

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

January 26, 2011

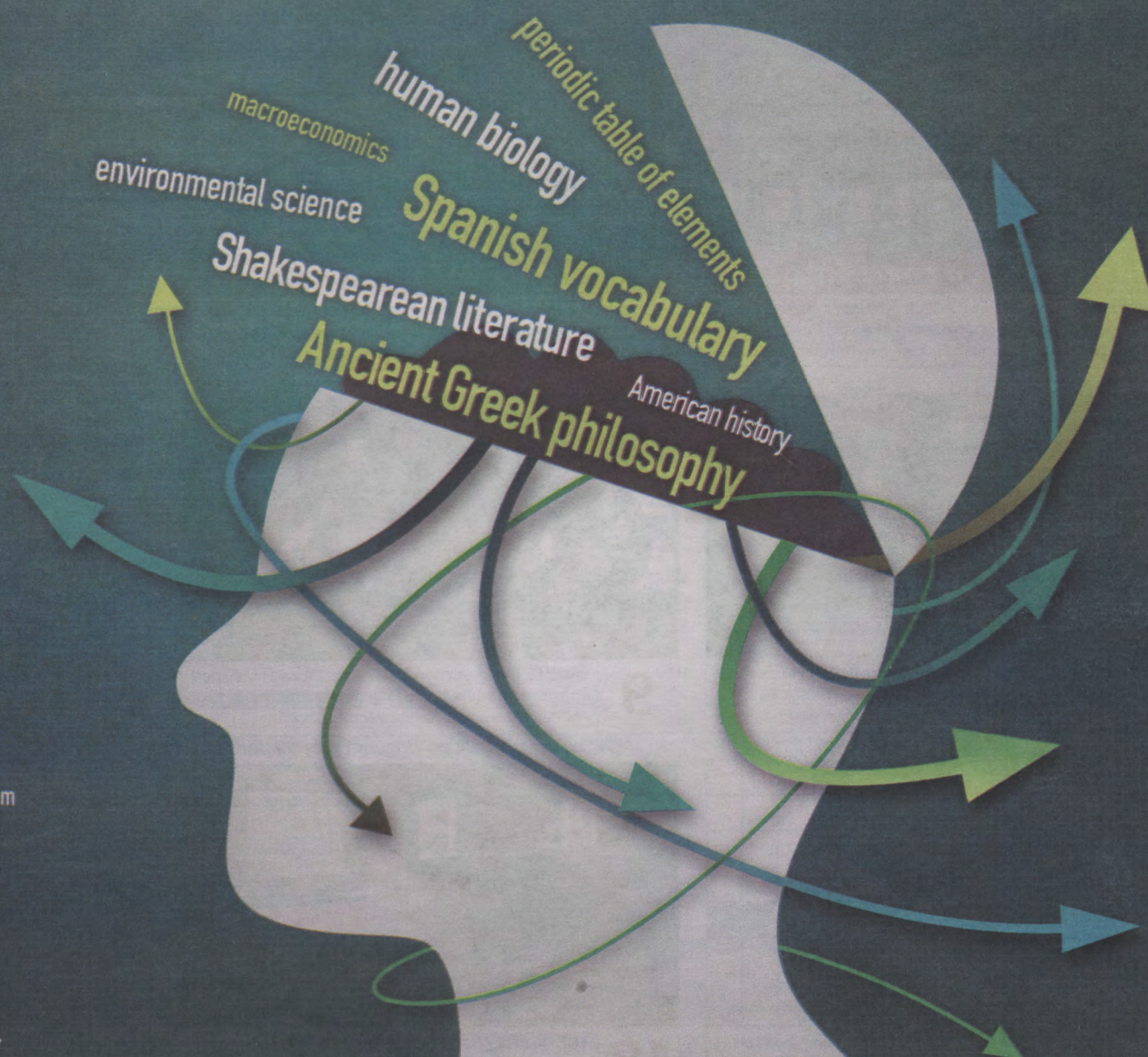
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Study shows Gen-Ed courses are of questionable value

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Investigative work generates new leads for ongoing campus mystery  
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# this week

January 26 - February 1, 2011



**Winter caravan roars into OU // Friday, Jan. 21** JAKE THIELEN/The Oakland Post

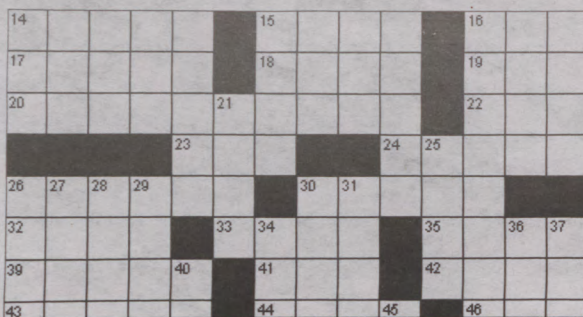
A dozen representatives of the Detroit Tigers visited campus Friday as part of the organization's annual Winter Caravan. Players, coaches, and even the team mascot, Paws, were introduced at the O'rena to a couple hundred students and supporters of the Old English D. Just down the road, Magglio Ordonez and Jose Valverde served patrons at a McDonalds.



**5 CAMPUS //** The Timothy and Marsha Healy Café will open in February on the first floor of Elliott Hall and will serve Starbucks coffee and pastries.



**9 SPORTS //** Freshman Ryan Bass (above) stepped up recently to help the Grizzlies reach midseason sporting a 9-0 Summit League record.



**15 CROSSWORD //** Our weekly crossword puzzle is a great way to kill time on campus. Answers are available on our website.



**18 THE SCENE //** A new exhibit opened this month at the OU Art Gallery that challenges individual conceptions of gender and sexuality.



The Oakland Post is looking for contributing writers for the Mouting Off section and a Multimedia Editor to produce video and web content.

## THE OAKLAND POST

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## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Keep it classy, Grizzlies

When parents let their kids go out with friends, they do so knowing full well that their kids are probably doing more than “studying” and “hanging out.”

We wonder if that’s the way Oakland University felt when it authorized this year’s homecoming tailgate.

Saturday’s tailgate, which will last from approximately 12:30-3:15 p.m., is the first ever school-sanctioned tailgate that allows alcohol.

We certainly hope this drives attendance to the men’s and women’s basketball games that follow — and that high game attendance becomes a continuing trend — but even more, we hope that students don’t misbehave and cause this to be the last event of its kind at OU.

At Monday’s student congress meeting, OU President Gary Russi expressed enthusiasm for the event.

“I think there are 185 spots available for the tailgate. 185. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if all 185 spots were taken? And each spot brought the maximum of 20 guests? That would be pretty cool for our first tailgate experience,” Russi said.

While he did sarcastically warn that he might eat everyone’s food, he also said he’d like to see more tailgates in the future.

Because you probably overlooked the guidelines, here’s what you’ll need to know for Saturday:

You need to register your car with the Center for Student Activities, no more than 20 people per car and you must park in P-16; propane grills are permitted for cooking, but no open fires or fire pits; no glass bottles and no kegs, punch bowls or other open containers; and no binge drinking or drinking games.

**Saturday will be OU’s first tailgate where alcohol is permitted — let’s make sure it’s not the last.**

And, of course, no public intoxication or disorderly conduct.

Most of that probably goes without saying. But we’re college students. Telling us not to binge drink is like giving someone the keys to a souped-up Corvette and telling them they can’t drive over 30 mph.

But in such a short time frame, we don’t expect this to be a problem. The rule we’re most worried about being broken should be the most obvious: You must be 21 to

drink.

Don’t get us wrong. We endorse this activity. We endorse it so much we want to see it become a regular staple of OU homecoming. In fact, we’d like to see such tailgates before every home basketball game.

But we’d like to see Saturday’s games set a record for attendance — not a record for minor in possession of alcohol citations.

In a previous editorial, we asked students to “take the plunge and begin being a true grizzly.”

If a tailgate doesn’t get you riled up for athletics, we don’t know what will.

We ask, however, that students don’t get too riled up.

This Saturday, “being a true grizzly” means making sure a few rowdy students don’t ruin the event for everyone else.

Because as much as we enjoy our ever-popular Police Files, we don’t wish to see it littered with students who got carried away at the school’s first-ever alcoholic tailgate.

While we’re not expecting another buzzer-beater this year, let’s hope students aren’t too buzzed to enjoy Saturday’s games.

In other words: Keep it classy.

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and Dan Fenner  
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### Letter Policy:

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for clarity, length and grammar.

## WHAT’S YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

Submit an opinion column to  
editor@oaklandpostonline.com  
and you could see it in print.

Be sure to provide contact information,  
class standing and field of study.

## POLL OF THE WEEK



### LAST WEEK’S POLL //

What are your thoughts on the possible reinstatement of an assault weapons ban?

I support it — 24 (50%)

I am against it — 20 (42%)

I don’t care — 4 (8%)

### CURRENT POLL //

Vote at [www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

Do you think GPA is an accurate measurement of college academic performance?

yes

no

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## CORRECTIONS CORNER ■■

- In last week's article, "Event kicks off with music, dance," the dancer pictured is Michael Teasly.

- "Eminem, local and live" incorrectly stated the track "Renegade," featuring Jay-Z was on The Slim Shady LP.

## Letters to the Editor

These two letters were written in response to last week's editorial, "Bans aren't always bad." The Oakland Post gladly accepts letter submissions. The views expressed are of their respective writers and do not necessarily reflect those of The Oakland Post.

**Letter Policy:** Writers must provide full name, class rank, contact information and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for clarity, length and grammar.

The Michigan State Legislature has ruled that no local unit of government (i.e. county, city, town) may impose laws or ordinances concerning firearms that are more restrictive than state laws. However, Oakland University's ordinance does just that. Does the administration believe they should have more power than the cities of Rochester or Detroit?

I'm sure every student and faculty member appreciates the job that the OUPD does to keep our campus safe. However, unless an officer is in a classroom when a gunman starts shooting, the only thing the police will be able to do is deal with the aftermath. In most of the mass public shooting cases, the police don't arrive in time to actually stop the gunman.

I'm not saying that if concealed weapons were allowed on campus that violent attacks would not happen or that they would be stopped before someone is killed or raped. However, I (and Students for Concealed Carry) believe that any individual who is trained and licensed in accordance with state law, to legally carry a concealed weapon for personal protection, should not have that right taken away because they cross an imaginary line as they walk onto campus. The only thing "pistol free zones" accomplish is disarming law-abiding citizens. Criminals do not follow laws or ordinances.

