



**URNS OUT,
STUDENTS HAVE
LITTLE SAY IN WHERE
THEIR MONEY GOES**

PAGES 10 & 11

Design by Erin O'Neill // The Oakland Post

OAKLAND

DAY AT THE CAPITOL

OUSC plans to push for more state funding during trip

PAGE 4

REMEMBERING

Remembrance Event will pay tribute to those we've lost

PAGE 5

SLAM FOR SOLIDARITY

Poetry slam in support of LGBTQIA+ students takes place

PAGE 18



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WALKING OUT // Before the March For Our Lives on Saturday, March 24, students walked out of classes to make a statement about safety in classrooms on Wednesday, March 14. Oakland students gathered at Elliott Tower to protest.
Photo // Carmen Salt

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

How did your bracket hold up during March Madness?

- A** I didn't care enough to make one
- B** UMBC screwed it up
- C** It was flawless, just like me
- D** I'm mad enough without sports

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

So now that the snow is gone, how do you feel about potholes?

- A) They should be Michigan's state flower
23 votes | 33%
- B) I've blown out all four tires
2 votes | 3%
- C) Driving is like an extreme sport now
39 votes | 57%
- D) I never leave campus so idk
5 votes | 7%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

April 7, 1972

Focus: Oakland, the student newspaper at the time, ran a headline with the "n word" in it

April 6, 1994

"Indecent actions," including "public fondling," were reported in Kresge Library for the third time that year

April 3, 2002

The Oakland University Student Congress president-elect, Brian Tomina, won the election by one vote



12

LOVE, SIMON

A closeted student, much like Simon, discusses the film's ups and downs
Photo // IMDb



13

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

We break down all that happened in Washington DC on March 24
Photo // Samuel Summers



17

LEPLEY CENTER PROJECT

Oakland Athletics opens up about plans for site of former pool
Photo // The Post Archives

BY THE NUMBERS STATE FUNDING

\$308,693,000

The University of Michigan - Ann Arbor receives the most funding from the state

\$49,920,700

Oakland University is among the bottom half of state university funding

\$13,567,400

Lake Superior State receives the least amount of funding in the state of Michigan

\$32,776,900

The difference in funding between UM and MSU, which is second highest funded

Looking Back

A 'drive' into Bear Lake



The Oakland Post Archives

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

It's April 2, 2014. Most would see the headline and assume this was a late April Fool's joke.

However, a red Chrysler Sebring being towed from the frozen Bear Lake was no joke. The Oakland Post's cover that week read "Into Thawing Waters: A car ended up in Bear Lake, and it's not just because there aren't any parking spots."

A tow truck was pulling a motor home in P2. The van unhitched from the motor home, sending it into the Sebring that had never been put in park when the driver left the car. The driver had also failed to park in a spot in which students could park their cars.

The Sebring then rolled from its parking spot and into Bear Lake.

"I come out finding out I could graduate in April and find my car in a lake," said car owner Shauna Hazime.

She didn't know her car was in the lake until after her class.

"There's nothing I can do," Hazime had said.

The incident didn't happen in the middle of the night, nor on a weekend. It happened on a Wednesday, at 12:30 p.m., when campus was at its busiest.

Gage Zurawski was outside of the Oakland Center when it happened, getting ready for an afternoon of live action role playing (LARP) when he saw an older man yelling for help. This man tried to prevent the Sebring from being pushed into the lake.

However, the LARPer and the older man were no match for a car intent on taking a swim in Bear Lake.

"Between the two of us we couldn't stop it," he said. "There's only so much you can do when it's moving so fast."

A tour group directed by Admissions Ambassador Josh Rieck saw the accident take place through the glass doors of Vandenberg Hall.

The van and the motor home it was attached to were both on campus in preparation for the annual Pinball Expo, OUTV reported.

Despite an exhibitor for the expo being involved in the accident, the event went on without a hitch, and The Oakland Post covered the expo in the same issue as the cover story about the car in the lake.

The first tow truck that arrived was too small to pull the car out of the lake. After calling for another larger one, it still took some of them jumping into Bear Lake to secure the car to pull it out.

This wasn't the only car of the 2000s to end up in the lake. Another mid-80s model GM station wagon was pulled from the bottom of the lake after it took the plunge in 1993.

The car was only found after the lake was partly drained to repair the bridge that crosses the lake.

A Big Boy statue also found its home in Bear Lake, having been stolen as part of a fraternity prank. The statue then "mysteriously" ended up at Rochester High School.

The son of one of the pranksters is now one of the Dean's Fellows for the Oakland University Honors College.



THE OAKLAND
POST

Address 61 Oakland Center,
Rochester, MI 48306
Phone 248.370.2537 or 248.370.4268
Web www.oaklandpostonline.com
Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com

editorial board

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief
editor@oaklandpostonline.com
248.370.4268

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor
ckramer@oakland.edu
248.370.2537

Elyse Gregory
Photo Editor
emgregory@oakland.edu
248.370.4266

John Bozick
Web Editor
jcbozick@oakland.edu

editors

Trevor Tyle Campus Editor
ttyle@oakland.edu

Laurel Kraus Life Editor
lmkraus@oakland.edu

Skylar Tolfree Sports Editor
syolfree@oakland.edu

Jessica Leydet Social Media Editor
jcleynet@oakland.edu

writers

Falin Hakeem Staff Reporter
Mary Siring Staff Reporter
Ariel Themm Staff Reporter
Katarina Kovac Staff Reporter
Dakota Brecht Staff Reporter
Sadie Layher Staff Reporter
Michael Pearce Staff Reporter
Emily Morris Staff Reporter
Patrick Sullivan Staff Reporter
Jordan Jewell Staff Intern

advertising

Whitney Roemer Ads Director
ads@oaklandpostonline.com
248.370.4269

Angela Gebert Ads Assistant

copy & visual

AuJenee Hirsch Chief Copy Editor
Katie LaDuke Copy Editor
Mina Fuqua Copy Editor
Alexa Caccamo Copy Editor
Erin O'Neill Graphic Designer
Prakhya Chilukuri Graphic Assistant

Nicole Morsfield Photographer
Samantha Boggs Photographer
Brendan Triola Photographer
Samuel Summers Photographer

distribution

Rachel Burnett Distribution Director
Maxwell Pelkey Distributor
Christian Hiltz Distributor
Austin Souver Distributor
Dean Vaglia Distributor
Maxx Han Distributor
Brittany Brewster Distributor

advising

Garry Gilbert Editorial Adviser
ggilber@oakland.edu
248.370.2105

Don Ritenburgh Business Adviser
ritenbur@oakland.edu
248.370.2533

Corrections Corner:

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact.

Know of an error? Let us know at editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

follow us on Twitter
[@theoaklandpost](https://twitter.com/theoaklandpost)

follow us on Snapchat
[theoaklandpost](https://www.snapchat.com/add/theoaklandpost)

follow us on Instagram
[@theoaklandpost](https://www.instagram.com/theoaklandpost)

find us on Facebook
[facebook.com/theoakpost](https://www.facebook.com/theoakpost)

find us on Issuu
[issuu.com/op86](https://www.issuu.com/op86)



New student body government elected



Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Ryan Fox is the new student body president of Oakland University.

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

Ryan Fox and Brittany Kleinschmidt have been elected Student Body President and Vice President, respectively, for the 2018-19 academic year.

The results were announced on Thursday, March 29 in the Heritage Room of the Oakland Center, with Fox and Kleinschmidt receiving 457 votes.

They were officially sworn into office by their predecessors during a Student Congress meeting on Monday, April 2.

"Ryan has been a wonderful asset to our Student Congress team," said current Student Body President Lena Mishack. "He is passionate about OU and seeks the best possible experience for all students on our campus. OUSC is in great hands next year."

Fox currently serves as the legislative affairs director for Student Congress, while Kleinschmidt is the current student services director. Next year, they will serve alongside newly elected legislators

Austin Church, Tyler Fox, Stephanie Hubbard, Sylvia Kashat, Tyler Parsons, Joseph Petrik, Elijah Sanders, Richard Seeger, Mina Wassef, Hunter Willis and Ronald Yousif.

"In my role, I plan to guide the legislature through all of their initiatives as well as pursue the ones Ryan and I have taken charge of," Kleinschmidt said.

Fox and Kleinschmidt's platform addressed "frustrations" they have experienced during their time at OU in areas such as financial aid, food, accessibility and student employee rights.

Though they weren't anticipating a victory, Fox said their plan to address these issues during their term may have helped them win over students.

"We touched into these issues, which a lot of people just had never talked about before," he said. "A lot of students had this idea of just, 'Oh, well, that's how Financial Aid works,' but we stood up and we said, 'Well, it doesn't have to work that way.'"

That doesn't mean their

jobs will be any easier, though. Fox expressed concerns that the school administration, which has been "less responsive" to OUSC in recent months, might be "trying to stifle communication" with student representatives.

"I hope, personally, to show administration that Brittany and I are people to be reckoned with, and that students here—and the student representatives—deserve respect, and demand respect, quite frankly," he said. "So, I guess my fear there is that the administration might be not as receptive to our ideas as the students are."

However, Mishack said Fox's enthusiasm and willingness to encourage other students' political involvement has made him her ideal successor.

"He has grown so much this year as a leader and continuously advocates on important issues to students," she said. "He organized an entire conference this fall for all of Michigan's public universities and it was honestly one of the most well done conferences I've been to. Over the years, he has gotten hundreds upon hundreds of students registered to vote. Ryan, our Vice President, and I have worked closely on the state funding movement this year, so I am confident he will pick things up right where we leave off."

As far as Fox is concerned, his and Kleinschmidt's administration plan to achieve exactly what their campaign platform promised.

"I've always said, 'you aim for the moon, because if you miss, you might hit a star,'" he said. "So, we're setting our goals as high as we possibly can."

Students lobby for state funding increase

Discussing concerns with legislators in Lansing

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

The voices of students and faculty members will be heard loud and clear on Tuesday, April 10, when members of the Oakland University community travel to Lansing for the 21st annual OU Day at the Capitol.

The event will offer students the opportunity to listen to guest speakers, observe the State Senate and House in session and meet with elected officials. This year, students are being encouraged to lobby for additional state funding for public universities across the state of Michigan.

A recent online petition co-authored by public universities throughout Michigan argues that they currently do not receive enough funding from the state government.

"Over the last decade, the State of Michigan has effectively disinvested from its public universities, while the Corrections budget has continued to climb," it reads. "This does not reflect the pride that we take in each of our public universities. Rather, this reveals a disinterest and undervaluing of learning and of the students at these institutions."

With the decline of the Michigan prison population, students want to allocate some of the state's nearly \$2 billion budget for correctional facilities to increasing funding for higher education.

"We're asking for about 1.5 [percent] of that budget, which is only \$21 million," President-elect Ryan Fox said. "Which is like, change for them, but for us, it's a monumental amount of money."

The petition, however, is simply a "piece of a larger movement," according to Fox.

Last week marked the start of OUSC's letter campaign, which allows students to sign preformatted letters in support of increasing state funding. These letters will be sent to their respective State House

Representatives. Participants will be sent a letter around August telling them whether their representative voted to increase state funding.

"That way, they can make a more educated choice when the time comes," Fox said.

However, according to current OUSC President Lena Mishack, the best way to address the issue is meeting face-to-face with legislators during OU Day at the Capitol.

