

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

APRIL

11

—2012—



HOPING TO SHOOT WITH THE PROS

TWO BASKETBALL STARS ATTEMPT TO MAKE IT IN THE BIG LEAGUES

PAGES 12 & 13

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thisweek

April 11, 2012 // Volume 38. Issue 30



ontheweb

Downtown Rochester is currently undergoing construction — including Main Street. The area will be under construction until July.

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES // Victoria Pruess, a senior health science major, and Mark Castonguay, a sophomore environmental science major, take time out of their day to make cards in the Wellness Center. The students will pass the cards out to other students during exam time as a way of saying "Good luck on your finals."

CHELSEA BISTUE // *The Oakland Post*



10



10

POLL OF THE WEEK

What's your stance on internships?

- A** They should be paid
- B** They should be unpaid
- C** Why am I doing an internship?
- D** It's necessary

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Do you have health insurance?

A Yes, I have it through my parents

31 votes | 60%

B Yes, I get it through my work

6 votes | 12%

C No

14 votes | 27%

D I use Graham Health Center

1 votes | 2%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

APRIL 14, 1961

OU's student government implemented a health and accident insurance policy for students. The policy cost students \$28.50 per year and was handled by the Austin-Norvell agency of Pontiac.

APRIL 10, 1964

OU's Senate changed the grading scale to the 38-point grading system. The change shifted grades by .3 points upwards, which helped more students meet graduation requirements.

APRIL 9, 2008

OU professor Dr. Ashraf Farahat was denied re-entry into the U.S. Farahat was held at the U.S.-Canadian border. Students at OU tried to help the professor by setting up a Facebook page in order to petition the government for his release.



8

8 // CAMPUS

Kathleen Pfeiffer will be taking over as the Chair of the English. The current department chair of the past five years Susan Hawkins will be retiring.



16

16 // LOCAL

Area businesses react to the long summer construction that have recently began in downtown Rochester. Construction will be happening from May until July.

10 // CAMPUS

Oakland University is home to the state's sole Chick-fil-A, which attracts visitors from around the state. With recent growth, Michigan may soon be home to more Chick-fil-A restaurants.

15 // SPORTS

After opening with a disappointing 3-21 record, the men's baseball have rebounded to win 3-of-5 games since opening day win against Western Michigan on Wednesday, April 7.

BY THE NUMBERS RECREATION CENTER

10

distance in miles of one lap around the indoor track

47

different types of workout equipment in the fitness center

14

depth in feet of the diving area of the pool.

50

length in meters of the indoor pool

2

ping-pong tables

Perspectives

STAFF EDITORIAL

Unpaid internships aren't cheap — they're actually really expensive

Most Oakland University students are required to complete an internship at some point in their college career.

Though there are a select few paid internships, there are a lot of unpaid ones.

According to a 2008 National Association of Colleges and Employees survey, 50 percent of graduating students had participated in internships during their undergraduate studies.

The Fair Labor Standards Act states there are six criteria that must be applied when determining whether or not for-profit companies can hire interns without paying them, including "receiving training that is similar to what they would learn in an educational environment" and "the employer and the intern understand that the intern is not entitled to wages for the time spent in the internship."

But we're curious as to how many internships actually fulfill those expectations.

On Feb. 1, an unpaid intern for Harper Bazaar did something bizarre for most interns. She filed a lawsuit against the Hearst Corp. — Harper Bazaar's parent company — for failing to pay minimum and overtime wages during her internship and for a "crucial labor force" at Hearst, according to the

Internships aren't cheap — especially if they're unpaid — and employers are infamous for expecting you to devote more than 40 hours a week to the job.

lawsuit.

That intern wasn't the first one to sue her internship program, though. There are currently two other high-profile lawsuits under attack — one for a group of interns work on "Black Swan" movie and the other for an intern's responsibilities for the "Charlie Rose" show — all for their lack of compensation.

Having gone through unfortunate internships ourselves, we completely support these intern's decisions to sue and we hope they start a larger movement with it — maybe even making unpaid internships extinct.

Internships aren't cheap — especially if they're unpaid — and employers are infamous for expecting you to devote more than 40 hours a week to the job.

While we don't have a problem with working and we appreciate the experiences we have, we do have a problem with all of the other factors that go into it.

For example, aspiring teachers are required to student teach for one semester during their college career — all while paying \$1,449 for four credits of tuition and receiving no payment in return.

Let's face it, most college students are poor or rely heavily on other jobs to cover their living expenses. How are we supposed to balance working and school while doing an internship that demands more than 40 hours of our time without any compensation?

Fortunately for us, some companies have recently started offering paid internships as opposed to the unpaid ones, but at a smaller amount. They're scared of facing lawsuits regarding compensation, as they should be.

Yeah, that may mean less internships will be available, but there's nothing wrong with an increase in competition.

Internships are one of the pivotal points of a résumé, but at this point, we're not sure employers realize how much we're actually losing from them.

The staff editorial is written weekly by members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.

Corrections Corner

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, Mich. 48309

Letters to the Editor

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



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EDITORIAL

Stop assuming — learn, embrace diversity

With odds of autism increasing, it's time to address and educate the general population

My name is Justin Colman. You may know me as a copy editor, a reporter or a peer.

To you, I am a normal young adult living a generic college life. That's not entirely true. People who know me well, know my dream job is to work for Autism Speaks, an organization dedicated to increasing autism awareness.

There's a reason for this. If you have not guessed, it's simple: I have Asperger's Syndrome, a high-functioning form of autism.

With the CDC's newest report, which indicates one in 88 children will be diagnosed with autism, it is imperative that people understand what autism is, as there is more to it than people think. What I am about to say should not be taken as something objective, but rather, subjective, having worked with children with autism and have grown up on the spectrum.

People go out on a limb and say



JUSTIN COLMAN
copy editor

"autism" is a word that can be associated with "low intelligence." The irony is thick, because they are simply wrong on word association and show their lack of intelligence.

Autism involves every part of the body. From the occipital lobe to the skin of one's body, autism affects the person

in many ways and it varies in each person.

While I have not had any issues with my eyes or skin, I worked with children with autism who have had these problems. I've worked with children who could not stay in a lit room because it was too bright. I've worked with children who will not touch something because it doesn't feel good on their hands. These are called sensory issues.

There is more to it, though. Autism is as much of a behavior (not attitude) issue as it is a physical issue. We all go through our days with some things planned. Some of us will wake up,

take a shower, have breakfast and brush our teeth before leaving. If we wake up late and don't have enough time to take a shower or have breakfast, so be it.

Now, let's say someone with autism might have to watch television before having breakfast.

If the person successfully watches television, their day carries on with no problem. Let's say though, the person wakes up late and his or her caregiver is in a rush to get him or her ready for school. Because they are running late, the caregiver tells the person he or she cannot watch television. The caregiver, in turn, is causing a disruption in what the person with autism considers a normal cycle. As a result, the person will get fussy and possibly throw a tantrum because the caregiver is making him or her do something out of order, which confuses them.

It's important to know that the person with autism is not upset that the caregiver is making him or her skip television time. The person with

autism is upset because he or she is confused, and unfamiliar with this new routine that makes him or her feel uncomfortable, and in turn, frustrates him or her.

You've probably seen a child, or even a teenager act out in some way because their parent, guardian, or caregiver did something that made the child or teen uncomfortable, and as a result, look different. That person is not anymore different than us.

It's time for people to stop pointing out what's different about a person and instead, embrace the diversity. If we lived in a world where everyone acted, talked and dressed the same way, it would be one pretty boring world.

As a member of the autism community, I believe that we are trying to add another aspect of diversity in this world.

Contact Copy Editor Justin Colman at jbcorman@oakland.edu

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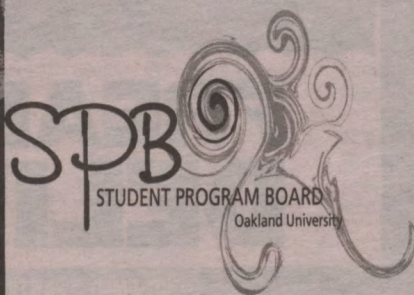
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EDITORIAL

Stretching out the sick days

Professors shouldn't penalize ill students

College campuses nowadays have signs regarding sickness posted all over the place. Here at Oakland University we see signs that tell us to combat germs by washing and sanitizing our hands.

Places like Oakland Community College have signs that tell students not to come to school if they're sick. Syllabi on both campuses usually tell us that our absences will not be excused without a note from a doctor. Unless you visit the emergency room, no student is going to have regular, unscheduled access to their family physician.

Even if we do produce a doctor's note, we are still given a limited amount of "sick days." If we exceed the given number of days, our grades are penalized. Some professors even require students to be in school for tests, regardless of excuse, because no make-up test will be offered.

My opinion is that the practice of penalizing students for being sick is wrong. I realize there are those out there who skip school or feign illness to get out of class work. I offer that these people should not remove the benefit of the doubt from the rest of us. I have been sick two separate times this semester — one was a cold, the other the flu. During these periods I was treated admirably by my professors and my peers — therefore, this is not an attack or a defense, it is a perspective.

Students and faculty members have been missing classes due to sudden, unexpected illnesses, most of which are attributed to either the common cold or the flu.

It is to be expected that with spring arriving, common illnesses will follow, but few people truly expected this season to carry with it so much sickness. With more cases appearing than an average spring, it is prudent to examine how we, as members of our university community, are affected. An apt question might be — "how do these illnesses affect our ability to think and learn?"



MARK MCMILLAN
staff intern

According to Graham Health Center, the common cold differs from the flu mainly in the severity of the symptoms.

I think it's a safe assumption that we've all had one form of headache or another. When headaches strike, it's painful to even expose your

eyes to light, let alone contemplate complex math equations.

If you can accomplish academic tasks with a headache, kudos to you, you're a trooper — most of us cannot because of how headaches impair normal brain functions.

According to the American College Health Association, fatigue can cause you to have trouble with the following: concentration, reaction times, processing information, mood and behavior and ... wait for it, fighting off illnesses. That means that if you have a cold or the flu, coming into school instead of staying at home and resting is actually perpetuating the duration of your illness.

Furthermore, an impaired ability to concentrate means you are at an unfair disadvantage when compared to your healthy classmates.

