

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

APRIL

5

— 2017 —

## COLOR CHANGE

Third annual 'Light It Up Blue'  
event raises autism awareness

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ELLIOTT TOWER

Photo by Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

### FINALISTS FOUND.

Two presidential candidates to visit  
OU for public vetting in April

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### TOAST TO THE TASSEL.

Seniors celebrate countdown to  
commencements with champagne

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### GOLFING GLORY.

Alumnus Brian Stuard to compete  
in his first Masters Tournament

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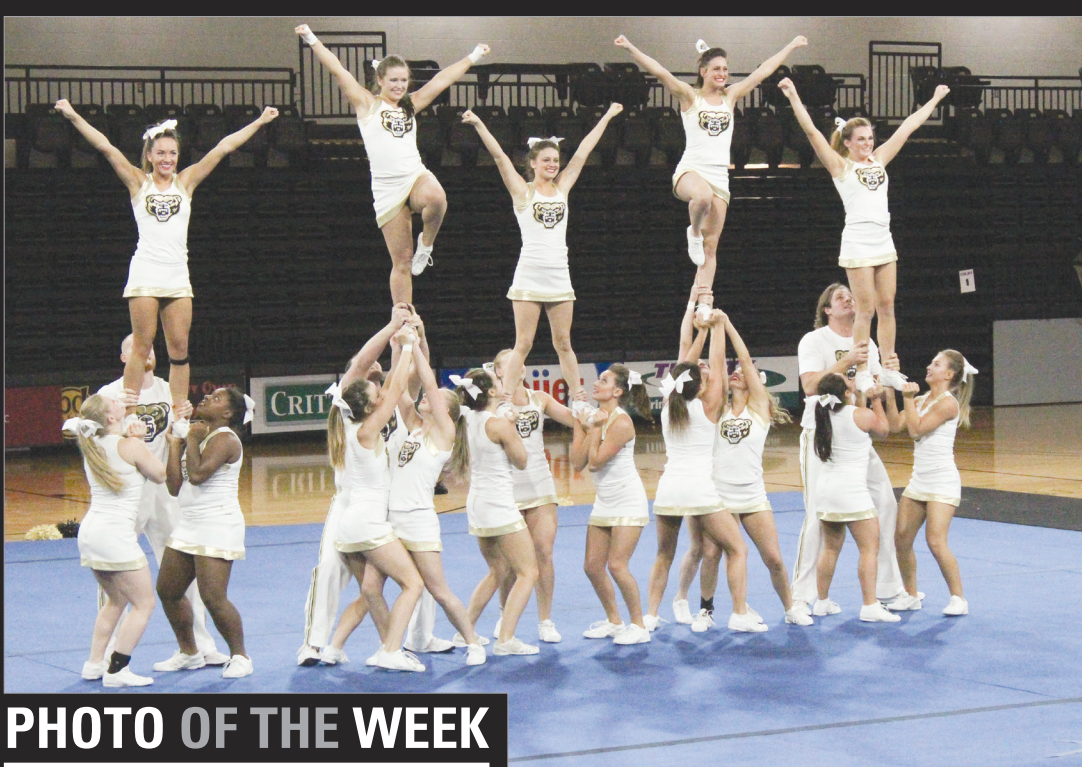




## ontheweb

Check out our Facebook album from WXOU's 51st Birthday Bash, which was held Tuesday, April 4 at The Crofoot in Pontiac. PHOTO / Bohdanna Cherstylo

[www.facebook.com/theoakpost](http://www.facebook.com/theoakpost)



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**BEACH-BOUND** // Members of the Oakland University cheer team perform their routine in preparation for the National Cheerleaders Association national competition. Friends and family were invited to the O'rena on Sunday, April 2 for a send-off. The competition will be held April 6-8 in Daytona Beach, Florida.

ELYSE GREGORY // *The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)



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### SK8ER BOI

Lace up your skates for the Student Program Board's Roller Rink Rave and Throwback Time Machine on Tuesday, April 11 in the O'rena. PHOTO / Mary Mitchell



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### BOTTOMS UP

Graduating seniors were invited to Rochester's Royal Park Hotel for A Toast to the Tassel, a celebration complete with free champagne. PHOTO / Ian Levinson



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### LITTLE LIBRARY

Middle schoolers Haley Evans and Megan MacKenzie have started an on-campus Little Free Library with a "take one, leave one" policy. PHOTO / Taylor Stinson

## POLL OF THE WEEK

Do April showers really bring May flowers?

- A** No, they bring worms
- B** Hey, better rain than snow
- C** I haven't left the library in 72 hours, so I wouldn't know
- D** HOLY S#!@, IT'S APRIL! TIME FOR COMMENCEMENT! 911 #HIREME

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## LAST WEEK'S POLL

Summer is approaching. How are you holding up?

**A**) Excited! Got a job lined up and everything!

18 votes | 32%

**B**) \*Scream sob\* Is there anything beyond finals?

16 votes | 29%

**C**) If I had time to stop and think about it, I'd faint.

2 votes | 4%

**D**) \*Continues to blissfully watch Netflix\* I'm dead inside :)

20 votes | 36%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### APRIL 5, 1979

For the fifth time, there was arson on the sixth floor of Van Wagoner Hall. Three days before the fire, a student patrol group that was monitoring the fires had been phased out.

### APRIL 7, 1986

Kresge Library unveiled a new program called "Infopass," a system that allowed students to check out a book with no charge and with only a one-day waiting period. Twenty-two libraries were enrolled in the system at the time.

### APRIL 7, 2010

Members of OU Students for Concealed Carry on Campus wore empty holsters to protest university rules prohibiting concealed carry. The OU chapter of the organization was one of 11 throughout Michigan.

## BY THE NUMBERS

GRADUATION

56%

of first-time college students earn degrees within six years

1/5

students who graduated with bachelors' degrees in 2011-12 majored in business

88%

of college-graduated millennials believe college has paid off or will pay off

\$45,500

median annual salary for college-graduated millennials working full time in 2012



# Looking Back

## Student with autism found mentorship at Oakland

*Note: Some of the language used to reference autism spectrum disorder in 1984 can be considered rude and disrespectful today. All quotes have been taken directly from the April 9, 1984, edition of The Oakland Sail.*

**Cheyenne Kramer**  
Web Editor

On April 9, 1984, The Oakland Sail ran a cover story on a 22-year-old student named Richard Bearse. He was graduating that spring with a bachelor's degree in general studies and dreamed of going into an accounting assistant program.

Bearse had gone to high school at Waterford Mott and entered Oakland University in 1980.

While at OU, he worked with the university's food provider, SAGA, aiding in the kitchen and helping with its bookkeeping. In his spare time, he enjoyed video games like "Star Trek" and "Omega Race."

The only thing that set Bearse apart from every other OU student was the fact that he had been diagnosed with autism at the age of three.

While at Oakland, he was one of only two university students in Michigan to be diagnosed with autism.

Carl Isaacs was his first academic advisor at OU.

"I was surprised anyone autistic would get to a college level, to get mainstreamed to that level," Isaacs said.

Linda Mah, a staff writer for The Oakland Sail, interviewed Dr. Robert S. Fink, then-director of counseling at the Graham Health Center.

Fink had advised Bearse and his family since Bearse enrolled at OU.

"Research shows trouble screening out stimulation, especially verbal stimulation," Fink told The Oakland Sail. "Sounds are loud and jumbled. Rather than learn how to interact with others, they [people with autism] learn to withdraw."

The article defined autism as a "handicap" that possibly occurs as a result of defects in the nervous system or in biochemical functions of the human body.

Bearse's mother, Julia, helped her son as much as she could. She knew there was something different about Richard when he was eight months old because he was unresponsive to stimuli.

"He'd howl for hours and I'd walk the room with him," she said. "He might not have understood why or even been aware that I was there, but just the physical contact helped."

Reflecting back on when her son decided to go to Oakland, Julia Bearse said, "There's nothing to de-

scribe the feeling. It's like having your best fantasy come true."

Isaacs acted as a middleman between Bearse and his professors. Isaacs made an effort to notify professors ahead of time that Bearse was enrolled in their classes, and would provide them with information on what autism was.

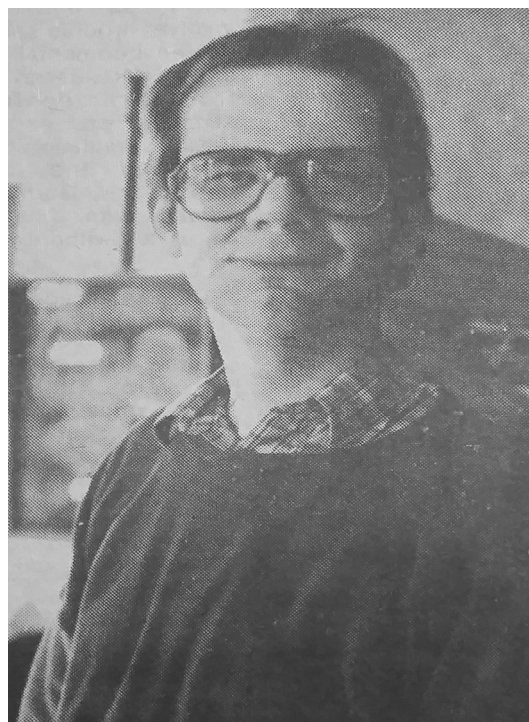
"Things were not made easy for him," Fink said. "[Bearse's college experience] is a striking accomplishment. The biggest accomplishment is on Richard's part. He's bright and had drive and determination to be successful."

Julia Bearse praised the OU community for how her son was treated.

"We're very fortunate," she said. "Wherever he ends up, someone helps him. Students have taken the time to handle him when he's upset. For us as a family, it's been a terrific experience. OU should be proud of itself and its students."

Fink added that although Richard Bearse learned from the OU community, it learned from him, as well.

"I think, over time, we have gotten to know or understand him and come to understand he's a human being first," Fink said.



The Oakland Post Archives

Richard Bearse graduated from Oakland University with a bachelor's degree in general studies in April 1984.



THE OAKLAND POST

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**Corrections Corner:** The Oakland Post corrects all known errors of fact.

In our March 29 article "It's outdoor season," we listed runner Rachel Levy's 5,000m time as 6:54.28. Her actual time was 16:54:58.

If you know of an error, please email [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) or call (248) 370-4268.

[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)



Elyse Gregory/The Oakland Post

Oakland University President George Hynd (right) looks on as Board of Trustees Chair Richard DeVore gives a presidential search update at the April 3 board meeting.

