

## HAPPY FIRST DAY, GRIZZLIES



### **PRESIDENT ORA**

President Ora Pescovitz recounts  
her first year in office at OU

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### **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Projects on campus taking final  
shape for fall use

PAGES 10 & 11

### **FOOTBALL DEFEAT**

Football club defeated in first  
game at Lawrence Tech

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## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**REST AND RELAXATION** // Even though the sweltering heat and stress from classes may get to you, don't forget to take a breather every once in a while. Take a break in between classes by sitting in the air conditioning of the Oakland Center, or take a nap in a hammock around Bear Lake. *SAMUEL SUMMERS // The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) to be featured. View all submissions at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)

## POLL OF THE WEEK

Were you able to find a parking spot when you came back to campus?

- A** Of course not
- B** Only because I moved in before sunrise
- C** Yeah, but I had to curse out a family to get it
- D** I didn't even try

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

Are you ready for the fall semester?

- A) Define "ready"  
24 votes | 33%
- B) What? It's August?  
20 votes | 27%
- C) Anything is better than working all summer  
15 votes | 21%
- D) No, my therapy bill is high enough as-is  
19 votes | 19%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### September 1, 2010

Vice President of Finance and Administration John Beaghan urged students in a guest column to be patient while construction wrapped up.

### September 7, 2005

Students across campus were talking about Oakland's new policy, which allows students to drop a class in the first two weeks and get a full tuition refund.

### September 4, 1994

Mary Beth Snyder accepts the Vice President of Student Affairs position. She would go on to be Vice President for 20 years.



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### GREEK BLUE LIGHTS

Oakland University Police Department have installed the emergency blue lights on the Greek cottages.



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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Oakland University Student Congress President Ryan Fox welcomes students back to campus with some advice.



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### UNPAID INTERNSHIPS

Campus editor Katarina Kovac talks about how unpaid internships only benefit corporations.

## BY THE NUMBERS COFFEE

54%

of Americans age 18 and older drink coffee every day

3.1

nine ounce cups of coffee are consumed on average per person in America daily

65%

of Americans drink coffee with breakfast

\$40 billion

is spent on coffee every year

Harvard School of Public Health

# Letter from the Editor

## New year, new editor

We invite students to help grow our content



**AuJenee Hirsch**  
Editor-in-Chief

Dear readers,

Welcome back suckas! Lol. I mean welcome back, my fellow Golden Grizzlies.

For those of you who don't know me, I am the editor-in-chief aka the head honcho of the independent campus newspaper you are reading. For two years, I worked hard as a sports reporter and chief copy editor to get to the position I hold today. Little did I know I was actually making history at Oakland University.

I am the first African-American editor-in-chief of The Post.

However, this is not the biggest thing that I want to be known for during my tenure here.

I have goals for the paper that I would like to accomplish before I graduate. And in order to achieve that, it will require teamwork between The Oakland Post staff and you, the reader.

As the start of a new school year approaches, you will probably start to notice a few changes that will be occurring in the paper — the biggest change being the content.

We will continue to cover athletics, closely follow the administration, and be at as many student events on campus as possible, but it is my goal to have the paper reflect the diverse campus community. There are many cultures, races, student organizations and people on campus the Posties don't know about, but would like to.

It is with help from our readers that the Posties can write more articles and create a more diverse paper. If our readers can email, call or even stop by our office — we're located in the lower level of the Oakland Center next to Bear Cave for those who don't know — to tell us about anything that could be a potential story, it would be fantastic!

The Post is comprised of nine section editors, 10 reporters, four photographers, four copy editors and so many more. We work hard not for ourselves, but for our readers. So please work with us and we'll keep you posted.

As I finish up this welcome message, I would like to leave you with a quote from journalist Henry Grunwald who once said, "Journalism can never be silent: That is its greatest virtue and its greatest fault. It must speak, and speak immediately, while the echoes of wonder, the claims of triumph and the signs of horror are still in the air."

This quote reveals just how powerful a journalist can be. Not only must journalists report the facts without bias, they must also be able to spark change when necessary. Without change, there cannot be growth.

On that note, have a great school year guys! Feel free to email me if you have any questions!

Peace,  
*AuJenee*



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Ryan Pini / The Oakland Post

Sorority houses welcome the emergency phones after requesting them at the end of last year.

## Blue light emergency posts arrive at Greek row

Dean Vaglia  
Staff Intern

A former dark spot of Oakland University Police Department (OUPD) coverage will illuminate starting this fall semester as new blue light emergency phones have been installed at the Greek cottages off Adams Road.

According to OUPD Chief of Police Mark Gordon, each of the five cottages will be getting their own blue light phones attached to the wall of the front of each house. The phones were set up at the request of the occupants, and while they have since been attached to the cottages, they still require some programming to work.

"There was a concern that the cottages were too isolated from main campus and occupants didn't have the means to dial 911," Gordon said. "Residents of the cottages requested this feature late last academic year, and the university was able to fund the equipment."

For sorority members living in the cottages, the phones are a welcome addition.

"The new blue light emergency phones at the Greek cottages give such a piece of mind to those of us living there," said Alpha Sigma Tau President Hannah Barton. "I'm glad to see OU taking the necessary steps to ensure the safety of all their students regardless of where they live on campus."

Barton believes the new phones will largely benefit those who are involved with the Greek cottages.

"Knowing that our voices can be heard and that we can spark a change just paves the way for us to continue to move forward," Barton said.

The blue light phones dotted around the campus are direct 911 lines to the OUPD, allowing people without phones or in urgent need of support, a fast lane to receive help from the OUPD. This is different from calling 911 through a normal landline or cell phone, which go out to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office before being transferred to the OUPD. Despite this direct line, the OUPD receives more transfer calls than blue light calls, according to Gordon.

There are over 100 blue light emergency phones dotted across campus in places such as the north end of the Elliott Tower plaza, the south end of the footbridge between P1, the Human Health Building and Vandenberg Hall. Aside from police emergencies and crimes-in-progress, students and faculty are encouraged to use the emergency phones in case of other emergencies, such as fires and injuries needing immediate attention.

Response times, according to the OUPD website, are often around 90 seconds.

Emergency phones will also be going up around the new Hillcrest Hall.

Aside from being able to call for help, 12 of the phones on campus are connected to the Oakland County Homeland Security's outdoor warning siren system. This allows for students and faculty on campus to be well-informed of any incoming severe weather.

For any questions regarding the blue light emergency phones or campus security, email [info@oupolice.com](mailto:info@oupolice.com). For a detailed list of police phone numbers, visit the OUPD's "Contact Us" page, and as always, call or text 911 in case of an emergency on campus.

## POLICE FILES

### The Greaser's Big Heist

On Jan. 2, 2018, the father of an OU student was caught exiting the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in the Oakland Center with more goods than he purchased. Clad in a black jacket with slicked back hair, the perpetrator had multiple books and articles of clothing on him that were new and unpaid for.

After an officer caught up with the greaser's vehicle, they found nearly \$1,000 worth of merchandise. Three of the books stolen made up \$700, with water bottles and hoodies taking up the remaining amount. The only books included were a stats book, an anatomy book and a Spanish book. At the end of the day, the stolen items were confiscated, and the father was charged with second-degree retail fraud.

### Case of the Skilled Ohio Driver

On Aug. 20, 2018, a Honda Accord with an Ohio license plate rolled onto its front windshield just outside the golf course. When first responders arrived at the scene, there was no one in the car, with a small amount of blood on the inside of the cabin.

Police searched the nearby woods, only for the driver in question to return to the scene 15 minutes later. He claimed that he had looked down at his phone and crashed, not knowing how the car had ended up on its roof. It truly is a mystery, considering the speed limit in the area must be no faster than 25 miles an hour.

The driver refused medical care, despite the extremely precarious position of his vehicle. After taking a breathalyzer test and sobriety tests, he was found to be sober.

Compiled by Ben Hume,  
Staff Reporter

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ANY BACKGROUND

# OUSC President's Report: Welcoming freshman



**Ryan Fox**  
OUSC President

Dear Oakland Students,  
I hope that you all enjoyed these past few months of summer vacation. This year Vice President Britany Kleinschmidt, our entire team and I plan on working hard to bring change

on campus that you want to see. During the year, I plan on writing regular reports to keep you all up to date on what the Congress is working on. In this first report I would like to address our new incoming freshman.

To our newest students, I would like to say welcome. You are now starting your career in education, and I want to hopefully impart some wisdom onto you. We at Student Congress are here to serve you and make this journey you are embarking on as pleasant as possible. In the spirit of accomplishing that goal, I want to talk about mental health.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, most mental health problems in adults occur before the age of 24. This means an increasing amount of college students are experiencing problems. According to NBC News there has been a record spike in mental health problems at universities across the country. Many universities have invested in their counseling centers and programs so that they can handle the increased volume of students requiring their services. A survey carried out by the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute found that 12

percent of freshmen reported frequent episodes of depression. This is very much an epidemic amongst our generation. An epidemic that has affected close to home for me as well.

When I entered OU my freshman year, I had little to no pressing mental health concerns. Not long after my arrival, I began to experience anxiety like I had never seen before. It would often interfere with my course work and my jobs outside of the university. These anxiety issues became severe enough to where I would often turn to self-destructive avenues to release my stress. And these problems were not limited to just myself, as many of my closest friends have suffered from depression or anxiety for years.

These problems would not alleviate themselves until after I sought out treatment at Graham Health Center. We are fortunate enough as Oakland students to receive six free counseling sessions at Graham Health Center. I utilized counseling services at Graham Health Center for two years, and I can attest that the services I received were life changing.

I am telling you my story in hopes

that you will be inspired to take your own mental health seriously. Seeking out treatment may be intimidating, however it is the only long-term solution to the problem. Myself and many of my friends have utilized counseling services in the past. I encourage you, throughout your first year in college, to please check in on your own mental health often. Do not be afraid to step back if things get overwhelming and take actions to benefit yourself. Do not overwhelm yourself, and do not be afraid to seek help.

If you are interested in getting involved with Student Congress, we currently have many positions open on our legislature and on our many committees! Our Research and Review Chair Halle Haneckow is our first point of contact to get involved. Her email is hallehaneckow@oakland.edu. If you would like to reach out to the congress about any pressing concerns you have about campus life, feel free to reach out at OUSC@oakland.edu.

