

A VISIT FROM STABENOW

Gun control, health care, and DACA were
hot issues at our senator's forum

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OAKLAND'S BUDGET

Board of Trustees reviews budget
with student congress

PAGE 5

GUN CONTROL

Students across the country take a
stand for stronger gun laws

PAGES 10 & 11

THE OSCAR GOES TO...

This year's ceremony promotes
diversity & inclusion

PAGE 16



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

SNOW... AGAIN // After a week of comfortable, warm weather, Michigan decided to make us all sad again with another snow storm. Students everywhere are fervently hoping that spring comes soon.
Photo // Patrick Sullivan

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What's your "favorite" part of the OC construction?

- A** The lovely construction noises
- B** Most entrances being closed
- C** The building being ugly AF
- D** Walking a mile to pee

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What did you do for "spring" break this year?

- A) I partied every single night
13 votes | 8%
- B) I watched 8 shows on Netflix
14 votes | 25%
- C) I neglected all of my homework
25 votes | 44%
- D) I went to bed early every night
10 votes | 18%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

March 10, 1967

The Oakland Observer distributed a sex survey to students, which led to the newspaper's eventual defunding

March 5, 1997

The fraternity Chi Upsilon was suspended from activities. The fraternity is no longer active on campus

March 5, 2003

The Oakland Post forced open the search for the university president using the Open Meetings Act



15

BILLY GRAHAM

A tribute to the pastor who touched the lives of millions of people
Photo // New York Times



18

TOURNAMENT TIME

Men's basketball took a heartbreaking loss in the semifinals
Photo// Brendan Triola



20

GHOULDEN GRIZZLY

Find out what the Oakland Center's construction is REALLY about
Photo// Prakhya Chilukuri

BY THE NUMBERS THE OSCARS

8.5

The pounds the iconic Oscar statuette weighs

20

Fox Searchlight racked up the most nominations of any studio

51

Oscars won by John Williams, who was nominated for "The Last Jedi" this year

\$900

The estimated worth of the golden Oscar statuettes

Campus

Senator Debbie Stabenow talks firearms, DACA, Mich. roads

John Bozick
Web Editor

In the hours after a deadly shooting rocked Central Michigan University, United States Senator Debbie Stabenow held a surprise town hall event to talk about issues such as gun control, DACA and healthcare with students at Oakland University.

"I grew up in a little town called Claire," Stabenow said. "We were about 13 minutes from our closest university which was Central Michigan University, and we just had another gun violence this morning at Central, and it just reaffirms for me the work we have to do together to make sure that we all can be safe."

The Senator talked of her family's love for hunting and fishing and how her family practiced safe gun ownership during the assault weapons ban from 1994 to 2004, saying how this ban did not affect her family's ability to practice their Second Amendment right and how they didn't miss a single day of hunting. She blamed Congress's inability to extend the ban as the reason mass shootings have tripled.

After talking shortly about the importance of net neutrality, the need for high speed internet, the needs to protect the Great Lakes and the importance of maintaining DACA, it was time for the senator to take questions from the audience.

The first question asked pertained to the future of the public service loans for-

giveness program.

"The public loan forgiveness program is one of the things we hope to take this money that we received and put it in to, we think it can be one of the quickest ways to help students because the public loans forgiveness program for going into public service, law enforcement, social work, healthcare and so on," Stabenow said. "The problem with this is that it's not being fulfilled as it should be it needs to be continued and we're hoping that we can strengthen it and continue it with the money that we were just able to get as part of the budget."

The senator was then asked about what concrete steps Stabenow would take to reform the U.S.'s gun laws. The senator said she was advocating for reform, but in order for there to be change they would need people who support gun reform to be in the majority.

"If we don't have bipartisan support we can achieve what we want, but first of all we need universal background checks, and that means not only where somebody would get a gun, but there are issues right now related to domestic violence, and a law will need to be strengthened in regards to universal background checks," Stabenow said.

The senator stressed the need for an assault weapons ban, bringing up the success the former ban from 1994-2004 had. She also stressed the need to ban bump stocks, and to reform red flag laws and the terrorist watch list so people on this list are unable to purchase weapons.



Sergio Montanez / The Oakland Post

The U.S. Senator visited Oakland University for a surprise town hall meeting with students.

Stabenow also talked of arming teachers the right way.

"I'm not talking about arming teachers with guns, that doesn't make sense to me," she said. "I'm talking about arming them with computers and textbooks and pencils, and I'd love to arm them with support staff, school counselors and school nurses, that would be arming teachers the right way."

Another question asked pertained to Stabenow's support of Bernie Sanders' "Medicare For All" Bill that was introduced last September, and why she did not support it then.

"My passion and what got me into politics in the first place was healthcare, and so I care deeply and have been involved deeply in things involving healthcare and I believe in universal healthcare," Stabenow said.

She believed Sanders' Bill was not fleshed out enough and did not dig deep enough into handling the healthcare for people who already have private insurance. Stabenow believed more work was needed in order to ensure a future healthcare Bill would handle this issue.

After the event, Stabenow was asked by The Post about campaign finance reform and whether she would support legislation to overturn Citizens United.

"I believe Citizens United is wrong and has been corrupting our political system and to start I've been a co-sponsor of the disclose act," she said. "I would gladly repeal Citizens United."

Other issues asked by the audience ranged from student loans, Michigan roads and climate change. A full recording of Senator Stabenow's event can be found on our website.



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Editor's note

It has been brought to our attention that some of the information presented in last week's "The Rise of Tuition" is inaccurate. This was the information available on Oakland University's website, but we apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

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Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Greg Jordan explains the need for community advocacy to increase engagement around Oakland.

Board of Advocacy focuses on an increase in community engagement

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

BOARD, also known as the Board of Advocacy and Resource Development, started at Oakland University to bring programs and connectivity to the local community.

The group was created in November 2017, and only two of the 14 current members are from Oakland. BOARD comes out of the Department of Health Sciences and was created by Health Sciences Dean Kevin Ball. According to the board's bylaws, no one can join BOARD if they are full time faculty in the Department of Health Science, with the exception of Ball since he is the executive. The reasoning is a conflict of interest and the need for others' opinions.

"Typically most schools have a BOARD and it helps us connect to our community partners," Ball said.

The goal of BOARD is to advocate for the community. One of the many ways is through community engagement, especially in regard to health and well-being. It is a way for university professionals to become leaders and give back to the community.

BOARD itself also acts as an advisory board for the Department of Health Sciences since the whole department is going through several transformations.

"It's new, and it is evolving as we speak... It fills a void, it's a mix of community, alumni and staff, cutting edge and innovative," said Greg Jordan, director of Recreation and Well-Being.

Reaching out via philanthropic efforts helps the community and promotes community engagement, which is what BOARD is all about. BOARD has the ability to directly bring about change in the commu-

nity by providing funding and scholarships. Monetary donations sometimes help initiatives move faster and smoother to meet the desired end goal.

Members are from all over, and this is because "friend raising often leads to fundraising," according to Ball. It is all about networking and connectivity between people and organizations. The group works together to contribute to one goal.

The next project coming up is the Public and Environmental Wellness Symposium entitled Healthology.

"It will be an event where faculty and students will have the opportunity to showcase their work," Ball said.

The work showcased is research done by various students and professors in this field of study.

Those who don't live on campus run the risk of becoming isolated and unaware of the ideas and innovations that are happening. This event is designed to draw the community to campus to learn about health. There will be four national speakers including TED talk speaker President and Founder of Health Begins, Rishi Manchanda, M.D., MPH.

Several members are significantly involved with the symposium as it is their field of study or interest.

For instance, the Healthology Symposium is a place where minds come together with scientific research to showcase it to the local community and various partners. The Recreation and Wellness center is a natural partner for BOARD and the Department of Health Sciences. Both parts of the university create opportunities for each sector to grow.

"Emphasis on health and well-being is coming to the forefront and is gradually becoming a quality of life issue," Jordan said.

Students and faculty "Fight the Night" for the homeless

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

In lot P-2, a group huddled together in the dark as they built shelter out of donated cardboard boxes. Oakland University students, staff and faculty joined together for Fight the Night on Saturday, March 3 to raise awareness of homelessness in Pontiac.

This event kickstarted fundraising efforts through the support of the Wellness, Health Promotion and Injury Prevention Society, with faculty members such as Professor Charlie Rinehart, who started the event in 2015 with his WHP 380 class.

The event was partly created to raise money for the Baldwin Center, a non-profit organization that runs multiple programs for the homeless such as a restaurant-style soup kitchen, after-school education programs and a clothing closet. The Baldwin Center relies mostly on volunteers and donations of money, food and clothes to continue to serve the community.

"This is the first year that WHP Society has taken over this event, thanks to the sponsoring of the OU Greek Council," said Carly Gluntz, vice president of the WHP Society. "We were approached by Charlie Rinehart, who previously ran this event with his class as a service project. But since there was a need to make time for other service projects and the fact that they couldn't do it every year, he asked us if we would be willing to host it instead."

OU students, staff and faculty began arriving around 7 p.m. to lay down tarps and break down cardboard box-

es. Working together to build a sufficient shelter, several students volunteered to sleep through the night in their makeshift structures.

"This was the perfect weather for the event," said Dr. Kate Rougeau, academic adviser for WHP Society and assistant professor of wellness and health promotion. "Rain, shine or snow, sometimes shelters are full or there's no home for [the homeless] to go to. The least we can do is spend one night in the cold and listen to the speakers and what they have to say."

Other speakers included Leah McCall from Alliance for Housing of Oakland County, who presented on the homelessness in Oakland County, Dr. Scott Crabill, a representative for the Baldwin Center board of directors and Dr. Jason Wasserman, an associate professor of biomedical science from OU, who talked about homelessness and health.

After the presentations finished, Rising Stars Academy provided boxed lunches for those attending. From 11:30 p.m. until 5:30 a.m., there was a quiet time in which all electronics were silenced to focus on reflecting on the discomfort and anxiety felt by the homeless on a daily basis.

Fight the Night is the first of several fundraising projects that will lead up to the main fundraising gala for the Baldwin Center in May.

"Pontiac is one of the poorest cities in the area," Rougeau said. "Its neighboring cities, Rochester and Auburn Hills, are some of the richest. It is our responsibility to aid those depending on us to do something to help."



Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Members of the OU community gather to listen to speakers at the third Fight the Night.

Where does Oakland's money go? A breakdown of the university's budget

How students are factored in the budget and why tuition increases every year

AuJenee Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

Every year, Oakland University students can be heard complaining about tuition increases, budget decreases and why the school doesn't do more to help students lower their tuition. But has anyone ever taken a second to ask why? To fully understand where the university's money goes, we first have to look at how much money Oakland receives a year.

On average, Oakland has a total budget of about \$300 million, but the budget for the 2017-18 academic year is \$271,532,892. According to Oakland's general fund budget, the budget is decided by the Budget and Financial Planning Office with input from various departments on campus including the Senate Planning Committee, the Senate Budget Review Committee and student leadership from Oakland University Student Congress.

"Most budgets carry forward from year to year with incremental increases for certain contractual commitments and inflation," said John W. Beaghan, the vice president for finance and administration and the treasurer to the Board of Trust-

ees. "Some budget line items like health care, debt, financial aid, facility service agreements and software licensing are zero-based budgeted annually."

The funding for the school's budget comes from state-based appropriation, tuition and other means such as fundraising. The main reason student's tuition increases every year is because the state gives the university less money on a percentage basis every year. In 1972, Michigan provided 71 percent of Oakland's total funding and tuition provided 26 percent, but in 2017 the state appropriation base was 17 percent while tuition made up 82 percent of the school's total funding.

To factor students into the budget, Beaghan meets with the Board of Trustees student liaisons and the Oakland University Student Congress President Lena Mishack and OUSC Vice President Jousef Shoukani, before the June BOT meeting. This meeting usually determines budget usage and any tuition raises for the next academic year.

"The meeting occurred so that if there was a big red flag we could voice our concerns," Mishack said. "But after he [Beaghan] went through the budget presentation with us, overall we kind of saw that

the budget they proposed was justified. They kind of explained to us why they have to do a slight increase in tuition, though of course, at all costs we want to avoid that."

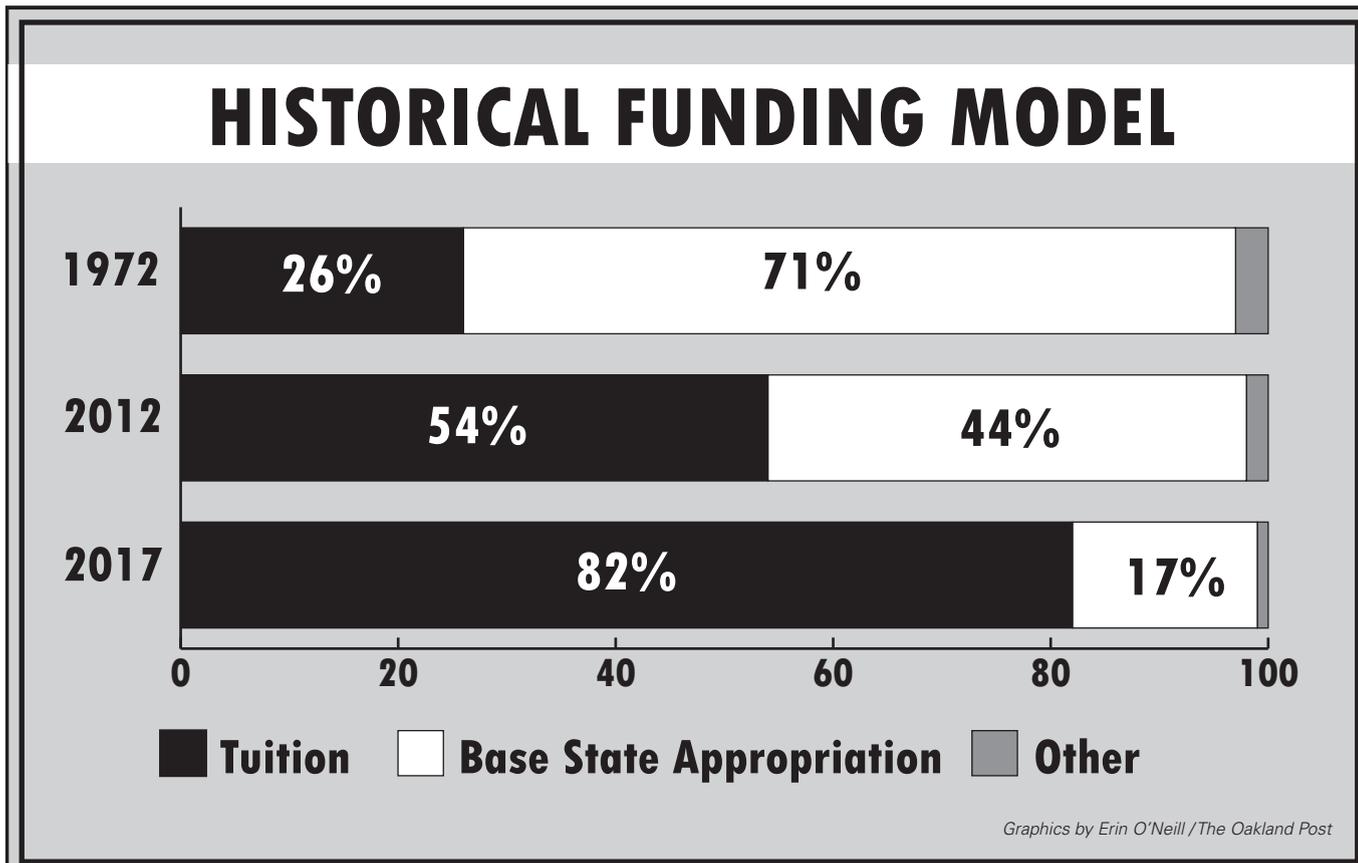
Student representatives made sure more money would be going toward program improvements. Some of the programs include getting additional academic advisers and more program coordinators for Tutoring, CORE, Veterans Affairs, Community Service and Retention. All of this "will improve retention and graduation rates" according to the general fund documents.

"They would ask us if everything seems reasonable or that students would generally put in more money towards academic advisers," Mishack said. "We agreed because that's a big issue with students, staying on track for graduation and having somebody to go to for help."

In addition, the budget and financial planning office wants to continue focusing on student financial aid funding including the student full aid guarantee, economic hardship fund and need-based and competitive-based scholarships.

More information on Oakland's budget can be found at www.oakland.edu/transparency.

Appropriation per FYES*	
WSU	\$8736
UM Ann Arbor	\$7044
NMU	\$5998
MSU	\$5979
WMU	\$5288
CMU	\$3944
SVSU	\$3409
GVSU	\$3040
OU	\$2868
15 SCHOOL AVERAGE:	
\$5039	
FYES: Fiscal Year Equated Students	



Student-built machines chosen for display wall

Dean Vaglia
Distributor

In the Engineering Center, technology is on display in almost every facet, from the exposed piping to the metal and concrete aesthetics. But one wall stands apart from the rest. The display wall features a selection of projects made up mostly of EGR2800, commonly called Sophomore Design, students' final projects and are the result of Oakland University's unique engineering program.

Out of the 20-30 projects made per semester, only a select few are hand-picked by Associate Professor Doctor Osamah Rawashdeh and his teaching assistants.

The idea started during the designing stage of the Engineering Center in 2011. After a pro-

ject is picked out and the team of students donates the project to the school, the project is then upgraded.

"It gives [the sophomores] a great hands-on experience to actually apply what they learned from different engineering disciplines before they break up into their majors," Rawashdeh said. "Student projects are not usually designed to work more than enough time to get a signature from a TA, so we actually put a lot of effort in after students are done to get [the projects] to a state where they can run continuously."

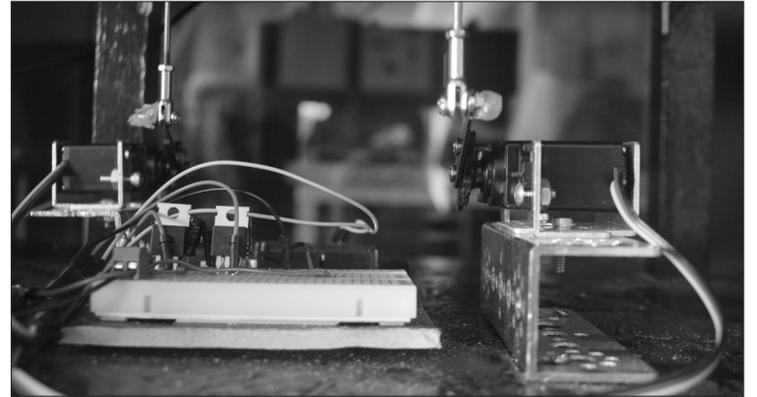
To get the selected machines to work reliably while on display, they are handed off to teaching assistants like Yazen Alali. He said he enjoys working on them, and they help paint a good picture of the program

and engineering as a whole.

"Most of the good looking projects go to the display, but sometimes a 2800 project doesn't have a repeated functionality or the size of it can't fit inside the display box, so that doesn't go to the display," Alali said.

One of the projects Alali and other TAs have worked on is the Six DOF Robot Arm, which was made by a team of six, including Brandon Elias.

"It was a lot of fun designing and 3D printing the arm's components, and seeing it come to life was a really wholesome feeling for all of us," Elias said. "The most challenging part was the electrical portion. We had one electrical engineering major on our team, but our team was determined to figure things out together. I learned a lot about how



Samuel Summers // The Oakland Post

Sophomore design students gain experience by creating self-made machines.

to wire the system together and how the arduino board worked throughout this project. It was very challenging, but it led us to gain lots of experience on other perspectives of engineering."

Jeanne Beau and her holographic display stand out from most of the machines on display as it was not made in the EGR2800 class.

"At the time, [Rawashdeh] was interested in having a holographic display which was similar to one he has seen at an automotive showcase," Beau said. "He not only wanted to present

the 2800 projects, but anyone that wanted to help with the movement to promote OU SECS. So not only did I find this project cool, but I too wanted to join contribute."

Along with showing off the work students have done in the engineering program, the display wall also helps as a visual aid to the many K-12 students who visit the school.

"These things are very popular," Rawashdeh said. "all the time I see kids down there and waving their hands while waiting for the bus or while coming in."



