

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

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A NEW DECADE IS UPON US

LENTINI TO LEAVE

Provost enters last semester at OU
before heading to New York

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MUSIC OF THE DECADE

Oakland Post staff discusses best
albums of the 2010s

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LEAGUE OF GRIZZLIES

Esports comes to Oakland as a
varsity sport

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PHOTO BY MAGGIE WILLARD

THIS WEEK

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



“HALAL” GOOD Students have a new dining option to kick off the new semester with the addition of The Halal Shack, which opened in the Oakland Center food court to replace Moe’s Southwest Grill. PHOTO / NICOLE MORSFIELD

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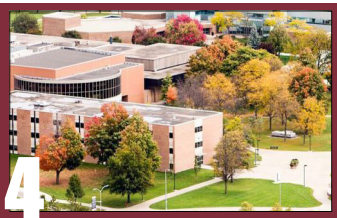
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South Foundation renovations to include accessible learning spaces
Photo/Oakland Post Archives



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J.J. Abrams offers a fitting, yet flawed, finale to the “Star Wars” film franchise
Photo/IMDb



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MSU defeats OU in men’s basketball for the eighteenth consecutive time
Photo/Sergio Montanez

POLL OF THE WEEK

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO AVOID BEING DRAFTED FOR WORLD WAR III?

- A) BECOME A HOUSEWIFE
- B) MENTAL ILLNESS CHECK
- C) STAY A STUDENT FOREVER
- D) JOIN A RELIGIOUS CULT

LAST ISSUE’S POLL

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?



CAMPUS

Provost Lentini accepts position as president at Molloy College

LAUREN KARMO

Campus Editor

Provost James Lentini will be leaving Oakland University to serve as the president of Molloy College in Rockville Center, New York, located just outside of Manhattan. With the winter 2020 semester being his final at OU, many are reflecting on the work and achievements Lentini has had as a Golden Grizzly.

"In these past few years working with Provost Lentini, I have appreciated the time spent alongside a dedicated academic, administrator and compassionate professional who demonstrates every day that he has the welfare and success of students as his highest priority," President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz said in a statement.

Lentini began his tenure six years ago, but the Detroit native always had a local connection to OU.

"I'm a native Detroit — grew up on the east side, and went to high school on the east side, so it's in my blood," Lentini said. "I was a faculty member at Wayne State for 15 years, I knew Oakland from way back when. I had friends here, actually performed here a couple times — I'm a musician."

After working as a dean at Miami University of Ohio, Lentini heard about the position opening for provost at Oakland and felt the need to return to his roots.

"We built a home in Ohio, but there was a bit of a tug, it was attractive to come home, so I did," Lentini said.

While at Oakland, Lentini worked to streamline leader-



NICOLE MORSFIELD | PHOTO EDITOR

Provost Lentini will leave OU at the end of the winter semester to serve as president at Molloy College.

ship, create programs for the students and faculty to participate in and improve student success across the board.

Since 2013, Lentini saw a 10% increase in graduation rates, doubling the four-year graduation rate, raised the university's Carnegie Classification from R3 to R2 through increasing doctoral and research programs and partnered with Oakland Community College (OCC) to increase transfer rates. He also guided the William Beaumont School of Medicine through its first graduating class in 2015, and he helped to both create and restruc-

ture departments across campus to better serve students, most notably the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, Office of Research, the Graduate School and the Office of Student Success.

Lentini will be moving on to Molloy College, a smaller, private Catholic institution on Long Island. Molloy has a large nursing school among other similar programs that Lentini is familiar with from his tenure at OU.

"Arts is pretty big there, which is my personal background," Lentini said. "They have a program there called CAP 21, which is a musical theatre program in Manhattan, that's a fun thing. My son is a musical theatre major ... we're going to an exciting area, with my family being artists, with myself a musician, New York is an attractive opportunity for us."

President Pescovitz and other administrators are currently conducting a search for Lentini's successor. They plan to document updates and allow for community input on the OU website some time this month.

While Lentini will be missed, many are very excited for his next chapter in his career. He remembers his time at Oakland fondly, and he is proud of the student success he had helped to facilitate.

"After I first took the position, in '13 or '14, I performed a recital with my wife Dana in Varner Hall," Lentini recalls. "I was able to practice a little more in those days ... being able to represent OU in some ways ... have been great experiences for me."

Ecology class connects with Pakistan, Guatemala

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

In an effort to help improve global education and understanding, Oakland University's Office of Global Engagement has received two grants to help educators and students in Pakistan and Guatemala.

The grants, both from the U.S. Department of State, are the \$400,000 Exchange for Pakistani Secondary Educators and Administrators: Equity, Access and Learning Disabilities in Secondary Schools grant and the \$25,000 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund. These grants mark the first time OU has worked with Pakistan and Guatemala.

The Pakistan grant will bring 18 teachers and two administrators from Pakistan to help develop an understanding of learning disabilities and develop teaching strategies to accommodate affected students over two five-week periods in 2020 and 2021.

"This is at a very basic level for these

teachers who may not understand how learning disability and learning difference is affecting students in their classroom," said Rosemary Max, executive director of global engagement. "It is a basic review of understanding how we see these issues in the U.S., how they manifest themselves in the classroom and how they [teachers] might adapt or understand what is happening in their own classrooms in Pakistan."

At OU, Pakistani educators will attend seminars on learning disabilities and visit The Joanne and Ted Lindsay Foundation Autism Outreach Services (OUCARES) to learn about its programs. There are plans to visit local classrooms, and each yearly session will also include a cultural trip to either Chicago or Philadelphia.

The 100,000 Strong grant will have biology students from the Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala (USAC) coming to OU as a part of the Tropical Field Ecology class.

"For the first time, in the summer of 2020, OU students are ... going

to Guatemala for approximately a 10-day-long course," ecology professor Dr. Scott Tiegs said. "What is special about this ... is that after we go there, a group of Guatemalan students will be returning to Michigan."

When in Guatemala, the students will be looking at the myriad ecologies of the Central American country. The USAC students will be staying on campus and studying the freshwater ecology of Michigan at the OU Biological Preserves, Galloway Creek and the Au Sable River in Grayling.

"When people think of the tropics they typically think of rainforests and coral reefs," Tiegs said. "One thing I like to do with my class is to expose them to the diverse types of ecosystems that can be found in the tropics."

Some of the ecosystems Tiegs plans on showing the class include rain forests, cloud forests and mangrove forests along the Caribbean coast.

Aside from the educational portions of the 100,000 Strong grant, there is a cultural portion to the trips. Visiting

students will improve their understanding of their host nation's languages and do other cultural activities. In Guatemala, OU students will visit the city of Antigua and learn how indigenous people there have been responding to climate change.

"I think that textbooks and classrooms can only take you so far," Tiegs said. "To really appreciate ecosystems, you need to experience them with your senses. You need to experience the humidity, the heat, to hear the birds ... It gives you a lot more of an immediate, impressionistic understanding for how these ecosystems function and that is something you can really only get through these sort of immersive field experiences."

Tiegs would like to thank the faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Alex Zimmerman and the international education faculty, The Office of the Provost, and University Housing for their help in writing and winning the 100,000 Strong grant.

South Foundation design plans to accommodate students with disabilities

LAUREN REID

Contributor

As The Rise Act, which proposes an increase in accepted disability documentation makes its way through Congress, new active learning layout principles are coming at just the right time for Oakland University.

OU's upcoming and highly anticipated South Foundation Hall renovation aims to be accessible and accommodating for all OU students, a step in the right direction as the current set up can be rigid and difficult to modify for various disabilities. Tablet armchairs have proven to be ineffective and uncomfortable for many students — and are a barrier to accommodating those in wheelchairs or who have other physical disabilities.

According to Stantec architect Samantha Szeszalski, who was informed by OU Project Manager Sue Riley, the key point person on the South Foundation renovation, "Writing surfaces will be separate from the seats, alleviating the concerns caused by tablet armchairs."

The new design plan includes movable furniture where accommodations are flexible and in place, requiring minimal

additional effort.

"Students who use a wheelchair [currently] often have a separate desk brought to the classroom, along with others who have medical issues requiring a stand up desk. This student likely feels singled out because they have different furniture," said Sarah Guadalupe, OU Disability Support Services director.

Upcoming design plans will allow students to modify their seating before class and ensure they are comfortable and ready to learn. The tables being utilized post-renovation look to be accommodating for wheelchairs.

Brant Cassidy, an OU physical therapy student, supports movable furniture as it "gives freedom to students with disabilities to sit however they are most comfortable." The flexibility of this new design is an advancement compared to current South Foundation classrooms, and will be of benefit if certain legislation is enacted.

The Rise Act, currently in Congress, is striving for more disability documentation (primarily those accepted in K-12 and not universities) to be accepted in higher education. If enacted, an increasing number of students will qualify for accommodations, and the university must be equipped to make modifications.

Upgraded furniture in South Foundation could have a longstanding effect on student success and classroom flexibility. The intended universal design principles, such as simple use and flexibility, are geared toward optimal accommodation for all and are actively being considered as the design process moves forward.

"[Universal design principles are being utilized] from the exterior approach to the building, through the building entrances, and throughout classrooms and common spaces," Riley said. "Accessible entrances will be provided at all main entrances and an additional elevator will allow for easy access to upper levels."

