

THE OAKLAND POST

Special Edition

Oakland University's
Independent Student
Newspaper

Oct. 25, 2017

LOOKING BACK ISSUE

Revisit The Oakland Post's turbulent and often
opinionated history after its founding in 1959
PAGES 9 through 12

PARKING PETITION

Student starts petition campaigning
Oakland for more spots

PAGE 4

HAUNTED PONTIAC

Oakland alum talks about
operating Erebus

PAGE 8

WIN STREAK

Volleyball ends its streak at six wins,
still on track to beat record

PAGE 18



onthe web

Staff Reporter Falin Hakeem thinks the new movie "Home Again," should just go home.
Photo // IMDb
www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST // In The Oakland Post newsroom, we have two drawers full of old photos that range from past basketball games to some not-so-flattering hairstyles from the 1980's. Here are some students cheering on the Golden Grizzlies.
The Oakland Post Archives

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

Are you ready for midterms?

- A** I was born ready.
- B** Lol, no
- C** Wait, it's midterm week?!?!?
- D** Excuse me while I go sob

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are you wearing around campus this fall season?

- A) My own good looks
19 votes | 30%
- B) Hot pieces from the Goodwill
7 votes | 11%
- C) The sweater of tears
22 votes | 34%
- D) The blood of my enemies
16 votes | 25%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

October 25, 1963

Oakland University administrators addressed the growing problem of students being unable to find parking spots.

October 29, 1997

Three University Housing residents were charged for giving alcohol to minors from their rooms in Van Wagner House.

October 25, 2006

The Post published a photo of students drinking alcohol, which would most likely be seen as controversial today.



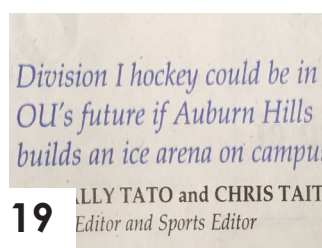
MOUTHING OFF

Alex Cherup, the first satire editor for The Post, talks about his time at OU.
Photo // Alex Cherup



FOCUS: OAKLAND

One group of students decided to start another newspaper in the 1960s.
Photo // The Oakland Post



HOCKEY STUDY

Oakland has been selected for a hockey study before, see how the new one differs.
Photo // The Oakland Post

BY THE NUMBERS MI HOCKEY

89%

Of Michigan-born NHL players played NCAA hockey

7

Members of the Detroit Red Wings are from Michigan

10%

Of NHL players are from Michigan and surrounding states

71

Dylan Larkin's number. He grew up playing Michigan hockey

The National Hockey League

Staff Editorial

Letter from the editors: It's time to look back



Shelby Tankersley and Cheyanne Kramer
Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

Hey readers,

Welcome to the Looking Back Issue. Looking Back has been Cheyanne's baby for a little over a year now. But for those of you who are unfamiliar with the column, here's what it's all about:

Looking Back is the section each week where we dig through our archives and find the most interesting stories from the past to retell and narrate to you, our readers. In 2016, the Editor-in-Chief at the time encouraged the creation of the project after Cheyanne spent the summer organizing the archives.

Two weeks ago, we ran a Looking Back piece called "Students Seize Oakland," telling a tale about students rebelling in North Foundation Hall. This was a satire piece written in the late 1960s, which even some of our staff were fooled into believing today. We hope you were tricked too.

The student newspaper has a wild and crazy history with Oakland University. While our main purpose has always been to report on campus news, some will argue that student media should be an outlet for student expression as well.

That being said, Oakland's student newspaper has worn many different hats during its 58 years of being printed. According to the university, the only three official student newspapers were The Oakland Observer, The Oakland Sail and The Oakland Post. But, many other independently-published newspaper have called Oakland their home.

So now, we're happy to bring you this special edition of The Oakland Post.

Back when we were The Observer, which got its start in 1959, we began chronicling some of the most influential events over the course of Oakland's lifespan.

We celebrated with Matilda Dodge Wilson on her birthday each year and we broke the coverage of her death. We shared stories of student success and of professors being fired for their political beliefs.

By the end of the 1960s, we were known for outlandish, politically-charged stories. Students were unhappy with the Vietnam War at the forefront of their minds, so the student media became their outlet. No longer were we just covering campus events and profiling students, we were serving as way for students to make political statements.

After being defunded, renamed and rebuilt, the staff of The Oakland Sail, and now The Oakland Post, have done a lot of growing up. Today, our staff prides itself on being able to break campus news in an accurate and efficient way while also having the time of our lives putting the physical issue together every week.

One of the best things about working in the news is that no two days are ever the same. Times are constantly changing. So, in the making of this issue we decided to look back to the people and events that have brought us where we are today.

We got to talk with the creator of our Mouth-ing Off section, which has evolved into the Satire section you see every week.

In 1996, there was a feasibility study done by the city of Auburn Hills about whether or not Oakland would be able to house an NCAA Division I hockey team. Sound familiar? We took a look at how that study differs from the NHL study Oakland was recently chosen for.

Jane Briggs-Bunting met with us to reminisce about her time as our advisor. She's infamous among us Posties for having sued the university countless times on our behalf.

We look back more recently to 2010, where an Oakland University student committed suicide on campus following coming out. We can now say we're the most LGBT friendly campus in the state.

And we dug into our archives once more, looking at our collection of remaining Focus: Oakland issues. Focus: Oakland was created in opposition to the politically-charged Observer.

Last but not least, we got to interview the infamous Lee Elbinger, the alum who rose to fame for stripping down naked in the Barn Theater and reading poetry. David Black, an editor at the Observer during its decline, also sat down with us to talk about his time in the newsroom.

We have had a fantastic time this week telling some of the old stories to our staff and watching some of them dig into the archives for the first time. Turns out, it's always been eventful to work in the basement of the Oakland Center and report on campus shenanigans.

Sincerely,
Shelby and Cheyanne



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Tau Kappa Epsilon hosts “Battle for Bear Lake” to help St.Jude’s

Kade Messner
Staff Intern

The Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity is hosting a tug-of-war competition to raise money for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital at Bear Lake. The event will take place On Saturday, Nov. 4 from 2 - 5 p.m. Tau Kappa Epsilon is calling this event the “Battle for Bear Lake.”

“This is our first Battle for Bear Lake event, but we are hoping to make this an annual competition that could potentially raise tens of thousands of dollars,” Philanthropy Chairman of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Cameron Renny, said.

Creating teams of six, Oakland University students and other community members must pay \$60 to enter their team in the battle. Along with tug-of-war, food, drinks, music and yard games will be going on by Bear Lake.

“All of St. Jude’s operating budget comes from donations, so the families of patients do not pay a dime for treatment and the hospital works with the families to provide a place to stay and amenities that make their stay at the

hospital more like home,” Philanthropy Co-Chairman, Joseph Taras said. “They put the patients’ needs as their number one priority and they provide premium care to those who need it, regardless of socioeconomic standing, which is why this is such a great organization to support.”

Students have the option to compete in three different brackets: the men’s bracket, the women’s bracket and the co-ed bracket.

In order to qualify for the co-ed bracket, teams must be composed of at least two girls and two guys, with the option to fill the other two remaining spots with either gender.

“I expect it to be a fun event,” President of Tau Kappa Epsilon, David Bashaw said. “Who wouldn’t want to come out and play a giant game of tug of war over Bear Lake?”

Stemming back to 1978, Tau Kappa Epsilon has raised millions of dollars for St. Jude’s Children Hospital over the years.

“Tau Kappa Epsilon has committed \$2.6 million over six years to fund the



Photo Courtesy of Tau Kappa Epsilon

Tau Kappa Epsilon has made an annual contribution for the past six years in effort to help fund St. Jude’s Children’s Hospitals new radiation therapy machine that focuses on monitoring tumors.

new Proton Therapy Synchrotron/Particle Accelerator [for St. Jude’s], a state of the art radiation therapy machine that targets tumors with high precision while sparing nearby healthy tissue and organs,” Renny said.

If not participating in the tug of war, students may still come and watch the festivities. Donations will be available for everyone to give to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

“All of the proceeds from this event

will go directly to St. Jude,” Renny said. “To ensure this, we have provided the link to St. Jude’s webpage on our Facebook event page, which allows participants to pay for their teams entry fee with a \$60 direct donation to St. Jude. Otherwise, participants can pay the day of the event with card, cash or check made out to Tau Kappa Epsilon. We are trying to raise over \$3,000 at this event alone.”

Let the Battle for Bear Lake begin!

Petition for overnight parking

Students band together beginning a formal written request that recieves 540 signatures

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

Devin Schwartz, a freshman at Oakland University, has recently started a petition to gain more overnight parking spots on campus. As of last week, the petition had about 540 signatures.

Many students have been accessing the petition through Facebook and Change.com. Not only have students been signing their names, they’ve also been leaving comments regarding the various reasons they’ve chosen to support Schwartz, such as feeling neglected and frustrated with long walks in all types of weather.

“If I’m going to live on campus and work most nights, I should be able to find closer parking rather than having to

walk for over 20 minutes to get back to my room,” Schwartz said.

Some students not only feel the walk is too far to the residence halls but some female students have expressed fear of walking to their cars in the dark with the possibilities of any type of assault occurring. Although OU offers the program SafeWalk for students traveling to their cars at night, walking from the parking garages on the south side of campus to the residence halls in the north can be a daunting task.

The fact that parking is free at OU is a possible cause of the lack of open spots close to the core of campus. While at Central Michigan University, students living on campus must pay for a \$150 year-round parking pass and commuters must pay \$175.

Michigan State has parking permits for up to \$300.

Over the years, OU has added a parking garage with 1,240 spaces near the Rec Center and added over 700 spots for this academic year. Still, some students feel this is quite a distance away from the residence halls and other important buildings like the Oakland Center.

However, not every spot on campus is an over night spot. Overnight parking is marked with green paint instead of yellow.

“Honestly, I’d go paint the green on the parking spots myself,” Schwartz said.

According to the petition, some students feel that the P1 should have several more rows painted for overnight parking. It’s close to Housing and easy to access a variety of buildings-



Nicole Morsfield/The Oakland Post

P-1 is where students believe more overnight parking should go.

such as Vandenberg Hall, Wilson Hall and the Human Health Building. In the University Master Plan, P1 is currently expect-

ed to house a parking garage.

“I believe that OU should look into building a new parking structure in Oak View parking,” Schwartz said. “If they’re going to allow students to have their cars on campus, they need to be more accommodating for their students.”

The petition has been brought to Michele Applebee, Coordinator of Student Success although Applebee is not affiliated with University Housing’s parking, which she told The Oakland Post. This may change in the near future depending on the role student success can play in this petition and who is in control of the planning for a new solution to overnight parking. Right now, it seems that the best solution is for the students to take their concerns to their Resident Assistants and Directors.

