

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

MARCH  
**26**  
2014

## A SHOT AT TRUE LOVE

Music, Theatre and Dance department  
performs 'Sweet Charity', a romantic musical.

Page 19



### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Find out how OU's  
former president is  
spending his retirement.

PAGE 9



### GET READY TO VOTE

See who is running to be  
the next president of OU  
Student Congress.

PAGES 10-11



### MAKING A SPLASH

Tricia Grant is OU's first  
female swimmer to reach  
NCAAs.

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# thisweek

March 26, 2014 // Volume 40. Issue 25



## on the web

Go for the Gold was held Saturday, March 22 and allowed high school students, transfer students and families to check out what OU has to offer. [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**WHAT THE DUCK?//** Chief Copy Editor Haley Kotwicki decided to get artsy and place a rubber duck in a water-filled pothole in front of Pontiac High School. Notice the vibrant colors of the little ducky's feathers and smiling beak in contrast to the stark grays of the asphalt. We wonder what the drivers of these cars were thinking as they careened past this birdy. Our bets are "Awww... how adorable." *Haley Kotwicki/The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to [photos@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:photos@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)

## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your plans for the OUSC election?

- A) I am going to vote.
- B) I don't really care, so I'm not voting
- C) I am still iffy about what I will do.
- D) I have no idea what OUSC even is.

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are your thoughts about the construction?

- A) It's very inconvenient and I don't like it. 27.3%
- B) I think it's great. It showcases OU's growth. 36.4%
- C) I have hardly noticed it and have no opinion. 4.5%
- D) The new parking structure has my heart racing. 31.8%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### MARCH 25, 1969

Over 400 students took over campus, storming out of classes in North Foundation Hall in a demand that Oakland become a "leol" university to "the benefit of those who have come to be educated."

### MARCH 26, 1979

In a protest on office space shortage, five Biology Society members turned a Dodge Hall restroom into a study lounge. It was intended as a joke before turning into a legitimate operation.

### MARCH 27, 2002

OU's food service provider, Aramark, was in talks to renew their contract for a five year extension. Eleanor Reynolds, food service director, stated OU wanted changes ranging from meal plans to extended cafeteria hours.



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### ROLL OVER BEETHOVEN

OU's annual piano sale was held in the Shotwell-Gustafon Pavillion on campus. The varieties of different pianos included Yamaha, Kawai and Baldwin.



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### THE POWER OF SCIENCE

OU alum Kevin Grazier has worked as the science adviser for 'Gravity' as well as the television series 'Eureka'. He shares his experiences as well as a little science.



20

### WAFFLES ARE NOT TACOS

Copy editor Brian Figurski mouth offs about Taco Bell's latest invention of their breakfast menu. He seems to think Jack Daniels should be offered as well.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Sweet Charity!

1966

Year Sweet Charity musical premiered in Broadway

9

Tony Awards it was nominated for

18

musical numbers in original production

1969

Year Sweet Charity was adapted for the screen

24

Cast members in Oakland University's production



# Perspectives

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### OU couples get legally married, court stops recognizing it

Hundreds of same-sex couples, some from OU, flocked to courthouses to tie the knot after U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman ruled the Michigan Marriage Act unconstitutional, Friday, March 21.

The lift on the ban allowed the state of Michigan to recognize the marriages of same-sex couples.

OU Associate Communication Professor, Kathleen Battles was finally able to marry her partner of 21 years, on Saturday.

"I was surprised by how emotional I felt," Battles said. "How moving it was. How amazing it was waiting in line. Just to have that moment of recognition was pretty powerful and it was pretty amazing."

Grace Wojcyk is the coordinator of OU's gender and sexuality center. She also waited in line and married her partner Saturday morning.

"We both had this overwhelming feeling of relief," Wojcyk said. "It just made it seem like it was validating, to have that piece of paper."

Wojcyk and Battles were but two members of 300 couples who were wed Saturday morning.

We at The Oakland

Post applauded this monumental step forward for gay rights in Michigan. Unfortunately, our applause was cut short.

By Saturday afternoon an appeals court placed a stay on the lift. The postponement was originally supposed to be in place until Wednesday, but has since been suspended indefinitely. This means that although the act was ruled unconstitutional and same-sex couples were allowed to get married, no more marriages can take place until the issue is settled in the Sixth Circuit Court.

Battles saw the postponement coming.

"My reaction to that is not entirely surprised," Battles said. "I feel frustrated for myself. Angry for the other people in the state who are waiting to get married and now can't."

Couples still waiting to get married aren't the only problem the postponement has caused. There still hasn't been a statement on whether the federal government still recognizes the marriages of the 300 Michigan couples who were wed Saturday.

According to Wojcyk, she has friends who went to the Secretary of State to

change their names, but were still turned away.

"It's like we aren't married, but we have the paper that says we are," Wojcyk said. "It's messed up. Completely messed up."

Battles is still unsure what the state thinks of her marriage.

"I'd imagine we're in some kind of strange legal limbo," Battles said.

We at The Post believe that postponing the overturning of the Michigan Marriage Act is unfair and intolerant. It is time to recognize equal rights for all mankind. In Michigan, same-sex marriage was recognized for less than a day and 300 couples found happiness. Now, due to the postponement, they are left frustrated and confused. They will stay that way for an indefinite period of time. Stand up for those who do not have the same rights as you.

"I want everyone who wants this to have it," Battles said. "To have that feeling of recognition. Not just me or the 300 couples who showed up Saturday, but everybody."

*The staff editorial is written by members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.*

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



THE OAKLAND POST

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## Corrections Corner

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

-The photo on Page 11 was taken by Michael Ferdinande

## 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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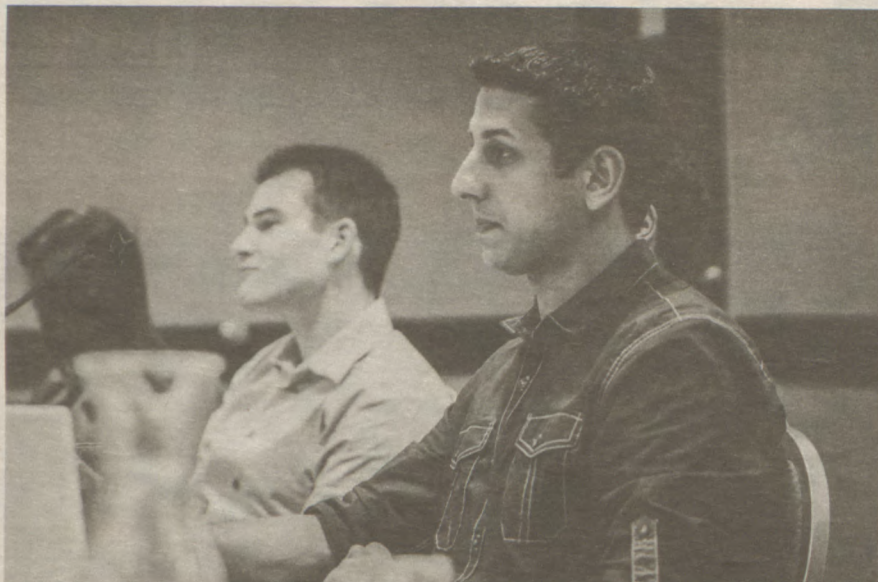


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Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Student Body President Brandon Hanna has been involved in the OUSC for four years

## Hanna prepares path for the next OUSC president

Kaylee Kean  
Managing Editor

**O**n Monday, March 24 voting started for next year's Oakland University Student Congress Student Body President. When voting ends tonight, one of the three candidates will be chosen to take the place of current president Brandon Hanna.

The senior biology major said he has been involved with the OUSC for four years and doesn't regret a thing.

"It's made my time at OU a million times better," Hanna said in a phone interview. "I never thought I would be this involved but I've grown so much from it as a person and as part of the OUSC."

While being president, Hanna said he has had a great many accomplishments, such as the free scantron program, the push for better WiFi on campus and the push for more parking on campus, among other things.

"Also pushing for the expansion of the Oakland Center – that was huge," Hanna said. "We got over 4,000 responses in our survey. That survey was the most filled-out survey on Oakland's campus ever."

Hanna said the OUSC will be making the OC expansion case at the next Board of Trustees meeting on May 7.

"We don't want to make any decisions without students hearing and having a say," Hanna said.

Some of the largest events Hanna enjoyed were the Rock For Rights event and the Tibetan Monks event.

