

THE OAKLAND POST

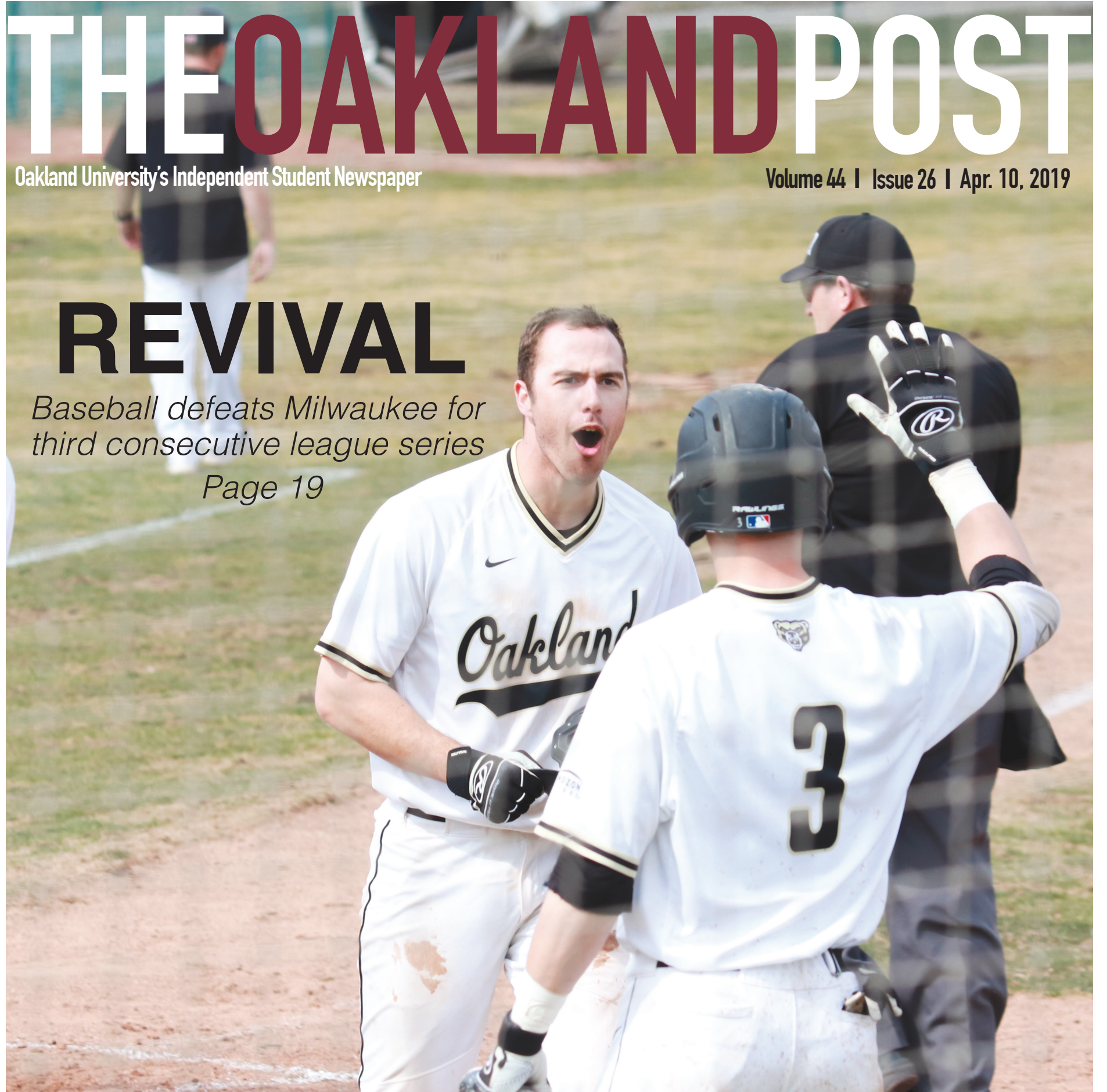
Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 44 | Issue 26 | Apr. 10, 2019

REVIVAL

*Baseball defeats Milwaukee for
third consecutive league series*

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GROWTH

Oakland sees increase in enrollment
over past years

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TRUTH FROM RUTH

Oscar-winning costume designer
from 'Black Panther' visits

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OU DAY AT COMERICA

Yearly OUAA event returns for
Tigers vs. Royals game

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PHOTO BY RYAN PINI

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



TRACK & FIELD TRIUMPH An Oakland thrower pulls back his javelin to compete in the javelin event. Oakland recorded 20 first place finishes against the University of Detroit Mercy at the duals this weekend. PHOTO / RYAN PINI

THE OAKLAND POST

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Cis Maisel Center launches with first lecturer on April 8. Photo/Nicole Morsfield



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World-renowned steel drum artist performs on campus. Photo/Sergio Montanez



9 NIGHTCLUB CABARET
Students perform one-man shows at Pontiac theatre. Photo/Sergio Montanez

POLL OF THE WEEK

GRADUATES, ARE YOU READY?

A) ADULTING? I'M NOT READY!

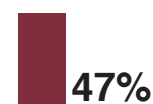
B) I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I'M GRADUATING!

C) I'M BUSY IGNORING MY STUDENT DEBT!

D) LOOK OUT, WORLD! HERE I COME!

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

HOW READY ARE YOU FOR FINALS WEEK?



A) EMOTIONALLY UNPREPARED



B) IN DENIAL THAT IT'S TWO WEEKS AWAY



C) I'VE ALREADY STARTED STUDYING



D) I FEEL PREPARED FOR MY EXAMS

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

And with that...it's a wrap!

Dear readers,

We're finally coming to the end of the year! It's crazy to think this year is almost over.

As I'm sure most of you already know, The Oakland Post went under some major changes this year to appeal to our student readers more.

The staff of The Oakland Post, aka Posties, have worked hard to bring quality content to the Oakland University community. From covering the Michigan governor election to OU's hockey puck fundraiser to the candlelight vigil for the Christchurch victims, we have strived for nothing but the best for our readers.

What most people don't know is how much work it takes to run a newspaper because at the end of the day, you're running a business.

With that being said, I want to express how proud I am of my staff for all the work they have done this year. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to lead.

As I look back on this year, I think about how I've accomplished all of the goals I set for myself as editor-in-chief.

1. Bringing diversity to the newsroom

The majority of newsrooms in America are run by white men. There are very few women in top positions, and even fewer people of color in newsrooms at all.

I didn't want The Post to be like this, so I changed the status quo.

I hired people from all different backgrounds, ethnicities, sexual orientations, religious beliefs, etc. in order to create as unbiased a newsroom as I could get.

I'm happy to say, I think it worked out for the best.

2. Being more involved on campus

In the three years I've worked for The Oakland Post, I'd never seen us host any events or get involved in the community.

I didn't like it, so I changed it.

We put on our first open mic night in the Habitat, and it was a huge success.

Students were engaged and involved, and some asked how they could join the staff.

3. Rebranding the newspaper

I've always had a design oriented mind. So it's no surprise I wanted to redesign our student newspaper.

I wanted our paper to as modern and more reader friendly for those in the community.

I'm proud to say I've accomplished this goal, and have set forth a legacy that can last for years.

Anyways, I wanted to end on this note. I made it my mission to be more than the first black editor-in-chief of The Oakland Post, I made it my mission to be the best EIC possible. I hope I've exceeded your expectations.

It's been fun working for The Post, but now it's time to move on. Trevor, I know you'll be great as editor-in-chief, and I can't wait to see everything you do.

Love, peace, and hair grease fam. It's been one hell of a ride!

*Your first black editor-in-chief,
AuJene Y. Hirsch*



▲ MINA FUQUA | CHIEF COPY EDITOR
Current editor-in-chief AuJene Hirsch (right) and succeeding editor-in-chief Trevor Tyle (left) chatting about the future of The Oakland Post and some key things to remember.

◀ PHOTO COURTESY OF AUJENEE HIRSCH
The Posties spent time together at the annual Oakland Post Christmas Party.



Meadow Brook Hall money troubles in '04

Campus landmark almost becomes permanent piece of the past due to expensive repairs

BRIDGET JANIS

Staff Reporter

Meadow Brook Hall (MBH) has always been interested in connecting students and Oakland University as one of its pursuits. Many events like the Meadow Brook Ball, March Movie Madness and the Murder Mystery are opportunities for students to get involved while at the Hall.

