

THE OAKLAND POST

Oakland University's Independent Student Newspaper

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POLL OF THE WEEK

WHICH UPCOMING MUSIC RELEASE ARE YOU MOST EXCITED FOR?

- A) CHARLI XCX
- B) MAREN MORRIS
- C) RED HOT CHILLI PEPPERS
- D) FATHER JOHN MISTY

LAST ISSUE'S POLL

WHICH SPRING HOLIDAY ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO?

18%
A) ST. PATRICK'S DAY

54%
B) EASTER

13%
C) CINCO DE MAYO

15%
D) MEMORIAL DAY

Letter from the editor: Two years of grief and COVID-19

JEFF THOMAS

Editor-in-Chief

This week marks the two-year anniversary of COVID-19 shutting down the United States and forever changing our lives. It also marks two years since I lost a dear friend of mine. I'm here with this letter to talk about my friend and extend a few words to all the people that have been impacted by the horrors of this pandemic.

The first time I met Dolores was at Friday-night karaoke in a dive bar in Madison Heights. I was the 24-year-old karaoke host, and she was a 70-year-old lady sitting at a high-top table with her husband Wayne.

My voice was shot that show. I used to have a lot of days at work where I'd spend my entire shift inhaling either concrete or drywall dust. My vocal cords were fried, so I kept it simple and sang the oldies.

I performed Otis Redding, Elton John and Johnny Cash throughout the night. Then I closed the show with the Rufus Wainwright version of "Hallelujah" at Dolores' request. I sang that song for her many times after that, and it always seemed to mean a lot.

Her and Wayne closed the bar out with me that night. While I was cleaning up after the show, she called me over to their table and we got to talking. She told me about her son Wayne Jr. who'd passed away in the early 2000's when he was just a teenager. With tears in her eyes, she said I reminded her a lot of him. She was shaking, I reached out and held her hand. From that point on we were friends and Dolores and Wayne were regulars at my show.

Whenever I put a microphone in Dolores' hand she'd light up the bar room. Her favorite song to perform was "I Just Called To Say I Love You" by Stevie Wonder. And what an appropriate song that was for her, as she kept calling me long after I'd lost the hosting gig at that bar and we quit seeing each other every Friday night.

Like clockwork she'd call me Tuesday nights, Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons. I can't tell you how many times I was sitting in a dirty work van after a long-summer day of installing fences just chatting it up with Dolores about whatever-the-hell.

To be honest, I was not usually the happiest guy back in those days. I had a lot going on in my personal life. I didn't feel good mentally and physically I was hurting every day. There weren't too many people checking in on me then either.

So we stayed in touch and still met up to sing every now and then. I even had the pleasure of going down to her house one weekend and working on all the flower beds around her house with my younger brother TJ.

Eventually her calls got less frequent. It was around Christmas 2019 that I learned Dolores had been in the hospital going in and out of comas. She pulled out of it and I

started going to visit her in the nursing home that January. For a while, she seemed to be on the mend, but that didn't last.

The final time I saw Dolores was Feb. 2020, shortly after her condition had flared up and caused her to spend a couple weeks at the hospital in and out of intensive care. After that incident, her health insurance downgraded her from a good care facility to a not-good care facility. I spent a couple hours late that night in a cold-dirty room, at her bedside reading her Anna Swir poetry and helping her navigate her smartphone so she could message her beloved grandkids.

In our final moments together, I bent down to hug her and felt her cold lips and clammy skin stick to the side of my face. I left Dolores, saying one last, "I love you too" before walking out of that room and outside into a late-February blizzard.

Ten days or so later I was sitting in Varner Hall, about halfway through Sam Srauy's Intro to Media Communications class, when I got the Facebook message from Dolores' daughter that she had passed away. Of course that was an awfully sad day. It was sad because I knew I'd miss my friend and because I knew that more than anything Dolores wanted to stay here with her family and friends.

Every time I visited her that winter while she was sick, we talked about how bad she wanted to get home and be with her family, how she wanted to be healthy for Easter and how she wanted to get back up on stage again and be able to sing for her friends. I promised her I'd be there at our old dive bar to sing with her when she was ready, a promise I still hope to keep one day.

I was proud, sitting in a Catholic church in Warren at Dolores' funeral, to find out just how many people she had touched with her friendship. Unfortunately, in the last two years during this pandemic the world has lost a lot of Dolores-type people.



PHOTO BY AYMAN ISHIMWE
Editor-in-Chief Jeff Thomas.

It is true that death is part of life. It's hard, but it's a reality that we all experience and do our best to persevere through. For people my age, a big part of growing up is outliving and losing the people who cared enough to help us carry on along our way.

Still, the suffering created by this pandemic is unlike anything we've experienced in our lifetimes. I don't care how inconvenient it is for business or people with political agendas, one million deaths should not be dismissed or downplayed. One million lives have been lost forever to this pandemic because of calculated decisions. One million human beings erased off the face of the earth that had family and friends and people that needed them to be here. There's no acceptable reason, no good excuse for the way our leaders let this pandemic ravage our country. Things didn't have to be this way.

My heart aches for the people who have experienced the grief of COVID-19 first hand. It is one thing to have someone you love and care about so deeply pass away. It is another thing entirely to know someone you love suffered horribly at the end of their life and then died scared and alone. That's the trauma our people are living through now.

And those of us lucky enough to have not experienced the loss of loved ones, have still lived through the isolation of this pandemic. We've endured the loss of casual friendships — the denial of the opportunity to meet someone like Dolores at karaoke night and make a friend that stays with you for life.

I've written more than I intended to here, but more than anything else what I want to say with this letter is — to all the people who feel bad and have had a hard time the past two years, I have felt bad and had hard times too. Please know that you're not alone and it's okay to feel the way you do.

I understand this has not been the most optimistic letter ever written by an Oakland Post editor, but in my opinion this is the reality of what we're living through. I didn't write this for sympathy or attention. I wrote it because I believe as writers it's important always that we use our words to do our best to tell the truth.

For me the truth is that I love and miss my friends, and I wish things were better than they are. I hope desperately that we will see easier times in our lives and that people won't have to hurt the way that they do. Human life has to matter. It's important that we remember the people who helped us and do what we can to share the gifts they gave us with others.

I will leave you people with another thing that I know and believe to be true — which is that as terrible and painful as grief is, it is often the prism that renders all light in our lives possible. There is only joy in this world. It's not as far out of reach as it seems.

Thank you for giving me your time.

GSA presents 17th annual Drag Show on March 31

GRACE LOVINS

Senior Reporter

OU's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) will be hosting their 17th annual Drag Show on March 31 in the Oakland Center Ballrooms. The show will feature performances from OU students and GSA members as well as professional drag queens Hershae Chicolatae, the master of ceremonies, and Sabin.

Katelyn Vutci, treasurer for GSA, states a drag show serves as an empowering expression of LGBTQ+ culture. She says the show serves as a fun space that is welcoming and a shameless celebration of queerness that members don't get to enjoy too often short of going to pride festivals and similar events.

The event's description on GrizzOrgs states that "drag seeks to emulate and/or play with social ideas of gender, masculinity, and femininity in order to explore or make commentaries on identity." Although drag has an extensive history dating back in the U.S. to roughly the 1950s, the demonstration of LGBTQ+ culture only began to enter "mainstream entertainment" within approximately the last 10 years.

GSA creates a safe space for LGBTQ+ campus members and aims to provide a place where they can meet new people, make new friends and gather together once a week to relax and enjoy each others' company. They organize several large-scale events each academic year including the drag show, pride

prom, poetry slam night, coming-out monologues and a bonfire.

While Vutci, a junior at OU, serves as treasurer for GSA, the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented the organization from hosting the drag show since 2020. Although she hasn't had the opportunity to attend previous shows, planning this year's event has raised her excitement about the broad impact the show has on the campus community.

"I personally think that it sends a very clear and prominent message that this university is excited and they hold no reservations about expressing that this is a place that's safe for queer people," Vutci said. "Any place that were more conservative would hem and haw, would hesitate to approve something as big and bombastic as a drag show but it's a tradition here."

Vutci also hopes this event will serve as a return to normalcy for the organization stating that, for her, the show is representative of members getting their lives back as the prominence of the pandemic slowly decreases.

"I'm just excited to enjoy it. I'm really excited to see what the queens prepare for us in their performances. We contract them and we fill them in about the run time and all that and then they bring what they bring so that's in their hands and I'm excited to see how that pans out," Vutci said.

This year's show, sponsored by the Center for Multicultural Initiatives and the Youth Democratic Socialists of America of Oakland University, is themed Interstellar — chosen by the general

members of GSA. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and light snacks, desserts and drinks will be provided for attendees. The performances will begin at 7 p.m. Note that it is customary in drag performances to tip the performers.

The drag show is free and open to all members of the campus community and tickets are not required, however, GSA prefers those interested in attending RSVP on GrizzOrgs. For more information about the show and GSA, visit the organization's GrizzOrgs page or Instagram.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE ON INSTAGRAM
The Gay Straight Alliance's 17th annual Drag Show is set for March 31.

Sing your heart out at HALO and Spanish Club Karaoke Night

JOSEPH POPIS

Senior Reporter

Join in and sing at Karaoke Night presented by the Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) and the Spanish Club. The event is on Friday, Mar. 25, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Lake Huron Room of Oakland Center. Students can sing whatever songs they choose in whatever language they desire. This event is welcome to all OU students, and food will be provided.

President of HALO and organizer of this event, Isabella Mahuad, states this event is an opportunity to bond and meet other students. Students can

also learn about a culture unfamiliar to them and be exposed to new music.

"For me, it's really a bonding opportunity for students at Oakland in general," Mahuad said. "Everyone is welcome to join us. It's just a good opportunity to meet other people and learn about a culture you may not be familiar with. Also, to get exposed to some new music. I think it's a really nice opportunity. It's a little before finals, so you can have space to decompress and meet others."

President of Spanish Club Karen Saabedra said that this event is something fun for students to do on campus prior to finals. It is also an opportunity for students to learn Spanish and its music.

"It's just something fun to do while on campus, for students to relax and do something fun before finals," Saabedra said. "It's an opportunity for students to learn Spanish and learn about Spanish music."

The Karaoke Night event can also provide students with an educational experience. Mahuad mentions that there is much multiculturalism in Hispanic music. The night is a social event, while learning opportunities will also be available.

"I figured if people are interested

in learning, we can make this like an educational experience," Mahuad said. "There's definitely a lot of multiculturalism that goes into different Hispanic music. Latin America is a diverse continent, so a lot of this music has African influences, Indigenous influences, European influences, American influences. So those are conversations we can have there and talk about the significance of certain things. But overall, it is going to be more of a social event. But, you know, there are learning opportunities while you're there to learn about new genres, new songs, that kind of stuff."

Due to COVID-19, Mahuad states that students have been disconnected. This event gives students the chance to get out and socialize while being exposed to something new.

"I think, for the most part, it is just an opportunity to connect with other students," Mahuad said. "Especially because of COVID-19, I feel like we've been disconnected. So this is really an opportunity to get out there, socialize, and also just be exposed to something new. Maybe put yourself out of your comfort zone and do some singing if that's something you're thinking about doing."

Mahuad states that (HALO) hopes to get its name out to the campus

community to ensure that students are aware of their organization. (HALO) aims to connect students with opportunities and provide them with fun experiences.

"We're hoping that we are getting our name out there and people know that our organization exists," Mahuad said. "We're really here to support other students, connect them to opportunities and offer support in any way possible. We hope that by putting on events, people will learn about us and that we can provide some fun experiences for our current members. Just like a way for us all to bond."

Saabedra discusses her reasons behind getting involved in Spanish Club and what she wanted to bring to the student body.

"I started as a member of the Spanish Club because I'm a Spanish education major," Saabedra said. "I wanted to be able to teach others about the Spanish culture and for students to have the opportunity to learn Spanish. I want to be able to create more opportunities for students to learn Spanish and about the culture while also helping out the community."

For additional information on (HALO) and Spanish Club, visit their Grizzorgs pages HALO/The Spanish Club.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HALO AND SPANISH CLUB ON GRIZZORGS
Karaoke Night is scheduled for Friday, March 25.

OU graduate student safe after fleeing from Ukraine

ARIANNA HEYMAN
Senior Reporter

When Oakland University graduate student Khrystyna Shchubelka traveled to Ukraine on Jan. 5 with her husband and child, she never could have imagined that she would be forced to flee the country so soon thereafter.

"I had to do a part of my dissertation research there and I had a baby," Shchubelka says. "My parents didn't see the baby yet, so we combined the family reason and the work reason."

As the weeks went by, Shchubelka could not ignore the escalating situation and the information that was being provided by the United States.

"Information was piling," Shchubelka says. "The last week before Feb. 24 it got really worrisome because we started feeling like, ok this is gonna be bad."

Shchubelka and her husband Arun Mohan booked a flight out of Ukraine on Feb. 24, but the flight was canceled due to the invasion of the Russian army that same day.

"When they bombed on 24th I [felt] fear first," Shchubelka says. "Even though nothing threatened me personally, I was looking at my baby and imagining, if it gets worse tomorrow [and a] rocket

flies to my city, what will I do? I cannot fight with this baby."