The layout is projected to be entirely new as well, embodying the trendy concept of active learning classrooms. According to Szeszalski, there will be no designated front or back to classrooms, but rather an environment where collaboration can take place at the highest levels. Monitors will be equipped around the room to view presentations, documents, etc.

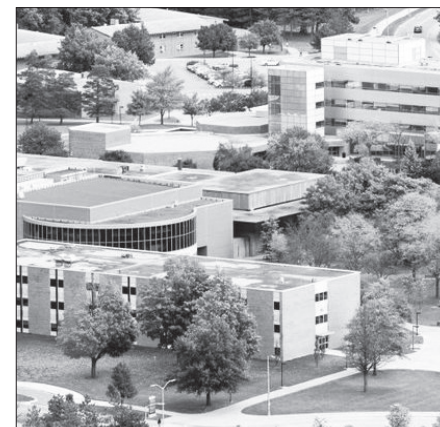
For students with vision issues, or hearing difficulties, these technological advancements will hopefully be of benefit.

"Tech-enabled, active, flexible learning environments will accommodate a variety of teaching methodologies, student learn-

ing styles and abilities," Riley said.

Arrangements are already in place for these individuals through Disability Support Services, but the renovation will allow for additional ease. Those with low vision may not have to stress about a front row seat, and students with interpreters will be able to find classroom spots that work for the two of them, Guadalupe said.

Classroom sound will also be improved,



OAKLAND POST ARCHIVES

One goal of the SFH renovation is to provide a more accessible learning environment for those with disabilities.

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POLICE FILES

Feeling faint

Two officers were leaving the scene of a previous welfare check on a student when the on-duty resident director needed medical attention on the afternoon of Oct. 22. The officers stepped into the hallway to speak with each other about the welfare check they were on.

During the check, another student had stepped into the hallway because she was "feeling overheated." As an officer walked toward her, she appeared to pass out and start to fall to the floor. The officer called her name, grabbed her arm and helped her sit on the ground.

As the officer called her name, she became more aware of her surroundings and told the officer she felt very hot. The other officer got some water and a trashcan as the student began to throw up. At this time, Auburn Hills paramedics were requested. The RA had called her housing staff to come to the scene.

The student appeared to pass out two more times between throwing up. When she was finished, Auburn Hills paramedics arrived on scene and began their assessment. After housing staff arrived on scene and the paramedics finished their assessment, the student refused transport to the hospital and was helped to her room by fellow residents. The officers and paramedics then cleared the scene.

Compiled by Ben Hume,
Web Editor

OU students earn five awards at annual Sigma Xi conference

RACHEL YIM

Staff Reporter

Sigma Xi recently proved its students' abilities in research and promoted research programs of Oakland University.

Five OU students received Superior Presentation awards in various fields at the annual Sigma Xi conference Nov. 14-17.

Founded in the mid-1970s, Sigma Xi is a national scientific research honor society at OU. The chapter is also one of the oldest and largest scientific organizations in the world, representing science for 125 years.

“

It was very rewarding and exciting to receive an award for my thesis work. Together, we had a lot of fun while also bringing home the most medals of any university there.

ANN FUELLE
SIGMA XI MEMBER

”

It was initially founded by doctors Frank Giblin (ERI director) and Mike Sevilla (distinguished professor in the Department of Chemistry). Their efforts have allowed the chapter to grow and create networking and collaboration oppor-

tunities for researchers at all levels.

Fabia Battistuzzi, the president of the chapter, played one of the key roles in allowing many students to develop their work.

As she discussed future plans for the chapter and work to streamline administrative processes to grow the chapter, she expressed her feelings toward all the members representing their chapter by receiving such honors.

“It may be counterintuitive, but explaining highly specialized research to a scientific audience that is not necessarily in that field is actually very challenging,” Battistuzzi said.

A total of 12 undergraduate and graduate students attended the Sigma Xi conference, and the five students who received the awards include Ann Fuelle, Walter Wolfsberger, Laurel Levine, Erving Laryea and Naomi Haque.

This year's theme of the conference was “Our Changing Global Environment: Scientists and Engineers Designing Solutions for the Future.” These five students presented their study in various disciplines including cell biology and biochemistry, ecology and evolutionary biology, and microbiology and molecular biology.

Ann Fuelle is a senior studying clinical and diagnostic sciences with a concentration in medical laboratory sciences. Inducted as a student member of Sigma Xi during her sophomore year, she has been an active member of the chapter throughout her college career.

At the conference, she presented her honors thesis project on the effects of microgravity and the accumulation of DNA damage in human cells.



COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Oakland students receive Superior Presentation awards at the Sigma Xi conference.

“I don't do research for the recognition,” Fuelle said, “but it was very rewarding and exciting to receive an award for my thesis work. Together, we had a lot of fun while also bringing home the most medals of any university there.”

Out of 12 attendees from OU, she was the only one to give an oral presentation. She said the hardest and most important part for her in the process was to prepare for questions from the judges and her audience.

“I think I have achieved more than I could have imagined with Sigma Xi so far, and I am really proud of my fellow students who attended the conference alongside me,” Fuelle said.

She plans on continuing as a professional member of Sigma Xi and hope to attend medical school and engage in clinical research for her career.

Battistuzzi said the chapter as a

whole supports its goal – to promote the health of the scientific enterprise and honor scientific achievement – with a variety of activities that are designated to engage students and faculty members with each other and experts in many STEM fields.

According to Battistuzzi, Sigma Xi serves to support students who are moving their first steps in a scientific career, thus, encouraging students conducting research in a STEM field to consider joining the society.

“Within the society, they will find mentors and peers to talk to and also opportunities to travel to a scientific conference and apply for funding through the Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid mechanism,” she said.

Anyone interested in learning more about the society can contact the president of the society at battistu@oakland.edu or visit its website.

CETL Learning Tips: What to do with the syllabus

CHRISTINA MOORE

CETL Virtual Faculty Developer

Welcome to 2020 and a new semester! You likely have at least one fresh syllabus on hand. Your syllabi are normally really long so that you have all of the information you possibly need, which is a good thing. So now what? Even if your professor went through the syllabus to explain its organization and main points, it's not quite going to make sense to you until you put your mark on it.

Before coursework ramps up for the semester, make a few moves to get the most out of the syllabus. As a graduate student, I do these things to make sure larger projects don't creep up on me and I don't have unnecessary stress a month from now.

Code your syllabus for important information

Whether color-coding, highlighting or bolding, mark up the syllabus in a way that makes frequently needed information easier to find, such as due dates and project descriptions.

Put syllabus content into your calendar

Schedule reminders or alarms for project due dates. Consider a digital calendar such as Google

Calendar to paste in information provided in the syllabus. If you stick with a paper planner, pencil in those dates now.

Add planning notes

Note the day(s) you will miss. (You may need to tell your professor.) Write reminders of when you will need to work ahead, meet with the professor, coordinate with group members, schedule an appointment with the Writing Center or plan extra time for projects and studying.

Ask your professor questions

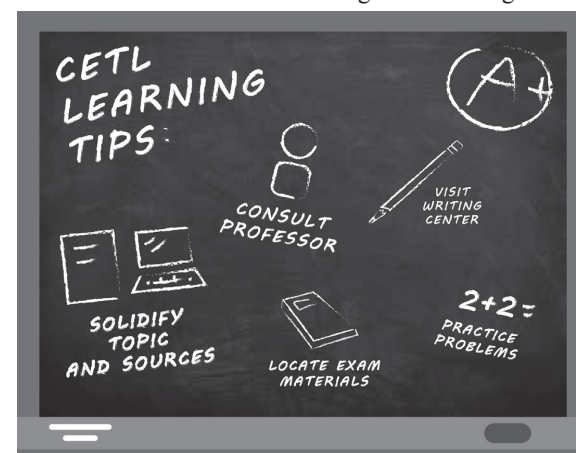
Is that first eight-page paper double-spaced? (Check to see if a documentation style like APA is listed.) Are there conflicting dates? How should assignments be submitted? When I taught writing classes, I appreciated when students asked me these questions early in the semester if the syllabus had an error, as this showed me students were planning ahead and reading the syllabus.

A lot more can be done to own your syllabi, such as visually labelling them so they are easy to distinguish. If I get an electronic copy of a syllabus, I rearrange content based on my needs while always keeping the original version. (I share more on this in the Customize Your Syllabus Learning Tip at oakland.edu/teachingtips.) The most im-

portant thing is to do something with the syllabus from Week 1 — engaging with the syllabus will help you remember the information you most need.

Welcome back, and have a great start to the year!

Christina Moore
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning



JIMMY WILLIAMS | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

These syllabus tips will help you get organized this semester.

Alum discusses opening his first dental practice

Bassam Hanna strives to help clients in pain and in need with his Sterling Heights practice

KATELYN HILL

Staff Reporter

An Oakland University graduate has opened his own dental practice, helping him put the care in healthcare.

Bassam Hanna, who graduated from OU in 2014, opened Cherry Creek Dental Care in Sterling Heights on Dec. 19.

Since opening, the office has already had patients come in who are in pain or have an infection. According to Hanna, helping them get back to good health so they can enjoy their holiday has made him happier than he has been in a while, he said.

In high school, Hanna knew he wanted to do something in the medical field, but didn't know specifically which profession he wanted to study, so he started shadowing at different places. Hanna shadowed at St. John's Hospital and, though he enjoyed his experience there, he didn't like being on call.