In 2004, the scare of not having MBH almost became a reality.

Rusty Postlewaite, associate vice president of Facilities Management at the time, claimed MBH would need \$6.6 million in infrastructure repairs. The approved budget for MBH in the year 2004 was going to be a \$408,706 deficit.

Erin McCarthy, an OU senior then, was passionate about saving MBH after hearing the news of the financial troubles. Her big idea for a solution was based on OU students working together to create an impact on MBH. McCarthy was trying to save MBH by making it a bigger role in student's lives on campus, and she ended up proposing this idea to the Oakland University Board of Trustees.

McCarthy's plan was to add a \$20 fee to each student's tuition per semester. While adding this fee, students would have received free year-round tours for themselves and family members; free events, jobs and internship opportunities; leadership

positions on a Student Advisory Board and meeting space for student organizations. However, McCarthy was aware that this was not a permanent solution, and said, "it's obviously not going to cure their problem."

Some students, such as then Student Body President Jonathan Parks and Student Liaison Rhonda Hanna, did not support this plan. They believed money should be prioritized toward academics rather than MBH.

"It's not the students' responsibility to fund the Hall," Parks said.

At the time, closing the Hall was not the intention. Board chairperson Henry Baskin claimed the university needed a plan to find the \$6-7 million that would have been needed to keep the MBH in a functioning condition.

To Baskin, McCarthy's plan was a good idea, but other fundraising methods could be used. He was looking for a way to raise the funds without using any OU member's money.

"We have to find the money without going to the students and saying, 'We're going to add that to your tuition bill,'" Baskin said. "We want to preserve this icon. This structure is important to us."

OU was exploring multiple options to save MBH and continue the traditions the hall delivers to students.

"The university would be at a great loss if something happened to Meadow Brook Hall," Michael McGuinness, then Student Activities Funding Board chairperson, said. "We're all



OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES

Administration faced the challenge of funding repairs to Meadow Brook Hall without increasing tuition costs.

working toward the same goal."

The university began to look for ways to fundraise for the Hall. They tried hosting events such as ice skating, and dinner and a movie. Students, staff and faculty were trying their best to keep the Hall open.

Today, MBH still stands and aims to be welcoming to all students and faculty. The Hall still hosts many events for Oakland and gives students the opportunity to become more involved on campus.

THE OAKLAND POST IS LOOKING FOR A LIFE&ARTS EDITOR.

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- Help manage the contributor pool
 - Work with four contributors individually
- Attend weekly editor meetings
- Monitor the website's analytics

Position effective April 2019. Interested applicants can apply on Handshake, or send a cover letter, resume and portfolio to editor-in-chief AuJenee Hirsch at editor@oaklandpostonline.com

CAMPUS

Cis Maisel Center for Judaic Studies and Community Engagement launches

LAUREL KRAUS
Managing Editor

Detroit is the 26th largest American Jewish community as of 2018, according to the Berman Jewish Databank.

On Monday, April 8, Oakland University's Jewish Studies Department launched the Cis Maisel Center for Judaic Studies and Community Engagement.

"We've been working toward this for a number of years," said Michael Pytlik, director of both the Jewish studies program at OU and the Cis Maisel center. "We've been searching for a way to increase our enrollment in our classes and to showcase any number of lectures or lecture series, and Cis Maisel stepped up and helped us to underwrite this endeavor."

Cis Maisel, a community leader in Southeastern Michigan who was instrumental in the creation of the Seminars for Adult Jewish Enrichment (SAJE), was made aware of the opportunity by Oakland University President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz and became the principal underwriter and

donor of the center.

"Our center [SAJE] has worked with Wayne State and the University of Michigan, but they have not done much with Oakland, and it was a puzzlement to me why they were never included in things," Maisel said. "I feel that there should be a connection."

The Cis Maisel Center will showcase a number of topics that involve Judaism and the Jewish tradition through the presentation of lectures, displays such as artifacts and texts, projects of film or performance, and discussions in the community.

"We see this as a prism to look into these other topics, so it's meant to be broad, and it's meant to engage people to think about problems, life rituals, life issues, politics, history, religion, any number of things," Pytlik said.

The Cis Maisel Center does not have a physical location at this point but is housed within the Jewish studies program at OU.

Lectures could take place at OU or at other places within the community, which would engage other institutions. This could

include the Holocaust Memorial Center, the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center, synagogues, churches, mosques and more.

"Hopefully we can be able to add to the discussion in the community and have the support of our local Jewish institutions and non-Jewish institutions," Pytlik said.

Monday night's official kick off of the center invited local dignitaries, students and the public to honor Cis Maisel and to listen to speaker Annabelle Gurwitch as the center's first lecturer.

"[She's] been on a number of TV programs, she's written a number of books, tells stories, she's a humorist, and she also will help us kick this off in sort of a celebratory way," Pytlik said.

"There's a number of things we'd like to do, starting probably next fall, we'll start rolling out smaller projects and once the funding grows a little bit more, we'll be able to do bigger things," Pytlik said. "I'm excited to bring in some scholars and to engage the community in topics about equality, economic justice, anything we can apply to a religious value of some sort or to the

tradition of Judaism."

As far as this impacting the potential of a Hebrew language minor at OU, Pytlik reported there are no talks of that at this time due to the current lack in numbers of interested students.



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER
Annabelle Gurwitch helped to launch the center on April 8 as its first lecturer.

POLICE FILES

Some rotten luck

An Oakland University police officer was flagged down in P9 while on patrol the night of Sept. 15, 2018.

The person led the officer to his red Mercedes Benz and told the officer he left for a high school football game around 7 p.m., and returned to find some minor damage and a collection of rotten bananas on the hood of his red Mercedes Benz.

The officer approached the vehicle and indeed observed a full Ziploc bag full of mashed brown bananas. On the ground to the right of the vehicle was an aluminum pan, also full of brown bananas. The victim stated he did not know of anyone that would want to damage his property and believes it must have been an accident.

None of the victim's property was reported stolen, and security footage was unable to identify any kind of culprit.

Oh my gourd

After an Oktoberfest celebration for Oakland University Housing, a pumpkin rolled down the hill behind Oakview Hall on Oct. 27, 2018. The pumpkin rolled into oncoming eastbound traffic on Walton Boulevard.

The pumpkin struck a red Dodge Charger and damaged the undercarriage of the vehicle. An officer arrived on scene to assess the damage, and saw the driver was unharmed. The officer informed the driver they could contact OUPD if they had any additional questions, and the driver left the scene without further complications.

Brilliant door-opening

An officer was dispatched to the vestibule between Dodge Hall and Hannah Hall to investigate a broken glass door that was called in by the Oakland University Facilities Management on Jan. 11, 2019. Upon arrival, the officer observed the broken glass door to be on the Dodge Hall building side wrapped in yellow caution tape.

While inspecting the broken glass, the officer noticed it looked as if someone attempted to kick the interior push bar, missed and put their foot through the broken safety glass. A dispatch was made to contact work control to replace the glass, and no suspect was found.

Compiled by Ben Hume
Staff Reporter

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Andy Meisner speaks to College Democrats

JORDAN JEWELL

Engagement Editor

In an event hosted by the College Democrats at Oakland University, Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner spoke to a small group of students on Monday, April 8.

The event was hosted in Room 128 of the Oakland Center, and students in attendance were able to engage in a conversation with Meisner about his career in politics and his interest in running for Oakland County Executive.

"A lot of really good people dismiss themselves from running for office because of things they've done in the past," Meisner said. "They think that they could've never had a drink. The first thing to ask yourself is 'What is your purpose?'"

Meisner is a Ferndale, Mich. native and has been politically active since 2002 when he was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives. Despite attending law school and passing the bar exam, he felt drawn to politics.

"I think that helping people is my purpose in life," Meisner said. "I don't think you should get into politics if you're hoping that people are going to kiss your ring. That should be a red flag."



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner meets with the CDOU on April 8, 2019. The discussion was casual, with students able to jump in any time with thoughts.

The College Democrats at OU hopes that events like this talk will help to enlighten and educate the OU community on political issues.

