

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2016 —

FEBRUARY
17

SPEAK LIKE A GIRL

FEMINIST GROUP USES INTERACTIVE SPOKEN WORD POETRY AS MEDIUM
TO EDUCATE STUDENTS ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY

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Photo by Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

LEADERS RETREAT.

Administration holds policy meetings,
meets with donors in trip to Florida

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MYSTERY MURDER.

SPB to put on murder-solving event
at Meadow Brook Hall

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VISION OF ATHLETICS.

Director of Athletics talks about future
for Golden Grizzlies

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thisweek

February 17, 2016 // Volume 41. Issue 20



ontheweb

“Deadpool” takes the average superhero origin story and turns it into a raunchy, violent and inappropriate affair that should please fans of the source material. Full review can be found at oaklandpostonline.com/blogs.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

LET'S TALK FAITH // Religious Studies Club and Center for Religious Understanding hosted “Being Muslim in an Age of Islamophobia” panel on Thursday, Feb. 11. Topics of discussion included the statistics of Islamophobia in America, personal experiences, parallels of other minorities and events such as the Holocaust and slavery to what is happening today, among others.

Erika Barker // The Oakland Post

Submit a photo to editor@oaklandpostonline.com for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

Did you catch the Grammy's? What were your thoughts?

- A** Yes, and I firmly support Taylor standing up to Kanye!
- B** Yeah and Kendrick deserved that Grammy!
- C** Nope, too busy scraping my car off.
- D** No, I can find better ways to procrastinate my time.

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Plans for Valentine's Day?

- A** A lovely evening with my significant other, Netflix.
9 votes
- B** Alcohol and chocolate, man.
6 votes
- C** I've actually got a date and I'm very excited for Sunday!
6 votes
- D** Um midterms are coming up, ain't nobody got time for that.
9 votes

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

February 16, 1994

For the first time, returning students were able to register for their classes six months early in the spring semester.

February 18, 1998

A proposed plan for a casino in Auburn Hills raised OUSC concerns over a casino only minutes away from the university.

February 19, 2003

A policy was proposed to eliminate smoking in the residence halls. At the time, there were non-smoking floors, and the committee debated on what new policy to enact.

— Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, web editor



9

TECH TALK TIME

The third annual Cyber Summit, held by the university's student organization CyberOU, is coming soon with a focus on protecting private information.



18

LADY GRIZZLIES MAKE IT RIGHT

Following three losses, the women's basketball team pulls off two stunning victories over Valparaiso and University of Illinois-Chicago in the O'rena.



20

FROM FINLAND, WITH LOVE

Patricia Aschan has made her home here at Oakland University all the way from Finland, and the junior swimmer is making waves.

BY THE NUMBERS

Drunk Driving

2,912

people were killed in Michigan between 2003-12 in drunk driving accidents

1.9%

of survey respondents reported driving after drinking too much

30

people are killed in drunk driving accidents on average each day

.08

the blood alcohol level that is illegal nationwide to drive

17%

of children between the ages of zero and 14 are killed in automobile accidents because of drunk driving

—source: www.cdc.gov

Another week, another closed BOT meeting

Kristen Davis
Editor-in-Chief

Oakland University administration has a history of acting in secrecy, and it appears that despite attempts from students, faculty and the community to convey to campus leaders that the lack of transparency is unethical, the trend continues.



Kristen Davis
Editor-in-Chief

trators and board of trustee members taking a “retreat” to Florida.

The way the article was reported caused many readers to assume the university funded employees’ trips to Florida for what sounded like a mid-semester vacation, but it was later learned that the trip was taken to involve campus leaders in the annual Winter College event, which aims to bring together alumni and increase the number of university donors.

The Oakland Press reported that six trustees and seven administrators took the trip, but Chairman Mark Schlusel said sending 13 people was necessary because donors “want to see [campus] leadership.”

He emphasized to several media outlets that Oakland receives roughly \$2,900 in funding per student, which is below the median \$4,700 per student for public universities in the state. This was a reason for the 8.4 percent tuition raise over summer.

But, an alternate way the university can increase its funds is

through alumni donations.

Therefore, Schlusel felt that the expensive trip was worth it because the university could see a benefit in the future.

It’s interesting to note, though, that Chief Operating Officer Scott Kunselman took the trip too.

When this position was created, administration said Kunselman’s role would be to stay on campus and oversee projects and university operations while President Hynd went out to “tell the OU story.”

But, not only were the expenses from the trip, which included a multiple-night stay at a resort with a minimum room rate of \$299 a night, covered by the university’s general fund, there also was another closed board of trustees meeting.

The meeting took place prior to the Winter College event.

No official minutes were taken, and according to Oakland’s communication and marketing department, Board Secretary Vic Zombardi “is planning to put together a summary document but has no hard timeline on when it will be completed.” Zombardi suggested it may not be until mid-March.

Schlusel told the Oakland Press that the meeting was not subject to the Opening Meetings Act, which in Michigan, requires “certain meetings of certain public bodies to be open to the public,” along with notice and keeping of meeting minutes.

He said this was because “no decisions were made,” and instead the meeting consisted of “intense discussion” of university issues.

This statement is difficult to trust though, since in previous informal meetings like this, decisions have been made.

The creation of the chief operating officer position and the hiring process was done in informal meetings, with no input from those outside of either the

board or university administration.

The decision to raise tuition by 8.4 percent was discussed with four student leaders, who said they were told to not speak publicly about it and weren’t offered the chance to provide much input anyway, just one day before the board’s voting.

The presidential search in 2014-15 was closed from the public for months until it finally opened when just three of the 11 candidates were left.

The events that have occurred during the last year have slowly eroded our trust in the decision makers of our university, and instead of fighting to gain it back, the campus leaders continue to lead us into the dark and make no adjustments to their actions.

It’s time the campus community speaks up.

The Oakland Post will publish any letters sent to editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

For those who wish to write directly to the Office of the President, letters can be mailed to 204 Wilson Hall. For those who wish to write directly to the board of trustees, letters can be mailed to 203 Wilson Hall.

The next formal board of trustees meeting is Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. in the Elliot Hall Auditorium across from Starbucks.

These meetings are open to the public and anyone who wishes to address the board can submit a request to do so in writing or via email prior to the meeting or to a board office representative at the formal session.

Requests should include the person’s name and/or organization, contact information and the subject matter being addressed.

Email requests can be sent to Rhonda Saunders, general counsel/secretary to the board of trustees. Saunders’ email is saunders@oakland.edu.



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Get your selfie game on! The Post will be creating a collage each week featuring student submissions of selfies with the Grizz. Just direct message your photos to @theoaklandpost on Instagram or to The Oakland Post on Facebook.



APPLICATIONS are now being accepted for the position of EDITOR-IN CHIEF of The Oakland Post, Oakland University's independent student news agency

The EIC is responsible for managing The Oakland Post, independent student news organization, and reports to the board of directors.

The editor, among other duties:

- Is responsible for daily updating of the website and a weekly print edition
- Recruits editorial department staff members and determines job responsibilities
- Determines the content and editorial position of The Post, and is aware of legal requirements and restrictions governing the media
- Is responsible for administrative functions of The Post, such as personnel management, staff recruitment and retention, and interdepartmental communication
- Works collegially, allowing the business manager and lead advertising manager to oversee those departments, but ultimately is responsible for the management of all staffs on the newspaper
- Is responsible for helping create and meet budgets
- Is available to readers with complaints and/or suggestions
- Upholds basic principles of journalistic ethics and balanced news gathering
- Is thorough, inquisitive, fair and critically-minded
- Possesses exemplary writing, reporting and editing skills, and teaches those skills to the staff
- Works in cooperation with Post advisers
- Is a leader

Applicants should possess superior oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of news media and have a solid command of digital technologies. Prior journalistic experience is preferable. Applicants need NOT be journalism majors.

Compensation includes weekly salary and a tuition stipend. Applicants should send a digital portfolio including a cover letter, resume and work samples to Holly Shreve Gilbert; shreve@oakland.edu Applications accepted through February 22, 2016. Position effective April, 2016 for the 2016/17 academic year.

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Grizzlies on the Prowl



*“What do you plan on doing
over winter break?”*



Andrew Lembiris
junior, biology

“Camping in Kansas!”



Patrick Halaczkievicz
senior, Japanese language
and literature

*“Getting enough sleep to understand
the cramfest studying.”*



Betira Shahollari
sophomore, finance

*“Catching up on sleep, netflix, and
books.”*



Bethanee Calloway
senior, anthropology

*“Studying and spending time with
nieces and nephews!”*

— Compiled by Bohdanna Cherstylo and Wurood Najim,
photographer and photo intern

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The Real Deal: Empty seat, arguing chamber

Scalia's passing causes tension in the Supreme Court

Aditya Tiwari
Contributor

If the flurry of the 2016 presidential election news has made you pay more attention to politics more than you usually would, then you've probably heard that Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia died on Feb. 13. With that, he has not only set his own legacy for conservative interpretations of the Constitution, but also a new incoming political battle that may detract from or possibly enhance the surrounding discourse of the impending presidential race, as well as coverage of the United States Senate in particular. We're getting another frank reminder that the Supreme Court is locked in a delicate ideological balance that will be flipped in favor of who is next appointed.



