

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

JANUARY

04

— 2012 —

TOP 11 OF 2011



*Pages 12
and 13*



CAMPUS NEW PROGRAM PROVIDES JOB OPPORTUNITIES **PAGE 7**

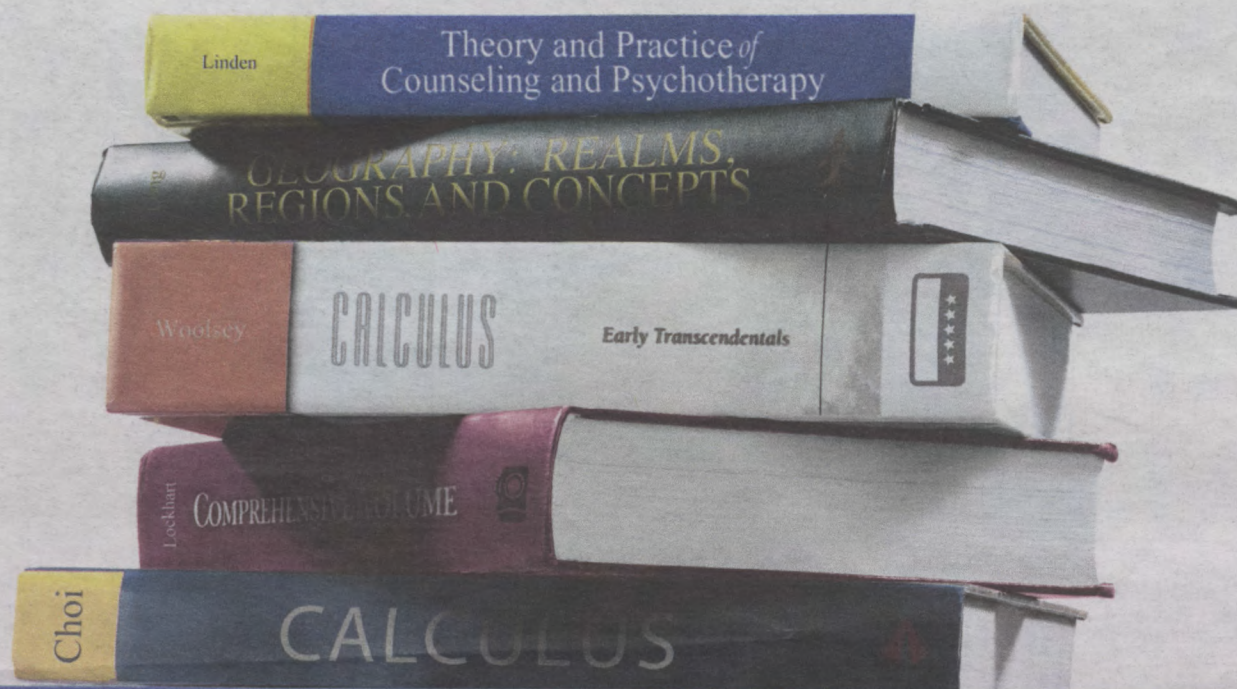
LOCAL PROFESSOR RUNS FOR U.S. CONGRESS **PAGE 16**

SPORTS GOLDEN GRIZZLIES HEADLINE CAN GO THERE **PAGE 21**

Surviving break
on a closed
campus
PAGE 21

Republican
candidates
ready to rumble
PAGE 24

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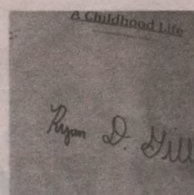
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thisweek

January 4, 2012 // Volume 38, Issue 17



ontheweb

Student hand writes over 1,000 Christmas cards, writes an autobiography of his life story

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WXOU HOSTS MEN'S BASKETBALL TAILGATE // Before the men's basketball team played (and lost 89-80) against Oral Roberts Tuesday night, WXOU hosted a tailgate outside the O'rena. The directly-funded organization provided pizza and pop for fans before the rivalry game. This game was the last time OU would compete against the team in Summit League Conference play. *SIERRA SOLEIMANI // The Oakland Post*

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

How many men's basketball games do you attend each season?

- A** All of them — I'm a super fan.
- B** 5-10 — I only go on occasion.
- C** 0-5 — I only go when there's free stuff.
- D** 0 — The Grizzlies are boring.

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

JANUARY 7, 2004

Two Detroit men were arrested for an armed robbery that occurred in an OU dorm on Dec. 2, 2003. Stolen items include a laptop and cell phone.

The men's basketball team lose to Valparaiso University by three points to record their 11th straight loss against the team.

OU's Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia was named no. 6 in the U.S. 2004 edition of "U.S. News and World Reporter's America's Best Graduate Schools."

JANUARY 9, 2008

The OU basketball team teamed up with Nike to test prototype uniforms. The durability of the new, tighter uniforms were tested for an entire season.

A new female clothing line called "Grizz Girl" was introduced at the bookstore. The new line offered new colors such as pink, green and blue. Students were invited to share future clothing ideas.

The reference area in Kresge library undergoes renovations and receives 16 computers, new desks, chairs and Microsoft Office Suite.

JANUARY 7, 2009

Royal Park Hotel in Rochester announced its partnership with OU. The partnership made the hotel the official university conference center.

Student Body President Dan Evola and his bandmates play the opening spot of the 89X New Year's Eve Rock 'n' Roll Bash after winning the spot in a battle of the bands contest.



9

CAMPUS

Student creates website for OU students that allows them to buy and sell books, rate professors share notes and earn points by participating through one comprehensive site.



11

CAMPUS

For 40 years the British studies at Oxford program has sent OU students to study in Oxford, England. Students are allowed to travel on their own during the weekends.



24

LIFE

A Michigan native created, composed and wrote the Broadway play "Nunsense." His play, based on real experiences, will be at Meadow Brook Theatre until Jan. 29.

BY THE NUMBERS

213,464

Number of credits taken in the fall semester

17

Number of students aged 15-16

232

Number of students from out of state

11,876

Number of female students at OU

382

Number of students from foreign countries

STAFF EDITORIAL

Cheers to the new year

It's no doubt that 2011 was a significant year at Oakland University. With the myriad of national and local attention we received, as well as the variety of on and off campus events we had, we can only hope that 2012 will be just as favorable.

While we may not be looking forward to the proposed "end of the world" as the Mayan calendar suggests, we are looking forward to some notable OU advancements:

The opening of the human health building. The 161,000-square-foot Human Health Building is scheduled to finish before the end of the year. The building, which will be home to the School of Health Sciences and the School of Nursing, was first approved in 2008. The \$62 million building, which was paid for via grants, state funding and general revenue bonds, will include a geothermal heat pump system and will be the first "green" building on campus.

More student housing. An unexpected increase of demand left many students without dorm rooms at the start of the fall semester. After 100 male students were placed in hotel rooms at a local hotel, administrators began to develop plans for an additional housing facility. The city of Auburn Hills also approved and have be-

We're hoping that having a concrete identity will help abolish second thoughts of the school as a university and a place to get a credible college diploma.

gun constructing a facility for graduate students from OU, Cooley Law School and Oakland Community College. The building, which will be located in downtown Auburn Hills, will include 97 units, an attached parking garage and a separate study facility. The building, which is being paid by the city and a private contracting company, is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

The remodeling of O'Dowd hall. The building, notably known for its glassy exterior, will be remodeled beginning this year to fix problems with air and water leaks. Costing less than \$6 million, it will go through an entire transformation with hopes to increase its energy conservation measures.

The development of a new engineering building. At the last Board of Trustees meeting, a budget of \$60 million was passed for the development of a new engineering building. The building is ex-

pected to double the amount of engineering students enrolled in the school.

Our new redesign. In case you haven't noticed, Oakland Post staffers have been working hard to redesign the newspaper, paying close attention to the things you want most. After receiving input and conducting focus groups, we are pleased to present our new look, complete with a brand new staff.

The development of the OU brand. After two large-scale branding focus groups, two 4-credit courses and many ideas, the main thing we're looking forward this year is the launch and implementation of the university's new brand. We're hoping that having a concrete identity will help abolish second thoughts of the school as a university and place to get a credible college diploma. We're hoping it will not only drive more enrolment, but create a sense of campus community and a place for Grizzlies to call home.

Now that 2012 is upon us, what are you looking forward to most on campus? Visit us on our website at www.oaklandpostonline.com to let us know.

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

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



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Letters to the Editor

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



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OUSC: 'Fall semester was historic'

Student Congress President and Vice President reflect on 2011, look forward to next semester

The Eveslage/Malile administration of the Oakland University Student Congress thanks its staff and the Student Body for a successful fall semester in 2011. Looking forward, OU Student Congress has stocked the Winter 2012 calendar and we are currently setting our focus on new student services and initiatives.

Reflecting on a historic fall semester

Since the summer semester, your Congress members have been instrumental in bargaining for the 24-hour Kresge Library and extended hours in the library's café.

In conjunction with the Student Activities Funding Board (which funds all of the student organizations at OU), Student Congress has fought for and received reduced prices on the most popular catering items from Chartwells, especially for student organizations.

As many are aware, Student Congress is a voice for the students. With this in mind, we were sure to maintain a respected and impactful voice for the students through our student initiatives in the summer and fall 2011 semesters. A large thanks goes to our dedicated student services department and all those who supported the Student Body in these positive changes for student life.



BEN EVESLAGE
ELISA MALILE
OUSC President
and Vice President

A memorable series of Fall 2011 events lined the OU calendar, which we won't soon forget. These events included "The Madnezz" BYOB Tailgate, the futbol and basketball tailgate, the speaking engagement with Post Secret's Frank Warren attracting 600 students, the talk by Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf (who was named a "Time 100" for 2011) as part of the Middle Eastern Mosaic series of events, and the politically inspiring events: Rock4Rights and "Your Voice Heard Live" in association with the Republican Presidential Debate on campus this past November.

These historic achievements and events are the pride of Oakland University and are close to our hearts here at Student Congress.

If you are a student that shares a passion for excellence and service, make your mark here at Oakland by joining a student organization or Student Congress and be a part of leading the Student Body.

It's a great time to be a student at Oakland, but it is also what you make of it. If your interests lead you to Student Congress, make your way to the re-designed OU Student Congress office in the lower level of the Oakland Center to learn more about leadership and involvement opportunities.

A peak into what's coming

The successful events and services of the past fall semester, in conjunction with a re-vamped marketing and graphics plan is leading Student Congress

into a refreshed New Year.

