

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

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WELCOME BACK, BASKETBALL

*Golden Grizzlies triumph over
Rochester in first exhibition game*

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Students can now update ID cards to include preferred name

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THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



WOMEN'S SOCCER STANDOFF Women's soccer played their final home match of the season against Milwaukee on Sunday, Oct. 27. The game ended in a 0-0 draw.
PHOTO / SAM SUMMERS

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Muggle Quidditch League brings popular "Harry Potter" sport to life
Photo/Sergio Montanez



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Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry celebrates its one-year anniversary
Photo/The Oakland Post Archives



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Educators from the School of Medicine represent OU at conference in India
Photo/Oakland University

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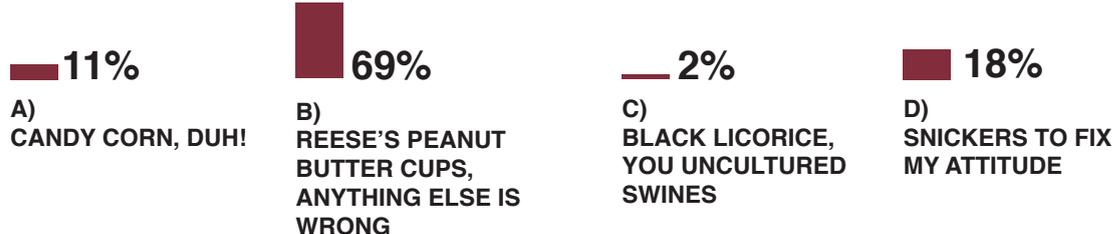
POLL OF THE WEEK

WHAT ARE YOU DRESSING UP AS FOR HALLOWEEN?

- A) A CARROT
- B) A DEPRESSED COLLEGE STUDENT
- C) MYSELF, I'M UGLY ENOUGH
- D) A SEXY GENDER-NEUTRAL SCHOOLPERSON

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HALLOWEEN CANDY?



LOOKING BACK

Halloween at OU through the years

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

Halloween has been celebrated many different ways on campus throughout the years. Oakland University has provided many activities in the past for students to get involved in that allowed them to dress up and celebrate the holiday.

In 1985, the celebration of the holiday was focused around a Halloween party sponsored by the Student Program Board (SPB). With an estimated turnout of 800 people, it was the biggest Halloween party Oakland University had ever thrown.

Featuring music, contests and bobbing for apples, the party was a success in that everyone attended had fun, but the students were kept safe. With the concern about security due to so many more people attending compared to prior years, there were extra security measures taken by Keith McGraw, dance chairperson at the time, and SPB.

"We're doing it on our own [security measures]," McGraw said.

Another big part of Halloween is horror movies. OU decided to take a further look into the film industry in 2009 with workshops about horror movies.

Michael Manasseri, an executive vice president for independent film distributor Big Screen Entertainment came to OU. He showed his directorial debut, "Babysitter Wanted," and talked about his career and how some horror



THE OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES
Some of the first festivities began in 1985 with an SPB party.

movies can use psychological distress to be scary.

"It's really more like an old-fashioned horror film out of the '70s," Manasseri said. "I wanted to make a movie kind of like 'Rosemary's Baby' or 'The Omen' ... It starts off like any other babysitter horror movie."

OU film majors were about to go to this event during the week of Halloween and learn more about their future industry while understanding how a different genre of films is made.

The OU Spooktacular Halloween series all started Friday, Oct. 23, 2015, with a multitude of Halloween-related festivities at Elliott Tower.

At the end of the event, there was a live carillon concert using the bells in Elliott Tower. There was also trick-or-treating around the tower, face painting, arts and crafts, and giveaways. Students were given cider, doughnuts and caramel apples.

"Students, faculty and the community are welcomed to come to this event to enjoy the Halloween activities," said Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development. "Everyone doesn't have to dress up, so they can feel free to come as they are or can get in the Halloween spirit and dress up."

In the past year, the Campus Student Organic Farm (CSOF) got involved in putting on some Halloween and fall festivities. They put on their first Halloween Bash in 2016, which had a pumpkin carving competition and ladder golf to win prizes.

"It's my first time here, so it's fun to see the entire farm for the first time," Stephanie Allen, then-OU freshman, said. "I heard they have cider and doughnuts. Pumpkin carving has been my favorite part so far."

Students that participated in the pumpkin carving contest ended up supporting the CSOF by raising money for the farm as well as helping their pumpkin sales.

"Sales are a little bit down, but [we are] big on student involvement this year, which is a really good thing," said Marissa Diccio, senior manager and president of the CSOF.

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'We Are OU': 2019 State of the University Address

KATIE VALLEY

Content Editor

Campus-wide initiatives comprising four strategic goals and a plan to “reimagine” Oakland University were discussed at President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz’s second annual State of the University Address on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

With OU community members rising throughout the event to speak about what makes them part of OU, the address had a full audience of campus supporters.

Student success

Following information reported in the Oct. 14 Board of Trustees meeting, OU’s enrollment has been growing since 2009 along with only five other Michigan public universities, despite the decreasing number of Michigan high school graduates.

First-time in any college (FTIAC) applications and admissions are at all-time highs, according to Pescovitz, with 14,894 applications and 10,375 admitted students. Initiatives like the Strategic Enrollment Management plan aim toward attracting new students and retaining enrolled students.

With Michigan’s higher education expenditures at only 4.1%, the state is the most tuition dependent in the nation. In the 2019-2020 academic year, OU expects 80% of its revenue will come from tuition alone.

The average OU student loan debt is \$25,228, but Pescovitz stresses the importance of seeking higher education.

“Offering accessible and affordable education is among our highest priorities,” Pescovitz said. “Investing in higher education is the best return on investment anyone can make in themselves or their children.”

Research

Pescovitz’s second strategic goal, research, came to be after OU moved up to the R2 designation in the Carnegie Classification of Higher Education in December 2018 — the second highest tier, which is held by only 3.1% of universities in the nation. The new classification can allow researchers to secure external grants and appeal to industry partners.

This year’s annual president’s retreat focused on research. Pescovitz and other OU leaders sought to increase the number of researchers and grants, since OU’s number of principal investigators is down; increase undergraduate and graduate student engagement in research; improve policies and practice; and promote research activity.

Community engagement

According to Pescovitz, the third goal, community engagement, embodies the campus’ efforts to connect to its surroundings.

“Community engagement is both an obligation and an ongoing challenge that requires us to mobilize and utilize our resources to make a positive and impactful difference in our communities,” she said.

OU has built relationships with the Pontiac community in the past five years of the OU-Pontiac Initiative, providing access to healthy foods, educational support and cultural celebrations. OU William Beaumont School of Medicine students took part in a poverty simulation in Pontiac to engage with community members and diversify their experiences.

Diversity, equity and inclusion

Concerning OU’s commitment to diver-



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTO EDITOR

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz delivers the second annual State of the University Address on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

sity, Pescovitz said, “Our goal is to continue to broaden the diversity of our student population, faculty and staff, but our work is far from done.”

Pescovitz aims to increase campus representation of women, minorities and international students and staff; close the achievement gap between majority and minority students; and better communicate diversity policies.

On Sunday, Oct. 27, OU will receive the 2019 American Association of State Colleges and Universities Excellence and Innovation Award for Leadership Development and Diversity at a ceremony in Phoenix, Arizona, for its Leadership Academy program.

Reimagining OU: Vision 2025

Pescovitz said many institutions are making changes to “reshape the higher education landscape.” Challenges are rising, such

as enrollment declines, a lack of increase in public funding to universities, people questioning the value of higher education and increasing student debt.

The new plan to address these challenges is “Reimagining OU.” Dr. Kevin Corcoran and Dr. Graeme Harper, supported by an external consultant, will be co-chairs of the Reimagining OU steering committee to review processes and recommend ways to improve university operation.

In positioning OU for continuous improvement, Pescovitz said collaboration makes the university powerful.

“The state of our university depends on our shared realization that when we work together, we are stronger, we have greater impact, we make a difference, and we make Oakland University the university of choice for students, faculty, staff and the community,” Pescovitz said.

Iraqi professor shares poetry of immigrant past

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

Oakland University’s Dunya Mikhail read a selection of her poetry at the annual Maurice Brown Memorial Poetry Reading on Oct. 22 in the Oakland Center. The reading was backed by a trio of musicians: Nashwan Pola on the oud, Victor Ghannam on the qanun and Edy Fadel on the riq.

“Her poems blaze with the intensity of the life she has led and with the brightness of her wit, her tenderness and her capacity — like any great poet — to lament and praise our human world,” English and creative writing professor Katie Hartsock said.

