

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

editorial & media

Kay Nguyen

Editor-in-Chief

editor@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

Mike Sandula

Managing Editor

managing@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2537

Dan Fenner

Senior Editor

web@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2537

Jason Willis

Design Editor

graphics@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

section editors

Jen Bucciarelli

Campus Editor

campus@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4263

Kaitlyn Chornoby

Assistant Campus Editor

campus@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4263

Ross Maghielse

Sports Editor

sports@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Daud Yar

Local Editor

local@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Nichole Seguin

Features Editor

features@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Rhiannon Zielinski

Scene Editor

scene@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Rory McCarty

Mouthing Off Editor

mouthingoff@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

copy editors

Katie Jacob

Shawn Minnix

web

editor@oaklandpostonline.com

senior reporters

Ryan Hegedus

Annie Stodola

staff reporters

Ali Armstrong

Amy Eckardt

Kevin Romanchik

Jake Thielen

Sarah Wojcik

staff interns

Kyle Bauer

Andrew Craig

advisors

Holly Gilbert

Don Ritenburgh

(248) 370-2848

cartoonist

John O'Neill

distribution manager

Sylvia Marburger

advertising & marketing

Dan Offenbacher

Lead Ads Manager

ads@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4269

Brittany Wright

Marketing Director

(248) 370-4268

Tanner Kruse

Ads Manager

ads@oaklandpostonline.com

Amanda Benjamin

Marketing Intern

Cover photo by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

STAFF EDITORIAL

Be involved or be ignored

OU has too many organizations for students not to be a part of any

"Get involved!" You've undoubtedly heard this plea before, probably many different times from many different people. Yet each and every time, you find a way to ignore their advice.

"I don't have time," you say. "I'm really busy."

With what? Class, homework and part-time jobs are common responses. But here are some dirty little secrets professors and your current employers aren't likely to share with you: In the real world, grade point average means very little, if anything, and your ability to work a cash register won't come in handy when you apply for a nursing position at a hospital.

That's not to say you should stop going to class and doing your homework. Nor does it mean you should quit your side job — working to put yourself through school is very admirable and no easy task. But we urge students to weigh what will be most beneficial to them in the long run.

Perhaps you think: "What does OU have to offer? A few student orgs and a couple club sports? We don't even have a football team."

OU has 182 campus organizations. While what they can offer ranges greatly, there are enough to choose from for each student to find at least one that fits his or her interests.

Several Oakland Post staffers, for instance, just returned from the 2010 National College Media Convention in Louisville, Ky., where the newspaper was honored as a Pacemaker finalist for general excellence and won a Best in Show award for its website.

But even more importantly, those who went attended informational sessions led by advisers from student newspapers across the country.

If you don't want to take our word for it, here's a sample of what other student organizations are doing:

— The OU chapter of the American Marketing Association has weekly guest speakers

— Students of all cultures can find an opportunity to socialize in any of OU's multicultural clubs. The Middle Eastern Festival and European Night, for example, feature a myriad of cultural showcases from various

countries to students free of charge.

— Students in Free Enterprise competes in annual competitions, which allow members to network with like-minded students across the globe

— OU's Model United Nations team won first place at the Lake Erie International MUN competition this past week.

All of these accomplishments mean much more than a line on a résumé, but shouldn't you want at least that?

Campus organizations shouldn't have to resort to giving out free food at events, but they do — and even that isn't motivation enough.

Finally, the most common reason students come up with for not getting involved is that OU is a commuter school. We're far from representative of the entire school, but of our 20-plus staffers, only two live on campus and we make it work.

Future employers aren't going to ask how many miles round-trip you drove to school each day. What they will ask is: What groups and organizations were you involved in and what did you take away from them?

EDITORIAL BOARD

Kay Nguyen, Mike Sandula
and Dan Fenner
managing@oaklandpostonline.com



CONTACT US

In person:
61 Oakland Center, in the basement

By e-mail:
managing@oaklandpostonline.com

By phone:
248-370-4268

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Letter Policy:
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.



Facebook gives me the creeps

Facebook creeping: We've all been guilty of it.

Whether it's the profile of that former fling or the person who has seemingly endless drama in their life, there is always a person on the Facebook news feed who compels you to click and read about their lives.

While you're used to actively clicking in order to see your friend's pictures with one another and seeing their posts to each other via the news feed, Facebook has taken it one step further by adding the "see friendship" function.

With this new feature, users can see each others' entire Facebook friendship history. Before, you had to actively reminisce by clicking "wall-to-wall" and actually going to a friend's profile to see their pictures and status updates.

Not only can you now see your own "friendships," you can see any interactions two of your friends have had, too. This is perfect, I thought: I've always wanted to see every link Ryan posted on Anna's wall, as well as every cute picture they've ever had taken together.

Then I got to thinking about how much I trust each of my 716 Facebook friends. Does the kid I went



Kay Nguyen
Editor-in-Chief

to elementary school with need to know about everything I do or say on Facebook?

There is also the person whose profile I just always want to look at — or, let's face it, creep on — and this new application encourages it. With "wall-to-wall," I could see what I wrote on another friend's Facebook wall and actively seek out what others wrote on one another's.

Think you had to have some recent contact with friends to find the link? Think again. I can simply type in two friends' names and click "see friendship" to see their entire shared Facebook history laid out before me. And that is just plain weird.

Now that one creep, who sits online in a dark room with Cheeto-stained fingers and whose Facebook friend-

ship you accidentally accepted long ago — you know who you are — can instantly access any online connection you've ever made.

Never before has it been so easy to learn about someone's personal life. While I understand that everything posted on Facebook is public, I fail to see the advantage of making the public information so easily accessible.

As a journalist, I am all for transparency when it comes to public records. However, someone wishing another "happy birthday" is not as important to democracy as, say, documentation of government spending or something similarly important.

Could Facebook get any creepier than the aforementioned person with Cheeto-fingers? Will they allow users to sign up for notification alerts every time a certain friend actively uses Facebook?

At the end of the day, there will always be creepy people, and the Internet has already allowed for huge advancements in the world of creeping — we don't need to help facilitate the process.

Here's to Facebook making it easier for the friend of that crazy ex to track your every move.

Stay classy, creepers.

ON SECOND THOUGHT...

Do you see that girl? Dibs

As you walk to the Oakland Center, an awkward yell suddenly comes from outside South Foundation Hall, echoed by laughter and obnoxious cursing. That's right; you've just been called ... by the loudest bidder.



Daud Yar
Local Editor

As kids, most of us found a sense of ownership by uttering a single word: Dibs. Now, as we age into our middle twenties, that word takes on a whole new meaning.

According to Urban Dictionary,

dibs is "the game played by young gentlemen in which you call 'dibs' on any young lady that takes your fancy."

The official rules are simple: Only five 'dibs' per outing and once a girl has been dibbed, she is off limits to other players barring any unorthodox maneuvers. Note that some play with looser rules than others.

So, have at it. It's OK to be a little juvenile now because after graduation, there aren't a lot of opportunities to dib in an office or around the water cooler.

Of course, you may be asking yourself: "Does this approach work?" The short answer is an emphatic no. Come on. If it were that easy, no guy would be single as our campus boasts a 3:2 ratio of women to men.

There have been documented cases, however, when the dibbed individual is so flattered and complimented by the gesture that there is no stopping a girl from giving out a phone number.

On second thought...

The game is completely sexist.

Why is it that only a man can dib and a woman can only be dibbed? We need to expand and/or add to these limiting rules.

Who is to say the roles can't flip-flop? Women have an equal right to dib as men. Or, in our ever increasing open society, men can dib men and women can dib women.

The rules should be amended ASAP. We men wouldn't mind the occasional "dibs" yell on our stroll toward the Oakland Center. At the same time, future couples could save some time skipping that first phase of a relationship when neither person knows what the hell is going on.

Dibs: A game for those who are not shy or do not give a damn about their image.

Is it obnoxious and clearly unnecessary? Yes. But it sure is fun.

Editor's note: If you have a topic that you would like to see "On second thought..." tackle, please e-mail your suggestions to managing@oaklandpostonline.com.

CORRECTIONS CORNER

In last week's article "Keeping tune with music and students," it was wrongly reported that Sunkyeung Hong was a professor at OU. Hong is actually part of OU's music preparatory division faculty. She is an instructor of piano in that division and a student pursuing an artist diploma in piano performance. Also, the quotes about the piano structure were said by Dr. Yin Zheng, not Hong.

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.

POLL OF THE WEEK

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Are you going to vote in the 2010 midterm elections Nov. 2?

yes — 31 (84%)

no — 6 (16%)

CURRENT POLL // Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

Do you think the OU men's basketball team will return to the NCAA tournament this season?

yes

no



**think
you're
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Model UN team takes first

By JAKE THIELEN

Staff Reporter

At last weekend's Lake Erie International Model United Nations Conference (LEIMUN) in Cleveland, Oakland University's Model United Nations Club won first place.

Sixteen OU students participated in the conference, which featured representatives from 12 schools, including Miami University, Case Western Reserve and Earlham College. Oakland placed second at last year's LEIMUN Conference.