Best wishes to you all as you start this coming year,

Ryan M. Fox

## Local institutions sign articulation agreement

**Trevor Tyle**  
Life Editor

Oakland University and its partner schools—Oakland Community College and Macomb Community College—have signed individual articulation agreements to help transferring business students.

These articulation agreements will be in effect through July 31, 2021. After their first three years, the agreements will be subject to review for continuation.

Although the limit on transfer credits from partner schools was initially 64, the new agreement states that OU can now allow up to 82 transfer credits to go toward a bachelor's degree.

"These articulation agreements will help ensure clear communication among all three schools, making degree paths more straightforward and achievable," said Oakland University Director of Undergraduate Admissions Dawn Aubry in a press release. "There will be increased efforts placed on course equivalencies that create far less need for re-taking of core or elective classes. That way, students can take advantage of the benefits offered by each school as they make progress toward graduation with both an associate's and

bachelor's degree."

The agreements will allow students to only pay for classes they need to take. Students interested in a four-year degree will have their entire plan laid out for them when they enroll at OCC or MCC.

"Collaboration among colleges and universities amplifies the strengths of each institution while leveraging resources and impact for our students and communities," said MCC Dean of University Relations Kevin Chandler in the aforementioned press release. "Streamlining the path from associate to bachelor's degree in business supports degree completion, positions our students for in-demand career opportunities, develops vital talent to sustain and grow local business and industry, and contributes to regional economic prosperity."

The current focus of the articulation agreements is business and will benefit students working toward bachelor's degrees in accounting, finance, business economics, general management, human resources management, marketing, operations management and management information systems. According to Aubry, OU will continue to work with OCC and MCC in hopes of extending the articulation agreements to more majors



Photo courtesy of Brian Bierly

In an unusual occurrence, three institutions are collaborating to enhance student opportunities.

and programs in the future.

"It is not business as usual to have three higher education institutions working collaboratively in this highly competitive environment," said OCC Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Cathey Maze in the same press release. "Today's signing is the culmination of work by all three institutions to facilitate a seamless transfer for our business students so they may pursue a bachelor's degree. By coming together and empowering our students in this way, we provide a pathway to greater achievement in our commitment to excellence in education, student success and economic growth of our region."

Transfer students from MCC and OCC currently make up the largest number of students who transfer to OU—last year, they made up 55.7 percent of all incoming transfer students and maintained a 3.2 grade point average.

In addition to the new articulation agreements, OU also offers a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) program for all high school and community college students, including those at MCC and OCC, which allows them to secure a place at OU.

For more information about transferring to OU, visit the Undergraduate Admissions website or email visit@oakland.edu.

# Recreation and Well-Being Center celebrates 20th anniversary

Clare Sabelhaus  
Staff Intern

Celebrating 20 years of providing a safe space for students, faculty and community members to focus on their physical and mental well-being, Oakland University's Department of Recreation and Well-Being (OU Rec Well) offers programs, services and facilities that foster student development on campus. OU Rec Well first opened its doors on September 8, 1998.

In 1993, there was a large initiative led by OU administration to enhance campus life. At the time, student enrollment was between 12,000 and 13,000. From 1985 to 2001, Dr. Dave Herman was the associate vice president of Student Affairs and provided leadership for the OU Rec Well project. Dr. Herman and Coach Greg Kampe worked toward a facility that would be functional for students and the athletics department.

"Most high school gyms were bigger than Oakland's facility," said

Greg Jordan, director of OU Rec Well.

By renovating the original athletics building, two separate departments were able to have enough space to function.

To pay for the facility, OU took out a \$37 million bond, and in 1994, Oakland University Student Congress voted in support of providing funding to the rec through student fees. This has since changed and is now included in tuition.

Much of the current funding comes from student support. Through tuition, community membership sales, facility rentals and ticket sales, OU Rec Well is able to keep an updated and clean facility while offering multiple programs and workshops to students and community members.

"The OU Rec Well is here to provide student development opportunities and is committed to lifelong well-being," said Marie VanBuskirk, assistant director of OU Rec Well.

Not only does OU Rec Well focus on physical and mental wellbeing,

it also offers occupational support to students. As the second largest student employer at OU, OU Rec Well provides opportunities for students to gain work experience during their time on campus.

Since opening in 1998, the student population has almost doubled and OU Rec Well is now looking toward expansion. Over the summer, OU Rec Well received a grant from Facilities Management to upgrade their lighting to more energy efficient LED bulbs.

"The Rec Center got a facelift," Jordan said.

Along with brighter lights, much of the center has been painted and branded to reflect OU Grizzly pride, and 95 percent of the strength and cardio equipment in the fitness center has been replaced.

To help relieve some of the student traffic to OU Rec Well, the newly built Hillcrest Hall has a small 1,600 square foot fitness center that is available to all OU students. With 20 cardio machines and a full line of strengthening equipment, this center is located



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

OU's Rec Well center celebrates its anniversary with a day full of activities.

on the second floor overlooking the food court.

OU Rec Well works to add to the overall quality of campus life and to the university community by focusing on a healthy body, healthy mind message.

To celebrate OU Rec Well's 20th

Anniversary, there will be a full day of activities on Sept. 12. From a throwback dance party to OU's largest dodgeball game, students are invited to attend all events throughout the day. A full schedule of events can be found on their website.

# GrizzFest Involvement Fair set to connect students to organizations

Dean Vaglia  
Staff Intern

GrizzFest, Oakland University's annual volunteer, community, business and involvement fair, is considered one of the greatest ways to get involved on campus. And it's almost here.

According to the Office of Student Involvement, Grizzfest will have "over 200+ tables with information on how to get involved on campus or around the community."

Student organizations, such as sororities, fraternities, academic and social clubs, as well as political and religious groups, will have booths with information on how to get involved.

GrizzFest will be held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 6 in the plaza outside of Kresge Library, Dodge Hall and Hannah Hall. In case of inclement weather, there is a makeup day scheduled for Monday, Sept. 10 from

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the same location outside of Kresge Library.

Along with student orgs, businesses in the community will be on campus handing out coupons, samples, and information to students. For those interested in volunteering, organizations and agencies will be there to connect students with those opportunities.

"If you want to get involved on campus, this is the place to check out organizations," said Jennifer Yetter, graduate assistant for Student Organizations at the OSI. "If you want to volunteer, there will be a lot of volunteer agencies, and then there will be a lot of businesses promoting themselves. It's a really fun event to figure out what you want to do on campus."

Clubs and organizations stand to gain a lot by setting up a booth at Grizzfest, as Adam Delbeke of Grizzlies Racing has seen.

"We have gained multiple

valuable members through GrizzFest and other events that Oakland hosts," he said. "GrizzFest makes it easy enough for us to reach out to the student body and promote our student org."

According to Delbeke, student orgs will typically set up a booth, make and pass out fliers, and have org members at the booth to answer any questions and recruit passing students. Catching the attention of students is important at the fair, and Grizzlies Racing even brings their FSAE car out to do so.

There will be free food provided by Lipuma's, as well as a free ice cream cart, both being first come, first served.

At OU, events like GrizzFest allow students to explore and cultivate who they are, while pursuing new opportunities and relationships.

GrizzFest is one of many Welcome Week events being put on by the OSI. Other events are a meet and greet with the OSI in South Found-



Oakland Post archives

The purpose of GrizzFest is to help students find organizations that meet their interests and connect them more to the Oakland University community.

dation Hall "fishbowl" from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Sept. 6, "The Walk" from Hamlin Circle to Meadow Brook Hall with the Fraternity and Sorority Life Student Org starting at 9:30 p.m. on the same day, and a Welcome Event in part with the Residence Halls Association that features comedian T Murph and an indoor "Glow-in-the-Dark" roller

rink at the Oakland Center banquet rooms from 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 8 to midnight.

Students interested in going to GrizzFest, "The Walk" or any other Welcome Week events can RSVP on the OSI GrizzOrgs page. Any questions regarding the event can be sent to the OSI at [osi@oakland.edu](mailto:osi@oakland.edu).



Ryan Pini / The Oakland Post

President Pescovitz is a self proclaimed problem solver as she works toward her goals for OU.

## The president reflects on her first year and looks toward the future

Laurel Kraus  
Managing Editor

The Oakland University Board of Trustees unanimously voted for Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D. to be the next president of the university on May 4, 2017.

Succeeding President George Hynd and officially beginning her term on July 1, 2017, Pescovitz has now occupied her position for a little over a year and has begun tackling, and accomplishing, some of her major goals for OU.

"I always think there's more to do," she said. "I think if you get satisfied, that leads to complacency, complacency leads to mediocrity, and I don't want anybody here at Oakland to ever be satisfied with being mediocre."

After refining the university's mission statement and creating a new vision statement, she is now focused on the four institutional goals: student success, research and scholarly activity, engagement in the community, and diversity, equity and inclusion.

According to Pescovitz, student success is the most important goal, and the university has been making significant headway. Improving graduation and retention rates, specifically with respect to underrepresented minorities, and making OU a leader in the nation by reaching 80 percent of students with four year graduation rates, are at the forefront.

Research and scholarly activity is working toward OU becoming a stronger research base, both locally and nationally, and contributing to Michigan's economy, while engagement in the community revolves around OU students working to solve real-world problems.

Diversity, equity and inclusion was a new goal added under Pescovitz and focuses on embracing diversity and breaking down cultural barriers.

Personnel changes under Pescovitz have included Glenn McIntosh filling the new position of chief diversity officer, Michael

Westfall becoming the new vice president for advancement and the recruitment of Steve Waterfield as new athletic director.

While Pescovitz did not complete all of her goals for her first year in office, she stated that she never intended to as that gives her something to do for the next year.

"My motto is that you should reach for the stars... you're never going to get all of [your goals] done, and when you miss some of them, you're going to land on the moon, and a moon landing is pretty good," she said.

Pescovitz reported that working as the president of OU has been far better than she ever expected.

"The students are more amazing, the faculty are more remarkable, the campus is more gorgeous and everything about Oakland is way better than I ever in my wildest dreams thought it would be," she said. "I pinch myself every day and I think, 'How did I get so lucky to get to come here?'"

The high investment that faculty put into students' success has also impressed Pescovitz, who stated that, while she loves most everything about her position, the best part is interacting with the students and the OU community.

"I don't even mind the occasional complaints that I get because I like to be a problem solver," she said.

Looking toward the fall semester, Pescovitz encourages students to take advantage of all that OU has to offer, be prepared to come and work hard, and have a lot of fun.

She also stressed that it's not uncommon to face challenges, and students should not be afraid to speak up and seek help.