"I think that really shows a power when an entire school goes to push for things that matter to them," she said. "You're speaking one-on-one with your state legislators, so you have their attention, you have ample time to communicate what issues matter to you, and I think, also, it's just a really great educational experience to just learn more about how our state government runs."

Mishack hopes support will extend beyond students, with special guests such as OU President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz expected to speak at the event.

"I'm hoping she will say something about [increasing state funding], too, as I know she has a lot of influence," Mishack said. "I know she herself actually has been going to the capitol to advocate for an increase to OU's allocation, especially because we're the least in the state right now."

However, both Mishack and Fox implored students to reach out to legislators, whether they can attend OU Day at the Capitol or not.

"A lot of people don't realize that a lot of politics is just controlled by one angry person going and talking to somebody with power," Fox said. "People don't realize how powerful just going to sit with their reps is... OU needs OU Day at the Capitol because it keeps us in legislators' minds. In order for us to stay prevalent and on-stage, we have to go out there and fight for ourselves."

For more information, students can contact OUSC via email at ousc@oakland.edu.

Campus

Students, staff and faculty meet at Elliott Tower for a memorial

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

The Oakland University community will gather at Elliott Tower with the families of students, staff and faculty that have passed away over the past year to honor and celebrate their lives on April 14, 2018.

The Remembrance Event will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. and in the case of rain be it will moved to the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

“

“All these individuals whether they were students, faculty or staff, contributed to our Oakland University community and I think that it’s really important that we acknowledge and honor their lives.”

Jean Ann Miller
Director of the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development

“We had wanted to plan something to acknowledge and recognize anyone who had passed in the academic year,” said Kathleen Genord, events coordinator in the Office of the Provost. “That includes current students, current staff and faculty and retired staff and faculty.”

Jon Margerum-Leys, dean of the School of Education and Human Services, will emcee the event to guide the flow of the service, while President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz and Provost James Lentini will both give short speeches.

There will be a reading of the names of those who have passed, along with chiming of the bell from the carillon tower after each name, and families will be presented with a certificate of achievement with their loved one’s area of work or study.

For veteran student Cameron Docherty of the United States Army, who passed away in February with only a semester left in his computer science program, taps will be played and the folded American flag will be presented to his family.

Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development, created this event last year and reports it will

now be an annual occurrence.

Students who had passed used to be acknowledged at the commencement ceremony, but according to Miller, this is becoming more frequent, so the Remembrance Event was created so they could be rightfully acknowledged.

Students Nicholas Ritz and Docherty, who will be honored at this event, will still receive a diploma at the April and December commencements respectively due to how close they were to graduating. It is unclear whether all students who pass on will be acknowledged at commencement ceremonies moving forward.

“All these individuals, whether they were students, faculty or staff, contributed to our Oakland University community and I think that it’s really important that we acknowledge and honor their lives,” Miller said.

The 17 individuals who will be honored at this event are eight students, three staff members and six faculty.

“I think it’s nice to close the academic year with remembrance and acknowledgement of the accomplishments of the people who passed,” Genord said. “It allows their families to gather and have a sort of feeling of belonging with the other members of Oakland University as well.”

All students, staff and faculty are invited to join this event.

Those not with us anymore:

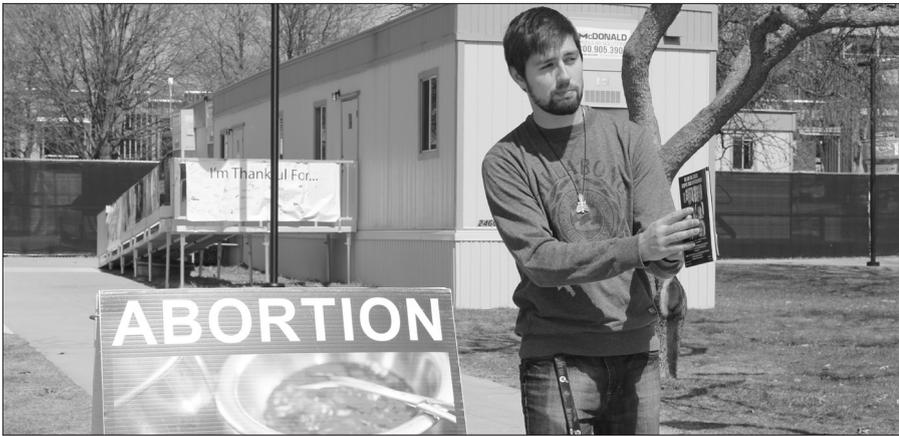
Cinema studies student Guy Beauchamp, social work student Chelsea Collins, computer science student Cameron Docherty, pre-nursing student Michelle Dong-Dobson, business administration student Sara Elizabeth Medon, graphic design student Nicholas Ritz, psychology student Shelby Seyburn, engineering student Dennis Weathers, retired staff Geraldine Palmer Coon, retired staff Lucy Douglas, facilities and management staff Clare McVety, SEHS Distinguished Professor Emeritus James Clatworthy, Distinguished Professor of education Ronald Cramer, Professor Emeritus of English Thomas Fitzsimmons, Professor Emeritus of organic chemistry Kenneth Harmon, Professor Emeritus of modern languages and literature Donald Iodice and OUWB faculty Doctor Samia Ragheb.

WHERE FRESH & FAST MEET®



WE DELIVER!

VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM
TO FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Created Equal arrived a day early to campus with graphic photos depicting abortions.

Anti-abortion group sparks outrage outside of Kresge

John Bozick
Wed Editor

Anti-abortion group “Created Equal” arrived at Oakland University to distribute information regarding the practice of abortion on Monday, April 2. Bringing incredibly graphic images and GoPro camera, the group sparked outrage with students while they were filming students non-stop while they asked them their opinion on abortion.

“The purpose of the event is to spread awareness about abortion and to show the destruction it has on innocent human beings every year in America,” said Sam Riley, an organizer with Created Equal.

The group, which originally was scheduled for an appearance on campus from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3 instead arrived unannounced on campus Monday, April 2. Some students complained to the Dean of Students due to the lack of warning about the graphic images that were displayed by the group.

“No students were warned of potentially trauma-inducing signs and were surprised when walking to class,” said Oakland student Kiera Woodward. “I told the Dean of Students there should have been a warning to the general student population. Nobody wants to be minding their own business going to class and see images that take them back to a traumatic moment in their life.”

Annmarie Terese, another OU student criticized the university for its lack of transparency when notifying students.

“Arriving on campus to find these graphic images with no warning from administration year after year is disturbing and upsetting,” she said. “Students who are new to campus do not

know to expect these kinds events and could be blindsided and traumatized by them. At times like this, it is important that administrative and campus leaders are transparent in their handling of campus issues and event reservations.”

While other groups registered as a student organizations are usually shut down if they gather without reserving a space, the Oakland University Police Department said this group was exercising its First Amendment rights by standing outside Kresge Library and did not tell the group to disperse.

“Even though the group was scheduled for a different day and arrived earlier than expected, Oakland University as well as the Oakland University Police Department endeavor to allow for the free and open expression and discussion of ideas as protected by the 1st Amendment,” said Lieutenant Terry Ross of OUPD. “Even if the expression and discussion is thought to be offensive to some, it is still protected by the First Amendment.”

Ross also said the group had full rights in filming students without their permission and simply urged students to avoid the area, stating, “Since the event was in an area that is specifically designated for an open forum/discussion, a subject’s privacy rights are not infringed upon. In an open/public area there is no expectation of privacy. A person has the right to avoid the area in question if there is that concern.”

While counter protests were planned for April 3, they have since been canceled due to the group’s early arrival. Rumors were spreading that the group may return to campus on a later date. If so, further protests may take place on campus due to outrage from various student leaders over the graphic images.

POLICE FILES

A Dodge Dart vs. an unsuspecting student

On Feb. 28, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., a student arrived at the Oakland University Police Department station to report a personal injury that she was involved in around noon in P-38. The student stated she parked in the lot and was walking toward the Engineering Center when a black car entered the lot and struck her. She said that she stumbled but did not fall. The driver stopped to help her, then the two went their separate ways. Upon speaking to her mother, she came in to make a police report.

1.9 grams and a pipe

Patrolling officers on March 10, 2017 stopped to investigate a parked vehicle on the top floor of P-32 with three males inside at 11:32 p.m. As officers pulled up, they observed one of the individuals smoking a lit object. Upon making contact, officers immediately smelled marijuana as the window rolled down. The occupants were asked to exit and 1.9 grams of marijuana and a pipe was confiscated from the vehicle. The two individuals who had admitted to smoking were placed under arrest and transported to OUPD booking but were later released with citations.

Assault at Ann V. Nicholson

At 1:25 a.m. on Feb. 21, 2018 dispatch was notified of a complainant in the parking lot of Ann V. Nicholson apartments. After arriving, officers made contact with two females, one with a cut above her eye which she said she received when her ex-boyfriend’s brother closed the car door on her, causing the injury. She said she and her ex-boyfriend had gotten into a fight in the apartments when she had left the building. His brother approached her and shoved the driver’s side door in her face at that time, causing her injury. He also spit at them before fleeing in a vehicle. Officers were not able to make contact with the assailant.

Compiled by Mary Siring,
Staff Reporter

NOW HIRING COPY EDITOR

Responsibilities:

- Possess basic knowledge of InDesign
- Create pages for print on a weekly basis
- Work with The Post templates in InDesign
- Create headlines, subheads and captions for all stories
- Make corrections to pages after editor-in-chief, managing editors and chief copy editor have looked over the pages

Must work both production days (Mondays and Tuesdays)

**Interested applicants should send a resume, cover letter
and Adobe InDesign samples to
ayhirsch@oakland.edu.**

Ride along with OUPD



Photo courtesy of OUPD

Sergio Montanez
Contributor

Admit it, Denzel Washington's character in "Training Day" was absolutely classic, courageous and most importantly, epic. But, the portrayal of what police officers do in the movie is overly exaggerated. The work that police officers do have a larger role than just arresting drug lords.

Police Officer Larry Dugan has been working for the Oakland University Police Department since April, 2012. For the past five years, Dugan worked the night shift but recently made the switch to the day shift.

Dugan starts his shift in the early mornings by having a briefing with the rest of his colleagues. At the briefing, officers go through the night shift's reports and events happening on campus throughout the day.

Dugan began his patrol route by heading to the Meadow Brook estate, passing the Human Health Building and the Ann V. Nicholson Student Apartments on the way. He likes to scan the Meadow Brook Amphitheatre and the Sunset Terrace.

Unbeknownst to most people, Oakland University's Police Department's perimeter extends beyond the university's campus. Officers are able to make normal traffic stops on the four major roads surrounding the university. Making his way back on to campus, Dugan reminisces of past times in which he's had to attend to emergency calls. On one particular instance, he had an odd circumstance happen.

"I got call to attend to a student who had injured himself while dancing," he said. "Turns out, the student was an athlete and he had completely thrown

his knee out, completely twisting it all the way around."

Later in the year, Dugan received a call to a medical emergency. Upon hearing that an athlete had injured himself at a big dance competition, he knew right away who it was.

"It was the same kid whom I had attended to earlier in the year," he said. "He had suffered the same exact injury, just on the opposite leg. It was strange."

Turning back onto campus and surveying the remainder of the campus, Dugan discusses the significance of his duties.

"We're here to assist and help people," he said. "Being here gives us the ability to do much more than other places. We're able to do our job like no other place. We can create a more proactive policing."

