

# Minority admissions policy challenged

From College Press Service

The United States Supreme Court decision Feb. 22 to consider a California reverse discrimination case, that claims a special admissions policy benefiting blacks and other minorities

discriminates against whites places in jeopardy the admissions policies of many graduate and professional schools as well as affirmative action job programs nationwide.

Within the case's potential to alter administrative policies lay even more se-

rious threats to hard-won advances in the ten-year old civil rights struggle, many minority and public interest groups contend.

As the Bakke vs. the Regents of the University of California (UC) case gains national attention, its specifics have become less and

less crucial to the actual issues the suit raises. In brief, the case stems from a lawsuit filed by Allen Bakke, a white, 36-year-old civil engineer whose application to UC Davis Medical School was twice turned down, once in 1973 and (continued on page 6)

## The Oakland Sail

Oakland University/Rochester, Michigan/Vol. II, No. 16/Mar. 21, 1977

### Colleges adjust to changing trends

By Dave Ross

"We're turning out highly technical and highly skilled people who are literally barbarians," said Steven Muller, president of Johns Hopkins University, at a recent talk in Baltimore.

Muller's statement may sound extreme, but it is indicative of a growing concern at Oakland and other universities across the nation that today's students are abusing their freedom to choose their own curriculum and are not gaining a "general" education.

The Feb. 7 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education ran a front-page story entitled, "Many Colleges Re-Appraising Their Undergraduate Curricula."

The article pointed out that prior to the 1960's, most universities had rigid requirements for general education. Most required at least introductory work in a foreign language, mathematics, philosophy, literature and social and life sciences.

In the late 50's and 60's came a wave of protest against the structured curricula drawn out by the uni-

versities. Many schools dropped their general education requirements in favor of totally unstructured systems in which students were free to choose their own curriculum.

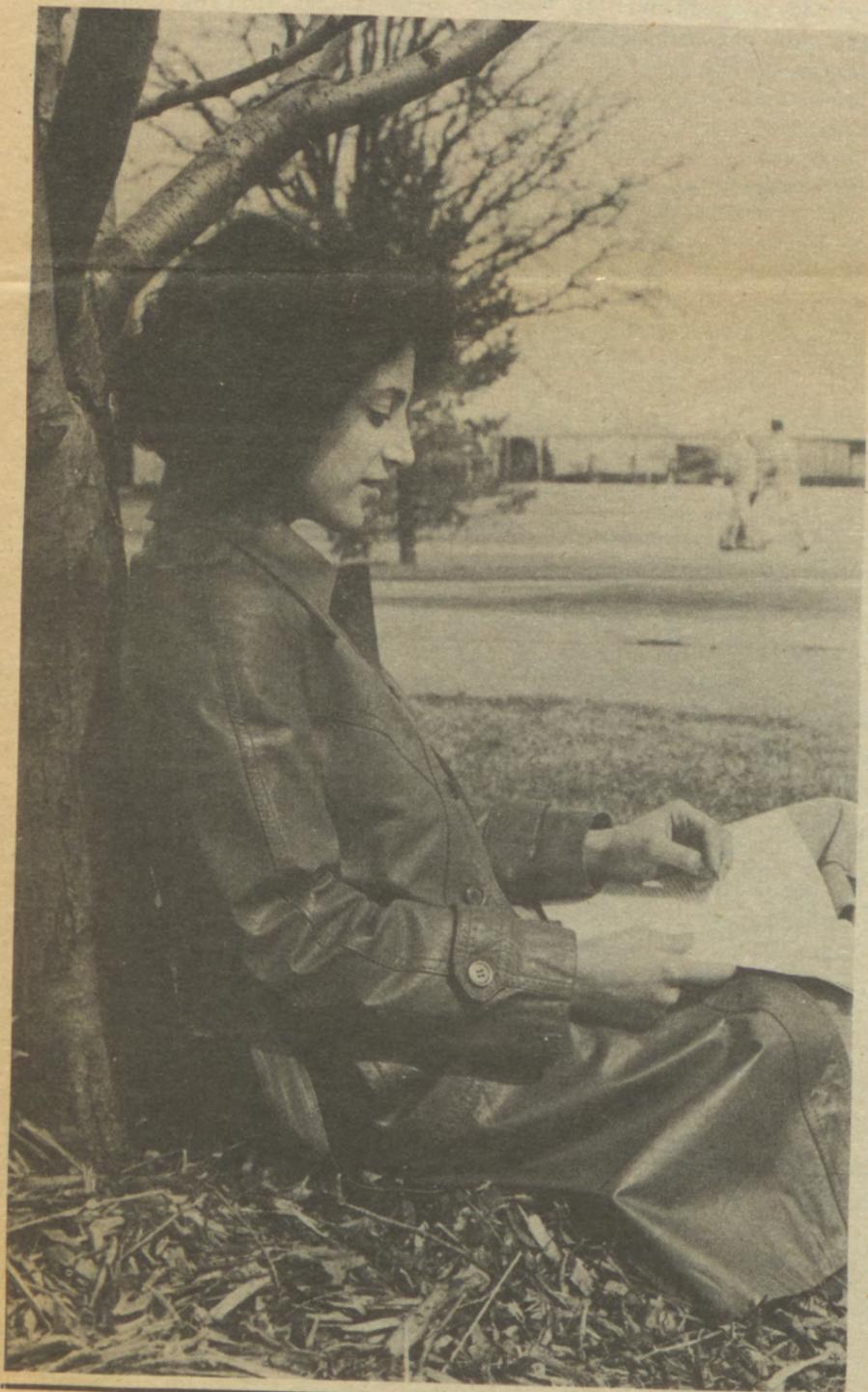
Educators are now re-evaluating the ability of students to decide their own curriculum.

