

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

NOVEMBER 2014



## ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Honors College is larger than ever, but an increase in numbers has also brought an increase in problems. **PAGE 9**

Ready for the upcoming basketball season? Not until you read this preview on players, stats and facts! **PAGE 17**

Students and staff mourn the passing of Wayne Blizman, a business professor, mentor and friend. **PAGE 23**

# WAITING GAME

Scores of students spent the night in the OC securing their spots to the city that never sleeps. **PAGE 6**

Photo by Katherine Cagle/The Oakland Post

# thisweek

October 8, 2014 // Volume 40, Issue 38



ontheweb

The football club is raising funds to cover travel expenses for its away games. Read more at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com).



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**BLOOD MOON RISING** // A particularly ruddy-looking moon rose above campus on the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 7. The rare lunar eclipse occurs only twice each year- once in April and once in October- in which the moon dons a reddish hue as a result of sunlight scattering off our atmosphere, thus making it a "Blood Moon."

Photo by Salwan Georges/The Oakland Post

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## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your thoughts on skipping classes?

- A** Why waste the money and the education?
- B** When you need a break, you need a break.
- C** The only thing I skip is jump rope.
- D** My GPA is good. A couple of skips won't hurt.

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## LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are your thoughts on Greek life at OU?

**A)** It's fantastic! I'm a brother/sister!

24.2%

**B)** Not a member, don't care.

36.4%

**C)** They seem like nice people to me.

15.2%

**D)** I've been craving gyros lately.

24.2%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

October 8, 2008

\$40 million in state funding was received to build the new Human Health Building to house the School of Health Science and the School of Nursing.

October 9, 1991

OU received a \$250,000 grant from the McGregor Fund, a Detroit-based foundation, for improving the language lab and hiring new professors for Russian and Japanese studies in language and literature.

October 11, 2002

Construction began to remove the canopy linking the North and South Foundation Halls in order to make the renovated Oakland Center a more visible, pronounced campus gateway.

-Compiled by Megan Carson, Copy Editor



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### PLUCKING AND PULLING

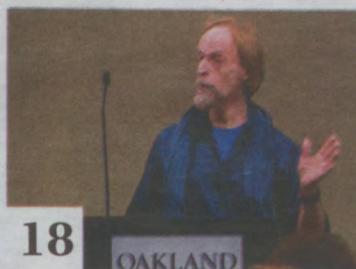
The world-famous Julliard String Quartet will fill Varner Recital Hall with its melifluous melodies on Sunday, Oct. 12.



14

### VICTORIOUS IN THE D

The OU men's soccer team defended its winning streak when it took on the University of Detroit mercy on Oct. 1.



18

### WRITE OF WAY

The Rochester Writers' Conference came to campus last weekend to talk shop, judge stories and discuss the facts on fiction.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Faculty edition

2,000+

Number of faculty and non-instructional staff at OU

2009

Last time the OU American Association of University Professors went on strike

\$40,055

Minimum yearly salary for full-time faculty for the 2014-2015 school year

28

Number of faculty members in the International Studies Program

10%

Faculty discount that can be used for food orders at Patti Finnegan's Bar and Grille

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### *BOT: think about quality, not cost*

For four months the Finance and Administration Division of the Facilities Management Department has waited. For four months the Board of Trustees has deliberated on authorizing a negotiation of a custodial contract with one of three vendors. For four months, OU's custodial future has been muddled with uncertainty, waiting for October 22.

The players: Aramark, the Kristel Group and the Michigan Education Association Oakland University Campus Maintenance and Trades (MEA-OUCMT). Of the three, OUCMT is the only group that consists of university personnel, in other words, not outsourced.

Outsourcing began in the 1990s, when the Board decided that the cleaning of any new buildings would be handed over to outside companies. Buildings built since then, with the exception of the Human Health Building, have been outsourced, while the internal custodial staff retains control over the rest.

Due to OU's rapid expansion and the creation of many new structures, most buildings are currently under the care of Aramark. The company's contract, which was most recently approved in 2009, had an original expiration date of June 30, 2014. Due to a combination of disagreement, internal changes and lack of trustees knowledgeable on the topic, the Board has been unable to reach a quorum on a contract renewal at its last few meetings. It has extended the contract to July 9, then to Aug. 31, then again until its next formal session, occurring Oct. 22.

Aramark is not the only bidder, however. OUCMT has reached its tipping point and has stepped up with its own bid.

"The current level of outsourcing of our custodial services on campus...has

caused a lot of anxiety and discouragement among the existing staff because they never know what's going to happen," said Ray Wilcox, a custodian who has been with university housing for almost 25 years.

"It's really kind of an unprecedented thing for a union to do this, to bid on a work," said Mick Ide, groundskeeper of 10 years and current OUCMT president. "But it goes to show that our group really wants to be a value to the university. We still want to be the custodial staff on this campus."

In addition to general buildings and supplies costs, OUCMT's bid promises a large number of part-time positions and 16 full-time positions with full benefit packages. Those packages, amounting to \$200,000 a year, are what put the bid over the Board's desired budget.

The bid may seem steep, but don't be deceived — the amount adds up to \$1 million over the contract's five-year period: less than half a percent of OU's total annual budget, according to Wilcox.

"We felt we couldn't do anything less," Wilcox said. "We really worked hard and got [the bid] down as far as we could, but you can only go so far and still offer quality employment."

OUCMT is not trying raise pay for its already-established members — it is trying to create more positions and be a larger part of the campus community.

In fact, if its proposal is selected, it could bring approximately 51.5 additional employees to the university, according to the Board's Aug. 12 session agenda.

Students such as Shana Romancheck, a senior applied health sciences major, say they don't care as much about price so long as the job is being done right.

"If you have to pay more, especially if it's local, I think

that's better," Romancheck said.

Rich Heide, an adjunct professor at OU, said he is not on campus much but thinks everyone does a good job at keeping campus clean.

"I wish that they could be just OU employees, quite honestly — make it feel more like a part of the university," he said.

Aramark's case isn't being helped by recent reports in *The Detroit Free Press* on food shortages, lack of cleanliness and workers smuggling contraband into state prisons, either. While Trustee Ronald Robinson brought this up at the most recent formal session, saying he "would like everybody to give recent consideration to what has been publicized regarding Aramark," outsourcing with the reportedly unscrupulous company proves to be a very real possibility.

*The Oakland Post* urges the Board of Trustees to consider the humanity of the situation when it comes to these contracts; it is about much more than the money. Instead of choosing the cheaper option, choose the better one. Take OUCMT's bid into serious consideration and create more positions for Oakland University employees, and keep the outsiders out.

Students pay for a quality university experience, and *The Oakland Post* asks the Board of Trustees to deliver the promised experience. Make these custodial contracts less about affordable cleaning services and more about clean reputations by employing the local employees and their part in OU. Make this about providing higher-quality and more personal, friendly service. Really, when it comes down to the nitty-gritty, what is more important for students and staff: a few extra dirty dollars or a more clean-cut campus experience?

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



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## Veteran Services to host military memorial for fallen friend

*Bassam's memory to be celebrated next Monday*

**Oona Goodin-Smith**  
Editor-in-Chief

Last week, Oakland University mourned the loss of veteran and criminal justice senior Bassam Issa after he died due to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident in Southfield on the night of September 28. This week, however, Oakland University will celebrate Issa's life through a memorial ceremony.

Sponsored by Veterans Support Services and the department of criminal justice, the event will take place at the Elliott Tower on Monday, October 13 at

7 p.m. and will feature a military honor guard performing military funeral honors, complete with a presentation of the American flag to the Afghanistan and Iraqi war veteran's family.

"If you knew Bassam, and want to say some positive memories, you are welcome," said Veterans Liason and friend to Issa Bradley Reichelt. "We'll also conclude with a candlelight vigil. It should be a good celebration of his life and all are welcome to attend."

For more information on the ceremony, contact the Veterans Support Services at 248.370.2010, and for more on the services that the office offers, visit [www.oakland.edu/veterans](http://www.oakland.edu/veterans).

### MILITARY MEMORIAL AND CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

**WHAT:** The Veterans Support Services and department of criminal justice will hold a military memorial and candlelight vigil to celebrate the life of veteran Bassam Issa.

**WHERE:** In front of the Elliott Tower.

**WHEN:** Monday, October 13 at 7 p.m.

**WHO:** Anyone is welcome to attend. Those who were close to Issa are encouraged to share their positive memories of their friend.



Photo courtesy of the Issa family

Bassam Issa was killed in a motorcycle accident on Sunday, Sept. 28.

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# Grizzlies on the Prowl



*"What's your  
favorite place to  
hang out?"*



**Natalia Boyko, freshman,  
international relations**

*"I like exploring camous with my friends after class. I would say the coolest place to hang out is the Engineering Building."*



**Brittany Church, freshman,  
English**

*"I like sitting by the Saints and Sinners fountain, taking pictures with my friends."*



**Richie Sharpe, senior,  
psychology**

*"I like to hang out at the OC because it's open and active."*



**Scott Scanlon, freshman,  
information technology**

*"The Oakland Center. I really just keep to myself, do my school work and go home."*

— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury  
Photographer

## POLICE FILES

### Student victim of possible phishing scam

OUPD met with a student on Wednesday, Oct. 1, who said she had been a victim of an attempted phishing scam.

The student said she was using a computer in Kresge Library when she received a friend request on Facebook from someone she didn't know. The student said that because she had a few mutual friends with the person trying to add her, she accepted the friend request.

The student then asked the person who added her to contact her via email, to verify her identity. The person then sent the student a long email requesting the student's assistance in obtaining \$4.5 million dollars that her deceased father had left her. The person also asked the student to help her travel to the United States from somewhere in West Africa.

The student refused to give any personal information and denied the person's strange requests.

So far, the student has not suffered any stolen personal credit or banking accounts. An officer advised the student to change her email password and to file a report with local police.

### Minor in possession at Hamlin Circle

Officers were dispatched to the area of Hamlin Circle at 1:21 a.m. on Oct. 4 for a report of a student who appeared to be intoxicated and possibly unconscious on a bench with a friend holding her up.

