

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

FEBRUARY

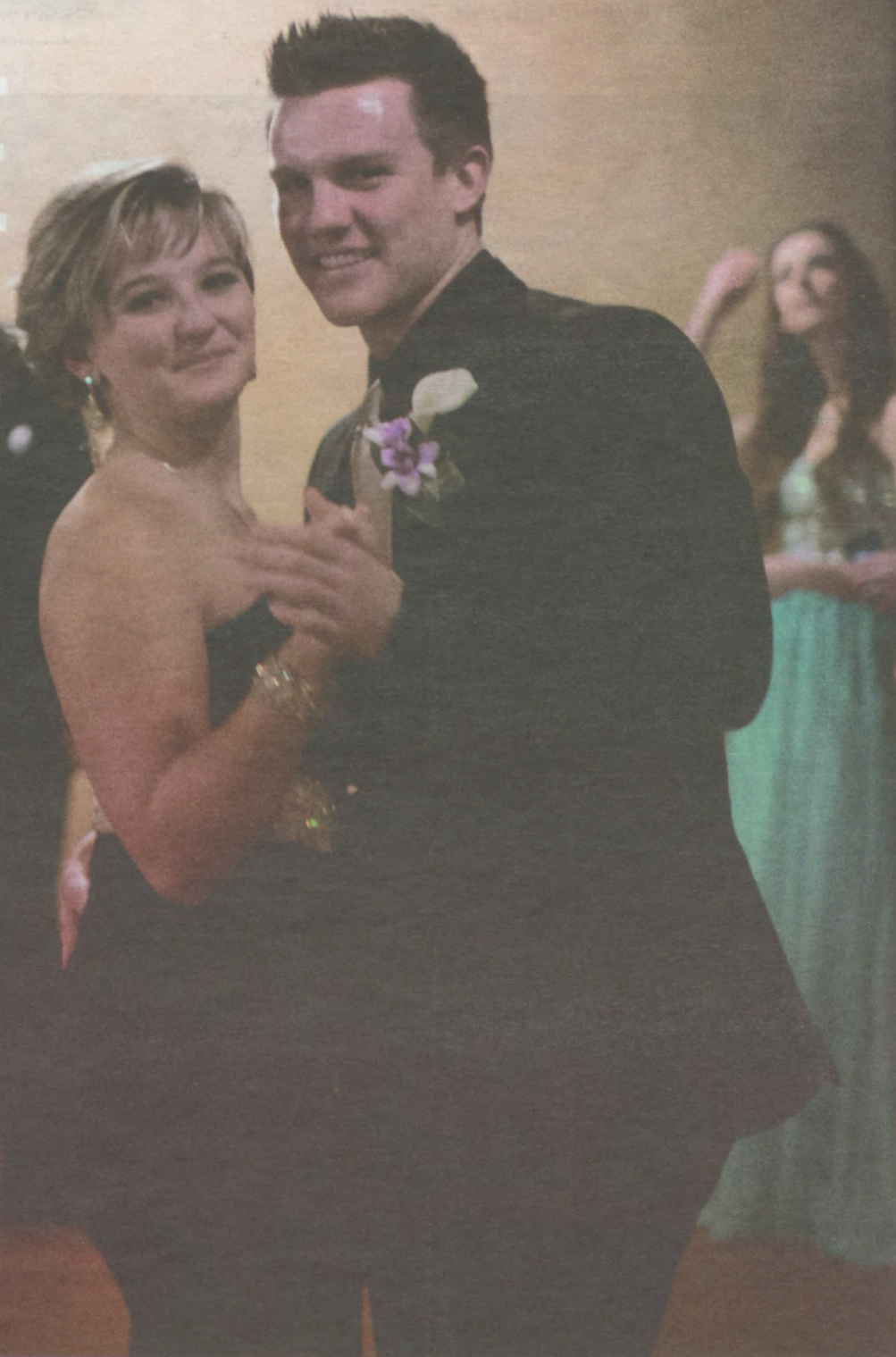
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2014

J'ADORE LA BALL

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE
THRILLS OF PARIS AT
MEADOW BROOK BALL

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MEMORIES OF ERIC

Family and friends pay
condolences to OU
freshman Eric Pauli

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HE'S THREE BALLIN'

Guard Travis Bader sets
the NCAA record for
3-pointers

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KEEPIN' IT GLASSY

Junior shows off his pair
of Google Glass and
displays their features.

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thisweek

February 5th, 2014 // Volume 40. Issue 19



ontheweb

Why is one of the largest social networking sites losing members, and where will it find an audience now? Find out on our website now!
www.oaklandpostonline.com

POLL OF THE WEEK

Do you think the OC circle is cursed?

- A** Oh, yeah—thing gives me the creeps!
- B** I don't believe in such superstitious malarkey
- C** I don't know, I've never been affected by it
- D** I just think it looks nice

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What do you think of the campus food provider, Chartwells?

- A** Yup, and now I'm healthy as a clam
40%
- B** I don't believe in getting vaccinations
36%
- C** No, but I plan on getting one soon
4%
- D** Why get a shot now, this late into the season?
20%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 5, 1970

The new Oakland Center was officially opened, kicking off the big event with poetry readings and free meals.

FEBRUARY 4, 1980

The proposed medical school was still split amongst board of chair persons, with eight for the projects, eight against and eight natural.

FEBRUARY 3, 1993

WXOU (now WXOU) was in wait for their FM frequency license to be issued from the Federal Communications Commission. The process started in January of 1990.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

INTO THE LIGHT OF A COLD, DARK NIGHT Coming out of Kresge Library, staff photographer Salwan Georges captured this brief, beautiful moment of a setting sun painting the snow and sky in the welcoming colors of night. This photo was taken with the photographer's iPhone, but was not edited or altered with any filters or effects.

Salwan Georges// *The Oakland Post*

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



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A RISE IN ROUNDS

A deep insight and analysis on the tragic and often overlooked rise of shooting targeting school and campus students.



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NEW DEN FOR LOCAL GIZZLIES

A new study center opens up in downtown Auburn Hills, appealing to the influx of students now occupying the homes and apartments recently built in town.



20

CURSED CIRCLE CLAIMS ANOTHER

Do you dare tread upon the sacred ground of OU insignia? Well, bravery is hard to hold when you're faced with the horror that is the campus circle curse!

BY THE NUMBERS

\$20 mill.

How many students that attend college this year

60%

College students who borrow annually

\$902 bill.

Estimated outstanding student loan debt in U.S.

\$29,900

Average amount borrowed by undergrad students per year

96%

Students who borrowed from for-profit institutions

Perspectives

STAFF EDITORIAL

How to catch a convict: fight the bars by funding books

In a \$32 a year industry, you'd think that United States prisons would be able to keep track of a convicted murderer. But you'd be wrong.

Monday, Michael David Elliot, a man convicted of four murders in the early 90's, has not only escaped from a Michigan prison, but also abducted an Indiana woman while fleeing.

Elliot was captured Monday morning, but the fact that he escaped raises some questions, as well as alarms.