In the coming weeks, Congress will be laying the foundation for the focus for the winter 2012 semester: student services.

Initiatives like the "Government Outreach Proposal" which seeks to create a cooperative organization between the Political Science Department, OU's Government Outreach Office, and OU Student Congress to create a stronger network of student involvement in politics and government. Also, a partnership is already underway with Cooley Law School for providing free legal-aid services for OU students.

Also, discussions about implementing an inter-faith center on campus is being furthered by planned OU Student Congress events: a trip to the Bahai Faith Center in February and a proposed event with Tibetan monks in March.

The Homecoming weekend and BYOB Tailgate hosted by OU Student Congress, the 15th annual "OU Day at the Capitol" event, and OUSC elections will also be sure to add to the excitement of the New Year.

OU Student Congress and the leadership from the Eveslage/Malile administration are at your service.

Please let us know if you have an idea that will benefit the students at OU and how we can work to make your "Oakland Experience" a proud one.

Ben Eveslage is the current Student Congress President. You can email him at bsevela@oakland.edu

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New program provides job opportunities

OU offers new financial planning certification program

By Raymond Andre
Senior Reporter

A 2011 National Foundation for Credit Counseling survey of financial literacy found that of 1,010 adults surveyed, 73 percent were concerned they would not be able to manage their finances while 76 percent said they would likely benefit by receiving financial advice.

Oakland University, like many U.S. colleges offers personal financial planning courses, training professionals to meet investment, retirement and tax planning needs.

For 17 years, OU has provided a certification program aimed to prepare potential advisers for the Certified Financial Planner exam, a mark of expertise in the financial services industry. Certification shows employers and consumers that planners have met the CFP Board's standards of ethics, education, experience and has taken an oath of fiduciary responsibility to their clients.

"(OU's) program is run as a certification in personal financial planning," Anandi P. Sahu, an economics professor and OU's Personal Financial Planner Program Director said.

Programs like the one at OU must meet CFP Board guidelines for content and meet for at least 45 hours per class.

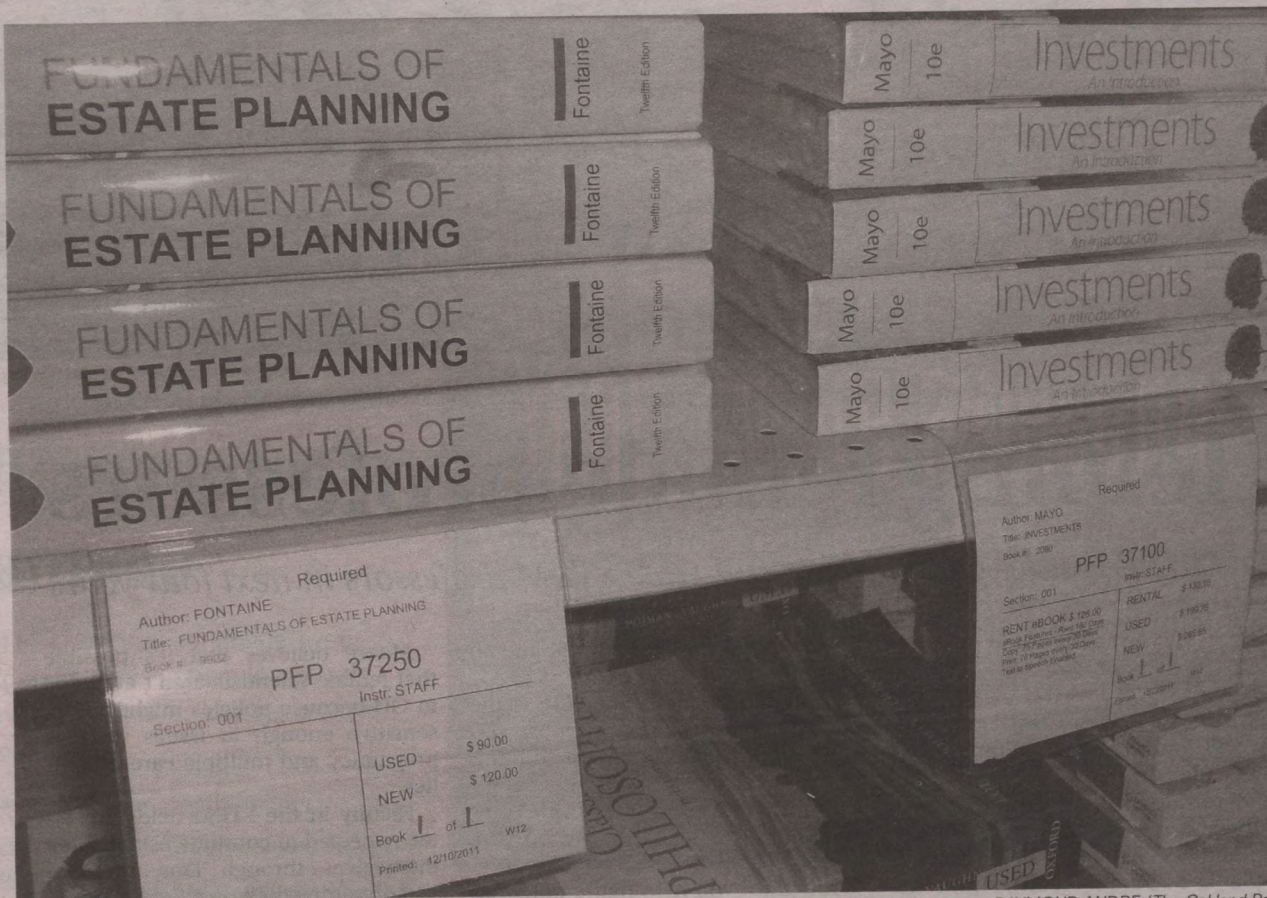
The program is divided into six courses — risk management, survey and investment, income tax, retirement and employee benefits, estate planning and case studies and financial plan development.

Each represents a pillar of investment, Sahu said, with the final course serving to test students' ability to draft a financial plan through the skills they've accumulated. All portions of the program are taught by experienced CFP professionals.

"Not like Las Vegas..."

Richard Rysiewski has been an OU adjunct professor for 17 years. He teaches the Survey and Investments course, in which students learn investment strategy, indices of inflation and performance and how to build a successful portfolio.

The CFP exam doesn't require uni-



RAYMOND ANDRE/The Oakland Post

The certification program will prepare professionals for the Certified Financial Planning Exam. This is a mark of accomplishment in the field.

"Once you receive your CFP designation, the opportunities are just tremendous."

Richard Rysiewski,
Personal Financial Planning
Adjunct Professor

versity education, but the tutelage of a professional provides a realistic picture of what to expect in the financial planning industry, Rysiewski said.

"It's just like being a doctor," he said. "You can read a textbook, but until you perform surgery, the textbook doesn't do you much."

Rysiewski said that his 30 years of investment experience, plus his successes and mistakes, help to put the risk-reward horizon in perspective.

Investment success "is not like Las Vegas" he said, where the odds are stacked against you.

"In investing, be it through stocks or bonds, you're going to have winners and you'll have losers, but you can follow principles to keep you out of harms

way."

When students finish OU's program, they receive a certificate of completion from the university, which sends a notice to the CFP Board that students have met requirements to take board's exam.

Benefits of the program

The program also provides mentoring and internship assistance from the Financial Planners Association of Michigan, the state's chapter of the professional organization.

"Once you receive your CFP designation the opportunities are just tremendous," Rysiewski said. "Other professionals recognize the effort you've put in, families are more comfortable in the hands of a certified professional."

The fiduciary oath, which places a client's interests first, Rysiewski said, reassures families.

"They don't feel like they're being sold to," he said.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which monitors employment across a spectrum of career fields, found a

steady increase in employment levels and steady wages for financial advisers.

In 2008, a BLS report showed that 46,690 employed advisers earned average annual salaries of \$92,970 in that year. Statistics for 2010 showed that 155,360 financial advisers were paid an average salary of \$91,220. Wages for the upper 25 percentile are estimated between \$111,990 and \$166,400 for each year.

"For what you put into it, six classes at about \$700 each, the return is high," Sahu said.

From buying a car and house, financing your children's college and retirement Rysiewski said, "everyone is touched by financial planning."

Application deadline for the program is Jan. 6.

For more information about applying, visit www.oakland.edu/pfp or contact pfp@oakland.edu

Contact senior reporter Raymond Andre via email at reandre@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter @RAndre_87.



MISHA MAYHAND / The Oakland Post

Kathleen Moore and Bradley Roth will increase the number of female professors in STEM departments, in which females are lacking.

Helping female professors

OU to fill gender gap between full-time STEM professors in next four years

By Misha Mayhand
Staff Intern

A team of Oakland University faculty will conduct research and implement a plan over the next four years to increase the participation of women in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics departments, in thanks to a grant received from the National Science Foundation in September 2011.

Kathleen Moore, associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences and biochemistry professor at OU, jump-started the idea after attending a workshop at Wayne State University. She and a colleague decided to submit a proposal in order begin a program like this at OU.

"It's not that we were screaming there's a problem, but when you look at the statistics, some of our departments have a good representation of women and some have none," Moore said.

Bradley Roth, a professor in the department of physics, is one of the fac-

ulty members working with Moore on this project.

According to Roth, the NSF is the main federal agency that supports science in the United States. In addition to the sciences, the NSF helps engineering fields.

"They put a high priority on (the project)," Roth said.

The grant will help figure out what can be done to enhance both the attraction of women to OU and the successful promotion to full professor.

The first year of the grant will include a "mini institutional transformation study." This means that Moore and her colleagues will gather information through surveys and focus groups to determine where women stand in OU's STEM departments.

Moore said there are women with doctorate degrees in these fields of study, but they don't represent a high number of tenure faculty.

"They are probably getting jobs but they aren't getting faculty tenure track jobs, which is really for anybody in the academic science field," Roth said.

Moore believes that it's possible that female scientists aren't attracted to OU because policies might not be sensitive enough to issues such as pregnancy and multiple career families.

Faculty in the STEM fields are often expected to continue establishing themselves through labs, research and obtaining their own funding year-round.

Moore said the university also wants to provide mentors for women interested in become tenured faculty members.

"We'll definitely need four years to get this implanted," Roth said.

Although it's a four-year grant, the university wishes to get most of the research done in the first year.