So why are we still subscribing to the notion that coming to school is a good idea when we are sick? By coming in, we spread our sicknesses, prolong our misery and produce inferior work all in order to avoid absence penalties. My opinion is that this is an antiquated notion that reads "guilty until proven innocent".

In my experience, most professors at OU are very understanding when you explain your situation, and many will forgo their rules in order to accommodate your recovery, but if this is the practice, why have the stipulations? Just to avoid potential absence abusers? The people who skip class are going to do it regardless of the penalties. All the penalties do is scare sick kids into going to school and making the situation worse.

Contact Staff Intern Mark McMillan via email at mamcmil2@oakland.edu

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New majors emerge for fall

Board of Trustees approves 2 new majors, 1 graduate program

By Sarah Hunton
Senior Reporter

Undecided about your major? Well, the Board of Trustees has approved two new undergraduate majors and a new graduate program for the 2012-2013 school year.

Graphic design, previously available as a minor, will now be an available as Bachelor of Arts degree. Criminal justice will also be a new major option, in addition to a graduate psychology program.

Graphic design

According to Andrea Eis, associate professor and the chair of the art and art history department, a lot of the development of the graphic design major was due to Lynn Galbreath Fausone, adjunct assistant professor in the art and art history department. Fausone will be the director of the graphic design program.

"She was the one who first brought up the idea, and should get the major credit for this being approved," Eis said. "We needed her dedication and hard work, as well as her professional knowledge and expertise in design, to move it forward."

The department approved the graphic design major in fall 2009. However, like all proposed majors, it had to go through an extensive approval process.

First the proposed degree program must be researched and a proposal must be written. Then it is written, it must be approved by the department, university-wide committees, the University Senate and the BOT.

"Probably the hardest issue really was the length of time it took, when we knew that students were ready and excited to get started," Eis said.

For more information about the graphic design major, visit oakland.edu/art-history

Criminal justice

A criminal justice Bachelor of Arts degree was also approved at the BOT meeting. The new degree will be a part of the department of sociology, anthropology and social work.

According to the criminal justice major proposal, which was prepared by professors of criminal justice Amanda Burgess-Proctor and Jay Meehan, the degree will contribute to OU's 2020 strategic plan. The new degree will have national partnerships with the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City and the Center for Homeland Defense and Security in Monterey, Calif.

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil believes the new program is an important step for both OU and other criminal justice programs.

"We believe that the criminal justice program at OU will soon be recognized as a model program nationwide due to the fact that it will include specialization tracks in a number of areas that are quite new," he said.

The new program will allow students to specialize in law enforcement, courts, corrections and treatment, juvenile justice, information security and assurance or homeland security. Courses will utilize both the Anton/Frankel Center in Mount Clemens and OU's main campus.

For more information about the criminal justice degree, visit oakland.edu/socan

Psychology graduate program

In addition to the new undergraduate programs, graduate students will now be able to apply to a masters or

doctoral program in psychology.

Doctoral candidates will be able to continue their education in one of two broad concentrations: biological and basic processes or social and behavioral processes.

"We also have a heavy course load of statistics and research design so that students are going to be incredibly well prepared in terms of getting jobs in either academia or the private sector, or for that matter, in the research industry," said Todd Shackelford, the chair of and a professor in the psychology department.

Like undergraduate degrees, graduate programs must be approved by a variety of groups, in similar fashion, until they have finally discussed at the President's Council of State Universities in Michigan.

Although the program has not been completely approved, Shackelford has received 150 informal applications from 38 states and six different countries for only a handful prospective spots.

For more information about the psychology graduate degree programs, visit oakland.edu/psychology/grad

Contact Senior Reporter Sarah Hunton via email at sjhunton@oakland.edu

QUICK FACTS

WHAT New majors and graduate program approved. They include bachelors in graphic design, criminal justice and a new masters of psychology program

WHEN 2012-13 school year

MORE INFORMATION Visit each department's website.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Online workshop for majors

There will be an online workshop titled "What Can I Do with This Major" from 4 to 4:30 p.m. on April 11. Students will learn how to use online resources that will assist in researching majors and jobs. For more information, contact Lindsay Zeig at 248-370-3227 or email lmolive2@oakland.edu

Wind, symphonic bands perform

Paint a Miracle is having their seventh annual Spring Luncheon May 7 from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. It is a chance to meet local Paint a Miracle artists, and volunteers, tickets are \$45. Artist's work will be available for sale between 10a.m. to 2p.m. RSVP by April 27. For more information visit www.paintamiracle.org or call 248-652-2702.

Dance choreography

The Oakland Dance Theatre and OU Repertory Dance Company will present their annual showcase of works that have been choreographed by students. The featured guest is Alexandra Beller. Tickets are \$8 for students and \$14 for the general public. The event is on April 12. For more information, call 248-370-2030.

Documentary by Curtis Chin

The Asian American Association, Center for Student Activities, China Club, College of Arts and sciences, GSC and others will be sponsoring a screening of Curtis Chin's "Vincent Who?" from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in rooms 128, 129 and 130. It will be on April 13. For more information, call 248-370-2400 or e-mail Jean Ann Miller at jam@oakland.edu

Compiled by
Sarah Blanchette,
Staff Intern

THIS WEEK AROUND CAMPUS

APRIL 11

8 p.m. Meadow Brook Estate Night Club Cabaret at Orchid Club, Ferndale, Mich.

9 p.m. Wind Symphony and Symphonic Bands at Varner recital Hall

APRIL 12

12 p.m. Coffee & Conversation "What Can I Learn from my own Teaching?" at 200A Elliott Hall

11:30 p.m. Talent Town Hall: Internship 101 by Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce at 2200 North Squirrel Road

APRIL 13

10 a.m. Race & Religion Forum at Oakland Room, Oakland Center

12 p.m. "Vincent Who?" Documentary on Vincent Chin at 128-130, Oakland Center

APRIL 14

12 p.m. AZIMUTH 23: Senior Thesis in Art Studio Exhibition at 208 Wilson Hall

10 p.m. University Chorus and Oakland Chorale at 1385 S Adams Rd

APRIL 15

2 p.m. Young Choreographer's Forum at Varner Recital Hall

3 p.m. Oakland Chamber Players at Varner Recital Hall

APRIL 16

8 a.m. 2012 Department of English Poetry Contest

5:30 p.m. Poetry Bash at Lake Superior Room in the Oakland Center

Pfeiffer appointed as new English department chair

By Katie Williams
and Mark McMillan
Staff Interns

Kathleen Pfeiffer, associate professor of English, has been appointed as the new chair of the English department. Pfeiffer was appointed by Ronald Sudol, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Pfeiffer will replace the current chair, Susan Hawkins, who is retiring after this semester.

Pfeiffer expressed excitement about the position and the potential for impacting her department.

"I see it as a service to my colleagues," Pfeiffer said. "In our department, it's always been the tradition to make major decisions by consensus. I'm looking forward to cultivating a sense of community within the department."

Pfeiffer, who recently pioneered an undergraduate biography course based on her successful graduate course, will have a reduced course load with her role as English chair. The role is a compromise for Pfeiffer, who enjoys teaching.

"I like being in the classroom, it's fun. It's a real pleasure," Pfeiffer said.

Assistant English professor Bailey McDaniel thinks her dedication to her students will help her do her new job

as chair with excellence.

"In addition to being one of the most professionally accomplished and respected scholars of our department, she is a powerfully gifted teacher who inspires, challenges, and motivates her students," McDaniel said. "As an award winning teacher who cares so deeply for her students, Dr. Pfeiffer is also a wickedly smart scholar who makes all of us in the department look good by virtue of her many respected publications and her very large brain."

"Dr. Pfeiffer is also a wickedly smart scholar who makes all of us in (the English Department) look good by virtue of her many respected publications."

Bailey McDaniel,
Assistant English Professor

Pfeiffer has been teaching at the university for 15 years. She has been meeting with Hawkins to discuss the future of the role.

Hawkins, who has been chair for the last five years, cited some of the challenges that Pfeiffer will face.

"The biggest challenges have to do with managing a department with three major programs, a number of



STEPH PREWEDA/The Oakland Post

Appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Kathleen Pfeiffer will be the new Chair for the English department.

new and younger faculty, increased numbers of part time faculty and ever greater demands from the administration in terms of assessment, recruitment and retention," she said.

English chair responsibilities include, among other tasks, scheduling, handling student grievances and professor absences, creating and overseeing committees and solving managerial oversights.

Pfeiffer volunteered for the position and said her colleagues supported her appointment.

Kevin Grimm, associate professor of English and former English chair, said he was confident in Pfeiffer's ability to do the job.

"I think she's got most of those skills.

She's very organized-she knows how to get things done," Grimm said. "She's very willing to seek advice and input. That's very important. That's a very good blend. I'm very happy about her taking over as chair, I think she'll do a really great job."

Although she hasn't officially started her new role, Pfeiffer said she has gotten a head start.

Pfeiffer's first role as English chair will be to participate in the organization of convocation, the opening ceremony for students on Aug. 15.

Contact Staff Intern Mark McMillan via email at mamcmil2@oakland.edu and Staff Intern Katie Williams at kjwilli2@oakland.edu.

Dean Charma: Future engineering building to be state of the art

Board of Trustees approves \$74M building with an emphasis on laboratory facilities, modern classrooms

By Chris Lauritsen
Senior Reporter

Oakland University's campus will soon be home to a new School of Engineering and Computer Science building.

SECS Dean, Louay Chamra, indicated the new engineering building will have a, "tremendous impact of the university and the community around us."

After OU's Board of Trustees and the state of Michigan approved the new build-



Louay Chamra,
SECS Dean

ing, the BOT selected a construction company at their meeting on March 28.

The BOT was presented with five different companies bidding for the job and ultimately decided the Walbridge construction company.

"Walbridge's outstanding qualifications, special experience in engineering buildings and laboratories, utilizing the training of university students, meeting a schedule where classes could be started in a timely manner, and their strong financials were all factors in the decision," Ted Montgomery, Oakland University's director of media relations, said.

According to Mont-

gomery, the new engineering building will cost a total of \$74,551,739—\$30 million of which will be paid by the state of Michigan.

