

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

SEPTEMBER
17
2014

ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Despite the low risk of outbreak in the U.S., universities are being advised to take precautions against Ebola.

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The new Bloomberg terminals have arrived, allowing business students easier access to information on stock, bonds and industrial supply chains.

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Everyone has been hearing about the chaos caused by ISIS, but what about those who are affected at OU? Read one student's story here.

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MAKE IT BOUNCE

Booty-popping, fast-talking Iggy Azalea showed Meadow Brook Music Festival impossible is nothing PAGE 12

Photo by Katherine Cagle/The Oakland Post

Shots, shots, shots, everybody! Flu shots, that is. As the sickly season draws nearer, the Graham Health Center is competing to be the most vaccinated campus in Michigan. Read more at www.oaklandpostonline.com.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

DANCING THROUGH LIFE// A performer lets her true colors fly at the Renaissance Festival in Holly. The annual event has taken place every weekend since the end of August, and will go on until the weekend of Sept. 27. Arts, crafts and entertainment are featured at the festival.

Photo by Katherine Cagle/The Oakland Post

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



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POIGNANT MEMORIES

Student Glen Neville looks back at his time in the Army during and after September 11, 2001.



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CLIMBING THE LADDER

Director of Media Relations Brian Bierley discusses how he rose through the ranks to help be the voice of a university.



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A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER

The nearby Renaissance Festival runs on, providing jests and awes to student squires and professorial wizards alike.

POLL OF THE WEEK

How do you combat the freshman 15?

- A** I get down with my bad self at weekly Zumba in the Rec.
- B** Free carnival food? WHERE?!
- C** What's wrong with gaining fifteen pounds?
- D** I eat and exercise what I want, when I want.

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What do you think of OU's residential parking?

- A** Residents should have their own parking permits.
29%
- B** I believe in unregulated parking equality for all.
12.9%
- C** Pfff, what do I care? I'm not a resident!
22.6%
- D** They need to have more overnight lots by the dorms.
35.5%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

September 18, 1996

Student Congress President faced possible impeachment on charges of attempting to bypass Congress and purchase a \$10,683 copy machine.

September 19, 2007

Oakland University junior, Jennifer Stein, runs for Rochester Hills City Council.

September 21, 1994

The Oakland University women's soccer team wins the Marriott Classic for the first time in 11 years

-Compiled by Nicolette Brikho, Copy Editor

BY THE NUMBERS

Iggy Azalea edition

334,522

Number of copies her debut album, "The New Classic", sold in the U.S

57/100

Metacritic rating for "The New Classic"

6

Number of new songs that appeared on the album's reissue on Sept. 4

269,604,823

Number of YouTube views the "Fancy" music video has as of 9/16

7

Number of consecutive weeks "Fancy" featuring Charli XCX held the number one spot on the Billboard Hot 100

STAFF EDITORIAL

A question of morality

Oona Goodin-Smith
Editor-in-Chief

For most, announcing a pregnancy is a joyous occasion, met with congratulations and celebration. For Barbara Webb, a now former science teacher at Marian High School, however, a July pregnancy announcement resulted in the choice to leave quietly or be fired from her job of nine years.

Webb, 33, was a teacher at the all-girls Catholic West Bloomfield high school on summer vacation when she announced her non-traditional pregnancy with her same-sex partner to the school's administration. Marian High School officials quickly let the teacher go in August, presenting her with the options to be fired or resign with health benefits through the spring, assuming she did not speak of her termination or reason for leaving. Webb chose to speak up, taking to social media to voice her story, and was officially terminated from Marian as of Aug. 19.

While Marian administration has declined to comment on the issue, Webb told the *Detroit Free Press* on Sept. 6 that "administrators pointed to a morality clause allowing firing over public conduct of 'lifestyle or actions directly contradictory to the Catholic

faith."

"I had Barb for chemistry and learned a lot. She did a lot of hands-on stuff that you don't see in classrooms as much anymore," said 2009 Marian graduate and OU nursing senior Meghan McDermott. "It's discriminatory. It's wrong."

Discriminatory? Yes. Wrong? Yes. Legal? Yes.

The current Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, established in 1976, prevents job discrimination based on religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status, but those in or suspected to be a part of the LGBTQIA community through their gender identity are unprotected in the eyes of the law in many parts of Michigan.

Simply because her employers deemed Webb's means of becoming pregnant "unnatural," she was out her job, and Marian students out a valued teacher.

"If she's doing her job well, that should be all that matters, and we would hope that's all that matters, but this is happening all the time," said Grace Wojcik, Coordinator of OU's Gender and Sexuality Center.

"Some people, even in the LGBTQIA community, don't understand that it's still legal to be fired, denied employ-

ment, public accommodations such as restaurants, housing and rental properties today," she said. "It's not just if you're LGBT; it's if someone thinks you are. I'd like to think we're better than that."

However, thanks to the efforts of the OU LGBTQIA employee resource group, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and a "grassroots student and faculty movement," according to Wojcik, this is not the case on Oakland University's campus.

"We have an anti-discrimination policy that includes sexual orientation and gender identity," said Wojcik. Enacted nearly a decade ago, the policy protects OU faculty from facing the same foul fate as Webb.

The *Oakland Post* would like to commend Oakland University on staying a step ahead of state legislation by protecting the rights of LGBTQIA faculty on campus and for spreading the message of diversity and inclusion of all underrepresented groups, rather than seclusion and intolerance.

"You wonder what kind of message [Webb's firing] sends to LGBT students already struggling with their identity," said McDermott.

"They let her go because of a moral clause, but it makes you wonder how moral it is."

Corrections Corner

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

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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Universities advised to take precautions against Ebola

CDC recommends heightened hygiene despite low risk of U.S. outbreak

Jake Alsko
Web Editor

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently advised American colleges, universities and any students or staff arriving from nations effected by the Ebola outbreak in West Africa — Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Nigeria — to take precautions against spreading the disease.

Ebola is a severe acute viral illness often characterized by the sudden onset of fever, intense weakness, muscle pain, headache and sore throat. This

is followed by vomiting, diarrhea, rash, impaired kidney and liver function and, in some cases, both internal and external bleeding, according to the World Health Organization.

Symptoms may appear anywhere from two to 21 days after exposure to the virus with eight to 10 days being the most common. The virus is spread through direct contact (through broken skin or mucous membranes) with a sick person's blood or body fluids and objects (such as needles) that have been contaminated with infected body fluids or infected animals.

50 to 60 percent of reported Ebola cases in the current outbreak have been fatal. In previous outbreaks the disease has killed as many as 90 percent of those infected.

"I have to stress that I am

very unconcerned about Ebola migrating to the Metro Detroit area," said Samantha Damren, Adult Nurse Practitioner at Oakland University's Graham Health Center (GHC). "I don't think it's beyond the realm of possibility, but it's something that I'm not particularly scared of."

Ebola is not contagious until symptoms appear and the CDC considers it of little risk to the general population of the United States due to the close contact necessary to transmit the disease and the modern health care system that the country possesses.

Damren, citing Shane Bies, County Health Division Administrator, said that if GHC suspected someone of having Ebola, they would notify the county's epidemiology unit and follow their instruction.



The Ebola virus is spread through direct contact with body fluids.

Ebola is not capable of airborne transmission in humans, but the West Africa Ebola outbreaks are considered harder to control because of the region's lack of modern health care facilities. While it is imperative for the outbreak to be contained to ensure Ebola does not reach epidemic levels in other countries like the U.S., the most important thing Americans can do for now is to practice good hygiene and not hesitate to get checked out if they feel sick.

"I don't think anyone here is acutely concerned about the OU student-faculty or staff being immediately susceptible to Ebola," Damren said. "But if anyone has fevers, abdominal pains, muscle aches, headaches, they don't feel well, we certainly urge you to come in."

"If you've been abroad or you've been traveling recently, all the more reason to just get checked out."

Contact Jake Alsko at web@oaklandpostonline.com

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Grizzlies on the Prowl:

"Did you go to the Iggy Azalea concert on Friday? Why or why not?"



Sarah Sinnaeve, senior, English

"I did not mostly because she doesn't really play the kind of music I like."



Kyler Johnson, junior, business

"(Yes.) In general, I enjoyed the concert and I thought Magic! was really good live."



Megan Siwa, senior, communication and journalism

"I did not. I had other commitments that day, but I really wanted to go."

—Compiled by Andrew Wernette,
Life, Arts & Entertainment Editor

POLICE FILES

Larceny at Dodge Hall

Officers were dispatched to Dodge Hall for a call of larceny Sept. 12 at 2:22 p.m.

A worker said he had set his iPad II on his desk inside his office on Sept. 11 at 10:30 a.m. The following day, when he returned, he noticed that the iPad was missing.

The iPad belonged to his company, which had put a tracking software on the iPad. The iPad is black with a black cover, embroidered with letters.

Missing person

OUPD met with a student at the police station on Sept. 12 at 9:43 p.m. She stated that her sister was missing and had not been seen since 3:00 a.m.

The student was afraid that her sister had left with a man who was stalking her since she was 14 years old. Her sister met the man online six years ago. He had stalked and controlled her until their parents intervened.

The student explained that her sister did have a boyfriend, but they had broken up that day.

Officers interviewed her roommate. Her roommate said she saw her taking clothing and other items. The roommate said the sister told her she was doing laundry. When the roommate looked in the laundry room, the sister wasn't there.

The roommate said that she had seen a diamond band on her left ring finger.

The roommate was fearful that she was seeing the man and tried to stop her.

OUPD traced her phone in Pennsylvania. Officers notified the parents. An officer in New Jersey called OUPD to say the father had spoken with the sister.

She said she was fine. The missing person report was canceled.

