

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



## THE KICKOFF IS GOOD

OU FOOTBALL CLUB WINS FIRST GAME AGAINST UM-FLINT PAGE 10

## OVER THE LINE

A GUIDE TO PARKING AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY PAGE 13



OU  CLEAN AIR

## UNFILTERED REACTIONS

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*A smoke-free campus*

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Taking a clumsy trip down memory lane

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# thisweek

September 25, 2013 // Volume 40. Issue 5



## ontheweb

Sept. 13-Oct. 15 is Hispanic Celebration Month at Oakland University. Find out what events were held and what's coming up.

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

## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your favorite freebies given out by student organizations?

- A** Food
- B** Shirts, clothing, etc.
- C** Backpacks, pens, etc.
- D** Hugs

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## LAST WEEK'S POLL

What do you think of Greek Life at Oakland University?

**A) I'm in a Greek Org, and I love it.**

41.7%

**B) I'm not in a Greek Org, but I like them.**

8.3%

**C) It's a stupid tradition.**

13.9%

**D) I'm just not interested.**

36.1%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### SEPTEMBER 22, 1980

Oakland University was finishing work on housing for married students. Rent was tentatively set at \$250 per month.

### SEPTEMBER 26, 1969

A group of 800 students demonstrated to keep Woody Varner at Oakland University. Varner was not on the list of presidential candidates.

### SEPTEMBER 22, 1961

The Student Center Council was renamed the Student Activities Council, also changing focus to facilitating recreational and cultural events.



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**LITTLE PINK CROSSES** // Dozens of pink crosses dot the grounds at Oakland University as part of display by Students for Life of America. According to the group's website, The Planned Parenthood Project "is heading out on a 18,041 mile, 41 university, 20 state, 8 week tour" to speak out against Planned Parenthood, which it calls "the Goliath of the abortion industry." *SALWAN GEORGES // The Oakland Post*

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



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### EMPLOYERS ONLY

The 2013 Fall Business and Liberal Arts Career Fair took place in the Oakland Center Banquet and Gold Rooms. Over 60 employers showed up to meet OU students.



10

### FEET OF SKILL

OU Men's Soccer played Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Wednesday, Sept. 18, winning a 2-0 victory.



12

### TALES FROM CUBA

Alina Fernandez, daughter of former Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro, visited Oakland University, speaking of both her father and life in Cuba.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**\$25,000**

Average adjunct salary nationwide

**60%**

Administrator job growth 1993-2009

**75%**

percent of instructors are adjuncts

**\$56,200**

Average instructor salary at Oakland University as of 2011

**21:1**

Student-instructor ratio at OU

### Low rungs of higher education

A recent article on NPR's website tells of adjunct instructor Margaret Mary Vojtko from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

After working 25 years in education, Vojtko was "deserted and nearly homeless," making only \$10,000 a year.

Vojtko was attempting to unionize adjunct professors at the university. She died of a heart attack months later.

NPR's piece shows a disturbing trend in higher education. Adjuncts currently make up roughly 75 percent of college instructors, earning between \$20,000-25,000 a year, the article reads.

An article in BusinessWeek shows an even more disturbing trend. While tuition costs soar and more full-time educators are replaced with less-expensive part-time adjuncts, the number of deans and administrators has increased in Purdue and other universities.

"At universities nationwide, employment of administrators jumped 60 percent from 1993 to 2009, 10 times the growth rate for tenured faculty," the article reads.

Instructor salaries are declining as "administrative expenses" climb, according to that and other articles.

A cursory evaluation of Oakland University's transparency report shows Oakland University has thankfully not gone down this path.

A list of employee salaries shows most of them are significantly more than the \$20,000-\$25,000 listed by the

"Nobody at a school is any more or less important than anyone else. Without students, there would be no teachers. Without teachers, there would be no need for administrators. Without administrators, the college wouldn't function."

NPR piece.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, Oakland University's average instructor salary was above the median, at an average of \$56,200 a year, in 2011.

Assistant professors, associate professors and full-time professors make below the median amounts but still average between \$63,700 and \$99,300 per year, according to the Chronicle.

And that survey was performed before the 2012 contract negotiations.

Oakland University is to be commended for not succumbing to the same temptation as other schools in the country. We hope this trend continues.

For most students, the point of college is to learn marketable skills and eventually receive a job that pays a living wage.

It might shake a student's confidence to realize the person teaching that skill is not

even paid enough to live on.

If teachers are to be considered exemplars - persons who students should look to when determining their own futures - it seems downright scary to know some instructors might be better off working unskilled labor jobs.

We encourage Oakland University to continue fairly compensating its instructors, now and in the future.

For those of you who plan on transferring to another university for graduate studies or otherwise, we encourage you to look into salaries and compensation.

Find out what teachers are making, and what benefits they receive. If you find out they aren't making what you think they should make, inform the school why you've opted to learn your trade elsewhere.

Nobody at a school is any more or less important than anyone else. Without students, there would be no teachers. Without teachers, there would be no need for administrators. Without administrators, the college wouldn't function.

The most important vote you have is your pocketbook. A quality education is easier to attain if instructors are being fairly paid.

Part-time or full-time, teachers deserve fair pay.

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



THE OAKLAND POST

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#### Corrections Corner

The Sept. 11 editorial should read "The university was shut down by President Gary Russi in the wake of the attacks."

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

#### 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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EDITORIAL

# To Cuba, with love: a family heritage

The forbidden country of Cuba has always been looked at from a negative perspective. My experience in Cuba is a little different than most people would imagine.

My father left Cuba at the age of 13 to come to the United States. Not all of his family was able to leave with him so I have a lot of family left living in Havana.

I have traveled to Cuba many times to visit my family and experience the culture and the beauty of the country.

Every time I arrive in the city of Havana, I am welcomed by many people.

My whole family lives in the same neighborhood so there is always a big gathering. My family and I are very close to each other even though we don't see one another for years at a time.

The people of Cuba are so intrigued by Americans. It's most Cubans' dream to be able to leave the island and live the way we do here in America. Cubans are lively, passionate and hardworking people who are



**Jessah Rolstone**  
Ads Manager

limited in reaching their potential because of the government. Its amazing how intrigued the Cuban people are, they want to be as educated as they possibly can.

## La Cultura

My favorite thing to do is going to the beach with my family. We also have lots of fun going to La Habana, downtown Havana, where all the salsa clubs and hang out spots are. There

are beautiful sites in La Habana like Fort Morro, the museums where Castro's story of the rebellion is shown. The cathedrals are amazing, the architecture is something that you will never see here.

