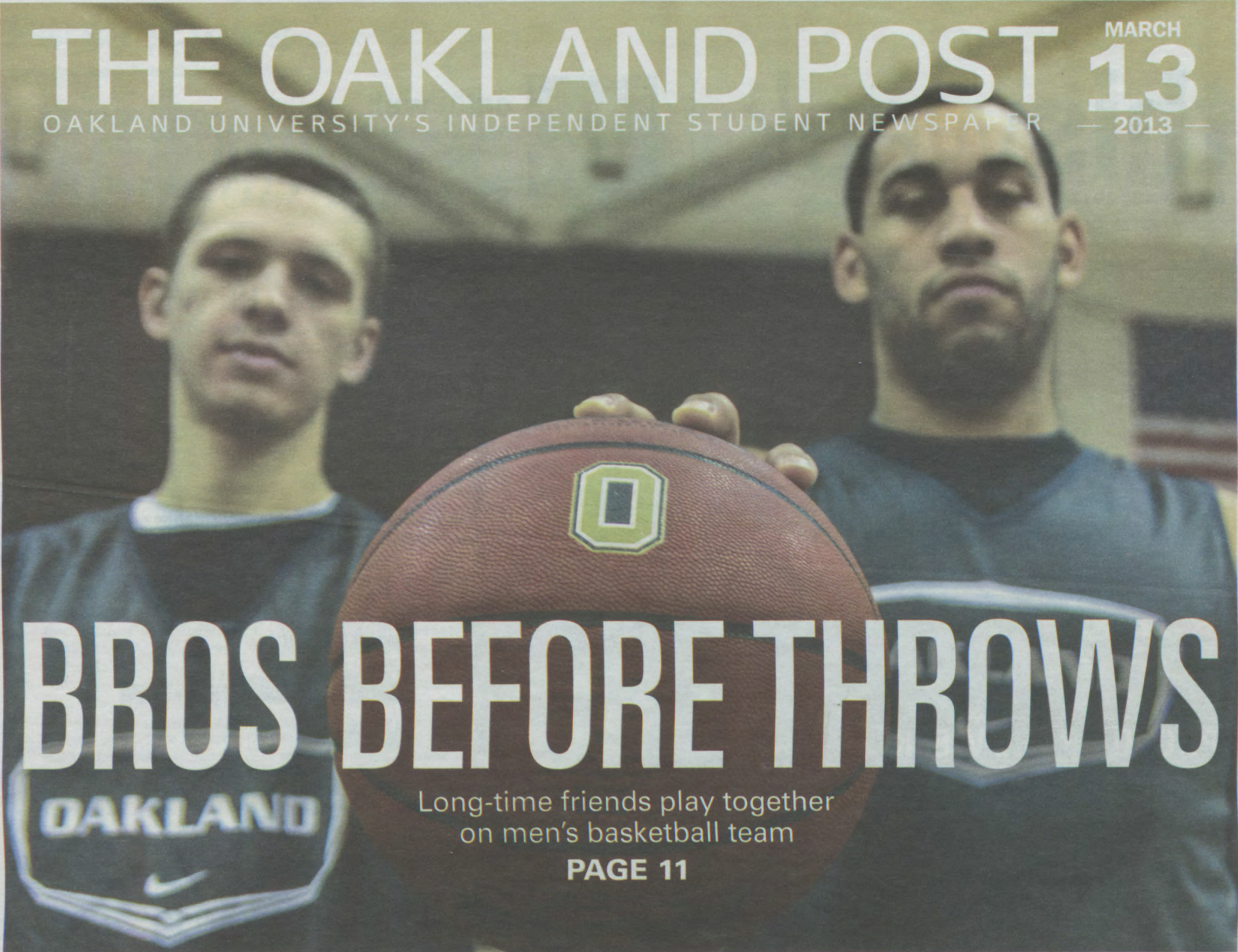
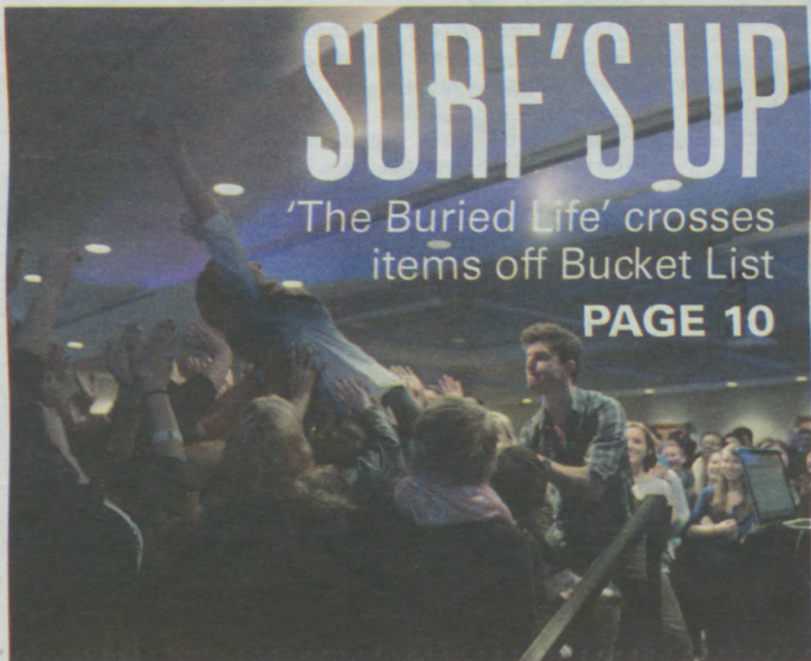




BROS BEFORE THROWS

Long-time friends play together
on men's basketball team

PAGE 11



SURF'S UP

'The Buried Life' crosses
items off Bucket List

PAGE 10



SAYING GOODBYE

Current OUSC President,
Vice President reflect on
their time in office

PAGE 16

thisweek

March 13, 2013 // Volume 39 Issue 21



onthe web

Watch our exclusive online video to see more about star Grizzlies and seniors Drew Valentine and Jordan Howenstine.

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

DOUBLE RAINBOW // After a gloomy, rainy day on campus, a rainbow appeared, arching over the university. At the very ends of the arch, a second — or double — rainbow could be also be seen.

ERIKA MARKO // Senior, Communication

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

Who are you planning on voting for in the upcoming OUSC election?

- A Amera Fattah/Maria Arellano
- B Brandon Hanna/Jibran Ahmed
- C I plan on writing someone else in
- D I don't care

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Do you think Michigan should legalize same-sex marriage?

- A) Yes, every American deserves equality
43 votes | 63%
- B) Yes, because of the benefits with marriage
2 votes | 3%
- C) No, civil unions should be enough
20 votes | 29%
- D) I don't care
3 votes | 4%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

MARCH 13, 1964

Oakland University announced that Hill House was to be finished by fall of 1964. The new six-story dormitory was used as a girls-only dorm.

MARCH 14, 1969

The University Senate approved the opening of the School of Economics and Management for Fall 1969. The opening of the school offered students undergraduate and graduate school opportunities.

JANUARY 5, 1960

Barbara Bush, wife of President George H.W. Bush, visited campus. Bush discussed updates on the Cold War and how students could do their part for their country. The event was part of George Bush's campaign to be re-elected.



12

BAD NEWS BEARS

Both the men's and women's basketball teams fell during the first round of the Summit League Tournament last weekend. Both teams were eliminated.



15

GET YOUR GREEN ON

Utica DDA hosted its first-ever Lucky Leprechaun Race on Saturday. The event encouraged physical fitness and even included a costume contest.



18

RING, RING

Directed by Anthony Guest, 'Dead Man's Cell Phone' is the newest play at Varner Theatre. Every aspect from acting to costumes was done by Oakland University students.

BY THE NUMBERS
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

36.9%

U.S. residents claim Irish ancestry

40

pounds of green dye added to the Chicago River this year

20%

of adults plan on having a drink

248

consecutive years New York has hosted the St. Patrick's Day Parade

0.1%

odds of a child being named Patrick

STAFF EDITORIAL

Be informed for OUSC presidential elections

In just under a month, the student body will elect a new Oakland University Student Congress president and vice president.

It's time to get informed.

This year, there are two tickets — Amera Fattah and Maria Arellano vs. Brandon Hanna and Jibran Ahmed.

This year's tickets have distinct differences.

Let us explain.

Fattah / Arellano

Fattah and Arellano currently serve as members of OUSC. Fattah is the Director of Student Services and Arellano serves as the Multicultural Affairs Director.

