



# The Collegian

Enter to Learn . . . Go Forth to Serve

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## Dr. Cutchin: A dual citizen for the best of both worlds



By HarleeRay Bicknell  
Staff Writer

Dr. Claudine Cutchin was a translator for a company out of Mt. Carmel, Illinois, when she decided working in the corporate world was not for her. Lucky for Oakland City University, she saw an advertisement for an opening for the campus registrar, which she applied for and became employed here in 1994.

By 1999, she was teaching.

Recently, Dr. Cutchin went through the process of becoming an American citizen, despite having lived in the country for 34 years. She now has dual citizenship in America and her home country of France. She said that the process was easy for the most part, and the people involved were courteous. She began the application last October, and the ceremony was held in March 2016. Cutchin said that having dual citizenship is like having the best of both worlds. She feels just as American as she does French.

She first came to America to study in Carbondale, Illinois. The switch from living in France to living in America was not a taxing change for her to make. During her time in Carbondale, she met her husband and got her first teaching experience. She later moved to a small town in Illinois. It was a more challenging switch than first

moving to America because she was not used to small town life.

There were some cultural differences between the two countries that she was not quite used to. In France, there is less consideration for personal space. People are more physically expressive in greeting one another. However, in America, people are quicker to invite others into their home as well as greet people openly. Whereas in France, one does not do that until they know someone as a close friend because privacy is valued.

Dr. Cutchin has enjoyed her time here at Oakland City University. She enjoys her work and getting to do something she is passionate about for a living. She enjoys all of her classes, even the core classes that she teaches, such as History 103. By teaching these classes, she is able to meet more students and see their growth through their college years.

For her job as a teacher, she said, "I have been very fortunate about having a job I love, and I wouldn't have it any other way." She expressed the importance for people to pursue a job that they love. She has seen too many people going to work and not enjoying it, so she left with the words of wisdom, "You'll spend most of your life at your job, so get one you like."

## Religious studies, a major not taken lightly

By Maria Cottier  
Editor

Nick Bauer is an RD in Jordan Hall and has been a part of Oakland City University since 2011. He is originally from Vincennes, Indiana, where he attended Vincennes University. He transferred to OCU because he decided he wanted to study scripture.

Bauer chose to get a bachelor's in religious studies because he wants to know how to teach children in Christianity. "I wanted to work in children's youth ministry and realized seeking a formal education would assist me properly teaching the youth," Bauer said.

After being here only a year, he realized he wanted to become an RA. "I wanted to be a leader and be a person that other students could go to," Bauer said.

The education he received from the religious studies department has helped teach

him a lot of important aspects of religion. "The professors required more discipline and focus for our work in the program and rightfully so; this is important material we are studying and not to be taken lightly. The difficulty came in the amount of time I had to devote to studying. Previous classes I had taken at VU, while still challenging, were elementary compared to this course work," Bauer said.

Dr. Low helped him as a student throughout classes.

"He helped me understand more about hard work and discipline with my studies and a stronger amount of reverence for the Lord," Bauer said.

Bauer is happy he studied the classes that he did. His favorite was New Testament Greek. This course was technically studied at a graduate level, but he chose to take it before he finished his degree.

After graduating with his bachelor's in December 2013, he was asked to join as RD for

the winter semester and has enjoyed the job ever since. He also chose to stay because of the Church of the Nazarene in Oakland City. "I serve as a children's pastor in town, and I didn't want to leave them so soon," Bauer said.

Bauer has found his time at OCU to be rewarding and loves his job from being a RA to a RD. "It's stressful and frustrating at times because everyone wants to immediately label you a bad person because you enforce rules. But I also find it rewarding and fun. It's great investing in college students!" Bauer said.

For new seminary students, Bauer leaves a word of advice about studying the Bible. "Discipline your time more. Study scripture more seriously while still allowing it to transform your life, and don't take yourself too seriously. It's easy to become concerned about what others think about you as a seminary student while little bits of who you are slip away," said Bauer.



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### We will miss all of you

Oakland City University would like to thank Dr. Norm Reynolds, Dr. Jeff McNabb and Dr. John Sutton for their service to our university. They will be greatly missed.

All our best wishes go out to them. We have truly been blessed by your presence on campus.

### Join us at The Collegian

Want to learn about what it takes to be a newspaper reporter? Interested in knowing how a newspaper is laid out? Want to be in the know of what is happening on campus? If you do, we have a place for you on The Collegian. You can either register for the Campus Practicum (COMM310) next semester or join us as a volunteer.

Interested? You can contact your academic advisor or Mr. Coy at [scoy@oak.edu](mailto:scoy@oak.edu) to answer your questions.



# Dr. Stan Toler to speak at Spring 2016 Commencement

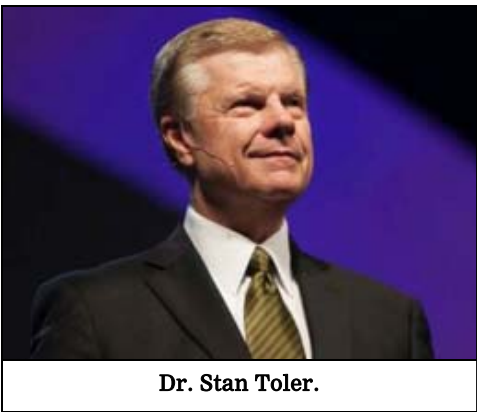
The featured speaker at both Commencement ceremonies will be Dr. Stan Toler.

Dr. Toler is a best-selling author, leader, and teacher.

A successful pastor for over 40 years in Ohio, Florida, Tennessee, and Oklahoma, he also served a term as a General Superintendent for the Church of the Nazarene.

Oakland City University will hold Spring 2016

Commencement on May 7 at the Johnson Center. Commencement for undergraduate students will be held at 10:00 a.m. (CST). Commencement for students graduating from Adult and Extended Learning, Online, Masters, and Doctorate programs will be at 1:00 p.m. (CST).



Dr. Stan Toler.

## Candidates for Degrees

Academic Year 2015-2016

### Chapman School of Religious Studies Bachelor of Arts

Besing, Elizabeth  
Boger, Jackie, Jr.  
Burgess, Jeffrey  
Engle, Emily  
Fellows II, Robert  
Lambert, Roman  
Reitz, Jessika

### School of Arts and Science Bachelor of Arts

Bicknell, HarleeRay  
Cottier, Maria  
Dunigan, Jamie  
Herndon, Stephanie  
Larson, Megan  
Mills, Marilee  
Paul, Michael  
Scott, April  
Wargel, Kylee

### Bachelor of Science

Alarcon, Kingsley  
Beatty, Samantha  
Douglas, Bradley  
Ford, Rhylee  
Gladish, April  
Greer, Raven  
Haag, Christina  
Harmon, Tya

Hollingsworth, Wesley  
Johnson, Dylan  
Johnson, Julianne  
Jones, Jacob  
Kemper, Emily  
Moreland, Eleni  
Morgan, Courtney  
Phillips, Caleb  
Purvis, Christiana  
Schechner, Alexandra  
Sparks, Nathanael  
Splittorff, Carole  
Vazquez, Edilberto

### Associate in Science

Ferguson, Chaz

### School of Education Bachelor of Arts

Akles, Natalin  
Barrell, Kristen  
Benningfield, Trent  
Braganca, Stacey  
Brewer, Bethany  
Brown, Jordyn  
Collins, Ethan  
Dudley, Elizabeth  
Forbes, Ashley  
Fording, Brittany  
Gehlhausen, Kendra  
Hawkins, Ashley  
Hedge, Sara

Mallory, Stephanie  
Paul, Brittany  
Shultz, Michael  
Snyder, Cordell  
Stilwell, Madeline  
Strickland, Robyn

### Bachelor of Science

Parke, Jaycee  
Parke, Laramy  
Stoll, Addison  
Stroup, David  
Wirey, Joshua

### School of Business Bachelor of Science

Atkins, Kelsey  
Bell, Tommie, Jr.  
Bonner, Ryan  
Boyd, Jaron, Jr.  
Browning, Preston  
Deputy, Cori  
Doyle, Patricia  
Dulin, Byron  
Graber, Laban  
Greenwell, D’Neill  
Hadley, Christina  
Houchin, Kayla  
Klees, Megan  
Lucas, Matthew  
Oser, Corey  
Rodgers, Marisa  
Sandifar, Matt  
Stieneker, Joshua  
Sulak, Jonathan  
Taylor, Haley  
Thornton, Cody  
Toepfer, Steven  
Wilson, Megan

### Bachelor of Applied Science

Diederich, Joel  
Retter, Anthony

### Associate in Applied Science

Atkins, Kelsey  
Boyd, Jaron, Jr.  
Graber, Laban  
Graham, Morgan

### Associate in Science

Forbes, Ashley  
Hedge, Sara  
Herndon, Stephanie

### Early College Program Associate in Arts (North Daviess High School)

Bowman, Trent  
Brewer, Lenzi  
Brinegar, Chandler  
Chesterfield, Shannon  
Dougherty, Derek  
Fitzgerald, Sarah  
Fuqua, Lauren  
Graber, Austin  
Holstine, Abby  
Knepp, Andrea  
Laughlin, Brianna  
Lawyer, Brian  
Neukam, Abbie  
Newby, Jessa  
Patterson, Gavin  
Quakenbush, Taylor  
Sanders, Sarah  
Shafer, Wyatt  
Smith, Tyler  
Stoll, Logan  
Stuffle, Alex  
Swartzentruber, Janesa  
Tipperry, Nathaniel  
VanderMel, Hanna

Wagler, Rachel  
Winklepleck, Carrie

### Chapman Seminary Master of Divinity

Handziak, Eliot  
Judd, Timothy  
Moore, Jason  
Riley, William F., Jr.  
Smith, Matthew  
Thiry, Joy  
Wright, Geryl

### School of Education Doctor of Education

Clark, Seth  
DelVecchio, Laura  
Duzenberg, Christina  
Findlay, Andrew  
Harrelson, Julie  
Hatton, Stephen  
Itoka, Linda  
Kwiatkowski, LeeAnn  
Lange, Christina  
Miller, Randall  
Nalley, Cassidy  
Parks, Stuart  
Richards, Lance  
Shireman, Jeremy  
Spencer, Paris

### Master of Science in Education

Craney, Karie  
Day, Jonathan  
Duke, Shea  
Genos, Kali  
Gogel, Greg  
Harrison, Katie  
Hopf, Courtney  
Salyers, Mitchell  
Webb, Shannon  
Zellers, Philip

### School of Business Adult and Extended Learning Master of Business Administration

Abell, Heath  
Aslinger, Sincerae  
Berlin, Brandon  
Beyers, Carie  
Black, Namon  
Douglas, Bobby Joe, Jr.  
Hayden, Marcus  
Heiwig, Daniel  
Henson, Braden  
Howard, Amanda  
Kelly, Katrina  
LeMond, James, Jr.  
Lewis, Lavonia  
Logsdon, Tarrah  
Lynam, Tonya  
McGlown, Tynesha  
Mikkelson, Thomas  
Miller, Chase  
Pauw, Elaine  
Payero, Wiltssy  
Ramsey, Murth Lee, III  
Rust, Frank  
Schauss, Daron  
Scraper, Cassie  
Wolford, Jim  
Woodruff, Sarah

