

THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

May 11, 2011

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Volume 38 // Issue 1

adding allure

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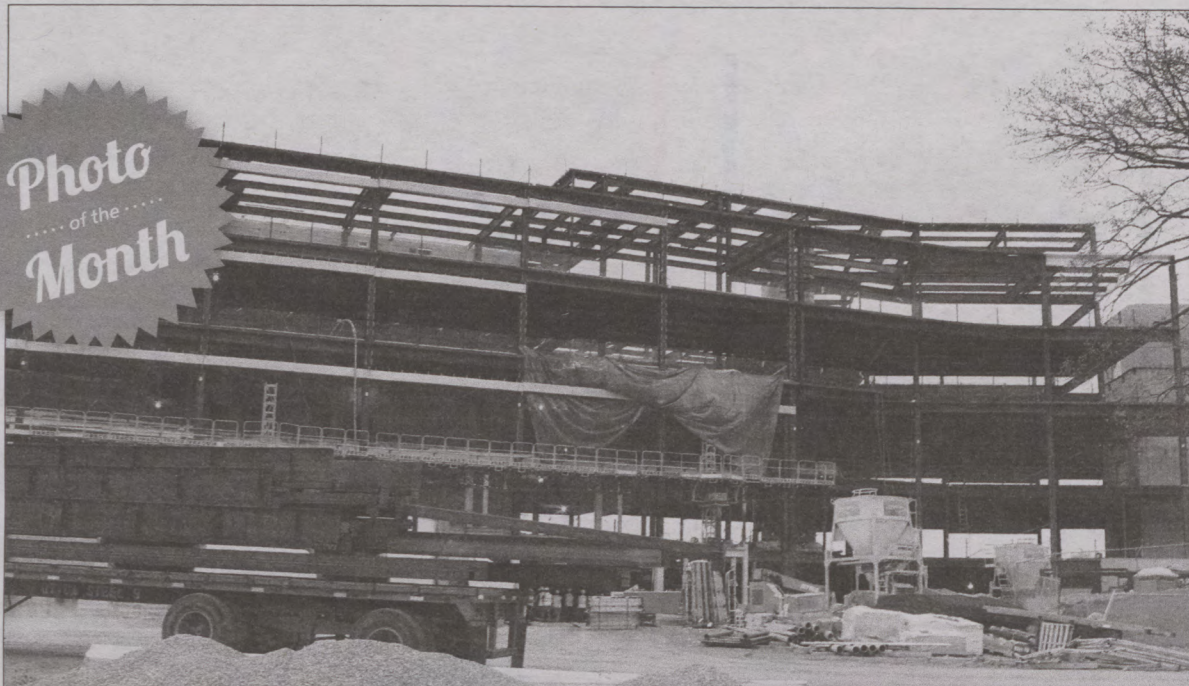
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JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

The Human Health building has come a long way since its groundbreaking in April of 2010. In recent months, the building has made significant improvements to the building that will house the School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences. The \$62 million facility is expected to be completed in 2012.



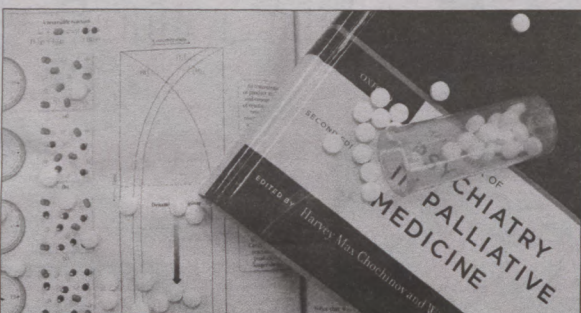
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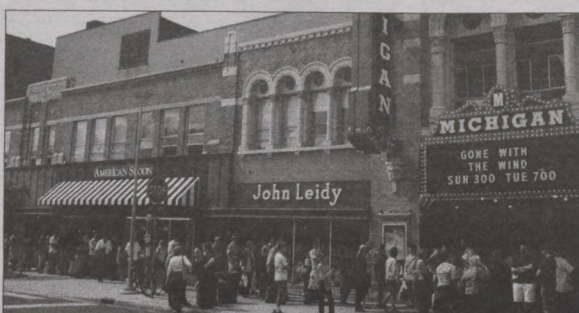
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THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

editorial & media

Kay Nguyen

Editor-in-Chief
editor@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4268

Kaitlyn Chornoby

Managing Visual Editor
visual@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2537

Nichole Seguin

Managing Content Editor
managing@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2537

Jason Willis

Design Editor
design@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4266

section editors

Andy Craig
Campus Editor
campus@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4263

Mike Horan
Sports Editor
sports@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Ali Armstrong
Local Editor
local@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Sarah Wojcik
Features Editor
features@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Kevin Romanchik
Scene Editor
scene@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

Mouthing Off Editor
mouthingoff@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-2848

copy editors
Clare La Torre
Shawn Minnix

web
Bryan Culver
web@oaklandpostonline.com

photographers

Sinead Cronin
Sierra Soleimani

senior reporters

Ray Andre
Megan Semeraz

staff reporters

Emma Claucherty
Brian Figurski
Kevin Graham
Sarah Hutton
Jomar Maborang
Mayuri Munot

staff interns

Brittany Haney
Tyrell Johnson
Sonia Litynskyj
Andrea Rivera

advisors

Holly Gilbert
Don Ritenburgh
(248) 370-2848

cartoonist

Kevin Hsieh

distribution manager
Sylvia Marburger

advertising & marketing

Tanner Kruse
Lead Ads Manager
ads@oaklandpostonline.com
(248) 370-4269

Krystal Harris
Jacqueline Lee
Ads Managers
ads@oaklandpostonline.com

STAFF EDITORIAL

Real school, real problems

In a recent Wall Street Journal op-ed, writer Caitlin Flanagan recounted her decision not to finish her education at the University of Virginia because of the presence of male fraternities on campus.

The column, which has drawn almost 1,000 comments to the WSJ website, notably called for the abolishment of all fraternities "to improve women's lives on campus."

Flanagan cites fraternity involvement as the reason for stifling women's advancement in education. That's because of the abuse of alcohol she associates with the organizations.

Flanagan argues that sexual assault goes hand-in-hand with the environment created by the alcohol and the misogynistic views she believes all fraternities have.

We can't argue against bettering campus life, especially when it affects a little over 60 percent of the undergraduate student population, but Flanagan's assertions make no sense.

Abolishing the four fraternity chapters on campus will do little to alleviate the problems Flanagan points out.

Most WSJ.com comments disagree with Flanagan's sweeping generalization of the Greek system and those who want

to get rid of it mention different reasons. The piece even spurred a New York Times "Room for Debate" feature where five academics battled their opposing viewpoints.

Oakland University is a four-year higher education institution and students who discount the school need to acknowledge this fact.

Even though it is frequently dubbed a 'commuter college,' the campus still has to deal with the same issues as other schools.

An investigation is being conducted by the federal Department of Education into Title IX violations at Yale University in light of an incident where Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity members shouted derogatory statements about women. People believe Oakland isn't a 'real' school like Yale due to its commuter status.

OU does deal with the very same issues, though. And the need to address them will only increase as the campus, and Greek community, grows into what administrators and students want it to be.

Another educational gap is created because a large percentage of students won't be exposed to residence hall programming and thus will probably never explore issues like alcohol consumption or sexual assault.

The National Institute of Justice reports that about one in every five women will experience rape or sexual assault during their time on a campus.

We're saying that sexual assault is not a prevalent problem at OU — there was one reported instance of a forcible sex offense on campus in 2009 — but it is nonetheless a matter worth talking about.

There is no proven direct correlation between the presence of fraternities on campus and the number of sexual assaults, so the picture Flanagan paints isn't entirely accurate.

However, it doesn't mean she is entirely wrong. Greek organizations, just like any other groups built on exclusivity, look for like-minded people to promote qualities they believe would carry out the message of their organization.

The Oakland community, Greek and non-Greek alike, should focus on creating a comprehensive program that will inform and affect all on campus.

As the university grows into a venerable institution, it's time to match student population growth with a similar amount of required educational programs. Changing the culture of the entire campus community will make a difference.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Kay Nguyen, Nichole Seguin
and Kaitlyn Chornoby
managing@oaklandpostonline.com



CONTACT US

In person:

61 Oakland Center, in the basement

By e-mail:

editor@oaklandpostonline.com

By phone:

248-370-4268

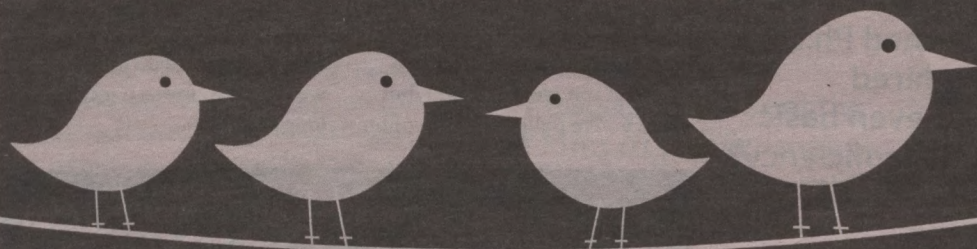
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OUSC wants you to let your voice be heard

GUEST COLUMN

From the new administration of Oakland University Student Congress, we welcome you to let your voice be heard. As your new Student Body President, I would like to introduce myself and our organization's goals to the student body.

The memories over the past year at Oakland University still resonate in our minds as the majority of students break into a restful summer. For returning students or incoming freshmen, you will have many more exciting and memorable experiences by the time fall semester begins. There certainly have been many exciting events that have occurred during the past year. Among them, they include OU's first BYOB Tailgate, Thomas Freidman's speaking engagement, the LMFAO/Girl Talk concert and many other diverse student life opportunities. I could truly say that I have really enjoyed these campus activities, and would certainly like to see events like these continue. We at Oakland University Student Congress believe it is essential to the vital-



**Ben Eveslage
and Elisa Malile**
Student Body President
and Vice President

ity of our growing community to continue engaging the university population. This will be one of our biggest priorities for the coming year.

Throughout elections, our campaign stood for supporting more on-campus events and for students to "express themselves."