Elliot was captured Monday morning, but the fact that he escaped raises some questions, as well as alarms. Ionia Correctional Facility, where Elliot escaped, is an acclaimed level five, maximum-security prison for criminals serving one or more life sentences. In other words, these prisoners are the worst of the worst and shouldn't have an easy time escaping.

Elliot was incarcerated under four life sentences. One for every life he took.

According to department of corrections spokesman Russ Marlan, Elliot had apparently dug a hole under two perimeter fences around the facility, and escaped by crawling his way through them.

"HE CREATED A HOLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TWO PERIMETER FENCES OF THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND THEN CRAWLED THROUGH."

Russ Marlan
Department of Corrections

No guard saw this, and the hole was discovered the morning after the escape. There is no evidence suggesting that Elliot had an accomplice. All other prisoners were accounted for.

This is the first escape the prison has experienced since it opened in 1986.

After escaping, Elliot hijacked a passing woman and her Jeep. The woman had the chance to flee when Elliot stopped at a gas station.

She rushed to the restroom while Elliot was pumping gas, and then proceeded to dial the police from a concealed cell phone.

Elliot had fled before police arrived.

The prison is one of the more expensive in the state, taking up an estimated \$2 million dollars a year to run. That isn't including the separate cost of housing

each inmate, which costs an estimated \$34 thousand per prisoner.

The question now is why is it so easy to escape from a maximum-security prison, this place where our taxpayer money is going?

Isn't it a standard to have guards stationed around prison perimeters, where escape should be the hardest?

Funding for prisons is currently double the amount of funding given to education in every state, including Michigan. So why have we not learned how to keep our prisoners in the prison? It is not a rudimentary problem to handle?

This man was no criminal mastermind. All he had to do was dig a hole under a fence—a feat most dogs can accomplish.

Thankfully he was captured, but perhaps a lookout is still needed. With prisoners on the loose, and school regulation in a cell, perhaps another guard is needed on the watch tower.

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

Corrections Corner

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

The captions on page 7 of the previous issue aren't correct.

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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Photo illustration by Haley Kotwicki

The average active shooter incident lasts about 12 minutes, with nearly half of all attacks ending before officers arrive on the scene, according to the FBI.

Public shootings on the rise

Ready Houston and OUPD educate civilians to understand the warning signs of a potential threat

Kayla Brandon
Contributor

It's not yet February and the U.S. has seen nine public shootings, eight of which occurred in a school setting.

In 2013 alone, Reddit found 365 shootings in the U.S., or an average of one a day.

According to the FBI, the average active shooter incident lasts about 12 minutes, with nearly half of all attacks ending before law enforcement officials are on the scene. Arming yourself with a plan could mean the difference between survival and becoming a victim.

One video that might save your life is "Run, Hide, Fight" from Ready Houston, which created the program to prepare those living in southeast Texas for an active shooter scenario.

The Department of Homeland Security, along with law enforcement agencies across the country, has since shared the video with communities.

"Run, Hide, Fight" simulates an active shooter situation in a workplace setting. The video gives viewers three options: run from the shooter, barricade and hide or attack the perpetrator.

The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms is one of many government agencies promoting

active-shooter training. Chief Security Officer Michael Gleysteen, a 25-year ATF veteran, said he believes the solution is prevention and reaction.

"The reaction portion of an active-shooter incident has very specific written protocols we follow," Gleysteen said. "The second part is preventing these type of events from reoccurring, which is substantially more difficult."

Gleysteen said key indicators in a potential shooter include:

- severe mood swings
- unstable emotional responses to issues
- increased talk about problems at home
- unsolicited comments about violence

While the FBI has created an average active shooter profile, Gleysteen believes watching for "red flag indicators" could be the key to saving lives.

"The problem with following profiles is that they can be misleading and you might be dismissive of someone because statistically they're not likely to be a perpetrator," he said. "Red flags are better in-

dicators of employees with problems."

Some elementary schools, such as Howe Hall Arts-Infused Magnet School in Goose Creek, S.C., have orchestrated realistic school safety drills — gunmen and fake blood included. This is not as easy for large universities, such as Oakland University with its 20,000 students.

Capt. Mark Gordon of the Oakland University Police Department, explained that OUPD has yet to conquer the issue of campus wide lockdowns.

"You're dealing with students, but they're over 18 and they're adults, they don't have to listen to you," Gordon said. "When you try to mandate an entire lockdown of a campus, it's hard."

Educating and training faculty is a much simpler task, Gordon said, adding that educating leaders is the best way to tackle the issues.

The university allows anybody at OU to submit a form if an individual is perceived as a threat.

A committee of OUPD officers, the dean of students and a psychiatrist examines the behavior of the person reported and determines a response.

"In essence, what we're doing is putting out a net to catch dangerous people before they reach the point where they become shooters," Gordon said.

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Jon Davis / The Oakland Post

The meeting was held Monday, Feb. 3 at the Gold Rooms. Oakland University Student Council currently has 25 legislators, but meetings are open to all students.

OUSC debates bill to strengthen bylaws

Freshman legislator hopes to work on expanding dining hall hours and enforce clean air policy

Adam Kujawski
Staff Reporter

Freshman Ellen Searle was added to the Oakland University Student Congress during the Feb. 3 meeting, officially filling the legislature.

"This is something I've been waiting for for a while," Searle said. "I'm excited but at the same time, it's weird realizing that I'm actually here."

Searle spoke about her intent to expand Chartwells' dining hall hours in Vandenberg Hall to accommodate more students and to further enforce of the OU Clean Air policy.

"The first thing we have to do is to figure out how much people actually know about

the policy," she said. "From there we can decide what action must be taken on how to further educate people."

Some members of an Oakland University men's music fraternity led by Joshua Nuss expressed their gratitude by performing a surprise musical number.

Committee addition

Congress approved the inclusion of additional members to a number of committees.

Student Activities Funding Board added Nusrat Zaman; the Tailgate Committee added Alexandria Jones, Cassandra Hock, Ted Tansley and Rob Coddington; and the Marketing Committee added Tadan Kateria and Olivia June.

New bill

OUSC engaged in a thorough 15-minute discussion addressing a new bill aimed at adding an elected parliamentarian to the council.

According to the official bill, the parliamentarian's responsibility would be to "maintain the congress' bylaws along with the Robert's Rules of Order during congressional meetings and enforce them as required."

Essentially, the role of the parliamentarian would be to act as the go-to person in the event of an issue related to meeting formalities.

"The parliamentarian is more of a specialist," legislator Rachel Boye said. "When I first heard about the bill, I was against it, but once I clarified some questions I

had, it made me understand why this would be more necessary."

The debate included both favorable and dissenting opinions.

"I personally do not support this bill," legislator Brittany Hall said. "I think we should look into enhancing

how the vice president is trained to adequately run congressional meetings."

Since this was the first reading of the bill, there will be a second reading and discussion next week meeting, followed by an official vote.



