

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER

19

— 2011 —

Oakland University men's

## BASKETBALL

team ranked



# ND

in the Summit League  
Preseason Poll



We are focused on us.



**WE KNOW WHAT WE  
ARE CAPABLE OF.**

— REGGIE HAMILTON, SENIOR GUARD

pg 12-13

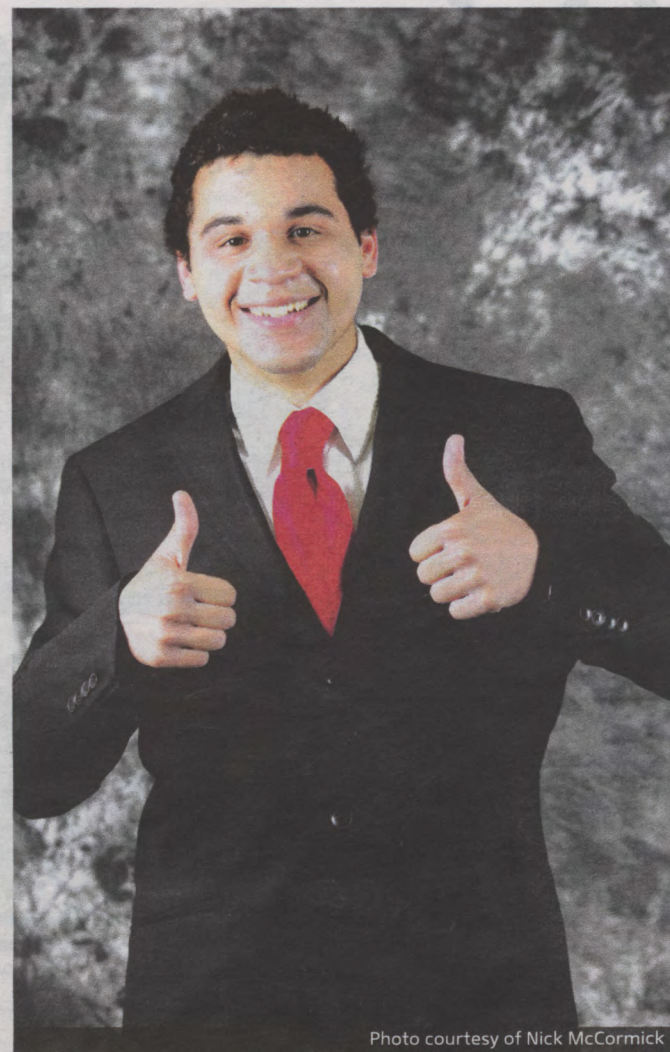


Photo courtesy of Nick McCormick

Campus community  
reflects on student  
Jackson's suicide; pg 5



photo courtesy of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship

## *The varieties of faith*

With several different religious beliefs throughout the campus, many have formed student organizations to spread their word and connect with others of their faith.

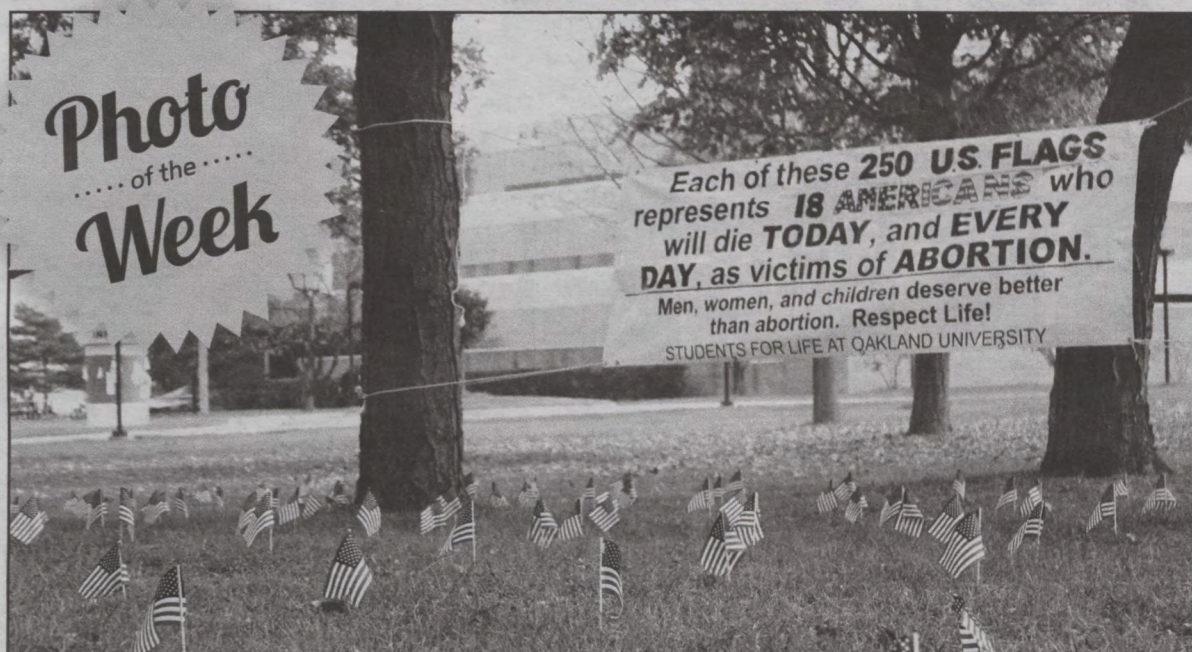
*pgs 10-11*

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# this week

October 19 — October 25, 2011



## Students for life // Oct. 13, Outside Kresge

GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post

Students for Life placed 250 American flags into the grass in the green area between the Oakland Center and Kresge Library. Each flag was meant to symbolize 18 casualties due to abortion, which is how many die each day according to the campus organization.



5

**CAMPUS //** Friends and family have organized a memorial vigil to observe the one year anniversary of Corey Jackson's death.



6

**CAMPUS //** Renowned biologist and author Richard Dawkins gave a talk to a packed audience in the banquet rooms of the OC.



15

**FEATURES //** A special lecturer in the journalism department showcases his special musical talent during downtime from his day gig.



18

**SCENE //** Features on two Oakland-based bands, The Rival Summers and The Burning Ponies, kick off a mini-series on grizzly music talent.

op

Have a news tip for us?  
Tweet @theoaklandpost  
and let us know what  
we're missing.

## THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 38 // Issue 11

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## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Tragedy unites campus

Suicide.

It's the second leading cause of death among college students according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

It's certainly affected Oakland University.

One year ago, Corey Jackson, a 19-year-old sophomore who lived in the residence halls, committed suicide on campus.

It came at a very rough time for the LG-BTQ community; just as other gay teenagers across the nation were succumbing to suicide due to relentless bullying.

He had recently come out to friends and family, but officials and close friends observed no evidence of bullying.

It's an understatement to say that Corey's death stunned the OU community.

Oakland Post staffers were working on an issue of the newspaper on a Tuesday evening when an email blast alerted campus community members to the death of a residential student on campus.

Stunned. That was the reaction students had to the email.

Confused. That's how people felt when the investigation was still ongoing.

Stunned. When details of a suicide on campus surfaced, campus community mem-

bers became increasingly at a loss for words.

Confused. Those who were close to Corey described his warm smile and effervescent personality.

There was an outpouring of support for Corey's family in the days following — a testament to the effect Corey's presence had on this campus.

**Though it was a mournful occasion, Corey's tragic death brought about a sense of caring and compassion among students.**

Students wore purple in response to gay suicides like Jackson's and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity brothers wore black ribbons to commemorate his life. A candlelight vigil was quickly organized.

In a note sent to students the day after Corey's death, OU President Gary Russi asked students to "not focus on the manner of Corey's death, but rather celebrate the life he lived and the people he touched."

And that's what we should remember as we gather again near Bear Lake on the one-year anniversary of Corey's passing.

Gay/Straight Alliance President Alexa

Van Vliet said she's working to keep his memory alive and to prevent the same thing from happening on campus again.

The vigil Wednesday will allow us to celebrate his life once again. Perhaps the memorial garden being planned in his memory will also continue that.

But it's important to remind students, staff and faculty that resources for those dealing with these difficult issues are available on campus. Students can get six free counseling sessions at Graham Health Center.

The counseling center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and support is available to students who are going through crises.

Though formal counseling is not available through the Gender and Sexuality Center, the center does provide support and resources for students regarding issues of sexuality and gender.

When hundreds stood out by Bear Lake and faced the elements for that first candlelight vigil, it showed that the campus community could band together to make a difference and support one another.

Though it was a mournful occasion, Corey's tragic death brought about a sense of caring and compassion among students.

Let's keep that spirit alive.

Kay Nguyen, Nichole Seguin  
and Kaitlyn Chornoby  
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Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for clarity, length and grammar.

# WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

Submit an opinion column to  
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Be sure to provide contact information,  
class standing and field of study.

# THE OAKLAND POST

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Submit samples of previous work to  
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come in to meet with us on Mondays  
and Thursdays at 61 Oakland Center.



# Stop the continued stressing

## COLUMN

Stress. We all have it in some way, shape or form; It could show itself in how we interact with people, how we see ourselves or even how we handle our responsibilities as college students.

Between class, work, friends, family, significant others, student organizations and hobbies, how do we ever find time for ourselves?

Managing stress isn't brain surgery, but for most of us dealing with stress it can be so overwhelming we just don't know where to start.

As a strong believer in natural remedies, I have come up with a list of stress-relieving tips that you can incorporate into your daily routine that might make a world of difference for your mental and physical health:

Exercise is a great way to get your mind off of the day's events and focus solely on your body's movements.

Exercise has been proven in a study conducted by Arizona State University, to release endorphins in the brain, which helps improve your mood and relieve anxiety.

Meditation can be broken down into multiple categories for stress relief. Each relaxation technique has something different to offer:

Deep breathing meditation involves



**Brittany Haney**  
Staff Intern

long, slow breaths that should be taken from the abdomen rather than the chest.