The support for this mission reached the student body and resulted in the passing of the five dollar increase student activity fee proposal. This student activity fee, once approved by the Board of Trustees, will

allow the student organizations at Oakland to create and sponsor more on-campus events and programs. Looking ahead, this will help us reach our publicized mission in becoming a "student centered" campus as part of the university's Creating the Future II vision for the year 2020.

According to Student Activities Funding Board Chair Brandon Hanna, whose board reviews funding request for the student organizations here at OU, the number of registered student organizations has increased by over 50 in the past year. This increase allows SAFB to continue to support the number of student organizations financially and allows OU to promote itself.

Another exciting aspect for the coming year is an online network that is a new and revolutionary improvement, positively benefiting every student organization at Oakland University. The new program, dubbed "GrizzOrgs," will allow student organizations to have a new way to broadcast their message, interact with members and recruit interested OU students who are looking to get involved. It's like a Face-

book for student organizations.

Oakland University Student Congress will launch its GrizzOrgs page early this summer, where we will announce all of our plans for the upcoming year. These plans will include several green initiatives, like going to an entirely paperless office, to hosting campus-wide programs like a Post-Secret program, Rock 4 Rights, Middle East Awareness Forum, and a Soccer Tailgate.

You can be sure to have many great events to go to and be more engaged than ever with our new marketing plan, designed to deliver information that you are interested in.

We are looking forward to another great year at OU, where Oakland University Student Congress is already hard at work to deliver you the full "Oakland Experience" you deserve. We don't envision Oakland University building a school for the students, but the students building up Oakland University.

This is your university, and your say definitely counts... all you need to do is "Express yourself!"

Moodle has potential — professors should start to utilize it

Imagine being able to log onto a website to see your grades instead of having to email a professor or visit their office. That's what Oakland University administrators intended when they created the website Moodle.

Moodle has immense potential: it gives professors an easy way to keep track of grades, assign online quizzes and tests and provides an easier way to grade essays. It also allows them to see how students are struggling through the use of online discussion forums. But in my experience as an OU student, a majority of university professors fail to utilize it.

This past semester, I took a full course load, including three 300- and 400-level classes. Though one of my professors used Moodle regularly, updating more than once a day, my other two professors failed to even mention the program once, let alone put grades online.



Nichole Seguin
Managing Content Editor

Picture my fear at the end of the semester when my grades were only an estimate, calculated from my amateur math skills (I'm a journalism major for a reason) and my increase in anxiety when I couldn't find a copy of the course syllabus anywhere online. How are professors, let alone those who have earned Ph.D.s, getting hired without even basic Internet proficiency?

It made me wonder what makes the website so difficult to use. From what we see every time we log onto the blue (or multi-

colored if you've figured out how to personalize it) website, instructional classes for professors are always being offered, but it doesn't seem like they're taking advantage of the opportunity.

How are professors, let alone those who have earned Ph.D.s, getting hired without even basic Internet proficiency?

Professors should learn how to use Moodle to their advantage. For starters, it's an online grade book. If they keep up to date on posting what students have on each assignment, it should be really easy to configure semester grades at the end of the marking period.

Also, using Moodle eliminates

wasteful appointments and office visits. Grades shouldn't be a secret; they should be visible at all times.

Moodle allows students to be self-reliant. It gives us a break from helicopter parents and teachers, and lets us depend on ourselves for our grades.

For students, Moodle is a lifesaver. Yeah, it may cause a few headaches every now and then when it's not working right, but when you're pulling an all-nighter

and need to figure out if your 12-page paper actually needs to be 20 pages, the website comes in handy.

Professors, students generally work hard to succeed in your classes. It would be nice if you could work with us in making our busy lives a little easier. By developing a short routine of uploading our grades to Moodle you will do just that, and we would annoy you less in the long run.

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'Spruce'-ing up OU

Beautification program livens campus landscape

By **RAYMOND ANDRE**

Senior Reporter

Outside the entrance to Elliott Hall, a modest cluster of yellow and purple pansies tremble slightly in a young spring breeze. These plants require replacement every two years.

Subtle and delightful diversions like this may go unnoticed, but they require oversight and forethought, which begins with the Oakland University grounds department and its Campus Beautification projects.

"There's money set aside each year for sprucing up the landscape," Constance Jones, the university's newly hired grounds manager, said.

That reserve fund is used during the July first to June 30 fiscal year for planting flowers and trees, replacing dead vegetation, installing outdoor furniture and repairing irrigation systems.

"We have been averaging about \$125,000 over the last four years and \$100,000 this year for Campus Beautification," John Beaghan, OU's vice president of finance and administration, said.

Over the past four years, the Grounds Department has been busy working across campus.

Beaghan said funding went to landscaping and shrub replacement near the Oakland Center as well as Hamlin, Hill and Hannah Halls, the installation of flower beds, benches and trash bins, the planting of 500 new trees and the removal of 600 dead ones, irrigation repair around Bear Lake, the main-entrance island, as well as Walden and both Foundation Halls, and finally fence repair was also completed.

Andrew Olexa, a 25-year-old journalism graduate and OU alumni, said these projects are, "effective and necessary."

"The campus always looks good and, honestly, what kind of public image would a campus present if it didn't put effort into this?" he said.

According to Jones, the grounds department has only a few projects remaining on



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

The Oakland University Grounds Department works each year to improve the appearance of campus. Above, new trees are planted on the north side of the Oakland Center as part of the ongoing Campus Beautification Projects across campus.

its closing schedule for July 2010/June 2011.

"We'll be getting some trees to plant some time next month (May)," she said, "planting several flower beds and repairing damaged irrigation systems."

"The campus always looks good, and, honestly, what kind of public image would a campus present if it didn't put effort into this?"

— Andrew Olexa,
OU Alumnus
Journalism

These planting projects are planned to coincide with the delicate life cycles of the to-be-planted flora.

"Certain trees fare better when planted in the spring, so we'll plant them now," Jones

said. "Or grasses might grow better in the summer so we'll have to plan for that."

The grounds' itinerary, last updated in October 2010, lists seven planting projects that are currently finished. According to Jones, unfavorable weather has delayed completion.

She assures that she is confident that the remaining items from 2010/2011's checklist will be completed.

"We don't have an itinerary with set instructions such as 'We'll plant flowers today and trees tomorrow,' but between now until the end of June, we'll be planting those trees and flowers, and working to renovate the irrigation systems."

A full rundown of completed and remaining Campus Beautification projects, as well as photographs of what the matured plants will look like, are available at the grounds department tab on the university website.

campus briefs

Jewish Film Festival

A preview of the 2011 Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival is being hosted at Varner Recital Hall May 11-12. The four films being shown will be presented later this month by the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit. Public admission is \$7, while OU students with a valid I.D. card are admitted free of charge.

Meeting of Minds

The 19th annual Meeting of Minds Undergraduate Research Conference is an opportunity for students to showcase projects and creative endeavors. Since 1993, the one day event has offered a chance for collaboration across all academic disciplines. This year's MOM conference will be held at a handful of OU's campus facilities on May 13.

Transfer Student Orientation

Along with freshman orientation throughout the summer, OU also welcomes transfer students with a two-part transfer orientation process. Over the two days, Grizzlies-to-be get a firsthand look at the campus environment, meet with advisors, and ask questions about both campus life and academia.

Counseling Supervision Workshop

On May 20, Dr. Elyce Cron will lead the one day study of supervisory theories and skills for professionals and students in Pawley Hall. Dr. Cron, an associate professor of counseling at OU, will focus largely on the aspects of characteristics, behaviors and relationships within counseling.

— Compiled by Andrew Craig,
Campus Editor

Students get shafted by elevator maintenance

By **MEGAN SEMERAZ**
Nation/World Editor

Students taking summer courses should consider giving themselves a few extra minutes to get to class. Beginning this month, a variety of campus construction projects will be underway.

In addition to the ongoing construction of the Human Health Building, the list of summer fixes includes various elevator upgrades, new roofing and sidewalk repairs.

"We will be doing the Dodge Hall elevator, roofing for North Foundation Hall and Varner Hall, minor masonry repairs in the parking structure and Science and Engineering building, and several same mechanical projects," Terry Stollsteimer, associate vice president of facilities management, said. Stollsteimer said OU has over \$170 million in identified projects that need to be completed on campus.

Elevator upgrades are common renovations because they have to stay up to code.

"Over the last 5 years and based on age, inspections and wear and tear, we have updated infrastructure of elevators," Stollsteimer said.

Ryan Giorio, a senior engineer in facilities management, said that 8 elevators have been upgraded in the past 3 years.

On April 18 an email was sent to students and staff re-

garding the closure of the Dodge Hall elevator.

"This work will require some cutting, drilling and general construction on the first floor and basement floor hall, just outside the elevator," the email said.

Giorio expressed the need to reevaluate the condition of campus elevators. He said the Dodge Hall elevator is receiving maintenance in order to replace a jack that is over 40 years old.

Tiania Paul, a junior sociology major, has had experience with campus elevator closures.

"I worked on the fourth floor in O'Dowd and they cut all of the elevators off. (I was) having to do errands all around campus and walk up and down four or five flights of stairs, it's ridiculous," she said.

Sophomore Chris Ware, a graphic design major, suggested more construction should be done around campus, including adding elevators to residence halls.

"I feel like that (not repairing) is violating some kind of code," Ware said.

Paul was concerned about the elevator closures around campus. "There are lot of older people working at Oakland and they can't afford to walk up and down four or five flights of stairs," Paul said. "I feel like they shouldn't be doing everything all at once."

Students and faculty may disagree about the nature of



ANDREW CRAIG/The Oakland Post

Many campus elevators, such as this one in South Foundation Hall, are routinely inspected as state safety standards and university upgrades require.

the assortment of campus upgrades, but everyone who spends time on campus will be affected by the repairs taking place throughout the summer.

Opinions aside, campus improvement projects will be a staple of the 2011 academic off-season.

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CLIP 'N SAVE!

No summer recess for campus radio station

By KEVIN GRAHAM
Staff Reporter

Instead of silence over the airwaves of WXOU, summer is a time for new ideas, new hosts and even new sports coverage.

WXOU, broadcasting from the basement of the Oakland Center, continues operations year-round. Senior cinema studies major Phil Berard, station general manager, focuses on the advantage this gives them.

"We're going to look to bring in some new DJs over the summer," Berard said. "It's a good opportunity to set ourselves up for the fall when we have our biggest push."

