

# THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

Volume 45 | Issue 7 | Oct. 16, 2019

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PHOTO BY NICOLE MORSFIELD



# THIS WEEK

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



**SMASH FOR CASH** Participants smash cars to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital during the annual Tau Kappa Epsilon Car Smash during homecoming weekend on Saturday, Oct. 12. PHOTO / RYAN PINI

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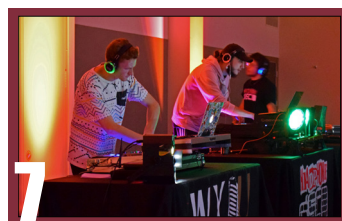
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Campus community comes together to read "Moby Dick" for 16+ hours  
Photo/Sam Summers



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Student Program Board and WXOU collaborate to host first Silent Disco  
Photo/Maggie Willard



#### 15 SOCCER SUCCESS

Men's soccer continues winning streak over homecoming weekend  
Photo/Sam Summers

## POLL OF THE WEEK

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HALLOWEEN MOVIE?

- A) "HOCUS POCUS"
- B) "HALLOWEENTOWN"
- C) "THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS"
- D) "THE ADDAMS FAMILY"

## LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE TIKTOK SONG?

14%

A) "BURNING AND ITCHING (STANKY FISHY)"

11%

B) "UH OH ... STINKY (REMIX)"

17%

C) "JESUS IS THE ONE (I GOT DEPRESSION)"

58%

D) WHAT'S TIKTOK?

**CORRECTIONS CORNER:** On Oct. 9, we published an article featuring Mekye Phelps, which incorrectly spells his name. The Oakland Post apologizes for the error. The Oakland Post corrects all known errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

## LOOKING BACK

# Anniversary of Matilda Dodge Wilson's birthday

**BRIDGET JANIS**

*Staff Reporter*

What would be Matilda Dodge Wilson's 139th birthday is Oct. 18. As the co-founder of Oakland University, Wilson became an important asset in the development and future of the university. With the main focus of education, in 1959 Michigan State University-Oakland — changed to OU in 1963 — was built in hopes of allowing students to further themselves academically.

"She was generous of her time and herself, never interfering with the workings of the institution or the way it was developed," said George Matthews, vice provost of OU in the 1970s.

After her first husband John F. Dodge's death, Wilson inherited an estate valued at \$10,000,000, which allowed for OU to become a reality. Wilson is also the namesake of Wilson Hall, and her first husband is the namesake of Dodge Hall.

Many people described Wilson as a "feminist" and "strong-willed," so to many it only made sense when she got involved with politics. She made an impact, not only on OU, but on all of Michigan. In 1940, she served as lieutenant governor of Michigan, and from 1932-1938 she served as a member on the state Board of Agriculture.

"During my freshman year at OU, I met Matilda at a Meadow Brook event," OU alumna Mary Schwark said in a 2018 Post story. "She was kind, hospitable, generous and grandmotherly in appearance. While diminutive in stature, we understood that she was anything but diminutive in accomplishments."

The university was practically built in her backyard, and the Meadow Brook Amphitheatre was built in her front yard. While Wilson and her husband usually stayed at the Meadow Brook Mansion, in 1955, they stayed at the Sunset Terrace while the Meadow Brook Pavilion was being built.

"The site was the perfect spot for the concert, and the fact that it was in her front yard didn't matter to Mrs. Wilson," Matthews said. "Eventually, the Wilsons moved back to the Hall, not because Meadow Brook Pavilion, but because the modern architecture of the Sunset Terrace wasn't exactly what they wanted."

Wilson left Meadow Brook Mansion to the university, which is now a big part of OU's cultural contribution to the community. While the married couple had two children, Danny passed away on his honeymoon and Anna died at a young age due to sickness. The spirits of these two and Wilson's first husband are known to still be haunting Meadow Brook Mansion to this day.



OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES  
The Oakland Observer celebrated Matilda Dodge Wilson in a 1962 issue.

Through her time at OU, Wilson donated 1,400 acres of land and \$2 million to build Michigan State University-Oakland. The university used that donation toward the construction and development of both North and South Foundation halls, where many students take classes now.

Her contributions to society went further than just around OU's campus, as she was involved with the Salvation Army, Boys & Girls Club of America and plenty more charitable organizations. Wilson also donated to the Detroit Public Library and Museum of Art fairly often.

"Matilda Wilson had that remarkable quality of never imposing herself on anyone, which is why she was loved," Matthews said. "I don't know a soul that doesn't have fond memories of Matilda Wilson."

In September 1957, Wilson passed away due to a massive heart attack while buying horses in Belgium. Continuing to represent Wilson, there are two awards presented in her name: one to a female undergraduate senior-level student and another to a male senior to recognize their contributions as scholars. A statue of her unveiled last October also stands by the Oakland Center.

THE OAKLAND POST IS LOOKING FOR A

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# BOT addresses enrollment, SFH renovations

TREVOR TYLE & KATIE VALLEY

Editor-in-Chief & Content Editor

The Oakland University Board of Trustees (BOT) met Monday, Oct. 14 to discuss changes in enrollment, campus safety updates and details surrounding the forthcoming renovation to South Foundation Hall.

## President's report

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz said this academic year, OU saw its second largest number of incoming freshmen (2,667) with its most diverse and academically talented class. With 19,013 total students, OU defies the nationwide trend of fewer students choosing to attend college — OU's enrollment number being off by just 1.5% from last year.

"Here at Oakland, we are delighted that we are holding our own, and we are bucking the trend," Pescovitz said. "Having said that, I do have to say that I'm concerned about the fact that students are not going to college in huge numbers, so that is something I hope that all of us will continue to address."

Of this year's enrollment, 15,543 are undergraduate students (82%) and 3,470 are graduate students (18%).

There was also a 10.1% increase in transfer students this year, with 1,581 students transferring to OU this fall — the second largest transfer class in the state. Pescovitz attributes this to the more than 20 new transfer articulation agreements signed with Michigan community colleges.

Pescovitz expanded OU's foundation to include values.

"I think it's time for us to not just live our values, but for us to articulate them as well," she said. "And, I think that we need to communicate those through a shared values statement."

## Campus safety

OU Police Department (OUPD) Chief Mark Gordon stated



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY  
SFH renovations are expected to be completed by fall 2021.

the campus' efforts to remain one of the safest universities in the country. With 23 sworn officers, five 911 dispatchers, three support services and an Office of Emergency Management, OUPD works to keep the community safe.

Gordon stressed the importance of community partnerships, where community members are meant to feel comfortable with their campus police department. OUPD offers nontraditional support to foster those relationships, such as the Safe-Walk Program, vehicle jump starts and lockouts, along with public education presentations.

