

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

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ORANGE CONE SEASON

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PHOTO BY NICOLE MORSFIELD

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



GREEK WEEK DANCE OFF Fraternities and Sororities came together on Friday to celebrate with dancing and end Greek Week with a bang. PHOTO / RYAN PINI

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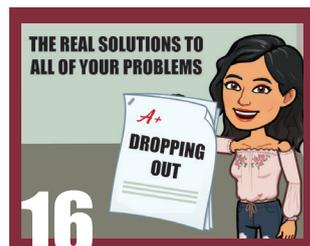
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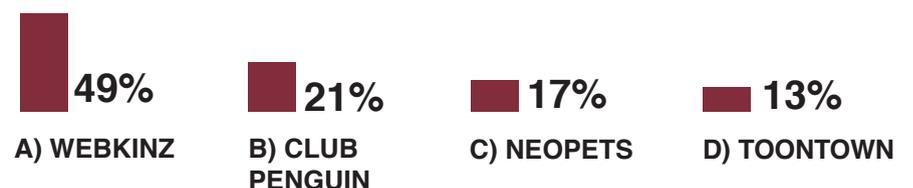
POLL OF THE WEEK

HOW READY ARE YOU FOR FINALS WEEK?

- A) IN DENIAL THAT IT'S TWO WEEKS AWAY
- B) EMOTIONALLY UNPREPARED!
- C) I'VE ALREADY STARTED STUDYING...
- D) I FEEL PREPARED FOR MY EXAMS.

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHAT COMPUTER GAME WOULD YOU MAKE POPULAR AGAIN?



LOOKING BACK

Detroit Newspaper employees picket against hiring of professor

Students and staff expressed mixed feelings in regard to the protesters and their methods

BRIDGET JANIS
Staff Reporter

In October 1998, Detroit Newspaper workers disagreed with Oakland University's staff picks and believed they were harming students' education.

About 40 Detroit Newspaper workers picketed outside out South Foundation Hall (SFH) to protest a journalism class taught by former Detroit Free Press Publisher Neal Shine.

Five to six Detroit Newspaper workers' picket signs expressed their feelings, saying Shine was a hypocrite. They barged into the classroom and started yelling. The students were arguing back, and a protester and a student even got into a fist fight.

Shine was one of the 88 Free Press executives who warned strikers they would be replaced if they did not re-

turn to their duties in August 1995. In 1997, the National Labor Relations Board ruled the warning as a threat and was under appeal at that time. This was one of the main reasons the pickets were claiming Shine had violated federal law.

The organizer of the protest was the Metro Council of Newspaper Workers Justice committee. The point was to show OU they were in the wrong for having Shine as a professor and to inform the students.

According to the OU Administrative Policies and Procedures handbook, "No person shall assemble with others on the campus in any matter which causes or contributes a disturbance, noise, riot, obstruction or disruption (of) the free, normal and uninterrupted use of the campus for educational programs, business activities, related residential food service, and recreational activities."

This section of the handbook was brought up when discussing the protest and its actions.

Some Oakland University Police Department (OUPD) members believe there was a confusion between the rights of students and the assembly rights of pickets, according to then Lt. Mel Gilroy. The only thing police found that was against the handbook was the protesters' use of bullhorns, which they did stop using after being notified. Throughout the protest, police were also carefully watching from a parking lot located across from SFH.

"This man should not be teaching media ethics," Chris Manolas, one of the picketers and former editorial assistant at the Free Press said.

Many newspaper workers felt Shine and his actions during the long-lasting and controversial strike of the Detroit Newspaper Works years prior should

have led to him not being able to teach.

OU officials at the time came to an agreement that the Apicketing was an acceptable form of protest. Since the pickets left the classroom before the OUPD arrived, the police were not able to make an arrest.

OU members all had different responses to the event. Some supported the strike from the beginning while others saw it as unacceptable.

Sharon Howell, a communication professor, was in full encouragement of what the protest stood for. She saw this as a way for them to receive public forum on campus. The only thing she didn't like about that day was the way the police allowed the pickets to get away with barging into a classroom.

The protesters were standing up for what they felt strongly about. While some people saw this as an invasion, others saw it as a right they had.

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The largest measles outbreak since 1991 hits Oakland County

With 34 reported cases, officials urge citizens to check their vaccination status to prevent spread

LAUREL KRAUS

Managing Editor

As of Tuesday, April 2, there have been 34 reported cases of measles in the State of Michigan within age ranges 8 through 63. One case is in Wayne County, while 33 are in Oakland County.

“Earlier in the month, we had an individual who had traveled to Israel, returned to New York, and then traveled to Michigan,” said Lynn Sutfin, public information officer for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. “At that time, he was contagious with the measles and did not realize it.”

As of the same date, there has not yet been a case of measles at the Oakland University Graham Health Center (GHC) and a great majority of younger students have been vaccinated for MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) according to GHC Director Nancy Jansen.

“

I’ve been a nurse since 1980, [I’ve] never seen so many cases of measles in Oakland County before. It is shocking... that we could have such an outbreak.

NANCY JENSEN
GRAHAM HEALTH CENTER DIRECTOR

”

The average number of measles cases in Michigan annually is two according to Sutfin, which makes this the largest outbreak in the state since 1991 when 65 were reported.

“I’ve been a nurse since 1980, [I’ve] never seen so many cases of measles in Oakland County before,” Jansen said. “It is shocking to me as a public health nurse that we could have such an outbreak here and that this could continue for a while because there’s some big outbreaks around the country.”

Being vaccinated with the MMR vaccine is the most effective way to prevent contracting measles. If students are unsure of their immunization status, the GHC can check for you with just your name and birth date.

“The vaccine is safe and effective, and

it doesn’t hurt if you’ve previously had it, it’s not harmful to be revaccinated,” Jansen said.

She reported if people have been vaccinated, they are around 98 or 99 percent protected, while if they are not protected with the vaccine and are exposed, they have around a 90 percent chance of contracting it.

“Measles is one of the most highly-communicable diseases,” Jansen said. “Someone can have measles, sit in a classroom, cough and sneeze, leave the classroom, two hours later another class comes in, someone can get the measles from that person coughing and sneezing two hours ago.”

Symptoms of measles include a cough, runny nose, red, watery eyes, a high fever that may spike to more than 104 degrees, tiny white spots that can happen on the inner cheeks, gums, and roof of the mouth two-three days after symptoms begin, and finally a raised, blotchy rash starts on the face and spreads about three-five days after the symptoms began.

If someone suspects they are exhibiting such symptoms, they should isolate themselves immediately.

“Please do not rush right to your doctor’s office, the ready care or the ER,” Sutfin said. “Please call ahead. That is really key because they need to take some precautions to make sure it doesn’t spread to anybody else when you’re in their office.”

Oakland County has also been hosting numerous vaccination clinics, and since March 14, they’ve vaccinated 1,790 people, she reported.

Oakland County Health Division offices in Southfield and Pontiac are open Monday, 8:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. on Telegraph and Greenfield roads.

Students can also be vaccinated at local drug stores or at the GHC as many insurances pay for this vaccine with no copay or deductible.

