

MAKING A MARK

Campus celebrates the halfway point of OC
construction by inviting students and staff to
add a personal touch to a piece of history

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SUNSET TERRACE

The former home of Matilda and
Alfred Wilson slated for renovations

PAGE 9

HALLOWEEN

A roundup of spooky campus
and community activities

PAGE 10 & 11

CHARITY GAME

Mens Basketball beats CMU and
raises money for hurricane relief

PAGE 18



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

GRIZZLIES PROWL IN PONTIAC // Pontiac welcomed Oakland University students last week for a night of seasonal fun. Aside from visiting attractions like ErubEs, students could visit a local brewery and get a tarot card reading from local vendors.
Photo // Sam Boggs

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

How was your Halloween?

- A Too old for candy, SAD!
- B My sexy costume worked!
- C Too much adult cider
- D Better than Paul Manafort!

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Are you ready for midterms?

- A) I was born ready?
2 votes | 4%
- B) Lol, no
13 votes | 23%
- C) Wait, its midterm week?!?!
17 votes | 30%
- D) Excuse me while I go sob
24 votes | 43%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

November 3, 1993

Kresge Library suffered from ventilation problems leading to numerous health concerns and student complaints.

November 1, 2000

A teenager died at the Rec Center. He was not a student, and there was no formal cause of death at the time.

November 3, 2015

Scott Kunselman was announced as the new Chief Operating Officer. There was no national search for the position.



14

SUBURBICON FLOPS

Directed by George Clooney, "Suburbicon" lacks the star power it promises.
Photo // IMDb



15

WHITE GURLS ROOL

Stephen Armice took cultural appropriation to a new level this Halloween.
Photo // Erin O'Neill



16

KENDRICK NUNN

One of Oakland's newest basketball players has already made an impression.
Photo // Oakland Athletics

BY THE NUMBERS HALLOWEEN

70.6%

Of Americans pass out Halloween candy

\$86

Americans spend on decorating per household

16%

Of Americans buy their dog or cat a costume

#1

Halloween costume is, historically, a superhero

Staff Editorial

Letter from the editor: On crossing borders

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief



Hey readers,
So this guy from North Carolina comes up to me and proceeds to tell me that he's the best thing to ever happen to sports journalism.

OK dude, whatever.

I was standing in front of him, wishing that he knew how dumb he

sounded, when it crossed my mind that confidence as a student journalist is perhaps the best tool you can have.

My Managing Editor Cheyanne and I spent most of last week in Dallas, Texas at the Associated Collegiate Press' and the College Media Association's National College Media Conference learning how to do our jobs better.

Essentially, a bunch of professionals sat hundreds of college editors down and taught us how to suck less.

Every last Editor-in-Chief went into the conference thinking the same thing I did: that their newspapers and their staffs are the best thing since The New York Times.

We all then proceeded to discover how much we still have left to learn and how much better we could be teaching our staffs.

Especially in a field like journalism, learning is never supposed to end.

But, aside from learning how to be a better EIC to my staff and to our readers, the biggest thing I took from the conference was that I can learn from people who don't live their lives the way I do.

Because the conference was in Texas, most of

the students there were from the South. I will praise the Midwest until the day I die, because people from the South live life much differently than us Michiganders do.

For instance, while southern folks are very hospitable, they will not hold back in telling you that the way you do something is, in their opinion, totally stupid (that guy from North Carolina wasn't very good at making new friends).

But I did learn something from them.

If you've never been to Texas, just know that the people who live there think that Texas is the only state in America that actually matters (I can say that, my dad is from the Houston area). But, some of that well-placed pride drives the EICs and editors to lead teams of student journalists that do great work because they all really believe that they're great.

I met a group of editors from the San Antonio that gave an entire presentation on the way they run their newsroom because they are proud of the way they do things.

Cheyenne and I had a chance to speak with their adviser and we were able to trade ideas as well as emails so we can, hopefully, continue to learn from each other.

So the South has confidence, but the Midwest has motivation.

I heard so many horror stories of staffs that go MIA on their editors and never take criticism well. I have been told by more than one Oakland University professor that one defining characteristic of our student body is our willingness to work hard for what we want.

My staff has their low moments, but they make me proud to be their EIC because of their continual willingness to learn and improve.

This past week The Post was given a lot of criticism, but it was praised for its staff. What made our school stand out is the way our students work hard.

Now I don't know about you, but I'm going to take that hard work and add some southern moxy to it so this Michigan gal can really do something great.

Sincerely,

Shelby Tankersley



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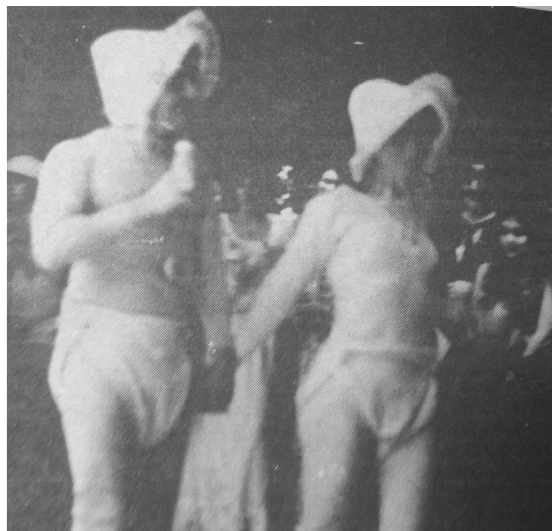
Looking Back

Hauntings through history

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

According to “Today I Found Out,” the concept of the modern-day practice of trick-or-treating began sometime in the 1920s and has been an American tradition ever since.

Oakland University is no stranger to this holiday. Hidden in the pages of one the earliest The Oakland Observer issues in our archives, we found a cover story on Halloween that was ran in 1970.



Though the cover was artfully done in Halloween spirit, there was no Halloween-themed content or stories about Halloween events on campus. There’s no note of who the man on the cover of the paper was or who the designer was.

The first Halloween-esque celebration found in The Oakland Post’s archives was back in 1964, when The Observer reported on a “Hay Dance.”

This dance was sponsored by the “Dorm Social Committee,” which is similar to today’s Resident Hall Association (RHA). There was a hay ride taking students from Hamlin Circle to the “Sports Building” where the dance was.

However, admission was not free like many of today’s dances and events are on campus. The event cost was 25 cents per person. But, attendees got apple cider and donuts for attending and shelling out a quarter.

By 1979 The Oakland Sail, the new student newspaper, had begun experimenting with color in its black-and-white paper, making the Halloween issue appropriately themed in black-and-orange as well as housing some Halloween content. The story accompanying the themed issue was about the history of Halloween, tracing its roots back to “druid” practices.

But these articles weren’t totally accurate. In reality, Halloween traditions today are borrowed from four different festivals: The Roman Feralia festival honoring the dead, the Roman Pomona festival honoring the goddess of fruit and trees, the Celtic festival of Samuin and the Catholic “All Soul’s Day” which is also known as “All Saint’s Day.”

There was discussion in The Sail’s article of keep-

ing children away from trick-or-treating due to the dangers of razor blades or poison in the trademark fun-sized treats. Ironically, this is a conversation that seems to return year after year, nearly 40 years later, with parents worrying about the safety of taking candy from strangers.

However, OU didn’t just celebrate Halloween the 70s, Oktoberfest also came to campus in 1979. Though no alcohol was reported in the stories, the piece reported on other “Olympics” such as apple bobbing, root-beer chugging, “pass an apple with your neck,” a sack race, a five legged race and donut eating.

This was also the first time The Sail published information on what’s known today as “haunted halls,” Hamlin Hall had floor decorating contests. The second floor of South Hamlin won a pizza party for its resident’s efforts.

Hill House and Van Wagner House also held a costume dance in the Oakland Center in 1979. Awards were given for cutest couple, “sexiest” costume, most bizarre and most original.

The cutest couple was given to a prisoner and cop duo. The sexiest went to a student dressed as a member of the rock band “Kiss.” The most bizarre? A student dressed as a decayed mummy. And the most original costume of the night was Darth Vader. Though really, the photograph of the student doesn’t do the major movie villain much justice.

Today, Oakland students enjoy cider mill trips and the annual “Zombie Walk” hosted by RHA. Though there is no formal trick-or-treating on campus, Oakland students still embrace their inner-child on the holiday that allows us to be someone else for a few hours.



The Oakland Post archives

Photos from the 1979 Halloween events, including winning costumes like Darth Vader.



FIRST YEAR ADVISING CENTER

First-year students, remember to complete your required fall appointments before December 1. In your appointment you will discuss:

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- Campus resources
- Progress towards your degree
- Getting connected to campus
- Reviewing your winter schedule

To make an appointment, call the First Year Advising Center at (248) 370-3227, or stop by room 121 in North Foundation Hall.

tya17735/10.17

Campus participates in Oakland tradition

Connor McNeely
Campus Editor

Last week, the Oakland University community was invited to make an everlasting contribution to campus. As a celebration of the construction on campus nearing its halfway point students, faculty, staff and alumni were welcomed to sign their names on a beam that will be placed in one of the high sections of the Oakland Center expansion and renovation. President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh were among the many whom signed the beam. The beam signing took place just inside one of the constructions fences, next to the sidewalk between South Foundation Hall and the OC. Workers chipped away at the future buildings in the background, while passersby entered to participate. "This is the south portion of the building, which will be the expansion area with

ballrooms and student social space and study space and a restaurant concept and so we're pretty excited about it and so today is the beam signing," McIntosh said. "It's like tradition, where you get students and staff out here to sign the beam as a signification that they were here when we decided to do this project and when it got underway. So it's historical." Seniors Abi Hornung and Kaylyn Thompson stopped to sign while walking on campus between studying for exams, unaware that the event was taking place. "I'm glad that we got to leave our mark, our last year before we leave on something that we don't really get to see the effects of now. But we'll get to see it when we come back," Hornung said. "Plus the stress ball, you know?" Thompson added about the yellow, construction-hat shaped, foam souvenirs that participants were given. Considering it was midterms week, the stress balls must have come in



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Demetrius Murchison participates in the beam signing, an Oakland tradition.

handy for many. The construction, which began four months ago, is expected to finish in September of 2018. McIntosh said that the goal is to have a ribbon cutting ceremony for the students that return next fall. The total construction effort, which has blocked several entries and made campus commute difficult this year, is 60 thousand sq. feet. Upon completion, students will have plenty options of entry into the OC. Students will also have several new places to pass time between classes comfortably eating, studying and socializing. While construction crews have been making progress on the project, it was a special privilege for everyone witnessing this progress from the outside of the gated mystery, to have a chance at contributing to the effort by adding a personal and physical touch.