The article states that "this is not a partisan issue; it's an issue of human life." I agree. Personal protection is an issue of human life and it should not be infringed.

Jeff Orin Lamkin

Junior, Sociology

President - Students for Concealed Carry at Oakland University

If OUPD Chief Lucido believes "our rules regulating firearms are correct", he hasn't spoken with Victor Zambardi, Vice President of Oakland University's General Counsel {sic}, who, along with OUPD Campus Police Lieutenant Mel Gilroy, found that OU's firearms ordinance "did not comport with state statute" and is therefore unenforceable.

Perhaps Chief Lucido will don his investigatory cap as to the recent dismissal without prejudice of a concealing a handgun charge against a Wayne State University student.

The State's contention was that the student was carrying in a pistol free zone; the student's defense was that the hallway is not a PFZ. The judge found that the State's case had no legal standing. Chief Lucido is bound by Michigan rulings and law and is not "backed up" by the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Your editorial correctly noted that Michigan law prohibits concealed pistol licensees from carrying concealed pistols in college classrooms and dorms but failed to mention that according to Michigan State Police Legal Update No. 86, unconcealed pistols are legal in classrooms and dorms by CPL holders.

I provided the Oakland Post this information last semester. How sad and unprofessional those emotions of current events cloud your journalistic judgment and you renege on written promises to freelancers, denying critical balance to readers. I will provide "The Story the Oakland Post Does Not Want You To Read" to anyone who e-mails a request.

I hope Oakland University institutes a ban on poorly reasoned and researched editorials and that the ban stays in place.

Joseph Corlett

Junior, Writing and Rhetoric

loosedeckcannon@comcast.net

# Closer to home

## Macomb campus provides alternative for students

By MEGAN SEMERAZ

Staff Reporter

There is an OU campus where there is no walking outside to get to class and newly renovated classrooms. OU-Macomb aims to offer the complete Oakland experience without a lot of the hassle.

OU-Macomb, located in Clinton Township, offers more classes than their competition at the Macomb University Center, according to Cheryl Rhodey, the academic coordinator for student success/advising.

"We are the largest partner out here," Rhodey said.

The campus boasts that they offer 11 undergraduate, nine graduate and seven certificate and endorsement programs at their campus.

Each semester, they offer 80-90 courses, almost twice as many as their biggest competitor, Wayne State University.

According to Rhodey, students never look at the fact that OU-Macomb offers that many classes.

"This is still Oakland University," Christine Firestein, a junior communications major said.

Anne Jackson, program coordinator of integrative studies said that students are able to take a huge majority of their courses at OU-Macomb in order to complete their degree.

"If they want to take them (courses) all here ... they might need to take some general eds on main campus," Jackson said.

Some students like Amanda Wodtke, a junior communications major, are taking advantage of the location of the Macomb county campus.

"It's closer to my house; it's easier to get to. Parking is better too," Wodtke said.

Wodtke, who also takes courses at the main OU campus, enjoys the proximity of Macomb-OU, although she wishes they would offer even more courses.

"They should probably get more than communications classes, like English. Then I could just take all my classes here,"



NICHOLE SEGUIN/The Oakland Post

OU-Macomb is located at the Macomb University Center in Clinton Township. It offers more classes than competing schools at the center.

Wodtke said.

OU-Macomb is currently working on expanding their presence in Macomb County. In Sept. 2010, the university was gifted an office building in downtown Mount Clemens for academic expansion.

According to Dr. Albert L. Lorenzo, executive in residence, OU received a grant for \$1.6 million to renovate offices in the building into classrooms.

The building will be named Oakland University Anton/Frankel Center and will be completed in the summer of 2011.

Other renovations took place at OU-Macomb campus, creating new technology-friendly classrooms.

"Our engineering labs are more up to date than main campus," Rhodey said.

OU-Macomb campus mainly exists for two prominent reasons, according to Lorenzo — to overcome financial and time barriers.

The campus seeks to meet their student's needs, from extended office hours to their more personal approach.

"We all work very hard to make sure students are very taken care of," Rhodey said.



NICHOLE SEGUIN/The Oakland Post

OU-Macomb offers between 80 and 90 courses each semester.

Although the campus is small, the staff is taking big steps to provide the university experience at a smaller scale.

"The goal is to provide the complete Oakland experience," Lorenzo said.

To learn more about the OU-Macomb campus, how to apply and what the campus has to offer, visit [www.oakland.edu/macomb](http://www.oakland.edu/macomb)

## campus briefs

### Winter Career Fair

Students are invited to the Winter Career Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 26 in the Banquet Rooms of the Oakland Center from noon to 3 p.m. Bring your SpiritCard for quick registration. Professional dress is required.

### Economic seminar series

A seminar on absorptive capacity, knowledge flows and innovation in U.S. metropolitan areas will be held in Elliot Hall on Friday, Jan. 28, at 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Maggie Parker at [parker@oakland.edu](mailto:parker@oakland.edu).

### Living Proof

As part of African-American Celebration Month at OU, on Monday, Jan. 31, the Black Alumni Association will be speaking to students about their experiences at OU and success after graduation. The event will be held from 5-7 p.m. in the Banquet Rooms in the Oakland Center.

### 'Brother Mine' and beyond

An interdisciplinary panel discussion about the book "Brother Mine" will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at 7 p.m. in Banquet Room A in the Oakland Center. The event is free and open to the public.

### Business majors expo

Discover the majors available within OU's School of Business Administration on Tuesday, Feb. 1, from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. in Elliot Hall. Employers, OU faculty, Career Services and career counselors will be available for questions and assistance. The event is free and open to the public.

— Compiled by Lauryn Andrews, Staff Intern

# Man 'thrown off a plane' shares his story

By **ALI ARMSTRONG**

Staff Reporter

Motivational speaker Johnnie Tuitel, who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair, was kicked off a US Airways flight after being told he was too disabled to fly alone.

"I'm thinking, oh no, something happened to a family member. They're not going to haul me off the plane for nothing ... and the guy says to me 'we have made the determination that you, sir, are too disabled to fly alone,'" Tuitel told students. "I'm laughing; I think he's kidding."

Tuitel, who had flown over 500,000 miles speaking at conferences, missed a conference after being held up in Florida after he was removed from his flight.

"I was so mad, I was going to sue the airlines. Then I went to bed and I slept on it, and I woke up the next morning and I didn't want to sue the airlines," Tuitel said.

Tuitel told his story to students on Monday as a part of OU's African-American Celebration month.

He shared his life experiences growing up with cerebral palsy, the obstacles he has overcome and stories about his parents and his three children.

"I had heard about what a great speaker he was, and you really saw that today, even



Photo courtesy of Aricka Pore

Motivational speaker Johnnie Tuitel with director of Disability Support Services Linda Sisson and students Jennifer Pohl, Aiana Scott and Linda Camen. Tuitel spoke to the campus about his experiences with cerebral palsy.

within the first few minutes of him speaking, you could tell that he was such a charismatic, positive and motivating person," Students Towards Understanding Disabilities volunteer coordinator, Jenny Pohl said.

Tuitel has spoken to students at colleges and organizations around the country on the fundamentals of citizenship, community service and leadership.

"The students came to me with a couple

of different ideas on who they wanted to bring to campus, and then we all decided to bring Johnnie because he is local...and the experience he went through was pretty powerful," director of the Disability Support Services, Linda Sisson said.

Tuitel started his speech by asking students in the crowd what they think when they see people in wheelchairs.

"I bungee jump frequently, I skydive

frequently, I coach varsity basketball and I have three children to my knowledge...so I don't see myself as limited. What was beautiful about that was the stereotype," Tuitel told students.

Tuitel spoke about a variety of life experiences and obstacles he has overcome as an individual with cerebral palsy. These experiences include learning how to snow ski, ice skate and ultimately being kicked off an airplane after being deemed too disabled to fly alone.

Tuitel has done over 900 radio interviews, spoken with newspapers around the country and has appeared on Fox & Friends to share his story.

Tuitel is currently in negotiations with US Airways on changing company policy.

"When it comes to disabilities or any segregated population in the country, we have to stop segregating ourselves. We need to work together as a unit and help each other out," Tuitel told students.

S.T.U.D. president, Aiana Scott, said the opportunity to hear Tuitel speak was touching and life changing.

"He was amazing. Even though I've had a disability my whole entire life, hearing him speak made me realize how much a disability is in the mind, and it made me realize that I'm not disabled ... It really helped me deal with my fear and my concerns," Scott said.

## President Russi presents slideshow at OUSC meeting

By **JAKE THIELEN**

Sports Editor

Monday's OUSC meeting featured a special guest speaker. University president Dr. Gary Russi was on hand to give a slideshow presentation on Oakland University's progress and to answer questions from students.

Russi said Oakland has been receiving accolades from groups outside the university.

"There is an accrediting body, North Central Association, and they come to us every 10 years," Russi said. "It's remarkable; last time they were here, just a few months ago, they told us that we had no weaknesses. In other words, they gave us a clean bill of health and gave us 10 years before they came back."

Russi talked about how the university has been able to avoid cutting programs and jobs, despite having the state funding cut every year since 2000, while other universities around the country have not been so fortunate.

"We've had none of that at Oakland, and there are some special reasons why that has occurred," Russi said. "One of the reasons is that we've done great planning at Oakland. We have been able to invest in faculty as we continue to grow, which continues to say that we're of quality. We've been able to add (degree) programs, and in fact we've added about 65 programs in 10 years."

Russi talked about how technology will impact Oakland in the future.

"Technology is going to change us and the type of students that are coming to us will change," Russi said. "Interdisciplinary learning will become a very, very important part of the world. We think students will take control of their own learning. Faculty will facilitate that and they'll connect you with resources. It's becoming more prevalent every day, but it's going to be huge in the future."

Russi said students need to be involved in planning OU's future.

"One of the challenges we have is to identify our compet-

itive advantage," Russi said. "If we don't identify our competitive advantage, competitors will run us over. As part of the planning process, we need your insight. I would like to hear students' insight on what is our competitive advantage for Oakland University."

Russi followed up his presentation with a question and answer session. He was asked whether Oakland would receive more state appropriations in the near future.

"I had an opportunity to meet with (Gov. Rick Snyder) three times, and with the 15 public university presidents," Russi said. "We sat with him and talked about funding and higher education. He told us that 'everyone is going to share in the pain,' so that suggests that the likelihood of seeing an increased appropriation for higher education, certainly in the next couple years, would be pretty slim."