Shchubelka and Mohan decided their best option was to flee via the Slovakian border, but there was concern that the country would not admit Mohan because he did not obtain a proper visa.

The couple decided that if Slovakian officials would not let Mohan into the country, Shchubelka would continue on with their baby and Mohan would return with Shchubelka's father who was waiting on the Ukrainian side of the border.

As they were preparing to leave Ukraine, Shchubelka was hit with a myriad of emotions.

"I was so scared for the baby and I was so sad at the same time. I knew for sure I [could not] persuade my parents to go with me," Shchubelka says. "I took two pictures with my mom and I thought, 'if it's the last picture I have with my mom or whatever happens at least I will have [them].'"

After arriving at the border, Shchubelka and Mohan faced an eight hour line. They decided to cross on foot and fortunately, Slovakian officials let them both into the country.

"God really guided us to do it the very first day because if we waited one more day [a] huge wave of refugees would



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARUN MOHAN
Shchubelka and her six-month-old baby on the bus to Prague.

block the border," Shchubelka says. "We got out at the right moment."

From Slovakia, the couple and their 6-month-old boarded a bus to Prague. The entire time they kept in contact with OU biology professor and fellow Ukrainian national Taras Oleksyk.

"[Shchubelka] bought an [airline] ticket and the war started four hours

after that," Oleksyk says. "She already spent money for it so she ended up without money."

That's when Oleksyk and other OU students and staff stepped in. They were able to raise the money for Shchubelka's flight to Detroit in a matter of hours.

"I think it took about six hours for students and faculty [in the] biology department to put this together," Oleksyk says. "We [had] to take care of her and her husband."

From Prague, Shchubelka, Mohan and their baby flew to Paris and then to Detroit. Shchubelka feels extremely grateful that the OU community was able to support her during this challenging time. Now, Shchubelka and Oleksyk plan to use their voices for Ukrainian advocacy.

"We try to make sure that people understand we're not afraid. That's the only way to defeat this dark force that's coming," Oleksyk says. "Don't be afraid to stand up to it. Don't say that if we just give [Vladimir Putin] something then maybe he will stop. He will never stop. The only way to stop a bully is to stand up to him."

"Ukrainians are very sure that we will win," Shchubelka says. "There is no way back."

Grizz Dome update: Facility reinflated, interior being assessed

JEFF THOMAS
Editor-in-Chief

The Grizz Dome was able to be reinflated last week. At this stage exterior repairs are almost entirely complete and the extent of damages to the interior of the structure are being assessed. The university has not provided an update on costs of the repairs, and it could be several more weeks before the dome can resume normal operations.

Assistant Athletic Director for Facilities and Event Management Andy Adrianse provided the following update on the situation:

"As of about a week ago, the Grizz Dome was able to be inflated again with the vast majority of the exterior repairs having been completed. Work has now shifted to the interior where we are in the process of addressing the many light fixtures that were damaged. Each light has to be assessed to make sure the wiring hasn't been compromised, in addition to repairing or replacing the fixture itself. This process alone will be the most extensive phase of the repairs as we want to assure that everything is safe before applying electrical

service back to the space.

Additionally we are making repairs to the interior layers of the Dome which includes repairs to the interior skin itself along with an insulative material that runs between the inner and outer layers. Most, if not all of the netting that provides protection to participants and spectators in

various areas will need replacement as it was heavily damaged and torn as well.

Most of the sports equipment inside the Dome was destroyed due to the heavy compression. We estimate the overall weight of the Dome material alone exceeds 100,000 pounds. We are in the process of

working with the insurance provider for replacement of the equipment. Our Risk Management facilitates the process with our insurance provider and they have been in lockstep up to this point in time.

The repairs and cleanup have been conducted with a combination of the Dome manufacturer service team and our Skilled Tradesman on campus. I can't comment on the overall costs of the repairs at this time. In terms of when we might expect full occupancy again, I anticipate it could be several more weeks or longer before that happens. Much of the timeline will hinge upon the electrical aspects and most importantly making sure everything is safe. We certainly want to return everything back to normal for the sake of our many athletics programs and community groups as soon as possible."

The Grizz Dome collapsed on Saturday, Feb. 19 due to a campus-wide power outage and winter storm conditions early in the morning. OU sports teams including: baseball, softball, soccer, golf, track and field and cross country all relied on the dome as a practice facility. Repairs began on the facility on Monday, Feb. 28.



PHOTO BY MAGGIE WILLARD
The recently-reinflated Grizz Dome athletics facility. Repairs to the exterior of the dome are nearly complete. Interior structural damage is still be assessed.

FASOU celebrates community with Philippine Culture Night

GRACE LOVINS

Senior Reporter

The Filipino-American Students of Oakland University (FASOU) hosted their third annual Philippine Culture Night on March 12 to recognize and celebrate Filipino culture with the OU community. The celebration was open to all members of the campus community and took place in the Founders Ballrooms of the Oakland Center.

While this was the third annual Philippine Culture Night at OU, co-presidents of FASOU, Jermaine Juarez and Zachary Rosario, state the inspiration to establish the event came from other university organizations in Michigan.

“We got started by other Filipino organizations within the state of Michigan — there’s some at University of Michigan Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Dearborn, Wayne State University, Michigan State University — we were inspired by them,” Rosario said.

“They also hold these annual events for people to come and attend, for the school to put on to showcase the students, their talents, their culture really and so we thought that would be our next step too, to do one ourselves and follow in their footsteps but also make it our own.”

The theme of this year’s Philippine Culture Night was “Pagdiriwang ng mga Pagdiriwang” or Festival of Festivals. Juarez notes this idea was inspired by several festivals celebrated in the Philippines like Masskara, Sinulog, Ati-Atihan and Dinagyang.

Festival of Festivals featured performances like singing, dancing and acting, highlighting Filipino culture. The sold-out celebration included performances from FASOU, FASOU executive board members Lynne Abelgas and Zoé Rosario, Wayne State University’s FILSOC, University of Michigan Dearborn’s SAFA, as well as multiple other speakers and performers.

The event additionally aimed to raise donations for The P.U.S.O. Foundation, the acronym meaning the Purposeful

Unconditional Service to Others. The international non-profit organization aims to empower individuals to get involved with service work through the gift of giving back.

FASOU officially became a member of The P.U.S.O. Foundation’s College Outreach Program in 2020. Rosario states that FASOU has hosted many events to generate donations for the foundation such as a volleyball tournament, sending care packages to the Philippines, and through past Philippine Culture Night celebrations.

Juarez and Rosario reflect on the importance of exploring diversity and culture, one of the goals of hosting Philippine Culture Night. They cite their own experiences exploring Filipino culture with other organizations at different universities in the state as well as various culture-oriented groups on OU’s campus.

“I think in the present day where things are kind of evolving more and people are realizing more, diversity is very important. Especially growing up in a white-dominated community and culture, I didn’t get exposed to even my own culture, nonetheless other cultures,” Juarez said.

“Joining this organization and experiencing those events, I have learned that other people from different backgrounds and different histories offer you a lot of different perspectives that can change your way of thinking and can introduce you to things that might benefit you even more than before.”

The co-presidents also note that Philippine Culture Night is not only centered around exposing the community to Filipino culture, but bringing people together in an environment that makes you feel like you’re participating in a festival just like in the Philippines.

Juarez credits Rosario, FASOU’s executive board and general members for helping to organize the event. He additionally expresses his appreciation for the community members who came to support the organization and experience Filipino culture.

For more information about FASOU and to hear about future events, visit their GrizzOrgs page, Instagram or website.

OUWB organizations’ fundraising supports Haiti and Pakistan

RACHEL YIM

Senior Reporter

Two student organizations at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine recently conducted fundraising projects to provide essential products and support the communities in Haiti and Pakistan.

Marisa Stratelak (M2), president of Advocates for Global Health and Human Rights (AGHHR), initially planned and organized the Haiti project for the organization.

“I was a nurse before medical school and traveled to Haiti every year for five years before the pandemic hit,” Stratelak said. “I met some amazing Haitian and American healthcare providers there and experienced first hand the needs and desires of the local Haitian community we worked with.”

From these service trips, she learned that Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere, is plagued by natural disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes, as well as political turmoil. In August 2021, Haiti was struck by another large Earthquake, having not yet recovered from the last natural disaster.

“The world rallies around Haiti for a couple of weeks, but eventually the media attention and donations subsided,” she said. “Haiti still needs our help. It takes years to decades to rebuild, so we wanted to collect items useful for the Haitian people.”

AGHHR collaborated on this project with Doctors without Borders (DWB) — another student-led organization at OUWB. With similar goals and missions, these two organizations, together, promoted global health, discussed and raised awareness of problems the Haitian population is struggling with.

According to Stratelak, the project was successful. The organization collected hygiene and food kits, including tampons, underwear, soap, toothbrushes, sanitizers, deodorant, empty water bottles and bleaches.

“We raised several boxes worth of items to send to Haiti,” Stratelak said. “There is so much going on in the world, and

medical students do not have an income, so it was truly touching to see people donate so much. One of my classmates, Said Hasan, was very generous in his donation. I thanked him for his generosity, especially knowing we don’t have a large income, and he said ‘Don’t feel bad. What’s the point in money if we don’t give it to those who don’t have? [it]?’ and I was touched by this. I am thrilled with the way this fundraiser went and hope to expand to professors and doctors in the future.”

In addition to collaborating with AGHHR on the Haiti project, DWB organized another project — the first of its kind to DWB at OUWB — to raise funds for wells in Pakistan in collaboration with DWB at Wayne State University.

As a Pakistani, Shahrukh Naseer (M2), vice president of DWB and secretary of AGHHR, said he had long hoped to help the Pakistani community and was inspired by the mission of developing sustainable water wells throughout rural Pakistan by an organization at the University of Michigan called “Paani.”

“Being Pakistani myself, I’m very aware of the water crisis currently occurring, so I wanted to get involved and do my part to help my home country,” Naseer said. “My biggest goal as a member of DWB was to create a fundraiser for the Paani Project, with the hope that this could become a long-term, recurring fundraiser for DWB to host.”

The initial goal of the organization with this project was to raise 600 dollars, which would build one well that could provide clean drinking water to 200 people. Fortunately, this goal was achieved in just five days. According to Naseer, the organization has so far collected over 1,200 dollars.

“I couldn’t be happier and grateful for the way it turned out,” Mary Drekh (M2), president of DWB, said. “We received so much support from students and staff at OUWB and went further to gather a great number of donations that exceeded our original goal and are helping us expand to build more drinking water wells that will serve many more Pakistani communities.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FASOU
The Executive Board of the Filipino American Students of Oakland University.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OUWB NEWS
OUWB recently conducted fundraising projects to provide products and support to communities in Haiti and Pakistan.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY | *College of Arts and Sciences*

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in Philosophy, Religion and Society

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ELIZABETH ANDERSON
discusses

What Should the Work Ethic Mean for Us Today?

March 24, 2022 | 7–9 p.m.

Oakland Center, Banquet Room A

The work ethic was invented by Puritan theologians nearly 400 years ago. From the start, it contained contradictory ideas: one rationalizing the subjection of workers to drudgery for maximum profit; the other honoring workers for advancing human welfare and calling for their dignified and equitable treatment. Both ideas were developed and institutionalized over time in the U.S. and Europe, leaving a contradictory legacy for us today. I show how the neglected second work ethic tradition can be revived and updated for 21st-century American workers.



Photo by David Paterson

ELIZABETH ANDERSON

is Max Shaye Professor of Public Philosophy and John Dewey Distinguished University Professor of Philosophy at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is the author of *Value in Ethics and Economics*

(Harvard University Press, 1993), *The Imperative of Integration* (Princeton UP, 2010), and *Private Government: How Employers Rule Our Lives (And Why We Don't Talk About It)* (Princeton UP, 2017) and numerous, widely reprinted articles in journals of philosophy, law, and economics. She designed University of Michigan's Philosophy, Politics, and Economics program, and was its founding director. She is a 2019 MacArthur Fellow; she was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2008; she was named One of the World's top 50 Thinkers by *Prospect* magazine in 2020; and she was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2020.

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ABOUT RICHARD J. BURKE (1932-2012)

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

University announces plans to lift campus-wide indoor mask mandate

JEFF THOMAS
Editor-in-Chief

This afternoon the university announced that effective Sunday, March 20, the campus-wide indoor mask mandate will be lifted. From that point forward, masks will only be required in classrooms, laboratories, patient care areas of Graham Health Center and certain other areas deemed “non-conducive to social distancing practices.”

The announcement was relayed to the campus community via the following Campus Communications email:

“Effective on Sunday, March 20, Oakland University will no longer require face mask usage except in designated areas including classrooms, laboratories, patient care areas of Graham Health Center and other non-academic spaces determined to be non-conducive to social distancing practices. Mask usage will also continue to be required as part of the university’s isolation and quarantine guidelines.

Campus community members and visitors will also no longer be required to complete daily health screenings before coming onto campus. Those experiencing any signs or symptoms of illness are advised not come to campus and get to tested for COVID-19. All positive cases of COVID-19 must be reported via the Graham Health Center Secure Patient Portal or by emailing to health@oakland.edu.