Programming director Katie Hepfinger described the process for getting an application from concept on paper to a show on the air.

"We look it over and decide whether to give you a demo," Hepfinger said. "We then schedule a demo with you and then finally decide if you should get a show and whether or not it will be live or pre-recorded."

Hepfinger estimates they receive about 100 applications over the course of a school year. She explained what makes an application stand out.

"There's plenty of Top 40 music shows out there," Hepfinger said, citing the popular radio genre. "We don't mind if that's your thing, but show us some new element to it; something that makes it 'you.'"

According to Hepfinger, they look for shows with genres spanning talk, music and sports.

One thing that is making its return over the summer is the station's baseball coverage. WXOU is entering its second year providing tape-delayed coverage of university home baseball games. Sports director Matt Pocket talked about the pressure that goes with doing this kind of coverage.

"I think it's actually more difficult for a lot of people mentally to do a tape-delayed game because you're trying to fine-tune everything," he said. "The fact that they aren't live means that they should do everything perfectly, even though it's really the same broadcast."

He said baseball provides some different variables that can throw a curveball into the mix.

"Doing baseball is interesting because it adds the weather element to the broadcast," he said, something he hasn't dealt with since high school.



JASON WILLIS/The Oakland Post

Despite decreased activity across campus, it's business as usual for the crew at WXOU. Sophomore promotions director Sean Varicalli is a regular at the radio station. His show airs every Friday morning from 7-9 a.m.

He said the difference between handling basketball, the station's normal sports fare, and baseball, a much slower game, as well as the challenges of working with each.

"You can let the game flow a bit more, and sometimes just let the excitement of the game dominate the broadcast," he said

of basketball. "Baseball is a game that captures so many different elements. You have to set up the fans, the weather, the statistics, as well as the play of the game itself."

WXOU accepts applications year-round. The station broadcasts at 88.3 FM on-campus and online at www.wxou.org

OGL's aim for a fun, informative orientation

By ALI ARMSTRONG
Local Editor

It's that time of year. The sun is shining, orientation group leaders are wrapping up their spring training and the smell of free stuff is in the air. Orientation season is here.

"We are currently going through orientation training," Grace Webster, an orientation group leader, said. "We are all super busy with the 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. training, the homework, the weekly quizzes and anything else our Orientation Assistants and Central Staff see fit."

And with the new year comes new activities. Orientation is set to start this month and the Orientation and New Student Programs staff have been busy all year working at creating some new activities

for students this year.

Instead of a traditional campus tour, this year students will be part of a more contemporary college initiation, navigating their way around campus through a text message scavenger hunt.

Once divided into teams, students will be sent text messages with directions, clues and questions leading them to different offices and resources in and around the buildings on campus.

"We are actually taking students through this jam-packed day, taking them through all of these offices on campus and using all of these different resources. They have to actually text message in to get directions on where they are going, answers to questions and so on and so forth," Christy Van Solkema, coordinator of orientation and new student

programs, said. "We're really trying to highlight the resources that we want students to be familiar with."

Students attending the overnight orientation can look forward to a night full of games and activities, and a late night walk to Meadow Brook Hall.

The Midnight Mansion Walk, in its second year, is quickly becoming a staple of the overnight orientation sessions. The optional event allows incoming students to get excited about OU.

"You get into groups with your OGL and walk in the dark to the mansion ... we walk around the mansion and the OGL's will tell ghost stories. We felt it was important for students to get exposed to the mansion," Van Solkema said.

The recreation center will also

be hosting evening activities for students attending overnight orientation.

Students can choose from a wide range of activities like playing Wii or attempting an obstacle course. Some student organizations will also be sponsoring a community service project, where students can prepare hygiene packets for social service agencies, in the lower level of the recreation center. There will even be a student organization open mic night.

"They can go to one activity and stay there, or they can go around the whole evening," Van Solkema said.

While at orientation, students will also have opportunities to meet with academic advisors and register for their fall and winter classes.

The Spotlight Program teaches

students about on campus activities like student employment, academics and athletics through skits put on by OGL's. Through the program, students can learn about campus in an interactive fashion.

Van Solkema says that orientation is not only helpful and a good way to get acquainted with campus, but it is also required for all incoming students.

"Freshmen actually have a hold on their account that will not allow them to register for courses until they come through orientation ... It's not a one-time event, but it's really a process that they go through throughout the first year. It starts with orientation and we offer services after orientation as well," Van Solkema said.

New student orientation for the 2011-2012 academic year begins May 23.

Tuition, phone app discussed

By THOMAS BARRY
and KAY NGUYEN

Staff Intern and Editor-in-Chief

The Oakland University Board of Trustees approved a change in the tuition payment plan for students of the Beaumont Nurse Anesthesia Program on April 27, transitioning from a per-semester plan to one flat rate.

Citing that the current 20-year-old plan of paying by semester is no longer working for the school, Interim Dean of the School of Nursing Darlene Schott-Bauer requested the board implement a new flat rate payment of \$64,000 upon enrollment.

After deliberation over whether they legally could apply the changes under new laws put in place by Governor Rick Snyder, the Board agreed to approve Schott-Bauer's new policy.

The plan included a grandfather clause allowing current students of the anesthesia program to continue paying on a per-semester basis instead of one lump sum.

In her appeal before the board, Schott-Bauer said the program has a 100 percent employment rate for its students, that its 96 percent graduation rate far exceeds the

national average.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Virinder Moudgil spoke on behalf of the program and school at the meeting.

Schott-Bauer said that making this change in payment plans was vital to the success of the Oakland's program, which is ranked in the top 20 nationally.

"The importance of curriculum ownership necessitates that these positions be filled instead with School of Nursing faculty in order to ensure full accountability for the curriculum and the school's ability to meet accreditation requirements," Schott-Bauer said.

According to Schott-Bauer, the payment plan was too dependent on outside funding from Beaumont Hospitals. She said the new tuition rate would still be competitive, though.

Nilesh Patel, assistant professor of computer science and engineering, introduced a new Oakland University application that will be soon available for the iPhone, iPad and Android-based phones. Patel said the project said the application would become available in August or September.

Patel demonstrated that students will be

able to use Google Maps to find their way across campus and even help find a where their car is parked. An "OU Life" portal will allow students to receive postings from the university's Twitter feed and pictures from Tumblr. The "Toolkit" on the application lets students search for other students and check Kresge Library for e-books.

It also features a sports portal that is currently a work in progress but so far includes the fight song. Patel said the student group of developers hopes to partner with CBS Sports to complete the Grizzlies athletics aspect of the app. Patel told the Board he will keep it informed about the app's progress and that his team will update it over time.

"We believe we will be the only university in Michigan to have this," President Gary Russi said following the presentation. "There are very few universities in the country that are doing this. It's contemporary; it's keeping up with modern technology that I think is necessary."

The Board was also introduced to new student leadership. The newly-elected Student Body President Ben Eveslage and Vice President Elisa Malile were present at the board meeting.

police files

Counterfeit money found

On Monday, April 11, a student turned in a \$20 bill that was found in an East Vandenberg elevator. It was given to OUPD officers who were in the Vandenberg cafeteria. The student said he suspected the bill was fake. After an examination, it was determined that it was counterfeit and was kept as evidence.

Minor charged with possession of alcohol

On Thursday, April 14, officers came upon two individuals exiting a vehicle with intoxicants in hand. An OUPD officer saw the individuals place empty beer cans behind the guardrail on Meadow Brook Road. After officers questioned the individuals, it was determined that one was of legal age while the other lied about her age. The minor was then issued a citation for Minor in Possession of alcohol.

SDA brings familiar rhythm back to OU

By MAYURI MUNOT

Staff Reporter

The Street Dance Association, a multicultural organization founded in the winter of 2009 at Oakland University, is making its comeback this fall.

Nikki Veridiano, secretary of the SDA and senior nursing major, said that the group developed through three Oakland University students. In November of 2008, these students were working for a non-profit Hip Hop organization called FreeSoul Tribe. The SDA would later evolve from the involvement of those students.

Eventually, the organization acquired additional members along with a visiting dance professor as their faculty advisor.

"In the summer of 2010, I failed to find new leadership, so we lost our official status," said Ricjeareu Villaflor, president of the SDA and junior information technology major.

Villaflor said that he re-registered the organization this past winter semester. He

is slowly promoting the organization and creating events.

According to Villaflor, Michigan has a very unique break dancing and street dancing community.

"Break dancing has grown popularity among many college students, especially at Michigan State and Wayne State," Villaflor said.

Villaflor said to bring attention to this, he plans on holding a competition limited to college break dancers in the fall. He is also trying to create a smaller preview event this summer.

The fall competition will be held at the Oakland Center patio on September 10. Villaflor's aim for the summer is to acquire sponsors and headliners for the competition. Additionally, outdoor workshops/sessions are planned to help increase student involvement.

"It's been a couple of years since we've tried to hold an event at OU," Veridiano said. "We just wanted to let people know

that we are here. Even if they're not interested in dancing, they can learn about our respective cultures."

According to Veridiano, the SDA was initially formed to help raise money for charities and non-profit organizations. She said that the SDA worked with HAVEN and Deaf Professional Arts Network (D-Pan) in Detroit.

Veridiano said that the SDA is currently trying to recruit more members, specifically outside of OU. The group is trying to recruit more members from the Metro Detroit area for the fall competition.

Some of the various dance styles that the SDA teach and share include Bboying, Funk styles and House Dance, which originate from genuine Hip Hop and Street Dance; they teach what skills they have learned, ideas, history and politics to Oakland University's community.

More information about the SDA and its history can be found online at www.streetdanceou.webs.com

Domestic Violence Call

On Tuesday, April 26, OUPD responded to a possible domestic violence call in the Fitzgerald House. A male stated that he was going to leave a book for a female student outside his door. That morning, the female attempted to kick down the door and nearly broke off the handle. The male opened the door and she reportedly began to attack the male by biting and hitting him. According to the police report, the male tried to stop the female from attacking him by pushing her away. Officers at the scene also interviewed two witnesses. The female was arrested and charged with non-aggravated assault.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,
Scene Editor

Lacrosse goes national

By SHAWN MINNIX

Copy Editor

The Oakland University women's lacrosse team took part in the Div. II Women's Collegiate Lacrosse League National Championships held in Scottsdale, Ariz. May 5-7.