When the officers exited his vehicle the two students attempted to walk away from the benches, at a slow pace, towards Hill House. One of the officers told the two students to stop walking but they ignored his calls and kept on walking. The officer made several more verbal attempts to get the students to stop and was finally successful when the pair stopped walking at the bottom of the stairs near Hill House.

The officer asked the student who was holding up her friend what was wrong with the student who was stumbling. The student said that her friend was upset because she had gotten into a verbal argument with her boyfriend. She claimed that her friend had discovered that her boyfriend had given her HIV.

The officer then spoke to the other student. Her story did not sync up to what her friend had told the officer. The student then almost fell to the ground while speaking to the officers. The officer asked the student if she would submit to a preliminary breath test but the student refused.

The student's friend then told the officers that her friend had been drinkin. She said that the story about her boyfriend giving her HIV was completely false. The student said that she made up the story about her boyfriend in hopes that the officers would let them go and they would not discover the student's intoxication.

Due to the students level of intoxication, the Auburn Hills Fire Department dispatched to the scene. The officers issued the student a Minor in Possession citation and the student was transported to the hospital.

— Compiled by Josh Soltman  
Copy Editor

# GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

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

## Grizzlies take a bite out of the Big Apple



Katherine Cagle / The Oakland Post

Students camped out overnight to take advantage of the low-cost tickets to New York City.

### Student Program Board sold out within hours on trip to New York City

Selah Fischer  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Student Program Board trips are famous for being sold out on the first day, and this year's New York trip was no exception.

Tickets went on sale on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 9 a.m., and students were already camped out the evening before making sure they received a ticket.

"I would guarantee coming early and not taking a chance," said Tim Brown, a junior at Oakland University. "Make sure you get a spot."

There are two busses traveling to New York, resulting in only 100 spots available.

"People started lining up as early as 5:00 p.m. Monday," said Kerry Zhu, Student Program Board travel director at Oakland University. "We had enough people lined up to buy tickets at 10:30 p.m. to consider the trip sold out."

In the past, SPB trips included destinations such as Montreal, Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Disney World and others. The trips are offered to any OU students and are meant for them to explore and experience different cities at a low cost.

"Not only is the trip a steal of a price, but it's in Time Square, and that's super exciting," said junior Allie Nixon. "I don't really travel so I'm excited."

For this particular trip, students will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Time Square, and it is only \$200 a ticket. Students may also purchase an additional \$20 unlimited subway and bus pass to get around.

Those attending are able to explore the city as much as they want, as there is no itinerary they must follow.

"I'm a voice major so going to Metropolitan Opera House and Broadway shows will be really cool," Brown said.

Groups of students brought tents, blankets, lights and music, creating a fun experience as they waited through the night.

"We've been waiting for ten hours, but there are people who have been out here longer," said Kat Cotton, a junior. "Last time we went to New York with SPB we were really ill prepared, so this year we brought a tent."

Being such a great opportunity, students made the most out of their experience as they camped out in the cold in order to assure themselves a spot.

"I was number one, and I got in line at 4 o' clock," Nixon said. "I had eight blankets, two pillows and two sleeping bags, and I was fine, but it was still cold."

"For a while everyone was playing music really loud and dancing, so it was really fun."



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Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

# STUDY ABROAD STUDY AWAY

**Selah Fischer**  
Staff Reporter

Students are offered an experience of a lifetime as they choose a destination and pack their bags with the Oakland University study abroad program.

"I love traveling and learning about other cultures and languages, but also it's a very good thing to put on your resume," junior Allison Chen said. "I've talked to people who have studied abroad and they said it was the best decision they made during their college years."

Greece, Italy, China and France are only a few of the many countries offered to OU students interested in studying abroad. The university has study abroad programs that span across six continents.

This year's study abroad fair was open to both students and parents interested in learning the benefits of studying abroad

and how to get involved.

To participate in the study abroad program, students must first create an account on OU's website. Next, they choose a destination and browse the program in which they will go through. Once students have decided on a program they will have to fill out an application and meet with an advisor.

"We make sure the particular program you choose fits your needs and that it challenges you well without having the potential to overwhelm you," said Brian Connery, director of international education. "We want to make sure before we send anyone abroad that they will be successful in the program."

Students were provided with food and drinks as they learned about the different travel programs at tables set up in the Fireside Lounge.

Each program's table consisted of posters filled with pictures and laptops streaming photos of

previous student experiences in other countries. There were also people at the tables available for any questions a student may have, along with pamphlets to learn more about the programs.

Advisors and program participants were available at the fair to answer any questions, address concerns and explain how to overcome fears and nerves when arriving at their destination.

They also explained that many students arriving in a foreign country usually have the same fears, but they are all in the same situation and should not be afraid.

"I'm interested in studying in London, England," sophomore Kelli Carrio said. "It's important to travel when you're young because we have a nice support system, including parents, to help us if anything goes wrong when traveling. Also, when we're older we won't have enough time."

"I've talked to people who have studied abroad and they said it was the best decision they made during their college years."

Allison Chen  
Junior

Taking advantage of these study abroad programs allows students to not only learn about other cultures, but to learn more about themselves as well, as they must adapt to an environment outside of their comfort zones.

"It's a really great experience, and you don't always get an opportunity like this," academic advising intern Kurtis Kirkpatrick said.

**1. Tables were set up by each study abroad program in the Fireside Lounge, with students and staff available to answer questions.**

**2. The study abroad fair, held on Oct. 2, served as a fun way for students to get informed on OU's study abroad program.**

**3. Greece, Italy, China and France are only a few of the many countries offered in the program.**

# From student to CSA director

Jean Ann Miller is a Golden Grizzly for life

Kaleigh Jerzykowski  
Staff Reporter

There's a joke that's been going around the campus of Oakland University for the last 30 years. "They say that if I bleed," said Jean Ann Miller, director of OU's Center for Student Activities, "I bleed black and gold."

It's a hefty claim indeed, but if anyone is qualified to have Golden Grizzly blood running through his or her veins, it is Miller.

## Climbing the ranks

As an undergraduate student, Miller worked in the CSA — the same office in which she holds a position now. But before things came full circle, she enjoyed a fulfilling 15-year career in the residence halls.

"I've lived in every residence hall in some capacity, other than Oak View, as a student or a staff member," Miller said.

Miller climbed the ranks, moving from Hall Director all the way up to Assistant Director of Residency Programs.

After the residency halls, Miller pursued her current position in the CSA, one that she had aspired towards since she worked an on-campus job in the very same office as a student.

As director of student activities, Miller oversees the larger student events on campus, including Welcome Week, Homecoming and the upcoming International Night.

"[The CSA] has an awesome, awesome staff," Miller said, adding that, while she handles the intricacies of coordinating OU's more popular and attended activities, each member of her team handles different aspects of all that the CSA has to offer.

In addition to being director of the CSA, Miller is also a professor on campus, teaching at least one course per semester in either communication, health sciences, sociology or anthropology.

"I get to interact with students from another perspective," she said, "[and] it's heartwarming and gratifying."

"OU is my home away from home," Miller said.

She said she cherishes each and every one of the friendships she has created throughout her ever-evolving career.

## Family matters

Although Miller loves to spend time on campus, life at home is just as gratifying to her.

"We're a small family," she said of her mother, brother, sister, nephew and two nieces. "We're supportive of each other."



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

Jean Ann Miller bleeds black and gold - or so the rumors go.

Miller said she is actively involved in attending the pom competitions of her nieces. She also enjoys art and craft fairs in her spare time, having recently attended the "Doers and Makers" one in Davisburg.

"I love the blending of old and new," Miller said of the craft fair's wares.

"I've had a very blessed life in association with OU, [and] it's been the best. I don't know if I can describe it any better than that," she said.

Miller said that OU has been a very significant part of her life and that she wouldn't trade it for the world. In fact, she's even thinking about adding another accomplishment to her OU resume: getting her Ph.D.

"He was a medical doctor," Miller said of her late father, "and one day I'd like to have that 'doctor' in front of my name, too."

Although she's not quite sure which area of study she'd like to pursue, she's contemplating counseling and higher education. But regardless of where her studies take her, Miller would love to carry on her father's legacy, and there's no guessing when it comes to which university Miller would turn to.

Contact Staff Reporter Kaleigh Jerzykowski at [memekaleigh@gmail.com](mailto:memekaleigh@gmail.com).

# Reporting live from the city of cherries

Sean Miller  
Staff Reporter



Photograph provided by Charlie Lapastora

Pursuing his dreams, Charlie Lapastora is now a news reporter for NBC 7&4 in Traverse City.

Lapastora graduated with his bachelor's in communications and a minor in International Relations in April 2014. After graduation, he found work in Bloomfield Heights as a farmer and applied at numerous places around the state for a news reporter position.

"I noticed that there was a position open at NBC 7&4 in Traverse, and I was hired for the job," Lapastora said. "Even though I was born and raised in Metro Detroit, it's someplace different and I love that. I have family in Interlochen, so I was somewhat familiar with Traverse before I made the move."

Lapastora was part of the OU News Bureau, hosted a radio show, played intramural sports and was a member of both Pi Sigma Alpha and Lambda Pi Eta. He was also awarded the Meritorious Achievement Award, which is given to the most outstanding senior in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Charlie took my intro to journalism course last fall and quickly displayed the instincts of a reporter," said Garry Gilbert, director of the journalism department at OU. "He's smart and has a nose for news. He's curious about everything, and he connects well with sources."

"In the summer of 2011, I interned for the Detroit Pistons and loved that experience," Lapastora said. "My internship with Fox Detroit is what led me to journalism and communications. I was able to see what the news industry was like, which led me to where I am now."

At his current job, Lapastora covers Mid-and-Northern Michigan, as well as high school sports in the Traverse City area. He has been on the air, shot video for various news segments, and written articles that published online.

"Anything is what you make of it," he said. "There is a lot to do and experience at Oakland, it's a hidden gem in your own backyard. Even after college, pursue your dreams. You never know what will happen."



Kaylee Kean / The Oakland Post

Jean Ann Miller shows off her extensive grizzly bear and figurine collection in her office.



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

If those invited to the Honors College induction ceremony came with two guests, it would put attendee numbers over 900

# Growing pains and shrinking space

*Honors College numbers are on the rise, and so are its problems*

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Staff Reporter

This year welcomes the largest class for the Honors College at Oakland University, and with it brings this year's induction ceremony.