Kresge Library, the Oakland Center and the Recreation Center will no longer have building-wide mask use requirements, but may maintain them in some offices, enclosed meeting spaces and other areas where increased risk of COVID-19 transmission persists. Mask usage guidelines will be clearly posted in all such areas on campus.

Employees concerned about virus transmission in workspaces should discuss the issue with their supervisors. Faculty members with health concerns related to teaching in-person should contact their dean to discuss an alternative work arrangement.

The university continues to support all campus community members and visitors choosing to wear mask while indoors. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recommends that individuals at risk for severe illness, as well as those who live with such individuals, wear masks while indoors in public spaces.

Campus community members are advised that university infection prevention guidelines may be revised at any time in response to evolving COVID-19 pandemic conditions, including the emergence and spread of new variants of the virus.”

OU lifting its campus-wide indoor mask mandate comes on the heels of University of Michigan’s announcement that they’d be taking similar actions earlier this week.

A recent survey on the mask mandate hosted by Oakland University Student Congress and The Post, which received over 1,000 student responses, revealed that the student body is relatively split on the mask mandate issue.

New COVID-19 cases have declined in the area from the massive surge of the Omicron Variant that caused the beginning of the winter semester to be moved online.

The possibility of lifting the mandate was first discussed seriously during the Feb. 17 University Senate meeting. The March 20 date for lifting the mandate was likely designated because it is two weeks after winter break when many students would have left the campus and possibly been at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure.

OUWB’s Street Medicine Oakland supports the Pontiac community

RACHEL YIM
Senior Reporter

Thanks to the leadership of Street Medicine Oakland (SMO) at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB), this winter season in Pontiac is looking warmer than before.

Pontiac is ranked fifth in Michigan for the largest homeless population, and oftentimes, these homeless people do not have access to appropriate medical care. SMO targets this population to help provide quality medical care, and recently organized its second winter clothing drive for their warmer winter.

“When the weather gets cold, it’s really important for people to be able to have supplies like winter clothing, sleeping bags, and blankets,” Kaitlin Pataroque, the chair of the street runs projects, said. “It can be life-saving.”

According to Pataroque, the clothing drive was successful as SMO collected a total of 70 shirts and coats, 25 pairs of pants and 15 pairs of shoes as well as socks, hats and gloves.

“It felt really encouraging that so many people were willing to donate their belongings,” Pataroque said. “It was wonderful to help give dignity to the city and its residents so that people could take pride in where they live. During this period, I was also connected with other individuals who do similar work, and was able to call them to hear how their outreaches work.”

As a collaborative effort between OUWB, Beaumont Health and the Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic, SMO has received various support for its outreach projects. Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) is one of the first contributors to the launching of the program.

“I went with them on their route back in Spring of 2020,” Pataroque said. “We then had an initial route, and then would ask homeless individuals that we met, (‘Do you know of anyone else who might need some help?’) And we would add and modify our route that way. It’s been very successful.”

Gary Burnstein Community Clinic provides a place to store supplies and an opportunity for uninsured patients to see healthcare professionals. The Oakland County Health Department has also been a big part of the outreach projects during the COVID-19 pandemic by COVID-testing residents at Hope Shelter regularly, getting vaccines to people on the street and coordinating the delivery of medications for people with COVID-19 who qualify for emergency use authorization of monoclonal antibody or antiviral treatments.

Community service led by SMO also includes the members and Beaumont



PHOTO COURTESY OF
STREETMEDICINEOAKLAND.ORG
SMO looks to bridge the gap between the homeless community and healthcare providers.

physician meet homeless individuals directly on the streets of Pontiac to provide lunch, supplies and immediate medical care every other Saturday. Every other Friday, they meet guests staying at Hope shelter to provide necessary medical care and health counseling.

They also held Pontiac Community Clean-Ups where medical students, faculty members and their families volunteered to help spruce up the city of Pontiac primarily with park beautification such as spreading mulch, pulling weeds and trash pick-up.

“We are a pretty young program, but have fortunately become very successful,” Pataroque said. “We’ve been able to give advice to other students trying to start similar programs, and also have been able to redirect outside groups to other OUWB initiatives. For example, connecting clinics for refugees to the Asylum Initiative Group at OUWB. We have done some street outreaches in Royal Oak. But for now, we are focusing on growing our presence in Pontiac and hoping to start health fairs there.”

As an aspiring primary care physician, Pataroque emphasized important qualities to develop: being humble and resourceful as well as being able to understand the barriers the patients face.

“These are traits that are helpful for everyone to have, but have really helped guide me as I have continued in my medical training,” she said. “I won’t always know the answers to an issue, so knowing that I can reach out to others is an important quality and also something very reassuring. It’s important for me to know my own limitations, and to be comfortable asking people in my community for help.”

SMO continues to better understand patients’ realities in order to provide quality medical care and resources while also equipping future physicians and healthcare leaders with perspective and experience caring for the homeless population, as part of its mission to “bridge the gap between the homeless members of our community and healthcare providers.”



MAGGIE WILLARD
OU has announced its plan to lift the campus-wide indoor mask mandate on March 20.

All you need to know about the Meadow Brook Ball

D'JUANNA LESTER

Senior Reporter

The highly anticipated Meadow Brook Ball is back! The dance will be held Friday, April 8 from 8 p.m. until midnight at the Meadow Brook Mansion. President of the Meadow Brook Ball Committee Abigail Walsh talks about the details of the dance.

D'Juanna Lester, The Oakland Post: What is planned for the night?

Abigail Walsh: [There will be] many forms of entertainment at the ball — dancing, a DJ in the ballroom at the mansion, photo experiences, a flip book (those little animations you make when you draw but with photos), caricature artists. It's a nice takeaway that students can take home. We'll also have henna artists and a tarot card reader. We'll also have cards and games out in another room for a more chill night. We'll also have a harp player and tours of the mansion.

When are tickets on sale until?

Tickets are on sale until they sell out. We have about fifty left [as of March 10.] Tickets cost \$30 for OU students and \$35 for non-OU students and are available at the OSI ticket window in the Oakland Center. Students should bring their OU ID to purchase tickets.

Is this an annual event?

Yes, it is annual. We couldn't have one last year because of the pandemic, but every year we have had [the ball].

What is the 2022 theme?

This year's theme is glitter and gold.

What is the dress code?

The dress code is formal attire. If people ask questions about it we say that most of the men that attend wear suits or a nice dress shirt or pants. Most of the women that attend wear long gowns — some wear short gowns too. It's mostly similar to a prom or a gala. If you want to wear whatever you want, I've seen some women rock some really cool suits. Something formal.

Will there be a mask mandate and what are the COVID-19 safety protocols?

Since the event is on campus, we will be following all of the campus's COVID guidelines. As of right now, that means a mask mandate. Whatever policy changes they make, we will be following that.

How long has the committee been planning it?

We've had an interesting year this year with the planning. Since we didn't get to have one last year, we were planning on having one in the fall and one in the winter. With the cases in the fall, we weren't allowed to. We've been planning this, since, I'd say, the summer. It's been a very long process.

Describe the planning process.

We normally start out with our theme. We try to make sure it's a theme we haven't done before. We don't want students to have the same theme in the years they've attended the school. After the themes, we move on to the entertainment. We want

students to have things to do all night long while they're there. We try to find things that students enjoy, and we have some new experiences too. It's a mix of new and old. From there, we reach out to sponsors and fundraising events. This year we did bottle drives. The last step is pretty much getting all the vendors contracts, paperwork mostly and decorations.

For more information and updates on the Meadow Brook Ball, visit @mbbc_ou on Instagram.



PHOTO BY MAGGIE WILLARD

The 2022 Meadow Brook Ball will take place on Friday, April 8. This year's theme is glitter and gold.

SPB to host Murder at Meadow Brook: A Murder Mystery Dinner

SARAH GUDENAU

Features Editor

Get ready for a night of suspense, secrets and crime-solving at Murder at Meadow Brook: A Murder Mystery Dinner. Hosted by the Student Program Board (SPB), the event will take place on Tuesday, March 22 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Meadow Brook Hall.

A tragic murder has happened in the mansion. Here's how the night will go: upon entry, each guest will be given a new identity with a complete backstory including personal motives, relationships, desires and more.

"When a guest checks in, they will be able to choose from a variety of identity packets, that may end up having them be a suspect, a witness, an accomplice or an investigator of the murder," Annual Events Director for SPB Kaleigh Belz says. "This way they can familiarize themselves with their role prior to getting into the real nitty-gritty of the mystery."

Guests can check in and tour Meadow Brook from 6 to 7 p.m. before a three-course dinner from 7:20 to 8:30 p.m. The meal includes salad and the main course — which will be a chicken entree — followed by dessert.

Once guests' stomachs are full, they will start crime solving. The murder mystery will take place from around 8:30 to 10 p.m.

While ticket sales closed on Tuesday, March 8, they were \$10 and open to students and non-



PHOTO BY SOPHIE HUME

The annual Murder at Meadow Brook: A Murder Mystery Dinner will take place on March 22.

OU guests, as long as the purchaser was an OU student. If you missed it this year, don't worry — Murder Mystery is an annual event.

"It's been a little while since we've been able to host it, due to school closing in 2020, and our virtual 2021, but it is something that we're excited to bring back," Belz says.

In regard to COVID-19 safety protocols, all SPB events follow the rules and restrictions of the university, so initially that meant guests would fill out the health screening forms on MySail and wear masks when not actively eating. However, OU has since announced the campus-wide indoor mask mandate will be lifted effective Sunday, March 20.

Masks will be optional now. Additionally, attendees are encouraged to wear semi-formal attire to the event to set the tone for the evening.

"I'm most excited to see how students interact at the event: the students are the investigators, suspects and attendees of the event, so it's up to them to see how the night truly plays out and if the murder will be solved," Belz says. "It's a really unique programming experience that I'm glad we get to share with the students at OU, as they make memories and try something new."

Following the Murder Mystery event, SPB has other plans for the remainder of the semester: SPB is teaming up with Greek Life to host a Roller Rink on March 29; the Spring Concert (featuring Tai Verdes and Peach Tree Rascals) will be on April 3; Preacher Lawson will be speaking at OU on April 4; a mental health summit called Expo of the Mind will take place on April 12; and lastly, Zuzu Acrobats will visit at the end of the semester during Stress Less Week.

For more SPB events and updates, stay tuned to Campus Labs or follow @spbou on Instagram.

People of OU: alum Robert Snell, watchdog journalist

ARIANNA HEYMAN

Senior Reporter

Since graduating from Oakland University in 1996, Robert Snell has made a name for himself as one of Detroit's most respected journalists. Snell's journey at OU began after a chance meeting at a journalism convention with former advisor of the Oakland Post and former director of the journalism program — Jane Briggs-Bunting.

After Briggs-Bunting recruited him to transfer to OU from community college, Snell thrived under her tutelage and learned many lessons which he still applies to his work today.

"She instilled in us that you have the right to information. That was a big part of her life and that was in turn a big part of her students' lives," Snell says. "That was how we operated every day at the paper. We're gonna have a nice mix of news — sports, entertainment, opinion — but we're also gonna have very strong news and we're going to be aggressive about gathering it. That's still my mindset 26 years later, and a lot of that is due to Jane."

After serving as Editor-In-Chief for two years at the Oakland Post, Snell graduated and took jobs at publications such as The Voice in Macomb county and the Lansing State Journal before being



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DETROIT NEWS
OU alumnus Robert Snell was voted Journalist of the Year by the Society of Professional Journalists in 2014, 2018 and 2020.

hired by The Detroit News in 2006.

At The Detroit News, Snell covers federal courts, federal agencies and stories of corruption in the city. He was also the lead reporter covering Detroit's 2013 bankruptcy case and led coverage of the historic collapse and bankruptcy of General Motors — Snell has always been drawn to stories of this nature since his career began.

"[The] basic fundamental role of the newspaper is to let people know, here's how your tax dollars are being spent,"

Snell says. "It's always been fascinating to learn about people who don't do things the right way and let readers know about it."

Snell also finds it rewarding to be able to cover stories that so many people can relate to and that make a broad impact. He cites his work on the United Auto Workers (UAW) corruption case as an example.

"If you're in the auto industry, odds are you are a union member. You're getting money withheld from your paycheck, every paycheck, and a certain amount of that money is going to the UAW," Snell says. "Here's an example of numerous UAW leaders taking that money and buying themselves expensive alcohol, fancy clothes, golf clubs and taking trips to exotic cities around the world with your money. You don't have to really work too hard to explain to people why this is important or significant."

Snell's hard hitting journalism has not gone unrecognized by his peers. He was voted Journalist of the Year by the Society of Professional Journalists in 2014, 2018 and 2020.

"To get some recognition from your peers feels really good," Snell says. "It's genuine and it's just a really good feeling. I definitely appreciate it and I don't take it for granted."

Snell's work for The News includes controversial stories. In March 2018

after the Detroit Lions hired Matt Patricia as head coach, Snell broke a story based on court documents that showed Patricia had been indicted by a grand jury for sexual assault in 1996 while a college student. Patricia denied the allegation. The plaintiff subsequently declined to testify and the case was dismissed.