Another distinct thing Cuba is known for is its cars. They are old-school cars that we would see here in The Dream Cruise.

Baseball, boxing and volleyball are the three biggest sports in Cuba. It's always fun to watch a national baseball team in Cuba ending up playing in the Olympics or the World Baseball Classic.

There are so many things I was able to experience

"We also have lots of fun going to La Habana, (downtown Habana) where all the salsa clubs and hangout spots are."

in Cuba that I could never here. Just because of how different people live.

## La Vida Cubano

In Cuba you appreciate life whether you live there or are just visiting. Everyone I run across from there always has a positive outlook on life. I always feel at home when I'm there.

While Cuba may be less fortunate, then the U.S., they live the most lavish life they can with what they have. Everyone is welcoming and full of questions about the United States.

I hope that one day Cuba will be open to everyone in the U.S. If you ever have the opportunity to go take full advantage of it. There truly is nothing like Cuba, it's full of potential with old treasures.

Contact Jessah at [jarolsto@oakland.edu](mailto:jarolsto@oakland.edu)

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## Master of Health Sciences debuts at OU

*Oakland University adds the first graduate program ever for the department of health sciences.*

**Kailee Mathias**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University has added its first graduate program for health sciences. The process to create the masters of public health program began in Jan. 2012 through surveying students to see if there was an interest in the program and gaining accreditation.

The course is 44 credits in length and can be completed in two years of full-time study.

Program director, Patricia Wren, Ph.D, M.P.H, had an analogy for the work behind creating this program.

"When you do all that it's like a cake recipe," Wren said. "You have all those ingredients and a good team of bakers behind you. At the end of the day—bing, the timer sounds and you have this awesome cake called, the master of public health program."

### Inaugural Class

The program debuted in fall 2013. The inaugural class consists of 12 students. So far they are taking Public Health 600 with Wren, which is where they are learning about different theories explaining why people do what they do in health care, or health related decisions. They are also taking Public Health 610 with Dr. Rebecca Cheezum. That course offers students practice in research and data collection.

"They are a lively, engaged group, they come to class and challenge us," Wren said. "They are keeping Rebecca and me on our toes, which has to be a good thing."

The class is from a wide-range of professional experience and degrees. "From public relations to engineering and pretty much any major could feed into health care," Wren said. "When your colleagues in class say, 'what am I going to do after this,' send them over to us," Wren said.

### Summer Break Practicum

In the summer between their first and second year in the master's program students will get the opportunity to participate in a practicum.

"The best way to describe the practicum is the coolest summer break you can plan for yourself," Wren said.

With the help of an advisor, the student will pick an organization to intern at and get first-hand experience in their field.

Wren hopes this program will help give back to the community in years to come. "It's an opportunity for us to give back. We have to earn this beautiful Human Health Building (HHB) day by day," Wren said. "Part of the way we will earn this trust that we were given, in the form of this building, is to raise peoples health and the quality and quantity of life."

Applications for next fall are due Feb. 1. If students are interested there are information fairs throughout the year, or they can stop by HHB and check them out.

Contact Staff Reporter Kailee Mathias at [kmmathia@oakland.edu](mailto:kmmathia@oakland.edu)

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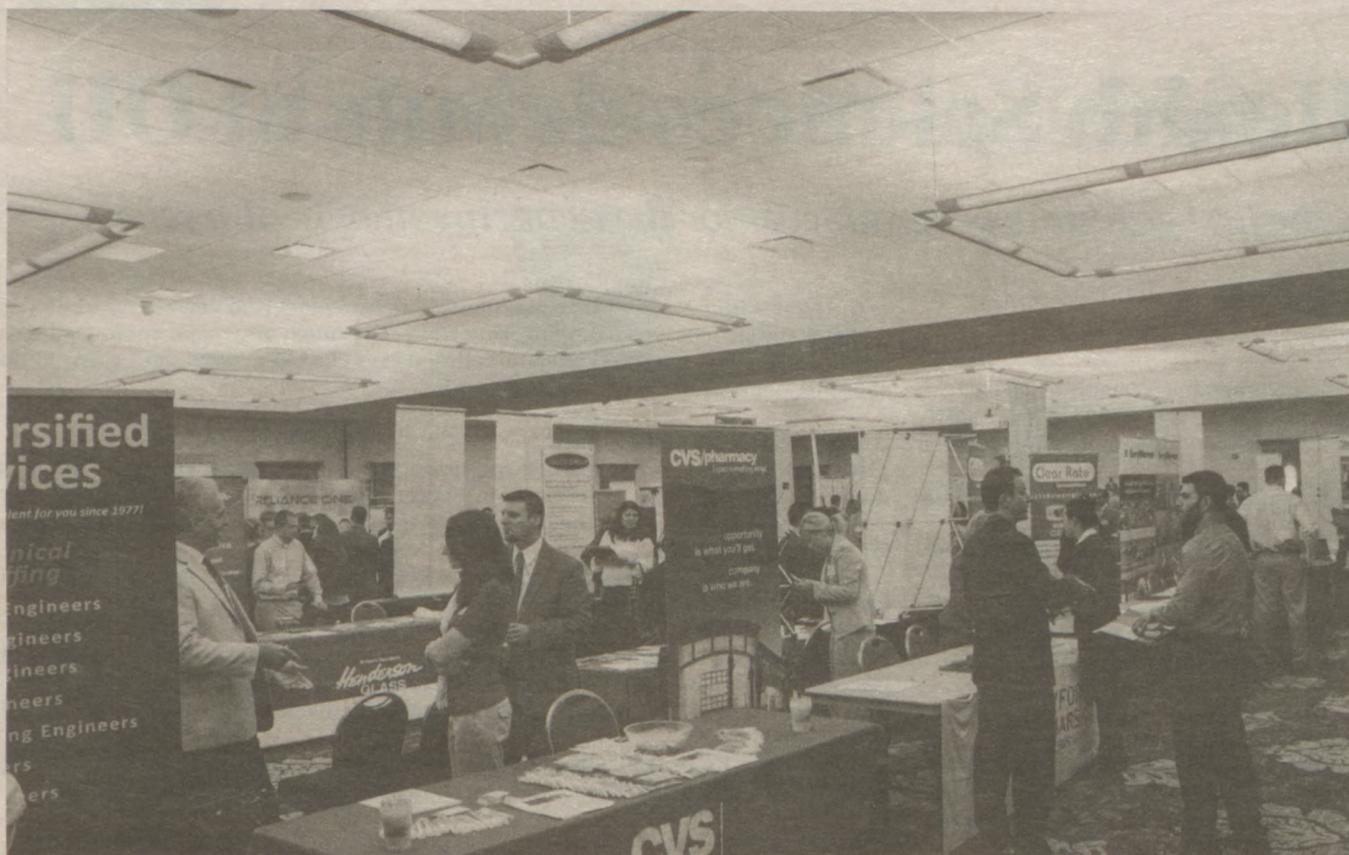
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Kailee Mathias / The Oakland Post

Oakland University students were encouraged to dress their best and meet with employers at the 2013 Fall Career Fair.