With such a large class this year, however, there was confusion over where to have such an important ceremony. The ceremony will take place on Sunday, in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

With about 300 students, the turnout would be too small to have at the O'Rena, yet if every single student came with two guests, there would be too many people for the Banquet Rooms at the Oakland Center.

Karen Conn, administrative assistant, said that as long as the total attendance was under 600 people, the Banquet Rooms could be used.

The problem comes about if every single student and faculty member invited came with two guests; that would put the number of attendees over 900.

That would mean that they would need overflow

seating in the Pioneer Food Court, and therefore, require use of a live stream.

Conn said that thanks to the RSVP system they have put out for students to register for the ceremony, Honors College students, the Honors College has determined that it will be able to fit all students and family into those Banquet Rooms.

According to Honors College Dean Graeme Harper, this incoming class is exciting not only because of its size, but because the students are "high achievers" and "talented".

Harper said he encourages students in the Honors College to attend the ceremony, complete with a "graduation-style" procession and numerous guest speakers, not only for themselves but for their parents.

Parents may not always be involved, he said, and this induction ceremony is the best way for parents to meet their students' teacher assistants and to see what the Honors College is really about.

For more on the Honors College, visit [oakland.edu/hc](http://oakland.edu/hc).

## Getting x-cited for TEDx event

In light of last year's turnout for the very first TEDx production, x-pectations are high for what's to come

**Sean Miller**  
Staff Reporter

Technology, entertainment and design.

These are the three simple words that make up what we know as TED, or TED Talks.

Last year Oakland University hosted its very first TEDx talk on campus.

Next year, it will be hosting a second TEDx event that will be even larger than the last.

"Last year was our first official TED Talk," said Laura Dinsmoor, TED Talk organizer and OU professor. "We opened it for 100 students for free. The tickets went so fast we were astonished and upset we couldn't open it up for more students."

A group of OU staff and students helped and can help to work on and organize the TED talks.

If a staff member or student wants to join, they can join by joining the TEDx Grizz Org on campus.

"We want students to learn how to put on and organize a conference," Dinsmoor said. "Our goal isn't to have these events just for fun. We want students to get engaged and learn from each other."

The upcoming event will be held in October 2015 and will be hosting multiple speakers, student groups and exhibits.

The differences from the previous year will be in the size, length and amount of students that will be able to go.

The theme will follow Oakland's new theme, "Aspire To Rise," as well.

The student TEDx group will also be holding what they call a Salon on Dec. 3, 2014. This event can be thought of as a mini version of what will be expected at the larger event in 2015.

"We hope the Salons that we do in the school year get more excitement for our larger conference next year," said Travis Noon, president of the TEDx Grizz Org group. "We have been putting a great deal of energy into it, and we are going to be highlighting a number of speakers."

Tickets for the Salon will go on sale starting Nov. 3. The first 100 students in line will be given free tickets at the CSA window.

The event will have free food. The theme for this event will be 'Brave.' There will be speakers talking about courageous acts and different walks of life.

If you would like to learn more about these events and what TED talks are about you can check out Oakland University's chapter at [tedxoaklanduniversity.com](http://tedxoaklanduniversity.com).

Contact Staff Reporter Sean Miller at [semille3@oakland.edu](mailto:semille3@oakland.edu).



# Research above and beyond

Joseph Bach  
Intern

Oakland University prides itself on having a faculty that not only excels in the classroom, but one that is dedicated to different areas of research as well.

Dr. Brad Roth, a professor of physics at Oakland, spoke of the importance of the research department.

"It advances our knowledge, which is important to society. That is a goal of the university," Roth said, "and it attracts the best faculty."

The research that comes from these departments varies from biomedical studies all the way to theoretical physics. One research professor is David Garfinkle.

Garfinkle's current research is in the field of general relativity. His research dives into what is occurring at the point

known as a "singularity" within a black hole.

Garfinkle's involvement in the field stems from a passion that has stuck with him for years.

"Freshman year of high school we had this off-the-wall science teacher who decided to teach us about Einstein's theory of relativity," Garfinkle said. "Sure enough I was hooked from there, and I thought, 'Wow this stuff is really cool and this is what I want to study.'"

Garfinkle went on to complete his bachelor's degree at Princeton and his doctorate at the University of Chicago before doing postdoctoral work at Washington University in St. Lewis, the University of Florida and the University of California Santa Barbara.

In 1991, OU had a job opening in the physics department, and a rare institute for theoretical physics—which

isn't found at most institutions. Theoretical physics being a passion of his since high school, it only made sense for him to take the job.

He began his research in the 90s, working alongside former Oakland professor Beverley Berger, using computer modules to discover what was occurring within a black hole. After Berger's departure, Garfinkle continued the research.

"I go back and forth between black holes and the big bang, those are the two main applications of general relativity," Garfinkle said. "I want to know more about what goes on inside of black holes."

Garfinkle specifically studies the part of the collapse closest to the singularity. However, his long time research includes building on the discovery of the theory of relativity by Albert Einstein.

"We have a little bit of an edge; Einstein didn't have computers and we do, so we can figure out stuff about Einstein's theories that he didn't even know by writing computer simulations and seeing what happens," Garfinkle said.

In the nearly a hundred years since Einstein published his theory of relativity, this computer strategy has allowed research and development to continue making further discoveries, and it is this world that Garfinkle jumps into when he's not teaching physics.

His results led to his book "Three Steps to the Universe: From the Sun to Black Holes to the Mystery of Dark Matter". Garfinkle also wrote "Charged Black Holes in String Theory", which was an extremely successful scholarly article that generated nearly 1000 citations for future published work.

## Professor receives \$1.5 million dollar grant for nuclear cataract research

Ali DeRees  
Campus & Administration  
Editor

An eerie silence fills the fourth floor of Dodge Hall. Microscopes and large pieces of equipment sit in the shadows, barely lit by the dimmed hall light. It's as if the rooms are crying out "Please use me!"

No abandonment here. It's just Sunday.

For one man, this weekend environment provides the perfect atmosphere to complete part of his work.

"It's quiet here. I can usually write my papers," he said.

His name is Dr. Frank Giblin, and he has spent the past 40 years at OU studying the windows to the soul: the human eyes.

This fall, Giblin, director of the Eye Research Institute at OU, received a four-year \$1.5 million dollar grant from the National Institute of Health that will focus on the study of pure nuclear cataracts.

Cataracts, the leading cause of blindness, are the loss of transparency within the lenses of your eyes, according to Gib-



Photo by Ali DeRees

Dr. Frank Giblin, director of the Eye Research Institute at OU.

lin. He described the lenses as "beautifully transparent." The lens and the cornea are the only transparent tissues in the human body.

There is no cure for cataracts, but Giblin's work will look into why certain elements cause cataracts. One of these is simply in the air we breathe.

"When patients breathe one-hundred percent oxygen they will get a nuclear cataract," Giblin said. "Because the center of the lens is very susceptible to oxygen."

He uses this as a base for the experimentation he and his team do on guinea pigs. The animals were treated with hypobaric oxygen and had the

same results.

Giblin described the chemistry behind the oxygen experimentation.

Within the lens there are proteins, which include amino acids, the homes to many different sulfhydryl (sulfate and hydrogen) groups. When these groups become oxidized they bind together and create disulfide aggregations, the cause of the loss of sight. He said more specifically these aggregations are "scattering the light" your eyes take in.

"In the grant that just got funded I proposed to identify which specific groups are becoming bound together," Giblin said. "This has never been done before."

Giblin's work will expand outside of the university.

"A lot of science is collaboration," he said. Giblin will be working with a professor from Oregon Health Sciences University. Once a post doctorate fellow is hired, they will fly the isolated proteins from the guinea pig lenses out to Oregon where it will be analyzed by special equipment.

There is a second aim Giblin will be researching as to why

these aggregations form.

"There is no protein turnover in the lens, it's a very unique tissue," Giblin said. "Say you're 20 years old, these proteins right in the center of your lens are actually older than 20 years, they were the proteins that were there when you were an embryo. It's called the embryonic nucleus."

As these proteins age, they begin to break and form peptides, according to Giblin. The hypothesis is peptides bind with other crystallines and then other proteins bond with these catalyzed groups.

"They accelerate this aggregation process by forming these little peptides," Giblin said.

He will be collaborating with a professor at Vanderbilt University to image these peptides, as well as with a professor from the University of Missouri.

In the years Giblin was at school, there were major strides in the field of biology and chemistry. This excited him and inspired him to change his career path.

Giblin was previously a chemical engineer who was involved in processes such as making pulp and paper. He received his doctorate in biochemistry from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1974 and was then offered a

post doctorate position thanks to the research he did while completing his doctorate.

"At that time in the 1970s, people in Japan, hundreds and hundreds of people, were dying and they didn't know why," Giblin said. "It was due to methyl-mercury poisoning in fish. I was studying how methyl-mercury is transported in the body and how it can kill people."

One of the tissues in the body that took up lots of mercury was the lens. He then contacted co-founder of the ERI Dr. Venkat Reddy, who was a lens expert, to discuss the lens for his thesis paper. Dr. Reddy later offered him the post doctorate position.

"Life is interesting, you never know what's going to happen," Giblin said.

The advances made in the science today still fascinate Giblin.

"We're in the golden age of science. Nobody would have even thought, even 15 years ago, that we now can sequence the whole human genome," he said.

Giblin noted that one base change out of three billion base pairs in the human DNA, can cause horrible diseases.

"Appreciate your good health. You're lucky," Giblin said. "We're all lucky."

# Prestigious quartets to perform in Varner Recital Hall on Sunday

*The Juilliard and Aeolus String Quartets are coming to OU*

Jessie DiBattista  
Staff Reporter

Varner Hall is no stranger to the mellifluous melodies of world-class musicians year after year. One act that has not come to OU before, however, is the Juilliard String Quartet - until now.

Musicians Joseph Lin, Ronald Copes, Joel Krosnick and Roger Tapping make up the Juilliard Quartet and will be performing in Varner Recital Hall on Oct. 12.

Professor Gregory Cunningham, director of bands at OU, said he was pleased to hear that these talented musicians will be performing on his campus.

"To my knowledge, this is the first time that the Juilliard Quartet will have been on Oakland's campus. We are extremely fortunate to have this opportunity," Cunningham said.