### Master of Science in Strategic Management

Crafton, Johnathan  
Craig, Joylyn  
Ford, Skyler  
Hutchinson, Eric  
Pounds, Craig  
Sablan, Jesse  
Schlak, Jonathan  
Strawmyer, Jacob  
Taylor, Johnny  
Terry, Daniel  
Vincent, Timothy

### Bachelor of Science

Ayers, Shannon  
Baize, Debra  
Bender, Jeffrey  
Caldwell-Thompson, Kimberly  
Daulton, Lea  
Dorsam, Amber  
Figg, Heather  
Gainey, Harlan Ray  
Harrison, Michael  
Haywood, Marcia

Hicks, Belinda  
Horst, Robert  
Neff, Tyler  
Preske, Michael  
Riggs, Tina  
Rivera, Markeda  
Roach, Benjamin  
Schultz, Kathy  
Shaw, Noble  
Snyder, Brian  
Stafford, Ronald  
Stone, Joshua  
Thomas, Shavon  
Tidwell, Terry  
Westmoland, Kim

### Bachelor of Applied Science

Brinson, Joy  
Grissom, Tamara

### Associate of Science

Allen, Alena  
Barrett, Debra  
Cordell, James  
Epley, Dale  
Hall, Matthew  
Harding, Curtis  
Johnson, Leda Jo  
Miller, Debra  
Mortis, Jacob  
Patberg, Elizabeth  
Schiff, Amy  
Schroeder, Robert  
Snyder, Terry

### Online Program Bachelor of Science

Adams, Janelle  
Branham, James  
Brown, Brian T.  
Butcher, Timothy  
Estrada, Jonathan  
Hankins, James  
Jackson, James  
Krueger, Scott  
Lasley, Damon  
Lobosky, Troy  
Long, Steven  
Luke, Otis  
Martin, Christopher A.  
McIntosh, Ryan  
Miedema, David  
Moore-Calhoun, Jennifer  
Myers, Eric  
Nunn, Kenneth, Jr.  
Odom, J. Tobias  
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Photo by Dr. Randy Mills



# Our Staff

## Dr. Otoo: Continuing his mission

By Justin Stieneker  
Staff Writer

Dr. Barnabas Otoo is the chemistry and physics professor here at Oakland City University and is very strong in his faith. He has his Doctorate in organic chemistry. Dr. Otoo was born in Ghana, which is in the upper half of Africa. Ghana is considered a third world country and has a small population. However, it is



looked at as a politically stable country. Otoo mentioned one of the great things about Ghana: “One of the good things about Ghana is that since the election in the early 2000s, we haven’t had much violence like most third world countries.” While he was still in high school, he helped his father on mission trips every weekend. They would help the people in the villages nearby. Today, he helps people financially get through college

over in Ghana. Originally, Otoo was looking to study medicine, but after going to University of Cape Coast in Ghana, he found that he really enjoyed organic chemistry and decided to study that. While he was in Cape Coast studying biology and chemistry, Otoo met his wife and got married in 2012. After two years in Cape Coast, Otoo decided to come to America and study organic chemistry at East Tennessee State University. After two years there, he went to Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, where he got his PhD. in organic chemistry. After looking over all the job opportunities, he chose Oakland City University for its Christian based morals and the great potential it has. “What attracted me most about Oakland City was the Christian environment,” Otoo said. “I feel like there is a future here more than the already established schools and universities in the state.” Otoo and his wife currently live in Oakland City and by the sounds of things, they won’t be leaving anytime soon.

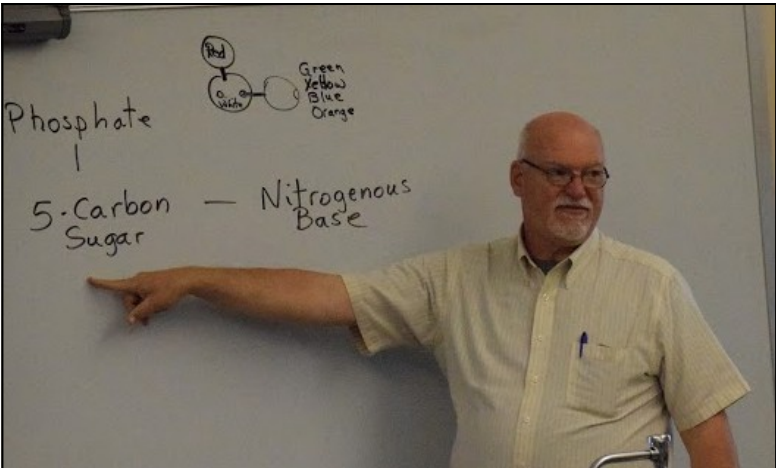
## Dr. Atkinson: The “macro” biology professor

By Ashley Yount  
Staff Writer

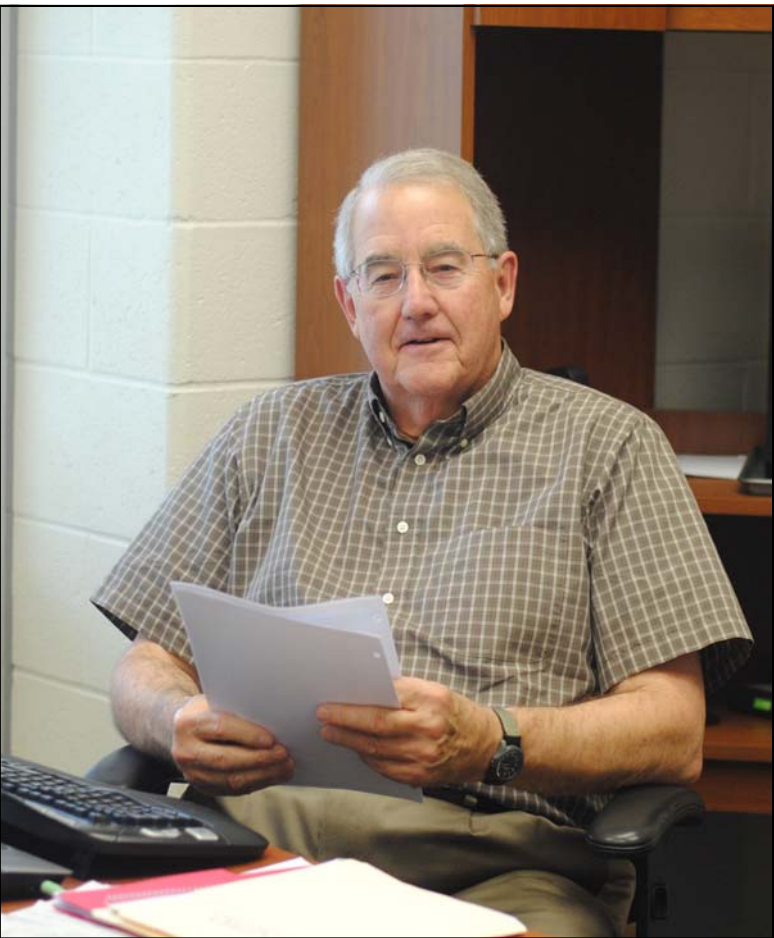
When students come to Oakland City University, they learn which teachers they will have in order to get their degree. In order for any biology major to get his/her degree, he/she will have to take several of Dr. Michael Atkinson’s classes. Dr. Atkinson is originally from Gas City, Indiana, which can be seen as part of the logo for state maps. From Gas City, he went to Indiana University and received his Bachelor’s degree in Jan. 1979, and received his Master of Arts in Biology in 1982 and a Doctorate of Education in 1985, both from Ball State. Dr. Atkinson chose to come to Oakland City University because of a God coincidence. At the time, OCU was then Oakland City College, and they called Ball State asking if they knew of anyone who would be interested in a biology professorship; Ball State called him. When Ball State called him inquiring about his interest in the position, he was already working for the State Board of Health. Dr. Atkinson wanted to teach at a small Christian school, so he met with Dr. Phillips, who was the Dean at the time at Oakland City College, and the rest is history.

Dr. Atkinson started working at OCC in Jan. 1989, but resigned from his job in 1999 to go to medical school in Chicago. He was planning on going by himself to Chicago since his family wanted to stay in Indiana. On the night before he was set to leave, he decided to call the medical school and shock them by giving up his seat and staying with his family. By this time, OCU had already hired a professor to fill his spot, so he started searching for a job, and, in a few weeks, got hired at Ivy Tech in Columbus, Indiana. Dr. Atkinson was at Ivy Tech for 1 year before the professor at OCU decided to quit, and Dr. Atkinson reapplied and got his old job back. Out of all the classes Dr. Atkinson teaches, he says, “I like all of them, well, most of them, for various reasons.” He

likes human anatomy because of his interests, and likes zoology because he likes animals. Dr. Atkinson does not like the microbiology and cellular biology side of science because he doesn’t have the focus/passion for it. Dr. Atkinson was like all science majors having trouble in cross disciplinary classes. Dr. Atkinson also had a hard time in organic chemistry. He took organic chemistry three times. The first time he did not have a clue what was going on, and the last time he finally understood it. In leaving lasting thoughts, Dr. Atkinson says to those that are science majors or thinking about being science majors, “Be passionate about it, and if you don’t have a natural ability for science, develop it by reading about it and doing it.”



## Dr. Sutton: family man with a plan



By Justin Stieneker  
Staff Writer

Dr. John Sutton has been the Dean at the School of Business for Oakland City for four years now and has announced his retirement. He is originally from Carmi, Illinois, and has worked for several colleges around the United States, doing a number of different jobs for each. He moved to Evansville, Indiana, to be closer to his daughter and three grandchildren. His daughter is a nurse in Evansville, along with her husband who is a physician in Evansville, as well. “I’ve got three grandchildren in Evansville which is where my wife and I moved to be closer to family,” Dr. Sutton said. Dr. Sutton found Oakland City through Jeff McNabb, who had became friends through work. When McNabb found out that Sutton was in Evansville, he called him up and asked for help after Oakland City lost their previous Dean. Dr. Sutton really enjoys working here at Oakland City. “I like the challenges. They’re never the same,” Sutton said.

He enjoys working with the staff and faculty that work there. “The faculty, good people who are capable, dedicated, and student oriented.” His plans after retirement are to spend a lot of time with his grandchildren and his daughter. He has multiple hobbies that will occupy his time. He plans to do a lot of mechanical work. “I enjoy doing a lot of mechanical work, like on bikes and things like that.” When asked what he would miss the most about OCU, he responded, “The faculty and the students; that interaction within the higher education of the community.” He will miss helping students reach their higher education goals. Also, he mentioned that he would miss the great atmosphere the school brings to the community, as well. “The students here are interconnected because of the size of the school, where as, in a big university the students don’t have the interaction with each other as much. That’s what I really enjoy about Oakland City,” Sutton said.

## OCU Mission Statement

Oakland City University is a Christian faith-based learning community dedicated to the enhancement of intellectual, spiritual, physical and social development for positive leadership.





# Faith

## Anything is possible

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

“God can and will equip you. If you feel like you can’t, God can. He will help you to be an awesome leader.” This has become the battle cry of Jessika Reitz throughout her four years at Oakland City University. Reitz came to OCU from Evansville, Indiana, because of some friends who talked about how wonderful the college was. She took two tours and when application time arrived, she applied only to OCU. She says that it was “exactly where I was supposed to be.”

During Reitz’s freshman year, she got involved with the Honduras mission trips alongside her long time friend, Emily Engle. Reitz says that the trip “completely changed our lives” and therefore has returned every summer with the trip lengths getting longer each year. Not every summer in Honduras is the same; some years OCU students help with construction or house painting. Other times they teach subjects such as music, art, drama and recreation.

