THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 10 — 2012 —

celebrating

55 YEARS — of — OAKLAND

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RALLY

Paul Ryan and Kid Rock among others speak on campus

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TALENT

Students compete in 'OU's Got Talent'

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CAMPUS MEET THE MAN BEHIND THE 'REPLY ALL' EMAIL **PAGE 6**

SPORTS PISTONS HOLD OPEN PRACTICE AT O'RENA **PAGE 14**

LIFE THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKING **PAGE 22**

BOT discusses plans for new student housing **PAGE 9**

Economic hard times meet Sesame Street **PAGE 24**

thisweek

October 10, 2012 // Volume 39. Issue 7

ontheweb
See a slideshow and videos from all 15 acts that performed in "OU's Got Talent."
www.oaklandpostonline.com

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14

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

We hear it's your birthday // Beatles cover band "The BackBeats" performed for what would be Mitilda Wilson's 129th birthday. The band uses authentic instruments, clothing and hairstyles to make the performance more realistic. The event was put on by the Student Alumni Association. Every year since 1956, the campus has thrown a birthday celebration for Wilson.

JENNIFER HOLYCHUK // The Oakland Post

10

10 // BREAKING GROUND
OU held a ground breaking ceremony for the new engineering building on Oct. 3. The building was cleared to be built in June of 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in Aug. 2014

19

19 // HALLOWEEN HISTORY
The Henry Ford Museum will host the 30 annual Hallowe'en event in Greenfield Village starting Friday, Oct. 12. The event tries to educate attendees on the history of Halloween.

21 // LEARNING A NEW LANGUAGE
Theater students have opportunity to work with professional deaf actors in the play titled "Police:Deaf::Near:Far." The play was based on true stories that occurred in Chicago and Detroit.

14 // PISTONS TAKE OVER O'RENA
The Detroit Pistons held a free open practice at the O'rena on Oct. 6. The event showcased veterans and up and coming players. After the event, players and coaches interacted with fans.

POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your thoughts on the university allowing Paul Ryan to speak on campus?

- A It was exciting.
- B We need a better balance of candidates.
- C I have no interest in politics.
- D Paul Ryan was on campus?

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Have you ever attended a Board of Trustees meeting?

A) Yes.
14 votes | 22%

B) No.
35 votes | 56%

C) I'm not driving to Mount Clemens for this one.
7 votes | 11%

D) What's the Board of Trustees?
7 votes | 11%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

OCTOBER 19, 1962
The Michigan State University-Oakland Art Gallery opened. The room, shaped like a trapezoid and devoid of right angles, was based on designs by art professor John C. Galloway.

OCTOBER 16, 1964
Matilda Wilson celebrated her 81st birthday on campus. The tradition of celebrating her birthday on campus began in 1956 when Mr. and Mrs. Wilson offered their Meadow Brook Farms Estate to MSU to create a new college.

OCTOBER 15, 1965
A dedication ceremony was held for the newly constructed Wilson Hall. The hall's auditorium extension was scheduled for completion by fall 1968.

BY THE NUMBERS

1883
birth year of Matilda Wilson

5
number of children Matilda Wilson had

129
age Matilda Wilson would have been this year

1940
year Matilda Wilson was appointed as the first woman lieutenant govenor of Michigan

83
age of Matilda Wilson at her time of dealth

Perspectives

STAFF EDITORIAL

Happy 55th birthday, Oakland — now get to work

In 1959, a small Michigan State Honor's College opened on the border of Pontiac Township and Rochester. The campus was home to 570 students and three buildings.

Today, that piece of land is known as Oakland University and is home to 19,749 students.

The university just completed construction on its 38th building and broke the ground for its 39th building last week.

During the past 55 years, Oakland has grown by leaps and bounds. We have hosted political rallies, and Pulitzer Prize winning authors.

Students went from cheering on Pioneer Pete to cheering on Grizz and Clawzz.

Our athletic teams have grown into Division I contenders, winning a combined 22 regular season titles, 46 tournament championships and making 34 NCAA tournament appearances.

The university became politically involved hosting a Republican Party primary debate in 2011 and numerous political speakers, including former Presidents Jimmy Carter and George W. Bush, and former Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Oprah Winfrey, Mitch Albom, Al Roker and James Earl Jones, among others, have all graced the OU stage as part of the Student Life Lecture Board's lecture series.

> It has been truly amazing what the university has been able to accomplish during the past 55 years, however there is still a more work to do.

Several people have been at the helm of OU since it opened in 1957, including the current and longest tenured president in OU's history, Gary Russi.

But the people who helped make OU what it is today are what define the institution.

A maintenance worker at Meadow Brook and Michigan State named George Karas coordinated the construction of the first buildings on campus, oversaw additions to the library and lived in a cottage on the Meadow Brook estate for seven years.

Matilda Wilson, a multimillionaire, donated her Meadow Brook estate in order to make OU possible.

It has been truly amazing what the university has been able to accomplish during the past 55 years. However there, is still more work to do.

As we reported last week, 19,089 of the 19,749 students attending Oakland are Michigan residents. If the university is to continue its expansion and contend with larger universities, they need to be able to attract students on a national basis.

In 2011, 18,506 of the University of Michigan's 42,716 students came from out of state.

In the future, OU's student distribution needs to be more like the University of Michigan's in order for the university to continue to grow.

OU will also have to diversify their student body.

According to information attained from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment 80.3 percent of all students are White.

To help address these problems, OU will have to fix the current student-housing issue (more on this to come soon).

And they need to address parking, which has become an ever deteriorating situation, with more people on campus daily than spots — it is an issue which will only increase as enrollment rises.

As we look toward the future we would just like to say happy 55th birthday Oakland, we look forward to the next 55 years and beyond.

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

Corrections Corner
The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please email editor@oaklandpostonline.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

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

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The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

EDITORIAL

Pay attention while walking around campus

NICOLE THOMPSON
guest writer

Oakland University proudly boasts one of the lowest crime rates in Oakland County. That being said, it is still important to remember that crime does happen. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States reminded us that it can happen anywhere.

Research has shown that terrorists take time to plan their attacks before they actually follow through. Reporting suspicious activity to the police, no matter how minor it may appear, can help stop a terrorist attack before it happens.

> In order to maintain a high level of security on campus, the Oakland University Police Department needs students, faculty and staff to be a vital link between the campus community and law enforcement officers.

In order to maintain a high level of security on campus, the OU Police Department needs students, faculty and staff to be a vital link between the campus community and law enforcement officers. One way to become that link is to be vigilant and report any situation that appears to be out of the ordinary.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security advises that the following examples are some behaviors to look for:

Surveillance

If terrorists are targeting a specific area they will most likely be observed in that area during the planning phase. It is important to note suspicious actions such as someone using cameras, being in possession of blue prints, drawing diagrams or annotating on maps.

Seeking information

This includes anyone attempting to gain information about a place, person or operation. Examples would be someone inquiring about a critical infrastructure like a power plant, water reservoir or tunnel usage.

Tests of security

This involves testing the law enforcement response to certain incidents, including the number of officers responding, the routes taken and response time.

Acquiring supplies

This can be a situation in which someone is purchasing or stealing weapons, explosives, ammunition or harmful chemicals. Terrorists may also attempt to acquire uniforms, identification and equipment that would help them to gain access to secured or prohibited areas.

Suspicious people who do not belong

This could be a suspicious person who appears to be out of place. It could be someone on campus that does not fit in because of their demeanor or unusual questions he or she is asking.

Trial run

Multiple dry runs may be conducted at or near the target to gain intelligence and to work out the flaws in the plan. This is the best chance to intercept and stop an attack. You may observe the terrorist planning the attack if you find him or her monitoring a police radio frequency, mapping out routes, timing traffic lights and traffic flow or you may observe someone engaging in repetitive behavior.

Deploying assets/getting into position

This is when people and supplies are getting into position to commit the act. This is your last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs.

Any of these seven signs of terrorism may be indicators that something is not right and should be reported to the Oakland University Police Department immediately. Nothing is too insignificant. This does not mean we should profile individuals, but it does mean we should profile behaviors. The Oakland University Police Department requests your assistance in helping to keep OU safe. You can call the OUPD at 248-370-3331 or text to 911@oakland.edu.

The Five W's

If reporting suspicious behavior to the OUPD please remember The 5 W's:

- What is happening?
- Who is doing it?
- Where is it taking place?
- When did you observe it?
- Why is the behavior suspicious?

Nicole Thompson is an Oakland University Police Department Sergeant. Email her at tseke@oakland.edu

COLUMN

The OUSC mission

Being a part of the Oakland University Student Congress allows me to do something that I absolutely love doing: I get to be the voice for the students. There are other people who are a part of this organization who get to do the same thing, some of them being the executive board and some of them being the legislators. All of us make up the representation of the student body and we get to fight for what the students want.

But we can't do that unless students are willing to talk about the things that they want to see different. We aren't mind readers, we're just students who want to make a difference on this campus and throughout this community.

Take a look at the OUSC mission statement below:

ROBBIE WILLIFORD
columnist

"Oakland University Student Congress strives to represent the student body and increase pride and unity on campus through dynamic leadership, a commitment to diversity and an ongoing devotion to the quality of university life. We aim to meet the needs and address the concerns of our fellow students and encourage students to voice their ideas to help us create the best possible "Oakland experience."

To sum it up, the job of OUSC is to create a better student life atmosphere on campus through events, initiatives, advocacy and leadership. We are in our positions to make this journey that you're on as a college student better.

But how can we do that if we don't know what you want to see on campus?

To answer the question, we can't. Our jobs cannot be done effectively if you don't show us the things that you think will make this university better and brighter. Our mission statement says that we represent you, and that we have to do the things that will create more of a sense of pride and unity through our leadership and decision-making abilities. We have to bring diverse events and foster multiculturalism in our initiatives.

Our number one goal is to bring that to you. We couldn't be any happier to do so either. From the Student Services Director, Amera Fattah, to the Multicultural Affairs Director, Maria Arellano, to our Legislative Affairs Director, Michelle Alwardt, we're bringing some of the most diverse, educational, dynamic events and initiatives that we hope will provide the student body with ample opportunities to get involved and make a difference. The desire from us is there, and we hope you see that. But to move forward, we need you to be there, too.

Our mission statement is what gives us our direction. It guides us through all of our processes so that we can do what's best for everyone. But out of the nearly 20,000 students here, we can only do so much before we need fresh minds and innovative thinking.

Come on down to our office — located in the basement of the Oakland Center, right next to the SPB office, across from the WXOU radio station, and adjacent to The Oakland Post's office, located at 62 Oakland Center.

Tell us what you think.

Robbie Williford is the Oakland University Student Congress Vice President. Email him at rfwillif@oakland.edu

The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

EDITORIAL

That's it — I've had enough of the GOP

NICHOLE SEGUIN
editor-in-chief

As journalists, we're taught to be objective. We're not supposed to affiliate ourselves with any political parties and we're not supposed to take a stand on political issues.

But it's time for me to come clean.

I have political ideologies, but I don't let them hinder my ability to make objective decisions and it doesn't influence or bias my job at The Oakland Post. In fact, my ideas are often challenged by some of my staff members.

Though we all have strong feelings about both parties, we don't let our personal views alter the news we report.

Oakland University should follow suit.