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OUPD educates faculty on how to handle school shooting scenarios

To ensure safety on campus, OUPD and the CETL team up

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

With the recent school shootings occurring across the country, Oakland University is taking steps to ensure faculty are ready should this ever occur on campus.

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) is partnering with the Oakland University Police Department to present the Active Shooter on Campus Workshop to faculty on Wednesday, March 7 in Elliott Hall.

The class, which is already full for this session, is the fourth in a series of workshops that focuses on addressing behavioral concerns and active shooter scenarios.

"Research shows that the more prepared you are, the better your chances are for survival," said CETL Director Judith Ableser.

Attendees will gather for a presentation from OUPD Chief Mark Gordon, followed by a short video on how to handle such a situation and a group discussion.

"The video that used to be shown was originally made after the Virginia Tech shooting and was shown all across the nation," Ableser said. "The problem was that this was not specific to the context of OU's campus. Our university now has a building surrounded by glass, and the fact that our locks were on the outside, not the inside, conflicted with the video's instructions, so we had to look on how to address that. They just made a new video that will be shown for the first time at the session that was made with OU specifically in mind."

The workshop offers three main options in an active shooter scenario—get out, hide out or take out.

"Get out" encourages staff and students to flee to a spot of refuge away from the present danger. "Hide out" consists of barricading the doors and keeping quiet so that the shooter doesn't see or hear anyone. "Take out" is the last resort and should be taken against a shooter if they locate where people are hiding. OUPD en-

courages students and staff to fight in order to fluster the shooter, even if it's just throwing something like books at them.

"Often brand-new faculty tend to think that they're going to show up and just teach their content but they realize quickly that they will have other problems as well," Abseler said. "Students will start acting inappropriately in classrooms or end up needing major emotional support. Many faculty have a Ph.D. in their discipline they teach, but they may lack the skills to deal with these kind of behavioral problems. Studies also show that students cannot perform well in school if they don't feel physically or emotionally safe."

“Research shows that the more prepared you are, the better your chances are for survival.”

Judith Ableser
Director for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

OUPD has partnered with other surrounding city police departments in order to train for this type of attack. Their main priority is to enter the premise, track down the shooter and capture him or her. They are then supposed to offer aid to victims and the paramedics tending to the wounded.

"Our number one way of communicating with the campus is through the text alerts that go straight to cell phones," Gordon said. "With an active shooter situation, we'd send out a series of emails as well as use the blue lights' loud speakers to warn those on campus. Other universities only have 35 percent participation with text warnings. We're fortunate to have 60 percent participation. But it's important for all students and faculty to be a part of this system in case of a serious threat."

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For questions, please contact the Division of Student Affairs & Diversity
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Just how *diverse* is student employment?

Emily Morris
Staff Reporter

Some people are channeling their racial discomfort into avoidance, rather than channeling it into increased focus on inclusion across racial lines.

According to a survey done by Glassdoor, 57 percent of American employees would prefer a greater amount of racial diversity in their workplace. That's nearly 72 million people looking for a change.

A SHRM survey found that 41 percent of managers claim to be "just too busy to integrate races in employment."

Being "too busy" is considered an excuse appropriate to avoid an "unnecessary" or uncomfortable subject. America has a mix of cultures, especially within college settings, so any aversion to racial diversity will have trouble being brushed under a rug for too long.

Gaby Saenz, a former student employee, initially commended Oakland's orientation for "being socially aware of implementing what is appropriate regarding race." However, Saenz also believes instigating conversations about race could add a greater level of understanding throughout the student employment system.

In fact, she reported her reason for leaving after two and a half years was connected to a racism issue. Despite her reservations about racial inclusion within her student employment, she still appreciates her experience within Oakland and is currently pursuing a positive change.

"Looking back at my time in Housing, there were things wrong that I see now that definitely could've been fixed if we just talked more about diversity, making everyone on the same page," Saenz said.

Although college is known for promoting conversations about diversity, Oakland still requires constant change to strive for the best learning environment possible.

Just last year, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission received 85,000 complaints of discrimination, and college demographics are not immune from complaints either. Oakland, too, still receives complaints solely related to racism.

McKinsey and Company, an organization whose focus is evaluating business opportunities, recorded that companies who invite racial diversity outperform others by 35 percent. Oakland is open to these same increases in performance from students if racial diversity is not only discussed, but also implemented.

"We [Oakland University employment] make sure our advertising is reaching far and wide to ensure diversity in student employment," said Sandra Alef, Assistant Director for Residence Life.

A Harvard Business Review in 2017 addressed just how helpful racial diversity can be within any organization because of the natural discomfort that applies to people of differing backgrounds. People are forced to build better communication skills to accommodate for cultural differences and inevitably form a more creative environment.

Expert teaches tips to 'bee' careful with bees

Pollinators are now threatened in metro Detroit

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

For three days, the leading expert in North America for identifying bees came to Oakland University and gave a workshop to students and professionals interested in identifying this challenging bee.

The genus are called *Lasioglossum* genus or sweat bees, which are incredibly diverse and hard to identify according to Doctor Jason Gibbs who is responsible for writing a detailed and lengthy guide on how to identify these bees. He is an assistant professor at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada.

Many researchers came from around the state to hear Gibbs speak about the sweat bees. There are currently 465 known bee species in Michigan, and 83 of them are from this difficult genus.

Doctor Mary Jamieson from OU and Doctor Rufus Isaacs from Michigan State University partnered to organize this event and invite Gibbs.

"We are working on researching pollinators and to better understand which pollinators are being threatened," Jamieson said. "It is difficult to identify them without expert help."

Jamieson and Isaacs focus on entomology in the biology field, which is the category of insect study that bees fall under. One of the best ways to identify bees, according to Jamieson, is to look at the morphological traits under a microscope.

Oakland graduate student Caleb Wilson also attended the event. He is interested in studying the environmental trends in nature and how it affects their community. However, Wilson understands the importance of identifying bees to see the repercussions of environmental changes. The wings have veination which are the little lines on the wings which create another way to discern which genus of bee one is dealing with.

Wilson is currently studying bees in farms located in the metro Detroit area and urban areas.

"A way entomologists collect bee data is by setting out sugar water and brightly coloring it so it looks like

flowers to them, and then entomologists can just swipe with a net to catch and identify them," Wilson said.

There are ways that students from other majors and backgrounds can help bees continue to prosper and help the environment. One way is by planting many flowers. Flowers create pollen, which is what bees collect, and helps plant fertilization down the road.

"Dandelions and clovers are great for them because they grow first right in spring so bees will still be able to eat before other flowers are in bloom," Wilson said.

Mowing the lawn less often also helps since that is where various bees tend to nest. Staying away from pesticides, such as buying organic fruits and vegetables, can be another good way to help the bees live longer.

“

"A way entomologists collect bee data is by setting out sugar water and brightly coloring it so it looks like flowers to them, and then entomologists can just swipe with a net to catch and identify them."

Caleb Wilson
Oakland graduate student

This was the first workshop Jamieson has hosted focusing on bees. Students are the next researchers and Gibbs is the only entomologist in the North America with knowledge of this sweat bee so it was important to students much like Wilson.

"Most of the studying is based on the whole rigamoroll of setting up and studying bee data as most of what I'm doing now is data processing," Wilson said.

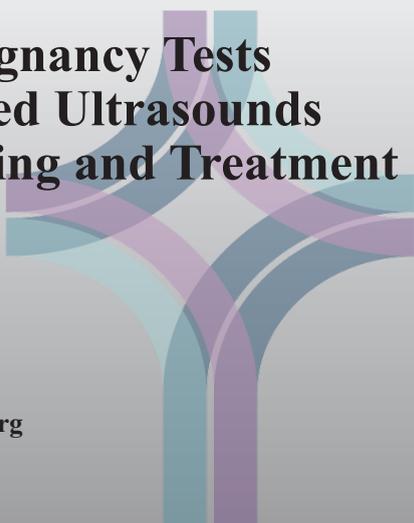
This workshop was more focused on biology majors with a focus on entomology but other majors can help keep the data collection process going.

"Everyone can do something to help the bees," Jamieson said.

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Donation drive aids foster kids

Raising funds for the Foster Love Drive will be held as the first club event

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

When foster children cross a person's mind, it can be easy to think only of those who have been placed with families rather than of those who are still floating through the system.

Friends of Foster Kids is a nonprofit that began in Macomb County, but has expanded into Oakland County that works to provide these children with the items and aid they need, and is where Oakland University student Alma Dukovic discovered her passion for this cause.

In Macomb County alone, there are approximately 900 children in foster care each year according to Danielle Ligocki, assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Development and Educational Studies.

"I really started to grow interested in helping out foster children, especially in our own community, after realizing just how many cases there were," Dukovic said. "I looked for organizations at Oakland to see if I could find any that actually address the work toward assisting foster children, and I couldn't quite find any."

Students for Friends of Foster Kids was born out of this search with Dukovic as president and Ligocki as adviser, due in part to her past experience teaching high-poverty, high-need students in Illinois. The club officially began this semester and has six members so far.

"Their main goal is really just to make sure that foster kids know that they're supported and that they're loved and that there's a place for them," Ligocki said. "And it's also just to help the transition possibly from high school to college, [and] to support times

of birthdays and holidays, and times when they might be in need of extra support."

Dukovic reported the club is divided with two main focuses. The Fall semester revolves around the holidays and gathering gifts for the children, while winter semester concentrates on adolescents that are seniors in high school and trying to make the transition into college a bit easier.

The Foster Love Drive, from March 5 to 16, will be the first official activity of the club, and will be held in both Pawley Hall and the Oakland Center.

"I think the biggest issue was what can we do to make an impact and get the organization going on campus," Ligocki said. "So, by being physically available in two different locations across campus, we thought it was a great to kind of get physical which might garner support and a greater membership in



Nicole Morsfield // The Oakland Post

In effort to help children in the foster system school supplies are collected. the organization."

The donation drive is requesting school supplies and hygiene products based off wish lists sent to the parent organization Friends of Foster Kids, and because these products can be used year round.

The drive will also be used to judge the response to it and plan future activities, including potential fundraisers such as bowling alley nights or res-

aurant nights.

"Every single donation that they make is going to help a foster child, even the smallest of donations, that extra notebook that you have would aid a child," Dukovic said. "I think it's integral for us as human beings to care, to love and to help the people around us that are in need, and this is going to give back to our community."