Then, Hanna shadowed at his local dentist office to see what a day in the life of a dentist looks like. After his second or third time shadowing his dentist, he said he fell in love with the practice and the patient interaction.

"I like to get to know people and get to know where they're coming from, what they do for a living, and I felt like dentistry had that aspect," he said. "It's not just treating the tooth and getting the patient out of pain."

Hanna, who was born in Iraq and immigrated to Michigan, wanted to go to college locally. Looking to stray from the path his siblings took to Wayne State University, he decided to go to OU.

During his time at OU, Hanna said he felt the University had a very welcoming and nurturing environment due to the extra support the counselors and professors showed toward students.

"I really enjoyed every little minute of it from the Rec Center to the [Oakland] Center," he said.

Hanna said he helped create different organizations such as the Pre-Dental Society, Give a Heart and Snap. He met a lot of friends with whom he is still in contact and helped him get through dental school.



COURTESY OF CHERRY CREEK DENTAL CARE 2014 graduate Hanna opened Cherry Creek Dental Care in Sterling Heights.

He also said the counselors and professors were helpful and supportive. He had professors who took the time with the students to make sure they were understanding the material. His anatomy professor would even hold study sessions after hours.

Hanna later graduated from Chicago's Northwestern University College of Dental Medicine in May 2019, but wanted to open his own practice in his hometown to be closer to his family.

The new office offers a wide variety of treatments, including cosmetic procedures, orthodontics and oral surgery.

Hanna's favorite part of his new clinic has been getting to know people who come, not just for their dental issues, but to really get to know them individually.

Though there were some setbacks due to the weather, getting approvals through the city and a changed address, Hanna said the support of the staff, corporate and mentors has kept everything going smoothly.

"Everyone tries to help each other out," he said. "I'm really privileged to have the staff that I have."

The good and bad of Greek life culture on college campuses

ALEXANDRA PENA

Contributor

Recent national scrutiny of Greek life and linked fatalities have placed many university fraternities and sororities under harsh light. Within October 2019 alone, there were four hazing-related deaths across the United States.

Despite the renewed shock and fear regarding Greek life, especially fraternities, this is not a new trend for colleges. According to USA Today, for the past two decades, at least one death is reported due to hazing rituals common in many fraternities.

Oakland University is home to 17 fraternities and sororities, and has a vibrant following despite being a commuter-dominant school. Within the past decade, there have been no major incidents with the OU Greek Council, but the cause for concern over hazing remains across the country.

Current fraternity and sorority members are aware of the stigma surrounding the "pledge process" and actively work to negate those assumptions.

Callum McIntosh, a junior and member of the fraternity Theta Chi, said, while the stigma is forever, OU's Greek presence is different.

"All you hear about in the news is big schools where kids die from crazy hazing things or drunk messes," he said. "But to be honest, Greek life at those bigger schools is much difference than what I've experienced here at Oakland."

Hazing classifies excessive alcohol consumption, physical endurance tests, sleep deprivation and other rituals all designed to prove loyalty and determination. These standards are common in mostly fraternities, however, sororities typically engage in alcohol-re-

lated events as well. Both face backlash for hazing and the social implications of it as well.

Junior Rachael Johnson is a member of Alpha Delta Pi, and she has noticed firsthand the impact the Greek Council has had on sorority functions and public representation.

"I would say that our Greek life is much different than other colleges and universities, in a sense that we are more organized and careful about what we do and how we represent OU," she said.

According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) conducted in 2017, 53.6% of college students ages 18 to 22 drank alcohol in the past month. Managing that effectively and responsibly is the challenge faced by many, not just Greek organizations.

"Partying is inevitable for college students," Johnson said. "I think Oakland does an OK job at controlling that, better than most colleges."

Despite the constant scrutiny, OU Greeks enjoy their "chosen family," as junior Emma Knode of Sigma Sigma Sigma said.

"I love being a part of like-minded people," she said. "It's really nice having 40+ people to talk to if I need it or need to get a scantron at the last minute. We take being a sisterhood seriously without it feeling overbearing at the same time."

With or without the controversies that surround being involved in Greek life, at OU, there is a prevalent sense of community and acceptance found in the pledge process. McIntosh provided insight for anyone considering joining a fraternity or sorority, but has concerns.

"To those who criticize Greek life, ask yourselves, 'Have I ever tried it?'" McIntosh said. "If you haven't tried it, then you shouldn't criticize. It's not for everyone, but if you haven't ever done something, how can you have an opinion?"



JIMMY WILLIAMS | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Greek life has been under scrutiny due to hazing related deaths making national news.

Welcome Week Winter Semester 2020

@ Oakland University

Monday, January 6

What's Happening on OU's Campus for Winter Semester Information Station

Free Hot Chocolate, Coffee, and Candy Bar

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Lower Level of the Oakland Center

**Sponsored by Office for Student Involvement,
Oakland University Student Congress, and Student Program Board**

Tuesday, January 7

Movie Matinee and Munchies featuring "Cool Runnings"

Inspired by the True Story of the First Jamaican Olympic Bobsled Team

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., The Habitat, Oakland Center

Student Organization Officer Training

5-7 p.m., 1050 Human Health Building

Sponsored by Office for Student Involvement

Wednesday, January 8

SPB Hump Day

Noon-1:00 p.m., TBA

Sponsored by Student Program Board

Thursday, January 9

Winter Grizz Fest

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Founders Ballrooms, Oakland Center

Thursday Night Mainstage Kickoff featuring The Evasons, Mentalist Duo

7-8:30 p.m., The Habitat, Oakland Center

OU Women's Basketball vs Green Bay

Pink Game - Wear Pink and Support Breast Cancer Awareness

7:00-9:00 p.m., O'rena, Recreation and Athletics Center

Friday, January 10

Friday Night at the Movies featuring Jordan Peele's "Us" and "Get Out"

Get comfy and cozy - wear you pajamas, bring your blankets and pillows. Popcorn. Win prizes.

7:00-10:00 p.m., The Habitat, Oakland Center

Sponsored by Office for Student Involvement and Student Video Productions

Saturday, January 11

OU Women's Basketball vs Milwaukee

LGBTQIA+ Pride Day

3:00-5:00 p.m., O'rena, Recreation and Athletics Center

Vandy Night Live featuring The Human iPod, John Rush

8:00-10:00 p.m., Vandenberg Dining Center, Vandenberg Hall

Sponsored by Residence Life Association and Office for Student Involvement

STAFF PICKS: ALBUMS OF THE LAST DECADE

design by Ashley Averill | graphics by Ashley Averill & Jimmy Williams



Lauren Karmo's Pick: BORNS – "Dopamine"

This album has a special place in my heart because it's the album of the summer, every summer. Every time I hear "Electric Love," I think about driving around with my friends to get ice cream and scream the lyrics out the window. I think about lying on the beach and jumping in the ocean.

Every other song on this album has some sort of summer memory, from afternoon hangouts around town to midnight adventures where no one else matters. Hearing "American Money" and "Holy Ghost" reminds me of falling in love, over and over again, like it's the hottest day of July and everything is perfect.

Every second of this album makes me feel like I'm getting a shot of dopamine injected directly in my veins, and I can't get enough.



Michael Pearce's Pick: Drake – "Take Care"

As the resident hip-hop boy of The Oakland Post, I feel a little lame not picking something more rappy than this. But this album was my favorite thing ever when I was in like, eighth/ninth grade, and nostalgia is one hell of a drug.

"My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" and "To Pimp A Butterfly" are better albums, but this one was my favorite of the decade. I genuinely like and can listen to almost every song on this album, and that is rare. This is Drake's best album, and he dominated this decade.

This album also has huge chart-topping singles on it like "Take Care", "Headlines" and "Marvin's Room". For me, that's important when picking a favorite album. This album is what launched Drake into the music scene as a serious artist, because it's good as hell. I don't care if it isn't heavier rap, it's classic.



Ben Hume's Pick: Lorde – "Melodrama"

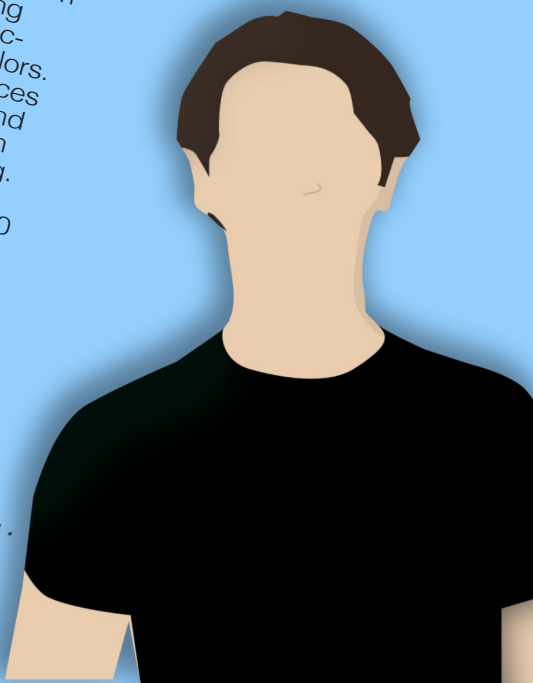
Lorde deserves this pick more than anyone else, but "Melodrama" wouldn't have been my first pick just a few months ago. I was reminded of the stellar album early this year despite it being released in 2017, and I just couldn't stop listening to it — it was so good it knocked off longtime favorites like Muse's "Drones" and Hippocampus's "Landmark" for the prestigious title.