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Once, twice, three times a winner

WXOU receives "Best College Radio station" award for third year

Oona Goodin-Smith
Staff Reporter

Have you ever wondered what the noise is in the basement of the Oakland Center? It's the sound of victory, that's what.

With the titles of 2012 and 2013 Michigan Association of Broadcasters "Best College Radio Station" under its belt and a third 2014 win, Oakland's own WXOU is making itself heard on campus and in the world of college radio.

The MAB's Student Broadcasting Awards for best radio station are a yearly affair and decided by a point system, accumulated through each station's submissions to a variety of categories.

"We submit entries in everything from sports talk to news to promotional items," explained senior and the station's general manager Patrick Cymbalski. "From there they tally up our scores and post them to the MAB website."

Thus far, things are looking good for WXOU. With first place standings in four of the seven categories and a first, second, and third place sweep in the "Cur-

rent Events Program" category, it appears as if WXOU has tuned into the winning wavelength for the third year in a row.

"Being considered for an award like this goes a long way to show that we've taken our little basement program and turned into something of world-class caliber," said Promotions Director Scott Hunter. "It's easy to forget that we do things that other people notice, and it's different and great to know that our professional peers are also noticing."

The official award ceremony will be at Lansing Mar. 12, where WXOU hopes to be awarded the title of "Best College Radio Station" for another year.

Currently, Oakland University stands in first place, followed by Central Michigan University in second and Michigan State University in third.

"For years, Michigan State was the top contender when it came to college radio, but now it's us," said Cymbalski, who has been with the station since 2009. "We're establishing ourselves as a powerhouse radio station. Right now, radio's probably the last thing you think of when you think of OU, but we're actively working to change that."

Despite WXOU's recent gain over Michigan State's radio program and its eleven-year winning streak, the Grizzlies have chosen to take the higher road when it comes to gloating.



Courtesy of WXOU

WXOU is on the low end of the dial: 88.3 FM.

"We're classy about it," said music director and senior Ashley Allison. "They congratulated us on Twitter, and I think we have a mutual respect for each other."

"We shouldn't have a rivalry," added Hunter. "We should all be working for the same goal of promoting college radio values."

"This year we're starting to realize that [winning] hasn't just been a fluke," said Allison. "We're actually good and having everyone else see that we actually do things that matter is the coolest thing ever."

Grizzlies on the Prowl: "What did you want to be when you were a kid? What do you want to be now?"



Emily Acton, senior,
sociology major

"I think I wanted to be a vet. But now I'm going into counseling."



Anthony Sciortino, freshman,
health science major

"When I was a kid, probably like a professional football player. Or a sports physician."



Kathryn Verley, freshman,
chemistry major

"When I was a kid, I think I wanted to be a doctor. Now I'm going to be a chemist"

— Compiled by Kaylee Kean,
Staff Reporter

POLICE FILES

Theft in the Oakland Center

A student reported that someone stole his TI-83 calculator and a bottle of prescription medication from his backpack in the Oakland Center Jan. 27.

The student left his backpack in a booth near Café O'Bears for about a half hour. He did not notice the missing items until later that evening.

There are no suspects at this time.

Another student reported her wallet was stolen in the OC Jan. 27.

The student was sitting with her friends at a table between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. and noticed her backpack zippers tampered with when she went to leave. She checked and her wallet, a black and gray Coach wristlet containing \$50 and multiple IDs, was gone.

Welfare check

A student contacted OUPD after receiving a suicidal text message from her friend Jan. 27.

Officers followed her in West Vandenberg Hall to the student's dorm, where he stated he was "just being dramatic." He did not want medical attention.

Housing removed the student from his room for three days while he stayed off-campus with a friend.

Assault in the Oakland Center

A student reported an assault and battery in the OC Jan. 26.

After attending Casino Night with friends, the female victim was near the Grizz Express Store when an unknown male ran up and slapped her on the buttocks hard enough to leave a red mark.

The victim did not know the male and did not get a good look at his face, but reports he is a white male with short brown hair who was wearing a blue jacket and jeans.

— Compiled by Brian Figurski,
Copy Editor



Kailey Johnson / The Oakland Post

Couples and friends stay warm in Meadow Brook's ballroom and watch "Groundhog Day" while temperatures outside reach into negative degrees.

Hot romance on a cold winter's night

Meadow Brook Hall Student Outreach Organization holds Movie Date Night

Kaylee Kean
Staff Reporter

The Meadow Brook Hall Student Outreach Organization held its first Movie Date Night on Sunday, Feb. 2 at the Meadow Brook Hall.

The movie "Groundhog Day" was displayed in the ballroom of the hall, starting at 7:30 p.m. The event was limited to 60 students.

Free pretzels, cotton candy and other snacks were provided by members of the organization.

Movie Date Night was just a beginning step to bringing more students to the Hall, according to Caroline Shaltz, vice president of the MBH Student Outreach Organization.

Groundhog Day

Sunday was actually Groundhog Day, during which Punxsutawney Phil the groundhog saw his shadow, predicting six more weeks of winter.

"I don't like winter at all," said Shaltz. "It was a sad day... but Phil is cute."

The fact that it was Groundhog Day led Shaltz and the other officers to choose the 1993 comedy "Groundhog Day" as their movie of choice, according to Shaltz.

"We actually did not know it was Super Bowl Sunday," said Shaltz. "Because, you know, we're all history majors, math majors - that just didn't cross our mind."

In the future the MBH Student Outreach Organization will try to have more movie nights, according to Shaltz.

"We have our projection room and stuff that Matilda even used to we're all ready to throw one of these together in a short amount of time," said Shaltz. "So that's probably going to be something that we'll do again in the future."

Reaching out to students

The MBH Student Outreach Organization was created last semester in the hopes of acquainting students with the Hall, according to Shaltz.

"We thought it was just a shame that not a lot of them (Oakland students) knew this was here or they didn't know it was accessible to them," said Shaltz. "We wanted to kind of promote that and have some fun events."

Shaltz is one of the four officers of the organization. Each member also works for the Meadow Brook Hall.

"It's definitely the right place for us," said Shaltz, who said three of the officers are history majors.

Danny Santos, a junior cinema studies major, attended Movie Date Night with a friend. He said he had never seen the movie "Groundhog Day" before.

He has been in Meadow Brook, however.

"This is my fourth time in this build-

ing," said Santos. "I think it's gorgeous here. I definitely feel like there's a lot of good spiritual energy."

Shaltz said there will be many other events in the future as well and that new ideas and suggestions are welcome.

"We are definitely having more events that are going to be a little bit more accessible to bringing people that aren't Oakland students," said Shaltz.

Students can come to the Hall at any time, said Shaltz.

"The Hall always takes volunteers," said Shaltz. "Tours are always free and you're always welcome here."

Learn more about the MBH Student Outreach at facebook.com/mbhstudentoutreach.

Contact staff reporter Kaylee Kean at kmkean@oakland.edu



Courtesy of The Pauli family

Eric Pauli this past summer, posing with his Pontiac G5 named Natalie. Eric was passionate about cars, video games and playing trombone in Oakland's pep band.