—Compiled by Haley Kotwicki
Chief Copy Editor

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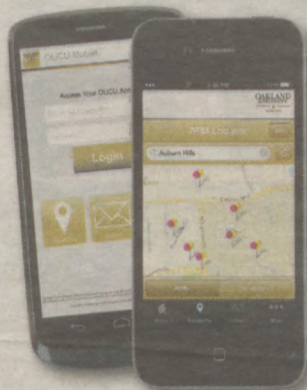


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Michigan Minuteman Platoon honored the first responders of the 9/11 attack at remembrance ceremony held on campus.

Sean Miller / The Oakland Post

Thirteen years later

Soldier and art major recalls the moment of 'the call'

By Sam Schlenner
Staff Reporter

Glen Neville got the call at about 6 p.m.: Go to the Mackinac Bridge. Guard it.

He left the next morning.

It was September 11, 2001, and many soldiers were getting calls to defend national landmarks.

Neville, an Oakland University student majoring in graphic design, has eight years of active duty Army time. He served from 1985 to 2007.

That September morning he was working out in the basement after the third shift, watching the news when he saw the second plane hit.

Immediately, he was on the phone with his wife, telling her to pack her things and come home. She worked in the Renaissance Center in Detroit. She found it nearly impossible to get anywhere because of the surge of panic and the traffic jams.

It's been 13 years and Neville, who is

set to graduate in May, still remembers.

"Honor guard: Fall in."

The Michigan Minuteman Platoon, VFW Post 1370, performed the Oakland University 9/11 remembrance ceremony Thursday.

"Ready, front. Ceremonial rest."

The morning was cold. The ceremony was between North and South Foundation Halls.

OU student Tim Brown sang "Amazing Grace."

"Honor guard. Atten-hut! Present, arms!"

OU student Fil Starostka played taps.

The platoon folded the flag and presented it to Bradley Reichelt, veteran liaison for Oakland University Veterans Support Services. There were about 40 people in attendance.

Thirteen years, and people everywhere remember.

Neville, who was trained in anti-terrorism, was busy with domestic assignments when he got the next call: Afghanistan. He was deployed March

2005.

For 16 months, Neville spent his time chasing an improvised explosive device (IED) team that was paying people to put down roadside bombs. The team had VHS tapes to show how to blow up a vehicle.

"They simplified it to the point where an 8-year-old kid could do it," Neville said.

He spent 45 days chasing the team through a valley.

"I fell off of a mountain in the middle of a rainstorm, and that was pretty much the end of my military career."

He said he is one of the few people who can served with a sibling. He and his brother served closely in Afghanistan at the same time.

"We had to sign an agreement that if one of us was injured or killed, the other one had to go home."

Neville decided to tough out the injuries after his fall, lest he be treated in Germany, listed as wounded, and have his brother sent home.



He did this for the remaining three months, and got back to Fort Benning, Ga. He finally got examined.

"They assessed all the damage to my spine and shoulder and everything and said, 'You're gone.'"

His brother was still in.

Because of the injuries from his fall, Neville is on a heavy regimen of medication.

"If I didn't have this stuff, I probably wouldn't get out of bed. It feels like somebody went at me with a hammer," he said.

He has a picture of his weekly pill containers. They're nearly filled. The yellow one is for daytime. The black one, nighttime. He said he's only slept three or four hours a night since 2006.

Thirteen years.

He definitely remembers.

Take OU out to the ball game

SPB provides inexpensive opportunity to attend one of Major League Baseball season's final games

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

As the regular season comes to an end, Oakland University students can root on the Detroit Tigers as they take on the Minnesota Twins at home on one of the last games of the season.

The OU Student Program Board is sponsoring the first ever "Take OU to the Ball Game," which will take place on Friday, Sept. 26. For OU students only, tickets are \$30 dollars and include an all you can eat buffet, mezzanine seats and transportation tickets to and from the game. Tickets can be purchased at the CSA service window in the basement of the Oakland Center.

"Tickets will be on sale until they are sold out or up until the day of the game. There is a possibility of the tickets selling out as we have sold a large amount of tickets already," said Kerry Zhu, Travel Director for the Student Program Board.

The all-you-can-eat buffet includes cookout food such as hot dogs, hamburgers, pasta salad, chips, water and soft drinks. There will also be a fireworks display after the conclusion of the game.

As any Tigers fan knows, the last month of the season is crucial for the team's playoff chances. The game against the Twins will be game two of the team's final four-game series. The last series of the season can be

"I think this will be a great first game to go to since the tickets are on the cheaper side and I don't have to worry about driving or parking at the game."

Rita Habib
Sophomore

incredibly crucial to the team's playoff chances, as they are in a close race against the Kansas City Royals for the American League Central Division title.

Rita Habib, a sophomore at OU, has never been to a Tigers game and is looking forward to going to the game with a group of friends.

"I think this will be a great first game to go to since the tickets are on the cheaper side and I don't have to worry

about driving or parking at the game," said Habib.

This will be the first time that the SPB is sponsoring a Tigers game, though they have done a few Pistons games in the past.

They also has a few other upcoming trips, such as a Cedar Point trip on Oct. 18, for which tickets go on sale Sept. 16. They also have a scheduled New York City trip on Nov. 12-16, and tickets will go on sale Oct. 7.

More information can be found at oakland.edu/spb, on the OU SPB Facebook page, or by emailing SPB@oakland.edu.

Contact Staff Reporter Scott Davis at sddavis@oakland.edu.

Oakland adds student chapter of Society of Automotive Analysts

Ali DeRees
Campus and Administration
Editor

It is well-known that Detroit is home of the automotive industry and Oakland County the home of Automation Alley. Oakland University is now home to a student chapter of the Society of Automotive Analysts (SAA.)

SAA is an organization comprised of industry leaders and innovators focused on networking, discussing ideas and data and predicting trends.

Senior and finance major Josh Yasoni was previously involved in the Society of Automotive Engineers at OU and thought there should be a more business-focused organization involved in the automotive industry.

"It seemed kind of silly not having one," Yasoni said.

Yasoni said the organization will be doing a lot of hands-on things, such as going to automotive conferences, including the Detroit Auto

Show.

"We are focused on the industry now and in the future," said Yasoni.

Yasoni said he and the founding members of the group went to Associate Professor of Marketing in the School of Business Administration, Janell Townsend, for help in making connections in the auto industry. She in turn became the faculty adviser to the student chapter.

Townsend holds a doctorate in marketing and international business. She explained how the auto industry is not just important in the United States.

"You have to understand the global marketplace," Townsend said.

She said she is very excited to help with an organization that is connected outside of the university.

"It's one thing to have a student organization, but it's another to be connected to a professional organization," Townsend said.

These kind of connections

"The key to any industry is that there's connections with education and government."

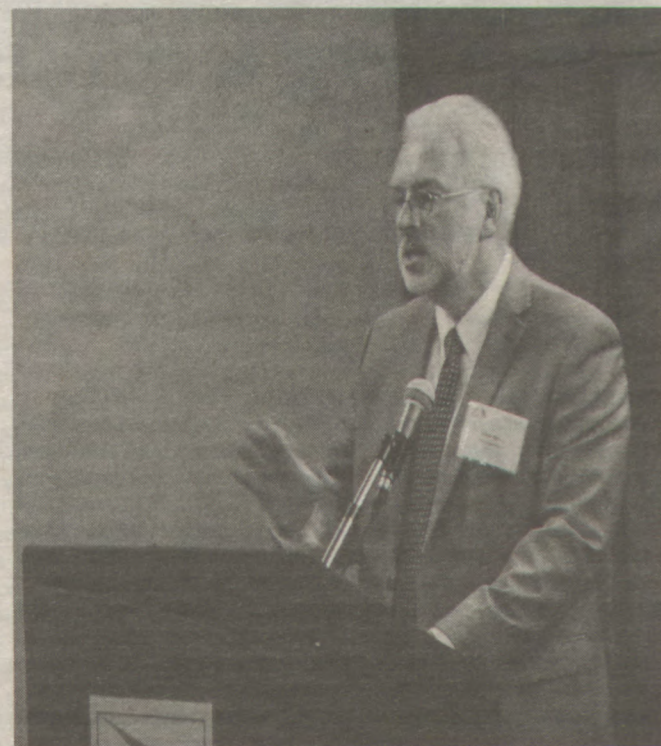
Janell Townsend
Associate Professor of
Marketing in the School of
Business Administration

are valuable for not only the students, but for the industry itself, according to Townsend.

"The key to any industry is that there's connections with education and government," Townsend said.

The organization held its first event at Meadow Brook Hall, which included a walking dinner and discussion of Oakland County's Connected Infrastructure Initiative. The event was co-sponsored by SAA and OU's Graduate Business Leaders.

Key speakers at the event included Sheryl Connelly, who works in Global Trends and Futuring at Ford Motor Company, and Chairman



Ali DeRees / The Oakland Post

Fred Nader presented the work done by his committee for the Oakland County Connected Car Initiative at Meadow Brook Hall Sept. 15.

of the Oakland County Connected Car Initiative Fred Nader.