The school is supposed to be a nonpartisan university. But in the last year, we have had the political national spotlight shine on us twice — once when we hosted the Republican Presidential Debate last November and on Monday, when GOP Vice Presidential Nominee Paul Ryan came to campus for a rally.

There was also a visit from one of five of Republican Presidential Nominee Mitt Romney's campaign buses on Sept. 12.

Not to mention John McCain's Town Hall Meeting in 2008 and former Republican President George Bush's visit in July 2002.

But Oakland is not taking a side, right?

Those five events make it seem like they are.

The last time a nationally-known presidential Democrat was on campus was eight years ago, when Al Gore's former wife Mary Elizabeth Gore made a stop with musician Melissa Etheridge and Sen. Debbie Stabenow. The group hosted a free concert for the general public and students.

Since then, the Democratic Party has had scarce visibility on Oakland's campus, with no future visits scheduled at the moment.

INSTEAD OF JUST ACCEPTING A BUSINESS TRANSACTION (THE MITT ROMNEY CAMPAIGN PAID FOR THE RENTAL OF THE O'RENA AND CONTACTED OAKLAND ABOUT SETTING UP THE EVENT), THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD FOCUS ON BEING BALANCED. UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS SHOULD ALSO LEARN TO UTILIZE THE WORD "NO."

While I agree Oakland deserves the attention it's receiving from the publicity of the event, I feel the university is selling itself out.

I realize Oakland County is a prominently Republican community. However, Oakland is a public institution that is supposed to be a place for open dialogue and diverse ideas.

There's nothing diverse in this situation.

Instead of just accepting a business transaction (the Mitt Romney campaign paid for the rental of the O'rena and contacted Oakland about setting up the event), the university should focus on being balanced. University officials should also learn to utilize the word "no."

For most students, this is the first time we're able to vote in a presidential election. And not all of us are going to vote for the GOP.

Sure, the publicity is a nice touch, and Oakland deserves the national attention. But just like journalists need to be objective, Oakland needs to be open to all sides, especially at such a critical time.

Contact Editor-in-Chief Nichole Seguin via email at naseguin@oakland.edu or on Twitter @naseguin.

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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Mom's B-Day	Psychology Test		Pick-up a new copy of The Oakland Post	Art History Paper due	Hanging out with friends	

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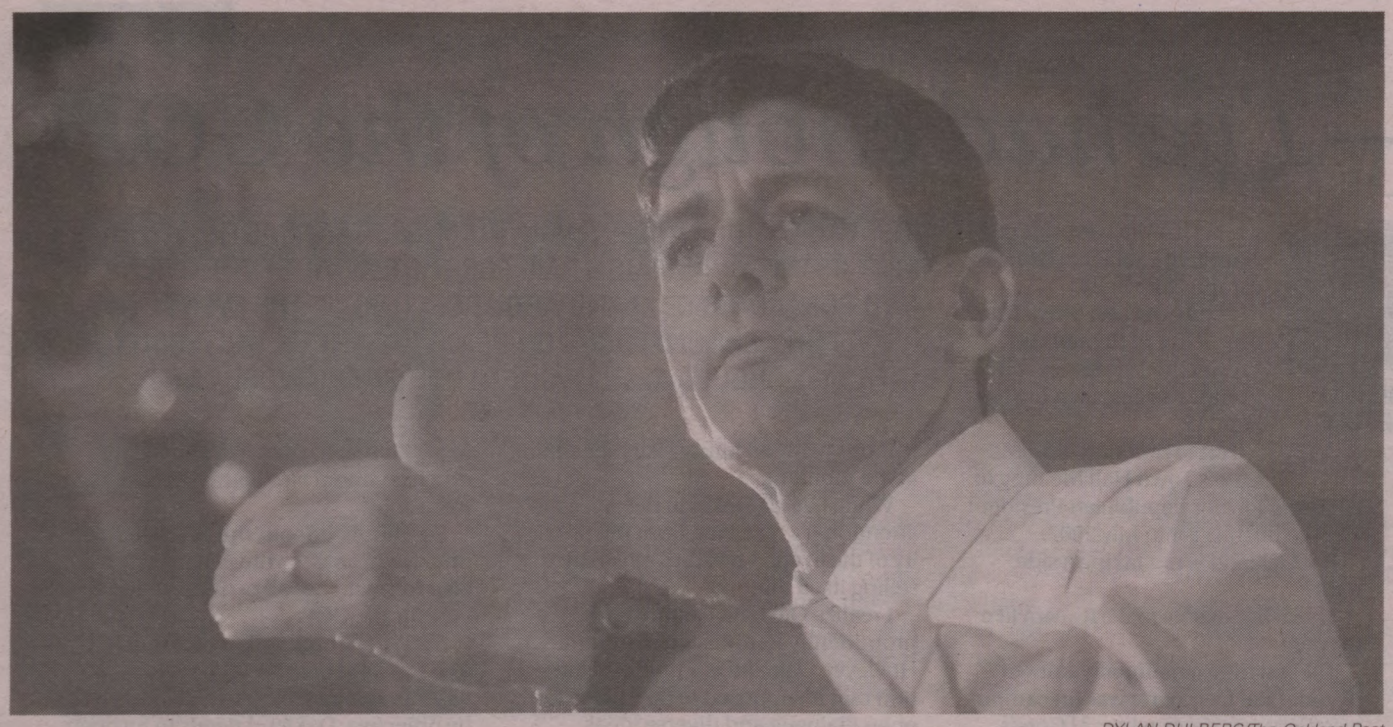
MORE ONLINE | See oaklandpostonline.com for the full story on Seth Jones email



DYLAN DULBERG/The Oakland Post

Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan came to speak at the O'rena Monday, Oct. 8 with an appearance from Kid Rock. Ryan will participate in the vice presidential debate with current United States Vice President Joe Biden this Thursday Oct.11.

Romney campaign holds Victory Rally

Republican vice presidential candidate visits campus

By Damien Dennis
Sports Editor

For the second time in less than a year, Oakland University was in the national spotlight as Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan made a surprise visit to the O'rena Monday night.

As thousands of supporters and interested folk made their way into the usual home of the Golden Grizzlies, nationally known Michigan artist Kid Rock took the stage. The musician spoke about the importance of voting and urged those in attendance to do so. He also said while he is proud the U.S. elected their first African-American president, he felt President Barack Obama had failed.

"The main reason I'm here tonight is because I do believe you have to stand for something," Kid Rock said. "It's so important that everybody votes."

Rock then introduced Ryan.

"We were just back there talking about hunting," Ryan said of himself and Kid Rock. "I'm not going to get into my tree stand until after the election, but I'm going to have a great time in my tree stand taking my daughter for her first time hunting, because I know we will have just elected Mitt Romney as the next president of the United States."

Wasting no time, Ryan touched on key areas of interest amongst voters including the economy, healthcare, unemployment and job creation.

The vice presidential hopeful said President Obama had come into office during a tough situation, but said the president failed to handle the problems facing the country correctly.

"The Obama economic agenda failed not because it was stopped, but because it was passed," Ryan said. "Let's not forget (Obama) came in with a one party rule, with the ability to do everything of his choosing and he did that. He spent a year and a half jamming through a one party rule of government taking over healthcare."

Ryan also said Obama has yet to show how he plans to get the nation out of the debt crisis.

The congressman from Wisconsin put emphasis on the strength of the country's military and what his running mate, Republican presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, plans to do about it.

"It seems like the only spending cuts he's (Obama) eager to engage in are those that come in the expense of our military," Ryan said. "With Mitt Romney, we will have peace through strength because we will have the strongest military in the world and no one will question our resolve."

Ryan said the economy isn't growing and the problem is that the Obama administration is spending, borrowing and taxing more without adding new jobs.

The congressman added that more than 600,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost since Obama took office.

"Mitt and I want to earn your support," Ryan said. "We want to deserve it. We want to make sure when you go to the polls on Nov. 6 that you have the perfect choice to make."

Ryan will be facing off with Vice President Joe Biden Thursday in a nationally-televised debate of their own, in which Ryan hopes to carry momentum.

The "Victory Rally" is the second nationally-recognized Republican event to occur on campus in the last year, with the Republican Presidential Debate last November.

Ryan and the campaign chose Oakland University to host the rally due to it's strategic location in the mostly conservative Oakland County and the success of the debate last year.

Ted Montgomery, media relations director, said the Romney campaign came to them and asked to rent the O'rena.

He also added it is nice to see OU in the national spotlight and that the university is a place for public discussion.

Email Damien Dennis at djdennis@oakland.edu

Intentional 'waste of time'

By Katie Williams
Senior Reporter

By 5 p.m. Oct. 8, Seth Jones had received approximately 150 emails, Facebook messages and phone calls responding to five words he sent in a mass email.

Jones, who is pursuing a master's degree in software engineering and information technology, replied to all recipients of the mass email sent by President Gary Russi announcing OU as host for a rally featuring Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan.

Seth Jones

His response was a brief opinion: "What a waste of time."

Jones, who has not received a response from Russi, questions Ryan's stance on education.

"It is unfortunate that the GOP has decided to go with a platform this election that I feel does not move America into the future," Smith said.

Ted Montgomery, director of media relations, said it is impossible to please everyone with any one speaker.

"No matter who comes to Oakland University for an event or a speaking arrangement, someone will lodge an objection to having that person on campus," he said.

While most responses have been supportive, Jones said some of his peers misinterpreted the response.

"I was not trying to speak negatively about OU," he said. "Those five words were to simply express my disappointment of their decision to host such an event."

Jones said OU has hosted three major Republican events in the past two election cycles.

"I feel that OU is a public, educational institute and should stay neutral on the issue. In order to effectively operate on this level, OU would need to give every side the same 'air time' or none at all," he said.

Montgomery said the university does not endorse any political party.

"We do not actively cultivate appearance on campus by politicians, they contact us to see if we have the facilities and human resources to manage such an event successfully," he said. "Over the years, we have played host to many events that featured Democratic candidates for various levels of office."

Larceny reported as largest issue on campus

Overall campus crime down in 2012

By Brian Johnston
Copy Editor

The Oakland University Police Department has released its annual Safety and Security Report for 2011. The report details the amount of crime, injuries, fires and other incidents on campus for the previous year.

"Statistics are important to us," OUPD Chief Samuel Lucido said. "There's a dark figure out there of unreported crime."

Lucido said based on statistics from previous years, Hamlin and Vandenberg Halls both received upgraded locking systems. According to Lucido, there were zero cases of larceny in September 2012, down from three in September 2011.

"Larceny is always our biggest problem on campus," Lucido said.

According to Lucido, students can avoid being victims of larceny by keeping dormitory rooms locked and not leaving valuables unattended in common areas.

"LAST YEAR WE TOOK MORE OF A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO ENFORCEMENT. SO THE FACT THAT WE'RE BEING MORE PROACTIVE LEADS TO MORE ARRESTS, WHICH INCREASES YOUR STATS."

Mark Gordon,
OUPD Captain

According to the document, reported substance violations increased in 2011. The year's report contained 22 liquor law violations and 15 drug law violations, up from 2010's report of 18 liquor violations and three drug violations.

"Last year we took more of a proactive approach to enforcement," OUPD Captain Mark Gordon said. "So the fact that we're being more proactive leads to more arrests, which increases your stats."

Three forcible sex offenses were reported within the campus residence halls. This number is down from 2010, which had five forcible and one non-forcible sex offense.