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Oakland University
community reacts
to gun violence

Stories by Cheyanne Kramer and The Oakland
Post Editors // Photos courtesy of the Associated
Press // Design by Cheyanne Kramer //
Graphics by Prakhya Chilukuri

As the result of mass shootings
in school settings since 2013

35 students & 6 adults
were killed

92 students &
12 adults
were injured



Staff editorial: Today's gun violence

The events of weeks past have gotten us here at The Oakland Post thinking about guns and the role they play in our country. Especially with the events at Central Michigan University on Friday, March 2, we hope that we are so fortunate to never have to cover a similar event on our campus.

In our editorial ranks, we have a variety of mindsets. Some of us are Democrats, some are Republicans. Some of us are Christians and others don't believe in any higher power. Though there are a lot of things we clash on, we are all close friends. There is also one political issue we stand together on: America needs stronger gun regulation.

The editors of The Post feel strongly that, as American citizens, we are entitled to our Second Amendment rights and should have the ability to protect ourselves if need be. However, we also feel certain requirements need to be met to ensure that something as lethal as a gun does not fall into the wrong hands.

Mental health has long been one of the most ignored issues in the U.S. It has taken the deaths of many innocent students and faculty at the hands of unstable individuals in possession of guns for us to become more sensitive to

this issue. Now that the issue has come to prominence, it is our duty to keep it in the spotlight long enough for progress to be made. Rather than criminalizing the mentally ill, it is important that we increase the qualifications to purchase a gun while also emphasizing the importance of mental health. We too are to blame for prolonging the necessary actions to raise mental health awareness in this country.

The potential for further regulation exists in many forms. We feel pushing the legal age to purchase firearms back to 21 and over would be a strong start in preventing adolescents from possessing the ability to carry out such heinous acts as the Parkland, Fla. high school shooting. We also find it critical to enact a 48-hour waiting period, which some states have held in the past but have since repealed. This would allow the proper amount of time for an in-depth background check, as well as provide a cooling off period in the case of a purchaser intending to commit a drastic act in the moment.

Some might be against stronger restrictions in the gun purchasing process. However, we feel that the average citizen is not in need of a semi-automatic weapon. If citizens

are in want of such a weapon, abiding by a more rigorous background check should be an understandable precaution to keep the general population safe.

We at The Post aren't the only ones that feel this way. Dick's Sporting Goods, Kroger, Walmart, REI and L.L.Bean have stopped selling assault-style rifles and ammunition, as well as stopped selling guns and ammunition to anyone under the age of 21. Other major retailers such as Amazon and Bass Pro Shops are being implored to do the same in hopes of diminishing the threat of future mass shootings.

Wednesday, March 14 will see students all across the country stage a walk out at 10 a.m., and we would like to invite all Oakland University students to join in exercising our First Amendment right to fight for a change. If student movements of the past are anything to learn from, change is possible if we all stand together and fight for a cause.

Sincerely,

Shelby, Cheyanne, John, Laurel, Trevor, Skylar, Jessica, AuJenee and Elyse

Students organize solidarity walk out

Under the hashtag “#NationalSchoolWalkout,” a group of Oakland University students, with encouragement from their professor, are planning on walking out of classes on Wednesday, March 14.

According to Time, 35 students and six adults were killed as the result of malicious mass shootings in school settings since 2013, as well as an additional 92 children and 12 adults injured. Just last week, a shooter was at large at Central Michigan University, only a few hours away from Oakland’s campus.

Celeste Black, an OU student, and her classmates hope to raise awareness of this issue through a collective walk-out.

Scheduled for March 14 at 10 a.m., the walk-out is meant to be somewhat non-political, with the focus being on the lives lost.

“We spent the last few class periods kind of talking about the Florida shooting and the victims, and how as students, how we can respond and take action,” Black said.

A student in her class brought up the March 14 walk-out, and discussed whether or not this would be appropriate at Oakland. The students came to an agreement that it was.

“Walking out has a much bigger impact than saying, ‘oh, we’re so sorry for your loss, we’re sending prayers,’” she said. “We think walking out speaks volumes, especially if others participate.”

She said across the country, high schools, middle schools and even some elementary schools plan on taking part in a national walk-out of some kind.

Amani Najm, another student in the class, said actions are much more important than words in regard to making a statement.

“Outside of the walking out process, we need to take action to show that this isn’t going to leave our minds after a week, that this isn’t going to leave our minds after a month, that we’re going to continue on,” Najm said.

She said one way she will personally continue on this conversation is through what’s known as “17 Acts of Kindness,” where she said that she will make it her mission to complete one random act of kindness a day in honor of the 17 students who lost their lives.

“Our professor is passionate about us standing up and having a voice,” Black said.

This course, “Communication in Leadership” taught by Beth Talbert, was put on hold for a day to discuss the effects of the shooting in Florida and to encourage students to reach out and change their local community.

Though the idea for a walk-out in general didn’t start at Oakland, Black emphasized the importance of OU taking part in the walk-out.

“Imagine if all 20,000 students gathered at the clock tower at once, all for one reason,” she said.

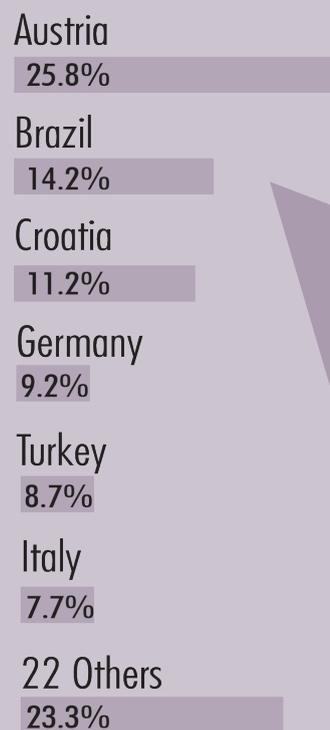
Black said the message of the walk out is currently being spread through word of mouth, and hopes to inspire students to take part on their own that Wednesday morning.

“Walking out has a much bigger impact than saying, ‘oh, we’re so sorry for your loss, we’re sending prayers.’ We think walking out speaks volumes, especially if others participate.”

Celeste Black
Student



U.S. Firearms imported, by manufacturing country





Sam Boggs / The Oakland Post

"Art in Dialogue" is an OUAG exhibition that displays images selected by art history students.

Oakland University is a work of Art

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

A crucial educational element in the life of Oakland University students, as well as an important center for visual arts in the Detroit metropolitan area is the Oakland University Art Gallery (OUAG). OUAG emphasizes both contemporary art and art historical exhibitions, which offer direct engagement with coursework in both studio art and art history.

On Saturday, March 3, OU brought together what could be considered its most precious resource: students. For the exhibit titled, "Art in Dialogue," students in the art history course AH 3900 took part in selecting images and inviting student organizations to consider various artworks in the collection.

Bennett Tomandl, a junior studying studio art and art history, described the students involvement with being in charge of selecting the images.

"There was a creative process for us finding the works to show, we wanted a general theme that collectively we and others could easily relate to, so we decided to only include modern works," Tomandl said. "We each selected images we enjoyed and Professor John Corso then finalized these selections. We then each chose a few OU student organizations to show these pieces to and get their opinions."

The students' involvement in this exhibit allowed them to expand their creative capacities as artists as well as grow closer as colleagues.

"Seeing the gallery come to life was a really rewarding feeling for all of us," Tomandl said. "We created a 3D model of the gallery space to make sure all of the pieces were placed in a certain way to make the show really flow. Our class also created an

interactive space for visitors to leave their thoughts and ideas about the art."

The AH 3900 students specifically crafted this exhibition for OU, and wanted to express OUAG's open atmosphere to the student body and surrounding community.

"This exhibition gives people the opportunity to see a part of the university that they aren't normally able to see," Tomandl said. "We wanted people to feel comfortable forming their own critiques about art, which is why we actually used selections from our conversations with student organizations as labels for the works of art."

Students like Tomandl who were involved in this exhibition wanted it to feel accessible for viewers.

"Often times, art can seem intimidating," Tomandl said. "We wanted to dispel this belief and show that art is for everyone to enjoy."

As for which pieces were selected, Corso, associate professor of art history and curator of the "Art in Dialogue" exhibit, describes them as modern and contemporary art.

"We will have several works of modern and contemporary art from the OU Art Gallery's permanent collection, including work by Edvard Munch, Fernando Botero and Käthe Kollwitz," Corso said.

As students were the curators, they used the inspiration from their own lives to choosing pieces to display.

"The students identified works in the collection that they were drawn to," Corso said. "I took a look and offered advice and suggestions. They really did a great job of learning about their works and thinking about these artworks with fresh eyes."

When putting together an exhibition like this, Corso and his students hope the OU community will be empowered to look at art and describe what they see with deeper precision and interest.

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Nicole Morsfield // The Oakland Post

The owners of D'Marcos Italian Restaurant and Wine Bar are hopeful for business from OU students.

Alumnus opens Italian restaurant in Rochester

Jordan Jewell
Staff Intern

Mark Mendola graduated from Oakland University in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is a vice chairman of PricewaterhouseCoopers and sits on the board of the business school at OU. He has also received the Alumni of the Year Award.

Mendola is the owner of D'Marcos Italian Restaurant and Wine Bar, which will be opening at the end of this month in downtown Rochester.

"I've lived in Rochester for about eight years and I've always had a love for the downtown area," Mendola said.

Mendola and his partner Mike Thomas pursued the location, which was previously home to Mexican restaurant Rojo the moment it became available. The team purchased the building shortly after they began renovating the space.

"Being close to Oakland University was very important to me," Mendola said. "We want to bring in students and faculty as customers, but we are also looking to hire students looking for work. I really want to give back to Oakland University in any way that I am able to."

The team has been renovating the location since November and the space was given a complete makeover.

"The only thing that we didn't change was the stairway that leads to the basement," Thomas said. "Everything else has been completely revamped. We wanted to give the building a new feel. By changing it up, it feels like we are bringing something

fresh and new to the area."

The duo also felt that downtown Rochester seemed like the ideal location for a place like D'Marcos.

"The local community and surrounding businesses have been so welcoming," Mendola said. "They seem really excited for us to open, which is extremely encouraging."

One of the main goals Mendola expressed was making both Oakland and the city of Rochester proud. He is hoping the business can become an integral part of the community.