In the first game, Oakland played undefeated and second-ranked Chapman University from California.

The Grizzlies jumped out to a quick 2-1 lead, but some costly turnovers enabled the Panthers to run off four goals and OU was down 5-2 at halftime.

Oakland cut the deficit to 7-5, but that was as close as they came. Chapman went on to win the game 12-6, and two days later won the National Championship.

After the game, head coach Towbey Kassa thought the team had played well against the eventual champions, but a hot goaltender and a few errors cost the team.

"Honestly, we beat ourselves," Kassa said. "Once we turned over the ball, they would get it and score. We had a combined total of 32 shots on goal and only scored six times. We should have won."

The second game would not be much easier, as the Grizzlies played a familiar foe in Southern Methodist University.

The Mustangs eliminated OU from nationals last year by one goal, and also beat the Grizzlies earlier this year.

The Mustangs started off quickly, and with about 15 minutes left in the game held a 12-6 lead. After a timeout by

Kassa, OU started a massive comeback cutting the score to 13-12 with a minute to play.

On OU's final possession, Vikki Wallace had a chance to tie the game, but hit the post and the Mustangs ran out the clock for their third straight one-goal victory over the Grizzlies.

"The girls were worn down a little bit from the game before," Kassa said. "We knew what to do, we just couldn't put the ball into the net."

In their last game against Wisconsin River-Falls, the Grizzlies finally got the performance they were looking for, winning 11-9, improving on last year's eighth place finish.

Kassa was pleased with the effort that his team gave during the entire tournament, and thought it would serve them well for next season.

"Last year, when we went to national championships, we just played selfishly," Kassa said. "This year, no matter how done we were, the girls really stepped it up."

Kassa had other reasons to be delighted, as senior captain Ashley Krisfalusi was voted as Div. II Player of the Year. Wallace and Krisfalusi were also named to the First-Team All-Americans list as well, which he believes is one of the greatest feats he has ever had in his coaching career.

"This by far, having two All-Americans for the university and what it means, it is the most amazing accomplishment I have had in my life," Kassa said. "It's the most rewarding thing a coach could have."

After five consecutive divisional titles and two confer-



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Ashley Krisfalusi drives on a Saginaw Valley defender.

ence championships, Kassa expects another great season next year with a plethora of new recruits and the experience the team has had in the last few seasons.

"I'm expecting another divisional title, and another conference win," Kassa said. "With the amount of talent coming in, we're going to be six, seven, eight-dimensional and that's what I love."

Wings a game away from miraculous comeback

COLUMN

It was looking like the only flying the Detroit Red Wings were going to be doing was on their flights headed back home.

After a confident 4-0 sweep of the Phoenix Coyotes, the Wing's were flying high.

But with a 0-3 deficit against the same San Jose Sharks who sent Detroit packing last year, it seemed the Octopi had become Shark Bait for what looked to be the second season in a row.

Now the series has turned.

Detroit won Game 4 on a last minute goal and miraculously came back from 3-1 deficit in the



Michael Horan
Sports Editor

third period in Game 5.

Back in Detroit, the Wing's dominated the play, but again came from behind to win 3-1.

With the Wing's facing elimination, the pressure is on more than ever. Detroit will take on one of the hardest tasks in sports history trying to come back from

a 0-3 deficit to the series.

Three key aspects need to happen in order for the Wings to become the fourth team to complete the 0-3 comeback: the power play has come alive, the defense needs to continue to score, and most importantly Jimmy Howard needs to keep coming up big.

The power play has been subpar at best for Detroit. Going 0-for-2 in a scary Game 5 and 0-for-4 in Game 6, can't happen, especially in Game 7 back in San Jose.

As for the aggressive play from the defense, the scoring from the back line has almost single-handedly kept the Wing's in this series.

In Games 4, 5, and 6, defensive scoring helped the Wings avoid elimination.

Lidstrom tallied two goals in Game 4. In Game 5 Jonathan Ericsson and Niklas Kronwall each scored goals and in Game 6 Kronwall added another.

Without this scoring from the defenseman, the series would be over.

Lastly, Jimmy Howard needs to keep doing what he's done all series long; stand on his head.

Howard has faced an onslaught of San Jose Sharks shots in each of the six games, but has made some unbelievable saves and is slowly but surely quieting the goalie con-

troversy in Detroit.

It seems like whenever the Wings need Howard to come up with that one big save, he's there, and they're going to need him to come up bigger than ever in Game 7.

At the start of the series the Wings looked like a team ready to make it back to the Promised Land, but instead the San Jose Sharks came out looking to bounce them early again.

If the Wing's are to be the fourth team in NHL History to complete the 0-3 comeback, they may need a miracle, but this is Hockeytown and in Hockeytown anything can happen.

Slemmer overcomes two ACLs

By **SETH WALKER**

Staff Reporter

Ashleigh Slemmer has something to prove every time she steps inside Oakland University's Athletics Center Orena.

Despite having suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in both of her knees, she continues to compete on Oakland's volleyball team looking for every opportunity to make an impact.

Slemmer arrived to Oakland in 2008 after a prolific high school career in which she earned an All-State Selection and played in Ohio's state Division I all-star game.

However, she suffered a season-ending torn ACL as a freshmen in 2008, and then another one as a sophomore.

Head Coach Rob Beam himself had two ACL surgeries and believes the fact that Slemmer is still playing Division I collegiate volleyball after two serious injuries is remarkable.

"I can't even imagine how hard it must have been for Ashleigh to tear both of her ACLs back to back," said Adrienne Leone, a former teammate. "I just tore one and it was one of the most difficult things I've ever had

to deal with."

Slemmer described her rehab after her first injury as a "long process." She would spend two hours each day rehabilitating.

"It's definitely made me stronger," she said, crediting the Athletic Republic, where she was able to receive individualized physical training.

Slemmer admits that after her second injury it was easier to recover physically.

However, her second recovery took more of an emotional toll and there were times where she would sit in her car in tears after games because she was unable to play.

In spite of this, Slemmer continued to play volleyball as she could not ignore her love for the game.

In addition, she has learned that while certain things are beyond her control there are some things she can control and that is why she is always pushing herself, whether it is on the court or in the weight room.

"She is 100 percent committed to everything she does," Beam said, who credits Slemmer with being the strongest player in the athletic room.

Slemmer did not suffer any injuries during the 2010 season, but faced a new chal-

lenge: the struggle to perform at the level she played at before her second injury.

Beam revealed that when faced with injuries an athlete often recovers more slowly mentally than physically.

There were times when Slemmer struggled to execute plays on the court. She would even spend extensive periods of games on the bench, a situation she was not used to having after being such a key player before.

"It was harder than being hurt," she said. "I expect a lot from myself."

Leone believes, however, that Slemmer learned from this experience what type of player and person she is and felt she handled her new role well.

"She didn't get upset or have an attitude about the fact that she wasn't getting a ton of playing time," Leone said. "She cheered on her team and when she got the chance to play she did a great job."

Slemmer says she intends on returning to form and will trust herself more as a senior this fall. Her teammates look forward to her this and are quick to point out the impact she has on the team.

"As a player, her work ethic impresses me



BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post
Ashleigh Slemmer, back on the court.

the most," Bell said. "As a person, I am impressed at how high of a standard she holds herself to in everything she does."

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BOB KNOSKA/The Oakland Post

Senior infielder D.J. Jarrad takes a swing when at bat. He has a .297 batting average.

Grizzlies vie for late berth into Summit tournament

By SETH WALKER
Staff Reporter

Professional baseball players may be known as "the boys of summer," but at Oakland — like many other college campuses — spring is the season for baseball.

The 2011 season has been a challenging one for the Golden Grizzlies. However, there are several positives that occurred over the course of the season.

For senior infielder D.J. Jarrad, the biggest highlight of the season has been winning a four game series against Western Illinois after losing the previous two to IPFW and North Dakota State.

Oakland outscored Western Illinois 20-10 in its three wins combined.

"We had tough losses in both the North Dakota State University and Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne series and we could of just thrown in the towel but we came out, played some really good baseball and took 3 of 4 from Western Illinois," Jarrad said. This statement also emphasizes how the Grizzlies have refused to give up despite suffering 14 losses by three runs or less.

"It is very tough going out there day in and day out knowing that we have lost so many close games," Jarrad said. "The biggest thing with us is that we know that no matter what has happened we need to put it behind us and play until the last out of the last game."

Jarrad believes that the greatest strengths for the team this season have been its pitching and defense.

"The pitching staff has done a great job with throwing strikes, they have kept us in every game," he said. "Our defense has been strong as well."

Additionally, Jarrad believes that a large part of the pitching staff's success has been its confidence in the defense. Offensively,

Oakland has shown the ability to hit well and produce runs, but has struggled with consistency.

"The biggest thing that we need to work on is consistency with our hitting," Jarrad said. "Overall, we have hit very well but have been streaky."

Oakland began the season with a tough three game series on the road against

Oklahoma, then ranked number four nationally. Though the Grizzlies lost all three games in Norman, the team came away from the series with valuable experience.

"It is an extremely important experience for us each year to go down and play nationally ranked teams during our spring trip," Jarrad said. "Not only playing against the top competition but being able to experience the atmosphere, with sold out crowds and big stadiums."

Jarrad also believes that facing a team such as Oklahoma is the best way to help the team prepare for the Summit League portion of the season.

"We haven't played our best baseball yet and to still be in the hunt for the conference tournament, that's a great sign," Jarrad said.

Over the weekend, Oakland faced Oral Roberts, dropped the first three games, but were able to salvage the last game 6-4.

The Grizzlies continued their winning ways in a 12-inning 6-5 victory over Toledo on Tuesday.

Oakland will finish the regular season on the road with a game against Central Michigan in between two series against Summit League rivals Southern Utah and Centenary College with an outside chance to make the Summit League Tournament.

"We haven't played our best baseball yet and to still be in the hunt for the conference tournament, that's a great sign," Jarrad said.

Locals gather at opening

By MAYURI MUNOT
Staff Reporter

The Farmers' Market in downtown Rochester kicked off its 12th season on Saturday. Visitors enjoyed live music, children's activities and two drawings during the opening day celebration.

Located at the corner of Third and Water Streets, the market features a wide variety of flowers, fresh produce and other Michigan-exclusive products.