Mikhail was born in Baghdad, Iraq and worked as a journalist and translator for the Baghdad Observer after graduating from college. Facing censorship from Saddam Hussein’s regime, she moved to Jordan before moving to Detroit in 1995. Today, Mikhail is a special lecturer of Arabic at OU.

Her Iraqi identity is critical to Mikhail’s literary work. Her

2018 nonfiction book “The Beekeeper: Rescuing the Stolen Women of Iraq” tells the story of a beekeeper who saved countless Yazidi women from ISIS, while her poem “Plastic Death” is set in her hometown of Baghdad. “Plastic Death” focuses on children fighting a fake war with plastic weapons. It’s lighthearted enough at first, though Mikhail reminds readers of the stakes that come with growing up in the Iraqi capital.

“The years turn over and Baghdad recedes with our childhoods into exile,” Mikhail read. “From afar we see children who look like we did. They kill each other. Lying motionless on the floor. But none of them laugh or hold life in their eyes.”

“Plastic Death” was the only poem told in both English (Mikhail’s third language) and Arabic. Combined with the instrumental trio’s freestyle playing, the reading takes on an otherworldly quality, allowing the audience to happily imagine children playing war in the streets and vividly see those same children meeting a violently too-early demise.

While “Plastic Death” is where the reading began, war and violence is not the end-all-be-all of Mikhail’s literary relationship with Iraq. After living somewhere for 30 years, the rela-

tionship with that place is more than a simple “good” or “bad.” Such is the nature of the poem “Tablets.”

Fascinated by the tablets found at Sumerian ruins, Mikhail created over 100 poem bursts in Iraqi haiku. A sample of only about 20 passages were read at the event.

“No I am not bored of you/the moon too comes every day,” Mikhail read from “Tablets.” “The earth is so simple, you can explain it with a tear or a laugh. The earth is so complicated, you need a tear or a laugh to explain it.”

The trio of musicians intended to elevate Mikhail’s poetry and hoped to allow attendees to more easily visualize the scenes presented in her words.

Mikhail pulled poems from across her published collections. Her first collection, “The War Works Hard,” was one of the New York Public Library’s best books of 2005, while “Diary of a Wave Outside the Sea” was an Arab American Book Award winner in 2010. Mikhail’s nonfiction book “The Beekeeper” was featured by Publishers Weekly and PBS NewsHour.

Quidditch for OU Muggles

KATELYN HILL & DEAN VAGLIA
Staff Reporters

Good news, Muggles: Quidditch isn't just for witches and wizards.

The Muggle Quidditch League of Oakland University allows students to play the popular game that is played in the "Harry Potter" books.

Even though players won't be able to use any magic, the game is played as close as possible to the way it is in the books by following a similar set of rules and running with a broom between players' legs.

The club is looking for new recruits who are interested in the sport and having a good time. The more people who show up, the more fun practice will be for everyone.

Christina Reso, president of the Muggle Quidditch League, said it's a sport that's easier to participate in for students who aren't super athletic. She said students don't even have to know anything about Quidditch or "Harry Potter" in general.

"We always teach people when they get there how to do it, and we can always find a spot for someone on the team no matter what their skill level is," she said.

Reso said one major misconception people have is that it's a joke and isn't taken seriously.

"Some people will think that it's kind of silly or that it's like a joke sport," she said. "We do take ourselves a little seriously, not so seriously that we make it like, intense or anything, but I wouldn't call it a joke sport."

The club has played against Quidditch teams from other schools such as Wayne State University (WSU), Michigan State University (MSU) and Eastern Michigan University (EMU). A scrimmage is already planned for November with WSU and MSU.

Isaac Springer, vice president of the Muggle Quidditch League, said all they want is for people to come and play quidditch with them.

Springer first joined the club as a fresh-

man when he and his roommate were looking for things to do on campus. He said the best part of quidditch is it's another social group that provides many different things for different people.

"It's a great way to meet new people, especially if you're new on campus," he said. "It's also a great way to stay fit, active and in shape."

“We can always find a spot for someone on the team no matter what their skill level is.”

Christina Reso
President of the Muggle Quidditch League

Practices take place on Friday nights from 6-8 p.m. in the OU Recreational and Well-Being Center. During this time, the team run drills that are specific for the different positions: keeper, chaser, beater and seeker. Any students interested are encouraged to come out to the practices, even if it's just to watch.

Reso said it's just drop in, so students can join any week and start playing if they are interested.

"If you ever have a Friday night free, come to the Rec Center, check us out, watch us play," she said. "You don't even have to participate. We're always trying to get people to see what we're about."

If interested students have any questions or concerns, they can email the team or check out its GrizzOrgs page.



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER

The Muggle Quidditch League practices Fridays, running drills for keepers, chasers, beaters and seekers.

OU's PI Academy to welcome Dr. Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good

RACHEL YIM
Staff Reporter

The PI Academy at Oakland University is bringing a collaboration between a professor and his mentor to campus this week.

PI Academy at OU, which provides professional development in research and matches junior faculty with scholars from all across the nation, is welcoming Dr. Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good, a professor of global health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School to campus Oct. 29 and 30.

During her visit to OU, she will be serving as a mentor to Dr. Edward Rohn, assistant professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.

"I am honored and a bit overwhelmed by the opportunity to work with Dr. Good," Rohn said. "Her experience and insights have already been invaluable on a pair of manuscripts I have been working on."

Rohn was part of the PI Academy through the research office at OU. During the training, new faculty get hands-on experiences and learn how to help develop their research careers, according to Rohn. Part of the program includes enlisting the aid of an outside mentor for a period of one or more years.

"Her work is inspirational to me as she helped to find my field of medical anthropology," Rohn said. "Her work on physician competency, in particular, figured heavily into my dissertation research."

Rohn is currently working on research that involves the intersection between patients and providers in the management and understanding of the experiences of chronic illnesses, specifically spinal cord injury and chronic pain.

He cited his interest in improving healthcare delivery and passion of both patients' and doctors' stories as what inspired him to come up with his research idea.

As a comparative sociologist and medical anthropologist, Good will be working on a research project with Rohn, and hosting a public seminar on how she sees American medicine responds to cultural diversity in patient populations during her visit to OU.

"My talk will be based on my own Boston area research project as well as on national health policy issues over

the past two decades, and subsequent research by my postdoctoral fellows and physicians I have mentored," Good said. "I hope we can have a discussion where we can consider issues such as advocacy and trust in clinical patient relationships."

Other than being a professor of global health and social medicine at Harvard Medical School, she is also an honorary visiting professor at the University of Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in the faculty of medicine. As an honorary visiting professor, she advises and mentors their faculty in the area.

“I hope we can have a discussion where we can consider issues such as advocacy and trust in clinical patient relationships.”

Dr. Mary-Jo DelVecchio Good
Professor at Harvard Medical School

When it comes to research, Good has several domains of research on the culture of medicine. In the past, she focused on "Pain as Human Experience" (1992), a book she wrote and edited with her colleagues.

Currently, she continues to research doctor-patient interactions in the U.S., looking at how physicians and healthcare staff respond to cultural diversity in American Society.

"[Rohn and I] both draw on medical anthropological modes to analyze the work of doctoring and the inner life of medicine," Good said.

Good didn't forget to express her excitement in her visit to OU.

"As this will be my first visit to Oakland, I would like to leave this open," Good said. "Dr. Rohn and Dr. [David] Stone and other faculty I will meet will help define various goals in our upcoming conversations. I am looking forward to fruitful and enjoyable conversations that I hope will be helpful to the faculty involved."



THE OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES

The Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry helps fight food insecurity on OU's campus.

OSI has 'Howling Good Time' with dogs, treats and crafts

Office for Student Involvement celebrates one-year anniversary of Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

To address any hunger and food insecurity that may exist among students at Oakland University, the Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry provides a variety of non-perishable food to students.

October marks one year since the pantry's opening. Opened in October 2018, it tackles barriers related to food insecurities to help students achieve their utmost success.

To celebrate its one-year anniversary, the Office for Student Involvement (OSI) hosted an event called "Howling Good Time" on Tuesday, Oct. 29.

With Halloween approaching in less than a week, the OSI tried to incorporate the Halloween theme into the event.

Jean Ann Miller, senior director of the OSI, said the event will also feature therapy dogs and free food with a Halloween theme.

"This event is for OU students to get acquainted with the Office for Student Involvement and the Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry — where we are located and what resources, programs and services we have to offer students," Miller said. "What better way to attract students' attention is therapy dogs and treats."

In addition to the celebration, the food pantry collected non-perishable food items and toiletries to equip the pantry and better serve its students.

The food pantry is run by managers and many volunteers.

Rae Johnson is a manager of the Golden Grizzlies Food Pantry. She oversees volunteers, day-to-day pantry operations and coordinates food drives to the pantries.

She shared her story about how the first year of operating the food pantry went and what the process was like to bring the pantry to campus.

