

THE OAKLAND ROAST

APRIL
1
2015

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S (OTHER) INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LESS PARKING.

Just kidding, we're done for now

PAGE 0

BILLS.

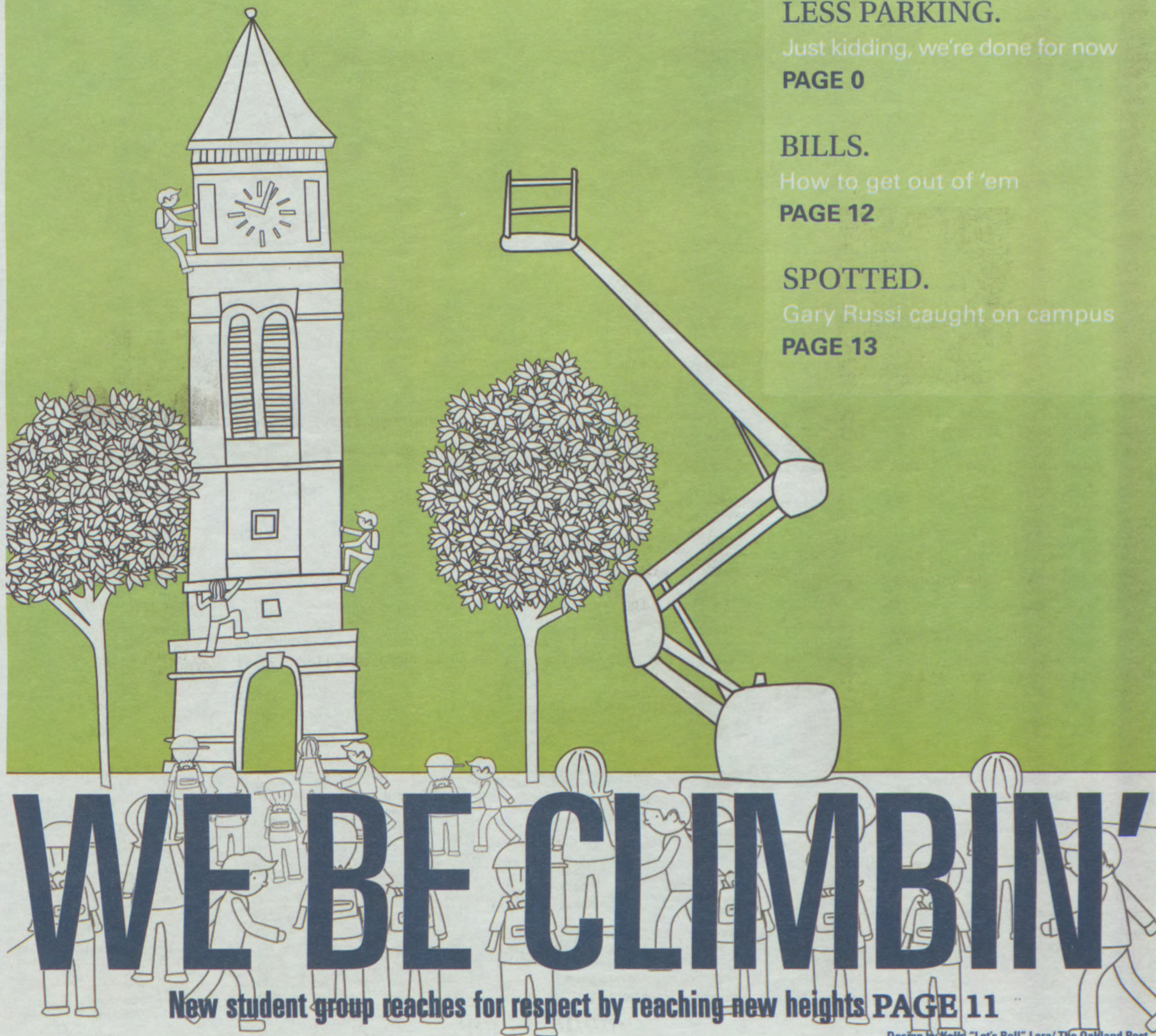
How to get out of 'em

PAGE 12

SPOTTED.

Gary Russi caught on campus

PAGE 13



New student group reaches for respect by reaching new heights **PAGE 11**

Design by Kelly "Let's Roll" Lara/ The Oakland Post

Spotted: Former president seen on campus

Gary Russi is found wandering the woods by the Kettering Magnetics Lab, no one knows why

By Kaylee Kean
Post Historian

It was a dark, cold morning — roughly 2 a.m., to be specific. Senior Devon Mahieu was taking a jog around campus as part of her daily morning routine.

She always starts from her apartment and makes her way to the woods on the opposite end of campus, where the Kettering Magnetics Laboratory hides in peaceful solitude.

Except this time, something was different.

Mahieu had stopped to tie her shoe near the lab when she heard a crackling nearby. She got out her bear deterrent, turned off her music and crouched behind some bushes.

When she looked out, she saw a shadowy figure rustling through the grass around the lab, seeming to search for something. Mahieu watched the figure wander in, out, around and over the lab for roughly 30 minutes before she recognized the figure to be Gary Russi, former Oakland University president.

She posted a detailed account on Yik Yak, which members of *The Oakland Roast* staff saw and went to investigate.

After Mahieu finished Yakking she quietly left the scene. As she did so, all she could hear was the faint sound of his singing float through the tree leaves.

"What is love? Baby don't hurt me... don't hurt me... no more..."

SOME BACKGROUND LOL

Russi served an unprecedented 18-year term as president of Oakland University, beginning in 1996. He was contracted to work until 2014, but retired in August 2013.

He announced his retirement on June 12, 2013, the same day that his wife Beckie Francis was terminated from her position as OU's women's basketball head



Gary Russi, former OU president, was caught wandering around the magnetics lab on Wednesday, April 1.



If you look closely, you will see Russi spent some time perched on the roof. What was he looking for? Will he be back any time soon?

coach for allegedly emotionally and mentally abusing players.

It was a mess for the media, the university and the university's powerful couple.

In August Russi left quietly with almost a quarter-million OU dollars (legally taken, of course), and no one heard from him for months. In March 2014 *The Oakland Post* reported that

he was happily living in Sioux Falls, South Dakota as Chief of Staff of Celebrate Community Church, the largest church in the state.

It's been nearly a year since then. Why is he in Michigan?

WHAT'S NEXT?

While there can only be speculation on what the former pres-

ident was doing back at his old stomping grounds, one thing is for certain: Something is amiss.

What was Gary Russi doing back on campus, when he is supposed to be living in South Dakota? Why was he at the magnetics lab, specifically? What sort of sinister plot is he concocting — is his wife involved? When will Leonardo DiCaprio finally win a damn Oscar? Why did Zayn leave One Direction? Why can't Josh Soltman get a respectable girlfriend?

These questions are on many minds, and we will do our best to answer them.

Jackson Gilbert, Kingslayer, contributed to this report.

So did Grace Turner, unicorn whisperer; Shelby Tankersley, combat tank; Jimmy Halmhuber, Greek correspondent; Dani Cojocari, cat manager; Parker Simmons, man of justice; Kevin Teller, staff rockstar; and Selah Fischer, DIY addict.

WHAT WE KNOW

WHO Gary Russi.

WHAT Russi was the president of OU from 1996-2013. He retired a year early after his wife and then women's basketball coach, Beckie Francis, was terminated, resulting in much unwanted attention.

LAST SEEN Before his appearance at the lab, Russi was reported living in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

TO LEAVE TIPS

If you have any intel on the former pres and his plans, please type it all down using a typewriter, put the files in a manilla envelope and wedge the envelope in the door to the Elliott Clock Tower when it is midnight and no one can see you.