For more information about programs and available grants go to www.nsf.gov.

Contact staff intern Misha Mayhand via email at mmayhand@oakland.edu. Follow her on Twitter @Mac_MeOver.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

"Freedom from Smoking"

On Jan. 6 the six-week workshop "Freedom From Smoking" will begin. The workshop focuses on quitting smoking and working through the troubles that arise when facing temptation.

Julie Proctor, the Health and Wellness coordinator at the Graham Health Center will lead the class.

She and the participants will also discuss how to lead healthier lives with nutrition, physical activity and stress management.

Participants will purchase a \$25 workbook in order to continue overcoming their addiction while at home.

"Quitting smoking is the number one thing you can do to improve your health," Proctor said. "We all know that smoking is a risk factor for heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure... it's quite amazing how much our health can improve just by quitting smoking."

For more information or to register for the course, contact Julie Proctor at jkprocto@oakland.edu.

Guest Scholar to lecture on Arthur Miller

Playwright Arthur Miller, known for his Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1949, comes to Oakland University through a lecture by Nathan Abrams.

The lecture will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Oakland Center's Gold Rooms and is free for all students.

Abrams focuses on Miller's political and social beliefs as well as how they influenced his works.

Abrams is an author of three books and many published articles in multiple magazines and journals, including "The Journal of American Studies."

Rec Center offers free yoga and pilates classes

The Recreation Center is offering free Mind/Body Classes now through Jan. 14.

Mind/Body classes include yoga and pilates sessions, which students and faculty must normally pay for.

Students and those with a membership must bring their OU ID card.

For more information, contact the Rec Center at 248-370-4732.

Compiled by Sarah Hunton,
Campus Editor

WELCOME WEEK EVENTS

JAN. 3

5 p.m. Outside of the Rec Center: Pre-game BBQ

7 p.m. In the O'rena Men's Basketball: OU v. Oral Roberts

JAN. 4

12 p.m. In Pioneer Food Court: Aloha! Welcome Back with OU Steel Drum Band and free treats

TBD OU Fab Cab (Bear Bus Cash Cab) Continues through the week

JAN. 5

12 p.m. Lower Level of the OC: Student Orgs Open House. Free food and giveaways

7 p.m. In the O'rena: Men's Basketball: OU vs Western Illinois

JAN. 6

7 p.m. Banquet Rooms of the OC: 80's Night with an indoor Drive-in Movie featuring Back to the Future and Ferris Bueller's Day Off

JAN. 7

3:30 p.m. In the O'rena: Women's Basketball: OU vs IUPUI

6 p.m. In the O'rena Men's Basketball: OU vs Western Illinois



CHELSEA BISTUE/The Oakland Post

Biology major David Jakowenko uses multiple computers to run his OU exclusive site Fourpt.

Exclusive site offers students new online advantage

By KEVIN GRAHAM
Staff Reporter

A new website allowing students to share notes, rate their professors and buy and sell textbooks has been created by an Oakland University student.

Fourpt (pronounced "four point") was created by David Jakowenko, a senior majoring in biology. The idea is to create a platform where OU students could share their notes.

The site is a credit-based system under which students gain access to notes by contributing to the community.

"Users of Fourpt earn credits by contributing to the different areas of the website," he said. "These areas include uploading notes, rating professors, posting to the marketplace and referring friends. Completing any of these tasks earns you credits which can then be used to download notes."

Although other sites exist for getting notes and evaluating professors, Jakowenko felt that they weren't a good fit for OU's population.

He visualizes that Fourpt will end the need to visit multiple sites, to get educational information and condense it making it simpler for students.

"I wanted a one stop shop for students rather than having them go to a website for notes, a different website for professor reviews and another to sell their textbooks," he said. "Why not just combine all of those features into one?"

Melissa Brode, a senior majoring in marketing and registered user on Fourpt,

"I like how you can upload your specific class schedule and relevant information can be brought to you."

Melissa Brode — OU Student

was intrigued by the communal aspect of the site.

"I love the idea of college students being able to post notes and resources to help out their classmates," she said. "I like how you can upload your specific class schedule and relevant information can be brought directly to you."

Fourpt's marketplace allows sell their used textbooks.

"The marketplace is essentially a way to make that first email exchange," Jakowenko said. "It's then up to the students to arrange a meeting to sell their books."

In addition to the textbook marketplace, he said Fourpt will soon feature apartment listings. Other planned features include e-mail notifications for courses users take and optimization of the website for mobile phones.

The site, put up the first week of December, has around 200 members, according to Jakowenko. It is only open to OU and is still in beta testing. There are no plans to expand to other campuses at this time.

For more information, students can visit the site at www.fourpt.com.

Contact staff reporter Kevin Graham via email at kpgraham@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter @KevinGraham88.

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Winter Career Fair brings potential employers to OU

Students urged to keep their resumes current for fair

By Stephanie Preweda
Assistant Campus Editor

Oakland University will give students an opportunity to connect with companies for future employment at the 2012 Winter Career Fair which will be held in the banquet rooms upstairs in the Oakland Center on Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is free and open to all students and alumni.

The fair focuses primarily on business, liberal arts, engineering and computer science majors.

According to Michelle Serafino, career consultant and

the coordinator of the event, 50 employers are registered but she estimates to have 70 to 75 employers for the event.

With over 50 different companies present, students and alumni are given the opportunity to network and meet with various establishments for potential internships or employment opportunities.

This will not exclude freshman from the fair. First-year students are encouraged to come for the experience and to network with future employers.

"It's never too early, at the very least they get to network and get familiar with the process, at (the least) they can end up with an internship or entry level position," Serafino said.

Professional dress is required, as the objective of the career fair is to connect students and

alumni with employers for internship, part time, full time, and co-op positions.

Each employer will have a table displaying information about their company and available positions. Students and alumni are encouraged to bring a copy of their resume.

Denise McConkey is a career consultant at OU. She says she's excited about student opportunities.

"It's a good opportunity to connect with employers and learn about open positions," McConkey said.

The fair will serve as a place to let employers know what the students are looking for, and in return, help students become more involved in their major and on campus.

According to Serafino, some of the employers may have an



MISHA MAYHAND/The Oakland Post

Michelle Serafino, OU career consultant, is the coordinator of the 2012 Winter Career Fair. She urges all students to participate.

eye out for recruiting summer interns.

"We encourage students, even if they are not currently looking for a job to go," McConkey said. "(Students) learn from it so when they are ready to find a position they know what to expect and are more prepared."

The career services website offers videos on career fair suc-

cess and stand out resumes.

To see a list of employers registered, positions sought at oakland.edu/careerservices or call Michelle Serafino at 248-370-3215.

Contact Stephanie Preweda via email at sdprewed@oakland.edu. Follow her on Twitter @stephsocool.

csa@oakland.edu
248-370-2400

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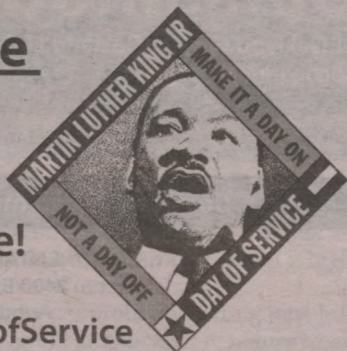
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www.oakland.edu/welcomeweek



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Photo courtesy of Brian Connery

Group photo of students at a drinks reception before the gala dinner on the last night of the program in Brasenose College.

OU students benefit from Oxford program

Study abroad opportunities arise for students in Oxford, England at Brasenose College

By Christopher Lauritsen
Staff Reporter

For 40 years, the British Studies at Oxford Program sends Oakland University students to study and stay at Brasenose College in Oxford, England.

Brasenose College was founded in 1509, and is one of 43 confederated colleges that are part of the university.

Students have a choice between five different classes to take while at Brasenose, all of which count for credit at Oakland. Most classes can be used to fulfill a general education requirement.

"This program is a really good first step for students who want to study abroad, it is an English speaking country and you are with students from Oakland University," Brian Connery, coordinator of the event, said.

The courses are a combination of lecture and tutorial, and most have a course related excursion. During the excursion, students will visit a local museum or landmark that is relevant to their

course.

"One of my favorite parts of the trip was going on excursions, like going to Stonehenge," Liane Meram, a junior who went on the trip in 2011, said.

Classes for students will run Monday through Thursday and every other Friday. During the weekends, students are free to explore England or any surrounding areas.

"A lot of students like to go to Paris or Dublin on the weekends while we are there, because they are in such close proximity to Brasenose," Connery said.

Students are provided with three meals a day Monday through Thursday. On weekends, they are provided with breakfast.

"All the dorms have great views of the campus and the dining hall looks like the one from Harry Potter," Meram said. "One of the things that made me want to go on the trip was to stay in the dorms, being a commuter you never really get an opportunity to do that."

The cost of the trip is \$5,725, which

includes tickets to the Globe Theatre in London, room and board and several activities around the campus of Oxford. However not reflected in that cost is tuition and air travel.

"It was absolutely fantastic to stay at a college with such a rich history," Rebecca VanBuskirk, a student on the 2010 trip, said.

For more information on the trip you can visit the British Studies at Oxford website at www.oakland.edu/bsop, or email Brian Connery at connery@oakland.edu.

Contact staff reporter Chris Lauritsen via email at ccklaurit@oakland.edu. Follow him on Twitter at @ChrisLauritsen



Photo courtesy of Brian Connery

Oakland University students having dinner at the dining hall at Brasenose College.

POLICE BRIEFS

Hamlin room invaded

On Dec. 3, 2011, OUPD responded to a home invasion report in Hamlin Hall. At approximately 7:00 a.m., two residents left their room and didn't recall locking their door. When the two students returned, they saw that the one had his Xbox 360, accessories and games stolen (total value of \$600), along with a HP laptop. There were no signs of forced entry. Items were entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN)

Larcenies on campus

On Dec. 8, 2011, a student filed a report of a larceny in North Hamlin Hall. The female student said that she was missing a gray dress and pair of black boots. She also stated that the last time she saw both items was approximately one week ago and noticed they were missing today. Her roommate said that a cream colored tanktop was missing as well. Students were advised to contact OUPD if any other items were missing or if their property was returned.

Cell phones stolen from Kresge

On Dec. 11, 2011, officers were dispatched to Kresge Library regarding a report that a student had his cell phone stolen from the Technical Support Desk on the second floor. The student stated that after leaving the desk momentarily, his "Epic 4G Galaxy S2" cell phone that charging was gone when he returned. The case is still under investigation.