This year's campus safety initiatives include the Grizzlies CARE Team, a source for community members can report threats or concerning behavior on campus.

The future vision for OUPD is to expand the department as

the demands for police services grows, adding a K-9 unit to support larger-scale events, increasing emergency preparedness and overall adapting police services as campus needs change.

## South Foundation Hall renovations

Chief Operating Officer Scott Kunselman and representatives from Stantec, the architecture and engineering company handling the \$40 million South Foundation Hall renovation, provided the BOT with updates to the project during the meeting.

According to Stantec Principal Mike Baker, they are looking to have the new design for the building complete by December, while construction documents are expected to be finalized in March 2020. The team hopes to begin construction in May or June 2020, with an anticipated completion by the beginning of the fall 2021 semester.

Among the changes being implemented are new bathrooms, a new collaborative area to replace the current "fishbowl" space and larger rooms. Currently, there are 37 classrooms in South Foundation, but the new expansion will increase that number to a total of 50, with many of the original rooms increasing in size.

During the period in which South Foundation is renovated, the building will not be occupied. University officials are working with faculty and staff to relocate classes to alternative spaces on campus.

South Foundation is one of the first academic buildings on campus, and as such, Stantec officials expressed hopes of preserving pieces of the building to "celebrate OU's story," according to architect and planner Sami Szeszulski. The exterior of the building will be composed of both brick and metal elements to symbolize the joining of the university's past and future.

A complete outline of the schematics for the renovation are available on OU's website.

The next BOT meeting will be Monday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. in Banquet Room A.

## Police Files

### Hamlin Hall Fire Scare

A fire alarm alert from the 6th floor of South Hamlin Hall arrived at Oakland University Police Department early in the morning Aug. 22. The on-duty resident advisers called stating there was smoke in the area of a particular room. Three officers responded to the call.

As the officers arrived on scene, the fire alarm was still active and the residents were leaving the building. They made it to the 6th floor where they were able to smell burning in the air. When the door to the dorms was opened, the hallway was smokey. One of the officers got the housing keys from the on-duty housing staff. The other two officers went to attempt to locate where the smoke was coming from.

At that point, Auburn Hills Fire Department arrived on the scene. The two officers entered the room that was thought to be the source of the smoke, to find that there was nothing in the room burning. The officer that had acquired the keys went to check the 5th floor while AHFD checked the 7th floor.

The two officers still on the 6th floor continued checking all the rooms until they opened an unoccupied room filled with smoke. AHFD was on the scene and entered the room, putting out the fire. The source of the fire was a battery that had overheated and caught fire. Once the fire was extinguished, housing staff told OUPD that there was a resident in need of medical attention. They thought they might have inhaled smoke, and Auburn Hills Paramedics arrived on scene and began their assessment. The resident refused medical transport.

Residents were allowed back in after the smoke was aired out. The 6th floor residents were relocated for the night. The scene was then cleared.

Compiled by Ben Hume,  
Web Editor

# KEEP UP WITH THE POST



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## CAMPUS



SAM SUMMERS | PHOTOGRAPHER

Readers told the story of "Moby Dick" over the course of more than 16 hours beginning Friday, Oct. 11.

## 14th annual English Department Read-In event highlights 'Moby Dick'

**LAUREN KARMO**  
*Campus Editor*

The sound of an enthusiastic reader regaling the story of the Pequod could be heard from the Oakland Center's Market Lounge on Friday, Oct. 11. Readers swiftly exchanged every 10 minutes in a marathon attempt to read "Moby Dick."

The 14th Annual English Department Read-In began on Friday, Oct. 11 at 11 a.m., and lasted for over 16 hours until Saturday, Oct. 12 at 3 a.m. Students signed up to read aloud a passage of "Moby Dick" for 10 minutes at a time for anyone who stopped to listen.

The event was planned to go until noon on Oct. 12, but was cut short due to a lack of readers in the early morning hours.

Dr. Rob Anderson, English professor at Oakland University, has been organizing the annual read-in since it began.

"The idea was that reading has become a real private experience," Anderson said. "We read in our rooms by ourselves, when there's something really social about reading. Traditionally, when literacy was not wide-spread, you'd have groups of people that would read books together and the ones that could would read out loud, and the

other ones would listen. That's part of what I wanted to recapture — is that experience of reading in a public atmosphere."

The decision to do "Moby Dick" is what makes this year's read-in so unusual. According to Anderson, the English department likes to keep a variety when it comes to the books being read. "Moby Dick" was chosen this year in part to honor what would be author Herman Melville's 200th birthday.

Spanning 135 chapters and around 585 pages, "Moby Dick" is the longest book attempted at the read-in.

"When I first organized [the read-in] 14 years ago, the goal was to do something like 'Moby Dick' because it's so long and it's such a wonderful, strange and difficult book," Anderson said.

Readers often shy away from this book because of its length and difficulty level. The goal of the read-in was to make it more accessible for people to enjoy without the hassles that come with reading alone.

"I'm really excited that it's 'Moby Dick' because I think a lot of people feel very strongly against 'Moby Dick,'" said Caitlyn Ulery, president of OU's chapter of the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society. "They're really not fans of the

book at all, so I think this will be a really awesome opportunity for people to just connect a little more with the book than they might be capable of when reading it by themselves."

Another goal of the read-in, according to Anderson, was to bring people together in a broader sense of community.

Senior Mickey McGlennen read aloud for 10 minutes around 2 p.m. on Friday.

"I'm a theater minor, so I really love performing and reading out loud, so this sounded like a great chance," McGlennen said. "I love 'Moby Dick' a lot, I love the way it's written, I love the language, and it's nice to have that sense of community where you share it with a bunch of people. I wanted to know what that felt like, to share a piece of literature."

At the end of every read-in, Anderson likes to bring the group together to share in the last minutes of the event and read together.

"I didn't know this going in, when there's a group of people who are there for the whole time or most of the time, when we come to the end, the last couple minutes or so, I try to have everyone who's there to read together at the same time," Anderson said. "There's this wonderful feeling, like 'I did something different, something sometimes difficult, and I did it in this group.'"

## Take a trip and volunteer for Alternative Spring Break

**KATELYN HILL**  
*Staff Reporter*

Those looking for a new volunteer experience, look no further.

Alternative Spring Break (ASB), also called Alternative Breaks, is a nonprofit student initiative organization that sends students all over the country to volunteer for different organizations.

These volunteer opportunities occur during the spring and winter breaks at Oakland University, with some even taking place on weekends. Zachary Johnson, the vice president of ASB, said the goal is to give students an experience they might have never had before, all while giving back to the communities they are visiting.

"It gives students the opportunity to get out of the classroom, get out of the school setting and make a difference in the community," he said.

