

THE OAKLAND POST

MARCH
13
— 2013 —

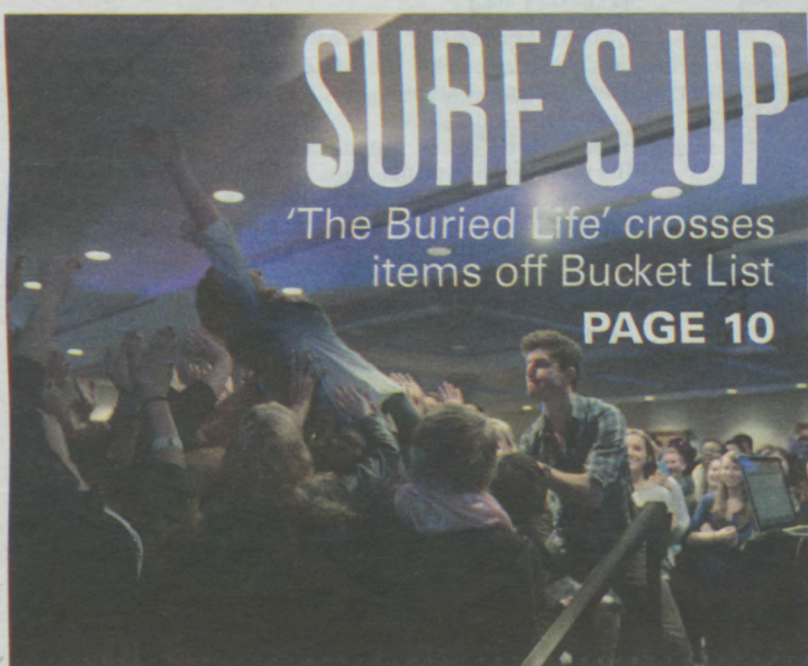
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



BROS BEFORE THROWS

Long-time friends play together
on men's basketball team

PAGE 11



SURF'S UP

'The Buried Life' crosses
items off Bucket List

PAGE 10



SAYING GOODBYE

Current OUSC President,
Vice President reflect on
their time in office

PAGE 16

this week

March 13, 2013 // Volume 39 Issue 21



on the web

Watch our exclusive online video to see more about star Grizzlies and seniors Drew Valentine and Jordan Howenstine.

www.oaklandpostonline.com



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

DOUBLE RAINBOW // After a gloomy, rainy day on campus, a rainbow appeared, arching over the university. At the very ends of the arch, a second — or double — rainbow could be also be seen.

ERIKA MARKO // Senior, Communication

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

POLL OF THE WEEK

Who are you planning on voting for in the upcoming OUSC election?

- A** Amera Fattah/Maria Arellano
- B** Brandon Hanna/Jibran Ahmed
- C** I plan on writing someone else in
- D** I don't care

Vote at www.oaklandpostonline.com

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Do you think Michigan should legalize same-sex marriage?

A) Yes, every American deserves equality

43 votes | 63%

B) Yes, because of the benefits with marriage

2 votes | 3%

C) No, civil unions should be enough

20 votes | 29%

D) I don't care

3 votes | 4%

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

MARCH 13, 1964

Oakland University announced that Hill House was to be finished by fall of 1964. The new six-story dormitory was used as a girls-only dorm.

MARCH 14, 1969

The University Senate approved the opening of the School of Economics and Management for Fall 1969. The opening of the school offered students undergraduate and graduate school opportunities.

JANUARY 5, 1960

Barbara Bush, wife of President George H.W. Bush, visited campus. Bush discussed updates on the Cold War and how students could do their part for their country. The event was part of George Bush's campaign to be re-elected.



12

BAD NEWS BEARS

Both the men's and women's basketball teams fell during the first round of the Summit League Tournament last weekend. Both teams were eliminated.



15

GET YOUR GREEN ON

Utica DDA hosted its first-ever Lucky Leprechaun Race on Saturday. The event encouraged physical fitness and even included a costume contest.



18

RING, RING

Directed by Anthony Guest, 'Dead Man's Cell Phone' is the newest play at Varner Theatre. Every aspect from acting to costumes was done by Oakland University students.

BY THE NUMBERS
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

36.9%

U.S. residents claim Irish ancestry

40

pounds of green dye added to the Chicago River this year

20%

of adults plan on having a drink

248

consecutive years New York has hosted the St. Patrick's Day Parade

0.1%

odds of a child being named Patrick

STAFF EDITORIAL

Be informed for OUSC presidential elections

In just under a month, the student body will elect a new Oakland University Student Congress president and vice president.

It's time to get informed.

This year, there are two tickets — Amera Fattah and Maria Arellano vs. Brandon Hanna and Jibrán Ahmed.

This year's tickets have distinct differences.