————— " —————

"Anybody can request a ride-along; it's always there. We are always here for you, for everybody, to ensure your safety and the safety of the whole university."

Larry Dugan
OUPD Police Officer

After looking over the campus, Dugan makes his way back to the station for a short briefing before heading out and making his way around campus once again.

There aren't scripted days while working at Oakland. At any point in time, an officer can be pulling some students over for speeding and surfing on top of the car, which has happened to Dugan before.

"I got into this job because I got a sense of job satisfaction. I'm able to help people, I want to help people. When I go home, it feels good to know that I've done something good for people," said Dugan.

Like Ethan Hawke's character in "Training Day," students can become more familiar with the campus police officers and their job responsibilities by going on a ride-along.

"Anybody can request a ride-along; it's always there," Dugan said. "We are always here for you, for everybody, to ensure your safety and the safety of the whole university."

Waiting for a snap in the payment gap

Educators are underpaid in private and public schools, despite their level of degrees

Emily Morris
Staff Reporter

Okay, but now what?

College is flooded with networking opportunities to prepare for the next chapter—whether that next step be graduate school, a job, or something else entirely. However, some of the most experienced people weaved in college life are being deprived of recognition.

Professors are consistently underpaid throughout many universities, despite their level of education. There are dwindling possibilities for promotion, and part-time positions seem like a dead end according to USA Today College.

"I received my doctorate nine years ago," said Joseph Fruscione, a former part-time professor at George Washington University, in an interview with USA Today College. "Folks with a lot of experience part-timing are seen as washed up or stale. I realized I was never going to move up."

This epidemic is transcending through both private and public universities. In fact, the average annual income for a professor is \$58,830, depending on tenure and speciality, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. Some educators are choosing to stick around through a competitive job market at universities because of a passion for their fields and students.

"Once I discovered linguistics, I knew that I had to spend the rest of my life teaching people about it," said Hunter Lockwood, a current linguistics Professor at Oakland University. "I needed to share this with everybody."

Dedication does not always convey direct appreciation though. As students, many are aware of the skyrocketing levels in the cost of tuition each year—just this past year, OU's tuition rose 3.7 percent. Clearly, these added funds aren't entering the pockets of the professors, though, who are the bread and

butter of the university.

"The demands of teaching at a university extend far beyond our classroom duties, keeping us at our desks long after the traditional work day has ended," said Jennifer Gower-Toms, a Oakland University literature professor. "Most professors that I know go into this profession knowing that the pay will not align with the work they will be expected to do."

Even so, the college degree to which these educators contribute is not only becoming increasingly expensive, but "overvalued" today, according to The Nation. With these statistics, how could professor income remain stagnant? Professors are a necessity for the current learning environment within universities.

Michigan is becoming less invested in the fate of our secondary education system, which has led to the increase in tuition rates. This devastating cycle could be leading to poorer quality education, aside from the few educators that are truly passionate, according to The Center of American Progress. Many staff members throughout universities are forced to settle for part-time positions to nurse a lack of funding and an oversupply of professionals.

Additionally, the number of non-academic professionals has almost doubled in the last 25 years. These employees, surprisingly, have not experienced the same boom in part-time positions and underpayment, according to The New England Center for Investigative Reporting. This dangerous power gap has allowed for educators to get left behind.

Combining a lack of state involvement and miscommunication amongst faculty, professors are facing a challenging environment. There does not seem to be a clear solution in the near future to remedy our educators lack of appreciation, but as long as college is valued so highly, passionate educators will be needed, whether their pay resembles their work ethic or not.

Millennials create a new age of global nationalism

Professor Derek Hastings touches on people's sense of nationalism in final lecture of History Comes Alive series

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

The final installment of the 2017-18 History Comes Alive Lecture Series brought the topic of nationalism to the Oakland Center Gold Rooms. The lecture was given by Professor Derek Hastings and the topic was nationalism in Europe.

Hastings published his first book, "Catholicism and the Roots of Nazism," in 2010 and just last month his latest book, "Nationalism in Modern Europe: Politics, Identity and Belonging Since the French Revolution," was published.

Hastings began the lecture with using United States nationalist mentality as an example.

“For the first time, you could see the power of people who believed that they were fighting for their nation, for themselves...That made a distinct impact on the battlefield.”

Derek Hastings
Professor

“Out of the 330 million, you don't know a fraction of a fraction of a percent,” he said. “Over 50 years, imagine if you tried to meet one new person in every waking hour of every day for the rest of your life. That would be, depending on how much you sleep, 100 or so new people every week.”

That would be about 260,000 people over the course of 50 years, which wouldn't even equal 1 percent of the U.S. population.

“Yet, we're told in surveys, that almost 85 percent of Americans say that they are either patriotic or very patriotic,” Hastings said.

This creates the idea of nationalism; the feeling of connection to people that

we do not know simply because we are part of the same nation.

“One of the striking characteristics of modern European history is the fact that over the last couple of centuries, millions and millions of Europeans have been motivated to sacrifice greatly, potentially fight or kill, perhaps be killed, on behalf of millions of perceived compatriots that they would have no way of knowing,” Hastings said.

The first example of this new mentality came from the French Revolution.

“For the first time, you could see the power of people who believed that they were fighting for their nation, for themselves as opposed to mercenaries or people who thought they were fighting for an abstraction like the king,” Hastings said. “That made a very distinct impact on the battlefield.”

That image changes in the 20th century from German philosopher Johann Herder's multi-national flower garden to what Hastings described as a Social Darwinistic piranha tank.

Radicalization of German nationalism after World War I was a main proponent of this change, transforming to a national bloodstream that must remain pure. Nazi Germany created an idea of a “healthy society” that required eugenic manners that included, eventually, forced sterilization and euthanasia.

“After WWI the feeling was that we didn't do nationalism right so we have to do nationalism the right way,” Hastings said. “After WWII, no-one was trying to do nationalism the right way, instead nationalism was largely discredited.”

The European Union was a final act of a form of belonging, but with a new generation, millennials in particular are finding a sense of nationalism on a global sense rather than in the traditional sense.

Hastings describes the last breaths of nationalism to be found in President Donald Trump's America, Islamophobia and a resurgence in anti-immigration mentality.

“It's entirely possible that the lines of demarcation will be different,” he said. “Despite the apparent resurgence of populist nationalism in recent years, it may indeed be that the nation is passing away, potentially, as the fundamental vehicle in the idea of belonging.”

THE OAKLAND POST
is looking for a

CHIEF
COPY
EDITOR

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Must be very experienced with InDesign
- Strong understanding of AP style
- All the responsibilities of a copy editor including:
 - Assigning pages to copy editors
 - Helping copy editors understand InDesign and AP style better
 - Editing the copy editors pages for print publication

Applications accepted through
April 7, 2018

Please send a cover letter, resume and three page design samples to
ayhirsch@oakland.edu

Classifieds

61 Oakland Center
312 Meadow Brook Road
Rochester, MI 48309

Rates:
\$0.35 per word (\$7 min.)
Unlimited Frequency
STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Call or email us and place your ad today! ads@oaklandpostonline.com | 248.370.4269

HELP WANTED: VALET PARKING

Valet parking attendants, must be 21 or older, must know how to drive a stick-shift, make up to \$30/hour
(248) 740-0900 or apply online at <http://firstclassvalet.com/valet-parking/employment-application>

ADVERTISE ANYTHING*

Need something?
Want something
Want to provide something?

Books
Cars
Garage Sales
Rent

How to make money while sitting on your butt

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

1. Drive people from their residence hall to their parking spot

Parking at Oakland is... less than ideal, so when it gets into the wee hours of the night, especially in the cold months. You can sit outside of any residence hall in your car (because you KNOW you won't be finding a spot) and drive people back to their spot for a cheap fare. You're in the parking structure? \$5! You're in the P1 lot? \$2! Easy money. If you want to charge more, bring snacks and a fire playlist so people will enjoy the incredibly awkward ride in your beat up, hand-me-down car.

2. Sell Vandy keychains outside for half price

If you lose a keychain for the takeout containers, it costs \$10 to replace. Personally, I have three of these keychains because just about every time I walk into Vandy, there's one just chilling on the ground. So, if you're like me and you have a hefty collection of these suckers, just stand outside Vandy and sell them for \$5 to those people who hate socialization so much they need to take their food back to their rooms.

3. Bet on Russian hockey online

I'll admit, this is not my idea. I stole this from a good friend who shall remain nameless. We'll call him Don. Don is a great guy, with a bit of an issue. Don enjoys living on the riskier side of life. His guilty pleasure? Betting on Russian hockey on gambling websites. Now while I don't condone his actions, his methods seem to work pretty well. Placing money on sports teams you know nothing about may not work for you, but it also might. Don't sue me if you lose everything.

4. Become Twitch famous

There is a Fortnite streamer named "Ninja" who makes \$500,000 from playing video games online PER MONTH. One Twitch subscriber gets you \$5 a month, so if you can fire up that console and somehow find a way to stream whatever video game you like the most, you could be receiving steady revenue. Most streamers are college-aged, so it's not too out of the realm of possibilities that you could make it big, so long as you actually know how to play video games

and don't have the personality of a used napkin. The latter is what restricts me from becoming internet famous.

5. Scamming Financial Aid

This one is for the students who are privileged enough to receive financial support from their parents. Make your parents pay your EBill as soon as possible, then apply for EVERY scholarship known to mankind. After lying about how deserving you are of a scholarship, you may just receive one. Once you receive a decent amount of money that should be going to an actual decent human being who could use the support, financial aid will bounce back that money to you in the form of a refund check. Cash that baby as soon as possible, and you just became a lot richer. Sure, your conscience will be destroyed, but your bank account will thank you.

6. Write satire for The Oakland Post

Something that any old moron can do... writing snarky articles while you ignore an existential crisis going on in your psyche. All you need to do is complain, lie, bitch and moan about every little thing in your life, and The Post will reward you with a nice weekly cash amount. Sure, none of your coworkers will respect you, but who needs respect when you can buy all the candy your heart desires?

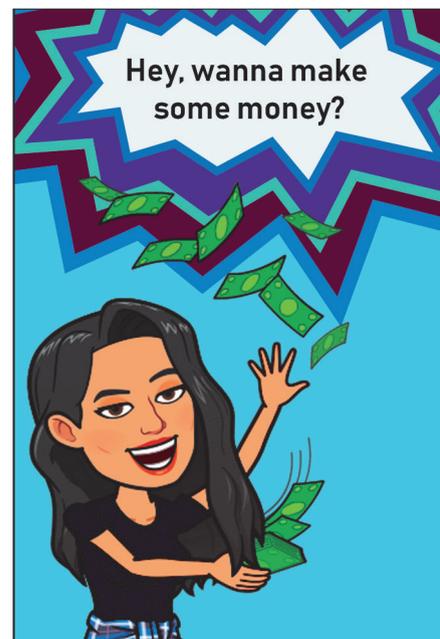


Photo illustration by Prakhya Cilukuri / The Oakland Post
There is a variety of ways to make quick cash.

NOW HIRING STAFF REPORTER

RESPONSIBILITIES

MUST HAVE A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF AP STYLE

MUST WRITE TWO STORIES PER WEEK

ATTEND WEEKLY BUDGET

MEETINGS TO PITCH STORY IDEAS

COMMUNICATE WITH ASSIGNED

SECTION EDITOR EFFECTIVELY

Send resume, cover letter, and three writing samples to ayhirsch@oakland.edu.

