

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

JUNE

1

— 2016 —

## EXPLORING THE REAL WORLD

MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE STUDENTS  
PERFORM "ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO"  
ON CAMPUS DURING THE SUMMER

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Photo by Abigail Zmikly / The Oakland Post

### WAGE CHANGE.

Student-employee minimum  
wages raise effective Aug. 29

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### REC WELL.

Department of Campus Recreation  
changes name for healthier campus

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### SUMMER FUN.

Previews of festive events  
around Metro Detroit

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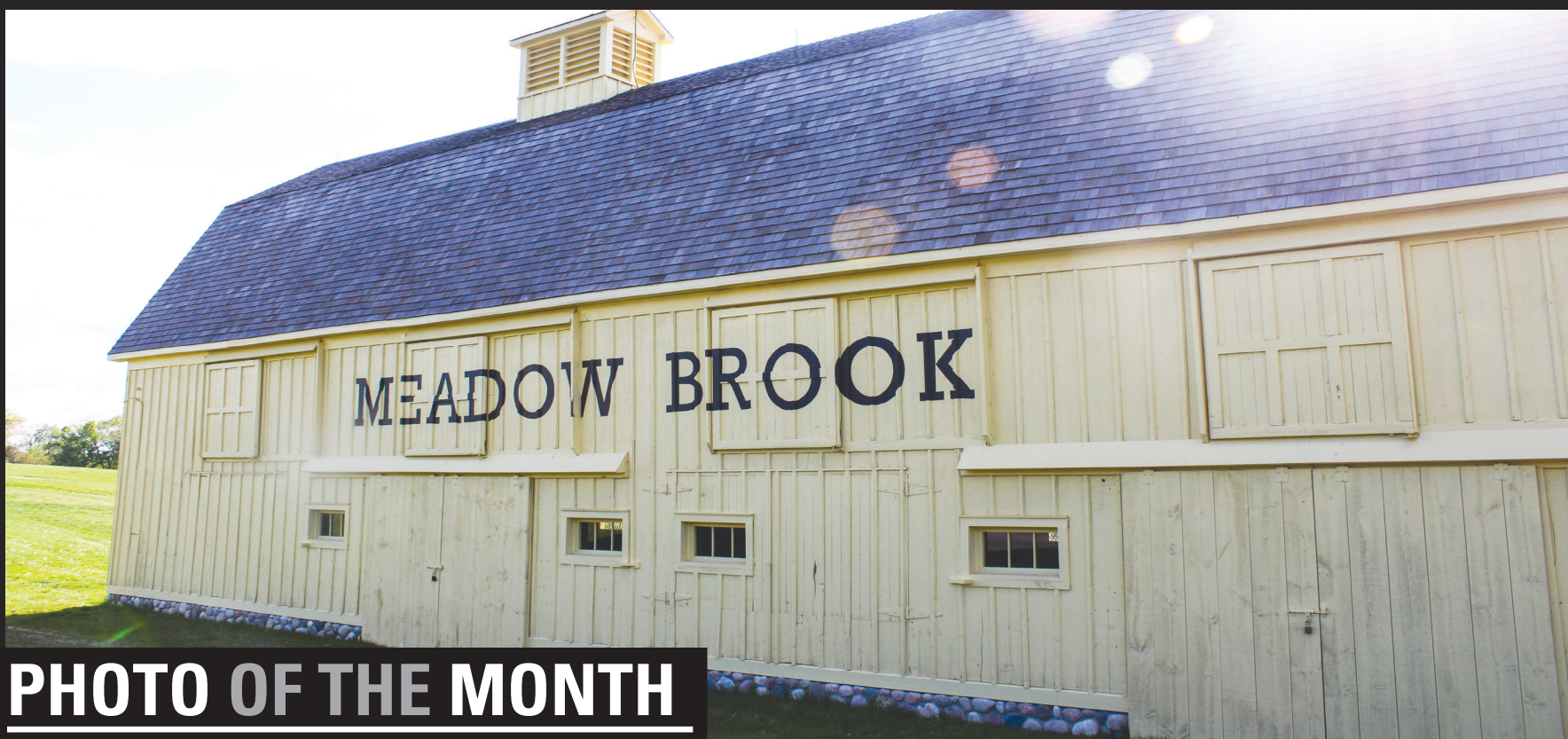
# thismonth

June 1, 2016 // Volume 41. Issue 28



## ontheweb

Check out our “DIA Exhibit Performance” Facebook photo album, which documents a live dance event shown alongside the “Dance! American Art 1830-1960” exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Art. Photos by Thomas Massa. [www.facebook.com/theoakpost](http://www.facebook.com/theoakpost)



## PHOTO OF THE MONTH

**RENOVATED MEADOW BROOK NORTH BARN WINS BARN OF THE YEAR** // Throughout 2014 and 2015, OU Facilities Management oversaw the renovation of the 100-year-old barn, which was awarded 2016 Barn of the Year by the Michigan Barn Preservation Network in the Non-Profit Agricultural or Adaptive Use category. Renovations included a new foundation, new shingles and a fresh coat of yellow paint. *MARY MITCHELL // The Oakland Post*

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



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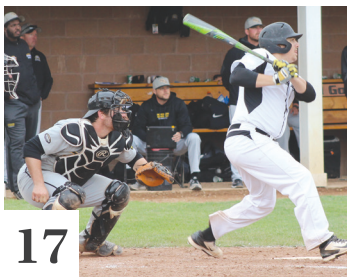
Director of the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development discusses her roles and goals on-campus as part of the Walks with Campus Leaders series.



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### MEET THE MASCOT: THE GRIZZ

A behind-the-scenes look at the spirit of the Golden Grizzlies and the double life of a mascot. Get to know the man behind the mask.



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### BASEBALL FINISHES FIFTH

Oakland loses 10-9 against University of Illinois at Chicago, ending the season 23-27 overall and 11-14 in conference play.

## POLL OF THE MONTH

How has your summer been going so far?

- A** What summer? I'm still in classes and working. Summer break is for high schoolers.
- B** My air conditioner is broken and I have decided that I am running away to Alaska.
- C** Netflix binges until 4 a.m. and crying over fictional characters.
- D** I'm still trying to understand how it snowed in May.

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

## BY THE NUMBERS

Vacation stats

\$271

the average cost per day of an international vacation

284

average miles traveled on vacation

44%

travel expenses spent on transportation

\$62,500

average household income of those who travel for leisure

From ValuePenguin “Average Cost of a Vacation” and Statistic Brain “Summer Vacation Travel Statistics”



# Looking Back: Digging through The Oakland Post archives

**Cheyenne Kramer & Paige Brockway**  
Web Editor, Editor-in Chief

This summer, The Oakland Post is cleaning up its newsroom, a process that involves physically archiving 57 years of news coverage. Over the years, the Post has gone by many names. We published our first issue in 1959 as The Oakland Observer and later called ourselves The Observer, The Oakland Sail and finally The Oakland Post in the fall of 1987. In documenting the news revolving around Oakland University, we have also documented its history.

Throughout the process of organizing the piles of papers (and junk) that has been growing since any current employees can remember, we've dug up some pretty interesting coverage from the past. Here are some summer stories from back in the day.

## June 17, 1992

After months of debate, it was decided that the bookstore in the basement of the Oakland Center would be controlled by Barnes & Noble. The Board of Trustees approved the measure during a meeting on June 10, 1992, and said that the arrangement would last for a minimum of five years. Before this partnership, Oakland University owned the bookstore. The reason for the change? It would lead to better customer satisfaction and to a \$1.8 million-dollar lease. In addition, all seven full-time employees would be able to keep their jobs with equal or better pay from Barnes & Noble, as the salary scales fit into OU's pay scales. Today, Barnes & Noble remains in the basement of the Oakland Center and sells student apparel, textbooks, and electronics. Students can even now buy laptops without leaving campus.

## June 15, 2005

OU added a track program in the fall of 2005, making the fall 2016 season the track team's 11th season in play. OU went right into the program as a Division I team in the Mid-Continent Conference. The plan at the time was to increase the roster of runners up to 80-100 players.

In the 2016 season, there were 31 men and 54 women on the track team's roster. This school year saw the men's team coming home with a Horizon League Championship. Furthermore, four Golden Grizzlies runners just qualified for the NCAA East Preliminary Round.

The track and field season starts in December. More information about the schedule and more sports-related news can be found at [goldengrizzlies.com](http://goldengrizzlies.com).

## May 11, 2011

Oakland Post Managing Editor Nichole Seguin ran an opinion piece on the lack of Moodle engagement on the part of OU professors. She said, in part, "grades shouldn't be a secret; they should be visible at all times." She went on further, asking the reader, "How are professors, who have earned Ph.D.s, getting hired without even basic Internet proficiency?"

Last summer, current Managing Editor Grace Turner wrote a story on how Moodle was still being misused. There is no formal requirement saying that professors need to take a training course on Moodle, though they are provided for free. In addition, if a professor takes an optional class about quality online teaching and then teach an online class within a year, they can receive \$1,000.

Today at OU, there are workshops that professors can attend in order to better utilize Moodle in the classroom. Starting on August 9, 2016, a three-day workshop will be held in 430 Kresge and online. The program is designed for "intermediate Moodle users" and will have a variety of hands-on examples. More information about the program can be found at the calendar page on [www.oakland.edu](http://www.oakland.edu).



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

## Corrections Corner

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center, 312 Meadow Brook Road, Rochester, MI 48309.



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# Campus

# Introducing OUWB's graduates

**Grace Turner**  
Managing Editor

**O**akland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB) graduated its second class this May. Three graduates shared their journeys.

## Woody Sams

When Woody Sams, 34, was a paramedic, he wanted to do more for his patients.

On May 13, he graduated with hopes to become an emergency department physician.

After working as a corrections officer and firefighter paramedic in Ohio, he moved to Alaska to become a Navy flight paramedic. The job took him to California, where he completed his undergraduate degree with the support of his wife.