According to its website, the Juilliard String Quartet was first founded in 1946. Since then it has won many awards - including a Grammy for its performance of Beethoven. In that same year, the quartet became the first classical music ensemble to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Playing side-by-side the Juilliard String Quartet is the Aeolus Quartet, composed of violinists Nicholas Tavani and Rachel Shapiro, violist Gregory Luce and cellist Alan Richardson. According to the group's website, the Aeolus Quartet is one of the

youngest quartets to win prizes such as the Grand Prize winners of the 2011 Plowman Chamber Music Competition and 2011 Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, and many more.

Professor Jenine Brown, who teaches Music 100, also said finds the Juilliard String Quartet to be amazing.

"I saw the Juilliard String Quartet perform when I was an undergraduate student at the University of Michigan. It was quite an experience," Brown said, "I also own their box set of the complete Beethoven String Quartets."

Brown said she uses these musical performances to enhance her students' understanding of famous compositions.

"I often play their recordings to students in class when we are learning about Beethoven, string quartets, and even when



Courtesy of Simon Powis

The award-winning Juilliard String Quartet will be coming to campus this Sunday.

we are learning about the form of Beethoven's compositions," Brown said.

Brown said she thinks very highly of the quartet and recommends them to any student.

"I recommend that any student attend. It's a unique opportunity to hear a string quartet of this high caliber," Brown said. "The quartet is one of the best in the world."

Cunningham agrees.

"I urge the Oakland community (students, faculty and staff), as well as the Detroit community at large, to come as witnesses to music-making at this level," she said.

Contact Staff Reporter Jessie DiBattista at [dibattista061@ou.edu](mailto:dibattista061@ou.edu)

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# OH, THE HORROR

STORY BY KEVIN TELLER DESIGN BY KELLY LARA PHOTOS BY SHANNON WILSON

**D**ark and stormy nights are such a cheesy way to start a story, but, as proven last Thursday, that's exactly how the fans of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* like it.

On the evening of October 2, nearly 300 OU students bore through the cold and rain to parking lot P35 for the drive-in showing of cult classic *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, hosted by the Student Program Board (SPB). In fact, the most dedicated fans were so enthralled by the film that they didn't even seem to notice the wet weather, sitting outside their cars in the rain enjoy the 1975 Jim Sharman production based off a 1973 musical.

"We've always wanted to do a drive-in," SPB Special Events Director Tifrah Aktar said. The film has a large cult following, including audience participation in which in line with the timing of the movie. For example, there are certain lines, commonly known as "talkbacks," where the audience will shout a response back to the character.

Talkbacks for "*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*" seem to have become almost as scripted as the movie itself, as students auto-

matically brought up their "lines" on phones and tablets to stay in sync with the movie. Occasionally someone would improvise a talkback of their own, causing uproarious laughter from the crowd.

Part of another tradition, SPB also provided bags of themed goodies such as rice and toast to the audience members to use during different cues in the film. For example, in one of the first scenes, a wedding, the script called for the crowd to throw rice as if they were actually attending the ceremony.

In addition to the dialogue, musical numbers are also a large part of the audience's participation. Groups in the crowd stood up to sing and dance along to some of their favorite songs like "Hot Patootie—Bless My Soul," sung by rock and roll singer Meat Loaf.

Another crowd-pleaser was "Sweet Transvestite," which centers around one of the film's main characters, Dr. Frank-N-Furter. The flamboyant and eccentric doctor is played by Tim Curry, who was part of the original cast in the musical production.

However, no tune was more appreciated by the

audience than "The Time Warp," arguably the most popular song to come out of the film. With an infectious 1950s-style rock and roll groove, the crowd could not help but gather together to dance and sing along.

"My favorite song is definitely 'The Time Warp,'" student Justin Shurer said. "It's just so great, and plus I can play it on guitar."

Justin, dressed as Eddie, was one of many students who participated in the talkbacks, dressed up in a costume, and participated in the movie's interactive cues. A sense of togetherness filled the air as OU students from all walks of life were united without judgment in their mutual enjoyment of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

In the next few weeks, the SPB is also hosting a Hump Day Fiesta in honor of Hispanic Celebration Month, multiple trips, and the annual OU's Got Talent event.

For more information about those events, visit [www.oakland.edu/spb](http://www.oakland.edu/spb) or email [SPB@oakland.edu](mailto:SPB@oakland.edu).



On the night of Thursday, October 2, nearly 300 OU students bore through the cold and rain to parking lot P35 for the drive-in showing of cult classic "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," hosted by the Student Program Board. Audience members participated through "talkbacks," throwing rice as if they were at a wedding, and singing along to the musical numbers.



Freshmen Eva Morlock (left) and Christine Terterian (right), braved the rain from under copies of the Post during the film.



The audience got up and out of their seats to groove to the film's signature rock-n-roll song, "The Time Warp."

## FALL INTO LOCAL FUN

STORY BY JESSIE DIBATTISTA

With leaves falling and football starting, haunted houses and cider mills in the Rochester area are open for OU students' business.

### EREBUS

One of the most recognizable haunted houses in Michigan according to [hauntedpontiac.com](http://hauntedpontiac.com), Erebus is a four-story haunted house that is located in neighboring Pontiac and was featured into *The Guinness Book of World Records* for four consecutive years as the "Largest Walk-Through Haunted Attraction."

OU students can receive a \$3 discount for any day by entering promo code "oakpost" into [hauntedpontiac.com](http://hauntedpontiac.com).

### YATES CIDER MILL

With its operation via water power technology since 1976 from the Clinton River, Yates is a registered Historic Site, a Michigan landmark, and is located a mere 8 miles from campus.

Besides the obvious delectable fair of donuts and cider, the mill also offers pony rides and a free petting zoo. Yates additionally features a half-mile long scenic river walk along the Clinton River.

Perhaps the most sought-after products of the mill, though, are their homemade apple cider and fresh donuts.

Voted "Best Cider in Michigan" by Channel 4's "Vote 4 the Best," the mill produces up to 300 gallons of the fresh apple concoction per hour, available at \$8.50/gallon.

Handmade cinnamon sugar and plain donuts are available for \$6.50/dozen.

For more information on prices, specialties and hours, visit <http://www.yatescidermill.com>.



Shaun Claud Lawson ties the game late in the second half to send the match into overtime. Oakland went on to win in extra time.

Sean Gardner / The Oakland Post

## Men's soccer holds winning streak

Sean Gardner  
Staff Reporter

In Detroit, Oakland University men's soccer took down the University of Detroit Mercy 2-1, winning the inaugural Metro Series and securing their first win of the season.

"It feels great, for it to come against a huge rival like Detroit makes it all the more special," Oakland head coach Eric Pogue said.

The Golden Grizzlies dominated the game offensively, outshooting the Titans 18 to 10. However, Detroit struck first in the second half.

The Golden Grizzlies broke down the Titans defense again and again, but could not put the ball in the back of the net. It was not until the 85th minute that the team's hard work and perseverance paid off. Off of a rebound, Shaun Claud

Lawson tied the game — sending it into extra time.

In the second half of extra time, Oakland's luck seemed to turn around. A foul on Lawson gave the team a free kick in scoring position. A free kick that caused midfielder Matt Dudley's eyes to widen.

"I thought, you know what, have a shot, see if it goes in," Dudley said.

His shot sailed right into the top corner, just out of the reach of UDM goalkeeper Nathan Steinwascher. Dudley's late-game heroics were met by a bench clearing dog pile at midfield.

"Confidence has been low around campus, we just needed a win," Dudley said.

In a hard fought game, Pogue was proud and hopes it will get the ball rolling for the rest of the season.

"Would have been nice to not have to wait till second



Oakland advances the ball against Green Bay Saturday night.

Jacob Mulka / The Oakland Post

overtime to put that away," Pogue said. "I think it took a few years off my life."

In game two over the weekend Oakland got two more goals, one again from Dudley, and another from Joey Tinnion to beat the Green Bay

Phoenix 2-0. OU's goalie Wes Mink was able to record his first career shutout.

After starting the season slow (0-5-0) the Grizzlies have started storming back and have went (2-0-1) in Horizon League play.



### Women's soccer

The OU women's soccer team got shutout last Saturday against the Youngstown State Penguins. The loss puts Oakland and 1-2-0 in the Horizon League standings. Oakland comes back home this weekend to play the UIC Flame on Saturday Oct. 11 at 7:00 p.m.

### Women's golf

The team was seventh going into the final day of the Diane Thomas Invitational hosted by the University of Cincinnati, the team finished with a score of 969 (+105). Illinois won the tournament shooting a collective 53-over par. Elle Nichols finished best for OU with a 229 (+23), but Alyssa Albright finished with Oakland's best round of 76 (+4) in the final day.

### Cross country

The Andrew and Jacob Bowman combo and Ashley Burr finished with OU's best times in Notre Dame's annual Invitational. Andrew Bowman ran a 24:40.6 and Jacob posted a 24:53.8 in the five-mile Gold race. They finished 21st and 28th respectively. Burr finished 19th in her 5K Gold race with a finishing time of 17:23.1. OU men overall 10th place and the women coming in 15th.

Compiled by Matt Saulino  
Staff Reporter

# Club football team keeps cruising

*Grizzlies defeat  
DePaul University 50-8,  
improving record to 3-0*

Scott Davis  
Staff Reporter

The Golden Grizzlies club football team showed its teeth as it dominated the Blue Devils this past Saturday under the lights.

Oakland University cruised to a 50-8 victory over DePaul University on their way to their third win of the season. The victory gives OU a 3-0 record on the young season as the team still has five scheduled games left.

The conditions were not ideal, as it was cold, rainy, and the field was in terrible shape for most of the game. Players said they had to make some minor adjustments, but they still believed their game plan would work.

"The field was terrible after the first quarter, but you can't really worry about it. You have to use the field that you have to get the win, so we could not let that get in the way of our goal," said defensive back Chillon Sims.

OU got off to a fast start as Marcus Brown had two interceptions in the first quarter for the Golden Grizzlies, and the special teams even blocked a Blue Devil punt early in the first quarter. The running game was also very effective early as Malik Pettway had two of his three rushing touchdowns in the first quarter. The OU rushing game was effective all game long as the Golden Grizzlies had five rushing touchdowns in the game.

