



Tuesday, August 24, 2004

Welcome Week helps kick off academic year

By **Kalee Iacoangeli**, *OU Student Writer*

The first day of fall semester, Monday, Aug. 30, also marks the beginning of Oakland University's annual Welcome Week celebration, which is packed with fun and informative activities, games, prizes and live entertainment to showcase what campus life has to offer.

"The goal of Welcome Week is to generate excitement for returning students and to get new students acquainted with the campus and also to reaffirm the fact that they've chosen a great school," said Jean Ann Miller, director of the Center for Student Activities. "It's a great refresher course on what they learned in orientation. Students receive information on the availability of services, what they can do on campus, and all they could ever need to know about what goes on at OU."

Along with the many scheduled events, Welcome Week includes several giveaways, such as the OU Pride Patrol, which will give away prizes throughout the week to those spotted wearing OU gear. Graham Health Center will be having an open house all week with giveaways, contests and prizes to inform students about its available services. The Grizz Shop cart will be around during the week with various discounts on Oakland merchandise.

"Meijer Madnezz," another weeklong Welcome Week event, runs from Friday, Aug. 27, through Friday, Sept. 3, at the Auburn Hills Meijer where a 10-percent discount off a one-time purchase will be given when OU students, staff and faculty show their OU SpiritCard. Meijer also is the location of the OU community kick-off rally where the Pep Band, Images dance team and the cheer team will be performing from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 31, in support of Oakland athletics.

Over the years, Welcome Week has grown significantly and is now one of the largest annual events on campus. This year's festivities also include an extended "Second Friday" in order to incorporate all the planned events. The Friday after the official Welcome Week will feature a performance by Saturday Night Live's Darrell Hammond, karaoke and mocktails, and the 10th annual Sigma Pi Pig Roast.

"We really want to get people buzzing and talking about all the activities available," Miller said. "Academics is the first priority, but we really want to give everyone exposure to what campus life is all about and to show how diverse all of the activities are here."

WELCOME WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, Aug. 30

- All day – OU Spirit Day, "Get Your Black and Gold On." Show your Oakland University pride and wear your Golden Grizzly gear. Also, receive 20 percent off at the Grizz Shop in the Recreation and Athletics Center.
- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. – Ask a Grizz Information Table, located between North and South Foundation halls and at the north end of the Oakland Center. Orientation group leaders will be available to answer questions.
- 9-11 a.m. – Getting Connected Breakfast, Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. A breakfast and first meeting for Connections students.
- 11 a.m.-Noon – Making College Count, Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. COM 101, Connections and all new students can learn how to make the most of their college experience by attending this event.
- 3-5 p.m. – New Student Convocation, Recreation and Athletics Center. All new students and their families

should attend this celebration to mark the beginning of their college careers.

- 5-6:30 p.m. – Commuter Info Cart, South Foundation Hall Fishbowl. Find out what’s happening on OU’s campus at this table for commuter students
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. – “Chicken and Hot Sauce,” Hamlin Courtyard. This event, presented by Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, features live music by the band “Hot Sauce” along with free food and giveaways.
- 9-11 p.m. – “The Walk” to Meadow Brook Hall. Meet in the Hamlin Courtyard at 9 p.m. for a nighttime walk to the hall. The rain date is Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Tuesday, Aug. 31

- 8 a.m.-6 p.m. – Ask a Grizz Information Table, located between North and South Foundation halls and at the north end of the Oakland Center. Orientation group leaders will be available to answer questions.
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. – Kresge Library Help Sessions. Library staff will be available to help with OU E-mail accounts, the ILLiad (Interlibrary Loan) and to answer question about Kresge Library.
- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Greek Carnival, located between South Foundation Hall and the Oakland Center. This College Panhellenic (CPH) sponsored event will feature carnival games, prizes and free cotton candy.
- 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. – Student Affairs Free Ice Cream Social, located between North and South Foundation halls and the Oakland Center. Meet students, faculty and staff at this free ice cream social.
- 5-7 p.m. – “Meijer Madnezz” at the Meijer store in Auburn Hills. A community kick-off to rally behind OU’s Golden Grizzlies, including performances by OU’s Pep Band, Images dancers and the cheer team; The Grizz; free snacks; and a season ticket prize package giveaway. Also, by showing your OU SpiritCard you can receive 10 percent off one-time purchases at the Auburn Hills Meijer from Aug. 27 through Sept. 3.
- 5-6:30 p.m. – Commuter Info Cart, Dodge Hall entrance. Find out what’s happening on OU’s campus at this table for commuter students.
- 7-9 p.m. – Welcome BBQ, located on the basketball and volleyball courts across from Hamlin Courtyard. The Association of Black Students and Center for Multicultural Initiatives presents a welcome back barbeque.