## Students dress to impress potential employers at the fall career fair

*Students met with, talked with, and gave out resumes, to the various different employers from the various companies that represented the fair*

**Kailee Mathias**  
Staff Reporter

**O**akland University career services hosted the Fall Career Fair Tuesday, Sept 24 in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. students have the opportunity to network with 72 registered employers in various fields.

"This was my first career fair. It was a little overwhelming, but everyone is super nice up there," Stephanie Krause, senior, said.

### Looking Professional

Professional dress was a requirement. Students were informed to come with plenty of resumes to show to the registered employers.

The Career Services website provided students with a list of things to know before attending the fair.

"I went my freshmen year I found out about the career fair a half an hour be-

fore and I didn't really know what I was doing," Aurthur Pawlikowski, sophomore said, "I went in a t-shirt and jeans and I don't think too many people took me seriously, but I learned from it. I'm in a suit today so I think I'm doing a bit better."

### Talking With Companies

Throughout the fair students get to discuss full-time interning and co-op opportunities with attending employers. Employers will have a brief interview with the students reviewed their resumes.

Students also had the opportunity to ask the employer any questions they had on the company.

"I spoke with a few companies that are immediately hiring which was awesome to hear because then I have a shot at getting a job after graduation in December," Megan Scott, senior, said. "It was very helpful they told me exactly what they were hiring for."

The website also informed students to not chew gum or bring in a beverage and

leave cell phones turned off for the event. They also had students keep their backpacks outside of the career fair.

### Who Attended

Some of the employers in attendance included Chrysler Group LLC, Fox 2 WJBK, Palace Sports & Entertainment and Quicken Loans.

"I met with so many different ones; Reliance, Target Auto Owners Insurance, and The State of Michigan Department," Kalie Reynolds, senior, said. "I was very successful, I got two interviews out of it."

For more information visit the Career Services website. It lists information on future fairs, informs students on what to do and how to act during the fair and has plenty of insightful resources to help students prepare to meet with future employers.

Contact Staff Reporter Kailee Mathias at [kmmathia@oakland.edu](mailto:kmmathia@oakland.edu)

## POLICE BRIEFS

### Damaged Property

On Sept. 9, an officer took a report from a student who said that they parked their vehicle at 1:00pm and returned at approximately 8:45 p.m. to find their rear window shattered.

An impact mark was visible in the upper right corner.

The vehicle was parked approximately halfway down the row; on the north side, facing south.

### Assault in Hamlin Hall

On Sept. 18, an officer responded to Hamlin Hall for a threats complaint. All identified themselves as students. On Sept. 17, the female victim said that she had an argument with another female student around 11 p.m. on the third floor of Hamlin.

The victim stated that a male student who was a friend of the female student came up to her room with the attention of cutting her. This was witnessed by other students and they left the room without being harmed. The victim said that she did not see the scissors.

On Sept. 18, at around 11 p.m. the male student entered the victim's room. The victim stated that he had a shirt wrapped around his hand like he was going to protect his hand when he punched her.

The victim felt that the presence of other students was the only thing that stopped the male student from assaulting the victim.

On Sept. 19, officers found the male student at 12:30 a.m. and interviewed him. They placed the male student under arrest and handcuffed him.

Compiled by Rachel Arouder  
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*Ali DeRees / The Oakland Post*

Katherine and Nick Desrochers spice it up on the dance floor and bust out some fresh and classy dance moves

**Ali DeRees**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Ballroom Dance Club, which began last winter, had a great turnout, and are ready to take their dancing to the next level and start dancing competitively.

The club's president Taylor Born says that this semester will be used as preparation for the competitions that they will participate in next semester.

"We wanted to work towards a goal," said Born.

Their open house and practice was held on Monday, Sept. 9. According to Born, 51 students showed up to the open house and 25 of them are looking to compete.

Born says the club is looking into participating in a competition at Purdue in the fall and one in Ann Arbor in the winter.

Born herself has taken private lessons from the dance studio that works in partner with the Ballroom Dance Club, Elegance in Motion.

She stresses though that no dance experience is needed in order to join or compete.

"Most people don't have dance experience," said Born. "Ballroom dancing is something anyone can do and it's what you make of it."

Born says the club is looking to host their own competition here at Oakland University next fall.

One of the dance instructors who can be found teaching at the club's practices is Curtis Haremza.

Haremza owns the dance studio Elegance in Motion with his wife Sarah located in Auburn Hills. Haremza himself has 17 years of ballroom dancing experience.

Haremza is excited to see the Ballroom Dance Club competing this year. "Collegiate competitions are very popular right now," said Haremza.

Haremza explained how the competitions work. There are up to 70 people on the floor at a time and that number keeps narrowing until there is a winner. Couples are judged off or their heat's which are minute and a half dances.

Other experienced ballroom dancers can be found at the Ballroom Dance Club's practices.

Alex Chevrier is a nationally competitive ballroom dancer with nine years of ballet experience and three years of ballroom dance experience.

Chevrier explains the advantages for students looking to compete in ballroom dancing.

"Not a lot of young people my age compete," said Chevrier. "Going through a college is more affordable."

Chevrier is happy to see the turnout the club has seen and how many students want to compete.

"We are going to go to competition based on these guys' drive," said Chevrier.

The Ballroom Dance Club meets Mondays at 8:30 p.m. for Beginners classes and Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. for the advanced class.

