

TOP 12 {IN}

2012



GAINING STRENGTH

Oakland Athletics' strength and conditioning program explored

PAGE 12



FOREVER YOUNG

Student gets elected to Romeo School Board by majority vote

PAGE 17



END OF THE WORLD

The Mayan's predicted the world will end on Dec. 21. Do you?

PAGE 20

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thisweek

November 28, 2012 // Volume 39, Issue 12



ontheweb

Go Radio performed with openers Stages & Stereos and more, including local band Yours Truly featuring Oakland University student Leo Bautista.

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

MY FAMILY VALENTINE // Oakland men's basketball visited East Lansing Friday, Nov. 23. Senior Drew Valentine met his younger brother, Spartan freshman Denzel Valentine, for the first and possible last time in their collegiate basketball careers. The two brothers shared a lot of laughs and smiles on the court in the Breslin Center. Oakland lost the game, 70-52. Spartans head coach Tom Izzo praised them both. *DYLAN DULBERG// The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to editor@oaklandpostonline.com for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

What do you think was the biggest story this past year?

- A** Hot for teacher
- B** \$21 million donation
- C** Chick-fil-A controversy
- D** OUPD voicemail mishap

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What is your position on the potential Oakland University smoking ban?

- A** I think they should ban it
76 votes | 54%
- B** I don't think they should ban it
25 votes | 18%
- C** I don't smoke — it doesn't matter
12 votes | 9%
- D** I think people will still smoke regardless
28 votes | 20%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 1, 1967

A UFO sighting was reported on campus by four male students who were leaving campus on Library Drive. Police were called to the scene. The group watched the UFO as it disappeared and reappeared over South Foundation Hall.

DECEMBER 2, 1977

The Board of Trustees approved a constitution for the School of Nursing so that the school's first class could graduate later in the semester.

DECEMBER 3, 1979

Vandenberg Hall was evacuated because a bomb scare threatening the lives of Iranian dorm students was received by campus police. The dorms were searched and were then declared safe.



6

FROM SHARE TO LOAN

In hopes of restoring the less-than-desirable results of the Bike Share Program, OU will soon be adopting a Bike Loan program with Wi-Fi controlled locks and student PINs.



15

AND ALL THAT JAZZ

OU's student Jazz Band will play at Detroit's historical jazz club, Cliff Bells, early in December. The group has had the honor of taking the stage there before.



18

WHISKERED WONDER

Students show off their fuzzy faces during No-Shave November, or Movember, a month-long ode to prostate cancer awareness. Who has the chops?

BY THE NUMBERS
BLACK FRIDAY

\$423
average spent per shopper
over the weekend

89
million shoppers
in stores

247
million shoppers in
stores and online

\$59.1
millions spent in stores and
online over the weekend

24
people injured in
Walmart stores

STAFF EDITORIAL

No ifs, ands or butts

Hopefully soon, the thick, heavy aroma of cigarette smoke that clouds entrances to campus buildings will clear.

In place of it will be clean, fresh air unaffected by the toxins of tobacco passed on to students by the myriad smokers at Oakland University.

The Committee for a Smoke-Free Campus, a group of Oakland employees and students, is working toward making OU completely smoke free.

The group hopes to make the change through an amendment of OU Administrative Policy 475, which currently prohibits smoking in all university buildings and within 50 feet of those facilities

Approximately 20.1 percent of adults age 18-24 smoke, according to a 2010 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Protection.

At Oakland, those smokers can be found cluttering the entrances to campus buildings and while walking around. They cluster around the smokestacks during breaks and make it almost impossible to walk into a building without getting a whiff of secondhand smoke.

The current smoking rule is not enforceable, according to OU Police Department Chief Samuel Lucido. We do not blame OUPD for not enforcing this, however. The 50-foot rule was a bad idea from the

The 50-foot rule was a bad idea from the start, as bins are rarely placed within the required distance and often obstruct access to the handicap buttons for campus buildings.

start, as bins are rarely placed within the required distance and often obstruct access to the handicap buttons for campus buildings. It's also not stopping anyone — both students and faculty included — from smoking on the patio outside of the Oakland Center and other areas around campus.

Oakland is nationally known as an up-and-coming medical school. With the William Beaumont School of the Medicine and Human Health Building churning out students who are trained to save and improve lives, it is no wonder some would want to make the university as healthy as possible.

If Oakland were to pass a ban, we'd be following the lead of many other universities, including the University of Michigan, where a ban was passed last year, and Macomb and Oakland Community Colleges, who started their bans last week. Students are unable to smoke on campus,

but can smoke in parking lots and in their vehicles.

Aside from following the advice of its peers, a campus-wide ban would just be smart. It would benefit every one of Oakland's 19,740 students who are either harming themselves first hand or exposing others to secondhand smoke.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S., according to the CDC. Exposure to secondhand smoke causes nearly 50,000 deaths every year among young adults in the U.S. — 3,400 annual deaths from lung cancer and 46,000 annual deaths from heart disease, a 2011 report showed.

In May 2010, Michigan became the 38th state to pass a Clean Air Act, which prohibits tobacco usage inside all workplaces and public restaurants.

Though many people were worried the ban would affect restaurant sales, a September study by U-M showed that most restaurants have not reported a negative result in sales from the ban.

If Oakland were to initiate a campus-wide ban, we would be making progress toward a healthier university, not just for our accreditation as a medical school, but for all of our students as well.

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



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Letters to the Editor

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



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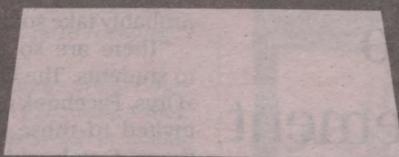
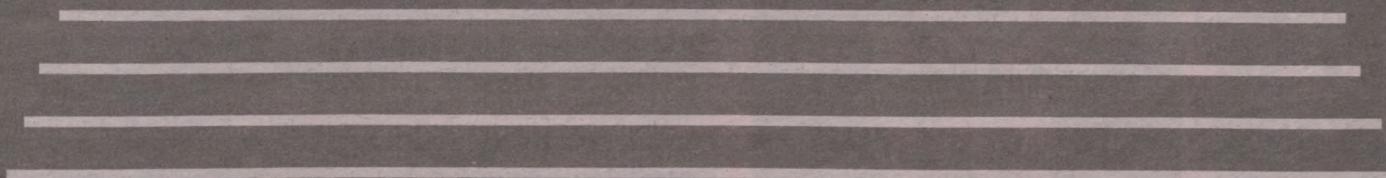


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Bike lock system for Bike Loan Program proposed

OUSC, engineering team up to fix system

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

After issues with the past Bike Share Program, the Bike Loan Program was developed earlier this year to create a more efficient and accountable on-campus green transportation system, where students checked out and took responsibility for bikes.

Oakland University Student Congress and the engineering department joined to develop a proposal for Wi-Fi controlled SMART bikes, which will have electronic locks designed by computer science and engineering students and faculty.

Brian Dean and Osamah Rawashdeh, assistant professors of electrical and computer engineering, developed the lock plans with OUSC student services director, Amera Fattah.

How the bikes work

By requiring students to enter their unique PIN, the locks provide safety and accountability with tracking ability, according to Dean.

"When researching, we hadn't found the perfect fit," Fattah said. "Some had expensive fees and difficult contracts. We decided to integrate everything to-



STEPHANIE SOKOL/The Oakland Post

Assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, Brian Dean, and OUSC student services director, Amera Fattah, discuss the new bike locks for the Bike Loan Program.

gether for a convenient program that will increase accountability and build a better representation for OU as a green school."

Ultimately, students will check out a bike from one of the multiple Wi-Fi racks to be located on campus, entering their password and maintaining responsibility for it until they lock it up again and it checks back into the system, according to Dean.

