

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

MARCH

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— 2017 —

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ontheweb

Debra Wheeler, an adviser in the School of Engineering and Computer Science, is receiving OU's annual Outstanding Professional Academic Advising Award.

PHOTO / Taylor Stinson

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WRITE ON // The Department of Writing and Rhetoric gave out its annual Writing Excellence Awards at a luncheon at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7 in Banquet Room A of the Oakland Center. Student submissions were judged by committees of WRT faculty, and 27 students received prizes in nine categories. The department also honored two students with its first annual Writing and Rhetoric Major Awards. // *Courtesy of Jackson Gilbert*

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



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WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY

The International Students and Scholars Office collaborated with the Honors College to celebrate diversity and global connections. PHOTO / Elyse Gregory



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NEW HEIGHTS

Three Oakland volleyball players traveled to Colorado Springs last weekend to try out for the U.S. national teams. PHOTO / Nowshin Chowdhury



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EXTRA TERRESTRIAL

The Oakland University Art Gallery's latest exhibit, "Terrestrial Celestial," displays mixed media work by Professor Cody VanderKaay. PHOTO / Taylor Stinson

POLL OF THE WEEK

Most depressing OU loss this week?

- A** Men's basketball
- B** Women's basketball
- C** Baseball
- D** Gold Vibrations
- E** Housing

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Did you enjoy spring break?

A) The weather confirms global warming. #feeltheburn

13 votes | 21%

B) Unfortunately, I didn't find a sugar daddy, so I'm back.

18 votes | 29%

C) I really enjoyed "La La Land" ... I mean "Moonlight."

9 votes | 14%

D) I did literally nothing, and I feel fantastic!

23 votes | 37%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

MARCH 3, 1961

MSUO (the former name for OU) students were encouraged to take summer "bargain rate credits." For \$39, they could take four to six credit hours in half the length of a normal semester.

MARCH 12, 1979

Kresge Library installed a new alarm system to deter thieves. The alarm would sound when unchecked books passed through panels in front of the doors. Dave Dustner, head of the Circulation Department, didn't think the system would save much money.

MARCH 9, 1987

A male student living in Hill House went to the hospital and claimed he was shot after a failed drug deal. He was brought in for questioning and said he had been transporting 10,000-15,000 hits of LSD from one person to another.

BY THE NUMBERS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

2086

the year women will see equal pay in Michigan, if trends continue

7

continents held Women's Marches in January 2017 (including Antarctica)

3.3 million

people participated in the Women's Marches

0

arrests were made during the Women's Marches

<http://elitedaily.com/>
<http://statusofwomendata.org/>

Perspectives

The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

The overlooked reason Oakland Athletics can't fire Greg Kampe

Melissa Deastch
Sports Editor

The Oakland University community had high hopes for the men's basketball team in its 50th season. After capturing its first Horizon League regular season championship, it looked like this would be the year the Golden Grizzlies would reach the ultimate goal of going dancing in the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2011.

But when Youngstown State's Jordan Kaufman hit a game-winning layup as time expired in the quarterfinal matchup of the Horizon League Tournament, hearts broke in the Joe Louis Arena.

Feeling the pain of that heartbreak, many fans took to social media and discussion boards such as GrizzTalk to share their feelings. In the mess of Twitter rants, lengthy Facebook posts and heated debates arose a trend: the call for the departure of the man at the heart of Oakland basketball for the past 33 years: head coach Greg Kampe.

Oakland has been bounced from the Horizon League tournament in its first game three years in a row. Frustrated fans calling for Kampe's removal say that something must change.

In the debacle that was the final 30 seconds of Saturday's game, Kampe was guilty of a coaching error. With less than four seconds to go in the game, he sat on a timeout that, in retrospect, he should've used. He addressed this decision in the postgame press conference without being prompted.

"You know what, I had a timeout left with 3.2," Kampe said. "And I thought about taking it and just to remind everybody to stick true to their assignments, to check the

shooter, and don't get beat on a put-back, and all that. And I didn't take it because I didn't want [Youngstown State] to set something up... wish I had."

Would a different coach have made the right decision? Would a different coach be able to take Oakland deeper into the postseason? No one knows for sure. But there are steep sacrifices in taking the risk to find out.

The long list of accomplishments and the progress the program has experienced during Kampe's tenure are important points in his defense, as well as the media attention he earns for OU, the recruits he's brought in and the undeniable difficulties that would come with a coaching change.

But as a Division I athlete myself (full disclosure: I played volleyball at Oakland for four years), I see a more abstract reason Kampe needs to stay.

The men's basketball team is in a unique position. It's a growing, mid-major program that has become highly respected in its 17 years in Division I. This growth has created a connection between the program's past and its future.

The players call themselves Team 50, not the 2016-2017 men's basketball team. They talk of continuing traditions more than accomplishing personal goals. Players such as senior Sherron Dorsey-Walker cite "the traditions of Oakland basketball" as reasons for coming to Oakland.

Who has created this environment? Greg Kampe.

This culture creates a sense of pride and connection in every player that has come through Oakland men's basketball during the Kampe era. It was made apparent by the hundreds of alumni and their family members in attendance for the announcement of the All Half-Century Team. It keeps alumni close and gives the

players something bigger than themselves to play for.

This extra motivation is priceless at a program like Oakland's. There is a special "feel" in the environment of a program that knows it's on the cusp of greatness. This is the case for Oakland basketball.

I do not belittle in any way the investment fans have in Oakland basketball. They feel the pain of every loss and joy of every win alongside the players.

However, fans see only the performance displayed on the court at game time. They do not get to see the preparation, experience the internal culture or feel what it is that drives these players through the rigorous seasons and long off-seasons.

Don't underestimate the power of culture in sports. It is the X-factor behind the scenes that motivates the players through the countless hours of work that go unseen.

A culture this special is invaluable and needs to be protected and maintained. Firing Kampe would put giant question marks over the future of the program, opening the opportunity for this culture to be erased and have to be built again from scratch.

The bottom line is that the players did not execute at the time it mattered most. Unfortunately, in sports, that is sometimes the way it goes. There are at least four players carrying guilt from their final moments in Saturday's game. But win or lose, it takes a team. And these Golden Grizzlies have more important things to feel than guilt as they prepare for the NIT and next season.

Though the team came up short in the postseason again this year, the future continues to be bright. The season is still highlighted with significant milestones, and greatness is still within reach with Kampe leading the way.



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

The "Looking Back" from March 1 mistakenly said Oakland men's basketball went to the NCAA tournament in 2006, 2010 and 2011. The team actually went to the tournament in 2005, 2010 and 2011.

If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call (248) 370-4268. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center, 312 Meadow Brook Road, Rochester, MI 48309.

Housing sets things straight after code locks students out of returner sign-up

Shelby Tankersley
Campus Editor

Oakland University Housing veterans are familiar with the emotional roller coaster of signing on to their computers at midnight, filling out a Housing contract and hoping they get a decent priority number.

This year's returner sign-up took place at 12 a.m. last Wednesday, and hundreds of students were upset to find themselves locked out of the online system after staying up late to secure their Housing spots.

For those unfamiliar with the process, Housing's returner sign-up determines who gets to live on campus next year and who doesn't. Once the system runs out of priority numbers, the remaining students are put on a waiting list. Not everyone who fills out a Housing contract is promised a room.

Last year

Problems began last year when the Housing server crashed during returner sign-up. According to James Zentmeyer, director of Housing, OU had been using an outdated server for the process. So, when hundreds of students jumped on it at once, it froze.

While the freeze scared many students, OU had it fixed in under 10 minutes. It ended up not being a big deal.

To avoid a reoccurrence this year, Zentmeyer made sure OU used a new server.

"We started working on this year's process the day after last year's sign-up," he said. "There was that seven-and-a-half-minute glitch, and the opening 30 minutes were very nerve-wracking. So, we went right out and replaced the out-of-date hardware we had been using."

The opening 30 minutes of returner sign-up make or break it for students competing for limited spots in on-campus Housing. Those 30 minutes determine who is in and who is out. So, Zentmeyer and his team spent a lot of time making sure a server crash didn't happen again.

And a server crash didn't happen again. Something else did.

This year

"I almost expected something to happen," said Jessica Born, a resident assistant in Oak View Hall. "Everybody had their laptops out at like 11:45. Around midnight, I started hearing people freak out."

The upset lasted almost an hour and a half, much longer than last year.

This time, the problem wasn't the server.

According to Zentmeyer, the website provider included a line of code that searched for students' photo IDs when they opened the Housing application.

OU doesn't use a photo ID system, so nobody had a photo for the website to find.

With hundreds of people attempting to jump on the site at the same time, it crashed because nobody had the first thing it was looking for.

Every year, Zentmeyer stays up the night returner sign-up goes live. So, he was aware of the problem right away.

"The site just kept looking for that photo," he said. "Some people got through, some people were thrown out, and some were just hung in the system."

Zack Thomas, president of OU Student Congress, put out a petition the next morning. It calls for the university to:

- Review the website provider and its effectiveness,
- Perform test runs with the website provider to avoid future issues, and
- Work with the website provider to expand server capacity or use a cloud-based server during Housing sign-up.

Though the petition includes information about the faulty line of code, Zentmeyer contested Thursday that it contains erroneous information about what actually happened and partially blames the problem on Housing not fixing last year's problem.

"I spoke with [Zentmeyer] the night of the registration error to get the run-down on what had occurred," Thomas said. "We made sure to incorporate that information into the petition as to best inform the students."

Thomas said he created the petition to hold Housing accountable for properly testing the site to avoid problems of any kind. He said it's important to fix the problems now instead of waiting for something else to go wrong.

Just over 300 students have signed the petition.

How it's being fixed

Because some students got through to the application right away and others didn't get through until an hour and a half later, Zentmeyer knew the priority numbers would end up being unfair.

"We looked at everything from doing nothing at all to holding another sign-up, but that would be a royal pain," he said. "We can see all student activity on the site down to a thousandth of a second. So, we are using the time when a student

first tried to sign on."

In other words, if a student tried to sign on right at midnight, but was booted out of the system, their original attempt will be honored when it comes to determining the student's priority number.

The cherry on top? According to Rebecca Wickham, associate director of Housing, roommate matching and room selection should continue to move on the original timeline.

"I appreciate and applaud [Zentmeyer] and Housing for their efforts thus far to find a compassionate solution for our students, and for continuing to communicate in a transparent manner to students throughout this recovery process," Thomas said.

Housing is broken into three phases: the apartments, living learning communities and general housing.

Phase 1: The apartments

Students who qualify to live in the on-campus apartments should receive their priority numbers the week of March 5. Roommate matching will happen March 6-7, and room selection takes place March 8-9.

Phase 2: Living learning communities

Students who are involved with things like the Honors College or the International Village can live in living learning communities. There are also living learning communities for engineering, business, and pre-nursing students. Students moving into these communities next year can expect learn their priority numbers the week of March 12. Roommate matching will take place March 13-14, while room selection will be March 15-16.

Phase 3: General Housing

Students moving into the residence halls will receive their numbers the week of March 19. Roommate matching will be March 20-21, with room selection happening March 22-23.

Wickham stressed that, although a student's priority number may seem really high, there aren't actually that many people ahead of him or her.

