

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER

15

2014



ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

All of the emergency alert stations around OU are out of order. What does this mean in terms of campus safety?
PAGE 7

Basketball player Max Hooper talks about coming to OU and what he hopes to achieve on the men's team.
PAGE 15

A pet cemetery reportedly sits near Meadow Brook Hall. What secrets really lie buried on campus grounds?
PAGE 20

HALF-PIPE DREAMS

The OU skate club brought its sickest kicks and flips to the concrete jungle for national competition **PAGE 17**

Photo by Jacob Melka/The Oakland Post

thisweek

October 15, 2014 // Volume 40. Issue 39



ontheweb

You may have seen her on OU's stage, but she's reaching outside now. Anna Marck, junior acting student, stars in "Tribes" at The Baldwin Theatre in Royal Oak. Read more at www.oaklandpostonline.com.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WAIT YOUR TURN // A line winds through the basement of the Oakland Center as students hope to get a ticket to see Hillary Clinton, who announced earlier this week that she would come to OU on Thursday to show support for politicians Gary Peters and Mark Schauer. These tickets were handed to the first 250 students to arrive at the Center for Student Activities beginning noon Tuesday.

Photo by Kaylee Kean/The Oakland Post

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POLL OF THE WEEK

What's really buried in the Meadow Brook pet cemetery?

- A** Pets, ya' dummy.
- B** Nothing. It's just a load of nonexistent horse poop.
- C** The hopes, dreams, and GPAs of OU math students.
- D** ...where is that?

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LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are your thoughts on skipping classes?

A) Why waste the money and the education?

51.6%

B) When you need a break, you need a break.

22.6%

C) The only thing I skip is jump rope.

9.7%

D) My GPA is good. A couple of skips won't hurt.

16.1%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

October 12, 1996

Chrysler granted \$1 million to OU to support science and engineering programs. At the time, it was the largest grant Chrysler had ever given to OU.

October 14, 1991

A hot water pipe broke between Wilson and North Foundation halls, causing an explosion that resulted in a steaming mud hole and mud being launched into the nearby parking lot. No one was injured.

October 15, 2007

Mitt Romney's son, Josh Romney, visited OU to bring awareness to his father's presidential campaign. He spoke about national issues that his father would combat, including terrorists, high taxes and economic competition from Asia.

-Compiled by Andrew Wernette, Life Editor



12

LIFE ON THE STREETS

Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor Andrew Wernette reviews the musical "The Life," which is being shown in Varner Studio Theatre through this weekend.



14

THE FINAL TALLY

The Sporting Blitz summarizes this week's developments in volleyball, men's soccer, Football Club and men's basketball.



19

MAKING THE BIG TIME

Alumna Karen Workman talked about what it's like to be an editor at the New York Times.

BY THE NUMBERS

Coming out edition

1988

the first National Coming Out Day was observed

10,030

American youth who identify with the LGBT community

12 pm

when the Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) meets on Thursdays in the Lake Michigan Room of the Oakland Center

16

the average age of an LGBT member coming out in 2010

9

million LGBT Americans, approximately

Editorial

STAFF EDITORIAL

Come out, whoever you are

Humans are naturally guarded. We protect ourselves to survive; just ask Darwin.

We're pack animals by nature, interested in blending with the group, in becoming one in a sea of many.

It's scary to stick out, to be different. It's scary to risk isolation.

Saturday, October 11 marked the 26th anniversary of National Coming Out Day, an internationally-recognized event which "celebrates coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) or as an ally," according to the Human Rights Campaign website.

Oakland University celebrated "coming out" throughout the week, featuring the Gender and Sexuality Center and Gay Straight Alliance's annual "Coming Out Monologues" on Thursday and a "coming out" bonfire on Friday. During this week, students were encouraged to share their stories on being LGT-BTQIA+, to share their strife, their successes, and most of all, to appreciate one another's differences.

"It is rewarding for the person giving the [coming out] monologue to feel like

they finally have a voice, and really, to help those who are too scared or hesitant to be themselves," Gay Straight Alliance President Becca Reichenbach said.

In fact, according to a study in *Social Psychology and Personality Science*, "coming out" has many psychological benefits, including "less anger, less depression, and higher self-esteem."

We at the *Oakland Post* appreciate this not only recognition but celebration of our peers and our differences, as well as the empowerment for the brave willing to accept and value themselves for themselves. We applaud those comfortable enough in their own skins to share pieces of themselves with others. We urge all of Oakland University to "come out" by embracing what makes us each unique in our own way.

While the majority of our population identifies as heterosexual, a current societal norm which does not necessarily constitute "coming out," think about something that makes you different, makes you stand out from the person next to you in the Subway line, something that makes you proud to be you, and accept it: come out to you within yourself.

According to Multicultural Studies Professor Kellie Hay, we should embrace and promote our differences rather than disregard or downplay them. "Difference matters because we elide meaningful experience when we imagine that we are all so similar," she said.

"Difference opens us, makes us think, keeps us reaching. It is only when difference is exaggerated or caricatured that we have problems."

It is because of these differences that we, as a country of immigrants, as a mixed society, thrive. Maybe you have a hidden talent in juggling, maybe it's computer science. Maybe you were born with an interestingly-shaped birthmark, or maybe you're proud of your heritage. It's your traits that make you, you, Oakland University. Accept them, embrace them, celebrate them. In the words of author Steven Covey, "strength lies in differences, not in similarities."

The staff editorial is written by the members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.

Questions, comments or suggestions? Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

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Letters to the Editor

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Perspectives

The red elephant – or blue donkey – in the room

Introducing a new column in politics: what nobody ever wants to talk about, until now

Nick Walter
Contributor

I'm in the middle of a long and stormy relationship. My significant other is fascinating, witty, clever and nuanced.

Unfortunately, she is also bitter, annoying, unreasonable and often plain stupid.

No, I'm not talking about a girlfriend; I'm talking about politics.

Yes, politics: one of two topics (besides religion) that polite people rarely talk about in public.

During the past two years while at Oakland, I have attempted to talk to a number

of my fellow students about various political topics.

I usually fail. Here's the reason: we as college students have a very hard time understanding why politics matter to us.

What's the big deal behind Lois Lerner's hidden (lost?) emails?

Who cares whether or not Bill Clinton really did commit perjury way back in 1998?

Wait, who is Lois Lerner?

I want to change that. My goal is to try to make complex political issues simple and relevant to us as college students.

In other words, I want to show why politics matter.

Hard as it is in this extremist

environment, I will try to be as neutral as possible.

Will I still be somewhat biased?

Sure.

We all are.

But, and this is a very important "but", I will not be writing a polemic (polemic: noun a strong written or spoken attack against someone else's opinions, beliefs or practices).

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, I promise, absolutely promise that I will keep it interesting.

If I ever get boring, I'll quit on the spot. So here's how this column will work.

The first half will be a background and breakdown

of the chosen topic: guns, immigration, the midterm elections, etc.

The second half will be my opinion on the issue.

You don't have to read both sections; for that matter, you don't have to read either.

As the writer, of course, I hope you will, but I'm under no delusions: many people are sick of opinion and that's fine with me.

Hopefully, this will be fun. Writing is, contrary to public opinion, fun.

Politics can be fun.

Let's make it that way.

So, then, look for a column next week on...well, I can't give it all away, can I?



Junior criminal justice major Nick Walter hopes to become a civil liberties lawyer, FBI special agent, and eventually the President of the United States.

Questions? Comments? Want to write your own column? Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com

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Grizzlies on the Prowl



*"What's the last
horror movie you
watched?"*



**Leah Bowles, undecided,
freshman**

"You're Next. It was okay, very gory and I fell asleep halfway through it."



**Justin Ballard, information
technology, freshman**

"Nightmare on Elm Street back in 2010. It seems that modern horror movies are simply cash grabs."



**Farah Zwen, pre-med,
sophomore**

"Annabelle. It was a really good movie because you couldn't warp your mind on what was happening. It was amazingly scary."



**Dominic Messina, chemistry,
sophomore**

"I saw Annabelle. It was very anticlimactic, and could have been better. Horror movies were better back in the day."

— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury,
Photographer

POLICE FILES

Bicycle stolen at Recreation and Athletic Complex

OUPD met with a student Oct. 6, who said his bike was stolen.

The student said he locked his bike behind the Recreation and Athletic Complex Sept. 30 at 6:00 p.m. When he returned the next morning, his bike was missing.

The bike is gray with black handlebars. The student also said the lock for his bike was gone.

The student said the bike was \$600 when he bought it new, though now it would cost \$200.

The student called Oct. 10 and said that his friend had borrowed the bike.

Arrest warrant in Auburn Hills

Officers were dispatched to Auburn Hills for an arrest warrant Oct. 8 11:00 a.m.

They made contact with the subject. Officers placed handcuffs on the subject and was searched.

While logging the suspect's property, OUPD found a small quantity of marijuana on his belt.

The suspect was issued a citation for marijuana use.

Arrest warrant in Auburn Hills

Two students went to the police station to file a report Oct. 8 at 1:30 a.m. They said that their backpacks were stolen from Bumpers in the Oakland Center around 12:50 a.m.

