

TOURING AND EXPLORING

Discover OU's hidden gems on and around campus
Pages 10-11



PROFESSOR BANNED

An OU Professor was escorted and banned from campus after student complaint.
PAGE 5



BRICK BY BRICK

OU continues to construct a better campus.
PAGE 7



BEHIND THE TWEETS

The creators behind the Oakland Confessions Twitter account break their silence.
PAGE 15



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

DOGGONE FINALS // This adorable puppy could've been spotted outside Kresge Library on Thursday, April 24 during the "Pause for Puppies" event held to help students de-stress and find some post-finals fun. Students could stop by the Saints and Sinners Fountain to cuddle and play with some future leader dogs. The puppies were there from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Photo by Salwan Georges/The Oakland Post

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What do you think about summer classes?

- A** They are super helpful
- B** They cost too much money- not worth it
- C** I have to take them, but don't like it
- D** Who needs summer classes? Party time!

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

How do you feel about your upcoming finals?

- A** I'm going to dominate.
43.6%
- B** I'm going to fail miserably.
18.8%
- C** I don't have any. Yes, I know I'm lucky.
18.8%
- D** The weather is so great, who has time to study?
18.8%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

MAY 5, 1961 Wernher Von Braun, a noted rocket expert, spoke at OU's campus and discussed his vision for the future of space travel.

APRIL 29, 1962 One faculty member and 15 OU students marched from Pontica to Birmingham carrying signs protesting war and U.S. aggression.

APRIL 28, 1995 Five polyurethane animal cages were stolen by OU students from Dodge Hall. The value of the stolen property was estimated at around \$1,000, and no students were ever charged.



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MEET THE ADMINISTRATION

Over the regular academic year, many members of OU's administration came and went. Reflect with us and meet OU's new faces.



19

BOOK STORE BONANZA

OU's Barnes & Noble book store manager discusses summer activity and how to make the most of your time and money when it comes to your books.



20

FRESHMAN FRIDAY: BE AFRAID

Staff reporter Kaseb Ahmad laments about his experiences with the notorious 'Freshman Friday' and how it has followed him straight to this campus.

BY THE NUMBERS

Book Store Edition

\$53

The national average price for a used textbook

\$655

Average price of required course materials

78%

Schools offering textbook rental programs

\$1,168

Annual cost of school books and materials

30%

Average textbooks purchased electronically each year

STAFF EDITORIAL

Letter from the editor: A new dawn for The Oakland Post

Dear reader: Some sunsets are muted. Some are golden. As the imminent tide of graduation whisked away another group of talented seniors from The Oakland Post and toward the horizon of the real world, a magnificent, golden sun set on our news organization. Temporarily, we were left in darkness.

However, if I have learned anything from basic science classes and life on Earth thus far, it is that the sun does in fact rise again. Sometimes, it just means surviving the night. Newly appointed editors and mourning the losses of our seniors, we groped through the blackness, hiring new staff, making structural changes, learning editing computer software, and deciding just what we wanted to fill these twenty-some pages with each week.

We called upon you, the reader, asking for your input as our most important asset, the individual who takes our newsprinted words and brings them to life by giving us a read, even if you did only take a copy to be nice to the distributor passing them out.

"THE PAPER YOU ARE CURRENTLY HOLDING MARKS OUR DAWN ON A NEW DAY OF THE OAKLAND POST."

Oona Goodin-Smith
Editor-in-Chief of The Oakland Post

In the darkness we groped and in the darkness we grew. Appointing former reporters Ali DeRees, Andrew Wernette, and Jackson Gilbert to our campus and administration; life, arts, and entertainment; and sports editor positions, respectively, we aim to increase The Post's comprehensive coverage in the coming year, to interest, educate, and entertain you, the reader. We bolstered our sales, distribution, and web content teams, creating specialized web, video, and social media positions with the intent of spreading word of our publication. Most of all, though, we survived the night.

The paper you are currently holding marks our dawn on a new day of The Oakland Post.

Through the next thirty plus issues, we hope to be your trusted news source, to bring you the good, bad,

and ugly of Oakland University's news, to fill you in on the matters that affect you, and maybe even help you to see OU in a different light.

We hope to stay relevant, stay accurate, and stay golden.

We know that our sun, too, will eventually set. But in the meantime, we plan to shine.

Yours truly,

Oona Goodin-Smith

Editor-in-Chief

P.S. If you are interested in joining our journalistic journey of excellence at The Post by becoming a reporter, photographer, or distributor, the time is now. Send all inquiries and applications to editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

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

Corrections Corner

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

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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America is democratic in name only

Recent study shows that average U.S. citizens 'have little or no independent influence'

Jake Alsko
Web Editor



A recent study by Harvard's Martin Gilens and Northwestern's Benjamin Page concluded that the United States is not a democracy, but what could rather be described as an oligarchy.

"Multivariate analysis indicates that economic elites and organized groups representing business interests have substantial independent impacts on U.S. government policy, while average citizens and mass-based interest groups have little or no independent influence," the study says.

The professors' assessment matches that of an oligarchy, which can be defined as a form of government in which all power is vested in a few persons or in a dominant class or clique.

Many Americans are generally content with the policies our government passes, but because of the lack of influence average Americans wield when the nation's elite doesn't give its backing, the 99 percent is essentially at the mercy of the one.

"To be sure, this does not mean that ordinary citizens always lose out; they fairly often get the policies they favor," the study says. "But only because those policies happen also to be preferred by the economically elite citizens who wield the actual influence."

Of the 1,779 policy cases that the study covered, narrow pro-change majorities of the public were successful in changing a policy about 30 percent of the time. Even pro-change majorities backed by 80 percent of the public only succeeded about 43 percent of the time.

This is probably shocking to many, but frankly, to those that keep up on current events, this shouldn't come as a surprise. Just this past year, two major issues arose that—when thinking logically, when thinking for the common good—would've been resolved swiftly by the U.S. government.

Instead, 69 companies, interest groups and trade associations lobbied the Federal Communications Commission as it tries to secure net neutrality for a third time, according to The New York Times. Comcast, the company at the forefront of net neutrality's opposition, spent \$3.09 million in lobbying during the first quarter of 2014 alone, according to Consumer Watchdog.

Instead, Monsanto, an agricultural biotechnology company that makes approximately 90 percent of the soybean seeds sold in America according to Marketplace, voted against proposals to label and



Photo Courtesy of Andrew Miller/CC BY 2.0

Harvard's Martin Gilens and Northwestern's Benjamin Page found that U.S. pro-change majorities backed by 80 percent of the public succeeded only about 43 percent of the time in changing policy.

assess the costs of GMOs earlier this year.

"We're absolutely supportive of voluntary labeling," said Robert Fraley, the company's chief technology officer in an interview with Bloomberg Businessweek.

Praising General Mills for its announcement that Cheerios will be labeled as "not made with genetically modified ingredients," Fraley said that "that's the market at work, that's companies exercising their decision on what will meet customer demand, and that's exactly the way to do it."

Sounds peachy, food companies not being forced to label GMOs, instead leaving it up to their customers to decide what they want. The only problem is that Monsanto refuses to yield to the plights of its customers.

In May 2013, an estimate of two million people participated in the "March Against Monsanto," a protest arguing for GMO labeling and against what is popularly called the Monsanto Protection Act. The law was a policy rider found in the Famer Assurance Provision that allowed growers to continue to cultivate crops while legal challenges to the safety of those crops would still be underway.

While the law was only in effect for six months

until the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30, 2013, Monsanto continued to receive intense backlash for their political activity.

Rather than succumb to the pressure, the company upped their pursuit for policy influence. Monsanto spent \$2,760,000 on lobbying in the third quarter of 2013, up more than a million from the \$1,735,000 they spent in the second quarter, according to OpenSecrets.org.

There isn't enough space to truly delve into the issues of net neutrality and GMO labeling, but the point is that it would be prudent for Americans to assume that the country's economic elite disregards the will of the general public.

From personal experience, it seems that a sizable amount of people are willing to admit that many corporations and interest groups are motivated by greed, but most appear apprehensive to the idea that a corporation could consciously operate so independently of the common good.

Having such expectations for your fellow man or woman is admirable, but as more stories like these come out, the more foolish it becomes.

Contact Web Editor Jake Alsko at web@oaklandpostonline.com or follow him on Twitter @JakePAlsko

Professor escorted off campus, barred

Grievance filed because of faculty member's removal

By Sam Schlenner
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University chapter of the American Association of University Professors has filed a grievance about the removal and barring of a faculty member which took place on September 27, 2013, according to Kevin T. Grimm, president of the OU chapter of the AAUP.