"Before the pantry was created, Dr. Beam, the director of the social work program, and Jean Ann Miller advocated for a food pantry on campus," Johnson said. "Dr. Beam conducted research on food insecurity on our campus, and the need for a food pantry was overwhelming. The first year was successful. We have served over 250 students and their families."

The donation of over 3,500 pounds of food from the OU community and partnerships with Kroger, Trader Joe's, Global Engagement office and the Center for Multicultural Initiatives have been instrumental in supporting the pantry in its first year, according to Johnson.

"We were inspired to do this work because we envision a campus where every student succeeds. For that to happen, we must meet students' basic needs," Johnson said. "It is hard to concentrate or focus on school when students are worried about budgeting money for tuition, rent, or household bills."

In the end, her goal is to spread awareness about the pantry, providing as many students as possible with opportunities to attain the food resource that they need.

Besides this event, the OSI hosts various events throughout the school year for students to get involved.

"Most importantly, we really want to assist OU students to get involved on OU's campus and get connected to campus activities and student organizations, as well as leadership and volunteer opportunities," Miller said.

To learn more about this event or to sign up for it, visit OU's Campus Labs website.

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NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTO EDITOR

Oakland University students can now update their ID cards to include their preferred name.

Students can now update IDs to include preferred names

KATELYN HILL
Staff Reporter

A major step has been made for the LGBTQIA+ students on campus.

Oakland University students now have the ability to update their identification card to include their preferred name.

Grace Wojcik, who has been the coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center (GSC) for eight years, said this has been in the works for a while. The GSC has worked closely with the ID Card Office to talk about implementing preferred names onto student ID cards.

Its role has been to educate the campus community, offices and administrators about the importance of the preferred name policy and then implement the policy in all aspects of campus life.

Wojcik said having an ID card that matches a student's preferred name helps students feel safe and welcomed on campus. She said this is a huge step forward for

the safety and privacy of OU students since IDs get used so frequently throughout the campus.

"You're swiping in to enter housing, you're swiping in to pay for your meals, you're using it at the library," Wojcik said. "To have a name that doesn't reflect who you are on there — and a name that could potentially out you — can be dangerous, and that's really where the emphasis came from."

Wojcik said she knows there have been students in the past who have experienced negative incidents due to not having their preferred name on their IDs, which caused unnecessary issues for students. These issues can include verbal harassment and other bullying behaviors.

Maggie Phelps, assistant manager of the ID card office, said the office wants to match a student's preferred name with their picture so that students don't have to worry about potential-

ly being outed anymore. She said the sense of belonging is very important to everyone on campus, where she wants everyone to feel comfortable and welcomed.

"The students that have come in and have requested their preferred name have been very happy about it and we've been happy to be able to have that service for them," she said. "It's made so many people's days."

Wojcik said many of the students on the staff at GSC have already gotten their new IDs.

The process of updating a student ID is very simple and quick — students just have to talk to a full-time staff member in the ID Card Office. If students need any guidance, they should stop by the ID Card Office or call (248) 370-2291.

If students need any guidance or have additional questions related to preferred names in general, they can reach out to Wojcik at gawojcik@oakland.edu or visit the GSC.

Police Files

Hamlin Hall Fire Scare

A fire alarm was triggered in Hillcrest Hall on Aug. 18. Oakland University Police Department officers arrived on the scene with no answer from the residents of the room that triggered the alarm. At that point, Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived on the scene. They arrived at the room of interest and managed to get the door unlocked to allow the officers and fire department to inspect it. There were no people inside either of the dorm rooms. The Auburn Hills Fire Department located the smoke detector head, removed the cover and blew off some dust. After cleaning it, a test was done on the smoke detector head and the sensor flashed green, indicating full operation. All units then cleared the scene.

Compiled by Ben Hume,
Web Editor

THE OAKLAND POST

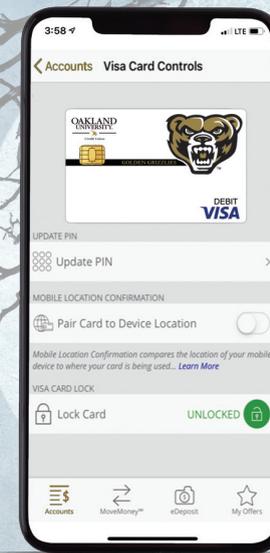
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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

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Relocation of classes to accommodate South Foundation renovation leaves faculty concerned

story by Lauren Karmo | design by Katie LaDuke | graphics by Jimmy Williams

The upcoming renovation to South Foundation Hall will leave Oakland University to find new, alternative space to accommodate the loss of the 37 classrooms housed in the building. Planned to begin in May or June 2020, the \$40 million project will last for 18 months, requiring a class relocation plan spanning five semesters.

The closure of South Foundation Hall will affect students and faculty of all departments. Built in 1959, one of the oldest buildings on campus is home to many general education classes and classes across all colleges within the university.

The offices of the Provost and Registrar have been using a program called Platinum Analytics to make scheduling decisions during the renovation. Platinum Analytics works in combination with the students' Degree Works program to meet students' needs.

While schedules have yet to be finalized, the breakdown of relocation tactics has. The largest alternative is to increase classroom sharing, particularly with hybrid classes, followed by increasing use of 8 a.m. and evening time modules, online and hybrid classes.

"This is a campus-wide initiative and a campus-wide opportunity," Registrar Tricia Westergaard said. "It should not fall on one area or one department more than anywhere else."

Despite this assurance from the Registrar, some departments feel they are affected more than others due to this project. Some in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures worry students will not gain the same experiences from the hybrid format they're temporarily adopting.

"I do think that some classes are more conducive than others to being successful in an online format," French Professor Dikka Berven said. "Normally in class, the students have the opportunity to speak the language ... That is going to be a different experience if they are being required to write instead of speak."

The Registrar has decided on a plan to do "a little bit of everything" to even out the burden of the classroom loss, but some faculty members are still unhappy with the results.

"I've been here 22 years, speaking as a faculty member, I feel really demoralized that the faculty was not consulted in this at all," English Professor Kathy Pfeiffer said. "The teaching mission of the university has been sold out without any input from faculty. It feels

like classroom space, which is what we've all dedicated our lives to, interacting in the classroom, has very little value to the administration. Our perspective had no say in this major decision. It's professionally insulting and it's demoralizing for us as a group to have the most important part of our jobs taken away from us."

Some faculty feel students will be put at a disadvantage during the renovation due to the alternative solutions that are being provided.

"It may yet be the case that we do not have enough space to serve student needs," Dr. Kevin Laam, chair of the English department, said. "We [may] look more aggressively into finding physical space for these classes, and I hope that's the case, because I have pretty strong reservations about moving a large amount of content to online and hybrid delivery."

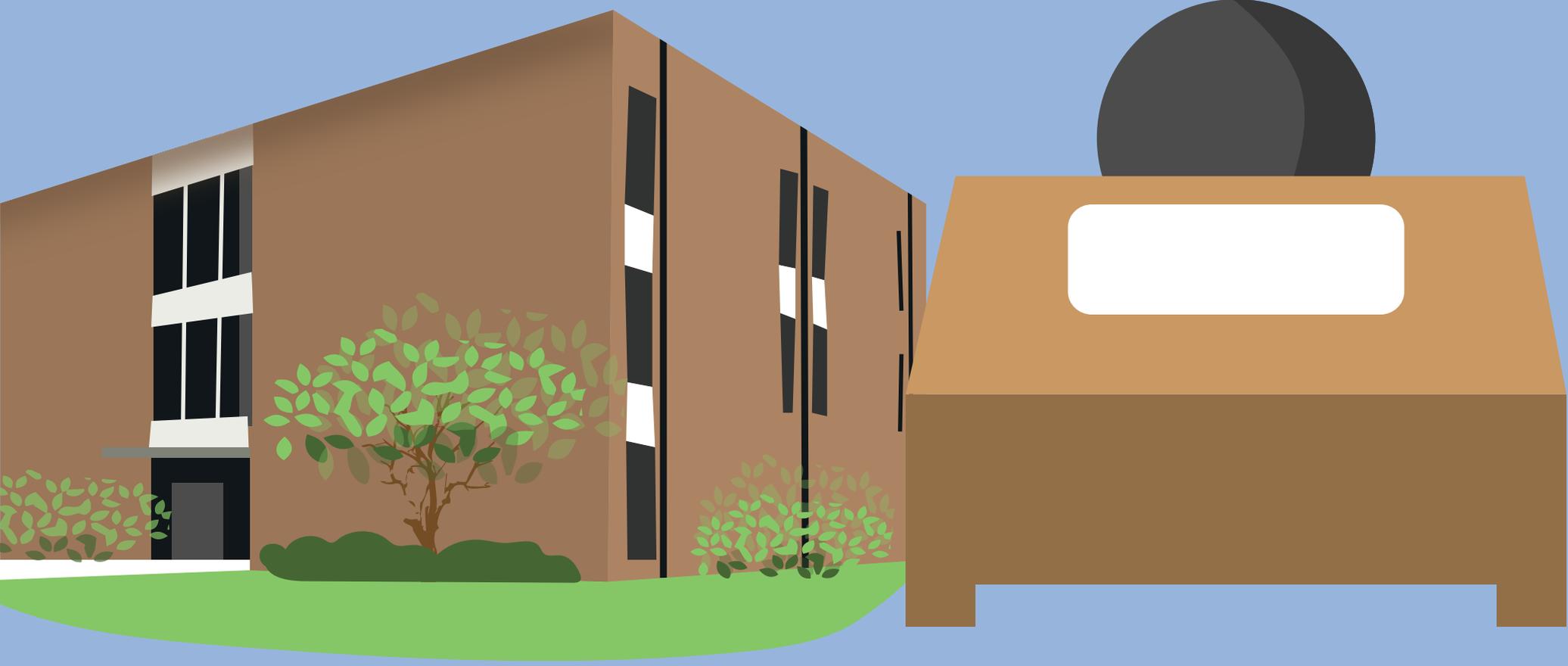
A large concern felt across departments is one of a decrease in enrollment. According to Pfeiffer, many students choose Oakland for its faculty-to-student relationships and prefer face-to-face to online environments.