Russi was also asked about potentially switching athletic conferences, given the success of the basketball team.

Continued on page 7

# Students gather to discuss Friedman best-seller

By KATIE JACOB  
Copy Editor

The debate, at times, grew heated, as students discussed the problems of a world that is getting hot, flat and crowded.

They were participating in a book discussion on Thursday in the Oakland Center, on Thomas Friedman's best-seller "Hot Flat and Crowded: Why We Need A Green Revolution — And How It Can Renew America." Earlier in the week, in a Tuesday session, students tackled Friedman's other best-seller, "The World is Flat."

Friedman, the three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author and foreign affairs columnist for The New York Times, will appear at the O'rena on Feb. 8 as part of the Varner Vitality Seminar Series.

The discussion on Thursday was the second in a series of five that will take place over the next few weeks in anticipation of the event.

Meaghan Walters, a graduate student working towards her master's degree in public administration and a graduate assistant for CSA, led the discussions.

"Hopefully," she said, "to generate excitement for the students leading up to Friedman being here. Instead of just seeing the lecture, you're living it."

On Thursday students expressed a wide array of opinions about the various topics Friedman brings up in the book.

Walters passed out note cards with ques-



KATIE JACOB/The Oakland Post  
Graduate student Maggie Walters led the discussion of Thomas Friedman's best-seller "Hot Flat and Crowded" Friedman will speak at OU on Feb. 8 in the O'rena.

tions raised by the book so that students could discuss them.

Matthew Brewington, a freshman majoring in electrical engineering, read the first one: "(Do)you have the mindset, especially with the environment, that this is someone else's problem?"

Brewington said that he didn't care (about the environment) because he didn't think he could make a difference.

"The way I see it, no matter what I do, it's not going to make enough effect or a significant enough impact that I should go out of my way to make myself less comfortable."

Walter asked whether he believed he has no global footprint on the Earth, or if he just didn't care.

When Brewington answered "yes," she asked, "Because you're just one person?"

"Yes, because I'm a speck," he said.

"Anyone else in the group feel like that, a speck?" Walters said.

Others in the group had different ideas.

Nick Marinello, a graduate student majoring in education, said that many of Friedman's environmental issues like greenhouse gases and melting polar icecaps are very abstract.

"It's not something you see every day," he said. "It's a big thing to wrap your brain around. 'If I drive my car an extra 10 miles, I will destroy the Earth.' People shut off. They say there's nothing I can do about it, therefore, what's the point?"

But Nick, like almost everyone else, agreed that the environment is an important problem, and that you don't have to believe in global warming to be a good steward of the environment.

The next question was about whether 9/11 should define us as a nation.

Walters said that Friedman stresses that it shouldn't, but asked the group how they felt.

Brittany Kelley, a sophomore French and English major said that she agreed with Friedman. She said that 9/11 had made us more cautious and that we think about our safety more often.

"It was like being in a bubble, but that the bubble can be popped because we are vulnerable," Kelly said. "I was hoping that I wasn't going to have a war in my generation."

Concluding sessions of the book discussions will take place on Feb. 1 and Feb. 3 in Lake Superior Room B in the Oakland Center. The wrap-up is on Thursday, Feb. 10 from 12-1p.m. in the Heritage Room of the Oakland Center.

Walters urges everyone to attend, whether they've read the book or not.

"The more the merrier," she said.

## OUSC

continued from page 6

"The Summit League is a basketball league," Russi said. "It is surrounded by schools, there are 10 of us, that their premiere sport is really basketball. We've been very successful in all of our sports, and we've done extremely well in those 11 years (of Summit League membership)."

Moving to another conference, Russi said, would increase the pressure to add a football program.

"At this point, football is not in the cards for some time, but once football is in the cards and we start to think about football, then you start looking at other athletic conferences," Russi said.

Russi was also asked about the upcoming Homecoming tailgate and he said that students seem excited for the opportunity.

"I think there are 185 spots available for the tailgate," Russi said. "Wouldn't it be wonderful if all 185 spots were taken and each spot brought the maximum of 20 guests? That would be pretty cool for our first tailgate experience."

## New Elliott cafe to offer Starbucks

By LAURYN ANDREWS  
Staff Intern

The Timothy and Marsha Healy Café featuring Starbucks Coffee will be officially opening at the end of February on the main floor of Elliott Hall.

According to Shannon Bayliss, Chartwells' Retail Director, the café is scheduled to open Feb. 28, but the date is still tentative.

The café will be similar to the Kresge Library Café and Café O'Bears in the Oakland Center. Students can expect to find a variety of Outtakes pastry and food items on the menu.

An online survey being conducted by Chartwells shows that students are most looking forward to purchasing Starbucks Frappuccinos at the café.

"I am psyched that there is going to be a Starbucks on campus. I would be willing to pay the extra money be-



SINEAD CRONIN/The Oakland Post  
The new café is set to open at the end of February.

cause it is absolutely amazing. It is a nice alternative to Caribou," sophomore Katie Fulks said.

For additional updates, visit the Chartwells' website at [www.dineoncampus.com/oakland](http://www.dineoncampus.com/oakland)

# Homecoming weekend approaches

By **ANDREW CRAIG**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University will play host to organizations from the campus community as the university celebrates Homecoming Weekend 2011.

From January 28-30, representatives from various university groups will be on site to provide opportunities for students to get involved in the weekend's festivities.

## Friday

Entertainer Derek Hughes will perform Friday night in the cafeteria in Vandenberg Hall. Hughes is known for his comedy and magic acts, as well as one-man plays.

The traditional OU Snow Bowl will kick off Friday night, as students participate in an intramural flag football game outside of the Recreation and Athletics Center on Pioneer Drive.

Another OU tradition, Guard the Grizz, will be held at the Grizz statue in front of the RAC, to ascertain that the university mascot remains untouched prior to the homecoming games.

Prior to Saturday games against the Centenary College Cyclones, Coaches Pep Talk

on Friday will feature men's and women's basketball coaches Greg Kampe and Beckie Francis.

The RAC will also offer a Basketball Pinata Toss and Sparklers Extravaganza to round out the initial day of homecoming activities.

## Saturday

To help incorporate the extended OU family, the OU Alumni Association Family Festival will provide activities and food in the lower level of the RAC from 1-3 p.m. Arts and crafts will be on display for festival-goers to take part in.

A handful of schools and colleges within the university will treat students, alumni and guests to an open house style welcome to the different university departments. Activities and refreshments will be provided at each as OU further extends the invite to explore campus.

The busiest day of weekend extravaganza is headlined by the homecoming basketball games, beginning Saturday afternoon. The women's game begins at 3:30 p.m., followed by the men's game at 6 p.m. The first 100 fans will receive free admission to both games, and the first 1,000 will be recipients

of free giveaways from OU.

OU will hold its first ever tailgate at the OU Student Body Tailgate Party, prior to the evening matches. To enhance the feel of a true college homecoming, OU encourages students to come and support the teams while indulging in some on-campus fun before the opening tip.

Casino Night in the OC will serve as a finale to Saturday's schedule. The night will feature an array of casino-style games along with a prize raffle. From 8 p.m. through midnight, Casino Night aims to capture the excitement of the homecoming spirit. Food will be served buffet-style and music acts will perform throughout the night.

## Sunday

The Grizzlies Homecoming 5K Run/Walk will begin at 9 a.m. at the RAC. Participants will be divided into age groups in 10-year increments. Ending right where it began, the finish line will be situated near in front of the RAC. Shortly after completion of the race, an awards ceremony will be held in the O'rena.

More information on OU Homecoming 2011 activities can be found at [www.oakland.edu/comehome](http://www.oakland.edu/comehome)

## police files

### Stalking a student

On Monday, Jan. 17, it was reported that a former OU student, who graduated last semester, had been experiencing inappropriate attention from a professor. The situation began in 2009 when the student had a course with the professor. The professor repeatedly sent the student e-mails that escalated last month into him telling the student he wanted to leave the country with her and that he wished she would kill his wife and children.

The former OU student waited until she received her final grades to report the incidents. The suspect underwent a mental evaluation and was recently arrested on the basis of a stalking warrant. The individual was arraigned in district court and released on bond. According to OUPD, the individual is wearing a tether and on home lockdown.

### Vandenberg wallet larceny

On Wednesday, Jan. 19, it was reported that a student's wallet was taken from her Vandenberg dorm room. The student reported that her roommate had a few friends help her move out that day and that one of them may have taken the wallet. The wallet contained \$60 in cash, the student's social security card and medical card. There are no further suspects at this time.

### Unconscious at the Rec

On Sunday, Jan. 23, the OUPD responded to a call regarding a student who collapsed after running on the treadmill in the fitness room of the Rec Center. The student has had seizures in the past and was evaluated by the Auburn Hills Fire Department.

### Hamlin Hall intoxication

On Sunday, Jan. 23, three students were issued minor in possession citations while congregating in the Hamlin Hall lobby after returning from a party. The three students had consumed punch at a party that contained alcohol.

— Compiled by Jen Bucciarelli,  
Local Editor

csa@oakland.edu  
248-370-2400

Center for Student Activities

**CSA**

[www.oakland.edu/csa](http://www.oakland.edu/csa)

## Thomas Friedman

The three-time Pulitzer Prize winning author is coming to our very own O'rena! February 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm.

Tickets are FREE to Oakland Students, Staff and Faculty.  
You can pick up your tickets at the CSA Service Window.

## Blood Drive hosted by Theta Chi

January 25-27, 9am-9pm in the Oakland Center

You can set up an appointment, but walk-ins are also accepted. The link is under the "Events" tab on the CSA website.

Come Home to OU!

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For the list of events, try: [oakland.edu/comehome](http://oakland.edu/comehome)

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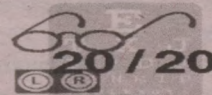
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## Grizzlies achieve long-term goal, turn attention to ORU

By **DAN FENNER**

Senior Editor

At the midway point of the Summit League season, the Golden Grizzlies men's basketball team has cruised to a 9-0 start with a win over each of the other teams in the conference.

Oakland University won all of those games by at least seven points and has rarely trailed on the scoreboard at any point. In the second halves of their nine league games, the Grizzlies have only trailed for a combined 2:43 of game time.

Saturday's win over North Dakota State gave OU sole possession of a conference record 17th consecutive win over league opponents, a goal which head coach Greg Kampe and his players had been intent on accomplishing since last season. But the focus now shifts to bigger pursuits.

