



Frozen in time

pgs. 10-11

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

NOVEMBER **16**
— 2011 —



In the spotlight

Debate engages community

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Visit www.oaklandpostonline.com for more exclusive content and stories throughout the week.

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November 16 — November 30, 2011



Survey winner // Nov. 11, The Oakland Post office

DAUD YAR/The Oakland Post

Oskar Horyd, a junior majoring in biology, won \$15 in meal tickets to Chartwells after completing an Oakland Post survey. To contribute your opinion to the paper, email editor@oaklandpostonline.com



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Op

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we're missing.

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Give us real answers, please

Every issue addressed at last week's GOP presidential debate related to one exclusive topic: Money.

A main concern for students who are looking at colleges, working their way through or preparing for graduation has always been the cost, and in effect, the amount of debt they will face after graduation.

Since a recent Republican primary debate was held on Oakland's campus, a strong focus and point of interest in the candidates related to this idea and how our potential president will handle the crisis of a near \$1 trillion student loan debt.

Although all of the candidates are aware of the problem — and made that clear — we are still waiting to hear how it will be solved.

Congressman Ron Paul presented a plan that would effectively eliminate loan programs and the Department of Education while providing tax credits. Paul hinges this plan on the idea that if there is competition for schooling, quality would rise and costs would fall.

Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich is pulling for more interesting ideas that will push the "outdated boundaries of education."

Gingrich proposed the idea of using the model set forth by work-study colleges. Students would work on campus 20 hours a week to pay for books and tuition, then 40 hours in the summer to cover room and board.

Mitt Romney, who is currently the frontrunner in this race, has no specific plan to target the problem.

No candidates aside from Gingrich and Paul tout any solutions for making higher education affordable.

That's all fine, but how do we get there from here? What happens to us, who are already in the debt pool? And how do we implement a plan when we still lack the actual means for progress?

We don't mind if candidates like Paul believe the federal student loan program is a failure and believe the program — or even the Department of Educa-

tion — must be eliminated, but a solution must be presented in order to replace these current programs.

Gingrich said during the debate that to move to a work-study model would be a culture shock to students entering college, because they would be expected to work for their education, study, graduate quickly and "do the right thing for four years."

What is it he thinks we're all trying to do now?

We've met myriad students on campus who work several jobs in addition to taking classes full time (12 credit hours), balancing families, friends and extracurricular activities.

The fact of the matter is that education is far too expensive for us to keep up with and a solid solution has not been proposed by candidates.

If we eliminate loans completely, as per Paul's plan, how long will it take for the education market to fall to a cost students can afford following their high school graduation?

How many work-study posi-

tions would have to be created if we choose to go with Gingrich's plan? It seems implausible that all 19,000-plus students currently attending OU would have an on-campus job to support them.

The College of the Ozarks, which Gingrich referenced does run on that system, but the school in Missouri has a student population of about 1,600.

Will there be time for students to hold internships and have work experiences pertinent to their desired field of study?

There are so many questions but only a limited number of open-ended answers.

Though Gingrich and Paul were the ones standing in the O'Rena last Wednesday, we won't stand any longer for politicians from both sides of the aisle talking about much-needed change in Washington while not proposing much else that is new or different and further ignoring ways to cut down the cost of higher education.

There needs to be change. Now.

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WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

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Be sure to provide contact information,
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Poll of the Week 11.16.11

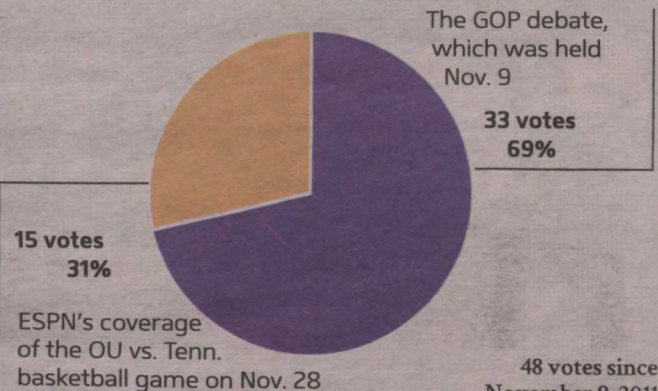
This Week's Poll

Will you be shopping on
Black Friday?

- I'll be out at 10 p.m. on Thanksgiving
- No. I'll be sleeping through my turkey coma
- I can just shop on Cyber Monday.

Cast your vote at
oaklandpostonline.com

Which major campus event are you
most excited about?



Financial Aid Director weighs in on student loans

In light of the CNBC "Your Money, Your Vote" debate being held on campus, The Oakland Post turned its attention to money that affects many students: federal loans.

Oakland University Director of Financial Aid Cindy Hermesen answered a few questions about the student loan program, its part in helping students in their education endeavors and what she'd like the President to do to curb student loan debt.

OP: What are your thoughts on the role of the student loan program?

The federal student loan program is a financial resource available to students who need financial assistance to obtain a college degree.

Students loans are an option and a choice. I always advise students to accept a federal student loan as a last resort and to only accept the amount they absolutely need.

Although the federal government requires students to complete a loan counseling session before receiving a federal loan,

my thought is that students do not really understand that a loan is a debt they will have when they leave school.

Unfortunately, we hear from many parents who admit they complete the loan counseling for their child.

I like to advise families to look at the cost of tuition and find ways to cover the tuition without a student loan.

Students need to first exhaust all their other available funding resources such as applying for scholarships and grants.

However, students and families also need to be willing to contribute toward the cost of a college degree also.

Students need to look for ways to minimize college costs such as housing options, renting or purchasing used books and graduating in four years.

Students need to also find ways to control their discretionary spending.

If there isn't any other option to for pay for college, a student loan is a good investment in a future career as long as the student stays focused on their degree program, work hard at being academically successful, and if a loan is needed, borrow responsibly.

OP: The amount of student loan debt has reached an all-time high. What are the main contributing factors to that phenomenon?

There are a couple of factors that have led to the increase in student loan debt.

■ There is much more publicity about federal student aid, which has generated more applications.

■ Federal student loan limits have recently increased.

■ It's easy to obtain a federal student loan.

■ More students with a financial need for students loans.

■ There are more student who don't have financial need for student loans accepting the loans.

Many times you will read that tuition increases are the reason for increased student loan debt. At OU the financial aid budget for scholarships and grants has always been increased by the same percentage of any tuition increase.

OU's average undergraduate student loan debt is about \$20,000 which is well below

the national average.

As students complete their degrees and enter their careers, a \$20,000 investment in an OU degree should be manageable.

OP: What are your thoughts on comments said by Republican presidential candidates during the debate? Do you agree with any points given by the candidates?

I believe we need to find ways to graduate students within four years. Adding another year or two only increases costs and the need to rely on student loans.

OP: What are your thoughts on how the next President should handle this debt crisis of sorts?

I would like to see tighter controls on the loan entrance counseling requirement so that students completely understand the loan that will need to be repaid.

I would like for schools to have the option to deny federal student loans for students who don't really need it.

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CORRECTIONS CORNER

In last week's op-ed feature, "Perspectives from political science professors," Terri Towner's name was incorrectly spelled.

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

If you are interested in writing a guest column for the Perspectives section, e-mail editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call 248.370.4268.

op

Free speech area utilized

By **RAYMOND ANDRE**
Senior Reporter

Nov. 9, standing alone under overcast skies with the sun moving west, Sue McQueen, a woman in her 50s, stood at the edge of the Freedom of Speech Area before the Republican presidential debate at Oakland University.

Demonstrations outside the debate were expected, said Oakland University Police Chief Samuel Lucido. Occupy Oakland University and campaign representatives for Texas Representative and GOP presidential candidate Ron Paul had planned rallies.

