

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

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MAKE YOUR C.H.O.I.C.E.

*Olympic gold medalist Lisa Leslie talks
helping others during 28th annual
Keeper of the Dream celebration*

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PHOTO BY NICOLE MORSFIELD

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



POKER FACE SPB's annual Casino Night brought Cirque du Soleil to campus with the Cincinnati Circus on Saturday, Jan. 18 in the Oakland Center. PHOTO / RYAN PINI

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Photo/Sergio Montanez

POLL OF THE WEEK

LET'S SETTLE THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL. WHICH IS BETTER: COKE OR PEPSI?

- A) COKE, THE ONLY RIGHT ANSWER
- B) PEPSI, BECAUSE MY TASTE BUDS AREN'T FUNCTIONAL
- C) I ONLY DRINK RC COLA BECAUSE I THINK I'M SPECIAL
- D) THERE'S A DIFFERENCE?

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHO SHOULD REPLACE PRINCE HARRY AND MEGHAN MARKLE IN THE ROYAL FAMILY?

16%

A) THE GRIZZ AND ORA
HIRSCH PESCOVITZ

28%

B) THE MANDALORIAN
AND BABY YODA

16%

C) ANGRY LADY AND
WHITE CAT, YOU
KNOW THE MEME

40%

D) HARRY STYLES AND
KATIE LADUKE

CAMPUS

Administration hosts open forum amid search for new provost

LAUREN KARMO
Campus Editor

Administrators held an open forum on Tuesday, Jan. 14 to discuss concerns the Oakland University community has with regard to the search for a new provost. With current provost James Lentini set to leave at the end of the semester, the university wanted to collect input on preferred qualifications and key traits from across campus.

Hosted by Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh and Administrative Assistant Lori Marsh in the Oakland Center, the forum tackled topics of academic and research backgrounds, diversity, leadership styles and civic engagement.

Members from across the community — including administrators, faculty, staff and students — attended one of the three sessions to voice their opinions. The discussion circled back to one concern in particular — will the new provost have proof of experience and success?

“We need to have people who have experience at this type of university and know what the challenges are and have demonstrated success at this type of place,” said Robert Novia, associate dean of graduate studies for the William Beaumont School of Medicine.



RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

Community members discuss opinions on preferred traits and qualifications for a new provost. Current provost James Lentini is set to leave at the end of the winter semester.

In addition to experience, many faculty members were interested in a candidate who had a strong research and academic record.

“I think that in this particular case, that [a candidates’ administrative experience] is of secondary importance,” said Andrei Slavin, distinguished professor and chair of the physics department. “The university right now is trying to become a really first-class research university ... we need a person who will have a vision in terms of bringing this place into a first-class rating.”

Diversity experience came up often in the discussion from faculty, students and staff members present at the forum.

“I would like to see a provost with greater commitment to diverse faculty because we are a very small minority here on campus,” said Chaunda Scott, president of the Black Faculty Association and diversity and inclusion specialist in the School of Education and Human Services. “We work here, but we don’t know if we’re part of the community.”

Faculty and staff members were very interested in the leadership ability and style of the new provost, and how the search team will measure that quality in the potential candidates. Many expressed a frustration with the current speed of the bureaucracy, which according to Slavin is “like molasses.”

“It’s a fertile environment right now for someone with some initiative and stick-to-it-ness to see some wins early on and be successful,” said Interim Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Joseph Shively.

The audience agreed that someone with a productive mindset and positive attitude will be important qualities in the new provost to create a successful campus environment.

“Another thing that is very important is the attitude of this person because we do not want a king who will rule us,” Slavin said. “We need to hire an effective manager who will serve us, and that understanding should be deep in his brain.”

At the end of the forum, the audience asked what qualifications the administrators are focusing on in their search thus far, and will continue to look for in the future.

“[We are looking for someone] with a strong research record, who will be able to work with faculty, who will understand what it might take to grow graduate or research programs or research efforts,” Marsh said. “Then, there is the leadership and management side of it, right. Someone who has actually had a track record, who has accomplished several initiatives, has moved programs or maybe built an academic program that hadn’t existed before ... another thing that we look for is how they’ve done that.”

OUPD continues investigation of burglaries in Pawley Hall

DEAN VAGLIA
Staff Reporter

Three burglaries have been reported at Pawley Hall, starting in mid-December and continuing into early January. The Oakland University Police Department (OUPD) is actively investigating the situation, and a timely warning is posted on the building’s entrances.

“Part of what we hope generates more information are these timely warnings, so people are aware of [the crimes], and they can share information with us,” OUPD Chief of Police Mark Gordon said. “We have had a couple of pieces of information sent to us since we put this out.”

No details have been released about the suspects so far.

Leigh Dzwik, assistant dean of the School of Education and Human Services, first learned of the burglaries when she returned for the winter semester on Monday, Jan. 6.

“The university was open on the second and third for business, and some of those activities had transpired during those days, but I was coming back a little bit later,” Dzwik said. “One of my staff members Ryan Ghedotte informed me. Those concerns had come to him, and he had been working with our associate dean, Michael MacDonald.”

After learning the details from Ghedotte, Dzwik turned to MacDonald to figure out what had already been done regarding reporting the burglaries to OUPD. The police were not yet contacted, so the Pawley Hall staff took the time to get everyone needed for the police report into one place.

Dzwik said she has been impressed by the way OUPD has handled the case.

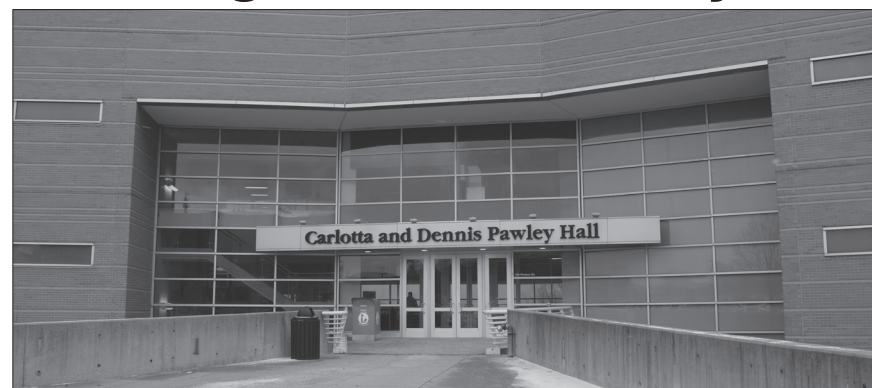
“They are nothing less than wonderful, in my experience,” she said. “Not only have they been prompt, they are kind and they are compassionate people.”

Along with the routine procedures of an active investigation such as collecting testimonies and reviewing security cameras, Gordon said walkthrough patrols gave increased security through Pawley Hall.

Burglaries are one of the most common crimes at OU. According to the OUPD’s most recent security and fire report, 33 reported burglaries took place at on-campus properties and in student housing from 2016 to 2018. Of those 33, four happened in 2018.

“Our campus crime rate is extremely low,” Gordon said. “The university is a very safe environment, and Pawley Hall — based on my experience ... is not any different from any part of campus.”

Despite the low crime rate, the faculty and



MAGGIE WILLARD | PHOTO INTERN

From mid-December to early January, three burglaries have occurred at Pawley Hall.

staff of Pawley Hall have had their workplace targeted and their sense of security uprooted.

“When you are a faculty, staff or student member that spends a lot of time in the building, you begin to call this building home,” Dzwik said. “You forget that it is a public one, so you become comfortable. Being notified [of crimes] changes the idea of comfort.”

Even with the sense of comfort being impacted, there have been no official changes to security procedures at Pawley Hall.

“In the places where the thefts occurred, the regular security protocols are rather robust anyway,” Dzwik said. “I think it is a case of people becoming

comfortable with their surroundings and they do not put things away ... People get comfortable, and now they have to think differently about how they use their workplace and work spaces.”