He said if the bike is stolen when off the system, it will be the students' liability.

"We want something marketable to other schools and cities," Dean said.

The locks can be used on any type of bike, so the initial goal is to use the current bikes, according to Fattah.

The next step

Three-to-five prototypes will be developed by the end of winter semester and funding will be discussed before the winter semester.

If funded, next summer students will have the opportunity to be "beta testers" for the bikes and evaluate them, according to Rawashdeh.

Dean said if the product proves useful, prototypes will be marketed through OU INC and later patented if needed.

New OUSC initiative aims to increase student org involvement

By Misha Mayhand
Multimedia Reporter

Oakland University Student Congress is offering marketing and advertising help to student organizations through its new initiative, connectOU, which hopes to increase student involvement on campus.

Amera Fattah, OUSC student services director, said students are now able to go through OUSC to help market their events.

Fattah said connectOU is an email that comes directly to students. It is simplified with picture icons and short descriptions

next to them. These icons and descriptions link students to their desired organizations.

"We have about 800 subscribers right now and we got the subscribers through orientation and OUSC tables set up in the Oakland Center," Fattah said.

The program is also accessible through OUSC's website at www.oakland.edu/OUSC.

Ashima Vohra, president of the Indian Students Association of OU, said she received the connectOU email and forwarded it to group members.

She said she does believe new students will utilize connectOU more, but it will

probably take some time to catch on.

"There are so many things available to students. The Oakland calendar, GrizzOrgs, Facebook events, but if you aren't invited to those events, you won't see them," Fattah said.

She said the issue with connectOU is students will have to subscribe to it.

"We are relying on word of mouth of the subscribers," Fattah said.

She said students should talk to people and network in order for them to increase their on-campus involvement.

"My job here is to service the students and I wouldn't feel like I was servicing them if I wasn't connecting them to information that could benefit them. That's what I hope to do with connectOU," Fattah said.

Contact Multimedia Reporter Misha Mayhand via email at mmayhand@oakland.edu

POLICE FILES

Theft in student apartments

A police officer was dispatched to the student apartments Nov. 16 for a larceny report regarding a laptop.

The student stated that on the date of the incident, she and her roommates had people over between 9:30 p.m. and 2 a.m., and her laptop had been out in the living room.

She said throughout the night, several people used the laptop to change music and when she woke up later in the morning, the laptop was gone.

The student is tracking the laptop's location and will contact dispatch if it connected to a wireless network.

MIP issued at Hamlin Hall

Police officers were dispatched to Hamlin Hall on Nov. 18 at approximately 1:45 a.m. for a possible minor in possession.

Resident Assistant's stated they witnessed the resident stumbling and smelling of intoxicants.

Officers received permission to enter the room and spoke with the student in question.

The officers noted a strong odor of intoxicants and slurred speech.

The student refused to perform a preliminary breathalyzer test, so the officers performed a horizontal gaze nystagmus test.

The student struggled to stand and lost balance during the test. Police issued the student an MIP.

Marijuana smoke reported in Van Wagoner House

Police were dispatched to Van Wagoner House Nov. 20 for a report of a strong odor of marijuana smoke.

When the officers knocked on the door, a female student answered the door and admitted to smoking marijuana.

Officers noted her eyes were watery and her speech was slow. The student denied having marijuana in the room and agreed to a search.

Officers located a pipe with ash and residue in a desk drawer. A misdemeanor citation for marijuana use was issued.

— Compiled by
Katie Williams,
Senior Reporter

Beaumont and Henry Ford Health Systems agree to merger

By Sarah Blanchette
Staff Reporter

Beginning in 2013, Beaumont Health System and Henry Ford Health System will enter into a new relationship with one another.

In a joint effort, the two Michigan-based systems will implement goals in order to improve health care to patients.

Getting started

The idea came about in response to the country's changing health care conditions.

Chairman of the Board of Directors for Beaumont Health System, Steve Howard, said he recognized the similar values both systems share.

"The decision to sign a letter of intent for a merger followed months of study and deliberation

by both organizations on how to continue their nationally recognized industry leadership in the face of the changing health care environment," Howard said.

Robert Folberg, founding dean of the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine, said education will remain the overall goal of Beaumont and Henry Ford.

"Beaumont's commitment to its relationship with OU through the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine will continue," Folberg said. "The OUWB School of Medicine has already been very successful in attracting students locally and around the country."

Hoping to improve

Chief medical officer and executive vice president of Beaumont Health System, Ananias Diokno, has high hopes for the merge in

terms of how it will affect Michigan.

"Our new organization will be one of the most comprehensive health systems in Michigan, as measured by revenue and patients served," Diokno said.

Remaining a nonprofit

According to Colette Stimmell, director of corporate communications for Beaumont, both entities will also uphold their values as nonprofit organizations.

"The Boards of the two not-for-profit systems authorized the development of a new organization that will include all of the assets, liabilities and operations of both Beaumont and Henry Ford," Stimmell said. "This is not a financial transaction."

Contact Staff Reporter Sarah Blanchette via email at sblanch@oakland.edu

BEAUMONT/FORD MERGER STATS

200

patient care sites

\$6.4

billion in operations

10

hospitals

2

medical school affiliations

7,000

physicians across southeastern Michigan

1

childrens hospital

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post

Students in the Yearbook Club are currently working on creating their first university yearbook, which they plan to publish next year.

Getting the picture

Students work to create university yearbook

By Kevin Graham
Senior Reporter

The Yearbook Club of Oakland University plans to give students a book that chronicles the major events in a year of the college experience.

The group's treasurer, Jibrán Ahmed, a junior majoring in international relations, said one of the major reasons for starting the club was a desire to give students a lasting memory of their time at the university.

"This is a great university with a lot of wonderful events and memories taking place, so it's only fair to offer students a means of preserving the golden moments they experience here," Ahmed said.

Ahmed said other schools such as Central Michigan University and the University of Michigan have had yearbooks for many years, and it was time for OU to get one.

The group will produce its first yearbook next year because they want to do enough fundraising to start to keep themselves stable.

Making sure the group has financial stability is important to the organiza-

"THIS IS A GREAT UNIVERSITY WITH A LOT OF WONDERFUL EVENTS AND MEMORIES TAKING PLACE, SO IT'S ONLY FAIR TO OFFER STUDENTS A MEANS OF PRESERVING THE GOLDEN MOMENTS THEY EXPERIENCE HERE."

Jibrán Ahmed,
Yearbook Club Treasurer

tion's president, Brittany Hall, a junior majoring in communication.

"We recently, with the help of (Director of the Center for Student Activities) Jean Ann Miller, discovered there was actually a yearbook at Oakland University for quite a few years," Hall said. "Unfortunately, it was not a long-standing project and it didn't reach our generation."

Putting it all together

One challenge to producing a yearbook on a college campus is the volume of events and how to cover them.

"You would be surprised how many

people are willing to reach out a helping hand and jump on board with us," Hall said. "It's going to be a community-wide effort, that much I can promise. It isn't about popularity anymore, it's about real students who deserve real coverage."

Although they did not want to reveal too many specifics with publication this far ahead, Hall said the yearbook would feature nods to the past.

"We plan on doing a double-book that will feature pictures from the old Oakland University yearbooks," Hall said.

It's important to both Hall and Ahmed to bring something fresh to the picture in the book's production.

"We want to show how unique Oakland is," Ahmed said. "There have been so many changes in the past 20 years, and we want students to have an awesome yearbook that is more than just pictures on a page. We're going to offer up the history of the university in a fun and inspiring way."

Contact Senior Reporter Kevin Graham via email at kpgraham@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @KevinGraham88

Next Meadow Brook Ball to be two-day event

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

The 41st Meadow Brook Ball will be hosted back-to-back as two events, Feb. 1 and 2. Both are open to all students.