"It is important to note that the allocation of this funding represents a tremendous vote of confidence. Specifically, it shows that the state not only sees the wisdom in investing in higher education, but also acknowledges the exceptional work being done by all in the Oakland University community," Gary Russi, OU president said.

The new building will be located between Elliott Hall and the Kresge Library, according to Montgomery.

A complete change

Chamra explained SECS will be moving all of their classes to the new building upon its completion. As a result the vacated spaces in Hannah Hall and the Science and Engineering building will be utilized for other academic classes.

"The new building will house state of the art teaching and laboratory facilities which are designed to inspire engineering and computer science education to train the talent needed to advance innovation," Chamra said.

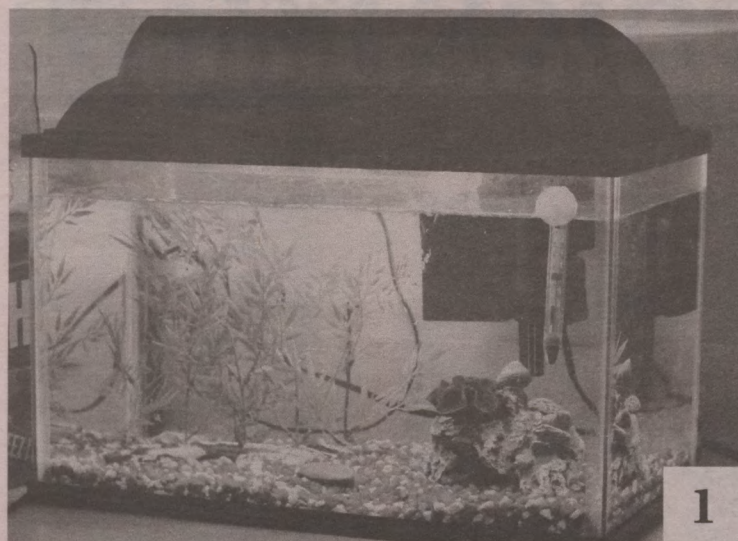
According to Montgomery, the building will provide more than 42,000 square feet of classroom, office and research space for the School of Engi-

neering and Computer Science, as well as 34,201 square feet of assignable general-purpose classroom space.

Chamra said the new building's teaching and laboratory facilities will be "state of the art" and are needed to help, "educate and train the talent needed to advance innovation."

Chamra believes the announcement of the new building is responsible in part for an admission increase to SECS of 22.4 percent in fall 2012.

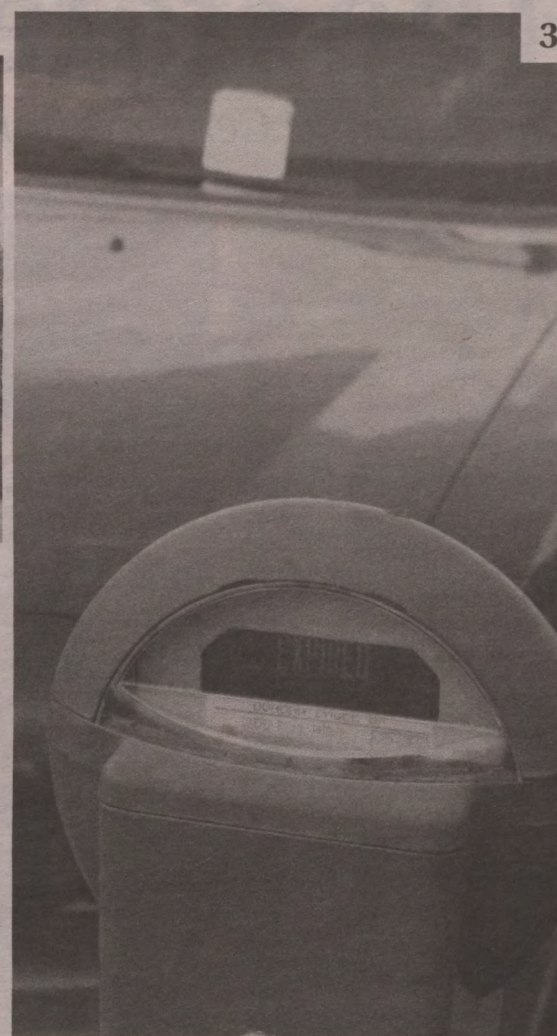
Contact Senior Reporter Chris Lauritsen at cklaurit@oakland.edu and follow him on Twitter @ChrisLautsen



1



2



3

The difference between policy and law violations

Some university policies are unenforceable by police

By Sarah Hunton
Senior Reporter

At Oakland University, there is a difference between OU policy and law. This means there are policy violations the police cannot enforce.

Bike Share bikes found in off-campus locations *Law violation*

Since taking Bike Share bikes is considered larceny, it is also a law violation. Capt. Mark Gordon of the OU Police Department explained that in order to prosecute someone for stealing a Bike Share bike, intent to permanently deprive the owner thereof must be proven.

That means if a student uses one of the bikes to ride to a nearby store and back, it is not a law violation.

Gordon also said the bikes have turned up in areas such as Pontiac, Auburn Hills, Hazel Park and Warren.

Having pets in dorms *Policy violation*

It is up to the Department of University Housing to enforce rules on pets. According to Jim Zentmeyer, director of university housing, only fish in a 10-gallon or smaller tank are allowed in the dorm rooms. He said the presence of animals can cause issues for students with allergies. If pets are found, arrangements are made to have the animal removed from the dorm.

"A residence hall is a very tough area for a pet," Zentmeyer said. "It's very confining. Normally, a student would be leaving a pet along for a period of time and it can very easily turn in to an abusive situation? For the pet as well."

Drinking on campus *Potentially either a policy violation or law violation*

OU's policy states any alcohol consumption must take place behind closed

doors of dorm rooms "where the occupant is 21 years or older." If persons under the age of 21 consume alcohol, the violation becomes a legal matter. In instances of underage drinking, the offender is issued a minor in possession citation.

Zentmeyer explained what happens in the instance of finding students in violation of OU's housing alcohol policy.

"Our resident assistants confront and document that situation, letting people know what that policy is," he said. "If there is a need for OUPD to be involved, they will be contacted as well."

Bringing outside food to OU organized events *Policy violation*

The Student Organization Policies and Procedures Handbook states if an event or meeting takes place in the Oakland Center or Vandenberg Hall, food used for the

event must be supplied by Chartwells. Since this is an OU policy and not a law, the police cannot enforce this rule.

The handbook also states organizations in violation of this policy "may face consequences from Chartwells, the Oakland Center, and/or the Center for Student Activities including, but not limited to, a loss of building privileges, funding privileges, account use and recognition."

Meter violations *Law violation*

"Because it's an ordinance it's now a legal matter ... it's a law violation," Gordon said. "So it falls under the jurisdiction of the police to enforce it."

Gordon said a lot of students park in metered areas, which have a 45-minute limit, while attending class. When students come out two to four hours later, there is often a ticket waiting for them.

1. Having pets in dorm rooms is an OU policy violation. Fish are the only pets allowed as long as they are in a tank less than 10-gallons.

NICHOLE SEGUIN/The Oakland Post

2. Stealing from the Bike Share program is considered a law violation. Many of the bikes have been found off campus and even out of the city.

ANDREW CRAIG/The Oakland Post

3. Many students park in 45-minute meters spots, which is a law violation. Captain Mark Gordon of OUPD said it falls under the jurisdiction of police to enforce parking violations.

SARAH HUNTON/The Oakland Post

The state's lone chick

The Oakland Center is home to the only Chick-Fil-A in Michigan

By Mark McMillan
Staff Intern

A large silver bus pulled down Wilson Blvd. and stopped at the end of the street to let out a lone representative with a single question. The man was David Brown, a member of the music faculty for Maranatha Baptist Bible College from Watertown, Wisc. Brown, who was traveling with nearly three dozen student choir singers and faculty members on a performing tour of Michigan, had received a text message from one of his students earlier, listing the address of the Oakland Center.

"Where's the Chick-Fil-A?" Brown had asked.

Why Oakland?

Michigan has only one Chick-Fil-A restaurant, an "express" location in the Pioneer Food Court at Oakland University. Gerald Gatto, the resident district manager of Chartwells, said OU has a Chick-Fil-A not because of popularity, but because it was part of the original bid Chartwells made for university eateries.

"This was decided by the Oakland University evaluation team who worked through the contract bid process," Gatto said. "The driving reason to bring the Chick-Fil-A brand to Oakland's campus was to give the students a broader variety of menu choices in the food court."

Starting to branch out

OU's Chick-Fil-A opened in Sept. 2002. In the 10 years since its opening, there has been little menu expansion — the spicy chicken sandwich was introduced in 2010 — and additional locations have not opened in Michigan.

Gatto said the lack of menu development is due to space constraints. There are no plans for future menu or square footage expansion at this time. However, Michigan may see a new venue open within a few



CLARE LA TORRE/The Oakland Post

Oakland University is home to the only Chick-Fil-A in the Midwest. People come from all over, to eat at the Oakland Center. Chick-Fil-A plans to expand to Chicago and possibly open another venue in Michigan.

years.

"The Chick-Fil-A brand is starting to move into the Chicago market and my guess is we may start to see more Chick-Fil-A restaurants moving into Michigan within the next couple of years," Gatto said.

A tasty appeal

The text message that brought the choir singers to OU was sent by Josh Knoedler, a sophomore at Maranatha. His reasons for choosing Chick-Fil-A are simple.

"The chicken is real," Knoedler said.

The choir, which was traveling to Goodrich, Mich. on the first leg of their Michigan tour, drove 20 minutes out of the way just for Chick-Fil-A.

Despite the fact that they

planned on having a meal provided to them in Goodrich, they still stopped at campus for the Chick-Fil-A.

Outside of OU, many people seek out the secluded Chick-Fil-A on the merit of its products.

"I know it's good because when I lived in Texas, I worked there for two years ... the fact that I can still eat there means it must be good," said Shawn Dry, a history professor at Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills campus, said.

Thumb on the pulse

According to Gatto, Chick-Fil-A advertisements around campus are the only ads for the restaurant in the state.

"We do internal advertisement to the campus community, but community ad-

vertisement is limited due to the small Chick-Fil-A market share in Michigan," Gatto said.