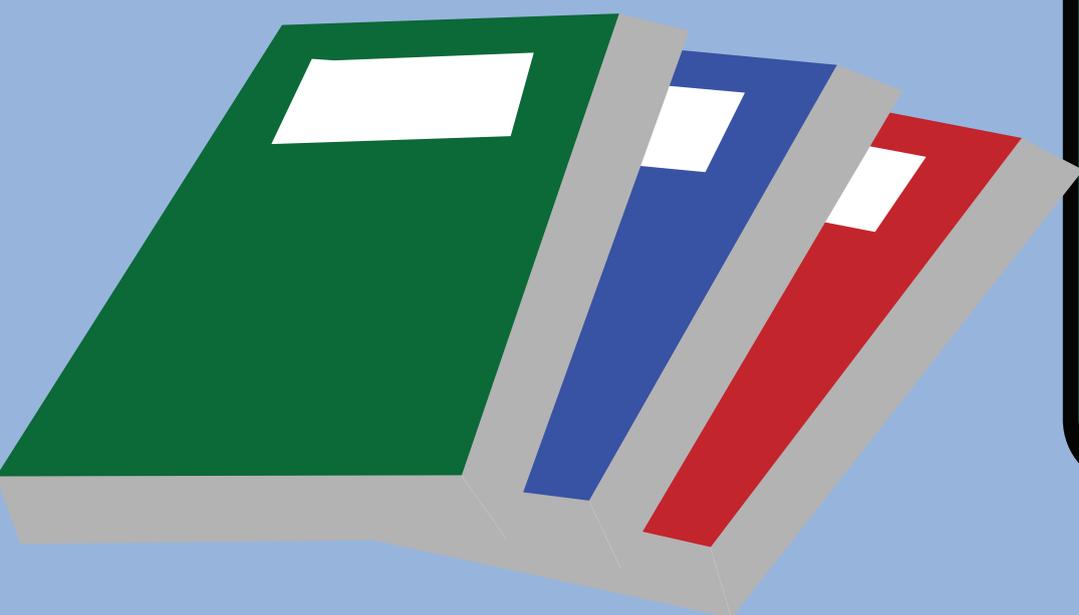
"There is competition from other universities who are offering face-to-face classes," Pfeiffer said. "Why would students come to OU and pay the OU price when they can have a face-to-face experience at a community college or at some other institution?"

Faculty have also expressed concerns regarding the use of 8 a.m. and evening time modules. Due to the large amount of commuting students, inconvenient and unusual time modules may decrease enrollment as well.

While the temporary situation will require massive changes to be made on all levels, the administration promises that the results will be worth it. The new building will have more classrooms, updated technology and facilities, new furniture and more collaborative spaces to help students feel more at home.

"Yes, it's a short-term situation where you may not get your first choice, but there are long term benefits of this, not just for the students but also for the faculty, in terms of teaching spaces that work and function, and aren't designed for a 1960s education," Senior Associate Provost Michelle Piskulich said. "We hope it will help people keep their eye on the prize, because the end of this is going to be worth it."





Class relocations can harm English, communication, foreign languages students and faculty

story by Katie Valley

Students from various departments at Oakland University will soon be affected by classroom changes with South Foundation Hall's (SFH) closure for renovations.

Professors have been asked by the provost's office and the Registrar to either move their classes to online or hybrid forms, teach at 8 a.m. or at night, hold classes at OU's Mount Clemens location or even teach on Saturdays during the year-and-a-half the building will be closed. All of these suggestions have one element missing: their impact on students.

Students with majors and minors in departments like English, communication and foreign languages have classes in SFH throughout their degree paths. These areas of study depend on classroom space, as they have some classes that are very in-person based. How can students discuss literature, review communication theories, or learn a foreign language completely online?

They may miss out on vital parts of their degrees because there's no room on campus for their classes to take place while SFH is closed — that's certain.

Some students who are new to these majors could feel discouraged to continue if online classes make them feel lost. Students who commute to campus will not want to take 8 a.m. classes, night courses, or even come to campus on Saturdays.

These students just want to learn, but might be barred from valuable knowledge with unfavorable class allocations. This should be something actively considered when determining where classes will be held when SFH is closed.

Could some general education classes be moved online instead of literature, theory or foreign language classes?

When the SFH renovations were discussed at the Oct. 14 Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting, the efforts to move classrooms were acknowledged.

"We really appreciate the work that's been done to highlight [the provost team's efforts to relocate classes] because it's not easy fitting all of those classroom spaces in elsewhere on campus," said Scott Kunselman, chief operating officer.

It's unimaginable the BOT would be satisfied that affected class-

es are being moved correctly if its members knew of the relocation-based insecurities felt by the OU community. With students and professors being upset about the Registrar's requests, the university should be listening to the concerns about the closure.

Professors who prefer to teach in-person are also affected by the push to move courses online. Dr. Alison Powell, English and creative writing professor, said professors are losing their teaching spaces with little outside support.

"As I understand it, faculty are being asked to come up with creative ways to make our classes feasible in terms of space and when they are offered, but aren't given many resources to do so," Powell said via email. "We're awfully busy as it is, so it would be great if this construction project — which has a huge impact on our department, at least — had been more consciously handled by the powers that be."

According to Section 92 of the OU American Association of University Professors' Collective Bargaining Agreement, professors can refuse to go online, but at what cost?

This ability is emphasized in the section's first sentence: "Faculty may VOLUNTARILY engage in the development and delivery of courses for credit to be delivered online."

Thomas Discenna, full-time communication professor who said he would prefer to teach in-person, said part-time faculty could lose their class sections entirely by refusing to teach online if no classroom space is available.

These special lecturers would have the ability to refuse when asked to move courses online, but the university could simply tell them there's no work for them that semester since there's no classroom space — a concern likely held by more faculty members than Discenna.

In the long term, how might knowing that professors will teach differently if they have no other choice impact how classes are decided upon?

If the university cares so much about accommodating its students and professors, what will it do to ensure that everyone is happy during the SFH construction project?



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Dr. ElSayed and Dr. Ferrari traveled to a city in southern India to present.

OUSB professors present at international conference

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

Two Oakland University professors were invited to speak at the sixth annual National Conference of the Association of Physiologists in India. The two professors, Suzan ElSayed and Thomas Ferrari from the Department of Foundational Medical Studies, traveled to India for the conference from Sept. 11-14 in Mysuru, a city in southern India.

The two professors were invited to travel to India from a previous encounter from the conference's organizing secretary that visited OU's department in a previous year. ElSayed and Ferrari were the only two international professors in attendance.

"I felt honored, and it was also an example of always keeping one's doors open to the other," Ferrari said. "We had a woman contact us who was just interested in visiting OUSB and meeting with the physiologists in our department because she was a physiologist and then it ended up she was the organizing secretary for this meeting and invited us to come."

The partnership gave lectures at the event, and their topic was the "Physiology of Virtue." Ferrari focused his section on forgiveness and how it can cause a relief for people and their bodies. He chose this topic because it is one of the primary things he studies with his medical students.

"I specifically worked on the physiology of forgiveness and self-forgiveness," Ferrari said. "In a nutshell, if we're angry about something or we feel like we've been victimized or had a transgression happen to us we kind of hold some anger and some resentment and recrimination and that's actually what we know now, from studies, is toxic to the heart. It ac-

tually is problematic for the heart and the cardiovascular system and forgiveness is one of the antidotes."

