

THE OAKLAND POST

SEPTEMBER

30

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

— 2015 —

LET ME EXPLAIN

PRESIDENT HYND ADDRESSES STATE LAWMAKERS ABOUT TUITION RAISE

PAGE 13



Photo by Dave Jackson / The Oakland Post

BROOKSIE WAY.

Runners, walkers flood campus

PAGES 10-11

COMPANION.

App increases safety

PAGE 15

OBITUARY.

Oakland employee dies

PAGE 16

thisweek

September 30, 2015 // Volume 41, Issue 5



ontheweb

The Detroit Lions' executive sous chef competes in the Food Network Halloween Baking Championship. He talks about his interesting style, why he got into cooking, and what prepared him for the competition.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Are you excited for fall?

- A** No, summer was tragically cut too short!
- B** Yes, my fall fashion sense is always #OnFleek.
- C** Maybe, I'm really not looking forward to the colder weather.
- D** JUST SHOVE AN ENTIRE PUMPKIN IN MY A**!

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

FACTS OF THE DAY

1. Breast Cancer Awareness Month was established in 1985.
2. A pumpkin is actually a squash!
3. October is also National Chili, Dessert, Cookie and Pizza Month.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

September 30th 1998

The Oakland Post office was temporarily relocated to Trailer B next to the Science and Engineering Building.

October 1st, 1997

Ford Motor Company donated a new automotive lab via a \$100,000 donation.

October 1st, 1990

OU Enrollment dipped during this semester as a result from there being less high school graduates to pick from. Two year university enrollment also increased by about 5 percent.

—Compiled by Cheyanne Kramer, Staff Reporter



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

TAIWANESE CULTURE // Oakland University's celebration of Taiwan Week is Sept. 25 through Oct. 2. During the week, students can visit the display in the Oakland Center, watch movies, see a dance recital and watch a variety of presentations about Taiwan.

Photo by Bodhanna Cherstylo // The Oakland Post

Submit a photo to editor@oaklandpostonline.com for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at oaklandpostonline.com



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NEW PROJECTS DISCUSSED

A facilities meeting determined new project ideas and what construction projects could potentially happen on campus in the upcoming years.



15

STUDENT LEADER RETREAT

Members of the Center for Multicultural Initiatives will travel to Ortonville this weekend for leadership development and empowerment.



20

ATHLETICS RECAP

Oakland's soccer teams and volleyball had an eventful week of action, facing both Horizon League and nonconference teams.

BY THE NUMBERS

Breast Cancer Awareness

1 in 8

women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime

40,290

women who are estimated to die from breast cancer in 2015

28 million

women in the United States who have a history of breast cancer

2nd

Breast cancer is the 2nd leading cause of death in women

1 in 1000

men will get breast cancer in their lifetime

Editorial: Who's really to blame for the tuition raise?

Kristen Davis
Editor-in-Chief



It's time to voice my unpopular opinion — I support the tuition raise.

Before you yell at me, hear me out.

This past week, President Hynd addressed state lawmakers in Lansing about the 8.48 percent tuition raise that he initiated this summer.

In case you forgot or didn't know, it violated the state cap. Oakland had to forfeit the \$1.2 million of performance-based state aid it would've received had it stayed under the percentage.

But, the loss wasn't much of a blow, since Oakland will now receive \$12 million more in revenue from tuition.

When Hynd presented the general fund budget and tuition rates for the 2016 fiscal year at the Board of Trustees special formal session in July, he said this is a "propitious" time at Oakland. He was right.

The 20,711 students who currently call themselves Golden Grizzlies are the most in school history. There are also the most undergraduate students (17,161) and "first-time at any college" students (2,716) in school history, too.

Historically, OU has been extremely underfunded by Michigan, with only 17 percent of its total revenue coming from the state — the remaining is from tuition.

Despite having the high-

est enrollment growth of Michigan's 15 public universities over the past five- and 10-year periods, Oakland still receives the lowest amount of state appropriation funding per student.

Therefore, the resources this university has are simply not adequate enough for the growth it's experiencing. Because of the small amount of state aid given, tuition has become the primary source of funds necessary to respond and adapt.

Oakland is also cleaning up its own expenditures, according to Director of Media Relations Brian Bierley. More than \$48 million of budget reductions have been made in the past 10 years.

Hynd has been criticized for stating that Oakland is a "student-centered" university and then raising tuition, but the funds from this raise are going towards areas aimed directly at benefitting students.