In a nutshell, their platform includes enhancing marketing and media relations efforts, hosting larger events, installing more hydration stations, increasing dining space in Vandenberg and the new housing complex, lobbying for later hours of operation in the Oakland Center, including the dining services, partnering with Charwells and the Recreation Center to add a healthy dining service, adding additional Scantron machines, and more.

Hanna / Ahmed

Both male candidates also currently serve as members of OUSC. Hanna is the Student Activities Funding Board chair-

You wouldn't purchase a car without doing extensive research, so why would you vote for a representative without doing at least a little digging?

man, and Ahmed serves as a Student Congress Legislator.

Hanna and Ahmed's platform includes improving Wi-Fi on campus, increasing and improving parking availability, bringing back the free ScanT-ran program, holding more career fairs on OU's campus, keeping tuition low, increasing the number of instructors who use Moodle, increasing the amount of free prints students may use, providing more electrical outlets for student use, improving mobile phone reception on campus, and more.

Why it matters

You wouldn't purchase a car without doing extensive research, so why would you vote for a representative without doing at least a little digging?

Last year's election garnered only 1,184 votes. This means just over six percent of the student body voted in the OUSC election.

Emily Collins, OUSC elec-

tion's commissioner, aspires to get 3,000 — roughly 15 percent — of the student body to cast a vote this year.

That's too small of a representation. Oakland's student body can and should do better.

The two platforms, while they may share some similarities, also have many differences. The candidates' proposals will have an impact on many facets of student life.

Will you let that be dictated by three out of every 50 students? Would you let it even be dictated by three out of 20?

Or will you decide it's worth the few minutes of effort to check a box on a ballot, giving your vote to the candidates whose views most closely match yours?

It's easy to find out the platforms of the candidates. Advertisements, social media and this very newspaper have can all help keep you informed.

Voting is also neither difficult nor time-consuming. If you're an OU student, you can vote.

The polls will be open March 18-20. If you're on campus one of those days, vote. If not, vote online www.oakland.edu/voteou

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



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The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@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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COLUMN

To make it brief: Vote in the elections

Every year, as you may already know, there is an election that determines who will become the next Student Body President, Vice President and all of the Legislators that help make your voice heard.

For president and VP, the process begins with a duo that decide that they want to make Oakland University a better place through commitment to the student body, leadership to the community and dedication to the university as a whole.

For legislators, it's simply those who want to make a difference through the representation of students all across campus.

Students who run for these positions put their hearts into campaigning, marketing themselves, researching solutions to the problems that student face here and creating initiatives that help make this place better.

They focus their time and energy on the things that matter to the general student body, and because of that, they deserve to let their ideas be seen and heard by all of you reading this.

Yeah, I said it.



ROBBIE WILLIFORD
columnist

Educate yourself on all of those who are running to represent you.

You may not think that it matter, but if you don't vote, you can't complain about anything on this campus.

I know that's a saying that may be overused, but think about it: If you don't vote, you relinquish the voice that you have ever being heard.

Do you want that? I certainly don't want that, not only for me but also for each and every one of you.

Last school year, there was a total of approximately 1,500 votes.

This year, we want to double that.

Having 3,000 students submit a vote is our goal — that means 3,000 voters that have taken the time to look at the platforms of each candidate, 3,000 voters that have met with the candidates to discuss ideas and student concerns, and 3,000 voters that decided they care about the future of this university.

I hope you've attended the presidential and vice presidential debates recently.

I hope you've met with the candidates.

I hope you've visited their websites and have seen their vision for what can make the Oakland community a better place to be.

If you haven't done so, I challenge you to take the time to do it.

If you work diligently, it should only take you an hour and a half at most to see what each candidate is bringing to the table. And each one has something different.

But no matter what, every candidate wants their best version of what would make this wonderful place even better.

Lastly, when you choose not to vote, you're choosing to not be the difference.

"When you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

An investment in the future of this university is an investment in your own future. Vote.

Be the difference.

Go to www.oakland.edu/voteou, from March 18-20 and make a difference.

Robbie Williford is the Oakland University Student Congress Vice President. Email him at rwillif@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @rwilliford

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EDITORIAL

Leave the wolves for Little Red Riding Hood

We've all seen them around. They've even invaded our campus. People with a pitiful look in their eye pushing clipboards at passers-by asking them to support the cause and protect native wolves.

Yes wolves, the evildoers in our children's books, the bad guys, the deceivers.

They get a bad rep dating all the way back to the Middle Ages when werewolves were used to explain the horrific immorality of serial killers.

Buwolves should not be hunted as a sport.

How it started

Grey wolves in the western Great Lakes region were added to the endangered species list in 1973. They were removed in January of 2012.

In 2008, the Michigan Legislature passed laws deeming it legal for dog and livestock owners to take lethal action against problem wolves who prey on their animals.

In December 2012, Public Act 520 was signed into law, designating wolves as a game species in Michigan.

Since that decision, Keep Wolves Protected has taken a stand to defend our native wildlife.

Stepping up

The Keep Wolves Protected website explains the mission of the Michigan chapter as follows:



ASHLEY MOHLER
intern

"Keep Michigan Wolves Protected is a coalition of animal welfare organizations, conservation groups, veterinarians, Native American tribes and religious leaders who are working to oppose the Michigan legislature's last-minute approval of a bill during the 2012 lame-duck session that allows for the trophy hunting of wolves in Michigan for the first time in nearly 50 years"

Keep Michigan Wolves Protected has a goal to collect 225,000 signatures before its state-mandated March 27 deadline. The group needs 161,305 signatures to bring the issue back to the ballot, and according to their website, they are well on their way to attaining all signatures needed.

The issues

I have no gripe with the warranted killing of an animal, one which kills a beloved pet or harms a living investment such as livestock, and I think shooting a wolf in defense is admissible.

On the other hand, I agree with Keep Michigan Wolves Protected on their stance against actively hunting wolves in order to lessen the already low population and gain a trophy.

A noticeable problem is that wolves are encroaching on livestock of local owners. Wolves eat hoofed animals, the bigger the better. They, like most carnivores, are hunters that like to pass as scavengers

when food is scarce and they are low on energy. When a wolf sees a horse's pen, it sees a hearty meal, all wrapped up with nowhere to go.

Wolves are tenacious hunters that can grow to weigh over 100 lbs. They usually hunt in quick and cunning packs, which can be intimidating to anything that crosses their path.

That I'm sure you knew, but here's something you may not know: Wolves aren't typically a threat to humans.

When I say "not typically," I mean close to never.

In the past century, there have only been two reported deaths from wolf attacks. Compare that number to 38, the amount of fatal dog attacks in the U.S. in 2012.

When an animal challenges us or becomes a threat we eliminate it. Fresh off the endangered species list and now it's time to kill?

Here we are in the middle of an environmental movement that took years to get off the ground in the U.S., killing off a newly revived animal that helps to naturally keep order among what little wildlife we have left.

The human population is rising far faster than the wolf population, so let me ask you, who is encroaching upon whom?

Ashley Mohler is an intern at The Oakland Post. Email her at anmohler@oakland.edu

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Now hiring: Editor-in-Chief

Applications are now being accepted for the position of Editor-in-Chief for the 2013-14 academic year. Applications are due Friday, March 15.

The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for managing The Oakland Post independent student newspaper and reports to the board of directors.

Applicants should possess superior oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of news media and have a solid command of digital technologies. Proficiency in Adobe publication software and Wordpress is required.

Job duties include supervision of staff, oversight of production of weekly print publication and daily online news site, writing and editing, staff recruitment and training and facilitation of necessary university and community relations.

Compensation includes weekly salary and a tuition stipend. Applicants need not be journalism majors, but prior experience in a newsroom is preferable.

Applicants should send a digital portfolio including a cover letter, resume and work samples to Holly Shreve Gilbert, shreve@oakland.edu



SHANNON COUGLIN/The Oakland Post

Students in attendance of the 2013 Student Congress Presidential Debate listen as Brandon Hanna and Amara Fattah discuss their platforms.

Fighting for your vote

Student Congress holds presidential debate

Written by Jon Davis
Staff Intern

The 2013 Student Congress Presidential Debate between Amara Fattah and Brandon Hanna was held March 5 at noon and featured discussions on parking efficiency, student commentary and free scantrons.

The debate immediately opened on the top three platforms the candidates were making.

"IT'S ABOUT COMING UP WITH A PLAN AND IT'S ABOUT CONNECTING WITH PEOPLE."