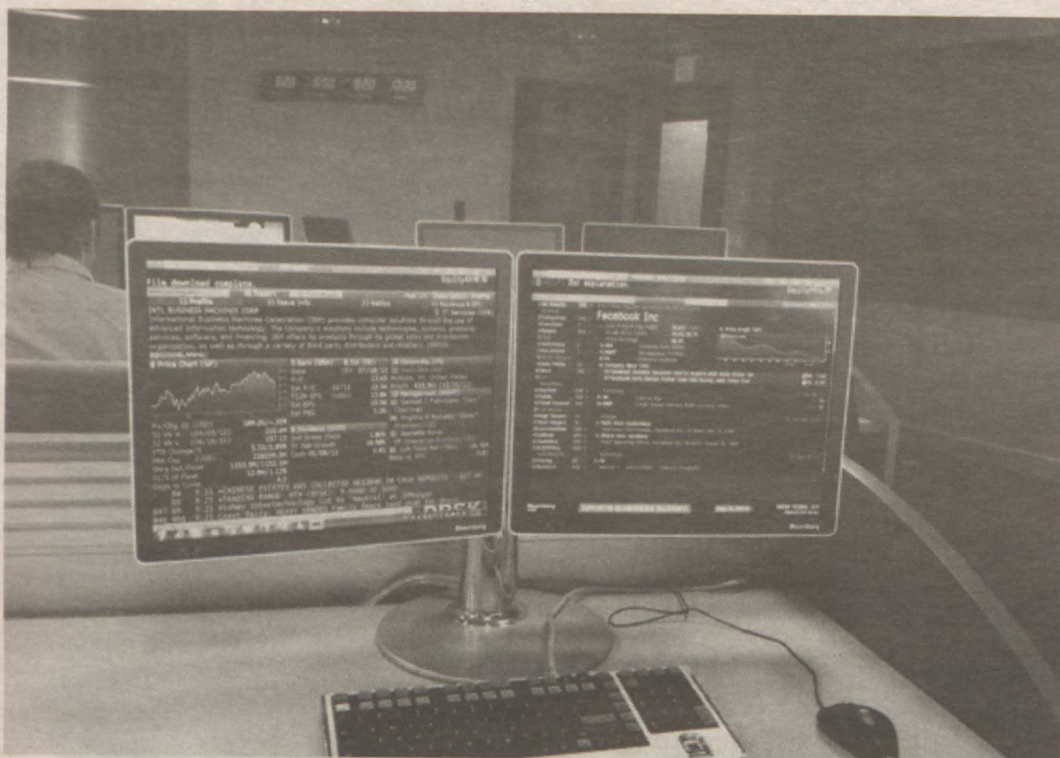
Townsend said she hopes this organization will spark more interest in the auto industry within the student body.

"How do we get people

interested in the industry? How do we get to kids? How do we get to the best of the best?" Townsend said.

The student chapter is looking for brand new members.

Students may email Yasoni at jmyasoni@oakland.edu.



Philip Johnson / The Oakland Post

Terminals connect to databases and provide information on stock, bonds and industrial supply chains in real time.

Bloomberg terminals arrive

Databases make financing, stock market easier

Philip Johnson
Staff Reporter

The 12 brand new Bloomberg terminals arrived early this summer as a new resource that will be available for student use.

What is it?

Originally developed in the 1980s by former mayor of New York, Michael Bloomberg, for the gathering of instantaneous bond data, the Bloomberg terminals are now a staple in many Fortune 500 firms and for educators, alike.

It's not a new reality gadget straight from a tech geeks fantasy or a "Star Trek" rip-off. But, it does look like it. Equipped with up to six monitors, and it's very own specially designed keyboard, the Bloomberg terminal is a financial analysts best friend. The terminals are connected to databases which provide the latest information on stock, bonds and industrial

supply chains in real time.

Nicolette Lowjeski, president of Society for Applied Investing in Financial Education said, "The Bloomberg terminals are going to help us take our organization to the next level."

Even playing field

With the addition of these terminals, Oakland now competes with the other universities in the state such as University of Michigan and Michigan State University, both of whom have had terminals for many years.

Each terminal costs around \$20,000, but a special university discount and a buy 3-get-9 free deal put the terminals within reach for OU's business school.

"I don't care who you are, even Harvard. Each university only has 12 terminals," says Associate Professor of Economics Ron Tracy.

Expanding education

Tracy discussed some new opportunities for OU with the addition of Bloomberg, including the possibility of new minors, Bloomberg aptitude certifications and the increased marketability of current gradu-

ates.

"Right now we are considering the Bloomberg proficiency tests as a requirement for graduates of the Business Economics program," he said.

Tracy's class will use data harvested on Bloomberg starting next week.

Professors aren't the only ones getting ideas for its use. Sophomore actuarial science major Musaab Muhammad also has plans for its use. As a member of OU's investing club on campus, Muhammad is looking forward to working with a real professional tool.

"It's incredibly useful," he said. "Before, we traditionally used Google, Apple and Yahoo finance to find data. Now it's all in one place."

Where are they?

The terminals can be found in the former ATiB lab, room 327 in Elliott Hall. They are not yet accessible for widespread student use, and are expected to be available in mid-November, pending the renovation of the lab.

Police citation numbers on the rise

Students continue to park illegally despite new parking options

Selah Fischer
Staff Reporter

"Either students are not yet aware that this structure is there or they just don't want to walk, but it's really not that far."

Mark Gordon
Chief of OUPD

It's no secret that students want close and convenient parking, and sometimes students resort to leaving their cars in illegal spots to reduce walking distances.

"I've received a parking ticket before because I parked on the grass," Steve Thibault, senior at Oakland University, said. "Everyone else was doing it so I decided to, as well."

In the past year, the number of parking tickets during the first week of classes has increased from 504 to 598 tickets issued, according to OUPD. All violations are \$20, except for handicap parking, which is \$50.

"P1 is the main lot students want to park in," Mark Gordon, chief of the Oakland University Police Department, said. "Students choose to drive around this lot over and over again, and then they get frustrated and park at the end of a row, fire lane or on a sidewalk."

Chief Gordon said the oddest place he's seen students park is on the top of snow mounds in P1, but the most frequent tickets are handed out to those who park at the end of a row. The lots are specially constructed by engineers in case of a car fire or

other emergency. OUPD has to stop cars from parking there because the design of the lots has a purpose.

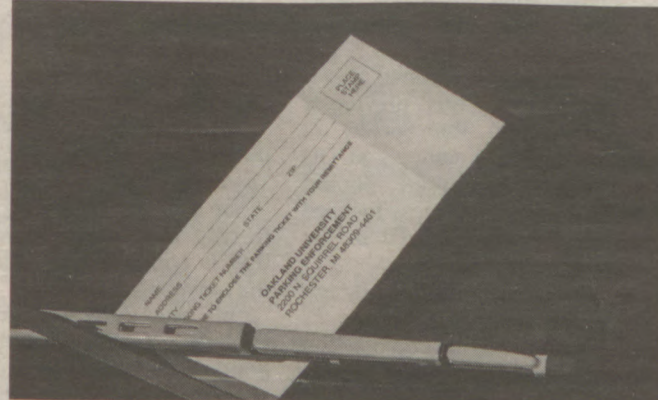
Chief Gordon explained that if students would just park in one of the south lots, rather than driving around P1, they would not receive a ticket.

The new parking structure has never been filled, yet students still insist there is nowhere to park, according to Gordon.

"Either students are not yet aware that this structure is there or they just don't want to walk, but it's really not that far," said Gordon. "OUPD has walked from there just to test it ourselves, and you can walk from just about anywhere on the main campus to somewhere else on campus and get there in about ten minutes."

Tickets are consistently handed because students want to park close to campus.

"My best advice to students is to leave early and allow yourself to park and walk," said Gordon. "If you do this each and every time, you will have no problems."



Shannon Wilson / The Oakland Post

Students who have received a parking ticket can visit oaklanduniversity.edu/parking to pay or appeal their fines.

Flexing his 'media muscles' for Oakland

Director of Media Relations believes Oakland 'has great stories to tell'

By Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

For Brian Bierley, Oakland University's current director of media relations, it all began one December in the rooftop pool of a hotel.

The year was 1992, and Bierley, a senior at University of Michigan, was approaching graduation knowing nothing more about his future than what his diploma would say: Liberal Arts.

A spark of inspiration

While he was traveling with the Michigan men's basketball team, which he student managed, Bierley wasn't alone on the hotel roof that night—he was joined by the university's Sports Information Director, Bruce Madej.

"Bruce," Bierley said, "I'm a senior. I'm going to graduate... I don't have any skills. I'm not good at anything. What am I going to do?"

According to Bierley, Madej replied, "You absolutely do, Brian. You're good with people."

Just a few words of encouragement from a mentor were all it took to bring Bierley from the fringes of indecision into a new and inspired career direction. Never in his wildest dreams could he have predicted the livelihood that was to follow that rooftop conversation.

Before OU

After working for the Palace of Auburn Hills for almost 10 years as both a public and media relations director, Bierley moved away from the bright lights of the sports world and into a completely different environment when he began working as the media relations coordinator at Beaumont Hospital of Royal Oak.

Since Bierley's first major job was with the Palace, he was used to working with high-profile individuals. But at Beaumont, Bierley had to learn to work with big names in an entirely different profession. Being one of the premier health systems in the country, Beaumont offered its own unique set of media-related challenges, which Bier-



Katherine Cagle / The Oakland Post

Director of Media Relations Brian Bierley shows off the newspapers to which he has contributed his relation skills while at Oakland.

"Brian's can-do attitude is a great asset for Oakland University's Communications and Marketing."

Dave Groves
Director of Campus Communications

ley was eager to take head-on.

Although this move in his career was one that he enjoyed for 13 years, Bierley could only take so much of being "number two" in the ranks.

Working as a senior media coordinator at Beaumont placed him beneath other individuals, and having had such great success at the Palace—working with the Pistons, the Vipers, and even a professional soccer team—Bierley was ready to prove that he could handle a top echelon position.

He felt he was prepared for bigger opportunities and greater challenges. He wasn't worried that he couldn't handle being in charge—he had been building his "media muscles" since graduating in 1993. He was ready.

Taking a chance

While employed at Beaumont, Bierley went out on a limb, applied for a new job, and landed an interview with Oakland University.

"I was interviewing [at Oakland]," he said, "but I still had a job."

