

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2015 —

DECEMBER

2

2015

## KUNSELMAN TAKES OFFICE

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S CHIEF OPERATING  
OFFICER OPENS UP ABOUT FILLING NEW ROLE  
PAGE 9

Photo by Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

### RESIDENCE HALLS.

Director of housing addresses  
frequently occurring issues

PAGE 8

### DAY OF SERVICE.

Recap and photos from a day  
of giving back

PAGE 11

### MAKING AN IMPACT.

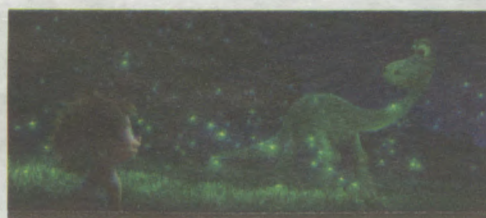
Oakland athletic teams sign young  
kids battling illness

PAGE 20



# thisweek

December 2, 2015 // Volume 41. Issue 13



## ontheweb

Make sure to check out the Oakland Post's review of *The Good Dinosaur*, only available at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**LET IT BE LAW** // The official law school partnership agreement signing ceremony was held on Nov. 30 in the Oakland Room to celebrate the new alliance between Oakland University and Wayne State University.

Dongfu Han // *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)

## POLL OF THE WEEK

Upcoming plans for the winter break?

- A** Turn off my alarm and sleep for a week.
- B** Literal Netflix and chill.
- C** Recover from this semester; emotionally, mentally and financially.
- D** Seeing Santa at the mall and asking for a higher GPA.

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

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

Favorite Thanksgiving activity?

- A** Eating my weight in food and then passing out on the couch.  
32 votes
- B** Fighting my conservative extended family...  
7 votes
- C** Preparing my body for the shopping excursion.  
2 votes
- D** Gonna watch the Lions win! (pfft, lol)  
6 votes

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

**December 8, 1993**

The Board of Trustees met to consider the possibilities of either remodeling the resident halls on campus or removing them entirely from the campus environment.

**December 4, 1991**

Over 200 Oakland students responded to a survey about their sexual habits, finding that many students didn't use condoms, as they used birth control instead. However, this doesn't protect students against STDs.

**December 6, 1995**

The proposed Adam's road expansion posed problems for the solitude of many faculty homes, the Dodge farmhouse and the Meadow Brook gatehouse. The road would expand 28 inches on each side.

— Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, staff reporter



11

### OU DAY OF SERVICE

Oakland University staff, students and volunteers gathered in the Gold Rooms to work on service projects to better nonprofits in the community.



12

### CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Students gathered last week on campus to mourn the lives lost in recent terrorist attacks in a candlelit walk.



20

### FLEECE AND THANKS

With OU soccer alum Nick Kristock at the helm, Fleece and Thank You moves to benefit children in need of a warm blanket.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Season's Greetings

4 million

pounds of fruitcake are produced in Claxton, Georgia

\$29.14

average amount spent per person on holiday cards each year

\$830

billion spent on presents each year in America

47%

of customers buy holiday items online

\$1.16

billion dollars spent on Christmas trees in America



## Refugee crisis enables ISIS

**Shelby Tankersley**  
Staff Reporter

A lot has happened in the world these past few weeks. A Russian plane was bombed, killing everyone on board, Belgium has been put on lockdown, Paris was bombed and Syrian refugees landed in New Orleans.



Shelby Tankersley  
Staff Reporter

China, Russia and France have hinted at or declared all-out war with ISIS.

Last week, I went out with some friends. On our way back home, the topic of ISIS and the refugee crisis came up.

I was shocked to hear one of the girls saying that she is not afraid of ISIS, but of the "white people" who want to do something about ISIS. She said that any ISIS members who may come over with the refugees and the refugees themselves are in far more danger than we are.

ISIS put out a list in May, which was first reported by Fox News, of seven states they are ready to attack. Guess which one was on the list? Michigan. They've also threatened large cities

in the U.S., including Atlanta and New York City.

After what happened in Paris, 31 states, including our own, declared that they will not accept refugees. I think that's a good idea.

Why?

The people running ISIS aren't stupid. If anything, they're brilliant. They've been wreaking havoc on the world for months now and have put fear into the hearts of many. If you think that ISIS members didn't come to America with the refugees, you're wrong.

If anything, the refugee crisis is a great way for ISIS members to get around the world. The refugees as a whole aren't dangerous, but ISIS members could be with them. And that makes the refugee presence in America or anywhere else dangerous. It's no coincidence that the Paris attack happened about a month after refugees landed on French soil.

In fact, two of the three suicide bombers involved in that attack got to Europe by posing as Syrian refugees. This was discovered through passports and fingerprints and confirmed by news outlets like the Wall Street Journal and ABC News. As of a few days ago, the third bomber is also suspected to have posed as a refugee.

I've seen so many pictures on Facebook compar-

ing the refugees to America's first settlers saying that the Native Americans accepted us, so we should accept the refugees.

For one, the Native Americans didn't take settlers in — it was more like an invasion. Second, those pictures always leave out the part where some of those settlers and their descendants killed thousands upon thousands of Native Americans.

In comparison, ISIS has killed over 170,000 people, and that number is growing.

The refugee crisis has already put ISIS members everywhere. They've killed Russians, Japanese, Lebanese, French and Syrians. And they've claimed that the British and Americans are next in line.

We don't need to sit back and be scared — that's what they want. What we need is to do something. Right now, one of the only things we can do is not accept the refugees since our government does not want to get involved in another war.

Not accepting the refugees would keep America safe. The quicker they get here, the quicker the murderers that travel with them get here. We should do something to stop them.

We're human beings, and we need to stop these monsters.



THE OAKLAND POST

**Address** 61 Oakland Center,  
Rochester, MI 48309  
**Phone** 248.370.4263  
**Web** www.oaklandpostonline.com  
**Email** editor@oaklandpostonline.com

### editorial board

**Kristen Davis**  
Editor-in-Chief  
editor@oaklandpostonline.com  
248-370-4268

**Scott Davis**  
Managing Editor  
managing@oaklandpostonline.com  
248-370-2537

**Dani Cojocari**  
Photo Editor  
photos@oaklandpostonline.com  
248-370-4266

### sections

**Kevin Teller** Campus Editor  
kjteller@oakland.edu

**Grace Turner** Life Editor  
gmtturner@oakland.edu

**Jackson Gilbert** Sports Editor  
jigilber@oakland.edu

**Cheyenne Kramer** Web Editor  
ckkramer@oakland.edu

### writers

**Rachel Williams** Staff Reporter

**Ally Racey** Staff Reporter

**Katlynn Emaus** Staff Reporter

**Shelby Tankersley** Staff Reporter

**Alexus Bomar** Staff Reporter

**Sarah Lawrence** Staff Reporter

**Jake Smith** Intern  
**Kelsey Killingbeck** Intern  
**Benjamin Peterson** Blog intern

### distribution

**Parker Simmons** Distribution Director

**Jacob Chessrown** Senior Distributor

**Christian Hiltz** Distributor

**Maria Juarez** Distributor

**Amruta Lachake** Distributor

**Drake Dawson** Distributor

**Lauren Osgood** Distributor

**Nicholson Reed** Distributor

**Kayla Bates** Distributor

**Jana Alij** Distributor

### copy & visual

**Megan Carson** Chief Copy Editor

**Morgan Dean** Copy Editor

**Nicholas Kim** Copy Editor

**Faith Brody** Copy Editor

**Brian Curtin** Copy Intern

**Dave Jackson** Photographer  
**Nowshin Chowdhury** Photographer  
**Erika Barker** Photographer  
**Dongfu Han** Photographer  
**Bohdanna Cherstylo** Photographer

**Jason Bombaci** Multimedia Intern

**Olivia Krafft** Web designer

### advertising

**Hailee Milka**  
Ads Director  
ads@oaklandpostonline.com  
248.370.4269

**Alvin Pitris**  
Assistant Advertising Manager  
**Amanda Bibi**  
Ads Assistant

### promotions

**Kelly Baum** Promotions Manager

### advising

**Holly Gilbert**  
Editorial Adviser  
248.370.4138

**Don Ritenburgh**  
Business Adviser  
248.370.2533

### Corrections Corner

In our Nov. 18 issue, we wrote a review of Oakland's Music, Theater and Dance program's performance of Equus. Although the review was positive and applauded the actors' work, some took offense to the manner in which we mentioned the nudity that occurred during the performance. We apologize to those we have offended.

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

### 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.

follow us on Twitter

@theoaklandpost

find us on Facebook

facebook.com/theoakpost

find us on Issuu

issuu.com/op86



# The President's Report: Checking up on executive promises

Nick Walter  
Contributor

If I can divert your attention for a brief moment from that looming horror which is finals, I have some updates for you. Recall that in the spring elections for Student Congress, when I ran for President, my platform had four main objectives: more swag, more outlets, more space, and more 4.0s. Over the summer, I settled in with VP Madison and the executive board and began work on those initiatives. Over the fall, I've kept you, the students, informed on the progress these initiatives. For the final fall edition of the President's Report, then, here is a quick summary



NICK WALTER  
OUSC  
President

of the progress on The Big Four. My hope is that you do not take this as me saying how awesome I am. With your votes, you hired me to be President. Here is my midterm report on whether or not you made the right choice.

## More Swag

I promised to bring more OU gear to campus. The plan was simple: buy OU stuff and give it away. The OUSC office in the basement of the OC is crammed with crewnecks, long-sleeves and drawstring bags. Trade in another shirt or hoodie from another school and pick up OU gear. Promise fulfilled? Yes.