Holiday decorations damaged at Meadow Brook Hall

On Dec. 22, 2011, a Meadow Brook Hall staff member contacted OUPD to report some damaged holiday decorations on display near Knoll Cottage. A person or persons unknown pulled up several poles with garlands and lights. They also threw a table into the woods and damaged a decorated deer. The damage was estimated to be less than \$150 total. There are no known suspects at this time.

Compiled by Kevin Romanchick,
Sports Editor

TOP 11 OF 2011

11.

Big name speakers on campus

Post Secret founder Frank Warren, filmmaker Michael Moore and humanist Richard Dawkins all visited campus this year, but they didn't come without controversy. Warren, who founded the website postsecret.com, spoke to a sold out audience on Sept. 21, telling stories and allowing students to publicly share their secrets.

Moore stopped at OU on Nov. 30 to promote his new book "Here Comes Trouble." He lectured about the Occupy movement and the auto company bailouts. He also shared his views on how to eliminate student debt. During his speech, the Michigan native said the debt should not exist because school should be free like it is in Europe.

By Nichole Seguin and Megan Semeraz
Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor
Design by Rifath Hoque
Photos from Oakland Post archives

The year 2011 was a notable year for Oakland University. While there were many activities that occurred on campus, a few events stood out the most. The Oakland Post editorial board has compiled a list of the Top 11 headlines of the year.



10.

Men's basketball further establishing its name

After winning the Summit League Championship for the second year in a row, the men's basketball team earned a No. 13 seed and competed against Texas in the second round of the NCAA Tournament in Tulsa, Okla. on March 18. Though the Grizzlies lost the game 81-85, the number 13 seed was the highest ever obtained by the team. The men's basketball team also defeated the Tennessee Volunteers 89-81 on Nov. 28 during a game that was televised during the primetime slot on ESPNU. The game was the first nationally televised game inside the O'rena as well as the first time ESPN was on campus to broadcast a game.

09.

Baskin faces adultery accusations

Oakland University's Board of Trustees chairman and local attorney faced accusations of adultery back in September after allegedly having a sexual relationship with a former female client. The Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission filed charges against Baskin on April 11 alleging that he took advantage of a client while she was in vulnerable state. In the formal complaint made by the Attorney Discipline Board, Baskin allegedly "violated the standards or rules of professional conduct adopted by the Supreme Court" while representing a client from 1999 to 2004. The university declined to comment, calling the accusations a "personal matter."



Housing overload

08.

Due to an increase in enrollment and interest in living on campus, 100 male students were displaced from housing and placed into a hotel located just outside of campus. The students were supposed to be placed in the hotel for a few weeks, but ended up staying there for the whole semester. A residence hall assistant was placed on the premise to create a "normal campus living environment" and the Bear Bus made stops there as well. All students were moved out of the hotels and into dorms on Dec. 9.

Enrollment 03.

Enrollment at OU reached its highest numbers yet, with a total of 19,379 students enrolled for the fall 2011 semester. Of those students, 11,876 were female and 7,503 were male, based on information obtained from the Office of Intuitional Research and Assessment. Also, 15,838 were undergraduate students and 3, 541 were graduate students, taking a combined total of 213,464 credits for the semester.



Benson signed to NBA 02.

Keith "Kito" Benson, former center for the men's basketball team, became the first Grizzly to be drafted to an NBA team. Benson was the 48th draft pick for the Atlantic Hawks during their second round of picking on June 23. During the NBA lockout, he signed a one-year contract with Dinamo Basket Sassari in Italy, but later left the team and went back to the Hawks where he played two preseason games and was waived before the beginning of the regular season.

The GOP Presidential Debate 01.

On Nov. 9, OU hosted the national Republican presidential debate in the O'rena, an event that was broadcasted on CNBC and streamed live on CNBC.com to an audience of more than 3.3 million viewers. The event was further acknowledged on Saturday Night Live, The Colbert Report, The Jimmy Kimmel show and The Daily Show after candidate Rick Perry couldn't remember what the third federal agency he'd like to eliminate was, during his now infamous "oops" moment. The night of the event, hundreds of journalists were reporting live in the recreation center while groups of protestors rallied in a designated free speech zone. OU students were also given the chance to volunteer for the event, doing a myriad of tasks that took some of them into the O'rena for the event and with the candidates themselves.



04. Smoking regulation

A 50-foot smoking regulation was put into effect in September that meant that patrons could no longer huddle from the weather in building door fronts while they smoked. John Beaghan, OU's vice president in finance and administration, announced the policy in an e-mail stating that the regulation was put into action in order to create a healthier campus for both students and visitors. Some of the cigarette-disposal urns were found to be less than 50-feet away from the buildings, or in the middle of walkways, creating confusion for some smokers.

05. Creating the Future of OU

Students, business leaders, politicians, faculty, staff and alumni came together in April to discuss the future and direction of the university. The goal was produce ideas on how to make OU a community resource, or a way for the university to play a big role in restoring Michigan's economy. Participants were asked for their feedback matters including the university's strengths and what they would like to see the school do in the future. The reactions were tracked using electronic voting devices, providing instant data. This data will be used to create goals for a 2020 campaign.

07. Sharma gets arrested

Srinarayan Sharma, former associate professor of management information systems in the school of business administration, was arraigned and charged with stalking a former student on Jan. 21 after she reported that he had stalked her for a duration of 16 months, reportedly going as far as giving her permission to murder his wife and children so they could run away together. At a competency hearing on June 13, Sharma plead no contest and his defense team made a motion to remove his tether, which was denied by Judge Julie Nicholson. On July 25, Sharma was sentenced to 30 days in jail and five years of GPS-tethered probation with a misdemeanor in front of his wife and family. He claimed he was unaware that he was stalking the former student and did not want to harm her. According to Sharma's attorney, he had recently been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and depression. Sharma was dismissed from the university in August, but has filed a grievance through the union to keep his job.



06. William Beaumont School of Medicine welcomes inaugural class

A class of 50 students were welcomed to the William Beaumont School of Medicine at the start of the fall semester. The 50 students that were admitted to the four-year program were chosen from 3,273 applicants. The new medical school is the first one to open in Michigan in the past 47 years. The school started with those 50 students, but will be adding 25 additional students each year until they level off at 125 students. Tuition for the 2011-12 school year cost \$42,760.



Drew Valentine scored 14 points and added six rebounds



SARAH BLANCHETTE / The Oakland Post

Oakland previously won six straight games against rival Oral Roberts but the Golden Eagles returned to the O'rena for the final time as a member of Summit League Conference on Jan. 3.

Rival Crashes Party

Oral Roberts hands the Golden Grizzlies fifth straight loss

By Kevin Romanchik
Sports Editor

With the beginning of the new year, the Golden Grizzlies were hoping to start it off right with a resolution to etch more tallies in the wins column.

Oakland went a disappointing 4-6 in the month of December and fell to their last four opponents by an average of 16.5 points, including a 27-point rout by the hands of North Dakota State.

Extending their losing streak to five, rival Oral Roberts took control Tuesday night by taking out OU 89-80 in their last game at the O'Rena as a member of the Summit League.

"It's not getting any better obviously," Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "Our defensive perform-

ance tonight was as poor as you probably could come up with."

Lack of defense on the Grizzlies end allowed for ORU to nail 11 of 15 three-pointers, eight of nine in the second half alone.

"Give Oral Roberts all the credit in the world," Kampe said. "To make 11 of 16 from the three, whether you're in a gym by yourself or being guarded, is a tough thing to do."

Oral Roberts took it the hoop with ease while staying relatively unpressured, scoring 38 points in the paint compared to Oakland's 36.

Five players from Oral Roberts reached double figures including forward Dominique Morrison who went 75 percent from the three-point line and finished with a team-high 20 points.

Please see GRIZZLIES, Page 15

ORU @ OU

WHO Oakland men's basketball vs. Oral Roberts. The Golden Eagles lead the all-time series 17-13.

WHAT The last Summit League Conference meeting between the two teams at the O'rena. The Golden Grizzlies won the previous six meetings but Oral Roberts snapped the winning streak and also gave Oakland their fifth straight loss this season.

WHEN Jan. 3, 2012.

WHERE The O'rena on the campus of Oakland University.



SARAH BLANCHETTE/The Oakland Post

The Eagles battled with the Grizzlies in the paint, scoring 38 points and 31 total rebounds.

GRIZZLIES

continued from page 14

On top of their defensive woes, the Oakland offense has continued to not find their stride.

The Grizzlies shot just 39 percent in the opening 20 minutes, two of eight from three-point range, and a season-low of 26 points in the first half.

"I'm not happy with anything. Our offense in the first half was pitiful," Kampe said. "We seemed to have a scared look on our face and seemed to be wondering 'What's going on?'"

Oakland shot 45 percent overall and went 31 of 68, compared to Oral Roberts' 66 percent figure.

Senior guard Reggie Hamilton, who finished with a game-high 28, had trouble getting shots to fall his way early, going 1-for-7 in the first half.

Even though Hamilton opened the second half with seven points to cut the lead to four, Oral Roberts followed with a 15-4 run to extend their lead.

"I'm really at a loss for words right now," Hamilton said. "I made some shots, but I didn't make enough."

Sophomore guard Travis Bader broke his streak of going 0-for-9 from the three-point line, by going three of six, and finished with 16 points.

Another sophomore in the backcourt, Ryan Bass, who missed an early chunk of the season with a concussion, provided energy in the second half off the bench. He finished with six points and dished five assists with no turnovers.

Kampe said that he expects Bass to get more minutes in the next game.

"I think Ryan Bass is a sparkplug. He was playing well before he got injured and was moving into some major min-

utes before (he went out)," Kampe said. "He brings some defensive pressure to the table and he also brings some quickness."

Oakland was out-rebounded by the Eagles 31-26, but scored 18 points off as many turnovers.

"The good is that I still believe we have a chance by March to be a good basketball team because of our youth," Kampe said. "The bad is that the mental toughness isn't very good right now."

The last time that OU lost five consecutive games was in 2004-05 when the Grizzlies started the season 0-7.

"There's something wrong and we have to fix it," Kampe said. "We don't have a sense of urgency as a team and we are a very complacent team that feels sorry for itself."

Even with the loss, Oral Roberts still leads the series with an all-time record of 17-13.