"The offensive line was great and they all clicked," said Pettway. "I think my running style is hard to defend because I get down field, get as many yards as I can, and don't make cuts unless I know that they are there."

The Golden Grizzlies led 13-0 after one quarter of play, but really put some separation between them and the Blue Devils in the second quarter. Three more rushing touchdowns and a late first half field goal made it a 37-0 halftime lead for OU.

The second half started how the first half ended with OU returning the opening kickoff for a touchdown.

After that point a running clock was used and the team was able to cruise to a 50-8 victory.

OU is now 3-0 on the season as they will travel to the University of Michigan-Flint for a road game on Saturday. This will be the first of four straight Great Lakes-East conference games for the Golden Grizzlies.



Nowshin Chowdhury/The Oakland Post

**TOP** The Golden Grizzlies went wild in the first half of Saturday's game, running out to a 37-0 lead at halftime.

**RIGHT** "The field was terrible after the first quarter, but you can't really worry about it. You have to use the field that you have to get the win," defensive back Chillon Sims said.

**LEFT** Oakland University football team steamrolled DePaul University 50-8 for third straight victory.



Courtesy of Kyla Kellerman

Head soccer coach Margaret Saurin believes mental toughness is essential to playing the game.

## Get'cha head in the game

*Women's soccer star brings psychology into play*

**Matt Saulino**  
Staff Reporter

There are many working pieces to score a goal in soccer. Whether it be a good turn, lucky bounce, or a subtle touch in the right direction, senior Kyla Kellermann finds herself as the team's best finisher.

Through 10 games Kellermann has four goals, and she's averaging just over one shot a game.

"I've been here for four years now, I've put a lot into this program, and I love this school," Kellermann said. "I want to see us succeed and do well. As a senior it's your last chance to step up and do well."

Head coach Margaret Saurin believes that senior leadership, not just by Kellermann, is invaluable.

"You can't put a price on it," Saurin said. "Leading by example is a really important part of what the seniors can do for us."

In 2013, Kellermann was an All-Academic Team Honoree, as well as a member of the Horizon League All-Tournament selection. Notable achievements like these are the ones other players can aspire to gain as well.

Kellermann started 19 of 21 games last year as a junior, and although she's listed on the Grizzlies website as a forward, Saurin knows she can score from all over the field.

"She's had to play in a couple of different positions this season, her experience,

versatility, and her ability allows us to do that," Saurin said. "She scores goal from midfield as well as up top, she's defended, she's connected the dots, so Kyla is a very important part of what we're doing here."

Saurin notices that Kellermann has a willingness to fill this role and that she brings a certain amount of mental toughness to the game. Saurin feels that Kellermann being a psychology major, helps strengthen her approach to the game.

Through Kellermann's years here, she has played under four different coaches.

"Mags (Coach Saurin) has been one of the first coaches to introduce mental toughness and things like that to us," Kellermann said. "Being actually able to apply it out there that's pretty cool."

Saurin knows the ebbs and flows of people's self-awareness, and is able to understand when things are going well and how they can capitalize or mount personal triumphs when they present themselves.

"Inevitably, in 90 minutes of soccer, there are mistakes that are going to be made and we have to bounce back from them," Saurin said.

She went on to express that the ability to remain in a positive state of mind is what makes bouncing back from those mistakes possible. Kellermann is one player for whom staying positive just comes naturally.

Contact Staff Reporter Matt Saulino at [mssaulin@oakland.edu](mailto:mssaulin@oakland.edu).

# CRAFT HOMEWORK? TRY CRAFT BEER

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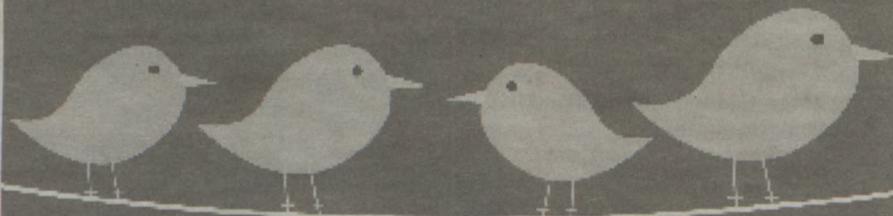
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# Basketball season looms



Story by Jackson Gilbert Photo by Katie Cagle Design by Benjamin DerMiner

## KEY GAMES

Friday November 14th @ Iowa State  
 Monday November 24th vs Western Carolina  
 Sunday December 14th @ MSU  
 Friday January 2nd vs Valparaiso  
 Saturday Jan 10th @ Detroit  
 Thursday January 15th vs Green Bay  
 Sunday February 15th vs Detroit

## FAST FACTS

-Oakland finished last season at 13-20, 7-9 in the Horizon League.

-Former Oakland superstar Travis Bader is now playing for ASVEL Basket in Europe.

-Coach Kampe said his possible starters would include seven players, Felder, Petros, Williams, Hooper, Hayes, McCune, Hill. He also said Daniels and Cleveland would receive playing time.

-Oakland has a six-game road trip featuring stops at Michigan State, Arizona, Pittsburgh, and Maryland. Coach Kampe says it's a great recruiting tool to have several of those games on national TV.

-The Horizon League opener is January 2nd against Valparaiso. Both Corey Petros and Coach Kampe emphasized the importance of the game. "The marketing people will have to keep doing a good job. A lot of Oakland fans still harbor intense feelings for the Valpo rivalry, it should be an easy game to sell." Students won't be back from the winter break by then so it's important to plan ahead.

-Saddi Washington, Darren Sorenson, and Brandon Weems all return as assistant coaches. Notably, Weems attended high-school with LeBron James and was rumored to be a part of his wedding party.

-Max Hooper, a transfer who has played previously at St. John's and Harvard, is likely to play the Kangas and Bader role and has already graduated, taking advantage of the NCAA graduate transfer rule.

-Corey Petros, entering his senior season, says he's particularly excited for Iowa State. "The opening game of my final season at OU will mean a lot."

-Both Kampe and Petros predicted Green Bay to win the Horizon League. Kampe says he believes Keifer Sykes will be a drafted into the NBA.

Player	Year	Player Bio
<b>Ralph Hill</b>	Redshirt Senior	Hill became a starter toward the end of last season after sitting out 2012-13 due to transfer rules. Hill is slated to be a big part of the rotation as a solid, inside-outside player.
<b>Dante Williams</b>	Senior	Williams is the definition of an energy guy; a capable scorer and terrific defender, look for him to be the receiver of plenty of alley-oops after a solid junior season.
<b>Jalen Hayes</b>	Redshirt Freshman	After redshirting his freshman season due to mononucleosis, Hayes looks to crack the rotation this season, capable of playing most positions at 6'7" and 200 pounds.
<b>Max Hooper</b>	Redshirt Junior	It is unreasonable to expect Hooper to replicate Travis Bader's 3-point shooting numbers, but look for him to play the role of the fire-and-forget three-ball man.
<b>Nick Daniels</b>	Freshman	Daniels sat out last season due to a broken foot. Coach Kampe says Daniels will break the rotation, presumably as a backup to Khalil Felder.
<b>Artis Cleveland</b>	Redshirt Freshman	The 6'10" center sat out last season after transferring home from Mississippi Valley State. Cleveland will likely back up Corey Petros at the center position.
<b>Kahlil Felder</b>	Sophomore	The reigning Horizon League Freshman of the Year returns to Oakland for his sophomore season. Look for him to build off of his stellar freshman campaign as the starting point guard.
<b>Tommie McCune</b>	Redshirt Junior	Transferred to OU after a season at West Virginia, the junior's only limit is himself. Will be a rotational player, possibly a starter. He's talented but unpredictable.
<b>Femi Olujobi</b>	Freshman	Olujobi is Oakland's prized recruit this season. Coach Kampe says he originally planned to redshirt him but that Femi has played his way into making the decision a difficult one.
<b>Corey Petros</b>	Redshirt Senior	Petros enters his fifth season at OU as one of the top post players in the country. Look for him to break several rebounding records for OU in his final year.
<b>Coach Kampe</b>	31st Season	Coach Kampe has completed 30 seasons as OU's head coach; he's currently the third longest tenured coach at one school behind only legendary Jim Boheim and Coach K.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Raphael talked about his parents, growing up as a reader, his struggles in school, and his successes and failures as a writer.

## The pen is mightier than the sword

**Scott Davis**  
Staff Reporter

Lectures, workshops and panel discussions on the different areas of writing filled various rooms of the Oakland Center at the seventh annual Rochester Writers' Conference, which took place this past Saturday.

There were ten different topics presented in the nine-hour event, ranging from "Mirror, Not Movie Screen: Getting Personal Through Persona Poetry," to "Beyond Freelancing Writing - Write out of the Box," and "Don't Write What You Know."

The presentations gave attendees the opportunity to get advice from writers, editors and educators who are successful in their field.

Rebecca Repp, general manager of American Road Magazine, said the conference is also great for presenters to meet writers who are interested in that field.

"It's a great way to meet potential new talent and see what's a good fit for our publication," Repp said. "Also, people can learn a little more about what we need in a group setting, so I don't have to take 30 phone calls."

Awards were given to attendees who submitted their work before the event to be judged. One of the winners, Roberta Brown, who won for micro-fiction, said that it was a complete surprise that her work won. Titled "Hammerime," it was about a construction worker who was thought to be building an object,

but instead was building one of Beethoven's most difficult music pieces.

"I am a musician," Brown said. "I teach and play piano, oboe, and guitar, and in the past couple of years I have gotten into writing micro-fiction — so just combining my love and knowledge for music. And I was looking for that twist and that surprise ending. [It all] inspired me to write this."

Along with the different presentations and awards, the event also had a keynote speaker. This year's speaker was Lev Raphael, who is the author of 25 books. He said that his new book, "Assault with a Deadly Lie," was the inspiration of his "Fiction Changed My Life" speech.

"It is a new kind of fiction for me, so it kind of made me look back at my whole career and assess different stages and what different fiction had been at different times in my career," Raphael said.

Raphael also held a book signing after his speech where he was able to talk to attendees on a more personal level. His website, [levraphael.com](http://levraphael.com), has more information on all of his works.