In Honduras, Reitz had the wonderful experience of watching one of the young girls she was sponsoring, Estefany, accept Christ. Estefany’s position and place with the Lord had been on Reitz’s heart for some time. She prayed to God, asking that He would help Estefany find her way back to Him, and then Reitz’s prayers were answered one day during a church service.

Along with trips to Honduras, Reitz has also had a work-study job at the library all four years. She says that she loves the family aspect of the group of people that she works with. “Dr. Pinnick is super nice and sweet,” Reitz said.

Reitz has also been a Resident Assistance for two years and a Resident Director for one year at OCU. Working



Jessika with her recent fiancé TJ Henning.

with April Scott this last year was something that Reitz really enjoyed, and she believed that they complimented each other very well.

Along with being a RA, Reitz has also been involved with Chapel and 812 and has also had a job at the YMCA in Evansville, Indiana. At the YMCA, Reitz has been a life guard and swim instructor for six years.

Recently, Reitz became engaged to her boyfriend of two years, TJ Henning. They plan to get married in Oct. As soon as Reitz graduates, she wants to continue working at the YMCA and volunteering at the local Dream Center before she gets married. After that, in Jasper, Indiana, Reitz would ideally like to set up her own form of a Dream Center in which she would help children with their physical needs, schoolwork, Bible studies and learning English. Overall, Reitz wants to help children in general. Reitz says that, “with Him, I can do so many different things. It’s cool to see how I’ve grown from my freshman year to now.”

Looking back on her years at OCU, Reitz has no regrets. She believes that she has lived life to its fullest, even if that meant pushing herself to the limit. Reitz wants everyone to know that, “whatever you think you couldn’t do, God will challenge and equip you to do so many things. He’s not doing that to harm you, but to show you that with Him, anything is possible.”



Jessika on her most recent trip to Honduras.

### First General Baptist Church

224 W Harrison St., Oakland City, IN  
(812) 749-3724

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study – Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.  
Choir Practice – Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

Congratulations to all graduates!  
Best wishes for your future.  
We look forward to seeing the students  
returning next fall.

## Spiritual renewal week

HarleeRay Bicknell  
Staff Writer

Spiritual Renewal week occurred this semester from Feb. 29 to Mar. 3.

Throughout the week, the worship music was led by Daniel Waggoner, Hannah Salo, Rachel Toepfer, Steven Toepfer, HarleeRay Bicknell, Brittany Latham, Arteaga Colvard, Emily Abel and Suellen Head.

On Monday night, Steven Toepfer spoke. He began the week by discussing the Gospel, integrating his humor throughout. As he littered the floor with PowerPoint slides, he discussed how pride, selfish ambition and rebellion are the roots of sin, and how it is still prevalent in our lives, briefly listing lying, stealing, gossip, disregard for God ordained authority, pornography, hatred and idolizing, and how living in sin leads directly to death (James 1:14-16). Quoting Jonathan Edwards, he said “You contribute nothing to your salvation except the sin that made it necessary.”

Leading in with the need of salvation through repentance, he read from 2 Corinthians 7:10, “For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death” (NASB). The Gospel calls for repentance and



Tristan Nagelkirk speaking over the Great Commission.

submission and to embrace sanctification, for Christ is a loving, rightful leader, and He will return.

On Tuesday night, Tristan Nagelkirk spoke, continuing the week’s theme of discussing the Gospel. Catching attention by stating, “Spiritually we are born as walking corpses,” Nagelkirk continued to elaborate on the sinful nature of man, referencing Romans 3:23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (NASB).

He also covered the topic of the need for repentance, stating the need to turn away from letting worldliness into our lives. Speaking over the different actions we can take to

focus on God in our daily lives, Nagelkirk stated, “Opening our Bible each day is a little more important than getting that extra twenty minutes of studying.” As for the Great Commission, once we are saved and our sins weigh us down no more, then we need to go to those who continue to struggle and minister to them.

On Wednesday night, the 812 met in the Holy Grounds coffee shop, continuing with their weekly services, led by Roman Lambert.

On Thursday night, Good News Players came ready to entertain and minister. Through a variety of skits that brought chuckles and tears to the crowd, the group shared the word of God. With humorous skits bearing strong messages such as “Dumb as a



Steven Toepfer delivering the Monday night message.

Stick,” the audience was delivered a representation of the apathetic church that simply goes through the motions rather than truly living by what we are called to do. And with “Cardboard Testimonies,” the audience was able to witness God’s love and grace on a more personal level, seeing the way that the members of GNP’s lives have been changed by Him.



The Spiritual Renewal Week worship band.

## Dorcas

By Heather Smith  
Staff Writer

Acts 9:36-42



THOUGHT FOR TODAY: She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. Proverbs 31: 13-14 (NIV)

Although I never had the opportunity to meet my maternal great-grandmother, I have admired her intricate doilies and quilts that serve as a testament to her skill and artistry. She took pride in providing others with food, clothing, and accessories that she made herself.

There is a woman named Dorcas (Tabitha) in the New Testament who utilized her special skills to help others. She was a disciple who sewed garments for widows. When Dorcas became ill and died, the widows told Peter the sad news and showed him the clothes she had sewn for them.

Empowered by God, Peter raised Dorcas from the dead, enabling her to continue her ministry in Joppa.

Only a few people have been raised from the dead and given another opportunity to serve God and humankind. The important thing is to serve God and others in our own unique way during our short time on this planet.

Our influence, just like my great-grandmother’s quilts and Dorcas’ garments, will outlast us.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, please stand by my side and guide me as I strive to serve You throughout my life. Amen.



# SoulFest



By HarleeRay Bicknell  
Staff Writer

Soulfest happened this past April 9 in the Johnson center. Oakland City University's The Great Command was joined by the bands About A Mile, Cochren & Co., We Are Messengers and Anonamus. The stands filled with students and people outside of the university alike. The night began with a few messages from Andrew Goldman, the orchestrator of the event, and OCU President Dr.Barber. The night carried on with great music and messages from the performers, with vendors from each band, the OCU bookstore, as well as the Holy Grounds coffee shop. The attendees spent the evening worshipping, praying and praising together.



## Miracles from Heaven review

By HarleeRay Bicknell and  
Steven Toepfer  
Staff Writers

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1).

Recently in pop culture, there has been a multitude of films that have been aimed at the Christian audience. Many of these films bring feel-good stories which aim to lift spirits, one of the most recent of these being the film *Miracles from Heaven*.

The film tells of a young girl, Anna Beam, with a rare digestive disorder who falls from a tree, landing on her head, and rather than dying, is miraculously healed.

The beginning of the film starts with the story of the mother trying to find a cure for her illness, when none seems possible. The images of this young girl falling ill are not easy to view. Watching as her stomach continues to swell beyond the waistline of her jeans and seeing her mother feeding tubes into her nose and removing them at the dinner table can pull at the heart-strings of viewers.

The story of the struggle continues as her mother, played by Jennifer Garner, tries to find the proper help for her child as doctors continue to fail in helping the patient. Then she falls, and is healed.

While seemingly like the uplifting conclusion to a troubling story, the movie has a few plot holes in the representation and interpretation of Christianity throughout the film.

During the scenes that take place within the church, the pastor uses the time for the sermon to make jokes which brings laughter from the crowd, adding in a few encouraging words. However, he never once quotes scripture. Throughout the movie, the only scripture that is quoted is the Lord’s Prayer.

A major theme of the film is the idea that miracles are all around us. But what, exactly, does that mean? According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, miracles are defined as, “an unusual or wonderful event that is believed to be caused by the power of God.”

The film, along with many other films that are made for a Christian audience, often uses the terms “miracles” and “faith” in an air of ambiguity. In *Miracles from Heaven*, according to Christy Beam’s ending monologue, everything is a miracle-including such things as the simple kindness of a person. Not to discredit the workings of God, but are all of these events, in fact, miracles from Him?

The same vague ideology revolves around having faith. The movie centers on Christy Beam’s struggle to keep faith during her daughter’s illness,

however professes the name of God only after events had gone in her favor. In Scripture, such similar demands were made by the prophets to Jesus, when they said, “‘Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, ‘Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.’ But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth’” (Matthew 12:38-40 NASB). People’s faith should not hinge dependently upon having the events of life work in their favor, or at their demand.

There is a degree of caution that must be taken when Christians go to see this film, and that is in discernment. Frequently people have tried to utilize these films as a method of conversion to expose non-Christians to the faith. When they do this, it is critical to do so in a way that carries the truth, and the truth is the Word of God. No film, television show, or contemporary novel can express what it means to be a Christian more than the Bible. It is critical for Christians not to let these current media productions to take the place of Scripture, which says, “I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you

by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!” (Galatians 1:6-9 NASB)

While the story is based on an account told by the real life Anna Beam and her family, when in an interview with Christian Post, Anna said that the film did not accurately capture the experience she had. Anna claims the film has taken theatrical liberties in the portrayal of Heaven. “In my experience I didn’t have to go through a journey to go to Heaven, I was just kind of there.”

However, a bit of caution must be applied to even this, for it is said in John 3:13, “No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man” (NASB). John MacArthur said in his



sermon, “Heaven Is Real, Hallucinations Are Not,” that “Studying mystical accounts of supposed journeys into the afterlife yields nothing but confusion, contradiction, false hope, bad doctrine, and a host of similar evils.”

“Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth” (Colossians 3:1-2, NASB).



# School of Education

## Alex Deffendall: Wanting to make a difference

By Madison Brooks  
Staff Writer

Alex Deffendall, a senior from Haubstadt, Indiana, is majoring in K-6 general education and K-12 special education.

Deffendall first considered Oakland City University when she received a scholarship, but she had not put much thought into where she wanted to attend college at that point. After a campus tour, she was hooked. “OCU’s Education Department has a great program with amazing professors. I feel good knowing that I’m not just a number here; I know my professors truly care about me and want me to succeed,” Deffendall said.

Another reason she chose OCU was because it was close to home and her family.

Deffendall also liked the fact that OCU is a Christian based college, “Making the decision to attend Oakland City University has helped guide me to be a better Christian and has strengthened my relationship with God,” Deffendall said.

Deffendall will graduate this May with a Bachelor’s degree in teaching. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher. “I volunteered with Special Olympics for many years, was a peer tutor all through high school, and even worked in a life skills classroom as a teacher’s assistant,” she said.

There is nothing that she loves more than interacting with students and educating them to have a successful future. Deffendall says that it is her “biggest passion.”

Deffendall thinks many qualities are important for a good teacher, “A successful teacher should create a sense of community and belonging in the classroom and be professional, warm, accessible, enthusiastic, and caring. Effective teachers are good teachers!” Deffendall said. She also explained that teachers should be prepared and organized, but also flexible.

Deffendall says that there are so many great things about working with children, “I personally think that one of the best parts about teaching kids is the ‘ah ha’ moment, the moment that it clicks and they understand,” Deffendall said. “On the other hand, the most frustrating part about working with children is when they don’t believe in themselves and give up,” she explained. “I will always believe in all students, and seeing them give up or not try is something that will always break my heart,” Deffendall said.

College life at Oakland City University made Deffendall completely confident going into a classroom as a teacher, “I have learned how to be an effective teacher and to have professional relationships,” she said.