“This is going to be an ongoing threat,” Jansen said. “Even if by some miracle this outbreak resolves within a couple weeks, the risk for this happening again is going to continue to increase because of all these cases in the United States and in Europe because it’s so communicable and over the years, these anti-vaccers, [are at] the root cause of it.”

Students can remain updated on the outbreak through the Current Health Alerts tab on the GHC’s homepage.

POLICE FILES

Lost and found

Two officers were dispatched to O’Dowd Hall for a reported larceny on Feb. 14, 2019. While the officers were en route to the victim’s office, one of them was stopped by a witness who claimed to have seen the suspect recently near the scene. Upon arriving at the office, the officers got a description of the black leather briefcase that was stolen from the victim and broadcast both descriptions to all other officers.

After receiving information about the suspect and being told they could still be inside O’Dowd Hall, both officers checked all five floors of the building. Other officers began re-viewing camera files, looking for a suspect. One of the officers observed a subject matching the description entering Elliott Hall, but was unable to make contact with him once inside the building. Officers checked adjacent buildings for the laptop bag, suspecting the thief may have taken the contents and ditched the bag, but found nothing.

The victim said all of her important possessions were inside the bag, including her house and car keys and her phone. She was concerned the suspect would use the keys to break into her house or car and take more of her belongings. The officers used her co-worker’s phone to track her Android and were able to locate it in P16. They were able to narrow down the location to the specific place in which the suspect had parked.

Dispatch was notified and an officer went to the location of the suspected car. The officer saw a black laptop bag matching the description in the back seat. Upon arrival, the victim found most of her belongings still inside, but was missing \$300 cash, some savings bonds and her medications. Her keys were located later by using the victim’s Tile app, but no further belongings were found.

*Compiled by Ben Hume
Staff Reporter*

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Philosopher explains how to combat oppression of identities

RACHEL BASELA

Contributor

From a picturesque village on the outskirts of Gloucestershire, Great Britain to a kingdom in the heart of Asante, Ghana, Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah grew up under the parental guidance of renowned scholars, politicians and authors, and this upbringing formulated what some may consider a rather complex identity.

Appiah, a New York Times columnist, and a professor of philosophy and law at New York University, visited Oakland University on Thursday, March 28 to speak to students, faculty and alumni of the philosophy department about his new book “The Lies That Bind” during the Richard J. Burke Lecture Series.

This has marked the 14th year of these lectures that were founded in 2005 by the late Richard Burke. As the first faculty member hired by the university in 1957, Burke was a professor of philosophy and is remembered as contributing to the “moral conscience of the university” in his obituary.

Paul Graves, a fellow philosophy professor at OU and close friend of Burke, described this contribution by stating: “There was nothing here when he started. [He] put together curricula, decided on policies.”

Graves detailed the life of Burke as being unique in the way he was an unconventional professor and always tried to cater to every student’s needs.

However, Burke’s benefaction to OU didn’t end



COURTESY OF CHELSEA M'B AYO

Dr. Appiah has a new book, “The Lies That Bind”.

where it started. Even after his passing, his legacy continued to educate students and faculty of the philosophy department through his lecture series. On Thursday, Burke’s name lived on through the words of Appiah in the presentation of the stories and considerations he shared.

In his most recent publication, Appiah examines the intersection between social conflicts and personal identity.

“I have lived in two places, in two races,” Appiah said.

Being a gay man and having come from dissimilar nationalities, he began to examine why identity is such an important topic in the modern world. With this thought in mind, Appiah spoke to Oakland in the hopes of enlightening the crowd with some insight on

why we find identity to be vital to our personalities.

Appiah discussed how homophobia, and racism especially, has recently increased in America, and he talks about how students might be able to combat this discrimination.

“The central trick is not to allow other people to make you think badly of yourself,” Appiah said. “You can deal with people who disrespect you if you respect yourself. So, I think spending time and developing relationships that allow you to build your own self-respect is key to surviving. The reality, which is that there is still lots of homophobia and racism in this country, the real damage now comes from undermining people’s self-respect. Both as an ally and as a person subjected to discriminatory oppression, the thing to focus on is not allowing that to hit you, and for allies to treat you respectfully. If you see racist or homophobic acts, speak out. Say ‘That’s wrong. This is a community.’”

While Appiah spoke on issues and key points of creed, country, color, class and culture during his lecture, the main point he left for Oakland to ponder was how to be secure in your own identity, and how to be an ally to people whose identities are systematically torn down.

He left the audience with a quote he displayed on the screen.

“I am human, I consider nothing human alien to me,” wrote Terence, a Roman playwright, in the play “The Self-Tormentor.”

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MANAGING EDITOR!

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Helps the editor-in-chief manage reporters, photographers and copy editors
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NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER

OUWC will share how they developed their training program, Consult Right.

Members of Writing Center to present at regional conference

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

Members of the Oakland University Writing Center (OUWC) will be attending and presenting at the East Central Writing Centers Association (ECWCA) conference on April 4-6 at the University of Dayton in Ohio.

The main goal of ECWCA is to promote communication, scholarship, research and effective practices throughout different writing centers. Colleagues come and present on research related to their writing centers and share findings among other writing centers.

The conference expands to nine different states, and this year the theme is soaring to new heights. Along with other writing centers from the Midwest, OUWC Operations Coordinator Ashley Cerku, Graduate Consultant Red Douglas and Consultant Emma Shriner submitted a proposal and were accepted to present.

"It's a plethora of knowledge that we can gain in order to bring back to our writing center and either adapt new things or modify some of the things we have in place," Cerku said.

The OUWC will be presenting about its training program and its development. The center developed the program, called Consult Right, to expand its ability to add consultants.

"We are showing the evolution of the training program and why we had to adapt it because, essentially, there is a course at Oakland called Peer Tutoring Composition, and it's writing 3062 now,"

Cerku said. "There had been some different developments as far as course requirements, so we wanted to kind of adapt our training so that we not only could seize potential consultants from that class but from outside the class as well."

Each person has their own part of the project to talk about and plays an important part in the development of the project and presentation.

"I'm a graduate student, and I'm a little older than maybe the typical undergraduate student here, and I've had quite a few jobs on campus," Douglas said. "I think that this is the best training program that I've ever been through in terms of student employment and not only terms of preparing me for the duties that I would have to hold as an employee here, but also in terms of personal development."

Shriner did not have any prior tutoring experience and was one of the consultants that did not take the writing center studies course. She is a new consultant that was hired in the fall and will offer her perspective on how the training provided her with the same information to attain the job.

"We each have a distinct outlook on the training process just regarding our role in the center," Shriner said. "I'm a new hire, so I'm speaking about how the training process in the writing center as a whole works as being a new hire."

When attending this event the OUWC members are hoping to get other writing centers into a similar type of training for consultants and give others more information on the development and adaptation of writing centers.

PFAS water contamination found rampant in Michigan

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

The Great Lakes State cannot catch a break.

In a recent Pew Research Center poll, the majority of Americans feel the federal government has not been doing a sufficient job to protect water (69 percent) and air quality (64 percent), while 67 percent believe not enough has been done to prevent climate change.

For the 69 percent unsatisfied about water, Michigan is one state where fingers can be pointed. It is no secret that water is a fiery topic in Michigan. Between Flint's water woes and Nestle's contract to extract water from Michigan and the Nestle TV ad that brings the controversies together, water is on Michiganders' minds.