ASB will be offering eight trips this year, which vary from environmental conservation and wildlife preservation, to assisting those with disabilities and hurricane relief.

Brittany Kleinschmidt, the president of ASB, said it's an eye-opening experience to see how other people live.

"It kind of humbles you a little bit because you realize your privilege and you also realize the way that you can help," she said.

Kleinschmidt said ASB is different because it offers volunteer opportunities outside of Michigan, allowing students to be more immersed in different cultures. Students are still traveling, while giving back in the time that could have been spent hanging out, making the

break more worthwhile.

The trips also give students the chance to make new friends with peers and make connections that might last a lifetime.

"I went into my trip not knowing anyone," Kleinschmidt said. "I knew my one friend I applied with and that was it. Ever since, I have met two of my best friends, all from alternative breaks."

Johnson still has connections with a family he met on his very first outing with the organization two years ago.

"One of their children had a life-threatening illness and I still connect with them on Facebook, I've supported them through fundraisers and we chat every once in a while," he said. "It's really nice to actually form these connections, and it makes it much more meaningful to me."

While ASB is a great way for students to volunteer, it also allows students to travel for relatively inexpensive prices. Typically, the prices for the trips fall at around \$500, which covers transportation, lodging and food.

Students who go on one of the trips will also get one free day set aside to do whatever they want in the area.

Applications are open now, but the deadline to apply is Oct. 23 at 11:59 p.m. Those interested can visit ASB's page on GrizzOrgs.

"We just really want to encourage students to apply and show how great of an experience it can be for them," Johnson said.

For any questions or concerns, students can visit the Office for Student Involvement.





PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Blue Cross Blue Shield helped fund Dr. Fouladbakhsh's research with yoga therapy.

## Blue Cross funds event for breast cancer patients

**BRIDGET JANIS**  
Staff Reporter

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation has partnered up with Oakland University to help fund Dr. Judith Fouladbakhsh's research study surrounding pain management in breast cancer patients.

Her study, "The Effects of Yoga Therapy and Qigong on Self-Management of Pain Among Estrogen Receptor Positive Breast Cancer Survivors" was presented at an event on Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. This community-wide event highlighted the funders, the research team and also allowed attendees to experience free yoga and qigong, tai chi classes.

The event, which took place at the University Recreation and Well-Being center, helped to inform students and community members about the research being done.

"Breast cancer survivors, we have many of them, especially the ones with estrogen receptor positive breast cancer, will go on treatments for five to 10 years after their surgeries with different medications, which can result in quite a bit of discomfort as far as joint pain, lack of sleep and mood changes, so we're looking at if yoga therapy and qigong can help them," Fouladbakhsh said.

Fouladbakhsh has been doing pain research studies for the last 14 years, and with her background in public health nursing, she has been working on complementary and integrative approaches involving wellness and health promotion. By seeing the effects of breast cancer firsthand in her life, it sparked her interest in figuring out how to help with people's pain.

"What prompted me to move on to the breast cancer patients is because people my age, women and friends have experienced breast cancer, my mother is a breast

cancer survivor," Fouladbakhsh said. "But I've also seen them encounter pain and joint swelling that happens during treatment and I would see how it affects their quality of life."

Yoga has been gaining more research throughout the last decade and has shown to help improve depression, mood and sleep, especially among cancer patients. By using teachers from the Beaumont School of Yoga Therapy, the positive effects are at a high, and the risk of using this method is low.

"The healing properties of yoga extend so much further than just like the breathing and the meditative," Jacqueline McIntosh, director of philanthropy, said. "That's what Judi's study is actually aiming to prove."

By receiving a \$70,000 grant, Fouladbakhsh can offer a series of 12 classes in yoga and qigong and also study a group that doesn't receive much help. She is able to hire teachers to teach yoga and qigong and allow more research assistants to help in the process.

By using a random control trial, the data she hopes to collect through the process revolves around pain scores, stress levels and moods of breast cancer survivors by analyzing saliva samples. She will also use sleep watches to measure their sleep quality.

"I'm very grateful to the foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan, for funding our study," Fouladbakhsh said. "I'm very grateful to Oakland University for supporting my work here at the university, so we can do the research for it. It helps on many levels; we can see what the outcomes are, and we can do a very solid, well developed study and then we can also include students here at Oakland University."

To contact Dr. Fouladbakhsh for more information on her research, call (248) 760-1158 or email [jmfoulad@oakland.edu](mailto:jmfoulad@oakland.edu).

## SMTD begins yearlong Beethoven concert series

*The series runs through April 2020*

**DEAN VAGLIA**  
Staff Reporter

Ludwig van Beethoven has composed some of the most iconic musical works in human history, inspiring and influencing musicians of all genres for over 200 years. In celebration of the German composer's 250th birthday, Oakland University's School of Music, Theatre and Dance (SMTD) is putting on a piano concert series in his honor.

"As a department, [the piano program] has been growing very rapidly, and so I have always wanted to do a project that includes the entire piano program, including all our students and faculty," Dr. Tian Tian, associate professor of music, said. "Knowing that Beethoven's 250th birthday is coming up and we love his repertoire so much, it seems like it is the perfect time to do something like that."

For previous concerts, the piano department has always focused on a theme that students can build a varied repertoire around, according to Tian. The specific focus on a single composer is a deviation from this norm.

Thirty-two concerts will take place on 10 dates between Oct. 13, 2019, and Dec. 20, 2020, and will span the entire repertoire of Beethoven. Most dates will showcase three sonatas performed by piano department students, though guest performers, such as Jerry Wong (Feb. 10, 2020), an alumni-performed concert (March 22) and different formats like a lecture/recital (April 18) are also part of the concert series.

Most concerts will take place at Varner Recital Hall, though the series will go around southeast Michigan to places like Grosse Pointe (Jan. 18) and the

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit (March 29).

The sonata selection for each event varies in focus. The Oct. 13 event had a piece from Beethoven's early, middle and late periods, while the Feb. 10 event will focus on the works that influenced and were influenced by Beethoven.

"We are ending with 111, which is his last piano sonata on our last concert," Tian said. "We felt like that was very fitting. It is the last thing he wanted to say through this genre that he had composed so many pieces for."

Even with the varied nature of each event's selection, concertgoers should expect a diverse sound despite each sonata coming from the same composer every time.

"[Beethoven] is one of those composers where it does not matter how many times you have played a work, there are always new findings," Tian said. "There are always different perspectives that you can see and hear and feel as you go through. I think that is why he is a timeless composer."

Elizabeth Heilig is one of the student performers for the Nov. 19 event and a fan of Beethoven. She will be performing "Quasi una fantasia" and "Moonlight Sonata."

"It feels awesome to be a part of this concert series," Heilig said. "'Moonlight Sonata' is one of his most popular pieces, so I feel honored that I get to play it."

