

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

APRIL

8

2015

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ON A MISSION

President George Hynd talks campus, tuition and the future of OU PAGE 12

Photo by Salwan Georges/ The Oakland Post

thisweek

April 8, 2015 // Volume 40. Issue 58



ontheweb

Journalism Director Garry Gilbert is the man of the Hour - magazine, that is. His article titled "Trauma and Triumph," chronicling the story of Regional Director of Development Luke Fleer's recovery from a life-threatening injury has won a top national prize. **Read more at www.oaklandpostonline.com.**



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD // An annual tradition, OU's fraternities and sororities served up their specialties for judgment and Greek Week bragging rights in the Greek cottages on Tuesday, April 7. All money raised from the week-long competition, including a "chalk-out," penny war, sexual assault awareness speaker and dance-off, go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Photo by Annie Meinberg

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

Do you have to take finals this semester?

- A** Unfortunately - exams in all my classes.
- B** No tests, but projects galore.
- C** Still trying to persuade my prof on a take-home.
- D** No! I have been blessed by the academic deities.

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LAST WEEK'S POLL

What is love?

- A)** Baby don't hurt me.

63.9%

- B)** A game for two to play.

5.6%

- C)** An open door.

16.7%

- D)** A battlefield.

13.9%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

April 12, 1995

The Board of Trustees met and refused to amend the equal opportunity policy to include a sexual orientation clause, calling for a need of further research. The vote ended in a 3-3 tie.

April 13, 1994

Pamphlets were found in the Kresge Library women's restroom urging women to be against abortion in the case of rape, one with extreme graphic imagery.

April 15, 1992

The Faculty Senate decided students would be required to take a course at least three weeks long on ethnic diversity. This could have been a gen. ed course, a course within a major or minor or an elective.

— Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, staff reporter



7

AND THE WINNERS ARE

The campaigning is over, the votes cast and the winners announced. Learn more about next year's student body leadership team, Nick Walter and Madison Kubinski.



9

SHOWING OFF

Communication and journalism students spent a moment in the spotlight as they performed for peers during the annual Student Showcase on Monday, April 6.



11

OUT OF THE BLUE

The Golden Grizzlies turned blue in support of World Autism Awareness Day on Thursday, April 2. The Elliott Tower even participated by lighting up blue for the day.

BY THE NUMBERS

Autism awareness edition

1 in 68

children have been identified with an autism spectrum disorder

\$263 bil.

USD are spent on autism services per year

1943

the first case of autism was formally diagnosed in a 10-year-old Mississippi boy known as "Case 1 ... Donald T."

46%

of children with autism spectrum disorders have average to above-average intellectual ability

5x

Autism is five times more likely to occur in boys than girls, according to the Center for Disease Control.

While other universities struggle, OU cleans up its act

By Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

The Society of Professional Journalists is calling for the reinstatement of Northern Michigan University's student newspaper adviser, Cheryl Reed, after she was denied hiring for the 2015-16 school year by the paper's board of directors.

SPJ is also asking for the board to consider allowing student Michael Williams to re-apply for the position of editor-in-chief, which he was also denied by the board.

These dismissals and denials have come after a year of increasingly bad feelings between the paper, the *North Wind*, and the university's administration.

It began with the *North Wind* poking around for mischief, trying to play the role as the campus watchdog and expose potentially shady deals between the university and Starbucks.

From what we've read, the university already had an unsteady relationship with the paper and wasn't so keen to release information, and the paper submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for some of that information. The school agreed to fulfill the FOIA but charged money for the requested information, a common procedure.

The paper immediately cried "wolf," producing a front-page story on the fees the university was demanding, and things have only blown up from there.

While we're all for freedom of the press and freedom of speech, we're a little confused by how things got to this stage. We wish

the *North Wind* staff luck, but we also wish this didn't feel like an overblown case of a touchy student press defending itself against the big, bad university.

We don't really know what the atmosphere is like at Northern Michigan. All we know is that both the newspaper and the administration have messed up, and that their relationship and image is very visibly rocky at best.

We've had our share of problems at OU, but thankfully, a forceful, secretive school and a negative press-administration relationship no longer seems to be one of those problems.

Last year certainly saw some negative attention, with former president Gary Russi and his wife and former head basketball coach Becki Francis leaving OU under not-so-glorious circumstances.

Things weren't ideal directly after that, either: A search for the new president began, yet only a choice few were involved in the search process, resulting in an antsy, angry community and critical student newspaper.

In June 2014 we wrote an editorial criticizing the board of trustees for its extreme secrecy in such an important search. Unlike with Northern Michigan, no advisers or editors were fired. Instead, something better happened: The doors were opened.

The board announced it would be holding three open forums for the OU community to meet and interact with presidential candidates. While the forums seemed a little underplanned and hastily arranged, it gave us the chance to see who might be leading our university.

It made us feel like we had a say.

Since then, the administration has been nothing but interactive and transparent.

Our new president, George Hynd, is completing his first year and has already proven himself to be an invested and open individual.

He is willing to speak when he has the time. He visits campus events and is out there meeting and directly conversing with students.

On March 5 he spoke to the Psi Chi Honor Society about his 40 years of research and experience in psychology, child development and education.

On Tuesday from 10:15-11 a.m. he'll be participating in OU's first "Twitter Chat," where he'll field questions on OU's goals and priorities.

His inauguration as OU's sixth president will be in the O'rena on April 29, and there will be a special celebration for students on April 20 at noon in the Pioneer Food Court. Both ceremonies are open to the public.

Things like this are what make this year so much better than previous years, and we commend Oakland University for opening up and keeping things transparent.

We realize it's hard to lead a university. Things will always go wrong, there's always someone upset, and when it comes to a university, the administration tends to take the hardest hits.

Compared to last year, however, we feel the administration as a whole really took charge and turned things around, and that's something to be proud of.



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Perspectives

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

Letter to the Editor: Eradicate the erasure

'...by publicly displaying images that equate those decisions they make or have made, women are being shamed'

Evan Fobar

Senior, Communication

My professor once shared an anecdote that stuck with me; we were discussing phenomenology, which is a research method in which the researcher analyzes their first-person bodily experiences.



Evan Fobar

She shared that her cisgender (which means a person whose self-identity conforms with the gender that corresponds to their biological sex) male colleague

in graduate school wanted to write a phenomenology about abortion.

He, of course, could not because he did not have a vagina nor ovaries, had never been pregnant and never had an abortion.

Enter: The Genocide Awareness Project, which is a presentation of giant posters of triggering and graphic images, which equate aborted embryos and fetuses to those who lost their lives in historical and current genocides.

This project was stationed outside of the Oakland Center last Monday and Tuesday.

As a cisgender man, I will never know the emotional,

psychological and physical feelings that a woman is confronted with when she finds out she is pregnant.

I will never know, but I can still empathize with how incredibly difficult those feelings may be.

What the Genocide Awareness Project seems to forget is that women are those affected by the difficult decision of abortion and by publicly displaying images that equate those decisions they may make or have made, these women are being shamed and equated to contributing to genocide.

Genocide, by Merriam-Webster's dictionary, is the "the deliberate killing of people who belong to a particular racial,

political, or cultural group."

Because abortion isn't based on the unborn embryo or fetuses' racial, political or cultural identity, from a logical standpoint, they are not contributing to genocide.

Unfortunately, due to our patriarchal political structures, mostly (white, upper-class, heterosexual, cisgender) men are the ones with the ability to create legislation regarding abortion and reproductive rights.

The Genocide Awareness Project has the First Amendment right to be invited on our campus, therefore, they might be invited again.

Because of this, I have words

for all future male spectators and male anti-choice supporters: men can take an active role in decreasing the amount of abortions from a non-legislative approach.

I hope men think about that the next time they don't put a condom on, don't receive enthusiastic consent or perpetuate sexual violence.

Educating our culture about comprehensive, safe sex education is something everyone can work on.

We, as a greater culture, also must work on eradicating ideologies of patriarchy that lead to the erasure of women's voices from social issues that directly affect them.

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Let's talk abortion and the Indiana bill

'...These events are seminal moments for us college students because they deal with issues we care about...'

Nick Walter
Student Statesman

Two events shook both campus and the rest of America this past week: the Genocide Awareness Project (GAP) at OU and the signing of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) by Mike Pence, the governor of Indiana. Both of these events are seminal moments for us college students because they deal with issues that we care about strongly: abortion, gay rights and religious freedom. As usual, I'll give you the background on both, then my opinion. I do realize that this week, even more so than usual, I will be touching on some extremely sensitive subjects. As always, I am only talking about the issues at hand; I will never, for any reason, make personal attacks.

Here's the story on GAP.

The pro-life group on campus, Students for Life, brought in an organization called GAP which shows graphic images of aborted babies next to pictures of Holocaust and other genocide victims. GAP draws parallels between the two, claiming that abortion is genocide.

Here's the story on RFRA.