POLICE FILES

A locker without a lock
At 3:05 p.m. on Oct. 19, a complainant came to the Oakland University Police Department to file a larceny report. The student stated that she put her backpack in a hallway locker outside Hannah Hall at 10:00 a.m. but did not put a lock on it. At 11:15 a.m. she returned to her locker and noticed that her wallet containing a visa debit and credit card, a \$50 Best Buy gift card, a \$200 American Express gift card, her driver's license and \$2 cash was missing. She stated that there was a suspicious female talking to her when she put her backpack in her locker, and she said that if she saw her again that she would contact OUPD.

Half of a gallon
OUPD dispatch received a transfer call from the Oakland County Police Department dispatch at 2:44 a.m. on Oct. 14 in regards to an underage female that was drunk and throwing up blood. The officers found her and a male sitting in the grass near a parking lot. The female was lying on the ground with her upper body supported by the male, her shirt covered in vomit and a gallon zip-lock bag next to her almost half filled with vomit. Unable to fully open her eyes, keep her head stationary, or tell officers where her ID was, she was transferred to Crittenton Hospital. The male stated that he knew her from a class and that he showed up to a party half way through and she was already throwing up in the bathroom. She was not issued an MIP due to the state of her intoxication.

Serial hugger
OUPD dispatch received a call on Oct. 14 from a subject stating that she was inappropriately hugged by a white male wearing cargo shorts and a University of Michigan t-shirt while walking away from Oak View Hall. An officer observed a white male walking by the Matthews Court Apartments slowing down to make contact with a group of people, asking if they wanted a hug. All members of the group said "no." The officer made contact with the individual and asked if he had tried to hug or make contact with anyone at OVH, which he denied. He was advised that there was a subject who had stated otherwise and told he needs to receive consent before hugging anyone. The subject stated that he understood and the scene was cleared without incident.

Compiled by Mary Siring,
Staff Reporter

Classifieds

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The OU-AAUP is awarded in arbitration

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

An arbitrator's opinion and award was released on Oct. 11 regarding the more than yearlong arbitration between Oakland University and the Oakland University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (OU-AAUP).

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, chosen by Oakland, was the

third-party responsible for reviewing the grievance filed by the OU-AAUP on Sept. 29, 2016, for awarding the OU-AAUP as the winning party.

"This grievance was ultimately about respecting an employee," said Kenneth Mitton, immediate past president of the OU-AAUP and associate professor of biomedical sciences.

The arbitration revolved around the 2015-2020 agreement regarding merit pay between the two parties, which the OU-AAUP said Oakland had violated.

This agreement outlines the plan and timeline toward the switch to OU professors' yearly raise depending solely on merit. The beginning stages were implemented in 2015, with separate rubrics for each department through which professors are rated based on a one through five scale.

The dean of each school then reviews the submissions and has the opportunity to change the scores as he or she sees fit, as long as the reasoning is relayed to each professor so they have a chance to argue their point. Those who receive a five get the highest percentage raise.

The OU-AAUP filed three grievances after the first year of this agreement, which made up the attribution.

The grievance was that Oakland awarded several professors from both the nursing and English departments with zeros as their merit score as a result of their reports not being submitted, which led to no merit pay increase.

The arbitrator determined that the agreement did not state there would be consequences for unsubmitted reports, nor did it state a score of zero was an option.

The second issue was whether there was a violation of paragraph 80c of the contract, which contains the language on deans' ability to change scores paired with the requirement that professors receive the right to appeal.

The second and third grievances were connected, with the latter dealing on whether there was a violation of paragraph 80d of the contract. This states that if Oakland wants to change more than 20 percent of a department's scores, they can be sent back for reconsideration provided they are accompanied by the sug-

gested change.

The OU-AAUP claimed the violation with these two sections was through scores being sent back for reconsideration without suggested changes, followed by the professors then not being alerted to when their second attempt at scores were being changed.

The arbitrator determined that Oakland was not following 80c when employing 80d, and that it should not be an either/or scenario. Both the university and OU-AAUP agreed that suggested changes had not been sent out in accordance with 80d, and the arbitrator deemed that a violation of the agreement as well.

As a result of the arbitration, Oakland will be required to pay back the professors who had received a zero, with a 0.5 percent increase, equal to a score of one, as well as provide feedback on the scores to allow for the right to appeal going forward.

"Arbitration awards are binding on both parties, so the University intends to implement the arbitrator's decision," said Joi Cunningham, assistant vice president of Academic Human Resources at OU.

Around 500 PROFESSORS at OU fall under the 2015-2020 Agreement on merit pay.

A SECOND SET OF GRIEVANCES on the 2015-2020 Agreement were FILED BY THE OU-AAUP, and litigation is ongoing.

The OU-AAUP typically files only 2-3 GRIEVANCES A YEAR.

Career Service's host annual etiquette dinner

Katerina Mihailidis
Staff Reporter

Dinner is not just for dates. With Career Services, dinner is also for connecting with potential employers.

More than 100 students and around 15-20 alumni were registered for this year's event. All attendees had to register in advance in order to attend.

According to Kaitlyn Barbas, the marketing and events coordinator for Career Services, the office has been organizing the etiquette dinner for the past four years to give students the opportunity to form a professional network.

"It's a good hybrid, where [students] are learning a lot about things that they'll utilize once they exit the university, and when they get into their professional role," Barbas said.

The professional development event had four main sponsors: the Oakland University Credit Union, Quicken Loans, Sedgwick and PWC. Other companies and employers that attended were American Axle Manufacturing, Enterprise Holding, RCO Engineering, LHP Engineering and CPI contract professionals.

Some departments at Oakland

also sponsored the event. Attendees sat at tables with employers and showcased their skills throughout the evening.

Prior to attending the event, the employers were given the option of selecting the students that would be seated at their tables based on major and/or GPA, according to Barbas. The employers sponsored the selected students seated at their tables and paid for their dinner.

"We also ask the students which [employers] they prefer to sit with," Barbas said. "We try to sit students with the top two choices... that they prefer," she added.

According to Barbas, the dinner is not necessarily a recruiting event but "you never know what's going to happen."

Callista Gould, a certified etiquette instructor and keynote speaker for the event gave attendees tips on professional introductions, elevator talk and conversation starters.

Gould encouraged students to be their "imperfect, vibrant selves" to network and go after opportunities instead of just applying for jobs from home.

"People think etiquette is about

conformity," Gould said. "It's really about knowing what to do so your personality can shine through, so you can be yourself."

Networking was from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. where attendees walked throughout the room and applied Gould's advice speaking to their peers and various employers.

Then, attendees sat to enjoy a three-course dinner from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., brought to the event by Chartwells, all the while Gould continued her interactive lecture.

Gould's instructions also touched on manners at the dinner table. Those instructions include proper use of silverware while sharing entertaining stories of professional dinners "gone bad."

The etiquette dinner was an opportunity, according to OU student Jordyn Bailey who attended the dinner for the first time.

Bailey said that the guest speaker taught her how to eat properly in a professional environment.

"We don't always realize what we're doing or what we're saying," Bailey said. "Many things people do may unintentionally come across as wrong to an employer or interviewer"

ETIQUETTE TIPS

Shake their **HAND**. Keep **EYE CONTACT**. Give them your **NAME** and tell them what you are **PRESENTLY DOING**. Tell them about **WHAT YOU HAVE DONE** in the past and what **YOUR GOALS** are for the future. **END** the conversation with presenting a **SPECIFIC MEMORABLE SKILL** and then say, "it was nice to meet you."



Nicole Morsfield / The Oakland Post

Faculty sits down with students to dine, network and teach how to display manners while dining with employers.

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Christianity and Racism

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Christianity's supposed commitment to brotherly and sisterly love has not precluded a long history of complicity with racism. In this lecture, Dr. Mills will look at this depressing history and what we can learn from it for the task of building a better future more congruent with Christian ideals.

Reception to follow

Admission is free, but reservations are requested.

To reserve your space, call (248) 370-3390
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oakland.edu/phil



CHARLES W. MILLS is a distinguished professor of philosophy at the CUNY Graduate Center. He did his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto and previously taught at the University of Oklahoma, the University of

Illinois at Chicago and Northwestern University. He works in the general area of oppositional political theory, with a particular focus on race. He is the author of more than one hundred journal articles, book chapters, comments and replies, and six books: *The Racial Contract* (1997), *Blackness Visible: Essays on Philosophy and Race* (1998), *From Class to Race: Essays in White Marxism and Black Radicalism* (2003), *Contract and Domination* (with Carole Pateman) (2007), *Radical Theory, Caribbean Reality* (2010) and *Black Rights/White Wrongs: The Critique of Racial Liberalism* (2017). In 2017, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the first black philosopher in the history of the organization to be elected under the category of philosophy.

phil-17319/9.17

ABOUT RICHARD J. BURKE (1932-2012)

As the first faculty member hired at Oakland University, Richard Burke watched OU evolve from promising beginnings to a present day filled with possibility. To help bring those possibilities to fruition, he established the annual Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society.

Jazz concert celebrates influential musicians

Professor Sean Dobbins will lead the student band in tribute to Ella Fitzgerald

Katerina Mihailidis
Staff Reporter

Special lecturer Sean Dobbins will direct the Oakland University Jazz Band in its next performance, featuring artists Regina Carter and Thornetta Davis.

Carter, OU's artist-in-residence, is a jazz violinist born with the passion to perform and to share her music with others, she said.

With that love and passion for sharing music, Carter said she tries to convey her own feelings and intent to her audience with every piece of her music.

Carter graduated from OU, and said she benefited from watching great artists perform on campus when she was a student. The artists worked with the students and played music with them,

"It's important to come, to reach back and to help educate and to share the music with younger students and they'll do the same thing," she said.