"There is no reason that any student should suffer alone, and I want them to know, both as president and as a physician, that we have help available for every single student," Pescovitz said.

Overall, she hopes that all of the administration's goals and work will lead to Oakland being the university of choice.

"It's hard to imagine being in a better place," Pescovitz said.

## Public health programs are gaining popularity on college campuses

Aya Takai  
Contributor

Opportunities to get an undergraduate degree in public health, which focus on prevention of disease and death at the population level through societal factors, have been increasing.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the number of public health-related bachelor's degrees more than doubled between 2011 and 2016, from 6,170 to 12,338.

Historically, public health education had only been at the graduate level. So why is it that public health education is spreading in the undergraduate level?

"People in the U.S., whether it's physicians, politicians or the general public, [are] beginning to realize how important it is to prevent disease before it starts," said Florence Dallo, Ph.D., MPH, chair of the Public and Environmental Wellness Department at OU. "For many years, the U.S. has been using this model of treating people after they get sick, though this model is not the standard for other countries."

Although OU does not have a public health undergraduate program, related programs, such as the Wellness and Health Promotion undergraduate program and the Environmental Health and Safety program, have been around for over 15 years.

There are many reasons why students decide to pursue an education in public health.

"I realized I need to help people at this higher level, I need to impact as many people as I can with any work that I can do," said Jennifer McCullough, a public health student.

McCullough's sister, Ashley, is also pursuing an education in public health at OU.

"There are so many different topics and so many different things that are interconnected within public health, and I feel like sometimes people don't always realize how much public health is everywhere and how much it really does affect them," Ashley said.

Public health's broad thinking is what caught the McCullough sisters' attention. And this is where the field is evolving.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported the field is in a new era—Public Health 3.0—of "enhanced and broadened public health practice that goes beyond traditional public department functions and programs."

Public Health 3.0 focuses on improving the social determinants of health—social

factors, like housing, food security, employment and education—that effect a population's health.

A person living in a dangerous neighborhood may experience chronic stress, putting them at an increased risk for heart disease, obesity and mental health issues.

"I realized I need to help people at this higher level, I need to impact as many people as I can with any work that I can do."

Jennifer McCullough  
Public health student

Looking deeper, social determinants like education policies and employment play a critical role in why that person is in that situation. Education level leads to employment opportunities and income. Income determines where you live.

In order to change these social determinants, public health professionals need a broader set of skills. Who we consider as public health professionals is changing. Others, like lawyers, politicians or social workers may be more effective in making change with a background in public health.

"If you think about (social determinants of health) a really great way to address those social, political, economic factors that impact health, is through policy change," said Rebecca Cheezum, Ph.D., MPH, director of the Master in Public Health program at OU. "I think we need a lot of folks who are trained to educate policy makers on public health issues and strategies on improving health."

This broadening of public health practice might be why public health education is also broadening into the undergraduate level.

Richard Riegleman, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, founding dean and professor of epidemiology at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University, has been a strong advocate and pioneer of undergraduate public health education programs.

"I think people are beginning to realize that the big issues that we face, from climate change in health, to HIV and opioid crisis to the cost of health care, are issues that require public health, not just for health professionals, but for a broad range of people," Riegleman said.

## Paralegal Certificate Program hires new coordinator

Trevor Tyle  
Life Editor

Barbara Lister-Tait has been hired as the new coordinator of the Oakland University Paralegal Certificate Program.

Lister-Tait officially assumed directorial duties at the beginning of June, replacing previous program coordinator Linda Wallace, who announced her retirement in March.

"It's a wonderful program," Lister-Tait said. "It has such a wonderful reputation that it was really an honor to have the job and have this be sort of the second part of my total paralegal career."

Her paralegal career included jobs at Dickinson Wright and General Motors, the latter from which she retired in 2017 after over 30 years of employment. Going from GM to OU may seem like a big transition, but having hired several graduates from OU's paralegal program during her time at GM, she said it didn't phase her in the slightest.

"Actually, they're sort of similar because they're both institutions," she said. "A lot of the bureaucracy and stuff doesn't phase me at all because I'm used to it from General Motors. Knowing that something has to be approved at five different levels... That seems normal to me."

For years, Lister-Tait, who was balancing raising a family and her career at GM, de-

clined a seat on the Paralegal Board, which meets twice a year to discuss matters such as student evaluations and new ideas for the program. Shortly after her retirement, she was approached about joining the board again and eventually accepted the offer. Since her appointment as program coordinator, she has made expanding the board one of her top priorities.

"We have great people on the Paralegal Board, so I just want to expand it to maybe some more business people," she said. "I also think the more diverse that board is, from all the different types of backgrounds... I think it just enriches the paralegal program itself, and it brings a lot of different ideas."

Lister-Tait said she wants to spend some time getting accustomed to the position and listening to students, the board and herself before making any changes to the program.

"You can't have so much change that it's just disruptive all the time, but you can't be scared of change [either]," she said. "I think that's not only in the paralegal profession, in my profession, but also in life. Who would've thought that General Motors would ever go bankrupt? And then there we were. Who would've ever thought this job would've been here when I was retired? Here I am."

It's changes like these that she credits with helping people, like herself, find the paralegal profession. She said the most important lesson she learned in her career was that "life just happens, and you've gotta be pre-



Ryan Pini / The Oakland Post

Barbara Lister-Tait studied child development and teaching at Michigan State University and worked at Dickinson Wright and General Motors as a paralegal before retiring in 2017.

pared to change your course and be okay with that." It's fitting, considering her initial career goal didn't involve the law at all.

Before becoming a paralegal, Lister-Tait earned her Bachelor's of Science in child development and teaching from Michigan State University in 1980. It was only after her unsuccessful attempts to find a full-time job as a teacher that her sister, who was a lawyer, encouraged her to enroll in the Institute for Paralegal Training in Philadelphia.

"Out of all the years that I've been a legal assistant and paralegal, I only knew one person that started out from high school

saying they wanted to be a paralegal," she said. "Everybody else came through what I call the back door."

However, for Lister-Tait, coming through the back door helped her out in the long run.

"Now I get to put both my passions together in one job," she said. "Which is literally a dream for me, a dream come true."

For more information on the paralegal program, visit the Professional and Continuing Education website or contact Barbara Lister-Tait at [blisterait@oakland.edu](mailto:blisterait@oakland.edu) or (248) 370-4386.

## Friendship and Philanthropy become "Best Buddies"

Jordan Jewell  
Staff Reporter

Best Buddies is a new non-profit student organization at Oakland University that will begin meeting this fall. The club focuses on forming relationships and advocates for inclusion.

According to the website for the group's international chapter, Best Buddies is a non-profit organization that works with people with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD). Over 200 million people in the world have IDD and Best Buddies is devoted to creating opportunities for these people.

The organization will be led by President Gina Belcastro, an OU graduate student studying educational leadership. She also teaches special education in Rochester Community Schools and has a passion for acceptance and inclusivity.

"I started working with Best Buddies at Grand Valley State University as an undergrad," Belcastro said. "When I started attending OU, I felt compelled to intro-

duce the club to campus."

The mission of Best Buddies has three parts: build one-on-one relationships, integrate employment and develop leadership skills. Best Buddies is present on many college campuses including Michigan State University and Western Michigan University.

"I've worked with Best Buddies since 2011 and I have been completely changed for the better through this program," Belcastro said. "My buddy's name is Mary and I know we will be friends for life."

Students have the opportunity to be matched with a buddy and bond in a relaxed and personal setting. These friendships provide mutually meaningful and long lasting bonds. The student organization will be hosting monthly events on and off campus for buddies to meet up and enjoy each other's company.

By signing up for a buddy, members are able to help them create and maintain interpersonal relationships.

"Mary and I do all kinds of activities to-

gether," Belcastro said. "We go shopping, bake cookies and watch movies."

According to the Best Buddies International website, people with IDD often feel alienated from their peers. Best Buddies instills a sense of self-confidence and inclusion. In addition to forming friendships, the nonprofit also offers things like employment assistance and training in public speaking and leadership development.

"Best Buddies does more than create friendships," Belcastro said. "It opens people's eyes to love and compassion for all people no matter what their abilities are."

All students and staff members are welcome to participate in this student organization. Other volunteer and donation opportunities can be found on the Best Buddies International website.

The OU chapter of Best Buddies is also hosting a fundraiser with Yankee Candle from now through Jan. 10, 2019. 40 percent of the profits will go toward funding the program on campus. To learn more

about the fundraiser, you can visit the Yankee Candle fundraising website and enter the code 999983437.

Students interested in joining Best Buddies this fall can contact Gina Belcastro via email at [oubestbuddies@oakland.edu](mailto:oubestbuddies@oakland.edu). The OU chapter of Best Buddies will have their first informational meeting on Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. in the Lake Michigan room of the Oakland Center. More information can be found on the group's Facebook page.



Photo Courtesy of Gina Belcastro

Best Buddies provides friendships and inclusion for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

# 2018 school supply list for fall fashion

Get ready for the most fashionable season



Alexa Caccamo  
Copy Editor

necks not only get you through the fall season but through the harsh, cold winter that comes after. You can wear them with a pair of jeans, a skirt, a statement jacket and with a pair of tall boots or booties. You can't go wrong with a turtleneck.

## 2 Flare Jeans

Add a little "flare" to your style and get yourself a pair of flare jeans. Flare jeans not only give your outfit that '70s vibe but they are comfortable as well. They're perfect for days when you want to be comfy and look fashionable at the same time.

## 3 Berets

Take a little piece of France and wear it on OU's campus this season. Berets are not only chic but are classy and go well with a skirt or jeans and booties. They're a feminine and timeless accessory that will never go out of style.

## 4 Plaid Mini Skirts

Be bad and bring out the plaid! Urban Outfitters has recently released a collection of mini skirts, and a majority of them are plaid. Plaid mini skirts are a necessity for two reasons: you can wear them with any top and shoe of your choice, and they are good for early fall when it is still warm outside and you want to wear fall clothes without drowning in sweat. To stay trendy and survive early to mid-September, stop by an Urban Outfitters ASAP.

## 5 Belt Bags

Similar to the idea of a fanny pack, belt bags wrap around your waist but you put them through the belt hoops of your jeans and it looks more like a purse than a nylon sack. Why wear a purse on your shoulder or across your body, and wear a belt when you can have the best of both worlds and wear a belt bag? These bags are both stylish and convenient because whenever you need to pull out your student ID, driver's license, credit card or any beauty product, you don't have to dig through your purse to find them because your belt bag is small and right in front of you. Be smart and stylish and purchase a belt bag.