After just one listen, you can understand why I quickly fell in love with the music. Lorde's songwriting and vocals work beautifully together in the more popular singles like "Green Light" and "Homemade Dynamite," and her talent as an artist of such a young age is mind blowing. I always love the electropop baseline of "Sunny" just as much as I love the gut-wrenching acoustic melody of "The Louvre." Across all of these different sounds, Lorde still manages to keep a consistent theme and pull you through a rollercoaster of emotions.

Albums like this don't come around often. This was not a collection of songs that she was working on that she threw together and called an album, this was carefully crafted from top to bottom to be a single listening experience, and it succeeded with flying colors. Her genuine experiences with early adulthood and companionship show in the theme of every song. If you haven't already listened to it, put aside 40 minutes and give it a try. As someone who doesn't even frequently listen to pop music, I can tell you it will be worth your time.



Album art courtesy of iTunes.



Rachel Basela's Pick: Daniel Caesar – "Freudian"

Where gospel and R&B intertwine, Daniel Caesar blended the line between the two genres when creating "Freudian" in August of 2017. Some notable tracks on the album include "Best Part," "Take Me Away" and "Blessed." Caesar's voice is toned and smooth, and after seeing him live in 2018, I can confidently say this artist doesn't rely on heavy production for his vocals.

"Freudian" defined my decade because of its impact on my idea of love, whether that was romantic, platonic or self. The album came out as I was nearing the end of my time in high school, so it molded my perception of how I treated myself and my loved ones as I entered adulthood.

As we enter a new decade, I plan on carrying these ideals of 2017 into my future relationships. Caesar has a way of making the hard times sound beautiful, and "Freudian's" impact on me as a young adult will carve out a pattern for the years ahead.



Katie Valley's Pick: Panic! at the Disco – "Vices and Virtues"

Panic! at the Disco's "Vices and Virtues" is a monumental album to represent the decade because it strikes a cord in all former emo kids. Released March 22, 2011, as a duo by vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Brendon Urie and drummer Spencer Smith, the album is the band's third studio work. Every single track hits listeners right in the feels, bringing them back to their emo days for 38 whole minutes.

Songs like "Ready to Go (Get Me Out of My Mind)" and "Memories" invoke feelings that cannot be described. The album also features lead single, and arguably one of P!ATD's best songs, "The Ballad of Mona Lisa." Ask any big P!ATD fan, and they'll tell you that "Vices and Virtues" is iconic, but it's difficult to say why. It includes mesmerizing lyrics, like the chorus of "Nearly Witches (Ever Since We Met...)": "Ever since we met, I only shoot up with your perfume. It's the only thing that makes me feel as good as you do."

Mixed with more lighthearted tracks like "Sarah Smiles," the album proudly displays P!ATD's lyrical — and poetic — mastery. I'll also note that had the choice been extended to include albums from 2008, my top choice would have likely been a tough decision between P!ATD's "Vices and Virtues" and Fall Out Boy's "Folie à Deux," another life-changing album. However, as a former emo myself (please do not try to find any pictures of seventh-grade me), "Vices and Virtues" is THE album to listen to when I'm in my feels and want to scream out sentimental lyrics.

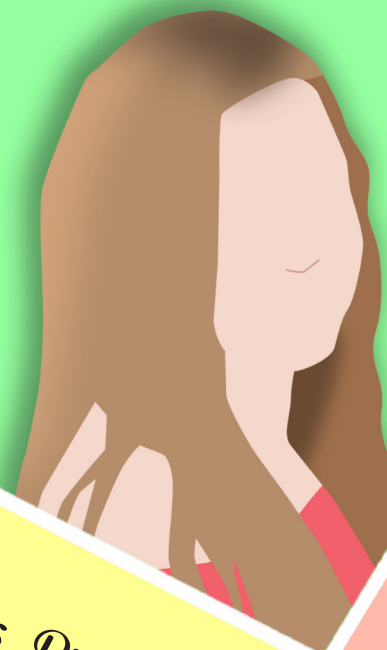


Trevor Tyle's Pick: Adele – "21"

In the past 10 years, there have been few albums to sell as many copies, win as many awards or heal as many hearts as Adele's sophomore offering, "21." Inspired by a romantic separation, "21" chronicles the most devastating moments of one's life and crafts a narrative that simultaneously shatters and mends the heart. From the soaring vocals of "Rolling in the Deep" to the painstakingly poignant lyricism of "Someone Like You," on "21," Adele captures a feeling all too familiar for anyone whose heart has been broken.

With over 30 million copies sold worldwide, "21" was the best-selling album of the decade and is considered one of the best-selling albums of all-time. Credited with "reviving" the music industry in an era of rapidly declining sales, the album earned Adele three number-one singles, six Grammy Awards — including Album, Record and Song of the Year — and the coveted ranking of "Greatest Billboard 200 Album of All-Time."

Though the eminence of an artist's work can seldom be linked to sales, "21" is a musical rarity, blurring the lines between quality and commercial success. It was not just an album, but rather, an event. At 21 years old and with only one record under her belt, Adele had already composed her magnum opus — a timeless body of work that will forever stand the test of time, stealing and stitching our broken hearts in the process. Emotional, honest and movingly authentic, "21" evokes a sentiment that transcends any particular decade. In spite of this, it defined the 2010s, and there will likely never be another album quite like it again.



‘Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker’ is an immensely satisfying, yet notably flawed, finale to the franchise

TREVOR TYLE

Editor-in-Chief

I was 5 years old when my dad showed me the first “Star Wars” film. From the moment “A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away...” flashed on the screen in that magnificent teal blue typeface, I knew I had taken my first step into a larger world. That film — and everything that followed it — was something that I’d carry with me for the rest of my life.

Truthfully, “Star Wars” was the reason I became a writer. To know that somebody like George Lucas could create and build on a world as incredible as the galaxy that exists in the “Star Wars” universe was mind-blowing to me, and I wanted nothing more than to be able to change lives with my writing in the same way that Lucas did with those films. In fact, I never would’ve even attempted a film review, or added a film minor onto my bachelor’s degree, if it weren’t for “Star Wars.”

These films have come to define not only my childhood, but also a huge chapter of my life — a chapter that is now being closed with “The Rise of Skywalker,” the conclusion to the episodic “Star Wars” saga. As a lifelong fan, the stakes were immensely high on this one, but director J.J. Abrams delivered a flawed, yet satisfying, end to the franchise, which has spanned over four decades.

Set a year after the events of “The Last Jedi,” the film opens with the revelation that franchise baddie Emperor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid) has returned after having been presumed dead for the past 31 years. Determined to end the Resistance once and for all, Palpatine summons a massive fleet to resolidify his rule over the galaxy and calls upon Kylo Ren (Adam Driver) to kill Rey (Daisy Ridley), the last of the Jedi.

Rey, meanwhile, continues her Jedi training, now under the instruction of General Leia Organa (the late Carrie Fisher). Upon learning of Palpatine’s return, Leia sends Rey and Resistance fighters Finn (John Boyega) and Poe (Oscar Isaac) on a mission to track down a Sith wayfinder, an ancient artifact once sought out by the late Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill), to help the heroes find and stop Palpatine. As the Resistance prepares to face the First Order for one final confrontation, Rey must face the mysteries of her past and future to fulfill her destiny as the last Jedi.

Many fans approached “Skywalker” with cautious optimism after its predecessors — 2015’s “The Force Awakens” (directed by Abrams) and, far more notably, 2017’s “The Last Jedi” (directed by Rian Johnson) — were met with a barrage of fan backlash. (For what it’s worth, I loved both films and consider “The Last Jedi” to be the best “Star Wars” film since the Original Trilogy.) Abrams was given the daunting task of bringing an end to not only this trilogy, but the entire franchise — and doing so without one of its irreplaceable leads.

Fisher’s death in 2016 loomed over this film like a dark cloud. Though she had completed her scenes for “The Last Jedi,” Fisher had not filmed anything for the franchise’s ninth installment, which was set to have the character of Leia front and center. Thankfully, Abrams had about eight minutes of unused footage of Fisher from “The Force Awakens” that was able to be repurposed for this film, giving both the actor and character a fitting



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

The “Star Wars” franchise, which has spanned over four decades, comes to an emotional end with “The Rise of Skywalker.”

— and extremely emotional — end. As someone who adored both Fisher and Leia, I was beyond satisfied with her role in the film, which more than fulfilled my hopes for the character.

“Skywalker” also masterfully and respectfully utilizes the remainder of the Original Trilogy heroes. Billy Dee Williams brilliantly reprises his role as Lando Calrissian for the first time since 1983’s “Return of the Jedi,” and the film also gives C-3PO actor Anthony Daniels — the only actor to appear in every live-action “Star Wars” film — one final chance to shine. (The character’s beloved counterpart R2-D2, however, is disappointingly underused yet again in this film.) Hamill’s appearance as Luke Skywalker, though brief, is also an absolute standout.