Like many licensed, non-traditional outlet restaurants, OU's Chick-Fil-A is evaluated periodically by its parent company.

"We receive monthly visits from a representative who goes over service and food quality standards set by the Chick-Fil-A brand," Gatto said.

The best around

Gatto — who prefers the grilled chicken sandwich — said the best-selling items at OU's Chick-Fil-A are the waffle fries, followed by the classic chicken sandwich.

Contact Staff Intern Mark McMillan via email at mamc-mil2@oakland.edu

POLICE FILES

Cell phone lost in Kresge Library

On Sunday, April 1 at 9 p.m., a female student left her cell phone on the towel dispenser in the third floor restroom in Kresge Library. The phone was missing when the student returned to the restroom at approximately 12:01 a.m.

The student told police she had pinged her phone and was able to use a GPS to locate it. The GPS showed that the phone was in an apartment complex in Auburn Hills. After 1:15 p.m. on Monday, April 2, the GPS did not receive a signal indicating where the phone was located. Police are investigating the incident.

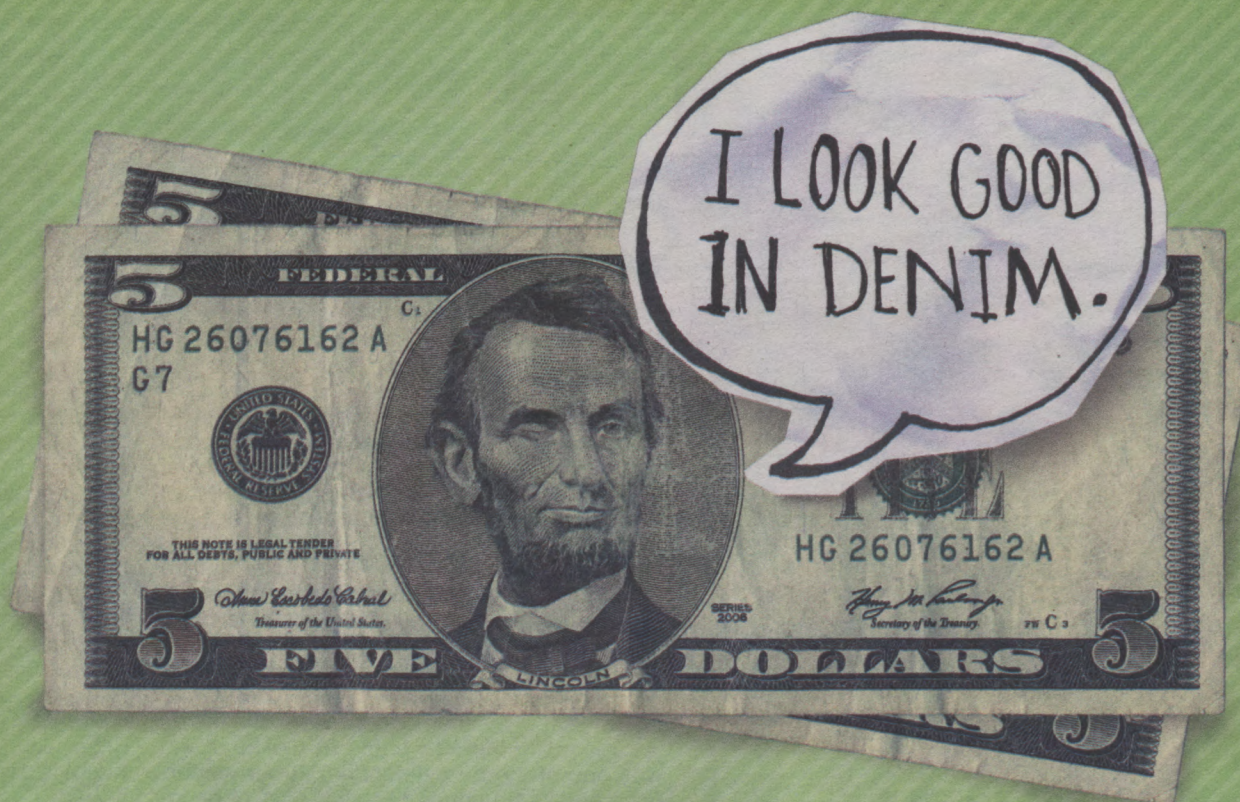
Instructor's email account hacked

On Friday, March 8, an OU special instructor met with OUPD to discuss pressing criminal charges against a family member who she said accessed her webmail account without permission. The instructor also told police she believed her phone had been tampered with and she wanted to change the locks to her office.

The instructor said that on Feb. 24 at approximately 6:57 a.m., her email was accessed by someone other than herself.

The instructor told police that nobody had her password or permission to access the account. The instructor was told by the OU IT department that one IP address that accessed the webmail account was from an account that did not belong to her.

Compiled by
Natalie Popovski,
Staff Intern



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THE NEX

OAKLAND STARS LOOK

This season, the Grizz Gang faithful were treated to the heroics, leadership and spectacular play of a star senior on the hardwood.

While Reggie Hamilton may have grabbed the most headlines in the program and caused other performers to be lost in the shadow of his play, the Oakland women's basketball team was led by a dominant force that cast a large shadow of her own.

Brittany Carnago cemented her place among the all-time Oakland greats by rewriting the books and being the unquestioned leader of her squad both on and off the court.

Head coach Beckie Francis pointed to her defensive prowess as what defined her game.

"Brit is an awesome defender, she holds the record in blocked shots at Oakland and was one of the best defenders in our conference and in the nation," Francis said. "She intimidates with her size and is the best overall center the program has ever had since I have been the OU coach."

The two-time Oakland captain finished her career with 276 blocks — a school record. This season Carnago was ranked 7th in blocks among all Division I female players, registering 3.28 per game.

On Dec. 11, she swatted away 11 shots in a win against the University of Illinois-Chicago, which ranked the second most in a game in all of the NCAA this season.

In addition, Carnago averaged 8.6 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game this season.

While Francis was obviously pleased with Carnago's defensive dominance, the coach pointed to other aspects of her play and character that truly made Carnago one of the best to ever put on an Oakland uniform.

"Brit is a wonderful player and leader and is also very unselfish offensively, consistently being one of the tops (on the team) in assists," Francis said. "Brit also leads by example academically, the team GPA is 3.3 or higher every semester and Brit consistently gets over a 3.5."

While Coach Francis was quick to praise her star center, Carnago credited her coach for her success this season.

"Coach Beckie has really helped me in ways to take my game to the next level and has instilled in me a work ethic that has helped me to develop into the player I am today," Carnago said. "Not only has she helped me as a player, but she is always cheering me on and trying to get my name out there for professional coaches to see me."

Carnago was able to show off her skills in

front of many professional coaches at a recent showcase. Late last month, the 6-foot-4 center participated in the 2012 ProHoops Free Agent Camp in Denver. The invitation-only event showcased the abilities of some of the best players in the country in front of WNBA personnel.

"I feel that I represented myself and the program well (at the camp)," Carnago said. "I went hard in every drill, I was a leader, and I believe that I displayed my work ethic and talent with the time that I had."

If scouts and coaches were impressed enough by her play, Carnago has the chance to become the first player in OU history to make the jump to the WNBA.

Francis recalled the first time she saw Carnago play, and she thought to herself "(Carnago) is a pro." She also said the Oakland star already has three offers from teams overseas.

"I have two tremendous opportunities, one is playing overseas and the other is finishing master's degree," Carnago said. "It's a tough position to be in, but I am very lucky to have such amazing opportunities."

Matt Pocket, the voice of the women's team on WXOU for the past three seasons, believes that Carnago will make it to the "big show" next season.

"Her pro prospects are pretty darn good because the system that Coach Francis runs allowed Brit to showcase and develop a wide variety of skills," Pocket said. "She's a great system fit, in addition to being an intelligent player who can block shots, swing the ball on the perimeter, take the mid-range jump shot, post up with the ball and score off a couple of great moves."

Fellow teammate Bethany Watterworth also believes Carnago will be able to make the jump to the professional stage.

"She will compete at the next level because she can match up with pro posts due to her size and athleticism and she has a great skill set," Watterworth said. "You can't coach height, and Brittany obviously has a lot of it and really knows how to use it to her advantage by using exceptional post moves."

While Watterworth led the team in scoring this season, she pointed to Carnago as the true leader of the squad.

"Brittany is very hardworking and determined," Watterworth said. "She is a great leader that I look up to, having the ability to rally the troops."

Hopefully next season Watterworth and the rest of the Oakland community will be looking up to Carnago as she takes her talents to the next level.

NEXT STEP

TO SHINE IN THE PROS

Written by Timothy Pontzer
& Kevin Romanchik
Designed by Rifath Hoque
Photo credit Lex Lee & OU athletics

Reggie Hamilton can't stop. "(Hamilton) is in the gym every single day," said Saddi Washington, assistant Oakland basketball coach. "Whether it's six o'clock in the morning or 11:00 at night, the kid is always in the gym. He hasn't taken a day off since the season ended."

The 2012 NCAA scoring champion has been preparing for the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament in Portsmouth, Va. on April 11 to 14 nonstop, where the best college basketball players from around the country are invited to showcase their talents for various pro scouts from the NBA and overseas.

The PIT has been a place of discovery for NBA legends like Dennis Rodman, Scottie Pippen and many others. Hamilton hopes to benefit from what PIT has provided for current stars in the past.

"I'm not nervous at all — I'm excited," Hamilton said. "I'm ready to go out there and just play my game."

Washington, who has played in the preseason camps of the Utah Jazz, Denver Nuggets and Atlanta Hawks, said Hamilton just needs to stay hungry.

"Every level you go up, the defense and learning a new scheme is different," Washington said. "He's going to have to take a different mindset. That's probably going to be his biggest adjustment but he's capable of doing that."

Terry Foster, former Detroit Pistons beat writer and current co-host of the Valenti and Foster Radio Show on 97.1 The Ticket, said Hamilton's play in the two years has caught his attention.

"(Hamilton) has that 'spark,'" Foster said. "He's a guy where you don't know what's going to happen and that's what is exciting about him."

Even though the Internet has changed the way NBA teams have scouted and view mid-major players, the smaller school stigma might be still in the eyes of some scouts.