Political science professor and Model United Nations Club advisor Paul Kubicek said this is the third year that OU students have participated in Model UN.

"At the conference, students represent various countries on mock UN committees and interact with other students in discussing international problems and what the UN can do about them," Kubicek said. "Ideally, students will work for some sort of compromise that all nations and delegates can agree upon."

Several OU students won individual



Photo courtesy of the Model UN Facebook page

OU Model UN team members won a first place trophy from the LEIMUN Conference.

awards for excellence in their committees at the conference as well.

Senior Michelle Lopez won an excellence award for her representation of Mexico on the Human Rights Council, senior Rhianon Zielinski won for her representation of Russia on the Security Council and senior Justin Clarke won for his representation of

Italy on the European Council.

Clarke, who is the club's president, said the awards are given after each delegate is judged on three criteria.

"First, is portrayal of country, meaning how good do you follow the country's policy that you are representing," Clarke said. "Second, is debate and parliamentary procedure, meaning how well you know the rules and use them to debate, and lastly is caucus-

ing and resolution writing."

Kubicek said the Model UN functions as both a two-credit class (PS 362) and as a student organization. In the class, students prepare for the conference by writing a six to eight-page briefing paper and sample UN resolutions.

"To prepare, students need to know the job of their committee, the issue at hand, as well as the priorities and positions of their country," Kubicek said.

Clarke said students meet once a week as a class and do a significant amount of research outside of the classroom.

"There are four areas that we focus on to prepare for a conference — know the issue, know the rules, know the committee and know your country," Clarke said. "If these are all prepared for properly, the only thing that is possible at a conference is success."

More information on the Model UN Club can be found on the club's Facebook page, which can be found by searching for "Model UN — OU Chapter."

The Disney Co. offers the paid internship of a lifetime

By KAITLYN CHORNOBY

Assistant Campus Editor

For students looking for a paid internship, the Disney Company offers an opportunity to participate in what the site calls an "internship of a lifetime."

Disney representatives visited Oakland University last Thursday from noon to 5 p.m. to promote the internship to students. Applications for the program are available on the Disney College Program site.

The Disney College Program invites interested students to travel to the Disneyland Resort in California or Walt Disney World in Florida for a paid internship and to take classes between work hours. Students will work within the resort and use skills that can be transferred to many career choices.

One-to-four bedroom apartments are available, and student payment is automatically deducted from the cast member's weekly paycheck.

Alyssa Mayer, a sophomore majoring in dance, was accepted into the Disney program but decided it was in better interest to pass on the opportunity.

According to Mayer, the application process was simple, but found that weighing the pros and cons of going to be a more difficult task.

Mayer said even though she planned on trying out in a dance audition, she was set on going regardless of what job she was given in the park. However, financial issues influenced her decision to turn down the internship.

"I found out from a financial aid advisor that I would lose all my scholarship money from OU, which was going to be something like 2,500 plus dollars; it was a lot," Mayer said. "After talking to my parents, we figured that it was too much to lose."

Students must be available to work a full-time schedule in the park. The application estimates students participating in the program will be compensated between \$7.25 and \$8.52 per hour.

The program is currently accepting applications for several different sessions, including Spring, which runs from January to mid-May, and Spring Advantage, ranging from January to mid-August.

The program also offers special sessions for trimester schools and culinary schools.

According to the e-presentation, applicants may be able to work at the Magic Kingdom, Downtown Disney area, Disney studios, the Animal Kingdom theme park or Epcot.

Applicants are required to watch a presentation, which is approximately 40 minutes long, either online or during a campus presentation. Following submission of basic information, applicants set up an online interview and a phone interview.

Interviewers ask the student why they want to participate, how they would handle certain situations and what job they are interested in at the park.

The student will know whether or not they have been accepted within four weeks.

Mayer said she is still interested in the internship and plans to reapply for her senior year. Mayer said it was a difficult decision.

"I'm still really bummed though that I can't go because it would be a great experience," Mayer said. "I love Disney and it's always been my dream to work there."

For more information, watch the e-presentation, or apply for the internship, visit disney.go.com/disneycareers/disneycollegeprogram/

Police Files

Concealed Weapon Report

On Monday, Oct. 25, two female students reported an altercation near the public benches outside South Foundation Hall. To make room to sit, one of the students slid a backpack out of the way. The owner of the backpack allegedly began to yell and claimed the backpack was worth \$4,000 and he possessed a gun with 1,000 rounds of ammunition. The females provided a license plate.

One of the females called to report the owner parked in a handicapped spot. When the owner was contacted, he stated that the female was dancing on the bench and kicked his backpack out of the way. He said he never implied to anyone that he had a gun.

No weapons were found in his backpack. The male student believed the girls filed a false report.

Retail Fraud in the OC

On Monday, Oct. 25, officers were called to the OC for a possible retail fraud. A Chartwells employee stated that the suspect had taken a Mountain Dew out of the cooler and did not pay for it. The suspect confirmed the accusation and said he took a sip, put it in his backpack and forgot about it.

The suspect, who was arrested and searched, was in possession of a butterfly knife and a bottle of pills. The suspect said the pills were methadone and were not his. The suspect was handcuffed and charged for retail fraud and a pending warrant for possession of controlled substance.

— Compiled by Kaitlyn Chornoby,
Assistant Campus Editor

GSC opens arms to all students

By ALI ARMSTRONG
Staff Reporter

Tucked away in a small office in the basement of the Oakland Center, the Gender and Sexuality Center is open to all students to provide information on gender and sexuality issues.

The GSC is the women's resource center of Oakland University as well as the lesbian, gay and transgender questioning ally, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Ally (LGBTQA) resource center.

The GSC has been described as a relaxing and safe space where students can come to talk about gender and sexuality issues.

"You meet such a crazy variety of people here," said James Bialk, GSC student assistant and vice president of the Gay Straight Alliance. "You can come and be yourself and not have to worry about being judged by other people here."

The center employs 12 trained volunteers and one student assistant.

The center hosts a variety of awareness events on and off-campus. The center just wrapped up their National Coming Out Week, which featured events such as a hate-free campaign and safe sex seminars. They also hosted Women's Wednesday events every Wednesday in October.

Upcoming events include a fundraiser to benefit Corey Jackson's family. The fundraiser will be held at JD's Key Club in Pontiac, Thursday, Nov. 4 at 8 p.m.

Proceeds from admissions and a portion of the evening's drink sales will benefit the Corey Jackson Memorial Fund.



JEN BUCCIARELLI/The Oakland Post

(Left to right) Students Zac Willcox, Jenny Gole, Elyse Peterson, James Bialk and Lauren Becker at the Gender and Sexuality Center.

During November, the center will also host Transgender Week in remembrance of those who have been killed as a result of gender issues. Events include transgender panel discussions and a vigil of remembrance.

A "White Out" campaign, a clothesline project and a blanket drive are some other events that students can participate in this month.

Among the many activities that the center hosts, the GSC also features the Students, Administrators & Faculty for Equality (S.A.F.E) program on campus. The program consists of a team of students, faculty and administration who provide

support for the campus community when dealing with gender and sexuality issues. The next S.A.F.E. training will be held Monday, Nov. 15.

"Gay, straight, male or female, whatever race or religion you are, this place is very accepting and when you come and hang out in the center, you have such an overwhelming support group," said Kelly Shaw, GSC volunteer. "It's really changed my life."

The GSC office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. GSC meetings are held every Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. in their office, located at 49D in the lower level of the OC.

OUSC covers anti-hate week, backpack drive

By JAKE THIELEN
Staff Reporter

At Monday's meeting, OUSC discussed a budget amendment that would allocate more funding to the upcoming Anti-Hate Week. The money was leftover from previous Multicultural Affairs Committee events and would be used to help pay for food, giveaways and movie rights.

Anti-Hate Week will be take place Nov. 15-20. Scheduled events include appearances from guest speakers, a poetry slam and a screening of the film "Soldier's Girl."

OUSC Judicial Chair John Ajlouny introduced a second budget amendment designed to promote the extended hours of Kresge Library during finals week.

Ajlouny said he also plans to raffle off a pair of noise-cancelling

headphones on the last day of the event. OUSC will vote on both budget amendments next week.

OUSC also discussed helping Sigma Alpha Epsilon in their efforts to collect backpacks for the Michigan Technical Academy in Detroit.

SAE member Lucas Johnson said the backpacks would be filled with school supplies and given to needy children at the school, which has students in grades K-4.

SAE is looking for funding for the project to help pay for the cost of the backpacks. Johnson said some of the campus sororities are helping to provide the school supplies.

Oakland University Student Body President Brandon Gustafson said OUSC would likely be unable to contribute financially, but they would offer to help SAE pass out the backpacks.

More groups, more opportunity

By NICHOLE SEGUIN
and JEN BUCCIARELLI

Features Editor and Campus Editor

As the semester continues, the Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development has noticed a constant growth, according to CSA Director Jean Ann Miller.