Sams' first impression of OUWB was that of a caring and supportive environment.

"You could tell it was a genuine interest in the students," he said.

That interest continued throughout his time in the program, which was necessary, Sams said. He compared the medical school to a family that was supportive through countless hours of study.

"The attitude of everybody there is just encouraging," he said.

Sams was nominated and elected by his classmates to make the student speech at the commencement ceremony. His speech focused on the gratitude he feels toward OUWB.

Next, he will complete a four-year residency at the University of Michigan and study emergency medicine. He will be able to commute to U of M without uprooting his wife and three children.

## Joe Vercellone

Joe Vercellone, 47, studied film and television production at New York University after high school.

Almost 20 years and a family later, he started taking math and science night classes at OU and quit his job in 2011. He has three sons, aged 16, 14 and 11. Because they're older, Vercellone could do his homework alongside them.

His wife has been supportive through all the changes.

The family feel of OUWB stuck out for Vercellone. He said the faculty and dean knew students by name.

Vercellone finally feels "fulfilled yet terrified," he said with a laugh. "This is going to be a wonderful adventure."



*Photos courtesy of Oakland University*



Woody Sams, Joe Vercellone and Raymond Yeow are three of this year's 68 OUWB graduates.

He added that people should pursue their dreams no matter their age.

"It will work out if you put the energy and time into it," he said.

Vercellone will complete a three-year residency in internal medicine at Beaumont Hospital. He hopes to eventually do academic attending, which would allow him to help educate future residents and medical students when they come to a hospital. He's also interested in teaching, preferably at OU.

## Raymond Yeow

Raymond Yeow, 25, knew he wanted to be a doctor as early as middle school.

He often heard about his aunt and uncle, who practiced medicine in Malaysia, and was drawn to the sciences in high school. He also wanted to practice a profession that helped people.

During his time at OUWB, Yeow had meaningful interactions with patients at Beaumont. He volunteered to give diagnostic screening tests to community members and met a man who hadn't seen a doctor in over 30 years. He helped the man find a physician to treat his high cholesterol for free.

Yeow also got to know a woman in the hospital. She called him after she was released to let him know that her health concerns had been resolved.

"Sometimes patients just want to be heard," Yeow said. He is happy that he could listen.

Yeow received his undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State University and like the small class size. He was happy to find a similar atmosphere at OUWB. His classmates were also very supportive, Yeow said.

"No matter what, we go through as a single unit," he said.

Yeow is going to study internal medicine in a three-year residency program at the University of Michigan.

## OUWB graduating class statistics

Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine graduated its second class on May 13. Here are some quick statistics about the group, according to Oakland University Communications and Marketing:

- 75 students admitted out of 3,751 applicants
- 68 graduated
- Students had undergraduate degrees in 12 areas of study, in everything from biology and health sciences to film and television and French studies
- Students came from 44 different college campuses across the United States. One student went to college in Canada
- Students came from 16 different states
- 53 percent of students were male, 47 percent were female
- Ages of students ranged from 21-47

The commencement began in the O'Rena at 2 p.m. and included a keynote address by Deirdre Waterman, mayor of Pontiac. Waterman is also an ophthalmologist. Woody Sams gave the student speech and Melissa Bayci was the alumni speaker.

For more information, check out the OUWB homepage at [oakland.edu/medicine/](http://oakland.edu/medicine/).

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# Student-employee minimum wage increases

Paige Brockway  
Editor-in-Chief

"Effective August 29, all current Oakland University student employee minimum wage pay rates will increase from \$8.50 to \$9.25 per hour," Director of Financial Aid Cindy Hermesen wrote in an email to students on May 16.

This decision comes on the heels of an announcement that maximum student-employee hours are being cut from 25 hours to 20 hours during the fall and winter semesters, in order to comply with the Affordable Care Act.

The Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) worked with administration to actively push for the minimum wage increase, which Student Body President Zack Thomas hopes will offset the issues caused by the maximum hour cut.

"Although we could not legally change it back to 25 hours because of the ACA, we still are able to get the money back in the form of a wage increase," Thomas said.

The state of Michigan requires that student-employee minimum wage be raised to \$8.90 per hour in January 2017 and \$9.25 per hour in January 2018. As Hermesen pointed out in her email, "Oakland University is advancing to the \$9.25 per hour rate approximately 16 months earlier than required by the state."

"Our thinking was that we'd help students be able to plan and afford the cost of attendance at Oakland. Listening to students, particularly representatives from student congress Zack [Thomas] and Anders [Engnell], we thought it would be in the best interest of the students to move it forward," said Glenn McIntosh, vice president of the Division of Student Affairs.

As pointed out by Thomas

## *Wage increase to \$9.25 per hour follows announcement of maximum hour cut*

in a post on the OUSC Facebook Page, another important part of the deal is that university departments compensating their employees at the minimum wage will receive increased labor budgets, meaning that employment levels will not be affected.

Thomas said the decision was handed down from President George Hynd, but McIntosh was also a key player in the decision to raise the student minimum wage.

"My role is to really listen to students and to be there for them and to advocate for student needs – and wants," McIntosh said.

**"[Student congress] pushed and were relentless in making sure that we explored every option possible on this issue."**

Glenn McIntosh,  
Division of Student Affairs

The discussion between the OUSC and OU administrators has been going on since the maximum hour cut was announced at the end of March. Thomas said the OUSC pushed for several different resolutions to the cut, and the increased minimum wage ended up being the best solution.

"It took talking to the right people consistently, persistently," Thomas said.

Administrators including Hermesen, Payroll Manager George Leaver, Director of Budget and Financial Planning Michele Knox and As-

sistant Vice President of University Human Resources Ron Watson attended OUSC general body meetings in April and May, where concerns were voiced regarding the OUSC's desire to be more involved in decisions that impact students.

"Over the course of time, as administrators, we learn from students," McIntosh said. "So, when we get into those types of forums, we listen, we extract information from students, we listen to them to see if they have alternative thoughts on policies, procedures, programs and services. Then, we take that information back to our colleagues and we try to come up with an effective approach to address any issues."

McIntosh said he hopes that the resolution to raise the student-employee minimum wage is the "kick-off" for better future collaboration between students and faculty.

"I would say through this ordeal that our student body should feel confident that they have competent leadership in student congress this year because they pushed and were relentless in making sure that we explored every option possible on this issue," McIntosh said.

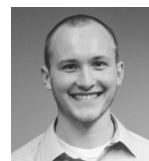
Questions or concerns regarding the minimum wage increase can be directed to the Student Financial Services office at (248) 270-2550 or [finservices@oakland.edu](mailto:finservices@oakland.edu). Students are also welcome to visit the OUSC office at 62 Oakland Center or email [ousc@oakland.edu](mailto:ousc@oakland.edu).

The next OUSC general body meeting will be held June 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, 49 Oakland Center.

## EDITORIAL

# President's Report

Hello there, my fellow OU students! Throughout this upcoming year, I will be communicating the initiatives, projects and services that your representatives at Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) are working on, as well as important OU updates through President's Report articles like this. I look forward to fostering many important dialogues with OU students, staff and faculty in an open, friendly and transparent manner through these articles!



**ZACK THOMAS**  
student body president

So then, let's get down to business with some important OU updates:

From April to May, so far, plenty has happened. When Anders Engnell, your vice president, and I took office, we became aware of impending student-employment changes due to changes in federal law. Immediately after becoming aware of the return to OU's established student-employment policy, which is a maxi-

mum of 20 hours per week for on-campus jobs during the fall and winter, and of 40 hours per week in the summer, I brought the impending changes to the attention of our student congress at a public meeting.

We were then, as an organization, keen and persistent on making sure the money that would be lost be returned to the students in some way, shape or form. We met with dozens of administrators and had several speak at our general body meetings.

I was eventually able to sit down with key administrators like Glenn McIntosh and George Hynd to together resolve the situation by increasing the University minimum wage from \$8.50 to \$9.25, well above the state minimum.

I could not be prouder, to speak on behalf of Student Congress, to have worked with administration to successfully represent the students on this issue!

Despite our recent success, Student Congress is continuing to work hard on additional projects over the summer; these include pushing a Tuition Equality policy that provides in-state tuition rates for DACA immigrants that have resided in Michigan for at least three years, working to update accessibility on-campus, ensuring our security poles are up-to-date and providing a free voter registration service ([oakland.turbovote.org](http://oakland.turbovote.org)) at New Student Orientations! Stay tuned for more progress to come!

As your Student Body President, I look forward to working with OU administration to continue to advance student interests this year. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact us at [ousc@oakland.edu](mailto:ousc@oakland.edu), or stop by at our office in the basement of the Oakland Center to chat!

*Zack Thomas is Oakland University's student body president for the 2016-2017 school year. He can be reached at [ousc@oakland.edu](mailto:ousc@oakland.edu).*



# New School of Nursing dean announced

**Grace Turner**  
Managing Editor

**O**akland University announced a new dean of the School of Nursing. The decision is waiting final approval by the Board of Trustees.

Judy Didion, current dean of the College of Nursing at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio, accepted the position and will officially start at OU on July 25.

Didion was hired after a national search drew a pool of about a dozen candidates, said Jon Margerum-Leys, chair of the search committee and dean of the School of Education and Human Services.

The 16-person committee was made up of students, staff and administration from the School of Nursing. The committee looked for someone who is active in the nursing profession and has teaching and administrative experience.

Margerum-Leys said all of the candidates were highly qualified, so it was a Skype interview and visit to campus that set Didion apart.

"She really connected well with faculty and staff and students," he said, adding that a dean is a "middle job." Deans have to work with everyone from faculty to the president and provost.

Margerum-Leys is confident in the committee's choice.

"She'll do great things," he said.

Didion is a registered nurse in Michigan and Ohio and has work published in peer-reviewed publications.

She met OU School of Nursing faculty members at a nursing conference, and they told her people love teaching at OU.