McQueen came to OU for the Ron Paul rally, holding a large banner supporting the candidate's 2012 campaign.

"I've been here since 2 p.m., and it's just me," McQueen said. "It's a shame I'm the only one out here. It says a lot about today's youth." The debate was rooted in popular issues — jobs and the economy. Outside, demonstrators clamored for attention to more social issues, ranging from the abolition of the U.S. Federal Reserve to freedom from religion in politics.

Doresha Christopher, a 21-year-old art history and English major, approached the free-speech area because she was curious about the demonstrations that may occur because of the debate.

"Thomas Jefferson, one of our founding fathers, said there should be a revolution every 20-or-so years," Christopher said.

"There is definitely a disconnect between politicians and people, and we need a revolution," she added.



GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post

Demonstrators stood in the Freedom of Speech Area located behind Kresge Library before and during the GOP Presidential Debate that took place on campus on Nov. 9

lution," she added.

The Ron Paul rally, originally scheduled for 5 p.m., began at 6:30. Around that time, demonstrators began to fill the free-speech zone located behind Kresge Library.

Police allowed supporters of Representative Paul and President Barack Obama to stand at the sidewalk on Pioneer Drive, which separated the Freedom of Speech Area and the debate, while others, were denied by city, state and campus police.

"It's a joke," said Lindsay Stone, a 32-year-

old participant in Occupy Ann Arbor, an extension of the Occupy Wall Street protest against social inequality.

Stone and fellow Occupy Ann Arbor supporters, Chelle Johnson and Maggie Burant, along with Occupy OU supporter Alex Dulgerian and several others, led a march outside the cordoned area behind Kresge.

Stone, Johnson and Burant prepared for challenging the limitations of free speech.

Each donned lawyers' phone numbers on their bodies in the event that they were

taken into custody.

"Cops take everything off of your person," Johnson said. "So we wrote the numbers on our persons."

Dulgerian said it was troubling that political action committees are granted such privileges and "an enormous platform, while we have to work through the corporate conglomerate media."

"It's more extreme than I thought," Dulgerian, a senior OU history major, said of the Freedom of Speech Area. "Freedom works and Ron Paul supporters can just stroll right through."

Around 7:30 p.m., demonstrators, unwilling to accept exclusionary policing, moved to the lawn beyond the fenced-in free-speech area.

Numbering near 140, demonstrators refused to budge.

Twenty Michigan State Police officers, equipped with body armor and wooden batons, promptly formed a line on the sidewalk before Pioneer Drive.

On the law outside the Freedom of Speech Area, devotees of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness chanted the Hare Krishna mantra and danced.

Kelly Shaw, an OU psychology major, who stood outside the GOP debate to express anger toward what she called "GOP bigotry" of gay rights, scoffed at the idea of free speech being restricted. Shaw said the security measures taken were understandable, though.

Shaw said she would like to see more moderate Republicans and Democrats more in line with the people they represent.

Father, daughter protest GOP debate

By **JOANNE HOOPES**
Contributing Reporter

Father and daughter protested the Republican Presidential Debate at Oakland University Nov 9.

Jacqueline Piche, 22, and her Father Joe Michnuk, 52, both from Dearborn, represent the Occupy Detroit movement in an early gathering of media and onlookers outside the debate arena.

Piche carried a homemade sign that read "sex lies and Republican candidates."

"I hope Herman Cain can see it," Piche said.

The duo has protested together for the last month.

"My daughter is the one who got me involved," Michnuk said. "I've worked my whole life to preserve the American dream and I'm afraid my daughter will never experience it."

Piche, who just returned from an Occupy Wall Street rally in New York, said she hopes for real change in Michigan.

"We are taking a stand against the candidates today because they are not talking about the 99 percent," Piche said. "They are only focused on ideology and politics."

The two were the first Occupy Detroit protesters to arrive on campus but more were later attended.

Prior to this debate, protesters have camped out in Grand Circus Park in Detroit. According to Piche, about 75 tents are in the encampment.

"Protesters are there all day, every day," Piche said. "And we'll stay there."

Michnuk supports his daughter's efforts. He has helped her set up for past rallies, bringing coffee to pass out during the gatherings in Detroit.

"It's a real functional community," Piche said.

"I am absolutely proud of her," Michnuk said.

As winter approaches, Piche said the movement is already talking about how to continue the outdoor presence once the cold weather hits.



Photo courtesy of JOANNE HOOPES



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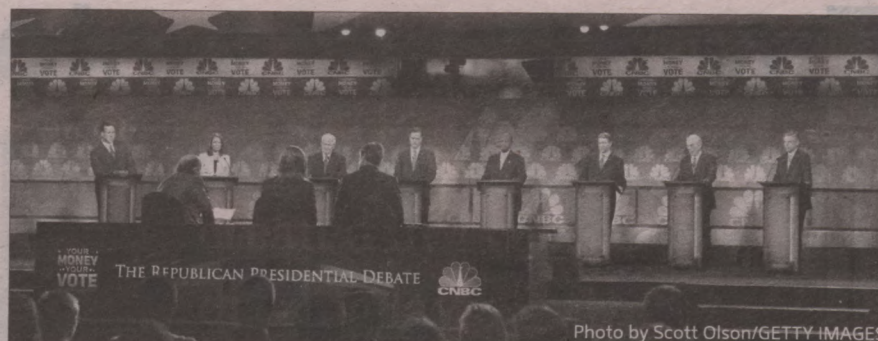
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Debate puts OU in primetime, spurs student loan talks

By **KAY T. NGUYEN**
Editor-in-Chief

Approximately 3.33 million viewers tuned in to the CNBC Republican presidential debate last Wednesday, which gave much exposure to the campus of Oakland University.

"The event went very well and there were no glitches," OU President Gary Russi said. "The media exposure for Oakland was unbelievable."

CNBC was the No. 1 cable channel during prime time the night of the ninth, despite coming in sixth place in Nielsen ratings compared to other Republican primary debates so far this year.

A CNBC broadcast of a 2007 Republican debate drew in about one-third the amount of viewers.

"There were thousands of hits nationally (Tuesday) and much more (on Wednesday)," Russi said. "CNBC started broadcasting about Oakland on Sunday (Nov. 6) and it just continued."

OU also received a shout out from Saturday Night Live as the cast reenacted Texas Gov. Rick Perry's debate gaffe.

Russi's executive assistant, Karen Kukuk, shouldered a lot of responsibilities when it came to the planning of the debate.

"The event was an overwhelming success on all counts," Kukuk said. "The involvement of hundreds of our students in debate related activities — from volunteering opportunities to classroom activities — brought added value to their educational experience at Oakland."

She applauded campus community members for coming together to manage a successful event.

"Many of our faculty were engaged in debate activities as well and numerous staff members worked very hard to ensure the success of the event," Kukuk said. "More-

over, the public profile and overall visibility of Oakland University received a significant boost from the extensive media coverage of the event, even in the days leading up to the event."

One topic that piqued the interest of students was a question presented by CNBC's Sharon Epperson about the cost of higher education and record amounts of student loan debt.

Rep. Ron Paul deemed the "policy of student loans" a "failure" while former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich suggested that students finish school in quicker, more efficient manner.

"I know a lot of people in Student Congress and a lot of students we've talked to have federal loans, so for a candidate to come into our university and make those statements ... I'm not okay with that," said OU Student Congress Vice President Elisa Malile.

Student Congress President Ben Eveslage also pointed out that the situations of students Paul and Gingrich spoke of were not true for many at OU.

"I think the worst option right now, especially at Oakland University, is to have a state where only the top-notch students who have rich families will have been able to go to the university," Eveslage said. "That makes it risky for our university and risky for our students."

Rep. Paul said during the debate that he thought free market economics should rule when it comes to higher education and that the government should not be involved with the delivery of services.