Indiana's RFRA is the state version of a federal bill signed into law by President Clinton in the 1990's. The original was put into place to protect Native Americans who wanted to smoke a certain drug as part of a religious ceremony. Pence's law, like Clinton's, states that the government can't impose on religious freedom unless there is a compelling reason in the government's interest to do so. In other words, the government can't interfere with people's free exercise of religion unless the government has a national interest in interfering.

Here's my perspective. The basic argument that GAP is making is that abortion is genocide. That's an extremely strong claim. Whether it is true or false relies entirely on an underlying assumption about the unborn. If the unborn are completely, fully, 100% human just like you and me, then abortion is genocide. Why? Because genocide is the targeting a specific group for destruction, according to the Oxford Dictionary. If, on the other hand, the unborn are not fully human, than GAP

is wrong and abortion is not genocide. The question is, then, are the unborn human? I believe yes (according to science, not religion, by the way).

The other point about GAP is that many students were angered or affected by the graphic nature of the images presented. This I understand: the point of the pictures was to shock people, after all. (Kudos to SFL, then, for putting signage up to make sure people knew exactly where the pictures were so that they could avoid them if necessary.) However, some people made the disturbing argument that if they personally didn't like the images, SFL didn't have the right to show them at all. There are a lot of things that I don't like hearing. Does that give me the right to shut up whoever is saying them? Absolutely not. Whether we like what's being said or not, GAP is protected by the First Amendment, just like we are.

The controversy was surrounding a bakery that served everyone who came into their store but refused to serve a gay wedding on the grounds that this violated their Christian religious convictions. RFRA protects their right to do so. Think about it from this perspective: if we don't have RFRA, Christians must serve gay weddings. Some people would be happy with this. However, that would mean that bakeries would have to cater everyone's wedding or event. What if a Muslim was asked to cater a traditional Jewish wedding? What if a vegan was asked to cater a barbecue? What if an African-American chef had to cater a KKK meeting? All of these would be mandated, if RFRA didn't exist. Think about it.

Well my friends, I hope you've enjoyed the Student Statesman. As you may know, I was just elected Student Body President; I start Monday, April 13.

Given this, I can no longer write opinion pieces for the Post or continue my talk show for WXOU. It has been a privilege and an honor to write this column and host my show; I've loved every minute and I'm very sad to have to bring them to a close.

You can always reach me at nwalter@oakland.edu, find me on Facebook, or drop by the Student Congress office in the basement of the OC. For the last time, this is Nick Walter, the Student Statesman.



Nick Walter
Student
Statesman

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*"Did you vote
in the OUSC
elections?"*



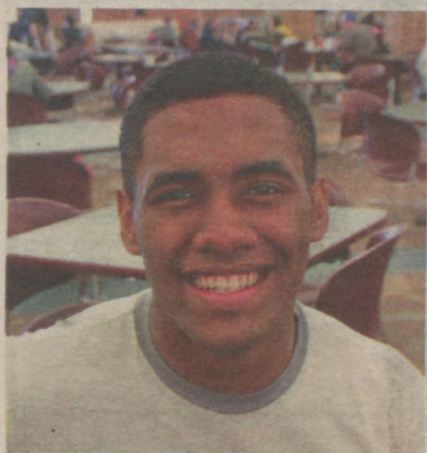
**Ian Turnwald, sophomore,
musical theatre**

*"Yes. I think it's important to pick
the best people because in the long
run these people will shape our
school's future."*



**Andrew Barikmo, freshman,
acting**

*"Yes. I got inspired by one of the
girls in my WRT 160 class who
was running in the election. The
students at Oakland deserve to
be represented in the best way
possible."*



**Brandon Santana, freshman,
musical theatre**

*"No. I wasn't as informed about
the candidates, so I didn't feel
comfortable voting."*



**Lily Talevski, freshman,
musical theatre**

*"No. I wasn't aware about it, but I
think it's wonderful that students
get to vote. Who gets into power
reflects the university."*

— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury,
photographer

POLICE FILES

Officer responded to stalking complaint

A student filed a complaint to the OUPD around 5 p.m. on March 30. She stated that her ex-boyfriend has been stalking her since late 2014.

Though the student claims she made it clear that she does not want to have any contact with him, he has continued to make attempts at catching her after class, leave threatening voice mails on her phone, and show up at her apartment.

The OUPD gave the student safety tips and referred her to the Rape Aggression Defense program so she can feel safer on campus and at her apartment.

Camera possibly stolen

At approximately 10 a.m. on March 31, a faculty member reported that a Pan-Tilt-Zoom camera and remote control had possibly stolen from a conference room.

The camera is valued around \$1,000. It was believed to be on the cart with other equipment but was noticed missing on March 30. It was last used for a class on March 25.

The OUPD has no suspects at this time.

— Compiled by Megan Carson, Copy Editor

WHAT'S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

Submit an opinion column to
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class standing and field of study.



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

Nick Walter and Madison Kubinski will serve as Student Body President and Vice President, respectively.

Time to take charge: Say hello to the new student body leaders

Walter/Kubinski win OUSC elections, have big plans

Shana Bosley
Staff Intern

The names of the new Student Body President and Vice President have been announced.

Juniors Nick Walter, criminal justice major, and Madison Kubinski, political science major, won the Oakland University Student Congress election with 532 votes out of 1,244.

Walter's experience includes senior legislator and Student Activities Funding Board student liaison. Kubinski has also been Oakland University Student Congress legislator and Oakland University Student Congress steering chair.

"When they called my name, it was like winning an Oscar," Kubinski said. "I've put so much hard work into this. It's been my dream to run in office and get

this position. It's such an honor to serve the student body."

Walter said he was confident that the agenda the two laid out was connected and desired to the most students on campus.

"The plan is to work on our [four] main initiatives: more 4.0's, more swag, more outlets and more space," Walter said.

Walter and Kubinski want students to have a fairer chance at getting 4.0 grade point averages, more Oakland University merchandise to choose from, more outlets and more space in the Oakland Center.

The two said they will work towards those goals and many more by collaborating with administrators and starting campaigns to raise awareness and funding.

Their vision statement includes goals of consideration for every student's wants and needs regardless of their year or major.

Kubinski and Walter say their platform is completely founded on student input.

Much of the effort that was put into piecing together the elections as a whole came from

Cassandra Hock, administrative assistant and elections commission chair. She made the announcement of who won the elections at noon on Thursday, April 2. Hock has been planning and coordinating the elections since September. She began the ballots, events, voting and polling in January.

"We had a really successful season and I'm proud of all of the candidates for the ways that they campaigned," Hock said.

Candidates Laina Townsend and Sam Harris came in second with 441 votes, and Katie Rose and Layla Sizemore came in third with 271 votes. Many people in the crowd were happy for Walter and Kubinski, but some were also sad for the candidates they were supporting.

"I'm a little bit shocked," junior Brandon Walker said. "Sam's my best friend, and I know Laina pretty well. It is what it is, you win some, you lose some, and you can't win them all. They got an amazing experience."

A list of next year's legislators can be found on OUSC's Facebook page.

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Erika Barker / The Oakland Post

Thomas Boleyn, student success graduate assistant, hosted a workshop on learning styles.

Grad assistant narrows learning down to a science

Thomas Boleyn explains the various learning methods students can use

Shelby Tankersley
Staff Reporter

With final exams just around the corner, many students will be hitting the books to get some much needed study time in.

Everyone learns a little differently, and therefore should study differently. This past week, Thomas Boleyn, Student Success graduate assistant, hosted a workshop to learn which learning style you might be and how you should study.

"There is a combination of the different ways you can learn and you should study information in multiple ways to make sure it sticks with you," Boleyn said.

What kind of learner are you?

Visual learners: People who like to use pictures, graphs, and colors to learn. These people often like to draw and can picture objects in their mind.

Study Tip — Use color to organize your notes. For example, put vocabulary words in blue and lecture notes in green.

Aural learners: These people easily recognize sound and are often very fond of music.

Study Tip — Use sound as much as you can. Try recording lectures or reading things out loud.

Verbal Learners: People who enjoy written and spoken word and can easily express themselves through writing or speaking.

Study Tip — Write things down as often as you can. Making your notes into a rhyme would also be very helpful for you.

Physical learners: These people often talk with their hands and like to be able to physically do the things they're learning.

Study Tip — Do hands on activities when studying. For a chemistry class, a molecule building kit would be a helpful tool for you.

Logical learners: You easily recognize patterns and are good with mathematical forms of reasoning.

Study Tip — Try to understand the reasoning behind what you're learning and make a list of key points from the topic you are studying.

Social learners: Tend to be extroverted, someone who enjoys group work.

Study Tip — This one is easy; try to work with other people as much as you can.

Solitary learners: These people like to learn things on their own and tend to be more quiet in nature.

Study Tip — Set goals for yourself while studying and think about your personal thoughts and relations to the topic you are studying.

Most people will be able to strongly identify with two of these learning types, and should strive to combine study methods from both styles.

"I think I'm a physical and solitary learner," Bridget Vander Hoff, OU dance major, said. "I try to do things as I'm taught; it works well for me with dance because it's all movement. I didn't know I was a solitary learner, I like the idea of the goal setting tip."