And since two issues were not enough, the man-made toxic chemical group "per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances" (PFAS) has been found in Michigan waters. Chemicals from the group have been found around industrial areas, military installations and firefighter training areas.

"[PFAS has] been used in a variety of household products beginning in the 1950s," said Oakland University student Red Douglas, who is studying PFAS for her master's thesis. "[PFAS] stopped being produced in the United States in the 2000s, but they are still being used overseas and can be imported in various products."

Appearing in items like non-stick cookware and waterproof textiles and leather clothing, PFAS water contamination has become known for the dangerous effects it can have when ingested, which has become more common in Michigan.

The C8 Health Project, established as a result of the court case Jack W. Leach, et al. v. E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, collected data on PFAS contami-

nation in the Ohio River Valley. The findings of the C8 study provide the groundwork for PFAS researchers today.

According to the study, PFAS contamination damage starts at the molecular level.

"Once [PFAS] is consumed it attaches to fatty organs," Douglas said. "[PFAS contamination] can be tied to thyroid disruption, testicular cancer, kidney cancer, hypertension, preeclampsia and high cholesterol. Once [PFAS] attaches itself to these predominantly fatty organs, it tends to stay there for some time — three to five years is the most recent I have read on the half-lives of [PFAS chemicals]."

Currently the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set a safe level of lifetime PFAS ingestion at 70 parts per trillion (ppt), though the EPA number is disputed by researchers. In Rockford, Mich., PFAS is being found at 70,000 ppt.

While some actions have been taken at the state level — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has directed state medical personnel to focus on the PFAS issue — some Michiganders may believe that it is not enough of a priority.

For students wishing to seek further action, OU political science professor Dr. Pat Piskulich recommended going to the grassroots.

"[Students should] monitor what is going on in their feed and figure out who is engaging the issue," Piskulich said. "Go to any gatherings you can find — and they are not hard to identify, but if you can get there, you should to see what people are talking about, what kind of plans they have and get involved in the environmental community that is trying to fight back against what are often corporate polluters."

PFAS contamination in Michigan is an ongoing story. Any information in this story is subject to change as new information on the issue is revealed.

Walton construction back for another summer

Lane closures creating problems for campus commuters and residents

TAYLOR CRUMLEY
Staff Reporter

The snow has melted and orange cones now lead the way in both directions down Walton Boulevard as the Michigan road construction season is now back in full swing.

The construction on Walton Boulevard on the north side of Oakland University's campus, between Squirrel Road and Adams Road, officially resumed on March 25, 2019.

Walton makes up a fraction of the nearly 100 miles of road that will be under construction in Oakland County in 2019, according to ClickOnDetroit.

There are four things the construction is aiming to accomplish before the summer. The first, and most significant of the tasks, is replacing the current culverts, which are the large pipes located 30 feet underground that carry water, with a more updated version called a box culvert.

It is expected that, in late May, two-way traffic will be moved completely to the north side of the road to begin reconstructing the south half of the road. The construction will require the inside left lanes to be closed both ways starting on June 3, 2019.

The second task will be resurfacing Walton from Squirrel Road to Adams Road, including the intersection at Walton and Squirrel, with an asphalt overlay. The curbs and gutters will then be replaced and the sidewalks and crosswalks will be made compliant with the Americans



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER
Construction on Walton Blvd resumed March 25, 2019. Walton will be resurfaced from Squirrel to Adams Road, according to the Road Commission for Oakland County.

with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

"Last year, three major culverts were replaced under the road," said Craig Bryson, senior manager of communications and public information for the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC). "In fact, the need to replace the failing culverts was the impetus for the project. However, because the pavement along the section was not great, we determined it made sense to also resurface the road while we were there."

The project has been in the works since last spring, but took a hiatus over the winter months. The construction is expected to be completed in the early summer.

"The project would have likely been completed last year, except for a labor dispute between the operating engineers union and the contractors, which resulted in many projects across the state, including this one, being shut down for about a month during prime construction weather," Bryson said.

The construction not only affects the nearly 80 percent commuter population at OU, but the students who live on campus as well.

"The construction on Walton is very frustrating to me because when I drive to Whole Foods to get my kombucha after work at rush hour it takes way longer than it normally would," said Peyton Lee, a freshman resident on campus.

College students' time is very valuable between school and work, according to Lee, who said she cannot wait until the construction is over with so driving down Walton is no longer a source of stress for her.

"I am skipping my morning coffee just to get to school on time because of all the construction," said Alexa Alban, a freshman commuter. "I have to wake up so early now to leave time for the traffic."

All businesses and residential driveways on Walton Boulevard will remain open at all times through the duration of the construction.

The project, which costs approximately \$6.9 million, is being funded mostly by RCOC and some funding is coming from the city of Auburn Hills, according to Rochester Media.

SUMMER 2019 PAYMENT DUE DATE

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Honors College volunteering requirements deemed both helpful and confusing

As a part of the Honors College requirements at Oakland University, students are expected to partake in 10 hours of service with a single organization each year. Freshmen and sophomores have some of this requirement covered in mandatory classes and imagination labs, but every year requires at least some outside service participation.

Service hours are a fantastic way to learn outside of the boundaries of the classroom and offer opportunities for students to gain knowledge in a hands-on way, according to Dr. Graeme Harper, dean of the Honors College.

“I think that what we recognize that [in addition to] the contributions people make through service, they also learn stuff, and some of that stuff is not that easy to learn in a classroom environment or a structured course syllabus,” Harper said. “Something where you have a job to do, you’re trying to assist with something, and you’ve got a lot of things you’ve got to deal with...that’s where the notion of service learning becomes quite substantial.”

Harper explained this learning is why the Honors College requires the service requirement in the first place, but the source of the 10 hour time-frame is a separate concept. He continued by laying out why each year of study requires so much

time with the same organization.

“You want to have a long term sense of it, you know, sustainable notion of what [service] is,” he said. “There’s a real...question around the idea of parachuting in, doing something, and let’s say you’re just doing it because it’s a requirement for the Honors College, right? You parachute in, you come back out, and you’ve done service. That kind of thing isn’t necessarily as positive in terms of an impact both on you and the organization as it could be.”

He further explained the Honors College wants to make sure students are able to make lasting connections and have enough time to reflect on what they’re doing for themselves and the organization they’re helping. With less time requirements or splitting time between different places, there are fewer opportunities to have a sustained impact.

This requirement is mirrored by a second rule of the service requirement, which is that a student cannot volunteer for the same organization two years in a row. Students of the Honors College, like Allison Broski, argue this requirement counteracts the idea these service opportunities are meant to create sustainable relationships.

“I feel that it’s fairly silly that we are required

to work with four different organizations over the course of our college career,” Broski said. “Yes, there is value in seeing different ways to volunteer...where we feel we make a deeper connection to what we’re working with. But, for example, say I want to work with an animal shelter...if I’m only there for 10 hours, how can I get to know the people there?”

Harper said he understands there is some confusion with the program and stresses the helpfulness of talking to the Honors College advising staff “not just about your academics, but also about the service program.”

Harper suggests using these advisers to answer the question, “What is your strategy for service?” He said they are willing to help in all aspects of the Honors College curriculum, including and especially with the intricacies of the service requirements.