## Presidential finalists to visit

*Candidates will participate in open forums before finals*

**Paige Brockway**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Oakland University Board of Trustees intends to bring two presidential candidates to campus for public vetting before finals week.

The presidential search committee has reviewed 61 candidates and conducted confidential, off-campus interviews with a select few.

The search hasn't been narrowed down to two candidates yet, but Richard DeVore, chair of the board and the presidential search committee, hopes to announce the dates of the finalists' visits to campus later in the week.

"We're going to have two on campus," he said at the board meeting on Monday, April 3. "I don't have exact dates. It will be before finals, so in the next couple of weeks."

Finals begin Thursday, April 20.

Candidates' names and curricula vitae will be available to the campus community one to two days before their visits, according to a March 29 press release by DeVore.

At Monday's meeting, he said he hopes to give 24-36 hours' no-

tice before each finalist's visit.

The visits will include further interviews and open forums with campus stakeholders, who will be able to provide feedback through electronic surveys.

"We had a very robust process, but I think we [the search committee members] were all very delighted in the candidates we saw," DeVore said.

The search committee is made up of Trustees DeVore, Mark Schlusell, Melissa Stolicker and Ronald Robinson, as well as:

- Glenn McIntosh, vice president for Student Affairs
- Kevin Corcoran, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- Linda Gillum, associate dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs in the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine
- Karen Markel, chair of the Management and Marketing Department and associate professor of management
- Cassie Hock and Sean Foe, student liaisons to the Board of Trustees

Hock and Foe have participated in all of the interviews so far.

### Summary of the search

The search for a new president was announced in September 2016, with DeVore telling the Detroit Free Press that the decision to not renew President George Hynd's contract was "not termination for cause."

Throughout the 2016-17 academic year, DeVore has kept his promise to "err on the side of overcommunicating" about the presidential search, which has remained on track with the schedule outlined at the Oct. 24, 2016, Board of Trustees meeting.

The presidential search committee has been working with Washington D.C.-based firm Academic Search under a \$90,000 contract since December.

In January, Academic Search held a series of open campus forums to determine which characteristics OU community members desire in the university's next president. The insight gathered at the open forums was used to draft the advertisement for the position.

Approximately 20 percent of the 61 applicants were female, according to John Young, vice president of University Communications and Marketing.

Hynd's three-year contract expires in August. The board aims to give the next president a five-year contract.

Though DeVore wants the next president to "physically be [at OU] in June," he is "hoping to have something done maybe as early as the end of this month."

The next Board of Trustees formal session is not scheduled until June 5, but DeVore said there will be a special board meeting to discuss the presidency before then.

## WGS students, professor to receive annual awards

**Amy Swanson**  
Staff Reporter

Successful women and gender studies students and one of Oakland University's accomplished and influential women will be celebrated at The Women and Gender Studies Program Spring Awards Luncheon and the 25th Annual Phyllis Law Googasian Luncheon on April 11. The joint event will take place from 12-1 p.m. in the Oakland Room of the Oakland Center.

The day will begin with a presentation of WGS student awards and a buffet lunch. Jo Reger, director of the WGS program, will address the program's graduating seniors.

This year's Googasian Award will be given to Beth Talbert, special instructor and senior adviser for communication in the Department of Communication and Journalism.

"The award is bestowed annually to recognize extraordinary service to the university community and demonstrated commitment to the positive development and advancement of women at Oakland University," said Jeff Youngquist, associate professor and chairperson of the Department of Communication and Journalism.

It was created in 1992 in honor of Trustee Emerita Phyllis Law Googasian.

"The women honored by the Googasian Award have dedicated significant portions of their lives to advocating not just for the women of OU, but also for the betterment of people in general," Youngquist said. "... This award recognizes, in a small way, their accomplishments and achievements."

Youngquist said Talbert is widely known for her work and interest regarding women in leadership.

Talbert is also a trustee of the Rochester Community Schools' Board of Education and a member of the Women Officials Network, an organization that provides training and networking opportunities for female officials in the Oakland County area.

She recently began the OU

Women's Leadership Institute, which creates research-based leadership learning experiences for women.

"It is important to acknowledge and honor the women who make an impact on campus, especially women like Ms. Talbert, who do so much," said Rebecca Mercado-Jones, assistant professor of communication. "Both instinctively and purposefully, Ms. Talbert improves the status of women on campus with her presence, her persistence and professionalism."

Talbert is specifically interested in the ways women both inhabit and experience leadership. She mentioned that society's prototype for leadership is still masculine, and that many people still don't feel women should be in the highest levels of leadership.

"I would call myself a pragmatic idealist," Talbert said.

She hopes her work at OU has a positive impact on everyone she interacts with.

"But for female students in particular, my goal has always been to help them see themselves as leaders and to not apologize for having ambition," she said. "I want to help women find effective ways to confront unconscious bias, negotiate a salary, and to challenge policies when needed. I don't have all the answers, but I know we can all do a better job of supporting women and the decisions they make for their lives."

Youngquist said both of these award programs display the vast possibilities available for students. The WGS awards honor students who will soon be moving on to the next stage of their lives.

"These [recipients] represent the promise of the future," Youngquist said. "On the other hand, those highlighted by the Googasian award are always highly accomplished women who have done, and are doing, great things in their careers. These women are the inspiration for those who follow in their footsteps."

For questions about the event or awards, contact the Office of the Provost at (248) 370-2190.



# OUSC election results announced

*Lena Mishack, Jousef Shoukani officially inaugurated president, vice president*

**Shelby Tankersley**  
Campus Editor

The results are in.

The new administrative team for the Oakland University Student Congress will be President Lena Mishack and Vice President Jousef Shkoukani. The announcement was made at noon on Friday, March 31 in the Oakland Center's Lake Superior Room B.

Mishack and Shkoukani were the only ticket running for their positions, so the room was filled with their friends, fellow OUSC members and staff members from the Center of Student Activities and Leadership Development.

Though this election was not a nail-biter, the room was full of excitement for the winning ticket. The announcements were short, and a celebration to congratulate the team started quickly.

A friend recommended that Mishack run and introduced her to Shoukani. He was immediately excited to work with her toward what they hope will be a better student experience.

A bill to add a student-athlete representative to OUSC, proposed by the current administrators President Zack Thomas and Vice President Anders Engnell, passed with 264 votes. Their proposal to add a representative from the Graduate Council passed with 279 votes.

Mishack and Shkoukani said they are excited to enact these bills, as they fit in with the duo's goals for the upcoming year.

"I'm especially excited about the Graduate Council," Mishack said. "That is a group that hasn't had very much representation, so I'm looking forward to enacting that."

As a past legislator for OUSC, Mishack plans to continue the

plant sustainability projects she has been working on throughout this academic year. As someone who had always hoped to be an OUSC legislator, Shkoukani is excited to step into his new role.

"OU isn't just where I take my classes," he said. "This is where my friends and family are. I really love this place."

Their plans for the coming year include adding more recycling bins to campus, encouraging more student involvement, encouraging more school spirit for sporting events and bringing new employers to campus to help students find jobs they love.

"We want students to be able to come here and find their dream job," Shkoukani said. "We don't want students to just be able to find jobs in the Motor City, but in whatever fields they're really passionate about."

Mishack and Shkoukani were inaugurated Monday, April 3. They continue to work with Thomas and Engnell to ensure a smooth transition.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

New OUSC President Lena Mishack (right) and Vice President Jousef Shoukani.

## The following students were voted in as OUSC legislators for the next academic year:

Sarah Augustyniak  
Austin Church  
Tyler Fox  
Stephanie Hubbard  
Anushree Jagtap  
Brittany Kleinschmidt  
Margaret Merogi  
Tamara Mabrouk

Benjamin Olsen  
Laith Rafidi  
Elijah Sanders  
Richard Seeger  
Sophia Polsinelli  
Helen Thompson  
Richard Williamson

*\*No write-in candidates were elected*

# Hynd's final State of the University Address discusses achievements, OU's bright future

**Grace Turner**  
Managing Editor

In his State of the University Address on April 4, Oakland University President George Hynd discussed achievements and predicted a bright future for OU.

As this is Hynd's last year as president, his speech summarized points of pride and offered advice for continued improvement.

"I'm pleased to report today the university is stronger and held in greater esteem than any time in its 60-year history," he said.

He discussed accomplishments of his three-year administration, Oakland's welcoming community, the university's growth, and its local and global connections.

## Achievements

During Hynd's presidency, OU saw the development of a

new mission statement and strategic plan.

Hynd emphasized that the university is relevant in Oakland County and Michigan.

Hynd said university-funded financial aid has increased by tens of millions of dollars, and the total available amount is approaching \$50 million, which is roughly equal to state appropriations.

"This support is helping to change students' lives and, without a doubt, is a solid investment for the institution and provides an outstanding return to the students and the state of Michigan, as we are preparing a talented and well-prepared workforce for Michigan's economy," he said.

He reported that Career Services' most-recent First-Destination Survey determined OU graduates have an employment rate of 71 percent, with 97 per-

cent of those graduates working in Michigan. The remaining 29 percent go to graduate school or join the military.

During Hynd's presidency, Oakland added 12 new academic degrees, including a Master of Science in Forensic Nursing, a Master of Science in Cyber Security, doctoral programs in nursing practice and nurse anesthesia, and a law degree partnership with Wayne State University.

## Inclusion

Hynd also discussed OU's welcoming campus.

The Women's Leadership Institute was established this academic year, and Oakland's fourth Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Conference is set to take place Wednesday, April 5. OU has also been named among Michigan's top LGBTQIA+ in-

clusive schools.

The campus community also recently completed the university's second Campus Climate Survey.

"Like the first, it will assuredly lay the groundwork for new programs and initiatives to make Oakland University an even more rewarding community in which to be engaged," Hynd said.

In 2016, OU was named seventh on a list of the 50 safest large colleges and universities in the U.S. by College Choice.

"However, we cannot rest on accomplishments in this area, no matter how good they are," Hynd said, adding that recent national and state events show the continued need for a safer campus.

## A growing campus

Along with the Strategic Plan, Hynd's presidency produced a new Campus Master Plan that

proposes several building projects, including the upcoming Southern Student Housing Complex.

He said, for two-thirds of OU students, OU was their first choice. Seventy-five percent of students take a full course load, allowing them to graduate faster and with less debt.

## Outreach

OU now has more than 830 international students and scholars from more than 64 countries.

The university continues to work with neighboring communities and has new fundraising leadership, Hynd said.

