

THE OAKLAND POST

NOVEMBER
12

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER — 2014 —



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Waltzing witches and wizards cast spell on Yule Ball **PAGE 6**



Thanksgiving is coming up, but have you decorated your dorm or apartment appropriately? If you haven't, Staff Reporter Selah Fischer has some fun and easy do-it-yourself ideas. Read more at www.oaklandpostonline.com.

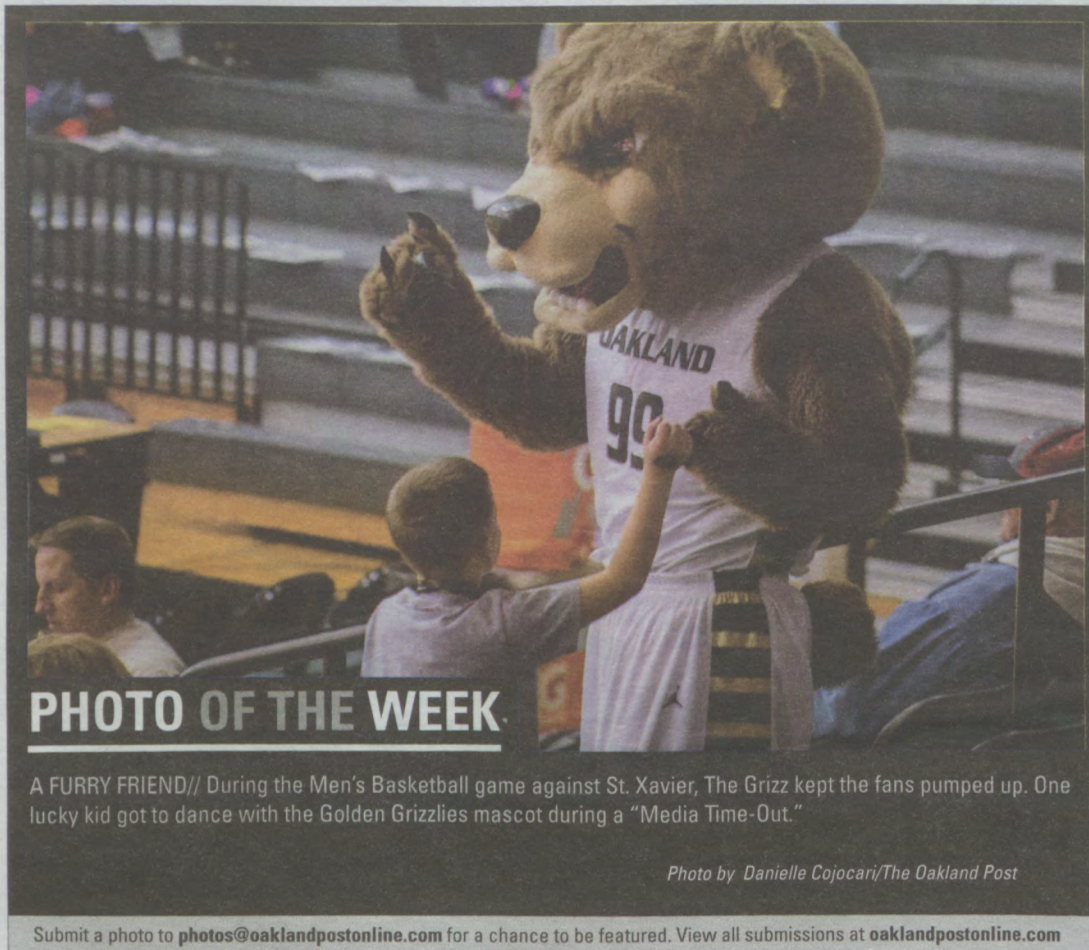


PHOTO OF THE WEEK

A FURRY FRIEND// During the Men's Basketball game against St. Xavier, The Grizz kept the fans pumped up. One lucky kid got to dance with the Golden Grizzlies mascot during a "Media Time-Out."

Photo by Danielle Cojocari/The Oakland Post

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

What do you think of the strategic planning committee?

- A** I think it's a crucial step to bettering this university. Go OUI
- B** I'm not sure yet - I want to see what it does next.
- C** It's a bunch of hot air and won't change anything.
- D** Don't know, don't care.