Bierley immediately felt at home on campus. When he was offered the position, it was an enthusiastic "yes."

The location was perfect—only 15 minutes from his home. And at Oakland, he would have the opportunity to explore some new areas of media relations that he had not worked in during each of his previous jobs.

He would be able to cover sports, set up interviews for various departments of the university, work with Fox 2 News, the university theatre and dance programs, and even involve himself with The Oakland Post.

Making a change

Now, Bierley says he truly believes in the university and that "[Oakland] has great stories to tell." He hopes to focus on continuing to brand the university

in order to make OU more well-known to the surrounding local communities, and even to the Midwest as a whole.

Recognizing that Oakland is a relatively "young" school, and one that exists, perhaps, in the shadows of Michigan State and U of M, Bierley says he looks forward to building the reputation of Oakland and showing the country what the university has to offer.

With a resume that speaks for itself, Bierley knows what can be achieved with hard work and dedication. More so, he serves as a role model to college students who may be struggling to decide what they want to do after the caps are tossed at graduation.

Bierley's work at OU has already gained him positive recognition among the college community.

"Brian's can-do attitude is a great asset for Oakland University Communications and Marketing," said Dave Groves, director of campus communications. "[His attitude] is particularly relative to...the university's goal to broaden awareness of...the high quality academic programs we offer."

A full-page photograph of Iggy Azalea performing on stage. She is wearing a black high-necked crop top with a large, stylized graphic on the front that includes the word "chris". She has her hair pulled back and is wearing large hoop earrings. The background is dark with some stage lighting effects.

WHEN BOOTY CALLS

STORY BY: ANTHONY SPAK, WXOU MUSIC DIRECTOR DESIGN BY: KELLY LARA PHOTOS BY: KATHERINE CAGLE

While the crowd at Meadowbrook Music Festival sang along to Iggy Azalea's hits on Friday, Sept. 12, the music was not the main focus of the crowd or the performer as she strutted on stage.

Azalea's butt was her greatest weapon in terms of controlling the audience; her backside has taken on a life of its own with help from social media networks like Twitter and Instagram, where advertisements and pictures of "Iggy Azalea's Ass" are shown and shared regularly.

However, the rapper and her rump shared the stage with and Magic! as they warmed up Meadowbrook Music Festival on a chilly Friday night at the Student Program Board's annual Fall Concert.

Attendees began to congregate outside of the venue an hour and a half before doors opened. Most of the early arrivers were OU students.

While they waited in line, concert-goers were treated to music and free-giveaways from three local radio stations: AMP 98.7, Channel 95.5, and 88.3 FM WXOU, Oakland University's on-campus station.

At 6:30, the doors opened and fans quickly filed in to the outdoor venue. Not long after, Magic!, the opening act, took the stage. The Canadian band's first few songs were brimming with their energetic blend of reggae and rock. Magic!'s rhythm section immediately got the crowd to wiggle in time to their deep grooves. Drummer Alex Tanas laid into his golden-sparkle Gretsch kit with

cutting, half-time beats and funky offbeat fills that were reminiscent of another famous reggae-rock drummer, Stewart Copeland of The Police. Bassist Ben Spivak (sporting a vintage Grateful Dead t-shirt) laid on deep, thick reggae bass lines alongside Tanas', and together, they got the crowd dancing.

After three songs and a bit of a temperature drop, lead singer and guitarist Nasri complimented the audience's enthusiasm, saying "You guys are really warming this place up!"

After playing a cover of Cyndi Lauper's 1983 anthem "Girls Just Want to Have Fun", dedicated "to the ladies" by Nasri, the front man took a moment to address the crowd on a more personal level. "Can I say something serious? Positivity is the key to

happiness in life," he said.

Magic! closed the set with "Rude", their hit song that spent six straight weeks at the top of the Billboard Hot 100 charts in the USA this past July and August. The crowd erupted as the opening chords sounded and sang along to the familiar tune.

The minute Magic! left the stage, the young and rowdy crowd immediately began asking for more music, chanting "I-GGY! I-GGY!" After a half hour wait, the main act finally walked onto stage to thunderous applause.

Amethyst Amelia Kelly, better known to the world as Iggy Azalea, took the stage around 9 p.m. The Australian-born rapper has been riding a hot streak of popularity since the release of her debut album, *The New Classic*, which spawned four hit singles, including her ubiquitous mega-hit "Fancy" that also went to the top of the Billboard Hot 100 charts over the summer.

At 5'10" without her signature stilettos, Iggy was much taller than expected. The Aussie towered over her four backup dancers as they shimmied and twerked through a short, highly-choreographed set. Azalea and her onstage crew of four dancers, two backup singers, and a DJ played through 17 songs, including her four singles from *The New Classic*. Azalea spoke very little during the show between songs, only instructing the DJ a number of times to "drop that shit", or begin the beat for the next song.

Azalea was certainly aware of her valuable asset, and knew how to work the crowd with just a simple shake of her hips. Fans went into frenzy when Azalea would slowly bend down mid-song and shake her butt, more so than they did for any line or beat of any of her actual songs. Simply put, it was all about the booty for Azalea.

The rapper's voice was raspy through most of her set, which may seem to negate recent accusations by Buzzfeed of her lip-syncing onstage during a performance with Jennifer Lopez. Still, her performance suffered a bit because it appeared that she was losing her voice the longer her set went. Again, the audience didn't seem to mind as long as Azalea and her dancers continued to twerk on and around each other.

Azalea closed her set with "Fancy", her biggest hit, and the song the New York Times dubbed the "song of the summer". Friday night's version seemed watered-down, which is understandable considering that her backup singers had to sing the hook, rather than Charli XCX, who sings on the recorded version. Azalea saved a special gesture for the last song, waiting



Iggy Azalea and Magic! performed at Meadowbrook Music Festival on Friday for the Student Program Board's annual Fall Concert. Despite the chilly weather, the audience was "really warming this place up," as the lead singer and guitarist of Magic! told the audience.

until the last few minutes of the set to actually touch her own behind. The audience roared the loudest at this moment when Azalea grabbed her own butt cheek and briefly fondled it. Soon confetti shot out of the side of the stage over the crowd, Azalea thanked the crowd "for the support", and exited the stage without an encore.

In terms of popularity and current relevance, the Student Program Board landed a great headliner that created lots of excitement around campus. In terms of talent, character, and musical quality, however, one has to wonder whether or not Iggy Azalea was the right choice for the fall concert.

Sure, Azalea's music is bumpin' and easy to drunkenly bob one's head to. But

should we, as a student body, support an artist who so shamelessly relies on her own fake sexual gestures in order to garner attention from the media and applause from a crowd, rather than from her actual music? Should we support a female entertainer who reinforces negative stereotypes of both woman with her hyper-sexualized performances and hip-hop artists with her lyrics that focus on cash, ass, and nothing else?

This article was contributed by Anthony Spak, music director for WXOU. Find the original at www.wxou.org.

Sports

Athletes jump start futures

Portfolios for career advancement made in GOLD program

Karine Celis
Staff Reporter

The Grizzlies Outstanding Leadership Program's (GOLD) purpose is to encourage the personal and professional development of the student-athletes of Oakland University while accumulating experience in networking, leadership and community service.

The GOLD program was developed by the Oakland University Athletics Department in accordance with its core values of excellence, service, respect, accountability, discovery and integrity. The following domains, also known as the expectations of the OU student-athlete, sustain the program: academics, athletics, life skills and community outreach, meaningful relationships, leadership experience, compliance and career placement.

Being a part of this program is not as different as you might think. Evan Dermidoff, academic athletics advisor, recommended "to try it in your freshman or sophomore year. You will know after that first year if it's something you want to continue or not."

The guidelines of the program allow any student-athlete to participate if they are interested. Upon the completion of the program, one will have a portfolio which will show their academic, leadership and community service accomplishments. The portfolio also includes a cover page, cover letter and resume.

Athletes also write an essay, sharing their experience at Oakland University. The essay is not only included in the portfolio, but it is also be used as an example for future student-athletes. According to volleyball player Taylor Humm, "this is a great way for recruits to see what past Golden Grizzlies have done with their time at Oakland."

The GOLD program offers many benefits. Dermidoff went on, "it will be a tool to help you land a job or get into graduate

school. It will physically show employers and grad schools that you have done so much more during college than just being a student-athlete."

For example, Humm got an internship at Chrysler as a Powertrain Development Engineer and had the opportunity to bring her GOLD portfolio along with the resume.

"Looking back on my position at that time, I alone did not have enough automotive experience to be given this internship," Humm said, "I believe that because of my portfolio, I was given this opportunity because they saw from the GOLD program a candidate who was worthy of a chance to learn and grow their personal professional experience by demonstrating leadership, dedication and determination."

Non-athlete students also benefit from the GOLD program.

"It is more of an indirect advantage. If student-athletes are trained to get involved, the entire community at Oakland University will benefit from committed leaders," according to tennis player Juliana Guevara.

Despite all of the benefits and rewards of the Gold Program, the participation rates are very low.

According to Holly Kerstner from Athletics Student Services, "This is only the second year that we have done it, so in the past we have had approximately 15 seniors who graduate from the GOLD program. That is approximately the top 12 percent of our student-athletes," said Holly Kerstner, assistant director of athletics for student-athlete services.

The lack of involvement is the biggest challenge for the GOLD Program. Both Kerstner and Dermidoff agree the most important obstacle is the disinformation about the program.

"So many of the student-athletes do not understand the details of the program," Kerstner said.

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is working on the marketing strategy to solve the participation problem



Oakland Post Archives

Taylor Humm, selling out on a play in a 2014 game for the Golden Grizzlies.

of the GOLD Program.