"We are really taking our time with the preparation and we want to open when we feel ready," he said. "We want this to become a regular spot for students, faculty and alumni of OU."

The restaurant serves authentic Italian food and wine. In addition to the wine bar and dining area, D'Marcos also has a banquet room that seats 60 people. Mendola is hoping to use this room to host events for OU in the future.

"A lot of great restaurants in the area don't have this kind of private seating, so it's exciting to be able to offer that to the people of Rochester," he said.

D'Marcos is also hiring in all positions, including a full wait staff, and will begin training new employees this month. An application can be found on website.

"We are more than happy to work with students' schedules," Thomas said. "We understand that school comes first and are open to hiring people who want a job over school breaks as well."

D'Marcos is located at 401 S. Main St. in downtown Rochester.

Opioid epidemic continues to spread

Emily Morris
Staff Reporter

Why do people misuse drugs? Whether through anecdotes, personal research, television, radio, social media or even the tried-and-true high school health class, almost everyone has at least heard of the dangers of mistreating drugs. The infamous opioid epidemic is fusing through the country and even weaving its way into Michigan communities.

According to Michigan's 2016 Licensing and Regulation Affairs Report, Oakland University's zip code, 48309, was subject to abnormalities regarding prescribed opioids.

“...I had to talk to my therapist about it, and she suggested transitioning into other avenues because it wouldn't concentrate my full attention.”

Anonymous student

For instance, in 2016 Rochester's population was 29,414, but some opioids surpassed this number by thousands. How could the entire demographic of an area become a minimal number compared to circulating substances?

Members of A Chance to Change Drug and Alcohol Testing are beginning to address the confusion surrounding recent opioid subscription records, but specific actions are still formulating while people consider the drug epidemic.

The status of heavily prescribed drugs introduces a second potentially difficult point to swallow. Moreover, the report mentioned several category 5 opioids, the highest degree of substance strength, have been legally welcomed at staggering amounts.

Guaifenesin AC, for instance, is a schedule 5 drug and has 99 prescriptions in the area, resulting in a shocking 28,513 units. Substances with high possibility of reliance are not uncommon, and individuals may simply not be aware of repercussions. Hence, people could develop an increasing need for drugs, which create incredibly high rates of unit circulation.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, "In the late 1990s, pharmaceutical companies reassured the medical community that patients would not become addicted to opioid pain relievers and health-care providers began to prescribe them at greater rates."

This overprescription of misunderstood drugs has led to an overall greater risk of misuse of pain relieving drugs, which has come to be called the opioid epidemic.

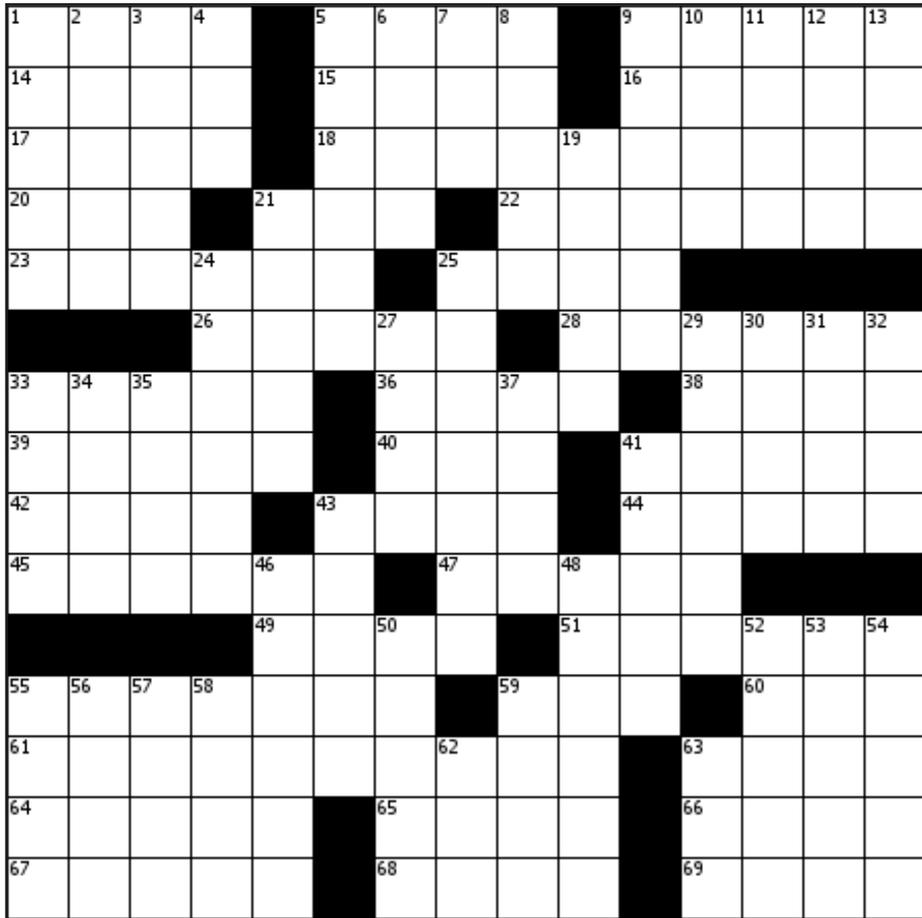
In fact, there are Oakland students who are struggling with a dependence on prescribed drugs, but legal drug use seems to be bypassed because of its usual acceptance. However, any dependence on a substance shouldn't be swept under the table when thousands of people just in our zip code are possibly invisibly struggling, solely because prescribed drug use isn't seen as wrong.

"I struggled to go to sleep without it," said an OU sophomore prescribed with a schedule 4 drug. "I had to talk to my therapist about it, and she suggested transitioning into other avenues because it wouldn't concentrate my full attention. If I didn't have an outside source to discuss my dependency I would've struggled to find another outlet."

OU offers several options on campus to focus on mental health if needed. The Graham Health Center provides counseling for students, and Oakland's Department of Health and Wellness lets students create collective escapes.

While most are still navigating mental health and reliance on drugs, at least introducing the discussion and normalizing it could help countless people.

Puzzles



Across

1. Stickers
5. Actor ____ Guinness
9. Less wild
14. Very much (2 wds.)
15. Roberto's house
16. Green shade
17. Ms. Hayworth
18. Cooking device
20. Fall mo.
21. Pedro's "two"
22. Actor ____ Crowe
23. Tantalizes
25. Medicine amount
26. Scrapbook need
28. Modifies
33. Atoll material
36. Overt
38. Cowboy's shoe
39. Warn
40. Total amount
41. Large artery
42. Contact ____
43. The ____ of March
44. Starchy tuber (sl.)
45. Contemporary
47. Choir voice
49. Novelist ____ Rice
51. Deep blue

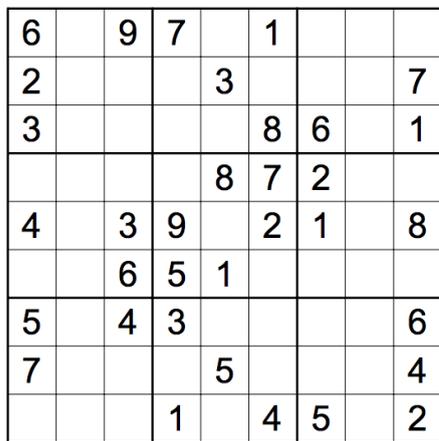
55. Aquatic mammal
59. Golf device
60. Freshly made
61. Kind of circuit
63. Narrow valley
64. Strong metal
65. Three squared
66. Alleviate
67. Crowd
68. Resorts
69. Wide-spouted pitcher

24. Thinly scattered
25. Use up
27. Frog's kin
29. All ____!
30. Harbor
31. Carry around
32. "A ____ Is Born"
33. Composed
34. Bread spread
35. Tear apart
37. Otherwise
41. Expiate
43. Not outer
46. Baby's toy
48. Sister's daughters
50. Broadway lights
52. Relative by marriage (hyph.)
53. Gaggle members
54. Proprietor
55. Netting
56. Female singer
57. Not ever, poetically
58. Scored on serve
59. Songstress ____ Turner
62. Little bite
63. ____ whiz!

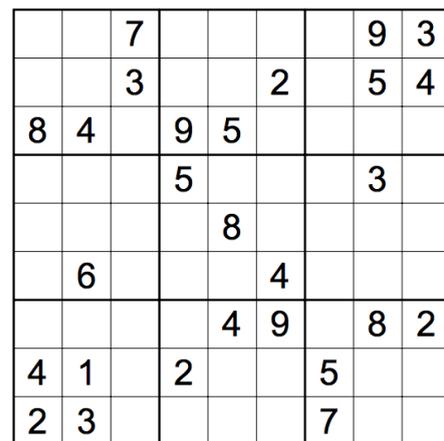
Down

1. Gypsy's card
2. Rocker ____ Cooper
3. Must, slangily
4. Train terminal (abbr.)
5. Crossword direction
6. Asian country
7. OH time zone
8. Egypt's capital
9. Flung
10. Pub drinks
11. Mud
12. Morally wrong
13. Whirl
19. Actress ____ Sarandon
21. Handed out cards

