

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

JANUARY
25
— 2012 —



SPOTTED

Students seen wearing a popular winter garment: pea coats

PAGES 10 & 11



DRIVEN

Balancing school and two sports

PAGE 12

CELEBRATE

Students celebrate Chinese New Year, year of the Dragon

PAGE 9



ATHLETIC DISCIPLINARY ACTION

PAGE 13

thisweek

January 25, 2012 // Volume 38. Issue 20



ontheweb

Were you at the Chinese New Year celebration? Check out an exclusive video and photos on our website.

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WXOU HONORED // Student-run radio station WXOU celebrated their win for MAB Station of the Year Award against rivals Michigan State University. The station "swept" the categories, winning multiple awards.

Tweet @theoaklandpost or e-mail photos@oaklandpostonline.com for your chance to be featured as photo of the week.

ASHLEY ALLISON // *The Oakland Post*



15



17

POLL OF THE WEEK

Should the government step in and regulate online content?

- A Yes
- B No
- C I don't care

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What is the worst college job you have had?

A) Food Service

17 votes | 47%

B) Retail

14 votes | 39%

C) Babysitting

3 votes | 8%

D) Landscaping

2 votes | 6%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

JANUARY 27, 1967

A female OU student was stabbed in a university parking lot by her ex-boyfriend. After stabbing her in the abdomen with a five inch hunting knife, he transported her to the hospital for treatment.

JANUARY 27, 1971

Water line breakages, caused by mechanical failures and lack of occupancy during winter break, damaged five buildings on campus. Preliminary estimates for repair were under \$5,000.

JANUARY 25, 2006

Actor James Earl Jones came to Meadow Brook Theatre to speak. More than 1,000 people were in attendance and an additional 400 were directed to the Oakland Center's Pioneer Food Court to watch Jones' speech via simulcast.



6

6 // CAMPUS

Students can now search for their classes in a virtual course catalogue. The online version will be more interactive, user friendly and searchable.



19

19 // LIFE

The OU Art Gallery is displaying a collection from 14 different New York artists in an exhibit called "Idealizing the Imaginary: Illusion and Invention in Contemporary Painting."

15 // LOCAL

Local artist Lee Gaddies offered instruction and advice to the basics in creating a comic book character, story, setting, illustration and the role of superheroes in modern culture.

17 // LIFE

An aspiring actress and OU student was featured in a recent film. She spends her free time studying her craft with professional actors at the Purple Rose Theatre.

BY THE NUMBERS

7

Number of restaurants in the pioneer food court

5

Number of Residence Halls at OU

19

Number of unrestricted parking lots on campus

\$8,663

Cost of a single room in an OU's Residence Halls for one year

4

Number of Greek Cottages at OU

Perspectives

STAFF EDITORIAL

Take advantage of the 'free' things you already pay for

Two weekends ago, 400 students traveled to Fort Wayne, Ind. to watch the men's and women's basketball teams win against rivals IPFW.

Though the game was considered an away game for Oakland University, there were more Grizzlies in attendance than Mastodons.

The group met early at OU Saturday morning, had breakfast, then rode charter busses out to the arena, enjoying snacks and winning prizes along the way. They were fed lunch upon arrival and even had Jimmy Johns on the bus ride home.

How much did students pay for the trip?

Nothing.

Yes, technically speaking, students paid for it when they paid \$25 into the Student Activity Fee Allocation Committee fund, but that's a negligible amount for what it gets you.

We aren't advocating for the university to keep raising our tuition so they can provide us with these benefits, but if we have them with the current rate, we might as well take advantage of them.

Many students fail to realize everything the school does for us, things other students at other universities have to pay for in addition to tuition.

Parking is a perennial

We aren't advocating for the university to keep raising our tuition so they can provide us with these benefits, but if we have them at the current rate, we might as well take advantage of them.

problem — as are people complaining about parking — but, aside from a few superior spots that are metered, it's free.

At Wayne State University, students have to pay a minimum of \$260 a semester for parking. At Michigan State University, it's \$462.

Yeah, sometimes it may be hard to find a parking spot close the building we need to be in, but we have the Bear Bus and Bike Share bikes to help alleviate the pain.

Another freebie that's often taken for granted is admission to sports games.

Last year's men's basketball team made it to March Madness, but there were a few home games where the student section was not at capacity. That is inexcusable.

Almost every Thursday and Saturday, the OU basketball teams play in the O'rena.

For students, those games are free and sometimes come

with free shirts and OU paraphernalia.

The OU Art Gallery located in Wilson Hall? Free.

The Recreation Center? MSU students have to pay \$225 for the year. We get it free of charge.

OU students and alumni can also get help with finding a job through career services — all for free. University of Michigan and MSU students start paying for that service about a year after graduation.

Going to go see one of the many speakers OU hosts, play frisbee golf on the outskirts of campus AND tour through Meadow Brook Hall to learn all about OU history? Free. Free. Free.

While we know that all of these free amenities are offered, we don't know why students take them for granted, especially when they're paid for as part of tuition.

Yeah, OU doesn't have everything, but most of what it does have comes free of charge. Take advantage of it.

It's not you can go to many events outside of campus and park, attend and eat all for free, but it does happen at OU. All the time.

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

Corrections Corner

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

Letters to the Editor

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 content, length and grammar.



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GUEST COLUMN

Students: get involved with Greek life

Alpha Kappa Psi is the oldest and largest professional co-ed business fraternity founded in 1904 at New York University. Mu Nu chapter was established here at Oakland University in 1985.

The fraternity provides students with the opportunity outside the classroom to build skills and experience, to become better business leaders in the community.

Globally, the fraternity has over 200 chapters in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Although Alpha Kappa Psi is a business fraternity, it is open to all majors. No matter what type of degree you are pursuing here at Oakland, you will need to be able to present yourself in a professional manner to future employers.

Our members have grown to

become a highly recognized pool of potential recruits by many of the nation's leading organizations.

Being part of Alpha Kappa Psi not only gives you the skills you need to succeed, but opens an extensive alumni network and business leadership training opportunities to you.



AUSTIN OARD

Alpha Kappa Psi member

In today's ever-changing environment, it is not enough just to go to college. Companies want an individual who can set themselves apart from the vast pool of candidates.

When it comes to getting the career you want, you will need to differentiate yourself from others.

Benefits of joining Alpha Kappa Psi are unlimited, but some of the opportunities you can expect to receive include networking, leadership experience, life-long friendships, interview

"Being in the fraternity has given me the opportunity to become a leader, has helped me grow."

skills, resumé building and relationships with affiliated OU professors. Before coming into Oakland, I really didn't have much management experience.

I've been on many interviews, and I know that companies are looking for someone who not only has management experience, but who can be a leader.

They are looking for someone who is not afraid of innovation and change.

Being in the fraternity has given me the opportunity to become a leader, has helped me grow.

Now I am confident that when I find the job I want my leadership skills will transition well into getting that job.

Another important aspect that has

made my experience memorable here at Oakland University was meeting a lot of really great people.

That is the greatest benefit I have received from being a part of this organization. I mean without friends, what fun is life.

We are actively involved in socials' throughout the year and have lots of fun.

Last year we played paintball, went to Chicago, had bonfires and did all kinds of activities.

You can gain all of these skills in Alpha Kappa Psi while also becoming a part of an everlasting Brotherhood!

To join in the winter 2012 recruiting, and to find out more about Rush, visit our website www.akpsiou.com

Austin Oard is a member of Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity.

E-mail him at atoard@oakland.edu

Classifieds

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SAIL should allow students with holds on their accounts to add/drop classes

Bryan Williams
Senior, Economics

I am writing you this because I wanted The Oakland Post to be aware of some of the unfair processes with registration as it relates to the last day to add and drop classes.

The biggest problem I see is with the process is the fact that the Registrar Services office closes at 5 p.m., but you can drop a class online until 11:59 p.m.

For students that have holds on their SAIL accounts have until 5 p.m. to go to the Registrar's Office and fill out a form to drop classes.

There are several types of holds that prevent the dropping of classes.

Holds range from tuition past due

to a library fine.

My point is that all students should be given equal opportunity to drop courses.

It is not fair to students who are trying to drop classes for any reason on the deadline day to be treated separately.

It appears that the University is attempting to "lock" students, with holds, in for tuition for classes they were attempting to drop.

This policy is very unfair for distant learning students who may not have time or a way to get to campus in order to drop classes by the 5 p.m. deadline.

SAIL could easily be made to allow student's with holds to drop their classes.

Have an opinion on something?

Let us know how you feel about any of our stories, photos or general coverage by submitting letters to the editor.

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study when submitting their letters. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



OU hosts first sexual orientation, gender identity education seminar

Professor creates forum to learn about SOGI issues

By Sarah Hunton
Campus Editor

On Feb. 3, Oakland University is hosting the first ever SOGI, sexual orientation and gender identity, conference for educators and the public. This is the first conference of its kind to take place in Michigan.

The term "SOGI" and the conference were created by associate professor of education, Tim Larrabee.

He created the term in order to encompass all sexual orientations and gender identities.

Larrabee created the conference to have a forum for educators to discuss and learn about SOGI related issues.

Nationally known speakers will host workshops and sessions at the conference, including keynote speaker Eliza Byard, executive director of The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education network.

Other organizations that will be contributing to the event include Affirmations, the ACLU of Michigan and the Ruth Elis Foundation.

Workshops at the conference will be two-hours long. During the time of the workshops, shorter one-hour sessions will be running.