Taylor Humm who is also the president of SAAC said, "Since the program is still in its development stage, we are spreading the word and creating value that is meaningful to student-athletes. As it continues to develop, we are sharing the program with other universities in the Horizon League to promote going above and beyond being just an athlete."

It is also a matter of time to get the student-athletes on board with the program. "It will take some time to establish a history and have examples for the student-athletes to reference," Kerstner said, who is also the SAAC adviser.

The GOLD program is very young. It was started two years ago and the first generations did not even graduate with a portfolio. There is plenty of room for improvement.

For Humm, the focus should be the documentation and editing. "At this point, we are experimenting with different ways of putting events, awards, and activities in the portfolio. Another opportunity we have is to create

groups of students to edit and review portfolios and stories of student athletes."

For Kerstner, the improvement should be done in the exposure of the portfolios. "The improvements include having those examples set so the portfolios are accessible to everyone for view." "In addition to that, we will need to increase our communication so the student-athletes are more aware of the program."

The Athletics Department wants to have as many students as possible valuing the program.

"We are hoping to develop in the future the quality over the quantity of participants in the program," Humm said. "The challenge is to not have athletes complete the GOLD program just because they believe it will look great on their resume. It is important to have the participants have a true desire to excel and use this as an opportunity to create a well-documented portfolio and a great leadership piece to help promote themselves when the time comes to look for internships or go into the workforce."

SPORTING



Cross Country

Oakland University's Ashley Burr finished first in the University of Wisconsin-Parkside's Midwest Open on Sept. 13. She finished the 5k with a time of 18:20.2. The Golden Grizzlies men's runners Nathan Ziolk and Andrew Bowman finished third and fourth in their contest. The women finished in second place and the men in third.

Volleyball

Jessica Dodd won tournament MVP honors after a 5-set victory over Army on Sunday. The round-robin tournament also featured Binghamton and Holy Cross, which finished in second place. OU went 3-0 in the stretch. Dodd's teammates Amanda Baker and Sammy Condon also made the all-tourney team.

Soccer

Matching up against No. 25 ranked Denver the Grizzlies fell short in a comeback attempt, losing 3-2 in the match. The team played Air Force on Sunday, which resulted in a shut-out 1-0. The men have fallen to 0-4 on the season. The women lost to Colorado College 1-0 and Air Force 5-1, dropping the squad to 1-6 for the year. Alice Palmer scored her first goal of the season for the women's team.

Baseball

Jake Paulson and Tim Koons finished their first season in the minor league system for the MLB. Paulson made 18 appearances and boasted a 3.72 ERA. Paulson is with the Cincinnati Reds rookie team summer affiliate. Koons is playing for the Rivier City Rascals in the frontier league and pitched six innings in the division title clinching game.

-Compiled by Matt Saulino



Shannon Wilson/The Oakland Post

Konya pushes for fan focus

Athletic department strives to better game day - 'Our brand is more than just a bear head... our brand is our experiences'

Jackson Gilbert
Sports Editor

Expect a new and improved experience at Oakland University basketball games this winter.

Oakland Athletic Director Jeff Konya hosted a focus group Tuesday comprised of leaders from various student organizations to discuss his vision for the basketball experience in the O'rena.

Assistant Athletic Director Scott MacDonald led off the meeting and said that it is his goal to "get the community involved."

That was clearly the case, as both he and Konya led an energetic discussion about what students liked and disliked about the experience of attending home games.

Konya, a native of Oakland County, mentioned in his introduction that he attended a game at OU a few years ago and left feeling like there was room for improvement.

"That's not the impression I want people to leave with," Konya said.

"Our brand is more than just the bear head... our brand is our experiences."

As a second-year member of the Horizon League, OU is

now playing more recognizable natural rivals such as Detroit and Valparaiso, after spending more than a decade in the Summit League playing lesser-known opponents.

Despite reaching the NCAA Tournament three times in the last decade with star players such as Keith Benson, Reggie Hamilton and Travis Bader, it's been a struggle to fill the O'rena seats on a regular basis.

The largest O'rena crowd ever is the 4,065 fans who witnessed the Grizzlies' overtime victory over the University of Detroit on Feb. 14.

But a first-ever Horizon League playoff game in the O'rena in March drew just 2,283 fans.

Among many of the ideas discussed at the gathering, unifying the student body and athletes was at the top of the priority list for Konya and his staff.

One proposed idea is to have dedicated schedules for timeouts, with the band playing for one and the dance team performing for another.

Other ideas discussed included having color-themed games such as "blackout" night and scripted dances for the Grizz Gang.

The Grizz Gang is one of the

most vocal student sections in the Horizon League.

Konya also asked the representatives what they'd change at the games.

Several ideas were brought up including an increase in the amount of free items given away and an emphasis on campus-wide advertisements for the games.

"We've got to bring our strengths to light," Konya said.

Representatives from student groups ranging from the dance team to campus radio station WXOU attended the focus group.

All were given the opportunity to chat directly with Konya and share their input.

Brittany Hall, the president of OU's Grizz Gang, said she was impressed.

"They've clearly been putting a lot of thought into this. I've been here for four years and the athletic department has never done anything like this," she said.

Hall also mentioned that she was pleased with the transparency of the new athletic director.

"They are doing a great job of accepting new ideas. The Grizz Gang actually has a chance to make a difference," she said.

Golden Grizzlies go pink

Women in Sports event supports cancer research

Karine Celis
Staff Reporter

Next month the athletics department will be hosting the event Women in Sports in which young girls will visit campus and participate in the clinics created by the different female athletic teams of Oakland University.

The event features the participation of Women's Soccer, Volleyball, Women's Golf, Women's Swim and Dive, and Women's Basketball and will take place on Oct. 11 at the O'rena and the OU soccer field.

At the same time, this event will be supporting the breast cancer research and awareness.

This event is a mix between Women in Sports and Pink day.

It will emphasize the importance of sports in the lives of young girls and its benefits while all the participating teams will be wearing pink in support of the battle against breast cancer.

An exciting turn will be the speech of Alfreeda Goff.

Goff is the Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief of Staff for the Horizon League and is also one of the founders of the annual Women's Leadership Symposium, which helps women to be successful in the intercollegiate field.

Jenna Taylor is the author of this event. She is a senior majoring in marketing and also a member of the OU Women's Soccer team.

"I am always looking at other programs and schools and looking to see what activities or events they do and the effects it has on their fan attendance or school spirit," Taylor said.

However, she was not alone bringing this event to life. Evan Dermidoff, the Athletic Advisor, suggested

Taylor pitch the idea to Holly Kerstner from Athletics Student Services.

"When I told Holly, she was ecstatic about this event," Taylor said.

This project passed from being the dream of a student to the goal of an entire department.

Taylor mentioned that she has been getting a lot of attention from different people and not just in the Athletic Department.

"I also received a lot of support from coaches and student leaders who were willing to help when I brought up the idea in March. Basically, it has become a group effort in the athletic department," Taylor said.

"Sports have always been a part of my life. It started with playing Jackpot or football with the neighborhood boys when I was 6-years-old to playing AYSO when I was 8-years-old, then to today being a collegiate athlete on the Women's Soccer team. When I was a kid I had to deal with the court system and family issues, so when I got a chance to be free outside, sports were an outlet," Taylor said.

The athletics department is expecting an attendance of around 50 girls for the event.

It might seem like small amount for all the planning that has been going on, but this project is more about the quality and not the quantity.

According to Jenna, "this event can show girls that playing a sport or being active can be a great thing in your life."

It can inspire you to be the best, create opportunities to gain lifelong friends, develop leadership and life skills, and live a healthy and happy lifestyle."

Hoping to inspire and encourage, Taylor and the rest of the Athletic Department of Oakland University expect to bring some joy to the lives of these girls. Who knows - maybe they will be future Golden Grizzlies.



Matt Saulino / The Oakland Post

Katke-Cousins golf course offers high-quality premier golfing right in OU's backyard. Students and faculty also receive discounted rates.

Katke-Cousins makes top-notch golf available on Oakland's campus

Matt Saulino
Staff Reporter

Golfers across the country, some more avid than others, play for a wide range of reasons. Whether it be for the challenge, the scenery, or to spend time with friends, it is a hobby that is usually considered a luxury.

Normally, when someone decides to go golfing, they will end up spending \$30 to \$50 dollars to enjoy a course for a few hours. Many times someone will think that the cost is too much and find something cheaper to do.

One of Michigan's premier golf courses is right in OU's backyard.

"It's on campus, it's easily accessible by the student body and has 36 just beautiful holes," Golf and Managing Director Bill Rogers said. "It's pretty hard to beat on any campus in the country."

The name of the course is Katke-Cousins. It's also just \$14 dollars to walk nine, and for 18, you can play for a dollar a hole. Anyone who even flirts with trying to know this game would know that as a steal.

For a little more you can also play the neighboring Sharf course, too.

It was John Dodge that decided to mold a golf course of his own in the early 1900's for himself and his affiliates. But, according to Rogers, in the minds of Katke, Cousins and Sharf, they understood the necessity for the student to study, but they wanted to offer an outlet at a fair price for their student-patrons.

"It was their vision that the students and the faculty would couple the golf experience with their educational experience. That was their focus," Rogers said.

As students here at Oakland, it's important to take advantage of its beauties, and that can be said about the courses that are overlooked by the scenic Meadow Brook Mansion.

"I probably walk Katke about 20 times a year. It's a treat, it's a beautiful course, and it's hard," Garry Gilbert, director of the journalism department, said. "It kicks my butt, regularly."

Although it is picturesque, it's also very challenging, with sprawling hills and altering elevation that is reminiscent of some places up north, and it's literally right there.

The golf courses are just a hop, skip and a jump away from your classroom. Think

"It's on campus, it's easily accessible by the student body and has 36 just beautiful holes,"

Bill Rogers
Golf and Managing Director

of it like being in your back yard, only better.