The professors did a great job

of teaching her different methods and learning styles that she could use in her future. Because of the professors, “I feel completely confident with my skills in classroom management, lesson planning, paperwork, activities, etc.,” she said. Deffendall learned that she wants to make a difference and wants to be someone who motivates students to do their best.

Other than being a committed student at OCU, Deffendall also is a cheerleader. The most memorable moments she had during her cheerleading career were her freshman year and getting to cheer in Hawaii.

Her relationship with the coach, Ashley Engler, has been great since the beginning. The relationship Deffendall had with her teammates was always great all four years of her college career.

Other than the excitement of cheerleading, she gained other helpful skills, “I gained a stronger sense of leadership skills through cheer.”

Deffendall said that she would also like to coach cheerleading at the school she teaches at.

She said she is thankful for her friendships and memories that she gained while cheerleading. “I will always be thankful for my years cheering at Oakland City University, and I will cherish them forever,” she said.

## A bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate

By Maria Cottier  
Editor

Seth Clark received his doctorate at Oakland City University earlier this year on Jan. 29. He is a principal at Perry Central Junior-Senior High School and now an alumnus of OCU.

Clark received his doctorate in superintendancy of schools. He acquired it after studying for his bachelors, masters and working online for his doctorate. He finished through the traditional route when he transferred and finished at OCU.

Clark just recently spoke at the Oakland City University Annual Research Symposium about research he conducted at the Perry Central Junior-Senior High School where he is principal.

Clark’s research was titled “Safe School Environment and Violence Prevention Programs: Do Students Really Feel Safe?”

Based on the research previously gained, Clark examined whether students truly felt safe at a school, even after grants were made to the school to help prevent bullying and violence in schools. “Well, the surveys were done in 2009-2014, so I analyzed them the summer of 2014 and the results took about a year and a

half,” Clark said.

Clark is happy to have completed the research, “It impacts my kids and school... to find out if these programs work, which proved that if they weren’t as effective, and they’re not, we can see from the research what else we can do about it,” Clark said

Clark had support throughout his research, “Dr. Randy Mills was my chair, Dr. Miller, who is in charge of the graduate program, and Dr. Swails were all key people in my research. You can’t really do it alone. You do a lot of legwork on your own, but you need professionals to say this is the proper way to address it. Without them, it would be very daunting,” Clark said.

The Perry County principal will be teaching some classes this summer at OCU and would not mind doing some more research in the future for other projects.

He is happy he finished his doctorate at the university and is looking forward to more opportunities to come with the major he finished. “The doctorate opens a lot of doors for teaching at school, here, and being a superintendent. It opens a lot of doors that a master’s may not reach. Now, I can pretty much go anywhere and do anything,” Clark said.



Pictured are Alex Deffendall and Ashley Engler as Deffendall is honored at Senior Day during the last regular home men’s basketball game.



*The Collegian*  
congratulates  
all the  
2015-2016  
graduates of OCU.  
Best wishes in the  
future!



# Internships: preparing for the future

**By Maria Cottier Editor**

Internships are a requirement for many students on campus, depending on their major. Nikki Wilderman, a second semester junior, and Tyler Rust, a senior, have both taken part in the internship process and have been working hard to fit the internships into their time at school.

Wilderman's major is communications with a concentration in web design and an associate in graphic design. Rust is pursuing a triple-major with two in business with different concentrations, and one in communications with a public relations focus.

The internship for Wilderman has catered specifically to her major as the company is a marketing agency that builds brands for other marketing agencies. The company is called Brushfire Creative and located is in Mount Carmel, Illinois. She works for Brushfire about 15 to 20 hours a week when she is not playing golf for OCU or working at Holy Grounds.

Wilderman has enjoyed her internship since she started it on Jan. 12, 2016. "The class internship will be over at the end of this spring semester, but they have asked me to stay and work there," Wilderman said.

Rust's internship consisted of his working at the Pike County courthouse in Petersburg, Indiana. "My main jobs were processing tickets into the Clerk's system, followed by my printing off two copies, one of which was sent to a completely different office that corresponded with the clerk's records. Another task of mine was processing payments whenever they came in, be it through the mail or in-person. I also pulled old voter registrations, as well as file away new registrations," Rust said.

Rust also did other jobs such as update a docket of old case records that reached a "satisfaction of judgment." He is not picky about the job he hopes to receive when he graduates. He is looking forward to working in the business field in a management position, but his interest is in broadcasting and film.

Wilderman hopes to work at Brushfire and do web design and graphic design development. "It's taught me marketing because I'm more focused more on the journalism side of communications, and it's more in-depth in the graphic design thing because I haven't taken all those classes, yet. The internship has taught me more development and how to put it on the web and how to put it on a browser," Wilderman said.

Wilderman really likes her internship and feels she fits in well there with everyone. She would like to start working there next semester Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays and attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays as a senior.

Rust believes his internship will benefit him down the road. "When I start working my first 'real job' after college, I think I will be like 'wow! I learned something similar to this at my internship!'" Rust said.

The senior has many things that he enjoys about OCU. He is happy for the friendships he has made because he is the youngest of five, and they have all moved out.

Rust also loves the size of the university, "We each have individual talents and strengths and we can have meaningful conversations with our professors about what to do with our lives because they actually have the time to do so. Its intimate setting helps me find my way and reason for going through all of this schooling, knowing that there is an ultimate end goal to it," Rust said.



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# Oakland City University's 11<sup>th</sup> annual research symposium

Oakland City University's 11<sup>th</sup> annual research symposium was held on Saturday, April 16, 2016. At the annual event, selected OCU undergraduate, graduate, and faculty works of scholarship are recognized with a special certificate. Below are the students and faculty receiving this honor for this year.

**Educational Leadership Ed. D. Dissertations**

**Dr. Seth Clark**  
"Safe School Environment and Violence Prevention Programs: Do Students Really Feel Safe?"

**Dr. Jeremy Shireman**  
"The Effects of Taking Algebra 1 on Eighth Grade ISTEP+ Mathematical Scores: Are Advanced Students Struggling to Achieve at their Levels on State Testing?"

**Dr. Steve Hatton**  
"The Effectiveness of Professional Learning Communities on Standardized English/Language Art Test Scores"

**Dr. Christina Lange**  
"The Perceptions of Student Teachers and Cooperating Teachers Regarding Co-Teaching during the Student Teaching Semester"

**Recognition of Graduate Papers, Master of Education Program**

**Kelly Badger**  
"Uptalk: Origin, Perception, Gender, and Purpose"

**Kevin Smith**  
"An Examination of the Sexual Orientation and Transgender Position Statements of the American Psychological Association and the American Psychiatric Association"

**Recognition of Undergraduate Research Projects**

**Adelaide Emmanuelle Cutchin**  
"Virtuous Men: How Baron Larrey and Napoleon's Service de Sante changed the face of Battlefield Medicine"

**Michael Paul**  
"Using Creative Writing to Treat Depression"

**Emily Kemper**  
"False Confessions & Police Interrogations: The Good, the Bad, the Harmful"

**Louis Ross**  
"What Makes Terrorism so Attractive?"

**Dylan Johnson**  
"Nihilism: An Enduring Ideology"

**2015-2016 OCU Faculty Journal Publications and Professional Conference Presentations.**

**Dr. Trudy Abel**  
"Strengthening Clinical Practice by Forming Mutually Facilitated Partnerships." March CAEP Conference on School Partnerships, San Diego, CA, 2016.

**Steve DeGeorge**  
"Leadership in a Post-modern World." Keynote speech. ACSI Europe- Poland, Czech, Slovakia Administrators Conference, Katowici, Poland, Mar. 2-4 2016.

**Ashley Elliott**  
"The Theory of Alternative Communication (TAC): Facilitating Acceptance of Personal Responsibility Regarding Communication." Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences Annual Conference, University of Evansville, October, 2015.

**Dr. Cathy Gonzales and Dr. Camy Davis**  
""Little School, Little School, Let me come in: Meeting Field Experience Challenges with the Accreditation Wolf at the Door." National Field Experience Conference, University of Northern Colorado, 2016.

**Dr. Tom Leuze**  
20th Annual Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization from June 21 to July 2, 2015, at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, Sponsored by Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University.

**Dr. Randy Mills**  
"I Know How Easily Ignorant

Men Are Led Astray by Caste: A Hoosier Abolitionist Chaplain in the Civil War." *Traces of Indiana and Midwest History*, 2016.

"A Restless, Roaring Crowd: The Unexplored Dynamics of the 1945 Bingo Riot in Evansville, Indiana." *Journal of the Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences*, 2016.

"Not even Daring to Tell Myself: Discovering and Constructing Stories about Family Members" will appear the Spring/Summer issue of the *Connections Genealogy Journal*, 2016.

"The 1945 Evansville, Indiana, Bingo Riot." Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences Annual Conference, University of Evansville, October, 2015.

**Dr. Roxanne Mills**  
"With Complete Disregard for his Own Personal Safety: Adventures in Writing Accurate Military History." Special Military History Edition, *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences*, 2016.

**Dr. Cathy Robb**  
"Improving Student Engagement Using Classroom Response Systems." International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education Conference, 2016.

"Improving Student Engagement Using a Smartphone App." Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences Annual Conference, University of Evansville, October, 2015.

**Dr. John Sutton**  
"ATMAE Faculty Demographics and Salaries: Trends and Characteristics of ATMAE Faculty in 2015." *The Journal of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering*, 2016.

**Dr. Patricia Swails**  
"CAEP Early Adopter Site Reviews: Lessons Learned." Midwest ATE Spring Conference, Urbana, IL, 2016.

"CAEP Culture of Evidence." ATE-I Fall Conference, Columbus, IN. October, 2015.



Being recognized at the Oakland City University's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Symposium were Dr. Christina Lange, Dr. Seth Clark, Dr. Steve Hatton and Dr. Jeremy Shireman.



# Around Campus

## Ride along

By Madison Brooks  
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to ride along with police officers, learning what duties they perform on a daily basis and their responsibilities as protectors of our community? Well, freshman Zach Robinson, has had first-hand experience with police officers.

Robinson is a criminal justice major here at Oakland City University, and he chose this as his major because he likes to be involved and protect the community. This major gives him the opportunity to follow his dreams in becoming a police officer.

His favorite class so far is Community Policing, where students learn about how law enforcement is involved in the community, something Robinson wants to do himself.

Robinson has gone on a ride along with Chief Morgan, who is also the K-9 Unit,

at Georgetown Police Department. On Nov. 14, 2015, Robinson went on a ride along with Deputy Dickenson from the Perry County Sheriff Office. During the ride along, Robinson learned about what he will be doing in his future: “It was a great experience that I truly benefited from. During a ride along, you get first person view of what exactly goes on during the shift of an officer, from traffic stops to reporting to calls. Also, the office can answer any questions you may have and can also explain difficult situations,” Robinson said.

Robinson explained that going on a ride along is not exactly mandatory for class, but he does it to learn and for the chance of possibly getting a step up in this competitive job field. Robinson also says that he does it for fun and the excitement of the rides. When asked how one would set up a ride along, Robinson explained, “To set up a ride along, just contact any officer that you wish to ride with. Then, they can accept or deny the request due to their liability policy.”

Choosing your career can be a difficult task. People who would possibly want to become an officer and protect their community have important issues they have to consider before making their final choice.

While interviewing him, *The Collegian* asked him some questions that he could possibly have to ask himself before becoming a police officer:



When asked if felt capable of becoming a police officer at this point in his education, Robinson replied, “Yes, I definitely feel capable and that I am ready to serve my community.”