"It strikes me that the ignorance among present college students in matters of politics, economics, history, science, technology, art and culture is appalling," says Leon Bolstein, Bard College president. "The extent of real literacy has declined in all our institutions to a level insufficient for any reasonable participatory political and civic life."

Recent academic developments at Oakland appear to be following the trend for more structured academic programs.

Students are now required to fulfill 32 of their undergraduate credits in 300 or 400 level classes.

An Honors College for Oakland's College of Arts and Sciences has already been approved by the OU Board of Trustees. Its proponents (continued on page 6)



AS PART OF a growing nation-wide trend toward a pre 60's, structured college curriculum, OU (once known as the Harvard of the Midwest) has begun a return to the quiet academic atmosphere absent from college campuses since the early 60's.

## Editor's Opinion

The residence hall administration, through its inattentive lack of action, has made every residence hall student vulnerable to denial of personal rights, verbal abuse and even physical assault.

I live in a three-bedroom suite on the sixth floor of Hamlin Hall's north tower.

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The Oakland Sail is a non-profit student publication serving the Oakland University community on a weekly basis. The Sail is not an official publication of Oakland University, and the views and opinions expressed are not those of the university, but it is assisted by university services in accordance with university policy.

The Oakland Sail  
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At 1 a.m. Feb. 16 I was subjected to an unprovoked attack by one of my suitemates. The suitemate was pulled away before he could do much more than shove me forcefully back against the wall.

This wasn't the first time the residence hall staff had been made aware of conflict between my suitemate and I. Several times during the first semester I was forced to go to the resident assistant and head resident about noise in the suite which was making me unable to sleep well and was harming my class work. The resident assistant was also aware that the same suitemate had previously entered my room without permission and threatened me.

The resident assistant asked me to remain in the present situation as a "guinea pig," to use their term. They feel it is important my suitemate be allowed to "grow" through this experience, even though he has expressed no regret for his violent action and may do something even more extreme next time he feels irritated.

The residence halls have no right to ask anyone to act as a "guinea pig" for the socialization of violent individuals. Their lack of action to rectify the situation does not provide for individual growth; it teaches people they can get what they want by verbal and physical intimidation.

Dean for Student Life Jack Wilson "jokingly" asked me, "What do you expect us to do to him--cut off his foot?" I don't care if or how this person is punished. What disturbs me is the fact that the residence halls allowed the situation to develop to the point it did and, after physical violence erupted, still refused to do anything constructive about it!