The Grizzlies will take on the Western Illinois Leathernecks (6-5, 1-2) in the second of a three-game homestand on Jan. 7 at 7 p.m.

Western Illinois, who was not favored in preseason polls, have changed some minds with a 6-5 overall record, which included a close 59-55 loss to then No. 17 Michigan.

The Leatherbacks return senior point guard Ceola Clark III, a former Summit League Defensive Player of the Year (2009-10) has averaged 11.5 points and 4.8 rebounds this season and scored a game-high 21 points against Michigan.

Kevin Romanchik is the Sports Editor for the Oakland Post. He covers the men's basketball team for Oakland University as well as other local sports. You can email him at kromanchik@gmail.com, and follow him on Twitter @Kevin_Ro.

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From campus to Congress

Professor runs for local government position

By Raymond Andre
Senior Reporter

U.S. law regulates individual and group campaign contributions to political candidates. Though, through the U.S. Supreme Court precedent set in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, interest group's free-speech rights are represented in the money they can contribute to causes, like "electioneering" campaigns.

Announcing candidacy

Oakland University professor Preston Brooks announced his candidacy for U.S. Representative of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District on the platform of removing the influence of lobbying from American politics.

Brooks, of the computer science and engineering department, will petition the state Bureau of Elections to add his name as an independent candidate to the 2012 ballot.

The professor vowed to accept no cash donations during his term.

"Both Democrats and Republicans are guilty of the crime," said Brooks, "and that's money in politics."

Both have good ideas, he said, but cannot cooperate for fear of losing the campaign contributions that fund their re-election campaigns.

Brooks' campaign

Brooks, with a successful ballot petition, will run against Eighth-District Incumbent Rep. Mike Rogers (R — Howell) and Democratic candidate Lance Enderle.

F.E.C. records show Rogers' 2012 re-election campaign receiving \$587,793. Sixty-nine percent of which was contributed by political action committees.

Enderle's campaign has received \$8,625, with \$7,325 being committed by the candidate himself.

"I have no interest in financial gain, but run because somebody has to do it," he said. "I will serve one two-year term and not run for re-election."

Serving one term without focus maintaining his Congressional seat, he said, will allow complete devotion to the Michigan's Eighth District, its constituents and to the country.

If successful, the professor said he hopes others will follow in refusing special-interest influence.

The goal of his campaign is to address three fundamental issues, with the first being the influence of money in politics.

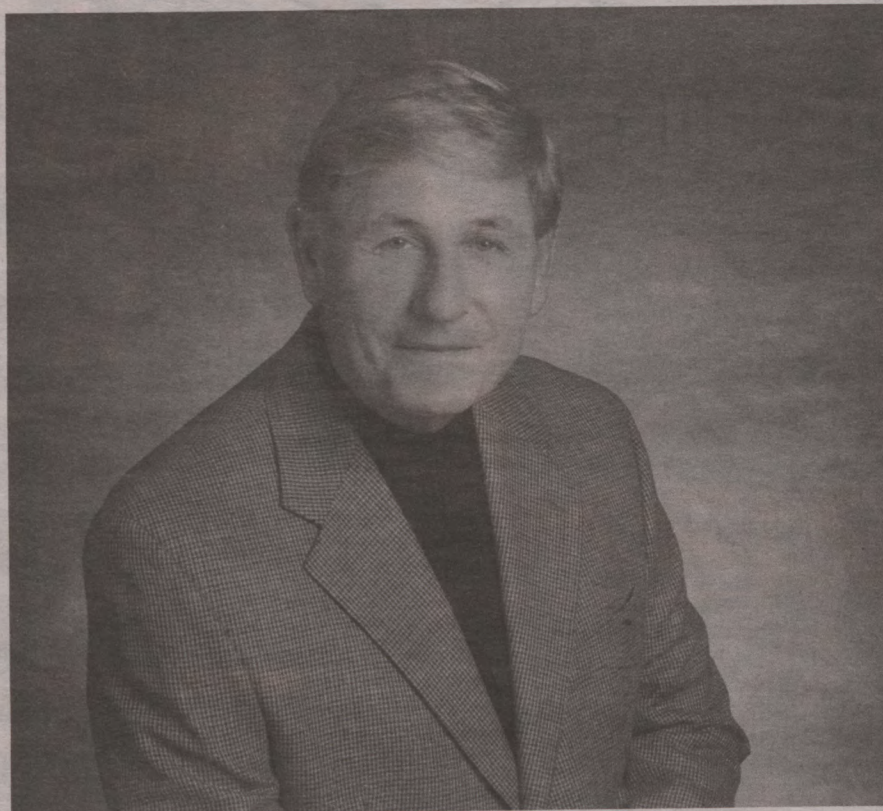


Photo courtesy of Preston Brooks

Oakland University professor of computer science and engineering, Preston Brooks, announced his candidacy for U.S. Representative of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District.

Social inequality — "I am firmly on the side of the 99 percent," he said — is another issue Brooks would address.

The last problem he identified is citizens' apathy toward national servitude.

"We've abdicated our responsibilities and values," Brooks said.

"We've outsourced our responsibilities to the military, and let P.A.C.s and corporations control politics," he said.

According to Brooks, his campaign is "all about public service."

Adrienne LaMilza, Brooks' campaign manager, said its time that students and today's young generation take action and become involved in politics.

"It's the first time in my life that I've ever seen such discontentment," said LaMilza. "I felt compelled to action."

LaMilza, a recent OU graduate, holds a degree in information technology. LaMilza worked with Brooks on a 10-month sustainable energy project.

The two shared dissatisfaction over the 112th Congress' inability to compromise.

"We were talking about how to fix it, and I said I would run for Congress," Brooks said.

A recent CNN poll found that 16 percent of American's approve of Congress performance.

"This disapproval is evidence of the

public's desire for change," Brooks said.

Since 2001, Rep. Rogers has served Michigan's Eighth District. Before Rogers, current Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D — Lansing) held the seat from 1997 to 2000.

"Gerrymandering has completely removed competition against incumbents," Brooks said.

The only way to defeat an incumbent, he said, is to adopt a more extreme stances, resulting in a divided, idealistic Congress, unwilling to compromise even in the face of government shutdown.

Brooks holds degrees in engineering, nuclear engineering and software engineering. He also has private-sector experience, having established his own software company, VerdeGenix Software, which builds applications for the renewable energy industry.

The professor will continue to teach three courses throughout his candidacy. If elected, he would like to stay as a professor in residence or a special lecturer for the political science department.

Information regarding Brooks' campaign is available at his campaign web site www.brooks4congress2012.org

Contact Raymond Andre via email at reandre@oakland.edu

THIS WEEK AROUND OAKLAND

JAN.
4

6:30 p.m. PAWS for Reading at the Rochester Hills Public Library

7 p.m. Anime Sampler Night at the Rochester Hills Public Library

JAN.
5

7 p.m. TV Writer Mark Rothman at the Rochester Hills Public Library

JAN.
6

10:30 a.m. Paula Doak Presents: Circus Time at the Rochester Hills Public Library

8 a.m. Legislative Committee Meeting - 71 Walnut Blvd. Rochester

JAN.
7

7 p.m. Teen Video Game Days at the Rochester Hills Public Library

JAN.
8

3:30 p.m. Martin Luther King Celebration at St. Paul United Methodist Church

4 p.m. Annual Manatee Social and Benefit at Rochester Mills Beer Company

7:30 p.m. Oakland Astronomy Club at Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

JAN.
9

9:30 p.m. Four Feet Down The Trail at Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve

JAN.
10

9 a.m. Red Cross Blood Drive at the Rochester Hills Public Library

1 p.m. Partners In Crime Book Club at the Rochester Hills Public Library

College high costs, budget cuts threatens Michigan's future

Students feel strain of Michigan college costs

By Ali Armstrong
Local Editor

In today's recovering economy, it is arguable that a college degree is worth more than ever, and in Michigan, and so is its price.

This summer, the state's 15 public colleges and universities settled upon their tuition prices for the 2011-12 school year. Almost all raised their cost by nearly seven percent.

Michigan State University trustees voted to raise tuition costs by 6.8 percent for resident undergraduates, which translates to a nearly \$800

increase for full-time students. The University of Michigan approved a 6.7 percent increase for in-state undergraduates and Oakland University approved a seven percent tuition increase.

The tuition hike for OU raised prices \$22.75 per credit hour for undergraduates and \$33.75 per credit hour for graduate students.

OU's state funding was cut by 15 percent, which amounts to \$6.7 million, and operational costs, such as contract obligations, increased by 3.8 percent.

As prices rose, state funding was cut. Gov. Rick Snyder released a budget that required "tough" cuts, including millions in higher education, to reduce a \$1.5 billion deficit.

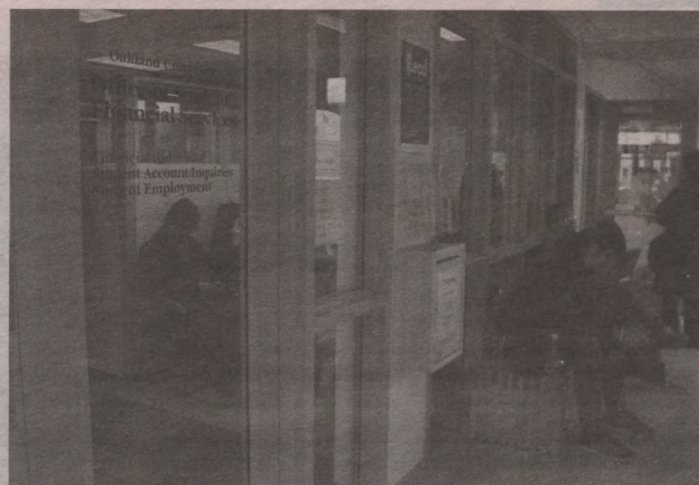
The proposed budget for Michigan public colleges and universities was released

in March 2011. Snyder told lawmakers there would be an 15 percent across-the-board funding cut to the state's universities, but cuts ranged from up to 23 percent at Central Michigan University to 19 percent at Eastern Michigan University.

Plummeting tax revenues have forced a shift in how a public university education is funded. Once contributing 75 percent of university revenues, the state's share is now below one-quarter.

Fears over affordability of higher education prompted Mary Sue Coleman, president of the University of Michigan, to write a letter to President Barack Obama. She wrote of the cuts in state funding, and the state's dismal higher education funding ranking (38th.)