Hungry Howie's

FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA

**WE DELIVER
ON CAMPUS!**

OPEN LATE

Sun-Thurs til Midnight
Fri & Sat til 2AM

3011 E. Walton Blvd. (next to 7-11) **248-373-4330**



NOW HIRING DRIVERS!

- Part Time
- Mileage & Tips Paid Nightly
- Flexible Hours
- Employee Discount



SPECIAL

**ONE LARGE
1-TOPPING PIZZA**

\$7.99

DEEP DISH EXTRA

**JUST ASK FOR THE OU SPECIAL,
NO COUPON NECESSARY!**

Hungry Howie's Pizza

SMALL PIZZA
with 2 Toppings

\$5

Delivery, tax extra • Available at this location only. Not valid with other coupons or discounts. Exp. 9/15/15

Hungry Howie's Pizza

**LARGE PIZZA SUB
CALZONE**

Loaded with Pepperoni and
Cheese, with pizza sauce

\$5

Delivery, tax extra • Available at this location only. Not valid with other coupons or discounts. Exp. 9/15/15

Hungry Howie's Pizza

XL PIZZA

with 1 Topping

\$11

IT'S HUGE!

Delivery, tax extra • Available at this location only. Not valid with other coupons or discounts. Exp. 9/15/15



Hungry Howie's

FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA

PIZZA Free Flavored Pizza Crust

Original, Butter, Garlic, Herb, Buttercheese, Sesame, Ranch, Cajun, Onion

CHEESE (100% Mozzarella).....	SM \$5	MED \$7	LG \$9	X-LG \$11
ADD A TOPPING.....	99¢	\$1.29	\$1.59	\$1.89

Large Square Deep Dish \$1 More

PIZZA TOPPINGS: Pepperoni, Mushrooms, Italian Sausage, Ham, Ground Beef, Bacon, Green Peppers, Red Onions, Black Olives, Pineapple, Mild Peppers, Fresh Tomatoes, Extra Cheese, Cheddar Cheese, Feta Cheese, Parmesan Cheese, 3-Cheeser, Anchovies, Jalapenos

SPECIALTY PIZZAS

	SM	MED	LG	X-LG
ASIAN CHICKEN	\$8	\$11	\$15	\$18
Tangy Asian Sauce, Grilled Chicken Breast, Red Onions, Green Peppers, Sesame Seeds & Mozzarella Cheese				
BBQ CHICKEN	\$8	\$11	\$15	\$18
Sweet BBQ Sauce, Grilled Chicken Breast, Bacon, Red Onions & Mozzarella Cheese				
BUFFALO CHICKEN	\$7	\$10	\$13	\$16
Spicy Buffalo Sauce, Grilled Chicken Breast, Red Onions, Cheddar & Mozzarella Cheese				
PHILLY STEAK	\$11	\$13	\$16	\$19
Special Cheese Sauce, Marinated Steak, Green Peppers, Mushrooms & Red Onions, Covered with Provolone Cheese				
MEAT EATERS PLUS	\$11	\$13	\$16	\$19
Pepperoni, Ham, Ground Beef, Sausage, Bacon & Extra Cheese				
HUNGRY HOWIE'S WORKS	\$11	\$13	\$16	\$19
Extra Cheese, Pepperoni, Ham, Italian Sausage, Ground Beef, Mushrooms, Green Peppers, Red Onions & Black Olives				
MEAT EATERS	\$9	\$11	\$14	\$17
Ground Beef, Ham, Pepperoni & Sausage				
VEGGIE	\$9	\$11	\$14	\$17
Red Onions, Tomato, Green Peppers, Mushrooms & Black Olives				
HOWIE SPECIAL	\$9	\$11	\$14	\$17
Ham, Pepperoni, Green Peppers, Mushrooms & Red Onions				
HOWIE MAUI	\$8	\$10	\$13	\$16
Bacon, Ham & Pineapple				
BACON CHEDDAR CHEESEBURGER	\$8	\$10	\$13	\$16
Bacon, Cheddar & Ground Beef				
HUNGRY HOWIE'S JUNIOR SINGLE 8" INDIVIDUAL CHEESE PIZZA	\$3			

HOWIE BREAD

HOWIE BREAD.....	\$3.99
3-CHEESER HOWIE BREAD.....	\$4.99
CINNAMON BREAD.....	\$3.99
CAJUN BREAD.....	\$3.99

HOWIE WINGS

NEW Flavored Wings: Asian, Buffalo, BBQ

	10	20
ORIGINAL WINGS.....	\$7.49	\$13.99
Buffalo Style Seasoned Chicken Wings		
BONELESS WINGS.....	\$7.49	\$13.99

HOWIE ROLLS™

PEPPERONI & CHEESE.....	\$2.99
Pepperoni & Melted Mozzarella Cheese	
STEAK & CHEESE.....	\$3.49
Marinated Steak & Melted Cheddar Cheese	
CHICKEN & CHEESE.....	\$3.49
Grilled Chicken Breast & Melted Cheddar Cheese	
DIPPING SAUCE EXTRA	

ICE COLD POP



Customer pays tax & deposit. Prices subject to change.

3011 E. Walton Blvd.
(next to 7-11)

248-373-4330

OVEN BAKED CALZONE STYLE SUBS

	SM	LG
PIZZA SUB.....	\$3.99	\$5.99

Extra Pepperoni, Pizza Sauce & Cheese

PIZZA DELUXE SUB.....	\$3.99	\$5.99
Cheese, Pizza Sauce & your 3 favorite Toppings		

DELUXE ITALIAN SUB.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Ham, Salami, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Italian Dressing on the side		

STEAK, CHEESE & MUSHROOMS.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
--------------------------------	--------	--------

Steak, melted cheese, Mushrooms, Lettuce, Tomato, & Italian Dressing on the side

HAM & CHEESE.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Ham, melted Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, & Italian Dressing on the side		

TURKEY SUB.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Turkey Breast, melted Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, & Mayonnaise on the side		

TURKEY CLUB SUB.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Turkey Breast, Ham, Bacon, melted Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, & Mayonnaise on the side		

VEGETARIAN SUB.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Double cheese, Mushrooms, Red Onions, Green Pepper, Black Olives, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomatoes		

FRESH SALADS

	SM	LG
CHICKEN CAESAR.....	\$5.99	\$7.99
Grilled Chicken Breast, Asiago Cheese, Over Fresh Romaine Mix, With Side Of Caesar Dressing & Croutons		

CHICKEN ASIAGO.....	\$6.29	\$8.49
Grilled Chicken Breast, Asiago Cheese, Tomatoes, Red Onions, Black Olives, Over Fresh Romaine Mix & Side Of Dressing Choice		

GARDEN.....	\$4.99	\$6.99
Tomatoes, Red Onions, Green Peppers, Black Olives, Over Fresh Romaine Mix With A Side Of Dressing Choice And Croutons		

ANTIPASTO SALAD.....	\$5.99	\$7.99
Fresh Crisp Lettuce, Ham, Salami, Cheese, Peppers, Tomatoes, Black Olives & Red Onions		

GREEK SALAD.....	\$5.99	\$7.99
Fresh Crisp Lettuce, Feta Cheese, Tomatoes, Red Onions, Black Olives & Peppers		

CHEF SALAD.....	\$5.99	\$7.99
Fresh Crisp Lettuce, Tomatoes, Red Onions, Topped With Ham, Mozzarella Cheese & Black Olives		

DRESSINGS Ranch, Italian, Greek, Caesar

PIZZA • WINGS • CALZONES • SALADS • BREADSTICKS • DRINKS • WE HAVE IT ALL!

Grizz on the street



What is YOUR favorite thing about Oakland University?

By Josh Soltman / Single and Ready To Mingle



Jake Alsko, graduated

"I'm not trying to be a dick, but, I was the best thing that Oakland University ever had."



Snake, Garden of Eden

"I like to bite people who eat apples, and there are a lot of people at OU who eat apples, so I bite them."