Aditya Tiwari
Contributor

Now, if you weren't familiar with the Supreme Court and Scalia's role in it, you're not alone. The Court makes its rulings in the summer, and cameras aren't allowed inside the chamber so as to protect the privacy of those involved. At best, the oral arguments of the

nine justices are recorded as audio, and released as lengthy transcripts, so there isn't an innate appeal to covering the court compared to the more 'entertaining' and sometimes colorful exchanges and remarks from Congress or the president.

What is important about the Supreme Court is that its justices are appointed for life, and their decisions on cases set precedents on how the Constitution will be interpreted, i.e. they also set laws in effect. Antonin Scalia, aside from being a more conservative member, was appointed by Ronald Reagan as an 'originalist,' i.e. that the Constitution is to be interpreted as is, and he was noted for his scathing opposition to majority opinions. In brief, he supported the disastrous effects of the Citizens United decision that allowed more money into politics than already necessary, and he was desperately opposed to the recent decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that legalized same-sex marriage. Also, he was unique in that he opposed capital punishment and voted to uphold the Affordable Care Act.

With Scalia's untimely passing, the balance of the court now stands at four left leaning members and four right leaning members, and the ideological balance might shift to the left. At least, that's what would happen if President Obama's potential appointment makes it through an uncooperative Republican majority senate. As of now, President Obama faces the threat of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who has

come out to refuse and oppose any nomination to the court by the Obama administration until the end of the election cycle. Many Republican presidential candidates have come out in favor of this idea, with Ted Cruz saying he would readily leave the campaign trail

"We're getting another frank reminder that the Supreme Court is locked in a delicate ideological balance that will be flipped in favor of who is next appointed."

Aditya Tiwari
Contributor

to come and filibuster the nomination.

All in all, a lot of blame game politics are being thrown in as a result of Scalia's death, with Senate Republicans arguing they can't get an appointment done in '342 ish' days left in President Obama's term when it has been a fraction of that time before. The quickest appointment in recent years was the approval of justice John Paul Stevens under Gerald Ford in 19 days. By using these shaky arguments against a new appointment, Senate Republicans are ultimately betraying their originalist ally in the court, by refusing to let the president make an appointment to the court. Even more so, it's indicative of an unspoken understanding of the Supreme Court. By controlling the ideological balance of the Supreme Court, parties are aiming to let it act in their favor, rather than letting it be the gate between politics and the Constitution.

Political Focus: The Clean Power Plan

Supreme Court still has not decided whether to allow Obama's climate change strategy

Melissa Deatsch
Staff Reporter

What's the issue?

Early last week, the Supreme Court stepped in to block President Obama's latest plan to combat climate change. The plan, entitled the Clean Power Plan, requires states to meet carbon



Melissa Deatsch
Staff Reporter

emission reduction standards individualized for each state.

Additionally, the plan creates an incentive program for states to begin meeting standards of using renewable energy and low-income energy efficiency.

After the plan was announced in early August, it saw backlash with a lawsuit from the energy industry as well as 29 U.S. States. The U.S. Court of Appeals will hold oral arguments in June on the plan. However, for the time being, the Supreme Court has paused the implementation of the policy.

Why should you care?

The fact that the Supreme Court stepped in at this time is unprecedented.

Neither the states nor the energy industry would be required to meet any standards for two years and the U.S. Court of Appeals will hear the case in June. The fact that the Supreme Court took action this early leads many to believe that they have serious issues with the plan Obama has proposed.

The decision was reached with a 5-to-4 vote with all of the court's liberal judges on the opposing side of the courts decision. The decision makes it very unlikely that the policy will be enacted while Obama is still in office.

The Supreme Court's decision may also draw some attention from other nations that signed on to the Paris Climate Change pact in December which requires all the countries to enact policies lower emissions. At the negotiations for that deal, Obama pointed to this plan as the standard other countries should follow.

What are the sides?

Proponents of the deal are shocked by the Supreme Court's decision, but the Obama Administration released a statement saying they remain confident that the plan will ultimately prevail.

"I think the bottom line is that this decision is not one that we agree with, but it's a procedural decision and we'll have the opportunity to make the case on the merits," one official said.

The states involved in the lawsuit are mostly those with economies that rely heavily on the coal industry. Even though the first deadline to meet regulations isn't until 2022 the states claim they have already had to start spending money to accommodate the requirements.

The states and energy industry are calling this a "power grab" by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency.) However, the Obama Administration alongside the EPA feels that this is nothing more than taking the appropriate steps to combat climate change before it is too late.

"Power plants are the single biggest source of harmful carbon pollution that contributes to climate change," Obama said in a video released after the announcement of the plan. "Until now, there have been no federal limits to the amount of carbon pollution plants dump in the air."

The President's administration is not surprised by the pushback it's receiving from the states and energy industry. They remain confident in the legality of their plan.

The Court has expedited the case and will hear arguments on June 2.



Wurood Najim / The Oakland Post

The Campus Master Plan is in its early stages. After receiving feedback on the different options, the committee will use those opinions to help create the first official Campus Master Plan draft.

Updated master plan open to public

Students, faculty invited to give feedback on future building and landscaping plans

Melissa Deutsch
Staff Reporter

Students, faculty, staff and alumni gathered in Fireside Lounge on Tuesday, Feb. 16 to attend the Campus Master Plan open house. The community was invited to see the master plan, ask questions and share their thoughts.

A campus master plan has a lot of value to a university. Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Terry Stollsteimer explained that the master plan does not possess every detail of the future development of the university.

"It's used to give a vision of where the university is going from the standpoint of physical structures and utilities," Stollsteimer said. "The master plan is not going to necessarily give you what building will be built first or second."

According to Stollsteimer, a campus master plan is typically updated every seven years. However, our campus master plan has not been updated since 2002.

"It's really up to the board and president to decide that they really want to go and do one," Stollsteimer said. "This president...obviously saw it was very important to get that done."

Stollsteimer says developing a campus master

"[The campus master plan] is used to give a vision of where the university is going from the standpoint of physical structures and utilities."

Terry Stollsteimer
Associate VP for Facilities and Management

plan is extremely time consuming. A lot of people have to devote many hours.

"It's a five-step approach to this project," Stollsteimer said. "The first one is collecting data, analyzing that data then starting to come up with different options of those in terms of different plans and that's sort of where we're at."

Now the committee is working on gathering feedback on the different options and then creating a more refined plan. The first draft of the Campus Master Plan will be determined from the feedback.

One big debate over the Campus Master Plan, according to Stollsteimer, is over on-campus housing. The committee is balancing two countering ideas of if the future housing buildings should be placed on the south end of campus or if it should stay on the north end where all the current hous-

ing buildings reside.

The committee has to use data such as how the university has grown and how it is expected to continue to grow to make decisions like this. There are currently 2,700 students living on the north end of campus. The master plan may eventually have up to 2,000 additional students living on the south end.

Housing is not the only item emphasized by the Campus Master Plan. Based on results of a survey completed by 1,973 respondents from the Oakland University community, the committee gained a good base of information on the most important needs of the campus community.

The needs address both quality and quantity meaning the Campus Master Plan includes plans for renovation as well as building new spaces.

The survey found that the top indoor change that needed to be made was more lounge and study space in academic buildings. The top outdoor change was more seating along pathways.

A month from now there will be another opportunity for the Oakland community to voice their feedback after the plan has become more refined. Following that feedback, the committee will finalize the plan and present it to the board and to the Oakland community.

University leaders head south for retreat

Closed policy meetings held in Florida, trip paid for in part by tuition dollars

Scott Davis, Rachel Williams & Grace Turner
Managing Editor, Campus Editor & Life Editor

Several Oakland University board of trustee members and top administrators went to Bonita Springs, Florida from Feb. 4 to 6 as part of Oakland University's annual Winter College event.

Six of the eight board of trustee members and seven top administrators, including President George Hynd, made the trip.

According to the university, the meetings were a combination of cultivating future donors, soliciting donors ready to make a commitment now or in the immediate future and making stewardship calls to alumni and others who have donated to Oakland and are curious as to how the university is progressing. The university said the retreat allowed the trustees to have uninterrupted time to develop better perspectives on complex topics.

At the meetings, Hynd discussed information on general trends affecting higher education and also presented his five- and 10-year visions of the university.

The meetings were closed to the public and many people in OU's community were unaware of them taking place, including student liaisons to the board of trustees Annie Meinberg and Liz Iwanski, student body president Nick Walter and student body vice president Madison Kubinski.

"It gravely concerns me that the Board of Trustees is holding policy

meetings that are closed off to the public. I expect, both as a student at Oakland University and as the primary representative of students here, that the Board will operate in an open fashion," Walter said.