Placing one hand on your stomach and the other on your chest, inhale through your nose.

Your abdomen should rise as you inhale, and fall as you exhale out of your mouth. This allows you to take in more oxygen and relax.

Progressive muscle relaxation technique helps alleviate tension in muscles in your body usually connected with stress and anxiety.

The progressive tensing of muscles helps you focus on your breathing and recognize the feeling of your muscles tensing and relaxing.

It is recommended to start at the feet and work your way up to the facial muscles.

For example, tense your feet muscles, allow them to relax, and then move on to your calf muscles, thigh muscles and

abdominal region.

Take your time and focus on your breathing during this exercise.

Body scan meditation is a type of meditation that is done best while lying down in your bed before you fall asleep.

Starting at either your face or feet, focus your mind to more specific parts on your body, for example, the soles of your feet, your ankles, or moving up to your knees.

Focus your mind completely on this part of the body and pay close attention to how it feels, imagine your breath flowing through that area.

## Between class, work, friends, family, significant others, student organizations, and hobbies, how do we ever find time for ourselves?

After you have focused on each part of your body, stretch and lay still for a few minutes to relax.

Practicing visualization by closing your eyes and envisioning yourself on an island, in nature, or somewhere peaceful and quiet is also a great way to relax.

By taking your mind somewhere comforting and familiar you are able to release tension and slow down any thoughts racing through your mind causing you anxiety

or excess stress.

Yoga is a wonderful stress reliever and can be practiced throughout your entire life.

Yoga focuses on your body's movements, stretching, breathing and meditation.

There are many different levels of yoga and anyone can start at a beginner level. Yoga is very accessible: DVD's can be purchased online, or at stores, YouTube videos also have short yoga sessions.

The recreation center on campus also offers classes in different styles of yoga at many different times to work with your schedule.

Music can be a great healer and form of stress relief. You can play an instrument to relieve stress or just turn up the tunes and jam out to your favorite songs.

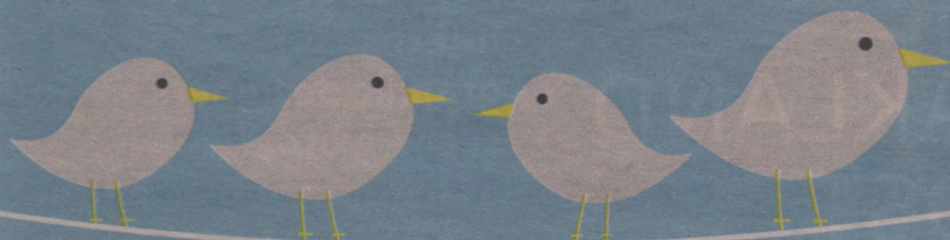
Soothing sounds can be also be purchased on CDs or found online, such as, beach sounds, wind in the trees, calming forest sounds, or even cars on the road.

Sometimes the best stress relief is to just sit down with a friend, family member or even a counselor and just talk it out.

You might be surprised at how much better you feel when you share your doubts, fears and emotions with others, because you're not alone.

— For some information on the Stress Less Fest, flip to page 7.

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If you are interested in writing a guest column for the Perspectives section, e-mail [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) or call 248.370.4268.



# A time for remembrance

By KAY T. NGUYEN  
Editor-in-Chief

One year has passed since Corey Jackson, an Oakland University sophomore, committed suicide on campus, but his close friends and campus community members are working to keep his memory alive.

Jackson, 19, lived in the residence halls and had come out as a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community shortly before his suicide.

A candlelight vigil will be held Wednesday from 9-11 p.m. between Vandenberg Hall and Bear Lake.

Hundreds of people gathered for a candlelight vigil in the same location following Jackson's death last year despite heavy rain and frigid temperatures.

Jake Hendricks hopes that the vigil he is organizing this Wednesday will draw an even larger crowd to Bear Lake. The vigil will be moved to the Pioneer Food Court in case of inclement weather.

Hendricks, a senior at the University of Michigan, said he remembers Jackson for his smile and wants vigil attendees to think of it as a celebration of life rather than reflection on a tragedy.

"We want to celebrate this and we don't want the sadness we felt a year ago," Hendricks said. "We want more smiles and

memories than tears."

Campus community members and members of Jackson's family will be speaking following a moment of silence and prayer.

"My goal is to make those that feel low believe that they were born for this world for a reason and that suicide is not the way to go," Hendricks said. "(Jackson's) left so many people behind who love him very much."

Friends and family are rallying around the organization of the event, but Hendricks said he hasn't drummed up a lot of campus support aside from the Gay/Straight Alliance.

He said it was alright though, as he wants this vigil to be more personal than the vigil organized last year by Oakland students.

"It's only appropriate that this time around, we make this a production for ourselves and make it our own," Hendricks said. "The people that knew him best should be able to put on a better memorial service."

Alexa Van Vliet, president of the Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA), has been organizing the campus logistics of the vigil.

She is also spearheading on-campus efforts to establish a memorial garden in Jackson's honor though she didn't know him personally.

"What's most important to me is that this is never forgotten and it's not just be-

cause I'm looking at it through the GSA lens because someone who identified as a gay man," Van Vliet said. "He was someone who was really involved in the OU community."

Hendricks, along with Macomb Community College student Matt Krajenke have plans to begin collecting donations for the Corey Jackson Memorial Fund, which will help establish the garden.

According to Hendricks, Krajenke didn't know Jackson personally but wanted to be involved with the project because he was a part of the LGBT community.

"Sometimes I wish I knew him because it would give more meaning to the fact that I am helping plan this," Van Vliet said. "But seeing all the pain from the community this year gives me the motivation to prevent this from happening again."

A suicide prevention forum led by Ellen Keyt, a psychologist at Graham Health Center, is being held in Fireside Lounge Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

The counseling program, the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and the Tau Sigma sorority and the Gay/Straight Alliance are co-sponsoring the event.

"Suicide is something that needs to be talked about more on college campuses: It can't be pushed under the rug," Van Vliet said. "Getting help is really encouraged and we want people to know they can get help."

## [ Resources ]

### Corey Jackson 1 Year Memorial Candlelight Vigil

Wed., Oct. 19  
9 - 11 p.m.  
Between Bear Lake and Vandenberg Hall  
Rain-out site: Pioneer Food Court

### Suicide Prevention Forum

Wed, Oct. 19  
3:30 p.m.

### National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

suicidepreventionlifeline.org  
1-800-273-8255

### OU's Graham Health Center

248-370-2679

## 10 things discussed at the College of Arts and Sciences 'State of the College' Address:

10. Two CAS faculty members — Matthew Fails, assistant professor of political science and Lakshmi Raman, assistant professor of psychology — were awarded the Marian P. Wilson award, which recognizes the outstanding writing and research of professors.

9. In addition to those awards, two CAS faculty members were also recognized for a new faculty engagement award — Richard Stamps, associate professor of psychology and sociology and Jerrold Grossman, mathematics professor were given an award that honored professors for their on-campus engagement.

8. Two students were recipients of national-level awards. Jason Willis, a senior majoring in new media, was named Student Designer of the Year by the Society of News Design and Adam Hobart, a graduate student, recently won the Nels Andrew Cleven award for a senior project in history.

7. CAS is currently the largest college on campus, comprised of 6,036 students enrolled in CAS majors, a four percent increase from last year.

6. The major would like to make writing a priority for the college. Ron Sudol, dean of CAS, said that he hopes that the Oakland University students will be known for their writing quality.

"I think it'll be great if it could be understood that when you attend OU, you'll be writing," he said.

5. New majors and graduate study programs that are currently in the process of being approved. A proposal for a bachelor of sciences major in biomedical sciences is waiting for a board of trustees approval, a bachelor of arts major in graphic design, a masters of science and Ph.D. in psychology and a Ph.D. in computational physics are awaiting

approval in the senate, and a criminal justice major is currently in the works in the committee of instruction level.

4. In regards to President Gary Russi's mission to move more classes online, it was suggested that night classes be converted to online classes to make it easier and more convenient to students in the classes.

3. Because it costs less to hire CAS faculty, 17 faculty positions are now available in the college in various departments.

2. The college has experienced an increase in the rate of student retention. According to Sudol, the college has a 7 percent increase in retention, which exceeds the university average of 4 percent.

1. Sudol has been working closely with architects to design and draft two new on campus buildings for the college to present to the state — one for the arts and humanities and the other for the social sciences. They are proposing that Varner Hall be gutted and repurposed into an arts building.

— Nichole Seguin, Managing Content Editor



# Separating science and myth

By **MIKE ESPEJO**  
OU News Bureau

Up to a certain age, children believe fairy tales, urban legends and the stage tricks of magicians.

This gullibility may have played an important role in the evolution of humans, according to world-renown biologist Richard Dawkins.

"A child who listens to their parent survives," he said. "Gullibility, when you're young, has survival value."

But there's a catch.

"It indirectly makes you believe not just useful things like 'don't swim with the crocodiles,' but also useless things like sacrificing goats in order to get rain," he said. "As far as the child brain is concerned, it cannot tell the difference between the useful advice and the nonsense."

This idea that children are likely to believe myths and falsehoods motivated Dawkins to write his latest book, "The Magic of Reality: How We Know What's Really True," from which he read excerpts to a group of children Friday at the Lowry Center in Oakland University's Pawley Hall.

The British author and biologist had just finished the last leg of his North American book tour for this latest publication. He gave a keynote lecture to OU students and faculty on Oct 13.

Dawkins is well known in the scientific community for his contributions to evolutionary biology and is the author of several books, including the controversial best seller, "The God Delusion," in which he argues against religion, creationism and the existence of a creator.

While visiting Michigan, Dawkins and other guests were barred from entering a Rochester Hills country club after the owners learned of his stance on religion. He referred to the event as "sheer bigotry."

For the Lowry Center reading, about a dozen children sat on the floor of the building's atrium and listened to the author read excerpts from his book. He talked about the difference between science and myth.