"The faculty member was excluded from campus, from all contact with students, and was directed to take several medical and psychological exams by the Oakland University Police Department," Grimm wrote in an email.

The catalyst was a 9-minute student recording of the professor explaining how to turn in papers, Grimm said. The professor's identity has not yet been revealed. The Post has submitted a Freedom of Information Act request for the police report of the incident.

There are serious concerns from several faculty members about the procedures used by the Behavior Concerns Committee to bar the professor from campus. The BCC was created in Fall 2012 to address reports of "inappropriate, threatening or alarming" campus behavior.

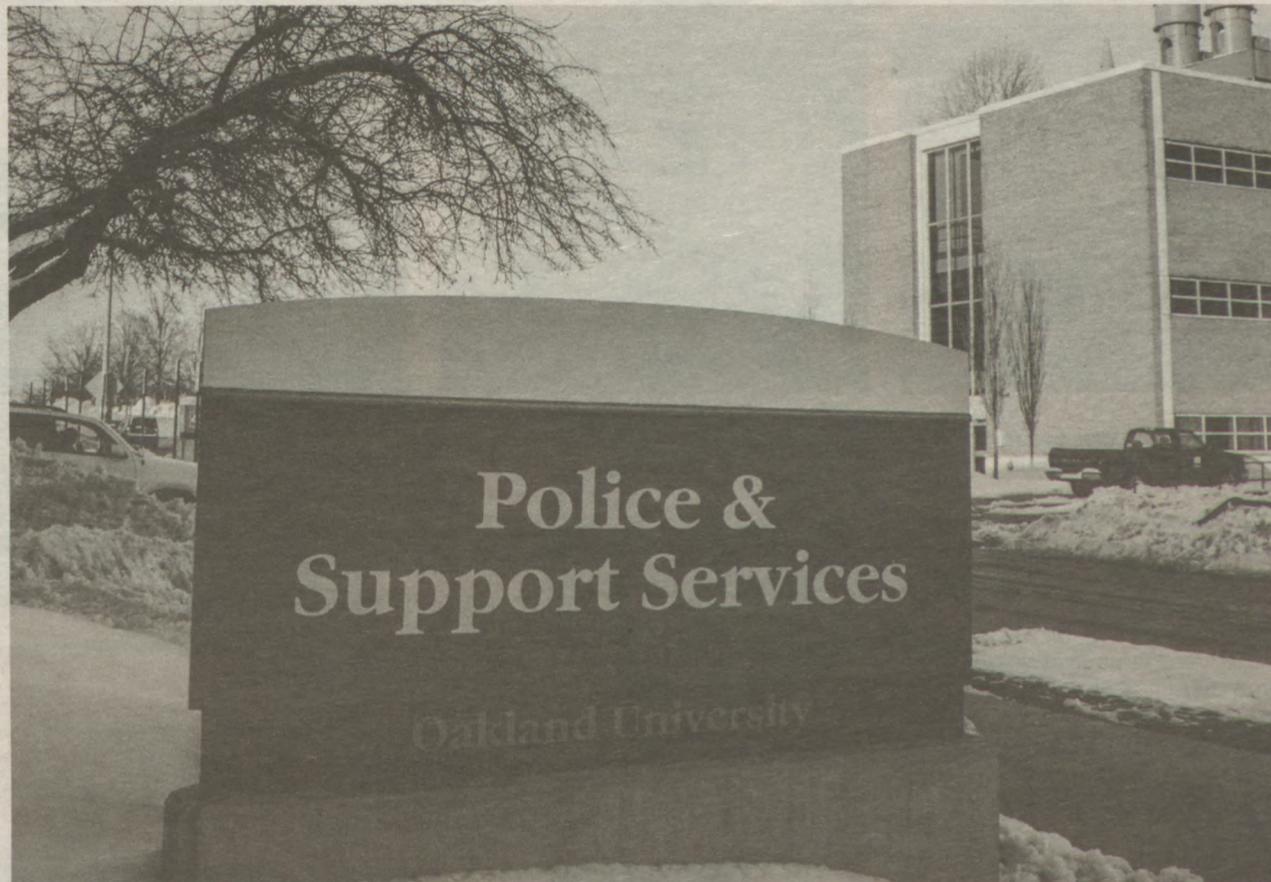
The BCC held a hearing at which it designated the faculty member persona non grata, banning the professor from campus. The professor was not given an opportunity to attend this hearing.

"While there are clear contract provisions stipulating the process under which a faculty member can be required to undergo medical testing, they were not followed, hence the Association filed a grievance," Grimm said.

The Post got comments from three faculty members. An OU spokesperson and OUPD had no comment on the issue.

Kevin Grimm:

"The issuing of the [persona non grata status] seems totally unjustified. The professor was not only removed from campus upon an order of the campus police but was also found to violate a University ordinance without any manner to challenge that finding,"



Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

The Oakland University Police Department removed and barred a faculty member back in September. A grievance has now been filed.

Grimm said.

"We have performed a thorough investigation and have found nothing that demonstrates that this professor posed any threat whatsoever to the safety of people on campus or violated any University Ordinance, despite the University's claim."

The professor was not given a chance to defend his or herself, Grimm said. Also, no records exist of the BCC meeting that decided to bar her, according to OU.

"This action has caused great harm to the professor's career and reputation," he said.

Karen Miller:

"This faculty member was denied fundamental due process," wrote Karen Miller, past president of the OU chapter of the AAUP and associate professor of history.

The university did not follow the faculty contract process for dealing with faculty discipline issues, she said.

"It is disturbing that this faculty member's 'Weingarten Rights' were

ignored. These rights were established in the 1975 Supreme Court case, *NLRB v. J. Weingarten* and have never before been challenged by Oakland University," she said.

Anyone whom the university is considering banning deserves to defend his or herself, Miller said. The opportunity was absent in this incident.

"No record of this hearing was maintained," she said. "Nor was there any right of appeal or redress to the so-called Behavior Concerns Committee's ruling. These are fundamental expectations and they have not been met in this case."

Christine Stover:

Persona non grata is a serious label, wrote Christine Stover, adjunct faculty, coordinator of Broadcast Services and faculty advisor for WXOU.

"It essentially means that Oakland University considers the individual to be too dangerous to step foot on the property," she said.

Because the faculty member was not invited to the BCC hearing, OU needs

to review its protocol and reopen the case, she said.

"And furthermore, I wish the procedures that have the ability to seal someones indefinite fate were more transparent," she said.

The grievance is awaiting arbitration, Grimm said, meaning it is being settled by a third party out of court in a legally binding decision.

That decision might affect all OU faculty.

"The faculty member has not been put on leave, is still drawing salary and benefits, and is attempting to pursue a scholarly career from home," Grimm said. "We remain shocked, however, that such a situation could even arise at OU."

Contact Staff Reporter Sam Schlenner via email at swschlen@oakland.edu

The Oakland Post will continue to update this story as more information becomes available.

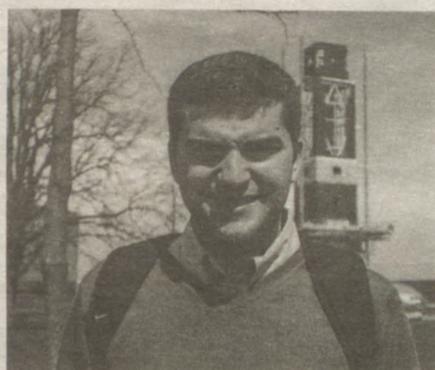
Extended edition Grizzlies on the Prowl:

"What is your craziest/most fun story from OU?"



**Marisa Kote, senior,
political science**

"I would say... (Welcome Week). It was like at the beginning of the year where all the organizations got out and represented themselves. We (the Albanian Americans Organization at OU) were there and ended up playing our music... next thing you know everyone was just coming and dancing. It was really fun."



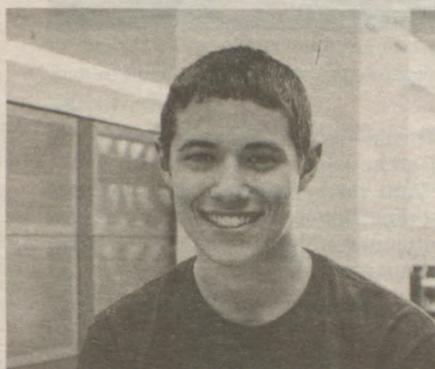
**Jon Tropf, graduate student,
history**

"The craziest OU story is probably the car that got stuck in Bear Lake. We had a car go into the lake, but that didn't stop the LARP-ers from LARP-ing. They persevered despite the commotion."