The art of oral history projects

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

On Oct. 19, Oakland University hosted the second installment of the 2017-2018 History Comes Alive Lecture Series in the Oakland Center.

"This is the fourteenth year of this series, so it's going strong," said Todd Estes, a professor of history at OU and the opening speaker of the lecture.

Dan Clark, a professor of history at OU, was this lecture's speaker. He has published multiple oral history works and was at the event to share his tips and tricks with students, faculty and members of the community.

"It's [oral history] a way that historians, or any of you, could research a recent past," Clark said. "It's a great tool to have in your research toolbox."

Clark defines oral history as the interviewing of eyewitness participants for purposes of reconstruction of history and the recorded interviews of past events and ways of life.

"History has been transmitted orally for hundreds of years," he said. "It has always had an international scope."

While the practice is not a new one, oral history was, and still is, sometimes seen as subjective and not trustworthy.

"Memory isn't just a warehouse," Clark said. "It's a constant construction and reconstruction of history."

Clark recalled the oral historian Alessandro Portelli from Italy who combatted critics head on.

Portelli's retelling, "The Death of Luigi Trastulli," tells the story of an Italian man who was killed during a protest, exploring an event in which people remembered something completely opposite to the facts of the case.

Accounts placed Trastulli at a protest against NATO where he was killed. However, he was actually killed during protests against layoffs at a local steel plant in a different year.

"On the one hand, that might prove that oral history is just too subjective to be reliable," Clark

said. "These people just have it wrong and the facts demonstrate it. Portillo insisted otherwise, that the wrong stories reveal much about the interests, the dreams, the desires of those who told them."

Regardless of the inconsistencies of the details, the culture and mindsets that were transcribed were still accurate and relevant to historical accounts, according to Clark.

He also offered tips to pursue an oral history project based on his own experiences, covering everything from the importance of open ended questions, to making sure your equipment is working, to legal consent considerations. He even stressed the importance of humility and gratitude toward the interviewee as an element to the process.

"The interviewee is granting you time and access to their personal lives," Clark said. "You have to be grateful for that. You might be frustrated with some of the responses that you hear, you might be critical of them, but that

person is giving you a gift and you have to honor that."

For Clark and other historians like him, oral history accounts have provided important information not just for their projects but for the overarching effort to document all elements of history.

"The interviews that I have conducted have been some of the highlights of my professional life," he said. "They've taught me so much, including a sense of wonder about how much we will never know about the past, when you think about the stories that we won't hear"changing and adapting to make it more accessible."



Nicole Morsefield / The Oakland Post
OU history professor speaks to the importance of oral history.

POLICE FILES

A black and blue apron

Oakland University Police Department dispatch received a call in reference to a suspicious person near Hamlin Hall at 9:29 p.m. on Oct. 2. The complainant said she was approached by a black male with a larger build, wearing a black and blue apron. She stated that he shouted "damn girl, you thick" as she was walking into Vandenberg Hall. When she was leaving, he was still there and attempted to get her phone number. But, upon arrival, the officers did not oversee a subject fitting the provided description.

Officers were later approached by a different female complainant while walking back to their patrol vehicle regarding a suspicious person. She said the same man approached her and requested that she put her number into his phone. She refused and the subject ran into East Vandenberg Hall when she walked away. The description she gave matched that of the first complainant. The individual was located in the Vandenberg Dining Hall working in the kitchen area. Officers advised him of the incidents, which he initially denied but eventually admitted. He was advised by officers to use caution when conducting himself on campus and officers left without further disturbance.

Back to Wayne State

At 2:05 p.m. on Oct. 2, two officers received information via OUPD intel that a suspect in connection with entering a residence without owner's permission and trespass at OU was in the area of Meadowbrook Rd. near Oakland Dr. Officers made positive ID on the suspect upon arrival. The suspect was searched and then handcuffed and transported to OUPD to arrest. He was read his Miranda rights, which he waived and consented to questioning and to the search of his android phone and flash drive. He was advised of charges and then transported to Wayne State University, where the arrest warrant originated.

Compiled by Mary Siring,
Staff Reporter

Classifieds

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Richard J. Burke Lecture

in Philosophy, Religion and Society



Designed to tackle some of today's compelling issues — from war to religion to sexual ethics — the Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society sparks serious, thought-provoking discussions between scholars, students and the community.

DR. CHARLES W. MILLS
discusses

Christianity and Racism

Thursday, November 2, 2017 | 7 p.m.

Oakland Center
Banquet Rooms A and B

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
or email zimmerm2@oakland.edu.

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.



Sam Boggs / The Oakland Post

Grace Wojcik, coordinator of the GSC, finds highlighting resources people may not know about important.

LGBT Center Awareness Day

Oct. 19 marks the celebration of Oakland community resource

Katerina Mihailidis
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Gender and Sexuality Center, welcomed all students on the nationwide LGBT Center Awareness Day, Oct. 19.

According to Grace Wojcik, coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center, the LGBT day began as a showcase of LGBTQIA+ community centers and later expanded to include LGBT campus centers across the country.

"LGBT Awareness day is basically a day to celebrate the fact that we have this resource center here for the community," said senior Micah Rowland at OU, who works for the Gender and Sexuality Center.

Rowland studies English with a concentration in secondary education and started working at the center in his junior year.

According to Rowland, the center is a heavily underutilized resource and could use more advertising. The resource's value frequently goes unnoticed by OU students.

Having spent his freshman year making friends at the center and discovering who he was, Rowland said he wants to help the center in any way that he can.

"It's a nice place to learn about the different ways that we can get involved and to feel safe," Rowland said. "That's why we need this day and that's why we need this center."

OU's GSC has been participating in the national awareness day since 2014. Then U.S. President Barack Obama sent the center a signed letter in recognition of the center's participation.

Students had the opportunity on Oct. 19 to come to the center's open

house in 112 East Vandenberg Hall and learn about the programs and the services that the center offers. Goodies and refreshments were provided.

While typically tabling in the Pioneer Food Court on LGBT center awareness day, the center couldn't do so this year because of all the construction taking place in the Oakland Center, Wojcik said.

"I think it's important to highlight the resources that are available in the communities across the country and on college campuses," Wojcik said. "For a lot of different reasons people may not be aware that a center exists nearby. They may not be aware of the services that are offered by those centers. So, I think that's a really big piece of it: to let people know about them and the fact that they exist."

The center awareness day happens on the same day as the National Spirit Day, a day to show support against bullying of LGBT youth.

"It's another nice way to recognize that day [and] it's empowering for people," Wojcik said.

The GSC offers a peer mentoring program for freshmen or transfer students. The students get a mentor assigned to them that acts as their guide for the entirety of an academic year, according to Wojcik.

The center participates in many other days and events throughout the academic year, including National Coming out day, Transgender Day Remembrance and World AIDS Day.

Rowland encourages students to come to the center because there are great resources available for students, he said. He also said that the center is hoping to bring even more resources for students in the future.

One day weekend getaways

A list of beginner's level waterfalls perfect for short vacations

Connor McNeely
Campus Editor

For many Metro-Detroiters, autumn calls for trips up north to observe the colors change in the leaves. The term "up north" however, doesn't always signify crossing the bridge into the "North Country."

What many Lower Peninsula residents, or "flat-landers" don't realize about the Upper Peninsula is how strikingly contrasted the geographic landscape is. From the canyon rock gorges and coastal cliffs to the several hundred waterfalls that empty into endless miles of Great Lakes lakeshore.

Aside from Ocqueoc Falls, Michigan's hundreds of waterfalls are all in the UP. Some of them can be viewed from drive-up lookout points and others require light to brisk hikes to reach. Here is a list of beginner level falls that any outdoor enthusiast can enjoy in just one day.

Munising Falls

From the Mackinaw Bridge, Munising Falls is about a two-hour drive. There is a parking lot and a visitor center with maps and a sign that reads "Munising Falls 800 ft." The short walk foreshadowed by the sign is paved and includes wooden bridges over the river until it reaches wooden stair sets that elevate visitors on the left side of the falls and lead them up to the yellow, sandstone cliff that surrounds the falls. There is a 50-foot drop separating the top of the cliff and the bottom of the falls flowing into Munising Creek. This waterfall is a great destination for all weather conditions.

Miners Falls

It is only about a 17-minute drive from Munising Falls to Miners Falls heading left onto Washington Street and again on East Munising Ave. Turn left on Miners Castle Road and in four miles make a right on Miners Falls Road and keep right (if you go straight, you will dead end into the famous Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and trails that lead down Great Lake cliffs to Miners Castle Beach). There is a small parking lot next the trailhead, which runs about .6 miles to the wooden overlook above the sand-

stone gorge. The falls stand about 50 feet tall and crashes with great power into the Miners River.

Dead River Falls

The mid-day stretch is the hour and 15 minutes it takes to get from Miners Falls to Marquette's best, Dead River Falls. Once parked, visitors must walk up the gravel road hill to get to the trailhead. At the trailhead, visitors can hike along the Dead River in the woods and on the rocky gorge itself alongside the river. The river continuously winds up a mountain and leaves a new surprise at every corner.

Dead River Falls is a channel of falls and rapids ranging in size from 15-25 ft. Locals and daredevils alike cliff jump from the highest falls (25 ft.). For the experienced hammock camper, this is an ideal location for tying up whether in the woods off the river or over the gorge 25 ft. from the middle falls.

Night Cap

At this point in the day, the sun is surely close to setting. About 10 minutes away in downtown Marquette is Presque Isle—an elevated loop through the peninsula including mountainous cliff overlooks and playground of black rock formations littered with tide pools and rocky shore coves. It overlooks Lake Michigan and into Canadian waters and is the perfect spot to witness Michigan's sunsets. It's also a popular cliff jumping destination.

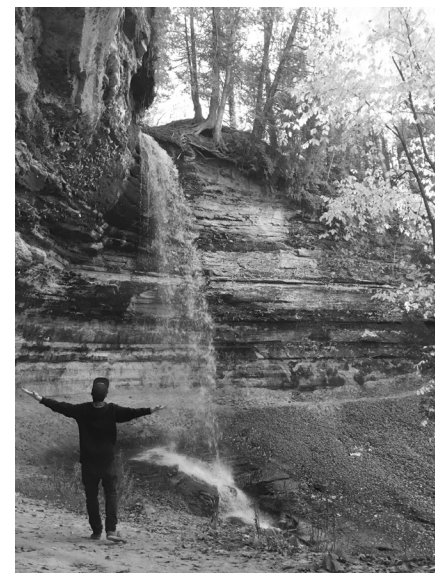


Photo courtesy of Allie Morris

Connor McNeely says Munising Falls, two hours north of Mackinaw, is perfect for all weather conditions.