I received a \$1000 Student Life Scholarship to live in Oakland's residence halls. I have fulfilled my obligation to be active in student affairs. But the \$1000 will not be enough to make me come back to Oakland next year unless I can be assured of better living conditions.

-- David Ross

## BackTalk

**EDITOR'S NOTE--** The following letter is addressed to Mike Nelson and Terri Chiaverotti in response to their letter printed in the Oakland Sail's March 14 issue.

I think you missed the significance of Mr. Oipari's opening quotation from the Composition and Rhetoric Committee at Harvard in 1892. The argument that college freshmen should appear at the gates (o.k., driveway) of the University as fluent, skillful writers and readers is as old as the American University concept. But our experience as teachers and students should have given us the insight to have laid this tired, uninformed argument to rest years ago.

Learning to write fluently, skillfully, and thoughtfully often requires years of rigorous, error-filled practice. A lucky student receives guidance from interested teachers along the way. But few freshmen arrive at Oakland (or Harvard, or Berkeley, or Old Miss.) having had this extensive writing practice and feedback.

We exist as a department for the same reason that Rhetoric and Composition departments have existed in American Universities since the founding of Harvard--students need help in developing their writing skills as we in the Learning Skills Department are trained to provide it. As the demand for fluency in writing increases in almost every profession, more and more universities are following Oakland's model by establishing separate Composition and Rhetoric Departments. (Cornell, in fact, just appoint-

ed a Dean of Writing).

I would argue, quite differently from you, that the University may be the ideal setting for instruction in writing because it can provide the small classes, skilled teachers and intensive work and feedback that are requisite for growth in writing and reading skill. High School teachers, no matter how skilled, are often burdened by large classes and outdated materials that preclude much effective instruction.

The Learning Skills Department offers a full range of freshman level writing and reading courses; only one of the writing courses is numbered below 100. L.S. 100 and L.S. 101, our two major writing courses, are analogous to English 123-125 at Michigan and to ATL 102-103 at MSU. Oakland students who successfully complete L.S. 100 and L.S. 101 and transfer to Michigan or MSU (or any other University) are given full freshman-level credit for having taken these OU courses.

Because we believe that students learn to write by writing, we read and evaluate literally hundreds of papers every term. Because we know that individual writing problems need individual attention, we hold hundreds of conferences with students each term. And this intensive work produces results, both in our students' attitudes toward writing and in their ability to write more fluently, skillfully, and thoughtfully.

-- Barbara Hamilton  
Acting Chairperson  
Learning Skills Dept.

All signed letters to the editor of appropriate content and length will be considered for publication by the Oakland Sail. However, the Sail reserves the right to deny publication of any letter submitted.

## Board seeks students

The Oakland Sail Board of Directors is seeking students to fill three student vacancies on the board for the 1977-78 academic year. Applications are avail-

able in the Sail's office, 36 O.C. and Campus Information, Programs and Organizations, 49 O.C.

Applications are due April 1.

# Oakland--Rochester's cultural center

By Jack McCoy

## Second in a two-part series on Rochester

For much of this century, Rochester has been regarded as a small, rural community about 20 miles north of Detroit.

Today, when someone speaks of Rochester, they are likely referring to a highly acclaimed state university, a professional theatre, the summer home of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, or a historic and magnificent mansion.

The city of Rochester, and surrounding Avon township, have been transformed from a small town and vacant land to a cultural and educational center, one which experienced the largest growth of new families in the entire metropolitan Detroit area in 1976.

"There's no question that Oakland University has had a tremendous effect on the community's employment opportunities, and on the growth of its restaurants, housing and shopping facilities," says Dick Hùizenga, director of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

Since the university's opening in 1959, when 570 students were enrolled, it has grown steadily towards its present status, employing almost 900 people, with a student body of about 10,000.

The result of this growth on the small city of Rochester has been dramatic. "We have practically filled all vacant areas of potential growth within the city limits," says Rochester City Clerk Maxinne Ross.

Although growth is not always synonymous with progress, in Rochester's case it most certainly has been.