"Student congress does not support this," Kubinski said.

"OUSC will make efforts to have administration and the BOT be more transparent with how tuition dollars are being spent."

Meinberg and Iwanski said they understand the purpose of the Winter College retreat and that it has the potential to bring in more donors to the university. What caught their attention however, was that our new chief operating officer attended the retreat as well.

"When the COO position was announced, it was meant to allow President Hynd the ability to travel and spread the OU story in the community while the COO would stay on campus and oversee projects and university operations," Meinberg said.

These meetings have generated some negative press.

The Detroit Free Press and Oakland Press wrote articles pointing out the cost of the trip, which was paid for in part by tuition dollars. The Free Press also accused OU of skirting the Open Meetings Act. The Detroit News ran an editorial criticizing the trip.

"This administration retreat has clearly resulted in some unflattering press for OU and its Trustees," said Ken Mitton, president of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) at OU, which serves as a fac-

ulty union.

"As we live in Pure Michigan, and money is tight, we suggest that it would have been wise to hold this planning retreat in-state, even within Oakland County. Even give the conference business to our own conference facilities here on campus and in Meadow Brook Hall, or other venues available in Rochester, Auburn Hills or Rochester Hills."

Mitton also said he has heard negative responses from students.

However, the university stressed that it is a point of emphasis to have the Winter College meetings out of state in order to give OU representatives the opportunity to interact and have conversations with alumni who may not have that chance if the event was in Michigan.

According to the university, there are over 25,000 alumni who live outside of Michigan, with 2,170 of those alumni living in Florida.

Mark Schlusell, board of trustees chairman, said that many of the donors that are key to the university's financial future are located in Florida.

He said that because Oakland is such a young university and many of the graduates are not in their prime earning years, they rely on finding donors who make donating to the university a priority of their philanthropic activities.

"It's important for board members, as well as top administration, to interface with them. That's why we attached this retreat to that," Schlusell said.

"We should be going down there anyways to be a part of the fabric of the university and to interface with donors

because they want to see the leadership. That's why we do it."

The board members and administrators stayed at and held their meetings at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort and Spa. The rooms are \$300 per night, but Schlusell thinks that it was necessary to attract the donors that can afford to write a check for the university.

"You can't really set this up at a facility that's less than what they're used to being accommodated with. It would make sense at every level to do this," Schlusell said.

On top of discussing future visions of the university and meeting out-of-state alumni, there were discussions of areas where new buildings could be constructed.

According to the university, the retreat allowed those who are out-of-state to view OU from a distance and how they may engage and support the direction the university is heading.

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Celebration month continues with 'A Taste of Africa'

Event showcases Oakland talent, authentic food

Amy Swanson
Staff Intern

African American Celebration Month (AACM) at Oakland continued with the Taste of Africa event.

Held Friday, Feb. 12, the party went from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms of the OC. It was put on by the Center for Multicultural Initiatives (CMI).

Throughout the night, over 500 attendees took part in the joyous festivities, beginning with the food.

With a giant, buffet-style spread, people piled their plates high with delicious African and African-American cuisine, including Caribbean jerk chicken, candied yams and macaroni and cheese. Of course, the meal wasn't complete without desserts such as peach cobbler and sweet potato pie.

The evening was then filled with a

lineup of fun and lively performances.

Opening was the high-energy dance routines of NPHC, a group with the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority that got the crowd going.

Another great dance performance was ProdiJee. Dressed in all black, the three members danced to a cool mashup of songs. With crisp movements in unison, they created a unique visual experience.

There were also many great vocal performances. K'vera McClinic was accompanied by the instrumentals of Marcell Seldon, Jon Ball and Evan Jones in singing a variety of classic songs, including Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and "P.Y.T."

The MERGE Gospel Choir of OU sang harmoniously in their renditions of Bill Withers' "Lean on Me" and Pete Seeger's "We Shall Overcome."

Vocalist Al Bettis gave a soulful performance of original compositions,

joined by talented back-up singers. Brenette Shines was an equally great addition, singing "All of Me." There was even an instrumental performance, as Theodore Manning soothed the audience with his saxophone.

This was the first time student Paige Kargol, a junior in human resources development, had gone to this event.

"Everyone was in such a great mood, so it was really nice getting to experience that," she said.

In addition, guests could check out different vendors who sold things like custom-made cards, CDs and jewelry.

Shayla McCullough, a junior majoring in wellness, health promotion and injury prevention, is a member of the CMI. She liked how much entertainment was packed into the night.

"A lot of our events are more educational and touch on serious topics. This is more of a celebration," she said.

Stretching from Jan. 18 to Feb. 18, AACM kicked off on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. OU has been celebrating AACM for over 40 years.

Earlier events included the MLK Day of Service, LOVE Naturally's Women Empowerment Expo and the "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin" screening and discussion panel.

Amy Joa, retention coordinator of the CMI and part of the celebration month committee, recognizes how valuable these events are to Oakland.

"African American Celebration Month is important at OU because it reflects our ongoing commitment to celebrating the historical and cultural contributions that African Americans have made in the past, present and future," she said. "AACM allows our campus community to share, grow and celebrate African Americans together."

OU's African American Celebration Month will wrap up with a Closing Ceremony on Feb. 18. It will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge of the OC. Over light refreshments, the plan is to reflect on this year's events and give thanks to the many sponsors and supporters, according to the AACM website.

Cyber Summit to discuss tech trends

Students will have opportunity to learn from, network with panelists from the State of Michigan, strategists from 'Big Three'

Alexus Bomar
Staff Reporter

With a theme of "Protecting Your Infrastructure Against Latest Cyber Threats and Attacks," this year marks the third annual Cyber Summit from Oakland University's Cyber Security Club, also known as CyberOU.

According to Amanda LaBelle, president, the Cyber Summit is the organization's biggest event of the year. It will be held on Friday, March 18 in the OC banquet rooms.

The panel will discuss technology-related questions, however, an in-depth technical knowledge is not needed to enjoy and learn at the summit.

The CyberOU officers have carefully constructed the panel questions so the summit remains specific to the theme but not so technical that it discourages students.

"We want attendees to be

able to take something new from the summit," LaBelle said.

Panelists this year include the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the State of Michigan, security managers and strategists from two of the Big Three automakers (Ford and Fiat Chrysler) and from CBI, an information technology consultant firm. The Chief Security Officer of the State of Michigan, Christian Kopacsi, will be the keynote speaker.

"We are thrilled to be able to gather this prestigious panel of leaders and bring them within grasp of the students here at OU," LaBelle said. "It is an unparalleled opportunity for students and faculty to be able to learn from and network with these individuals."

The summit is free and everyone is welcome.

"Attendees do not need to bring anything with them except an excitement for technology," she said. "Particular-

ly ambitious attendees could bring business cards for the networking opportunity provided during the lunch at the close of the summit.

This event is professional, so attendees should dress in business casual. There will be a designated area for backpacks and coats.

Planning to attend the summit? Register at summit.cyberou.com. The summit is limited to 200 attendees, and according to LaBelle, they were nearly halfway full as of Feb. 9.

For more information, individuals can visit summit.cyberou.com.

CyberOU is a technology and cyber security organization that hosts a variety of events that are informative and demonstrative.

LaBelle joined CyberOU in fall 2014 as public relations officer and helped to maintain the website.

"Since its founding — win-



Dongfu Han / The Oakland Post

The Cyber OU advisor, founders, mentors and panelists who hosted the Cyber Summit last year. The Summit is limited to 200 attendees.

ter 2013 — we have grown to over 300 members," LaBelle said. "We try to remain very active by hosting events for students, ranging from technical demonstrations of latest technology to business networking opportunities to help them find jobs in the industry."

Anyone interested in becoming more involved with CyberOU can visit their general website, cyberou.com, or send an e-mail to cyberou@gmail.com.

Schedule

8 a.m. - Check-in
8:30 a.m. - Welcome and introduction by LaBelle, president
8:40 a.m. - Opening keynote by CSO of the State of Michigan, Christian Kopacsi
9:10 a.m. - Panel discussion part 1: Cyber Threats
10:10 a.m. - Intermission
10:40 a.m. - Panel discussion part 2: Cyber Attacks
12 p.m. - Networking and lunch



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

SPB hosted Speak Like A Girl event on Monday, Feb. 15., inspiring women to stand up and speak out.

SPEAK LIKE A GIRL

Poetry slam, spoken word event brings to light wide range of women's issues

Sarah Lawrence
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 15, the Student Program Board of Oakland University welcomed special guests Megan Falley and Olivia Gatwood from SPEAK LIKE A GIRL, a feminist, interactive spoken word poetry show. The event was held in the Gold Rooms of the Oakland Center as part of their third stop on the 2016 tour.

This hour-long spoken word performance highlighted issues including rape culture, body image, street harassment and equality in a variety of ways in order to educate students about gender equality.

The event began with a personal introduction and brief history of slam poetry, followed by an open mic session emceed by Falley and Gatwood. This served as an opportunity for audience members to go onstage and share their personal spoken word or other written pieces prior to the SPEAK LIKE A GIRL main event.