He was also asked if he was physically fit to be a police officer and how he could train physically and mentally to better himself as a future police officer, Robinson said, “Yes, I feel as if I am physically fit due to the tennis programs I partake in outside of school. They help keep me in shape. To stay fit, basic exercises will help, and as far as mentally, you prepare yourself to see and hear any stories that have happened to people.”

He was questioned about making sound decisions under pressure and Robinson replied, “Working under pressure is always when I do my best work; it pushes me to do the best that I can.”

Lastly, do you enjoy helping others? Robinson said, “As stated before, I wish to become an officer to help my community and help the community feel safe in their environment, so, yes, I do enjoy helping others.”

As only a freshman, it seems as if Robinson has a bright future of policing ahead of him. He seems ready physically and mentally for the job, and since he has had first-hand experience with a ride along, he has furthered his education on his own. Even though there have been changes within the Criminal Justice program this year at OCU, Robinson has stuck with his decision in CJ and is waiting to start he career in law enforcement in the future.

## HarleeRay Bicknell: A senior glorifying God

By Carlie Nichols  
Assistant Editor

HarleeRay Bicknell, a 21-year-old from Huntingburg, Indiana, will soon be finding herself as an official Oakland City University graduate on May 7, 2016.

Bicknell, a non-teaching English major, decided to attend OCU in the fall of 2013 due to the fact that the campus was close to where her family was from.

Aside from being close to home while attending college, Bicknell also chose to attend

OCU due to the many religious purposes the university had to offer. Here, she felt comfortable to worship God openly and freely.

Since Bicknell loves to worship God on a daily basis, she believes that he has led her to become a great leader throughout her schooling and the many extra-curricular activities that she has been involved in during the past three years at OCU.

Bicknell is currently involved in newspaper, drama club, and pep band. Also, this semester, she was blessed with



the opportunity to direct this year’s spring play, *The Tempest*, with her boyfriend, Steven Toepfer, and one of her close friends, Lindsay Prow.

“I have greatly enjoyed working with the drama club throughout college, as well as my time playing in the pep band,” said Bicknell. “Both organizations are filled with such wonderful and admirable people.”

Despite all of the wonderful clubs and organizations that Bicknell has been associated with on campus, she also has several fond memories about her time here at the university.

“Most of my favorite memories would probably be spending time with my friends,” Bicknell stated. “Back in the day, we jokingly called ourselves the OCU rebels.”

For those of you who may not be familiar with Bicknell’s close group of friends, the group consists of: Bicknell, Jessica Eberhardt, Logan Eberhardt, Dylan Johnson, Kevin Pinnick, Lindsay Prow, Tony Retter, Tyler Rust and Steven Toepfer.

“From ping-pong matches to

## Leave my eggs alone!

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

The dorm war event “Don’t Crack the Egg” occurred on grassy knoll here at Oakland City University on March 15.

Each dorm was given 15 eggs with which they would participate.

All students who were participating duct taped some of the eggs to their back and then for 15 minutes ran around the area attempting to slap and break each other’s eggs.

Participants had to be careful though, if they got too carried away chasing after each other, their own eggs might get broken by sneaky students.

The dorm that had the most eggs at the end of the 15 minutes was Jordan Hall, which was declared the winner of this dorm war event.



Morgan Bassett and MaryGrace Fendrich covered with eggshells after the event.

## The dorm races were amazing

By Ashley Yount  
Staff Writer

“All in the Dorms Race” was the last “Dorm Wars” event of the year.

This event was put on by Student Government Vice President Ashley Yount.

The race was supposed to be outside, but got moved inside due to the drastic drop in temperature.

With the event inside, participates ran around the Student Life Center, finding the SGA Senators and fulfilling their assigned tasks.

There was a special task that gave the dorms an opportunity to gain 5 bonus points by answering questions pertaining to the school.

Brokaw, Cox and Dearing took the 5 point bonus. At the

end of the event, Brokaw Hall took first with Cox Hall closely behind. Dearing Hall took third and Jordan Hall took last place.

Points for placement were not announced so that no one could know who the overall “Dorm War” winners are.

The “Dorm War” winners will be announced at The Bash on Apr. 27, 2016, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



## Our next play: We want you!

Did you watch *The Tempest* the drama club performed Apr. 21-23, and wished that you were the “dainty Ariel” or the lovely Miranda?

Well, if you would like to be on stage instead of sitting on those seats, take part in auditions for next fall’s production!

The drama club will be performing *Sherlock Holmes* next semester. Our directors will be the amazing Rachel Toepfer and Daniel Waggoner!

With those two in charge, it is sure to be an interesting semester!

Auditions will be held the evening of Organization Day as well as the following evening.

Please watch for flyers around campus announcing the exact dates and times.



# OCU classes prepared her for her master’s

**By Hannah Salo  
Staff Writer**

Colby Potts was a spring 2015 graduate at Oakland City University. While here, she studied history and was very involved in the drama club. Now, Colby is going to Indiana State University for her master’s.

Colby decided to go to grad school because she wanted to be a part of something bigger than herself. “Going to graduate school gives me that opportunity to learn more about the specific parts of history that I enjoy,” Potts

said.

She knew that if this was something she was going to do, she would not be able to take a break after her graduation to breathe. “I knew that if I didn’t go immediately following my bachelor’s, I would have kept putting it off and putting it off. Now that I’ve been here for a year, I realize that I should have taken a short break in order to compose myself to avoid burnout, but I wouldn’t have traded my experiences here for anything.”

Graduate school has much more intense classes than OCU had. “They are more theory

based rather than content based. Graduate classes are a lot longer and discussion oriented as well. There aren’t exams or minor homework, just lots and lots of papers.” Colby has mixed feelings when it comes to OCU and ISU. She misses the people, her friends that are still here, and the small size, but she also likes the new, huge size of ISU.

“I literally meet new people every single day. While I did love the small environment at OCU, I saw the same people every day. Now there are people whom I have never met and it’s interesting to meet

these characters,” Potts said.

After she has her master’s, Colby plans on “finding a job teaching for a bit (hint hint I’d like to teach at OCU) then either moving to Sweden to get my PhD or just get it in the states. It depends on my situation.”

As for what she would like all of us still here to know, Colby does have some final thoughts... “PUT YOURSELVES OUT THERE! If there is something school that you want to do, go academically or even outside of for it!”



# Trica Doyle: Ready for life after OCU

**By Elizabeth Bolin  
Staff Writer**

**Why did you choose OCU?**

For the programs that I was interested in studying, OCU had the best offerings. Additionally, I was able to get a generous academic scholarship compared to other schools where I applied. OCU was also far enough from home that I could be independent but close enough that my parents were somewhat close if I needed anything.

**What is your major?**

Business administration: accounting. I also completed an Associates in General Studies here at OCU in 2013.

**Who was your childhood hero? Why?**

found out I was from Indianapolis, Indiana, and was interested in performing arts. Therefore, in only the Jessica way, she pulled me along to Good News Players practice. I was under the impression that we were just going to hang out with some friends and have a Bible study. This did occur, but there was also GNP practice that accompanied it. Daniel Atkinson had brought his friend Christian to practice as well. Christian at the time was a freshman at University of Evansville but lived near so he tagged along to join GNP.

Christian and I were the only freshman and so we naturally were placed into an improvisation skit. At this point the only thing we knew about each other were names and that we were freshman. We were given the scene that I was trying to study in the library, and he was playing a computer game at the table next to me. We each had lines on pieces of paper in our pockets and when Daniel called for a line, we had to stop the current dialog and say one of the lines in our pocket. The scene went on and I progressively got more and more aggravated with Christian. I was out of lines and Christian had one left. I shouted at him to just hush and leave me alone so I could study. He asked if he could say one more thing, Daniel called line, and Christian’s line in his pocket was “Will you marry me?”



fellow students.

**What did you want to be when you were a child?**

I was the kid that changed my mind about every other day. One day a teacher, the next a doctor, the following a chef. This habit did not change as I got older. I started here at OCU with my major being elementary and special education; then I switched to secondary education concentrating in biology; then I transferred to USI for nursing, and finally I transferred back to OCU for business administration: management. Even after that I changed one more time to accounting instead of management. Sometimes it takes exploring to find something you like that you wouldn’t mind doing every day.

**Do you feel prepared for life after graduation?**

I do feel prepared for life after graduation. I have always been a fairly independent person and have therefore picked up many things on my own. However, having a good education goes a long way in being able to find a solid job to turn into a career.

**How long were you in GNP?**

I started, as stated earlier, Aug. of 2011 and bowed out March of 2015, so almost 4 full years.

**What clubs were you in?**

Good News Players, Student Ambassadors, Student Government, choir, and Business Club.

See Page 15, col. 1

Heather Smith

Freelance Pianist

“Beautiful Music for All Occasions”

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# Dorothy Graper: happy to be here throughout the years

By Maria Cottier  
Editor

Dorothy Graper is the supervisor of housekeeping at Oakland City University and, by this September, she will have been working at OCU for 45 years.

Before becoming the supervisor of housekeeping, she cleaned all the time in the buildings. Her mother worked at the university in the 1970s and she asked Graper if she would like to help. “I liked it and continued for all those years. I can’t really believe it’s been so many years because I enjoy working here,” Graper said.

The workday starts early for Graper as she gets up at 2:30 a.m. every morning and leaves at about 3:30 a.m. to be at OCU at 4:00 a.m. The rest of the ladies arrive at 4:30 a.m. Some of the women are full-time and some of them are part-time. “I am in charge of all the women and I have 10 right now and we clean all the buildings on campus which is at least 15 buildings that we have to

cover,” Graper said.

The women usually work together with two ladies in each building. That way, they are always there to help each other out if needed and can get the buildings done more quickly.

Graper works until 1:30 p.m. every day but is on call 24 hours a day in case she is needed for anything. “I took over in 2006, used to have an assistant, but he’s retired now, so I’m on my own. The ladies help me, so it’s not a problem,” Graper said.

All of the housekeeping ladies get along and enjoy telling stories and talking when they are at lunch in Graper’s office in the bottom of Brokaw Hall. “We come in for break and we all have a good time and talk about what we’re doing and family and work,” Graper said.

Graper has been married for 59 years to her husband John, and they own a farm in the Princeton, Indiana, area. “We bought the farm when we first married and have kept it up this whole time,” Graper said.

She and John have three kids and six grandkids. They are very proud of everything their offspring have accomplished. “John and I have been really blessed with grandkids and kids,” Graper said with a smile.

The cleaning ladies like to talk and get along with everyone at the university, “We try to be friendly to everybody. It’s nice to have a connection with the students and teachers. It makes the job easier, and, if they compliment you, it makes the environment better. We like to wish them good morning and be nice and friendly,” Graper said.

The supervisor has enjoyed her job here and has been impressed by OCU. “I’m impressed by the way the school is trying to keep this a religious school and kids are going in the right direction when there are so many things can distract them. I like that. With kids of my own that’s how I’d like to see them go. I like the atmosphere of the religious part because we all have to work on that,” Graper said.

# Small town guy with big city dreams

By Kenzie Rudolph  
Staff Writer

Justin Stieneker is a student at Oakland City University who has an interesting story on how he came here.

Stieneker spent the first part of his life living in Indianapolis, Indiana, just a few blocks from Reggie Miller, but he ended up moving to Pikeville, Indiana, because his dad’s parents lived there. His dad did not want him and his brothers growing up in the city.