Amara Fattah,
OUSC presidential candidate

"We're going to do things that haven't been addressed by the current administration," Hanna said. "Firstly, advocating for better parking is huge. We're pushing for a new parking structure to coincide with new housing plans coming next year."

Hanna said another item on his agenda is to bring more career fairs to Oakland.

He also discussed the importance of a free scantron program to students.

"When we purchase these in bulk, you actually spend less money, and one of the biggest benefits is the flow of students who will now be coming into our office to get them," Hanna said. "They're right there, face-to-face, and they can tell us ideas or problems they've been having."

Fattah followed saying she and running mate Maria Arellano, have nine core-concepts that will benefit students, but the top three are transportation initiatives, technology advancement and student commentary.

"Parking is going to be the biggest problem here at Oakland," Fattah said. "An answer to that is that we're going to establish a transportation department."

She added that the two are pushing for technology advancement, which is simplifying resources at Oakland.

Fattah also hopes to better marketing through technology — make easier research tools through Oakland, and have a smart-phone app for the Bear Bus."

"WE'RE GOING TO DO THINGS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN ADDRESSED BY THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION."

Brandon Hanna,
OUSC presidential candidate

Coming to a close

The debate ended by asking the candidates to give closing statements on how, if elected, they will improve OU.

"We bring a sense of experience to the job," Hanna said. "We're working across departments, we're working across various deans and we're working across several groups organizations to bring about the change we need."

Fattah said that it is all about working together.

"It's about coming up with a plan, and it's about connecting with people," she said. "That's the solid foundation we built our platform on. That's what got us here."

Contact Staff Intern Jon Davis via email at jsdavis@oakland.edu

POLICE FILES

Fight reported in student's home

The Oakland University Police Department was called to a residence in Rochester March 10.

A group of students left from Gus O'Connors in downtown Rochester at 3:15 a.m.

Upon returning home, one female student and the others said she found three to four men inside her home.

The student said she had past experiences with them and told them to leave. They began to argue, and the group of males decided to leave.

As they left the house, a member of the resident's group followed them outside. He stated that he was punched without cause and the same person punched the resident.

Another member of her group stated he was choked by one of the men.

The group of males left the house, and a neighbor confirmed that she saw the fight.

No one involved requested medical treatment.

OUPD investigates suspicious odors in Hill House dorm

OU police officers responded to Hill House Feb. 27 at 7:45 p.m. for an odor investigation.

Officers entered the dorm by consent of the student. Officers said they noticed the smell of marijuana outside and inside the room.

They asked if anyone had been smoking and all denied except one student.

Upon request from officers, she relinquished a small bag of marijuana from her purse.

They then observed a beer can by a male student. The can was sitting by the male student's foot. The male student said he had been only drinking beer. After officers asked if he had been drinking, he admitted to drinking two cans of beer. He referenced the observed can with by his foot.

The female student was issued a ticket for marijuana use, and the male student was issued a minor in possession.

— Compiled by Haley Kotwicki,
Copy Editor



At the round-table discussions of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity conference, students, faculty and visitors discussed what they learned during the day.

Campus hosts second annual SOGI conference

Written and photographed
by Natalie Popovski
Campus Editor

Oakland University hosted the second annual Michigan Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Education Conference March 9 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The conference, which is a part of the SOGI Initiative of the School of Education and Human Services, has the goal to create more supportive and inclusive educational environments for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and intersex people.

"At this year's conference, we were able to expand the breadth and depth of our sessions and workshops," Timothy Larrabee, associate dean of the SEHS, said. "We had four trans-focused sessions on the program compared to one last year. This year we also attracted greater participation from organizations seeking to market their programs at information tables, and we were also able to offer continuing education credits for teachers, school counselors and social workers."

This year's conference featured six workshops, 18 concurrent sessions, round-table discussions and a performance from the Riot Zone's Gayrilla Theatre which discussed survey results distributed to students in the Ann Arbor area about the how comfortable students feel at school.

Inside the sessions

Grace Wojcik, coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center, lead the Creating Safe Space Ally Trainings workshop.

In this session, they discussed how to create effective Safe Space Ally training

"WHEN COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND SESSION FACILITATORS REPORT BACK THAT THEY LEARNED SOMETHING NEW THAT WILL HELP THEM IN THEIR WORK, I FEEL WE HAVE DONE OUR JOB."

Timothy Larrabee,
Associate Dean of the School of
Education and Human Services

sessions for instructors, staff members and students in order to create a comfortable environment to discuss SOGI issues.

"Students are coming out younger and younger," Wojcik said. "Safe zones help students feel a sense of belonging in schools."

She discussed how OU uses Safe Zone signs, bracelets, pins and other resources in to help the cause.

"You have to determine your school's culture and cater to that," Wojcik said.

Looking back at the conference

Larrabee said his favorite aspect of the event is the great response they get from participants and the positive difference it makes in people's lives.

"When community activists and session facilitators report back that they learned something new that will help them in their work, I feel we have done our job. And when classroom teachers and school administrators report they will change their policies and practices to create safer more inclusive communities in their classrooms, schools and school districts, I feel we have done our job."

At the end of conference, Larrabee said they plan on holding a third annual event.

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5:00-8:00PM

Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

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Sowing the 'Seeds of Hope'

Primatologist, anthropologist, conversationalist Dr. Jane Goodall to speak on campus, to discuss Gombe chimpanzees

By Irum Ibrahim
Staff Writer

Dr. Jane Goodall, a world-renowned primatologist, anthropologist and conversationalist, will speak at the O'rena March 27 at 7 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Academic Affairs, Varner Vitality Lecture Series, Student Life Lecture Board and the Oakland University Alumni Association.

In her lecture, "Sowing the Seeds of Hope," Dr. Goodall will take her audience into the world of Gombe chimpanzees by sharing personal observations and experiences.

Oakland University's Academic Affairs office has affirmed she will discuss a variety of topics ranging from her research

work in Kakombe Valley in 1960, to current efforts in spreading messages of hope for the planet's future.

While discussing the threats facing the planet and her reasons for preserving hope, Dr. Goodall plans to encourage her audience to do their part in making a positive difference everyday, according to www.janegoodall.org

As the global leader of the Jane Goodall Institute, Dr. Goodall works to protect chimpanzees and their habitats, as well as establish innovative conservation programs around the world.

She is also an author, the subject of many TV documentaries and films, and holds possession of numerous honors such as the Kyoto Prize, UNESCO's Gold

Medal Award, Dame of the British Empire, the French Legion of Honor, the Gandhi-King Award for Nonviolence and the United Nations Messenger of Peace.

Tickets are currently on sale at the Center for Student Activities service window in the Oakland Center.

The event is free for all OU students, faculty and staff, plus one free ticket for guests. Other tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and free for children six years and younger.

To order tickets by phone or to obtain more information about ticket prices, please call the service window at 248-370-4407.

Contact Staff Reporter Irum Ibrahim via email at ifibrahim@oakland.edu



Photo courtesy of Michael Neugebauer

Dr. Goodall with a chimpanzee at the Tchimpounga Sanctuary in Congo.

SOWING THE SEEDS OF HOPE EVENT DETAILS

WHO: Dr. Jane Goodall, world-renowned primatologist

WHEN: March 27 at 7 p.m.

WHERE: Recreation and Athletic Center O'rena

M UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

2013 U-M Cancer Research Summer Internship Program

As part of its Cancer Biology Training Program, the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center provides exposure to cancer research for highly motivated and talented college undergraduates. This program gives the successful applicants an opportunity to explore potential careers in the field of cancer research.

Applications are due March 25, and require an online form, personal statement, unofficial transcripts, and two letters of recommendation.

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Perfect harmony

New Glee Club makes its way to campus

Written and photographed
by Katie Phelan
Staff Reporter

A new club formed at Oakland University based off the television show "Glee" this semester.

Revon Yousif, president and director of the club, started the Glee Club at OU after noticing a lack of similar clubs on campus.

"It is amazing that something like this is finally available on our campus," said Briana Edwards, Glee Club member.

The Glee Club is leaning away from the show choir aspect and forming a style of their own, according to Yousif, who may step into a performing role in the future.

"It is a great way for students to connect and share their voice and just to have

fun," said Arkeem Scott, Glee Club member.

"I feel like I don't really fit in the college atmosphere, so hopefully being involved in this will help me become more outgoing in the future," said Brittany Biondo, Glee Club member.