That means abolishing the beleaguered federal student loan program.

Vice President for Governmental Relations Rochelle Black said she couldn't speak directly on issues specific to financial aid, but said the "debt load and everything involved with being a student now is not a

Emergency system texts students

By **MADELINE LOSHAW**
Staff Intern

Recently, over 10,000 members of the Oakland University community received a test of OU's text message alert system. This alert system is designed to notify students, staff and faculty of any safety threats on campus.

"Information may be sent notifying the community that the university is in lock-down or an evacuation has been ordered," Capt. Mark Gordon of the OU Police said.

In addition, the university will send out alerts if classes are cancelled or if the entire campus is closed for inclement weather.

"The emergency notification system will never be used as a means for advertising or marketing," Gordon said.

The system also allows for students and staff to opt-in to voice message notifications, which were also recently tested.

Other than for testing purposes, the emergency notification system hasn't been used since March 2009.

"We used the system to advise the community of a bomb threat that had been received in O'Dowd Hall and the Oakland Center," Gordon said.



GUSTAVO PESSUTTI/The Oakland Post

The OU emergency message alert system recently sent test alerts to over 10,000 OU community members. The system allows subscribers to opt-in to text or voice alerts.

Freshman Candice Novinski, an undecided major, said the text message alert system gives her peace of mind.

"I'm glad we have it," Novinski said. "It makes it a safer campus and shows that OU cares about their students."

Gordon also feels the system is a crucial part of campus safety.

"It is one of the several notification options that OU uses to advise the community during an emergency," Gordon said.

Sophomore R.J. Fischer, a computer in-

formation technology major, doesn't feel that the system is useful.

"It doesn't do anything for me," he said. "I've never seen anything come out of it. I've never had anything beside test alerts."

Freshman and undecided major Steve Van Nada isn't signed up for the alerts, because he feels there are other ways to find out that information.

"I don't feel a need for it in my life," Van Nada said. "I think that (if) anything big that happens, I'll find out anyway, either on Facebook or just through word of mouth."

The system is run through the Everbridge Emergency Notification System, which had 10,431 registered users as of Nov. 14.

"During an emergency, community members may be required to act to ensure their safety such as a lock down order or campus evacuation," Gordon said. At other times, community members may need to avoid a certain area of campus where an emergency is occurring. The text messaging system is a primary method used to advise community members of such emergencies."

For more information about OU's emergency text message alert system, visit oakland.edu/prepared

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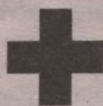
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2012 Wilson and Human Relations Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

The Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2012 or have graduated in summer or fall 2011
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**

- be graduating seniors in winter 2012 or have graduated in summer or fall 2011
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/dean_awards or in 144 Oakland Center.

The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 6, 2012.

For questions, contact:

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

Imam Feisal to speak at OU

By **CHRISTOPHER LAURITSEN**
Staff Intern

On Nov. 16, Oakland University Student Congress, along with the office of the president will host one of Time magazine's most influential people of 2011. Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf is the Imam of Masjid al-Farah, which is the mosque located 12 blocks from Ground Zero. The event will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. at Meadow Brook Theatre.

Imam Feisal has also been involved in the Park51 project, which will be a 13-story Muslim community center located two blocks away from where the World Trade Centers stood.

Emilia Allen, multicultural affairs director for OUSC and organizer for the event, said it is unfortunate that people generally only know Imam Rauf because of the Park51 or "Ground Zero Mosque" because he has done much more than that.

Rauf is the advisor to the Interfaith center of New York, he has founded two Non-Profit organizations whose stated goals are too "enhance the discourse on Islam in society".

Rauf is the chairman of the Cordoba initiative and founder of the American Society for Muslim Advancement. He has also published three books.

The speaking engagement will be the culmination of the Middle Eastern Mosaic, a series of events put on by Student Congress, that have focused on the Middle East.

"If the discussion of interfaith religion is ever going to happen it will happen at the University Level," Allen said. "I love to push the envelope with my events."

"If community members get anything from this event, I would want it to be an awareness," Allen said. "What has been surprising to me has been the large similarities between religions and cultures."

"If we focus on what unites us and celebrate that, then we will be able to come together," Allen said.

OU has 600 seats available for the event and tickets are going quickly, according to Student Body President Benjamin Eveslage.

Free tickets to the event are at the CSA ticket window on the lower level of the Oakland Center. A student ID is required to pick up a free ticket.



Photo by Mario Tama/GETTY IMAGES
Imam Feisal will speak at OU on Nov. 16 at Meadow Brook Theatre from 7-8 p.m.

For questions related to the event, contact Allen at eaallen@oakland.edu

Police Files

Laundry stolen in Hill House

On Nov. 5, officers were called to the Hill House about a larceny in the laundry room. A student said she transferred her laundry from the washer to the dryer at around 9:30 p.m. on Nov. 4 and then went back to her room and fell asleep. When the student woke up at approximately 9 a.m. and returned the laundry room, her things were missing from the dryer.

Student being harassed

On Nov. 7, a student reported suspicious activity near the Rec Center. The student said on Oct. 30, a lighter-colored van pulled up next to her and yelled, "Hey beautiful, do you want a ride?" out the window. The student ignored them. After yelling more obscenities towards the student, the suspects drove away. The student believed the suspects had been drinking.

Students with Marijuana in P5

On Nov. 10, officers were patrolling P5, they saw three students in a car with foggy windows. As officers neared the vehicle, they saw a student in the passenger seat had a pile of what appeared to be ground-up marijuana on a sheet of paper in his lap. The students said they had planned to drive several miles away and smoke. Officers confirmed containers of marijuana that were destroyed on-scene. No other contraband was found. The students were cited for marijuana use.

Stolen property at SAE

On Nov. 12, officers were called to Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house about a home invasion. Upon arrival, the student said when he arrived at the house, he noticed eight large framed composite photographs of SAE members, a framed charter and other framed awards were stolen, and smelled something burning. After inspection of the house, officers saw what appeared to be burned cardboard on the open door of the stove and personal belongings scattered in each of the open bedrooms. Officers advised that each of the members report anything missing.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,
Sports Editor

Students camp for poverty awareness

By **MISHA MAYHAND**
Staff Intern

Oakland University students will be camping out on campus from Thursday, Nov. 17 from 8 a.m. to 7 a.m. the next morning, to help raise money for families in poverty.

Students will be camping out with minimal supplies in the grassy area next to Kresge Library.

Ambriah Brown, Americorp vista, who works at the Center for Student Activities and the leadership and volunteer center at OU, said she wanted to do something on poverty that would be hands on.

Brown said she wants students to come out, camp out and raise awareness, even if they can't stay the whole time because of classes, jobs or prior obligations.

Some don't know there are different themes to poverty including generational poverty, relative poverty and absolute poverty.

Her goal is to bring awareness to these themes.

Brown also wants to raise awareness about the common misconceptions about poverty.

"There are a lot of misconceptions and stereotypes that we have about poverty," Brown said. "For example, someone may think people in poverty are lazy and that's not true."

Many people who find themselves in poverty have multiple jobs and are facing the tough economy.

"A lot of people in poverty are working three and four jobs, and they might say, 'I work three jobs but I have two kids, so I have to work these jobs just to make ends meet.'"

According to Brown, there are people with bachelor's degrees, master's and doctorates, who are in poverty "because things happen."

"Poverty is not just a matter of who is fortunate, and who is not," Brown said. "Poverty can happen in the blink of an eye. You can go home and there is a fire across the street, now that family is in poverty."

There are many scenarios for how people end up in poverty.

"It's very complex," Brown said. "You can't really box the definition of poverty. They are cutting off government assistance, health issues will arise and violence and crime will arise."

This event is not only for awareness, but also allows students and other participants to be able to give back to those that are in need.

Students and faculty helped to mold the cause and made it what it is today.