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

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# BLOWING SMOKE: A LOOK AT OU'S NON-SMOKING POLICY

Written by Chris Peralta and Scott Wolchek  
Photos by Jon Davis and Haley Kotwicki  
Design by Frank Lepkowski

O U's smoking ban, Policy 475, began Sept. 1, but smokers can still be spotted puffing away throughout campus. Smoke typically wafts through the air outside of South Foundation Hall and outside of the Oakland Center, where small groups of tobacco devotees often congregate.

The no-smoking policy was implemented to make OU a smoke-free campus and support the Michigan Smoke Free Air Law, which requires public places to put forth a good faith effort to limit smoking to certain areas and to keep users informed of the policy.

While the policy has been well-publicized on campus, obviously not everyone is complying.

"We pay a lot to go here," said Savanna Polimeni, a senior criminal justice major who was enjoying a full-flavored cigarette Tuesday morning outside of South Foundation Hall.

Neither Polemeni, or any of the other 15-or-so smokers who joined her, expressed any concern about getting into trouble for taking a smoke break.

And there is no known documentation that describes a specific university penalty for ignoring the rule. According to the policy copy, "the Dean of Students, supervisor, dean or director will investigate and take any needed action to resolve the issue."

Cora Hanson, OU's Environmental Health and Life Safety Manager, said she has not heard of any students requiring discipline. And if there are such violations, the penalty is not specified.

"Employee violations of policy are handled in a variety of ways from a simple conversation with the employee to a formal process through University Human Resources," Hanson said.

As for reporting violations, just as with the Michigan Law, members of the general public are obligated to enforce the policy themselves, by reporting transgressors.

Individuals can also call the MDCH (Michigan Department of Community Health) phone number to report smoking violations and file for an injunctive relief within 60 days.

*For more information on Policy 475, visit [oakland.edu/policies/475/](http://oakland.edu/policies/475/) If you would like to report a smoking violation, call the MDCH at 517-335-8376.*





## FUMING MAD

By Brian Figurski

Despite the enactment of Policy 475, swarms of smokers post up underneath OU Clean Air signs around campus and indulge their daily habits.

They're pretty upset about being told what they're allowed to do with their bodies.

"It's prejudice," said freshman Ben Freers. "People can say there's carbon monoxides and all these carcinogens in the air because of us, but it's not going to hurt anybody except ourselves."

Some students feel their rights are being violated, while others, like Savanna Polimeni, senior in criminal justice, feels she pays enough to make her own choices on campus.

"We pay a lot to go here. The students should be allowed to decide," she said.

"I think we already pay enough tuition, so I don't see why I can't do it," Laura Smith, senior in communications, said.

While non-smokers may look down at the students huddled in

the corner, majority of Oakland's smokers make a conscious effort to smoke responsibly.

"We know not everyone's a smoker so we're off to the side," Polimeni said. "We go out of our way to not walk through a crowd." Smith said that if Oakland isn't going to enforce the policy, they should provide ample ashtrays so smokers are less tempted to litter the ground with smoldering butts.

"The cops were here [outside South Foundation Hall] and they didn't say anything."

Polimeni thinks OU is just hopping on the anti-smoking bandwagon behind many other state universities, where similar policies have failed to be enforced.

"Oakland's a little more liberal, a really big commuter campus – it's a different kind of crowd. It seems like they would be understanding we aren't all 18-year-olds that live here," she said.

Freers added that a simple policy isn't likely to push someone to kick the habit anytime soon.

"Some of us are hopelessly addicted, you know?"



## POLICY 475

### RATIONALE:

The University recognizes that Tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke is a significant health hazard. Tobacco smoke has been identified as a Group A carcinogen (cancer-causing agent) and studies have shown that there is no safe level of exposure to Tobacco smoke.

This policy is established to promote public health and to provide for Oakland University's compliance with the Michigan Indoor Clean Air Act (P.A. 1986, No. 84, MCLA 333.12616 et seq.); P.A. 368 of 1978 as amended, MCLA 333.12905, concerning eating establishments; Sec. 20 of P.A. 227 of 1967, MCLA 408.820, concerning elevators; and Michigan's Dr. Ron Davis Law, MCLA 333.12603 et seq.

### POLICY:

Smoking is prohibited on all University owned or operated Campuses and Grounds, and in all University owned or operated Buildings and vehicles.

### SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY:

This Policy applies to all University faculty, students, staff, contractors, vendors and visitors, and applies to all University owned or operated property except for the private residences in the Meadow Brook Subdivision.

### DEFINITIONS:

Building means all enclosed, indoor areas owned or operated by Oakland University.

Campuses means any physical site owned or operated by Oakland University.

Grounds means property owned and/or operated by Oakland University.

Smoking means the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter or substance that contains Tobacco.

Tobacco means a product that contains Tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, cigarettes cigars, pipes, and other non-cigarette Smoking Tobacco.

### PROCEDURES:

1. All employees share in the responsibility for adhering to this policy and encouraging others to do so.
2. "No Smoking" signs or the international "No Smoking" symbol shall be clearly and conspicuously posted according to law and following the guidelines of the Michigan Department of Public Health.
3. Enforcement of this policy is the responsibility of all. Existing disciplinary policies may be used as appropriate.
  - Complaints involving Smoking by a student may be made to the supervisor of the area or activity in which the alleged violation occurred or to the Dean of Students Office, 144 Oakland Center, (248) 370-3352.
  - Complaints involving Smoking by staff should be made to the staff member's supervisor.
  - Complaints involving faculty should be made to the faculty member's dean or director.
  - The Dean of Students, supervisor, dean or director will investigate and take any needed action to resolve the issue.

Persons violating this policy will be subject to discipline as with other violations of University policies, regulations, and rules. State law also provides for a civil fine of not more than \$100 for a first violation and a fine of no more than \$500 for a second or subsequent violation of the Michigan Indoor Clean Air Act (MCLA 333.12601 et seq.)

4. After review by the Environmental Health and Safety Department, the President may offer an exception to this policy. No exception may contradict any federal, state or local fire regulation. For assistance in interpreting this policy, please contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (248) 370-4196.





Jake Alsko / The Oakland Post

Running back Marc Wise (6) evades the UM-Flint defensive line during the club's first away game of the season.

## Football Club claws to first win

**Jake Alsko**  
Sports Editor

The OU Football Club jumped out to an early 17 point lead on the road against UM-Flint and refused to relinquish it en route to a 24-14 win in the university's first-ever football game on Saturday.

While the Grizzlies were physically in control the whole game, both sides of the ball experienced the expected season-opener—let alone program-opener—mistakes, particularly in pass coverage.