OU STUDENTS RECEIVE LOWEST LOAN RATES



As an OU student, you'll receive OU Credit Union's lowest loan rates for credit cards, cars, computers and more, regardless of your credit score or if you don't have credit established.

Open your OU Credit Union account and save.
oucreditunion.org • 248-364-4708





SSSH

How much does your voice matter? Here's a hint: not that much

Story by
Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief
and
Erin Ben Moche
WXOU News Director

Design by
AuJenee Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

Graphics by
Prakhya Chilukuri
Graphics Assistant

"Don't stop trying, make sure you get to our team," -Chief Operating Officer and former Board of Trustees member Scott Kunselman.

"I want to get to know students and have students get to know me. I am interested in understanding what issues are of importance to you," -University President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz.

"As much as you speak up and make us aware, we can advocate strongly for changes within our campus community," -Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh.

"It's very nice being able to work with the students and it's rewarding because you can see the impact you're having," -Director of Budget and Financial Planning Michele Knox.

The at left statements were all given during conversations about student concerns on various issues. As students, we are told time and time again that our voice is important to administrators. But is that true?

Not necessarily. Here's why.

According to Thomas LeMarbe, assistant vice president for finance and administration, Oakland University eliminated all fees back in 2006 due to several voiced concerns from the university community. The plan was to eliminate course fees so students could pay the same amount for tuition but receive more financial aid. Because this was so successful, Oakland decided to eliminate all fees— including fees for parking and OU Rec Well — and roll them into tuition. One of these fees is the Student Activity Fee (SAF).

The SAF funds all student organizations, including Student Activity Fee Assessment Committee organizations such as Oakland University Student Congress, The Oakland Post, 88.3 FM WXOU, the Student Program Board,

Student Video Productions, Club Sports, the Student Life and Lecture Board and the Student Activity Funding Board (SAFB). Confused? So are we.

SAFB's role is to fund all non-SAFAC organizations. There are over 320 student-led organizations and SAFB is given 27 percent of the SAF's fund, the largest percent, to fund as many student organizations as possible.

"Our funds go straight to the orgs," said SAFB Chair Kayla Dafoe. "Without us, honestly, I don't think there would be organizations on campus. We fund conferences, any events, any speakers they want on campus, food, equipment, everything."

In 2011, the student body voted to raise the SAF from \$25 a semester per student to \$30. After considering this vote, university administrators and the Board of Trustees raised it to \$27.50 a semester. This vote cannot be found in the April, June or August BOT meeting minutes. Historically, these meetings are when tuition matters are voted on.

"The 2011 Student Congress resolution seeking a \$5 per student increase in

student activity funding was reviewed by the President and Cabinet," said John Beaghan, vice president for finance and administration & treasurer to the BOT. "It was determined by the President and Cabinet that a \$2.50 per student increase would be funded. This increase was included in the Board approved budget for that year. As enrollment grew for 23 straight years, the gross student activity funding increased."

Any student who attends events or is involved in a student organization is affected by this fee. OU is known as a commuter campus and SAFAC works hard to create memorable experiences for students. In order to do this, appropriate funding is key.

Nobody wants to pay more for tuition, as we have seen over the course of four years. However, this was a decision made by students, for the students seven years ago.

A few months ago, Director of the Center for Student Activities Jean Ann Miller brought this partial raise to the SAFAC leaders. To become more in line with the industry standard SAF



for a university Oakland's size, the SAFAC leaders proposed to raise the SAF to \$50. Had it been approved, it would have gone on the 2018-19 OUSC ballot where the student body could vote to or not to approve this Fee.

However, according to LeMarbe and Knox, even if the referendum passed, it still wouldn't have gone to the BOT. It would cause Oakland to pass a tuition cap set by the state of Michigan, even though a raise in SAF to \$50 from Oakland's current tuition would be about a 0.2 percent increase.

This state cap has inhibited Oakland administration from raising the SAF, according to Knox. She said the SAF has been on a "list of priorities" of things to fund, along with other much-needed improvements like a Varner Hall renovation, for at least the last seven years.

"Every year the needs are evaluated and brought to the table by the vice presidents of each division and, to make it simple, ranked based on the strategic priorities of the university," Knox said. "Unless Student Congress had gone back to the vice president of student affairs and they had brought that to the table as a high priority, nobody would be aware you were still wanting incremental, so it starts fresh every year...now maybe if it went back to the vice president of student affairs but I don't see that happening. There are a lot of needs across the campus and a lot of the time it's the squeaky wheel and stuff gets pulled to the top."

This academic year, Knox raised the SAF from \$27.50 to \$28 unbeknownst to the CSA. Since enrollment was down this year, this small raise did not increase the SAF's total amount but allowed it to remain stagnant. Because the SAF is now rolled into tuition along with other former "fees," administration does not have to notify the campus community when certain prices go up.

"We raised it this year to \$28, it's in the calculation because I was watching what I put in

the budget due to headcount and what was going in because headcount is declining this year, and you weren't getting as much as what I had put in the budget so I proposed to tweak it, even if it's a little more," Knox said.

But the small increase leading to more SAFB funds would be important in the next few years if Oakland wants the Oakland Center renovation and other campus life initiatives to thrive, which, according to Miller, is the expectation of administrators.

This year alone, SAFB has helped students orgs like newly created Black Graduate Student Association of Oakland University, (BGSA), Habitat for Humanity, Gold Vibrations A Cappella and Beta Alpha Psi fraternity.

"With SAFB funding, we have been able to invest in our group and worry less about the financial burdens because of the resources they have provided," said Gold Vibrations Treasurer Maria Gutowski.

Some of the most popular campus events are made possible by the SAF: Meadowbrook Ball; Springfest; De-stress for Finals; featuring acts like Nick Jonas and Iggy Azalea; The WXOU Birthday Bash; speakers like Dave Coulier, Bill Nye and Laverne Cox; Casino Night; The GSA Drag Show; OU Dance- A-Thon; football goal posts and tailgates; OU Day at the Capitol; SVP Movie Nights; SPB Hump Days and trips. To put it simply, this fee is what makes student life vibrant.

When the SAF increase was brought up in 2011, there were only 208 registered student orgs on campus—and students still wished for an increase. It's imperative that the SAF is raised to accommodate aforementioned 320 student groups active today.

Members of the administration, according to Knox, worry that student orgs wish for more money though they don't utilize every dollar in their account.

"You [student orgs] have not been spending everything

that you have," Knox said. "You have been carrying forward near a half a million dollars each year, so we just roll that forward for you. This year, \$1.1 million was actually spent and you have \$1.7 to spend with your carry forward."

Though student orgs do not spend all of the SAF, money saved has resulted in events like SPB's spring concert featuring Nick Jonas to be able to be able to happen.

Student Body President Lena Mishack finds the situation troubling, feeling that student voice and action is something administrators should listen to.

"To me, this situation is important because it's been a very long time since our student organizations received an increase in funding, and there is a lot of need technology and equipment wise for some of our SAFAC organizations just to meet basic industry standards," she said. "Plus, we have a consistently growing number of student organizations funded by SAFB, so eventually we will need to increase SAF to adequately fund them."

Mishack has also sent a resolution of the 2011 vote to Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh's office. If accepted by McIntosh, this resolution will go to the BOT, which meets again April 9, for consideration.

"The resolution right now is submitted to Vice President McIntosh's office to be put on the BOT agenda," Mishack said. "Right now we're still waiting to hear back. I'm hoping by doing this Student Affairs will see a need for our student organizations, along with want from our students, and work to allocate more money to the SAF."

This year's administration has told us our voice matters. Though this issue is not the fault of the current administration, namely University President Pescovitz, it is something that is in their power to improve. Raising this fee would be a good way for them to show us our voice is truly important.

How SAFAC orgs would utilize the extra money

Student Program Board

"Increased Student Activity Fees will allow the Student Program Board to plan more monumental events that students look forward to such as Casino Night, Carnival and Hump Days and give us more opportunities to bring exciting things to our campus."

Oakland University Student Congress

"If OUSC was given an increase to our allocation, we could provide more long-term initiatives and programs to students such as more hammocks, recycling bins, furniture for Hamlin Circle and items for our swag-exchange program."

Student Activities Funding Board

"The more money the Student Activities Funding Board receives, the more money we are able to allocate to organizations which will improve campus culture while giving more opportunities to students."

Club Sports

"Having more money for club sports would allow clubs to represent Oakland at a higher level and potentially host more home games. There are costs associated with games on and off campus, so more money would allow these students to provide more student life experiences for students on campus, as well as represent Oakland in various different states and potentially nationals."

The Oakland Post

"With increased resources, The Post could move toward any number of things including better technology for producing issues, more issues of The Pioneer, video equipment and more that would give our campus the best reporting possible."

88.3 FM WXOU

"An increase in SAF funding would help WXOU in staying up to date with the constantly changing landscape of the media industry, and furthermore would allow us to provide a more relevant learning experience for our members who plan to pursue a career in broadcasting."

Student Video Productions

"Increasing the student activities fund would benefit SVP in many ways. We would get better equipment for our members, and it would help us have bigger events on campus to gain recognition. If we had an increase in funding, we could probably set up our own studio with the proper lighting, sound and overall production equipment."

“Love, Simon” made my cold heart love again

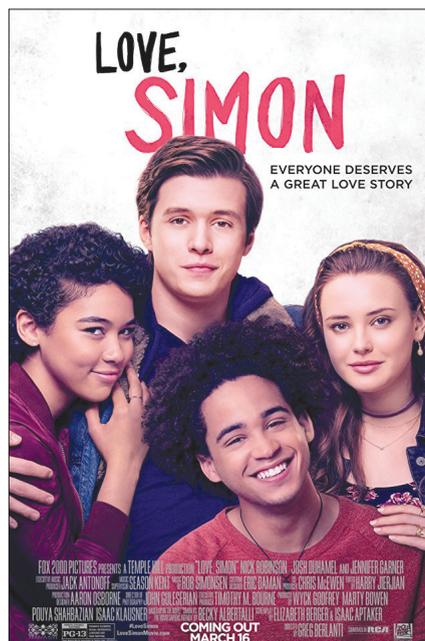


Photo courtesy of IMDb

Protagonist 17-year-old Simon is coming to terms with his sexuality and has a new crush. Meanwhile, no one knows.

Ensoleillement

Someone just like Simon

So I went to an early showing of “Love, Simon” with my friends unfortunately forgetting waterproof mascara. Trust me, don’t leave home without it if you go and see this movie.

Going in to this movie, I knew Simon was gay and it would somehow be spread throughout his high school’s secrets website. On this website, a boy who uses a pseudonym, writes a letter about how he is closeted, scared and wants to find love. Simon responds and they start falling in love with each other while having no idea who the other person is.

Simon spends a good chunk of the movie looking for this mystery man, while Martin, another character, screenshots Simon’s emails and blackmails him. Martin wanted to get with Simon’s friend, Abby, otherwise he would leak that Simon was gay.

Abby denied Martin at the homecoming rally in front of everyone, so he leaked Simon’s sexuality on the secrets website which of course everyone read. Simon is pissed off

and angry. There is only one other gay person who is out at his school. Then his friends got mad at Simon because they were pawns in his game, and he was trying to set them up with people to protect himself.

This is where I got upset. Simon has less to lose in my opinion than if I came out. He has a comfortable liberal household with pretty accepting friends. I come from a very white, conservative town, and I am bisexual which often confuses people and is a lot harder to explain. Coming out can be dangerous in certain situations. Parents have kicked out kids for being gay so they had to live on the street.