For example, if a student is grouped into Phase 3 and is priority number 700, hundreds of people will have already signed up for different types of residences in Phases 1 or 2 by the time Phase 3's room selection opens up. So, that student isn't actually waiting behind 700 people for a spot in the dorms.

POLICE BRIEFS

Marijuana on Meadow Brook Road

On Feb. 2, officers were dispatched to Hamlin Hall at 11:01 p.m. to investigate two individuals who smelled of marijuana. When they arrived, they were let into a room by a man with bloodshot eyes. The officers suspected he was under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In the room, they saw another man sleeping near a bottle of Burnett's watermelon vodka and cans of Miller High Life. Officers asked one of the men if he had been drinking, and he said he only had a few sips. He also denied smoking marijuana, but his mood gradually became relaxed and his speech started to slur. After denying smoking a second time, officers noticed both of the man's pupils were dilated. Officers told him he was lying, and he admitted to smoking. Officers searched the room and found empty beer bottles and an empty yellow container that smelled of marijuana. The man who answered the door was promptly given an MIP and marijuana citation. The other individual was 21, but was transferred to the Police and Support Services Building for booking after the officers discovered he had previous arrest warrants.

Trapped in the elevator

The Oakland University Police Department was dispatched to the Engineering Center on Feb. 7 because two individuals were trapped inside an elevator. At first, neither seemed particularly distressed. Officers assured them a technician would be there shortly. Outside the elevator, a male repeatedly called 911, requesting the fire department get his girlfriend out of the elevator. After the third call, one of the officers told him to stop calling 911 because he was tying up the emergency lines. However, the man said his girlfriend was having an anxiety attack. OUPD immediately contacted the Auburn Hills Fire Department, which quickly responded to the scene and opened the elevator. After exiting, the girl chose not to receive emergency medical services. At 11 p.m., an electrician arrived and put the elevator out of order until maintenance could be performed.

Compiled by Robert Ogg
Staff Reporter

ISSO, Honors College celebrate global community

Amy Swanson
Staff Reporter

The International Students and Scholars Office collaborated with the Honors College to hold “Celebration! An International Meet and Greet” at 11 a.m. on Feb. 28 in the Honors College, which is in Oak View Hall.

The goal was to have a good time while recognizing global connections on campus through study abroad, language learning and cultural exploration.

The function began with a word from Graeme Harper, dean of the Honors College, who came up with the idea for the event. He assigned students the task of meeting one person from somewhere new — and eating as much food as possible.

The latter was not difficult, as there was what seemed like a mile-long table of international dishes. From butter halal chicken to vegetable samosas, no one left hungry.

Harper aimed for the event to be more of a party. The room was decked out with colorful centerpieces and flags from around the globe. Guests wore party hats to top off the festive look.

While mingling, attendees were encouraged to grab sticky notes and jot down why they thought international experiences and students are important to OU. The notes were then posted on a map.

Caitlyn Theis, a junior marketing major, said she recognizes the importance of learning about various cultures. She has a personal connection: Her roommate is

from the Middle East.

“It’s great to see life through different perspectives, even just in eating the food or hearing about their experiences growing up,” Theis said.

Later, rhythmic melodies reverberated throughout the room as people were treated to a performance by Mark Stone, coordinator of the World Music Program for the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance. He played the traditional gyil, a pentatonic xylophone from Ghana.

Stone has worked to share global music with the OU community through different ensembles and concerts, and has led study-abroad trips to Ghana and Trinidad.

“Events like this give us an opportunity to celebrate our common humanity,” Stone said. “We are all citizens of this planet and, as such, need to recognize the oneness of humanity.”

Allison Radell, assistant director of the ISSO, said the function may be even more important in light of America’s current political climate.

“Recently, there have been some public displays of hatred or fear of immigrants, and it is important for international as well as domestic students to know that we are a safe and welcome environment here at OU that values all of our global connections,” Radell said.

Stone referred to the “us vs. them” mentality being pushed by some politicians.

“To counter this, we must shun all partisan politics, all divisions of race and all divisions of religion, and instead acknowledge that we are one,” Stone said. “It is time



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

On Feb. 28, the Honors College and International Students and Scholars Office hosted an event recognizing global connections through study abroad, language learning and cultural exploration.

for us to simply move to an ‘us and us’ way of thinking.”

Sharfaa Chowdhury, a senior nursing major, said she feels similarly.

“It makes you realize you have more similarities than differences with people of different backgrounds,” Chowdhury said.

Harper said no one benefits from ignoring global understanding and rejecting global cooperation.

“A nation becomes infinitely weaker when it only looks inward,” he said.

Harper believes participants celebrated ideals embedded in OU’s DNA.

“Oakland University has such a wonder-

ful relationship with global understanding,” Harper said. “It was part of our founders’ vision that students here at Oakland would be global citizens — that they would meet people from many countries, who would travel to study at this wonderful institution, and that students from here in Michigan would go out into the world, too.”

Moving forward, other organizations will soon be holding multicultural events on campus. This includes International Night on March 24 and Arabic Week from March 27-31.

For more information on the ISSO, visit <https://oakland.edu/isso/>.

Monthly SAFE on Campus training supports LGBTQIA+ community

Gina Navaroli
Staff Reporter

The Gender and Sexuality Center offers a program called Students, Administrators and Faculty for Equality on Campus.

SAFE on Campus has been a program at Oakland University since 2003. As the program is reaching its 14th year, it has supported the LGBTQIA+ community by providing on-campus training.

SAFE on Campus has introductory- and advanced-level training, and each session ranges from 45 to 60 minutes long. The introductory level includes group activities and information on LGBT terminology, how to make referrals, on-campus re-

sources and the role of an ally.

Advanced training is only taught to people who have completed introductory training within the past two years. The training is more extensive and discusses social justice theories of being an ally, focusing more on unrecognized identities.

GSC coordinator Grace Wojcik said SAFE on Campus helps OU maintain a good campus culture.

“We have a pretty large LGBT+ population on campus,” she said. “It’s pretty important for folks to have a basic understanding in terms of working with students, but it’s also so they can work with and relate to faculty and staff, as well.”

As coordinator since 2011, Wojcik facilitates programs and events, and she is the main facili-

tator and organizer of SAFE on Campus.

While the training sessions have facilitators leading discussions and activities, students are allowed to ask questions about anything throughout the training.

“If they have questions maybe about a particular situation they’ve experienced in the past, about a potential situation or just clarification,” Wojcik said, “We can steer the conversation into those directions.”

The GSC has offered introductory and advanced training sessions once a month for the last two years.

SAFE on Campus is one of the many programs the GSC provides. The GSC’s goal is to positively represent the LGBT com-

munity, as well as offer support and resources to all OU community members.

The GSC offers free safer-sex materials, healthy relationship advice, on- and off-campus resources and information on LGBT topics and needs, as well as information on sexual health and well-being. The center also provides peer mentoring and a lending library.

Morgan Shaw-Andrade, a senior studying biology, said SAFE on Campus training opened his eyes to new things.

“I have taken introductory SAFE on Campus training,” he said. “During training, we go over basic terminology and explain gender and sexuality as a spectrum, with some individuals being completely off the

spectrum in cases of asexuality or agender. It was a wonderful experience that is extremely informative.”

Shaw-Andrade thinks programs like SAFE on Campus are necessary on college campuses.

“Regardless of who you are or whether you’re a part of the [LGBT] community, it’s essential we learn about the individuals around us,” he said. “I’m a man that stresses the ideology of infinite learning, and I strongly believe we all have grey areas in our understanding that need to be addressed.”

“We’re called a community for a reason, and as a community, we support each other,” he said. “This is one of the small, yet impactful ways we can support each other.”

Meeting of Minds presents research opportunities

Students showcase undergraduate research through presentations, success stories

Amy Swanson
Staff Reporter

Time is running out to register or submit proposals for the Meeting of Minds Undergraduate Research Conference.

Held on May 12, this forum will give students the opportunity to showcase their undergraduate research and creative endeavors through oral or poster presentations.

The day begins at 8:30 a.m., when attendees have an hour to register and enjoy a continental breakfast before exploring different presentation sessions in South Foundation Hall. The sessions will cover everything from art history and French to nursing and physics.

During a break for lunch, the group will hear a student success story, where an alumnus or alumna speaker will share his or her professional journey since presenting at MOM. Sessions will continue

into the afternoon.

This will be the conference's 25th annual session and a collaboration between OU, the University of Michigan-Dearborn and the University of Michigan-Flint.

Robby Stewart, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and member of the conference's planning committee, believes the greatest benefit of presenting can be found in the preparation.

"Many of the students who will be presenting have been engaged in independent research projects or extending class projects where the ultimate goal is to have a product that can be presented to others," Stewart said. "Rather than simply turning in a project and having it evaluated by their instructor, these participants will have the opportunity to share the product of their labors with a wider audience."

He said presenters gain practice in prepared and on-the-spot speaking skills regarding a subject that is mean-

ingful to them.

Similarly, Anne Hitt, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a member of the conference planning committee, said participating can help with interviews for jobs and graduate, medical or professional schools.

"In the past, my students have discovered they learn a great deal about their own work by listening to the comments made by others," Stewart said.

Those who present are invited to publish their projects in this year's volume of the Meeting of Minds Journal of Undergraduate Research.

The articles in this newly electronic journal highlight the work of students and their committed faculty mentors. It is specifically designed so students gain experience with the manuscript submission and review process.

Even if they are not presenting, undergraduates of all disciplines and majors are encouraged to attend, especially those looking to get involved in research.

"Many students are intimidated by the idea of research or feel that it is an undertaking for graduate students,"

said committee member Beth Dawson, financial analyst for the College of Arts and Sciences. "We present a forum for students to share their creative endeavors with peers and faculty alike and hope to inspire younger students to partake in research of their own."

With so many disciplines presented, Stewart also said it's an opportunity to learn about something new.

"You can spend three minutes at a poster or 30 minutes, depending on how interested you are in the topic and how engaging the conversation might be," he said. "If you are a knowledge nerd like me, MOM is a great day."

Organizers recently opened up the conference to students and faculty from Oakland Community College, Henry Ford Community College, Mott Community College and Macomb Community College. The goal is to motivate these students to conduct their own undergraduate research upon admission to a university.

To submit a proposal (due March 10) or register, visit <https://www.oakland.edu/mom>.

Thomas' State of the Student Body Address looks forward, backward

An overview of OUSC's annual end-of-the-year wrap-up

Grace Turner
Managing Editor

Everything from parking to social justice was addressed by Student Body President Zack Thomas at his State of the Student Body Address on Monday, March 6.

The first part of the speech focused on Oakland University Student Congress' accomplishments from this academic year.

Thomas and Student Body Vice President Anders Engnell worked with the administration to come up with a parking plan that will add 660 parking spaces by fall 2017. Thomas also cited petitions OUSC put together that protested controversial administrative, operational and board actions; the minimum wage increase; increased accessibility; the preferred name policy; actions taken to get students registered to vote; and efforts to reinvent OUSC internal functioning, among other topics.

Thomas said Engnell, who he called "bae," spearheaded about half of the projects the two of them undertook. He also

acknowledged the accomplishments of other OUSC leaders.

Thomas also discussed what he and Engnell could have done better, including increasing professional growth and team-building opportunities for OUSC staff, and better marketing this year's OUSC campaign, so more than one ticket might have run in the election. He also warned that prioritizing OUSC initiatives is challenging.