"You're going to have to find things that you're going to have to do better," OU head coach Al Manfroni said. "This was a good game for us to build on for the rest of the season. Now we know what mistakes we made, now we can move forward."

Two first-quarter touchdown runs of 12 and 20 yards by OU quarterback Brandon Tucker had the offense humming early, only to stall for much of the second half.

UM-Flint's Shayne Beggs hooked up with Joey Jerisk for a 56-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter to pull within three.

"We kind of were like, 'Oh, we're in a comfort zone.' We can't do that," Tucker said. "You see how it changed fast. What was it, we were up 17-0? Flick of a dime, what was the score again? 17-14. We just got to keep

the momentum going the whole game. When we're focused, we'll put points on the board."

The two teams slugged it out until the clock hit zero, but OU running back Marc Wise's 10-yard touchdown run in the

fourth quarter proved to be too much for UM-Flint to overcome.

The Football Club is back on the road this Saturday at 3 p.m. against UW-Milwaukee before the Grizzlies' home debut Oct. 5 at 4 p.m.

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## Striking the opponent

Men's soccer team beats IUPUI 2-0

**Jon Davis**  
Photo Editor

Oakland University's men's soccer team scored two close goals against IUPUI, winning an easy 2-0 victory Wed, Sept. 18th.

The Grizzlies started the game taking seven early shots on the opposing goalie, earning themselves a goal in the last eight minutes of the half.

"The first half we got a bit disconnected," Joey Tinnion, the junior at OU who scored the opening shot, said. "I'd press, and then they're be a gap behind me. Second half the coach told me 'just delay!' Then we went out wide, and got a lot more for it."

The Grizzlies went on to take another 15 shots on the goalie, ending the game with an accumulated 22-5 shot advantage.

The second score came

from Senior Michel'e Lipari at the 63-minute mark, letting the Grizzlies end their game with a two-goal advantage.

"I was pleased overall with the effort tonight," coach Eric Pogue said. "I thought we were good in the first half, then really put our foot on the pedal the second half."

Looking toward the next match again Michigan State University, Pogue had faith in the quality of his team, and knows that they can stake up against a major university.

"We gauge ourselves as a similar team to them. Even though they're a big name school and a big name conference, we know we're a top field soccer team as well. We expect to be on the field, expect to compete and expect to win."

Oakland's next match will be against the Michigan Wolverines Wednesday, Sept. 25th.



Jon Davis / The Oakland Post

OU's Gavin Hoy (TOP) and Joey Tinnion best IUPUI in a 2-0 home victory.



Photo courtesy of ougrizzlies.com

Brittini Hutton, the Summit League Athlete of the Year in 2012 and the new record-holder for Oakland's 6K, graduated in 2012. But, Oakland University was not her first choice for college.

**Jake Alsko**  
Sports Editor

Former Oakland University cross country and track runner, Brittini Hutton, agreed last month to join American Distance Project and compete for Adidas/Boulder Running Company, something she had long envisioned.

"Running was my true calling all along," Hutton said. "I don't know when I made my mind up that I wanted to run professionally, it just feels right doing what I am passionate about."

Located in Colorado Springs, the ADP is a non-profit organization that aims to develop American distant runners for international competition.

In Hutton's final cross country season in 2012, she won the Summit League Athlete of the Year, Summit League Individual Championship, Summit League Championship MVP and broke the OU 6K school record.

But her success was preceded by a period of uncertainty.

#### Path to OU

Hutton spent her freshman year (2008-2009) at Western Michigan be-

# 'Kiss it goodnight'

*Brittini Hutton, track runner, continues her quest for success and will compete in the American Distance Project in Colorado*

fore transferring to Oakland Community College once she realized Western's cross country and track programs weren't the proper fit for her. It wasn't until halfway through OCC's cross country season that she finally decided to contact then-coach Tony Brocco, but it was a decision that Hutton would not regret.

"After I contacted Coach Brocco, my life changed and my passion for running slowly started to make its way back into my life," Hutton said. "I didn't know what I was going to do, I didn't know what to expect when I started running for Coach Brocco, but he helped me find my path again."

"I even won some awards and broke some records. With his help, (OU cross country and track coach Paul Rice) saw me race during indoors, and outdoors."

It wasn't long after Rice first contacted Hutton that she was hooked to his pitch for OU, but Hutton didn't want Rice to think she was taking his offer seriously. This poker face, however, was short-lived.

#### The moment

"The upper fields, the trails, the golf course, the mansion, the buildings — I fell head over heels in love with Oakland," Hutton said. "I'll never forget when Coach Rice said to my mom and I, in his office, that he wanted to offer me a full ride, which I wasn't expecting, and I remember feeling a shock rush over my entire body."

"At the same time, my mom grabbed my hand and squeezed it tightly and started to cry. Unknowingly to Coach Rice, my parents had been just mak-

ing ends meet, and his offer meant to my parents and I that a financial burden had just been lifted off our shoulders."