Carter comes back to OU twice a

year and always enjoys working with the students and watching the campus grow.

Carter said she appreciates having the chance to share the music she plays with younger musicians and people that are not familiar with America's classical music. She loves watching people's faces when they hear that music live.

"There's definitely a difference in hearing the music live than hearing it on the recording," she said.

Carter was chosen by OU Jazz Band director Dobbins because of her recent tribute project to Ella Fitzgerald, named "Ella: Accentuate the Positive."

The concert is a tribute to Fitzgerald, one of the greatest jazz vocalists, and Stuff Smith, a great jazz violinist. Working together for the first time, Carter and Davis will bring a memorable performance to OU, in collaboration with OU Jazz Band, in tribute to Fitzgerald and Smith.

"[Fitzgerald's] way of singing and

her music had a way of really touching people," Carter said. "It's a celebration to Ella. This is her 100th birthday, so it's a big year for her," she said.

Davis, a jazz vocalist who loves to sing and perform for the people who enjoy music, was chosen by Sean Dobbins to evoke the soul and bring back the spirit of Fitzgerald, according to Dobbins.

Davis recently released an album called "Honest Woman," and in 2015 was named "Detroit's Queen of the Blues."

The OU jazz band has been rehearsing for the concert since the beginning of the fall semester, Dobbins said.

According to him, "the students' preparation and the students' dedication was key."

The students come in prepared every week and don't miss rehearsals.

"They want to own the success in the concert and that's major. Watching them demand the best out of each other and themselves," Dobbins said. "We

wanted, most importantly, a memorable performance, something that people can look back on.

"I hope when [attendees] leave the concert that they felt that we paid an honorable tribute to Ella Fitzgerald and Thornetta Davis," he added. "I also would like people to walk away and understand how serious we are about jazz at Oakland University and how serious we are about our whole MTD program."

Carter encourages everyone to escape the craziness of the world, come appreciate the music and celebrate Ella.

"Enjoy the music, enjoy the love, the togetherness that we all bring into the music, keep your open minds about the arts [and] always support live music," Davis said.

Oakland University's Jazz Band is performing Nov. 2 in Varner Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 and can be purchased at the ticket booth in Varner or online. For more information visit mtd@oakland.edu.

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Sunset Terrace is set to have a full makeover

The mid-century home that was owned by Alfred and Matilda Dodge will be fully renovated

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

After looking the same since the 1990s, Sunset Terrace is planned for both system and cosmetic renovations this year.

Changes will be on energy efficiency and updating the popular venue space. It is currently used as housing for Oakland University's presidents.

The mid-century modern home was inspired by the prairie school-style houses created by American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. It was commissioned by Matilda and Alfred Wilson, who lived in the house from 1953 to 1962, when Alfred Wilson died.

"The Wilsons wanted to simplify their life by downsizing from Meadow Brook Hall's 88,000 square feet to Sunset Terrace's 12,500 square feet," said Geoffrey Upward, the executive director at Meadow Brook Hall. "At the time they began construction, they were close to 70

years old." The house has not stood stagnant all this time, updates have been made to the house over the years as well as preventative maintenance.

"Previous presidents have been frugal," said Patricia Engle, the associate vice president of Facilities Management. "They would take care of other campus buildings before we would take care of the house."

The current renovation taking place will replace some original systems while also refreshing cosmetic elements. Many of the systems at Sunset Terrace are original, such as the two air handlers on the second floor. Right now, changing from air conditioning to heat and vice versa involves 10 to 12 steps from the home's inhabit. The boilers are being replaced as well.

Along with system updates, the interior of the house is also receiving some updates. The walls will be painted and the flooring will be

replaced. "We're removing things like asbestos tile," Engle said. "It's from the fifties, everyone loved that stuff back then."

One goal of the renovation is to make the home a vibrant part of the campus community again.

"Right outside, if you drive out, on the road by it you can see the apple trees that were Matilda Wilson's," Engle said. "If you liked the music at Meadow Brook, you could just sit in the backyard. It's got the best seats in the house... Previous presidents have used it for entertaining. Especially at the end of the term, when student groups are leaving."

The interior of the house also holds historical motifs from the Wilsons' and Oakland's history.

"The open staircase leading to the second floor was embellished with glass panels mounted to a brushed aluminum rail," Upward said. "Etched into each panel were depictions of some of the Wilsons' horses, dogs and their private



Courtesy of Meadow Brook Hall / The Oakland Post

The renovations will completely change how the historical home will look. plane, Bluebird."

Although the purpose is to modernize the home, the historical feel will be maintained.

"We don't knock out walls," Engle said. "We try to keep it the way it was from when Matilda Wilson moved out. Even some of the fur-

niture that is original is staying in the house... Right now, I'm doing the things that homeowners do to save money, makes it look nice and makes it more usable for her," said Engle. "It's just cool, it's heritage."

The renovations are planned to be completed in the spring of 2018.

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SBA16542/9.17

OU EMBRACES THE HALLOWEEN SPIRIT

Design by Aujene Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

Although Halloween is traditionally geared toward children, Oakland University students have no problem embracing their inner child for the festive holiday.

According to Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities (CSA), it's common for students to even attend class in costumes.

Several on-campus celebrations were held last week. The festivities will continue into this week with Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, a popular holiday in the Spanish-speaking world, on Nov. 2 in the Oakland Center. In addition to the opportunity for cultural immersion, the celebration will include crafts, food and Aztec dancers.

Last week's events, however, were much more Americanized and focused specifically on traditional Halloween celebrations.

On Friday, Oct. 27, the CSA held its "Hallo-Friday" costume party. The event served as the fall semester International Night for international students on campus. During the party, there were a variety of traditional Halloween foods and beverages including candy, cider, donuts and even a popcorn bar. There was also a costume contest during which participants had the opportunity to win a shopping spree to the OU Bookstore.

However, Miller said the most important aspect was the immersive experience for international students at the family-oriented event.

"We want the international students to enjoy an American holiday because Halloween's become one of the biggest, outside of maybe Christmas," she said. "It's part of American culture. There's not a religious connotation to it, even though that was the origin of it. It's very secular in terms of how it is celebrated, which is good, because I know some people have some concerns related to the origins of it."

The event was directly followed by an "IT"-themed Zombie Walk, hosted by the Residence Hall Association (RHA). The Zombie Walk is an annual event during which volunteers will dress up in costume and scare students on a trail in the woods near Meadow Brook Hall.

This year, the tenaciously inconvenient Michigan weather prevented the Zombie Walk from being held outside due to rain conditions, forcing the RHA to relocate the event into East Vandenberg Hall.

According to Kristine Allor, president of the RHA, the event involved 46 student volunteers and was still just as spooky despite the weather—but only for students who were brave enough.

"People are guided on a tour, and with those guides, you're going to either have a red glow stick or a yellow glow stick," she said. "Red meaning you'd like to be scared, yellow meaning you don't want to be scared. So, you can still go through and see what everyone's dressed as, but nobody's going to jump out at you."

This year, in light of the Zombie Walk's theme, cleverly titled "IT's Here," clowns and ghosts were added to the list of creepy guests. Students were also greeted by characters from the film, including Georgie and the terrifying clown Pennywise himself. The theme has potentially opened the doors for different characters in the future.

"Who knows? Maybe a new Halloween character might come out within the next couple years," Allor said. "They'll probably do a 'Zombie Walk Presents...' of that."

Other Halloween-themed events geared toward residents included "Haunted Halls," a pumpkin decorating contest and a movie screening in the Vandenberg glass rooms on Halloween night.

Don't get too scared, we don't all float down here at Oakland.

HORROR MOVIES IN THEATERS



Photos courtesy of IMDb

Graphics by
Prakhy Chikuri
Graphics Assistant

Story by Trevor Tyle,
Staff Reporter



Student Org Profile: French Club

Tabling events are held every other week located near Au Bon Pain for students to participate in practicing French



Photo courtesy of the French Club

This student led organization invites peers to join and participate in learning about French culture. It is composed of 119 members, and meetings take place every week.

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

France is known as the nation of romance, but Saloni Shama uses the language to unwind and make new friends.

"It's a nice way to relax and hang out [with] other students after a busy week of classes," she said. "I have made many friends here that I wouldn't have met otherwise."

The French club is an organization that aims to share the French language and culture with the community at Oakland University. Shama, the president of the club, sat down with The Oakland Post to talk about what the club entails, upcoming events and the most exciting part about being a part of the organization.

"It provides a casual and enjoyable environment for students to meet similar individuals interested in learning about French culture," she said. "Students get a chance to learn more about what French and Francophone culture entails besides baguettes and the Eiffel Tower."

The organization, which consists of 119 members, holds weekly meetings where they discuss topics such as French food, music and art. Sharma said the most exciting part

of being a part of the organization is meeting students from all levels interested in learning French.

"Every other week we have Table Française, the French conversation group, inside Au Bon Pain for students who would like to practice speaking and listening to French with other students," Sharma said.

As for upcoming events, Sharma said the club will be having a Detroit Institute of Arts trip on Nov. 17 to check out the Claude Monet exhibition at the museum. Monet is known for his landscape paintings that give the audience a slice of France.

The group will also be holding a study day before final exams begin for any students that may have questions or would like to study for French class exams.

"Anyone is welcome to join, whether they have taken a French course before or if they are interested in learning about French culture or merely enjoy eating French food," Sharma said. "There is no requirement to know any French to attend our meetings or events."

Sharma said the most exciting part of being a part of the organization is meeting students from all levels interested in learning French.

For more information, visit the French Club's Grizz Orgs page.

Recent controversy dressing Melania Trump

Katerina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Just as Hollywood actresses have to make the rounds for awards season, being First Lady of the United States means having to be appropriately dressed for numerous dinners, charity engagements and political trips.

Although First Lady Melania Trump has been seen in a series of designer looks from Ralph Lauren to Michael Kors during her first months in the role, unlike a A-list actresses, President Donald Trump is reportedly footing the bill as multiple designers have refused to dress the first lady.

"I think Melania is a very beautiful woman and I think any designer should be proud to dress her... I don't think people should become political about it. Everyone was very happy to dress Michelle [Obama] as well. I think they look great in the clothes."