Follow the 2018 school supply list for fall fashion and make this fall a season to remember.

Welcome back, Golden Grizzlies! It has been three months since walking the grounds of Oakland University and it is time to get down to business.

For starters, we are a few weeks away from the fall season returning, and there are a few things we must be prepared for: tailgates at college football games, trips to the cider mills, Halloween and more importantly, fall fashion.

Fall is the most well-known season when it comes to style, and it is vital to have the perfect attire. Every year, retailers launch amazing collections that make walking through the halls of South Foundation Hall, having lunch in the Oakland Center or grabbing a pumpkin spice latte even more enjoyable. Compare fall to summer, winter and spring, and you'll see that when it comes to originality, fall comes out on top. It is important to take advantage of the endless list of trends it has to offer.

Since there are so many fads that take hours to list, here is a school supply list. No, not a list that tells you to buy pencils, pens and folders, but a list that entails some of the most popular trends to help you own OU's campus. Without further ado, here is the 2018 school supply list for fall fashion:

## 1 Turtlenecks

Turtlenecks are a staple. Turtle-

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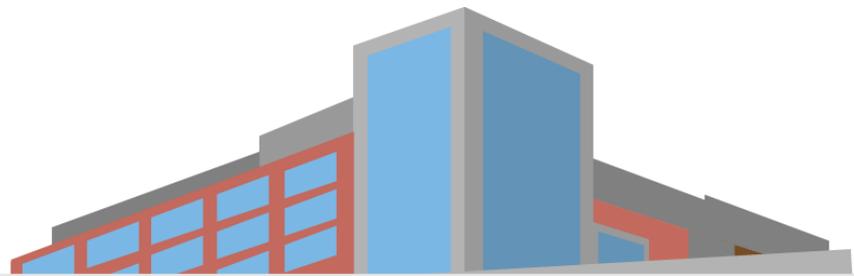
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# A QUICK GUIDE TO THE BIGGEST AREAS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION

story by AuJenee Hirsch | design by Katie LaDuke | graphics by Prakhya Chilukuri



## HILLCREST HALL

Just outside the Oakland Center, P2 will be displaying a few changes. The newly paved parking lot is now split into two sections. The portion closest to the entrance of the OC is specifically for Admissions workers and visitors to Oakland's campus. The side near Wilson Hall will now have a lifting guard rail. These spots will be available by card access specifically for staff working in Wilson Hall.

The new \$78 million residence hall is “beautiful,” according to junior Zakia Ali-James. Hillcrest holds up to 750 students with each student getting their own room with a suite.

“The rooms are small but I appreciate the fact that I have privacy,” Ali-James said.

The dining hall is on par with the dining halls at Central Michigan University or Michigan State University. It also features an indoor gym that students can access, and half of the residence hall is open to the public.

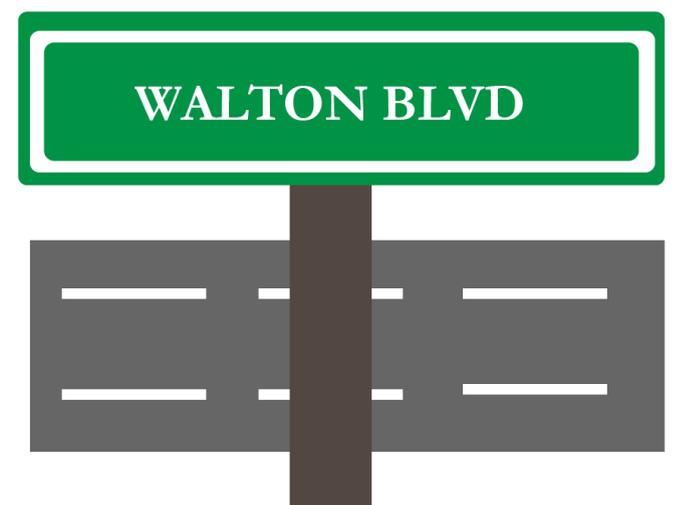


The beginning of the school year is often considered the start of something new for a lot of people; it can be a new car, a new attitude, a new work ethic or a new you. For Oakland University, the beginning of the new school year means a newer, fresher campus. It was announced back in November 2017 that the Oakland Center would be undergoing some major renovations and Hillcrest Hall would be the new residence hall located on the southern end of campus. However, while some construction is completed, there is still a lot going on.



Construction on Walton Boulevard began back in March 2018. The street is located on the north side of campus by Oak View Hall. Most of the entrances to campus have been blocked off. The best way to avoid this traffic when coming to campus is to go through the entrance off of Adams or the two entrances located on Squirrel Road.

The biggest change coming to the basement of the OC is The Habitat. The new stage will feature a theatre sized TV screen, surround sound and is intended to be the new open main stage for all student events. Once the Oakland Center renovations open in October, the new stage will be the home of all Student Video Productions movie nights on Thursdays, and WXOU's new monthly main stage music concerts. Some other renovations inside the OC include new offices, the Plum Market and more conference rooms.



## “BlacKkKlansman” is the must-see film of 2018

Trevor Tyle  
Life Editor

Legendary director Spike Lee has never shied away from using his films as platforms to address topics many of his contemporaries wouldn't dare touch: race relations, police brutality, the struggles of urban life—you get the picture. Lee is as outspoken as he is innovative, and that combination often makes for a dangerously superb final product. His latest offering, “BlacKkKlansman,” is no exception. Released nearly one year after the “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, the film offers a brutally honest depiction of racism in the United States, in what is easily one of the best films released this year.

“BlacKkKlansman” takes place in the late 1970s and tells the true story of Ron Stallworth (John David Washington), who has just become the first black detective for the Colorado Springs Police Department.

Determined to prove himself, he finds a recruitment advertisement for the Ku Klux Klan in the newspaper and, pretending to be a white man, calls their president, Walter Breachway (Ryan Eggold). Stall-

worth enlists his Jewish coworker, Flip Zimmerman (Adam Driver), to take on the role for in-person meetings with the Klan.

As they continue to delve deeper into their infiltration of the KKK, both men struggle to overcome the challenges of their own identities. Stallworth's girlfriend, Patrice (Laura Harrier), is the president of the Black Student Union and has an uncompromising resentment of cops—though she doesn't realize Stallworth is one of these so-called “pigs.” Zimmerman, meanwhile, must hide his Jewish heritage from Felix (Jasper Pääkkönen), a vindictive Klansman who is both suspicious of Zimmerman's true identity and envious of the attention he receives from KKK Grand Wizard David Duke (Topher Grace).

The film, based on the real-life Stallworth's 2014 memoir of the same name, does a marvelous job modernizing a nearly 40-year-old story. Lee's incomparable direction and biting authentic screenplay have produced what is perhaps the most provocative cinematic statement on race in America since Jordan Peele's “Get Out”—surely due, in part, to Peele's contribu-

tions to the production team.

But what really makes “BlacKkKlansman” so timely is its ability to tap into its edgy side with its not-so-subtle digs at the Trump administration and its promise to “make America great again.” The film's powerful finale even features footage of the aforementioned Charlottesville rally, interspersed with clips of Trump blaming “both sides” for the violence, which killed three people and injured nearly 40 others.

One of the film's most defining qualities is its spectacular cast, fronted by the remarkable talents of Washington and Driver. In one of Washington's first major roles, he very quickly grows beyond the legacy of his famous father Denzel in a role that was seemingly tailored to him. His dry humor and unmistakable wit transcend the screenplay in a way that both respects and enhances the story Lee aims to tell.

Likewise, Driver is exceptional in this film, though with a track record like his, I expected nothing less. What makes him so great is how naturally he fits every role he plays, bringing with him a stunning emotional depth. As a longtime fan of Driver's, I consider this to be among his best performances yet.



Photo courtesy of IMDb

“BlacKkKlansman” features a spectacular cast.

I've seen a lot of movies this year, but “BlacKkKlansman” was arguably the best. It's bold, compelling, unapologetic and one of the year's first real contenders for Best Picture. Its political undertones carry an irony throughout the narrative that makes it both humorous and hard-hitting.

It's the film that we, as a country, have needed—perhaps now more than ever before.

If you only see one film this year, this should be it.

**Rating: 5/5 stars**

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# Unpaid internships are a privilege issue

*Certain industries are exploiting students' need for job experience, resulting in a corrupt system*

**Katarina Kovac**  
Campus Editor

Internships are supposed to open doors, but what happens when they are only accessible to those who can afford to work for free?

A crucial entry point for starting one's career, especially in the fields of journalism, politics and the arts, is an internship. To get a paying job, you need experience, but to get experience, you'll need to have had a job. This impossible situation seems to be easily fixed by unpaid internships, which provide opportunities for job seekers at no cost to the organization. But for students who need to work and earn money to support themselves, an unpaid internship is typically out of the question.

This brings the issue of working-class students who can't afford to take on an unpaid internship usually being the ones who would most benefit from the networking and experience. In turn, unpaid internships become a privilege issue.

Like many other undergraduates in the United States, I had an unpaid position this summer. My summer was spent at what some would consider the most world renowned, prestigious fashion

magazine based in New York City. I am able to admit that I am one of the lucky ones. I'm following my passion: this job was within my desired field, and the work I did there provided me, at age 20, with invaluable skills, experience and connections.

Last semester, as my friends and I from class were finishing up our sophomore year studies, we were bombarded with questions from our peers regarding what our internship plans were for the summer. Most had the same story: in order to succeed, you have to take an unpaid internship in New York for months, and then you build your resume and eventually land yourself a job.

And there lies the issue with unpaid internships. The notion of asking undergraduates to spend their days working for free while paying rent and living in a city like New York City is a barrier for entry for students from mid-to lower-class backgrounds.

Most of my classmates were qualified to work in any newsroom, publication or company in New York City, but only those who could afford the lifestyle got their feet in the door with the unpaid internships.

The idea of an unpaid in-



ternship is an illusion—mostly because someone else is typically paying. In my case, it's my parents who have paid my New York City rent for the past two years that I've spent interning at five different companies within the fashion industry. Granted, these five internships have without a doubt changed my life and the course that it has taken, but I must admit, I would not be where I am today if my parents were not able to foot the bill.