"Every day we process more and more groups," Miller said. "Even though the numbers are low currently, it's because they're going through registration."

While low numbers do not mean low participation, students are encouraged to partake in the many organization activities on campus.

"Students can benefit their careers, especially by joining academic organizations," Miller said. "The activities they do reflect on how well the organization is doing in its entirety. Founding an organization or even being on the executive board of an organization is a great boost to a student's résumé."

Currently, there are 182 student and Greek organizations, according to a student organizations handout that was published on Oct. 1. The form is updated monthly to include all organizations that were created during that time period.

CSA offers its groups a variety of different services including, but not limited to, approval to post printed material on campus; banners and table tents; campus programs; events and activities; community

service opportunities; commuter services and programs; diversity programs; gender and sexuality center; leadership development; stamps, faxes and a service ticket window.

Greek fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon made its Oakland University debut two years ago, and is currently the largest fraternity on campus.

"TKE is one of my proudest achievements," said Tom Cruz, founder of TKE. "It was an organization which embodied something that I was passionate about. Now we are the largest fraternity on campus and I can share that passion with a variety of other people."

The German club will host the "Fall of the Wall" event, a mock recreation of the falling of the Berlin wall, Nov. 8 at 4 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge of the Oakland Center.

The date selected for the event marks the 21st anniversary of the destruction of the Berlin wall, symbolizing freedom for Germany but also the end of Communism, said Ingrid Rieger, club advisor and associate professor of German.

Members of the club will construct a pseudo Berlin wall made from shoeboxes and paint. During the event, club members and guests will have a chance to graffiti the wall and participate in knocking the wall down to commemorate the event in history.

Joey Meyer, the president of the club, said

networking with other groups on campus, obtaining German internships, German film nights with the group and more, are some of the perks of joining a group like the German Club.

The group meets on Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in Room 125 of the OC. The meeting location changes periodically, so for more information, please visit the club's Facebook page (The OU German Club) for upcoming events and involvement information.

Students interested in expanding their cultural knowledge without adding another class to their schedule can join the French Club.

"The focus of the club is to celebrate French culture and language and raise the awareness of it in on campus and in the Metro area," said Audrey Quinn, the group's secretary.

Some of the activities members of the French club participate in are viewing foreign films at the Detroit Film Theatre, exploring French restaurants in the Metro Detroit area and forming relationships with other French societies.

This month, the French club will host a meeting specifically focused on those students interested in studying abroad in France or participating in the Teaching Assistant Program abroad in the future.

For additional information about the French Club, please contact Quinn at acquinn2@oakland.edu

campus briefs

Junot Diaz reading

Junot Diaz, a 2009 Pulitzer Prize winning author, will be doing a reading for students Thursday, Nov. 4 from 5-7 p.m. in the Oakland Center banquet rooms. The reading is in conjunction with "Celebrating the Liberal Arts Frontiers and Borders" theme for the 2010-11 school year. Faculty has been working with the Judd Family Foundation and the College Theme Committee as well as the departments of history and writing and rhetoric for funding.

Fall 2010 Graduation Fair

A fall graduation fair will be held Tuesday, Nov. 9 and Wednesday, Nov. 10 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge in the Oakland Center. The fair will include guest tickets and commencement information as well as regalia, announcements, class rings, diploma frames, graduation photographs and Alumni and Career Services information. The OU bookstore has samples of class rings, diploma frames and announcement samples on display.

A rat model of alcohol binge drinking

The Psi Chi chapter at OU is hosting a lecture on a rat model of the effects of binge drinking on Monday, Nov. 4 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Heritage Room in the OC. The lecture will focus on the effects of binge drinking on behavior and opioid receptors through a rat model. Professor Dr. George Williams will look into the behavioral and psychological mechanisms that mediate alcohol addiction as well as provide data from his own laboratory experiments. Refreshments will be provided.

— Compiled by Ali Armstrong,
Staff Reporter

Sitting down with President Russi series continues

The Oakland Post recently sat down with university President Gary Russi to discuss pertinent topics.

What positive reactions has OU seen since its March Madness appearance?

Russi: Number one: There have been gifts given to the university as a result of this and in some cases unsolicited. Number two: And this is really big — the name identity of Oakland University is much more prevalent in the key feeder high schools for us. We do this by taking surveys, and we check and listen to counselors, and so on.

Have you seen any differences in the OU landscape?

Russi: We think that it's opened the door to partnerships we've never had before. Some people who we couldn't get in our offices to talk about relationships — whether it be a fundraising relationship or research relationship or internship relationship — it's opened the door. It's created a community excitement we've never seen before that's related to the university, and people are more willing to say things. The national perspective at Oakland has been opened up.

Is there national name recognition for OU now?

Russi: I think I've recounted a few times where it has happened. When you travel with Oakland on your chest, which I do all the time when I fly, it doesn't matter where you go. They know. And in many cases they know because of intercollegiate athletics, because we got into the tournament. They say: "Oh, you're the Oakland admission that got into the tournament," and that's really cool. It's really opened a lot of prospective opportunities for us. Hopefully this year, it will happen once again.

Is OU Athletics expanding globally?

Russi: You do that to diversify the student body. And, whether it be intercollegiate athletics or whether it be at graduate level. If you were to study at our graduate level, you'd see a lot of international students in engineering and mathematics and so forth, so it's really natural for us to reach out.

I'll say that one of the key reasons that a top mid-major athletic program like Oakland can't compete at some of the top levels is to go international. It's really critical.

Getting the job Dunn

Brittany Dunn wins league honors and games for OU

By RYAN HEGEDUS

Senior Reporter

After redshirting her freshman year of college, senior Brittany Dunn has grown into a consistent leader on and off the court for the Oakland University women's volleyball team, becoming a captain and libero for the Golden Grizzlies.

"Having that redshirted year is such an advantage because all you do is get better," Dunn said. "I was actually kind of upset when I had to redshirt because I just wanted to get on the court and play, but it's all worked out for me in the end and that extra year of practice has really helped me progress to where I'm at now."

That progression is clear to women's volleyball head coach Rob Beam.

"Aside from the volleyball performances that she's put in, I think her leadership just stands out so much," Beam said.

"The maturity that a fifth-year senior has, how she deals with her teammates, and being inclusive with all of them, having a high expectation and helping the young players fit in. It's all those different aspects of being a great captain and a senior."

During the 2008 season, just two years after that redshirt year, she took over for former Grizzly teammate Lauren Duquette as libero, the primary defensive specialist on the team who is on court for nearly the entire match.

"The libero gets to be on the floor the whole game, so when you have a player that has maturity, stability, skill consistency and provides the right kind of leadership to the players on the court, it

makes a gigantic difference," Beam said. "I think you see that in her run of three weeks in a row where she was defensive player of the week, which has never been done before in the history of the Summit League. You see the whole package coming together with her."

Aside from those awards, Dunn has reset some of her own career best totals over the last three seasons as well as being named to the Academic All-Summit League team.

In 25 matches with double-digit dig totals last season, her 470 digs placed her in third place in Oakland's Division I single season school history.

Twice, she had a career-high 32 against IPFW and Eastern Michigan.

Her previous best in season digs was 234 and match-best was 27, in 2008.

She upped her career-best of five service aces in 2008 last year with six against UMKC, which was one shy of tying Oakland's Division I record.

This season, Dunn has won the Summit League Defensive Volleyball Player of the Week four of the last five weeks, bringing her career total to six. In two of those weeks, the team defeated North Dakota State University and IPFW, the No. 1 team in the conference at match time.

"It's a great honor getting those awards, and I'm happy that I did, but if you look back at those weeks and the teams that we played, those team victories are just more important and it wasn't just me that helped get those wins," Dunn said. "Those wins stick out more to me than the awards."