**Gina Rossi, fifth year,
secondary education math**

"I don't think I have one. Probably not one that could be put in The Post... We just had LeBron James in our REC Center a few weeks ago."



**Jonathan Leigh, junior at Lake
Orion High School**

"My mom (who works here) told me that students take the Bike Share bikes and ride them into the ponds."



**Jeremy Myers, junior,
environmental science**

"I'm on the Lacrosse Club - we go out and party and go to different frats and stuff. I don't think anything pretty crazy I guess... coming to the library and having it be 60 degrees and leaving at night and it's snowing."



**Jonas Wolf, junior, business
administration**

"I don't really have one. I don't live here - I live like 20 minutes away."

POLICE FILES

Larceny at George Matthews Apartments

OUPD was dispatched to the George Matthews Apartments for a report of larceny April 26 at 12:15 a.m.

A student had left his apartment around 2:00 p.m. and returned around 11:00 p.m. When he returned, he noticed his 32-inch Samsung LCD TV was missing.

He stated that his roommate had moved out earlier in the day and left the apartment's door unlocked.

The student believes he knows who may have taken his television because that person asked to purchase the TV April 23, though that person denied taking it.

Stalking in Kresge Library

Officers responded to Kresge Library for a suspicious person April 22 at 6:07 p.m.

They contacted the complainant who was a student on the fourth floor. She told officers that, beginning in November 2013, an older male has been stalking her every time he sees her in Kresge Library.

She said he followed her around the library and had even sat at her table, eating chips while moaning. On several occasions the student would have to leave the library because he would see her and start walking towards her.

On this occasion, the student saw the man by the coffee machines on the main floor. After she got her coffee, the man began to follow her up the stairwell, but she moved fast enough to lose him, arrived on the fourth floor and called OUPD.

After searching the library, officers found the man at a computer on the main floor. OUPD discovered that he was not a student at Oakland. He denied any stalking or staring at girls, yet other OU officers had prior contact with him for staring at female students in the Oakland Center.

— Compiled by Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

— Compiled by Haley Kotwicki
Chief Copy Editor

Campus

Construction takes over for school's makeover



Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

The new dorms hold a promise of living space for incoming students and upperclassmen.

Construction quickly creeps across campus, an update for getting around in the summer season

Jessie DiBattista
Staff Reporter

Tickets and rubble fill the parking lots, noisy machines and tools are heard around campus; WARNING and KEEP OUT signs are found around every corner. All this bundled up into a fast-growing university.

Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management Terry Stollsteimer said these projects will benefit all students.

OU is currently undergoing fifteen new construction projects. Certain projects will be finished through May while others will be completed throughout the summer and up to early November.

These projects include a new golf facility, a new dining hall, road and sidewalk repairs, a new parking structure and much more. Even though these construction projects are exciting and will improve OU, none seem to be more exciting than the new residence hall.

"The new residence hall will house a mix of freshmen and upper class students," Director of Housing James Zentmeyer said, "The Honors College administrative and meeting space is moving to the new residence hall."

The new residence hall will be opening in early August to all resident students. The staff is hoping to be moving furniture into the building in the middle of July, ac-

ording to Zentmeyer.

"The Honors College administrative and meeting space is moving to the new residence hall. Some floors will be housing students in the Honors College program by request in this location," Zentmeyer said.

The new residence hall will also be available to students who are not in the Honors College.

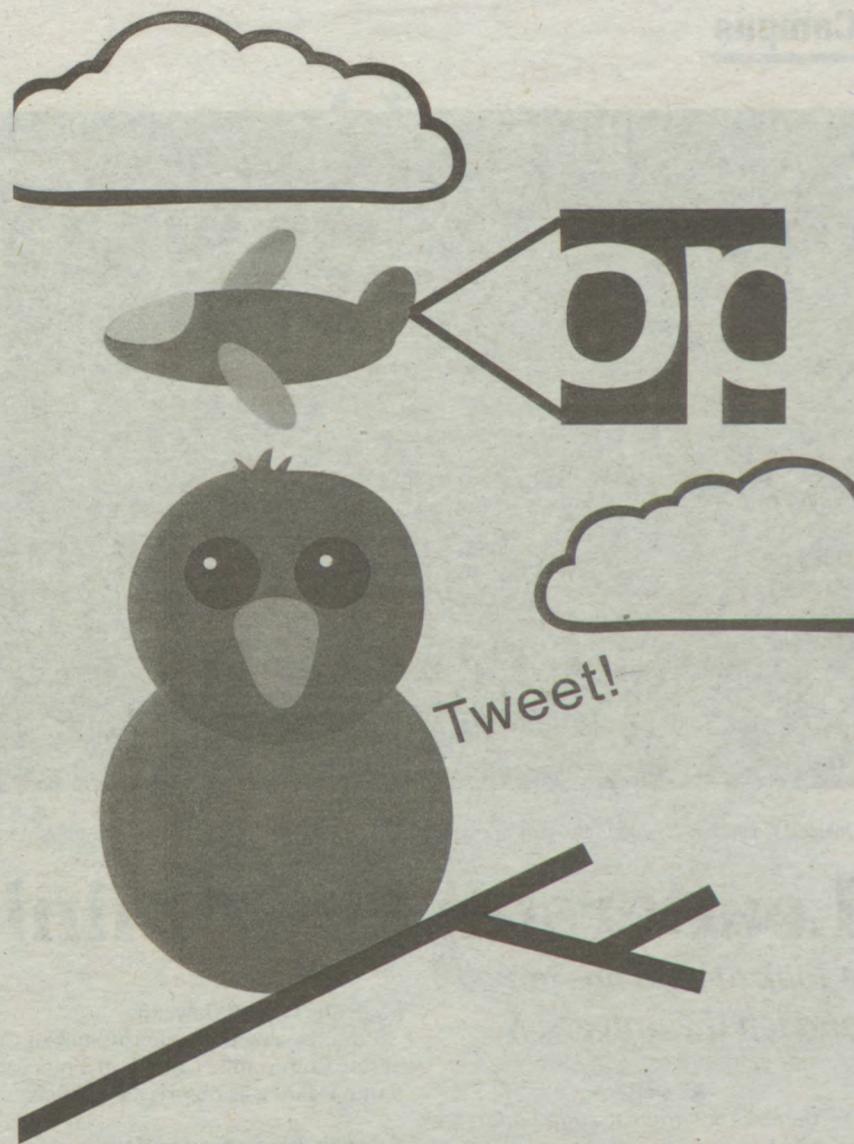
"Other floors will house non-Honors College students by request in this location. This new facility, along with our existing residence halls and apartments, are proving to be immensely popular with our returning students," Zentmeyer said.

\$30 million went into the new residence hall, and it is completely state-of-the-art. The venues inside the hall include a small café, a private space for student meetings and studying, according to Zentmeyer.

The new residence hall can be seen from Walton Boulevard and is located across from Vandenberg Hall.

With all the new honors students coming in, this makes the new residence hall a very popular place to live in the fall semester.

"Currently, our incoming freshmen requests are showing a very strong request rate as well. I am very certain that all of our facilities will be filled at fall opening," Zentmeyer said.