## More Outlets

I promised to work with administration to get more outlets on campus. Unfortunately, they will not be putting any more in existing buildings, because to do so would be massively expensive (wiring issues; consult an engineering person and not

yours truly, a criminal justice major, for details). The good news is that OU plans to put more outlets in new buildings and possibly, again depending on how expensive it is, expansions on current buildings. Promise fulfilled? Yes.

## More Space

I promised to fight for an expansion of the OC. We students have been pushing for this for years; the place is simply too small. We've even run out of floor space along the walls in the food court! But our efforts to expand the OC paid off, and there is currently a request for proposals out, which is the first step in the process of expansion. Promise fulfilled? Yes.

## More 4.0s

I promised to fight to bring some semblance of order, consistency, and fairness to OU's wildly jumbled, confusing, and skewed grading scale. As I am

certain you know from painful experience, OU does not have a centralized grading scale. Indeed, within most departments there is considerable flexibility with grading. This means that there can be, say, two English 100 classes. In one, you just need a 95 percent for a 4.0; in the other, you need a 98 percent. As if that inconsistency wasn't enough, in a great number of classes, you need a 99 percent or higher for that coveted 4.0. Ninety-nine percent.

You won't find a grading system as hard anywhere in the state, which puts us students at a disadvantage compared to other schools when we graduate. To fix this, I've fought tooth and nail these past months to get OU to fix the grading scale. Over the fall, they pulled several administrators, faculty and staff to look at doing just that. Now, it may appear as though "forming a committee to look at the problem" isn't a mighty leap forward,

but that's how university administration works. It starts at that level, and it will only move forward if we the students continue to push for it to keep going. I am a member of that committee, and I will continue to fight to get this fix through. Promise fulfilled? Yes.

I made four promises to you students when I ran to be your President: more swag, more outlets, more space, more 4.0's. I have kept those promises. Do not, though, take those "Promise fulfilled? Yes," statements to be final. There is still a great deal of work that needs to be done on those four initiatives, and I will be doing it. As always, if you have any questions about these or any other projects OUSC is working on, shoot me an email (nwalter@oakland.edu), send me a Facebook message, or stop by my office in the basement of the OC. Until next time, then, good luck on finals, enjoy your break, and Merry Christmas!

# A better yOU: How to stay healthy over the holiday

Katie Rose  
Contributor

Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are coming up and it's that time of the year when we all overeat and curl up on the couch to watch holiday movies and drink hot cocoa. It's also the time of year when sitting on the couch sounds



KATIE ROSE  
Environmental,  
Health and  
Wellness Director

more tempting than stepping outside in the freezing cold and slipping on the icy driveway. With all this excessive eating and sitting around, how can we stay healthy during this time of the year? And how can we stay safe out there in the snowy conditions?

## Snack wisely

Those holiday cookies always look good. I would never say skip the cookies, but eat those sugary snacks in moderation! If you feel you can't stop after just one cookie, maybe stick to eating some fruit salad or yogurt instead. Cut a smaller piece of apple pie as well! Don't skip on the desserts, just eat less of them.

## Stay hydrated

When we are cold, our blood vessels constrict as a means of maintaining body temperature. This helps our bodies conserve heat and also increases blood pressure. Our kidneys will then secrete more urine in order to lower the pressure, which means you are eliminating more fluids from your body and becoming more dehydrated. When you are dehydrated, you're more susceptible to colds or the flu. Keep those mucus membranes moist by drinking the recommended eight 8-oz glasses of water per day.

## Avoid long car rides

Or take rest stops along the way. Sitting for a long time can restrict the circulation in your legs. Long car rides (and plane rides) are notorious for causing deep vein thrombosis. DVT is the formation of a clot in one of your deep veins and it is most common in the legs. Symptoms of DVT include swelling and pain in the legs. DVT is taken seriously because it is possible for the clot to travel to your lungs and block the flow of blood (this is called a pulmonary embolism). Symptoms of a pulmonary embolism include shortness of breath, dizziness and heart palpitations. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms after traveling far for the holi-

days, it is crucial that you seek medical attention immediately.

## Just relax

We are constantly stressing out during the semester, so why not take those couple weeks after finals to relax. Watch Netflix for a whole day or sleep in. This is your break so take a break!

## Stay active

On top of relaxing, make sure you're still being active during your time off. Take advantage of the snowy weather and go skiing or snowboarding, or skip the cold weather and go bowling or clean your whole house. You'll feel a lot better when you return back to school if you've done more than sit on a couch for two weeks straight.

## Watch out for slippery surfaces

This is the time of year when a quick trip to the grocery store can put us in the hospital. We can easily slip and fall while walking on an icy surface and break a bone, or hit a patch of black ice while driving and end up in a ditch. Both of these can cause major damage to our bodies. To walk safely on the ice, walk like a penguin. If you keep your center of gravity over your front leg when you walk (like a penguin does), you will minimize

your chance of falling. Also, wear shoes that don't have a smooth plantar surface. Shoes with raised patterns help you grip the ground better. When you're driving, always wear your seatbelt and make sure you are driving at a safe speed. Yes, this means you may have to drive under the speed limit. Consider staying off the roads during major snowstorms as well. Whatever you do, stay safe out there!

## UPCOMING EVENTS: ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & WELLNESS

DEC. 2	12 p.m.-1 p.m. Neurology Club General Meeting, Lake Michigan Room in the Oakland Center
DEC. 3	12 p.m.-1 p.m. Future Pediatricians of America Final Meeting of the Semester, Oakland Room in the Oakland Center
DEC. 4	10 a.m.-4 p.m. Student Congress Thrift 2 Gift, Gold Rooms ABC in the Oakland Center



## The Real Deal: The Threat of Right Wing Extremism

Ryan Fox  
Contributor

There is a threat facing the United States that many people don't realize exists. It is a vicious threat that claims the lives of innocent people, and leads to massive amounts of destruction in our country. That threat is right wing extremism. The most dangerous thing about that threat is that many media corporations do not address its existence, and some even work to propagate it. There have been more terrorist attacks launched by Right Wing extremists than any other ideology, and yet few seem to be willing to call it what it is.

entered a Planned Parenthood Clinic in Colorado Springs and killed three people, including a police officer. During the attack he is confirmed to have shouted "No more baby parts," in reference to the falsified footage a pro-life group took inside a Planned Parenthood Clinic earlier this year. Four officers were also injured in the gun battle.

On April 19th, 1995 a bomb was detonated in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. This attack caused the death of 168 people and the injury of 680 others. This attack was motivated by the attackers disliking of the Waco Siege and the Stand-off at Ruby Ridge. Both of these incidents occurred after the federal government attempted to execute search warrants and thus were fired upon. In both of these incidents multiple officers and combatants were killed.

On June 17th, 2015 a shooter entered the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church and killed nine people and injured one more. The shooter was apprehended the following day, and later confirmed that he attacked the historically black church in hopes to incite a race war. The shooter was a white man who was 21.

In 2014, rancher Cliven Bundy was charged with over \$1,000,000 in fines for grazing

his cattle on land that the federal government owned. Instead of paying the fines, Bundy and a number of militia from the surrounding area barricaded themselves and planned to kill any federal troops who attempted to enforce the law on Bundy. The federal government, wanting to avoid a deadly gun battle, declined to push for Bundy's arrest and he and his supporters remain on his Nevada ranch to this day.

These acts of violence, intimidation and destruction are acts of terrorism. Robert Lewis Dear, Timothy McVeigh, Dylan Roof and Cliven Bundy are all terrorists. They were all white American citizens. And they were all inspired by an extreme and perverted form of the conservative ideology. Dear was inspired by rhetoric that Planned Parenthood was an evil organization that sold baby parts, even though this was proven false. McVeigh was inspired by rhetoric that the second amendment trumps all other federal laws, and that the federal government has no right to enforce anything. Roof was inspired by racist rhetoric in the media. Bundy was inspired by the ideology that state laws trump all federal law, and is reported saying that in his eyes the federal government doesn't exist.

Conservative ideology doesn't always promote violence outright, but we can't keep pretending that it can't. All ideologies, be they political or religious, can inspire terrorism and radicalism. It's up to the moderates of an ideology to denounce acts of terror like this and to fight against the radicalization of their ideology. As of the writing of this article very few republican presidential candidates have come out and strongly denounced the actions of Friday night, and those that have kept reiterating the false information that inspired this attack. It is time that conservatives in America fight back for the soul of their movement.

## Letter to the editor: Good intentions gone bad

Emily Brett  
Contributor

I'm an OU student, and I was lucky enough to see the theatre program's production of "Equus" this past weekend. I've gotten to see a few of their plays before, but this was by far my favorite. I usually look forward to the Oakland Post's coverage of theatrical events on campus. However, I was very disappointed by the article regarding this performance.

As I said, I usually enjoy the Oakland Post, and was not only upset, but genuinely surprised by how this article handled the topic of nudity in the performance.

From the introduction, it was clear that the author was trying to treat a somewhat uncomfortable topic with humor in order to put readers at ease. But, while surely well-intentioned, this choice was disrespectful, and made it seem as though the nudity in the production was there for purely entertainment value.

Although I was not involved in the production, I can imagine the extreme intimidation, embarrassment and frustration the student actors must be feeling as their incredible vulnerability has been dismissed as a punchline. There is no room for this kind of disrespect in any profes-

sional setting, let alone an educational environment. While I'm sure that the intention was harmless, the consequence was anything but.

To describe their nakedness as having some sort of entertainment value is not only misguided, but also potentially harmful to the well-being of the students involved.

I cannot help but be worried about the existence of those people whom, upon reading your article, choose to go see this production with intentions for something other than an enriching theatrical experience.

Please publish, if not an apology, then at least a correction, stating that the show was misrepresented in the article, and the Post acknowledges its failure to be respectful of the show and the students involved. This would be the most helpful step towards overcoming this unfortunate incident and moving forward.