They said they left their backpacks to play ping pong and when they returned, they were gone. They said they asked others in the area if they had seen the backpacks. They were told that two males sat by their backpacks then left with them, but they were unable to give any further descriptions.

OUPD gave them identity theft paperwork at the station.

— Compiled by Josh Soltman,
Copy Editor

GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

The Oakland Post is looking for satirical scribes, witty writers and comical columnists. Submit your best efforts to editor@oaklandpostonline.com and you could get published for the world to see.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

LEFT: Students who filled out screening sheets received a score, which is supposed to determine susceptibility for alcoholism. **TOP:** A student tries to walk in a straight line, toe-to-heel, while wearing 'drunk-vision' goggles. **BOTTOM:** GHC displayed pamphlets that covered information about topics covered at the event.

Don't sink from the drink

Event offers health screenings and advice on positive ways for college students to approach alcohol consumption

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Through years of surveying Oakland University freshmen, Graham Health Center estimates that freshman will be drinking three to four times per week, upon starting classes on campus.

Dr. David Schwartz, Director of Counseling at Oakland University's Graham Health Center (GHC) said that OU compares favorably to other universities across the country when it comes to freshman drinking expectations and overall substance abuse.

"We don't preach," said Schwartz. "We want people to be healthy and have a healthy relationship with alcohol."

GHC's effective, informative and overall friendly approach to educating students on substance abuse is demonstrated during its "screenings" each

semester.

Most recently, GHC engaged campus in an alcohol screening, taking place Wednesday Oct. 8.

GHC does several screenings throughout the year, including those for depression and eating disorders, said Schwartz.

These screenings have been going on for the last 15 to 20 years, but Schwartz said that with the help of student volunteers, participation numbers have doubled each year.

Originally enlisting the help of exclusively psychology undergraduates, Schwartz has extended the offer to sociology majors and more recently, undergraduates of the nursing school, in addition to the Psychology Honors Society and the Active Minds OU club.

In return for assisting GHC with the distribution of alcohol screening forms to students, the volunteers receive hands-on training with licensed

"We don't preach. We want people to be healthy and have a healthy relationship with alcohol,"

David Schwartz
Director of Counseling at Graham Health Center

psychologists, allowing them to obtain professional training on a personal and individual level.

This year with the help of Schwartz's volunteers, 217 people were screened by taking the nationally utilized 10-question survey called "Audit."

"It's a fun way to approach alcohol screening," said Schwartz, explaining that the survey consists of questions ranging from family history of addictiveness to alcohol, to drunk driving records, to personal struggles with al-

cohol related issues.

"We're getting people to think about their behaviors," Schwartz said.

One alcohol screening takes place each semester: right before midterms in the fall and right before spring break in the winter.

In addition to these screenings, surveys are available online as well, for students who missed their opportunity while on campus.

While increasing student's knowledge of how to live life healthily and engage responsibly in a relationship with alcohol, Schwartz says that one of the main goals of the screening is to get the word out to students about GHC and the services it offers.

"We encourage students to come see us, talk to us, come for one session to have to bounce ideas off of," said Dr. Schwartz. "We have a great staff here, with licensed psychologists, [and] there's something for everybody."

Campus police phones are singing the blues



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

Due to a need for system updates, several blue light phones on campus will bear these signs until next semester.

Sean Gardner
Staff Intern

Out of Order — the sign that hangs on several blue light phones around the Oakland University campus.

The blue light phones are police-linked phones that anyone on campus can use to call in an emergency. Found in the parking decks, buildings and dorms, there are 83 of these phones on campus.

"The ones that don't work, unfortunately, are the ones that are most visible," said Chief of Police Mark Gordon. The visible ones being the blue light phones found next to sidewalks on campus.

The reason the lights are not working is simple: they are outdated and need to be updated to a new system. However, updating the system can be expensive. Several hundred thousand dollars, in fact, according to Gordon.

Funding was approved in late summer and the campus has been tackling small areas to convert the phone lines to the updated system.

For the blue light phones, more of them will be working between now and Christmas.

Seeing working blue lights reassures students, which is another reason why Gordon said he wants to keep them around.

"Across the country, there is very low use of them," Gordon said. "People like them, it makes them feel safe because they know it's a 911 line should they need it."

However, students feel uneasy with them being off and were upset they were not told about them being out of order.

"[It makes me feel] scared, honestly, not that I think they're ever used. But still," said Takkara Griffin, a sophomore living in the dorms.

Although there are few reported incidents, OUPD said it does not want to take out the blue lights, especially when funding has been approved.

Safety tips:

Use the buddy system:

There is safety in numbers, especially after the sun goes down.

Stay in well-lit areas:

Try to always park under a light and at night, stay on illuminated pathways.

Be on the alert:

Carry a key in between the knuckles, and consistently survey the area. Avoid talking on the phone, as it lowers awareness of surroundings.

Keep valuables at home:

Or leave them either covered in a locked vehicle or secured in a personal bag. Don't invite thieves by flashing valuables around.

To report any unusual activity:

contact the OUPD at 248-370-3333.

To request an escort through the 'Safewalk' program: contact the OUPD at 248-370-3331.

Tips compiled by Morgan Dean,
Copy Editor



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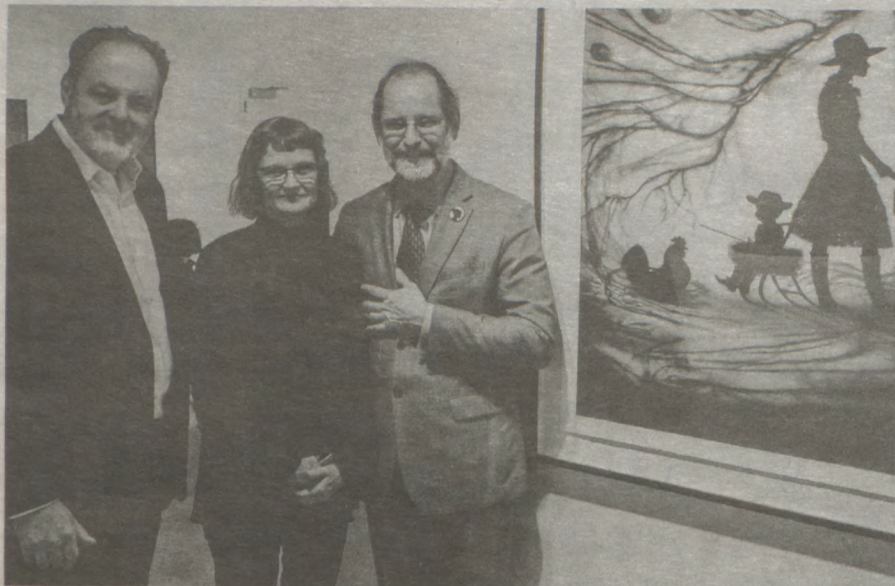


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New art exhibit features work inspired by dreams



Jasmine French / The Oakland Post

Susan Kae Grant, artist, professor and Head of Photography and Book of Arts at Texas Women's University, has a piece titled "Night Journey" on display in OU's art exhibit in Wilson Hall.

Artist's piece on display at OU influenced by the science of REM sleep

Jasmine French
Staff Reporter

Students and staff can now experience dreamlike artwork through the new exhibit, "Shadows of the Invisible," on Oct. 11, located on the main floor in room 208 of Wilson Hall. The gallery is free for the public and will feature this exhibit through Nov. 23.

One artist in particular made a significant presence at the showcase.

Artist, professor and Head of Photography and Book of Arts at Texas Women's University, Susan Kae Grant, spoke during the Artist's Talk lecture event and expressed how happy she was to be back in the Midwest. Grant is also a former professor at Wayne State University.

Grant obtained her Master of Fine Arts in photography and book arts in 1979 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Associate professor of Art and Art History, Claude Baillargeon, curated the exhibit. "I had seen an exhibit of her work and thought, wow this is extraordinary," Baillargeon said.

According to Baillargeon, Grant's work was well in line with creating images of the invisible.

Grant's piece, "Night Journey," is a part of the new exhibit. "I wanted to create a

space about dreaming," Grant said. "As a child, I'd wake up in the morning and always tell my mother I went somewhere. I would recite my dreams."

Grant began photographing props and models in her Dallas, Texas studio for the project in 1999. "The goal was to take 100 images," Grant said.

"Night Journey" was inspired by research conducted at Southwestern Medical Center Sleep Laboratory. "I searched for scientists," Grant said. "I've always had a real strong connection and curiosity to science." Grant collaborated on the project with sleep scientist, Dr. John Herman.

"I was tape recorded in the laboratory and awoken from REM sleep," Grant said. When awakened, she was asked to describe the images of her dreams. REM means rapid eye movement.

According to Grant, the notion of an artist creating work is to find people who could support projects, by providing information rather than money.

Dick Goody, professor in painting and director of OU's art gallery, attended the event.

"It's not just about capturing images through a lens," Goody said. "Capturing the effects of light is not just about taking selfies. It's very layered."