Tommy Hilfiger
Fashion designer

With a number of designers like Tom Ford, Zac Posen, Sophie Theallet and Marc Jacobs publicly acknowledging post-election that they won't be dressing the current First Lady, other designers such as Tommy Hilfiger, Thom Browne, and Diane Von Furstenberg have been more supportive as they believe that they owe Melania Trump the respect that she deserves and the symbolism of the First Lady should be accounted for.

In a public statement supporting Melania Trump, Tommy Hilfiger stated, "I think Melania is a very beautiful woman and I think any designer should be proud to dress her... I don't think people should become political about it. Everyone was very happy to dress Michelle [Obama] as well. I think they look great in the clothes."

Diane Von Furstenberg has publicly expressed post-election that Donald Trump was elected as pres-

ident, and therefore, the First Lady deserves the respect of any First Lady before her. Furstenberg has also explained that her role as a designer in the fashion industry is to promote inclusiveness, and within that role designers need to lead by example in willingly dressing Melania Trump.

Marcus Wainwright, head designer of Rag & Bone, also spoke out about being willing to dress the First Lady. Wainwright explained that it would be hypocritical to say no to dressing Melania Trump because the brand is about inclusivity and building a better future for American manufacturing. This mentality ultimately led the company to putting the First Lady ahead of personal political beliefs.

Marc Jacobs certainly didn't hide his feelings about dressing the First Lady when publicly stating, "I have no interest whatsoever in dressing Melania Trump. Personally, I'd rather put my energy into helping out those who will be hurt by Trump and his supporters."

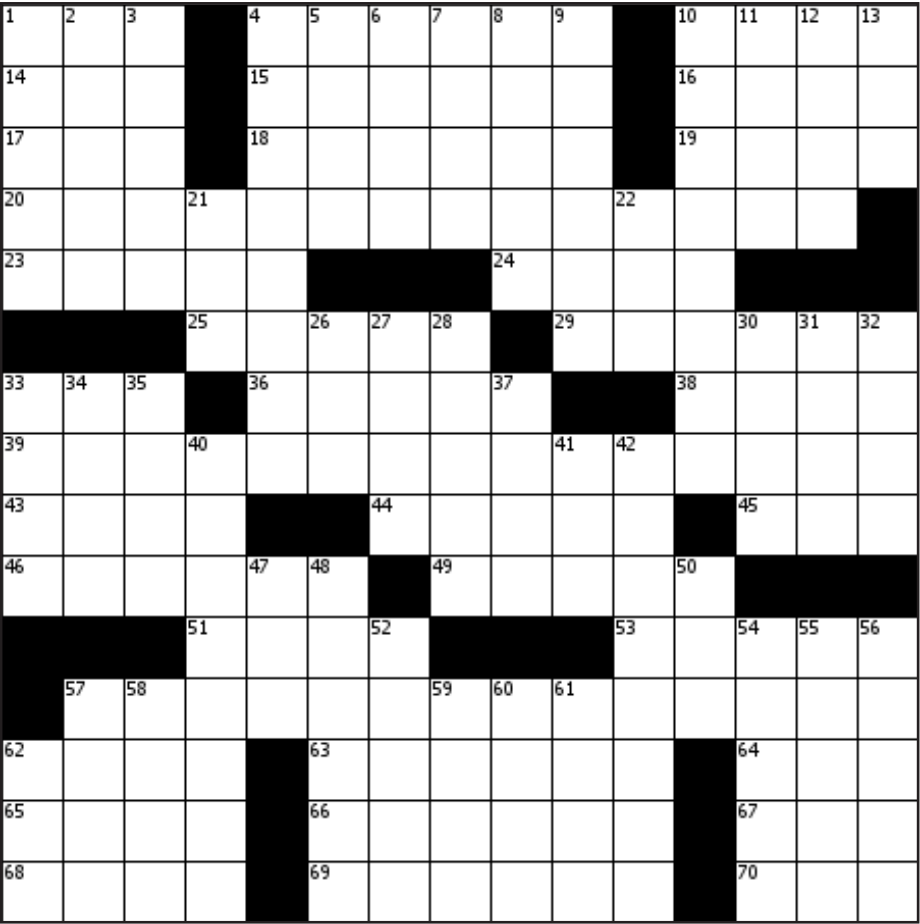
Melania Trump's position doesn't come with a clothing allowance, and no, taxpayers don't pay for the items in her closet either. The Trumps are expected to pay for clothing out of pocket, which looks like the First Lady's future for the time being.

As designers have voiced their reluctance to dress the new First Lady, many fashion industry professionals have spoken out and said that designers should keep their personal opinions out of the political realm and not pass judgment on people, such as Melania Trump.

Is checking a public figure's ethical or political beliefs before dressing them setting up a dynamic that feeds the exact mentality that prevents our nation from moving toward inclusivity and acceptance? Should personal feelings and satisfaction be put aside out of respect for the symbolism of the first lady? Or is refusal to dress Melania Trump a form of patriotism in and of itself?

As the political and fashion worlds have begun to collide and designers have brought the two industries into the same realm, these are questions that must be considered.

Puzzles



Across

1. Red hat, sometimes
4. Kind of voyage
10. Absence of turbulence
14. Emotion of anger
15. Like a quick study
16. Operatic air
17. Crux
18. Nothing at the Vatican
19. E-mail button
20. Letter from the editor (Part 1)
23. Supply with workers
24. Appear to be
25. Nerd's cousin
29. Conveyed ownership
33. Stick one's nose into
36. African lilies
38. Icy coating
39. Letter from the editor (Part 2)
43. Gaming regulation
44. In an upright position
45. On the wagon
46. Devon's capital
49. Apian gathering
51. Pierce with a point
53. At pique's peak
57. Letter from the editor

(Part 3)

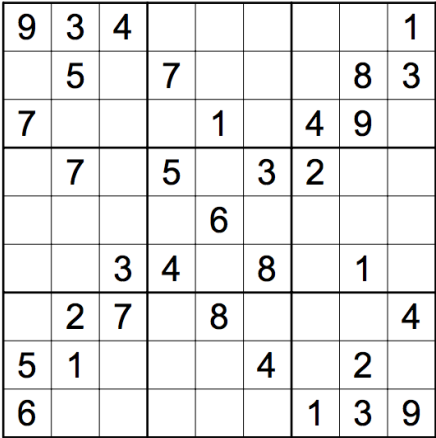
62. Clothier Strauss
63. Seat of County Kerry
64. Genetic messenger
65. Came in for a landing
66. Annapolis graduate
67. Reward for waiting?
68. Eighty-eight, for one
69. Put on the bulletin board again
70. One or eleven

Down

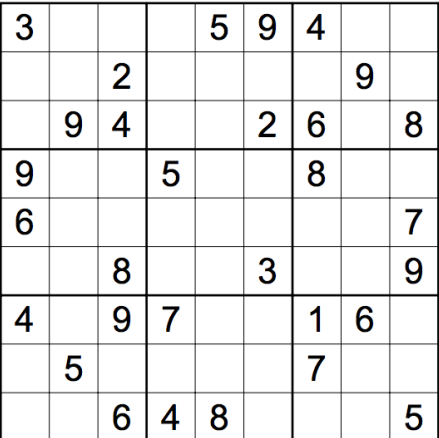
1. Conclusion, in a score
2. Spew lava
3. Maned animal
4. Naval combat unit
5. "Yeah, like that'll ever happen"
6. Road in old Rome
7. Sand formation
8. Jones, James and Kett
9. Required
10. Sweater material
11. 51, for one
12. Pocket residue
13. "___ About You"
21. It's common in poetry
22. Teeny

26. Yale student
27. Routine learning
28. Equals
30. Bought the farm
31. Islamic VIP
32. Resist, as authority
33. Funeral fire
34. Sauce thickener
35. Festive log
37. Mulligan fare
40. Divers' attire
41. Mozart's "L___ del Cairo"
42. Clamorous
47. Greek letter
48. One on a tirade
50. "___ Doubtfire"
52. David of The Talking Heads
54. Main bloodline
55. Toga alternative
56. Military stop
57. Sidelines cheer
58. "Art of Love" poet
59. Type of waist
60. Mixed bag
61. Bylaws, briefly
62. "7 Faces of Dr. ___" (1964 movie)