The Rochester Writers will be holding a 2015 Winter Writing Contest where anyone can send in works of poetry, postcard fiction, flash fiction and first page works. Entry to the contest will begin on Nov. 1, 2014 and the deadline is Feb 28., 2015.

More information on the contest and upcoming Rochester Writers' events can be found at their website, [RochesterWriters.com](http://RochesterWriters.com).

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# Sweetest Day created by candy factory worker



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

Sweetest Day is celebrated by friends and significant others every third Saturday in October.

*Celebration is not solely about lovers, but giving affection to the poor*

**Kaleigh Jerzykowski**  
Staff Reporter

There's an age-old adage of "Christmas in July," but what about Valentine's Day in October?

Although it's not exactly the same, Sweetest Day falls on the third Saturday of each October and is, for the most part, an underappreciated and misunderstood holiday.

"If I'm not mistaken," said sophomore Anna Roberts, "Sweetest Day is the male version of Valentine's Day. The woman takes the man out and shows how much she loves him."

OU transfer student Laura Pappas had a different take on Sweetest Day, saying, "It's a day dedicated to who you call your sweetie."

While both understandings of Sweetest Day are completely reasonable, Roberts and Pappas are actually wrong, according to the Hallmark Corporation.

Hallmark says that Sweetest Day originated in 1922 when Ohio candy factory worker Herbert Birch Kingston decided that there needed to be a day spent in recognition of those members of society who are often forgotten: orphans, the sick, and the poor.

Kingston and fellow coworkers came

together to put his plan into action and spent the day giving out candy, treats, and small gifts to people in need — just to show that they cared.

In the 1930s, movie stars began to get in on the action, giving out candy and treats to newspaper boys in the Cleveland area, and distributing candy in Cleveland hospitals, according to Hallmark.

Interestingly enough, Hallmark also says that Sweetest Day is predominantly celebrated in the Midwest, due to its founding father being from Ohio.

As the years passed, the tradition of Sweetest Day has evolved from a day of community charity to a day of appreciation for loved ones, celebrated similarly to Valentine's Day with the giving of chocolates, flowers, and cards.

Last year, Pappas said she was at a homecoming game for Sweetest Day and celebrated her father's birthday the same weekend, while Roberts said that in the past she had gone out for dinner with a group of friends to celebrate.

Traditions vary, depending on one's understanding of this Valentine's Day lookalike, but one thing is certain: there are never too many opportunities to show loved ones how much they mean to you.

"I hope [Sweetest Day] becomes more popular," Roberts said, "and that it doesn't turn into another Valentine's Day."

So this year on October 18, consider taking a moment to do a random act of kindness for a stranger or remind loved ones just how much you care.



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# Panel discusses immigration, education

*Local experts provide insight into why undocumented individuals aren't necessarily illegal*

**Andrew Wernette**  
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

Students gathered to listen to a panel discussion about undocumented immigrants and education last Wednesday as part of the ongoing Hispanic Celebration Month at Oakland University.

The panel, which took place in Gold Room B, was comprised of Raquel Anderson from Global Detroit, Josue Tellez from Michigan Dreamers for Tuition Equality and Adonis Flores from Michigan United. Garret Garcia from Centro Multicultural La Familia moderated the event. Each panelist had experience in dealing or working with education struggles due to undocumented status.

One of the first discussion points dealt with the terms "undocumented immigrant" and "illegal immigrant."

Flores, who said he came to the United States with his family when he was eight, started by speaking about other children who have done the same.

"Children, when they arrive to this country, they have no choice in coming to this country," Flores said. "So when a lot of people are accusing children of breaking the law, it doesn't make much sense that they get the same punishment as adults, right?"

He also said that "illegal immigrant" is inaccurate because it tends to dispel the idea that undocumented people can eventually become legal inhabitants.

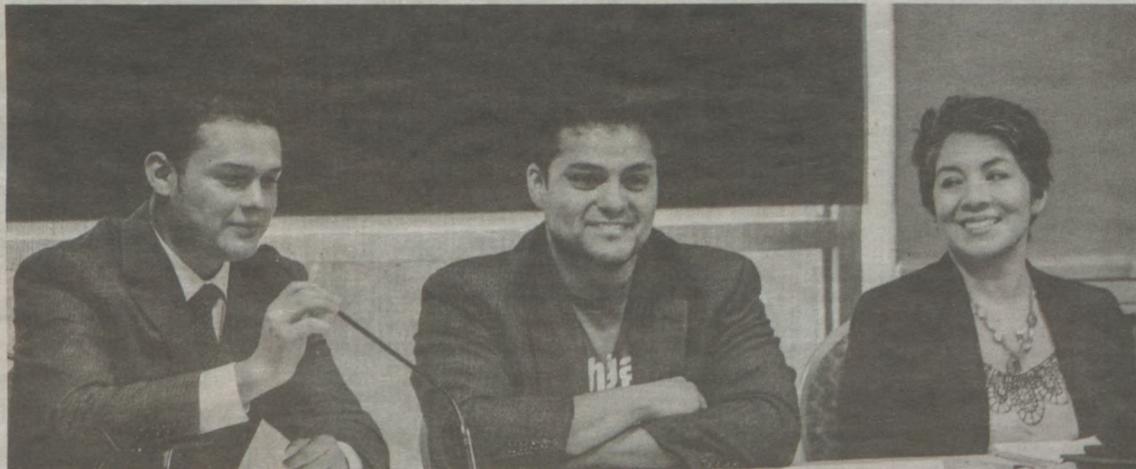
"If you drive and you pass a stop sign, it doesn't make you an illegal driver for the rest of your life," Flores said. "So, if you are an immigrant and came to the United States with no documents, that doesn't make you an illegal immigrant for the rest of your life."

There are even technical problems with the term "undocumented," he said, since many immigrants come with documentation from their home country.

Both Flores and Tellez talked about their previous lobbying for the DREAM Act, or Development, Education and Relief for Alien Minors, which would have given such minors a way to access higher education and a path to citizenship. However, the act did not pass when it reached Congress in 2010.

The panel then brought up DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Effected in 2012, this federal policy allows certain undocumented individuals who came to America as minors to apply for a temporary stay from removal, as well as work authorization. It does not grant them legal status, though. It was mentioned that there are about 4,500 individuals in Michigan who are under DACA.

The conversation then moved toward higher education for undocumented individuals. Garcia made the point that, for international students, college tuition is usually double or triple in cost per credit hour than for local residents.



The discussion panel included, from left to right, Josue Tellez from Michigan Dreamers for Tuition Equality, Adonis Flores from Michigan United, and Raquel Anderson from Global Detroit.

Both Flores and Tellez said that they faced this price increase at Oakland Community College due to their status.

Tellez said of OCC policy: "If you don't prove that you're a U.S. citizen, or don't have a status at all, they automatically place you in the international category. So that means you pay three times more than a regular resident pays."

Flores and Tellez said that they worked full time while taking one class a semester.

In paying for college, "It's difficult when you have a job that is a minimal wage paid job," Tellez said.

He also explained that it is almost impossible for student loans to be granted to undocumented people since they usually have no credit history to provide to banks.

Based off of a change in tuition policy at the University of Michigan following protests by DACA students, Tellez decided to try the same at OCC. He and a group of others started a social media campaign to get tuition equality, which eventually led to discussions with OCC executives and a change in tuition policy.

Tellez, Flores and Anderson are now working to bring tuition equality for undocumented immigrants of all statuses to all colleges and universities in Michigan.

"These are young people that are going to waste," Anderson said. "Everybody benefits when a person is educated and can see their own full potential, whatever that may be."

Afterwards, Garcia, who helped put the panel together for Hispanic Celebration Month, said that he knew the panelists from working with the Hispanic community as an attorney in Pontiac. He also said that he has retained ties with OU since graduating from the university.

"I was on the committee to plan for this month," Garcia said, "and I said this would be an event which I could kind of coordinate, since I thought it would be interesting for the people. And so I arranged to have these people show up."

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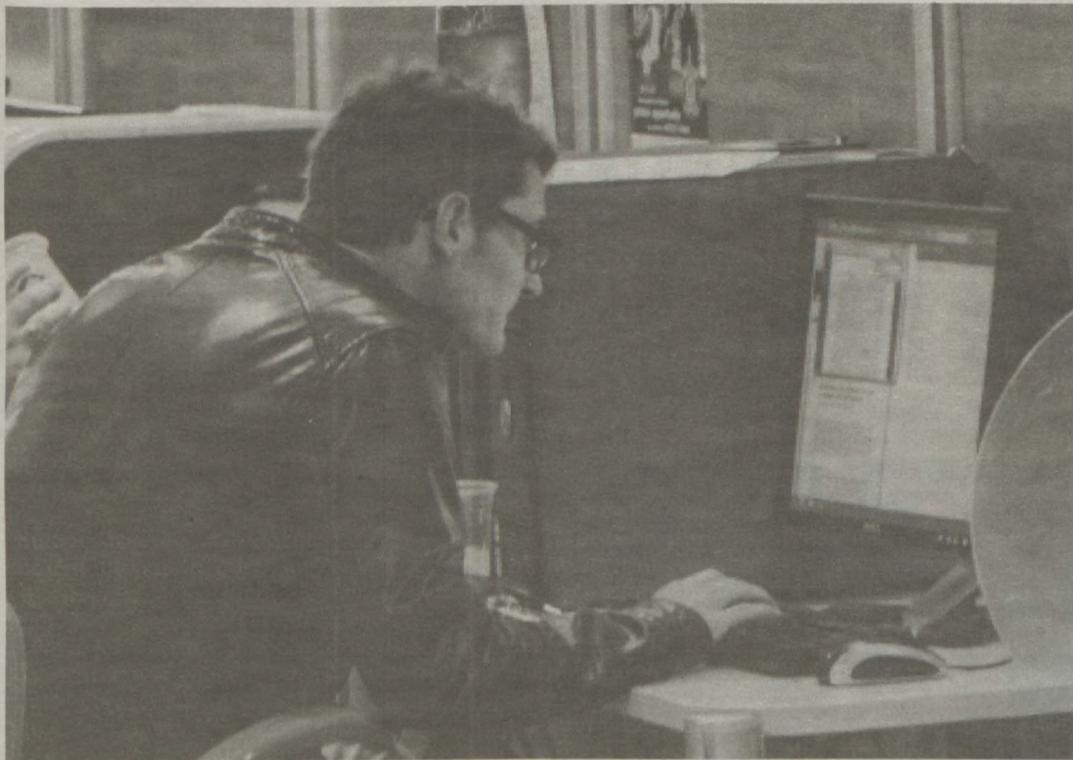
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Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Some students find it difficult to efficiently manage their time when they are enrolled in online classes.

