

CAN YOU HEAR THE STUDENTS NOW?

Student Congress, Student Veterans and Student Farmers voice concerns across campus. Some are heard, others are not.



VETERAN SUPPORT

Veterans speak out about their treatment by OU

PAGES 6 & 7

HOCKEY AT OU

Results of the study to have NCAA DI hockey released

PAGES 12 & 13

FUTURE OF THE FARM

The Student Organic Farm voices concerns on untapped potential

PAGE 23



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

WXOU BIRTHDAY BASH // Jake Rapanotti, former General Manager of WXOU, and Lena Mishack, 2017-18 Student Body President, perform onstage with RDGLDGRN at the 52nd WXOU Birthday Bash on Wednesday, April 4, 2018.
Photo // Dovid Nissan Roetter

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your plans for summer?

- A** Is it really summer if it's freezing?
- B** Working for the man
- C** Sitting on my butt all day
- D** Crying. I'm graduating with no job

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

How did your bracket hold up during March Madness?

- A) I didn't care enough to make one
23 votes | 48%
- B) UMBC screwed it up
5 votes | 10%
- C) It was flawless, just like me
4 votes | 9%
- D) I'm mad enough without sports
16 votes | 33%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

April 14, 1961

With Oakland University being a relatively new university, it didn't have any residence halls

April 9, 1984

Only one student on the spectrum was enrolled at Oakland and was one of two students in the whole state

April 10, 1989

An Oakland student jumped out of a moving vehicle while riding with a friend on campus



8

DRAG SHOW

The queens were in full force during the GSA's 15th annual Drag Show
Photo // Elyse Gregory



21

LIFE LESSONS FROM DL

Oakland student self-publishes book of photos and life advice
Photo // Samuel Summers



22

TICKLING THE IVORIES

A look at the students who use the OC's piano to play poppin' tunes
Photo // Sergio Montanez

BY THE
NUMBERS
THE SAF

\$28

The per-student price of Oakland's current SAF

320

Student orgs utilize the funds to host meetings and events

8

SAFAC organizations get large portions of SAF to benefit students

\$2

Student Congress is lobbying for a small raise so student life can grow

Staff Editorial

From the editor: That's a wrap

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

Hey readers,
I don't know about you guys, but I had a few fictional characters that I aspired to be when I was a kid. Among them were Wonder Woman, Lois Lane, Chloe Sullivan and Hermione Granger. But a standout was Rory Gilmore of "Gilmore Girls."



I was raised homeschooled and my mom, my sister Emily and I would break for lunch at 11 a.m. every weekday and watch an episode of "Gilmore Girls" on ABC Family. Rory is a name taking, no nonsense, good hearted, coffee drinking journalist who always stands up for what's right and isn't afraid to admit it when she's wrong.

Rory taught me a lot of things, but the most important thing was to be a question asker. She's not a stranger to challenging the status quo and calling people out when they're being less than honest.

This year, my editorial team and I have had to ask a lot of questions. We've had a hockey study, an Athletics Director who quit out of the blue, special lecturers who were booted from their offices, veterans who feel poorly treated, issues with how money is spent, a possible on-line degree program and so much more. I can hands down say that this has been my craziest year as a journalist at The Oakland Post.

But that's a good thing.

You see, as students, we're not really the people calling the shots around here. And just as my staff puts in their opinions on how The Post should be run, it is our job as students to say what we want from our institution.

Don't get me wrong, I think that Oakland University's current administration is the best it's been in the four years I've been a student here. As the editor-in-chief, it's part of my job to get to know administrators, and many of them are people who I really think are trying to do the right thing for this university.

But try as they might, nobody is going to get it right every time and many of them don't have the perspective that you and I do as 20-somethings who are dirt poor and haven't ever had a career. This is exactly why it is so important for all of us as students to get involved and speak up.

One thing that students don't do nearly enough is attend the Board of Trustees meetings. The BOT is the president's boss, and the people who sit on the Board make lots of important decisions. The BOT's schedule is always posted on its web page and the meetings, though not exciting all the time, keep you informed and show administrators that you care about what they do.

Another simple outlet to get involved with administrators is to get involved with a SAFAC org. These include The Post, 88.3FM WXOU, Student Congress, Student Activities Funding Board, Student Program Board, Student Video Productions, Student Life and Lecture Board and Club Sports. Though I root for all student orgs, I know first hand that SAFAC has a great opportunity to make a difference on campus. The Residence Halls Association is also a great outlet for on-campus residents.

Questioning authority, while extremely uncomfortable, has made much of my staff and myself grow as people this year and affect some positive changes around our wonderful campus.

If I leave you with only one thing, let it be this: Keep your ears and your eyes open.

Peace out,

Shelby Tankersley



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Corrections Corner:

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact.

In the April 4 issue, we mistakenly reported the Board of Trustees made no mention of the Student Activity Fee in the minutes from summer 2011. There is one line in the minutes mentioning a raise.

We also said the Remembrance Event will take place April 14. It will actually happen on April 11.

Know of an error? Let us know at editor@oaklandpostonline.com.

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Looking Back

Graduating class of 1963 beat the odds

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

In April 1963, the first graduates of Oakland University received their diplomas. 148 students were part of this charter class.

Not only was this class remarkable in their ability to make it through Oakland's rigorous grading system, but many of them had job offers and fellowships for graduate study.

Students who graduated were offered jobs ranging from \$7,000 to \$7,200 a year. The national average salary for a college graduate was \$6,874, putting OU graduates a bit ahead when it came to prospective job offers.

43 OU students, as of the time of the April 12, 1963 article, decided to go on to graduate school. 13 of those received fellowships and teaching assistantships ranging in value from \$1,350 to \$6,000 per year.

Some of these fellowships were national academic awards, four of them were awards that saw thousands of college senior applicants. OU students received three National Defense Education Act Fellowships, one received a National Science Foundation Fellowship and one received a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship.

One Russian major student, Robert Richardson, received both a Wilson and an NDEA Fellowship. He accepted the NDEA Fellowship, since it paid \$20,000 for four years of graduate study at Harvard University.

Richardson went on to get his MA and Ph.D from Harvard University, and currently is working at Boston University as a professor of world languages and literature.

Dr. Robert Hoopes, professor of English and a regional representative of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fellowship program, spoke about the abnormally high number of awards this first graduating class received.

"This is an outstanding record," he said. "It would be unusual in an established institution for one-eighth of the seniors to win awards for graduate study, especially when the list includes a coveted Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, three NDEA Fellowships and an NSF Fellowship, plus nearly a

dozen awarded by institutions."

What made this achievement even more outstanding was that, as the charter class, the graduates could not rely on their university's notoriety to help them. They were paving the way for future students' success.

"Every such award, whether offered by a university or a national agency, is truly a national competition," Hoopes said. "This performance is even more noteworthy because it has been achieved by a young institution's first graduates, many of whom had no thought of scholarly work for advanced degrees when they entered Oakland four years ago."

There was so few graduates that each student graduating had their name featured in the program guide for the first commencement.

In this first class, only two students graduated Summa Cum Laude. These were Judith Bair Bank in English and Marcia Koerner Weis in French. There were also three honorary degrees given out: A Doctor of Humanities to Matilda R. Wilson, a Doctor of Laws to Harold A. Fitzgerald, and a Doctor of Laws to Francis Keppel.

Though the name Matilda Wilson should be familiar, Harold Fitzgerald and Francis Keppel may be a bit more unrecognizable. Harold Fitzgerald and his wife donated \$45,000 to the building of Fitzgerald Hall, and Fitzgerald himself served as a publisher at the Pontiac Press and acted as the president to the MSUO Foundation. Francis Keppel was the U.S. Commissioner of Education, and spoke at commencement.

According to Oakland's website, honorary degrees are given as a way of saying thank you to those who made "contributions to society." For an honorary degree to be given, the University Senate Honorary Degrees Committee reviews nomination, then recommends candidates to the provost and then the president.

Some other people who have received honorary degrees from Oakland University include Ann V. Nicholson, R. Hugh Elliott, Donald D. O'Dowd, Benjamin H. Anibal and John Alfred Hannah.

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Campus

BOT hears campus opinions at meeting

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

After hearing a report from Oakland University President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz and Provost James Lentini regarding improvements in academic advising and student retention, Oakland's Board of Trustees launched into a two hour meeting full of congratulations and discussion.

The BOT unanimously approved the awarding of the Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards and Humanitarian Award to three seniors who the BOT feels represent the best of this year's graduating class. These three students were Zachary Johnson Walker, Carlie Austin and Caroline Julia Wolber.

"We have many wonderful students who emerge as student leaders able to tackle challenges and opportunities," said Vice President of Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh. "But today we have a chance to honor our top three students."

Other initiatives approved were a degree in music technology, a new gift policy that will follow industry "best practices" and the creation of an outreach office located

in Detroit to easily access Wayne County students.

After these approvals, the BOT discussed University Housing's proposed budget for the 2018-19 academic year in a presentation from Housing Director James Zentmeyer. With the addition of Hillcrest Hall, Housing has had more returning residents than ever and expects to fill every bed next year according to Zentmeyer.

Along with renovation costs for some of the older residence halls, Housing also wants to fund scholarships for students living in Wayne County as a incentive to attend Oakland. A proposed 3.3 percent increase in the cost of Housing would fund both these things.

This raised concern from several BOT members and Student Liaison to the BOT Sean Foe because on-campus students would be paying for other students to also live on campus. A similar Housing scholarship is already funded through tuition, but the demand has become too large for the general fund to bear, so this increase in Housing's cost would relieve that burden.

"I know that we are working under limited resources," BOT member Tonya Allen said. "[But] I'm concerned that we increase the cost to students, which we



Sergio Montanez / The Oakland Post

Provost James Lentini gave a presentation on student success and retention on Tuesday's meeting.

continually talk about, for [others in] our student population. I'd rather do that in a more creative way... As my grandmother would say, we're nickle and dime-ing our students. And I don't like that."

The budget passed 6/2, with Allen and BOT member Marianne Fey voting no.

After all agenda items were discussed, 2017-18 Student Body President Lena Mishack and 2017-18 Student Body Vice President Jousef Shkoukani approached the BOT with Student Congress resolutions.

They proposed to raise the Student Activity Fee, which will allocate more funds to student-run organizations. 2017-18 Chair of the Student Activities Funding Board, Kayla Dafoe, read a statement penned by 88.3FM WXOU News Director

Erin Ben-Moche explaining how the Fee benefits student life.

Mishack and Shkoukani also encouraged more lobbying to increase Oakland's state funding as well as an investment in Open Education Resources, which would allow students to access some textbooks free of charge. The latter item has already been passed by OUSC and the Faculty Senate.

"I really appreciate it whenever the students come up and the recommendations that you make really have a lot of value," said BOT member Ronald Robinson. "I like the idea of the funding issue with student involvement, I think it could be a game changer for us."

The BOT will meet again on June 4, 2018 at 2 p.m. in the Elliott Hall Auditorium.

POLICEFILES

An ear to the door

Oakland University Police Department officers were called to Oak View Hall on March 10 at 12:15 a.m. regarding possible minors in possession. Upon arrival, an officer placed their ear to the door and heard voices inside. They knocked and were allowed entry by one of the residents, immediately smelling alcohol. The officer asked if they had been drinking and they all replied "yes." The officer asked where it was, and the residents compiled the intoxicants in the middle of the floor. The alcohol was dumped and no further action was taken.

"I know where you stay"

A dispatcher received a non-emergency call on March 8 from an individual who said she was an Oakland University alumni, saying that she had received a voicemail message on her phone the day prior. The message was a male voice whispering "I know where you stay," then hanging up. OUPD ran a search on the phone number, and it came back to Oakland University Alumni Association on the "isupportou" webpage. OUPD spoke with the supervisor of the OU alum telefund of the incident, who said she believed the message was unintentional since operators are instructed to not leave messages and often chat with each other between calls and that she would conduct training sessions for the operators to ensure the incident didn't happen again.

Hallway hash-out

OUPD dispatch sent officers to Oak View Hall to investigate a reported assault on March 21 at 12:30 a.m. The caller had recently had an altercation with a male and his current girlfriend. The two females had begun arguing, the caller claiming that the male had been trying to "get with her." The two argued in the hallway before the male approached her, at which time the caller shoved him away. She told officers that she had felt threatened, but decided she did not want to press charges against him.

Compiled by Mary Siring,
Staff Reporter

NOW HIRING STAFF REPORTER

RESPONSIBILITIES

MUST HAVE A BASIC UNDERSTANDING
OF AP STYLE

MUST WRITE TWO STORIES PER WEEK

ATTEND WEEKLY BUDGET

MEETINGS TO PITCH STORY IDEAS

COMMUNICATE WITH ASSIGNED

SECTION EDITOR EFFECTIVELY

Send resume, cover letter, and three
writing samples to ayhirsch@oakland.edu.

Does OU's movement for diversity and inclusion really include everyone?

Even with coming changes to campus, student veterans aren't so sure

Laurel Kraus
Life Editor

The age of diversity and inclusion at Oakland University has left many veteran students wondering why the most diverse group on campus hasn't been included.

The over 375 veteran students attending Oakland are made up of various ethnicities, religious backgrounds, sexual orientations and have traveled all over the world, yet the university only hired its first full-time veteran support representative in June 2017.