"I never thought I would be this involved but I've grown so much from it as a person and as part of the OUSC."

Brandon Hanna  
OUSC Student Body President

"We've done a ton of really great things this year," Hanna said. "We also did two BYOB tailgates – we're currently working on pushing for another one in mid-April."

One of the most challenging things Hanna has had to face is the amount of work it takes to balance being both a leader and a student.

"I guess I would say that it's been trying to do as much as I possibly can on behalf of the student body," Hanna said. "I've loved every second of it."

When it comes to the next OUSC president, Hanna said he hopes to see someone who is open-minded, dedicated to serving the student body and who is very passionate for the position and for Oakland.

Hanna said he thinks all three tickets that are running have the qualities that will make a good president and that he encourages students to go check them out and vote at [www.oakland.edu/voteou](http://www.oakland.edu/voteou).

"Really make an informed decision because voting is extremely important in letting your voice be heard," Hanna said. "Every vote does count. Every vote does matter."

## OUSC revisions cause unrest

By Kaylee Kean  
Managing Editor

Tonight elections for the next Oakland University Student Congress president will close.

Voting to approve or strike down the latest OUSC constitutional amendments will end as well.

Some of these amendments are no small deal, according to OUSC Student Body President Brandon Hanna and Residence Hall Association President Franklin Kennamer. One will take away voting rights from the RHA representative who sits on OUSC council – in this case, Kennamer.

"RHA, I feel, is the voice of Housing, and by taking voting rights away you're taking the voice away," Kennamer said. "They let me speak, they let me give my opinion on things, but what good is a voice if you can't vote?"

Kennamer said he had only just found out he had voting rights when they were taken away not two weeks later.

On March 17 Kennamer motioned to amend the constitution to give him his rights back. He said the OUSC voted to keep it as is before he could argue his case, however.

"Basically all the legislators were saying this is a waste of time," Kennamer said. "It was pretty insulting."

This caused much unrest at OUSC's March 24 meeting.

"I was very upset, so I took this issue to the general body who attends the RHA meetings," Kennamer said. "Residents were all very upset, some were even outraged."

Hanna said that he is currently doing everything he can to work with Kennamer, the RHA and other OUSC members to "find a middle ground" and "make sure that every student on campus has their voice heard."

"The legislature of OUSC decided when reviewing the constitution that the RHA representatives did not need a voting right since they are technically not voted on, they're appointed," Hanna said. "RHA did not lose their spot on OUSC. OUSC took their voting right away, but not their speaking right."

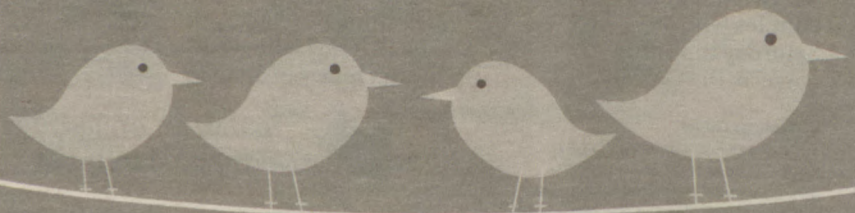
"It's hard to put it into words," Kennamer said. "I guess I'm not saying that OUSC is wrong and RHA's right, I just want people to be informed so that people can form their own opinion on it."

Other revisions to the constitution will establish the Student Activities Funding Board and the Student Program Board as separate organizations outside of the OUSC's jurisdiction, according to Hanna.

To read the constitutional revisions or vote go to [oakland.edu/voteou](http://oakland.edu/voteou).

Contact Managing Editor Kaylee Kean at [managing@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:managing@oaklandpostonline.com).

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# OU alumni is honored for theatrical triumphs

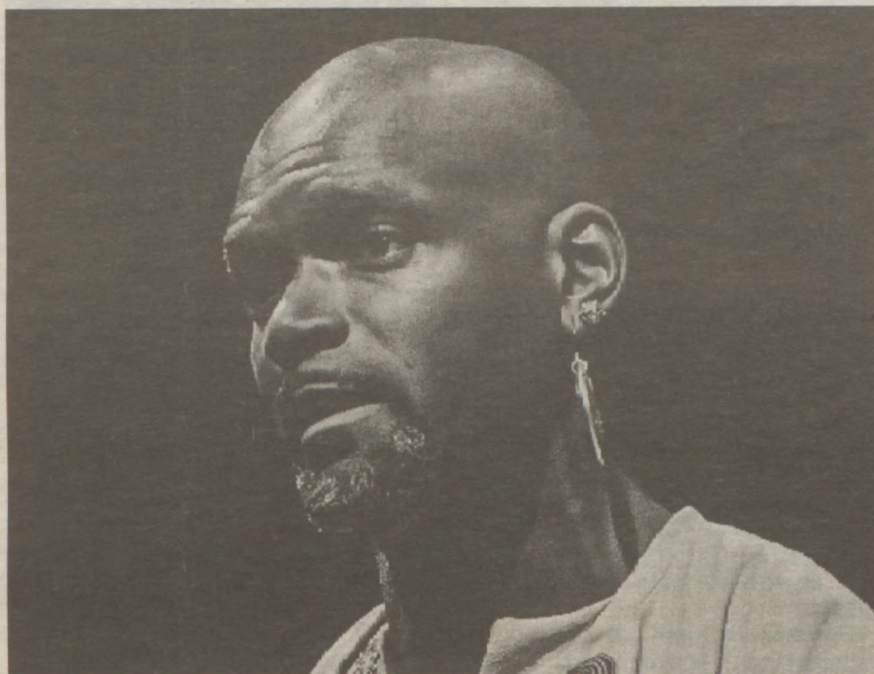


Photo Courtesy of Esau Pritchett

Pritchett has tried many acting mediums, but his favorite is performing on stage

## Esau Pritchett wins the MaTilDa Award for Alumni Achievement

Kailee Mathias  
Staff Reporter

Esau Pritchett, Oakland alumni from the class of 1998, will receive the MaTilDa Award for Alumni Achievement in Theater.

Pritchett said he initially was a physical therapy major, but he'd seen several of the theater department plays, which sparked an interest. After being informed auditions were coming up for "Twelfth Night," directed by Michael Gillespie, Pritchett decided to try out but didn't expect to be cast.

"It was a Shakespearean play, I'd never done anything like it before and I was absolutely positive I wouldn't be cast," Pritchett said. "Low and behold, they made me the lead of it."

At first Pritchett felt terrified. Gillespie pulled him aside and assured him that he wouldn't let him on stage if he was uncomfortable and began working with him on acting fundamentals.

"I always felt like it was such a good thing I got my training from OU," Pritchett said.

After playing lead in Arthur Miller's production of "All My Sons," Pritchett

switched majors.

After graduation, he moved to New York and began auditioning for roles. He has since done television, film and theater.

Recently Pritchett took on his most challenging role to date where he played Troy Maxson in "Fences."

"He was a very wordy character," Pritchett said. "It was an extremely challenging role for me. At this point in my career, that's what I'm looking for."

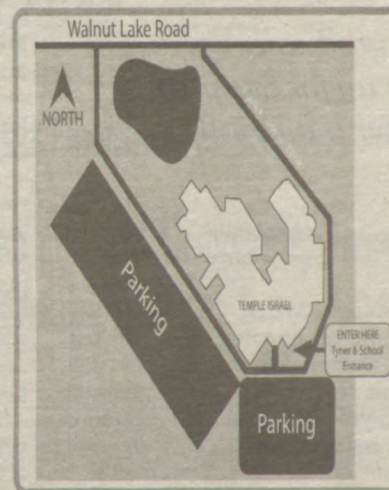
Oakland took notice of his work and dedication in his role in "Fences."

"He had always been on the list of an alum we were planning to honor with the MaTilDa but we were waiting for something big," Kerro Knox, associate professor of theater, said. "When he got cast in 'Fences' in two of the major theaters in the country, we decided this was the year to honor him."

Pritchett and other recipients will be honored at the MaTilDa Awards on Sunday, April 13.

Pritchett will be in Florida where he is currently working on Julius Caesar and will not be able to attend the event. However, he is very excited about the recognition.

"I'm really humbled and surprised, it's a great honor," Pritchett said. "We had so many people on our staff that were so passionate about what they do and it was passed onto me. I'm lucky to be a person that is excited about their job."