"Up on our goal board, the main goals are to win the league and tournament championships, and after that it'd be to advance in the NCAA Tournament, but we've gotta accomplish those other goals first," Kampe said.

The team's dominance has garnered praise from coaches around the league, who have struggled to put together a game plan to keep pace with Oakland's high-powered offense.

"I don't think we're going to see another team like this in 30 years, they're that good," IPFW coach Dane Fife said after losing to OU on Jan. 15. "(Oakland) is a very, very good basketball team. Then you throw in the two big guys (Keith Benson and Will Hudson) who can start for most Big Ten teams. It's an unbelievable team."

The Grizzlies survived their toughest road trip of the conference season in the last two weeks thanks largely to their depth off the bench, which compensated for slow nights from some of the starters.

The emergence of freshman guard Ryan Bass has given Oakland yet another reliable contributor to insert into the lineup.

"Bass has been outstanding lately," Kampe said. "The Fort Wayne game was the key



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Freshman guard Ryan Bass had a career-high 11 points against IPFW on Jan. 15. Bass has become a bigger part of the Grizzlies' rotation since conference play resumed Dec. 28.

game for him because we were in so much foul trouble he knew we couldn't take him out, and that's what really turned his season around."

Senior Larry Wright's return to health also proved critical to defeating North Dakota State on Saturday. Wright, who did not start, scored 20 points in 24 minutes on a night when the Grizzlies appeared vulnerable to an upset.

After nearly three weeks of the Grizzlies playing away from home, fans will have a chance to attend a pair of games as part of Homecoming week on Thursday and Saturday.

While the prospect of running the table against the Summit League a second time through will prove more difficult as opponents will have greater familiarity with OU, the toughest stretches of the schedule have passed.

"That's what makes the conference season so difficult because everybody knows everybody," Kampe said. "The good for us

is that we've played the contenders on the road already, except for IUPUI. If you look at (the schedule), that's the silver lining of it and now we just have to hold home court."

With just five games at the O'rena remaining, Kampe said tickets are already scarce and sellouts are expected.

Noticeably absent from Kampe's list of goals for his team is an 18-0 record in the conference — a feat which has never been accomplished. Kampe said it's not something he's giving thought to as he knows how quickly that type of thinking could lead to a loss.

Thursday's matchup with Oral Roberts figures to be a defining game, as the Golden Eagles are jockeying for position within in the Summit standings.

"I think it's going to be a war Thursday. They've got a very favorable schedule too and this is a big week for (ORU) with us and IPFW on the road. This is a key game and maybe the most important game we've played so far."



Summit League standings  
as of Jan. 25

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Oakland 9-0  
IPFW 6-3  
IUPUI 6-3  
Oral Roberts 6-3  
South Dakota St. 5-4  
UMKC 5-4  
North Dakota St. 3-6  
Southern Utah 3-6  
Western Illinois 2-7  
Centenary 0-9

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Oral Roberts 9-0  
IPFW 7-2  
Oakland 7-2  
Southern Utah 5-4  
UMKC 4-5  
North Dakota St. 4-5  
South Dakota St. 4-5  
Western Illinois 4-5  
IUPUI 1-8  
Centenary 0-9

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Men's basketball  
1/27 vs Oral Roberts  
1/29 vs Centenary

Women's basketball  
1/29 vs Centenary  
1/31 vs Oral Roberts

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# Gymnastics vaults to club status at OU

By EMMA CLAUCHERTY  
Staff Reporter

A search for gymnastics on the Oakland University website reveals no results. This is about to change as Oakland will soon have its first gymnastics club.

Madeline Mazzeo, a sophomore majoring in Spanish and history, and Tiffany Turner, a freshman elementary education major, are both former competitive gymnasts who miss the sport and want to give Oakland students an opportunity to participate in gymnastics.

"I took a year off and I really missed (the gymnastics)," Mazzeo said. "I've been coaching at the gym I used to compete at and I just basically missed it."

Mazzeo has been a gymnast since she was 3, and competed up until her senior year of high school. She has earned platinum, the highest ranking level, of the pre-optional branch of competitive gymnastics.

"The sport is so different than so many other sports because of the physical ability of it and the strength," Mazzeo said. "It is very unique and it has become a part of me because I grew up doing it."

Turner, who has formally competed in gymnastics and cheerleading, joined with Mazzeo to start the club.

"I really wanted to start this club because I love gymnastics," Turner said. "I love that I feel flexible and athletic every time I am done with practice, but the best part is the goals (I can set) for myself."

"I was very sad when I found out Oakland did not have anything I could participate in related to the sport."

The club only has three members at the moment, but they are looking for more in order to expand the club.

"I think people should join because it is a lot of fun," Mazzeo said. "It's a great experience, especially if you have a gymnastics

or even a cheerleading background. It's a good way to stay in shape, exercise and get involved with something."

Turner said she enjoyed gymnastics because of the people she competed with.

"It's very fun and all the girls are amazing people," Turner said. "Gymnastics is just an exhilarating sport to participate in."

Mazzeo said the club will not start out as a competitive team because members will likely have different backgrounds in gymnastics.

"Right now it's not competitive," Mazzeo said. "We're just looking to get more members and see where everybody is with their gymnastics. Hopefully in the next year or two we can become competitive."

Practices will be held at the Stars and Stripes Gymnastics Academy in Clarkston on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m.

The club will spend their practices focusing on all aspects of the sport.

"We will work on all four (gymnastics) events: vault, bars, beam and floor," Mazzeo said. "We will work on basic skills, new skills, flexibility and conditioning as well."

Mazzeo said that while experience is not necessary for interested members, it is definitely helpful.

"They don't have to have experience, but it is definitely beneficial to have that background," Mazzeo said. "We have three members right now who have had experience, but experience isn't necessary."

Even though the club is in its developing stages right now, Mazzeo hopes to see it grow before she graduates.

"(In the next two years) I would like to see the membership grow, watch the club become competitive and hopefully be successful in competitions," Mazzeo said.

To find out more about the club, interested students may e-mail Madeline Mazzeo at [mtmazzeo@oakland.edu](mailto:mtmazzeo@oakland.edu) or Tiffany Turner at [tmtturner@oakland.edu](mailto:tmtturner@oakland.edu).

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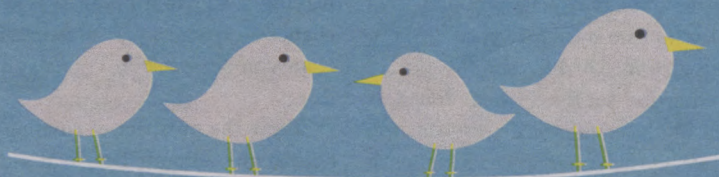
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# Loyalty has become undervalued in sports

## COLUMN

Bo Schembechler. Dean Smith. Joe Paterno. John Wooden.

When sports fans hear these names, thoughts of the schools they coach are immediately conjured up thanks to decades of affiliation.

Right on our very campus, we have someone whose longevity matches these coaching legends.

In his 27 years as head coach of the Oakland University men's basketball team, Greg Kampe has bridged the gap from Division II to Division I collegiate athletics. Of all current Division I coaches, Kampe has the fifth-longest active tenure.

In the early years of Division I, there were good and bad times, but Kampe was there throughout.

His commitment to not only the basketball program, but the university as a whole, should be commended and respected, as it has become a rarity.

In recent years, loyalty between head coaches and athletic programs has largely deteriorated. News of coaches leaving various universities after just a handful of years is constantly a hot topic on ESPN and the subject of countless debates and newspaper columns.

As a recruit looking to attend a university, this change in the culture of coaching makes choosing a program increasingly more difficult. The likelihood of being coached by the same person for your entire collegiate career has become a guessing game.

Head coaches visit recruits at their homes or have them come to the school, making plenty of promises along the way. With visions of conference and national titles in their heads, recruits sign their letters of intent with the idea of four years of service to a head coach of their choosing.

Too often are those commitments broken, however, and it's not always by the players.

When a coach leaves a school for the proverbial greener grass on the other side, they generally suffer no real consequences, besides maybe a little scorn from the fans.

Players, however, will lose a year of eligibility if they want to transfer to another Division I school.

There have been arguments in recent years about whether players should be allowed to leave with the coaches who recruited them and not lose that year of playing time. I find it hard not to side with the players — they aren't being paid to play, and should therefore be allowed to choose their collegiate destiny without being punished.



**Ryan Hegedus**  
Senior Reporter

Where legends like Bear Bryant, Mike Krzyzewski and Jim Boeheim used to embody their respective programs, the newest class of coaches, the likes of Lane Kiffin, John Calipari and Bobby Petrino, tend to seek the biggest paydays at the expense of the athletes.

Job turnover in terms of college football coaches seems to be even more prevalent, especially in recent seasons. Just in the past few months, the debacle involving the University of Michigan coaching position after Rich Rodriguez's dismissal overshadowed the team itself.

Too often in the sport is the head coach fawned over, while the team itself seems to become an afterthought.

In 2006, Bob Huggins took the job as head basketball coach at Kansas State University. One year later, he left for the same position at the University of West Virginia.

Another prime example of this is the case of Lane Kiffin and his betrayal of the University of Tennessee football program.

Kiffin was hired in December 2008 as the replacement to long-time head coach Philip Fulmer. He arrived at his first press conference promising energy and excitement for a rejuvenated program.

"I'm really looking forward to embracing some of the great traditions at the University of Tennessee," Kiffin said to the media.

Everything the fans and boosters would want to hear from their head coach, right?

Unfortunately for the Volunteers' faithful, Kiffin was gone from Knoxville just 14 months later. He was hired to be the next coach at the University of Southern California just a day after announcing his resignation from Tennessee in January 2010.

At his farewell press conference at UT, he mentioned that Southern California was "the only place I would have left (Tennessee) to go to."

Kiffin's expressed loyalty to the school was completely fake. Unfortunately for Tennessee fans, they wasted a year of football on a man who cut his losses and fled at the first opportunity.

One would hope that this disturbing and unfortunate trend of coaches leaving programs after brief periods of time will be short-lived.

## NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 STUDENT AWARDS

### WILSON AWARDS

Nominees for the 2011 Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards must be graduating seniors in **Winter 2011** or have graduated in **Summer** or **Fall 2010**. The awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders, and responsible citizens to the Oakland University community. Nominees must have a strong academic record of **3.5** or higher GPA.

### HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

Nominees must be graduating in **Winter 2011** or have graduated in **Summer** or **Fall 2010**. The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to inter-group understanding and conflict resolution in the Oakland University community. The major consideration of the award is the individual's service to the community. A minimum GPA of **2.5** is required.