Let me reiterate, this situation was made all the more frustrating by the fact that I know the Oakland Post to be an excellent source of both information and entertainment. I hope my respect for the integrity of the paper will not be compromised by the lack of an appropriate response.

## 2016 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

### Nominations are now being accepted.

**THE ALFRED G. AND MATILDA R. WILSON AWARDS** recognize one female senior student and one male senior student who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

**THE HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD** recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at [oakland.edu/dean\\_awards](http://oakland.edu/dean_awards) or in 144 Oakland Center. The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 15, 2016.

**For questions, contact:**

Dean of Students Office | 144 Oakland Center | (248) 370-3352



## POLICE BRIEFS

### Marijuana possession in P11

On Nov. 11, OUPD made contact with a female smoking in her car. OUPD found 12 or more cigarettes lying on the ground near the car. As the officer was leaving he saw a prescription bottle filled with bags. The woman gave it to the officer and he found marijuana inside. The woman said the marijuana was her father's and that he has a prescription for it. The officer found more marijuana and asked the woman to come with him. He requested a warrant for her arrest for having possession of an illegal substance. All evidence was confiscated from the vehicle.

### Vehicle Theft

OUPD received a call on Nov. 15 from a woman who reported that her car had been stolen. She saw someone drive her vehicle past her so two OUPD officers got into a patrol car and followed the vehicle. It stopped on Pioneer Drive and the officers were able to retrieve the keys from the man who had taken the car. He was arrested for unlawfully driving a vehicle and for driving without a license.

— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,  
Staff Reporter

Follow us on Twitter!  
Become our fan on Facebook!



[www.twitter.com/theoaklandpost](http://www.twitter.com/theoaklandpost)  
[www.facebook.com/theoakpost](http://www.facebook.com/theoakpost)  
[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



## Classifieds

61 Oakland Center, Oakland University  
Rochester, MI 48309

### Rates:

\$0.35 per word (\$7 min.)  
Unlimited Frequency  
STUDENT DISCOUNTS!

### VALET NEEDED

Valet parking attendants, must be 21 or older, must know how to drive a stick-shift, must have a clean record (248) 740-0900 or apply online at <http://firstclassvalet.com/valet-parking/employment-application/>

### HOUSE FOR SALE

OU Faculty/Staff Subdivision: 4 Bedroom Ranch Home with Walkout Basement For Sale. Call 248-375-1340 and/or see OU Housing Website For Details. Occupancy will be available at Closing.

Books  
Cars  
Garage Sales  
Rent

Babysitting  
Help Wanted  
Carpools  
Misc., etc.

Request to include a picture or additional formatting as needed!

\*All advertising submitted for publication in The Oakland Post is subject to acceptance by the newspaper, and The Oakland Post reserves the right to reject copy at its sole discretion at any time prior to publication.



# Grizzlies on the Prowl

*"What study habits do you use to prepare for finals?"*



**Haylie Presnall, senior,  
communications**

"Haha, I don't. I've never prepped for finals."



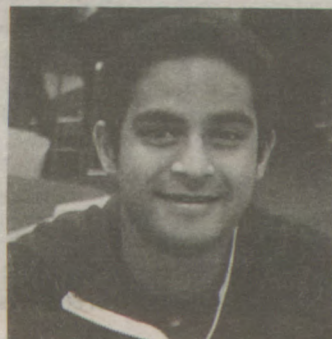
**Erin Ben-Moche, sophomore,  
journalism**

"I touch the book and absorb the information through osmosis."



**Amith Diwakar, senior,  
mechanical engineering**

"I ask my friends for notes and start figuring out what happened in class."



**Zarif Ghazi, sophomore,  
electrical engineering**

"I basically look up videos online to review and practice problems."

— Compiled by Rachel Williams,  
Staff Reporter

## Grizz Comics



— By Derek Queen, Contributing Illustrator



## OUSC accessibility committee talks of change

*Plans include proposal for new dorm building, sidewalk, elevator renovations*

**Kelsey Killingbeck**  
Staff Intern

Legislators Elijah Sanders and Ryan Fox have made it their goal to make Oakland University accessible to all people, including the physically disabled. That was shown on Thursday, Nov. 19 at Kresge Library with the first official meeting for those curious about the newly forming OUSC Accessibility Committee.

The meeting was open for all who were curious and interested in joining the committee, however, more meetings of this nature will be held in the future. Also in attendance at this meeting

was Linda Sisson, director of Disability Support Services (DSS).

### Sidewalks

The meeting touched primarily on a few important topics. One of these involved an immediate solution to the broken sidewalks across campus. Fox and Sanders brought their concerns to the head ADA architect. Their concerns were well received and they were asked to come up with a priority list as far as the sidewalks are concerned.

This was proposed to those in attendance at the meeting and the three priority sidewalks were decided to be the walk between Elliott Hall

and the OC, the walk between the OC and Vandenberg and the sidewalk surrounding Bear Lake.

The most damaged and the heavier trafficked paths were taken into consideration as well as the bridge that stretches across the lake. However, Sisson informed the committee that a work order was already proposed to have the bridge corrected.

### Elevators

Another change Fox and Sanders hope to accomplish sooner is the replacement of an elevator in Elliott Hall. Fox described it as being "practically torn out of the wall."

The committee agreed that this poses an issue for those who cannot take the stairs. This is not the only elevator out of commission on campus.

Sanders recounted times where the elevator in Oak View broke down for weeks at a time.

While these are their goals now, Fox expects solutions to come with a longer wait.

"These are the more expensive changes," he said. Replacing parts, maintaining parts or replacing elevators altogether is a bigger cost.

### Moving forward

"Unless we talk about this," Sisson said, "administration doesn't know about this." Fox agreed that word needed to be spread.

The committee plans to advertise their position on these topics as well. They discussed creating social media pages and posting articles with the Oakland Post and on Oakland's website.

Sisson brought up that the

administration does not know of a problem until someone speaks up. Without knowledge of the problem, it cannot be solved, according to Fox and supporter Grace Smith.

Sisson brought the meeting's attention to DSS's Report a Barrier. It is a function on their website that allows students to post their complaints with DSS about issues related to disability.

With door openers that do not work and handicapped bathroom stalls that are in disrepair, Fox and Smith added that there are other maintenance issues that pose problems. These and other issues can be brought to the attention of an RA or taken up with OUPD in extreme cases. The committee will be creating an awareness campaign for this very purpose at their next meeting.

## New dorm, efforts to improve campus housing are in progress

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Web Editor

With pipe leaks and elevator malfunctions on the forefront of students' concerns and plans circulating for a new dorm, students had many questions about the safety features and preventative steps taken to keep Oakland University dorms safe.

A few weeks ago, students on floor three and four in Oak View Hall were inconvenienced by a pipe leak, which backed over into two rooms and the Resident Director's apartment.

"It takes a lot to plug a four-inch sewage line," Director of University Housing James Zentmeyer said, "and there was a long delay in reporting the problem, so the problem stayed for a couple of hours untreated."

On the Oak View elevator issue, Zentmeyer said that uni-

versity housing is keeping the past history of the elevator in mind when the next opportunity comes for the university to renegotiate contracts.

Some issues have hidden under the average student's radar. When Oak View Hall was built, the design plans called for a metal connection in the shower drains, but plastic was used instead. When this was discovered, the Housing department brought the contractors back out and replaced all of the plastic connectors with metal ones, all without most students noticing the plastic ones in the first place.

"This was just one of the many preventative steps we take in Housing," Zentmeyer said.

Another way that Housing steps up its game is through renovations. Just two summers ago, Hill and Van Wagner were renovated to include new furniture and upgraded

bathrooms. This upcoming summer, Vandenberg Hall will receive similar renovations.

These renovations also include the ability for suite-by-suite heat control, which has been a point of much criticism from students across the hall.

"It may be a perfect temperature on the second floor one day, but someone on the fourth floor may be sweltering from the heat," Zentmeyer said.

Not only the bathrooms and furniture will be renovated though. The entire electrical system will be updated, the draining system will be replaced, an emergency generator will be installed and a new sprinkler system will be added into the building.

With winter break coming, though, the only big thing that Zentmeyer is worried about is human error.

"If a student leaves a window open in the middle of



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Oak View Hall experienced an unfortunate pipe leak a few weeks ago.

December, when they come back in January the temperature could have dropped low enough in their room to cause a pipe burst or other property damage," he said.

Zentmeyer also gave a brief update on the new dorm proposal.

"It will be on the south end of campus and have its own dining facility that will be equipped to serve large numbers of residents and commuters alike," he said. "It will allow

for more of the 'slipper service' idea."

Zentmeyer explained that "slipper service" is when a student can take a nap, go to class and get a meal, all without going outside the building in which they live.

Despite the problems surrounding Oakland Housing currently and proposals, Zentmeyer said that these problems have had no effect on the high demand for housing next semester.



# COO: Pioneering a new executive position

*Scott Kunselman takes office as the university's first Chief Operating Officer*

Kevin Teller  
Campus Editor

Amid a surrounding air of questioning and controversy, Oakland University's new chief operating officer, Scott Kunselman took office on Tuesday, Dec. 1.

According to Kunselman, who spoke to the Post last week, his number one goal during his three year term as COO is to be of service to OU. This falls in line with a focal point that both he and President George Hynd have brought to the forefront in many public forums so far: graduating more successful students.

Among the steps to accomplishing this and other goals that are of beneficial service to students, Kunselman said he has a number of people that he wants to speak to in order to more thoroughly understand the needs that exist.

First on this list are the many OU constituents that actively shape the environment on and off campus. While at this point still relatively fluid, Kunselman's job description as COO has been to figure out what he can do to make the lives of those in the administration easier and more efficient.

As part of the goal of graduating a higher rate of successful students, Kunselman has also made it a priority to speak to students through a number of interviews with student leadership. The goal of these interviews is to see what is working and what is not.