There are, of course, other expenses besides rent: round-trip airfare, housing incidentals, food and a MetroCard, to

name just a few. With no salary, I couldn't afford any of those things myself, which led to more expenses for my parents. Granted, this was no easy task on behalf of my parents, as a multitude of sacrifices were made on their end for these internships to become possible.

I am not alone in this, as almost every other individual that I've interned with in New York City has come from the same background and financial situation as myself. This leads to the idea that industries such as fashion and journalism that typically use unpaid interns are perpetuating a privilege-based upward trajectory.

Yes, many interns in big cities get part time jobs to help them make it through, but oftentimes these jobs are just to provide cash for miscellaneous living expenses for the summer. For students who need to make and save up money for the upcoming school year, even this option is rarely possible for them.

The pros and cons of unpaid internships—which account for about half of all college internships—have been discussed. In 2016, a Federal District Court judge in Manhattan ruled that Fox Searchlight Pictures had violated federal and New York minimum wage laws

by not paying two production interns. Among the main issues that the court considered was whether the studio had provided a sufficient educational environment to the interns and whether the experience had benefited them, not the employer. A similar situation occurred in 2017 when Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen's luxury brand, The Row, settled a lawsuit by agreeing to pay \$140,000 to 185 interns.

What these cases ignored was the reality that unpaid internships impose: only those who have the money can take a job with no paycheck in the first place.

Others who are affected by these positions are the multitude of people shut out of journalism, politics, the arts and other fields because they can't afford to take unpaid internships. In order for these fields to become more representative of the people that they serve, it's increasingly important that internship opportunities are made accessible to those who can't afford to work for free.

Unpaid internships marginalize groups of students who are not wealthy, well-connected or privileged. Internships should not be about privilege, and all industries need to do better for the sake of our nation as a whole.

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# Convention Life Hack: Less is More

Laurel Kraus  
Managing Editor

I recently attended the 2018 Wizard World Comic Convention in Chicago, my fifth comic con in total, and was once again hit with an interesting revelation that may serve as financial relief for us broke college students—meeting lesser known actors can be a far more rewarding experience than any interaction with big ticket names.

I have met a select few of who I would consider big ticket names, and have come away feeling just a bit cheated each and every time. For the most part, the main reason for this really has nothing to do with the celebrities themselves, but more to do with the fact that their level of stardom draws such a plethora of fans, they simply don't have the time to be personable.

The most notable of these would be Chris Hemsworth, perhaps best known for his role as Thor in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. My best friend and I split quite a hefty fee to take a photo with the A-list star in 2016, only to receive barely an acknowledgement of our existence. We were

moved along so fast, in fact, that I almost didn't even make it in the photo because I was still walking to stand next to him when the photographer went to take it.

Ian Somerhalder in turn, known as the sex-symbol Damon Salvatore from "The Vampire Diaries," practically put the audience at his speaker panel to sleep with his monotone voice and constant insistence that his new vampire show was actually about saving the environment, and then made everyone fear walking out or yawning after he called out people who did just that.

An honorable mention is Diana Gabaldon, author of "The Outlander" series, who was in such a rush due to the immense number of fans that she was not even allowed to address her autographs to anyone.

By contrast, actors with far less fans in line have the time to goof off, offer small favors and let you genuinely get to know them for a few minutes.

One such actor is Jon Heder, "Napoleon Dynamite," who talked with my friend and I for a good five minutes before coming around the booth and fanning my friend, who was hyperventilating, with his hands



Photo courtesy of Olivia King

At the Wizard World Comic Con, guests were able to meet their favorite characters from Marvel films.

and proceeding to take an adorable photo.

Another, Andrew McCarthy, known for "Pretty in Pink" and other '80s classics, actually filmed a video of himself saying hello to my mother for free.

Michael Rooker, who is heading toward being a far more recognizable name due to his roles in "The Walking Dead" and "Guardians of the Galaxy," loves when fans simply stop by his booth for a casual conversation and hug.

Obviously there can be the occasional lesser known actor who is simply a jerk, but overall, I've found that the most enjoyable convention experiences are actually the ones that cost less.

In all fairness, if it came to paying my right leg to meet Tom Hiddleston for 10.8 seconds, I might choose to experience the innovation of today's prosthetics, but all in all, for broke college students, less really can be more.

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# Ariana Grande explores her truth on “Sweetener”



Photo courtesy of Independent

Ariana Grande’s latest album showcases her incredible voice and is her most revealing record so far.

**Jordan Jewell**  
Staff Reporter

Ariana Grande’s last album release was in 2016, with her fan favorite entitled “Dangerous Woman.” The pop superstar had a fairly quiet 2017, taking a break from social media and promising to return to the scene in 2018.

Staying true to her promise, Grande released “Sweetener” on Aug. 17. The 17-track album presents a new, more mature sound in comparison to her previous releases. The fan favorite single “God is a Woman” is one of the most notable songs of the summer, with a revolutionary music video to match.

Grande has been teasing the album to fans since her return to social media in April. Tweeting out lyrics and playing snippets on her Instagram stories, she’s been slowly building suspense for months.

“Sweetener” is Grande’s attempt at finding a silver lining following a suicide bombing at her Manchester tour stop in 2017. The bombing killed 23 people and left the singer traumatized and battling PTSD. The first single off the album, “No Tears Left to Cry,” talks about moving on from the tragedy and rediscovering happiness.

Just before she began promoting “Sweetener,” the singer experienced a very public breakup with rapper Mac Miller. The pair dated for three years and, according to Grande, had a “toxic relationship.” Only a few weeks after the breakup, Grande got engaged to comedian Pete Davidson, who inspired tracks like “Pete Davidson” and “Goodnight n Go.” “Pete Davidson” is a fan favorite, despite being only one minute and 14 seconds long.

Grande’s engagement has become a

meme on most social media platforms. Onlookers think that the couple is rushing their relationship or even using the proposal as a way to garner publicity. But this album makes one thing perfectly clear: Ariana Grande is in love. More than half the tracks on the album talk about falling in love and how the experience has truly “cured” Grande of the PTSD and anxiety she once felt.

The songs work together to tell a story of healing and happiness. The album is strikingly honest in comparison to previous work from Grande. The former Nickelodeon star who once sported cat ears and tutus now explores new depths, while still providing fans with the upbeat and catchy style for which she’s known.

Although she’s often grouped with teen idols like Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez, Grande’s vocal talent is often compared to the likes of Mariah Carey and Celine Dion. Her vocals are incredibly strong on “Sweetener,” particularly in the song “Breathin.” The track showcases her vocal ability without overkill. There isn’t one particular moment that makes you think, “Wow, she can sing,” but rather, the whole song reminds you why she’s grouped with the greats.

Tracks like “Raindrops,” “Get Well Soon” and “Better Off” focus on how Grande has dealt with her demons and remained positive through her struggles. Other tracks like “Sweetener,” “Successful” and “Blazed” show fans that Grande hasn’t forgotten how to have a little fun.

This album feels like the most authentic work that Grande has released. She abandoned her Nickelodeon phase, but she didn’t force any sex appeal or edginess. While listening to the album in full, it becomes clear that this is the real Ariana Grande.

**Rating: 5/5 stars**

# The Kooks stay current with their latest album “Let’s Go Sunshine”

**Jessica Leydet**  
Social Media Editor

British indie-rock group The Kooks have been around for as long as five full-length albums dating back to 2006. Their first album, “Inside In / Inside Out,” made a huge mark in the UK charts and eventually, their hit song “Naive” grew popular in the US after being featured in the film “17 Again.”

The band is led by frontman Luke Pritchard, who is known for his uniquely soulful vocals. Their newest album, “Let’s Go Sunshine,” released on August 31 and is complete with 15 tracks. It is said to be heavily influenced by Pritchard’s recent engagement to UK pop singer, Ellie Rose.

“Fractured and Dazed” paints a picture of commitment in a way that is so intimately fragile and beautiful that I think this one is definitely dedicated to Rose. The lyrics “I’ll never give your love away” are repeated in the chorus.

Songs like “Weight of the World” and “Pressure” also tie into this theme of surrendering all doubt to just love somebody.

The track “Picture Frame” is definitely one of my top favorite songs by The Kooks. It’s a soft acoustic ballad with the most romantic story line. I found myself captivated by the lyrics “And I looked at the sky to worship the ground/And you never asked for nothing at all/ But you

asked me to come in from the cold.” “Chicken Bone” and “Honey Bee” are so much fun to listen to because they both have upbeat tempos and playful lyrics.

“All the Time” and “Kids” seem to step away from that typical raw sound The Kooks are known for in their older albums. They feel a bit electric and modern, like if you took one of their older songs and hooked it up to a defibrillator— and I definitely don’t mean that in a bad way. It seems like they are trying to keep their music up to date and they managed to do it in a way that still fits their profile, so those fans who stuck around won’t feel alienated.

As a British music lover, I have to admit how much I just love “Pamela” and “Tesco Disco” for being so unapologetically British. I love the way “Pamela” describes earl gray and lemons in the morning and the use of slang in the lyrics “Can you lend your ears about my mate Pamela/ So naughty but she loves her fella.” As for “Tesco Disco,” that is pretty much self explanatory—I mean come on, read the title.

This album is just too good to deserve anything other than 5 out of 5 stars. It’s like The Kooks have mastered their sound and just know what works for them. I guess you could also say I’m a sucker for some good lyrics, and they just never disappoint.

**Rating: 5/5 stars**



Photo courtesy of Stereoboard

The Kooks’ “Let’s Go Sunshine” appears to be heavily influenced by frontman’s engagement.

# DNC Abandons Superdelegates after 2016 election anger

*The Democratic Party is now fed up with superdelegates and hopes to make change*

**Ben Hume**  
Staff Reporter

A large number of changes came to how the Democratic National Committee (DNC) runs its party on August 25. In a landmark decision by the Democratic party, the much loathed superdelegates have lost the vast majority of their power, along with more added inclusionary practices. Many of these changes have been long awaited, the superdelegates certainly being the most pertinent.

The minor changes include forcing Democratic presidential nominees to declare in writing that they are a Democrat. This was mostly aimed at Senator Bernie Sanders, who is technically an independent. There is also a large push to overhaul caucuses to be more accessible

to a larger number of people. Speaking of accessibility, gender inclusion and equality is mandatory in committees, caucuses and other bodies. This includes language to expand inclusion to members who are gender nonbinary, which is a great step forward. The DNC also updated its operations and finances to be more transparent, especially important to providing information on candidate fundraising and donations. This information will now be available to all other Democratic candidates as well.