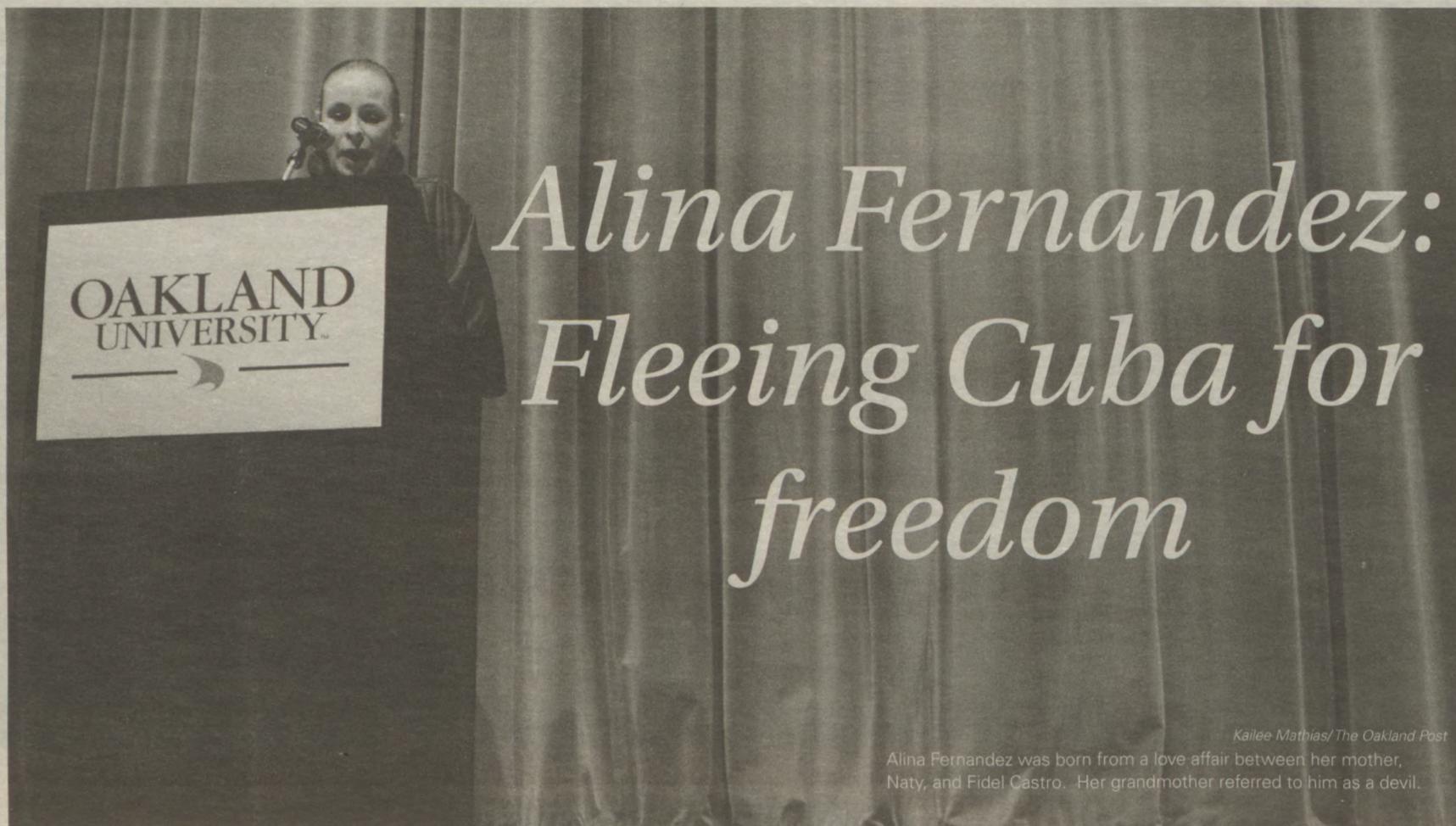
Hutton also credits Rice with providing the guidance she needed to put her opportunity with ADP into proper perspective, which allowed her to eventually accept.

#### Choosing her future

"My family and boyfriend all helped me sort through my options in the best of ways, but I wasn't able to make my decision until after talking with Coach Rice," Hutton said. "He told me to make a list of the four-to-five most important things to me that I want from my coach and training. I did just that and that really helped."

While Hutton is looking forward to improving her running and meeting some of the world's best runners in the process, she vows that her outlook will not waver regardless what comes of her upcoming professional career.

"I enjoy life for what it is and embrace the little things it has to offer," Hutton said. "My personal quote is this: Live it up, laugh it up, dream of anything, do everything and kiss it goodnight."



# Alina Fernandez: Fleeing Cuba for freedom

*Kailee Mathias/The Oakland Post*

Alina Fernandez was born from a love affair between her mother, Naty, and Fidel Castro. Her grandmother referred to him as a devil.

## Daughter of Fidel Castro shares with OU crowd her life with(out) her father

**Kailee Mathias**  
Staff Reporter

**A**lina Fernandez, daughter of the Communist Cuban leader Fidel Castro, came to Oakland University Monday, Sept. 23 and spoke to students about her life in Cuba.

"She's such an amazing woman and so humble, but she's history," Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities said. "It's such an honor to be in her presence. She is a survivor, and so is her daughter, as well."

### Love affair

Her mother, Natalia "Naty" Revuelta Clews and Fidel Castro were born on opposite sides of Cuba.

Castro began The Movement, an illegal group that assembled together to overthrow the Cuban President, Fulgencio Batista.

One day a mysterious key was left for Castro to a house that could be used as a meeting place. This key came from Naty. After that, she became involved in Castro's future plans.

Castro was thrown into jail, and according to Fernandez, that's when their love blossomed through letters. Although, this was a love affair because Castro was married.

"Many of you know how powerful a letter can be," Fernandez said. "The touch, smell and texture. I think that's how their love began."

After he was released from prison, he was also released from his marriage to.

In Jan. 1959, Fidel Castro came to power. His first speech was seven hours long. According to Fernandez, his longest speech lasted 12 hours.

Fernandez noted that she'd see Castro on her TV screen and at night he would show up in her living room.

"My mother lit up like a sprite when she saw him," Fernandez said. "Only grandma called him the devil. At age 10, I was told he was my father —surprise."

Although Castro was her father, Fernandez recalls he was never the type to help with homework.

"I saw a blindfolded man get covered in red spots. It took me nearly three years to realize I witnessed an execution."

Adina Fernandez  
Speaker

### Living in Cuba

Fernandez recalled citizens of Cuba screaming "to the wall," which signifies execution.

"I saw a blindfolded man get covered in red spots," Fernandez said. "It took me nearly three years to realize I witnessed an execution."

During that time period, the Peter Pan Operation began. This was developed as a way to send children out of the country.

"Family, which is the base of American society, was destroyed in Cuba," Fernandez said.

Family is ultimately what led her to make the escape from Cuba. Her daughter, became her motivation out

of Cuba.

At age 37, Fernandez fled from Cuba disguised as a Spanish woman and came to the United States.

"At first everything was difficult," Fernandez said. In Cuba, everything was decided for you. Here you need to learn how to function."

Fernandez no longer has a relationship with Castro.

### Fernandez today

Currently, Fernandez resides in Florida, where she has her own radio show called "Simplemente Alina" (Simple Alina) on WQBA in Miami.

She also wrote a biography called, "Castro's daughter: An Exiles Memoir of Cuba," and published it in 1998 by St. Martin's Press.

A biographical movie is in her future. Sarah Siegel-Magness, most known for directing "Precious", will be directing a biographical movie on Fernandez.

According to Internet Movie Database (IMDB), the film is supposed to be released in Nov. 2015.



Jon Davis / The Oakland Post

Brandon Hartley, Parker Simmons and Scott Wolchek become "parking prowlers" and roam by O' Dowd Hall, the outskirts of campus, for the "perfect" parking spot.