In other words, Kunselman said he wants to hear straight from a student perspective as to the effectiveness of certain policies and programs as well as how and why they may be improved.

"The most important thing that I can offer would be that I ultimately prove that the decision was wise and that choosing me was a good choice," Kunselman said. "If I don't pay back in efficiency and opportunity my salary multiple times to the university then I'm not doing my job."

In order to do this, Kunselman said that it is important for him to first gain the aforementioned knowledge about those on campus.

Both Hynd and Kunselman have said that the COO position is still developing in the sense that it is unknown what its description will entail beyond handling the day-to-day aspects of the president while he is away.

These interviews and meetings with students and faculty alike aim to further define this position and the more specific goals of OU's highest administrators.

Kunselman said that while he is happy to learn as much as he can, he is also familiar with OU from his past employment as well. When working at Fiat Chrysler, Kunselman worked with recruiters for the company who had relations with OU as well.

Additionally, Kunselman served on the Board of Trustees from 2012 until just before his appointment as COO. As chair of the facilities committee, Kunselman oversaw many of the changes that the campus has seen in the past few years.

His wife, Denise Kunselman, is also an alumna of the School of Business, so both of them have an integral relationship with OU.

While the position of COO is still new and still developing, The Oakland Post intends to continue to make updates on the various meetings and interviews that Kunselman holds and how that impacts his future decision-making process.



Dani Cojocari / The Oakland Post

## Kunselman's contract

**Salary:** \$325,000 annually

**Term:** Three-year contract ending on Nov. 30, 2018

**Car rental/purchase:** \$750 per month towards car or rental purchases

**Travel:** The university will pay for spouse to travel with him to certain meetings and conferences

Source: Contract documents posted on Scribd, courtesy of The Oakland Press



Megan Carson / The Oakland Post

Scott Kunselman took office as Oakland University's first Chief Operating Officer Dec. 1. He was approved and placed into the position by the Board of Trustees in October of this year.

Study Guides, Flashcards, Tutors

www.coursehero.com



# Racial tensions lead to incidents unfolding on campuses

*With University of Missouri in the spotlight, many turn to OU resources to tackle possible racial issues head on*

Alexus Bomar  
Staff Reporter

The touchy subject of race has come back into the spotlight, specifically on college campuses. But, according to research done at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), only 13 percent of racial incidents at colleges are reported. Social media has helped to make these incidents more known.

In 2015, the U.S. Department of Education recorded 146 cases of racial harassment on college and university campuses, down from 177 in 2014.

According to Mark Gordon, chief of police, there haven't been obvious racial issues reported at Oakland University.

"We are fortunate that we have not had any recent major racial incidents here at OU, and I feel that OU has always tried to maintain positive communications between students and university administration," Gordon said.

Catera Greer, secretary for the Association of Black Students at Oakland University (ABS), believes that racism hasn't changed in America.

"The best way to lower the chances of this from happening at OU is to communicate with others and keep the conversation going," Greer said. "We want everyone to be heard as well as speak their opinion."

Once the conversation is invoked, the OU community can plan effective ways to keep itself safe.

In the beginning of the month at Yale University, a story on Time.com reported that black students were turned away from a fraternity Halloween party. Jonathan Holloway, who is Yale's first black dean, took action immediately, though it took a few days for the president of the college to respond.

There was a preliminary investigation and a spokesperson from the fraternity said that the fraternities have zero toler-

ance for any behaviors or actions that deviate from their values, mission and creed, such as racism.

UCLA and Clemson University also reported that black students were excluded from fraternity parties.

Many things have happened on the University of Missouri's campus, including students feeling ignored by administrators on the issue of discrimination and a swastika drawn with human feces on a bathroom wall.

According to the Detroit Free Press, the president of University of Missouri resigned due to the many racial protests on campus, including a hunger strike by Jonathan Butler. The president is not known to be racist, but students started protesting because of his lack of concerns with the incidents.

Howard University in Washington, D.C. received a threat from someone who was threatening to kill black students on Thursday, Nov. 12. It left students afraid

to leave their rooms or even campus.

The university released a statement via Twitter stating that they were aware of the threat made on Yik Yak. The threat stated "anyone on the historically black university's campus after 10 a.m. Thursday would be the first to go," and ended the post with "after all, it's not murder if they're black."

Many college campuses across the country are coming together to show their support for Howard University, Yale University and University of Missouri (Mizzou) by participating in blackouts (wearing all black), using hashtags such as #StandwithMizzou or #BlackonCampus on Twitter and having marches and protests, Gordon reports.

People on campus who have been racially discriminated in any way should take action and speak to the Dean of Students, the Housing Office, the Counseling Center, OUPD or a professor they know and trust, according to Gordon.

## Women's panel draws dozens

*Leadership class hosts women in high level nonprofit positions*

Cheyenne Kramer  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Women in Leadership class hosted three panels talking about the ways in which women have become leaders within the workplace. The panel held on Nov. 20 was centered around women working with nonprofit organizations.

Beth Morrison, president and CEO of HAVEN; Denise Dalrymple, CEO of Girl Scouts of Southern Michigan; and Lori Kitchen, chief philanthropy officer for NEW, were all invited to speak to a crowd of about 20 people about their struggles and successes within their field.

Lisa Tillman, an Oakland University student who was part of the five member team that put on this specific panel, said that they had significantly more people in attendance for the Friday panel, than the Monday and Wednesday panels.

"This is really exciting to see," she said.

### Women in NPOs

Not all of the women in the panel began their careers believing that they would one day work with nonprofit organizations.

"I was interested in politics and didn't think of NPOs as an avenue for a career," Kitchen said. "I was working in DC, when a colleague asked if I loved being a bureaucrat. I didn't, and came back to

Michigan, where I decided I wanted to get more involved on a local level."

Morrison, however, landed her first post-undergraduate job working for a nonprofit.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do," she said, "But I knew I wanted to save the world."

"Some days I'm on call 24/7," Morrison said. Dalrymple agreed with her, stating that she never had a typical nine-to-five job in her life.

### Challenges because of gender

All of the women in the panel laughed again when asked about the challenges thanks to their gender, and commented how they knew this question would be coming soon.

"The larger the NPO, the more likely a man is to be in charge," Morrison said.

"People assume women can't handle financial stuff," Dalrymple said.

Kitchen herself had a very strong reaction to learning about challenges women faced in the workplace. Her mother, who was an engineer, never shared with her the hardships of being a woman in a male dominated field.

"Eventually my mom steered away from the corporate world and went to teaching CAD to a classroom filled with mostly boys," she said. "For a long time she was the only female in the state teaching these classes."

## JOB OPENING NOW HIRING VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS

*Great for College Students  
Evening/Weekend Work  
Flexible Hours  
Great Pay*

**First Class Valet, Inc.**  
1053 John R Rd.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48317  
(248) 652-8811 Office  
(248) 652-8822 Fax  
[www.FirstClassValet.com](http://www.FirstClassValet.com)



To apply, visit our office Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-6:00pm & Sunday 12:00pm-5:00pm or give us a call at (248)652-8811 or visit [www.firstclassvalet.com](http://www.firstclassvalet.com) to apply online

- Must be 21 or older
- Must be able to drive a manual transmission (stick)
- Must have reliable transportation
- Must have a good driving record
- Must be available weekends/holidays
- Must have good communication/customer service skills
- Clean cut appearance





# Day of Service rings in the season

*Students participate in charity projects to help those in need*

**Sarah Lawrence**  
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 18, the Oakland University Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development hosted their annual OU Day of Service event as part of their "seasons of service" series.

This one-stop shop for a variety of volunteer opportunities provided a way for all students, faculty and staff — even those with only five minutes of free-time — to help a make a difference in the community.

In their fourth year hosting the event, the CSA invited 16 nonprofit organizations to Oakland University in efforts to bring their projects and missions to light.

"This event has grown tremendously over the years," Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center of Student Activities and Leadership Development said. "In the past, we have worked exclusively with one or two nonprofits that have brought their projects to us, but we're expanding... This morning there was a line waiting at the door, which was something we never expected."

As a way to make the event more accessible for all, the CSA reached out to local businesses, organizations, professors and other student organizations to increase the marketability of the event. With this, the event took place in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. as a way to make the activities available for a wide number of individuals.

"While planning the event, we made sure to include a variety of organizations that would provide fun and engaging projects for participants to

become involved with," Kara Leslie, graduate assistant for the Center of Student Activities and Leadership Development Center said. "In order to make sure that everyone was welcome to participate, we included a variety of activities that fit into students' busy schedules, running anywhere between five minutes and an hour."

Leslie said that last year's event had approximately 160 participants, while this year's had over 300.

Among the 16 organizations involved with OU Day of Service, some of the most popular projects among participants were the fleece tie blankets for Fleece & Thank You, t-shirt dog toys for Michigan Animal Rescue League and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to Grace Centers of Hope.

"I believe that one of the main advantages to this event is that those who are involved

are able to see the finished product," Miller said. "Knowing that all of your work will pay off, in addition to knowing where it will be put to use pushes people to become involved."

According to Miller, over 300 sandwiches and 60 tie blankets had been made by 2 p.m. that day. She said that it was great to see such a level of participation.

Once all of the projects had been finished and the doors were closed, arrangements were made for the distribution of the final products before the holiday season and the CSA began preparation for their April OU Day of Service.

At the end of the day, the number of individual participants from in and around the Oakland University community had doubled from last year's event. The CSA is hopeful to continue the trend into the spring event.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

**TOP** Making fleece tie blankets at the Fleece & Thank You table was one of the most popular of the available projects. **ABOVE** Students and OU community participants created cards, t-shirts for dogs, and sandwiches to help those in need.