According to Bierley, this includes increasing financial aid for students by 11.7 percent.

Eleven faculty members will be added to improve Oakland's student-to-faculty ratio, which ranks second highest in the state among public universities.

There will be more advisers to help students stay on track and graduate, more research support for both faculty and students and more career resources and funded internships.

The number of labs, specialized teaching spaces and classroom equipment are also going to be increased.

Lastly, facility upgrades and expansion will also be made possible from the

raise, including the expansion of the Oakland Center and Elliott Hall.

I understand the frustration of feeling like the money you're paying is being used towards projects you might never benefit from, but if every graduate of Oakland thought that way, our campus wouldn't be what it is right now.

There have been several renovations and additions that we have gotten to enjoy that wouldn't have been possible without tuition dollars of students before us.

We wouldn't get to live in a new dorm or take classes in a new engineering building.

We wouldn't get to play intramural sports under the lights on the turf fields or host the Horizon League outdoor track and field championships.

We should take pride in the fact that we are students of a university that has continuously been on the rise for over a decade now — experiencing 17 years in a row of overall growth — and is at arguably its most successful and prosperous time in history.

If frustration is what you wish to feel, maybe it should be towards the state's lack of funding for higher education, which was cut by 15 percent when Governor Rick Snyder first took office in 2011.

Despite increases in higher education funds each year since then, the total budget still remains \$43 million below the \$1.5 billion it was before 2011.

And, for the record, the Elliott Tower was a donation. Your tuition dollars did not pay for it.



THE OAKLAND POST

Address 61 Oakland Center,
Rochester, MI 48309
Phone 248.370.4263
Web www.oaklandpostonline.com
Email editor@oaklandpostonline.com

editorial board

Kristen Davis

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

Scott Davis

Managing Editor
managing@oaklandpostonline.com
248-370-2537

Dani Cojocari

Photo Editor
photos@oaklandpostonline.com
248-370-4266

sections

Kevin Teller Campus Editor
kjteller@oakland.edu

Grace Turner Life Editor
gmtturner@oakland.edu

Jackson Gilbert Sports Editor
jjgibler@oakland.edu

Sean Gardner Web Editor
sdgardne@oakland.edu

writers

Cheyenne Kramer Staff Reporter
Rachel Williams Staff Reporter
Michael Keenan Staff Reporter
Ally Racey Staff Reporter
Katlynn Emaus Staff Reporter
Shelby Tankersley Staff Reporter

Alexus Bomar Intern
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Corrections Corner

In the center spread on sexual assault published in our last issue, we referred to those who have been affected by it as victims rather than survivors. We understand the importance of labeling those who have had to deal with sexual assault as survivors because that's exactly what they are, and we sincerely apologize for our mistake.

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

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The President's Report: The 'Big 4' update

Student Body President Nick Walter addresses constituents on the progress of the OUSC's projects

Nick Walter
Student Body President

Hello Oakland! Throughout the rest of the year, I will be periodically updating you, the students, on the Big 4, the main campaign initiatives that Madison and I ran on in the spring: More 4.0's, more swag, more outlets, more space. So, then, here is an update on these initiatives.

1 More 4.0's: This is my favorite project, the grading scale. I spoke with various deans, students, faculty, staff and members of the administration

about it over the summer and into the fall. I had a meeting with the provost last week. Like the rest of the individuals I spoke with, he is very interested in the project. I am coordinating with him to move the project forward.

2 More swag: Buying OU gear and giving it away. That's the Swag Campaign. This week, we are ordering the materials for the Swag Campaign; we will be sending out places and times to get free OU gear as soon as it comes in!

3 More outlets: After speaking with members of the administration,

here is an update on outlets. As you know, OU suffers from a shortage of outlets, especially in older buildings like Varner and the OC. Given the high difficulty and expense of adding new outlets to existing buildings, administration is planning to add more outlets to new buildings, not to old ones.

4 More space: The OC is too small. That is no longer a matter of debate. What is what to do next. The Board of Trustees is currently looking at options to expand the OC: where to do so, when to do so and how to do so. Expect news on that soon.

That's what's been going on with the Big 4. I am extremely happy at the progress we've made, especially with the grading scale. If you want more details



Erika Barker / The Oakland Post
Nick Walter and his running mate, Madison Kubinski, won the Student Congress elections last year.

or have any questions, stop by my office in the basement of the OC, shoot me an email at nwalter@oakland.edu, or hit OUSC up on Facebook or Twitter.