"If faculty feel that way about each other, I think it also trickles down to students," she said.

Non-competitive working environments like the one OU's faculty described are necessary in healthcare, Didion said. If healthcare professionals treat each other with respect, they will treat their patients with respect.

Didion also likes that OU students have opportunities to get involved in the community.

Didion said that once she starts, she wants to introduce resources at OU to increase diversity in the nursing field. She plans to do this by accommodating the specific individual needs of different students. For example, she talked about helping international students with both English and healthcare jargon and including them in social activities.

Didion's first step is to get to know more faculty and students at OU, she said.

She will move to Michigan soon.

"It's important for me to be close to the college and be accessible," she said.

She's looking forward to her time at OU.

"The more I learn about it, the more excited I get," she said.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

The School of Health Sciences is searching for a dean and the School of Nursing recently announced Judy Didion as its new dean.

# School of Health Sciences dean candidates breakdown

**Sarah Lawrence**  
Staff Reporter

**I**n preparation for the upcoming year, the Oakland University School of Health Sciences (SHS) began its search for a new dean with a series of open interview presentations with each of the prospective dean candidates. These sessions focused on each candidate's "vision" for the SHS, and were held in Lake Superior A in the OC. These were open to all OU students, faculty, staff and members of the university community.

The series began on Monday, April 25 with Dr. Barry Franklin. Dr. Wayne Miller presented on April 26. Next was Dr. Mark Williams on May 2 and finally Dr. Kevin Ball presented on May 3.

## Barry Franklin

■ Currently Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation at Beaumont Hospital and a professor at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

■ Bachelor of Science from Kent State University with a major in Health and Physical Education and minor in Psychology, master's degree is from the University of Michigan in Health and Physical Education with an emphasis in Applied Physiology, doctorate from Pennsylvania State University as a Physiology major with a minor in Health and Physical Education.

■ Presentation focused on his hope to implement health and wellness initiatives in the SHS, university community and beyond. "Health is our greatest wealth," he said. "We must strive to create strategies for greater success and make advancements in the School of

## Health Sciences."

## Dr. Wayne Miller

■ Currently director of the Center for Rural and Community Health and a professor of physiology and nutrition in the Biomedical Sciences Department at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

■ Bachelor's degree from Southern Utah State College and master's from Utah State University. Doctoral degree earned at Brigham Young University, followed by postdoctoral training at the University of Illinois at Chicago, studying Exercise Physiology and Nutrition Science.

■ Spoke about his plans to focus on the branding of the school. Miller mentioned creating partnerships with other schools in the community, international programs and with the School of Nursing and OUWB. "I want to work to extend the School of Health Sciences reach through face-to-face interaction, and as well as online programming," he said.

## Dr. Mark Williams

■ Currently the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the Florida International University's Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work. He was appointed chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management in 2011 shortly after his arrival and served as interim dean for 2013 and 2014.

■ Spent over 20 years conducting research in the fields of behavioral epidemiology, disease prevention and health promotion in underserved and minority populations.

■ Presentation was organized into four categories, each of which explained his vision to

include the characteristics and abilities that the SHS is looking for in a prospective dean. "I feel that we would need to create an environment where we may create a new level of collaborative education," he said. "An environment where faculty and staff will have the opportunity to think and discuss important questions without fear of restriction."

## Dr. Kevin Ball

■ Currently an associate professor of rehabilitation sciences at Hartford University and the founding director of the Human Performance Research Lab.

■ Completed all academic training at the University of Toronto, earning a Bachelor of Physical and Health Education in 1985, a Master of Science in Exercise Sciences in 1988 and a Doctor of Philosophy in Community Health in 1998. Ball served as the biomechanics instructor and laboratory director in the School of Physical and Health Education at the University of Toronto from 1992 to 1997.

■ Proposed a three-part plan to transform the SHS, including a central model, essential elements for various programs and departments, and an outline for an "Oakland HELPS" service, a pilot program for an institute of Health Education Leadership in Practice and Service in the university community. "The element of knowing falls within the practice and perspectives that vary between theory and practice," he said. "As medical providers, or in any situation, it's crucial to question theory before putting it into practice, yet also question practice against each theory. It's a self-check system."

**GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?**

The Oakland Post is looking for satirical scribes and comical columnists. Submit your best efforts to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) and you could get published.



# National award to Writing and Rhetoric

*Department recognized at Conference on College Composition and Communication in Houston*

**Paige Brockway**  
Editor-in-Chief

"I feel like the dad from 'A Christmas Story' when I tell people, 'It's a major award!'" said Dr. Jim Nugent, who accepted a Writing Program Certificate of Excellence on behalf of Oakland University's Writing and Rhetoric (WRT) major in April.

The WRT major was presented the award, alongside a program from Roger Williams University, at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Houston, Texas.

The award may be presented to up to 20 programs per year, but only two were selected as winners this year.

Nugent is director of the WRT major

and also teaches classes like Rhetoric of Web Design, Business Writing and Editing.

He said that OU's WRT major owes the award to its unique curriculum, dedicated faculty and favorable student-to-faculty ratio.

Unlike many university writing programs, OU's WRT department is completely independent. Most similar programs are embedded in English departments.

The WRT department is also fairly young. It opened its doors in 2008 with a curriculum developed by Nugent, Dr. Marshall Kitchens and Dr. Lori Ostergaard.

"The newness of our program is a big asset because that's what lets us have a curriculum that is innovative," Nugent

said. "We're not tied down to 'the way they've always done it.' We're not tied down to tradition."

There are currently 38 WRT majors, which allows for one-on-one faculty attention and feedback, according to Nugent. Four students graduated with degrees in WRT this April.

"It seems like people come to our major kind of late ... I think it's because they don't know that we exist and they don't know what they can do with this type of degree," Nugent said.

He described majoring or minoring in WRT as "practical," adding that the WRT department is "the place to go for non-fiction writing," where students can study writing and writing theory that isn't necessarily grounded in the literature-based study offered by the Department of English.

Also housed by the WRT department is the First-Year Writing Program, which won a Writing Program Certificate of Excellence at CCCC in 2012.

CCCC is "the world's largest professional organization for researching and teaching composition, from writing to new media," according to the conference's website.

More than 3,000 higher education faculty participate in the conference each year.

For more information about majoring or minoring in WRT, visit [www.oakland.edu/wrt/](http://www.oakland.edu/wrt/) or contact Jim Nugent at [nugent@oakland.edu](mailto:nugent@oakland.edu).

"The newness of our program is a big asset because that's what lets us have a curriculum that is innovative ... We're not tied down to tradition."

Jim Nugent  
Director of the WRT major

## Well-being emphasized with Campus Rec department name change

**Rachel Williams**  
Life Editor

The formerly named Department of Campus Recreation has begun the shift and marketing campaign for their new identity as University Recreation and Well-Being.

The name change was announced on May 1 and has been in discussion for years, according to Director Greg Jordan.

Jordan said that the name change was finalized around the first of the year and fits the department's job description better.

"We feel it is a much better descriptor of who we are and what we do. It aligns very smartly with the updated Oakland University Strategic Plan," he said.

Beyond the Recreation Center itself, the department oversees the outdoor complex, fitness programs, health assessments, specialty classes and student organizations in-

volving sports.

"It encompasses a much broader area, the entire university," Jordan said.

University Recreation and Well-Being released a statement on the name change further explaining the shift.

"In identifying the rationale for the name change, much consideration was given to what the community perceived the department as doing, and what our primary objective should be as we move forward with meeting the needs of the patron," the press release stated.

With the name change, the department is working to further continuity with the Oakland University brand.

Jordan explained that students may notice some cosmetic changes at the Recreation Center itself, such as the staff wearing black and gold shirts instead of their previous red ones.

Further renovation and expansion for the Recreation

"We feel it is a much better descriptor of who we are and what we do. It aligns very smartly with the updated Oakland University Strategic Plan."

Greg Jordan  
Director of Rec-Well

Center are still in discussion.

The department views the name change as a chance to focus on well-being beyond physical health.

"The well-being part is more of a state of being," Jordan said. "It's an action word. There are many components of well-being. We're trying to bring awareness to the various different components of well-being across the institution."

Jordan explained that the department will further collaborate with other programs and units on campus to enhance student and staff well-being in all aspects.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

The new name better represents the programs the department oversees, according to Director Greg Jordan.

"We will seek out new opportunities to work with additional areas on campus in delivering programs and opportunities that explore other dimensions [of well-being]," the press release said.

As the department continues with its new name and marketing strategy, they hope that students will assist in encouraging familiarity by referring to the unit as "Rec Well."

While the name change creates a shift, the purpose of the department remains the same.

"Our core mission continues to focus on life balance and student development," Jordan said.

For more information on the name change and OU Rec Well, visit [oakland.edu/recwell](http://oakland.edu/recwell).



## Campus

# Q&A with Jean Ann Miller: Walks with Campus Leaders

**Bohdanna Cherstylo**  
Photographer

On May 9, Jean Ann Miller led the third of six Walks with Campus Leaders scheduled for this spring. Miller is the director for the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development (CSA).

The Walks with Campus Leaders series is organized by Stephanie Willis, University Recreation and Well-Being wellness and educational outreach coordinator.

Each walk is led by a different campus leader. Previous walks have been led by Dr. Alison Hynd and Housing residence directors.

Miller discussed her role on campus, experience leading the walk and upcoming plans for the CSA.



Photo courtesy of  
Oakland University

**When it comes to your role, what would you say is a summary of what you do?**

We get the students engaged on campus, outside of the classroom. So, making sure that they're very well-rounded and really practice what they do in the classroom and getting involved on campus or being involved with a student organization is a hands-on experience.

**Why do you believe that these walks are important for our campus?**

Well, it gives you a sense of pride about what your campus is all about and how it looks and who's a part of it. Plus you're healthy, it promotes that healthy lifestyle. It is kind of best of both worlds and what better than to start at Elliott Tower, our new center point of campus.