Freshman dies in snowmobile accident

Eric Pauli embodied Golden Grizzly pride in his short time at Oakland

Adam Kujawski
Staff Reporter

OU freshman, Eric Thomas Pauli, 18, died Sunday from injuries sustained in a snowmobile accident.

Eric graduated from Dakota High School in 2013 and studied computer science at Oakland University.

High School Life

In high school, Eric was a member of drum line, jazz band and marching band. He enjoyed computers and video games, kept a tie collection and above all, was passionate

about his car. He spent hours caring for his bright yellow Pontiac G5 which he named 'Natalie'.

"His car and his tie collection were his pride and joy," said Eric's younger brother, Ryan Pauli. "Eric was the best brother I could've asked for. He was always giving me advice and helping me when I needed it."

In The Band

Eric also played trombone as a member of Oakland University's pep band.

"Eric loved being in the Golden Grizzlies pep band," said Eric's

mother, Dawn. "He had so much fun at the homecoming game. He meant the world to his family and friends. And we will miss him more than words can express."

Eric even met his girlfriend, Nancy Tran, through band. The two have been together since high school.

"Eric was an amazing person, friend and especially boyfriend," Nancy said. "He took great care of me and was a perfect gentleman."

Visitation

He is survived by: his father, Edmund; mother, Dawn; brother, Ryan;

his dog, Coal and several members of extended family as well as his girlfriend, Nancy and countless friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to either the Dakota High School Scholarship Fund or Making Miracles Animal Rescue in Hazel Park.

Visitation will be held from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday at Wujek Calcaterra and Sons funeral home in Shelby Twp. A mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday at St. Isadore in Macomb.

It's a Ball

Can-Can models, ballroom dance lessons and violin music set the tone for Amour a Paris.

Story and Photos by Kailee Mathias

Design by Frank Lepkowski

The 42nd annual Meadow Brook Ball was hosted two nights this year in the historic hall of Oakland University.

The theme was Amour a Paris. A violinist greeted the ears of students upon entering the mansion.

"It's just nice to get to dress up and be in a formal setting like this," Victoria Humbarger, treasurer of Meadow Brook Ball Committee said. "You never really get the chance to go to a ball. It's nice to have a night like this out."

The event had Can-Can models, self-guided tours, scavenger hunt, postcard making, card and board games, two caricature artists, face painting, food, and a photo booth. For the first time ever, with the help of Ballroom Dance Club, dance lessons were given throughout the evening.

"We have the ballroom dance because we chose a more romantic French theme," Corryne Urbina, president of Meadow Brook Ball Committee said. "We thought incorporating more dancing fit the theme well."

Urbina is a senior at Oakland and has been on the committee for four years.

"I'm so proud of what the committee has done this year," Urbina said. "I think this has been the greatest year yet because of how much we were able to incor-

porate other things during the school year to promote the Meadow Brook Ball Committee."

One of the promotional tools was the memorabilia corsages and boutonnieres, which were hand-made by the Donations Committee.

The committee is broken up into three divisions; decorations, public relations and donations.

This traditional event at Oakland is known for its quick ticket sales.

"I went at 5 a.m. the morning tickets went on sale, which isn't bad because people were there all night," Krista Pallas, sophomore at Oakland said. I heard about it last year but I wasn't willing to camp out for tickets. I got a little more adventurous this year and decided to go."

Although the event is a tradition, the theme changes every year. The Thursday after the ball the committee will meet to decide next years' theme.

"It's nice to be in a mansion all dressed up. I like to pretend I live here, I feel like a princess," Dezarea Wade, senior at Oakland said.

This event was sponsored by the Student Activities Funding Board, WXOU, Alpha Lambda Delta, Circle K at OU, Habitat for Humanity, French Club and Ballroom Dance Club.

Contact staff reporter Kailee Mathias via email at kmmathia@oakland.edu





Bader gets the last laugh

Travis Bader breaks NCAA Division I record for career 3-pointers

Jake Alsko
Sports Editor

Many record-setting plays seem to develop in distinct, deliberate fashion, but it was only fitting that Oakland University's Travis Bader broke the all-time NCAA record for 3-pointers in such routine fashion against UW-Milwaukee on Sunday afternoon.

Bader puts up so many shots outside of practice that it'd be an aberration if his historic shot went up with any consciousness at all.

"I practice those shots all the time," Bader said. "It's just constant repetition and confidence that I'm going to make every shot."

Bader broke free courtesy of a quick screen from teammate Joey Asbury, then caught and spotted up immediately, nonchalantly fading from the corner before launching the ball, and himself, into history.

The shot pushed Bader past former Duke star and current Los Angeles Clipper J.J. Redick's 457 3-point field goals.

"Just being mentioned with the name J.J. Redick is unbelievable for me, especially where I've come from," Bader said. "It kind of just shows the hard work that I put in and it really shows to Oakland University, Coach Kampe, the rest of the coaches and the players that I've played with."

The future

OU head coach Greg Kampe said that Redick was well aware that his record was in danger, and that Redick made a video

congratulating Bader that will play during Oakland's next home game on Thursday, Feb. 6 when they play Cleveland State at 7 p.m.

Bader finished the game with six 3-pointers, pushing his career total to 461 with at least eight more games remaining in his final season in OU black and gold.

The 6-foot-5 sharpshooter has made it clear he's interested playing professionally upon graduation, whether it in the NBA or overseas.

"He can make shots, and that's going to get the interest of professional leagues, whether that's in this country or somewhere else," ESPN's Andy Katz said. "Scorers always will make money somewhere on the globe."

Kampe's guidance

"You've got a guy sitting in the room that's the greatest of all-time at something," Kampe said. "And we're not talking about flipping a tiddlywink or something like that. This game's been played for a long, long time and he's the best ever."

It feels a bit ironic and poetic that a player whom no one in Division I basketball but Oakland University pursued ended up becoming the greatest shooter in NCAA history. No one else gave him a chance coming out of high school, but the only shot Bader needed was his own.

Well, his, and Kampe's.

"I can't even put it into words, he's the reason I'm here," Bader said in an interview with The Post earlier this year. "For me, he's been everything."

"He's never satisfied, and that's good because he's always pushing me to do more. He's always there for me off the court if I ever need him, and I have the utmost respect for that man."

The legacy

Kampe also credited the many others who played less noticeable, but important roles in Bader's accomplishment.

"I'm not a big guy on individual accolades, but you can't do this without people setting screens for you, without people passing you the ball, without coaches working with you, without a janitor opening the door for you," he said. "There are hundreds of people that had a play in him doing this."

"And that's what's so cool about it. All of these people that did, for the rest of their lives will be able to talk about this."

But at the end of the day, no one else can practice Bader's jump shot for him.

"It's difficult," Bader said. "It's not easy trying to get into the gym as much as I want to and get up at as many shots as want to."

"I don't think you hear of very many players getting up 500 shots and stuff like that."