Instead of having performers dressed alike, standing on stage in a straight line and singing, Yousif wants the club to be personal. Costumes will be inspired from each individual's personal style and shows will be performed in different areas around campus.

"People won't be sitting and watching. They will be performing in there with the audience," Yousif said.

Yousif would like to get the Glee Club's name out by making an impact on the campus.

"IT IS A GREAT WAY FOR STUDENTS TO CONNECT AND SHARE THEIR VOICE AND JUST TO HAVE FUN."

Arkeem Scott,
Glee Club member

"I want our performances to make people's days better," Yousif said.

Building the club

Glee Club's auditions have already ended, and out of about 35 students, Yousif chose 20 to be in the club.

The majority of the students in the club are not majoring in music or theater, according to Yousif.

"To see the talent that is not being used by the performing arts programs is

crazy," Yousif said.

"Glee Club may give non-music majors, like me, a place and a motivation to grow in that field," said Jae Kim, club member.

The club's focus is on music that reaches a wide audience. This may change depending on who they are performing for, but they are practicing music that is liked by many.

The Glee Club has begun weekly rehearsals in Dodge Hall.

Yousif plans to have a small show at the end of the semester showcasing the Glee Club.

"I want to focus on doing a small performance rather than doing something that is huge and mediocre," Yousif said.

Contact staff reporter Katie Phelan via email kpphelan@oakland.edu

1. The Glee Club at OU was formed after president and director, Revon Yousif, noticed there was a lack of similar clubs on campus.

2. The majority of the 20 students in the club are not music or theater majors, according to Yousif. The club has begun weekly rehearsals in Dodge Hall.

3. Yousif said the club plans to have a small show at the end of the semester to showcase their work. He said he would prefer doing a smaller show rather than a large mediocre show.

Check that off the bucket list

Cast of MTV's 'The Buried Life' speaks on campus

Written and photographed
by Kailee Mathias
Multimedia Reporter

Ben Nemtin, Dave Lingwood, Duncan Penn and Jonnie Penn planned a two-week adventure to complete a list of 100 things they wanted to do before they died, which eventually led to the creation of their MTV show "The Buried Life."

The group paid a visit to Oakland University March 7 to help students cross off items on their own bucket lists and to discuss dreams they have fulfilled over the years.

Humble beginnings

"The Buried Life" premiered on MTV in January 2010, but before that, the group was offered another show they had no interest in pursuing, according to Penn.

"We got offered to do a show originally and said no because they wanted to buy it off of us to make it a cheesy reality show," Penn said. "We had so much fun doing it for three years, real, on our own, and wanted to do it our way. MTV only sent the cameras to film our activities."

Penn said the coolest list items were playing basketball with President Barack Obama, sneaking into the Playboy Mansion or donating a considerable amount of money to a charity in Chicago called Keep America Beautiful.

"I think the thing we've learned is don't waste time living someone else's dream. We have to face up and do the things that maybe secretly scare us," he said.

Coming to campus

By agreeing to appear on campus, the group also helped junior and student co-chair of the Student Life Lecture Board Miranda Divozzo cross an item off her bucket list.

"When I applied for the position (student co-chair) in the



summer, I went into it with a bucket list of things I wanted to do with this term," Divozzo said. "Honestly, bringing them ('The Buried Life') to Oakland was number one on my list. They actually crossed it off on my bucket list."

She said the show helped bring her out of a rut she was in during high school, and she wanted to share their message with Oakland.

"My goal was for students to walk away and really feel inspired. We're in college looking for our dream jobs, and they are telling us you can do it, you can achieve your wildest dreams. I think they inspired us to just get up and do something," Divozzo said. "If you're afraid to take that first step, don't be. Their motto is nothing matters. Who cares if you try and fail? At least you tried."

Helping the students

At the end of their sold out performance in the Banquet Rooms



in the Oakland Center, the group encouraged crowd members to come together and share items on their bucket list.

Some audience members also got the chance to check items off of their own bucket lists.

One student got to experience crowd surfing and another student fulfilled the dream of kissing a celebrity with the help of

Duncan and Jonnie's cousin.

Other bucket list items mentioned by members in the audience included meeting birth parents, becoming a recognized opera singer and hugging a tiger.

Contact Multimedia Reporter Kailee Mathias via email at kmmathia@oakland.edu

TOP (RIGHT TO LEFT) Ben Nemtin, Duncan Penn, Dave Lingwood and Jonnie Penn came to campus March 7. They discussed their show and helped students items off their bucket lists.

BOTTOM Cast members Ben Nemtin and Duncan Penn help a student fulfill her dream of crowd surfing.

Photo illustration by
DYLAN DULBERG/
The Oakland Post
Basketball
players and
seniors Drew
Valentine
and Jordan
Howenstine have
been friends
since childhood.
Together they
reflect on the
lessons they
learned playing
as Grizzlies.



"I DON'T THINK IT
MATTERS WHERE WE ARE
OR WHAT WE DO, WE WILL
STILL HAVE TIME TO TALK
ABOUT THE GAME."

Jordan Howenstine,
Guard

BOND NOT TO BE BROKEN

Senior players reflect on their time together

By Allen Jordan
Staff Reporter

When it comes to sports, most notably at the professional level, it's difficult to build a bond outside of a work relationship.

But it is also crucial to build that bond outside of the sport as well as within it.

With Oakland University's men's basketball seniors Drew Valentine and Jordan Howenstine, the strength of that off-court bond has stayed constant to build a life long chemistry between each another.

"Being on the same team and same class when we were younger, it was almost like instant chemistry," Valentine said. "He was one of the better players in the city and I kind of just wanted to match his play and effort."

It's their love of shoes and the game of basketball that has continued to keep the teammates bound together, according to Valentine.

"I would have to say his ball handling skills are what really got me about Jordan," Valentine said. "It seems like he has the ball on a yo-yo string and watching him handle the ball is something impressive to watch."

"I love the versatility in Drew's game and he does a bit of everything," Howenstine said. "But I have to attribute my ball handling to his dad because of how much he pushed me to take care of the ball and it made me feel like another son."

From the beginning

Natives of Lansing, the pair have known one another since the age of 9. At six-foot-five Valentine is taller of the two but Howenstine is older by a couple of months.

With his younger brother Denzel attending and playing basketball in their hometown at Michigan State, it has been easy for Valentine to find brotherly love at OU away from home.

"I don't see myself as the big brother in this like many do," Howenstine said. "It's more so a twin relationship than anything because we are so much alike."

Through middle school, high school and college, the two have seen their share of success from winning youth organization championships to 20 plus win seasons every season as members of the Golden Grizzlies.

Through all of the success, one memory in particular continues to stick with the pair

as they look back on a friendship over a decade old.

"The AAU 15 and under sweet 16 game in Vegas will always stick with me," Valentine said. "When Jordan hit that mid range jumper for the game winner, I just remember my dad being the first to mob him and give him a hug."

"Definitely the last 3 on 3 tournament in Grand Rapids sticks out to me," Howenstine said. "Me, Drew and Denzel came out of the losers bracket and ripped off 6 wins in a row to win the whole thing, just playing with that chip on our shoulder was pretty cool."

Looking forward

As the only seniors on this year's Golden Grizzlies team, Valentine and Howenstine see that chemistry continue to strengthen through their four years at OU in what will be a bittersweet end to a run of success in competition and in the classroom.

The most memorable moment for both in their college career is the NCAA tournament run the team experienced during the 2011 season, falling just short of a win against Texas.

"That whole time period with winning

the league championship and living out a dream to go to the NCAA tournament in Tulsa was unreal," Valentine said.

Now that their college run is over, both will continue to stay close with one another and with the sport that they share a unlimited passion for.

Valentine will look to play basketball overseas and eventually take the leadership qualities he has exhibited in four years and turn it into a college coaching career.

Howenstine who currently works for the Detroit Pistons public relations department will look to continue in the field whether it be with the Pistons or a possible media outlet.

In the end, both see the opportunity to move on from college courses and athletics as a new beginning.

"I don't think it matters where we are or what we do, we will still have time to talk about the game or what the hottest shoes are out just because that bond we built when we were younger makes getting older easy," Howenstine said.

Contact Allen Jordan via email at ajordan2@oakland.edu or @aj1218 on Twitter

Bad news bears

Basketball teams fall during first round of Summit League

By Don Tottingham
Contributing reporter

The Oakland University men's and women's basketball teams both lost during the first round of the 2013 Summit League Tournament Sunday.

The men's team fell to the IPFW Mastodons 91-72. It was the second year in a row the team lost during the first round of the tournament.