SPEAK LIKE A GIRL is well known for its award-winning slam poetry, authors and self definition as "two cisgendered, straight passing white women" who work to shed light on subjects that are often left unaddressed.

Following three open mic acts, Falley and Gatwood began their performance after issuing a warning to the audience that addressed the vulgar and sexually explicit content in various pieces surrounding the topics of the corrupted cosmetic and beauty industry, sexual assault, street harassment and rape culture.

"Megan and Olivia did a fantastic job covering and educating on a wide range of topics that we don't often have the chance to address," Munjot Singh, diversity director of Student Program Board, said. "Both of them made sure to take the time to explain the reasons and stories behind why they wrote each of the pieces to the audience which really added to the show."

SPEAK LIKE A GIRL presented a variety of pieces throughout the show including "Not Science," "Gold Star Lesbian," "El Diablo" and "Manic Pixie Dream Girl." Each of these provided insight on the different perspectives of women everywhere.

Throughout their performance, Falley and Gatwood interacted with the audience, asking questions and giving backstories as a way to keep everyone involved.

About halfway through the

show, SPEAK LIKE A GIRL conducted a poll asking the audience if they had ever been catcalled which resulted in the majority of hands raised. As a follow-up, they asked if those with their hands raised had ever felt unsafe in these situations.

"Wow, I'm not sure how this is possible, but I think more hands just went up," Gatwood said.

Following the audience poll, the two began addressing the topic of rape and the gap between what society perceives it to be and what rape actually is.

"Most of us think rape has to be a stranger in an alley with a ski mask attacking without warning, when really it can be happening in intimate partner settings more than we realize," Falley said.

"I think this event went extremely well," Singh said. "I had always been interested in having a spoken word or slam poetry event here at Oakland, and once I found the SPEAK LIKE A GIRL website and videos on YouTube, I knew they would be a great addition to this semester's diversity events."

For more information on the SPEAK LIKE A GIRL mission, merchandise and future tour dates, visit speaklikeagirl.com and follow @likeagirlpoetry on Twitter.

RHA hosts LGBT week

Cheyenne Kramer
Staff Reporter

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) put on three programs from Feb. 8 to 10 celebrating LGBT week.

Lydia Sadow, the multicultural and diversity chair of RHA, organized the three events. The last event was put on in partnership with Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC).

"Sean Foe was the RHA representative on OUSC last year," Anders Engnell, the head of the diversity and inclusion chair for OUSC, said. "He wanted us to work with RHA on programs, and this year he put us in touch with their multicultural chair."

The LGBT week kicked off with a presentation of the film "Do I Sound Gay?" on Monday which Sadow said had around seven people in attendance. She said the "Educate Yourself" discussion held on Tuesday drew in about 12 people.

"Movies can inspire people and put faces to the things they learn about," Sadow said. "We had a really good debriefing after the movie, too."

The final program was advertised around campus with colorful posters and a banner in the Oakland Center. The "Discover Yourself" event aimed to teach students about gender identity.

The program began with the crowd of around 30 students standing in the center of the room. They were then told to go to different tables depending on their favorite movies, shows or games.

Once a student arrived at the table, they had to pick up a bracelet and wear it. Each bracelet said, "All I want to be is me."

Eventually, the group reconvened in the center, with Engnell telling people to choose between two different options of artists instead of the previous eight.

After people made their choice, they were in for a bit of a surprise. Engnell told students they couldn't change to the other side of the room, even if they liked the option the other side had more.

For example, one side was told their favorite musician was Kanye West and the other told Justin Bieber. Though this may not have been everyone's favorite musician, the side of the room they were on dictated what they had to choose.

Engnell brought the group back together, comparing this to the gender binary, and how despite how you may want to choose different things, society "puts people into boxes when it comes to gender."

After this, he and two student volunteers read stories about gender expression and identity to the crowd.

"Next year, I hope we can use actual student stories, rather than ones we used from online," Engnell said.

"Gender identity is sort of glossed over in these kinds of programs and the point of this program was to help members of the LGBT community who live on campus feel like Oakland is their home," Engnell said.



Dongfu Han / The Oakland Post

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) put on three programs from Feb. 8-10 celebrating LGBT week, bringing to life such issues as gender binary.

Fruits, veggies and college

Vegans, vegetarians find ways to follow lifestyle, even while at school

Shelby Tankersley
Staff Reporter

Being vegan or vegetarian used to be synonymous with being a hippie. Now, people do it either to be healthy or to do what they feel is morally right. It's becoming more common to say no to meat and dairy.

Despite the world around us becoming friendlier to vegans and vegetarians, it's still an inconvenient lifestyle.

College students like to joke that they're poor. Quite frankly, being vegan or even vegetarian isn't cheap. Doing either has to take some major budgeting skills.

"It's a little more expensive, but now more stores have vegetarian and vegan options," Eliza Hensley, a senior majoring in communication and psychology who has been a vegetarian for six years, said.

"I'd say it's become more popular within the last three to four years to be vegetarian. So it's not as hard to find stuff as it used to be."

Hensley said that she started living a vegetarian lifestyle because she thought it would be a reasonable way to stay healthy, and in her experience it has been beneficial.

She added that being vegetarian keeps her from having fast food and makes her conscientious about what she puts in her body, which in turn helps her live a healthy lifestyle.

Eating at home is one thing, on campus is another. Hensley is a commuter, but she said that she eats in the Oakland Center from time to time.

"It's hard to eat on campus. Even if something is just made with chicken broth, I can't have it," Hensley said. "You can only bring so much that doesn't need to be refrigerated, so it can be tricky sometimes."

Hensley later said OU has added more things that are vegetarian friendly this year. Kevin Peasgood, the executive chef for Chartwells at OU, said that almost every restaurant on campus has dishes that are both vegetarian and vegan friendly.

Now, what does it mean to be both vegetarian and vegan friendly?

"Being a vegan means that you don't



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

The Pioneer Food Court offers a variety of options for vegetarian students, but vegan options are harder to come by on campus.

use any animal products in clothing, cosmetics, food or anything that has even been tested on animals," said Melissa Hunt, a junior majoring in psychology and a vegan of four years.

In other words, vegetarians don't eat any meat. Vegans don't use any animal products.

Hunt said that in her experience, being vegan is a little pricey, along with tricky at times. She said that buying vegetables isn't too bad, but substitutes for things like milk and cheese, along with beauty products, can be expensive.

She, like Hensley, also said that she finds it hard to find something on campus to eat as a commuter. But she thinks that Moe's is particularly vegan friendly.

"There's not a lot of options," Hunt said.

Hunt said that she, along with many other vegans she's met, live that lifestyle for moral reasons and health is just something that happens to come along with it.

"I think that vegetarianism is more common for health," Hunt said. "But veganism is so complete, with clothes and everything, that most of the time it is for moral reasons."

Both Hensley and Hunt said that living their lifestyles takes a little more money and planning, but they both find it manageable to juggle that with getting a degree.

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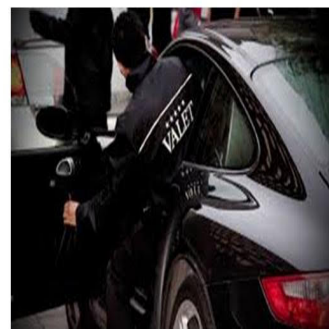
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- Clean cut appearance



How do you expect to find a job with that?

Career Services explains how students with 'abstract' degrees can procure employment

Grace Turner
Life Editor

At a family gathering, your great aunt asks you for the umpteenth time what your major is. You tell her, and (as usual) your loud, opinionated uncle informs you that you'll never get a job with that degree.

You defend yourself as a matter of principle, but a tiny voice in the back of your head whispers its worries.

Not every degree lends itself to an obvious career path. Is all hope lost?

Absolutely not, said Carol Anne Ketelsen, career consultant at Career Services. But there are steps that students should take to ensure successful futures.

First, Ketelsen said students need to focus on an ultimate career goal.

"If I handed you that dream job on a silver platter, what would it be?" she said.

After that, Career Services can help identify steps to get there. This may include internships while in and after college, as well as volunteer work.

Students should also develop a backup plan so they aren't unemployed while working toward their dream job. Career Services can help students realize all of their potential paths.

"The frustrating thing is that there are so many options," Ketelsen said.

Ketelsen added that students should have their goals outlined by their junior or senior year.

"Somewhere along the line, you have to have that 'aha' moment," she said.

Employers across the board are looking for transferable skills — things like strong writing, communication, critical thinking and analytical skills. Most programs at OU turn out students who have these abilities.

Students can also sharpen these skills through volunteer work and participation in athletics or student organizations. It's important to include these things on a résumé.

Ketelsen said that a popular mis-

conception is that a graduate degree will help in all careers.

"I don't always think additional education is necessary," she said.