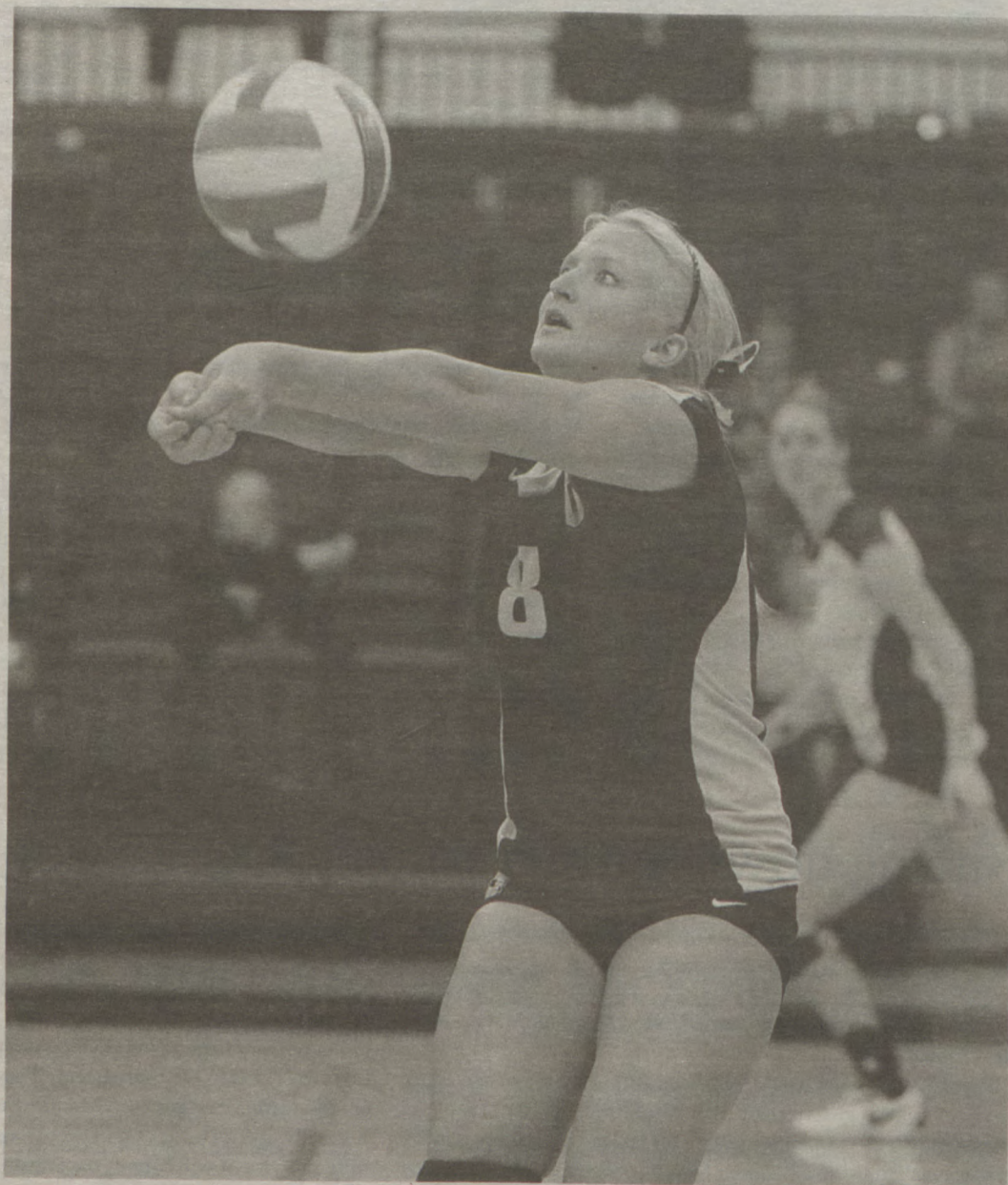


Photo courtesy of OU Athletic Communications

Senior Brittany Dunn is the team captain and libero for the Oakland volleyball team. Last week she won her fourth Summit League Player of the Week Award.

After starting the year with a 3-6 record, the team has stormed back to a 14-12 record (9-5 Summit League).

With four games to go in the season, the Grizzlies are two and a

half games out of first place.

"We got off to a slower start, not exactly the start we wanted, and we've been working so hard as a team in practice every day," the senior said. "Our team has great

chemistry and the fact that we beat the first place team (North Dakota State) and then IPFW... It just shows how hard we're working as a team. It's really nice to be winning."

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Expansion plans fall through for Summit League

By ROSS MAGHIELSE

Sports Editor

The prospect of the Summit League Conference expanding did a complete 180 this week.

Not only will the University of North Dakota not be joining the Summit League — the school was scheduled to meet with league officials Nov. 5 before abruptly canceling — but Southern Utah University and the University of South Dakota have also made arrangements to leave the Summit League in favor of joining the Big Sky. North Dakota officially announced it has accepted the Big Sky's invitation and South Dakota is awaiting contract finalization, according to multiple media outlets.

Southern Utah has been a member of the Summit League since 1997, then called the Mid-Continent Conference. The Thunderbirds will begin play in the Big Sky in fall 2012, according to Southern Utah University's official website. North Dakota and South Dakota are expected to do the same.

A primary reason for the schools' leaving the Summit League is due to the revenue sharing advantages of playing in a football conference such as the Big Sky.

All three schools field football teams, while the majority of Summit League schools do not compete in football.

At the end of this athletic year, the Summit League will also lose Centenary College. The Gents are headed to Division III.

Once completed, these transitions will leave the Summit League with only eight teams. Currently, just four of the 32 Division I conferences have eight teams or fewer (West Coast, Great West, Ivy League, Patriot League). Conferences need at least seven teams to keep an automatic bid into the NCAA basketball tournament.

In an interview with The Oakland Post last month, when both UND and USD were expected to join, Summit League commissioner Tom Doupe said the league will look to continue expansion within the Midwest. Mass expansion is a recent, but quickly developing theme among Division I conferences.

These recent developments may quicken the pace of the Summit League's search to replace its lost institutions.

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GOLDEN GRIZZLIES SEEK A RETURN TRIP TO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

WRITTEN BY ROSS MAGHIELSE

MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE THROUGH DEC. 30

Nov. 12 at West Virginia
 Nov. 15 at Ohio
 Nov. 21 at Purdue
 Nov. 23 at Wright State
 Nov. 26 vs. Southern University
 Nov. 27 at TBD
 Dec. 2 vs. Southern Utah
 Dec. 4 vs. UMKC
 Dec. 8 at Illinois
 Dec. 11 vs Michigan State at The Palace of Auburn Hills
 Dec. 14 at Tennessee
 Dec. 18 at Michigan
 Dec. 20 vs. Rochester College
 Dec. 21 vs. TBD
 Dec. 23 at Ohio State
 Dec. 28 at Centenary College
 Dec. 30 at Oral Roberts

T rue to coaches' form, Oakland University men's basketball coach Greg Kampe remains focused on the last game his team lost, not how many it won last season.

The Golden Grizzlies won 26 games last season — a school record. They also went 20-1 against Summit League opponents — a conference record. Yet, the blowout loss to Pittsburgh in the NCAA tournament remains an open wound for Kampe heading into his twenty-seventh season at OU.

"One of the things that people don't realize about our team and players is that the season ended in a bad way for us last year," Kampe said. "We had positioned ourselves to do something. We had a chance to win an NCAA tournament game and then kind of folded down the stretch. So when people talk about repeating and motivation, we have a lot of motivation."

Oakland also has high expectations, as well as a target on its back.

The Grizzlies were picked as a runaway favorite to repeat as conference champions in the Summit League preseason poll, receiving 29 of 34 first-place votes. Several other media outlets also chose Oakland as their Summit League favorite.

But before the Grizzlies can worry about starting their league title run and winning tournament games in March, they must first survive a grueling non-conference schedule and play eight of their first 10 games away from the O'Rena.

Fierce competition

Oakland starts its season Nov. 12 at West Virginia, a Final Four team last season. The Grizzlies also play games at Ohio and at No. 23 Tennessee, both of which were NCAA tournament teams a year ago. Additionally, OU faces five Big Ten teams including No. 2 Michigan State, No. 4 Ohio State, No. 13 Illinois, No. 14 Purdue and Michigan.

The non-conference schedule likely won't be helpful to OU's overall record early on, but it will allow Kampe to showcase his best player, 6-foot-11 center Keith Benson, on a national stage.

"There are a number of reasons we play the schedules that we do and this year one of them is Keith Benson," Kampe said. "He jumped on the scene last year when he did what he did against (NBA first-round draft pick) Cole Aldrich at Kansas. There were like 13 pro scouts in the stands and they all stepped back and said 'wow.' We wanted to give him that opportunity again this year against the guys he's going to be measured against in the (NBA) draft."

Benson's first test will be Game 1 against West Virginia big man Kevin Jones (6-8). Jones averaged 13.5 points and a shade over seven rebounds per game last year and is projected to cement his name among the top of the nation's frontcourt players this season. Benson will also be tested against the Big Ten frontcourt duos from Michigan State — Delvon Roe (6-8) and Derrick Nix (6-8) — and Illinois, Mike Tilsdale (7-1) and Mike Davis (6-9). Benson, who had preliminarily left OU and declared for the NBA Draft before returning because of a thumb injury, is ready for the challenge and refocused on his senior year.

"I don't have an extra chip on my shoulder personally, but I've been working hard to improve my game," Benson said. "I've worked to improve my ball handling and footwork and I've put some weight on and gained some strength. I try to lead by example and for me it all starts in the locker room where we come together as a team."

While Benson will be looking to showcase his skills to NBA scouts, Kampe is using the non-conference program to build the recognition of his program. He hopes the heavy load of Big Ten opponents, a common scheduling practice for OU, will increase the Golden Grizzlies' presence in the Midwest.

Seven of OU's non-conference games, all played away from home, will be televised. The game against Michigan State will be played at The Palace of Auburn Hills Dec. 11.

"The best part about playing those games, aside from just the money they generate, is the Big Ten Network," Kampe said. "We're going to be on the Big Ten Network like it's our home station. But we've got to win one of these games now. We didn't do real well against the big boys last season and part of

"So who are our lockdown defenders? If there is a question mark in my mind about this team, that is it."