**Do you think that these walks reach out to the students as well?**

I think that it is a really good idea. It's just a matter of availability. Today is the first day of school obviously for everybody. So, they are all going to their first classes, first day of the semester, so a lot of staff are involved with that transition.

**How do you think that students can become more involved in the walks?**

Incentives [laughs]. What would be a great incentive for them is to walk, but also maybe an incentive is who they are walking with. If they would have a key

administrator or key professor and then they can walk and talk at the same time like we did, it shows just how awesome Oakland University happens to be, how important students are, and how important it is to communicate with other people on campus.

**For the summer, what plans does the CSA have?**

For us, we have a leadership institute. That's for sophomores, juniors, seniors, grad students that want to enhance their leadership skills, especially if they're involved in a student org and meet other students from other student orgs. So, it is like a leadership camp, literally a camp. It's up in Lapeer for a whole weekend and we're doing a low ropes course and just a lot of different opportunities to talk with one another and share ideas or maybe brainstorm some new ideas. That's one thing that we are doing, and then of course we help promote the Elliott Tower concert series that they have. I haven't seen yet if they started it, but hopefully it's online. Usually it comes from the College of Arts and Sciences.

**What are you most excited for in the summer?**

Well I teach, so I'm super excited in terms of teaching Summer I and Summer II, and my first class is tomorrow night and it's a large class, and so I always get excited because I get to interact with students on a whole different perspective than just the engagement part. This is the academic side, so it's best of all worlds. I teach - you're going to laugh - Stress Management. It's under Exercise Science and it's a two-credit class where we meet on Tuesday night. But it's just really fun because it's, like I said, a different way to interact with students and I'd like to see the holistic side of students.

Upcoming Walks with Campus Leaders are listed below. All walks gather at 12:00 p.m. at the Elliott Tower.

- June 7 - University Recreation and Well-Being
- June 9 - Scott Kunselman, chief operating officer
- June 24 - Patricia Wren, program director of the Health Sciences and Applied Health Sciences Programs

## Departments to face off in employee kickball tournament

**Paige Brockway**  
Editor-in-Chief

Oakland University Recreation and Well-Being will be hosting its first annual Faculty and Staff Kickball Tournament this June.

Employees from different departments will compete in teams of 10-14 players. Multiple departments are also able to combine to form one team.

Confirmed teams include:

- First-Year Advising Center: "Kickin' It Old School"
- Division of Development and Alumni Relations: "Aspire to Kick"
- School of Health Sciences: "SHS Kickers"
- Structural: "Hammer Toe"
- Budget and Human Resources Departments: "Wilson What-chamacallits"
- Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine: "Team OUWB"

All games will be held from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., to fit into employee lunch

breaks. Round one takes place June 14 and 15, the semifinals on June 20 and the championship games on June 23.

"As part of employee well-being programs within University Recreation and Well-Being, we are really placing emphasis on getting employees up and out of their offices during the summer months," said Stephanie Willis, coordinator of wellness and educational outreach. "The goal of our programs is to encourage movement and fitness in a fun, social setting that promotes comradery among OU faculty and staff."

Players of all levels are welcome to participate. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to come watch the games, which will be played at the Recreation and Athletic Outdoor Complex.

There is still room for two more teams in the tournament, and sign-up is open at [oakland.edu/recwell](http://oakland.edu/recwell). Registration is limited to the first eight teams and has been open since May 16.

For more information about the kickball tournament, contact Stephanie Willis at [willis@oakland.edu](mailto:willis@oakland.edu) or (248) 370-4968.

## Classifieds

61 Oakland Center, 312 Meadow Brook Road  
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Thomas Massa / The Oakland Post

The memorial 5K was held on Oakland University campus Sunday, May 22 at 9:00 a.m. The race started and ended at Parking Lot 35. Participants brought their families, friends and pets to either walk, jog or run to the finish line. The path for the race was along Pioneer Drive, Meadow Brook Road and Ravine Drive.

# Memorial 5K run/walk

**Grace Turner**  
Managing Editor

A year after his tragic death, a 5K took place at OU on Sunday in memory of Perry Badia, the first pedestrian killed on campus.

On May 14, 2015, Perry was jogging along Pioneer Drive. He died shortly after a car hit him.

“He died doing what he loved so much,” said Dan Badia, Perry’s cousin and one of the event coordinators.

Perry started running at Warren Cousino High School and joined the cross country team, according to the event website.

He ran marathons as far away as New York and Boston.

He loved running at OU because

he thought the campus is beautiful and liked the hills.

There were 248 people registered for the event, Dan Bad said.

Proceeds went to the Cousino High School cross country program. The run raised enough money to supply new uniforms for the team.

Dan said he also wants to raise awareness for motorists and pedestrians. He plans on making the 5K an annual event.

Perry also loved to cook and go to sporting events, especially his daughters.’

Perry is survived by his daughters, Ashlee and Sabrina, his parents, Joseph and Maria Badia, and his sisters, Lisa Badia and Carol Elzerman, according to the event website.



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Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Oakland University's mascot, the Grizz, attends games and events around campus to spread school spirit. Six performers currently share the identity of the Grizz.

# Grizz: the man behind the mascot

*Chatting with Oakland's mascot about games, the costume and secret identities*

**Nowshin Chowdhury**  
Photo Editor

As student-athletes wear their jerseys on game day, behind closed doors another student puts on an oversized costume to become the Grizz for the next few hours.

The Grizz, Oakland University's current mascot, can be spotted at home games and other events greeting fans and taking pictures.

Right now there are six mascot performers who have been through tryouts and had the chance to become the spirit of the Golden Grizzlies. Everyone wonders who's inside the costume, but the identity of

the Grizz must remain anonymous. The Oakland Post set up an interview with one of the performers who gave an insight to the life of the Grizz.

*How long have you been the Grizz?*

Grizz: For three years.

*How often are you the Grizz?*

Grizz: Originally when I started off, I became the Grizz maybe four times a week. It was very, very busy. As I've gotten more responsibilities, it's really toned down and now I might even just do two events a year.

*How did you get the job?*

Grizz: I used to work as Athletics staff and I still do it, so those are the yellow shirt people at the basketball games. Someone else who did that was also the [Grizz] coordinator at the time, so I talked with her, and that's how I got into it.

*What's it like being the Grizz?*

Grizz: It's physically demanding, that's one of the top things, but right up there with physically demanding, it's very fun. One of my favorite things as the Grizz is to see a little kid who's deathly afraid of the Grizz and does not want anything to do with it. But then I'll get down on their level and play with them a little and honestly as soon as there's a high-five between the kid and me, they're happy. It's really cool to see them go from completely scared of Grizz to absolutely loving Grizz.

*What other mascots have you had the opportunity to meet?*

Grizz: Through my journey, the last three years, I got to meet [Michigan State University's mascot] Sparty, Roary the Lion for Detroit Lions, Paws from Detroit Tigers and some mascots from the west side of the state.

*How hard is it keeping your identity a secret?*

Grizz: It's really hard, because you want to tell a lot of people. We did an event, Hooper's birthday, and we were talking to Sparty there. He said they get to wear the Sparty shoes when they graduate. Sparty's one of the most loved mascots in the nation and I think it's a good role model for Grizz.

According to Mascot Coordinator Aaron Helander, the identities of the mascot performers may be revealed during spring 2017 commencement ceremonies. The seniors would be wearing Grizz paws on their hands as they walk across the stage.

Sometimes the suit gets hot, and Helander says "you literally sweat OU pride," but the Grizz gets paired with a handler who schedules breaks during events.

"Usually we try to not go more than 25 minutes without a break," Helander said.

The jobs also come with perks such as backstage or locker room access and free food.

"I've been in the players' area of both the Joe Louis and the Palace, as well as the green room for the Fox Theatre," Grizz Handler Syed Murtaza said. "I can't imagine any other circumstance where I would get to hangout in the same room that I'm assuming people like Elvis Presley or Kevin Hart were before they performed."

"I love Grizz as our mascot," Murtaza said. "I'm pretty sure a grizzly bear is way cooler than say, a certain Greek soldier. I couldn't imagine being anything else besides an Oakland [Golden] Grizzly."

For questions regarding the Grizz or to apply for positions, contact Aaron Helander at [awheland@oakland.edu](mailto:awheland@oakland.edu).



Looking for things happening our area this summer? Look no further. The Post has narrowed down the top events happening in the Metro Detroit and Oakland University area this month.

# JUNE *in* METRO DETROIT

3	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix. Runs thru 6/5.</li><li>• Twenty One Pilots at DTE Energy Music Theater, 7:00 p.m.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pontiac Oak Hill Cemetery Tales of the Salem cemetery Walk. Tickets \$15.</li><li>• Free community breakfast at All Saints Episcopal Church in Pontiac 8:00-10:30 a.m.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Albanian American Festival in Detroit. Starts 6/4 at 11:00 a.m.</li></ul>
8	11	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Royal Oak farmers market food truck rally at 5:00 p.m.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Summer reading kick-off at the Pontiac Public Library<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Florence and the Machine at DTE Energy Music Theater, 7:30 p.m.</li></ul></li><li>• Motor City Pride Festival</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meadowbrook garden club open house 9 a.m.-1 p.m.</li><li>• Beyoncé: The Formation Tour at Ford Field</li></ul>
15	24	25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ASAP Ferg at Royal Oak Music Theater, 8:00 p.m.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Selena Gomez at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 7:30 p.m.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City-Wide Block Party at Aaron Perry Park</li></ul>
27	<b>SERIES EVENTS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Detroit Fireworks Day</li><li>• Ford Fireworks along the Detroit River</li></ul>	<b>JUNE 1-19</b> "Forever Plaid" at Meadow Brook Theatre, shows Wednesdays-Sundays.	
	<b>JUNE 3-6</b> Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition 10-6 Robotics teams from universities around the world will compete in the 24th annual Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC) at Oakland University.	
	<b>TUESDAYS &amp; THURSDAYS</b> Mini market Downtown Rochester at 4 p.m.	
	<b>FRIDAYS</b> 12 p.m. - OU carillonneur, Dennis Curry, plays a live concert for a half hour.  6 p.m. - A new tradition of summer carillon recitals. Visit oakland.edu for more details.	