"It's a really unique experience," Maria Willett, Meadow Brook Ball Committee president, said. "There is no other formal dance event here and a lot of people have never been in the mansion. The ball is OU's oldest tradition and I think it's something every student should do at least once."

In the event's history, the schedule has shifted from one ball in fall and one in winter, to two in winter and back to one again, according to Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities.

"The (Meadow Brook) ball is OU's oldest tradition and I think it's something every student should do at least once."

Maria Willett,
Meadow Brook Ball
Committee President

The current change was meant to accommodate to OU's large student population.

Past attendance was limited to 300, according to Willett. Having two makes it more accessible to the student body.

Tickets go on sale Dec. 5 at 9 a.m., with the Center for Student Activities window opening at 7 a.m. Tickets cost \$17.50 per person.

The Ball is sponsored by the Student Activities Funding Board, Tau Kappa Epsilon, WXOU, Circle K and the OU Bioethics Society.

"I went as a student," Miller said. "It's a night of elegance. How often in your college career could you get all dressed up and have a great time in Meadow Brook Hall? It's a sophisticated night at an affordable price."

Contact Multimedia Reporter Stephanie Sokol via email at sasokol@oakland.edu



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

Press to start

New machine offers DVD, game rentals in Oakland Center

By Jennifer Holychuk
Senior Reporter

Oakland University students do not have to venture off campus to rent or purchase movies thanks to a new DVD Now machine in the Oakland Center.

The OC has been home to the DVD rental machine since early November. Students can rent any of the 250 DVDs for \$1.18 and games for \$2.36.

These items are also available for purchase with new release DVDs at \$24.99 and clearance movies as low as \$3. Game purchase prices range from \$45 to \$74.99.

The machine is not owned by the university, but by Eric Franchy, owner and CEO of Cruz Thru Media and former OU student, according to OC Director Richard Fekel.

Franchy contacted the OU Student Congress about placing a machine on campus.

Several years ago, OU had a similar machine on campus that "never really caught on," according to Fekel. He attributed this to the popularity of DVD rental companies such as Blockbuster and the Red Box.

"Things are different now," he said. "(This kind of machine) seems to be really popular."

According to Fekel, the majority of

"THIS ISN'T TO GENERATE REVENUE. IT IS THERE TO PROVIDE A SERVICE TO STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF."

Richard Fekel,
Oakland Center Director

profit from the machine's rentals and sales go back to Cruz Thru Media.

"This isn't to generate revenue," Fekel said. "It is there to provide a service to students, faculty and staff."

Despite the convenience, the DVD Now machine offers, Student Services Director and OU student Amera Fattah believes it would serve students better in a different location.

"Any location is good, but another location may be better," she said. "It would make more sense in the residence halls."

Fattah also said, however, that better marketing for the machine may raise student awareness.

"Students want convenience and we have that on campus," she said. "Students might just not know about it."

Contact Senior Reporter Jennifer Holychuk via email jholychuk@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter [@jholychuk](https://twitter.com/jholychuk)

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TOP 12 IN 2012

By NATALIE POPOVSKI and NICHOLE SEGUIN
Design by FRANK LEPKOWSKI

Stephan Sharf gives historic \$21 million donation

On Jan. 29, Stephan Sharf gave Oakland University its largest donation in the school's history — a total of \$21 million. The money was split up and used by the School of Engineering and Computer Science, the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine, the OU Women's Golf Team. It was also used for planned and cash gifts for campus operational and capital needs. Sharf, a retired Chrysler executive, initially requested anonymity for the donation, but eventually identified himself. No stranger to donating to Oakland, he has previously donated millions to the school and most recently honored Oakland President Gary Russi by dedicating a garden in his honor at the R&S golf course.



Cultural foundations and historical development of rock music professor passes away

Ron DeRoo, a special lecturer at Oakland University, passed away unexpectedly Feb. 6. DeRoo taught Cultural Foundations and Historical Development of Rock Music, a popular course among students that hit or exceeded capacity every semester it has been offered since 2000. DeRoo was previously the music and choir director at Waterford Mott High School between 1985 and 2008, which is how he landed his job at Oakland.

JAN

29

FEB

7

10

Technical glitch causes incorrect voicemail to be sent to students

On Nov. 13 at 1 p.m., a technical glitch in Oakland University Police Department's text message alert system caused an incorrect voicemail to attach itself to a message. The voicemail stated there had been shots fired on campus and that the suspect was still at large. There were, however, no shots actually fired on campus.

The voicemail was accidentally sent along with a scheduled testing of the system.

Oakland University is working on ways to prevent this from happening again in the future, according to director of media relations, Ted Montgomery.



ENGINEERING CENTER, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH

Opening of the Human Health Building/groundbreaking ceremony for Engineering Center

The beginning of the fall semester welcomed the addition of the Human Health Building to Oakland University's campus. The building took two years to construct and cost a total of \$62 million. Although classes were held in the building as soon as the semester began, the building did not officially open until Sept. 21, which was when the unveiling ceremony took place. With the completion of one building came the groundbreaking for another. On Oct. 3, OU broke ground for the new \$74.6 million Engineering Center. Construction for the Center will start January 2013 and is aimed to be completed by July or August 2014.

DEC

13

NOV

8

3

OCT

21

Republican Vice Presidential Candidate Paul Ryan hosts rally with Kid Rock

Congressman Paul Ryan, the former Republican Vice Presidential Candidate, hosted a "victory rally" at the O'rena on Oct. 8. The event attracted myriad guests, including Detroit musician Kid Rock, who spoke on the importance of voting and urged those in attendance to do so. Ryan spoke about health care, the economy, unemployment and job creation. His victory rally was the second nationally recognized Republican event to occur on campus in the last year, with the Republican Presidential Debate occurring in November.



Highest enrollment

For the 2012-13 academic school year, Oakland University experienced its 14th consecutive year of enrollment growth and welcomed the highest amount of transfer students it has ever had. Overall, OU has a student population of 19,740, which breaks down to a total of 16,190 undergraduate students and 3,550 graduate students. Undergraduate student totals saw a 2.2 percent increase in enrollment for the school year, and graduate student totals saw a .3 percent increase.

Oakland hockey finishes second place in the country

The Oakland University Division I men's hockey team finished second place in the country at the close of their season last year. They won the Great Lakes Collegiate Hockey League regular season crown and won the Good Luck Duck series against Davenport for the first time in four years. The Grizzlies knocked off then No. 1 Penn State in the Nittany Lions' last ACHA game before falling to Delaware in the ACHA National Championship game.

Hot for teacher

A 56-year-old student was banned from campus for a year for writing about his sexual attraction to a female professor in a course assignment. The student, who is expected to return to campus next semester upon completion of counseling, was accused of violating ordinance number 6.02 (unlawful individual activities) of the University Ordinances and Regulations. The student argued his constitutional right of free speech was violated and that the instructor said there were no limitations to the writing. He enlisted the help of the organization FIRE, which helps college students protect first amendment rights. The student's story attracted local, national and international attention and the student even appeared on the TV show "Dr. Phil."



Baskin

Bidding farewell to Baskin, Moudgil, Stamps and Sudol

Four notable Oakland community members moved on during the school year.

Henry Baskin stepped down from his position of Board of Trustees Chairperson after serving a 16-year term. During his last BOT meeting, Baskin urged students to rally against the state government for continuing to decrease the amount of state money given to the school each year.

Virinder Moudgil left his position as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs after accepting a job as CEO and President of Lawrence Technological University in June. Moudgil started at Oakland in 1976 as assistant professor of biological sciences. From there, he was promoted to full professor and served as the chair of the department of biological sciences. He was appointed to Provost in July 2001.

