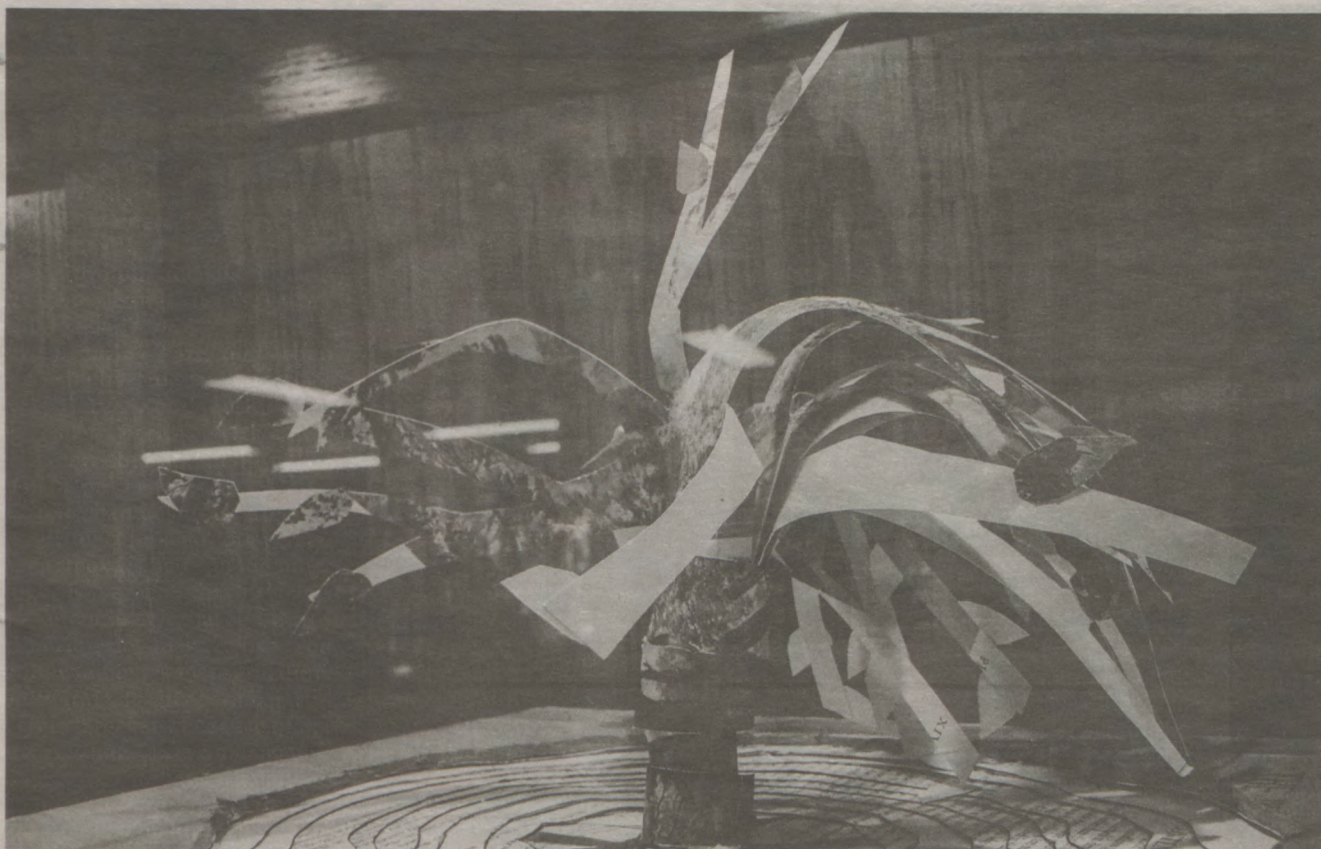
In fact, the International Quidditch Association has 500 teams in the United States that are nationally recognized at the collegiate level, according to Levon.

In April, if all goes as planned, Owls United will be hosting its first on-campus invitational. About 10 teams, some of them from outside of Michigan, are interested.

"I want the administration to consider the fact that, if we bring all the people into our college, there is an interest in the sport and the possibility of putting Oakland University as the college we are coming from," Levon said. "We would love to bring home a trophy for Oakland University."

The team has about 30 members and holds practice Friday evenings in the Rec Center. They welcome new members anytime.





Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Students in the Advanced Photography and New Media class took a page out of old media to create artwork to beautify the library.