While we are only beginning our trek toward a more veteran-friendly campus in the student's eyes, Wayne State University already did a second overhaul of its veteran center back in 2014.

"With all the diversity and inclusion that OU is trying to turn over, we are not a part of any of that," said Mason Turrell, who is a work studies employee for Veteran Support Services (VSS) but who brought this issue forward solely from his roles as student veteran and president of Student Veterans of Oakland University. "We're not saying give us our own, we're saying we simply want to be a part of it as a whole."

As the academic year winds to a close, student veterans are hopeful a number of issues will be resolved, or further improved, for the coming year.

The VSS move to Vandenberg Hall

The current Veteran Support Services resource center has been housed in North Foundation Hall since its creation in 2011 when it took over an old break room space. It is around 230 square feet.

The size has created a plethora of issues including room for only four desks, no option of privacy, not enough space to house the veteran textbook loan program, forcing some veterans to have their back toward the door which can provoke anxiety and unnerving feelings, etc.

However, a move, still in the planning stage, is set to place the veteran center in a significantly larger space in Vandenberg as of fall 2018.

According to Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer Glenn McIntosh, as of April 2, he plans for the VSS center to have four staff offices and a social/educational lounge space area.

Coordinator for VSS, who fills the role

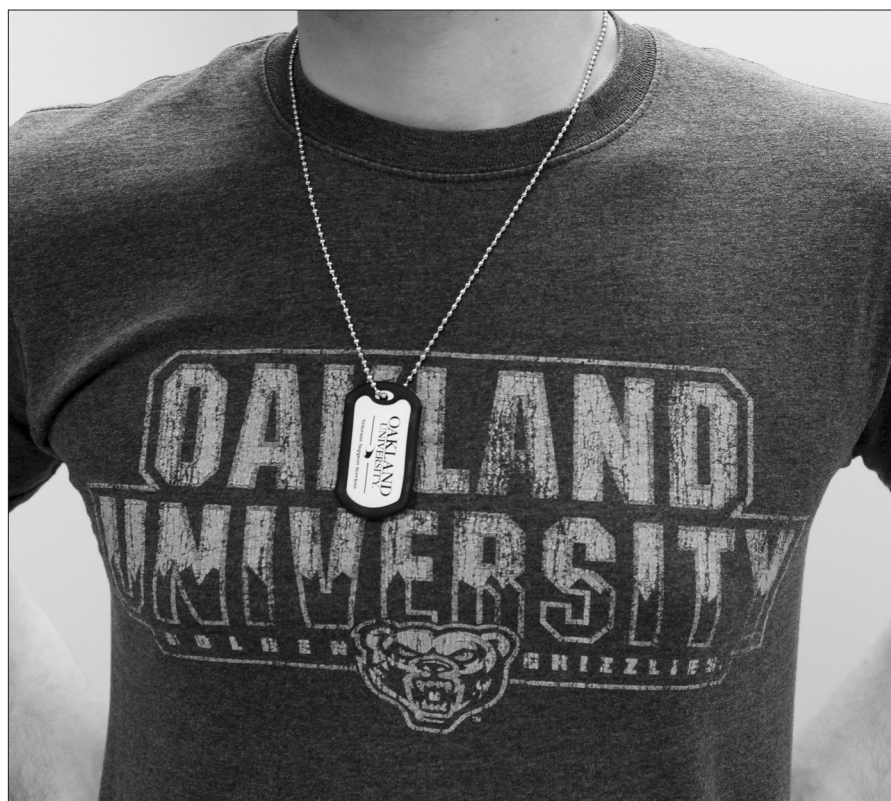


Photo illustration by Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Former service members seek to have their vision of a more veteran-friendly campus heard.

of OU's first full-time veteran support representative, Eric Wuestenberg reported the new center will potentially be taking over the current Gender and Sexuality Center space and part of the Division of Student Affairs & Diversity space as well as the old cafe on the first floor, to total at around 3,000 square feet. The additional Student Affairs office space may be given to another office.

"Until we get the keys to our new space, we won't know what we're getting, but we are getting something substantially bigger," Turrell said.

Wuestenberg's goal is for the new space to become a one-stop shop for everything a veteran could need on campus, and he stated Oakland has been supportive since day one in his vision for the new center.

While student veterans are relieved and excited about the desperately needed increase in space, the move will create a new problem for the veteran center: location and accessibility.

Since vet centers are a gathering place for students from all over campus, Van-

denberg is out of the way, and the lack of parking added to the steep walk outside of the building could be a problem for disabled veterans.

Wuestenberg's solution to the distance is to get a golf cart to transport veterans; however, funds for a golf cart currently aren't in the VSS budget so they may look into donations or fundraising options.

"Other students, staff and faculty here at the university know that we're potentially moving over there and they think it's a bad idea," Turrell said. "The fact that we are moving to Vandy is great for the future, however, it's a student service. North Foundation is a student service building. You're potentially taking that student service and moving it to the far north end of campus."

When the Second Year Experience and the Registrar's Office moved out of North Foundation, Turrell recalled hoping VSS would move into one of those spaces. The former Registrar's Office space was especially well-suited for the VSS' special needs.

While the Division of Student Affairs &

Diversity office, the Gender and Sexuality Center and the Dean of Students office will all be moving from Vandenberg back into the Oakland Center once the expansion is complete, Omar Brown-El, senior director of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives reported there would not be enough space to accommodate the significant need of the new veteran center.

WSU's second vet center overhaul came with renovations to its student center where the plans included creating a large enough space for veterans within the central hub of campus according to Matthew McLain, assistant director of the Office of Military & Veterans Academic Excellence at WSU.

Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities, reported that there may not have been talks about building the space for a veteran center within the OC expansion because the expansion planning may not have coincided with the talks of moving to a larger veteran center.

Some student veterans have expressed worry that the move to Vandenberg is only taking place so the population will stop pushing to resolve issues with their treatment.

"A lot of people have said 'I feel like it's a keep quiet type of thing' and that's sad," Turrell said. "It's like do you really want to, not even go to a university, but be affiliated with that university if that's going to be the case. It's really sad to even think that and I wish OU would do a better job at recognizing how valuable veterans and spouses and dependents truly are."

Transferring military experience to credit

The Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) states the VA will cover higher education costs for up to 36 months once a service member leaves the military. While this covers four years of fall and winter semesters, it can be difficult to complete many undergraduate degrees in that time frame, which leaves the veteran footing the remainder of the bill.

Allowing certain aspects of military experience to count for class credits would save veterans both time, as they are already older than typical college students, and money.

Oakland doesn't accept many military credits according to Turrell. He reported it is in the works to try to fix that, but at the current moment it's a real issue.

Kyle McIntosh, who is a veteran representative for VSS but who speaks on these issues solely from his role as a student veteran, is graduating with 220 credits as an undergrad. He described most of his credits as “attaboy credits” because they count as electives but nothing that go specifically toward his degree.

This situation can leave veteran students not graduating faster, but instead finding themselves placed at the senior level where they have to pay more for classes but still take the same amount.

The global perspective credit, which Interim Senior Associate Registrar Paul Battle reported OU does not allow to be filled with military experience, is one that veteran students feel strongly about since many have been deployed abroad.

“Why do I need to take a global perspective class?” Kyle McIntosh said. “I was deployed to Afghanistan twice and East Asia once for four and a half years.”

As an intelligence analyst in the Marine Corps., he also had to write intel reports yet still had to take writing classes at OU.

The students understand that not every veteran will qualify for the same transfer credits, but feel there should be a system in place to accommodate those who do.

Wuestenberg recently went to a meeting in Lansing to discuss this issue occurring at all 48 public institutions in Michigan.

“That’s a problem we have not just here at Oakland, or even state-wide, this is a nationwide problem,” he said. “It’s a work in progress.”

Training faculty & staff to better aid vets

Kognito training is a 20-minute online program that began in June 2016 and closes June 30, 2018.

“It helps [staff and faculty] figure out how to help veterans whether it’s academically or mentally,” Turrell said. “If a veteran is having troubles in a class and it’s not really education-related, this training kind of shows hey these are some of the steps, these are some of the ideas.”

According to Brown-El, it has been circulated among all faculty and staff through the vice president sending the information out in weekly or month communications.

While he reports they are only 20 participants away from meeting their goal, those who have not taken it include the entire Provost Office, Glenn McIntosh, President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz and everyone from Student Affairs except Lori Marsh, according to VSS.

“Why is faculty going to take it if the leadership doesn’t take it?” Kyle McIntosh said.

22 veterans commit suicide every day according to Turrell, so he feels that the training should be made mandatory not only at OU but nationwide.

A link to the training can be found of the VSS web page.

Respecting the American flag

U.S. Code Title 36 Chapter 10 states that it is illegal to alter the American flag, which includes using it as wearing material; however, a student’s personal flag, which the Gender and Sexuality Center has utilized in University publication, features the stars, but instead of the red and white stripes, the rainbow.

Turrell reported the scrolling banners on OU’s homepage have held photos of the flag twice in the past year. Student veterans, supportive of the LGBTQIA+ community and simply wishing to protect respect of the American flag, approached the university with their concern after the first instance and it was taken down but then was again featured.

“There has been conversation about the usage of the flag, the only thing I’m aware of is that it was on the university’s web page and they did communicate, the Gender and Sexuality Center, that they would no longer use it or it wouldn’t be used for that purpose on the website,” Brown-El said.

Despite this, the flag is currently featured on a scrolling banner on the Gender and Sexuality Center’s web page.

Creating culture of education & empathy

Within the next 10 years, there are going to be over 50,000 veterans returning to Michigan alone and 75 percent of that will be in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb according to Turrell. Additionally, just over 375 individuals using VA benefits already bring in 4 million dollars to the university.

“We joined in a time of war, it’s a very different culture when there’s not a war going on and so a lot of them are getting out and what are they going to do now?” Kyle McIntosh said. “To me, the university needs to be focusing on really showing how veteran-friendly they are.”

With the veteran resource center just beginning its growth, student veterans want to focus on communicating their needs and solutions.

“I think most of the time it’s a lack of knowing, it’s not a lack of wanting,” Wuestenberg said.

Additional ways to further support veteran students would include adding VSS information to class syllabi, creating a veteran-specific orientation, recognizing that they are not 18-year-olds, but adults and respecting that not all disabilities are visible.

“I don’t want people to say ‘oh you’re a hero thank you for your service,’ we did it because we felt a call,” Kyle McIntosh said. “I joined the Marine Corps. because I wanted to be there so someone else’s son didn’t have to be. I felt it was my job to serve my country. None of us consider ourselves heroes. But we don’t want to be forgotten.”

Recognizing military holidays

Student veterans have noted a lack of recognition of Memorial Day and Veterans Day in recent years.

The College Republicans student organization put on a 9/11 event but that is a student org taking the initiative.

Kyle McIntosh reported student veterans are not asking for big, lavish events or speakers but recognition and perhaps something as simple as a black life-size silhouette of a soldier with some quotes in buildings on campus.

“We’re out of the winter semester at that point [Memorial Day] so we generally don’t have scheduled programs during the summer semester,” Brown-El said.

However, Friday, June 29 will bring a celebration of CMI’s 25th Anniversary Reunion Weekend.

VSS now intends to plan a Memorial Day event this year after action by Kyle McIntosh. VSS also plans to do a Veteran’s Week, rather than day, with a pancake breakfast each morning.

“Why is it on the student org to do this? We do a lot for Martin Luther King Day, and this is a federal day. Which is fantastic, again I think it’s great, but what about these other days?”

Kyle McIntosh
Student Veteran

Within the next 10 years, there are going to be over 50,000 veterans returning to Michigan

Kognito training provides staff & faculty with the resources to aid veteran students academically and mentally

GSA puts on 15th annual Drag Show

Cheyenne Kramer
Managing Editor

For the 15th year, OU welcomed professionals and students to perform at the annual Drag Show.

Mickey McGlinnen, the 2018-2019 president of the Gay Straight Alliance, said even though this year's performance just passed, there has already been talk about next year's performances.

"I can't say for sure when it is, but expect those dates soon," McGlinnen said.

Hershae Chocolate, Sabin and Emma Sapphire returned as professional performers alongside numerous student performers. To book these performers the 2017-2018 President of the GSA, Jaclyn Radziszewski, made all the calls.

"It's interesting to talk to the professional queens on a professional level, doing things like contracts, handling W-9, and all of that," she said.

One such group of student performers was 99 Degrees, the name of the boyband-like performance fans of the Drag Show have seen for the past few years.

"Everyone loses their f***** minds over the boyband," McGlinnen said.

Student performers begin auditioning in January, and throughout the winter semester meet with the GSA to run over the details of their performances. This year, in the weeks leading up to the performance, the GSA advertised different



Elyse Gregory / The Oakland Post

Students and professionals made their appearance at the 15th annual Drag Show hosted by the GSA.

performers on Facebook, introducing them to the masses.

"It's validating to be seen as a performer, and it feels surreal to see yourself being advertised," McGlinnen said.

The planning process is intense, and usually begins a full year before the performance.

"It's been crazy to plan, it's by far the biggest event I've ever planned, or ever will plan," Radziszewski said. "There won't be 600 people at my wedding."

This year being the 15th anniversary sparked the idea of having a Pride theme. Along the back of the stage were donated flags from GSA members, all of which expressing their gender and sexual identities.