Concerts are scheduled for the Varner Recital Hall for Nov. 10; Feb. 10, 2020; March 22, 2020; and April 18, 2020. A full list of dates and times can be found on the SMTD website. All concerts are sponsored by the Judd Family Endowed Fund and admission is free.



## CAMPUS

# Students party quietly at Silent Disco

**KATELYN HILL**

Staff Reporter

Oakland University has put a twist on the typical party scene.

The Student Program Board (SPB) hosted its first Silent Disco, where music was played through headphones instead of speakers, making the dance silent to outside viewers.

When students first arrived, they were given headphones, which lit up different colors depending on which of the three stations the wearer was listening to. There was a variety of free items also available to students, including glow sticks and Bluetooth headphones.

Christ Russell, SPB president, said there was a fantastic turnout, especially since it was the Silent Disco's first year.

"Throughout the night, with people coming and going, we had over 500 people come to the event," he said. "Based on those numbers, it's definitely something we are very proud to have put out there."

Russell said the Silent Disco has been in the works for a few years, but during

SPB's retreat this year, they decided to put it onto the schedule.

Included in the planning was WXOU — OU's student-run radio station — who helped out with the event, provided DJs and got more students involved. Russell said he was appreciative of the collaborations between SPB and WXOU, since it could have been far tougher than it was.

"It's one thing to plan something by yourself, but the more chefs you add to the kitchen, it gets a little bit tougher to cook," he said.

Sophomore Jadah Fletcher attended the silent disco and said it was a great event with a lot of creativity behind it.

"The energy of the people around was really fun," she said. "Watching other people have fun makes you want to have fun."

Fletcher, who previously attended a silent disco at Cedar Point, said she was curious as to what one would look like on a college campus. She saw advertisements around campus, which piqued her interest, and then "saw that they were giving away free stuff, which is always a deciding factor to go somewhere."



MAGGIE WILLARD | PHOTO INTERN

The Student Program Board and WXOU hosts its first silent disco on Tuesday, Oct. 8. The event included DJs and headphones for private enjoyment of music.

Fletcher came early and didn't stay for long, but would come to another silent disco in the future with a group of friends. She said if she could change one thing, she would have more variety in the music that was played, specifically more rock or alternative music.

Russell said it was a nice event to contribute to the overall arc of homecoming week.

"It was a really cool event to reach out to a different group of students," he said. "There's always something for everyone to do on campus."

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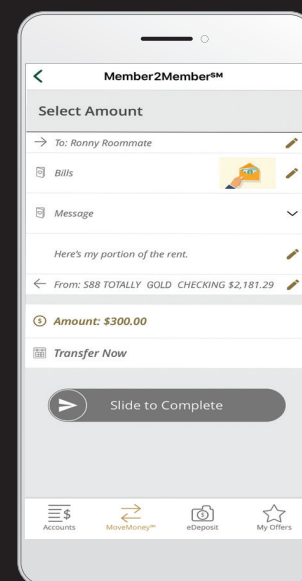
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“College is fucking hard — you have tuition, are you happy with your major, are your parents happy with your major ... probably not,” he said. “Things are just stressful and hard. Just remember to be nice to each other, and talk to the lonely people, ’cause we’re really not meant to be alone on this earth.”







Antoni Porowski and Olivia Braun finish the cooking segment, which featured a fennel salad recipe from Porowski's new cookbook.







NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTO EDITOR

Comedian Chris D'Elia brought his "Follow the Leader" tour to campus for homecoming week.

## Chris D'Elia performs at OU

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

Three stand-up comics came to Oakland University through Student Program Board (SPB) and other SAFAC organizations to celebrate homecoming weekend on campus.

Ron Taylor, Craig Conant and the headliner Chris D'Elia made students, employees and the general public laugh for 90 minutes in the Founders Ballrooms on Friday, Oct. 11.

Taylor was the opener, and his routine was focused around his appearance and his experiences dating women. Taylor is a Detroit native and a graduate of Wayne State University, who since moved out to California and struggled to make ends meet for a few years. He lived in his van for two years, and summarized his experience with saying, "It's bad when you get a parking ticket on your house."

"We wanted to have some diversity, so we told the agency we wanted someone who wasn't a white male to open," said Stephanie Jurva, assistant director of student organization programs. "The agency connected us with Ron, and it worked out well because he was a local Detroit native as well. Ron and Craig actually knew each other, so he was able to introduce him well."

Conant quickly followed Taylor, and brought a different style of comedy to the table. Taylor was an energetic and fast-paced comedian, but Conant slowed it down. He focused his act on talking about different life struggles and funny things to happen to him.

From getting fired from Trader Joe's to putting a pencil in his mom's butt (lengthwise, he's not an animal), Conant had the crowd roaring with his tales of unemployment and his recent adventures with sobriety.

Conant frequently opens for D'Elia, which he briefly mentioned in his act. He

also is featured often on the Laugh Factory's social media sites, where he first rose to prominence with his Trader Joe's stories. Conant also is the host of his podcast, the Community Service Podcast.

"We knew we wanted to bring in a bigger name," Jurva said. "Craig is someone that Chris brought. Chris always brings him along."

At the end of his set, he introduced D'Elia, who walked on stage and immediately had the crowd going as he poked fun at the curtain he was in front of, saying, "Wow, you guys really went all out with this one."

D'Elia has multiple Netflix specials and has appeared in television shows like "Whitney," "Undateable" and "The Good Doctor". He has been performing stand-up since 2006 and hosts his own podcast as well, called the Congratulations Podcast. Recently, he made headlines by featuring on a Logic and Eminem song, imitating Eminem in the final seconds of the song.

After his nearly 60-minute set, D'Elia made his way down to the Gold Rooms in the Oakland Center, and took photos and signed posters for the select few people who represented SAFAC organizations that got the chance to meet him. Once everyone got their chance to get a picture with him, both D'Elia and Conant left the Oakland Center together, surrounded by their managers and police officers.

"I think that they all did really well, they all brought different ideas to what they were talking about," Jurva said.

The show ended at about 8:30, which led right into Grizz Madness at the O'rena.

"I think Chris D'Elia was a fantastic comedian to bring to campus," said Mackenzie Hill, annual events director at SPB. "He managed to connect with all the students on campus and the alumni coming back for homecoming."

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## Journey to OU's leadership program

**TAYLOR McDANIEL**

*Staff Reporter*

If a person had asked 20-year-old C. Suzanne Klein what she wanted to do with her life, she would have had a very different answer compared to where her career has led her today.

Although Klein is now an associate professor at Oakland University's Department of Organizational Leadership, she had originally gone to the University of Michigan to be a French translator, hoping to move to Paris and work at the United Nations.