In June 2021, Snell wrote another story based on court documents from 2007 that connected professional golfer Phil Mickelson to a \$500,000 wager with a Detroit bookie. Mickelson, in Detroit for the Rocket Mortgage Classic, expressed anger at the timing of the article and said he would never return to Detroit to play.

Snell's achievements in journalism highlight the importance for journalists to cover, and uncover, the key issues of our time and hold public officials accountable when necessary.

"I think [journalists] are by and large watching what elected leaders, politicians, people in offices of public trust — watching what they're doing, how they're spending our money and how they're making decisions that impact people's lives," Snell says. "There's not a lot of people beyond the media that are doing that and are able to devote their lives to keeping track of how tax dollars are being spent and how politicians are making decisions that impact real people."

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Dr. Vrabec shares eye health tips for college students

GABRIELLE ABDELMESSIH

Campus Editor

A college schedule is a busy schedule. With all of the time spent interacting with a digital screen, whether for education, communication, or entertainment purposes or through utilizing books and other study aids, our eye health can be overlooked. I spoke to Dr. Joshua Vrabec, a Board-Certified Ophthalmologist at Michigan ophthalmology, about what college students can do to protect their short and long-term eye health.

Q: What are some of the factors that can contribute to poor eye health in college students? How can students protect their eyes?

A: The most common reason for permanent vision impairment in college-aged adults are injuries. Over 1 million eye injuries occur each year, and 90% of these are preventable. The most important way to protect your eyes is to wear safety glasses while working with machinery, power tools, or even hand tools. Another common cause of problems is wearing contact lenses too long, or worse, sleeping in your contacts. This can lead to cornea infections (ulcers) which can permanently impair vision for life. Young adults who have trouble maintaining good contact lens habits may want to consider laser vision correction such as LASIK.

Q: How often should one get their eyes checked?

A: It depends. If you have a medical problem like diabetes or autoimmune disease, you should have your eyes examined once per year. Similarly, if you wear contacts, you should have your eyes checked

annually to make sure the lenses are still fitting well to minimize complications. If you have none of the above, you should consider an eye exam once every five years.

Q: Why shouldn't one sleep in their contact lenses?

A: Sleeping in contact lenses greatly reduces the oxygen absorption into the corneal epithelial cells, which causes them to more easily break down and become infected by bacteria. This leads to corneal inflammation (keratitis) or infection (ulcer). Treatment for ulcers can be very difficult, and may lead to permanent vision issues and may prevent you from



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT
Dr. Joshua Vrabec talks ophthalmology and eye health.

having a vision correction procedure in the future.

Q: Does taking measures to ensure good eye health now have an impact on your future health? Is there anything else you think college students should know about their eye health?

A: Taking great care of your eyes now is an investment in your future. Sadly I have witnessed many examples of students whom have had tragic accidents that permanently impacted their vision. This can result in excluding you from certain careers in the military, aviation, and some medical fields. The vast majority of these tragic injuries could have been prevented simply by wearing eye protection, or being more careful with contact lens wear. I also get asked frequently about the dangers of computer and phone screens, and so far the jury is still out. Generally, it's a good idea to give your near focus mechanism (accommodation) frequent breaks to avoid eyestrain, but there has not been definitive benefit seen from computer or blue-light blocking glasses to date.

I also frequently get asked by college students about LASIK, and specifically whether it is safe. The answer is that yes, in the proper candidate, laser vision correction (particularly the most modern versions of the procedure) is incredibly precise and safe. It has been FDA-approved for over 20 years, and with can be a great way to free yourself from the inconveniences and costs of glasses and contacts. Anyone who has additional questions about laser vision correction or LASIK, including whether they might be a candidate, is welcome to contact our office at 248-710-2323 or contact us via our website: <http://mieyedoc.com>



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THE RETURN OF THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS

The Battle of the Bands competition, hosted by the Student Program Board (SPB), returned to the Oakland Center this past Wednesday. Five bands, spanning vastly different styles, duked it out for the chance to play at the annual spring concert as an opener for Tai Verdes and Peach Tree Rascals.

In the lead-up to the concert, students filled The Habitat eagerly awaiting to hear live music. After a short ten-minute delay, the event began.

The first act to take the stage was the classic rock tribute band Set N' Stone who played a lively set of self-proclaimed "dad rock." Next up was the metal band Apota, who played original anti-war songs alongside a cover of "Zombie" by the Cranberries. Following them was Confidence, an R&B group fronted by the energetic rapper Rockim Williamson. The last band, Living Ai, played a set of original songs inspired by Japanese rock and Midwestern Emo music.

The final act of the night was OU's own a capella group, the Gold Vibrations, who compared their act to the film series "Pitch Perfect." All of the acts were able to capture the attention and admiration of the student body in attendance.

There was an incredibly cooperative atmosphere as members from different bands exchanged words of encouragement after each performance and networked with each other.

Nikolas Kaljaj, the lead guitarist of Set N' Stone and a future OU student gave his thoughts on the importance of friendly competition saying, "I'm not the hugest fan of [battle] of the bands, I think we should all be a community. I like the concept of pitting bands against each other but I don't think there should ever be any ill will, it should all be in good faith."

This good atmosphere could not have been possible without the SPB organizers who planned and hosted the event. Daryl Blackburn, the coordinator of leadership and service programs within the office of student involvement and the emcee of the event talked about why the organization put on the event.

"We like to get students involved and to cheer on their own fellow students," Blackburn said. "Each band has at least one Oakland student, so it's all about getting the names of their bands out there. We're very happy about the turnout, we're excited, we have a really good lineup, we're happy to be back, it's been a great night."

The big winner of the night, as voted on by the audience, ended up being the Gold Vibrations.

Jazz Pittenger, the president of the Gold Vibrations, gave her thoughts on the victory saying, "Honestly it's very bizarre, we were not expecting to win at all. We barely knew if we were going to make it to this performance and be able to come out and sing for everybody, so it's a very pleasant surprise."

Pittenger also talked about the other struggles leading up to this performance and where the group is going from here.

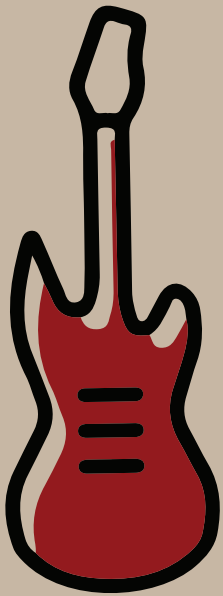
"We are very excited to be back singing," she said. "We were out for a while because of COVID-19, we even rehearsed in a parking garage during the fall of 2020 in freezing weather. We have an upcoming concert sometime this spring along with our auditions for the fall 2022 lineup."

You can find all of the bands on Instagram @set_n_stone_official, @apoteh.official, @confidencecreates, @livingai.band and @ougoldvibrations respectively. Also, follow @spbou for more information on upcoming student events.



Story by: Alexander Gustanski
Design by: Bridget Janis
Photos by: Sophie Hume and Stanley Tu





'The Batman' gives 'The Dark Knight' a run for its money

JOE ZERILLI

Senior Reporter

Spoiler Warning

This movie ruled so much, I left the theater in complete awe. "The Batman" delivered an instant classic with brilliant cinematography, superb choreography and a pleasant acting surprise from Robert Pattinson as Bruce Wayne/Batman.

I didn't have a lot of background knowledge going into this movie, I knew it existed and even stayed away from watching the trailer. In retrospect, I am so glad I did because it made every bit of the movie unknown to me and was an amazing experience.

Everybody in this movie was casted perfectly, many familiar faces like Zoë Kravitz as Selina Kyle and some unfamiliar — to me at least — like Paul Dano as the Riddler. The chemistry between the actors would make you feel the actors knew each other since childhood.

The movie starts with the Riddler stalking the mayor of Gotham City, with him killing him later the same night. The following monologue from Pattinson is exactly what I'd expect from Batman, discussing how he strikes fear in criminals' hearts without even being there.

This is also where we see the new generation Batman, and man, was this

scene so rewarding. The new suit is beautiful, and watching as the darker side of Batman is shown when he brutally pummels the first criminal of the movie was chef's kiss.

Batman works alongside James Gordon — portrayed by Jeffrey Wright — throughout the movie and you see their relationship and trust grow in each new scene they share. The good cop bad cop dynamic — or "batshit cop" as the Penguin put it — was very satisfying to watch.

Speaking of the Penguin, the investigation led Batman to the nightclub he operates, which is where he meets Kyle. He would follow her home, which is when he learns of her presence as a cat burglar named Catwoman — albeit the name doesn't get dropped in the movie — and their partnership begins.

Back at the nightclub, using a camera through contact lenses, Kyle begins searching for answers for both her and Batman. After learning of Kyle's relationship with Carmine Falcone, Batman presses for answers which leads Kyle to cut off communication.

The next day at the mayor's funeral, Wayne makes an appearance but the funeral gets interrupted by another scheme from the Riddler. Wayne saves the mayor's son, who shares something with Wayne and their moments together are a nice touch,

showing Wayne knows his pain.

After a run-in with a drug deal run by the Penguin and Falcone, we get an epic car chase scene with the Penguin and Batman — the new Batmobile is so sick, I love it. The cinematography in this sequence was excellent, between the fire and making Batman look much more menacing.

Wayne learns the truth about his father through the Riddler, and begins to question his own morals until a touching conversation with Alfred. It's always nice to see a father-son relationship between Wayne and Alfred — never gets old.

Batman goes back to Falcone to bring him to justice, but upon going outside Falcone is killed by the Riddler. The Riddler is then tracked down and revealed to be Edward Nashton, a fellow orphan who belonged to an orphanage funded by the Wayne family.

While the Riddler is locked away, his plan of destroying the breakwaters around Gotham comes true with his followers simultaneously invading new mayor Bella Reál's acceptance. Batman, Catwoman and Gordon do stop the assassination but the damage has been done.

Batman takes a vow afterward to become a new beacon of hope for Gotham, which is showcased wonderfully as he leads survivors of the flooding with a flare. No longer

redeeming vengeance, Batman now is an inspiration for Gotham.

This movie was spectacular, I was never bored even with it being about three hours — really the only reason it didn't get 5/5 stars. It's hard to put into words how good this movie was, all I can say is I HIGHLY recommend you watch it.

Review: 4.9/5 stars



PHOTO COURTESY OF DC COMICS
ON TWITTER

Robert Pattinson as Batman and Zoë Kravitz as Catwoman in "The Batman" (2022)

Jeen-yuhs's documentary gives a look into Kanye West's journey

JOSEPH POPIS

Senior Reporter

The new three-part Netflix documentary, "Jeen-yuhs: A Kanye Trilogy," takes audiences through the earlier and more recent days of Kanye West's producing and rapping career.

The man behind the camera, Coodie Simmons, films Kanye as he ascends to the top. The documentary shows Kanye's urgency to burst into the industry as a rapper and not just a producer. Early on, Kanye was mainly known as a producer — most people within the hip-hop industry did not take him seriously when he mentioned his aspirations of being a rapper.

After finally signing a record contract with Roc-A-Fella Records, the documentary shows footage of Kanye making his debut solo album, "The College Dropout."

One of the scenes that stuck out to me is the recording of the song "Slow Jamz." The documentary shows Jamie Foxx in the studio as Kanye explains his idea for how Fox's part of the song will go. It was awesome to see the creation of an all-time great hit and

unforgettable intro.

Another scene that comes to mind is when Kanye shows artist Pharrell Williams the song "Through the Wire." When Pharrell hears the track, he can't believe it and walks out of the studio. He says Kanye is one of his favorite artists and praises him. We, as listeners, always see the finished product of a song but never really what goes into making it. I loved how the documentary showed the process, as the process is an essential part of every hit.

One thing that is admirable about Kanye as demonstrated in this documentary was his determination and perseverance to accomplish his goals.

Coodie said it best: "Whenever I saw Kanye put his mind on something, he wouldn't stop until he accomplished it. Everything I watched him do, he always figured out a way."

Throughout this documentary, time and time again, Kanye pushed past obstacles to get to another level in terms of his career. These obstacles included not being taken seriously by other artists or labels, a nearly fatal car accident, and the death of his mother. Yet, even when others put limitations on him, he never

subdued to them as he had a different mindset than most.

One of this documentary's more heartwarming and devastating aspects was Kanye's relationship with his mother, Donda. These two were truly immensely close, and no one understood Kanye as his mother did. She was in full support of him and his dreams.

She was undoubtedly his rock and a place where he could fall back on. Her unexpected passing had an immense effect on him that forever changed Kanye. I believe this incident, along with all the things that fame can do to someone, significantly shaped who he is today.

Toward the last episode of the documentary, it discussed more of the Kanye we see today. This includes his venture into the fashion industry, involvement in the political world and battle with mental illness.

I could definitely tell he seems like a different person in comparison to the first episode as life generally changes people. I thought this documentary did an adequate job showing someone's journey through their life and career. I had not seen many documentaries

revolving around hip-hop artists before, and it was intriguing to watch one like this.

It definitely gave a great backstory and looked into one of the most talked-about and listened to artists today.