In order to protect personal belongings, Gordon recommends faculty members lock their office doors and keep personal belongings out of sight when away. Students should avoid leaving anything unattended in common spaces and in classrooms.

Anyone with information relating to the Pawley Hall burglaries is encouraged contact OUPD at (248) 370-3331.



COURTESY OF OU MAGAZINE

OU's Center for Public Humanities formed in fall 2019 in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Snow can't stop the public humanities

KATELYN HILL
Staff Reporter

Even though the snow cancelled school, it couldn't stop the Center for Public Humanities' kickoff event, "Envisioning the Public Humanities" on Saturday, Jan. 18.

Oakland University's new center was co-founded by Dr. John Corso-Esquivel, associate professor of art history, and Dr. Andrea Knutson, associate professor of English, in fall 2019.

According to Oakland University's website, the mission of the Center for Public Humanities is to advance excellence in public humanities and the arts to support and enrich Southeast Michigan's diverse learning communities.

The event, according to Corso, was a talk by experts to generate ideas and discussion. Originally, the event was supposed to have a luncheon where small groups could imagine how the new center might be able to serve the OU community and its surrounding residents.

Since the snow closed campus on Saturday, preventing the in-person event from taking place, the format shifted to a webinar.

"It was actually an opportunity since we envisioned the Center for Public Humanities as a 'nomadic' one, that is, we would move our programming to the spaces our communities prefer. That includes online!" Corso said via email. "It was an inspiring way to engage a community separated by snow, but united by our commitment to the arts and humanities!"

The event featured keynote speaker Dr. Susan Smulyan, director of Brown Univer-

sity's public humanities center, and Kara Noto, an OU alumna and graduate of the master's program in public humanities at Brown. Corso said Dr. Smulyan's center has been a model for OU to follow.

Dr. Smulyan runs one of the oldest programs in public humanities and, according to Corso, one of the most prestigious. During the webinar, she discussed the definition of public humanities, the public arts and a community arts studio for high schoolers called New Urban Arts in Providence, Rhode Island.

Noto, who graduated from OU in 2007, talked about her life experiences and how they led her to where she is now. Corso said she has one of the best perspectives about how public humanities might work at OU, not only because she was once a student here, but because she has recently been teaching in the communication, journalism and public relations department.

"We wanted to be able to have them speak to our community, but we didn't want it to be a static lecture," Corso said via email. "That was an important part — outreach to folks who have a stake in the arts and humanities."

Their talks were broken up into 10-minute segments in order to acknowledge the questions and comments being made during their presentation. There were about 25 people tuned into the webinar and contributing to the live chat taking place during the presentations of the two speakers.

As Michigan filled the skies with snow flurries, those tuning into the "Envisioning the Public Humanities" webinar were able to have a lively discussion from the warmth of their own homes.

Student body recognized for political involvement

Civic engagement is up more than 20 points
DEAN VAGLIA
Staff Reporter

The ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge awarded Oakland University a gold seal for its student voting rate ranging between 40 and 49%.

The award is due to OU's 47.4% voting rate in the 2018 midterm elections, a 22.4% increase from voting rates in the 2014 midterm elections, according to data from the Tufts University's Institute for Democracy & Higher Education (IDHE).

"I think it is amazing," Destinee Rule, president of the Oakland University Student Congress (OUSC), said about the 47.4% rate. "As someone who values political engagement, I am personally really happy to see our peers participating a lot. As an organization, Student Congress has made voting and voter engagement a priority of ours, so it is really nice to see our work and the collaborations that we have had come to fruition."

The OUSC is one of the many political organizations at OU working to turn students into engaged voters, doing so in a variety of ways.

"We try and host debate watch parties as often as we can," Rule said. "There, we encourage friendly debate and friendly discourse about the candidates and the policies. We try to partner with some of the political organizations on campus like the College Democrats and College Republicans."

Known as the place to get free scantrons and blue books, the OUSC also helps students register to vote. Ethan Bradley, OUSC civic affairs director, works with students at the OUSC's Oakland Center (OC) office and at Vandenberg Hall to help them complete voter regis-

tration forms.

Aside from working with partisan clubs and hosting watch parties, the OUSC partners with the OU Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) to help put on politically focused events.

"There is good and bad with it," David Dulio, political science professor and CCE director, said about the 47.4% rate. "The good news is that it was up more than 20 points, the bad news is that it is under 50%. We still have a lot of students that are not participating at the ballot box, and the goal is to try and keep bumping that up."

The last time a majority of OU students participated in an election was when 56.7% of students voted in the 2016 presidential election.

The CCE and OUSC have plans on getting more students politically active through a series of events culminating in a mock Democratic Party caucus. Based off of the Iowa Democratic Party's caucus, students will take to the OC's Banquet Rooms on March 3 to throw support behind their preferred Democratic candidate. Unlike the official Michigan primary, votes are casted by physically grouping together and showing everyone which candidate has the most grassroots support.

"Doing it Iowa caucus-style will be eye opening for students," Dulio said. "It is also much more participatory."

The CCE will be hosting the pannel "Human Trafficking: Myths vs. Reality" on Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. in OC Banquet Room A, a showing of "The Ides of March" on Jan. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at 47 N. Saginaw St. in Pontiac and the presentation "Respect and Rebellion: Maintaining Relationships with Those who Disagree With You" on Feb. 6 at 6 p.m. in The Habitat.

AAA helps OUWB students prepare for winter driving

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

This year's Michigan weather can make out-of-state students at Oakland University feel concerned.

With its annual average temperature increased by more than 2 degrees, Michigan is no longer the state with the weather many people know of. Due to the change, Michiganders are spending a winter warmer than usual. However, students who have to drive to school are having a hard time out on the roads.

Michigan's winter is notorious for its road conditions. This makes it devastating for students, especially those who commute, to drive their way to school. It can be crucial for them to be well-prepared for driving in these severe conditions.

Luckily for students at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB), the American Automobile Association (AAA) is giving annual tips and recommendations for driving on roads with bad conditions.

AAA Driver Training has partnered with OUWB for sev-



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AAA recommends staying prepared at all times regardless of how much snow has fallen this season.

eral years, and will present a winter safe driving seminar to new OUWB students in the fall. This is primarily aimed to support the students' learning and understanding of new driving techniques to preparing their vehicles and themselves for the winter weather driving.

"The goal of the AAA Driver Training winter driving seminar is to help keep drivers safe on

the road," Rachel Wilson, lead instructor for AAA Driver Training and an alumna of OU, said. "Winter driving can be very challenging, even for experienced drivers. So, we want to give the OUWB students as much information as we can."

According to the class profile on the website of OUWB, the school has many students from warmer states, such as Califor-

nia, Arizona and Georgia. Wilson also mentioned this seminar will be meaningful, especially for those who are from out-of-state and are new to Michigan winter.

Nayiri Khatchadourian is a first-year student at OUWB who came from California. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Khatchadourian has never experienced snow in her hometown. This made her transition challenging in the beginning.

"I never had to wait for my car to heat up before I drive it in LA," Khatchadourian said. "The snow was blocking my entrance to the garage, so my sweet neighbor helped me navigate how to drive through it."

Michigan weather not only bothered her at home, but also on her way to and from school. Having to drive 15 minutes to get to school almost everyday, the start of her first-ever winter in Michigan was quite rough.

"My first-ever snow day was actually a record-breaking snow day for Michigan," she said. "It was snowing heavily and my car almost slipped a couple times even though I was driving really slow."

As she continued her life in Michigan, she said she was pleased to find an opportunity where she can acquire tips and recommendations on driving in the winter with bad road conditions.

"I was looking forward to this [AAA driver training seminar]," she said. "It was super helpful in teaching me what to do if something goes wrong, like my car slips."