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

What are your thoughts on anime?

- A** Anime is my life. There's so much fun and creativity!
42.3%
- B** I really think people need to re-evaluate the use of this word.
10.4%
- C** Anime? That's for weirdos.
29.4%
- D** Spongebob counts, right?
17.8%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

November 12, 2003

The Modern Language Department resolved a dispute by choosing to cancel one section of German 115. It originally planned to cancel German 455, which would have kept 10 German majors from graduating.

November 15, 1996

Chi Upsilon sorority president Stephanie Maximuik received a package that contained a dead raccoon and a note that said "die bitch." She told OUPD that she thought it was another sorority member.

November 15, 1978

University Congress voted against removing Congress President Gary Foster, even though he was found guilty on two impeachable offenses.

-Compiled by Andrew Wernette, Life Editor



7

LOOKING AHEAD

President Hynd and a planning committee spoke to the OU community on Tuesday with strategic plans for the future.



15

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

Students donated basic goods to those affected by ISIS in Iraq at the Workshop for Peace on Wednesday, Nov. 5.



22

BEYOND THE KIDDIE POOL

The men and women's swimming teams came just shy of victory at a meet with Bowling Green State University and Eastern Michigan University on Saturday.

BY THE NUMBERS

Make-A-Wish edition

89%

of health professionals say they believe a wish experience can influence a wish kid's physical health

40%

wishes involving The Walt Disney Company

25 billion

frequent flier miles are needed to meet all the travel needs for wish kids and their families

25,000

active volunteers for Make-A-Wish in the United States

14,000

wishes granted by Make-A-Wish in 2012 alone

STAFF EDITORIAL

Regulated we stand, monopolized we fall

By **Oona Goodin-Smith**
Editor-in-Chief

What are you willing to pay to Google a cat meme? How about to stream that full season of American Horror Story on Netflix? The next time you log on to Moodle, have your wallets at the ready, OU.

As of last January, when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia overthrew many of the federal rules requiring broadband providers to treat all Internet traffic equally, we as Americans have lost control of our web, turning it over to the hands of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and major broadband providers such as Comcast and Verizon. This opens the possibility of these companies purposefully slowing down Internet connection, charging more for higher-speed browsing and eventually access to online content such as YouTube, Spotify, Netflix, and other users of high bandwidth.

"Right now it's more expensive to just get Internet than to buy Comcast's package," said Politics and Internet (PS 319) student Krista Squier. "You can see where they're already trying to have a monopoly."

"It's a gate-keeping issue," said her classmate Courtney Souden. "Rather than to go see what you want, you only see what Comcast wants you to see."

On Monday, President Obama publicly called for "net neutrality," or "no toll roads on the information super highway," saying that "an open Internet is essential to the American economy, and increasingly to our very way of life."

In other words, he suggested that, following Title II of the Communications Act of 1934, which would make the broadband providers "common carriers," the Internet would become a utility, "like electricity and water."

Provoking the age-old debate over big government versus individual rights, the call for government regulation has naturally caused protest.

"Net Neutrality' is Obamacare for the Internet; the Internet should not operate at the speed of government," tweeted Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX).

"What about subsidies and taxpayers?" questioned political science student Mike Snow. "If you turn [the Internet] into a utility, it can be government-regulated even more."

If left in its current state, however, the potential of Comcast and other broadband big-wigs, according to USA Today, "charging tolls for 'fast lanes' or discriminating against content" looms. Eventually, what you see for free on the Internet could be completely decided by these companies, monopolizing the "information highway" and thus the

resources of the American people.

While we at *The Oakland Post* recognize the current potential pitfalls of government regulation for the Internet consumer, we believe that net neutrality is overwhelmingly positive, especially for today's college student.

As Oakland's tuition continues to increase and student loan levels sit at an all-time high, we at The Post believe that the last thing college students need is to be forced to pay more money for information access.

For computer science students and Internet entrepreneurs such as Vazor team member Ziyad Al-Obaidi, the resistance to net neutrality could also stifle his budding career. "We're designing web apps: one of the most amazing things you can do. We may not get to compete with a big company as they can pay the extra charges and essentially limit what we do. As a young college student entrepreneur, you definitely don't want to have that. You want to use your money in the most important way."