ElSayed's presentation focused on the physiology of fasting. Due to her first hand experience with it, she was able to spread her knowledge with others.

"I talked about the physical changes, I also talked about the spiritual changes during Ramadan fasting," ElSayed said. "Like the worshiper during Ramadan they can develop their character, they have developed compassion, adaptability, clarity of mind, a healthy lifestyle and self reflection."

Ferrari and ElSayed hoped there was some light shed on the fact that the United States is interested in values the study of the mind and body. The popularity of meditation and mindfulness has become a huge trend in the U.S. and is getting more attention compared to past years.

"Just in terms of international kind of exchange and cooperation, it's [international exchange] important," Ferrari said. "It's good to find out what kind of science is happening in other parts of the world because just like on our own campus, it's easy to get side-loaded — easy to be well uninvolved with my departments — but I don't know as much about what's going on in other departments. Or even as a university, we all know what's going on at OU, but do we know a lot about what's going on at Wayne State or University of Michigan?"

Throughout their trip, Ferrari and ElSayed felt welcomed and felt they gained insight into other types of physiology. They hoped to have had an impact on who people that attended their lectures.

"They were great regarding hospitality and welcoming, and they gave us the sensation that we are really welcomed," ElSayed said.

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SPORTS

Oakland beats Rochester University in final moments

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

The O'rena crowd sat quiet, stunned that Rochester University had kept the game close, as Tray Maddox took the ball up the floor with the game on the line. Rochester had just tied up the exhibition game with three consecutive free-throws after Maddox was called for a shooting foul.

Maddox dribbled up the court, watching the clock drain down, with a confident look in his eyes. In high school, Maddox hit a buzzer beater to win a Class A Quarterfinals match against Belleville. He had performed under pressure before, and was looking to do it again.

"I love those moments," Maddox said. "I did it in high school, and now I'm trying to do it in college."

The rest of the team cleared out for the sophomore guard, as he looked to beat his man one-on-one. Maddox went between the legs, crossed over and went to drive to his right when Rochester's Cannon Campbell was called for a foul, sending Maddox to the line for two free throws.

Both were good, and the crowd was sent into a frenzy as Rochester called a timeout.

After the game-winning halfcourt heave fell short, Oakland University escaped the game with a 61-59 victory over Rochester.

With this being an exhibition game, Head Coach Greg Kampe was utilizing a deep 11-man bench, something he never does in league play. He was attempting to get a look at his new roster with seven freshmen.

"I wanted to get guys in there," Kampe said. "If this were a league game ... I played 11 guys in the first half."



SOPHIE HUME | PHOTOGRAPHER

Men's basketball wins 61-59 in their first exhibition game.

That will never happen. Never."

The starting lineup was Kevin Kangu, Maddox, Daniel Oladapo, Xavier Hill-Mais and Brad Brechting. Freshmen Christopher Gettlefinger and Jackie Harris also saw 10 or more minutes.

In his 14 minutes, Gettlefinger scored five points and had two assists. The team was 14 points better with him on the floor. Gettlefinger and Kangu rotated at the point guard position, a position Kangu has never played before.

"Kangu played very poorly, and he'll be the first to tell you that," Kampe said. "I half expected it, I mean he's never been there before and now the lights are on. I wanted to play him a lot in the first half and let him play through those mistakes."

Oladapo, who was playing in his first game as a Golden Grizzly, scored 19 points and had 10 rebounds, both team highs. Oladapo made his presence felt on the offensive glass with multiple put-backs after missed shots, and scored easy points in transition.

His biggest play came early in the first half, where he took the ball up on a Rochester defender and dunked through contact, getting an and-1 basket. For Oladapo, it was a good moment to be out there with his team for the first time.

"It was fun," Oladapo said. "The first real game with my team, trying to get out there and find my role a little bit. It was fun being out there dunking the ball, making plays and rebounding. I had a lot of fun."

The game was closer than most fans expected, but Kampe scheduled this game with a tight game in mind.

In a game that was reminiscent of Hillsdale College in 2018, Oakland was tested by a team that played hard and was well-coached.

"I pick these exhibition games for a reason," Kampe said. "With the team we have, I wanted to bring in a really well-coached team with a group of kids that I watch and I like that would give us everything they had."

The next exhibition game will be against Saginaw Valley State University on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. Despite the close score of the first exhibition game, Kampe remained positive about the team's growth.

"We are a better team because of this game," he said.

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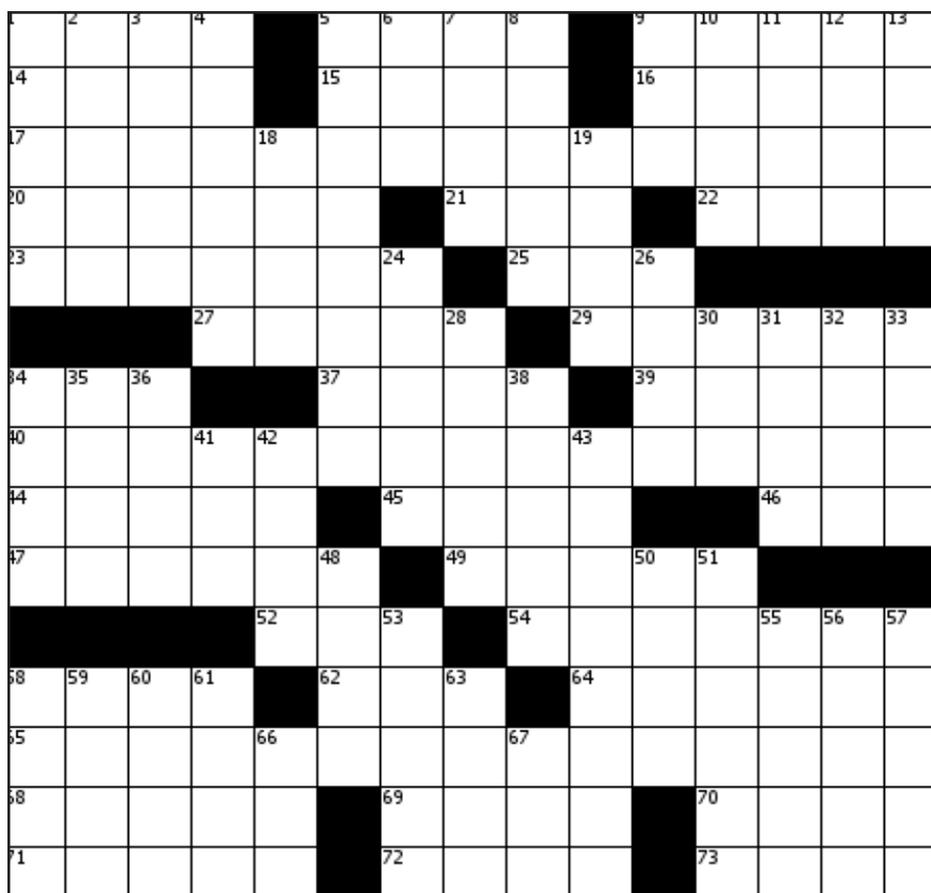
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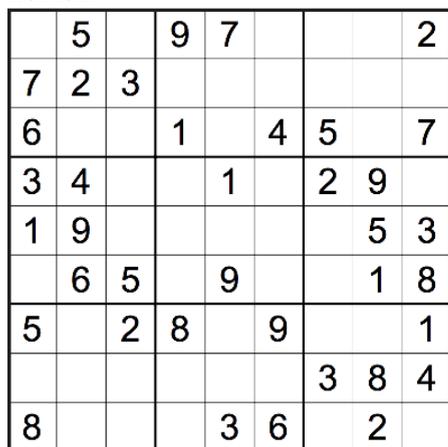
- 1. God with iron gloves
- 5. Having a bird's-eye view
- 9. Fatuous
- 14. Artist Magritte
- 15. Word with wolf or star
- 16. Lively, as an imagination
- 17. Start of a quip requiring medical attention
- 20. Not so newsworthy
- 21. Word in some Scott Joplin titles
- 22. The same
- 23. Exaggerated
- 25. Down or up preceder
- 27. Stirs up
- 29. Mideast currency
- 34. ___-fi
- 37. Sargasso and Mediterranean
- 39. Tender introduction?
- 40. Middle of the quip
- 44. Capital before Lincoln
- 45. Where to get off
- 46. Its setting is a setting
- 47. Ranch wear
- 49. Drinks in long drafts
- 52. Kind of role
- 54. Mountain waterways

- 58. Pelvic bones
- 62. Name of thirteen popes
- 64. McDaniel of "Gone With the Wind"
- 65. End of the quip
- 68. Related through a mother
- 69. Editor's notation
- 70. Storied piper
- 71. Like a male lion
- 72. Extremely long time frames
- 73. Like Jack-be-nimble