This annual seminar will continue to strive to achieve its goal to make sure no student is left behind in learning how to drive safely in severe road conditions, according to Wilson.

"We hope to continue working with OUWB for years to come with this presentation," Wilson said. "The most important thing is to slow down. Give yourself more time to do everything — braking, accelerating, and turning. Another great tip is to avoid driving in inclement weather if you can and allow the roads to clear before heading out."

Providing these tips and recommendations to students, OUWB's partnership with AAA can not only benefit the students with their driving skills, but also with their safety.

PSA scholarship open to former OU charter students

KATIE VALLEY

Content Editor

Incoming freshmen and currently enrolled students who graduated from a school chartered by Oakland University can now apply for a \$3,000 renewable competitive scholarship through the Office of Public School Academies (PSA) for the 2020-2021 school year.

The academic scholarship aims to give additional support to students from one of OU's seven K-12 public school academies: the Caniff Liberty Academy, Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences, Detroit Edison Public School Academy, Dove Academy of Detroit, Four Corners Montessori Academy, Universal Academy and the Weston Preparatory Academy. Students who attended an OU authorized K-8 academy may also be eligible, but must contact the office for details.

Former scholarship recipient Leslie Cunningham, who heard about the scholarship from her high school counselor,

said there are a few requirements incoming OU freshmen must meet to be eligible: they must be current students at a school authorized by OU's PSA office, have a GPA of 3.0 or above, be involved in extracurricular activities or be employed, list school-related involvement or community service, along with obtaining two letters of recommendation. Students also may be asked to participate in an interview with the selection committee.

"Since [receiving the scholarship], it has really helped me financially to complete my education at Oakland University, and even afterward, I was the first person that they created a graduate scholarship for, since I continued my education beyond my bachelor's degree," Cunningham said. "So, that was really helpful, too. Public School Academies is very supportive."

Freshman Myla Dickerson, last year's recipient, learned of the scholarship from her school counselor at the Detroit Edison Public School Academy. She said

receiving the scholarship has helped ease the financial burden on her family, which helped make OU feel like home to her.

"It really humbled me to know that I could be able to get [a scholarship]," Dickerson said, "because my parents have to pay for me and my brother to go to school ... so it is really humbling to work harder to get more scholarships."

The office holds luncheons every semester for recipients to get to know each other and build relationships with the PSA staff, according to Cunningham.

Cunningham said the office has been supportive of her and her brother, who also received the scholarship, from attending their K-12 schools to helping them become successful college students.

"The application is very straightforward, and while it is a competitive scholarship, I think that PSA is looking for people that they want to help and want to offer financial services to and a supportive environment to help students in their education,"

she said. "I would just encourage people to still apply and I think the application is very straightforward and quite manageable to fill out, and you'd be surprised that, even in terms of getting letters of recommendation, people are very willing to support you and want to help you."

The PSA scholarship is applied to fall and winter semesters and disbursed through Student Financial Services. For incoming freshman, it's a three-year renewable scholarship. Non-freshmen recipients can renew the scholarship if they have not exceeded four years of full-time undergraduate enrollment, though education majors and students seeking secondary education certifications can be eligible for an additional year.

Applications and supporting documentation must be submitted to the PSA office by March 1 for freshmen and April 15 for returning students. Forms and additional information can be found on the PSA office's website.

CETL Study Tips: Don't be afraid to ask for help

CHRISTINA MOORE

CETL Virtual Faculty Developer

It seems obvious that asking questions or for help means you don't get it when you should. The simple truth is that most of us don't "get it," so those who ask for help are the ones who do something about it, and doing something makes all the difference.

In 2015, Dr. Scott Gaier studied students doing well in school to understand how they do it. One of their dispositions, or ways of behaving in a particular situation, was to "seek help." Successful students don't already have the answers — they ask to find out and dig deeper. Information-seeking is linked to other behaviors that lead to doing well in school, like being curious and bouncing back from failure (or a growth mindset).

The importance of asking for help doesn't end with the classroom. When Dr. Brené Brown and other researchers asked thousands of leaders in 2019 how their team members earn their trust, the most frequent answer was "asking for help." Why? Leaders understood that no one knows everything, so someone who didn't ask questions was not willing to find the answer, even if it meant their work might suffer. In Brown's words: "Mind. Blown."

So, what does this mean for you?

Admit that college is a time for asking questions and for help

Colleges are unique from just about any other place,

whether your high school or workplace. A college has tons of different offices that run a little differently, and it tries to house a million activities, classes, groups, priorities. Even those who work at colleges can't grasp it all. So if you are feeling overall puzzled, you're in good company. Fortunately, this means professors, advisers, academic support like the Tutoring Center and the Writing Center, and others working at OU expect and welcome your questions.

Also, sometimes you have questions because things aren't clear or correct. By asking questions and asking for help, you show you are paying attention and care about your work and success.

Treat asking questions and asking for help as a skill to build

Raising a hand, sending an email, talking to the professor after class or dropping in on office hours are important reps in building important skills as a student and in wherever you want to go from here. Repeat in a variety of ways.

Find your people

Asking for help isn't easy, but it's easier with some than others. In addition to your professor, assemble a group of people you can practice asking questions and for help: an adviser, mentor, college grad, past teacher and even a friend who seems to have it together.

Turn questions into curiosity

Curiosity is another one of those dispositions of good students and overall creative thinkers. As you

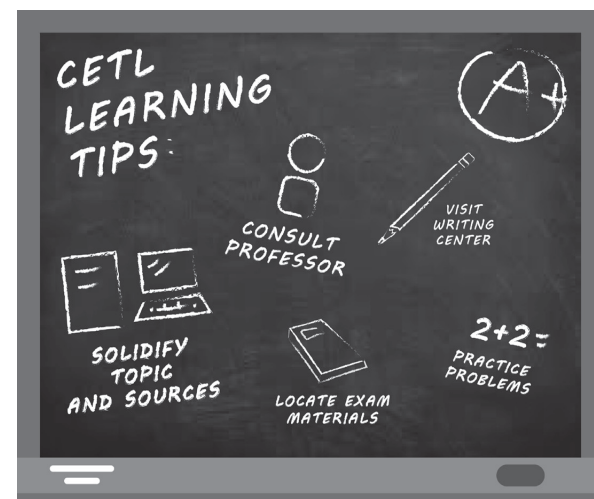
get more comfortable with asking questions and for help, keep pushing. Move from what questions to why and how questions. Professors live for these types of questions from their students!

These steps won't make help-seeking and asking questions easy as pie, but they can make questions easier and more meaningful.

Find more Learning Tips at oakland.edu/teachingtips.

Christina Moore

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



JIMMY WILLIAMS | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Students who ask for help show strength, not weakness.

OU launches Excellence in Academic Advising initiative

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

Named as one of 12 institutions in the Urban Ecosystems Cohort of the Excellence in Academic Advising (EAA), Oakland University recently took another step forward in ensuring student success.

As stated on the EAA's website, the EAA is a three-year long evidence-based initiative funded in part by the Kresge foundation. It helps institutions create and implement a comprehensive, strategic plan for academic advising. Furthermore, it strives to change the influence of academic advising in higher education and to advance student learning.

Along with four other schools from Michigan and beyond, the EAA will be partnering with National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), which is a global community for academic advising, and the John N. Gardner Institute. This partnership is aimed to bring global and national advising

expertise of the organization together to implement positive change in the student experience.

According to its official website, NACADA, with the Gardner Institute and a cohort of charter institutions, promotes and supports quality academic advising in institutions of higher education.

For its celebration of its initiative launch, the EAA held a presentation to introduce their initiative and how to get involved in the process to the campus community in the Oakland Center on Tuesday, Jan. 14.

"Students are the primary focus of academic advising, and their input and experience is important to the future success of this initiative," Shannon Esselink, director of advising services, said.

As the initiative serves for student success, the EAA intends to focus more on students' retention and on-time graduation.