Let us explain.

Fattah / Arellano

Fattah and Arellano currently serve as members of OUSC. Fattah is the Director of Student Services and Arellano serves as the Multicultural Affairs Director.

In a nutshell, their platform includes enhancing marketing and media relations efforts, hosting larger events, installing more hydration stations, increasing dining space in Vandenberg and the new housing complex, lobbying for later hours of operation in the Oakland Center, including the dining services, partnering with Charwells and the Recreation Center to add a healthy dining service, adding additional Scantron machines, and more.

Hanna / Ahmed

Both male candidates also currently serve as members of OUSC. Hanna is the Student Activities Funding Board chair-

You wouldn't purchase a car without doing extensive research, so why would you vote for a representative without doing at least a little digging?

man, and Ahmed serves as a Student Congress Legislator.

Hanna and Ahmed's platform includes improving Wi-Fi on campus, increasing and improving parking availability, bringing back the free ScanTron program, holding more career fairs on OU's campus, keeping tuition low, increasing the number of instructors who use Moodle, increasing the amount of free prints students may use, providing more electrical outlets for student use, improving mobile phone reception on campus, and more.

Why it matters

You wouldn't purchase a car without doing extensive research, so why would you vote for a representative without doing at least a little digging?

Last year's election garnered only 1,184 votes. This means just over six percent of the student body voted in the OUSC election.

Emily Collins, OUSC elec-

tion's commissioner, aspires to get 3,000 — roughly 15 percent — of the student body to cast a vote this year.

That's too small of a representation. Oakland's student body can and should do better.

The two platforms, while they may share some similarities, also have many differences. The candidates' proposals will have an impact on many facets of student life.

Will you let that be dictated by three out of every 50 students? Would you let it even be dictated by three out of 20?

Or will you decide it's worth the few minutes of effort to check a box on a ballot, giving your vote to the candidates whose views most closely match yours?

It's easy to find out the platforms of the candidates. Advertisements, social media and this very newspaper have can all help keep you informed.

Voting is also neither difficult nor time-consuming. If you're an OU student, you can vote.

The polls will be open March 18-20. If you're on campus one of those days, vote. If not, vote online www.oakland.edu/voteou

The staff editorial is written weekly by members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.



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Letters to the Editor

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



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COLUMN

To make it brief: Vote in the elections

Every year, as you may already know, there is an election that determines who will become the next Student Body President, Vice President and all of the Legislators that help make your voice heard.

For president and VP, the process begins with a duo that decide that they want to make Oakland University a better place through commitment to the student body, leadership to the community and dedication to the university as a whole.

For legislators, it's simply those who want to make a difference through the representation of students all across campus.

Students who run for these positions put their hearts into campaigning, marketing themselves, researching solutions to the problems that student face here and creating initiatives that help make this place better.

They focus their time and energy on the things that matter to the general student body, and because of that, they deserve to let their ideas be seen and heard by all of you reading this.

Yeah, I said it.



ROBBIE WILLIFORD
columnist

Educate yourself on all of those who are running to represent you.

You may not think that it matter, but if you don't vote, you can't complain about anything on this campus.

I know that's a saying that may be overused, but think about it: If you don't vote, you relinquish the voice that you have ever being heard.

Do you want that? I certainly don't want that, not only for me but also for each and every one of you.

Last school year, there was a total of approximately 1,500 votes.

This year, we want to double that.

Having 3,000 students submit a vote is our goal — that means 3,000 voters that have taken the time to look at the platforms of each candidate, 3,000 voters that have met with the candidates to discuss ideas and student concerns, and 3,000 voters that decided they care about the future of this university.

I hope you've attended the presidential and vice presidential debates recently.

I hope you've met with the candidates.

I hope you've visited their websites and have seen their vision for what can make the Oakland community a better place to be.

If you haven't done so, I challenge you to take the time to do it.

If you work diligently, it should only take you an hour and a half at most to see what each candidate is bringing to the table. And each one has something different.

But no matter what, every candidate wants their best version of what would make this wonderful place even better.

Lastly, when you choose not to vote, you're choosing to not be the difference.

"When you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."

An investment in the future of this university is an investment in your own future. Vote.

Be the difference.

Go to www.oakland.edu/voteou, from March 18-20 and make a difference.

Robbie Williford is the Oakland University Student Congress Vice President. Email him at rwillif@oakland.edu or follow him on Twitter @rwilliford

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EDITORIAL

Leave the wolves for Little Red Riding Hood

We've all seen them around. They've even invaded our campus. People with a pitiful look in their eye pushing clipboards at passers-by asking them to support the cause and protect native wolves.

Yes wolves, the evildoers in our children's books, the bad guys, the deceivers.