An outside look at the Gaza Strip crisis

Escalating Middle Eastern conflict must be addressed immediately to avoid unnecessary loss

Ryan Fox
Staff Reporter

At the beginning of this month the United Nations released a report saying that the Gaza Strip, an area that is part of Palestine, could be completely uninhabitable by 2020. This is of huge concern to the nearly 2 million people that call the Gaza Strip home.

The causes of the current situation are a now eight year long Israeli-Egyptian blockade of the region, as well as ongoing military operations being carried out by Israel. With this new report it is becoming ever more apparent that Israel is not handling the current situation in Gaza responsibly, and their needs to be some changes.

The reason behind Israel's most recent operation in The Gaza Strip, Operation Protective Edge (OPE), was in response to attacks on Israel

organized by Hamas. Hamas is a political party in the region that is considered a terrorist group by many of the world's superpowers; including the United States and Canada. OPE was launched in order to destroy Hamas's ability to launch attacks on Israel.

However, it also managed to kill large amounts of civilians. The operation was responsible for roughly 2,200 Palestinian deaths, 70% of those being civilians. UNICEF reports that roughly 300 of these civilians were children. According to the BBC just under 500,000 were left living in emergency centers or with relatives, 17,200 homes were destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli attacks, and just under 250 schools were damaged or destroyed. During 2012 Israel launched Operation Pillar of Defense, an air strike operation in the Gaza Strip, and almost half of the 167 Palestinians killed were civilians.

"I understand that both the Palestinians and Israelis have been victims of horrible attacks... However, past violence is not justification for the killings of innocents on either side."

During both operations, there were 77 Israeli deaths.

I'm stating all of these facts to highlight some important issues with the way Israel is handling the tensions in The Gaza Strip. Israeli military tactics are not effective at avoiding civilian casualties. This means that the Israeli government is punishing the citizens of The Gaza Strip simply because Hamas controls the area. Even children, who could not possibly have anything to do with the attacks launched on Israel, are not safe from the Israeli attacks.

Let me be very clear: I un-

derstand that both the Palestinians and Israelis have been victims of horrible attacks and atrocities. However, past violence is not justification for the killings of innocents on either side.

The other major reason behind the degradation of the Gaza Strip is a now eight year long blockade of the region enforced by Israel and Egypt, though Egypt has been less strict with their enforcement. The blockade was launched by Israel in response to the Hamas takeover of the region in 2007. Its objectives were to prevent weapons entering the region, as well as to curb Hamas attacks.

The blockade has been unable to accomplish these goals; if it had Israel would not have needed to launch either of the two operations mentioned previously. What it has succeeded in doing is starving the people of the Gaza Strip. It has hindered any sort of economic



RYAN FOX
contributor

growth in the region, and has only increased anti-Israeli sentiment.

So, two attacks and an eight year blockade later, where are we? We are left with thousands of dead Palestinians, thousands of destroyed homes, and Hamas still able to function. Israel has not only failed to achieve its goals, but they have only made the wake of devastation in the region even larger. If any solution is going to be reached in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israel must stop using unnecessary force. The lives of two million people depend on it.

Percussion professor combines Indian, African sounds, violin on new album

Diverse collaborations with various artists, instruments make for a refreshing mix

Anthony Spak
WXOU Music Director

A new world music album from a well-traveled campus percussionist is on its way to the stage and the shelves of Varner Hall.

Titled "Kakaire," professor Mark Stone's new album on Jumbie Records combines sounds of traditional African and Indian percussion with his "love of violin and fiddle music all over the world."

"The violin is such a global instrument," Stone said, sandwiched in between global percussion instruments of all shapes and sizes in his Varner Hall office. "There are jazz, classical, and South Indian violins and versions of the instrument all over Africa."

Senior Amber Lemons has been taking classes with Stone for over two years. She praised Stone for his fun teaching style and for helping her to think differently about music. "I've learned that there are different ways of understanding music than just the Western way," Lemons said. "There are different ways of playing than just 4/4 time."

Stone has been playing music since the age of six when a neighbor taught him how to play the marimba, another instrument with many global variations. Traveling and studying abroad since have further exposed Stone to the different sounds of other cultures.

Stone is quick to point out that the album is not just a "jam session" between musicians with a few Indian and African instruments in the room. Rather, "Kakaire" is a composed body of work that was conceptualized over a few years, beginning during his first trip to India in 2012.

"The album is more my own creative work based on my studies in Africa as well as in India and growing up playing music here in the U.S," Stone said. "It's a combination of all those things."