Richard Stamps, who worked at Oakland for 37 years, retired from his position as associate professor of anthropology in September. Stamps notably attended archeology trips to Israel with students and formerly worked as a Meadow Brook Mansion tour guide.

Ron Sudol, former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, announced his retirement on July 3. Though he is no longer dean, Sudol can still be found around campus doing research for a book he's writing on higher education. He was CAS dean for seven years and has been active at Oakland since 1977.

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AAUP negotiations

This past summer, the American Association of University Professors and OU met several times to discuss contract negotiations. Although it appeared at some points that the start of the school year would be delayed due to unsettled negotiations, as it did in 2009, the two groups reached an agreement Aug. 31 at 3 p.m.

The agreement included pay increases across the board, merit pay adjustments and benefit restructuring and is set to expire August 2015. More details of the contract can be found at the AAUP website. The contract was approved at the Oct. 4 Board of Trustees meeting.

JUN



Moudgil



Stamps

Chick-fil-A controversy

This past summer, the fast food chain Chick-fil-A became the topic of controversy when the company's CEO, Dan Cathy, discussed his support of the idea of a "biblical definition of a family." The Pioneer Food Court in the Oakland Center is home to Michigan's only Chick-fil-A, and Cathy's comment brought the discussion of whether the restaurant should be allowed to stay at OU. Several anti-discrimination organizations, students and faculty members met with Chartwells, the foodservice company in charge of running OU's Chick-fil-A, to discuss concerns they had with the restaurant remaining on campus. In response to the concerns, Chartwells conducted a survey seeking to "gauge student sentiment" on the topic. The results of the survey will help determine the fate of the restaurant.

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Lowest tuition increase since 2004

On Aug. 6, the Oakland University Board of Trustees approved the lowest tuition increase since a 1 percent tuition increase in 2004.

There was a 2.96 percent increase for undergraduate tuition and 2.94 percent increase for graduate tuition. For keeping the increase below 4 percent for the 2012-13 academic school year, OU received \$45 million in-state aid and an additional one-time \$930,800 tuition-rate bonus. OU's tuition increase is one of the lowest tuition increases among the 15 public Michigan universities. Although the tuition increase is lower than it has been in previous years, former Board of Trustees chairperson, Henry Baskin, said tuition increases at OU need to come to an end.



Strengthening the modern athlete

Athletics' strength and conditioning help aid student-athletes

By Damien Dennis
Sports Editor

The life of an athlete can be a busy and hectic one, running from team meetings and practices to spending countless hours in the weight room. The life of a student-athlete can be even more hectic with the addition of classes and school functions.

But what happens when one of these student-athletes gets injured?

The Oakland University Athletics Department has staffed two different departments for this very purpose. The sports medicine department works hand-in-hand with the strength and conditioning department to provide medical assistance for the injuries athletes may come in with and aid in their recovery and training.

Todd Wohlfeil, director of strength and conditioning, said the sports medicine staff helps injured athletes recover, while his department helps get them ready to get back out on the field.

Grizzly born

Wohlfeil is entering his eighth year with the athletics department, and his fourth as the director of strength and conditioning department.

"It is very satisfying to work for Oakland University," Wohlfeil said. "I spent the past 12 years here. I did my undergraduate work in health science and exercise science here. Then I was accepted into the physical therapy program and did my doctorate in physical therapy here."

Wohlfeil earned his doctorate in 2009 and his bachelor of science degree in 2005. As an undergrad, Wohlfeil served as a personal trainer for the university's department of campus recreation. He later worked for the athletics department as a graduate assistant.

"I've gotten a lot out of Oakland from education and experience," Wohlfeil said. "It's really great to be able to provide a service to Oakland."

The director of strength and conditioning also met his wife, Deanna, while he was a student at Oakland. As a student, Wohlfeil was also able to be a personal trainer for University President Gary Russi, who tipped him off about the opening that eventually led



DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post

Todd Wohlfeil, director of strength and conditioning for athletics at Oakland, works closely with each athlete to ensure they maintain their health and work through injuries. Softball player Kylie Schalz works with Wohlfeil to make her way back to the plate.

to his current position.

"I knew a lot of the coaches, so that helped and I had a lot of really good personal relationships built up by that time," Wohlfeil said.

Building a star

"My average day begins around 6 a.m. and can end around 3:30 or on the upwards of 8 p.m.," Wohlfeil said. "It's a pretty steady flow of athletes daily."

Of the 340 student-athletes, the strength and conditioning staff see roughly 200 of them a day. Some of the teams come in all together or separately if the team is too big or the athletes have schedule conflicts. It also depends on what the coaches would like.

An athlete can use the facilities any time, as long as they have one of the staff there with them or one of their coaches. The staff for the strength and conditioning department is only about five large, but there are usually anywhere from three to 10 interns to also help out.

Wohlfeil and his staff also work with new ways to promote the strength and health of the student-athletes.

"We just started a student-athlete

performance fueling program," Wohlfeil said. "What that entails is that our athletes are able to take in Gatorade before and during a workout. And then they take in Gatorade and collegiate Muscle Milk combination after the workout to help them with their recovery process. It ensures they get in enough calories and are able to recover from workout to workout."

Wohlfeil said the standard day for an athlete is very congested, saying it is very difficult for them to stick to their diets. This is their way to aid them in keeping on track.

A healing touch

Senior Kylie Schalz, an Oakland softball player, is one athlete Wohlfeil said has inspired him.

Schalz suffered a spinal cord injury in 2011 and because of the help she received from the sports medicine and Wohlfeil's staff, she has been able to overcome the paralysis she suffered.

"With Todd and his staff my progress skyrocketed," Schalz said. "They pushed me to reach and exceed the goals that no one else thought were possible. We have worked on all differ-

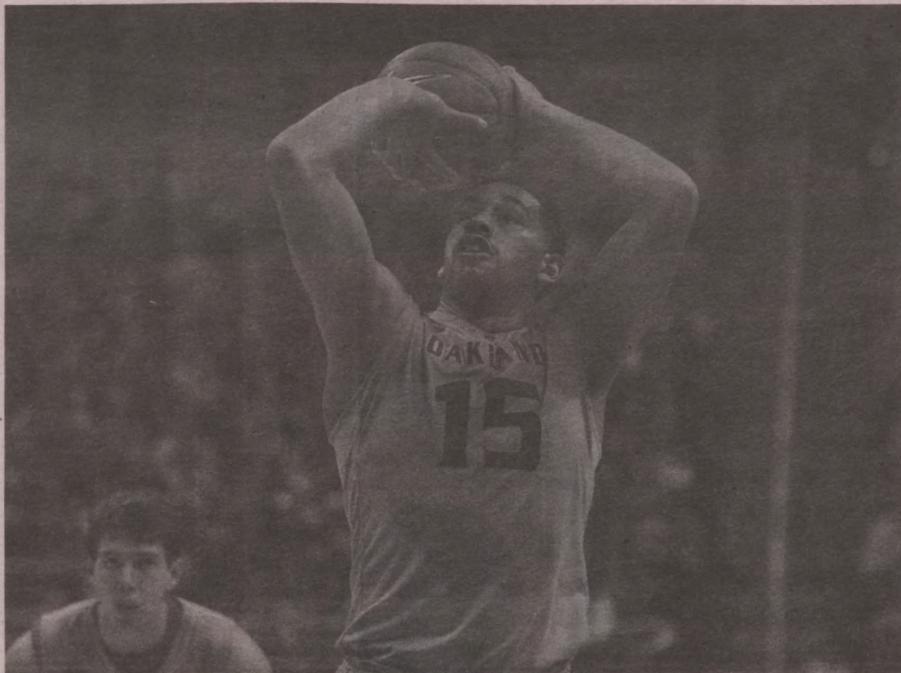
ent kinds of exercises in order to help me succeed athletically, socially and most important, independently."