New to the market this year was a kids coloring contest. Children could color a picture of the market mascot for a chance to win a bike from the Rochester Bike Shop.

In addition, 500 farmers' market tote bags filled with special offers from local businesses, were given away.

Children enjoyed a scavenger hunt and an activity where they potted a plant.

"There's a combination of great things at the market," said Nancy Voges, marketing coordinator of Downtown Development Authority and market manager. "It's a nice gathering place and it's a great experience for families to

come down and interact with neighbors and people who grow food. They can help support local farmers."

One of the vendors at the market was Elya's Village Gardens from Macomb Township. They have been setting up at the market since the event started. Famous for the perennials, trees and shrubs.

"We love plants and we love people," said owner Byron Elya.

According to Voges, the market has a few new vendors this year. Some of the vendors include; Holy Cannoli, a pastry business that recently opened up downtown; Sticky Paws, a boutique pet shop that sells pet treats, toys and apparel; and Green City Committee, a committee that focuses on Oakland County green initiatives.

"We're all about promoting water conservation," Marilyn Trent, chairwoman of Green City, said. "You really have to be dedicated and want to make a change. The idea is do what you can."

Green City Committee will be holding a monthly farmers' market series to help promote the Green Living Festival, which runs from May 13-15.



MAYURI MUNOT/The Oakland Post

Locals gathered at the Rochester Farmers' Market on Saturday for their opening day celebrations.

The market will also feature a "vendor of the week" beginning on May 14.

"The market will highlight a vendor who will be given an opportunity to showcase their products, offer discounts, do a demonstration or do something special," Voges said.

The market will also be featuring a harvest basket weekly drawing in which the winner will win

an assortment of items donated by the Downtown Rochester Farmers' Market vendors.

Blues and jazz musician Paul Miles says he will be playing his guitar and strolling around the market this year.

"It's a great audience," April McCrumb, the owner of Catching Fireflies said. "We've been here the last couple of years."

Shoppers can expect to find

hanging baskets, floral arrangements, a variety of herbs and garden plants, as well as fresh-baked bread and other baked goods at the Toffee Store in the center of the market.

For more information about the market, its vendors and its seasonal produce guide, you can visit the Farmers Market section at www.downtownrochestermi.com

Downtown Rochester to host summer events

By TYRELL JOHNSON
Staff Intern

Summer is nearly here and downtown Rochester is getting ready for a season full of events.

With events that highlight green living, showcase movies under the stars and offer deals on the sidewalks, Rochester has an event for the entire family.

Green Living Festival

The four-day festival will inform attendees of eco-wellness programs and living. Visitors can learn about healthy living and alternatives to help promote green living. There will be exhibits, crafts, live entertainment, demonstrations, a green awards ceremony and even a parade. Party For The Planet, running throughout the festival, will feature live entertainment as well as organic food and drinks from local vendors.

This festival will highlight the commitment of local businesses and organizations to work towards a greener

future. Come May 13-15 to celebrate mother earth in downtown Rochester with food and entertainment. Admission is free and open to everyone. For more information, go to www.MIGreenTeam.com

Movies in the Moonlight

Want to enjoy a night watching a film under the stars? Come to Movies in the Moonlight and watch a film in the park. Films will be shown each night at dusk with a pre-show, food and much more. Iron Man 2, How to Train Your Dragon, True Grit and The Twilight Saga: Eclipse will be the movies showcased.

Admission is free and open to all, so bring your blankets, chairs and pillows and enjoy the film. Movies in the Moonlight will run July 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th at 126 E. Third Street. Featured movies begin at dusk.

Sidewalk Sales

Looking for a top deal that offers affordable prices? Then attend the 56th annual downtown Rochester Sidewalk Sale!

Sellers will be set up on the sidewalk with top bargains and children can enjoy the Krafty Kids Zone. Come and visit downtown Rochester July 14-16 to shop affordably and enjoy these once a year deals on the sidewalk.

If you are a person who enjoys affordable prices then don't miss out on this deal of a lifetime; take a walk in the city and enjoy the sight of bargain shopping.

The Big, Bright Ball

Get dressed up and ready to dance for there is a ball rolling in town. The Big Bright Ball benefits the Big Bright Light Show, which puts on a spectacular display of holiday lights in downtown Rochester every year.

Adult tickets are \$30 and children are \$10. Tickets are available now online.

All proceeds will benefit the Big Bright Light Show. Come to the Royal Park Hotel on July 31st from 4-7 p.m. prepared to enjoy great food, music and dancing.

For more information contact 248-656-0060 or go to www.downtownrochesterMI.com

Adderall use on the rise

By SARAH HUNTON

Staff Reporter

College students across the nation are finding new tools to help them focus on their studies — including the prescription drug Adderall.

Adderall is a prescription medication used to increase brain stimulation in patients diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). The pill improves their ability to pay attention to the task at hand.

According to research released by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), "full-time college students aged 18-22 were twice as likely as their counterparts who were not full-time college students to have used Adderall non-medically in the past year."

Although the medication is only supposed to be used by those diagnosed with ADD, students without the medical condition obtain the drug in order to increase their focus on school.

Students are able to obtain the drug either by going to their doctor and asking for

a prescription, or through illegal means.

To students at Oakland University, the statistic from the NSDUH makes sense.

Tabitha Budaj, a junior health sciences major, believes that part of the reason that so many college students take Adderall is because it is considered a step up from the energy drinks most of them drank in high school. Instead of caffeine, older students are turning to prescription drugs.

"The side effects especially for someone who has taken too much, and likely even for someone who has ADD can be nervousness, decreased appetite (and) sleep problems," Nancy Jansen, director of OU's Graham Health Center, said.

Students at OU have witnessed these side effects first-hand. Lauren Day, a health sciences major, knew a student who used Adderall.

"It helped him really focus and I feel like it drained him of everything else emotionally. It was freaky because he seemed like a different person," Day said.

Budaj had also noticed changes in her friend when he took the

drug in order to focus on studying.

"Usually they are like normal, but when they take (Adderall) they are turbo-charged," Budaj said.

For some students, taking Adderall may turn into a serious problem.

"I know someone who had it turn into an addiction. He takes it more often than he should to study and in general," Budaj said.

Antionette Henry, a junior majoring in public administration, has a friend who takes Adderall recreationally. He takes it so often that he barely rests or sleeps.

"He takes it at least six times a day, I'm with him quite often," Henry said. "It has no doubt turned into an addiction. He is quite dependent upon this drug. If he isn't able to access the drug, it's like he goes into withdrawal and has crazy mood swings."

"There is always some potential for abuse," Jansen said of the prescription drug. "That's why it's a pretty controlled substance."

It is always important that prescription drugs are obtained with doctor authorization. Adderall and other medications affect different people in different ways — these

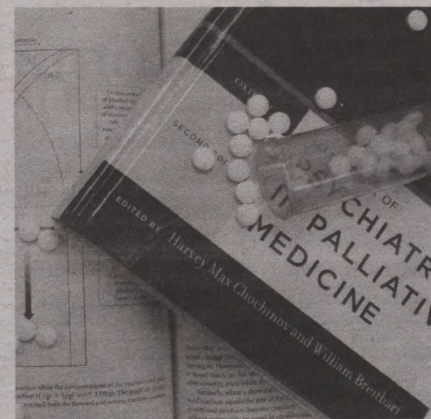


Photo illustration by Jason Willis
Students are turning to pharmaceuticals like Adderall to help focus while studying.

pills should only be issued and/or used with careful consideration of the patient's medical history.

According to Jansen, "Adderall could potentially cause a serious cardiac issue if (the user) has an underlying heart problem."

If you or someone you know abuses prescription drugs, contact the Prescription Drug Abuse Hotline at (866)-784-8911.

NEWS BRIEFS

A look at significant current news events from around the globe:

1. Ireland

Police in Northern Ireland say that an IRA (Irish Republican Army) dissident threw a home-made grenade at police officers, with children in the proximity. Police were braced for attacks made by IRA splinter groups because of recent elections who want show opposition to Northern Ireland's Catholic-Protestant government and peacemaking efforts.

Police were lured into the attack in Londonderry, Ireland's second largest city, when a bomb was reported in the area. No arrests have been made and police have asked the public to help find the attacker.

2. United States

Damaging floodwaters have ripped past Memphis, Tenn. and into the Delta region. The flood has damaged hundreds of homes, crops and businesses including 19 casinos that are important to Mississippi's economy. Forecasters say that the river will likely reach past the record high set in 1927. The flood's devastation will cost the government an estimated \$12 million in taxes per month.

3. Libya

As many as 600 migrant workers have been reported dead by the U.N. on Friday when a migrant ship broke apart. According to the U.N. refugee agency, there were some survivors, but many of them did not know how to swim, or were trapped beneath deck. The U.N. has blamed Moammar Gadhafi's government for the rise



in deadly smuggling incidents — at least 800 more people have been lost at sea in three additional boating incidents.

4. Guatemala

Former Guatemalan President Alfonso Portillo has been

acquitted on charges that he stole \$15 million from the country's Defense Department. According to AP reports, a panel of judges voted 2-1 to absolve Portillo and his former ministers of finance and defense. Portillo remains in prison by request of the United

States on charges of embezzling 1.5 million in foreign donations. Attorney General Claudia Paz said she would appeal the ruling.

— Compiled from AP Reports by Megan Semeraz, Senior Reporter

Campus crop cultivation

The blossoming culture of urban farming is growing at OU

By **BRIAN FIGURSKI**
Staff Reporter

With the metro Detroit area looking at urban farming as a viable option, Oakland University is making headway to become the roots for this blossoming culture.

Urban Farming at Oakland University (UFAOU) started out almost two years ago and has since sprouted a strong following on campus.

"Urban Farming was developed through a collaboration of three or four different campus groups, including Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)," Dr. Fay Hansen, professor of biology at Oakland University and advisor of Urban Farming, said. "Last year, getting the site started was quite a challenge. Right now, this looks much better than it did last year."

The organization has been making strides since its beginning; volunteers who have overseen the experimental project from the ground up could not agree more with Hansen.

"(Urban Farming) has come a long way," Stacy Armbruster, an Oakland University alumna, said. "When we first started, there wasn't much of a structure there. Our crop production last year was decent, but this year is going to be pretty great."

Continuing to get more students involved in urban farming and becoming more self-sufficient people, the introduction of a permaculture and organic farming class this spring/summer semester will help boost the associations fan base.