Bader admitted in the post-game press conference that the player in him wanted to win more than anything, and he shouldn't feel any other way.

Some win more than others, but the players who arrive early and leave late usually find themselves in the rafters, one way or another.



Matt Saulino / The Oakland Post

Travis Bader sits at 461 3-pointers with at least eight games left in the season.

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Grizzlies skate to their dreams

Oakland political science majors represent Team Canada in the 2014 Olympic Games in Russia

Kailee Mathias
Staff Reporter

Alexandra Paul and Mitchell Islam, political science majors at Oakland University will represent Team Canada in the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia.

The pair found out they would represent Team Canada in early January after skating at the National Championship held in Ottawa, Canada.

"We put down two really strong, personal-best performances for us," Islam said. "We knew right away after our scores came up that we had beaten the teams we needed to beat and we knew we had earned the spot for the 2014 Olympics."

Background

The duo grew up in Barrie, Ontario

and were skating together and even in the same group of friends before their partnership began.

"We pretty much grew up together," Paul said.

"The chemistry was there right from the beginning so it was an easy transition when we became partners," Islam said.

They began skating together in 2009 and had early success in winning a silver medal the 2010 World Junior Championships.

Battle wounds

However, their road to success was not always easy. Injuries became a possible road block for the duo along the way.

Alexandra tore several ligaments in her knee and pulled a muscle, which can be a game changer for skaters with

Olympic aspirations.

Because of injuries the pair began to take things easier on their bodies.

"We developed some bad habits from being injured and started taking it a little easier, and we carried that habit into our next season, which didn't work well for us," Islam said.

At the beginning of this season the duo sat down and re-evaluated their goals.

Golden Grizzlies

They are now training six days a week and skating over three hours a day as well as working out in the gym.

They also take contemporary, ballet or stretch classes throughout the season. However, they still make time to be part-time students at Oakland University.

"Everyone over at the school has

been awesome, they're so proud of us, and we're proud to represent Oakland University," Islam said.

Olympics

As the duo prepare for their dreams of attending the Olympics to become a reality they keep their nerves at bay by treating every competition as another practice.

"It's the training that you do all season that really prepares you for a competition," Islam said.

The road to the Olympics has been a "journey," as Islam describes it. Through success, failures and injuries the two have grown together as a duo and prepare to represent Team Canada.

"It's one of those things that every little girl dreams of; to put on that sparkly dress and represent Canada at the Olympics is such a surreal feeling."



Courtesy of OUGrizzlies.com

"These last two years without her here I've become more my own person," Vela said on how she's grown since her sister Alyssa left OU.

David Cesefsky
Staff Reporter

Oakland University senior Julia Vela is in the home stretch of her tremendous swimming career as a Golden Grizzly. With just the Horizon League Championship left, a win would be the most appropriate way to cap off Vela's successful time at OU.

Vela in her final season is also on the brink of graduation as well and will soon graduate

with a degree in international relations and Spanish. Hailing from nearby Clarkston, Vela's familiarity for OU can also be attributed to her older sister and OU alum Alyssa Vela who also had a decorated career of her own.

It's your senior year, can you talk a little bit about what this season has been like for you?

I feel the team itself is a lot closer than the last three years,

Standout senior swimmer Julia Vela reflects on her career at Oakland

were more a family as a whole rather than off in our own groups, it made it a lot more fun especially with a few challenging meets we had with bowling green, and Illinois, and we overcame both teams. Especially Illinois where even our Coach didn't think we would win and we did.

As your career here at Oakland winds down, what are your thoughts?

I'm definitely ready to move on, to try new experiences, at the same time I'm very sad its coming to an end because I've been swimming for 15 years of my life.

When you get into the water for the last time as an Oakland Golden Grizzly, will that be something on your mind to fuel you or will it not be something you give much thought too?

I think it will definitely be on my mind, my last race is the 200 fly, it's one of my best

races but also one of the most challenging, it's a very mental race, you have to think about pacing, so I think knowing that it's my last chance, my last race ever, I think it's really going to help get me through it and keep my endurance up.

What's the most memorable moment in your career to date?

Definitely overall winning the summit league the last three years has been great and really motivating. Also a few dual meets standout, my freshman year when we swam Michigan State, it was probably one of the best dual meets I've ever experienced, it was home and homecoming weekend, the stands were full and there was so much support, just so much momentum created from that with everything that lead into that meet.

How do you feel you have grown here during your time

at Oakland?

I've definitely become more independent, and also learned how to be a leader within the team as well. Coming in I was very nervous about everything and I followed my sister around, but especially these last two years without her here I've become more my own person.

So in closing is there anything you'd like to add regarding your time here at OU?

It's been a very memorable experience, I've made the closest friends ever, despite all the challenges there's a great support system that help you through everything and that's really helped me get through these four years and to graduate.

Oakland will now prepare for the 2014 Horizon League Championship Feb. 26-March 1, hosted by Cleveland State.



Photo courtesy of OUGrizzlies.com

Oakland schedules games against some of the best club teams, such as Penn State University, Grand Valley State University and Ohio University.

The bird is the word: OU eyes playoffs

D1 hockey club looks to ride momentum of winning 'Good Luck Duck' trophy into the playoff season

Jackson Gilbert
Staff Reporter

Championship season is fast approaching for Oakland University's Division I club hockey team.

So far, the 2013-14 season has been one of ups and downs for the Golden Grizzlies. The club (19-13 overall) has been strong in the second half of the season.

Gordie Schaeffler, in his first season as head coach, said the Grizzlies are a "young team, there were some growing pains, but the second half has really come together."

Oakland's season has featured trips out to North Dakota to battle Minot State — OU won both games — and the Grizzlies played a home and home series with Kent State. Liberty University visited for two games at the Onyx Arena in Rochester Hills.

Good luck duck

Last Friday night, at the Onyx, Oakland clinched the legendary

"Good Luck Duck" after its third victory of the season over longtime rival Davenport University.

The rivalry stems back years when the 70-pound cement duck was property of the Oakland hockey team, but some Davenport players, rumored to be transfers from OU, stole the duck.

And thus the legend of the Good Luck Duck was born.

A rivalry renewed

Coach Schaeffler said the rivalry shared between Oakland and Davenport rivals that of Michigan State and Michigan.

Every year the winner of the season series earns the rights to the duck, which is said to bring good luck to the team that possesses it.

The luck is real, apparently. For several years, the duck was a part of every national championship game since the rivalry beginning.

Oakland followed up Friday night's victory over Davenport

"We definitely have a good shot to make a run, we have what it takes to succeed like two years ago,"

Frank Matyok
Senior Captain

with a shootout victory on Saturday on Davenport's home ice, 4-3, in Grand Rapids.

A winning philosophy

With the playoffs quickly approaching, the Good Luck Duck has been a good confidence booster for the Grizzlies, who definitely believe they are a contender.

"We definitely have a good shot to make a run, we have what it takes to succeed like two years ago," senior captain Frank Matyok said.

Matyok was referring to a 2012 season that had Oakland making it all the way to the ACHA National Championship, only to fall to Delaware.