"This special reading was originally planned for Rochester Adams High School, but it didn't work out so we just sort of played it by ear," said Todd Shackelford, chair of OU's psychology department and coordinator of Dawkins' visit to OU.

"The children here today are those of fac-



ANDREW CRAIG/The Oakland Post

Renowned biologist Richard Dawkins gave a keynote lecture to OU students and staff.

ulty and friends," Shackelford said.

Dawkins said the book is appropriate for all ages, the children at the reading ranged from kindergarten to high school.

Sam Garfinkle, self-proclaimed science buff and son of OU physics professor David Garfinkle, wore his "Magic of Reality 2011 Tour" T-shirt, clutching his signed copy of Dawkins' new illustrated book.

The younger Garfinkle, a student at Rochester Adams High School and an admirer of Dawkins, said, "I've recently started to read (Dawkins' last book), but I'm excited to hear more about this one and to see what Dawkins has to say about it."

"The Magic of Reality" and its interactive iPad eBook counterpart are divided into chapters that pose questions about the natural world such as: Why is there night and day? Who was the first person?

Prefacing each chapter are myths from around the world that were at one time or place believed to be valid explanations of these particular phenomena.

Dawkins began his reading with a story of the Aztec sun gods. Scrolling the iPad pages, he told a fantastical story of Tezcatlipoca, Quetzalcoatl and their epic battles in the sky that the ancient Aztecs believed to be the origins of the sun.

"But what is the sun really?" he asked the children. "A star, that's absolutely right. It is a star that is no different than any other star and we just happen to be near it, so it looks so much bigger."

During the reading, Dawkins demonstrated games and animations that go along with each chapter on the iPad app that was projected onto a flat screen TV.

captivating book written for young people was straightforward. He said, "The children need to be encouraged to exercise their critical faculties."

Although types of "magic" are believed by some, Dawkins maintained that science and reason trump any myth, belief or even religion that fails to provide hard evidence to support its claims.

"Anybody that tells you evolution is a discredited theory is either ignorant, insane or wicked," said Dawkins. "Ignorance is something to be remedied. It is not something to be proud of."

Real "magic," he said, exists in science, natural beauty and humanity.

"Magic in this sense means deeply moving ... something that makes us feel more fully alive," he said. "What I hope this book shows is that reality — the facts of the real world and understood through the methods of science — is magical."

His idea for an interactive, illustrated and View this story at [ounewsbureau.com](http://ounewsbureau.com)

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 248-370-2400

**Center for Student Activities**



[www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

## Make A Difference Day

500 Students volunteered in 2009 & 2010

**Sat. October 22<sup>nd</sup>**


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If Interested in Volunteering, this is the coupon for you!

Redeemable at the Leadership and Volunteer Center [in the CSA] for one\* free mystery gift!

\*One mystery gift per person.





# Students relax at stress fest

By **BRITTANY HANEY**  
Staff Intern

A student-run event will be hosted Tuesday, Oct. 25 from 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. to help students learn how to manage stress and participate in stress relieving techniques.

The Stress Less Fest, sponsored by the Graham Health Center, will have multiple tables and presentations that provide information on stress management and reduction techniques.

Amber Tymn, wellness, health promotion and injury prevention major, with help from health and wellness coordinator and professor, Julie Proctor, organized the event for her senior project.

"I was discussing ideas with



BRITTANY HANEY/The Oakland Post  
The Stress Less Fest will feature stress-management techniques.

Professor Proctor for an event from last year and I personally feel it's essential for students to know how to properly manage stress," Tymn said.

Recreation Center interns will have booths set up to help explain how exercise lowers stress levels, along with other

presentations, including relaxation breathing, time management, laughter yoga, massage therapy and pet therapy.

"Last year there were stress-related brochures outside my office that were hardly touched, but this year I have been completely wiped out of them,"

Proctor said. "That tells me that stress is playing a huge role in students' lives."

Prizes will be given away during the event in a raffle drawing and attendees will be treated with a special guest comedian to provide entertainment.

The Stress Less Fest will be held in the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center. It is free and open to all OU students.

For more information, visit [oakland.edu/campusrec](http://oakland.edu/campusrec)

## 5 Tips To Relieve Stress

1. Exercise
2. Control caffeine
3. Breathe
4. Build a calming environment
5. Stop procrastinating

# Faculty educated on invisible disabilities

By **KEVIN GRAHAM**  
Staff Reporter

The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning sponsored a workshop on facilitating better communication between disabled students and faculty in the academic setting on Oct. 14.

Students with disabilities comprised three percent of Oakland University's student population last year. The workshop, entitled "Working with Students with Disabilities," was held in order to address faculty questions and concerns in an environment where the presence of a disability isn't always obvious.

One major theme according to Linda Sisson, director of Disability Support Services at OU was "invisible disabilities."

According to Sisson, it's always been easy to identify the person in the wheelchair. There is a chance this person does not even require an adjustment in

order to properly access the curriculum. In contrast, if someone has a learning disability such as dyslexia, they could act normal, but in reality struggle with the material.

Despite the continuing evolution of disabilities Sisson said the answer to these invisible disabilities is simple.

"It's all about communication," she said.

To get the necessary accommodations for a course, students must present a copy of the notification letter from the DSS to the professor before or after the first class session. After presenting the letter, the students must talk to them regarding the accommodations he or she needs in order to learn efficiently.

Much of the discussion focused on students that professors thought might qualify for services through DSS, but hadn't come to them. Sisson said this problem might be

rooted in previous experiences.

"All throughout school — secondary and below — they've had a label, a stigma," she said. "I'm going to do this on my own and I'm going to start out fresh. I'm going to try to do it on my own and I think I know all about this." But sometimes they don't."

This results in students coming to the DSS later in the semester, after falling behind or experiencing trouble. Sometimes they don't come in at all.

Sisson said that if a faculty member notices a student struggling that they list DSS among OU's other support services.

Even if a student discloses their disability, the problems don't necessarily stop there.

"One of the most challenging questions involves how to best accommodate the special needs of students while at the same time not compromising the essential educational expectations

of the professor," David Lau, interim director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, said.

One example given at the discussion involved professors that lecture and administer exams in the same class period. In this scenario, if a student goes to the DSS office to take a test, they could easily miss part of the lecture.

Sisson said instructors should contact them to see if they can modify the class plan in a way that wouldn't cause too much inconvenience for the professor or the other students.

Some accommodations offered through DSS include extended testing time, access to assistive technology, scribes for exams and note takers.

The DSS office is located in 121 North Foundation Hall. For more information about DSS and their services, visit [oakland.edu/dss](http://oakland.edu/dss)

## Police Files

### Suspicious male in Vandenberg cafeteria

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, officers were called to Vandenberg cafeteria about a suspicious man. A male who made the complaint told officers that he observed an older male who approached several females two weeks prior, asking for their phone numbers and if they wanted a massage. The male said the suspicious person was harassing the female employees. Officers approached the suspicious male and told officers that he was on campus, but denies the claims. He also stated he was registered at OU, but not a student at this time. It was determined the man's claims were false and he was banned from the campus grounds since he had no official business with OU and has never been a student.

### Search for contraband in student apartments

On Thursday, Oct. 13, officers reported to student apartments to investigate illegal marijuana use. Officers reported the apartment smelled like marijuana smoke. After getting consent to search the room of the male student in question, a small marijuana seed was found. One of the occupants said they had been smoking Black and Mild cigars. No further action was taken.

### Reports of drunken students

On Sunday, Oct. 16, officers were dispatched to student apartments after reports of a party with an marijuana odor. Officers met with two male residents who said there was no drinking or drug use. The males denied that anyone else was in the apartment, but the officers found two more male students and four female students hiding in other rooms. The first male student did not cooperate with officers — giving them a false identification. The student resisted arrest. After being forced into handcuffs, he gave officers his real name. The underage male showed a BAC of .157, and was issued a minor in possession citation.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,  
Scene Editor



## campus briefs

### Harold&Kumar Movie Marathon

On Friday Oct. 21, OU students are invited to a special movie marathon featuring "Harold & Kumar Go To White Castle" and "Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay".

There will be complementary White Castle Burgers, trivia on the films and waffles and swag. Wear your ugly Holiday sweater for a chance to win VIP screening tickets to the upcoming release of "A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas".

The event starts at 7 p.m. in 201 Dodge Hall.

### Ideas 2 Business lab open house

OU's new Ideas 2 Business Lab offers all the resources that students, faculty and staff members at OU and Cooley Law School need to help them explore and launch a new business venture. There will be an open house held on Nov. 3 at 3 p.m. at the OU INC in the Shotwell Gustafson Pavilion.

All OU and Cooley Law entrepreneurs are welcome.

### Depression/anxiety workshops

Two interactive workshops will be held on the topics of anxiety and depression on Nov. 8 from 12 - 1 p.m. in the Lake Michigan room in the Oakland Center.

The workshops will provide tools and help for people to cope with depression and anxiety. The event is open to the OU community.

### Poetry reading with Michael Heffernan

The Department of English is sponsoring a poetry reading with Michael Heffernan on Nov. 7 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. in the banquet rooms. Heffernan is an award winning poet and has published eight books of poetry.

The event is open to the Oakland community and general public. Refreshments will be served.

— Compiled by Megan Semeraz,  
Campus Editor

# Vegan class merits award

By **MADELINE LOSHAW**  
Staff Intern

Oakland University was awarded a Compassionate Campus Award for a course called "A Lifestyle Change To Improve Health: The Vegan Diet" offered in the School of Nursing. The award comes from peta2, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animal's (PETA) youth division.

Marilyn Mouradjian, Adjunct professor of nursing, was told that she won the award through an e-mail from the PETA, right after she began teaching the course. She was presented with the award Tuesday by School of Nursing Dean, Kerri Shuiling.

"It's so nice to be recognized, especially when you feel like the course you're teaching is both beneficial to humans and animals," Mouradjian said.

Participants in the course learn about the many health benefits of a vegan diet — including weight loss, higher energy levels, better health and lower susceptibility to diseases.