The women (9-20) were defeated 23-7 by the South Dakota Jackrabbits.

Men succumb to IPFW

Junior Travis Bader was the men's leading scorer, with 18 points. Bader, the leading three-pointer in the nation, was unable to score a three until late in the first half of the game. He ended the game shooting three out of 12 from behind the three point line and was 4 of 15 from the field.

Guard Ryan Bass followed Bader's lead, shooting 16 points in 30 minutes for Oakland. He had 14 points and

"I am not happy with my team, I am not happy with our play, but it has been like that all season long."

Greg Kampe,
Men's Basketball Head Coach

grabbed three boards.

Oakland went 22 of 63 (35.5 percent) from the field, 8 of 32 (25 percent) from behind the arc and 20-28 (71.4 percent) from the charity stripe.

"I am not happy with my team, I am not happy with our play, but it has been like that all season long," Head coach Greg Kampe said in a press conference after the game.

With the loss, the Golden Grizzlies were eliminated from any NCAA tournament bids and were offered a spot in the CIT tournament.

"I have a decision to make about the bid to the CIT," Kampe said. "We have a record of 16 and 16 and we have a streak of 5 seasons with over .500 winning seasons. I do not want to put that in jeopardy."

Women fall to Jackrabbits

Freshman forward Olivia Nash, in her



Oakland Post File Photo

Both the men's and women's basketball teams fell during the first round of the Summit League Tournament Sunday. Both teams were eliminated from the next rounds of the tournament.

first Division I tournament game, led the Summit League in rebounds this season by averaging 8.1 boards per game.

On Saturday, she led the Grizzlies in scoring with 17 points and six rebounds.

Nash scored the first seven points for the team.

Junior Forward Victoria Lipscomb scored 14 points for the team and played the longest of any player between the

two teams with her usual 37 minutes.

The Golden Grizzlies were plagued all season long with injuries and played the entire season without senior center Bethany Watterworth. They also lost guard Zakiya Miniffee for the season with a month left to play due to another knee injury.

Both teams look to improve for next year's season.



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THE SPORTING BLITZ

Bader, Mondy highlight All-Summit League honors

Junior Travis Bader was named All-Summit League first team, while fellow junior Duke Mondy was named All-Summit League second team along with Newcomer of the Year accolades, to lead four Oakland players on the all-league teams.

Bader leads the country with 131 three-pointers made this season and is four shy from matching the league record. He ranks fifth in the nation in scoring at 22.0 points per game and his 89.1 free-throw percent ranks 11th.

Mondy leads the nation in steals with a school record of 97, good for fifth-best in league history. He ranks second in the league with 161 assists and is averaging 12.1 points per game.

Senior Drew Valentine and sophomore Corey Petros both earned their first all-league honorable mention.

Petros ranks second in the league in rebounds per game (8.2) and double-doubles (7). Valentine is third in the league with 1.7 steals per game and he is the active leader in the league with 702 rebounds, ninth in school history. Valentine is fourth in school history with 134 career games played, three shy of the school record.

Women's basketball freshmen receive Summit League honors

Oakland Women's Basketball Freshman Forward Olivia Nash was named Summit League Freshman of the Year and was also named all-league second team by CollegeSportsMadness.com. Nash led The Summit League with eight double-doubles this season.

Nash ended the season as Oakland's top scorer and rebounder, averaging 11.9 points and 8.0 rebounds per-game while tying for The Summit League lead in double-digit rebound performances with eight and was second in the league in rebounding average.

Nash started her freshman campaign

at Oakland with three consecutive double-double games and finished the year strong, as Oakland's top scorer at The Summit League Championship, with 17 points.

Baseball players named Summit League Player, Pitcher of the Week

Nolan Jacoby and Tim Koons were honored as The Summit League Player and Pitcher of the Week respectively, the league office announced on Monday. The honors are the first for both in their careers after helping the Golden Grizzlies win two games in a three-game series at Ohio.

Koons, a junior right-handed pitcher from Castle Rock, Colo. who transferred to Oakland from Fort Scott Community College, earned his first win as an Oakland pitcher by beating Ohio in the series finale. He pitched eight innings while equaling his season-high with seven strikeouts.

Jacoby, a senior from Crystal Lake, Ill. played first base and catcher during the week while batting .385 with a .692 slugging percentage, including going 4-for-5 with three doubles, two runs scored and an RBI in the series finale.

Hockey head coach steps down

Oakland University Hockey Head Coach Jeremy Bachusz announced he is stepping down for personal reasons. Bachusz finishes with a career record of 96-56-13 with a 58 percent winning percentage.

The 96 wins by Bachusz is first all-time at Oakland with former Grizzlies head coach Sean Hogan with 88 wins. Bachusz passed Hogan earlier this season.

In his third season Bachusz led the Grizzlies to their first regular season GLCHL championship. The season also saw the Grizzlies win "The Good Luck Duck" over rival Davenport.

He was also named at the 2012 GLCHL Coach of the Year.

— Compiled by
Allen Jordan, Staff Reporter

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LEFT Rockin' Cupcakes Owner Jim Ohngren places a batch of cupcakes into the display case. **TOP** A Rockin' Cupcakes sales associate frosts the cupcakes. The shop sells hundreds of the dessert on a daily basis. **BOTTOM** A worker decorates "Kid Rock" cupcakes. Rockin' Cupcakes offers a variety of flavors, all of which have a music-inspired themes.

JENNIFER HOLYCHUK/The Oakland Post

These cupcakes rock

Rochester Hills' music-inspired bakery competes in 'Cupcake Wars'

By Jennifer Holychuk
Senior Reporter

Rochester Hills is home to Rockin' Cupcakes, a bakery located just north of downtown that serves up more than ten varieties of homemade cupcakes, locally-made ice cream and rock n' roll.

This unique rock 'n' roll music-inspired shop has recently attracted national attention for its participation in The Food Network's "Cupcake Wars."

Where it started

Jim Ohngren and his wife Mary, who is also the shop's baker, own and operate Rockin' Cupcakes along with several part-time employees.

The two opened Rockin' Cupcakes October 2010 after being inspired by a visit to a cupcake shop in Nashville.

"We came back and thought about it, and we decided we could do it on our own," Jim said.

Jim said his love of rock music set the theme for the red, black and white-colored shop, which is covered wall-

to-wall with vintage albums and rock memorabilia.

Every cupcake has a rock-related title as well, including a "White Stripes" red velvet cupcake and "Brown-Eyed Girl" vanilla cake with chocolate frosting.

The shop now sells hundreds of cupcakes per day, the couple said.

"Depending on the day of the week, we can sell 200 or up to 400, 500 cupcakes," Jim said.

Competing cupcakes

Rockin' Cupcakes was featured on the season premiere of "Cupcake Wars," which aired Sunday, March 3.

This reality television program pulls top cupcake bakers from across the country to compete head-to-head in elimination challenges until one winner remains.

The shop's appearance on the show was kept secret until the episode aired, despite being filmed many months earlier in July, Jim said.

"They had us sign a nondisclosure agreement," he said. "No one knew

"DEPENDING ON THE DAY OF THE WEEK, WE CAN SELL 200 OR UP TO 400, 500 CUPCAKES."

JIM OHNGREN,
OWNER

except our family."

Jim said The Food Network contacted them about an opportunity to compete on the show, and they decided to go for it.

Mary and the couple's daughter Kara were flown to Los Angeles where they competed with a corn-based cupcake with beef bacon, according to Jim.

"On the show they encourage you to be outside of the box," he said.

Some filming was also done in the shop, and according to Mary, the on-camera experience was stressful at times "but not unpleasant."

Unfortunately for Rockin' Cupcakes, their cupcake was knocked out in the first round and the challenge was ultimately won by a San Diego bakery.

The shop's defeated corn and bacon

creation was dubbed "The Beautiful Loser" after a Bob Seger song of the same name.

The Monday after the episode aired, the shop extended its hours and gave free Beautiful Losers with every cupcake purchase.

"A lot of our customers came in and tasted the cupcake and they loved it," he said.

What's next

Customers have been flocking to the store since the airing of the episode, according to Jim.

"They showed the episode again this Saturday," he said. "We had someone call the shop and say 'I'm watching you guys right now!'"

Although Rockin' Cupcakes was defeated, Jim said the national exposure has been priceless.

"Since Cupcake Wars aired, our business is way up," he said. "That's the victory right there."