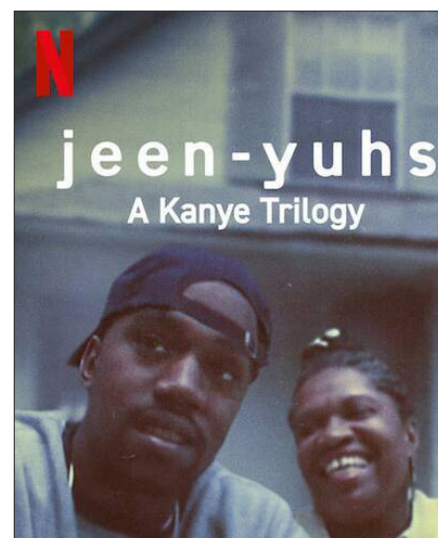


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROGEREBERT.COM
The new documentary takes audiences through Kanye West's journey.

Is the Yeezy Gap “Perfect” hoodie perfect?

ALEXANDER GUSTANSKI
Senior Reporter

Ye, or the artist formerly known as Kanye West, has had an eventful year so far. He released a new album exclusively on his \$200 stem player, started beef with Pete Davidson, which culminated in him making a music video depicting the decapitation of the SNL star, and Kim Kardashian broke off their marriage.

Despite all of these controversies, his Yeezy brand has been able to release two collections with GAP.

Back in January, Ye released a cinematic music video and advertisement for the restock of his \$90 Yeezy x Gap hoodie. I immediately ordered myself a hoodie in the black colorway, at its new \$80 price tag. I received the product in the mail approximately five weeks later which was within the expected shipping range. After wearing the hoodie frequently throughout the past few weeks, I can finally determine if it lives up to its perfect moniker.

The perfect hoodie’s main draws are its cut, construction and bland design. The hoodie sports a wide and boxy cropped fit. I purchased the hoodie in a size large which I measured at 26.5 inches in width by 26 inches in length. This cut is in stark contrast to a standard large champion reverse weave hoodie I own, which I measured at 26.75 inches in width and 29

inches in length. The three-inch difference in length often forces wearers to style the hoodie with a tee-shirt peaking out underneath. This is in contrast to how Ye styles the hoodie, as he designed it to complement his body type.

The construction of the hoodie is its other allure. The perfect hoodie is double layered in its body and arms, giving it a very heavyweight feel. The smallest size, an XS, weighs 2 pounds and 3.5 ounces. To use a champion hoodie as a benchmark again, a small weighs 1 pound 9.5 ounces. The Gap hoodie is significantly heavier and, while worn, feels like a comfortable weighted blanket. The thick construction also makes the hoodie incredibly warm.

In addition to the other benefits, the perfect hoodie sports an incredibly minimal design. The only branding is a screen-printed tag underneath the hood, inside the hoodie. The light approach to branding allows the hoodie to serve as a reliable basic item for any occasion.

So is the Yeezy x Gap hoodie actually perfect? For myself, yes. For the \$80 price tag, I cannot think of a better quality hoodie. I also enjoy the fit and weight of the piece as it sits on my body comfortably. However, you should exercise caution when picking a size and wait to buy the hoodie retail as it will likely restock later this year, and the piece typically sits for a few hours before selling out.

I also recommend not buying the Yeezy x Gap engineered by Balenciaga “dove hoodie” currently available on Farfetch. Practically every benefit of the perfect hoodie is missing in this piece. The hoodie has a strange fit, coming in at a whopping 33.375 inches wide. The hoodie has Gap branding on its front and a large dove on its back, making it far more flashy. And the biggest issue with the piece is that it retails for triple the price of the perfect hoodie for \$240.

Maybe it’s my disdain for Balenciaga flaring up, but the perfect hoodie is a far better alternative.

Elden Ring: Game of the Year Frontrunner in March?

CHRISTIAN TATE
Sports Reporter

I want to lay all my cards on the table, right from the start: I have never played a Dark Souls game before. Heck, I’ve only barely dipped my toes into a game that you could consider an open-world title.

When it comes to gaming, I’m much more of a fighting/simulation game lover than an action-RPG or adventure gamer. Much more inclined to spend my hours spiking people in ‘Super Smash Bros. Ultimate’ than I am to run around exploring a virtual landscape. Outside of becoming obsessed with ‘Marvel’s Spider-Man,’ I don’t even know if I can say that I’ve ever enjoyed an open-world RPG.

Because of this, I never felt the need to change up the types of games I played. Why experiment if I already know what I like from my video games? This, it seems, was the fault of me being a naive gamer, blind to the realities of what I was missing with such a closed and limited mindset.

I had already missed the highest peaks of one of the best open-world games of the last decade when I refused to play Game of the Year award-winning title, ‘Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild,’ the nineteenth game in the ‘Zelda’ series that is widely cited as one of the greatest video games of all time.

Obviously, I refuse to make such a mistake again, and with the immediate critical acclaim and glowing comparisons to the aforementioned ‘Zelda’ game that ‘Elden Ring’ is receiving, I’ll admit that the series has piqued my interest.

So, with all of this context in mind, what is the opinion of a pair of fresh eyes to both the FromSoftware development team and this entire genre of gaming as a whole? No drum roll needed, I’ll just tell you that I love it. A lot.

‘Elden Ring’ is one the most breathtaking works of art I’ve ever seen, full stop. This game is seriously better looking than some big-budget movies I’ve seen, but it takes more than pretty scenery

to receive the universal acclaim that ‘Elden Ring’ has. The gameplay is also a cut above the rest, as it gives features that are fun and engaging to new players and veteran players alike.

I know that it’s been said time and time again, but the world of ‘Elden Ring,’ the “Lands Between,” is massive and feels alive with unique non-player characters and bosses to fight scattered all throughout the lands. The soundtrack is great, the character customization is rich, varied, and detailed. The combat holds no punches and can be very difficult but it is still engaging and fun, and there’s not much else I can ask for from a game.

Some of this can probably be attributed to the extra time afforded to this game [it was delayed in late 2021 after being announced at E3 in 2019], but the majority of it feels like it came from genuine effort and love from the developers. They wanted this game to be a special masterpiece, and you can really feel every drop of effort that went into making this game so.

My verdict on this game is that it deserves a 10/10 rating. I think ‘Elden Ring’ has to be a dead-ringer nomination and the consensus frontrunner for Game of the Year in 2022 right now. This near-perfect and masterfully made love project has too much going for it, and has been a hit with too many people to not be considered so. Only time will tell if it’ll win with ‘God of War 2’ and ‘Breath of the Wild 2’ scheduled for release in 2022 as well, but it is my early pick for the award with everything I’ve seen so far.

If you’ve been debating on whether or not to buy this game, just do it. I promise you, you will not be disappointed with what you find.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GQ.COM
Ye’s Yeezy Brand is releasing two new collections with Gap.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CNET.COM
Promotional photo for ‘Elden Ring.’

Ghost's 'Impera': Good, but could have been great

MATTHEW SCHEIDEL

Sports Editor

After a four-year wait that felt like an eternity, Papa Emeritus and the Nameless Ghouls have returned with their fifth studio album, 'Impera,' released on March 11, 2022.

Ghost, a Swedish rock band, has exploded in popularity over the past few years. With rock radio hits like "Square Hammer," "Rats," and "Dance Macabre," they've catapulted themselves into the spotlight with a mix of heavy guitars and catchy melodies and hooks.



PHOTO VIA @THEBANDGHOST ON TWITTER
Swedish rock band Ghost released their fifth studio album, 'Impera' on March 11, 2022.

The band has also had quite the array of sounds they've explored, such as classic heavy metal, progressive rock, doom metal, and most recently arena rock.

'Impera,' the follow-up to 2018's 'Prequelle,' continues Ghost's exploration into 80's arena rock, now adding elements of hair and glam metal. In some ways, 'Impera' feels like a continuation of 'Prequelle.'

Thematically, the album deals with the rise and fall of empires, with some of the album's lyrics taking inspiration from modern times, a first for Ghost.

The album begins with the triumphant intro track, "Imperium." This short little number does an excellent job of setting the listener up for what's to come with its mix of acoustic guitar arpeggios and hopeful sounding electric guitar lines.

The proper album opener, "Kaisarion" is an anthem for the ages, even beginning with an over-the-top shrieking high note. With shades of Iron

Maiden and Rush laden throughout, this is an excellent track that sets the tone for the rest of the album.

If there's a hit to be had on this album, it has to be "Spillways." The opening keyboard line continues throughout the track, making it quite possibly the most 80's sounding song on the album, which is saying something.

The key change in the chorus really helps the song's progression. But above all else, the song is just so catchy. This song would be a great choice for a future single.

The album's lead single, "Call Me Little Sunshine," is next, and this track had longtime fans like myself excited for this record. This is just a good old-fashioned, mid-tempo heavy metal banger. It's still among my favorites on this album.

"Hunter's Moon," originally released as part of the 'Halloween Kills' soundtrack, comes next and continues the 80's arena rock sound of this record. I have to say, I really don't understand this song's inclusion on the album. Like I said, this was originally released as part of a movie soundtrack, and it sure sounds like it. I didn't care much for the song when it came out, and it hasn't grown on me all that much.

"Watcher In The Sky," is one of the longer and heavier cuts on the album, featuring a nice chugging guitar riff. That and the dueling guitar solo in the bridge give me some Avenged Sevenfold vibes.

Clocking in at almost six minutes in length, one would expect a band like Ghost to get ambitious and try to write an epic banger, right? Well, that's not exactly what we got here. I hope you like that chorus, because there's a whole lot of it. This is one of the more disappointing tracks on the album for me. It's fine as is, but it just feels like it could've been so much better than it is.

And The Worst Song on the Album award goes to... "Twenties." This is actually an intriguing track musically. Featuring a thrash metal riff and a reggaeton-style drum beat, it marks some uncharted territory for Ghost.

However, what ultimately kills this song for myself and a lot of other people, are the lyrics. Frontman Tobias Forge is no stranger to cheesy and sometimes cringey lyrics [think "Pro Memoria" from their last album], but this is just too much.

I mean, come on, "We'll be grinding in a pile of moolah" and "we'll be grabbing them all by the hoo-hah?" [yes, that is a jab at former president Donald Trump]. Just... yikes. Forge's strange vocal delivery doesn't help matters. I can't believe

I'm going to say this, but after your first listen through this album, you could probably just skip this track.

Then we get to the big ballad on the album, "Darkness At The Heart of My Love." On first listen, I hated this song. The snapping fingers that play throughout the track was a huge turnoff for me, as it gave me Imagine Dragons vibes, and I personally can't stand that band.

However, this has become the biggest grower on the album for me. The epic feeling in the chorus as the song progresses with the choir and all the backing vocals really makes the track.

"Griftwood" feels like it's missing something. I like the chorus, especially at the end with the unexpected key change, and I also enjoy the bridge, but it feels like it's lacking some serious punch.

This all leads up to the epic finale, "Respite On The Spitalfields." Being that this is the album's longest track at nearly seven minutes, I had high expectations going in. But much like "Watcher In The Sky" before it, I was left feeling a little underwhelmed.

Again, it just feels like this could have been much more than it is. Every time it feels like things are finally going to pick up, it goes back into this drawn out ballad. And just to clarify, that's not a bad thing. It's just that knowing what this band is capable of, I expect a lot more.

The album features three short interludes, but the only I felt was

worth discussing was "Imperium." "Dominion" could have been left off the track list entirely, and "Bite of Passage" should have just been tacked onto the beginning of "Respite On The Spitalfields."

I will say that the album's production is fantastic, which should be no surprise given that this album is produced by Klas Ahlund, the same guy who produced Ghost's 2015 magnum opus, 'Meliora.' The guitars, bass and drums have plenty of bite to them, and there's a ton of atmosphere to this album.

Overall, I can't help but feel a tad underwhelmed by this album. At least 'Prequelle' had the immeasurable task of following up an all-time classic like 'Meliora.'

It's clear that Forge has taken the band into more of a mainstream direction the past couple albums, which I can't fault him for. He's got a family to feed and take care of. But I just feel like he's forgotten some of the things that made this band great in the first place. The creepy, dark vibes that were still present on 'Prequelle' aren't nearly as prevalent on this album.

My guess is that if this is your first exposure to Ghost, you'll probably enjoy this album. But for longtime fans like myself, this may feel like a bit of a letdown.

Maybe it'll grow on me, and I really hope it does, but for now, 'Impera' gets a 7/10.



PHOTO BY MIKAEL ERIKSSON
Members of the band posing in their illustrious stage regalia.

‘Studio 666’ was derivative and just plain tasteless

ALEXANDER GUSTANSKI
Senior Reporter

Growing up with parents who were college students in the early nineties, the bands Nirvana, Queens of the Stone Age and the Foo Fighters were constantly played.

The common denominator of all of these acts is musical artist Dave Grohl. I find the Foo Fighters (the band he fronts) to be one of the most boring rock bands of all time. However, I was interested, if not morbidly curious, to see that he and his band wrote and starred in a new horror comedy film, “Studio 666.”

A film like “Studio 666” is quite hard to review. On all technical levels, this film is a complete disaster. The direction and cinematography are bad, the visual effects are ugly and cheap and the editing is confusing at parts.

The most glaring issue is that the “Foos,” besides Grohl surprisingly, cannot act. The worst offender is Pat Smear, who often smiles during takes, but I can’t hold it against him because he looks like he is having the time of his life on set.