“

**I'm a lucky woman because I love the work I have done and I appreciate the opportunities I have had at [OU's] campus in collaboration with other like-minded souls.**

**C. SUZANNE KLEIN**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

”

Klein said she is glad a friend asked her to assist in a classroom in her hometown of Toledo, Ohio, way back then, ultimately leading to her changing career path.

“I had to think about what I had done in my life so far, and what clues I could get from what I love to do,” Klein said.

When she was a child, Klein would set up her dolls to sit in chairs similar to a classroom setting. She and her best friend also ran a summer camp for the kids in the neighborhood. As she got older, Klein taught vacation bible school and volunteered at a local hospital.

“What really lights me up is working with and teaching children,” Klein said.

After returning to the University of Michigan, Klein changed her major, resulting in a bachelor's and master's degree in special education. Once she completed her schooling, Klein became a teacher in metro Detroit, later becoming principal of that school and, ultimately, superintendent of the school district — something she could not have predicted.

Klein believes a person writes their story one day at a time — that there's no “particular script” to follow.

“One thing leads to another leads to another,” Klein said. “I can't imagine having a more exciting set of opportunities for me to do work that I love, work that matters, and to work with other people who care deeply about the communities' children.”

Although she loved her work until the day she retired, Klein said she was “the happiest



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OAKLAND UNIVERSITY  
Suzanne Klein is an associate professor in the Department of Organizational Leadership. person in the world when OU had a vacancy.” Klein had personal contact with OU before she even began her teaching. She helped develop, and is now the coordinator of, the Central Office Administration Certificate Program.

Throughout her time at OU, Klein has achieved a number of triumphs. She currently teaches in and coordinates the educational specialist program. She is the director of the Galileo Institute for Teacher Leadership. Klein said the institute “supports people who do wonderful work in classrooms as well as lead, not only children, but in their buildings and in their districts.”

Klein taught for the Galileo-Saudi Arabia leadership program, as well as in China this summer in a partnership with the Teacher Exchange Program and Dr. Ledong Li, associate professor in the School of Education and Human Services. Also part of Klein's teaching efforts, EdCampOU, a collaborative learning event co-founded and facilitated by Klein, celebrates its seventh year on Oct. 19.

Created along with Dr. Anne Donato, the International Women's Table is one of Klein's most recent projects. Klein said there are a series of conversations being planned that she is excited about.

“I'm a lucky woman because I love the work I have done and I appreciate the opportunities I have had at [OU's] campus in collaboration with other like-minded souls,” Klein said.

Due to her dedicated work in leadership, Klein was recently put on a list of Notable Women in Education Leadership by Crain's Detroit Business' Notable Women in Michigan series — along with Dr. Judy Didion, professor and dean of Oakland University's School of Nursing.

Klein finally got to visit Paris, France a year ago, just like her 20-year-old self always longed for.

“It wasn't when I thought it was going to be, originally, but I got there,” Klein said.



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTOGRAPHER

Challenges rise when the townspeople protest a fee for using public toilets.

## SMTD performs 'Urinetown'

**DEAN VAGLIA**

*Staff Reporter*

From the colorful title to the hot-button themes, it seems that everything about the show “Urinetown” makes for a shocking start to the School of Music, Theatre and Dance (SMTD) theater season.

“When we are scheduling a season, we like to get a theme going,” said “Urinetown” director Donald Brewer. “This year, the theme is resistance and rising up, and ‘Urinetown’ has that theme. An element of ‘Urinetown’ is the poor rising up against the elite because the elite are forcing them to pay to urinate and relieve themselves.”

Set in an alternate world where 20 years of environmental collapse leads to the privatization of humanity's most critical need — toilet access — “Urinetown” toes along the fine line between comic absurdity and cutting satire.

“There is a water shortage and a company called UGC, which stands for Urine Good Company, is making ... the poor pay to pee and they keep raising all these fee hikes,” Brewer said. “There is no middle class, it is either dirt poor or filthy rich, and therein lies the conflict because eventually the meek will rise up.”

Despite the apocalyptic scenario in “Urinetown,” the show's creator Greg Kotis found inspiration in reality.

“[Kotis] was on a trip to Paris and he was shocked by the fact that there are all these urinals on the street where you have to pay to pee,” Brewer said. “And he actually, because he was on a very tight budget, had to start to scrounge

his change and monitor how often he went to the bathroom because he did not have enough money at the time.”

Shocked by the phenomena of pay toilets, Kotis was able to get “Urinetown” up to Broadway in 2001 and won three Tony awards for best book of a musical, best direction and best original score. Later in the 2000s “Urinetown” made its first appearance on the SMTD stage.

Despite the possible clashing combination of serious themes and satirical humor, Brewer believes that Oakland University audiences will be able to enjoy both.

“I think at bare minimum, it is going to make people think,” Brewer said. “I think they are going to love it because [of] the relevance it has today in our current political climate ... There are a lot of parallels you can draw between the world today and this alternate reality world we have set up in ‘Urinetown.’”

To help bring audiences into the alternate world of “Urinetown” is an army of student cast and crew members, including Sam Torres, who plays the role of Penelope Pennywise, the landlord of the poor peoples' pay toilet.

“[Penelope is] very different than any characters I have played before,” Torres said. “She is darker, creepier and very demanding. Penny is someone who will do anything to get ahead in the world.”

“Urinetown” is running at the Varner Hall Studio Theatre from Oct. 10 -20. Tickets are \$22 for general admission and \$12 for 10 a.m. matinee and student tickets. A full list of showtimes can be found on the SMTD website.



# Dominique Daniel and the clues to Kresge's collections

EMILY MORRIS

WXOU News Director

From the surface, Kresge Library is comprised of several floors of carefully organized books and resources, from aardvarks to zythum. For many, those are arbitrary words — unless you are checking out job prospects at Merriam-Webster — but one librarian is transforming Oakland University's library resources with some local archaeology and a passion for OU's history.

"I was always interested in being a librarian and archivist because the part of history I find most fascinating is dealing with archival materials — objects of the past, books of the past, manuscript letters — so, I think I have the best part of the historian's job," said Dominique Daniel, OU professor and humanities librarian for history and modern languages.

## Her history

Daniel is originally from France, where she developed her interest in history. Throughout her childhood, she was always reading, unpacking historical figures' lives through their stories.

"I read a lot — a lot of fiction, especially historical fiction, and biographies of great people from the past," she said. "I saw how historians wrote history, and I liked that."

Initially, she was a history professor in France, until she welcomed a "second career" in the United States after meeting a Michigander at a conference in Los Angeles for the Organization of American Historians. Upon returning to France, the pair stayed in touch through letters and emails, until Daniel decided to call Michigan home as well.