For more information about Rockin' Cupcakes, visit www.rockincupcakesrochester.com

Runners get lucky in Utica



Runners race for St. Patrick's Day

Written and Photographed
By Stephanie Sokol
Local Editor

People flaunted their green apparel and clover leaf accessories early this weekend, as Utica DDA hosted its first-ever Lucky Leprechaun Race on Saturday.

A costume contest gave 471 runners and walkers an opportunity to show off their St. Patrick's Day style, while the 5K and Green Mile races encouraged physical fitness, according to Thomas Gray, chairman of the Macomb Health and Fitness Foundation.



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1. The 5K race began at 10:30 a.m. "It was great weather and everything I thought it would be," Gray said. "Once the runners assembled at the starting line, I think the community felt the power of so many people gathering for this race in their city."

2. First place in the 5K went to Danielle Miller of Clinton Township. She said she ran for her father, Dale Miller, who has cancer.

3. Max Woodford, (LEFT) and Mitchell Woodford (RIGHT), wait for results of the costume contest. Max won best costume in the child category.

4. Friends Lynda Bojarczyk, of Rochester Hills, and Amy McLain, of Clarkston, ran the 5K. While McLain said she was an "avid runner" this was Bojarczyk's first race.

5. Best group costume went to Traci Cunningham, Celeste Hall, Melissa, Shelby, and Dakota and Kendel Evans, who called themselves "the Lucky Charms."

OUSC Reflections

Wolf, Williford reflect on their administration, offer advice for successors

It's been almost a year since students Samantha Wolf and Robbie Williford were elected Oakland University Student Congress President and Vice President. The pair labored over the decision to run again, ultimately deciding to challenge themselves to try something new instead.

"I know what it takes, and I love it and I could do it again. The question was, 'Is this going to make me grow and learn a second year?' I love to be in new situations. I always want to be learning," Williford said. "There's a lot of great things the people running are offering — why not give them the opportunity to do it?"

Although they'll be seeing a lot less of each other, Wolf and Williford plan on maintaining a friendship. They hope to do a radio show called *Jumping Ship*, schedule regular lunches and possibly train for a marathon together.

"I don't think we'll see each other nearly as much, but we'll be connected always," Wolf said.

Which OUSC accomplishment are you most proud of?

Wolf: I consider our greatest accomplishment to be forming teams within OUSC and the relationship that SAFAC has. I think that relationship is unique, and I hope it continues.

Williford: In general, it's the connections we've made ... creating a great relationship with WXOU, The Post, SPB, SVP and Student Activities Funding Board. Creating the relationships has been the biggest thing.

At which event did you have the most fun?

Wolf: The craziest thing that put me out of my comfort zone was an SVP shoot. I was Wonder Woman. It wasn't my typical office structure.

Williford: I had the most fun at the Washington D.C. trip. Even though I can't sleep on buses and for some reason I wasn't prepared and didn't bring a hat or gloves, but being able to see the

president — no matter who it was — was a great experience.

What have you learned about Oakland University?

Wolf: I've learned what the administration's vision for the future is. I find it exciting and I wish all students knew. Students make judgments about parking and residence halls, but they don't realize all that goes into that.

If they were to see how the administration and the students involved have assisted in that vision, they'd realize we have great goals and dreams of being bigger and better than any university in Michigan. We have the plan — we're just not there yet.

Williford: The thing I've learned the most is how to be myself a little bit more. Even in this position, you're supposed to be the image of the student body, and people think it's all work and school and nothing beyond that. Sometimes it was that, I really had to learn to manage my time.

What's the latest you have ever stayed in the office?

Wolf: I've slept here. I keep a pillow and blanket in the office.

Williford: Mondays are really busy. I remember a few weeks in a row when I was behind on schoolwork and behind on everything. I didn't quite stay the night. I was prepping for the general body meeting — the latest I've stayed is 5 (a.m.), and I came back at 7:30 a.m.

Do you have any advice for your successors?

Wolf: Find what you're passionate about it and work at that.

Be true to yourself. There's going to be times when students and administration give you negative feedback. You need to do what you think is best. People will recognize good intentions.

Also, do stuff for you. Robbie and I could have accomplished more if we had taken a step back and delegated a bit more.

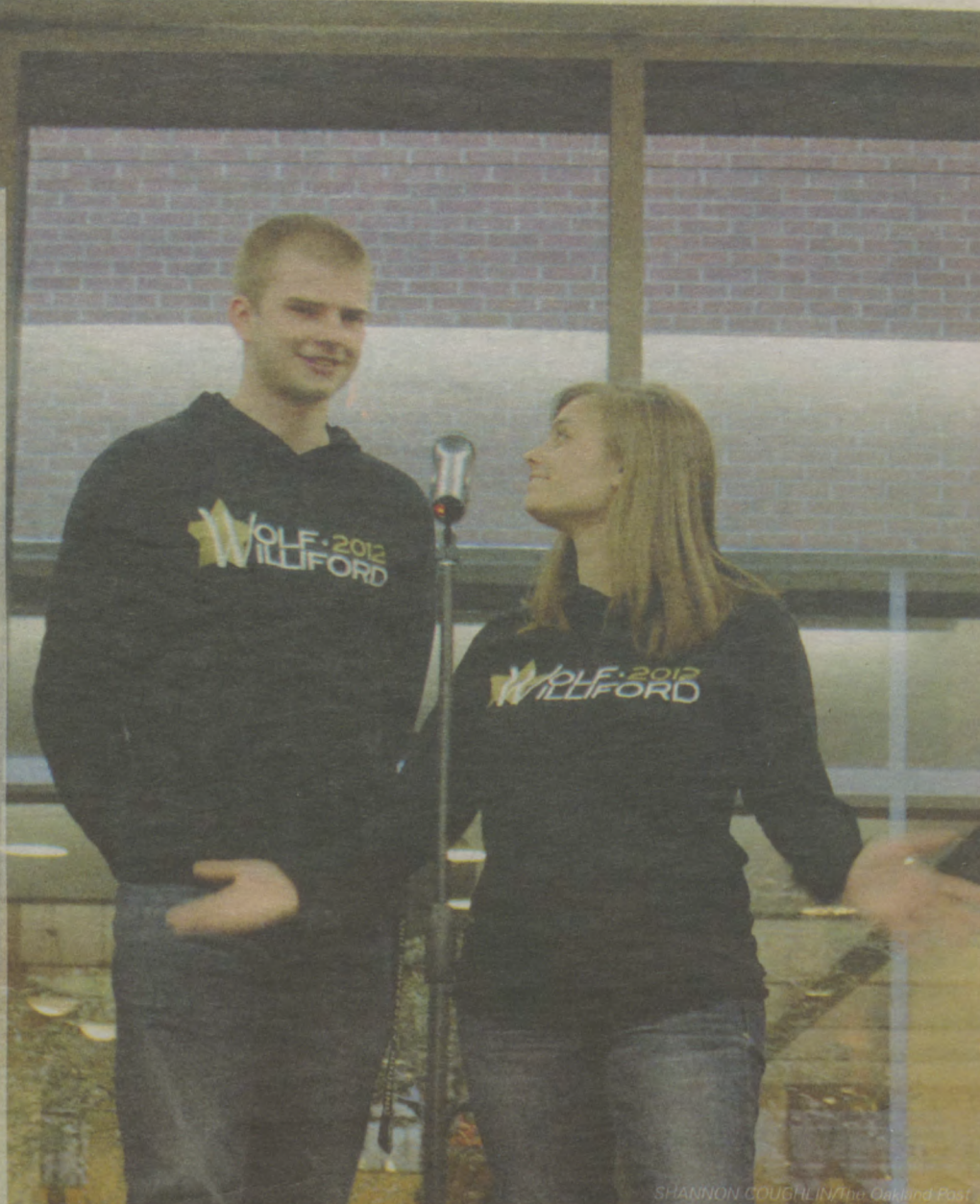
More students need to be involved.

I don't think I was ready for this position when I got it. I had to grow into it. I wasn't prepared, but that's okay because this job helped me grow as a person. Everyone who's involved has more opportunities to learn and grow. It pays to be involved.

Williford: The biggest thing to do is know that you can be yourself, while still being a student and being in this position. It's okay to make mistakes, because we're all going to make them. Being humble is huge. If you stop being humble, people will notice. Students will really shy away from coming to the office. You have to respect everyone — everyone's voice should be heard the same.

When picking your team, surround yourself with people who differ in thought process. Samantha and I don't always see eye to eye and those disagreements are how you learn.

