

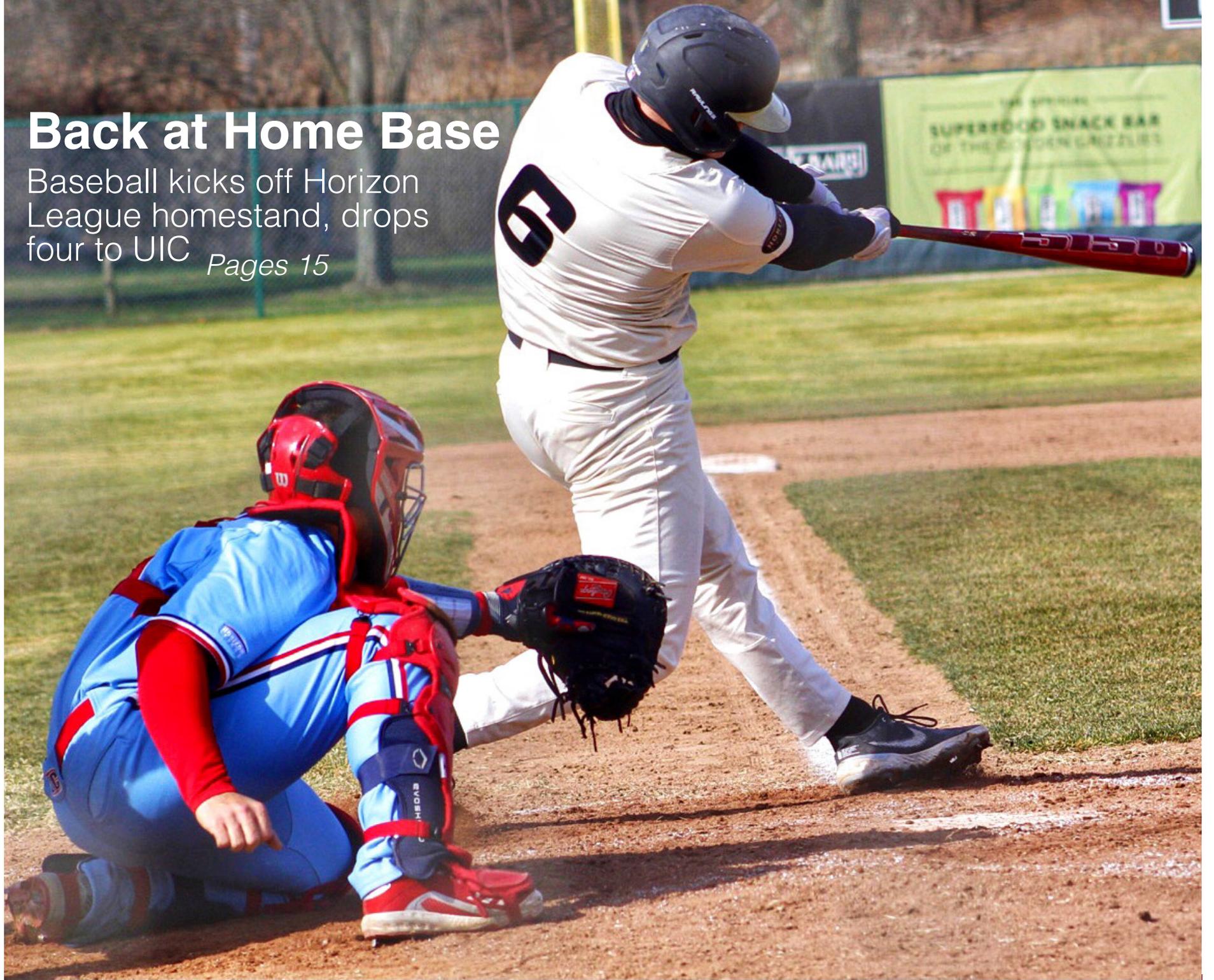
THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 46 | Issue 26 | March 31, 2021

Back at Home Base

Baseball kicks off Horizon League homestand, drops four to UIC *Pages 15*



AVENGING ANGEL
Jane Briggs-Bunting's legacy of justice and journalism
PAGE 7

COMPOSE COVID-19
David MacDonald creates music from video call lulls
PAGE 10

PORTAL POACHING
Coach Kampe uses transfer portal to reach NCAA tournament
PAGE 15

PHOTO BY SOPHIE HUME

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



VITAMIN D FOR ME!! The sun shines down on the Ann V. Nicholson Student Apartments as students walk by.

NOORA NEIROUKH / PHOTOGRAPHER

THE OAKLAND POST

EDITORIAL BOARD

Michael Pearce
Editor-in-Chief
mpearce@oakland.edu

Emily Morris
Managing Editor
emorris@oakland.edu

EDITORS

Ben Hume Web Editor
bhume@oakland.edu

Sophie Hume Photo Editor
sophiahume@oakland.edu

Lauren Reid Sports Editor
lrreid@oakland.edu

Cayla Smith Campus Editor
caylasmith@oakland.edu

Jeff Thomas Features Editor
jthomas2@oakland.edu

REPORTERS

Gabrielle Abdelmessih Staff Reporter

Bridget Janis Staff Reporter

Jess Orlando Staff Reporter

Autumn Page Staff Reporter

Matthew Scheidel Staff Reporter

Dean Vaglia Staff Reporter

Rachel Yim Staff Reporter

COPY & VISUAL

Jodi Mitchell Design Editor

Meg Speaks Design Editor

Sam Summers Design Editor

Sarah Gudenau Design Editor

DISTRIBUTION

Jaylon Johnson Distribution Director

jaylonjohnson@oakland.edu

Kimmy Guy Distribution Assistant

Erika Beechie Distributor

Noora Neiroukh Photographer
Maggie Willard Photographer

ADVERTISING

Lauren Karmo Marketing Director

laurenkarmo@oakland.edu

Madeline Parker Ads Director

mparker@oakland.edu

248.370.4269

Megan Dull Ads Assistant

ADVISING

Garry Gilbert Editorial Adviser

ggilber@oakland.edu

248.370.2105

Don Ritenburgh Business Adviser

ritenbur@oakland.edu

248.370.2533



4 PROFESSOR X TALKS CASH
Professor nicknamed "Professor X" gives financial advice.
Photo/Matthew Roling



11 PUSHING BUTTONS
BioButton continues to aid university with contact tracing.
Photo/Detroit News



14 BORCZAK IS BALLIN'
Dylan Borczak takes strides as a senior, with the help of his team.
Photo/OU Athletics

VOTE AND CONNECT AT:
oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

WHAT IS THE NICEST SPOT TO ENJOY SPRING ON CAMPUS?

- A) THE CLOCK TOWER
- B) THE NATURE PRESERVES
- C) BEAR LAKE
- D) MEADOW BROOK HALL

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

HOW MANY COVID-19 TESTS HAVE YOU TAKEN IN THE PAST YEAR?



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The OUSC election debacle: Everyone loses



EMILY MORRIS | MANAGING EDITOR

MICHAEL PEARCE
Editor-in-Chief

The current Oakland University Student Congress election became what we all loathed in November 2020, an ugly match of “who can tear down the other” the most.

The Oakland Post covered a protest March 11, which turned into a celebration, regarding student workers and the newly formed Student Workers Coalition. In the article, our managing editor referred to presidential candidate Jordan Tolbert using a “microphone” to speak about her campaign.

Since everyone cared so much about the wording, microphone was a simple mistake. The word was intended to be “megaphone.”

Mistakes happen, that’s the reality

of printing. We take responsibility for that, but questioning someone’s journalistic integrity over one misprint is inappropriate, especially because just like classrooms, The Oakland Post newsroom is a learning environment.

In addition, the Post’s credibility was under question, and no one reached out to myself or managing editor Emily Morris, who wrote the story. Instead, they attempted to figure out how valid the work was, without contacting anyone involved with the work.

Using the megaphone was a breach of an OUSC campaigning rule, one that personally, I think is ludicrous, but that isn’t the issue.

During a grievance trial, which was initiated by the other set of candidates, Tolbert denied using the megaphone, and claimed that using the Post as a source wasn’t right, as articles “do not tell the whole story,” referring to our work as “not good pieces of evidence.”

The fact is, she used the megaphone to talk about her campaign, I was there. Not only did she talk about the campaign, she did for multiple minutes, explaining her platforms and goals.

However, she should never have been facing punishment for doing that in the first place. It’s a shame to see the other candidates, Adeline Perhogan and Annabella Jankowski, use any rule they can find in an attempt to win a student congress election by penalizing their opponents.

What Oakland University needs from their student congress president and vice president is someone who puts students

first. This entire election process has shown us that neither of these set of candidates are willing to do that. In a time of strife, both decided to act in self-preservation, not what was best for the university.

One set used any rule they can find, including trying to get their opponent on trademark law, in an attempt to win. The other broke a rule unknowingly, but then proceeded to dance around it during a trial and blame the student newspaper.