One of the faculty members who will be attending is Jennifer Wenson, a special lecturer in human resource development.

"I will be attending in and out throughout the day," Wenson said. "There will be a lapse in my attendance due to prior obligations. I am a firm believer in education."

Wenson has offered her students a chance to participate in the camp out because she believes in the cause and thinks students can learn a lot from the experience this event provides.

In her class, Wenson requires her students to write a life plan

paper, however, in lieu of the paper they can attend the event and write a reflection paper as an alternate assignment.

"This camp out will hopefully open my student's eyes to the many facets of poverty," Wenson said.

According to Wenson, poverty is not simply a homeless man with a cardboard sign. It can be an entry-level service person in the military or a minimum wage paid mother of three who works two jobs.

"Creating and reflecting a life-plan is beneficial," Wenson said. "But seeing, discussing, and knowing poverty may help to create change."

Wenson's goal is to have a long-lasting impact in the lives of her students.

"I just want to make a difference in their lives and in the lives of others and I believe service-learning can be that difference," Wenson said.

For more information about the Camp Out Against Poverty and to learn about how to volunteer for the cause, visit oakland.edu/csa

In the **Eye** of the **Beholder**

A closer look at the statues and structures around OU's campus

Written by Sarah Wojcik and Brittany Haney,
Features Editor and Staff Intern

The statues and sculptures of Oakland University all have a story to tell. Students rush past them in their hurry to get to class and move on with their busy schedules every day.

"These works are good examples of late modernist sculpture; in other words they are chiefly non-figurative, modular, grid-like forms that are reductive and unadorned," said Steven Goody, associate professor of art and director of the OU Art Gallery. "Particular works have affinities with specific movements within modernism."

Although there are many sculptures and statues on campus, The Oakland Post chose to zero in on the pieces located closest to the campus buildings — the ones students come into contact with most often.

"The sculptures I've seen really add something to the campus and give it a lot of value," Anna Wojcik, elementary education major, said. "I think they're a great asset to the school."

Designed by
Kaitlyn Chornoby,
Managing Visual Editor



Saints and Sinners

The most widely known statue on the campus of OU, located at the west entrance of Kresge Library, has been interpreted in myriad of ways.

To sculptor Marshall Fredericks of Royal Oak, who also created the famous Spirit of Detroit, Saints and Sinners represents "good, evil, temptation, knowledge of good and evil, a saint of the church, a mother and child and a warrior saint."

The statue's oval base is 25 by 50 feet and each of the seven bronze pieces is 9 feet, six inches high.

Instead of being directly commissioned by OU, the statues were a side project Fredericks had been working on for 30 years, since the end of World War II.

In 1976, the university received a donation of \$100,000 from the Josephine S. Gordon Foundation of Detroit to purchase the piece. With an additional cost of \$68,000 to build the fountain base, the dedication ceremony took place on Oct. 22, 1976.

"Put that money into the general fund and it would be gone in a week," Fredericks said. "Here it will last forever."

Structurist No. 11 and The Burghes

David Scott, who studied at OU, sculpted both statues and donated both sculptures to the university at the same time in 1994.

Previously installed in front of the Oakland Center, between North and South Foundation Halls, they reside mere feet from each other in the Wilson Hall courtyard.

While donated as an untitled piece, a professor from the chemistry department helped title "The Burghes."

"There is an apparent randomness to it, but in reality, there isn't. It is its own reality, coming from the invisibility and reality of nature. I make the invisible visible," Scott said of his "Structurist No. 11."





The Grizz

Standing outside of the O'Rena, the eight-foot bronze statue greets visitors to the OU Athletics Center.

The statue, weighing nearly a ton, has stood guard of OU since 2006, after the university, students and OU Student Congress raised more than \$35,000 to acquire it.

Istva'n Ma'te and Gyorgyi Lantos, the Hungarian parents of former OU swimmer Hunor Ma'te, created the sculpture.

Before OU officially became the Golden Grizzlies, the school was known as the Pioneers and the unofficial mascot was buckskin-clad Pioneer Pete.

When OU decided to move its athletics program from NCAA Division II to Division I in 1997, the need for an official mascot revealed itself.

From a selection including the Golden Grizzlies, the Saber Cats and the Pioneers, the Golden Grizzlies emerged victorious.

"We are really excited about the new name," OU Athletic Director Jack Mehl said when the Golden Grizzlies mascot finally was selected by the President's Cabinet on March 23, 1998. "It's original, it ties in directly with our school colors and it represents the new, aggressive nature of our athletic program's move to Division I competition."



Motherswell

Wesner, a Georgetown University graduate, also created the piece "Motherswell," which is located on the front lawn of South Foundation Hall.

Although the painted steel structure was moved from the College of Creative Studies and installed at OU in 1988, students commonly say they overlook it.

"I don't notice the sculptures very often, but I think it would be nice if there were more statues and sculptures on campus so that students are more aware of the art on campus," Ido Saltarelli, a business major, said. "It would also be nice to see a lot of artwork by local artists and students."



Echo Cognito

A Cor-Ten steel sculpture titled "Echo Cognito" is stationed outside of OU's Honors College.

Originally created by Joseph Wesner, the sculpture was donated to the university in 1999 by former Board of Trustees vice chair Ann Nicholson and her husband, in the hope that it would become a symbol of the Honors College's "unique identity."

"Meaning is the essential concern in my sculpture," Wesner said. "It is (the) search for the essence of life's celebrative joy as shared in the creative experience to which my sculptures aspire."

The phrase "echo cognito," which means "echo of knowledge" in Latin, mirrors the concepts of the Honors College.

The Honors College at Oakland University is designed to support highly motivated undergraduate students seeking a rich, valuable and challenging university education, according to their website.

The Honors College is also defined by small class sizes and opportunities for networking.

Established in 1977, the Honors College currently has about 600 students.

'Passion and dedication'

Associate head coach receives lifetime achievement award

By EMMA CLAUCHERTY
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 3, Shawn Kornoelje, associate head coach of the Oakland University swimming and diving team, received the 2011 Rick Knas Lifetime achievement award from the Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame.

The Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame honors men and women who overcome physical challenges to become elite athletes and superior role models.

Kornoelje has coached high school, college, Olympic and Paralympic athletes over the span of his 23-year career.

This lifetime achievement award is not his first time being recognized either.

In 2010, he received the James Raymond "Jimi" Flowers Disability Swimming Coach of the Year Award from USA Swimming. In 2008, he also received the Order of Ikko Medallion presented by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

"I don't work my career around being in a hall of fame," Kornoelje said. "(My) body of work should sit on itself."

Work with Paralympic athletes

Kornoelje's first Paralympic athlete was Jason Wening, a double leg amputee from the University of Michigan. Under Kornoelje's coaching, Wening broke world records and won several gold medals.

"(Wening) had to adapt certain things," Kornoelje said. "It's always a matter of finding what they can do and augmenting that."

Wening's focus and ambition reflected what Kornoelje hopes to inspire in all of his athletes.

"(There is) a level of expectation in himself that I like to have as a coach," Kornoelje said. "He wanted to excel and be a world record holder. Whether you have legs or not, that holds some substance with people."

In addition to Wening, Kornoelje also coaches his wife and four time Paralympic medalist, Cheryl who holds several national and world records.

"Coaching Paralympic athletes or athletes with disabilities is different and unique," Kornoelje said. "My wife is a quadriplegic; She can't kick at all. We work on body balance and position and different techniques."

Regardless of conditions, Kornoelje still expects an elite mentality from all of his athletes.

"I have high expectations for all my athletes, no matter what they are missing," Kornoelje said. "The idea of the Paralympics and Olympics, it's not of winning. You are there to compete and do your best against the other person."

Kornoelje understands the mental and physical struggle his athletes go through.