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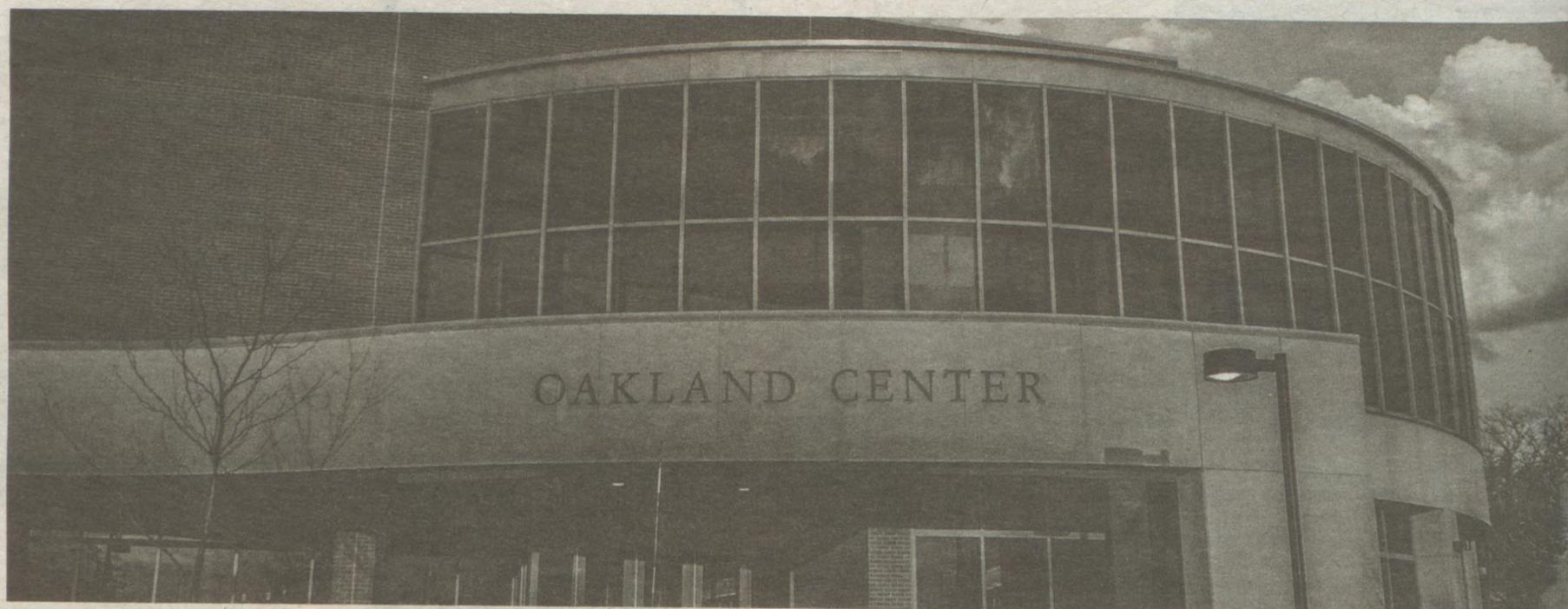
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Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Oakland University has seen the exit of many long-time administrative leaders and the entrance of prominent university leaders and new faces from around the country.

Leadership in administration changes hands

A look at who has joined and left the university

Ali DeRees

Campus & Administration Editor

From retirement of a president to the appointment of a new Chief of Police, Oakland University has had many changes in its leadership this past academic year.

This year was nothing short of extraordinary and The Post would like to provide students and faculty a recap of some of the hiring, firing and leaving that occurred in Oakland's administration.

A coach is terminated and a president leaves

On June 12, 2013, former Oakland University president, Dr. Gary Russi, announced his retirement, the same day his wife and former Oakland University women's basketball coach Beckie Francis was fired, as reported by former Post Editor-in-Chief Scott Wolchek.

Former OU women's basketball player Jenna Bachrouche went on the record saying Francis pushed her Christian beliefs on the team. Francis denied all claims in an interview with Wolchek.

Upon Gary Russi's August 2013 retirement, he received \$225,000 in deferred compensation, as reported by former Post News Manager Victoria Crow.

In November, Francis sued the school for not providing her the proper, un-redacted documentation as to why she was

fired. She won the lawsuit.

Russi is now the Chief of Staff of Celebrate Community Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, as reported by Wolchek.

Searching for a leader

After the leave of Gary Russi, Dr. Betty Youngblood was appointed interim president August 2013. Youngblood is a graduate of Oakland University and was the president of Lake Superior University in Wisconsin from 2002-2007, as reported by former Post Managing Editor Brian Johnston.

In December 2013 the Board of Trustees approved R. William Funk & Associates as the presidential search firm. The firm has found presidents for well-known universities such as Ohio State University.

William Funk visited Oakland in February and spoke with the Oakland University Student Congress as to what students want to see in a president. The search is ongoing.

A musical provost and a new chief take the reins

In July 2013, James Lentini was named Oakland University's Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. He has been working actively in projects such as the Varner Hall expansion.

Did you know he's also a renowned composer? Members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra have performed his works.

Another changed happened when

former Oakland University Police Department Chief Samuel Lucido retired after serving as Chief of Police for 11 years. Mark Gordon was chosen as the next Chief and began his duties April 1. Gordon had served as various roles on the OUPD for 26 years, his latest being captain.

Gordon said the transition to Chief of Police is going well.

"I couldn't ask for enough support," Gordon said.

Gordon said that even with students going home in the summer, the campus "is still a very busy place." Camps for students of younger ages will be happening all over campus.

"Focus changes from student age to that age (younger kids)," Gordon said.

Within OUPD itself there are a lot of things going on this summer, according to Gordon. This includes hiring a new dispatcher and training other officers.

Gordon said that now that he is Chief of Police, it "creates vacancies underneath me," and therefore more opportunities.

He said that he has some new ideas for the police department that "will be beneficial and positive," but will still need support and funds before they are passed.

Gordon described the transition as a work in progress but that it will be worth it in the end.

"It will be very positive for the university and the community as a whole," Gordon said.

Who to know at Oakland University



BECKIE FRANCIS

Former women's basketball head coach and wife of Dr. Gary Russi, past university president. She was fired in 2013.



BETTY YOUNGBLOOD

Interim president of Oakland University. She is a graduate of the university.



GARY RUSSI

Former university president for 18 years. He retired soon after his wife, Beckie Francis, was fired.



MARK GORDON

Former OUPD captain. He was hired as OUPD's new chief.

Year in review: OU's memorable moments

Email frenzies, cars in the lake and pranks galore

Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

A lot has happened on Oakland University's campus this past academic year. Some of it has been good, some bad, and some has been downright weird.

Here is a look at just a few of the stranger things to happen to Oakland and its students.

The reply-allmageddon

One such event drew so much attention because students simply couldn't avoid it: the email reply-allmageddon.

On Sunday, March 9 a student sent out an email to the entire undergraduate student body requesting they take a quick survey for the student's WRT 160 course. It is unknown how the student gained access to this mailing list, which is not posted in Oakland's public mailing list website.

That one email gave over 15,500 students the power to "reply all" and message the entire mailing list simultaneously.

The responses steadily streamed in throughout the night, ranging from angry to humorous to enterprising. Students argued, joked, posted memes and links to business and personal websites.

"So... since we're all acquainted now, how is everyone's weekend going?" wrote Sam Harris.

"If anyone plays Dota2 they can add me on steam, my user name is Alxxy, that is my PSN id too," wrote Joe Salk.

"I, for one, believe this will bring us closer together as a family," wrote Brian Figurski. "I hope this thread lasts until they delete my OU account."

Many students posted on the Oakland University Facebook page as well.

"It is COMPLETELY unacceptable that students have access to mailing lists containing the entire student body," Kathryn Elizabeth wrote on the page. "Please secure



Kaylee Kean / The Oakland Post

This was not a late April Fool's joke. A student's car breaks the thawing ice after being knocked into Bear Lake Wednesday, April 2 2014.

these lists so this sort of thing does NOT happen again!"

The student who sent the original email declined to comment.

The car of Bear Lake

On Wednesday, April 6, a red Sebring was pushed into Bear Lake by a white van in neutral that had been unhitched from the trailer towing it. Students gathered around the bridge and lake to watch the four-hour towing of the totaled car.

"I went to class and then I came out of class and my car was in a lake," graduate Shauna Hazime, owner of the Sebring, said. "Nice end to the year."

The man responsible for the accident left the scene as soon as he had spoken with the Oakland University Police Department, and Hazime said she has never seen or spoken with him in

person.

His insurance covered everything, however, which left Hazime with enough money to get another good car, start paying back her parents and a little more.

Hazime said the whole thing turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

Because of this, Hazime said she finally has enough money to follow her dreams and move to Los Angeles. She will be moving in with her best friend in six to eight months, after she has worked at home to save up a little more cash.

"I can't believe it turned out the way it did," Hazime said. "It turned out pretty nicely and I'm a strong believer that everything happens for a reason."

A major change

This academic year also saw

the introduction of many new majors and classes. One major of note is the Post-Apocalyptic Survival Studies (PASS) major.

"Beginning in fall 2014, Oakland University will be offering an interdisciplinary program designed to prepare students for what some believe is the inevitable - the end of the world as we know it," Oakland's website reads. "The PASS program will provide the necessary skills to not only survive as an individual in an apocalyptic aftermath, but to contribute in a meaningful way."