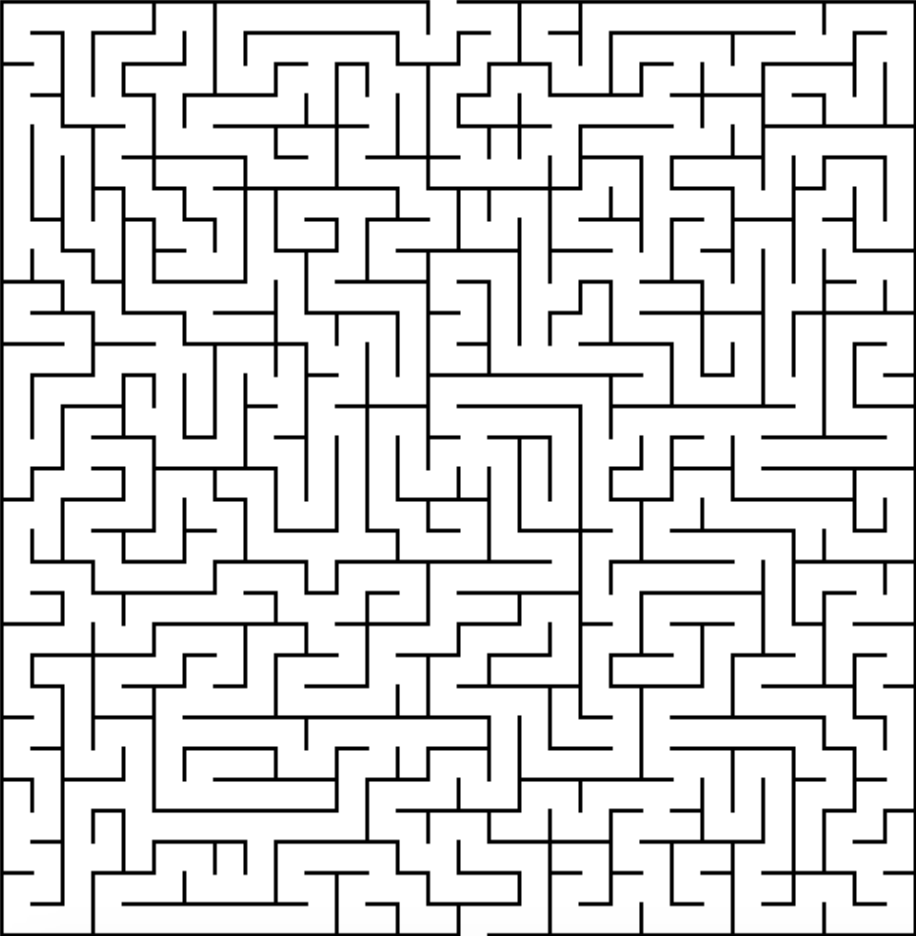
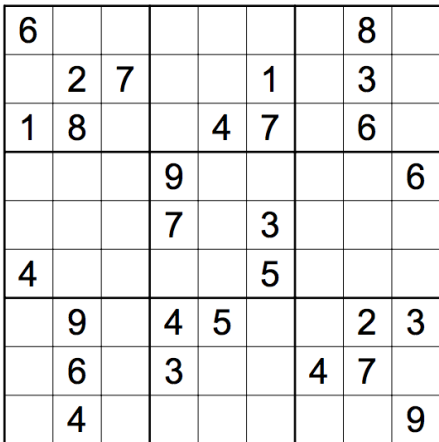
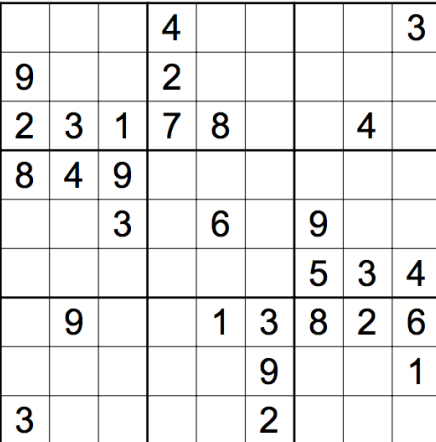
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



Catalonia declares independence from Spain

EU remains quiet while Spanish authorities begin to seize control from the regional government



John Bozick
Web Editor

The crisis in Spain finally reached its boiling point last Friday after the Catalan Parliament voted in favor of officially declaring independence from the rest of Spain,

choosing to instead become an independent republic.

The vote, which saw Catalonia Socialist party completely walk out, passed with 70 votes in favor for independence and 10 votes against. While the walk out of the socialist party raises issues about the validity of the vote, the separatist party however, still has a clear majority in the votes that were counted.

The Spanish government reacted to this gesture by firing the regional government and the head of the local police force to attempt seizing control of the region. The regional government was formally stripped of its powers and responsibilities Saturday after Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont and his cabinet were formally removed from power.

In a statement to his people after Spanish authorities

moved to assert control of the region Puigdemont stated, "We must do so resisting repression and threats, without ever abandoning, at any time, civic and peaceful conduct."

Some 200,000 Catalan civil servants have already said they will not accept any orders from Madrid and activists have already called on human chains to be formed to protect these officials. Yet, despite this, there are many in Barcelona that do not agree with the regional government's decision to declare independence.

Barcelona saw close to 300,000 people gather for a pro-spain rally, showing how divided the catalan population is on the issue of independence. Organized by the pro-unity group Societat Civil Catalana, the group said that turnout was close to over 1 million people, but local authori-

ties said the turnout was much lower.

The crisis in Catalonia puts considerable strain on the European Union. While Catalonia seeks entry into the EU, Spain would still hold veto over its membership, as every nation in the Union must vote to allow Catalonia to join. However, in order to be eligible for EU membership Catalonia would need some backing by some of the world's powers, a move that seems unlikely to happen.

"Maybe some countries like North Korea or Venezuela will recognize this independence, but no EU state will," said French legal expert Jean-Claude Pirié, a former advisor to the EU council.

While the EU has remained mostly quiet on the issue, President of the EU council, Donald Tusk, said nothing will change after Catalonia's declaration of

independence.

Tusk says that the EU will continue to only talk through Spain, he also urged both sides to talk instead of resorting to violence.

On the other side of the pond, the U.S. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert stated, "Catalonia is an integral part of Spain, and the United States supports the Spanish government's constitutional measures to keep Spain strong and united."

As Spain moves to exert more control over the region, the coming weeks will be the deciding factor of whether or not the crisis devolves into something far worse. Not only does Catalonia scare the already fractured EU, but it raises the possibility of a crisis far worse forming in the the region that has already seen financial ruin and a refugee crisis.

How Martin Luther relates to the 1st Amendment

On the 500th anniversary of the 95 Theses, it is important to remember the power of our freedom of speech



Isaac Martin
Political Contributor

Yesterday marked an important anniversary in western history. 500 years ago on Oct. 31, 1517, one professor in Medieval Europe started a discussion at his home university. Because he refused to be bludgeoned into changing his convictions, the trouble-making

scholar was forced to assume a false identity and live the life of a secluded exile for fear of his life.

The man: Martin Luther. His convictions? We know his radical act as the 95 Theses.

No shortage of controversy has swirled around Luther though he has been dead for over 400 years. Nevertheless, it is fitting to remember his life today and in our era of hyper-sensitive politics, we can gain greater perspective for a brighter tomorrow by examining him.

Though he is better known as an Augustinian monk, Luther also held a doctorate and taught at the university of Wittenberg. Basically, his contention in the 95 Theses was that everyone stands as guilty convicts before God. No amount of good deeds we do could ever change our status.

Luther's contention (and

traditional Christianity's) was that only Jesus can put someone in good stead with God; this was done when he took all the punishment that you and I deserve. This message irked those in power to such a degree that they hunted after Luther, forcing him to disguise himself as a knight named Junker Jörg and live in a friend's castle for a year.

In Luther's day, free speech was about as common as an African swallow: If you taught contrary to the state supported church, the state could punish you as a heretic.

Today, a similar hostility toward free speech has cropped up across our country. This gradual antagonism is perhaps epitomized in the Supreme Court. Over the past 50 years, it has grown increasingly cold toward free speech, effectively banning

certain displays of historical documents, severely infringing upon the freedom of expression of large segments of America, and even suppressing honest intellectual inquiry within public schools. All these actions were done to enforce a "Separation of Church and State" under an incomplete understanding of Luther's era.

In his day, the state often acted the part of "Big Brother" to the church, meddling in its affairs. One could only go to the state sanctioned church, attendance to that Church was often compulsory, and the government frequently executed those whose convictions differed from that of the state-approved church (think Spanish Inquisition).

That's why Luther had to duck after he refused to recant at the Diet of Worms—he hadn't just disagreed

with the Catholic Church, he had defied the Holy Roman Empire. This is why the First Amendment and Jefferson's often misquoted letter were written: to ensure one's conscience could be protected against "Big Brother."

If there is one thing that we may learn from Luther, than there are really two things to learn from the intrepid friar. First, stand for what you know to be the truth though the entire world oppose you. The second lesson is similar—we ought to beware the element in us and our leaders that shouts down those who see differently than us.

If we may learn these two lessons from Luther, walking in His steps, the 21st century reformation may be just around the corner.

Questions? Comments about Luther or his beliefs? The author would love to hear from you at johnqwilberforce@gmail.com!

“Suburbicon” is everything it should not be

Trevor Tyle
Staff Reporter

George Clooney may be one of Hollywood’s leading men, but the actor-turned-director’s new film “Suburbicon” is a far cry from a great movie.

First and foremost, I should clarify that I didn’t hate “Suburbicon.” In fact, I actually found it relatively entertaining. But to go as far as to say I enjoyed the gory directionlessness of this film would be a bit of a stretch. When the credits started rolling, it was nearly impossible to imagine this film would actually appeal to many moviegoers.

As the title implies, the film takes place in Suburbicon, a fictional town in the 1950s inhabited by a bunch of condescending, delusional racists ignorant to their community’s own blatant imperfections. Within the film’s first minute the new neighbors, a black family, have become the victim of town gossip and public scrutiny. Despite this, racism isn’t even the film’s main conflict

nor is the issue of racism even remotely resolved by the film’s conclusion.

The narrative quickly shifts focus to the family of Gardner Lodge (Matt Damon). Gardner lives with his disabled wife Rose, and sister-in-law Margaret (both portrayed by Julianne Moore) as well as their son Nicky (Noah Jupe). After a home invasion leaves his wife dead and his son emotionally scarred, Gardner decides to have Margaret come live with the family, the first of the family’s many changes for the worst.

While most of the performances in the film are decent, few are particularly standout. Damon and Moore are both fine in their respective roles, but neither one of them feel even remotely new. Moore can only play so many secretly psycho characters before it gets old, while the questionable intentions of Damon’s leading role feel equally familiar. If you think those are spoilers, don’t watch the trailer—you’ll have the movie figured out before

it’s even halfway over.

The real stars of this film are Jupe and Oscar Isaac. The former, only 13-years-old, is fantastic in his portrayal of Nicky—who, to put it simply, is probably the only sane character in this entire film. Isaac plays a quick-witted insurance investigator who both steals the show and sums it up in his brief screen time—“something stinks.”

However, perhaps the largest issue with “Suburbicon” is the nauseating gore that plagues its final act. Whatever the message of the film is becomes distorted by the blood and guts that encapsulate its final 30 minutes, making films like “mother!” and “IT” look like a walk in the park.

Meanwhile, the aforementioned subplot of a black family victimized by the town’s insufferable racism serves as little more than a distraction and scapegoat for the true madness transpiring next door. While it’s poor storytelling on Clooney’s part, it delivers a powerful statement on white supremacy



Photo courtesy of IMDb

Released Oct. 27 “Suburbicon” directed by George Clooney is a Mystery/Thriller film starring Matt Damon and Julianne Moore.

and social injustice, which are themes that have been unfortunately misplaced in this film.

“Suburbicon” shouldn’t be completely dismissed, though. The cinematography is aesthetically pleasing, the film’s score is captivating and the storyline is surprisingly original.