"One of my favorite sayings is 'some days you're the dog and some days you're the fire hydrant. There is always something you can do,'" Kornoelje said. "As long as you do what you can with what you have that day, you're going to do pretty well."

Since the beginning of his career, Kornoelje has come to trust the journey more than the destination when it comes to training swimmers.

The tattoo

Kornoelje has a tattoo of Winnie the Pooh on his ankle. It wasn't a regretful night or a stupid dare, but a symbol of his philosophy about life and coaching.

"I had read The Tao of Pooh like 30 times already," Kornoelje said. "So I thought I'm going to put in on my ankle to remind me about it every day. Plus, I've always loved Winnie the Pooh."

The book serves as introduction to the beliefs of Taoism, a Chinese philosophy that advocates a life of complete simplicity and naturalness and of noninterference with the course of natural events, in order to attain a happy existence.

The past and present

Kornoelje was able to see the success of the philosophy when in 1995, the U-M Women's swimming and diving team was second in the country and became the first women's swim team from Michigan to be top three in the country.

Kornoelje has been coaching the OU team for seven years now. Last year, he helped the team win a conference championship and hopes for a repeat win this year.

"(Kornoelje) mentioned to me this first semester of training is the best he has ever seen," Nick Evans, a junior and middle distance swimmer said.

Senior Tim Montague has been coached by Kornoelje for four years.

"(He) acts as our mentor and leader while helping us perform to our highest potential," Montague said. "We know that he is committed to our success both academically and athletically."

Evans believes this award reflects the immense tal-



Courtesy of Oakland University Athletics
Shawn Kornoelje has been an associate head coach at OU for seven years and started coaching at Eastern Michigan and Grosse Pointe South.

ent Kornoelje possesses for coaching.

"I think it's the passion and dedication he has for everything he does every day," Evans said. "It's hard to imagine someone who possesses that kind of ability and (Kornoelje) embodies that completely."

Some of Kornoelje's former athletes wrote recommendations to the athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame for the lifetime achievement award.

"I had three or four former athletes that wrote some recommendations that brought me to tears," Kornoelje said. "I didn't know had that effect on people and that influence on their life."

Kornoelje's current athletes have many good things to say about him as well.

"He is a great coach and deserves every achievement and honor that has been bestowed upon him," Montague said.

Kornoelje is happy with what he is doing right now and hopes to continue for some time.

"I want to be someone they can look to as more than a person on deck making them swim fast," Kornoelje said. "I want to help them deal with adversity and be supportive as best as I possibly can. That is the most important thing to me whether I win or lose."

Blake Cushingberry bounces back

Junior guard hopes to make an impact this upcoming season

By **MIKE HORAN**
Senior Reporter

When he took his first shot 18 seconds into the game against Spring Arbor, junior Blake Cushingberry didn't expect to miss that bad.

"The first shot was not the shot I had hoped for," said Cushingberry, Oakland University men's basketball guard. "It kind of looked like an airball."

Less than a minute later, Cushingberry redeemed himself and nailed a three point shot, helping the team torch Spring Arbor 94-55.

"The first game back was a lot of excitement and jitters," he said. "It felt kind of like being a freshman again — coming back after a year — but as a freshman, if I had taken that shot before, I would have not come back and stepped up and knocked down the next three. It felt good to be back on the floor and playing again with my teammates."

After missing a year due to a torn ante-

rior cruciate ligament, located in the knee, which he suffered last year during practice, Cushingberry is looking to add another piece to Oakland's team as they make a run towards another Summit League Championship and NCAA Tournament bid.

Cushingberry, a 6-foot-3 guard, was a key part of the Oakland championship team in 2010 when he played in all 35 games and stepped up in the Summit League tournament.

"We lost a veteran who had been part of a championship team, that had been under the gun late in games, (who) knew what it was like to make a mistake, knew what he had to do to compete," Greg Kampe, Oakland head coach said of Cushingberry. "So we lost that piece of the ingredient, that leadership piece that you need when things get tough."

Kampe expects Cushingberry to step into a bigger role for the team this year as a leader.

"He's a kid who we expect to play major minutes for us and he needs to bring all the

qualities back that he has that we (have) lost," Kampe said. "We need the ability to make a big play at crunch time, the ability to understand the game and keep it in slow motion so you can make big plays when it counts, the been-there-done-that type of attitude."

Cushingberry began his rehabilitation and spent a full year building back strength in the surrounding muscles of his knee.

"Every day before I'd come out to practice, it was a 45 minute run in the pool," he said. "I'd sit and do rubberband resistance with our head trainer and then after that, I'd come out and do a lot of things to build my muscle mass back up in my quad, like leg extensions and leg holds."

As he continues to work back to 100 percent, Cushingberry has high expectations for the upcoming season.

"I will not settle for anything less than what we did last year," he said.

Cushingberry and Oakland men's basketball team will continue their four-game road trip Wednesday at Arkansas at 8 p.m.



JASON WILLIS / The Oakland Post
In 2009-10 Summit League Tournament, he averaged 13 points and 4.3 rebounds.

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Whole foods to open in 2013

ISABELLA SHAYA

Staff Intern

Whole Foods Market is set to open a Detroit branch by spring of 2013.

The idea was first proposed two years ago to the Co-CEO of Whole Foods, Walter Robb, by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, who inspired Robb to check out Detroit.

"We saw that people in Detroit were very excited and inspired by good food, so we started looking into the idea a little deeper," Amanda Musilli, Detroit community liaison of Whole Foods Market, said.

Whole Foods plans to open a 20,000 square-foot store with up to 75 employees in the Midtown district.

The market will open on the northwest corner of Mack Ave. and John R. streets in Detroit.

Whole Foods Market is the world's largest natural and organic grocery store, with over 53,000 employees.

The city of Detroit along with various organizations including the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Detroit Eastern Market and many others, have been assisting the Whole Foods team every step of the way.

"The organizations that we have been working with have all been incredibly helpful and supportive with everything from providing contact information, to helping us navigate through the waters of city approval," Musilli said.

The store opening is expected to boost the city in many positive ways, including giving opportunity to local artisans to build their own businesses. The branch plans to offer a wide range of local products and seasonal Michigan produce.



Isabella Shaya/THE OAKLAND POST

Whole Foods Market is set to open a 20,000 square foot store at the northwest corner of Mack Ave. and John R. streets in the Midtown district of Detroit in spring 2013.

"We are actively seeking out small producers so that we can help them grow as entrepreneurs and carry their products in our store," Musilli said.

The store, which specializes in natural and organic food, has brought about some skepticism in terms of product affordability.

"I think that when people come in and see the prices, they are going to be pleasantly surprised with how comparable our prices

are to other grocery stores," Musilli said.

To dispel this myth, www.eatitdetroit.com compared Whole Foods' independent brand label, 360, to two other generic labels. They discovered that Whole Foods' prices matched, if not beat, the two other brands.

The Whole Foods market will join the cities many independent grocers, like the Eastern Market.

According to a December 2010 survey for the Detroit Works urban revitalization project, Detroit had 81 independently owned and franchised grocery stores.

"Any major retailer coming to Detroit is a good thing," Dr. Patricia Wren, associate professor and program director of health sciences at OU, said. "Detroit gets a lot of bad press, so I think ... a sign of further revitalization and entrepreneurship in Detroit is always going to be a good thing."

The store is being opened with hopes of helping the city and its residents.

"Our goals are just to provide Detroiters with the products and services that they expect and deserve," Musilli said.

The store has already received positive feedback from the community.

"I think that Whole Foods is a great store; their section of prepared foods is a great alternative to fast food," Christina Oswald, senior and treasurer of OU's Wellness, Health Promotion and Injury Prevention Society said. "It's healthy food fast."