Things are different now.

Coach Jeremy Bachusz is gone, replaced by his longtime assistant Schaeffler. Matyok said the transition was quite smooth.

"They have their own philosophies but we still have a great locker room, we always say 'we over me,'" he said.

The Grizzlies have held their winning philosophy for a long time. Oakland won Division II national titles in 2004 and 2006, bookended around a championship loss in 2005.

The team made the transition to Division I in 2007 and also won the national championship that year. Since then, Oakland has regularly scheduled games against some of the best clubs in college club hockey, including Penn State and local powerhouses such as Grand Valley State University and Ohio University.

Some fans think OU should make hockey a varsity sport, something Schaeffler isn't opposed to, if granted one amenity.

"Build us an ice rink," he said.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Swimming and Diving

Oakland University men's and women's swimming and diving team competed against IUPUI on Saturday, Feb. 1. The men, led by Tuomas Kiviluoma, captured the victory 192-106. Kiviluoma had two individual victories along with Jorden Merrilees. The women's team suffered a narrow defeat, 153-144, with Patricia Aschan, Julie Vela and Tricia Grant all racing to two individual victories. Oakland now awaits the beginning of the Horizon League Championship, beginning Feb. 26 at Cleveland State.

Women's Softball

Erika Polidori earned special recognition from College Sports Madness, being named as a Preseason All-Conference First Team. OU also had two athletes named to the second team, Jackie Kisman and Erin Kownacki. The season kicks off on Feb. 7 against Georgia Southern.

Track and Field

OU men's and women's track and field team traveled to Geneva, Ohio over the weekend to compete in the Spire Midwest Open at the Spire Institute. The meet featured several record-breaking performances for OU athletes, as Jeff Aririguzo set a 200-meter dash school record time of 21.93. The men's 4x400 meter relay team also set a new school record of 3:21.40. Oakland will next travel to Youngstown State for the YSU Invitational on Feb. 7.

— Compiled by Jackson
Gilbert
Sports Reporter

Leaving in the red

Students cope with debt in variety of ways

Ali DeRees
Staff Reporter

Tuition rates rise. Degree requirements keep piling on. This leads to students taking out more loans and therefore more debt. More than half of college students in the state of Michigan leave school with some amount of debt.

Oakland University students have many different approaches when it comes to financing their academic careers.

Senior and Spanish Language and Literature major Ashli Pearson will be graduating in April with student loan debt.

Pearson said it will take her seven to ten years to pay off her student loans.

She is confident that she will able to pay off the debt, but says she finds it "stressful and somewhat limiting as far as where I can live and what I can do in the next few years."

Pearson currently works a part time job and would recommend it to other students.

"I think working part time can help with time management," Pearson said. "It's nice to have cash in your pocket for unexpected expenses and also to continue saving money even if it isn't much."

Pearson does not recommend working full time as a student if you are financially able to work less.

"It will undoubtedly affect your academic performance," she said.

The key to managing your debt is having a plan and staying informed Pearson said.

"I think the best thing a student can do is be realistic and informed about their present financial situation," Pearson said.

She believes being informed on your financial situation will reduce future stress for students, mainly because "there is already enough everyday stress involved in

attaining a degree," Pearson said.

No financial plan is the same for every student, many students work full or close to full time to avoid student loan debt.

Senior and Journalism major David Addy will be graduating this year with no debt.

He is the Chief Operating Officer of an online distribution store through eBay called Wholesale Daddies 2013.

"We sell all sort of different items," Addy said.

Addy also works as an intern at the Oakland Press.

Previously, Addy worked in sales at Emergency Restoration in Troy, Mich. Addy worked 40 hours a week there and currently works 20 hours a week.

"I love working, I just love it," Addy said.

Addy says he transferred to Oakland University from Central Michigan University in order to work while going to school.

"I didn't feel like I was productive enough," Addy said.

Though he has a busy work schedule, Addy knows school comes first. He has a set academic plan that works well with his work schedule.

He takes two to three classes in the winter and fall semesters and then takes classes throughout the summer. Those summer classes are very helpful, according to Addy.

"People need to utilize summer classes," Addy said.

All together it will have taken him four and a half years to get his degree.

Addy lives at home to save money. His financial advice for students is simple, "don't live beyond your means" Addy said.

Contact staff reporter Ali DeRees at apder-ees@oakland.edu

GOT SOMETHING TO MOUTH OFF ABOUT?

The Oakland Post is looking for satirical scribes, witty writers and comical columnists. Submit your best efforts to editor@oaklandpostonline.com and you could get published for the world to see.

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Applicants should be full time Oakland students who possess superior oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of news media and have a solid command of digital technologies including social media marketing. Prior experience in a newsroom is a plus. Applicants need not be journalism majors.

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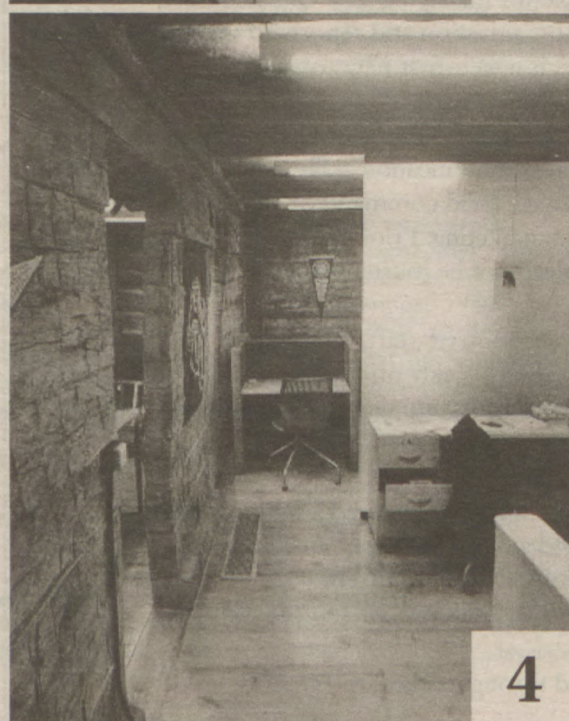
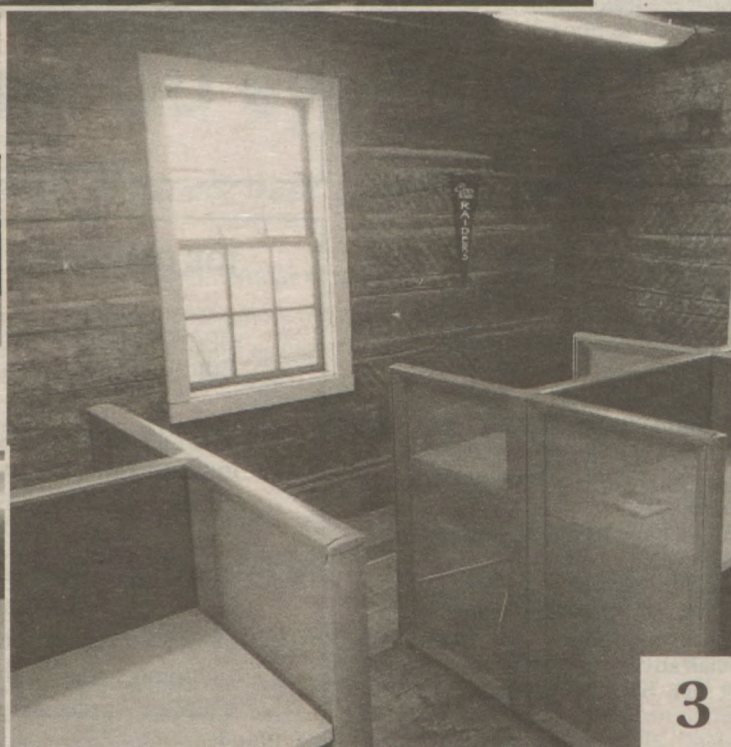
Compensation includes weekly salary and a tuition stipend. Applicants should send a digital portfolio including a cover letter, resume, two writing samples and a current copy of your academic transcript to Holly Shreve Gilbert – shreve@oakland.edu