"The CDOU had essentially dissolved as a student organization about a year prior to this current executive board's involvement," said Chase Lindenthal, president of CDOU. "We wanted to restart the College Democrats because we knew there was no other outlet for like-minded folks to come together and express their opinions on the political issues of the day.

My involvement extends to the founding of the organization."

During the event, Meisner had advice for students interested in careers in politics.

"One of the most important things you can do in fundraising is to put a specific dollar amount on the table," Meisner said. "By giving them a specific number, you make it easy for them."

CDOU invited Meisner to speak in order to raise students' awareness about local government in Michigan.

"This event with Treasurer Meisner gives students the opportunity to engage with an important local leader who can give immense insight into the way Oakland County operates," Lindenthal said. "This event also allows the campus community to hear firsthand what Meisner has planned for the future."

Meisner hopes to make an impact on homelessness in Oakland County while he's in office. By 2025, he hopes to have eliminated the issue of child homelessness.

A primary goal of both Meisner and CDOU is getting students involved and educated in politics.

"Everyone deserves a personalized invitation to participate in the democracy," Meisner said.

CDOU host regular meetings that are open to all OU students. More information can be found on the College Democrats of OU GrizzOrgs page or by emailing Chase Lindenthal at chaselindenthal@oakland.edu

"Civil interaction with each other is essential to the survival of our society," Lindenthal said. "I feel it is important to have groups like the College Democrats on campus because we help open the door for students to engage with each other and elected officials."

OU one of few to show student enrollment growth



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER

Student enrollment increases as buildings on campus continue to be renovated with improvements.

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

In a time when Michigan schools are on a decline, Oakland University appears to be thriving.

According to a report by the Michigan House of Representatives Fiscal Agency, OU is one of the few public universities in the state showing a growth in student enrollment.

While growth peaked in the Fall 2015 semester at 20,261 students, the Fall 2018 population of 19,309 is an 8.7 percent increase over the Fall 2008 popula-

tion of 17,758.

While this can be attributed to any number of reasons, Provost James Lentini believes OU's location plays a major part.

"If you take a look at the growth around us [in] Oakland County [and] Macomb County — which are the two counties we draw most of our students from — these are vibrant counties," he said. "Something like 1,000 international corporations right around us, so you got all the emerging technologies and current technologies needed at those companies from robotics firms to automotive to all kinds of computing needs."

The expansion of engineering, computer science and medical programs are also contributing factors to student growth, according to Lentini.

"Most of our graduates graduate in some health-related field, so you could not be in a better region for [finding healthcare jobs]," Lentini said.

The distinctive construction boom of the past few years has a direct link to the growth. Hillcrest Hall, the newest residence hall, expands the on-campus capacity by 750 students, while expansions to South Foundation Hall (SFH) and the Oakland Center show the need to expand existing spaces.

While the student population has grown, standards for admissions remain largely unchanged. Since 2008, the average GPA of incoming students has gone from 3.3 to 3.5, while average ACT scores have gone from 22.0 to 24.6.

"We are actually attracting better prepared students to Oakland," said Dawn Aubry, associate vice president of enrollment management via email. "Our incoming first year student profile has increased over the years."

While the construction shows signs of a growing campus, someone has to pay for it. Oakland receives little funding from the state and has been raising tuition rates, recently doing so in 2018.

While Lentini said there were "no plans to do anything extravagant with tuition," the provost did not rule out future increases.

"We try to keep tuition increases as low as we can," Lentini said. "What is typical for most universities in [Michigan] is to go somewhere in the 3 percent increase range, and I cannot guarantee one way or the other how [tuition increases] will go forward. That is up to the Board and up to trying to budget as we move forward."

"[OU] is on a historical funding model that has not really ever been corrected. For higher education, we could have 10,000 more students and [the state] would not change our budget."

Despite the lack of direct state funds, Lentini said the state helps by funding capital projects like Hillcrest and the SFH expansion. OU has started a campaign to generate funds via philanthropic donations. The "Aspire. Advance. Achieve." campaign has been ongoing since Nov. 17, 2018.

Professor develops breakthrough study to aid concussion testing

Dr. Daniel J. Goble turned his passion for exercise science and athletics into an invention

TAYLOR CRUMLEY

Staff Reporter

A study that examined over 10,000 male and female athletes ages 8 to 21 and was published in the Journal of Athletic Training is helping concussion detection in athletics become more advanced.

The study is titled “A Multifaceted Approach to Preventing Sport-Related Deaths in High School Sports.” It was published by Dr. Daniel J. Goble, an assistant professor of exercise science at Oakland University.

The study focuses on using Goble’s invention, called the Balance Tracking System (BTrackS), collecting anonymous normative data from thousands of users to be able to do concussion balance testing.

“BTrackS is a force plate you stand on that measures your balance based on how much you sway,” Goble said. “The idea for this work just came from learning how poor the balance testing being utilized in the field of sport

medicine is and how they could benefit from an objective, affordable and portable tool to get results.”

As a multi-sport athlete growing up, he became interested in the movement of the human body and athlete performance. His passion has led him to now have the largest database of athlete balance results ever published.

His career started out in hopes of pursuing a career in physical therapy, but three weeks into the masters program, he realized that physical therapy wasn’t for him. He was more interested in logic and research, which led him to exercise science.

“My teaching is a blend of neurophysiology and biomechanics,” Goble said.

Goble is a sixth-generation teacher and finds teaching comes very naturally to him. He loves integrating modern technology into his teaching methods and uses things like social media and YouTube videos to help his students learn.

BTrackS is an inexpensive and more accurate alternative to other methods of balance testing that have been used in

“

Concussions affect millions of people worldwide and despite our best efforts are still on the rise due to better awareness of the signs and symptoms.

DR. DANIEL J. GOBLE
PROF. OF EXERCISE SCIENCE

”

the past. It uses objective methods of measuring postural sway, or how balanced the body is when standing still.

“Concussion assessment is often lacking due to poor testing methods that may be practical to employ in the field, but have poor sensitivity for concussion,” Goble said. “In the case of

balance, estimates show 85 percent of athletic trainers rely on subjective, visual balance testing rather than a medical device like BTrackS.”

According to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, 50 percent of concussions go undetected or unreported. The severity of concussions can widely range from case to case, so there is no set time table for recovery.

“Concussions affect millions of people worldwide and despite our best efforts are still on the rise due to better awareness of the signs and symptoms,” Goble said. “My results help improve the health and well-being of individuals across the world every day.”

To learn more about the BTrackS and its benefits, watch the newscast about in on the BTrackS YouTube page. For more information on Dr. Goble, check out his interview with OUTV.

“The work I do here at Oakland University couldn’t be done without the assistance of my student researchers, colleagues and upper administration,” Goble said. “It’s truly a team effort.”

Stephanie J. Lee receives 2019 Phyllis Law Googasian Award

Honored for dedicating 30 years to the advancement of women in education

TAYLOR CRUMLEY

Staff Reporter

After being a part of the Oakland University community for 30 years and working every day toward the advancement of womanhood, Stephanie J. Lee, administrative assistant to the provost, was presented with the 2019 Phyllis Law Googasian Award.

The award is presented to a member of the OU community that has contributed to the advancement of womanhood through development in leadership and scholarship. Lee aims to hold up these values in her work every day.

“The advancement of women means a great deal to me,” Lee said. “I invest my effort and time into working with women by challenging them to do what may normally not come easily for them. I challenge them to always be confident in all they do.”

The award was established in 1993 in honor of Trustee Emerita Phyllis Law Googasian and is presented each year in collaboration with OU and

the American Council on Education Network for Women Leaders.

“Leadership is not always being in front of the group; many good leaders lead from behind,” Lee said. “Being a servant leader helps with the advancement of women as well. Women need to support other women, not compete against them, and celebrate all progress we make.”

Lee received her Bachelor of Arts in communication from OU in 1993. She is currently pursuing her doctorate degree in organizational leadership and says she is excited to have only three courses left until she is completed.

“As an undergraduate here at Oakland 30 years ago, working on campus helped shape me and developed my work ethic,” Lee said. “Learning and evolving professionally has provided me with the characteristics to build confidence in areas I was lacking.”