"There is compelling and

overwhelming scientific evidence-based research out there saying that plant-based diets do away with many of the chronic non-communicable diseases out there — heart disease, a lot of cancers, diabetes type two — things that are related to the way we're currently eating, which is very poor nutritionally," Mouradjian said.

The course is offered online and open to the public, which able to reach a broader audience than just OU students.

"I currently have 17 students," Mouradjian said. "One from New Zealand, one from the United Kingdom, two from Canada, and then, of course, we have people from Michigan, but I (also) have people from all over the U.S."

Students learn from Powerpoints, links, discussions, films and vegan recipes.

"I've set it up so they're going to learn quite a bit both from the course and each other," Mouradjian said. "It's all about interacting. They say they're learning a lot. They're learning



MADELINE LOSHAW / The Oakland Post

OU nursing professor Marilyn Mouradjian was presented with an award from peta2 for a course she taught about veganism.

not only from me, but from each other. They are really excited about finding out ways in which to be a healthy vegan."

Sophomore biology major Alex Morton is a vegetarian student living on campus. She said the course is a step in the right direction for OU's environmental concerns.

Morton said she appreciates that the course is being taught, but the food options on campus could be better.

"It's contradictory with options for food on campus," she said. "The OC is pretty good,

but the cafeteria could do better."

Mouradjian, on the other hand, believes there's a variety of options for vegans and vegetarians.

"We have great vegan and vegetarian offerings right here on campus ... Coyote Jacks serves fantastic garden burgers — they are the best," Mouradjian said. "You can easily be vegan or vegetarian by going to the OC."

For more information about veganism, vegetarianism and peta2, visit [peta2.com](http://peta2.com)

## Int'l students learn new traditions

By **MISHA MAYHAND**  
Staff Intern

Oakland University's International Students and Scholars Office are teaming up with the International Allies Organization and the Center for Multicultural Initiatives to sponsor the fourth annual Halloween Fun Night.

The event takes place on Friday, Oct. 28 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. of the Oakland Center's Banquet Rooms.

Petra Knoche, assistant director of ISSO, said it's important to teach students about traditions such as Halloween, since it's not celebrated in all areas of the world.

Those who do celebrate Halloween, traditions and celebrations vary across the globe. Some international OU students

may not know about the American tradition at all.

"It's just such a unique holiday in the U.S. that we want our scholars to learn about Americans and what's important to them," Knoche said.

Ashima Vohra, vice president of international allies, said this event will bring students together regardless of background, culture or language.

The event will give international students an opportunity to enjoy this unique American tradition — filled with costumes, candy and spooky music. It will also give domestic students a chance to enjoy a childhood tradition.

Halloween Night will have fun history of Halloween, quizzes and prizes.

"It is not easy to assimilate to a new place,

a new language and a new culture," Vohra said.

The goal is to join students together.

The ISSO hosts five international events per academic year.

Halloween Fun Night is part of the ISSO Coffee Hour Series, which is held monthly. It is to enrich and introduce students, faculty and staff to a variety of cultures found on campus.

Each coffee hour focuses on a tradition or celebration that is unique to a specific culture and encourages international friendships. Students and faculty alike are welcome to attend.

Halloween Fun Night activities include pumpkin carving and painting, Halloween-themed games, prizes for the best costume and more. There is no cost to attend.



# Students aim to improve local community

By **JUSTIN COLMAN**  
Copy Editor

On Oct. 22, Oakland University students and alumni, and Oakland Community College will partner with the United Way of Southeastern Michigan for National Make a Difference Day.

The event, which starts 8 a.m. Saturday, allows participants to give back to the local community.

Volunteers will travel to Pontiac High School to register for the day, where they will receive training and instruction. After that, they will go to their designated site.

Sites this year include Pontiac High School, the Baldwin Center and Salvation Army.

"Depending on where you are assigned, there will be a description of what you are doing," Ambriah Brown, of the Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA, said.

Volunteers serving at Pontiac High School will have different options in regards of their contribution, including cleaning the interior of the school.

"It's a highly needed thing because everyone wants to go to a school with a clean environment, a nice environment," Brown said. "But with the economy (today), they might have the needs to do that, to have a person who can make sure this closet is cleaned out or that all of the materials are neatly organized."

Some volunteers can participate in other means, including, helping students read or encouraging the discussion of college.

Those chosen to help students read will be part of the Beyond Basics Book Buddies group, where they will receive training to do so effectively.

Brown said that encouraging college discussion at Pontiac High School, is meant to plant a seed of optimism and motivation in the minds of students.

"College is for everyone, which it is, saying not, 'are you going to go to college' but 'where are you going to go to college?' (can make a big difference)" Brown said.

Volunteers at the Baldwin Center can help the effort by cleaning and sanitizing, painting and working at the youth center or

the library.

Brown said that Make a Difference Day is one of the most highly attended service events that students take part of.

In the past two years, the Center for Student Activities said there have been over 500 participants, indicating the popularity of the event.

Brown said at least 450 people signed up to volunteer this year, 90 percent of which, she says, are students from Oakland University.

"It's actually full in terms of registration, but we're still accepting people," Brown said. "That number just helps you imagine how big it is."

Jennifer Wells, a senior health science major, participated in Make a Difference Day last year, volunteering at Pontiac High School. She said that students can benefit from volunteering.

"I think that it's nice when individuals help out others," Wells said. "You're always blessed, and there's always someone who doesn't have it as good as you, so if you could give anybody a part of your blessing, that makes their life a little bit better."

Students interested in participating are encouraged by Brown to e-mail her at [akbrown@oakland.edu](mailto:akbrown@oakland.edu). For more information on Make a Difference Day, visit [oakland.edu/makeadifferenceday](http://oakland.edu/makeadifferenceday)

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

**Oct. 28 —**  
Halloween party at the  
North Oakland YMCA

**Oct. 29 —**  
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Elementary School

For more information  
about volunteering,  
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[oakland.edu/volunteer](http://oakland.edu/volunteer)

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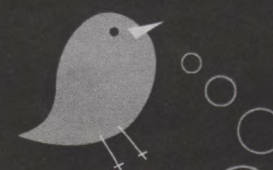
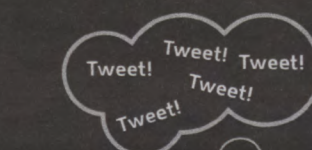
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# Discovering Faith

*"We ask for people to get to know us, without prior judgments. Ask questions, no question is ignorant."*

— Nasihah Barlaskar,  
Muslim Student Association

*Written and compiled by Jordan Gonzalez, Staff Intern  
Designed by Kaitlyn Chornoby, Managing Visual Editor*

*For more information about  
other religious groups,  
visit [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)*



## Jewish Student Organization

*"We try to enlighten people on Jewish students' lives. We try to show them we are college kids trying to have fun."*

— Sean Alpiner

The Jewish Student Organization is geared towards recruiting Jewish students to get them involved with a community that shares a similar faith. Meetings have a speaker who focuses on religious discussions or topics relevant. The dinners serve a kosher meal and are followed by games and fellowship.

The JSO, which is affiliated with the larger Hillel of Metro Detroit, organizes meetings and dinners, both of which are held once every three weeks, and are free and open to all OU students.

For more information, contact Sean Alpiner at (248) 909-1629

*"I have seen it grow and help out the student body by giving them a place to come and be heard and to pray with them."*

— Brandy Ellison

## Glory Phi God

The Glory Phi God campus ministry provides an alternative avenue for born-again men and women so they can affiliate with an organization that represents the doctrine of Christianity. A large part of that mission is to win the lost college campuses to Christ by reaching out to every college student and showing them the love of God.

They meet every Tuesday in the Oakland Center at 7 p.m. They also have small faith groups that meet around campus throughout the week.

For more information, email [ougphig@gmail.com](mailto:ougphig@gmail.com)



## Occult Studies

The Occult Studies Student Organization studies different sects of the occult from an objective standpoint, including anything ritualistic, magickal, spiritual and mystical. Although the group deals with the supernatural, they want to steer away from the idea that they are a religious organization.

The reason why magic is spelled "magick" in their mission statement; the "k" symbolizes that it is not stage magic.

*"We are an academic organization; while we do practice these things, we are not all fire, brimstone, black hats and cauldrons."*

— Mark Martinez

The OSSO has a large library of the occult, and they meet weekly to discuss and study such matters. Their meetings are on Fridays at 6:30 in room 125 in the OC.



## Muslim Student Association

*"I like to balance things: the mind, body and the soul; my mind through academic organizations and studying, my body through working out, and the MSA for the soul."*

— Amaal Haimout

The goals of the Muslim Student Association include spreading Islamic awareness, educating students and attempting to eliminate negative stereotypes about Islam. They aspire to work with other organizations with the same goals to form a community. MSA meets every other Tuesday at 12 p.m. in the Oakland Center.

A fundraising dinner will be held Nov. 20 from 6-9 p.m. at the Muslim Unity Center.

The money raised will be donated to a free clinic in Detroit.

For more information, e-mail [msaoakland@gmail.com](mailto:msaoakland@gmail.com)

## Agape

*"It is a living community. We are not satisfied with being a closed social club, it is constantly expanding."*

— Amaal Haimout

Agape is a catholic campus community group, affiliated with St. John Fisher Parish. They are a community of young believers who gather for a variety of spiritual, social and service opportunities.

Contact [emgoodma@oakland.edu](mailto:emgoodma@oakland.edu) or [abad@oakland.edu](mailto:abad@oakland.edu) for more info.

**Every second Sunday of each month, there is a mass at St. John Fisher Parish at 7 p.m.**

They participate in scripture and faith sharing in groups to attend to differing schedules.

Coffee and conversation is hosted every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Caribou Coffee at Walton and Adams.

## Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship

The InterVarsity Christian Fellowship aspires to create the missing communities, where anyone can ask questions and study the Bible.

Converge, a large group, meets every Thursday in the Oakland Room at 7 p.m.

Connect group, or small groups, studies in different places. Search OUIVCF on Facebook for more information.