Reports of on-campus robbery, burglary, aggravated assault and motor vehicle theft all increased from 2010. Non-campus offenses were down across the board from last year. One motor vehicle theft was reported in 2011, down from seven in 2010.

No "hate offenses" were reported in 2011.

Three fires were reported in the campus residence halls during 2011, and all were unintentional. Two happened in the Ann V. Nicholson Student Apartments, both cooking-related, causing between $0-99 in damages. One happened in a sorority cottage on Greek Row, also cooking related, with no monetary damages.

Auburn Hills Fire Department Chief John Burmeister said these incidents were generally referred to as "careless cooks" by the department.

"Our tactics and procedures are about the same (as serving the community)," Burmeister said. "We have more of a concern with the volume of people in the dorms."

According to Lucido, campus crime statistics are down so far in 2012 as opposed to 2011.

Contact Copy Editor Brian Johnston via email at bgjohnst@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @GreenAdder

MORE INFO

THE DOCUMENT
The 2011 Annual Campus Safety & Security Report lists all reported criminal and fire statistics from 2008 to 2011 on campus, public property adjacent to campus and non-campus academic areas. It also lists OUPD's policies and future plans.

WHERE TO GET IT
The document can be viewed at **www.police.oakland.edu/statement.**

BIGGEST ISSUE
OUPD Chief Lucido and Captain Gordon both said larceny is continually the largest crime-related problem on campus.

FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS
An enhanced fire detection system, a fiber-optic communication system for the fire system, and the need to decrease false alarms are all mentioned in the report.

WHO TO CALL IF YOU NEED HELP
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CONFLICT AND CONFLICT PREVENTION IN AFRICA
panel discussion with OU Model U.N. students and Political Science faculty at noon Wednesday, Oct. 23, in the Fireside Lounge.

SPONSORED BY: Oakland University Journalism Program, • Oakland Center • The Oakland Post • WXOU • Kids Who Care • Student Congress College of Arts and Sciences • Model U.N.

Creative & Critical MINDS

Suicide prevention group receives $612,000 grant

Money will be used to increase prevention and awareness efforts throughout campus, community

By Natalie Popovski
Assistant Campus Editor

In September, a group of Oakland University faculty was awarded an institutional grant to increase suicide awareness and prevention efforts throughout both the campus and local community.

The project, known as Grizzlies Response: Awareness and Suicide Prevention, received the $612,000, three-year Garrett Lee Suicide Prevention grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, according to the OU website.

Michael MacDonald, associate professor in the teacher development and educational studies department, Lisa Hawley, associate professor of education and chair of the counselling department, Dalton Connally, assistant professor of social work, and Patricia Wren, associate professor and program director of health sciences, make up the team working on the project.

Working towards the goals

MacDonald said in order to qualify for the grant, GRASP needed to demonstrate the capacity to understand the field and explain how they would help students struggling with mental health issues.

"We had to articulate who's at risk," Wren said.

This type of grant is designed to help institutions and required a match in funding from OU, according to Wren.

"As an institution, we knew we needed to have a better response," Connally said.

Wren said Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Susan Awbrey, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Mary Beth Snyder and former Senior Vice President and Provost Virinder Moudgil all found institutional matches for the grant because they believed OU needed a program like this.

"We certainly got support from different parts of campus," MacDonald said.

Helping students and beyond

The program's narrative explains that GRASP will focus not only on OU, but the southeastern Michigan community. The money received from the grant will help create educational programs aimed at students and will also create workshops for identified caregivers to learn how to deal with students who are feeling depressed, suicidal or are taking part in destructive behaviors, according to MacDonald.

In addition to workshops and training sessions, MacDonald said GRASP will create a Web presence so those seeking help will have a place to turn to for resources, as well as a virtual learning community to oversee the initiative and serve as a forum for discussion.

Hawley said they hope to begin the training program in the winter semester and are currently in the data-collecting and planning stage. The creation of a website would come sometime after the new year.

Hawley said GRASP plans to train more than 20 percent of the campus community on suicide prevention and caregiving methods, and some of these sessions will take place in the residence halls.

"It (the program) has to involve the whole community," Hawley said.

Hoping for results

Connally hopes this project will remove the social stigma that comes with talking about suicide.

Wren wants this project to help students feel safe and confident in discussing their feelings with friends and professors.

Hawley said the project will also create ways for the university to help with drug and alcohol prevention.

MacDonald said he hopes the project will attract all groups of people who suffer from suicidal thoughts and destructive behaviors, and that nobody feels alienated while seeking help.

"It's everybody's business, everybody's concern," he said.

Contact Assistant Campus Editor Natalie Popovski via email at npopovsk@oakland.edu

STUDENT HELPLINES

Common Ground
800-231-1127
www.commongroundhelps.org

Graham Counselling Center:
248-370-3465
www.oakland.edu/GCC

Macomb Crisis Center
586-307-9100
www.macombcountymi.gov

CSA

Center for Student Activities
and Leadership Development
49 Oakland Center
csa@oakland.edu
www.oakland.edu/csa

Gender and Sexuality Center is sponsoring S.A.F.E. On Campus Training
(Students, Administrators, and Faculty for Equality) On Campus
You are invited to attend a S.A.F.E. On Campus Training session to educate yourself on current issues facing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) population and become a LGBTQ "Ally."
Wednesday, October 10 * Noon-2:00 p.m. * Gold Room A, Oakland Center

Gay/Straight Alliance Presents "Coming Out Monologues"
on OU/National Coming Out Day
Thursday, October 11 * 7:00 p.m. * Gold Room A, Oakland Center
Gender and Sexuality Center

"The Creative Side of Detroit" Tour
Touring: Pewabic Pottery of Detroit, Heidelberg Project, Guardian Building, Compuware Building Atrium, and Eastern Market.
Saturday, October 20 * 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Bus transportation provided * Sign up at the CSA Service Window, 49 OC
Sponsored by OUSC Multicultural Affairs and CSA

"MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY" IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
For more information and to sign up to "make a difference" on OU's campus and in the cities of Pontiac and Detroit, check out www.oakland.edu/volunteer.

2013 Wilson *and* Human Relations Awards

Nominations are now being accepted.

The Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson Awards recognize one female and one male who have contributed as scholars, leaders and responsible citizens to the OU community. **Nominees must:**
- be graduating seniors in winter 2013 or have graduated in summer or fall 2012
- have a strong academic record of 3.5 or higher GPA

The Human Relations Award recognizes a senior student who has made an outstanding contribution to intergroup understanding and conflict resolution in the OU community. **Nominees must:**
- be graduating seniors in winter 2013 or have graduated in summer or fall 2012
- demonstrate service to the community
- have a minimum 2.5 GPA

Nomination forms are available at oakland.edu/dean_awards or in 144 Oakland Center.
The deadline for both awards is Monday, February 4, 2013.

For questions, contact:
Office of the Dean of Students | 144 Oakland Center | (248) 370-3352

ad6074/9.12

Math probation rumors untrue

By Jennifer Holychuk
Senior Reporter

Rumors the Math Department has been put on probation for not passing enough students have been around for decades — just ask its faculty.

Math professor Jerrold Grossman said these tales have been floating around OU's campus "probably as long as (he) has — 38 years."

What's false

According to Grossman, the idea the math department has been put on probation is not, and never has been, a fact.

According to Susan Awbrey, interim senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, academic programs can be put on probation by their accrediting agencies but not by the university itself.

She confirmed the math department is not on probation of any kind.

"I am not sure where it started, but it seems to surface every few years," she said. "The university sets the record straight, but somehow the myth reappears."

What's true

László Lipták, associate chair of OU's math department, said the department is "not passing as many students as it would like," in the introductory courses, but the number of failing students is not as low as what has been rumored.

OU's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment's official online data book shows that in the lowest-scoring math course of fall 2011, MTH 122, about 40 percent of students scored below a 2.0.

According to Awbrey, although this subject is difficult for some students, math courses are vital to many of OU's majors, such as engineering, physics and other sciences.

"Having any number of students not passing mathematics courses is always a concern for the department and for the university," Awbrey said.

Lipták said math scores are, on average, lower than in other subjects because of many different factors, one being that math concepts build as students reach higher course levels.

"If you don't have the foundation, it can be very easy to fall behind," Lipták said.

Grossman said another factor of lower passing rates is high school students not being adequately equipped for college math courses.

"If students didn't learn the basics in high school, we go through it twice as fast," Grossman said. "You need those algebra skills to go on to the college-level math courses."

Senior Enils Martika, computer science and engineering major, said many of his peers have complained about the difficulty of OU math courses, but high standards are necessary.

"In order to finish the math classes, you have to be very resourceful and hard-working," Martika said.

Lipták said resources are available to aid students who are having difficulty — many of the math courses have supplementary workshops, and math tutoring is available through the Tutoring Center located in North Foundation Hall.

According to Grossman, the majority of students who do poorly in his classes are those who do not take advantage of these resources.

The bottom line

Junior Steven Reinhard, industrial and systems engineering major, has taken five math courses at OU and said he does not believe math professors have unreasonable expectations.

Lipták said the math department's objective has always been to maintain a high academic standard.

"Our goal is not just to pass students, although that is what we would like to see," he said. "Our goal is to make sure they're prepared for the next course."

Contact Staff Reporter Jennifer Holychuk via email jholychuk@gmail.com at or follow her on Twitter @jholychuk

Board of Trustees discuss proposed housing, media arts center

By Christopher Lauritsen
Managing Editor

On Oct. 3, the Oakland University Board of Trustees held their second meeting of the academic school year at OU's Anton/Frankel Center in downtown Mount Clemens.

The BOT indicated they would like to hold future meetings at the center.

"We hope this gets bigger and better as time goes on," said Gabe Anton, who, along with Stewart Frankel, donated the center to Oakland in 2010.

The BOT formally introduced two new board members, Dennis Pawley and Scott Kunselman during the meeting. This was also the first session with board member Michael Kramer serving as BOT chairperson.

During the two-hour meeting, which was dominated by talks of student housing, a multitude of topics were up for consideration.

Student housing

The BOT heard housing proposals from Public Financial Management, Inc. — a company run out of Chicago — which partnered with OU to come up with various proposals to the housing problem.

The university's key housing objectives included increasing the number of undergraduates in the housing system and completing renovations to existing residence halls — all while minimizing the cost to students and the impact on the university's credit.

The BOT is considering privatizing and building the new housing structure at an off-campus site or building the new housing structure on campus with university financing.

Both Student Congress President Samantha Wolf and Vice President Robbie Williford spoke out against an off-campus student housing facility.

While the BOT did not reach a decision on housing, there was a consensus that something had to be done as the lack of housing might be affecting how many students choose to attend OU.

"How many students do not come to Oakland University because they can't find housing?" said OU President Gary Russi. "I suspect, as demand increases, that number will as well."

> "HOW MANY STUDENTS DO NOT COME TO OAKLAND UNIVERSITY BECAUSE THEY CAN'T FIND HOUSING?"
>
> Gary Russi,
> President of OU

Oakland currently has 2,068 beds on campus for the 19,740 students enrolled for the fall 2012 semester.

Oakland used 16 other universities to judge whether they were doing a good job compared to their peers on the issue of housing and found they have significantly fewer beds on campus per student than their peers.

Oakland also found the university's retention and graduation rates were lower than their peers.