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On display for the world to see

*Communication and journalism student showcase
presents essays, photographs, multimedia pieces*

LeeAnn Brown
Life, Arts & Entertainment
Editor

The future of journalism and communication was represented well last Monday morning at the student showcase in the Fireside Lounge.

Students, organization leaders and faculty gathered around the bagels and fruit spread to celebrate featured works from COM/JRN classes, including photojournalism, media ethics and more.

Future professionals utilized technology at the forefront of the industries to represent their best work from the semester thus far.

Holly Gilbert, who has been involved with the showcase since its inception, said that this year, more than ever, digital and live entries were represented more than poster board or text.

"It's a chance for our stu-

dents to show off their work — the pieces they've labored over during the year — to be recognized and set examples for others," Gilbert said. "It's also an opportunity to experience the community of communication and journalism and to network."

A wide variety of assignments, from photography projects and magazine spreads to CD covers and comic strips, hung on temporary walls, giving students the opportunity to see the diversity of work in these two departments.

Garry Gilbert's media ethics students were first up to present — I started off the morning with a WordPress site to present my analysis of bias in recent Detroit media coverage.

Students Taylor Clayton and Kathryn Ausilio followed with their PowerPoint project, which studied the ethics behind being a celebrity journalist.

The ethics portion was followed by organizations. The Oakland Post and WXOU, both award-winning student productions, were represented, followed by journalism professors introducing new courses for the fall semester.

Professor Beth Talbert joked that, "all you have to do is change your schedule" in order to sign up for her upcoming course, "Women in Leadership," which will analyze and de-stigmatize our society's prototypical leader image.

Students from contemporary music classes spoke about their projects, utilizing every form of social media available to present their work.

Iota Eta, Oakland's chapter of the communication national honor organization Lambda Pi Eta, closed out the showcase.

Afterward, seniors gathered for celebration and anticipation for their upcoming graduation.

"It's a chance for our students to show off their work—the pieces they've labored over during the year—to be recognized and set examples for others."

Holly Gilbert
Journalism professor

Although the showcase conveyed just how diverse journalism and communication courses, and their work, are, one common thread ran throughout the afternoon.

No matter what platform students chose to represent their work, the utilization of technology was forefront in storytelling and it helped convey powerful and creative messages from all involved.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

1. President Hynd and journalism director Garry Gilbert were present at the Communication and Journalism Student Showcase April 6.

2. Cake and ice cream were available for students during the Senior Send Off portion of the showcase.

3. Students learned about future communication and journalism courses.

4. During the Senior Send Off, communication and journalism seniors were able to say goodbye to their professors and were wished luck for their futures.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Members of the Oakland University Winter Guard practice one of their routines in front of Elliott Tower.

OU 'Perseverance' prevails

Winter Guard earns state champion title, overcomes obstacles

Melissa Deutsch
Staff Reporter

In October of 2013, Laura Coan went to the Rec Center to start an Oakland University Winter Guard club sport.

The team had its very first practice Feb. 15, 2014. A little over a year later, on March 28, 2015, the OU Winter Guard became a state champion.

The team competed in the MCGC Independent A division. There were seven other teams competing in this division and over 160 teams in attendance.

The divisions are decided by skill level. OU competed against the University of Michigan and a few local high schools, but came out on top and was crowned MCGC Independent A State Champions.

The success may have happened quickly, but it certainly did not happen easily for the

team, which calls itself "Perseverance".

For president Laura Coan and vice president Kellie Gossman, it took plenty of work just to be able to compete. They have poured countless hours, vast effort and immeasurable passion into this club sport.

"When you go to competitions you pick a name for your team," Coan said. "We were trying to think of what we were going to go by all summer long and we're like, well, what's something that really means something to us? Perseverance."

The team members have had to learn how to work with what they have. Often times, they have had to get creative and overcome major obstacles just to be able to practice.

"When our instructor first met us we were practicing outside the civic center and it was just after daylight saving time, so it got dark at 7:30," Gossman said. "So we were practicing in headlights in a muddy field."

The Winter Guard also had to overcome obstacles for its first performance.

"The first thing we ever did we did for rugby last year and

we didn't have speakers so we did it out of our friend's car and we blew out the speakers," Coan said.

It never came easy for the OU Winter Guard, but it persevered and success soon followed.

Coan said she thinks a lot of it came from meeting Steve Swetich.

"I think we fell into the right hands," Coan said.

Swetich was able to introduce them to the people and they found great instructors that choreographed a state championship routine.

Both Coan and Gossman said they are going to have trouble saying goodbye to this club sport that they've poured their hearts into.

They said they don't want to leave without knowing the club is in good hands. However, winning a state championship should send the club in the right direction.

"A lot of people loved our show and loved what we're doing. [Becoming] state champions got our names out there more, but even as it was, people want to be us now," Coan said.

Students rally support for those affected by ISIS

Student orgs speak out against terror group, aim to help victims

Shelby Tankersley
Staff Reporter

Many have heard of the terror group named ISIS that has killed many people. Recently, OU students have been doing what they can in order to lessen the impact of the group.

ISIS recently released a hit list of 100 people, which includes a soldier from Dearborn, Mich. and one from Lake Orion, Mich.

"This makes me very sad. I grew up in Lake Orion and it was a great place to be," said Henna Ata, vice president of the Muslim Student Association.

ISIS is now targeting close to home and OU students are noticing.

American Muslims defend Islam

Many Muslims in America don't like to be associated with the violence that people think of when they hear the name ISIS, and it is easy to see why.

"As an American Muslim, I strongly condemn ISIS," Ata said. "It disgusts me when I hear of the attacks ISIS has committed on completely innocent individuals in the name of Islam."

Ata also mentioned that what ISIS is doing is not a part of the Islamic faith and that it is disappointing to see people making the faith look bad.

"Islam has never said it was okay to kill innocent people, nor did it say to ever act like

complete savages," Ata said. "It is groups like this that degrade the name of Islam and make the task to show others how peaceful Islam really is very, very difficult."

Chaldean Americans take a stand

Many hear on the news about Chaldeans being killed by ISIS. The Chaldean American Student Association, or CASA, at OU has been raising money to help those who are being affected by the terror ISIS is causing.

"We're raising money because Chaldeans have been specifically targeted in the genocide from ISIS," president of CASA Halim Sheena said. "The region in which this is taking place is the region where Chaldeans are from."

CASA has received a good response and has been able to raise a lot of money to help those who are in need.

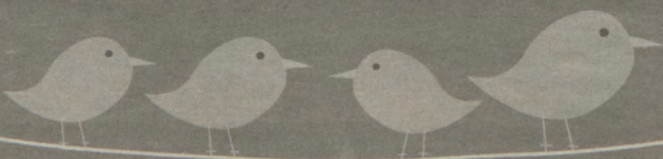
"We've raised \$1,340 so far," Sheena said.

Along with raising money to help the people from the country of their origin, CASA has very strong feelings against ISIS and would like to see their terrors put to an end soon.

"Everybody is sickened," Sheena said. "The fact that they're targeting the homeland of the Chaldean people is awful. For a lot of people in our group, that's where their grandparents or their parents are from."

So far ISIS hasn't slowed down. However, the money raised by CASA and the attitude of those in the MSA bring many hope that they can help put a stop to this terror group.

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Elliott Tower 'lights it up blue'

OUCARES joins Autism Speaks for World Autism Awareness Day

Alexus Bomar
Staff Intern

On Thursday, April 2, Oakland University joined the global community to raise awareness about autism by lighting the Elliott Tower blue.

Oakland University's Center for Autism combines academic course work along with knowledge, research and hands-on work within the community.

They work to prepare the future leaders in the autism community.

Amplifying Autism Awareness is a student group on campus.

Ashley Semma, president and founder of Amplifying Autism Awareness, looks to help families living with autism and to raise awareness about it.

She started the group in honor of her younger brother.

"My brother was diagnosed with autism when he was two years old," she said. "He is now 13 years old."

Guests of the event received a blue balloon along with stickers and buttons in honor of autism.

After listening to the speakers and participating in photo opportunities, the sky turned into a sea of blue balloons as everyone released them.

Once the balloons were released, the Elliott Tower was covered in blue.

Dr. Janet Graetz and Dr. Chaturi Edrisinha were two of several speakers at the lighting. They are both associate professors from the Human Development

and Child Studies department.

DiAnna Solomon, Senior Coordinator for Michigan at Autism Speaks, provided insight and information about autism and Autism Speaks. She also shared information about the upcoming walk for autism in Fall 2015.

Autism Speaks continues to fund research on methods for early diagnosis because early intervention with proven behavioral therapies can improve outcomes.

Beginning in 2007, The United Nations adopted April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD). Across the world, autism organizations participate in fundraising and awareness events.

The Light It Up Blue campaign was created by Autism Speaks, which is a global non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and raising money for autism research. Buildings and landmarks were lit in blue nationwide.

Oakland University isn't the only university in Michigan raising awareness for autism. Eastern Michigan University also took part in lighting the campus blue.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), one in 68 American children are diagnosed with Autism. Studies also show that autism is four to five times more common among boys than girls.