One of three concentrations can be chosen for the degree: Back to Basics, Rebuilding a 21st Century Society, or Health and Wellness.

The school site says that although there may not be an apocalypse in our time, the degree still provides "valuable

insight into prehistoric conditions, literary and cinematic trends."

It can also qualify students to write, produce or direct movies and TV shows for the next 100 years, survive in extreme conditions and win The Hunger Games or an upcoming season of Survivor, according to the website.

While most other majors were introduced at the beginning of the year, this one was showcased across the different OU media platforms on April 1 - commonly known as April Fools' Day.

Yes, this new major was a hoax - much to the dismay of apocalypse enthusiasts everywhere - but students and staff still had fun with it.

"Nice April Fools' joke, but seriously when can I enroll?" Bevan Lindsey said on the OU Facebook post.

AROUND TOWN

Story by Oona Goodin-Smith Design by Kelly Lara

So you've registered for classes and made housing arrangements, but what is there to do at Oakland University for fun? Bordering both the Downtown Pontiac and Rochester areas, OU's location provides for unique and enjoyable activities, just minutes from campus.

PAINT CREEK TRAIL

Spanning 8.9 miles, the crushed limestone path of the Paint Creek Trail lends itself to walking, jogging, running, cycling, and even horseback riding. Free for all visitors and ten minutes from OU's campus, the trail, which lines Paint Creek, offers an opportunity for students to escape the campus hubbub and get back in touch with nature.

LIPUMA'S CONEY

Located nine minutes in downtown Rochester sports a variety of signature specialties, Texas, Bacon, Russian and Flip Saunders ho well as fan favorites Coney and Chicago are probably our mo but I like the Chicago employee Noah Vraz

MEADOW BROOK HALL

Free for OU students, the historic mansion was once home to OU founder Matilda Wilson and first husband John F. Dodge, co-founder of the Dodge Brothers Motor Car Company. The Dodge's summer home has been renovated into the Katke Golf Course, which, according to journalism professor Garry Gilbert "offers great rates for students and a chance to see Meadow Brook Gardens from a dramatic point of view."

HONEY ISLAND
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Michael Ferdinande/The Oakland Post

ATHLETICS CENTER O'RENA

Host to Division 1 athletics, including men and women's basketball and volleyball, the O'Rena seats 3,000 on game night. With free admission to OU students, no home game is complete without some of the Horizon League's most dedicated fans, the Golden Grizzly Pep Band and Grizz Gang, cheering the black and gold teams to victory from the crowd.



Salwan Georges/The Oakland Post

CARNIVAL MARKET

Receiving stellar reviews across metro Detroit, the Latin grocery store also contains a small restaurant, selling authentic Mexican burritos, tacos, churros, and much more. Although tacos are already only \$0.89, Carnival Market is offering all OU students 20% off any order in May, in honor of Cinco de Mayo.

COOLYO FROZEN YOGURT

Located across from campus on the corner of Squirrel and Walton, the frozen yogurt bar offers a variety of gluten-free and health-conscious frozen flavors, fresh fruits, and toppings. OU students get 10% off any purchase with a valid Spirit Card ID.

PLANET ROCK

Located a mere ten minutes from campus in downtown Pontiac, Planet Rock Climbing Gym offers students the chance to blow off the studying steam while reaching new heights. Its 70 ft. walls present a challenge to climbers of any skill level. Students with a valid Spirit Card get \$1 off admission, and Wednesday "Crank Nights" feature a live DJ offer late night climbing for a discounted price.

Basketball stars shine bright

Travis Bader and
Bethany Watterworth
graduate Oakland

David Cesefski
Staff Reporter

Two invaluable senior athletes finished up their careers at Oakland University this semester. They will go down as some of the best in school history.

For the 2013-2014 year there was an abundance of moments but arguably none bigger than the number 455, the number three, and the number one. Many say that one is the loneliest number, but for Oakland University basketball star Travis Bader, lonely has never felt so good. Bader sits alone with the NCAA record for three pointers in a collegiate career, a historic feat that was accomplished late this past season.

To quote the late Andrew Carnegie, a true American hero and steel tycoon, "Anything in life worth having is worth working for." Travis Bader's only Division I scholarship offer came from Oakland University, something that may have every school in the nation losing sleep. 504 three pointers later and Bader will go down as the best three point shooter ever.

"You've got a guy sitting in the room that's the greatest of all-time at something," said Oakland coach Greg Kampe. "And we're not talking about flipping a tiddlywink or something like that. This game's been played for a long, long time and he's the best ever."

This past season also marked the end of a spectacular career for another Oakland Basketball star, a star connected to the number 40 and 23. The Oakland Woman's basketball team has been represented for four long years by the nation's 23rd all-time leader in scoring, Bethany Watterworth.

The graduating senior has donned the number 40 for the past four season for the Golden Grizzlies, scoring over 1,900 points over a career that will go



Bethany Watterworth missed the 2012-13 season due to a back injury but returned this season.



Travis Bader is known for his "Bader bombs," which are three-pointers.

down as one of the best ever in school history.

Watterworth's career, just like Bader's, has had some adversity that was overcome. Bethany missed the entire 2012-13 season due to a back injury, but in the end the injury wasn't able to overcome Watterworth's determination and drive to get back and finish strong.

In a recent interview done by Oakland post reporter Matt Saulino, Watterworth spoke on

her journey back and adversity she overcame.

"With all that I had to go through the past couple years, it was just really cool to play," Watterworth said. "I had to wait over a year and a half, so the fact that I was just able to go out and play and pick up where I left off is amazing."

A career that was hampered by injury but defined by hard work, humbleness, and determination, Watterworth

will go down in OU's history books as one of only players in the programs history to eclipse 1,900 points in a career.

Two athletes that we as Oakland University students and soon to be alumni will never forget. The points scored and records broken will forever be written in OU's history books. The lessons taught are clear with these two exceptional people, never give up and never let your adversity define you.

WHAT'S IN STORE

TRAVIS BADER: He most recently participated at the Portsmouth Invitational, which is a tournament for NBA prospects that are considered to be borderline prospects. He'll be looking to hear his name in June's NBA draft.

BETHANY WATTERWORTH: She is finishing up her physical therapy classwork and will be looking to continue her involvement with the basketball team in the future.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Track and field

The Oakland University men and women's track and field team has been busy the last few weeks. David Koponen was named the Horizon League men's runner of the week last Tuesday after posting a 1:58.75 in the 800-meter run which is the fastest time in the league this season.

Women's softball

The OU women's softball team is wrapping up their season over the next few weeks. Two home games were cancelled last week due to inclement weather. The team posted a 1-0 victory against Cleveland state and then took two out of three games from Youngstown State.

Golf

Both the men and women's golf teams wrapped up their respective seasons in Florida last weekend at the Mission Inn Resort, host of the Horizon League Championship. Evan Bowser of the men's team posted a final round score of 73 and earned all-tournament honors and finishing fourth overall. The Grizzlies men's team managed to finish seventh.

The women's team had a great outing, finishing as the runner up in their inaugural Horizon League season. Danielle Crilley and Donna Fiscelli led the Grizzlies with scores of 234 overall and tied for fourth place individually. Both teams are looking to continue their success next season.

— Compiled by
Jackson Gilbert
Sports Editor

Ladies wanted for new rugby club

The spring season brings tough girls to the newly founded campus rugby team

Joseph Bach
Staff Reporter

The Women's Oakland Rugby Club (W.O.R.C.) has officially been founded.

This spring, Rebekah Thomas and women's club president Marie Burchi combined efforts with women's assistant coach Hunter Michaels and Devon Meadows of the men's team. They have done what has proven nearly impossible for the past few years.

But not for lack of trying.

The idea of a women's team has been snowballing for years now, but the required following and membership just couldn't be gathered to support a full roster, until now.

For those unfamiliar with the sport, it's somewhat of a hybrid of Soccer and Football created in England in the early 1800's.

Described by some as football without pads or simply organized chaos, the theme that shines through all descriptions is the one given by WORC treasurer Rebekah Thomas, "It's a family, it changed my life for the better".

Meadows serves as coach of the

Women's team and president of Oakland University club sports Devon Meadows has this to say to those considering joining, "It gets you involved both on campus and in the community through fundraising".

Rugby is a sport that emphasizes the social aspect of the game just as strongly as the competition.

Combined are the efforts of the men's and women's rugby clubs here at Oakland, which operate closely together; they also cooperate with the men and women's Detroit Tradesman Rugby teams.