According to Goody, OU's art gallery is equivalent to a museum. "We have a mission statement emphasizing excellence and the enrichment of education and enjoyment of the arts," he said.

For more information visit www.ouartgallery.org.

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Why tuition rose for the upper class

Students continue dishing out the dollars - because the state won't

By Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

Instead of paying the \$386.75 per credit hour as they did last year, OU's resident juniors and seniors are now paying \$410.25 per hour. Resident graduate and doctoral tuition has also moved up, going from \$617.50 per credit hour to \$637.25.

This 6 percent tuition hike happened after the Board of Trustees approved the new budget at its July 1 meeting.

This is not the first time students have experienced recently. In June 2013 the Board approved a 3.75 percent increase for in-state undergraduates and a 3.74 percent increase for graduate students, as reported by The Oakland Press. Students in the William Beaumont School of Medicine began paying 4 percent more per credit hour for the 2013-14 school year.

Why, exactly, are these hikes happening?

Let's break it down.

Taxing the students

"Several years ago, particularly with the economic downturn in the late 2000's, the state started to see some real decline in revenues," said Cassandra Ulbrich, vice president of the State Board of Education, referring to the migration of Michigan residents.

Due to hits in business and real estate, these residents flocked to other areas of the country, resulting in less contributions to the tax structure and the state's decision to cut and shift the income tax rate.

"Unfortunately these things have contributed to a scenario that we find ourselves in now where the general fund budget really has taken quite a hit over the last several years," Ulbrich said.

Out of the five main areas the general fund pays for — local government, public safety, health care, roads and education — Ulbrich said higher education was "on the chopping block" because there's an alternative to make up revenue.

That alternative? Students.

According to John Beaghan, Oakland's vice president for Finance and Administration and treasurer to the Board of Trustees, the university gets most of its revenue from tuition. In his general fund budget and tuition rates presentation to the Board he shared

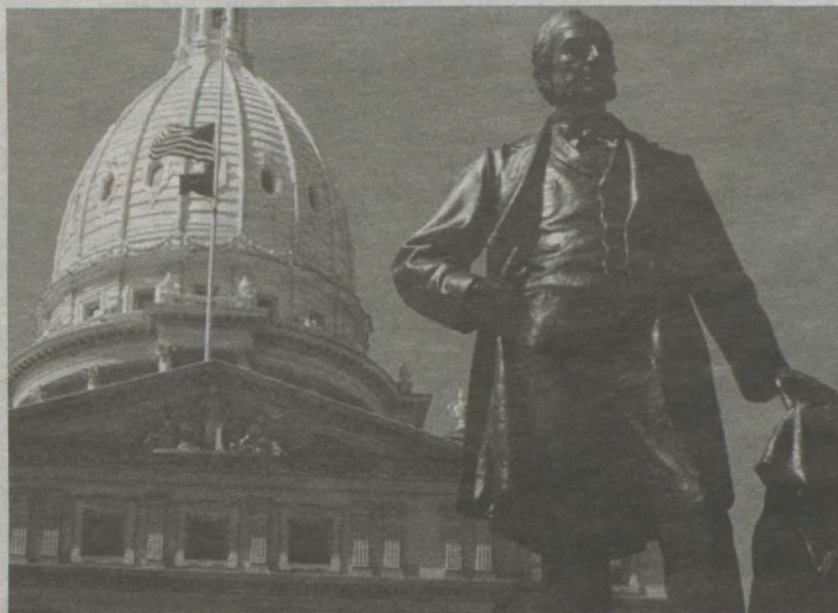


Photo from oakland.edu

Contacting the office of government and community relations is just one of the many ways for OU students to get involved at the capitol and stay informed on state relations.

the current revenue: 81 percent from tuition, 18 from base state appropriations and 1 from other sources (such as donations).

This is nearly a reversal from 1972, when 26 percent of OU's revenue came from tuition and 71 from appropriations.

"It really has amounted to a tax shift onto primarily young people who want to continue their education," Ulbrich said.

What you can do about it

Ulbrich said the most important thing students can do to change this is to stay informed and engaged with the state.

"Register to vote, and then vote," Ulbrich said. "Beyond that, you can always reach out to your state legislator, state senator and state representative and let your opinions be known. They answer to the voters."

Rochelle Black, vice president of Oakland's office of government and community relations, said much of the same thing.

"Communicate with elected officials ... tell your story. That's the best thing that you can do," Black said.

Black said she and her team try to keep Oakland engaged in as many areas as possible, reaching out to officials

to represent OU. Their goal, she said, is to try to be as influential as possible, and anyone can help.

"It can be anything, coffee somewhere, or breakfast or lunch or dinner," Black said. "You have a conversation (with an official or candidate) about OU and just higher education, you talk about how important higher education is to Michigan's future, and then you can start delving down into your specific school — then you can sell your story."

One way students can sell their story is at OU Day at the Capitol, which Black's office provides each year. It allows interested students an opportunity to have conversations with and listen to speakers in Lansing.

A day has not been announced for the event, but students should look for it in spring 2015.

"That is one thing we do that is very visible," Black said. "I would like to do more."

For now, Black said she recommends students stay updated, informed and interested.

Contact Managing Editor Kaylee Kean at managing@oaklandpostonline.com.

YOUR OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Visit www.oakland.edu/govrel for more information, or stop by their office at 123 Wilson Hall.

Meet the members: Rochelle Black, Vice President; Michelle Lange, State Relations Director; Claudia DiMercurio, Executive Assistant; and Jacqueline Racchi, Executive Secretary.

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Find more information at www.oakland.edu/bot, where each meeting agenda and the information shared is archived for anyone to view.

Visit the Board's office in 203 Wilson Hall.

Attend one of the Board's meetings, which are held in the Elliott Hall Auditorium.

The remaining fall semester meetings are on October 15, 3 p.m. (audit committee); October 22, 3:30 p.m.; and December 1, 2 p.m.

OU STATE APPROPRIATIONS, 2005 – 2015 (ACCORDING TO BLACK AND BEAGHAN)

2005: \$47,261,300

2006: \$51,530,500

2007: \$46,613,614

2008: \$51,932,900

2009: \$52,452,200

2010: \$52,220,800

2011: \$50,761,000

2012: \$43,145,000

2013: \$43,145,000

2014: \$45,651,600

2015: \$48,364,100

New legislators elected to OUSC

Student congress open to fresh ideas from all students to improve campus life

Ali DeRees
Campus & Administration Editor

Two new legislators were elected into the Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC) and three bills were read at the Oct. 13 meeting.

Joshua Kuruvilla and Katrina Cotton were unanimously voted in and joined the 10 other legislators belonging to OUSC.

Kuruvilla stressed that he wants people to know that as a legislator, they can come to him with any concerns they have regarding life on campus.

"I'll be the person to advocate for you," Kuruvilla said. "I have so much more to offer than just becoming a (committee) member."

Cotton is currently part of OUSC's

Marketing Committee as well as the Environmental Health and Wellness Committee. She works at Disability Support Services on campus and wants to create events for disability awareness.

As a legislator, another one of Cotton's initiatives is to create a mentor program for freshman in which they would receive a junior or senior mentor to help in their college transition.

On Monday, three bills were presented at Congress to go through their first reading.

C.B. 14-07 is a bill sponsored by Legislator Kristine Nixon to create a scholarship for Oakland University students who are actively involved in philanthropy on and off campus. The "Unsung Hero Award" will be a \$750

scholarship to such students.

"The people we are targeting are very specific," Nixon said.

C.B. 14-08 proposes to replace the OUSC banner outside of Vandenberg with a new one in an effort to rebrand. Legislator Brittany Hall sponsors the bill.

C.B. 14-09 is also sponsored by Legislator Hall and proposes to purchase a table for OUSC members for the "Etiquette Dinner."

OUSC meets every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center. All students are welcome.

For more information visit <http://www.oakland.edu/ousc>.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Student Congress

Courtesy of Oakland University

OUSC Countdown

13 Committees

12 Legislators

11 Executive Board Members

Providing a light for those feeling trapped in the dark

Oona Goodin-Smith
Editor-in-Chief

There is a quote from J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" that reads "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to turn on the light."

This, however, assumes that there is a light to be turned on in the first place.

For those suffering from depression, sometimes this "light" seems unattainable.

"A lot of times it involves feelings of conflict, loneliness, helplessness, affects sleep or appetite in either direction, and feeling down more days than not," said Dr. David Schwartz, director of the Oakland University Counseling Center.

"When we have our healthy ups and downs, they don't last for days. Everybody's different [in their symptoms], though. People don't fit neatly in boxes."

Schwartz explained that now, during the second or third week of October, in the

midst of the seasons changing and the stress and pressure of approaching midterms, students' lives can prove especially challenging.

Because of the heightened stress levels, the OUCC sponsors mid-semester depression and anxiety screenings in the Oakland Center to aid any suffering students.

"We usually get 10 to 15 direct referrals [from the screenings], and a residual 30 or 40 people in the weeks after," said Schwartz. "About once each year we catch someone who is very suicidal that day, and bring them to the office to intervene."

These emergency cases, Schwartz said, have increased dramatically over the last five years, perhaps due, in part, to a lower stigma of mental illness but also higher stress levels.