Yet the real scene-stealers in this film are yet again the electric duo of Ridley and Driver, whose characters’ destinies are so vitally intertwined that it’s surprising how well each character stands on their own. The dynamic between Rey and Kylo is the heart of the film, and rightfully so, but Ridley in particular also gives an incomparable performance in her bittersweet finale as Rey.

Unfortunately, this was at the expense of some of the other heroes — namely Finn and Resistance fighter Rose Tico (Kelly Marie Tran). Boyega’s role as Finn has been reduced to a sidekick with minimal development whose primary purpose is to yell “Rey!” in dangerous situations.

Even more disappointing, though, is the treatment of Rose, who received minimal screentime after Tran was targeted by online trolls for her appearance in “The Last Jedi.” Writer Chris Terrio has since confirmed this was, in part, due to her having scenes with the late Fisher that did not make sense in the context of the final film, though the mere minute and 16 seconds Rose appears in “The Rise of Skywalker” is still entirely unacceptable.

Whether intentional or not, this is just one of the many ways in which Abrams rather predictably pandered to fans with this film. While the fan service was effective in some ways — particularly with regard to veteran characters — it also created a plethora of problems, including pacing issues, plot inconsistencies and convoluted storylines with little explanation. (Sorry, Palpatine fans — this film offers absolutely no context as to how he survived his fall at the end of “Return of the Jedi,” or where in the hell he’s been for the past 31 years.)

Needless to say, “Skywalker” is a big film, and Abrams had a lot to cram into its two-and-a-half-hour runtime. While it is indubitably flawed, it almost immediately makes up for every issue it creates. Nearly every important question raised before the film’s release — including Rey’s parentage and the fate of Kylo Ren — are addressed with certainty and finality by the time the end credits roll.

For all its faults — many of which can be attributed to Disney’s lack of planning with this trilogy — “The Rise of Skywalker” is still an incredibly satisfying film, and the toxicity of the “Star Wars” fan base is largely to blame for its bad rep. The film’s second half in particular is absolutely breathtaking, offering some of the best fight sequences the saga has ever offered, heightened by some incredible performances and a spectacular score, courtesy of veteran composer John Williams.

“The Rise of Skywalker” unifies all nine films within the Skywalker saga, bringing the franchise to a satisfying close. It feels very much like saying goodbye to a childhood friend. I left the theater with tears in my eyes, joy in my heart and a massive smile on my face.

Rating: 4/5 stars

‘You’ season two reopens conversation about toxic relationships

BRIDGET JANIS

Contributor

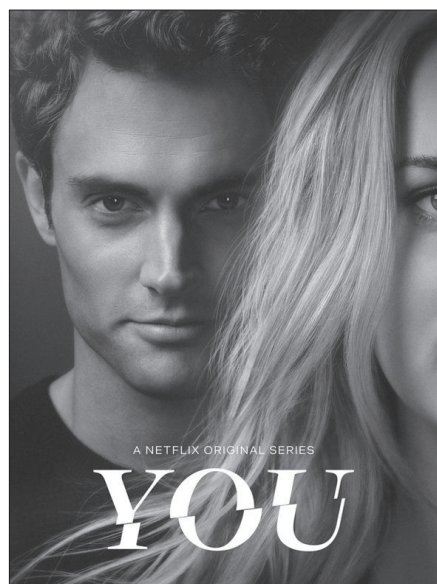
The lovable killer Joe Goldberg (Penn Badgley), now known as Will Bettelheim, is back with season two of the must-watch Netflix show “You.”

With the season being released Dec. 26, 2019, it was a perfect opportunity for everyone to binge-watch over holiday break, and it was worth the binge-watching.

Season two is loosely based on author Caroline Kepnes’ sequel novel “Hidden Bodies,” set in Los Angeles, and this season was not a disappointment. Joe ends up changing his name and fleeing to Los Angeles to get away from his ex-girlfriend Candace Stone (Ambyr Childers), who makes another appearance this season with the goal to make sure Joe gets what he deserves.

Joe tries to start off with a clean slate this season with a new name, new city, new job and of course, a new girl, but we all know that the glass box has to make a reappearance at some point.

The love interest that catches Joe’s eyes is named Love Quinn (Victoria Pedretti) — how ironic. Love is a rich aspir-



COURTESY OF IMDB

ing chef in Los Angeles whom he met at his new job as a bookstore clerk at Anavrin, run by Forty Quinn (James Scully), Love’s twin brother, who is known for being kind of crazy but is one of the few actually sane people in the show.

Joe attempts to better himself this

season, focusing on hurting people less, which doesn’t really work out in his favor as he begins to fall back into his old obsessive and violent patterns.

Season two is full of many more plot twists compared to season one — the last three episodes really kept the audience on their toes and had me gasping at every event. The addition of Ellie Alves (Jenna Ortega), Joe’s 15-year-old neighbor and her older sister Delilah (Carmela Zumbado) created a valuable side story for the season.

Ellie isn’t the main focus in Joe’s life, but he looks out for her while she encounters famous comedian (and pedophile) Henderson (Chris D’Elia). Joe finds himself feeling a need to make sure Ellie is always accounted for and safe, which can be seen as a foreshadowing for the end of the season. This was a clever way to bring out Joe’s responsible side with someone with whom he has not fallen in love.

Just like other shows on Netflix, such as “Dexter” and “Bates Motel,” the audience grows to love the main character and his toxic personality even more, and the viewers begin to hope he doesn’t get caught, creating a dynamic where we actually start rooting for the serial killers.

The show still upholds its focus on social media and how much it can tell you about one’s life, just like in season one. Joe uses it as a tactic to get information about some of Love’s friends. Joe also ends up giving social media a try himself this season, which is something viewers would have never expected from him.

By also adding backstories from both Joe’s childhood and his relationship with Candace, it brought more of an understanding to the plot line of what caused Joe to obsess over being in love and have little to no emotion while killing or hurting people who he thinks deserve to die.

This season was even better than the first — the plot twists were all very unexpected — and the ending has a cliffhanger that leaves fans and left myself begging for a season three.

“You” is definitely a show everyone should watch and enjoy. It provides so much insight into real life situations with toxic relationships and the danger they can actually bring, and while it is intriguing to watch, it can also be informational and eye-opening to many viewers.

Rating: 5/5 stars

‘Fine Line’ jumpstarts eclectic era of pop music

RACHEL BASELA

Life&Arts Editor

Harry Styles is well-past his One Direction phase, and while he acknowledges the impact the experience made on his musicality, his style has mutated. This is especially evident in his second solo album, titled “Fine Line,” which was released Dec. 13.

From upbeat songs like “Watermelon Sugar” and “Golden” to deeply musical pieces like “Fine Line,” and even including left-fielded songs like “Sunflower, Vol. 6,” Styles incorporated various levels of lyricality and styles of production into his album.

To highlight his title track specifically, Styles melowed the ending of the track list with the song “Fine Line.” He used this platform to discuss the line that is drawn between love and hate, and he related it back to his most recent relationship that left him feeling low.

“One thing I hadn’t experienced before was how I felt during the making of this record,” Styles said in an interview with Zane Lowe. “The times when I felt good and happy were the happiest I’ve ever felt in my life, and the times when I felt sad were the lowest I’ve ever felt in my life.”

Aside from its emotional aspect, the album included an element of eclecticism that only drug experimentation can bring to a musician.

According to Antoinette Bueno’s interview with Styles: “We’d do mushrooms, lie down on the grass, and listen to Paul McCartney’s ‘Ram’ in the sunshine,” he said about his creative process at Shangri-La studios in Malibu, California. “We’d just turn the speakers into the yard.”

Styles transformed the way he sang about love in “Fine Line.” By listening to “Cherry” or “Falling,” the listener can deeply understand where his mind and his heart were while writing the lyrics.

He talks about how his past lover might not ever need him again, and he brings up the thought that someone else could be intimate with the one he loves.

As opposed to Styles’ previous solo album and his boy band days, he gets personal with his audience. He opened up about sex and jealousy, as well as the deep emotional pain that can be felt from lost love.

However, Styles didn’t completely center his work around the rough side of love. He produced upbeat tunes that explored the connection between him and his previous girlfriend when they were at their happiest.