Rochester's cultural growth is perhaps the most obvious aspect of its progress. Meadow Brook Theatre, Meadow Brook Music Festival and Meadow Brook Hall have all become unique and well-known landmarks of the Rochester area.

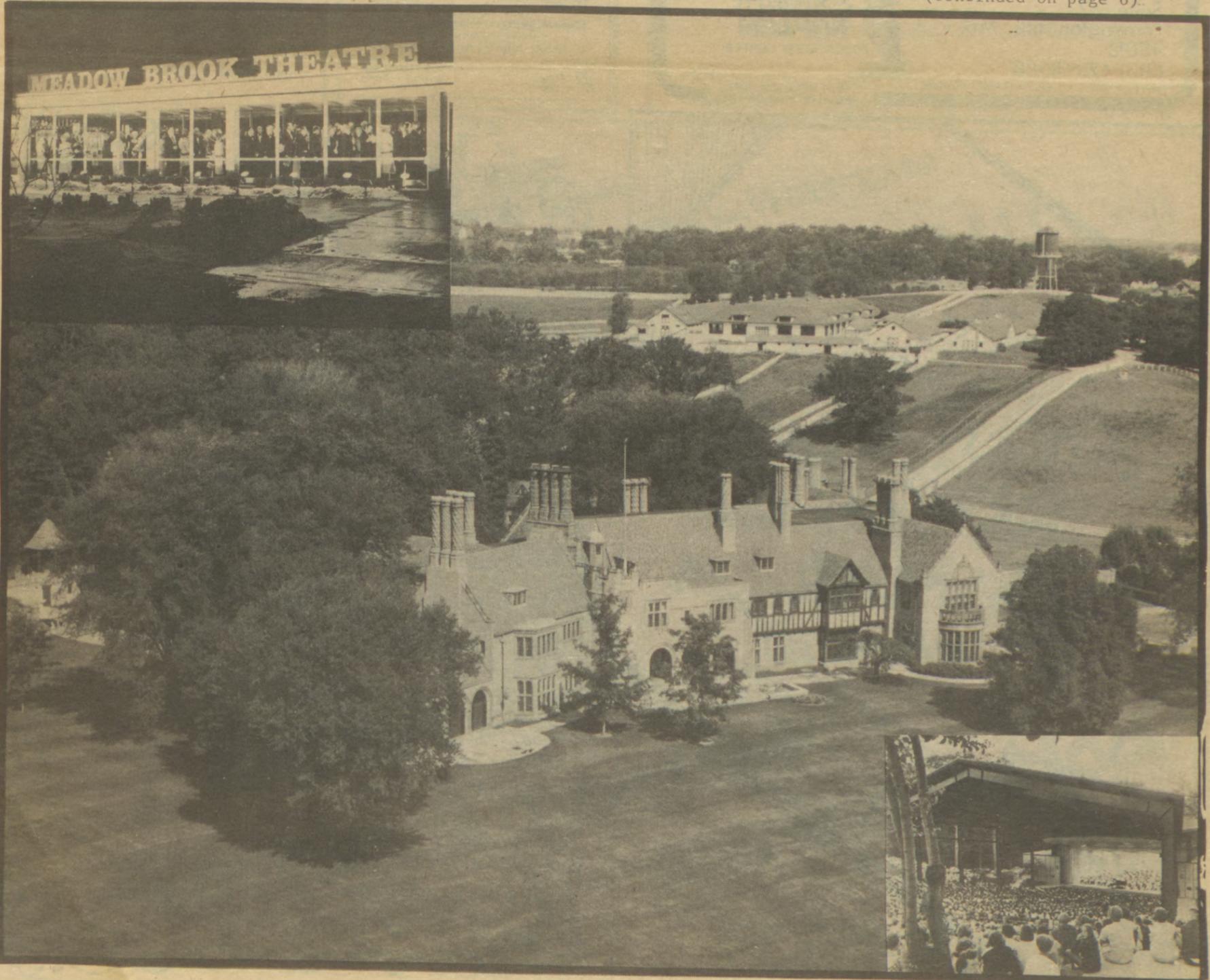
Meadow Brook Music Festival, which features summer outdoor concerts, brings to Rochester some of the biggest names in the entertainment business. The festival has grown from a four to a 10 week season in its 13 year history, and its audience has increased from about 50,000 in 1964 to over 155,000 in 1976. The festival's classical, jazz, and "pops" performances have become so popular that its director, Leon Petrus, has stated that the seating capacity has been a limiting factor at many of their performances.