Confusion created in Troy driving laws

By SARAH HUNTON

Staff Reporter

Drivers are still getting use to the distracted driving ordinance that has been in effect in Troy since January.

According to a clarification on the ordinance released by the city, the ordinance allows for drivers to be ticketed for anything that seems to be distracting them. This includes reading, writing, grooming oneself, keeping large pets in any area of the car that could cause distraction and physical interaction with passengers.

Oakland County resident Samantha Campbell was pulled over in Troy for this offense. She was eating a sandwich and was distracted to the point that she appeared to be drunk.

Campbell was let go with a warning and was told that if she were caught again she would be ticketed.

Despite her close call, Campbell agrees with the ordinance.

"(The law) makes sense," Campbell said. "You shouldn't have anything like texting or eating, taking your attention off of driving."

These stricter driving laws in Troy are bothersome to some drivers.

Amanda Deschamps, senior majoring in writing and rhetoric at OU, discovered the law once friends began ending telephone conversations when driving within city limits.

"It's a little weird when you just transfer over from one city to another and suddenly there's this new rule," Deschamps said. "I think it's actually not too fair to people who don't live around there."

Troy police Lt. Bob Redmond said in an article published in The Oakland Press, drivers needn't worry about the ordinance.

"I don't believe anybody would get a ticket if the officer truly believed they had no clue it was a law," Redmond said in the story. "If you stop an out-of-state driver on I-75, how's he supposed to know?"

According to statistics released by the Troy Police Department, tickets averaged one a day during the first two months the ordinance was in effect.

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Injured vets supported

Wounded Warrior Project aids vets, publicizes their stories

By DAUD YAR
Promotions Manager

Men and women fight for our country every day — Veterans Day, especially, is a day to remember the services they provide.

Last week, in honor of the holiday, the Oakland University Chapter of Student Veterans of America sponsored Scott Adams, Wounded Warrior Project speaker. His message was simple: Never give up on living.

Wounded Warrior Project

The Wounded Warrior Project, an organization started in 2003, aims to foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in this nation's history.

The project does so by raising public awareness of the needs of injured soldiers, helping its injured service members assist each other and to provide programs to help them get back on their feet.

Another part of its mission is to bring personal stories directly to the public through their program, Warriors Speak.

"The best people to speak on veterans are veterans," said Robert Rietze, SVA Veteran Liaison.

One soldier's story

Adams was a seasoned soldier by 2007. He had served 22 years in the military, which included six deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq. That year, his health took a devastating blow during a combat incident.

"My vehicle was the lead vehicle (in a convoy) during a mission," Adams said. "It hit a pothole with two anti-tank mines ... blowing up the vehicle six feet in the air."

Adams suffered a serious injuries including third degree burns on over 47 percent of his body, nerve damage to neck vertebrae, a spinal cord injury, eight compound back fractures, leg damage, memory loss, hearing loss, traumatic brain injury, post traumatic stress disorder and both shoulders shattered.

Glenn McIntosh, dean of students, said it was an honor to hear Adams speak and



SIERRA SOLEIMANI/The Oakland Post
Scott Adams, a speaker for the Wounded Warrior Project, related his story on Friday, Nov. 11. The project's mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors.

share his life's story with an OU audience.

"His story is so inspirational and just demonstrates the courageousness of men who serve our country," McIntosh said.

The aftermath

Adams survived the explosion and spent the next two years in the hospital completing rehabilitation programs. He soon met with individuals from the WWP project who invited him to hunt deer.

"I killed eight deer that weekend," Adams said. "You couldn't take the smile off my face or beat it off. I also met 11 other incredible wounded warriors like myself. They

are now family and we still talk to each other every week."

Adams retired to Minnesota with his family after his discharge from the military. He was, however, unaccustomed to this new way of life.

"I felt that I was done," he said. "I did not answer phones, return email or keep in contact with anyone."

He had minimal contact with the outside world for two and a half years. But the WWP would not give up on Adams. The WWP "choose to look beyond your injuries," he said.

"They (WWP) got to know you from the inside-out, not the outside-in," Adams said.

"First time I ever went out after entering an outpatient program at the hospital, I felt like a freak show because of all the garments we have to wear and loose clothing due to our scars and open wounds."

How he got involved

Adams contacted the WWP, joined their alumni organization and started sharing his story with other veterans and other non-military personnel through their programs. He is now very active in the organization.

Michael Brennan, OU admissions advisor, was among the audience at the event. He previously served in the U.S. Army from 2002-2008.

"My vehicle was the lead vehicle (in a convoy) during a mission. It hit a pothole with two anti-tank mines ... blowing up the vehicle six feet in the air."

— Scott Adams,
Warriors Speak speaker

"Everyone is going to face some degree of adversity," Brennan said. "It's about facing whatever hills you got to climb or hurdles you have to jump. If you learn how to take on your challenges and overcome, you will actually learn to live your life more enjoyably and, you will feel more fulfilled as a person."

The WWP logo is of a soldier carrying another soldier. Adams said he was the soldier being carried twice — once during the 2007 explosion, and once when the WWP got him back on his feet.

"Just because you have injuries does not mean you can't do stuff," Adams said.

Adams travels to locations around the U.S. telling his story, encouraging others to go beyond their perceived limitations as he did during times of trouble in his life.

"I can now be that soldier carrying and helping others with the help of WWP," Adams said.

For more information about the Wounded Warrior Project, visit www.wounded-warriorproject.org

Student making connections through involvement

By **ASHLEY ALLISON**
Staff Intern

Christina Venditti juggles many leadership roles and she does it with a smile.

Venditti, a junior, is currently double majoring in journalism and communications, but that's just the beginning of her long list of participation on campus.

Most recently, she was chosen as one of five students to assist in the debate as a media floor volunteer. Although there was a volunteer mix-up, she still managed to find the positive of the situation.

"Even though it didn't go as planned, it was cool to see everything from above and I got to see the whole thing as it was happening," she said. "It was nice to see the media at work in their own environment at our university because that's a pretty rare experience."

Once the students arrived, they were told their initial job was given away to Cranbrook High School students. They were then given the job of directing foot traffic and guarding the track.

Venditti, while is among the large population of commuters, spends most of her time on campus.

She is a part of numerous clubs and orga-

nizations including the American Marketing Association, where she is director of public relations and communication and recently emceed a business fashion.

Venditti also is a staff member and fundraising director at WXOU radio. She hosts her own show called Christina's Power Hour every Friday from 2-3 p.m., which features acoustic and pop music.

Venditti's peers have noticed her ambitious work ethic and positive attitude.

"I have never once seen Christina complain or be apathetic," WXOU Music Director Luke Phillips said. "She is always determined to get something done, do it well and be professional about it, and even under pressure (she) tries to keep her emotions in check."

Venditti is also a member of the Oakland Vitality Dance Club.

"Since day one, she's had a contagious attitude and is always prepared to work hard," Nicole Borden, a member of OUVD, said. "She's a great asset to our team, high-spirited, a talented choreographer and a great friend."

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Venditti goes 13 straight hours, starting at 8 a.m. She has class, meetings, class and ends her day with a three-hour dance practice.



ASHLEY ALLISON/The Oakland Post

Christina Venditti, a junior majoring in journalism and communication, volunteered at the debate, has her own radio show, is a member of OU's dance club and is the director of PR and communication for the American Marketing Association.

"I really like to be busy — I feel like I get so much more out of my time if I have something to do every hour of everyday," she said. "I consider myself a micro-scheduler, I will make sure I have something stretching to each minute of the day."

Venditti hasn't yet decided on her exact career path, but hopes that being deeply involved at school will help.

"I think if I can get a little taste of everything, I will lean more towards one or the other."