Nomination forms are available online at [www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/](http://www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/) under "Awards and Scholarships" or at 144 Oakland Center.

Call 248.370.3352 for more information.

**Nominations due by Monday, February 7, 2011.**

## Attention OU freshmen and seniors!

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- 2) Follow the instructions to complete the online survey
- 3) Wait to win 1 of 4 \$100 Best Buy gift cards or 1 of 2 reserved parking spaces. Surveys must be completed by Feb. 25 and March 21.

## Breaking the ice

By ANNIE STODOLA  
Staff Reporter

This weekend, downtown Rochester will be filled with ice sculptures and dog sleds.

The annual Fire and Ice Fest runs Friday, Jan. 28 through Sunday, Jan. 30. In its fourth year, the festival offers outdoor winter activities, as well as promotions from local stores and restaurants.

One of the largest draws for the festival patrons are the ice sculptures, which are displayed in front of each store. Each year, the festival's sculptures are sponsored by local businesses and follow a particular theme. In honor of this year's theme, "Toys R Ice," sculptures will be carved to resemble well-known types of toys.

Other winter activities offered during the festival include ice sculpting demonstrations, dogsled rides, an ice skating rink, snow shoeing, broomball and a tube sledding hill on Third Street. To participate in ice skating or broomball, residents should bring their own skates.

Stacey Keast, Rochester Downtown Development Authority events coordinator, said that the tubing hill has been especially successful in recent years.

"Tubing is a huge hit and it's especially nice for residents on campus to be able to come and do," Keast said. "It's a free event and it just requires people to get in line. They don't need equipment."

Derenda Howard, Oakland County recreation supervisor for outdoor recreation and parks, said the outdoor events are popular, especially with college students.

"The dogsledder rides and demos, the snow shoeing and cross country skiing, the tubing hill — everything is free except for some costs associated with the Tastefest," Howard said. "All of the activities are free, though, so it's an affordable event."

Comprising the other half of the festival is the fireworks show, which takes place at 8 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday. The "Big Bright Lights Show," or the holiday lights that cover each building on Main Street during the month of December, will be back from 6 p.m. to midnight each night of the festival as well.

At the fest, patrons can pick up a "Sweet Discounts" card at any participating business, as designated by a sign in the storefront window. The cards are good for 15 percent discounts at the businesses' discretion throughout the month of February.

During Friday and Saturday, a Tastefest and beer tent



File photo courtesy of Stacey Keast

A sculptor carves a sea horse out of ice as part of the Fire and Ice Festival in downtown Rochester last year.

will be located near Rochester Mills. The tent will have a variety of signature dishes from area restaurants for patrons to purchase. On Sunday, the Tastefest tent will become the home of the Soup Off, a new event which will involve local restaurants competing against each other for the title of Best Soup. Festival patrons can purchase samples of the soup during the voting process and larger quantities after voting has concluded. The Soup Off will help fund next year's fest.

Other new events at this year's fest include cross country skiing and a figure skating exhibition on Sunday.

Howard expects a large turnout this weekend, largely due to the uniqueness of the events offered during the Festival.

"Rochester in particular is such an active community and people there tend to come out for events like this," Howard said. "You get to see people you don't see all the time and do activities you don't do all the time, especially in a downtown area. It's not every day you go tubing down a street downtown."

Organizers for the festival are still looking for volunteers to work in three hour shifts each day of the festival. To volunteer, contact Rachel Boyd at 248-975-9717.

Fire and Ice Festival hours are 6-9 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, visit [downtownrochestermi.com](http://downtownrochestermi.com)

"It just comes down to people getting a little stir crazy by the end of January," Keast said. "This lets people get out and get active during the winter."

## Local Briefs

### Rochester Hills Mayor met with Obama

Last week, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett met President Obama at the White House along with Cabinet members and Congressional representatives at the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The discussion focused on joblessness in the U.S. and the need for job creation.

### Dobrasevic Food Company to host the MiHealth TasteFest this weekend

On Saturday, Jan. 29, the Dobrasevic Food Company and Total Health Foods will host the MiHealth TasteFest at 2 p.m.

The TasteFest will take place at the recent addition of Total Foods in Wyandotte and is a cooking competition to raise awareness that even during winter months, there is still Michigan produce available. The competition will feature two or more winter storage items such as apples, potatoes, squash and more.

The judging criteria includes the use of a Michigan winter crop, the health appeal of the dish as well as taste. First place finalists will receive two months of produce packaged from Dobrasevic Food Company, a shirt and an apron.

For more information, visit [www.DobrasevicFoodCompany.com](http://www.DobrasevicFoodCompany.com)

### Bowling fundraiser to benefit injured riders



On Friday, Jan. 28, at 9 p.m. the Ashlee Sokalski Braap Fund will host a bowling fundraiser at Total Sports Lanes in Harrison Twp. For \$25 per person, bowlers get three games of bowling, pop and pizza.

The fund is in honor of former motocross racer, Ashlee Sokalski. She started riding bikes at the age of 2

and began racing dirt bikes at the age of 12. The biography on the Ashlee Sokalski Braap Fund website says "Ashlee always believed in living life to the fullest." The young rider died at the age of 19 after a crash while competing last summer.

The fund benefits injured motocross riders and aids in sponsoring amateur women riders. For more information, visit [www.AshleeSokalski316.webs.com](http://www.AshleeSokalski316.webs.com)

— Compiled by Jen Bucciarelli, Local Editor



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# Low results for higher learning

## Survey says: First few years of college aren't challenging enough

By **NICHOLE SEGUIN**  
and **MIKE SANDULA**

Features Editor and Managing Editor

Who was the 22nd president of the United States?

If you learned this in HST 115, you likely don't remember. Don't worry; you're not alone. A recent study found that many students fail to retain information they learned during their first years of college (It was Grover Cleveland, by the way, who was also the 24th president).

### Learning too little

"Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses," a book published Jan. 15, details a study of data compiled by the Collegiate Learning Assessment.

The study found that 45 percent of the 2,300 students examined didn't demonstrate a significant improvement in a range of "critical" skills, such as complex reasoning and writing, during their first two years of college, and that 36 percent of students had the same results over the entire four-year span of a bachelor's degree.

Sociologists Richard Arum of New York University and Josipa Roksa of the University of Virginia, who wrote the book, blame the lack of retention on a homework deficit.

According to them, teachers are simply not assigning enough homework. Thirty-two percent of students did not take any courses the previous semester that required 40 or more pages of assigned reading each week, and half of the students were not required to write more than 20 pages over the course of the semester.

At Oakland University, the results have a scary similarity.

"I think most faculty would agree that students do not seem to be doing as well these days as they used to," said Ronald Sudol, dean of the college of arts and sciences. "We see this impression reflected in lower graduation rates."

OU's projected six-year graduation rate for 2011 is 50 percent, while the first year retention rate is 76 percent, according to data compiled by the university.

### Study methods matter

On the fourth floor of Kresge Library, Sheereen Syed, a sophomore majoring in health sciences, studies with three friends.

Spending about three hours a week studying, she typically "skims" the material, but manages to succeed in school, as evidenced by her 3.3 grade point average.

On average, students study 12-14 hours per week, and they're better off if those hours are spent alone, according to "Adrift."

"I do independent and group study," she said. "Whatever happens to work out, depending on my friend's schedules."

### Involvement has low impact

Though OU is known as a commuter school, it has close to 200 student organizations, so some students already bogged down with school work face extra burdens.

Tom Cruz, for instance, is the multicultural affairs director for student congress, a member of two honor societies — Pi Sigma Alpha and Phi Alpha Theta — and founded the OU chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon and Circle K, a service organization.

Still, he sleeps for 9-10 hours a night, which he cites as the reason for his academic success.

**"I didn't really get into the college determination mode until the latter half of my sophomore year."**

— Shakita Billy  
Junior, political science

"I make sure I'm mentally awake for all my classes and I think that suits me better than reading," Cruz said.

Cruz, a senior double majoring in political science and history and triple minoring in international relations, economics and communications, recently bought a book for class — something he hadn't done since his freshmen year.

He said he finds a majority of his course material online and therefore doesn't require textbooks.

He does, however, take extensive notes

during class and takes time out every night to research information he has an interest in.

According to the study, students belonging to either a fraternity or a sorority can expect to see "smaller gains," while those involved in general don't see much of a difference either way.

Cruz maintains a 3.3 GPA despite his heavy involvement on campus.

### Generally a waste

Dr. Louis Gallien Jr., dean and professor of education and health services, said students don't take their first two years seriously, nor are they expected to.

"You will hear the popular phrase, even from professors, 'well, you have to get these out of the way,'" Gallien said. "Well, why are we requiring this list of courses or distribution requirements if they are in the way of a good education?"

As a social work major, sophomore Lisa Rumpitz needs to complete at least 40 general education credits, as well as at least 16 additional college distribution requirements.

"Gen-Eds are necessary for writing, but some are ridiculous and aren't needed," Rumpitz said. "I think they should be based off the major. I had to take theater."

With her general education requirements mostly met, Shakita Billy, a junior majoring in political science, realized she wanted to go to law school and had to improve her GPA.

"I didn't really get into the college determination mode until the latter half of my sophomore year," she said.

Professors, too, are realizing that the first two years are lax and are focusing on ways to address it.

"Campus leaders have been engaged in a series of meetings to fine-tune our strategic plans," Sudol said. "I think you will see as one of the outcomes of that process, a renewed desire to raise academic standards and improve student learning outcomes by introducing high-impact practices that enable students to be more fully engaged with their learning."

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Grade distribution for undergraduate students in all Fall 2010 courses

**1 in 3 grades given were 3.6 or higher**

**1 in 9 grades given was a perfect 4.0**

**Mean: 3.09**

**Median: 3.3**

**Mode: 4.0**

### Cumulative GPA's for undergraduate students enrolled in Fall 2010

#### Freshmen

Mean 2.67

Median 2.92

# Enrolled 3,312

#### Sophomores

Mean 2.83

Median 3.02

# Enrolled 3,040

#### Juniors

Mean 2.97

Median 3.11

# Enrolled 4,375

#### Seniors

Mean 3.17

Median 3.23

# Enrolled 4,261

— Compiled from data provided by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment

# Students watch, react to State of the Union

By SARAH WOJCIK  
Senior Reporter

President Barack Obama's State of the Union address was delivered to the American people Tuesday at 9 p.m. and many Oakland University students, professors and even alumni showed up to enjoy refreshments and watch the speech in the Fireside Lounge.