If you are interested in learning more about autism or looking to raise awareness, visit Autism Speaks or visit OUCARES on campus.



1. The sun came out from behind the rain clouds as balloons were released into the air.

2. Dozens of people came out to show support for World Autism Awareness Day.

3. Guests let go of their blue balloons to mark the first year of the Elliott Tower going blue for autism awareness.

4. Members of OUCARES stood in front of the Elliott Tower to celebrate the first year of Oakland University partaking in "Light It Up Blue."

Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Oakland in Hynd's sight

The statement

Strategic Planning



MISSION STATEMENT

Oakland University is a preeminent metropolitan university that is recognized as a student-centered, doctoral research institution with a global perspective. We engage students in distinctive educational experiences that connect to the unique and diverse opportunities within and beyond our region.

Through faculty-driven and student-engaged research, scholarship, and creative activity, Oakland University advances knowledge and art in a diverse and inclusive environment.

Oakland University is an active community partner providing thriving civic, cultural, and recreational opportunities and valuable public service.

"The first sentence to me is extremely important because it says we think highly of ourselves: we are preeminent," said Hynd. "This is an aspirational statement, but we're a metropolitan university. If you Google metropolitan Detroit, three counties show up: Macomb, Wayne, Oakland, and the majority of our students come from there."

The plan

President Hynd's top four goals for the next 12 months:

- **Live up** - "We need to live up to our own expectations that we say in the strategic plan. If we can do that and live up to who we say we are, then we've accomplished a great deal."
- **Boost numbers** - "I want to increase the number of students living on campus and the retention rate."
- **Research** - "Double the research funding that faculty brings in."
- **Fundraise** - "Launch a successful fundraising campaign."

The man

Did you know President Hynd once opened for the Beach Boys and the Rolling Stones?

"We were a garage band called 'Six Pack,'" he said. "There were six of us. I played bass guitar and no, I don't still play."

He will be hosting a Twitter chat on Tues., April 14 from 10:15-11 a.m. Join the conversation by tweeting @oaklandu with the hashtag #AskHynd.

ON A MISSION

STORY BY OONA GOODIN-SMITH//DESIGN BY KELLY LARA//PHOTOS BY SARA

"To me, it's been an exhilarating seven months," said President George Hynd of his time at Oakland thus far. "My perceptions of OU before I came here have been validated in so many ways."

After a summer of searching for Oakland University's next leader, Hynd stepped into the spotlight and office at the start of the school year and will be officially inaugurated on Wednesday, April 29.

We sat down with the university's sixth president to talk campus, tuition and the future of OU.

We last talked during your first seven days of presidency. Seven months later, how are you settling in?

I've been pleasantly surprised about how well-developed we have been as an institution in terms of the programs we have, the quality of the support services and even more so with the quality of the students and faculty. We really have some great students here who are accomplishing great things. Frankly, we have wonderful data that documents that. I just got through surveying graduates and 88 percent of business graduates, when they graduate, already have a pending job offer or have accepted a job offer. We are an incredible workforce developer for southeast Michigan.

In your first days as president, we discussed your top three goals, which included getting to know the students, knowing what attracts them to OU, and building a relationship with the surrounding community. Are these still on the list?

I would like to be viewed as very accessible to the students. I think we've done a pretty good job in that direction...but there's always more to do. I think we've done a pretty good job of reaching out to the larger community, Pontiac and Mayor Waterman being a good example.

We now have a strategic plan that is both aspirational and acknowledges who the faculty and I think we really are - that's important to me. I think it is telling that when I got here our mission statement was two pages long, small print and single-spaced and is now down to one, four-sentence PowerPoint slide.

The first sentence of our mission statement says it all: "Oakland University is a preeminent metropolitan university that is recognized as a student-centered, doctoral research institution with a global perspective."

It's three, very short, very pointed goals that provide structure for our deans and other leaders on

campus to develop their own objectives. To me, that's a huge accomplishment. It lays the foundation for the next five years.

We've also created a list of near-term goals which we'd like to accomplish within the next twelve months as well as "on the horizon" goals, or things we'd like to achieve in the next four to five years. [Editor's note: the complete list of objectives is available under the "President" tab at oakland.edu.]

What do you consider to be your biggest accomplishments since your start?

Getting to know the university better, getting to know the community better and being out in the community and getting connected, and getting the strategic plan approved by the board of trustees.

Have there been any disappointments along the way?

The lack of investment in higher education.

You were in Lansing in February to discuss this with the state legislature and other Michigan university presidents. Care to elaborate?

I think the governor is trying to reinstate some support for higher education in the state, but the deinvestment in public higher education has had consequences that are impacting the students like increased student debt. It's not that the universities are trying to gauge students; we're just trying to make up the difference in revenue that the state cut from us. If you go back twenty or thirty years ago, the state funded 70 to 75 percent of everything on campus. Then they cut the budget for our institution down to 18 percent from the state and that's actually better than some.

The concern I have is that the legislature's going to essentially not invest in higher education, in which case they should not regulate us. But what's happening is that the use of performance indicators as a vehicle to fund us - which I don't have a problem with, actually - and the tuition cap that the governor places on us are ways of regulating how we go about our business. We have less investment with more regulation - there is not much room to maneuver. So, one would hope as you lower support, you'd lower regulation and let the market take care of it. Our enrollment has increased for 17 years, so our market value must be relatively high. Let us bank on that as we go further.



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BBQ CHICKEN	\$8	\$11	\$15	\$18
Sweet BBQ Sauce, Grilled Chicken Breast, Bacon, Red Onions & Mozzarella Cheese				
BUFFALO CHICKEN	\$7	\$10	\$13	\$16
Spicy Buffalo Sauce, Grilled Chicken Breast, Red Onions, Cheddar & Mozzarella Cheese				
PHILLY STEAK	\$11	\$13	\$16	\$19
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Ground Beef, Ham, Pepperoni & Sausage				
VEGGIE	\$9	\$11	\$14	\$17
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HAM & CHEESE	\$4.99	\$6.99
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TURKEY SUB	\$4.99	\$6.99
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TURKEY CLUB SUB	\$4.99	\$6.99
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GARDEN	\$4.99	\$6.99
Tomatoes, Red Onions, Green Peppers, Black Olives, Over Fresh Romaine Mix With A Side Of Dressing Choice And Croutons		
ANTIPASTO SALAD	\$5.99	\$7.99
Fresh Crisp Lettuce, Ham, Salami, Cheese, Peppers, Tomatoes, Black Olives & Red Onions		
GREEK SALAD	\$5.99	\$7.99
Fresh Crisp Lettuce, Feta Cheese, Tomatoes, Red Onions, Black Olives & Peppers		
CHEF SALAD	\$5.99	\$7.99
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N

SALWAN GEORGES

Is your administration doing anything differently from its predecessor?

I'm going through and taking a tour of each of the schools and colleges. I first meet with dean to get an idea of what the dean's ambitions are, then meet with the associate deans and leadership team. Then I meet with the new faculty to find out what kind of support they're getting and their frustrations, and then ungrad and grad students.

Then I make a presentation to the faculty about the strategic plan and what we're doing. It usually takes about three to four hours and we've visited about half the schools now.

I've learned that our deans, by and large, are doing a really good job supporting our faculty. Our deans and provost really want to see them succeed.

Do you still have the vision of keeping OU moderately-sized?

We're kind of in the "Goldilocks zone" - one thing that we can talk about with pride is that you're not a number here. Here, you will have an opportunity to work with your professor. We want to stay large enough that we have the quality programs, but small enough that we can keep that individual student contact.

That's really important because if we grow any larger we will lose that. Slow incremental growth is okay but we have no aspirations to be a big institution.

Are you excited to finally be inaugurated?

Yes. It will be an extremely busy time - however, it's my opportunity to talk about Oakland University and my vision for the future. Like our deans and provost being very ambitious for the university, I'm also very ambitious. We have Wayne State, Michigan, Michigan State - we don't want to be like them. But there are 12 other institutions in this state. I would like Oakland University to be in the top tier of those colleges. I want OU to be the first choice for students in the metro-Detroit area.

What will you be doing to relax when it's over?

Playing golf, hopefully.

President Hynd's student celebration will take place at noon in Pioneer Food Court on Mon., April 20. His formal inauguration will be on Wed., April 29 in the O'Rena.

"I want Oakland University to be the first choice for students in the metropolitan area."

-President Hynd





10 WAYS TO HELP THE EARTH

Walking around Oakland University you may notice it's rare to find litter on the ground. Not only that, but OU has recently enforced a clean air policy and offers recycling bins in all main food areas. Although the university is helping the earth stay healthy, it's important for students to contribute as well.