# Predator vs. parking spots

*Scott Wolchek shows OU students when and where to park, while the parking lots fill up*

By **Scott Wolchek**  
Editor-in-Chief

To stalk or not to stalk? For students and faculty, that is the question.

If you've been in any campus parking lot, you may have noticed the "parking prowlers" of Oakland University.

These mobile predators slowly and steadily follow innocent students and faculty back to their vehicles, hearts racing and adrenaline rushing, as they wait to gobble up parking spots.

Is this uncouth form of parking lot hunting really necessary?

OUPD Captain Mark Gordon begs to differ.

"The biggest complaint I receive is people can't park near the building they want to," said Gordon.

"There are plenty of parking spots. Just not all of them are near the building you want to go."

## Give it time

Gordon said time is of the essence when it comes to finding a spot.

"I would recommend allowing plenty of time to get to campus," said Gordon.

"At least 30 minutes before class time. And, depending what time of day it is, there are different strategies."

Gordon says students and faculty with 8 a.m. classes won't have too much trouble finding a spot, but any time after 9, be prepared to park on the outskirts of campus.

Many OU students agree with Gordon's secrets to finding a parking spot.

"Just come here really early," said

Kristina McLaughlin a sixth year senior. "I get here at 7:45, park in P-1 (in front of the Human Health Building,) and have never had a problem finding a spot."

"It's easier in the morning," said freshman, Toria Grant. "It gets chaotic in the afternoon."

Gordon also explained what to do once you find that elusive parking spot.

"You should be prepared to walk 10-15 minutes, as well as know the bus routes," said Gordon.

Junior, Erin Ward agreed.

"Don't be lazy," said Ward. "Just park far away and walk."

In total, Gordon says if you arrive 30-40 minutes before class, you should have plenty of time to park and get anywhere on campus.

But what about the lazy folk who don't want to wake up early or walk?

## The secret

Is there a sure-fire way to find a spot on campus?

One student, freshman, Roshawn Clay doesn't arrive extremely early to class and has never had a problem.

His secret?

"I get dropped off," said Clay.

For those who aren't as fortunate as Clay, take heed and listen to Gordon's outlook for a brighter future.

"Parking should be better next year," said Gordon.

After all, the new 1,240 space parking structure will be completed August, 2014 according to Associate Vice President of Facilities Management Terry Stollsteimer.

In other words, to find a parking spot at OU, wait until next year.

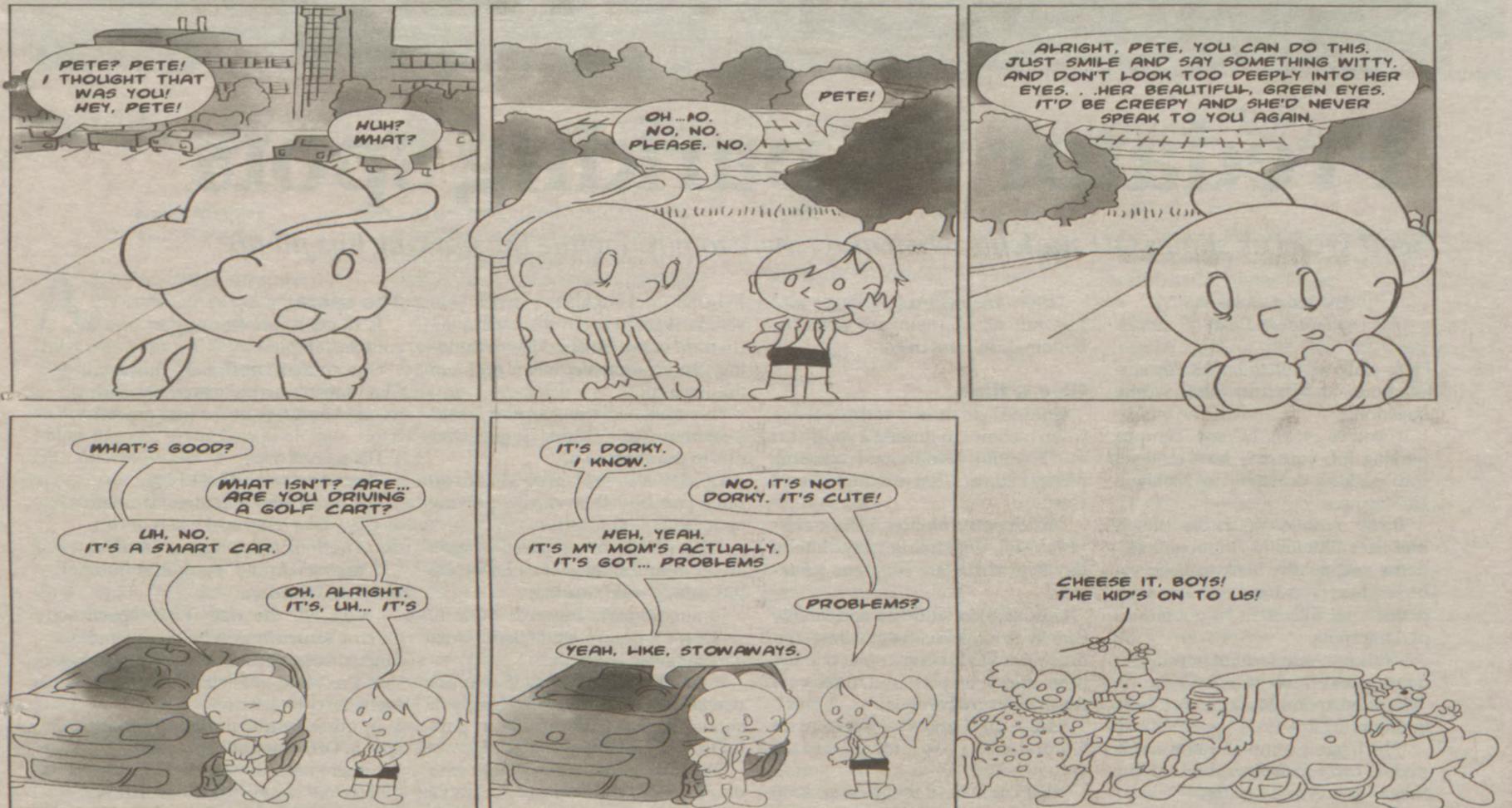
Either that, or stop being a lazy, lifeless loaf and get to school on time.