They get a bad rep dating all the way back to the Middle Ages when werewolves were used to explain the horrific immorality of serial killers.

Buwolves should not be hunted as a sport.

How it started

Grey wolves in the western Great Lakes region were added to the endangered species list in 1973. They were removed in January of 2012.

In 2008, the Michigan Legislature passed laws deeming it legal for dog and livestock owners to take lethal action against problem wolves who prey on their animals.

In December 2012, Public Act 520 was signed into law, designating wolves as a game species in Michigan.

Since that decision, Keep Wolves Protected has taken a stand to defend our native wildlife.

Stepping up

The Keep Wolves Protected website explains the mission of the Michigan chapter as follows:



ASHLEY MOHLER
intern

"Keep Michigan Wolves Protected is a coalition of animal welfare organizations, conservation groups, veterinarians, Native American tribes and religious leaders who are working to oppose the Michigan legislature's last-minute approval of a bill during the 2012 lame-duck session that allows for the trophy hunting of wolves in Michigan for the first time in nearly 50 years"

Keep Michigan Wolves Protected has a goal to collect 225,000 signatures before its state-mandated March 27 deadline. The group needs 161,305 signatures to bring the issue back to the ballot, and according to their website, they are well on their way to attaining all signatures needed.

The issues

I have no gripe with the warranted killing of an animal, one which kills a beloved pet or harms a living investment such as livestock, and I think shooting a wolf in defense is admissible.

On the other hand, I agree with Keep Michigan Wolves Protected on their stance against actively hunting wolves in order to lessen the already low population and gain a trophy.

A noticeable problem is that wolves are encroaching on livestock of local owners. Wolves eat hoofed animals, the bigger the better. They, like most carnivores, are hunters that like to pass as scavengers

when food is scarce and they are low on energy. When a wolf sees a horse's pen, it sees a hearty meal, all wrapped up with nowhere to go.

Wolves are tenacious hunters that can grow to weigh over 100 lbs. They usually hunt in quick and cunning packs, which can be intimidating to anything that crosses their path.

That I'm sure you knew, but here's something you may not know: Wolves aren't typically a threat to humans.

When I say "not typically," I mean close to never.

In the past century, there have only been two reported deaths from wolf attacks. Compare that number to 38, the amount of fatal dog attacks in the U.S. in 2012.

When an animal challenges us or becomes a threat we eliminate it. Fresh off the endangered species list and now it's time to kill?

Here we are in the middle of an environmental movement that took years to get off the ground in the U.S., killing off a newly revived animal that helps to naturally keep order among what little wildlife we have left.

The human population is rising far faster than the wolf population, so let me ask you, who is encroaching upon whom?

Ashley Mohler is an intern at The Oakland Post. Email her at anmohler@oakland.edu

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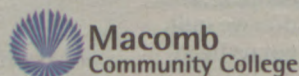
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Now hiring: Editor-in-Chief

Applications are now being accepted for the position of Editor-in-Chief for the 2013-14 academic year. Applications are due Friday, March 15.

The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for managing The Oakland Post independent student newspaper and reports to the board of directors.

Applicants should possess superior oral and written communication skills, a working knowledge of news media and have a solid command of digital technologies. Proficiency in Adobe publication software and Wordpress is required.

Job duties include supervision of staff, oversight of production of weekly print publication and daily online news site, writing and editing, staff recruitment and training and facilitation of necessary university and community relations.

Compensation includes weekly salary and a tuition stipend. Applicants need not be journalism majors, but prior experience in a newsroom is preferable.

Applicants should send a digital portfolio including a cover letter, resume and work samples to Holly Shreve Gilbert, shreve@oakland.edu



SHANNON COUGLIN/The Oakland Post

Students in attendance of the 2013 Student Congress Presidential Debate listen as Brandon Hanna and Amara Fattah discuss their platforms.

Fighting for your vote

Student Congress holds presidential debate

Written by Jon Davis
Staff Intern

The 2013 Student Congress Presidential Debate between Amara Fattah and Brandon Hanna was held March 5 at noon and featured discussions on parking efficiency, student commentary and free scantrons.

The debate immediately opened on the top three platforms the candidates were making.

"IT'S ABOUT COMING UP WITH A PLAN AND IT'S ABOUT CONNECTING WITH PEOPLE."

Amara Fattah,
OUSC presidential candidate

"We're going to do things that haven't been addressed by the current administration," Hanna said. "Firstly, advocating for better parking is huge. We're pushing for a new parking structure to coincide with new housing plans coming next year."

Hanna said another item on his agenda is to bring more career fairs to Oakland.

He also discussed the importance of a free scantron program to students.

"When we purchase these in bulk, you actually spend less money, and one of the biggest benefits is the flow of students who will now be coming into our office to get them," Hanna said. "They're right there, face-to-face, and they can tell us ideas or problems they've been having."