"Everything is gay, and I'm so happy to be in this space surrounded by so many LGBT themes," McGlinnen said. "It's all rainbow, it's like I'm meant to be here."

Radziszewski said the GSA's drag

show functions well as a way for people who may not know what drag is to get acclimated with it and enjoy the performances.

"There's a different element, because you're supporting your friends, your fellow students, not just professionals," she said. "Either way, it's still just as much fun."

Grace Wojcik, the coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center and the adviser to the GSA, said that each year the show gets bigger.

"When I became the coordinator, we used to serve food at the drag show," Wojcik said. "That was a logistical nightmare, and an added expense."

Wojcik also said that when she first started, there were no student performers. Today the Drag Show removed the food from the night in order to add extra seats and put more of a focus into the themes and decorations.

"It's an entertaining and accessible drag show, and it's more within a lot of people's comfort zones," she said.

She said that as long as things go the way they have been, she sees the drag show being bigger, better and filled with even more student performers 15 years from now.

"Drag is a performance of gender, it doesn't just mean performing as an 'opposite' gender," Radziszewski said. "It gives you the ability to play with gender and make it your own."

OUPD waives late fees for students

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

The Oakland University Police Department has started a limited time initiative to help alleviate student's financial stress.

All parking tickets received on or after Jan. 1, 2018 with late fees will have the late fees waived until April 20. This is the first time Oakland has launched something like this.

"Parking citation amnesty programs are occasionally held at other universities and in some cities," said Kenneth Kiley, director of Support Services. "We looked at several different models to help ensure our program is as successful as possible."

Parking is not necessarily a commodity at Oakland and only certain spots are overnight spots. All overnight spots are painted with green except for spaces in parking garages that are covered. OU is one of few universities that prides itself

in fee-free parking. Larger universities like Michigan State have students pay up to \$300 for a parking spot on campus, often far away from the dorms.

Most students pay their ticket long before the late fees start piling on.

"Parking citation amnesty programs are occasionally held at other universities and in some cities. We looked at several different models to help ensure our program is as successful as possible."

Kenneth Kiley
Director of Support Services

"Students and other visitors to campus do not generally rack up late fees on parking citations," Kiley said. "The violation fine schedule is posted on the Parking Services website along with information on when late fees are applied and what enforcement action will occur if a citation is not paid. Most offenders admit responsibility for the ordinance violation and pay or appeal the citation long before any late fees are applied."

The timing of this amnesty period was also convenient as it is toward the end of the spring semester. This can help alleviate stress from last minute projects, papers and exams. However, it does not last until the last day of the semester, April 25. There were several factors which created the timeline for this program.

"The fact that this program fell near the end of the semester is convenient because a lot of students are currently tying up loose ends before leaving for the summer and this gives them an opportunity to start the summer without the stress of

delinquent citations," Kiley said.

What the late fees go toward is often something students do not think about. The money actually goes toward more safety measures on campus. One of the bigger measures of funding go toward the blue emergency phone towers spread around campus.

"The Oakland University General Fund which can then be turned around and used on other safety initiatives on campus that benefit the entire OU community," said Nicole Thompson, lieutenant of OUPD.

Late fees can continue to go up the longer the ticket remains unpaid.

"Outstanding parking citations follow students from one semester to the next, and could even follow them into their professional careers once they leave Oakland," Kiley said. "We want to provide a way for students to make good on their past parking obligations and focus on achieving success here at Oakland and beyond."



Nicole Morsfield / The Oakland Post

All participants received the opportunity to gather, share and discuss what each person wrote.

English Department hosts 14th annual Spring Writing Marathon

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

The 14th annual Spring Writing Marathon took place on Thursday, April 5. Beginning in Lake Superior B of the Oakland Center at 5 p.m., the event moved participants to various locations around campus to write before regrouping at 7 p.m.

Pizza and cookies were served for the event as students and faculty were divided into several groups for the marathon. The groups were then sent out on a “marathon” across campus, traveling to various locations to work on a writing piece of their choice. The inspiration for this structure was from other writing camps that incorporated this style to encourage original writing.

“One summer, I did a program with Meadow Brook Hall—it was called the Summer Institute, where a bunch of writing instructors get together and talk about writing practices,” Christina Hall, the coordinator of the Writing Marathon and an Oakland University writing professor said. “One of the things we did in a group was a writing marathon over at Meadow Brook Hall, where we also do our youth writing camps and I thought, ‘Oh my gosh, our students would totally love this.’ So I started doing it in my classroom, once or twice a semester, just on a small scale. Then I was like, ‘This would be really cool to do with everybody,’ and so we began coordinating the event for the next semester.”

The Writing Marathon gave students the opportunity to either start writing one piece and move onto another at the different locations they visit, or continue one

piece for the whole marathon. In the spirit of no limits, all different writings were accepted.

“When I first started here at Oakland four years ago, this writing marathon was one of the first department events that I could go to,” said Melissa St. Pierre, a special lecturer in the OU Writing and Rhetoric Department. “I used to be a student here and I never heard of an event like this before. This is a good event to see that writing is fun and not just a solitary activity. We are passing by things we see every day but now we’re stopping and taking time with this event to be inspired and are much more interesting.”

In the past, the event would launch a scavenger hunt with specific words to be included in the participants’ writing pieces. But people seemed to have just as much fun in an unstructured environment as well.

“Words are our greatest power, weapon and ally,” St. Pierre said. “This country wouldn’t even exist without words. It has the power to heal, to create good and bad outcomes. Words are used if you’re a writer or a mathematician, we still need to understand them and learn from them and respect the power of language.”

“This event opens the door to acknowledge other kinds of writing events. It is highlighting the strengths of the Writing and Rhetoric Department here. This event is to show not just the students but the OU community that writing is not just a part of the gen-ed classes. There is so much more to the department than just those classes.”

Coordinators plan to continue the writing marathon in the coming years, with the next event scheduled for the fall 2018 academic semester.

now hiring: *Campus Editor*

Responsibilities

- Write one story per week.
- Work up to 10 hours per week.
- Mentor four reporters and edit their work.
- Attend weekly budget and editors’ meetings.
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Attributes

- Should be detailed and have a strong grasp of AP style.
- Should be comfortable working in a group-intensive environment.

Interested applicants can send a resume, cover letter and three writing samples to
ayhirsch@oakland.edu.

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- Create headlines, subheads and captions for all stories
- Make corrections to pages after editor-in-chief, managing editors and chief copy editor have looked over the pages

Must work both production days (Mondays and Tuesdays)

Interested applicants should send a resume, cover letter and Adobe InDesign samples to
ayhirsch@oakland.edu.

The 'Love Doctor' reveals secrets to happy relationships

Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Dr. Terri Orbuch, a professor of sociology, human sexuality and interpersonal relationships at Oakland University, has studied and followed 373 married couples for almost three decades through a combination of scientific studies and psychological deduction. Her study is funded by the National Institute of Health.

On Wednesday, April 4, "The Love Doctor" revealed what she discovered.

Orbuch is an author, journalist and has appeared on USA Today, ESPN, the Katie Couric Show, CNN and more.

"Happy relationships shouldn't be hard work," Orbuch said. "That's one of the upbeat findings from my landmark study of marriage and relationships in general. If you're in a happy partnership, married or not, you can keep it that way or make it even better by introducing a few new behaviors and small changes into the relationship."

Orbuch's study of 373 married couples is the only study of its kind.

"When I asked these couples, what's most important to you? The number one answer people gave is having a relationship," Orbuch said.

While many relationship experts say you need to focus on fixing what's wrong, Or-

buch's research shows that adding positive behaviors to the relationship has a much greater impact on couples' happiness.

"Do random acts of kindness often," Orbuch said. "Small gestures that say 'I'm thinking of you' are essential to keep the relationship bond strong."

Orbuch offers strategies to promote happiness, excitement and passion in a relationship. These strategies are not only for married couples but for couples at any stage of a relationship.

"In relationships, you need to have realistic expectations," Orbuch said. "Having unrealistic expectations leads to frustration, and my study found that frustration is the main reason relationships fail."

Doing small things, often, providing affirmation for the other person in the relationship, and in turn, allows them to feel appreciated.

"Affective affirmation consists of compliments, help, support and encouragement," Orbuch said.

The happy couples from her long-term study of marriage all said good communication skills were what kept them together and thriving.

"When striving for good communication, this means not only asking your partner what he or she needs, but telling your partner what you need," Orbuch said. "It means checking in regularly to find out what stressors are rearing their



Nicole Morsfield / The Oakland Post

Dr. Orbuch's relationship study that focuses on 373 married couples is a one-of-a-kind experiment.

ugly head in your partner's life, and it means learning how to fight fair."

Orbuch says that the best way to make your relationship better is to add positive elements to your relationships.

"That positive energy makes us feel good and motivates us to keep going in that direction," Orbuch said.

Willie Tuggle, learning and organization development manager at OU, believes that holding events like this on campus will benefit students and staff who are looking to develop their personal relationships.

"My office is concerned with the en-

tire make up of a person which includes their well-being," Tuggle said. "An event like this helps to offer the community insight into their personal development which in turns add value to the impact they have at OU. When our staff have the tools and resources to enhance their development it enhances their ability to serve the OU community."

Relationships are vital to both psychological and physical health.

"Those who are in a happy relationship tend to be healthier, which is critical for a balanced life," Orbuch said.

Faculty exclusive conference seeks to leverage diversity

Ariel Themm
Staff Reporter

The 2018 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Conference will be held in the Oakland Center banquet rooms on Thursday, April 12, beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until 5 p.m. The theme of this year's conference is "Leveraging Diversity: Stand Up, Stand Strong, Stand Together."

For the beginning of the conference, there will be a spoken word performance from Alicea Davis followed by a campus welcome from Dr. James Lentini, the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Oakland University. Oakland University President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz will be making an appearance along with Glenn McIntosh, Vice President for Student Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer. McIntosh was also the leader

of the committee that arranged this year's conference topic.

"The committee has staff, faculty, and administration and we met last semester to discuss how the conference was going to look like and that's when me and Beth Talbert were nominated to be the co-coordinators," said Grace Wojcik, the co-coordinator of the conference and coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center. "We want to meet certain needs by selecting specific speakers to present and get across the message we are portraying."

Among this year's guest speakers will be Dr. Z Nicolazzo, Dr. Betty Overton and Margaret Brower, M.A.

Nicolazzo is an assistant professor of higher education and student affairs at Northern Illinois University and will be speaking on "Building Trans-Inclusive Campuses: Leveraging Evidence

for National Studies to Inform Campus Practice." Overton is the senior associate of the National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good and a clinical professor at the University of

Michigan. Brower is a current Ph.D. candidate at the University of Chicago. Overton and Brower will be speaking together on "Hidden Inequalities: Modern Sexism in the Academy."

"The three main speakers were carefully selected, and we saw a valuable quality in their presentations that we didn't want anyone to miss," said Beth Talbert, the co-coordinator of the conference and chief adviser and special lecturer for the Communications Department said. "These will be good speakers that the community could use. All [speakers] are well-known with good topics, interesting areas that need and should be discussed."

After lectures from the guest speakers, McIntosh will provide closing remarks and present the Monica E. Emerson Diversity Award and the Timothy G. Larrabee SOGI Equity and In-

clusion Award. The conference will conclude with a wine and cheese reception.

Due to limited seating spaces and a previous lack of student interest, this conference will be exclusive to faculty and staff members. Through the conference, administration hopes to encourage involvement from staff to help make the community more inclusive.

"The purpose of this event is to raise awareness of diversity, to promote inclusion for folks, to push for initiatives," Wojcik said. "We want more people involved and aware of diversity issues. We have gaps that need to be filled to promote inclusion and hopefully this conference can inspire for creations of new initiatives to help fill those gaps. This could make the community more comfortable for all students, staff and faculty."

Motors Club calls off Moonlight Meet due to reckless behavior



Sergio Montanez / The Oakland Post

This year's event was the largest the Motor Club has hosted with over 300 cars on display. This was the first year that there were any incidents, and the club said that most of the reckless behavior came from those outside the university community.

Dean Vaglia
Distributor

Last Friday, the Motors Club of Oakland University held its Moonlight Motors Meet in the P32 parking garage, overtaking the car park with some of the most unique vehicles OU students have to offer.

However, the Moonlight Meet had to be called off around 9 p.m. due to reckless behavior from some of the guests. The meeting was one of the largest the Motors Club has had so far with around 300-400 cars on show, around half being owned by Oakland students.

"We've stressed for over two years now what proper meet etiquette and campus behavior should be like," club Vice President Taseen Syed said after the meeting. "We've never had incidents outside of the occasional revving which is taken care of through a simple warning. There were several people who were being rowdy and they were all not OU students. I can say that with certainty because we know close to all of the OU students."

Syed said the Motors Club would be keeping all future meets limited to Oakland and Oakland Community College students only.

The Motors Club aims to be a group where automotive fans can show off their rides and socialize, whether they bring a track-ready Subaru or daily-driven Chevrolet. The club is also open to all types of motorized vehicles, including trucks and motorcycles.

One thing that sets the club apart from



others in the "lower Michigan area" is the outgoing nature of its members.