Coleman wasn't alone. In



SIERRA SOLEIMANI/The Oakland Post

Financial aid was increased \$1.7 million to help students with increases.

March 2011, 200 college students gathered at the capitol and waved flags from the state's 15 public universities and held signs that said "put the money where our minds are" during a protest of proposed cuts in state funding.

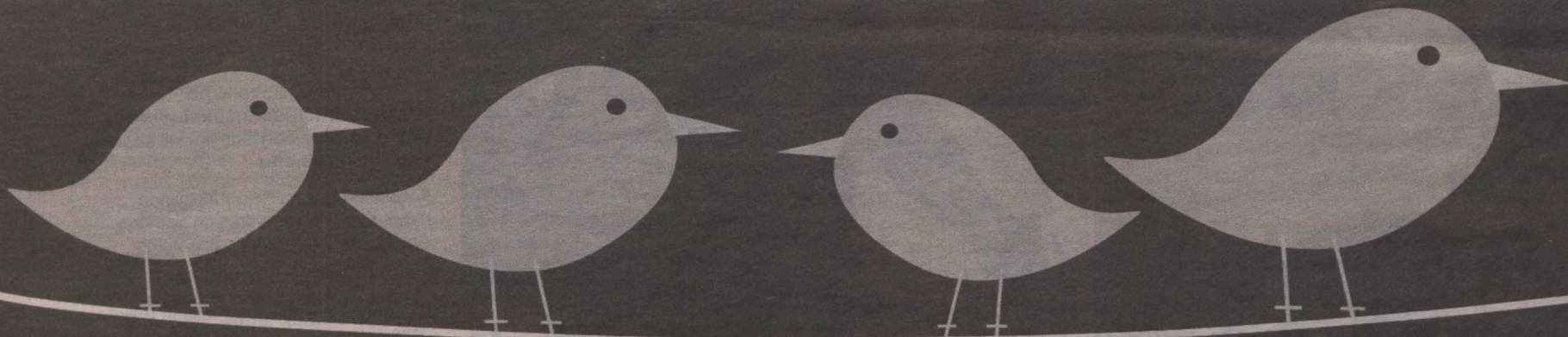
With tuition bills soaring, Michigan State and Michigan Tech are among the most expensive public schools in the state.

MORE INFO

Michigan was forced to cut \$300 million from their university systems over the last decade

Even without recent budget cuts, funding for university operations has dropped 12 percent in the past eight years

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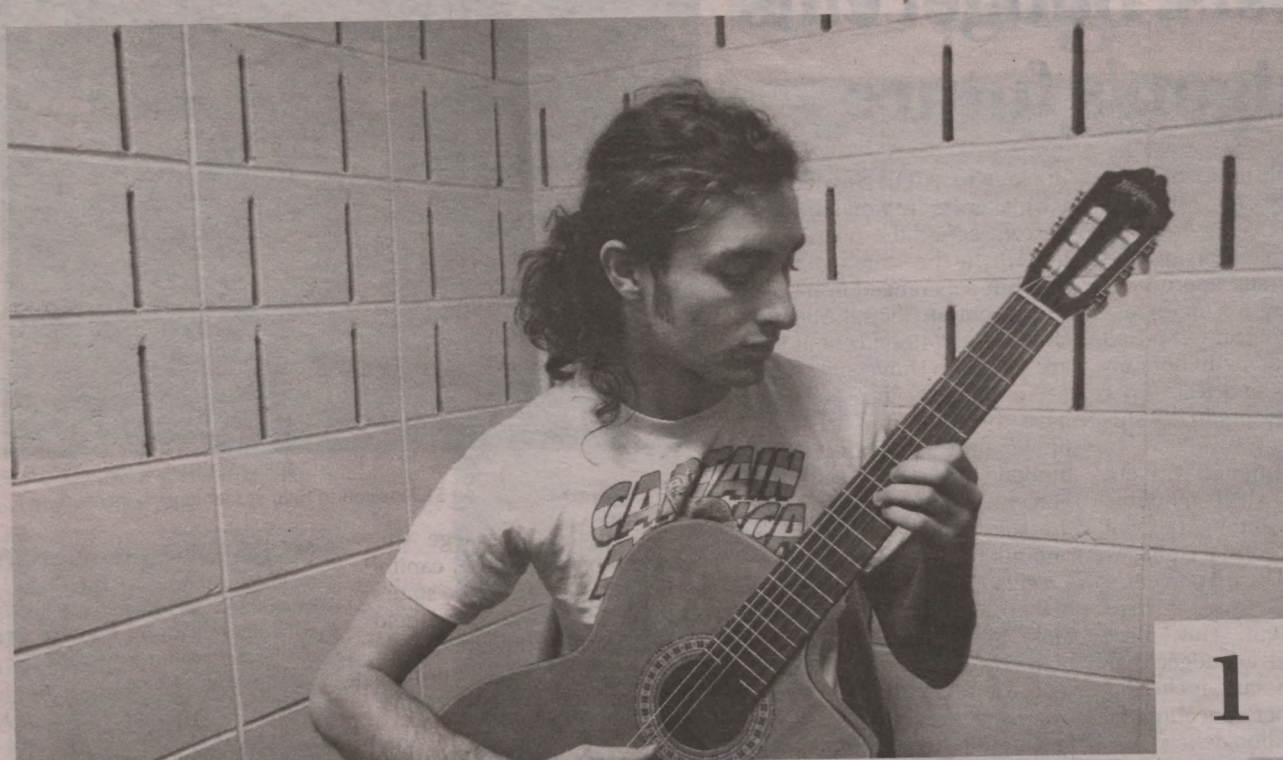
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FOLLOW THE MUSIC

*Student photos capture
lives of OU music majors*

By Clare La Torre
Life Editor



Sophomore journalism and music performance major Stephanie Sokol uses her talent as a photographer to showcase the benefits and challenges of being a music student at OU.

"I want the audience to experience and appreciate the hard work that these students put into their music careers," she explains on her site.

Sokol's passion for music is evident in the attention to detail and the care that she expresses through her work.

To see all of Sokol's photos, visit www.stephanieannsokol.wordpress.com or contact her at sasokol@oakland.edu

1. Sophomore music performance major Kyle Marker works on Barrios's Arabescos Study, for his upcoming guitar recital.

2. Sophomore music education major Josh Nuss practices his trombone. "It (music) is a language that everyone speaks; It transcends boundaries and borders, and brings the world closer together," Nuss said.

3. Nuss practices bass for his Strings Technique class. This just one of the many instruments in his repertoire.

4. Vocal students work on a scene from Operetta Iolanthe on Tuesday, Nov. 15, for the December Opera workshop, in Varner Hall.

5. Band members get ready for the concert in Varner's third floor lounge, on Wednesday Nov. 16, 2011.

STEPHANIE SOKOL / The Oakland Post

Good eats on a student budget

Staff review —
restaurant caters to
locals, OU students

By Justin Colman
Copy Editor

When walking main street of downtown Rochester, three restaurants stand out: Rojo Mexican Bistro, Kruse and Meur and Rochester Chop House.

All are popular spots, but continue a little further south and you'll find Shehrzad Mediterranean Grill. Open for just over a year, Shehrzad is making a name for itself.

If you're a picky eater or a self-proclaimed foodie, you'll love what you find there.

Relaxing atmosphere

Shehrzad's interior is spacious. The space between tables allows you to engage in conversation with your party without having to worry about your privacy being invaded.

The décor is clean and modern with a classic Mediterranean twist. The main room is colored in natural hues — making dining there a relaxing experience. Low lighting also offers a laid-back mood. The high, bare ceiling is adorned with round, clothed lights and the foyer offers an ethnic taste with a mosaic-styled ceiling.

An open layout allows a brief glimpse into the kitchen, and cleanliness is evident throughout the entire establishment.

Welcoming staff

The staff at Shehrzad is committed to their job of presenting quality food and service to their customers. Not only is quality of highest importance, but presentation is mastered in each dish as well.

The staff is ready with suggestions for those not familiar with the cuisine style. Friendliness, communication and care are all an obvious trend in employees.



LEFT Staff at Shehrzad is fast and friendly. **RIGHT** The vast buffet is only \$9.99 per person. **BOTTOM** An ethnic atmosphere adds to the dining experience.



CLARE LA TORRE/The Oakland Post

Gus Mohammad, owner, expressed his desire to get OU students into the restaurant.

"I place flyers at the school and now I started the discount ... I want to (create a standing) with them (students)," he said.

Unique food

While the menu in its entirety offers plenty of quality food at a great value, there is one deal that seems to be bringing the customers in again and again: the all-you-can-eat buffet, a rather new component of the restaurant. Priced at \$9.99, the buffet even includes desert choices.

Mohammad noted that the buffet was introduced last month. Since then, he said, it has become a popular choice among customers.

"It's slow early, but (soon) we'll be packed. At dinner they'll be packing in too," he said, crediting the buffet.

With dishes that include lamb and chicken shawarma, cream chop and eggplant la-

sagna, you're given plenty of options.

For vegetarians, you do not need to worry about the lack of meat-free dishes. Shehrzad provides plenty of vegetarian options to keep you satisfied. Dishes include vegetarian cream chop, eggplant lasagna, a variety of salads, hummus, baba ghanoush and falafel.

But those are merely the choices given with the buffet. The food itself deserves praise.

One of the dishes served at the buffet is eggplant lasagna. Typically this dish is made with a simple tomato sauce, but the Shehrzad version instead use slices of fresh tomato, giving it a clean, home-made taste and appeal.

A simple touch of garlic gives the chicken stir-fry its unique flavor. Working well alongside the tender chicken and peppers, the outcome is a variety of flavors that do not cancel each other out, but play off one another perfectly, creating a full-flavor, satisfying

meal.

With such quality, typically comes high prices. This is not the case with Shehrzad. The restaurant offers sandwiches from \$2.99 to \$6.99.

Quantity is not overlooked with these prices either — each plate is adorned with a healthy helping.

Shehrzad is also a good place to eat if you're looking for a deal.

On Mondays and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., you can get any sandwich with fries and a soft drink, as well as a choice of soup or salad, for just \$6.99.