Larrabee is most looking forward to people attending the event because of what he hopes to achieve with the confer-

ence in the long-run.

"I want a high turnout because that will signify there is an interest and commitment by educators, students and administrators to make their classrooms, schools, districts and their home state of Michigan, safer, more inclusive and more welcoming for all, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression," Larrabee said.

Louis Gallien, dean of the school of education has supported the convention from the beginning of planning.

"We're in the business of education and I think there's a lot of miseducation about issues surrounding sexual identity and orientation," Gallien said. "It's difficult, it's a difficult issue. There's a lot of stereotypes and misconceptions and miscommunications."

Larrabee is excited that the conference will help publicize OU's commitment to the LGBT community. According to Larrabee, the fact that this event is being hosted at OU means a lot to the development of the university on a larger scale.

"It is important to have this conference at OU because OU has been a bit slower than many of our sister state universities in adopting inclusive employment and non-discrimination policies," Larrabee said.

"If we are to strive to attract the very best students, staff, faculty and administration to this institution, we must be able to demonstrate our commitment to the plurality of life experiences that shape

our perspectives of the world."

In addition to the conference's workshops and session, the LGTBQA Advocacy Scholarship will be awarded. Catherine Pannell will be presented with the award during the lunch portion of the conference.

The event, which costs \$25, is open to all backgrounds and majors. To register, contact Tim Larrabee at larrabee@oakland.edu

Contact campus editor Sarah Hunton via e-mail at sjhunton@oakland.edu

People to know at the SOGI conference



TIM LARRABEE
Larrabee teaches science diversity oriented education classes at OU. He also chairs the SEHS SOGI task force.



LOUIS GALLIEN
Prior his OU career, Gallien was a Distinguished Professor of Education at Regent University in Virginia.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Student leaders needed

The Office of University Housing is looking for student leaders.

The organization is looking to hire about 200 students for resident assistants, orientation leaders, peer mentors and other leadership positions.

Students interested must attend the an informational session on Wednesday Jan. 25 at noon in the Oakland Room of the Oakland Center.

For more information e-mail Nick Marinello at nfmachine@oakland.edu.

The application deadline is Jan. 27.

"The Cove" director to speak

Director of the Academy Award-winning documentary "The Cove," Louie Pishoyos will speak at OU about the making of the film.

The discussion will take place in 204 O'Dowd Hall at 3 p.m. on Jan. 25.

The film will be screened at 7 p.m. in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center.

SAGA to host "Everyday Feminism" coffee chat

Students Advocating Gender Awareness will host a coffee chat that will discuss everyday acts of feminism, led by Vanessa Vojinov.

Coffee and snacks will be served.

The discussion will take place on Jan. 27 at 3 p.m. in the Gender and Sexuality Center. The GSC is located in the basement of the Oakland Center.

"Assessment for Learning" School of Education and Human Services workshop

Shannon McNair from the school of education and human services, will facilitate a discussion for educators about "integrating classroom assessment strategies throughout the term."

McNair will speak about how when students are actively involved in the assessment process, academic goals are visible and students are engaged in the material they are learning, more learning takes place.

For more information about the Jan. 31 event, contact Suzanne Flattery at 248-370-2466 or flattery@oakland.edu

Compiled by Sarah Hunton,
Campus Editor

Grizzpose variety show to raise funds for school in India

By Sarah Blanchette
Staff Intern

On March 21, Oakland University Housing will be hosting "Grizzpose" in order helps raise donations for a school in India. The event, which will take place in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center at 8 p.m, consists of a fashion and talent show.

The Residence Halls Association invites anyone willing to share their talent with OU to audition.

In order to tryout, acts must be three to five minutes, and be appropriate for all audiences. Tryouts begin Jan. 26 in the

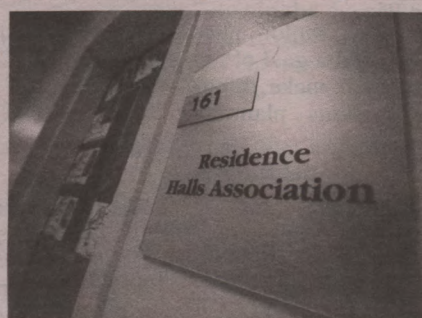
Vandenberg Lounge at 7:30 p.m. There are five spots available for talent acts.

"We are looking for individuals who can commit to the show," Brianna Shamsuddoha, member of the RHA Programming Committee, said.

Their goal is to raise \$7,500 that will go towards building a school in Bihar, India.

"The exciting part of our involvement is that the school we are funding will be easily reachable by 30 different rural villages and will accommodate up to 1,000 students a year," Kristie Nixon, main coordinator of the event, said.

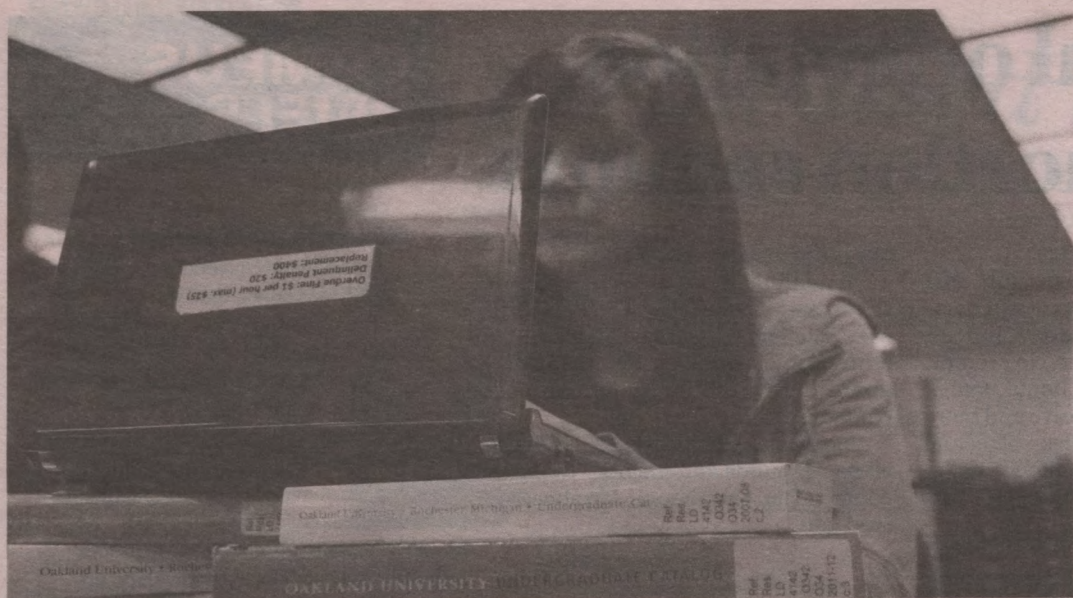
Students who are attending the event are encouraged to make a donation.



SARAH BLANCHETTE / The Oakland Post
The Residence Halls Association is sponsoring and planning the "Grizzposse" event.

Nixon hopes to present the president of Schools for India, Venkatesh Chandrasekaran with a large donation for the prospective school in Bihar.

Contact staff intern Sarah Blanchette via e-mail at sblanch@oakland.edu. Follow her on Twitter @S_Blanchette



LEX LEE/The Oakland Post

Students need only a computer to view the degree catalogues, instead of the previous book and HTML version.

Online system eliminates paper course catalogue

By Kevin Graham
Staff Reporter

Access to Oakland University's course catalogues just got a lot easier with the launch of the university's ACALOG system.

The ACALOG system (catalog.oakland.edu) provides a searchable, online version of both the undergraduate and graduate catalogs.

Scott Crabill, director of integrative studies and undergraduate initiatives at OU, said he thinks the system presents significant advantages for both current and future OU students.

The new catalogue allows stu-

dents to easily find what they are looking for.

"The online catalogue is an HTML version," Crabill said. "It's web-based, (and) allows you to use a search engine to find those things that you're looking for."

Another feature of this system allows users to create a portfolio of classes they are interested in. This allows students to bookmark courses, programs and departments. Crabill said this allows students to make comparisons between different degree programs.

Susan Awbrey, senior associate provost, said a goal of the new system is to make things easier on students planning

their degree and to retain students.

"This can help students stay on track," Awbrey said.

The software package behind the system cost about \$84,000, according to Crabill. The project, was jointly funded through the president's office and the academic affairs department.

Students can also submit questions about courses through the catalogue which are then forwarded to the appropriate department heads.

Contact staff reporter Kevin Graham via e-mail at kpgraham@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @KevinGraham88

Internship mixer helps students explore careers

Companies come to OU, looking for interns

By Misha Mayhand
Staff Intern

Interested in getting an internship or learning about a different career?

Career Services is hosting an internship mixer for employers and students on Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Oakland Center banquet rooms.

The event gives students an opportunity to network with employers and investigate internship opportunities.

Brenda Paine, assistant director of Career Services and event coordinator, suggested the idea to her employer earlier this year.

"This kind of event would be beneficial to both students and employers since internships are used as an important pool in which employers sometimes select from when considering permanent full time hires," Paine said.

Although Paine is coordinating the event, she is not the only one planning it. She also had the help of a planning committee that includes the staff at Career Services and other faculty members of different university departments.

Paine's primary aim for the event is to create awareness and show the importance of interning.

"Most employers expect students to have at least one or two internships by the time they graduate from college," Paine said.

What students may expect and prepare for

Students should be prepared to ask questions about an employer's internship program. Paine suggests asking questions about the structure and age of the program.

Students should come dressed in professional attire and should bring updated resumes with them in case the company is hiring.