Before moving, she had earned a doctorate in American history from the University of Paris Seven, with a concentration in U.S. immigration policy research. Then, she delved deeper into her archival interests and obtained a master's degree in information science from the University of Michigan. Wayne State University was her next stop as a professor, but she soon called Oakland University home — where she has now worked for 10 years.

## Gathering history

A traditional view of a library is focused on organizing books, but Daniel's work is much more diverse. In fact, she spends much of her time in the community looking for missing pieces to Oakland's collection that may be forgotten in someone's attic.

"One [aspect of my career] would be assessing the collection," Daniel said. "I speak with people who hold items at home or somewhere and are willing to donate it to us. I was just in Rochester the other day at somebody's home and I brought back 15 — very heavy — boxes of stuff."

Following a donation, Daniel is tasked with sorting through everything to make each item as accessible to students as possible. Each artifact is itemized and a digital copy is also made, if possible.

"There is no usual day because I do a variety of things," Daniel said. "It's so varied, you cannot get bored in any way."

## Oakland's archives

Some recent additions are pieces of history from the surrounding Oakland County, including issues of the press, books, ledgers and photographs. For instance, there are copies of each issue of *The Oakland Press*, dating back to 1845. These items' history are still unfolding, as new puzzle pieces are still being uncovered and sorted daily.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES

Dominique Daniel, librarian for history and modern languages, finds archival materials the most fascinating part of history.

Even closer to home, the complete collection of *The Oakland Post* has recently been compiled through the help of donations and issues found in *The Oakland Post* office, which date back to 1959. Each of these are also available to view online, too.

Some of Daniel's favorite donations are from actor and OU alum Curtis Armstrong. Among his collection are original photographs from the set of "Risky Business" and memorabilia from his time at OU.

"I love the photographs that were taken on the set of the shooting of the movie, where you see Tom Cruise and other actors, including Curtis Armstrong," Daniel said. "They're just having fun during their downtime."

## Missing artifacts

Kresge Library could be described as one extensive living artifact because the library is always searching for new additions, which are always being made. Many of the missing pieces could be scattered about in homes, shops and schools in the area, but not everyone views them as historically significant.

"Unless you put things in the archives, where our mission is to permanently preserve these things and organize them so that we know what we have and how to find them, then chances are they will get lost to history," Daniel said.

Specifically, the library is in search of Pioneer Pete's mascot outfit. After years of use during events, the outfit has gone missing. The outfit was most likely last used at a nostalgic event, along with the Grizz, OU's current mascot.

"I don't know where it is, but if anyone knows where it is, I would love to have it," Daniel said.

Additionally, sweaters with the original "MSU-O"

(Michigan State University – Oakland) label on them are hard to find — Kresge currently contains only two. This dates back to OU being a branch of Michigan State University in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Daniel concluded that many people who have these sweaters simply do not realize their historical significance to OU today.

"I have met a lot of charter class alumni that tell me, 'Oh yeah, I had one of these sweaters, and I threw it away,'" Daniel said. "And I now want it, so please don't throw it away."

A quick peek into the attic could lead to either of these artifacts, which could be influential in preserving Oakland's history. Kresge Library is not only a reciprocal for textbooks, but the resting place of OU's roots.

Daniel has dedicated her career to a unique form of detective work that will never have one "aha" moment — rather, there will be many. Each day offers a variety of work that could include organizing more history to view or seeking out the next historical puzzle piece.

Much of what Kresge Library is able to archive is because of the interest and cooperation of community members, faculty, alumni and students. According to Daniel, the library does not have to revolve around borrowing books — donating is just as important.

"I think it is very important to know a little bit at least about the past of the place you're working or studying at, because what it is today is in large part shaped by how it was created and how it evolved," she said. "The people and forces that shaped our values and identity are a result of that past."



# OPINION

## ‘Fractured’: a thriller with an ineffective plot twist

**KATIE VALLEY**

*Content Editor*

In Netflix’s latest thriller, “Fractured,” a father desperately searches for his wife and daughter after they disappear from a hospital — with no record of them ever being there.

The father, named Ray Monroe (played by Sam Worthington) checks in his 6-year-old daughter Peri (Lucy Capri) at a hospital after she falls and injures her arm. After a long wait to be seen, Peri and her mother Joanne (Lily Rabe) are taken to a different floor of the hospital for Peri to get a CAT scan. Hours go by, and they’re nowhere to be seen.

With a foreshadowing scene moments before the accident where Joanne bluntly states to Ray, “You don’t fight for anything anymore,” Ray starts his redeeming fight for justice. He ventures to find his family and expose what could be a scandal against the hospital. Many suspenseful moments ensue, and it becomes difficult to discern the truth.

While “Fractured,” directed by Brad Anderson (“Session 9” and “The Machinist”), has its suspenseful moments that engage viewers, the ending was shabby. A large twist comes into play that’s quite jarring, to say the least.

At its most suspenseful points, I was

convinced that the standoffish hospital staff was hiding something and rooted for Ray to seek vengeful justice and find his family. Those moments make the film shine in the area of audience immersion and emotional appeal — the best traits it has.

Also included in the film’s “fact or fiction” dilemma is the obvious foreshadowing. Aspects of scenes are shown multiple times — emphasized to the extreme — for viewers to question the hospital’s involvement in Peri and Joanne’s disappearance, such as a “get well” balloon at the accident scene and the attention focused on Ray’s forehead injury.

What’s shown in the film leads viewers to make a certain conclusion about the incident, but when expectations get flipped on their head, the ending doesn’t quite have the justification it needs to be successful.

The hospital’s practices don’t add up because standard hospitals would not let a missing persons claim go as far as it does in the film. Hospitals certainly would get further law enforcement than hospital security involved as soon as a situation becomes serious.

The behavior of hospital staff members also throws off the plot progression. Hospital members are repeatedly dismissive of Ray, and their overall awkwardness in mannerisms makes some confusing moments — and heightens viewer frustration both about the situation and for Ray’s sake.



COURTESY OF IMDb

Sam Worthington plays a father who seeks the truth after his daughter and wife go missing.

However, since the film focuses on Ray, who’s a former alcoholic and experiences occasional blackouts, it’s difficult to tell how reliable of a narrator he is — and Worthington’s ever-intense demeanor as Ray doesn’t help.

The juxtaposition between Ray as a rational father and an unreliable character could be seen as a negative trait if someone is looking to unravel “Fractured’s” plot points, but a positive when considering the

effectiveness of the narrative itself.

With its odd moments but pretty well-done suspenseful scenes, “Fractured” is a psychological thriller that has the potential to instill fears of corrupt healthcare systems into its viewers — or was that fear already well-established beforehand?