I understand these grievances filed were related to broken rules, but trademark law and using a megaphone should not be the main issues for OUSC candidates to focus on. There are far more pressing issues that deserve time and attention, not these nit-picky rules which seemingly are only being brought up in an attempt to win an election.

In retaliation to Perhogan and Jankowski, Tolbert and Brennan filed their own grievance on Jankowski and Perhogan based on an Instagram account harassing them. As if the process didn’t seem like a played-out rap beef already, we have people harassing OUSC candidates on Instagram with anonymous accounts.

The identity of the anonymous harasser was never found, and Perhogan and Jankowski were found not guilty of that action. Still, the fact it happened at all seems very childish.

Oakland students must demand better from these elected leaders. Voter turnout was low this year. According to Ethan Bradley, only 457 of OU’s 18,552 students voted for OUSC president and vice president. These elected leaders don’t

just serve the 2.4% that voted for them, they serve each and every student that is enrolled at OU. So far, they’ve failed.

The Post was simply reporting the events of the celebration on March 11, and will continue to always report the facts. We are not immune to mistakes, but we are always “facts first.” The fact is, both candidates have made mistakes, but the students are the ones really getting hurt.

For the betterment of Oakland University, I hope these candidates will learn from this ugly process. Perhogan and Jankowski won the election, and the ironic part is they would have won without attempting to penalize their opponent. Tolbert and Smith lost a measly four votes after the grievance trials, but Perhogan and Jankowski won by 24 votes pre-penalty, proving the whole grievance process was unnecessary.

I know both sets of candidates have it in them to be great for this campus. Tolbert and Brennan have already achieved much with the Student Worker’s Coalition, and Jankowski and Perhogan have been involved on-campus for years now, positively impacting campus life.

They are all quality, good people, who have seemingly let this process get the better of them. I hope these four can focus on what’s important and make good on their election promises and initiatives moving forward. Hopefully, much like “megaphone” vs. “microphone,” this can be a learning experience for us all.

THE OAKLAND POST

visit us online



www.oaklandpostonline.com

Take control of your personal finances with ‘Professor X’

JESSICA ORLANDO

Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, Mar. 24 Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) hosted their first webinar, featuring speaker Matthew ‘professor X’ Roling, who discussed ways students can better manage finances.

BGS is an international business honor society founded in 1913 and has members residing all over the globe. Distinguished members include Nobel Prize winners, Olympians, inventors and CEOs of major companies.

Roling is an adjunct professor of finance at Wayne State university as well as a previous entrepreneur. Recently, he has launched an initiative to talk about personal finances that stresses the importance of education and financial literacy.

“We really don’t do a good job of preparing adults for managing their money in the U.S.,” Roling said.

The presentation went over some key basic concepts when it comes to managing money such as spending control, emergency funds, interest debt, credit and asset building.

“Wealth is a subjective term,” Roling said. “I heard a definition of wealthy that I thought was totally on the money, and that definition was when your passive income exceeds your cash burn.”

Notably, one of the best ways in a person can control their cash burn is by keeping track of spending for at least a month to start.

“You’re going to identify wasteful spending and fraud,” Roling said. “It’s going to give you a deep understanding of

how much money you need to save for an emergency fund and you will automatically think twice before you pull out your credit card.”

Roling argued that an individual’s “emergency fund” is one of the most important aspects of being financially responsible. It’s important to be prepared for situations that are unavoidable and costly.

“This is a marathon not a sprint, especially if you are modest with your financial means,” Roling said. “Saving \$2,000 sounds like a big number if you don’t have a ton of cash, but \$2,000 is five bucks a day for a year and a quarter.”

Unfortunately in America, it is common to carry high interest debt. Roling explained credit card companies specifically shove credit cards into the hands of young individuals hoping that they will rack up a balance.

“Once you rank them [credit card interest rates] from highest to lowest then you should call each of the credit card companies and try to negotiate the rates down,” Roling said.

Roling explained that once a person is able to start paying off their high interest debt and get back on track to making payments on time then they can get to a point where their credit score will go up.

“Your credit score can impact your employment, whether or not you get a lease for an apartment and it impacts the cost of car insurance and interest rates on mortgages,” Roling said.

An individual’s credit score is probably the most vital aspect of being financially responsible as an adult.

“New credit and credit inquiries of the length of the accounts do not have nearly the impact on your score as your payment history and your capacity,” Roling said.

Asset building is a large component of building an individual’s wealth. Interestingly, there are appreciable



PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW ROLING

assets and depreciable assets with the former being financially beneficial.

“Focus on assets that pay you if you are trying to really build wealth,” Roling said, “A streaming service here and there won’t break the bank, but it’s those major cash outlays for depreciating assets that really depress your ability to accumulate wealth.”

OU again recognized as a ‘Voter Friendly Campus’

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

For a second straight election cycle, Oakland University has been recognized as a “Voter Friendly Campus” by the Fair Elections Center’s Campus Vote Project (CVP) and NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education).

Initiated through the partnership of Campus Vote Project and NASPA in 2016, the Voter Friendly Campus designation program strives to help institutions develop plans and strategies to coordinate its community members in civic and electoral engagement.

“We’ve earned this distinction for back-to-back election cycles which speaks to OU’s commitment and dedication to civic and democratic engagement efforts,” David Dulio, associate professor of the department of political science and director of the Center for Civic Engagement (CCE), said. “We can always do better.”

According to Johnson, the voter turnout at OU is expected to be higher than in previous elections as it has become easier for students to vote in Michigan than in the past. Students could utilize online voter registration, absentee voting and early voting.

OU’s new initiatives for voter registration include the collaboration of Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) and CCE to widely spread the voter registration information to its students. Their initiatives include creating an instructional video about registration and absentee ballots and



NOORA NEIROUKH | PHOTOGRAPHER

hosting a variety of events that can further educate the students.

As one of its new initiatives, OUSC has promoted and informed the students about how each voting form works to make the voting process easier and less complex.

“We had several flyers posted throughout campus that encouraged students to register to vote and provided information on the various forms of voting,” Johnson said. “Additionally, we ran a social media campaign that provided information on the 2020 elections leading up to November third.”

The collaboration between OUSC and CCE played an

important role in making OU voter friendly. By hosting several events, they were able to engage students in voting while educating them on various topics in politics.

“I am a big proponent of institutionalizing voter engagement, so the creation of the Free Stamp Friday program was an important way to eliminate any monetary barrier that existed in having to pay for postage for sending in an absentee ballot,” Johnson said. “[Additionally,] I worked alongside Professor Dulio to have a link to register to vote in Michigan on MySAIL for all students to use.”

Making up over 10 percent of the American population, young voters have the power to sway elections. Engaging in the democratic processes is one way to create a change that can improve the lives of many.

“OU must have an election day policy where all classes are canceled on the days of general elections,” Johnson said. “If OU wants to be a school that encourages participation in democracy and advocating for oneself at the ballot box, this is a logical next step we must take and one I have been working on diligently throughout my time as OUSC Director of Civic Affairs.”

The elected officials are chosen to represent the people who vote for them. Young voters are part of the future and one way to represent them is by voting.

For more information about more programs and additional resources about Voter Friendly Campus designation, visit voterfriendlycampus.org.

Study reveals decreasing glacial cover harms ecosystems



PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND.EDU
Mount Cook in New Zealand.

GABRIELLE ABDELMESSIH
Staff Reporter

Oakland University professor Dr. Scott Tiegs Ph.D. co-authored a study in the journal, “Nature Climate Change” published on March 15.

The study found that melting glaciers have an impact on carbon cycle processes and vital glacier-fed river

ecosystem functions, which could further global warming.

Dr. Tiegs, a professor in OU’s Department of Biological Sciences, elaborated by saying, “One of the key findings is this idea that in a warming world, the activity of microbes is going to be enhanced because of higher temperatures. These microbes will degrade more organic matter, convert it to greenhouse gases, and that can further have a positive feedback loop on the global climate.”

The study was conducted on a global scale, with other researchers/co-authors from across the globe, led by the University of Leeds (United Kingdom). The study sites were regions located in Austria, Ecuador, France, New Zealand, Norway and the United States.

The Finse Alpine Research Centre (Norway), Obergurgl Alpine Research Centre (Austria), Design School at the University of Leeds, and the School of Life Sciences molecular ecology facilities at the University of Essex (United Kingdom) were the facilities used in the study.

“It took a couple of years to plan. These are colleagues that we’ve already had, so we had a pretty good working relationship with all these different people in different countries around the world,” Tiegs said.

Decomposition rates of organic matter were measured in mountain rivers spanning six countries on four continents, using a standardized organic-matter assay developed at Oakland University.

For approximately one month, the cotton strips were incubated in the rivers and later tested to determine the degree

of decomposition. Organic matter incubated in warmer waters with less glacial flow decomposed more quickly.