Finally, Thomas discussed Oakland's direction. He thinks it would be beneficial for Oakland to enter public-private partnerships, in which companies could rent land from Oakland to open businesses like an on-campus bar or movie theater.

He also would like to see OU increase the number of tailgates, sell alcohol at sporting events, look into an NCAA football team and relax on-campus alcohol restrictions.

He is against unrestrained enrollment growth and said accessibility must continue to improve. Finally, Thomas emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong student voice.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITIONS OF LIFE EDITOR AND SPORTS EDITOR AT THE OAKLAND POST.

RESPONSIBILITIES

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

APPLICANTS SHOULD

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- Be able to communicate effectively with reporters, sources and other editors
- Be able to work on tight deadlines to maintain regular print and online publication
- Have a strong command of AP style and grammar conventions
- Have a basic understanding of legal and ethical concerns in journalism

NOTE:

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS					
WEDNESDAY 3.8	THURSDAY 3.9	FRIDAY 3.10	SATURDAY 3.11	MONDAY 3.13	TUESDAY 3.14
<p>10 A.M.-2 P.M. Alpha Phi Omega Day of Service Oakland Center, Oakland Room</p> <p>11 A.M.-12 P.M. OU Women's History Month Kickoff with a "March on OU" Sponsored by the Office of the President and Office of the Provost Meet at Elliott Tower</p> <p>11 A.M.-1 P.M. Government and Nonprofit Mixer Career Services Oakland Center, Banquet Rooms</p> <p>1:30 P.M. A Discussion About Planned Parenthood Sponsored by Feminists of OU 376 Mathematics and Science Center</p> <p>5-7:30 P.M. Career Night and Internship Orientation for English Majors and Minors / Creative Writing Majors and Minors Oakland Center, Gold Rooms A & B</p> <p>5:45-8 P.M. Networking Banquets Hosted by Technology and Leadership Keys Meadow Brook Hall</p> <p>7-9 P.M. Documentary Screening: "Honor Diaries" Sponsored by CSA Oakland Center, Fireside Lounge</p>	<p>12-1 P.M. Quicken Loans Résumé and LinkedIn Workshop for Liberal Arts Students 242 Kresge Library</p> <p>12-1 P.M. Kaplan GRE Challenge for Pre-Health Students Hosted by OU Pre-Professional Advising Oakland Center, Banquet Room B</p> <p>12-2 P.M. Religion: From Misconception to Diversity and Unity Oakland Center, Banquet Room A</p> <p>3:45 P.M. Softball vs. Buffalo Oakland Softball Field</p> <p>5-8 P.M. Suture Clinic Hosted by American Red Cross Club Oakland Center, Lake Superior B</p>	<p>8:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M. 2017 Graduate Student Research Conference Oakland Center</p> <p>2:30-3:30 P.M. Introductory Tai Chi Hosted by Chinese Corner at OU Recreation Center, Herman Room</p> <p>4-5:45 P.M. Fit for Success Hosted by CSA Leadership & Volunteer Center Recreation Center, Studio 919</p> <p>4:30-6:30 P.M. Bridging the Chasm: A Social and Political Dialogue that Matters Hosted by the School of Education and Human Services 129 Oakland Center</p> <p>8 P.M. Women's tennis vs. Chicago State Recreation and Athletic Outdoor Complex</p>	<p>9 A.M. Softball vs. Indiana Oakland Softball Field</p> <p>9 A.M.-1:30 P.M. 2017 Spring Commencement Fair Oakland Center, Banquet Rooms</p> <p>11:15 A.M. Softball vs. Western Illinois Oakland Softball Field</p> <p>8-10 P.M. Senior Dance Concert Varner Recital Hall</p> <p>SUNDAY 3.12</p> <p>9 A.M. Softball vs. Lipscomb Oakland Softball Field</p> <p>3 P.M. Imani Winds performance Varner Recital Hall</p>	<p>10 A.M.-6 P.M. My HERo Day Sponsored by CSA Oakland Center, Fireside Lounge</p> <p>3-5:30 P.M. Women's Panel: Leadership Skills on Fighting Wage Inequalities & Bias in the Workplace Sponsored by CSA Leadership & Volunteer Center Oakland Center, Lake Superior A</p> <p>4-5 P.M. Ask a Med Student Hosted by Pre-Medical Volunteer Society of OU Oakland Center, Lake Superior B</p> <p>5:30-7 P.M. Physician-Assisted Suicide in Michigan panel Hosted by Political Science, Religious Studies and OUWB 203 O'Dowd Hall</p> <p>5-8 P.M. Arabic Language Club's Game Night Oakland Center, Lake Michigan Room</p> <p>6-8 P.M. Third Annual Murphy Creative Intersections Event: "Dance for Parkinson's Disease: Making the Connection" with Ali Woerner Hosted by the Honors College 208 Oak View Hall</p>	<p>12-1 P.M. What is Title IX? How Title IX Impacts All of Us Sponsored by Violence and Abuse Resource Consortium Oakland Center, Fireside Lounge</p> <p>5-7 P.M. Graduate Open House Hosted by Graduate Education Oakland Center, Banquet Rooms</p> <p>7-9 P.M. The Detroit Race Riot of 1943 lecture by Karen Miller Oakland Center, Gold Rooms B & C</p> <p>7:30-9:30 P.M. Clarinet Studio Recital Varner Recital Hall</p>



2017 GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE



MARCH 10, 2017 | 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | OAKLAND CENTER | oakland.edu/grad/events

Konya named Athletics Director of the Year

NACDA announces OU AD among top in the nation

AuJenee Hirsch
Staff Reporter

Oakland University Director of Athletics Jeff Konya has been named among the 2016-17 Under Armour Athletics Directors of the Year. The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) made the announcement on Thursday, March 2. Konya was one of four athletic directors selected in Division I-AAA.

Konya came to Oakland in 2014 after spending time as the athletic director for the California State University, Bakersfield athletic department.

"I started investigating when the job became available in 2014," Konya said. "I thought that a lot of the things that I do well could really translate to Oakland. I thought that it would be a great job and a great fit for myself personally."

The brand

Since coming to Oakland, Konya has led the Golden Grizzlies to unprecedented success. On his first day of the job, he hosted a brainstorming session with faculty, staff, alumni, donors and students to discuss how to further develop Oakland Athletics. Konya then took that feedback and focused on the branding of the department. He launched the #WeartheBear marketing campaign and developed an idea to create three unique floor designs and have fans vote on them for Oakland's next basketball court. After over 10,000 votes, the Blacktop was built in time for the 2015-2016 season.

One of Konya's most important projects was developing an ethos, or a statement of belief, for the department. By collaborating with the Athletics administration for almost a year, the ethos was finally set.

"The ethos is really a byproduct of trying to make a statement for our culture," Konya said. "We needed to understand what our core strengths were and what we wanted to be the end product of the experience and all those kinds of things."

The experience

In addition to working on the Golden Grizzlies' branding, Konya wanted to enhance the student-athlete experience. One way he has achieved this goal is through the creation of the Black and Gold Awards.

At the end of every school year, the awards are hosted at the Fox Theatre in

downtown Detroit. The BGAs were designed to showcase student-athletes' stories and accomplishments.

"It's fantastic to get out and do the Black and Gold Awards and tell the stories and hear about these great successes that some people may not even know about," Konya said. "I think it's going to keep growing. It's going to be on TV this year, so there's a lot of interest in it, a lot of interest in Oakland Athletics and the Golden Grizzlies."

Many student-athletes have experienced the positive effects of having Konya as the athletic director. Senior volleyball player and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee President, Breann Reveley, feels that Konya is "most deserving of this award."

"[Konya] has transformed our athletic enterprise," Reveley said. "He's very passionate, and knowing that your AD is doing everything in his power to go above and beyond to make your experience as a student-athlete the best it can be is so rewarding. It just makes you want to do better for the athletic enterprise."

The future

Although Konya has achieved a lot during his time at Oakland, he still believes there is more to improve.

"I think the biggest thing that we need to look at is our facilities," Konya said. "A couple of our facilities are behind our competitors, and hopefully we'll be able to get a couple of these facilities online that will really transform Oakland Athletics moving forward."

Konya wants to continue moving the department forward. He knows Oakland has the potential to become a top athletic program.

"In athletics, you can't stay still because your competition's trying to catch you," Konya said. "We've had a lot of wins, a lot of successes over the past few years, but we know that we need to keep pushing the envelope. Part of our ethos is to be innovative and forward-thinking, so it's kind of always on the front end of our minds to try and push the envelope, so we can stay clear of our competition to the best of our ability."

The NACDA acknowledges athletic directors for their commitment and positive contributions to student-athletes, campuses and their surrounding communities. An awards celebration will take place Tuesday, June 13 at the NACDA Convention in Orlando, Florida.

Student-athletes excel on both sides of the hyphen

Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

As winter sports come to a close, many athletes show that they are competitors both on and off the field. At the end of February, the Horizon League announced the Academic All-League Teams for basketball, indoor track and field, and swimming and diving. A total of 13 Oakland men and women were named to the All-Academic Teams for their respective sports.

To be eligible for All-Academic honors, an athlete must meet three criteria. They must participate in at least one of the league's 19 sports during the current season, have completed at least 24 credits as a full-time student at the same member institution and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2.

If an athlete meets these criteria, a faculty athletics representative from each of the Horizon League schools casts a ballot to decide who will be awarded Academic All-League Honors.

Since joining the Horizon League in the 2013-2014 school year, Oakland has been a top school for student-athletes earning academic recognition.

Holly Kerstner, senior associate athletic director for Student-Athlete Services, has helped Oakland athletes meet the athletic department's goal of an overall 3.0 GPA. In fall 2016, the athletes had an average overall GPA of 3.27, surpassing the department best of 3.24 in fall 2015.

"We had a really good group of athletes," Kerstner said. "You never know what the freshmen are going to bring to the table. Those are the ones that haven't established a GPA, and we had a couple of freshmen with 4.0s. These are 4.0 kids that are in calculus and chemistry. This was a really strong freshman class."

For the men's and women's basketball All-Academic Teams, only five male and five female athletes were chosen from all 10 Horizon League schools, and Oakland had three athletes honored. Sherron Dorsey-Walker represented the men's basketball team, while Nicole Dodd and Taylor Gleason represented the women's team.

Dorsey-Walker has long excelled in the classroom, graduating as valedictorian of Pershing High School in Detroit. He holds a 3.32 GPA in integrative studies.

Women's basketball head coach Jeff Tungate was very impressed that two of his players were named to the five-member team.

"This shows Oakland's commitment to developing and recruiting true student-athletes," Tungate said. "[Dodd] and [Gleason] prove you can be successful both on the court and in the classroom. They are great role models for student-athletes everywhere. I'm really proud of them and their great accomplishment."

Gleason holds a 3.88 in integrative studies, while Dodd holds a nearly perfect 3.93 in health sciences.

From Oakland, swimming and diving had the most athletes honored, with a total of seven. Aleksander Danielewski (3.9, electrical engineering) and Joe Smith (3.84, health sciences) represented the men's team, while Takara Martin (3.62, health sciences), Patricia Aschan (3.62, psychology), Melissa VanderMeulen (3.83, health sciences), Rachel Waite (3.44, nursing) and Alysse Fischer (3.82, elementary education) were honored for the women.