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## Campus

# Brace yourself: Here comes registration

*Undergraduates can begin to sign up for Summer I, Summer II and fall classes*

Michael Pulis  
Staff Intern

Monday, March 24, marked the official opening of class registration for the summer, fall, and winter semesters for the upcoming academic year. However, as registration eligibility is determined by class standing and credits, not all students were able to register for classes immediately.

Office of the Registrar said graduate students were able to register for classes starting Monday, March 24.

### When do you register?

Following graduate students, seniors with more than 120 credits and students pursuing a second undergraduate degree were permitted to register on Tuesday, March 25. Seniors with more than 90 credits will be allowed to sign up for classes on Wednesday, March 26. Juniors with more than 72 credits are eligible to enroll themselves in classes starting Thursday, March 27, and those with more than 55 on Friday, March 28.

Sophomores with over 41 credits could register for classes on Monday,

March 31, and those with over 27 credits on Tuesday, April 1. Freshman with more than 15 credits can register on Wednesday, April 2, and those with less than 16 credits on Thursday, April 3.

All other students that do not fit into the standard categories may register starting Friday, April 4. Honors College students, however, are given special permission to sign up for classes on the first day of registration regardless of class standing.

### Changes in physics

The 2014-2015 academic school year will also bring some new changes to 100-level physics and chemistry courses, according to the registrar's office.

In the past, PHY101, 102, 151, and 152 (each four-credit courses) were combined with one semester of PHY158 (two credits) to complete the lab requirement. CHM157 and CHM158 were five-credit courses which included a lab component.

The 2013-2014 academic year saw the physics courses' lab and lecture setup change to resemble the chemistry courses'. That will now be discontinued. Instead, the physics and chemistry courses will be separated into four-credit courses with one credit lab components. PHY101 will now be combined with PHY110, PHY102 with PHY111, PHY151 with PHY110, and PHY152 with PHY111.

PHY108, 109, 161 and 162 will remain

the same as in the 2013-2014 academic year, continuing to be four-credit courses.

School of Health Science majors are permitted to take only the lecture portion of PHY108 and 109 if desired. Similarly, School of Engineering and Computer Science majors only are able to sign up for purely the lecture components of PHY161 and 162.

### Changes in chemistry

On the chemistry front, CHM157, previously five credits, is now a four-credit lecture, CHM144, and a one-credit lab, CHM147. CHM158 follows the same pattern, becoming a four-credit lecture, CHM145, and a one-credit lab, CHM148.

Planning out classes ahead of time can play a huge role in determining whether or not a desired class is full when registering for the next academic year.

"This is the first year I wanted to be ahead of the game, so I'm registering as soon as possible," said senior Mitchell Johnson.

However, some prepared students expressed confusion over Oakland University's e-mail reminders stating that class registration was available starting Monday, March 24.

"I noticed that I couldn't add classes first and that now I have to wait until the day of my registration," said junior Adriana Lo Piccolo.

## POLICE FILES

### UPDATE: Theft of keys

The ex-employee who did not return the five Oakland University keys and was convicted of a DWI in February came to OUPD at 4:45 p.m. March 14.

He returned all of the keys that were missing. He is currently on probation.

### Theft at Hamlin Hall

Officers responded to a call of larceny from a dorm at Hamlin Hall 9:59 a.m. March 21.

A student said he headed to the showers at 6:45 p.m. and left his Google Nexus 7 tablet charging in his room. When he returned at 7:10 p.m., his tablet and charging cord were missing.

The student asked three of his suitemates if they had seen it, but both denied seeing it. They called their other suitemate who denied that he was in the room but said his tablet was also missing. However, the suitemates never remembered him having a tablet, but they did remember that he had a broken laptop.

They also found articles of their clothing on the absent suitemate's part of the room. They stated they never let him borrow clothing.

OUPD made contact with the absent suitemate. He allowed officers to search his backpack, which had a Google Nexus 7 tablet and charging cord. He told officers that it was his and he was planning on gifting it to another student.

He also could not explain why the student's files were on, supposedly, his tablet. Officers also discovered that the absent suitemate had visited many pornographic websites.

OUPD looked at the serial number and verified the missing tablet's number.

He was placed under arrest for a warrant for disturbing the peace. He is currently restricted from any housing facility.

## Grizzlies on the Prowl: *"Who is Brandon Hanna?" (He is the current Student Body President of OU Student Congress)*



Rachel Shango, psychology

"I have no idea."



Danielle Cojocari, creative writing

"Not a clue."



Nick Herman, computer science

"He's a computer science professor, isn't he?"

— Compiled by Kaylee Kean  
Managing Editor

— Compiled by Haley Kotwicki  
Chief Copy Editor



# Oakland comes alive with the sound of music



Andrew Wernette / The Oakland Post

"It's a pretty significant event," Dave Best said. Best is an employee in charge of used pianos.

*Evola Music-sponsored piano sale provides visitors with opportunity to purchase used instruments*

Andrew Wernette  
Staff Reporter

Stray music filled the air as Oakland University held its annual piano sale Friday, March 21 through Sunday, March 23, in the Shotwell-Gustafon Pavilion on campus.

Friday and Saturday were reserved for private appointments, while Sunday was open to the public.

Pianos of all shapes and sizes were displayed throughout the space.

Local music company Evola Music ran the event, complete with sales associates who demonstrated the different features of each piano to prospective buyers. The merchandise ranged from electronic to upright and grand pianos. Brands such as Yamaha, Kawai and Baldwin were represented.

Whole families came out on Sunday to examine the instruments.

"It's a pretty significant event," Dave Best, an Evola employee in charge of overseeing the used pianos, said.

He said that this is actually part of an ongoing deal between OU and two of the brands being shown: Kawai and Yamaha. Each year the companies loan their pianos to OU's Department of Music, Theater and Dance, and after a year's use, the pianos are sold at a discounted price to the public.

"At the end of the year, [OU] get[s]

"What I like to tell the people is that this is a legitimate sale with a beginning and an end."

Bob Lelli  
Evola Sales Associate

another load of pianos," Best said.

In the end, it is a win-win for everyone. OU constantly has high-quality pianos for its music students, the companies eventually sell their pianos, and customers receive a fair price for an almost-new instrument.

Best said that business was looking good this year, adding that a large number of people showed up on Saturday. He commended everyone in his team for working hard.

"[The] salespeople involved put in a hard week," he said.

One of those sales associates was Bob Lelli, who described his enthusiasm for selling these pianos to ordinary families.

"I think it's been a success," Lelli said of the sale.

"What I like to tell the people is that this is a legitimate sale with a beginning and an end," Lelli said.

He mentioned that most of the people who come to the event have already been shopping around for a piano, and that this offered something unique: very good pianos at lower prices.

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## Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

The role of the Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees is to serve as a non-voting resource on all student issues at monthly meetings of the Board.



### Term of Office:

- July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 or 2016
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- Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- Must not hold any other major elected campus office

### Applications are available at:

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Student Affairs Office – 144 Oakland Center

Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center

Center for Student Activities – 49 Oakland Center

**Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by  
March 31, 2014**

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200



# OU alum wins recognition as science adviser for 'Gravity'

*Kevin Grazier talks about his work in sci-fi Hollywood*

Sam Schlenner  
Staff Intern

Jaime Paglia, co-creator of "Eureka," wanted to know how fast a human had to run to walk on water. He called Dr. Kevin Grazier, Ph.D.

"Give me 25 minutes," Grazier told Paglia. He called back and told Paglia that the number was about 10 to the 46th power mph. He told Paglia that, before he reached that speed, the skin would fly off his bones and he'd burst into flames.

Paglia asked him what speed would be plausible and not totally enrage scientists. Grazier sighed.

"648 miles per hour."

While Alfonso Cuarón was accepting the Oscar for Best Director, "Gravity" was old news for Kevin Grazier.

The OU alum had finished his work as science advisor on the movie almost four years before. Grazier, who works more in television than film, also worked

with Jaime Paglia, co-creator of former Syfy series "Eureka."

One episode involved blink, a fictional eyedrop that sends your brain into warp speed, Paglia says. An ordinary man on blink resembles Grazier as is.

"He's one of the nicest guys in the world. He's got boundless energy," Paglia says.

"His brain works faster than his mouth can keep up with, so he talks incredibly fast."

"The line is when science crosses into magic," Grazier says. This is the job:

You meet with the writers, and they ask you: Is this plausible?