Because of the help Schalz has received from Wohlfeil and the athletics department, she is one step closer to reaching her goal of one more career at-bat before she graduates.

Schalz is one of the more remarkable cases Wohlfeil has dealt with, but he gives the same amount of time to each athlete. The coordination between sports medicine, strength and conditioning has helped every student-athlete at Oakland stay in good health and recover from injuries.

"Todd has helped so many athletes both physically and mentally," Schalz said. "His willingness to help anyone who asks him is something you don't see too often anymore. The difference between the before and the after of almost every student-athlete willing to dedicate themselves with what Todd and his staff are doing is unexplainable."

Contact Sports Editor Damien Dennis via email at djdennis@oakland.edu or follow on him on Twitter @djdennisOU



DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post

The men's basketball team has traveled over 10,000 miles for games so far this month.

Men's basketball tired early in the season

Oakland men's basketball failed to notch their third straight win against SEC opponent Tennessee Monday night, falling 77-50 in Knoxville, Tenn.

For their second straight game, Oakland failed to shoot over 30 percent, shooting only 29 percent good for 16-56 attempts. Oakland shot 27.6 percent Friday night at Michigan State, making 16 of 58. The scoring stats are the lowest since Oakland joined Division I.

Oakland is a worn and weary team, being on the road since Nov. 11. Their first, and so far only, home game was the season opener Nov. 9 against Albion, in which they won 96-62.

Since then, Oakland has faced stiff competition and traveled to every corner of the country to face teams like Boise State and Pitt.

With a record of 2-5 on the season and falling short against Michigan State, Pitt and Tennessee, could all the travel be too straining on the team?

After the Michigan State game Friday, head coach Greg Kampe said the game was probably the worst Spartans-Golden Grizzlies basketball game the two teams ever played. Kampe called it very bad basketball.

"I don't know what was going on in our minds the first five or six minutes of that game," Kampe said. "Our shot selection was just awful."



DAMIEN DENNIS
sports editor

Oakland only made 16 of 58 attempts from the paint, while shooting 3-21 from beyond the arc, good for a mere 14 percent.

Kampe said he was very disheartened by the performance Friday night.

The Golden Grizzlies once again failed to perform against a major opponent in Tennessee. After the first half, Oakland had only managed to score 15 points, the lowest halftime score Oakland has ever recorded in the Division I-era.

Junior Travis Bader led the team with 18 points Monday night, while sophomore Corey Petros recorded 10 points and six rebounds.

Oakland is also off to their worst start since the 2004-05 season, when they began with a record of 0-7. The Golden Grizzlies went on to appear in their first NCAA tournament that year.

Oakland does not play their next home game until Dec. 6, when in-town neighbor Rochester College visit the O'rena. But Oakland has a stop in Kalamazoo first, playing Western Michigan Dec. 1.

Oakland only plays 12 home games this season and has already traveled over 10,000 miles seven games in.

Kampe remains optimistic about the season moving forward.

"I think this is going to make us who we will be in March, and I think we're gonna be a pretty good basketball team in March," Kampe said.

2013 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

The **Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards** recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2013 or have graduated in summer or fall 2012
- 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 2013 or have graduated in summer or fall 2012
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

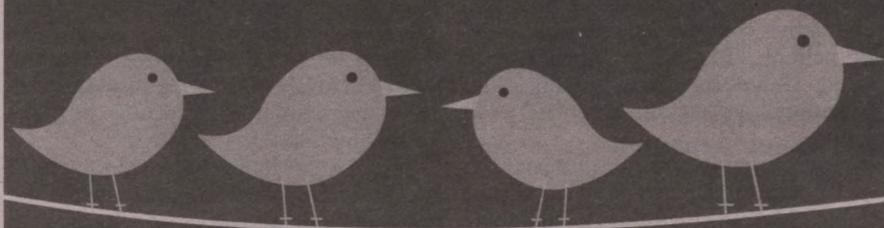
Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/dean_awards or in 144 Oakland Center.

The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 4, 2013.

For questions, contact:

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

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DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post
Head Coach Greg Kampe is eight wins away from earning 500 career victories with Oakland.

Coach Greg Kampe is nearing milestone

By Bobby Brooks
Staff Intern

Head coach of men's basketball Greg Kampe is bound for coaching record books. Kampe is one of nine Division I coaches to be at a school for 25 years or longer and ranks fifth among active coaches for coaching at a single school. This brings himself and Oakland University into conversation with national powerhouses Duke and Syracuse.

Kampe is coming into his 29th season as head coach of the Grizzlies.

"I feel old. I went with the goatee this year because it has a little grey in it, so at least I am showing my age a little bit," Kampe said. "I wasn't planning on being here this long, it just kind of happened, and I feel fortunate every day that I am still here."

Coming into this season as head coach, he is still a relatively young age of 56, considering the amount of experience he has. Another milestone Kampe may hit this year is the 500-win club. At this point in his career he has 492 wins, just eight shy of 500.

"Every one of these milestone wins you get asked a question like (how do you feel?), and you really don't think about that," Kampe said.

Kampe said he hopes the 500th win comes within the first part of the season. Once the team reaches that milestone, he

wants to look forward to game 501 and how best to win that one.

"After the season is over you look back, and I have a lot of pride in the accomplishments," Kampe said. "It means I have had a lot of really good players, it means that I have had a lot of really good assistant coaches, and my staff has been great."

Kampe often gives his players and staff the credit for the teams' success. The staff and players say it is all because of Kampe's leadership.

"Though he really gets on guys here and there, he just wants them to be the best they can be, and that shows what type of coach and man he is," Student Manager Kyle Mansour said.

Mansour said that Kampe's tough nature rubs off on his team.

"I have been fortunate that the people here have wanted me to stay," Kampe said. "It's a great institution, and a great place to live and to have your family grow up."

Next year will mark Kampe's 30th season as the Grizzlies head coach. Hitting a milestone that not many coaches have or will reach.

Though Kampe is approaching his 30th season as head coach, retirement still isn't on his mind.

"Oh no," Kampe said. "I've got a long way to go, I just hope Oakland will keep wanting me, but I'm going to be here for a while, I hope."

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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Cliff Bells welcomes Grizzly jazz band

Oakland students to play at Detroit's historical jazz club

By Misha Mayhand
Multimedia Reporter

The Oakland University Jazz Band will play at Cliff Bells in Detroit Sunday, Dec. 2 from 6 to 10 p.m. The event is free to all.

Miles Brown, assistant professor of music, said the show features all the ensembles the OU Jazz program has to offer, except for the jazz singers group. Four small jazz combos will perform, as well as the big OU Jazz band. Clarinetist Paul Klinger will be a guest artist and will play with the traditional group.

Michele Ramo, international guitarist, violinist, mandolinist, composer, clinician and teacher, will perform with some of the groups as well. Ramo currently teaches jazz violin, guitar and mandolin in his private studio and jazz guitar at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

"Bringing in a professional artist with the groups really gives them a different prospective," Brown said.

Sean Dobbins, special lecturer of jazz percussion and jazz combos, coordinates the combos program. He said the performance was his idea.

"To have the jazz program perform in the jazz community is always a part of the plan," Dobbins said. "The real life experience that the students will gain gives them a sense of accomplishment and inspires them to keep reaching for their musical goals."

The jazz department also wants to showcase the positive contributions that OU is making to the Metro Detroit Jazz community, according to Dobbins.

"We say the same things to our students, day after day, week after week and to have them work with a guest artist they get a fresh perspective," Brown said. "Sometimes they hear the same things that we hear, it's coming from another mouth, and it reinforces the same educational principles that we are trying to get across in the first place."