Indoor track and field's Miranda Haas, George O'Connor and Tyler Sirut were also honored. A fifth-year senior, Haas currently holds a 3.91 in biology. O'Connor boasts a 3.54 in communication, while Sirut holds a 3.66 in his first year of nursing school.

"I'm just so proud of them because I think that it takes a lot to be dedicated in your sport, and it takes a lot to be working so hard academically," Kerstner said. "There's certainly times when the student-athletes could get focused simply just on their sports, especially when they're hitting their junior and senior years . . . These athletes are showing that we are competitive all around."

2016-2017 Horizon League Academic All-League Athletes

Men's basketball: Sherron Dorsey-Walker

Women's basketball: Nicole Dodd, Taylor Gleason

Men's track and field: Tyler Sirut, George O'Connor

Women's track and field: Miranda Haas

Men's swimming and diving:

Aleksander Danielewski, Joe Smith

Women's swimming and diving:

Patricia Aschan, Melissa

VanderMeulen, Takara Martin, Rachel

Waite, Alysse Fischer

Kownacki pitches way to Horizon League titles

Redshirt senior claims back-to-back Pitcher of the Week Titles after blood clot

Katie LaDuke
Staff Reporter

Injuries are common among athletes. Many battle sprained ankles, concussions or ACL tears. However, the thought of a blood clot, especially in the brain, is not the first thing that comes to mind when athletes do not feel 100 percent.

Erin Kownacki, pitcher for Oakland University softball, is a rare case. In early October 2015, Kownacki found out that she had a massive blood clot in her brain that could have killed her.

At one point during her stay in the hospital, Kownacki even lost feeling in the right side of her body and could not talk.

This condition caused her to take a redshirt during her fourth year and miss the full 2016 softball season.

Blood thinners and medication got rid of the clot. After being released and allowed to play again in May 2016, Kownacki began practicing for her final season representing the Golden Grizzlies on the softball diamond.

"Just being around my teammates, for the most part, helped me get back into the routine of playing again," Kownacki said. "The biggest thing for me was coming back and being able to throw my pitches at least somewhat how I used to and be comfortable with it."

Over the summer, Kownacki had help from teammates to slowly ease herself into practice mode. Once the full team returned in the fall, much of the preparation for the season focused on strength and conditioning.

In the middle of February, the Black and Gold traveled to Florida for two early season tournaments. The game against Boston University on Feb. 17 marked Kownacki's official return to the game, along with her first win of the season.

"Everything happens for a reason," Kownacki said. "I can't sit there and think 'Oh why did this happen?' I have to think there has to be a reason that I'm here for a fifth year, so that's what drives me. I feel a lot better with how the first few games went. It felt good to get back out there. From September until now, all of the work we have all put in is coming to-

gether."

Along with a win against Boston University, Kownacki also helped pick up wins against the University of Massachusetts and Ball State while the team was in Florida.

She was named the Horizon League Pitcher of the Week on Feb. 20.

In another complete-game performance, Kownacki shut out Ball State. She also recorded her first career save in Oakland's game against Morgan State. This led to back-to-back Horizon League Pitcher of the Week titles on Feb. 27.

"It feels good to be named the Horizon League Pitcher of the Week," Kownacki said. "I was surprised both times, but especially the second week. I know there's still a lot that I need to work on. It feels good to know that I'm going in the right direction."

It's not common to see someone bounce back from the condition Kownacki was in just a little over a year ago, especially with what she has already done this season.

Head coach Connie Miner often refers to Kownacki as her "miracle."

"I believe that it was a miracle, and a lot of other people feel the same way with how massive the blood clot was," Miner said. "For her to be 100 percent OK and to be back on the field at the highest level you can be at for Division I, it's amazing to me."

Kownacki is still not fully back to where she once was — she must prioritize working on her pitches and focusing on strength.

"[Kownacki] is maybe at 70 percent of what she can do, so that should be scary to our opponents that she just won back-to-back Horizon League Pitcher of the Week titles," Miner said. "There were a couple of games that she dominated, and there were some that she had to work through but still dominated. She is ready to throw against anyone."

As the Golden Grizzlies get deeper into the season, they will be turning to the upperclassmen on the team.

With freshmen and sophomores making up two-thirds of the squad, experienced leadership is key to maintaining a solid foundation, especially as this year's team embarks on recreating the 2015 championship season.



Courtesy of Oakland Athletics

After fighting off a blood clot in her brain, Oakland University softball pitcher Erin Kownacki was named the Horizon League Pitcher of the Week on both Feb. 20 and Feb. 27.

"[Kownacki] has always been a leader in a quiet way, but I've seen her be a more vocal leader for us now," Miner said. "Every game she pitches, we're right in there. [2015] was a storybook season, and we're in a position where we can do that again. If we stay healthy and with the right approach under [Kownacki] and the other seniors' leadership, we'll be in a great position."

Seeing Kownacki go through this has

been an eye-opening experience for all those around her.

"When you're young, you think you're invincible, and that's kind of scary," Miner said.

"If you've lost your priorities, this brings you back pretty fast. You need to appreciate every opportunity that you have because at any second it can change. We're just lucky everything went our way with [Kownacki]."

Oakland University American Red Cross and Trinity Community Care Benefit

All students interested in a health career are encouraged to attend!

This fundraiser is also a networking event, and will include guests from local hospitals and medical graduate schools! This is a great opportunity to network in your field of interest!

Featured Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Joel Kahn, MD, FACC, FSCAI
Cardiologist
Founder of the Kahn Center for Cardiac Longevity
Professor of Medicine
Best-Selling Author
Founder of GreenSpace Cafe

Saturday, March 25, 2017
6 O'Clock PM

Location:

Rochester Community House,
816 Ludlow Ave, Rochester, MI 48307

Ticket prices:

Students: \$30
Non-OU Students: \$35
Professionals: \$40

For more information or tickets, please email redcross@oakland.edu.
OU students can purchase tickets at the CSA ticket window





Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

After a Senior Night win against the Penguins, the Golden Grizzlies faced them again in the quarterfinals.

Motor City sadness: No.1 seed Oakland falls to YSU 81-80

Melissa Deutsch
Sports Editor

Team 50 had its dream of a Horizon League tournament championship snatched earlier than anyone expected. For the third year in a row, Oakland lost its first game in the Horizon League tournament.

The Golden Grizzlies fell to the Youngstown State Penguins 81-80 in the quarterfinals of Motor City Madness on March 4 in the Joe Louis Arena, despite having beat YSU by 29 points on Feb. 21.

The Golden Grizzlies never controlled the game as would be expected of a first seed playing a ninth seed.

The game saw 19 lead changes and came down to the final 30 seconds. Oakland had the ball under the Youngstown State basket with 28 seconds to go.

Under heavy pressure, Sheron Dorsey-Walker failed on his attempt to inbound the ball to Martez Walker, throwing the ball out of bounds and giving possession back to the Penguins.

Cameron Morse was the obvious go-to player for YSU's final shot as the clock wound down. Morse scored 34 points throughout the game and was shooting 12-for-24 from the field at the time.

Morse got two attempts at regaining the lead for his team,

rebounding his first shot, only to miss his second.

With Oakland still up by 1, Jalen Hayes went to the line to shoot one-and-one after being fouled. He missed his first shot, giving YSU the ball with 11 seconds to go.

Having missed his last two attempts, Morse had the ball at the 3-point line. He faked a shot, sending the ball to Youngstown's big, Jordan Kaufman. A defensive mistake by Isaiah Brock left Kaufman alone under the basket for the game-winning shot.

"A freshman made a mistake," head coach Greg Kampe said in the postgame press conference. "Our big is supposed to stay at the front of the rim and protect it."

Kampe explained his decision not to use his final timeout with under four seconds left. In retrospect, he sees he could've used that opportunity to remind his players of their positional responsibilities, but he didn't want to give Youngstown a chance to set up a play.

"We definitely thought he was taking that last shot," Hayes said of Morse. "He lit us up all game . . . He made a great pass. Give him credit."

The Penguins had led by as many as 10 in the first half. In the last five minutes of the first half,

the Golden Grizzlies were able to score 15 to the Penguins' 7, giving Oakland a 1-point lead at the half.

The second half saw the lead change 11 times, as both teams battled for the win and the right to continue on to the semifinals. Hayes led Oakland with 27 points, adding 13 rebounds. Walker added 22 points, and the team's lone senior Dorsey-Walker scored 16.

Youngstown State's top performers were Morse, who ended up shooting 12-for-28, and Kaufman, who finished with 22 points, two of which may be the highlight of his basketball career.

"Honestly, this still doesn't feel real," Hayes said in the postgame press conference. "We worked all season for this moment today, and we came up short."

Kampe shared the pain with his players.

"My heart is broken for Sheron," he said. "He has had such a great senior year . . . I'm in the moment with this group of kids, and my heart's broken for Sheron."

With Oakland's regular season championship came an automatic bid to the postseason National Invitational Tournament (NIT). Oakland will find out its seed and first game shortly after the NCAA selection show on March 12.

Women lose quarterfinal against Milwaukee 82-60

AuJenee Hirsch
Staff Reporter

In the women's basketball quarterfinal of Motor City Madness, the Golden Grizzlies (18-12, 12-6 HL) battled the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers (20-10, 11-7 HL) and lost 82-60 on Sunday, March 5. No. 4 Oakland was looking for a third win against No. 5 Milwaukee after defeating the team twice earlier this season.

"I'm proud of our team and how they competed," said Oakland head coach Jeff Tungate during the postgame press conference. "We've overcome a lot of adversity throughout the year . . . It's a tough loss. It's hard to beat a good team three times . . . At the end of the day, we've just got to get a little bit tougher."

Redshirt senior Hannah Little decided to play in the game despite having a broken hand. She was scheduled to have hand surgery earlier this week, but decided against it because she would not have been allowed to play in the quarterfinal.

Little averages 11.6 rebounds per game and is ranked fourth in the nation for rebounding. At halftime, however, she had zero rebounds. Tungate believed that it was not her hand that

kept her from going for rebounds, but worrying about her hand.

Oakland's lead scorer, with 16 points, was sophomore Taylor Jones. Jones was 5-for-15 from the field and 3-for-6 from beyond the arc. Graves followed Jones with 15 points and went 3-for-6 from the 3-point line.

In order to prepare for the game, Milwaukee focused on working more as a team and preventing Oakland from scoring off turnovers.

"When we drew this draw coming into the tournament, as a coach, to be honest with you, I was a little nervous," said Milwaukee head coach Kyle Rechlicz in the postgame press conference. "I think that Oakland is an incredibly talented team."

The Panthers' leading scorer was junior Jenny Linder with 19 points. She led both teams in points, going 7-for-11 from the field and 5-for-5 from the free-throw line, getting a total of 14 rebounds.

With the Golden Grizzlies out of the Horizon League championship, Milwaukee went on to play in the semifinals on Monday, March 6 against University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. Green Bay won the tournament and will go on to compete in the NCAA tournament.



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Taylor Jones led Oakland with 16 points in the game against the Milwaukee Panthers on Sunday, March 5 at the Joe Louis Arena.