The Oakland Post urges students to fend for your right to information, for your right to knowledge. In the words of political science professor Terri Towner, "free and open Internet is essential for democracy."

After all, knowledge is power, and at the end of the day, Oakland, who do you want in control?

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



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Community involvement IS all it's jazzed up to be

No matter what you are majoring in or doing at OU, there are easy opportunities to have a good time

Freshman year, I was a stinker. I hated just about everything and everyone.

Well, 'hate' is a strong word, but I certainly wasn't happy. I didn't want to make new friends, didn't want to get involved, and had convinced myself that people were behind everything dastardly and dark.

In addition to being a spiteful little thing, I was afraid. I liked to pretend I was some big, bad shark come to dominate the ocean, but in reality, I was a goldfish from a country puddle. While I loved my tiny puddle and hadn't known anything else, it didn't exactly set me up for social success.

So more than anything, I was scared.

Let's skip forward three years to the present time. As managing editor of this fine newspaper and an active student in my program, I consider myself pretty involved, and feel like I know so many more people, places and things I missed out on during that first year. I've really



Kaylee Kean
Managing Editor

come to love OU and know I'll be sticking around after graduation in May.

It's been over 15 months since I joined the Post, and I'm much more sure of myself. I'm happier. I'm more mature (that's a stretch, but let's go with it).

But before all of this, there was something else: music.

There was Word of Mouth Open Mic Night, which I first went to in the dark winter months of freshman year and have been going to since.

Before I got into journalism, I was a musician through and through. I gigged whenever possible, kept a relatively updated YouTube, and wrote like the world was going to end. I've dug into local music scenes and acts and have seen some talent. You think I'd be immune by now, but I'm not. Every week there's

always something, or someone, that wows me or makes me incredibly happy. That's the best.

I never really thought much about it until now, but open mic has been a part of my life at OU longer than anything else. It's changed hands and locations a few times — in fact, I'll be helping to set up and lead the show now — and the crowd has died down a little, but there's still that dedicated core I've come to love.

And it's not just music: we get singers, writers, poets, comedians, rappers, percussionists, dancers, actors — you name it, we've probably had it. Oh yeah OU!

Did you go to OU's Got Talent this year? Remember Brie Shines, who covered Colbie Caillat with an acoustic guitar and a soothing voice? She performed at open mic last week, and it was just as beautiful, and much more personal. Remember Leo, the comedian who won first place? He's made his appearance, and many pants were soiled. Or what about that

sassy opening act who did the Campfire Song Song to get the crowd pumped up? (That was me.) She plays each week too, and I hear she's even cooler in person.

Not to sound cheesy, but you lose yourself at open mic. You see faces that normally don't pop up in your day-to-day routine, and you greet them with a smile. You jam and dance and rock out; you laugh and learn and tease; you're absolutely amazed by the talent that goes unnoticed on your very own campus.

You do this on a weekly basis at the price of nothing. And to me, that feels so good.

So here's some shameless self-promotion: come to open mic this Thursday at 9 p.m. in the Vandenberg Glass Room. Anyone can come, and you only have to perform if you're comfortable with it, though we're friendly with all types. It lasts about two hours. Two hours of easy, free fun.

Do something new. Come hang out. You won't regret it.

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Give me your tired, poor, huddled masses — legally

Student statesman sheds light and voices opinion on the American illegal vs. legal immigration plight

Nicholas Walters
The Student Statesman

For those of you who may have missed it last week, the format for this political column will be simple. The first half will be raw explanation. No spin, no bias, no politics — just the background behind and introduction to the topic.

The second half will be raw opinion.

So, let's talk about the border. Here's the situation: our southern border is experiencing a flood of illegal immigration.

The illegals are coming not only from Mexico, but also from other Latin American countries.

There has also been a large number of children, about 52,000, according to the BBC, that have crossed the border, most of them unattended.

The Border Patrol Agency has been overwhelmed by the surge and has therefore been housing illegals in very poor conditions.

Those are the facts.

Before we move on to the opinion part though, there's one important distinction we have to make.

I'm not against legal immigration. I'm against illegal immigration.