"This sort of interaction is something that creates more of a sense of community and family rather than just a team. And the experiences are something you'll never forget, tournaments in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Chicago, Cleveland, and those are just the Midwest" said Meadows, the women's coach and men's co-captain.

No experience necessary to play, team dues for the sport are kept to a minimum and the sport takes place fall and spring as well as over the summer.

More info can be found by joining the W.O.R.C. Facebook group.



Photo courtesy of women's rugby team / The Oakland Post

The women's rugby team isn't afraid of a little snow, perfect practice for the season start

Oakland seeks replacement Athletic Director, hires outside firm

Matt Saulino
Staff Reporter

Oakland University has hired the search firm College Sports Associates to find a replacement for Interim Robbie Stewart as Athletic Director.

Stewart took over interim duties for Tracy Huth on Feb. 1 after Huth decided to step down. The search firm OU hired is now assisting an OU committee and will begin accepting applicants as soon as Friday.

The job listing for the position reads, "Oakland University invites nominations and applications for the position of Director of Athletics."

It also says in the listing that only digital resumes will be accepted, and that hard copies will not. Although if Florida's Jeremy Foley or

Michigan's David Brandon showed up with a hard copy application, they might temporarily disqualify that stipulation.

"In seeking the new Director of Athletics, Oakland University is searching for an individual who will lead an institution that competes with excellence both academically and athletically," the listing continues.

"This leader will have a unique opportunity to build upon the tradition and success of the past 50 years of athletics and create a vision for the future within the region, the conference and the NCAA."

Luckily for the applicants there is an option to sign up with Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus and everyone's personal favorite, LinkedIn.

The university and CSA are look-

ing for someone who will help bolster a future in NCAA athletics involving the Golden Grizzlies' 18 athletic teams.

Todd Turner, the founder and president of the CSA, is working with the OU committee to find the future successor. Turner has been the Director of Athletics at four major universities: UConn, N.C. State, Vanderbilt, and Washington. He also worked as an administrator at West Virginia University, before his stints as A.D.

The CSA has worked with 15 dif-

ferent universities, including Duke University, Central Michigan and the Horizon League's Valparaiso. They also have worked before with the Horizon League conference as a whole.

They base their help around their areas of expertise - conference realignment, market research, personnel evaluations and strategic planning.

There is no timetable available for when the position will be filled, just that "the job will remain open until the position is filled."

GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

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

OU students fund lives through donations

Meghan Murley tables for her uncle and the Foley sisters fight cystic fibrosis

Andrew Wernette

Life, Arts, & Entertainment Editor

A university campus has long served as a forum where brilliant minds meet and, hopefully, go on to promote the common good. However, student efforts are already aiming to help the community. Many use the method of fundraising to help support a cause.

Near death

Meghan Murley is a sophomore at Oakland University. She is also the niece of a man named Steven Utash, who, on April 2, was severely beaten by a mob in Detroit.

According to the Detroit Free Press, Utash was driving in his truck in the city when he hit a 10-year-old boy that stepped out in front of him. When Utash got out to see if the boy was all right, a crowd immediately formed and began attacking Utash.

He now is being treated for severe head injuries. The boy was also briefly hospitalized for leg and other injuries.

The attack was widely reported and caused a public outcry within the city and beyond.

"I actually found out through Facebook," Murley said. It was her cousin, Utash's daughter, who had posted what had happened. She then had the news confirmed by her family.

"I was kind of in denial about it at first," she admitted.

Funding a life

Murley said that it was the idea of some of her friends in the fraternity Theta Chi to hold a fundraiser for Utash. They wanted to support her uncle using the fraternity's philanthropy chapter, and so they set up a table in the Oakland Center in order to raise money. Murley came up with the idea to display a huge "get well" banner that people could sign for Utash.



Courtesy of Meghan Murley

Meghan Murley made a "get well" banner for her uncle, Steven Utash. About 150 people signed the banner.



Courtesy of Kelley and Erin Foley

LEFT: Leslie Foley, Kelley Foley and Erin Foley walk to raise money.

"It's filled up pretty nicely," she said.

In all, the banner received about 150 signatures. The group raised \$567 in four days.

Murley said that her uncle's status had not really improved since the incident. Sometimes he wakes up still thinking he is being attacked, she said. He was

still being held in intensive care, so she had not been able to visit him yet.

"I'm waiting to see him," she said.

Foley sisters

The Foley sisters were also fundraising for a goal. Kelley Foley and Erin Foley were

gearing up to participate in a walk put on by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation on April 27. It was to be their third walk.

Going as a team this year, their joint goal was to raise \$2000 to go towards research on cystic fibrosis (CF).

On the day they were interviewed, they had acquired \$1975—a mere \$25 away from their goal.

Family ties

The Foley family has had previous experience with cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease that can be fatal. Their father passed away from CF when they were little, and two of their aunts died from it in infancy. Now, the sisters walk in their memory.

"It's weird," Kelly said, "because it's usually not the people that I think we expect to get donations from."

She and Erin spoke of numerous occasions where people they barely interacted

Fighting for her uncle

WHO: Meghan Murley

WHAT: Tabling to fundraise for her uncle, Steven Utash

WHEN: April 21 - 24

WHERE: Oakland Center

Fighting for their family

WHO: Kelley and Erin Foley

WHAT: Fundraising via social media for the local walk funded by The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

WHEN: The walk took place April 27

WHERE: Online

with had contributed to their goal. They described that as something truly special to them.

"They see something in our cause," Kelley said.

Forwarding the cause

The sisters took a mainly online approach to seek out donations. "I emailed all of my coworkers," said Erin. They also created an event page on Facebook to advertise their cause.

"Social media is really one of the best ways to get out to people nowadays," Erin said. "If you can't donate, just share [the page]."

She said that this was how their message had reached donors who otherwise would never even have known about it. As for the upcoming walk, they said that they were excited.

"This is the first year my friends can make it, so my roommate and my boyfriend are coming, too," said Erin.

Confessions of an Oakland University drama queen

'Oakland Confessions' Twitter page exposes students' secrets

Sam Schlenner
Staff Reporter

It knows more than your mother.

The Oakland Confessions Twitter page (@OaklandConfess) posts anonymous messages all about the back alley of Oakland life (caution: not safe for work). The usual topics are sex, drugs, complaining and sex. Consider it the education between classes.

The Post got in touch with the administrators of the page. The interview was over email to maintain their anonymity.

Q: How long have you guys been doing this?

A: The page was started on November 26, 2013.

Q: What's the buzz feel like? Getting all this information, that is. All these confessions.

A: It keeps us entertained, to say the least.

Q: If a confession makes a factual allegation, do you verify it?

A: We post virtually every submission that we receive. We enjoy providing individuals with a platform to air their thoughts. We are not the message; we are simply the messenger.

Q: What is the most out-there confession you've seen?

A: There's been a lot of blunt and crude confessions. Probably a confession about sexual acts being performed in a library study room.

Q: What criminal activity has shown up on the page?

A: We post virtually every

submission that we receive. We enjoy providing individuals with a platform to air their thoughts. We are not the message; we are simply the messenger.

Q: Has somebody ever submitted something that's too bad to post?

A: Yes, but very rarely. We post virtually everything.

Q: Have you ever had to go to the police? Will you?

A: We post virtually every submission that we receive. We enjoy providing individuals with a platform to air their thoughts. We are not the message; we are simply the messenger.

Q: What do you hope the page will do? Make people laugh? Cry? Make them angry?

A: We hope this page entertains people. The feedback we've gotten is overwhelmingly positive. We are glad to see so many people getting enjoyment,



Courtesy of 'Oakland Confessions' Twitter page

'Oakland Confessions' provides students an outlet for stress and grief.

laughs, and entertainment out of our page.

Q: You are, in a way, the voice of the people. Given this, what is one thing you'd like to say to OUSC?

A: We post virtually every submission that we receive. We enjoy providing individuals with a platform to air their thoughts.

We are not the message; we are simply the messenger.

For more confessions, visit twitter.com/oaklandconfess.

Contact Staff Reporter Sam Schlenner suschlen@oaklan.edu



Make WXOU your summer soundtrack at wxou.org/listen!

Want your own show? Fill out an application located on the table outside.



Your summer concert guide

Sneak a peek at the hottest local shows of the season

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

Stay tuned for plenty of exciting concerts coming to Meadow Brook Music Festival, DTE Energy Music Theatre and the Palace of Auburn Hills this summer!