"This is not guaranteed, but students should come see what opportunities there are," Arlene Sheffer, office assistant, said.

Sheffer also hopes that many students attend and take advantage of this opportunity.

Paine said students should be prepared to sell themselves to companies who are ready to hire interns that day.

"Students should exercise professional behaviour at all times throughout the event," Paine said.

Students are not required to register for this event.

For more information, visit www.oakland.edu/careerservices.

Contact staff intern Misha Mayhand via e-mail at mmayhand@oakland.edu. Follow her on Twitter @Mac_Me_Over.

Homecoming events come to campus

Compiled by Eric Ratkowski
and Natalie Popovski
Staff Interns

OUSC TAILGATE

Prior to the men's and women's homecoming basketball games, Oakland University Student Congress is sponsoring its fourth annual tailgate being held in lot P16 and the faculty and staff tailgate will be held in lot P17. The alumni tailgate will be spread throughout both lots. The event will be held on Jan. 28 from noon to 3:30 p.m.

FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL

The Alumni Association will be hosting a family festival on Jan. 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the lower level of the Recreation Center. The festival will feature bungee runs, bounce houses, air-brushed tattoos, crafts among other things. Although the festival is geared toward alumni and their families, though student participation is also encouraged.

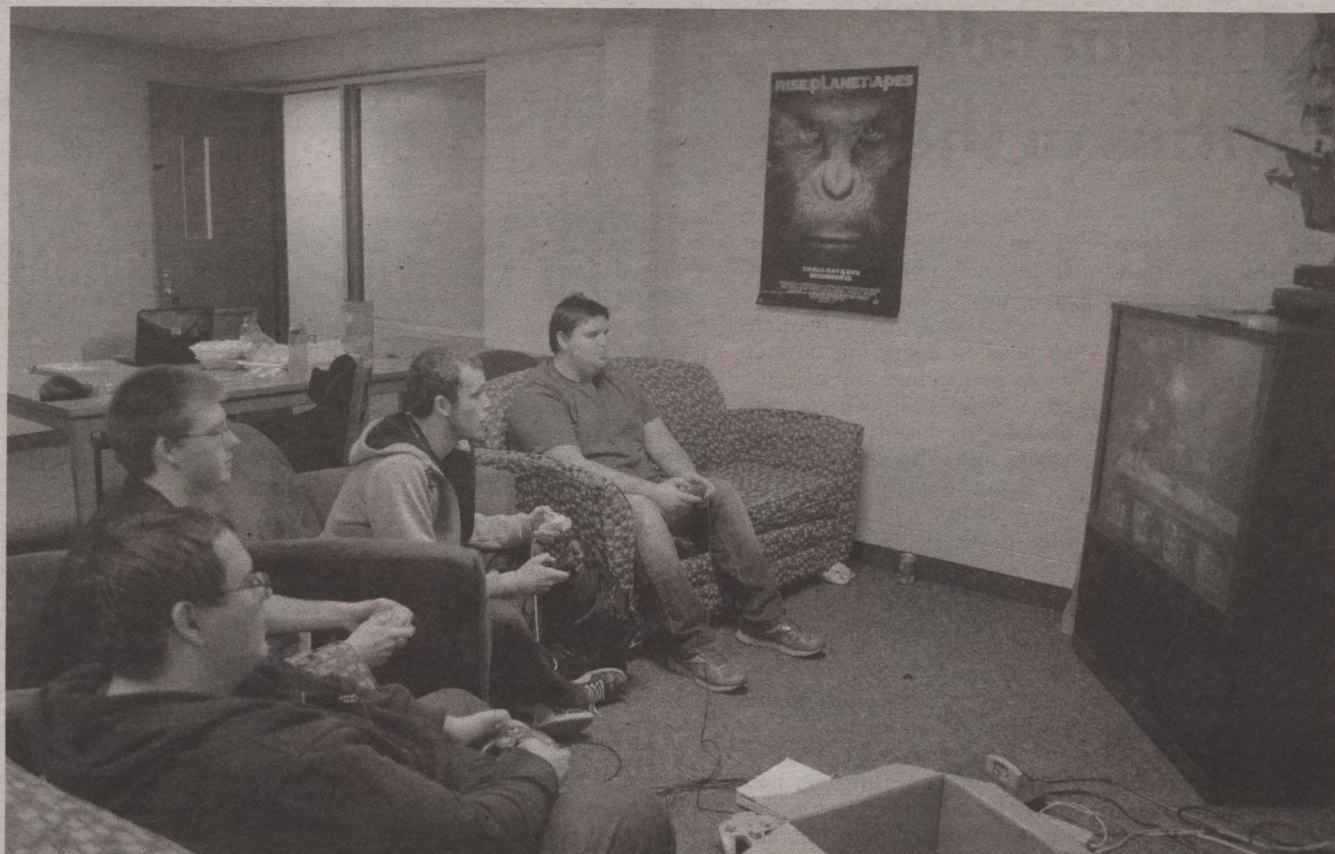
GUARD THE GRIZZ

Starting at 9 a.m. on Jan. 27, attendees can participate in the annual Snow Bowl across the street from the Grizz statue against opponent, North Dakota State University. Beginning at 9 p.m. that night, attendees can also participate in protecting the OU landmark from homecoming game opponents and attempt to break open a pinata.

CAR SMASH

The Grizz Gang is sponsoring a Car Smash that will take place during the Guard the Grizz event starting at 9 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 27. Participants will be able to paint the opposing team's name all over the remnants of a car and then take a sledgehammer to it. The event will be held near the O'rena and in view of the Grizz statue in front of the Rec Center.

HAVE PHOTOS FROM HOMECOMING? SUBMIT THEM ONLINE AT PHOTOS@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM



SHANNON COUGHLIN / The Oakland Post

The students of "5 West" relax in the lounge located in the middle of the level. Here students play video games, watch TV and study in their free time.

On-campus students benefit from dorm living

Students in 5 West Vandenberg build on-campus community full of resources specific to residents

By Madeline Loshaw
Copy Editor

Although Oakland University's population is overwhelming commuter students, those living on campus feel that they have many benefits.

Community

OU freshmen Walter Lashar, Cody Corbin, Steve VanNada and Marc DuBuis live on the fifth floor of West Vandenberg, known to many simply as "5 West." The all-male, mostly underclassmen Honors College floor has become more than just a place to sleep for its residents.

"It's a great community with all the guys," biology major Lashar said.

The floor's residents spend a lot of time hanging out with each other in their lounge, located in the middle of the floor. Like its location, the lounge is a central component of 5 West's community. At all hours of the day and night, 5 West residents can be found there, watching mov-

ies, playing video games, studying and relaxing.

"The lounge doesn't feel like a floor lounge, it feels like my living room," VanNada, an undecided major, said.

"5 West is pretty much like one big family," biology major Corbin said.

The honors floor is just one of several living communities in the university's dorms, and, according Zentmeyer, has one of the strongest representations in the residence halls.

"We (have) academically themed communities such as the pre-business floor, the eco-interest floor the pre-nursing floor and our first-year experience for our freshmen students living in Hamlin Hall," Zentmeyer said.

Campus involvement

Zentmeyer said that housing students have a lot of impact on the university.

"I think the residential student population is making its voice heard," he said. "(Housing) students are the ones that are

hanging out all night long for basketball ball tickets, (they) are the ones that are heavily involved in the Grizz Gang, well, they're heavily involved period."

The college experience

Another benefit of living on campus is that students have the opportunity to live on their own and be independent from their parents.

"It's a completely different experience living on campus," Corbin said.

Political science and history major DuBuis said that living in the dorms is a great option when you're coming straight out of your parents' house, but aren't ready to live on your own in an apartment yet.

"It's just good to get that experience," he said. "It's a good transition."

Academic support

On-campus residents also have the benefit of nearby academic support programs.

The housing units offer many different outreach programs to help students academically.

DuBuis believes that living on campus is more academically stimulating than living at home because he is constantly surrounded by other students.

Contact copy editor Madeline Loshaw via e-mail at meloshaw@oakland.edu. Follow her on Twitter @MadelineLo

POLICE BRIEFS

Professor's car keyed

On Jan. 15, an Oakland University professor's car was keyed by an unknown suspect. The professor had parked his vehicle in parking lot 26 at approximately 1:15 p.m.

Upon returning to his vehicle at approximately 4 p.m. he noticed an obscenity was keyed between the right rear passenger window and the rear window of his vehicle. The professor added that he had no idea who might have damaged his vehicle.

Student's vehicle stolen

On Jan. 18 at approximately 11:30 a.m., OUPD responded to a vehicle theft call. The female student said that she parked her vehicle in parking lot five on Monday, Jan. 16 at 3:30 p.m.

Upon returning to the parking lot on Jan. 18 at 10:30 a.m., she could not locate her vehicle. After the victim searched the lot for approximately an hour she contacted OUPD. The victim said that she may have left her vehicle in another parking lot or her place of employment. Police checked these locations and did not locate the vehicle. OUPD also reviewed security footage but had negative results. There are currently no suspects.

Laptop stolen in Hamlin

On Jan. 19 at 5 p.m. OUPD responded to a call regarding larceny in the Oakland Center. The female student said that at approximately 2:40 p.m., she sat down at a table and placed her backpack on a chair and covered it with her coat while waiting for her family members.