**TOP** Participants of the Candle Light Peace Walk help light up candles inside foam cups on Thursday, Nov. 19 by the clock tower. **LEFT** Despite the weather conditions, students stood by the clock tower holding candles in defense of peace. **RIGHT** Everyone participating walked from the Elliott Clock Tower, around the Oakland Center, across the bridge on top of Bear Lake and back to the clock tower. Candles blew out due to weather conditions but students held up flashlights from their phones representing light, to defend the peace.

Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Jake Smith  
Staff Intern

Last Thursday on a freezing cold and windy night, more than 250 students gathered at Elliott Tower to light a candle and march in defense of peace and to honor those killed in the recent ISIS attacks in Paris and Beirut.

"The main aim of our march was to demonstrate unity," President of the Chaldean American Student Association at Oakland University Halim Sheena said. "ISIS and other hate groups try to sow fear, distrust and hate among all people. We wanted to demonstrate that no matter how hard they try, they will never split us up," Sheena said.

Candles were passed out to start off the event followed by speakers Zayneb Fahs and Halim Sheena before the group headed out to walk. The march consisted of a loop around the west side of campus from the clock tower, past Dodge Hall, around the OC, across Bear Lake and back around to the clock tower.

OU CASA put on the march as a continuation of their Awareness Month efforts

# Oakland unites under candle light

*Students march in defense of peace to honor those killed in recent ISIS attacks on Paris and Beirut*

around campus. Throughout November, through bright signs, chalking the sidewalks, bake sales and tabling in the OC, OU CASA has been working to raise awareness of the ISIS situation in Iraq and Syria as well as fundraise for individuals and families who have been displaced due to an ISIS threat.

"We view [raising awareness] as one of our responsibilities because for the last year and a half, ISIS has directly impacted the historic areas where Chaldeans are natively

from. Although the attacks in Paris, Beirut and elsewhere didn't specifically target or affect Chaldeans, we understand that ISIS is currently at war with humanity, and an attack on one is an attack on all," Sheena said.

OU CASA's stance on humanity needing to unify in order to fight ISIS was shown when they reached out to Oakland's student organizations to come together for the cause.

"The planning of this event was very last minute and we knew it would be tough to get a

great turnout like we had. The student orgs helped us out a lot because the one thing they brought to us was the people," Vice President of OU CASA Fadi Sadik said.

By the time of the event, over 30 student organizations had pledged support for the march.

"The student organizations all advertised the event and most even made sure that their e-boards were in attendance. That definitely makes us hopeful for future joint-effort events because I think we all

learned how easy it is for us to work together and how large an event can be if we all just simply advertise out. United together, we can make big things happen," Sheena said.

Following the candlelight march, the next event up for OU CASA is a visit from Rafeed Yaldo on Wednesday, Nov. 25 at noon. Yaldo is the founder of "Help Iraq," the main relief agency that aids people who have been displaced by ISIS. OU CASA has yet to announce their event schedule for next semester however students can stay up to date on their activity by following @OU\_CASA on Twitter and Instagram, Snapchat (ou\_casa) or visit their Facebook page. They meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Kresge Library every Tuesday.

OU CASA provides a network between the Chaldean community and other Oakland University students. They currently have 260 active members, many of which are not Chaldean as the organization welcomes students of all backgrounds to join. Students who are interested in joining can sign up at OU CASA meetings or any of their on-campus activities.



## Oakland's energy innovator recognized

*Executive director at OU INC Amy Butler inducted into hall of fame*

**Rachel Williams**  
Staff Reporter

Amy Butler was honored for her 20 years of service in the energy industry with an induction as the first woman into the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council's (EIBC) Energy Innovators Hall of Fame on Nov. 10. She serves as the executive director at OU INC and the Clean Energy Research Center on campus at Oakland University.

The EIBC created the Hall of Fame a few years ago to recognize the energy leaders of today and tomorrow.

"It isn't about the recognition. I've always been the person developing the team around the program, always pushed the people forward for the recognition," Butler said.

"I always believed in moving teams forward and giving them the opportunity to excel and reach new heights in their career. This is that one moment where they say thank you."

Butler's impressive career has provided plenty of room for recognition. Before coming to OU INC four and a half years ago, she worked in state government for 32 years and spent 20 of those developing programs and poli-

cies for energy efficiency.

OU INC works with clients to help analyze startup companies' current business plans and improve upon those plans. OU INC helps with the finance strategy, design aspects or business model in order to make the company gain investors.

They currently house 18 clients at the Incubator — the building in which the company is based — and work with about 50 outside clients.

They focus on developing three main areas of a startup business: technology, business and finance strategies. Their work with the business will help propel the startup into the energy information technology, medical health or advanced automotive market to succeed.

"OU INC is focused on the mission of transitioning businesses and academic innovations to the market," Butler explained.

Companies housed in the Incubator — which serves as an office space, work space and training technology center — are introduced to Oakland's senior design program to assist in their transition to the market.

The Incubator houses companies that specialize in 3-D printing, robotics, drones, sheet metal presses, medical companies and

a hybrid scooter company, to name a few.

Alongside these companies are those devoted to energy efficiency and sustainability. In the Incubator, there are solar panels, a solar simulator and bio-diesel research for the different companies working on these energy sources.

It is because of these startups and her career devoted to energy policy that Butler was honored by the EIBC.

Associate professor in the Oakland University School of Engineering Professor Christopher J. Kobus nominated Butler because of her "long-term commitment and continual contribution to the energy industry in the state of Michigan."

The EIBC also honors Businesses of the Year, Emerging Businesses of the year, Employer of the Year and Public Official of the Year.

OU INC currently has nine Oakland interns and hosts workshops that provide networking opportunities for students, while introducing them to the Incubator.

Butler encourages students to explore all that OU INC has to offer as they work in nearly every aspect of business and allows students to work in each area.



Dongfu Han/The Oakland Post

Amy Butler was honored by the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council by being the first woman inducted into their hall of fame.

## Studying for finals: How to stay focused

**Alexus Bomar**  
Staff Reporter

When it comes to studying, students do one of the following: study days in advance, study the day before (cram) or don't study at all. But many students may be studying the wrong way, which could impact their grades.

Figuring out how to study comes with trial and error. Every student studies differently, but they eventually figure out the way that works best for them.

Melanie Chamberlain, academic adviser in the First Year Advising Center, stated that the most effective study habit is taking 10-minute study breaks, while the least effective is reacting to temptations.

"Commit to studying for half an hour, then reward yourself with a 10-minute break, then repeat," she said.

Chamberlain explained that the least effective study habit is being distracted by temptations such as using a phone or putting on a favorite show. She suggested that students put their phones in a different room and don't watch a show because neither is ideal for an effective study environment.

Every college student may have encountered some difficulties when it comes to studying. The Student Success Service is one place students can go to get tips on studying, along with tips on time management and test-taking anxiety.

"Right after class or as soon as possible, students should take 15 minutes to review the material covered that day," Michele Applebee, student success coordinator, said. "Students will be surprised at how much more information they retain."

Applebee said that every student falls victim to another least effective study habit, which is cramming. Our brains aren't designed to take in large amounts of information in a small amount of time, so she suggests studying well ahead of exams, two weeks if possible, in short increments.

If a student doesn't know how to go about studying, Applebee suggests using the SQ3R Method (Survey, Question, Read, Recite & Review). It guides a student through how to read a textbook and how to remember key material that will help with an upcoming quiz or test. Visit the Study Guides and Strategies at studyguides.net for more information on this method.

If you need more tips and ideas on how to study better, visit the Student Success Service in Hamlin Hall or the Tutoring Center in North Foundation Hall.

### Tips to Study Better

- Determine what method works best for you
- Rewrite notes
- Read notes aloud
- Make flash cards
- Schedule time to study
- Download apps such as Lightning Bug or White Noise if you can't study without background noise
- Find an environment with little to no distractions
- Visit the Tutoring Center for tips and ideas for the best study practices



# Don't shy away from class evaluations

*Students are encouraged to voice honest opinions in course evaluations*

Grace Turner  
Life Editor

I know I'm not alone when I say that I've had some difficult professors. Miscommunicated homework, miscalculated grades and near-impossible assignments have ravaged the schedules of most students.

I took a class last year that was particularly unorganized. Most of the students were utterly confused by the assignments, and asking the professor to clarify questions only made the directions foggier. Classes were often silent, with little discussion and no lecture. When we filled out evaluations at the end of the semester, I was honest and voiced my frustration.

After the last class, I walked back to my car with another student and was floored to find out that she didn't give

the professor a bad evaluation because she felt sorry for him.

Why would you pay thousands of dollars for a class and then not give your honest opinion in an evaluation? I am writing this to ask you — to beg you — to take evaluations seriously. Professors can't see them until after grades are submitted, so speak your mind.

"When faculty are considered for tenure and promotion, they have to provide evidence of effective teaching, research and service," Susan Awbrey, senior associate provost, said. "It's in many cases a portfolio."

Can you guess what's used as evidence for the "effective teaching" portion of the portfolio? Among other things, a compilation of student evaluations. Good or bad reviews can affect a promotion or dismissal.

"There is usually a different compilation for each class a professor teaches," Awbrey said.

Having another faculty member observe the class also affects the effective teaching portion.

The entire portfolio is reviewed by a committee within the school or college when a faculty member is eligible for tenure or a promotion.

"You really get people who understand the discipline," Awbrey said.

After that, a committee of faculty from different departments analyze the portfolio.

Finally, the provost looks through the recommendations by both committees and talks to the dean of the school or college for input. They make the final decision.

Evaluations are helpful even if a faculty member isn't eligible for tenure or promotion, according to Pat Piskulich, associate professor of political science.

"We get some really good advice," Piskulich said.

Although professors aren't required to look over the evaluations, Piskulich said he doesn't know any professors who don't care what students have to say.