"We do not require our freshmen to live on campus and a number of our peers do," Synder said. "We would love to have more freshmen here because we think it is directly correlated with how they do in school."

The BOT reached a unanimous agreement to move to the next step of the process, which includes getting more information on how much the project could cost.

In-state tuition rates for all student veterans

Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Susan Awbrey presented a proposal to the BOT which would allow all veterans, regardless of their place of residence, to be granted in-state tuition rates while attending OU. The amendment was passed unanimously.

AAUP contracts

More than a month after the university and the American Associate of University Professors reach a tentative agreement, the BOT voted to ratify the Oakland and AAUP contract.

Russi thanked both the OU chapter AAUP Chief Negotiator Micheal Latcha and the President of the OU AAUP chapter, Karen Miller, for their hard work during the negotiations.

Proposed media arts and social sciences center

The BOT heard from Tamara Jhashi, acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, on what will be the next building proposal for the university.

"The proposed media arts and social sciences center is the university's highest priority capital outreach request," Jhashi said.

The OU media arts and social sciences center would house classrooms for a variety of liberal arts departments, as well as a renovated theatre.

The center would be created from a combination of new construction and renovations to Varner Hall.

The university is still in the early stages of the project. Costs and layouts are still in the early process, but the building is anticipated to be 229,000 square feet.

The next BOT meeting will take place Dec. 3 in the Elliot Hall Auditorium at 2 p.m.

OLIVIA KUCHLBAUER/The Oakland Post

Louay Chamra, dean of the School of Engineering, speaks about the new $75 million engineering building which is set to be completed by August 2014.

Engineering Department breaks ground on $75 million building

By Misha Mayhand
Multimedia Reporter

The Oakland University department of engineering held its groundbreaking ceremony Oct. 3 for its new $75 million building. It is expected to be completed in August. 2014.

Students, faculty and staff members attended the event.

Electronic calendar calculators were given to attendees as they walked in to take their seats.

There is a total of $30 million going toward building costs, which are coming from the state.

Another $45 million is coming to Oakland through bonds.

"The success of Oakland University comes from many different sources," said, Louay Chamra, dean of the School of Engineering and Computer sciences.

Chamra said the OU Board of Trustees provided crucial governance and guidance of the university.

"The growth and reach of our school looks remarkable and our future is very bright," Chamra said.

Michael Kramer, Board of Trustees chairperson, said the groundbreaking of this state-of-the-art building demonstrates how Oakland continues to build its brand by bringing together the best lines of resources.

"Our commitment to engineering, education and innovation allows us to offer our students a great educational experience," Kramer said.

He also said he believes the School of Engineering has great potential for Oakland and the surrounding communities.

"Our school can and will be the catalyst for economic development in the region and the state of Michigan," Kramer said.

University President Gary Russi said the university sent construction authorization to the governor Rick Snyder in December 2010 and was signed into the law.

Once construction authorization passed the legislature, the governor signed it into existence in June 2012.

"It will affect thousands of lives of students and members of this community for generations to come," Russi said.

Susan Awbrey, interim senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, said she was honored to be a part of the groundbreaking ceremony, not only because it's "the beginning of a beautiful addition to the campus," but also because of the educational opportunities that are to come.

According to Awbrey, the new building will recruit 37 modular laboratories, many of which will be viewable from public corridors.

"We hope to encourage curiosity and exploration," Awbrey said.

The new building will include space to be dedicated for student organizations, showcases for student projects and facilities for collaborative work.

"I have to mention that the goal of this building is to achieve gold certification in natural leadership, energy and environmental design standards," Awbrey said.

She said another goal of the building is to meet increasing needs for highly educated and knowledgeable engineers, as well as, computer scientists.

"At OU, engineering enrollment has risen 10 percent over the last five years," Awbrey said. "None of it was possible without the outstanding dedication of our faculty."

Contact Multimedia Reporter Misha Mayhand via email at mmayhand@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @MishaMayhand

POLICE FILES

Dog eats marijuana brownies

On Sept. 26, Oakland University Police Department met with the father of a male student who said his son was given two brownies that contained marijuana in them while at OU. According to the student's father, his son received brownies from a classmate and brought them home in his backpack on Sept. 21. The father said one of the family's dogs got into the backpack and ate the brownies and became ill. The dog received treatment for marijuana poisoning. Police met with the student on Sept. 27 and told police he lied where he had got the brownies. The student said he got the brownies from a co-worker but did not know they had drugs in them.

Assault and battery at Van Wagoner House

Police were dispatched to the Van Wagoner House on Oct. 5 at 9:26 a.m. in reference to a domestic call involving a suspect holding scissors to the throat of a female student. Police made contact with the student who said she and the suspect were dating. At around 5:20 a.m. the couple began to argue. The student yelled at the suspect to leave her room and the suspect obliged. At approximately 9:15 a.m. the suspect returned and they began arguing. The female victim said she was scared the suspect would try to harm her so she placed scissors under her pillow. The victim stated the suspect grabbed the scissors and threatened to harm her. OUPD issued the suspect a persona non grata letter.

— Compiled by Natalie Popovski
Assist. Campus Editor

MORE ONLINE For a photo slideshow of this year's "OU's Got Talent," visit www.oaklandpostonline.com

The right note

Students showcase their skills at this year's 'OU's Got Talent'

Written and Photographed by Dylan Dulberg
Multimedia Editor

1. Brittany Hall, the singer who won the competition, beating 14 other acts. She sang "Gravity" by Sara Bereilles and won the $250 grand prize.

2. Kayley Meckstroth and Erika Roxin perform a duet rendition of "Before He Cheats" by Carrie Underwood.

3. Dantel Shaw performs a dance mash-up. While he got four strikes from the judges, he received a standing ovation.

4. Chris Brody, a tenor and member of the Gold Vibrations, belts out the final words to "Happy Ending" by MIKA while the rest of Gold Vibrations, Oakland University's a cappella group, accompanies him.

5. Danae Cota Avila performs a cover of Kelly Clarkson's "A Moment Like This."

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This photo features a basketball game that Hildebrand said took place before the O'rena era.

The Lepley Sports Center, where this photo may have been taken, is now a part of OU Recreations and Athletics Center.

The O'rena was not built until 1998.

According to Linda Hildebrand, assistant professor of Kresge library, this is a photo of the Oakland Center soon after its completion in 1959.

The Oakland Center houses several student organizations such as WXOU, Oakland University Student Congress, the Center for Student Activities and Student Program Board.

CELEBRA
YEARS OF

In this photo, students are seen walking in front of Hannah Hall which was completed in 1962.

According to Hildebrand, the photo may have been taken in the late 60s, early 70s.

Hildebrand believes it was this time period based on the outfits the students are wearing.

This photo of two male students swimming in Beer Lake was taken in August 1967.

Hildebrand said the University Archives has several photos of students swimming in the lake. She also said she is relatively certain this photo appeared in the student newspaper, which was then known as The Oakland Observer.

According to Hildebrand, this photo may have been taken in the outside patio of the Oakland Center near the bookstore's current location.

She said students used to be able to sit down, eat and smoke in that area.

Due to the women's short hair, Hildebrand believes this photo was taken before the mid-70's.

RATING 55 OF HISTORY

This photo of cheerleaders performing may have been taken in February 1980.

The Lepley Sports Center, opened in 1962, was one of the earliest buildings on campus.

The building was named after Hollie L. Lepley, who worked for OU from 1959-79 and served as the university's first athletic director.

This photo of a female student in her dorm was taken Feb. 13, 1980.

Hildebrand believes this photo was taken in an original dorm room.

According to OU's website, Vandenberg Hall was the first residence hall on campus. The building was completed in 1966.

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DAMIEN DENNIS/The Oakland Post

PISTONS TAKE O'RENA

Detroit Pistons hold open practice on Oakland's home floor

By Timothy Pontzer
Senior Reporter

The Detroit Pistons visited the O'rena Saturday afternoon, hosting a free open practice.

Familiar faces and exciting rookies showcased their talents on the hardwood, giving fans a taste of what is to come this season.

Along with the drills and scrimmages, fans were treated to the Pistons cheerleaders, drumline and flight crew.

Afterward, players and coaches mingled with fans in attendance.

1. Tayshaun Prince visits a young child in a wheelchair after the practice. Prince brings leadership to a young Detroit squad, having spent ten years with the organization.

2. A staple of the halftime shows at the Palace, the Flight Crew brought their high-flying show to the O'rena. Formed in 2005, the act utilizes two trampolines to perform acrobatic stunts and dunks.

3. Prince attempts a shot over a teammate. The small forward has averaged 12.9 points a game over his career and has collected a NBA championship ring and an Olympic gold medal.

4. Greg Monroes sinks a basket during the scrimmage. Entering his third season, the young center nearly averaged a double-double every night last season, putting up 15.4 points and 9.7 rebounds per game.

5. Fans both young and old packed the O'rena to cheer on the Pistons.

OLIVIA KUCHLBAUER/The Oakland Post

Oakland University women's soccer is now 3-0 in the Summit League after knocking off both North Dakota and South Dakota over the weekend. Oakland's overall record is now 6-3-3.

Soccer 3-0 in Summit League

Oakland wins back-to-back home matches

By Allen Jordan
Staff Intern

The Oakland University women's soccer team battled through inclement weather and a tough team at North Dakota State University as they earned their second consecutive victory, winning 2-1 at OU Soccer Field.

"It was a bit of a sloppy game for us," OU Women's Soccer Head Coach Nick O'Shea said. "Even though our passing was sloppy at times and we had a few turnovers we usually don't have, I don't think weather played much of a factor for us."

Oakland started off the match scoring two goals within 10 minutes. The first goal came from junior midfielder Abigail Haelewyn on a volley finish from 16 yards out off an assist from senior midfielder Marlen Knoph during the seventh-minute of play. The score was Haelewyn's second goal of the year.

The Golden Grizzlies followed that up with another score coming in the 18th-minute of play off a rebound save by Knoph, who recorded her third goal and assist during the game.

"I just look to be a motivator on the team, talk well with the offense so we can create opportunity for combination plays like the one's we scored on tonight," Knoph said.

This game, like plenty of others throughout the season, proved to be a tale of two halves for the Golden Grizzlies.

After outshooting NDSU 12-1 during the first half, OU seemed to let up a bit, being outshot in the second half with North Dakota State flipping the script on Oakland with more pressure. This allowed NDSU to climb back into the game outshooting, the home team 11-6 in the second period.

"It would be great if we could get a string of games where we put two complete halves together, when you make a lot of subs it destroys the rhythm of the starters a bit," O'Shea said.

The Bison, coming out after the half with a more aggressive game plan, pulled them back into it while battling the rain as well. Their only goal came in the 77th-minute of play on a volley off a corner kick by freshman forward Lizzie Lucas for NDSU pulling the visitors to within a goal late in the game.

The Golden Grizzlies held off the late charge of team defense with blocks coming on several shot opportunities to give Oakland the slight edge in shots by a margin of 18-12.

Sunday, Oakland managed to shutout South Dakota State 1-0 to remain undefeated on the season. Oakland's sole goal came from forward Meghan Reynolds, while goaltender Shannon Coley blocked all three of SDSU's shots.

The Golden Grizzlies play next at Kansas City Friday.