Tiegs, who worked to develop the assay, highlighted its efficiency, portability, and global usage.

“It’s a standardized means of quantifying the ability of an ecosystem to process organic matter. Because it’s standardized, we can have decomposition rates that are directly comparable in whatever ecosystem we decide to deploy the assay in,” he said. “It’s quite portable. You can stick it in an envelope and ship it to anybody in the world in just a matter of days. It really lends itself to this sort of collaborative endeavor.”

As ecosystems change due to melting glaciers, this study will help researchers predict how global warming will impact these systems in the future.

“When we think of greenhouse gas emissions, we typically think of emissions that come from tailpipes, power plants, etc. But it’s important to keep in mind that natural ecosystems: lakes, forests, oceans, they release CO2 and other greenhouse gases as well,” Tiegs said.

Other co-authors of the research study include Sarah Fell, Lee Brown and Jonathan Carrivick at the University of Leeds — Kate Randall, Kirsty Matthews Nicholass and Alex Dumbrell at the University of Essex — Verónica Crespo-Pérez at Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador—Sophie Cauvy-Fraunié at INRAE, France — and Eran Hood at University of Alaska Southeast.

“Defy the Divide: A Path to Civility” to speak on political divide

AUTUMN PAGE
Staff Reporter

The Center for Civic Engagement will host their first panel in the series “A More Perfect Union” about the issues that cause the divide in America.

“Defy the Divide: A Path to Civility” will cover how to find common ground in a time of highly charged partisan politics.

It will focus not only on unifying as a nation and finding common ground, but how this can be accomplished in such a divisive time.

David Duilo, political science professor and director of the Center for Civic Engagement, believes that this is an important conversation to have.

“Our politics is in a bad place right now — it didn’t get this way overnight or even just during the Trump administration. We’ve been polarized for several years and it’s getting worse. It’s to the point where people can’t talk to each other any longer. People lose relationships with friends and even family members over politics — that doesn’t have to be the case,” Duilo said. “Plus, the nation faces some serious and difficult policy questions at the moment. Solutions to those problems will be better if we can confront them in a way that brings consensus rather than division.”

This panel discussion sets the tone for the rest of the series by the ability and resistance that the panelists carry.

“These lawmakers are examples of leaders who are interested in working toward consensus and in a bipartisan manner,” Duilo said. “If they can do it in Congress, a terribly divided and polarized place today, we can carry that forward into other contexts as well.”

“Defy the Divide: A Path to Civility” will feature three United States House of Representatives from the Problem Solver Caucus and two respected news commentators.

When thinking about who should be featured in this panel, Duilo said that a group of lawmakers who are interested in finding common ground to make good public policy was ideal.

“Michigan is fortunate to have five members of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Problem Solvers Caucus, an evenly divided group of lawmakers who work to create bipartisan solutions to important policy issues. We were able to find a date when three of them could join us for a conversation,” he said.

Representatives Elissa Slotkin, Debbie Dingell and Fred Upton are all at the forefront of efforts to work across today’s partisan divide to propose common sense



PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND.EDU
One of the representatives speaking at the event, Elissa Slotkin.

solutions to important problems facing the nation.

The moderators Stephen Henderson and Nolan Finley talk to community groups about the fact that they disagree on just about every issue politically but maintain a strong friendship.

They founded The Civility Project, a non-partisan initiative to restore civility in politics in southeast Michigan.

Future events within this series will explore issues at the heart of building

stronger communities and a stronger U.S.

“These issues include race in America, the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, free speech and the First Amendment, and pressing economic issues,” Duilo said.

“Defy the Divide: A Path to Civility” will be hosted via Zoom on April 6 at 10:30 a.m. Registration is free.

To learn more about The Center for Civic Engagement, visit their website.

Being vaccinated is sweet at Krispy Kreme

AUTUMN PAGE

Staff Reporter

Krispy Kreme has announced starting on March 22 they will give out free original glazed doughnuts all year to people who have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine and show their cards.

This is a great incentive for people to get vaccinated because who doesn't love doughnuts? My favorite is the classic glazed and the cinnamon sugar.

On the Krispy Kreme website, it's specified that this promotion only applies to guests who have received at least one of the two shots of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. It also states that participants need to show their vaccination card to redeem their doughnut — a vaccine sticker is not valid. There's also a frequently asked question page for the details to this promotion.

Guests cannot redeem on behalf of family and friends, but each guest in the same vehicle that has their COVID-19 vaccination record card can participate in the promotion.

This offer can be redeemed any and every day throughout the rest of 2021. The offer is limited to one doughnut per day and is only valid for in-store or drive-thru redemption.

This is no surprise from Krispy Kreme. The company also supports health care workers and volunteers who are helping administer vaccines, delivering free doughnuts to



MAGGIE WILLARD | PHOTOGRAPHER.

select vaccination centers throughout the country in the coming weeks. They also did a promotion for health care professionals during the beginning part of the pandemic.

For Krispy Kreme's team members, they're offering up to four hours of paid time off each to help encourage and

enable their COVID-19 vaccinations, making sure safety of team members and guests comes first.

"We all want to get COVID-19 behind us as fast as possible and we want to support everyone doing their part to make the country safe by getting vaccinated as soon as the vaccine is available to them," said Dave Skena, Krispy Kreme chief marketing officer.

The company is also continuing to encourage everyone to be sweet to each other and neighbors by launching "Be Sweet Weekends." This offers guests who purchase any dozen an additional "Be Sweet Dozen" to safely share with a friend or neighbor for just \$1.

The Original Glazed dozen with a special smiley-face doughnut will be available for nine consecutive Saturday-Sundays, March 27 through May 23. It's a cute concept, and it'd be a great promotion to take advantage of if you work in offices or schools.

Additionally, Krispy Kreme will help Americans start their week on a "sweet note" with one free medium coffee and a free Original Glazed doughnut, no purchase necessary, every Monday — starting on March 29.

This promotion is called "Be sweet to yourself" and it goes until May 24. It's so cute, and I love the puns.

The free doughnut promotion, according to Krispy Kreme's website, is valid at participating locations. There are three locations in metro Detroit, which are all participating: Allen Park, Troy and Utica.

Amazon's labor practices are evil: Bezos must be defeated

JEFF THOMAS

Features Editor

Amazon's working conditions are unacceptable. The richest man in the world, Jeff Bezos, must be defeated by unionizing workers.

Bezos' wealth exploded by roughly \$75 billion in 2020 due in large part to the enormous upward transfer of wealth President Trump signed into law with the CARES ACT. Despite having all this new cash on hand, Bezos and Amazon can't seem to find it in themselves to provide anything better than sub-human working conditions for the employees that power Amazon.

There's been rumblings of Amazon's morally bankrupt approach to working conditions in their warehouses for years. In recent weeks, a fiercely contested battle by Amazon workers trying to unionize in Alabama has pulled more of Amazon's skeletons out of the closet.

What has come to light is Amazon's toxic work environment where employees are threatened with losing their jobs for having the audacity to try and take their government-mandated lunch breaks or wanting to be able to use the restroom.

In addition to documented incidents of workers being pushed dangerously

past exhaustion and the suppression of information concerning COVID-19 outbreaks in warehouses, it has now been confirmed that Amazon delivery drivers are having to urinate in bottles and defecate in bags to avoid retaliation from management for taking rest breaks.

Regardless of what Bezos' army of pebble-concealing public relations officials would have you believe, it is unacceptable that in the United States of America, citizens are being stripped of their dignity by employers.

Unfortunately, the dehumanization and exploitation of workers by cold-hard capitalists like Bezos is nothing new. In fact, work conditions have been trending in the wrong direction for decades now in this country.

With the advent of Ronald Reagan's voodoo trickle down economics, middle class and working Americans have seen \$50 trillion of their wealth stolen by the wealthiest 1% in the past 45 years. In our system, money is power, and workers have lost an incredible amount of their leverage, thus the decrease in working conditions and employee benefits over the last several decades.

This looting of the U.S. by corporations and ultra-wealthy individuals has coincided with a weakened labor

movement. The reality is, union membership has drastically declined in recent decades. More so than just allowing for stagnant wages and a loss of benefits, the weakened collective voice of workers in this country has left the door open for people like Bezos to bring back some of the worse tenets of unfettered capitalism.

It was not all that long ago that child laborers were dying in mines and women were burning to death in textile factories in this country. If it wasn't for the labor movement, that would still be our reality today.

Prior generations of Americans fought and died to force dangerous working conditions and exploitation of workers out of the U.S., though those inhumane practices never entirely disappeared. When capitalists couldn't get away with mistreating human beings here in the states, corporations exported their cruelty to countries without labor laws.

This phenomenon is why sweatshops exist, it's why there's people enslaved on fishing barges, it's why the smart phone industry is being fueled by factories where windows are barred so workers can't even escape by suicide. This degradation of humanity is par for the course under global capitalism. Corporations know no morality. They are machines designed to produce

money, and they will take whatever they are allowed to in order to make more of it.