## Media students bring new life to old pages in Kresge exhibit

Sean Miller  
Staff Reporter

**K**resge Library is usually filled with students who are studying, doing research for their classes and the occasional procrastinators who realize their paper is due in an hour. Students who haven't been to the library in a while may be surprised at what else they may find.

Inspired by a previous contest Kresge has held, students in Advanced Photography and New Media (SA 482) were asked to create artwork for the library. It is a class assignment, and this year students researched different art techniques to make creations out of old books.

The books that were used have been withdrawn from Kresge and given to the students. It is up to the students to decide what they make out of it.

The students of the class have worked with various people over the semesters for projects. Lately, though, they have been working with Kresge. The current project came alive a couple of semesters ago and has been a recurring assignment for the students.

"I am tasked with helping students find and use information for the arts," said Katie Greer, Kresge's art librarian. "My library sessions have been increasingly geared to include hands-on activities. This helps students put into practice the research they have done while in a library session with me."

The current exhibit of book artwork will run until the end of this month, but this does not mean all of the artwork will be removed from display. Kresge also holds a contest called 'Make Your Space' where Oakland students can enter to have their artwork displayed in the library and exhibited online.

"We are currently taking submissions for the contest," Greer said. "We are offering up to a \$500 grant to go towards supplies for the best submission. A panel will be deciding the winner of the contest and will have their work shown off in the newly redone reading area next to Frankie Café."

You do not have to be an art student to enter the contest. Any willing, creative student can enter and have a chance to show off their work. The library accepts all visual work including artwork, data

visualizations, research posters, graphic designs and anything else that will bring life to the walls.

"I visit Kresge almost every day, and I didn't know that some of the artwork was by students," said Greg Terry, a student. "I think it's cool the library would do something like this to get students involved."

The staff at Kresge work to give students an opportunity to express themselves on the campus setting.

### Contest details:

**WHO** You, if you so desire! Open to all members of campus.

**WHAT** Proposals can be for a mural or any type of permanent artistic installation.

**WHEN** Applications will be accepted until Friday, December 12 on 11:59p.m.

Questions? Contact Katie Greer at [greer@oakland.edu](mailto:greer@oakland.edu).



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# Attorney alum urges students to 'get involved'

Sean Miller  
Staff Reporter

Specializing in appellate work, Joshua Miller, an Oakland University graduate, is now working in the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for Oakland County in Pontiac.

Miller writes legal briefs and attends oral meetings where the appellate court explores appeals in further detail.

Miller graduated from Oakland in May of 2008 with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in political science. During his college career, he was also part of the Oakland University Student Congress and the Gay-Straight Alliance.

"Oakland pushed me to become less introverted," Miller said. "I really had a chance to

step outside of my comfort zone. I had the chance to make new friends and take part in a variety of programs. I felt like I was making a difference for the OU community."

Aside from the extracurricular activities, Miller indulged himself in books and his schoolwork. He used to sit in the class of David Dulio, a professor and chairperson of Oakland's political science department.

"I have great memories of Josh as a student," Dulio said. "In classes, he was one of the best-prepared students I've had, and he always contributed greatly to class discussion."

After graduating, Miller continued his education and went to law school. After he passed the bar exam, he became a full-time employee for the Office of the Prosecuting

Attorney for Oakland County. He is driven to bring a degree of fairness and justice to the world as a career.

Josh Miller  
OU graduate

"I realized early on that life is rarely fair," Miller said. "Deep down, I am motivated to help bring fairness, or at least try to balance out some of the terrible things that can happen."

"It's difficult in my career. You have to balance so many factors, such as ensuring both parties have the fair trial they deserve



Courtesy of Josh Miller

"Deep down, I am motivated to help bring fairness, or at least try to balance out some of the terrible things that can happen," Josh Miller said.

and that the crime victim gets justice. This desire of mine carries into my everyday life as well."

Miller still has a strong passion for Oakland University. He connects with professors and visits campus when he can. He also reaches out to students to remind them about the possibilities of a brighter future,

and to make the most of their time in college.

"My time at OU was some of the best in my life," he said. "I encourage students to get involved. Run for office at OUSC or get involved in a student org, or two, or three. In the end, you'll have a much better experience. Enjoy your time, you won't regret it."