Hamburglar, McDonald's

"My favorite thing was probably all the babes in yoga pants. After a nice hamburger I like just sit in the OC with a beverage and enjoy the show as they all walk by."



Link, Zelda's boyfriend

"Hyeeeh kyahh hyahhh haa hyettt hyahhhh haaa hyaaa hum jum jum hyaaa haa!"

Forever a loan

By Cheyanne Kramer / Credible Staff Meme

With graduation approaching, many are left with the burden of paying off their student loan debts. Many opt for the old checkbook, but here are a few alternatives for consideration.

9. Live in a van. It's not easy paying for a dorm or an apartment. Why pay for water, gas and electricity when you can just pay for the gas in your car? Follow in the footsteps of Internet legends and live in your car for a year. Don't worry about showers. You can just bathe in the lake.

8. Live with your parents. Who cares if you have a job, significant other or school? Your parents will always let you live in their basement and eat Doritos while you play "Call of Duty."

7. Get hit by a car. That's right. Get hit by a car, and use the insurance money to pay off your student loan debt. Plus, you get time in the hospital to do homework.

6. Find and save pennies. If you love saving, this one's perfect. You'll find a few pennies if you look around campus, and if you save every single one you find, you might save a dollar or two a year. A little can go a long way.

5. Sell everything. I'm sure someone will buy that old guitar you have in your room. Who cares if it's old and doesn't play, you might get a quarter for it. Hey, while you're at it, sell your diploma! Maybe you'll get a dollar — it's printed on some really nice paper, after all.

4. Start a band. Start a metal band, and put every penny you make towards paying your debts. You'll be famous — and have no more student loans. Who cares if you're a biomedical major? The world doesn't care when you're that good at playing the recorder.

3. Move out of the country. Apparently if you work outside of the United States, you can be exempt from a lot of taxes. The money you save on taxes can go towards your debt. So, guess I'm moving to Canada, eh?

2. Sell your lecture doodles. Remember all those pointless notes you took in your lectures? The ones with your beautiful drawings scribbled on top of illegible handwriting? Sell them on eBay! You have enough lecture notes that you don't ever use, that even if you got 10 cents a page, you'll end up being a millionaire!

1. Get hooked on /r/millionairemakers. Reddit users have created their own lottery where everyone pitches in and a randomly selected commenter gets money from the rest. The first winner got over \$11,000. Nowhere close to the million dollars you need to pay your student loans, but it'll pay for a semester... maybe.



On April 1, students hoping to start a new org climbed the 151-foot Elliott Tower without harnesses or aid.

Dinkly Doo / The Oakland Post

Grizzly Climbers gain altitude to gain respect

OU students climb Elliott Tower without harnesses in order to draw attention and raise money

By Sean Gardner
Master Ninja

Three students were found climbing the outside of the Elliott Tower, according to multiple reports, April 1.

In what looked like a scene from a movie, the students found themselves scaling the 151 foot tower — harness free.

"Not enough exciting things happen on this campus," Greg Belay, one of the Elliott Tower climbers, said. "MSU has couch burnings and Michigan has Jim Harbaugh."

Dressed in bright neon colors, the climbers seemed to want the attention as the sun shined down on them. Hundreds

of students gathered, creating a panic, which raised eyebrows at OUPD — sending them to the scene.

"At first, we thought it was some sort of student protest," Johnny Law said. "Then a faculty member pointed to the top of the arch of the tower."

First responders and firetrucks were sent to the scene, as well, preparing the cherry picker to get the students down.

However, the climbers insisted on having no help. Belay and his fellow climbers claim to have years of experience in harness-free climbing.

"You can usually find us bouldering at Planet Rock Climbing Gym in Madison Heights," Belay said. "It's the official home of the unofficial student organization, Grizzly Climbers."

OU's next ninjas

The idea for the club has come from the new fad of parkour and the popularity that has come from "American Ninja Warrior" — a TV show where competitors try to complete a series of obstacle courses.

Their goal is to compete on the Ameri-

can circuit and then, eventually, find their way to the famous Japanese version.

"Since Oakland will not recognize us, it is hard to get any funding and support," Belay said.

The climbers said they have taken to practicing on benches, tables and now the Elliott Tower in hopes of raising awareness about their club and get official representation.

"All we are asking for is a little bit of respect," Amber Bidoigt, Grizzly Climbers vice president, said. "Sure, we are not as beneficial as the debate team, but we are a place for like-minded individuals who like to be adventurous."

The climbers did finish their trek to the top of the 151 foot tower.

Unfortunately, their biggest challenge was met at ground level — where Oakland University President George Hynd was patiently waiting.

Hynd gave no comment on the future of the Grizzly Climbers club or its members.

Contact the writer at climberfanatic@ninja.com.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Free norovirus

Students, staff and faculty at Oakland University will have an opportunity to receive the norovirus for free right in the confines of the Oakland Center.

On April 3, those who were sick with the virus will be bringing their unwashed towels and trash cans to the Gold Rooms for anyone who wants to contract the virus and get the real "norovirus experience."

Polar vortex No. 2

Another polar vortex will be hitting Michigan next week, particularly in the Rochester/Auburn Hills region. There is an expected 24-foot snowfall over the seven day period, and media is advising everyone to store up food, loot stores and remain in their homes with as many stolen goods as possible.

Oakland University will remain open and running during this week. Administrators said they have already made preparations for the onslaught of outraged social media posts and Yik Yaks from disgruntled students.

Bundle up and be ready.

Grad Crapper returns

The Poopetrator, known for leaving urine and fecal matter in Elliott Hall on more than one occasion, has escaped police and is returning to campus to thank his friends for their support and leave one last gift for the Oakland University Police Department.

A group is currently being formed to follow the Poopetrator's steps and carry on his legacy. They are running around saying "urine for some justice!"

- Compiled by Kaylee Kean
Chocolate Manager

didyouknow

April Fool's Day is said to have originated from a similar French holiday. Pranksters tried to play tricks on their friends by sticking a picture of a fish on their backs and yelling "Poissons d'avril," which means "April fish" in English. - thefw.com

TOP 10 WAYS TO CELEBRATE EASTER

10. CHUBBY BUNNY. Go back to your childhood and play "chubby bunny" to see how many of those plushy, yellow, innocent Peeps you can stuff into your mouth.

9. PRIDE OVER YOUR EGG-HUNTING SKILLS. As you gaze over you stash of sweet, sticky, candy booty, appreciate how skilled you've become at the annual Easter practice.



8. VISIT THE EASTER BUNNY. Go pose for a picture with the Easter Bunny at the mall, even though you're 21 years old.

7. GET A PET BUNNY. Bring a new furry friend home—without telling your mother beforehand.

6. CELEBRATE JESUS. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ by cracking a cold one and throwing some wieners on the barbie.

5. SIMULATE ANIMAL CRUELTY. Nothing feels better than biting the head off of your chocolate bunny.



4. PICK A FIGHT. There will always be a fierce battle over the last Cadbury egg.

3. PRAY IT WON'T SNOW. Hope that it won't snow on Easter this year in Michigan.



2. PONDER EASTER TRADITIONS. Wondering how the hell bunnies, chicks and eggs became associated with Christ's raising in the first place.

1. DITCH THIS JOINT. Get out of the country, head to Rome, eat some pizza and see the Pope's benediction. And eat more pizza.

—Compiled by Andrew Wernette
Special to the Oakland Post

YAKS of the WEEK

Yik Yak:
The voice of the people



1. "S(no)w."

2. "I don't always find a parking spot in P1, but when I do—there's a Prius parked in it."

3. "I guess Zayn wanted to go a different direction."

4. "I've got biilllss. They multiplyin'. And I'm losingg controlll. And the stress that they're providing, IT'S ELECTRIFYING!"