Simon eventually came out to his family on Christmas morning, the day after the emails are published. His mom, played by Jennifer Garner, is a therapist and through her therapeutic skills, she could tell something was off with him. She said it felt like he was holding his breath, which is where I proceeded to ball my eyes out because that is me currently.

This movie proceeded to make me think about myself in ways I attempted to avoid. I would bury myself in my work and classes so I would not have to come to terms with who I am and attempt to figure myself out. I did not realize I was consciously doing that until I saw this movie. It definitely helped me a lot to come to terms with things but also made me want to talk about this with my parents. However, then I managed to get myself into anxiety attack mode.

I have a few arguments though. As mentioned before, I did not like how they put him in a comfortable liberal family. As much as I love the actor, he is not actually gay in real life. Secondly, I would prefer a story like this where the protagonist is a person of color. I am glad there was more variety especially since the love interest was a gay person of color.

Also, I might be wrong but have there been movies where its a gay female coming out? I feel like I was not able to see myself in a gay female on TV shows, especially not Emily from “Pretty Little Liars.” It seems to always be gay men.

Overall “Love, Simon” was a great movie, but I wish the situation was a bit different.

WE’RE LOOKING FOR A MANAGING EDITOR

RESPONSIBILITIES

- + Helps the editor-in-chief manage reporters, photographers and copy editors
- + Helps run weekly budget and editor’s meetings
- + Strong understanding of AP style
- + Edits half of the stories for print and web publication
- + Basic knowledge of InDesign
- + Writes a minimum of one story a week
- + Provides feedback and corrections for pages during production
- + Is in charge of the contributor pool
- + Works with four contributors individually
- + Runs weekly contributor meetings for story ideas, photos and graphics

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH

APRIL 7, 2018

PLEASE SEND A COVER LETTER, RESUME
AND THREE WRITING SAMPLES TO

ayhirsch@oakland.edu

#NeverAgain took the streets of Washington D.C.

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

On Saturday, March 24, students and activists rallied in Washington, D.C. for the March For Our Lives to protest against gun violence.

I was fortunate enough to have been offered to be flown out to D.C. to attend this historic event by David Chipman, who serves as a senior policy adviser at Giffords, the gun violence prevention organization led by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords who survived an assassination attempt in Tucson, Ariz.

Chipman and his team at Giffords organized everything from flights, hotel arrangements, meals and entertainment for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (MSD) students that chose to come to D.C. for the march.

On the morning of the march, the Parkland students, Giffords team and I hopped onto busses from the hotel and headed to the drop off point.

Excitement and nerves ensued, as Demetri Hoth, a senior at MSD, sitting to my right on the bus stated, "I can't believe we're finally here. People are telling us, 'thank you' yet I feel like I want to thank them. They helped make this happen. It's really surreal."

The program began at noon, and various performers began to take the stage, such as Common, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Miley Cyrus, Ariana Grande, Jennifer Hudson, Ben Platt, Vic Mensa, Andra Day and Demi Lovato.

Student speakers from Parkland included David Hogg, Delaney Turr, Alex Wind and Cameron Kasky. MSD student Emma Gonzalez and Martin Luther King Jr.'s nine-year-old granddaughter Yolanda Renee King also spoke.

"My grandfather had a dream that his four little children would not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character," King said. "I have a dream that enough is enough. That this should be a gun-free world. Period."

Edna Chavez, a South Los Angeles resident, recalled the day her brother was killed.

"Ricardo was his name," Chavez said. "Can you say it with me?" "Ricardo! Ricardo!" the crowd around me chanted in unison.

"I lost more than my brother that day," Chavez said. "I lost my hero."

Another young speaker at the march was Naomi Wadler, an 11-year-old who spoke eloquently on urging the nation to not forget black women, who are disproportionately represented among the victims of gun violence.

"I am here to acknowledge and represent the African American girls whose stories don't make the front page of every national newspaper, whose stories don't lead on the evening news," Wadler said. "I represent the African-American women who are victims of gun violence, who are simply statistics instead of vibrant, beautiful girls full of potential."

Gonzalez, a senior at MSD, is one of the most recognizable fac-



Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Protestors not only took the streets of D.C. but took the streets here at Oakland University to demand gun control for schools across the U.S.

es leading the student movement on gun control. When she took the stage, tears could be seen on many in the crowd.

She named the victims of the MSD shooting in Parkland, Fla., and proceeded to stand in silence. Finally, after a few minutes, the beeping of an electric timer rang out.

"Since the time that I came out here, it has been six minutes and 20 seconds, the shooter has ceased shooting and will soon abandon his rifle and blend in with the students so he can walk free for an hour before arrest," Gonzalez said. "Fight for your lives before it is someone else's job."

Political Focus: Yemen and the war nobody knows about

The United States' role in the worst humanitarian crisis in the Middle East



John Bozick
Web Editor

With our dysfunctional Congress and President Donald Trump's antics dominating the news cycle day in and day out, it's almost impossible for Americans to focus on any news other than the current mess that occupies the Executive and Legislative branches in Washington. Many in America may

not know of our country's role in the worst humanitarian crisis in years taking place in the Middle East. No, not in Syria, but in the little-known country of Yemen.

Since the Arab Spring rocked the region in 2011, Yemen has been in chaos following the stepping down of authoritarian President Ali Abdullah Saleh, handing power to his deputy Prime Minister Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi. Immediately following this transition of power was rough; due to terrorist attacks, corruption and unemployment, a separatist movement known as The Houthi Movement emerged as a separatist initiative in the country.

With strong support from the Yemeni population the group moved to seize the capital of the country through a coup d'etat in 2014. With Hadi and his supporters fleeing,

this sparked the ongoing conflict that has seen Hadi flee the country and thousands killed in a conflict that bears many similarities to the better known Syrian Civil War.

Fearing the rise of a power believed to be backed by Iran, Saudi Arabia and a coalition of other Middle Eastern countries launched a military campaign against the country bringing famine and destruction to the already ravaged country. This deadly military campaign is being funded and supplied by the United States, which while not directly contributing has played a significant part in the destruction of Yemen.

Yet while Congress officially passed an official resolution in the House of Representatives last year that should have ended the U.S. role in the conflict, it has not stopped the U.S. from resupplying Saudi

bombers and providing logistical help in the campaign against the rebels.

U.S. involvement goes beyond simply providing fuel and information: The U.S. has provided billions of dollars worth of weapons to the brutal Saudi regime. In October 2016, 145 mourners were killed at a funeral. The missile used by Saudi Arabia was shown to be manufactured by the U.S. Innocent civilians killed by American weapons in a conflict we have no right to partake in.

As was the case in American wars, Congress never declared war in this conflict, instead acting under the war powers resolution that has seen Congress bypass the formal declarations of war and has been used to drag our country into almost a perpetual state of war since it was introduced in 1973.

Recently there have been efforts in Congress to halt U.S. involvement in the conflict, legislation introduced by Senator Bernie Sanders, with help from Republican Mike Lee and Democrat Chris Murphy would have prevented the U.S. from further participating in the war. However; the bill was struck down in a vote on March 20, further showing how the U.S. government is tied down by the Saudi regime and our vast need for oil.

While the U.S. continues to attack regimes such as Syria, Iran and North Korea, we continue to ignore the crimes that Saudi Arabia commits on its own people, and in Yemen. As this brutal war rages on, the silence needs to stop, and the mass media needs to tell the world about what is happening instead of reporting on the latest Trump jargon.

George Ezra's second album is nothing short of "Paradise"

The much anticipated "Staying at Tamara's" offers a variety of melodies as it follows Ezra's best-selling 2014 album

Jessica Leydet
Social Media Editor

British singer-songwriter George Ezra released his second album, "Staying at Tamara's" on March 23. It was much anticipated as it took him four years to develop — and I have to say, it was well worth the wait.

Ezra is best known for his song "Budapest" from his first album, "Wanted on a Voyage." His previous album spent a total of four weeks at number one on the UK charts and was the third best-selling album of 2014 in the UK. His new album has been out for just over a week, and it has already been awarded the fastest selling album of 2018.

Much like his first album, this one is very diverse because it offers songs that are both energetic and upbeat, but also ones that are more chill.

"Paradise" and "Don't Matter Now" were the first two songs to be released as singles before the album debut. Both of these songs have warm and cheerful melodies which pair ever so perfectly with Ezra's unique baritone voice.

"Paradise" describes what it's like be-

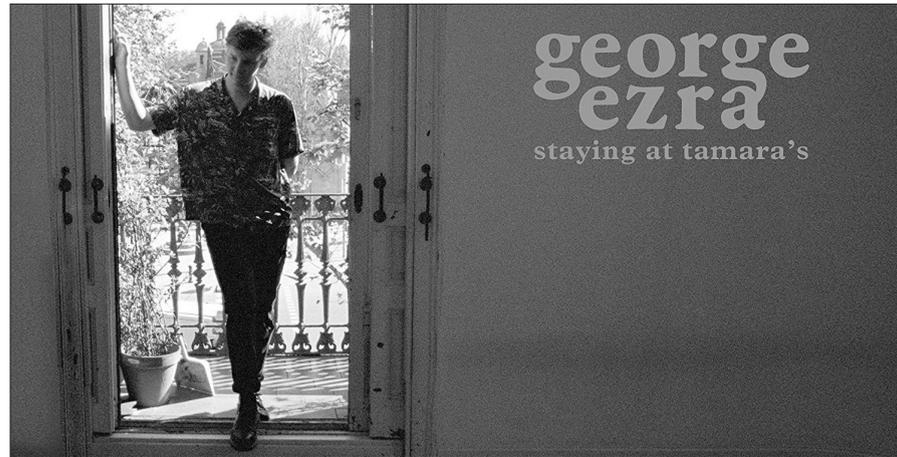


Photo Courtesy of RadioUTD

Ezra's sophomore album features 11 tracks that will get people in the mood for summer.

ing overwhelmed with the feeling that you could be falling in love. The chorus, "If it feels like paradise running through your bloody veins/ You know it's love heading your way" paints the experience in such an accurate way. The song, "Don't Matter Now" is the perfect anthem for all the introverts out there who are tired of explaining why they need to recharge and take some well deserved me time.

The song starts off, "Sometimes you need to be alone/ It don't matter now/ Shut the door, unplug the phone/ It don't matter now/ Speak in a language they don't know/ It don't matter now."

Another feel-good song on the album is, "Shotgun." The lyrics are carefree and will have you longing for the summer time. The song starts off, "Homegrown alligator, see you later/ Gotta hit the road,

gotta hit the road /The sun it changed in the atmosphere/ Architecture unfamiliar / I can get used to this." These lyrics make listeners forget about the April showers by teleporting them somewhere tropical, even if it is just for a few minutes.

In the midst of these summertime anthems, Ezra's song "Hold My Girl" is a love song listeners will want to hear. It isn't overly sentimental because he sings of love by identifying realistic challenges you face in any relationship like moving cities, bills to pay and cold nights. My favorite lyric from the song and example of this is, "I've been dreaming 'bout us/ Working hard and saving it up/ We'll go and see the man on the moon/ My girl we've got nothing to lose."

The album is genuinely a great soundtrack for the dog days of summer. Ezra is a timeless artist because of his smoldering voice and his ability to blend it so well with his music. I think I'll definitely have this one on repeat in a couple of months, hopefully on a beach somewhere.