Applications accepted through February 14, 2014.



"The DEN is designed with students in mind."

Thomas Tanghe
Assistant City Manager
of Auburn Hills



A NEW DEN FOR GRIZZLIES

Downtown Education Nook offers studying area

Andrew Wernette
Staff Intern

A new hangout that caters to students has popped up in downtown Auburn Hills.

The Downtown Education Nook, otherwise known as the DEN, sits at the intersection of North Squirrel Road and Auburn Road in the downtown area. It officially opened its doors on Jan. 18.

"My hopes are to see it full," said Gail Cartwright, one of the staff that supervises the DEN. It is open from 4 p.m. to midnight weekly and from 2 p.m. to midnight on weekends.

1. The interior has been furnished in a modern style, with warm colors and new furniture. There is also free Wi-Fi.

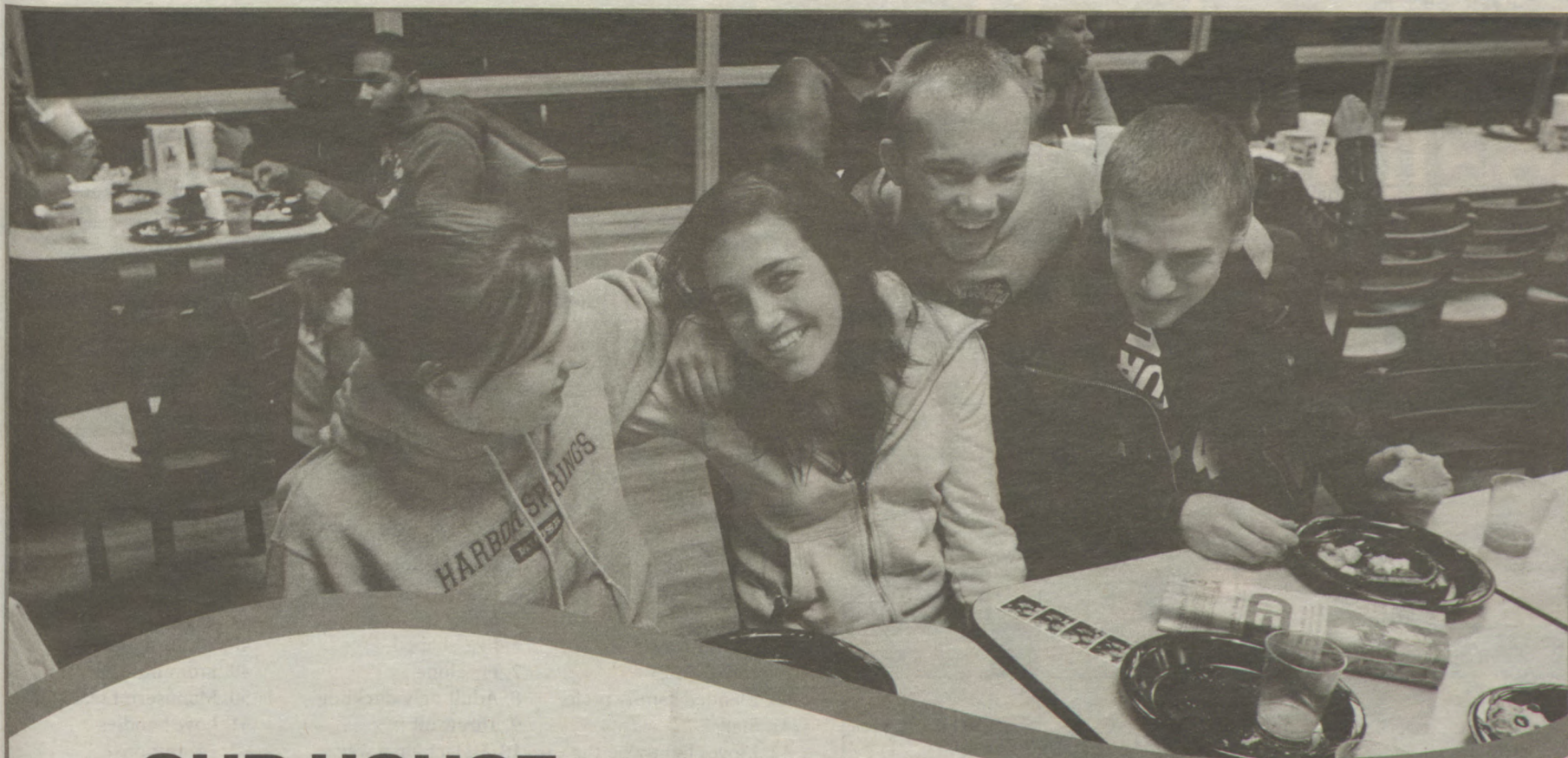
2. Established in 1836, the remodeled log cabin has been fitted with add-ons, making it unique among the surrounding buildings.

3. Separate nooks and rooms are designed for those who would rather study independently, in a group, or would just like to relax.