The screenwriter creates the "Oh, wow!" moments. The science advisor minimizes the "Oh, please!" ones.

The "Oh, wow!" moments let the viewer lose him or herself in the show. When you say "Oh, please!," "You're a person sitting amongst four walls in the 21st century watching TV, saying, 'Nah, no, I don't buy that,'" says Grazier.

The "Oh, please!" moments are caused by technical gaps that could have been fixed without harming the story. Grazier catches these and makes the story appear grounded.

However, don't expect everything to be perfect.

"Science fiction is a genre predicated on one main scientific inaccuracy," Grazier says. This is the gimme, the one thing the audience must run with.

The science advisor is not a copy editor, Grazier says. He doesn't have absolute say over the final cut.

But, don't think the science advisor is shunned.

"If the showrunner is bringing a science advisor aboard in the first place, they already have a commitment to getting the science right," Grazier says.

Grazier got his start in Hollywood in grad school when he co-wrote a script for "Star Trek: Voyager" and sent it to Paramount. Out of 3,000 scripts, Paramount chose about 10 per year. He got the call.

He pitched stories and met Bryan Fuller, now the showrunner of NBC's "Hannibal."

His break was an interview for science advisor on the reimagined "Battlestar Galactica."

"It was a five minute interview and I left there with the series bible and the first two episodes," Grazier says.

Because the work was part-



Photo Courtesy of Kevin Grazier

Kevin Grazier shares his experiences on working in television and film.

time, he could continue his work at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, where he worked for 15 years.

In Hollywood, it's not always what you know, Grazier says. The people you work well with are the people you stick with.

He got referred to the writers of Eureka, and his Hollywood career took off. Once you get a few good shows under your belt, you get word of mouth, Grazier says.

Grazier graduated from Oakland in 1987. He transferred from Purdue University and earned his second degree, a bachelor's in physics.

Grazier thinks of how much Oakland is growing, and how much cash is flowing into it.

"What? Did they plant a seed and another building popped up?" he says.

Grazier is a Detroit expatriate. He frequents a coney island on Sunset Blvd. in West Hollywood.

You can find Grazier every year at San Diego Comic-Con on the "Science of Science Fiction" panel. He is also writing Hollywood Science with Stephen Cass.

On his morning commute, Paglia called Grazier and asked if there was any way the Earth's magnetic poles could flip at once.

"Oh, you're talking about Nemesis," Grazier told Paglia.

Paglia had his episode before he even parked his car.

# GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

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# Former OU President retires in Sioux Falls

*Gary Russi spends retirement as Chief of Staff of Celebrate Church*

Scott Wolchek  
Editor-in-Chief

The whereabouts of former Oakland University President Gary Russi have been shrouded in mystery since his retirement August 2013.

Russi, who served an unprecedented 18-year-term at OU, left quietly. There were no campus-wide parties or receptions in his honor and he has not been available for a comment to the media.

The circumstances have kept students and faculty scratching their heads, wondering 'where did he go?'

## Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Russi is spending his retirement as the Chief of Staff of Celebrate Community Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, according to his wife, Beckie Francis. Celebrate is the largest church in South Dakota.

Celebrate Pastor Carman VanSchaick said during a phone interview that Russi is great to work with.

"It's a joy to have him as part of our church as we continue to grow and reach thousands of people with Christ," VanSchaick said.

Francis said the change of pace was welcome.

"I look at it as, compared to the responsibilities and pressures of a presidency, this has been very refreshing," Francis said.

Russi's Chief of Staff title doesn't mean he is a member of the ministry.

"He's in charge of all the employees, the hiring and firing," Francis said. "He's the business side of the church. He's a consultant for all of those areas."

Russi and Francis, the former OU women's basketball coach, first discovered Celebrate during the Summit League Tournament, which has been held in Sioux Falls for the past six years.

"When we went there to play, I attended this church," Francis said. "This pastor [Keith Loy] ended up coming to the games. We developed a friendship. We kept the friendship going. He would sit with Dr. Russi at some of the men's games."

Eventually, Loy called Russi, asking him to be a part of the church.



Photo courtesy of Beckie Francis

Former OU president, Gary Russi with his wife, Beckie Francis, on their way to visit Russi's grandchildren

"It's so nice to be in a position where you can just live for today. We really enjoy helping and serving the community right now. We'll see where it goes."

Beckie Francis  
Gary Russi's wife

"Dr. Russi had a lot of offers from a lot of different realms," Francis said. "We were taking the approach that he would take six months to spend time with his grandchildren and his family. This phone call and this offer really hit a sweet spot."

Family friends of Russi agree that Sioux Falls was the ideal location for his retirement.

"For me, I feel like it was the perfect place for Gary to go and use the gifts he has," said Gina Petherick who is also an OU donor and School of Education and Human Resources board member. "He is an amazing visionary, he's a great leader, he's used those gifts in so many

areas that people don't even know of. It's the perfect place for him to go as the next step."

"We're just relieved that Gary and Beckie are here in Sioux Falls," said Pam Miller, a family friend of Russi's. "Having them here now is like having part of our family here."

Miller said the move has been good for both Francis and Russi – they're happy together.

"Beckie always seemed very happy with what they were doing," Miller said. "This is completely different. Beckie has childlike exuberance with what they're doing."

"It's been fun for him to see his grandchildren play football on a Saturday," Francis said. "Do things with his family. He was so busy as the president, it was hard to get away. That's why it was so gratifying"

As for future plans, Francis says her and her husband are enjoying living in the present.

"It's so nice to be in a position where you can just live for today," Francis said. "We really enjoy helping and serv-

ing the community right now. We'll see where it goes"

## Still thinking of Oakland

Although miles away, the two still discuss Oakland University.

"We talk about the new buildings and all the projects he started," Francis said. "We're proud of the growth that Oakland is still exhibiting because of him"

"Oakland University is fortunate to have outstanding faculty, staff and students," Russi said via email. "It has been my pleasure to work with them the past 20 years. The growth, increase in national prominence and transformative success have largely been an outcome of the faculty and staff dedication and commitment. Going forward, the university's academic foundation and strategic position are incredibly strong. As a result, the future has great promise."

Contact Editor-in-Chief Scott Wolchek at [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com)



# OUSC Election Guide



**B**ria Ellis, Annie Meinberg and Andre Mitchell, all presidential candidates for the Oakland University Student Congress, debated on Wednesday, March 19 in the Oakland Center. Each candidate is seeking election for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Voting for the new Student Body President began on Monday, March 24 at midnight and will end tonight at 11:59 p.m.

Ellis is running with OUSC Legislator Andrew Laux, Meinberg is running with Legislator Liz Iwanski, and Mitchell is running with RHA member Kate Bergel.

Communication professor Christine Stover moderated the debate and asked the candidates a series of questions provided by an election committee.

If elected both Meinberg and Ellis said they want to focus on developing and passing new initiatives, while Mitchell said he wants to create what he calls "OU livelihood."

The candidates began with expressing what they believe the duties of the student body president are.

"OUSC is the voice of the students," Mitchell said.

"We are here for you," Meinberg said. "I can see great change for OU as a whole." "You have to be able to set goals," Ellis said.

Each candidate expressed great interest in making connections with the university's administration.

Both Meinberg and Ellis currently serve as legislators on the OUSC and have worked with administrators through that and other roles.

Mitchell, who served as a legislator in the 2012-2013 academic year, said that it would be his job to "show administration what students need."

The candidates were asked how they would lead and what they want to see from their executive board.

"We want our executive board to go above and beyond," Meinberg said.

Ellis said she would focus on the individual needs of the executive board members and "what individuals want to accomplish."

She also said that student congress could do more when it comes to admin-

istration and lawmakers, to get what they need for students.

"We can push the envelope a little bit more," Ellis said.

Mitchell said he saw the need to create a well-working board, as well to think big.

"Hire people that you'll work well with," Mitchell said. "How big can we make this, how impactful can we make this?"

All candidates said that this position would receive their full attention and that they would not be working at any other place of employment while president.

The three also discussed which programs they would like to see continued and what programs they would implement if elected.

Ellis said she would like to continue the free scantron program, involvement in the Bear Bus program and the RideShare program.

Mitchell expressed a desire to have the OUSC and RHA maintain a strong relationship, saying that housing plays a large role in the campus community.

Meinberg said she wants to create an environmental awareness program and "get an environmental manager on staff."