It's super important to not confuse the two, otherwise you hear stuff like, "Amnesty is good because immigrants built this country."

Okay, okay, okay. You've heard all this before.

Now, why does it matter?

Here's why (One note: this is a massive subject; for the sake of time, I'm not going to talk about every aspect, like the kids, the drug problem, etc.).

We've created a double standard.

People who illegally immigrate are given free healthcare, education, housing, food and clothing, according to Judicial Watch (an anti-government waste research center).

We've got millions of people coming into the country who are being taught that America is about getting free stuff if you break the law.

On the other hand, people who try to follow the rules and legally immigrate here go through a tortuous examination process, pay heavy fees, take difficult tests and wait for up to

10 years.

Practically every news agency in the country has run a story on our lengthy and expensive legal immigration process. Ten years!

So the rest of the world looks and says, "Hmmm, if I break into the country, I'm treated like a hero by politicians, but if I try to come legally, I'm treated like a criminal."

Did I say 10 years?

Look, I'm all for immigration. My ancestors were Scotch, Welsh, Irish, English and a smattering of other ethnicities.

I'm for immigration. I love it.

So, I say, let's have legal immigration. Let's open this country's borders to all those wanting to move here to escape tyranny and have a better life.

But let's not do so by saying that breaking the law is ok.



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Campus

Grizzlies on the Prowl



*“How do you
feel about no-
shave November/
beards?”*



**Courtney Sharbaugh, freshman,
wellness, health, promotion
& injury prevention and
psychology**

*“My friends participate in it.
Some people know the real cause
behind it but some people don't.”*



**Sarah Hale, freshman, physical
therapy**

*“There are some people who
participate because it's a trend. I
think they should participate for
the cause.”*



**David DeGroot, freshman,
mechanical engineering**

*“I'm participating by not
shaving. But it's become more of
a trend than raising awareness.”*



**Dustin Trombly, junior,
computer science**

*“I'm aware of the cause behind it
but don't participate. It definitely
raises awareness because I
wouldn't know about it without
hearing No-Shave November.”*

*— Compiled by Nowshin Chowdhury,
Photographer*

POLICE FILES

Vehicle damage reported in P-2

OUPD responded to a call in the P-2 parking lot on Nov. 5 at 9:49 p.m. from a complainant stating that his car was damaged while parked in the lot.

The complainant told the officer that he parked his car in P-2 around 5:00 p.m., and when he returned to the vehicle about four hours later, he saw a broken bottle on the ground near the vehicle and key marks near the driver's side headlight and along the driver's side of the vehicle.

The officer asked the complainant if he had been in an altercation with anyone that day. He said that when parking in the spot that he may have pulled in front of a pick-up truck and taken the spot from that other driver.

The officer reviewed security camera footage and noticed a pick-up truck matching the complainant's description enter the parking lot, but did not see anyone leave the vehicle or anything else happen.

Student issued MIP in Hamlin Hall

OUPD was dispatched to Hamlin Hall on Nov. 8 at approximately 3:00 a.m. for a report of possible underage drinking.

The officers met with housing staff who said that they had checked the room in question because they had been told there was a party going on. They told the officers that when they entered the room they observed alcohol containers in the room.

One of the occupants indicated that he and the four other occupants were having a party in the room and that they had been drinking.

All students consented to a breathalyzer test. Four of the occupants registered a .000 blood alcohol content and were not cited. One of the occupants registered a .024 blood alcohol content and was issued a citation for minor in possession.

Student cited for suspended license, registration plate violation

On Nov. 6, at 10:45 p.m., an officer was patrolling on Walton Road when he observed a Dodge Charger with expired registration.

The officer stopped the vehicle, approached, and identified himself. The officer asked the driver for her driver's license, registration and proof of insurance. The driver told the officer that she didn't have her license and that the vehicle belonged to her brother.

The officer returned to his patrol unit and was able to identify the driver. He discovered that the driver's license was suspended and that the driver had a misdemeanor warrant for failure to appear in traffic court.

The officer approached the vehicle and asked the driver to step out of the vehicle. The driver hesitated and continued to have a conversation on her cell phone. The officer asked the driver again to step out of the vehicle. The driver hesitated again, but then stepped out of the vehicle.