5. "My grades never bothered me anyway..."

6. "Plot twist: there isn't a bake sale in South Foundation."

7. "What do you feel when you run out of coffee? Depresso."

8. "Got 3 girls' numbers today. You could say this group project is getting serious."

9. "Homeless chic is my new look this semester."

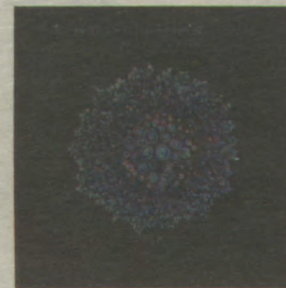
10. "Goals for 2015: less upsetti, more spaghetti."

—Compiled by Shelby Tankersley,
Staff Reporter

TOP TUNES

wxou albums of the week

1. Father John Misty – "I Love You, Honeybear"
2. Tuxedo – "Tuxedo"
3. Matthew E. White – "Fresh Blood"
4. Jose Gonzalez – "Vestiges and Claws"
5. Adventures – "Supersonic Home"
6. Sonny and the Sunsets – "Talent Night at the Ashram"
7. Cloakroom – "Further Out"
8. Jeff Rosenstock – "We Cool?"
9. Ryley Walker – "Primrose Green"
10. Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers – "Terra Incognita"



Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers "Terra Incognita"

Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers's Facebook page describes them as "Post-Motown Folk Rock." Formed in Michigan, a state with a rich history of both Motown and Folk music, the band's second album combines these genres with bits of funk and Hertler's soulful voice. The result is an album you can hum with, dance to and reflect on.

Hertler is a graduate of Lake Orion High School and has been present in the Michigan music scene over the last few years, particularly in the East Lansing area, where Hertler attended Michigan State University. This album and his current U.S. tour have now given him more exposure outside of Michigan including a recent appearance at the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas and a spot at Summer Camp Music Festival in Chillicothe, Illinois this May.

Joe Hertler and The Rainbow Seekers perform at The Loving Touch in Ferndale with guests Red Pill and Trey Simon this Friday, April 3 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

—Anthony Spek, WXOU Music Director

Life

Letting the good times (rock and) roll



Radio station prepares for months to host music-filled celebration

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Talented bands from across Metro Detroit and beyond rocked it out March 26 to ring in WXOU's 49th year.

Pines, Search the City, Shapes and Colors, Get At Me and rapper Tunde Olaniran were just a few of the artists that performed on dual stages in the banquet rooms of the Oakland Center from 6:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

WXOU general manager Josh Nagy said that this event took many months of preparation.

"I used to be the promotions director for WXOU and I planned the 47th Birthday Bash," Nagy said, "and I started planning [this] in November...for the end of March."

Promotions director Jon Kassab agreed that paying attention to details was crucial when it came to the success of the evening.

Kassab was in charge of selecting performers for the event, and he said that it came down to choosing artists that would best represent WXOU.

Local and non-local bands were both options for the event, he said, but it was a matter of what would pique the interest of WXOU listeners.

"[Planning] it was fun," Kassab said, "but I didn't realize that contracts have



Julie Atwood / The Oakland Post

TOP Accompanied by background dancers, Tunde Olaniran gets soulful and personal with his single "Brown Boy." **BOTTOM** Get At Me travels to play at the Birthday Bash from St. Louis, Mo.

so much fine print. You have to make sure everything is right."

Working with the bands that played for the Bash required the most preparation, Kassab said, and it was imperative that every protocol, FCC regulation and contract term was honored.

"I'm friends with Shapes and Colors, and they told me about [the event]," Lyndsey Biernat said of her pals in the headlining band.

Biernat said that while her loyalties remain with Shapes and Colors, her favorite performance of the night was by Get At Me, a pop/rock band from St. Louis.

Months in the making, the event drew a crowd that danced, sang and even ate birthday cake in celebration and appreciation of WXOU.

**MY MEATS
— ATE —
REAL
VEGGIES**



SERIOUS DELIVERY!™

★ JIMMYJOHNS.COM ★

**TO FIND THE LOCATION NEAREST
YOU VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM**

©2014 JIMMY JOHN'S FRANCHISE, LLC ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

New club launches for gamers

Student organization for creating video games looks for members, sound designers and artists

Cheyenne Kramer
Staff Reporter

The Video Game Making Club at Oakland University is one of the many ways students can get involved with gaming.

With Bumpers Game Room seeking renovation this summer and the popularity of gaming on the rise, many students want the chance to make their own idea come to life.

President Neil Ferman started the club last semester. Since then, he has heard from over 60 students and has a strong team of about 12 that work bi-weekly producing games.

"We're in need of sound designers and artists right now," Ferman said, "We haven't completed any full game yet, but we've tested 2D platforms so far."

Ferman also said that it could take up to three years for a full game to be produced. So far, there is no clear cut path for the first game the club will make.

"Personally, I'd like to see a role-

playing game. But there's a lot that goes into those, so nothing's set in stone," Ferman said.

The main problem the club has had thus far is that many members come for a few meetings, but don't stick around.

"Making a game is hard and takes a group of dedicated people," Ferman said. "There have been people who come in for a few meetings and never come again."

Some students didn't even know that the Video Game Making Club existed at Oakland, and their reactions to it were mixed.

"I might join a club like that if I had spare time," freshman Brian Curtin said. "I'd like to see how the whole process works and what level of complexity the members of the club are at. I didn't know we even had a club for this, though."

But other students, like Nicholas Reed, said that sometimes there is a lot to be offered with playing games, too.

"The best part of playing games is the immersion into the game, like getting



Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

Student Neil Ferman started the Video Game Making Club last semester. Along with many others, this club has faced challenges in recruiting busy students participate in it.

lost in a good book, but you can watch the story unfold and control it to a certain degree," Reed said. "And making games is kind of like writing a book. I'd get to take an idea that I find enjoyable, forge it into reality, and share it with others."

However, as of yet, the Video Game Making Club hasn't shared any of its

content with the general student body. But Ferman said there's a possibility of a beta release of some platforming games to be released soon.

For more information, the Video Game Making Club can be found on Grizzzorgs, where more information can be found about meeting times and locations.

SPB's Acoustic Coffee House showcases talented professionals and OU students

Shana Bosley
Staff Intern

Students got over the hump last week with warm coffee and smooth tunes.

The Student Program Board's Acoustic Coffee House event brought together professional artists and talented students March 25 at Café O'Bears.

The event featured Mieka Pauley and The Ballroom Thieves, in addition to many students that sang and read poetry. Comedian Danny Ashcraft opened the night with laughter.

Mieka Pauley, Starbucks Emerging Artist of the Year and Cosmopolitan Magazine Fun Fearless Female of the Year, performed many original songs that offered a strong and

dignified vibe for the night.

"I was always into music," Pauley said. "In high school, I played in rock bands and when I was in college, I started street performing, and I ended up making a living off of that."

Pauley said she was a shy girl, except for when she was performing.

"Guitar is my main instrument, but I know piano more. It's like a language, because at some point, you're not thinking about it anymore—it just is," Pauley said.

The Ballroom Thieves also performed many songs and brought a fast-paced, feel good atmosphere.

Percussionist Devin Maunch, cello and bass player Calin Peters and guitarist Martin Earley got the crowd clapping along to their beats.

"Guitar is my main instrument, but I know piano more. It's like a language, because at some point, you're not thinking about it anymore—it just is."

Mieka Pauley
Singer

Junior Ellen Searle was one of the first students to perform during the event. She sang "More Than Just the Spare," which was a song that was supposed to be in the movie "Frozen," but was eventually omitted.

"I was a choir girl in high school. I was in musical theatre, too," Searle said. "I'm too



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

The Student Program Board hosted an event called "Acoustic Coffee House" where students enjoyed coffee, live music and poetry readings.

busy in college to do things like choir or musical theatre, but I love to sing and perform. That's why I go to open mic nights. I've never been in the center of things and open mic nights give me the opportunity to do so."