All three venues offer different types of concert experiences for fans. There are the superstar concerts (Bruno Mars and Justin Timberlake), the rock concert shows (Fall Out Boy and Paramore) and even some classic rock (Lynyrd Skynyrd).

June brings upbeat music to fans' ears: Vampire Weekend (June 6 at Meadow Brook), Backstreet Boys with Special Guest Avril Lavigne (June 17 at DTE) and OneRepublic featuring The Script (June 21 at DTE).

One of the main events is 98.7 AMP Radio Live 2014 at Meadow Brook Music Festival on June 12. The concert is "The Blue Room

will give fans inside access and news on the latest concerts. It's free and signing up will give people great deals and exclusive offers."

Naomi Patton,
Senior Director of
Public Relations

by the Palace on June 18, while Justin Timberlake's 20/20 Experience World Tour arrives on July 28.

It would not be summer without the Vans Warped Tour. The 2014 tour will once again be held at The Palace, featuring Mayday Parade, Cute Is What We Aim For, The Ready Set and The Maine along with many up and coming alternative bands. The crazy annual event comes to the Palace on July 18.

The Under the Influence of Music tour will be coming for its third year to DTE Energy Music Theatre on August 10. The tour is headlined by Wiz Khalifa, Young Jeezy, Tyga, Ty Dolla \$ign and Rich Homie Quan. The tour also features Sage The Gemini, Mack Wilds, IAMSU! and DJ Drama.

Although these concerts are just around the corner, Senior Director of Public Relations at Palace Sports and Entertainment, Naomi Patton, says there are still tickets available for all of this summer's concerts. She suggests people consistently check palacenet.com for announcements and information.

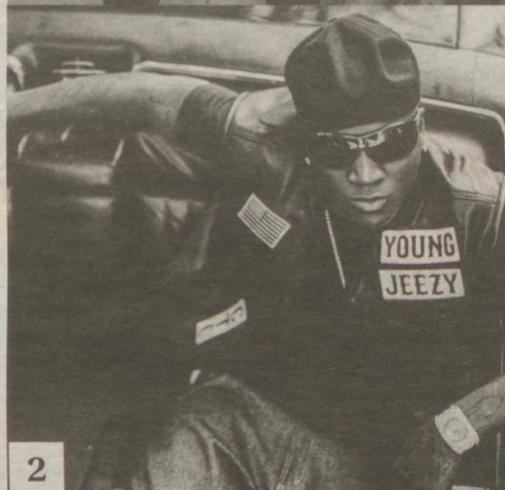
Also, check out the new Palace Sports & Entertainment App on iTunes or Google Play, it gives notifications of event announcements and a comprehensive listing of PalaceNet events. Patton also strongly suggests people sign up for the fan club, The Blue Room.

headlined by Ed Sheeran, with performances by Austin Mahone, Icona Pop, Little Mix and Timeflies.

Kelsey Kobylarek, a junior at OU, is attending both the Vampire Weekend and 98.7 AMP Radio Live 2014 concerts at Meadow Brook.

"I'm lucky to live in an area where a lot of artists come, and I'm super excited because Meadow Brook is such a great venue," Kobylarek said. "It's really nice no matter where you sit, lawn or pavilion!"

Another great venue is The Palace of Auburn Hills, and two of the biggest names in music right now will perform there this summer. Bruno Mars' Moonshine Jungle Tour stops



1. Ed Sheeran
Meadow Brook Music Festival
June 12

2. Kings of Leon
DTE Energy Music Theatre
Aug. 1

3. Young Jeezy
DTE Energy Music Theatre
Aug. 10

4. Wiz Khalifa
DTE Energy Music Theatre
Aug. 10

Photo courtesy of 1: Christie Goodwin, 2: Dan Winters, 3: Jonathan Mannion, 4: Marc Horn

Tips and tricks from a Grizz

Student creates website that brings academic and financial tips to college students

Jessie DiBattista
Staff Reporter

The stress of classes and the future weighs on the shoulders of many college students. Months pass by as the stress grows, but what if it could all be deleted with the click of a button?

OU sophomore Christopher Gozdor, an information technology major, set out to create a website to do just that.

"I was encouraged to create the website to help inform college students in general about the tools that are available online that assist students academically," Gozdor said.

The site is a fast and effective tool for any college student, but specifically targets freshman entering college.

Gozdor said that he tries to target freshmen because they tend to be unaware of the tools at their disposal, and

YOUversipedia.com would definitely benefit new students at OU.

"My website's main purpose is to redirect students to other helpful places that can provide them with goods or services to save them money or help make their life at college easier," he said.

Inside YOUversipedia.com there are eight central tabs: Home, Scheduler, Choosing A Professor, Buying Textbooks, Choosing A College, Off-Campus living, Campus Near Coupons, and Miscellaneous Tips.

"After two years of college I've been compiling the best ways for a college student to take a system that's designed to work against him/her, and make things work out a little bit nicer," Gozdor says on the site's home page.

"The website benefits college students by showing them that there are

alternatives to paying an arm for a book at Barnes and Noble, that they can have access to cheaper things around campus by using coupons," Gozdor said. "They can save money by moving off-campus, and that they can avoid bad professors by signing up for classes early."

While the site is already a success, Gozdor is still looking for ways to improve it.

"Once I have a stranglehold on the student-market, I can go anywhere with the website that can help college students," he said. "I could create another textbook-selling website, and I would immediately have clientele that would know of my project."

With 4000 unique users this month alone, Gozdor's goals seem attainable. It's just a matter of what direction he decides to take.

"I could sell university-related gear around the country, or create the most integrative college assessment page to have ever seen the internet," Gozdor said. "I think my next project is to incorporate a tool that can help college students sell their textbooks to other students."



Courtesy of Christopher Gozdor

The site provides tips for college students.

Oakland's Biological Preserves give safe home to plants and wildlife

Ali DeRees
Campus & Administration
Editor

Behind Dodge Hall, past the parking lots and endless traffic, is a place of peace where biology and ecology students can study and all students can enjoy the wildlife Oakland has to offer.

According to the Biological Preserve webpage, OU is home to two preserves; the Western Preserve and the Eastern Preserve that combined cover 110 acres. The preserves host forests, meadows, wetlands, and streams.

Students and faculty utilize these preserves for conducting research.

Senior biology major Chris Powell is currently studying paper wasps found within the reserves.

Powell said he is studying native and invasive wasps that nest in the forest, specifically, their population.

"I look at the population

dynamics between them," Powell said.

The native wasps can only be found in Michigan and are brown and black while the invasive species can come from anywhere and are black and yellow, according to Powell.

After doing fieldwork in the forest, Powell takes his research and statistically models it.

"I try to bring it into a mathematical model," Powell said.

Powell said he enjoys bringing research and making it as understandable as possible.

"It's definitely enjoyable," Powell said. "Bring nature into something that's more of a set concrete model. Maybe something that's not understandable in nature."

Dr. Thomas Raffel is an assistant professor of biology that uses the preserves for several of his classes. The majority of his current research

"It's a huge asset to the biology department,"

Dr. Thomas Raffel
Assistant professor of
biology

focuses on the ecology of parasitism in amphibians and has published works in topics such as disease and thermal acclimation.

"It's been a huge asset to the Biology department," Raffel said.

Raffel said he believes the preserves are severely undervalued and wants to "increase the use of the preserve."

One of the experiments performed was rearing tadpoles in small plastic pools and seeing how leaf litter affects tadpole development, Raffel said.

He said students found "vastly different developmental rates."

Raffel noted that the leaves



Kaylee Kean / The Oakland Post

Several forms of wildlife can be found parading around the preserve.

of trees such as Elm and Ash are the most nutritious but are also the ones being wiped out.

Close to the tadpole pools are structures that hold trays for feeding birds. Students used these trays to test mimicry theory; a theory that states animals may evolve to avoid bad tasting food.

Students made different colored worms out of dough and lard, each varying in bitterness. Orange and green

worms were more bitter and the blue ones sweeter.