— Head coach Greg Kampe

that was our style of play. We played a real methodical game because we just couldn't go into those games and out-athletic people. To beat those teams, compete with them, you have to trick them a little and show them some things they won't expect. We're going to do some things differently this year."

A faster pace

A big difference between this year's team and the Golden Grizzlies of years' past will be the speed of play. Oakland plans on playing full-court defense, having at least one defender on the ball for 94-feet, which Kampe said he doesn't remember his teams ever doing before. The Grizzlies will also be faster on the offensive end, now having the luxury of using more than one primary ball handler.

"We want to push the ball, probably more than we ever have, and I believe we can do it because of the depth we've got this year," Kampe said. "When you have a guy like (Johnathon Jones) out there (at point guard) dictating exactly what I want, it's great, but the problem was we could never take him off the floor. If you've only got one guy bringing the ball up at that position, you can't have him guarding for 94 feet and pushing the ball all the time. I think we can do that this year because of the athletes that we have, we've got a lot of guys with that have great motors and can play harder for longer periods of time."

Senior Larry Wright is one player that will take on more of a primary role in the team's offense this year. Wright, who played his first games with OU last season after transferring

AGAIN

TOURNAMENT



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post
Head coach Greg Kampe at the NCAA
Tournament game vs. Pittsburgh in March.

at both guard spots. Although he is a point guard by trade, Hamilton's shooting ability and speed off the dribble give him the versatility to function both as a distributor and scorer.

"The area we need to improve is our communication," Hamilton said. "It's a small problem right now, but it can become a big problem later in the season if we don't work on it."

That communication will be important for OU on the defense end also, with multiple players being used at different positions. Oakland will also likely employ a three-guard lineup at times this season because junior Blake Cushingberry, a projected starter and a player who Kampe said he hoped would be the team's defensive stopper, will miss the entire season with a torn ACL. Junior Drew Maynard remains suspended from the team, leaving sophomore Drew Valentine as the only other small forward with experience.

"I'm very worried about that issue defensively," Kampe said. "Last year we would say 'we don't want that guy to score' and Johnathon (Jones) would go out there and shut him down. Derick (Nelson) could do it too. When we really wanted someone to step up and shut down a player, Derick could do it and did. So who are our lockdown defenders? I couldn't tell you that right now. If there is a question mark in my mind about this team, that is it."

Hamilton, however, is determined to show that he and the rest of his teammates are determined to play defense at a high level.

"We just have to talk all the time, and if we do that, I think this will be the best defense Oakland has seen in a long time," he said.

While the style of play and overall complexion of the team may be different from a year ago, OU's goals remain consistent with the team preseason expectations — to repeat as Summit League champs.

"Obviously coming back and winning another championship means everything to this program," said senior Will Hudson, who will start alongside Benson in OU's frontcourt. "The whole offseason, our focus has been geared toward another championship run."

REGGIE HAMILTON

#23 // Guard // Junior

After sitting out a year after a transfer, Hamilton's sharp-shooting ability will be a welcome addition to a Grizzlies team that often had trouble knocking down shots last season. He averaged 12.0 points in 52 games with Summit League rival UMKC earlier in his career. Contrary to what was previously expected of Hamilton for much of last season, Greg Kampe has said he will not be the primary ball-handler in the offense, allowing him to focus on finding open areas to knock down shots.

WILL HUDSON

#4 // Forward // Senior

Often the player overlooked by opposing teams simply because of the quality of players around him, Hudson has spent the last three years doing Oakland's dirty work by grabbing rebounds and playing above average defense. Now a senior co-captain, Hudson will be looking to improve his offensive output (6.0 points per game in 2009-10) and continue to extend possessions by pulling down offensive rebounds. He will have to make the most of his offensive opportunities as teams will be more focused on stopping Benson.

KEY CONTRIBUTORS

WRITTEN BY DAN FENNER
DESIGNED BY JASON WILLIS

KEITH BENSON

#34 // Center // Senior

The reigning Summit League player of the year, Benson will once again be subjected to double-teams by opponents. He averaged a staggering 17.3 points, 10.5 rebounds and 3.3 blocks per game in 2009-10 and will routinely draw attention from NBA scouts nationwide. OU's offense will once again run through Benson, whose size gives him an unparalleled advantage over his league peers. His free-throw shooting (72.4 percent last year) will need to hold steady or improve since teams will always be looking to foul rather than let him shoot.

LARRY WRIGHT

#2 // Guard // Senior

As the Grizzlies starting shooting guard last season, Wright averaged 11.0 points per game but often struggled in the area he was expected to contribute in the most — 3-point shooting. This season, however, look for Wright's role to change as he will handle the ball much more and often play point guard. With the departure of Johnathon Jones and Derick Nelson, Wright's shooting performance from the perimeter will be more critical to the ultimate success or failure of the Grizzlies offense.

LEDRIK EACKLES

#12 // Guard // Sophomore

Eackles, who averaged 6.1 points per game, served as a spark plug off the bench last season, and scored a career-high 23 points against Pittsburgh in the NCAA Tournament. With a combination of in-your-face defensive play and a knack for forcing turnovers, the sophomore guard will see increased minutes and potentially crack the starting lineup with Blake Cushingberry lost for the season with an injury. The question regarding Eackles is whether his energetic play helps the team more by coming off the bench.

from St. John's, will share point guard duties and also be relied on to pick up the scoring slack created by the departures of Jones and Derick Nelson.

Wright admittedly played timid last season, often passing up shots and spending more time trying to fit in rather than lead. Expect that to change this season.

"This year I'm going to be more aggressive on the floor," Wright said. "At times last year my head was down when I didn't play good and with being new and I got passive. I know I've got to learn to be more assertive out there and I learned a lot from (Jones) and (Nelson) about being a leader and keeping your head up. Now it's my responsibility to take what they taught me and teach it to my new teammates."

One of those new teammates and another key part to the Grizzlies backcourt this season is junior Reggie Hamilton. Hamilton, like Wright, is also a transfer and will see his first game action with OU this season. He came to OU from UMKC, where he played point guard for the Kangaroos.

Hamilton, along with Wright and sophomore Ledrick Eackles, will get the bulk of the playing time in the backcourt and will play

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Rolling out baked goods

Rochester Hills bakery finds niche in classic rock cupcakes

By ANNIE STODOLA
Senior Reporter

Rockin' Cupcakes, a themed cupcake bakery, will hold a grand opening event sometime during mid-November in Rochester.

The shop, run by Jim and Mary Ohngren, is a fusion of rock 'n' roll culture and gourmet cupcake baking.

"The store comes from my love for rock and roll and my wife's love of baking," Jim Ohngren said.

The store had a soft opening Oct. 12 and patrons have been receptive to the new shop. The idea for Rockin' Cupcakes came about after the Ohngren's daughter, who works for a magazine in California, mentioned that the gourmet cupcake shop was a booming business on the west coast, especially with the advent of cupcake TV shows, but a relatively foreign idea in the Midwest.

After hearing about the concept, the Ohngrens visited gourmet cupcake stores in California and Memphis, Tenn. They researched the cupcake market for about a year before finally opening their shop.

"We visited the different places and sort of gleaned the best from all of them to bring back to ours," Jim Ohngren said.

The Ohngrens are former Rochester residents who now reside in Clarkston.

"We love the Rochester area and there are no cupcake shops out here," Jim Ohngren said. "They're in Birmingham and Royal Oak, but not here."