Overall, “Suburbicon” is decent, but nothing more. De-

spite the film’s undeniable potential, it still falls flat.

Another film wrecked by pointlessly overlapping storylines, unresolved political agendas and merciless gore, “Suburbicon” has what it takes to be a great movie but settles for decency.

Rating: 3/5 stars

New film “All I See is You” requires a second watch

Protagonist Gina undergoes surgery receiving her vision and realizes that her marriage is not what she thought

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

Spoiler alert: This review contains plot spoilers.

The only thing I knew about “All I See is You” was that it starred Blake Lively and she was playing a woman who was blind. Oh and that she wore seven different outfits in one day (total Serena van der Woodsen move) while promoting the film. This act alone made me want to see it. But going into this movie, I didn’t know what to expect.

The film is about a woman named Gina who got into a car accident when she was a child with her parents. Her parents didn’t make it, but she and her sister did, although it left her with only 5 percent vision. As an adult, Gina is living with her husband James (Jason Clarke) in Bangkok.

One night, Gina gets a call from her

doctor that there was a last minute cancellation for corneal surgery. The next day, she undergoes the operation. Now that Gina can see through her right eye again, she’s slowly beginning to realize that her marriage isn’t really what she thought it was.

The film, directed by Marc Forster (“World War Z” and “Monster’s Ball”) was visually stunning. Each shot was beautifully captured, whether it was of one of Gina’s kaleidoscopic fantasies, a dead bird in the fridge or a carcass in the middle of nowhere. Even a close-up shot of a face can take the audience’s breath away. Every time Gina would meet someone or see something pre-surgery, the screen looked like a hazy, water-colored trance similar to what it looks like when someone just took a steamy shower and takes a peek in the mirror shortly after.

The plot was highly unpredictable, and there were definitely some unanswered questions as well as things that

just didn’t add up. This left me trying to put together the missing pieces and assume. Like any twisted movie there was a little symbolism too, which is always fun but also distracting because it leaves you to wonder what it all meant.

However, one thing we do know is that Lively’s performance was surely a strong and believable one. Playing a woman who is blind certainly is not an easy task to take on.

There were many questions left up to interpretation, which is exactly what I admired about the film. It felt like a work of art. I thought about it long after I saw it, which is when you know what you just watched was effective.

Even though critics didn’t have very nice things to say about the film, all I saw (I had to) was an alluring, twisted ride that was worth the watch, (and maybe a second watch just to make some sense out of it).

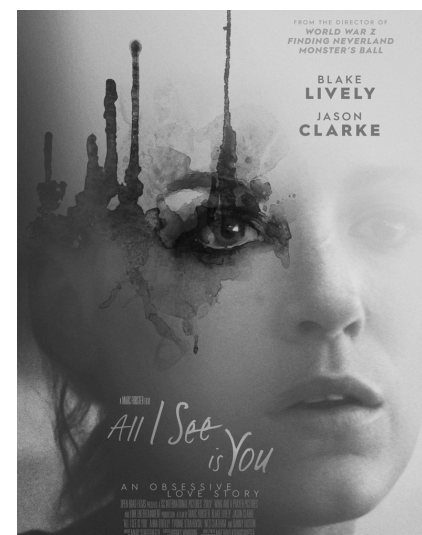


Photo courtesy of IMDb

“All I See Is You” is a rated R thriller/drama-film starring Blake Lively and Jason Clarke.

Rating: 3/5 Stars



Photo Illustration by Prakhya Chilukuri / The Oakland Post

Quitting smoking is not easy, but Simon Albaugh has alternatives that will help you live a better, healthier lifestyle.

Putting down the cigarettes

The only honest quit-smoking article you'll ever read

Simon Albaugh
Social Media Editor

I'm quitting smoking. Which means that I'm ornery, constantly hungry and I was almost arrested after calling a police officer who pulled me over what I had for dinner the night before (pork). But most importantly, I hate everyone.

So why is this a good thing? What does hacking up brown phlegm in the bathroom sink have to do with rejuvenation of the body? (Also, it's supposed to be brown, right?) Well there's a lot to say about this that science, and misguided but good-intentioned, articles online have already said. It's just good for you. You know why? I know why, my golden retriever knows why. I'm not wasting time on that one.

Instead, I'm just gonna tell you what to expect when you quit in buzzfeed-style listicle form:

Community support: Expect everyone to be super happy for you when they first hear about it. Then milk the absolute shit out of that, because for the next week they won't recognize your personality through the nicotine withdrawals.

The patch: A magical object that seems more important to me than what I imagine breastfeeding was like. I don't like it, but if I stick something on my arm and it suddenly becomes a thousand times easier to not kill myself in tube form, then I'll take it. It feels like cheating, but it also feels so good.

Cinnamon Sticks/suckers/cloves/pencils/Freud's Oral Fixation: I'm writing this article with a cinnamon stick in my mouth. They're bitter, but flavorful, kinda like cigarettes, but not near as terrible-smelling. You can hug your grandmother with a cinnamon stick in your mouth is what I'm trying to say.

Exercise: Get some. Get some damn exercise because chances are you're really unhealthy anyway. It makes quitting a lot easier, and replacing a wafting cloud of tobacco stench with six-pack abs isn't too bad for your dating situation either.

Water: You should've been drinking it anyway. But you're gonna want to drink a lot now. Chances are if you smoke a pack a day, you've probably smoked weed and rushed to

pass a drug test with a ton of water and peeing. Think of it like that. Get that nicotine out of you ASAP.

Replacing Nicotine: Yeah, it SEEMS like a good idea. But what happens if you replace cigarettes with soda? Instead of coughing, you get cankles. I know someone who replaced smoking cigarettes with smoking weed. Now he just smokes five joints a day (and the occasional cigarette). Do it right or don't do it at all. Unless you want to replace cigarettes with exercise, water and cinnamon sticks.

Nicotine gum: Never worked for me the five times I put all my faith into it and got nothing in return. Then again, maybe it wouldn't disappoint you. It's all about finding what works.

Irritability: Any girlfriend that can't deal with the worst you've got for three days isn't worth having around. If she's convinced you to quit, remember that she should be able to deal with those three days just as much as you should be able to.

Best of luck to all of you in your nicotine-free endeavors. I'm on day two of mine so pray for me y'all.

Why I chose to culturally appropriate white girls for Halloween this year

Stephen Armica
Satirist

A amateur cultural theorist Stephen Armica asked to publish his findings on the phenomena of cultural appropriation during Halloween in The Oakland Post. We didn't read it before we agreed to do it, so we would like to present to you our blatant mistake of an article.

Cultural appropriation is a big deal. It's stealing from a rich and beautiful culture and reducing it to its most basic stereotypes in either a negative or overly sexualized manner. This line of reasoning, which reduces complex ways of life to the most basic and trivial, needs to be recognized as harmful.

What is cultural appropriation? Well let's take, for example, the really hot blonde girl with the Pocahontas outfit and the average-looking Native American girl who's dressed in an elaborate customary Native American tunic made out of cow hide and decorated with paint made from inkberries.

Who do you think is gonna get hit on more? The one who knows that Thanksgiving is actually about killing Native Americans? No. It's the one with blonde hair and less imagination.

So I decided to go about this logic on the back end to help solve the problem. To combat debase-ment and trivialization, I had to figure out what was actually basic and trivial. Is it Starbucks in the left hand and iPhone in the right? Is it blonde hair, leather boots, leggings and a black vest? The answer to both of those questions is yes.

In the hopes of starting a movement, a la Arlo Guthrie, I went to a Halloween party wearing exactly that plus a self-grown mustache. And it was awkward.

At first, people didn't understand. Guys walked over trying to figure out, in their drunken stupor, whether they should hit on me or call me some derogatory term. And they didn't stop there.

People very much took offense to this. "I'm showing respect to this culture by showing my support," one person said in a Pocahontas costume and a push-up bra.

"What are you trying to say if you're just culturally appropriating regardless," said the blonde girl in a Pocahontas costume. "Aren't you just part of the problem then?"

And the answer to that, which I wish I could've thought of during that conversation but didn't, is that's the point. I'm trying to be part of the problem. I'm trying to oversexualize and debase the complexity of Facebook-induced catatonia, a developing addiction to caffeine and furry boots that are actually a lot more comfortable than you'd think.

I'm trying to take this complex system of coping with existence and satirize it so that it could be made into something that becomes almost meaningless to the people that actually live it. I'm trying to oversimplify the problems, the challenges, and the intellectual contributions that mark that group's position in the international community.

Mostly because they're just a bunch of basic white girls.



Photo Illustration by Erin O'Neill / The Oakland Post

Satirist Stephen Armica shares his thoughts on cultural appropriation.

Ireland's very own

Darcy Dulapa
Staff Reporter

Given the chance to pack up your suitcase, travel 3,452 miles away from home and fully immerse yourself in another culture all to further your education. Would you do it?

Dublin, Ireland's own Nadine Maher did and is proud of herself for doing so.

"I have always wanted to travel, and I have taken this opportunity to make it happen, along with playing a sport I love and getting a good education," Maher said. "I have always been interested in gaining life experiences and making memories, which made the decision for me to leave home easier."

Maher grew up playing Gaelic football, a game quite similar to rugby in the sense that you use both your hands and feet to try and get the oval shaped ball into the net.

Having such quick hands, Maher found herself as a wanted prospect by a number of universities in addition to Oakland. This was a difficult process for her, as she was unsure which route she should take. Maher explained the hardship in trying to determine which college to attend when it is out of the country.

She said often times, athletes in Ireland have trouble distinguishing if the coach they are communicating with is a legitimate coach or not. Oakland University made it clear who they were and that they were interested by traveling 3,452 miles to Maher in order to introduce themselves and watch her play a bit.

"I felt more comfortable meeting them a few times which made my decision to choose Oakland a little easier by knowing what my coaches were like," Maher said.

It wasn't until 2015 that she ventured over to the soccer realm. But because of her previous football talents, it was an easy transition. She is currently one of the starting goalies for Oakland University's women's soccer team.

"Coming into soccer, I had good hands so I was well able to catch a ball," she said.