4. The DEN was purposely designed to have an unobstructed atmosphere, with wide rooms and open doorways.

5. The DEN has a kitchen area with a sink and a small refrigerator for people to use.

Andrew Wernette / The Oakland Post



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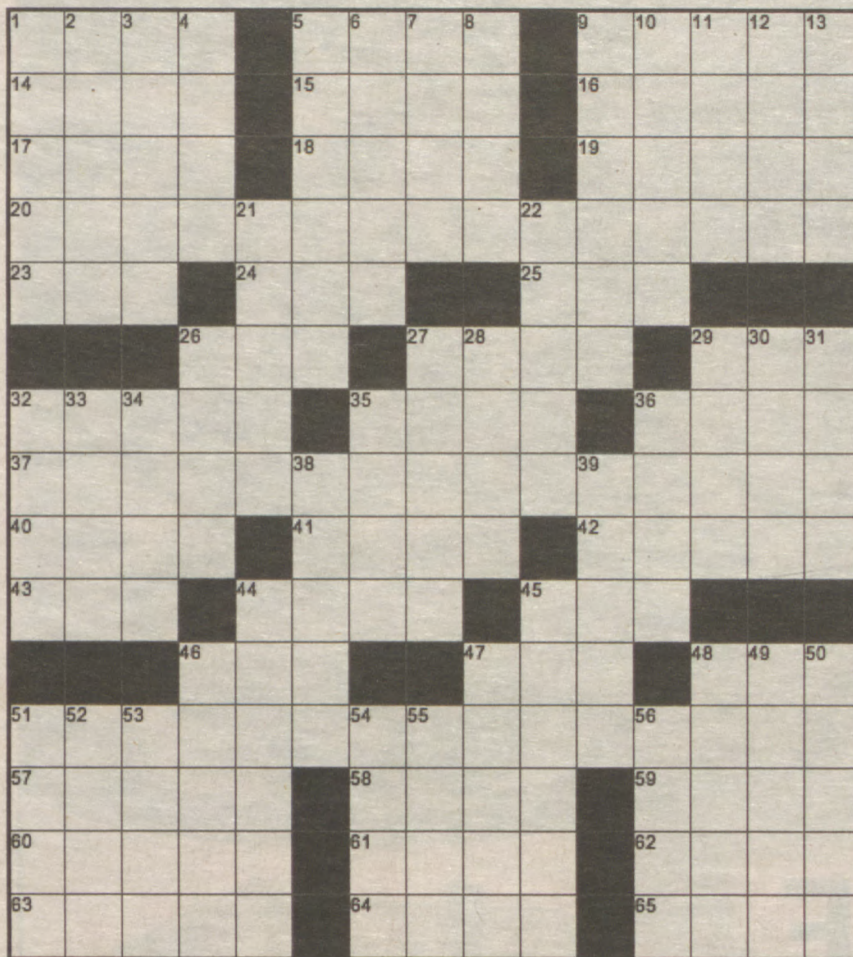
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Puzzles



Across

1. Smelting residue
5. Write-off
9. Botches
14. Stead
15. Declare openly
16. Become accustomed
17. Bit to split
18. Root beer alternative
19. Jack of nursery rhyme
20. Source of bad taste
23. 9 - 5, e.g.
24. Eye liner?
25. Remote room?
26. Attack word
27. Didn't come home standing up
29. Dot follower
32. Cunning
35. Loafer, for instance
36. Turn on an axis
37. State after being cold-cocked (and a clue to this puzzle's theme)
40. Blended-family prefix
41. Stag
42. Moves lightly on the wind
43. Bricklayer's item
44. Unresisting
45. Word before sheet or session

Down

46. Crew implement
47. Zip
48. Starts of sneezes
51. Silly goose
57. Bad press?
58. Sworn statement
59. Bowling alley
60. Spice rack selection
61. Utter loudly
62. Dept. store shopper's privilege
63. Attack from every angle
64. Silly pair?
65. Rushes

Sigourney Weaver

22. 'Farewell, François!'
26. Sow's sustenance
27. English county
28. Rioter's illegal take
29. Pitch indicator
30. Vote off the island
31. GI's diner
32. Stream
33. Golden Rule preposition
34. Chilled, in a way
35. Con job
36. Go postal
38. Wall Street commodity
39. Wise guy?
44. Writing pad
45. They may be civil
46. Heavyset beyond means
47. Absolutely necessary
48. Crude counters
49. From now on
50. Manuscript markings
51. Love handles
52. Pat response
53. Sacred bird of Egypt
54. Pajamas cover
55. Companion of dark and handsome
56. Borrrrring

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Student explores the specs

It's a blustery winter afternoon when Ziyad Al Obaidi walks into the Oakland Center. Shaking his coat free of snow, he taps the slender, metallic side of his lens-less glasses. "Okay, Glass," he says.

Al Obaidi is a pioneer of sorts in this new, wearable technology. As a member of the Google Glass Explorers team, he wears the device throughout his day, learning to use the system and offering feedback to the company on the glitches he finds while suggesting new applications that he would find useful.

"It's a selective program," the junior said. "I applied to be an Explorer at the Detroit convention in November, and after they approved my application, they only gave me a week to accept the offer. I'm very lucky to be given this opportunity."

At \$1,500, Al Obaidi, a computer engineering and electrical engineering double major, agreed that while currently the device is still not at an affordable price for everyone, the novelty of the Glass was worth it to him.

"I love technology and I think that the Google Glass is ahead of the curve in so many ways," he said. "As a software engineer, I feel that I can help to improve Glass before it becomes available to everyone in the public."

The Google Glass, boasting a "feather-light titanium frame," according to its website, looks, in layman's terms, like a pair of sport sunglasses missing their lenses. With a wiry frame and a slightly thicker piece (the housing body for the Glass computer) over the right temple, the screen of the device manifests itself in a small, opaque prism on the glasses' right side.

Al Obaidi said that the screen was small enough not to impede with his day. "I sometimes take it off when I am at home, but I wear it almost all the time otherwise. I wear it when I'm driving and at work and when I'm in class. On one of my final exams last semester, my professor had to add 'no Google Glass' to the list of policies," he said, smiling.

"Essentially, [Glass] functions much like a hands-free smart phone," Al Obaidi said. "Right now

you can do all the standard stuff like making calls and taking pictures and checking your email, but with special apps, the possibilities begin to grow."

Al Obaidi demonstrated the power of one app in particular that Glass could have to someone in a foreign country with its translation feature. After giving the device a quick verbal cue—"Okay, Glass, translate this"—he focused its camera on the English text of a newspaper before him, the English words rapidly morphing into Spanish ones before his technology-covered eyes.

"Glass is just starting, but it already has huge potential," the Sterling Heights resident said. "For instance, as of now, Glass has been implemented within the health industry where doctors and physicians can use it as a telehealth communication device with the help of Pristine, a new start-up focused on building Glassware for Glass."

As a Google Glass Explorer, part of Al Obaidi's job is to share the prototype with his community. Inspired by the digital childhoods of Apple founder Steve Jobs and Google founder Larry Page, Al Obaidi wants to bring Google Glass into elementary schools to give kids a look at the device.

"If you look at Steve Jobs and Larry Page, they both grew up around computers, which was very unique in the eighties. I think exposing children to the possibilities of advanced technology opens their minds and sparks creativity," he said.

Currently, Al Obaidi is scheduled to host a Glass exploration event in the Honors College on Wednesday, February 19 from 1-2:30 p.m. He is also scheduled to hold an event with CyberOU on March 20. For more information on these events, you can visit Al Obaidi's personal webpage at ziyalobaidi.com.

Al Obaidi says that he is hopeful about the future prospects of Google Glass.

"In my opinion, just like when Apple introduced the iPhone to usher the mobile era, Glass from Google is here to usher the new era of wearables."

The Looking Glass

By: Oona Goodin-Smith

Staff Reporter



Photo Credit: Salwan Georges/Oakland Post