After leaving the table for one minute to assist a family member, she returned and noticed her backpack was missing. In the victim's backpack was an HP laptop, Verizon Voyager cell phone and an iClicker. The contents of the victim's backpack had approximately a \$685 value. OUPD reviewed security footage and was unable to determine any suspects.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski,
Staff Intern

Christianity and Islam talk speaks to similarities of the two

*Discussions bridges
the differences of the
two religions*

By Chris Lauritsen
Staff Reporter

On Jan. 18, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives gave the Oakland University community an opportunity to listen to three panellists discuss the link between Christianity and Islam.

"Christianity and Islam: The Link" was part of African-American Celebration Month, which runs Jan. 16 to Feb. 16.

"This event perfectly embodies the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr.," Charles Mabee, panel member and professor of Christianity studies, said.

The panel's discussion centered on what the Islamic and Christian faiths had in common in their ideals.

"All of the Ten Commandments from the Christian faith can be found in the Quran," Malik Balla, professor of Islamic studies and member of the panel, said.

The discussion quickly shifted to what the differences are and how we as people should try to bridge those differences.

"We both believe in one God and we must manifest that through how we treat other people," Dawud Walid, US Navy veteran and Assistant Imam of Masjid Wali Muhammad in Detroit, said. "Within the similarities between Islam and Christians there are interwoven differences."

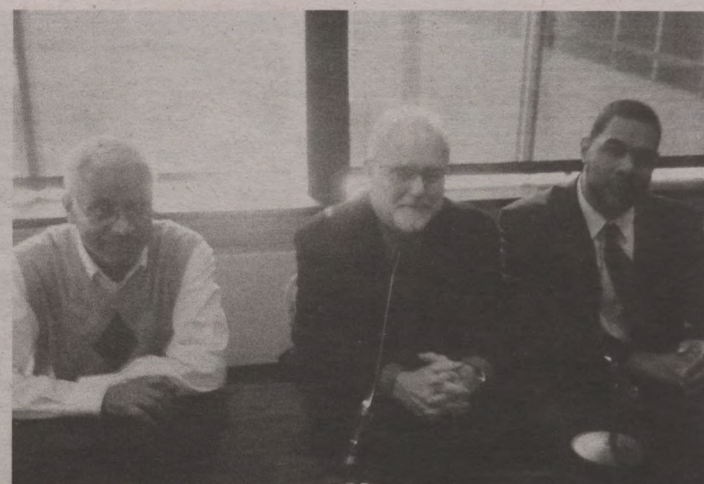
According to Mabee, a source of compromise, in which to carry us to the promise land of religion, must be found.

"Both Islam and Christianity need to figure out how do we come together and help the plight of the family of man," Walid said. "It is more fruitful to stop talking and to do something."

During the final 15 minutes, the audience had an opportunity to ask the panel members questions.

In conclusion of the event, Mabee gave his thoughts about what we should do to better understand and help grow the relationship between Islam and Christianity.

"We should have an international conference, maybe here at (OU), to take on issues that are often swept under the carpet," he said.



CHRISTOPHER LAURITSEN / The Oakland Post

Panellists Malik Balla (LEFT), Charles Mabee (CENTER) and Dawud Walid (RIGHT).

For more information on the events coming up during African American Celebration Month go to www.oakland.edu/aacm

MORE INFO

OU has many student organizations of a variety of religions, including for those of Christian or Islam faith. For more information about them, visit www.oakland.edu/csa.

Contact staff reporter Christopher Lauritsen via e-mail at lauritsen.chris09@gmail.com or follow him on Twitter @Chris-Lauritsen

csa@oakland.edu
248-370-2400
Center for Student Activities

CSA

www.oakland.edu/csa

Student Life Lecture Board presents:

Blake Mycoskie

Tickets go on sale February 1

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1

The year of the dragon

Wishing for good fortune in the new year

By Jessica McLean
Staff Intern

Chinese New Year celebrations began at Oakland University on Friday, Jan. 20 in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center. It was sponsored by several OU departments, including the International Students, Scholars Office, the Center for Multicultural Initiatives, and the department of modern languages and literatures. Several student organizations helped create the event as well, such as the Asian American Association and the China Club. The event festively paid homage to the Lunar New Year by highlighting important traditional elements of Chinese culture.

1. The focus of the event was performances by various Chinese singers and dancers, including this performance by the Troy Chinese Folk Dance Group.

2. Chinese youth were also encouraged to engage in the festivities, such as "Chinese New Year and Cultural Trivia" to learn about their culture.

3. The Erhu, a kind of fiddle with two strings, was played by Shuansong Zhang at the event.

4. Wu Yushang, a retired 80 year-old woman, said she came all the way from Wu Han, China, a town in the country's interior, to watch her granddaughter perform in OU's celebration.

5. A traditional Chinese New Year meal was served in between performances. Food included vegetable lo mein, spring rolls and veggie or pork jiao zi (traditional Chinese New Year dumplings).



2



3



4



5

Photos by LEX LEE AND CHELSEA BISTUE/The Oakland Post





ON THE CAMPUS

Stephanie Sokol

Pea Coats

When the weather outside is frightful, many students insulate by bundling up in layers. Although there are different outerwear options to choose from, one of OU's top trends is the pea coat. This wool jacket keeps out cold air while providing a level of sophistication and style to students.

The style evolved from military "pea jackets," originally worn Navy sailors, starting as early as the 1720s. These jackets were typically double-breasted and navy colored.

"I liked (my pea coat) because of its nautical style," sophomore Molly Bruner said. "Pea coats are superior to other types of outer wear because they are so classic and wool is so warm."

Young men and women can find reasonably priced pea coats at stores like H&M and TJMaxx, in a variety of colors for any personality. Classic black, navy and grey shades work well all season. Students who want to stand out can color block with bright hues like a sky blue, fuchsia or red to brighten up a dreary day.



Humm: I am living my dream

Student manages playing multiple sports and tough academics

By Emma Claucherty
Staff Reporter

Taylor Humm is indecisive. Many Division I college athletes choose one sport to focus on, but Humm couldn't make that choice.

"Whenever someone would ask me if I really liked volleyball or track, I couldn't tell them because I like both sports so much," Humm said. "I figured if I could play one college sport, why can't I play two college sports?"

The freshman engineering major is an outside hitter on the Oakland Volleyball team in addition to throwing discus, hammer, weight and shot put for the track team.

"I chose (Oakland University) for the academics. I was looking to major in engineering," Humm said. "(Also) I felt the volleyball program was going somewhere ... They had great things coming to them and I wanted to be a part of that. The track team here is relatively new. I felt I could make a good impact on the team by throwing."

Getting her start

Humm grew up in Crystal Lake, Ill. In high school, she received all-state honors for volleyball and throwing. The dual-sport student athlete has already left a definite mark on Oakland athletics. She started the majority of the fall season games for volleyball and placed high the first few track meets of the season.

Humm considered playing one sport at other universities but really aspired to play both, which is one of the reasons she chose Oakland.

"I like them both so much, I couldn't choose. I never wanted to choose," she said.

The two sports are very different, and Humm said she wouldn't have it any other way.

"I love the team competition of volleyball ... You have you rely on yourself and your teammates to get a win," Humm said. "In track and field you get that individual taste you don't get in volleyball. Track and field makes up for the individual competition I don't get — in volleyball. That is why I like both. You get the best of both worlds."

Despite her enthusiasm, Humm was a little afraid of the challenge she had



KEVIN ROMANCHIK / The Oakland Post

Humm chose OU because of both the offerings in the classrooms and on the court.

accepted by playing two sports.

"You're going to a new college where you don't know anyone," she said. "You don't know what the programs will expect of you. You don't know if you're going to make it day to day because of the lifts, workouts, exercises and all the travelling. At first I was really afraid, but as I got into it, it got easier."

Athletics are nothing unfamiliar to Humm's family. Her older sister Kylie is a soccer player at Milliken University in southern Illinois. Her little sister Mackenzie is going to play volleyball at Xavier University in Ohio after she graduates high school. Her sisters were highly supportive of Humm's decision to play two sports.

"I've been doing multiple sports since I was seven. We all have. My siblings just assumed I was continuing both sports. They support me. They know I can do it," Humm said. "My little sister sarcastically said 'Good luck with that one. I'll see you at home this summer, if you survive!'"

Working through it

Humm manages to balance her schedule, albeit certain aspects of her schedule prove challenging.

"It's difficult managing everything at once. Staying stress relieved is hard," she said. "As a student athlete being stressed affects your athletic performance and it affects your academics.

Managing, coping and putting stress aside is the hardest thing for me."

In addition to stressing out, Humm must also avoid burning out from double workout days and a full 17 credit academic load.

"I keep things fun. I take competition seriously but there are some points where you just have to laugh. You have to have fun. You have to goof off because if you don't, you're almost taking it too seriously as a job," she said. "It is a job to an extent but it should still be something you love not just (the act) of going through motions day after day."

Humm's friends and teammates recognize her abilities to excel at two sports simultaneously as well.

"She is highly disciplined. She pays very close attention to things she needs to work on, and she doesn't stop until she gets where she wants to be," freshman and track teammate Leigh Bravender said. "She works really hard. I admire her very much."

The love of the sports is the main fuel of Humm's rigorous schedule.

For the love of the game

"I love it. I keep it lively and entertaining so I never get burnt out. I also take naps and eat ritually," she said. "It's just about having fun. It comes down to that."

Playing two sports offers another abstract challenge that Humm loves to focus on.

"It helps me with the mental game. I enjoy working on the mental aspect as well as the physical aspect," she said. "I like learning how to turn certain parts of my mind on and off while I'm playing a sport, two different ones. You learn how to focus super well."