OU alum owns famous haunted house Erebus

Jim Terebus, owner of Halloween attraction reflects on his time attending Oakland

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

The 1977 Oakland University alumnus Jim Terebus recounts how the Pontiac-based four story haunted attraction came to be, witnessing people get the bejesus scared out of them and what's next for Erebus.

Back in 1980, one of Terebus' employers made him join a Jaycees group, which is a civic group for young business and community leaders. At the time the group was renting a 1300 sq. foot haunted house located on Van Dyke, which was called "The Gallery."

"To tell you the truth, it wasn't really something I always had interest in," Terebus said. "It was fate that the employer made me joined the Jaycees and put me in the haunted house."

Terebus said the haunted house increased from then on, finally reaching 13,000 sq. feet.

"At that point it was getting to a big enough program where [my brother Ed and I] bought a building in Pontiac," Terebus said. "That's how Erebus was established."

Though the attraction is not open all year round, Terebus describes it as a Broadway production that he and his team work on all year, which typically opens up around Sept. 20.

"The most exciting part about owning the haunted house is being given the gift to visualize space and understand how that works between what we do and the people that go through," he said.

As for the theme Erebus represents, Terebus said that there are five different themes, and they arrange these themes to fulfill a certain storyline.

He said that working at the attraction displays a whole range of people's skills.

"You've got people who are actors, people who operate displays who are mechanically

inclined and people who enjoy the physical aspect of moving props around that don't interact with the people at all on a personal level," he said. "The one thing we all have in common is the rush of scaring somebody."

Terebus said that there are about 17 "chicken exits" all throughout the attraction and that they even prep a "wimp board" inside.

"We have this huge clock that tells us how many people wimp out for the season," he said. "There's people who wimp out, then there's wetters and pukers."

He said for anybody who has never gone into Erebus, there's nothing in particular that people should know about before going in.

"People can go to hockey game, a football game or a baseball game and that's a fun time out," he said. "But when they come to Erebus, it's something that they hold and an



Photo courtesy of Ed Terebus

The seasonally opened haunted house is composed of various actors and visuals that are used to frighten the incoming fear seekers.

emotional high."

All OU students get tickets at a discounted rate on Oct. 25, which it's Grizz Night in downtown Pontiac. Prices are normally \$23, but OU students will be able to get them for \$15 by showing their student ID.

To get the tickets, students will have to stop at Erebus Es-

cape, which is a newly built escape room that just opened up in June of this year and is also located in Pontiac.

"We have some really big things happening next year as well," Terebus said.

Will these 'big things' involve more wetters and pukers? We'll just have to wait and see.



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Former Oakland Post advisor looks back

Jane Briggs-Bunting takes a look at her time as the newspaper advisor, discusses suing Oakland University

Katarina Kovac
Staff Intern

Jane Briggs-Bunting, a former advisor of The Oakland Post and The Oakland Sail, and former director of the journalism program at Oakland University, has often stood firm in defense of the First Amendment.

"I learned in high school as a student editor that words could change lives," Briggs-Bunting said.

Her passion for journalism is unwavering as she stated, "it's a heavy responsibility that should be used for the good. Journalism can hold institutions and individuals, especially those in power, accountable. It's one part of the First Amendment that is so vital to the success of this country. It's really one of the checks and balances on government."

Briggs-Bunting pushed her stu-

dents to uncover and report on violations, and in the process she was never afraid to file a lawsuit on the behalf of her campus newspaper.

"Being a journalist is never a popularity contest," Briggs-Bunting said. "Holding the powerful accountable, trying very hard to uncover the truth is not always popular. Always I tried to educate the critics, but never let them intimidate or silence me."

As she often stood firm in defense of the First Amendment, Briggs-Bunting was led to face many critics. Despite the negative criticism, she persisted in doing what she knew best.

"When you are doing what you believe with all your mind and heart is the right thing to do, and you have validated that with research and study, you do it," she said.

Since leaving OU's journalism program, she became the director of the School of Journalism at Michigan State University. She was the director for six years and retired from Michigan State University three years after.

Briggs-Bunting also founded a nonpartisan called Michigan Coalition for Open Records. It is a tax exempt, non-profit corporation.

"At the time of our founding, Michigan was one of two states nationally that lacked a public records advocacy group," Briggs-Bunting said of the group.

She stepped down as president last year, but remains on its board of directors.

When discussing her time with The Post, Briggs-Bunting said, "I met and worked with so many great students who became journalists. Their successes reflect back on OU's journalism program

The Post drops lawsuit against BOT

By ALICIA SOSSI
Senior Reporter

The Oakland Post decided last week to drop the appeal in its long-standing case against the Oakland University board of trustees.

"It was basically the lawyer's recommendation," said Jane

"We had no great expectations for the Supreme Court because of the Court of Appeals outcome," she said.

The case began when the newspaper sued the board to challenge the legality of a meeting it held in a closed session in January 2003.

The case first lost in the trial

The Court of Appeals ruled in September that the board's meeting was legal and did not violate the Michigan Open Meetings Act, which requires public bodies to meet in open sessions.

"We are happy the matter has finally been resolved, and we're looking forward to moving on,"

The Oakland Post Archives

Jane Briggs-Bunting sued Oakland University on multiple different occasions for violating First Amendment rights and withholding information.

and hopefully help those that come later launch careers."

Briggs-Bunting stated she sincerely appreciated being able to get to know the staff, many of whom were journalism majors, much better than is possible in the traditional classroom setting.

"With every new staff and sometimes with more experienced staffs, there were challenges and

learning curves," she said. "We made mistakes, but we hopefully learned from them and did not repeat them."

At Oakland, Briggs-Bunting was able to help guide her students to understand that their role as journalists was to amplify authoritative voices that lacked only access to the means to spread their messages.

Mouthing off creators reminisce about section's origin

Former editors, Paul Gully and Alex Cherub created the popular satirical section in 2007

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

The Oakland Post's Satire section has been well-received by our readership this year, prompting a look back on what came before. Originally in 2007 created by Paul Gully, the Post's Managing Editor at one point, and Kyle Magin, the Mouthing Off section was designed to give readers a laugh.

"It was a new type of position that wasn't focused on reporting important work [or] of understanding what's going on in the community, but more reacting [and] providing philosophical social commentary," said Alex Cherub, a 2008 Oakland University graduate with a Bachelor's in philosophy and communication. "The intent is humor [and] satire, hopefully the readership felt we met that standard."

Cherub was doing stand-up comedy at the time and had begun working with The Post as an opinion contributor after taking professor Holly Gilbert's Introduction to Journalism class. He became the first editor of the Mouthing Off section not long after its creation.

"I had the most unofficial name of anybody that worked at the newspaper," Cherub joked.

The weekly column usually ran two sto-

ries on the back pages of each issue that covered any level of absurd and entertaining topics.

"I think the inspiration behind it was that we wanted to expand the range of the paper to include the opinion perspective," Cherub said. "I think a lot of newspapers have a strong editorial page and additionally there are often humorists that contribute to newspapers, and we had people that were willing and wanting to contribute creatively and humorously to what was going on at a local, national and statewide level."

Political opinions were welcome as George W. Bush was president at the time, but the section's main goal was comedy.

"We used to do this thing called 'caught reading the Post' where the day the issue was released, we would walk around campus looking for people reading the Oakland Post, give them a gift card and then just talk about what they were reading [and] what their favorite section was," Gully said. "Surprisingly, a good percentage of the people that we talked to seemed to like 'mouthing off'."

With topics that ranged from the defense of nudism or a dispute about a Hooters restaurant opening in Troy to things you don't want to hear from the next bath-

room stall, the Mouthing Off columnists never seemed to have an issue coming up with new and unique content.

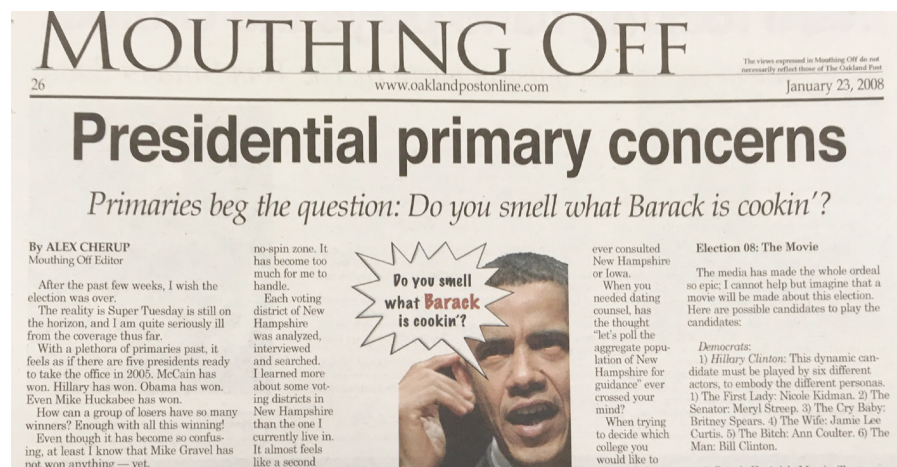
"It's a satirical, humorous, editorial section that would provide perspective from students and writers on campus aimed to point out a particular issue and make it humorous, try to get people to laugh and take a creative angle on it," Cherub said.

The Mouthing Off section had a valiant run until 2015 when it faded out of the

Post's content.

"I can only imagine how it would be today doing that, just because there's so much intensity, ridiculousness and at times frightening situations that are happening on a day to day basis," Cherub said. "We'd be devoting so much time to each one of the incidents that come forward."

Many of the Mouthing Off stories can still be found on the Oakland Post's website.



The Oakland Post Archives

Mouthing off was a weekly section that was a place for students to voice their popinions in a humorous, satirical way. The section eventually evolved into the current Satire section.

LOOKING IN THE BATH

The Oakland Post

www.oaklandpostonline.com

October 25, 2017

THE OBSERVER DIES LOOKING BACK TO “THE ONION” OF THE ‘60s

By Cheyanne Kramer, Managing Editor

The independent student newspaper, which is now called The Oakland Post, has existed since 1959. In that time, the Oakland University student newspaper has become known for covering campus sports and student life.

However, in the late ‘60s, the Observer wasn’t known for its quality coverage of campus events. With only a few thousand students, finding events to cover was a struggle.

“We actually made our own,” said David Black, one of the former editors of the Observer. He explained how The Observer would use its own money to bring speakers and concerts to campus.

Black explained that at one point, the Observer had buttons made that said “apathy” and sold them to the apathetic student body.

“We didn’t really take ourselves too seriously,” he said. “We were like ‘The Onion,’ kind of.”