What we're seeing with the expansion of technology and a new generation of capitalists like Bezos and Elon Musk, is a return to unfettered capitalism in this country. The longer hours, lower wages and inhumane working conditions are all signs that America needs a renewed labor movement to avoid slipping back into the misery of our dark past.

The fact that Bezos is getting "pissed off" and forcing his social media team to pick fights with popular left-leaning senators like Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren for standing up in favor of his mistreated employees should tell you everything you need to know about Bezos' business mentality.

People like Bezos will take everything they can while contributing nothing. The billionaire class will continue to strip mine this country — and the rest of the world — if they're allowed to.

It is urgently important the Amazon employees in Alabama succeed in their quest to unionize. Organized labor is the only way middle class and working Americans can protect themselves from abusers like Amazon. If the American people don't stand up collectively, they will continue getting steamrolled.

Legendary OU, MSU journalism professor and lawyer dies at 70

HOLLY AND GARRY GILBERT

Advisers

Every semester, every year, we love to regale our students with stories about the inestimable Jane Briggs-Bunting.

Jane was a journalist, First Amendment attorney, professor, director, author, advocate, non-profit founder, and student newspaper adviser in a Hall of Fame career that spanned five decades.

We cheerfully tell them about Jane’s history of filing lawsuits against her own employer — Oakland University and later Michigan State University — on multiple occasions whenever she thought officials were keeping secrets that should be made public.

Devoted students called Jane their “guardian angel.” She once told a close friend she preferred “avenging angel.”

She still had so much to give. She died Tuesday, March 23, at 70.

Jane’s former undergraduates adore her — we are spread around the country and when we get together we always swap tales about life and death in Jane’s classroom.

She was notorious for her rigorous standards in her media law course and as a tireless advocate for freedom of the press. She is also credited for her fierce loyalty to student journalists — even in the face of criticism from members of the OU or MSU administration.

“I always thought it was unfair,” said journalist and former faculty member Kathy Dahlstrom. “She was doing what she was hired to do. She taught students to dig out the truth, on behalf of the public.”

We also remember Jane as a mentor and true friend who showed enormous courage in battling a rare form of cancer since 2014.

Her legacy includes the hundreds of Oakland U and MSU students who put to use the lessons learned in careers as attorneys, reporters, editors, advisers, and authors.

Her resume is truly remarkable:

- Award-winning reporter for the Detroit Free Press from 1970 to 1978. She covered national stories such as the disappearance of union lead Jimmy Hoffa and the case of the Oakland County child killer.
- Correspondent for Life magazine and People magazine. She covered the August 1987 crash of Flight 255 at Metro Airport that killed 156 people but spared the life of 4-year-old Cecelia Cichan, who became known as America’s Miracle Child.
- Chair and director of journalism at Oakland University, 1978 to 2003.
- Professor and director, the School of Journalism, Michigan State University, 2003 to 2012.
- Founder, past president and board member, the Michigan Coalition for Open Government, 2012 to 2020.
- B.A. and J.D. from the University of Detroit.
- Founder of the Great Lakes Student Law Press Clinic in 2004.
- Adviser to The Oakland Sail and Oakland Post, Oakland University’s independent student newspaper, until 2003.
- Board member for The State News, Michigan State University’s independent student newspaper, 2003 to 2013.
- Inductee into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in 2003. She served as a board member and past chair for the organization from 2006-2009.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY GILBERT
Jane Briggs-Bunting with over a dozen former Oakland Post student journalists.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY GILBERT
Jane Briggs-Bunting driving a boat. Briggs-Bunting was a journalist, First Amendment attorney, professor, director, author, advocate, non-profit founder, and student newspaper adviser in a Hall of Fame career that spanned five decades.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY GILBERT
Briggs-Bunting (second from left) posing with former Oakland Post editors Sally Tato Snell, Rob Snell and Ann Zaniewski at an award show.

- First Journalist of the Year honored by The Metro Detroit Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists in 1991 and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient in 2014.
- She was the first recipient of the Jane Briggs-Bunting Transparency in Government Award presented by the Michigan Coalition for Open Government (MiCOG) in 2020.
- Benefactor — along with her husband, Bob — of the Bunting and Briggs Freedom of the Press Endowed Scholarship at Oakland University.

Beyond her students, her teaching, and her First Amendment work, Jane was hopelessly devoted to the menagerie of four-legged friends she and husband Bob Bunting adopted throughout their 46 years of marriage. There were numerous dogs and cats, but also rescued horses and even a llama. Three of them became main characters in the children’s books she authored — “Whoop For Joy: A Christmas Wish,” “Laddie of the Light,” and “Llama on the Lam.”

For all the toughness Jane was noted for in her higher-education classrooms, she was equally in her element enchanting young fans of her fiction during readings at elementary schools and libraries around the state.

Jane was diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer in 2014 and she made it clear immediately that the disease had targeted a formidable foe. She approached her treatment the way she approached most things in her life — by making herself an expert on the subject, and a vigorous participant in the process. One of her doctors warmly recalled how she would arrive at his office armed with stacks of reports.

An ardent believer in the power of positive thinking and living, and prayer, Jane was not one to spend precious time lamenting her predicament.

“The good thing is she never wasted a day,” said Dahlstrom.

Tributes to Jane are pouring in from around the country. Penned by former students, colleagues and coworkers, they focus on the facts — which would make Jane proud. They are evidence of her impact on us all.

OUSC elects new President

Design and story by Bridget Janis

The Oakland University Student Council has named Adeline Perhogan their president and Annabella Jankowski as their vice president to lead the next year of students.

Perhogan and Jankowski won by a 238-214 margin before any grievance trial results were final, and after the hearing it became 238-209.72, still in favor of Perhogan and Jankowski.

Perhogan was the Student Activities Funding Board Chair this year and Jankowski was Student Body Vice President, and they plan to use that to their advantage as president and vice president.

One of their main focuses is the mental health of students. They want to partner up with the Graham Counseling Center to increase the access to mental health resources.

“Our main initiatives are transparency, campus involvement, health and wellness and emergency support services,” Perhogan said. “The highlights of our initiatives include hosting monthly student concerns forums, having a text remind system, hosting mainstages and tabling, streamlining online learning, partnering with the Rec Center and Graham Health Center

to provide resources and events for students to promote healthy living, and to contribute to additional relief funding, such as mitigating the cost of textbooks through Student Congress-funded scholarships.”

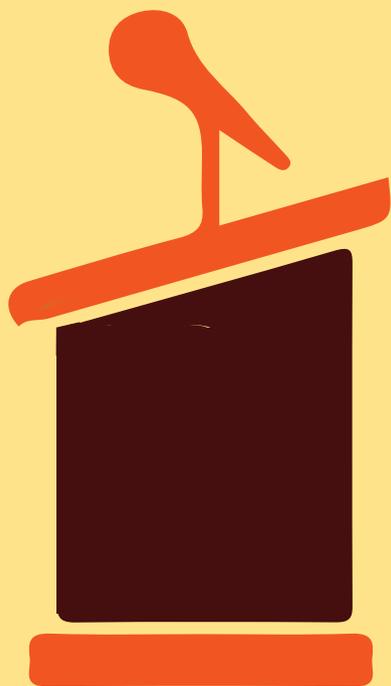
They want to also increase additional relief funding on campus. By pushing for mitigating the costs of the textbooks and providing students with scholarships that involve open educational resources to faculty and staff.

This year’s COVID-19 guidelines have caused a lot of campus life to be virtual, and Perhogan and Jankowski understand this. They want to focus more on initiatives and emphasizing the health of the students.

They also plan to improve the online learning and make sure all students will have access to be the best they can be in their classes. They are working with the e-Learning and Instructional Support (e-LIS) committee.

Their last big platform idea is about transparency between the upper administration and students. Being aware of what is going on in the upper aspects of the university is something they feel students should be aware of.

President and Vice President



Prior Grievances



Photo Courtesy of Adeline Perhogan and Annabella Jankowski

Before the decision to elect Perhogan and Jankowski, there was a meeting discussing the grievances, the official complaints made by the candidates. In the grievances Perhogan and Jankowski filed for three, and Tolbert and Smith filed for one.

The grievances started out with the Trademark law regarding OUSWC name changing from Oakland University SWC to Oakland UNITED SWC.

“Regardless of whether this group is a union, organization or club, using the name without permission is against the rules,” Perhogan said.

Next topic was about the use of a megaphone to promote a campaign from Tolbert, which

Tolbert tried to deny. The votes ended up finding Tolbert guilty by a three to two vote.

The last grievance from Perhogan and Jankowski was about Tolbert speaking about her campaign at an OUSC meeting, which is against the rules of campaigning.