All of that is well and good, but the biggest change is the neutering of the infamous superdelegates. Originally invented by the Democrats after the 1980 election with the expectation that any close primary race would be swung in favor of the “estab-



lishment candidate.”

Their technical definition says they are a voting delegate because of their status within the party who is free to vote for any candidate in the primary. This particular part of their definition was widely despised because these delegates are not voted

on, and then are allowed to put a large number of votes behind whatever candidate they want, no matter the results of the popular vote.

The primary process is still very confusing, but basically here’s the gist—superdelegates are no longer allowed to take part in the first ballot voting. This leaves them as glorified tiebreakers, only allowed to vote if no candidate receives a majority in the first round.

Now not all in the DNC were happy about the changes, but many were surprised about how unified the party was on the issue. The largest group against the superdelegate changes was a large number of black caucus members. They were concerned about voter suppression, and while voter suppression is a serious problem, I believe this decision was still a step

in the right direction.

This entire vote was a huge breath of fresh air for the Democratic party. The idea of superdelegates was a dated concept, but completely removing them from the system would have been too jarring. I support the half measure of removing their most powerful role while still giving them voting power in the case of a closer race. And the Democratic party agreeing so universally on so many issues was in itself a great step forward. I was very pessimistic recently about the DNC’s ability to adapt and listen to its voter base, but these changes have given me hope that change is a real possibility, which is good.

The Democratic party is still a long way from perfect, but a willingness to compromise and reform is an important step forward.

# Corruption probes find Cohen and Manafort in deep water

*FBI investigators find Michael Cohen and Paul Manafort guilty of fraud and bribery*

**Ben Hume**  
Staff Reporter

Corruption charges have been few and far between ever since President Donald Trump came under fire early in his candidacy, with occasional news on associates connected loosely to Trump popping up every once in a blue moon. So the bombshells landing on Tuesday, Aug. 21 have been causing real concern for the future of his presidency.

Michael Cohen and Paul Manafort were both either found guilty or pleaded guilty to a variety of different charges leveled against them, some of which may show signs of corruption leading directly back to the president himself. Let’s catch you up to speed on how this giant mess of an investigation is going, and where these new guilty charges might lead us.

Besides Cohen and Manafort, you may have heard of Michael Flynn’s charges of lying to FBI investigators. His status is currently working with investigators but he will most likely be sentenced after he is finished cooperating. Flynn’s case is, seemingly, closed. George Papadopoulos was also charged with lying to the same FBI investigators and pleaded guilty in October 2017, and prosecutors are currently seeking up to six months in jail.

Those are probably the most well-known cases so far, and neither of them has found any association to the sitting president. Cohen and Manafort are different.

The difference here is that Cohen’s plea includes a claim that he worked at the president’s direction when he paid hush money to Stormy Daniels, the porn star famously implicated with Trump’s

actions prior to his presidency. It also shows that Robert Mueller’s investigation could find real evidence, even if Mueller doesn’t find anything related to collusion.

As NPR puts it, “when you start turning over rocks, you find worms.” And these guilty pleas go a long way to retaining public support—in the Trump era, hard evidence and big news stories are the best way to keep Mueller’s work in a positive light, especially with a grotesquely impressive 4,229 false claims in around a year and a half from the president. Truth is important, and the more news, the better.

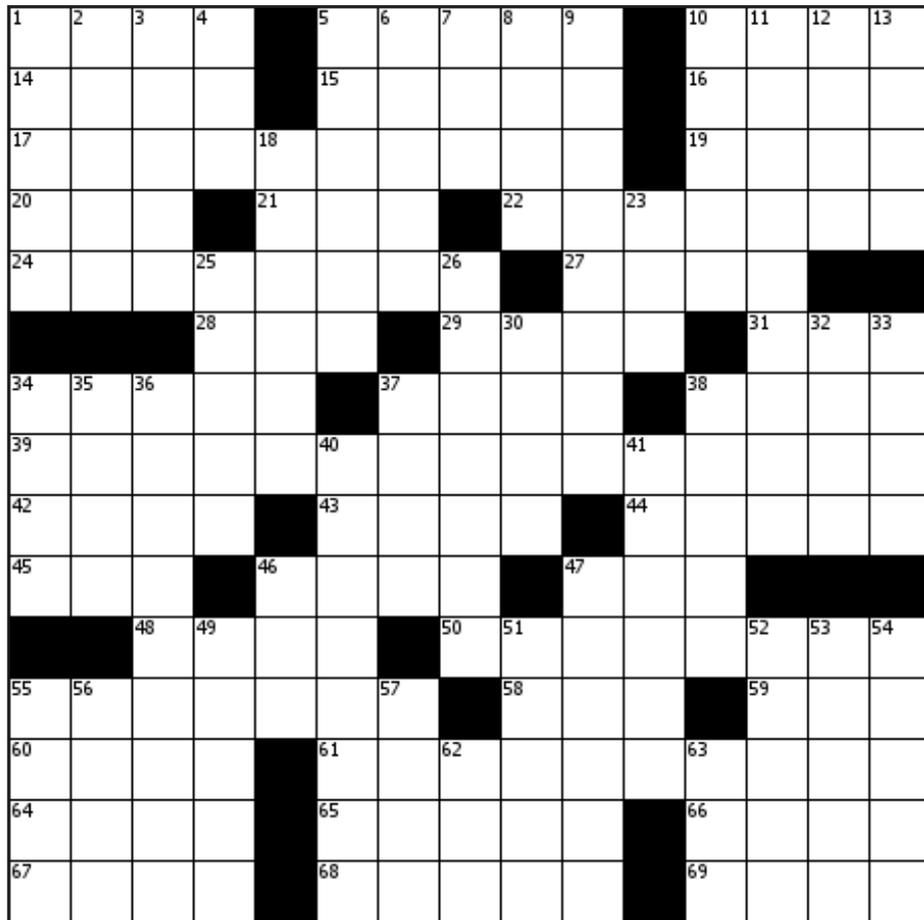
There is, of course, still a large air of doubt about any real chance of criminal charges to be leveled against Trump, especially with the possibility of Brett Kavanaugh being nominated to the Supreme Court, who just so happens to not believe in charging standing presi-

dents with crimes. How very convenient.

Even without the help of a sketchy nomination, finding enough evidence to convict, let alone impeach a president, is incredibly difficult. There’s a reason it has only come close a few times in the past. No matter how little public support Trump has, it takes a huge amount of evidence to get any standing president out of office. These guilty pleas are definitely a step in the right direction, but don’t start holding your breath.

Conclusion: it’s still complicated. With midterm elections acting as a soft due date for the Mueller probe, some are expecting more bombshells to remind politicians that there’s still more to be found. Nothing is confirmed yet, but keep your ears to the tracks and you might hear a freight train coming very, very soon.

# Puzzles



## Across

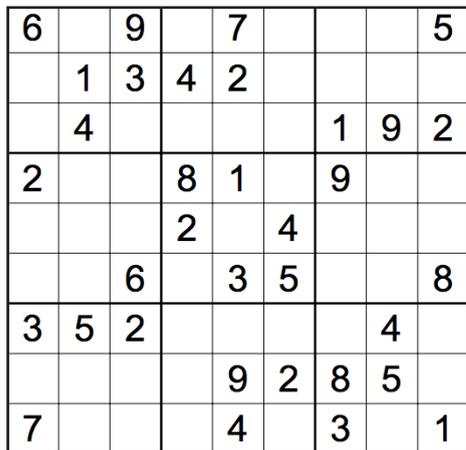
1. Eye swatter?
5. Bow seen in the theater
10. Pincer
14. Caesar's wings
15. Alternatives to walks
16. It's known for its rapid transit
17. Patrol
19. Where el sol rises?
20. Bethlehem sellout
21. Famous first mate
22. Given freely
24. It's a lifesaver
27. Word of dismay
28. Pallid
29. Word with forest or barrel
31. Poetic conjunction
34. People assume different roles for it
37. Rackets
38. Crocus or freesia, e.g.
39. Prepare to march
42. Minnesota state bird
43. Mane setting
44. Small amphibians
45. Photo \_\_\_ (media events)
46. Perry's penner
47. School group sans kids
48. Hector Hugh Munro

## Down

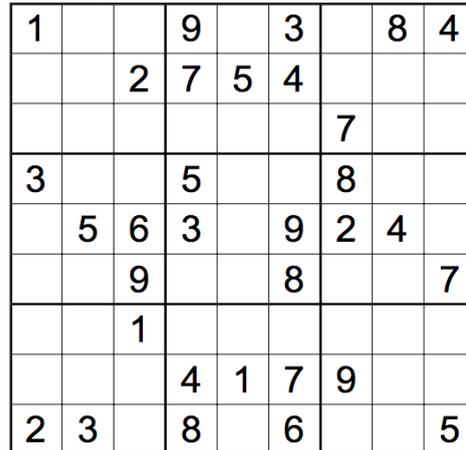
1. \_\_\_ lazuli
2. Peake novel "Titus \_\_\_"
3. Finnish bath
4. Clutch producer?
5. Cowardly
6. Put down in writing?
7. Nigerian musician King Sunny
8. Part of ROM
9. Flabbergast
10. Eat cake on your diet
11. Breaking point
12. "Vissi d'\_\_\_" (from "Tosca")
13. Garden trespasser
18. Leave the liner
23. "Dominique" singer, for

- one
25. "Achilles and the Tortoise" author Mark
26. Fell head over heels?
30. Cough up for a kitty
32. "Warm" or "cold," e.g.
33. At \_\_\_ (disagreeing)
34. Norwegian metropolis
35. What to do "in the name of love"
36. Terrible thing to be caught in
37. Twofold in nature
38. Certain iron girder
40. Adds greater significance to
41. Course for a gourmand
46. Scratch out a living
47. More uptown?
49. Cabinet wood, perhaps
51. Best
52. Plant with detergent properties
53. They probably look before they leap
54. Mubarak's predecessor
55. Talk laryngitically
56. Euclid's lake
57. Scrabble draw
62. Vintner's cask
63. Knock on wood