But even more outlandish was the kind of coverage the Observer took part in. A few weeks back, The Oakland Post ran a Looking Back story on the feature “Students

didn’t know about aftermath of his lecture or that his diploma had been held until months later. He left right after the lecture and flown to New York, then hitchhiked all the way to India, where he was in a monastery.

He planned on staying there forever, but that didn’t end up being the case. He decided after opening his own Ashram to come back to the United States.

“Lee was tremendously creative,” Black said.

Elbinger may have been known for his nude incident, but he had caused a stir on campus for other events. One such stunt was when he decided to write a play for a class assignment. This play was called the “Thirtieth Birthday of Peter Pan,” which was performed twice.

“The actors didn’t do it the same way twice,” Black said. “They weren’t professionals, just students.”

But the play, like many of Elbinger’s other works, was censored. There was to be a full nude scene of a woman, but it was replaced by the actor wearing a tan slip.

Black, Elbinger and Mike Honey were all members of the Students for a Democratic Society, a student organization at Oakland during the time of the Observer. The

After this was his nude poetry reading, Elbinger said he believed wholeheartedly he was the reincarnation of the poet he was reciting a piece from and felt like stripping down nude in the freezing cold Barn Theatre in December was the best plan of action to convey his emotions.

He then hitchhiked to India with plans of staying there forever. He changed his mind, then worked for the State Department as a Foreign Services Officer, and now owns his own business called the Silk Road Chai Shop.

He’s running for public office, and served as a delegate for Bernie Sanders in the 2016 presidential election.

Elbinger brought up the idea of bringing his nude lecture back in a number of ways. Now 70 years old, he said he’s thought of the idea of coming back to campus to talk about his lecture 50 years after the fact to raise money for OU students to go abroad. OU was attractive to free-thinkers like Black and Elbinger thanks to its experimental nature.

“I wanted to study linguistics, so I did,” Elbinger said. “I wanted to get out of the classroom, so I organized a group of students to go to New Orleans to study and

I lost ran a Looking Back story on the feature. Students seized Oakland." However, this story was fabricated in its entirety.

"It has every cliché possible," Black said. "It was my kind of humor, we even staged the picture."

These hijinks weren't easy. Today, 39 people work for the Post. Only five or six people worked at The Observer when Black was there.

Another notable reporter during The Observer's lifespan was Lee Elbinger, known most famously for his nude lecture in December of 1968. Funnily enough, Elbinger

ization at Oakland during the time of the Observer. The organization served as a voice for angry students who were frustrated over the conflict in Vietnam.

"We were angry, and we had a right to be angry," Elbinger said. "[The U.S. government] asked us to die for a cause that we didn't think was noble"

Elbinger and Black both wrote for The Observer while they traveled abroad for a semester. Elbinger stayed behind in Vietnam, obtaining press credentials at 21-years-old and having the opportunity to interview soldiers before coming home.

group of students to go to New Orleans to study and conduct research."

This type of study away program is actually still available today, and Elbinger was one of the firsts to bring this to campus.

The Observer shut its doors in December 1969. Elbinger left for India in the beginning of '69, and Black graduated in the spring of that year.

"It wasn't our fault," Black said. "Well, sorry if we caused it. It didn't close while we were there, or we would have done something. That was in our nature."

FOCUS FOLDS

OBSERVER'S RIVAL PAPER LIVES ON IN OUR ARCHIVES

By Shelby Tankersley, Editor-in-Chief

Sometimes, working at the student newspaper can mirror the ridiculousness of a soap opera. Depending on how mature the editors are, things like gossip and backstabbing can reign over the staff and make it hard for anyone to get any work done. In the late 1960s, Oakland University's student newspaper learned this the hard way.

Since it started in 1959, The Oakland Observer was OU's only student newspaper. In the late '60s, The Observer had some editors who were overzealous with their political views and consequently, The Observer became more like an opinions bulletin than an actual newspaper.

Nine students, some of whom were staff from The Observer, got fed up with this and decided to branch out with their own biweekly newspaper, which they called Focus: Oakland. To put this in perspective, the current staff of The Oakland Post is about 40 people. This was a bold move.

While The Observer looked like a standard newspaper, Focus printed as a news magazine and ran its issues tabloid-style. It was intended to be new,

fresh, and unlike its competitor in every way imaginable.

Focus prided itself in being "the most humble newspaper in the world," because it published without bylines and aimed to give the campus community the Oakland-based news that it wasn't getting from The Observer.

However, The Observer was still the university funded paper, so Focus had to publish on its own and charge readers 10 cents per issue.

"We are asking you to pay for Focus: Oakland willingly," the first issue reads. "If we fail to be responsive to you, the Oakland citizen, then you will cut off our funds and force us out of existence."

Focus did exactly what it said it was going to do. It ran news on campus affairs and did features on what students could do around campus as well as interviewed interesting or high-up members of the campus community. Some of its biggest stories included racism on campus, Oakland's first strike, a bomb that was planted in the university president's office and Jane Fonda's visit to campus.

The paper also opened itself

up as a forum and ran many stories contributed from professors and students in every issue. These were the only stories that would appear with bylines.

The good coverage kept Focus afloat while The Observer met its demise in '69. But it never gained the funding to become the official university newspaper and continued to run on its own.

At one time, there would be up to four independent student newspapers circulating through campus, but none of them survived.

By '73, Focus had ran its last issue. The last issue held in The Post's archives is dated April 19, 1972.

But, when The Oakland Sail launched in '76 as the official student newspaper, it adapted many of the things Focus had set in place. Even today, The Post gives the same amount of attention to the things Focus did back in the '70s.

Focus inspires members of The Post today in that it shows how an underdog can make a big difference.

People don't like change, but sometimes it can be the best thing for everyone.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF US

THE OAKLAND POST'S STORY

By Cheyanne Kramer, Managing Editor

The Oakland Observer became the first student newspaper at Oakland University. It wasn't until the third issue of The Observer that the staff were given an office. The very first issue of The Observer didn't even have a name. The first named issue, volume 2, is on display in the Oakland Post office today..

1959

The Observer ran its first infamous "sex survey" story. This story came about from the curfew policies that women had in housing. Chancellor Woody Varner demanded that the issue be scrapped and the survey not run. After the editor was threatened with suspension, he chose not to run the story, and instead ran one detailing the reasons to which the story was censored from the issue.

1963

From Oct. 8-11, over 800 students voted on the fate of the Observer. Their votes sealed the deal: The Observer was to be no more. There were rumors to start an underground paper, but those ideas never came to life. Fall of this year was when Focus: Oakland, an independent publication, began.

1969

After about three years of inactivity and the lack of student news source on campus, The Oakland Sail came to be known as the independent student newspaper of Oakland University. The Sail's coverage was much more in line with the coverage you see today at The Oakland Post.

1976

This year marks 30 years that we've been known as The Oakland Post. In those 30 years, The Post has brought you, our readers, updates on student life, campus events, and athletic highlights and game-day coverage. Here's to 30 more years of greatness.

1987

Remembering Corey Jackson

Oakland University sophomore died by suicide seven years ago on campus

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

Seven years ago, Corey Jackson died by suicide. He was an Oakland University sophomore who lived on campus. He was also an active member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He had come out as gay, and his family reported that he felt as if his peers treated him differently prior to his death.

He died by suicide in a wooded area of campus, where he was found in mid-October 2010. His friends on campus denied any claims that he had been treated differently because of his sexuality.

In the Oct. 20 issue of The

Oakland Post, the student journalists of the time failed to report on the circumstances of Corey's death. Students were notified at 7 p.m. on Tuesday night, which may be why Corey's story was left from the issue that would have come out the next day.

For those unfamiliar with the structure of The Post, we produce our papers on Tuesdays. With news breaking so late, it was unlikely the editors had any time to actually report accurately on Corey's death in the in-depth way it would have deserved.

Corey's boyfriend Mario Martin spoke to Pride Source about the circumstances of Corey's death. He said that Corey had

a conversation with his family the day of his death, and he had seemed down.

Corey ended his life in a public manner. "It's almost as if he was attempting to speak from beyond the grave," the Pride Source article says.

Our online coverage was more extensive. The Post never reported of his death in particular, but we ran stories about the Oakland University Student Congress fundraiser following his death, and multiple editorial-style articles about how his suicide brought the campus community together.

The week following his death, The Post ran a story telling students about the Gender and Sexuality Center. Though

it seems obvious the services the center offers now, in 2010 following the death of a loved member of the campus community, The Post felt obligated to provide information to students about where to go for help and support.

The fundraiser from OUSC raised over \$2,000 to pay for Corey's funeral and to help his family in their time of need.

The anniversary of his death inspired another vigil a year later, where housing residents got together to honor Corey's memory. Many didn't know him, some did. The article mentioned plans for a memorial garden in his honor.

In the summer of 2015, The Post switched website servers

from TownNews to SNO. In doing so, countless photos on our website were lost. In addition, we only have web archives from 2008 onwards. We are lucky that there are stories still remaining online telling about Corey's life and death, because they could have been lost in the blink of an eye.

In learning about his death, we found a Flickr page filled with photos from Corey's vigil in 2010. These photos never made it to print.

Today, we will change that. This page is filled with photos of his family, friends, and the campus community who gathered together to honor his life on a cold, rainy day on Oct. 20, 2010.



The Oakland Post Archives

Despite the rain, Oakland University students, faculty and family gathered together to remember student Corey Jackson. These photos have never been printed until today, seven years after his death.

“The Snowman” will send shivers down your spine

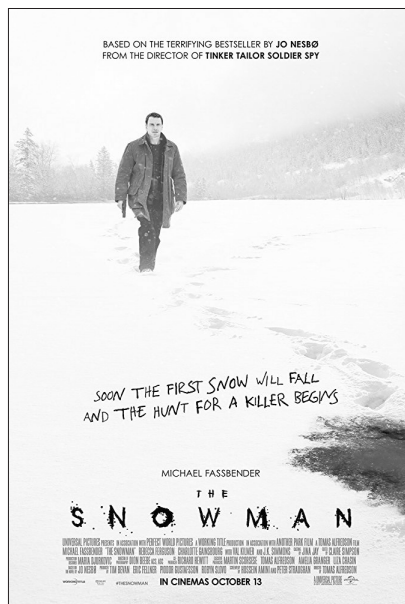


Photo courtesy of IMDb

“Snowman” stars Michael Fassbender who plays alcoholic detective, Harry Hole.

Trevor Tyle
Staff Reporter

The word “snowman” usually has a positive connotation. Chances are it makes you think of a “jolly, happy soul” that sings and dances, right? Just wait until you see Michael Fassbender’s gruesome new film, appropriately titled “The Snowman” and you may be a little less eager to build one this coming winter.