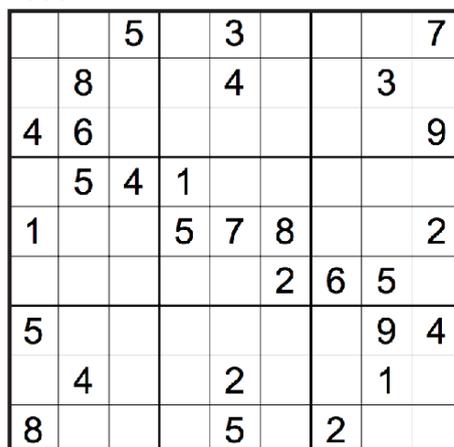
Down

- 1. Kind of talk
- 2. Of sizable weight
- 3. Like draft beer
- 4. Square dancer, at times
- 5. Philanthropist
- 6. What you may need after a breakdown
- 7. --- about (circa)
- 8. Steinway lever
- 9. Trellis climber
- 10. Not final or absolute
- 11. Zealous
- 12. Inches in a span
- 13. Cheese in red wax
- 18. Start from scratch
- 19. Like fine wine
- 24. Statements in court
- 26. Pinball stopper
- 28. Seasoned mariners
- 30. "The Matrix" character
- 31. In an excited state
- 32. Tool with teeth
- 33. Bridge score
- 34. Did a blacksmith's job
- 35. "Follow me"
- 36. "No Man --- Island"
- 38. Comes in third
- 41. 21st Greek letter
- 42. Poet's foot
- 43. Descriptive titles
- 48. Barn building
- 50. --- Turismo
- 51. Prearranged traps
- 53. To the point
- 55. "--- to Scarborough" (Sheridan work)
- 56. Penny pincher
- 57. Run-down
- 58. Gossip tidbit
- 59. Roman goddess of the moon
- 60. Land of Tabriz
- 61. One chip, perhaps
- 63. German conductor Klemperer
- 66. Put coins in
- 67. Female lobster

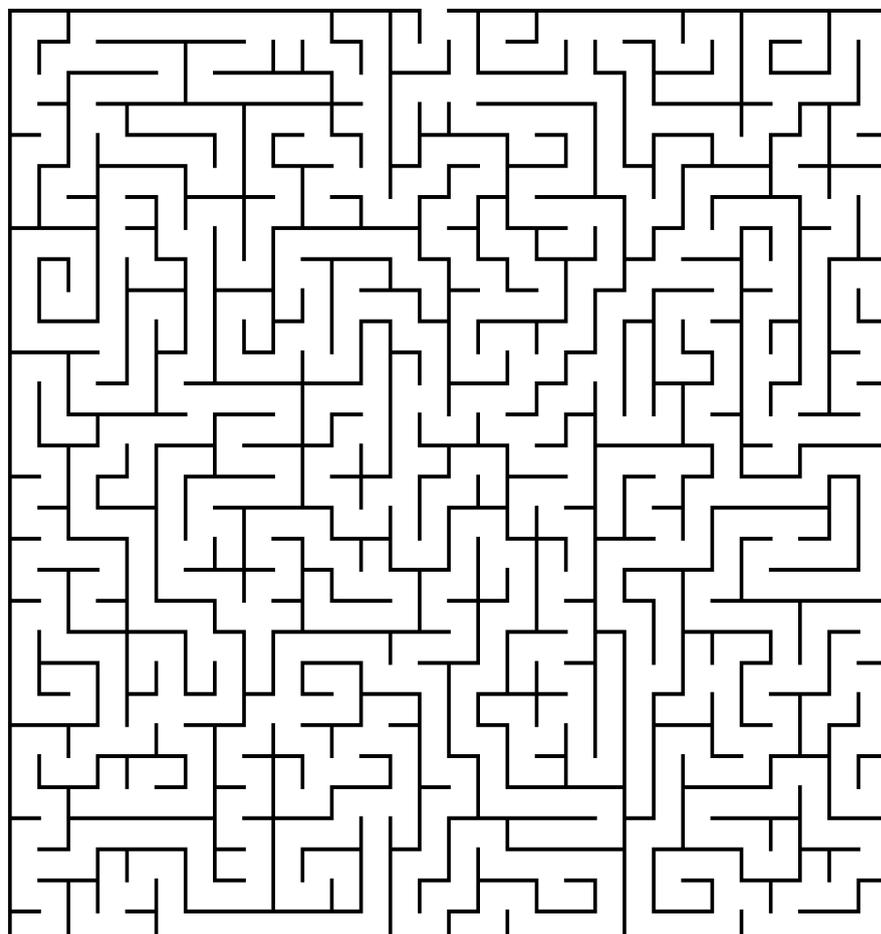
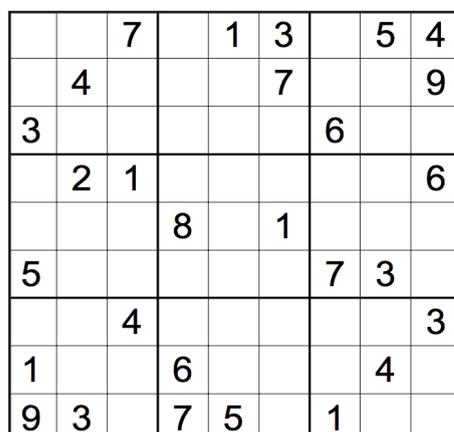
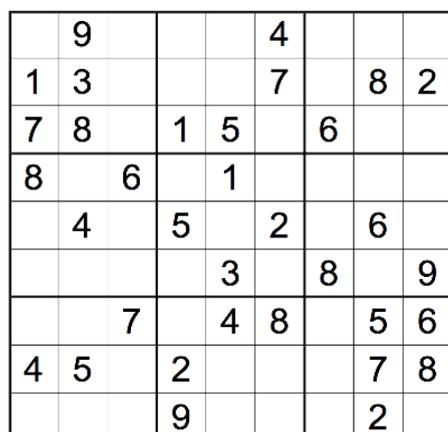
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



OPINION

Chartwells is exploiting students for their money

MICHAEL PEARCE
Sports Editor

Talk to anyone around campus with a meal plan. They'll usually tell you the same thing: "I'm already so low on my declining dollars."

It's no secret the prices of food on campus are way too high, but everyone just seems to accept it. It's widely known that it is cheaper to buy the same things at a grocery store instead of getting a meal plan, but the convenience of being able to grab food while you study or work in the Oakland Center (OC) is unmatched.

Chartwells knows this. They know the convenience of keeping your hard-to-find parking spot and grabbing a sandwich in the OC. That's why they charge over 200% for every food option, all the while undervaluing your declining dollar balance.

At the Market store as you enter the OC, you can find snacks and meals, including "veggie trays" for \$6, Chobani yogurts for \$2.79 and P3 protein packs for \$3.29. The same items at Walmart? \$1.97, \$1.22 and \$1.50, respectively.

This is not an isolated incident. An individual cheese stick is \$1.09 while 12 of the same cost \$3.94 at Walmart. Lunchables can be found in the OC and residence halls for a near \$2 up-charge, going from \$1.98 in stores to \$3.89 on campus.

Do you enjoy some hummus and pretzels as a healthy snack? Too bad if you're struggling to make ends meet. At Walmart,

you can buy an individual Sabra hummus snack for \$1.98. In the OC? \$4.39.

These prices are outrageous. Oakland promotes the meal plan heavily — you will see Chartwells ads all over campus suggesting a meal plan, especially during recruitment of prospective students. They want us to think it is the best way to go as far as feeding ourselves. In reality, they want to trap students into paying ridiculous prices for food to turn a profit.

Prices of the actual meal plans are not listed on Oakland's website, so figuring out the actual cost takes some math. Living in the Anne V. Nicholson apartments costs \$8,690 for both semesters. Living in Oak View Hall or Hillcrest Hall costs \$11,515 per student, as the meal plan is included in the cost.

So, that puts the implied cost of a meal plan at \$2,825. A near \$3,000 cost for either 280 meals and 280 declining, 225 meals and 335 declining or 165 and 450 declining. Not only does this seem like not enough compensation for almost \$3,000, the scale Chartwells uses is incredibly predatory.

More money is made in the dining halls. Chartwells charges at minimum \$10 per person who doesn't have a meal plan to eat in Vandenberg or Hillcrest. That \$10 is just for breakfast. Lunch costs around \$12, and dinner can be up to \$15. So, why when the meal plan is changed from 280/280 to 225/335, is each meal plan valued at \$1 each? For each meal you convert into declining dollars, you are receiving 10% of the sticker price value



MAGGIE WILLARD | PHOTO INTERN

Chartwells severely upcharges the majority of their products sold around campus.

for the lowest costing meal.