Wednesday, Sept. 1

- 8 a.m.-6 p.m. – Ask a Grizz Information Table, located between North and South Foundation halls and at the north end of the Oakland Center. Orientation group leaders will be available to answer questions.
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. – Kresge Library Help Sessions. Library staff will be available to help with OU E-mail accounts, the ILLiad (Interlibrary Loan) and to answer question about Kresge Library.
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – Grizzfest, located between North and South Foundation halls and the Oakland Center. Enjoy music presented by WXOU and check out the Student Organization Fair and free Grizz snacks. Several Rochester merchants also will be handing out informational flyers, coupons and discounts for students.
- 4-6:30 p.m. – Welcome Picnic, located between the Oakland Center and O’Dowd Hall (Rain site: Oakland Center Oakland Room). InterVarsity Christian Fellowship is hosting a welcome picnic for all students.
- 5-6:30 p.m. – Commuter Info Car, Elliott Hall entrance. Find out what’s happening on OU’s campus at this table for commuter students.
- 6-8 p.m. – Sorority Fallfest, located between North and South Foundation halls. Meet members of OU’s sororities and enjoy free snow cones.
- 7 p.m. – Women’s Volleyball vs. Eastern Michigan, Athletics Center.

Thursday, Sept. 2

- 8 a.m.-6 p.m. – Ask a Grizz Information Table, located between North and South Foundation halls and at the north end of the Oakland Center. Orientation group leaders will be available to answer questions.

8 a.m.-7 p.m. – Library Coffee House, Kresge Library. Learn about Kresge Library's services while sampling free coffee and treats.

- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. – Kresge Library Help Sessions. Library staff will be available to help with OU E-mail accounts, the ILLiad (Interlibrary Loan) and to answer question about Kresge Library.
- 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – Welcome Picnic and “King of the (Chicken) Wing” Eating Contest, located between Kresge Library and Dodge and Hannah halls. Alpha Delta Pi, Theta Tau and the Interfraternity Council (IFC) present free food, music and fun. A chicken wing-eating contest will be held at 12:30 p.m.
- Noon-1 p.m. – Meet and Greet OU Authors, Kresge Library Student Lounge. Take this opportunity to meet OU's published authors while enjoying free refreshments.
- 4-6 p.m. – Meet the Coaches and Athletes Funfest, Hamlin Courtyard. Meet and greet OU student athletes and representatives from the Athletics Department. Free food and prizes will be available.
- 5-6:30 p.m. – Commuter Info Cart, Pawley Hall entrance. Find out what's happening on OU's campus at this table for commuter students.

Friday, Sept. 3

- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. – Ask a Grizz Information Table, located between North and South Foundation halls and at the north end of the Oakland Center. Orientation group leaders will be available to answer questions.
- 10 a.m.-6 p.m. – Kresge Library Help Sessions. Library staff will be available to help with OU E-mail accounts, the ILLiad (Interlibrary Loan) and to answer question about Kresge Library.
- 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. – OC Patio Concert Motown Mania. A free concert on the patio of the Oakland Center, featuring Motown music by the band “From Within.”
- 4 p.m. – Women's Soccer vs. Illinois State, Lower Athletic Fields.
- 7 p.m. – Friday Night Live, Vandenberg Dining Center. Residence Halls Programming presents comedian Buzz Sutherland. Come and see this national award-winning comic. Free refreshments will be available.
- 8-11 p.m. – Movie Trivia Contest and Outdoor Movie, north side of O'Dowd Hall (Rain site: Oakland Center Gold Rooms). Student Program Board is hosting a trivia contest and will show the movie “The Day After Tomorrow.”
- 9 p.m.-1 a.m. – ABS Icebreaker Dance, Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. The Association for Black Students presents an icebreaker dance for all students.

Friday, Sept. 10

- 7 p.m. – Student Program Board presents Darrell Hammond from NBC's “Saturday Night Live” in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. This event is free for all OU students, faculty and staff, but seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 6 p.m.
- 7 p.m.-1 a.m. – 10th Annual Sigma Pi Annual Pig Roast, located between Kresge Library, the Oakland Center and South Foundation Hall. Celebrate the 10th year of Michigan's largest nonalcoholic campus event. The pig roast is free to all OU students, faculty, staff and guests.
- 9 p.m.-Midnight – Karaoke and Mocktails. The Center for Student Activities and the Student Program Board is hosting this event in the expansion food court of the Oakland Center.

SUMMARY

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