She added that some people end up being over educated for a company. Other times, people with graduate degrees won't be hired because the company has to pay them more right off the bat. Some companies pay for further education if they feel graduate degrees are necessary.

Ketelsen said she knows many graduates who have bachelor's degrees and good jobs. For many, it all came back to the transferable skills.

One program that doesn't lead to an

obvious job is the creative writing program. However, English and creative writing graduates now work as

librarians, technical writers, events coordinators, human resources managers, teachers, lawyers and website designers, among others, said Annie Gilson, associate professor of English and director of the creative writing program.

"Most students come to the creative writing because they love it," Gilson said.

However, professors in the department make it clear that being the next Stephen King is unlikely.

"You can be a writer, that doesn't mean you'll make a living at it," Gilson said.

The creative writing and English programs teach students to write in many different voices and for different occasions and audiences, Gilson said. This also helps students think outside the box. They also learn how to research and have oral communication skills.

"People are really looking for the flexibility of the creative mind," Gilson said of employers.

Gilson helps students find internships and they have a mentoring program that connects students with graduates. Outside of work, they can write. There are more places than ever to get published, such as online and small presses, Gilson said.



Erika Barker/The Oakland Post

There are resources on campus that can aid students in finding internships and career opportunities during and after school, such as Career Services (located in North Foundation Hall).

2016 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

THE ALFRED G. AND MATILDA R. WILSON AWARDS recognize one female senior student and one male senior student who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

THE HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2016 or have graduated in summer or fall 2015
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/dean_awards or in 144 Oakland Center. The deadline for both awards is **Friday, February 19, 2016.**

For questions, contact:

Dean of Students Office | 144 Oakland Center | (248) 370-3352

A murder mystery at Meadow Brook

SPB to host semi-formal dinner featuring professional actors, chance to solve crime

Alexus Bomar
Staff Reporter

Oakland University students —grab your magnifying glass to help solve a mystery in Meadow Brook Hall.

On March 3 at 6 p.m., students will be able to tour Meadow Brook Hall, enjoy dinner in the ballroom and solve a mystery, thanks to the Student Program Board (SPB), which is the main student social event planning body on campus.

SPB works with representatives from the hall to ensure that students will get the most out of their time in the hall and from the event.

"Students will work in teams to solve the murder and there will be professional actors that will give the students clues to solve the mystery," Cassie Hock, annual events director, said.

"Dinner will be served during the night and there will be photo booth for students. The theme is masquerade and there will be masks available for students at the event," she added.

"Every detail is discussed not only with our client but with our entire team," Lori VanHulle, manager of sales and events at Meadow Brook, said. Both menus and timelines are discussed and detailed, along with room diagram and seating arrangements for every event.

"This is an exclusive use event," VanHulle said. "This client (SPB) will have the entire mansion for the event."

Attendees will come into a reception in which they will be able to tour the mansion and move into the ballroom for the dining portion of the event. After dinner, they will head to the main floor, where the murder mystery will take place.

According to VanHulle, Murder Mystery events are very popular in the mansion due to the exclusivity and the architectural design of it.

Meadow Brook hosts its own annual mystery dinner, which includes a three-course meal, cocktails and a chance to solve a mystery. On Oct. 30, the event's theme was the 1920s.

"It is a very interactive event that our guests seem to enjoy," she said.

The Student Program Board

has had Murder Mystery events at Meadow Brook Hall in previous years, but each time they try to do an event to make it a unique and special event for students.

"Events at Meadow Brook Hall are very special. It is unique that students at a college campus have the opportunity to host events at a National Historic Landmark," Hock said.

Attire will be semi-formal. Tickets go on sale Wednesday, Feb. 17 at the Center for Student Activities (CSA) Service Window in the lower level of the OC for \$20 each.

Participants must be Oakland students currently enrolled in classes to attend.

Students can enjoy a tour of Meadow Brook for free with their student ID.

Meadow Brook house tours are offered daily Monday through Friday at 1:30 p.m. T

here are four opportunities for a tour on Saturdays and Sundays at the following times: 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For more information about this event, visit the Student Program Board's website or contact them at spb@oakland.edu or (248) 370-4295.

Upcoming SPB Events

DUELING PIANOS

Pioneer Food Court, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.

PAINTING WITHOUT THE TWIST

Banquet Room A, March 7, 6 p.m.

DRAG QUEEN BINGO

Banquet Rooms, March 23, 6 p.m.

CHICAGO TRIP

April 2, all day

SPRING CONCERT WITH ANDY GRAMMER

Meadow Brook Amphitheater, April 15



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

SPB will be hosting the exclusive "murder mystery" event at Meadow Brook Hall March 3.

Now Accepting.....

Applications and Nominations for:

Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

The role of the Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees is to serve as a non-voting resource on all student issues at monthly meetings of the Board.



Term of Office:

- July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 or 2018
- Must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- Must not hold any other major elected campus office

Applications are available at:

<http://www.oakland.edu/bot>

Student Affairs Office – 144 Oakland Center

Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center

Center for Student Activities – 49 Oakland Center

Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by March 31, 2016

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200



Photo courtesy of oakland.edu

Club president, Tim Brown, performing in *Pirates of Penzance*. The group raises funds throughout the year to supplement trips and activities.

Opera Club hosts student showcase

Oakland organization raises funds to travel to NYC, experience opera at the Met

Rachel Williams
Campus Editor

On Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. the Opera Club will host a student showcase fundraiser in Varner Recital Hall.

The group is compiled of music students at Oakland University. Students practice and experience the classical art form, putting on performances throughout the year.

"Opera Club works to actively enrich our members with the wealth of culture and art that is opera," Tim Brown, club president, said.

"The initiatives and mission of Opera Club both continually benefit the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance at Oakland University in opera performance and in the sharing of knowledge and experience with our peers

within other programs in the department, the College of Arts and Sciences and the entirety of the student body.

The group was founded in 2012. In 2015, they travelled to Chicago to see an opera and held fundraisers throughout the year as well.

According to oakland.edu, the group's fundraising efforts were among the most successful of student organizations for 2015.

The showcase will feature club members performing opera arias and art songs. Donations are accepted at the door as a means of admittance.

"Our fundraiser is a benefit performance to showcase the talents of the students in our organization and to raise money to cover things that our SAFB student org funds

don't cover such as transportation to performances and lodging in places like Chicago (2015) and NYC (2016)," Brown said. "All funds come back to the Opera Club directly."

The event will be catered from funds won during the year by the student organization.

This month, the club will be heading to New York City from Feb. 22 to 25. There they will attend a performance at the Metropolitan Opera House. Beyond this, members will be able to attend another opera, Broadway show or other event. They will also be able to take voice lessons with professors from different universities there and experience graduate programs.

Funds raised at the showcase and efforts throughout

the year will go towards purchasing airfare and lodging for those going to NYC. Money from their SAFB account will go towards their tickets for the Met performance.

The group feels that these travel experiences allow them to absorb and experience professionals within their interested field while benefiting the department.

"The most rewarding part of being the president of Opera Club is helping students use OU's resources to have the opportunity to see such captivating performances in Detroit, Chicago and NYC and to foster their love and appreciation for my passion, opera," Brown said.

For more information, find them on Facebook and Griz-zOrgs.

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the mix

7 MUSIC COLLABS WE WANT TO SEE

1. LADY GAGA AND FUTURE: We could do more than just dance if this were to come true in the future.

2. JUSTIN BIEBER AND KENNY CHESNEY: We would not be sorry if the Canadian pop star and the American country singer did a collab.

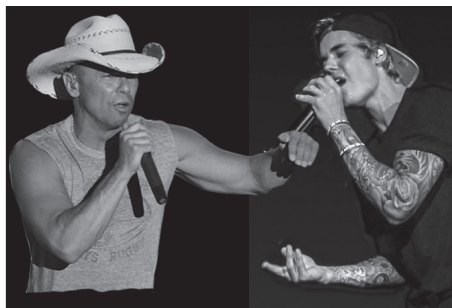
3. FETTY WAP AND LUKE BRYAN: Here's to hoping that these two write 679 songs together that you'll want to play again and again.

4. LINKIN PARK AND DNCE: In the end, everyone would have cake by the ocean if this were to happen.

5. EMINEM AND ZAYN MALIK: Zayn's reckless behavior meets Eminem's — the world would lose itself over this collaboration.

6. ELVIS PRESLEY AND TUPAC: This is not too hard to imagine since we know they're both not dead right?

7. JOSH GROBAN AND NICKI MINAJ: With Josh's voice raising you up you could touch the sky-y-y. Let's do this one more time.



— Compiled by Scott Davis and Rachel Williams,
Managing Editor and Campus Editor

YAKS of the WEEK

Yik Yak:
The voice
of the
people

1. "We live in a world where not only do our politicians lie, but apparently so do our groundhogs."

2. "For Lent I'm giving up."

3. "Surprise your girlfriend this Valentine's Day with a live alligator."

4. "Is it really a Michigan February if it doesn't hurt to breathe?"

5. "College has made me really good at pretending not to see people."