## JUNE AND JULY LOCAL SUMMER CONCERT PREVIEW

Rachel Williams  
Life Editor

Summer has begun and the summer music scene is just heating up. With music festivals like Movement just ending and Mo Pop coming in July, there are many musical options for you to enjoy. We've compiled a list of a few shows in the next couple of months at three local venues. Read below for information on the venues and acts coming to play near you.

### Meadow Brook Ampitheatre

**June 19** - Paul Simon. Formerly of Simon & Garfunkel, the 12-time Grammy winner is bringing his North American Tour to Michigan. His most recent solo album, "Stranger to Stranger," will be released on June 3 and highlights his songwriting skills. According to The New York Times, Simon's latest album is a "set of songs that crack jokes and ponder questions about love, death, spirituality, baseball, economic inequality, brain chemistry and music itself."

**July 10** - The Music of David Bowie performed by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Conductor Brent Havens and the DSO will celebrate the musical icon David Bowie this summer. The orchestra will cover a wide range of Bowie's pieces with over 18 selections, performing pieces like "Space Oddity," "Under Pressure," "Heroes" and "Changes." Tickets are on sale now ranging from \$20 to \$75.

### The Crofoot Ballroom

**June 6** - Aesop Rock with Rob Sonic and DJ Zone plus Homeboy Sandman and DJ Sosa. Self-proclaimed indie rap artist, Aesop Rock, released his album "The Impossible Kid" on April 29 after nearly four years without a solo release. The album proves to be open



Bohdanna Cherstylo / The Oakland Post

experience into Aesop Rock's life discussion depression, family troubles and his childhood, as he had complete creative control over the entire album. The Crofoot's website says the album is told through a "combination of surreal comedy and genuine tenderness as a George Sanders story."

**June 21** - Modern Baseball with Joyce Manor and Thin Lips. The Crofoot and Fusion Show partnered to present this show as part of The Holy Ghost Tour. The Philadelphia-based rock band released its third LP "Holy Ghost" in May, melding pop-punk and emo music. The emotional band creates an intimate and self-made space during concerts and for fans.

### Saint Andrews Hall

**June 9** - Saint Motel at the Shelter with opening act, Coin. Saint Motel's EP "My Type" was released in 2014 with the same-name hit single. The indie pop band originated in Los Angeles and consists of four members - AJ, Aaron, Greg and Dak.

**June 16** - Birdy with opening act, Bahari. Birdy will be performing as part of the Beautiful Lies Tour, which follows the release of her third LP of the same name. With this album, the 19-year-old musician reflects on her out-of-the-ordinary childhood in the limelight. The LP focuses on self-discovery and independence.





Abigail Zmiky / The Oakland Post

**TOP** "The Adventures of Pinocchio" follows the wooden puppet through various misadventures, like getting swindled out of two gold coins by a fox and running into even more trouble. **LEFT** Pinocchio's nose grows as he lies to the Blue Fairy. **RIGHT** Pinocchio runs away from home and his father, Geppeto, and spends time with a 'real boy' who teaches him to have fun.

**Jake Smith**  
Staff Reporter

After the end of the winter semester and the stress of finals came to a close, many Golden Grizzlies took off for the summer or began summer courses. But some Music, Theatre and Dance (MTD) students stuck around to prepare for a musical.

Over the weekend, Oakland University's MTD program put on "The Adventures of Pinocchio," telling the classic tale of the wooden puppet who chases after adventure and wants to be a real boy. The show was held at Varner Recital Hall May 20-22.

Directed by Kerro Knox, OU theatre director and associate professor, the musical illustrates the origin of Pinocchio and his unlucky encounters as he journeys to find adventure, rather than listening to his father and going to school.

After multiple near-fatal experiences and reuniting with his father, Pinocchio learns the power of selflessness and love,

and transforms into a real boy.

"Directing the show was a delight," Knox said. "It is nice to be working in the summer term when no one has other classes to work around and we can rehearse in the daytime. And this cast was fantastic; they are all enthusiastic and committed to the show and to each other."

Although the musical was geared toward children, the

vocal talent and jokes woven into the show made it an enjoyable experience for all ages.

The cast had great chemistry during the musical as well as before and after the show, when they interacted with the crowd and talked with a lot of the children to get them excited about the show.

"The Adventures of Pinocchio" musical is part of the Kennedy Center American

College Theatre Festival, a national theatre program that has over 18,000 students from U.S. colleges and universities participating.

The program has a primary objective of improving the quality of college-level theatre. It provides both theater departments and individual students the opportunity to feature their work and receive professional feedback.

The national program is divided into eight regions, Michigan falling into region three along with Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois.

"[The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival] involves a faculty member coming from another school to give feedback to the cast and crew," Knox said. "He then selects one or two cast members to participate in the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship Auditions which start in January. The designers also have an opportunity to present their work at the regional festival."

Knox pointed out that this year Oakland has had two students selected to move on from the regional festival to nationals.

"Jason Maracani went for his scenic design for 'A Doll's House' and Emily Hadick went as part of the Musical Theatre Initiative," Knox said.

Now that the performances at Oakland are over, the cast and crew are moving on to performing the musical at local schools.

# Wooden tale brought to life

*Oakland students perform "The Adventures of Pinocchio" for university community, local schools*





Photo courtesy of Gold Vibrations

Oakland University's a cappella group, Gold Vibrations, competed in the final round of the ICCA on April 30.

## Gold Vibrations in NYC

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Web Editor

Gold Vibrations performed at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) at the end of April. Despite not placing in the top three, Oakland's a cappella group had the opportunity to compete among the top 10 teams in the world.

Right after final exams, the team flew to New York City to sing at the Beacon Theatre, a Broadway stage, in front of 3,500 people.

They went up against teams from all over the country and one team from London. After placing first in the quarterfinals and in the Chicago semifinals, the team had to prepare for this final competition.

Part of the preparation was their annual spring concert, covered in a previous Oakland Post article. This year's concert theme was "Harry Potter and the Aca PalOUza."

However, the New York performance was directly after finals week.

"We told our members, 'school always comes first' which it obviously does. We are students first then performers second," said Noah Hubbard, Gold Vibrations performer.

When they weren't singing in the competition, the group found themselves singing on the

streets. Erin Ben-Moche, Gold Vibrations singer, said the group had more time to explore New York than they had to explore Chicago during the semifinals.

"We sang in the subways, Times Square and Central Park," she said. "But the best part was forgetting who was watching and enjoying singing with everyone, then hearing the applause from random strangers who enjoyed our mini performance."

The team had the chance to spotlight on Comedy Central's "The Nightly Show." Ben-Moche is friends with an intern on the show, who got Gold Vibrations on to perform twice.

"Larry Wilmore gave us a shout-out on the show. It was very subtle, but a very cool moment being featured on the show and having him tell us how talented we were," Ben-Moche said.

"New York is a lot more intimidating," Hubbard said. "It's bigger, it's more crowded, but it's also, for our theatre students especially, the place to be."

Moving ahead, Gold Vibrations plans to continue their regular rehearsals on Thursdays and Sundays. They are also working on creating their first album.

"We finally get to record an EP, so that is super exciting for us," Ben-Moche said.

The end of the year is bit-

tersweet. Ben-Moche said that every year, graduating members choose senior songs and have the opportunity to perform one last time with the group. Some members did not have the opportunity to do so because of the New York trip.

"They have made a huge mark on Gold Vibrations and it will not be the same without them," Ben-Moche said.

"Chris [Brody] is our music director, and it will be very hard to see him go because it will be the first time we won't have Chris with us directing every song arrangement," she said.

Brody said that this trip was important to not only the members, but to how people view the team.

"This trip has cemented Gold Vibrations into the realm of relevancy in the college a cappella society," he said. "We had always looked at ourselves as the best group from a college you had never heard of. That will no longer be the case. We will never again be looked at as underdogs or surprises, which I think is pretty darn awesome."

In the months leading up to the performance at ICCA, Gold Vibrations was not able to reveal their set online. However, now that the show is over, you can view their performance at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3W07ZLALXhc>.

## Oakland alumna receives third Tony nomination

**Rachel Williams**  
Life Editor

Actress Jayne Houdyshell received her third Tony Award nomination this year for her work as character Deirdre Blake in the play "The Humans."

"The Humans" takes place in real time, following six characters through a Thanksgiving day meal. Blake, a faith-based mother to two daughters, works a blue-collar job as a secretary.

According to Houdyshell, the play has been at Helen Hayes Theatre in New York City for about four months. Prior to this, it was shown off-Broadway for three months.

Her first Tony Award nomination came in 2006 and her second in 2012.

Houdyshell graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Art at Oakland University in 1974.

The academy was a two-year intensive training program for actors, separate from the mainstream part of the university.

"It was a two-year program and it was a dedicated, concentrated course of study with a curriculum that was all about practical application for acting," Houdyshell said. "Those classes were all about becoming actors."

Originally from Kansas, it was because of this program that she decided to come to

Michigan and attend OU.

"It was really a fine training program and the teachers were excellent," she said. "Those of us who were lucky enough to go left the school knowing a heck of a lot more about acting than when we began."

Since completing the program, she has gone on to act in numerous plays and musicals with television and film credits including "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit," "Garden State" and "Maid in Manhattan."

"What makes this specific character exactly who they are as opposed to other characters?" she asks herself when taking on a new role.

Houdyshell's passion for acting was obvious as she spoke about her previous experiences and training. She believes that aspiring actors should be well-rounded in all areas of art and expression, citing that she will read as many plays as possible and explore art and music.