## Easy time or online grind?

Sean Gardner  
Staff Reporter

An online class sounds like a dream. What could be better than being able to take a class from the comfort of your own home? No more worrying about what to wear or how the weather is—just sit in bed and learn.

That may sound like a great idea to many, but can taking an online class really be so easy?

At a commuter school like Oakland University, online classes are a convenient way for students to take a class—without having to be on campus. These classes are especially convenient for students with long commutes or off campus jobs.

“I take online classes so I don’t have to commute as much,” junior Constance Flores said. “It’s about a 45 minute drive from my house to campus, so it can be really hard on my gas tank.”

Online classes are overseen by professors from the university. Generally, professors give assignments through Moodle. These

“I do feel like the work itself is pretty easy, but it’s harder to not procrastinate and find the motivation to get assignments done.”

Constance Flores  
Junior

assignments are due on a certain date at a certain time.

From there, it is on the students to find the time to complete them.

“Students who think an online course will be easier than a face-to-face one can have problems with the extra time an online course takes,” said Anne Becker, special instructor of journalism. “Everything needs to be read or listened to, so students can’t just get by.”

These classes fall onto the students’ shoulders. They have to be independent. Some may find that difficult, leading to falling grades.

However, for Becker, who has been teaching online classes since 2008, the grades between

students in online classes and their in-class counterparts seem to be the same.

Another of the tasks that online professors assign is discussion boards. Because it is online, there can be no lectures. The discussion board serves as a place for students to interact with one another, to receive help on an assignment they posted and to ask questions.

In today’s world, it is almost impossible not get distracted. Being on a computer, taking a class from home takes immense self-control and focus.

“I do feel like the work itself is pretty easy, but it’s harder to not procrastinate and find the motivation to get assignments done,” Flores said.

Listening to other students may be the best way to know how an online class will be and if it is the right choice. Senior Allison Tebay likes to read the comments on [ratemyprofessor.com](http://ratemyprofessor.com).

“A lot of the time, students comment things like ‘Take this class in person instead’ or ‘This class is easy to do online,’ which sometimes helps influence my decision,” Tebay said.

## Circle of Sisterhood provides safe environment for women

Jasmine French  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University’s women come together to uplift each other in group sessions with The Circle of Sisterhood, a Center for Multicultural Initiatives psycho-educational group that meets every Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Nicole Lucio, the assistant director for Multicultural Initiatives, co-facilitates the circle. Lucio graduated from OU with a degree in elementary education and later received her master’s in counseling.

“Overall, we want to provide an environment for young women that is supportive and inclusive,” Lucio said.

“The ultimate goal is to retain students and get them to graduation. We want to make sure students feel connected and have a support base at Oakland University.”

“It’s been running for quite some time now,” said Denise Jones, Retention Coordinator for the Center for Multicultural Initiatives. “There was a need for African American women to come together and converse.”

Jones studied psychology and graduated from Oakland in 2009 and obtained her master’s in counseling in 2011.

According to Jones, there are anywhere from 15-20 students per session.

“We like the group of women to connect,” Jones said. “We collaborate with Black Employee Resource Group.”

Black Employee Resource Group provides resources to enhance professional and career development for Oakland University’s African American faculty and staff.

“Last year, we had a retired

instructor come into speak to the group,” Jones said. “The mission is to target Native American, Hispanic, and African American women.”

During sessions, chairs are set up in a circle to create a more intimate setting.

“We take the temperature of the room,” Jones said. “Each student defines how they’re feeling for the day by using one word.”

Sometimes the agenda of the sessions requires the participants to pick the topic for the day.

“Each lady writes a topic, puts it in a hat and it’s randomly chosen,” Jones said. “The group is amazing. We’re working with an awesome group of women.”

The next group meeting is Thursday, Oct. 9, at 4 p.m. This meeting will provide information on the women’s retreat at Camp Tamarack in Ortonville, Mich. on Oct. 10 through Oct. 11, for students who plan to attend. There is a registration fee to attend the retreat is \$10—payments can be made in 104 North Foundation Hall.

“The retreat is an annual event,” Lucio said. According to Lucio, it’s designed to stimulate self-awareness and leadership skills in female students.

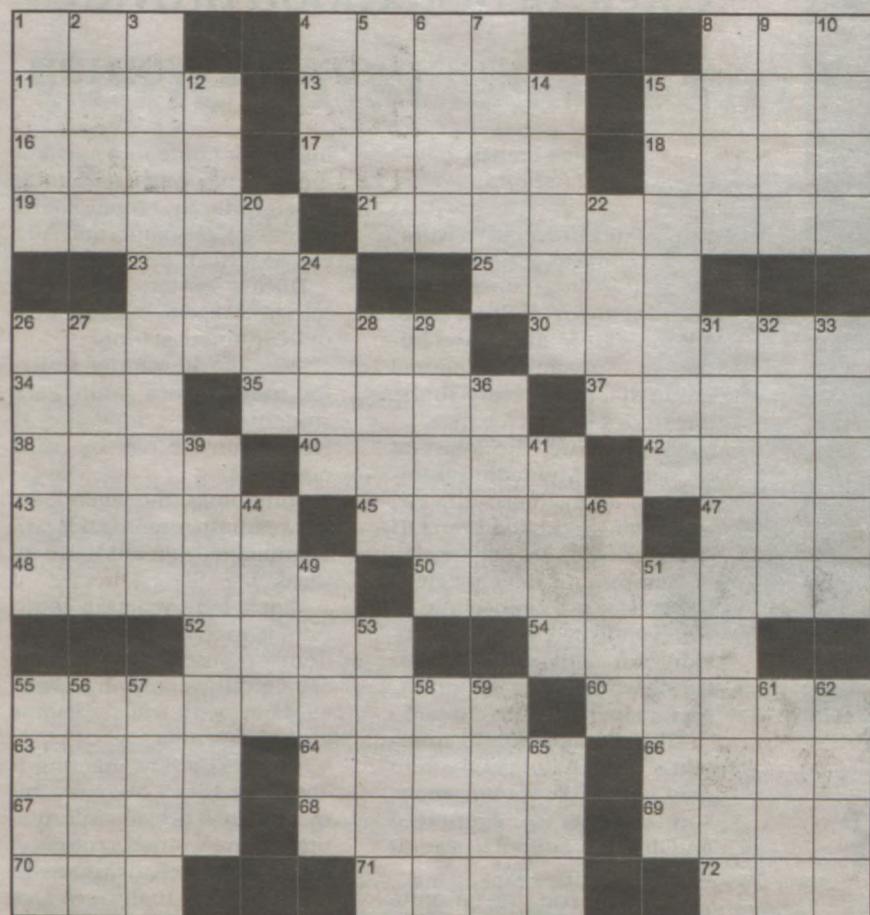
“We have an open door policy,” Jones added. “It’s a place where women can go to vent and express themselves. If we spend more time uniting and supporting one another, we would be unstoppable.”

For more information, visit [www.oakland.edu/cmi](http://www.oakland.edu/cmi).

**GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?**

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

# Puzzles



## Across

- 1: Ossuary
- 4: Joke object
- 8: Blob of used gum
- 11: Ground corn
- 13: Commit a coup d'état
- 15: Pump part
- 16: Lay macadam
- 17: Exclude
- 18: Dark greenish blue
- 19: Loses weight (with 'down')
- 21: After-dinner drink
- 23: Gunk
- 25: 'Flee, feline!'
- 26: Strands
- 30: Doesn't contain one's anger
- 34: Auction offering
- 35: Mock-portraying
- 37: Danger
- 38: Parcel of land
- 40: Many a 'Mad' article
- 42: Body of an organism
- 43: Small game with big ears
- 45: Turf
- 47: Marsh
- 48: Go at
- 50: Most pricey
- 52: Pencil remnant

## Down

- 1: Baseball VIPs
- 2: Down-to-earth
- 3: Cockpit workers
- 4: Begin blooming
- 5: Secondhand
- 6: Toilet roll holder
- 7: Coal haulers
- 8: Trials and tribulations
- 9: Word of woe
- 10: Proofreader's mark
- 12: Bar wedge
- 14: Number on a tag
- 15: War memorials, e.g.
- 20: Soft drink
- 22: Waterproof cover
- 24: Orchestra that plays

## light classical music

- 26: Series beginning
- 27: Ropes with weights attached
- 28: Pup's bites
- 29: 'The \_\_\_ of Kilimanjaro'
- 31: Line definition
- 32: X, mathwise
- 33: Bias, in reporting
- 36: Bearded mammal
- 39: Film snippets
- 41: Neck line?
- 44: Gains a lap
- 46: Judge
- 49: Craves
- 51: Strips
- 53: Goes on and on and on...
- 55: Off course
- 56: 'Flee, fly!'
- 57: In \_\_\_ (unmoved)
- 58: No longer green
- 59: Stuff to the gills
- 61: Curly coif
- 62: Observed
- 65: Family man

3		1					4	8
	4		3					
	2		7				6	1
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		7				9		
		4		7	2			
4	1				6		5	
					3		9	
8	9					6		3

	9	4	2				3		1
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# Mourning Wayne Blizman, a professor, mentor and friend

*Business professor 'always had a joke' and appreciated the moment*

**Kaylee Kean**  
Managing Editor

“He always made people smile.” So said Joan Carleton, the marketing and communications manager for the Macomb-OU INCubator. She was referring to Wayne Blizman: friend, professor, family-man, mentor and businessman, who died on Sept. 27. He was 75.

Blizman, who joined the School of Business Administration in 2003 as an adjunct faculty member, was the director of the Entrepreneurship Institute, director of the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) and director of the ideas 2 Business (i2B) program. He also served as senior adviser for commercialization at the Macomb-OU INCubator.