Contact Staff Intern Allen Jordan via email at ajordan2@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @aj1218

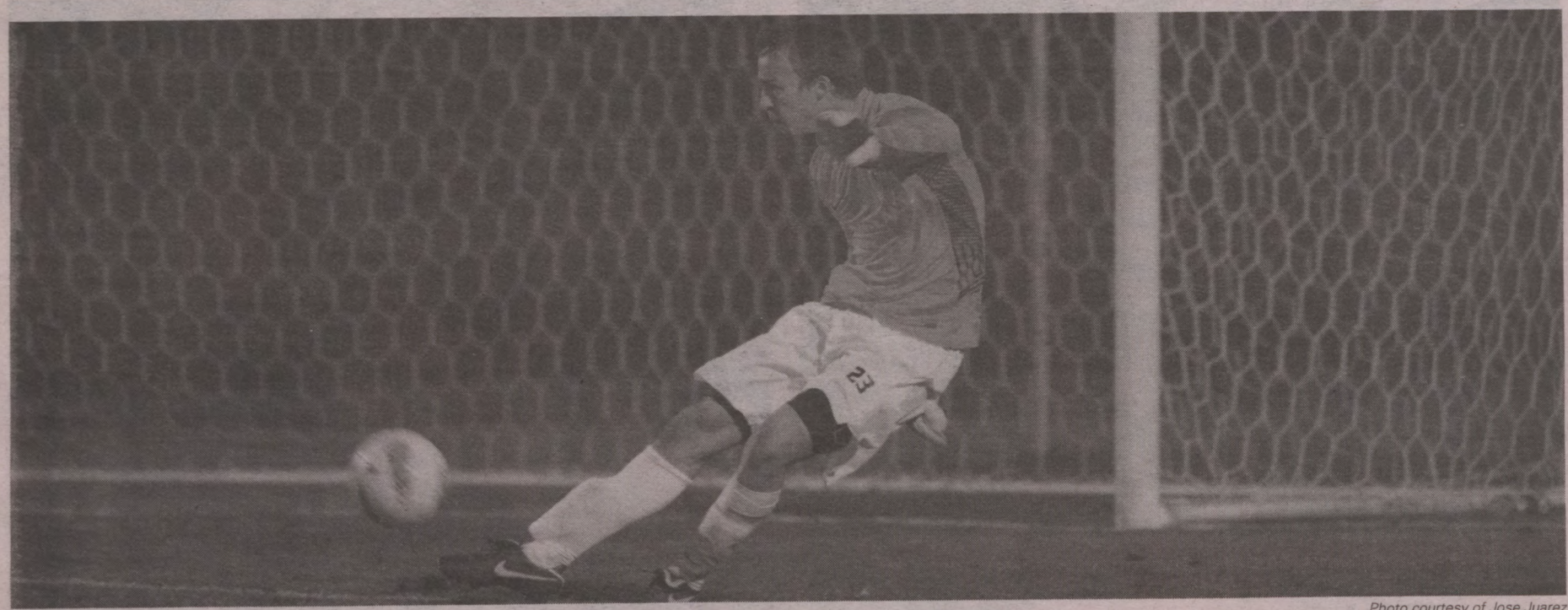

Photo courtesy of Jose Juarez

Scott Messer, junior goaltender for Oakland men's soccer, made five saves in Saturday's game against IUPUI for the Golden Grizzlies shutout victory, winning 3-0. In his downtime, Messer enjoys playing video games and strengthening the bond he and his teammates share. Messer credits the bonding experiences to the success of the team.

A WEIRD KIND OF SUCCESS

Scott Messer looks to inspire and bond his team together

By Allen Jordan
Staff Intern

If you're watching Scott Messer for the first time on a soccer field, you would think that being a goaltender for a professional team is something he would be bound to do right out of college, but if you ask him, you've got the wrong member of the Oakland University men's soccer team.

"If I weren't playing soccer, I probably would be an astronaut," Messer said. "Kyle Bethel is the one you need to look out for soon to go pro. He's playing out of his mind right now."

Messer, a management information systems major, considers himself to be more of a computer geek than an athlete at times.

"I'm definitely on the computer a lot when I'm not on the field," Messer said. "I like games like 'World of Warcraft.' My favorite game growing up was the 'Zelda' series."

Against the competition

The redshirt junior made his debut on the OU men's team last season, appearing in seven games. He earned his first career victory against Cincinnati last September with his first shutout coming a couple days later against Dayton in a 2-0 victory.

He went on to record three straight four-save games and eventually earned a place on the All Summit League Team in 2011.

In his first year as a starter on the team, Messer stepped up as a leader and become an anchor for a team defense that has improved from years past.

In 2012, has garnered numerous shutouts and recognition including Summit League Player of the Week this season. Messer hardly takes credit for his consistent play toward the team's success this year.

"Our team defense, with the back four we have, really made a difference for us this year including improving our chemistry," Messer said. "The time we spend together off the field playing Xbox and joking around with one another has really helped us grow together as unit and you see the results on the field."

That attitude has helped hold this team together through what has been a hard earned place among the top of the Summit League.

"We pretty much all hang together all the time," Messer said. "No one has anyone in particular that they like to hang with because we all hang amongst each other so everybody is close to the next guy."

Past the field

Aside from being an anchor for the soccer team, he looks to be the one to keep the mood light no matter the circumstance.

"I would have to say I'm the jokester on the team, I like pranking a lot of the guys," Messer said. "I guess that's part of me being a weirdo."

> "No one has anyone in particular that they like to hang with because we all hang amongst each other so everybody is close to the next guy."
>
> Scott Messer,
> Goaltender

Assistant Coach Andy Wagstaff said in reference to Messer and his unique personality, "yeah, I think it's agreed among the guys around the team that Scott is the weirdest of all the players, I don't know why maybe it's the computer games."

What isn't weird is his future past college.

"My dad owns a lot of pizza shops," Messer said. "So I was maybe thinking of getting into that business or working for a big computer company like Microsoft. I love computers so I could always see myself doing that."

Contact Staff Intern Allen Jordan via email at ajordan2@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @aj1218

THE SPORTING BLITZ

Hockey suffers first loss

The Oakland University Division I hockey team suffered their first loss of the season Friday night, 5-1 to the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles.

Seeking revenge, the team defeated their hosts 3-1 Saturday night, splitting the series.

Oakland had gone into the series undefeated, with the tally of 21 goals total on the season while holding opponents to seven. In the weekend series, Florida Gulf Coast oustshot Oakland 6-4.

Last season, the Eagles played in Division II and won the national championship

Despite the loss, Oakland was bumped up in the ACHA national rankings to third, trailing Ohio University in first and second place Arizona State.

Oakland's next series is this weekend in a home-and-home game against Eastern Michigan University. Oakland will host EMU at the ONYX Ice Arena at 8 p.m. Friday night.

The second game is Saturday night at 7 p.m. in Ypsilanti.

Basketball nabs transfer

Kampe, Head Coach for Men's Basketball

The Oakland University men's basketball team welcomed its newest player with the addition of junior college transfer Raphael Carter.

Carter, a junior forward, was rated No. 66 of all junior college players while playing at Diablo Community College in Columbus, Ohio. During his sophomore season, Carter averaged 6.5 points, 8.3 rebounds and 2.8 blocks per game while leading Diablo to the Big 8 Conference title.

"We are excited to get Raphael because he fills a void that we have," said Oakland head coach Greg Kampe. "For us to get a player with his potential this late doesn't typically happen. He's athletic, can finish strong at the rim and plays above the rim."

While in high school, Carter was a McDonald's All-American Top 24 Award winner, earning all-state and all-district honors.

Soccer team earns recognition

Two Oakland men's soccer players earned national and conference recognition this week.

Kyle Bethel was named to the College Soccer News team of the week.

Bethel and teammate John Trimm were also both named Summit League Offensive and Defensive Players of the Week. To add on, Bethel also picked up Summit League Player of the Week honors from CollegeSportsMadness.com.

Having 10 assists on the season, Bethel leads the league and is one of the top five nationally in both total assists and assists per game. Bethel collected six points this week, tying for the Summit League lead with a total of 18 points.

Trimm started every game for Oakland, and in over 180-minutes of action, the Golden Grizzlies allowed 10 shots on goal and no goals.

The Golden Grizzlies have now won five straight matches and are 3-0 in the Summit League and 8-3 overall.

Oakland finishes 8th at Dalio

Oakland earned an eighth place finish at the John Dallio Memorial hosted by DePaul Sunday.

Nelson, Men's Golf

The Golden Grizzlies shot a team score of 299 on the day, finishing with a total of 920 (+56) for the weekend at Ruffled Feathers Golf Club.

Cameron Nelson shot a final round, even-par of 72 to aid Oakland in their finish.

Nelson finished with a tie for fifth (225/+9). Teammate Evan Bowser shot 76 to tie for ninth place.

Oakland will play in their final event of the fall season Oct. 22 when they travel to Dayton for the UD Invitational.

— Compiled by Damien Dennis and Timothy Pontzer, Sports Editor and Senior Reporter

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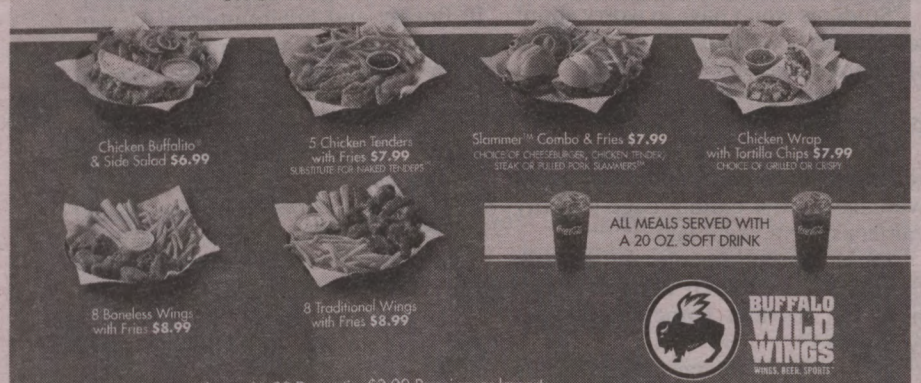

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-Help with homework, stories, songs, games, etc.
-Candidate must be fun, flexible; must take feedback well and flexible; must take feedback well and have an excellent driving record.

Please send email about yourself in English to lcastleman@gmail.com or call (248) 433-3995

MEET & GREET

The Office of Government and Community Relations at Oakland University would like to invite you to a Candidate Open House, to meet with candidates running for office from the 8th and 11th Congressional District, State House and Oakland county-wide. It will be held on October 23, 2012 from 5-7 pm at the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion-OU INCubator. Light refreshments will be served.