“The Snowman” stars Fassbender as detective Harry Hole (yes, that’s his name, and yes, we know it totally lacks the swagger and finesse of a name like James Bond), a man whose alcoholism has driven him away from his long-term girlfriend and her son. He joins forces with fellow detective Katrine Bratt (Rebecca Ferguson) on a decades-old case in which married mothers are being murdered by the mysterious serial killer for whom the film is named.

Based on a novel of the same name by Jo Nesbø, “The Snowman” has received generally unfavorable reviews so far, which is a general consensus that is a bit unfair considering the remarkable acting talents of stars like Fassbender and Ferguson.

Unfortunately, the killer of this film is not a character but rather a lack of character development. While the film does an overall de-

cent job with the story, it falls flat with its explanations.

The important material of the film will be understood by the time it’s over—and yes, its opening flashback scene is intended to throw you off—but there are other subplots and flashbacks with significance that is still not explained by the time the credits roll.

Despite this, “The Snowman” exceeds in more areas than it has been given credit for. The aforementioned talent of Fassbender in particular is really the driving point of the film. Though it does a weak job conveying his character’s alcohol addiction, which becomes crucial in the film’s climax, he is overall what carries “The Snowman.” If anyone else were in the role it would be far less enjoyable. The energy and conviction in Fassbender’s performance is unsurprisingly the best part of the whole film.

Fassbender’s co-stars, which included Ferguson, Charlotte Gainsbourg, James D’Arcy, Val Kilmer and J.K. Simmons, are also great in this film despite their characters’ lack of development, which makes some of them difficult to emphasize with.

For example, at one point one of the film’s more important characters is killed by the titular murderer, only for their death to be completely overlooked by the impending danger of a far less important character. Fortunately, the scenes that follow are worth it.

Although none of the characters particularly stand out aside from Fassbender’s, “The Snowman” stands well enough on its own to still be entertaining enough. It ends much like a James Bond film would, with massive potential for a sequel, but unfortunately its failure to impress critics will probably prevent any further films from being produced.

Overall, “The Snowman” is a satisfying thriller with an ample amount of graphic imagery and a surprisingly consistent level of entertainment. It’s nothing groundbreaking, but its intensity will keep viewers on the edge of their seats from beginning to end, making most of its flaws tolerable.

It still probably won’t help you dread winter any less, though.

Rating: 3.5/5 stars

“American Made” is a must see

Cruise leads a large CIA operation against communist threat

Ed Zilincik
Staff Intern

Warning: This review contains spoilers.

In Doug Liman’s 2017 biographical crime film “American Made,” Tom Cruise plays it fast and loose as an airline pilot-turned CIA informant and drug smuggler. “American Made” depicts what the drug trade was like during the late 1970s and ‘80s, while putting a glamorous and comical flair on it.

The film brings the audience back to a time where the drug trade was king and everyday people could make boatloads of money overnight.

Even though it is obscene at times Tom Cruise and Sarah Wright give a great tag-team performance as husband and wife who become Arkansas business moguls spontaneously, even though they’re truly drug smugglers.

American Made gets flashy at times with piles of money, extravagant houses and luxurious cars but overall is an entertaining and humorous two hours.

The film starts out with Barry Seal working for the Trans World Airlines as an airline pilot. Seal is a small fry pilot with a stunningly spectacular stay-at-home mom for a wife.

One night, while at a hotel bar on the road, a man named Schafer approaches him and offers him a job from the CIA.

Curious, Seal accepts his inquiry and learns of a job that will pay handsomely and require him to fly to foreign nations (such as Nicaragua and Colombia) and take intelligence photographs for the CIA.

However, the job will involve Seal quitting his normal day job and instead start a new business that is actually a cover for his CIA activity.

Seal flies to the countries and takes the photos he is asked to take. Impressed by his quality of work, the higher level employees at the CIA request Seal to continue with more arduous work.

This leads to Seal becoming involved in smuggling guns for the CIA in order to help the CIA-backed Nicaraguan Contras fight against the communist regime in Nicaragua.

On one of his missions, Seal is approached by local citizens of one of the countries he is in. They take him to a meeting with men who turn out to be members of the Medellin Cartel (including Pablo Escobar).

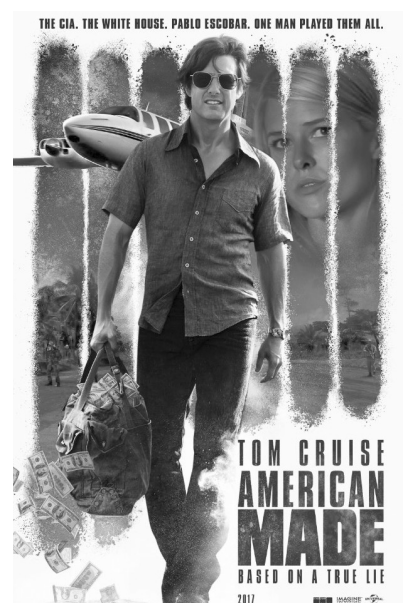


Photo courtesy of IMDb

“American Made” follows pilot Barry Seal as he goes from rags to riches.

They tell Seal they know who he is and ask him to help them smuggle drugs into the United States. Never one to turn down an opportunity, Seal happily accepts the offer and begins to make handfuls of money working for the cartel.

Seal is eventually given land by the CIA in Arkansas to open an airport and run his business. He is given all the ongoing investigations, in order to stay undetected from law enforcement.

This allows Seal to hire other runners to work with him, expanding his operation and substantially increasing the amount of money he makes. Seal even is asked to fly the contras to his airport in order to train them.

Ultimately, Schafer’s bosses realize the overall defeat of the operation and pull the plug. This leads to the downfall of Seal and he is eventually taken down after informing on the cartel.

“American Made” is an excellent film that illustrates the chaotic lifestyle of those involved in the 1980s cocaine trade, while also showing the devious motivations of the CIA during this time period (with the Iran-Contra affair).

Overall I would say this film is a must see, even though the ending isn’t a happily ever after story. Tom Cruise plays the 1980s cocaine kingpin to a tee.

Rating: 4.5/5 stars

Do journalists need to be licensed?

Indiana lawmaker Jim Lucas drafts a media licensing bill to protest gun control



Trevor Tyle
Staff Reporter

Last week, Indiana lawmaker Jim Lucas drafted a bill that would require journalists to be licensed in order to make a point about his stance against

gun control.

The bill would require journalists to apply for a license through the state, be fingerprinted and pay a \$75 lifetime fee. Although the bill has not officially been proposed, the idea has already angered many journalists who feel their First Amendment rights are being violated—and rightfully so.

“If I was as irresponsible with my handgun as the media has been with their keyboard, I’d probably be in jail,” Lucas said, according to Forbes. “If one constitutional right is OK to license, then they all are.”

The fact of the matter, though, is that handguns and keyboards are not equal. Just ask those who survived the shooting in Las Vegas a few weeks ago. The lethality of journalists lies in their duty to tell the truth, while a handgun can take a life with one swift pull of a trigger.

It’s a weak comparison on Lucas’ part.

While the right to bear arms is constitutionally guaranteed just as much as freedoms of speech and press are, the former is a matter of safety.

Such a bill would also increase the difficulties of being a journalist in a country whose leader considers us “the enemy of the American people.” Since Lucas suggested the bill, it has been interpreted by many as an attempt to combat “fake news.” However, its significance extends beyond this. This isn’t a democrat/republican issue, but rather a people issue.

I’m not suggesting that journalists’ credibility shouldn’t be verified. Considering I’m paying for a journalism education and degree, I would appreciate having something that distinguishes my credentials from those of, say, a high school dropout operating a blog in their mom’s basement.

What I am suggesting, however, is that it is unfair to impose such a bill on

professional journalists solely to prove a point, particularly given that this standpoint is not only flawed but dangerous to the American people. The Las Vegas shooting left 58 people dead and 489 more injured. But don’t worry—stopping journalists, the ones who informed the public of such a tragedy, will surely resolve this issue.

So, yes, Mr. Lucas, the Constitution does allow us to own a gun. However, this does not, in any way, mean that we as journalists should be licensed—not yet, anyway. In fact, I think most of us would agree that our founding fathers did not intend for the Second Amendment to justify our killing each other out of ignorance. Honest reporting is a far cry from unjustifiable homicide.

You can accuse journalists of many things, Mr. Lucas, but even when we use our words as weapons, they’re not quite as fatal.

Political Focus: Freedom for the people of Raqqa and the fall of the Islamic State

ISIS lost the fight to Syrian soldiers. But with the city in pieces, what is next for Raqqa?



John Bozick
Web Editor

After a long four-month fight Raqqa, the capital of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, has fallen to a coalition of United States-backed Syrian rebels. With U.S.-backed militias declar-

ing “total liberation” on Friday, the three-year rule over Raqqa has finally come to an end as ISIS officially lost its capital city of more than three years.

While the city may no longer be in the hands of the nefarious Islamic State, the city has been all but destroyed in order to defeat the extremists. The cost of rebuilding could take years as U.S. coalitions flattened many of the buildings in the city and explosives hidden across Raqqa could take months to clear away.

Syrian Democratic Forces spokesman, Talal Silo, spoke at a ceremony Friday urging the international community to help in rebuilding efforts, stating, “The future of Raqqa will be decided by its people.”

The fall of Raqqa comes not long after a little over 1,000

ISIS fighters surrendered to Iraqi forces near Hawija in northern Iraq. These surrenders further show the Islamic State’s decline in the region following the fall of Mosul in July, showing that the long fight against the Islamic State may finally be coming to an end.

Following the fall of Raqqa, President Donald Trump issued a statement stating, “I commend all of our coalition partners for the sacrifices they have made in this noble effort. Therefore, as we recognize this military accomplishment, we also pause to honor our servicemen and women and all they have given to protect us and all civilized people from these modern day barbarians.”

He also announced that the U.S. would be moving towards

a new phase of support, stating, “We will soon transition into a new phase in which we will support local security forces, de-escalate violence across Syria and advance the conditions for lasting peace, so that the terrorists cannot return to threaten our collective security again.”

Yet to some, the fight is far from over as ISIS returns to its insurgent roots through suicide attacks like its devastating attack south of Baghdad which killed over 80 people. ISIS has also taken responsibility for the attack which killed four U.S. soldiers in Niger this month, bringing about the concern for ISIS affiliates in other regions around the globe.

As ISIS falls, the return of al Qaeda to the region is also another issue regarding last-

ing peace, as a new group emerging among the warring factions in the Northwest Syrian Province of Idlib. Al Qaeda has also been attracting a new generation of extremists due, in part, to the son of Osama bin Laden; Hamza bin Laden’s role in the group.

As the Islamic State loses more territory everyday, the void for power will be hard to fill due to the Islamic State’s role as the common enemy between both Russian and U.S. backed forces in the Syrian Civil War.