The website of NACADA also specified that the EAA is demonstrated by evidence of student and program success through the following:

- A comprehensive and collaborate developed academic advising delivery system
- Evidence-based decision making and assessment
- Academic advising mission and goal statements that align advising with institution's mission

To ensure these goals are successfully achieved, the EAA promotes diverse strategies such as "off-track alerts," academic success and degree completion, advising consistency in a decentralized model and customized advising technology tools.

With these strategies, nine working committees will help achieve these goals. They will also further assess the conditions of the EAA and make recommendations for improvement and implementation, according to Esselink.

Anne Hitt, associate provost, said the first goal is to complete the self-study by mid-summer to identify the areas of excellence and find areas that

need improvement. To accomplish this goal, she said they need students to provide their input.

"There will be a survey from EAA that is specifically for students to get their feedback on what does and does not work in advising," Hitt said.

The presentation during the launch event also included information about how students and faculty can be part of the EAA and help promote its mission, as they are looking for students to join their self-study committees.

"Student participation on the Condition Committees is essential, and any students that want to participate can express their interest by visiting the EAA website and clicking 'Let us know' to complete the committee interest form," Esselink said.

Through advanced academic advising systems implemented to the institution, OU students will not only benefit from diverse academic curriculums but earn opportunities to talk about their academics and careers in depth with their advisers.

LIFE&ARTS

Professor Josh Young to perform music of Andrew Lloyd Webber

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

Some of the most famous pieces of English composer Andrew Lloyd Webber will be presented by an Oakland University professor at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24 at Varner Recital Hall.

The performer is Josh Young, an assistant professor in OU's School of Music, Theatre and Dance (SMTD). On Wednesday night, he will be performing showtunes from the catalog of Andrew Lloyd Webber.

"My performance will involve more than 20 different pieces of Webber," Young said. "I'll be relating each piece to my personal relationship with him and his music through my own life stories."

As the composer of some of the world's best-known musicals, Andrew Lloyd Webber has received numerous awards including seven Tony Awards, seven Olivier Awards, 14 Ivor Novello Awards and an Oscar to name a few.

Two of the pieces Young is going to perform in this concert are "Judas" and one of his favorite pieces, "Heaven on Their Minds," both by Webber.

Both pieces were featured in the movie "Jesus Christ Superstar." According to Webber's biography, "Heaven on Their Minds" opens with an unforgettable chromatic guitar riff, while "Judas" enters calmly, with a swirl of chaos created by multiple guitarists.

This movie and Webber's work within it was a turn-



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
SMTD assistant professor Josh Young will perform music by Andrew Lloyd Webber in the Varner Recital Hall.

ing point in Young's life, as Young has made his debut as Judas in "Jesus Christ Superstar." This earned him a 2012 Tony Award nomination and a Theatre World Award. Recently, he received the New England Theater's IRNE award for best actor in a musical.

Young said this performance is to celebrate his favorite composer and the works that have made an impact on his personal and professional life.

"Andrew not only inspired my career, but growing up, his music was always around me," he said. "He gave me my Broadway debut, and he was also my mom's favorite composer, so I used to listen to his music in the car all the time."

He has been involved in different plays across the country, but according to Young, this concert is a special opportunity to him. Different from other concerts or shows, he said this would allow him to introduce to the community not only who Webber is as a person, but his life as a composer and his music.

Through this concert, he hopes to see as many people as possible, as he thinks the composer's music will be enjoyable to listen to.

"I hope to see the concert hall full of audience," he added. "And, I hope more and more people in the community will recognize this great department [SMTD]."

Aside from being a professor and an actor, Young is also the cofounder of CuttingEdge Composers, a concert and weekly web series on Broadway World to give exposure to musical theatre's next generation of songwriters.

As a professor, an actor of a play and the cofounder of a concert series, Young continues to strive to spread a positive influence of music onto his students and audience.

Tickets for Young's performance are \$12 for students and \$22 for the general public. To purchase tickets, visit the Etix website.

"If you've got free time, and don't know what to do, you should all come to the show and enjoy the music," he said.

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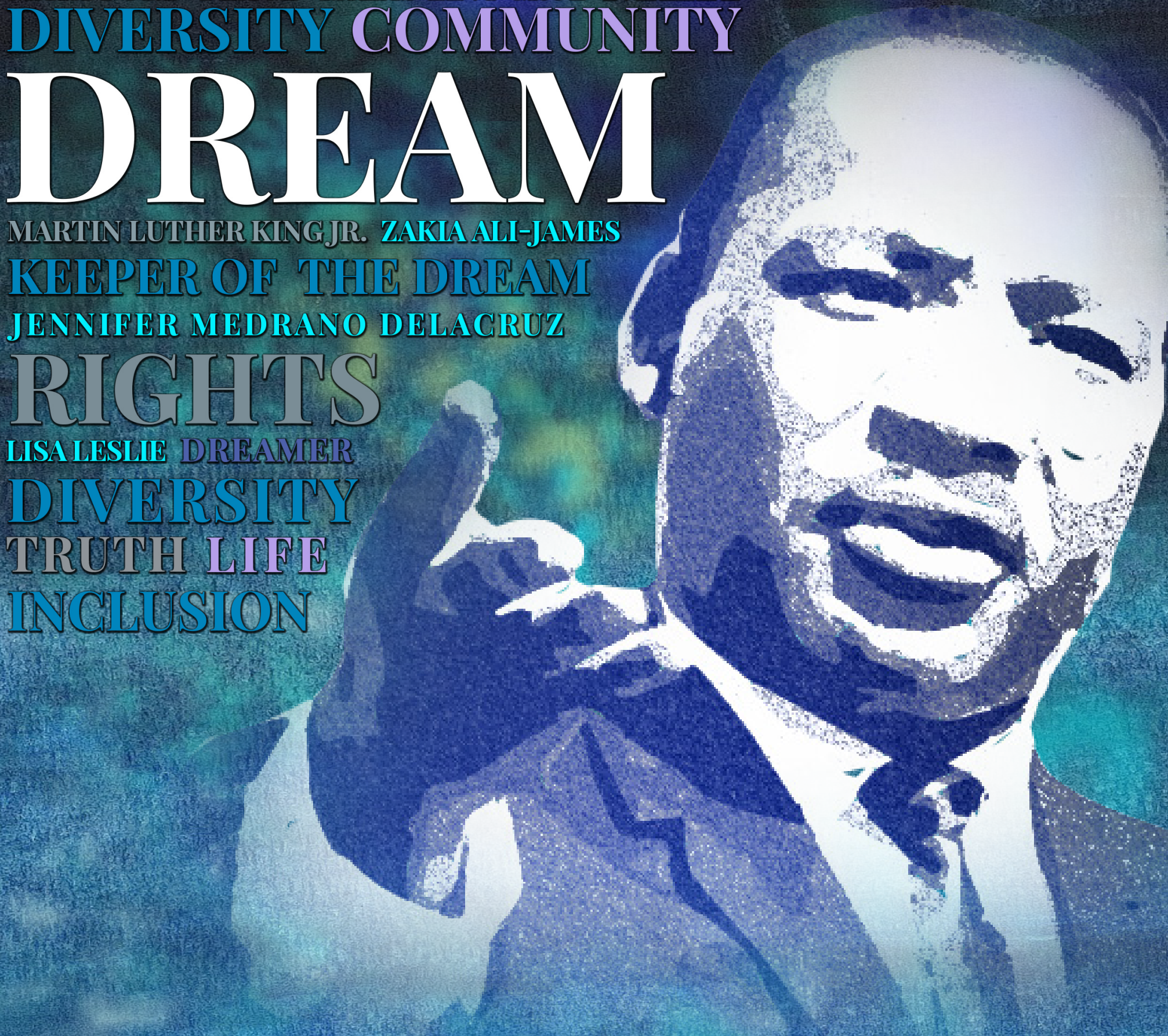
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LISA LESLIE DREAMER

DIVERSITY

TRUTH LIFE

INCLUSION



Keeper of the Dream celebration asks: Why not me?

by Michael Pearce | design by Ashley Averill | graphics by Jimmy Williams | photos by Nicole Morsfield

The annual Keeper of the Dream celebration took place in the Founders Ballroom on Monday, Jan. 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Day. WNBA champion and Hall of Fame athlete Lisa Leslie delivered the keynote speech, asking the recipients and the audience, “Why not me?”