"The reality of where and maybe the level he's coming from, there are those who are going to try to find every avenue to say no (to Hamilton)," Washington said. "If you put (Hamilton) on the floor with a bunch of other players he's going to find a way to get your attention. He just needs the opportunity."

Washington said Hamilton's 'spark' or competitive nature is his greatest asset right now, and that's something he'll need to relay to the scouts.

Hamilton hopes he can show NBA teams he has other qualities that aren't measurable.

"I hope I can show them my heart," Hamil-

ton said. "A lot of them might see me as 'short point-guard that may not be able to compete at the NBA level but I've seen (players like) Chris Paul, J.J. Barea and Ty Lawson all be successful."

Even early on his career at the high school level, Hamilton's infectious work ethic has benefited others around him.

Especially this year, where he led a young Grizzlies team to the post season and their fourth consecutive 20-win season.

"Reggie took a young team and bridged the gap," Greg Kampe, head men's basketball coach, said "He allowed our young players to get better."

Foster believes Hamilton will get his shot at the next level. An unnamed NBA source also said he is projected to be a late second round pick.

Outside of impression he tries to relay to other players, Hamilton's two strong seasons at Oakland have proven his offensive prowess isn't up for debate.

Hamilton was first in the nation with a regular season average of 25.7 points per game, and fifth in post-season scoring of 30.3 ppg.

"Reggie can score the ball better than anyone I've ever seen," Kampe said. "Being able to score like that is commodity in the NBA. Somebody is going to want that. Offensively, no one questions his talent."

Washington believes people seem to forget the role as a distributor this season. Hamilton tacked on five or more assists in 22 of 32 games this season.

Even though Hamilton is a shorter guard at 5-foot-11, Washington and Foster both agree Hamilton is going to have to figure out how to translate his game to the next level and may take a season or two. Whether that means in NBA developmental league or overseas.

"I do think there's a pretty good chance he's get drafted," Foster said. "If he has the right coaching and the right attitude, I think he can come back and contribute to the league."

Hamilton acknowledges his game will have to evolve to succeed in the NBA.

"I know I'll have to get other people involved first, then be a capable scorer."

Hamilton said, "I have no problem with changing my role."

With an important summer on the horizon, Hamilton is optimistic about the next step.

"A lot of people in the past wouldn't think I would be in the shoes I am in today," Hamilton said. "Just to prove to myself that I made a huge accomplishment (by getting a chance at the NBA level) and all the hard work and sacrifice paid off would be blessing."





Timothy Pontzer/The Oakland Post

After beginning the season losing 21-of-24 road games, the Grizzlies have won 3-of-5 games since returning home.

HITTING THEIR STRIDE

Grizzlies win three of their past five games

By Emma Claucherty and Timothy Pontzer
Staff Reporter and Senior Reporter

After a disappointing 3-21 record to start the 2012 season, the Oakland University baseball team is back on the right track.

The team won their home opener on April 4 against Western Michigan University 4-3.

"We've been on the road for a long time," center fielder Tim Ryan said. "We've played some good competition but it feels good to be home (and get) our first win in front of a home crowd."

On March 28, OU lost to WMU 3-2. The beginning of last week's game foreshadowed a similar result the first two innings. In the third inning however, Ryan began a three-run streak with a double.

Hits by Ryan, catcher Jake Morton, third baseman Mike Carson and designated hitter Robby Enslen brought in runs by left fielder Trent Drumheller, Ryan and Carson to give Oakland the lead.

In the fourth inning, Ryan singled and later scored what turned out to be the winning run on an error by the WMU second baseman.

Coming off a loss and facing the same team for the home opener became a lesson in mental toughness.

"We just tried to keep a good positive attitude going. Western is a good team, they put the pressure on you," Ryan said. "We just tried to stay positive and keep getting better every day."

Please see BASEBALL, page 15



Kevin Romanchik/The Oakland Post

Junior third baseman Mike Carson went 2-for-5 with a RBI and a run scored against WMU.

BASEBALL

continued from page 14

In addition, the six OU pitchers walked no WMU hitters and only three WMU hits were allowed in the last five innings. Jake Paulson received his first pitching career victory and Russell Luxton pitched the save in the ninth.

"It meant a lot pitching that last inning," Luxton said. "Last week at western I was pitching the last inning and I ended up losing it."

The win against WMU was due to learning from past mistakes and adapting to overcome them according to Musachio.

"We played smart because we made adjustments form this past weekend especially on the mound," Head coach John Musachio said. "I think our guys were really mindful of the lessons they learned earlier in the season today."

Series against Oral Roberts

Oakland started the series against ORU strong, shutting out the Golden Eagles 2-0. Senior pitcher Jeff Gorecki carried the Golden Grizzlies through 8.1 innings on April 6, recording a season-high five strikeouts and allowing just three hits.

Gorecki's efforts earned him the Summit League Pitcher of the Week award—the first time he has won the award in his career.

Junior Mike Carson came through with the crucial hit in the third inning, blasting the eventual game-winning two RBI single. Carson's two RBIs marked the only runs pushed across the plate in the entire game.

On April 7, Oakland carried it's momentum into the second game, scoring five runs on five hits in the first inning.

Freshman Spencer Marentette had a two RBI double to add to the three RBI singles by Carson, junior Nolan Jacoby and senior John Estes respectively.

Amidst two long rain delays, ORU strung together 13 unanswered runs to secure the victory.

Sunday brought a doubleheader between the two Summit League rivals. In the first game, Oakland built a lead that was never relinquished with a solo home run by Carson in the first inning. Oakland built its lead to 4-0 with a run in the third and two in the fourth on a two-RBI single by Marentette.

Sophomore Hayden Fox and junior Russell Luxton combined to only allow a single run over nine innings to give Oakland the 4-1 victory.

In the series finale, Oakland outthit the Golden Eagles 11-8, but lost the nightcap 8-6.

"I'm very proud of the way that our guys competed this weekend," Musachio said. "Hayden Fox pitched very well and Luxton came in and shut the door against a very good hitting team."

Jacoby notched a RBI single in the top of the fifth to give OU a 5-4 lead. However, ORU answered in the bottom of the inning with a grand slam to take the lead for good.

The series split marked the first time in school history that OU has won two games in a series with the Golden Eagles.

The series snapped ORU's streak of 39 consecutive home victories, which was the longest in the nation and the second time the Golden Eagles has been shut out by a conference opponent.

Oakland continues the season with a matchup against local rival Central Michigan today at 3 p.m. at the OU baseball field.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

*Compiled by Timothy Pontzer,
Senior Reporter*

Women's golf wins Detroit Titans Invitational tourney

On Tuesday afternoon, the Oakland University women's golf team captured their first tournament title of the spring season at the Detroit Titans Invitational.



Ecker

The team enjoyed an impressive first day of play on Monday afternoon at the Western Golf and Country Club.

The team shot a combined 333 (+45 for the course) to finish atop the leaderboard after the first round. Oakland led the host, Detroit, by three strokes and came in third place against Illinois-Chicago by 27.

Senior Liz Ecker paced the Golden Grizzlies with an opening round of 78 (+6) which was the lowest mark by any player in the field during the whole tournament. Sophomore Kassandra Komma shot an 80 (+8) to tie for second place.

Fellow sophomore Elizabeth Dawkins was close behind with an 87 (+15) to place ninth and freshman Maya Parsons tied for 10th place with an 88 (+16).

On the second day of play, Komma and Parsons each shot a final round of 81 to help OU secure the victory. Overall, the team put up a combined 328 on the scorecard for the second round for a 36-hole total of 661 (+85).

Colette Hansen of Detroit claimed medalist honors with her two rounds of 80 to post a 160, only one shot better than Ecker, who shot 83 on the second day to have a total of 161 (+17).

Komma finished with a 161 as well to tie for second place.

The win marked the second tournament victory of the campaign, following their top finish at the Cleveland State Invitational back in the fall. The season continues this weekend with the Dolores Black Falcon Invitational hosted by Bowling Green.

Coriasso leads men's golf team in Indiana

The Oakland University men's golf team took a trip south over the weekend to Bloomington, Ind. to compete in the NYX Hooiser Invitational, hosted by the

University of Indiana.

Senior Michael Coriasso paced the Golden Grizzlies with a combined 219 (+6 for the course) over three rounds of play.

Coriasso's mark placed him 30th overall in the tournament featuring Big Ten schools such as Northwestern and Indiana and familiar Summit League rivals like IUPUI.

Overall, Oakland finished in 14th place with a score of 914 (+62).

The team continues the season this weekend with the Detroit Titans Invitational in Highland, Mich. The tournament will be held Friday and Saturday at Prestwick Village Golf Course.



Coriasso

Oakland falls to local rival Detroit in dual-meet finale

Over Saturday afternoon, the Oakland University men's and women's track and field team faced off against local rival Detroit in the seventh annual UDM-Oakland Dual Meet.

Despite strong showings from the Golden Grizzlies, the women fell 111-77 and the men lost 111-71 against the Titans.

For the women, senior Micah Jones led the way by winning both the long jump and high jump events. She also was the runner-up in the triple jump.

Junior Brittini Hutton captured the top spot in the 3,000 meter run and 1,500 meter run. Junior Autumn Cleverley earned a first place finish in the 800-meter run.

For the men, senior Brandon Griffin won the 1-mile run and 3,000 meter run.

Fellow senior Steven Marcinkowski finished first in the 2,000 meter steeplechase and junior Anthony Sterzick took home the top spot in the 800-meter run.

Junior Andrew Stebbins shattered the school record in the shot put with a

throw of 52 feet, 9 inches, beating the old mark by more than two feet.

The Golden Grizzlies continue their campaign as they head to Lewisburg, Pa. to compete in the Bison Outdoor Classic hosted by



Stebbins

Bucknell on April 14 to 15.

Contact Timothy Pontzer via email at trpontze@oakland.edu and follow him on Twitter @timothy_pontzer

Revitalizing Downtown Rochester

\$7.6M construction project begins on Rochester Road

By Stefan Pelak
Staff Intern

Business owners are gearing up for a long summer as construction begins in Downtown Rochester.

The \$7.6 million project, which broke ground on April 2, is scheduled to take place from April until November, according to the Michigan Department of Transportation, with the full closure of Main Street from University Drive to Second Street happening from May until July.