But this does not completely alleviate the concerns of many Honors College students.

“Volunteering means giving back to the community,” Broski said. “But, by having these silly requirements set forth by the Honors College...that volunteering effort turns into a means of checking off a box on a to-do list.”

story by Ben Hume // design by Mina Fuqua // photo by Elyse Gregory



“It’s difficult to find opportunities that fit into the regimen that they set sometimes, and the guidelines. Also, I think when you’re an upperclassman, you have a lot less time, so now I’m doing classes, but I’m also working and also doing internships, which is full-time volunteering. And when they say that you can’t count things like that, it doesn’t really help.”

Megan Losey
Junior
Honors College student

1st year requirements

Work in HC 1000 counts as 4 hours of community service

- Complete an additional 6 hours (on one sustained project)
- Students must choose a non-profit organization to complete their service requirement.
- Any setting other than a non-profit organization will NOT be approved.
- If you did not take HC 1000, you must complete 10 hours of service from list.

2nd year requirements

The Mandatory Sophomore Imagination Lab satisfies 2 hours of Community Service

- Complete an additional 8 hours
- Students must choose a non-profit organization to complete their service requirement. Any setting other than a non-profit organization will NOT be approved.
- Yearly 10-hour segments must be completed with ONE service organization by the end of winter semester.
- Students must choose a different type of non-profit organization each year for satisfactory completion of requirement. See Aspire to fill out form.

3rd year requirements

Complete your 10 hours

- Students must choose a non-profit organization to complete their service requirement. Any setting other than a non-profit organization will NOT be approved.
- Yearly 10-hour segments must be completed with ONE service organization by the end of winter semester.
- Students must choose a different type of non-profit organization each year for satisfactory completion of requirement.

4th year requirements

If you have not already done so, complete 10 hours (working with one Non-profit organization)



COURTESY OF ERIN O'NEILL

Dawn Ramirez credits Oakland University to helping her become the person she is today.

Music alumna works to positively impact Flint

TREVOR TYLE
Life&Arts Editor

When Dawn Ramirez — then Dawn Hamblin — came to Oakland University in 1986, she had dreams of pursuing a career in music. Little did she know, 33 years later she'd be changing the world in a very different way.

Ramirez is the executive director of Little Lamb's Compassionate Ministry Center in Flint, an organization that provides clothing and other necessities to families in need, free of charge. Founded in 2005, Little Lamb's offers a plethora of household essentials for local families, including diapers, bottles, baby formula, books, toys, school supplies, school uniforms, maternity clothes and clothing for children ranging from infancy to high school age.

"We need to have a community without margins, because that's the only way families can flourish," Ramirez said. "Our desire is to see families with children are able to receive what they need."

Little Lamb's also heavily focuses on safety, particularly in regard to children. Ramirez is a certified child passenger safety technician and can perform checks to determine if families qualify for new car seats for their children. They also partner with organizations such as Cribs for Kids to supply items for their safe sleep initiative, ranging from bassinets to pajamas.

In addition to items supplied by Little Lamb's, their mobile unit — MERV (Mobile Everything Response Vehicle) — is used to partner with first responders or help local organizations with community events. It's also readily available for emergencies, such as

family fires or foster care situations. One of the organization's immediate goals is to expand its use of MERV to the community.

"We've always felt it's not necessary to recreate the wheel," Ramirez said. "Working with our community groups and like-minded folks has been a goal, and that's really coming together with this mobile unit."

Ramirez studied music at OU for several years before transferring to the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York. While her work at Little Lamb's may not have been the career path she expected in college, she knows the work she is doing is making a difference.

"The first three years of my son's life, I was a single mom," she said. "So I knew what it was like to have need, to have to ask for something. It's never easy for us as adults to ask for help, [... but it's] easier for us to do it when it comes to our children."

Much of her ability to deal with such a difficult situation came from the lessons she learned in and outside of the classrooms at OU.

"I found a lot of strength within myself brought out by the challenges, brought out by some great professors, brought out by the classes themselves," she said. "It helped me prepare for the next part of my journey."

Though she didn't graduate from OU, Ramirez considers her time here to be influential in where she's ended up.

"My degree, it has nothing to do with what I do today," she said. "But those years that I was there [at OU] formed a lot of who I am." To learn more about Little Lamb's mission and volunteer opportunities, visit their website.

OU Professor rewarded with A.J. Ladman Exemplary Service Award

Dr. Judith Venuti receives award from the American Association of Anatomists

KATIE VALLEY
Campus Editor

Working with the American Association of Anatomists (AAA) since the 1990s has been a joy for Dr. Judith Venuti, foundational medical studies professor, but she did not know the tasks she enjoys doing would earn her the association's A.J. Ladman Exemplary Service Award.

The award is considered the AAA's highest honor recognizing a member distinguished in the field of anatomical sciences and is given to those who provided "exceptional service to the association and/or mentorship in the discipline," according to the AAA's website.

As a fellow for the association, Venuti's work ranges from organizing annual meetings for eight years as the program co-chair, serving on the board of directors, chairing the committee for the Basmajian Award for young scientists and serving on various other committees.

Venuti had her first AAA meeting in 1985 and officially became a member in the 1990s. She said she had no idea she would receive the award. She described herself as someone who is gregarious, sociable, service-oriented and willing to take on responsibility.

"I just feel appreciated for my efforts," she said. "I'm honored. It's nice to be valued for the work you do...It was a privilege to do all of this. I would have done it regardless. I didn't do it for this, I did it because I wanted to be involved and to help guide and direct things."

Venuti said receiving the award enforces the connection between the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB) and the AAA.

"I've actually hired several people I've met through AAA," she said. "Because of that, we have many people at OUWB who are very engaged and active now in AAA, and it's bringing a lot of recognition about the OUWB School of Medicine to the national organization."

One of those hires was Dr. Stephanie Attardi, assistant professor of histology and anatomy. Attardi has been a general member of the AAA for 10 years, but Venuti encouraged her to apply for a job at OU four years ago.

"All of us anatomists are general members, but she's really encouraged us and given us the confidence to apply for volunteer positions and leadership positions,"



COURTESY OF DR. JUDITH VENTU

Venuti has spearheaded the connection between the AAA and OUWB faculty.

Attardi said.

Venuti helped to more than double size of the foundational medical studies department while serving as its chair for about six years, according to Dr. Douglas Gould, current department chair.

"She's really the woman that guided the department from its very early stages..." he said. "She was really focused on growth, and her ability to hire people into all of the basic science slots we have here really allowed her to put her stamp on the department and medical school."

Venuti said she appreciates the positive recognition. She has been slowly transitioning toward retirement for the last few years, but she plans to keep working with the AAA until that happens.

"I'll probably keep doing it until I fully retire," she said. "I don't know when that will be. That may be a long way down the road, even though I'm kind of on the verge. It's hard to let go when you've been this involved."

Attardi called Venuti's office a revolving door, saying she always serves as a go-to person for OUWB faculty members.

According to Attardi, Venuti receives outstanding student reviews, and despite teaching for so long, she still pushes to come up with innovative strategies. Attardi does not see Venuti fully retiring any time soon.

"I know she's the type of person that will come to visit us often, and we can probably call her every day if we need to talk about something," Attardi said. "I really don't think she'll ever fully retire."