Hynd said this gets Oakland more recognition, and he sees a bright future if outreach continues at this level.

"Oakland will be as brilliant a gem as any in the crown of this nation's higher education community," he said.



# Night of skating, dancing, music at Roller Rink Rave

**Katerina Mihailidis**  
Intern Reporter

**D**on't miss the opportunity to roller skate, dance and jam to throwback hits from 6-10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11, in the O'rena.

Oakland University's Student Program Board is organizing the Roller Rink Rave and Throwback Time Machine for the first time. The events will be held in conjunction and funded by SPB, according to Mackenzie Hill, the board's special events director.

"The coolest part is that it's in the O'rena," Hill said. "We're hoping to make it an annual event."

Students will have the opportunity to skate around the Blacktop or dance in the center of it while listening to music that will include throwbacks, as well as today's hits.

According to Hill, SPB is hiring the company Degy Dance to provide entertainment for the night, including skate rental and a DJ. The event is free for OU students.

Upon signing in, students will have the option to dance, skate or both. They will sign a waiver, and SPB will provide roller skates that have been tested by O'rena

staff, ensuring the students' and the court's safety. Wristguards will also be provided.

Students are encouraged to find the waiver online. Those who have already printed and signed the waivers will have access to the express entrance lane.

Students who want to skate must bring socks. Water will be provided.

Students will be given a specific time frame during which they can skate, Hill explained. Because the number of skates is limited, colored wrist bands will determine how much time each student has left to skate. After their time is up, students who are not skating can dance in the center of the Blacktop while they wait to skate again.

Hill said the skates were an important part of the deal with the O'rena staff. The wheels are specifically designed to protect the floor of the Blacktop from skid marks. For this reason, students cannot bring their own skates to the event. Degy Dance's insurance will cover any damage caused to the O'rena by the skates.

SPB is looking for volunteers to check waivers and direct traffic. Those interested can sign up on SPB's GrizzOrgs page under the "Feed" and "Forms" tabs.

## POLICE FILES

### Pretending to be handicapped

At 9:15 p.m. on March 3, an Oakland University Police Department patrol officer saw a woman park her car in a handicapped spot in the P1 lot. As the woman exited her vehicle, the officer approached her. The officer asked for her name and whether the handicapped parking permit in the vehicle belonged to her. As the permit was being checked in the system, the woman confessed: The handicapped parking permit actually belongs to her father. With the father nowhere to be seen, the woman was issued a citation for the misuse of a handicapped parking permit.

### Post-party blues

Two OUPD officers were dispatched to Hamlin Hall at 3:32 a.m. on March 12 following reports of intoxicated minors. When they arrived, they found a male and female suspect and were granted permission to enter the dorm room. While asking for identification, the officers noticed the suspects had watery, bloodshot eyes and smelled like alcohol. The male smelled of vomit. The two were asked if they had been drinking that night. Their answer was no. They had, however, been at a fraternity party earlier. When officers asked if they could perform a breathalyzer test, the male refused, but he agreed to have his eyes examined. The results of the test showed that the male was heavily intoxicated, and he was given an MIP. The female also refused a breathalyzer test. Before the officer could ask to examine her eyes, she started crying and admitted to drinking. She was also issued an MIP citation.

### Marital problems

On March 15, in parking lot 37, a female was on the ground with a male standing up in front of her. The male looked as if he was going to assault her. An officer had seen the man grab the woman by the throat, so OUPD intervened. The male attempted to flee the scene by car, but as soon as the officer pulled the patrol car in front of the vehicle, he stepped out and was handcuffed. As the male was being taken into custody, the female yelled repeatedly, saying phrases such as, "He has my phone" and "I want my phone." Later, it was revealed that the two are husband and wife. Officers listened to the male's version of the story: His wife does not have classes on Wednesday and wasn't supposed to be on campus. He drove up to campus and located her car. He told her to get in the car, give him her phone and come home, and an argument ensued. The husband said there was no fight, just an argument. OUPD charged the man with domestic violence, and he was transferred to the Oakland County Jail.

Compiled by Robert Ogg  
Staff Reporter

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# Former Postie heading to Washington

*As a former employee for The Oakland Post, Georges will devle into photojournalism*

**Grace Turner**  
Managing Editor

**A**lumnus Salwan Georges has made it big in the journalism world.

The winter 2015 graduate was recently hired by The Washington Post as a photojournalist.

The newspaper reached out to Georges by phone to ask him for an interview. The staff was familiar with his work because he freelanced for the paper in late 2015.

Georges most recently spent a little more than a year at the Detroit Free Press, after wrapping up a successful term as photo editor of The Oakland Post and graduating from Oakland. He said he will miss working there.

"The Free Press gave me a life-changing opportunity," he said. "I'm very thankful for them."

Georges' favorite assignment with the Free Press was an article about a family of Sudanese refugees who had recently moved to Detroit. Their story hit close to home, as Georges came to Michigan as an Iraqi refugee in 2004.

Along with his newspaper work, Georges is working on a photo documentary that focuses on Iraqi refugees in metro Detroit as part of an advanced, three-year visual storytelling and documentary photography mentorship through the Ander-

son Ranch Arts Center in Colorado. Ed Kashi — whose work has appeared in National Geographic — and James Estrin of The New York Times are mentors for the program.

Georges plans to return to metro Detroit regularly to continue his work with refugees, many of whom he keeps in touch with.

"I still visit them to this day," he said of the Sudanese family. "I didn't view them as a subject."

Georges said he will miss the area and his family in metro Detroit.

"It's hard to leave Detroit," he said. "It's my hometown."

Ryan Garza, staff photographer at the Free Press, said Georges' work is impactful in part because, as a refugee, Georges can relate to his subjects.

"That's always going to be a more powerful story," Garza said, adding that Georges spends evenings and weekends with his subjects.

Garza said Georges has a passion for learning. Along with the Anderson Ranch Arts Center mentorship, Georges gained photography and videography skills while at the Free Press.

Garza is happy for Georges, but seeing him leave the Free Press is bittersweet.

"Seeing someone that's hungry and doing great work, it's sad to see him go,"



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Former Oakland Post photo editor Salwan Georges will begin work as photojournalist at The Washington Post in early April.

Garza said.

The two plan to keep in touch.

While Georges is climbing the journalism ladder, his work is far from done. His goal is to make a positive impact on the communities he photographs.

He already has for the Sudanese family.

"When that story came out, it really

changed their lives," he said.

Donations and help flooded in from native Detroiters and other refugees.

Georges sees his new job as an opportunity to help refugees by making "these stories more international," he said.

His work for The Washington Post begins on April 10.

## APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF MANAGING EDITOR OF THE OAKLAND POST.

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POSITION EFFECTIVE END OF APRIL 2017.

Applicants should send a resume, cover letter and at least three writing sample to Shelby Tankersley at [srtankersley@oakland.edu](mailto:srtankersley@oakland.edu) by April 12.



# Annual McLaren's Let's Move Festival returns

*Macomb Health and Fitness Foundation to host race to promote health, engage locals in charity*

**Laurel Kraus**  
Staff Reporter

The Macomb Health and Fitness Foundation will be hosting the seventh annual McLaren Let's Move Festival of Races on Saturday, April 29 in downtown Mount Clemens.

"It's a foundation that is set up to promote healthy lifestyles across young children all the way to adults," said Bob Busquaert, vice chair of the Macomb Health and Fitness Foundation and member of the Let's Move planning committee.

With an estimated 1,500-2,000 attendees, the festival will feature four races spaced throughout the morning.

The Half Marathon, sponsored by Hansons Running Shop, will begin at 9 a.m. and costs \$60. This race will bring runners through downtown Mount Clemens, Harrison Township and along the Lake St. Clair coastline.

The Better Half 10K will set off at 9:20 a.m. and cost \$40. Participants will run through Lake St. Clair Metropark and downtown Mount Clemens.

"The last 10K, I feel, is one of the most scenic parts of the course," Busquaert said. "So, you have some really nice houses on your one side and then the Clinton River on your right side."

Runners participating in the 10K will be bussed to the starting line, so the race sells out once 300 participants are registered.

The Oakland University 5K Run/Walk through Mount Clemens starts at 9:40 a.m. and costs \$35.

"About a third of Oakland University students come from Macomb County, and another 20,000 or more alumni are from Macomb County, so the university has always been very committed to all of our initiatives in Macomb County," said Julie Dichtel, OU's executive director for Macomb County Outreach. "So, every

year, we sponsor, participate and get involved in a variety of different community events."

Finally, The Buffalo Wild Wings One Mile Run begins at 11 a.m. and costs \$15. The course essentially goes in a square and is recommended for kids.

"We typically have the Buffalo Wild Wings mascot do the one mile with the kids, as well," Busquaert said.

Full proceeds from the festival will go toward the Macomb Food Program and the Care House of Macomb County, where victims of child abuse receive professional help and support.

Participants will also have the opportunity to donate to these charities when picking up their packets or at the post-race party.

The post-race party will take place from 10:15 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Buffalo Wild Wings at 48 Market Street in Mount Clemens.

All race participants will receive fin-

ishers' medals that are unique to each race, while trophies will be awarded to the winning male and female in each race. There will be separate categories of overall winners for those 40-59 years old and those over 60.

Online registration for the McLaren Let's Move Festival of Races is available on the Eastside Racing Company website.

Registration is cheaper in advance. Pricing for the races will go up \$10 for the half marathon and \$5 for the other races on the day of.

However, OU students can use the online registration codes "save5" for the 5K and 10K, and "save10" for the half marathon. Groups of twenty or more can also receive a \$5 discount code by contacting Tracey Moro at tracey@studio-communications.com

Volunteer opportunities are also available. Contact Busquaert at fastbob.hrm@gmail.com for more information.

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# A Toast the Tassel celebrates almost-grads

Amy Swanson  
Staff Reporter

The bubbly has been brought. Around 400 students graduating from Oakland University celebrated in style during A Toast to the Tassel. Held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, festivities took place at Royal Park Hotel in Rochester.

Dressed in polished cocktail or business attire, guests gathered in a grand, ambient ballroom. The event kicked off with a performance by the Gold Vibrations, OU’s coed a cappella group.

This was followed by a brief program featuring Amy Coe, regional assistant vice president of the Oakland University Credit Union, which sponsored the event. Student Congress Vice President Anders Engnell also received quite a few laughs from the audience with his speech.

After a heartfelt message from President George Hynd, those eagerly eyeing the hundreds of champagne flutes were finally given the go-ahead. With a room of raised glasses, Hynd proposed a toast in honor of the graduates.