Fattah followed saying she and running mate Maria Arellano, have nine core-concepts that will benefit students, but the top three are transportation initiatives, technology advancement and student commentary.

"Parking is going to be the biggest problem here at Oakland," Fattah said. "An answer to that is that we're going to establish a transportation department."

She added that the two are pushing for technology advancement, which is simplifying resources at Oakland.

Fattah also hopes to better marketing through technology — make easier research tools through Oakland, and have a smart-phone app for the Bear Bus."

"WE'RE GOING TO DO THINGS THAT HAVEN'T BEEN ADDRESSED BY THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION."

Brandon Hanna,
OUSC presidential candidate

Coming to a close

The debate ended by asking the candidates to give closing statements on how, if elected, they will improve OU.

"We bring a sense of experience to the job," Hanna said. "We're working across departments, we're working across various deans and we're working across several groups organizations to bring about the change we need."

Fattah said that it is all about working together.

"It's about coming up with a plan, and it's about connecting with people," she said. "That's the solid foundation we built our platform on. That's what got us here."

Contact Staff Intern Jon Davis via email at jsdavis@oakland.edu

POLICE FILES

Fight reported in student's home

The Oakland University Police Department was called to a residence in Rochester March 10.

A group of students left from Gus O'Connors in downtown Rochester at 3:15 a.m.

Upon returning home, one female student and the others said she found three to four men inside her home.

The student said she had past experiences with them and told them to leave. They began to argue, and the group of males decided to leave.

As they left the house, a member of the resident's group followed them outside. He stated that he was punched without cause and the same person punched the resident.

Another member of her group stated he was choked by one of the men.

The group of males left the house, and a neighbor confirmed that she saw the fight.

No one involved requested medical treatment.

OUPD investigates suspicious odors in Hill House dorm

OU police officers responded to Hill House Feb. 27 at 7:45 p.m. for an odor investigation.

Officers entered the dorm by consent of the student. Officers said they noticed the smell of marijuana outside and inside the room.

They asked if anyone had been smoking and all denied except one student.

Upon request from officers, she relinquished a small bag of marijuana from her purse.

They then observed a beer can by a male student. The can was sitting by the male student's foot. The male student said he had been only drinking beer. After officers asked if he had been drinking, he admitted to drinking two cans of beer. He referenced the observed can with by his foot.

The female student was issued a ticket for marijuana use, and the male student was issued a minor in possession.

— Compiled by Haley Kotwicki,
Copy Editor



At the round-table discussions of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity conference, students, faculty and visitors discussed what they learned during the day.

Campus hosts second annual SOGI conference

Written and photographed
by Natalie Popovski
Campus Editor

Oakland University hosted the second annual Michigan Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Education Conference March 9 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The conference, which is a part of the SOGI Initiative of the School of Education and Human Services, has the goal to create more supportive and inclusive educational environments for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and intersex people.

"At this year's conference, we were able to expand the breadth and depth of our sessions and workshops," Timothy Larrabee, associate dean of the SEHS, said. "We had four trans-focused sessions on the program compared to one last year. This year we also attracted greater participation from organizations seeking to market their programs at information tables, and we were also able to offer continuing education credits for teachers, school counselors and social workers."

This year's conference featured six workshops, 18 concurrent sessions, round-table discussions and a performance from the Riot Zone's Gayrilla Theatre which discussed survey results distributed to students in the Ann Arbor area about the how comfortable students feel at school.

Inside the sessions

Grace Wojcik, coordinator of the Gender and Sexuality Center, lead the Creating Safe Space Ally Trainings workshop.

In this session, they discussed how to create effective Safe Space Ally training

"WHEN COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND SESSION FACILITATORS REPORT BACK THAT THEY LEARNED SOMETHING NEW THAT WILL HELP THEM IN THEIR WORK, I FEEL WE HAVE DONE OUR JOB."

Timothy Larrabee,
Associate Dean of the School of
Education and Human Services

sessions for instructors, staff members and students in order to create a comfortable environment to discuss SOGI issues.

"Students are coming out younger and younger," Wojcik said. "Safe zones help students feel a sense of belonging in schools."

She discussed how OU uses Safe Zone signs, bracelets, pins and other resources in to help the cause.

"You have to determine your school's culture and cater to that," Wojcik said.

Looking back at the conference

Larrabee said his favorite aspect of the event is the great response they get from participants and the positive difference it makes in people's lives.

"When community activists and session facilitators report back that they learned something new that will help them in their work, I feel we have done our job. And when classroom teachers and school administrators report they will change their policies and practices to create safer more inclusive communities in their classrooms, schools and school districts, I feel we have done our job."

At the end of conference, Larrabee said they plan on holding a third annual event.

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