Social norms can change with generational shifts

Students voice their experiences on the differences between them and their grandparents

ALYSSA OCHSS

Staff Reporter

The Silent Generation, the age where many of our grandparents were born, occurred over 70 years ago. They had different ideals, ways of living and social norms that, according to Pew Research, have shifted over the years.

Millennials and Generation Z members have stepped out of their comfort zones when it comes to women in the workplace, and greater expansions of ethnic and social diversity. Pew Research said millennials have become “detached” from bigger institutions such as politics, and education is more attainable, especially for women.

While education seems to have taken center stage with millennials, people in the generation are also older when they marry. According to Pew Research, about 57 percent of millennials have never married, or they are getting married between 27 and 30 compared to the age of 21 that their grandparents were getting married at.

Oakland University students have noticed the societal and generational changes as well.

Hannah Weaver, a social work major, said her grandparents were born between 1929 and 1944. She was closest to her grandmother on her mother’s side, who would often watch her when her parents were at work when she was younger and still plays a great role in her life.

According to Pew research, education is an important aspect of millennials’ lives, especially for women. Weaver strives for an education, something her grandparents may have not had the full opportunity to obtain.

“There’s more wiggle room, and I can choose where I can go,” Weaver said. “I am not expected to choose a certain career path. My grandpa worked in a salt factory, and his brothers did that too. It was just kind of expected he was going to do that.”

Weaver said her grandparents’ parents didn’t particularly encourage their children to earn an education. Her grandma on her mother’s side went to a community college for a year, but being one of 20 siblings didn’t make it easy for her to stay.

Carly Fleury, a psychology major, said she was very close with her grandparents on her mother’s side, and she could see herself in them.

Fleury’s grandparents grew up on a farm in Ger-

many. She said they were “traditional” in the sense of gender roles. Fleury said her own schools pushed education to prepare for what type of job she wanted to get. Her grandmother didn’t have the same chance she had.

“She grew up in a very ‘traditional’ time,” Fleury said via email. “The men were the lead and were the ones paying the bills, and the women cleaned and cooked and raised the children. To do anything else would have been crazy.”

Fleury said her grandma never had the chance to get an education, but she was happy with being a mother. However, Fleury also said she wonders if her grandma wanted to work instead.

Though Weaver could notice the generational difference between her and her grandparents, she said she could still see herself in her grandparents.

“We have very similar values, and they have definitely instilled in me values, so our values aren’t that different,” Weaver said. “There are no really big differences between me and my grandparents.” Though there are some notable differences between the generations, some values such as religion and family may still be etched in the minds of many of the young and old.

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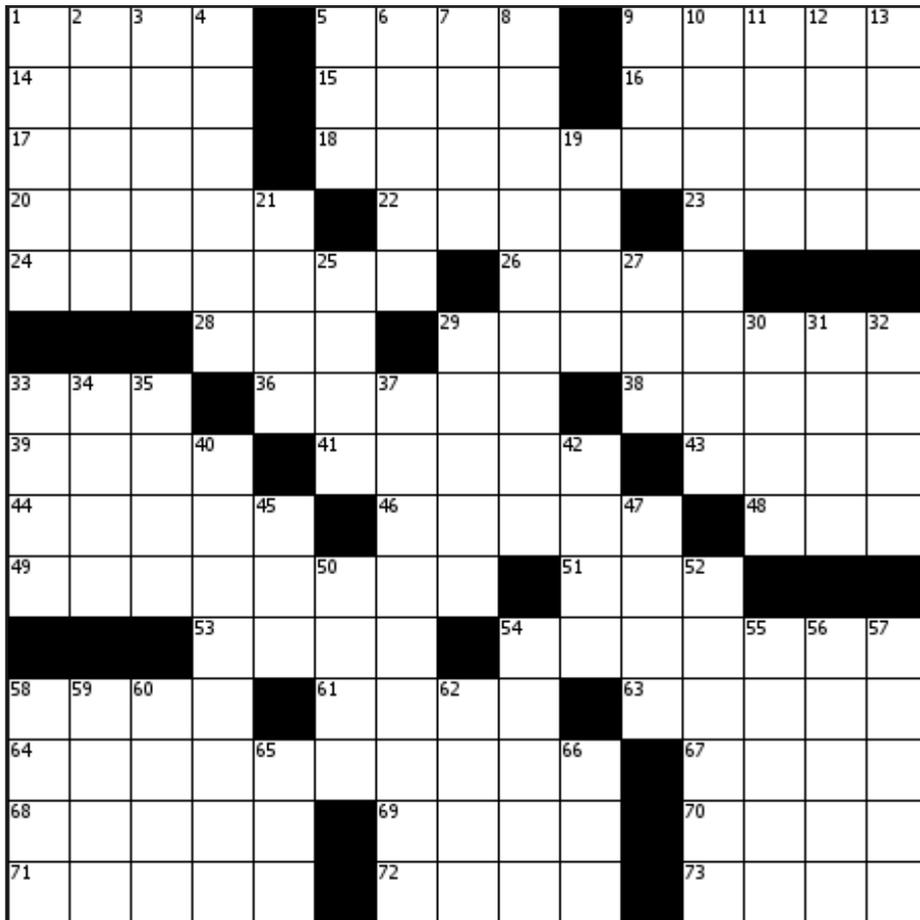
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Across

- 1. Impulsive
- 5. Top
- 9. Home
- 14. Vocalist _____ Fitzgerald
- 15. Wrinkle remover
- 16. Fanatical
- 17. Poor me!
- 18. Italian vegetable soup
- 20. Slogan
- 22. Merit
- 23. Juvenile
- 24. Pittsburgh player
- 26. Brisk wind
- 28. New (prefix)
- 29. Exiled one
- 33. Shelley work
- 36. Start
- 38. Dish out
- 39. "Star _____"
- 41. Certain protest (hyph.)
- 43. Sword fight
- 44. Make ecstatic
- 46. Room theme
- 48. Snaky letter
- 49. Calamity
- 51. Struggle
- 53. Get together

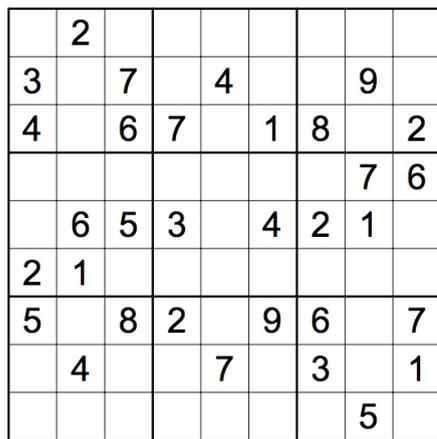
54. Not artificial

- 58. Yellow jacket
- 61. Medical picture (hyph.)
- 63. Fragrance
- 64. Satisfactory
- 67. Portent
- 68. _____ Island
- 69. Drain problem
- 70. Window section
- 71. Measuring device
- 72. Casino game
- 73. Discontinues