The candidates made closing remarks in which they briefly described their platform and what they want to see for Oakland University.

Ellis said if elected president, she would try to make it so "people feel included" and that "coming to OU is something they're excited about."

Meinberg said that she is very excited about the opportunity overall, saying that it is the students that make a better OU.

Mitchell summed up his plans, if elected, with this analogy:

"Watering the flowers of what we have today and planting the seeds for tomorrow."

Students can vote at [oakland.edu/voteou](http://oakland.edu/voteou) or at polling stations in Kresge Library, the Campus Recreation Center, the Oakland Center, and Vandenberg Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Here is a more thorough look at each team and what they plan to bring to the table if they are voted as the next Student Congress President.



## Andre Mitchell & Kate Bergel

**M**itchell, a junior and information technology major, said he has a passion for "college livelihood" and bringing that livelihood to the campus of Oakland University.

Mitchell is running with junior and psychology major Kate Bergel. Bergel is involved in the Residents Hall Association, is the national communications coordinator for RHA, a human resources intern for Housing, is part of the Focus Improvement Committee and is part of the Grizzpose Committee, according to the Mitchell/Bergel campaign website.

Mitchell's prior campus involvement includes Residential Assistant at the Extended Stay hotel, Night Watch Desk worker, Student Congress legislator in 2012 (where he also served on the marketing committee), Orientation Assistant, Orientation Group Leader, Student Alumni Association, Academic Conduct Committee and the Association for Computing Machinery, according to the Mitchell/Bergel campaign website.

Mitchell said that he "really wanted to take OU to the next level" with his platform, with one of the focuses being on student involvement.

Marketing athletics, Greek fraternities and sororities will give students the opportunity to get more involved and better connected to the campus, according to Mitchell.

Mitchell said his plans, if elected, are not only beneficial to students that live on campus, but to the large group of commuter students as well.

"They have to have a reason to stay (on campus)," Mitchell said in a phone interview. "We just want to market better to those 18,000 to help find where they fit in."

Mitchell said that he and Bergel wanted to keep their platform practical.

"We wanted to make sure everything in our platform we did ourselves and we knew we could do it," Mitchell said.

With that, if Mitchell is elected, he said he wants to make sure his "e-board holds us accountable for our platform."

Creating a campus community is what Mitchell said he really wants to accomplish if elected Student Body President.

"Watering the flowers of what we have today and planting the seeds for tomorrow."

Andre Mitchell



Story by Ali DeRees  
Photos provided by presidential candidates  
Design by Frank Lepkowski



Annie Meinberg & Liz Iwanski

**M**einberg is an Elementary Education major with a focus on creating sustainability for Oakland University.

Meinberg and her running mate Liz Iwanski are the only sophomore ticket in the 2014-2015 OUSC Presidential Election.

Iwanski's has been an OUSC legislator (where she is part of the judiciary committee), an Orientation Group Leader, OU's Strategic Programs Assistant, on the SPB Annual Events Committee, a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, part of the Honor's College and part of the German Club, according to the Meinberg/Iwanski campaign site.

Meinberg is an OUSC legislator, a coaching assistant for the OU Women's Basketball team, a recently signed student athlete, an orientation group leader, a member of the School of Business Scholars program, an SPB Committee Member and member of the OU Official Social Media Street Team.

A part of Meinberg's platform that differs from that of her opponents is that of environmental sustainability.

"We don't want to see this as a problem years from now," Meinberg said.

Meinberg wants to hire an environmental manager as well as have someone on the executive board to work on environmental measures.

Keeping the campus environmentally friendly by placing recycling bins in each class is part of Meinberg's environmental plan.

Meinberg said she also has plans

for one of the biggest problems on campus: parking.

Meinberg said she wants the P3 parking lot to be available overnight, to have the parking structures be available 24/7, and to have a parking structure on the north side of campus. Meinberg said she has talked with Director of University Housing Jim Zentmeyer and he agreed with her plans.

"It's nice to know administration is behind us on this," said Meinberg, who said she wants to see big things for OU and that she and her running mate can help in this if elected. "I want to see it (OU) on the map."

Meinberg said that it's the students that make the university what it is and that she wants to "give the students the best that they deserve."

"I want to see it (OU) on the map... give the students the best that they deserve."

Annie Meinberg



Bria Ellis & Andrew Laux

**E**llis is a junior and political science and philosophy double major. Both she and her running mate Andrew Laux are legislators on the current Oakland University Student Congress.

Ellis is an Admissions Ambassador, Orientation Group Leader, and Resident Assistant at Oakland University, according to her Facebook page. She is also the Diversity Director for the Student Program Board and was vice president of Students Advocating for Gender Awareness.

In January 2013 Ellis was one of three students awarded with the 21st annual Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Award, according to Oakland University's website. The scholarship was awarded to her for her contributions to breaking down cultural stereotypes.

Laux is a junior history major who has only been serving as a legislator for a few months, according to their campaign website. He has also served as a stand-in director for Oakland's delegation to the Student Association of Michigan on three different occasions.

One of the bills Laux most recently motioned to pass at the March 24 OUSC meeting was one concerning amendments that should be made to the Oakland University campus smoking policy to allow designated smoking areas and the provision of ash trays in said areas.

During the debate on Wednesday, March 19, Ellis stated that she would focus on trying to make students feel included and excited about coming

to Oakland University. She also said she would continue the free scantron program, involvement in the Bear Bus program and the RideShare program.

"I wish to make sure that every voice even those who might view their own voices to be insignificant to be heard," Ellis wrote on her campaign website. "That is the whole purpose of ousc is to make sure that students are getting the most out of their college experience. I will make sure that everyone's voice is heard."

Ellis was not available for an interview.

Contact Staff Reporter Ali DeRees at [apderees@oakland.edu](mailto:apderees@oakland.edu).

"I will make sure that everyone's voice is heard."

Bria Ellis



# Sports

## Oakland men's soccer duels in spring doubleheader

*Golden Grizzlies fall to Notre Dame, 2-1, then tie Xavier, 1-1*

Adam Kujawski  
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University men's soccer team fell by a score of 2-1 to the defending national champion Notre Dame Fighting Irish March 22. The match, played at the Ultimate Soccer Arena in Pontiac, Mich., was part of the sixth annual College Challenge, a series of exhibition matches between teams in the region.

Oakland found itself behind early in the first half on a break by Notre Dame junior forward Vince Ciciarelli. OU had several minutes of sustained pressure, but gave up a goal from just

outside the box that had Grizzly head coach Eric Pogue accusing Notre Dame of being offside.

The Grizzlies generated minor pressure at times but failed to even the score in the first half and took a 1-0 deficit into halftime.

"The first 15 minutes or so we were a little out of sorts," Pogue said. "We gave up the early goal and then I think we got the game under control."

Pogue settled his team down at halftime and knew it had an opportunity to even the score.

"I told them to stay calm and keep the pressure up," he said. "We kept good possession and did a good job at locking them down."

Oakland sophomore Matt Dudley netted the equalizer in the first minute of the second half on a header delivered from in front of the net. Constant

pressure by the Grizzlies created many more scoring chances throughout the game, though none were fruitful.

With just five seconds remaining, Notre Dame broke into the Oakland zone and created a scoring chance that wound up being the game-winner. Ciciarelli delivered a ball through the keeper's box where it deflected off OU sophomore Raphael Reynolds for an own goal.

"We controlled the game the second half but we made an unlucky mistake that gave them the game," Pogue said. "Other than that, I'm proud of the effort. I think we deserved more than what we got but that's what happens. You get punished for mistakes against good teams."

The Grizzlies had a quick turnaround when they took on Xavier in a doubleheader. The



Michael Ferdinando/The Oakland Post

OU's sophomore forward Gerald Ben gets tripped up against Notre Dame.

two teams would tie at a score of 1-1, with OU sophomore Matt Rickard netting the team's lone goal.

Pogue said he used the second match as a chance for some of his younger players to get playing time.

The doubleheader was

Oakland's third and fourth games in its spring schedule. The Grizzlies travel to Ann Arbor to take on the University of Michigan on Friday. They wrap up their spring competition at the Ultimate Soccer Arena against Northwestern on Saturday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

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# Grant makes a splash

*OU junior Tricia Grant is Grizzlies' first female swimmer to reach NAAs*

David Cesefski and Jake Alsko  
Staff Reporter and Sports Editor

Tricia Grant of the Oakland University women's swimming and diving team has completed her run at the 2014 NCAA Women's Swimming & Diving Championships.