In 2002, she began working in the Academic Affairs Office at OU assisting the provost. She organizes and plans various academic events and conferences at the university and assists in communication among the hierarchy of offices

on campus.

Lee’s goal for the future is to one day use her doctorate degree to become a university executive at an institution of higher education.

“I love higher education,” Lee said. “I recognized that looking into how higher education functions and making strives on improving it fascinated me.”

She says her dedication, organizational skills and planning abilities allow her to achieve success for herself and to spread her life knowledge to others.

She gives credit to her nearly 28-year involvement in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated for making her into the woman she is today. The sorority’s purpose is promoting unity and friendship among women and striving to be a service to mankind.

Lee said she would tell her younger self to “learn from failures and listen because you don’t learn with your mouth open.” After everything Lee has achieved throughout her life, she has learned that “all the stars may not align at the same time. It is okay. Just keep moving toward your goal.”

Artist inspires musicians

Professional steel drummer Andy Narell shares his experience and sets standards

DEAN VAGLIA
Staff Reporter

World-renowned steel drum artist Andy Narell performed at Oakland University alongside two OU world music ensembles on April 5.

World music has existed at OU for over 40 years, according to World Music and Percussion Coordinator Mark Stone.

"The program was started in 1975 by Marvin 'Doc' Holladay," Stone said. "He also started the jazz program, and he has a background in the field of ethnomusicology. [Holladay] thought it was important to develop a world music program.

"In the early days of our world music program, Doc wanted to focus on the African roots of jazz," Stone said. "The main focus of the world music program in the '70s and '80s was playing traditional West African music because that is such an important root of American jazz. One of the reasons he was doing that was to help people become better jazz musicians, to know that root of the music."



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER
Legendary steel-pan artist Andy Narell, accompanied by OU music faculty Mark Stone and Patrick Fitzgibbon, performed a wide variety of Jazz and Caribbean music.

mers, Narell got his start during his youth in 1960s New York City.

"My dad was doing social work with street gangs on the Lower East Side of Manhattan," Narell said. "He was always looking for something the kids could get interested in."

One day, his father came across an Antiguan who taught him how to make and play the steel drum.

"Within a year and a half [of using the pan in social work], he had 20 steel bands practicing on two sets of pans in two rooms," Narell said. "Everybody wanted to do it."

While Narell's OU performances were based around jazz, one of his goals is to push the boundaries of steel drum settings.

"I pretty much decided early on that I was going to see what I could do to implicate this instrument into as many kinds of music as I could," Narell said. "Not just jazz but popular music, all kinds of African music, Brazilian music, Caribbean music, classical music, film music, TV — whatever."

This is the third time OU has worked with Narell. The first was for a similar concert in 2012, while the second was for a 2014 concert in East Lansing with a Michigan State band.

"It is really important in any discipline on our campus for students to be able to see what is the highest standard of that discipline," Stone said. "It is widely recognized that Narell represents the highest stand of steel drum performance, steel drum composition and of steel drum education."

Beyond the binary

KATIE VALLEY
Campus Editor

Strong, powerful and honest: words Pew Research discovered are used far more often to describe men than women.

Terms used most often for women focus on appearance and niceness: beautiful, kind and compassionate.

Students who have taken women and gender studies courses have learned about the theories, constructs and norms that make up gender. In a survey of 25 Oakland University students ages 19-26 (average age 21) in a global women and gender studies class, 56 percent said different genders are respected in the same way at OU.

In the Pew Research survey of 4,573 Americans, almost 100 percent of mentions of the word "beautiful" as a descriptor for women were positive, while the most used word for men was "honest." According to Pew, "Americans are much more likely to use powerful in a positive way to describe men (67 percent positive) than women (92 percent negative)."

Jo Reger, OU sociology department chair and professor, said men and women have been seen as different since Aristotle's time.

"We have always thought about gender as a binary," she said. "When you think of things as a binary, you think when one thing is something, then the other thing is not that thing....One of the ways we often define men is how they are not women, not feminine...Those societal ideas get embedded, then, into our current ways of thinking about men and women."

When asked about how opportunities can be defined by gender, a few students said OU is dedicated to diversity. The Gender and Sexuality Center's website has a statement on OU's efforts to be inclusive in its Out on Campus Initiative page: "No matter what sexual orientation or gender you ascribe to, or if you are simply an ally to the community, Oakland University can be considered a safe place for you to call home."

In the Pew Research study, surveyees identified leadership and ambitiousness as valued traits for men but not for women, instead using traits such as responsible and caring.

With the majority of surveyed students saying the university respects genders in the same way, 20 percent



ELIYAH RUSSEL | PHOTOGRAPHER
The gender norms men and women face can be defied through various outlets.

of students were indifferent about OU's views on gender, and 24 percent of students believe OU has its own gender biases.

One female student said women have to work harder to prove they are leaders. Another female student said she has witnessed male students being praised for making the same comments she already made. A male student said people use gender to assume what major someone is studying.

Outside of students who have taken women and gender studies courses, the percentage of students who feel OU treats genders equally may be different. Many surveyees, however, were optimistic about opportunities granted to them through Oakland saying the university is accepting.

"I feel like women are more eager to get ahead here on campus and therefore don't allow themselves to be mistreated, and will speak up and defend themselves," 19-year-old student Maureen Tighe said.

Professors are working to help students feel empowered to combat gender norms. Reger said it's important to disrupt the unconscious patterns behind gender because it's not binary.

"It's hard to say all men are this and all women are that when you have people who are non-binary, who are gender fluid, who aren't aligning themselves on either side," she said. "Because they get to be 'both and,' they get to be both strong and sensitive, they get to be both emotional and rational. I think that's a really exciting thing that is happening now in universities, in classes and in our society."



It is really important in any discipline on our campus for students to be able to see what is the highest standard of that discipline.

MARK STONE
WORLD PERCUSSION COORDINATOR



In the 2000s, Stone formed a steel drum ensemble known as the Pan Jumbies — "Pan" referring to the instrument, and "Jumbies" being the name for steel drum enthusiasts. The Jumbies are the members of the MUE 3045 "Steel Band" class and play around campus and the region. Anyone interested in steel drum can join the class.

"I took the students to Trinidad [and Tobago] in the early 2000s, which was where the steel drum was invented and developed by people like Ellie Mannette," Stone said. "And just this past year my colleague Patrick Fitzgibbon took the students to Saint Lucia to work with Narell."

One of the original American steel drum-



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER

The performances told unique, personal stories through songs and dialogue.

MTD students reveal true selves in nightclub cabaret

BRIDGET JANIS
Staff Reporter

Students took on center stage and performed original one-man shows at the Nightclub Cabarets Acts event April 5-7 at the Flagstar Strand Theatre for the Performing Arts in downtown Pontiac, giving the audience performances they might never forget.

"I think any type of art is important, but I think this in particular is important because the kids get to express themselves as themselves," said Don Brewer, visiting assistant professor of Theatre. "Usually, they're on stage at Oakland playing characters. In this, they're themselves telling a story, and it's really whatever story they want to tell. I think the hardest character to play sometimes is yourself, and it gives them the opportunity to do that."

Nightclub Cabarets Acts is a class, THA 4051, musical theater and acting students at Oakland can take with permission from an instructor. The class can count for zero or one credits and is the process of preparation for this event. Auditions for the class are held before the the beginning of each semester.

The performances ranged from personal dialogues, to storytellings and songs. The students took all genres of music such as pop, rock and opera songs to tell a story about their lives or experiences.

Some songs featured were from "Wicked" and "Fiddler on the Roof." Some students also performed hit pop songs, such as "thank u, next" by Ariana Grande and "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus.

There were two different shows and two different casts altering each night. On April

4 and April 6 the acts were: "Tony's Game Show Xtravaganza" by Tony Sharpe, "The Return of Miss Midland" by Erica Rose, "Problebatic" by Kristin Rebera, "Vertically Challenged" by Hannah Faith Stevens, "Two Peas in Bond" by Emily Grossutti and "Finishing the Dress" by Matt Carlsen.

Brewer said the original stories students came up with were able to be told in a fun and comical way using jokes and popular songs.

"The kids just really come up with the shows themselves, and I help guide them through it," Brewer said. "Just find creative ways to tell the stories, like you saw tonight, one can be about somebody who has to come out as being homosexual to their parent or another one's about two of the girls becoming best friends even though they hated each other at the start."