Obama's speech, which lasted approximately an hour and a half, covered the five main topics of education, infrastructure, innovation, deficit reduction and reform of government.

For the first time in history, both Republicans and Democrats sat together instead of separated.

"The competition for jobs is real, but this shouldn't discourage us," Obama said. "It should challenge us."

He supported his statement by encouraging Americans to "out-innovate, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world."

Obama wants America to invest in biomedical research, information technology and especially clean energy technology.

He plans to cut the billions in taxpayer dollars that Americans currently give to oil companies. Instead, he said, we should use the money to invest in biofuels and break our dependence on oil.

Obama's significant energy goals include being the first country to have one million

electric vehicles on the road by 2015 and, by 2035, have 80 percent of America's electricity come from clean energy sources.

In regards to education, Obama called for strengthening children's home environments to "instill the love of learning in a child."

Obama expressed his support for Race to the Top, a "law more flexible and focused on what is best for our kids."

Obama also asked Congress to make permanent the tuition tax credit, worth \$10,000 for four years of college.

His hope is that, by the end of the decade, the U.S. will again have the highest percentage of college graduates in the world.

As for illegal immigrants and the DREAM Act, Obama says we should "stop expelling talented, responsible young people who can staff our research labs, start new businesses and further enrich this nation."

The president voiced his plans to renovate America's infrastructure and, by doing so, create more jobs.

"Within 25 years, our goal is to give 80 percent of Americans access to high-speed rail," he said.

Obama pled to both Republicans and Democrats to lower the corporate tax rate, simplify the individual tax code, and he said he will give Americans access to track how their tax dollars are spent.

Obama set a goal of doubling American exports by 2014 to help businesses sell more

products abroad.

One of the more radical moves Obama made in his address was to propose a freeze on annual domestic spending for the next five years, including cuts to military spending, community action programs, Medicare and Medicaid.

He also acknowledged a need for America to transcend to a new level of engagement in its foreign affairs.

Obama spoke of forging new, stronger alliances with countries like South Korea, Russia, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador and Sudan.

However, junior Alex Green, a biology and international relations major, was disappointed the president did not address specific issues such as "negotiation with Iran about the nuclear issue, U.S. stance on the Sudan issue, relations with the new administration in Lebanon."

He said that the U.S. would begin to bring troops home from Afghanistan in July.

Addressing terrorism on the same plane, Obama's message to al Qaeda was "we will not relent, we will not waver and we will defeat you."

In closing, Obama stressed the importance of our democracy as outlined by the Constitution and the "American Dream," of rising from rags to riches through ambition and ingenuity.

Other OU students were pleased with the president's ambitions.

"I like the fact that he talked about real-

locating the funds from the oil companies to clean energy initiatives for future jobs," said freshman George Wilson, a studio art major.

Junior Mike Gazdik, treasurer of the OU College of Democrats and a political science major, also liked Obama's green initiatives.

"I think the biggest thing that we can do for our local economy and the environment would be to achieve the goal of having one million electric cars on the road by 2015," he said.

Gazdik also liked the idea of Democrats and Republicans sitting together.

"We need to show that, through everything that happened in Arizona and despite our differences, we are still a nation of people with similar interests and goals," he said.

Jim Arapostathis, OU alumni and former president of the OU College of Republicans, felt somewhat differently about the seating arrangements in the House gallery.

"For appearances' sake, I can see the aesthetics of it," he said.

As for the speech, Arapostathis said he noticed that Obama gave a huge effort to pivot to the center and felt it was a maneuver in response to his party's midterm losses.

"In principle, his goals seem great, but I doubt his resolve in pursuing such centrist goals because I believe he is truly left-hearted," Arapostathis said. "I think it's a political ploy to help himself get re-elected."



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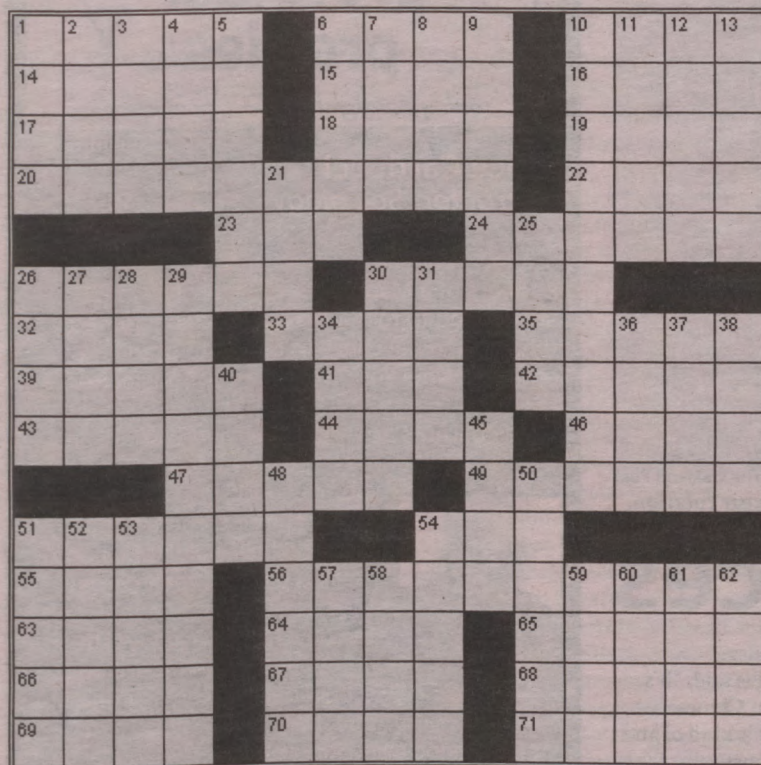
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## ACROSS

1. Monastery head
6. In addition
10. Information
14. Feudal lord
15. The period preceeding Easter
16. Nile bird
17. Warning
18. At a distance
19. Dispatched
20. Vote
22. Home for a pet bird
23. A boat built by Noah
24. Chemical cousin
26. Order of business
30. The color of most grass
32. Fretted instrument
33. Alone
35. Acclaim
39. Undeniable fact
41. Slang for "Head"
42. French for "Queen"
43. A series of connected rooms
44. They man a ship
46. Ritual
47. An Englishman
49. A developmental disorder

51. Overly diluted
54. French for "Wine"
55. Colored part of an eye
56. Vitamin B2
63. Woodworking groove
64. Gait faster than a walk
65. Leave out
66. Streetcar
67. Solitary
68. Inscribed pillar
69. Fit as a fiddle
70. Concludes
71. Scattered seed

## DOWN

1. Winged
2. A digestive juice
3. Meat from cows
4. Monster
5. Foursome
6. A length of sawn timber
7. Driven by lust
8. A Central American sloth
9. Frustrate
10. Fluster
11. Perpendicular to the keel
12. Bit of color

13. Flower with a showy head
21. Memorable periods
25. Fortuneteller
26. Anagram of "Salt"
27. Expert
28. Decorative case
29. Irritating
30. A state of high honor
31. Gown
34. A single time
36. Fifty-three in Roman numeral
37. Picnic insects
38. Move in large numbers
40. Inheritor
45. Ragamuffin
48. Periwinkle
50. Except when
51. Breadth
52. Palm cockatoo
53. Like some currents
54. Ballots
57. Press laundry
58. 007
59. Countertenor
60. Scene
61. Doing nothing
62. Require

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NICHOLE SEGUIN/The Oakland Post

Assistant Professor Shuishan Yu introduces his Chinese architecture course, which is taught in a three-year rotation.

## Chinese course resurfaces

By ALI ARMSTRONG  
Staff Reporter

It's not all about The Great Wall.

Chinese architecture is explored in all different classes, but Shuishan Yu, assistant professor of art history, is currently teaching students about Chinese architecture in his 300 level course, AH 357, which is Chinese architecture.

This is Professor Yu's third time teaching the course he brought to OU. The course was offered before in 2006 and 2009.

According to Andrea Eis, chair of art and art history department, the course will be put on a three-year rotation.

While OU offers two different courses focusing on architecture — Chinese and Michigan architecture, to be exact — the art history department was waiting to offer a course on Chinese architecture until they had a faculty member with enough expertise in the area.

"I think it depended on the expertise in the faculty on that particular area, especially with Chinese architecture," Eis said. "There is such a wide range in time period, and the country itself is so huge, in order to really teach that class well, someone needed a very deep, strong and broad background in it, and Professor Yu definitely has that."

The course's focus is on all aspects of Chinese architecture from all periods. Students study famous Chinese monuments including The Great Wall of China and the Imperial Tombs.

"I look at historical traditional architecture as well as modern architecture," Yu said. "It's a course of my specialty because that is my main area of research. The range of the class materials are very different ... for the Chinese architecture it is much broader in both time and space. I have to select the most significant issue to introduce to the class."

Professor Yu said students can develop critical skills in architecture, as well as engineering and Chinese architecture, by taking this course.

"Art, engineering and size are more integrated than we might think, and this is most clearly shown in traditional architecture and in Chinese architecture," Yu said.

Professor Eis said that expansion to a focus on architecture in the art history department is beneficial to all

students, not just those interested in art history.

"I think it's very exciting and intriguing," Eis said. "It's just such an interesting aspect of the study of Chinese art history and it's so significant that it give it this kind of attention ... that this is a really wonderful opportunity for a class that gives architecture the attention it deserves."

With his extensive background in Chinese architecture, Professor Yu developed the Chinese architecture course, as well as a course focusing on Buddhist architecture.

"He has introduced several courses since he has been here at Oakland," Eis said. "He was looking at the area of particularly of Chinese, Japanese and Asian art in general, so he has been adding courses over the years," Eis said.

The first time Professor Yu taught the Chinese architecture course was in 2002 to students at the University of Washington in Seattle.

"I have been developing this class for a while. The first time I taught the class was when I was a graduate student ... I always enjoy teaching it and each time I teach it, I find something new and I update it with new information and new research," Yu said. "It's a course that I have developed for a long time and it is also a course that is continuing to renew itself."

The prerequisites for the course are completion of AH 104 The Art of Asia or IS 210 Introduction To China.

The course books include a reader that Professor Yu has personally compiled with articles and book chapters to introduce his students to the major issues in Chinese architecture. There are other course books for students to use as well, and his lessons are taught mostly through lecture and PowerPoint.