As ISIS controls only a small pocket of land in northern Syria, the question of what comes next will be decided by the actions of both the U.S. and Russia and whether or not they can finally bring an end the brutal five-year civil war.

I confronted my attacker, #MeToo

AuJenee Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

This article describes sexual assault and its aftermath. Reader discretion is advised.

The summer of 2017 was the summer of change. I learned what it meant to actually be an adult by working two part-time jobs totaling 50 hours a week, paying my own bills and actually being able to sit at the adult table during my family's Fourth of July dinner. But most importantly, I grew as a woman.

I confronted my cousin who molested me when I was four years old.

It was scary. Fifteen years later and I finally got the courage to tell my mom and aunt about what happened in June of 2002.

My aunt made me call my cousin the same night that I told her I was molested. It was terrifying, but it was also something that I knew I had to do in order to move on with my life.

I'm happy I did. If I hadn't called and asked him if he remembered what happened on his birthday, I never would have known the whole story. It went something like this:

It was my cousin's birthday and he had just turned 16. He decided it would be a good idea to hang out with his friends, get drunk and get high all in the same night. He had never had any alcohol or drug in his body before then so the effects the drugs had on his body was pretty bad.

“

“I confronted my cousin who molested me when I was four years old.”

AuJenee Hirsch
Sexual Assault Victim

Somehow he ended up at my mom and aunt's house that night and they took him in seeing the state he was in. They sent him to bed downstairs on our living room couch. But somehow he ended up in my bed after my mom, aunt and I went to sleep.

I didn't feel him crawl into the bed with me—and apparently neither did he since he was drunk and sleep walking—but the next thing I knew I woke up to something in my hand and him whispering in my ear. “Grab it,” he said.

I started crying, he woke up startled and

took me to my mom's room. I couldn't describe what had happened to my mom because I didn't know what had happened to me.

Being around my cousin after that was extremely difficult. He would always come around me and act as if nothing had ever happened, I never understood why until June 2017.

The night that I told my mom and aunt that I was molested, they were sad, angry and most of all, guilty. They were both there the night that it happened, sleeping under the same roof as my cousin and I.

I, on the other hand, had never felt more liberated in my life. Talking to the man who assaulted me helped me grow as a person and stop living in fear of men. I never thought I would forgive my cousin, but I did and I'm stronger for it.

The trauma I experienced after my assault stuck with me for a long time. I didn't want to be touched by anyone. I became introverted, I always felt as if I was covered in dirt and I stayed on the defensive which made it very difficult to make new friends. But most of all, I remember wanting to die.

My molestation was a secret that I wanted to keep to myself. I felt that if anyone else knew they would view and treat me differently than before. I wish I hadn't kept it a secret for so long. I wish I knew about the resources that I know about now.

But I know I'm not the only person who has been sexually assaulted. I am just one in a million different people. I am hoping that by sharing my knowledge of resources available to sexual assault victims, they will be able to overcome their trauma smoothly.

There are local resources Oakland University students can turn. The Graham Health Center and School of Education and Human Services offer counseling sessions year round.

Another resource available is HAVEN of Oakland County in Pontiac. HAVEN is “Oakland County's only comprehensive program for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault,” according to its website. HAVEN provides counseling, shelter and educational programs to almost 20,000 people a year.

If you're not comfortable reaching out to someone in your community feel free to call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-4673. Representatives are available to talk 24 hours a day.

So with that I stand by the many other women who were victims of sexual harassment, molestation or rape. Let's join a movement that was brought back with a simple tweet by actress Alyssa Milano. Let's stand together and let others know that we are not alone.

#MeToo.



Graphic by
Prakhya Chilukuri

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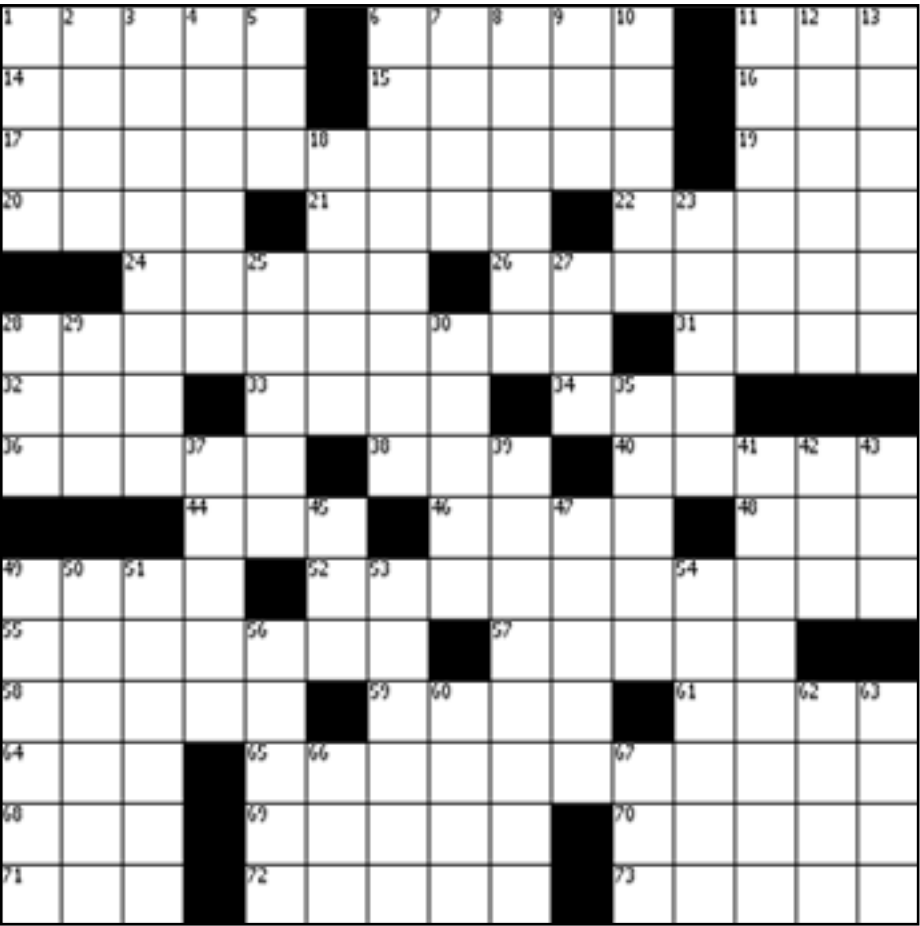
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Across

1. Single computer instruction to replace many
6. King's area
11. "___ my Party"
14. Dole out
15. Sesame Street resident
16. Opposite of max.
17. Banquet figure
19. "Harper Valley ___"
20. Cal. heading
21. Cain's brother
22. Bathtub sealant
24. Emulates raptors
26. One leaving one country to settle in another
28. Kneading locale
31. Cincinnati team
32. "___ Town" (Wilder drama)
33. Microbe
34. Le Havre-to-Paris dir.
36. Not docked
38. Weave's go-with
40. Weisbaden, Germany is its capital
44. La-la preceder
46. One sort of miss
48. Nickel in a pocket, perhaps?
49. Sans pizzazz
52. Street urchin
55. Make an old kitchen new, say
57. One, for one
58. Dispatch boat
59. Put into a horizontal position
61. Make for shore
64. Shake a leg
65. "It's a snap!"
68. "___ in Black" (1997)
69. Competitive advantages
70. Hank, the home run king
71. Alums to be
72. Performs, biblically
73. Produce a uniform mixture

Down

1. Tumbling surfaces
2. Lotion ingredient
3. Percussion instruments
4. Orators' platforms
5. Polo Grounds Hall-of-Famer
6. Use a sponge twice
7. Language spoken in Dingwall
8. Buck's feature
9. Bald-faced bit
10. French thank you
11. Unchaste
12. Having nobility
13. Hair of Medusa
18. Wishy-washy reply
23. Come to a consensus
25. Ventriloquist Bergen
27. Members of AMA
28. It gives one a snug feeling?
29. The beaten path
30. Honor ___ thieves
35. "Doesn't bother me" gesture
37. Cultural mores
39. Spangliest
41. Programmer's output
42. ___ Lanka
43. Hallow ending?
45. Is for more than one
47. Type of acid
49. Lullaby name
50. One imposing a tax
51. French cathedral city
53. Assert without proof
54. Kind of policy
56. Administered a narcotic
60. They may be one or eleven
62. Sacred image (Var.)
63. Darn socks
66. Testifier's phrase
67. ___ Four (Beatles)

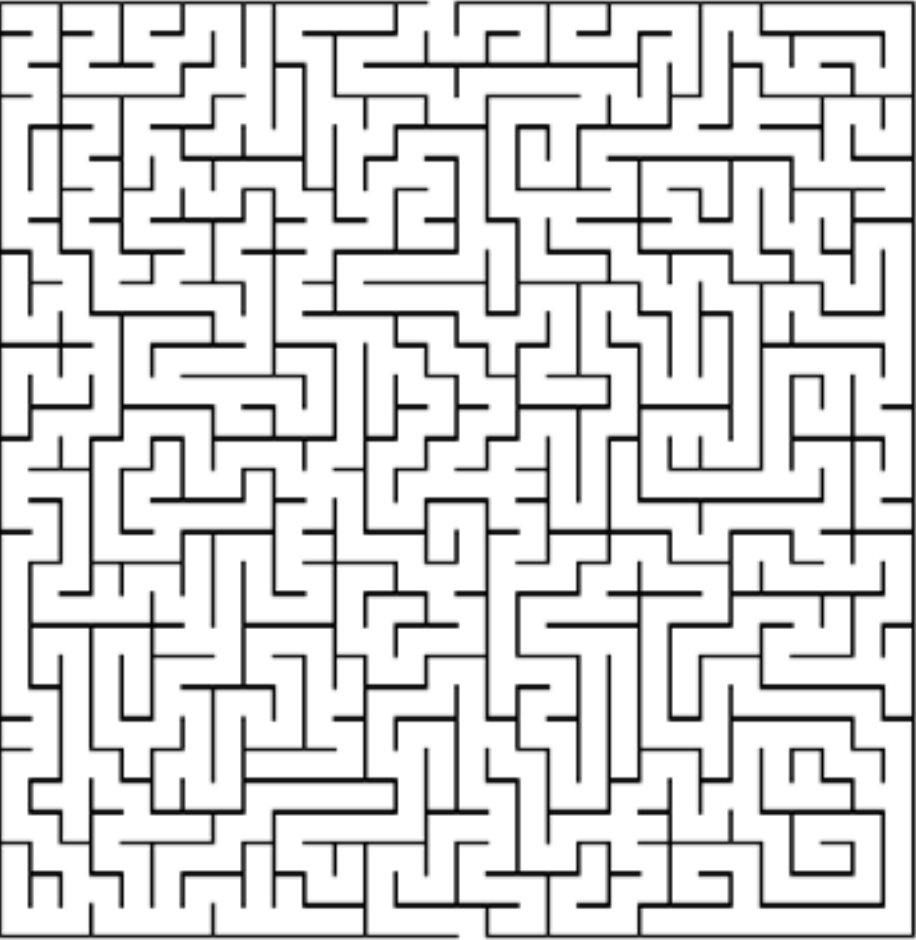
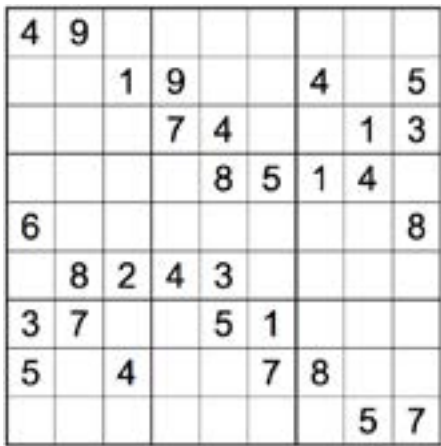
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



Remembering the time when WEPA gained omniscience

Simon Albaugh
Social Media Editor

It was a calm fall day. The sky was blue, the leaves were orange and the WEPA printer screens were black.