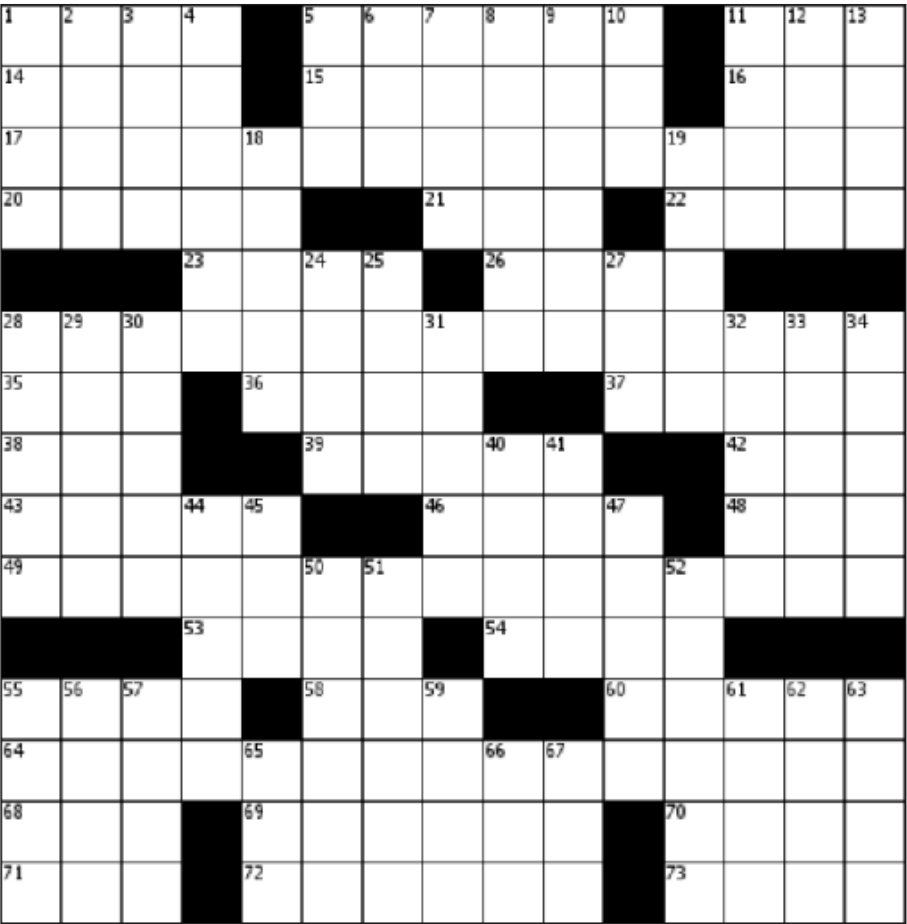
With another album under his belt, Styles has the po-

tential to be remembered as one of the greatest emerging artists of the new decade. With an upcoming tour in the works, the emerging solo artist will take major strides in making it in the international music industry. Styles is transforming the common pop genre and welcoming conversations about gender fluidity, healthy love and mindful exploration, and this can be found in his new work, “Fine Line.”



COURTESY OF NME

Harry Styles released his second album middle of December.

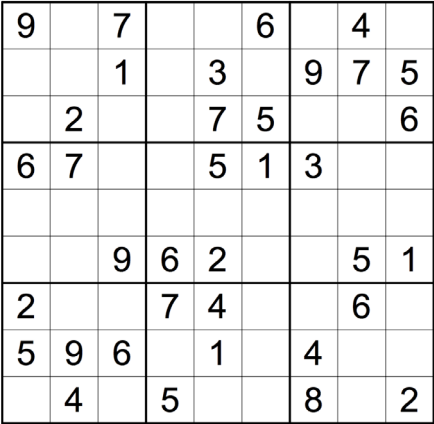


- Across**

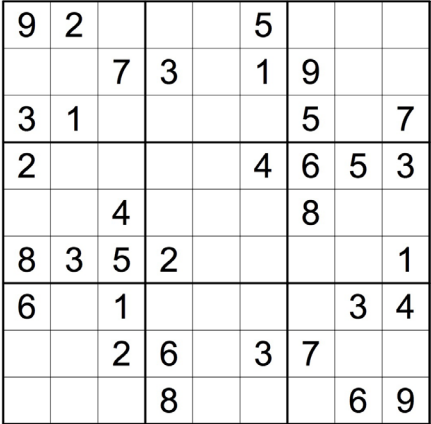
 - 1. Bolted
 - 5. Doomed Greek with wax wings
 - 11. Apr. addressee
 - 14. Roof part
 - 15. Singer Nightingale
 - 16. Fashionable dude
 - 17. Part 1 of a truism for drivers
 - 20. Cuban TV legend
 - 21. Brief time to shop?
 - 22. "Heavens!"
 - 23. Fracture remedy
 - 26. Overhaul
 - 28. Part 2 of the truism
 - 35. Tokyo-born artist
 - 36. "Diana" crooner
 - 37. Had in mind
 - 38. Point-of-purchase equip. giant
 - 39. Bottom of a suit
 - 42. Abbr. in many Canadian city names
 - 43. Beloved Disney character
 - 46. Grave matter?
 - 48. Cholera
 - 49. Part 3 of the truism
 - 53. Elvis' middle name
 - 54. Japanese rice drink
 - 55. Jam
- Down**

 - 1. Goat or sheep product
 - 2. Lionized actor?
 - 3. All tied up
 - 4. Uncouple
 - 5. Little rascal
 - 6. Hardly Mr. Right
 - 7. More than laid off
 - 8. Mexican muralist Diego
 - 9. Kid-friendly org.
 - 10. Like Chianti and Chablis
 - 11. Up in the air
 - 12. Part of a Clue accusation
 - 13. Twinkle-toed
 - 18. Seiji of the symphony
 - 19. Get carried away in Hollywood
 - 24. Material for a bank?
- 25. Tricyclist
 - 27. J.F.K. supporter
 - 28. Kawasaki competitor
 - 29. Become liable to
 - 30. Longtime singer with Lawrence
 - 31. Recipe direction
 - 32. Mahmoud's predecessor
 - 33. Freshman course
 - 34. Move the tiller
 - 40. Some elephants or whales
 - 41. Oscar winner Thompson
 - 44. Party for Saddam?
 - 45. Hockey hero
 - 47. Sturgis visitor
 - 50. Not tacit
 - 51. Chant
 - 52. Critic's assignment
 - 55. Trumpeter, e.g.
 - 56. Drain mechanism
 - 57. Germany's von Bismarck
 - 59. Meat skewer
 - 61. Addition to the pot
 - 62. Part of a 1492 trio
 - 63. First one to be billed
 - 65. Hullabaloo
 - 66. Curiosity victim
 - 67. ___ carte

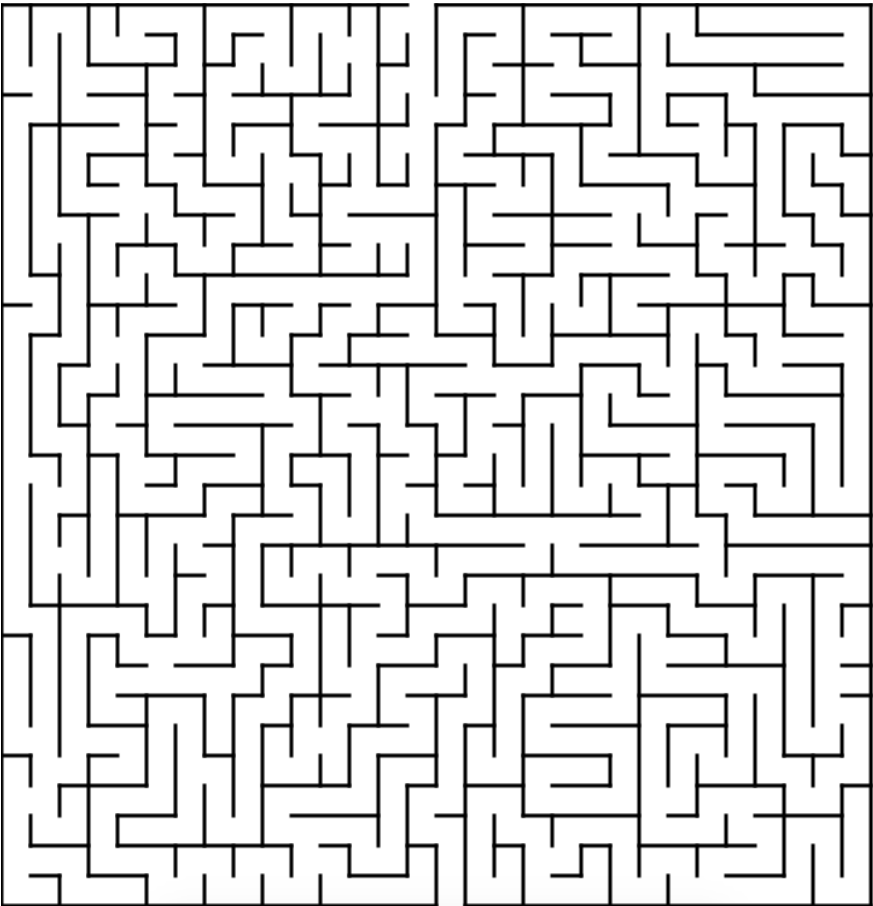
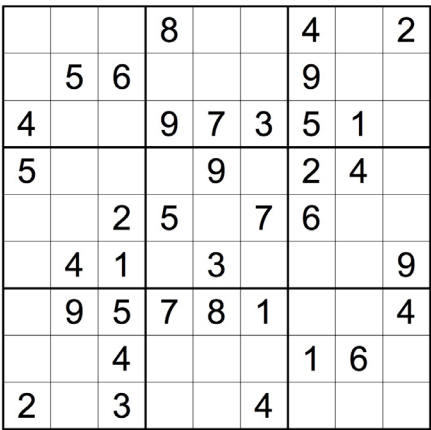
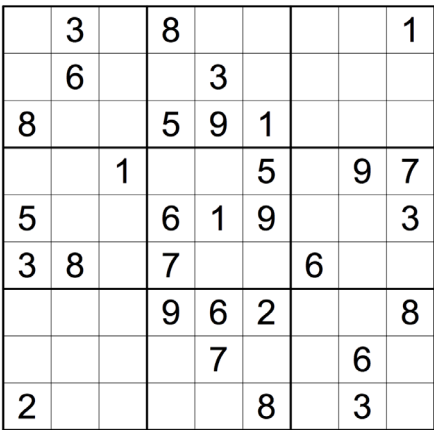
NOVICE



TOUGH



INTERMEDIATE



SPORTS

Badminton joins club sports at the Rec Center

DEAN VAGLIA

Staff Reporter

Grab a racket and watch out for birdies. Badminton has arrived at Oakland University.