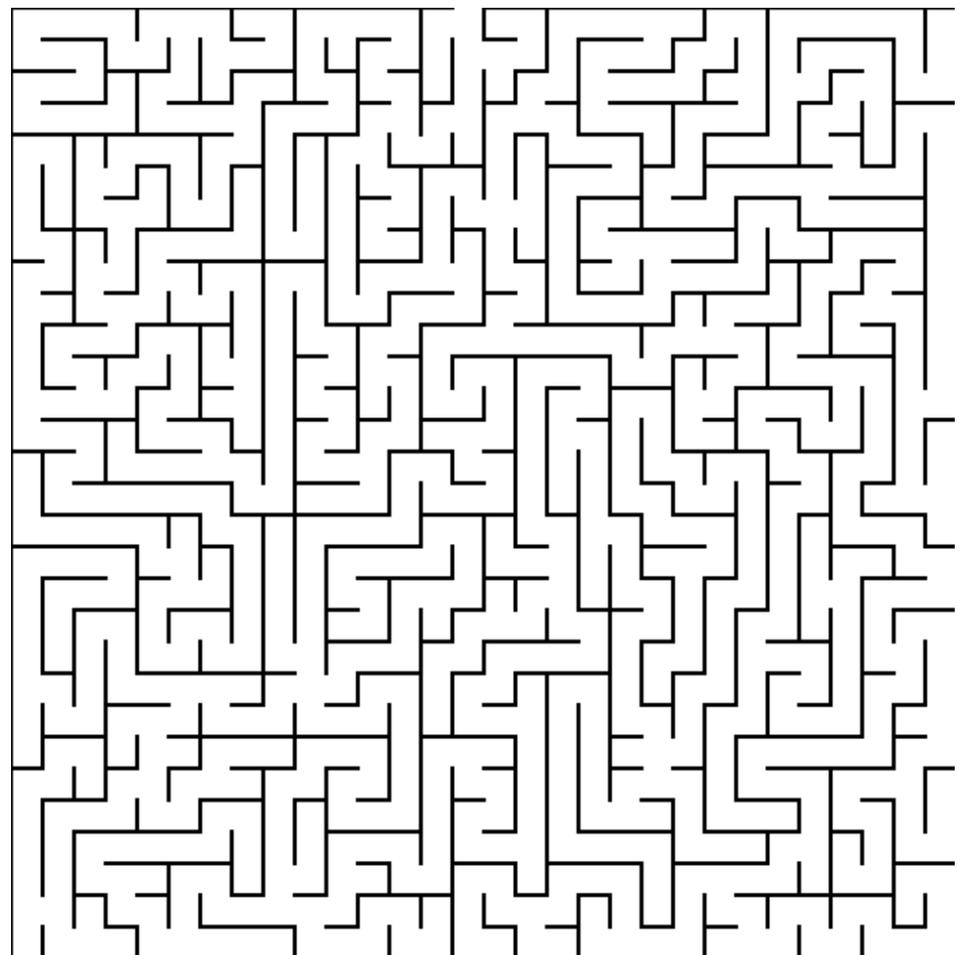
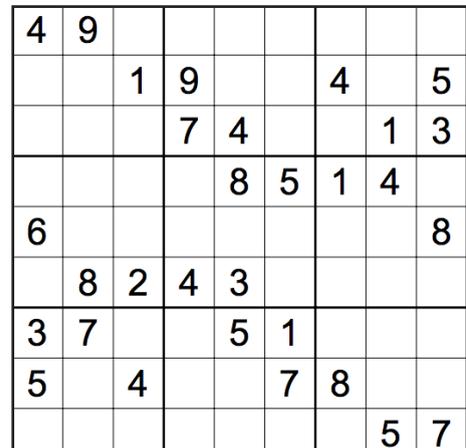
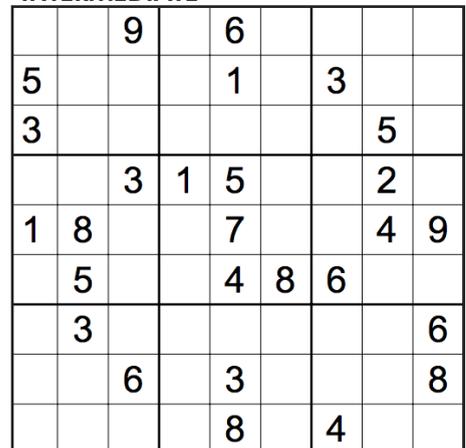
## NOVICE



## TOUGH



## INTERMEDIATE



# Why student-athletes should not be paid **EDITORIAL**

**Zac Grasi**  
Staff Intern

In February of 2018, NBA star Carmelo Anthony stated in an interview that he believes that NCAA student-athletes should be paid. In an article written by Chris Chavez of Sports Illustrated, Anthony was quoted the following: "Yeah, they get a free education if they get a full ride scholarship but how are they surviving on those campuses? A lot of them can't afford food. They get in trouble with the NCAA for taking \$10 or \$20 from a friend or family member."

Student-athletes in the NCAA are not allowed to accept gifts or money from friends and family, but I believe that rule is very flawed. But to counter argue Anthony's comments, there is a simple solution. These student-athletes can get jobs either on-campus or off-campus. Their seasons are not year-round. During their sports season, they don't work and during the off-season, they work their jobs and focus on saving. They can also work during their semester and summer breaks.

As a former NCAA student-athlete at the Division III level, yes the workload was difficult, but I managed just fine. I didn't have a job during the regular season, I had practice three to four days a week, game day on Saturdays, and I always had time to do my schoolwork. I had

a few late nights doing my schoolwork, but I managed.

At times, I did wish I would get paid for doing all that I was doing, but I always reminded myself that I wouldn't even be here if it weren't for the scholarship I got from this school. That is what these student-athletes need to tell themselves too. They wouldn't be where they are right now if it weren't for their scholarships.

The two most popular college sports in the United States are football and basketball. Those are the only two sports in the NCAA that make the most money for the universities and the NCAA. The rest of the sports in the NCAA, such as ice hockey and baseball are televised or gaining revenue only during the Frozen Four and the College World Series.

So with the only two programs making any revenue at all, should only football and men's basketball players be paid? How would that be fair to the rest of the student-athletes? And if every single student-athlete gets paid based off the profits and revenue made off of football and basketball, how is it fair to the football and basketball players? It is a lose-lose situation.

Here is another reason why scholarships should be enough for these student-athletes. To be eligible for a NCAA Division I scholarship, all a high school student-athlete needs is a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative GPA. So you could have a worse GPA than the smartest student

in your graduating class, and you will be going to college for free while your classmate is paying over \$15,000. You can say that these student-athletes are being paid by getting a free education and being debt free. Shouldn't that be enough?

With all the extra work student-athletes have, it would make sense to pay them a little bit of money. They do a lot more than regular students do. They have mandatory regular season and off-season practices and workouts, have to maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher to stay eligible on the team, some student athletes are involved with Greek Life on campus, and there is schoolwork as well. That is a lot for 18-22 year olds to handle for free. But again, they knew what they would be facing when they decided to play sports in college.

The bottom line of this debate is that yes these student-athletes have a lot more going on than the rest of the students at universities and should be rewarded, but the truth is that they have been rewarded with the scholarships they received from the universities. They are paying less money or no money at all because they were good at a particular sport.

With how high tuition is these days (between \$15,000 and \$35,000 a year according to the College Board), I would say that paying less than \$10,000 a year is reward enough.

## WNBA vs NBA: the debate **EDITORIAL**

**Michael Pearce**  
Sports Editor

The Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) conference finals are wrapping up this week. However, the focus is far from what is taking place on the court.

Recently, WNBA players have become more outspoken about the wage gap between their salary and the salary of National Basketball Association (NBA) players. Skylar Diggins-Smith has been the face of this movement, as back in May she began the conversation on ESPN's show "Get Up."

Diggins-Smith said of the pay gap, "It's disappointing. A lot of us play two seasons, one overseas and one for the WNBA. So you could argue we have a longer season and put in equal work. We have a lot to do."

The problem frankly, is much more than basketball. The issue is the systematic oppression of women in the sports industry.

Sports has always been a male-dominated field. From the people playing the sports, owners of the teams and the people who cover them. It's mainly men. The first woman to ever call play by play for an NFL game was Beth Mowins, who did it in 2017.

When women begin playing the same sports on the highest level, there is without a doubt a subconscious dislike for their league from the fans of the male league of the same sport. This is the root of the problem which is keeping WNBA players from making even a quarter of what NBA players make.

Every time a WNBA player makes a comment about the pay gap, social media explodes. You see the same comments on social media about these athletes every time. Basketball fans hiding behind

the screen will say that any high school team could beat the WNBA all-stars, and that they all belong in the kitchen. While it may just be a means to get social media attention, it reveals a dynamic that's disturbing about society as a whole.

Phoenix Mercury center Brittney Griner said in an interview: "WNBA players don't make sh\*t," and in the future, WNBA players might sit out unless they get compensated more. For context, Griner is one of the highest paid players in the WNBA, making approximately \$110,000.

The cap for WNBA athletes' salaries is \$110,000. The minimum salary for an NBA player with no experience in the league is almost eight times that amount, at \$838,000.

While it is true that the WNBA does not have the viewership at all that the NBA has, the league is not less entertaining. There are rarely any dunks, and the athleticism is lesser. However there is more to basketball than dunking and athleticism. The WNBA has a lot to offer with technique and team play, which any true basketball fan will enjoy.

If you call yourself a basketball fan, but you don't support the WNBA players getting larger contracts, you're not a real basketball fan. The WNBA being popular as well as the NBA being popular is a great thing for the sport of basketball.

As a basketball fan myself, I wish that there was more acceptance and tolerance for the WNBA and the very real pay gap that they face. They do need more viewers to bring in more money, so start watching. Get involved and enjoy the sport that is rapidly rivaling football in popularity across the United States, and combat the hate that is spewed all over social media whenever a talented athlete is rightly upset about being underpaid.

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Sergio Montanez / The Oakland Post

The Golden Grizzlies fought hard but still lost as the game resulted in a final score of 57-14.

## Club Football falls in season opener at Lawrence Tech

Zac Grasl  
Staff Intern

**G**olden Grizzlies took the field against the Lawrence Tech University (LTU) Blue Devils in their season opener on Saturday, Sept. 1. Going into the game, the Golden Grizzlies were small favorites to beat LTU, even though LTU had the home field advantage and were playing their first football game in over 30 years. However, the odds did not go in the Golden Grizzlies' favor as they lost 57-14 to the Blue Devils.

In the first quarter, each team's defense could not catch a break, as both Oakland and LTU scored on their first two possessions on offense. At the end of the first quarter, it was a tie game at 14-14. By the start of the second quarter, things went downhill fast for Oakland University especially on defense. Known for their dominant defense, the Golden Grizzlies could not stop LTU's offense, as they scored on every offensive possession.