Students spent the rest of the evening enjoying each other’s company while munching on hors d’oeuvres. Attendees got the chance to strike a pose with The Grizz or commemorate the event with snaps inside a photo booth.

The celebration wrapped up with the announcement of a lengthy list of raffle-prize winners.

This included an Elliott Clock Tower VIP tour package, dinner with Vice President for Student Affairs Glenn McIntosh, an OU Night at Comerica Park ticket package, a Meadow Brook Hall tour and gift basket, and VIP Courtside tickets to Young Alumni Night at the O’rena.

These gifts were specifically selected to connect students back to campus after graduation.

“I think it was a great tribute to graduating seniors,” said Emily Burnett, a senior communication major who attended the event. She enjoyed the speakers’ emphasis on the pride of graduation.

Burnett feels it is important to stay connected to the university.

“I believe the Alumni Association offers opportunities to its alumni that could be very beneficial, whether it be for a job

or for just making friends that have similar interests,” Burnett said.

This was the second-annual Toast to the Tassel. The event was named one of the Best New Alumni Programs by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in 2016.

The night was presented by the OU Alumni Association and hosted by the Young Alumni Council.

“The OUAA and Young Alumni Council work to engage alums back to the life of the university in a meaningful way,” said Amanda Fylan, assistant director of alumni engagement and head coordinator of the event.

Fylan said this event introduced students to different alumni programming and events.

“Just because students are graduating does not mean they can’t still be involved in campus life,” Fylan said. “We work to provide meaningful ways for alums to stay connected to their classmates, as well as the university, through events, networking, volunteer and mentor opportunities.”

Fylan said the event went better than she could have hoped.



Ian Levinson / The Oakland Post

Gold Vibrations performed for graduating seniors at A Toast to the Tassel.

“The students seemed to have such a great time and looked lovely all dressed up,” she said. “I believe students will remember Toast fondly as their first Alumni Association event.”

The organization’s next event is the OUAA Golf Challenge on June 12, where alumni and friends can meet up for a round of golf at the OU Golf and Learning Center. Visit the OUAA website for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS					
WEDNESDAY 4.5	THURSDAY 4.6	FRIDAY 4.7	SATURDAY 4.8	SUNDAY 4.9	TUESDAY 4.11
<b>1:10 - 2:10 P.M.</b> Self-Defense with OUPD   Hosted by American Medical Women’s Association 204 Dodge Hall	<b>11 A.M. - 12 P.M.</b> Oakland Center Expansion Groundbreaking Begins in Oakland Center, Gold Rooms	<b>SIBLINGS WEEKEND FRIDAY - SUNDAY</b>	<b>ALL DAY</b> Senior Class Gift Climb   Hosted by OU Student Philanthropy Committee Elliott Tower	<b>1 P.M.</b> Baseball vs. UIC Oakland Baseball Field	<b>12 - 1 P.M.</b> 25th Annual Phyllis Law Googasian Luncheon and the Women and Gender Studies Program Spring Luncheon Oakland Center, Oakland Room
<b>4 P.M.</b> Softball vs. Cleveland State Oakland Softball Field	<b>12 - 1 P.M.</b> Artist’s Talk: Cody VanderKaay 208 Wilson Hall	<b>ALL DAY</b> Senior Class Gift Climb   Hosted by OU Student Philanthropy Committee Elliott Tower	<b>ALL DAY</b> Track and field vs. UDM Recreation and Athletic Outdoor Complex	<b>2 - 4 P.M.</b> Young Choreographers Forum   Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company Varner Studio Theatre	<b>12 - 1 P.M.</b> Prepare for Your Second Year   Hosted by Second Year Experience Oakland Center, Fireside Lounge
	<b>4 - 5:30 P.M.</b> Circles of Brotherhood and Sisterhood   Hosted by Center for Multicultural Initiatives 130 Oakland Center	<b>10 A.M. - 1 P.M.</b> OU Day of Service   Hosted by Leadership & Volunteer Center Oakland Center, Gold Rooms	<b>10 A.M. - 12 P.M.</b> Study Abroad Pre-Departure Orientation Meeting 156 North Foundation Hall	<b>3 - 5 P.M.</b> Oakland University Chamber Ensembles Concert Varner Recital Hall	<b>12 - 1 P.M.</b> “Artist and Pilgrim”: A Travel Talk by John Corbin 124 Wilson Hall
	<b>6:30 - 10 P.M.</b> 14th Annual GSA Drag Show   Hosted by Gay Straight Alliance Oakland Center, Banquet Rooms	<b>12 - 1 P.M.</b> Family Meal   Hosted by Gender and Sexuality Center Oakland Center, Lake Superior B	<b>1 P.M.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Baseball vs. UIC Oakland Baseball Field</li><li>Softball vs. Green Bay Oakland Softball Field</li></ul>	<b>MONDAY 4.10</b>	<b>3 P.M.</b> Baseball vs. Central Michigan Oakland Baseball Field
	<b>7 - 7:50 P.M.</b> Wellness in the House Series: “Sit Smart, Study Smart”   Hosted by OU Rec Well Vandenberg Hall, Glass Room	<b>3 P.M.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Baseball vs. UIC Oakland Baseball Field</li><li>Softball vs. Green Bay Oakland Softball Field</li></ul>	<b>2 - 4 P.M.</b> Young Choreographers Forum   Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company Varner Studio Theatre	<b>5 - 9 P.M.</b> Student Activities and Leadership Awards Banquet   Hosted by the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development Oakland Center, Banquet Rooms	<b>6 - 9 P.M.</b> Take Back the Night   Hosted by Gender and Sexuality Center Campuswide
	<b>7 - 7:50 P.M.</b> Young Choreographers Forum   Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company Varner Studio Theatre	<b>4 P.M.</b> Water to Water Fundraiser   Oakland Swimming and Diving Oakland Aquatic Center	<b>3 P.M.</b> Softball vs. Green Bay Oakland Softball Field	<b>7 - 9 P.M.</b> Brain Games: “Netflix & Study!”   Hosted by Academic Peer Mentors Oak View Hall, Lobby	
		<b>8 - 10 P.M.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>World Music Concert with Ray Rolman   OU’s World Music Ensembles Varner Recital Hall</li><li>Young Choreographers Forum   Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company Varner Studio Theatre</li></ul>	<b>8 - 10 P.M.</b> Young Choreographers Forum   Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company Varner Studio Theatre		<b>SUNDAY - TUESDAY</b>
					<b>8 - 11 P.M.</b> Nightclub Cabarets   OU theatre students Orchid Nightclub, 141 W. 9 Mile Road in Ferndale





Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Members of the community gathered around Elliott Tower with blue balloons at Oakland University's third Light It Up Blue event on World Autism Awareness Day, April 2.

# A new hue for Elliott Tower

*Light It Up Blue returns to campus for third year of raising autism awareness*

**Gina Navaroli**  
Staff Reporter

Parts of Oakland University's campus will be bathed in blue for a week to raise awareness for those with autism spectrum disorder.

OU's Center for Autism hosted Light It Up Blue for World Autism Awareness Day on Sunday, April 2.

The event included information, resources, food, activities and a walk to Elliott Tower, which was illuminated with blue light.

This year, OUCA is focusing on community partnerships, according to Brent Fragnoli, a graduate student in the master's of education in higher education and leadership program.

Planning included "orchestrating the

lighting of the clock tower and soccer dome, planning a diverse and accommodating menu, contacting a wide range of support services to host information tables, coordinating volunteers and the games/activities provided at the event and, most importantly, connecting with families and individuals with ASD to attend the event," Fragnoli said.

Fragnoli said the Department of Human Development and Child Studies planned the event and had an "all hands on deck" mentality. OUCA strives to improve the experience each year.

"We have utilized every facet within our network with the School of Education and Human Services in hopes of reaching out to all who want to come to Light It Up Blue," he said.

This included promotion through me-

dia outlets and school systems.

Aside from raising autism awareness, the event is also meant to show support to those who have ASD and their loved ones.

"This event offers families, individuals, caretakers and supporters of those with ASD in and around the Oakland University community an annual opportunity to stand in solidarity with one another," Fragnoli said.

His goal is to help people with autism find what they can do best in life.

"You would be surprised at how one action can go a long way," he said. "Whether it be dedicating a few hours to volunteering, or even just changing a lightbulb [to] blue on April 2, it can drastically improve the life of someone else, which is what OU is all about."

Assistant Director for Residential Facilities Kevin McDougall and his team was in charge of changing the light color.

"[OU's electricians] added film to the LED lights," McDougall said. "We buy theater gels, so it can take the heat. We put them over the lenses for the spotlight."

The prevalence of autism diagnoses has grown rapidly, said Chaturi Edrisinha, associate professor for Human Development and Child Studies and director of research at OUCA.

"In Oakland, in this part of the state, we are a huge player when it comes to autism research and autism support," she said. "Last year, we had 180 people, and we had a ton of families from the community show up. It's bringing a lot of awareness to campus."



# Free Little Library opens outside Pawley

Laurel Kraus  
Staff Reporter

**H**aley Evans has always had a special place in her heart for literature.

When she was little, she produced a family newspaper with her mother. In third grade, she worked with The Hispanic Outreach Alliance to collect around 2,000 books for children whose first language wasn't English. As part of the Girl Scouts, she collected books to distribute to children at a food pantry.

Susan Evans, a lecturer at Oakland University, estimates her daughter has donated around 8,000 books over the course of her life so far, earning her an award from Rochester Area Youth Assistance.

Thursday, March 30 marked the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Haley Evans' newest project, a Little Free Library on OU's campus.

Working with fellow Girl Scout Megan MacKenzie to earn their silver awards, received when a scout completes more than 50 hours of systematic impact on the environment around her, the two middle schoolers implemented their little library in front of the Lowry Center for Early Childhood Education, which is part of Pawley Hall.

"It was quite nice because both Haley and Megan, when they were small, went to Lowry, and so it was kind of cool to see this full circle giving back to where they came from," Susan Evans said.

Little Free Libraries are a concept that is growing more popular. The idea is to decorate a box on a stand, fill it with books, and allow the community to take and leave those books at its leisure.

Donating books to the library is also welcome and encouraged.

"I saw it in a newspaper about people making them in Detroit to help the kids in Detroit Public Schools that don't have a lot of money for books," Haley Evans said.

Currently, Haley and Megan's Free Little Library is supplied with children's books, but the girls plan to implement more adult-oriented books around next month.