On April 5 and April 7 the acts were: "Keep it in the Family" by Will Dunn, "America's Sweet Heart" by Stephanie Gettings, "I Can Do That — and it's NOT Dance" by Sammy Boria, "I Can't Believe They Let Him Have a Third One" by Aaron Fox, "Confession of a Catholic Schoolgirl" by Grace Rosen and "The Clayton Diaries" by Clayton Sallee.

Students can use this performance opportunity and apply it to their future careers, according to Fox.

"It's a different kind of theater than doing a play or a musical because you write the show yourself, and it's a chance to do a theatrical performance while telling incredible interpersonal stories," Fox said. "It's a really important self-fulfilling thing, and of course you can translate that into comedy and you can go out of your way to make it about something you believe strongly, but it's a really personal performance."

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Oscar-winning costume designer

The Oakland University community was treated to a night in Wakanda on Wednesday, April 3 when “Black Panther” costume designer Ruth E. Carter came to campus.

MAKING OSCAR HISTORY

Carter’s visit came in the wake of her history-making Oscar win earlier this year for her work on “Black Panther,” where she became the first black woman to receive the award for Best Costume Design.

And while Carter acknowledged the importance of her Oscar win, it was far from the focal point of her 90-minute talk.

“I’m happy that it happened for me and I’m happy that it happened for ‘Black Panther,’ and it feels like it’s the culmination of everything that I have worked hard for my entire career,” she said. “But when we made this film, we weren’t thinking about an Oscar.”



BRINGING FEMINISM TO FILM

Upon release, “Black Panther” was praised for advancing minority representation in film. Particular acclaim went toward the Dora Milaje, the female bodyguards that protect the film’s protagonist, T’Challa (Chadwick Boseman).

Carter expressed concern over the sexualization of female characters in the original “Black Panther” comics, which she argued were made “for men and boys.” Because of this, “hon-

oring the female form” became a priority for both Carter and director Ryan Coogler during the film’s production.

“We didn’t want to ignore ‘sexy,’ but we [also] didn’t want to exploit,” Carter said. “We helped shift the idea of what women can look like in battle and what women can look like in superhero films.”

In doing so, Carter hoped young female viewers would

feel empowered by “Black Panther’s” female protagonists and their ability to be strong and beautiful without exposing themselves.

“I think we’re ready for women to lead,” she said. “I think continually seeing the same images of someone of the ‘weaker sex’ is a little bit out of date, and I think that’s why it was important that we push women forward into the foreground.”

Ruth Carter talks ‘Black Panther’

DEVELOPING WAKANDA’S ROOTS

Rather than discussing the film’s critical or commercial honors, Carter focused on its African roots and how that contributed to its cultural success.

“We have to retrain our eyes to accept the beauty in others, in other tribes, in other things that we don’t necessarily know or recognize,” she said. “That was our intent.”

To prepare for the approximately 700 costumes she would ultimately design for the film, Carter immersed herself in extensive research on African culture, which provided inspiration for the film’s five Wakandan tribes.

Much of her process involved modernizing traditional African wardrobe to emphasize Wakanda’s status as a “forward-thinking nation” while keeping it grounded in African roots. One of the ways in which she maintained this balance was by updating the titular character’s suit from its appearance in “Captain America: Civil War.” Carter developed an “Okavango” triangle pattern on the Black Panther suit, which paid homage to the sacred geometry of Africa.

“It was an incredible opportunity and honor to take traditional costumes from Africa and infuse it in a superhero model,” Carter said.

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Looking forward, Carter explained how “Black Panther” is significant in continuing conversations about embracing culture. She said the film contributes to the afrofuturism movement, an art form that intersects science-fictional elements with those of black history and culture.

“It’s the opportunity to project or to show, in a futuristic model, something that is based on culture,” she said. “It doesn’t necessarily mean that it’s African culture... It just means you take your culture and you reimagine it in a futuristic way.”

PERSISTENT PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

In spite of her optimism on stage, Carter said she experienced difficult moments during the production of “Black Panther.” Occasional wardrobe malfunctions warranted makeshift costume designs on Carter’s part, including a headdress designed from a Pier 1 Imports placemat and a fur cape that attached to actor Winston Duke via refrigerator magnets.

But perhaps even more challenging was working with a crew of individuals with experience on previous superhero films, only for the entire team to quit halfway through pre-production.

“I suddenly was faced with my ex-

perienced half moving on, and I’m completely disarmed,” she said.

Having never worked on a superhero film before — or one on “Black Panther’s” scale, for that matter — Carter initially felt overwhelmed. But she ultimately found strength in the realization that artistic ability out-

ranks experience.

“I’ve been dressing superheroes my whole career,” she said, referencing several of the biopics on which she’s worked over the years. “Malcolm X was a superhero. Martin Luther King was a superhero. Tina Turner was a superhero.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTIN PENROSE

Penrose volunteers as part of her community service efforts for the pageant.

2018 Miss Mid-Michigan battles misconceptions about pageants

RACHEL BASELA
Contributor

In 2018, the swimsuit competition portion of the Miss America Organization was removed. Many people who follow the pageant saw this as a step in the direction of liberating women instead of judging them based on their appearance.

In the same year, Kristin Penrose, a current sophomore at Oakland University, won the title of Miss Mid-Michigan, and with her crown, moved on to tell her peers about the inclusiveness, accessibility and volunteerism that comes with competing in pageants.

Growing up, Penrose never saw herself being what she calls a “pageant girl,” but after considering the benefits of using her talents as a classically trained vocalist to win scholarship money, she made the decision to go for the crown.

Her love of music inspired her to move from the coed competitions she was doing for fun to the Miss America Organization where talent counts for 30 percent of the overall score.

After winning a few hundred dollars with her voice, she used that money to continue her vocal lessons and eventually advanced in the pageant organization to win Miss Mid-Michigan this past year.

Penrose feels pageants have been viewed as something less than empowering for women compared to what she has experienced first-hand.

“From just a simple Google search, you can find a bunch of clickbait about beauty pageant fails, and I like to clarify with people that we are a scholarship organization,” Penrose said. “I hate to see hard work get diminished based on some societal stigma.”

Penrose battled these misconceptions of pageants by describing the way in which her opinion changed through her experience.

“What I didn’t realize [about pageants] is how competitive it was, and really, every girl that is competing for the pageant in the Miss America Organization is equally as qualified to win the title,” Penrose said. “It’s not really about the image or the superficial stigma that I thought it was going to be, and that is why my idea of pageants completely changed as soon as I did one for myself. I didn’t realize how many amazing girls there were and how many backstories there were, how talented they were.”

The Miss America Organization not only focuses on talent; they judge the contestants based on poise, interviewing skills, public speaking, and health and wellness as well. Along with these criteria, Miss America also encourages their contestants to have a platform.

“My current platform is ‘Unity of Community: Outreach for At-Risk Children,’” Penrose said. “I am a board member to a local charitable organization called ROCKit, Rochester Outreach and Charity for Kids, and we have collected and distributed over 40,000 new and gently used books, almost 20,000 pieces of clothing, and over 2,000 new and gently used prom dresses for children and teens in need in the tri-county area.”

As Penrose is a sophomore studying Public Relations and Strategic Communication with a minor in Business at OU, she has taken a break from the pageant scene, but she plans to continue in the Miss America Organization in the future.