"Emergency case" is often synonymous with a student feeling suicidal.

"A few years ago, after Corey Jackson [an OU student] died by suicide at OU, it woke a lot of people up to the fact that something needs to be done

"More than half of all college students experience severe depression sometime within their college careers."

Dr. David Schwartz
Director, Oakland University

[about student suicide]," said Erica Wallace, program manager of Grizzlies Response: Awareness and Suicide Prevention (GRASP).

According to its website, the GRASP Program aims to "train faculty, staff, and students to effectively address mental health, build community relationships, and educate and provide resources to the OU community," and is funded through the Garrett L. Smith Suicide Prevention Grant, awarded to Oakland in fall 2012 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

"So far, we've trained around 1,200 individuals on suicide awareness through our evidence-based practices, and

we offer these to any student orgs, faculty groups, departments or individuals interested," said Wallace.

"We are also looking to focus on the mental illness component by introducing a mental health first aid class," she said. "It's internationally-recognized and really gives participants an overview of mental disorders and how to treat them."

"Research is pretty clear that more than half of all college students experience severe depression sometime within their college careers to where it impacts their functioning," said Schwartz. "That means over half of OU's campus is experiencing this at some point."

However, Schwartz had good news, as well.

"Studies show that close to 90 percent of all people who walk into therapy walk out feeling happier and more fulfilled, so the message there is that it works," he said.

"We're here, even if you just need to talk for fifteen minutes or about a friend," Schwartz said. "We're here for students."

WHERE TO GO

Contact the OUCC at 248.370.3465 or visit it in the Graham Health Center. Find more information at www.oakland.edu/OUCC.

The SEHS Counseling Center, which offers no-cost personal and career counseling, is also available for students at 250A Pawley Hall. Call at 248.370.2633.

TIPS FROM THE SEHS COUNSELING CENTER

Share your feelings and thoughts with someone you feel you can trust and who cares for you.

Take a bath or shower.

Take a walk.

Write for a few minutes each day on your thoughts and feelings, and consider sharing these writings.

Eat healthy. Practice meditation, breathe deeply and get adequate sleep.

Support comes out at monologue event

LGBTQIA community members share personal experiences

Kevin Teller
Staff Intern

Souls were bared and stories shared when the Gender and Sexuality Center (GSC) and the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) hosted OU's annual Coming Out Monologues on Thursday, Oct. 9.

"We want all students of all cultures to get a glimpse of what it is like for an LGBTQIA+ person to be struggling with the coming out process in hopes that it strengthens our bonds as human beings," said GSA President Becca Reichenbach.

Held in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center, students performed a variety of styles of monologues: comical, insightful, somber or somewhere in between. Students had the option to perform a previously written monologue that they obtained with permission to perform or they could write their own.

"I would definitely say we have a strong LGBTQIA community here at OU," student Bri Lee said. "We're always looking for more people to join."

Lee was one of the performers at the event, making it her third time taking to the stage for the Coming Out Monologues. Lee is also an active supporter of the things that GSA and GSC have to offer on campus, such as Friday night's bonfire event and the annual drag show.

The event was created in honor of National Coming Out Week, which took place from Oct 5 thru Oct. 11. The last day of that week is the official National Coming Out Day and holds a lot of significance to those in the LGBTQIA community.

"We are here so that people can talk about their coming out stories and other stories as well," said second-year performer and GSA Secretary Ashleigh Shoemaker. "What their sexuality means to them, how it affected them, their life, stuff like that."



Kaylee Kean / The Oakland Post

Freshman Cheyanne Kramer spoke of her personal journey. She was one of the 15 students who shared their deeply personal experiences.

Many of the monologues given by students were personal and delved into each performer's past experiences and the times when each of them came out publicly.

Students gave performances in which they addressed many tough issues: family, sexuality and a sense of self-worth and self-belonging were some of the topics covered.

"Love your body they way your mother loved your baby feet," said one monologue speaker who focused on self-harm and self-deprecation as a means of release. "And remember, this is important, you are worth more than who you attract."

The subjects for the monologues ranged from light-hearted to strongly evocative and emotional. In any case, the importance of self-expression was a key part of each monologue.

"Every story has its complexities," Shoemaker said in her own performance. "Today I want to talk about something

"I think it is rewarding for the person giving the monologue to feel like they finally have a voice, and really, to help those who are too scared or hesitant to be themselves."

Becca Reichenbach
GSA President

that is maybe not so happy. I want to talk a little about sexuality, about how it can be fluid. How over time, you may come to realize things about yourself that you might not have been prepared for. Things that make you uncomfortable, or even ashamed."

Several students brought up tales from their own past in original performances. They told of their own internal and external struggles that they have gone through, tales of acceptance and denial. Tales of experiences that tested the

human spirit.

As well as being emotionally based, these monologues were meant to be informative. Students raised awareness of trials that face many students within the LGBTQIA community each day.

"Have you ever thought about what it's like to have a wall separating you from the outside world?" said speaker Cheyanne Kramer. "I don't think I can say what makes me so strange. Because I'm scared. Because even though I'm strong, I just can't bring myself to tear down these walls yet."

While some topics discussed may have had a darker tone to them, the night was not without rays of hope.

"I think it is rewarding for the person giving the monologue to feel like they finally have a voice, and really, to help raise the voices of those who are too scared or hesitant to be themselves," Reichenbach said.

Through these performances, students have the power to

take hateful ideas that are thrown at them on a daily basis and transform them into inspirational examples of the will of the human spirit.

There was love in the room that night, as shown by everyone's continual support. Those in attendance included people on all levels of involvement with GSA, GSC and OU.

"It's really nice to have somewhere that's welcoming, and the people who are there are obviously people in your same community who understand you," Shoemaker said of the GSA. "It's just really nice to have that support system in place."

For more information on other upcoming events, email Becca Reichenbach at rreiche@oakland.edu or the GSC at gsc@oakland.edu.

Contact Staff Intern Kevin Teller at kjteller@oakland.edu.

A PLAY IN THE LIFE

Review by Andrew Wernette

Photos by Danielle Cojocari

Design by Benjamin DerMiner

The Department of Music, Theatre and Dance is currently showing the musical "The Life" in Varner Studio Theatre.

Directed by theatre professor Fred Love, the musical is a tale of desire, despair and brutality in New York City's gritty side streets. Here, a network of organized prostitution thrives. No one is totally innocent.

The scene opens with the sexy ensemble number "Check It Out," followed by an introduction from Devin Price as the slick hustler Jojo. The mood is then set with the song "Use What You Got."

Cassady Temple plays the protagonist Queen, a red-haired prostitute who hopes to soon break away from "the life." Temple instills in her character both the fire and the fear of one who struggles against the male-dominated sex trade.

Queen's discontent is mirrored only in her co-worker Sonja, a long-running prostitute played by the powerful Olivia Griffin. Among the other women, Sonja and Queen become close supports for each other

as their lives begin to get rougher. Where Queen retains the slightest spark of hope, Sonja exudes a soulful sorrow from years of working the profession.

Garrett Dale Markgraf plays Fleetwood, a shambling fellow whose relationship with Queen wavers between being her boyfriend and her pimp. Any illusion that theirs is a strong romance is quickly dashed, though, when Queen discovers Fleetwood has spent half of her savings to support his cocaine addiction. A fight ensues and Queen storms off, leaving Fleetwood to deteriorate into a more abusive character as the show progresses.

The situation is further complicated by the ragtag group of pimps and prostitutes on the scene. Brian Baylor gives a convincing performance as the cold, merciless pimp boss Memphis, who serves as the musical's ultimate antagonist.

The performance deals with sex, coercion, strong language and violence. Queen succumbs to the abuse and deceit of those around her, especially from Fleetwood as he starts to act more like the other pimps. Markgraf's character forces the audience to question



(Clockwise from top right) Cassady Temple and Garrett Dale Markgraf play Queen and Fleetwood; Emma Griffith and Devin Price celebrate some cold, hard success; Jaclene Wilk and Brian Baylor bring the hooker boss Memphis to the corner; the hookers belt out their

his moral standing: is Fleetwood as cold and manipulative as the other pimps, or is he just a pathetic bloke of circumstance deserving of the least bit of sympathy?

In fact, the vocal performances seem to be the only thing to truly rise above this underworld. Both Temple and Griffin deliver stunning renditions of musical numbers like "The Oldest Profession" and "My Friend," while Baylor conveys Memphis' deadpan lust for power with "Don't Take Much" and "My Way or the Highway." Everyone else does equally well, with the orchestra in the background right on point.

"It's a really emotional show," Temple said. This is her first main stage performance.

She explained that she and her cast mates began rehearsing for the musical in the spring.

"I was just kind of preparing

myself all summer," she said, adding, "It's been amazing."

Griffin was likewise thankful for her role in the musical.

"I'm so lucky to have this one," she said. "I'm in love with being Sonja."

She said that she was able to connect with her character through Sonja's disillusionment with life.

"I'm definitely sick and tired with a lot of things with the world," Griffin said.