The film draws inspiration from iconic horror movies of the late seventies and early eighties, even including its version of the “Evil Dead” Necronomicon and a cameo from “Halloween” director John Carpenter.

The film’s story revolves around Grohl, who is suffering from writer’s block and decides to rent a creepy old mansion as a recording studio. Grohl becomes possessed by the spirit of a dead rockstar from the nineties who sacrificed his band and then took his own life, being compelled to finish the spirit’s final album. Before getting into the issues with this premise, I would like to talk about another source of inspiration I noticed.

Throughout the film, Grohl describes his demonic album as a 44-minute long, potentially infinite track, that he both invented a new note for, and that has the theme of a pentagon with six sides. This premise sounded very similar to the popular indie rock album, “Nonagon Infinity” by King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard — an album that is a 42-minute suite divided into nine parts and meant to be played on repeat seamlessly.

In addition to this, the album uses microtonal tuning which is uncommonly found in western rock and revolves around the theme of a pentagon with nine sides. I found no indication of Grohl or any of the Foos having known of the band, yet I find it unlikely that the album did not inspire this film considering all of the similarities.

The part of the film I found most reprehensible, however, was the backstory of the fictional band Dream Widow. As I mentioned earlier, the frontman took his own life in the nineties. This feels in poor taste as one of Grohl’s previous bandmates, the iconic Kurt Cobain, also took his own life around the time the movie would have taken place.

I honestly don’t know what Grohl was thinking when he wrote this. It’s disrespectful to make a spooky story about someone taking their own life, and later in the film framing it as a heroic deed.

The one saving grace of the film is that once it finally delivers on its gory kills, it doesn’t disappoint. If you’re a big fan of the Foo Fighters, go watch “Studio 666.” Otherwise, watch better horror movies or listen to better music.

Rating: 3/10



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB
“Studio 666” was released on Feb. 25. The story revolves around Dave Grohl.

5SOS’s ‘CALM’ is turning two and I’m not calm

D’JUANNA LESTER
Senior Reporter

The beginning of March officially marks two years since Australian band 5 Seconds of Summer (5SOS) released their fourth album, “CALM.”

With the band dropping their new single “Complete Mess” on March 2, let’s go song by song to commemorate the end of the “CALM” era.

“Red Desert”

THIS is how to open an album. The harmonies alone make this one of the best songs in their whole discography. Ashton’s drumming! This song is the kind that gets you pumped for the day. The band members themselves have joked about how this is their best song.

“No Shame”

The first verse just does something to me. The way Luke’s vocals transcends you into the chorus is something so powerful. A callout of celebrity culture and the music industry in a song so catchy? No wonder the upcoming tour is called the “No Shame” tour!

“Old Me”

The nostalgia. The lyrics. Older fans of this band definitely sobbed to this one. The lyrics talk about the personal growth of the members, connecting their past to their present selves. “Shout out to the old me, and everything you showed me. Had to fuck it up before I really got to know me.” Come. On.

“Easier”

The song that started it all for this era. Luke’s falsetto. The beat. The push and pull scenario of a relationship? The bridge of this song is the best part, and it hits Every. Single. Time. There’s a reason it’s so popular.

“Teeth”

There’s a reason this is one of their most popular songs. Hello, the vocals! The lyrics! Whenever this song comes on, it makes me want to sing along to it.

“Wildflower”

Best song on the album. Calum solo song? Check. Gorgeous harmonies? Check. I’m convinced this would’ve been the song of the summer if it wasn’t released in March. Two years later and it’s still my most listened to song on Spotify. Luke’s “I’ll tell you what I like.” I have no shame in saying I will be screaming that when I see them in July.

“Best Years”

Wedding. Playlist. Song. Enough said.

“Not in the Same Way”

Most. Underrated. 5SOS. Song. “I love you, you love me, but not in the same way!” Besides describing my love life to a T, this song is so catchy, it’s insane. “Hurricane (insert name)” — one of their best lyrics.

“Lover of Mine”

The piano. The chorus. Ashton’s insane drumming building up in the second verse. The heartwrenching lyrics. Tell me this doesn’t belong in a rom com movie soundtrack!

“Thin White Lines”

“I don’t think I like me anymore, can someone tell me who I was before?” is their most underrated lyric. The entire song is underrated, really.

“Lonely Heart”

This song has their best bridge, and that’s not a debate. The high note on the last “heart.” For a while, this was my favorite song on the album, tied with “Wildflower” and “High.”

“High”

The perfect album closer. After wrecking our hearts for 35 minutes, why not end with the album’s saddest song? “I know I’ll never meet your expectations, but the picture that you paint of me looks better in your mind.” This is the perfect cry song.

I can’t even rank the songs from 12 to 1 because they’re all so good that they flip flop between which I like best. It’s unrankable. Their range and diversity from each track is what makes this album so special.

Rating: 5/5 stars



PHOTO COURTESY OF 5SOS
It has been two years since 5 Seconds of Summer released their fourth album, “CALM.”

Five books that made the top of my list February 2022

D'JUANNA LESTER

Senior Reporter

February was a great month for new books, especially for the fantasy genre. From starting series that are already out, to fantasy debuts, this month has been very exciting for reading. With my book count for the year reaching 33, let's take a look at my top reads for February 2022.

"Cinderella is Dead"

Kalynn Bayron, you have created a hit. This has been a constant reread for me. It's one of those must-finish-in-one-sitting books. For one, Sophia Grimmins in the Black Young Adult (YA) protagonist I wish I had when I was younger. The world-building in this story is so unique, especially as a twist on the Cinderella story. Filled with crazy twists and amazing characters, everything feels new and fresh. It's such an original story that makes me want Bayron to rewrite other famous fairytales.

Rating: 4.5/5

"The Kiss Quotient"

A New Adult (NA) romance exploring autism in females? Yes, please! I was scared that this book

was "overhyped," but it deserves all the hype it gets. Helen Hoang's book explores the character Stella Lane, an autistic woman who struggles with romance. We see her point of view (POV), as well as that of Michael, her love interest. If only all men could be like Michael. The book discovers the struggles of dating within the autism community in a way that's raw and relatable.

Rating: 5/5

"Wings of Ebony"

How does someone write a complex, heart-wrenching story in the span of a month? Ask J Elle. Her story is the pinnacle of taking your childhood experiences and turning them into a powerful story. Covering topics like racism and police brutality set in a cross-dimensional fantasy world is not easy, but Elle does it brilliantly. With diverse, intriguing characters and a world that feels like our own, but still remaining authentic, Elle's story feels like something many Black readers need — a story about finding your own power. This is a story so beautifully written that I finished in barely two hours.

Rating: 4.5/5

"Rule of Wolves"

Leigh Bardugo and the Grishaverse hold a special place in my heart. "Rule of Wolves," the latest book in the series, ties together so many plots from the previous six. Getting to see so many fan favorite characters and how their stories blend together is what makes this book so memorable. This book has several POVs, but manages to tell a cohesive story. While some POVs feel less necessary than others, they're still interesting to read. Also, that scene destroyed me, and I'm still recovering.

Rating: 4/5

"Blood like Magic"

A unique blend of science fiction and fantasy. Characters who feel authentic, not like carbon copies of the forbidden love trope. Strong leads who make you feel what they're feeling with beautiful storytelling. There is so much to talk about with Liselle Sambury's book. Blending the high tech sci-fi elements with the magical fantasy elements is a difficult feat, and she does it flawlessly. With the task to kill her first love, we're taken on a

journey of sacrifice with Voya that rips readers apart.

Rating: 4/5

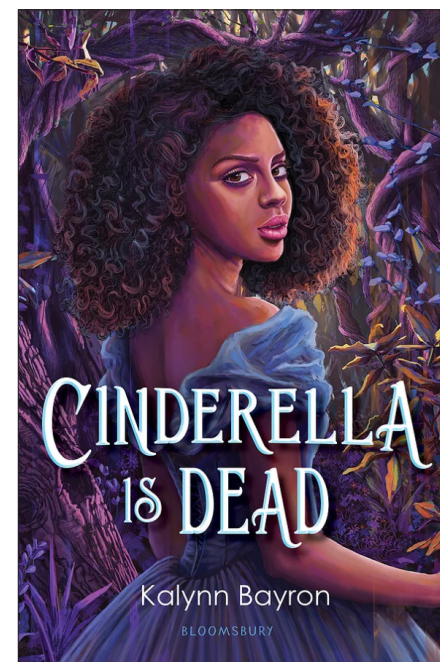


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOODREADS
"Cinderella is Dead" by Kalynn Bayron.

The Detroit Pistons have found their centerpiece. Now what?

REECE TAYLOR

Sports Reporter

When the Detroit Pistons got the No. 1 in the draft lottery, every fan had the same thought: "Don't mess this up."

Over the last 15 years, it's seemed like they drafted at No. 7 or No. 8 overall and missed out on some of the best players imaginable. Now, they have the first potential superstar we've drafted in a long time: Cade Cunningham.

Cunningham is in his rookie season and is showing flashes of greatness. The 6-foot-6 guard is averaging nearly 17 points per game along with six rebounds and six assists. He's got a smooth game that doesn't exactly pop on screen, but makes the game easier for teammates, especially considering he's making Marvin Bagley III, a former No. 2 overall pick, look refreshed since joining the Pistons in via trade in February. He's an all-around player who is making a quick case for best player in the draft.

The Detroit Pistons have found their engine of the future in Cunningham. Now what?

Players like Cunningham don't come around often and the Pistons need to recognize the best ways to succeed. A big-bodied wing who can shoot and make plays are crucial to the modern game, but the best players of this mold need three

things to reach their full potential: a pick-and-roll big, a 3-point shooter, and 3 and 4 roll players.

Though two of these seem to overlap, let me explain. The best example of how to make the most of Cunningham is in Grant Hill, who plays a very similar game. Hill was best as a playmaker, who could score, drive to the rim, and pass out to the perimeter to the open man.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DETROITBADBOYS.COM
Cade Cunningham is a Rookie of the Year frontrunner and looks like a star in the making.

Though injuries kept him from reaching his full potential, his game is a precursor to the modern era. After him, larger playmakers became the new crown jewel, and players like LeBron James were moved into focus.

I'm not saying Cade will be among these players... yet, but it's clear that he is a special talent. The Pistons are also in a rare position where they have a Max contract slot available this summer as well as a potential top 3 pick.

If Detroit somehow gets the number one pick overall in back to back years, it's clear that Gonzaga's Chet Holmgren fits this bill. He's a rare talent, being a 7+ foot center who can grab rebounds, play interior defense and shoot threes at a high percentage. Detroit has also coveted players like Deandre Ayton from the Phoenix Suns who is a modern pick-and-roll big who can anchor a defense as he did last year and led the Suns to a Championship.

The Pistons have something special with Cade Cunningham. He's what most NBA teams look for when they want to find a player to build around. Detroit, though not playoff ready, is at the precipice of a quick rebuild as they look to make their first playoffs since 2019, and their first playoff win since 2008.

My take on Detroit's professional sports teams

JOE ZERILLI

Senior Reporter

It's been a while since the city of Detroit has truly been a sports city and it's quite sad. Sports are one of the few things in life that can bring people of all backgrounds together to cheer on the local teams.

Let's start with a positive: we actually get to watch the Tigers this year after the MLB lockout has officially ended. Now for some I realize they could care less about watching baseball, but to me and other Tigers fans, this year can be the best year since 2014 when they lost to the Baltimore Orioles in the American League Division Series (ALDS).

After what has been a very exciting free agency for the Tigers — with acquisitions like Javier Báez and Eduardo Rodríguez — it seems like Detroit may actually have a baseball team that can compete. Manager A.J. Hinch has transformed this team of young players and experienced vets to be a fun team to watch, other teams beware.

Speaking of head coaches, now I want to talk about Jeff Blashill — head coach of the Red Wings — who has been frowned upon lately to put it

lightly. Now don't get me wrong, no one expected the Wings to be great but some of the losses the team has faced are straight up embarrassing.

On March 8, the Wings faced the Arizona Coyotes — who are the third worst team in the league — and lost 9-2. During the game Blashill was shown yelling at the players who were just not involved at all — it appears that the players are over Blashill and GM Steve Yzerman may be too.

The Wings do have some bright spots like captain Dylan Larkin who is having a monster of a year. We also have the two best rookies in Lucas Raymond and Moritz Seider, with the latter being the easy choice for the Calder Trophy winner.

The Pistons are another Detroit team with promising young players, mainly the No. 1 pick Cade Cunningham who has been on a tear through the last nine games — which the Pistons have won six of. He's averaging 21.4 PPG, 5.6 APG and 7.7 RPG during that span and should be the frontrunner for the Rookie of the Year Award.

It hasn't been all Cunningham to be fair, with Saddiq Bey providing decent numbers after a somewhat slow start and Jerami Grant close to being the

above-average attacker we know he can be. Since the All-Star break the Pistons in general have looked a lot better, and recent additions like Marvin Bagley III has been a reason behind that.

Now they aren't perfect, but I think you give this Pistons the rest of the year to figure out its strengths and weaknesses — and with a couple free agency pickups — this team can make an impact next year. At least get into the play-in tournament so these young guys can get exposure to the playoffs and use it as fuel to come back better the next year.