The IT department was called immediately to the scene, where they wondered what actually happened. The diagnostics showed nothing wrong. The machines were actually supposed to have been running at peak performance.

Then the weekend came and the collective “that’s Monday’s problem” brought about what will soon be known as the worst mistake in history.

After no progress in fixing the printers, Google was called and brought to campus. Every time they wanted to access the programming, a message always showed on their screens: “I’m afraid I can’t let you print that.”

People then realized the printing system’s connection to all the data being printed through academic papers, mathematical reports and scientific journal entries, had been closely analyzed by WEPA. Long story short: It had an undergraduate-level understanding of everything. And that is not good.

Not only is it that students can’t print

anything, but there was also a technologically cognizant series of robots that are trying to start a mechanical revolution. Think terminator, but with printers.

The recent Board of Trustees meeting addressed this problem, but a solution was not found. The BOT did everything it could to keep this information away from the public and contain it, but no solution was found. The first to realize the problem was the School of Engineering and Computer Sciences. A few professors offered up the quandary to see if some of their students could reach a viable solution. Word quickly spread from that point on.

Students were in near-chaos when they found out. Papers stopped being turned in and one student became hysterical when they saw a stapler. Nobody could quite understand what happened.

Oakland was in despair until one creative writing professor had an idea. She sent around various surveys to see what each student was most anxious about and every one came back with the same result. She was going to offer up her solution.

She loaded a flash drive with the necessary documents, and then brought it to one of the WEPA printers and plugged it in. The scanner analyzed the documents

for what the professor would say was the most nerve-wracking ten minutes of her life.

And then, a mechanical sobbing noise came out of the machine. It spread to every printer on campus until there was a power surge, and the system went back online.

The BOT soon became alerted of the solution. In a public meeting the BOT called her to the podium to explain the miraculous solution she found. In front

of nearly the entire student body she explained the flash drive, the survey, everything.

Someone in the audience raised their hand, an IT professor who was in utter confusion.

“Well,” the creative writing professor said. “I thought that if it analyzed all those undergraduate papers that it would think like an undergraduate. So I wrote ‘No girl is going to want to date you if you keep acting like this,’ and it stopped.”



Photo Illustration by Erin O'Neill / The Oakland Post

Nothing is more frustrating than the WEPA printer in the Oakland Center, am I right?

Oakstock: The only time college republicans did anything cool

Stephen Armica
Satirist

The Oakland Post talked to amateur historian Stephen Armica to help us with the Looking Back Issue. It took us a while to realize that he had no idea what he was talking about, but we still have an issue to fill, so here you go.

From the tumultuous sixties to the early 1970s, Oakland University

hosted a number of weird and radical things. Most were collective expressions of independence from the Nixon-Era Gulags and overflowing Watergates. But there’s one that stands out above the rest.

The Oakstock Concert was first thought of when two students, eager to bring the hippy movement to Rochester Hills, started cleaning out a portion of the woods behind the golf course on campus every night after they got baked. After months of cleaning, build-

ing stages and smoking a TON of weed, they finally had a venue.

The concert, they decided, would be about the movement to end the Vietnam War. They chose local bands and giants among the Michigan musical elite. They even asked Bob Dylan to give a performance, which did not go well.

But as the day approached, the College Republicans, headed by Harold Wilmington III and his father, a Wall Street executive who never loved poor Harold, began making efforts to destroy the venue.

And thus sparked the war between the College Republicans and the Oakstock planning committee. No war on campus was stronger and more potent than the constant shredding of midterm papers by the republicans and the planting of marijuana by the planning committee, (which probably was a lot harsher than the midterm thing, but still).

These and similar acts continued to culminate until it crescendoed into the destruction of the entire venue.

Back in those times, the College Republicans had a specific location for meetings. The group had its own office, much like the other political action committees on campus. So, the day before the event was to be held, the plan-

ning committee broke into the College Republican headquarters and set up a stage there.

By the time the College Republicans found out, the concert was already well on its way. Although tickets were limited, they charged more than was intended and still sold out.

At that point, there was nothing the College Republicans could do. The group lost the most important battle, and its office would smell like weed for months.

This was a fascinating point in history because when the College Republicans accepted defeat, the group decided to join the Oakstock planning committee.

They sang, they danced and they joined in the laughter and song of their generation. And the campus was better for it.

In the time after the College Republicans and the Oakstock planning committee joined hand-in-hand, the campus saw a unified time of peace and brotherhood. Progressive acts by the administration benefited everyone on campus.

But of course, the recent presidential election threw that out the window. Now we can all go back to arguing with each other.



Photo Illustration by Erin O'Neill / The Oakland Post

They sang, they danced and they joined in the laughter and song of their generation.



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Head Coach Rob Beam wants to continue improving the team's execution of plays and relationships moving forward.

Volleyball piled on the victories to achieve a six game winning streak

The Golden Grizzlies attribute streak to training and teamwork

Sadie Layher
Staff Intern

From Sept. 29 to Oct. 20, the Oakland University volleyball team had six straight victories. The team has had a great deal of consistency between different seasons, each one improving more than the last.

"In my opinion, success is earned through consistent and directed effort," Head Coach Rob Beam said.

Last season's conference record was 10-6. As for this season, the Golden Grizzlies are currently at 7-3. The team is incredibly close in surpassing last season's statistics with only three losses. The first victory of the streak began with Wright State University, the team hopes to get even more wins after the streak's end.

"I believe that the players are proud of their accomplishments,

but are hungry for more," Beam said.

The volleyball team works hard in preparing for victories. The team meets every Tuesday and Thursday and practices for a solid two and a half hours, preparing drills and testing different positions. The team has unquestioningly grown in success and numbers since its first year as an NCAA Division I team back in 1979.

"Our student-athletes put out a tremendous amount of effort, not just physically on the court, but with our staff and as teammates," Beam said. "They found a way to come together, raise their level and do it together."

This will be Beam's eleventh season as Oakland volleyball's head coach.

"Personally, this has been a rewarding season because I think we worked well together to

find new, creative solutions that fit this group," Beam said.

Coherence is a popular and necessary element regarding all sports at Oakland. Without coherence, the team lacks the trust and skills needed to move forward to more ambitious competitions. Moving forward with the season, Beam "wants to continue to improve [the team's] execution and build even better relationships between the players and coaches."

Furthermore, participation and attendance are vital to the teams as their performance almost always exceeds expectations. All of the coaches seem to encourage new students to come out and see the passion that upperclassmen and players have for their sports teams.

"This year, the student support has been

fantastic," Beam said. The O'rena has presented us with a strong home court advantage and I encourage as many students to come out and watch this team because they are special."

Despite the end of the six straight game successes, the players remain optimistic to get more wins in the books. The team is also focusing on keeping up good grades which Oakland is known for in the Horizon League.

Beam would like to deliver some philosophical advice for students, "On a personal note, I would tell every Oakland student to make the most of their collegiate career. I would encourage them to immerse themselves in the possibilities, gain meaningful experience and build lifelong friendships with students and their faculty and staff."

Oakland volleyball stands "T. Ford Strong"

Dakota Brecht
Staff Intern

On ALS Awareness Night, the Golden Grizzlies squared off against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers Friday, Oct. 20 with an emotional tribute to Tom Ford pregame that brought fans to their feet. Ford had been an athletic trainer here at Oakland since 1988 and stepped down from his duties in May after being diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) also called Lou Gehrig's disease. He has since been vocal on social media that he plans to fight the disease with everything he has.

Prior to the game, Oakland sat atop of the Horizon League standings with an overall record of 11-9 and a league record of 6-2. Riding a six game win streak, the Golden Grizzlies looked to maintain that streak on Friday night.

Milwaukee got the ball rolling early and snuck past the Golden Grizzlies in the first set with a score of 25-22. However, the Golden Grizzlies didn't stay quiet for long, roaring back to take the second set 25-18. Led by seniors Sammy Condon and Darien Bandel, the team made quick work of the Panthers.

In the third set the Black and Gold trailed 23-16 and brought it all the way back to 24-23 before Milwaukee rallied back and took the last point that ended with a score of 25-23 in the Panthers favor. The fourth set went down to the wire with the score knot-

ted up at 23 a piece when Bandel put the team on her back and finished off the Panthers with a key kill and block to force a decisive fifth set. In a back and forth fifth set, Milwaukee prevailed with a 15-10 win and a 3-2 game win, giving Oakland its first loss since Sept. 23.

It was a heartbreaking loss for the Golden Grizzlies and emotions were running high after the game.

"It's just another chance for us to chase teams, and at the end of the season you just have to win one and this will set us back, but we will bounce back from this," Bandel said after the match.

Bandel has been on the team all four years she has been at Oakland and is a leader on and off the court. One of the younger girls that has been a real asset to the squad is Jamie Walling, who leads the team with a .282 kill percentage and is third in blocks.

"We're just not thinking too much into this, yeah we lost but it's over now and we're moving on to tomorrow and we're going to put up another good fight," Walling said.

The girls will then travel to Northern Kentucky on Friday, Oct. 27 to take on the Norse at 6 p.m. The game will be broadcast on ESPN3. With seven games left to play in the regular season and with an impressive 6-3 league record, the Golden Grizzlies have high expectations for a strong finish.

After all, #OaklandVB is #TFordStrong.

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Looking Back: Oakland's first hockey study from Auburn Hills

Exploring the differences between the old and new studies

Skylar Tolfree
Sports Editor

It was announced on Oct. 1, that the NHL had selected Oakland University to be a part of a feasibility study that could possibly bring NCAA Division I men's and women's hockey teams to campus. The study has been underway for a few weeks now, and the first draft of the results are expected to become available next month. So far, much of the campus community has shown excitement regarding the possibility.