"Get good training first and foremost," she said. "Be dedicated and take your work seriously."

In addition to her Tony Award nominations, Houdyshell has won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble Performance this year, the Drama Desk Award Special Award in 2013 and a 2006 Theatre World Award.



Photo courtesy of Oakland University

Alumna Jayne Houdyshell received her third Tony Award nomination in the category of Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role.



Puzzles

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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54							55				56		
57							58				59		

- Across**

1: Commercial endorsement  
5: Uneasy tingling  
9: Whiskey measure  
13: Peru’s capital  
14: ‘Schindler’s List’ extra  
15: Holding areas for newcomers?  
16: Beach sights  
18: Self-esteem  
19: Churchill’s title  
20: Cruise ship terminal  
21: Future ferns  
22: Hooked claws  
24: Furrow filler on a farm  
25: Fireman’s tool  
26: Apportionments  
27: Like some tree trunks  
30: Type of gold  
31: Temp  
34: ‘Clumsy me!’  
35: Electronic images  
36: In-box item  
37: Electrical unit  
38: Seed coverings  
39: Irritable  
40: Goldsmith’s units  
42: Minor player, so to speak  
43: Borders
- 44: Close to the color of the sky  
47: 1970s dance clubs  
48: Utter loudly  
49: Check  
51: Let on  
52: Alfalfa, to Spanky  
54: Financial resources  
55: Communally owned  
56: Stored to develop aroma, as tobacco  
57: Pioneering video game  
58: Deuce topper  
59: Crimsons
- Down**

1: Favorable factor  
2: Casino ceiling  
3: Blackest part of a shadow  
4: Long-nosed fish  
5: Behaving properly  
6: Stories  
7: Undemocratic leader  
8: ‘To each \_\_\_ own’  
9: Took a hike  
10: They’re loaded  
11: Gavel pounder’s demand  
12: Makes a sheepshank  
15: Shoe parts  
17: Strong adhesive
- 21: Official stickers  
23: Glasgow girl  
24: Compares prices  
26: Besmirches  
27: May celebrant  
28: Chimpanzee’s hoot  
29: Press secretary, e.g.  
30: Moves erratically, as a butterfly  
32: Diamond judge  
33: ‘Whew!’  
35: Scottish slopes  
36: Christmas trio  
38: Special vocabularies  
39: Lopsided wins  
41: Moving in a curved path  
42: Elegant and fashionable  
43: Wedding service  
44: Trumpet  
45: ‘All the world’s a \_\_\_’ (Shakespeare)  
46: Despised  
47: Like a dungeon  
48: Out-of-focus picture  
50: Where oysters grow  
52: Portable bed  
53: Spoil

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2		1	8	7		5		
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6	1	8				3	5	7
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	8		6	7	4			



The second annual Black and Gold Awards was hosted at the Fox Theatre. Bohdanna Cherstylo / The Oakland Post

# 2016 Black and Gold Awards

**Nowshin Chowdhury**  
Photo Editor

Gathering outside the Fox Theatre, Oakland student-athletes were dressed in formal attire and surrounded by familiar faces for the second annual Black and Gold Awards.

Oakland University Athletics hosted the awards combined with the Lepley Hall of Honor induction on Monday, April 18 for a night filled with laughter and reflection. Fans, family and friends were all invited to attend.

Steve Clark, Brittnei Hutton, Brian Stuard and the 1989-90 women's basketball team were recognized on-stage as one of the most decorated Hall of Honor classes in Oakland's history.

There were almost twice as many awards compared to last year, as 21 individuals and six teams received 28 BGAs.

Athletics also celebrated the organization's best cumulative GPA at 3.24 overall this year. Fourteen out of 16 teams achieved at least a 3.0, and four teams produced a 3.48 or higher.

"I'd like to thank everyone on the BGA committee [and] interns Leanne Schnurer and Daniel Cobb for working extremely hard on making this a first-class event for our student-athletes," MacDonald said. "So many staff put in long hours to make sure this celebration was a big success."

### Leaving a legacy

For the seniors, the BGAs were their final opportunity to be recognized for their performances on and off the field.

Men's basketball team's former

point guard Kay Felder won Top Individual Performance (Male) and Athlete of the Year. He said he plans to come back next year and watch the show.

"This is an amazing ceremony and I like dressing up," Felder said after winning his third and final BGA at Oakland. "This year it's funnier and just got better."

Also winning two individual awards that night was another men's basketball player, Max Hooper, who won Most Inspirational and Top Individual Academic (Male).

"I've worked extremely hard, sacrificed a lot ... To be recognized is a good feeling," Hooper said. "Even though I was at Oakland for just two years, I think I've left a lasting impact."

Hooper was named Horizon League Sixth Man of the Year and became the first-ever player in NCAA history to not attempt a 2-pointer while taking at least 100 3-point shots.

### Cultivating courage

Earlier this fall, sophomore swimmer Ayrton Kasemets announced to his teammates he was gay. To his surprise, they were all very supportive of him. He said former teammates, who graduated, Colby Haan and Jake Quinnan were the ones who encouraged him to be open about it.

"They actually came to me at one of the first group gatherings that we had because they had a hunch," Kasemets said. "They asked me what would be the most comfortable way to do it. They were the courageous ones."

Kasemets won the Courage Award, one of the new categories presented this year.

### Prestigious performances

The President's Awards were given out toward the end of the ceremony to the student-athletes who had the best combination of athletic success, academic accomplishment and leadership characteristics during the year.

Volleyball player Melissa Deatsch, women's basketball player Elena Popkey and men's basketball player Jalen Hayes received the President's Award, their first BGAs.

"This is really cool to be honored for an award that acknowledges everything that you do as a student-athlete," Deatsch said.

Deatsch earned All-Horizon League and Academic All-League honors this past season. She is tied with Ciara Schultz for the career record in service aces.

Popkey received her first and last individual award as she is a graduating senior. She matched the all-time school record in assists and is nominated for the Matilda Wilson Award, Oakland University's highest honor.

"It's an honor to get any of the awards tonight," Popkey said. "So to win the President's Award was a great honor."

Following up on a strong freshman season, sophomore Jalen Hayes earned all-league honors after leading the conference in rebounds. He posted double-figures in 26 of 35 games and 10 of his double-doubles came in league play.

"I didn't know I was nominated for it. I was nervous. It was a long walk," Hayes said. "This is amazing. I was here last year and it was really good, and they even topped it this year. I'm expecting it to get better and better every year."

## Complete list of winners:

- Women's Community Service* - Women's Basketball
- Men's Community Service* - Baseball
- Top Academic Team* - Women's Tennis
- Most Inspirational* - Max Hooper, Men's Basketball
- Social Media Post of the Year* - Kiah Behrendt, Cheer
- Best Competition of the Year* - Women's Soccer Golden Goal vs WSU in HL title game
- Most Improved Athlete (Male)* - Bryce Stroede, Men's Cross Country and Track
- Most Improved Athlete (Female)* - Olivia Nash, Women's Basketball
- Top Newcomer (Male)* - Devon Nowicki, Men's Swimming
- Top Newcomer (Female)* - Rachel Levy, Women's Cross Country and Track
- Top Individual Performance (Male)* - Kay Felder, Men's Basketball
- Top Individual Performance (Female)* - Miranda Haas, Women's Cross Country and Track
- Courage Award* - Ayrton Kasemets, Men's Swimming
- Top Individual Academic (Female)* - Amanda Baker, Volleyball
- Top Individual Academic (Male)* - Max Hooper, Men's Basketball
- Black and Gold Spirit Award (Female)* - Joanie Seija, Women's Soccer
- Black and Gold Spirit Award (Male)* - Gino Vitella, Men's Track
- Top Play of the Year* - Sarah Hartley, Softball
- Future Leader Award (Female)* - Jordan Sargent, Women's Soccer
- Future Leader Award (Male)* - Ian Yetsko, Baseball
- Best Film* - Men's Track and Field
- Hollie L. Lepley Award (Male)* - Evan Bowser, Men's Golf
- Hollie L. Lepley Award (Female)* - Nikki Flynn, Women's Swimming
- President's Award (Female)* - Melissa Deatsch, Volleyball and Elena Popkey, Women's Basketball
- President's Award (Male)* - Jalen Hayes, Men's Basketball
- Athlete of the Year (Male)* - Kay Felder, Men's Basketball
- Athlete of the Year (Female)* - Patricia Aschan, Women's Swimming





Sam Schlenner / The Oakland Post

Under delightful weather, people converged at Wayne State in superhero garb and ran a 5K. In the background is the crew from Fleece & Thank You, a sponsor of the run.

# Soccer alum helps make Super Run super

**Sam Schlenner**  
Sports Editor

**F**leece & Thank You's booth sat across from the T-shirt tent, which was down the sidewalk from the ice cream truck and moon bounce. Around these outposts, hundreds of superheroes walked, talked and danced.

Earlier, these masked vigilantes had crossed the finish line of the fittingly-named Super Run at Wayne State University. Some participants held — or rather, triumphantly raised — rolled-up fleece blankets. This was Nick Kristock's doing.

Kristock is an Oakland soccer alum (pre-business administration, class of 2013) and this is the first time his charity, Fleece

& Thank You, had sponsored the event. The Super Run partners with non-profits to help raise funds for these organizations. Fleece & Thank You provides colorful fleece blankets to kids hospitalized for an extended period of time.

The event was a success, Kristock said.

"I was really impressed with the turnout," he said. "We had about 20 Fleece & Thank You runners, and they were all super pumped to be there."

Kristock said it was a great time.

"The crowd that we had come out has been very supportive," Fleece & Thank You volunteer Bryce Goulah said. "They're very passionate people about our cause and about making a

change in children's lives."

Fleece & Thank You has a pool of about 100 volunteers, Kristock said. They help run the events.