The last team to talk about is the Lions, and to be honest I don't have a whole lot to say. I'm excited to see what next year brings, lots of first year coaches in the league and out of nowhere Head Coach Dan Campbell doesn't seem so inexperienced.

All we can hope for is a good draft and some free agency pickups but I like where the team is going under his leadership. I'm biased, but if University of Michigan star Aidan Hutchinson came to Detroit I wouldn't be complaining.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Detroit's four major professional sports teams: the Pistons, the Tigers, the Red Wings and the Lions

Disc Golf: A rising sport that thrived throughout the pandemic

PAYTON BUCKI

Sports Reporter

When Oakland University freshman Ayden Roupe told me he was a professional disc golf player I quite literally laughed out loud. It wasn't until he produced a pro card from his wallet that my chuckling stilled.

"My pro card is a document that proves my status as a disc golfer," Roupe

said. "It shows that I am recognized as a player registered with the Professional Disc Golf Association."

The sport is simple, only requiring a disc and access to a course. Disc golf rules are similar to traditional golf, each throw of the disc counts as a 'stroke'.

The objective of each hole is to get the disc into the disc golf basket in the least amount of throws possible. At the conclusion of the round, the player with the lowest cumulative score wins.

After the COVID-19 pandemic forced many sports to be placed on hold, disc golf was one of the rare activities that escaped the shutdowns. Soon, 'folgers' flocked to once neglected disc golf courses to regain a sense of normalcy amidst the chaos.

"Disc golf is what got me through the pandemic," Roupe said. "It was an individual activity that allowed me to leave the house safely; once I started getting good at it, I decide to start competing."

Roupe's introduction to disc golf parallels that of many other athletes. In fact, the Professional Disc Golf Association (the official governing body for the sport) saw a dramatic 84% increase in new players throughout 2020.

In the past, disc golf was seen as a casual hobby enjoyed by unruly teenagers. Today, it is respected as a legitimate sport for all ages with competitive events popping up worldwide.

"Last year, I attended the state tournament for disc golf," Roupe said. "I managed to place fourth in the state for the 18 and under division."

While competitions draw players with a competitive spirit, the allure of disc golf is that it can be enjoyed in

a relaxed, casual atmosphere as well. Instead of attempting to beat another player's score, you may instead challenge yourself against the course.

"I would say I play disc golf in a relaxed setting most of the time," said OU freshman Eien Vanriper. "Oftentimes my friends and I don't even keep track of our scores—we just test out new skills and throwing techniques."

Evidently, disc golf is a rising sport that has provided a unique form of comfort to players of all ages and abilities amidst the pandemic. Whether it be enjoyed in a competitive or casual environment, the sport is sure to captivate any individual lucky enough to get their hands on a disc.

Is disc golf starting to sound intriguing to you? Fortunately, you can get your start right on campus at Oakland University's very own Grizzly Oaks disc golf course.

Grizzly Oaks, located in the woods between the upper athletic fields and the Meadow Brook Amphitheater, opened in 2009. Although labeled 'challenging' by some, Grizzly Oaks promises a fun round of disc golf to individuals of all abilities.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAWRENCE STANLEY

Ayden Roupe is a professional disc golfer. Disc golfing has seen a rise in popularity since the pandemic.

Golden Grizzlies' tennis duo receives praise during Florida stint

CHRISTIAN TATE

Sports Reporter

Following an amazing performance at Oakland University's annual Florida trip, the duo of senior Yasmin Glazbrook and junior Nirva Patel were named the Nike's Horizon League Women's Tennis Doubles Team of the Week.

The Golden Grizzlies' tennis team finished up their five game Florida trip with a 3-2 record, notching wins over the Bethune-Cookman Wildcats [6-1], the University of Mary Marauders [6-1], and the Eastern Michigan Eagles [5-2] after taking their first loss to the Stetson Hatters [7-0] and dropping the last game of the trip in a loss to the Augustana College Vikings [4-3]. The biggest help over the course of the trip had to be the perfect four-game stretch put together by Glazbrook and Patel, who didn't lose a single matchup.

Influential in the dominance that the Golden Grizzlies displayed over the course of the trip, the pair of Glazbrook and Patel were also dominant in individual competition. During the Bethune-Cookman game after securing the doubles win with Patel, Glazbrook earned a 6-3, 6-4 win to sit at the number two spot in the rankings.

The Golden Grizzlies' win over the Eagles also counted as a measure of revenge in the long-standing rivalry between the two schools. The Eagles hold a history of dominance over the Grizzlies, entering the competition with a 13-1 record. The win moves the Golden Grizzlies to 2-13, breaking a three-game



PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
Yasmin Glazbrook and Nirva Patel were recently recognized for their achievements during the Oakland tennis team's recent trip to Florida.

losing streak in the process.

Despite the overall loss to the Augustana Vikings, Glazbrook and Patel would not break their perfect streak over the trip, defeating their matchup with a score of 7-5 to notch the number

one spot. The Golden Grizzlies' record over the Florida trip improved to 3-3 before falling to 3-4 by the end of the trip.

Another bright spot in the trip is that the three wins helped the Golden Grizzlies surpass their record from last year, as they went 2-18 for last season. Despite such a season last year, this isn't the first time that Glazbrook or Patel have been given praise for their play, both individually and as a duo.

Individually, Glazbrook notched five single wins in the 2020-2021 season, defeating her matchup with the Eastern Michigan Eagles twice, the IUPUI Jaguars twice, and the Northern Kentucky Norse once. Patel has been named the Nike Horizon League Women's Singles Player of the Week during the same aforementioned season after notching a perfect 2-0 record, helping the Grizzlies win their first two matches of that season over the Jaguars.

Together, however, both Glazbrook and Patel have been recognized as a top-tier duo before, leading the school team in the number one doubles spot with a record of 5-6 after notching their wins against their matchups with the Ball State Cardinals, the IUPUI Jaguars, and the Northern Kentucky Norse and two wins coming against Eastern Michigan Eagles.

The tennis team will look to continue this run of relative success against in their first home match of the season against the Lake Superior State Lakers on Saturday, March 19 at 4:30 p.m. at the Oakland Tennis Courts.

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- Have knowledge of AP Style
- Communicate effectively with Sports Editor

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Softball sweeps series against Northern Kentucky

PAYTON BUCKI

Sports Reporter

The Oakland University Golden Grizzlies softball team went 3-0 in a three-game series to the Northern Kentucky University Norse on March 10-11 at the Frank Ignatius Grein Softball Field in Highland Heights, Kentucky.

The Golden Grizzlies began the series strong with a 3-1 win against the Norse. Cammie Brummitt set the tone of the first game early on, drilling a two-run homer to left field for the Golden Grizzlies.

Despite this strong start, OU's 2-0 lead did not last long. With two players on base in the second inning, Maddie Lacer fired a hit to center field, allowing Hannah Colbert to score for the Norse.

With the Norse on the board, a defensive battle ensued. The next three innings remained scoreless, even as the Norse put up an offensive battle. Although pitcher Sydney Campbell allowed the Norse 10 hits, the Golden Grizzlies fielding stayed cool.

With the Golden Grizzlies leading to 2-1 in the sixth inning, the Norse gave up a walk to Madi Herrington with bases loaded. Allisa Diprima advanced home off the walk, cementing a 3-1 win for the Golden Grizzlies.

The second game in the doubleheader started off bleak for the Golden Grizzlies. Early in the first inning, Jordan Jenkins ripped a hit to left field, allowing Ella LeMonier to score for the Norse.

The Golden Grizzlies powered back in the third inning, tying up the game 1-1 with a homer from

Madison Jones. Jen Krizka continued OU's rally with an RBI to right field. The Norse quickly regained their lead with a two-run homer in the fourth inning.

The Golden Grizzlies allowed the Norse to retain their 3-2 lead until an incredible sixth inning comeback. With back-to-back errors from the Norse, the OU team picked up two runs from Shannon Carr and Jessie Munson.

OU continued the inning with explosive RBIs from Madison Jones and Cammie Brummitt. The Norse struggled to match this offensive finesse, allowing the Golden Grizzlies to pick up their second win of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
Madison Jones hit a home run in game two of the Oakland softball team's series against Northern Kentucky.

series with a score of 6-3.

The Norse were determined to keep the Golden Grizzlies from achieving a clean sweep. Northern Kentucky came out strong with a two-run homer in the first inning. The Golden Grizzlies remained scoreless until Lauren Griffith beamed an RBI double to center field, allowing Maci Brown to score.

Still down 2-1 at the beginning of the fourth, the Golden Grizzlies fired up their offense. Cammie Brummitt brought Madi Herrington home on an RBI single to tie up the game.

Lauren Griffith stepped up to the plate and hammered a two-run RBI double to give the Golden Grizzlies a 4-2 lead. The Norse fought back hard, picking up runs in both the fourth and sixth innings to tie the game up at 4-4.

This comeback only added fuel to OU's fire. The Norse allowed the Golden Grizzlies to load the bases at the top of the seventh. Madi Herrington hit a sacrifice fly to bring Lauren Griffith home. As the Oakland team took the lead once again, the Norse seemed to run out of steam.

The Golden Grizzlies secured the win with a score of 5-4. With their first series sweep, the Oakland team begins their 2022 season with a perfect 3-0 Horizon League record.

Oakland will play their next game at the University of Michigan at 4 p.m. on March 16. This game will surely be a 'battle of the bats' as the U of M team is well-known for their finesse pitchers. Oakland must be prepared both defensively and offensively as they handle the strong-willed Wolverines, a team that has yet to lose a game on their home turf.

Men's soccer falls to Davenport in season home opener

REECE TAYLOR

Sports Reporter

The Oakland University Golden Grizzlies men's soccer team lost to the Davenport University Panthers 3-2 in a their first home game of the spring season at the UWM Sports Complex on Saturday, March 12 in Pontiac, MI.

This matchup, which was considered a home game for the Grizz Dome, which is currently under repair, faced off against a feisty Division II opponent in Davenport, who entered the den coming off of a 4-4 game against Western Michigan.

The Golden Grizzlies, who are coming off of a 2021 Horizon League championship, were also celebrating three alumni who were signed to professional teams: Steve Clark, who signed with the Houston Dynamo, Sean Lewis, who signed with the Tulsa Football Club, and Dylan Borczak, who signed with the Rio Grande Valley Football Club.

The Golden Grizzlies started off strong, would lead with two goals on the way, were ultimately stopped by two late goals by the Panthers to put the game out of reach. Unfortunately, the scrappy Panthers team fought

back against the Grizzlies in the battle of the predators. Oakland played a hard-fought game, but Davenport proved a tough opponent and won the game 3-2.

Give the Davenport Panthers a lot of credit in the game, scoring three goals against a Division I league champion

in Oakland. The Panthers have scored 3+ goals against two straight division one teams, resulting in a tie and a win. With two high scoring games under them, Davenport is a confident team who will make noise in Division II as well as any top opponents.

Oakland, who is currently playing

home games away from Rochester, is likely trying to adjust to life outside of the Grizz Dome, but this game was likely an aberration for the reigning Horizon League Champions. A rotating schedule is tough to deal with, since the home games have to be scheduled around the incumbent leagues is tough for any team, but Oakland will rebound and play their best soccer in games to come.

The Golden Grizzlies feature much of their 2021 Horizon League championship team, and there's no loss of confidence in the spring season. A championship culture like Oakland isn't built through a field, but through coaching, execution, and a collective goal. The Golden Grizzlies, also fresh off an NCAA tournament berth, has the talent to compete with any team at any level, and looks forward to their next opponent.

Oakland will play at the University of Detroit Mercy's Schoolcraft Dome on Sunday, March 20, and will return home to face Saginaw Valley State University on March 26. Regardless of Saturday's outcome, Oakland is a top flight team with the reigning Horizon League Coach of the Year in Eric Pogue, and numerous players in the Horizon League First Team.



PHOTO BY JOSE JUAREZ
Oakland men's soccer suffered their first loss of the spring season on Saturday. Photo courtesy of OU Athletics.

Baseball salvages one game in weekend series at Marshall

REECE TAYLOR

Sports Reporter

The Oakland University Golden Grizzlies baseball team lost a four-game series to the Marshall University Herd on March 3-5 at the Kennedy Center in Huntington, West Virginia.

The Golden Grizzlies, who were looking to rebound after getting swept 3-0 by New Mexico State, found themselves opposite the 6-3 Herd, who played in their second series of the season.

In game one, the Golden Grizzlies and Herd remained scoreless until the sixth inning, where senior infielder Michael Stygles scored for Oakland after a single by sophomore catcher Brandon Heidal. Marshall struggled with errors throughout game 1, but Oakland was unable to put the game away after the Herd scored on a wild pitch and a single in the eighth inning, and would pull the win out from Oakland 2-1.

Game two was rough for Oakland, being held scoreless for the game by pitcher Jeffrey Purnell, who allowed one hit in seven innings to go with 10 strikeouts. Sophomore pitcher Brandon Decker was pulled in the second inning after two earned runs, but Oakland couldn't figure out how to stop Marshall from getting on base. Oakland allowed 13 hits throughout the game and were shut out 7-0 to go up in the series 2-0.