'Going green' as the saying goes doesn't necessarily mean you have to save the world all in one day or dedicate your life to helping the planet. However, doing simple little things to help the planet can create a huge difference. As Earth Day is approaching, it's important to think about how students and the community can make a difference for the planet. Here are some easy ways to help the earth:

- 1. TURN OFF COMPUTERS.** By doing this, you can save 40 watt-hours per day.
- 2. RECYCLE RECYCLE RECYCLE.** Recycling glass reduces our pollution by 20 percent and related water pollution by 50 percent. By recycling just the Sunday paper alone you would save half a million trees.
- 3. CONSERVE WATER.** Turn the water off while brushing your teeth and while using shampoo in the shower.
- 4. TAKE SHOWERS INSTEAD OF BATHS.** Baths use twice as much water.
- 5. PLANT A TREE.** What better way to celebrate Earth Day?
- 6. TURN OFF THE LIGHTS.** When leaving a room, turn off the lights to conserve energy as well as lower your electricity bill!
- 7. USE MATCHES.** Using matches instead of lighters helps the earth because over a billion lighters end up in landfills each year.
- 8. PAY BILLS ONLINE.** Doing this instead of using paper saves 23 pounds of wood each year.
- 9. GET A REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE.** 1.5 million barrels of oil are used each year to make disposable plastic water bottles (that then contribute to landfills).
- 10. DRIVE LESS.** Walking or riding your bike to work and/or school is beneficial to Earth's atmosphere as well as your health.

— Compiled by Selah Fischer, Blog Editor

YAKS of the WEEK

Yik Yak:
The voice of the people

- 1.** "I've walked a mile in your shoes. Now, I'm a mile away, with your shoes."
- 2.** "Pro tip: Adding 'I'll kidnap a thousand children before I let this company die' to your resume shows true dedication and will practically guarantee you a job no matter where you are applying."

- 3.** "It's like boys are the Oscars, and I'm Leonardo DiCaprio."
- 4.** "I feel bad for everyone who has 8 a.m. class, because I have 99 problems, but they don't start 'til 1."
- 5.** "I put a bell on my pink Razor scooter so girls have enough time to hold onto their panties when I pass them."
- 6.** "College is like losing your mom in the grocery store for four years."

- 7.** "NO. You may NOT have my attention, please!"
- 8.** "Last night I got asked out not by one, not two, but zero people."
- 9.** "Remember when SpongeBob pranked the guy by only putting one ice cube in his drink when he asked for a couple?"
- 10.** "That awkward moment between birth and death..."

— Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,
Staff Reporter



TOP TUNES

wxou albums of the week

- 1.** Matthew E. White – "Fresh Blood"
- 2.** Tuxedo – "Tuxedo"
- 3.** Father John Misty – "I Love You, Honeybear"
- 4.** Adventures – "Supersonic Home"
- 5.** Courtney Barnett – "Sometimes I Sit And Think, And Sometimes I Just Sit"
- 6.** Ryley Walker – "Primrose Green"
- 7.** Reptar – "Lurid Glow"
- 8.** Jose Gonzalez – "Vestiges and Claws"
- 9.** Dick Diver – "Melbourne, Florida"
- 10.** Lower Dens – "Escape From Evil"



Reptar - "Lurid Glow"

When the weight of the world is resting on your shoulders, sometimes you just need to dance.

On their second album "Lurid Glow," these Athens, Georgia "disco dust"-ers are there to supply the groove. Bass player Ryan Engelberger settles into simple patterns that will challenge you not to tap your feet in time. The back-and-forth pulse of Andrew McFarland's drumming, a mix of acoustic and electronic percussion, is constant and seems to group the first four songs together with his unwavering rhythms.

"Lurid Glow" takes a pleasant breather on tracks four and five, showing the band's delicate side. "Amanda" is a ballad, complete with a sensitive vibraphone intro and an emotive vocal from Graham Ulicny, asking an estranged Internet lover, "Do you love me?"

"Every Chance I Get," the highlight of the album, follows. This song would serve well at the end of a life-affirming movie i.e. "The Breakfast Club," complete with a triumphant fist in the air. Keep this in mind when choosing a song after finishing a project or acing a final.

Start with: "Every Chance I Get," "No One Will Ever Love You" and "Amanda"

Recommended if you like: Grouplove, Talking Heads, Matt and Kim and hand claps.

— Anthony Spak, WXOU Music Director

Women united: Past, present and future

GSC, WGS celebrate the end of Women's History Month

Shana Bosley
Staff Intern

Women's History Month has come to a close.

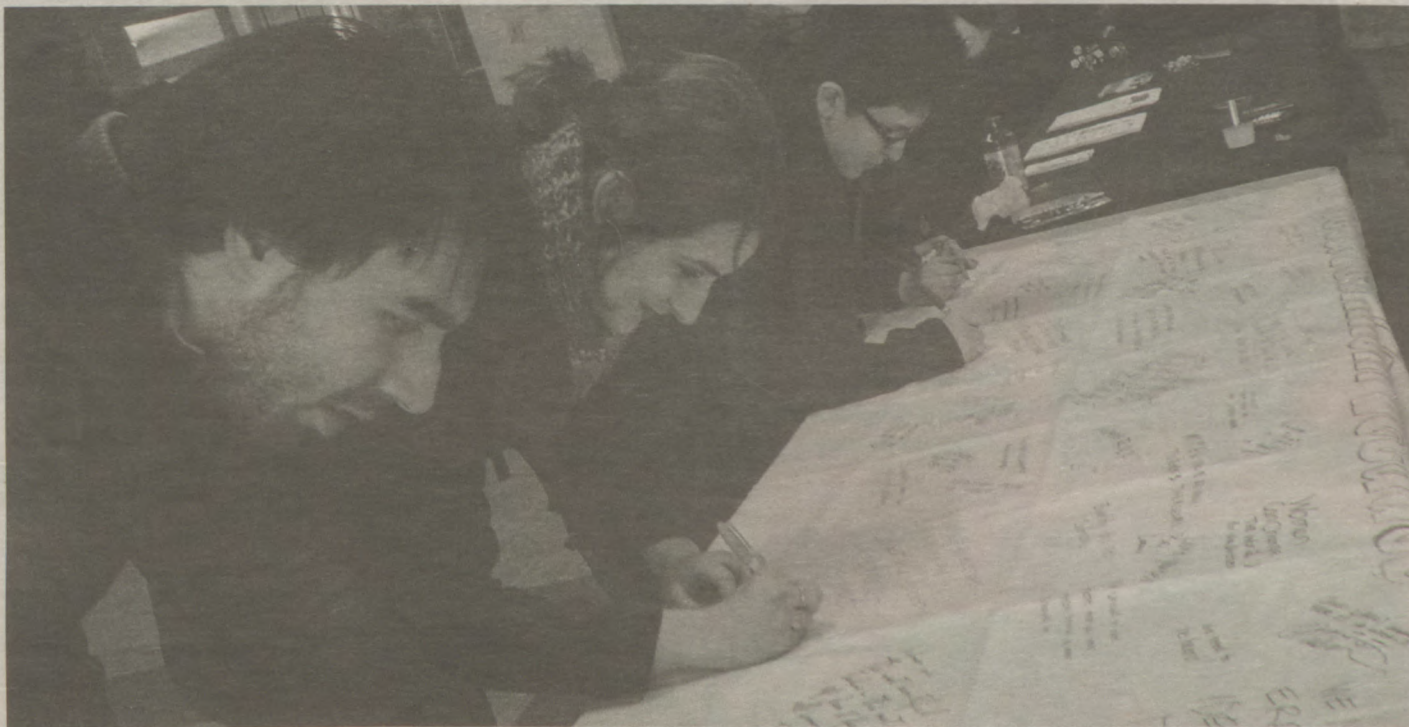
The month of March serves as a time of recognition for women throughout history who have contributed to society in many areas, such as women's rights.

On Tuesday, March 31, the Gender and Sexuality Center held a Women's History Month closing ceremony. In attendance was Jasmine Semma, president of Voices for Choices on campus.

"Women's History Month [promotes] awareness of not only women throughout history, but also women's rights right now," Semma said. "That is done through multiple events throughout [March]—everything from Vagina Monologues to Take Back the Night, which is one of our closing events."

In addition to the closing ceremony, the Women and Gender Studies program held a luncheon Wednesday, April 1 to come together and celebrate with food and company.

Attendees included Erin Meyers, assistant professor of communication, and Valeria Palmer-Mehta, interim director of



Shana Bosley / The Oakland Post

Students gathered to sign the "We need feminism because..." banner at the Women's History Month closing ceremony on Tuesday, March 31.

women and gender studies.

"It's important to recognize what came before, and it's important to have a space to talk about sexual violence and to speak out in our own terms," Meyers said.

She was not only referring to the luncheon, but also the month itself.

Women's History Month allows people to look back and see what it took for some women to make progress toward a better

future.

"It's important to acknowledge how we got to where we are today, reflect on the past and consider the future," Palmer-Mehta said.

Palmer-Mehta, like many others, sees the necessity of commemorating the past as well as looking forward to new accomplishments.

"We've come a long way, but there's still a long way to go," Semma said. "We need more

women that want to step up and can make a difference."

The final tribute to Women's History Month is Take Back the Night, hosted by the Gender and Sexuality Center. The event is based on the concept that women are afraid to go out at night.

"It's a march around campus led by student organizations," Semma said. "It's the idea that women should not be afraid to go out at night. It's also bringing attention to rape and sexual as-

sault."