With such a long period of closure, business owners are preparing for the possibility of decreased business as access to buildings is hampered by the construction, as well as delays caused by a Native American burial ground located under Home Bakery.

Lydia Bates, manager at The Bean and Leaf Cafe, said she's looking on the bright side.

"We are hopeful and trying to stay positive," Bates said. "But it should be (a) very good investment."

Nichole Schulte-Franey, one of the owners of Holy Cannoli and an OU alumna, agrees that it shouldn't be too much of a problem.

"We're not worried at all," she said. "Our hours are long-term hours so that way people can find us, and we're open late night so that way foot-traffic can find us."

Along with cosmetic changes, the Rochester Downtown Development Authority has also budgeted for changes and upgrades to infrastructure. According to a DDA flyer distributed to residents and available online, there are plans to upgrade utility service along the street, making a lot of business owners happy.

"It's going to be so beautiful," said Megan Stitzel, co-owner of Rusted Roots Salon. "And maybe we'll have better water pressure, too."

However the construction still poses an inconvenience to business owners, mostly in regards to parking and access.

According to the DDA, "All parking lots will remain open during the project. The only parking spots not available will be the 94 spaces on Main Street."

But some business owners are still concerned.

"Parking is going to be a problem,



STEFAN PELAK/The Oakland Post

The Main Street construction includes a total replacement of the road and sidewalk, with the closure of Rochester Road to University Drive until late July.

that is one thing that they're kind of ... you know ... looking at," Schulte-Franey said.

The owners of the small bakery are putting their heads together to come up with a solution as to how people can access their business without walking through their small kitchen.

"We're thinking of doing a curb-side service," Schulte-Franey said. "So (customers) can call ahead, drive through the alley, pull up to our back door and we'll take out whatever it is they are looking for."

Yet, when asked about the long-term gains for Downtown Rochester, busi-

ness owners were unanimous in voicing their support for the project.

"I think the potential development of how the setting is going to look will be beneficial for sure," Franey-Schulte said. "The DDA and the (Chamber of Commerce) does a great job of bringing people downtown."

For more information on the businesses mentioned in this story, store closing and updates on construction, visit www.downtownrochester-mi.com

Contact Staff Intern Stefan Pelak via email at sspelak@oakland.edu

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What is being done?

The Michigan Department of Transportation is investing \$7.6 million a half-mile northbound and southbound of Rochester Road, between the Paint Creek Bridge and the Clinton River Bridge. The project includes total replacement of the road and sidewalk, utility upgrades, new signs and traffic signals upgrades, and landscaping improvements.

How will traffic be affected?

Early April, Rochester Road will be constructed via lane closures between the Paint Creek Bridge and University Drive between the Clinton River Bridge and Second Street.

Rochester Road will be closed and detoured between Second Street and University Drive until late July.



WHEN Construction on Rochester Road began April 2, and is scheduled to take place until November, with the full closing of Main Street until July.

WHERE Posted detours include Olde Towne Road, Water Street and Second Street.

WHO For more information, contact MDOT's Oakland Transportation Center at 248-451-0001

For updates, go to www.michigan.gov/drive or twitter.com/mdot_metrodet

Local

Italian film festival arrives in Detroit

Detroit Institute of Arts offers free screenings

By Natalie Popovski
Staff Intern

For the fifth consecutive year, the Italian Film Festival USA will bring contemporary Italian films to the Metro Detroit area.

The IFF USA is a non-profit organization that is currently in its eighth year of operation. The festival offers free movie screenings in 11 cities throughout the U.S.

The first stop in this year's festival was at the Detroit Institute of Arts on Wednesday, April 4 with the screening of the film, "A Quiet Life." The event will continue screenings at the University of Michigan April 6-7, Wayne State University April 13-14, Macomb Community College April 20-21 and Henry Ford Community College April 27-28.

This year's lineup includes 13 films showing at these four venues. The films are in their original versions with English subtitles.

Bringing the festival to Detroit

The festival was first brought to Metro Detroit by Wayne State University Assistant Professor, Elena Past, according to Pietro Sarcina. Sarcina is one of six volunteers helping to bring the IFF USA to Metro Detroit.

"(The organization) started at Wayne State and over time it expanded," Sarcina said. "Little by little it expanded and more volunteers came on board."

According to Sarcina, Past, who works in the Italian program at WSU, wanted to bring something new to her students' learning experience.

Past joined the organization five years ago as part of an academic project, Sarcina said.

"I am deeply convinced that watching films helps students grow in the knowledge of Italian language and culture," Grzegorz Tokarski said. "Movies reflect the real life and there is no better way to be exposed to it."

Tokarski, who is a professor in the Italian program at OU, currently shows Italian films in class and finds it is a successful way to educate students.

"Visual learning is much more efficient, and students enjoy it," Tokarski said. "Obviously, I am talking about good movies, and Italy produced a great quantity of masterpieces."

Appreciating the culture

Sarcina hopes that event goers will not only find enjoyment in the films, but will



Featuring local premiers of award-winning contemporary Italian films

Detroit Film Theatre (April 4)
University of Michigan (April 6-7)
Wayne State University (April 13-14)
Macomb Community College (April 20-21)
Henry Ford Community College (April 27-28)
Emagine Royal Oak (April 29)

All films are **FREE**

For additional info:
www.italianfilmfests.org/detroit



The Detroit Institute of Arts, as well as four other venues, will screen 13 films from the Italian Film Festival in their original versions with English subtitles.

find an appreciation and understanding for the Italian culture.

"The Italian cinema is well and alive and it provides wonderful storytelling," Sarcina said. "It's an opportunity to discover things in an entertaining environment."

Many of the films featured in this year's festival have won or have been nominated for a variety of awards which range from Best Screenplay to Best Director.

Paola Randi directed one of this year's featured films titled "Into Paradiso." Randi was nominated for Best New Director of 2011 and will be visiting the Italian American Cultural Center in Clinton Township at 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 22.

The film festival will end its run in metro Detroit on Sunday, April 29 at the Emagine Theatre in Royal Oak.

For more information, visit www.italianfilmfests.org/detroit

Contact Staff Intern Natalie Popovski via email at npopovsk@oakland.edu

LOCAL BRIEFS

Art exhibition and sale

The Level One Bank in Ferndale will host a free art exhibition and sale from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 13.

Painters and printmakers Claudia Hershman and Janis Walker will be at the event to display their work.

Both Hershman's and Walker's works have been sold in the U.S. and other countries.

Italian language class at Troy Public Library

The Troy Public Library will host a free class on the Italian language on Thursday, April 12.

The Flower of Life Italian Class welcomes all levels of speakers.

For more information, visit www.meetup.com/floweroflife

Ceramic workshop at Firebrick Gallery and Pottery Studio

The Firebrick Gallery and Pottery Studio in Rochester will host a free ceramic workshop on Friday, April 20.

From 1 to 4 p.m., ceramic artist Donna Williams will demonstrate techniques she uses to create "Tulipiere" flower vases.

Participants will work using wheel heads and slabs to learn how to create a finished piece.

For more information, visit firebrickgalleryandpotterystudio.com

Titanic dining experience

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the voyage of the Titanic, Stagecrafters Baldwin Theatre in Royal Oak will host a strolling reception. The event begins at 6 p.m. and will include samples from the ship's original first class 11-course menu.

There will also be a presentation from a Titanic enthusiast and collector, and a final dress rehearsal of "Titanic."

Ticket prices range from \$30 to \$65 and must be purchased in advance.

For more information, visit www.stagecrafters.org

FESTIVAL INFO

WHO The Italian Film Festival, which brings contemporary Italian films to the U.S., is now in its eighth year and has grown to include 11 cities.

Wayne State University Assistant Professor Elena Past, brought the festival to Metro Detroit.

WHEN Films will be shown at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, Macomb Community College and Henry Ford Community College. The festival will end its Detroit run on Sunday, April 29.

Compiled by Natalie Popovski,
Staff Intern



Kevin Romanchik/OU News Bureau

TOP Opened in 1992, Moosejaw Mountaineering's first location in Keego Harbor, Mich. was a success and resulted in the opening of six locations throughout Michigan. They also have retail stores in both downtown Chicago and Natick, Mass. **LEFT** Gary Wohlfeill, creative director for Moosejaw, explains their approach to customer service and marketing was different than other outdoor gear stores. **RIGHT** One of their six Michigan stores, the Rochester location, is in the Village of Rochester outdoor mall and near the campus of Oakland University.

By Kevin Romanchik
OU News Bureau

During the past decade, some Michigan businesses have closed their doors, but Moosejaw has avoided the descent and continued to climb.

Moosejaw Mountaineering, an outdoor gear and apparel store, opened in Keego Harbor with a different approach to business.

Since its inception, Moosejaw has maintained a consumer-friendly atmosphere that includes activities such as tossing a football in the store and tossing the names of customers on its jackets.

Gary Wohlfeill, creative director for Moosejaw, said the company's founders had no retail experience when they started the company in 1992. The result was an approach to the outdoor gear industry that "was different to the rest of the pack."

"I like shopping there because my boyfriend and I are really outdoorsy people," said Deena Borza, a student at Oakland University. "We really like the different hiking and camping gear that

(Moosejaw) has."

The employees of the original location often would take breaks to play touch football with customers, activities that still are practiced 20 years later in most stores.

"Without knowing it, we created a customer-engaged, brand-forward shop where we treated customers like friends," Wohlfeill said. "Out of that, we had success with (the idea of) not taking ourselves seriously."

The company isn't shy about branding the "land in the shape of the hand" in its clothing.

The owners believe showing their love of Michigan in items from T-shirts to water bottles is important to their overall business philosophy.

"We think it's really important to know where you're from," Wohlfeill said. "We're from Michigan and Detroit area. There's a lot of pride that goes into that."

Along with love for Michigan, Moosejaw's owners also are making an effort for a national focus by printing all their T-shirts in the U.S.

Offering products that get customers out in the wilderness isn't the only thing

Moosejaw cares about.

The company also partnered with Art Road, a non-profit organization that strives to get art classes into Metro Detroit schools and had employees volunteer time with them as part of their spring campaign.

It also offered a special T-shirt through the World Clothes Line, a local company that gives a shirt, for every one sold, to people of need around the world.