6. "Cuts through every building possible to avoid walking outside.*"

7. "Commenting on a controversial Yak like: 'I'm just here for the show.'"

8. "Tell your date you're a magician and then disappear forever. She'll be so amazed."

9. "Two boxes of chocolates. One for me. The other for me."

10. "JK Rowling declared that a new Harry Potter book is in the works. Just a heads up, Snape won't be in it (Too soon?)"



— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,
Staff Reporter

TOP TUNES

wxou albums
of the week

1. MONEY — "Suicide Songs"
2. CIAN NUGENT — "Night Fiction"
3. MASS GOTHIC — "Mass Gothic"
4. TY SEGALL — "Emotional Mugger"
5. YOUR FRIEND — "Gumption"
6. JULIEN BAKER — "Sprained Ankle"
7. DAVID BOWIE — "Blackstar"
8. BENJI HUGHES — "Songs in the Key of Animals"
9. RINGO DEATHSTARR — "Pure Mood"
10. JAMES HUNTER SIX — "Hold On!"

ALBUM SPOTLIGHT

#4. Ty Segall — "Emotional Mugger"

Sometimes artists make music for the masses and try to appeal to as large an audience as possible. Other times they make music for themselves without any audience in mind.



Enter "Emotional Mugger," the eighth full-length album from prolific 28-year-old California garage rocker Ty Segall. This is Segall's follow-up to 2014's "Manipulator," his most accessible and polished record to date. "Emotional Mugger" strives to be the oddball distant cousin of "Manipulator," embracing many of the same garage and glam rock ideas, just...weirder.

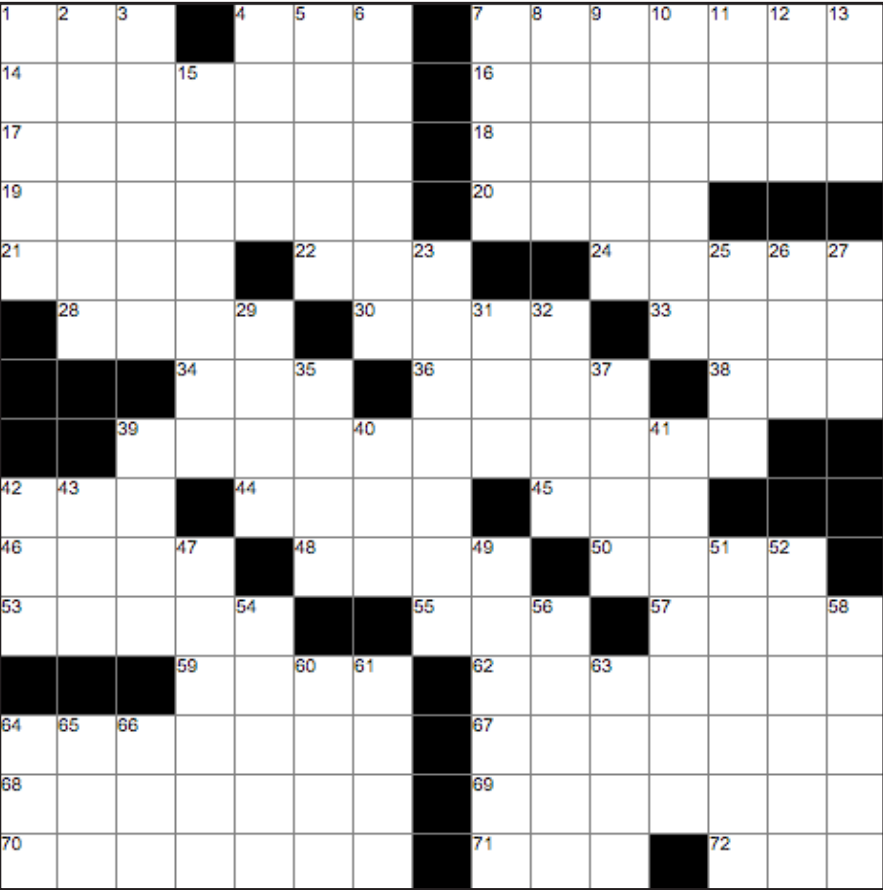
Segall's recent performance of "Candy Sam" on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert showed just how far he's willing to go to embrace the theatrical strangeness of his new album. Dressed like an evil clown reminiscent of Heath Ledger's Joker, Segall proceeded to spit gummy worms all over the stage while singing and collapsed on the ground to end the song — a fitting end to one of underground music's best during the weirdest phase of his career yet.

Recommended if you like: David Bowie, Black Sabbath, T. Rex

Start with: "Mandy Cream," "Diversion," "Candy Sam"

— Anthony Spak, WXOU Music Director

Puzzles



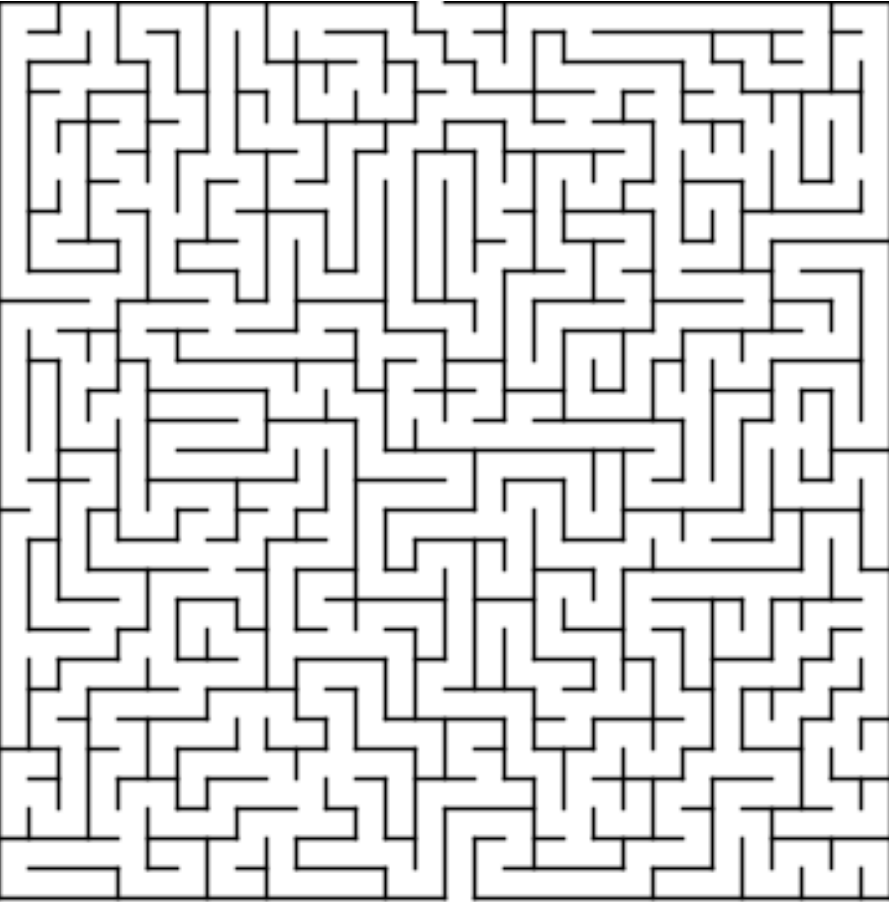
Across

- 1: Begin blooming
4: 'Run to ____' (Bobby Vee hit)
7: Place for a rubber duck
14: Painkiller
16: Land area
17: Narrow bands
18: Cover a point?
19: Mugs
20: Miami cagers
21: Cauterize
22: President pro ____
24: Steelers' legend Bradshaw
28: Sow's sustenance
30: Poorly lit
33: Boulder
34: Important
36: Potter's purchase
38: Incidentally, in Net-speak
39: Woodstock wear
42: Get nosy
44: Bird with an eerie call
45: Tint
46: Inning enders
48: Malt liquor yeast
50: Wacky
53: Bumbling
55: Talk foolishly

- 57: Put into piles
59: Gardener's coil
62: Japanese warrior caste
64: Rhythmic pattern
67: Get going
68: Wifely
69: Values highly
70: Picks up
71: Stain, as a fabric
72: Verbalize

Down

- 1: Receives pleasure
2: Loosens
3: Kind of fin
4: Ballyhoo
5: Slow to act
6: Made a shambles of (with "up")
7: Celebration
8: Feel compassion
9: Pick up the check
10: Piece
11: Feline, to Tweety
12: Utterance of revulsion
13: Apiary occupant
15: Strip
23: Stonework
25: Pulls a heist
26: Same-old-same-old
27: Archery bow wood
29: Major pain, slangily
31: Nonsense
32: Partner of kin
35: Lump of clay
37: Bright, as a color
39: Memory morsel
40: Constricting snake
41: Ascertain dimensions
42: Polynesian paste
43: Turn tail
47: Orb
49: Accumulated
51: Long suits
52: Emotional shock
54: Gin companion
56: Fall guy
58: Fuddled
60: 'Flee, feline!'
61: They get into sushi
63: Perth pal
64: Bossy's chew
65: Fireman's tool
66: Morse code component



		2	6	7				5
6			1			9	8	
		1			5	6		
5				9			2	
3			5		1			8
	9			2				4
		7	8			4		
	1	3			6			9
8				3	4	2		



Salwan Georges / Oakland Post Archives

Oakland baseball opens the season at Pepperdine on Feb. 19. Their home opener is April 2 against Cleary.