The officer then placed handcuffs on the driver and conducted a search of the vehicle for contraband or weapons. The officer found none.

The officer issued the driver citations for failure to display a valid license, driving with a suspended license, and registration plate violation.

The officer then confiscated the license plate off the vehicle and it was placed into evidence. The vehicle was towed and impounded. The officer then explained the reasoning for the citations and gave the driver a ride back to the Police and Support Services Building.

*— Compiled by Josh Soltman
Copy Editor*



Kaylee Kean / The Oakland Post

President Hynd explained the university's plans to improve the school and community, with students and faculty present to ask questions.

THIS WEEK AROUND CAMPUS

NOV.
12

12 p.m. "2014 Teaching Excellence Award Winners" Workshop in 200A Elliott Hall

5 p.m. International artist Osman Khan lecture in 208 Wilson Hall

NOV.
13

12 p.m. Political Science post-election "Campaign Roundup" discussion in the Oakland Room, Oakland Center

5 p.m. Ireland study abroad information meeting in the Lake Michigan Room, Oakland Center

NOV.
14

12 p.m. Communication & Journalism Lecture Series: Revolt of the City and Bromances in 4043 Human Health Building

8 p.m. World Music concert with Rahul Pophali in Varner Hall

NOV.
15

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Student to Professional Conference in the Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

8 p.m. The Liar in Varner Studio Theatre

NOV.
16

9 p.m. to 12 a.m. Fundraiser for the OU Club Football team at Classic Lanes; \$15/person for three hours of bowling and live music

3 p.m. Oakland Symphony Orchestra in Varner Recital Hall

NOV.
17

7 p.m. 90s Night featuring food, games and prizes in the Gold Rooms, Oakland Center

7:30 p.m. Percussion Ensemble Concert in Varner Recital Hall

Looking ahead and reaching high

Strategic planning committee shares plans, answers questions on vision and goals

Ali DeRees

Campus & Administration Editor

Oakland University is transforming: last Tuesday President George Hynd and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Kevin Corcoran gave students and faculty a glimpse into what they and other leaders of the university have been up to these past few months. Their ideas and updates were shared during a free luncheon open to all in the Oakland Center, and the session was concluded with a question and answer portion.

Missed the presentation? Check out our top ten key points from the luncheon:

1. "It all starts with the faculty. That's what universities are built on, high quality faculty who care about their work and care about their students," Corcoran said. He highlighted the many achievements of the faculty and how they will guide discussion and higher learning at the university — faculty is the lifeblood of OU.

2. The College of Arts and Sciences courses expand to those who are in the other professional schools, Corcoran said. He stressed that courses in the arts and sciences affect every student in the university, regardless of their majors, and should be taken seriously.

3. "We are growing in a variety of areas within the college," Corcoran said. Corcoran cited growth statistics, such as the chemistry major showing 25 percent growth and the psychology major showing 18 percent growth.

4. "We at the College of Arts and Sciences have a space problem," Corcoran said. With the expansion of buildings for several of the other professional schools, the largest and only college on the university is in desperate need for adequate space for students and faculty.

5. We need engagement in the community. Both Dean Corcoran and President Hynd stressed that as a metropolitan university, we have an obligation to use our skills and resources to better the surrounding community. This type of involvement is beneficial for both community members and students looking to gain valuable experience outside of the classroom.

6. OU will become a "doctoral research institution with a global perspective." This was stated in Hynd's presentation of the strategic planning update. He and the committee want the university to compete on an international level and be a leader in groundbreaking research.

7. We need to continue to re-brand. Hynd said the committee has been discussing the branding and "what it is, exactly people, think about when they hear the words 'Oakland University.'"

8. "Our students feels we are more student-centered than other institutions across the state," Hynd said, citing the branding survey that was done earlier this year. Hynd wants to continue this focus on the students and providing them with a "robust teaching and learning environment."

9. We need diversity. Hynd and the planning commission welcomed comments on this topic from the audience members, which included faculty administration.

10. "We need your help," said Associate Professor of English and President of the American Association of University Professors, Kevin Grimm. He was one of the many committee members to stress community input and involvement.

Send questions and comments to Betty Youngblood, former interim president and current vice president for organizational development and strategic planning, to youngblo@oakland.edu.