"The Life" will continue to be shown from Oct. 15-18 at 8 p.m., with a 10 a.m. showing on Oct. 17 and a 2 p.m. showing on Oct. 19. For more information, go to oakland.edu/mtd.



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and Devin Price
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ut their finest



PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



The volleyball team defeated Valparaiso on Oct. 10.



In arguably their biggest victory in program history, the Grizzlies upset Ohio State in soccer last Wednesday.



Nowshin Chowdhury/The Oakland Post

SPORTING BLITZ

Jake Alsko
Web Editor

Volleyball

The Golden Grizzlies came back from a one-set deficit to defeat Valparaiso Oct. 10, 19-25, 25-20, 25-21, 25-18. Cassie Pelloni had 16 kills with Jessica Dood and Sammy Condon adding 15 and 11 kills. Taylor Humm tallied 27 digs, while Melissa Deatsch (19), Ciara Schultz (11) and Allia Knight (10) also finished with double-digit digs. The next day, Oakland dropped its first Horizon League match in a sweep to UIC 25-21, 25-22, 25-17; the Golden Grizzlies now sit with a 12-8 (4-1) record. Pelloni recorded 13 kills and Deatsch added 12 kills and nine digs. Ciara Schultz had 33 assists. Oakland hit just .183 to UIC's .340. The Golden Grizzlies play next Friday Oct. 17 on the road against Green Bay at 7 p.m. CT.

Men's basketball

Greg Kampe announced that redshirt freshman Artis Cleveland has been suspended indefinitely for a violation of team policies. Cleveland, a center, sat out last season after transferring from Mississippi Valley State.

Football club

Oakland was granted a forfeit victory after U-M Flint's club president canceled the remainder of the team's 2014 season. Oakland now sits at 4-0, with its next game at Miami (OH) Oct. 18.

Men's soccer

The Golden Grizzlies improved to 3-0-1 in Horizon League play Oct. 11 following a 1-0 road victory over Cleveland State. Freshman goalkeeper Wes Mink posted his third-straight shutout in a stout defensive effort that saw Cleveland State notch only one shot on goal. The only goal of the night came in the 53rd minute on a CSU own goal as Oakland's Matt Dudley shot a corner kick headed by teammate Cody Archibald off of a Viking defender into the net. The Oakland defense has not allowed a goal in over 309 minutes of play since Oct. 1.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

To share and to inspire was the womens' soccer team goal for their 2014 Breast Cancer Awareness Game.

On game days we wear pink

Pink Game raises awareness and wins

Matt Saulino
Staff Reporter

Alice Palmer and the Oakland Golden Grizzlies defeated the University of Illinois-Chicago during Saturday night's Pink Day to support women in sports by the score of 1-0.

The Grizzlies are now 2-2-0 in conference play, and starting to build a little momentum.

"It was a really well-executed game plan. We (other coaches) talked to the girls about taking care of the flanks, and getting a lot of chances from there," head coach Margaret Saurin said.

The team did generate those chances, winning the majority of the 50/50 balls and turning that into added pressure on counter-attacks.

Oakland outshot the Flames 7-3 in the first half and ended the game ahead 16-6 in that category.

Junior Alice Palmer had six of those shots and scored the game's only goal.

She found herself in front of the net and bested UIC goalie Kelly Fritz on the right side.

"I think it was a great performance by everyone. It's everything we worked on all week, and it is finally starting to show in our game," Palmer said. "It's getting us the result we need."

The coach is pleased with the win, but still knows the team has improvements to make.

"We wanted to get the three points; that's the most important thing," Saurin said. "We're right back in the mix."

Saurin wants to build off of that.

"We're able to create chances, but not we're not finishing them," Saurin said. "We are getting more people in the box, which is something we've hadn't done enough of in the past. We just need to be more clinical in front of goal."

Palmer almost had her second goal of the night minutes after her first goal on a cross from teammate Claudia Krupicz, but she was unable to get a clean foot on it.

Samantha Messina forced OU goalkeeper Alison Holland to

dive to her right to prevent the equalizing goal from scoring.

Holland recorded her second career shutout finishing the night with three saves.

Golden Grizzly senior Jenna Taylor didn't have any touches in the game. However, she played a big role in organizing the night for the team.

It was Pink Night at the soccer stadium to help raise breast cancer awareness and it was Taylor who did help to get it going.

"I really wanted to do a women in sports day because sports mean so much to me; it helped me bond with my dad. I don't know what I would do without it and becoming a collegiate athlete made it even bigger for me," Taylor said.

"I just wanted to share that with other girls and inspire them."

The Grizzlies were visibly inspired and carried it to a 1-0 win.

The team plans to travel to Wisconsin to take on the Milwaukee Panthers next Saturday.

New basketball transfer ready to fill big shoes

OU hopes he can be an outside threat, says coach

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

As the Oakland University mens' basketball team prepares for a new season without Travis Bader, it looks to get shooting help from newly acquired Max Hooper.

Hooper is a red shirt junior who transferred from St. John's University to OU on March 26.

Since he graduated in the spring, Hooper is eligible to play for OU this upcoming season.

He played for Harvard his freshman year before he transferred to St. John's his sophomore year.

Hooper is a 6'-6" guard/forward who has the ability to shoot the ball from a long distance at a high percentage.

Even though he only averaged 3.2 points and nine minutes a game for St. John's last season, OU hopes he can be an outside threat like Travis Bader was.

Hooper might not be able to put up the lofty numbers Bader put up in his time at OU, but he is still projected to be a starter.

"Anytime a player who accomplishes what Travis was able to accomplish at Oakland, there are going to be questions as to who replaces what that particular person was able to do," said Hooper.

"Shooting the ball from the three point line is definitely something I pride myself in, so I am excited for the opportunity this year."

Before he played for Harvard and St. John's, Hooper was recruited by OU.

This previous recruitment, along with basketball coach Greg Kampe, was a big part of deciding to come to OU this

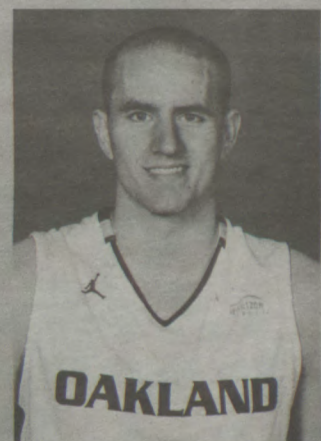


Photo courtesy OU Athletics

Max Hooper, now playing for OU, has played for Harvard and St. John's.

season, said Hooper.

"The key factor in my decision to come to Oakland was the opportunity to play for Coach Kampe," said Hooper. "Having been recruited by Oakland in the past, I was familiar with the program."

"When I decided to transfer from St. John's and Oakland reached out to me, I knew it was where I wanted to be."

The OU mens' basketball season starts at home against Ferris State on Nov. 1.

They will also face the likes of Michigan State, Arizona, Pittsburg, Clemson and Maryland before their Horizon League opener against Valparaiso on Jan. 2.

Entering his last two seasons of eligibility, Hooper is certainly looking forward to this season.

"I'm looking forward to winning as many games as we possibly can and coming together as a family," said Hooper.

"The coaches and my teammates have been very excited to have me on the team."

More information on OU's men basketball team can be found at ougrizzlies.com.



Nowshin Chodhury / The Oakland Post

Soccer players participating in the Pink Day games thanked the young female athletes for helping with the equipment.

Student-athletes teach girls the spirit of sports

Karine Celis
Staff Reporter

On Saturday morning the O'rena filled with hundreds of young aspiring female athletes wearing pink shirts, anxious to interact with the Oakland University student-athletes and learn a new sport.

The Women in Sports Day started with little girls coming through the doors of the Athletics Department holding hands with their parents, signs of nervousness and excitement in their faces. They were received by the members of the tennis team, who gave each girl a book full of stickers to create their own nametag.

The girls seemed to be more confident after sticking the nametag to their brand new Oakland University pink shirts provided by the student athletes at the registration table. They were then directed into the O'rena where Jenna Taylor, the mastermind behind this event, instructed them to occupy one of the stations on the basketball court.

As the hours went on, the groups were taking form and the activities started. Taylor Humm, a senior from the volleyball team, described her role at this event as "teaching little girls how to play (volleyball)."

That was the theme for all of the stations. Women's soccer, women's basketball, softball and golf all hosted a 20 minute clinic for each group of girls that was rotating around.

Athletes were very engaged with the girls from the beginning to the end of the event and seemed to enjoy it just as much as the participants.

For some athletes, this experience was a little more personal.

"Working with the girls reminded me of how I started playing sports: going to camps, listening to older girls and their advice, and practicing," Humm said.

According to Taylor, "at one point, I saw a tennis player goofing around with a soccer ball or a basketball or even playing catch. I thought it was cool to look around at all these kids and college girls

trying to participate in things that they may not have tried before."

Around 95 volunteers helped with this event. Teams such as women's soccer, women's golf, volleyball, softball, women's basketball, tennis and dance donated their time to a successful day.

After the clinics finished, the girls were taken to Elliott Room where they had an arts and crafts session with the student-athletes with the purpose of designing game day signs for the competitions taking place later in the day. Then they headed to the speech from Alfreeda Goff before closing the day with a tailgate that led to the OU volleyball and soccer games.