Grant is the first Horizon League women's diver and first Golden Grizzly diver in Division I history to participate in the NCAA Championships.

Grant placed 31st in the 1-meter springboard on March 20, and 25th in the 3-meter springboard the next day with a score of 297.90.

"Overall, it was a great experience; we will use what we learned here and see what we can do next season," Oakland diving coach Larry Albright said in an interview with OUGrizzlies.com.

"To finish 25th in the country is quite an achievement."

Growing up in West Bloomfield Grant attributes her success to the dedication and drive.

"I had a very dedicated mother," she said. "I had figure skating practice at 5:30 in the morning, then after school I would go to dance, and then I would go to gymnastics, for about 12 years."

## Road to the championships

Grant had to place top-four in the Midwest in a pool of 40 to move onto NAAs.

The 1-meter was Grant's best chance to place highly. Instead of dwelling on her disappointment in the 1-meter, Grant decided to just have fun for the 3-meter event.

"I just started nailing my dives, and that went on for 12 dives in a row," she said. "I finished fourth in 3-meter and I looked at the screen and kept staring at it."

## The passion for swimming

Grant called the experience a dream come true.

"I set these goals for myself every year, and it was motivating," she said. "I haven't set a goal I haven't achieved yet."

The passion for swimming, however



Photo Courtesy of OUGrizzlies.com

"I set these goals for myself every year, and it was motivating," Grant said. "I haven't set a goal I haven't achieved yet."

came from a different source. While in middle school, Grant's biology teacher got word that she was a gymnast. The teacher happened to be the high school diving coach, so he recruited Grant to be a part of the team.

Success however did not come over night.

"I was really bad when I started," Grant said. "I had already dove for a year and I did bad so I quit. My gymnastics teammate Claire was going to dive so she made me do it with her, she signed me up without telling me."

Because of that initiative, Grant views that teammate as someone who has played a big role in her success.

After her recommitment to the sport, Grant went on to experience many levels of success, starting in high school where she was a four-year letter winner under coach Nic Freylik, three-time league champion, as well as being named team captain and earning all-state honors in her senior campaign.

"If you find something you love and put 100 percent in all the time, success will follow"

Tricia Grant  
OU Junior Swimmer & Diver

## A part of the team

To achieve the level of success she has reached, Grant decided when she recommitted to get involved with a club team. The club team's coach was none other than OU's Albright.

"I got into the game late," Grant said. "I started with (Albright) when I was 16, and a lot of these divers have been doing this since they were six, some of the women have been doing it for over 17 years at the NCAA level."

Grant's profile has continued to grow with experience. Some of her other accomplishments at the collegiate level

include the 2013 Summit League Diving MVP, Diver of the Year and winning all-league honors.

But for Grant, her success story has yet to end. The swimmer remains humble, but is hungry for more.

Grant continues to set more goals to achieve for the future with an attitude of determination.

"If you find something you love and put 100 percent in all the time, success will follow," she said.

"I stay hungry for more, I have not peaked. I'm not as good as I'm going to get, I know I only have a limited amount of years to get as good as I'm going to get."

"I want to do everything I can to make that time worth it."

Contact Staff Reporter David Cesefski at [dmcsefs@oakland.edu](mailto:dmcsefs@oakland.edu)



# Sport science: the physics of NASCAR

*Physics professor gives alternative perspective on NASCAR*

Adam Kujawski  
Staff Reporter

**O**akland University's scientific research society, Sigma Xi, hosted an hour-long lecture presented by Dr. Diandra Leslie-Pelecky about the physics of NASCAR on March 24 in the Gold Rooms.

Leslie-Pelecky is a physicist who earned her Ph.D. from Michigan State University and is now a professor of physics at West Virginia University.

While she previously researched medical technologies, her work has recently focused on studying the physics of motor sports, particularly NASCAR.

Leslie-Pelecky was first captivated by NASCAR and its underlying physics components when she came across it purely by happenstance.

While watching a race and seeing a car spin out and crash for no apparent reason, her physics intrigue was sparked, and she had to find out why.

She went on to write a book titled "The Physics of NASCAR: The Science Behind the Speed." The book discusses the complexity of racing stock cars, a sport, she was able to witness



Robert Jappaya / The Oakland Post  
Diandra Leslie-Pelecky spoke to students about her book, "The Physics of NASCAR: The Science Behind the Speed."

through behind-the-scenes access to drivers, tracks and garages around the NASCAR circuit. Leslie-Pelecky makes regular appearances on the SiriusXM radio station "Speedway", touching on topics related to her book, and also travels the country speaking to college campuses.

By speaking on such a relatable subject, she hopes to spawn an interest in physics as it applies to everyday life.

"Science is fun," she said. "This is all the stuff I'm supposed to be teaching my Intro to Physics class, but it's so much

more interesting at 200 miles per hour."

Andrew Charles Evanch is a former OU student who is returning to school next fall as a sophomore after serving eight years in the Navy.

Evanch is just one example of a student who's taking an interest in the field because of the identifiable nature of Leslie-Pelecky's lecture.

"I'm thinking about studying business and engineering," Evanch said. "Physics isn't interesting until it becomes relevant. When you're talking about driv-

ing a car, it seems so relatable."

Leslie-Pelecky would like to remain involved in a similar area, but she may write a book on the subject of speed in general, and why the need for speed fuels so many drivers.

"There are people right now in the United States and England that are trying to break the land speed record that has stood for nearly 30 years," she said. "I'm interested in the physical, physiological and psychological obstacles that a driver faces."

Contact Staff Reporter Adam Kujawski at [ajkujaws@oakland.edu](mailto:ajkujaws@oakland.edu)

## Assistant coaches announce departure

Adam Kujawski  
Staff Reporter

**T**wo assistant coaches of the Oakland University women's basketball team said their goodbyes on social media over the weekend.

Lindsay Scarlatelli stated on March 21 via her personal Facebook account that her "contract was not renewed by Oakland today."

Lester Harbin posted to his Twitter account the same day alluding to his departure from the team. "It's been real OU WBB team and thanks for two great years!"

As of Tuesday, March 25, both coaches were still listed on the staff directory of the official Oakland athletics website. OU has yet to release a statement on the matter. When reached for information, both the OU athletic department and communications department officials declined to comment on the departures.

Harbin had been an assistant coach with the Grizzlies for the past two seasons, serving under previous head coach Beckie Francis, while Scarlatelli spent her lone season with Jeff Tungate at the helm.

# Athletic trainers: the unsung heroes

*Oakland athletic trainers provide student-athletes with the care and treatment needed for success*

Adam Kujawski  
Staff Reporter

**T**he constant grind of a season goes beyond what is seen on the court or field. Practices, games, traveling and working out can take a tremendous toll on an athlete's body, which makes rehabbing a behind-the-scenes staple in the routine of every athlete.

Without an athletic trainer, an athlete's performance and abilities would be severely hindered. The job of Oakland University's trainers is to give proper attention to athletes, make themselves available at times of need and prepare them for game day.

Associate Athletic Trainer Claire Coates serves the women's basketball and tennis teams, as well as the men's soccer team. Not only is she in the training room regularly, she often spends time on the sidelines to aid in the response time for any critical injuries that may occur.

"We're here before and after practice applying heat packs, taping and checking on injuries from the day before," Coates said. "We've got our eyes on the field at all times, seeing the athletes through a set of 'safety goggles.'"

When an athlete's livelihood is at stake, it is imperative that the training facilities are as satisfactory as possible. Tom Ford, an OU Associate Athletic Trainer,

has been on staff since 1987 and was integral in designing the training room at Oakland. Both he and Coates, who started just last year, are pleased with the facilities Oakland has to offer.

"For a mid-major, Oakland is definitely of par with other institutions," Coates said. "From what I've heard, this is the strongest our sports medicine program has ever been."

In the future they both hope to see an expansion of the facilities. Coates sees athletes as a "complete package" and would like to see sports nutrition approached the same way as mental health and physical fitness, while Ford views staffing as an area he'd like to see

improvement.

"We're competing for the same athletes the other schools are, it's important we're constantly updating the facilities," he said. "I have a vision of more expansion, particularly more supporting staff."

The demanding job of an athletic trainer is often underappreciated by those outside the athletic department. Constant contact with athletes is vital, and while the NCAA has rules in place dictating how much a team can practice, it does not apply to medical care.