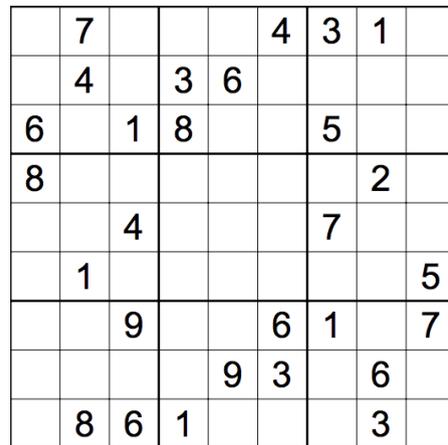
Down

- 1. Paper measures
- 2. Mete out
- 3. List of candidates
- 4. Hurry
- 5. Purpose
- 6. Town's announcer
- 7. Da Vinci's "_____ Lisa"
- 8. Peppy
- 9. Museum offering
- 10. Traded goods
- 11. Band instrument
- 12. Eat at eight
- 13. Eve's home
- 19. Finger sound
- 21. Bread topping
- 25. Ages and ages
- 27. Angeles preceder
- 29. Prevent
- 30. Faithful
- 31. December 24 and 31
- 32. Snaky fishes
- 33. Was in the red
- 34. Surrealism's Salvador _____
- 35. Important times
- 37. Distract
- 40. Cattle crisis
- 42. Certain star
- 45. Wind direction (abbr.)
- 47. Film legend _____ Hayworth
- 50. Printed words
- 52. Spain's continent
- 54. Hosiery material
- 55. Director _____ Polanski
- 56. Revise
- 57. Highway divisions
- 58. Toasty
- 59. Hurt
- 60. Glasgow native
- 62. Skilled
- 65. _____ diem
- 66. Self-importance

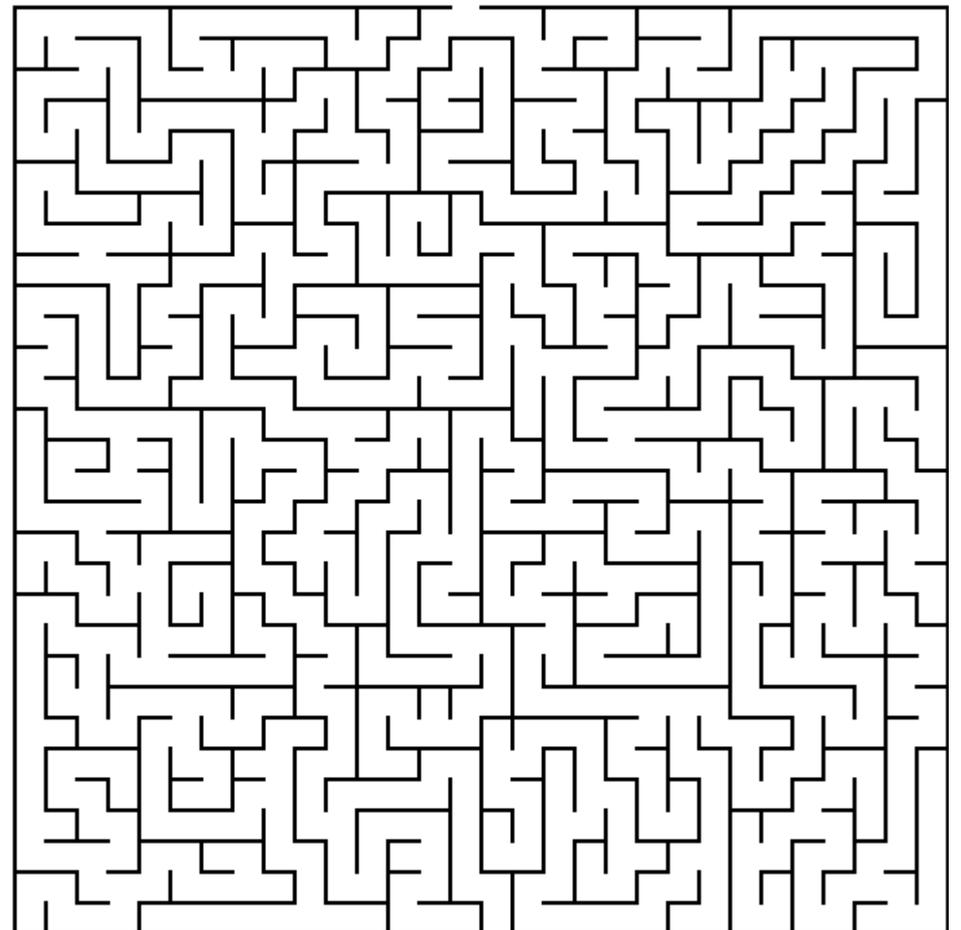
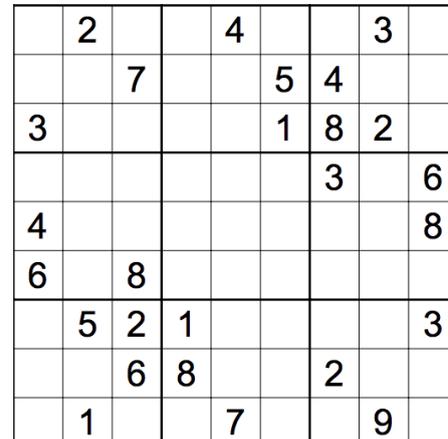
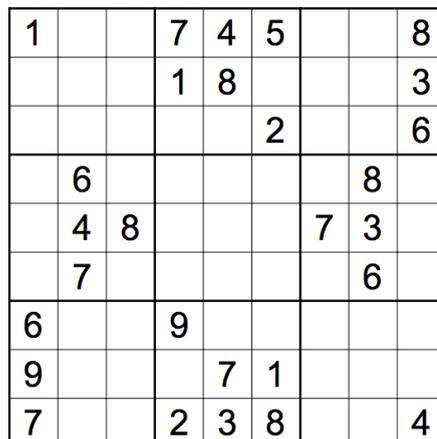
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



Trump claims witch hunt is over, many are not convinced



BEN HUME
Staff Reporter

With the end of the investigation into Russian collusion in the 2016 presidential election, President Donald Trump appealed to his base during a rally in Grand Rapids, Mich. on March 28, 2019 by basically trying to say, “I told you so.” The rally was full

of fun trash talk that could have been written by a third grader, all from a man who believes the “Russia hoax is finally dead.”

He is incorrect. His claims the “collusion delusion” is over are made in haste, in a pitiful attempt to keep his zealous fans full of hatred for the left. The Mueller report had yet to be fully released as of March 28. The only information Trump was vindicating himself with was the veritable book report written by his Attorney General William Barr.

The summary released by Barr was four whole pages long, as if summarizing three years of investigations could be written on the same number of pages as my political science essay I cobbled together in three hours last week.

And statistics back this up — according to an NPR/PBS/NewsHour/Marist poll, overall 75 percent of people polled thought the full report should be made public. This included 54 percent of Republicans polled. Only about a third of Americans believe, from what they’ve seen from the Mueller investigation, Trump is completely innocent.

It’s clear even his own supporters aren’t completely convinced Trump is out of the woods yet, so perhaps a rally to convince his supporters would be a good idea. A rally where Trump can provide some evidence and arguments that would convince people of his innocence.

Or he could spend an hour talking about how Adam Schiff is on an artificial respirator because he’s so heartbroken.