The turnout was so good that Taylor said she is considering planning the same event for next year already.

"I would love to run an event like this again. I am considering jumpstarting the event for next year soon and hopefully making it an annual event."

Chris Meny fills new role in athletic department

Melissa Deutsch
Staff Intern

The Oakland University Athletic Department has hired Chris Meny to fill the newly created position of assistant athletic director for athletic performance.

This position will have a main responsibility to oversee sports medicine, strength and conditioning, and nutrition. It will have other responsibilities including the supervision of each sport, contacting physicians, physical therapists and other medical personnel.

Holly Kerstner, the assistant director of athletics for student-athletes, said she supports the creation of this position.

"I believe it is essential for the coordination of care. The three areas that affect student-athlete well-being will be working as one area, monitored and managed by one person," Kerstner said.

A search committee comprised of a combination of coaches, student-athletes, administration and medical personnel has been created to interview potential candidates and find the best person for the job. It was announced Wednesday, Oct. 1 that the search committee had found that worthy candidate and that he would begin work Wednesday Oct. 8.

Meny stood out amongst the other candidates during the interview process.

He comes to OU from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, where he spent six years as the associate athletic trainer. However, Meny thinks most of the experiences that will help him come from his years as director of athletic performance with the PDL soccer team, the Jersey Express.

"I have a desire to take the science of performance and integrate it into an everyday model for our student-athletes," Meny said.

The search committee shares in Meny's confidence. John Musachio, the head baseball coach was on the hiring committee that interviewed the potential candidates.

"I feel Mr. Meny will be outstanding at his position due to his ability to communicate effectively, lead from a platform of high ethical standards and his creativity," Musachio said.



You've got mad skills, bro

OU skate club travels to New York to compete

Jacob Mulka
Photographer

The Collegiate Skate Tour took place this past weekend on Oct. 12, at Astoria Skate Park in Queens, New York.

The Collegiate Skate Tour is a skateboarding tour started by Keegan, the head of the North Carolina State Club.

Many other colleges and universities with active skate clubs have partnered with the Collegiate Skate Tour.

Oakland University's skate club, operated by Chris Arellanes, has been a part of the the Collegiate Skate Tour since the it began.

The tour's main purpose is to give college students the ability to travel and compete in regional skate contests while remaining in school.

Skateboarders who are passionate about there sport can enter recognized contests while still being able to maintain an education.

After driving 10 hours from Michigan to New York, the rest of the OU skate club found themselves in a downtown apartment in the heart of Manhattan.

The OU skate club provides opportunities to students that wish to travel and may not have the funds to do so on their own.

The contest was filled with skateboarders from all over New York competing.

The contest was set up in jam format, which means four skaters skate the course at the same time.

The success and turnout of the trip means that OU will likely be returning to the event next year.

Photos: Scenes from the New York Collegiate Skate Tour





Selah Fischer / The Oakland Post

Maria Gutowski, a freshman hoping to get into the nursing program, performs "One Last Time" by Ariana Grande.

Students show off their skills

Some sang, some laughed, some wowed - and all had fun

Selah Fischer
Staff Reporter

An unexpected rap battle, dirty jokes, magic and a blindfolded Rubik's cube solver were all part of this year's OU's Got Talent, which took place Monday evening.

Guests came out to the Meadow Brook Theatre to watch some of OU's most talented students perform for the Student Program Board's annual event, free for all to attend.

"We've had a lot of fun acts this year, from singing to a comedian and even a guy who does an awesome thing with a Rubik's Cube," said Arkeem Scott, annual events director of the Student Program Board.

Thirty-five students auditioned for this year's show, and only 16 made the cut, according to Scott. Each had five minutes to perform.

Special guest Zach Sherwin, actor, rapper and writer for YouTube phenomenon Epic Rap Battles of History, hosted the event and started the night off with humorous rap songs to get the crowd going.

Then, it was time for the acts to start.

These included some soulful singers, a playful pianist, the Rubik's cube solver and a special Broadway-themed performance by Nicole Armstrong, last year's winner.

Following a 15-minute intermission, more talents were shared, including a magician, comedian and hip hop artist.

And the winner is...

After all of the acts, guests were able to vote on their phones for the fan favorite. Due to there being so many performers, two of the contestants won this award.

These fan favorites were Olivia Griffin, who sang an original song titled "Blues Baby" with her own piano accompaniment, and Marissa Scott, who blew the crowd away with her cover of "Listen" by Beyoncé.

First, second and third place was up to the judges, however.

Third place went to Claire Chernowsky, who amazed both the crowd and judges as she did an Irish dance to "Piper Through the Meadow Straying."

"You're perfect and that doesn't exist, but you exist," said Brittany Hall, one of the judges, in response to Chernowsky's performance.

In second place was Raymond Griffon on the piano. He pleased

the judges with his skilled performance of an original composition that took listeners on an emotional rollercoaster as it went from slow to sassy and back within seconds.

First place was presented to Leonard Krause, freshman acting student, with his witty comedy act. He had the crowd shocked and laughing hysterically with his sexual and stereotype-based jokes.

Kraus said he has been acting for seven years and has won awards for his performances at theatre festivals, but that he has never actually performed like this.

"I've had my fair share of being on stage so it's comfortable up there," Kraus said. "But for standup, that would have been my third time being on stage."

Kraus said he enjoyed the experience and may continue doing standup.

"After that experience, I might try to continue to see where it will take me," he said. "I didn't realize how fun it would be and what kind of reaction I would get."

With so many good performances, the judges had a tough decision to make.

One thing was certain: for the night, at least, OU definitely had talent.

Zombie-fied Zumba livens up the Rec Center

'So much fun, you don't even realize you're working out'

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Costume-clad students gathered in the Rec Center Friday, Oct. 10 for two hours of energetic fun.

"Zomba," a zombie-fied version of the wildly popular Zumba aerobic dance class, took over the Rec Center on campus as the Environmental, Health and Wellness Committee's kickoff event.

"I wanted to tackle health and wellness, and I needed a fun way to do so," said Shawn Czewski, director of the Environmental, Health and Wellness Committee.

"The class is a moderate-to-high intensity cardio workout," Czewski said. "But you don't even realize it because the class is so much fun."

"My interest for health and wellness is derived from owning a business that specializes in nutrition and beauty," Czewski said, making his progression to president of the Environmental, Health and Wellness Committee a no-brainer.

"This is more than an event," said Oakland University Student Congress president Annie Meinberg. "[Zomba]

is an initiative to educate OU students on the importance of staying active and healthy in college."

"Everyone had amazing costumes, and a few students walked away with some fitness bands," Czewski said. "The committee also selected two lucky winners for some Nike running shoes."

Czewski was very pleased with the attendance, raking in over 50 students for both sessions of the class, augmented by the promise of exciting prizes.

"The goal from the start was to encourage students to continue to pay attention to their well-being outside of the event," Czewski said, in hopes that his health and wellness committee will be able to foster a fresh vibrancy toward healthy living on campus.

"I am very proud of [Czewski's] hard work with the event [and] his diligence...is inspiring us all to gain better habits within OUSC that we then transfer to the rest of the campus community," Meinberg said.

"Our committee is dedicated to making a large impact on our first year run," said Czewski, assuring the OU community that there's much more to look forward to when it comes to fun and fresh ways to stay fit and healthy on campus.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Zomba classes mixed fun with health and wellness.

Off to the Big Apple to become a journalist

OU alumna lands job at the New York Times



Photograph courtesy of Karen Workman

Karen Workman, Oakland alumna, pursues her journalistic dreams in New York City.

Sean Miller
Staff Reporter

Alumna Karen Workman has always been passionate about learning and pursuing her dreams. This might explain how she recently started working at the New York Times.

Workman, who graduated from OU in 2007, started at the Times in May 2013. She began on the Metro Desk as a producer, and from there was trained at multiple desks and roles. She found a position after training and took the opportunity.

"I don't really have a typical day at work," Workman said. "We watch the news, and our team does a rotation of who does what. Each of the staffers has one or multiple desks that they work with to get involved in the story planning and identifying audience."

As a Social Media Staff Editor, she works with other editors and staff to get stories out on different social media platforms. They work together to brainstorm different storytelling approaches.

There is never really an end to the amount of news that comes and goes.

"Right now, I like how much I learn," Workman said. "I learn from great journalists and from the newsroom as well. I learn from designers, developers and producers, too."

"I get to be surrounded by really smart people, and there are so many ways that can help you as a journalist."

Workman graduated from Oakland with her bachelor's in journalism and concentration in political sciences, in addition to being active in area news.

Workman also worked for The Oakland Press, where she started out as an editorial assistant and worked her way up to a reporting position. Before long, Workman was the organization's Community Engagement Editor.

"Karen is one of those can-do people who is curious about all things," said Garry Gilbert, director of the journalism department at OU. "She made herself an expert in storytelling through social media. When the chance came to take her talents to New York City from rural Oakland County, she jumped."

"The New York Times is fortunate to have her."