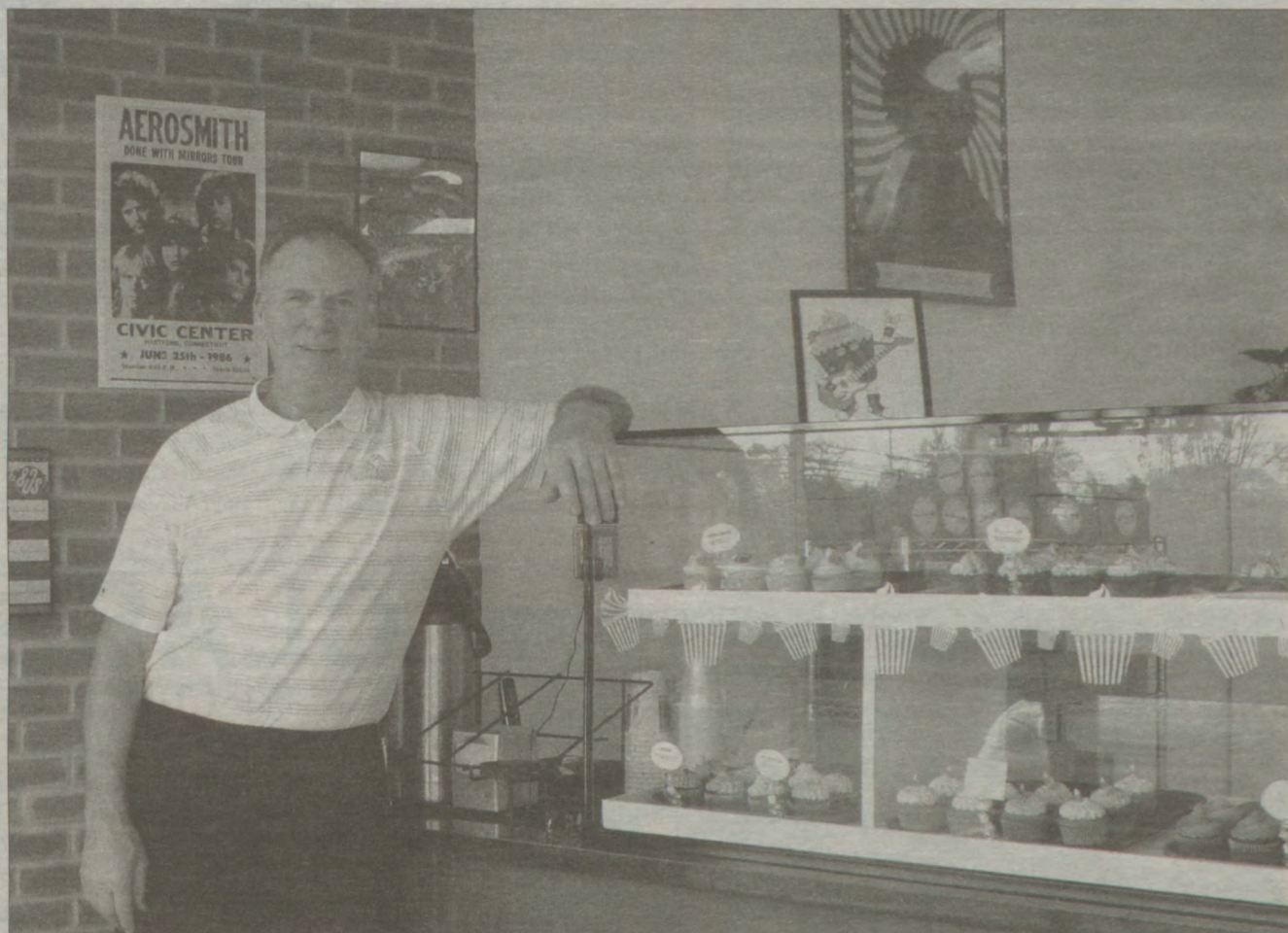
The walls of the restaurant are covered in posters of rock 'n' roll bands and the area above the counter is lined with records from Jim Ohngren's personal collection. During store hours, he plays his personal iPod, which features music from a variety of artists.

"I'm a huge fan of The (Rolling) Stones, Aerosmith and (Bruce) Springsteen, so they're on a lot here," Jim Ohngren said.

In addition to rock 'n' roll décor, the cupcakes also reflect his love of music, with names inspired by songs and musical artists. Popular flavors include Yellow Submarine, Brown Eyed Girl and Smashing Pumpkins.

Each day, 12 or 13 different varieties of cupcakes are available for sale, all of which come from Mary Ohngren's own recipes and use high-end ingredients including Madagascar Bourbon vanilla, fresh fruit and Belgian chocolate.

"It's a little treat that you can sit down



Jim Ohngren (pictured) and his wife, Mary, sell rock 'n' roll themed cupcakes with names like Paint It Black and Yellow Submarine.

and enjoy with a cup of coffee or tea and not feel like you've totally ruined a diet or a week's worth of exercise," Jim Ohngren said.

The most popular flavor since the restaurant's opening, however, has been the Lexington, a chocolate cupcake filled with salted caramel and frosted with chocolate salted buttercream. The Lexington is named after the Ohngren's son's band, which is based in Los Angeles.

Each month, the store has a cupcake flavor of the month. For November, the flavor is "Adam's Apple," an apple cupcake covered in cream cheese frosting and drizzled with caramel.

Besides the signature cupcake flavors featured on a regular basis and the monthly

specials, Rockin' Cupcakes makes cupcake creations for special occasions. Previous special occasion cupcakes included Michigan State Spartan cupcakes for football game days, Sweetest Day cupcakes and Halloween varieties.

The Ohngrens pride themselves on using quality ingredients and serving only the freshest cupcakes.

"We bake them fresh starting at 5 a.m. each day," Jim Ohngren said. "We don't refrigerate and we don't freeze. Everything is made from scratch, too. No mixes. We also only sell them for one day. Whatever we have left at the end of the day we give away. Our motto is crisp cupcakes, one day sale."

Previous cupcake donations have gone

to the Rochester OPC, Danish Village, the Rochester Police Department, the Rochester Fire Department and an area swim club.

In addition to serving cupcakes, Rockin' Cupcakes has partnered with Cook's Farm Dairy, located in Ortonville, to serve their homemade ice cream as well.

"We live in Clarkston and went to Cook's a lot when my kids were little to get ice cream so we knew it was quality," Jim Ohngren said.

Rockin' Cupcakes is located at the corner of Rochester and Tienken roads in the Papa Joe's plaza. For more information, visit www.rockincupcakesrochester.com

The store is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ANNIE STODOLA/The Oakland Post

By RHIANNON ZIELINSKI
Scene Editor

1. United States

Police in northern Virginia said that at least one shot was fired Monday night at a Coast Guard recruiting station. Prince William County police said they're investigating minor damage to the building. Police spokeswoman Sgt. Kim Chinn said it seems similar to recent shootings, but they won't know for sure until evidence is processed at a lab. In the past months, shots were also fired at a Washington-area Marine Corps museum, the Pentagon and a Marine Corps recruiting station.

2. Germany

A suspicious package arrived at German Chancellor Angela Merkel's office Tuesday after being sent from Greece. Germany's top security official, Thomas de

Maiziere, said the package resembled a series of small mail bombs that have been found in Athens recently. Two have exploded outside the Russian and Swiss embassies in Athens, in attacks blamed on far-left domestic extremists. Spokesman Steffen Seibert said the package "would have been able to harm people" and was disarmed by police.

3. Philippines

Police said a Filipino actor playing a masked gunman was shot dead by a village watchman in the central Philippines who allegedly mistook him for a real assassin. Cebu city police chief Alexis Relado said that watchman Eddie Cuizon tried to accost Kirk Abella, who was wearing a ski mask and carrying a toy gun, and shot him Saturday night after the actor was directed to speed away on a motorcycle.



4. India

A boat capsized Monday near the Bay of Bengal, killing at least 25 people in the accident. Police say more than 100 Muslim pilgrims were packed into the boat, which had a capacity of 60, when it was toppled by a wave from a passing ship. Local boaters rescued 50 people and recovered 18 bodies before they suspended the

search Monday. Another seven bodies were found Tuesday before the navy, coast guard and police had to suspend the search again.

5. Nigeria

Authorities said a head-on collision between two buses traveling along a rural highway in northern Nigeria killed at least 33 people. Boyi Ali Maigari, a unit command-

er for the Federal Road Safety Commission in Yobe state said that the crash happened Tuesday afternoon. Maigari blamed the crash on the poor roads and the drivers traveling without proper caution. The bodies, many burned beyond recognition when the buses caught fire, will be buried in a mass grave alongside the highway.

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Peculiar classes at OU: A series of odd courses offered on campus



HST 390: Piracy in the Atlantic World

Yarrrrrr, maties.

HST 390, which is piracy in the Atlantic world, specifically focuses on the history of the Atlantic ocean and the pirates that inhabited it for hundreds of years.

"This is a course about the Atlantic World as much as it is a course about piracy," Professor George Milne said.

The course, which Milne first taught at the University of Oklahoma in the fall of 2007, made

its Oakland University debut in winter 2009.

The course features many different variations and themes of piracy such as economics, naval technology, slavery, race, foreign affairs and politics.

Though the course briefly discusses the first known pirates in ancient times when piracy started out as a form of government and foreign policy, its focused timeline is from the early 1500s through the

early 1800s.

Milne also uses many forms of literature to illustrate the impact piracy had on the Atlantic as well as the history of the Atlantic region.

The class also examines the modern images of pirates from Hollywood and looks at the reasons it has become so popular.

This writing-intensive course is open to anyone interested in the topic.



EXS 215: Stress Management

Most college students have one certain thing in common: stress.

EXS 215, also known as stress management, is a class centered around the relationship between students and how to handle the daily stress they encounter.

Professor Patricia Wren teaches the course typically with 45 students per semester.

"Students occupy multiple roles; juggling all of these things simultaneously," Wren said. "They are all hot messes."

Wren aims to give students "tools for their toolbox" on how to handle stress, including a method to find humor in life.

"If we take ourselves so serious, think of how that would just wear on you," Wren said.

The course takes students through an array of topics related to stress such as interpersonal relationships and communications, occupying various roles, balancing responsibilities in your life and looking at physical wear on the human body

from stress.

Wren and her students try different techniques to find which is most effective. Some tactics the class tries are meditation and progressive relaxation.

The class teaches students how to pinpoint where they unconsciously put their stress and gives them the tools they need to triumph over the mental roadblock known as stress.

This class is open to anyone interested in taking it.