The event opened up with the Confidence Choir, a group of OU students, performing “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” Shortly after, President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz delivered her remarks, calling upon her experiences as a Jewish woman, while also telling a story of her father traveling to Selma to speak at a rally with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“He called on clergy of all faiths to join him in a voting rights demonstration in Selma,” she said. “I recall being a young child, I and my three brothers were frightened to have my father go on a plane to Selma, but my mother said to my father he must go and do his duty to join Dr. King in Selma. She told him to do what was always his duty.”

Pescovitz spoke on the issues surrounding today’s society, such as unemployment, violence, racism, healthcare and the American dream. After she made her remarks, and challenged the audience to ask basic, certain questions about the quality of justice and opportunity.

Before Leslie spoke, Pescovitz and Omar Brown-El, senior director at the Center for Mul-

ticultural Initiatives, presented the seven recipients with their awards after introducing them.

The seven award recipients, Zakia Ali-James, Raneen Allos, Isaias Levi Crus, Jennifer Medrano Delacruz, Donovan Hernandez, Maya Ford and Mikal O’Neal were introduced by Brown-El and then had short video clips displayed on the video screens where they discussed their accomplishments and the award.

After the award recipients were honored, Leslie took the stage to discuss King’s vision and how she got to where she is in life today. Leslie has an extensive resume, spanning basketball, movies, television, real estate, broadcasting, modeling and public speaking, but what she focused on the most when she spoke was her faith.

Leslie’s main idea in her speech was the phrase “Why not me?” She discussed overcoming obstacles and witnessing her single mother provide for her and her two siblings during their childhood. Leslie stressed the word “choice,” using it as an acronym.

C.H.O.I.C.E. stood for competence, hard work, integrity, courage and execution.

“Choice is something that has gotten me through a lot of the things that I wanted to do in life, making these choices,” Leslie said. “I think it’s about having and recognizing what

my spiritual gift is. My spiritual gift is speaking, that is what God moved me to do. We have to understand how we are supposed to help other people.”

Leslie focused on helping those around you to uplift people in her closing remarks. She delivered a call to action for everyone to help those in need in their communities, making an impact on the world and not sitting on the sideline.

“Help, give back, share information, there is so much we can do,” she said. “It’s the everyday people that have an opportunity to impact the lives of people, we have to recognize the importance of that. We have to ask ourselves, ‘Why not me? Why not me get involved? Why not me give back?’”

After delivering the keynote speech, Leslie took the remaining time to answer questions from the audience as well as meet the Oakland women’s basketball team. The team gave her a custom Oakland jersey with her name on the back and the number nine.

Once questions ended, the award recipients, audience and faculty took to the food court to enjoy a luncheon and receive the opportunity to take a photo with Leslie, kicking off African American Celebration Month 2020.

Upcoming African American Celebration Month events can be found on the OU website.



Three-time WNBA MVP and four-time Olympic Gold Medalist Lisa Leslie delivers the keynote address at the 28th annual Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Awards Celebration on Monday, Jan. 20.

Zakia
Ali-James



Mikal
O’Neal



Donovan
Hernandez



Raneen
Allos



Jennifer
Medrano
Delacruz



Isaias
Levi
Crus



Maya
Ford





COURTESY OF C&G NEWSPAPERS

The study on biomarkers for predicting autism was led by a geneticist and chair of obstetrics and gynecology, Dr. Ray Bahado-Singh, for Beaumont Health and OUWB.

Beaumont Health research identifies autism biomarkers

KATELYN HILL

Staff Reporter

In a recent study done by Beaumont Health, a research team was able to identify key biomarkers for predicting autism in newborns.

Using archived blood spots from past patients, the team was able to extract and compare the DNA from 14 different confirmed cases of autism to 10 control cases. According to Science Direct, the team's goal "was to investigate the epigenetic basis of classic autism and identify early biomarkers."

Autism, otherwise known as autism spectrum disorder (ASD), is a developmental disability that impacts 1 in 59 children in the U.S, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Research has shown that early intervention treatment services can improve a child's development.

The collaborative study was led by Dr. Ray Bahado-Singh, a geneticist and chair of obstetrics and gynecology for Beaumont Health and the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine. The team also consisted of researchers from Albion College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

In comparing the two groups of DNA, the team looked to see which ones they could identify as having or not having the disorder.

"Could we, using artificial intelligence, accurately detect autism?" Bahado-Singh said. "For the cases that have autism, what percentage of times would we accurately identify, looking at the test results, that this was a case of autism? And also, for

the cases that don't have autism, what percentage of the time could we accurately say that this child does not have autism?"

The team was able to identify cases of autism with 97.5% accuracy. They also had similarly high accuracy in determining cases without autism.

In addition, the team was able to identify specific genes, some of which have already been attributed to the disorder, that are epigenetically altered in the cases of autism they studied. According to the National Cancer Institute, an epigenetic alteration is a heritable change which doesn't affect the DNA, but changes gene expression.

According to Bahado-Singh, the question now is whether this research is generalizable. He said larger studies will need to be done in the future looking into different populations of people. For example, future studies can be done to find if there are different causes of autism in different races of people.

The study only focused on one subgroup of the autistic spectrum and did not look into the different classifications of autism, such as aspergers. Bahado-Singh said it would be interesting to see whether the same changes in a different subgroup and if it is possible to predict how they perform. This is another goal to look into for further studies.

However, Bahado-Singh said, even though the research is preliminary, it's a very promising start for both accurate and early diagnosis.

"We have very promising initial results," he said. "At the very least, what we're anticipating is it opens the possibility of earlier diagnosis and, with a specific intervention, improving outcomes."

NATALIA BOYKO understands that every academic and extracurricular activity builds character. That's why she participated in so many leadership initiatives: to learn lifelong lessons, solidify her goals and positively impact others. Her dedication is inspiring and unwavering — and earned her the 2019 Wilson Award.



WILSON

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AWARD

Nominations for the annual Wilson Awards are now open
at oakland.edu/deanofstudents/dean_awards.

All nominations are due by January 31.

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OPINION

2020 Oscar nominations prove the Academy is still out-of-touch

TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

Five years ago, April Reign created the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite in response to the noticeable lack of diversity and inclusion among Oscar nominees. The hashtag started a movement that forced the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to make significant changes to its standards for voting and recruitment, with a goal to double its number of diverse members by 2020.

Flash forward — the year is 2020, the Oscar nominees have just been announced and, lo and behold, diversity — or a lack thereof — is once again proving to be an issue.

2019 was a historic year for women in Hollywood, particularly those in the directorial chair. A recent study conducted by Dr. Stacy L. Smith and the University of Southern California Annenberg Inclusion Initiative revealed that women made up 10.6% of the directors of the year's biggest movies. While that number may seem small, it's the highest percentage of female film directors for major films in 13 years.

But in spite of this alleged progress, women in Hollywood have been repeatedly shut out of major categories this awards season. Following in the footsteps of the Golden Globes, SAG Awards and BAFTAs, the Oscars opted to completely omit women from the coveted Best Director category, sparking an overdue, yet justified, outrage. "Little Women" director Greta Gerwig and "The Farewell" director Lulu Wang were both thought to be frontrunners for the category, despite being ignored by almost every major award show this year.