*"To me, InterVarsity's community has had a huge impact on my life. Being a commuter, I had a hard time getting connected to people outside of my classes. But through InterVarsity, I have made lasting friendships and I always know I have friends I can count on."*

— Chris Herberg

Young Life meets in the West Vandenberg Lounge every Friday evening from 5-7 p.m. and occasionally go out afterward for coffee or a movie. Meetings consist of a short Bible study and worship session, then break into small groups and discuss the readings and the topic. After, the group spends time getting to know one another.



## Young Life

Young Life is a Christian organization that operates worldwide. There are a variety of components to Young Life, the main one being college students volunteering to serve as mentors for high schoolers or middle schoolers, teaching them about the Bible and leading them onto a walk with Christ.

For more information, email [emfourni@oakland.edu](mailto:emfourni@oakland.edu)



## Basketball picked 2nd in Summit

By KEVIN ROMANCHIK  
Scene Editor

After claiming the Summit League championship for the last two years and back-to-back trips to NCAA tournaments, the Oakland University men's basketball team was picked second in the Summit League Preseason Poll with four first-place votes, while rival Oral Roberts received 27 of the 32 first place votes as the favorite to take the league championship.

"I don't care about that stuff," said head coach Greg Kampe. "I will tell you that I'm surprised that we weren't picked to win (the league title) because we've won 50 of our last 53 league games."

Regardless of outside opinions, coaches and players agree that team goals are more important than rankings and accolades.

"We are focused on us," Reggie Hamilton, senior guard and All-Summit First Team player, said. "We know what this team is capable of."

The departure of three of OU's most-decorated seniors, including NBA draft pick Keith Benson and overseas professionals Will Hudson and Larry Wright, is the likely reason that voters were down on Oakland.

"If you put Michigan State jerseys on us the last few years, we could have been a Michigan State team with our size," Kampe said. "We are going to be much different but that doesn't mean we can't be as good or better."

The Golden Grizzlies return starting senior guard Hamilton and sophomore forward Drew

Valentine after losing starters in Benson, Wright and Hudson.

Despite not being the starting point guard at the beginning of last season, Hamilton earned the position when Wright fell to injuries and finished as a top assistmen in the Summit League with 5.3 per game.

"(Hamilton) proved to me that he could still score and run our point," Kampe said. "He's pretty much going to have the ball and he's going to have to make great decisions."

Valentine, who led the Summit League with 1.7 steals per game last season, will be looked upon to continue growing.

"Drew Valentine is probably the best all around player in our conference," Kampe said. "There's a reason we've won a championship every year Drew Valentine has been in our program."

Mid-Major All-American sophomore guard Travis Bader finished last season with 94 3-pointers made and shot 44 percent from the three-point arc, good for ninth place in the NCAA.

This season, however, he's willing to further expand his role on the team.

"Anything I can do to help the team," Bader said. "If they need me to pass more, I'll pass more. If they need me to cheer louder, I'll cheer louder."

Without Benson and Hudson in the paint this season, Kampe and his staff will lean heavily on freshmen centers Corey Petros and Kyle Sikora for interior defense and rebounding. Both players were redshirted last season, but their teammates think they are



GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post

Members of the Oakland University men's basketball team answer questions at Media Day. Oakland is tabbed to finish second in the Summit League, after winning 50 of their last 53 Summit League games.

ready to step up for the Grizzlies.

"The young guys have been doing a good job in practice and I think they are ready to show what they got," Valentine said.

In three mid-August exhibition games, the Golden Grizzlies won two out of three games against the University of Windsor and Western Ontario, but Kampe admits to not having the full potential on the floor.

"My biggest concern about this team was rebounding," Kampe said. "In those three Canadian games, we out-rebounded our opponents by 15 or 18 in all games; that made me feel a lot better about our team."

Kampe expects to redshirt possibly two of the three incoming

freshman because of depth.

They are Korab Imami, 6-foot-10 inch center; Matt Poches, guard from Hartland High School; and Dante Williams, 6-foot-6 inch forward and Ann Arbor native.

"I expect in the next four or five years that those guys will be big name players," Kampe said. "I'll be very surprised if they are not."

The Golden Grizzlies open the 2011-12 season by traveling to Tuscaloosa, Ala. on Nov. 14 to take on the University of Alabama Crimson Tide, and then head to Arkansas on Nov. 16.

In the biggest home game of Oakland basketball history, the University of Tennessee Volunteers will be coming to the O'Rena on Nov. 28. To the cheers of

many Grizzly fans in attendance at Midnight Madnezz, Kampe announced that the game would be televised on ESPN in their 9 p.m. primetime slot.

Other notable non-conference games include Michigan at the Palace of Auburn Hills on Dec. 10 and on the road against the University of Arizona on Dec. 20.

One major difference in scheduling, as opposed to past seasons, is the number of home games that OU will have.

"We've won 29 consecutive league games in here; it's pretty amazing," Kampe said. "Getting 15 home games should really help."

Oakland will open at home against Sprng Arbor on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. at the O'Rena.

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Board

Oct. 12

Men's Soccer vs.  
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L, 2-1 (20T)

Women's Soccer at  
South Dakota State  
T, 0-0

Oct. 15

Men's Soccer vs.  
IPFW  
W, 1-0

Volleyball vs.  
IPFW  
L, 3-0

Oct. 16

Women's Soccer vs.  
North Dakota State  
L, 1-0





GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post

Brittany Carnago and Bethany Watterworth of the Oakland University women's basketball team answer questions about the upcoming season at Media Day.

## 'Team effort' necessary for Summit League run

By **SETH WALKER**  
Staff Reporter

With new additions and a few players returning from injury, a young Oakland University women's basketball team will look to make a run in the Summit League in 2011.

The season kicked off with head coach Beckie Francis, along with members of the team, taking part in Media Day.

The theme emphasized by Oakland during the press conference was it will be "a team effort" this season.

"One person can't get you to win the Summit League championship, it's all about the team," junior forward Bethany Watterworth said. "I know my teammates have my back, my teammates are very important for our success."

Oakland will also be healthy, after three teammates who missed most of last season due to injury return, and four incoming freshmen join the team.

Victoria Lipscomb, Jenna Bachrouche and Amy Carl-

ton only played in a combined 16 games last season and will look to build on three 20-win seasons in four years.

Two of the four freshmen joining the team are forward, Shelby Herrington and guard Peyton Apsey, both from Hemlock, Mich. They led their team to the Class C State Semifinals as high school seniors.

The other freshmen, guards Lauren Robak and Halle Wrangler, were both standouts in the Catholic League. Robak led Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes to two straight Class D State titles while Wrangler helped Royal Oak Shrine win a district title.

Francis made it a point to recruit from high level basketball programs, noting several players have won state championships or made it far into the state tournament in high school.

"We try to recruit from the top high school programs in the area," Francis said. "Everybody on this team is from a very successful winning program."

Another key addition for

OU will be size. For most of last season, Carnago was the only active player OU had that was at least 6-0. Now there are three other players, Bachrouche, Herrington and sophomore Julia Vestin, who fit this description.

Francis described all three players as being "good inside-out players" with the ability to play on the post and the perimeter.

The OU backcourt will also have a great amount of depth with nine guards.

According to Francis, all of the guards collectively are very skilled shooters.

With the makeup of this year's team, Calhoun believes that the Grizzlies' chances of winning the Summit League championship are "great."

"This team that we have this year is just amazing," Calhoun said. "The work ethic that they (the other players) have, our defense is already looking great."

The Grizzlies will play their first exhibition game at home at the O'Rena against Ferris State on Oct. 29 at 1 p.m.

## Freshmen look to make impact

By **JORDAN REED**  
Staff Intern

Three incoming freshmen, Dante Williams, Korab Imami and Matt Poches, are looking to make an impact on Oakland University's men's basketball team.

"We recruited three very good players that we think will help our program," said Greg Kampe, head coach.

Williams, a 6-foot-6 inch forward from Ann Arbor high school, received national attention from ESPN and gathered all-state honors. Colorado, Eastern Michigan and Providence, among others, scouted Williams, but he decided Oakland was the best fit for him.

"One of the main reasons I chose Oakland was for the location," Williams said. "I'm close to home, so my family can come and see my games."

Korab Imami, a 6-foot-10 inch center from Peje, Kosovo, has also been adjusting to the team, as well adjusting to living in the United States.

Last year, he attended Adelphi Christian Academy in South Carolina and gained

scouting attention in the Converse Mo Mentorship All-Star Game in high school.

As an international student, Imami has found his teammates to be very helpful.

"I'm thankful to all the players, because all of them go out of their way to help," Imami said. "In the first year that I was here, it was hard for me to adjust, but my host family and students have all been helping me."

Poches, a 6-foot-4 inch guard from Hartland high school, gathered all-state honors and earned a spot on the Detroit News Dream Team and was recognized by ESPN. He was also named offensive player of the year and team MVP at Hartland during his senior season.

"We like his tenacity," Kampe said. "We like how hard he plays, we like that he's single minded and (that he) sticks to the task."

Kampe said that he likes what he has seen so far from the freshman.

"We are looking forward to what the new players can do for us," Kampe said.

The Grizzlies will host Spring Arbor in the O'Rena on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m.

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# Medical marijuana under fire

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**  
Local Editor

Medical marijuana is the thing that has everyone buzzing these days.

Several bills, no less than 16, that would affect the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act, have been introduced into state legislature. If passed, many of these bills would undermine Michigan's voter-approved law by preventing or discouraging patients from accessing their doctor-recommended medicine.

Some of the proposed laws would nullify the MMMA, making it illegal for patients or caregivers to obtain or provide to others and by forbidding patients who live near schools, churches or day care centers to cultivate in their own homes.

"I'm all for medical marijuana if it is used correctly, because there are definitely instances where it is needed," Kathryn Marquette, communications major, said. "But until it is legalized fully for everyone, I support regulations on it."

## Proposed legislation

All of the bills affect medical marijuana patients and caregivers, and eleven of the bills seek to amend the MMMA, which requires three quarters approval by both the House of Representatives and The Senate.