**Rating: 3/5 stars**

## Birth control: the universal struggle of women

**AUTUMN PAGE**

*Contributor*

Birth control is something that sets off warning bells in people’s minds. In some cases, it’s something a woman needs for her well-being.

Women’s rights have been scrutinized and attacked under Donald Trump’s presidency. Insurance companies are increasingly stricter on women when it comes to birth control.

I’ve been on birth control since November 2017. No, I don’t need it to not get pregnant, I honestly wish that was the reason. I started out with birth control so my menstrual cycle would be shorter — one week instead of two, so my cramps wouldn’t be so painful, and so forth. Actual health reasons.

Fast forward to today, I’ve been on five different birth control pills, and nothing has worked. Every single pill had extreme side effects: paralyzing dizziness, nausea,



increased acne, migraines, bloating, bad mood swings, increased anxiety, body numbness and fatigue. All of these side effects have made me bounce between different pills per my doctor’s advisement.

This is where you say, “Maybe try a different doctor!” Trust me, I’m considering it.

With my consistent switching pill brands, this has made my insurance not happy with me. I’m at the point now where I can’t get any pills for more than a month at a time. If you’ve ever been placed on something like an academic probation, that’s basically what my insurance company did to me. At one point, I thought they were going to take my ability to get birth control away, period.

Here’s the facts — most women and I can’t afford to have our insurance not cover birth control. According to Planned Parenthood, a single month of birth control pills alone can be anywhere from \$0-50! Not only that, Planned Parenthood also says an appointment with a doctor or nurse to get the prescription can cost anywhere from \$35-250! Without insurance, someone could be paying \$600 A YEAR for birth control pills.

Birth control pills are the cheapest form of birth control — the cost of any other form (e.g. the shot, implant, patch,

etc.) without insurance is VERY expensive.

Trump attempted at the end of 2018 to enact a set of “rules” that would allow anyone/ any company that provides health insurance to refuse to cover birth control. So, every woman who is employed somewhere that provides insurance is at risk. A likely scenario is that an employer could provide health insurance that doesn’t cover birth control.

If this sounds familiar, it’s because it is. In 2017, Trump attempted to do the same exact thing.

Under the Trump presidency, women’s health and reproductive rights have been constantly under fire. Even though some are covered in the 14th Amendment. This has caused protests around the United States — and waves on social media.

For me, switching from pill to pill often makes me incredibly sad — for what’s to come, for what I’ll be putting my body through once again. I wish for a day where I don’t need birth control for my health, and instead as a precaution.

Millions of other women and I go through this struggle. Women before us have fought for our rights, and we aren’t going to let that be for nothing.

# Women's soccer scores last-minute goal, shuts out IUPUI

**MICHAEL PEARCE**

*Sports Editor*

On homecoming weekend, the women's soccer team faced off against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in a Horizon League match that had impact on the standings and future play-off seeding. In the end, the Golden Grizzlies defeated the Jaguars, 1-0.

Both teams came into the inter conference fixture in the top four of the conference. Both teams had one loss, trailing only the undefeated Milwaukee Panthers, who are 5-0. The Golden Grizzlies improved to 3-1-1 on the season, and recorded their second win in a row in dramatic fashion.

Ashley Postma was the hero for the Golden Grizzlies, recording the game-winning goal off of a rebounded penalty kick. The goal for Postma was her first on the season and the first of her collegiate career.

The goal came in the 86th minute after a long match full of shots from each side.

The Golden Grizzlies recorded 12 shots to IUPUI's seven, and recorded eight shots on goal to IUPUI's two.

"I'm so proud of our team, they put it all together," Head Coach Juan Pablo Favero told GrizzVision. "We defended so well against such a dangerous team. IUPUI is so good, their record shows that. They're so attacking minded, and for us to shut them down ... I'm proud of that."



**We defended so well against such a dangerous team. IUPUI is so good, their record shows that. They're so attacking minded, and for us to shut them down ... I'm proud of that.**

**JUAN PABLO FAVERO**  
HEAD COACH



Jaimie Leas led the shutout, saving both shots on goal. This effort led to her being named Horizon League Defensive Player of the Week on Oct. 14 for the first time this season. For Leas, this match marked the third shutout of the season for her.

Favero has seen improvement from his entire team, one that struggled in the previous season, going 3-3-3 in conference play and 4-11-4 overall.

"It's building blocks, everything has been building blocks," Favero told GrizzVision. "Year one we had to rebuild the culture, year two we had to learn how to be gritty. We've been a little disappointed in our early games that we didn't get the results we wanted. Our record is not where it should be this year, but every game is a hard game at this point."

The women's soccer team started off 2-4-1, and since entering conference play have went 3-1-1. Favero was impressed after the game with the team's ability to be resilient and play with toughness.

"I love my team, I love that they care about each other and that they are there for one another," Favero told GrizzVi-



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER  
IUPUI defeated 1-0 in a Horizon League Match during homecoming weekend.

sion. "Their resiliency is showing to be a key characteristic of ours. We'll build on this great performance."

After a whole week off, the Golden Grizzlies will travel to Green Bay to face off against the Phoenix on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 3 p.m.

Four days later, the team kicks off a two game home stand against Northern Kentucky University and the undefeated Panthers. The 1 p.m. match against Milwaukee will be senior day.

## SPORTS RECAP

### Volleyball defeats No. 1 Milwaukee

**MICHAEL PEARCE**

*Sports Editor*

The Milwaukee Panthers entered the O'rena on a 15-game winning streak. In a five-set match, the Golden Grizzlies defeated the Panthers, 3-2, ending their winning streak and giving them their first Horizon League loss.

Jamie Walling led the team in both kills (26) and blocks (seven) as Oakland improved to 3-3 in Horizon League play and 10-8 overall. Walling now has four matches this season with over 20 kills.

This win over Milwaukee marks Oakland's third in a row, as they head into a lengthy road trip in league play.

"I think the coaches did a great job putting together a game plan with input of the players," Head Coach Rob Beam told GrizzVision. "I thought the players did a really good job on their scout prep this week."

The match started with Mil-

waukee taking the first set by two points, 25-23. After that, Oakland went on a run, winning the next two sets and taking a 2-1 lead. The Panthers weren't dead yet, as they took the fourth set 25-20. In the final set, Oakland was able to secure a close victory, with a 15-13 final set.

"Ultimately it came down to a few sets at the end where we had some good serves and setters did a great job," Beam told GrizzVision. "Jamie Walling also proved she is one of the best players in our conference and certainly one of the best players in the country, and finished the game off with several straight kills."

The Golden Grizzlies volleyball team heads on the road for four consecutive Horizon League matches. They will have back-to-back matches in Ohio against Cleveland State and Youngstown State, then they head west for matches against the University of Illinois-Chicago and Green Bay. Their next home fixture is Saturday, Nov. 2 at 4 p.m. against Cleveland State on LGBTQIA+ Pride Night.