Meadow Brook Theatre is

Michigan's only professional resident theatre, and it is beginning its 12th season next year. The theatre presents eight plays each year, with a roster of performers who are "very well known in the world of drama," according to Jane Moshur, director of community relations for the theatre. Such plays as William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Yankee Ingenuity," a Jim Wise musical which was performed professionally for the first time anywhere at the theatre, attracted about 132,000 people to Meadow Brook last season.

Meadow Brook Hall, the 100 room Tudor mansion of the late Alfred G. Wilsons, attracted about 60,000 visitors to its Rochester site last year. The hall features fine furnishings, famous paintings and unique architecture, built exclu-

(continued on page 6).



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# Board lets the 'sunshine' in

By Dave Ross

The OU Board of Trustees made decisions affecting its meeting procedures, 1977-78 room and board rates, and several other matters of university business at its March 17 public meeting. The Michigan "Open Meet-

ings Act," often called the "Sunshine Law," goes into effect April 1. It will require the Board and many other public decision-making bodies to make their meetings open to the public.

Shaded from the "Sunshine Law" are meetings affecting personnel matters and committee meetings.

University President Donald O'Dowd, who chairs the Board meetings, said he feels the "Sunshine Law" will help spread public

knowledge of the decision-making process. He is, however, concerned that allowing the public to view meetings may stifle some discussion on sensitive issues.

The Board approved a \$50 increase in double occupancy room and board rates for 1977-78. Cooperative housing rates will be up \$26. Room only rates will be up \$30 while the single room option will increase \$25.

The Board approved the acceptance of a \$95,000 grant from the Matilda R. Wilson Fund for the purchase of a nuclear magnetic spectrometer. The spectrometer will be available for use by students and faculty.

"Normally, a spectrometer of this type is not found outside of the larger research institutions. We are indebted to the Wilson Fund for making the purchase possible," commented Frederick Obear, academic vice-president and provost.

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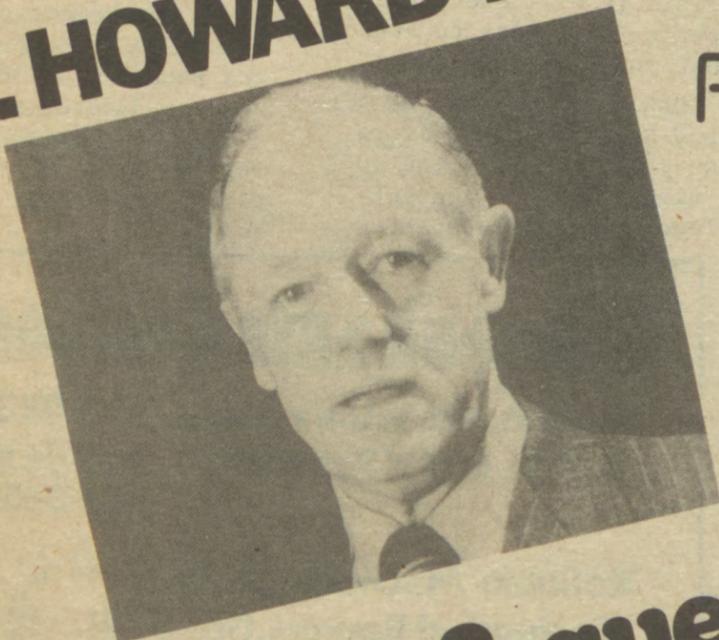
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# Unique landmarks enlighten Rochester

(continued from page 3) sively by American craftsmen. Meadow Brook Hall was designated as an official historical site by the Michigan Historical Commission in 1976, which is likely to further increase the number of visitors in years to come.

In addition to the theatre, music festival and hall, the university has operated an art gallery since 1962. Art exhibits such as "Art of the Decade, 1960-1970" and "Contemporary Reflections" have received wide recognition through reviews in nationwide art publications.