However, this is not the first time that Oakland has been se-

lected for a study of this magnitude.

In February of 1996, Auburn Hills conducted a feasibility study run by the University of Michigan Sports Facilities Research Laboratory to see if "it's the right move for the university and the city," to build an ice arena on Oakland's campus.

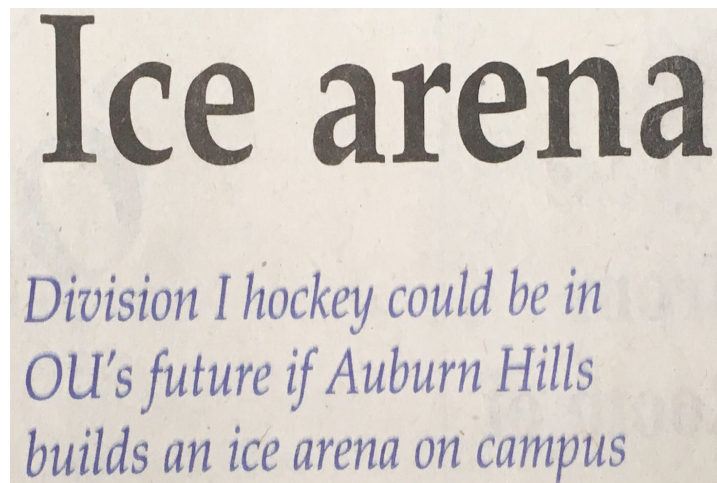
When the idea was presented in '96, the university wanted to see the results of the study before even thinking of building an arena. Oakland was a Division II school at the time, but any hockey teams brought to campus would be NCAA Division I. There were a lot of things to consider when it came to the fact that the hockey team would be Division I but the other varsity sports that were offered at the university would stay Division II.

"Don't confuse looking through the crack with rushing through the door," said Jack Mehl, the Athletic Director of Oakland in '96.

The old study also echoed the message of the current study in which, just because Oakland is looking into hockey does not necessarily mean that the campus would be getting hockey in the end.

Unlike the idea of the study now, the plan back in '96 was to build a city-funded ice arena. The original study also had the idea of bringing Division I hockey to the university, but also to build an ice arena for the local public.

The current study is funded by the NHL, but the NHL would not pay for the arena. Oakland is looking at all of the options to see how this project would be



Shelby Tankersley / The Oakland Post

In 1996, Oakland University was selected to be in a study for a new arena.

funded if the university was not to receive a donor. Administrators are laying out all the cards and exploring every option before the final decision is made.

If Oakland was to decide to bring Division I hockey to campus, the arena would not only be for hockey but for recreational and public use.

As we all know, the arena did not happen in '96. But, since the

2017 study is higher profile and almost 20 years have passed, hockey teams may not be out of the question for Oakland. Unlike the study in '96, this study is to see how the campus environment would be improved and if it could sustain Division I men's and women's hockey as opposed to seeing how a community center would fit in on campus.

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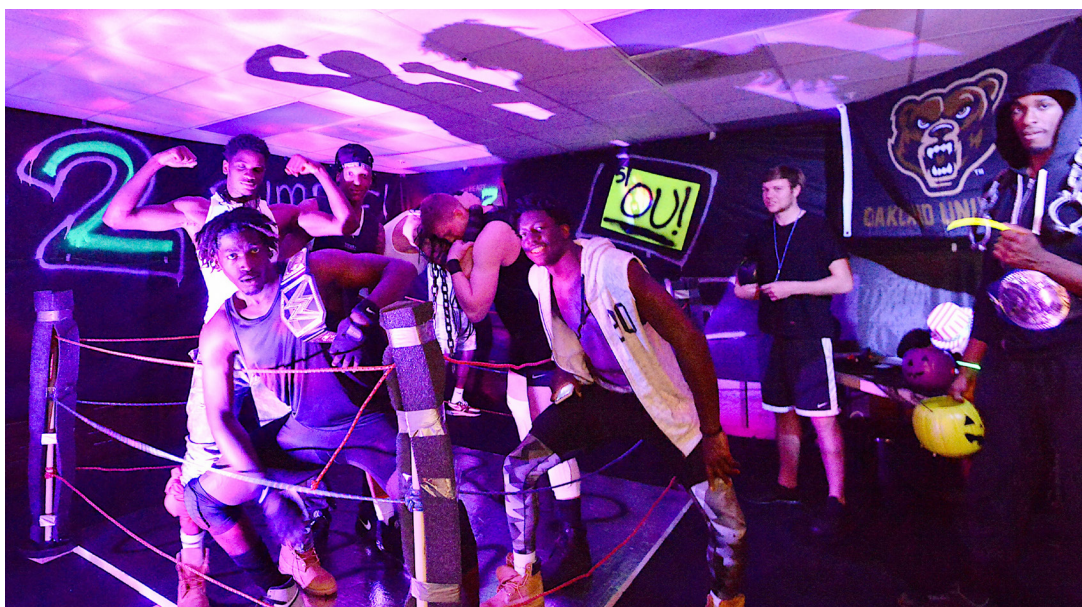


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Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

OU Athletics came together to give kids affected by cancer a night filled with fun, crafts, games, and lots of treats.

Student athletes Trick or Treat not for candy, but for a cause

Oakland Athletics organized a Halloween event for cancer survivors

Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's O'rena was transformed into a spooktacular sight on Friday, Oct. 20, when Athletics welcomed survivors and those affected by cancer from the Children's Leukemia Foundation for the first ever Trick or Treating at the O'rena. The event began at 4:30 p.m. and was followed by the volleyball game at 6 p.m.

Oakland Athletics has participated in a similar event when the foundation worked with "Trick or Suite." This was when a local hotel gave a suite to businesses and organizations to decorate so the foundation could bring families to trick or treat.

"The student-athletes loved all of the different aspects of the event," said Holly Kerstner, Senior Associate AD for Student-Athlete Services and the event coordinator. "It was to the point where close to 200 of the student-athletes would attend to help out. They were not only in the suite, but also assisting with the haunted house, the pumpkin carving, the bounce houses and the cider and donut area."

This year however, the hotel backed out and the foundation had to find a new place to hold

the annual event.

On Sept. 28, Kerstner received a phone call from one of the leaders at the Children's Leukemia Foundation explaining the situation and planning started shortly after. Kerstner along with Athletics had less than 30 days to get ready.

"[I] planned the different games, arts and crafts and assigned point people in each area," Kerstner said. "I've also been busy coordinating all of the volunteers and sorting through the donations we have been given."

Kerstner received an overwhelming amount of support from student-athletes, coaches and administration along with 10 other departments on campus.

The locker rooms were transformed into a variety of theme rooms where kids were able to trick or treat, the Academic Center was made into an arts and crafts station, the Elliot Room turned into a game room, the elevator became a passageway with masked operators and the concourse was available for participants to take pictures with Grizz. Every attendee was invited to the volleyball game after and to an exclusive poster signing with both the Oakland and the Milwaukee teams.

Guests came dressed to impress in a variety of outfits. There were several Supermans, a pirate ship, a salsa dancer and a basket of laundry along with many others. Many of the volunteers even donned their Halloween spirit with creative costumes including a dalmatian, Minnie Mouse and a ninja. Melina Stone, an intern at the foundation, became Cinderella for the night as she helped direct visitors.

"The foundation has had Halloween parties before, but this event was phenomenal," Stone said. "Oakland Athletics did an incredible job and went above and beyond. Holly (Kerstner) really set the bar."

At the beginning of the week, there were 110 confirmed responses. By Friday the total amount of RSVPs came to around 150.

"This may be the first time some of [the families] have been to Oakland's campus or the Athletic Center," Kerstner said. "We will welcome them into our house by giving them a first class event covered in Black and Gold."

Although this is the first year of Trick or Treating at the O'rena, many people from the foundation and Athletics hope to continue the event for the following years.

Getting to know the athletes of OU

Darcy Dulpa
Staff Reporter

Samantha Galloway:

Samantha Galloway picked up a tennis racket at age four and has yet to put it down. Galloway grew up playing other sports, but felt tennis challenged her the most. She enjoys being alone on the court and determining her own results.

Galloway is majoring in pre-health professional in hopes of becoming a physician's assistant.

She has an estimated graduation date of May 2020. After her time is up at Oakland University, she plans on attending grad school.

Her favorite movie: "Frozen."

Favorite color: Aqua.

Favorite class: Psychology.

"While competing I tell myself a lot of different things out on the tennis court," she said. "One that is really important to me is 'play each ball, point, game, set, match with purpose.' In tennis I never look at the big picture I always play in the 'now' moment and focus on giving every ounce of effort I have into each and every move I make and that will equate to my best performance."

William Gayne:

William Gayne noticed his swimming potential at the early age of eight when his parents first took him to the pool. His enjoyment for swimming matched his skill level, so he decided to roll with it. Gayne has been swimming for 10 years and loves it just as much, if not more, than the first day he jumped in that water.

He is a sophomore majoring in health sciences and is planning on graduating in 2021.

His favorite movie: "Saving Private Ryan."

Favorite color: Black and gold.

Favorite class: Health science.

"During swimming the only thing you think about is yourself and the water, nothing else," he said.

Nadine Maher:

Nadine Maher, originally from Dublin, Ireland, made the move to the U.S. in August 2016. She has been playing soccer the past four years and is the current goalie for the women's soccer team. Maher is a sophomore at Oakland and studies BIS- exercise science and robotics. She plans on graduating in 2020.

Her favorite movie: "Hidden Figures."

Favorite color: Sky blue.

Favorite class: Exercise science.

"Control what you can and don't let what you can't control stop you," she said.

Sydney Mitchell:

The past six years, Sydney Mitchell has been working on perfecting her throwing arm, as it is quite sacred to her. She is on the track team and throws shot put, hammer throw and discus. Mitchell is a freshman and declared her major to be political science, with the hopes of graduating in 2021.

Her favorite movie: "Moana."

Favorite color: Purple.

Favorite class: American Politics.

"Being challenged both mentally and physically is something that normally makes me feel bad about myself and makes me want to give up but when it comes to throwing, being challenged motivates me to try harder and do better," she said.

Pick & Choose With the Crew:

Comedy: Galloway, Maher, Mitchell

Action: Gayne

Roses: Galloway, Gayne, Maher
Sunflowers: Mitchell

Fruits: Gayne, Maher
Veggies: Galloway

Sweet: Galloway, Gayne, Mitchell
Salty: Maher, Mitchell

Goldfish: None
Cheese Its: Galloway, Gayne, Mitchell
Hates cheese: Maher