"The essence of organic farming is science-based and has a lot to do with knowing crop, insect and soil behaviors, and we integrate a lot of information into that," Hansen said. "The organic farming class is really going to form the underpinning of this garden."

The current centerpiece of the project, measuring out to

roughly 2,720 square feet, is in the beginning stages of planting the season's first crops.

The group is planning out the entire farming season prior to planting. They will plant dozens of vegetables to test how all adapt in the Eastern garden. Spring crops include radishes, peas, spinach, lettuces and beets.

"Hopefully our main summer crop will be cherry tomatoes and peppers," farm manager Jared Cameron Bogdanov-Hanna said. "We'd also like to do a lot of winter squash like butternut, honey nut and spaghetti squash."

The group's individual members all have their own reasons behind their interest in the organic farming process, but all talk in unison over the charitable ideas for where to place the year's yield.

"One of the primary plans is that we're going to be donating up to 500 pounds or more of produce to food banks in Pontiac, such as Grace Centers of Hope," Bogdanov-Hanna said. "We also have a goal of growing and getting this food into the cafeteria, grown by the students for the students."

While the gardens will be the main focus for some time, the group agrees that the land could prosper in becoming a haven for students studying and simply taking in the scenic views the property has to offer. This tentative idea would utilize some of the spacious farmhouses, in place of the now destroyed Varner House that once rested on the site.

"We have Lawrence Tech architects working with us on envisioning this part of the campus as a place that could be quite a community gathering for sustainability," Hansen said.

The serene site, located on the corner of Butler and Adams, south of Avon road, emanates the impression of being further from the city than the geographical



Daina Wolner, a senior majoring in integrative studies, volunteers at the farm located at Butler and Adams. UFAOU aims to "green up" OU and benefit local charities by growing their own crops.

Photos by SINEAD CRONIN/The Oakland Post

truth. Bogdanov-Hanna does not think there will be a problem in the Urban Farming getting a volley of new recruits this upcoming harvest season.

"Ecology and permaculture is a design system for building human habitats and food is a cornerstone of that. It is a blast being out here and working on the gardens," Bogdanov-Hanna said.

Urban Farming volunteers come from all over the spectrum, from biology majors to those seeking good workout in the sun.

"We've had some volunteers from the Oakland University Center for Autism Research, Education and Support, so that's another interesting collaboration we have where the garden is being used as a learning center not just for biologists or chemists," Hansen said. "The university has



Wolner and Dr. Fay Hansen sow organic produce, beginning the Urban Farming's planting season in early May.

been very supportive."

In terms of manpower and financing, Oakland University has been a firm backbone for Urban Farming in their recent uprising. The organization may be young on the surface, but dedicated volunteers such as Armbruster and Bogdanov-Hanna have the experience and are well aware of

the tough tasks that lie ahead of the group in the future years.

The permaculture class is scheduled for the second half of the summer semester under BIO 491 and is still enrolling students. If you are interested in getting involved with the urban farming project, send an email to urbanfarmersou@gmail.com



Student seeks Pepsi grant

Hopes to use money for special education

By KAY NGUYEN
Editor-in-Chief

Less than a dozen Michigan organizations have been able to snag Pepsi Refresh grants, but sophomore secondary education major Taylor Kosnik hopes that her idea will get people to vote.

Kosnik wants to bring school supplies to 30 special needs classrooms in the metro Detroit area through the \$10,000 grant she's applied for from PepsiCo.

The Pepsi Refresh Project, which began last year, doles out grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 monthly. Adjustments to last year's requirements have helped Kosnik set her plan into motion this year.

"People who don't have nonprofit status and younger individuals have a better chance," Kosnik said. "There are more grants and it makes it more easy for people who don't have a big organization behind them to get their idea in."

Applicants must complete a lengthy questionnaire. Each month, the top 100 ideas in each dollar bracket are promoted to be voted upon via text message or on the Pepsi website at refresheverything.com.

Voting for this cycle, which Kosnik's idea is competing in, ends May 31. She's named it United Giving Projects.

Kosnik is the philanthropy chair of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority and said she was inspired by her two siblings when she created this project.

"I was always seeing some of the things I thought the students needed while I was in my brother and sister's

classrooms," Kosnik said. "Access to the resources they needed weren't there."

Kosnik is studying Spanish and sociology at Oakland University, but has been "working for a while to start a nonprofit" and believes the Pepsi project is the best way to get "everything started."

Her twin siblings have autism and participate in programs put on by the OU Center for Autism Research, Education and Support.

She's also a "big volunteer with the Macomb Autism Society."

Kosnik said she found out about the Pepsi Refresh Project through one of the company's TV advertisements.

If her idea isn't successful this month, she has to begin the application process all over again.

The top 15 ideas in the \$10,000 division will earn grants to implement their ideas.

As of press time, Kosnik was in twelfth place. She'll be the first OU student to win a grant if her idea pans out.

"I'm kind of surprised and was really appreciative for all the support," Kosnik said.

She said the campus community has supported her in her endeavor.

"It's the benefit of being involved at OU," Kosnik said of her idea's wide success. "You gain so many connections and people who send your idea along."

Former student body president Kristin Dayag said she sees Kosnik as a natural-born leader. They were initiated into Alpha Delta Pi at the same time.

"In the sorority itself, she always

takes on a role and as the philanthropy chair shows a lot of compassion and believes that [charity] is one of the most important symbols of a sorority," Dayag said. "She cares a lot and she's always had a passion for it ever since she was little."

Dayag described Kosnik as a genuine person. She said she's using social media to help Kosnik get the word out about United Giving Projects.

She said she's also received a lot of support from teachers whose classrooms will be affected by the grant. Kosnik said she hasn't chosen 30 specific classrooms yet, but would consider "any school in metro Detroit."

She said if she were to win, she plans on personalizing the gifts made to each classroom.

"I don't want to give every classroom the same thing because they don't all need the same items," Kosnik said. "I want to adopt a project in each classroom so they can have a wishlist that includes sensory integration items, communication devices, academic learning materials and specific items like community learning passes."

Dayag, who recently graduated with degrees in public administration and international relations, said she hopes to work together with Kosnik to "make a great change."

Voters can view and vote daily for ideas in the running, including Kosnik's, at www.refresheverything.com or text 105826 to 73774 (PEPSI). More information about United Giving Projects can be found at www.refresheverything.com/unitedgivingprojects



Kathleen Pfeiffer
Associate Professor, English

Author of four books, Professor Kathleen Pfeiffer has a master's degree and Ph.D. in English and American literature from Brandeis University in Boston.

"In high school I liked English the best," Pfeiffer said. "That's what I enjoy most, (it's) sort of like a calling."

Pfeiffer has been teaching since she was in graduate school and has taught at Oakland University since the fall of 1997.

"She incorporated humor into her lessons and made everything at least somewhat relatable," Catherine Twigg, a junior majoring in communication, said. "She made sure that every student had the opportunity to do well and always managed to end on a good note that left you thinking."

Pfeiffer's most recent book, "Brother Mine: The Correspondence of Jean Toomer and Waldo Frank," was published last summer.

The book includes a collection of letters that were written in the 1920s between two friends and authors by the name of Jean Toomer and Waldo Frank. Pfeiffer was able to locate the actual letters that were written, make photocopies of them and add them into her book.

"It was difficult to place the letters in order, because many did not have dates," Pfeiffer said.

Pfeiffer has also been on the Academic Conduct Committee for OU, the group that reviews cases of suspected plagiarism and misconduct of students, for a total of nine years.

Pfeiffer said she enjoys being on the committee because it is a good way to meet professors from other departments, as well as students involved with the committee.

In her spare time, Pfeiffer enjoys tending her garden and her yard at home and likes to knit during the winter months. Pfeiffer also enjoys attending out-of-state conferences.

"Professor Pfeiffer added so much depth and insight to the material we read," Larissa Dourjalian, a junior majoring in English, said. "She kept everyone thinking and participating. Professor Pfeiffer has a very positive attitude and is so much fun to learn from."

This summer, Professor Pfeiffer is teaching ENG 342, African American Literature.

— Stephanie Preweda, Staff Intern

Skate shop chomps rivals

By SARAH HUNTON
Staff Reporter

Dan Bilan is an ambitious young man. At 19, the Oakland University sophomore has already opened his own successful storefront skate and snowboard shop in Auburn Hills called Skate Hungry.

Skate Hungry not only sells skateboarding and snowboarding equipment, but also serves as a hang out spot for patrons.

The shop provides an environment and community for skaters to discuss anything skateboarding- or snowboarding-related or to just play video games and watch skate videos.

"We play video games here all the time," Chris Dickerson, 20, an employee of Skate Hungry, said. "You'll see (Dan) in here all the time playing video games, but as soon as someone comes in he helps them."

The store originally started as an online store until Bilan saved up money, took out loans and opened the physical shop with about one-fourth of the inventory than he has now.

His family and friends helped him build shelves and tables.

As a "core shop," Skate Hungry is an independent skate shop, meaning that it is not owned by a huge corporation. They sell products created by companies that are not necessarily big names, but up-and-coming skate brands.

Because skaters run the shop, they have the customer in mind, not just profits.

"Dan always says to me that there aren't many skate shops owned by riders and it's

really important that we are," Dickerson said. "We're really here for the skaters."

Bilan said he sees a lot of skateboarders scared away from the sport because of the costs involved and he hopes to bring skaters back to skateboarding through his shop.

"I had actually stopped (skateboarding)," Dickerson said, "and when Dan opened the shop, it got me back into it I guess. He's a very persuasive man."

As a young business owner and skater, Bilan has an edge on his competition.

"I'm closer with the community because I'm one of them," Bilan said. "I'm not an older person trying to sell a skateboard. I'm right there with them — I know exactly what they want."

Dickerson agreed, saying, "I think it's an advantage that he's young. He knows a lot of the younger crowd, but yet again he also goes to OU so it's not just the younger (teenage) crowd."

When Bilan opened Skate Hungry in 2010, the decision did not come as a surprise to John Freeman, a special lecturer in the Department of Writing and Rhetoric at OU.

"It didn't surprise me when I found out Dan started his own business," Freeman said. "He could always converse with people on a broad range of topics with ease."

As far as the future is concerned, Bilan said he plans to change the way skating is looked at around the country.