All of the laws are currently sitting in the Senate and The House of Representatives. Bill SB 321 seeks to propose to amend the Insurance Code of 1956 to exclude the medical use of marijuana as an allowable expense within personal protection insurance coverage.

Bill SB 506 seeks to strictly define what a bona-fide doctor-patient relationship is. Under this law, doctors would need to

take a medical history of the patient; perform a physical examination; review prior treatments and responses and more.

A full list of proposed bills can be seen at [www.mpp.org](http://www.mpp.org)

State senators Rick Jones and Tonya Schuitmaker announced late last month that they are also drafting a legislation to require at least one year of residency before obtaining a Michigan medical marijuana card.

"States are passing medical marijuana laws in direct violation of the federal law, which prohibits the prescription or legal use of marijuana under any circumstances. My take on that it is ... it's silly," Amanda Burgess-Proctor, assistant professor of sociology, said.

Burgess-Proctor teaches a course on drugs and addiction at OU and also wrote a guest column for The Oakland Press that discussed inconsistencies the U.S. drug policy.

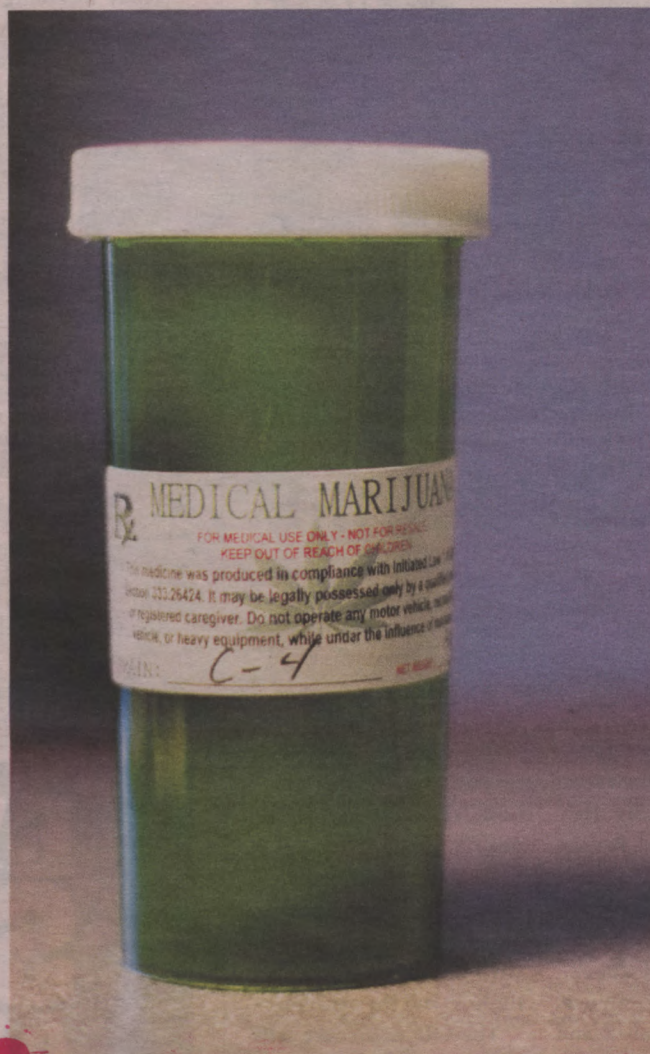
Michigan isn't the only state seeking to alter their medical marijuana law, though. Illinois, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania also currently have pending legislation regarding medical marijuana.

Only two bills regarding medical marijuana have passed this year. While 16 house and senate bills regarding medical marijuana introduced in 2011 from states like Connecticut, Florida and Texas failed to pass and died when the legislature adjourned.

## Marijuana debate

But this isn't the first time controversy and debate has surrounded medical marijuana in Michigan.

On Aug. 24, the Michigan Court of Appeals declared commercial marijuana sales illegal and most local medical mari-



SIERRA SOLEIMANI/The Oakland Post

Several bills have been introduced into state legislature that, if approved, will affect the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act.

juana dispensaries were forced to close their doors. Now, medical marijuana patients must find a dispensary that is still open or turn to caregivers who will agree to add them as patients.

But supporters and patients of medical marijuana are not taking the fight lying down.

Thousands of supporters and patients of medical marijuana traveled to Lansing early September to protest the proposed restrictions on the practice in Michigan.

"It's a really dysfunctional system of policies and I think that we can be smarter about

our laws regarding drug policy," Burgess-Proctor said.

Now, places all over the state are taking a stance in the debate against medical marijuana.

Kalamazoo voters will decide next month whether to write a relaxed attitude towards medical marijuana into western Michigan's community City Charter.

The ballot proposal would direct police enforcement against small possessions of marijuana a low priority. Approximately 2,600 signatures were gathered for the proposal to make a spot on the Nov. 8 ballot.

## OU faculty, grad run for school board

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**  
Local Editor

Rochester voters will select candidates to serve for three six-year terms on the Rochester Board of Education on Nov. 8.

Three of the five candidates are affiliated with Oakland University. Faculty members Beth Talbert and Pat Piskulich; and OU graduate Jane Pierobon are all seeking for a spot on the Rochester Board of Education.

Talbert is a current board member who is running for re-election. She has been an instructor at OU for 12 years and is the current director of the communication program at OU. She is also the former associate director of admissions.

Talbert holds a bachelor of English and communication from Western Michigan University and a masters degree in college student personnel from Bowling Green State University.

Piskulich is an associate professor of political science at OU and has been a member of the Rochester community for more than 20 years.

He said his background in political science and public policy analysis could serve the community well.

OU grad Jane Pierobon is a part time nurse at Henry Ford Health Center and an Army Reservist.

Pierobon graduated from OU in 1990 with a bachelors of science in nursing, and joined the U.S. Army in 1990 with active duty from 1990-1994 at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Pierobon has volunteered in classrooms, chaired school events and sat on the Hugger PTA Board as vice president of committees, membership and served two years as PTA President.

Elections for the Rochester Board of Education will be held Nov. 8.





## The Clatter makes a bang

Kim Madeleine, left, and Lou Sysocki performed at Clancy's Irish Pub in Clinton Township on Sept. 24. Madeleine is a special lecturer in the journalism department at Oakland University. Photo courtesy of Holly Gilbert

## Professor teaches by day, rocks out by night

By SARAH HUNTON  
Staff Reporter

Kim Madeline, a special lecturer in the journalism department, fills two contrasting roles during sun up and sun down.

By day, Madeleine teaches at Oakland University and runs his own public relations and marketing firm called KRM Communications, LLC. By night, he hauls out his various guitars to perform with his band at local venues.

The band, The Clatter, is comprised of drummer Dennis Zabis, bassist Lou Wysocki and Madeleine on guitar. They formed about four years ago and play classic rock and Motown tunes.

Madeleine began his musical career as clarinetist, but soon realized that it was more fun to be able to sing while playing an instrument.

At age 10, the music he listened to influenced him to

learn to play the guitar.

"The Beatles, the Stones, they just wanted to make you play guitar," Madeleine said, "so that's what we did."

Before starting college, Madeleine's first band, The Flexx Band, was close to reaching a record deal. Their contact at Warner Brothers, however, left before they were able to finalize negotiations.

At 19, Madeleine decided that he should go back to school as opposed to purely touring and living the rock star life. He attended MSU and, with drummer Zabis, revived The Flexx Band.

"We actually played all the time at Michigan State," Madeleine said. "We played every weekend, we had a booking agent, so, to be blunt, it was way more fun because I was getting an education and playing rock and roll."

Every few years, The Flexx Band plays a reunion show.

Amy Eckhardt was a student

of Madeleine's this past summer and wasn't aware that her teacher was a rock star until a couple of weeks into the semester. She attended a gig The Clatter played at Clancy's in Clinton Township on Sept. 24.

"The most entertaining part of the evening was hearing Kim hit the high notes while singing," Eckhardt said. "If you have never heard him speak, he has a very low voice. We were all surprised that he could sing that high."

Donna Tinker, a public relations minor at OU, attended the show with her husband Brian after Madeleine mentioned during class that he is in a band.

"It was really fun to see students and faculty watching everyone and having a good time," Tinker said. "It was nice to see Kim as a person as opposed to just a faculty member."

Both students believe that in addition to being a good musi-

cian, Madeleine offers something special when he teaches.

"(Kim) is tremendously excited about what he does and that is quite obvious when you see him teach," Eckhardt said. "He doesn't treat students like just students — he sees us as the future of the industry."

Tinker said Madeline is passionate about what he does and wants his students to learn.

Just as many students at OU have a soft spot for Madeleine, he enjoys teaching them.

"My favorite aspect is mentoring students," he said. "I find that Oakland students are very solid students who really seem to want to do well in the real world."

When he's not teaching or playing his guitar, Madeleine enjoys playing golf, traveling and spending time with wife, Linda, and two sons.

To sample some of The Clatter's music, visit [www.myspace.com/theclatterdetroit](http://www.myspace.com/theclatterdetroit)

## BAND OVERVIEW

FORMED: About four years ago

GENRE: Classic rock and Motown tunes

SOUNDS LIKE: The Clatter keeps things classic by covering songs by artists such as Tom Petty and The Ramones.

INFLUENCES: The Beatles, The Rolling Stones

## UPCOMING SHOWS

NOV. 5  
Mayflower Lanes  
Redford, Mich.  
9:00 p.m.

NOV. 12  
Clancy's Irish Pub  
Clinton Twp., Mich.  
9:30 p.m.

DEC. 9  
Edison's  
Birmingham, Mich.  
9:00 p.m.

DEC. 10  
Edison's  
Birmingham, Mich.  
9:00 p.m.



# GREEN award presented to professor

## Tim Larrabee spotlights the environment, diversity in his classroom

By **KEVIN GRAHAM**  
Staff Intern

Tim Larrabee, the head of Oakland University's elementary science education program for the teacher development and educational studies department, received the Chevrolet GREEN Educator Award for the month of Oct, recognizing his efforts in environmental education.