Instead, the Academy opted for a pool of exclusively male nominees, all of whom are white, with the exception of "Parasite" director Bong Joon Ho.

"Congratulations to those men," quipped actress Issa Rae



COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Women and men of color are still underrepresented.

after announcing the best director nominees last Monday.

Historically, Best Director has always been a male-dominated category — in the show's 92-year history, only five women have ever been nominated for Best Director, and only one has ever won (Kathryn Bigelow in 2009 for "The Hurt Locker"). But the Academy had the opportunity to change things this year and chose not to.

A recent Fandango survey determined that five of the 10 most anticipated films of 2020 are helmed by female directors and center on female characters: "Wonder Woman 1984," "Black Widow," "Eternals," "Mulan" and "Birds

of Prey." While the Academy's ignorance unfortunately mirrors that of our own society's, the statistics speak for themselves — there is a genuine interest in the work of female filmmakers, yet the Academy continuously demonstrates a failure to acknowledge this interest.

Women are not the only victims of the Academy's regressive stance on representation. "Missing Link" director Chris Butler and singer-songwriter Elton John ("Rocketman") were the sole members of the LGBTQIA+ community to be recognized, while "Harriet" star Cynthia Erivo was the only black actor nominated this year.

"It's not enough that I'm the only one — it just isn't," Erivo said in a recent interview with the New York Times. "Far too much work was done this year by incredible women and men of color that should be celebrated."

Don't misunderstand me, I'm not suggesting the Academy should be nominating individuals based on their race, gender or sexuality. However, these are traditionally marginalized groups that are finally being given an opportunity to be represented, both behind and in front of the camera. Their work is just as important as anyone else's, and Hollywood should be celebrating it instead of disregarding it to perpetuate the exclusivity of major awards for straight, white men.

In recent years, the Academy has shown some progress in its attempts to become more inclusive, much of which was significantly diminished last year with the controversial decision to award Best Picture to "Green Book," a film that tells a black narrative from a white perspective. There's an unsettling familiarity to this year's lineup of Oscar nominees, though, proving that the Academy — and, to a lesser extent, Hollywood — are still very much out-of-touch.

And until the industry learns to go outside of its own comfort zone, things will never change.

Trump impeachment trial delayed, Dems push for witness reports

AUTUMN PAGE

Staff Reporter



Finally after what seems like weeks of waiting, we have an update on the impeachment trial, but it's not what most people were hoping for. Nancy Pelosi decided to delay the process as the House transfers the two articles. Once it actually happens, it's going to be entertaining, to say the least.

"What we did want, though, and we think we accomplished in the past few weeks, is that we wanted the public to see the need for witnesses, witnesses with firsthand knowledge of what happened, documentation, which the President has prevented from coming out to the Congress, as we review this," Pelosi said in an interview with ABC.

Where we go from here — after the House votes, as part of the opening of the trial, the Senate will send a summons to Trump asking him to appear, which Trump's legal team will answer as a formality, according to a source close to the team.

In response, the legal team is likely to argue that the impeachment charges do not rise to the level of "high crimes and misdemeanors." The president is not expected to appear (shocking), but can be represented by his attorneys.

"We've been prepared since before Christmas, and we remain prepared," a White House official said, noting that the White House has done all it can to prepare for the Senate trial while waiting for the House to name its impeachment managers. The White House is

still deciding who is going to make up the legal team that will defend Trump during the trial.

The majority of Trump's defense will come in the form of a trial brief, which will address key legal arguments of the president's defense and the legal issues at stake, the official said. That document is already mostly completed and will likely be submitted within two days of the House vote to transmit the articles.

White House Counsel Pat Cipollone is still expected to lead Trump's defense with Jay Sekulow on the Senate floor. Those are the only two officials we know will be defending Trump on the Senate floor.

On Jan. 12, Pelosi said in the same ABC interview there's no "mystery" surrounding her intention with the impeachment articles.

"I've always said I would send them

over. There shouldn't be any mystery to that," she said.

She continued saying she didn't have second thoughts about withholding the articles and is confident the move achieved a "very positive result." Uh, OK, that only sounds a tiny bit ominous.

The positive result is that John Bolton, a former White House national security adviser, is willing to testify in a Senate trial if subpoenaed.

Democrats have pushed for the Senate to agree to hear from witnesses as part of the trial — before accusing McConnell of a cover-up for coordinating with the White House.

The House needs to pass a resolution naming impeachment managers before the articles are formally sent to the Senate, and the chamber will also have to take procedural steps before the trial gets underway.

‘Circles’: An homage to late Mac Miller and his followers

RACHEL BASELA

Life&Arts Editor

2019 was a year of creativity where many artists broke new ground in the realm of music. However, it was also a year of many artists’ unexpected passings, and Mac Miller’s posthumous “Circles” paid condolences to his fans throughout the awaited companion album.

Miller molded his image from a frat rapper to an emotive singer between his albums “The Divine Feminine” and “Swimming.” As “Circles” serves as an addition to his previous album, lots of the musical and lyrical themes presented in “Swimming” are reflected in his newest work.

Released on Jan. 17 this year, “Circles” brings closure to many fans who have been grieving Miller since his accidental drug overdose in September 2018. While other artists’ posthumous works have disappointed their followers, many of Miller’s fans have come forward to express their respect for the release of the LP.

“‘Circles’ feels like Mac came back to give everyone one last big hug and tell them not to worry about him,” wrote Twitter user Zoz. “We really lost one of the most talented and beloved artists of [our] generation. #RIPMAC.”

The companion album speaks to Miller’s rawest emotions. This can be noticed in the song titled “Once a Day” where he sings, “Don’t keep it all in your head / The only place that you know nobody ever can see.” He



COURTESY OF POPSUGAR

Miller’s new album serves to bring closure to fans after his death.

discusses coping with depression and finding solace in his darkest places throughout the anthology.

Producer Jon Brion put together the works that became “Circles” once Miller suddenly passed. Brion discussed how the ending track “Once a Day” impacted him when he first heard it in the studio.

“I just sort of came running in like, ‘Oh, sorry, just one thing,’” Brion said in an interview with Genius.

“And I went back out and I stood in the hallway and I listened to a couple of takes. And this is how I can tell you I’m not looking at it with the loss goggles: I bawled my eyes out.”

“Heard it twice in a row,” Brion said. “I kind of poked my head around the door and said, ‘Oh, I heard a little bit of that. That sounds good. Just do a double of that keyboard just right now while the sound’s up. Okay, cool.’ Boom. Ran out into the hallway and cried again.”

“Once a Day” wasn’t the only track that left listeners with strong emotions. In the title track “Circles,” Miller sang about his struggle with drug addiction, and as his death was caused by drug use, it left many fans feeling somber after listening.

Billboard ranked the song number one in their article titled “Ranking All 12 Songs on Mac Miller’s Posthumous ‘Circles’ Album: Critic’s Pick.” Michael Saponara of Billboard wrote “Even after repeatedly trying to change his ways, Mac succumbs to the pressure of his former self, and ends up ‘drawing circles.’”

The late artists’ LP serves as a remembrance to the talent that poured out of Miller during his days as a musician. This talent manifested itself in songs that detailed his struggle with mental health and addiction, and fans of his can experience his last musical moments through the posthumous “Circles.”

Rating: 4/5 stars

Roddy Ricch makes history with debut album

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

Roddy Ricch, the 21-year-old rapper from Compton, released his debut album “Please Excuse Me for Being Antisocial” on Dec. 6, 2019. With 25 days left in the 2010s, he closed out the decade with a bang.

Within one month, the top charting single from that album, “The Box,” has reached No. 1 on the Billboard Charts, in addition to the album having reached No. 1.

“The Box” has inspired many memes across the internet with its unique beat, featuring a creaking sound that Ricch makes with his voice. But “The Box” and the album as a whole are more than just memes. It’s really good.