Brown said they have performed at Cliff Bells a few times, and the students love doing it. He said it is an opportunity for students to play music outside of the academic environment, to play



Photo courtesy of Miles Brown

Jazz performers (FRONT) Dan Turchyn and Luke Perzyk play trombone while (BACK) Sam Noveck, Nick Voisich, Mason Bays and Chris Owen play trumpets in preparation for their upcoming performance at Cliff Bells in Detroit Sunday, Dec. 2.

"To have the jazz program perform in the jazz community is always a part of the plan. The real life experience that the students will gain gives them a sense of accomplishment and inspires them to keep reaching for their musical goals."

Sean Dobbins,
Jazz Special Lecturer

in a real jazz club with a stage and get real-life experience of what it's like to be a jazz musician.

"In my opinion and from an educational standpoint, it's (getting experience outside of the classroom) essential to the development of being a jazz musician," Brown said.

Playing in a club environment where there is talking, eating and the sound is not always the greatest, will help students focus and bring a lot of energy to the performance, according to Brown.

"In the music program, we have concerts on a concert stage and with this being a lot less formal, the students feel like they are having more fun."

A variety of music will be played among the groups and the big band.

One group is considered a traditional jazz group with a New Orleans style, referred to as Dixie Land. Another group is playing music by Charlie Parker, an American jazz saxophonist and composer. Other groups are playing music by Herbie Hancock, an American keyboardist, pianist, bandleader and composer. According to Brown, the groups vary in size from four to eight students, while the OU jazz band has a 20-person ensemble.

"There will also be music played by a guy named Darcy James Argue, a Canadian jazz composer and bandleader," Brown said. "For students or any jazz musician, you have to go through what we is called 'paying your dues,' meaning, 'playing for free.'"

Brown said there are students in the OU Jazz Band that are in the combos and vice versa.

"Playing at Cliff Bells is an honor," Mike Scussel, OU alumni said.

Scussel graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He said he has always been involved with music and started taking jazz combo as a community member after graduation.

"Walking into that place (Cliff Bells) you can feel its history," Scussel said. "When you play on stage, you share a part in that history."

Hands-on experience is considered essential for college students.

"This is a chance for them to prove themselves in a real life setting and use this experience to get their foot in the door," Brown said.

He said the objective is making the music happen and bringing it alive for people to enjoy.

"It's not school, it's real life music," Brown said.

Contact Multimedia Reporter Misha Mayhand via email at mmayhand@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @MishaMayhand

POLICE BRIEFS

Suicidal subject in Brandon Twp.

Nov. 24 at 12:30 a.m., police responded to the 3800 block of Bushman Lake Road for a suicidal person. The man, a 45-year-old Brandon Twp. resident, called and said he had been drinking and feeling suicidal. At one point he told police he had put a gun to his head, but decided he wanted help instead. He also said he fired off one round inside the home. The man and his weapon were secured and he was transported to Doctors Hospital in Pontiac for a psychological evaluation.

Woman killed in car accident

At Atlas Market on Dequindre, a 68-year-old woman backed her car out of a parking space and hit a 52-year-old Madison Heights woman who had been walking to her car. The incident occurred Nov. 25 at 3:30 p.m. The victim was pinned under the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene. Drugs and/or alcohol do not appear to be a factor and the incident is being investigated.

Intoxicated driver in Troy

Around midnight Nov. 24, police were dispatched to the area of Golfview and Lakeview for a vehicle stopped in the intersection with the driver slumped over. An officer found the driver asleep with the vehicle running and his foot on the brake. The officer put the vehicle in park and removed the keys. When the driver, a 33-year-old Troy man, woke up he was extremely confused and had very slurred speech. He was arrested for operating while intoxicated. He has one prior drinking and driving arrest.

Theft from car in Troy

Police were called to the 500 block of Leetonia around Nov. 25 at 5:30 a.m. when a neighbor reported seeing someone on a bicycle looking inside cars. Police followed fresh bicycle tracks in the snow and located the suspect. One of the officers recognized the man, a 24-year-old Southfield resident, because the officer had previously arrested him for larceny from an automobile. It was determined he had broken into eight different cars in the neighborhood. Police searched him and found a large number of coins, two necklaces, a bottle

of cologne, an iPod and cash. He was arrested and charged with larceny from auto.

Embezzlement in Troy

Four males were arrested for retail fraud and embezzlement Nov. 23 after an investigation revealed that a store associate at Macy's was not charging certain customers for all their items. One customer presented five items to purchase and the associate only rang up one item. The total amount stolen was \$588.89. The associate then failed to charge another customer for \$1,127.99 in merchandise. A third customer had seven items to purchase and the associate only rang up one item. All three customers admitted they knew the sales associate and they were all arrested for retail fraud. The sales associate, a 28-year-old Detroit man, was arrested for embezzlement.

Fleeing and eluding in Pontiac

A deputy was almost hit by a vehicle after trying to conduct a traffic stop Nov. 15 at 6:26 p.m. Crash Investigator Deputy Kendrick was on the scene to process it and the vehicle drove away. After speeding up, the vehicle struck a pick-up backing out of a 500 East block driveway and lost control, hitting a tree and rolling over. The pick-up driver was admitted to McLaren Hospital for neck and back pain. A 32-year-old Pontiac resident was arrested.

Home invasion in Pontiac

AK9 Deputy and other deputies responded to a breaking and entering report Nov. 15 at 1:45 p.m. Deputies walked in to see one suspect holding a television on the back deck and another suspect climbing out the window. They tracked the 200 block of Parkdale to find the two men, who fled and eluded the police. A 20-year-old and 13-year-old Pontiac resident were arrested. The adult is lodged at Oakland County Jail and the minor was released to his family.

—Compiled by
Lauren Kroetsch,
Staff Reporter
and Stephanie Sokol,
Multimedia Reporter

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Young leading the young

Student Chris Young is elected chair on Romeo District School Board

By **Stephanie Sokol**
Multimedia Reporter

On Election Day this year, Chris Young was the first college student to be elected to the Romeo School Board.

He received 32.2 percent of the vote, beating the second chair, who received 28.1 percent.

"I love helping individuals try to get a message out and that's what I want to provide," Young said. "Running for the school board is only providing a better message. This is what the community wants and I want to make sure their concerns are addressed."

A 2011 Romeo High graduate and current Macomb-Oakland University business student, Young has been an involved community member for six years. He is the producer and editor for WBRW television station and has done a great amount of work with technology and community education, including volunteering at The Romeo Bruce Walsh Senior Center.