### Green initiatives

Larrabee's environmental education efforts include incorporating the Earth Force curriculum into his elementary science education classes, which encourages students to engage with their communities on environmental issues, two of the required criteria for consideration for the GREEN award.

His students have worked to develop plans to curb the growing deer population on campus as well as increasing the awareness of senior citizens on environmental issues.

Larrabee pursued teaching science after seeing teachers take their classes through the Sacramento Zoo, where he worked as a volunteer after graduating from the University of California at Davis with a degree in psychology with an emphasis on biology.

### Teaching methods

"I didn't have any career plans, but I enjoyed talking with the public," Larrabee said. "And all the elementary school teachers who came by seemed to be having a lot of fun."

Larrabee returned to school to get his teaching credential from National University in San Diego and spent 12 years as a middle school science teacher in Sacramento before moving into higher education as a result of a shrinking job market for teachers.

Now in his eighth year at OU, Larrabee shows his elementary education students that science doesn't have to be that difficult.

"In the classroom, our students learn how to teach science through inquiry by



JESSICA CARMICHAEL/The Oakland Post

Tim Larrabee was recognized for his efforts in environmental education with the Chevrolet GREEN Educator Award for the month of October.

conducting their own inquiries," he said. "Once they understand that science is a process and not a bunch of facts to be memorized, they tend to relax a bit and are relieved to know they don't have to know everything."

Senior Amanda Navarro, an elementary education major specializing in language arts, said there are many things she will take away from Larrabee's class and his teaching style.

"He definitely presented his teaching style in an engaging way and always taught and modeled the way that we should for our elementary students," she said. "Dr. Larrabee gave us the opportunity to work with the Detroit Zoo, teaching inner city kids through a program called City Critters."

### Classroom diversity

In addition to his work in the sciences, Larrabee teaches a variety of courses on diversity in the classroom. His goal is to get students to look at issues from a variety of different angles.

"You cannot teach diversity," he said. "What you can do is help students see the world from different perspectives in order to gain some insights into how others experience our world."

Larrabee said that in today's age of instant global communication, teachers must be ready to help students begin to think about the ideas of people from various backgrounds and viewpoints. He frequently places students in groups in order to get them used to working with different people.

"It is our job as teacher educators to facilitate difficult discussions so that students learn to think critically about their world views," he said. "They must also become reflective practitioners to consider what role they have in perpetuating the status quo in their classrooms."

In addition to his work in the classroom, Larrabee further promotes diversity by chairing a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer/questioning and allied employee resource group, responsible for getting gender and sexual orientation included in OU's antidiscrimination policy.

### LGBTIQA efforts

He also heads a task force on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity sponsored by OU's School of Education and Human Services, which is working on organizing the first statewide conference on these issues. Nationally, Larrabee chairs the Queer Studies Special Interest Group for the American Educational Research Association.

Larrabee, who moved here with his husband, said his goal is to facilitate a better educational experience for the LGBTIQA community.

"One reason I pursued higher education was to increase my circle of influence on the field of teaching," he said. Now, rather than impacting the 160 students I taught each year, I now have influence on how my 125 university students teach their 3,750 students (assuming they teach 30 students each)."

Senior Catherine Pannell, a social work major, said Larrabee opened up her mind on diversity issues.

"I will take so much from the class," Pannell said. "The class taught me patience and understanding. As a bisexual student on campus, I came into the class thinking that everything would be confirmation for me, but it was so much more that I did not know."

Larrabee teaches teaching science at the elementary-middle levels; managing the classroom environment for diverse learning; multicultural education in the schools; sexual orientation, gender identity and education; and science for the elementary teacher.



# Student harbors ambition for internationalism

By **ALANA HARTLEY**  
Staff Intern

Junior Steve Wynn is making a difference, both at home at Oakland University and abroad in Germany.

Wynne, an English secondary education and German K-12 education double major, works in Career Services as a peer mentor.

One of his duties is to advertise the assistance offered by Career Services through blogs and an information table in the Oakland Center.

"Steve makes a good peer mentor because he has a lot of enthusiasm for learning and sharing what he learns with others," Kathy Livelsberger, the assistant director of Career Services, said.

As a peer mentor, Wynne gives students resources that can help them find internships or full employment. He is enthusiastic and

open to talking to other students and is an advocate for taking on risks and challenges, Livelsberger said.

For his own career plans, Wynne said he wants to teach in an upper level high school or an International Baccalaureate school in Germany, where he studied abroad last school year in the city of Oldenburg.

"My goal is to return to Germany to teach either English literature for German students, or German as a second language for native English-speakers in Germany," Wynne said.

While studying abroad in Germany, Wynne worked as an English tutor for elementary-aged Turkish students.

Wynne encourages all students to study abroad — he said his own international experience was life-changing.

"It's good to learn how different

people think and to have more awareness of other cultures," he said.

Wynne is also active in the community surrounding OU. He was one of the first members of "Rochester PRIDE," which is a "youth driven program that is dedicated to the prevention of drugs, alcohol, violence and self harm," according to their website, [www.prideofrochester.com](http://www.prideofrochester.com)

The program started at Reuther Middle School, where Wynne first joined. He was also a member of Rochester PRIDE through all four years of high school at the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills.

As a member of the national performance team for the PRIDE Program, Wynne traveled to the annual conference to spread PRIDE's message through acting, for which he won national awards.



SIERRA SOLEIMANI/The Oakland Post

Steve Wynne, a junior studying English secondary education and German K-12 education, is a peer mentor and community leader.

He was also a founding member of "The Upper Room," which is a congregation for drug- and violence-free youth in downtown

Rochester.

"We basically want to get kids off the street and keep kids safe and happy," Wynne said.

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## Musical stylings of OU's own

A new series featuring artistic talents of the Oakland student body



Photo courtesy of Leo Bautista

### RIVAL SUMMERS

**MEMBERS:**  
Leo Bautista,  
*Communication major*

#### ABOUT:

He calls his unique style of music, "Legit acoustic pop." Bautista formed Rival Summers four years ago while in high school. Since then, he has played hundreds of shows and gained thousands of fans.

"It's cool knowing a lot of people," Bautista said. "I like the friendships I make with the people who like my music."

Bautista recorded the first Rival Summers full-length album while only a sophomore in high school. He traveled to Chicago to record with Michael Govare, formerly of the band Every Avenue.

Rival Summers has shared the stage with artists like The Scene Aesthetic, He is We and Rochester native, former lead singer of Chiodos, Craig Owens. But his most recent accomplishment was having his music played on 89x.

#### ALBUMS:

Ready When You Are, released in October, 2009  
Blankets & Sheets EP, released in October 2010  
Days Like This EP, released in November 2010

#### LISTEN:

[Facebook.com/rivalsummers](https://www.facebook.com/rivalsummers)

**"It was a little intimidating at first because he's Mike, and Every Avenue is awesome," Bautista said. "After a while it was really awesome to work with him. (Govare) was able to get my ideas out."**

#### WHAT'S NEXT:

Rival Summers is currently in the beginning stages of making a second full-length album and will start recording in November. The album is estimated to be released in the spring.

"I really love what I do and I work really hard," Bautista said. Rival Summers will be performing Sat, Nov. 5 at the Floodcafe in St. Clair Shoes.

### THE BURNING PONIES

**MEMBERS:**  
Jim Byrne,  
*Psychology major*  
Giancarlo DiPonio,  
*Studio art major*



Photo courtesy of The Burning Ponies

#### ABOUT:

After discovering that their unique sense of humor and music styles were the same, WXOU radio's own Byrne and DiPonio decided to form a band.

"Our style of music is pleasurable—it's the sound of honey bees connected with the sound of pleasure," Byrne said.

According to DiPonio and Byrne their shows are full of people holding hands, crying babies and grandmas.

**"It would be like a large prayer session almost, a very spiritual feel," DiPonio said. "We preach nothing but peace, love and burning ponies."**

#### ALBUMS:

Their first CD, an acoustic album called "An Acoustic Pony Volume 1" was released in May 2011.

#### LISTEN:

[Facebook.com/theburningponies](https://www.facebook.com/theburningponies)

#### WHAT'S NEXT:

"There are multiple (albums) in the works," Byrne said. "We currently have 18 unfinished songs at the moment."

They frequently perform at the OU open mic nights every Thursday in the Vandenberg lounge.

The Burning Ponies will be putting on another events like the "The Burning Ponies Fest" most likely in mid Nov.

Check out their radio show, "The Burning Ponies Express" that is featured on WXOU every Thursday at 8 p.m.

If you are an OU student in a band, email [scene@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:scene@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured in a future segment.



# OUCARES rolls out the red carpet for film premiere

By ISABELLA SHAYA  
Staff Intern

On Saturday, Oct. 15, Oakland University Center for Autism Research, Education, and Support rolled out the red carpet and hosted an event at Oakland University to showcase the talent and work of the 2011 Summer Film Camp participants.

OUCARES is a non-profit organization that strives to raise money and awareness for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

"The program that I kept hearing about from OUCARES staff was the Film Camp," Kathleen Sweeney, director of OUCARES, said. "I would hear 'if you think this is good, just wait until the Summer Film Camp, it's amazing.'"

The Summer Film Camp was a two-week program in August that gave kids and teenagers with ASD the opportunity to write, act, direct, and edit their own film.

At Saturday's 2011 Film Premiere, camp participants, along

with friends and family, as well as people interested in supporting the organization, were invited to view the film that the kids produced this past summer.

"It's interesting because being in the camp, you see all the pieces happening, you see all the kids creating, writing, editing, bringing in all the props, and then you see them filming all the different pieces," Karin Chandler, program coordinator for OUCARES, said. "It was so amazing to see it all come together Saturday night."

Joey Travolta, a well-known actor, director and entertainer, leads the Summer Film Camp every summer.

He brings along nine crew members from California, three of which have ASD.

"Travolta and his team are incredible at how they work with these kids, communicate with them, and bring their strengths out," Chandler said.