Little proves she's tough stuff

Team leader in rebounds doesn't sit out tournament despite broken hand

Melissa Deatsch
Sports Editor

In the final game of the Oakland women's basketball regular season on Saturday, Feb. 25, Hannah Little went up for a rebound, just like many times before. She led the team in rebounds this season with 342, but this one would come at a price.

Little came down from the rebound in excruciating pain, after her hand was trapped between the ball and her opponent.

"I just remember pulling away real fast," Little said. "When it first happened, I was like, 'Oh man. It's over for me' . . . it hurt so bad."

In the following days, Little awaited answers and had big decisions to make. After seeing the X-rays on Monday, it was clear her hand was broken and was going to need surgery.

With the Horizon League Tournament just days away, the doctor told Little she could play, but recommended against it, doubting she'd be effective with a useless hand. Together with the doctor, the athletic trainer and head coach Jeff Tungate, Little decided to schedule surgery and was ruled out for Motor City Madness.

As the week progressed, so did Little's hand.

"The next day, I woke up, and I was like, 'Hey, I can move my hand. Let me see if I can go and dribble or shoot a lay-up.' So, I went to practice, and I was on the side just dribbling."

She called Tungate after practice and said, "You trust me coach? What would you do if I told you I could play?"

Little said Tungate was very supportive throughout the process. He prioritizes the players' health and well-being over winning.

With the surgery scheduled for the following day, Little had her athletic trainer cancel, barely 24 hours in advance.

"It was hurting, but I was like, 'I can move it,'" Little said. "I can't just sit on the bench. So, I was like, 'I'm going to give it a go.'"

Little had more to think about in making this decision than just the quarterfinal matchup against Milwaukee. She has plans to play professionally after



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

Despite a broken hand and a recommendation not to play, Hannah Little decided not to sit out the Motor City Madness quarterfinals. In her 25 minutes of play, she managed 6 points.

she graduates this April. She was getting some predraft attention and was set for a combine at the end of March with WNBA and overseas agents in attendance.

“
I mean, what an incredible story. How many people are going to play with a broken hand, tape it up and say, 'Let's go'?

Jeff Tungate
Women's basketball head coach

However, with the recovery period for the surgery being about 10 weeks, Little wasn't sure if she'd be able to participate in the combine either way.

"The doctor said it would be a tight squeeze," Little said. "The doctor said I could play in the combine, but if I messed up some screws and plates, [I'd have to] come back and fix it . . . I might as well play in the Horizon League Tournament, then have surgery and heal fully, rather than have to re-injure myself."

So Little suited up alongside her teammates, ready to take on the Panthers of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in

the quarterfinals of Motor City Madness. The Golden Grizzlies didn't get the result they wanted, and the 2016-2017 season came to a close after an 82-60 loss.

Little had 6 points in the effort against Milwaukee, playing 25 minutes. She usually averages 11 points and about 32 minutes per game.

"I wasn't thinking about it at all," Little said. "At the beginning of the game, I was like, 'What hand? Let's go.'"

Little admitted she couldn't be as effective as she'd hoped.

"I was just trying to do anything I could," she said. "I couldn't grab rebounds how I usually grab them. I couldn't get deflections how I usually do."

"I just wanted to be in and be on the court," she added.

"I mean, what an incredible story," Tungate said in the press conference after the loss to Milwaukee. "How many people are going to play with a broken hand, tape it up and say, 'Let's go'? Then, in the second half, she just came out and said, 'Forget the hand, we're winning, let's play.' I just think the toughness of that kid is unbelievable. I don't know very many people in the country that would do what she attempted to do today, and I'm just really, really proud of her."

"I'm sad we didn't win, but I had fun and we had a great season," she said. "I'm happy [with my decision]."

THE BLITZ

Men's Golf at Colleton River Invitational

Jake Kneen shot 2 under par, good for 11th place in the Colleton River Collegiate at the Pete Dye Course (par 72, 7,169 yards) on Tuesday.

As the team, Oakland finished in 10th place with a total score of 922 (+58). The men's team will head to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 13-14 for the Bash at the Beach Tournament hosted by Appalachian State.

Women's Golf at Benbow Invitational

Morgan Smith led the team with a second-place finish (153, +9) after two days of play in the Benbow Invitational at the Jacksonville Beach Golf Club (par 72, 6,079 yards). Fiona Schmidt placed third with a final score of 153 (+11).

The Fort Wayne Spring Classic is next for the women's team, as they head to Indiana April 2-3.

Baseball at FSU

The Golden Grizzlies went down to No. 3 Florida State University for a three-game series March 3-5. In game one, Oakland lost to the Seminoles in a slugfest with a score of 10-18. Oakland held a 7-0 lead through four innings behind a solid pitching performance by Jake Lee. However, FSU got their bats going late, scoring 18 on the Golden Grizzlies in five innings. Ryan Fitzgerald went 2-for-4 at the plate with two doubles and three RBIs. Freshman Drew Demumbrum got his first career hit with an RBI single.

The Black and Gold fell to FSU 12-1 in the second game of the series. Conor Bowers did not allow a run in his three innings out of the bullpen. Zach Sterry also went 2-for-4 at the plate with 1 RBI. The Seminoles took control of the game with 12 runs in the fourth and fifth innings. Tyler Janish scored Oakland's only run.

In the final game of the series, Oakland continued its losing streak with a score of 14-6. Mike McGee went 3-for-4 with an RBI double, marking his second multi-hit game of the season. T.J. Shook had two strikeouts in his two innings on the mound. Oakland's 10 hits could not produce the necessary runs to respond to FSU's 14 runs.

— Compiled by Melissa Deatsch and Kate LaDuke

Basketball earns postseason awards

Five men's and women's basketball players make six all-league teams, two take home individual honors

Melissa Deatsch
Sports Editor

Men's and women's basketball had five players reap Horizon League honors for their efforts during the regular season.

The league office announced the Horizon League players of the year and all-league teams on Tuesday, Feb. 28 for the women and Wednesday, March 1 for the men.

The Horizon League announced an All-Horizon League First Team, Second Team, Defensive Team and Freshman Team for both the men's and women's leagues. Additionally, the league announced Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year and Sixth Player of the Year.

Hannah Little and Taylor Jones represented Oakland University's women's

basketball team.

Little was named Defensive Player of the Year. Throughout the entire season, she gathered 337 rebounds for the Golden Grizzlies, 140 more than the next highest on Oakland's team. She finished the regular season fourth in the country in rebounds per game, with 11.6, and 11th in steals per game, with 3.28.

She led the league in total steals this season with 95 and finished fourth in the league in blocked shots with 32.

In addition to her Defensive Player of the Year honor, Little was also named to the Horizon League First Team, as well as the Horizon League Defensive Team.

Jones earned Sixth Player of the Year after coming off the bench and leading the team in points at 41.1. Her average of 15.2 points per game was good for ninth in the Horizon League at the conclusion of regular season play.

Jones scored 20 or more points on nine occasions this season, two of which came in the last two games of the regular season.

Oakland men's basketball had three players collect postseason awards. Jalen Hayes was named to the All-Horizon League First Team. Martez Walker earned a spot on the Second Team, while Isaiah Brock earned Freshman Team and Defensive Team honors.

This marks Hayes' third consecutive season receiving All-Horizon League honors. He has been an integral part of Oakland's success this season, scoring in double digits in 25 out of 31 games.

Hayes finished the regular season averaging 17.9 points per game in conference play, good for third in the Horizon League, while his 9.2-rebounds-per-game average finished at second in the league.

Walker's Second Team selection came after a season of leading the Golden Grizzlies in scoring, averaging 17.2 points per game this year, the fourth

highest in the Horizon League. Additionally, Walker leads the team with 12 20-plus points performances.

This is Walker's first all-league award in his second season with the Golden Grizzlies.

Brock's accolades reflect his impressive first season with the Golden Grizzlies, five years removed from his last experience playing organized basketball. Brock was an obvious choice for the Freshman Team, as he collected three Freshman of the Week honors this season. He became the first Horizon League player in history to sweep the league's weekly honors on Feb. 2, earning both Freshman and Player of the Week.

His Defensive Team selection comes in light of his 2.1 blocked-shots-per-game average, ranked second in the Horizon League.

The postseason Horizon League awards are voted on by a panel consisting of head coaches, sports information directors and three media representatives from each school.

OU'S HORIZON LEAGUE HONORS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

First Team All-Horizon League

Drew McDonald, Northern Kentucky
Jalen Hayes, Oakland
Alec Peters, Valparaiso
Mark Alstork, Wright State
Cameron Morse, Youngstown State

Second Team All-Horizon League

Rob Edwards, Cleveland State
Jaleel Hogan, Detroit Mercy
Charles Cooper, Green Bay
Martez Walker, Oakland
Shane Hammink, Valparaiso

All-Freshman Team

Corey Allen, Detroit Mercy
Carson Williams, Northern Kentucky
Isaiah Brock, Oakland
Tarkus Ferguson, UIC
Dominique Matthews, UIC

All-Defensive Team

Kenneth Lowe, Green Bay
Khalil Small, Green Bay
Isaiah Brock, Oakland
Tai Odiase, UIC
Tevonn Walker, Valparaiso

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defensive Player of the Year

Hannah Little, Oakland

Sixth Player of the Year

Taylor Jones, Oakland

First Team All-Horizon League

Chelsea Welch, Wright State
Mehryn Kraker, Green Bay
Rosanna Reynolds, Detroit Mercy
Ashanti Abshaw, Cleveland State
Hannah Little, Oakland

All-Defensive Team **Hannah Little, Oakland**

Jen Wellnitz, Green Bay
Jessica Lindstrom, Green Bay
Amber Lindfors, Valparaiso
Rebecca Lyttle, Northern Kentucky

For a full list of Horizon League honors, visit oaklandpostonline.com

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Photo courtesy of Sammy Condon

Three players hope to earn spots on one of the U.S. national volleyball teams.

Volleyball players try out for U.S. national teams

Bandel, Condon, Davis visit Olympic Training Center to show their stuff

AuJenee Hirsch
Staff Reporter

Oakland volleyball players Darien Bandel, Sammy Condon and Krysteena Davis attended open tryouts March 3-5 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. The trio made the journey in hopes of earning a spot on the U.S. Women's National Team, U.S. Collegiate National Team or U.S. Junior National Team.

"I felt that I have played a long career, have built myself as a player and felt confident enough to compete with some of the best volleyball players in the NCAA," Condon said.

The tryouts were split into four sessions Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday night and Sunday morning. During each session, the girls ran different drills and played in games. Approximately 244 athletes were evaluated from 81 colleges across the country.

"It was intimidating at first, seeing all these athletes that are much taller than us, which is surprising because we think of ourselves as pretty tall," said Condon, who stands at 6 foot 1. "But it was very, very cool playing with some of the best volleyball players in Division I."

The trip was not only about the tryouts

for these Oakland volleyball players; it was also a dream that had become reality.

"Being at the Olympic Center was unbelievable," Bandel said. "That's every athlete's dream growing up is to be at that kind of a level. So, to experience it for even three days was amazing."

For Davis, the U.S. Open Tryouts were more about rediscovering her confidence as an athlete.

"I've struggled with confidence in high school because I was behind a middle hitter that . . . made one of the teams last summer for the Olympic team," Davis said. "I was always behind her, so I never had that confidence all through high school. To get that back, to know that I was good enough to go to these tryouts, was pretty cool."