Humm believes the mental aspect of athletics to be the hardest part.

"I love working on my mental strength. I read about and study it," she said. "Any sport is 80 percent mental and 20 percent physical."

Despite the obvious challenges, Humm is very happy with her choice to be a dual sport student athlete.

"A lot of kids don't get this really cool opportunity to play two sports in college. I am living my dream," she said.

"This is what I had wanted to do since day one. I get to do everything I love and I don't have to give anything up."

Contact staff reporter Emma Claucherty via e-mail at emclauch@oakland.edu

Creating compliance

Recent arrests bring rules for student athletes to the forefront

By Damien Dennis
Staff Reporter

On Jan. 7, three Oakland University baseball players were issued minor in possession citations by OU Police Department.

Officers received information that there were some students who smelled of alcohol. After some field investigation and admission on the part of the students, the officers issued the tickets to the students, who mentioned they were part of the baseball team.

Enforcement of OU Laws

"Getting an appearance ticket is an arrest," Lt. Mel Gilroy said. "If you're arrested, we give you the ticket on the street and you take it to court. Appearance tickets allow us to streamline the process. OU has a zero tolerance with drugs, alcohol and weapons. If you're found in violation of one of those statutes you're going to have an enforcement action taken against you."

For OUPD, there is no differentiation between student-athletes and students when it comes to enforcement on campus.

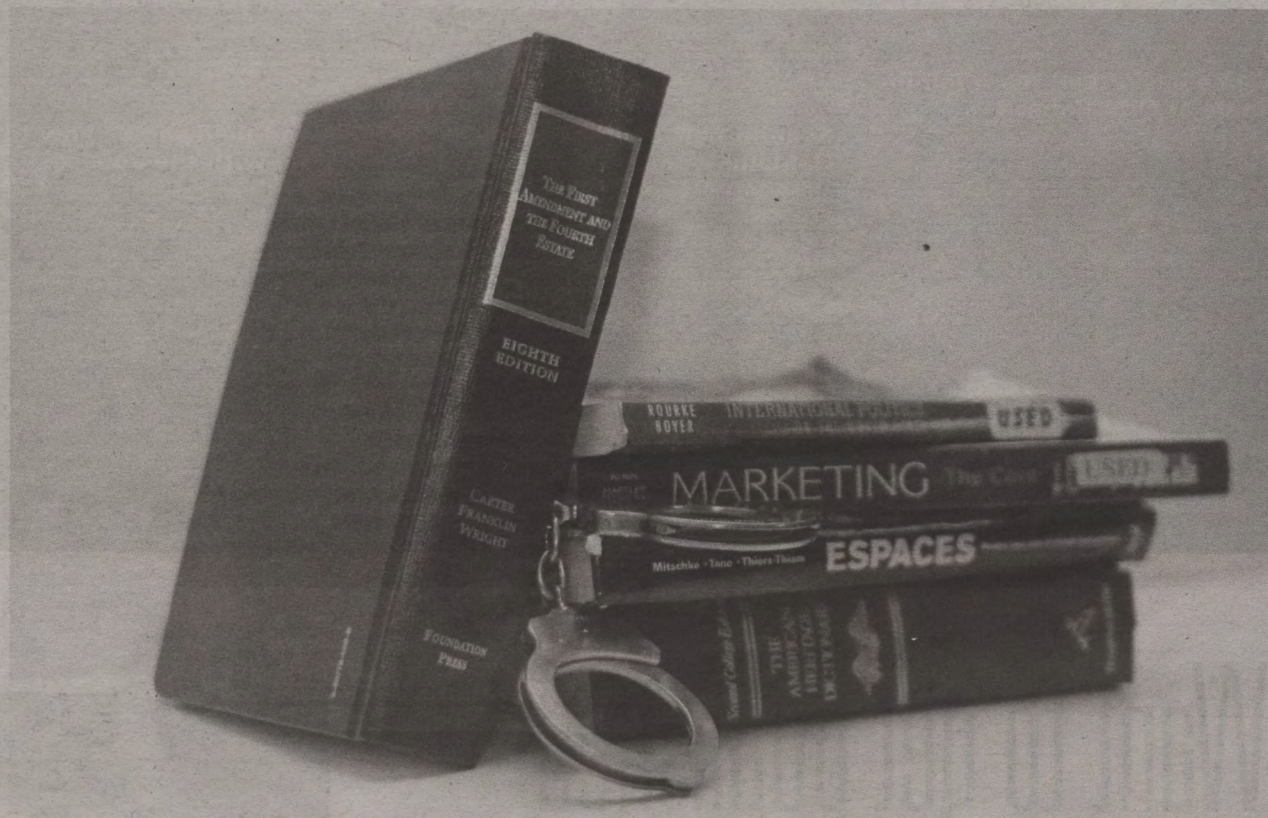
OUPD ships all of their reports to the Dean of Students office, meaning there is an internal disciplinary process that the students are liable for even when they are being prosecuted by the police department. There is an extra tier for student athletes as well, because there are expectations placed on them by the athletic department.

Dean of Students processes

In the case of an MIP, the Dean of Students office addresses it as a developmental matter.

"If a student is arrested for a MIP matter and we discover that there is a drinking problem, the question becomes, 'what do we want to do? What are our university resources and what do we want to do to help that student?'" Karen Lloyd, assistant dean of students, said.

There are also resources available on campus through the Graham Counseling Center. If a student is arrested for an MIP on campus, they are required to complete a drug and alcohol awareness class that is facilitated through the center.



KEVIN ROMANCHIK / The Oakland Post

If a student-athlete is arrested for an MIP, they are required to take a drug and alcohol awareness class in the Graham Health Center

"How do we help the student, is the overarching question for us," Lloyd said.

If a student shows an extreme case of alcoholism, the Dean of Students office may suggest to the student or counseling center that a more structured kind of care is needed. The family could even be called in for help.

The incident with the baseball players took place in Hamlin Hall. According to Lloyd, if an MIP is issued in OU housing, the housing department will deal with the incident. However, if the situation occurs outside of housing or is severe enough, it will be passed through to the Dean of Students office.

"We're all expected to abide by university ordinances and demonstrate appropriate behavior," Lloyd said.

Sanctions are in place, which range from a university reprimand to expulsion from the university, with the circumstances being considered.

If expulsion is an option, there is

a committee that meets to decide whether said student fits into the OU environment.

"Being developmental, we are going to focus on helping and empowering the student as opposed to punishing the student," Lloyd said.

The athletic procedures

The future of the arrested baseball players is unclear because the athletic department maintains a policy of not publicly disclosing disciplinary action for student-athletes who violate university policies.

Student-athletes are expected to meet expectations laid out before them by the university and the NCAA. Everything from appropriate behavior to GPA is covered in these expectations.

Blake Cushingberry was cut from the men's basketball team in December due to his grades, making him academically ineligible.

"All student-athletes are handed an

Oakland Student-Athlete handbook that outlines policies and procedures," said Scott MacDonald, director of athletic communications. "They also are required to sign an NCAA form stating they will comply with NCAA guidelines. Student-athletes are not declared ineligible for any discipline actions. If a student-athlete violates team policies, then they can be disciplined by the coach and/or sport administrator."

At the start of every year, each sport has a compliance meeting with Compliance Director Adrian Kowal. The purpose of these meetings is to make sure that Oakland abides by NCAA rules and regulations regarding student athletes.

The NCAA manual can be found online at www.ncaa.org and the Oakland Handbook at www.ougrizzlies.com.

Contact Damien Dennis via e-mail at djdennis@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @djdennisOU

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Compiled by Timothy Pontzer,
Senior Reporter

Men's basketball team fall in finale at Oral Roberts

In the finale of the Oakland and Oral Roberts conference rivalry, the Golden Eagles went out with a bang defeating OU 93-86. The win gave ORU a season sweep of the Golden Grizzlies to maintain their undefeated Summit League record.

Oakland edged Oral Roberts shooting 56 percent and 55 percent respectively, but the Grizzlies couldn't slow down Dominique Morrison who finished with 24 points.

For the Grizzlies, senior Reggie Hamilton led all scorers with 30 points, but two costly turnovers late in the game threw the brakes on a possible Grizzlies comeback.

Midway through the second half, Oakland held a ten point lead but a controversial intentional foul call from Drew Valentine gave the Eagles back the momentum.

The Grizzlies lost their first game of the season after leading at halftime, snapping a 28 game winning streak when leading at the half.

The game probably marks the last time the two teams will meet, as ORU is leaving the Summit League for the Southland Conference next season. The Grizzlies return for a two game homestand starting on Jan. 26 against South Dakota at 7 p.m. in the O'rena.

Second half comeback gives Oakland women the victory

The Oakland University women's basketball team garnered their third road victory of the year with a 64-60 come from behind win over the Southern Utah Thunderbirds on Monday night.

Star junior forward Bethany Watterworth led the Golden Grizzlies' effort with 20 points. Freshman guard Amy Carlton was the only other Grizzly in double figures, posting a career high 12 points off the bench.

Both teams traded baskets in the first half, with the Thunderbirds taking a 34-26 lead

into halftime. Southern Utah pushed their lead to 10 early in the second half, but left the door open for OU to storm back.

Watterworth exploded for 16 points in the second half. Behind Watterworth's effort, Oakland outscored SUU 38-26 in the second half, fueled by a 16-1 run that put the Grizzlies in the lead for good.

The comeback was aided by a dominant effort on the boards in the second half, with Oakland out-rebounding the Thunderbirds 33-24 in the second half. Sophomore guard Victoria Lipscomb grabbed 9 rebounds for the Grizzlies.