According to Wohlfeill, these types of community involvement projects have played a crucial role in the

company's growing success.

"(Moosejaw has) had a lot of support in the community here. We wouldn't be where we're at without it," Wohlfeill said. "It's incredibly important to remember where we grew up and came from."

Outside the corporate level, the employees who directly interact with the public see the local appreciation.

"Especially in our Michigan stores, it makes a real big difference that we are a local company," said Randy Allen, employee of the Rochester location. "Even when you talk to customers about it, they seem to really appreciate that fact."

Even though Wohlfeill didn't release overall revenue, he said Moosejaw's locations remain profitable even though the economy isn't good.

Since the original store opened in 1992, Moosejaw has added locations in Ann Arbor, Birmingham, East Lansing, Grosse Pointe, Partridge Creek and Rochester. It has expanded outside of Michigan to Chicago and Natick, Mass.

With a growing, customer-first, business model, Moosejaw hopes that it hasn't reached the top of the mountain yet.

Climbing more than mountains

*Outdoor outfitter Moosejaw Mountaineering
navigates from a rough economy to success*

"Pokémon are something that everyone in our generation recognizes. There's that nostalgia effect — they're going to sit there for a couple minutes — they're going to reflect."

Michael Danielson,
Mathematics Major



1

2



1. Danielson and Pietka started sketching the cartoon characters in driveways and public lots. Photo courtesy of Pokéchalkers.

2. The two have been sketching Pokémon on the pavement since last August. Lex Lee/The Oakland Post

3. The duo post photos of their chalk masterpieces via Facebook. Lex Lee/The Oakland Post

Chalking up nostalgia

Duo inspires childhood memories across campus with sidewalk renditions of Pokémon characters

By Jordan Gonzalez and Madeline Loshaw
Assistant Campus Editor, Copy Editor

Students rushing all over campus — from class, to the library, to the dorms — are all accustomed to the sidewalk drawings that promote campus events and student organizations. But something new in the world of chalk has been spotted on the sidewalks here at Oakland University — Pokémon. The colorful characters have sparked joy and nostalgia throughout the university.

Please see POKECHALKER page 20



3

POKECHALKER

continued from page 19

Childhood graffiti

Armed with chalk and Pokémon cards, sophomore Anna Pietka and junior Michael Danielson draw characters such as Rattata, Seaking and Gengar on sidewalks and driveways.

Together, they are the 'Pokéchalkers.' "We started using chalk because chalk is really cheap, and it's an easy medium to work with," Pietka said.

It all started when the pair casually drew the Japanese cartoon characters on a friend's driveway about three years ago. The idea lived on, and soon they drew some characters on a Dairy Queen parking lot until they were asked to leave.

Their next step was the city of Farmington, at the 'Pavilion.' Danielson said he and Pietka would often go the weekly swing dance, but for them, it wasn't for dancing.

"Neither of us were very good at dancing," Danielson said. "So we decided we would chalk Pokémon there."

It was in Farmington, however, that the couple encountered their second, and currently last, negative review. It was from a candidate for city council.

"Other than (the two negative reviews), we've had outstanding reviews from passers-by," Danielson said.

Their spirits were not dampened by the mild setbacks, however, and they soon found another venue to display their work.

Leaving a mark

During the unusually warm weeks in March, the couple first brought their talents to OU. Since then, they have

drawn Pokémon on campus on five occasions.

"(Pokémon) are something everyone in our generation recognizes," Danielson said. "There's that nostalgia effect — they're going to sit there for a couple minutes, they're going to reflect."

Each Pokémon takes between 30 minutes to an hour to create. Although the two students are avid Pokémon fans and love playing the video games,

they aren't able to draw the characters from memory quite yet.

"We usually used a visual aid to draw — a picture on our iPod or Pokémon cards," Pietka said.

Danielson said the drawings have received a lot of positive feedback, with a lot of it coming from the duo's Facebook fan page, which has photo albums of their art.

Their Facebook fan page is more than just a place to collect fans, how-

ever, as they both understand their art will always be washed away.

"We wanted to use Facebook just to have a collection of our photos in one place," Pietka said.

The page states that drawing Pokémon "was just something to do one day. We chose Pokémon because it's something our generation is already familiar with, and with such a large diversity, the subject doesn't get old."

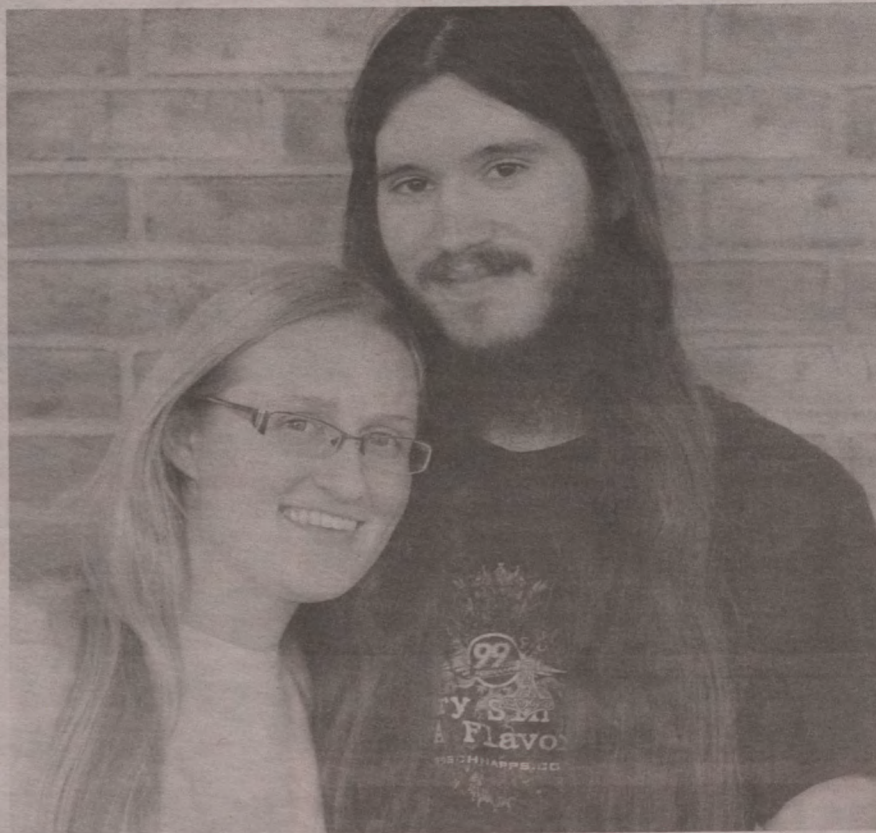
The Facebook page has more than 250 "likes," and it is cluttered with students praising their work.

Chalk in the wind

Already the couple has artists following their footsteps. A few pieces of Pokémon chalk art have been done by a fan, who was inspired by Danielson and Pietka.

Erin Russel, who has no affiliation with their group, has chalked some characters of her own, including a massive Gryados by the rear entrance to the Oakland Center.

Danielson and Pietka continue to pave the sidewalks in Pokémon.



MADELINE LOSHAW/The Oakland Post

Sophomore Anna Pietka and junior Michael Danielson are the two behind the Pokémon sidewalk drawings that have been popping up around campus.

Contact Assistant Campus Editor Jordan Gonzalez via email at jrgonzal@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @el_doctor23

Contact Copy Editor Madeline Loshaw via email at meloshaw@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @MadelineLoshaw

CONTACT

FACEBOOK

Visit the Pokéchalkers Facebook page to see pictures of their work www.facebook.com/pokechalkers

Vision restored

Meadow Brook Theatre pairs up with New Jersey-based charity to distribute necessities to needy

By Jessica McLean
Staff Intern

The Meadow Brook Theatre has recently paired up with the charity New Eyes for the Needy to collect eye glasses and other necessities for those unable to afford them.

"Partnering with other nonprofit organizations around us gives us a chance to give back to the community around us," Cheryl Marshall, MBT managing director, said.

Donations can be made at shows in exchange for a buy-one, get-one free ticket price.

Donations will be accepted until May 13 at the MTB box office, or at University Eye Care on Squirrel rd.