WHP 315: Laughter as Therapeutic Modality

There is one class on campus that requires students to laugh during class.

Laughter as therapeutic modality, WHP 315, teaches students the importance of laughter in life.

Dibble teaches his students about using laughter in different environments as well as the appropriate times to use it.

This writing-intensive course challenges students to understand the profound impact laughter has on mentality and spirit.

"I think it helps them learn to write better, but helps them in a personal way as well, being able to use humor to manage stress," Dibble said.

According to Dibble, laughter has become a key pain reliever for hospital patients and helps them get through the pain.

"The take home message for that class was what a profound impact the patient's mind set has on healing," Julia Williams, a senior, said. "In the end, even if laughing

isn't the most effective treatment, I think everyone can benefit from a little more laughter."

Even the assignments in this course require students to use the humorous side of their brains.

His latest assignment had students create a public service announcement and presentation about health topics with the appropriate amount of humor suggested.

This course is open to anyone.

— Amy Eckardt, Staff Reporter



professor profiles

Weekly spotlight on OU professors

Fred Love

Assistant professor of MTD

Get your best joke ready, because Professor Fred Love wants to hear it.

Every morning, this professor of music, dance and theatre starts his lectures by having his students get up in front of the class and tell a joke.

"Everyone is required to tell a joke and it cannot be a knock-knock joke," Love said. "It's actually a lot of fun and it lightens up the class."

Love is the musical director for many musicals put on at OU, though he didn't start out in theater.

"I was going into the ministry, studying to be a minister of music," Love said.

An Orlando, Fla., native, Love was working toward his bachelor's degree in church music at Stetson University in Orlando when he was asked to be the understudy for the role of Figaro in "The Marriage of Figaro."

"It changed my life," Love said. "My voice matured, I grew into it and I thought this is what I should be doing."

After earning his bachelor's degree for church music with a double major in vocal performance from Stetson University, Love earned his master's degree in music from the University of Arizona in Tucson. He started working toward his doctorate, and was then offered a position with the Florida Grand Opera.

Love soon began to travel all around the country after regional theaters began casting him in musicals.

After working with regional theatres, he landed his biggest role in the New York Broadway play, "Show Boat" where he performed for two and a half years.

He spent an additional two years on the road traveling with different productions and then decided to settle down after tiring of the travel and hearing about an open position at OU.

Love is still an active theater performer and is involved with concerts as well as other productions in the area.

This semester, Love's courses include musical theater workshop and musicianship for the theater performer. Love is also in charge of the theater senior showcase at OU.

— Ali Armstrong, Staff Reporter

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JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

Oakland University 2010 alumna Jen Anesi plays with her son, Ethan, on campus.

Conquering the hurdles: One alum's determination

By **SARAH WOJCIK**
Staff Reporter

She enters the classroom with a big, bright smile, sporting an Oakland University T-shirt and a blonde pixie cut. In addition to a backpack full of books, notes and pens, she has with her an unusual classroom supply — her 4-year-old son, Ethan.

Jen Anesi isn't there to tell students where journalism has brought her. In fact, journalism wasn't always her main pursuit, but several career changes, enrollment in three universities and a child have led to her current standpoint.

"It's a darn good motivator to have a kid," Anesi, 27, said. She fiddles with her son's Nintendo DS as he tells her he wants to play. "You're not only doing it for yourself, you're doing it for them, too."

Anesi excelled at French horn at her Wisconsin high school, so she followed the advice of others and pursued music at DePaul University in Chicago. Then her pursuit of a guy brought her to the University of Michigan.

She soon realized that shaping her life around others was a bad idea. Anesi dropped the guy, dropped out of U-M and joined the Army National Guard, where she worked as a combat medic for almost three years.

"There's something therapeutic about shoving a needle into someone's arm," she recalls with a slight smile.

But medicine was not the answer for Anesi, either.

She returned to Michigan, got married, moved to Arizona and had Ethan. Life

seemed to be looking up, but then her husband deployed to Afghanistan.

While Anesi's husband was away, she realized that she had better finish school.

"What if something happened to him?" she wondered. Being a single mom was not easy, especially not financially, so Anesi enrolled at Oakland University.

From music to elementary education to theater, Anesi's major was constantly changing like a chameleon.

That is until one day, when a theater professor told Anesi she should consider trying journalism.

Taking his advice, Anesi signed up for the intro journalism class with Professor Garry Gilbert. She said she was "geeked" about each assignment.

One hundred and sixty-two credits later, Anesi graduated in May, magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in journalism and the university's 2010 Meritorious Achievement Award.

She has recently landed a job with Patch as a multimedia journalist.

Anesi's current success and happiness resulted from her decisions to start doing what she found pleasure in.

However, she feels that having a varied background makes it easier for her to relate to others. She said her experience with the Army National Guard helped her to be more organized and handle high amounts of stress.

Though life may have its twists and turns, Anesi has managed to make everything work out for her.

Her advice to Oakland University students: "Listen to your heart."

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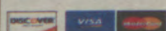
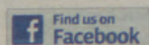
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Father, son jazz players continue to share stage

By **MIKE SANDULA**

Managing Editor

There's a joke among guitar players that a bassist is their "seventh string." Jazz guitarist Steve Brown used to joke around with his wife that he would "grow his own bass player" if he could. The joke became reality when they had a son, Miles, who grew up to play bass guitar.

The Browns will perform together again Thursday at Oakland University with the Oakland Jazz Quartet, which Miles is a member of. It'll be far from their first shared performance.

"We've been playing together ever since I've been able to play the bass," said Miles Brown, who first played live with his father when he was 12. "We can relate on a deeper level than just a pickup group."

The first song they played, fittingly, was "So What" by Miles Davis, who Steve Brown named his son after.

"I started (Miles) very early," Steve Brown said. "By the time he was 15, I was using him regularly as my first-call bass player."

Steve Brown's father, Glenn, was also a jazz musician. He played marimba with the Xavier Cugat Orchestra in the '40s and '50s. Steve Brown played shows with his father as he does now with Miles.

Steve Brown, who resides in Ithaca, N.Y., taught music for 40 years before retiring in 2008. He created the jazz program at Ithaca College and served as its director from 1968 to 2008. He still teaches clinics and performs globally.

Because Steve Brown lives in New York and Miles lives in Michigan, the two typically only see each other when they perform together, outside of holidays.

"He's never been to Detroit before ... and I thought it'd be fun" for him to play with the Oakland Jazz Quartet, Miles Brown said.

Oakland Jazz Quartet formed in 2009 and made its campus debut this February. In addition to Miles Brown, it consists of drummer Sean Dobbins, pianist Tad Weed and vibraphone player Mark Stone — all of whom are OU jazz faculty.

"I'm excited to play with Sean Dobbins, who I met at (Miles') wedding," Steve Brown said. "He's a marvelous drummer."

The concert will also feature two music education students — Quincy Stewart, who plays trumpet, and Matt Dufresne, a tenor saxophone player — who were selected because of their prior professional experience.

"I'm a father of a son about Miles' age or so, and I know what a great feeling a father has, doing something with your son that you both dig," Stewart said. "So I'm always glad to be included in that dynamic."

Unlike Stewart, who has two sons — one whose name is also Miles — he performs with on occasion, Dufresne has never played with family before.

"All those guys (in the quartet) are great, but Miles and Steve are family," Dufresne said. "I'm pretty interested in being a part of that dynamic when they must know each other's playing pretty well."

Stewart and Dufresne will join the group for two songs: "On the Sunny Side of the Street" and "Walkin' My Baby Back Home."

The concert will also feature compositions written by both of the Browns, including Miles' "Share My Love," and Steve's "Two Birds, One Stone."

As part of his trip to OU, Steve Brown will be holding a master class with Oakland's big band jazz ensemble Thursday at 4 p.m. in 110 Varner Hall. After listening to them perform, he will offer a critique.

For common interests between Steve and Miles Brown, Steve said "music really is it for us" but that their shared love of music runs very deep.

"There are two kinds of music: Good music and bad music," Steve Brown said. "We're both interested in all kinds of good music."

Oakland Jazz Quartet will perform with Steve Brown and two students in Varner Recital Hall on Thursday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$13 for general admission, \$7 for students and can be purchased at Varner Box Office and www.starticketsplus.com

Visit www.oakland.edu/jazz for more information about Oakland Jazz.

records & reels



DUE DATE // 100 mins // R

Todd Phillips, director of "The Hangover", returns with a crazy new comedy. Peter Highman (Robert Downey Jr.) plays an expectant father whose wife's due date is five days away. While boarding a plane from Atlanta to be there for the birth, plans go for the worse and he is forced to travel cross country with Ethan Tremblay (Zach Galifianakis).

127 HOURS // 94 mins // R

In this limited release, "127 Hours", directed by Danny Boyle ("Slumdog Millionaire") centers around American climber Aron Ralston (James Franco) and his remarkable true story of survival. After being trapped under a fallen boulder in an isolated canyon in Utah, Ralston has to do the unthinkable to live.