Track and field shows how to 'Keep up with the Joneses'

The Oakland track and field team impressed on Friday evening at the Mike Lints Alumni Open in Allendale.

For the women, Micah Jones took the top spot in the long jump and senior Lia Jones won the 5,000 meter run. This was the second consecutive week that Lia Jones had won a race.

Freshman Katelynne Hartman finished eighth in the shot put and senior Desiree Pettiford earned a top-ten finish in the 400 meter dash.

For the men, senior Dave Magnotte earned a top-five finish in the one-mile run and fellow senior Niklas Rippon also posted a top-five finish, notching his in the 60-meter run.

OU continues the season next week when they travel to Fort Wayne to take on IPFW on Saturday.

Coaches to be inducted into Hall of Honor

As part of the festivities surrounding the 2012 Homecoming Weekend, two new inductees will be added to the 25th Hollie L. Lepley Hall of Honor.

Men's basketball head coach Greg Kampe and men's and women's swimming and diving head coach Pete Hovland will both be the newest members of the Hall.

Coach Kampe has overseen 20 winning seasons and three NCAA Division I tournament berths.

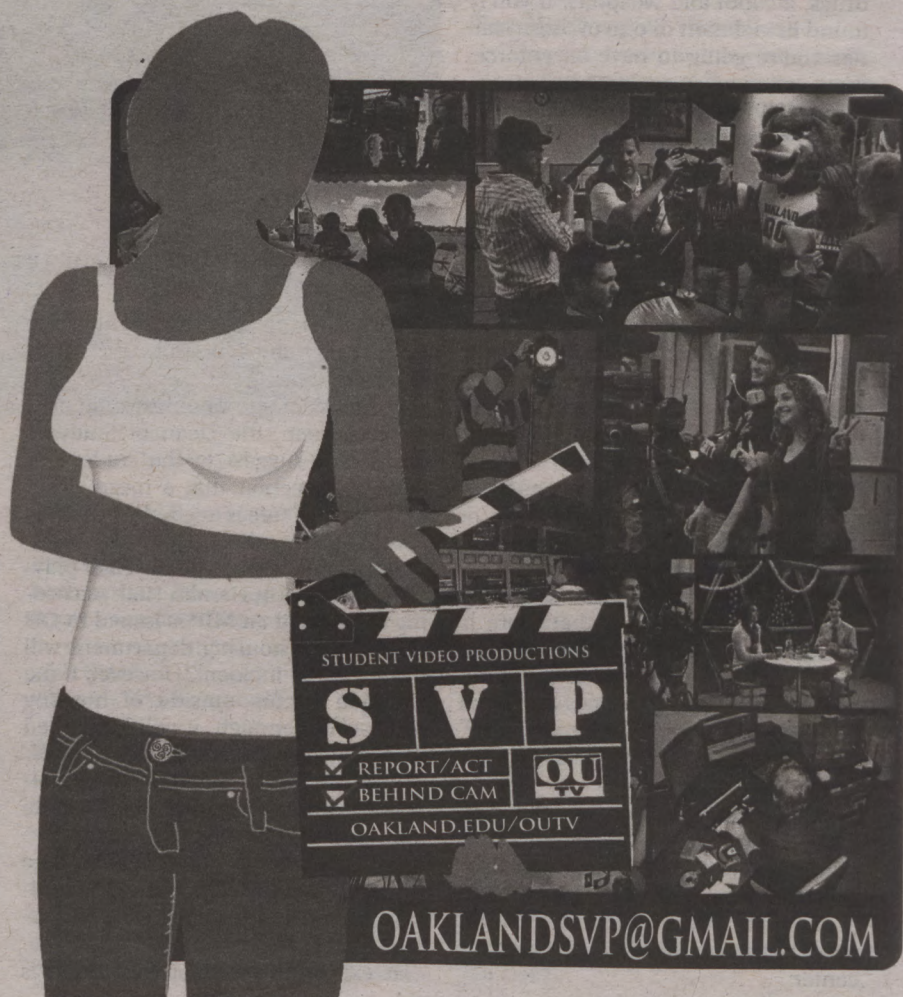
Coach Hovland spent the last 31 years at the helm of the men's team, and 11 seasons at the helm of the women's squad.

Contact senior reporter Timothy Pontzer via e-mail at trpontze@oakland.edu and follow him on Twitter @timothy_pontzer

Want to get published in The Oakland Post?

Send in your photos from the OUSC tailgate on Jan. 28 for a chance to see your photos in next week's issue of The Oakland Post!

Email your pictures to
photos@oaklandpostonline.com



OAKLANDSVP@GMAIL.COM

Reinventing the superhero

Local artist teaches the art of comic book illustration

By Jordan Gonzalez
Senior Reporter

Young members at the Royal Oak Public Library were treated to a comic book workshop presented by local artist Lee Gaddies on Thursday, Jan. 19.

Gaddies offered instruction and advice to the basics in creating a comic book character, story, setting and illustration. He also focused on the role of superheroes in modern culture.

A graduate of the College of Creative Studies in Detroit, Gaddies has taught several classes in his past and is currently art director of Detroit based Urban Style Comics.

Guiding young artists

According to Gaddies, children, which he describes as the "fertile ground" for art, have huge potential and it is important for them to nurture their creativity.

"You want to get as many creative ideas out of them as they can, before the world beats (them) down," he said.

However, he said they need guidance to bridle their ideas and creative expressions.

"The trick is to have them focus (their art) into something that is usable," Gaddies said. "So in the end, there is something that is tangible and has a conclusion."

Gaddies said he has always loved art, and that he was a natural, driven by more of a compulsion than a vocation.

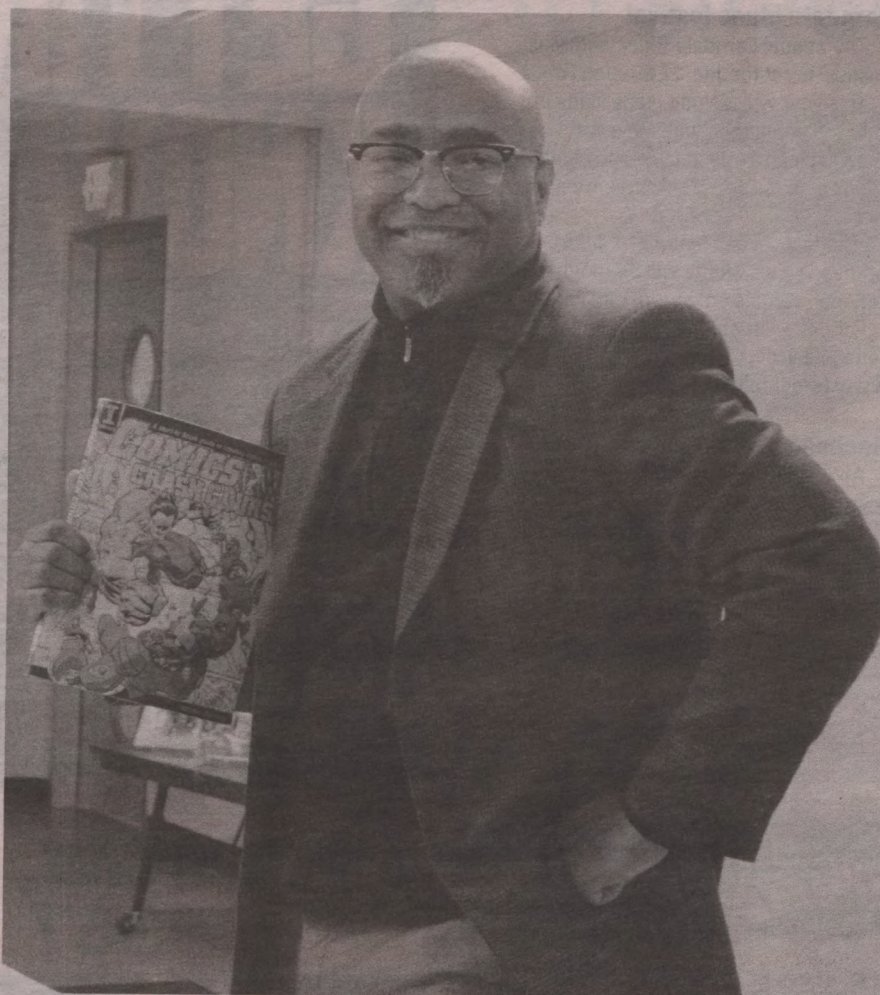
Since his early years in first grade, Gaddies has been drawing. He remembered drawing Winnie the Pooh on the back of his schoolwork in first grade, something that started a habit of finishing his schoolwork early so he would have more time to draw.

Graphic novel culture today

The success of the comic book and graphic novel genre in today's culture, according to Gaddies, is because that it can be translated into so many different types of media. He noted the success of AMC's "The Walking Dead," which was originally a graphic novel that was translated into an extremely successful TV series.

He also noted that part of the overall success of the genre is due to the fact of major changes in the 80s, such as darker themes.

"Before the 80s, when you met your



SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

Local artist Lee Gaddies, art director of Urban Style Comics, spoke to middle and high school students this past Thursday at a comic book workshop at the Royal Oak Public Library.

first girlfriend you stopped (reading comics,)" he said. "In the 80s they started writing the graphic novel, which was at an adult level to be consumed by adults."

Gaddies believes comics books also fill a void that mythology used to occupy.