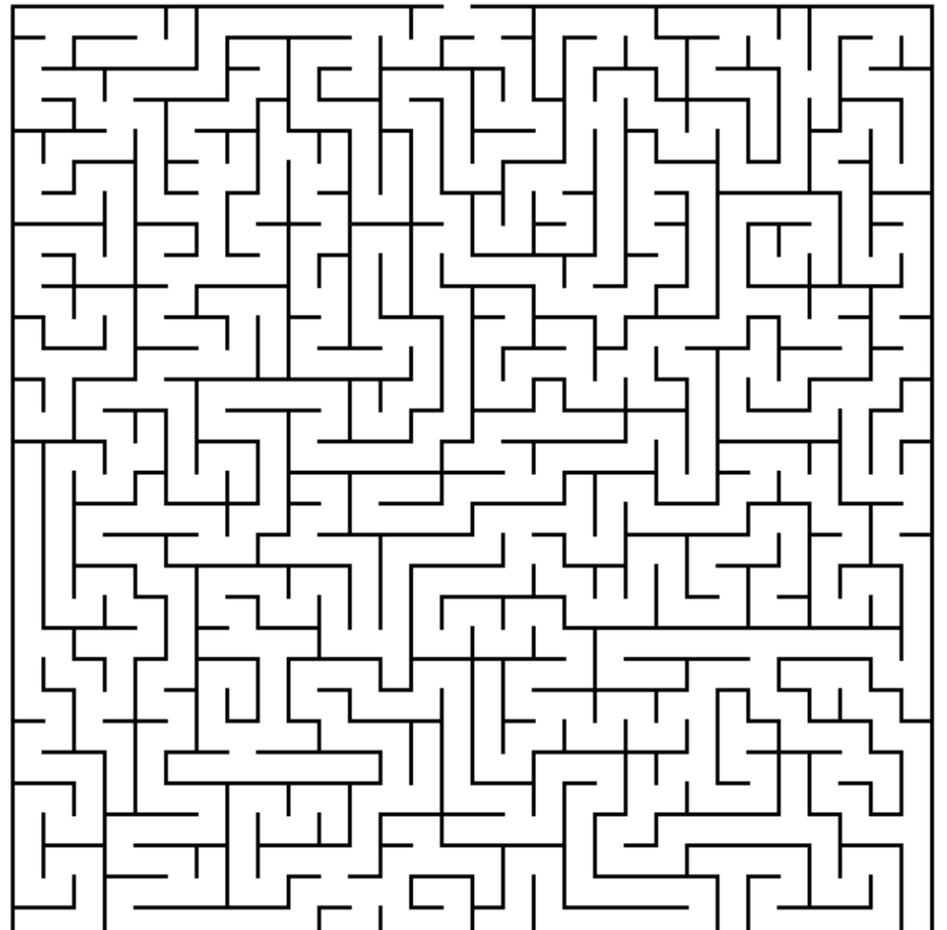
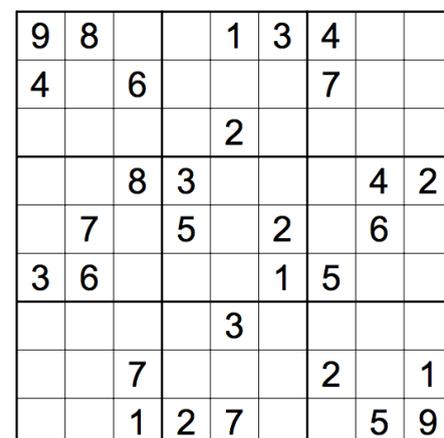
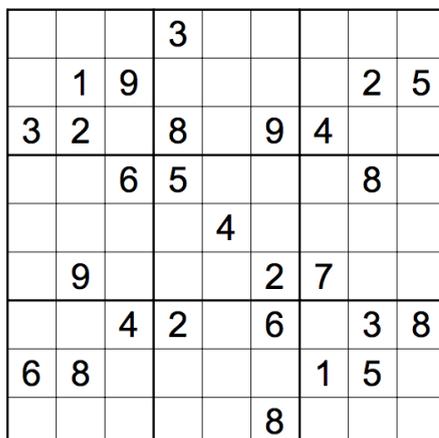
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TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



Dolce & Gabbana replaces models with drones

This is the intersection of fashion and tech as more brands start to play with new ideas



Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

It turns out that humans are so last season. When the Dolce & Gabbana Fall-Winter 2018 runway show began in Milan on Sunday, Feb. 25, a parade of drones carrying the latest collection of handbags graced the catwalk.

The show started 45 minutes late as those attending the show were asked to turn off the Wi-Fi function and personal hotspots on their cell phones to avoid interfering with the drones' signals.

While runway models, such as Gigi Hadid and Kaia Gerber, have often been the highlight of watching a live fashion show, it looks like Dolce & Gabbana is making a case that technology certainly can replace those "it-girls."

After the tech-enhanced opening, actual human models, including Hailey Baldwin, came out to showcase the designer's "Fashion Devotion" themed looks.

This is the first time drones acted as models for a luxury fashion house.

The gap between fashion and technology is becoming more and more blurred as

innovation is necessary to remain competitive and compelling. We've seen many examples of the intersection of fashion and technology within various brands.

The Rebecca Minkoff flagship store in New York City has a video wall upon entrance that allows customers to find items and view previous runway collection footage.

There are also interactive mirrors in the dressing room. The mirrors let consumers set the lighting to match where they will wear the clothing. They also let you order a different size or color with a few taps, as well as champagne, wine or water to your dressing room.

In January 2017, Gap unveiled an app that displays a digital dressing room in collaboration with Google and allows consumers to "try

on" clothes without having to step into a store.

Eyewear brand Warby Parker uses a combination of facial recognition and augmented reality that allows customers to see what they look like in different frames. In January 2018, Amazon patented a smart mirror that uses augmented reality to virtually overlay clothes on to users, allowing them to decide which looks they want to add to their cart.

By letting customers try clothes on virtually, the intersection of fashion and technology becomes even more heightened. These experiences place zero restrictions on the number of items that can be tried on, which means customers may easily be persuaded to explore more items of clothing than

they would in-store.

Earlier this month, Spanish design studio ZER featured 3D printing in their clothing line. The models were wearing 3D printed garments, and the runway stage was decorated with actual 3D printers.

Although the intersection of fashion and technology is often seen as valuable, one could argue that at times, the prominent use of technology takes from the actual appreciation of the clothing and accessories.

For those who were in attendance at Dolce & Gabbana, did they even remember what the bags looked like? Or just the drones that carried them? If designers do not correctly use technology as a tool to enhance their product, it will unfortunately overshadow it.

Billy Graham: A simple preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Isaac Martin
Political Contributor

Last Friday, a special man was laid to rest. Billy Graham is one of only four private citizens to ever lie in state in the U.S. Capitol — he is the latest since Rosa Parks. Like Rosa Parks, Graham knew Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., in fact, they were quite close, and Graham was a staunch supporter of the civil rights movement. Graham touched millions in his lifetime, but this paragon of pastors had humble roots.

He was born four days before the Treaty of Versailles ended WWI on Nov. 7, 1918 at his family's dairy farm in North Carolina. As a boy, he was not known to be super spiritual. Quite the opposite, at 16 he was rejected from a local youth group for being too worldly. However, he heard about a traveling speaker who was in Charlotte and at the event Billy gave his life to Jesus. He decided he wanted to teach and help others to do the same.

Billy was not satisfied with a passive, anemic belief but desired to be active in sharing the message that had changed him. After an unsuccessful first stint at the college life, he ended up graduat-

ing, after two successive transfers, from Wheaton College. He took up a pastorate and eventually a local radio show called "Songs in the Night" with the famed bass-baritone George Beverly Shea. His influence grew rapidly as he began what he called "crusades," a series of evening meetings at a local park, street or stadium.

Thousands were drawn to these historic meetings, which would often set records for the venues, by his simple presentation of the Gospel. Billy would be the first to point out though that these outward successes were because God was drawing the people, and not because of any charismatic speaker.

His message was always the same: people have a problem that can only be solved by Jesus. Using the Bible as his principal reference, Billy would inform his hearers that a choice lay before them. A choice to either serve the many gods and fake things around them or to serve the one true and living God. If you wanted to become a new person and leave your old life, Billy urged that you come to Jesus and find a new life in Him. Every night of the "crusades" he would give a variant of such a message, inviting his listen-



Photo courtesy of the New York Times

Billy Graham was a confidant to many presidents, and he had an impact on desegregation.

ers to come "just as they were" to the stage, to receive counsel and prayer. Over his lifetime, it is estimated that he spoke in person to over 215 million people in 185 different countries.

Graham's successes built a platform that allowed him to be influential for good. Beginning with Dwight Eisenhower, Billy served as both counselor and confidant of every president ending with Barack Obama. He also had a profound impact on desegregation, even being hailed

by MLK in 1959 for having taken a "very strong stand against segregation." Throughout his ministry, Billy emphasized that all people are equal regardless of ethnicity or gender.

The tragic passing of Billy has caused many to ponder his life and impact. The message Mr. Graham shared changed my life and I know it can yours too if you let it. If he could speak to you now, I know he would be urging you to believe in and serve Jesus just as you are.

The Oscars are finally moving into the future

90 years later, the Academy Awards have become more diverse, giving recognition to all

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

Sunday, March 4 marked the 90th annual Academy Awards, and this year's ceremony was one of the most inclusive and self-aware in years.

Three years after the Oscars were declared "so white," the Academy is finally boasting more diverse pools of nominees. Some of this year's most prominent winners were minorities, and many of them didn't come as a surprise victory.

Perhaps the most satisfying victor was none other than Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water." The Mexican-born director took home the coveted Best Director and Best Picture trophies. His self-proclaimed "fairy tale for troubled times" featured a mute female protagonist aided by an amphibious creature, closeted gay man, and oppressed black woman against an ignorant government. Del Toro, who created the film as a timeless statement on societal issues, began his Best Director acceptance

speech by acknowledging his experiences as an immigrant.

"I think that the greatest thing our art does and our industry does is to erase the lines in the sand," he said. "We should continue doing that when the world tells us to make them deeper."

While accepting Best Picture, he explored America's youth, "who are showing us how things are done," to use storytelling as a medium for expressing the truths of society.

"Everyone that is dreaming of using fantasy to tell the stories about things that are real in the world today, you can do it," he said. "This is the door. Kick it open and come in."

Del Toro's victory was one of many for Latinos that night. "Coco," a film dedicated to Mexican tradition and culture, won Best Animated Feature, while its theme "Remember Me" won Best Original Song. Alejandro González Iñárritu also became the first Latino to win the Special Achievement Award for his virtual reality short film "Flesh and Sand." Though Hispanic-Americans still re-

main underrepresented at the Oscars, this year's ceremony marked a step in the right direction.

Sunday night was also big for women, whose voices were heard through the continued support of the #MeToo and #TimesUp movements. Ashley Judd, Salma Hayek and Annabella Sciorra, who previously publicized their allegations of sexual harassment against Harvey Weinstein, presented an emotional video promoting diversity in film.

Meanwhile, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" star Frances McDormand rightfully took home Best Actress, encouraging every female nominee to stand during her acceptance speech.

"Look around," she said. "We all have stories to tell and projects we need financed."

However, her final two words were the most powerful—"inclusion rider," referring to A-list actors' ability to include a clause in their contract demanding diversity on both sides of the camera.