Tolbert and Smith’s grievance they filed for was about an anonymous account harassing them, which they originally thought was Perhogan. The votes came out to Perhogan as innocent.

Perhogan and Jankowski have taken on the role of the new President and Vice President and are coming into next year with a plan to benefit the students.

Composer creates solutions for technical problems

JESSICA ORLANDO

Staff Reporter

With the recent passing of the anniversary COVID-19, musicians are reflecting on the problems they faced working with the inherently limiting technical abilities of Zoom.

On Thursday, Mar. 25, Composer and Wichita State University Assistant Professor David MacDonald provided Oakland University with an online masterclass that discussed his acoustic works, which attempted to solve problems musicians faced during quarantine.

Specifically, his work “Music For Social Distancing” uses the audio delays in Zoom to create interesting effects for both the performer and audience.

MacDonald earned both his M.M. and D.M.A. in composition from Michigan State University, and he co-founded SoundNotionTV which is a podcast that features music and the arts.

MacDonald also served as founder and co-Artistic Director of SCENE&heard, a music concert series at the Metrospace gallery in East Lansing, Michigan.

The piece “Music For Social Distancing” showcased in MacDonald’s

masterclass is an ode to technological difficulties and quirks musicians face while working remotely.

“Last march we all had this experience of being set home from the places we considered our musical, intellectual and artistic homes,” MacDonald said. “We had to figure out how to do this thing called ‘music’ remotely.”

The problem concerning traditional band rehearsal was apparent with ensembles containing 60 or more people attempting to play pieces on a Zoom call.

“There are some low latency applications and those have improved in the last 12 months or so, but they are still not practical for lots of circumstances and I would even argue for most circumstances,” MacDonald said.

MacDonald explained that time delay was the most focused aspect of his piece because it was something that affected ensemble rehearsal greatly, and oftentimes with no solutions.

“Instead of finding a technical workaround for something, I want to find a way of solving a technical problem that actually informs a musical idea,” MacDonald said.

Interestingly, MacDonald’s piece

incorporated these technical limitations into the composition rather than working around them or avoiding them altogether.

“The thing that is important for me when I work on a piece like this one is that I want to write it with limitations in mind,” MacDonald said.

MacDonald illustrated that latency in his piece became a focal point, in which the musicians drove the piece, rather than the conductor.

“Every time there is a different person that leads the next gesture — containing one note or two or three — and this is taking the latency as the point of the texture,” MacDonald said.

Another technical aspect being highlighted in the piece is Zoom’s ability to pick up certain people over others based on the volume of the speaker who is the loudest.

“What you’ll hear is everyone starting [together] and then as they start to drift and play different rhythms it gets a little cloudy and messy, but as they get to the end everyone coalesces on the last note,” MacDonald said.

Towards the end of MacDonald’s piece, he talked about the usage of harmony purposefully in a chorale to show the



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID
MACDONALD

listener the literal struggle the performers are experiencing in technicality.

“This is the closest thing to a traditional texture where people are actually playing together in some meaningful way or at least attempting to,” MacDonald said. “The other points of the piece players were not trying to play together.”

MacDonald’s piece can be viewed on MacDonald’s YouTube page, and individuals can take a look at the interesting effects of Zoom’s limitations through the Aspen Composers Conference.

THE OP

YOU CAN FIND US ON

VISIT US ONLINE

WWW.OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM

FEATURES

BioButton aids in early COVID-19 detection on campus

LAUREN REID & CAYLA SMITH
Sports Editor & Campus Editor

On Nov. 20, 2020, BioIntelliSense's BioButton was made available to Oakland University students in an effort to combat COVID-19 outbreaks on campus and provide early symptom detection technology.

The BioButton, which received some negative feedback early on due to privacy concerns, monitors only skin temperature, respiratory rate and heart rate at rest. It is also utilized for contact tracing, but does not track its wearer's whereabouts — it only alerts them they were in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual.

As campus heads into summer and fall 2021 semesters, the BioButton (free to all OU students) remains a viable option to keep the campus community safe and healthy.

"I know people feel like we're beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel of this pandemic, but now is no time to let our guard down," Vice President for Research at OU, David Stone, said. "Infection rates in [Michigan] are still high, and the new variants have introduced unknowns that complicate the path to the end of the pandemic. Wearing the BioButton remains a good way to track your own health and to protect your family, your classmates and your community from the risk of a localized outbreak of the disease."

In July 2020, news of the BioButton being mandatory on campus in a housing update alerted students. A petition was created to make the button optional, which garnered around 2,500 signatures and received national attention, most notably in the New York Times.

OU senior and the petition's creator, Tyler Dixon, mentioned the petition's ultimate goal was to make the



PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND.EDU

BioButton optional for students and staff.

"I don't have as much of an issue with wearing it as I do mandating it for students," Dixon said. "My whole thing was less about wearing the BioButton and more about forcing people to [wear it]. The more I sit back and think about the BioButton, the more I realize that my issues stemmed more from how OU handled it as opposed to the actual device itself."

Dixon said he doesn't regret creating his petition, because it created a dialogue after the BioButton was deemed mandatory on OU's website in summer 2020.

"Whether or not [OU] meant to, it came across like they

were trying to hide things from us and I don't know if I would necessarily change my petition, but I just wish it was never required," Dixon said.

The BioButton is an optional device and although encouraged and advocated for by the university, students and staff can opt out of wearing it.

OU Athletics Director, Steve Waterfield, mentioned the release of the BioButton coincided with a drop in COVID-19 cases — as of now, roughly half of student athletes and staff wear a BioButton, about 200 people. Waterfield wears a BioButton, as well.

"When we started to roll [the BioButton] out, our [COVID-19] numbers started to trickle down and become lower," Waterfield said. "Since we've been around for winter semester, the numbers have been trending to where we want, which is minimal. So anecdotally, I would say [yes, the BioButton has worked]."

Waterfield mentioned the contact tracing ability of the BioButton is especially helpful.

"Where you see the large-scale issues is when people have to quarantine through contact tracing," Waterfield said. "Wearing it allowed folks to do as much as they could to try and stay apart knowing in some cases it's impossible. [Nobody] knows where you are, it's more 'are you close to someone that has a BioButton.' It isn't a question of where you should or shouldn't have been."

BioButton technology remains available to any and all students who want it — another health measure taken by the university to keep campus safe in light of COVID-19.

On-campus distribution is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. in the Oakland Center, Hillcrest and Vandenberg Halls and from 11 a.m.- 7 p.m. in the Recreation Center.

NOW HIRING

Staff Reporter:

Responsibilities:

- Attend weekly budget meetings
- Write 2 stories per week
- Knowledge of AP Style
- Ability to interview professionally
- Good communication skills
- Respond quickly and positively to edits

Interested applicants must send their
resume and cover letter to Editor-in-Chief:
Michael Pearce at
mpearce@oakland.edu

Minnesota Supreme Court victim blames

Sexual assault and harassment cannot only be a women's issue

EMILY MORRIS

Managing Editor



EMILY MORRIS | MANAGING EDITOR

The Minnesota Supreme Court ruled alcohol consumption trumps accountability in a Minnesota sexual assault lawsuit on Wednesday, March 24. Once again, sexual assault is posed as only a women's issue, instead of a cultural issue.

The ruling stems from a lawsuit in a lower court about Francois Momulu Khalil, who was convicted of third-degree criminal sexual misconduct because the woman he attacked was intoxicated. According to CBS News, the jury considered her “mentally incapacitated,” which rendered the initial third-degree verdict.

On Wednesday, the decision was reversed, and the case will have a new trial, according to Justice Paul Thissen.

The Minnesota Supreme Court says a mentally incapacitated person is “under the influence of alcohol, a narcotic, anesthetic, or any other substance, administered to that person without the person's agreement, [and] lacks the judgment to give a reasoned consent to sexual contact or sexual penetration.”

Because the woman was voluntarily intoxicated when she met Khalil outside of a bar, she does not qualify as mentally incapacitated, which is a requirement of third-degree sexual assault. Despite raping an unconscious woman, he no longer qualifies for this conviction.

Nearly 20% of women have

experienced completed or attempted rape during her lifetime. To put that into perspective, 20% of Oakland University's population is almost 4,000 students — roughly the amount of all OU graduate students.

Violence against women is a part of the U.S.'s culture, and the nation will not change unless women stop being blamed.

Women are told how to dress, where to go and when to go somewhere to avoid sexual assault — personally, I'm tired of this secondhand responsibility. Now, in Wednesday's case, a woman is being told what to consume too.

Specifically, Thisson has no room to presume what any woman should or should've done. He will never understand a woman's experience. Even so, he has presumed the right to question the validity of a woman's choices.

“I think most men don't see these issues as their issues, even though the overwhelming majority of domestic and sexual violence [90%] is perpetrated by men,” Jackson Katz, Ph.D and activist, said to NPR. “And a lot of men will say, these are problems, but they're not my problem.”