"There's a customer service to what we do," he said. "We have an obliga-

tion to be transparent."

Many things affect how a professor is evaluated, Piskulich said, including the professor's personality and when the evaluations are administered. It's difficult to pinpoint exactly what evaluations measure.

Not every department and college hands out evaluations at the end of the semester. Some have students do them online on their own time. Political science is one of these departments. Piskulich said they have a very low response rate. Only students who have strong feelings bother to fill them out.

"Who is that small portion? Are they really happy or really angry?" Piskulich said.

It shouldn't only be impassioned people. It should be everyone. Students have a voice, and they should use it. Terrible professors shouldn't be teaching, and good professors should be recognized.

So be honest. Be thoughtful. And if evaluations are done outside of class, take the time to fill them out.

## Bottomless toys, bottomless love

Rachel Williams  
Staff Reporter

When Micky Guisewite's son was diagnosed with leukemia, her world fell apart. Beyond the incredible emotional expense, she noticed that the medical expenses left her and other parents without the resources to provide toys or fun things for their children. She founded The Bottomless Toy Chest in Birmingham to address this need.

"My dream is that every child hospitalized with cancer will be able to look forward to frequent packages filled with fun, creativity and love; gifts that ultimately will help give them the miracle of courage and strength to fight back," Guisewite said on the organization's website.

Molly Sweet, communication major at Oakland University, has interned with Bottomless Toy Chest since August. She plans to go into nonprofit work and found out about the organization through a friend. She serves

as a social media and community outreach intern.

Sweet works to promote the charity on their social media outlets and reaches out to businesses to set up toy drives or collect donations. The organization has more than 15 companies set up for toy drives this holiday season.

Bottomless Toy Chest has a warehouse in Troy where they keep all of their donated toys. Their goal for the end of the year is to deliver more than 30,000 toys. The organization does weekly deliveries to all Michigan hospitals with pediatric cancer units and one hospital in Toledo.

"What we really like about the toy deliveries is that the children have a choice," Sweet said.

During the holidays, there is an extra push for toy collections, though they accept donations all year. In December, employees and interns deliver toys each week to Michigan hospitals dressed in elf costumes with Santa by their side.

On Nov. 6, they held their

3rd Annual Bottomless Bowl fundraiser. The fundraiser sold out and was fulfilling for employees and patients alike. Participants bowled and bid on auction items at the event to raise funds for the organization.

"Seeing all the people there for the exact same cause and then having some of the patients at the event" was one of the most rewarding parts of her internship, Sweet explained.

Bottomless Toy Chest currently has five interns. Students interested in getting involved can also use it for an internship course at Oakland.

Their work goes beyond the classroom though.

"It's knowing that you're working for more than the grade and the internship," Sweet said.

Anyone interested in getting involved this holiday season or next semester can visit [bottomlesstoychest.org](http://bottomlesstoychest.org) or find it on Facebook.

Anyone can help donate or collect toys, host a wrap party,



Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

Molly Sweet, communication major at Oakland University, interns with Bottomless Toy Chest Sweet and works to promote the charity.

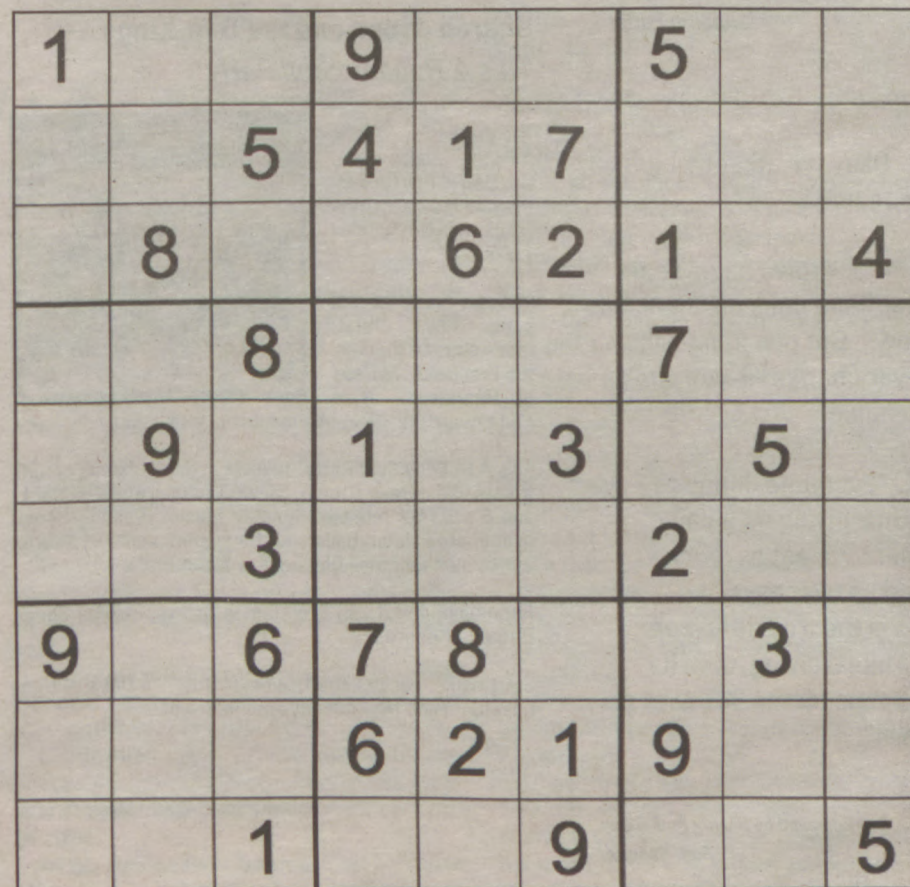
where people package the toys for the children, or visit their website for more ways to give.

The holidays are a time of

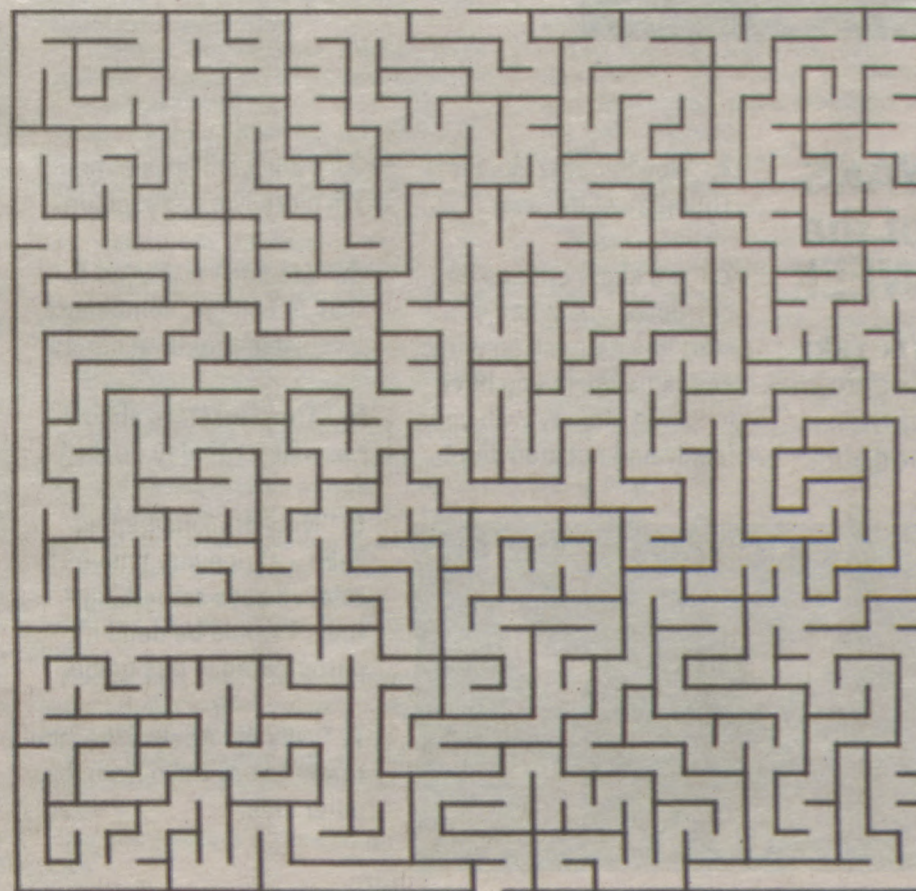
giving back. The Bottomless Toy Chest provides a simple way to brighten a child's holiday and give some solace to families in need.



\_\_\_\_\_



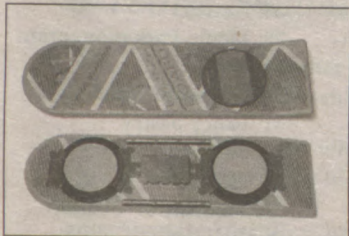
13: For fear that  
21: Tune  
23: Using both sides with  
equal frequency (like the  
letters in this puzzle's an-  
swer grid?)  
26: Instruct  
28: Menlo Park monogram  
29: Traffic light color  
30: Dry white Italian wine  
31: Fancy pastry  
33: Stitched  
34: Hollers  
37: McBride of 'Boston  
Public'  
38: Something to believe in  
44: 'I'm Sorry' singer  
Brenda  
46: On edge  
48: Hill tops  
50: Mai \_\_\_\_  
52: Colorado ski resort  
53: Geishas' sashes  
54: Walk in water  
56: Take digs at  
58: Up to the task  
59: Unaccompanied  
60: Geographical seven  
62: Nice handle  
64: In mourning





# themix

## 7 UNREALISTIC GIFTS YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS



**1. HOVERBOARD FROM *BACK TO THE FUTURE*:** According to director Robert Zemeckis, we are supposed to have this by now. But he also thought the Cubs would win the World Series this year, so he was a little off.