"The people go out of their way to meet you and introduce themselves, it's more community based than just 'come here and show off your car,'" Syed said. "You come here, you make connections. I'll be quite frank, my first two years at OU I didn't really take the time to get involved, I didn't really make a few friends outside of a few people in my accounting major. Coming into this club definitely broadened my horizons."

The club was founded back in 2015 when three OU students met at the Woodward Dream Cruise and set up the club's Facebook page. When they came back to OU, the students began "carding," or left business cards on cars around campus that would be "most likely to join the club." Around that time, Syed got involved and helped get the club sponsored by OU.

The club has a reputation with its members for helping each other when it comes to vehicle problems, as Syed explained. "We've had one of our members whose car constantly broke down — a lot of the times on campus — and we gave the nickname 'The MCOU Rescue Squad' because as soon as [the member] would say 'guys I'm stuck in a parking lot I need help,' five to ten guys would message him 'What do you need? Where are you? I'll be there in five minutes.' It's a community more so than just a student org."

The Motors Club typically meets once a month, with the dates and locations being posted onto the group's MCOU official Facebook page or GrizzOrgs page.

Chris Palombizio has left men's basketball

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

Sophomore forward Chris Palombizio will not be returning to the Golden Grizzly men's basketball team next season. Palombizio announced on Thursday, April 5 that he will be transferring from Oakland University after spending two and a half years as a Golden Grizzly.

Palombizio announced his intent to transfer in an Instagram post on Thursday night, saying, "I want to thank Grizzly nation for allowing me to call Oakland home for two and a half years. I will be transferring from Oakland and exploring other options to further my academic and athletic career. I'd like to thank my coaches, teammates and everyone associated with the University that has contributed to my overall experience. While it is unfortunate I will not graduate a Golden Grizzly, I am excited about the future and ready to grind this offseason."

Palombizio was one of two Oakland players to play in every game in the 2017-2018 season, Nick Daniels being the other. He averaged 12.1 minutes per game in his red-shirt sophomore season, 4.2 more minutes per game than his first season with the team.

The 6'6" forward from

Chesterton, Ind. averaged 2.7 points per game and 1.9 rebounds per game, and had his best offensive output against Cleveland State on Feb. 26, scoring a career-high 10 points and hitting two 3-pointers. Palombizio performed in crunch time at Little Caesars Arena, pulling down an offensive rebound with the game tied, and hitting a free throw to take the lead with a minute left.

"Chris is a great kid and a great student as well," men's basketball Head Coach Greg Kampe said. "During his time here he represented Oakland well, I'm very sorry to see him go. It's been an ongoing conversation between us. I don't want him to go, I was not sure what his role will be on next year's team—we're still recruiting and figuring out the lineup. No one on our team is a guaranteed starter on opening night right now. I think he's looking for something better."

Palombizio was also one of the men's basketball team's best students. In fall 2016 and the subsequent spring semester in 2017, the human resource development major was named to the Horizon League Academic Honor Roll. He has yet to say where he is transferring and whether or not he will continue his collegiate basketball career.



The Oakland Post Archives

Chris Palombizio was one of the Golden Grizzly's best students, being named twice to the Horizon League Academic Honor Roll.

OAKLAND PASSES FEASIBILITY STUDY

SKYLAR TOLFREE
SPORTS EDITOR

It was announced Oct. 16, 2017 at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit that Oakland University would take part in a National Hockey League feasibility study to determine if Oakland was eligible to bring intercollegiate NCAA Division I hockey to campus. Oakland was one of only five universities in the nation to be selected for this study.

A draft of the results are in, and the NHL has said, "With the passion for hockey at all levels in the State of Michigan, the foundation appears to be in place for Oakland University to develop hockey programs that will be financially successful and competitive on a conference and national level."

Glenn McIntosh is now heading this project due to the departure of former university Athletics Director Jeff Konya.

"As a result of the feasibility study, we are developing a criteria that will help determine the conditions that must be met for a women's and men's hockey to be a good fit for our university," McIntosh said. "We have not determined whether to bring hockey to Oakland. Since we have many logistical matters to consider... bringing hockey to the university is not a near future goal."

The study results were finished on Nov. 25, 2017 but have yet to be released to the public. The Oakland Post has been conversing with Athletics since November, and reporters were told through January that a draft did not exist.

The Post retained a copy of the study through a Freedom of Information Act request.

The study itself contains a breakdown of all the information needed to bring Division I men's and women's hockey to the university, including costs for coaches and staffs, arena ideas and sales revenue.

While McIntosh says there are many logistical matters to consider, the study itself contains information that breaks down a lot of the tough questions and concerns that the university and university community could have pertaining to bringing NCAA DI hockey to campus.

An area that Athletics would need to fund is scholarships for the student-athletes. These scholarships, like any other scholarship, athletic or academic, are used to bring the students to the university to play the game. Athletics would be in charge of budgeting out these scholarships from its own pool of scholarship funding.

As of now, it is recommended by the NHL that there will be just under 20 scholarships offered that would result in roughly \$720,000.

There has been no public announcement on how the university would obtain this money to start the program. Two options would be to either receive a generous donation(s), or raise the student tuition by a very small amount, according to Konya before the study took place.

Lastly, the absence of an ice arena is one of the factors that McIntosh is still looking into that, right now, is stopping he and his team from tackling the program. There has been no talk of locations where an ice arena could go if the univer-

sity was to decide to move forward. In the study, there is a detailed thought process of the size of the arena as well as what else the arena could be used for by the public.

But before a hockey program can be pursued, Oakland needs to focus on funding issues in addition to replacing Konya.

As mentioned earlier, Konya abruptly stepped down from his position of director of Athletics in January. In his absence, Padraic McMeel has been named interim athletics director.

It was announced late Monday evening on April 9, that the search committee has been formed and the search has begun. Though it has been a long time coming and the position has been vacant for almost four months now, the search is finally set to begin.

"I am pleased to announce that a national search for the University Athletic Director has been launched," University President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz said in the announcement.

"We hope to complete the search process by late spring or early summer," McIntosh said. "Our goal is to generate a hire quality diverse candidate pool and select the best fit for Oakland."

With a recommendation from the NHL to start metro Detroit's only NCAA DI intercollegiate hockey program still relatively fresh, getting an athletic director quickly will be imperative for the university. Though it is unclear why Oakland has waited so long to start the search and why Oakland has kept the feasibility study results from the university community for so long, new opportunity just might be on the horizon.

NHL's Recommended Positions and Pricing

Head Coach

\$250,000

Equipment Manager

\$40,000

Director of

\$40,000

Strength & Conditioning Coach

\$40,000

Asst. Coach (2 Positions)

\$175,000

Athletic Trainer

\$45,000

Sports In

\$30,000



“GREATER DETROIT IS
BOUNCING BACK. IT WOULD
BE FABULOUS TO HAVE A
HOCKEY TEAM RIGHT UP THE
ROAD.” -RED WINGS GM KEN HOLLAND

DESIGN BY
AUJENEE HIRSCH
GRAPHICS BY
ERIN O'NEILL AND
PRAKHA CHILUKURI

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Boyd C Farnam

Assistant General Counsel

Alyssa Gaudio

Women's Head Golf Coach

Gregory Thomas Jordan

Director of Campus Recreation

Thomas LeMarbe

Assistant Vice President for Finance and Administration

Judy Didion, Ph.D., RN

Dean of the School of Nursing

Todd Nucci

Director of Marketing, Web and Digital Services

Angie Schmucker

Associate Vice President for University Advancement

Christine Stiller

Special Instructor of Physical Therapy and
Faculty Athletics Representative

Melissa Stolicker

Oakland University Trustee

g for NCAA DI Men's Intercollegiate Hockey

of Hockey Operations

\$10,000

Administrative Assistant

\$35,000

Student Workers

\$10,000

Plus Fringe Benefits, this
would bring the program's
total staff and fringe
annual cost to...

Information Director

\$5,000

Academic Coordinator/Counselor

\$40,000

\$990,000

'A Quiet Place' is terrifyingly terrific

Trevor Tyle
Campus Editor

For most of us, John Krasinski will forever be known as the wisecracking, mild-mannered prankster Jim Halpert from "The Office." That is, until you see his new horror flick "A Quiet Place," which he directed and starred in alongside wife Emily Blunt.

Set in a post-apocalyptic society in 2020, "A Quiet Place" follows a family living in silence and solitude amid an extraterrestrial invasion of sorts. These creatures—essentially the lovechild of a Xenomorph from "Alien" and a Demogorgon from "Stranger Things"—are visually impaired, but have stellar sound senses that they use to hunt the survivors of the human race.

Lee and Evelyn (Krasinski and Blunt, respectively) have three children—Regan (Millicent Simmonds), Marcus (Noah Jupe) and Beau (Cade Woodward)—with

a fourth on the way. The family communicates through sign language to stay alive, as even the faintest of noises can attract the creatures, sending them into a deadly rampage. (This also proves useful to Regan, who is deaf.)

As the family continues to fight for survival, living as ordinary a life as possible, they all become separated, leaving everyone—including a heavily pregnant Evelyn—to fend for themselves.

The film feels as fresh as it does simple from beginning to end. Though only 90 minutes long, Krasinski makes every moment of this action-packed thrill ride count. The film is so intoxicating that you feel breathless for its entirety. Though it prides itself on jump scares, they never feel cheap or overbearing. Rather than visual terror, "A Quiet Place" brilliantly uses familial themes in a way that traps viewers in the story, though it remains subjective whether their investment in the unfolding narrative is voluntary.

Marco Beltrami's impeccable score further escalates "A Quiet Place" toward greatness. Though much of the film is quiet—as the title implies—the musical hints throughout create an additional layer of suspense that will leave audiences clinging to the edge of their seats, desperately trying to wipe the sweat from their palms.

It's a rarity for a horror film to leave audience members feeling sadness as profound as their inevitable terror. The film is driven into tearjerker territory at multiple points, thanks to the exceptional performances of the entire cast. Krasinski and Blunt are as glorious as expected, but their child costars truly give them a run for their money—the raw authenticity of Simmonds' performance is particularly noteworthy.

"A Quiet Place" excels where so many of its contemporaries have failed by doing the most with the least. There are no gimmicks or mindless violence here—it's just a classic horror film, and a damn good one, mind you. Even compared to recent critical successes in the genre, "A Quiet Place" exceeds expectations, shedding the political weight of "Get Out" and the aesthetic gore of "IT" for a story that hits much closer to home.

At its core, though, "A Quiet Place" is more than just a terrifying film about a doomed family against unfathomable

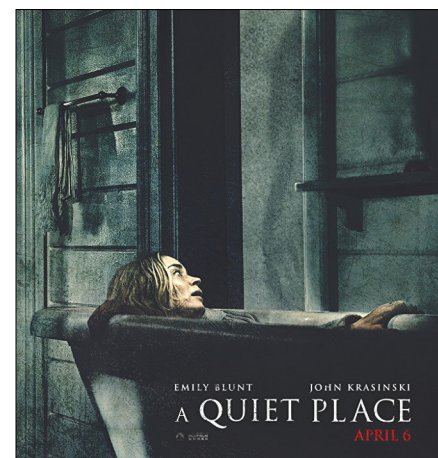


Photo courtesy of IMDb

"Unsane" made \$50 million opening weekend

odds. It's a statement on the triumphs and failures of parenthood and the barrier of parental protection which children must overcome.

"A Quiet Place" is riveting, spine-chilling and full of substance and life. It defies the conventions of horror in a way that feels both innovative and welcome.

Though it may be a bit premature, I think it's safe to say—or rather, whisper—that this will go down in cinematic history as one of the greatest horror films of all time.

Rating: 5/5 stars

SUMMER 2018 PAYMENT INFORMATION

OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY™

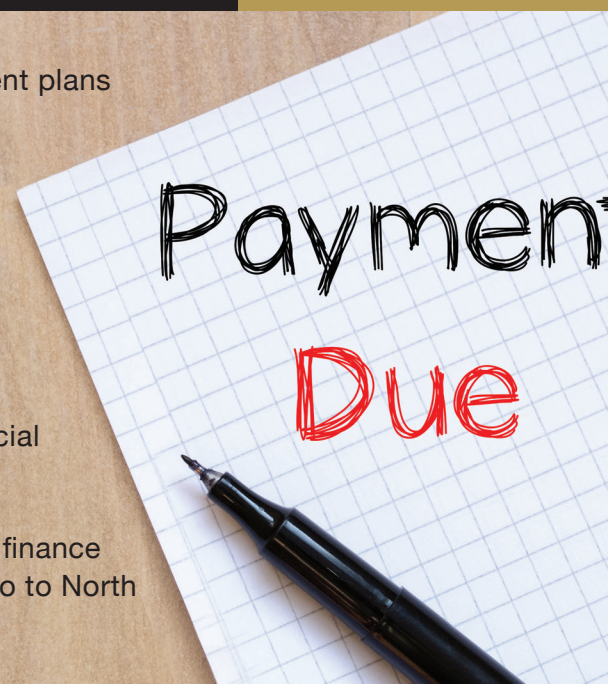
Keep advancing toward your degree with summer classes at OU. Summer payment plans are available, which help spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments.

IMPORTANT DATE

- **April 17** — cancellation (drop) date for students who have not paid their charges

You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full by enrolling in a payment plan and paying your installments on time, obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds.