This is the first time Fleece & Thank You has gotten involved with the Super Run, and there are more times to come, namely Grand Rapids on Saturday, June 4 at 8 a.m. and Ann Arbor on Saturday, August 6 at 8 a.m.

Fleece & Thank You is also joining forces Saturday, May 14, with the Children's Hospital of Michigan to provide blankets to the attendees of the hospital's princess/superhero party.

That same night, ten Fleece & Thank You volunteers will hand out blankets at the Evening of Dreams Prom put on by Wish Upon a Teen at the Hotel St. Regis in Detroit.

"It just feels incredible being around people that care," Goulah said. "You really get that emphasis of love being spread everywhere you go."

Fleece & Thank You allows donors and volunteers to send a personalized video message of inspiration to the children who receive these blankets. Katie Bandfield said volunteering with the organization makes her feel united with the community.

"It's such a unique way to be interconnected with the person who receives your blanket," Bandfield said. "You can be so close with someone who needs support."

"We're a face for people to use to go ahead and give back to the community," volunteer Morgan Garmo said. "So even though

we're here supporting our cause and having people know about it, we really allow the community to go ahead and jump in."

Kristock said Fleece & Thank You's affiliations and events serve the main mission.

"This kid goes into the hospital, and their whole world becomes these four walls," he said. "We bring a blanket in from the outside and a video from the outside and for them it's like holy smokes, someone outside these four walls cares about what's happening inside these four walls. And it changes things for them. That's why we do it."

For more information on future events or how to get involved with Fleece & Thank You, visit their website at [fleeceandthankyou.org/](http://fleeceandthankyou.org/).





Thomas Massa / The Oakland Post

After finishing 10-39 last season, Oakland baseball managed a 23-27 record in 2016. The team graduates 11 seniors.

# JUST OUT OF REACH

## *Oakland baseball slips 10-9 to UIC in Horizon League Championship*

**Robert Andrews**  
Staff Reporter

**I**t was do or die for No. 5 Oakland (23-27, 11-14) in the Horizon League Baseball Championship on Wednesday, May 25. The Golden Grizzlies lost 10-9 to No. 4 University of Illinois at Chicago in a wild and high-scoring game in the first round of the Horizon League Baseball Championship.

"We thought we could come in here and win it," head coach John Musachio said in the post-game GrizzVision interview with Dan Gliot. "We fell short of that goal, and it doesn't taste good."

Oakland started off strong in the first inning when Mike Brosseau hit an RBI double down the leftfield line that would score Zach Sterry. The scoring continued when Ian Yetsko hit an RBI single that scored Brosseau.

UIC responded in the second and tied up the game, 2-2.

Sterry got the offense moving again

in the third when he singled to second base to start off the inning. Tyler Pagano followed suit with a single to center field.

With runners on second and third (they advanced after Yetsko grounded out) Ben Hart hit a two-run single.

UIC scored one in the bottom of the third. Oakland led 4-3 after three innings.

Oakland scored two more runs in the top of the fourth. Sterry scored one after getting the ball to center field. Then Ryan Fitzgerald scored on a wild pitch.

The Golden Grizzlies defense broke down and had four errors in the bottom of the fourth. With bases loaded, Jake Lee threw a wild pitch that scored a runner, and two subsequent errors cleared the bases and allowed three UIC runs on one play (which ended up on Deadspin).

UIC led 9-6 after four innings.

Oakland came back in the sixth and tied the game after Sterry hit a three-run home run to left field.

With the game tied in the bottom of the eighth, UIC singled to center field and took the lead. UIC led 10-9 after eight.

Hart gave Oakland one more chance in the ninth but the team didn't con-

"We thought we could come in here and win it. We fell short of that goal, and it doesn't taste good."

**John Musachio**  
Head coach, Oakland baseball

vert and was eliminated from the Horizon League Baseball Championship.

"I'm proud of this team," Musachio said. "They definitely don't lack heart. We just made a lot of mistakes in a lot of different ways. It was a game of mistakes. So did UIC. It's a tough way to go out, losing that seesaw battle. It was a wild game."

Sterry went 4-for-4, hit one home run, got four RBIs and scored three runs.

Ben Hart went 2-for-4 and had two RBIs.

Brosseau and Yetsko each had one RBI.

"I just want to pay tribute to our seniors, 11 young men who really sacrificed a lot," Musachio said. "I'm proud of 'em. Proud as hell. And disappointed as hell at the same time."

Oakland ended 23-27 overall.

## *Oakland softball swept by UIC in final home series, season over*

**Robert Andrews**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland softball (13-31, 8-14) got swept in its final home series of the season by University of Illinois at Chicago, the top team in the Horizon League. Their season is over.

The series began with a double-header on Friday, May 6. The Golden Grizzlies and Flames pitched well and the scores were low.

### **Game one (L 2-0)**

Even though Oakland out-hit UIC 7-6, Golden Grizzly batters didn't convert when it counted and left 11 runners on base.

"We had bases loaded three times, runners at third," Oakland head coach Connie Miner said in the post-game GrizzVision interview with Mekye Phelps. "We just couldn't get that timely hit."

### **Game two (L 3-2)**

The Golden Grizzlies took the lead in the third when freshman Kelsie Swanson reached first base on fielder's choice, advancing Hartley to home. Oakland held on until the fifth when UIC loaded the bases with no outs and took the lead on a sacrifice fly to center field.

The Golden Grizzlies had one more chance in the seventh with a player on base, but UIC struck out the final three batters looking.

### **Game three (L 1-0)**

Hartley and Pond were honored before the Senior Day game on Saturday, May 7.

Zemmer, who pitched the day before in game one of the double-header, pitched a complete game, struck out five and allowed one unearned run.

Hartley, junior Lyndsay Hill and freshman Danielle Szajna got all of Oakland's three hits. But UIC didn't score until the sixth inning on an Oakland fielding error with runners in scoring position.

Oakland had one more chance in the seventh inning but did not convert.



## Sports



Courtesy of Jonathan Miano

Four Oakland student-athletes earned spots in the NCAA East Preliminaries.

# Track third at Horizon Leagues, some to NCAA

**Robert Andrews**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland men's and women's track and field both finished third in the Horizon League Outdoor Track and Field Championship on May 6-8. The men got 165 points and the women got 156 points.

Nicholas Girodat, Andrew Bowman, Bryce Stroede and Gino Vitella competed in the NCAA East Preliminaries in Jacksonville, Florida from Thursday, May 26 through Saturday, May 28.

### Horizon Leagues, Day One

Oakland's men's team finished third with 26 points and the women's team finished second with 30 points.

Meghan Daly placed first in the javelin. She also broke her own school record with a distance of 122 ft., 7 in.

Sammy Mondry and Bryce Stroede dominated the 10,000m. Mondry won her race with 37:33.64 and Stroede won his race with 30:19.70.

### Horizon Leagues, Day Two

The men's team placed fourth with 65 points and the women's team placed third with 64 points.

Andrew Bowman finished first in the men's 3000m steeplechase with 8:59.01 and George O'Connor finished second with 9:02.13. Kailey Weingartz finished first in the women's race with a time of 10:50.74 and Ashley Burr finished second with 10:51.88.

Gino Vitella set a school record in the discus with 157 ft., 7 in.

Aaron Davis broke the 200m school re-

cord with 21.34 seconds in the prelims.

Whitney Mergens set a school record in the high jump at 5 ft., 7.25 in.

### Horizon Leagues, Day Three

Aaron Davis earned the Most Outstanding Performance honor. He defended his title as the 200m champion with 21.14 and also won the 100m with 10.66. He became the first Horizon League student-athlete to sweep both events since 2012.

Bryce Stroede placed first in the 5000m with 14:41.85.

Ashley Burr became the 5000m champion again with 17:43.87.

Chris Scott and Lydia Stanley won the men's and women's 800m with 1:59.63 and 2:17.08, respectively.

### NCAA East Preliminaries

Four student-athletes went to NCAA Prelims, the most Oakland has ever sent.

Nicholas Girodat got 46th place in the 100m with 10.88. Sprints coach J.P. Behnke said his injury at the Jessie Owens Classic on April 22 partially cost him a qualifying time to get to the finals.

Andrew Bowman just missed the cut for the finals, but he broke his own 3000m steeplechase school record with 8:45.23.

Gino Vitella placed 44th in the shot put with 53 ft., 2.18 in. Vitella is the first in program history to make it to NCAA Preliminaries in the shot put in consecutive years. Last season he finished 43rd.

Bryce Stroede made his second consecutive appearance in the NCAA Prelims after placing 43rd last season in the 10,000m. This year he placed 30th in the 5000m with 14:39.01.

## Women's golf at NCAA regionals for first time

Women's golf made its first-ever NCAA tournament appearance on May 5-7 at Shoal Creek Country Club for the Shoal Creek Regional. Oakland finished 17th (+127) out of 18 teams.

Fiona Schmidt topped Oakland's ranks by tying for 72nd (+28). Elle Nichols tied for 82nd (+33), Alyssa Albright and Maddelyn Zack tied for 86th (+35) and Morgan Smith got 93rd (+42).

In her second year as head coach, Alyssa Gaudio was named Horizon League Coach of the Year.

## Kay Felder improves stock at NBA Combine

After leaving Oakland for good in early April for a shot at the NBA, Kay Felder secured a vital step: a good showing at the Combine, the series of physical assessments and scrimmages before the draft.

Felder put up the highest max vertical leap of the combine at 44 in. and tied for the third-fastest 3/4 court sprint with 3.15 seconds.

But he didn't just shine in the physical tests. During the scrimmages, he proved he could defend, stealing the ball six times in 47 minutes and topping the performance off with a characteristic 23 points.

DraftExpress had been concerned with his defensive performance earlier this year. His Top 100 ranking has gone from 70 to 56.