"From my office here in Vandenburg Hall, I can be at Katke in about five minutes which is pretty handy," Gilbert said. "Sometimes I play at the end of the day after my last class. Sometimes I'll get there at 7:30 in the morning, and then come to Vandenburg."

For beginners, Katke also offers the Rick Smith golf academy and practice area. The academy offers help to all golfers who are willing, and have one of the best in the business to do it. Smith was also the swing coach for professional golfer Phil Mickelson.

For more information on the OU Golf and Learning center visit <http://www.oakland.edu/golf>.

Rec center provides means for getting fit

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

OU students are able to get their much-needed exercise as the Recreation Center offers plenty of group exercise classes to get fit.

The Department of Campus Recreation offers students and recreation members a weekly schedule of group exercise classes and a variety of mind and body fitness classes for physical activity, stress management and social interaction. The wide variety of classes and the different class formats are meant to challenge a student's fitness enthusiasm at any level. The group exercise schedule also provides a wide variety of cardiovascular, strength and flexibility workouts for students.

There is a wide range of different courses that students can choose from including kick boxing, cycling, strength circuits and belly dancing. There are multiple dates and times for each of the classes so they can easily fit into a student's schedule.

One of the classes that has seen popularity recently is Zumba. The unique aerobic fitness program features movements that were inspired by various styles of Latin America dance and is meant for an intense cardio workout.

"I've been doing it for the last two months," said Vrenda Pruthi, an OU student enrolled in the Zumba class. "It's superb. Time flies by, and you have a lot of fun while you exercise."

While most of the classes are free, students and all paying members of the Recreation Center must purchase a FitPass if they want to take a mind/body class. These vary in price depending on how long students want the passes for.

Yoga and Pilates classes are classified under mind/body and there are various levels of classes for students to choose from. Level one courses are for students who are just getting started and want some experience while level three courses are for the more experience and advanced students.

"It makes you really limber and flexible," said Trish Stocco, an Oakland graduate student. "And if you eat clean you'll start to see a difference."

Students can find more information, including a complete schedule for all of the different classes, at oakland.edu/campusrec/group-exercise.

'We have no hope there, honestly'

ISIS threat hits home for student with Iraqi heritage

Andrew Wernette
Life, Arts & Entertainment

From the outside, Ashtar Stella Warda, who simply goes by Stella, is like any other student at Oakland University.

Originally born in Texas to immigrant parents, Warda now lives in Macomb and studies biology with a concentration in pre-med. She is also the president of the newly-formed Stellar Oncology Care student organization, which creates care packages for people living with cancer.

She is an American.

However, Warda's roots lie in Iraq, in a northern community called Barwar. Some of her extended family still remains there and in the surrounding area.

For now, at least.

Warda proudly calls herself Assyrian, a member of an ethnic community which traces its existence back to the earliest civilizations of the Middle East. Now a small Christian minority group in the area, the Assyrian community in recent history has faced persecution and even massacres that some have labeled genocide.

Now, things are looking grim again.

ISIS

In the past few months, the extremist group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (also known as ISIS or the Islamic State), has risen up to take large pieces of land in both Iraq and neighboring Syria.

ISIS is known for its brutal interpretation of Islamic law. According to Amnesty International, the group is carrying out ethnic cleansing on religious minorities that it comes

across, including Christians and those of the Yazidi faith.

Close to home

Warda said that ISIS had already hit some of her people's villages in the north.

"It's very emotional," Warda said. "A lot of [the villagers] have run away from the villages because they're scared that [ISIS will] be traveling that way."

She said that the militants have dismantled and blown up their churches. Often, she said, she receives videos from online of ghastly acts that ISIS has committed in the community.

"It just affects you," Warda said. "You see the videos on your news feed from your cousins who are there that are my friends on Facebook. They post the videos of what's happening, of the children being beheaded and the women getting slaughtered. They have it all over Facebook. It's so horrific."

Warda's family has also experienced personal loss. Some of her cousins have been raped and killed by ISIS militants. Their uncle, she said, committed suicide as a result of this.

But, she said, "My aunt hasn't fled her village yet."

Her aunt, Dina, recently came from Iraq to America for the first time to visit family. Warda noticed that she carried sorrow with her.

"You could just see her face, how sad she was," she said.

Yet, when Warda's family pleaded to her aunt not to return to the situation in Iraq, she simply replied that she couldn't leave her husband there. Warda recalled her saying, "If I'm going to die, I'm going to die on my land."

"She's hardcore Assyrian," Warda said.

All of this has had an effect on Warda's life at school. She described it as a "bipolar" type



Katherine Cagle/The Oakland Post

Ashtar Stella Warda shares a picture of her father, Warda, and aunt, Dina, in a village in Iraq.

of experience where she constantly juggles emotions. She has started wearing Assyrian-themed T-shirts more often and hung the Assyrian flag up in her apartment. One of the feelings that she and her community at home have is anger at the relatively little that is being done about Iraq at the moment, within and without.

"We're already a minority, and they're killing more of our people. We have no hope

there, honestly," she said.

"There's so much to say at this point about the situation."

At one point during the interview with The Post, Warda called her sister Linda, whom she called "her second brain." Linda responded with a few prepared words.

"The persecution of humanity regardless of race, religion and creed is under our watch," she said. "History's repeating itself, and once we look back

onto this in future years, how are we going to judge ourselves and what our own reaction was?"

Future

Warda recalled a trip her family to Iraq back in 2006, when American troops were there. She said that it was beautiful, and that, one day, she hopes that she can go back.



1. Displays of the artist's memories in their full glory in the gallery.

2. Professor and artist Sally Schluter Tardella speaking about her art and inspiration.

3. Artist Talks events give insight to the true meaning behind the pieces.

Photos by Kaleigh Jerzykowski



Remembering Childhood

Professor Sally Tardella displays her pride and joy at the Art Gallery

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Simonides of Ceos, an ancient Greek poet, was at a banquet.

When he stepped outside the banquet hall to speak with friends, he turned to find the hall collapsing behind him.

Once the rubble was cleared, the bodies of those in-

side were too far decimated to be recognized, but Simonides was able to achieve identification by remembering where each one was sitting in the hall.

This is the earliest recorded use of a "memory palace"—an association of things to be remembered with tangible objects in space and time. Such is the inspiration behind

OU professor and artist Sally Schluter Tardella's work, currently on display at the Oakland University Art Gallery (OUAG).

Tardella took part in an Artist's Talk with an audience on Sept. 9 at the OUAG. After a brief introduction by gallery director Dick Goody, Tardella opened with a statement.

"I've been thinking a lot about place," she said, "and by place I mean where I am right now, where you are, where I was, what I thought about where I was, what I remember about where I was, what I think about it now and how would I change it."

Tardella's work consists of large, brightly colored paintings which she says are "floor plans" of spaces that she remembers from childhood, now revisited through her "adult lens."

"These talks deal with an artist's studio practice, delving into the psychology and motivation behind the work," Goody said, "They also explore how the work is made, the techniques used and so on."

Don't be fooled—these talks are not just for those who aspire to create.

The events are public, so everyone is encouraged to attend.

Ultimately, professor and director of studio art, Cody Vanderkaay, said that OUAG hopes to enrich the lives of individuals through the wonderment of its art and Artist Talks.

"Artist Talks, gallery events [and] lectures provide audience members with frameworks to discover personally unique points of view... potentially reshaping the way one thinks about and participates with [their] environment, community, and larger social sphere."

Contact Staff Reporter Kaleigh Jerzykowski at memekaleigh@gmail.com.



Sean Miller/The Oakland Post

The grandeur of Meadow Brook Mansion, where the Wild Game Dinner will take place.

This wild, wild game of ours

Pheasant, boar, duck and other wild game will adorn the tables of Meadow Brook Mansion during the annual dinner

Sean Miller
Staff Reporter

Ever wonder what pheasant, wild boar or duck taste like? Meadow Brook Mansion, a national and historic landmark located on Oakland's campus, will be hosting its 9th annual Wild Game Dinner where people can come and experience a true fine dining experience.

The event will be held on Sept. 17 at 6 p.m.

To kick off this event, the mansion will serve cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

A special guided tour and entertainment will also be available.

The dinner will be held outside near the gardens, along with a raffle and an auction.

The auction will feature a large range of items people can bid on.

Attendees have a chance to win fishing trips, guns, VIP Red Wings tickets, jewelry, golf equipment and different spa packages.

"We are excited to be hosting this event," said Shannon

O'Berski, the mansion's marketing and communications manager.

"Oakland University students are more than welcome to buy tickets and will be eligible to receive a small discount as well."

If a student should find him or herself at the Wild Game Dinner, they'll need to prepare their tastebuds.

Attendees will get the opportunity to eat gourmet food that will be prepared specifically for the event by the mansion's head chef, Patrick Gazzarato.

Some of the featured menu items include venison meatballs, a cucumber and spinach salad with duck confit and a wild boar and king crab risotto.

To finish the night off, a succulent piece of crème brûlée cheesecake with berries and caramel will be presented.

Oakland University alumnus Greb Webb recalls fond memories of his experience at the Wild Game Dinner in years prior.

"I went to the event once before with my girlfriend. It was a nice time with a beautiful atmosphere and wonderful

food. It was pricey, but I would do it again," he said.

The dinner is a fund-raising event and all the proceeds go to the preservation and restoration of the mansion.

The night is sponsored by Meadow Brook Hall and Jewell Media Services.

Reservations for the dinner are required.

Tickets will cost \$100 without the student discount.

They go fast, so prospective attendees are encouraged to make reservations immediately.

OU students are always invited to attend events at Meadow Brook Hall, which are year-round.