Overall, Women's History Month serves many purposes, some of which include recognition of the women of the past, role models for improvement today and opportunities to share spaces and events to bring people together.

According to Semma, it encourages students to voice their own opinions and really see that they can make a difference and create change.



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1



2

1. Miniature maracas, bead necklaces, and water bottles were provided for guests to take.

2. Two dancing instructors taught attendants how to dance Salsa, Merengue and Bachata.

3. Students partnered up to practice their moves to Latin music provided by a DJ.

Photos by Dani Cojocari/The Oakland Post



3

Dancers dip into OU's salsa

Patrons learn salsa, other Latin dances at biannual 'Salsa Night' celebration

Grace Turner
Staff Reporter

Oakland University got a taste of Latin American culture when the Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) hosted salsa night.

HALO hosts salsa night every semester.

This semester, the Ukrainian

Student Organization, Students Towards Understanding Disabilities and the Spanish Club, helped.

"Dancing is a big part of get-togethers in Latin America," said Karen Angeles-Rojas, president of HALO and a second year accounting major.

"Dancing is very involved in our culture," she said. "It's

just something that we grew up with."

She said that different dances are more common in different countries. Her family is from Mexico and she grew up dancing the cumbia.

The tango is popular in Argentina, and the bachata is popular in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

The event is based off the salsa dance, which is popular all over Latin America, according to Daniela Watts, treasurer of HALO and a first year human resource management major.

"Everyone knows how to dance salsa," she said. "It's like the (unifier) of all the countries."

HALO hired two dance

instructors who taught students how to dance the salsa, merengue and bachata. One of the instructors has been coming to the event for three years, Angeles-Rojas said. HALO likes him because he has a passion for dancing.

"He really brings the flavor of Latin America into it," Angeles-Rojas said. "It's mostly about feeling the music."

The dance also featured a face painter and food. Angeles-Rojas said she tries to get as authentic as Latin American food as Chartwells offers.

Sophomore, and health sciences major, Jessie Felix said she enjoyed her first salsa night and liked the professional teachers.

"It was fun watching the instructors show you what dance could look like," she said.

Felix is part of OU's Ballroom Dance Club, but salsa night was her first time learning the merengue and bachata.

Jeff Frary, a senior from Kettering University, went to salsa night with Felix. He said he had fun despite his disappointment in discovering that it was not an event to sample edible salsa.

For students who are hungry to dance, there are places in and around Detroit that have salsa dancing, Angeles-Rojas said, such as Cantina Diablo's in downtown Royal Oak and Casa Real in Oxford.



Screenshots from each company's site

The LG Watch Urbane, left, will be Android Wear's most expensive at roughly \$460. The Apple Watch sports edition, right, will be \$349.

Comparing costs: The Apple Watch

Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

Beginning April 10, the Apple Watch will be available for preorder, with the watch officially being released on April 24. There has been unending media attention since the first announcement in September 2014.

Not everyone is excited for the watch, however.

"Personally, I would not get it," said Ziyad Al Obaidi, a senior double majoring in computer and electrical engineering.

Al Obaidi is a known-lover of technology. He was a member of the Google Glass Explore team last year, which allowed him to test a Google Glass prototype, learn the system, offer feedback to the company and share the experience with the community.

While he thinks the Apple Watch is a great gadget and "offers a lot of apps and sensors to be utilized," he says he doesn't think he needs it at the moment, especially for the high cost.

The younger generations in particular will avoid the watch, he said, unless the cost is subsidized.

The Apple Watch isn't a new thing either, according to Al Obaidi. Android Wear has quite a few models that have nearly the same functions as the Apple Watch and range from \$100-300 on average. The Moto 360 is one of the most popular, he said, starting at \$249 and staying under \$400 even when customized.

So why all the new fuss?

"Usually (Apple) is about status and fashion and aesthetics over usefulness," Al Obaidi said. "It's a brand thing."

That's the reason the Apple Watch has been getting so much media focus as opposed to the other watches that have already been released, Al Obaidi said. It's not the first watch in the market, but it's

an Apple product.

He's not alone in this thinking.

"It's not necessarily about the product, it's about having the name," said Carolyn Burleigh, an entrepreneur and producer visiting a friend at OU.

While Al Obaidi doesn't think a lot of students won't get the Apple Watch, Burleigh thinks they will be all over it.

She says Apple products are overpriced and that these watches are Apple's way to keep up with everyone else.

That won't stop students, though.

"It's the next big thing," Burleigh said. "Whether they like to admit it or not, they want to be in the 'in' crowd."

Cough up the cash

According to techradar.com, there are 38 Apple Watch designs, most of which are available in 38mm or 42mm sizes. Here are a few of those models and their prices:

- Sport edition, \$349 for 38mm
- Stainless steel, \$549 for 38mm
- Milanese Loop, \$649 for 38mm
- Leather Loop, \$700, available in 42mm only
- Limited edition Apple Watch Edition, rose gold case and white sport band, \$10,000 for 38mm
- Yellow gold case with a black classic buckle, \$15,000, 42mm only
- 18-karat rose gold case and rose gray modern buckle, \$17,000

Check out techradar.com for more information on each Apple model and a comparison to Android watches.

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DR. AMARTYA SEN
discusses ...

MORAL OBJECTIVITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Friday, April 17, 2015 | 7 p.m.

Banquet Rooms A and B, Oakland Center

Even though traditionally the idea of objectivity has tended to be associated with physical reality, there have been powerful discussions on moral and political objectivity in recent years, broadening the scope of argumentative resolution of conflicting views of the moral good. What does objectivity in moral and political reasoning demand, and what are its implications for conceptions of justice and injustice in the world?

Reception to follow



AMARTYA SEN is the Thomas W. Lamont University Professor and Professor of Economics and Philosophy at Harvard University. Until 2004, he was the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. He has served as President of the

Econometric Society, the American Economic Association, the Indian Economic Association, and the International Economic Association.

Amartya Sen's books have been translated into more than thirty languages, and include, among others, *Choice of Techniques* (1960), *Collective Choice and Social Welfare* (1970), *Poverty and Famines* (1982), *Commodities and Capabilities* (1987), *Development as Freedom* (1999), *Identity and Violence* (2006), and *The Idea of Justice* (2009).

Amartya Sen's awards include Bharat Ratna (India), Commandeur de la Legion d'Honneur (France), the National Humanities Medal (USA), Ordem do Merito Cientifico (Brazil), Honorary Companion of Honour (UK), Aztec Eagle (Mexico), Edinburgh Medal (UK), the George Marshall Award (USA), the Eisenhower Medal (USA), and the Nobel Prize in Economics.

ABOUT RICHARD J. BURKE (1932-2012)

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

Pride Week rolls in with 'gayme' night, pride prom



Oakland Post Archive

The GSC's 12th annual Drag Show will be 90's-themed and held on Thurs., April 16.

Cheyenne Kramer
Staff Reporter

This year, Pride Week will be celebrated on campus through a variety of different activities, from Pride Prom to a "gayme" night.

One of these events is Lavender Graduation, which takes place April 12. Originated at the University of Michigan, the tradition to have a ceremony for LGBT-QIA+ students and their allies has spread across the country.

"Oakland University's Lavender Graduation is in its third year, but the celebration here is different than other schools," Grace Wojcik, coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center, said. "It's there so people could celebrate their graduation from college with people who are supportive."

"Ours isn't just seniors, either," she said. "We honor the E-boards of some student organizations and Gender and Sexuality Center volunteers. It's more of an end of the year celebration."

Maxwell Pelkey, a sophomore English student, looks forward to the lavender ceremony.

"It's an event I went to last year, and I

look forward to it because of the honors it gives. I didn't have a support system in high school, so I never felt like I could go anywhere to talk to someone when I needed it," Pelkey said.

This year is only the second year the university has had a full week of LGBT-QIA+ events. This year, the festivities end with the much-anticipated drag show.

"I've been excited to participate in pride week since we decided to have the events again. A lot of events planned are really interesting," Pelkey said.

Three student organizations - Transcend, the LGBT Media Club and the Gay-Straight Alliance - are going head-to-head in Olympic style events during Pride Olympics.

Furthermore, if members of those clubs attend Pride Week events, they will earn points for the team they're competing for.

"I'll be participating in some of the events," freshman Paige Rowland said. "I enjoy the company of some of the people in the GSA and I feel welcome there."

The events will be held for a week, beginning Friday. Anyone is welcome to attend the events, and more information can be found on the flyers across campus.

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Breaking through the STEM stereotypes

Computer Science and Engineering professor aims to inspire young women to join the field

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

Through volunteering and other outreach programs, professor Laura Dinsmoor is trying to get more women into STEM-related programs at the university level.

In a field that is mostly dominated by males, it has become a nationwide issue that not enough women are involved in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) related careers. This means that the answers to climate change, biomedical issues and the cure for cancer are going to come from the minds of current and future STEM students.

Professor Dinsmoor is one of the professors molding the young minds of STEM students. She graduated Oakland University in 1980 with a degree in computer engineering.