This is predatory. There is no way around it. Charging ridiculous prices for food and then undervaluing the meal value as it pertains to students is not in the best interest of on-campus students. This is not to mention the prices they are charging are the same, and actually higher for commuters because they charge sales tax.

These commuting students are students who are making a cost-effective choice, and if they are starving in the OC between classes, they might not have another choice. If they're working a long day at their on-campus jobs, they might have to pony up for a \$6 sandwich that costs less than \$2 at Walmart.

Chartwells knows this, and they do not care. They want your money, and they don't care how they get it. Whether it's charging \$10 for a meal that they value to students at \$1 when changing a meal plan, or it's charging over 200% for a cup of yogurt, Chartwells just cares about the bottom line.

They don't care about providing solid value for students, which is an unfortunate look for a university that prides itself on being a university that cares about students. This "fee-free" university needs to take a look at the outrageous prices that their primary food provider is charging students just to survive.

Time: A luxury we can afford during midterm season

LIZ KOVAC
Engagement Editor

It's midterm season. Maybe you've finished your last one. Maybe there's some still waiting for you. Either way, you're stressed. Now more than ever, you feel that there are not enough cells in your brain. Not enough days in the week or enough time in the day.

Take a moment. Breathe. Have a cup of tea. Cuddle with your dog. Then ...

Go to an art museum.

Find a painting that's a few hundred years old, sit yourself down in front of it and take it in. Look at the grandeur. The detail. The finesse of each brush stroke. We don't make things like this anymore. Why? Because our world has become so fast-paced that we've forgotten the value of time.

Flashback to Germany, 1440. A craftsman tirelessly works to embellish on the Chinese technique of woodblock printing. It is a long, tedious, boring endeavor. But he works away, inching toward a possibility. A dream.

A greater good. This is Gutenberg, and he's about to unleash the printing press — an invention that will change the world.

Since their initial invention, machines were made to outwork us, to accomplish feats of which we are incapable — to compete with time.

Today, machines have taken over our way of life and mass production has us cranking out as much product in as little time as possible. In doing so, we trade quality for quantity and end up expecting from ourselves the results only a machine can produce. Is this how we view ourselves? As machines?

It seems so, because we've coined terms that sum up and even praise the robotic lifestyle to which we've grown accustomed. It's called "the hustle" or "the grind." These sound like plaques over doors to torture chambers. No wonder we're stressed and depressed and anxious. We've forgotten that even the invention of machines came after years of back-breaking effort. They, too, took time.

Let's rewind. It's the mid-19th century.

Ralph Waldo Emerson leads the transcendentalism movement.

What is transcendentalism, you ask? It suggests that divinity is present in all nature and humanity and is based on the idea that the nature of reality can only be understood along with the nature of experience. Deep.

Anyway, Emerson stated, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

What Emerson provides here is a recipe. Honor, compassion, and positive influence are ingredients in the recipe of wholeness. Notice I don't use the word happiness, but wholeness.

This is what I believe Emerson meant by the words "lived well." When we read the words, we don't feel excited. We don't feel happy. We feel warm. Comforted. Whole. Wholeness is deep, satisfying and genuine compared to happiness, which is fleeting and shallow — a temporary high.

Emerson's quote also suggests that the only things that give life purpose take time. It takes time to cultivate compassion and to

decide what it personally means to be honorable. It takes time to sew your seeds and time for them to grow.

Time doesn't want us to compete with her, but to work with her. Like Gutenberg was an expert craftsman, time is an expert tradesperson.

The artist of the painting you're sitting across from accepted that better quality work required a larger quantity of time. They worked with time instead of competing against her and their art lives on because of it.

But this isn't about art on the wall. It's about the art of living — our day to day. It's about the career you're trying to catapult yourself into, the relationship you're trying to invest in, the material you're trying to learn or those pounds you're trying to lose.

As much as food, as much as water, as much as oxygen ... humans need time. Approach time as your friend, not your enemy. Embrace her for what she is and all that she has to offer. Work with her instead of competing against her and see how she surprises you.

Republicans storm secure impeachment hearings

The impeachment inquiry has been kept behind closed doors to protect the investigation's integrity



BEN HUME
Web Editor

Dozens of House Republicans stormed the secure location where bipartisan impeachment hearings were being held last Wednesday, Oct. 23. Led by House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.), the mob of old white men forced a delay to the proceedings just days after the top U.S. envoy to Ukraine told House impeachment investigators President Trump sought to withhold critical military aid unless he investigated Trump's election rivals.

The GOP House members who do not sit on any of the inquiry committees refused to leave the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility in the basement of the Capitol building, prompting a standoff that was eventually broken up by the House sergeant-at-arms. The standoff lasted five hours before they were led away.

On top of the delay, people familiar with the matter reported that some of the Republican lawmakers brought their cellphones into the secure area, which is very much in violation of the House rules. They refused to completely remove their devices even after being reprimanded by security personnel and the House sergeant-at-arms.

The Republicans decided to take matters into their own hands after Trump demanded Republicans “get tough and fight” for him in the impeachment probe,

and like good little boys they followed their father's orders. The Republicans knew they would be turned away from the room, as none of them sat on the inquiry committee. So they turned to other, more intelligent methods of breaching the bunker of liberal lies.

“They basically ran over a member of the staff,” according to Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.), to enter the secure room. “They just came into the room and started shouting about the president. Literally some of them were just screaming ... saying that the process is wrong.”

So far, the impeachment inquiry has been done behind closed doors to protect the integrity of the investigation and stay within House rules, according to House Democrats. Republicans have said that the depositions should be done in public, which eventually led to this clash last week.

But the neat little fact that really puts a question mark on this Republican angst is that more than 45 House Republicans already have full access to the depositions through their membership on one of the three panels that are leading the impeachment inquiry—the Intelligence, Oversight and Foreign Affairs committees. That totals nearly a quarter of the House GOP that has access to these hearings.

So in reality, the Republican party does have representation in the impeachment hearings, most of them are just sad that they were not invited to the party and have decided to throw temper tantrums about it. It really makes you wonder at the state of GOP policy when planning a publicity stunt is the best way to take attention away from the fact that they don't know how to act their age.

Democratic Rep. Tom Malinowski summarized the raid well, stating there was no reason besides attempting to save face and make a scene that these Representatives needed to interrupting the hearings.

“It's a bunch of Freedom Caucus members having pizza around a conference table pretending to be brave,” Rep. Tom Malinowski (D-N.J.) said. “All they basically did here was to storm a castle that they already occupied.”

Michael Brown: Murdered? New evidence conflicts case



AUTUMN PAGE
Web Editor

Michael Brown was an unarmed, 18-year-old man who was shot by Darren Wilson, a police officer for Ferguson, Mississippi. This story sent waves throughout the nation, an African American man shot by a white cop. In 2014, this was the start of something new. This was the beginning of the Black Lives Matter movement.

On Aug. 9, 2014, Michael Brown and his friend Dorian Johnson left Ferguson Market and Liquor. Surveillance video shows Mr. Brown stealing some cigarillos and shoving the clerk. They walk along West Florissant Avenue and in the middle of the street on Canfield Drive. Officer Darren Wilson arrives, and sees Mr. Brown and Mr. Johnson. Mr. Wilson realizes Michael Brown fits the description of a suspect in a convenience store theft. He makes a call to the dispatcher.

Officer Wilson positions his S.U.V. to block the the two men and traffic. Following this, Brown reached through the open driver's window, punched and grabbed Wilson, according to The Washington Post.

According to The New York Times, what happens next is as follows: “Officer Wilson fires two shots from inside the vehicle, one likely grazing Mr. Brown's thumb, and the other missing him. Mr. Brown runs east. Officer Wilson pursues him on foot. Mr. Brown stops and turns toward Officer Wilson, who also stops. Mr. Brown moves toward Officer Wilson, who fires several more shots. Mr.

Brown is fatally wounded.”

This started the Black Lives Matter Movement for an obvious reason: an unarmed black man shot by a white cop.

The original testament of Michael Brown's death was proven false through an investigation by a grand jury and the Obama Justice Department. According to The Slate, “the investigations found that Brown assaulted Wilson, tried to grab his gun, and was shot dead while advancing toward Wilson again.”

All the witness reports are mixed in terms of how the event played out. In The Washington Post's article, “ballistics reports say that the officer ‘fired a total of 12 shots, two from his vehicle and ten on the roadway,’ in ‘three gunshot volleys.’ The autopsy found Wilson's shots struck Brown ‘as few as six or as many as eight times,’ killing him. But, the report said, ‘There is no credible evidence to refute Wilson's stated subjective belief that he was acting in self-defense.’”