We are here to help. If you need help understanding payment options or how to finance your education, please contact Student Financial Services at (248) 370-2550 or go to North Foundation Hall, Room 120.



VIEW all payment and cancellation (drop) dates and **LEARN** how to avoid cancellation (drop) at oakland.edu/financialservices, then Payments & Refunds, then Payments & Cancellation.

Sinclair is a danger to journalistic integrity



John Bozick
Web Editor

Last month a disturbing clip began trending on Twitter and Facebook pertaining to the fact that dozens of different local news stations owned by Sinclair Broadcasting Group were forced to say the same speech at the end of the newscast. Including warnings of fake news, and how said news was a threat to or democracy; the stations also pledged to continue to report fairly and accurately.

"The sharing of biased and false news has become all too common on social media. Some members of the media use their platforms to push their own personal ideas. This is extremely dangerous to our democracy," were the words that played in unison across dozens of different news networks.

While reporting the truth is the number one rule of journalism, the fact that dozens of news stations in different cities all in different states were forced by Sinclair to say the same thing is an eerie idea. Sinclair may sound familiar due to John Oliver's bit on the issue from July 2017 in which he criticized the group's past antics.

Sinclair Broadcasting Group owns a total of 173 different stations across the country from areas such as Washington D.C. to some of the smaller cities in Northern and Western Michigan. What you get when one corporation owns hundreds of different stations is a group that has the power to spread information across a platform as large as the continental United States.

Sinclair has used its influence to air anti-Kerry ads during the 2004 presidential election between George W. Bush and John Kerry, the incident was so bad that the group fired a reporter for criticizing the ad. The group also spent

millions supporting President Donald Trump during the most recent presidential election in 2016, after which the group began to turn its eyes toward creating a media empire aimed at supporting the unpopular president.

If dozens of news anchors staring into the camera reading the same lines doesn't say it, Sinclair hold its employees in an iron grip, and just like the past it will take action against them at a moment's notice if they remotely criticize the corporation's actions or ethical practices.

In November 2017, Sinclair took legal action against a news anchor from WPEC News, a CBS affiliate in West Palm Beach, Fla., after she left the studio with 11 weeks remaining in her contract, despite the fact that the anchor had left nearly a year before the lawsuit was filed.

"The sharing of biased and false news has become all too common on social media. Some members of the media use their platforms to push their own personal ideas. This is extremely dangerous to our democracy."

Sinclair Broadcasting anchors

When corporations own as many stations as Sinclair, ethical issues arise. Running negative stories against certain political candidates is not how journalism should work. When the station warns its viewers against fake news, they should also mention the news run on their own network.

Corporations do not mean well to those besides their owners, they don't care about anything other than profit. When a group such as Sinclair acquires as many stations as it does, they're doing so not to uphold journalistic integrity, but instead to expand their own influence and reach. Those searching for real honest news should turn away from television and support the little guy, those that care about the code of ethics and reporting the real truth.

The FBI is *nothing* but fallacious and corrupt



Isaac Martin
Contributor

Over the past three years, controversy after controversy has rocked our nation, exposing many of our most beloved institutions as mouldering bastions of decadence at the highest levels (#MeToo). The two infamous imbroglios of the 2016 election — Email-gate and the Russian Collusion — also spring to mind. As the dust has settled and emotions have been tempered, a disturbing fact has emerged: The FBI has been compromised by politically animated individuals.

From former FBI Director James Comey to disgraced Deputy Director of Counterintelligence Peter Strzok to Strzok's paramour, FBI lawyer Lisa Page, a number of upper echelon actors within the FBI are complicit in these two debacles. Former U.S. Attorney and Independent Counsel Joseph E. diGenova comments that he has "Never witnessed investigations so fraught with failure to fulfill the basic elements of a criminal probe as those conducted under James Comey."

It appears clear that Comey was fired with good cause and a housecleaning may be in order at the FBI.

The trouble started when the New York Times broke the story on Secretary Hillary Clinton's private email server. During the ensuing FBI investigation, the Clinton camp was not exactly forthcoming with documents and data the agency requested. Sensitive information was purposely destroyed (a la hammer and bleachbit) while the Justice Department and the FBI failed to follow reasonable procedures.

Senior leadership of the FBI showed remarkable reticence towards issuing subpoenas, refusing to do so even after Clinton claimed 39 times in a July 2, 2016 interview that she could not recall certain facts because of a head injury. Despite the requests of agents on the case, Comey refused the task of subpoenaing Clinton's medical records.

This attitude toward Clinton comes in stark comparison toward that shown to four-star Marine General James E. Cartwright that same year. The general plead guilty in October of 2016 regarding information he had leaked to the New York Times. For general Cartwright, subpoenas and search warrants seemed to suit the FBI just fine.

As the pivotal election of 2016 neared, the focus shifted from the Clinton email scandal to the link between Trump and Russia. Though allegations on this count had long been smoldering, they quickly were fanned into flame as soon as Trump became the heir apparent to the Republican party. Thanks to the discoveries of DOJ Inspector General Michael Horowitz, we now know key members of the FBI played a key role in this conflagration.

High-ranking officials the FBI — notably Deputy Director of Counterintelligence Peter Strzok and FBI lawyer Lisa Page — used their positions to validate rumors of Russian collusion as a result of deep-seated political animus. Even before the election, on Aug. 15, 2016, Strzok concernedly wrote Page that he wanted "to believe the path you threw out for consideration in [Andrew McCabe's] office—that there's no way [Trump] gets elected—but I'm afraid we can't take that risk. It's like an insurance policy in the unlikely event you die before you're 40."

The insurance policy in question? The Russian collusion narrative.

This kind of partisan chicanery is unacceptable from our leading investigating minds. The FBI has a storied tradition of excellence — a tradition acquired by refusing to allow personal bias to trump agency objectives. The corrupt leaders within the FBI must continue to be removed from their positions to make headlines for all the right reasons.

‘Unsane’ is a thriller so terrible, it’s scary

Mary Siring
Staff Reporter

“**U**nsane” is 2018’s “Shutter Island,” if “Shutter Island” had little to no character development and a plot with potential but a script and ending that didn’t follow through.

The film is an American psychological horror-thriller following Sawyer Valentini, a woman confined to a mental institution after she is pursued by a stalker.

The entire film was shot on the iPhone 7 Plus, which was the first notable piece of the film and arguably its most artistic and clever attribute. While the quality is good with an iPhone, a classic, high-end film camera would take much better and much more recognizable shots.

Choosing to film the entire movie with an iPhone was smart and artistic. The main plot point of the film is Sawyer’s relationship with her stalker, and the film being shot with a cell phone gives the illusion that her stalker is recording the entire ordeal.

The style feels very intimate, almost too intimate. It’s clear enough to know exactly what’s going on, but with that home video feel to it.

The same can be said for the beginning and ending credit style. They’re simple and easily made by anyone who owns a video editing program, aiding to the idea of a home video.

This, unfortunately, was the most positively notable point of the film.

The plot is not a new one. “Shutter Island” is one of the most recognized with the mental asylum theme, as well as “A Cure For Wellness.” That being said, it’s a theme that is easily enjoyable. The addition of the stalking element is taking a fairly classic premise and adding a new spin.

However, it seems the writers thought of this groundbreaking idea, and then simply laid it out and stepped away, waiting for it to develop itself. There weren’t twists and turns, which is disappointing considering how interesting the original concept is.

The film would have been much better if viewers were left guessing whether Sawyer was insane or not until the final moments, or maybe



Photo courtesy of IMDB

Claire Foy portrays Sawyer in “Unsane.”

never truly know. Instead, each new path of the plot is laid out and easily expected. It was a fantastic idea, it was just never pushed far enough.

It seemed as though this film could have done with even another hour to allow for more character development. Viewers were only shown the surface of each character, even Sawyer’s. She had been a victim of stalking for two years. It would have certainly been beneficial to show more of that time in her life rather than just the present.

Truly understanding her and her struggle in this moment required much more depth to her character.

Including the image of her stalker was interesting, as well, in the best way possible. Unfortunately, there is no mystery regarding his actual existence in the mental institution. It was another great idea without execution.

Overall, “Unsane” simply needed more mystery to be successful. While in many instances, viewers would be angry leaving a film and not knowing really how it ended, for a psychological film such as this, a mysterious ending is exactly what it needed to be successful.

Rating: 2/5 stars

Hinds brings girl power to new album *I Don’t Run*

Jessica Leydet
Social Media Editor

I don’t know about you, but when I think about lo-fi rock I always picture hard edged city kids from either California or New York with kitsch threads and a raw sound. I was pleasantly refreshed when I came across Hinds, a girl band out of Spain.

The girls joined forces to create the band, formerly known as Deers, in 2011. Fun fact: the name change was due to a threat of legal action causing them to make a slight switch to Hinds, which actually means “female deer.” The band is made up of Carlotta Cosials (vocals, guitar), Ana Perrote (vocals, guitar), Ade Martin (bass, backing vocals) and Amber Grimbergen (drums).

Together they have released two albums, one compilation LP and four singles. Hinds’ second studio album, *I Don’t Run*, was released on April 6. Though this genre is typically an acquired taste, I think it is definitely worth it for anyone to give it a listen.

One of the things I think the girls do well is their quirky use of English in their lyrics. They play with turn of phrase and use words in a non-native way. I like that this sets them apart from U.S. bands, they kind of created an interesting sub-genre of their own.

An example of this is the third track of the album, “Linda” which appears to be kind of a funny, yet passive ag-

gressive break up song. A phrase from this song I found interesting and offbeat is, “When you ring my bell and I wanna be ready for your smell.”

Another thing that I found I was completely in love with was Hinds’ bad-ass anthems that just bleed girl power. The song “Finally Floating” is a song that layers vocals from both Cosials and Perrote, who are chanting about the wastefulness of having a crush consuming their mind. These lyrics from the chorus are split between both vocalists, “[Ana] Useless, overdose on time stuck in this phase, in this phase, [Carlotta] I’m feeling great ‘til I’m laying in bed I know this rhyme, no melodies, sounds again.” This was a really cool way for them to add more power to their lyrics.

In addition to the slamming guitar infused sound and rhythmic drum beats, Hinds manages to pump out songs that are so serene it is almost hypnotizing. “I Feel cold But I Feel More” and “Ma Nuit” are prime examples of this with their repetitive and softly exposed sound.

I think this album was predictable in terms of the instrumentation but Hinds brought some really quirky and fun lyricism to the table which I adored. They definitely have grown to be more nuanced since the last album and I can’t wait to hear more from them in the future.

Rating: 4/5 stars



Photo courtesy of NPR

The all-girl band formed in 2011. They were originally called “Deers” until their name was changed.

The Weeknd reverts to his darker days

Released March 30 "My Dear Melancholy" is a six track EP that spills out emotion

Falin Hakeem
Staff Reporter

OK, so for those of you who may not know The Weeknd, or Abel Tesfaye, before he became one of Pop/R&B's biggest mainstream hit-makers, let me fill you in really quick.

For a period of time, Tesfaye remained a mystery and instead of entertaining a public image, he wanted to be known solely for his music, denying interviews and avoiding all forms of press. It was a while before fans knew his birth name or what he even looked like.

Tesfaye's sound was also very different from what you'll hear from him on the radio these days. It came from a more painful and addicting place. A few years later, he emerged with his second studio album "Beauty Behind the Madness," which had more of an upbeat pop sound that still reflected his "Trilogy" and "Kissland" days.

It wasn't until his third studio album "Starboy" that Tesfaye introduced a newer sound that strayed away from what fans were used to hearing from him. And while some fans still supported him, others were not there for it. (Spoiler alert: I was one of the "oth-

ers.") Though the album had a few good hits, it just wasn't the same. I felt no raw emotion listening in his voice, no spine tingling high notes. Gone were The Weeknd's darker days.

Or were they?

Fans can thank Tesfaye's breakup with Selena Gomez (and Bella Hadid?) for his heart-rending, six track EP respectively titled "My Dear Melancholy." The track list includes "Call Out my Name," "Try me," "Wasted Times," "I Was Never There," "Hurt You" and "Privilege."

The EP, which was released on Friday, March 30, debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart.

Since the album came out, fans (including myself, of course) have gone into a social media frenzy, dissecting every single lyric and the meaning behind it. For example, the song "Call Out My Name" begins with this lyric:

"We found each other / I helped you out of a broken place / You gave me comfort / But falling for you was my mistake."

Fans speculated this was about ex-girlfriend Gomez mainly because of the second verse, which references her kidney transplant:

"I said I didn't feel nothing baby, but



Photo courtesy of Billboard

All six tracks from "My Dear Melancholy" debuted on Hot 100, the highest being "Call Out My Name."

I lied / I almost cut a piece of myself for your life."

Deep stuff, you guys. And it doesn't stop there.

In "Wasted Times," fans seem to think the song was about ex Bella Hadid. He starts the song off with the following lyric:

"Wasted times I spent with someone

else / she wasn't even half of you."

Tesfaye then sneaks in "You were equestrian so ride it like a champion" referring to Hadid's past as an equestrian horseback rider before she became a supermodel.

Here's hoping he decides to release a full-on album with more lyrics to over-analyze. Sad Tesfaye for the win.