The university, its students and its alumni have brought much economic, intellectual and social progress to the community. Most graduates find employment within a 30 mile radius of Oakland, and 600 alumni currently have a Rochester mailing address. Of the school's 7,500 undergraduates, 2,500 of them make their home on campus or in

the immediate area. The impact of Oakland alumni on the Rochester school system has been tremendous. Out of 425 teachers currently employed in the Rochester schools, 100 are graduates of Oakland, with 23 holding master's degrees in education.

About 900 students from

Oakland have participated in the school's community service program, directed by Ann Frye, who is one of many Oakland graduates employed by the university. The program places students to work in various social agencies in the community, such as the juvenile court, Big Brothers and Common Ground.

While other cities in the country have experienced adverse effects related to growth, such as crime, congestion and decay, Rochester residents can look with pride to the developments that have occurred as a result of the growth that Oakland University has brought to their community.

## Court case tests admission policies

(continued from page 1) again in 1974.

The lawsuit charges that Bakke was rejected admission because the school's "special admissions policy," which reserves 16 out of 100 places for minority applicants, let in minority students less qualified than the white engineer.

The case came before the California Supreme Court which ruled in favor of Bakke, concluding that the university's admissions po-

licies were in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's equality under the law clause. The court ordered the university to enroll the plaintiff and change its admissions program on all 10 UC campuses.

The "minority preference system" as described by UC General Counsel Donald Reidhaar, has resulted in the enrollment of 800 minority students in California's law schools since the program began in 1969. Reidhaar said that these 800 black, Chicano and Native-American students account for 10 percent of the total minority enrollment in the

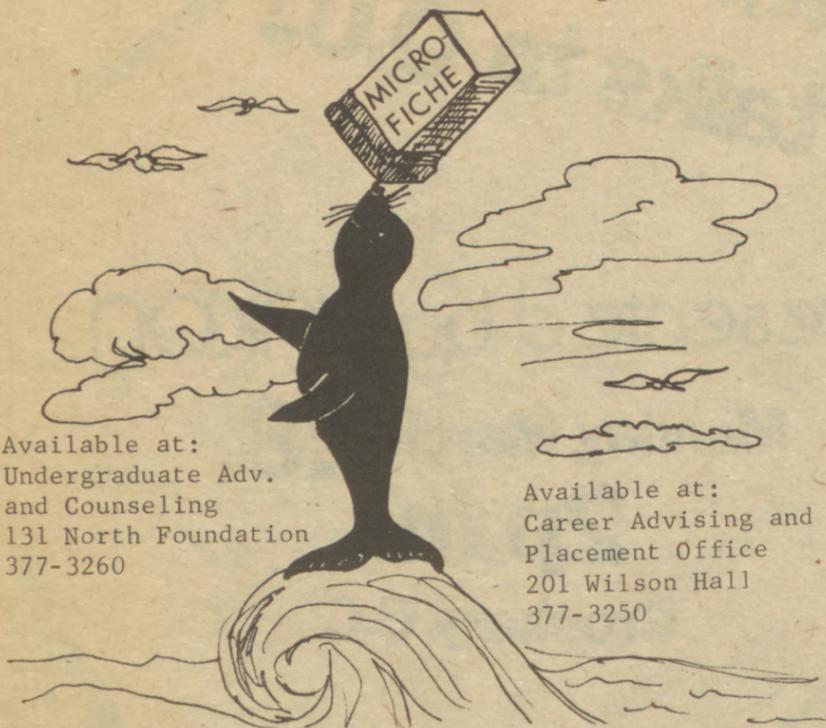
nation's accredited law schools. He added that since 1969 "most schools across the country" have aligned their admissions policies after the UC preference system.

Concern over the possibility that the Supreme Court will uphold the California decision is made evident by the number of groups which submitted friend-of-the-court briefs in opposition to UC's appeal.

Joining Bakke in opposition were such organizations as the National Urban League, the National Organization for Women, the National Lawyer's Guild and the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

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## Requirements tightened

(continued from page 1)

claim it will encourage "superior" students to attend Oakland.