And, of course, there was Jordan Peele's groundbreaking Best Original

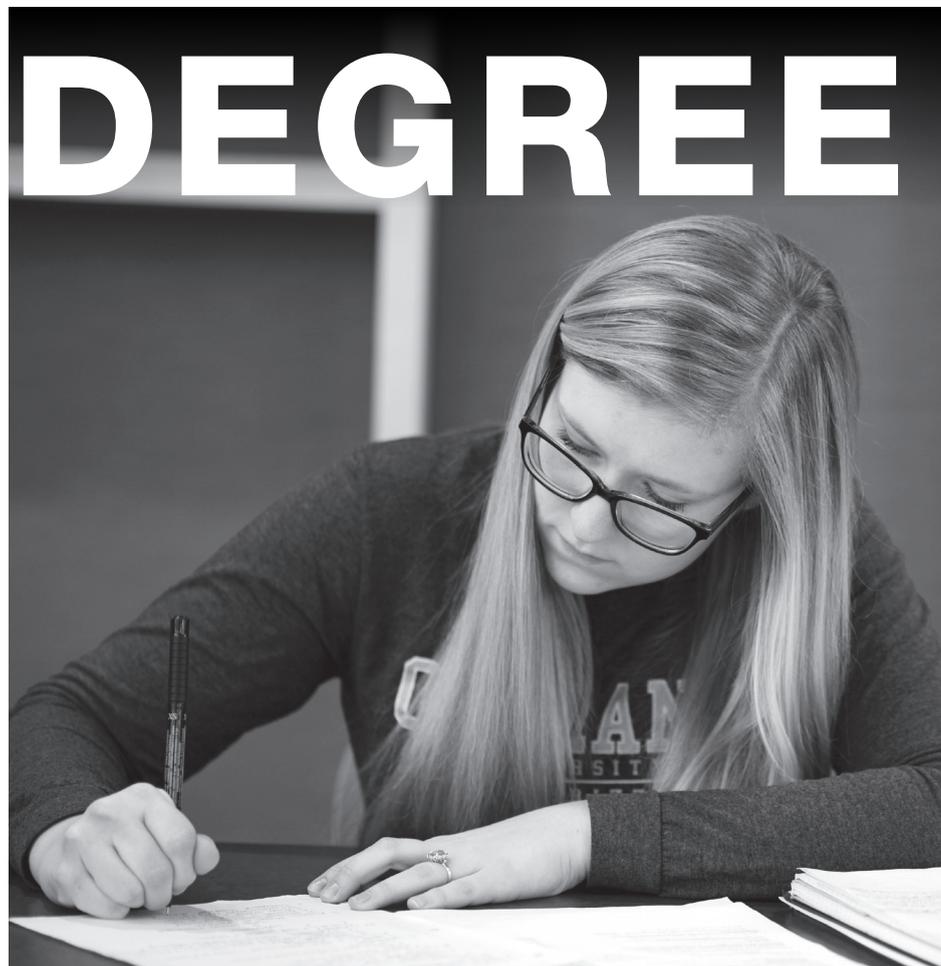
Screenplay win for "Get Out," which received critical acclaim for its satirical approach to liberal racism. With his victory, Peele, who was only the fourth black writer ever nominated for the honor, became its first black recipient.

"I feel proud to be at the beginning of a movement where I feel like the best films in every genre are being brought to me by my fellow black directors," he told journalists backstage.

The LGBTQIA+ community wasn't left out either. James Ivory received Best Adapted Screenplay for "Call Me By Your Name," acknowledging the film's themes of first love as universal, regardless of sexuality.

Needless to say, this year's awards crossed many boundaries while still honoring filmmakers based on merit. Even if we're not there yet, we're making progress, and if there's one thing Hollywood's biggest night has left us with, it's hope.

"The world is watching us," the night's host Jimmy Kimmel said. "We need to set an example."



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Photo courtesy of IMDb

Jennifer Lawrence perfects her role as Dominika, a Russian ballerina who turns into a spy.

“Red Sparrow” unexpectedly thrills, ultimately disappoints

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

When I first saw the trailer to “Red Sparrow,” I thought the film looked sleek and seductive. I even remember whispering to my friends in the theater in between chews of my overpriced candy, “we should go see this.”

I was already sold when I saw that Jennifer Lawrence was in it, but I didn’t think the film would be as thrilling as it was — or as sadistic. Though one of the most satisfying feelings after leaving a movie theater has to be being proven wrong by what you’re actually expecting to get out of a film, I felt cheated.

The film, directed by Francis Lawrence of “The Hunger Games,” is about a Russian ballerina named Dominika Egorova (Jennifer Lawrence) whose career diminishes when she breaks her leg. Dominika soon decides to go to a secret agent school and become a Sparrow — a spy who is trained to use her mind and body as weapons.

After completing a brutally intensive training process, Dominika rises as the most treacherous spy of all. As soon as she becomes a badass, she meets a CIA agent named Nate Nash (Joel Edgerton) who tries to convince Dominika that he is the only one that can be trusted — and so the plot thickens.

Lawrence’s performance as Dominika was phenomenal. She always pushes the limit. If it were any other actress, I probably wouldn’t be as interested in seeing the film in

the first place.

I was particularly impressed with Lawrence’s ballerina scenes, especially in the beginning of the film. The star prepped for four months in advance of the six-minute opening scene. According to E! News, Lawrence trained with former New York City Ballet member Kurt Froman, who also taught Natalie Portman and Mila Kunis for their 2010 film, “Black Swan.”

OK, but here’s the thing. When you’re looking at the big picture of “Red Sparrow,” it has everything an epic spy movie should have — twists and turns, ulterior motives, provocation, oh and Jennifer Lawrence with a Russian accent. What could possibly be wrong? Two words: wasted potential. Yes, “Red Sparrow” did have some breathtaking moments, but there were also many scenes that were disturbing and intense.

The feelings I had for this film were very back and forth, and I think that is what made it ultimately disappointing.

I did find it to be entertaining, but not exactly Oscar-worthy. And it all has to do with the way it was presented. It was a big-budget glossy film with the ultimate lead actress, but it somehow ends up feeling too-planned and mediocre.

Unlike Francis Lawrence’s previous films, I didn’t feel submerged into “Red Sparrow,” like I was actually a part of the film, which is usually when you can tell if a film did its job.

Rating: 3/5 stars

“Winchester” falls as a historical disappointment

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

“Winchester,” a 2018 supernatural horror film, follows the iconic Sarah Winchester as she is haunted by spirits inside her San Jose mansion in 1906.

The story behind the Winchester mansion is an incredible one. Sarah was an American heiress who amassed great wealth after the death of her husband, who was the holder of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company.

She was convinced she was cursed by the spirits killed by the Winchester rifle and the only way to alleviate it was to continue to build onto her California home. The house features a variety of oddities, including doors that open to walls, a staircase that leads to nowhere and the recurring number 13, whether in window panes or the number of candles on a chandelier.

This story is the basis of the film, but it is merely glossed over. The psychological illness that plagued Sarah and her building decisions are much more sinister than the generic ghost story that was created from the mansion’s history.

The character development was mediocre, if there at all. The character Eric Price, a psychiatrist hired to evaluate Sarah, is the only character that receives an ounce of development.

Truly, Sarah Winchester should have stayed the floating being dressed in black that she was in the first moments of the film, rather than make her overwhelmingly relatable and human. She has an interesting history and an interesting mindset. This was a detail that directors simply seemed to overlook.

But as a horror movie, it adds up. There are great jump scares and a story that makes sense. It just seems to be an even bigger disappointment considering where this film could have been taken.

There is something that is so much scarier about not knowing whether this haunting is real or not, rather than it being an obvious fact right from the beginning. A psychological horror film is what “Winchester” rightfully should have been. Instead, the directors opted for an overwhelmingly generic horror plot.

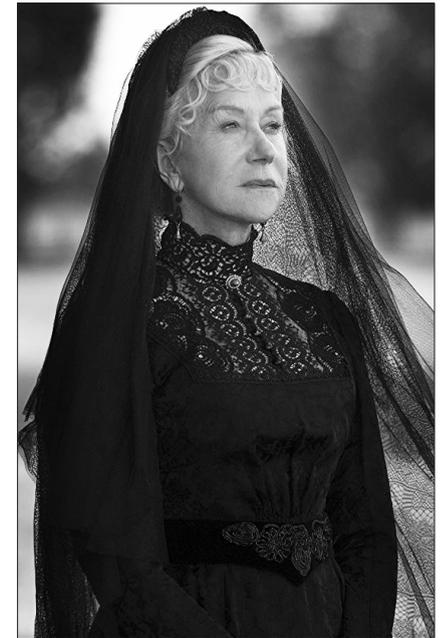


Photo courtesy of IMDb

“Winchester” brings history and horror to theaters.

The dialogue creates an irritating amount of clarity. Any piece of information that would be better left up to the viewer to figure out is plainly described more than once.

Arguably, the scariest part of a horror movie is the unknown. Not seeing the monster or not knowing what will happen next is much scarier than the characters explaining exactly what their next plan of action will be or seeing the monster or being that is meant to frighten us.

“Winchester” certainly has a habit of keeping everything crystal clear. All of the facts are laid out, and the ghosts are a visual piece of the film from the very beginning, with very few and foreseeable plot twists.

Overall, “Winchester” truly is just another horror film. It may be added to Netflix and a handful of teenagers may go out of their way to watch it next Halloween. But, what the film could have been truly makes it a great horror, and historical, disappointment.

The story of Sarah Winchester and her home is an incredible one, but “Winchester,” a horror adaptation, falls flat and pushes the boundary too far, a result that truly didn’t seem possible until now.

Rating: 2/5 stars



Brendan Triola / The Oakland Post

After beating IUPUI, Oakland lost to the Cleveland State Vikings with a score of 43-44.

Oakland loses to Cleveland

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

The men's basketball season has come to an end in the form of a 44-43 loss to No.8 seed Cleveland State Vikings in the Motor City Madness semifinals. Offensively, the Golden Grizzlies struggled greatly, shooting 25 percent from the floor and just under 21 percent from three point range.

"It was a tough one," Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "I hate to be cliché, but everybody in the country is going to end like this. It ended too soon for us. Give Cleveland State credit but the reality is we just couldn't put the ball in the basket."