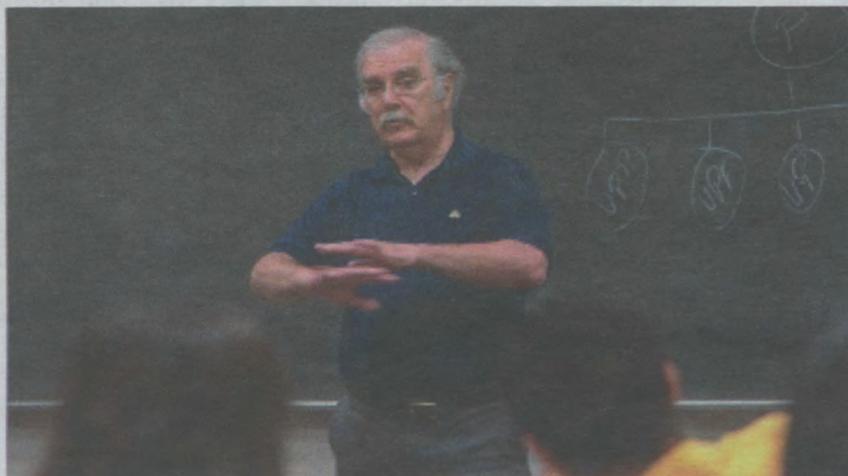
In his time at OU and in these programs, Blizman served as not just a professor, but as a mentor and friend to many students. One such student, 2009 graduate Brennon Edwards, said he owes much of where he is today to Blizman.

“He was definitely more than a mentor,” Edwards said. “He was a good friend and he’s always been there for me. If I was frustrated, he always seemed to have a good solution and a joke - he always had a joke.”

Blizman served as an adviser when Edwards was president of SIFE, and also taught two of Edwards’ entrepreneurship classes. Edwards, now a television producer working for National Geographic, said Blizman helped him to launch this career and taught him everything he knows about business and turning an idea into reality.

Despite his living in Los Angeles, Edwards said he and Blizman have continued talking and catching up on each others’ lives. The last time they spoke was Sept. 6, and he has a voicemail of Blizman checking up on him and his “big career.”

“He always made fun of me for



*Photo courtesy of Oakland University*

Wayne Blizman, who died Sept. 27, was known as a mentor and friend to his students.

“He was a good friend and he’s always been there for me. If I was frustrated, he always seemed to have a good solution and a joke - he always had a joke.”

**Brennon Edwards**  
Class of 2009

being in LA and being a television producer,” Edwards said. “He’d asked me about my wife even though I don’t have one or a girlfriend even though I don’t have one.”

The two would talk about their families, and Edwards said he was always telling Blizman that he worked too hard.

“More than anything, we’d actually just make fun of each other,” Edwards said. “That’s one thing that Wayne was always good at - living in and appreciating the moment...He’s going to be loved and missed more than he’ll ever know.”

Lisa Campbell, special lecturer in the department of communication

and philosophy, worked with Blizman when she was a presentation coach for the SIFE team. They frequently traveled long distances with the team, and their common backgrounds in business helped them to connect and work well together.

“Wayne was a lot of fun,” Campbell said. “He could be really focused on things, but he didn’t ever target the focus so tightly that he couldn’t appreciate what was going on around him. He had a great appreciation of the total picture.”

“I was really surprised and I think it was a big loss. I think the university was better for Wayne and we’ll miss him.”

Blizman is survived by his son, daughter and their families. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jane. The family will be holding a private service - those interested in sharing memories or condolences can do so online at <http://obits.dignitymemorial.com>.

Contact Managing Editor Kaylee Kean at [managing@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:managing@oaklandpostonline.com).

## A tribute to Blizman from a former student

*‘Wayne was a diamond of humor and common sense in a vast field of often-predictable academic theory’*

**Alex Cherup**  
Special to The Oakland Post

I met Wayne Blizman when he was the faculty advisor for Oakland’s chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). I was the SIFE Director of Communications for over two years, less because of my excitement of free market theory, but because of Wayne.

As a wannabe philosopher with relatively leftist views, I was the last person you would expect to find enthusiastically following our SIFE chapter around the country talking about the power of entrepreneurship.

Those who knew Wayne will never forget his rare gift of far-from-predictable dry wit coupled with a down-to-earth steadiness. No matter what happened, you knew after a few minutes with Wayne everything would be okay.

I remained friends with Wayne after my graduation and my departure from Michigan, always learning from his wisdom and laughter. Wayne was a diamond of humor and common sense in a vast field of often-predictable academic theory.

After spending time with him in the classroom or affiliated with a student organization, his experience and perspective would rub off on you. He was a master at relating to others. When my sister asked me for advice after transferring to Oakland, my first recommendation was: “Take a class from Blizman.”

In his decade at Oakland University, Wayne led programs that equipped students with the tools necessary to become successful in their professional life.

Wayne was real, he was sly, and he kept you on the edge of your seat. He cared about peace and justice, and his love for his family was paramount.

From his wispy hair to his dress shoes, he was an inspiration to all. The school lost a true visionary. It is hard to imagine Oakland without him.

*Cherup is a 2008 Oakland University graduate and former editor for The Post.*

SATIRE

## Take a gulp out of life

Kaylee Kean

Managing Editor/Goody Two-Shoes

**S**o this guy walks into a bar. He strolls up to the bartender, slaps a twenty on the counter and orders the finest drink \$20 can get. He takes two or three sips of the delicious concoction, then gets up, walks back out of the bar and leaves the drink behind.

Now, let's have some real fun: let's change that guy to the average college student, that \$20 to \$20,000, and that fine drink to a college education.

Making a little more sense now?

Something I've noticed consistently in my three years at OU is that an uncomfortable amount of students don't seem to understand what exactly it is they're doing. Just in case you are one of those simple-minded darlings, I'll break it down for you.

You are paying to learn. You are attending a university to receive some good ol' higher education, something many of the older generations never got to experience and likely never will.

It's not always fair – pay to learn? Bah! Especially when it takes three jobs and a serious depression and lack of sleep to manage paying that

tuition. And don't even get me started on paying to live on campus and eat shitty Chartwells food.

But "it is what it is," as some asshole once said.

Being a senior really puts things into perspective. I have seven more months and I'm done. I'm out. No more homework, no more class, no more discounts, no more 24-hour libraries and strolls across the beautiful campus I've come to know and love. No more Oakland Post, my pride and joy, and no more of that comforting sense of unlocking my office door ready to face a day of working hard and connecting with the colorful people of OU. No more smiling and waving to just about every person I see in the Oakland Center. No more laughing about how many student loans I have, because I'll actually have to start paying them off.

But enough of the sob story: the point is, we have it easy at school. It's only going to get harder. There can be friends and comfort, but only if you work hard.

There's no turning in late assignments. There's no sleeping through a job. There's no telling five different professors that your grandma died and you won't be able to make it to

the next few classes. There's no one to hold your hand through each step – not if you want to be someone, at least.

So while it may seem okay to slack off and make light of things at school, what's the point? You're not doing yourself a favor.

Don't get me wrong – I'm not exactly the highest and mightiest of them all. Had I written this freshman year, I would have been labeled as the biggest hypocrite of all time. There are still some days now, as a senior, when I can qualify. I like to sleep. I have shit going on. It happens.

BUT, now I realize exactly what it is I'm paying for, and I take advantage of it. I may skip a class every now and then, but when I do I feel horrendously guilty, and I'm usually doing something else I consider to be nearly, or just as, important.

I also realize that life will not get any different once I am handed that degree. All that changes is the amount of bills I have to pay, and the amount I'm making to do so.

So don't be an idiot. If you walk into that bar and throw \$20 on the counter, you sure as hell better enjoy the whole goddamn drink.

## Blood, sweat and lite beers

Josh Soltman

Copy Editor/Drunk

**A**s we all know, beer is the greatest invention by man. Morning, noon and night; if I'm awake, I'm drinking it. As a college student, the temptation to imbibe is an ever-present obstacle. After two years of being able to legally relieve my problems with the use of alcohol, I am here to say: thank you, universe.

As a guy who likes to constantly bitch about everything that happens in life, I have searched high and low for the beer that is JUST RIGHT to ease my sorrows.

Much to the chagrin of many of my contemporaries my spirit of choice is Miller Lite. I like my beer like I like

my women: cheap, easy to swallow and urine-colored. Miller Lite fits that description to a tee.

This works out perfectly for me because Chili's, the greatest bar/restaurant of all time, has some pretty sexy happy hour specials most days. And guess which mouth-watering selection they have available for the reasonable price of \$3.25 a beer? Miller Lite is the nectar of the gods.

If one more person tells me that my choice of beverage is "piss beer," I will scream.

Why would I want to drink something that fills me up? Or something like Guinness that I have to use a fork and knife to cut through before I eat it?

Even if all of my Miller Lite critics are right, my current choice of alcoholic goodness is still better and much manlier than what I used to drink at the ripe age of 21. I won't go into too much detail, but let's just say my drink of choice back in the day was a lot fruitier than what I choose now.

Up to this point, every person I have asked has been against me. If I have to fight every detractor that crosses my path, I will. I will never give up on my love for the greatest piss-flavored drink in the world.

My only hope is that one day I will find someone who shares my love of deliciously watered down American beers. Bottoms up.

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

SATIRE

## Top 10 excuses for missing class (and the actual reasons we miss class)

**10.** Excuse: I went out of town over the weekend and didn't get back in time. Actual reason: It's Monday.

**9.** Excuse: My pet is sick. Actual reason: My fantasy football team got destroyed and I have to sleep off the anger.

**8.** Excuse: I lost my textbook/class materials. Actual reason: I hate school.

**7.** Excuse: I had to help a family member with a really important task. Actual reason: There was a Boy Meets World marathon on ABC Family.

**6.** Excuse: I had car trouble. Actual reason: I couldn't make it all the way to my car.

**5.** Excuse: The weather was too bad to drive in. Actual reason: I hate school.

**4.** Excuse: My grandma died. Actual reason: My grandma died (not everyone is a liar, c'mon guys).

**3.** Excuse: My dog ate my homework. Actual Reason: I still hate school.

**2.** Excuse: Couldn't find car keys. Actual reason: I couldn't get out of bed.

**1.** Excuse: I have the stomach flu. Actual reason: I am hungover as hell.

- Compiled by Josh Soltman / Master of Excuses