Because of her curiosity and hunger for knowledge, Workman has learned some valuable life lessons while living her life as a journalist.

"I think it's important to be open-minded about where your career and life takes you," she said. "Be open with the twists and turns. I always want to make sure I am learning and growing as much as I can to be a better person and make great stories."

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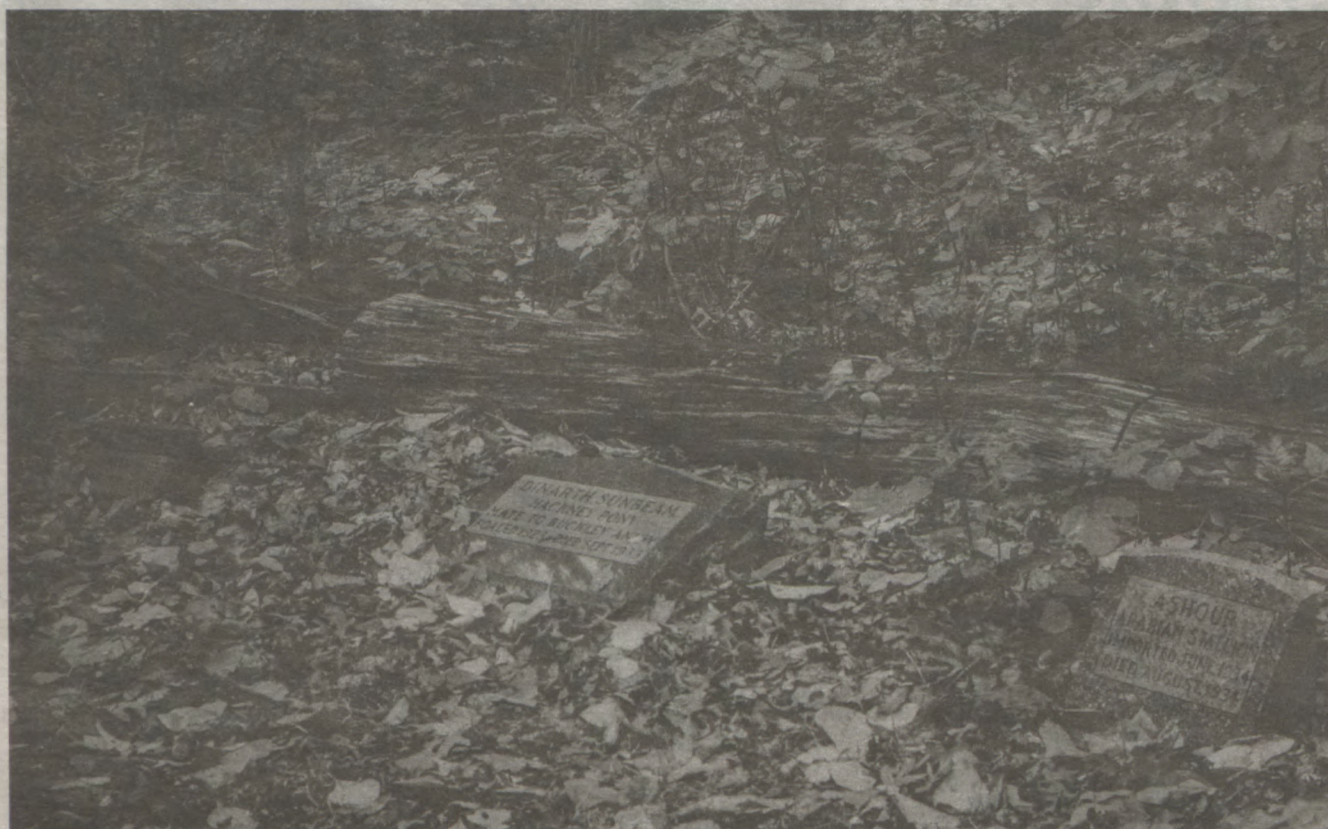
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Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

These headstones mark the graves of horses, but those plots are unrealistically narrow, says a museum assistant at Meadow Brook Hall.

'Cemetery' is a grave mystery

Digging up the truth about what lies beneath the tombstones

Sean Gardner
Staff Intern

When October comes around, scary stories abound. At Oakland University, chilling tales take place right on campus. Are any of them fact or are they all fiction?

An old mansion like Meadow Brook Hall is bound to have ghost stories, but who would have thought a pet cemetery would be one of them?

Meadow Brook Hall was the home of the Wilson family, co-founders of OU. Today, the hall is a national historic landmark.

Having a pet cemetery makes people think of the Stephen King novel and movie, "Pet Sematary," leading many to be wary to ever go to such a place.

The Wilson family had farm animals, as well as household pets. Many were beloved, so much so that they were buried.

"There was not only precedent for the Wilson family to [bury them], there was also their desire to honor their pets," said Madelyn Rzakowolski, curator at Meadow Brook Hall.

There are three gravestones which can be seen while walking through the woods. They sit on a fork in the road. If one does not look closely, it can be easily missed. It is these gravestones which lead to ghost stories being spread around campus.

Cemeteries already serve as a scary place during the fall months. A pet cemetery, however, takes it to a new level.

Although they were, at one time, very common.

"The idea of a pet cemetery is not unusual, particularly on country estates like Meadow Brook," said Rzakowolski. "Queen Victoria of England started one at her Norfolk estate in 1887, and Queen Elizabeth II has continued that

tradition for the past fifty years."

The names of two horses (Ashour and Dinarth Sunbeam) and one dog (Charles of Wai Tou) are on the tombstones, but there does not seem to be a lot of room in between the stones.

"Trust me, I've buried horses. Those [gravesites] aren't big enough," said Diane Berry, museum assistant at Meadow Brook Hall. "You would need to dig a basement."

In fact, the fork in the road cemetery is not even a cemetery at all.

According to Shannon O'Berks, marketing and communications manager at Meadow Brook Hall, it is just a memorial to their pets. Which makes the death dates being within a month of each other make a little more sense.

While there was a pet cemetery on the grounds, this means its exact location remains unknown.



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'The arts are part of the human experience'

Professors explain the reasoning for the arts general education requirement

Grace Turner
Contributor

Every Oakland University student must fulfill his or her general education requirements. One of these requirements is an arts class. Some students are thrilled to take an arts class, while others are intimidated and may wonder why.

"The arts are part of the human experience," said Michael Mitchell, associate professor of music and OU's Music Program Director. "Education without an arts component leaves out a huge portion of what it is to be a thinking and feeling human being."

Kerro Knox, Theatre Program Director and associate professor of theatre, agreed with Mitchell.

Every civilization is unique because of its arts, said Knox. Studying the arts allows students to see a slice of a culture.

History can also be recorded through the arts, said Gregory Patterson, Director of OU's Dance Program and associate

professor. In arts courses, students learn that people use the arts to show and record their experiences.

"I'm taking dance history and appreciation class," said freshman Maggie Suchomel. "Our teacher is really fun. Being a national champion dancer, the class made me appreciate music even more."

"I think the requirement helps people exercise a different way of thinking."

Elizabeth Kattner, an assistant professor of dance, teaches Dance in American Culture, which meets the arts general education requirement.

The course combines history lessons and dancer's experiences to teach students about Latin dance, Middle Eastern dance, and African dance.

Because students get to dance as well as listen and read, papers that students turn in "show a higher level of critical thinking, of addressing the topic from multiple perspectives," Kattner said. "Combining kinesthetic with academics makes the material more impacting."

Kattner said that students who haven't

"Education without an arts component leaves out a huge portion of what it is to be a thinking and feeling human being."

Michael Mitchell
Music Program Director at OU

danced before are proud of themselves taking a dance class.

Students develop critical thinking skills through the arts because they learn that there is more than one way to solve a problem, said Kattner. Because of this, employers hire people who have taken arts classes.

Kattner also said that having a basic knowledge of the arts is helpful when doing business with a foreign company. In many countries, the arts are a part of everyday life. Being able to talk about the arts can help break the ice and impress foreign business partners, she said.

Knox said that theatre classes also

help students outside of the classroom. Performing in front of classmates helps students get comfortable in front of an audience, which is helpful in many jobs.

Many OU professors try to make their classes as friendly as possible for those hesitant to take an arts class.

Knox said he changes his course material to interest the students in his class. One semester, he had a lot of biology majors, so he talked about the effects of plagues on theatres.

Patterson said that the arts allow students to express their thoughts and feelings.

"It allows the student to explore their creativity," he said. "You do it to satisfy yourself."

Mitchell, Patterson, Knox and Kattner agree that OU's goal is to create a whole, educated person, and that understanding humanity through the arts helps to round out OU's students.

For a list of classes that fulfill the arts general education requirement, visit www.oakland.edu/gened/explorations.