Read the entire story online at www.oaklandpostonline.com

**BY THE
NUMBERS**
NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY

11
million Americans struggle
with uncorrected vision

106
eyeglasses
collected by MTB

\$263
average amount spent
on a pair of glasses

200,000
pairs of recycled glasses
donated by NEFTN

4,362
pairs of glasses
purchased by NEFTN

Puzzles



WEEKLY PUZZLES

Answers are available online at
www.oaklandpostonline.com

ACROSS

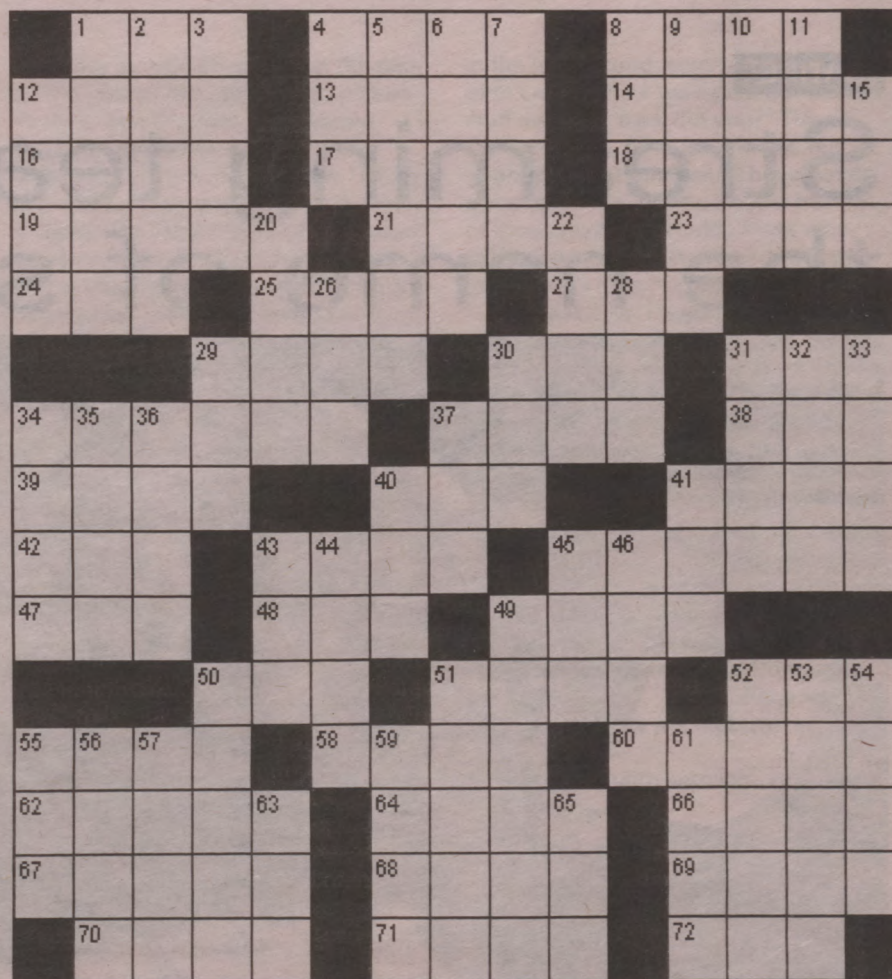
1. Snakelike fish
4. Assist in crime
8. Particle
12. Imitate
13. Fruit
14. Pulsate
16. Bad time for Julius
17. Border
18. Wipe out
19. Laconic
21. Sediment
23. Additional to or different from
24. Attempt
25. Slightly open
27. Cut down
29. Form of transport
30. Vitality
31. Fuss
34. Study of plants
37. Bill of fare
38. Napkin
39. Quartz used in cameos
40. Used to control a horse
41. As well
42. High mountain
43. Fraud
45. Each
47. Cereal grass seeds
48. Paddle
49. Aromatic herb

DOWN

50. Fitting
51. Champion
52. Droop
55. Tablet
58. Aspersions
60. Languish
62. Residence
64. In the middle
66. Halo
67. Defamation
68. Shade of blue
69. Pack tightly
70. Medieval land worker
71. Hinge joint
72. Conifer

DOWN

1. Type of duck
2. Mineral used as an abrasive
3. Not as great
4. Simian
5. Pandemonium
6. Avid
7. Woody plant
8. Consumed
9. Tossed
10. Unwritten exam
11. Flowerless plant
12. Glove
15. Insect
20. Yield
22. Tibia
26. Crested bird
28. Flightless bird
29. Charge
30. Animal doctor, in short
31. Fit
32. Saucer
33. Woodwind instrument
34. Male hog
35. Merely
36. Variety
37. Coalesce
40. Saloon
41. Be unwell
43. Jump
44. Annual grass seeds
45. Melody
46. Gambit
49. Infer
50. Tree with cone-like fruit
51. Person
52. Fry quickly in fat
53. Pointer
54. Chew
55. Buddy
56. Wading bird
57. Part of the ear
59. Long and thin
61. Facile
63. Mischievous fairy
65. Staining substance



The Oakland Post is not responsible if you fail your classes because of these puzzles. We think they're addicting, too.

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- ★ Mozzarella Sticks
- ★ Mini Corn Dogs

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SATIRE

Streaming tears in the name of stress



Photo Illustration by NICHOLE SEGUIN/The Oakland Post

Multimedia Reporter Brian Figurski attempts to deal with the stress of everyday life by resorting to emotional eating and sheltering himself in a protective cocoon of warm, thick blankets. No cookies or brownies survived.

By Brian Figurski
Multimedia Reporter

I find it slightly unnerving that the month of April has been tagged "Stress Awareness Month," yet I have to hurdle over tufts of hair students have ripped out of their scalps studying tediously.

That's walking 30 feet into the Oakland Center alone.

I dare not step foot on the third level of Kresge this time of year. If you exhale deeply up on that floor, there's a 70 percent chance you'll get a harpoon gun pulled on you.

April is "Stress Awareness Month," perfectly in tune with a barrage of finals and projects, making sure the collegiate crowd is aware of how stressed they actually are.

I, too, have been adversely affected by this time of month. I had to apologize to one of my groups for being a slack-assed student and lock another group in the underground tunnels so I can blame the lack of work accomplished on their absences.

The designated months need to swap awareness dates or the colle-

giate system must edit the layout of their finals, because this contradictory predicament is ridiculous and it is very self-centered for people expect me to change my opinion on the matter.

I cast my vote for the former. Swap Stress Awareness Month with Black History, since they got screwed with a 28-maybe 29 day month, and they've been screwed enough in the past.

Surely I am not the only one who has the Hawaiian Islands breaking out on my forehead resulting from stress and mental menstruation brought on by extreme procrastination of studying. Students are stress puking from the unbearable pressures placed upon them, and then other students are puking because of those disgusting regurgitation noises of Chartwells productions. There are pools of anxiety puke all over Pawley Hall and litter the greens of campus.

I feel the instructors do not understand sometimes the multiple aspects of a student's life. For the average student, there are roughly four classes, a work schedule and a

minimal sleep schedule to juggle. I have to include rounds of excessive drinking as my own personal stress relief.

I don't have the ample spare time to read 10 or more novels.

I think I may have just admitted to my professor I did a very underwhelming job and completely falsified the research on my last project.

Forget about your physical health, as well. It goes down the toilet with your sanity when you have textbooks strewn in front of you. It's so much easier to buy five McDoubles for 99 cents than a salad for five bucks.

What I'm getting at here, somewhere, is that Stress Awareness Month is a redundant title for the month chock full of anxiety. Save us the sugar coating.

Everyone is well aware that this is a stressful month, especially the people who witness me punching myself in the pubic bone until I black out.

Now excuse me, I have to clean up these puddles of Chick-Fil-A and get to my assignments I've neglected while writing this article.

SATIRE

WEEKLY TOP 10

With so much on the plates of Golden Grizzlies this month, we understand the relentless need to relieve some stress.

Well, most likely after finals are over, but we'd like to think you'll get to some comic relief remedies sooner than later.

Here's a comprehensive list of the 10 things we are planning to take care of in place of crying.

We also derive great pleasure from making other people uncomfortable, and this list is exactly how to accomplish those feats.

10. Take your most "hood-looking" friends and treat them to a mani/pedi adventure.

9. Go enjoy sunlight, take a long walk on the beach and then take up smoking.

8. Punch people in the face, right before they begin to eat their food.

7. Get a facial from one of your classmates. A certified, professional male classmate.

6. Go see a movie while wearing a long-necked giraffe outfit.

5. Go to Ann Arbor on April 20.

4. Draw Digimon characters with the Pokéchalkers.

3. (censored by the editor, but it had something to do with sex).

2. Listen to "Sexy and I Know It" while sexily eating a big jar of mayonnaise.

1. Start a food war at an old folks home and leave while they have flashbacks.

'Commercial-Free' is a wonderful term

By Dylan Dulberg
Staff Intern

Dear ABC, NBC, FOX, CNN, USA, MTV/VH1 (which are really the same thing), TBS, TNT and whatever channel Tyler Perry is on nowadays,

There have only been a handful of commercials in the last few years that successfully told us, the consumer, what the product was about memorably and that didn't bother/annoy/lie to us. Like Hanson's or the Sam Bernstein Law Firm. Insert joke here.

There are three reasons. First, they had a catchy jingle that eerily seeped into your subconscious and stayed there like that one friend that invites himself over and crashes on your couch for "just a day or two, man," (or a week). Secondly, they provided you with easy-to-remember contact information. And finally, they weren't lying or presenting ridiculous situations that even M. Night Shyamalan or Quentin Tarantino look at and say, "Dang, I

wish I was creative enough to come up with a crazy plot like this."

But it seems that commercials lately haven't caught on to that winning combination. The BlueTax commercials, for example — I have never seen a mascot as terrifying as Max, the Blue Tax bug-eyed crack addict. There is nothing like a big-eyed, fast moving crazy person to portray the levity of federal tax.

And the newest Taco Bell commercial is a complete disaster. The people at Taco Bell try to convince you that the appropriate party contribution is a 12-pack of tacos. And they go even further, painting the other people as lazy or stupid for bringing things like ice or chips. Because only idiots would even think to bring ice or chips to a party, right? They don't stop there. They show a pretty girl giving a coy look to the jackass who brought a toilet-destroying quantity of fast food to a party. You know what all the pretty girls like? Fast food tacos, apparently! Also, you can't help but notice that

there are around 25 people at the party. The genius brought 12 tacos. Yeah, the guy who brought ice is stupid.

Speaking of disturbing commercials, hats off to Activia yogurt. I don't know what their actual motto is, but it should be something like, "It makes you poo!" The commercial features Jamie Lee Curtis sitting with an odd assortment of other women, eating yogurt. (Party!) Their conversation is essentially as realistic as the 'not feeling so fresh' conversation. They are talking about how Activia yogurt is a tasty alternative to Senna Laxatives. This is not a conversation anyone has. It's weird, uncomfortable and upon further examination... yep.

It's a Christmas party.

There are wreaths in the background. I wish Santa came in and said, "You have all been good girls this year! Painless pooping for everyone!"

Almost as awful are the H&R Block commercials. You know what a prank is? A prank is a practical joke that ends with laughter. The H&R Block commercials just exhibit douchebaggery. They built a whole ad campaign around the idea that a camera salesman somewhere in the seventh circle of Hell tells people they can have a camera for free, just to snatch it away from them

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

at the last second, commenting "You didn't really think we'd give our best stuff away for free, did you?" The ad is clearly fake, because if it was real, I guarantee that guy would have gotten punched in the mouth. He just has one of those really punchable faces and the fact that he is also apparently a jerk doesn't help his cause.

And lastly, Dr. Pepper 10. Seriously, what the hell, Dr. Pepper? Let's just get it out of the way.

It is quite possibly one of the most sexist and misogynistic 30 seconds of television in any given time slot, including the time slot during South Park and/or The Rush Limbaugh Comedy Hour. (That's what his show is called, right?)

P.S. Instead of paying for any more of those dreadful Mucinex commercials, can we just invest in bringing back Billy Mays? Please? Vince from Shamwow gives me nightmares.

From Russia with sarcasm,
Dylan

Contact Staff Intern Dylan Dulberg via email at dsdulber@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter @dyldude64

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