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- Across**

 - 1. Dracula’s garment
 - 5. Short letters
 - 10. Society gals
 - 14. Aloud
 - 15. Not together
 - 16. Thought
 - 17. 0.039 inches
 - 19. Bound
 - 20. Wind dir.
 - 21. Lincoln’s coin
 - 22. Seventh planet
 - 24. Brief
 - 26. Group of eight
 - 28. Speech-maker
 - 31. Supernatural
 - 35. Turnpike fee
 - 38. Sci-fi weapons
 - 40. ____ snail’s pace (2 wds.)
 - 41. Dozing one
 - 43. Sleazier
 - 45. Sunday seat
 - 46. Manor
 - 48. Gifts to charity
 - 49. Carbonated beverages
 - 51. Supermarket rows
 - 53. Beatle Ringo ____
 - 55. Pursue
- Down**

 - 1. Tailed celestial body
 - 2. Ascend
 - 3. More colorless
 - 4. House wing
 - 5. Title
 - 6. Frank
 - 7. Skin drawings
 - 8. Lyrical “before”
 - 9. Swagger
 - 10. Expand
 - 11. Eve’s home
 - 12. Suitor
 - 13. Exhausts
 - 18. Froster
 - 23. ____ Witherspoon of “Just Like Heaven”
 - 25. Lone
 - 27. Tops of waves
 - 29. Pub orders
 - 30. Tooth deposit
 - 32. Racetrack fence
 - 33. Detail
 - 34. Corn spikes
 - 35. Recipe units (abbr.)
 - 36. Bread topping
 - 37. Bawdy
 - 39. Stagger
 - 42. Basil sauce
 - 44. Sprint
 - 47. Cost of a plane ticket
 - 50. Facet
 - 52. Unbleached color
 - 54. Mature
 - 56. Excuse
 - 57. Mister (Sp.)
 - 58. ____ out (narrowly defeated)
 - 59. At that time
 - 60. Barely cooked
 - 61. Eye part
 - 63. Adrift
 - 64. Common contraction
 - 68. Neither’s partner
 - 69. Angry crowd

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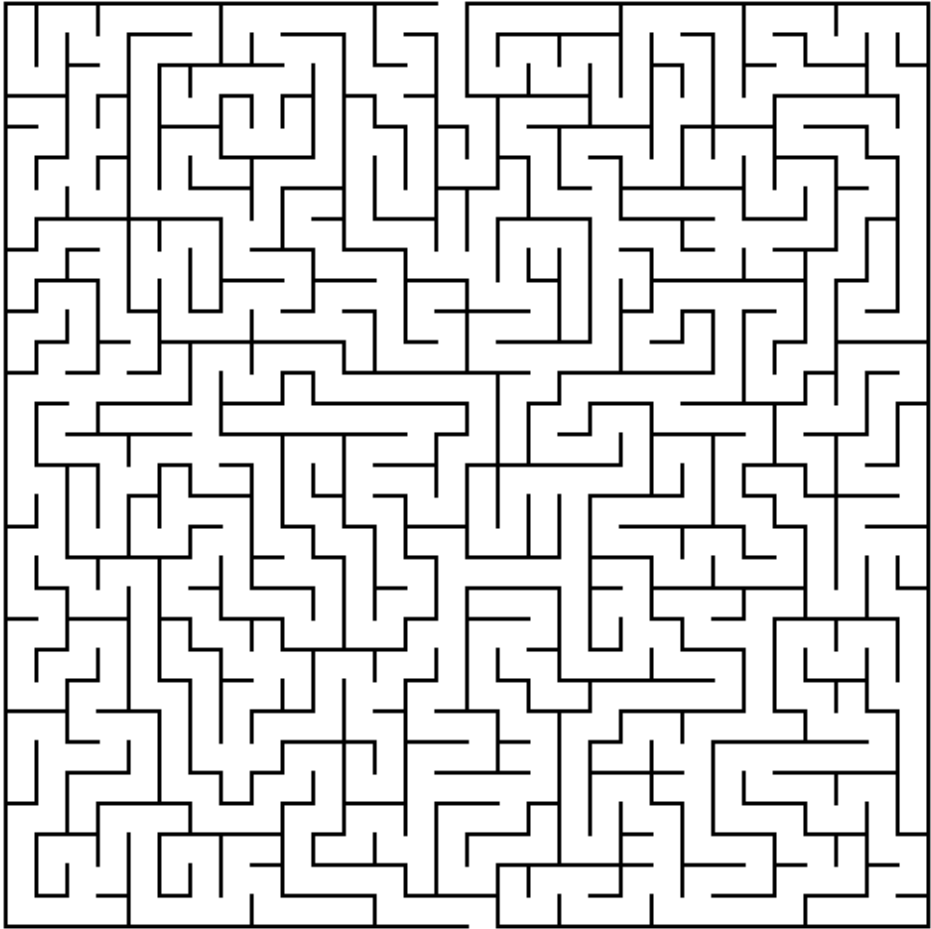
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The views expressed in Opinion do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

Here's a tirade about Trump believing sounds cause cancer



BEN HUME
Staff Reporter

I cannot believe I have come to the point in my life where political opinion coverage includes clarifying wind turbines do not cause cancer, but hey, it makes for a good send-off into the sum-

mer, so here goes.

At the National Republican Congressional Committee's annual spring dinner, President Donald Trump claimed the noise wind turbines produce causes cancer.

They don't. Clicking any of the first five results on a casual Google search will immediately prove his claim wrong. Whether Trump is the dumbest human to become our commander in chief or he's trying to slander renewable energy, it doesn't matter.

Every other week has been an attempt at defending logic, statistics and reasoning when it comes to analyzing the word vomit that comes out of Trump's mouth. I try my very best to hold myself to a higher standard and do adequate research into all of the reasons Trump's rhetoric is dangerous to our country and the world.

I really do want to be the better person, but this pushed me too far. Arguing against a claim this stupid would be a waste of my time and yours.

So instead of finding scientific articles,

political responses and expert opinions, I'm going to give my two cents about our very own president of the United States.

Like I said, whether or not he is stupid on purpose is irrelevant to the effects his rhetoric has. When you're the president, an individual in a position of authority and regularly a man of high standards, common people take your words seriously. And in Trump's case, when he claims sound causes cancer, some people laugh, but some listeners really take it to heart. Especially if they already despise renewable energy.

Now loving coal because you think renewable energy is the spawn of hell, that's one thing. But say the president thinks everyone with a certain skin tone is less than human, saying "these aren't people, these are animals" when talking about Mexicans and other Central Americans. And let's just say that, hypothetically, there are already a large number of people in the United States who were already predisposed to hating minorities. Now the same idiots who believed wind turbines are go-

ing to kill them believe there is an army of brown people marching across the border to take their livelihoods.

And the man in the oval office encouraged them.

Every new idiotic sound byte desensitizes us to what should be expected from our country's leader, but the cost of normalizing this behavior really adds up. One day, it's laughing at the Green New Deal, the next, Miami is underwater. One day, we're putting asylum seekers into "temporary" tent cities, the next, the Mexican border becomes the new 38th parallel. These small things get worse, and words have consequences.

The temptation is to just give up and assume no one will care about the heinous garbage Trump says, and if you can't tell by the tone of this piece, I don't blame a single person who thinks this way. But when too many of us begin to tune him out, that's the moment when Trump's hateful words become the strongest.

Our nation will be run by the morons that love him most.

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‘Shazam!’: A wonderfully lighthearted superhero romp

PATRICK SULLIVAN
Web Editor

When the first trailer for “Shazam!” dropped, and we saw Zachary Levi in a brightly colored suit flossing on camera, there was plenty of reason to be skeptical. The track record DC Comics movies had also worked against the movie, with only one movie since 2013 getting a ‘Certified Fresh’ rating out of the franchise.

“Shazam!” thankfully breaks the mold, not just for the DC Extended Universe, but also for superhero movies across the board.

Levi plays the magical hero Shazam, while also channeling the 14-year-old Billy Batson (Asher Angel), and Levi is honestly the best part of this movie. In every scene he is in you can see the behavior and mannerisms that a teenager would have projected through the 38-year-old. Similar to Hugh Jackman as Wolverine and Ryan Reynolds as Deadpool, after seeing Levi on-screen, I can’t picture another actor playing Shazam.

Playing alongside Levi is Jack Dylan Grazer, who portrays Levi’s handicapped foster brother, Freddy Freeman. Grazer and Levi are the main protagonists of the film, and are the only characters that have a real arc throughout. Child actors can definitely



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

Zachary Levi (left) plays everyone’s favorite hero, Shazam!, in DC’s newest action flick.

make or break a film, but Grazer did an amazing job.

The movie’s antagonist, Dr. Sivana (played by Mark Strong) was motivated by a childhood obsession of obtaining the power of Shazam. Strong never really went beyond the campy super villain character he started as, which I thought was fine. Strong dove headfirst into the role and did fantastic, which isn’t really surprising

considering Strong has played the villain role in seemingly every movie he’s ever been in.