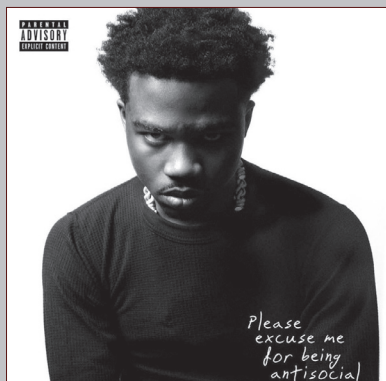
Ricch showcased a lot of quality features on his debut album, including Meek Mill, Gunna, Lil Durk and A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie. However, the two best songs on “Please Ex-

cuse Me for Being Antisocial” are songs without features.

“The Box” and “War Baby” are by far the best songs on this album, not even close. I really enjoyed “Tip Toe” with A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie and “Start wit Me” with Gunna. But “The Box” and “War Baby” are the two standout songs from this album.

Ricch’s unique sound is showcased and celebrated throughout this album. He has a very unique, identifiable voice and tone. Ever since he hopped on the Mustard track “Balling,” he’s been rising up the charts.

His initial mix tape did well, too, but nothing close to the success he is seeing on his debut album. The album features messages of triumph from the bottom, and how he has made it to the top now. “War Baby” is especially inspiring and uplifting—it makes me feel like I can run through a wall because I have the power of a choir behind me. When the choir comes into that song, I



COURTESY OF GENIUS

Ricch’s album debuted at No. 1 in December.

lose my mind every time. Amazing.

I really enjoy the way this album is able to transition from something slower to a hard, fast-paced 808 heavy beat from song to song. The perfect example of this is found when listening to the album from top to bottom, when it goes from “Start wit Me” with Gunna to “Perfect Time.” Both are good songs, but

fit incredibly different moods. Some rap albums don’t have this range, but “Please Excuse Me for Being Antisocial” has some great variance.

The main criticism I have of this album is that some of the songs sound the same. This will happen inevitably with an album, but when I first listened to it all the way through, the only songs that stuck with me were “The Box” and “War Baby.” However, I enjoyed more songs on the second run.

This is a relatively small criticism, and you have to keep in mind this is Ricch’s first actual album he’s ever released. For it being a debut album, it’s incredibly impressive.

Overall, this album is deserving of all the praise it’s receiving. I am looking forward to everything Roddy Ricch is going to release in the future after this album. Despite the flaws, I feel it is undoubtedly five stars.

Rating: 5/5 stars

SPORTS

Women's basketball loses to YSU 79-74 in close game

GRANT RICHARDS

Staff Reporter

On Thursday, Jan. 16, the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies welcomed the Youngstown State Penguins to the O'rena. Coming in, the game held standings implications as the victor of the matchup would find themselves in third place in the Horizon League.

The game started close and stayed that way for a majority of the game, although Youngstown State eventually pulled away to win the game, 79-74.

"I thought we didn't come out from the start and execute like Oakland basketball," Acting Head Coach Ke'Sha Blanton told GrizzVision. "We tried to play late in the game but you can't try, in this league, to show up in the fourth quarter. We just have to be better at what we do."

With the loss, Oakland fell to 8-9 (3-3 in Horizon League) while Youngstown State improved to 10-7 (3-3 in Horizon League).

In the first half, the Golden Grizzlies consistently got to the basket, taking shots close to the rim. Despite not all the bounces going their way, something must be said for the Grizzlies' ability to get to the painted area.

The team got to the free throw line 31 times, making 24 of their foul shots, shooting 77%.

Oakland bumped into Youngstown State on the wrong day, as the Penguins shot an above-average 53% from 3-point

range. The Penguins would shoot 8-15 from behind the arc while the Golden Grizzlies struggled to get things going and shot 4-17 under the same criteria.

Offensively, the Golden Grizzlies were led by Jalisha Terry and Kahlaijah Dean, scoring 18 and 15, respectively. Oakland's two scoring leaders led momentum swings and slowed down the Penguins' attempts at pulling away primarily through great ball control, as the pair would each record a lone turnover.

Freshman guard Breanne Beatty led the Grizzlies in rebounds with eight, including two offensive boards, while Brianna Breedy would lead the team with five assists. Breedy was also one of the four Grizzlies to score in double digits.

Despite the large difference in shooting percentages, Oakland finished the game ahead in all other categories, showing that things may have been different if Youngstown State was not hitting more than half of their 3-point shots.

Looking ahead with 11 games left in the regular season, the Grizzlies have a pretty even split between home and away games. The team does get to finish its season with the final two games coming at home against Wright State and Northern Kentucky, two teams also doing their best to stick around for the entirety of the race for the Horizon League.

The women's basketball goes on a two-game road trip against NKU and Wright State before returning home on Saturday, Feb. 1 to face their rival, the University of Detroit Mercy Titans.



SOPHIE HUME | PHOTOGRAPHER

Women's basketball came close to YSU, losing 79-74 on Thursday, Jan. 16.



SAM SUMMERS | PHOTOGRAPHER

The Golden Grizzlies fell to the Cleveland State Vikings 79-58 on Saturday, Jan. 18 in the O'rena.

Oakland women fall to 3-4 in league play vs. Vikings

BRITTANY WELCH

Staff Reporter

The Oakland University women's basketball team was back on the blacktop in the O'rena on Saturday, Jan. 18, after a day off, as they took on Cleveland State University Vikings on Childhood Cancer Awareness day.

It was a pivotal game for the Golden Grizzlies, as they were one of the five teams tied for third place in the Horizon League.

The Golden Grizzlies had a slow start in the first quarter, since the Vikings started the game with an 11-4 lead. That lead didn't hold, as the second quarter came around and the Grizzlies went on a 10-point run.

"We were able to keep them scoreless for a couple minutes, and we were taking good shots and wearing them down to end the half," sophomore Kayla Luchenbach said.

At the half, the Golden Grizzlies were only behind by five points. One of the keys for the second half was for Oakland to defensively stop Cleveland State's hot 3-point shooting, as the Vikings went 4-7 from 3-point range.

"Our defense was the thing that hurt was most," Luchenbach said. "We didn't take the same pride on the defensive end like we usually do."

The lack of defense showed in the second half as the Vikings went on to win the match 79-58, which put the Golden Grizzlies further down in the standings, currently tied for seventh with Northern Kentucky.

"This game hurt, we didn't play true Oakland basketball," Luchenbach said. "We have to learn from this experience and this feeling and help it fuel us going

into next weekend."

Oakland also struggled on the offensive side throughout the game. In the first half, the Golden Grizzlies only shot 44% from the field.

"One major takeaway from this game is that we are a defensive team, and we are struggling offensively right now," Luchenbach said. "Our defense is truly what wins games for us, and this game really showed how important it is for us not to take plays off."

Coming off being home for two weeks straight and losing in a tough battle to the Vikings, the Grizzlies have no time to stay in the past and hit the road next week, taking on Northern Kentucky University and Wright State University.

"This week, we have a great opportunity against two really good teams," Luchenbach said. "We match up very well against Northern Kentucky. Wright State is a strong team that has a lot of experience, it will be a good test for us, as a younger team to make a statement."

Currently, the Golden Grizzlies are 8-10 overall and 3-4 in the conference. No matter what the standings look like right now, the team is still aiming for a championship.

"We still have a lot of time to come back and put ourselves in line for the play-offs to reach our goal of winning a Horizon League Championship," Luchenbach said. "We are going to keep battling and fighting till we get there."

The Golden Grizzlies are back on the road this week to continue conference play. On Thursday, Jan. 23, the Grizzlies take on the Norse at Northern Kentucky University at 7 p.m. They continue Saturday, Jan. 25 against the Raiders at Wright State University at 2 p.m.