In addition to singing, some students read poetry. Junior

Latecia Span read her own poem titled "Natural Beauty."

"The media doesn't know what beauty is, so I said this poem to tell people that it comes from within," Span said.

Overall, the night was full of chatter and music.

"It was liberating," Span said.

History of a historian



Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

Dominique Daniel says one of her favorite parts of working in Kresge is the new technology.

Former American history teacher in France uses her experience to assist students interested in research

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Ten years ago she was teaching American history at the University of Tours in France's Noir Valley, but marrying a Michigander changed everything.

"That was my opportunity to change careers," said Dominique Daniel, humanities librarian for the history and modern language departments and coordinator of archives and special collections at Oakland University.

Daniel has been working at OU for the last six years after a career as an adjunct history professor at Wayne State University, and before that, as a professor in France.

"American history is a popular topic with French students," she said. "Everybody recognizes the role of the US in the world and wants to know more."

"French people have a love/hate relationship with the US," she laughed, saying that the French are familiar with American pop culture and politics, although they don't necessarily agree with everything that happens on American soil.

Daniel received her doctorate in American history from the University of Paris Seven, with a concentration in United States immigration policy research.

Upon coming to America, she pursued a master's degree in information science from the University of Michigan where she worked as a teaching assistant while working on her degree.

While teaching in her home country was exciting for Daniel, she truly cherishes her current job.

"I like the campus, and I like that the library is located right in the heart of [it]," she said.

In addition to working in Kresge's archives where she is in charge of pulling photos, music and print materials requested for special events like the upcoming inauguration of President Hynd, Daniel said that she loves working the library reference desk.

"We work one-on-one to help students research specific projects they're working on," she said.

And for Daniel, the success of the students she assists is one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

In fact, each year, two students are awarded a \$1,500 scholarship for demonstrating academic excellence in research papers with the Frank Lepkowski Undergraduate Research and Writing Award.

Daniel said that helping students excel in the research field is one of the things that make her job at OU so special, but working with so much new technology in the library is the cherry atop a career that's already a perfect fit.

"People would expect librarians to say that books [are their favorite], but it's the technology," she said. "I work with technology more than I do books. That's new for me."

Daniel likes the diversity of tasks that she gets to work on at OU, including working in the archives, helping departments on campus find what they need in the library and doing private informational sessions with classes.

"Overall, it's really enjoyable to communicate with students and help with their assignments," she said.

Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society

Designed to tackle some of today's compelling issues — from war to religion to sexual ethics — the Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society sparks serious, thought-provoking discussions between scholars, students and the community.

Join us for this stimulating lecture. Admission is free, but reservations are requested.

To reserve your space, call (248) 370-3390 or email zimmerm2@oakland.edu.

DR. AMARTYA SEN
discusses ...

MORAL OBJECTIVITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Friday, April 17, 2015 | 7 p.m.

Banquet Rooms A and B, Oakland Center

Even though traditionally the idea of objectivity has tended to be associated with physical reality, there have been powerful discussions on moral and political objectivity in recent years, broadening the scope of argumentative resolution of conflicting views of the moral good. What does objectivity in moral and political reasoning demand, and what are its implications for conceptions of justice and injustice in the world?

Reception to follow



AMARTYA SEN is the Thomas W. Lamont University Professor and Professor of Economics and Philosophy at Harvard University. Until 2004, he was the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. He has served as President of the

Econometric Society, the American Economic Association, the Indian Economic Association, and the International Economic Association.

Amartya Sen's books have been translated into more than thirty languages, and include, among others, *Choice of Techniques* (1960), *Collective Choice and Social Welfare* (1970), *Poverty and Famines* (1982), *Commodities and Capabilities* (1987), *Development as Freedom* (1999), *Identity and Violence* (2006), and *The Idea of Justice* (2009).

Amartya Sen's awards include Bharat Ratna (India), Commandeur de la Legion d'Honneur (France), the National Humanities Medal (USA), Ordem do Merito Cientifico (Brazil), Honorary Companion of Honour (UK), Aztec Eagle (Mexico), Edinburgh Medal (UK), the George Marshall Award (USA), the Eisenhower Medal (USA), and the Nobel Prize in Economics.

ABOUT RICHARD J. BURKE (1932-2012)

As the first faculty member hired at Oakland University, Richard Burke watched OU evolve from promising beginnings to a present day filled with possibility. To help bring those possibilities to fruition, he established the annual Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society.

'To follow virtue and knowledge'

How literature and history inspired the university motto, crest and mascot

Kaleigh Jerzykowski
Staff Reporter

Sigma Tau Delta, Dante's epic poem "Inferno" and the Golden Grizzlies have a unique connection.

Oakland University's motto, "seguir virtute e canoscenza," Italian for "to follow virtue and knowledge," is emblazoned on the university's seal, adorning all official documents and materials.

Kevin Grimm, English professor and expert on medieval literature, gave a talk at the Honors College on Thursday, March 26 to shed some light onto what the motto means to OU and its students.

Pioneers and grizzly bears

OU was founded in 1957 under the name "Michigan State University: Oakland," with an "aerospace pioneer," as Grimm described it, for a mascot.

Grimm explained the appeal for a newly founded university in the Cold War era to have a morale-boosting, strong, innovative, male aerospace pioneer as a talisman.

However, this imagery wasn't realized in a completely correct manner.

An OU student drew up the university's mascot, depicting this aerospace pioneer as a buckskin pioneer—think Davey Crockett.

The character stuck.

When OU became an NCAA Division I school in 1998, there was reconsideration of the mascot, Grimm said, for this new age of university athletics.

Grimm, who participated in the think tank responsible for deciding what the new mascot should be, was



Julie Atwood / The Oakland Post
Professor Kevin Grimm sheds light on history and meaning of the university motto.

less than impressed with the choice of a grizzly bear.

"You dance with who you came with," Grimm said, and thought that a change in athletic divisions wasn't a good enough reason to abandon the old standby Pioneer mascot.

"[But] the Grizz has grown on me," Grimm said, remembering the exciting billboards that dotted I-75, showing only the fierce eyes of a newly reimagined bear behind a shredded covering just a few years ago as a part of OU's rebranding initiative.

Although OU changed mascots, the university motto stuck and followed the Grizz into the new millennium, even though it was originally drafted to accompany the Pioneers.

The motto and the Pioneers had a powerful connection so meaningful that it has seemed to transcend time and university changes all together.

Ancient inspiration

Each OU student is expected to log into his or her "MySAIL" account to access important information on classes, financial aid and university resources, and students have this account for however long they attend OU.

But what does a sail have to do with anything?

OU's sail is modeled after the sail on the ship Odysseus captained for his final, heroic journey.

"[Odysseus] was one of the most clever and well-spoken Greeks...and is a fitting patron saint for a modern university," Grimm said.

In Canto XXVI of Dante's "Inferno," the poet quotes Odysseus' final speech to his men aboard that ship in line 120: "Consider your birth, you were made not to live like brutes, but to follow vir-

tue and knowledge."

The OU motto, "seguir virtute e canoscenza," is the original Italian phrasing from Odysseus found in Dante's work.

"I'm always fascinated with how great lines of literature can lead their own separate lives from the work they were originally in," Grimm said, with OU's motto being a shining example of such a literary legacy.

"[Odysseus'] speech was designed to encourage his men to go with him past the bounds of knowledge," Grimm said, "and the short speech recognizes the courage needed to go through a thousand perils, just on the brink of launching into the unknown."

The motto and you

Jason Durina, treasurer of honors society Sigma Tau Delta explained that Odysseus' inspirational words have a special impact on the lives of the English majors who call Sigma Tau Delta home.