Steineker wound up in Nashville, Tennessee, for college. He wanted to play soccer but tore his ACL in high school, so he started looking at other schools. He ended up visiting SAE in Nashville, Tennessee, and fell in love with their music program.

Nashville was much different than home for Stieneker.

“Everything was at my fingertips. I had many restaurants behind my apartment that cooked naturally,” Stieneker said.

He said that his roommate was an agent for Chris Tucker, and he catered with him. He got the opportunity to cook for many celebrities, and got to walk down the red carpet at the Dove Awards. There, Stieneker met the Newsboys, For King and Country, Toby Mac, Lecrae and Michael W. Smith.

Stieneker said that everything was much more active socially and that he had to adjust to the traffic. His music habits, sleeping habits and hygiene habits all changed.

Stieneker landed a few out of the ordinary jobs while going to school in Nashville. “My very first job was sneaking into the CMT awards for the songwriters where I saw Josh Turner and got to speak with him. I also saw George Strait, Alan Jackson, Taylor Swift and the Zac Brown Band,” Stieneker said.

One of the best jobs that he did was at Soundcheck in Nashville, Tennessee, where the performers go to rehearse before going on tour.

Stieneker said, “I set up the sound and lighting for the performers. I first worked for

The Black Keys.”

His second job was at the CMT Music Festival, where he got to work for one of his heroes, Richie Sambora, who was the lead guitarist for Bon Jovi.

The most popular person that Stieneker ever worked for was Katy Perry while she was gearing up for her Prism World Tour.

“She was really friendly. She didn’t get mad about anything. She was just really fun and outgoing,” Stieneker said.

Stieneker moved to Cleveland, Ohio, for six months to work with people who were being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He got to be in the same building with Ringo Starr, Joan Jett, Green Day, Fall Out Boy, John Mayer, Nate Ruess and a family member of the late Stevie Ray Vaughan.

“I was in the same building with people who will be remembered forever,” Stieneker said.

Stieneker also got the opportunity to do audio for an independent film that was shown in Atlanta, Georgia.

Stieneker said, “Doing these jobs while in Nashville made me more outgoing. I became more creative with music and gained more knowledge. I definitely learned patience, and it was a really good thing that I had to learn. I have a stronger work ethic now, and I learned to prioritize by juggling free time, school, working out and my health.”

Stieneker explained that most of the jobs that he did were for pocket change. They did not teach him anything about business in Nashville, Tennessee.

His older brother, Josh, studied business here at OCU, and that helped him decide to come here. He said that the education system seemed good, and they taught his brother well.

“There is a much better atmosphere here, and everyone is more personable,” Stieneker said.

Stieneker has really enjoyed his time here at OCU, but he has decided to transfer to IUPUI to pursue a bachelor’s degree in audio engineering and an associate in theatre.

# Rockport success: Achieving his goal

By Maria Cottier  
Editor

Seth Augustine is a student at the Rockport campus of Oakland City University. He has been working, spending time with family and attending the college at the same time.

Augustine is going for his Masters of Science in Strategic Management. “I plan on continuing to go with my current company and work my way up into a plant manager position and then, long term, becoming a CEO/President of a company,” Augustine said.

The student has been enjoying his time at the Rockport campus as they have aided him throughout his time there. “The Rockport facility has been a great experience for me. The staff has been great. They are willing to work with

you and help ensure that you can maintain a balanced work and school schedule. Pam Bolen is a great advisor that keeps the best interest of the student in mind at all times,” Augustine said.

He has worked full-time while attending the college. His average hours are 40-60 hours a week. Augustine has a good balance of family, work and school. By staying dedicated and keeping his final goal in sight, he has found it can be achievable. He has had many long nights after his kids are sleeping and before they wake back up.

Even though he has found balance in his busy schedule, Augustine still found the idea of attending classes daunting with his busy life. But he realized he could handle it. “When I first started, I felt

overwhelmed trying to attend classes and balance my family and work life. There were times I wanted to quit, but my advisor Pam Bolen was there to keep pushing me and helped me realize that I could do it. Basically that seems unachievable when you first look at it, but it really can be done with the right guidance and drive.”

Augustine has found his time at OCU a success so far and is happy he chose to attend the Rockport OCU campus in Rockport, Indiana. “I am about to receive my master’s; this is one of my greatest achievements. Pride flows through me when I think about it. Oakland City has been such a great experience for me, and I continue to refer people to the university,” Augustine said.

# Dr. Reynolds: Ready for new challenges

By Jessica Eberhardt  
Staff Writer

Dr. Norm Reynolds will be retiring this May. He has been a part of the School of Business for over 10 years.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed

my time here. My grandfather attended Oakland City College in about 1910 or 1911, and my mother was an OCC graduate.

In fact, I attended night classes here with her when she was working to complete her education degree in the mid-to-late 50s,” Reynolds said. He has found his experience rewarding.

“Coming to OCU to teach in the School of Business has been a very rewarding experience. The most rewarding aspect has been interacting with the students. I’ve enjoyed

hearing about their beliefs, perceptions and experiences that have often been so different from mine. I’ve marveled sometimes as I’ve seen them mature through the college years and am very proud of their successes in the business world after graduation.”

He finds it will be odd to not be employed because he has had various jobs since 1959.

“Through the years, I have been greatly blessed with interesting and challenging work and I’m sure I’ll miss certain aspects of that, but I’m ready for change,” Reynolds said.





# Arts and Media

## The Tempest review

By HarleeRay Bicknell  
Staff Writer

The play this past semester was “The Tempest,” written by William Shakespeare.

The cast and crew began working on the play back in January.

This production of “The Tempest” was adapted for the Oakland City University cast. All revisions to dialogue and character were written for this ensemble, so the overall production was unique to the school.

The recital hall was transformed into a tropical landscape. The stage was eye-catching, with the unique foliage and design covering the room. A large balcony opted as a centerpiece for the decor, which the cast utilized to enhance the production.

Along with the aesthetic of the play, seamstress Jessica Eberhardt spent much time mending the costumes, making them unique to the actors who would be wearing them, as well as trying to fit a color scheme to the play. This included finding how to capture the design of the more magical creatures, such as Caliban and Ariel.

During the long months of

practice, the crew worked on memorizing their lines. This proved a larger challenge than in past productions since the play was written in a vernacular that the cast was not entirely familiar with. Having to adjust to the language was a small struggle in the beginning; however, the actors quickly caught on and began with memorization.

Next came learning to talk with their bodies to aid the audience in understanding the actions of the production. Along with that came memorization of the blocking (the movements/locations that should be performed as a given time during a scene), which included learning how to wield swords, play instruments, and to perfect timing for falls. With that, the cast had to learn how to capture their characters, which included finding videos of other performances to use as a backbone for their own interpretations.

The play told the tale of how



the wronged Duke of Milan, Prospero, found vengeance on those that had cast him and his daughter, Miranda, on a desolate island. With a brewing romance, a drive for revenge, and a murder plot, the play did not fall short of a story line.

While this was not an easy play to piece together, the cast and crew did a wonderful job at dedicating themselves and their time to ensure that the play would be successful.

## Oakland City University student art gallery show

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

Just recently Oakland City University had an art gallery show comprised fully of artwork done by OCU students.

There were ten artists who participated in the gallery, showing off their very best to the campus.

From ink to graphite, from paint to graphic design, the gallery was full of OCU’s finest artwork from this current year.

Two seniors participated in this exhibit: Shayna Misukonis, who is majoring in elementary education with a concentration in art, and Kylee Wargel, who is majoring in

art with a photography concentration.

Following the seniors were four juniors who participated: Rikki Sunderman, who is majoring in early childhood development, Haleigh Beasley, who is majoring in graphic design: Nikki Wilderman, who is majoring in communications with a concentration in web design and graphic design and Emily Harris, who is studying art and graphic design.

Last, there were four freshmen who had artwork displayed: Crystal Smith, who is a marketing major with an Art minor: Tom Gruenloh, who is majoring in art, Bryan Wilson, who is an art major with an emphasis in art and technology and Corabelle

Tally, who is studying English and art.

The gallery show was a great success and was a wonderful way to show off the talent of OCU’s students. Currently, students in Oakland City’s Electronic Illustration and Typography classes are designing a logo for the local city library, Oakland City/ Columbia Township Public Library, in order to get experience doing the things they love.

Throughout it all, OCU’s art department has shown the wonderful influence they had as Oakland City’s students learn and prepare for their venture into the real world.

## Corabelle’s poetry corner



Editor’s Notes: Everyone is invited to submit their poetry for possible inclusion in the next issue of “The Collegian.” Submit your entries to Corabelle at: [tallycorabelle@myocu.oak.edu](mailto:tallycorabelle@myocu.oak.edu).

### Pine Needles

The pine needles glided in the breeze.  
They whispered into the cold wind  
all the secrets of the world.

In my mind there was a click.  
Staring into the window, I took notice.  
Everything has a place, a time, a purpose.  
Even the pine needles gliding in the breeze  
so insignificant and small  
float among the wind  
to whisper the secrets of the world.

By Corabelle Tally

### Infinitives from an Anxious Person

To lie in bed and think of disasters the day will bring  
To wonder if there will be traffic to make you late  
To then decide to drag yourself out of bed and face the day

To question if you *really* locked the door to your house  
To decide that you did, just to decide that you didn’t  
To then decide that all of your belongings will be gone  
when you get home

To drive to your destination worrying the entire way  
To wonder if your car is making a weird noise  
To then decide that it’s normal... wait, is it?

To have an unknown number call your cellphone  
To think it’s your doctor and he has terrible news  
To then decide to answer, but what if it’s someone you  
don’t want to talk to?

To attempt to talk to someone of the opposite sex that you  
find attractive  
To get too nervous and refuse to speak because you’ll say  
something stupid  
To then freak out and decide they don’t like you

To see two acquaintances talking without you and fear  
they’re talking about you  
To wonder if they’re making fun plans that you’re not  
invited to  
To then decide that they’re just talking... but they’re  
probably not

To attend any social gathering and be stressed out  
To wonder if people are staring at you  
To then decide that they aren’t, but they probably are

To finally get in bed just to find yourself wide awake  
To remember that you did that embarrassing thing five  
years ago and everyone laughed at you  
To then lie awake the next three hours worrying about the  
disasters tomorrow will bring.

By Madison Brooks





# Battling through battlefield

By Zach Lanham  
Staff Writer

“Star Wars Battlefront” was released on Nov. 17, 2015. This game is independent from any previous “Star Wars Battlefront” game and was created by the company DICE, who also makes the Battlefield game franchise. To help with this review, three things are covered in particular: the good, the bad and the mutually acceptable things. To begin I want to start with the bad because let’s be honest, ending well is just better.

Some major issues I came across while playing this game were the following; the “Deluxe Edition” game glitches and lag ranking up lack of variety and game switching.

First, buying the deluxe edition of the game was a mistake due to the \$70 price and the limited content that came with it. Also, with the four additional things that came with the game, it had no resale value at that price. Secondly, glitches and lag are largely present due to the large servers and sometimes bugged design, for example, getting stepped on by an ally walker or having a character’s ship blow up in thin air. Next, the issue of ranking up became a constant problem due to the fact that only good things, including customizations that were unlocked at rank 40, which I got tired of playing by rank 30. Lastly, people were allowed to switch in and out of games whenever they felt fit without punishment. At first, this sounds good until one team can be losing terribly and has half of their team quit without penalty.