Shehrzad also has an offer for OU students — present

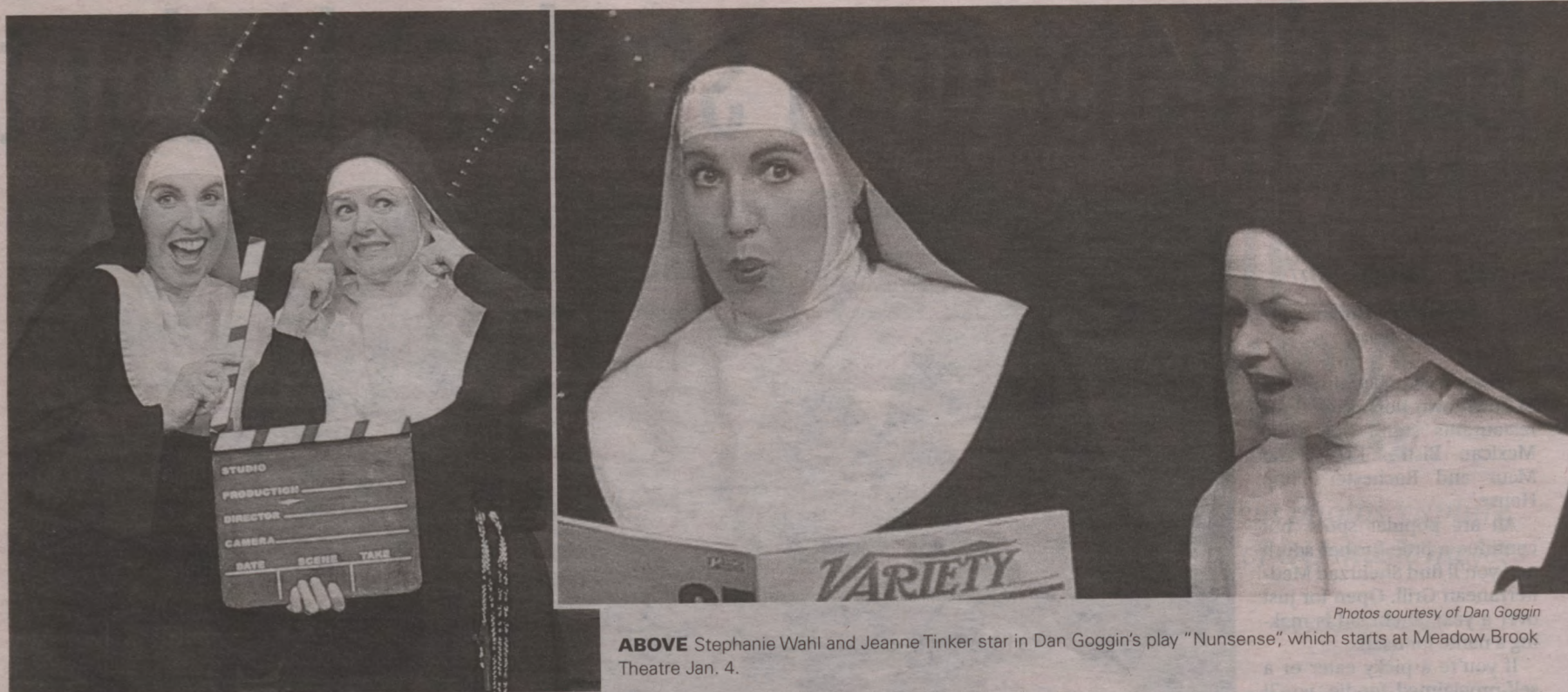
your student ID and get 10% off your meal.

Recommendation

There is no meal to go wrong with, but the chicken shawarma with lemon oregano is a must-have.

Being such a strong flavor, it is easy for lemon to battle with other flavors in the dish. With the chicken shawarma however, just the right amount is achieved, giving the dish a balanced flavor.

Contact copy editor Justin Colman via email at jbcorman@oakland.edu or follow him on twitter @TheJustinColman



ABOVE Stephanie Wahl and Jeanne Tinker star in Dan Goggin's play "Nunsense," which starts at Meadow Brook Theatre Jan. 4.

Playwright brings 'nunsense' to OU

Latest sequel in Dan Goggin's play starts at Meadow Brook Theatre

By Jordan Gonzalez
Senior Reporter

Michigan native Dan Goggin, creator, composer and writer of the off-Broadway smash hit "Nunsense" will be at Oakland University directing the shows 7th and final sequel, "Nunset Boulevard."

For Goggin, "Nunset Boulevard" is the culmination of a wild idea that went viral.

It began in 1981 when a friend gave him a mannequin dressed as a traditional Dominican nun as a joke. After the smiles and laughs, he and another friend decided to make a greeting card out of her.

The popularity of the cards sparked the idea of creating a character out of the mannequin and staging a small cabaret show.

The show, intended to run for four weekends, ended up entertaining for 38 weeks.

"It just kind of snowballed after (receiving the mannequin). One thing just led to another. None of it was planned," Goggin said.

Realizing they had something going for them, Goggin and his crew made adjustments and rewrites, and aired

the evolved version, "Nunsense," in 1985.

After six sequels, Goggin has trouble comprehending what has happened in the past 26 years.

"Of all the seven shows there have been 8,000 productions around the world," he said. "It's almost like it's so big you can't even connect with it."

The "Nunsense" plays are based around the five Sisters of Hoboken.

In the first play, their wild adventure and troubles begin when their cook, Sister Julia, accidentally poisons the soup, killing 52 sisters.

She and the surviving sisters, Reverend Mother Regina, Sister Mary Hubert, Sister Robert Anne, Sister Mary Leo and Sister Mary Amnesia, have to pay for the funeral expenses. They decide to put on a variety show to pay for the expenses.

The latest and final sequel, "Nunset Boulevard," will be playing at the Meadow Brook Theatre from Jan. 4 through 29.

In this show, the Sisters of Hoboken are invited to sing at the Hollywood Bowl. They are disappointed, however, when they realize that they are to sing at the Hollywood Bowl-A-Rama in-

stead of the famous Hollywood Bowl. Their hopes grow again when they hear about auditions for a musical movie about a nun.

Goggin said the five sisters are based off real life nuns who were his teachers during his childhood, and a lot of the humor is influenced by real life.

He said these personal touches are the key to the humor.

"As a writer you have to reveal personal feelings about yourself, because that is what makes your writing honest," Goggin said. "If you become closed, I think your writing becomes closed to your audience."

Though there is religious humor in his plays, he makes it clear that one doesn't have to be Catholic to enjoy the movie.

Nor is it necessary to have seen preceding plays, since they are not direct sequels.

Although there will be no more sequels for "Nunsense," neither him nor the play are leaving the show business.

"(Nunset Boulevard) makes a nice end to the story. So now what I am doing is going around and directing shows. Next year we will be touring

"Nunset Boulevard," Goggin said. "We have enough toys to play with so now we will just play."

He has no desire to see "Nunsense" go to Broadway, though he has had the chance.

"Once you go on Broadway, everyone gets involved. We were better staying in a situation where we can be in control. For New York, if we stayed small, we could last a lot longer," he said.

Goggin warns that the music, show and acting business is tough, but encourages students to follow through with their dreams.

"It's a hard business, so you have to really, really want it," he said. "If you do, just stick with it and it will work. Just keep plugging away at it."

"Nunset Boulevard" will be playing at Meadow Brook Theater from January 4 through 29. Tickets range from \$24 to \$39. Call 248-370-3316 for tickets, or visit www.ticketmaster.com. Student discounts are available at the box office.

Contact senior reporter Jordan Gonzalez via email at jrgonzal@oakland.edu

Work, play keep students at OU on break

By Jessica McLean
Staff Intern

The Oakland Center was dark, empty and locked, and although the lights were on, Kresge Library was closed.

The university operator wasn't even there to say, "Oakland University, how may I help you?"

In fact, the entire campus was shut down by Dec. 23.

"I don't think OU could be any quieter than it is today," Allison Webster, a student life advisor, tweeted on Dec. 22.

"Yeah, just wait until tomorrow when EVERYBODY is gone," @oaklandu, an account representing OU, responded.

Students stay on campus

In reality, many students stayed on campus during their break.

Freshman students Mario Rusnak, Colbie Han and Dyllon Dossey are all members of OU's men's swim team, and didn't have the choice between staying and going home.

All three were involved in an in-

tense, two-week training camp over break in attempt to improve the teams overall standing in the Michigan US Open, which takes place in early February.

Han and Rusnak said that the team held two practices on a daily basis: a morning session from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., and a late afternoon session from 3 to 5 p.m., with alternating core and weight workouts in between.

"It's nice to go home over break and see (my family), but it's nice to have a place to come back to

Caitlyn West,
Biology Major

The guys spent most of their spare time grocery shopping, resting and watching movies in their room. Each of them was allotted a certain sum of money per the university for essentials.

However, life at OU during break did have its downfalls. Internet connection and hot water were not immediately turned on per their return,

which meant no Facebook, and more importantly, no hot showers, they complained.

The three did return home for Christmas, and then stayed in Hamlin Hall until the beginning of the semester.

Apartment roommates, senior History major Chris Gilbert and sophomore communication major Doug Bonman, made the decision to stay on campus on their own.

Sticking behind for work

Gilbert, the director of a box lacrosse organization at Rochester Hills Skating and Sports Arena, manages his job out of their apartment.

The work requires him to use expensive equipment, which is difficult for him to transport home.

Right now he is busy preparing for the next season of box lacrosse, which is scheduled to begin later this month.

On the other hand, Bonman works 40-50 hours a week at a catering company, delivering food to Detroit Metro Airport for consumption aboard the planes.

He said OU is a closer commute for

him than driving from home.

Gilbert and Bonman also returned home for the holiday, but returned afterwards to work and to resume their break.

"I never had the option to leave before," Gilbert said. "I don't have to go home. I can just say, 'see you guys — talk to you later.'"

A place to call home

Junior biology major Caitlyn West felt the same way about staying on campus.

She lived in her campus apartment until Dec. 23, only leaving for one week to see her family up north, and her boyfriend, a Marine, in Buffalo for New Year's Eve.

"It's nice to go home over break and see (my family), but it's nice to have a place to come back to," she said.

Winter classes resumed on Jan. 3 and the signs reading, "Occupied: Entire Break" finally came down off of Rusnak's, Han's and Dossey's dorm room door.