Oakland's College of Arts and Sciences Assembly is currently considering a "tightening" of the college's general education

requirements.

Under the program proposed by the Committee on Instruction Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Science degree candidates would be required to complete 40 credits and 36 credits respectively in general ed classes.

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# Batter up! OU '9' primes for opener

By Dave Stockman

Oakland University baseball coach Dirk Dieters has only nine players returning from last year's club which finished third in the GLIAC, but he's not worried in the least.

A grueling 60-game schedule includes doubleheaders against defending Big-Ten champion Michigan, Michigan State, Central, Akron, Kent State, Eastern, Western, and two single games against the University of Detroit.

However, Dieters does see a liberal improvement over the 1976 mark of 8-10 in the conference and 14-16 overall.

"Our schedule is definitely more impressive this year and playing these recognized teams can only help us," said Dieters. He added, "We've got much better players at each position."

With this in mind, Dieters predicts a race for the conference crown between the NCAA Division II Pioneers, Ferris State and Wayne State.

## IM cage finals set

The Muffs, undefeated champions of the Diamond League, and the Diversions, tri-champion of the Gold League will meet for the Intramural Basketball Championship.

Coasting through the quarter-finals, the Diversions whipped the Bulls, 51-34, led by Mike Redford's 14 points.

Dwight Darwins paced the Muffs quarter-final romp with 22 points as the Muffs crushed Head, 66-40.

Darwins continued his torrid pace, scoring 24 points to power the Muffs to a 53-42 victory over Last Place in a semi-final match-up.

Diversions reached the finals by edging the Sonics, 43-39, with Redford netting 15 points to lead the attack.

### FINAL REGULAR SEASON

#### GOLD LEAGUE

Team	W	L
Diversions	4	1
Last Place	4	1
Pillers	4	1
Head	2	3
Mucks	1	4
Jaws	0	5

Benefiting from the additions of numerous transfer students with one or two years college experience, Dieters says, "We've made strides and will definitely be a contender in the conference."

Some of the players he'll be relying on include returning pitchers Greg Iffinger, a sophomore, and junior Dave Jones. Newcomers Herb Christie and Steve Luczak will fill in the starting rotation with Luczak seeing spot duties in the relief corps.

Transfer Henry Washington is expected to provide speed and glove-strength at third base and batting in the lead-off position.

Besides leadership, the

Pioneers will be expecting productive years from co-captains Walt Ducharme and Robert Dieters.

Also adding some offensive punch will be shortstop Jim Dieters who led the Pioneers in hits, home runs, and runs batted in and was selected to the all-GLIAC squad in 1976.

Other strong hitters who may play a key role in OU's drive for its first conference crown are Mark Bielski and Ed Vojtush.

Coach Dieters says this year's schedule will be difficult but adds that he expects a lot of the team and hopes some doubleheader splits with the NCAA I clubs will make the OU baseball

program more visible to prospective players.

The 26-member squad is currently on its annual southern swing which includes games against Monmouth and Gulf Coast Colleges.

The Pioneers begin GLIAC action on April 8 and will host Northwood in a doubleheader beginning at 1 p.m.

## Boston run is next stop

OU cross-country star Mike Redford qualified to compete in the Boston Marathon by placing ninth in the First Annual West Bloomfield Marathon on March 13.

Redford, a freshman, finished the 26 mile-385 yard course in 2 hours, 39 minutes and 12 seconds to beat the 3 hour qualification time.

## Honors for cagers

Three players on Oakland University's men's basketball team earned honorable mentions in the selection of an all-conference team by coaches from the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC).

Tim Kramer of Grosse Pointe Park, and Eu's Stephens and Jeff Grimes of Detroit were selected for honorable mentions with 10 others from the GLIAC.

## Inkster advances

Inkster took command in the fourth quarter to eliminate Clawson, 75-68, in the High School Class B Regional Basketball Final held at OU on March 11.

Rodney Scales led a balanced Viking attack by pumping in 23 points and grabbing 14 rebounds.

Teammate Alvin Dukes dished out 10 assists to aid in the win as Inkster advanced to the quarter-finals with an 11-9 record.