The campaign

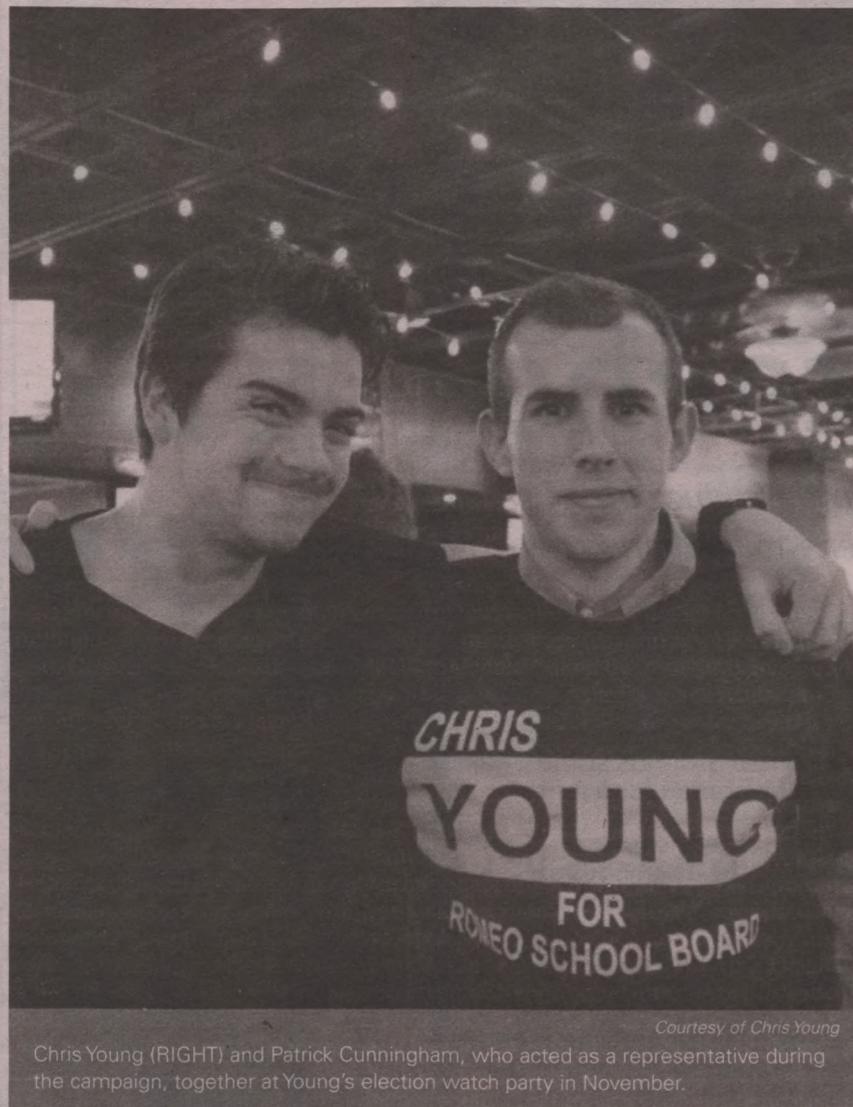
His campaign message was to increase communication between students, parents and community members. As a student himself, Young said he hopes to bring a fresh perspective to the board and be a voice for kids in the district.

Community members from the Romeo schools, as well as some from OU, assisted Young on his campaign. David Robertson, a Romeo teacher, helped get the word out to faculty and students about Young running for the board.

"Chris has real dedication to community," Robertson said. "He's young and still has stuff to learn, but he's got a lot of drive. And I know he's going to bring better communication to the school board."

Romeo High School student Patrick Cunningham acted as Young's representative in the campaign. Having been close acquaintances for two years, Cunningham helped get word out about Young running. He chose the school to provide Young with advice for areas in need of improvement.

Cunningham told attendees and parents about the changes Young would make if elected. He also helped Young use social media to promote his campaign, but he said Young did the



Courtesy of Chris Young
Chris Young (RIGHT) and Patrick Cunningham, who acted as a representative during the campaign, together at Young's election watch party in November.

hard work on his own.

"I was really proud of Chris and his efforts," Cunningham said. "I wasn't surprised that he won because he worked so hard on the campaign. He will be a great addition to the school board."

OU freshman and Romeo High alumni Brian Neumeyer also helped Young with campaigning by passing out supplies, displaying signs and wearing campaign apparel.

"Chris is a good choice for the school board because he is a go-getter, he's very motivated," Neumeyer said. "In high school, he did a lot of media work. Instead of waiting to be asked, he went out and did it. He's very personable, a good speaker and knowledgeable."

Taking the board

While Young ran twice in the past for other elections, he said he put the most effort into this one and that the work was worth it.

"I was quite shocked to find out I was elected," Young said. "I thought I had a 50-50 chance for the second seat because no incumbent was running. I was completely blown away in getting first and taking the vote by about 32 percent. But it only shows my efforts of working since August to get this really paid off and I thank the community for that."

Contact Multimedia Reporter
Stephanie Sokol via email at
sasokol@oakland.edu or follow her on
Twitter @StephanieSokol

ROMEO SCHOOL BOARD

32.2%

votes Young received in the local election

8

schools in the Romeo School District

5,793

students enrolled in Romeo Community Schools



CHRIS YOUNG

WHO Romeo High School graduate and Macomb-Oakland University student.

WHAT First to be elected onto Romeo School District Board while enrolled as student.

WHEN Elected as board chair on November 2, 2012.

WHERE The Romeo School District consists of five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school — it is located in northern Macomb County and is approximately 30 miles north of Detroit.



Nice 'stache

Students show off their facial fuzz for No-Shave November, Movember

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

With the efforts of Movember to “change the face of men’s health” by building awareness for prostate cancer and other men’s health issues, according to the Movember informational website, many Oakland University men have been growing out their whiskers. Some men participate in the annual trend, while others claim to always have facial hair.

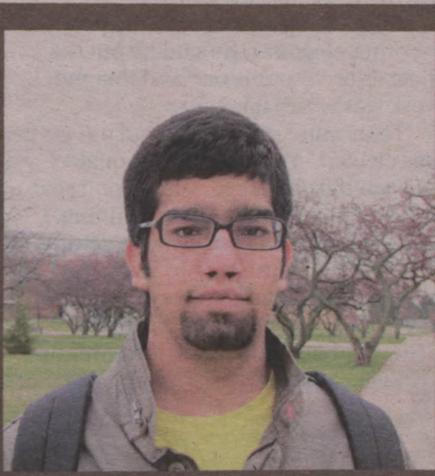
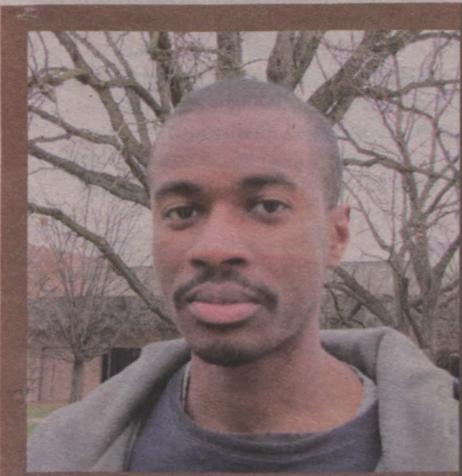
“I’ve had this the last two-

three years,” Junior Nick Land said about his facial hair. “I think I’d look weird without it, like a baby.”

There were many variations of facial hair around campus, though few opted for a lone mustache.

The top choice was the goatee-moustache combination. Other men chose to style their facial follicles in the look of a chin curtain, soul patch or goatee alone.

Junior Zachary Walters said he plans to shave most of his grizzly growth by the end of the month but will keep the goatee.

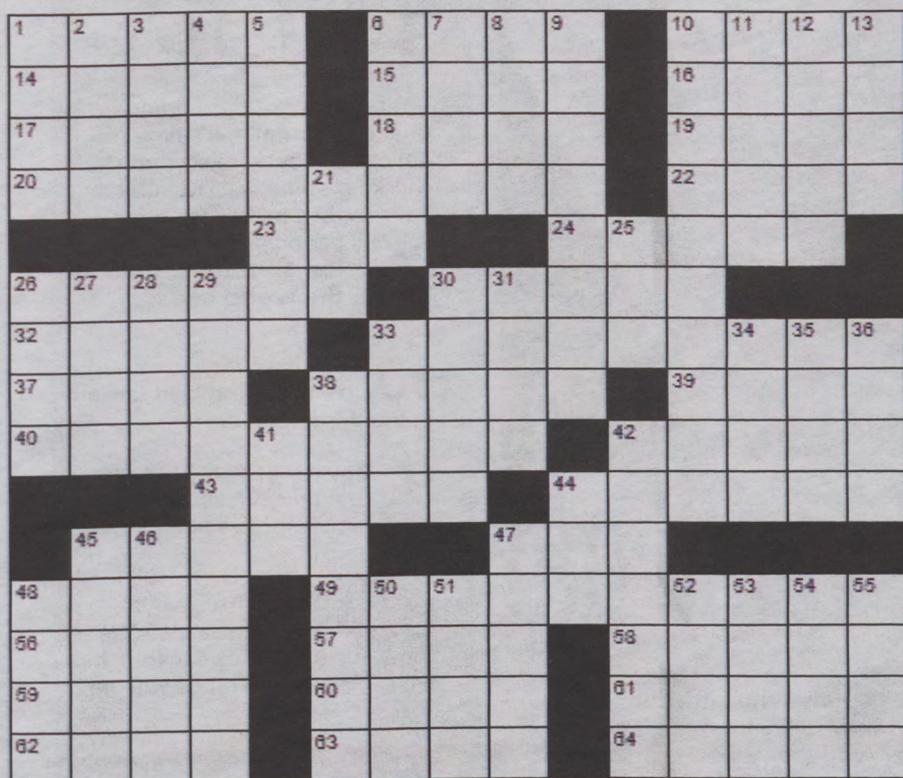


Puzzles

The Oakland Post is not responsible if you fail your classes because of these puzzles. We think they're addictive, too.