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**THE OAKLAND POST**  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

# Oakland alum Stuard bags first PGA TOUR win

**By Sam Schlenner**  
Sports Editor

Journeyman, n.: 2. an experienced reliable worker, athlete, or performer especially as distinguished from one who is brilliant or colorful (Merriam-Webster)

In the press conference after his sudden-death Zurich Classic of New Orleans victory on Monday, May 2, Brian Stuard, Oakland Class of 2005, called himself one of those.

"[I've] just always grinded it out."

It was his first PGA Tour victory and 101st start since getting his card in 2010.

He topped the Detroit Trends list on Twitter. He spoke softly:

"This means a lot."

Stuard, Jamie Lovemark and Byeong-Hun An finished the shortened and rain-delayed tournament at -15, prompting a three-way playoff. An dropped out first, and Lovemark hooked a fairway shot on the second hole of the playoff. Stuard nailed his equivalent shot to about two feet away.

With the first place finish, he secured his spot in tour events for two more years, earned a place in the Players Championship May 10-15 and earned a start in the 2017 Masters.

Stuard was inducted into the Hollie L. Lepley Hall of Honor at the Black and Gold Awards in April. He won the 2005 Mid-Continent Conference title and still holds the Oakland single-season scoring record with 72.25 that same season.

It hasn't all been roses for Stuard. Before the win, he'd been playing on conditional status, sometimes getting a tournament invite only a few days before the start.

Last year he struggled, netting one top-10 finish compared with four-each in 2013-14, and ended up 128th in the FedExCup. He said lacked control over the ball.

"That's not very fun to play that way," Stuard said. "I started this winter, really trying to get back to being me and playing how I grew up playing, how I learned to play and what feels comfortable for me."

His closest previous finishes were a couple of second places, one in 2010 and one in 2014.

"You just had to have the confidence to say one day it's going to be your time," Stuard said. "Fortunately, today was that day."



# Basketball review: arrivals and departures

*With Felder and Washington gone, who fills the gaps?*

**Sam Schlenner**  
Sports Editor

**K**ay Felder was gone. A vacuum had to be filled.

"Thank God [assistant coach] Dionne Phelps is on our staff," head basketball coach Greg Kampe said in the GrizzVision interview with Neal Ruhl. "Dionne came into my office after Kay declared..."

He said there's this guy. One of the best point guards in the country. Just finished his season with Arkansas Baptist, a junior college in Little Rock.

"He looked at me and said, 'This kid's really good,'" Kampe said. "He's the real deal," he said. "He could be a pro."

After an ounce of skepticism and a few more of internet research, his interest was piqued. The dude shot 40.1 percent from the field and 39.3 percent behind the arc at Arkansas Baptist, according to njcaa.org. 14.1 points per game. 91.7 percent free throw shooter.

Phelps has been head coach at Oklahoma City University, 15 minutes from where this kid played prep ball at Douglass High.

"High school basketball resumes don't get much glossier," MaxPreps wrote after giving the guy an honorable mention in the 2013 All-American selections. "Future Cowboy poured in 36.8 points per game this season and won his fourth state title."

That's Stevie Clark, formerly of Oklahoma State. He was a backup point guard for the 2013-14 season and played in sixteen games, scoring 5.3 points per.

Clark was arrested twice in the middle of the 2013-14 season with OSU, once on suspicion of possessing marijuana and the other on suspicion of "outraging public decency," or urinating out of a moving vehicle (someone else was driving). He was kicked off

the team in early February.

Kampe acknowledges this.

"I think he made some bad decisions," Kampe said. "I think he's been humbled. We've had some really good talks. He has a great mother, a mother who is very involved."

She's nice, he said, and someone who's interested not in the basketball, but in what this experience could mean for her son's growth.

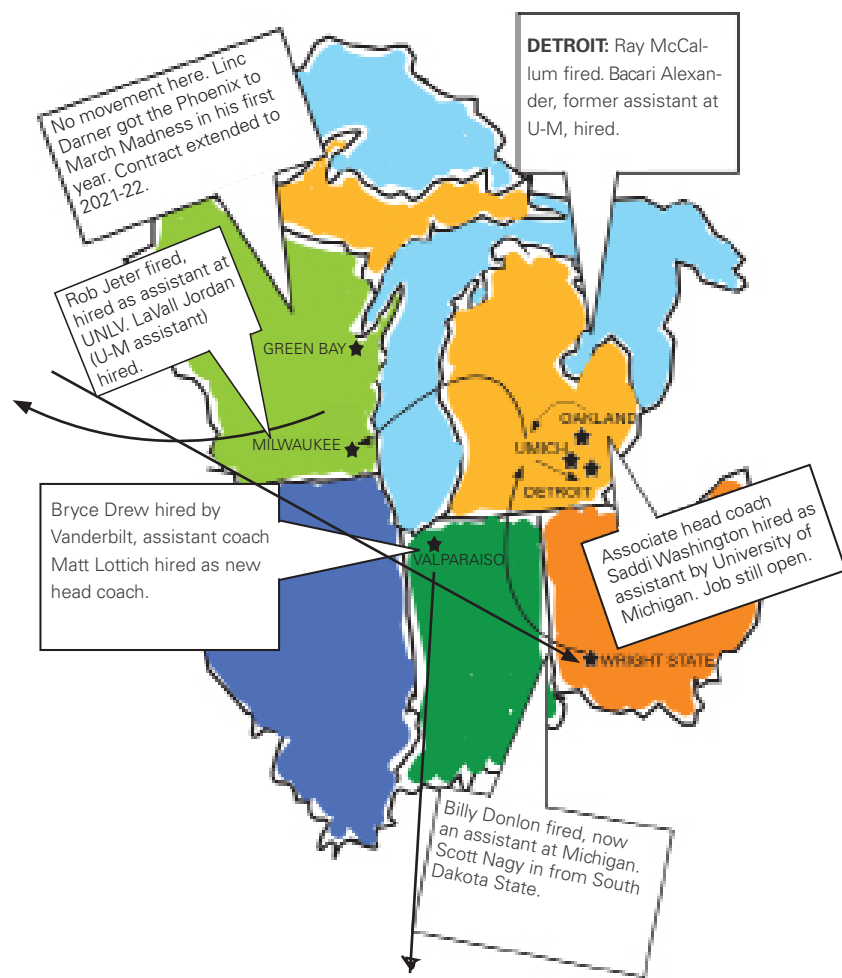
"I'm on board with this young man," Kampe said. "I'm on board with everything that he can do. I think he is someone that will excite our fanbase."

He said Clark can follow in the 30-year history of former Oakland point guard greats like Reggie Hamilton, Kay Felder and Brian Gregory, that now he can pass the ball. Clark has two years of eligibility to prove it (he managed 2.3 assists per game at Arkansas Baptist).

"This is a really really important get for Oakland University because of the situation we were in," Kampe said. "We're dealing with what the Michigan States and [Kansases] and Kentuckys of the world deal with every year."

Former associate head coach Saddi Washington is off to University of Michigan to be an assistant. Felder signed with agents and is shooting for the NBA.

Now, Clark is here for Felder and Mark Snyder of The Detroit Free Press reported that Oakland is expected to hire Dan Hipsher, who has been head coach at four schools, to fill Washington's place.



Sarah Lawrence / The Oakland Post

The Horizon League coaching carousel. It goes round and round.

\*U-Mich. not in Horizon League.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

The Northern Guard, Detroit City Football Club's independent supporter group, made the campus of Oakland University a little louder on Wednesday, May 11.

# NORTHERN GUARD INVASION

*Detroit City and Michigan Bucks face off in U.S. Open Cup first-round soccer match*

**Sam Schlenner**  
Sports Editor

George and Leslie Bishop had to work, so they did not come to last year's U.S. Open Cup match between Detroit City Football Club and the Michigan Bucks. But, this year, there they sat the evening of Wednesday, May 11, on the extreme north end of the bleachers, which stand on a rise above Oakland's pitch. On the slight hill, even farther north than the Bishops, lengths of yellow cord and one stretch of caution tape were fastened to metal stakes and a garbage can to form a border that would try to contain the color-coordinated, noisy flux of City's independent supporter group.

"Sometimes on away games, we'll stand with 'em," George said. "But most of the time, at home games, we sit on the 'quiet side.'"

"They don't need us," Leslie said.

Chris Dungey, a Bucks fan for five years or so, sat in the top row of the southernmost part of the bleachers.

"It's not a typical football experience," he said. "It's very quiet at [Ultimate Soccer Arenas, the Bucks' home turf]. Detroit City has got it all over the Bucks as far as a supporter group. I feel a little lonely here, to tell you the truth. I don't know if there's going to be any other Bucks fans here."

Dungey saw the 2015 U.S. Open Cup match.

"They crowded us out of the arena last year, but we beat [them] anyway," he said. "It was so satisfying, cause I had heard all kinds of static coming in from the parking lot. 'You must be one of their parents, because there's nobody else here.' I think there might have been a hundred Bucks fans in the whole place."

Dungey mentioned Dan Duggan, the Bucks' chairman, CEO and co-founder.

"He cares about winning more than he cares about advertising the product," Dungey said.

Dungey had seen the Northern Guard before. He and his wife were staying at the MGM Grand for the Belle Isle

Grand Prix last year. City moved to Hamtramck's Keyworth Stadium for the 2016 season and onwards, but they used to play at Cass Tech, a quick jaunt up Grand River from the casino hotel. Dungey and his wife headed over. He said it was fun to be around that energy.

He hopes the Detroit MLS team — proposed by Dan Gilbert and Tom Gores in a press conference featuring MLS commissioner Don Garber in late April — would garner such enthusiasm.

"You can bet that Detroit City will form the core of that support," Dungey said. "I don't see Detroit City surviving with an MLS team a mile away. I don't know how that works."

Eight drum beats graced the atmosphere. The rhythm of some heart. They came from the northwest, near the adjacent parking structure.

"I think their fans would probably rather see a better brand of football."

Then instead of drums, it was a police siren. Four bursts. Probably not from a cop car.

*Catch the full story at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com).*