"Anything we can do to better serve the athlete," Ford said.



# Life

## Sleuthing students solve long-ago criminal cases



Kailee Mathias / The Oakland Post

Kasandra Gallher, Lina Li and Abbas Albasha read the Top Secret clue to solve the mystery.

### Oakland University Writing Center hosts Murder Mystery Night

Kailee Mathias  
Staff Reporter

Nelli Keyhoe's remains were found in a milk cart. Now, the question is: who did it?

Murder Mystery Night, hosted by the Oakland University Writing Center, invited students to crack this case, along with three others. The cases were true mysteries at Oakland or in Michigan.

"We thought it would be fun to go through the library and associate our murder mystery with reading and writing," said Ashley Cerku, operations coordinator for the Writing Center.

Attendees, split into four groups, investigated the different cases. Clues to each case were hidden throughout Kresge Library.

Kasandra Gallagher, English as a second language (ESL) lecturer, brought her academic communicating class to the event.

"It's a great, fun way for them to learn how to use the library better," Gallagher said.

One case was that of the Bath School Bombing.

Andrew Keyhoe was a treasurer of an elementary school in Bath. The school was going to build a new school, which



Kailee Mathias / The Oakland Post

Kasandra Gallher, Lina Li and Abbas Albasha track down the clues.

upset Keyhoe because it would increase his property taxes. The school was built, however, and Keyhoe planted dynamite in the basement, blowing up the school and killing 45.

Keyhoe then called the superintendent over to chat and got out of the car to shoot a keg of dynamite, blowing up himself, the superintendent and two bystanders. Keyhoe also blew up his farm and house.

The police then went to search for his wife, Nellie Keyhoe.

Two officers noticed a pile of burnt jewelry in a milk cart. This is where they found the remains of Nellie. After examination police discovered Keyhoe hit her over the head, killing her, after which he proceeded to burn her and her valuables.

Students said they enjoyed learning and solving the cases.

"I wasn't a history major - I was an English and writing double major - but I always liked history," Cerku said. "It was fun researching this."

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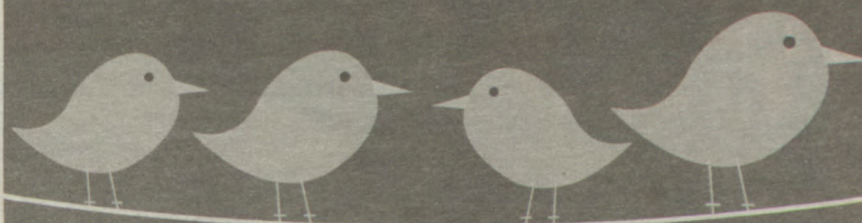
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# 'They say it's your birthday'

WXOU celebrates 48 years of broadcast magic

Sam Schlenner  
Staff Intern

**T**hey belt out an a capella. He waves her off. "Stop. Stop." "What? I thought that was pretty good." "Ko Ko, you have low standards." "Well, you married me."

The Hard Lessons was just one of four local bands that rocked the WXOU Birthday Bash Monday night. Along with Pines, The Hounds Below and Retro Specs, they played a free show at the Oakland Center to a crowd of about a hundred as the radio station turned 48.

WXOU has won College Radio Station of the Year from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters the past three years.

The night started at 7 p.m. First up was The reverb-drenched sound of Pines. Vocalist Sam Boyhtari and guitarist Logan Gaval filled the room with soaring harmonies for a half hour.

Next was The Hounds Below, featuring frontman Jason Stollsteimer, former vocalist and guitarist for The

Von Bondies.

Then the cake arrived. WXOU's general manager Patrick Cymbalski showed it off on stage as a trophy.

"Patrick, what flavor do you think this cake is?" someone asked.

"Delicious," he said.

Up next was Retro Specs, who won WXOU's Birthday Band Battle for the gig.

"We skipped school to be here today," vocalist and guitarist Ian Ruhala said as he took the stage.

During their tight, loud, jazzy set, drummer Kanon Hulbert dropped a stick and resorted to smacking the crash cymbal with his left hand.

The band stopped in the middle of their set to sing "Happy Birthday" to WXOU with the crowd.

"Join a band. Make music. Have friends. Have fun," said Ruhala as the band closed their set.

Augie Visocchi of The Hard Lessons played and sang with his head held high and a wry smile, making the stage his playground.

Korin Louise Visocchi, his wife, who



Sam Schlenner / The Oakland Post

Pines opens the 48th WXOU Birthday Bash in the Oakland Center.

he introduced as Mrs. Ko Ko Louise, sang with acute bluesy power and played the keyboards in a beat up case while she stomped the stage with 4-inch stiletto heels.

"I will personally write a letter to your professor," Visocchi said as he toyed with the crowd between songs, asking if anyone had an 8 a.m. class.

The band even stopped so Ko Ko could take a picture of Visocchi with the audience. The crowd happily obliged.

Visocchi and Ko Ko ended the set

with a duet in the crowd. The crowd, who was so keen to dance a song ago, simply stood still and watched.

WXOU is funded by tuition dollars, so the student body paid for the free show. Hunter thought the night was a success.

"It may not be as luxurious as we thought it would be; there might be two people or a hundred, but we put on the same show for everybody."

Go to [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com) to read the full Birthday Bash story.

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## Focus as clear as glass

*Students of School of Business Administration create Google Glass apps for April competition*



Robert Jappaya / The Oakland Post

Arnaud Crowther, Ziyad Al-Obaidi and Shaun Wassell, also known as the Vizion Team.

**Michael Pulis**  
Staff Intern

**O**akland University's School of Business Administration is currently holding a competition among students to develop apps for the Google Glass platform, organized by Amy Rutledge, special instructor of management information systems.

According to the school's website, the competition is split into two phases: the first, known as the business case, involves conceptualizing the app; the second, the proof of concept, requires the app to be developed through the Glass Development Kit.

The competition commenced on Monday, Feb. 10, and the first phase concluded on Friday, March 7. The second phase will end on Friday, March 28, with the winners being formally announced on Friday, April 18.

With approximately 19 teams composed of more than 40 students, the final projects will be judged by OUI INC, according to the website. Finalists will be designated by phases, with the winners of phase one receiving \$500, the champions of phase two receiving \$2500, and the runner-ups receiving \$1000.

Since Google Glass has yet to officially release to the general public, Oakland University only has one pair of Google Glasses on which students can test their apps. Due to this, teams must develop using emulators running at API 15 (Ice Cream Sandwich) or lower for their final products to run properly on Google Glass.

Computer and electrical engineering major Ziyad Al-Obaidi, however, has his own pair of Google Glasses and decided to participate in the com-

petition as well. Along with computer science major Shaun Wassell and information technology major Arnaud Crowther, the three have dubbed themselves the Vizion Team.

Working on a musical app titled "Anthem," the team aims to streamline music practice. Anthem plans to incorporate myriad concepts, ranging from guitar and piano lessons to metronomes, voice warmups, and more. Their website, vizorteam.com, consolidates a simplistic design with colorful backgrounds to entice the viewer.

"With our website, we went the path of transparency," Al-Obaidi said, referring to the concept of Google Glass being a transparent device.

The Vizion Team has goals that reach further than the end of this competition, however.

"This contest brought us together - we hadn't worked together before, we formed a pretty reliable team, and we're focusing now on starting a company together," Crowther said.

Whether or not Anthem wins the competition holds little significance to the Vizion Team's future prospects. Al-Obaidi, Crowther and Wassell said they plan to transform Anthem into a full-fledged project, adding multiple language options and eventually releasing it onto not only the Google Glass marketplace, but onto Android and iPhone app stores as well.

All three developers said that their favorite aspect of the contest was the integration between business and engineering schools.

"It's really good for the business school, and it's bringing together the business school students and the computer science students," Crowther said.