— Compiled by Katie Williams, Life Editor



SHANNON COUGHLIN/The Oakland Post

New man behind the brand

John Young named Associate Vice President of Communication and Marketing

By Allen Jordan
Staff Reporter

John Young wants you to feel at home at Oakland University.

He was named the Associate Vice President of university's Communications and Marketing department in January, and hopes to continue to help develop OU's brand.

With his new position and the recent surge in advertising for OU, Young sees a different vision looking into the future to reshape the brand of OU as a commuter school.

"What I wanted to do when I first took the position was to revamp what people thought of us here," Young said. "The idea that this is a commuter school is fine, but we want those coming in to feel as if they can make a home here like with any other major school."

Young brings with him a extensive background that he looks to con-

tinue to incorporate into the image of OU.

He earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration degree from the University of Michigan and a Master's of Business Administration from Wayne State University.

Young has previously held leadership roles in marketing at Oakwood Healthcare system, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, The Detroit Medical Center and McLaren General Hospital

"John's past experience in both higher education and health care combined with his vast knowledge of marketing and communications, MBA, and previous track-record made him the perfect candidate for the position," Eric Barritt, vice president for development, alumni and community engagement, said.

Most recently Young held the vice president of marketing position at Northwood University.

With previous experience at the

"We want those coming in to feel as if they can make a home here like with any other major school."

John Young,
Associate Vice President of
Marketing and Communications

university level the adjustment to Oakland has been nothing out of the ordinary.

"It wasn't much of a difference making the transition from Northwood to here at Oakland," Young said. "They have similar qualities in that both are community type of schools and with that you always look for ways to push exposure to the university."

Contact Staff Reporter Allen Jordan
at ajordan2@oakland.edu or follow
him on Twitter @aj1218



Courtesy of John Young

Young hopes to shape OU's image
and make students feel at home



Scholarships Available for Fall 2013 - Winter 2014

The Women of OU Critical Difference Scholarship Committee is accepting scholarship applications for the 2013-2014 academic year. Criteria include:

- Must be enrolled in an undergraduate degree program at OU and have completed 16 credit hours at OU or transferred 16 credit hours from any post-secondary institution.
- Must have maintained an overall GPA of at least 2.5.
- Must be a single head-of-household, as defined by IRS Tax Code.
- Must have experienced an interruption in college education for at least one year.

For more information visit: <http://www.oakland.edu/womenofou>.

Completed applications for all Critical Difference Scholarships must be submitted by March 30, 2013.

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Student Liaison to the Oakland University Board of Trustees

The role of the Student Liaison to the Board of Trustees is to serve as a non-voting resource on all student issues at monthly meetings of the Board.



Term of Office:

- July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 or 2015
- Must have at least a 2.5 GPA
- Must have earned 56 undergraduate or 18 graduate credit hours (of which 28 are at Oakland University)
- Must not hold any other major elected campus office

Applications are available at:

<http://www.oakland.edu/bot>

Student Affairs Office - 144 Oakland Center

Student Congress Office - 62 Oakland Center

Center for Student Activities - 49 Oakland Center

**Applications are due in the Student Affairs Office by
March 31, 2013**

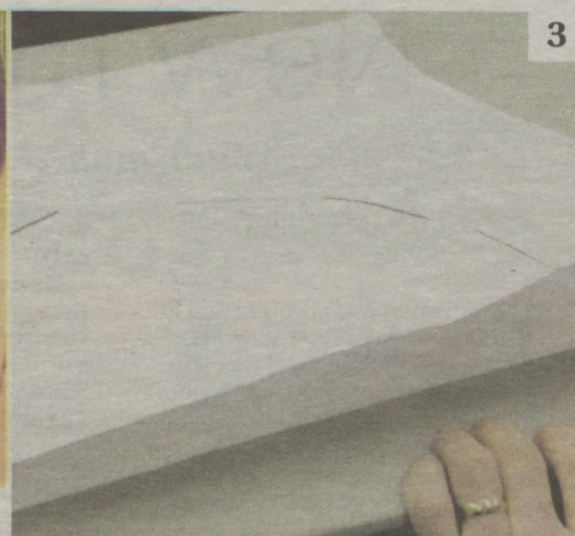
For questions, please call: 248-370-4200



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Sorry, he can't come to the phone

Theatre department to premiers 'Dead Man's Cell Phone'

By Katie Phelan
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University theatre department will present "Dead Man's Cell Phone" Mar. 14 to 24 at Varner's Studio Theatre.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone," written by MacArthur "Genius" Award winner Sarah Ruhl, first premiered in Washington D.C. at Woolly Mammoth's Theatre Company in 2007. It later played in New York City at the Playwrights Horizons in 2008.

The play is a postmodern expressionistic piece, according to director Anthony Guest.

"During certain parts of the show, the audience will use their cell phones to express their opinions about what they have seen," Guest said.

Audiences will be invited to tweet to the Twitter account @deadmanscellou from the moment they enter the

theater until the show begins.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone" is a satire that begins as a man named Gordon dies in a café. His phone is left ringing. Jean, who is also in the café, asks him to turn off his phone but finds he is dead.

Jean decides to keep his phone, but has to deal with his grieving family and business acquaintances.

"Ultimately, this show will cause the audience to reflect on how their use of technology to communicate affects their relationships in daily life," Guest said.

Wes Miles, an acting major, will play Gordon's brother, Dwight.

"There is a message and an overtone in the show about getting lost in technology and having that control your life," Miles said.

Miles has also appeared as various roles in OU shows such as Dogberry in "Much Ado About Nothing," the of-

ficer in "Police: Deaf:: Near: Far" and Gabriel in the "Pageant Plays."

Miles has also done works with the Warren Civic Theatre, including "Little Shop of Horrors" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

"(Dead Man's Cell Phone) is a slightly surrealistic show, and when you are doing it you get to explore aspects of emotion that actors normally do not show," Miles said.

Production meetings for "Dead Man's Cell Phone" began in October, but the cast did not start rehearsing until Jan. 22.

Guest said since then, the cast has rehearsed 20 hours every week.

He hopes the audience members will experience the theatre in a different way than they normally would expect.

"It's a message to remember to connect with people and not just the screen of your phone," Miles said.



4

CLARE LA TORRE/The Oakland Post

IF YOU GO

WHEN
March 14-24

WHERE
Varner's Studio Theatre

TICKET INFORMATION
Tickets are \$14 for general admission, \$8 for students and all admission for a 10 a.m. matinee performance

Tickets can be purchased at www.startickets.com, by phone at 800-585-3737, at the Center for Student Activities ticket window or at the Varner Hall Box Office.

MORE INFORMATION
For more information, visit www.oakland.edu/theatreseason or call (248) 370-2030