Unlike other superhero movies where the plot is the main focus and the humor is complementary to the story, “Shazam!’s” humor is the backbone and focus of the movie. The film doesn’t take itself too seriously, and the script was tight enough to flawlessly mix telling a story with a near

constant barrage of jokes.

About a third of the way into the movie, there was a scene where Shazam and Freddy took Billy’s newly obtained powers for a spin, and the three minute montage that follows is absolutely hilarious. That scene segways into problems Freddy is having at school with two bullies, and the movie flows seamlessly between these scenes that have extremely different tones.

There was only one example of an awkward tonal shift in the movie, in a scene toward the beginning that featured Strong and Strong’s father in the boardroom of Sivana Sr.’s company. Without spoiling much, that part of the movie was excellent in its visuals and the fear it provoked, but the scene felt out of place in comparison to the rest of the movie.

The film’s score was the only part of the movie that was unremarkable, however it didn’t stand out as bad. Outside of a few pop songs that were great additions, the music didn’t jump out, but it did what it needed to.

Overall, “Shazam!” is a fantastic movie, and I’m eagerly waiting for when we can see more of Levi on the big screen.

Rating: 4/5 stars

This ain’t your grandma’s country song

Lil Nas X’s new song, “Old Town Road” has caused much controversy in the music world

MICHAEL PEARCE
Sports Editor

Debate began on the internet over the viral trap/country sensation “Old Town Road” by Lil Nas X when Billboard removed the song from the country charts, claiming it does not “embrace enough elements of country music today.”

The song reached the Spotify No. 3 spot on the Top 100 as of April 8, and due to the virality of the lyrics, has become incredibly popular.

While “Old Town Road” may sound different than the typical country music, it still falls under the umbrella of country. The problem with Billboard removing this song from their charts is the way it puts artists and their music into boxes, where many songs can fall under multiple genres’ umbrellas.

Despite having a trap or hip-hop style of beat, “Old Town Road” has primarily country lyrics. Talking about his Wrangler jeans, matte black cowboy hat, boots and riding his horse till he just can’t anymore. I can’t think of much more “country” lyrics than that.

Lil Nas X has been very outspoken about this issue, posting a picture of the headline stating his song was removed from the country charts with the caption “extremely disappointed.”

In response to this controversy, Lil Nas X teamed up with Billy Ray Cyrus to release a remix of the song, which reached No. 1 on iTunes streaming the day it was released. Cyrus was

outspoken about the song not being considered country, tweeting, “It was so obvious to me after hearing the song just one time. I was thinking, what’s not country about it?”

Removing a song the artist intended to be part country because it does not “fit the elements of today’s country music” is problematic. It forces artists to fit into a box or mold of what typical country should be, which limits creativity and growth. If artists are subject to Billboard’s definition of what a genre is, they lose some of their creative freedom.

At one point in music history, rap music was very methodical. It was much slower with less creative beats and not as much influence from the pop genre. It was very distinct, on its own island. Nowadays, artists like Drake, Post Malone and Juice WRLD are blurring the lines between pop and rap, incorporating more lyrics and melodies in their songs.

This is a positive thing for the rap industry, which is one of the most popular genres in the country because of its variety and palatability. A 13-year-old girl can enjoy a more lyrical song on a Drake album, and a 50-year-old “old head” man can enjoy the more traditional rap-sounding song that immediately follows it.

Country music could benefit from this sort of evolution, an evolution Lil Nas X is attempting to start with blurring the line between country and trap, which is a very distinct line right now.

Country has a stereotype, a negative view among many



PHOTO COURTESY OF NYMAG.COM

Lil Nas X created the next generation of country music.

young people for being the same song over and over again. While that is incorrect, appealing to a wider audience would benefit the genre tremendously.

What Billboard needs to understand is with the internet-fueled boom of the music industry, music is evolving into newer and better forms. Music like “Old Town Road” is important to grow a genre and incorporate more people into country music, and it’s a shame Billboard can’t see that.

What do the following spaces have in common?

Choose one answer.

- ☐ a. the spaces are not classrooms
- ☐ b. the spaces are not appropriate for test taking
- ☐ c. students with disabilities have taken tests in the spaces
- ☐ d. all of the above



ANSWER: d

The Time for a Testing Center is NOW

Earlier this year Oakland University announced plans to renovate two of its oldest buildings: South Foundation Hall and Wilson Hall. With money allocated from the state, the renovations will alleviate serious shortages in existing classroom space. This is also an excellent opportunity to address another serious shortcoming: the University's Disability Support Services (DSS). The current DSS office in does not have the facilities to serve all the 600+ students who deserve accommodations. Originally conceived for a much smaller student population, the DSS facilities have not grown with the university's expansion over the past 20 years. Currently, some students are redirected to seek accommodations in academic departments, where they may or may not exist. According to an AAUP faculty survey, "It is nearly impossible to accommodate students who need time-and-a-half on exams without compromising their rights and privacy."

Our students need a centralized, appropriate location for alternative testing. Under current practices students have to negotiate a maze of practices depending on the course they are taking. A student enrolled in a Math or Art History class may take an exam in a quiet, monitored space, but their Economics or Spanish teacher may have to place them in a storage closet or hallway for testing, if those option are even available. The ad hoc nature of this system places enormous burdens on the students who are most in need of help. One such student, Jeffrey Shank, talks about how DSS services, including appropriate space and proctoring accommodations, are needed in order to help him "feel like it is an even playing field". At this time, when Oakland is addressing shortcomings with large-scale renovations, there needs to be a commitment to shoring up this problem so that students who need help know they have a reliable and consistent place to turn.

15th OU Night at Comerica Park coming in August

All are welcome to connect with Oakland alumni while watching the Detroit Tigers

ALYSSA OCHSS
Staff Reporter

Baseball season is in full swing for the Detroit Tigers, and Oakland University spirit is as well. OU Night at Comerica Park comes back August 8 to help alumni get reconnected while watching the Tigers play against the Kansas City Royals.

The Oakland University Alumni Association's (OUAA) OU Night at Comerica Park started off as just a pregame get together. It grew into a full day when the Tigers started a college series, which gave a day to colleges and universities in Michigan. This gave the Office of Alumni Engagement an opportunity to combine its pregame festivities with a day dedicated to OU

pride and spirit.

Last year, around 600 to 700 people came to the event, but up to 1,400 people have attended in the past, according to Erin Sudrovech, OU director of alumni engagement. Students from the university will be picked to sing the national anthem as well as throw the first pitch.

It's now the 15th consecutive year this event at Comerica has been put on, and not only does it help alumni get reconnected to the university, but it helps to fund scholarships.

Sudrovech said the ticket sales help to fund at least a dozen scholarships. For every ticket sold, the Tigers will donate toward OU scholarships, including the Keeper of the Dream award (the OUAA is a sponsor) and a legacy scholar-

“If you have a connection to Oakland, come out and have fun. Over the last three or four years, it has broadened to become a university event.”

ERIN SUDROVECH
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

ship for students who have OU alumni family members.

“Our main objective is to engage people and get people connected back to the university,” Sudrovech said. “This is a fun way to do it.”

This event is not just for alumni, but for students to bring their friends and family to enjoy a Tigers game and

help celebrate Oakland pride. Sudrovech said this has shown in the last couple of years as it has grown to include all people.

“If you have a connection to Oakland, come out and have fun...” Sudrovech said. “Over the last three or four years, it has broadened to become a university event.”

The OUAA board members are OU graduates, including vice chair Mark Guthrie. He said he introduces his sons to the campus often, and the OU Night at Comerica Park is an important tradition.

Guthrie said he is thankful for what the university gave to him when he was an undergraduate and graduate student. This is what compelled him to get involved in OU again and help other alumni get involved as well.

Guthrie said he wants to emphasize OU Night at Comerica Park is not just an alumni only event, and the OUAA is in the students' hands.

“This is your alumni association,” Guthrie said. “Make it what you want it to be.”

The Oakland Night at Comerica Park will be held August 8 at 7:10 p.m. There is a commemorative hat included, but you must buy the OU package to receive a voucher for the hat. The hat won't be included through regular box office ticket purchases.

The pregame for the event will be held in Blue Moon Brew House, where hats will be given out at a pit stop area.