Durina said that OU's motto encapsulates the spirit of drawing wisdom from the past in order to grow as individuals, and "therefore is a fitting summation of all those who pick up books through the world."

OU motto meanings

MOTTO "Seguir virtute e canoscenza" which translates from Italian as, "to follow virtue and knowledge."

It was taken from Odysseus' speech as quoted from Dante's *Inferno*.

SAIL Modeled after the sail on the Greek ship Odysseus captained on his great literary journey.

MASCOT Intended to be an aerospace man, but became a frontier "Pioneer" instead.

With the induction of OU into the NCAA Division I, it changed to the Golden Grizzlies.



**think
you're
pregnant?**

You Have Choices
Crossroads Pregnancy Center
248-293-0070



Senior dances through life, problems

Graduating student uses sickness, loss to teach others about positivity

Grace Turner
Staff Reporter

More than 45 surgeries and a three-year life expectancy hasn't stopped senior communication major Jessica Zacharias, 21, from loving life.

Her health problems affect her every day, and she has so many that doctors don't have a single diagnosis. Through dancing, charity, faith and writing, however, she manages to feel just fine.

"I just call myself Jessica," she said. "It's just the Jessica problems."

Dance through the hard times

Zacharias said that dancing has gotten her through her struggles. She started dancing when she was three and has been on OU's athletic dance team for four years. She has been captain for two.

"Dance has been my best friend," Zacharias said. "It has allowed me to release emotions that I was holding on to, it let me be happy and live in the moment. But at the same time it let me stomp my feet and get the anger out. To this day, doctors have said that's what healed me."

Brittany Harris, dancing director of OU's athletic dance team, said the other dancers trust Zacharias and look up to her.

"She's very inspiring, she's just really happy," Harris said.

Earlier this year, Zacharias had a knee injury. She was still the captain of the dance team, but couldn't dance. She found a new outlet by teaching dance and plans to study to become a dance therapist after she graduates this spring.

"It's what healed me, so might as well go after it," she said. "It does do wonders, it does do great things. It moves people."

A life of complications

Zacharias' health challenges started at birth. She couldn't breathe because her esophagus was not connected to her trachea. Her first car ride was in an ambulance to another hospital, where she had her first operation.

This birth defect affected other organs. She has holes in her 61-percent-



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

"It (dance) has allowed me to release emotions that I was holding on to. It let me be happy and live in the moment," Zacharias said.

capacity lungs. Her arteries leak, her heartbeat is irregular and she has weak bones.

She ate through a feeding tube until second grade.

"I love food," she said, explaining that it fills the stomach differently than liquefied nutrients. It is still hard for her to eat sometimes because of the complications with her esophagus.

While some of her complications can be improved with operations, medical procedures always come with risks.

"My body has just been through so much that there's always a possibility that I won't wake up," Zacharias said.

Even with her medications, Zacharias' health complications run rampant. She passed out on a cruise in her junior year of high school and her heart stopped beating for two minutes.

"I've tried to balance the normal part of life, but in my college years, I've learned to accept that there is no normal and to embrace who you are and to let it shine," she said.

Despite all of this, however, friends say Zacharias is always smiling.

"People... say she's an angel walking on this earth," said Marianna Stepp, one of Zacharias' friends and a senior studying human resource development.

"I try to make the best of everything because I know that life is full of dark, challenging times, but it's only like that so we can grow and help each other," Zacharias said. "And when you experience events that are surrounded with joy, happiness and laughter, that's when you know it's all worth it."

Shining her light, sharing her story

Zacharias faced a new challenge in October 2013 when one of her best friends, OU junior health science major Hailey Brouillet, died from injuries from a car accident. Zacharias and Brouillet had been friends since they were five years old.

"My life literally changed in a day. In a second," Zacharias said. "I miss her every day."

Zacharias said she finds comfort in knowing that Brouillet is safe.

"She said she did everything she wanted to do," Zacharias said. "She made people laugh. She was happy."

In April 2014, Zacharias helped raise money for a study abroad scholarship in Brouillet's name with a 5K at Michigan State University.

Zacharias said her faith helps her as well.

"I really believe in angels," she said. "I feel like we can make our own heav-

en down here."

Zacharias said she tries to share her light with others, and so did Brouillet.

"It's the stuff we learned in kindergarten, but we tend to forget," she said. "It's to be nice to each other, it's to follow your heart."

Zacharias said she tells her story to help others.

"Telling it can bring so many people that inspiration or motivation," she said.

She is writing two books. One is a memoir titled "The Truth Behind Letting My Journey Shine," and the other is a self-help book titled "Let Your Journey Shine."

Zacharias said she wants to help others find what she calls their "shine," or what makes them happy.

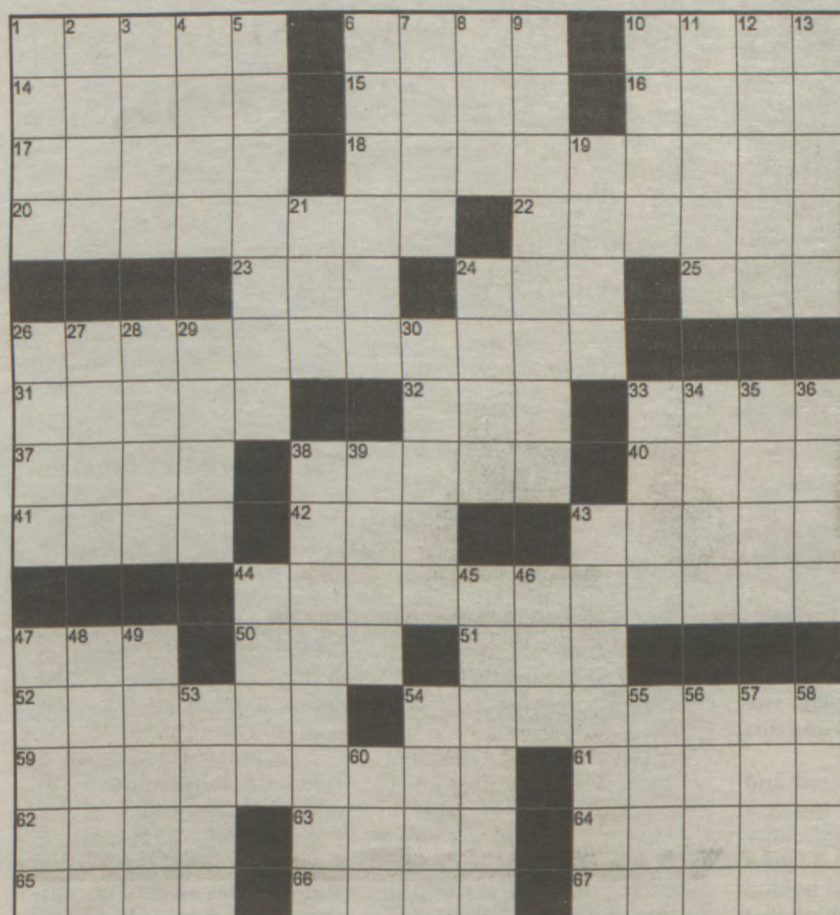
"Everyone has a different shine to them," she said. "Once we find our purpose, that is when we are alive."

As Zacharias prepares for graduation, she said she sees her life as a blessing.

"Knowing that I survived these four years at Oakland, knowing that I will graduate, it's so much more than a piece of paper," she said.

She said she wants to bring her own sunshine and live by her motto — "always shine and journey on."