Of the 11 tracks on "Kakaire," seven are original compositions, one is an original by Roger Brain based off of Jon Coltrane's jazz staple "A Love Supreme" and the remaining three are traditional pieces arranged by Stone.

"I've learned that there are different ways of understanding music than just the Western way...there are are different ways of playing that just 4/4 time."

Amber Lemons
Senior

Two of the standout tracks on the album — "Karimba Time" and "Lullaby for Ellery" — are based around the birth of Stone's third child, Ellery. Playing on an mbira or "thumb piano," a traditional African instrument, Stone began writing these songs while Ellery was "still in the womb" or while putting her to sleep with the music that is now featured on "Kakaire."

Stone's colleagues also played a part in the album's compositions. OU jazz professor Miles Brown contributes a blissful bass line to "Atenga Omwana" that fills out the track, the only on the album to feature the instrument. Regina Carter, renowned violinist and OU's Artist-in-Residence, has known Stone since high school. Carter plays violin on "Karimba Time" and "Yaa Yaa Kole."

"I'm extremely comfortable playing with Miles and Regina," Stone said.

Stone will perform the music from "Kakaire" during two album release shows, one on Oct. 9 in the Varner Recital Hall on campus and one on Oct. 10 at the Carr Center in Detroit.

His "working band," including Allen Grubner and Dan Piccolo, will fly in from New York and Tennessee respectively for the weekend to help Stone bring his newest compositions to life and to the community. CD copies of the album will be available for \$10 at both performances.

"I hope it's a concept that will connect with people," Stone said with a smile, resting his hand on a large conga-style drum. "I hope people will come out the concerts to experience the music."



Photo courtesy of Mark Stone

Oakland percussion professor Mark Stone compiled an album influenced by his travels.

MARKETING WEEK

OCTOBER 5TH - 8TH

FREE FOOD AT ALL EVENTS

<p>OCTOBER 5TH: ROB MATTINA</p> <p> DETROIT RED WINGS VP OF MARKETING 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM ELLIOTT HALL AUDITORIUM</p>	<p>OCTOBER 6TH: FASHION SHOW</p> <p> HOSTED BY: JOEY FROM 9.55 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM BANQUET ROOM B</p>
<p>OCTOBER 7TH: STEVE ST. GERMAIN</p> <p> UM WORLDWIDE PORTFOLIO MANAGER FOR ALFA ROMEO / MASERATI 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM ELLIOTT HALL AUDITORIUM</p>	<p>OCTOBER 8TH: BONFIRE</p> <p> FUNDRAISER - OUNCE OC 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM BONFIRE - NEAR P11 STARTING AT 6:00 PM</p>

STUDENTS WELCOME

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Chartwells not meeting expectations

Oakland's food service continues to disappoint students despite recent changes to dining options

Cheyenne Kramer
Staff Reporter

With recent changes made to dining options and a new ten-year contract, issues between Oakland and Chartwells have arisen. Many students were hoping for increased quality of food and for better service, but some students remain disappointed with the company.

Students in years past were usually able to count on there being consistent items, like ice cream, in the cafeteria.

Junior Sarah Benson pointed out that many times students have found the cart out without anything in it. Or, alternatively, get to the cart and realize the water to clean the scoop is murky, with no running water.

"You really have to dig in there to get ice cream, which is annoying," Benson said.

In similar thought to lack of items, many students have found that their "fourth meal" options are very seldom an entire meal, and there are little options with what you eat.

Personally, I attended every fourth meal last week and two of the meals were fantastic, but two I threw right into the trash and went to McDonalds.

It's difficult for many students to make it to dinner, given night classes, work, or extra-curricular activities.

Sophomore Kylie Wichtner typically is out late with her organization responsibilities and can only make fourth meal for dinner.

"I find it irritating when they only

provide one meal, and there's rarely vegetarian or vegan options. If there is one, it's just a side salad, made from shredded taco lettuce, which is hardly a meal," Wichtner said. "What I don't like about Vandy food is that it's either really, really good, or really bad."

These limitations are also obvious when it comes to students with very specific dietary restrictions.

Senior Aaron Pickover is Jewish and has found problems over his time at Oakland getting Chartwells to provide him with food he can eat.

"Most of the time, I have to decide which rules to break to eat dinner," Pickover said. "And especially around Passover, I have little to no options in the dining hall."

He continued to say that many times, he resorts to cooking in his apartment, as he has found kosher options to be limited.