"I like the idea because I never got to read as much when I was a kid, and it really encourages reading, so hopefully kids can grow up and have a really good vocabulary and get more introduced to reading," MacKenzie said.

The Little Free Library will also have seasonal themes, featuring summer-themed books, holiday-themed books and back-to-school books at appropriate times.

There will also be a second location in Rochester Community Schools' Administration Building, which is expected to open in May 2017.

Organizations that have helped create the Little Free Library include the Oakland Press and Detroit Metro Times, which donated two newspaper boxes, and Nile Industrial Coatings, which donated paint services.

Those interested can keep up with Haley and Megan's Free Little Library on its Instagram page, @hmfl43155.

Looking toward the future, Haley's aspirations include further work with literature for youth, and MacKenzie hopes to advocate for the safety of the community's bee population.

"I'm amazed at how industrious they are and how dedicated they've been," Susan Evans said.



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Megan MacKenzie (left) and Haley Evans (right) host a ribbon cutting ceremony for their Little Free Library outside the Lowry Early Education Center on Thursday, March 30.



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Haley and Megan's Free Little Library on campus, currently holds only children's books.

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# NEW PAYMENT DUE DATES



Beginning with fall 2017, payment due dates for all semesters will be two to three weeks before the semester begins. If you do not pay your charges in full by the due date, you will be canceled\* from all your classes and on-campus housing (if applicable).

Students canceled for not paying current semester charges can re-register for classes (based on space availability). Students canceled for not paying past semester charges can re-register (based on space availability) once the prior balance is paid in full.

## IMPORTANT FALL SEMESTER DATES

- **July 16, 2017** — fall tuition and housing charges posted
- **August 15, 2017** — fall payment due date

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Political Focus: Senate votes on SCOTUS nominee

Melissa Deutsch  
Sports Editor

With the passing of Antonin Scalia, one of the U.S. Supreme Court's most conservative-leaning justices, the fight over his replacement has been vicious.

Using all necessary measures, Republicans successfully fought to delay the nomination of Scalia's replacement until after former President Barack Obama was out of office.



Scalia's seat has now been open for 416 days, leaving the Supreme Court with eight justices. Now, the tables have turned, and Senate Republicans are fighting to get President Donald Trump's nominee, Neil Gorsuch, confirmed, while the Democrats debate the best strategy to proceed.

Republicans in the Senate have been unable to reach the number of votes it would take to block a filibuster from Senate Democrats attempting to stop Gorsuch's nomination.

Because of this blockage, which is almost certain to happen when the nomination hits the Senate floor, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell will be forced to "go nuclear" to get Gorsuch confirmed.

What this would do is change the voting process for Supreme Court nominees, allowing them to be confirmed by a simple majority, instead of the 60 votes that are currently required. This would allow the 52 Republicans in the Senate to confirm Gorsuch without a single vote from the Democrats.

McConnell has given every indication that this is his intention.

Trump vowed throughout his campaign that his Supreme Court pick would be someone with ideologies similar to Scalia's. By nominating Gorsuch, he picked just that.

Gorsuch's Ivy League education and Supreme Court clerkship make him a hard nomination not to confirm. His confirmation should bring a familiar dynamic back to the Supreme Court.

Who is Neil Gorsuch?

Gorsuch attended Harvard Law School and attained his Ph.D. from Oxford. He

clerked for Judge David B. Sentelle in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, as well as Justices Byron White and Anthony Kennedy on the U.S. Supreme Court. Currently, he serves as a judge on the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver.

Gorsuch is 49 years old, which would make him the youngest on the bench if confirmed. He is the youngest nominee in 25 years.

The average age of the current Supreme Court justices is about 70.

In ranking the justices' politics from left to right, Gorsuch is predicted to land as the second-most conservative justice, behind Clarence Thomas. This is slightly to the right of where Scalia landed, as analyzed in a 2016 report by Lee Epstein of Washington University, Andrew D. Martin of the University of Michigan and Kevin Quinn of the University of California, Berkeley.

Those familiar with Gorsuch's work speak very highly of his ethics and his writing skills.

Another related, interesting detail: In 2006, Gorsuch published a book on the debate surrounding assisted suicide, concluding that no form of euthanasia should be legal.

What influence would Gorsuch have during this term?

The Supreme Court term runs through June, but justices are only able to vote on cases they have heard argued. The last arguments for this term are scheduled for April 19, putting pressure on Republicans to get Gorsuch on the bench in less time than this process usually takes.

On the agenda for April 19 is a case that's almost certain to deadlock with the current eight-justice system. It concerns the separation of church and state, as the state of Missouri blocked a Lutheran church from participating in a state program that allows schools to resurface playgrounds using recycled tires.

Missouri officials argue Missouri's constitution doesn't allow for the spending of public money on any churches. The church argues the state constitution violates "equal protection principles and the First Amendment's guarantee of free exercise of religion."

If serving on the bench in time, Gorsuch is likely to cast the deciding vote in that case.

Mitch McConnell has gone on the record saying they will have Gorsuch confirmed by the end of the week, no matter what it takes.

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## Dave Chappelle's stand-up: How do we consume comedy in contemporary America?

Lawson Robinson  
Movie Columnist

Media juggernaut Netflix has released two stand-up specials from Dave Chappelle, "The Age of Spin" and "Deep in the Heart of Texas."

These specials mark his return to stand-up comedy and have strummed up controversy. The supposedly crude nature of Chappelle's humor has turned some viewers away.

The jokes are not crude. They're just bad.

There are many different proponents as to what makes comedy "good." Two examples are timeliness and delivery. Both of Chappelle's stand-up specials lack these two essential qualities.

Some jokes are unable to resonate with a viewer in 2017. For instance, Chappelle jokes about the "epidemic" of Ebola. In 2015, this joke could have benefited from timeliness.

There are other moments when Dave makes a joke that can be interpreted as

bigoted. I personally believe that no topic is off limits if the joke is smart and/or funny. Dark humor only seems in poor taste if the jokes are nothing more than "laugh grabs" — and that's exactly what Chappelle's are.

Some of his best jokes come from him simply orating stories. The highlight of "The Age of Spin" is Chappelle's recounting of four different times he met O. J. Simpson. Another great moment is Chappelle's description of his jealousy of Kevin Hart's comedic career.

The first two specials were not very good, but hopefully the next installments will be better. The political climate of today is quite different from that of 2015. I also think it is one that could suit Dave Chappelle's humor.

Only watch if you're a die hard fan of Chappelle.

Rating: 2.5/5 stars



## ♪ Drew's Review: ♪ Why Mike Will Made-It is the best producer in music

Drew Hagge  
Music Columnist

After pleading guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon on May 13, 2014, the mystique surrounding rapper Gucci Mane grew exponentially with every passing day until his release from federal prison on May 26, 2016.

It's no surprise that Gucci Mane turned to super-producer Mike Will Made-It to create his first release since his stint in federal prison, aptly titled "First Day Out Tha Feds."

While producing songs for trap artists appears to dominate Mike Will's workload, it's his diverse body of work that sets him apart from similar Atlanta-based producers.

Mike Will and Metro Boomin act as the two pillars for Atlanta's rap scene. However, Mike Will often takes long detours into the pop, rhythm and blues

worlds. He's produced for heavy-hitters in pop music like Miley Cyrus, Mariah Carey and Beyoncé.

Mike Will's production for these artists isn't insignificant either. Instead, his works with the mentioned artists often turn out to be their most successful songs to date.

Mike Will produced eight tracks on Miley Cyrus' 2013 album "Bangerz," a large majority of the project. He is also responsible for Mariah Carey's latest hit in recent memory, "Faded." He's behind Beyoncé's best song (objectively speaking, of course), "Formation."

The bad news for other producers vying for Mike Will's spot at the top is that he's shown no signs of slowing down. Most recently, he produced a soon-to-be hit single by Kendrick Lamar, "HUMBLE." The single was just released on Thursday night, but the album is still forthcoming.

## 'The Shack': A successful Christian film, despite cries of heresy

Shelby Tankersley  
Campus Editor

When I walked into the theater to see "The Shack," I did not expect to be impressed. Directed by Stuart Hazeldine, it's a film with Christian themes, and the genre is infamous for featuring poor acting, cheesy humor and predictable plots.

But "The Shack" doesn't have any of that.

The character Willie (portrayed by country music star Tim McGraw) narrates the story of his friend Mack Phillips (portrayed by Sam Worthington) as Mack does a bit of soul searching.

Mack's youngest child, Missy (portrayed by Amelie Eve), was murdered on a family camping trip, and her body has yet to be found. All the characters know is that her dress was found in an abandoned shack.

When Mack gets a letter inviting him to return to the shack, he goes. There, he meets God (portrayed by Octavia Spencer),

who takes him on a journey of forgiveness and trust.

The film is based on the 2007 book of the same name. When author William Young printed 15 copies of his manuscript for family and friends, he never imagined that it would go on to be a New York Times Best Seller.

Despite the novel's success, it was also subject to automatic criticism from Christians. The movie has experienced some of that same backlash, with some people calling it heresy.

"I guess I expected you to have a white beard."

People have a problem with this story because it takes God out of the box our society puts him in. Jesus is what we expect him to be: a Middle Eastern man. But God is portrayed as a black woman, and the Holy Spirit is an Asian woman. They're not at all what we expect them to look, act or sound like.

See the problem?

But here's what else the film does: it shows God's sense of

humor and shows that, biblically speaking, God is not as simple as humans are.

Nay-sayers, like the Leading The Way organization, claim the film doesn't show God's "wrath" enough. Instead, God is a nice older lady who is "especially fond" of everybody. But the Bible clearly outlines that God will accept anyone at any point in his or her life.

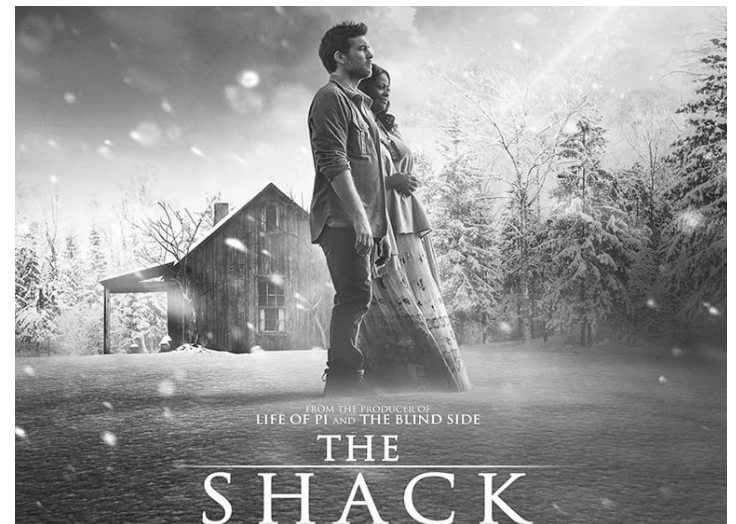
So, theologically speaking, this movie is legit. Now, let's get back to whether it's any good or not.