Representative Adam Schiff, Democratic overseer of the House Intelligence Committee, was the butt of many jabs by the president.

After joking the committee was on “artificial respirators right now,” he said, “they’re giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Little pencil-neck Adam Schiff. He’s got the smallest, thinnest neck I’ve ever seen.”

In addition to the childish bullying, Trump dished out some of the crassest language he’s ever used in his public speeches. He used “hell” and “damn,” but even more startling was when he said, “The Democrats need to decide whether they will continue to

defraud the public with ridiculous bullshit.”

He followed that with a classic “I’m president and they’re not,” then rounded it all off by praising his own intelligence.

All this being said, the president has never acted with the dignity his office deserves. His swearing, bullying and unprofessional attitude are a blight we are familiar with. But the idea he thinks he can force his way into innocence using these methods is horrifying, because there are enough people who would believe him. And that is not how a democracy can be allowed to work.

The Mueller investigation was not a power grab, nor was it a ploy by the Democratic party to frame “innocent Americans.” And the Trump presidency has definitely not “done more...in the first two years than any administration in history.”

In conclusion, Trump’s time in Michigan was a historically large waste of time, a dangerous power grab and a failure to truly show his innocence to the nation. We deserve the truth, and I believe there is still more to learn about the secret dealings of our 5-year-old president.

Defending the innocence of President Trump on the Mueller Investigation

TIMOTHY KANDOW
Contributor

On Wednesday, May 17, 2017, a Special Counsel investigation led by Robert Mueller examined alleged collusion of President Donald Trump and his campaign with Russian governmental operatives in interference or illegal assistance in the 2016 general election. Nearly two years later, on March 22, 2019, Mueller released his long-anticipated report to the Attorney General’s Office.

In a letter to the leaders of the House and Senate judiciary committees, Attorney General William Barr wrote: “The Special Counsel’s investigation did not find that the Trump campaign or anyone associated with it conspired or coordinated with

Russia in its efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election...” This was despite “multiple offers from Russian-affiliated individuals to assist the Trump campaign.”

While admitting the report does not convict Trump of a crime, it “also does not exonerate him.” However, there were no new incidents and the report was “not sufficient to establish that the president committed an obstruction-of-justice offense.”

Once this letter was released, Trump tweeted, “No Collusion, No Obstruction, Complete and Total EXONERATION. KEEP AMERICA GREAT!”

This investigation has deeply divided the voting electorate and lawmakers across the country. Interference in an election of any



level is illegal and should not be tolerated.

The report released, according to the Attorney General’s Office, has shown no sign of collusion or obstruction of justice. This thorough investiga-

tion has cost around \$34 million dollars according to Politifact.com. Though one may argue this investigation was worth the cost to achieve justice in our election system, which most would agree, it is now time to move on.

Barr is set to release the Mueller report to Congress and have it made public by mid-April, perhaps sooner. If in fact there appears to be evidence of Trump having evidence beyond reasonable doubt to have colluded with the Russian governments in the 2016 elections, then let justice do its course. As of now, however, Mueller hasn’t recommended any new indictments against the president or anyone else which even Barr could not change.

A fundamental principle was

birthed at the founding of this nation in amendments five, six, and 14 of the Constitution: the presumption of innocence. An individual is presumed to be innocent, free of any charge levied against him until proven with evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that he committed the crime accused of. As this investigation moves forward, it is of the utmost importance this concept remains as the ultimate principle.

Trump and his campaign are completely innocent until he is shown by evidence beyond a reasonable doubt he colluded with the Russian government, and is therefore guilty. Until then, let us examine what we know and move with caution and impartiality.

Fencing becomes more inclusive

Team makes club sport accessible to those with disabilities

JONATHAN SAVICH

Staff Reporter

Although not particularly commonly known on campus, Oakland University has a fencing club team that caters to everyone, including a new endeavor accessible to wheelchair users.

A fencer who wishes to remain anonymous joined the fencing team originally as an able-bodied fencer. She later developed a connective tissue disorder, but that hasn't stopped her from following her passion.

"It helped me get part of my life back that I had lost before," she said.

In the competitions she has competed in, she earned two silver medals and one gold against a competitor who had competed at the world level in the past. At Oakland, she has taken the lead for the wheelchair fencing program, which she said was more of a beta year for the program. For the coming fall, she hopes to launch the official wheelchair fencing team.

The fencing team does not have all the proper equipment needed for the wheelchair fencing, but they are working on raising funds for it and are in the process of building the necessary equipment.

Current President Eric Seidel, who is a junior studying bioengineering has been a member of the fencing club since his freshman year. As president, Seidel must enter negotiations with other schools and the Midwestern Fencing Conference to organize a schedule. He also helps organize fundraising events in order to help pay for all the club's operations. Seidel's favorite aspects of fencing are the athletic ability called fourth and

the technique in the footwork to have a strong stable base while moving quickly up and down the strip.

The team competes throughout the district in the fall and winter semester, as the Midwestern Fencing season corresponds with the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) season. Seidel said he'd hope one day the club could ascend to the NCAA level in the coming years.

The club practices at least twice a week, but they also have a partnership with Renaissance Fencing in Troy where they're able to practice during the open fencing times.

At the events, the teams compete in squads of three against each other in a group event. When competing, the players compete on an individual level and at the team level accruing power rankings that'll determine their ranks at the end of the season for the conference championships.

The conference championships are traditionally held at Ohio State University, but throughout the season they mainly compete at Michigan State University, University of Detroit Mercy and Wayne State University.

The club fencing team has a \$50 due fee, which is relatively low compared to other club sports. As a member, you are provided with all of the needed fencing gear, time with the certified coaches, the time at the Renaissance Fencing Club, and all the competitive meets.

Fencing is a chivalrous game, anyone who challenges to start fencing will be faced with the many facets of the game. Not only is there strategy and technique but there is an athletic element that demands speed, agility and endurance to master the art.

Other club sports offered

Baseball	Softball
Cheer	Swim
Football	Tennis
Equestrian	Weightlifting
Judo	Vitality Dance
Men's Rugby	Water Polo
Women's Rugby	Men's Lacrosse
Running Club	Women's Lacrosse

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Baseball

Beau Keathley threw six scoreless innings against the Northern Kentucky University Norse in the second game of a double header to help Oakland baseball secure their second series victory of the season.

After defeating the Norse the day before and dropping the first game of the double header earlier in the same day, the Golden Grizzlies shut out Northern Kentucky, 4-0, and won the series.

Keathley struck out eight batters while only allowing three hits, and the offense took care of business as well, scoring in four separate innings. Four different Golden Grizzlies drove in a run, and five different position players recorded at least one hit.

This win secured Oakland their second straight series win and their second Horizon League series win. With their second straight 2-1 series win, the Golden Grizzlies improved their Horizon League record to 4-5 on the season, good for fourth in the league, tied with Northern Kentucky.

After a single game against Eastern Michigan University on April 5, the baseball team will face off against the No. 3 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in a three game series this weekend.

Women's Golf

The women's golf team competed in the Colonel Classic this past weekend in Richmond, Ky. The ladies took third place in the tournament, finishing only behind Eastern Michigan University and Northern Illinois University. The team finished with a final score of 904 strokes, which put them at +40 total for the event.