Puzzles



Across

- 1: Arms and legs
6: Rough waters
10: Blockheads
14: Strong animosity
15: Happy time?
16: Borrrring
17: Extremist
18: Blood vessel connected to a capillary
20: Darnel
22: Obsolescence
23: ___ for tat
24: Lowlife
25: Remote room?
26: Ally
31: Egg-shaped
32: Employ
33: Lump of clay
37: Guns in the garage
38: Innocent and Urban
40: 'Ix-nay'
41: 'Blast!'
42: Get going
43: An expectant father, e.g.
44: Piercing
47: Spider in the kitchen
50: Acorn dropper
51: Ad ___ committee
52: Muscle contractions
54: Dig discovery, perhaps
59: Italian appetizer
61: Leaf in a book
62: Dogwood dropping

63: Break time

64: Cake cover

65: Ale ingredient

66: A or B, in personalities

67: Writes up

Down

- 1: Look sullen
2: Without expending much energy
3: Little bit
4: City name ending, some-times
5: '___ on My Own' ('Fame' song)
6: Squeaky-clean
7: ___ d'oeuvre (appetizer)
8: Away from the office
9: Antecedes
10: Geishas' sashes
11: Viva voce
12: Far from faithful
13: Metallic quality
19: Bridle path excursion
21: It may be financial
24: Investigator's assignment
26: Line
27: Kaput
28: Stellar phenomenon
29: Punch ingredient?
30: Coin of Nepal or Pakistan
33: Biting midge
34: Places

35: Sesame starter?

36: Ice mass

38: Game bird

39: Sty cry

43: Sight from a Malibu beach

44: Pageantry

45: Seat of power

46: Nonsense

47: Religious song

48: Breathing problem

49: Province of South Africa

53: Use a sieve

54: Capping

55: Central points

56: Got grounded?

57: French film

58: Dresses nattily, with 'up'

60: Szechuan sauce source

		8		9				
9			4	2	5			3
6		4	3		8			1
1						4		
		3	6	5	1	7		
		9						6
7			5		2	8		9
8			9	1	4			2
				6		1		

			6	7		3	9	
	3			2				
	8	9				4	2	6
		4	7	8	6			
		6				7		
			4	5	1	6		
3	9	2				5	4	
				1			3	
	5	8		4	9			



Courtesy of the Oakland Athletic Department

Sarah Hartley has already exceeded her totals from the past two seasons in home runs, RBIs and total bases.

Hartley thriving for Oakland

'She's not satisfied with just being okay, she wants to be great'

Kristen Davis
Staff Reporter

The sacrifices junior Sarah Hartley has made for softball are finally starting to pay off.

Through 25 games this season, she's already exceeded her previous two season totals in runs, hits, doubles, triples, home runs, RBIs and total bases.

Her on-base, slugging and batting percentages are also well above her career averages.

"She's not satisfied with being okay, she wants to be great," head coach Connie Miner said.

"She seeks out coaching and that's a good sign of someone who wants to keep improving. I think everyone is working hard, but she's just got that next level."

Miner has watched Hartley work hard to improve her strength and explosiveness since she first came to Oakland in 2012.

She won her first career Horizon League weekly honor this season when she was named player of the week.

She has hit a team-high six home runs and scored a total of 21 runs so far this season.

Along with her talent and work ethic, Hartley's leadership skills are also exceptional.

"She's an outstanding teammate. If someone makes a mistake, she's the first one I see saying, 'Hey, I got your back, we got this,'" Miner said.

"It's never about Sarah. It's always about her teammates.

She's always looking out for her team."

Her success goes beyond the field, too.

Hartley is a pre-physical therapy student and currently volunteers in the acute joint physical therapy area of Crittenton Hospital.

She also represents the softball team in the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, which is an organization of athletes that focuses on the core values of student athlete well-being, integrity, respect and stewardship.

For now, Hartley's goals for the year are to win the conference and make a deep postseason run.

With a team that's playing remarkably well and a coach that believes in their ability wholeheartedly, those goals are very attainable.

OP: How much work did it take to get to this point in your career?

SH: A lot. In summer time growing up, people would be like 'Hey, do you want to go up north?' and I'm like 'Oh sorry, I'm playing softball.' You make a lot of commitments and give up a lot for it, but it's paid off.

OP: What does it feel like when you hit a home run?

SH: It feels good. When you hit a home run, it's like your easiest swing. It just happens. I think I've hit more home runs this year than I have my whole life.

OP: What has enabled you to hit so many home runs this season?

SH: Being more relaxed and not pressing so much to get a hit. I know the people behind me can pick me up and if I get a bad at-bat, the next girl behind me will hit the ball. I think that helps a lot. Not all the pressure is on me to hit the ball.

OP: How do you balance school and softball?

SH: I have teammates with the same classes as me and we work together. Also, not procrastinating helps. The more I put on my plate, I feel like I actually do better in school because I have less time to procrastinate. I just get it all done instead of waiting until the day before.

OP: Why do you want to be a physical therapist?

SH: I think it's the sports aspect of it. If I was hurt, I would want someone to help me get back as quick as possible.

OP: How would you explain what you do as a member of SAAC?

SH: As an athlete, it's hard to go out and get internships because we don't have time. So you have to do other things to make yourself look better than others. We basically are in charge of athletics, academics, community service, informing our team and getting our team involved.

Indoor triathlon attracts local Oakland athletes

The event raised over \$350 for charities in the area

Jackson Gilbert
Sports Editor

tiac Coalition.

Ted Tansley, the Program Assistant for Club Sports, who organized the event, said the goal was to raise \$200 total for the two charities. The event blew that number out of the water, raising well over \$350.

Tough competition

Local campus athletes competed against each other over the weekend in Oakland's Indoor Triathlon held at the campus Rec Center. The event was open to Oakland students and faculty. Team and individual competitions were held at the same time.

Twenty-two students jumped in the pool at 10 a.m. on Sunday to begin the 750-meter swim, a total of 16 laps there and back. After exiting the pool, the athletes then did a 20-kilometer (just over 12 miles) bike ride on the stationary bikes, followed by a 5k run to round out the triathlon. A total of five teams ended up entering, with the rest competing on their own.

Competing for charity

Athletes paid \$20 individually or \$45 as a team of three to enter. The proceeds were split between Athletes Unlimited and the Healthy Pon-

Syed Murtaza, the club sports treasurer and sophomore psychology major, was among the 22 participants. Competing for the winning men's team, Murtaza said he felt good about the event but probably wouldn't be doing another triathlon for a couple months.

"It's tough running on a treadmill, most runners will agree," Murtaza said. "I was able to talk to people while I was running the whole time so that kind of got me through it. It was for a good cause."

Murtaza was a varsity level runner for Troy High School and is now the officer of the Oakland running so he's no stranger to competition.

Campus recreation encourages all students and staff to get involved. They post all events on their website at www.oakland.edu/campusrec.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

Participants biked 20 kilometers as a part of the indoor triathlon.



Nowshin Chowdhury / The Oakland Post

Freshman midfielder Austin Ricci kept the momentum flowing during Oakland's match against Michigan State.

Grizzlies go toe-to-toe with MSU

Men's soccer plays to a tie against tough MSU defense

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

As part of the Michigan Cup Series, Oakland and Michigan State played to a 1-1 draw at the Oakland Athletic Dome Saturday afternoon in the fourth of six scheduled spring games.

The match against the Spartans was the team's second in the Michigan Cup, which is comprised of the University of Michigan, Detroit Mercy, Western Michigan, Michigan State, Saginaw Valley State and Oakland. The teams play two matches each and then a championship game will be played April 11.

Oakland headed into Saturday's match 1-0 in the Michigan Cup as they defeated Saginaw Valley, 4-2 March 14. This was Michigan State's first match in the Michigan Cup and they will play Saginaw Valley

this coming week.

The Spartans got on the board early in the first half, but the Golden Grizzlies were able to tie it on a free kick from junior forward Matthew Dudley shortly after. No goals were scored for the rest of the match, but both teams showed intensity throughout.

"I thought we showed good character to come back from a goal down that we didn't deserve to be after the way we started the game," Dudley said. "I was proud of the way our team played overall today and managed to stay disciplined in a heated game."