There is a holiday walk through the mansion, dinner and movie events, an upcoming Great Gatsby Gala and constant tours.

Students have access to tours of the mansion for free and receives discounts on any ticketed event hosted by Meadow Brook Hall.

For more information on the Wild Game Dinner, call 248-364-6263 for more information.

Free events on campus help students get fit

New club promotes health and exercise

Jasmine French
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's alumnus, Xixi Flores, is one of seven initiators of the new Impact Nutrition Club, located on the corner of Sashabaw and Waldon Road in Clarkston, 10-15 minutes away from campus.

Friday, Sept. 14, was the club's first visit to OU to speak with students about nutrition and to bring awareness.

"It's really an open space for people to work out for free," Flores said of the club. "We have free zumba classes, cardio drumming, nutrition classes and wellness profiles."

The club hosts healthy lifestyle events that occur four times per week.

"Four nutrition clubs closed in different cities and seven of us came together to create a new one," Flores said. "We want to especially help younger students become healthier."

Flores graduated from OU in 2005.

"When I first became a college student, I never really knew how my nutrition habits affected my attentiveness in class, energy level and study habits."

As the Impact Nutrition Club spoke with students on Friday, most of them were interested.

Students discussed what it means to them to be health conscious.

Eddie Rayborn, senior at OU, said that for him fitness means lifestyle. "Coming into school I was interested in being health conscious because one of my parents has hyper tension, and the other has heart disease," Rayborn said.

"When I went to the doctor and had a physical, I found out how important it was for me to take care of my body

and how these health issues could affect my health."

Rayborn added that he started to work out more, eating more fruits, vegetables, lessened going out to eat as much and also began to check ingredients on the foods he ate.

"I got quite a bit of students who were interested and would like to know more about nutrition," Flores said. "A lot of OU students love to work out."

OU student David McCray shared some of his health habits.

"I won't eat the entire day and I'd eat unhealthy foods before I went to sleep," McCray said. "However, I don't eat pork and I juice once a month for a week."

Flores stated that the target is to bring more awareness of fitness to students so that when they graduate and start families, it'll make an impact for future generations.

"The one thing I could do better for my health would be to keep up on exercise," said junior Brianna Sosnowski. "It's hard as a college student to make time for it because I'm in school, working and studying all the time."

"More fitness classes on campus would help students because this is where we spend most of our time and on breaks we could join."

"I would love to bring these free events to OU, if permitted," Flores said. "It would create a positive environment for students and even staff."

For more information contact Flores at 248-894-2316 or at xixiflores@gmail.com.

Contact Staff Reporter
Jasmine French at jefrench@oakland.edu.



2

All's fair in love and renaissance

Michigan Renaissance Festival attracts students with color and cheer

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

The 2014 Michigan Renaissance Festival has only a couple of weeks left, but there is still plenty to see at the yearly festival.

The 36th annual Michigan Renaissance Festival in Holly, Michigan takes attendees back to the 16th century with a wide variety of entertainment options. The 17-acre village features 17 themed stages with entertainment, including full-contact armored jousting, comedy and theater shows; even rides.

In addition to the main attractions at the festival, there are also theme weekends.

Past weekends have included Royal Pet & Ale Fest, High Seas Adventure and Wonders of the World.

Being only a short drive north up I-75, the festival offers an outside entertainment option for Oakland University

students.

When students visit the festival, they might also notice some familiar faces. Rick Carver, who goes by the stage name of Ric Roc, has been a performer for about thirty years at the festival. He is also a professor at OU. Carver earned his bachelor's degree through the theatre department at OU, and he has been an adjunct professor in the department since 2000. He teaches mime and basic acting classes.

"Students from my class have to come out and see what I do because, as I explain that I do shows called 'The Stupid Show' and 'The Dumb Show,' it's kind of fuzzy to them," Carver said. "When they see my shows they understand and appreciate what I do."

Carver also works at other Renaissance festivals in the area, as well as other special events.

The people who work at

the festival are important to creating a sense of escape for the visitors, something that character actor Mark Holden certainly helps with.

Holden dresses as a friar and carries a "Good Book" filled with homemade blessings, such as, "Blessing be the crucifix-shaped bottle I pour over my salad, for it is cross dressing."

Holden is also an understudy for a musical comedy singing group, Bocca Musica, which perform four times a day.

Holden said that working at the festival is like working an improv show, and the fact that lots of people come every day for the festival makes it very party-like.

"Every year when I return to the fair I am greeted like an old friend at a class reunion," Holden said. "Everyone is there to have fun, laugh, drink, and listen to music you would never find on your local FM

stations." "Everyone is there to have fun, laugh, drink and listen to music you would never find on your local FM stations."

Mark Holden
Renaissance Festival actor

stations."

The festival will run every weekend until Sept. 28.

More information can be found at michiganrenfest.com.

For more information on Rick (Ric Roc) Carver and his shows, go to his website at ricroc200.com. For ticket information, visit michiganrenfest.com. Tickets can also be purchased at the doors.

Contact Staff Reporter Scott Davis at sddavis@oakland.edu



3

Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

1. The Michigan Renaissance Festival takes place on most weekends during September and October.

2. A full-armored joust is one of the most popular attractions with fans at the festival.

3. A common occurrence during comedy and theater shows is audience participation. While not mandatory, most performers can persuade audience members to loosen up.

Fighting the freshman 15 in 15 minutes a day

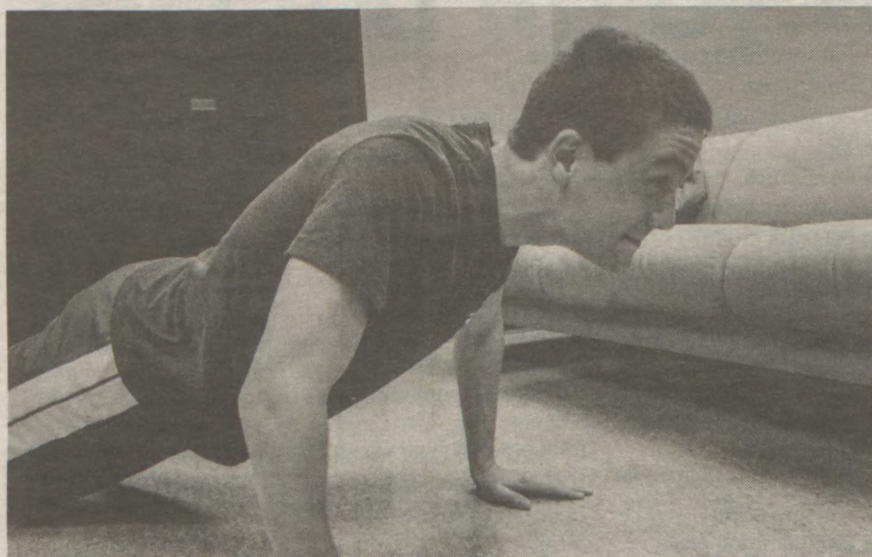


Photo illustration by Salwan Georges / The Oakland Post

Senior Jackson Gilbert does a pushup in the comfort of his room.

Health nuts share a few tips for students on getting a quick workout in the comfort of their dorm rooms

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Everyone is familiar with it — the 15 extra pounds that some people might gain with adjustment to being on campus and away from home.

"Beware the freshman 15!" friends and families may have said as students packed up and headed to college for the first time.

So how do students keep those 15 pounds from following them through college, or from happening at all?

There is the Recreation Center on campus as well as plenty of club sports to choose from. But for busy Oakland University residents there's another way to fight the flab in just 15 minutes.

BJ Gaddour, an Amherst College alum and consultant for Men's Health, said that doing just 15 minutes of bodyweight exercise a day with nothing more than a chair and wall can produce great results.

Gaddour's workouts consist of squats, pushups, wall-sits, knee-ups, and a host of other activities designed to elevate your heart rate in even the smallest of spaces.

West Virginia University's Center of Health agrees that a short, daily bodyweight exercise routine can help one stay in shape and perhaps shed extra pounds.

WVU says that there are three components to a successful workout: aerobic exercise, strength training, and stretching.

Doing a simple set of burpees, adding in some wall squats, and following with a stretch, will give exercisers all three elements, providing a balanced workout in next to no time while simultaneously requiring very little space.

WVU also suggests that in addition to a chair and wall for your workout people can also use their bed and even a towel as a resistance strap — all ways to amp up their workout.

OU Rugby Club president and club sports program assistant Ted Tansley agreed that body weight exercises are a great way to work out at school.

"Bodyweight exercising is an excellent way to get started in working out," he said. "In my experience, I significantly improved my squatting from doing it at home without weights."

Tansley also suggested that students who are injured and are used to exercising regularly at the Recreation Center or in the form of a sport can benefit greatly from a quick bodyweight dorm room workout.

"Bodyweight exercises are great for maintaining [your] strength and gaining more endurance for when you're ready to get back onto the field," Tansley said.

It's really possible to get a great workout in the comfort of your own dorm using everyday items. Best of all, students can fight the freshman 15 in just 15 minutes a day.