**2. TED FROM *TED*:** We all want our own living, breathing, cuddly teddy bear, but due to their vulgar tendencies, we think this will not be a possibility any time soon.

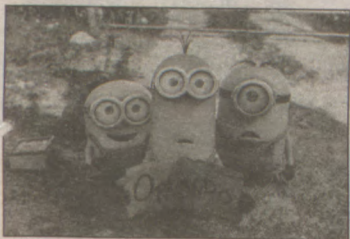
**3. MOGWAI FROM *GREMLINS*:** Due to the terrifying consequences for breaking one of the three rules (do not expose it to sunlight, do not let it get wet and never feed it after midnight), we don't think these will be a hot toy item this year.

**4. MINION FROM *DESPICABLE ME*:** If only these lovable yellow creatures were real, the world would be a happier, and much stranger, place to live.

**5. BAYMAX FROM *BIG HERO 6*:** A personal health care provider, the big marshmallow of a robot would be awesome to walk around campus with.

**6. TURBO MAN FROM *JINGLE ALL THE WAY*:** Schwarzenegger spends nearly a whole film trying to track down this coveted toy. Might be unlikely, but can you imagine waking up to find that under your tree?

**7. RED RIDER BB GUN FROM *A CHRISTMAS STORY*:** All that needs to be said is, "You'll shoot your eye out kid."



— Compiled by Scott Davis,  
Managing Editor

## YAKS of the WEEK

**Yik Yak:**  
The voice of the people



**1.** "November is like the Thursday of the year."

**2.** "You know college has corrupted you when you start having a full on panic attack because you have to spend the day with your family and not studying."

**3.** "I don't call myself hip. I'm more like... shoulder."

**4.** "You don't really 'go to bed' in college, some naps are just longer than others."

**5.** "The bookstore should have Black Friday deals."

**6.** "New drinking game: Take a shot every time a relative says something rude. I would be dead if I participated in this game."

**7.** "Why did Adele cross the road? To say hello from the other side."

**8.** "Okay we ate, can I go home now?"

**9.** "Hair grows back, scars heal. Time goes on, mankind grows. But one thing will never change — you can't fix stupid."

**10.** "Everyone defines Thanksgiving as a day where we eat as much food as we can. But if this is the true definition of Thanksgiving, then it happens for me 365 days a year!"

— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,  
Staff Reporter

## TOP TUNES

wxou albums  
of the week

1. Protomartyr — "The Agent Intellect"
2. King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard — "Paper Mache Dream Balloon"
3. Joanna Newsom — "Divers"
4. Martin Courtney — "Many Moons"
5. Frankie Cosmos — "Fit Me In [EP]"
6. Vulfpeck — "Thrill of the Arts"
7. Beach House — "Thank Your Lucky Stars"
8. Palm — "Trading Basics"
9. Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings — "It's A Holiday Soul Party"
10. Sports — "All of Something"

## ALBUM SPOTLIGHT

**Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings —  
"It's A Holiday Soul Party"**

On their new album, Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings funk up the holidays with new takes on old holiday classics.

Though many of the songs have Christmas-related themes, the first track, "8 Days of Hannukah," is a nod towards the Jewish community and holiday diversity.

"It's A Holiday Soul Party" follows in the footsteps of funk greats like James Brown, Stevie Wonder and The Jackson 5 who all released holiday music. Blasting horns, syncopated sleigh bells and the smooth voice of Sharon Jones make for a soulful holiday listen.

Recommended if you like: James Brown, holiday cheer, Daptone Records

Start with: "Funky Little Drummer Boy," "8 Days of Hannukah," "Ain't No Chimneys in the Projects"

— Anthony Spak, WXOU Music Director







Steve Clark, an alumnus of Oakland University and former men's soccer player, has been playing for professional soccer clubs since graduating.

## 'Driven' Steve Clark is a keeper

*Former Golden Grizzly goalie tearing up major league soccer, has 'loads ahead of him'*

Ally Racey  
Staff Reporter

**H**e could arguably go down as one of the best athletes to ever come through Oakland.

That's what Oakland's head soccer coach Eric Pogue said about his close friend and former goalkeeper, Steve Clark.

Clark was the goalkeeper for Oakland from 2005-08. As a junior and senior, he was a two-time all Summit League player. He ranked eighth in the country with a 0.54 goals against average in his last year as a Golden Grizzly.

Clark was named to the all Midwest region first team, posting a Summit League record-tying 11 shutouts.

In 2008 he was named Defensive Player of the Year.

"He was a tremendously hard worker, he was very driven, his work ethic and belief in himself was second to none," Pogue said.

Clark played four years with Honefoss BK and three in Norway's topflight division and level of competition.

Columbus Crew of the major league soccer added him from Seattle Sounders FC, an American professional soccer club, in 2014.

In his first season he made all 34 starts. He was named Columbus' Defender of

the Year and captured the Kirk Urso Heart Award.

Clark played every minute in every game for two straight years.

"He's a winner, he wants to win and he demands a lot of himself and in return he asks a lot of his teammates," Pogue said.

Pogue mentioned that "no one was ever going to tell Clark that he wasn't going to play major league soccer. He had people tell him he wasn't good enough or he wasn't tall enough, but he always believed in himself."

One of the main reasons Pogue recruited him was because he saw a kid who has qualities that no one can teach.

"All of his success can be attributed to his hard work and his perseverance and his self belief that he was never going to get told no," he said.

"He has had a lot of doors shut in his face and he could choose to use that as an excuse to quit or an opportunity to rise to the occasion and he's always risen to the occasion," Pogue said.

Two of the main things Pogue stressed were that Clark was a very intense person and a huge believer in himself.

Sometimes Clark would take things to the extreme and his intensity would often get the best of him. He would be his own worst critic.

"He's really been able to harness that intensity and become much more focused," Pogue said.

Clark now uses that intensity to motivate himself and his teammates.

When Clark first got to Oakland, one of his teammates and fellow goalkeeper, Jeff Wiese, was a big influence in his life.

Pogue said Wiese really humbled Clark through work ethic, intensity, dedication, maturity and professionalism before Wiese graduated in 2005.

Wiese taught Clark what it really took to become a top-level goalkeeper and Clark used those lessons to work with other goalkeepers under him.

In 2008, Clark became student body president. Pogue said Clark talked to him about it and was all for it.

"There's a time for soccer, there's a time for school and there was a time for the student body aspect of it," Pogue said.

"I think balance and structure doesn't take away from the experience, it only adds to it and I think it makes you a better student, a better athlete and a better person."

Clark believes he is the best goalkeeper in MLS. Pogue said if you don't believe that then you shouldn't be playing.

"I think that really epitomizes what being a coach and being a mentor is all about. He's just a really special person to me."

"He is someone you just want to follow and you can see his passion and how genuine he is when he is on the field."

"You would love to have him on your team, but you would hate to play against him."

Pogue said that Clark's journey won't stop at major league soccer. He said Clark looks at the U.S. National Team.

"If he keeps playing the way he does, I think that's on the horizon for him," Pogue said.

"No one deserves success as much as he does."

## Hit and miss for women's basketball over Thanksgiving

Ally Racey  
Staff Reporter

**T**he Golden Grizzlies women's basketball team defeated Norfolk State, Tuesday, Nov. 24, with a final score of 83-73.

Player of the game Olivia Nash recorded her first double-double of the season scoring a season-high 17 points, 13 rebounds and added five assists leading Oakland to the win.

Oakland had four players in double figures led by Nola Anderson's game-high 21 points along with Elena Popkey and Sinclair Russell who clipped in 16 and 12 points, respectively.

Nicole Dodd recorded two blocks, which was a career-high.

Other players scoring for Oakland were Taylor Jones with eight points, Rio Dudgeon with six points and Leah Somerfield adding two points.

The team fell 97-77 to Youngstown State at home on Saturday, Nov. 28.

Taylor Gleason, Nash, and Dodd each scored in double figures.

Nash scored a team-high 15 points, followed by 11 points from Dodd.

This was Gleason's first game of the season. She added 13 points, four assists and three rebounds in her Oakland debut.

"For her first game I thought she played very well," head coach Jeff Tungate said.

Player of the game Popkey reached double figures for the third time this season with 14 points along with five rebounds and three assists in only 18 minutes.

Before their next game, Tungate said the team will be working on their defense. He explained that they will do whatever they need to do to fix it.

"The last couple years I thought we were a decent defensive team, but just had trouble scoring the ball. Now we can score the ball, but we can't guard so we have to get back to having an identity of a defensive team and find the right match-ups to make that happen," Tungate added.

The Golden Grizzlies return to the O'rena against Dartmouth on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.



# Oakland loses heartbreaker to Georgia

*Golden Grizzlies' record falls to 3-3 after tough six-game road trip*

Jackson Gilbert  
Sports Editor

The Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team fell to the Georgia Bulldogs in Athens on Tuesday night 86-82. Oakland's record now stands at 3-3.

The game was close throughout, with 20 lead changes and 12 ties. Georgia's largest lead in the game was four, including the final score.

Kahlil Felder finished the night with 23 points and five assists, but made just six of 20 shots. Jalen Hayes played well for Oakland with 23 point and six rebounds. Percy Gibson fouled out late in the second half giving Georgia a heavy advantage.

The team turned the ball over 11 times, many of them coming in the second half.

"The start of the second half was huge. We let an athletic team run and get runouts. They shot 65 percent in the second half," Oakland head coach Greg Kampe said after the game. "The turnovers and the mistakes we made in the second half put us in a position to lose."

Only six players played any considerable minutes for Oakland.

Max Hooper provided a spark off the bench for the Golden Grizzlies making 7-14 of his three-point attempts.

Kampe was very critical of the officiating in the game after several controversial calls went against Oakland.