Freshman sharpshooter earns his spot in rotation

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

Travis Bader is considered one of the greatest Oakland University basketball players of all time. According to the Lansing State Journal, Bader called head coach Greg Kampe last summer and said, "I've found the next me."

That "next Bader" is Blake Lampman, a freshman out of Haslett High School who is consistently gaining minutes in Kampe's lineup, and has become the best 3-point shooter on the team.

On Jan. 13, Lampman was named Horizon League Freshman of the Week after hitting 7-12 3-point shots and averaging 12 points per game. A walk-on, he didn't expect to rise up through the rotation as quickly as he did.

"It's awesome to think that I was kind of at the bottom when I came here and now I'm starting to work my way up through the rotation," he said. "Kampe is calling plays for me at the end of the game, it's a really cool experience."

On Saturday, Dec. 7, Lampman made his first Division I start against Bowling Green in Ohio. Despite not playing up to his standards, shooting 1-7 from 3-point range and going 1-3 from the free throw line, Lampman valued the experience.

"That was pretty shocking to me," he said. "I didn't have the best game, but what can you do? It was cool."

Lampman has watched extensive film on NBA star Klay Thompson, who is one of the greatest 3-point shooters in the history of basketball. Lampman leads the team in 3-point attempts and is second on the team in



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER
Freshman shooting guard Blake Lampman was named Horizon League Freshman of the Week on Jan. 13.

3-point percentage.

Growing up close to East Lansing, Lampman grew up rooting for Michigan State. On Saturday, Dec. 14, Lampman took on his favorite coach from his childhood, Tom Izzo, and his favorite team at Little Caesars

Arena in Detroit.

"That was a really cool experience, I grew up watching them, going to their games and looking up to their players," he said. "When I stepped on the court with them, that was truly a cool experience."

Starting off as a walk-on and being recruited late in the process, Lampman was relatively unknown, but has since made his mark on the Horizon League and his team.

"You definitely have to earn respect anywhere you go," he said. "As a freshman, no matter if you're on scholarship or a walk-on, you're still going to be on the lower side of everything, so you have to earn it. I think we have a great bond here and we're really forming a family."

The Golden Grizzlies started 1-3 in conference play, with home losses to Wright State and Northern Kentucky. Despite the early-season struggles, Lampman said the team is not concerned, especially following a bounce back win against Cleveland State.

"I'm not too worried about it," he said. "We really needed this win to jump start our season, the win against Cleveland State was huge."

As for the Bader comparison, Lampman sees it, and hopes he can become the player that Bader was for the Golden Grizzlies.

"Obviously Travis was super successful, so if I could be anything near his success, that'd be really cool," Lampman said. "I think we have a lot of similarities in our game."

Lampman and the Golden Grizzlies return to their home court Thursday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. against the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames on superhero night.

The Sporting Blitz

The Oakland University women's basketball team was the only team with home games this week once again, as multiple teams took to the road to compete for the second full week in January.

Men's Basketball

After defeating Cleveland State and breaking a three game losing streak, the men's basketball team headed to Wisconsin to take on the University of Green Bay and the University of Milwaukee in a week-end trip.

Against Green Bay, fans and media were surprised to see the Golden Grizzlies official Twitter account tweet a bombshell of an announcement. Point guard Rashad Williams, who was previously forced to sit out the year due to his transfer, was cleared by the NCAA for play, and made his first start as a Golden Grizzly.

To start the game, Oakland took a

commanding lead, eventually losing it a little. However, the team led for 16 minutes and 20 seconds in the first half. Going into halftime, Oakland had a one-possession lead, 38-35.

In the second half, the Green Bay offense was able to take over and pull ahead of the Golden Grizzlies, who have struggled on offense all year. The Phoenix eventually put the game out of reach with two free throws, and they won by a final score of 73-69. Brad Brechting led the team with 26 points and 14 rebounds.

Two days later, the team took to Milwaukee to face the Panthers. In an almost identical score, the Panthers defeated Oakland 73-68. Xavier Hill-Mais led the team in scoring, with 20, but the Panthers were able to continually keep Oakland at bay.

Oakland shot 10-19 from the free throw line, while Milwaukee hit their free throws more often, going 12-16. Williams made his second start in a

row after being cleared by the NCAA, going 2-11 from 3-point range and 2-12 from the field.

The men's basketball returns home for the first time in two weeks, as they host the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames on Thursday, Jan. 23 and the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Jaguars on Saturday, Jan. 25.

Swim & Dive

The swim and dive teams took on Michigan State University on Saturday, Jan. 18, falling by a few points on each side, 165-135 for the men and 151-148 for the women.

Once again, Katie Colwell tallied multiple top finishes, as she went four for four in her races. Colwell recorded two solo first place finishes and two as a part of a relay team. On the men's side, Marko Khotynetskyi continued his hot start to the season, finishing first in the 100 and 200 backstroke, as

well as the 200 IM.

Susan LaGrand recorded two first place finishes as well, taking first in both the 100 free and 200 backstroke events. In a close meet, the women were able to take all four relay events, and both teams recorded 16 first place finishes as a unit.

The swim and dive teams will be coming back to the Oakland Aquatic Center on Friday, Jan. 24 and Saturday, Jan. 25 against Horizon League opponents IUPUI and Cleveland State in some Horizon League action.

**Compiled by Michael Pearce,
Sports Editor**

SATIRE



ERIN O'NEILL | DESIGN EDITOR

They must be ogres right?! Who else could make that THAT much freaking noise????

Ogre neighbors above you prove that vigilante justice is sometimes OK

BEN HUME*Web Editor*

The apartment above Oakland University student Biff Miller, 21, was the site of the largest rager the university had ever recorded. Registering as a 2.4 on the Richter scale, the party continued for a marathon length of 14 hours before Biff finally heard the last creature hit the floor and pass out. He was so baffled by his neighbors' capacity to make noise that he concluded they must be party ogres.

Biff described them as invincible, because there would be no other way to explain the number of suplexes they survive.

"I heard one of the ogres above us scream, 'TKO!' and annihilate one of his roommates with the strength of Zeus," he said. "If it wasn't 4:30 a.m., I would honestly be impressed, but I am trying very hard to sleep at that time."

Biff noted some other events that have led to earthquakes, making sure to note that these quakes are a daily event. The ogres frequently blast DaBaby, Eminem and J. Cole at frequencies that make the paint fall off the ceiling. They sprinted around their apartment with footfalls as heavy as a battleship. They challenged their masculinity with feats of giant strength by catapulting shopping carts over their balcony. The label of ogre really fit them well.

To pass the time every night as he lay awake, Biff imagined the ways he could possibly reason with his neighbors upstairs. He imagined a diplomatic approach, maybe offering them a goat to

satiate their terrible hunger for chaos. Maybe he should have sabotaged their subwoofers, giving him at least some respite while they bought a new one. But nothing felt like enough.

"I actually went up to knock one night after I thought I heard a gunshot," Biff's roommate Charlie said. "Biff was grabbing his hair and rolling back and forth on the ground, so it was up to me to go see what was happening. I knocked and asked why they were still up, and the ogre with the shotgun said it was just time for target practice. At that point, I knew they would never listen to reason."

Biff and Charlie both said this entire experience has changed their opinion on vigilante justice. They had already tried contacting their RA, but every time they called, the man on the other end became audibly scared and began hyperventilating.

There were also at least two noise complaints leveled against the neighbors, but no police officer who climbed the stairs to solve the problem ever returned. Charlie and Biff figured that if Batman and Daredevil could do it, why couldn't they? They didn't have a lot of money for insane ogre-killing gadgets, nor were they blind super ninjas capable of killing bad guys with their eyes literally closed, but they figured it should at least be legal for circumstances like their own.

The two were interrupted during our interview as the walls around them shuddered and a big human foot fell through the ceiling and instilled panic in them both, and the interview had to be suspended as they screamed and sprinted out of the room, insanity rampant in their poor eyes.

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