When Maher was 16, she was called into the Irish U19 national camp for a trial run, the camp



Photo courtesy of Oakland Athletics

Maher is an Ireland native who currently plays goalie on the women's soccer team.

ran one week and they played two games during that time. Two months after that camp, she received an offer to play with the U17 national team, where she played for a year. They made it to the European finals, but were knocked out by France, who beat them 1-0. Maher explains this was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and it was one of the greatest experiences of her life.

When Maher goes back home, she participates in the Women's National League, where the winners of this league are qualified for the Women's Championship in England. She explains what a great opportunity it is for young Irish players to be scouted for the top clubs in England.

Maher was able to acclimate fairly well to living on campus. The only difficult aspect was being five hours behind her hometown, but she was able to get passed that after a month or so. She is able to talk to her family back home everyday and explains that has made this process a whole lot easier for her. Maher is also able to see her family twice a year around the holidays and summers as well as an additional visit when her family flies in.

Maher is pursuing a bachelor's of integrative studies, which gives students the opportunity to combine favorite classes and make a new degree. She chose exercise science and robotics because of her quest to help others.

"With this major, I aim to get my master's and a job working with athletes, building and designing new technology and rehabilitation machines to aid them in get-

ting better," Maher said. "I also would love to build robotic arms and legs to make some people's lives a little easier."

Since moving to America, Maher has seen a change in character.

"It has grown me into a better woman, made stand on my own two feet, and I have become much more independent and responsible while being here on my own," she said. "I am made to deal with problems that I come across on my own, no more going to my mammy for help," she laughed.

Maher said her teammates and their families have been phenomenal to her in the aspect that they have helped Michigan feel like a temporary home. They have taken her in as one of them and without that, she believes she would be lost.

When comparing Ireland's educational system to America's, Maher said one of the main differences is that the colleges in America have much more of a variety of majors, whereas in Ireland, they can only choose from a handful.

"There are both pros and cons for leaving Ireland to receive an education here," Maher said. "The benefits here are that there are a lot more variety of things to study, and college life here is a lot better than at home."

Maher plans on heading back home after she closes her educational chapter, but if the chance ever arose for her to stay and work, she surely would take that opportunity with arms wide open.

Inside the life of Kendrick Nunn

Dakota Brecht
Staff Intern

At just two years old, Kendrick Nunn had a basketball placed in his hands by his father Melvin and has never looked back. Nunn spent year after year working on his game, and with hard work and countless hours of practice he became one of the best to come out of the Chicago area.

Nunn attended Simeon Career Academy High School where he led his team to four consecutive state championships. In 2011, he won a gold medal in the The International Basketball Federation (FIBA) Americas under-16 championship playing for team USA. The following year he won gold again in the FIBA under-17 World Championship.

While he had originally committed to Texas A&M before the start of his junior year of high school, Nunn changed his mind and decommitted so he could attend the University of Illinois. During his three year stint at Illinois, Nunn averaged just over 28 minutes, 10.6 points

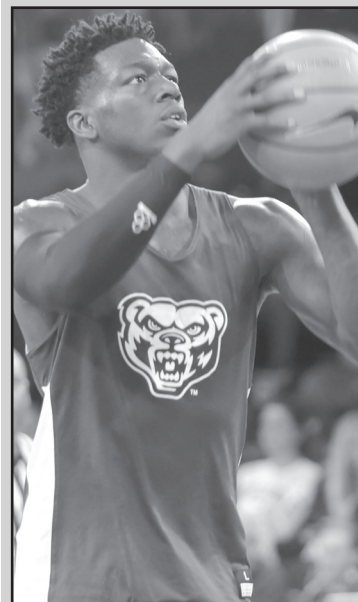


Photo courtesy of Oakland Athletics
Nunn previously played basketball at the University of Illinois, but transferred to Oakland University last year. He is now eligible to participate in the 2017-2018 basketball season.

and 3.3 rebounds a game. He was named to the Big Ten All-Freshman team in the 2013-14 season.

After his tour at Illinois, Nunn had a change of heart and decided to transfer to Oakland University. Nunn is excited to join the program and he believes they can make a real splash in not only the Horizon League, but the NCAA as a whole. He had to sit out the 2016-17 season due to NCAA transfer rules. It's a tough transition, but one that has been made easier by his teammates and coaches.

"Coach Kampe has been a big help with the transition," Nunn said. "We got a great group of guys here, they've helped me a lot and we're brothers."

With a surplus of playmakers for the Black and Gold this year, Nunn knows he will have to spread the ball around with other top scorers like Jalen Hayes and Martez Walker.

"I'm a natural scorer but I've been really working on my ball handling skills in the gym so I can take over the point position," he said. "We have a lot of playmakers on this team and we move the ball around well."

Some of the personal goals Nunn wants to accomplish as a Golden Grizzly are to win the Horizon League Player of the Year and to be First Team All Defense. With Oakland polling as the favorite to win the Horizon League and advance to the NCAA March Madness tournament, Nunn puts it upon himself to keep the guys focused on the ultimate goal.

"It's a real good program here and we play well together," he said. "We're angry, we want to build off of the last three years and be even more successful. Winning has made me a competitor and with all the guys we got here I know we can do the same."

With the start of the season right around the corner, Nunn along with the rest of the Golden Grizzlies are hungry and can't wait for their season opener on November 6, on the Blacktop at the O'rena.

Men's basketball takes on the Chippewas in hurricane relief game



Photo courtesy of Oakland Athletics

Golden Grizzlies took the win over the Chippewas scoring 108-88. All proceeds of the game will be donated to the areas affected by recent natural disasters.

Dakota Brecht
Staff Intern

The Golden Grizzlies squared off against the Central Michigan Chippewas on the Blacktop at the O'rena for an exhibition game that meant more than just basketball.

In past years both squads had ran a joint closed scrimmage, but after recent events both coaches decided to turn the game into a hurricane relief fundraiser with all of the proceeds going to people affected by these horrific natural disasters.

The Black and Gold got off to a hot start taking a 22-15 lead

halfway through the first half. Kendrick Nunn and Martez Walker both had great starts to the game. Oakland extended its lead to 58-39 by the time the half rolled around. Nunn had a fantastic first half as a Golden Grizzly, knocking down 22 points along with eight rebounds. As a team Oakland shot 22-32 from the field and 9-15 from three point range.

“It’s an honor to be here and to be playing in the Oakland jersey,” Nunn said. “This charity game was for a great cause and I’m glad people came out here to watch us play.”

Kendrick Nunn
Men’s basketball Guard

In the second half the Golden Grizzlies maintained dominance

over the Chippewas and brought its lead to 85-64 by the time the second half was 10 minutes deep. Oakland started to run away with the lead as the game came to a close. Nunn and Walker continued to lead the team all the way to the final buzzer.

It was an extreme show of offensive dominance by the Golden Grizzlies in this game as the team coasted to a smooth 108-88 win over Central Michigan.

Oakland was led by Nunn, who dropped an astounding 40 points in his Oakland debut and was just two assists shy of a triple-double. Brailen Neely led the team with 10 assists and Nunn was also strong on the glass leading the team with 10 rebounds.

Isaiah Brock had a great game as well adding eight points, nine rebounds and three blocks. An all around impressive win for the Golden Grizzlies.

The Black and Gold had four

separate players in double digits for points. Nunn, Walker Jalen Hayes and Nick Daniels.

“It’s an honor to be here and to be playing in the Oakland jersey,” Nunn said. “This charity game was for a great cause and I’m glad people came out here to watch us play.”

“It actually felt great, this summer I had to get my priorities together but just the feeling of being back out on the court and with the guys, they’re a great group of guys,” Brock added. “It was a noble cause and we’re out there playing, trying to give the fans a good show and the money is going towards people that need it.”

The Golden Grizzlies look ahead to another exhibition game on Thursday Nov. 2 against Rochester College. With the start of the season right around the corner these exhibition games serve as a great dress rehearsal before the big show.

Swim and Dive gears up for season

The teams looks forward to the Horizon League and welcomes new team member freshman Bernadette Turchi

Sadie Lyher
Staff Intern

Freshman Bernadette Turchi has joined the Oakland University women’s dive team this year and is making strides. Like the rest of her team, she’s ready to make an impression on the Horizon League this season.

“The main goal I’m working hard to achieve, is believing in myself and to get over my fear of doing new dives,” Turchi said.

The Golden Grizzlies have been first place in the Horizon League since 2014 and were first place in Summit League from 2008-2013. For most at the collegiate level, basketball and football tend to be the main focus of the student body. But other teams have been just as victorious.

“The competitions are both fun and intense,” Turchi said. “I of course get nervous especially because it’s my first year competing at a division one collegiate level, but at the end of the

day I get over it because diving is what I enjoy doing.”

“I look forward to every practice because I know I’ll get a laugh out of it or a funny new memory.”

Bernadette Turchi
Swim and dive team member

Throughout the Horizon League, the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee has been behind Oakland every year since joining the league.

Larry Albright is the head diving coach for the Golden Grizzlies and the 2017-18 season will be his 11th year as a diving coach. He coaches both the men’s and the womens diving teams and has won various awards for his coaching. Albright was awarded Horizon League Women’s Diving Coach of the Year for both 2014 and 2015; as well as the Men’s Diving Coach of the Year

during the 2016-17 season.

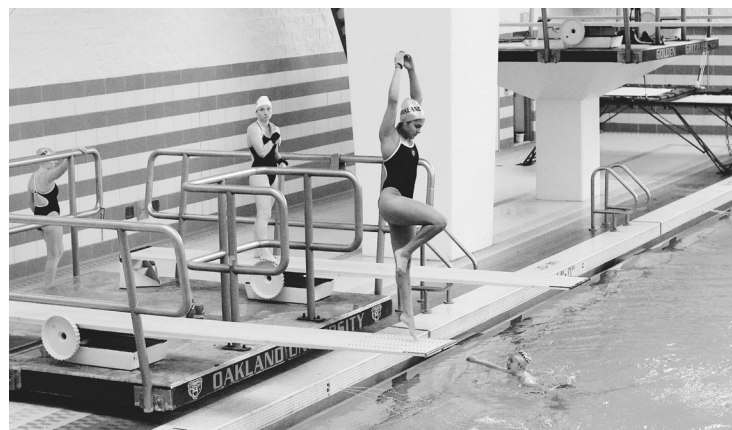
He has also coached and administered the Starz Diving Satellite Program and was responsible for coaching the techniques and mechanics of diving while also overseeing the strength and conditioning component of the program.