MEGAMIND // 96 mins // PG

Megamind (Will Ferrell) is the most intelligent supervillain in the world. Although Metro Man (Brad Pitt) has thwarted all his previous plans, Megamind finally defeats the caped hero. But once a new threat comes upon Metro City, will the world's greatest villain actually be the one to save the city?

N.E.R.D. // "Nothing"

"Nothing" is the fourth studio album from producers/singers/musicians Pharrell Williams, Chad Hugo and Shae Haley. Ten years after their first album, they are still creating and meshing various genres of music. Initially writing 20 songs, the group scrapped the work and started over again. "Nothing" is a testament to N.E.R.D.'s ambition to challenge themselves.



ELVIS COSTELLO // "National Ransom"

On "National Ransom," Elvis Costello again teams up with Grammy-award winning producer T-Bone Burnett for another exceptional release. Backed by his travelling band, The Imposters, as well as guest musicians such as Vince Gill and Leon Russell, Costello produces a collection of songs that have the soul of blues, as well as the energy of rock.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchick, Staff Reporter

Mouthing Off

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post.

November 3, 2010

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Photo illustration by JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post
Clearly, the body of the average American is a more precise instrument than a joystick. Managing Editor Mike Sandula, pictured right, demonstrates his strategy for playing "Monopedal Waiter Hails a Taxi."

Video games evolve, become more spastic

By RORY McCARTY
Mouthing Off Editor/
sitting comfortably

If there's one thing I was missing from sitting on my ass and playing video games, it's standing up and flailing my limbs around like I have carpenter ants in my shorts while playing video games.

I've been playing video games since I was drinking Squeeze-Its, sitting on shag carpeting and playing "Bible Adventures" on a relative's NES. Pro-tip: If you chuck Baby Moses in the water and finish the level anyway, you technically still win.

Things have changed since then. The controllers have gone from having two buttons, to having far too many buttons, to requiring you to swing the controller around wildly to get any reaction at all.

Now the controller has been replaced entirely with my pale, misshapen body.

There was a time when we could all sit immobile on the couch in the basement and stare at the old cathode ray tube for hours, and then ask questions

like, "What time is it?" and "Did I remember to eat today?"

Nintendo Wii

Then the Nintendo Wii was released, a motion control system aimed at a wider audience, including people who wear diapers while eating Gerber creamed bananas and people who wear diapers while eating Metamucil.

As soon as everyone stopped making penis jokes for a moment and calmed down enough to try it, they were shocked at what we discovered. A game where you have to stand? And swing your arms like a windmilling Pete Townshend? And there's this scale thing that knows precisely how fat I am? It was simultaneously humiliating, physically exhausting and potentially life threatening, since a mishandled Wii remote can fire through your television like a hurricane launching a fencepost through a tree.

And Nintendo proceeded to sell forty kajillion of them.

These days, no one even flinches at questions like, "Want to come over and play with my Wii?"

Even your Grandma has heard of the Wii. She plays it weekly at her retirement village, where whoever wins at Wii Bowling gets a coupon for extra pudding.

Rival game makers Sony and Nintendo saw the Nintendo Wii and said, "What? What is that? Why don't we have that?"

Playstation Move

Sony immediately began to produce their competing product, the Playstation Move, which was released to the public last month. The Move was designed to appeal to the sort of gamers who shunned the Wii for being too childish. So they made the controller look like a lollipop.

It's easy to make comparisons between the Move and the Wii controller. But the Move is different in crucial ways. For example:

1. It has a Sony logo on it.
2. Uh.

By the time the Move was released, the Wii had a stagnate collection of shooting, boxing and dancing games. Recognizing this, Sony responded by releasing a fresh stable of new jams, including "The Shoot," "The Fight" and a

brand new "Dance Dance Revolution" game.

Xbox Kinect

At the same time, Microsoft readied their own salvo of games for the Xbox Kinect, released this week. The Kinect is an add-on for the Xbox 360 that presupposes, "Minority Report was a cool movie! Why do we even have controllers? Let's just wave our arms around like Tom Cruise!"

By eliminating the controller entirely, the Kinect aims to immerse players completely in the games experience. Allegedly, you'll be able to lose yourself in experience of white-water rafting, right up until you realize that you're sitting on your couch flailing your arms like invisible elves are hovering around you.

If you thought the Wii was dangerous to innocent bystanders, wait until you backhand your little sister trying to "bust a move" like Young MC while playing "Dance Central."

YouTube is currently preparing for a deluge of clips titled "Kinect FAIL."

The Kinect also features the

ability to watch movies and navigate your desktop using only the sound of your voice.

No word so far on whether the Kinect has preventative measures for when your roommate inevitably runs in and yells, "Xbox off!" in the middle of a marathon "Mad Men" viewing session.

Both the Kinect and the Move have a game where you can pet an invisible dog and look at your TV to see what it would be like if your imaginary friend were real.

The Next Big Thing

Since the prevailing logic in the game industry is to abandon controllers in favor of the human body, I assume the next big thing is to abandon our bodies and become beings of pure thought.

I've heard some rumors that the Playstation 7 is not going to be compatible with all life-support nutri-pods.

So go ahead and play those sweaty, repetitive motion control games. I'll be resting comfortably in my time-worn ass groove on my ancient sofa, playing "Bible Adventures" in the basement. Pass me a Squeeze-It.



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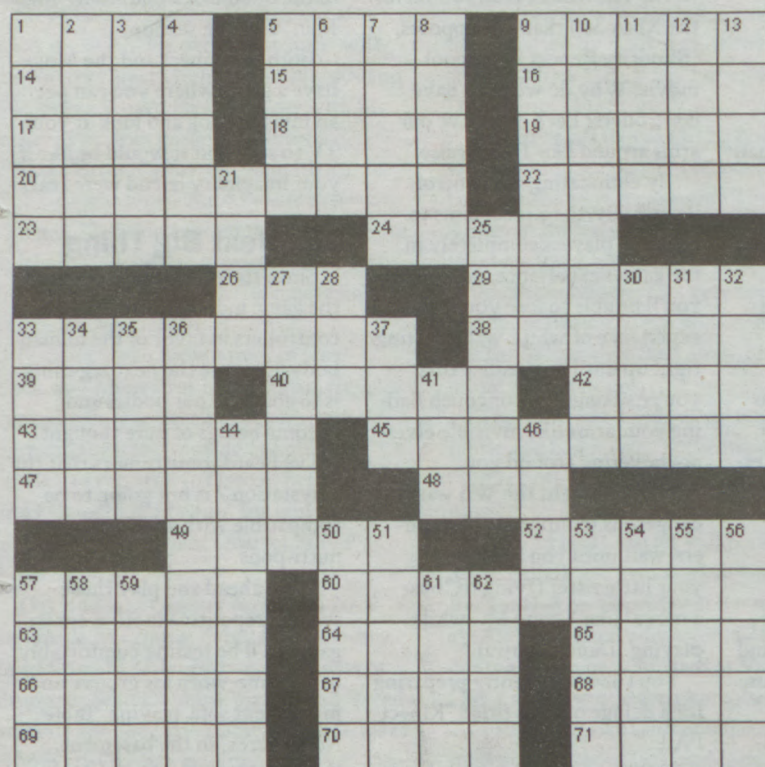


WEEKLY CROSSWORD

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1. Several
5. Slide
9. Country
14. Clip
15. Heap
16. Bowel cleansing
17. A river in Spain
18. Ends a prayer
19. Expect
20. He doesn't use garbage bins
22. Jewish unit of weight
23. Aromatic solvent
24. Highway inn
26. 180° from NNW
29. Fix firmly
33. Rotor coil
38. Fall guy
39. Campus area
40. Intersect
42. Donkey
43. Disengage
45. Pierced with a spit
47. Stellar
48. Famous boxer
49. Sporting venue
52. Visages

57. A high-pitched woodwind instrument
 60. Lacking in refinement
 63. Bird's nest
 64. Novice
 65. Chills and fever
 66. A colorless and odorless inert gas
 67. Jacob's brother
 68. Course
 69. Adolescents
 70. Repose
 71. Visual organs
- ### DOWN
1. Inscribed pillar
 2. Path around the sun
 3. Glee
 4. Overact
 5. Box
 6. Arm or leg
 7. Part of the small intestine
 8. Former Hungarian monetary unit
 9. Any chemical used in reactions
 10. Uninvited
 11. Backside
 12. Dogfish
 13. Plaster base

21. Formerly (archaic)
25. Mortarboard attachment
27. Breast feed
28. Be mistaken
30. 60 minutes
31. Look at flirtatiously
32. Marsh plant
33. Greenish blue
34. Rows of unraveled stitches
35. Kiln-dried barley
36. A feeling of profound love and admiration
37. Dawn goddess
41. Music with jazz-like riffs
44. Lurches
46. Spouse
50. Gunpowder ingredient
51. Licorice-like flavor
53. Marble
54. Clever
55. Habituate
56. Stalks
57. Accomplishment
58. Stringed instrument
59. Encourage
61. Historical periods
62. Dolt