While in Colorado Springs, Condon, Davis and Bandel not only competed with the other volleyball players, but also grew close to some of them.

"We met two girls that are actually in our league, and we ended up becoming really good friends with them," Bandel said. "That was really awesome, meeting girls from other teams, becoming friends and playing with them."

As the girls wait to hear back about the results, they know they left everything they had on the court.

"Coach Karch [Kiraly] was talking all weekend about emptying the tank and just leaving it all out on the court, and that's what I feel like I did," Davis said.

Results on who made the national teams' rosters will be announced by the end of March.

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Term of Office:

- July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 or 2019
- Must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- Must not hold any other major elected campus office

Applications are available at:

<http://www.oakland.edu/bot>
Student Affairs Office – 144 Oakland Center
Student Congress Office – 62 Oakland Center
Center for Student Activities – 49 Oakland Center

Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by March 31, 2017

For questions, please call: 248-370-4200

Political Focus: Attorney General Sessions' recusal

Melissa Deutsch
Sports Editor

Attorney General Jeff Sessions made headlines last week as news surfaced that he had met with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak twice during 2016. Sessions did not disclose these meetings to Congress during his hearing process.

After facing political pressure, Sessions has recused himself of any investigations of the Trump campaign — meaning he will not participate in the investigations, despite being the chief law enforcement officer of the country.



Multiple incidents have brought the Trump administration under scrutiny for being too tied to Russia. One of which was when former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, was fired after news broke that he had met with Kislyak and privately discussed U.S. sanctions.

Under pressure

Following the news of Sessions' meetings with Kislyak, many Democrats immediately called for his resignation. Congressional leaders like Nancy Pelosi and Elizabeth Warren said he has lied under oath, and therefore his resignation is the next necessary step.

Pelosi and Warren weren't alone; at least 28 other Democratic members of Congress have publicly called for Sessions to resign. Others, including some Republicans, called for the attorney general to recuse himself, meaning he would put his deputy in charge of certain investigations.

In response to the pressure, Sessions announced on Thursday, March 2 that he would recuse himself from any investigations into the Trump campaign.

He noted that he was taking the advice of Department of Justice ethics officials.

"They said that since I had involvement with the campaign, I should not be involved in any campaign investigation," Sessions said in Wednesday's press conference. "... I believe those recommendations are right and just."

This means that any investigations related to Trump's 2016 presidential

campaign, whether they exist now or in the future, will be overseen by Sessions' deputy attorney general. These include the FBI's current investigation into Russian hacking during the election.

Did Sessions lie under oath?

Looking at the transcript from Sessions' Jan. 10 confirmation hearing, he certainly left out relevant information, but he didn't necessarily make false statements. This was pointed out by his spokesperson Sarah Isgur Flores to The Washington Post.

"He was asked during the hearing about communications between Russia and the Trump campaign — not about meetings he took as a senator and a member of the Armed Services Committee," Flores told The Washington Post in a statement.

However, in a separate questionnaire in January, Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont asked Sessions directly, "Several of the president-elect's nominees or senior advisers have Russian ties. Have you been in contact with anyone connected to any part of the Russian government about the 2016 election, either before or after election day?"

Sessions responded, "No."

It is the only answer in the entire 38-page questionnaire on which he did not expand in any way.

It is very difficult to prove a person guilty of perjury because you must prove that there was intent to deceive. So far, there is no out-and-out evidence of that intent at Sessions' confirmation hearing.

Going forward

Many government officials are not satisfied by Sessions' recusal. They feel it's necessary for his deputy to hire a special prosecutor to oversee the investigation into Russian hacking during the 2016 presidential election.

Dana Boente currently serves as deputy attorney general. However, Trump's pick for the position, Rod Rosenstein, began hearings for his Senate confirmation on Tuesday.

Rosenstein has a reputation and some key endorsements from both Republicans and Democrats for putting politics aside and making decisions based on fairness.

Once he's confirmed, we will see if Rosenstein moves forward with the hiring of a special prosecutor.

'Get Out': A witty, zany, timely horror masterpiece

Lawson Robinson
Movie Columnist

Jordan Peele spent three years of his life working on the well-known sketch comedy show "Key & Peele." When the show came to an end in 2015, Peele decided to move to the big screen.

The result is "Get Out," a horror masterpiece that is every bit as intelligent as it is scary.

"Get Out" is not only Peele's directorial debut, but it is also the feature-length debut of his screenplay abilities.

Peele, however, crafts and directs this film with the type of talent that usually only a veteran could boast.

The screenplay is stuffed with humorous dialogue, tense interactions and haunting revelations throughout each act.

Peele surprises viewers with his strong sense of direction in the film. He is well aware of how and when the camera should move to manipulate the emotions of the viewer.

The lead role of the film, Daniel Kaluuya, deserves all of the recognition he has received for his portrayal of a black man who becomes the focus of a sinister plot when he goes to meet his white girlfriend's family.

The film addresses what some deem "liberal racism" and macro-aggressions — for example, the idea that voting for Barack Obama made one person less racist than another.

"Get Out" also does not lose the viewer in navigation of the sensitive topic of race. Instead, it unfolds like an Alfred Hitchcock thriller that coincidentally features a black man confronting the fears and paranoia of interracial dating.

As someone of color, I felt myself squirm and wince throughout. Those who like a good scare should see this movie; it will absolutely blow them away.

Rating: 5/5 stars



Drew's Review: Unpacking Remy Ma vs. Nicki Minaj

Drew Hagge
Music Columnist

For the first time in her nearly decade-long career, Remy Ma was a main topic of conversation for hip-hop fans outside New York City. On Saturday, Feb. 25, Remy Ma released a diss track attacking Nicki Minaj called "shETHER."

"shETHER" flips the classic Nas diss track aimed toward Jay-Z called "Ether."

Like "Ether," "shETHER" disregards any notion of song structure and melody, opting instead for a seven-minute onslaught designed to embarrass and expose Nicki Minaj.

The insults Ma hurled at Minaj included accusations of cheating on her longtime ex-boyfriend with Ebro (a Hot 97 radio personality), Trey Songz and Lil Wayne.

Additionally, Ma accused Minaj of not authoring her own raps, one of the biggest faux pas in rap since the

advent of the genre. The attack was met with unanimous praise, immediately inspiring conversations about it being ranked among the greatest diss tracks of all time.

"shETHER" appears to be a response to a pair of Nicki Minaj feature verses on Jason Derulo's "Swalla" and Gucci Mane's "Make Love."

However, the entire tone of the beef changed when Remy Ma released a second diss track, "Another One," all without a musical acknowledgement from Minaj.

This strategy has found recent success — most notably when Drake released "Charged Up" and "Back to Back" without a response from Meek Mill.

But Remy Ma's "Another One" is a clear flip, and worse version, of Drake's "Back to Back," both in rhyme patterns and production.

Fans are still awaiting a Minaj response, though the pressure is off due to the dud that is "Another One."

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE POSITION OF EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE OAKLAND POST.

THE EIC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE OAKLAND POST AND REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. THE EDITOR, AMONG OTHER DUTIES:

- Is responsible for daily updating of the website and a weekly print edition
- Recruits editorial department staff members and determines job responsibilities
- Determines the content and editorial position of The Post, and is aware of legal requirements and restrictions governing the media
- Is responsible for administrative functions of The Post, such as personnel management, staff recruitment and retention, and interdepartmental communication
- Works collegially, allowing the advertising and distribution managers to oversee those departments, but is ultimately responsible for the management of all staff
- Helps create and meet a financial budget
- Represents The Post on the SAFAC board
- Completes payroll per university deadlines and protocol
- Is available to readers with complaints and/or suggestions
- Upholds basic principles of journalistic ethics and balanced news gathering
- Is thorough, inquisitive, fair and critically minded
- Possesses exemplary writing, reporting and editing skills, and teaches those skills to the staff
- Is intimately familiar with journalistic style
- Works in cooperation with Post advisers
- Is a leader

- Applicants should possess superior oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of news media and a solid command of digital technologies
- Prior journalistic experience is preferable. Applicants do not need to be journalism majors.
- Compensation includes weekly salary and a tuition stipend.

- Applicants should send a digital portfolio including a cover letter, resume and work samples to editorial adviser Garry Gilbert at gigilber@oakland.edu.
- Applications accepted through March 15, 2017. Position effective April 2017 for the 2017-18 academic year.

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

APPLICANTS SHOULD

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

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

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

NOTE:

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

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

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APPLICANTS SHOULD:

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

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Editing stories to check for grammar, clarity, etc.
- Ensuring articles abide by AP style and journalistic style guidelines
- Working with Post templates in InDesign to best fit all of the content on pages
- Writing headlines and subheads/decks for stories
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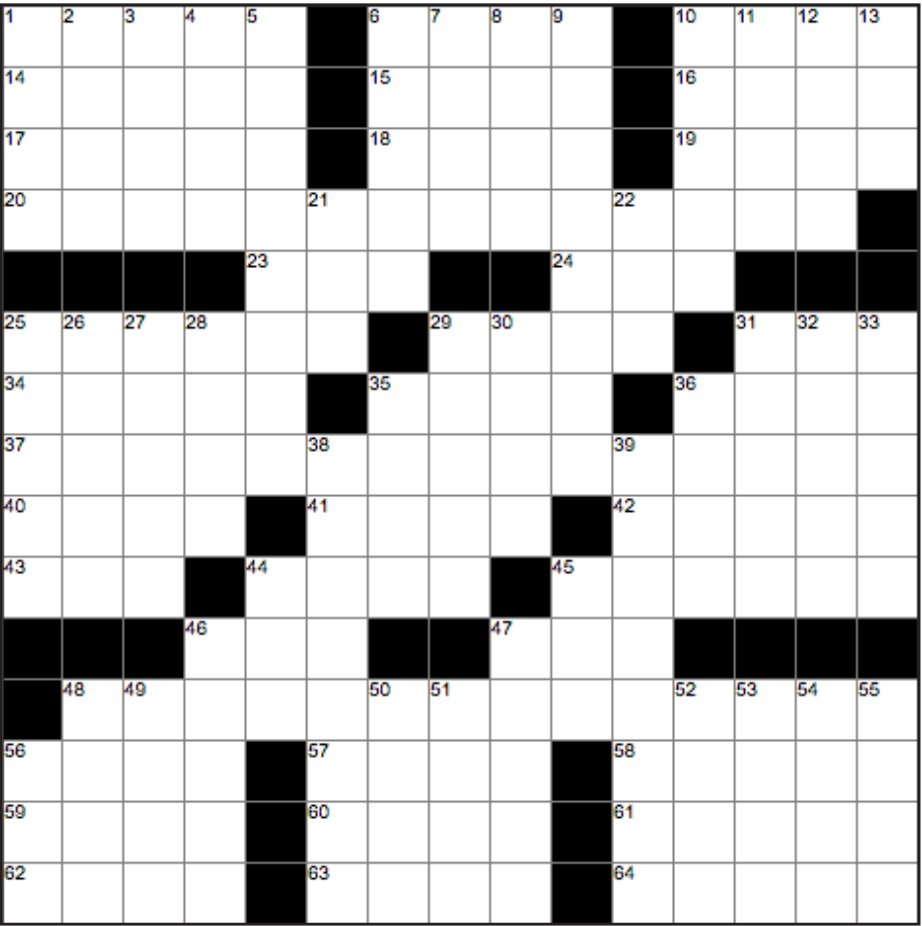
APPLICANTS MUST:

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

PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE EXPECTED TO:

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

Puzzles



- Across**
- 1: In short supply
 - 6: Pronounce indistinctly
 - 10: Window part
 - 14: Synagogue scroll
 - 15: Package carrier
 - 16: Burn soother
 - 17: Oil source
 - 18: LSD, informally
 - 19: Parcel of land
 - 20: Hazarding a guess: doughy metaphysician?
 - 23: 'Sweet Pea' singer Tommy
 - 24: Male youth
 - 25: Got a big lead, in a way
 - 29: Tournament advantages
 - 31: Zoological duct
 - 34: Gold, chemically speaking
 - 35: Breakfast grain
 - 36: Pump part
 - 37: Moving
 - 40: Amount of hair
 - 41: Be a stinker
 - 42: Scrabble century
 - 43: Man in a lodge
 - 44: What Wendy does to reattach Peter's shadow
 - 45: Put into words
 - 46: 'What have we here?'
 - 47: Take to court
 - 48: Experience a lack of oxygen, perhaps
 - 56: Hit the horn
 - 57: 'Goddess' of the opera, literally
 - 58: Signet
 - 59: Piece of property
 - 60: At all
 - 61: Fairy tale creature
 - 62: Scratched (out)
 - 63: Thorny flower
 - 64: Wise people
- Down**
- 1: Word on an octagon
 - 2: Root beer alternative
 - 3: Nutmeg covering
 - 4: Center of a cathedral
 - 5: Hypotheses
 - 6: New South Wales, for one
 - 7: Plumb crazy
 - 8: Elec., e.g.
 - 9: Aromatic
 - 10: Palatable
 - 11: Misfortunes
 - 12: Rioter's illegal take
 - 13: '___ me think about it'
 - 21: Silent sayso
 - 22: Brake neighbor
 - 25: Woodworking machine
 - 26: Ear-related
 - 27: Short-sheeting a bed, e.g.
 - 28: Rock music genre
 - 29: Scottish slopes
 - 30: American, in Ireland
 - 31: Unveiling comment
 - 32: Juicy plants
 - 33: Vague perception
 - 35: Botched up
 - 36: Recipe direction
 - 38: Reserve in advance
 - 39: They don't believe
 - 44: '___ Loves You'
 - 45: Call's counterpart
 - 46: Made a seletion
 - 47: Game trap
 - 48: Deposit with a pawnbroker
 - 49: Time past
 - 50: In ___ (occurring naturally)
 - 51: Holiday nights
 - 52: Former capital of Italy?
 - 53: Bug-eyed
 - 54: Scrabble letter
 - 55: Silly pair?
 - 56: Menlo Park monogram
- Answers to the crossword can be found at <http://freecrosswordpuzzles.com.au/M7-3-2017-crossword.aspx>

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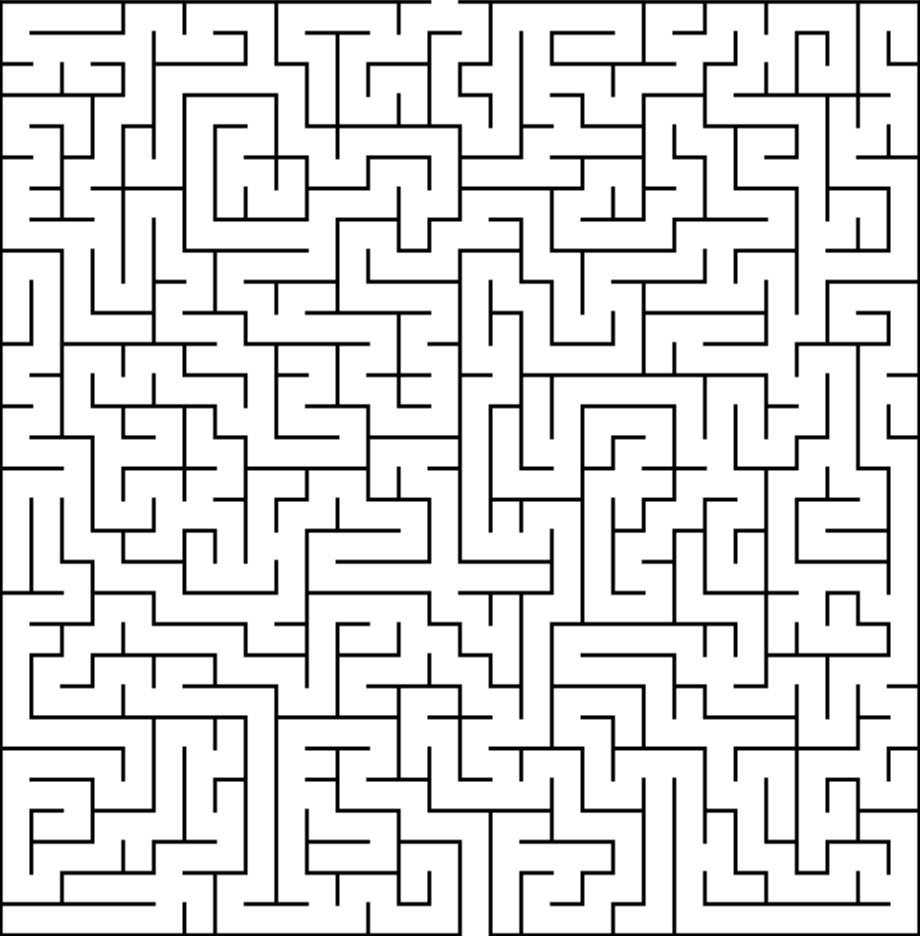
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The ascent of athleisure

Individualized style fading away, studies show new athletic wear trend taking fashion world by storm

Falin Hakeem
Contributor

Say goodbye to your favorite pair of worn-in Levi's and hello to a brand-new pair of... Golden Grizzly sweatpants? Athleisure is quickly and unapologetically making its way to the finish line.

The term "athleisure" refers to casual clothing — like yoga pants, sweat pants and hoodies — that are designed to be worn both for exercising and for doing (almost) everything else," according to Merriam-Webster.

Athletic wear has been around for some time now. Remember those matching, black-and-white Adidas tracksuits Run D.M.C. donned circa '86? But it's never been around quite like this.

"Athleisure isn't just a trend you see celebrities wearing," said Adriell Desero, a senior majoring in health sciences at Oakland University and a sales associate at Lululemon Athletica at the Somerset Collection. "Real people wear the trend on a day-to-day basis."

Desero believes athleisure has become popular because of its functionality and versatility.

"I think one of the reasons as to why people love the trend so much is because you can either dress it up or dress it down," she said. "Athletic wear can transition smoothly from day to night depending on the material of the fabric."

Desero said she may even favor athletic wear over denim because it's just more comfortable.

"The material and fabrics of yoga pants and leggings are much better than denim," she said. "I can wash my Speedtight leggings thousands of times, and they won't shrink."

In a recent on-campus survey, 30 students (15 males and 15 females) were asked if they would rather wear athleisure or denim to class.

Eight out of the 15 males said they prefer wearing sweats to class over jeans, and 12 out of the 15 females said they prefer wearing leggings to class over jeans.

"Every time I would walk through the OC, which was often, I'd see a plethora of people wearing the trend," said Haniya Halim, a 2016 OU alumna who majored in psychology. "Practically everyone in my classes did."

Still holding on to those Levi's, are we?

According to NPD Group research re-

ported by Forbes, "U.S. consumers spent \$323 billion on apparel, footwear, and accessories in 2014 — a 1-percent increase over 2013. That 1 percent, however, represented about \$2 billion in sales and was largely driven by consumer spending on activewear, athletic performance footwear and bags."

Price ranges depend on where you shop for athleisure — but in the grand scheme of things, you can still buy quality pieces for a price tag that won't break the bank.

"I do tend to splurge on this trend from time to time," said Darcy Dulapa, a senior majoring in journalism at OU. "But at the same time, I'm a big fan of Target's athleisure section."

According to Forbes, "Morgan Stanley has predicted a growth to \$83 billion by 2020, stealing the market share from non-athletic apparel."

Certified personal trainer and national body builder competitor Frank Binno of Macomb County agrees with Desero's thoughts on denim versus athletic apparel. He also believes the trend is not only exclusive to women — men can look good wearing athleisure, as well.

"Jogger pants have been wildly popular with the guys lately," he said. "I think comfort is something that will never go out of style... And don't get me wrong — I love jeans. I think they're a classic look, but for me and for a lot of people nowadays, athletic wear is just more comfortable."

Binno said there is a big fitness movement going on, especially with younger generations. Though it may be millennials who are up-to-par with the trend, athleisure is ultimately for people of all ages.

"People want to create the impression that they're always on-the-go and health-conscious," said Alexandra Agapiou, a nurse practitioner at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. "I think wearing athletic gear makes them feel productive, in a sense."

Though Agapiou believes the athleisure look can be effortless and understated, she said the choice to take part in the trend is making society lazier style-wise.

"Everyone is wearing the same sneakers, the same track pants," she said. "I feel like fashion becomes a little less personal with athleisure, even though higher-end brands are jumping on the trend's bandwagon."

Brands like Louis Vuitton, Tory Burch,



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

"Athleisure" refers to the recent trend of wearing activewear casually on a daily basis. According to Forbes, athleisure is expected to steal market share from non-athletic apparel.

Victoria's Secret, Gap and H&M are all selling athleisure.

"It seems as though athletic brands run out of their items relatively fast," Agapiou said. "Whenever I'm online shopping for new gym clothes, everything is sold out."

Agapiou said athleisure definitely seems to have created more competition

for brands like Nike and Adidas.

"There has always been competition, but now the stakes are higher because these brands are constantly trying to reinvent themselves," she said.

One thing that's almost certain: athleisure won't be running away anytime soon.

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Grizzlies croon the night away Japan style

Robert Ogg
Staff Reporter

Hidden among students is an insatiable desire to belt out a Disney tune, and they had that chance on Tuesday, Feb. 28 when the Student Program Board held a Japanese Karaoke event.

The event included an a cappella group and Japanese-themed refreshments. The aim was to recreate a karaoke bar similar to the ones in Japan.

"I was trying to create programs that highlight the diversity of Oakland University's campus," said Sean Foe, diversity director of SPB. "I was thinking of looking into certain Asian cultures. A couple proposals I came up with were Chinese New Year and also Japanese karaoke. I thought karaoke was a really fun activity that a lot of students could enjoy."

Foe said the event wasn't originally focused on overall Japanese culture, but Japanese karaoke.

"I started researching different Japanese karaoke bars," Foe said. "What I found was a lot of these places had really cool lighting and different vibes that you

get from the atmosphere of the karaoke lounges and bars."

After the event was approved, Foe reached out to the Japan Club. President Sarah Benson helped Foe research how to recreate the look, lighting and atmosphere of a karaoke bar one might see in Japan.

"From there, I got in contact with an a cappella group," Foe said. "I contacted a karaoke company, and it all fell together from there."

Foe said the event was an incredible success. Students seemed to have fun and turnout was high.

"We actually ran out of spaces for students to perform because the event had to wrap up," Foe said. "If I were to do it again, I would definitely make it a little bit longer. That way, we could include all the students who want to sing karaoke. The attendance was really good. Everyone said the food was great. We were really excited [hearing] that."