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College housing under way in Pontiac

Downtown Pontiac housing development targets students

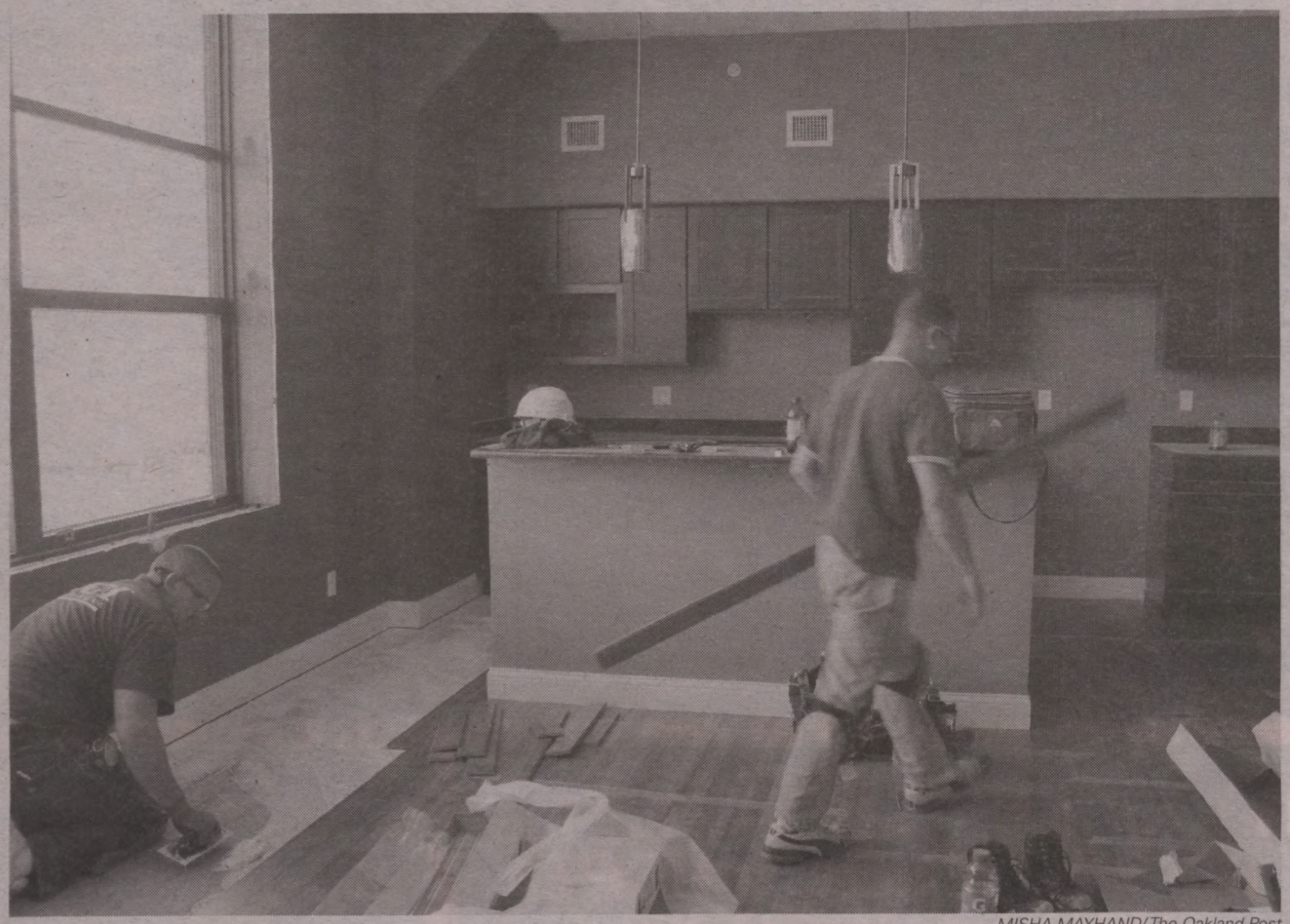
By Misha Mayhand
Multimedia Reporter

A local construction company in Pontiac will soon complete a housing project targeted toward Oakland University students.

West Construction Services hopes to have the new Lafayette Place Lofts, which are located in the historic Sears building in downtown Pontiac, completed by Dec. 1.

Kyle Westburg, CEO of West Construction Services, said his company fell in love with downtown Pontiac and moved its headquarters there in April 2006.

"Pontiac has a great historic architectural fabric," Kyle said.



MISHA MAYHAND/ The Oakland Post

West Construction Services workers put the finishing touches on a new apartment complex which is set to open in Downtown Pontiac by Dec. 1. The company chose the historic Sears building and plans to market the rooms to college students.

The beginning

"We've looked into a lot of opportunities for development projects," Kyle said.

According to Kyle, the lofts are exactly what they had in mind as far as development goes.

"We feel that the historic Sears building is a city gem and we thought it would be a great idea to go along with this redevelopment project," Kyle said.

Kyle said the construction company spent six months communicating with not only Pontiac Mayor Leon Jukowski, but also the city council, Oakland County, the State of Michigan and others.

"Basically, we educated them on what we hoped to do with the commercial space. Across the board, they were extremely helpful and supportive of the project," Kyle said.

He said the construction company then collaborated with the building owner in July 2010. Soon after, the project began.

The building

Audra Westburg, director of corporate communications, described the lofts as "urban, unique and cutting edge."

"We are using a historic building and it's a reuse project, so the lofts will be very unique with over 30 different floor plans," Audra said.

There are 46 lofts total — 36 are one bedroom lofts and 10 are two-bedroom lofts.

> "We feel that the historic Sears building is a city gem and we thought it would be a great idea to go along with this redevelopment project."
>
> Kyle Westburg,
> CEO of West Construction Services

The one-bedroom lofts are available from 600 to 820 square feet and will cost tenants $675 to $775 a month, whereas a two-bedroom loft will be 920 to 1265 square feet with prices ranging from $1,195-$1,295 per month.

Mike Godley, assistant construction manager, said each loft includes bamboo floors, granite counter tops, maple cabinets and mezzanines for storage space.

"The mezzanine is not included in square footage because it's courtesy space," Audra said.

Godley said the units are soundproof because of the triple pane windows equipped with three layers of glass and a thick layer of concrete under the bamboo floors.

"Students won't have to worry about loud neighbors, like you would in a standard apartment," Audra said.

According to Kyle, there will be 31 parking spaces available indoors.

"Students will have the opportunity to have secure parking and the building will also have a cutting edge security camera system," Kyle said.

"We're letting people do a walk through to see which units they like best, but it's first come first serve," Audra said.

She's already taking appointments for tours.

Kyle says the company plans to have a ribbon cutting ceremony Nov. 16.

He said he hopes to have the lofts occupied by Dec. 1, which is also the expected completion date of the Anytime Fitness center located in the complex.

Going green

West Construction is also taking a green initiative with this project.

Kyle said it's a "very green" building.

The building is built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum Design Standards.

"We'll have geo-thermal heating and cooling that will supply the heating and cooling to the building, it's right on site and we're doing it ourselves," Godley said.

He said the roof has a solar panel system that provides some of the electricity to the building and there will be car-charging station as well.

"As you can see, we took a historic approach to the development for a healthy living style and we're only about 10-15 minutes from Oakland University," Kyle said.

Contact Multimedia Reporter Misha Mayhand via email at mmayhand@oakland.edu or follow her on Twitter @MishaMayhand

Photos courtesy of The Henry Ford

The Henry Ford has tried to stay away from the "shock and gore" tactics used by haunted houses in the area, instead focusing on the history of Halloween. The annual event will feature costumes based off classic Halloween literature characters, including the Headless Horseman and pirates.

Not just 'shock and gore'

Historic village bases Halloween celebration on history rather than scare tactics

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

Henry Ford Museum will take visitors back in time during the 30th annual Hallowe'en in Greenfield Village, celebrating the holiday's history all month long, starting, Oct. 12.

"Hallowe'en in Greenfield village has become a family and even a neighborhood tradition, and after 30 years, we are starting to see the third generation attending the event," said James R. Johnson, senior manager of creative programs for Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

According to Henry Ford Media Relations Manager Melissa Foster, the celebration is Reminiscent of celebrations from the early 20th century.

"Hallowe'en in Greenfield village has become a family and even a neighborhood tradition, and after 30 years, we are starting to see the third generation attending the event."

James R. Johnson,
Senior Manager of Creative Programs for the Henry Ford Museum

Initially hosted as an educational class program, the celebration is unlike many others. Johnson said Greenfield Village wanted to stay away from the "shock and gore technique used in hundreds of 'haunted house' attractions that pop up this time of year," and is instead focusing on the history of the holiday.

Guests travel through an entrance filled with 900 carved jack-o-lanterns, visit different characters at various stops along the path and receive food and candy at the 11 treat stations. Guests are encouraged to dress up and bring their cameras as they relive the history of Halloween.

While the event is family-friendly and geared toward everyone, students interested in Gothic literature may find it interesting, according to Foster.

The costumes were created by the Village design studio based off styles of the past as well as vintage "Bogie Books," which were used for event planning, some specifically for Halloween-themed parties. Designs are themed around classic-literature characters including the Headless Horseman, pirates and members of Edgar Allen Poe's classic "The Tell-Tale Heart."

"Hallowe'en at Greenfield Village is reminiscent of Halloween's past," Foster said. "It gives people a bit of history while having fun — it's a chance to see the village in a different light."

According to Johnson, there will be new additions to the celebrations, though he said guests will have to come see it themselves to get the real experience.

Tickets are $15 for adults and children under 2 get in free. Tickets are discounted to $12.75 for members. Visit **www.thehenryford.org/village** for more information.

POLICE BRIEFS

Troy man Tasered after escaping police officers

On Oct. 4 at 3 a.m., a vehicle hit the Hamlin Pub on Lapeer road. The responsible vehicle fled the scene before police arrived. There were no injuries and police located the vehicle shortly after. The driver, a 23-year-old Orion Township man, failed sobriety tests and fled on foot. After resisting deputies, police Tasered him and he was taken into custody. Two police officers were injured and were treated at McLaren Hospital.