Rating: 5/5 stars

Current Joys discovers a new way to connect

Nick Marinelli
88.3 FM WXOU Music Director

As first hinted in his 2017 Split EP single "Dogfight," Nick Rattigan has discovered a new way to emotionally convey himself to audiences. This method has consisted of matching concise glistening guitar notes with deep tones, complemented by vocals that invoke an image of painstaking delivery.

"Become the Warm Jets" sets the tone and flow of the record. Its steady drum and percussion beat is followed by a deep-toned guitar that carefully slides on down, his guitar a musical banister, allowing the listener to let go and float away.

"Fear" struts in with a looping melody. Demanding listeners' attention with an insistent drum beat that falls underneath sparkling dead guitars. On an album of restrained, ruminating arrangements, "Fear" sticks out as a mid-tempo number.

Lyrics like these have been used plenty of times over across genres. Rattigan, however, gets listeners to believe him as his wails increase. Rattigan is taking simple, candid, bare phrases and delivering them with an honesty and emotion, which soon after it grabs hold of you, won't let go.

The synth is effectually timed, fitting strongly with its accompanying music video that shows the camera panning around the room to Rattigan's friends and

loved ones. Listening to the song has this effect too. You feel yourself circling as the synth line wanders about.

"Alabama" picks up the synth where it left off, and deceptively teases itself as an uplifting song. Until Rattigan begins singing. Employing his steady guitar style over the synth. It should not be a mystery why Rattigan titled this song "Alabama." There is a soothing country vibe to it.

"Way Out Here" takes Rattigan's vocals and thins them out even further, working well with his high-pitched delivery. Simple, but concentrated guitar notes are used in this song as well. This is a theme that persists throughout the record. This minimalist approach does work towards driving home the overriding emotions found throughout the record. Like other artists, take Lana Del Rey for example, Rattigan is very much focusing on a singular approach with this album.

"No Words" is true to its title. There are no words on the track. I was a tad humored by this at first, along with the accompanying music video that shows us a pale, makeup layered woman on her bed. She does not move — yes, not at all — throughout the entire video. I'm not sure if she even blinks.

"In a year of 13 moons" crowning jewel is unveiled when Rattigan exhales, "Now you're so far, away." His falsetto perfectly harmonizes with the keyboard.

"A Different Age" is the most confrontational Rattigan gets on the record. He directly addresses what makes him different from most songwriters. One

could critique this phrase as pretentious, yet another angle that can be taken is that Rattigan is finally standing up for himself, on a record full of him lamenting who he is as a person. It's rather inspiring.

I've been trying to figure out what makes Rattigan's music so appealing in the never-ending sea of indie music. One conclusion is his music has soul, a rare quality in songwriters. His ability to write passionately in his lyrics, then perform it with that same passion is incredibly moving.

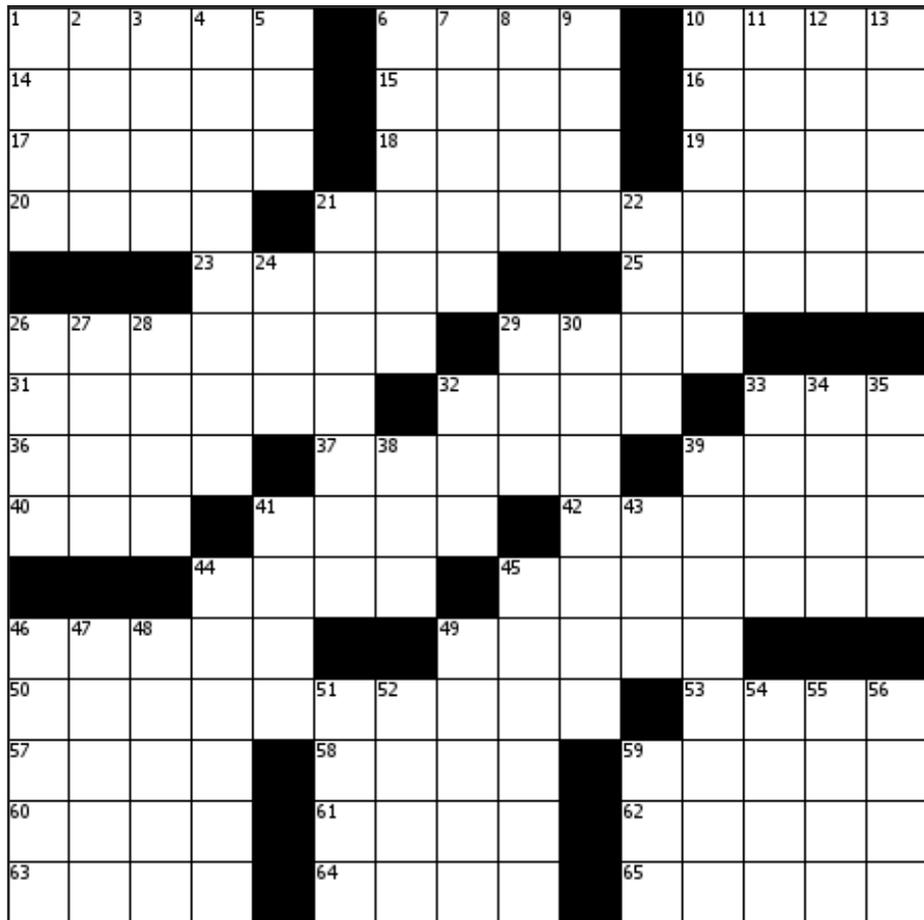
A full version of this review can be found on WXOU.org



Photo Courtesy of SoundCloud

Current Joys offers a mix of deep guitar notes and vocals.

Puzzles



Across

1. Drizzly
6. Eyelid hair
10. Long, narrative poem
14. Improper
15. Previously
16. TV host Jay ____
17. River mouth
18. Celebrity
19. Man or Wight
20. Wide-mouthed pitcher
21. Limited
23. Off-white
25. Mob scenes
26. Admires
29. Revise text
31. ____ pig
32. Employs
33. Performed
36. Lady's escort
37. From Oslo
39. Skirt length
40. Compass dir.
41. Mortgage
42. ____ Rico
44. Fly
45. Member of Congress
46. Stage offering

49. Stone worker

50. Elegance
53. Pestors
57. Wicked
58. Notre ____
59. Southern beauty
60. Positive
61. Love deity
62. Colorado resort
63. Clairvoyant person
64. Avian dwelling
65. Resource

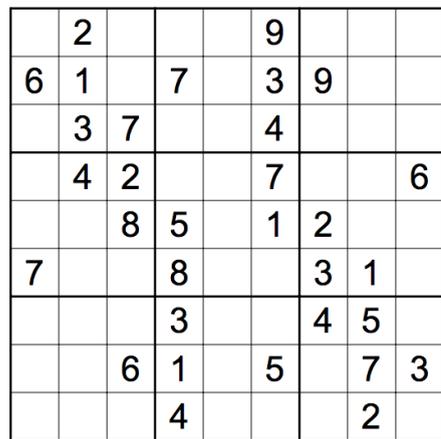
22. Spring bloom
24. Neckline shape
26. Omelet items
27. Takes legal action
28. Fork point
29. Snaky shape
30. Least shallow
32. Coffee vessel
33. Grime
34. Occupied with ____
35. Couturier Christian

Down

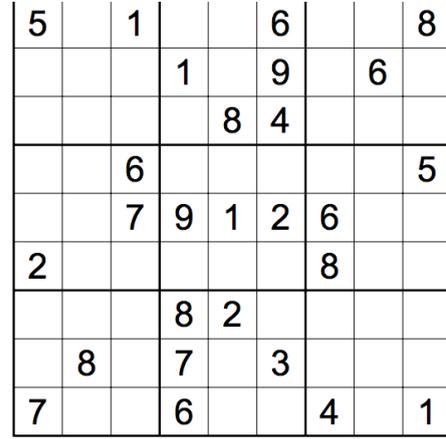
1. Uncivil
2. Over again
3. Not active
4. Calcium or vitamin E
5. Favorable vote
6. Defeated ones
7. Fidgety
8. Go away!
9. German mister
10. Draw out
11. Green sauce
12. Small bay
13. College women
21. Hungary's neighbor

38. Poet's above
39. Cruelty
41. Borrowed money
43. Numero ____
44. Happy one
45. Least daffy
46. Garb
47. Musical show
48. Blazing
49. Office notes
51. Biblical garden
52. Colt's mom
54. Heidi's mountains
55. Happiness
56. Mailed
59. Sheep's comment

NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE

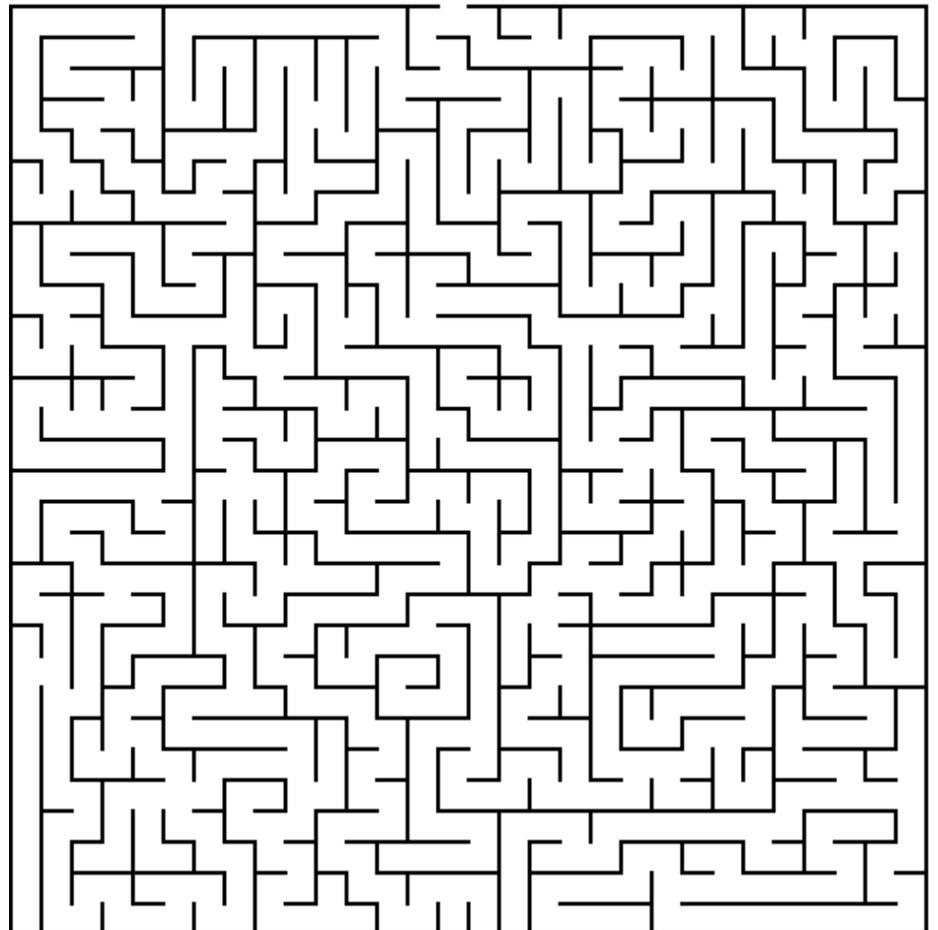
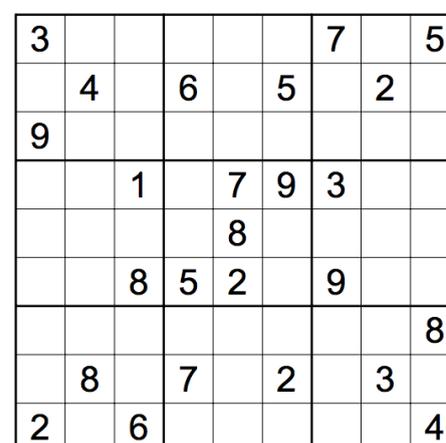
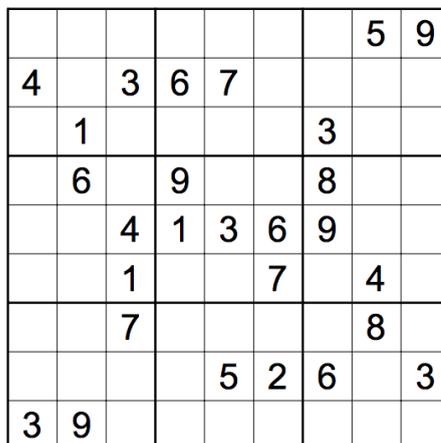




Photo Courtesy of Dr. Joe Messina

Feed the Future is an initiative to aid and provide food for children living in impoverished areas.