Stephanie Sharpy, an information security and computer science double major, is familiar with Japanese culture and hopes similar events will be held in the future.

"I didn't make it to the event, but I heard about it from a few of my friends



Mary Mitchell / The Oakland Post

The Student Program Board hosted Japanese Karaoke, where students performed songs by Eminem and from "High School Musical" and enjoyed Japanese-themed refreshments.

who went," she said. "I've been learning Japanese for fun since last spring. I see karaoke bars all the time in anime and video games, and they look like flashy night clubs. I think it would be fun to go to something like that if they ever held an event like this again."

Future SPB events include OU Has Talent Auditions March 6-9 and a Niagara Falls trip on March 10. For information on upcoming events, visit SPB's GrizzOrgs page, Facebook page, call (248) 370-4295 or visit its office, located in the basement of the Oakland Center.

Graduate hopes to help women around the world from D.C.

Clare Sabelhaus
Contributor

In the midst of moving to Washington D.C., Oakland University fall 2016 alumna Jenna Blankenship is using her knowledge and experiences from her time at school to pursue involvement in national politics.

"I was originally pursuing a degree in political science because my ultimate goal was to go to law school," Blankenship said.

After taking her first class in world politics, she found her true passion in foreign affairs. Now, with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, she is taking the next step by moving to Washington D.C.

While at OU, Blankenship held leadership roles in three on-campus organizations: Pan-Hellenic council, Gamma Phi Beta sorority and Model United Nations Club. Blankenship also had two internships during her college career: one with the Macomb County Circuit Court and the other with a grassroots organization called The Borgen Project.

"[Blankenship] represents the age-old notion of speaking softly and carrying a big stick," said Adam George, a senior studying international relations. George and Blankenship had been friends many years and now have been dating for about a year.

Blankenship has had numerous experiences as a leader.

"A fine blend of deliberation and thoughtfulness go into every decision," said George of her leadership

style. Calling her "unapologetically humble" and "a rare breed of intellect," George knows how hard she works at making the right decisions.

Paul Kubicek is a political science professor who has been working at OU for about 16 years. He had the chance to see Blankenship's leadership and hard work both in class and in Model UN.

"She was the first student who had the idea to host a high school conference through our Model UN Club," Kubicek said.

Both George and Kubicek agreed that Blankenship is focused on making a tangible impact and could be successful in any area of politics.

Blankenship's personal political agenda is focused on international aid and development.

"I fear this will no longer be a priority in our government," she said.

She has vowed to keep these issues in the national spotlight by working for organizations that draw attention to them.

"There is no better time than the present to get involved in politics," Blankenship said.

She said she considers her work ethic to be one of her strongest suits.

"There is no point in sitting back and complaining about issues we can work to overcome," Blankenship said.

Both pursuing political careers, Blankenship and George intend to make palpable impacts as leaders.

"If I were a betting man, I would place all the monies



Courtesy of Jenna Blankenship

Jenna Blankenship and Adam George are pursuing political careers. Blankenship recently moved to Washington D.C.

in my pocket on Jenna having the most impact on the lives of women in developing countries," George said.

Focused on the elimination of poverty and the promotion of rights for women, Blankenship intends to use her strong communication skills and work ethic to adapt to her environment and strive for her goal.



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Dr. Andrea Moyer talks to students about the benefits of vaccinations.

A closer look at vaccination

Laurel Kraus
Staff Reporter

Vaccines have been a topic of debate since Andrew Wakefield published a now-discredited study in 1998 claiming correlation between autism and vaccinations.

In an effort to clear things up, the Oakland University Pre-Medical Society hosted a discussion on the evolution and efficacy of vaccines from 12-1 p.m. on Thursday, March 2 in Banquet Room A of the Oakland Center.

Dr. Andrea Moyer and Biological Sciences Professor Janell Hallauer ran the event and chose to address the topic of vaccinations due to a suggestion that medical professionals should operate under the assumption that the general public has a fifth-grade education when it comes to medical issues.

They defined the term vaccination as “when we stimulate an immune response without actually infecting a person with a dangerous organism.”

Moyer reported that in the 17th and 18th centuries, a common technique for treating diseases was bloodletting, which is assumed to be what killed President George Washington.

When smallpox, which is transmitted through inhalation, began killing three to 25 out of every 1,000 people, an English physician and scientist named Edward Jenner discovered that those who had been sick with cowpox, a far milder condition, were immune to smallpox.

According to Moyer, medicine has advanced more in the last century than during any other time in history.

There are two types of vaccines: attenuated and inactivated.

Attenuated vaccines are best described as “weakened.” They contain viruses modified to cause no harm, but expose the body to the virus, so the immune system is prepared to fight it later on, if need be.

Inactivated vaccines are grown in a lab, then killed with heat or chemicals.

This type of vaccination requires booster shots to build immunity.

“Each time you’re exposed to an organism, your body responds faster and more forcefully and more efficiently, and you make more and more antibodies,” Moyer said.

Moyer said the effectiveness of vaccines is more related to a person’s immune response than to the vaccine itself, and having side effects doesn’t mean the vaccine isn’t working.

Hallauer also spoke briefly on the reasons that people choose not to get vaccinated, discussing Wakefield’s now-disgraced report in great detail.

“The problem is, it’s really easy to scare everybody,” Hallauer said. “But what takes a long time and is much more difficult is to reverse is that fear.”

She compared refusing to vaccinate to a parent refusing to take a child to the hospital for a broken leg. She questioned whether not vaccinating could be considered abuse or neglect, as well.

Hallauer said there is no need to be afraid of vaccines’ contents.

She used the example of arsenic, which she said is also in our drinking water and, therefore, not dangerous in small doses.

“People are scared of the stuff that’s in vaccines,” she said. “I still think you should be more afraid of the stuff that’s in McDonald’s.”

The Pre-Medical Society is a student organization that aims to help interested undergraduate students understand the medical field.

Its next event will be Pre-Health Networking at 5 p.m. Monday, March 6 in Banquet Room A of the OC.

The society will also be hosting Anne Snyder from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine’s admissions office at 12 p.m. on Thursday, March 16 in Rooms 128-130 of the OC. Snyder will speak on the college’s admissions process, as well as how osteopathic medical schools differ from allopathic medical schools.

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The largest art piece on display, "Ball Drop," covers an entire wall in the exhibit.

'Terrestrial Celestial' invites viewers to ponder paradox

Katerina Mihailidis
Intern Reporter

Once a mere series of drawings, Cody VanderKaay's "Terrestrial Celestial" art exhibit is now on display at the Oakland University Art Gallery. The show's opening on March 3 was met with great success and a lot of positive feedback, said VanderKaay, an associate professor of art at OU.

Four silver buckets greet visitors entering the gallery. Those are merely the start of a journey into the small world that VanderKaay created in the gallery's two rooms.

"Ball Drop," the largest art piece on display, covers a big portion of one of the gallery walls. Frames, sketches, bits of wood and plastic and wires are weaved into the piece; a broom stick and countless other elements are included in VanderKaay's work.

Everyone "wants to know what it all means," VanderKaay said. The art show has "so many different parts that people are still trying to structure their thoughts."

Concrete blocks displayed at different heights and in various forms at the end of the gallery also demand attention.

The exhibit took approximately two weeks to prepare, said Dick Goody, director of the gallery. Rendered black for the previous display, the gallery's walls had to be repainted with three coats of white paint, he said.

All shows come at a very strategic time, Goody said. He continuously searches for and chooses artists to exhibit their work and needs to have an agenda for the gallery to keep running.

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"The pieces displayed, the pieces you see, those are just the tip of the iceberg."

Dick Goody
Director of the gallery

"The program [of the gallery] has to ensure that it remains successful," he said.

With regional and international artists, it is important that the art curation is balanced, he added. Different shows appeal to different groups of people, and Goody chooses shows to attract diverse audiences.

According to Goody, Van-

derKaay's show came about because VanderKaay was on sabbatical leave the previous year. When faculty take sabbatical, they have a chance to create a body of work that is oftentimes displayed when they return.

"The pieces displayed, the pieces you see, those are just the tip of the iceberg," Goody said.

The OU Art Gallery designs a catalog for every exhibition. The catalogs are stored in the back of the gallery and are always accessible to students who email Goody at goody@oakland.edu.

The gallery is a nonprofit program to benefit students, said Jacky Leow, assistant to the director and registrar. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. If someone desires to purchase a piece of VanderKaay's work, he can be reached at vanderkaay@oakland.edu.

The gallery will exhibit "Terrestrial Celestial" until April 9, and VanderKaay will give an artist's talk at noon on Thursday, April 6 in the gallery. The event will be free and open to the public.

The gallery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday and is located in 208 Wilson Hall.

For more information, visit ouartgallery.org.

Alumna publishes children's book series

Gina Navaroli
Staff Reporter

Finding the right book for a child can be difficult. Families have their differences, and children need relatable books pertaining to their life situations.

Amy Silvester, an Oakland University alumna of 1996, is on a mission to write children's books covering these personal life experiences.

"Going through all these books with my kids growing up, there's a lot of topics that don't get discussed," she said. "I really wanted stories that could be fun, but also have a message."

Silvester has two books published in her "The Tender Turtle" series: "The Tender Turtle" and "The Tender Turtle Needs Glasses." A third book, "All in a Day with Momma," is expected to be released by the end of March.

"The Tender Turtle" series are short stories inspired by Silvester's youngest son, Liam. Through his daily life experiences of kindness, love and lessons to be learned, he is the muse for the main character, Toby the turtle.

"The turtle is inspired by my little guy because he [Liam] is one tough little guy," she said. "You see a turtle, and they'll fall, and they never really get hurt, you just flip them back over and they're good. That's kind of like how my little guy is."

The first book in the series introduces Toby's blended family and the big age gap between him and his siblings. "The Tender Turtle Needs Glasses" is about change and visiting the doctor. "All in a Day with Momma" will be about taking care of yourself and your family.

"It's a very simple message, to the point, so that kids can recall," Silvester said. "That's the biggest thing, so they can read it and work on comprehension."

Silvester self-publishes her books because it allows her to control the number of books that are printed and gives her freedom over the topics she



Taylor Stinson / The Oakland Post

Silvester reads her first book, "The Tender Turtle."

writes about.

"I am a blended family, so my books get to talk about subjects difficult to talk about when you don't do self-publishing," she said. "By self-publishing, I can talk about the fact that my family is different, and I can introduce different characters that you don't see a lot in books."

Silvester also illustrates the books. Her drawings are a representation that everything has flaws.

"That's why I draw childlike and like a child did it, because it doesn't have to be perfect," she said. "The other thing I would love for people to walk away with is, you don't have to be perfect in this life."

Aside from writing, Silvester does public speaking events at elementary schools. She wants to inspire kids to read and write. She struggled with reading comprehension as a child, which inspired her to write shorter stories.

Her current focuses are promoting her books, talking at schools and inspiring children to dream big.

She took her own advice when taking the chance to follow her dream of publishing books.

"The Tender Turtle" series are targeted toward children up to the fourth-grade reading level. Her books are \$8.50 each and can be purchased from Amazon, Kindle and CreateSpace.

For more information about "The Tender Turtle" and Silvester, visit her website at www.lovenlightproductions.com.