After college she worked for General Electric for a short time before she went to FANUC Robotics in 1984. She started out as a software developer in 1984 and found a passion for writing programs.

She stayed with the company until 2000, which is when she realized that she could not be a mother and a software developer so she decided to leave FANUC and become a professor at her alma mater.

"I thought that being a professor at Oakland was just going to be a time-killer until I figured out what I wanted to do next, but I fell in love with teaching and working with these young, brilliant minds," Dinsmoor said.

When she came back to Oakland, Dinsmoor thought that there was surely going to be more female students in her classes than when she was taking engineering classes in the late 1970s. She was shocked to find that the amount of women in STEM classes has not changed as drastically as she hoped it would.

Women in STEM

There is a lot of data that shows that not enough women are interested in STEM, which is why Dinsmoor, along with many other Oakland professors,



Julie Atwood / The Oakland Post

Laura Dinsmoor received her degree in computer engineering from Oakland in 1980. Twenty years later, she's back as a professor.

"I'm trying to reach younger girls because we want them to realize that they can do this and that this is a fun, creative career."

Laura Dinsmoor
Computer Science and Engineering
Professor

are trying to raise the interest level.

"We have a stereotype that shows girls that if there is a woman programmer she is a total nerd and she is not necessarily pretty," Dinsmoor said. "I'm trying to reach younger girls because we want them to realize that they can do this and that this is a fun, creative career."

Dinsmoor's efforts include going to local high schools and speaking to them about STEM, volunteering at coding events and judging local robotics competitions. She says that even

though she hopes her efforts are helping influence young women to get interested in STEM, it's female STEM college students that should go out and help with the cause.

"[Younger students] don't usually listen to adults, but if a college lady walked in there they tend to listen to them. So go out and be mentors, volunteer and call your old high school," Dinsmoor said. "I encourage people in STEM to go out and talk to younger kids."

Raising the retention rates

While Dinsmoor's efforts mostly focus on out of school recruitment, there are a lot of ways that Oakland STEM faculty members are trying to retain female students in their program.

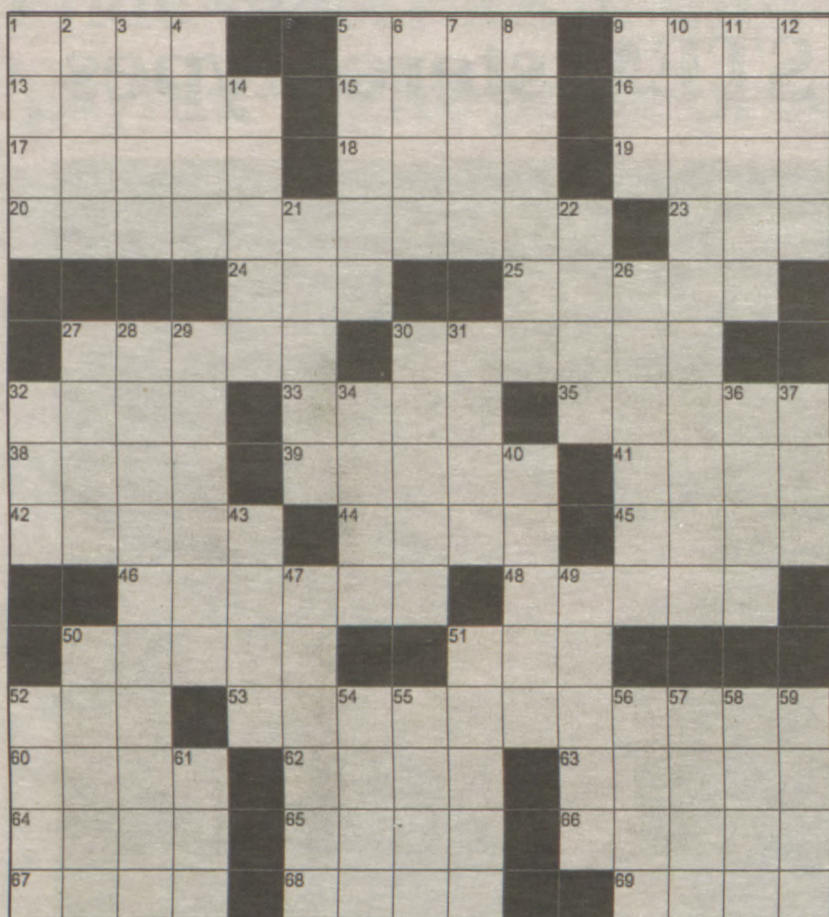
Professor Kathleen Moore helped Oakland secure a grant from the National Science Advanced Program that helps colleges with women in STEM faculties. She spoke about how the

grant is helping them recruit and promote women into the STEM programs, while also teaching professors how to retain them throughout their college career.

"At the college level the students, typically women, who may start out in the STEM fields, somehow don't persist as much as they should," Moore said. "One of the feelings is that if they can see faculty that is diverse and show women who have been successful that will encourage more women to stay in the field."

With the country (and the world) facing numerous issues related to the STEM field, it is important to promote and keep the best and brightest minds within those fields. There is evidence that a lot of capable women stray away from the STEM fields due to stereotypes, but with the efforts of Professor Dinsmoor and others at Oakland, hopefully those stereotypes start to fade away.

Puzzles



Across

- 1: Moves, as a dog's tail
5: Resistance units
9: Keeps cold
13: Kick out
15: Joseph had one of many colors
16: Lassoer's cord
17: Island near Molokai
18: Gardener's coil
19: Joint with a cap
20: Fashionable doggy?
23: President pro ____
24: Tune
25: Romantic bouquet
27: Racing shell
30: They're good to hold
32: Deal with a shylock
33: English elevator
35: ____ voce
38: Ditties
39: Projecting part of an animal's head
41: Gripe, gripe, gripe
42: Practiced
44: Morse's creation
45: Half hitch, e.g.
46: Nabbed
48: Awful
50: Bring the food
51: Quoits target
52: Repetitive computer program
53: Carpenters visit them

- 60: Important work
62: Think (over)
63: Attack like a hawk
64: Stable mate
65: Alka-Seltzer jingle starter
66: Part of MGM
67: Botched up
68: Trees yielding elastic wood
69: Pt. of USDA

Down

- 1: Lash mark
2: Nearly closed
3: Kind of pool
4: Read quickly
5: Fall pigment
6: Owl's utterance
7: Naval post?
8: Takes the tiller
9: Tick off
10: Herb Stempel, notably
11: Olympic weapons
12: Appear
14: Re ocean motion
21: Window parts
22: Lobster and beluga products
26: Equities
27: Potter's purchase
28: Lampoon
29: Topple
30: In progress
31: Many a retired thoroughbred
32: Full circle, on the track
34: Screen-measuring unit
36: 'Aeneid' city
37: Choose
40: Opera hero, usually
43: Swordfight
47: Grouchy
49: Bottomless pit
50: Brittle aromatic resin
51: Lends a hand
52: Explosive device
54: Symbol of stubbornness
55: Hard hit
56: Overwhelmed
57: Repetitive routine
58: Village or hamlet
59: Position
61: Stitch up

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5					6			
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		7	8				6	4

SATIRE

More smitten for the mitten

Brian Figurski
Contributor/Predator

Hello, my sexy Oakland friends. I've missed you all so dearly.

I graduated a year ago and then immediately fled to the other side of the country without reservation. I had no work lined up, no housing, no friends or family. It was just time to experience something new, something other than the gloom of dreary Michigan days.

I now have such a better appreciation for seasons and potholes now.

I've always had a hard-on of hatred for people that glitter up their bumpers with "I love Michigan" stickers having not experienced life outside of their parent's home. How can you love something when you haven't known anything else?

How can you be sure that it's real unadulterated love?

It's basically the same as marrying your high school sweetheart – eventually, you're going to wonder what else is out there and you'll wind up divorced at 30 with three kids, surmounting bills and everyone will hate you.

I didn't want to be that angry dad, so I hopped on board the I-40 to Phoenix without a lick of Spanish in my brain. I could not spend uno más day without seeing something different.

I was bright-eyed at the new city when I first arrived in 110-degree weather in May. I didn't wear a shirt for a month. I climbed mountains and chased scorpions. After I got stung and realized those were not friendly creatures, I camped up, got my own place, rotated between a couple jobs.

Now that I've plopped my big ol' butt back here, I can see the



Photo courtesy of my selfie stick

"I can see the perks of real grass and rain with vibrant clarity."

perks of real grass and rain with vibrant clarity. I'm not even pissed about the flat tire I received as a homecoming gift ten seconds after entering Detroit's city limits.

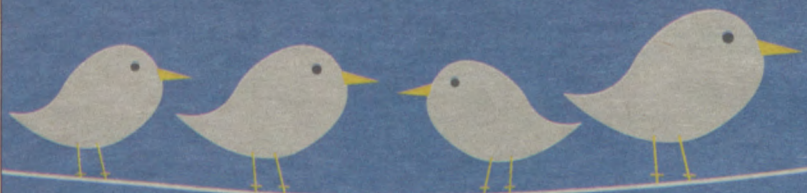
If you're on the cusp of graduation, don't be afraid to kick the ground out from under you and try something different, and there's no shame in trying something new and growing from the experience, even if you have to come crawling back like a failure and begging your old student

organization to let you write a crappy column to feel validated again.