Flying high while giving back

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

An Oakland University professor and a Michigan State University graduate student were part of a team using drones for research in Africa. Doctor Jon Carroll of Oakland was chosen to work on the project because of his expertise in unmanned flying objects such as drones. Carroll is a Registered Professional Archaeologist, FAA-licensed drone pilot and assistant professor in OU's Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice.

"What's going to be useful is that there are a lot of sophisticated but accessible technology out there," Carroll said. "[This] allows us to make decisions of what's best to move forward."

The project is titled "Precision Agriculture for Smallholder Systems in Africa," and is a part of Feed the Future. Feed the Future is a United States government global hunger and food security initiative.

This initiative and project is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). It is in collaboration with Michigan State's Center for Global Change and Earth Observations and Kansas State University's Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab.

Carroll is typically involved with archeology abroad. He was chosen because he was a part of Center for Global Change during his time as a graduate student at Michigan State.

Brad Peter, a MSU graduate student involved with this project, which took place in Malawi which is a landlocked country on the east side of the African continent parallel with Madagascar.

"I initially became involved in this project after taking a geocomputation course with

my now adviser, Doctor Joseph Messina," Peter said. "I have always enjoyed answering "where" questions using geospatial techniques, and he approached me with an opportunity to join a project investigating where marginal agricultural lands in Malawi exist and what makes them marginal."

The drones were specifically used to map the land both geographically and precisely. The mapping was used primarily for finding where the best land to farm was. The drone could produce graphs which showed where the most water and healthy soil were located. This is Carroll's first experience with his drones being used for agriculture.

According to Peter, Malawi has very diverse geomorphology, also known as the physical features of the surface of the earth and their relation to its geological structures. Malawi has one of the largest freshwater lakes in the world and is home to many mountains.

"Aside from the beauty, Malawi is facing issues associated with shifting rainfall patterns, soil degradation, population growth and food security," Peter stated. "Being a geographer, I see immense value in maps and spatial data and enjoy using such techniques to tackle pressing world problems."

The drones also make it so different researchers can download the video. This way they can view what the group has seen first hand. According to Carroll, he is continually working on different kinds of analysis, with different fields and areas to tie together into a larger picture. This way the videos and the drones can tie into a solution to agricultural difficulties in Malawi.

"It's a great place to conduct research and is known rightfully as the 'warm heart of Africa,'" Peter said.

The Wiggins retire after 24 years of teaching

Professors Bob and Jackie Wiggins say goodbye to Oakland after two decades of teaching

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

After nearly 24 years, Oakland University professors Bob and Jackie Wiggins will retire at the conclusion of the academic year.

The couple was honored during a retirement celebration on Tuesday, April 3 in the Oakland Center.

Bob has worked as a professor in education and human services, while Jackie worked as a distinguished professor of music education, led as the associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and became the founding director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance.

Both professors worked on their undergraduate and master's degrees from the Queens College in New York City before going on to the University of Illinois for their doctorates. They both began careers in public schools, with Bob working as a principal, before they both joined OU as faculty members in 1994.

"Neither of us had heard about Oakland University before we got here, since we grew up in New York City and spent our whole lives in that public system," Bob said. "When I came here, I found that some of the leading top educators worked here. Actually, a couple people in the Reading and English department, I found that I had their books when I was a principal and I was just thrilled to come here and work alongside people that I really admired throughout my career."

For the couple, coming to OU meant a great deal, but in different ways. They saw a future not just for themselves, but for the school in general.

"I saw this amazing amount of potential for what I needed to do professionally and Oakland had that for me," Jackie said. "I had been offered jobs from universities that were kind of mired in their histories and I knew that I couldn't work for a school like that because my ideas were kind of cutting edge and Oakland is a cutting edge kind of place. When I first came, this is a place where I could come and establish a program that is now one of the top leading programs around and as I took it, there was nothing I was taking away or replacing, I just took it to

the highest level that I could."

For the Wiggins family, being a part of the OU community was more than just a job. Their daughter and son-in-law both attended and graduated from OU as well.

For the next several years, the couple cultivated relationships with students and staff at OU, working in multiple areas that grew dear to their hearts.

"My favorite class to teach was on Elementary Education Classroom Management and Diversity Issues," Bob said. "I think it represents probably the most important piece of being a teacher and that's developing relationships with your students, in a way to help them mature and help them move towards developing goals."

“

"I saw this amazing amount of potential for what I needed to do professionally and Oakland had that for me."

Jackie Wiggins
Soon-to-be retired Instructor for Oakland University

Both educators developed special connections that extended to both classes and students at OU.

"I would not say any particular class is my favorite because my energies were focused on Undergraduate Music Education majors and developing new teachers," Jackie said. "I taught all the courses because I loved all of the courses. Some of the students I had for six or seven courses and even got to supervise their student teaching, which was really special in its own way."

Bob will officially retire from OU on April 30, while Jackie will retire on June 30. Jackie promised to continue mentoring students and reaching out to them using her *mertia* status, which allows past faculty to interact with current students as long as they are recommended to do so.

Healthology Symposium on effects of upstream health

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

This year's Healthology Symposium topic is on public and environment wellness. It involves discussion on various topics such as wellness and health promotion, public health, environment health and safety and safety science management. It also specifically pursues society's big health challenges.

The symposium is a two day event Tuesday, April 17 to Wednesday, April 18. Tuesday's event is a public forum being led by TED Talk speaker Doctor Rishi Manchanda, founder and president of Health Begins. The Tuesday event is open and free to the public, and it will be located inside the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday continues with panel discussions from different students and researchers. It will also include breakout sessions for developing professional action. The closing remarks will be from Doctor Paul Grundy. Wednesday's event will be inside the Human Health Building in room 1050 from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m and requires an RSVP.

"This year's event centers around

that concept of better upstream health," Dean of Health Sciences Kevin Ball said. "This will really affect our health status and perspective of an urban population."

According to Ball, the discussions will be about how important addressing "upstream" social determinants of health are, and how it will eventually conclude with achieving better "downstream" care. Ideally, this symposium is designed to call for public awareness and professional action.

Social determinants of health depend on what area a certain individual derives from and what resources are available to them. Is there clean water, air, food and soil? These are different determinants that affect social society especially for health care. Upstream health involves global forces and governments. By funding the upstream health, more affordable options may become available and eliminate health care discrepancies which in turn helps individual patients down the road.

"The purpose is to honor the research and scholarship produced by the School of Health Sciences faculty and students and to provide a platform by which they can share their work with our com-

munity partners," said Kristin Landis-Piwowar, interim associate dean of the School of Health Sciences.

The conversation will also discuss how when it comes to health care service inside the U.S., people and consumers always pay per service. There is not a good system of "upstream" funding according to Ball.

"Your zip code is one of the best predictors for the future likelihood of life so good conditions equal a long and healthy life," Ball said. "If we as a society could do better, it would improve people's quality of life and save money that could go to a healthcare provider for preventable diseases such as type two diabetes, essentially, whatever we can do upstream is going to help."

The Board of Advocacy and Research Development (BOARD), is who contacted the acclaimed TED Talk speaker and helped arrange the event. The BOARD also assisted in sponsoring the event as well as finding various sponsors.

This year's event is meant to be larger and reach a greater number of community members. The idea is to bring community members on campus to see what students and the department have completed and accomplished.



Nicole Morstfield / The Oakland Post

Kevin Ball, dean of Health Sciences addresses the ongoing importance of upstream health.

"This symposium is being delivered at a larger scale than last year," Landis-Piwowar said. "It is designed to not only educate health care providers and payers but also to provide tools and practical application of addressing social determinants of health."

KEEP UP WITH THE POST

find us on twitter, facebook, & issuu



or visit us online at oaklandpostonline.com

THE OAKLAND POST

Gay Straight Alliance hosts Slam for Solidarity II

Jordan Jewell
Staff Intern

Featuring poetry about and in support of the LGBT-QIA+ community, the second Slam for Solidarity took place on Friday, March 23 as part of Pride Month.

The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) hosted the event with the support of members of the OU Feminists. The event was free for all Oakland University students as well as families and friends.

The program consisted of nine student performers who read two poems each, as well as having an open-mic portion. Audience members were invited to share spoken word poetry that resonated with them emotionally. Performers were also allowed to read poems by other writers that they felt would help them express themselves.

Poetry slams provide people with a platform to share their thoughts and feelings to an audience. Although these slams are normally competitive, the Slam for Solidarity did not have a winner, simply acting as an open forum.

GSA Secretary Dean Nasreddine came up with the idea for Slam for Solidarity last year.

"I felt like marginalized students deserved a platform where they could express their frustrations, joys and overall thoughts creatively," he said. "I thought it was especially important considering the outcome of the 2016 presidential election."

GSA offered more information about upcoming



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Destinee Rule performed her original poem, "Sensodyne."

Pride Month events and also handed out customized GSA PopSockets for audience members with. During intermission, NextGen, an organization focused on getting young people more involved in politics, helped students register to vote.

As a part of Pride Month, LGBT students were encouraged to part take in the slam even if they didn't have experience with poetry.

"Prior to the event we held a poetry workshop," said GSA Vice President Morgan Shaw-Andrade. "We gave out prompts to get people's creativity going. Sometimes it's hard to put what we're trying to express into words so I think the workshop was really helpful."

OU students read poems on a variety of topics. Destinee Rule read a poem she wrote called "Sensodyne" about abusive relationships. Another student performed "To My Internalized Homophobia." Other topics included racism, discrimination and body dysmorphia. No topic was off limits, allowing poets to speak on whatever was on their mind.

At poetry slams, audience members are encouraged to make noise when they hear a line that resonates with them. This was also encouraged at Slam for Solidarity.

"Writing poetry and reading it to an audience can provide catharsis in times of stress," Nasreddine said prior to the event. I think that's the goal, really. My hope is that, if anything, people will feel a sense of community in that room on Friday, a reminder that whatever they have felt or experienced is echoed in someone else."

After the success of this year's Slam for Solidarity, Nasreddine hopes to continue the tradition next year.