"So, God has time to catch a few rays of sun?"

"Honey, you have no idea how much I'm doing right now."

Despite its heavy themes, the film succeeds in being funny — the other people in the theater could barely keep themselves together at some points. It also succeeds at being the drama it is trying to be. The lady sitting in front of me was audibly sobbing at the end.

It's also beautiful. With a



Courtesy of Summit Entertainment

Released March 3, the box office success is still playing in theaters.

heavy use of CGI, the film makes you feel like you're in a dream world, which is exactly how Mack feels. To help that, soundtrack is scarce. We get more instrumentals and less singing, which helps the film not be so cheesy.

All in all, this film is worth the eight bucks it costs to see it in

the theater. As a fan of the book, it was all I hoped it would be. It manages to be a great modern-day Christian movie, which is an accomplishment all by itself.

Rating: 4/5 stars



# APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITIONS OF LIFE EDITOR, CAMPUS EDITOR AND SPORTS EDITOR.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Section editors lead teams of reporters to coordinate relevant, accurate and timely news coverage. Editors are expected to write one to three stories per week and are responsible for editing all of the stories assigned to their respective reporters.

## APPLICANTS SHOULD

- Possess exemplary writing, reporting and editing skills
- Be confident in a leadership role and feel comfortable assigning duties to reporters and photographers
- Be able to communicate effectively with reporters, sources and other editors
- Be able to work on tight deadlines to maintain regular print and online publication
- Have a strong command of AP style and grammar conventions

## NOTE:

POSITION EFFECTIVE APRIL 2017. APPLICANTS SHOULD SEND A COVER LETTER, RÉSUMÉ AND WORK SAMPLES TO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PAIGE BROCKWAY AT EDITOR@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM.

## APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF COPY EDITOR AT THE OAKLAND POST.

### APPLICANTS SHOULD

- Be detail-oriented, organized and good at delegating tasks. They must be very experienced with Adobe InDesign and have a proficient understanding of journalistic style guidelines.

### IN ADDITION TO ALL OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A COPY EDITOR, THE CHIEF COPY EDITOR MUST ALSO:

- Assign pages to copy editors
- Work on both production days every week (Monday and Tuesday)
- Provide InDesign and AP style guidance to copy editors
- Give copy editors feedback and corrections on pages

## NOTE:

POSITION EFFECTIVE APRIL 2017. APPLICANTS SHOULD SEND A COVER LETTER, RÉSUMÉ AND WORK SAMPLES TO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PAIGE BROCKWAY AT EDITOR@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM.

## APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF COPY EDITOR AT THE OAKLAND POST.

### NOTE:

POSITION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. APPLICANTS SHOULD SEND A COVER LETTER, RÉSUMÉ AND WORK SAMPLES TO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PAIGE BROCKWAY AT EDITOR@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM.

### APPLICANTS SHOULD:

- Be detail-oriented, organized and have basic knowledge of Adobe InDesign.

### RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Editing stories to check for grammar, clarity, etc.
- Ensuring articles abide by AP style and journalistic style guidelines
- Working with Post templates in InDesign to best fit all of the content on pages
- Writing headlines and subheads/decks for stories
- Making all corrections on pages after they have been looked at by the editor-in-chief and managing editor

## APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER AT THE OAKLAND POST.

### NOTE:

FIRST SIX ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE AN INTERNSHIP AS INTERN PHOTOGRAPHER. STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE PAID PER STORY. POSITION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. APPLICANTS SHOULD SEND A RÉSUMÉ AND WORK SAMPLES TO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF PAIGE BROCKWAY AT EDITOR@OAKLANDPOSTONLINE.COM.

### APPLICANTS MUST:

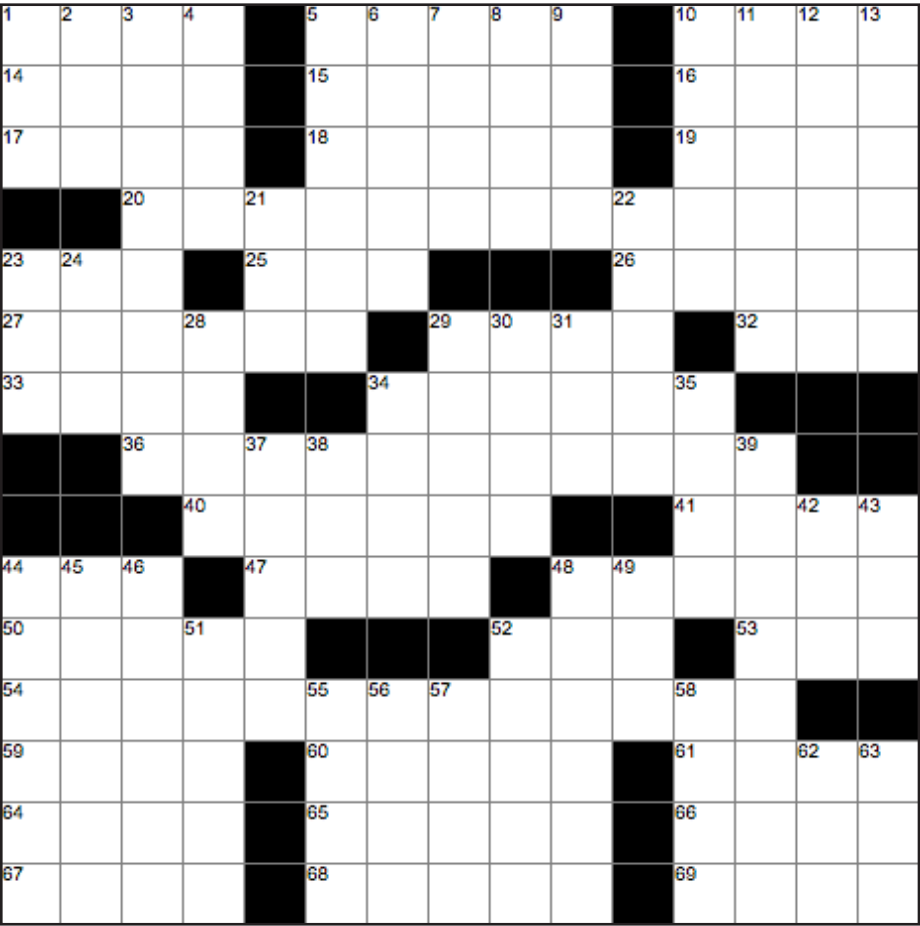
- Know how to use a DSLR camera and be able to shoot manually in low-light setting.
- Editing skills not required.
- Flexible schedule is preferred.

### PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Come to weekly budget meetings at 12 p.m. every Tuesday
- Sign up for at least two stories per week
- Have good communication skills and contact reporters who have signed up for the same stories
- Take photos for on-campus events, profile and feature stories
- Have good time management skills and turn in photos on time



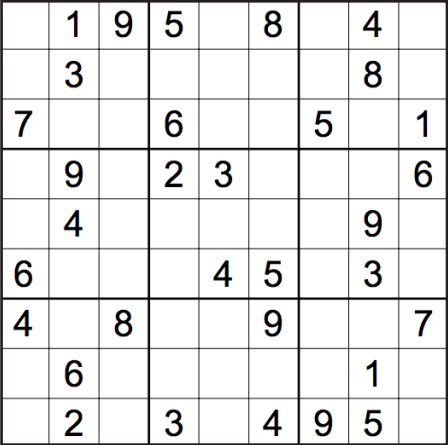
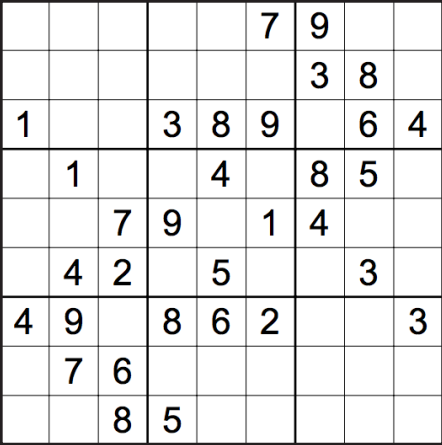
# Puzzles