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# Men's soccer squad remains undefeated

**MICHAEL PEARCE**

*Sports Editor*

Two undefeated teams met on the Oakland University soccer field on Saturday, Oct. 12. During Oakland's homecoming weekend, the men's soccer team continued their winning ways in Horizon League play and defeated the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Jaguars by a final score of 4-0.

Oakland's soccer team was coming off of a 3-2 loss at home to Western Michigan and entering this home match with IUPUI with a 3-0-1 record, only tying Detroit Mercy in double overtime.

Dylan Borczak, who has led the team in points this season, took control of the game early. He scored the first goal in the 21st minute after a shot from Cameron Wilde ricocheted off the crossbar. Borczak took a second, gathered the ball and put it in the bottom left corner.

"It felt great," Borczak said. "After that first goal, the game kind of just opened up."

After Borczak's initial goal, the remainder of the first half consisted of Oakland controlling the ball, pressing forward on the Jaguar defense and creating scoring opportunities. The first half ended 1-0, with neither team being able to capitalize on good looks. At the half, Head Coach Eric Pogue made adjustments to the game plan.

"They were man marking Noah Jensen, so I wanted him to float out into the open space on the wing," Pogue said. "I wanted to create an overload on one side and leave Dylan alone on his side, which is dangerous. I also thought putting some guys with pace in there like Dawson Schrum and Mikey Ketteman would help stretch

the defense out."

In the second half, the game opened up for the Golden Grizzlies offense. Borczak and Evan Sawula were able to get behind the defense and create scoring opportunities for the team. The Oakland offensive attack was able to continually create shots. They out-shot IUPUI 21-2.

The second half started off strong with Oakland creating pressure and drawing a penalty in the box. Jensen stepped up to the spot to take the penalty kick and chipped the ball in over the head of the goalkeeper.

After stretching the lead to 2-0, Oakland kept the pressure on and were able to hit the back of the net two more times in the final 20 minutes of the game. In the 74th minute, Charlie Braithwaite received a crosser from Borczak in front of the goalkeeper and converted, then in the 88th minute, Mitch Meldrum was able to find an open lane off a long pass from Ketteman, and the team took a commanding 4-0 lead.

"It's incredible," Borczak said on the 4-0-1 start. "We're just taking it one game at a time. Our focus is to get a ring for the school and for us."

Pogue is seeing improvement in his team with each game. Next up is a game against the Dayton Flyers in Dayton, followed by a league match against the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) in Chicago.

"Obviously, Dylan has been fantastic and Charlie has been stepping up," Pogue said. "I think an unsung hero in this was Spencer Nollf, he was fantastic. Elliott Bentley, too, our whole back line was fantastic. I think every game you just try to get a little bit better."

The next home game for the men's soccer team is senior night against Michigan State on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.



SAM SUMMERS | PHOTOGRAPHER

Men's soccer continues their winning streak, beating IUPUI 4-0 on Saturday, Oct. 12.

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# The other anti-abortion group

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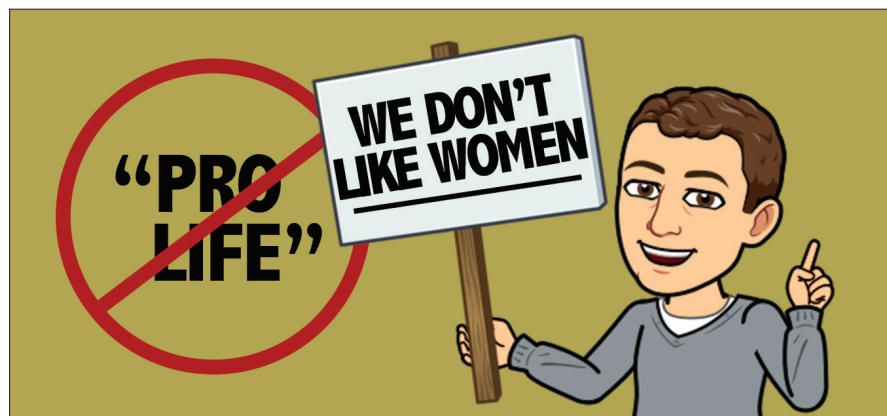
*Web Editor*

After the attendance of a different anti-abortion group on Oakland University's campus last week, a new anti-abortion group came to campus to spread their message in a completely different way. The spokesman for the group wished his identity to be anonymous, and so he only offered his first name of Dick for his interview.

"We were happy to be invited to Oakland after hearing what happened with a fellow anti-abortion group a while ago," Dick said. "It's unfortunate to see that groups that think like us still cling to the old way."

Dick explained that he heard about the issue of all of the previous protesters wearing body cams, which he found to be unnecessary.

"Our group used to strap GoPros to ourselves for every rally, then we realized it was a terrible intrusion on people's personal space. We figured if we actually wanted to make headway in convincing these students to our point of view, we should make sure they feel comfortable enough to have one-on-one conversations



ERIN O'NEILL | DESIGN EDITOR

A different anti-abortion group decides to show their true colors to appeal to new audiences.

with our spokesmen," Dick said. "It really felt like, you know, every time we went out with those on, we didn't actually want to have a conversation with anyone, we just wanted to get them on an epic conservative YouTube compilation, which we felt wasn't what we wanted."

Dick went on to say that he also talked to his organization about how they wanted to display their information to everyone. The previous year, they had scrapped a wide variety of pamphlets depicting obviously

fake disemboweled babies, as he and his board members got the impression literally everyone had caught on to the fact that they were fabricated to get a shallow reaction out of viewers.

"Once we got rid of the cameras, we figured getting people's disgusted looks after looking at the dolls smothered in ketchup wasn't worth our time," Dick said.

Instead, Dick and his organization invested in big posters that just say, "We don't like women," a message they unanimously

agreed was more in line with what they actually believed.

Dick also talked about how they really wanted to push for male recruitment, because he felt as though the issue of abortion did not have enough male opinions.

"I understand that we don't have a uterus, but we men definitely have opinions, and we felt as though this issue really needed a balance of male perspectives to ensure that everyone involved was as convinced as possible of our position," Dick said with a straight face.

The final thing of note Dick's organization did to improve branding was dropping the concept of being pro-life from their vernacular. He thought it was strange that they and people like them had considered themselves pro-life for so long, when nothing else they supported had anything to do with improving the life of humans who had already been born.

"We thought, you know, we don't really want to support the foster system, most of us really hate the concept of universal healthcare, and we certainly don't care what happens to the mother as a result of complicated pregnancies, so we just dropped the pro-life title altogether," Dick said. "So far, it's gone very well, we think."