Students who are still interested in getting involved with Pride Month, which continues through April 12, can find a list of the remaining events on the Gender and Sexuality Center website.

"May Your Sib Be With You" this weekend

The three-day event was designed with all ages in mind and will have activities all over campus for the weekend

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

The Residence Halls Association will be partnering with organizations on campus like Chartwells and the Oakland University Rec Well to host fun-filled activities for OU students to do with their siblings. Along with the Zombie Walk, it is considered to be one of the RHA's biggest events of the year.

This year's theme is "May Your Sib Be With You," in reference to both the sibling bonding and some of the "Star Wars"-themed activities expected to take place over the weekend, which will cater to all siblings regardless of age.

"This will be an all inclusive event," said Bettina Lee, the co-coordinator of the event. "For example, we will be showing two movies during the weekend: 'Despicable Me 3' for younger audiences, and then more of a PG-13 style movie with 'The Force Awakens.'"

Among other events, there will be two

boxes of unstuffed animals for siblings to stuff and accessorize. While they wait, they can play lightsaber tag with blow-up lightsabers. The Rec Well will be open for siblings to play basketball or go swimming during the day as well.

"Fundamentally, we want to show off Oakland University for the siblings. We want the events and their time here to peak their interest and to promote sibling bonding and show them what it's like to be a Grizzly."

Bettina Lee
Co-coordinator of Siblings Weekend

Additionally, RHA has arranged for a magician to come on Friday night and give a magic show. There will even be an open mic night for siblings to watch and participate in, whether it be with jokes or songs.

"Something cool we're adding this year was an idea from RHA staff was to have a video game contest in the Bear Cave at the OC," Lee said. "We will be having siblings face off in games like 'Mario Kart' and 'Super Smash Brothers' and much more."

There will also be a galactic scavenger hunt, where siblings will have to find and take pictures of items for the game and post to social media with a certain hashtag, which will make them eligible for a raffle.

"RHA is organization that advocates for the student body and make life better, especially for those who live on campus," said Nia Brown, co-coordinator of Siblings Weekend. "For this event, I think we do a pretty good job setting up the event. We have all RAs as well as all of RHA helping supervise the activities. Residents will

also be informed of the siblings that will be coming to visit, which calls for revisiting of Resident Hall rules. But we've never really had a problem in the past."

RHA has recruited additional staff to ensure the activities and events run smoothly. Event coordinators have suggested that OU students who are bringing siblings should give their roommates notice ahead of time.

Since its implementation, Siblings Weekend has become both an opportunity for sibling bonding and recruitment for future OU students.

"I came here with my sibling in 2008..." Brown said. "This was my first experience of Oakland University. It was so cool to be on the campus, to see what it's about, to see how students live on campus."

"Fundamentally, we want to show off Oakland University for the siblings," Lee added. "We want the events and their time here to peak their interest and to promote sibling bonding and show them what it's like to be a Grizzly."

Sports

Baseball powers its way to a home opener series win

Men's baseball snatched the win from the Milwaukee Panthers with a score of 12-7

Dakota Brecht
Staff Reporter

With torrential downpours and ferocious winds looming, the Golden Grizzly baseball team was able to sneak in a three-game series against the Milwaukee Panthers. The tarp never left the field on Thursday for the scheduled game one of the series, and a doubleheader was announced for Friday March 30.

First pitch was at noon for game one, and the second game followed at four. Oakland took the first game with a score of 6-3, but Milwaukee stormed back and routed the Golden Grizzlies in game two, 16-6. This would prove for an interesting match coming up on Saturday March 31.

Nick Parr went seven strong in game one for the Black and Gold, only allowing two hits and a run accompanied with nine strikeouts. Closer Nate

Schweers came on to finish out the game and went two innings strong. Tyler Trovinger and Jordan Jackson led the way for Oakland offensively with two hits a piece.

“The first game we did a great job in all aspects of the game. We got a great start from Nick Parr, and he put us in a great position to win.”

Coline Kaline
Co-Head Coach for Oakland University's Men's baseball

Co-Head Coach Colin Kaline was

very pleased with the game one win.

“The first game we did a great job in all aspects of the game,” Kaline said. “We got a great start from Nick Parr, and he put us in a great position to win.”

Game two of the doubleheader didn't go as planned for the Golden Grizzlies as the game got away from the team late. Emerson Misch and Mario Camilletti led Oakland with two RBI's a piece, and Austin Sherry had a solid performance out of the pen going just under five innings and only allowing one run.

“Unfortunately in game two, the game just got away from us and the bullpen got stretched a little thin,” Kaline said.

The third and final game of the series was Saturday and it shaped up to be a good one. The Golden Grizzlies gave it their all and dominated the Panthers with a final score of 12-7. It was a game full of milestones for

the Black and Gold, and it was a great way to end the first home series.

Thomas Miller connected with the first home run of his career. That was then followed by Myles Zilinsky's first career grand slam, which really propelled Oakland to victory.

“It was a fastball up and I just got it in the jet stream... let nature take care of the rest,” Zilinsky said on his grand slam.

Trovinger continued his offensive performance and tacked on another four hits. A little less than a week since striking out a career high 14 batters, Jake Lee had another solid outing, striking out nine. To finish the game out, Schweers came on for a three inning save which resulted in a Golden Grizzly series win.

With this strong weekend by the Black and Gold, the team inched its record up in the Horizon League to 4-5 and now look ahead to a single game against Purdue.

Amr El Sayed: from swimming to automotives

Alyssa Ochss
Contributor

The O'rena has one special wall, a place to commemorate and remember the athletic accomplishments of the former athletes of Oakland University. Some went on to become Olympians such as Anita Rapp, some became professional athletes such as Rawle Marshall and same went on to build a new career while still keeping sports in their lives.

Amr El Sayed is among those who pursued a different career. According to the Golden Grizzlies statistics page, Sayed swam for Oakland from 2010 to 2013 and was named Male Swimmer of the Championships at The Summit League Championships for two consecutive years.

One of his most prominent memories from that year was from the Horizon League Conference Championship.

“It was touching the wall during my last event,” he said. “I was happy and proud to win my last mile event and break the school record, and I was ecstatic that my

mom could travel from Egypt to the United States to watch me swim my last championship.”

Sayed graduated with a Bachelors in industrial and systems engineering, and he was sure of himself and his plans for his future.

“I knew that I wanted to stick around the Detroit area post-graduation,” Sayed said. “Yes, it all went according to plan, but it definitely was not easy; being an international student on an F1 visa makes it harder to find internships and jobs.”

He started to pursue automotive internships in his junior year, and he found his footing from there. A place where Sayed had previously held an internship offered him a job two months before graduation as a systems engineer. Though it was a new career, Syed said it was “exactly as he had expected” because of his previous internship experiences.

It wasn't easy, and Sayed said he remembered interviewing for at least 15 other positions before he finally landed a job.

Now, Sayed is a senior business development engineer at Sensata

Technologies, and he is currently working toward an MBA at Wayne State University. He is expecting to graduate in 2019.

“Being a part of Oakland's swim team taught me that being a student athlete is more than just being a fast swimmer.”

Amr El Sayed
Oakland University Alumni & Graduate Student at Wayne State University

Even if his professional life doesn't include swimming, he still stays active and swims outside of his career.

“I started Crossfit right after my last season was over,” Sayed said. “I also recently started swimming again as a part of a Masters swim team, and I will be competing in

my first Master's state meet in April 2018.”

Swimming played a significant part in Sayed's life: It was one of the things that brought him to Oakland. He learned a lot from being on the team, and he has kept those lessons in mind for the present and for his future.

“If it wasn't for Pete Hovland, the swimming and diving head coach, recruiting me from Egypt eight years ago, I wouldn't be here doing what I do today,” Sayed said. “Being a part of Oakland's swim team taught me that being a student athlete is more than just being a fast swimmer.”

Though it was a crucial part of his career at Oakland, Sayed also attributes his success to other resources and positions on campus.

“From becoming an orientation group leader, student assistant, apartment community assistant and student mentor, I learned few valuable lessons from each position,” Sayed said. “There are many amazing resources that Oakland offers that I hope every student who reads this will start taking advantage of.”

The Lepley Center Project: the O'rena's new upgrade

Dakota Brecht and
Michael Pearce
Staff Reporters

Oakland University Athletics made the transition from Division II to Division I in 1998, but in the 20 years spent at the NCAA Division I level, practice facilities and amenities have not met the standard other Horizon League schools have set. However, plans are in the works for a new Athletics facility, the Lepley Center.

"It's kind of something we've talked about for a long time," Assistant Athletic Director of Development Fleetwood Fleming said. "Utilizing that space as an enhancement for some much needed things in Athletics."

The Lepley Center already exists, but is used for storage. Formerly home of the swimming pool, the facility will be renovated and transformed into

a full-fledged Athletics facility. Some amenities that could be added under the renovation project include a practice court for the men's and women's basketball teams, a student-athlete leadership academy center for studying and nutrition centers for student-athletes.

"In terms of facilities we've been working a lot with the office of University Advancement and working through the capital campaign," Interim Athletic Director Padraic McMeel said. "We've been doing our due diligence and we certainly have some facility campaign projects that we would love to see move forward."

Oakland's facilities and amenities resemble that of a Division II school, due to the fact that the school underwent an unpredicted jump to the Division I level after the initial building of the O'rena.

"When this arena was built, it was built to be a Division II arena," men's basketball Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "This was built for what we thought at the time was a Division II facility. In 20 years, the landscape of college basketball has changed. It has now become a race for who can get the best facilities."

Other Horizon League schools such as Wright State University have dedicated rooms for watching film, equipped with TVs and movie theater style-chairs. Oakland's "film room" currently is the visitor's bench in the O'rena, where the teams sit in the dark and watch film projected onto a white board, which is wheeled out onto the Blacktop.

"I think obviously film is so important to what we do," women's basketball Head Coach Jeff Tungate said. "We'd like to watch more film. Having that film room would be a huge ben-



The Oakland Post Archives

The Athletics Center will be renovated to keep up with Division I standards.

efit to what we'd like to do. We know we need it, and the good thing is the school knows we need it too."

Administrators have been discussing the facilities and amenities for the last 12 years, and expectations are for the Lepley Center to be constructed in the near future.

"Now what I would say is while we're in the interim portion of things between directors of athletics, there's a little bit of walking versus running [pace]," McMeel said. "What I would say is probably the one that is the most important to the en-

tire department of Athletics, just because of its impact to all 320 student-athletes, really would be what we are calling the Lepley Center Project."

While there is no time table for the start of this renovation project, Tungate feels as if negotiations are as close to becoming reality as they ever have.

"I'm excited right now," Tungate said. "I think this is a very serious conversation that people are having. I think the school is committed to it, which is the best thing. I think there's enough out there that this could happen very quickly."

SUMMER 2018 PAYMENT INFORMATION

OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY

Keep advancing toward your degree with summer classes at OU. Summer payment plans are available, which help spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments.

IMPORTANT DATE

- **April 17** — cancellation (drop) date for students who have not paid their charges

You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full by enrolling in a payment plan and paying your installments on time, obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds.

We are here to help. If you need help understanding payment options or how to finance your education, please contact Student Financial Services at (248) 370-2550 or go to North Foundation Hall, Room 120.



VIEW all payment and cancellation (drop) dates and **LEARN** how to avoid cancellation (drop) at oakland.edu/financialservices, then Payments & Refunds, then Payments & Cancellation.