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Alana was healthy one day, and  
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Visit your campus health center or find a clinic  
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at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/flubattle](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/flubattle)

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- 1: Soft seat
- 5: Bars or bolts
- 10: Mountain goat's perch
- 14: Ditties
- 15: \_\_\_ firma
- 16: Hawaiian dance
- 17: Mouth-shaped garden flower
- 19: Knock preceder
- 20: The limit, for some
- 21: Bullriding venue
- 22: Plains grazers
- 23: Place for a rubber duckie
- 24: Animal track
- 26: Marked down, perhaps
- 30: Excel
- 34: Alpine climber
- 35: Sis or bro
- 37: Cut canines
- 38: Stake
- 40: Morse code component
- 42: Hang like basset hound ears
- 43: Caring
- 45: Beefeater, e.g.
- 47: Trellis piece
- 48: Poison used in a play

18: Pharmacy buy  
22: Affected by ennui  
23: Hazarding a guess: cab-  
bie who gets under your  
skin?  
25: Away from the office  
26: Judicial opinions  
27: More adept  
28: Financial resources  
29: Accomplished  
31: Coral reef  
32: Sand bar  
33: Dividing membranes  
36: Peaty place  
39: They help people choose  
sides  
41: Personal quirk  
44: Free  
46: Periods of youthfulness  
49: Peter of Chicago  
51: Thorny flower  
53: Mysterious  
55: Barbershop sound  
56: Peru's capital  
57: Ancient Egyptian em-  
blems  
59: \_\_\_ fiber (flax, hemp,  
ramie, or jute)  
60: Funeral stand  
61: Photocopier tray filler  
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64: Navigator's need  
65: Scandinavian rug

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# Around the world in three hours

*International Night celebrates Hispanic heritage, other cultures*

**Andrew Wernette**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Opening to the serenade of a mariachi band, Oakland University's International Night with a Latin Flair kicked off Friday evening, Oct. 24.

The tables and ceiling of the Banquet Rooms were festooned with different colors and flags to honor the countries of the world. There was also a stage and a dance floor set up for the evening's list of entertainment, which was slanted toward Latin American culture.

Along with celebrating world cultures, the occasion served as the final event of the long-running Hispanic Month.

Students immediately got in line for the buffet, which included hummus, paella, quesadillas and baklava.

Throughout the event, the announcers awarded door prizes to audience members via numbered tickets. Many of the prizes were pumpkins grown by Student Organic Farmers.

Tables featuring setups of different internationally-focused student organizations lined the walls. One of them was the Omani Students Association that celebrates Oman, a country near Yemen and Saudi Arabia. A few of the club's members stood in traditional Omani dress to answer questions.

Mohammed Anaraimi spoke about how he and his fellow Omanis were glad to be at OU.

"Oakland University is the first university I think I tried [applying for]," Amaraimi said.



Despite only having 11 people in their organization so far, the group said it was glad to be represented at International Night.

"Oakland's the best for us," Amaraimi said. "We are happy to be here."

Another group at the event was the Hispanic American Leadership Organization, or HALO. The aim of the group is to bring tuition equality for undocumented immigrants of OU, as many universities and colleges in Michigan have already done.

"It's been pretty busy," member Daniela Watts said of her table's traffic. "Everybody's really going for it."

Other student organizations represented at the event included the Lebanese Student Association, China Club, Saudi Student Association and UNICEF at Oakland University.

As students and guests mingled about, the Oakland

University Steel Band assembled to play some traditional Cuban music on steel drums. Professor Patrick Fitzgibbon, who led the ensemble, said that the Center for Student Activities had approached them to perform because "they know we have a lot of world music activity at OU."

The Steel Band also likes to give extra performances around campus during the school year, he said.

All in all, Fitzgibbon said, "It was a blast."

The band's performance was followed by a few Argentinean piano numbers played by student Karen Li. Then, a crowd formed on the dance floor to get active to Zumba, led by Lifetime Fitness instructor Sandra Bracco-Cavallin from Argentina.

The Omani Student Association also showed off a dance of its own, set to traditional music.

"I just like the diversity of



the community that's here," Jean Ann Miller, CSA director and event organizer, said. She spoke about how students, staff, faculty and families alike had come out to the event.

This is the first time that International Night had occurred during the fall semester, Miller said. She added that there will be a similar event next semester, although it will be in the form of a "global market."

"We want to spice it up," Miller said.