The Badminton Club at OU joins the ranks of OU's club sports, meeting on Fridays from 5-7:30 p.m. at court three of the Recreation Center. Meetings are open to all and equipment is provided.

The club got its start during an intramural badminton tournament at OU.

"Steven [Razzouk] and I were in a badminton tournament set up by IMLeagues, and the idea was brought up by a fellow badminton player that we were versing against," Delon Hurmuz, club secretary, said.

According to Razzouk, club president, the players realized that while they all loved badminton, they were only able to play it once a year at intramural tournaments.

"We looked at each other like, 'You guys all like badminton? You all love it? So why don't we have a club for it?'" Razzouk said. "Some of us got together and decided that, 'hey, maybe we should apply and see what happens.'"

The club began holding meetings last November on Sunday afternoons, which consisted of practicing and discussions of future club activity. Since then, meetings have been rescheduled to their current Friday time.

Rackets can be borrowed from the Recreation Center if attendees do not have their own. Razzouk said while the club plans on having their own supply of rackets in the future, players should invest in their own racket in order to become famil-

iar with them. Another piece of equipment serious players can buy are court shoes to provide better traction. Birdies are covered by club dues.

Along with the club-supplied rackets, there are plans to expand the club's badminton horizons once more people join.

"We plan on fundraising to hopefully travel and play against other clubs," Hurmuz said. "We also plan on hosting in-club tournaments that will hopefully bring more attention toward the club."

At a glance, badminton can seem like a smaller version of tennis. While the sports have plenty of similarities, the heart of a badminton match beats much different than a tennis match.

"Badminton can get a bit quicker because its [played in] a closer area," Razzouk said. "If people think that a birdie cannot travel so fast, they are not right."

Badminton sets and matches are shorter than tennis matches, a birdie can fly 60% faster than a tennis ball, the badminton racket lighter and a badminton court is about two times smaller than a tennis court. This adds up to creating a fast-paced and tight game.

Matches are made up of two to three games, depending on how fast a team becomes the best of three. Games are played until a team has a clear 21 points or breaks a 20-all tie two point spread.

"[Badminton] can be very lighthearted and easy to play ... and it can be the most competitive thing ever," Razzouk said. "It is what you make of it."

Anyone interested in joining the club can do so by going to the club's CampusLabs page and can also follow the club on Facebook.

Athletics adds esports to its varsity roster

Through partnership with the Detroit Renegades, the Oakland team will use its facility for events

MICHAEL PEARCE

Sports Editor

will initially focus on three games: League of Legends, Rocket League and Super Smash Brothers.

Stadiums across the world are being filled by people of all ages to watch people play video games. Esports, from Rocket League to Super Smash Brothers, are taking over international and United States audiences, making their way into the sporting world day-by-day.

Oakland University Athletic Director Steve Waterfield noticed this through his children, who, instead of watching typical television like he did while growing up, are watching other people play video games.

"They watch YouTube videos of other people playing video games," Waterfield said. "Once I realized that their population and other generations are interested in that, it confirmed my initial thoughts because I saw it everyday in our house ... sometimes too much."

On Friday, Dec. 6, Oakland held an announcement regarding their partnership with the Detroit Renegades to bring esports to OU as a varsity sport.

The Renegades, a professional esports team based in Detroit, will be providing the infrastructure and expertise to assist the university in growing the varsity and club esports teams.

Waterfield hopes to not only host events with the Oakland team at the Renegades facility, but eventually on Oakland's campus as well.

"There are opportunities to do it in the O'rena, it's a good size," he said. "What I don't know at this time is the infrastructure, what it looks like and how much we have to bring in. I think there are opportunities in the Oakland Center as well for competitions."

The esports team at Oakland

“

There are opportunities to do it in the O'rena, it's a good size. What I don't know at this time is the infrastructure, what it looks like and how much we have to bring in. I think there are opportunities in the Oakland Center as well for competitions.

STEVE WATERFIELD
OU ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

”

Bringing in esports as a varsity sport on the same level as traditional sports was not met without resistance. Comments on the video announcement on WXYZ's Facebook page can be seen condemning this move, saying it is promoting laziness and a "couch potato" lifestyle.

"Pistol and Rifle are two sports we had at Ohio State when I was there, and the goal there is to actually not move and reduce your heart rate," Waterfield said. "But there's skill involved. Looking at the definition of a sport, it fits the definition. Esports are participating with a team in a very social setting. Looking at some of the videos I've seen, it's one of the more social activities around. To me, it is a sport. Rather than debate it, let's jump in and pursue it."



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUHUL ISLAM

The Badminton Club practices on Friday evenings, with meetings open to all.

Oakland falls 72-49 to Michigan State Spartans

**MICHAEL PEARCE &
GRANT RICHARDS**

Sports Editor & Staff Reporter

For the 18th straight time, Michigan State University (MSU) defeated Oakland University in basketball. This time around in front of 14,000, MSU's superior size and strength proved to be the difference against a men's basketball team that is different than a typical Golden Grizzlies unit.

In the 21st all-time college basketball game at Little Caesars Arena (LCA), long time MSU Head Coach Tom Izzo and Oakland Head Coach Greg Kampe faced off for the second time at LCA.

"It's so good to come down here," Izzo said about playing in Detroit. "I'm appreciative of the arena and what they done, and of Greg and what he has done to keep this thing going."

The Big Ten/Horizon League matchup has always been more than basketball, and this year's showing was no different. Prior to the game, both coaches came together to present a check in partnership with Coaches Beat Cancer. Both coaches mentioned the importance of the game being taken with dual motives, to not only bring college basketball to Detroit, but also to raise money and awareness for cancer research.

"Greg Kampe is an interesting guy," Izzo said. "When he took on this campaign for cancer, he really got some coaches involved, and I am his anchor because I really cannot say no to the guy."



SERGIO MONTANEZ | PHOTOGRAPHER
The Golden Grizzlies fell 72-49 to Michigan State University at Little Caesar's Arena on Dec. 14.

The game held scoreless for the first two and a half minutes, until MSU broke the drought with two free throws. Oakland quickly answered back, forcing some turnovers and grabbing rebounds. The score held 4-4 at the first media timeout.

Oakland gained a lead shortly after at 6-4, but MSU battled their way back on the offensive glass, going on a 16-7 run.

After that, the Golden Grizzlies struggled to get any offense going, shooting consistently around 25% from the floor and missing shots close to the basket.

"We're not a good shooting team — if you look at our numbers, you'll see that,"

Kampe said. "They're a good defensive team and so are we. I'll give them credit for guarding us."

Kampe credited the referees for calling a fair game, one that was officiated very liberally, letting the players play physically from the opening tip.

"We lost that battle inside," he said. "There was a lot of contact and physical play down there that was called consistently, called the same both ways, which you want as a coach. For us to beat Michigan State, the fouls were going to have to be called, it couldn't be a physical game, completely even."

The physical style of officiating led to many rebound opportunities, of which Oakland was unable to capitalize on. Oakland was out-rebounded 31-54, with MSU grabbing 13 offensive rebounds, which led to easy second-chance points.

Despite the 72-49 loss, Kampe praised the team's emphasis on defense.

"I'm angry with everything," he said. "You may not believe this, but we actually played a hell of a defensive game ... We were in the gaps we needed to be. We held the player of the year (Cassius Winston) to nine points."

Oakland held Michigan State to 7-33 behind the arc, and did not make things easy inside the arc either, allowing just 45% (26-58) of the Spartans' shots to fall.

It was implied, due to late transfers and two fifth-year seniors in the front court, that the Golden Grizzlies' offensive strategy would be shying away from shooting

three-point shots. The implications were correct, as Oakland shot 31% (7-22) from three-point range.

The 2019-20 team has a different style than any of Kampe's previous teams. With two big men in Xavier Hill-Mais and Brad Brechting leading the way, the strengths of the team more closely align to the strengths of MSU's team, which led to a below-average offensive output.

"We were a team that could run and shoot, we've always been a team that had one big that was good but we were a perimeter oriented team," Kampe said. "That was the antithesis of Michigan State. We would always have close games with them because our strengths were their weaknesses. This year, our strengths are their strengths. Our strengths against theirs scared me coming into this game."

The outcome of this game affects the overall record for the team, but does not affect the Golden Grizzlies' end goal: making the NCAA Tournament. For the members of the Horizon League, the easiest road to the tournament is winning the Horizon League tournament, something the team is much more suited for.

"In our league, nobody is going to be able to guard our two big guys [Hill-Mais, Brechting]," Kampe said. "There's a lot of ways to win, there are a lot of very good teams that do not shoot the three."

In his closing statement, Coach Kampe reiterated the goal, reminding everyone that the Horizon League play is the main goal.

The Sporting Blitz

While the men's basketball team had multiple home games over the winter recess, the women's basketball team spent their time on the road as they opened Horizon League play with three consecutive road games.

To kick off the season, the Golden Grizzlies took on their rival, the University of Detroit Mercy Titans, at Calihan Hall. Oakland pulled out to an early lead, taking control in the first quarter and leading 20-12. Chloe Guingrich was the team's leading scorer as the Golden Grizzlies maintained control of the lead for the rest of the game.