This is the awareness that can change culture — choosy criticism and denial from men only shows those men are part of the problem.

“[Violence against women have] been seen as women's issues that some good men help out with,” Katz said to NPR. “But I have a problem with that frame... In fact, I'm going to argue that these are men's issues, first and foremost.”

To be an ally, men have to genuinely listen, like Katz, instead of assuming an experience they haven't lived. This paradigm shift is what creates allies to the women's rights movement and challenges dominant systems.

I hope one day, what I wear or what I drink doesn't determine my or anyone's consent. Consent is not an absence of refusal, consent should only be enthusiastic.

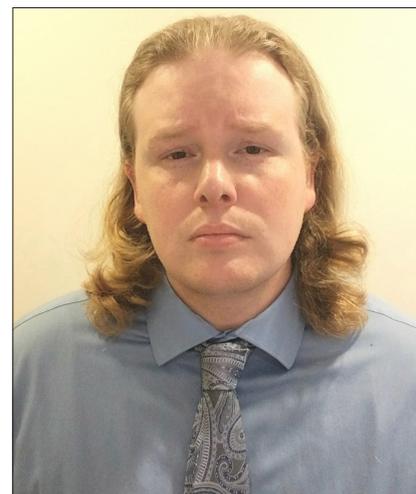
The ruling in Minnesota should remind the U.S. of the cultural change that is needed. Women and girls need to be supported — we want basic human rights.

I want to know what it feels like to walk alone at night without fear — many women do.

GOP back to their Jim Crow ways after 2020

JEFF THOMAS

Features Editor



JEFF THOMAS | FEATURES EDITOR

After losing the presidency and the senate during the 2020 elections the Republican party is turning back to their Jim Crow ways, doing everything they can to criminalize and disenfranchise poor and minority voters in future elections.

In the months following the election, 22 of the 24 completely Republican controlled state governments have passed legislation to limit voting rights. Apparently uncertain their party's cruel and unsustainable platform and sociopathic candidates can consistently prevail on the national level, the GOP is instead doing all it can to limit the voting rights of American citizens.

This is no surprise, as one of the prevailing narratives of the 2020 election was the record-breaking voter turnout. Voter participation was bolstered around the country by progressive policies, like same-day voter registration and expanded absentee ballots.

Generally speaking high voter-turnout is rarely a good sign for conservatives, who rely largely on minority rule to impose their agenda. This was certainly the case for Republicans during the 2020 election.

As detestable as it is, GOP-government officials are now working overtime to roll back policies proven to increase voter turnout and limiting the scope of our democracy in the process. This struggle over the future of our democracy has been fiercely contested recently in Georgia.

Georgia was a major black eye for Republicans during the 2020 election. Donald Trump was the first Republican presidential candidate to lose Georgia since

George H.W. Bush in 1992. Then, amid a barrage of media controversy stemming from Trump's unfounded claims of voter fraud, Georgia elected Democratic Senators Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossof.

While Georgia Republican officials were legally unable to obey Trump's demands to overturn the election results, they are following through the best they can with legislation restricting voters.

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, a candidate who won election in part due to voter disenfranchisement and election rigging, has now signed into law sweeping legislation to restrict voting rights in Georgia.

The bill Kemp signed into law Thursday Mar. 25 includes new restrictions on mail-in ballots and gives Georgia's GOP controlled legislature more control over election proceedings. The bill targets mail-in ballots by requiring state-approved photo identification, and even goes as far as making it illegal for people to provide food and bottles of water to citizens waiting in line to vote.

This legislation being passed in Georgia is the first shot being fired in the GOP's war against voting rights. If the Democrats do not respond swiftly with authority to the new threat that these kinds of voting restrictions pose to democracy, they will be at a severe disadvantage in future elections.

President Joe Biden condemned Georgia's new voting restrictions, saying, “this is Jim Crow in the 21st Century ... it must end. We have a moral and Constitutional obligation to act” in an official statement last Friday.

These stern words from Biden need to be backed up with stern actions. The Democrats should prioritize a new voting rights act to expand and protect American voters. The problem is that there's no way Republicans in the House and Senate will support the bill. This means that the filibuster must go.

Biden and his Democratic allies have been reluctant so far to nuke the filibuster, still with the Republican party in its current state bipartisanship is impossible.

Biden hinted last week that he is open to nuking the filibuster, but he's going to have to do more than hint to protect American voters from GOP suppression. The time for political posturing is over, the Democrats and Biden need to govern and the only way they'll be able to do so is by eliminating the filibuster and ending the Republican's vice grip on our government.

OPINION

“Seaspiracy:” A must watch whether it looks interesting or not

BRIDGET JANIS
Staff Reporter

Saving the ocean has been a huge movement — picking up steam after VSCO girls got #savetheturtles trending — but not everyone is well educated on the real issues. The Netflix documentary “Seaspiracy” produced by Kip Anderson discusses the impact of fishing on marine wildlife and is a must watch whether it sounds interesting to you or not.

A content warning: this film came with a lot of hard-to-watch footage: killing of whales, dolphins and other sea creatures.

While the editing of the footage was somewhat lacking, it did not take away from the real message of the documentary. This documentary was not made to fit any sort of aesthetic — it was made to inform people.

Everyone is quick to say “save the turtles,” yet use a plastic water bottles. But if anyone actually did research, which this documentary is trying to bring light to, fishing is our biggest problem. Obviously don’t litter, but also recognize that killing all our sharks or fish through commercial fishing ruins oceans more than anything else.

A hot topic discussed in the documentary is “bycatch,” a common phenomenon when fishermen are looking for specific fish they end up catching the wrong ones, having to throw them back. After being wrongfully caught, the fish or other sea creature will die almost instantly in the water again.

The point being that not enough people are talking about how fishing is the real killer in the ocean, not those plastic



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB
‘Seaspiracy’ on Netflix will make you think twice about eating fish.

straws or climate change.

It talks about how our oceans could be empty by 2048, which is 27 years from now. This is a problem we will have to face in our lifetime that recycling isn’t going to fix. Fishing trends are increasing, and without everyone changing drastically, this will happen. And if it happens, I don’t want to hear anyone blaming the plastic straws.

The documentary does a great job at giving real numbers

and statistics. There were a lot of interviews throughout the whole film, but there were multiple occasions when people asked the documentary crew to shut the camera off. Basically, every big company interview in the documentary seemed to avoid questions altogether or not give straight forward answers, which seems a little fishy to say the least.

The documentary goes in depth while discussing big companies that are organizations that are all about saving the ocean or preserving our wildlife. But yet none of them are talking about the destruction the fishing industry is creating. This documentary is just a great example of companies only caring about money and how so many secrets to protect harmful industries.

With a title like “Seaspiracy”, the documentary might have been a crime documentary or one about aliens, which is bigger clickbait for most people. But this documentary is way more important than all that, it’s topics no one wants to hear but needs to be said.

Additionally, before anyone says “oh it should have been conspira-sea.” No, it should not have since it’s from the same producer as cowspiracy — it’s on trend with his own style. Also talking verbally about it would cause confusion, so I don’t want to see anyone saying the name is bad.

I don’t eat fish or any sort anyways, but after watching this, I really wouldn’t want to. This is a must watch documentary for informing yourself about how our industries are destroying the planet.

5/5 stars on information
3/5 stars on editing

Dentists to administer COVID-19 vaccines nationwide

GABRIELLE ABDELMESSIH
Staff Reporter

On March 11, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) acting secretary issued an amendment of an emergency declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to authorize dentists — among other healthcare providers — to administer COVID-19 vaccines.

This amendment to the federal emergency declaration means that more than 151,000 licensed dentists across the country are now allowed to vaccinate the public against COVID-19, regardless of state laws that prevented them in the past.

Prior to this declaration, 28 states allowed dentists to administer COVID-19 vaccinations. States like Connecticut, Kentucky and Massachusetts began allowing dentists to administer COVID-19 vaccinations earlier in the pandemic, and continue to rank higher in terms of the percentage of COVID-19 vaccines administered to their state populations.

In Michigan, dentists were not allowed to administer COVID-19 vaccinations until the emergency declaration was amended. Statewide, the 7-day moving average for daily cases is the highest it has been since December, and more new cases are being reported in Michigan (relative to population size) each day than any other state, except New Jersey.

Dr. Jodi Levy, an Oakland University undergraduate alumna, is a dentist in Connecticut who administers COVID-19 vaccines in the state on a volunteer basis.

As a dentist, Dr. Levy has the experience of administering local oral-anesthesia via injections to patients on a daily basis, so administering a COVID-19 vaccine to an exposed arm is something dentists are more than capable of.

“I feel like I’m in my wheelhouse,” Levy said.

If patients are a bit apprehensive leading up to getting vaccinated, Dr. Levy will even incorporate a little dental humor into the process.