"Three controversial calls that took the game away from us," Kampe said.

Kampe chose his words carefully after the game in order to avoid a punishment from the NCAA but was visibly upset about the calls.

Leading the way for the Bulldogs was guard J.J. Frazier with 23 points and six as-



sists. Yante Maten added 21 points and nine rebounds in the effort.

Georgia shot 53 percent from the field on the night.

"Over the last four years we've been in the position to win against the power five conferences and we haven't found a way to win and I'm upset about that," Kampe said.

Oakland will wrap up a six game road trip on Saturday at Robert Morris. They lost to Colorado State and Southern Illinois in late November. They then travelled to Texas to play two consecutive games against Alcorn State and Abilene Christian, in the Corpus Christi Coastal Classic winning both games late last week.

## UPCOMING GAMES

**12/5 @ Robert Morris,**  
4 p.m.

**12/7 vs. Binghamton,**  
7 p.m.

**12/12 @ Toledo, 7 p.m.**

**12/19 @ Washington,**  
4:30 p.m.

**12/22 vs. Michigan**  
State at the Palace, 7  
p.m.

**12/28 vs. Chicago**  
State, 7 p.m.

**12/30 @ Virginia, 6**  
p.m.



Kristen Davis / The Oakland Post

**TOP** Kahlil Felder looks to pass early in the first half of the game against the Georgia Bulldogs. **ABOVE** Jalen Hayes goes up for a shot at Tuesday night's game.



# Golden grizzlies give larger than life impact

*Working with an outside organization, three different teams partner up with chronically ill children*

Katlynn Emaus  
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 24, Oakland University's women's basketball team signed its newest member, 11-year-old Sofia Floros. She will be sporting jersey number 13.

The team has recently become involved with a program called Team IMPACT. The organization matches chronically ill children with a college sports team.

"Sofia benefits by being a part of a team. She will have the opportunity to gain 15 new sisters as part of her family," women's basketball head coach Jeff Tungate said.

"Our team benefits from this program by realizing there is great responsibility that comes with putting on an Oakland University uniform. We have the opportunity to impact lives. That's much more important than any basketball game."

To welcome Floros, the team reached out through texts and emails to the girl. They even surprised her with a national letter of intent press conference.

Floros sits behind the bench at all the games and hangs out with the players in the locker room.

"Our players have made her an official member of this program, I hope this brings great joy to Sofia and we can build

a relationship between her and our players that will last a lifetime," Tungate said.

"Life is about making a difference. And if our team can make a difference in Sofia's life, we obviously want to be a part of that."

Women's basketball is not the only Oakland sport involved with Team IMPACT. Both volleyball and swimming and diving have signed a child through the program. Volleyball signed 11-year-old Hannah Roddis.

"I have been aware of organizations that pair collegiate athletic programs with youths with illnesses through various media outlets, but Breann Reveley specifically brought Team Impact to our attention," head volleyball coach Rob Beam said.

"I had wanted to do this as a program activity in previous years and so when Bre asked to register and we were matched with Hannah so quickly, I was thrilled."

Much like the basketball team, Roddis gained a group of older sisters. According to Beam, Roddis knows that she has a support group that is outside of her family and school friends she can count on.

Roddis also has the opportunity to learn from the student-athletes and see them as role models. The players also get to learn from the young girl.

"Our players not only receive the ben-

efits of Hannah's friendship and the camaraderie of being with her whole family, but it allows them to see the broader picture outside of just life as a student-athlete," Beam explained.

"Hannah is facing a difficult chronic disease and so being with her is a reminder to all of us how fortunate we are to be healthy and be able to compete in a sport we love."

The team was officially complete the day that Roddis signed her letter of intent.

"Truthfully, we had already met with Hannah and the players had taken her to the pool and they had cheered her on at one of her swim meets," Beam said.

"Since then they have gone to a cider mill, gone to a movie and went to her birthday party. Hannah has also been a regular at our matches and even has made road trips to see us play."

12-year-old Devon Wolbert signed with the swim team in April. Assistant swim coach Shawn Kornoelje has a lot of experience working with people who are physically disabled.

Kornoelje has a history of coaching paralympians and is also married to an incomplete quadriplegic.

"I hope this teaches us perspective, to consider yourself fortunate for what you have and not dwell on the negatives. I've done that with all the paralympic athletes

I've worked with and also being married to a person with a disability. When you have a bad day, you realize that this person is going through more and persevering through more than you on a daily basis," Kornoelje said.

The team has done a lot to help welcome Wolbert. They surprised him after a doctor's visit and a group of team members went to his birthday party over summer.

"It is tough for a 12-year-old to hang out with 18 to 20 year old men and women, but it was a get-to-know-you-better situation," Kornoelje explained.

"He came over a couple of times just to hang out. He likes video games and our guys like video games, so it just seemed natural. I hope he feels wanted here, because he really is."

The Horizon League swimming and diving championships are being hosted at Oakland, and Kornoelje is looking to get Wolbert involved during all five days of the event. The more Wolbert is around and the more the team is around him, the better he gets to know everyone.

"We want him to be involved," Kornoelje said.

"That is the beauty of being part of a team: to have people support you, help you grow and build and do positive things."



Bohdanna Cherstylo / The Oakland Post

Women's basketball head coach Jeff Tungate smiles as Sofia Floros signs her letter of intent on Nov. 24. The women's basketball team is the third Oakland team to sign someone through Team Impact.

## LIMITED TIME AUTO LOAN RATE

Enjoy rates as low as 1.99% APR on new and used vehicles.  
Terms up to 48 months.

As low as

**1.99%**  
APR



Available now!

Visit us in the Oakland Center or online  
to take advantage of this rate today!



[www.oucreditunion.org](http://www.oucreditunion.org)

**OAKLAND  
UNIVERSITY**  
Credit Union



# Former OU student-athlete founds organization

*'Fleece and Thank You' brings blankets, smiles to hospitalized children*

Nowshin Chowdhury  
Staff Photographer

Each year, more than three million children are hospitalized in the United States.

A nonprofit organization called Fleece and Thank You is dedicated to have a colorful fleece blanket and an encouraging video waiting for as many pediatric patients possible when they check in, so they can have some brightness in their lives during their dark times.

## Battling with blankets

Oakland University men's soccer alum Nicholas Kristock founded the organization Fleece and Thank You.

In 2013, Kristock became the first student-athlete to receive the Human Relations Award in recognition of his academics in classroom and service in the community. In December of 2013, Kristock signed a contract with Logan Lightning FC and by February 2014, he had moved to Brisbane, Australia to play professional soccer overseas. After playing for two seasons, his contract ended and he moved back to the States in October 2015.

"Originally, the plan was to stay for one [season], but I decided to stay for a second one. I was glad I did, because that's where I got my passion for nonprofits, in that second season," Kristock said.

During his stay there, he volunteered at children's hospitals and met Sophie, a four-year-old girl battling neuroblastoma.

"Even though she was four, and battling [neuroblastoma], she was still super happy and energetic and so inspiring. I felt a call to do something to honor her and kids that are similar to her," Kristock said.

Inspired by Sophie, Kristock reached out to his twin sister Tara Kristock, who worked at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"I told him about how I thought it would be great if he could find a way to coordinate making some fleece blankets for the holidays this year," Tara Kristock said.

I knew from experience as a nurse on this unit [pediatric hematology/oncology] that the patients loved getting blankets, but we didn't always have enough to give every patient at any given time."

## Delivering with delight



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Oakland University graduate and former soccer player Nicholas Kristock (left) along with friend Dan Brown (right) delivered blankets to Beaumont Children's Hospital on Wednesday, Nov. 25. Kristock founded Fleece and Thank You, a nonprofit organization, after he graduated.

With the help of Oakland University Alumni Association and other volunteers, the Fleece and Thank You team made their first delivery of 57 blankets to Mott Children's hospital.

"I watched a little girl's face light up with a huge smile when I walked into her room and handed her a Frozen-themed blanket. She was so excited, she started singing 'Let It Go' right on the spot! I know that all of the patients who receive blankets love the comfort of a soft fleece blanket to keep them warm and make their room a little brighter," Tara Kristock said.

Oakland University women's soccer alumna and current soccer coach at Alliance Academy East Jenna Taylor helped spread the word about the organization to her team, coaches and friends.

"I was wrapping up my fall season for my teams and I saw something about Fleece & Thank You on Facebook. I immediately had an idea to get my entire team to participate as a team bonding and community service project," Taylor said.

"I believe that being a part of a team is more than the sport itself. It is building a bond with each other and supporting other causes."

## Future full of fleece

Fleece and Thank You currently has 202 blankets donated, 500 pledged and hopes to reach a total of 1,000 fleece blankets by Christmas.

Kristock and Dan Brown from Fleece and Thank you delivered 30 fleece blankets to Beaumont Children's Hospital in Royal Oak on Wednesday, Nov. 25. Tyler Whitfield, 6, and Kay Jordan, 8, met Kristock and Brown at the Children's Miracle Network Garden and received the first blankets at the hospital.

With the holidays coming up, Fleece and Thank You has teams coordinated to deliver to 10 different children's hospital locations all across Michigan for Christmas.

"There's enough people and there's enough fleece out there, we just have to coordinate the effort," Kristock said.

For more information, visit [fleeceandthankyou.org](http://fleeceandthankyou.org) or find them on social media.

## Follow Fleece and Thank You on social media:

**TWITTER** @fleeceandthankyou

**FACEBOOK** Fleece and Thank You

**INSTAGRAM** @fleeceandthankyou

## MORE ONLINE

Photos from Fleece and Thank You's visits to OU and Beaumont can be found at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

**OU's Downtown**

*the* **VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER HILLS**

Walton Boulevard & Adams Road | [www.theVORH.com](http://www.theVORH.com) | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [p](#) [y](#)