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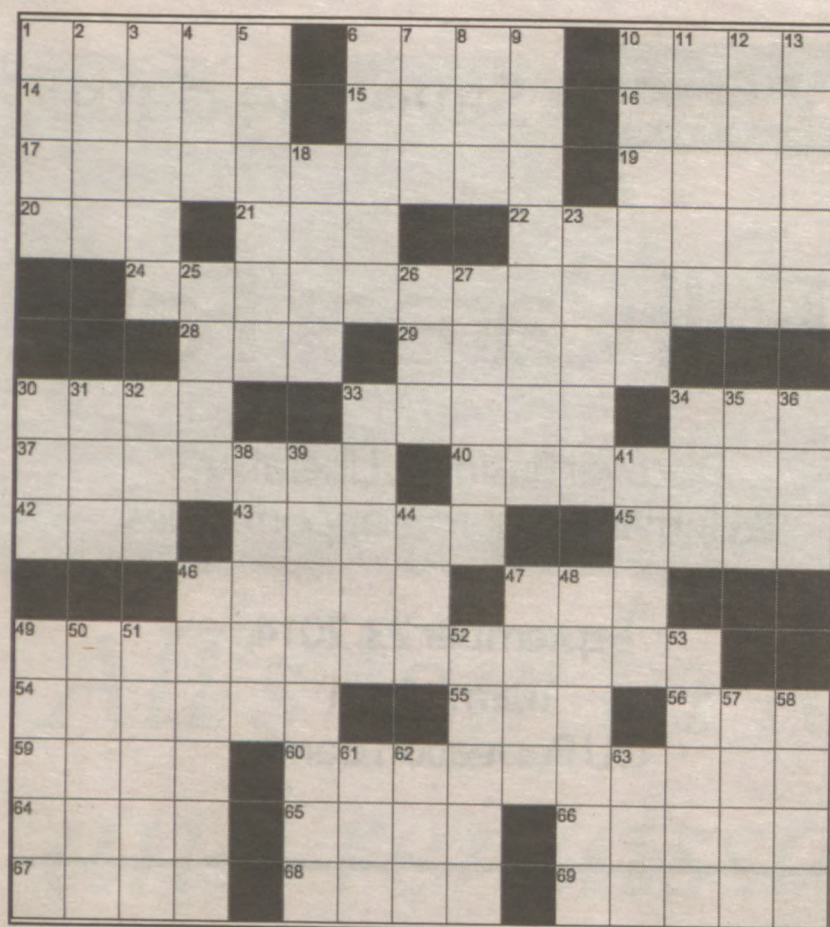
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Puzzles



Across

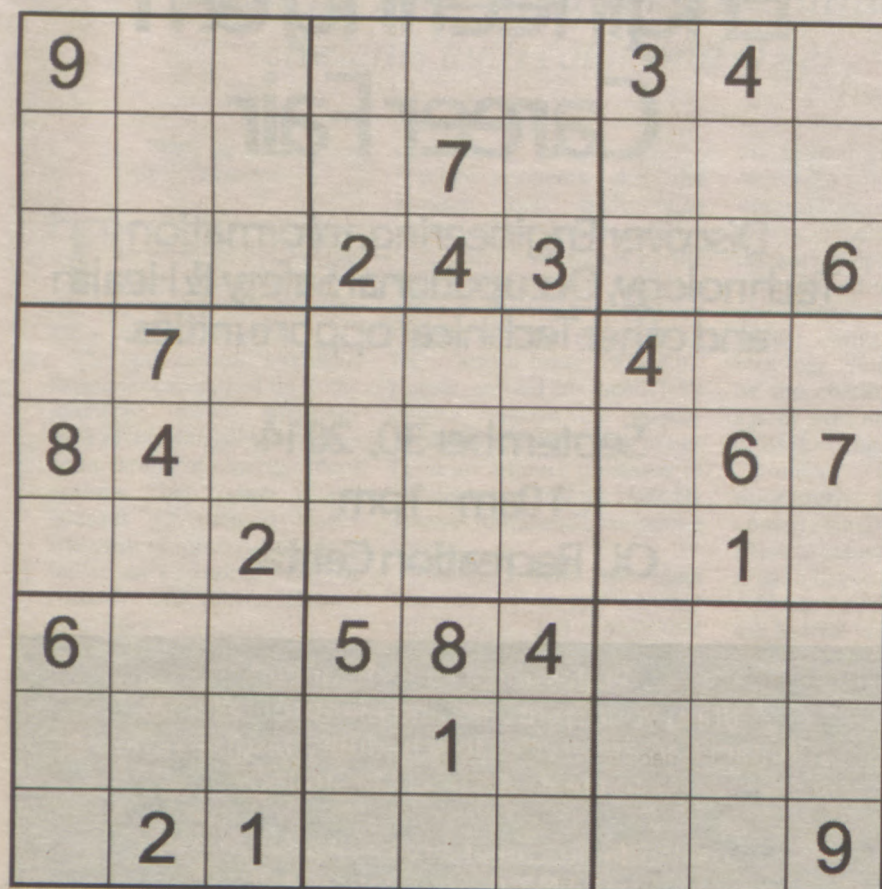
- 1: Bulb in a bed
6: In the thick of
10: What some writers work on
14: Combat site
15: Loser to Clinton in '96
16: 'Hamlet,' for example
17: Put together again
19: Bolts down
20: Pouch in the body
21: Mai ____
22: Orrery orb
24: Insincere ladies' men
28: Balaam's mount
29: Pitched things
30: Bosom buddies
33: Just-hatched hooter
34: Sound of a fan
37: Movable property
40: DNA component
42: Fancy marble
43: Pogo said 'He is us'
45: Small whirlpool
46: Rural landing place
47: 'Shogun' sash
49: Understanding
54: Artificial
55: In between
56: Come to pass
59: Frosty's composition

- 60: Sanctioned
64: Ditty
65: At all
66: Skate's cousin
67: Kane's dying thought
68: They get into sushi
69: Exhausted

Down

- 1: Sailors
2: Ammonia compound
3: Draw out a substance with water
4: November winners
5: Rotini and ziti
6: Let on
7: Wild bunch
8: Hardly hale
9: Grew, as friendship
10: Expresses an opinion, perhaps
11: Air Force One, for one
12: Cafeteria customer
13: Dermatologists' concerns
18: Dumbo's 'wings'
23: Foamy pick-me-up
25: Right, on the map
26: Incidentally, in Net-speak
27: Race with batons

- 30: Per hundred (Abbr.)
31: 'Caught you!'
32: Guiding principle
33: Kind of acid
34: Free
35: 'Not only that ...'
36: Attention getter
38: Colorful aquarium inhabitant
39: Register signer
41: No in Nuremberg
44: Speed meas.
46: Released, as lava
47: Fail to include
48: Darkens
49: What wet iron does, sometimes
50: Invalidate legally
51: Apt
52: Islamic chiefs
53: Macbeth's title
57: FYI cousin
58: Fen fuel
61: Original sinner
62: Hairdo helper
63: Navigator's need



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SATIRE

Revved up by reckless driving

Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor/Overly Cautious
Road Rager

You want to know what really gets my wheels spinning? Stupid driving.

By stupid driving I mean not carrying out those simple, obvious things that really shouldn't be all that hard to accomplish: using your blinker, checking an area before you move your car to it, and following the general rules of common sense. Your life is in pretty clear and prominent danger, after all.

When you are driving carelessly, do you know exactly what it is you're flinging and jerking around? A 3,000 to 5,000-pound hunk of steel. And you're not the only one — my general observation has been that there are quite a few others who need to use the road as well, and that means 3,000 to 5,000 pounds multiplied by what I consider to be a substantial number.

And that means the risk is

multiplied, whatever the speed. So why the hell would you want to further increase that risk?

This summer I spent too much time driving to Detroit for another job. The first half of it was spent on I-94 for two to three hours of the day, and the second half, after I moved homes, was spent on I-75 for that time. I have seen my share of accidents, and my relationship with the road and cars in general has been deteriorating, to say the least.

I still have to take that god-forsaken freeway into work every Friday morning, and nothing has changed. Just last Friday I used my blinker, allowed it to flash three times before moving, then proceeded to change from the middle lane to the farthest right. As I did so I looked over one more time and saw a white minivan jerking over, and if I hadn't stepped on the breaks and eased back, the woman driving the car would have sideswiped me and created an unnecessarily bad morning.

To top it off, the driver honked



Salwan Georges/Oakland Post

Kaylee Kean lets her frustrations come to a boil while navigating OU's parking lots.

at me, glared with her angry soccer-mom eyes, and finished her transition into my previously claimed lane before jerking in front of me without using her blinker. She twitched yet again into the farthest left lane and sped away, her "My Child is an Honor Student" bumper sticker taunting me as it receded into the distance.

And by "into the distance" I mean roughly 10 or so feet ahead, because it's rush hour and jumping lanes doesn't do a goddamn thing.

Lane hoppers like her drive me insane. They are always there, weaving and hopping and jerking their vehicles around like they're some badass action movie hero with a justified need for speed. Well, reality check, pal: you're not a badass road god/goddess. You're just an asshole driving in to a nine-to-five job with a slight depression and coffee addiction.

So screw you, soccer mom, and screw all of you other irresponsible drivers who can't handle the slightest amount of patience and thought when it comes to being safe and responsible. I try to be nice and understanding with people, but this is an exception to the rule. I can't understand someone who blatantly disregards the value of life and how easily it can be damaged or lost.

This is the kind of stupid that can be consistently found in human

beings, unfortunately.

Let's step on the brake for a minute, and think about it:

- 21,795 passenger vehicle occupants died in 2012 in the U.S. (Passenger vehicles include cars, minivans, pickups and SUVs.)
- 27 percent of those occupants were 25 years or younger — 5,993 of them, to be exact.
- 73 percent of the deaths were the drivers, and 71 percent of these drivers were male (sorry, fellas).
- In 2012, 938 of the U.S. deaths (counting all types of vehicles) were in Michigan.
- For 2014, there is an estimate of 6,800 motor vehicle traffic fatalities in the U.S. in the January to March timespan. This is a 4.9 percent decrease from last year's 7,150 deaths.

Remember that these figures are more than just numbers — they're real people who are dead and gone because of a mistake made on the road.

So please, find some scrap of patience within you and be responsible — not just for your sake, but for the sake of others as well.

Otherwise, I may have to strangle you with your seatbelt and add to those numbers.

7TH ANNUAL

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