Albright continues to make his diving team a safe and supportive atmosphere, especially for new players.

“The swim and dive team is a team that consists of multiple personalities which creates a very diverse team,” Turchi said. “I look forward to every practice because I know I’ll get a laugh out of it or a funny new memory.”

The blending of personalities is critical to coherence and understanding of one another; without trust there is no bond and no reason to aim high. Having fun is the next priority as it creates support and confidence within the team.

In regards to competition this



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

With an award-winning coach and several seasons of finishing in first, the Grizzlies prepare for opponents IUPUI and Notre Dame.

season, Notre Dame and IUPUI are tough and elegant competition according to Turchi. At the IUPUI tournament Turchi was in third place for the one meter and three meter diving competitions earning herself 228.08 and 239.93 points. She believes she definitely has room to improve but feels her scores are still impressive for a freshman. Her ul-

timate goal is to qualify for the NCAA and potentially beat the one and three meter diving records. Turchi would also like to see more familiar faces at swim and dive meets, saying, “It would be fun if we had more students come to our home meets.”

The next home meet is against University of Illinois at Chicago on Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Club sports: Water polo

Sadie Layher
Staff Intern

Students gather every week in the University Rec Well's pool to play the swimmer's answer to soccer: Water polo.

Oakland University's club team is run by president David Krauss. He says the sport itself seems complicated, but scoring is not as difficult as it looks.

Krauss described the sport as similar to hockey and soccer. To get a point, one must pass the ball into the goal area, so points are earned one by one. Except for the goalie, teams are only allowed six other field players at a time. Also, players are only allowed to use one hand to pass what Krauss calls the "yellow soccer-sized ball."

"Water polo requires an extreme amount of leg strength and physical endurance and this takes time and very difficult sets to build properly," he said.

In order to build leg strength and create endurance, the club participates in various practice routines which include sprint sets, tread sets, passing drills, shooting drills and scrimmages.

Treading is the one of the most challenging tasks each player must do, as they are not supposed to touch the bottom of the pool. However, teams can substitute players because a standard match lasts about 45 minutes with four seven minute quarters and a 35 second shot clock with a two minute rest between quarters.

Besides being an audience member, there are different ways to get involved with water polo at Oakland.

"To become involved in water polo there are a number of opportunities, one could join the team, one could volunteer at a match or one could come

out to our tournament and support Oakland," Krauss said.

Furthermore, water polo is a club sport on campus, which means it requires fundraising for different events. If students want to get involved, there is a variety of ways to help benefit the club.

"The most recent [fundraiser] was t-shirt sales and we hope to arrange a bake sale soon," Krauss said.

With all of the fundraising and hard work in practice, the water polo club has been improving year to year. Krauss said he is very glad for his vice-president to help him lead everything.

"My vice president, Alyssa Ruggirello has been working extremely hard to better organize and maintain the team than it was in previous seasons," he said.

Krauss and Ruggirello have seven new players this season and surprisingly only one has never participated in water polo before. It is also important to note that water polo is co-ed so anyone can participate.

During the season, Krauss says that "the most fun to play is most likely Michigan Tech, they are extremely friendly and very courteous throughout the entire match."

Oakland's biggest water polo rival is Bowling Green State University. It is not an incredible intense rivalry mostly because the Bowling Green is known for defeating Oakland. But, Krauss hopes that will change very soon.

The water polo club has been at Oakland University since 2010 and is continually growing. Krauss stresses that "if you work as a team, anything is possible."

The next home tournament will take place in February, the exact date is to be determined.

The Sporting Blitz

Volleyball @ Northern Kentucky University: Oakland volleyball traveled to Northern Kentucky University on Friday, Oct. 27. The Golden Grizzlies came out on top in four sets (25-15, 25-17, 28-30, 25-22) and had several players record career highs.

Darien Bandel led the Black and Gold in kills with 24, while tying a career high 16 digs, and Aleksandra Malek recorded 10 kills to tie a career high. On the defense side, Maddie Lentz had a career high 18 digs with Darrin Rice coming up with 13 digs. Jordan Lentz also had nine digs, six blocks, four kills and a career high 57 assists.

Swimming and Diving @ Wayne State University: Both the men's and women's swimming and diving teams defeated Wayne State University on Friday, Oct. 27 at Matthei Center Natatorium.

The men's team finished with a score of 187-110. Joe Smith placed first in the 1-meter dive with a final score of 332.4 and also put up a score of 294.82 in the 3-meter diving competition. For the women's team, the final score came to be 182-114. Grace Shinske recorded a set of first place finishes with victories in the 100-yard backstroke (56.33), the 200 backstroke (2:03.15), 100 fly (57.34) and 200 medley relay (1:46.35).

Women's Soccer @ UIC: Oakland women's soccer visited Chicago, Ill. on Friday, Oct. 27 to take on the University of Illinois-Chicago. The

Golden Grizzlies were topped 0-1.

Leading Oakland, Vlad Gurovski and Vanessa Ogbonna each recorded a shot on goal. Lauren Bos and Cecillie Dokka also added one shot each. In goal, Sophia Braun had a total of five saves. The Golden Grizzlies finished their season with an overall record 3-14-1 and 3-6 in the Horizon League.

Volleyball @ Wright State: Oakland volleyball earned another four-set win (25-17, 26-24, 18-25, 25-23) on Saturday, Oct. 28 against Wright State in Fairborn, Ohio.

Leading Oakland's defense, Rice came up with 19 digs and Bandel added 17 digs for a career high along with 14 kills. Maddie Lentz also recorded 10 digs of her own with Krysteena Davis adding 11 kills and five of Oakland's nine blocks.

Men's Soccer @ UIC: Oakland men's soccer took on UIC on Saturday, Oct. 28 in Chicago, Ill. The Golden Grizzlies' four-game win streak came to an end in a 0-1 loss to the Flames.

The Black and Gold came up with a total of eight shots with three shots on goal from Spencer Nollff, Wilfred Williams and Alec Greene. In goal, Wes Mink recorded five saves to tie a season-high. However, this was not enough to withstand UIC's lone goal in the first half.

Compiled by Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

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Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Not for the weak: Players tread water for 45 minutes without touching the bottom of the pool.

Oakland Athletics hosts Tip-Off Gala

Fans mingle with the women's and men's basketball teams, look forward to upcoming season



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

LEFT: Oakland basketball players, coaches, alumni and fans gathered in the O'rena to have dinner and interact with the women's and men's basketball teams. **RIGHT:** Greg Kampe is going into his thirty-fourth year as the men's head coach. He is credited with turning the men's basketball program from nothing into a Horizon League powerhouse.

Dakota Brecht
Staff Intern

On a brisk Thursday night, players, coaches, fans and alumni met at the O'rena for the Tip-Off Gala. With it being a mere two weeks from the start of the regular season for the men and women's basketball teams, it was an event which has everyone begging for Nov. 6 to come much sooner.

The night was led by the voice of the Golden Grizzlies, Neal Ruhl, who kept things light and humorous and got plenty of laughs out of the crowd. Players and coaches were mixed throughout the tables conversing with former players, alumni, donors and fans.

Around 5:30 p.m., the festivities kicked off with a silent auction which had a variety of items ranging from game-used jerseys with signed frames to signed chairs used during the NCAA tournament. Meanwhile, a catered dinner was served to everyone in attendance. Campus Den also had a booth set up for fans to get their Oakland University gear before the start of the season.

After dinner, Ruhl held a Q&A panel with four of the senior athletes and got their perspectives on

what they believe they need to do to be successful this season. Women's Head Coach Jeff Tungate also spoke and had some inspirational words for his seniors and for the rest of the audience.

"We've always focused on the process and the process takes care of the results," he said. "We work hard and have certain expectations we expect from our team and we got the group they bought in and hopefully that process is gonna come to fruition. This year we're gonna keep that trajectory going and the sky's the limit for this team and we really need you guys to come out and support."

Next was men's Head Coach Greg Kampe, who is entering his thirty-fourth season as head coach of the men's basketball team. He is praised with having built the program from practically nothing to the Horizon League power house it is today.

"The level of talent has changed over the years, and we have just gotten better and better, more athletic and better players," Kampe said. "We've grown like the school has grown, 34 years ago half of these buildings weren't even on campus. We've exponentially grown together and I believe we have a program that

is very well respected and we have a chance to have a very special year."

The event concluded with some final words from Ruhl and handshakes and hugs between the players and alumni as they said their farewells until the season begins.

To a veteran like Nick Daniels, who is going into his fifth season as a Golden Grizzly, the gala still came to him as a surprise.

"Just to see all the people out here supporting us, it's a great atmosphere," he said. "All these people are really behind us and really there for us. It's just really great to be at something like this, it's awesome because now everyone gets to see what kind of team we are and I love it."

For freshman Chloe Guingrich, this was her first big event with alumni and fans, and it showed her the true Golden Grizzly pride.

"This shows me one thing, that we have very dedicated fans," she said. "So dedicated that they are willing to buy things that we have signed, sat on or wore."

The event was as much for the players as it was for the fans and alumni. Donor and alum Craig Stinson was in attendance. He and his family have been grateful to Oakland and founded the Stinson Stu-

dent Advancement Program for the School of Business Administration. The Stinson family has also been a key part in the growth and advancement of the athletic program.

"It's always exciting to come to an event like this," Stinson said. "Before the season, there is a lot of hope and a lot of excitement around both teams. My family has been big supporters of the men's and women's programs here and it's kinda fun to sit at the table with the players. I was next to Isaiah Brock this year who is a tremendous story."

One thing is for sure—with all of the hype going on surrounding the basketball teams this season, the players, coaches and fans can not wait for the men to hit the blacktop on Nov. 6 and the women on Nov. 11. The Tip-Off Gala was the perfect way to build the anticipation even more for the upcoming season. For Kampe, the start of the season means one thing, winning a championship and going to the tournament.

"We've really tried to remember what has happened the last couple years and to not forget about it, and to fall into that trap again," he said. "We got to keep it in our mind that we want a championship and we want to go to the tournament."