Some good areas of this game that I wanted to focus on are the following: Great graphics, rebranding of the game, and the overall feel of the game.

This game is really good for people who enjoy FPS (first person shooters). However, my personal opinion is playing in the third person mode, you not only receive no penalty for doing so, but you also get the see your character and the



environment. Yes, for once, the environment is more important than your gun because it is gorgeous. Whether it is the cold icy barren wasteland of the Hoth tundra, or the blistering hot barren wasteland of the Tantooine desert, you will be amazed by these simplistic maps. And if you want true depth to your visuals Endor both day and night has beautiful sights near and on the waterfront. A great positive for this game is that it is “Star Wars.” However, if you honestly took away the “Star Wars” skin, you may not like the game but the fact that the game is “Star Wars” makes it slightly better.

If you are a fan of “Star Wars,” you can’t help want to “Blast that rebel scum” or take down another “plastic boy” in this new updated version of “Star Wars Battlefront.” However, if you are looking for the games that came out in 2004 and 2005, you are looking in the wrong place. They share similar ideas and obviously the name, but the game play and content are much different. Here are some spoilers for the game: no Clone Wars, limited “heroes” and no official story mode. The games released ten

years ago had more heroes, more maps and actually had a story mode to it, and this rendition does not. This is because they are not the same game franchise or same company, so you can’t really blame them. However, you can blame them for releasing DLC and not already including the content into the game they sold to the public. As of Jan. 26, 2016, the game still cost sixty dollars, and the DLC will cost forty-five. Now I understand fans want more content, and I was one of them, but the game only came out two months ago. I don’t understand why the content couldn’t be included with the game itself beforehand.

In conclusion, I did enjoy the game for what it was, but I did honestly get rid of it when I found out not only how much the new content would be, but also all the issues I had already had playing it. I have been playing video games for years and I can honestly say that this game had one of the biggest love/hate relationships I have ever had. In my opinion, “Star Wars Battlefront” for both the Xbox One and PlayStation 4, gets 7 out of 10.

# You’re live on WWPO-FM!

By Kevin Pinnick  
Guest Writer

Picture this: in the future, the alarm goes off, and you roll out of bed to get to an early class. To keep from falling back asleep and missing that early class, you turn on the radio to listen to music or to learn what’s going on that day. What station will come on but the one brought to you by OCU’s future radio club!

Some people may not make it a habit of turning on the radio immediately after waking up now, but when the radio club starts their station, they are hoping people will start.

What many people probably don’t know is that OCU has had a radio license for some time now. And while they don’t have all the equipment to start broadcasting yet, there are

classes students can take that will give a taste of what broadcasting is all about.

OCU offers a broadcasting class. This class uses iPads with a microphone and a recording app to learn broadcasting techniques and production. The broadcasting class, which was developed to go along with the communications degree at OCU, is supposed to do three things. First, it is supposed to train students in the area of broadcasting so they can obtain a job at a radio station. Secondly, there will be an opportunity in the future to broadcast podcasts over the university website. Lastly, there is hope for a full fledged radio station on campus.

This station would be located in the library and would be

able to transmit to a 5 to 10 mile radius or stream nationwide. This will be a great opportunity for the university because it will allow them to broadcast music, drama, sermons, university events, campus news, sports, and other things alike.

While Mr. Coy is uncertain when exact details of the radio station will be up, he and others are enthusiastic that the radio station and radio club will be a very real organization at the university.

If you are interested in the broadcasting class or the communications degree, talk to Mr. Coy in his office located in Dearing Hall, or email him at [scoy@oak.edu](mailto:scoy@oak.edu). You do not have to be a communication major to take the class or be in the club.

# Art gallery going healthy

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

Recently at Oakland City University’s Michael Dunn Gallery, there was a show presented by students from the Arts and Design Department of Vincennes University.

Their show was called “C” for Yourself and was presented from March 21 thru April 15.

In it, the students had posters showing the benefits of eating

various types of fruit and vegetables.

The foods in question were apples, dates, avocados, zucchinis, chili peppers and many more.

Some of the student artists came in to speak on April 8 about their personal pieces.

Overall, the show was a wonderful way for the students to present their creative ability while also advertising the benefits of eating fruits and vegetables.



Vincennes University students and instructor pose in front of their art work.

# OCU choir’s spring concert 2016



By Madison Brooks  
Staff Writer

This spring, the OCU choir performed a number of interesting songs on April 26, at Cornwell-Reed. Many of the numbers were a cappella, including “America the Beautiful.” Daniel Waggoner performed a solo during this a cappella piece.

“Domine Fili Unigenite” was directed by Christopher Cook and accompanied by Carolyn Spitler. This number started off the night. Cook also directed “Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord.” There were two soloists in that number: senior, Roman Lambert and Joshua Bunch.

“Hush! Somebody’s Callin’ My Name,” directed by Cynthia Blough-Retana, was one of the numbers that included soloists. The soloists included, senior, Tricia Doyle, Rachel Toepfer, Brittany Latham, and Madison Brooks. “Steal Away,” a beautiful a

cappella number also had a small group soloist during the song. The small group was the joined effort of Suellen Head and Madison Brooks. Another a cappella song, “Witness,” was also performed by the choir.

“Your Smiling Face” also had soloist, Andrew Goldman and the choir acted as background singers. This song was accompanied by Eric Wilson.

The remainder of the songs included, “Ain’t that A Kick in the Head,” “Sim Shalom,” and “Anyway,” which all were directed by Retana.

A jazz trio consisting of Eric Wilson on keyboard, Jordan Mays on base guitar and Andrew Goldman on percussion, accompanied the choir during “Ain’t That A Kick in the Head,” as well as played an instrumental jazz set during the evening.

April 26 was an enjoyment for all OCU students, staff, and the public who attended.



OCU’s first broadcasting class.



# Sports

## Cheering with children

By Kenzie Rudolph  
Staff Writer

The Oakland City University cheerleaders hosted a cheer camp for Kindergarten through 6th graders from elementary schools in the local area on Feb. 27, 2016.

37 girls attended the camp, and they all received a t-shirt, certificate of participation, a picture with the OCU cheerleaders and a sack lunch.

The campers learned cheers and a dance routine and worked on tumbling, jumps and stunting. Later on that day, they got to perform at halftime of both the men’s and women’s basketball games.

Oakland City University cheer coach, Ashley Engler, came up with the idea to host a cheer camp for a fundraiser.

“It was a fun filled day for the campers as well as the OCU cheerleaders,” Engler said.

Senior cheerleader Alex Deffendall planned the majority of the day.

Deffendall said, “Planning for the OCU Cheer Camp took a lot of time and preparation. I knew the camp was going to be three hours long, so the first thing I had to do was figure out what we were going to provide in the camp and how long each activity would last.”

Deffendall also stated that while attending cheer camps as a child, her favorite part of the day was playing games, so she picked Little Sally Walker and Ships and Sailors for the elementary girls to play.

“Even though the cheer camp took a lot of time to be completely prepared for, it was fun and rewarding. The main goal when planning this cheer camp was to make it a great, memorable day for the cheer camp girls. I think we achieved that,” Deffendall said.

Freshman cheerleader Savannah Matthews had very positive memories of the cheer camp. She said that the camp had a friendly atmosphere, and that they had a great group of



OCU cheerleaders and campers before the big day.

girls who never gave up.

“The young girls were great at listening to directions, and they also looked like they enjoyed themselves. Cheer camp is always a great experience for a little girl,” Matthews said.

Freshman cheerleader Madison Brooks said that the OCU cheerleaders faced a few small challenges during the camp.

“The challenges that I faced while working with the youngest age group was the fact that their minds were elsewhere when I was trying to teach

them the dance. Although they were a lot of fun to work with, I found it quite difficult to keep them focused on what I was teaching them,” Brooks said.

Freshman cheerleader Kenzie Rudolph thought that teaching the campers was a true blessing. She loved seeing their smiles, and she loved seeing them work together despite how old they were, or what school they attended.

“I attended OCU cheer camps

as a child, so getting to put on an OCU cheer camp as a cheerleader was very bittersweet. I miss being that little, but it was great to give back,” Rudolph said.

The cheer camp was a true success despite the challenges, and the OCU cheerleaders want to thank all of the girls who attended and the parents who signed them up and brought them to the camp. They hope to host another cheer camp next year!

## Playing tennis from Cali to Oakland City

By Madison Brooks  
Staff Writer

Eddie Vazquez, senior from Huntington Beach, California, is a criminal justice major here at Oakland City University.

He decided to study criminal justice because it is a field that prepares one to be involved in the community, help people, and enforce justice.

He came to OCU because “former criminal justice professor, Tyler Council, convinced me and showed me that he really wanted me to be a part of his criminal justice program.”

Other than being a criminal justice major, Vazquez is also a tennis player. He has been involved in tennis for eight years. Over the eight years, Vazquez gained leadership skills and also learned how to be a team player.

He has a well rounded relationship with his teammates and coach, “I get along fine with my teammates, and our coach is always there when we need help or advice during a match.”

Vazquez decided to keep playing tennis into college so he would have an extracurricular activity to do and also because he loves the sport of tennis.

One memorable moment Vazquez had during his career at OCU was “When we defeated Asbury University, who was ranked 19 in NAIA.”



After graduation, Vazquez plans to go back to California and join the California Highway Patrol. He will most likely not play tennis anymore.

“I want to focus on work and obtaining a master’s degree from Grand Canyon University.”

By Justin Stieneker and  
Madison Brooks  
Staff Writers

The Oakland City University baseball team has five seniors playing this year, including Dylan Allen, Zach Deutsch, Corey Federico, Logan Marshall and Cody Thornton.

Since this is their final season here at OCU, they have plenty of insight on the baseball history here.

Corey Federico hails from the great city of Ontario, Canada.

He started playing baseball when he was five years old. However, he stopped playing when he was 13 to play hockey. But later, he started back up in high school.

Federico found out about Oakland City through his brother, who was playing for OCU at the time. That is how Federico ended up getting a scholarship to go here.

“I went to watch my brother play,” Federico said, “Then we threw the ball around and the coach came up to me and the thing sort of went from there.”

Federico is not a senior at Oakland City but is playing his last season here.

He plans to graduate after the fall semester and still work with the team. “I’ll probably help and coach a little bit,” Federico said.

Federico points out one thing he will miss most about OCU. “The people. Everyone is really nice here. I’ll try to keep in touch as best I can, maybe come down occasionally. That’s what I’ll miss the most,” Federico said.

Cody Thornton, another senior here at Oakland City

University, has been playing baseball since he was five years old.

Thornton is from Terre Haute, Indiana, and he is a business major with a concentration in marketing.

After graduation, he plans to work at Total Quality Logistics out of Evansville, Indiana.

Thornton plays right field for OCU.

His most memorable moment playing baseball was difficult to choose. “It is a tie between beating USI on the road last year and playing in the World Series last year,” Thornton said.

Dylan Allen, a business major here at Oakland City University, has also been playing baseball since he was about five years old.

Allen resides in Evansville, Indiana, and plans to find a stable job that will provide a nice living.

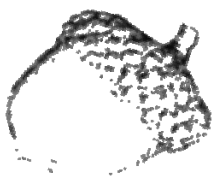
As a pitcher, Allan has two memorable moments from playing baseball for the Mighty Oaks: “Beating USI to open the season last year and making it to the NCCAA World Series last season” Allen agreed with Thornton.