Senior linebacker and lead team captain, Bobby Saad, led both teams in tackles with 12 tackles (4 solo, 8 assisted), but it was not enough to stop the dominant pass game for the Blue Devils.

Senior safety Nate Emery, who collected three solo tackles and one pass breakup in the game, believes although it wasn't the best performance the club performed there were just as many positives as there were negatives.

"I wouldn't call it a rough game, there were positives to build on and negatives to correct," he said. "We just didn't execute all four quarters. We will meet in the film room on Tuesday and get back to work. We are going to forget about this loss and get ready for the next game."

On the offensive side of the ball, junior quarterback and team captain Ben Hajciar, was one of the few bright spots for the

team during the game, completing 11-21 of his passes for 59 yards with two touchdown passes, and he also ran the ball eight times for 52 yards.

Hajciar said that LTU was definitely the toughest team he had ever played against as quarterback of the Golden Grizzlies.

"That was the toughest opponent that not only I ever played against, but the whole club has played against," he said. "This was a non-conference game against an NAIA school that has millions of dollars funded to them, meaning that they can recruit players all across the country, which is something we do not have the luxury of having. We stuck around with them for the entire first quarter, which I am sure they were not expecting us to do."

During the entire 2017 season, the Golden Grizzly defense only allowed 26 points scored on them. The Blue Devils scored 35 points in the first half, more points in the first half than every team OU played last season combined. The Blue Devils' 57 points as the final score is the most points the team has ever allowed in a single game.

"There is no excuses for a loss," Emery said. "Regardless of the fact we only have 35 players, we gotta place our personal in the right position and condition ourselves to fulfill our assignments every play."

Even though the game did not go the way the team and the fans had hoped it would, the season is far from over for this football team. The remaining schedule is against teams the Golden Grizzlies have not lost to in over three years. This team could win the remainder of their games and go to the playoffs for the third straight season while making another run for the National Club Football Association national title.

The team's next game is at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15 against Wright State University at Oakland.

## Horizon League releases preseason polls for men's soccer and women's volleyball

Michael Pearce  
Sports Editor

**W**ith the fall season rapidly approaching for all sports, the Horizon League preseason polls have been released, stating who the Horizon League coaches believe the best teams will be. Polls were released for both men's and women's soccer as well as volleyball.

Of the three sports, volleyball ranked the highest for Oakland University. The volleyball team was voted second in the conference, finishing only two points behind the first place finisher Cleveland State University. Cleveland State received four first place votes, and Oakland received three.

The volleyball team is full of talented seniors such as Krysteena Davis and Aleksandra Malek, but also has a lot of depth for the future, with six freshmen and five sophomores. With veteran leadership and young talent, this team could make a run at Cleveland State and their Horizon League MVP, Sara Skeens.

Volleyball is already off to a hot start, as they won their first tournament of the year, as junior Jordan Lentz was named MVP of the Purdue Fort Wayne Invitational. Malek and sophomore Jamie Walling were named all-tournament team as well.

The next match for the volleyball team takes place in Ann Arbor on Sept. 7, as they take on the University of Michigan Wolverines.

The men's and women's soccer teams have both already kicked off their 2018 seasons, and both teams received bottom-half ranks in Horizon League preseason polls. Men's soccer was ranked sixth out of nine, while women's soccer was ranked seventh out of 10. Both teams are not predicted by coaches to do well in conference play.

The men's team began their season in thrilling fashion, tying against Western Illinois at home on a last second equalizer by redshirt freshman Napoleon Outlaw III. The winning has continued, as the men have not lost a match yet this year. Their current record sits at 3-0-1.

The team is on the younger side, with only three senior midfielders: Hamid Berry, Jimmy Todd and Jacob Moore. With strong veteran midfield play, if young defenders and forwards can step up like Outlaw did in the season opener, Oakland soccer has the potential to outperform their sixth place projection.

The Horizon League schedule for the men's soccer team begins on Saturday, Sept. 8, as they host the preseason favorite University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC) Flames.

The women's soccer team has also begun their season, but is yet to play a Horizon League match. Their first Horizon League match also takes place at home, on Friday, Sept. 14 against the preseason No. 3 team, Wright State University.

Last season the women's team finished eighth in the conference, so the coaches are predicting a bit of improvement. Finishing with a 3-6-0 record in league play, there is a lot of room for improvement under second year head coach, Juan Pablo Favero.

With Favero having a second year under his belt, combined with five seniors and four juniors leading the way on the field, this team is poised to outperform their positioning and finish as a top-half Horizon League school. Looking at their conference schedule, the team plays the majority of their tough opponents at home. While they do have to go on the road to face Milwaukee, IUPUI and Northern Kentucky, they host Wright State, Cleveland State and UIC. If Oakland can protect home turf, the standings will look a lot different than the preseason projections.



Oakland Post archives

Polls revealed that Horizon League coaches believe women's volleyball will finish second in the league.

# A new species has emerged on campus

Michael Pearce  
Sports Editor

Neil deGrasse Tyson. Bill Nye the Science Guy. Albert Einstein. Mrs. Frizzle. Some of the greatest scientific minds that the world has ever seen are all working on the mysterious case of Youngis Freshmanicus, the new invasive species on campus.

"I travel in a magical school bus that can transform into anything that you could possibly think of, and this invasion is the strangest thing I've ever seen," Frizzle said. "What baffles me the most is their traveling. Almost as if they're a herd of wild dogs."

Youngis Freshmanicus enjoys traveling in a blob-like fashion, where the alphas are in the front of the pack with the betas fanned out around them. You will never encounter one of these beasts alone, especially in the Oakland Center or Vandenberg.

One of the biggest focuses of

this species is mating. Their entire existence revolves around courting and impressing the opposite sex. One of the most prevalent examples is the gear they carry around to acquire a social currency called "clout."

"The most fascinating part about these creatures are the devices known as 'Juuls' that they insist on carrying around at all times," deGrasse Tyson said. "These nicotine dispensing devices are fruit flavored and contain trace amounts of cancer in them. It is a mystery to me why these creatures poison themselves to move up in the social ranks, but it's extremely effective."

The species seems hell-bent on mating, as most of their conversations center around the opposite sex. The dining hall at Vandenberg Hall has been overrun with these creatures filling the airspace with their constant chatter about "Chad on the third floor" and "Lexi on floor four." The dining staff has had to in-

crease doses of Tylenol to deal with persistent headaches.

Another key feature of the Youngis Freshmanicus species is the innate ability to get lost on campus. Often times you will see them aimlessly wandering around campus in big groups, staring at their phones, desperately looking for answers. This species has not yet evolved to the point where they have gained the ability to ask others for help, they solely rely on their cell phones for guidance.

"At this point, it seems like a full blown worshipping of the cell phones," Nye the Science Guy said. "There are experienced seniors who know where everything is, but they refuse to ask for help. Through careful observation and scientific studies, we have concluded these creatures have an abnormal amount of pride as well as an inability to look away from social media sites."

With nowhere else to turn, researchers across the country

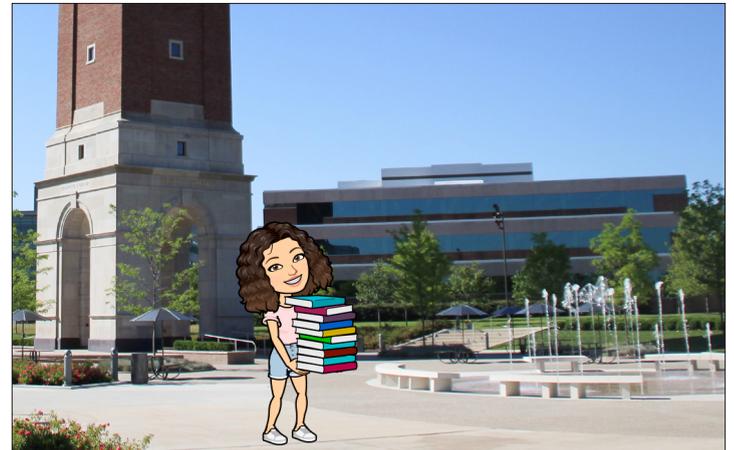


Photo Illustration by Erin O'Neill and AuJenee Hirsch

Youngis Freshmanicus aimlessly wander around and easily get lost on campus.

are consulting Jane Goodall, the famous chimpanzee scientist. Observational studies are being taken all across campus, and Oakland University is now the hotbed for scientific study. Thanks to Youngis Freshmanicus, College Board has announced Oakland University as the number one research school

in the known universe.

"Honestly this is the greatest achievement of my life," Grizz said. "As the university's representative, I've seen a lot of great things in my life. This tops even the movie Brother Bear coming out into theaters, which was a real big deal for all grizzly bears everywhere. This is momentous."

## FALL 2018 PAYMENT INFORMATION

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

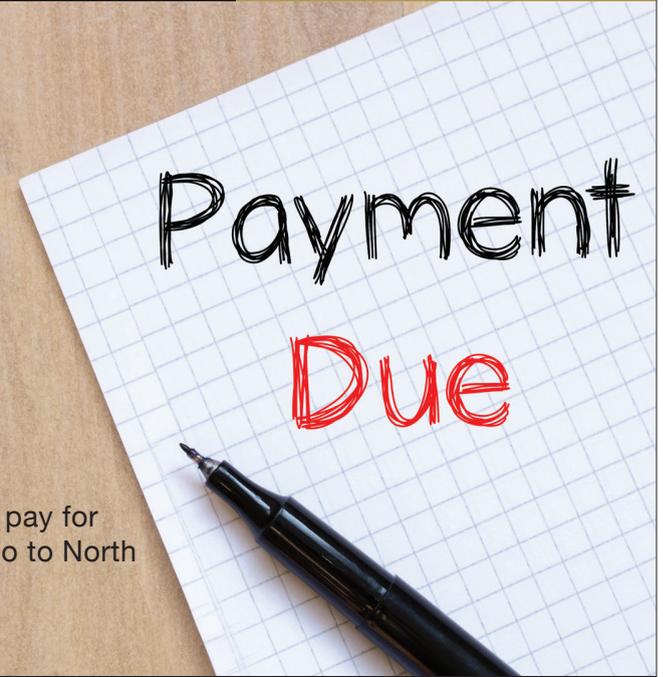
The fall semester is here — start it off right and avoid any last-minute surprises by being proactive with all your financial business.

Consider all your financial options, including an OU payment plan, which helps spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments.

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