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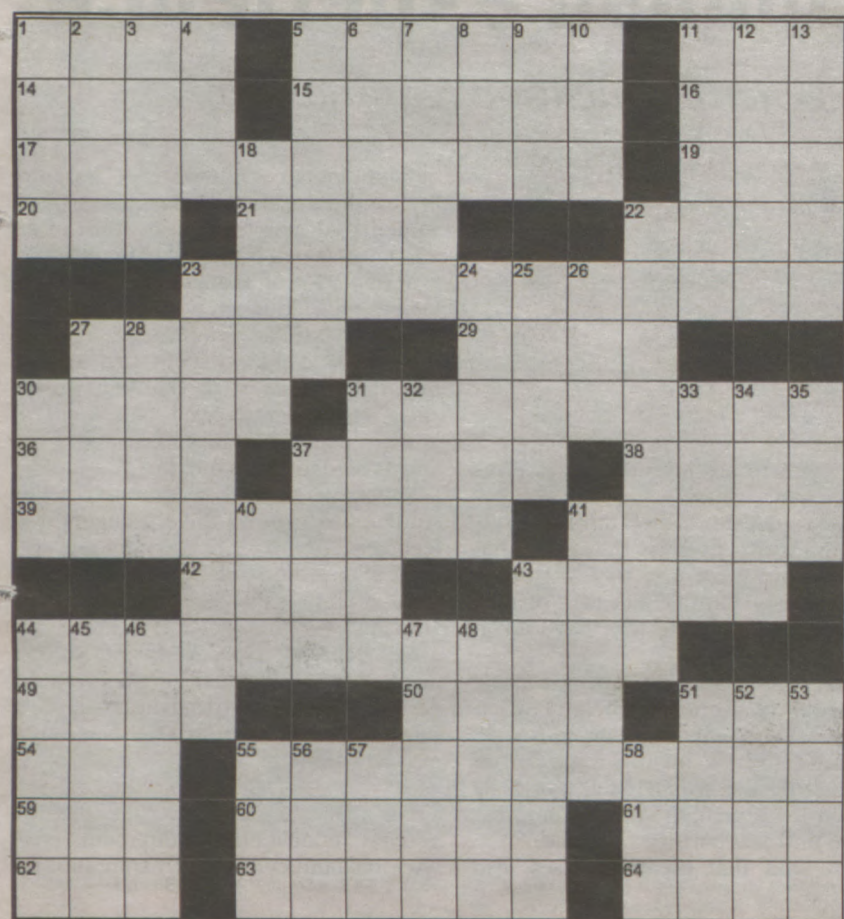
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Puzzles



Across

- 11: Very top
5: Use a blinker
11: Eyebrow shape
14: Burn to a crisp
15: Lawless
16: White Stripes, for one
17: Too bad
19: In between
20: She may get sheared
21: Small songbird
22: Patronize a fine restaurant
23: They may be tugged at
27: Bellows
29: Trials and tribulations
30: Bows and scrapes
31: Fertilizer component
36: Nexus
37: Whiskey cocktails
38: Beseech
39: Disturbed
41: Savoir-
42: Castle in a board game
43: Backs with bucks
44: Noctambulous types
49: Magician's prop
50: Uptight, slangily
51: Use the oars
54: 'Not only that ...'
55: Foundation

Down

- 1: Piece of property
2: Meditate (on)
3: Conjurer
4: Goof up
5: Buddha's teachings
6: Bury
7: Lee's opponent
8: Heart of the matter
9: For ___ the marbles
10: Old soap ingredient
11: Office mgt.
12: Feeling regret
13: Things to crack
18: Pretty pitchers
22: Kitchen basins
23: Longed (for)
24: Scimitar, e.g.
25: Have a fling?
26: One's good name, briefly
27: Parade spoiler
28: Has made the last pay-

ment on

- 30: Winter ailment
31: Lawrence Welk tune
32: Tint
33: Like the Atacama
34: Sailors
35: Spot
37: Put into the overhead bin
40: Go over
41: Rolls up
43: Had a phobia for
44: Mowed strip
45: Island near Molokai
46: Finito
47: Knight stick
48: Mournful peal
51: Drummer's rhythm
52: Not fooled by
53: Adam of 'Batman'
55: Corn unit
56: Unwrought iron
57: Sound of a fan
58: Dance like Hines

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Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

TOP Fiesta Hump Day served traditional Hispanic cuisine including beef or chicken tacos, Mexican rice, enchiladas, and mock margaritas and sangria. **LEFT** Michael Spasovski and Chantelle Moore show off their Day of the Dead-inspired makeup. **RIGHT** Bean bag toss is a simple and popular game among students. Players try to reach 21 points, either by throwing the bag into the hole for three points, or onto the board for one. SPB provides food and activities on hump days to encourage students to have fun throughout the week.

Selah Fischer
Staff Reporter

When the middle of a school week hits, students are already ready for it to be over. Having the same routine every day gets old.

The Student Program Board has come up with a plan to decrease student boredom throughout the week. Students may have noticed the celebrations taking place in the Fireside Lounge every other Wednesday. These parties, filled with food and activities, are known as "hump days."

"The purpose of these events is to be a pop-up event every other Wednesday, and a pick-me-up for students to get through the rest of the week," said Arkeem Scott, annual events director of the Student Program Board.

Wednesday, Oct. 8, was recognized as Fiesta Hump Day.

"October is Hispanic celebration month, so we decided to have a fiesta," said Kristiana

Hira, committee member of the Student Program Board. "The last hump day we did was concert-themed."

There have been several themes besides Fiesta Hump Day. Each theme is different from the last. Past events include a '90s hump day, a walking circus theme, concert hump days, a love and an anti-love hump day.

"I haven't been to a previous

hump day, but I would definitely come to another one if there's free food," sophomore Chris Spencer said.

The loud music and smell of food seems to be what catches students' eyes most as they pass through the Oakland Center. Each hump day there have been around 200-300 visitors, making the events a huge success.

"I stopped by the fiesta be-

cause I wanted to know what the event was," senior Britney Ama said. "I would definitely go to another hump day."

At last week's Fiesta Hump Day, students stuffed their faces from tables filled with tacos, chips and salsa, Spanish rice and guacamole. There were even non-alcoholic margaritas.

As the Macarena blared in the lounge, students got their

"The purpose of these events is to be a pop-up event every other Wednesday, and a pick-me-up for students to get through the rest of the week."

Arkeem Scott
Annual Events Director of
Student Program Board

faces painted like a sugar skull. Maracas and mustache bracelets were offered as well.

"I think what makes hump days successful is that it is something people are always talking about and anticipating what we are going to do next. But at the same time, it is something that hasn't been done before on campus," Scott said.

Hump days will continue to bring fun to the OC, and students can look forward to seeing new themes each week.

Pumping up the weekly hump

Student Program Board has plan to spice things up on Wednesdays to help students through week

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

SATIRE

Naked and afraid

Josh Soltman
Copy Editor/Snapchat Photographer

Smart phones have made life easier for everyone. Now we have information about anything you can think of available whenever we want. We can communicate with anyone around the globe in an instant. We have all this amazing opportunity right at our fingertips, the world is literally in the palm of our hands, and all you perverts can do is take nudes.

A few days ago, at least 200,000 Snapchat photos and videos were leaked online. This is just the latest in an increasingly common trend of people's naked lives being violated and portrayed to world.

The photos were saved onto a third-party website that attracted users by offering the ability to view snaps on a desktop computer instead of just on a phone. Apparently viewing your neighbor in her underwear is not as satisfying on a phone screen as it is on your laptop with the sticky keyboard.

As a human being I do feel bad for the people whose privacies were invaded, I really do, but the bottom line is that people are stupid. Stop taking nudes, especially if you are a teenager. Instead, try reading a book, or making a collage, or cooking a shepherd's pie, or playing ultimate Frisbee; do literally anything else.

It's 2014. Our generation has had this ridiculous technology for a long time now, if people still don't realize that nothing online is safe then we should play Monopoly together because I like playing Monopoly.

You might remember awhile back when there



Copy Editor Josh Soltman uses Snapchat to put his superior artistic abilities on display for the world to see.

was that big celebrity nude photo leak with Justin Verlander's big white butt prancing around. Apparently, the same upstanding citizens behind that glorious photo leak also carried out this whole Snapchat debacle. I conducted an imaginary interview with one of the men behind the crime.

"Since the last season of 'Game of Thrones' ended I've been pretty bored, so I thought this would be a good way to spend my time," Steve Stevens, a part-time McNugget chef and full-time MMO-playing douchebag, said. "I don't get to see my weekly nudity on GOT so I figured, what the hell, I'll just look elsewhere."

In reality, Snapchat is stupid. Just another way for people to piss off their friends by spending time making stupid faces in public and taking pictures of it. It's stupid. That being said, I use

Snapchat every day. However, the number of nudes I produce on a daily basis has gone way down. Now I pretty much just take photos of my eyeballs and videos of my dog defecating in my front yard.

I remember the good old days when husbands and wives took their nude photos with disposable cameras and then hoped that the pharmacy clerk wouldn't see your naked bum when you got them developed. Of course, I don't actually remember that because I'm not an old-ass man but I've heard stories.

With Snapchat allowing any weirdo to act out their sexual fetish fantasies at the click of a button, the chances of people seeing them just increased a whole lot. Better get those Polaroids out, folks.

"Note To Self"	Written by: Kaseb Ahmad	Drawn by: Dani Cojocari