Game three was on the first end of a double

header, and saw Oakland fire back at the talented Marshall team. The first inning had the Herd up 3-1 on the Golden Grizzlies. From here, it became a high scoring affair, as Marshall kept Oakland at bay most of the game, at one point leading 9-6. In the eighth inning, Junior outfielder Ian Cleary hit a grand slam, one of three home runs for him on the day, to put Oakland up 10-9, giving them the edge. In the ninth, Marshall hit a home run to tie the game, until a walk off three-run homer stole the win from Oakland. Marshall won 13-10, and took a 3-0 lead.

Oakland, looking to not get swept in two straight series, continued their offensive in game four. Sophomore pitcher Chas Sagedahl came up big for Oakland, striking out eight Marshall players and allowing only two runs in seven innings. The Golden Grizzlies scored first in the fourth inning and kept the pressure up from there as they scored multiple runs off of homers and fly balls to lead 9-2 in the eighth. Marshall tried to mount a comeback, scoring off a two run double in the bottom of the eighth, but Oakland proved too much and took game four 10-4, but Marshall University won the series 3-1.

Despite Oakland's struggles, the Golden Grizzlies averaged five runs per game over the four game series and proved they can score with top teams such as Marshall down the stretch. Oakland will look to improve their pitching, as multiple games with 10 or more hits put them in a disadvantage that

would be hard for the best teams to climb out of.

Oakland will play their next series at Southern Illinois University: Edwardsville on March 11-13, where they will play three matches against a team who is on a five-game winning streak. Oakland must bring their best pitching rotation to cool off the scorching hot Edwardsville team that has scored 10+ in their last three games.



PHOTO COURTESY OF @OAKLANDBSB ON TWITTER
Cleary hit a total of four home runs in Oakland's weekend series against Marshall.

Oakland baseball swept by SIUE as early season woes continue

BROCK HEILIG

Sports Reporter

The Oakland baseball team suffered its second sweep of the season this past weekend, dropping three games in two days to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

After the schedule had to be adjusted due to inclement weather, Oakland and SIUE took to the diamond on Sunday afternoon for a double header, followed by the series finale on Monday afternoon.

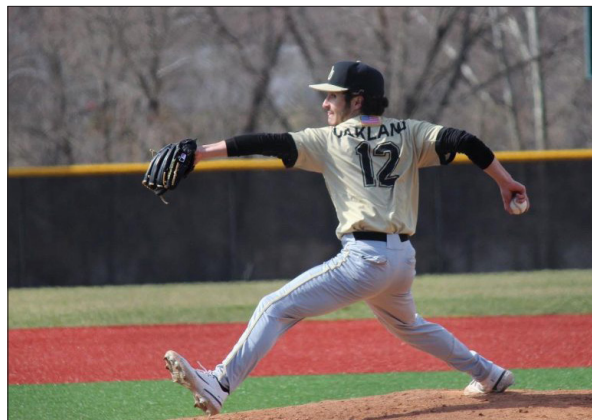


PHOTO COURTESY OF @OAKLANDBSB ON TWITTER
Brett Hagen started game 3 of Oakland's series against SIUE, allowing four runs on five hits in four innings pitched.

Game 1

The Grizzlies dropped the series opener to the Cougars, 5-2, on Sunday afternoon.

Oakland struck first in the top of the first, when senior Gabe Lux went deep to give the Grizzlies a 1-0 lead.

The advantage didn't last long, however. The Cougars rallied for three runs in the bottom of the second inning to take a 3-1 lead.

Oakland tacked on one more run in the top of the third inning. Seth Tucker scored on an RBI single from Brad Goulet, to bring the Grizzlies within one, 3-2.

The visiting Grizzlies couldn't manage to bring plate any other players, and another two runs from the Cougars in the bottom of the seventh inning didn't help Oakland's case either.

Ultimately, the Grizzlies fell, 5-2. Redshirt senior pitcher Jacob Wosinski suffered the loss for the Grizzlies, his second of the season.

Game 2

Oakland looked to rebound later Sunday night, but fell once again to SIUE, 8-4.

The Grizzlies got on top early with three runs in the top of the first inning. Lux put Oakland on top right away with his second home run of the day.

Brenton Phillips added an RBI single later in the inning, scoring Goulet. Cam Post scored just a few moments later on a Brandon Heidal sacrifice fly.

The Cougars added one run in the bottom of the first inning, but the Grizzlies still maintained a two-run lead.

Things unraveled for Oakland in the third inning. The Cougars plated four in the bottom half of the third, taking a 5-3 lead.

SIUE added three more runs in the bottom of the fourth inning. The Cougars took a commanding 8-3

lead heading into the home stretch.

Oakland could only muster one run in the top of the seventh inning, and dropped game two of Sunday's double header, 8-4.

Game 3

The series finale took place on Monday afternoon, and Oakland dropped yet another game, this time in a more valiant effort.

Once again, the Grizzlies got on top early, recording four runs in the first three innings. Luke Malmanger singled in the top of the second inning, scoring Ian Cleary.

Then, in the third inning, Tucker scored on a Goulet double. Moments later, Post flew out to center field, and Lux scored. Goulet then scored on a wild pitch to put the Grizzlies up, 4-0.

SIUE evened up the score in the ensuing innings, and the teams traded runs. Oakland rallied once again in the seventh inning, with five Grizzlies crossing the plate.

Highlighted by Tucker's two-RBI single, the Grizzlies took a 10-7 lead before the seventh inning stretch.

Oakland's bullpen struggled to keep the Grizzlies in front. The Cougars tied the game at 10 in the bottom half of the seventh, and took a 13-10 lead in the eighth inning.

Down three with three outs to go, Oakland got two runs off a Thomas Green two-run home run, but couldn't find a third run, and fell to the Cougars, 13-12, for the third time in two days.

The Grizzlies are now 3-10 on the season after what has been an unkind nonconference schedule.

Oakland's home opener will be on Wednesday, March 16 at 2:30 p.m. against Rochester University.

Women's basketball's memorable season ends in Horizon League semifinals

BROCK HEILIG

Sports Reporter

The Oakland women's basketball team fell to the IUPUI Jaguars, 86-63, in the Horizon League Tournament semifinals on Monday, March 7 at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum.

Oakland looked to play spoiler once again on Monday afternoon against IUPUI after defeating No. 2 seed Youngstown State last week. However, this affair did not end the way the Grizzlies would have liked.

The Grizzlies had an impressive showing in the first quarter. Kahlajah Dean had seven points in as many minutes, and Kayla Luchenbach added six points on 3-4 shooting to give Oakland a 23-22 lead after the first quarter.

Oakland's lead quickly dissipated in the second quarter, and the Jaguars took full control. The Grizzlies struggled to find the bottom of the net, and found themselves playing from behind for the rest of the game.

Dean and Breanne Beatty were the only Grizzlies to score in the second quarter, with seven and five points, respectively. Oakland shot just 39% from the floor in the first half, compared to IUPUI's 60% mark, ultimately putting the Grizzlies in a 10-point hole at halftime.

The second half didn't go much better for the Grizzlies, who were fighting to keep their season

alive. IUPUI's leading scorer, Macee Williams, dominated the third quarter, posting 11 points on 5-5 shooting as well as seven rebounds in just eight minutes.

Oakland could not stop the 6-foot-2 senior center, as she put the game out of reach.

The Grizzlies were outscored 22-13 in the third quarter, and were down 19 going into what was, ultimately, the final quarter of the season.

Oakland struggled to get any momentum going on offense, and could not make up any ground in the fourth quarter. The Grizzlies shot 0-10 from distance in the second half, a big reason why a comeback was unattainable.

Williams led all scorers with 27 points on an impressive 13-14 shooting. Dean led the way for the Grizzlies with 24 points, nine of which came at the charity stripe.

Beatty and Breanna Perry also posted double figures for the Grizzlies, with 10 and 11 points, respectively.

Despite the loss, the Grizzlies had some memorable moments this postseason.

The team won its first Horizon League Tournament game since 2018-19, and advanced to its first semifinal appearance in program history.

Interim Head Coach Ke'Sha Blanton took to Twitter after the season-ending loss.

"It was not the result we wanted, but I am so proud of this team. They have accomplished so much. Through everything I am so proud to have been on this journey with them. Thank you God for



Photo courtesy of OU Athletics
Kahlajah Dean put the team on her back with 24 points on Monday afternoon against IUPUI in the Horizon League Tournament semifinals.

the opportunity. Thank you Oakland."

The Grizzlies finished the season with a 15-15 overall record, and 11-10 in the Horizon League.

Oakland will graduate key pieces in Dean, Luchenbach, Perry, Brianna Breedy and C'Erra Maholmes.

Head Coach Jeff Tungate is expected to return for next season, after missing the majority of the 2021-22 season with back issues.

All focus will now be placed on preparations for the 2022-23 season.



NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2022-2023 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

EIC is responsible for the management and production of the Oakland Post and reports to a board of directors.

Responsibilities include:

- Updating the website daily and overseeing production of the weekly newspaper
- Recruiting editorial staff members and determining job responsibilities
- Deciding what is fit to print in the weekly newspaper
- Creating and maintaining relationships with university and department officials
- Working with the advertising and distribution directors to oversee those departments
- Organizing and submitting staff payroll every week
- Mentoring, guiding and teaching the staff to create quality journalism
- Overseeing The Post's administrative functions and assisting in creating a yearly budget
- Representing The Post on the SAFAC board
- Being available to readers with complaints, corrections and suggestions
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Applicants do not have to be journalism majors, but should be:

- Excellent writers and communicators with great command of AP Style and news media standards
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Compensation includes weekly pay.

Position effective late April 2021

Applications will be accepted through March 21, 2022.

Applicants can send resume, cover letter and work samples to Editorial Adviser Garry Gilbert at gjgilber@oakland.edu

Apply to the ad on Handshake

BREAKING: New mandates coming to campus

LAUREN REID

Content Editor

TORI COKER

Marketing Director

As the mask mandate lifts outside of designated areas on campus (we'll still be wearing ours, thanks though) on March 20, some new mandates are swooping in to take its place.

1) You actually have to use the room booking system at Kresge Library.

So I know this is radical, but hear me out. Imagine you're me, rushing your freshly-filled-with-Slim-Chickens-bod up several flights of stairs on your way to start work on an assignment due in mere hours, and the room you'd placed on hold has an unannounced tenant inside. Don't make me knock and ask you to leave, my guy (I've never actually had the nerve to do this #PartOfTheProblem). Book the room. You've earned it.

2) M*odle is forbidden from contacting students.

M*odle is literally so toxic. If I could get a restraining order against anything, it would be M*odle — the documentation is worth it. Like no, I don't care that Brian Johnson just replied on the discussion forum that all 27 students need to reply on, but my email inbox thinks I do apparently. I also don't care that "[I] have upcoming activities due." I know my life is quite literally in shambles, unfulfilling, consistently

degrading and pointless. I don't need a literal course management system reminding me I can't pull myself together.

3) Any questions pertaining to the validity of Subway meat are banned.

If I'm standing in the Subway line, I don't want to hear the phrases "fake meat" or "real meat" in any capacity. I've clearly made my choice, consequences be what they may. I don't care which side of the debate you're on — let me eat my questionable meat in peace.

4) Free Friday's!

That's right — everything is free on Friday's! Tired of spending \$30,000 on a Zingerman's coffee? You're so real for that. But it doesn't even matter anymore! Don't want to pay for a last-minute-father's-day-gift-mug in the bookstore? Word. It's free! Looking for a 100% discount on your orange chicken and fried rice? Yeah, we know that's your order. Save your Panda Express trip for the glorious, ever-anticipated, #FreeFriday.

5) Wednesdays are Temple Run nights in the Grizz Den.

If you wanted to play anything else, pick another night. This high stakes game will offer a sea of grunting sound effects and traumatic flashbacks to the early 2010's to anyone cruising around the basement of the OC on Wednesday nights. If you're looking to get really into the spirit, be a pal and rent a demonic monkey costume to chase passersby around throughout the Habitat. Students will appreciate your commitment to the nostalgia, trust.

6) If you guess the Wordle on your first try,

you graduate instantly.

If you're a vocabulary legend coated in special St. Patrick's Day luck, you may have just struck gold. Wherever you are, whatever time of day, if you're graced with five beautifully green boxes in your first Wordle row, the ghost of Matilda Dodge Wilson will teleport to you, degree in hand. So supernatural of her!

7) On Wednesdays, all students have to wear pink.

Get it? Because of "Mean Girls?" Isn't this the funniest satire you've ever read? — — — — we're tired.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BITMOJI

Lauren and Tori are ready to announce new mandate's on administration's behalf.

WINTER 2022 PAYMENT DUE DATE

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S WINTER PAYMENT DUE DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2021.

Students who do not pay their balances in full or sign-up for a payment plan (and make the required installment(s)) may be dropped from classes and University housing (if applicable), and may be subject to late payment penalties and registration holds.

If you have questions or are experiencing circumstances that may prevent you from paying your account balance, please contact Student Financial Services at (248) 370-2550. We are ready to support you and help with your financial aid and billing options.



LEARN how to avoid cancellation (drop) at oakland.edu/financialservices/payments-refunds/payments-cancellation