Tickets are now available on the MLB website. For more information, visit the Facebook event page.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Softball

The softball team faced off against the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames this weekend in a three-game series. The Golden Grizzlies won both games of the Saturday doubleheader, and won the series 2-1.

After a 10-0 loss on Friday, the team rebounded to win the early game 7-6 and the later game by a 5-0 margin. In the closeout game, Lauren DeBono pitched a seven inning shutout, only allowing three total hits. This win moved her record on the season to 3-2. In addition to only allowing three hits, she struck out seven batters and only walked two.

The Golden Grizzlies got all of their offense in this closeout game from Jamie Squires and Mikayela Marciniak. Both scored two runs, and Squires was able to reach home on a wild pitch for the fifth run of the game. Squires went 2-2 at the plate, and Marciniak went 2-3.

This win gave the softball team their first series win in Horizon League play this year. Prior to this series the team was 1-7 in conference play, and after the series win their record was improved to 3-8 on the season.

They resume Horizon League play after a Tuesday doubleheader against Toledo when they travel

to Indianapolis to take on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Jaguars this weekend. The Jaguars are 6-1 in league play, and currently the No. 1 team in the Horizon League.

Baseball

Beau Keathley struck out eight batters and only allowed one hit as the baseball team closed out a weekend series against the Milwaukee Panthers. The 3-1 victory closed out the third straight series victory in Horizon League play for the Oakland baseball team.

Despite giving up one run, Keathley still was credited for zero earned runs, as the lone Milwaukee run scored in the sixth inning was unearned. He pitched seven innings before turning it over to Austin Sherry, who closed the door on the Panthers, allowing zero hits and striking out four batters, which earned him his second save of the season.

Myles Zilinsky carried the load offensively for Oakland, recording two RBIs on a walk and a single. Blake Griffith also scored a run on a walk, one of five walks that Milwaukee starting pitcher Mike Edwards gave up.

The next opponent for the Golden Grizzlies is Wright State University, as the team travels to Dayton to take on the Raiders in another Horizon League series. Oakland will look to win their fourth straight series against a Horizon League opponent.

Women's Golf

The women's golf team traveled to Bowling Green to take place in the Dolores Black Falcon Invitational. The golf team was able to take first place at the event, scoring an event-low 592, good for +16 on the weekend.

Maddie Zack, Veronica Haque and Alexis Jones led the golf team to a first place finish, all scoring under a 150 in the two-round invitational. Zack shot the lowest score for the team, recording a 71 in the second round. Her 71 was tied for the best round of any golfer in both rounds.

The golf team looks to take this momentum into the Horizon League championship, which starts Friday, April 21 and ends Sunday, April 23.

Compiled by Michael Pearce,
Sports Editor

Oakland Baseball wins 12-5 against Milwaukee

DEVIN BOATWRIGHT
Staff Reporter

After a demoralizing 15-1 loss against the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers, the Golden Grizzlies fought back on Saturday, April 6 to split the series with a 12-5 win.

The first inning set the tempo for Oakland as they went up 3-1. The pitcher, Andrew Hoffman, freshman for the Golden Grizzlies, posted a career high nine strikeouts in five innings. Senior Cameron Fuller also had a great day on the mound as he recorded five strikeouts in the last four innings of the game.

Hoffman expressed his confidence in his pitching after the win, which he felt was top-level.

"This is the best I've felt all year," Hoffman said. "Throwing change-ups and fastballs, trying to mix everything into the game and it turned out well."

The Golden Grizzlies broke through in the third inning, scoring nine runs in total, almost batting through the entire lineup twice. The Black and Gold had



RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

The Golden Grizzlies took on the Panthers in a double header, splitting it 1-1.

scored nine runs in a single inning for the second time in the last three games.

Ronnie Krsolovic hit a three-run home run, and Matt Dileo hit an RBI double and two-run single. Redshirt sophomore

Blake Griffith was the driving force in the third inning, hitting a three-run home run and recording five RBI's in total.

"I was hitting the ball well," Griffith said. "I was just trying to get a good swing

and drive some runs home, and thankfully that's the way things turned out."

Co-Head Coach Colin Kaline felt great about the game and was happy the team bounced back after a tough loss. He also feels the nine-run inning was a huge boost in morale going forward.

"It feels really good to get a win, especially after getting beaten pretty badly in game one," Kaline said.

"We talk to our guys all the time about winning conference series, and we needed to win this game to have a chance at winning the series, so we feel pretty good about it," Kaline said. "As far as the third inning, what was really important is the team morale we gained from it. Not having scored very many runs in the first game, just proving to themselves that we are still in this. On the flip side, that inning was demoralizing for the Panthers, especially since they went up big early in the first game, so to be successful out there today was huge for us."

The Golden Grizzlies closed out the series against Milwaukee on Sunday April 7 with a 3-1 victory.

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IMPORTANT DATE

- **April 15** — payment due date

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Payment
Due

LEARN how to avoid cancellation (drop) at oakland.edu/financialservices

So, so, so, so sincerely sorry about this

ALYSAA OCHSS
Staff Reporter

Sorry, but this is going to be a long one. My sorry problem has gotten so bad that I need sorry counters to keep me in check.

Every day, I watch as the sorry counter on The Oakland Post's board creeps even higher. Every day, my hopes are dashed as I realize there may never be a "cure" for erasing this word from my vocabulary. The word "sorry" is as ingrained into my mind as "hello" is to most people.

Something that's out of my control: sorry. I bump into a chair: sorry. Someone is upset for a reason not of my doing: sorry. This constant logorrhea of saying sorry has pushed me to my breaking point, and I am taking matters into my own hands.

This is a list I have compiled of ways to not say sorry all the damn time.

Have someone punch you

No joke, my friend does this all the time. If I say sorry even one time, she will punch me in the shoulder or poke me in the side. The sharp pain that reverberates through my body reminds me not to say sorry and keeps me from saying it the next time.

However, this method does give me some bruising by the end of the day.

Spray yourself with water

Every time you say sorry, just spray yourself with a bit of water. Like a cat, it will make you second guess your life decisions and make you afraid to say sorry ever again. Other catlike tendencies that occur may be the sudden urge to lick yourself clean, purring constantly and rubbing against your best friend looking for pets.

Constantly eat food

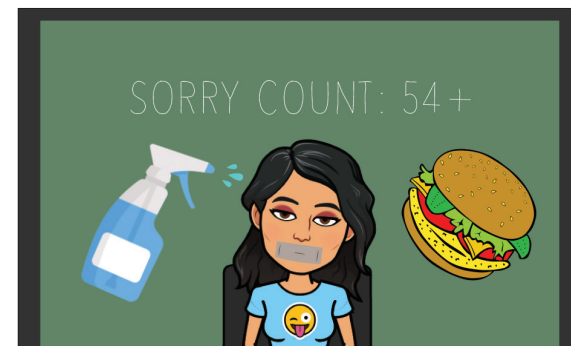
With a hunk of pasta, meat or — my favorite — sushi in your mouth all the time, you won't have the time or patience to say sorry. Any "sorry" you say, or other word for that matter, would come out as a garbled mess and no one will know what you're saying.

By the end, patience will run thin with your constant string of messy metaphors and mime like instructions. Just don't accidentally spit in someone's face. They won't thank you for that.

Establish a sorry count...then a swear jar

Start at number one and feel proud of yourself that you only have one sorry up there. Then watch as the sorry count grows steadily and steadily and steadily, until you reach 100. You'll suddenly ask yourself, "What have I done with my life to get to this point?"

How could I forget, every time you say sorry, you accidentally let out a string of cuss words. If you thought college was expensive, now you'll be hundreds of dollars in debt to your coworkers, friends or



PRAKHYA CHILUKURI | GRAPHIC ASSISTANT
And if none of this works, just abstain from speaking for life.

family because of that damned sorry jar.

Tape your mouth shut

Hello, you've reached method number five, and if you're here, I don't know what to tell you. Perhaps you're doomed forever to keep saying sorry for things you have no control over and bumping into inanimate objects. At this point, just tape your mouth shut so you don't have to hear yourself utter that single, cursed word ever again. It will help to avoid the sorry count, water sprays, punches and eating too much.

Seriously, if you have a sore sorry subject, then seek help. If you didn't find this article helpful or humorous, sorry about that.


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