There's a great big world out there waiting for you and life isn't about finding yourself, it's about creating who you want to be.

As a Mexican man who owned a food truck slinging tamales once told me, "es mejor que lamentar algo que has hecho, chico blanco estúpido." I have no idea what words of wisdom he rifled at me, but I feel smarter because of it.

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OAKLAND
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Judo club turns up to throw down

Judo team members compete in state tournaments, experience success, overcome obstacles

Shelby Tankersley
Staff Reporter

Judo is one of the many club sports that Oakland University offers.

Recently, the team has experienced success at the competitions it attends.

The team accepts people of all skill levels. Its members also go around and compete in tournaments when they can.

"Since I have been the president of the club, we have been very successful. We have placed in every competition in our respective divisions and weight class," Anthony Hewins, president of

the judo club, said.

The team is mainly student-run, meaning they do much of the work themselves.

In this club, students from past and present are able to work together at something they all enjoy.

During its last tournament, much of the team was unable to go due to the norovirus that took over a large portion of the campus.

However, the club has done well at prior tournaments, according to its president.

"Our last tournament, I took second along with David Terzano, in a different weight class, and Aram Shahakiam

took third in my division. Sadly, Aram and I had to fight each other. That's just the way the brackets worked out, so it wasn't possible to have us both get first," Hewins said.

Judo is similar to wrestling or grappling in the sense that it involves a lot of rolling around on the ground.

That being said, the members of the team need to pay attention to their technique and position.

"Judo is one of the martial arts where size can mean absolutely nothing when paired against a skilled opponent." Joe Baker, Self Defense Expert, said. "It's very common to see a 125 pound woman completely dominate a 250 pound man through quick thinking, strong technical knowledge and a determined constitution."

It's that same quick thinking that led

Coach Frank Cucci to a first place title in the Black Belt division at Michigan State University.

"If you can beat Frank, chances are you should not be messed with because of his skill and it requires most of us to fight up 2 or more weight classes," Hewins said.

While weight isn't everything in judo, it can certainly be helpful to be the heavier competitor. It can be exceedingly difficult to throw around someone who is in a higher weight class than yourself.

The team members' opportunity to practice with a bigger opponent like Cucci can help give them an edge during competitions.

One thing is certain; the judo team is learning how to throw down with skill.

Prediction: Metro Series projects in Oakland's favor

Oakland-Detroit rivalry finishing strong in 2015

Jackson Gilbert
Sports Editor

Over the weekend, the Oakland and Detroit rivalry series took a strong turn in the Golden Grizzlies' favor. The men and women's track and field teams both defeated the U of D.

Even though the outcome of the meet doesn't actually reflect on the scoring of the Metro Series, it does give Oakland a solid advantage going forward.

As of early March, Oakland holds a 12-8 lead over Detroit in the series with victories in men's soccer, women's cross country, men's basketball, and men and women's indoor track and field. Detroit took victories in women's soccer, men's cross country, and men and women's basketball.

We took a look at the contests remaining on the Detroit

slate to give you our final predictions.

Softball

The women's softball matchup is one of the more important matchups with three games each counting for two points. Comparing records, Oakland sits at 11-14 overall and 2-1 in the Horizon. Meanwhile, Detroit sits at 2-21 and 0-3 in the conference.

Projection: Oakland sweeps Detroit earning six points.

Tennis

Comparing records, Detroit has the advantage. Oakland currently sits at 3-13 on the season and 2-3 in the conference. Detroit is 12-8 and 4-1 in the conference.

Projection: Detroit takes the match and earns two points.

Men's golf

In October, the men's golf team played in the Dayton Flyer Invitational, which was the most recent tournament that included both Oakland and Detroit. In that tournament, Detroit finished fourth and Oakland finished fifth, separated by

only three strokes. The men's team has played well early in the spring season but Detroit still holds an advantage.

Projection: Detroit takes two points from Oakland.

Women's golf

Along with the men's team, the women's team also took on Detroit in October in the Jackrabbit Invitational in Ohio. However, the Oakland women managed to pull out a second place overall finish with Detroit finishing fourth. This time, the teams were separated by 12 strokes.

Projection: Oakland gets two points added to their total.

Outdoor track and field

Fresh off the weekend results, Oakland looks poised to have a strong showing in the Horizon League Championship. The men should have no trouble staying ahead of Detroit in the final standings; the women's team may have a bit more work to do.

Projection: Oakland finishes ahead of Detroit in both results and earns four points.

REMAINING METRO SERIES SCHEDULE

SOFTBALL

APRIL 10-11
AT DETROIT

WOMEN'S TENNIS

APRIL 18
AT OAKLAND

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF

APRIL 24-26
AT HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

MAY 1-3 AT OAKLAND

Oakland runs circles around U of D

*Inaugural meet
features dominant
performance*

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

The Golden Grizzlies made history this Saturday by hosting their first-ever track and field event on campus, and sweeping the Titans for the first time in the 10 year dual meet history.

After years of planning and construction, the Oakland Track and Field Facility welcomed fans and athletes through its doors for the first time this past Saturday.

The men and women's teams hosted rival Detroit Mercy in the tenth annual dual meet between the two schools.

Hundreds of fans, students and alumni attended to show their support for the relatively young program.

"It's awesome for the community and for the campus," head coach Paul Rice said. "It's great not only for the athletes but also for the students to have something like this that they can use."

Oakland's men dominated as they cruised to a 107.5-61.5 victory over Detroit Mercy.

The Golden Grizzlies had 12 first place finishes out of the 19



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

The women's team battled to a photo finish 99-96 win over the Titans.

events. Bryce Stroede was the only Oakland athlete with two events as he claimed titles in the one mile run (4:26.29) and 3000m (8:31.30, dual record).

The Golden Grizzly women were in a much tougher battle as they came back to win 99-96 over the Titans.

Oakland trailed by 14 points

with four events left, but thanks to some key victories late, Oakland came out on top.

Serena San Cartier and Ashley Burr both won two events with San Cartier claiming titles in the 200m (26.24) and the 100m hurdles (14.23, dual record) while Burr had victories in the 1500m (4:53.21) and 3000m (10:12.24). Along with being the first meet in the new facility and hosting rival Detroit, the team also recognized its five seniors: Serena San Cartier, Jenae Curley, Megan Joiner, David Koponen and Nathan Ziolk.

"They've been great and have contributed to this program in different ways. We are better off because of what they have done in their five years here," said Rice. "They have been a part of this building process and I am excited to see how they finish their career."

Oakland will once again compete at the new facility as they will host the Golden Grizzly Duals this Saturday.

The Golden Grizzlies will also be hosting the Horizon League Championships May 1-3, which only adds to all of the excitement surrounding the track and field team this season.

"Having the conference championship here is definitely going to put the cherry on my collegiate career here," said senior San Cartier.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Baseball

The Oakland baseball team (5-18, 3-8) traveled to Ohio last weekend to continue Horizon League play against Youngstown State University (7-17, 3-9) but lost two of the three games in the series against the Penguins. Oakland lost the second game 6-3 and on Friday - its seventh-inning rally in the final game wasn't enough as the team came up short with a 6-7 defeat. The Golden Grizzlies will resume Horizon League play on April 17-19 when they face Wright State at home.

Softball

The Oakland softball team (14-15, 5-2) swept a Horizon League opponent for the first time since 2009 last weekend with a 3-0 series victory on the road at Valparaiso (8-22, 2-6). It shut out the Crusaders 8-0 in game one on Friday, April 3. On Saturday, the Golden Grizzlies took both games of the doubleheader 7-2 and 6-3. The team will play a doubleheader Wednesday at home against Central Michigan University at 2 p.m. and resume Horizon League play April 10-11 against rival University of Detroit-Mercy.

Tennis

On Saturday, April 2, the women's tennis team (3-13, 2-3) pulled off a 4-3 victory over Wright State (11-10, 1-4). The team will play Saturday, April 11 on the road at University of Illinois-Chicago.

Basketball

Senior Corey Petros received an invite to the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament that will be held April 8-11 in Virginia. Petros is the fourth Oakland player in the last five years to be invited to the tournament.

-Compiled by Scott Davis

Horizon League Standings

Men's Baseball	W	L	W	L
1. UIC	9	3	13	11
2. Wright State	8	3	20	9
3. Valparaiso	6	5	10	16
4. Milwaukee	5	6	14	9
5. OAKLAND	3	8	5	18
6. Youngstown State	3	9	7	17

Only six Horizon League schools participate in baseball, Detroit not among them.

Women's Softball	W	L	W	L
1. Youngstown State	3	0	10	14
2. OAKLAND	2	1	11	14
3. Green Bay	2	1	8	12
4. Wright State	3	2	7	21
5. Valparaiso	2	3	8	17
6. Cleveland State	1	2	15	10
7. UIC	1	2	10	13
8. Detroit	0	3	2	21