He also plans on taking the industry back from corporations and making skateboarding more about the skaters and having fun.



Photos by SIERRA SOLEIMANI/The Oakland Post

Dan Bilan, 19, runs the laid-back skate shop called "Skate Hungry" in Auburn Hills.

"There's plenty of places that don't even have skate shops — they have to order online," Bilan said. "I don't want it to be such a corporate thing so I'm trying to go around and change it from 'skateboarding is glamour' to 'skateboarding is what it was originally founded on,' which was just

having a lot of fun, hanging out with your friends, you know, having a good time."

Skate Hungry is located at 2548 Lapeer Road, Suite 1, Auburn Hills and is open 12:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, noon to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

OU gaming guild takes hobby beyond video games

By KEVIN GRAHAM
Staff Reporter

When college students think of the word "gaming," one of the first things that comes to mind are video games. One student organization is taking the word there and far beyond.

When one walks into a gaming guild meeting on a typical Friday night, they might find an intense Halo battle going on in one room, a Dungeons & Dragons session going on in the next, as well as a discussion of the following day's anime group gathering. They consider themselves hobbyists of all sorts.

The guild is one of Oakland

University's oldest and most well-followed student organizations in terms of continued membership, according to the website. Many past graduates still return for the group's meetings.

One of the more recent initiatives of the guild has been a Halo workshop for girls.

"Girls get a little bit better learning from other girls," Gaming Guild secretary and workshop teacher Heather Marttila said, a graduate student majoring in software engineering.

She knows how complex the game is, especially for people that have never played first-person shooting games before.

"I was running around going 'I

can't shoot anything,'" Marttila said, referring to the time before she discovered she was better playing with an inverted aiming mechanism. "That was one of the first things I tested all the girls on: 'can you shoot normal or do you need inverted?'"

Because the Guild caters to such a variety of different interests, the mission and structure of the group is pretty fluid.

"There is no set structure," student guild member Ed Hong said. "The members are left to do more or less what they want (within the group setting)."

An example of the group's wide domain would be the activities of its anime offshoot, which

meets on Saturdays to discuss their mutual interest in Japanese animation.

"We've had anime since roughly the formation of the club," Marttila said. "We would host anime meetings which allowed people to discuss and watch anime they enjoy and learn about new series. We also encourage members to work on their own anime/manga projects and ideas."

In addition to its get-togethers, the guild hosts a variety of conventions throughout the year, including the recently held Michigan Pinball Expo as well as Michicon and Wintercon of Metro Detroit Gamers.

It is not necessary to be familiar with any particular game to be part of the guild, as members are willing to show the ropes to anyone who is willing to learn. The organization has only one goal in mind.

"(The) gaming guild allows for OU students to not only play a variety of games," Marttila said, "but to have a place where they can go to relax and meet other people who also enjoy gaming."

The gaming guild meets Fridays from 4-7 p.m. in Lake Michigan and Lake Superior B in the basement of the Oakland Center. The anime offshoot is not scheduled to meet during the summer.

Classic cinemas stay cool in the summer

Michigan theaters provide alternative to heat

By **BRITTANY HANEY**
Staff Intern

Bright neon bulbs, vintage carpeting and red velvet curtains might not be the first thing that comes to mind when Friday night rolls around, but if the Michigan weather is unforgiving heading to a local, independent movie theatre could be the best way to pass the time and experience something out of the ordinary.

With roughly 11 theatres spread across southeast Michigan, independent and foreign film cinemas have maintained a bold presence in their respective communities.

The large neon signs and vintage curb appeal are hard to miss when travelling through places such as Ann Arbor, Royal Oak, Bloomfield Hills and Novi.

"Ann Arbor is very lucky to have such a great support system for keeping these cinemas around," said Louis Dickinson, Front of House Coordinator for the Michigan Theater. "Many communities don't have the funding to restore them."

While state-of-the-art theatres like Emagine Theatre in Rochester Hills may be drawing large crowds, Dickinson sees comparable appeal at the Michigan Theatre.

"Back in the day going to (classical) theatres was a big event and now we still have close to 200 people visiting our cinema for films, concerts, weddings and graduation ceremonies," she said.

Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor

Built in 1928 by the W.S. Butterfield Company, the Michigan Theater boasts a large auditorium with a full curtained stage

and seating for 1,700 people along with a screening room capable of seating 200.

Each room is wired for a remarkable sound experience while maintaining a vintage, elegant appeal.

Shows include: documentaries, independent films, foreign and classical films, and are shown every day of the week at a variety of times ranging from 1:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

If popcorn made with real butter tops off the movie-going experience, then the Michigan Theater is the place to indulge.

Birmingham 8 in Birmingham

If the older style of cinema is appealing, then the Birmingham 8 is the perfect blend of history with a modern movie experience. Originally built as a single screen movie theatre in 1927, the Birmingham 8 has been restored and expanded into a stunning eight-screen cinema.

First-run films are shown at a variety of times starting at noon and running until midnight.

Maple Art Theatre in Bloomfield Hills

Heading northeast of Ann Arbor and into Bloomfield Hills, one will find the Maple Art Theatre. Built in 1974 as part of a large chain owned by Landmark Theatres, this cinema was the first of its kind in the area.

With a more modern appeal, the Maple Art provides three screens, comfortable seating and a variety of movie genres to choose from, such as independent, foreign, newly released and 3-D.



JEFF WILCOX / Flickr Creative Commons
Outside of the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, MI people wait for a screening of a film to begin.

A great selection of movie snacks and popcorn can also be purchased before heading into the theatres at the many concession stands outside the auditorium entrances.

Prices of Admission

MICHIGAN THEATRE

General admission : \$9.00
Student with valid ID : \$7.00
Shows before 6:00 PM : \$6.00
Miles from OU : 70

BIRMINGHAM 8

General admission : \$9.25
Student with valid ID : \$7.00
Sat/Sun before 2 p.m : \$5.00
Miles from OU : 11.3

MAPLE ART THEATRE

General admission
Before 6:00 p.m : \$5.00
After 6:00 p.m : \$6.00
Miles from OU : 12.8

records & reels

FLEET FOXES // "Helplessness Blues"

Fleet Foxes returns with a fantastic follow-up album nearly three years after their self-titled debut. The sophomore disc, trekking forward with the sound the band established in 2008, transitions effortlessly between tracks, floating in a folk-blues dreamscape. The band draws its influences from classic acts of 60's and 70's with acts such as America and Van Morrison come to mind.

MY MORNING JACKET // "Circuital"

The Kentucky boys have returned again with their sixth studio cut, a spectacular album that both covers new ground for the group while keeping in touch with their southern roots. "Circuital" is composed of 10 lengthy and epic tracks, layering the acoustic pickings with an array of instruments from orchestral violins to hallowed church bells. This is another fantastic outing from a band that continues to assess the boundaries of their musicianship.

"BRIDESMAIDS" // 125 min. // R

SNL starlet Kristen Wiig plays Annie, desperate and broke maid of honor for her best friend Lillian (Maya Rudolph). With one shot to prove to Lillian and her colorful group of bridesmaids that she can pull this off, Annie must survive through the various costly and ridiculous rituals.

— Compiled by Kevin Romanchik,
Scene Editor and Brian Figurski,
Staff Reporter



Photo courtesy of Michigan Adventurers Club

In September 2010, the Michigan Adventurers Club organized a backpacking outing near Gaylord, Mich at the Shingle Mills Pathway. MAC events welcome all current members.

'Time, effort and heart'

Organizations are motivating citizens to get up off the couch

By **BRIAN FIGURSKI**
Staff Reporter

Summer is officially upon us, and there are many fun ways to get out into the sun this year. The patio at the hottest bar in town is now open, but there are plenty of other energetic ways to enjoy the outdoors this season.

Clubs such as Michigan Adventurers Club (MAC) and Metro Detroit Athletes (MDA), as hosted on **meetup.com**, hold events welcoming outdoor enthusiasts or newcomers.

"I had been looking for people to play sports with most of my adult life," said Jim Stange, creator of MDA and assistant organizer in MAC. "I realized there was no general purpose sports group in Michigan, so I took it upon myself to start one."

Clubs like these are growing at a rapid pace.

According to Charity Loring, current MAC organizer, the Michigan Adventurers Club has had consistent growth over three years, starting with eight members to the current total, well over 2,000 members.

The growth is a reflection for the interest in outside activities in the metro Detroit area.

MAC and MDA utilize tools to create large-scale group meetings, which is a difficult task when relying on word of mouth through a group of tight-knit friends.

"(MAC is) the largest **meetup.com** group in Michigan," Stange said. "Wonderful people, anyone who cares about the outdoors and being active should be inspired."

A good example of a big event hosted by MAC is skydiving, currently scheduled for June. The cost of a jump is significantly

"Watching lifelong friendships, memories and adventures grow over time keeps us inspired."

— Charity Loring
Michigan Adventurers Club Organizer

lower in a larger group setting compared to the price of a small group of people.

The organization is also effective in bringing together a canvas of people who share similar interests.

"We have people of all cultural backgrounds, age groups, careers and gender," Loring said. "Our members are all different from one another in most aspects, yet they all get along and bond during our adventures."

While both groups share a common goal of promoting an active lifestyle, the difference between the two outfits is that MAC focuses on cardiovascular activities in nature like hiking, biking and water-based travel such as kayaking or rafting.

MDA on the other hand, has an emphasis on fair and friendly competition through a

variety of sports.

"The point (of MDA) unlike leagues, is not necessarily to win, but to keep teams as even as possible so that everyone is having fun," Stange said.

Fueled by the end results of a successful outing, the organizers of these groups take pride in their volunteer work by motivating others to get outside and be active in their lives.

"My goal is to make everyone feel welcome, inspired by the outdoors and feel part of a second family," Loring said. "We try to provide as many activities as possible for our own happiness and the fulfillment of seeing that it brings other happiness in our group."

The joy in seeing others get active sustains the groups' ideas, but the personal interactions between members results in a deeper connection.

"A lot of time, effort and heart goes into creating each adventure," Loring said. "Watching lifelong friendships, memories and adventures grow over time keeps us inspired."

Both the novice to healthy living and health-conscious veteran can benefit from participating in the activities provided by groups like MAC or MDA.

As long as more people are feeling invigorated to get under the blue summer sky this year, team leaders like Loring and Stange have accomplished their goal.