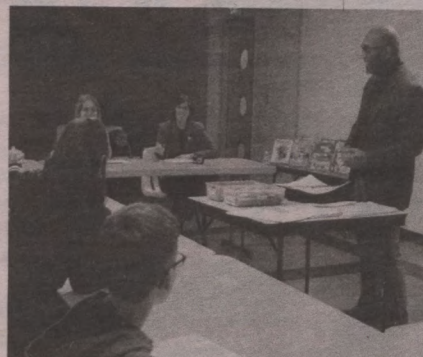
"It is our modern mythology. Superheroes today fill the role of gods in ancient mythology," he said. "They are the embodiments of our ideals."

His favorite artists include Jack Kirby, Neal Adams, John Byrne and Alex Ross, who he describes as having changed the comic book genre.

"They have really allowed people to take the genre and do something positive with it," Gaddies said. "They are being treated in a fair and respectful manner."

Urban Style Comics is a Detroit-based comic book company, created by Andre L. Batts, and is focused on its central superhero Dreadlocks.

Dreadlocks was created by Batts to be a hero for urban cultures, reaching out to the ghettos bringing truth, justice and



SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

Gaddies offered instruction on the basics of creating a comic book character and more.

righteousness.

For more info on Urban Style Comics visit their website at www.urbanstylecomics.com

Contact senior reporter Jordan Gonzalez via e-mail at jrgonzal@oakland.edu

THIS WEEK AROUND OAKLAND

JAN.
25

6:30 p.m. Paws for Reading — Rochester Hills Public Library
Cost: Free

7 p.m. Graphic Novel Book Club — Rochester Hills Public Library
Cost: Free

JAN.
26

7:30 a.m. Michigan Business Advantage Royal Park Hotel 600 E. University Drive, Rochester
Cost: Free

6:30 p.m. Wire Wrapping Jewellery Workshop 404 S. Main Street, Rochester
Cost: \$40

9 p.m. Ladies Night at Fuse Lounge 227 S. Main Street, Rochester
Cost: Free

JAN.
27

5 p.m. Uncorked at Five at Whole Foods Market 2918 Walton Blvd., Rochester
Cost: \$5

6 p.m. Fun Friday at the Painted Pot 421 Walnut Blvd. Rochester
Cost: \$35

JAN.
28

9:30 a.m. Mom to Mom Sale — The Growing Tree 490 E. Auburn Rd. Rochester Hills
Cost: \$1

10 a.m. OU Cares Bowling League Classic Lanes - 2145 Avon Rd., Rochester
Cost: \$45

JAN.
29

10 a.m. Winterfest Movie Marathon Imagine Theatre — 200 Barclay Cir., Rochester
Cost: \$50

LOCAL BRIEFS

Rochester Fire and Ice Festival rescheduled due to weather

Downtown Rochester will be hosting its fifth annual Fire & Ice Festival on Friday, Feb. 24 through Sunday, Feb. 26.

The event was originally scheduled for Friday, Jan. 27 through Sunday, Jan. 29 but due to mild weather conditions it was rescheduled.

All weekend long event goers can walk through the ice sculpture lined streets while sampling a variety of food and drinks courtesy of the Tastefest.

There will be a variety of demos including ice carving and figure skating.

New to the festival this year are snowboarding demos, clinics and competitions, provided courtesy of AGA Nation.

There will also be dog sled rides, a tubing hill and a snow play area.

The festival also plans on having two fireworks displays on Friday and Saturday night.

For more event information, visit www.destinationoakland.com

Ferndale blues festival

The annual Ferndale Blues and Music Festival is set for Jan. 27 through Feb. 4.

This year will include many kinds of music in addition to blues and will showcase an array of musicians and bands in blues, jazz, rock, country and more.

The festival will feature 24 different venues. A free shuttle will be running between venues on Jan. 28 and Feb. 4.

For more information and a complete schedule visit

www.ferndalebluesfestival.org

Rochester bridal expo

An expo for brides will be held Feb. 18 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All brides must register between 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Fieldstone Winery in order to receive their Bride's Day programs and maps. The first 100 brides to check-in will receive free goodie bags.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski
and Ali Armstrong,
Staff Intern and Local Editor

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From Purple Rose to silver screen

Japanese major, aspiring actress studies at local Purple Rose Theatre

By Damien Dennis
Staff Reporter

Most Oakland University students cannot say they have been in a major Hollywood film. But for junior Laura Klosterhaus, she had the chance to appear as an extra in the movie 'Real Steel.'

Klosterhaus is a 24-year-old Japanese major at OU, but she has aspirations far beyond that of just graduating. She is an aspiring actress, hoping to reach stardom in the near future.

Going by the stage name 'Laura Kriss,' she has been working since the age of 14 to get a foothold in the film industry.

When it began

"Back in high school it wasn't serious," Kriss said. "My buddies had a really expensive camera and we would film things and put them online for film competitions. They were always shorts."

"In high school you're not really taught anything, so I thought it was easy. But you have to do it right the first time, there are no retakes."

Laura Klosterhaus, junior Japanese major

Most of the shorts she did with friends were spoofs, such as an Iron Chef spoof called "Happy Chef" and Survivor spoof "Disease Island."

Kriss also actively participated in theater in high school, but never thought about any of it as a realistic future for herself.

"In high school, you're not really taught anything about it, so I thought it was easier. But you have to do it right the first time, there are no retakes," Kriss said.

After high school, Kriss attended college but also tried branching by auditioning for projects she found locally. She commented that they were always goofy.

"One audition, the guy grabbed a camera and said, 'Alright, act happy. Now, act sad.' I was like, 'You're Kid-

ding me, right?' I got really frustrated," Kriss said.

The Purple Rose

Kriss decided, after a few years of living in Lansing and attending the community college there, to move back home and attend Oakland University for Japanese. She feels her study of the language can help her with her future as an actress.

"There are a lot of movies that incorporate language into it, and you're already beating out the competition by adding that extra skill," Kriss said.

Despite being away, she never took her eyes off her goal. Kriss is currently enrolled in classes at The Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, Mich. The theater was founded in 1991 by acclaimed actor, Jeff Daniels.

"She is now attending classes at the Purple Rose Theatre to get professional instruction on her acting abilities," said her sister and former OU student, Kristen Klosterhaus. "She practices different accents and facial expressions, different identities and styles to make herself more flexible for anything that might come her way."

Kriss enjoys the experience she gains from those she studies with.

"It is professional, as opposed to a civic players or something," Kriss said. "These people are actually paid, professional actors. I started with a boot camp like class that was monologue intensive and I just fell in love with that. Then I moved on to a voice and movement class, and I just finished an actor-director lab."

Kriss has been at the theater since January 2011, and will be involved in open auditions for their 2012 season in coming weeks.

Recent auditions and features

Recently, Kriss has auditioned for a handful of full length films, two of which are low-budget Screen Actors Guild projects. In addition to this, she has also auditioned for television



Japanese and theatre student Laura Klosterhaus was featured in recent film, Real Steel.

shows, mainly the show 'Survivor.'

"The auditions were in December, but I had missed it because I was studying for an exam. But then I went online and found I could still submit an audition — all I had to do was fill out a form and send in a video of myself," said Kriss.

Kristen, her sister, has also been helping Kriss with her auditions and technique.

"I always read opposite Laura in her auditions, and I listen to how she performs and I offer her constructive criticism from listeners prospective," Kristen said. "I ask her how she wants to portray the character and I let her know if she's delivering the character that way or not. I'll let her know whether the way she performs sounds like she's

reading a script, or genuinely 'becoming' the character."

The help from her sister has paid off for Kriss.

"I'm doing this film called 'Bender.' We should be filming that in March, and it's with this company called Fire-Fox Films," Kriss said.

Real Steel was released on DVD on Tuesday, with Kriss appearing as an extra.

"I got my dad in it, and I was so angry because I could see him in five occasions and they just loved him. Then you get to my scene and I am just lost in the crowd," Kriss said jokingly.

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Local restaurant Red Olive is a gold star

Student review — quick service, a broad selection and fair prices make this spot budget-friendly

By Justin Colman
Copy Editor

On Walton Blvd. there is a strip of property that includes common restaurants such as Buffalo Wild Wings and Pei Wei. When popular food vendors such as those two are found in the same area, it's easy to forget about the other restaurants that are around. Red Olive Restaurant finds itself sandwiched in the same building as these two, but still manages to stand out with its Greek and Mediterranean selection.

With nine locations in the metro-Detroit area, (including one on University Drive and Squirrel Road that opened recently) the restaurant is growing in popularity.

Its website boasts daily specials, nutritional meals and an expanded menu, all at fair prices.

Welcoming atmosphere

The restaurant's furnishings are similar to Spargo's Coney

Island. Booths are set up in columns, comfortably seating about four people each, with well-spaced out tables spread throughout the room.

Walls are decorated with pleasant scenic depictions of the Mediterranean.

The music selection is classic rock, played at a relaxed level. The restaurant is overall very clean and neat. The dining room is set up in a very open, welcoming nature and guests can see straight into the kitchen.

"Our portions are so large that it's hard to see the plate under all the food."

Pete Goulas
Owner

Friendly, timely staff

Despite the relatively small staff, wait time is extremely limited.

Guests are asked to choose a seat upon arrival and food or-

ders are delivered within minutes. This speedy and kind service is a testament to the staff's knowledge and application of their skill and preparation.