“When people start getting nervous about the needle, I will throw it out in a joke form [by saying] ‘Hey, I’m a dentist, so get this: this is the first time in my life people have voluntarily come to me and said, ‘give me a needle,’” Levy said.

This reassurance in the form of humor helps comfort patients.

“Usually, they will start laughing, and we can sort things out by that point,” Levy said. “Once they find out I’m a dentist, usually they’re like, ‘Oh, you give shots all the time.’”

In order to be authorized to administer COVID-19 vaccinations, Levy participated in the state-mandated training program, which requires healthcare professionals to complete an approved didactic training program, demonstrate hands-on vaccination skills with an approved evaluator and register as a vaccinator with the Connecticut Department of Health.

Levy has learned how to administer all three COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson) that are authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Once she had completed her training and her registration was approved, Dr. Levy became a volunteer for the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), took a statutorily required “Loyalty Oath” and signed HIPAA forms.

“Now I get emails regularly with requests for deployments, so if it works with your schedule and you’re willing to drive— you just click available. Then, within two to three days, you find out if you’ve been approved or selected for that mission— and then you show up.” Dr. Levy said.

So far, Levy has administered vaccines in centers like senior clinics and high school gymnasiums. Often, she does this on her days off from working at her practice, taking time on the weekends to drive to different locations in the state and volunteer.

“It’s been amazing, but it’s also exhausting. By the end of the day, I have nothing left. You’re on from the moment you get there, to the moment you leave,” Levy said.

When asked why she felt the need to volunteer her time and administer vaccines, Levy said, “I felt the need to be a part of the solution, and when given that opportunity, I have chosen to sacrifice time with my family to do this. I want my kids to be proud looking back one day that their mom was able to and did help us get back to normal.”

Borczak aims to lead 'four-headed monster'

MATTHEW SCHEIDEL
Staff Reporter

Many young athletes try to model their game after a prominent professional athlete they look up to, but Oakland men's soccer midfielder Dylan Borczak models his game after ... well, Dylan Borczak.

"I feel like I'm myself," Borczak said. "I mean I obviously like to do my fancy footwork and stuff because I watch a lot of soccer and that's just how the game is starting to change, but I don't feel like I model anyone in particular."

Borczak, a senior majoring in integrated studies, spent the team's 15-month [COVID-19] break training and "trying to get better."

"I feel like that was a big turning point, because everyone took that break and didn't do as much — I took it as a way to get better," Borczak said. "I'd go lift in the morning with [a guy I was training with], Aaron Byrd. He has an organization [called] Next Level Training [where we] would go lift and train. I was doing that every day for three or four months — that really jumped my game to the next level."

Borczak played for the Flint City Bucks of the USL League 2 during the 2019 offseason, where he and the team won a championship. He recalled the experience, calling it "great."

"They brought me in, so it was a big jump from what I was playing at before," Borczak said. "We would train every day with some top level players

— I feel like five or six of those guys went pro the year after. It was good. I was just there to develop my game and ended up coming out of it with a national ring, so it went well."

In his free time, Borczak enjoys playing video games with his friends. He also does some modeling.

Men's soccer Head Coach Eric Pogue said while Borczak had been important to the team's success, [it's important] not to forget about Noah Jensen, Dawson Schrum and Charlie Braithwaite, referring to the group as a "four-headed monster."

"Dylan has been very good for us all year and [he is] one of the leading goal scorers and point getters in the nation," Pogue said. "But when you mention Dylan, you have to mention [Jensen, Schrum, and Braithwaite] when it comes to our offense. Those guys [have been] collectively wreaking havoc on opposing defenses all year."

Borczak said it's been "crazy" watching him and his teammates light up the stat sheet this season.

"Just looking at the stats, with a 10-game season we have stats that people usually get with a regular 20-game season," Borczak said. "It's been us four that have been doing a lot of the work. I have seven goals, Charlie has five goals, Dawson has four and Noah also has four — but he's leading in assists as well so it's been crazy. I don't think any team can really figure out a way to stop this right now, so it's looking good."

Women's golf continues strong season



PHOTO COURTESY OF
GOLDENGRIZZLIES.COM

LAUREN REID
Sports Editor

The Oakland University women's golf team began their season on Feb. 28, and are now heading into their final two tournaments — at Bowling Green on April 10 and 11 and the Horizon League Championship April 25-27.

"We've had a strong season so far, and are continuing to improve at every tournament," Head Coach Alyssa Gaudio said. "This team has [enjoyed] some individual successes, as well as team ones. Recently, one of our seniors, Amalia Shahzan, won a tournament with the team taking second. Veronica Haque, also a senior, finished second at that same tournament. We've had a lot of individual low rounds throughout the season and we are working hard to put together great team rounds."

Shahzan was recently named Nike Horizon League Golfer of the Week after winning her first collegiate tournament, the Nevel Meade Collegiate — with a total score of 217 (+1). Haque followed closely behind, tying for second and finishing out with a total score of 218 (+2).

"I am so happy to have earned this title, but I know I wouldn't be able to come this far without the help and support from my coach and family," Shahzan said. "Being an international student athlete and being so far away from my family is hard, but I am glad I could get all the love and support from my teammates and coaches."

Hague felt similarly to Shahzan,

saying a lot of her success comes from her support system: coaches, teammates, family and friends.

"Having my teammates and coaches around while I'm on the course gives me more comfort and purpose, motivating me to give my all during every shot while I'm out there," Hague said. "Knowing how supported I am, I feel better about myself, which translates into my golf game."

Not only was the Nevel Meade Collegiate tournament especially successful for Shahzan and Hague individually, the team enjoyed a third round score of 297 — the low round for the final day of competition — and a second place finish overall.

The team saw success at the spring break shootout on March 15 and 16 as well, where Hague shot 69 (-2) according to Coach Gaudio, and the team finished in ninth place with a score of 897 (+45). Hague tied for 10th place with a three round total of 217 (+4) and Shahzan tied for 32nd, followed closely by sophomore Kay Zubkus, who finished with a score of 225 (+12).

As the team heads into their final tournament, Hague mentioned she's just ready to play and compete.

"I really enjoy my time out on the course and I appreciate every moment I get," Hague said. "I'm looking forward to spending time with my team and my coaches and seeing what we can accomplish together. I think that we have a really strong and positive mindset heading into the next two events, so I'm excited to see what we'll be able to do out there when the time comes."

Gaudio said the team is ready to put in the work necessary.

"We are looking forward to putting in some hard work in the coming weeks to put on a good show at the next two events," Gaudio said. "We would love to set some individual and team records along the way. This team has a lot to be proud of already, but I know they aren't satisfied, yet."

Shahzan has faced some adversity this year, but is ready to continue playing her best.

"[My dad] passed away last September due to cancer and the only thing that kept me going and giving me strength is that I know giving up is not what he would want me to do," Shahzan said. "I [knew] I needed to be strong and play my best golf for him and for the OU women's golf team."



PHOTO BY JOSE JUAREZ

Borczak celebrating against Robert Morris in the Grizz Dome, where he scored three goals and assisted on another.

Men's basketball aims to build on near-NCAA tourney bid

MICHAEL PEARCE

Editor-in-Chief

In a season marred by an unusual schedule, COVID-19 reshuffling of the rotation and nagging injuries, Oakland men's basketball fell one game short of the big dance.

Moving forward, the team is looking to capitalize on their first Horizon League championship game since joining the conference in 2013.

Two years ago, the NCAA transfer portal was just taking shape when Oakland men's basketball lost two key players to high-major schools. Now, it seems as if every team has 3-6 players who are in the transfer portal at all times.

Leaving Oakland in the transfer portal at this time are: Rashad Williams (Jr.), Kevin Kangu (Sr.), Yusuf Jihad (Fr.), PJ Joseph (Fr.) and Joey Holifield (Fr.).

According to Kampe, he is searching for a rim protector and a knockdown shooter, reminiscent of Travis Bader and Max Hooper.

"That's what I'm looking at — someone who can play minutes and someone that's a rim protector," he said. "I'd like that best player to be a shooter — you know, that old-fashioned Oakland 3-point shooting specialist."

When the transfer portal was just shaping up, Kampe fought it, something he said he "won't be doing this year." Last year, Kampe used the transfer portal to recruit JUCO guard Jalen Moore, who was an All-league first team selection at the end of his first Division I season.

With the current reality of the NCAA — where players are using their extra year of eligibility and the portal to become a free agent — Kampe is ready to play the portal game.

"It is what it is, so come on, let's go compete," Kampe said. "That's one thing I like to do is compete."

Kampe is looking forward to a more normal offseason, where the team can prepare uninterrupted and as they typically would, building on their near-NCAA tourney bid.

"We really like our future, we've always thought our future was really good," Kampe said. "We get this offseason of individual improvement and we get to make these guys better and get a year in the gym."

Not only was the team's schedule drastically different — only playing nine non-conference games and playing back-to-backs every weekend — missing that offseason practice was crucial for the Golden Grizzlies, especially once the season started.