According to The New York Times article, a St. Louis County grand jury decided in November not to indict Officer Wilson with the connection of shooting of Michael Brown.

The grand jury's task was to determine whether there was probable cause to believe Officer Wilson should be charged with a crime. If so, which one. An indictment would have required nine of the 12 grand jurors to agree. The county prosecutor released evidence, such as forensic reports and photographs of transcripts of the proceedings.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Sen. Kamala Harris of California, and billionaire Tom Steyer have said Mr. Brown was murdered — while the Justice Department hasn't found any evidence that supports their claims.

The Justice Department found the popular narrative was wrong — according to witnesses that were deemed credible, even some of whom testified reluctantly. The department produced a comprehensive report, recalling the events of what happened, which makes the senators' statements even more surprising.

So the question still stands — was Michael Brown murdered?

Insensitive Halloween costumes have no place in 2019

TAYLOR McDANIEL
Staff Reporter

We are currently in the midst of spooky season with Halloween right around the corner. The holiday spirit means candy, parties, creepiness, pumpkins and costumes, but oftentimes, the type of delicious treats is taken more seriously than the festive outfits themselves.

Although it is 2019, it feels inevitable that once again people will dress up in insensitive or discriminatory costumes. One would hope by now, people would put more careful thought into their costumes, and how what they are dressing up as might affect others.

“
We’re a culture,
Not a costume.”
STARS
Students Teaching About Racism in Society
”

If you are unsure if your costume is offensive, there are ways to find out. A cou-

ple of clicks on Google gives a quick and easy definition of cultural appropriation, as well as practical guides on what could potentially make an outfit offensive to a group or individual.

Cambridge Dictionary defines cultural appropriation as the “act of taking or using things from a culture that is not your own, especially without showing that you understand or respect this culture.”

In 2011, the Students Teaching About Racism in Society (STARS) organization at Ohio University began a campaign titled “We’re a Culture, Not a Costume.” The group used photographs to show the types of hurtful costumes that are more typical than they should be, illustrating racial and ethical stereotypes that run deeper than just some clothes and makeup.

There are better ways to dress up as someone of another race or ethnicity, if you must. For example, you can dress up as Beyoncé without painting your face darker to depict another race, also known as blackface.

Blackface has a long, deeply offensive and hurtful history to those in the African American community, according to CNN. Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) explains the

demeaning history of blackface, riddled with mockery and cliches of the African American community.

“Minstrelsy, comedic performances of ‘blackness’ by whites in exaggerated costumes and make-up, cannot be separated fully from the racial derision and stereotyping at its core,” according to the NMAAHC website.

It’s not a joke, it isn’t harmless, and like NMAAHC said, the mere fact that it may seem like just an outfit does nothing to reduce the years of derogatory type-casting that those in the minority have and continue to receive.

Of course it’s possible to try to do everything “right” and still offend an individual or a certain group, but then at least you’ll have somewhat of peace of mind.

When picking a costume this Halloween, please just consider how it could come across, whether or not it could cause harm toward minority groups who have a history of racial or ethnic stereotyping that unfortunately is still ongoing today. Just be mindful of the hurt it could cause others.

As shown on STARS’ 2012 campaign, “You wear the costume for one night. I wear the stigma for life.”



JIMMY WILLIAMS | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Picking out a Halloween costume can be a lot of fun, but don’t be offensive to others.

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The costumes you meet at a Halloween party

ASHLEY AVERILL

Design Editor

Halloween is a time for carving pumpkins, going to cider mills, eating candy and watching “Hocus Pocus” or a horror movie.

If you’re a college student, Halloween is an excuse to get dressed up, messed up and throw up from Oct. 25 to Nov. 1. It’s the time when people express their creativity in picking a costume that speaks to them, freeing themselves from the confines of the everyday ... eh, who am I kidding?

These are the costumes you’ll always see at a Halloween party:

The couple costume

Some couples costumes are super cute and remind me that I’m going to die alone.

But other times, 50% of the costume doesn’t want to be there. They were drunk when they agreed to it, forgot until the day before and their partner bought the worst thing imaginable.

The other half is WAY too excited to have thought of it. At some point in the night, y’all will get separated and it won’t be a couples costume anymore so what’s the fuckin’ point?

The lazy “costume”

“I came as myself because I’m iconic.” Yes, someone actually said that last year — narcissistic son of a ...

The Scream? TRY to be more original. Just blood or scar make up in sweatpants? That’s pathetic.

And enough with the “Error 404: Costume not found” written in sharpie on a white T-shirt, god dammit! You know what else isn’t found? Your sense of humor, that shit isn’t funny anymore.

The political/pop culture costume

Yes, there is such a thing as too many Trump and Kardashians at a party. I know, SHOCKING.

This is for everyone who dresses up as the last person they saw a tweet notification from.

I’m already bracing myself for all the “presidential candidate” costumes, like some dumbass in a suit who gets wasted and calls himself Biden asking where he is every two minutes.

The ruin-your-childhood costume

We’ve all seen it. Someone always shows up in a costume that vaguely resembles a character from our childhood ... only its horrifying because they’re half naked and all “sexy,” and you want to gouge your eyeballs out because you can’t unsee it.

Let’s be honest, there’s only so many times you can see “Sexy Dora the Explorer” dry hump with “Sexy Buzz Lightyear” before you

vom up all that shitty candy corn — because who likes candy corn?

I’m not slut shaming. You want to wear a “sexy [insert occupation], devil, angel, cat, etc.,” go for it. Really. It’s when you pick a character that we watched when we were children and defile them that make us want to wash our eyes with bleach.

Sorry, I checked, “Horny” wasn’t one of Snow White’s dwarves.

The what-are-you-supposed-to-be?

Everyone knows that one person who shows up as something from way out in left field that leaves you wondering, what are you supposed to be? Usually, it’s the guy who thinks he’s so brilliant by being creative and expressive with his costume to the point that no one “gets” it. God help us if we ask about it, then they treat us like uncultured swine.

I’m not trying to be the Grinch of Halloween, there are a ton of really great costumes, ones that are just funny, scary or spooky enough. All that matters is you have fun!

It’s not our fault these costume themes suck but are everywhere at the same time. They’re just the cheapest, and as broke-ass college students, this is all we can afford.

I won’t be out this year to give you a “costume police” citation, though — so party on, kids. I have a standing reservation to watch “It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown” and worship Satan.

Happy Halloween, BOO-thousand 19.



ASHLEY AVERILL | DESIGN EDITOR

Sometimes you can't unsee college costumes.



ASHLEY AVERILL | DESIGN EDITOR

Travel to the great nation of Canada to lose all of your money and dignity.

A spooky good vacation plan

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

We can all use a vacation. I took one this past weekend with my friends — all of us are 20 years old.

So we took a trip across the river to the great nation of Canada. Legal debauchery is a great way to celebrate friendship and take a break, relieve some stress. Little did I know there was more in store for me than losing money at the casino and spending a buttload of money on drinks. We were in for a unique travel experience I think you all should try.

First, play a lot of blackjack. It’s an easy casino game where if you’re good, you can make a decent haul. But, instead of winning, you should face a dealer who has the uncanny ability to win every. single. time. It’s quite riveting. Watching a master at work, stringing together 2-3-3-2-ace to create a magical concoction of 21 to defeat your pocket 19. Should you have won? Yes. But will you ever win? No.

Next, go to the sports betting section and place a parlay on teams that cannot lose. Only, it can, and it will. The Brooklyn Nets will disappoint you, and be unable to cover a simple point spread. If you think you know shit about sports, take a trip to a sports book, and you’ll learn quickly that you don’t. A great learning experience on your vacation!

You’ll have a smashing time watching your funds drain away,

going to the ATM to get more, and wondering how someone could have this bad of luck. It’s a mind-bender, but you need that in a solid vacation.

After waking up in your hotel and checking out, head across the border to get gawked at by a mean border security agent, and head home on 75.

Or so you thought.

Your car will suddenly make a weird noise, and BOOM! There goes your wheel. Easy, right? Just fix the wheel, replace it and get back to Oakland University. Again, not that simple, you doo-doo brain.

Because you are a simpleton not worthy of good things in this life, you have left these same tires on your 11-year-old used car for too long. The bolts are RUSTED onto the rim, and you’re out of luck. Time for the final piece of your beautiful vacation puzzle. It’s America’s greatest scam: tow trucks.

You only have to go a mile to a tire place to fix your car, but the corporate fat cats will crush you with their greed. That’ll be a quick \$130 for that mile towing. At least your friends will get to ride in the back of the car while it is on the tow truck. They will thank you for that.

As you sit at a Tim Horton’s in Royal Oak, waiting for your significant other to pick you up, you will gleefully eat your steak and cheese panini (don’t you be a meanie) and think about the poor choices in your life you made to get you to this low, low point.