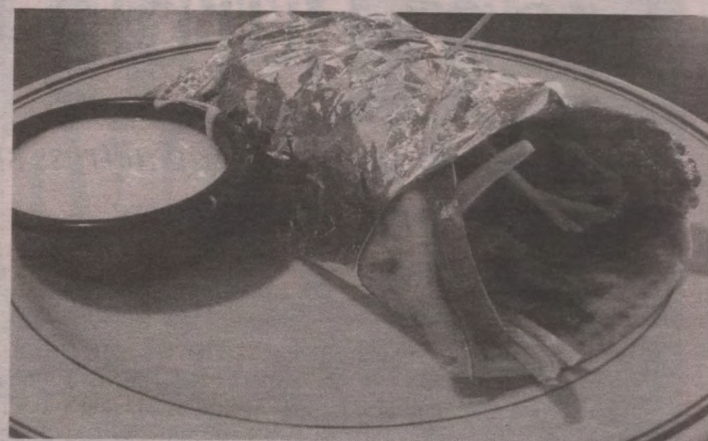
Fresh ingredients

Red Olive offers a vast variety of dishes, from Greek and other Mediterranean classics, to American staples. Their menu boasts two full pages of common and gourmet salads. Other options include seafood, burgers and coney's, wraps, stir-fry, deli sandwiches and breakfast.

Servings are well portioned. Owner Pete Goulas proudly mentions the large portions on the restaurant's website.

"Our portions are so large that it's hard to see the plate under all the food," he said.

Dishes are well prepared and presented. Ordering the gyro, I expected difficulties keeping the sandwich intact. Keeping a good hold of it was a challenge. The pita tore apart and the insides fell to the plate quite quickly.



CLARE LA TORRE/The Oakland Post

Red Olive's menu boasts many choices, including classics like the gyro.

Despite these issues, everything was obviously fresh and cooked well.

Costs

In terms of quality and taste, the pricing is fair, but it would be a stretch to brag excellent value. The gyro is priced at \$6.25.

Adding tax and tip it came around \$9. You pay a little more

than you would at an average Coney, but the quality is well worth it.

To learn more about Red Olive or to view their menu visit www.redoliverestaurant.com

Contact Copy Editor Justin Colman via e-mail at jcolman@oakland.edu or follow him on twitter @TheJustinColman

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NYC inspiration in Detroit

By Clare La Torre
Life Editor

Abstract imagination playfully dances across the crisp white walls of the gallery.

Deer and owls become mythical creatures while color and texture become whole new platforms with which to display the mind's eye.

The pieces openly welcome their viewers into their realm of childlike brevity, courage and curiosity.

The Oakland University art gallery's current exhibit "Idealizing the Imaginary: Illusion and Invention in Contemporary Painting" is an explosive dreamscape of modern art.

This collection of work by 14 different New York artists creates something never seen at OU before.

Associate Professor of Art and Director of the gallery, Dick Goody, chose to house the collection in hopes of providing students and the rest of Metro Detroit with an inside look at the ever changing and inspiring New York art scene.

"This show gives Detroit the chance to see cutting edge paintings that have never been shown here," he said. "And more importantly, it gives our students a wonderful opportunity to see works in context in the flesh."

In the exhibit's companion full-color catalogue, artist Cecily Brown expresses her hope

to create an alternate, yet comparable world, and more importantly, a path to that world, that others can relate to.

"It's about looking and what you get from allowing the imagery to shift and change," she said. "There isn't a final destination ... I want the viewing of it to approximate the experience of being in the world."

Goody expresses the importance of these pieces of work and their attempt — and success — at paving a swift turn in the form of contemporary art.

"The painters are energized by something else entirely — the idea of making work that is derived from their imagination rather than things outside of painting," he said. "They've invented something completely new, beyond reproducing an existing image, and that, to me, is what's really exciting."

"Idealizing the Imaginary" will be on display until April 1 and as always admission is free of charge. The OU art gallery is located at 208 Wilson hall. To learn more about this exhibit visit www.ouartgallery.org

Contact Life Editor Clare La Torre via e-mail at cvtorr@oakland.edu



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1. Denyse Thomasas. *Stealth*, 2010. Acrylic on canvas. 60 x 72 inches, 152.4 x 182.8 cm. Courtesy of the Artist and Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto, Canada.

2. Kim Dorland. *Ghost (Deer)*, 2010. Oil, glitter and string on wood panel. 72 x 60 inches, 182.8 x 152.4 cm. Courtesy of the Artist and Mike Weiss Gallery, New York.

3. Trudy Benson. *Pale Blue Dot*, 2011. Acrylic, flashe, enamel, spray paint, and oil on canvas. 68 x 63 inches, 172.7 x 160 cm. Courtesy of the Artist and Mike Weiss Gallery, New York.

4. Kevin Baker. *Tippy's Trippy*, 2011. Acrylic on oilcloth. 40 x 60 inches, 101.6 x 152.4 cm. Courtesy of Kevin Baker Studio, New York.

SATIRE

Braving the Detroit auto show

By Brian Figurski
Multimedia Reporter

The North American International Auto Show has been a cornerstone of Detroit's automotive influence for years. Showcasing the best in German and Japanese engineering, the annual show has been a staple of January life of Detroiters for years.

This year, fellow multimedia reporter Jordan Reed and I braved the mild Michigan snowfall and its incompetent drivers to the Cobo Center, where they all gather to pick their next car to drive insipidly slow at the first sign of wintry wrath.

I digress from reporting the weather, however, as the highlight was the powerful heat lamps that light the floor and melt the flesh off of swarms of the elderly.

2012's NAIAS pinnacles were

the innovative concept cars, basically the end-result of the auto industry's "Take your Child to Work Day" and letting them go buck wild on a drafting board.

While the showdown of the showcases often range from the tiniest microcosms of vehicles to the abstract behemoth gas-guzzlers too hulking to be relevant, this is Michigan, not Texas, and bigger has lost its luster. Good news for me.

Small was in it to win it, with Mini-Coops and fuel-friendly vehicles being hot commodities this year. While the gas expenditure has its perks, the tiny trunk space barely has the capacity for containing a whole body (as is shown in our Auto Show video).

Another selling point for whose attractions attained the most prestige is whose eye candy was the most mouth-watering.

Like in aspect of our car me-

chanics, our European friends beat out the American companies by a landslide, sending out squadrons of beaus to become vessels for militias of men assaulting them at close-range about Catalytic Converters as a cover-up for staring at their skin-tight T-shirts.

"THE AUTO INDUSTRY IS CATERING TO THE CUSTOMER OF THE FUTURE — SMALLER AND SMALLER EVERYTHING WITH A SURPLUS OF TECHNO."

In short, the auto industry is catering to the customer of the future — smaller and smaller everything with a surplus of techno.

Critics have raved it to be one of the most successful of Detroit's car conventions in recent years.

Finally we can travel from point A to point B in comfortably cramped style! Perhaps when the student loans cease.

Contact multimedia reporter Brian Figurski via e-mail at bdfigurs@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter @WhatDidBeefSay



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SATIRE

Abandon ship or abandon all hope

By Brian Figurski
Multimedia Reporter

Man overboard! It's all the rage these days, like dubstep or planking. It's so booming that even the captain of the ship is jumping for joy, or for his own greedy safety.

Last week, the cruise liner Costa Concordia toppled over near the coast of Tuscany, Italy. Amid the panic of riders, Captain Francesco Schettino decided to resort to throwing himself overboard instead of doing the noble duty of assisting the passengers to safety.

This seems like the kind of weak willed alternative that I would resort to, a feat unworthy under any circumstances.

Piled on top of his daring act of self-centered survival, Schettino admitted the accident was avoidable and fault fell at his feet as he was navigating by sight out of the bay windows.

Remember the boaters' safety test you took in junior high under the advisory of your creepy science teacher who wore sunglasses inside as a cover up to him peeping at the

revealing clothing of your disgustingly undeveloped and underage female classmates? I'm positive the lot of those 12 and 13-year-olds would have been better off at the helm.

The Costa Concordia is a state-of-the-art ship, the freshest kind that generally runs on autopilot, a GPS guided course set. Thus, commanding a ship seems a job suited for the inept.

Probably still a horrible idea, but the command system often requires more monitoring than direct navigating.

Now Schettino is facing multiple charges due to his negligence, including manslaughter, causing a shipwreck and abandoning ship, a potential 15 years of prison idling in the dock.

Captain Jackass must be regretting his choice to swim to safety now possibly having to walk a different plank.

Lucky news to all the survivors of the crash — get 30 percent off your next Carnival cruise!

Who thought that marketing scheme would be a good idea? Reimbursing the fees from the fallen Concordia, yes, but assuming any of those traumatized passengers will want to travel by way of water again is a ridiculous thought.

Denying any former passenger seems like a

more acceptable offer, or 30 percent off a Disney cruise instead.

There must be some consequences to the ill responsibility displayed on that voyage. When the captain consciously decides to pull a stunt for the shore-going public like the one he had planned, sailing within 150 meters of the coast (that is until his idea went topside,) repercussions have to be felt, endangering so many people.

If you can't be trustworthy in a position where lives are at stake, than don't do the job. If you want to thrash to death metal during driving, don't drive a school bus full of children.

If you plan on playing Angry Birds during your shift, don't pilot an airplane.

The exception to this rule is only Nicholas Cage in Con-Air. That is the only acceptable time you should sporadically fly an airplane.

Hullabaloo hangs in the murky waters for Schettino's future, but it seems unified that the public wants vengeance for the negligence.

Jack Sparrow would be sorely disappointed. He could steer a ship drunk as a mother, and this guy has difficulty following the blipping green dots.

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