1. Director Anthony Guest leads a production meeting in January.

2. Actors Dave Roy and Emily Mitchell in 'Dead Man's Cell Phone.' The play premieres March 14.

Photo courtesy of Anthony Guest

3. Guest shares the blueprints for the set with the production team.

4. Chris Neville shows Guest progress with costumes at the production meeting.

Puzzles

WEEKLY CROSSWORD

Answers are available online at www.oaklandpostonline.com

ACROSS

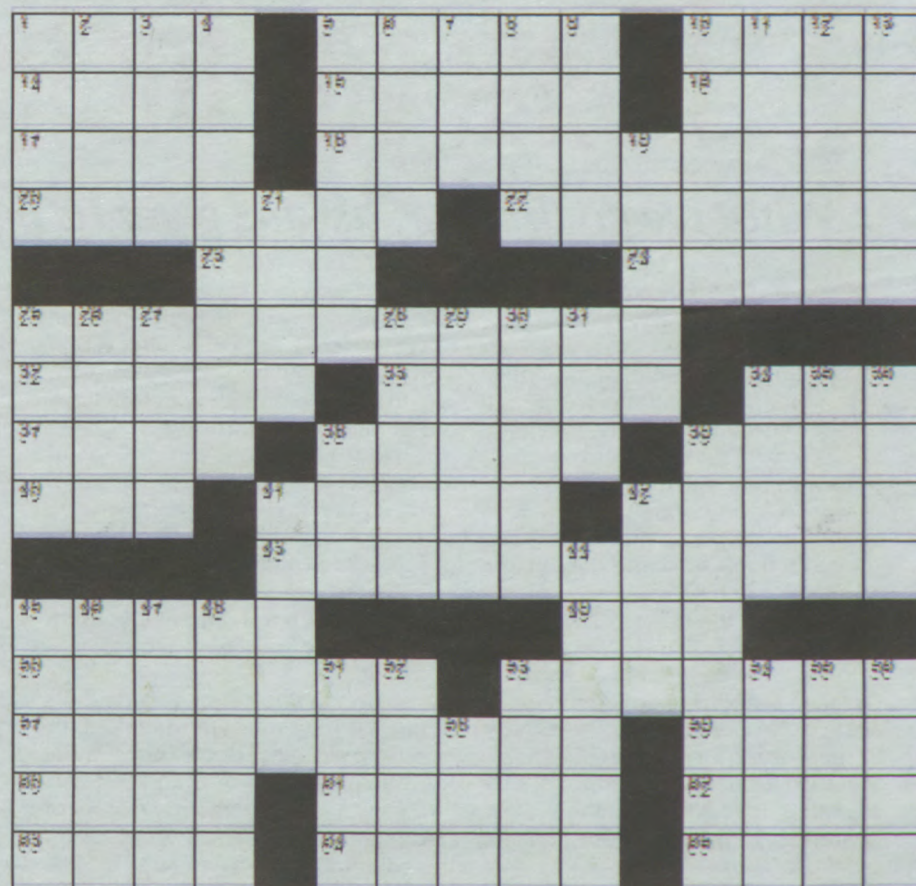
1. Fizzy drink
5. Excrete
10. Margarine
14. How old we are
15. Line up
16. Tablet
17. Tidy
18. Made without yeast
20. Beginning
22. Ancient Roman galley
23. Dashed
24. Point of greatest despair
25. Annual remembrance
32. Awaken
33. Dismay
34. 25 in Roman numerals
37. Gone under
38. Personal journal
39. 71 in Roman numerals
40. N N N N
41. Slowly, in music
42. Polite
43. Callous
45. Spew
49. French for "Summer"

DOWN

50. Withdraw
53. In general
57. Man's lotion
59. Diva's solo
60. Views
61. An essay
62. Back
63. Makes a mistake
64. Cubic meter
65. 36 inches

DOWN

21. Rescue
25. Backside
26. Person, place or thing
27. Religious sisters
28. Showers
29. Sudden burst
30. A cook might wear one
31. Beam
34. 26 in Roman numerals
35. 24 in Roman numerals
36. Wicked
38. Lair
39. Bookish
41. About a US quart
42. Give as an example
44. Spartan
45. Delete
46. Cite
47. Express audibly
48. Peppercorn
51. Vipers
52. Not this
53. Not under
54. Region
55. Teller of untruths
56. Piecrust ingredient
58. Gorilla



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THIS IS **TRUEMU.**

EASTERN
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Education First

Women and Gender Studies Program
29th Annual Film Festival presents...

"BULLY"

Saturday = March 16, 2013

Noon-4:30 p.m.

Oakland Center, Gold Rooms

A critically acclaimed documentary film that explores the violence experienced by young people. The film tells the stories of several of these children and explores how we as a society should deal with bullying. Besides the viewing, the audience will also be able to participate in an active discussion with a panel of experts from the educational, legislative and medical fields who will focus on the gender and sexuality dimensions of bullying.

More info: osterber@oakland.edu or (248) 370-2154.

This is a **FREE** event but your donation would be greatly appreciated and accepted at the door.



Thank you for bullying

What we go through as kids gives us perspective for today

By Brian Figurski
Copy Editor/Beef

There have been a lot of people coming out of the woodwork to protest against bullying lately, and it's really making me want to pummel someone into oblivion.

Most recently, actress Jennifer Lawrence has come out, stating she moved schools in elementary years, as she was bullied. Well boo hoo, Katniss. Join the other 242 million Americans.

In a survey conducted by the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Center for the Prevention of School Violence (or as I call them for short, NC Depo of JJ & D PreC 4 the Pre-School-V,) 77 percent of students are bullied in some form.

I am a statistic. I am one of the 77 percent. I was tormented in my youth for a variety of reasons some of you have already come to know — I was overweight, I wore glasses twice the size of my face, my third grade male teacher had a crush on me and I had a borderline-sexual relationship

with robots, for starters. Use your imagination and think of a play on words for "Figurski" — that was my nickname.

And I'm plenty thankful that I was belittled the amount I was.

Now, I'm not pro-bullying in any way. It's more of an anti-anti-bullying. It's a movement that doesn't get enough support, double-anti bullying — to protect the right to build self-confidence and character through personal triumph and overcoming all odds (or as I call it for short ... never mind).

If I wasn't defeated on a daily basis during my stint in the public school system, I don't know where I'd be today. Maybe being coddled by Daddy, like the alpha male jocks on the playground.

Being bullied puts things into perspective as a youth and instills a good mindset on the politically correct way to conduct oneself in the world. You grow up and know not to call other people four-eyes or smash their Pokémon toy on the blacktop.

I'm not an advocate for physical bullying, no way. Keep your meat-

wad hands to yourself. But I'm all for tossing a few insults around.

Look at that guy right there. He thought he was more metal than titanium, where in reality he was gelatinous and everyone was laughing at him, not with.

But don't shed a single tear over my sob story! Bullying shaped me into a wiser person with a moral fiber that I choose to ignore time and again, a lot. It's definitely in there, though, the fine line between the right and the wrong.

Kids are kids. Their minds aren't fully there to make judgment calls. At a young age, everything's instinctual. You can't rely on any form of media to teach a good lesson, not even children's programming.

I don't know how many 20-something-year-olds watch kidTV recreationally, but I do believe those Boobah creatures instill that stalking and baby talk is acceptable. Those are the most frightening, multi-dimensional beings that have ever been created.

Parents and professionals need to be the main source of life skill instruction for America's youth. It's okay to



SATIRE

Copy Editor Brian Figurski thanks his schoolyard bullies for making him the man he is today.

Photo courtesy of BRIAN FIGURSKI/The Oakland Post

teach a child to get back on his feet after they've been chopped down a little bit. It's how you ground a sense of morality, with real life experience.

So I thank you, bullies of my youth. Without you, I would still be okay with Twix and Arctic Freeze dinners and copious amounts of Mega Man. Thank you for giving me barriers to hurdle over and teaching me that I can overcome.

Thanks to you, I'm aware I'm not made of titanium — I'm strontium, you hate-mongers.

Contact Copy Editor Brian Figurski via email at bdfigurs@oakland.edu

Living with an addiction

When a night with Netflix quickly goes from '1 more episode' to 7

By Chris Peralta
Staff Intern/Dependent

Hello, my name's Chris, and I have a Netflix problem. Ever since my subscription started before Christmas, I've been hooked.

Kind of like how Jesse Pinkman was hooked on that one girl whose death resulted in a chaotic chain reaction that was foreshadowed early on in season two of Breaking Ba—

See — I did it right there. Don't pretend like you haven't seen the addiction in yourself or others. You know it to be true. The way that

Netflix can instantly stream a huge collection of movies right to any laptop, TV or gaming console is a wondrous thing.

Or, it could be the worst thing that has ever happened to mankind since the creation of the Facebook app. There, I said it. When the Facebook app came along, I almost lost all of my ability to sustain any kind of human interaction.

Then, out of the blue, Netflix showed up and whisked me away to the worlds of "Heisenberg" and "The Bro Code."

I haven't been the same since.

Sometimes I like to tell myself I'm getting better. I usually say something like, "See, Chris? You only watched four episodes this time."

After my spirit is lifted at three in the morning, the hopes of achieving the social skills of a kindergartner seem in reach.

That changes when I wake up and need to watch something without it stopping to buffer.

I don't know about any of the other Netflix-ers out there, but I'm pretty sure I'm being haunted by the buffering symbol.

To be specific, my dreams

have stopped mid-sentence in order to load the rest, and even worse than that, sometimes they've gone from HD to Standard-Def in an instant.

Both my dreams and my Netflix can't stop to buffer — they just can't.

I cringe when I think about that happening.

So I admit I have a problem. I hear it's the first step to full-blown recovery.

In the near future I hope to be rid of this addiction — maybe I'll revert back to DVD's or something. If I do, I can probably go the gym a little bit more and make a few new friends while I'm there.

Yeah, I think I can do this.

Luckily Netflix doesn't have an app.

They have an app? Do I live in a cave? Can I continue watching the shows and movies that I haven't finished on my phone?

Someone stop me by destroying my laptop immediately. Don't touch my phone though, not now, not while it's downloading an app.

That would be rude.

Contact staff intern Chris Peralta via email at cwperalt@oakland.edu