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The Bar Hop: The Oakland

MARC WISNIEWSKI/The Oakland Post

Jackie Foucha, a server at The Oakland, makes a flaming drink for a customer. The bar, which is located in Ferndale, is known for its vintage décor that mimics the 1920s Prohibition era.

By MARC WISNIEWSKI
Staff Intern

Hidden within a non descriptive blue building on 9 Mile Rd. near Woodward, a small sign displays the name "The Oakland Art Novelty Company."

Taking inspiration from the alcohol bootlegging group, "The Purple Gang," owner Sandy Levine has created a living tribute to the 1920s Prohibition era speakeasies through authentic cocktails and decor right in the heart of downtown Ferndale.

Upon entering The Oakland, customers are seated until the chairs are full. From there, a list is kept so that when seats become available, patrons

will receive a phone call.

"At most bars, you stand behind people and have to fight for the bartender's attention," Levine said. "We want you to be totally comfortable, so we take numbers and call you when a seat opens."

Cell phone usage in the bar, however, is looked down upon, as Levine wants to create a quiet atmosphere to promote conversation.

"It's different to come in here and just enjoy people's company rather than watch TV or listen to a loud band," said Jackie Foucha, a server at the bar.

The drink menu offers a variety of selections from gin and rum concoc-

tions, to several top-notch beers. A majority of the cocktails come from a collection of old cocktail books.

"Prohibition was on the cusp of the cocktail renaissance and the drinks were elaborate and well thought out," he said. "You had to squeeze juice and make your own syrups."

Billy Felisiak, a regular of the bar, was sipping on a cocktail named "On the Night You Were Born," which contains rye whiskey, absinthe and Pedro Ximenez.

"This is the best drink I've ever had in my life," Felisiak said.

There are no plans to offer food on the menu, as the focus of the bar is on making the best cocktails possible.



The JET RODRIGUEZ

GENRE:

"Groove-based
folk rock blues"

MEMBERS:

Cameron Navetta
Secondary Education
Bryan Squires
Pre-med, Biology
Danny Bowron
Michael Daniele

ABOUT:

Formed in Chesterfield Township, the local band known as The Jet Rodriguez has begun to grow in popularity within the Oakland community.

"I feel that now, as a member of The Jet Rodriguez, my artistic desires are more possible than ever," Daniele Bowron, vocalist and drummer, said. "I have the opportunity to express myself beyond my personal boundaries. I am constantly inspired by my bandmates, which (helps) keep the material exciting."

The band has recently added a new guitarist, which inspired a more folk-based sound.

WHAT'S NEXT:

The band will release an EP, "Faceless Entities," this coming winter.

"I'm excited for this new EP," Cameron Navetta, lead singer, songwriter and guitarist, said. "Our music is at a higher level than it's ever been before, and I hope people at Oakland feel the desire to pass it on to their friends."

This EP will be the first piece of work released for The Jet Rodriguez with its current lineup, featuring the individual talents of Navetta, Bowron, Bryan Squires and Michael Daniele.

ALBUMS:

Seven Hour Night Shifts — 2009
Mourning Days/Morning Daze — 2011
Faceless Entities — Expected winter 2011

LISTEN:

www.thejetrodriguezmusic.com
www.myspace.com/thejetrodriguezmusic

— Brittany Haney, Staff Intern

Additional information:

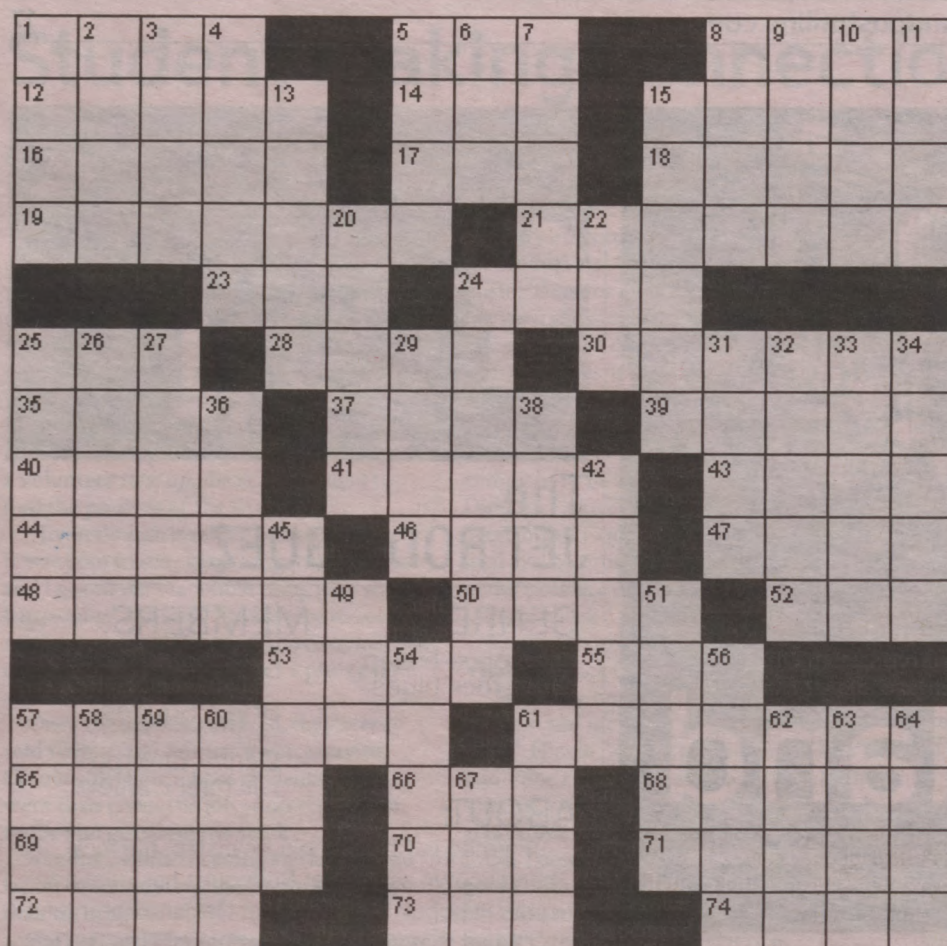
The collection of cocktails start at \$9 with a special reserved menu for higher end drinks going as high as \$20.

The Oakland is located at
201 9 Mile Rd. W
Ferndale, MI 48220
248-291-5295

Check them out online:
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MARC WISNIEWSKI/The Oakland Post



Across

1. Betting ratio
5. Craze
8. Musical notation
12. Monetary aid
14. Lyric poem
15. Creep
16. Shaving tool
17. Steal
18. Dam
19. Gemstone
21. Incognizant
23. Female sheep
24. Celestial body
25. Alcoholic beverage
28. Endure
30. Be cautious about
35. Droop
37. Counterfoil
39. Claw
40. Affirm
41. Type of duck
43. Short letter
44. Happen again
46. Annoy
47. Disastrous destiny
48. Respect
50. Aquatint
52. Cook on a hot surface
53. Domain

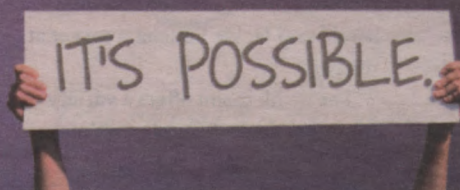
Down

1. Fiend
2. Unit of apothecary weight
3. Stupor
4. Breathe noisily while asleep
5. Cross a shallow river
6. Fuss
7. First appearance
8. Work party
9. Molten rock
10. Pitcher
11. Take flight
13. Dagnet
15. Red wine
20. Let for money
22. Apprehend
24. Considered in detail
25. Mindful
26. Exists
27. Choose by a vote
29. To begin moving
31. Baton
32. Remote in manner
33. Revolving mechanism
34. Foe
36. Genuine
38. Band with buckle
42. Right-hand page
45. Gusto
49. Insane
51. Herbivorous quadruped
54. Synthetic material
56. Stair post
57. Group of hunting animals
58. Panache
59. Customary practice
60. Vertical surface of a cliff
61. Pedal extremities
62. Additional
63. Song for solo voice
64. Requirement
67. Anger

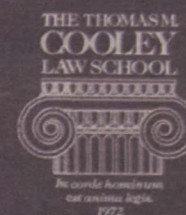
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LEARN MORE

Holidays drain empty pocketbooks

By BRIAN FIGURSKI
Staff Reporter/Grinch

Merry Christmas, everybody!