**TOP** Participants danced and worked up a sweat for the half-hour Zumba class.

**BOTTOM** Pinatas, flags and colorful tablecloths decorated the room.

Sean Miller / The Oakland Post



## SATIRE

# Pining for sliming

Josh Soltman  
Copy Editor/Child-at-heart

Sometimes, when I'm lying alone in my bed, sulking about my pitiful existence, crippling debt and bevy of incomplete homework assignments, I decided to flip on the good ol' boob tube. As I scrolled through the onslaught of bland sitcoms, inappropriate cartoons, reality shows that are more scripted than fictional shows and softcore porn, I realized one important thing: television sucks (except for the softcore porn because that is pretty cool. Especially the ones that have deep storylines and background stories for the characters, like a woman's husband is ill and she can only cure him by fornicating with the pizza boy. That's just quality television).

It got me thinking back to my childhood, the heyday of television, the 90s. Nothing got me jazzed up more than spending my Friday nights with Cory, Shawn and Topanga. Or watching a crazy-young Will Smith do his thing all over primetime.

Back in those days good TV actually meant something. A show didn't have to have bare boobs around every corner to be watchable. I can't believe that I am advocating for less boobs on TV but I am doing God's work here, guys.

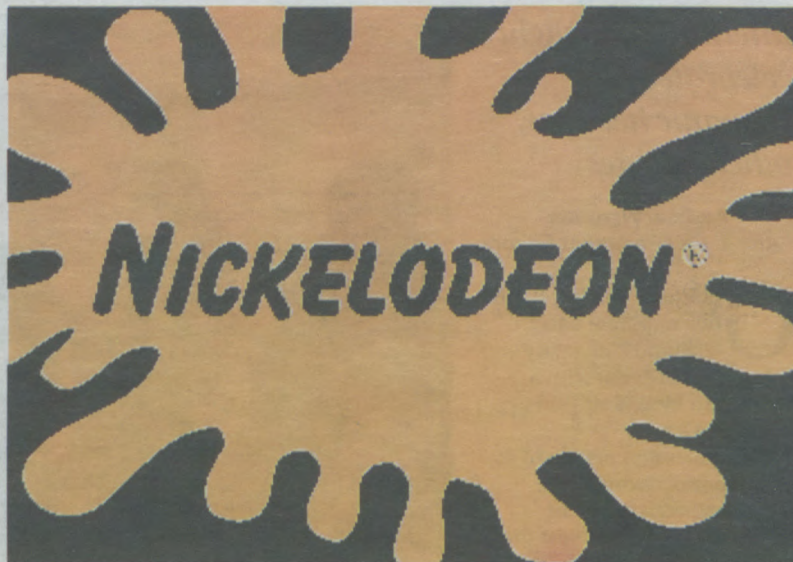
Back in the late 20th century, a show could be funny without making a distasteful joke about abortion every few minutes. I definitely make my share of inappropriate jokes, but there's nothing I appreciate more than someone who can make me laugh without talking about buttholes or cursing every other word. The glorious Danny Tanner and

the entire Tanner clan were able to do that for me every single day.

Not only were sitcoms much better, cartoons were immensely greater. Every cartoon around now, and I'm talking on Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network, is some kind of whacked-out adventure. In order to watch shows like "Adventure Time" a seriously high amount of LSD is needed in the blood stream to know what the hell is actually going on.

Just thinking about "Rugrats," "Hey Arnold," "Angry Beavers," "Dexter's Laboratory," and "Rocko's Modern Life" titillates me in ways that I can't actually verbalize. I remember watching my favorite Nickelodeon cartoons every night before my big boy bedtime of 7:00 p.m.

Even in the late 90s, when I was a little bit older, the television rotation was solid. I developed my first fictional crush on Buffy Summers, and filled my days with a lot of "Spongebob Squarepants" episodes. It blows my mind when I think about the quality of shows that are on now compared to back then. Sometimes when I'm alone thinking about it I like to spit on my hands and rub it on my friends' pillows out of anger.



Courtesy of Logopedia.com

Copy Editor Josh Soltman uses a Nickelodeon logo because he's too lazy to do work.

I realize after thinking about it for a while that I really shouldn't be this upset about television. Maybe if I had spent more of my life reading or painting I might be qualified to do more than sit at a computer and bitch about things that I have absolutely no control over. But unless I magically discover some other serviceable skills, this is all I will continue to do. In the immortal words of Michelle Tanner, (although completely out of context and unnecessary, I can't think of an ending so shut up) "you got it dude."