# Cartoons & Puzzles

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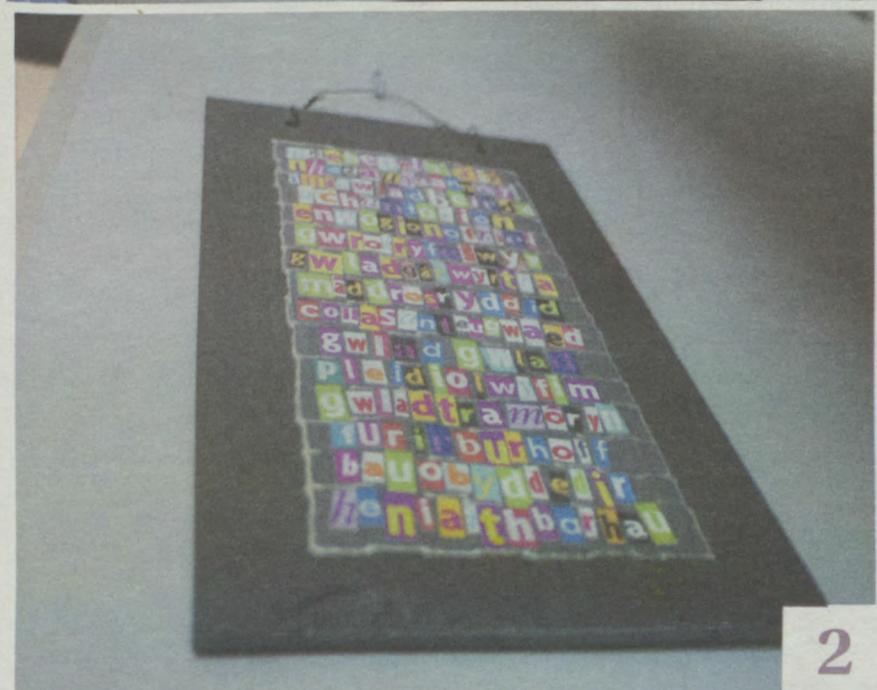
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## OAKLAND POST PETE by Jon Davis and Scott Wolchek





1



2



3

## What's in your office: *Graeme Harper*

Written by Kaylee Kean  
Photos by Jon Davis  
Staff Reporter / Photo Editor

Located next to east entrance of Vandenberg Hall, Graeme Harper's office does not feel like the traditional workspace with its curved shape and generous view of campus through a wall-sized window.

"It's a great little space, this one, and it was really well designed," said Harper as he discussed his office and some of the interesting objects within.

Contact Staff Reporter Kaylee Kean via email at [kmkean@oakland.edu](mailto:kmkean@oakland.edu)

Contact Photo Editor Jon Davis via email at [jsdavis@oakland.edu](mailto:jsdavis@oakland.edu)

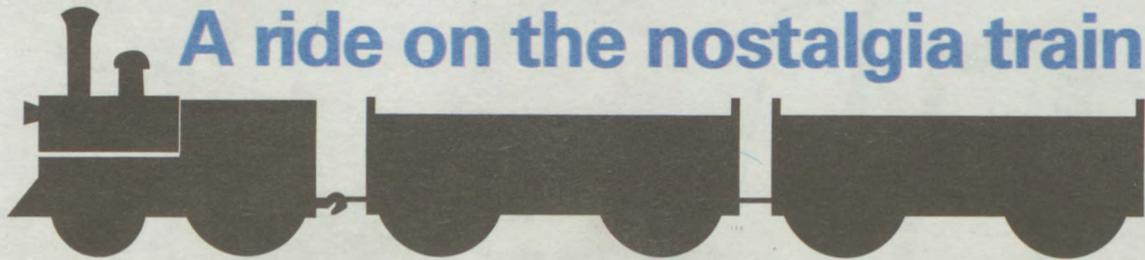
1 In this photo, Harper sits in his office and to his left hangs a framed picture of the cover of his first novel, "Black Cat, Green Field."

2 The hanging piece of slate with colorful letters printed on it is actually the Welsh anthem. Harper said he used to work for the Welsh television industry, and that 80 percent of the county he was in spoke Welsh.

3 On the top of a bookshelf sits a British army film projector he bought at a yard sale. Harper said he used to be a filmmaker and found it interesting.

SATIRE

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



## A ride on the nostalgia train

Chris Peralta  
Staff Reporter

**A**h yes, the college freshman — a unique creature. Innocent in nature, the college freshman actually buys textbooks from the bookstore and tries to find a parking spot in front of the OC.

Oh, if they only knew what lies ahead.

I was one of them four years ago. Smelling of Axe body spray and resembling an Abercrombie & Fitch billboard, I walked into South Foundation Hall only to walk out 15 minutes later because my professor didn't show up.

I really should've thought something was up when I saw 10 professors picketing at the entrance of P1.

The first day of class four years ago was pushed back a whole week.

I'm on my way out the door and Dec. 14 is clos-

ing in. I'm sitting on the nostalgia train.

I'm replaying all of my college outtakes. I thought that I'd be able to control my own metaphor, but I guess that's way too easy.

"Wait just a minute, here," I say. "Maybe this is the point of the nostalgia train. It's showing me what I've done wrong to prove that I've changed in my four years at Oakland."

I then watch all of my outtakes. Seeing the change actually happen through the failed secret admirer attempts and \$300 textbooks is like seeing a Charmeleon evolve into a Charizard.

Now, the outtakes are over and I'm starting to come to terms with something. The nostalgia train showed me that OU allowed my closeted-nerdiness to be let loose upon the world.

Without fear of being picked on, I branched out. I'm even nerdier than I was before, but I feel like this version of me is better.

In high school, my love of superheroes was

*Remembering the good, the bad, the ugly during the early years of college*

kept a secret. I was quiet around my classmates. They would see me/knew I existed, but that didn't make me any different from Bigfoot or the Loch Ness Monster when it came to actually getting to know them.

Oakland was what I needed. You guys are cool because a lot of you accept my nerdiness with open arms.

After realizing that, my outtakes don't really matter anymore because I was being myself instead of somebody else.

Looking back, I've matured without really growing up, if that makes any sense. Instead, I did something that I didn't in high school. I made long-lasting friendships and other kinds of sappy/boring stuff.

To honor the nostalgia train and what it has shown me, I'll walk on campus proudly displaying my nerdy T-shirts. I have a lot of them, by the way. I believe the current total is 27.

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