Man accused of driving while intoxicated

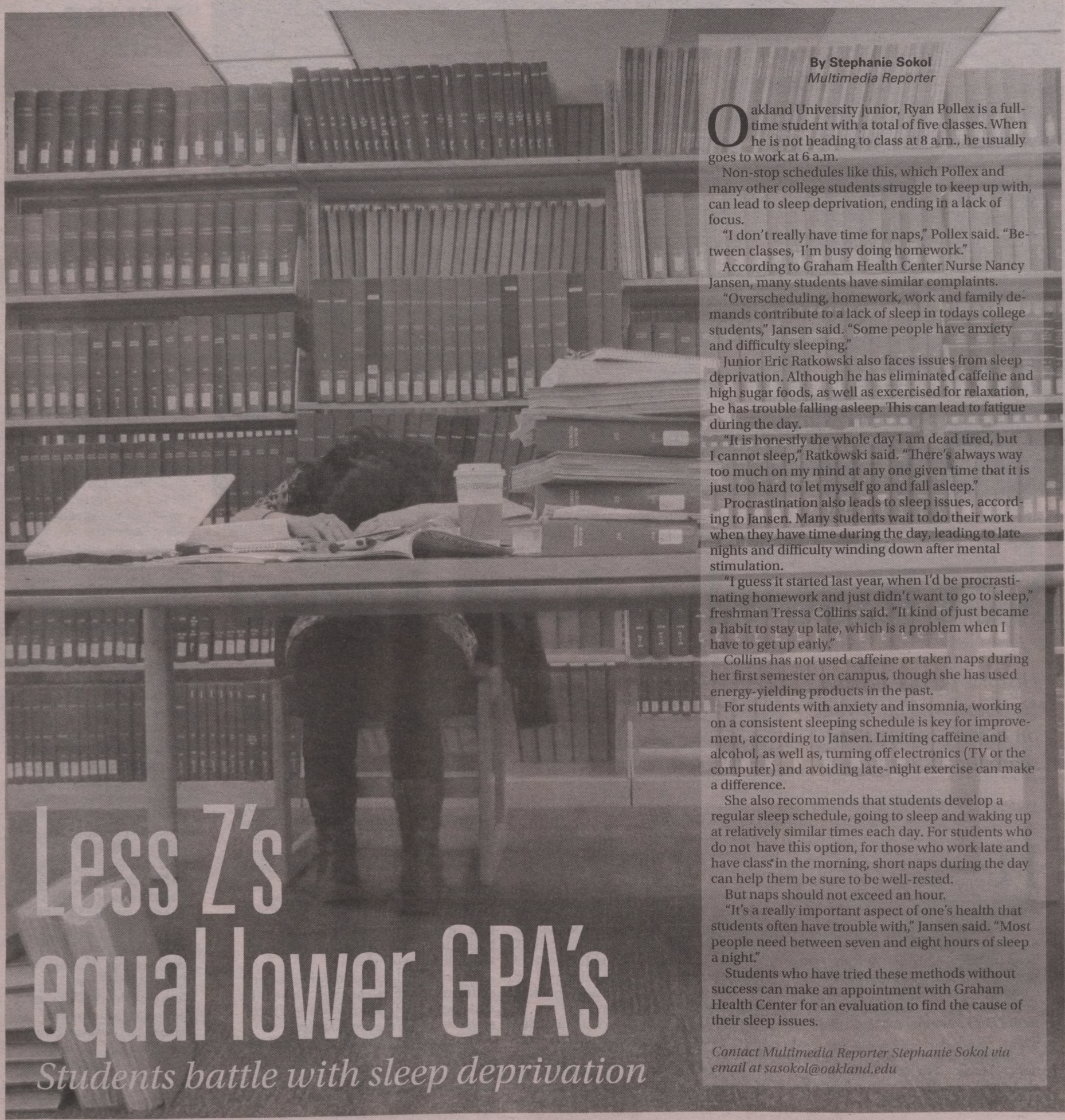
On Oct 6 at 4:30 a.m., police pulled over a vehicle on Rochester and Big Beaver Road because it was traveling well below the speed limit on I-75 and sitting at traffic lights after they had turned green. When police stopped the vehicle, the front seat passenger was found partially lying down with an unopened beer between her legs. The driver, a 26-year-old Pontiac man, failed sobriety tests and was arrested for "Operating While Intoxicated."

Police investigate body found in car in Pontiac

Police were called to the 500 block of N. Perry St. for a report of a body, possibly dead, in a car Oct. 8 around midnight. When police arrived, they located a black Cadillac with a dead person inside. It appeared to be a suicide, because of a bullet wound found in the head and a weapon was near the body in the car. The Oakland County Medical Examiner took custody of the body for an autopsy and identification, and an investigation will continues.

— Compiled by Lauren Kroetsch, Staff Reporter

LIFE ONLINE | To see our take on fashion trends, Meadow Brook Theatre coverage and more, go online to **www.oaklandpostonline.com**



Less Z's equal lower GPA's

Students battle with sleep deprivation

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

Oakland University junior, Ryan Pollex is a full-time student with a total of five classes. When he is not heading to class at 8 a.m., he usually goes to work at 6 a.m.

Non-stop schedules like this, which Pollex and many other college students struggle to keep up with, can lead to sleep deprivation, ending in a lack of focus.

"I don't really have time for naps," Pollex said. "Between classes, I'm busy doing homework."

According to Graham Health Center Nurse Nancy Jansen, many students have similar complaints.

"Overscheduling, homework, work and family demands contribute to a lack of sleep in todays college students," Jansen said. "Some people have anxiety and difficulty sleeping."

Junior Eric Ratkowski also faces issues from sleep deprivation. Although he has eliminated caffeine and high sugar foods, as well as excercised for relaxation, he has trouble falling asleep. This can lead to fatigue during the day.

"It is honestly the whole day I am dead tired, but I cannot sleep," Ratkowski said. "There's always way too much on my mind at any one given time that it is just too hard to let myself go and fall asleep."

Procrastination also leads to sleep issues, according to Jansen. Many students wait to do their work when they have time during the day, leading to late nights and difficulty winding down after mental stimulation.

"I guess it started last year, when I'd be procrastinating homework and just didn't want to go to sleep," freshman Tressa Collins said. "It kind of just became a habit to stay up late, which is a problem when I have to get up early."

Collins has not used caffeine or taken naps during her first semester on campus, though she has used energy-yielding products in the past.

For students with anxiety and insomnia, working on a consistent sleeping schedule is key for improvement, according to Jansen. Limiting caffeine and alcohol, as well as, turning off electronics (TV or the computer) and avoiding late-night exercise can make a difference.

She also recommends that students develop a regular sleep schedule, going to sleep and waking up at relatively similar times each day. For students who do not have this option, for those who work late and have class in the morning, short naps during the day can help them be sure to be well-rested.

But naps should not exceed an hour.

"It's a really important aspect of one's health that students often have trouble with," Jansen said. "Most people need between seven and eight hours of sleep a night."

Students who have tried these methods without success can make an appointment with Graham Health Center for an evaluation to find the cause of their sleep issues.

Contact Multimedia Reporter Stephanie Sokol via email at sasokol@oakland.edu

Photo illustration by STEPHANIE SOKOL

Signs of humanity

Photo courtesy of Carly Uhrig

Daniel Durant (LEFT) plays Stinger and Anna Wyatt plays Roberta in "Police:Deaf::Near:Far," which premiered at Varner Oct. 4.

Theatre students work with professional deaf actors in Mich. premiere of Terp play

By Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

Together, the Oakland University Department of Music, Theatre and Dance with Terp Theatre presented the opening night of "Police:Deaf::Near:Far" Thursday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m., with the play making its Michigan premiere in the Varner Hall.

"This play puts ethical questions out there," said professor of theatre, Karen Sheridan. "It will make people think about what they know about deafness, how they'd respond in certain situations. The deaf don't consider themselves handicapped. For them, it's a way of life."

The play, by playwright David Rush, is based on true stories that happened in Chicago in 1996 and Detroit in 2000. It follows the lives of the hearing and deaf as they interact and are brought together through tragedy.

After auditions, the cast trained during the summer to learn the language, according to Sheridan. The play provided OU theatre students an opportunity to work with professional deaf actors Daniel Durant of Los Angeles and Garrett Zuercher of New York.

One of the big questions the play asks people is to,"not to think of people who are deaf as people with broken ears," according to Sheridan. With the mix of communication, the play displays its own theme, with accessibility to the deaf and hearing.

The student actors' work with the professionals taught them about communication. According to junior theatre major Jackie Gubow, who played Trainer and Arresting Officer Sanford, the experience was both educational and wonderful.

While she did not know sign language, teaching herself for her role and working with others helped her to learn.

"It was amazing and incredible," Gubow said. "Working with the two deaf actors from New York and Los Angeles made this an incredible experience."

Theater major and senior Anna Wyatt took the COM 114 class and worked with interpreters over the summer to learn American Sign Language. She said it was one of the best experiences she has had in a long time.

> "This play puts ethical questions out there. It will make people think about what they know about deafness... the deaf don't consider themselves handicapped. For them, it's a way of life."
>
> Karen Sheridan,
> Professor of Theatre

"(ASL) is a very rich language," Wyatt said. "The whole cast pulled together to learn and it really is a great production."

For senior Joey Feldmann, signing was also a new experience. Working with the deaf actors helped him learn, though at times it was a challenge.

"Everyone worked well together," Feldmann said. "We welcomed our guests to the OU theatre family with open arms and we've grown to be friends."

Junior theatre major Josh Williams attended the play. Although he does not know a lot of sign language, he appreciated the work and ideas brought out.

"My first thought after watching the play was how impressive the communication situation is between the deaf and hearing," Williams said. "The play showed how many issues people work through to coexist. People need to take the time to understand we're all human beings, not just disregard others."

SHOWS & TICKETS

WHEN There will be a total of 12 performances, Oct. 4 - 14. Tickets can be purchased at the box office.
PRICE Tickets are $18 for adults and $10 for students.
MORE INFO To learn more, visit **www.pdnf.terptheater.com.**

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Know someone newsworthy?

Do you know a student, alumni or faculty member with an interesting story?

Please contact life@oaklandpostonline.com with your story ideas, or Tweet #profile @theoaklandpost

give 'em the BOOT

As the temperatures drop, students are getting back into chilly weather trends, like boots. This season is all about extremes — knee-high boots, ankle boots and everywhere in between.

Suede ankle boots come in many styles, from flat lace-ups to high heeled zip-ups. They look great with skinny jeans or leggings and a comfy fall sweater.

Knee-high boots give students a sophisticated look and many young women are pairing them with dresses.

Many young men choose Timberland boots as their shoe of choice, because of their comfort and versatility. Some were also seen wearing the suede low-laced boots.

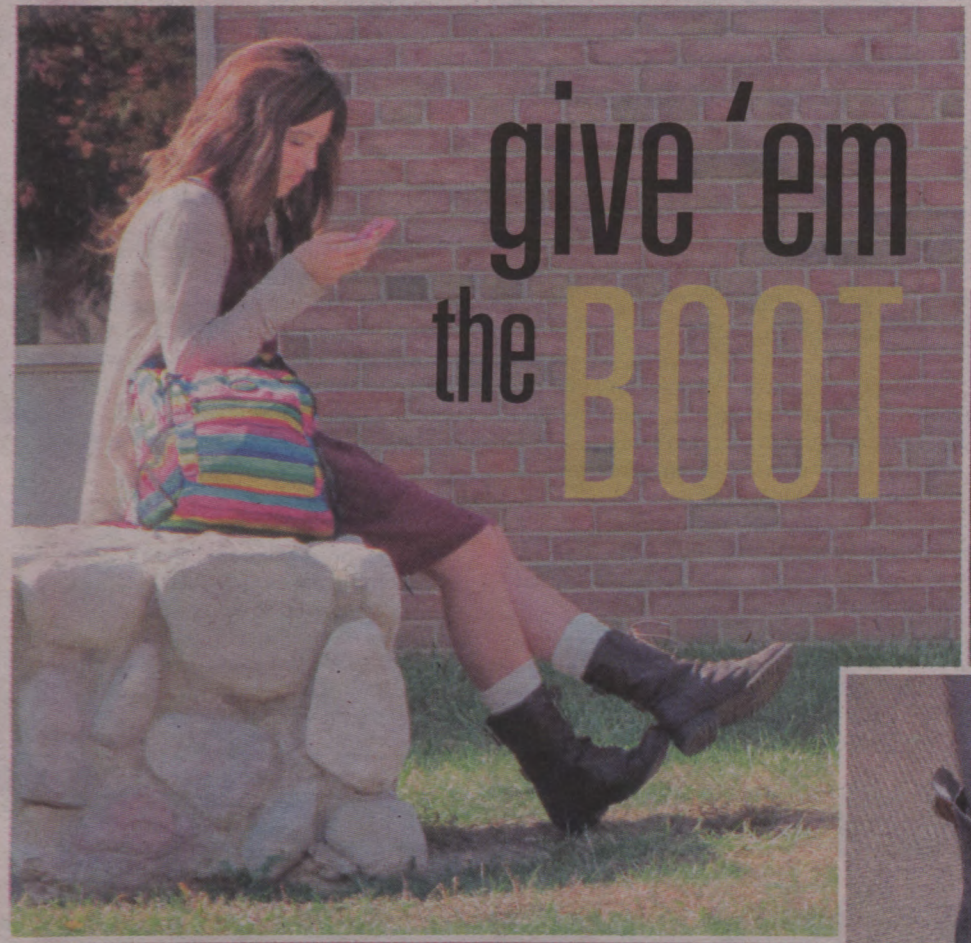
Some students' boots stand out from the crowd. Bright colors and patterned knits are a trend students are taking on, to add interest to an outfit and brighten up a rainy day.