Baseball preview: 'Keeping their legs'

Team searches for stamina in upcoming season

Katlynn Emaus
Staff Reporter

Three Golden Grizzlies were selected to Horizon League Preseason All-Conference Teams on Saturday at the team's First Pitch Banquet, which welcomes the 2016 season. Tyler Pagano was named to the first team, while Mike Brosseau and Ian Yetsko were named to the second team.

Head coach John Musachio is pleased to have the three named on All-Conference teams, but he is also looking at the larger picture: the upcoming season.

"It shows respect and recognizes the ability of some of our guys," Musachio said, "but to me, pre-season means nothing. It is nice, but we have to keep our humility with that and work to earn the post-season honors."

Playing a full game was one of the team's weaknesses last year, according to the Musachio. Some games, the team hit well but lacked in another area. They had difficulty "putting it all together," he said.

"I think some of it was youth and inexperience and I think some of it was some guys didn't play to the level we expected them to play," Musachio said.

"There is a million reasons for it but I think that last year's experience has really molded the mindset for this year's team and I think we are going to use that to become a better club this year."

Leadership is the main strength of Oakland baseball, Musachio said. The upperclassmen "have been hungry all year" and have experience under their belt.

"They understand the sacrifices that it takes to win mentally, emotionally, and physically," Musachio said. "They understand the importance. [Those are] the biggest strengths. We have guys that can pitch, guys that can swing the bat and guys that can pick it up and throw it across, but to me that's all for naught if you don't have that leadership, that glue that keeps everyone together."

Oakland plays some west-coast teams this year.

The team is looking at this as an opportunity to compete against teams it hasn't seen before and also to help build team camaraderie.

"It's a 56 game season," Musachio said. "People are counting down for the trip, but that is just the beginning. We are going to keep getting better and keep growing as a team and keep improving."

Senior Ian Yetsko said the 56-game season is one of the most difficult things about the sport.

"We just need to keep men-

tally tough," Yetsko said. "It is a very long season, so you just have to stay within yourself each and every day, each and every game. Stick to your routine because there [are] going to be ups and downs, especially with the game of baseball. Come ready to play every day because it's a new day."

The team has been training since move-in last fall. A strength coach has been training them to help them "keep their legs" during the game, he said. They've been hitting a lot, and some players even put in extra hours outside of practice to improve their batting.

Yetsko said the team motto for this year is "finish."

"Especially late in games last year, I'm not sure if we got tired and fell off, but we lost some leads we had going into the later parts of games," he said. "So I think if we focus on finishing strong throughout the game and playing the nine, that will be the best way about going about our season."

Musachio and Yetsko both see the potential the team holds for this upcoming season.

"I think that there are a lot of guys on this team who peaked at the right time," Musachio said. "They are hitting strides at the right time, their strength is there, and they are maturing and learning how to compete at high levels. I think that will correlate to wins."

Golden Grizzlies put it all on the table

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee partnered with other student organizations on campus for its first ever Bear Pong non-alcoholic event in the O'rena on Saturday. Teams competed for prizes and enjoyed free pizza after the men's and women's home basketball games.

Photos by Nowshin Chowdhury



Oakland hosted its first Bear Pong event on Saturday, Feb. 13 at the O'rena.



WXOU took requests and provided music for participants at the Bear Pong event.



Students gathered to play a water pong tournament, listen to music from WXOU and win prizes throughout the night.



Bohdanna Cherstylo / The Oakland Post

The men's basketball team is 7-0 on the road in Horizon League play and will go against Valparaiso and UIC this weekend.

GOLDEN GRIZZLIES MOVING ON UP

Men's basketball gains sole possession of two seed with win over the Raiders

Sam Schlenner
Sports Editor

Thanks to a scoring rush by Martez Walker and Percy Gibson fed by three assists from Kay Felder (and a three by Felder himself), Oakland men's basketball (19-9, 11-4) put up a 12-0 run late in the second half to put away an 89-73 win against the Wright State Raiders (16-12, 10-5) Monday evening at the Nutter Center.

Oakland stands primed to secure the second seed in the Horizon League Tournament, which would mean a two-game bye, AKA a trip straight to the semifinals.

"You don't go 7-0 on the road in this league unless you got toughness," Oakland head coach Greg Kampe said in the post game Grizz-Vision interview with Neal Ruhl, "and we showed it tonight."

Martez Walker led Oakland with a career-high 22 points. He shot 4-for-

"You don't go 7-0 on the road in this league unless you got toughness, and we showed it tonight."

Greg Kampe
Men's basketball head coach

4 from three-point range and 6-for-10 from the field while grabbing six rebounds and playing 31 minutes.

Jalen Hayes shot 5-for-10 from the field on the way to 17 points, picking up 11 rebounds on the way, his 12th double-double of the season. He played 38 minutes.

Kay Felder, who on game day was named Horizon League men's basketball Player of the Week for the sixth time in this season (tying a league record), scored 15 and dished 12, his 15th double-double of the

season. He made his 45th free throw in a row, an Oakland record.

Percy Gibson scored 14, going 5-for-9 from the field and snatching seven rebounds.

Max Hooper made four 3-pointers for 12 points, grabbing a couple of boards, as well.

Nick Daniels scored seven and got a technical foul.

Mark Alstork put up 18 points for Wright State, going 7-for-17 from the field and picking up five boards.

Joe Thomasson shot for 13, getting five rebounds.

Kampe said the two seed was at stake Monday night.

"And our players knew it," he said.

The Golden Grizzlies face off at Valparaiso on Friday, Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. ET. Watch on ESPN or listen on WDFN-AM (1130).

The Horizon League Tournament runs March 5-8 at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

COLUMN

Women's basketball wins two after three straight losses

Ally Racey
Staff Reporter

Feb. 13—vs. University of Chicago at Illinois
The Golden Grizzlies (14-10, 6-7) defeated University of Illinois at Chicago (12-12, 3-10) in a 78-73 home match Feb. 13. The game was the annual Pink Game in support of breast cancer awareness.

Korin Taylor played her best game yet as she posted a career-high 13 points, nine free throws and four rebounds.

"She was outstanding and obviously the difference maker," head coach Jeff Tungate said.

"She's really, really been working hard and putting in extra time and I think the extra work obviously paid off," he said. "She got what she deserved tonight and it really helped our team."

Olivia Nash led the team with 18 points and four steals, a career-high amount of steals for the senior forward.

Taylor Jones added 14 points to the scoreboard.

The team held a strong defense against UIC with 17 steals and 27 of their 78 points coming from the 25 UIC turnovers.

Oakland travels to Dayton, Ohio, to play Wright State at 7 p.m. ET on Feb. 18 before heading to Northern Kentucky on Feb. 21.

The team returns to the blacktop at the O'rena Feb. 27 to welcome Detroit.



Photo by Nowshin Chowdhury

Feb. 11—vs. Valparaiso

The Golden Grizzlies beat Valparaiso 87-77 in the O'rena. The team came off three straight losses and turned the momentum around.

"This was an important win and after coming back after [the three losses] coming into today," head coach Jeff Tungate said. "To see our team respond and come out in the first half and play the way we did I thought it was a great sign."

The Player of the Game, Olivia Nash, scored a team-high 25 points. Nash was one of four Golden Grizzlies to reach double figures; those four accounted for 77 of Oakland's 87 points.

Taylor Jones racked up 20 points, while Elena Popkey and Taylor Gleason each scored 16.

Jones tied a career-high five steals, while Sinclair Russell tallied up a game-high four blocks. In three games, Russell has blocked 14 times.

The team held a 14-3 steals advantage with 20 of their 87 points coming off of turnovers.

"We gave a great, great effort today," Tungate said.



Dongfu Han / The Oakland Post

Fleetwood Fleming, ticket coordinator at Oakland University Athletics works on ticket sales behind the O'rena window.

Oakland Athletics increases revenue, support

Hannah Gorosh
Staff Intern

Jeff Konya became Oakland's athletic director in 2014 and has made strides with the school's event attendance.

"It's a team effort, it's a collaborative effort," Konya said. "The reception from the students has been great and it's a part of our program."

Oakland University Athletics does not show any signs of stopping. The school is expanding its horizon after joining the Horizon League.

"We have done some really cool things this year," Fleetwood Fleming, ticket coordinator for Oakland University Athletics, said. "We have increased revenue and we have increased attendance, which are two of the biggest things we look at, especially in terms of ticketing. All that has increased at a record rate, which is something we are really proud of."

Oakland University has been setting itself apart from the pack for many years and it reflects through each event the institution presents.