Mark McCormic, district manager

of Chartwells, denied to comment on student complaints directly, but said he recommends students contact Chartwells directly when they have issues, either via the Text-To-Solve phone number, or through the Chartwells office.

James Zentmeyer, director of OU Housing, encouraged students at the RHA meeting last Thursday to take advantage of the upcoming Town Hall meetings Chartwells will host to voice concerns about the food options.

In addition, RHA has established a new Chartwells Committee which meets in the Downstairs Vandenberg cafeteria at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays to discuss communication with the company about issues.

Contact Chartwells via Text-to-Solve at 248-923-4042 or visit the office in the Oakland Center.

First homelessness awareness program hosted by RHA receives low attendance

Cheyenne Kramer
Staff Reporter

Residents Hall Association (RHA) held its first ever homelessness awareness program on Friday, Sept. 25. Despite three weeks of advertisement and numerous attempts on social media to recruit people into attending the event, very few people took part in the program.

Lydia Sadow, multicultural and diversity chair for RHA, hosted the event. Before the RHA meeting Thursday, she was hoping for about 50 people to attend the event. However, when the event happened, very few students showed up. At a point, Sadow was concerned if the program would even happen or not.

"Some of the E-Board was talking about how they did programs like this in high school, and it inspired me to host something similar on our campus," Sadow said. "[Canceling the program] is

something I have to ask my boss."

Despite very low attendance, the program continued, opening with a 60 Minutes clip about homelessness in America.

Richard Seeger, freshman Hamlin resident, heard about the program via the flyers around campus. He came to the program ready with a bag of the things he would need. He said the event sounded interesting and important for students to engage in.

After the clip, students took bins of cardboard outside and began constructing their cardboard homes to live in for the night. Some students simply taped a few boxes together and slept in them, while some went a bit more complex, building intricately constructed creations.

Members of OUPD stopped by as well, and despite the night having a disappointing start, the people in attendance were lively and enthusiastic

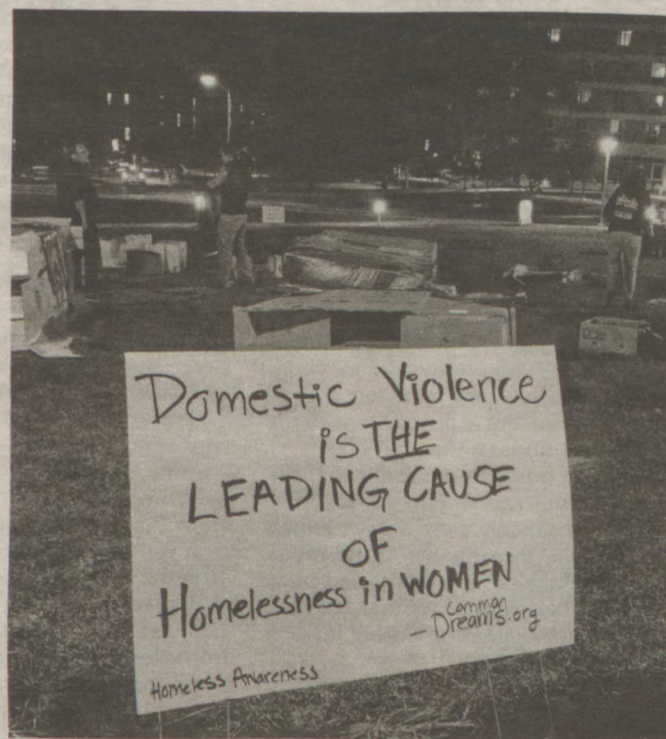
"Some of the E-Board was talking about how they did programs like this in high school, and it inspired me to host something similar on our campus."

Lydia Sadow
RHA Multicultural and Diversity Chair

about their cause. OUPD officers put stickers on the boxes and even helped students with some parts of their cardboard homes.

However, around 1:30 a.m., disaster struck. The sprinklers at the bottom of the Oak View hill turned on, putting a damper on the night.

Despite the setback, it was considered to be a realistic experience for students. Even though they had the opportunities to return to their warm beds in their dorms, millions



Cheyenne Kramer / The Oakland Post

RHA's first homelessness awareness program was held on Friday, Sept. 25.

of homeless Americans don't have that opportunity.

Sadow said that despite the obstacles, she hopes that this program will be something that future multicultural and diversity chairs will continue

on with.

More information about RHA and other programs they host can be found at the oakland.edu website or from their weekly meetings held at 7 p.m. in the Oak View Hall lounge.