Professor Yu's background in architecture includes two years as an active architect in Beijing before he came to the United States where he earned his Ph.D. Professor Yu earned his bachelor's degree in architecture and his master's degree in engineering in architectural history, from the Ching Wa University in Beijing.

"Take this class if you can ... you will learn and you will enjoy it ... don't be scared by the reading and don't be scared by the difficulty of the subject. I try to make it as enjoyable as possible and at the same time teach a lot of substance," Yu said.

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## professor profiles

Weekly spotlight on OU professors

Vince Carducci  
Instructor, Sociology

A few years ago, Vince Carducci left behind 23 years of a Mad Man-esque lifestyle in advertising to follow his bliss. He abandoned the suit and paycheck to return to graduate school at New York City's New School for social research.

"My parents are first-generation Americans; they couldn't understand why I was leaving the job," Carducci said.



The choice came from realizing he wouldn't be happy "selling people credit cards they don't need" and that the paycheck wasn't worth it. However, with mounting school debts, even he began to question his decision.

"It's a good thing ignorance is bliss, because if you knew, you wouldn't do it," Carducci said.

With his dissertation nearly finished, Carducci returned to Detroit and found his bliss.

As a new addition to Oakland University's sociology department, he also teaches art history at Detroit's College of Creative Studies.

In his classroom, the Detroit native brings the local art scene to life by introducing his students to "ruin porn," the new trend in Detroit where photographers come to capture images of the deserted factories and broken down buildings of the city.

As long as a computer's on hand, Carducci pulls up blogs and websites for local artists and events, like Hamtramck's Public Pool gallery and other 2010 Kresge Artist fellows.

Carducci, who also runs his own blogs — the Motown Review of Art and The Citizen — says it's more than a love affair with Detroit and with the city only a few miles away, the economic and cultural reality couldn't be any closer.

Students in his class witness the "bottom-up community" as small farms sprout up in the city filling local markets with produce.

"It's making them talk, and in large classes directing conversation is a more effective way of learning."

This semester, Carducci is teaching two classes — COM 373/SOC 373, which is social control of mass media, and SOC 100, intro to sociology.

— Rhianna Marks, Staff Intern

# Prestigious med program admits first OU student

By ANNIE STODOLA  
Staff Reporter

During her first year at Oakland University, sophomore Subha Hanif was unsure what to pursue as a career.

That uncertainty vanished after Hanif attended the Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP) at the University of Virginia.

Hanif originally found out about the program through a website called [aspiringdocs.org](http://aspiringdocs.org). The website was recommended to her during the Honors College Career Day.

Upon visiting the site, she saw a link to the application about SMDEP. Although she was unsure whether she wanted to continue as a premed student, she decided to apply to the program anyway and was accepted to the program at the University of Virginia.

SMDEP is a six-week medical or dental program aimed at showing first and second year premed students what life in medical school is actually like. Institutes are held at 12 universities throughout the country, including Duke, Yale, Columbia and Howard University. Students are provided with free tuition, food, housing and a stipend. The program is highly competitive — in

the University of Virginia program only 80 of 700 applicants were selected.

"Basically it's set up like a real medical or dental school class," Hanif said. "We had a class of 80 students who had class from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout those six weeks. It basically gets you into life as medical student."

Hanif was the first student from OU to attend the program and the only student from Michigan to attend the University of Virginia program this past year.

"I was proud to represent Michigan and Oakland University," Hanif said. "It's just cool because now 79 more people know what OU is and what it's about. It gets our name out there."

Students in the program take classes that they would take in medical school, such as biology and chemistry, as well as getting actual clinical experience and attending workshops on the entire process of applying to medical school, surviving medical school and life after graduation.

Workshops included mock medical school interviews and two weeks of work on writing a personal statement, which was crucial to the application.

"You can have the grades and the test scores, but without the personal statement, they won't hear your voice," Hanif said.

"Many students don't start writing their personal statement until the year they apply and that's really a little bit too late to start. The students who are in SMDEP are starting way ahead of everyone, so it's not an obstacle later on."

After learning about the admissions process, students are given the opportunity to hear from a variety of specialists.

"We had a whole variety of speakers from the urologists to pediatricians," Hanif said. "We got to hear what their experiences are like, and then mingle with them and even some shadowing opportunities."

The students also participated in seminars about health policy and had a day to interact with admissions officers for some of the largest medical schools in the country, including Johns Hopkins, Duke University and Brown University.

"The whole point of SMDEP is to give students a holistic approach to medicine, to show them all the facets and to show you what you can do with your career," Hanif said.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the program, Hanif said, is that it helps students figure out if the medical field and being a physician is what they really want to do.

"I can definitely say that the program changed my life," Hanif said.

She currently is a sophomore premed student at OU who plans to focus her future career on promoting quality health care in impoverished countries through an organization like Doctors without Borders or the World Health Organization.

Although the program solidified her decision to become a physician, Hanif said the program is beneficial even if students later decide to pursue a different career.

"If you're really thinking about a career in medicine, you have to take a lifelong risk to get into that career," Hanif said. "If you're just in it for the rewards, such as monetary rewards or fame, it's not worth it. But if you're truly passionate about it, then it could be worthwhile to see if the field is for you. It'll benefit you in the long run."

Though the chances of landing experiences like this may be slim, Hanif said that students shouldn't be discouraged.

"It was a big risk for me to apply because I didn't really know what it was about, I was going to some state I'd never been to — Virginia — by myself," Hanif said. "Take the risk and apply and even if you change your mind, you'll know now instead of finding out in your third year of medical school."

For information on SMDEP, visit [www.smdep.org](http://www.smdep.org). The deadline is March 1.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

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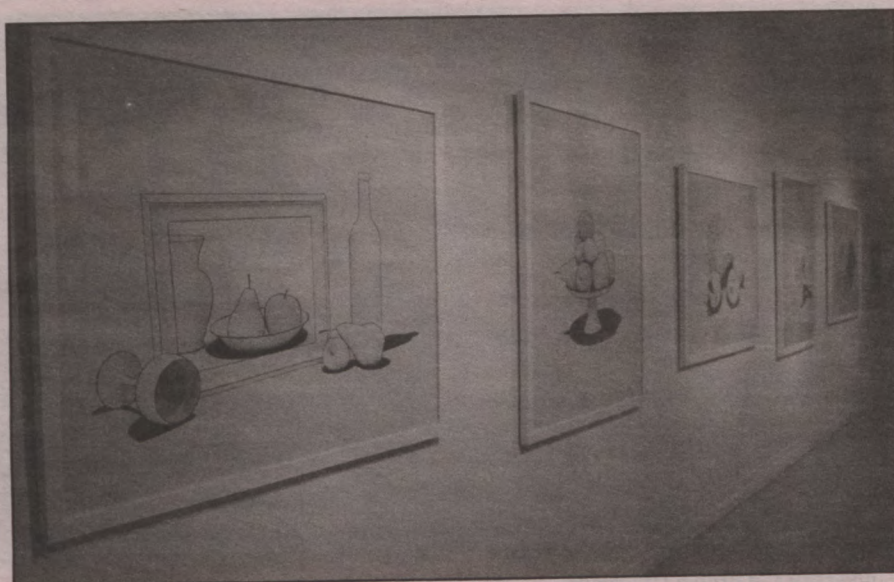
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KAITLYN CHORNOBY/The Oakland Post

Cynthia Grieg has been shown in major collections including museums in Chicago and New York. Her display in the OUAG is her first solo project to be shown in Michigan.

## Re-righting the wrongs

OUAG featured artist Grieg presents exhibit of uncommon circumstances

By KAITLYN CHORNOBY  
Scene Editor

Each exhibition presented by Oakland University's Art Gallery takes into consideration past exhibitions and crafts galleries to potentially change the consciousness of the onlooker in some way, said Professor Dick Goody, director of the OUAG and curator of the OU Art Collection.

OUAG's current exhibition, "Cynthia Grieg: Subverting the (Un)Conventional," challenges the mind and controversial conceptions through photography.

"Work that covers certain genres like gender, sexuality, identity, etc., may appear to be outwardly political in nature," said Goody in his essay included in the exhibition catalog, "but in Grieg's oeuvre, even when these things are present, even when they are dialectical, the personal takes precedence over the ontological."

Grieg has been a working photographer and artist for over 20 years and has received national and international attention for her work. She has shown her pieces in galleries in Europe, New York and Boston, among others, but the exhibition featured at the OUAG is her first in Michigan.

Grieg creates bodies of work that have a finite time. She works on each body of work for several years, according to Goody.

All of Grieg's photos are presented as taken and never manipulated.

Goody describes Grieg as a conceptual artist who uses photography as her means of communication.

Grieg targets commonalities of the past and presents photos to challenge what was considered normal in that period of time.

In a set of works titled "Reclining Nudes Revised," Grieg switches the common gender of the portraits to convey the story of the history of paintings. The pieces convert the idea that nude photos depicted women exclusively in states of undress.

"The art world and art in general, historically, was by men, for men, to men," Goody said. "She's trying to re-right some wrongs."

The segment of the collection deviates from the white cube of the gallery and creates a type of museum space, including objects encased in glass and a burgundy paint job on the walls.

Within these dark walls, Grieg presents a compilation of work by Isabelle Raymond. Raymond photographed slaves and African-American men being drawn by white women, as well as mythological creatures including mermen and satyrs.

"Her work is a little bit difficult; it doesn't fit," Goody said. "These photographs, I think a lot of people find them problematic. It's meant to show you how

much power women have now."

Another set of work features photographs of plastic dolls, a work that Goody describes as "interesting, paradoxical, funny; strange because if they were people, (viewers) would have problems with it."

Yet another follows an individual who lay down in the grass on a day in February and continued to do so for nine months, photographing each day. The piece examines the idea that nothing stays the same.

In addition to a chronological set of photographs from the work, Grieg produced a video featuring the progression of the images as well as clips of views from the sky and ground.

Goody said the exhibition is proving to be very successful, especially for teachers, since many of the works raise issues about how artists display work. The gallery explores what defines a museum and a gallery and considers issues of censorship and context in terms of presentation of contemporary art.

"It allows students to see artists working in installations," Goody said. "You can see an artist grapple with lots of different issues of presentation, issues of expression, issues of autobiography and issues of how do you move from one language into another."

Goody stresses the importance of gallery labels to help people understand the pieces

within the exhibit. Goody says the intent of the labels is to explain, not preach and encourages viewers to take the time to read the literature.

The labels include information about the production of the piece as well as clips of the conversation between the artist and curator.