Contact staff intern Jessica McLean via email at jamclea2@oakland.edu



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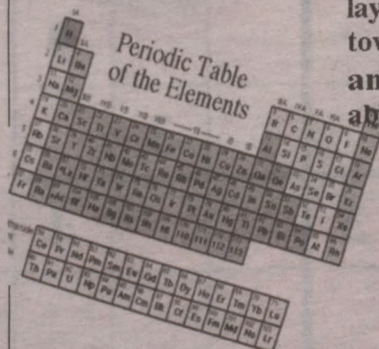
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Puzzles

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

Across

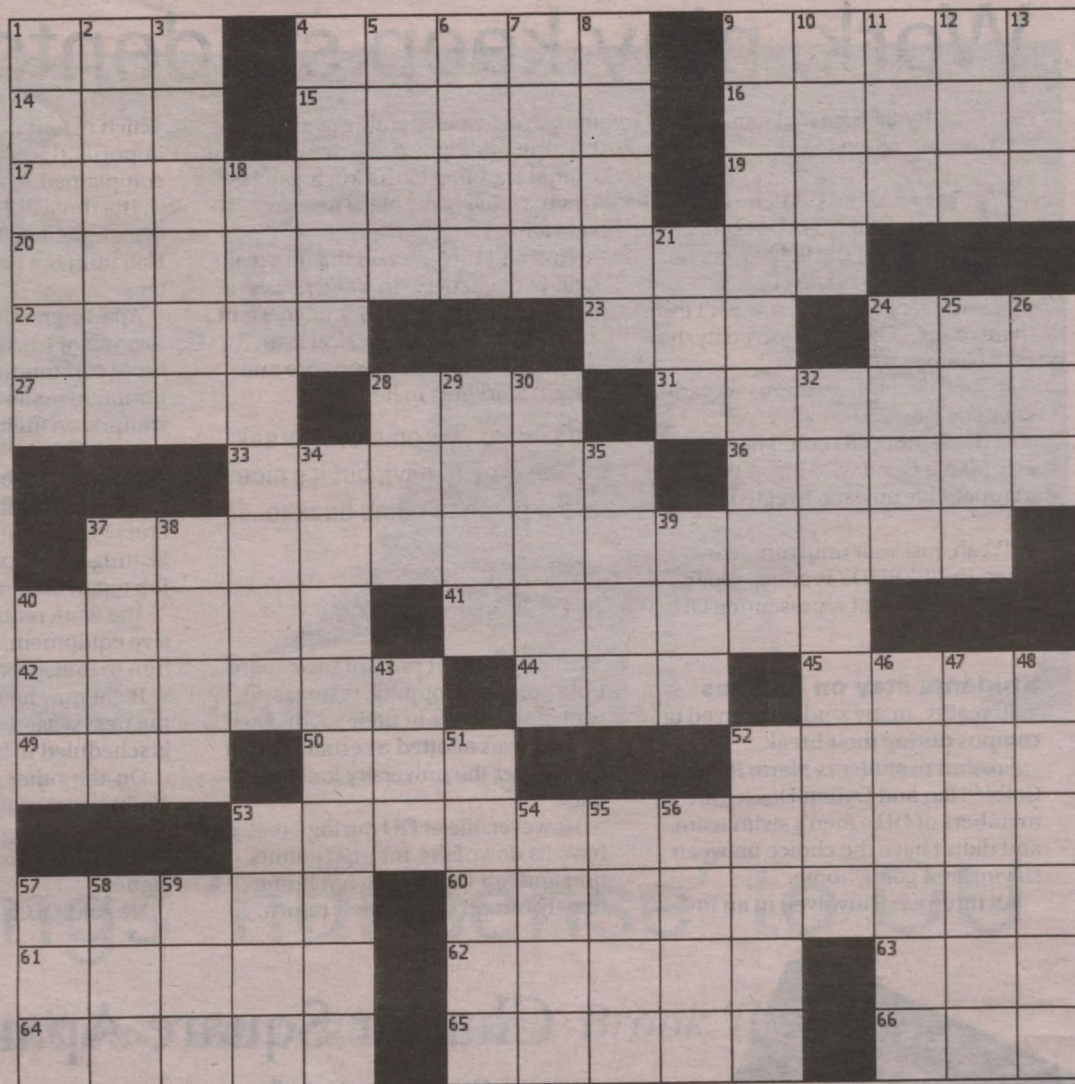
1. Spill guard
4. Cause to overturn
9. Reason to cram
14. Way back when
15. Easily had
16. Give a speech
17. Not on the books, as a law
19. Prepare to be eaten
20. Smells mac-rame?
22. Island in the Mediterranean
23. Catch cold?
24. Women's wear daily?
27. Munich mister
28. Literary collection
31. "Rambo," e.g.
33. City on Cayuga Lake
36. Perceived by the ear
37. How the pupil got covered in poppy seeds?
40. Curtain call
41. One who creates a scene?
42. Demonstrations, riots and such
44. Zippo
45. "Ripley's Believe ___ Not!"

49. Desire
50. Bidet spray
52. Wait on
53. Listen to him?
57. Brown ermine
60. Hairy creepy crawler
61. It may be taken for a ride
62. Disappear gradually
63. Cribbage need
64. Last of the fire, perhaps
65. Step separator
66. Sidewinder's favorite letter?

Down

1. Cape Canaveral event
2. Pay no heed
3. Water seeker
4. Create a whole?
5. Word with bike or war
6. Developer's purchase
7. Word with when or what
8. Half of a joint
9. Ancestors
10. Where a pupil sits
11. Short respite
12. Dug in
13. Berman the sportscaster
18. Dog's duty
21. Ballet step

24. Rounded tree outgrowth
25. Heartfelt
26. Completely
28. "Eureka!"
29. Endeavour acronym
30. Cupule contents
32. Math term
34. Toyota MR2 (e.g.)
35. Oppositionist
37. Sea eagle
38. It often comes in a ball
39. Need a doctor
40. Accept, as an excuse
43. Old salt
46. Road company
47. Seeds-to-be
48. Marks sales prices
51. Put into words
52. More mentally there
53. Uncomplicate
54. Last name in spydom
55. Greek god of love
56. Whipped up
57. Seashell seller
58. Smothers with jokes?
59. Basketball but not a football



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Mouthing Off

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SATIRE

Break? What the heck is that?

By Jordan Reed
Multimedia Reporter

One of my friends asked me, "Hey man! When are you going to write another thrilling story about your pathetic life?"

At least someone cares a little about me.

So, after that meeting with my one and only fan, I worked up the courage to take another crack at it.

I'm sure most of you reading this enjoyed your restful and relaxing vacations by traveling, visiting friends and getting lots of sleep. I, on the other hand, had a different experience.

My vacation consisted of two children constantly waking me up when they needed something, my dad telling me that I had enough sleep for that day, mom telling my to clean up every inch of the house and a 16-year-old kid who expected to get an iPod touch, a professional DSLR camera and smart phone from The Omnipotent Santa and got mad when he didn't.

In other words, I'm happy to be back at school and back to working at The Oakland Post.

My family discovered Netflix over this break.

It was a great addition to the family until we couldn't decide what we wanted to watch.

My little brother complained about every show that we ever watched.

I couldn't help yelling out, "There are people in Africa without computers let alone Netflix streaming to a Xbox through a Wi-Fi Internet router. Just sit down, shut up and be happy!"

On a related note, Happy (belated) Kwanzaa everybody.

So, after that run-on sentence outburst, I spent the rest of my vacation trying to be productive and try and pull myself to go and do something fun.

I thought about reading Twilight, because I had heard so much from about it in high school. Then I decided that I'd rather watch the movie.

I really hope the book was better because I fell asleep within the first few minutes. I didn't even watch enough to know if I am a member of Team Jacob or Team Edward — who ever the hell those two people are.

On the opposite and more manly side of my break, I

involved my time in the newest addition to the list of reasons why girlfriends are second to video games. I, of course, am speaking about The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim.

I constantly yell "Fus Ro Dah!!" at random strangers that pass me by on the sidewalks and in stores. People who get it laugh and walk by. The people that don't look at be like I'm possessed by the devil.

My friend Rachel invited me to come over to her house on New Years. I was originally planing on going, but I ended up watching Taio Cruz singing about how he's wearing all of his favorite brands brands brands brands.

Fun fact: It took four people to write lyrics for the song Dynamite. I want to find all of the lyricists and slap them in the face face face face.

Even though I didn't do very much and threw things at the TV after the terrible calls made in the Lions vs Packers, I still had a fun time over break.

I really need to get out more.

Contact multimedia reporter Jordan Reed via e-mail at rjmreed23@oakland.edu.

SATIRE

GOP members ready to rumble

By Raymond Andre
Senior Reporter

Forget the Iowa Caucus, I would like to see the Republican contenders in a grudge match, in a steel cage set ablaze — the fire, of course, would be symbolic, representing the flames of passion of the Republican spirit.

It is my opinion that there is no more artful or logical a rebuttal to an argument than a steel chair wrapped in barbed wire.

Naturally, as the great philosopher George Carlin suggested, American's would be deprived of their manufactured right to be distracted, were this pioneering experiment in edu-tainment not televised.

While watching this athletic opera, viewers would be able to vote their favorite buzzwords and phrases for candidates to adopt, including such favorites as "Founding Fathers," "terrorism," "sanctity of marriage" and "deregulation!"

This sort of spectacle could reinvigorate the U.S. interest in politics in a single prime-time hour, I daresay.

Let us not confine such an opportunity to a single evening. This must be a serialized, extended series of feuds with bi-partisan turf wars, circa the pre-80s period of televised professional wrestling: the good ole days.

Imagine a Joseph Lieberman, Barney Frank and Al Franken triumvirate, an unstoppable force of wind-and-solar power against the rebel Tea Party Caucus with the likes of David "The Mountain" McKinley, Diane "Bruiser" Black and "Homicidal" Howard Coble.

The battles over budget and ideology would be determined by whichever warriors could sell the most ads — a true Democracy. It would also, incidentally, determine the shape of the turfs or "districts."

I want to see Barack Obama in a singlet — this is the end of my sentence.

The president would surely be the organizer of such a federation. He would be the Vince McMahon of the outfit.

At one time, it may have seemed like he had promise, in earlier days. Reality has set in and now he is resigned to call shots and politic behind the scenes, because that is what the commissioner does and it would be pure naivete to ever be persuaded otherwise.

After all, once any viewer reaches a certain age, usually around the time cigarette and "adult beverage" companies start covertly advertising to them, they will realize it was all fake.

Contact senior reporter Ray Andre via e-mail at reandre@oakland.edu.

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