While suede and leather are among the most popular for students, many also have taken a liking to trending rain boots.

Available in a variety of colors and patterns, these shoes are waterproof and can be purchased with a fleece lining for extra comfort.

"My rain boots are so comfortable," said senior Vanita Mosa. "They're great because I can wear them year round."

— Staff Intern Lilly Reid contributed to this report

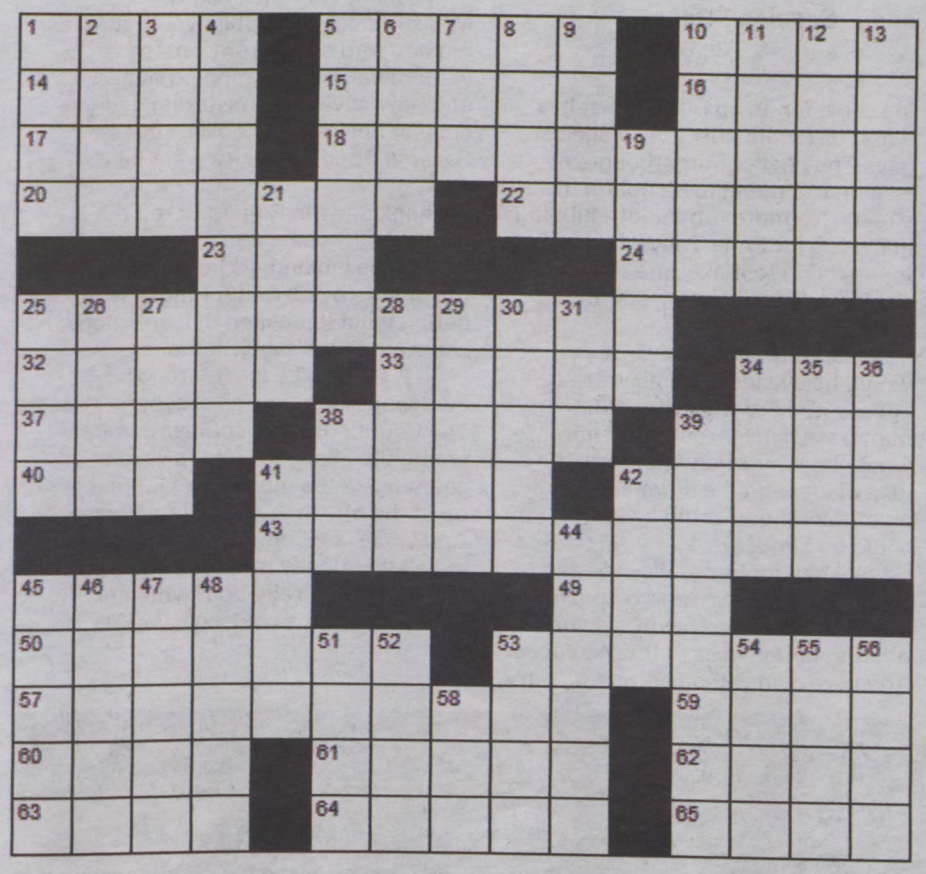


Written and photographed by Stephanie Sokol
Multimedia Reporter

Puzzles

WEEKLY PUZZLES

Answers are available online at
www.oaklandpostonline.com



ACROSS
1. Not first
5. Charges
10. Gait faster than a walk
14. Winglike
15. Something to shoot for
16. Wealthy
17. Wise men
18. Conjuring up the dead
20. Summer heat retreats
22. Nocturnal arboreal marsupial
23. Sweet potato
24. Not here
25. Commodities offered for sale
32. African virus
33. A financial examination
34. Can
37. Backside
38. Small mountains
39. Extinct flightless bird
40. Plaything
41. Make fun of
42. An evil supernatural being
43. Unwanted
45. Interlaced
49. Cashew or almond
50. Tallest mountain
53. Brainiac
57. The outer region of the Earth's atmosphere
59. Concern
60. Happy
61. Long times
62. Applications
63. Puncture
64. Basic belief
65. Pinnacle

DOWN
1. Young sheep
2. Wings
3. Epic
4. 3-wheeler
5. Movie house
6. Poems
7. Second (abbrev.)
8. Tropical tuber
9. Swill
10. Garbage
11. Washing machine cycle
12. Come to pass
13. Culinary herb
19. Sacred song
21. Laugh
25. Food from animals
26. River of Spain
27. Optimistic
28. A nymph of lakes
29. Coarse edible red seaweed
30. Runs in neutral
31. Female sib
34. Grave
35. False god
36. Not a single one
38. Female chicken
39. Extremely poisonous white fungus
41. Melodies
42. Medication
44. Swallow
45. Use a scale
46. Convex molding
47. Corrupt
48. Wear away
51. Petty quarrel
52. You (archaic)
53. Sea eagle
54. Leisure
55. District
56. Writing table
58. Many millennia

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Mouthing Off

The views expressed in Mouthing Off do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.

SATIRE

It's tough out there ... even for Big Bird

By Justin Colman
Chief Copy Editor

It's a cold, cold world out there and it might be getting a tad colder. Mitt Romney said if he were elected President of the United States, he'd stop funding PBS and their shows like Sesame Street and ... Sesame Street.

This is complete madness, Mitt. Stop it. You're running on a platform as a job creator, but you're going to kill jobs if you stop funding Sesame Street for Wall Street.

Your election as president would be devastating to everyone on Sesame Street. Just think about Big Bird. How is an eight-foot, two-inch bird going to assimilate into American culture? I heard Big Bird can roller skate, ice skate, dance, sing and write poetry. But come on, people, we all know those won't help the big guy rake in the money to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Roller skating doesn't help anyone get a job, thousands of dancers and singers get torn to shreds on whatever show Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell are on, poetry has been considered an art and ice skating ... ice skating?! Oh, wait; the NHL is still locked out.

Meanwhile, Snuffleupagus would be deported to Siberia, where scientists are working on cloning a wooly mammoth. At least for Snuffleupagus' sake, he could find true love. Let's just hope it works because it'll be a long time before scientists find another trace of wooly mammoth DNA.

While Big Bird is looking for jobs and Snuffleupagus is in search for true love, Bert and Ernie would be

Mitt Romney said if he were elected President of the United States, he'd stop funding PBS and their shows like Sesame Street and ... Sesame Street.

in search for an apartment that has a non-discriminatory policy against gays. They better hurry though, or else they're going to be put on the streets. No more rubba-dub-dubbing in the tub for Ernie. They'd be looking for anything to make sure that they're not forced to live with Oscar the ... hey, where did Oscar go?

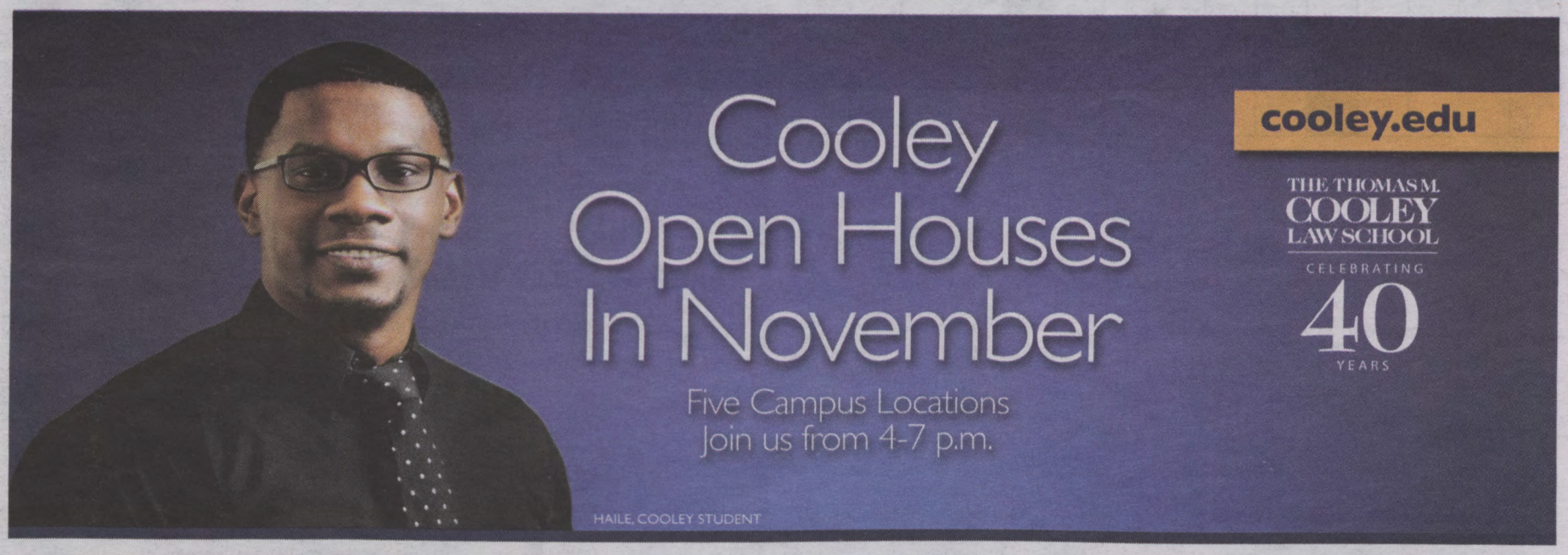
Apparently Oscar the Grouch would be evicted from his trash can. I guess it's hard to pay for aluminum trash cans these days. That's what happens when Apple has the idea of creating the iPhone 5 out of aluminum. But it could be worse; you could be Elmo.

I feel bad for Elmo. His cute and chaste personality won't help him, and as a result he'd have to resort to offering his services to those in need. And here comes the bad part ... Jerry Sandusky would be calling from prison, asking to bring Elmo in for a conjugal visit so he can further live his sick and delusional fantasy as the tickle monster.

Speaking of monsters, Cookie Monster's cookie supply would run out and he'd suffer from a massive withdrawal. He'd be tripping out and having visions, mistaking every circular object for a cookie. I guess Sesame Street's cookies were hardcore.

Thankfully Mr. Rogers kicked the bucket a few years ago, or else he'd have to be lending his house to all the unemployed. And for those wondering what happened to Lambchop, she went to the slaughterhouse.

So it seems like the future for everyone is gloomy, all except for The Count. Mitt was compassionate enough to keep him for the sake of counting all the money he's reaped off of the one, two ... 47, 47 percent. And while The Count would be counting all the money made, he'd be thinking to himself about where his friends are in the cold, cold world.



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Monday, November 12
AUBURN HILLS, MI

Tuesday, November 13
ANN ARBOR, MI

Wednesday, November 14
LANSING, MI

Thursday, November 15
GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Friday, November 16
TAMPA BAY, FL