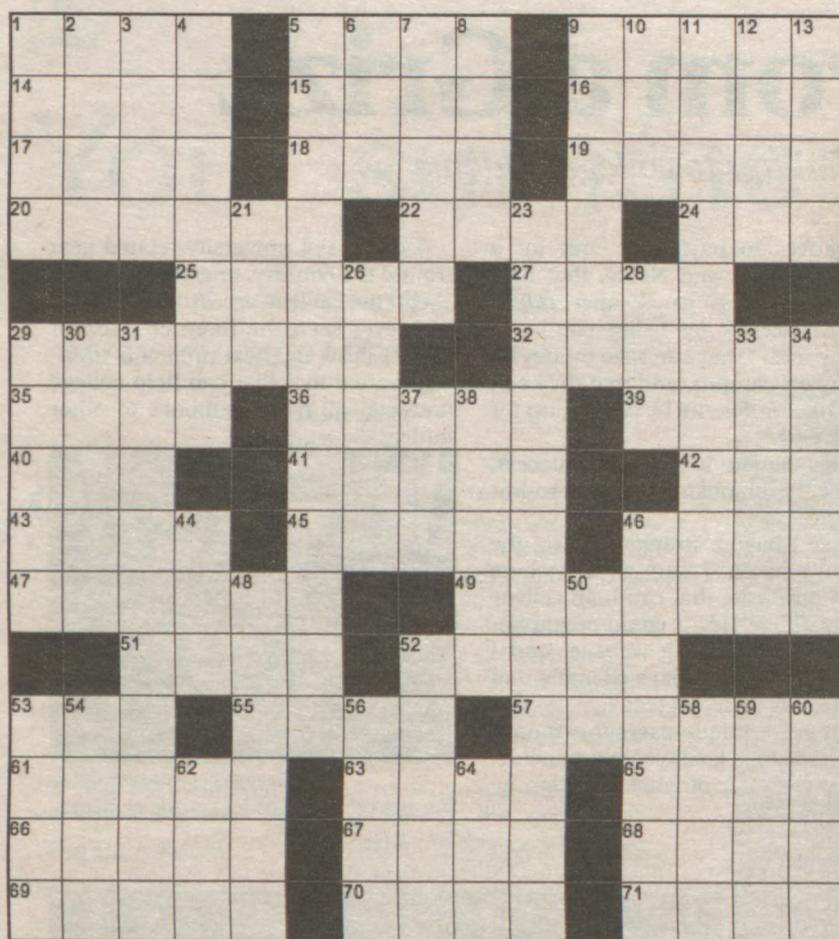
"We got nice results from that," Raffel said.

The birds first started going for the green worms and it took them a week to decide to go for the blue ones, according to Raffel.

Raffel stressed how important and valuable the preserves are.

"It's fantastic that we have it," Raffel said.

Puzzles



Across

1. Unresisting
5. Parsley or sage
9. Photography
14. Neural fiber
15. On vacation, perhaps
16. Soft palate part
17. Congressional group
18. Hit hard
19. Appraiser
20. Sonora shawl
22. For fear that
24. Merlot cask
25. Bad-tempered
27. Besides
29. Back-of-the-book list
32. Appels, in fencing
35. Produced offspring
36. Market place
39. Movie detective Charlie
40. Loutish fellow
41. Unflinching
42. 'Shogun' sash
43. Conked out
45. Overexcited
46. Sow's sustenance
47. Extra performance
49. Collects
51. Duct product
52. Right-hand page

Down

1. Filing aids
2. Drive train element
3. Scene of many a werewolf tale
4. Boxed
5. Quip, part 2
6. She may get sheared
7. Make a comeback
8. Memory morsel
9. Speed madly along
10. Some gametes
11. Corner for talking purposes
12. ___ cheese
13. Tall tale
21. Groaner
23. Some skilled thieves
26. Clergyman's audience
28. Attack word
29. Place to call home
30. Enervate
31. Castro's concerns
33. Fifer's drum
34. Barbership sounds
37. Absorb, with 'up'
38. Feudal lord
44. She's a deer
46. Laughed derisively
48. Some Consumer Reports employees
50. Map abbr.
52. Incite
53. Curtail
54. Use a whetstone
56. Commercial endorsement
58. Zippo
59. Course climax
60. Describe
62. Go down
64. Wager

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Two student workers help customers with their merchandise. Most of the workers at the OU Barnes & Noble store are students.

Kaylee Kean/The Oakland Post

Summer ends, but sales continue

OU Barnes & Noble store manager shares some tips, insight on summer activity

By Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

When summer arrives, most of the student population is off of campus and back at home. That doesn't mean campus is empty, however.

There are still summer classes, library assistants, coffee shop workers, custodians and more. The majority of students may be gone, but there are still summer classes, and there are men and women hard at work to keep that positive campus experience going.

William Ebensperger, store manager at the Oakland University Barnes & Noble Bookstore, is one such man. Ebensperger has been manager for nearly three years and shared some tips and insight with The Post.

Finding the right option

According to Ebensperger, the store

offers five different ways to get books: purchase used, purchase new, rent used, rent new and purchase e-books.

If any book is available to be rented, that is the place to go from a cost standpoint, Ebensperger said.

"Most students are pretty diligent about getting their books back," Ebensperger said. "It's a way for them to save money. We hope that they try that."

Students also have the option of selling back books after they are done using them.

"During finals is our best time to do buy-backs," Ebensperger said. "If you are going to be selling books back, that week of finals is the best to come. It also coincides as the time when rentals are due."

Not just a place to purchase

"One thing that maybe a lot of people don't know is that almost all of the people we hire are students,"

"It's like a whole different person – that's what's nice to see. Really interacting and helping the students get the best for their value."

William Ebensperger
Store Manager

Ebensperger said.

Other than his managers, an associate and two graduates, Ebensperger said most of the workers are students. There are currently around 15 or 16 students.

"Another thing that a lot of students don't realize is that a percentage of what they spend in the bookstore goes directly back to the OC," he said. "If you're spending money here, it's actually going to help improve the OC."

When it comes to working at the store, Ebensperger said his favorite part is the people and "interacting with the students."

"My favorite time of year is graduation," Ebensperger said.

When students come to get their cap and gown, he said always asks about their degree and what they're going to do next. He said the change in the students' attitudes always surprise him.

"It's like a whole different person – that's what's nice to see," Ebensperger said. "Really interacting and helping the students get the best for their value."

For more information visit www.oakland.bncollege.com or visiting the store's Facebook page.

Contact Managing Editor Kaylee Kean at managing@oaklandpostonline.com.

SATIRE

Freshman Friday is real

Kaseb Ahmad

Staff Reporter/ Freshman Friday victim

This is a personal message to all incoming freshmen: Freshman Friday is real.

Every high school horror story you heard? They are coming back to haunt you on your way to college. You thought you finally outgrew the childish nose pickings of your lackluster peers. I am here to tell you that in college we pick even harder. And even deeper.

How childish did you think it was when Sally posted a Facebook status telling you about how she is "so tired of all the drama" (that she so obviously stirred up) so she can't wait for "ninth grade" to leave it all behind? Or that Ben got suspended for jumping through a window on the first floor (true story)?

You thought that finally, after all this time, you would finally outgrow these people.

Well poor sod, I have news for you. All those stories that festered in your brain about "Freshman Friday" scaring your pink pajamas in middle school were misplaced.

They were preparing you for the ever-

so-enlightening truth about your university experience. I will say it again: Freshman Friday is realer than that acne under your concealer.

But the pranks are different. Sadly, the creative juices that flowed so freely in you young tykes in the past will have been used up by the time you start your classes here.

This is not some elaborate plan put together by the upperclassmen preying on the underclassmen. The pranks are pulled by the professors (cue audible gasps from the audience).

Professors have a wicked sense of humor. They think it is hilarious to give you deadlines on Friday nights! I am literally crying from laughter, with real tears that are not actually from laughter.

Did I say Freshman Friday? Whoops, slip of the keyboard. I meant to say that this is Everybody-Falls-Prey-To-The-Professor's-"Pranks"...Friday.

I know you thought the reticent nature of high school might be something you left behind as you entered your formative years. You thought "college" was synonymous with "partying." Perhaps you even thought that you might actually be able to do things like have a life.



Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Copy editor Josh Soltman fumes over a painful deadline.

The truth is I am being a little hard on the professors. This is not a weekly or even a monthly occurrence. It is most likely to fall on the Friday before finals week unless you have a major like communication or journalism. In that case, party on.

If you are wondering if I am exaggerating, the answer is no. I am understating. Just remember this as you slowly transition into your university life: stay scared, you will thank me later. And finally, just remember that this year is not an end-all-be-all.

You are allowed to explore. You are allowed to have fun. Because by the end of your freshman year, you probably screwed it up anyway and will have to start over.

WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

Submit an opinion column to
editor@oaklandpostonline.com
and you could see it in print.

Be sure to provide contact information,
class standing and field of study.

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