"[Our games are different] by nature of it being an event, not just a game," Konya said. "Truth is, we need to put events on because athletics is more than just a game. It's a place where people can gather, a place where people can socialize, where people take pride in their institution.... It's way more than the

wins and losses. Things like Homecoming, Winter Fest, these are opportunities for all of our fans to engage with one another around an athletic event, not a game."

Fear not, students. Despite record growth in attendance, the free student admission policy does not seem to be going anywhere anytime soon.

"I don't even think it is well known on campus that student admission is free for students that attend Oakland University," Konya said. "The things that aren't free for students are postseason. Anything that we have in terms of the regular season we would like to keep and maintain that for students."

The increase in attendance shows prosperity and growth, two factors that are facilitating Oakland University's becoming the Horizon League powerhouse throughout this year.

"Students are just the lifeblood of any college athletics organization," Fleming said.

"Just the energy that they create can't be duplicated, replicated by any other part of the building, and that goes for all sports no matter what it is. That student energy is so different," he said. "It's just the thing that keeps going and it permeates throughout the building."

While Oakland continues to make their mark in the world of collegiate athletics, the school is not

concerned with winning and losing but with creating a welcoming, fun place for student-athletes and their peers to come together and enjoy their time at the university.

"The trophies are nice, the wins are nice, the championships are nice, but our real, core mission day to day is to cater to the student athlete welfare and student athlete experience," Konya said. "If you read our ethos or our belief structure, wins and losses is nowhere to be found in that."

He added that the department's deliverables are to "run everything first-class."

Without students, Oakland events would not have been the success they've been this year and in the past.

"With the student body this year I just want to say thank you to them. They have made a tremendous impact on our game-day experience," Fleming said. "I challenge them to continue to top themselves. They have done a great job all year long and I am thrilled to death for that day [the Metro Series rivalry game] to get here to see what they have cooked up."

The Metro Series returns to the O'rena Friday, Feb. 26, when Oakland plays University of Detroit Mercy. The time has yet to be announced. Watch on ESPNU or ESPN2. Listen on WDFN-AM (1130).

THE BLITZ

Women's golf

Day 1: In a best-of-five situation at the Women's Mid American Match Play Challenge, Oakland defeated Ohio 3-2, but lost all five matches against the No. 7 team, Kentucky, on Feb. 8. Fiona Schmidt won her opening match, six and four. Alyssa Albright won rounds three and two against Ohio and Morgan Smith sank a birdie on the 18th hole for the Golden Grizzly win. Oakland had a total of 14 birdies, six coming from Schmidt, 97 pars and held an average of 3.18 on par 3's.

Day 2: Oakland lost to Western Michigan 4-1, and dropped the final two matches to Bowling Green, 3-2. Smith won her matches against Western Michigan and Bowling Green. The team had a total of 12 birdies, 86 pars, and an average of 3.21 on par 3's.

Men's Basketball

Feb. 13: Oakland landed a 111-93 victory over Green Bay. Kay Felder scored 28 points and got seven assists, four rebounds and three steals. Three Golden Grizzlies had 12 points and Nick Daniels had 17 points with six assists. Oakland lead Green Bay in assists and rebounds. This leaves Oakland's record at 18-9 overall and 10-4 in the Horizon League.

Feb. 11: Oakland suffered a 93-85 home loss to Milwaukee. With 12 assists, Kay Felder set the Horizon League record for career assists with 703. The record was previously held by Ralph Lee, who played at Xavier from 1982-86, with 699 assists. Jalen Hayes and Felder both scored 22 points. Milwaukee led in assists and rebounds.

Track and Field

Feb. 13: Oakland got first, second and third in the women's 60m hurdles as Sarah Moen, Laura Johnston and Hayley MacDonald swept the event at the Tiffin Dragon Invite. The men's relay team of Geoffrey Williston, Zach Joyce, Austin Dawn and Tim Pfund won the 4x400m relay in 3:28.62. Girodat and Davis got second and fourth, respectively, in the 60m dash, while Kendell Jefferson took second in the 60m dash for the women. Connor Wuori took second in the 3000m with a time of 8:47.02. Andrea Koenigstnecht and Odette Ingall placed first and second, respectively, in the 400m dash. With a time of 10:31.52, Alana Koepf won the 3000m.

Feb. 12: The Golden Grizzlies put up multiple personal bests at the Grand Valley State University Big Meet. George O'Connor and Jacob Bowman both set PRs in the mile, while Aaron Davis placed third in the 200m dash (21.86) and teammate Nicholas Girodat finished ninth (22.08). Rachel Levy and Ashley Burr were both top twenty in the women's mile.

— Compiled by Katlynn Emaus,
Staff Reporter



Photo courtesy of Jose Juarez, Oakland Athletic Communication

Patricia Aschan, a junior on the women's swim team, came to Oakland University from Finland.

After transatlantic transition, Patricia Aschan makes a splash

Sam Schlenner
Sports Editor

Junior swimmer Patricia Aschan hails from Raisio, Finland. That's about a 13-hour flight from Detroit, according to Google Maps. Her mother has made it to every Horizon League Championship.

She goes home twice a year, during the summer and Christmas, and it's hard sometimes, but she said Oakland is like her second home. She's used to being here, although not to being away. Nor will she ever be.

Aschan practices for an hour and a half nine times a week and lifts for a little less than an hour three times a week. She does this with the team, which she said is a big part of her university life. Then she corrected herself: "The biggest part of being here."

Two goals sit on her horizon: grades good enough to get into grad school, and the Oakland 400 individual medley record.

"It was so close even last year," Aschan said. "I was half a second off."

She's just not sure in what country she would attend grad school.

Beginning

One of the first things head men's and women's swimming and diving coach Pete Hovland does when an athlete is interested in the Oakland program is look at the numbers. Official meets keep official times online, and numbers tend not to lie.

Aschan, who intends to major in psychology, made those sterile figures sing.

Next come emails, phone calls or Skype. He builds a relationship and checks to make sure the athlete is a good fit for the team.

She was. Her presence promptly took effect.

"Somebody like that even pushes some of the guys," Hovland said. "It gives you that swag when you go to a meet and you know you have somebody of her caliber and you can put her in just about any event."

Free, fly, backstroke, breaststroke. Aschan will do any one. She'll show up, step up and do what is asked of her. Her quiet confidence rubs off through the ranks.

"It's right there on a day-to-day basis," Hovland said. "Every practice, you can just look over and who's leading that lane? Who's kicking everybody's butt? Every weekend, I put her in the toughest events and she comes through in flying colors. Every time. She's the best of the best in the Horizon League."

The ability is expected. If Oakland swim and dive signs an international student to a scholarship, they're going to be better than someone they could get from the U.S. And they're going to make a splash.

"Right away," Hovland said.

The List

Her athletic life is maybe not best, but surely ably told in bullet points. Wherever she did anything notable, GoldenGrizzlies.com put a dot and a sentence.

In high school, two things are listed, namely that she reached the Finnish Championships four times and was a four-time junior national record holder for her age group.

During Aschan's first year in college, 2013-14, when she won the 400 IM at the Horizon League Championship, the number of bullet points grows to four.

Her second year — the year she was the 2015 Horizon League Women's Swim-

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ming and Diving Athlete of the Year and the 2015 Horizon League Championship Women's Swimmer of the Meet (at which she won three individual events and swam on two league-champion relay teams) — the number balloons to eleven.

You might imagine what the list for her third year, this year, is going to look like.

Through the grind, though, she doesn't think much about those bullet points on the website. This late in the season, her focus is on the next Horizon League Championship.

Trust

Senior swimmer Nikki Flynn likes training with Aschan because they push each other.

"She trains so hard," Flynn said. "She enjoys it."

Flynn witnessed Aschan's entrance onto the team a little more than two years ago. At first, she didn't really have her bearings, Flynn said. Not so much as a person, but with how to participate on a team.

"She's now one of the biggest team players; she always wants to do what's best for the team," Flynn said. "And luckily, she does what's best for the team. She wins."

Change

Hovland said it took Aschan some time

to become more involved because she had to make the transatlantic transition.

"There's no security blanket for them," he said. "It's thousands of miles away."

She had to adjust to more than just new friends, coaches and culture. European swimming is focused more on the individual rather than the team, Hovland said.

Eventually, she did adjust.

"It becomes easier for them to live in both worlds," he said. "I think she's done a very, very good job of that."

Hovland is looking for her to become more of a vocal, visible leader.

"I think she has a lot to give," he said. "Her maturity, and her vision, and her dedication."

Next year is Aschan's last. Hovland is already dreading her and others' graduation. But he seems to know how to deal with that imminent void.

"Stop, smell the coffee, enjoy this year for what it is," he said. "Don't worry about next year. Because there's always somebody."

For the time being, Aschan is very much here, and Hovland is grateful for the opportunity to work with her. He said no matter what she does, she'll do it well. Because that's just who she is, that's just her work ethic.

"We'd love to have a dozen of her," he said.