Oakland's offense was looking normal early on, as the team led the Vikings 23-11 with six minutes to go in the first half, but then the momentum shifted. Once senior guard Jalen Hayes picked up his third foul and was benched by Kampe, the Vikings were able to chip away at the lead, shutting down the Golden Grizzly offense.

"After Jalen picked up his third foul we only scored 20 points the rest of the game," Kampe said. "We lost by one. I've never seen anything like that in my life, never in a game I have coached. We had a lot of open looks and the ball just wouldn't go in."

Hayes led the team in scoring with 20 points, and also added 11 rebounds. Senior guard Kendrick Nunn had 19 points as well, meaning the duo of Hayes and Nunn provided 91% of Oakland's scoring. Only two other players even scored points for the Golden Grizzlies, with the first basket not from Hayes or Nunn coming 30 minutes into the game from sophomore Isaiah Brock.

Despite scoring 19, Nunn missed a wide open 3-pointer from the corner that would have given the Black and Gold a four point lead with under a minute to play.

"We all had some wide open shots that we could have knocked down," Nunn said. "They could have gave us a big lead, the ones we missed. That was a big part of the game."

Oakland did have a chance to win the game with 14 seconds to go. Off of a missed Cleveland State free throw, Nunn missed a mid range jump shot off of a ball screen. When the ball ended up in the hands of a Vikings defender, the buzzer had sounded, and the game was over.

"I came off a ball screen — maybe it could have been a foul," Nunn said. "I just came off the screen and missed a floater."

Visibly emotional after the game and on the verge of tears, Hayes, a fifth year senior, expressed the fact he had no regrets, and his teammates are family for him.

"Through all the ups and downs we've been through this season, I wouldn't trade anything or take anything back," Hayes said. "This loss will be tough to get over, but this is a great group of guys, and these memories will last a lifetime for me."

Nunn, a transfer from Illinois who was not in the program as long as Hayes, said he felt no different than if he had been there five years.

"I came in and they gave me bear hugs," Nunn said. "A new guy coming in as a transfer, they welcomed me in. I made some brothers, and that's the most important thing. That will last a lifetime."

Moving past the loss, Kampe reflected on the quality of his senior class and what they mean to him.

"This class really was special for me," Kampe said. "This was supposed to be the recruiting class that had to win the Horizon League. The growth they have had, the stories they have, they have turned out to be great men. It was a hell of a class, great people. I'm going to miss them, I really will."

Women's basketball Horizon League tournament recap

Dakota Brecht
Staff Reporter

Oakland's women's basketball team kicked off the Horizon League tournament with a bang, defeating the UIC Flames 80-46. It was all Golden Grizzlies from the start, every time the Flames scored, the Black and Gold scored twice more. With this game being the first women's basketball game at Little Caesars Arena, Head Coach Jeff Tungate took great pride in his team's win.

"It's a great way to start the tournament," Tungate said. "One of the things we talked about was that we had a chance to make history. This was the first women's basketball game played at LCA... I'm just really proud of our team."

The first half was dominated by Oakland's impressive offensive performance and senior Cierra Bond had 13 points in the first quarter alone. Leah Somerfield was tearing it up down low and had seven rebounds by the half.

"My teammates helped me get open and get me some good looks, they had some good passes to me and the feeling just kept going from there," Bond said.

The second half was much more of the same and Oakland coasted to the finish, a resounding win for the Golden Grizzlies. Jones led all scorers with a fantastic 20 points and Bond was right behind her with 19. Taylor Gleason was also solid offensively and tacked on 14 points as well. On the defensive side, Somerfield garnered 11 total rebounds along with one block and one steal.

After that strong win over UIC, Oakland looked to ride that hot hand into Saturday's matchup against IUPUI. The Golden Grizzlies knew they were going

to have to give it their all if they were to upset No.2 seed IUPUI.

IUPUI started the game off hot and took an early lead over the Golden Grizzlies. At one point during the second quarter, the Jaguars led by 16 points. It was an all around team effort for IUPUI and they were putting it all on Oakland. By halftime the lead was shaved to seven points but there was still plenty of work to do for the Black and Gold.

The Golden Grizzlies continued to chip away at the lead and at one point in the fourth quarter they only trailed by one. Their comeback efforts would be to no avail as the IUPUI Jaguars defeated the Golden Grizzlies in the quarterfinals with a score of 56-49. It was a hard fought game on both sides and coach Tungate was proud of his team, win or lose.

"They [Oakland's seniors] have changed the trajectory of this program and I'm just so proud of them," he said.

For the Golden Grizzlies, there were five seniors who played their final game in the Black and Gold. Korrin Taylor did not score at all in this one, but she provided some key minutes off of the bench. Cierra Bond and Taylor Gleason added five and nine points respectively, while both were in the game for over 30 minutes. Sha'keya Graves and Leah Somerfield topped off scoring for the Golden Grizzlies with ten and 13 points, respectively.

It was a great run for Oakland this season and in the final press conference, emotions were running high for Tungate and his players.

"Obviously I'm really really proud of our seniors," an emotional Tungate said. "I'm usually not like this... They've meant so much to this program and I just can't say enough about them."



Photo Courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

With the leadership of Head Coach Jeff Tungate, women's basketball came out victorious.

Grizz Gang hosts pep rally for Horizon League Tournament

The student organization came together to make men's and women's basketball rowdy

Dakota Brecht
Staff Reporter

With the Horizon League tournament rapidly approaching and the end of the season in sight, Grizz Gang hosted one final event to get the men's and women's basketball teams ready to go.

Tuesday, Feb. 27 at the O'rena was the place to be as players, coaches and fans all came out to support their teams. It was a fun filled night which had everything from player speeches, giveaways, games and a Greg Kampe impersonation by Xavier Hill-Mais that had the crowd rolling in laughter.

"Anytime there is interaction between students, especially when you watch these guys play and once you know them, it makes you want to cheer for them more," Kampe said.

The event started with free Buddy's Pizza and desserts with plenty to go around. After that,

Grizz Gang President Jake Wolok got everyone into their seats and was the MC of the night. The seniors on both the men's and women's teams gave short speeches to the fans.

"I just wanted to say thank you and I appreciate you guys," senior guard Kendrick Nunn said. "Thank you for supporting us, it's been a long season and you've supported us the whole way."

All the seniors said their part and then it was on to the trivia and games. Each basketball player had a question they had to answer given to them by Grizz Gang. It was all generic questions until Hill-Mais stepped up to answer his question to tell a funny story, impersonating his favorite coach.

"It was probably one of the funniest stories that happened this year," Hill-Mais said. "I figured why not talk about something that he's made fun of himself and talk about something

that everyone thinks is funny. I just brought that out for the crowd, I thought it would be a good icebreaker."

Everyone was a big fan of Hill-Mais's impression and many made sure to give him a rating, including Greg Kampe himself.

Cierra Bond- "A solid eight"

Leah Somerfield- "He should of done a little more yelling, but an eight"

Nick Daniels- "Yea that was pretty solid, 10/10"

Brandon Wallace- "Hmmm, I'll give him an 8.34"

Greg Kampe- "Ehhhh the mannerisms was around a 10 but the voice was off, I'll give him a seven."

Games and prizes followed



Brendan Triola / The Oakland Post

The Grizz Gang treated the teams to pizza and dessert before the HLT.

and there were many happy Golden Grizzly fans leaving the O'rena. Students had the opportunity to face off against athletes in events such as water bottle flip, penny stacker, giant bowling, trivia and many more. The prizes ranged from swag packs, a 32 inch TV and an Xbox One.

At the end of the night, the

first-ever pep rally for Oakland basketball was a huge success and many of the players, such as Daniels, appreciate the support.

"It means a lot just to have the fans come out and support us," Daniels said. "You know they're always there to support us and it just means a lot to me because this is my last year."

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The scandalous truth behind the Oakland Center construction

The Post uncovers what's really going on in the Oakland Center

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

Investigative efforts of The Oakland Post have recently uncovered a shocking secret kept by Oakland University administration. While the Oakland Center's renovation may appear to be for the purposes of expanding and beautifying the building, there is a more sinister reason for the improvements.

Emerging from Bear Lake and lurking in the halls of the Oakland Center since its creation in 1959, the creature goes by many names, but is most commonly referred to as Ghoulden Grizzly. Feeding off the stress and anxiety of students, the creature has

become too large to go unnoticed for much longer. Though the beloved student center needed updates, construction workers have also been fighting to get rid of the Ghoulden Grizzly.

"I've seen it with my very own eyes," said Oakland student and former Oakland Post satirist Stephen Armica. "I failed a test and was sulking in the Oakland Center when it approached me and sucked all of the hope for my future out of me. It was like one of those dementors from 'Harry Potter' except it looked like the Grizz."

Armica added that he cannot attend any university events at which the Grizz is present because he'll burst into tears like a small child who got a lollipop taken from him/her. Also, if you don't know what a dementor is, you're an awful millennial and should watch the freaking "Har-

ry Potter" films. Loser.

When The Oakland Post approached university administration about this issue, reporters were given ridiculous answers like "Are you on drugs?" and "This isn't a science fiction movie." So clearly, they're hiding something.

But although no administrators would confirm Ghoulden Grizzly sightings, we here at The Oakland Post don't mind writing articles based on one questionable source. We totally suck, right?

Well we're all you've got, so deal with it. Sucks to suck.

Although there may only be one questionable sighting of the Ghoulden Grizzly, Oakland officials would have plenty of reason to hide a creature lurking in its student center. For one, having a monster on campus would be, like, a total public relations nightmare. Most students are



Photo illustration by Prakhya Chilukuri/The Oakland Post

The Ghoulden Grizzly feeds off of students' stress and anxiety in the OC.

used to having professors who act like monsters (we're looking at you, Paul), but a real monster is a totally different story.

Public relations aside, no student wants to attend a school with an actual monster living in one of the buildings. For crying out loud, college is already terrifying. Let's not throw a soul-sucking monster in the mix.

But anyway, back to the news.

As of print time, construction workers have been unsuccessful in capturing the creature.

Maybe that's because, oh I don't know, they're not professional monster hunters? This isn't amateur hour, Oakland. Call some freaking professionals. (Say it with me, who you gonna call?)

The Oakland Post will continue to provide updates as they become known. Until then, we'll continue to go about our days here in the Oakland Center writing the news. After all, there's no need for us to be afraid because journalists don't have souls anyway, right?

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