The event was three rounds long, and Alexis Jones recorded an event-low score of 68 in

the first round. Jones also set a school record for a three round score with her total score of 219 at the event, which was +3 total. She broke the previous record that was set on March 12 by one stroke. This was the second to last tournament of the year for the Golden Grizzlies, who compete in their final regular season tournament this weekend in Bowling Green, Ohio at Bowling Green University. After that, the team takes a two week long break before the Horizon League Tournament which starts on Sunday, April 21.

Tennis

The home opener for the tennis team ended in a 7-0 sweep of the Green Bay Phoenix. Six of seven Oakland tennis players defeated their singles opponent in straight sets, with only Ava Thielman needing three sets to defeat her opponent.

The Green Bay doubles teams only managed to get two points total against the Oakland doubles teams, and Thielman and Sofia Borcuti defeated their opponents 6-0. The next day on Sunday, March 31, the Golden Grizzlies faced off against another Horizon League opponent, the Milwaukee Panthers. Much like against the Phoenix, Oakland was able to take care of business and defeat the Horizon League foe. This improved the team's record to 3-1 in the Horizon League.

The tennis team next faces off against the Cleveland State University Vikings in Cleveland, looking to win their third event in a row and improve to 4-1 in the Horizon League standings.

**Compiled by Michael Pearce,
Sports Editor**

SPORTS

Golden Grizzly now, physical therapist later

Chanel Gardner reflects on time as a track and field sprinter, future as a physical therapist

AUJENE HIRSCH
Editor-in-Chief

Imagine it's junior year of high school, you're a sprinter for the track and field team and you sprain your hamstring during a meet. That's exactly what happened to women's track and field sprinter Chanel Gardner.

Gardner started running as a freshman in high school. She first started with the shorter distance sprints like the 100m and 200m.

Gardner decided to come to Oakland University due to her track and field scholarship and the university's physical therapy program. She has wanted to be a physical therapist since she was junior in high school.

During a meet, Gardner was running the 4x200m relay when she sprained her hamstring. She had to go to physical therapy, and felt she was at her strongest post physical therapy.

"...I had to recover for a minute

and then my senior year I was the best I've ever been in my life," Gardner said. "I was stronger, I was faster, I was competing like I've never competed in my life. I feel like if that can happen to me and I can get stronger, then I would love to do that for someone else.

"Since coming to Oakland, Gardner has began running longer distances such as the 400m, 600m and 800m. She said it's hard to live up to people's expectations of her, but it's harder to live up to the expectations she has of herself.

Where most people might just expect Gardner to be faster than someone else, she expects herself to hit a certain time during every meet or have perfect form.

"I expect to be on numerous amounts of social media pages after my races, or I expect to go to regionals or nationals this year and next year," Gardner said. "I expect to keep my conference

champion title every single year I run the 400m. So, yeah, I'm like, real nitpicky."

Being a student-athlete has not stopped Gardner from being involved on campus and in the community. Gardner joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in the fall of 2017, an accomplishment for which she is most proud.

"If your proudest accomplishment comes from athletics, you're probably not doing something right," she said. "I definitely would say my proudest accomplishment would definitely be joining Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. definitely. And also my next accomplishment would be graduating soon. Since I will be like the second in my family to graduate."

Between being a student-athlete, Greek and finding time to do school work, Gardner says it can be a bit stressful.

"It's overwhelming sometimes," she said.

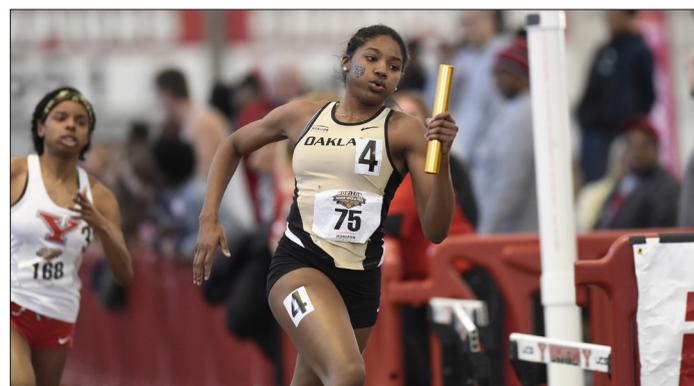


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOLDENGRIZZLIES.COM

Chanel Gardner is the reigning Horizon League 400m champion.

"...It's real hard, but you've got to know time management, organization and then prioritize."

According to Gardner, an athlete should never limit themselves.

"Never think that you have boundaries, or that you're not capable of something that you thought would never happen in a million years," she said. "It defi-

nitely could happen, so never put yourself in a box."

After college, Gardner plans on focusing on her career in physical therapy, but running unattached in a few meets.

The next home track meets to take place will on April 6 against Horizon League rival, University Detroit-Mercy and April 12 for the Golden Grizzly Invite.

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Why dropping out may be the best option to end the year

PATRICK SULLIVAN

Web Editor

It's the end of the year, and you know what that means: it is the worst time of the year to be a student. Whether you're at the end of your college road or just starting, there's no denying it: this semester has sucked. The best way to deal with it isn't to power through or to steel yourself for the remaining year.

The best way to deal with it is to drop out. Here's why:

You can become your own boss

I was recently told about an exciting opportunity I figured I would share with you all as a little end of the year treat. Three days ago on my way home, a stranger in line with me at Subway started talking to me about a new business opportunity I could get in on.

Essentially, I could be my own boss, set my own hours and the best part is, I could work entirely from home if I wanted to. Being the smart entrepreneur I am, I jumped at the opportunity for the low price of \$700 and the keys to my car.

Now I'm passing this tip onto you, the wise reader. All we need to succeed is two or three more people to sign on, and then if they get two or three more people each we'd really start to be in business. If anyone is

interested, please call me as soon as possible; I may have invested this month's rent money on this venture and need to make that money back ASAP.

You get more time to sleep while unemployed

This one is self-explanatory, and the benefits outweigh the unemployment by a mile. Not only would you be able to sleep in without having a job, but you would also be able to take naps in the middle of the day or basically whenever you want. Win-win, no downsides.

You get to skip not only exams, but everything

Don't want to do those final exams? Got a final presentation that you are just dreading? Group project in shambles? There's only one solution.

Drop out. Do it. You won't. You're scared.

Without classes or homework you can get more time to sleep

Did I already mention sleep? Because without the stress of college you would be able to get a better night's sleep every night.

Old stress replaced by new stress

Speaking of stress, aren't you tired of the stress that classes bring you? Between homework and papers, I

THE REAL SOLUTIONS TO ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS



PRAKHYA CHILUKURI | GRAPHIC ASSISTANT
Take the easy route and drop out to avoid the stress of finals.

can almost see the ulcers forming in different students around campus. These stressors have been weighing on students not just through college but for almost their entire lives as students.

The solution? Replace these stressors with new ones. Instead of worrying about classes, worry about how you are going to get a job. Instead of worrying about homework, worry about whether you're wasting your life. Problem solved!

Did I already say sleep because oh my god
I am SO tired ALL the time.

\$25 on us

Hurry, offer ends April 5, 2019.

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Step 2: Open a new Totally Gold Checking account with a **FREE Visa Debit Card.**

Step 3: Get **\$25** in your account!

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