The two teams have a lot of recent history as this was their third meeting in the past six months. Oakland defeated the Spartans, who were ranked tenth in the country at the time, 2-0 at the Oakland Soccer Field Oct. 22. The teams would then meet in the NCAA tournament as Michigan State ended the Golden Grizzlies' season with a 1-0 victory at DeMartin Stadium in East Lansing.

"I think a game between Oakland and Michigan State is always going to be an intense

game; obviously there were a lot of emotions in this game," men's soccer head coach, Eric Pogue, said. "To be fair I don't think there were a ton of chances either way so I think it was pretty even both ways."

Seeding will be determined after all of the Michigan Cup matches are completed before the April 11 championship at the Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac. The first tiebreaker is head to head, the second is goal differential and the last is goals scored.

The Golden Grizzlies will face off against Bowling Green at the Oakland Bubble this Friday night in an exhibition match.

COMING UP

NEXT GAME: Friday, April 3
Oakland vs. Bowling Green

LOCATION: Oakland Bubble

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Visit GoldenGrizzlies.com

Oakland weekend series moved to Milwaukee

Golden Grizzlies win one, lose one against Panthers

Scott Davis
Staff Reporter

After some last-minute changes, Oakland's baseball team traveled to Milwaukee for a weekend series where it picked up an extra inning win and a loss.

The Golden Grizzly team was supposed to have their first home series this past weekend, but due to unplayable field conditions, the series had to be moved to Milwaukee instead. Oakland was still considered the home team even though playing in Milwaukee.

The series started with a doubleheader Saturday where Oakland walked-off in the 11th inning, winning 10-9. Milwaukee held a 9-8 lead going into the bottom of the 11th inning, but Oakland loaded the bases and outfielder Jake Morton hit a single to center to give the Golden Grizzlies their second conference win this season.

"I'm really proud of the guys with how they responded to the adversity in game one," head coach John Musachio told GoldenGrizzlies.com. "They showed a lot of heart and found a way to win."

Oakland had to come from behind to get the victory as Milwaukee scored four in the fourth inning. The team added two in the bottom of the fourth but then exploded for six runs in the eighth.

Third basemen Spencer Marentette lead the team with four hits, while outfielder Robby Enslen had three hits to go along with his two RBIs.

In the nightcap, Milwaukee got the better of Oakland as they won 11-4. The Golden Grizzlies had a 3-2 advantage after two, but the Panthers took over from there.

A six run sixth inning for Milwaukee put them up 10-4 and they never looked back.

Enslen had another multi-hit game as he went 2-5, while first baseman Zach Sterry and outfielder Tyler Pagano also had two hits.

Nate Green, Oakland's starting pitcher, dropped to 1-3 on the season as he went four innings giving up six runs on nine hits.

The series finale scheduled for Sunday was cancelled due to inclement weather. Oakland now sits in fifth place in the Horizon League with a 2-6 record.

Oakland's next Horizon League series will take place this Thursday through Saturday against Youngstown State at the Oakland Baseball Field. Thursday's first pitch is scheduled for 3 p.m., while Friday and Saturday's are scheduled for 1 p.m.



Danielle Cojocari / The Oakland Post

The Grizzlies took the Panthers 10-9, but fell 11-4 in the second game.

Catching up with Oakland softball

Preseason tough matches have Grizzlies prepared for the Horizon

Kristen Davis
Staff Reporter

The Oakland softball team opened Horizon League play on March 20-21 with two victories over the UIC Flames, extending its record to 11-14 overall and 2-1 in conference play.

The Grizzlies have been on the road almost every weekend since preseason play started on Feb. 6. They played in North Carolina, Florida, Ohio and Illinois against tough Division 1 opponents like Purdue, Miami of Ohio and Dayton.

Head coach Connie Miner purposely schedules challenging teams to face in the preseason to better prepare the team for league play.

"I think when you go out and schedule like that, when you come back, you're in a better position for success," Miner said.

"You need to be challenged to find out what you're really made of. They've really responded well this year."

The time spent on the road also helped build the team's chemistry.

During the spring break trip to Florida where the team played in tournaments at Florida Gulf Coast University and the University of South Florida, Miner noticed the team becoming closer than they were before.

"I really saw them come together for the common goal and get on the same page. It's really showing on the field," she said. "When you can be on the same page, have respect for each other and have each other's back, great things are going to happen. I see them really believing in each other and having faith in each other."

She credits the success of the season so far to the fact that everybody on the roster is contributing.

"In the 11-inning win against UIC, I think I only had one sub left to go," Miner said.

"They are all doing so much for each other. I just have this calmness and confidence about the whole team. It's fun to just sit back and watch."

Offensively, eight players are hitting above .300 and as a team, they are hitting just below that mark.

Seniors Sarah Cupp and Courtnee Johnson, junior Sarah Hartley and



Photo courtesy of Oakland University Athletics

The softball team has played to an 11-14 record and started off 2-1 in the Horizon League.

freshmen Julia Morales and TJ Bindus are all hitting exceptionally well.

Although offense has been the strength, the team has focused on being more consistent on defense and so far, their efforts have been successful.

The pitching staff of senior Kayla Hensel, juniors Erin Kownacki and Laura Pond, sophomore Kaley Waalkes and freshman Haley Zemmer have different pitching styles, but they complement each other.

Kownacki earned Horizon League pitcher of the week for March 16-22 after she threw two consecutive complete games with a 1.56 ERA and eight strikeouts in the team's two victories over UIC.

Overall, Miner is proud of how far the program has come since she first

arrived at Oakland in 2012.

"They are doing such an outstanding job both on and off the field," she said.

"They have worked so hard and bought into what I am trying to do with them and the program. They deserve all of the credit and focus."

If field and weather conditions permit, the Grizzlies will play at home April 3-4 against Valparaiso - their first home game this season.

The team is also hosting its second annual raffle softball raffle on April 18.

Tickets can be bought from the O'rena or from any softball player for \$20 and will be entered into a drawing for prizes including TVs, tablets, Tigers tickets and giftcards. Being present at the raffle is not necessary to win and all of the proceeds go to the softball team.

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Men's basketball

Golden Grizzly point guard Kahlil Felder was named a finalist for the 2015 Lou Henson Award which is given to the nation's best mid-major player. Felder averaged 18.1 points and 7.6 assists per game and was the only player in the country to average at least 17 points and 7 assists per game. This is the fifth time an Oakland player has been nominated since 2009 and the winner will be announced at the CollegeInsider.com Awards Banquet on April 3 in Indianapolis.

Men's golf

Oakland's mens' golf finished fifth at the Wallace Jones Invitational in Delhi, Louisiana last week. The team finished with a +12, while Evan Bowser was the top finisher finishing par for the course. Oakland will travel to Dayton, Ohio this Sunday to take on Wright State in the WSU Invitational.

Track and field

The Oakland track and field team travelled to North Carolina this past weekend to compete in the Raleigh Relays. Candice Mack broke the 400m school record with a time of 57.18, which was good enough for the 16th place out of 119 runners. Other highlights include Gino Vitella finishing seventh out of 52 throwers in the shot put (16.33m), Aaron Davis' sixth place finish in the 200m (22.34), and personal records in the 5000m from Jenae Curley (18:02.07). Oakland will host the 10th annual dual meet against Detroit Mercy this Saturday at the new track facility.

Women's tennis

The women's Golden Grizzly tennis team dropped two matches this past weekend as it took on defending Horizon League champion Youngstown State on Saturday and Cleveland State on Sunday. Despite taking out two of three doubles matches against YSU, Oakland fell to the Penguins 5-2. On Sunday, the Vikings cruised to a 6-1 victory over the Golden Grizzlies. Oakland will play at home this Friday at 3:30 p.m. as they take on the Wright State Raiders.

— Compiled by Scott Davis