All-State candidate Bob Bernier led Clawson, who bowed out of the tourney at 19-4, with an outstanding 30 point performance.

## Pioneers led by Kramer

By John K. Schroder

Sophomore Tim Kramer dominated the basketball final stats which were released March 10.

Kramer led in eight categories for the Pioneers, who finished 9-19 over-all and 5-11 in the Great Lakes Conference.

Playing in all 28 games along with Kramer were Jeff Grimes, Bill Scott and Perry James.

Sinking 186 field goals and 95 of 138 free throws, Kramer also led the team with 467 total points and a 16.7 scoring average for the 1976-77 campaign.

Junior Eulis Stephens grabbed 7.5 rebounds per game to edge Kramer, who hauled down 208 caroms on the year.

Grimes led the Pioneers with 359 field goal attempts one more shot than Kramer released. However, Kramer finished the year with a 52% shooting accuracy from the field.

Scott, the little junior back court magician, dealt

143 assists to set up OU buckets as James got whittled down on 98 occasions for personal fouls.

Freshman Brent Robinson came off the bench during 25 games and made 24 out of 30 free throws for a team-leading 80 percent from the charity lane.

## OU table tennis duo Denver-bound

Two OU students will be competing in the International Table Tennis Tournament held at the University of Denver April 21-23.

Michele McKinstry of Pontiac and Ruth Johnson of Waterford Township travel to Denver after winning first and second place respectively in the singles competition and together taking first place in the doubles competition at the Association of College Unions-International Region VII Games Tournament recently at Western Michigan University.

McKinstry is a freshman at OU. She won the Michigan State Mixed Doubles Championship in 1976 and was captain of the Women's Class B National Championship team in 1974. Johnson, a senior majoring in elementary education, was Michigan Women's Doubles champion in 1975.

### IM BASKETBALL STANDINGS

#### DIAMOND LEAGUE

Team	W	L
Muffs	5	0
Sonics	4	1
Stars	3	2
Bulls	2	2
Bozoos	1	4
Jaws F.D.'s	0	5



**SPRING FINALLY ARRIVED** in Michigan last week as temperatures Tuesday soared to the mid 70's. Winter-weary OU students made the most of the sunshine, taking time out from their busy class schedules to play frisbee, fly kites and bask in the warmth of the sun.

**RALPH** by Wheeler



**bookin' break**



**art**

March 27 "Garner Tullis" Exhibition Meadow Brook Art thru Gallery Wilson Hall.  
May 8

**music**

March 21 "An Evening of Operetta," produced and directed by students Varner Recital Hall 8 p.m. Free admission.  
March 26 Piano & Cello Recital Varner Recital Hall 9 p.m.  
March 27 OU Singer Concert Varner Recital Hall 8 p.m.  
March 27 OU Band Concert Varner Recital Hall 3 p.m.

**films**

March 23 "The City & The Self" 12 noon in Room 126-127 O.C. & 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Vandenberg Lounge

**drama**

March 23 Performance by the Detroit City Dance Company under the direction of choreographer Carol Morisseau Varner Recital Hall 8 p.m. Admission \$2.  
March 24 "The Guardsman," a romantic comedy by Ferenc thru Molnar Meadow Brook Theatre Wilson Hall.  
April 17  
March 25 "Moon Children" Barn Theatre 8:30 p.m.  
26  
27

**happenings**

March 21 "A New Heterosexuality--Men and Women as Companions," third seminar in a Sexuality Awareness Series Hamlin Hall Lounge 7:30 p.m. Free admission.  
March 22 "Fundamentals of Christianity"--exploring faith issues St. John Fisher Chapel 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
March 26 Meadow Brook Ball, an informal dance Meadow Brook Mansion 8:30 p.m. \$10 a couple.  
March 27 Tour Meadow Brook Hall 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$2 for OU students, \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for those under 12 and over 65.  
March 27 Singles Connection for singles 20 to 35 years old St. John Fisher Chapel 7 to 9 p.m.  
March 28 Lecture by convicted Watergate burglar and former CIA agent E. Howard Hunt Question and answer period to follow Crockerly, O.C. 2 p.m.