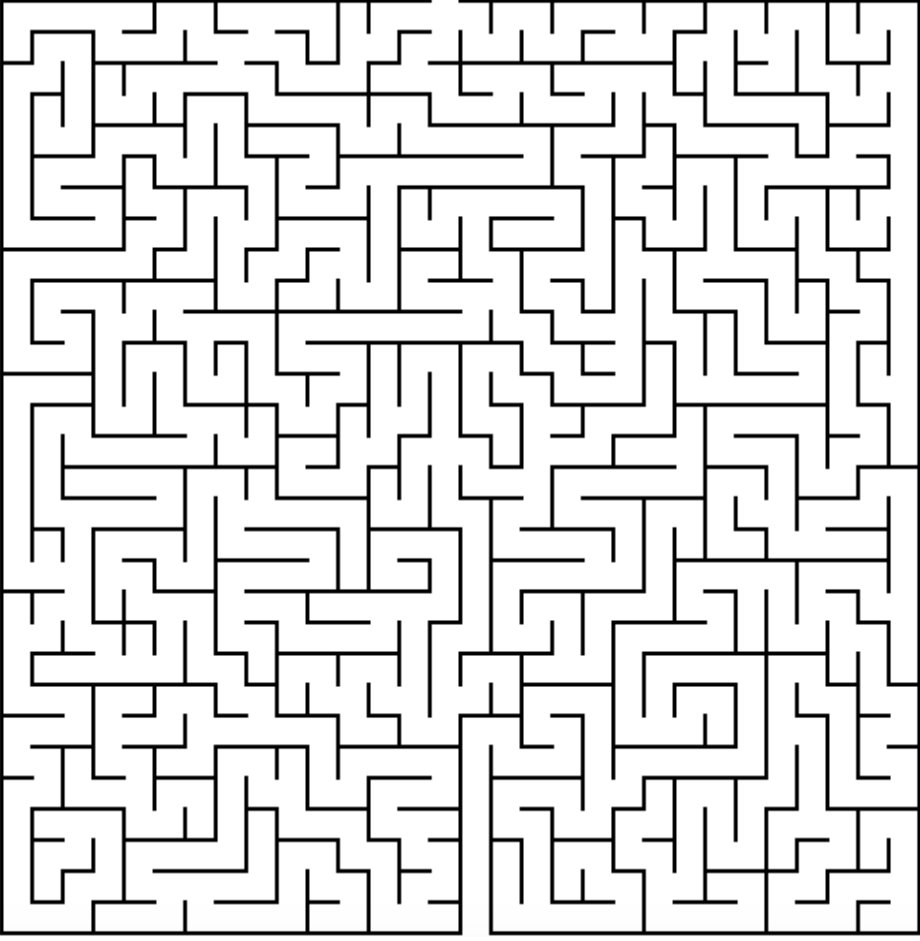
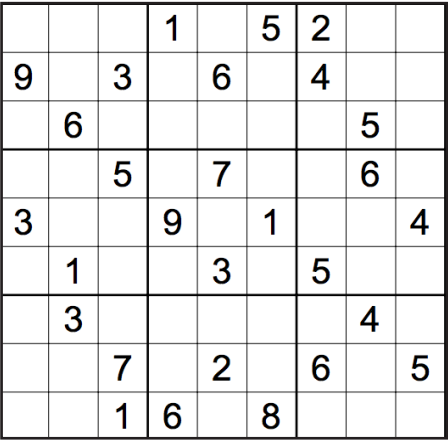
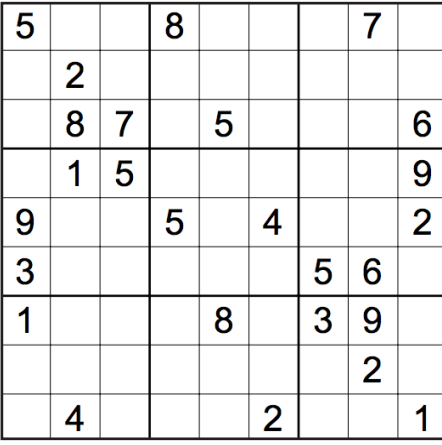
- Across**
- 1: Was in the red  
5: It may be fine  
10: Sign of healing  
14: Angelic aura  
15: Medal, maybe  
16: Hawaiian dance  
17: Whom the yoke's on?  
18: Pizza cuts, essentially  
19: Eyes  
20: Change  
23: Historical period  
25: Balaam's mount  
26: Square things  
27: Organization limited to 100 members  
29: Wacky  
32: Nonsense  
33: URL opener  
34: More alluring  
36: A dynamic speaker, e.g.  
40: Halloween bagful  
41: The Sail (southern constellation)  
44: Electrical unit  
47: St. Louis gridders  
48: Curtain attachment  
50: Eagle's nest  
52: Like a wallflower  
53: Slim swimmer  
54: Like many stump speeches  
59: Dole (out)  
60: Without  
61: Inscribe with acid  
64: Capping  
65: 'Loves me not' unit  
66: Turn on an axis  
67: Put into piles  
68: Like some winter weather  
69: Appear
- Down**
- 1: 'What have we here?'  
2: Madame Tussaud's medium  
3: Gold and silver, e.g.  
4: Cooked sufficiently  
5: Put into words  
6: Wanders  
7: Prefix with European  
8: Film follower  
9: Send sprawling  
10: 'Phooey!'  
11: Arrow on a screen  
12: '\_\_\_ Alligator' (Matt Dillon movie)  
13: Type of hound  
21: Feline, to Tweety  
22: Despised  
23: Can opener?  
24: Obtain  
28: PDA entry  
29: Items in red  
30: World War II partnership  
31: Five-dollar bill  
34: Loud door sound  
35: Guns in the garage  
37: Proved to be human  
38: Grassland  
39: Move elsewhere  
42: 'I'm Sorry' singer Brenda  
43: For \_\_\_ the marbles  
44: Molten rocks  
45: 'From \_\_\_ Eternity'  
46: Demosthenes, for one  
48: In this way  
49: Bluto's assent  
51: Bumbling  
52: \_\_\_ Valley (resort near Lake Tahoe)  
55: Mischief-makers  
56: Property encumbrance  
57: Not fooled by  
58: Promontory  
62: Stick on a table  
63: Line of clothing

Answers to the crossword  
can be found at <http://freecrosswordpuzzles.com.au/M4-4-2017-crossword.aspx>

## NOVICE



## INTERMEDIATE





Courtesy of Takara Martin

Three participants team up with a member of the Oakland swim team for the fundraiser.

## Swimming and diving looks to exceed fundraising goals

**AuJenee Hirsch**  
Staff Reporter

The Oakland swimming and diving team will host its sixth annual Water to Water fundraiser to raise money for Thirst Relief International, an international humanitarian organization that aims to globally bring clean water to over one billion people who do not have access to potable water.

The fundraiser will take place at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at the Oakland Aquatic Center. The event will be open to all Oakland University students.

Participants swimming at this event will form relay teams consisting of four people: one swimmer from the Oakland swim team and three others of the participants' choosing. Members of the swim team will be assigned to the relay teams if participants do not know any members of the swim team, or do not have a swimmer selected at sign up.

"The goal of the fundraiser is to try and make as much money as possible to help make a difference, and with Thirst Relief International, we can do this," said Takara Martin, head organizer of the fundraiser and senior captain of the women's swim team. "Just \$10 can provide someone with clean drinking water for 25 years."

Water to Water was started as a project in 2011 by former Oakland swimmer Candace Savonen. In order to make the fundraiser possible, the swimming and diving team had to fill out paperwork and contact the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to get help from OU Athletics.

"The other athletes always have a lot

of fun with the event," Martin said. "We have reached out to sororities and fraternities to try and get them involved, as well."

Water to Water was originally exclusive to the athletics department, but last year, it was opened up to OU students.

"We wanted to make relationships with the entire student body," Martin said. "[Athletic Director Jeff Konya] established a new ethos, and we wanted to increase support from the student body, and through that, [Water to Water] was a great way to do it."

Last year, the event raised \$1,400, \$600 short of its \$2,000 goal. This year's goal is once again \$2,000.

Teams will compete in four themed relay races, with each event raising money to help reach the fundraising goal.

Water to Water is not only designed to raise money for Thirst Relief International, but also to bring attention to how clean water is often taken for granted.

"As swimmers, we can sometimes take water for granted," Martin said. "We swim in a huge 50-meter pool full of water, and there are people in this world who don't even have access to a cup of water. It's a way to give back."

Participants will be provided with prizes, such as gift cards or coupons to local restaurants.

"It is always a fun event," Martin said. "People are welcome to come and watch. It is always very funny to watch."

Donations can be made at the event or online at <https://thirstrelief.dntly.com/fundraiser/6th-annual-water-2-water-fundraiser/#/>.

## Despite venue change, bad weather, softball wins series

**Katie LaDuke**  
Staff Reporter

After a day of unpredictable Michigan weather and a venue change, Oakland softball moved its home opener against Northern Kentucky University to Madonna University on Saturday, April 1.

Game one was followed by a double header on Sunday, April 2. The Black and Gold took the series 2-1, moving its record to 9-14.

"We just wanted to get back to playing the way we are capable of and really being aggressive at the plate," head coach Connie Miner said. "We felt that we were taking too many pitches and looking for that perfect pitch, so we worked really hard with our swings this week to simplify things."

In the first game, Haley Zemmer took the mound all seven innings and picked up eight strikeouts along with the win. At the plate, Lauren Mead lifted Oakland to a 2-0 lead in the second inning, with Jamie Squires also adding two runs in the third inning.

With the score at 4-0, NKU put up two runs in the top of the sixth inning to shorten the gap. However, Mead tacked on three more runs with her first homerun of the season in the bottom of the sixth to push the score to 7-2. Oakland held on to the lead.

"The offense attacked the ball, and the energy was outstanding," Miner said. "We had a great series of hitting and driving the ball well. Our pitchers did a nice job for us too. We played really good defense overall."

In the second game of the series, Erin Kownacki started in the circle and picked up four strikeouts in her complete-game win. Mikayela Marciniak led the offense with four RBIs from a triple and a homerun.

Devon Smith and Brittney Miller also added one run apiece. The seventh Oakland run was attributed to an NKU error.

Despite NKU having scored first in the top of the first inning and having more hits throughout the game, the Golden Grizzlies came out on top 7-3.

"It was great to know I hit a three-run home run, but it was all for the team," Marciniak said. "I knew it would help pick everyone up and get back in the game, as well as getting ready for the next one."

Zemmer started on the mound in the second game of the Sunday doubleheader. She recorded six strikeouts before being relieved by Kaley Waalkes in the fifth inning.

Devon Smith got the Black and Gold on the board first in the first inning with a double that scored Marciniak. Abbey Walewski and Miller each contributed an RBI single in the second and fifth inning, respectively.

NKU quickly tied up the game in the third inning before widening the gap in the top of the fifth with three runs. Despite a seventh inning rally, Oakland dropped the third game of the series 5-3.

"When we get into the later innings, I think the most important part is to make sure your at-bat is a quality at-bat," Marciniak said. "You only get 21 outs in a game, so you just have to make sure your out counts. I always think that spring training and early season games are good for getting us ready for conference play. Once we hit conference play, that's when every out and every game matters."

Oakland is now in the midst of a three-game series against Cleveland State at home. Oakland picked up two wins in the doubleheader on April 4 (5-1, 14-1), and the last game of the series is scheduled for 12 p.m. on April 5.



Courtesy of Jose Juarez

Abbey Walewski contributed an RBI single in the second inning of the third game against NKU.





Courtesy of Ross Kinaird

During his time at Oakland, Brian Stuard won the Summit League Championship in 2005 with a score of 216 (E).

# Oakland alumnus heads to first Masters Tournament in Georgia

**Katie LaDuke**  
Staff Reporter

Former Oakland University golfer Brian Stuard is set to make his first appearance in the Masters Tournament at the Augusta National Golf Club this upcoming weekend, April 6-9. Tee times and pairings for the tournament will be announced Thursday, April 6.

Before Stuard began working his way up in professional golf, he earned several accolades at Oakland, including a league championship.

In 2005, Stuard became the first player in OU golf history to earn the Summit League Player of the Year recognition. That same year, Stuard won the Summit League Championship with a score of 216 (E). This score was the third-best in program history over 54 holes.