Cost of college kid food from health perspective

Alyssa Ochss
Contributor

When the words "college kids food" are heard, what usually comes to mind are things like a block of ramen noodles, pop tarts or the double shot Starbucks drinks that someone could buy from a vending machine. The reason for eating these foods instead of a meal with vegetables and all the fixings is usually because it is the cheapest food to get on a budget.

But what are we really putting in our bodies? On my recent trip to Meijer, I picked up six foods that would be perceived as a "college kid foods." Along with writing about the general calories, sodium and other health factors, I will be rating the food from a Weight Watcher perspective. Weight Watchers generally have a set of points to go by and every food has a number of points its given. For example, for a day I am given 23 points to go by.

So, without further ado, let's get into the chosen foods.

Chef Boyardee Mac and Cheese: One bowl of this pasta, which is listed as "pasta in cheese sauce," is six points and contains 7.5 oz of food. For a small container, it is pretty heavy which means either a large amount of cheese sauce or a large amount of pasta. Listed as having no preservatives, this bowl of mac and cheese has 200 calories per serving, but has 690 mg of sodium. It has 10 mg of cholesterol and 140 mg of potassium.

Pop Tarts, S'mores: These pastries are sold all over campus and are one of the easiest to turn to outside of NutriGrain bars. The Pop Tarts I got have the regular amount of frosting and are listed as "naturally and artificially flavored" and are 8 points per pastry. So, if both are eaten, it comes to a total of 16 points. They have about 210 mg of sodium, 200 calories per serving, 5 g total fat and 3 g of protein.

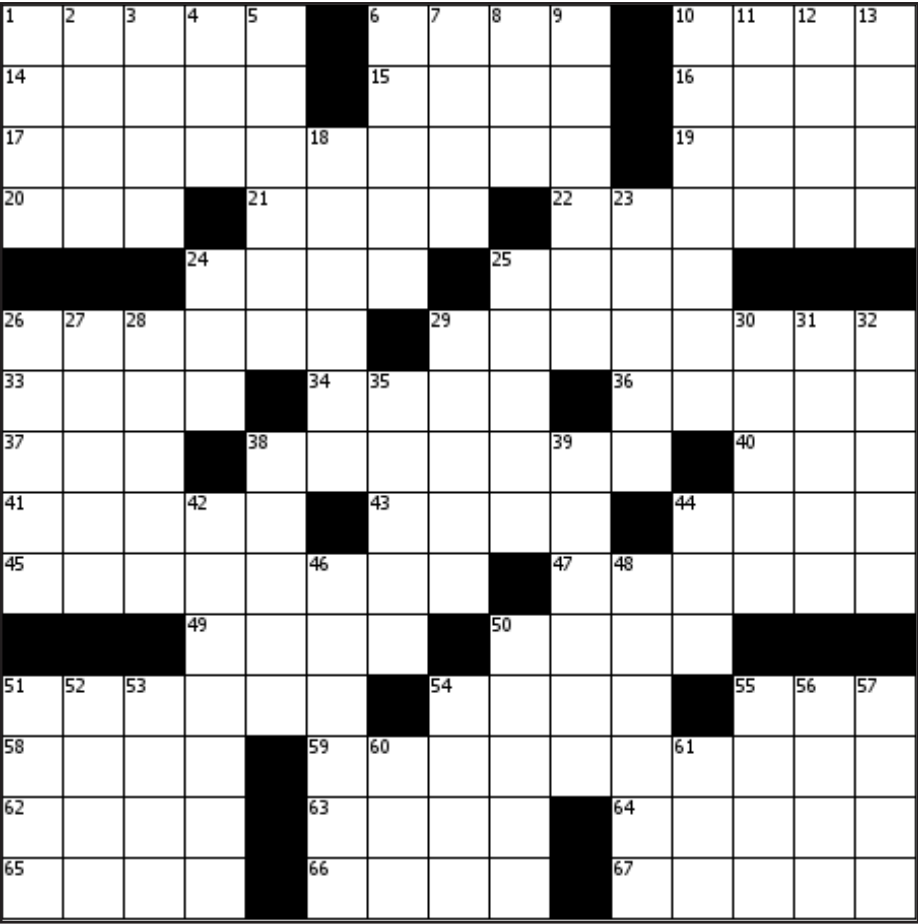
Maruchan Ramen Noodle Soup, Chicken Flavor: These are the prepackaged squares of ramen and come in either single packs or bulk. A full package is listed as 13 points, again, eating up

most of my points for the day. This specific pack has 830 mg of sodium, about 35 percent, and have 190 calories per serving. There is 7 g of fat and it has 26 g of carbs. Ramen has less sodium than The Original Cup Noodles, which has 1030 mg.

Starbucks Frappuccino Chilled Coffee Drink, Vanilla: This drink and others like it are found in vending machines all over campus. A single bottle is 14 points on the Weight Watcher scale and has 290 calories per serving. The total fat is 4.5 g, the sodium is 150 mg, it has 53 g of total carbohydrates and 46 g of sugars. A Skinny Cinnamon Dolce Latte has about 4 points in it and is one of the lowest point drinks on the menu.

Lean Cuisine Craveables Pepperoni Pizza: This pizza is located in the freezer section and says on the packaging that it has 20 g of protein. It has 410 calories, 620 g of sodium and 310 g of potassium. Though it seems to have quite a lot of protein, this pizza has 12 points per package. These sort of frozen dinners are easy to eat and make, giving it appeal to people who have little time on their hands.

Puzzles



Across

1. Disney deer
6. Mattress support
10. Ready, willing, and _____
14. UFO pilot
15. _____ vault
16. Depicted
17. Power outlet
19. Climbing plant
20. Wind direction (abbr.)
21. Detroit product
22. Earth vibration
24. Slips up
25. Sly look
26. Morally pure
29. Florida city
33. Breather
34. Singer _____ Clapton
36. Oyster gem
37. "Murder, _____"
38. Glossy paints
40. Made a lap
41. Tally
43. Medicine portion
44. Dog's name
45. Neverland resident (2 words)
47. Rope loops
49. Fashion name

50. Poker word

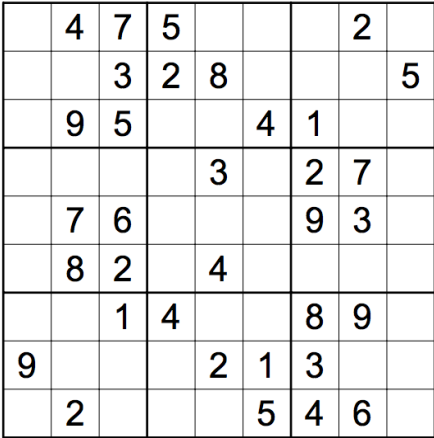
51. Brawls
54. Glasgow native
55. _____ Angeles
58. Healing plant
59. Competition
62. Bridge coup
63. Prince Charles's sister
64. Squander
65. Perfect scores
66. Scottish girl
67. Fable collector

Down

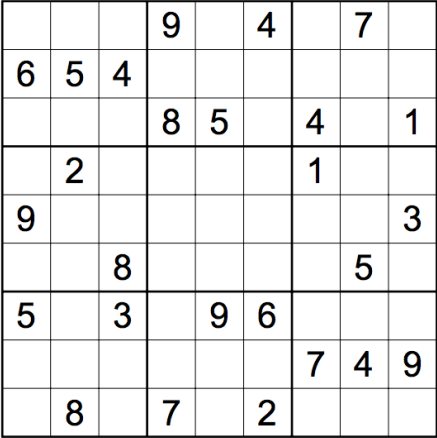
1. Expose
2. Pub drinks
3. Mickey and Minnie
4. Quilting party
5. To some extent (2 wds.)
6. Arguments
7. Cuckoo
8. "_____ Night Long"
9. Wobble
10. Detrimental
11. Cup's edge
12. Comedian Jay _____
13. Water container
18. Soup vessel
23. Gathers crops

24. NYC time zone
25. Shoe fasteners
26. Crunchy
27. For this reason
28. Formal necktie
29. Singer Paul _____
30. Fertile desert spot
31. Commerce
32. Choir singers
35. Plane spotter
38. Creepy
39. Beatle John _____
42. Restores the honor of
44. Enemy
46. Of the mail
48. Canada's capital
50. Farm units
51. Sail holder
52. Model _____ Macpherson
53. Bank transaction
54. Works on a tan
55. Smaller amount
56. Informed about
57. Recipe instruction
60. "Snakes _____ Plane" (2 wds.)
61. _____ West of Hollywood

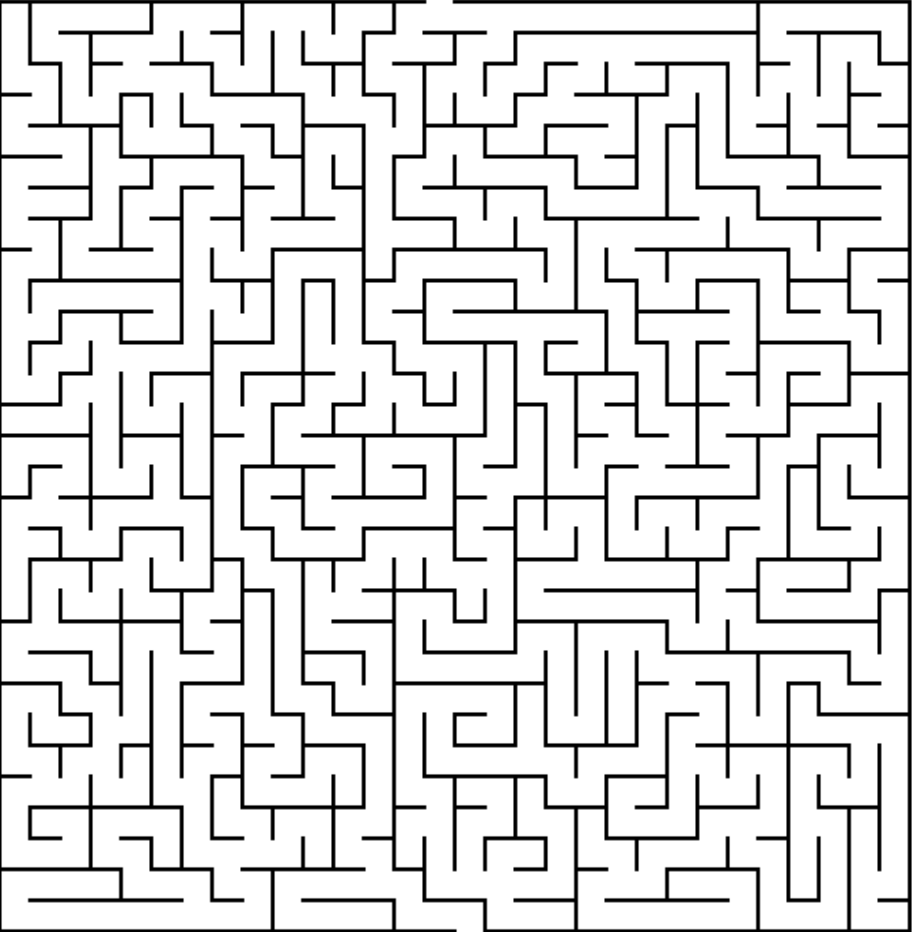
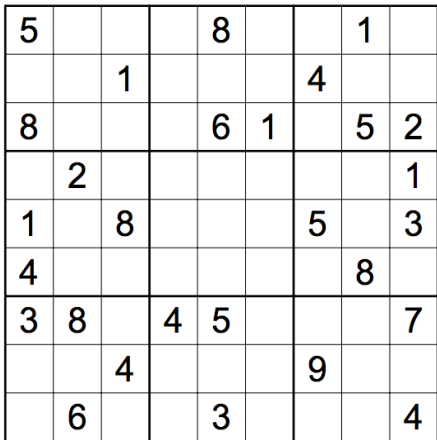
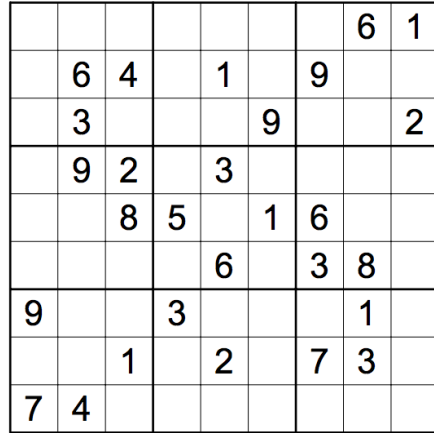
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



The ugly sneaker: A trend that shouldn't work, but does...



Katarina Kovac
Staff Reporter

Remember the time you used to go out with your dad and he'd wear his sneakers, the New Balance 407's that were white, chunky and which he often wore with ... jeans? Well, just when you had finally recovered from your embarrassment, the ugly sneaker is back.

I never thought something featuring the word 'ugly' would be a trend. It's safe to say fashion is no longer playing by the rules. In the midst of similar styles being sold across all stores, people still manage to cultivate an image for themselves that is different from the rest. Fashion comes in cycles, and given that we've just had several years of minimalism and slim-fitting garments, it was only a matter of time until the chunkiness of the ugly sneaker prevailed, whether you like it or not. On the runways during Fashion Week, some of the most influential designers in the business and the ones behind some of the biggest brands—including Prada, Dior and Rick Owens—showed off new takes on the ugly sneaker trend. But unlike your dad's New Balance kicks, these intentionally ugly sneakers are meant to be worn with elegantly tailored trousers and oversized jackets, making for a look that's equal parts normcore and modern streetwear.