Allen’s favorite professional baseball team is the St. Louis Cardinals and his favorite players are Carlos Martinez and Randal Grichuk.

“I love the Cardinals because all they do is win, win, win, no matter what!” Allen said.

With this hardworking group of seniors, there is hope that the Oakland City University baseball team will make it to the NCCAA World Series again this season.

Come out and support  
your Mighty Oaks!





# OCU's team pictures

## 2016 Women's Softball Team



Front row (pictured left to right): Grace Jerrell, Shay Harrington, Whitney Jeffers, Lauren Morton and Sammi Endicott.  
Middle row: Allie Minton, Kayley Main, Alexis Lemon, Amanda Schmitt, Bre Huff and Cheyenne Reining.  
Back row: Mrs. Patti Buchta, Bailey Gilbert, Kirsten Barrell, Megan Kless, Corbin McCrary, Jaycee Parke and Mr. Randy Chapell.

## 2016 Men's Golf Team



Pictured from left to right: Ryan Crawford, Kody Sloan, Steven Coleman, Brandon Long, Mitchell Federick, Luke Taylor, Joseph Hinton and Tood Glickfield II.

## 2016 Men's Tennis Team



Pictured from left to right: Zach Robinson, Eddie Vazquez, Jordan Helfert, Nathan Sparks, Jacob Hughen and Preston Browning.

# Senior runners and cross country friends

By Maria Cottier  
Editor

Oakland City University will see five of their cross country runners graduate this May: Hanna Guthrie, Nathan Sparks, Tori Flowers, Maria Cottier and Corey Oser. The three that have been running together since their freshman year are Guthrie, Sparks and Oser.

Sparks is from Haubstadt, Indiana; Guthrie is from Springfield, Indiana; and Oser originated from Holland, Indiana.

Oser chose the college because it was close to home; it was a smaller school, and he was offered a sports scholarship. "Being from a small hometown, I liked how small it was," Oser said.

Before attending college, the three enjoyed running at their schools.

Oser has been running approximately 10 years, Sparks since sixth grade and Guthrie since the fourth grade. "My older twin sisters did it and I wanted to beat them," Guthrie said.

Sparks enjoyed running with his dad at a young age, and it helped influence him to join cross country.

Oser wanted to try something that was set apart from other sports. "I just thought it would be a great thing to get into. I wanted to do something different that most people didn't like or were interested in," Oser said.

The athletes are happy they came to run cross country in college because they have made best friends, long lasting friendships and learned to appreciate the little things.

Sparks also enjoys running because of what it allows him to do. "It gives you time to reflect on the day or what's going on around you," said Sparks.

Guthrie enjoys running because of the experience of good exercise, "It keeps you fit,

it's fun with friends and it makes me less stressed out," Guthrie said.

The three friends are excited to go out into the work place upon graduation.

Sparks' major is history with a minor in business, and he hopes to get a job soon to start paying bills.

Guthrie's major is business administration, focusing on human resources. Her goal is to go to Indiana University and receive her master's, leading her to work at NAVSEA Crane, a naval warfare base. She would like to work on logistics, purchasing or contracting there.

The three friends are excited to go out into the workplace upon graduation.

"I hope to graduate first; I then hope to move to Evansville, Indiana, and start my career doing something I like. I would like to come back and help out cross country as much as possible. I plan to run triathlons upon graduation," Oser said.

Sparks was very affected by choosing to run and the influences he received over the years, "The biggest thing that had an effect on me since I started running was a coach I had in high school, Mr. Hopewell, that passed away from cancer. He had a big impact on me as far as how you should treat people and how to live your life on a daily basis," Sparks said.

The three have a lot of enjoyable memories from running together at OCU. From bus rides to Sparks and Oser pulling pranks on the other runners, they have had lots of good times as friends.

Oser is happy to have worked so hard over the years and advises freshmen to never give up. "Make sure they get their miles in and to stay on top of their school work. Being an athlete is a privilege, and it is an honor. Never give up because nothing is impossible," Oser said.



Pictured from left to right: Corey Oser, Hanna Guthrie and Nathan Sparks.



# More OCU’s team pictures

## 2016 Women’s Tennis Team



Pictured from left to right: Lucy Berlanga, Madison Brooks, Ashley Forbes, Kenzie Rudolph and Charity Prinzing.

Trica Doyle  
Continued from Page 9

### Which did you like most? Why?

I got to do a lot more with Good News Players and Student Government. But for the most part, because each club had different skills and aspects about them, I didn’t really have a particular favorite. I like being in different things; it keeps me well-rounded.

### What was your favorite part of GNP?

I was able to travel and meet so many different people from different backgrounds and stages in life. You don’t know how blessed you are sometimes

until you hear someone else’s story.

### Where is your favorite place on the OCU campus? Why?

It is actually not here anymore. My favorite place was a brick wall that was along the walkway near the chapel and just passed the Enter to Learn archway along the sidewalk leading to Murray Center. The sun would hit it just right in the spring and fall so that it was warm to lean against. I enjoyed being able to take a blanket and my books out there to lean against the wall and do my homework. I was a good spot to people watch and enjoy a game of Frisbee or catch on the knoll. It was near everything, but also, because of the wall, easy to go

unnoticed and be left alone to work.

### If you had to choose one thing to change in your college career what would it be? Why?

I obviously, like everyone, have moments that I wish were different. However, in the grand scheme of things, I don’t want to change anything. If any one thing had gone differently, I wouldn’t have learned the lessons I did or had the experiences I’ve had. Yes, some are painful and others are joyous, but every experience shapes us in some way. And all of these experiences help us to make better choices later on in life.

Are you glad you chose OCU?  
Very much so.

# From the Archives

## Orchestras of Oakland City College

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

Oakland City College organized their first ever College Orchestra in 1928.

The director was Miss Ruth Ross, a teacher at OCC, as well as a musician.

Two hours were given every week for rehearsal for the 15 participating students in 1928. They performed twice for the public.

In 1929, the director of the now 20 person orchestra was Neva R. Barnard.

Instruments used included the violin, viola, cello, bass, cornet, flute, clarinet, soprano sax and piano.

They made seven

appearances. In 1930, the Oakland City College Orchestra in 1930 was directed by Stella J. Haugan.

There were 13 participating students, not including two piano accompanists.

Overall, the College Orchestra was a fun and inventive way to allow musical students the joy of playing instruments and the experience of being in an orchestra while providing lovely music for all those incapable of such wonderful art.

This information and more can be found in *The Mirror* yearbook of OCC for years 1928, 1929 and 1930.



From the 1928 Mirror, the College Orchestra members.

The personnel of the orchestra were:  
Director: Ruth Ross. Piano: Dorothy Kelsey. Violins: Katherine Onyett, Ruth Anna Hancock, Mileta Boren, Jessie Lee Cockrum, John R. Moery, Opal Davidson, Pauline Jones. Clarinets: Harold Burns, Alice Thompson, Raymond Ross. Cornets: Evan Steele, George D. Weigel, Ruth Stevens. Drums: Herbert Loveall.

# A change in perspective

By Corabelle Tally  
Staff Writer

Softball senior, Corbin McCrary, will soon be leaving the field of OCU to take her place amongst the world.

As an elementary education major, McCrary is from Vincennes, Indiana, where she plans to return after she completes her student teaching and is able to become a teacher herself.

The inspiration to become a teacher came from McCrary’s love of the sport of softball. McCrary says, “I always wanted to coach...it was through that I realized I was good at teaching while instructing at a day camp.”

McCrary decided to attend Oakland City University because of a scholarship offered for softball as well as the environment and small classes provided by OCU. Throughout her stay at OCU, her original perception never changed. McCrary still enjoys that “everyone knows everyone” and that it

provides a nice “Christian environment.”

Softball has been a part of McCrary’s life since she was eight years old. Her father was the influencing factor that got her started. McCrary states that her favorite thing about the game is the “excitement, team environment and the fun that comes from playing with my teammates.” Over the last four years, McCrary has enjoyed improving, getting to meet so many new people, and making so many new friends.

Two of the other senior girls on the team have played with McCrary all four years. When talking about Jaycee Parke, McCrary says that she is a “team player all around. She puts her best ability in every single thing she does.”

When talking about Kristin Barrel, McCrary says that she is a “very reliable outfielder. Put something her way and she’s going to get it.”

The other two senior girls McCrary hasn’t known quite as long, yet, this doesn’t affect her feelings towards them.

McCrary says that Megan Klees is a “team leader who makes a huge impact on our team.”

When talking about Bailey Gilbert, McCrary says that she is the “most positive person I’ve ever met,” and she is one of the “best players I’ve ever played with.”

Overall, McCrary has

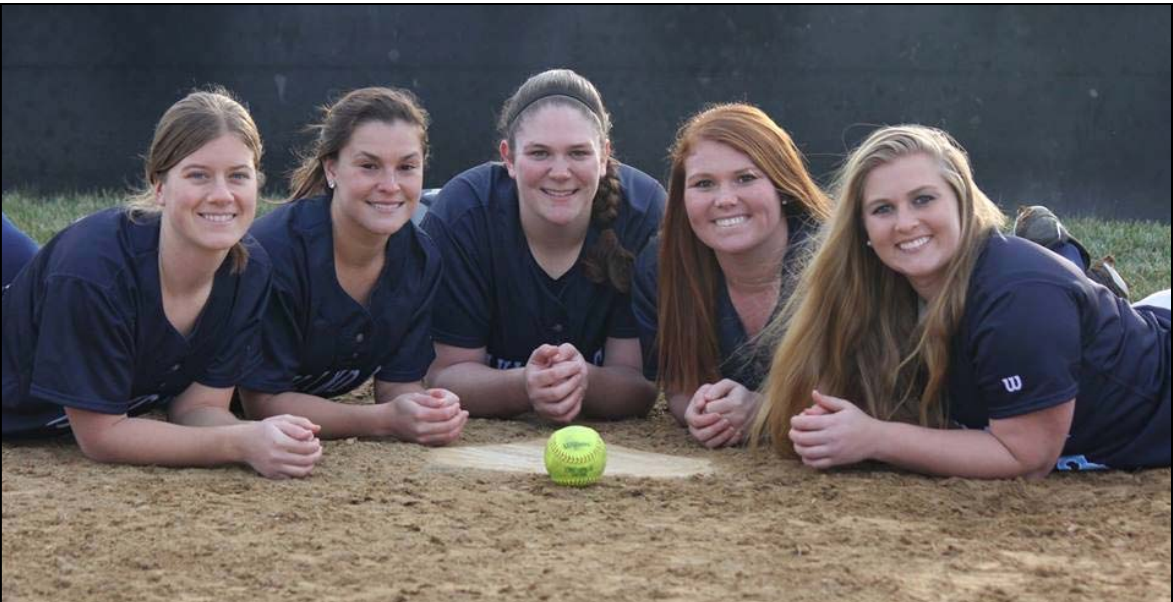
enjoyed working with all of the seniors and says that they are a “great group to be with.”

McCrary believes that softball has benefited her by giving her “friendships and a coach who is always there for me, and it keeps me working hard with school work.”

When thinking about memories, McCrary admitted

that there were so many good ones that she couldn’t even name them all.

McCrary says that she has absolutely no regrets and that “coming here has been the best decision I’ve ever made. I dreamed of going to a big school, but coming here changed my perspective.”



From left to right: Kristin Barrel, Jaycee Parke, Megan Klees, Bailey Gilbert and Corbin McCrary.



# Spring season coming to an end