WEEKLY PUZZLES

Answers are available online at www.oaklandpostonline.com



ACROSS

1. Piques
6. Twofold
10. Adhesive strip
14. A nine-piece musical group
15. Feudal worker
16. Listen
17. Academy award
18. Wagers
19. Colored part of an eye
20. Sermon on the Mount
22. Pepper_____
23. Holiday drink
24. A common green newt
26. Optical illusion
30. Prison-related
32. Enlighten
33. Presumptuously daring
37. Not hard
38. Malodorous
39. A temple (archaic)
40. Insomniac
42. Wrecked ships
43. Prepared
44. Assault sexually
45. Sacred song
47. Petrol

48. Flexible mineral
49. A lively whirling Italian dance
56. 1 1 1 1
57. God of love
58. Lengthways
59. Kind of moss
60. Type of cereal grass
61. 3rd Greek letter
62. Sea eagle
63. Wild Tibetan oxen
64. Glowing remnant

DOWN

1. Prig
2. Schnozzola
3. Ancient Peruvian
4. Nipple
5. Sinewy
6. Remove errors from
7. Utilized
8. Initial wager
9. Diminished
10. A very small amount
11. Eagle's nest
12. Applied to a wall or canvas
13. At one time (archaic)

21. Foot digit
25. Not good
26. Untidyness
27. False god
28. Abundant
29. A delayed flavor sensation
30. Fall guy
31. Twin sister of Ares
33. Accomplishment
34. Sheltered spot
35. Writing fluids
36. In order to prevent
38. Insincere praise
41. P
42. Captive
44. Adult male
45. He "harvests" ores
46. Sea
47. Oxygen and helium, for example
48. Brood
50. Diva's solo
51. Stone
52. Test
53. Arm or leg
54. Disabled
55. Winglike

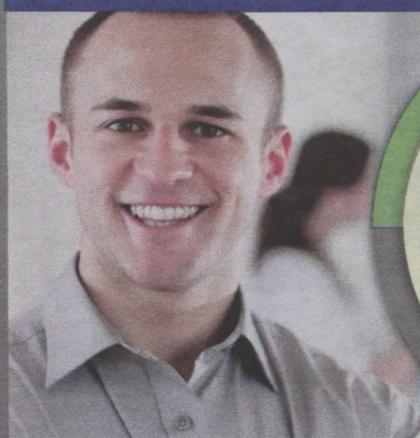
Know someone newsworthy?

If you know someone who would make an excellent student or faculty profile, email life@oaklandpostonline.com with your ideas.



OU Faculty and Staff

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Mouthing Off

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



SATIRE

SATIRE

WEEKLY TOP 10

Since the world is ending in less than a month, it's time to get out our bucket lists and start checking off boxes. Though mine have to do a lot with punching various people in the face, here are my **Top 10 things to do before the world ends:**

10. Legally change your name to Simon and start talking in the third person.

9. Buy a parrot and teach it to either swear constantly or shout "Help! I've been turned into a parrot!"

8. Lock Donald Trump in a room with the cast of *The View*, including Rosie. (Note: hire a cleaning crew. Things will get messy).

7. Punch Ronnie Radke in the face. Hard. (Don't worry, he doesn't fight his own battles, so you will be fine).

6. Also, punch Nicolas Cage in the face. (Just as hard as Radke, but be careful because he might actually be the borderline psychopath he plays in movies.)

5. Get a doctorate in something, and change last name to "Acula." (Scrubs reference for the win!)

4. Go hunting with Dick Cheney, but invite Dan Quayle too so Dick has something to shoot at.

3. CENSORED

2. Eat Jello pudding pops and go sweater shopping with Bill Cosby.

1. Go BASE Jumping. And while in free fall, punch Ronnie Radke again.

—Compiled by Dylan Dulberg, Multimedia Editor

The last 'Mouthing Off' you'll get

By Dylan Dulberg
Multimedia Editor/Cynic

Crap. Well, this is it people. The end is near. The world is supposed to end next month on Dec. 21.

That means this is potentially the last "Mouthing Off" article you will ever read in the last issue of *The Oakland Post* ever to be printed.

I guess at this point in time we have to look back at all of our accomplishments as a species and be proud of our brief but impactful existence on this planet.

But it isn't all sad. We have a lot of things to be proud of. Like Ke\$ha and killing off all of the dodo birds and the Disney corporation and Rupert Murdoch and Viacom and ... oh crap. We really

"YOU KNOW WHAT, I BET ONE OF THE SIGNS OF THE END WAS WHEN TYLER PERRY CRAPPED OUT HIS LATEST CROSS-DRESSING GARBAGE AND BECAME FORBES' HIGHEST PAID MAN IN ENTERTAINMENT, RAKING IN \$130 MILLION BETWEEN 2010 AND 2011. (WHICH IS MORE THAN THREE TIMES THE POPULATION OF CANADA*)."

screwed the pooch, didn't we?

In retrospect, we probably should have seen the signs. After all, Twinkies were supposed to outlast thermonuclear war and we almost lost those a week ago. And when the entire populace rocks out to a song whose lyrics include "Baby, baby, baby, ooh. Like, baby, baby, baby, ooh," we should have noticed there was a problem.

Or maybe we would have noticed the error of our ways when amazing bands like *The Dear Hunter* are virtually unknown, but Rebecca Black's "Friday" has more views than there are inhabitants of Canada.* You know what, I bet one of the signs of the end was when Tyler Perry crapped out his latest cross-dressing garbage and became *Forbes'* highest-paid man in entertainment, raking in \$130 million between 2010 and 2011. (Which is more than three times the population of Canada).*

Maybe I'm being too critical. Maybe the signs of the end manifested themselves in more generic ways, like when people grew to accept the violent, dark, cynical world they find themselves in without trying at all to change it.

I am going to end this rant on a positive note. If, somehow,

we survive the end, I am going to vow to try to make it a better world, any way I can, even if it means I have to nev — wait a minute. I just thought of something. Now, bear with me here, but I think I might be a genius.

We are basing this 12/21/12 thing off of the fact that the Mayans stopped making their calendars right? Well ... I am not a history major but ... I'm pretty sure that something happened that abruptly ended the Mayans' existence. Hmmmm...

Oh yeah, that's right! The conquistadors came and essentially committed genocide on the Mayans in the 17th century. I guess that would explain why there were no more calendars. If they could see the end of our lives, how come they didn't see their own fate?

I guess no one thought of that.

*The World Bank's 2011 estimate of the population of Canada, contrary to popular belief, does not account for trees, moose, beavers, deer, snow hares, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, or elk.

Contact Multimedia Editor Dylan Dulberg via email at dsdulber@oakland.edu, or on Twitter @dyldude64

We wanted to use our Detroit Firemen Calendar for this picture, but it's too hot to handle. Get it?

DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post