There's no doubt that the start of this new high fashion sneaker scene originated from the Adidas x Raf Simons collections. In 2013, the two brands joined forces for the first time to create a now iconic ugly sneaker, the Ozweego. It's been through several iterations now, and has had many colorways. At first, reactions to the sneaker were mixed, but now it's widely accepted that it was ahead of its time. In fall 2017, Balenciaga's intentionally ugly Triple S sneakers became an instant hit with the fashion crowd, and the shoes gained a slew of celebrity followers. Luxury fashion house Louis Vuitton displayed ugly sneakers on the runway at the house's women's wear show in Paris for Spring Summer 18, which immediately sold out. Balenciaga and Louis Vuitton's sneakers are not the only ugly sneaker style's that have caught the attention of the celebrity set as of late. Adidas Yeezy collection includes the dad shoe-inspired 700 Wave Runner has been seen on the likes of Gigi Had-

id, Kaia Gerber, Kendall Jenner and Chance the Rapper. Why do so many people find "ugly" sneakers, well, ugly? Is it the color combinations? The thick soles? The shoe laces or the multiple seams? I can only assume that it's a combination of all of the above. If you don't have the cash to dish out on a pair of these high end ugly sneakers, no worries. Brands like Zara have already launched many of the same styles with reasonable prices. You can even go grab a pair of Skechers D'Lites which will certainly do the trick. Or maybe you can just borrow your dad's old ones! Many fashion enthusiasts are wondering, are these associated ugly kicks here to stay in 2018, or are they just another blip on the trend radar? Only time will tell whether we'll remember shoes like the Balenciaga Triple S as a design classic or a puzzling fashion fad. One thing is for sure — now's the time to wear them. This trend shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon.

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Sammuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Art work is located in the halls and active learning classrooms of South Foundation Hall.

Showcase of student work

Sadie Layher
Staff Reporter

The new paintings inside South Foundation Hall are a collaboration of the Art and Art History Department and the Modern Languages and Literature Department to showcase student work.

A few paintings are displayed in the hallway, but most of them are inside the active learning classrooms given specifically for the Modern Languages and Literature Department as of fall 2017 according to Jennifer Sullivan, chair of the department.

According to Sullivan, the department's classrooms were empty and in the need of color. Sullivan and her team, with help from Dean Kevin Corcoran of the College of Arts and Sciences, went to Stephen Goody, the chair of the Art and Art History Department, to see if he might be able to help to provide art and color to the barren classrooms.

"The ideas for the display of these paintings coincided with Modern Language's classroom refurbishments in South Foundation Hall," Goody said. "Corcoran, thought it would be a great opportunity to showcase Art and Art History studio art majors' work in the new labs."

Ten students from Goody's advanced drawing and painting course in fall 2017 participated in creating the art. The students had not painted anything this big before as the canvases were 60x72 inches. Each of the students had to learn how to create the canvases they were going to paint on first.

"We have a makerspace with all sorts of equipment and power tools, so we

held a large stretcher-making tutorial and the students learned how to build the frames around which they then stretched their 60x72 inch canvases," Goody said.

The students then had to come up with mock drawings for the canvases. The goal was to make the paintings happy and uplifting. They came up with around five ideas and then moved on to the next step.

"Cross-disciplinary initiatives like this are something we always strive for because they create new pathways of discourse and expand on the potential of what is possible," Goody said. "This was a win-win opportunity for both of us."

This was a gift giving opportunity as well as a way to benefit the students. The students get to have their work on display while the Modern Languages Department has a brighter and more cultural landscape to learn in.

"Our role in this was minimal, except that we are the happy recipients of these beautiful works," Sullivan said.

There was a reception on Friday, March 30 held inside South Foundation. It was a chance for the students to see their art displayed and was also a time for the Modern Languages Department to say thank you, according to Sullivan.

South Foundation is not the only location of student art on campus. Wilson Hall is full of paintings students have worked hard on.

"There is always art on campus because the Oakland University Art Gallery is in Wilson Hall and has exhibitions throughout the semester by artists from all over the world," Goody said.

Controlling college... careers and other cash

Emily Morris
Staff Reporter

168 might just be not enough.

The number of hours in a week, 168, seem like the blink of an eye as many students indulge in a treacherous mixture of simultaneous classes and careers. Traditionally, college is intended to be a ramp to a career, but some students are taking an alternative route and tackling both to eliminate debt. But who is willing to take on this challenge?

Kaylie Washnock, a freshman at Oakland University, dove into this lifestyle this past January and hasn't looked back. Working 35-40 hours weekly while enrolled in 16 credits seemed to offer a sense of contentment for her. Of course, there are moments of stress, but the safety blanket presented by a career in college is also valuable, especially with constantly rising tuition rates.

"It is hard to fit homework in my schedule, but I get rewarded through nice paychecks," Washnock said. "The best part about having a job in college is being able to pay for my tuition."

Even so, this concept does not seem to be for the faint of heart, according to Washnock. Accompanying the rewards are also many trials everyday. After all, a healthy sleep schedule should encompass 56 hours every week. Then class sessions alone amount to over 13 hours a week for 16 credits, not to mention any allotted study time. To complement each credit for class time, it is recommended to study for at least

2 hours, according to Bright Hub. With these activities, there are only 51 hours left in the week for work, leaving 11 hours of unassigned time; 11 hours to devote to eating, socializing, driving or whatever other activity is required.

"Attending school and work does become overwhelming at times," Washnock said. "The hardest part is finding time to study."

This lifestyle can evolve into a juggling act with so many responsibilities if not managed well. This type of devotion can also heavily alleviate the weight of debt from college, though.

Attending Oakland without any financial aid from scholarships or grants is over \$48,000 for a four year degree—excluding Housing or meal plans—according to collegecalc.org. Working at least 35 hours per week at a minimum wage job would accumulate slightly over \$18,000 annually, according to minimum-wage.org. Of course, college creates many other expenses from person to person, aside from just tuition, but this income has taken some financial pressure off Washnock and many other driven college students.

The economy is constantly changing, and some students are simply trying alternative routes to success. In fact, Washnock even attested to wanting to maintain her current schedule through the entirety of her college career. Although original, clearly, this tactic does have some substance and may be a growing avenue for college students to navigate earning a degree with minimal debt.

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Student tells '100 Life Lessons' with self-published book

AuJenee Hirsch
Chief Copy Editor

Wallet? Check. Keys? Check. Phone? Check. Backpack? Check. Laptop? Check. Camera? Check.

Everyday, senior Dennis London makes sure he leaves his house with these six "necessities." As a photographer, London carries his camera and laptop around because "I'm married to my work."

"I'm always working," he said. "If I'm sitting down, there's no reason for me to not work on some photos."

Majoring in photography, London found his love for "capturing the moment" after taking an imaging class his senior year of high school. After his teacher, Peg Pasternak, felt he had a knack for taking photos, she gave him a camera and encouraged him to continue with his work.

"My teacher surprised me one day when she came to my house, herself," London said. "So, I walk in and I see my teacher in my kitchen. I'm thinking, 'What the f*ck did I do?' She tells me she's giving me her brother's camera, and she tells me that she wants me to continue taking pictures because I'm going to do great things with it."

Since that day, London has continued picking up the camera and having

photo shoots with various people in metro Detroit.

"My favorite shot has to be this one picture of my home girl Deja," he said. "It's basically just her and sunflowers. I love it because I made that junk right around the beginning of the winter, but the look was so warm and springlike."

About six years ago, London began to experience suicidal thoughts and decided to end his own life. The attempt failed.

"Hey, man, sh*t gets hard," London said. "I was at a point where I just felt completely disconnected from myself and everything around me. It was like that for a minute, and it didn't seem like things were going to get better."

One year after his attempt, London picked up a camera and learned what photography really was. That passion is one of the reasons he was able to overcome his struggles.

"We all have trials and tribulations," he said. "You just have to trust in yourself and know you're going to make it by understanding yourself and understanding where you stand not just in your life, but in God's intentions for your life."

Now at the age of 23, London has become an author with his book "100 Life Lessons." The idea for the book came to him while he was studying for a final exam.

"I was studying for a final exam for



Samuel Summers / The Oakland Post

Dennis London realized his passion for photography in an imaging class his senior year of high school.

my health science class, and I remember thinking, 'This is stupid because this is not going to help me in life,'" London said. "Knowing how many calories the human body needs in a day is not going to help me in life. So, I just started writing down stuff that I actually learned in real life experiences that actually helped me. I started writing it in my iPhone and from there I started putting it on paper."

"100 Life Lessons" is a self-published book that features a combination of quotes paired with photos London has taken throughout his photography career. The book is currently only available in the Apple bookstore as an eBook, but physical copies are coming soon.

"Just remember to live life," London said. "No matter what you do there's a consequence. Just make a decision and run with it."

52nd WXOU Birthday Bash celebrates student air waves

The annual celebration took four months to plan, including a switch to the Oakland Center

Patrick Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The student workers at Oakland University's radio station worked hard to put on the WXOU's annual Birthday Bash.

WXOU has been holding a birthday party for the creation of the station for over 50 years, and this year the station celebrated its anniversary in a big way.

"This is our 52nd year of doing it," said Drew Marczewski, the general manager of WXOU. "I believe we've been doing it since the station opened."

For the past four months, WXOU has been working on the preparations for Birthday Bash, doing things from reserving rooms to booking bands for performances.

"We're just wrapping things up as of this week. It's been a very lengthy process," Marczewski said, two weeks before the Bash took place.

The Birthday Bash this year was held on Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. Free food, live music performances from several different artists and free t-shirts were



Photo contributed by David Roetter

Jack Engwall of Mango Lane performs during the band's set.

just a few of the things available to students that attended. The bands that performed were RDGLDGRN, Vacationer, Mango Lane and Novara.

Previous musical guests that have performed at Birthday Bash include Flint Eastwood, Pines, The Pool Sharks, along with many others. In past years, WXOU

held the Birthday Bash at The Crofoot in Pontiac.

"It was a cool event," said Starr Brown, a journalism major at Oakland. "I loved that it was in the OC and not the usual Crofoot as it was more accessible than previous years."

WXOU has been awarded the College Radio Station of the Year award both in 2012 and in 2013 by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters, and has been broadcasting on campus since 1967.

"Any student can do a show here," Marczewski said. He went on to say that the radio station was always looking to recruit new people.

Located in the basement of the Oakland Center, WXOU covers a wide variety of topics. Along with music, the radio station covers news and sports, and also produces various podcasts.

Birthday Bash has always been a great way for students to wind down and relax after a hard semester, and this year has been no different. After this celebration, students should be even more prepared to hammer down and focus on the end of the semester and upcoming finals.

'Hot-N-Ready' heats up March Madness

Emily Morris
Staff Reporter

Little Caesars lives up to their "Hot and Ready" reputation. On March 18, the Detroit-based pizza chain endorsed the seemingly impossible, a No. 16 seed beating a No. 1 seed basketball team, throughout the March Madness craze. This feat had never been accomplished by any previous team, but this season made history.

Little Caesars made a bold claim on Twitter, promising that "everyone in America gets a free #LittleCaesars Lunch Combo on Monday, April 2" after the University of Maryland, Baltimore County defeated the Virginia Cavaliers 74-54 on March 16. Lucky for pizza lovers across the country, Little Caesars was faithful to their wager.

On Monday, April 2, customers were rewarded with free lunch combos, which included a four-slice "DEEP!DEEP! Dish" pizza and a 20 oz. soda, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Satisfying thousands of customers across the country, people waited in lengthy lines strung out past the doors of over 4,000 restaurants.

Although the majority had to bear overwhelming lines for free pizza, the Little Caesars employees took on the immense task of quickly fulfilling excited customers. Working the now infamous March Madness shift wouldn't be a breeze, but some employees are ready for busy days.

"You have to keep a cool mindset," said Phoenix Bell, an Oakland University freshman and Little Caesars employee. "Sometimes people will get frustrated, but you need to keep good customer service."

Little Caesars has established a repu-

tation for quick and affordable pizza, and people have taken notice. However, promising limited free pizza opened an array of challenges. A constant flow of hungry people mixed with six-minute pizzas made satisfying everyone difficult—after all, that only allows for 16 pizzas. The local Little Caesars easily surpassed that amount, though, dishing out meals extremely rapidly.

"Even when they ran out of the lunch combos, they began handing out Hot-N-Readys to keep true to their word," said Stephen Hull, one of many Oakland students who waited for free pizza.

Additionally, Little Caesars employees gave away coupons to each customer who arrived before 1 p.m. This ensured that, in the event that their location ran out of pizza before, everyone would still be able to redeem their meal, even if it was at a later date and a different location.

However, our local pizzerias went above and beyond and simply began giving away full size pizzas, instead of lunch combos, to fulfill the overwhelming demand. This gesture of hospitality multiplied each customer's prize by two, giving away eight slices per person, instead of four.

Whether you're a basketball enthusiast or just love pizza, Little Caesars' lack of faith in the University of Maryland, Baltimore County amounted to a gratifying event last week. Hundreds of thousands of people turned out to chow down on the unprecedented victory pizza. Although this year's basketball season has come to an end, there is always a possibility Little Caesars could renew their interest in betting—and satisfying hungry customers—next year.