Oakland was forced to shut down for 21 days right before the season, which greatly affected their early season results. They lost 101-49 against Xavier University in their first game of the season.

"When you go through the 21-day shutdown before you play, and when you open your season on national TV and you get embarrassed ... a lot of young men would have folded from that," Kampe said.

However, Kampe noted he never saw his team quit, even with a discouraging start.

"Instead, this group believed in the process, they believed in what we were trying to do," he said. "They believed in their abilities and they came within one game of getting there [NCAA tournament]. I'm really, really proud of them, and I think it was a special year for Oakland basketball — it really was."



PHOTO COURTESY OF OU ATHLETICS

Jalen Moore floats the ball over a Detroit Mercy defender. Kampe and the Golden Grizzlies are looking to build on their progress during the COVID-19 dominated season.

Oakland baseball swept by UIC during first homestand

MATTHEW SCHEIDEL

Staff Reporter

The Oakland University baseball team was swept by the University of Illinois - Chicago (UIC) Flames last weekend at the Oakland Baseball Field.

Friday's game began as a pitcher's duel. There was no score after three innings.

The scoring started in the fourth when UIC scored a couple. A runner scored on a wild pitch, then Joshua Figueroa hit an RBI double. UIC would add a Thomas Smart two-run double to go up 4-0.

On the mound, no one was hitting UIC starter Jacob Key. He gave up two hits in the first inning — and that was it, until in the sixth inning, Michael Stygles doubled to left to score Tyler Trovinger and make it a 4-1 game.

UIC answered in the seventh. Cole Conn hit a two-run single off Dan Rutan to make it 6-1. In the bottom of the eighth, Gabe Lux scored on a wild pitch to make it 6-2, but UIC would add two more in the ninth and take game one, 8-2.

"We didn't do anything very well honestly," Head Coach Jordon Banfield said after Friday's game. "We didn't throw strikes, we misplayed a big ball

in the outfield and we didn't trust the scouting report on offense. We went up there and swung early a lot, and got beat by a team that did all the things that we didn't: throw strikes, make big pitches in big spots, make every play on defense, including some plus plays and execute with men on base at the plate. So that's where we need to get."

Saturday's doubleheader did not go well for the Golden Grizzlies right from the start, as they were down 7-0 in the second inning. The team tried to stay in the game with three runs in the fifth and a two-run shot from Stygles in the seventh, but it wasn't enough — UIC took game one, 11-6.

Game two of the Saturday doubleheader was more of the same. The Grizzlies fell behind 4-0 in the third and UIC never looked back. UIC kept pouring it on, taking a 13-1 lead into the eighth inning before the game was postponed due to darkness. The Flames would go on to win the next day 15-2.

In the series finale on Sunday, the Grizzlies and Flames were once again locked in a pitcher's duel. The score was locked at one apiece when Seth Tucker scored on an errant throw from UIC's catcher to put the Grizzlies in front.



SOPHIE HUME | PHOTO EDITOR

Lorenzo Elion waits for his at-bat in the on deck circle. Oakland baseball was swept by UIC during their first homestand of the season. The baseball team has 12 more home games in a row.

They held that lead until the ninth inning. Bryce Konitzer was cruising, but it all fell apart. UIC put up a four-spot to take a 5-2 lead. Oakland couldn't respond, and as a result, UIC swept the series.

The Golden Grizzlies' next series is

against the Milwaukee Panthers, and it begins Thursday, April 1 at 2 p.m. at the Oakland Baseball Field.

Five Oakland elevators to ride and thrive in

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

Elevators are heroes of architecture. While the common staircase and ladder are strong components of indoor geography, the humble elevator lifts up the slack where the former modes are lacking. While one must make conscious and laborious steps when going up stairs — presenting the risk of tripping should the mind lapse into idle thought — the elevator allows for a relatively safe and accessible ascent (or descent) with only the push of a button.

In honor of these unsung heroes of internal mobility, I have taken it upon myself to highlight some of the more notable lifts found around Oakland University and assigning each of them a rating based on their aesthetics, performance and usefulness.

Math and Science Center West Tower Elevator

A classic OU elevator, the MSC's west tower elevator is one of the most distinctive elevators on campus. Riders are able to access seven floors within the eight-story tower and do so with a fast and fairly smooth ride from the ground level to the seventh floor. The interior is moderately open and offers a worn — but functional interior featuring adequate lighting and tactile buttons. A ride in this elevator is nice, efficient and hardly memorable.

Rating: 7/10

Engineering Building Service Elevator

The Engineering Building offers several elevators for vertical mobility needs, but none are quite like the service elevator at the north end of the building. It can almost feel a bit clandestine going past heavy doors and exposed pipes when boarding at the ground floor, but the journey adds to the elevators' whole aesthetic. Stainless steel adorns everything from the frame to the doors to the wall to the buttons, each part reflecting the unobstructed overhead lights and making the ride bright as day. And outside of the lengthy journey at the ground level, this elevator is arguably one of the most accessible with a massive amount of space, an easy to read digital floor display and audio callouts. This is the epitome of a modern elevator.

Rating: 8.5/10

Pawley Hall Parking Structure Elevator

Located at the northwest corner of the parking structure next to Pawley Hall, this Otis elevator accesses each of the three parking decks and does so quickly — and you will be glad about that. While the top deck shelter provides nice cover from the elements and the interior is visually interesting — the tactile buttons and wedge floor display feel more at home in “Blade Runner” than in a college parking garage — there is a thick, dusty musk in the elevator that made my lungs feel like they were filling up with black mold. This probably would not be great for anyone with respiratory issues, and the small dimensions could make it a tight fit for anyone using a wheelchair. If you can, consider taking the stairs.

Rating: 4/10

Anton/Frankel Center Southwest Elevator

Not everyone knows about OU's Macomb County locations, but they exist and they have elevators.

This elevator is located in the southwest side of the Anton/Frankel Center in downtown Mount Clemens. But before you pack your bags and go east to ride this OU deep cut, be aware that this ride is not what it is all cracked up to be. The inside is a bit too small for one person, let alone two people or even someone with a wheelchair, and the ride is a short but rough journey between two floors. Unless you plan on spending some time on the east side, this lift is not enough to make a day out of.

Rating: 5/10

Oakland Center Southern Elevator

All elevators fill mobility needs by making it easier to navigate buildings when stairs are impractical, but rarely does a single elevator solve just about every lifting need a building has.

Dear readers, meet the silver bullet of elevators: the OC's southern elevator. A byproduct of the 2018 OC expansion, this new ThyssenKrupp elevator features unique weaved metal walls and a spacious and undetectably smooth ride up and down. But it is not the nice aesthetics or vibrationless ride that makes this elevator so special, it is that it serves all three levels of the OC while every other elevator serves just two. For filling a clear gap left by previous elevators, this ride is one you must not miss out on.

Rating: 10/10



MICHAEL PEARCE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The notoriety of the Oakland elevators has inspired HGTV's newest show, *Riding and Thriving*, with the Property Brothers

\$**100**
FOR
STUDENTS

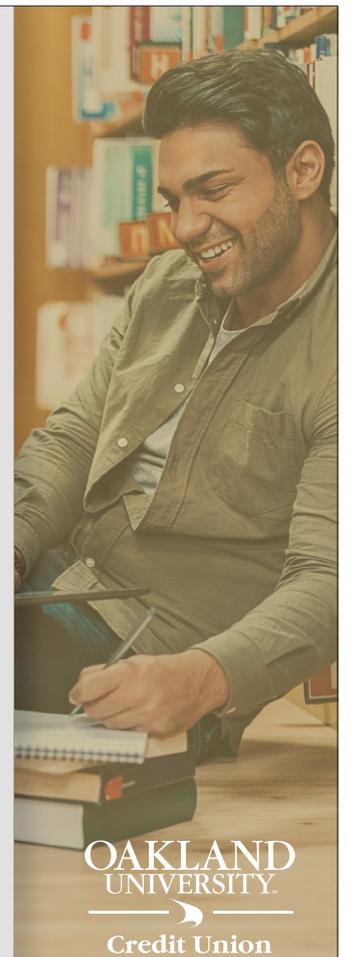
Open your OU Credit Union account, use your Grizzly Visa Debit Card 10 times, and receive \$100. It's that easy.

Hurry! Offer ends 3/31/21.

oucreditunion.org/students



Offer of \$100 valid 1/1/21 to 3/31/21 for members who qualify under the OU student SEG. OU Credit Union Visa Debit Card must be activated by 3/31/21 and 10 debit card purchases must post within 30 days of card activation to qualify. The \$100 will be deposited into member's checking account within 4 to 6 weeks of the 10th purchase. Not valid for existing members with an OU Credit Union checking account. May not be combined with any other deposit offers. If new member is referred to the Credit Union, member referral offer will not apply.



OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY

Credit Union