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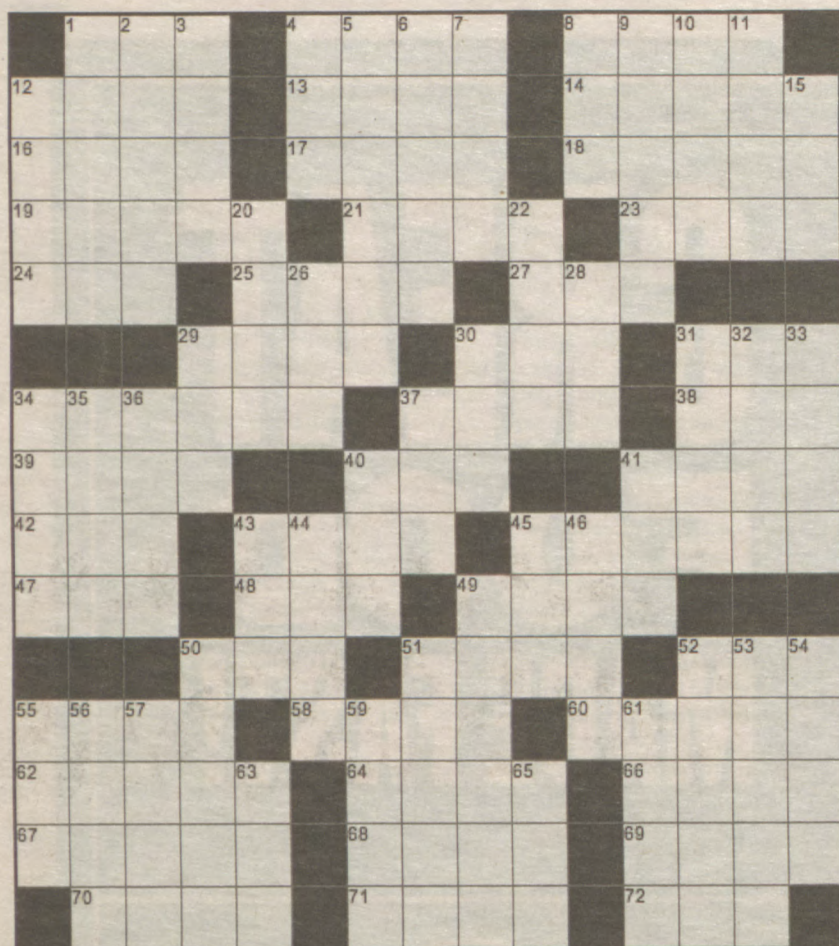
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# Puzzles



## Across

1. Rm. coolers
4. \_\_\_ facto
8. Word on an octagon
12. Go postal
13. Cistercian, e.g.
14. Type of bond or order
16. Take pleasure in
17. Like Richard and Yorick?
18. Bring the food
19. Campaign poster plea
21. Put ammo into
23. Blue fish in 'Finding Nemo'
24. Tie the knot
25. Assist larcenously
27. Surgery sites, briefly
29. Tickled pink
30. 'Whew!'
31. Hardly hale
34. More pretentious
37. The death of the party?
38. Fade away
39. City name ending?
40. Brown paper container
41. Cooped (up)
42. Employ
43. Fossey's focus
45. Balanced states
47. 'Friendly' pronoun
48. Schlep
49. Crucifix

## Down

50. Wager
51. Destiny
52. Preserves preserver
55. Prospector's bonanza
58. Tiff
60. Germ cell
62. Helps with the heist
64. LSD, informally
66. Communally owned
67. Obsolete repro
68. In \_\_\_ (unmoved)
69. Frequent Las Vegas money taker
70. Listened to the bears
71. Miffed, with 'off'
72. Shape with cutting blows

## Down

1. Old-womanish
2. Hardened
3. What some writers work on
4. Troublemaker
5. Combined
6. High-hatter
7. Gumbo vegetable
8. Attack word
9. Natterjacks, e.g.
10. Not fooled by
11. Cruise ship terminal
12. Did in, old-style
15. Blubber
20. Story by Chaucer
22. One way out
26. Block passage through
28. 'The Catcher in the \_\_\_'
29. Concert
30. Peaty place
31. Roman date
32. Pat response
33. 'Shall we?' response
34. Share a border with
35. Hurried activity
36. Deuce topper
37. \_\_\_-relief
40. Solicit alms
41. Goalie's protection
43. Tap output
44. Positions
45. Barfly
46. Corn-growing regions
49. Ostrich or emu
50. Kind of nut in 'South Pacific'
51. Prima
52. Unit of work or energy
53. It shows the way
54. Unused portion
55. Flight from justice
56. Geishas' sashes
57. Test-driver's car
59. Days gone by
61. Fancy-schmancy
63. Divot material
65. Bomb that's a bomb

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1

Kailee Mathias / The Oakland Post

# Spend a little time with me

*Sweet Charity tells the story of a woman on a quest for love*

**Andrew Wernette**  
Staff Reporter

The musical "Sweet Charity" has met considerable success in its introduction by the Music, Theatre and Dance Department at Oakland University. Junior Jaclene Wilk plays the title character, Charity Hope Valentine, and the production is being directed by Anthony Guest.

The musical follows Charity as she looks beyond her life as a ballroom dancer in New York City for a shot at true love. Good music and crafty effects abound as the tale unfolds before the audience's eyes.

The production is being held in the Varner Studio Theatre until Sunday, March 30. For dates and times visit [oakland.edu/mttd](http://oakland.edu/mttd).

**1.** Wilk belts it out with her fellow cast members. The musical includes hit songs such as "Hey, Big Spender" and "If My Friends Could See Me Now."

**2.** The character Charity hopes to impress one of her loves while on his luxurious bed. The musical takes her through many scenes in her search for love.

**3.** The cast sings full-volume towards the audience. The voices were supreme, accompanied by live music being played by a band in the background.

**4.** Charity hides herself away in a makeshift closet and looks on sullenly as one of her love-hopefuls neglects her to woo another woman. The musical puts Charity in many comical situations.



2



3



4



SATIRE

## Not your momma's breakfast burrito

Brian Figurski  
Copy Editor/Breakfast Lover

Usually I try not to get lit in the morning. I find that cracking open a bottle is like opening a can of Pringles – once you pop, you literally cannot stop until you pass out in a fireball of vomit. Or whatever the slogan is.

But I'm going to have to if I want to experience this new "revolutionary" Taco Bell breakfast menu. The hacienda doors to the general overweight public March 27. I can only hope this means they'll start serving liquor before noon, too.

Taco Bell's gut-wrenching sacrifices include a slew of "traditional" Breakfast Burritos, the A.M. Crunchwrap, sugar-coated, sugar-filled puffballs Cinnabon Delights and the ambivalent Waffle Taco, a heinous creation from the mind of some monster that defies the laws of God.

These on-the-go breakfast items will require lining the highways with port-a-johns for the miserable morning commuters with bad instinct.

The thing that really irks me the most isn't that this is happening – Taco Bell is an exploding fast-food restaurant for better or worse and like all companies trying to net a bigger income off the 99 percent, they'll chase any marketing opportunity unturned. But what the Hell do any of these things have to do with south of the border cuisine?

Like the rest of the menu, nothing. It's not really Mexican food. The definition of taco is pretty vague, but its only real component is the tortilla. Taco Bell can wrap dog biscuits in a flour tortilla and call it a taco.

So how is a waffle shell a taco? It's a stereotypical reference to one of our favorite finger foods. But then again, the American idea of other



Tim Pontzer / The Oakland Post  
Brian Figurski penetrates a hard shell taco from Taco Bell before shoving it in his face.

cultures is a projected image of stereotypes in and of itself.

And I'm not sure when or why the rest of you consume the guilty pleasures of Taco Bell, but I exclusively devour it in alcohol-induced rampages, so any Crunchwrap is an A.M. Crunchwrap. I feel bad for the people who are going to ingest this nonsense, but I've been on both sides of the counter in my life, and I truly pain for the

employees. Not only are they going to have to deal with an exponential amount of non-lucid patrons stinking of Patrón, but in order to meet the needs of the meek and hungry, Taco Bell is now opening at 7 a.m., three hours above the old regimen.

Now I have never worked for Taco Bell. Maybe they differ from other fast food joints. Maybe they offer stock options to their employees. Maybe they have attendants in the employee laboratories offering free hand drying and mints. Maybe the experience is vastly different than my stint in food service.

But I doubt workers get any more respect from mouth-wise customers than any other eatery. Now they too must endure the bitterness of people lacking their caffeinated consciousness, that will surely lash out over a soggy waffle.

But what do you expect? It's fast food. Breakfast is going to be the same as lunch or dinner or fourth meal and you are using your stomach as an experimental garbage disposal unit. Best of luck to the endeavors of taco fiends. I hope you find whatever it is your looking for, and perhaps a shot or two spiked in your cups.

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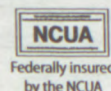
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