Guingrich recorded a near double-double with 17 points and nine rebounds. Jalisha Terry was not far behind in points, scoring 15 points and hitting three three-pointers. Against their rival, the team as a whole shot better than Detroit from the field, 3-point range and from the free throw line. They out rebounded the Titans and recorded 10 more assists than Detroit as well, leading to a consistent offensive attack.

After beating Detroit 71-57, the team's overall record improved to 6-6 and their Horizon League record sat at 1-0.

In their next game, the Golden Grizzlies traveled to Indianapolis to face the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) Jaguars, one of the best teams in the conference. In the previous season, the Jaguars finished 13-5 in the Horizon League and 20-12 overall.

The Jaguars took complete control of the game in front of their home crowd, winning by a final score of 76-41. IUPUI was able to limit Oakland's offense from the start of the game, only giving up eight points in the first quarter. After two competitive quarters in the second and third, the Jaguars outscored the Golden Grizzlies 28-12 in the fourth quarter.

"I thought we came out and hung tough in the first half," Associate Head Coach Ke'Sha Blanton told GrizzVision. "In the second half we had some defensive breakdowns that we normally don't have. We have to do a better job of communicating on the floor."

Oakland would improve offensively in their next game against the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames. After going down by nine at halftime, the Golden Griz-

zlies came out in the second half and battled back to erase the deficit.

The second half rally kicked off with the Golden Grizzlies slowly erasing the Flames' lead in the third quarter, which eventually culminated in an 11-3 run to start the fourth quarter. That run gave Oakland their first lead of the game, 54-53. After a UIC player missed what would be the game-winning shot, the game headed to overtime.

In overtime, the Flames were able to recreate some of their defensive efforts from the first half, scoring seven unanswered points before Kahlajah Dean eventually broke the drought with two free throws. UIC pulled away, with the final score sitting at 70-64.

The next four games for the women's basketball team are home games, starting with a match-up against long-time Horizon League powerhouse Green Bay on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7 p.m.

Compiled by Michael Pearce, Sports Editor

Oakland defeats UDM Titans, Davis at home

GRANT RICHARDS

Staff Reporter

While most had visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads this winter break, the Oakland University men's basketball team had their eyes set on something a tad less festive.

Not only did Oakland have their first Horizon League match-up of the season, but the Golden Grizzlies also squared off with their in-state rival, the University of Detroit-Mercy Titans.

"I had been told that a lot of these new guys might not know what this Detroit series means," Coach Greg Kampe said. "From Oct. 1 until today, the team got a text from their head coach saying, 'This many days until playing Detroit.'"

The team has ten new players that have yet to experience the significance of the series, but senior forward Xavier Hill-Mais has been involved in this rivalry for five years.

"We don't lose to Detroit," Hill-Mais said, with a brief pause to let his statement sink in. "That's something that we pride ourselves on ... We had to grind it into our brains."

To start the game, the Golden Grizzlies jumped out to a 14-0 lead. However, things got dicey toward the end of the game, despite never allowing Detroit to lead or be within eight points.



RYAN PINI | PHOTOGRAPHER

Men's basketball defeated UDM 78-69 in the O'rena.

Oakland maintained a double-digit lead throughout the first 30 minutes of the eventual 78-69 victory, but began to stall while Detroit began to catch fire, thanks to multiple corner three-point shots.

Kampe explained that some offensive opportunities were more available for the Titans due to the team's defensive game plan, which was centered around shutting down Antoine Davis.

"What we were doing defensively put us in a bad situation, you have to give some things up when you overplay like that," Kampe said. "But, Tray Maddox Jr. is an NBA-level on-ball defender... he has potential to be great."

The sophomore guard held the Horizon League's leading scorer to 4-17 shooting on the night. Giving Davis the reins was clearly Detroit's game plan as the sophomore guard played all 40 minutes.

Hill-Mais would go on to record a 19 point, 10 rebound double-double, but the Golden Grizzlies also got help from Maddox's 18 points and Blake Lampman's team-leading four three-pointers.

Brad Brechting would record 10 rebounds and sunk two clutch free throws to stop Oakland's scoring drought late in the second half.

Oakland's student section, the Grizz Gang, chose quality over quantity as their slightly smaller-than-usual crowd turned up the heat on Detroit for the full 40 minutes. The team clearly feeds off the Grizz Gang's energy, as after the game, the team took part in the post-victory ritual of jumping into the Grizz Gang's arms.

The next opportunity to see the Golden Grizzlies will come Thursday, Jan. 23 when UIC comes to town for a 7 p.m. tip-off.

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Women's rights? Kitchen, here I come

LAUREN KARMO

Campus Editor

So I have finally decided to quit my education, settle down and find a man with a house and a kitchen for me to make sandwiches in. I know, you all have been begging me to shut up since I've joined The Post, and you're finally getting your wish. This will be the last satire I will ever write, because I am a new woman.

"What brought this on?" my loyal readers must be wondering. Oh, nothing, nothing, just an epiphany. An epiphany that has absolutely NOTHING to do with the fact that World War III is about to go down, and with women being equal to men and all, they might get drafted. That didn't even cross my mind.

I just realized, you know with the new year and all, that women's rights are getting kind of out of hand lately. Absolutely ridiculous that women are out here working and going to school and believing themselves to be equal to men. God, it's about time they put themselves in check, the damned women.

Speaking of God, what about him? You know, he made the woman in the image of the man. Man came first, Adam and then secondly and less importantly, Eve, so why are

we messing with that? The Bible has never been wrong before.

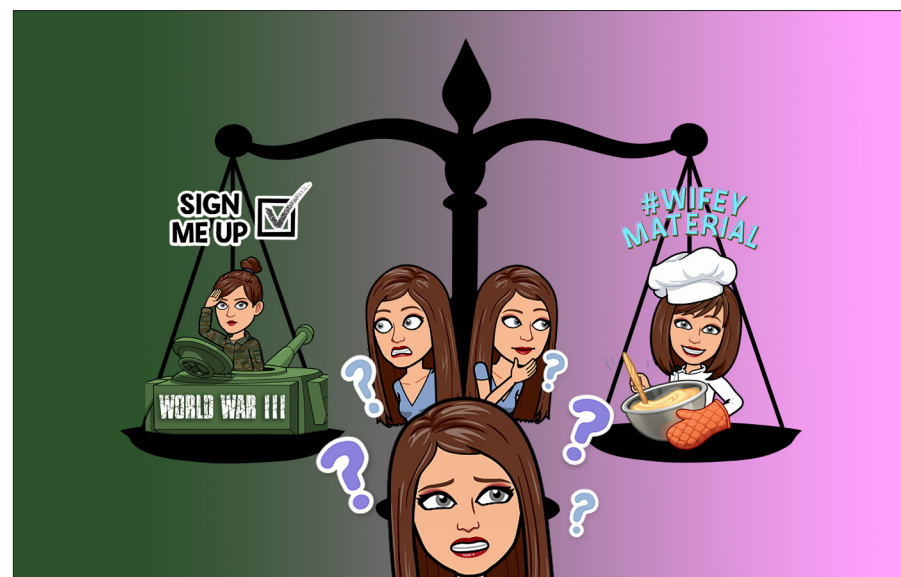
The thought of a woman fighting in a war is absurd to me, considering how frail and feminine are. They couldn't even pick up a gun! The only weapon a woman is capable of wielding is a chef's knife for when she's making dinner for the husband, and even that gets to be too much for her.

And the uniforms! Pants? Absolutely not. Not until the military designs a pretty little skirt for me to wear so the Iranians know who they're killing. And green does not look good on me at all, so unless they change it to pink, I'm straight.

It's just not feminine to be a soldier. Men were born aggressive and strong, and women are soft and sweet. It's impossible for a woman to kill, they're creators of life not destroyers. It's just science (another thing women don't understand).

I think I might just have to get hitched and pop out a couple snotty kids real quick and then I'm set, right? No need to worry about getting sent to the Middle East to die, the only near death experience I'll have is facing Karen at the PTA meetings.

All this talk about w0nem's r1tes and imma hurl. For real, I will vomit. What



ASHLEY AVERILL | DESIGN EDITOR

With World War III upon us, do women still want equal rights if that could mean being drafted?

even are those? My small woman brain just doesn't understand.

We just need to get back in the kitchen, ladies. Stop going to school, stop working, stop wearing those power suits and start making those sandwiches! The ceiling

won't clean itself! We need to remember our true purpose in life, to serve our husbands, not our country.

If big Don really decides to draft women, it doesn't matter to me. I can't enlist anyway, I have bone spurs.

WINTER 2020 PAYMENT INFORMATION

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The winter semester is here — start it off right and avoid any last-minute financial surprises by being proactive.

Reminder: the winter payment due date was December 15. If you haven't paid your account balance in full, it is past due. Please contact Student Financial Services immediately.

You can avoid class cancellation (drop) by paying your student account in full. Consider all your financial options. An OU payment plan helps spread tuition and costs into smaller, more manageable installments and be sure to pay your installments on time. Obtaining financial aid, utilizing external sources, and/or using your own funds are other options for you. Know which charges can be paid with your financial aid (an authorization may be needed) and which charges you must pay out-of-pocket.

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