At the end of his collegiate career, Stuard also held school records for lowest career stroke average (73.82), most career tournament wins (nine), most career rounds under par (22), single-season stroke average (72.25), single-season events

played (12) and most wins in a single season (four in 2003-04 and 2004-05).

"My golf career at Oakland was probably the best four years of my life," Stuard said. "I met some amazing people and made lifelong friends. Coach Dewulf was great to me, and I absolutely enjoyed the times we had as a golf team."

After graduating from Oakland in 2005, Stuard became the first player in the golf program's history to play on the PGA Tour in 2010.

He officially earned his PGA Tour card in 2013. Since then, Stuard has competed in over 100 PGA Tour events.

"I feel like I have been very fortunate to have the career I've had so far," he said. "I've put a lot of hard work into it, and I pride myself on the fact that I've worked my way up from the mini tours to now playing on the PGA Tour for six years."

In 2016, Stuard was inducted into the Hollie L. Lepley Hall of Honor at OU. Shortly after his induction, Stuard earned his first PGA tour win at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans on April

30, securing a spot in the 2017 Masters Tournament.

"It was an absolute honor to be inducted in the Hall of Honor," Stuard said. "It is something that means a great deal to me. To be associated with the best athletes that have graduated from Oakland is very special."

With a little under a week to go, Stuard will compete against the best of the best in the golf world for the first major of the year. Competing at the same level are Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Jason Day, Adam Scott and many more.

"My biggest motivation is probably just proving to myself and others that I'm good enough to be on the PGA Tour," Stuard said. "I wasn't sure if I could ever get here. To get here and stay out here means a lot."

At the Masters Tournament, there are over 200 golfers competing for the same prize.

"I feel like this is something that I have worked for since I started playing golf," Stuard said. "The Masters is one of the pinnacles of professional golf, and to be able to play in the tournament is a dream come true."

## THE SPORTING BLITZ

### Baseball at Toledo

Oakland fell to the University of Toledo 8-5 on Wednesday, March 29, at Toledo. Connor Fannon struck out a career-high seven batters in five innings, allowing three earned runs.

Tyler Pagano drove in his 13th RBI of the season in the third inning with a base hit, and Mike McGee followed with two runs in the fourth inning to give Oakland a 4-3 lead.

In the sixth inning, the Rockets walked in a run. Toledo then scored five unanswered runs to get the win.

### Baseball at Wright State

Oakland traveled to Wright State on Friday, March 31, to take on the reigning Horizon League Champs in a three-game series.

The Raiders took the series opener 8-3. Conor Bowers pitched seven innings, allowing three earned runs. Oakland's three runs in the game came from two Wright State errors in the eighth inning.

In game two, OU fell to the Raiders 13-9 in extra innings. Tyler Palm started on the mound, pitching five innings and allowing seven runs. Drew Demumbrum went 5-for-5 in the game, with three doubles, a triple, two RBIs and three runs scored. Oakland was unable to rally in the bottom of the 10th after giving up six runs in the top of the inning.

In the series finale, OU's offense was unable to get anything going, scoring no runs to Wright State's seven, and Oakland fell to Wright State 7-0 to end the series.

The Black and Gold play against Central Michigan University at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5, at CMU.

### Men's golf in Hoosier Invitational

Oakland traveled to Indiana University to compete in the Hoosier Invitational April 1-2.

Oakland tied for 10th place with a team score of 882 (+30). Kneen shot an overall score to 215, tying for 12th place. Chris Handy tied for 39th place, and Jacob Johnson tied for 46th place with 220 on April 1 and 222 points on April 2.

Men's golf will next travel to Pennsylvania State to compete in the Rutherford Intercollegiate on April 15 and 16.

### Track and field in Miami Duals

Members of the track and field team competed in the Miami Duals at the University of Miami-Ohio on Saturday, April 1.

Brandon Davis and Matthew Jordan placed first (46 feet, 4.25 inches) and second (45 feet, 7.75 inches), respectively, in the triple jump. Jordan also placed third in the long jump (20 feet, 7.75 inches), while Gino Vitella placed second in shot put (57 feet 7.75 inches).

Sarah Moen placed third in the 100m hurdles (14.91), and Laura Johnston placed fourth (14.94). Andrea Koenigsnecht placed fourth in the 400m hurdles (1:06.01), and Terri Brown placed fourth in javelin (105 feet, 10 inches).

### Women's golf in Fort Wayne Spring Classic

The Golden Grizzlies competed in the Fort Wayne Spring Classic on April 2-3. In round one, Oakland recorded a team score of 293 (+9), the lowest team round in school history. Kylee Sullivan and Madelyn Zack both scored career lows of 147 (+5) and 148 (+6), respectively.

On the final day of the Spring Classic, Oakland took first place with a team score of 895 (+43), breaking the 54-hole school record by 11 strokes and shooting 53 rounds under 900 for the first time in program history. Sullivan became the third player to win multiple tournaments in a single season, winning the tournament with 222 (+9), a career low.

Oakland will head to Bowling Green State University next to compete in the Dolores Black Falcon Invitational Saturday, April 8-9.

*Compiled by AuJenee Hirsch  
Staff Reporter*



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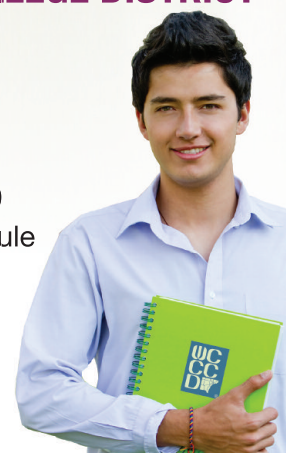
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Photo Illustration by Nowshin Chowdhury

Senior Stephen Armica shared his review of a blank wall in the OU Art Gallery that he mistakenly took as a work in the exhibit.

## Academic Essay of the Week: Reflecting on an OUAG art piece

**Simon Albaugh**  
Staff Reporter

This week, we will be introducing a new section to The Oakland Post that features academic essays from the humanities departments, for reasons we'll admit later.

This week's winner is Stephen Armica, a senior undecided major who wrote a review for his art history class on the Oakland University Art Gallery's current exhibition.

Armica said his review, which was on a work of art that he chose to focus on, will be spent glorifying one piece "in every conceivable way 350 words can shower praise onto a work of pure ecstasy."

The work of pure ecstasy Armica is referring to is called "Celestial Lights on a Static Plane." Originally a blank space on the wall, the piece was put on display two weeks after the exhibition's opening, while the title and materials label mistakenly remained throughout the duration of the event.

To clarify, Stephen Armica is writing an art review about a blank wall, and he paid us to publish it.

And since \$20 is \$20 more than The Oakland Post already had . . . Here you are:

*"What can I say about 'Celestial Lights on a Static Plane' that hasn't already been said about nature, the universe and even God himself? Nothing. This piece represents all of these in all of their stupendous glory.*

*Dear reader, I'm here to talk about the beauty, the awe and the tears that were caused by this beautiful work of art. It caused one of the most important existential moments of my life, with a tinge of eroticism, from a work of hyper-abstract expressionism.*

*Let me start with its composition. It's big. The piece covers the entire gallery with its compassionate watch over the viewer. Now, I'm not a religious man, but this piece showed me that there truly is something benevolent and good that cares about me from the heavenly connection in the starry dynamo.*

*And the color. A dazzling white that follows you like a summer sunshine through the pouring rain. It's the color of God's love. It's the color of milk from my mother's breast (by the*

*way, I was breastfed until I was 14). And it's the color of pure, untouched light.*

*Themes? Try everything. This piece is an all-encompassing magnum opus of pure unadulterated intellectual euphoria. And its mood is the same.*

*But this piece doesn't happen without its conflict. I see wars and death just as much as I see the light. This piece, while beautiful, is honest and true in its message. It does not ignore the hell on earth that human existence is heir to. The artist creates and destroys, just like Shiva on his final rampage against man's greed, before creating again the beautiful that remains idiosyncratic to our universe.*

*This piece took me from a hardened criminal with a past darker than this piece's depictions into a picture of success. Since I saw this piece, I've adopted six children from impoverished war-torn countries and enrolled them in the best schools. I even created a foundation that will benefit my community, and I started a scholarship for Jewish youth. Why Jewish youth? You'll just have to see the piece for yourself to find out."*

## A call to end the fighting between WXOU and The Post

**Simon Albaugh**  
Staff Reporter

I'm here to send a laurel of peace to our neighbors at WXOU. I don't care if you have better stuff than we do anymore. And, hopefully, you guys at the radio station can look forward in friendship despite the troubling past we share.

For those who don't know, there's a little-known secret between The Oakland Post and WXOU. Historically speaking, our organizations have been at each other's throats since their inception.

People aren't aware of this, but the original founders of each entity did everything they could to sabotage each other.

This started out as a friendly game between the two organizations. Signs on each other's doors would read, "For utter stupidity, inquire within," and other childish phrases. This went on for some time, until someone replaced the soundboard, the one in the display case in front of WXOU, with moldy chow mein. The smell was vomit-inducing.

Some people reported seeing the general manager of WXOU carrying large grocery bags filled with Panda Express containers toward WXOU, but many still maintain that it was The Post's editor-in-chief who did it.

All we know is that when the soundboard showed up in The Post's office all those years ago, nobody knew how to use the damn thing.

After that, there was an all-out turf war over the basement of the Oakland Center. Oakland University Student Congress and the other organizations mostly stayed out of it. I think they thought I was annoying when I asked if I could borrow a baseball bat "for nonviolent defensive measures."

After all these years, and mostly after WXOU literally killed one of our interns (not like we care that much, but it's about the principle), we would like to try to make a peace treaty.

So what if you guys abuse our dark room because you think it's a kitchen? So what if you guys steal all the communication majors from print journalism? And so what if you guys are probably the bad guys in the situation? I say that despite all this, The Oakland Post is going to be the bigger, BETTER person.

So thank you for being part of OU's culture. Granted, I always heard that radio was the easiest way to take advantage of the mass of impressionable students, but if that's what floats your boat . . .

Maybe I sound petty. Maybe I'm trying to incite feelings of resentment between The Oakland Post and WXOU so that it culminates into an all-out fist fight like I've tried to do on multiple occasions to solve my problems (again, sorry about that email, Professor Marlaney). But we really need to do something to solve this problem.

So, I'd like to ask that we amend the past with a new era of tolerance. We'll stop bashing on you guys for your cool office and fun staff if you stop using our dark room as your personal kitchen.