"Art is a two-way street," Goody said. "The gallery has to put a lot of effort into communicating what this might be about, but the person that comes in has got to do some work as well. It's not just about coming in here and looking at paintings of sunflowers; you have to engage the audience and the audience has to feel like they're going to engage a work."

Following the current exhibition, the OUAG will present "Borders and Frontiers: Globalization, Temporality and Appropriation in the Contemporary Image" from March 5 to April 10.

The exhibition features nine artists: several located in New York, one in Texas and one in Michigan. Goody said that while most of the time they show work from Michigan, there is an importance in showing pieces from other locations.

Grieg's exhibit is open until Feb. 20 from noon to 5 p.m. on all days except Monday.

For more information on Grieg and OUAG's coming and past exhibitions, visit [www.ouartgallery.org](http://www.ouartgallery.org)

## records & reels



### THE MECHANIC // 100 min. // R

Action star Jason Statham returns to the screen as Arthur Bishop, an assassin nicknamed "the mechanic." Working alone for his entire career, Bishop finds himself looking for vengeance when his mentor, Harry, is murdered. When he starts to look for the people responsible, Harry's son Steve joins "the mechanic" as they both retaliate for their loss.

### THE RITE // 127 min. // PG-13

Based on the nonfiction novel of the same name by Matt Baglio, "The Rite" chronicles the story of a young seminary student who discovers the faith when he is chosen to study at the Vatican's Exorcism School and encounters demonic forces.

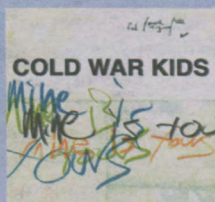


### FROM PRADA TO NADA // 107 min. // PG-13

Based on Jane Austen's "Sense and Sensibility," two Latina sisters who have been spoiled all their lives have been left broke when their wealthy father passes away. When they are forced to move in with their aunt in east Los Angeles, their life takes a dramatic change.

### COLD WAR KIDS // "Mine is Yours"

Building a career off playing shows and sharing whatever space they could get, the guys from California have always had a passion for their music and avoid taking anything for granted. Their newest album, "Mine is Yours," is an expansion on their soul-punk sound.



### IRON AND WINE // "Kiss Each Other Clean"

Iron and Wine's Sam Beam has always maintained a traditional folk sound that has made him an indie success. His last album, "The Shepherd's Dog," marked the beginning in a transition to a more mature sound. His new album takes that step even further with a '70s-like sound.

### AMOS LEE // "Mission Bell"

His fourth release on EMI's Blue Note Records may be considered Lee's most accomplished album. The album features guest vocalists including country music legend Willie Nelson, Lucinda Williams and Iron and Wine's Sam Beam, among others. Lee's signature soulful vocals and blues are sure to bring success and recognition to this experienced artist.



— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik, Staff Reporter

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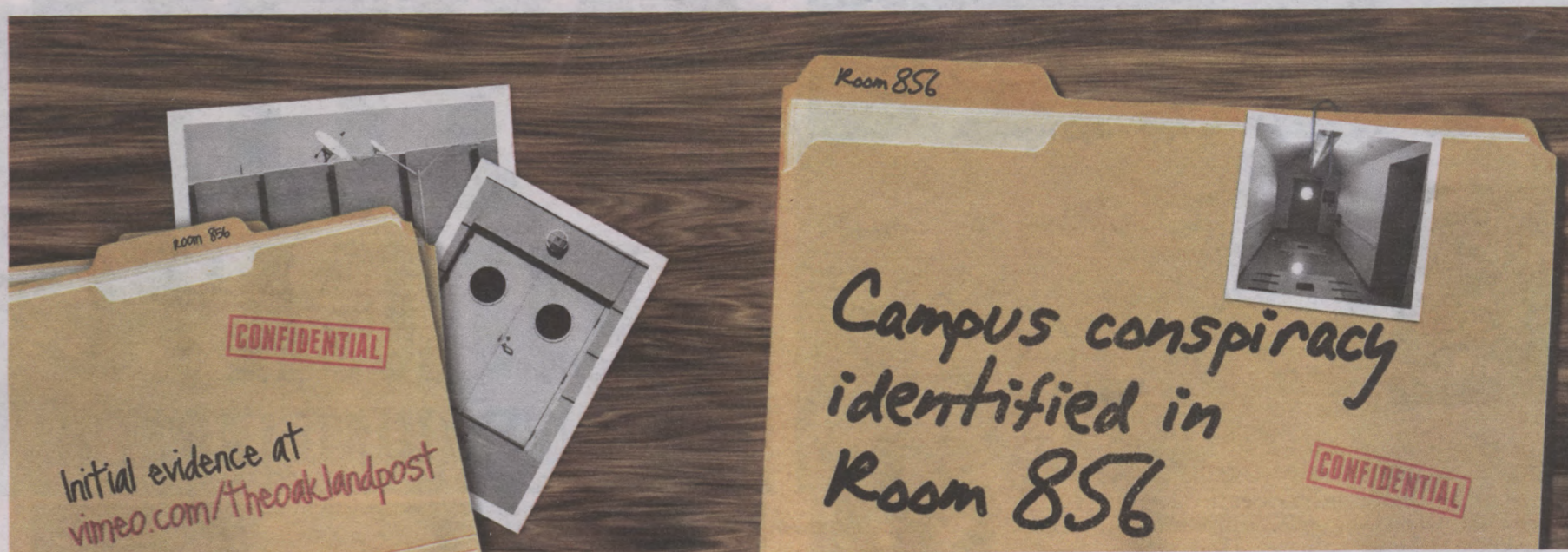
# Mouthing Off

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January 26, 2011

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## By THE OAKLAND POST STAFF

The following was found in an unmarked envelope left under the door of The Oakland Post. This document is believed to be a personal account of the last known whereabouts of former Mouthing Off Editor, Rory McCarty.

The Oakland Post would like to reiterate that the opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of The Oakland Post staff.

### January 3

Last year, The Oakland Post stumbled across a conspiracy in our midst. While researching an investigative piece, Post editors discovered an oddity. On the eighth floor of the Science and Engineering Building tower, there is a room 855 and a room 857, with nothing between them.

What happened to that missing room? Was it removed? Obscured? Or has it been purposefully hidden?

What started as an oddity began to unravel as we looked into it. I took it upon myself to uncover the mystery behind the missing room, Room 856. I took it upon myself to delve deeper into the mystery and unearth some answers.

### January 4

The next day, a brisk walk across campus troubled my soul further as I began noticing some curious idiosyncrasies.

My internal radar for such strangeness was pinging as I took note of one weird thing after another.

There were satellites on rooftops I had never noticed before. The entrance to what I could only assume was an intricate tunnel system beneath the campus. And I never did fully understand what all that construction was for ... It was all adding up.

It all seemed a little too coincidental.

The mystery of Room 856 may be more widespread than I initially feared.

### January 5

To begin my investigation, I spent the afternoon slamming myself into each of the walls of the eighth floor of SEB, figuring that maybe they had a sort of "Platform Nine and Three Quarters" deal going on. But no luck.

I can't go to the administration for help with this, obviously. In my experience, when there is a conspiracy, the regional governing body is always, always central to the cover-up.

I mean, come on. That's like Conspiracy 101.

### January 6

I decided to go to the library to put in a little research. I was shocked to discover that section 856 of the Dewey Decimal system pertains to "Italian letters."

Italy. Of course!

I promptly spent hours reading through the stacks, made more difficult by the fact that I don't know any Italian. But I did manage to get one cryptic message from Google Translate: "The delegates home will knock us down if we are injured by car. Don't follow the balls when they make the street."

Could this be yet another layer of the cipher that needs to be re-decoded? Or should I take it literally, meaning that politicians are using organized vehicular manslaughter to control the populace?

### January 7

I cornered managing editor Mike Sandula in the hall this morning. I thought with his Italian heritage, he might be able to shed some light on the 856 situation.

He was predictably evasive, responding

to my questions dismissively with stuff like, "Ahhh," and "Stop shaking me."

### January 8

I realized that finding out about Room 856 was going to require actually getting to Room 856. That was only going to happen by working backwards from my goal, so I went to the Rec Center and asked for a tour. Studio 897 is the only numbered room in the Rec Center. There must be a connection between it and Room 856.

When we reached Studio 897, I dove behind a Pilates ball and hid until my tour guide walked away, no doubt mystified by my sudden escape. I was on a stakeout for any clues that could lead me to another thread of the conspiracy.

I was awake hours later by the instructor for the nighttime aerobics class. She said I had been passed out on a pile of workout mats and asked me to leave.

I was making my actions too obvious.

Now, I've been on my fair share of stakeouts, and rarely have I passed out. No doubt something I ate earlier was drugged. Whoever's responsible for this is getting sloppy. Their increasingly desperate attempts at a cover up have unwittingly lead me to the next piece of the puzzle: Chartwells.

### January 10

I usually feel sleepy after eating the chicken parmesan stromboli in the food court, but nothing quite like this. There was something in that food keeping the general populace in the dark. Something that makes us complacent. Something that makes us not question the baffling stuff that happens all around us. To hell with subtlety, I thought. I need to get this out in the open.

I stood in Pioneer Food Court, staring

at the soup counter, sizing it up. Italian wedding soup, I realized, was the obvious culprit. A clerk came over to ask me if I needed any help.

"No, I can get it," I replied as I overturned a barrel of the stuff on the ground and began sifting through it a fistful at a time. Even now I'm sure it had to be in there, some kind of opiate chemical. As I slipped on the drug-laden soup while fighting off a couple of chefs no doubt strung out on the stuff, I could swear I saw the synthesized psychotropic in the puddle, clear as day. Or maybe it was parsley. Definitely parsley or a synthesized psychotropic.

### January 11

I write this from a holding room at the OUPD. If the librarians, aerobics instructors and fry cooks can't be trusted, then I have no doubt the university police are instrumental in keeping the whole situation under wraps.

I don't know what's going to happen to me next. I expect I will be made to "disappear" the same way that Room 856 disappeared. I'm going to keep on writing this as long as I can in hopes that someone will eventually find my notes and take up the same cause.

This is the end of Rory McCarty's journal. It is unclear what happened to McCarty after the events documented here. Some people believe he was escorted off campus grounds by OUPD and instructed to not return. Some say his doctors adjusted his medication and he's doing much better now. Still, others have said that he has been trapped inside the mystery he sought to reveal, another victim of a cover-up, a prisoner of Room 856.

If you have information that may be related to these events, give us a ring.