UPCOMING ADVENTURES

MDA Events

- Ultimate Frisbee Monday nights 6 PM all summer at Harding Park in Ferndale
- Pick-Up Sand Volleyball Friday evenings 5:45 p.m. Ricky Miles Music Café in Warren
- Fitness Boot Camp Saturday mornings in May at 8 a.m. at Novi United Methodist Church

MAC Events

- Tour de Cure Bike Ride Saturday June 11 at 8 a.m. at Brighton High School in Brighton
- Skydiving Saturday June 25 at 10 a.m. at Capital City Skydiving in Fowlerville
- Kiteboarding Saturday July 2 at 11 a.m. at Great Lakes Kiteboarding in St. Clair Shores
- Overnight stay on a WWII Submarine Friday August 5 at 6 p.m. at Great Lakes Memorial Museum in Muskegon

Festivals create summer memories

COMMENTARY

By **CLARE LA TORRE**
Copy Editor

The snow is finally gone and the arrival of summer brings many long-awaited things with it, but the best one? The music.

Whether you enjoy the trendy, the lesser known, or just the classics — if you have money to burn or are looking for a free show — if you're willing to invest your time on the road, or if you're looking for something closer to home — there's a festival for you.

The season starts with Bonnaroo. Manchester, Tenn. is the home of this well-known show June 9-12. Stages will be open to Eminem, Arcade Fire, the Black Keys, Mumford & Sons, Gogol Bordello and even comedians like Lewis Black. Tickets are \$249.50. Not a prepared camper? Rent a tent for an additional fee or book a room in a nearby hotel.

In Michigan the Rothbury's Electric Forest festival June 30 - July 3. Four-day passes are \$239.50. Music includes Stephen Marley, REO Speedwagon, EOTO and more.

Enjoy the festival's namesake — the Sherwood Forest — a relaxing scene during the day, but once the sun goes down it becomes the electric forest, dripping in brilliant light displays — the perfect party spot.

August 5-7, Lollapalooza occurs in Chicago. Passes are \$215; save money when you book a room online with participating hotels. As usual, Lollapalooza features the Foo Fighters, Coldplay, Muse, Bright Eyes and the Kills to name a few.

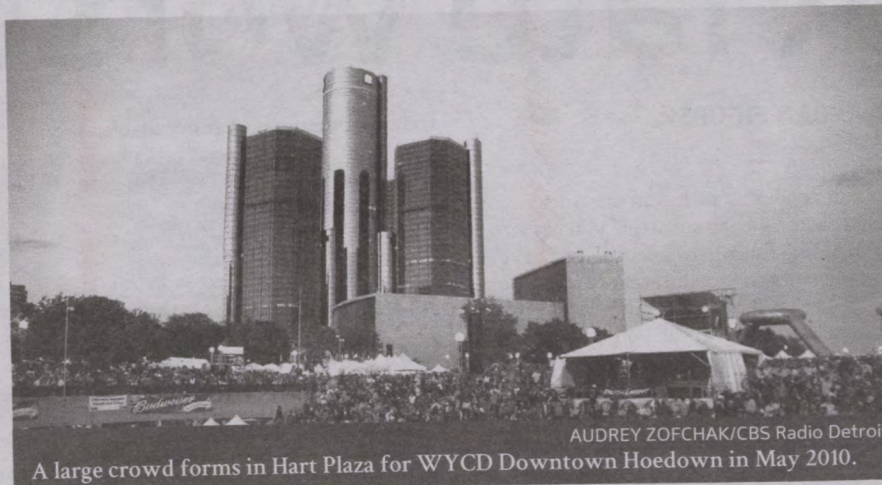
Detroit plays host to traveling festivals too. The Vans Warped Tour returns to Comerica Park July 8 and tickets are just under \$35. The line-up for Detroit includes Less Than Jake, The Wonder Years, The Devil Wears Prada, A Day To Remember and more.

Lisa Coppola, a mathematics junior is a regular of this pop-punk gathering.

"I've been going to Warped Tour for years— since I was still a preteen, I go because it's the one time I get to see all my favorite bands together at one show."

Coppola enjoys the personal aspect of the show.

"I've also had some fun opportunities meeting bands," she said. "For example, a few years ago I had the opportunity to



AUDREY ZOFCHAK/CBS Radio Detroit
A large crowd forms in Hart Plaza for WYCD Downtown Hoedown in May 2010.

meet Every Avenue because I mistakenly got into their fan line."

Save money with local shows like the WYCD Downtown Hoedown May 13-15, or the Detroit Jazz Festival September 2-5. Both are at Hart Plaza and are free to attend.

Alicia Mocer, an exercise science major, has attended the Hoedown for several years and believes the free entry helps

fans to focus on the music and atmosphere rather than cost.

"I love getting dressed up and heading to Detroit," Mocer said. "It's true country fans."

Every Memorial Day weekend, the Detroit Electronic Music Festival showcases the best that the genre has to offer.

Get out of town, or stay close to home — either way, music will fill the air.

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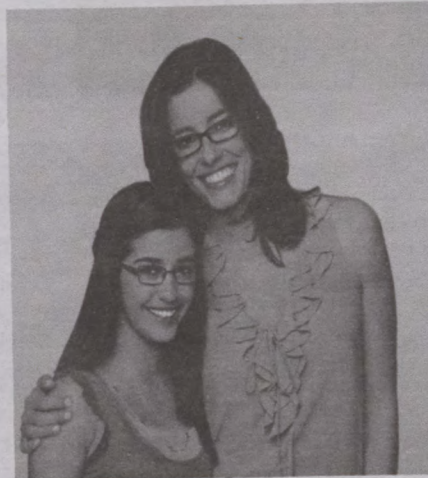
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A fate worse than death

By **BRIAN FIGURSKI**
Staff Reporter

Unless your name has an uncanny rhyme to yo mamma been squattin,' you haven't been hiding for nearly a decade and have had regular access to Internet, television, and other modern commodities.

I am going to go ahead and make an ass out of the both of us and assume that you are fully aware of the death of Osama bin Laden.

I will also assume that you, average American, are the ones who have been partying in the name of the al-Qaida leaders exoneration, cheering in front of the White House, blaring "Celebration" into the wee morning hours in my condominium parking lot.

Killing terrorists. It's as much an American cliché as apple pie and baseball, right?

I find the sight of the masses hoarded, jubilating the death of another human being, no matter how despicable, an act more sadistic and demented than the average

train of thought even I am capable of.

Let's get down to brass tacks here. I'm done sugarcoating the issue. I'm going to be blunt and blurt this out.

I support a cause even more American than putting a bullet into someone, and this cause is extraneous torture.

I wish Osama bin Laden were still alive.

Hold off the swarm of threatening letters, please! Here me out before you pelt me with tomatoes and claim me to be un-American.

While I am not in favor of euthanasia under any circumstances, I agree this man has been a threat worthy of America's radar and his eminent death was not a surprise in the slightest.

I support a cause even more American

than putting a bullet into someone and this cause is extraneous torture.

If you're going to dehumanize this man and kill him in cold blood, we might as well reap some benefits out of keeping him breathing.

Osama bin Laden, a vile man responsible for the deaths of thousands of Americans, was simply put out of his misery with a couple bullets from American troops.

Wouldn't it be a much worse punishment to clamp his eyelids open and replay the Royal Wedding until the natural end of his days?

Sit him under heat lamps with repetitive plays of the Katy Perry/Kanye West disaster "E.T.?"

Think of all the things we could have done with this heinous man for profit! Dunk contests at the carnival. The star of his own terrible reality TV show. The income could have gone straight back into our economy and we can finally stop fueling the destructive lives of those "Jersey Shore" brats.

We could have cut the deficit in half with "Get your picture taken with a terrorist." We should have had the brains behind plans like this back when we had Saddam swaying from the gallows.

A little late for all the multi-million dollar ideas now, however.

Jokes aside, these ideas are even more despicable than what has actually happened to him.

The best thing we could have done to him is took him captive and shoved him into solitary isolation for the rest of his life. Maybe we should have given him a TV so he could interpret and tell everyone exactly what the hell is going on in those "Judas" videos by Lady Gaga.

Bottom line here — the idea of celebrating the death of another human being is appalling and many Americans have been cracking cold ones recently. No death should ever be celebrated.

Good riddance, a heinous man is extinct. Now stop popping champagne bottles like ignorant douches and get back to work.

The best to trump the Donald

By **BRIAN FIGURSKI**
and **JOMAR MABBORANG**
Staff Reporters

With all the hullabaloo about Donald Trump considering a run at the presidential chair, we scoff at the sheer idea and offer a list of people better suited for the job.

10. Ivanka Trump

If a Trump family member were to run, let it be someone that would look awesome in a red, white and blue bikini.

9. Watson

This supercomputer whose recent engagement earlier this year with the show "Jeopardy" can control the world if it wanted to.

What is Robots Rule for \$1,000, Alex?

8. Princess Kate

The Brits have seized our airwaves as of late; let's see if they can sway the American public to pay more attention to soccer.

Excuse me, I mean futbol.



7. Mark Zuckerberg

As the founder of Facebook, he can prioritize and organize the presidential cabinet as a group while shattering the record of the youngest president ever, adding to his previous achievement of the youngest billionaire.

6. Steve Jobs

Could you imagine a feature that would auto-update the community about presidential stuff? There's an app for that!

5. Stephen Colbert

Colbert campaigned mockingly during the '08 election and has a grasp on modern politics. Colbert would inject the truthiness this country desperately needs, and that's "The Word".

4. Dick Cheney

Since the country is on a recent swing of killing our enemies, give our leader a gun and you're guaranteed he'll put a hell of a hole in someone.

Let Cheney loose in Afghanistan and he'll tag someone.

3. Arnold Schwarzenegger

He said "I'll be back". The Terminator could use his tenure to deadlift the forerunners of the oil crisis into submission until they cry like girly-men.

2. Roomba Cleaner

Plugged in for a few hours, this gadget's only goal is to clean for hours — exactly what the White House needs after the last few Commanders in Chief.

1. Harrison Ford

As President James Marshall from "Air Force One," he protected the presidential plane; give the man with the iron cojones to control of the real Air Force One.

Imagine a fifth installment: Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Oval Office.

**GOT
SOMETHING TO
MOUTH OFF
ABOUT?**



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