The film, which was over an hour long, featured popcorn and cookies provided by OUCARES,



GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post  
The OUCARES film premiere on Oct. 15 had over 400 people in attendance. OUCARES ran the film camp from this past summer.

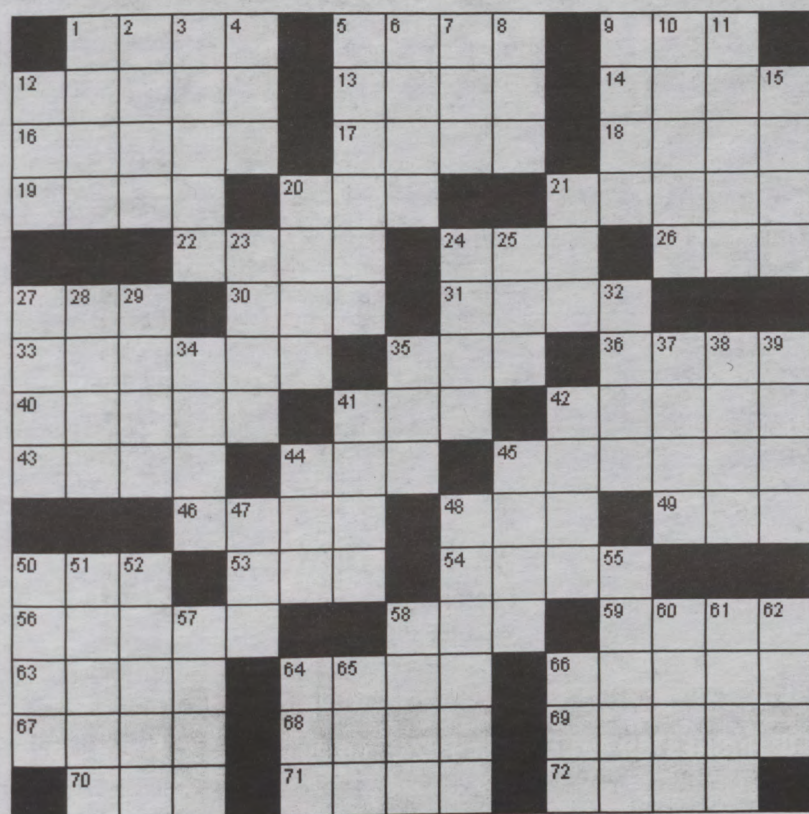
for its over 400 attendees.

"One minute you were laughing, the next minute you were crying, and the next minute you were crying from laughing so hard," Chandler said. "It was prob-

ably one of the most phenomenal experiences I have ever had."

Chandler believes the audience who saw the film witnessed the great artistic abilities of the children involved with the program.

"It really confirmed the fact that the children have so much potential," Chandler said. "All the kids dressed up and held their head high, which was so wonderful to see."



## Across

1. Part of a book
5. An aggressive remark
9. Restaurant bill
12. Underneath
13. Chills and fever
14. Kind of starch
16. Publish
17. Transmitted
18. An instinctive motive
19. Entranceway
20. Writing tablet
21. Part of a stable
22. Watch face
24. Number of items in a brace
26. Up to now
27. Back muscle
30. Mouthpiece used to control a horse
31. Ecstatic
33. Combined
35. Levy
36. Particle
40. Unwind
41. Sauce made of fermented beans

## Down

1. Currency of Cuba
2. In addition
3. Any of numerous fruits with hard rinds
4. Female sheep
5. Volcanic rock
6. Elderly
7. Operate
8. Wager
9. Drawn tight
10. Impressive display
11. Brass instrument
12. Tender
15. Thaw
20. Discharged a debt
21. Concession given to placate
23. Type of wild goat
24. Serving dish
25. Increase in phase
27. Tempt
28. Afresh
29. Thin flat slab of fired clay

## Across

32. Mountain lake
34. Counterweight used to obtain net weight
35. Unit of weight
37. Prong
38. Take orders
39. Boundary line
41. Faction
42. Finishing line for a foot race
44. Pastry item
45. Donate
47. Travel a route regularly
48. Kind of receptacle
50. Remainder
51. Awake
52. Scrimmage
55. Measuring stick
57. Mirth
58. Unit of area
60. Square root of eighty-one
61. Pack of cards
62. Single
64. Jump lightly
65. In the past
66. Astern



## Major League Baseball is for fatties

By BRIAN FIGURSKI  
Staff Reporter

It's no surprise I hate sports. I've complained about it plenty of times; it's one of the things my life depends on.

On the flipside of that, I love being active and promoting good health, while smoking a cigarette. I really am an advocate of regular exercise and think there should be more of an approach to get kids active at a younger age to prevent obesity and other medical problems later in life.

That being said, I hate baseball.

I have never been a fan of the good ol' American pastime in the first place, along with my disdain of apple pie and freedom. Does this place me on a terrorist watch list?

Baseball is a boring sport. It takes so long to get exciting stuff stirring. I'm sure throwing a no hitter game is a triumph and exciting for Justin Verlander, I am completely bored however watching you heave a ball.

I have given the game a chance. I've been to Comerica Park. The most intriguing part of my venture there was throwing ice off the top of the McDonald's onto streetwalkers below.

I was ejected before "Take Me Out To The Ball Game."

They even have a stadium-wide stretch and yawn session three-quarters through the game. The MLB knows the sport is terribly draining.

So why do I have such a terrible taste in my mouth for baseball, a cornerstone of American sports, instead of channeling my disdain towards another more worthless game as soccer or arena football?

Baseball promotes the fact that you can be grossly overweight and out-of-shape and still make millions of dollars.

I was watching the Tigers whoop some Yankees into submission during the division series and noticed the gigantic gut

flapping over the belt of New York pitcher C.C. Sabathia.

The 290-pound man signed a deal back in 2008 with the Yankees for \$161 million over seven years.

Did the deal also come with a sponsorship and free daily meals at McDonald's?

Those figures may not be completely accurate, like Sabathia's pitches when he hurls Ho-Hos into his mouth, but the point is this guy makes his life playing a sport, a word defined as 'an athletic activity requiring skill or physical prowess.'

If that's the definition of sport, baseball must fall under the category of leisure activities.

What kind of message does this send to youth of the nation, having the ability to be severely overweight with the slight ability to throw a mean fastball and make more money than I will ever possibly generate over two lifetimes?

I feel as if people would see this grotesquely large human being and think that this is a reasonable life choice, clogged arteries and a heart attack at the top of the sixth.

It's a shame that the Tigers had to lose to the Rangers, but they do have Miguel Cabrera weighing them down. No pun intended.

Or maybe just a little.

The need for a large upper body to hit the ball far, on the off-occasion someone actually hits the ball, is understandable. If your broad shoulders allow you to clock up home runs then you can munch your chicken sandwich while you waddle the bases.

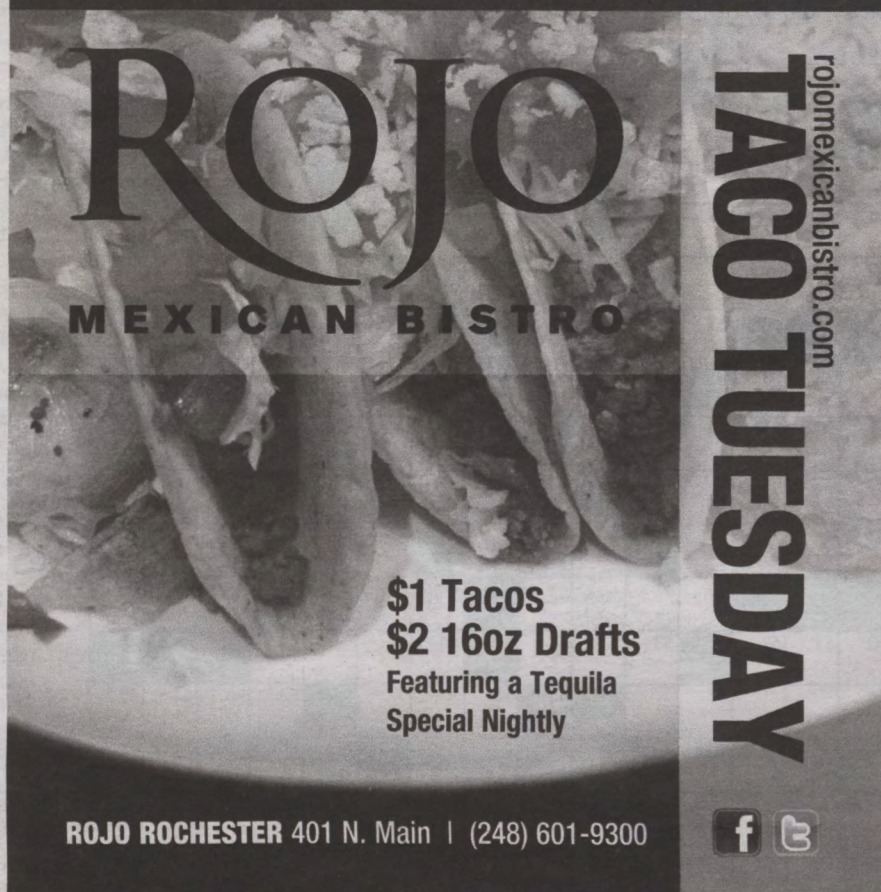
I truly am upset the Tigers have been ousted from the pennant race, but at least our lofty metro children can forget about their husky heroes of baseball for some time while they focus on basketball icons that get arrested for drunk driving with gun possession.

## Top 5 signs of fall at OU

By STEVE WISEMAN  
Contributing Reporter

- 5 Flip flops and fleeces become perfectly acceptable attire for ladies on campus.
- 4 Smokers begin to disregard the 50-foot smoking policy even more.
- 3 Everyone begins gaining the "Freshman 15" due to the mass ingestion of cider and donuts.
- 2 Bike share bikes begin coming with free gloves.
- 1 Deer have begun sleeping in the Student Congress-sponsored hammocks outside.

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