Sergio Montanez / The Oakland Post

The grand piano outside of Au Bon Pain remains a familiar spot amid the OC construction.

Behind the tunes drifting from the Oakland Center

Sergio Montanez
Photographer

On a Tuesday afternoon, Tyler Bollda made his way to the grand piano in the Oakland Center and began to play the theme song to "The Walking Dead." Although he struggled at first, the melody was distinct and suitable.

As his fingers tapped the keys and the hammers on the inside stroke the strings, it became apparent that the Oakland Center maintains its most prominent feature to date: a grand piano.

The Oakland Center is the heart of campus where students gather to enjoy a quick snack while activities occur throughout the building. With ongoing renovations, the Oakland Center continues to expand its future features for students and occupants to enjoy.

A junior musical theatre major, Bollda usually comes to play the piano for a couple minutes once a week.

"I started playing the piano two years ago, right at the time I came to Oakland," he said. "I learned music theory here. I spend time [here] playing and learning, mostly from watching videos on YouTube. My influences include Panic! At The Disco, John Legend, Twenty One Pilots and Linkin Park."

As he stated his musical influences, Bollda began to play "This Is Gospel" by Panic! At The Disco, the first song he learned. He followed the music by singing the lyrics.

Beside learning and playing songs by some of his favorite artists, Bollda also likes composing his own songs and playing them whenever he has the time in-between classes.

Unlike Bollda, Katelyn Neal isn't concerned about playing the songs of other artists. She would rather play the songs she composes herself.

"I usually just play my own songs," she said. "I don't really have a go to song or a

favorite song to play on the piano."

Neal, an English major, began playing at the age of six. As her skills improved over the years, her parents began to take notice of her rapid progression and began looking into hiring a private teacher.

"When I reached the age of 13, I began to get lessons from a private teacher," Neal said.

Neal regularly goes to the Oakland Center to practice her skills and share her talent with others.

"I come here to play 65 percent of the time I'm on campus, usually during my breaks," she said.

Luis Carcamo's influences consists of classical composers such as Ludwig van Beethoven and Johann Sebastian Bach. Carcamo, a biomedical engineering major, started playing the piano in his first semester at Oakland.

"I picked up mostly by ear, and then I started learning from YouTube," he said. "Piano Man" by Billy Joel was the first song I ever learned to play."

In his first semester at Oakland, Carcamo would come to play the piano every day. This semester, his daily routine has taken a slight change, but he still manages to come and play at least four times a week.

"My go-to song to play would be 'Moonlight Sonata' by Beethoven. My favorite song to play is 'Can't Help Falling in Love' by Elvis Presley," said Carcamo.

Despite never playing in front of a crowd, Carcamo's talents don't go unnoticed when he sits behind the ivory keys. "I'll play for a crowd once I get good enough."

As for Bollda, he wishes to continue playing and composing his own music in the hopes that someday, his talents will help him achieve his career goals.

"One I get my own website, I want to advertise myself more. It's a good skillset to have. To tell future employers that I can compose my own music," said Bollda.

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Student Organic Farmers *look to what could be*



Photo courtesy of Student Organic Farm

Despite all challenges, the Student Organic Farmers are determined to keep the farm alive.

Shelby Tankersley
Editor-in-Chief

Far from the rest of campus, past the Oakland University R&S Sharf Golf Course, sits chicken coops that used to be used by Oakland's founder Matilda Dodge Wilson as part of a farm. The chickens have long since been gone and the coops are now used for a variety of things such as class labs, faculty research, Meadow Brook Theatre storage and the Student Organic Farm. But, you wouldn't know that from just driving by.

Though some hoop houses and rows of plants are behind and to the sides of the buildings, there are no signs identifying them with Oakland. The Student Organic Farmers find this frustrating, as it leaves passers by not knowing there are fresh vegetables that are grown by Oakland students for purchase.

With the Farm being right off Adams Road, thousands of cars pass it daily. But with no signs, all people see are hoop houses and chicken coops.

Although this lack of signage is frustrating to the Farm, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Kevin Corcoran says Oakland has to take some precautions when it comes to having a relationship with the community and business in the area.

"When the campus master plan was done, [the Farm's] corner of campus had a designation that got a lot of people very worried," he said. "Those neighbors we have over there are never going

to let any commercial property go on that corner... We just continue to sort of do what we can to protect the operation over there."

Corcoran also says that despite rumors, he has no plans to ever move the Farm to the on-campus Biological Preserve.

“Because everything is organically grown, it's so labor intensive. Without our people, we wouldn't be able to do anything.”

Katelyn Smoger
Undergraduate manager of Student Organic Farm

"I'm not an expert on organic farming, but for a whole variety of reasons that doesn't make any sense," he said. "Moving the Farm is absolutely not something I would push for. I don't think it's in the interest of the Farm or the Preserve."

But even though there is no immediate danger to the Farm having to move or being made smaller, the students who take classes there or are part of the Student Organic Farmers org see untapped potential in the space. Just like any other student org, the Farmers can only get so much funding from the Student Ac-

tivities Funding Board. So, the Farmers have gotten creative with how they raise money to fund their operation.

During the summer and through most of the fall semester, the Farm runs a farm stand in front of Kresge Library where the community can buy fresh produce and snack packs that are cleaned and cut by the Student Organic Farmers. There is also a crop share program where people can pay up front at the beginning of the academic year to receive part of the Farm's crops each week. This helps the Farm stay afloat financially, but takes a great deal of physical labor.

The Farm used to pay a manager to run the day-to-day operations, but due to budget cuts, that position no longer exists. Corcoran says he didn't end this position lightly and there simply wasn't any money to keep it going. This has left Associate Professor of Biology and faculty adviser of the Student Organic Farmers, Fay Hansen, to do the job alongside two undergraduate students while still doing her faculty job.

Hansen sees great potential that she feels cannot be accomplished without a manager working full time. In July 2014, the Farm drew up a master plan includ-

ing a compost research area, a teaching pavilion, a perennial garden, office space and more. But for now, that isn't in the cards.

"What it can be and what it is are two different things," Hansen said. "I think it's great now, but it can be so much more."

Hansen and Corcoran both said funding will continue to be a struggle for the Farm in the foreseeable future, but the university community is what has the power to keep the Farm moving forward.

For instance, the Bear Bus currently does not stop at the Farm even though buses drive past it to Meijer despite requests to do so from the Farm. When requested for an interview regarding the Farm, Graduate Coordinator of Bear Bus Matt Belanger declined.

The Farm is also only as good as the students who volunteer their time there. Having dedicated volunteers and some students on staff is important to Hansen and the Student Organic Farmers.

"Because everything is organically grown, it's so labor intensive," said one of the undergraduate managers Katelyn Smoger. "Without our people, we wouldn't be able to do anything."



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Friday the 13th: *Oakland edition*

Michael Pearce
Staff Reporter

With Friday the 13th rapidly approaching, Oakland University students are already seeing signs of the spiritual world coming to life.

The spirits are reportedly only able to be seen by the sophomore through senior classes.

"I'm having flashbacks, but they seem so realistic to me," senior Patricia Paddlefoot said. "I keep seeing doors all over the Oakland Center. It's like they were there in a previous life or something."

There have been over 500 cases of doors being seen in the past eight months, but 400 have been in the recent weeks.

The victims allege that the doors were there before, they swear, but the recent construction has eliminated all the doors to the Oakland Center.

"Honestly I have no idea what these crackheads are talking about," freshman Jimmy Atom said. "There were never any doors anywhere other than the west entrance to the OC. There must be something in the water. Maybe that's why all the pipes keep bursting."

Upperclassmen are also reporting there were once many organizations in the basement level of the OC, as well as something called "another set of stairs." Many are questioning the sanity of the affected students.

"Recently I've been conducting more tests on my students to make sure their brains aren't damaged from all the caffeine they intake," psychology professor James Jigsaw said. "It's safe to say I've been busy. Turns out they may not be crazy, but they definitely are all depressed because of finals approaching."

Reports of black magic being performed by upperclassmen have also been filed to the Oakland University Police Department. Some first year students are reporting instances of "transfer meals" being used in the OC, where upperclassmen transfigure their Vandenberg Dining Hall swipes into declining points.

"I swear some of these upperclassmen are straight out of Hogwarts," freshman Suzy Saltine said. "This girl just expecto patronum'd her way into a six inch sub, chips and a drink at Subway, all without losing declining points. It was honestly impressive, 10 points for Gryffindor."

Students are being advised to be on the

lookout for omens of bad luck as well with the unlucky day rapidly approaching. Anything from black cats to broken mirrors must be reported to the Dean's Office at once.

"We've been advised to be on the lookout for anything suspicious," sophomore Paulie Blart said. "Anything suspicious, hideous or dangerous must be reported immediately to the proper authorities. The other day, I saw

a University of Detroit-Mercy student in the OCI wasn't taking any chances, so I dumped my soup on him and called OUPD."

The OC construction workers declined to comment on the existence of other doors, as well as the reported "staircase" that has gone "missing." All students are advised to skip classes or extracurricular activities on Friday the 13th, just to be careful in avoiding any bad luck.



Photo illustration by Prakhya Cilukuri / The Oakland Post

With Friday the 13th approaching, students have been noticing signs of ghosts on campus.

Saying **goodbye** to your *hopes and dreams*

Nicole Morsfield
Photographer

The semester is almost over, so let's end the year right with a personal story on why I gave up on my dreams.

It's October 2016. I'm a naive 18-year-old aspiring actress with dreams of reaching Hollywood. I decide to audition for a play. I have to memorize a one-minute comedic monologue. Naturally, I pick the first one I find on Google.

My audition is at 10:10 p.m. Someone gives me an audition application. I only have a pen, so I better not make any mistakes. The first question is what role I'm auditioning for. I don't know, all of them? They could cast me as a man for all I care.

Wait, never mind. I don't want to be a guy. I write down "any female role." Looks professional.

Next is experience. I acted in two shows when I was in middle school. They weren't even real plays, just collections of skits. What director is going to be impressed by "Fairytale Go to Court"? None. I'm screwed.

It's so loud in the hallway. I can't focus.

My name is called. I walk into the audition room and hand my application to the director.

"Sorry about the pen marks," I say. "I was kind of nervous while writing."

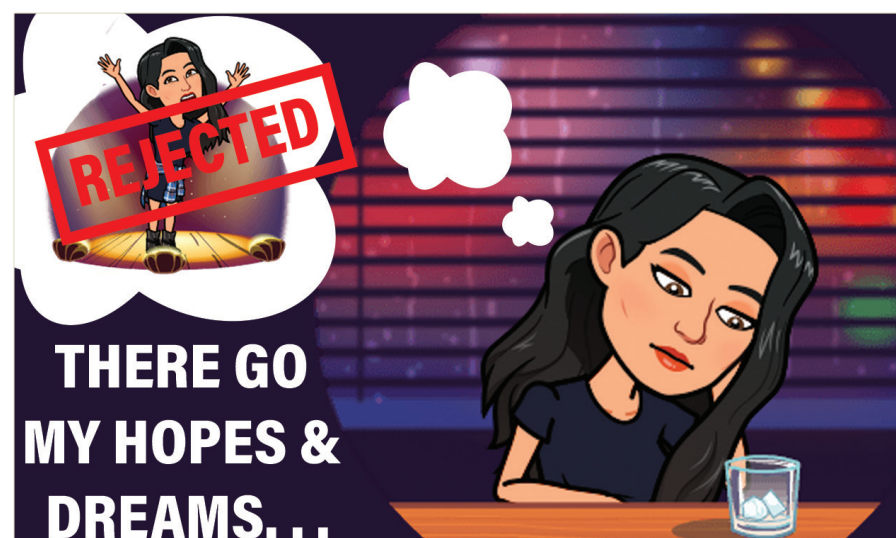


Photo illustration by Prakhya Cilukuri / The Oakland Post

In life, it is okay to give up on your hopes and dreams especially if they do not work out.

Shit. I just told the director I was nervous. Stupid. Fortunately, he brushes it off.

I'm standing in one place delivering my lines. The monologue is about love. I don't talk about love often, so I'm not sure how to move naturally.

The next line doesn't come. I just forgot my monologue.

"How did that feel?" the director asks.

"Well, I really wish I hadn't forgotten it." Shit. I said that out loud, too.

All I want is to abort mission, but it's not over yet. The play is a farce. The director asks what things I find funny.

Shit. I don't know, memes, self-deprecating jokes, what else? I tell him I like dark humor.

Now I'm just praying he doesn't ask me to give an example. I don't remember whether he did. Part of me says he didn't, probably out of sympathy. But part of me says he did and I said something stupid. I really hope it was the former.

Finally it's over and I get the hell out of dodge. I should have told him I was Ashton Kutcher and this was an episode of "Punk'd." Obviously, I don't make the callbacks.

Today, slightly less naive 19-year-old me knows better. Hollywood couldn't have handled me, anyway. My level of mediocre acting surpasses even that of the Lifetime Movie Network.

There is a silver lining, though. It turns out I'm better at photographing theater than acting in it.

All the world's a stage, but I'm better off in the audience behind a camera. Just stick to what you're good at and leave your dreams at the door.