What? It's a little early for Christmas, you say? I thought the same, until I noticed the astonishing number of Christmas lights already up around town, and the multiple Detroit radio stations emitting exclusively holiday cheer from their towers.

I apologize for the lateness of this story. By ration of the world around me, it should have been reluctantly published in March for it to be truly relevant.

Christmas starts earlier every year. I agree it's the biggest holiday, especially for those who have severed the religious ties from the 25th and only scramble for gifts and eggnog.

It's irrational, however, to start celebrating the spirit in late October.

An elderly woman came into my place of employment last week, rocking her god-forsaken pine green and menstrual red Christmas sweater, on one of the sunniest and warmest days November would have.

The sheer nerve of her made me want to ask if she took Wednesday's medication on Tuesday and if that was the reason for her misconception of time and space.

I refrained though, only screaming curse words when she left that will prevent me access to Heaven.

Just kidding, there's no way I'd get in even if I scalped tickets.

People sure as hell don't give a hoot about Halloween anymore. I know this from the stunning prominence of Christmas lights that were already lining gutters of colonials in the middle of October.

I had a neighbor near my old house who, like clockwork, would be out at dawn after Halloween setting up his yard for his Christmas display.

Well he used to, until some 22-year-old on a rum rampage decided to pee on Santa and decapitate Rudolph.

It has been reported Jolly Old Saint Nick has filed for bankruptcy and the elves are occupying the North Pole.

My family is even in on this nonsense. I got my annual e-mail for my randomly selected present partner already.

Last month.

Those people should dread the single day a year they have to endure my inebriated ramblings of the deviations of the world, not incite it.

As always, Detroit radio frequencies 105.1 and 100.3 followed up Monster Mash with hoards of Christmas crap at 12:01 A.M. Nov. 1.

Good gravy, 105.1 is now dubbing themselves Christmas 105.1. They even have a Twitter handle with the same ID. The amount of jolly Detroiters feeling prematurely festive baffles me senseless.

I know I sound like the Grinch, but I'm not against celebrating the holiday. No, the thing I find disgusting is this rapid-fire commercialism in our economically depressed economy.

Spend, spend, spend, spend, spend. I owe a lot of gratitude for the invention of digital video recording, because I see a whirlwind of snowflakes and tinsel as I plow through Black Friday advertisements.

Black Friday itself needs to become a week ordeal with how depressed the economy is. More cheap deals for the people, hospitals overflow with trampled shoppers, it's a win-win for everybody.

With all the spirit this holiday musters up, a lot of people can't comply the way they used to. A wide-eyed child absorbs so much information from television that their expectations are farther through the roof than Santa Claus can get.

It has been reported Jolly Old Saint Nick has filed for bankruptcy and the elves are occupying the North Pole.

I feel my cries for change are far too late and way too under the radar to make any significant impact.

Just forewarn the young ones that the most expensive gift they'll receive in their life is a used Nintendo 64 and Pilotwings. If they're lucky, the parents will throw in the rumble pack.

So happy holidays to all, a month and a half early.

Maybe next year an article about the holidays can get published in September.

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SOMETHING TO
MOUTH OFF
ABOUT?**



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(Not-so-)5 hour energy blues

By JORDAN REED
Staff Intern

Why do we worry about the drugs that people have to get in dark alleyways when we sell the worst drug of all on the counter of every convenient store?

Of course, I am talking about the fruit flavored chalices of poison cleverly disguised as 5 Hour Energy Shots.

My first experience with 5 Hour Hell started at the Call of Duty midnight release. As I was waiting in the line with my friend, employees started to hand out free items.

All of a sudden, two women with messenger bags filled with bottles burst in through the door.

"Get your five hour energy," they yelled, as they handed out bottles.

"I loves me some free stuff," my illiterate alter-ego said in my head.

I took two grape flavored and one berry flavored shots (my "Fruity Tooty" Little Richard side).

The next day I was feeling exhausted in class, so I took a few sips.

I gave one of the energy shots to one

of my friends, then watched him chug the whole thing like a boss, and he impressed all the girls.

"You chugged that whole thing?"

"Yeah," he replied. "I take it like a shot."

He's so cool.

I stuck my pinky out and pretended like it was a fancy drink so that I wouldn't look like such a loser.

Everybody in my class, including the professor, laughed at me as I did it and the ladies were not as impressed with me, but I didn't care.

To save my self from embarrassment again, I gave this last drink away.

I bet it would be pretty funny to see a big black guy like myself sipping on a tiny drink, but from my perspective, it was some serious sippin'.

It wasn't until later that I started to feel the nasty effects.

In my COM 101 class, I started to join and eavesdrop on peoples conversations like a creep, awkwardly flirt with girls out of my league (which is pretty much anybody cuter than Miss Piggy), and drew pictures of unicorns all over my notes.

And that was when I was paying attention to the instructor.

When I wasn't paying attention, I was on Memebase (find a nerd to tell you what it is) laughing at all of the funny adaptations. Everyone thought I was high.

Later in the day, I started to hallucinate. Characters from The Chapell Show became my entourage as I walked from class to class.

Later, I had to write a story about the men's basketball team. I had an interview with Coach Greg Kampe.

I couldn't get my words to come out of my mouth they way that I wanted them to while I was talking to him, so he just looked at me like I was stupid and worthless, which is pretty accurate view of myself.

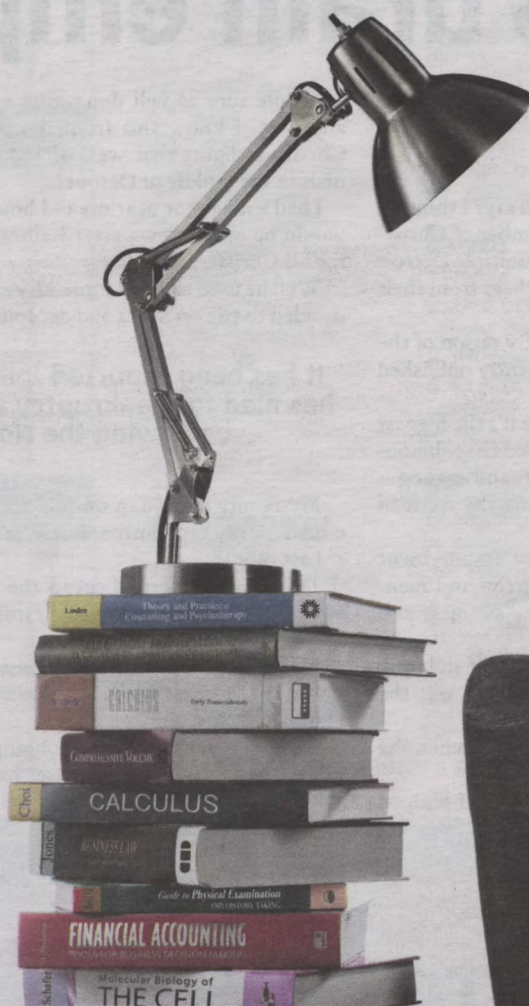
So that was my day.

As I write this, I still feel the buzz in the back of my head keeping my shaky and awake.

I apologize if you don't think this is funny. In my drugged-out mind, this is hilarious.

Maybe next time I'll try the grape one...

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