



STAFF BULLETIN



April 27-May 3, 1970

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SENATE ENDS CURRICULAR REFORM DEBATE--FOR A WHILE

The University Senate completed its long-winded consideration of academic reform items last week after approving a change in the grading system and a plan to permit students to draw up their own programs of study in lieu of a traditional major. Resolutions were also passed calling for liberalization of restrictions on independent study and for re-examination of the prerequisite system. Proposals of the ad hoc Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Reform for the establishment of a university-wide ungraded option and several different proposals for revision of the general educational requirement were not approved. Most of them, however, were--by sentiment either expressed or clearly implied--referred to the Senate Academic Policy Committee for further refinement and recommendation. Senate members who support the measures are confident that they will reappear on the Senate agenda in the fall. Six items not handled because of the long debate on the reform measures were continued to a special meeting of the Senate to be held in mid-May.

The grading system changes approved by the Senate leave the University with a scale of 1.0 to 4.0 for passing work and replace the former failing grade of 0.0 with an "N" grade for no credit. The "N" grade will not appear on the student's transcript. The "super grades" of 4.1 to 4.3 and those at the lower end of the former scale (0.5 to 0.9) were dropped. Among items postponed until the special May meeting of the Senate were proposals to change admission requirements and programs to increase the number of students from academically and economically disadvantaged backgrounds, particularly blacks, and to approve a constitution recognizing the professional staff of Kresge Library as a faculty. Further details on these items as well as a more complete discussion of the proposals already voted upon will be carried in an edition of CAMPUS ISSUES at the conclusion of the Senate deliberations.

OVERHEAD TELEPHONE LINES ARE GOING BUT NOT GONE

Michigan Bell phoned the other day to report that they have not forgotten their promise to bury those unsightly cables now hanging loosely from those unsightly poles along Walton Boulevard. Of course they didn't put it in those exact words. The phone lines are to go underground as part of the road modernization project now being completed by the Oakland County Road Commission. A Bell engineer said their work will be started as soon as the road contractor's job is finished. (Reports from that front indicate the final grading will be done in time to seed the shoulders and banks in June.) Bell plans to be burying concrete conduit along the south edge of Walton in August and September. After that a new phone cable will be threaded through the conduit to replace the overhead lines. Then the lines and poles will be removed for good.

OAKLAND CENTER FOOD SERVICE HOURS ARE ANNOUNCED

Here is the spring semester schedule for Oakland Center Food Service, as announced by director Dave Phillips:

South Cafeteria--Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Grill--Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Resident Cafeteria (Sunset Room)--Breakfast 7:15-8:15 a.m.; continental breakfast 8:15-8:45 a.m.; lunch 12 noon-12:45 p.m.; dinner 5-5:45 p.m. (all Monday through Friday). Guest meal tickets for the resident cafeteria may be purchased at the Oakland Center Information Desk.

NEWSPAPER TO RETURN

"Broke but not broken" is the capsulated financial report for *Focus: Oakland*, an unofficial student newspaper sold on campus this past year. Editor Larry Good says he plans to bring the publication back in the fall and hopes to do better financially. Good reports that they wound up their first year exactly even on the profit-and-loss statement as a result of a grant of funds from the Student Allocations Board and the generosity of a printer to write off some of his charges as uncollectable. The paper is supported entirely by revenue from advertising and newspaper sales, in contrast to the former official student newspaper, *The Observer*, which received most of its operating funds from student fees. The staff of *The Observer* turned that publication into a literary magazine, called *House Organ*, which was published and distributed last week.

ADA PRESENTS CLASSIC

The Contrast, an American stage classic set in Revolutionary War time, will be presented by the Studio Company of the Academy of Dramatic Art at Meadow Brook Theatre this week. Performance times will be 8:15 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. The story concerns an Anglophile fop with a roving eye who loses his fiancée to a true-blue Revolutionary officer whose greatest asset is his common sense. After its four-night campus run, the play will be taken on tour to eight area high school and junior high schools. Tickets are available at the Studio Company office, 282 Hannah Hall, or at the door on the night of each performance. Tickets cost \$2 for general admission and \$1 for students.

BIRCH TO LEAVE

Edward E. Birch, who has been associate dean of students here since 1965, will leave OU in July to become vice president for student affairs at Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio. He came here from Ohio University, where he served as assistant dean of students and instructor in human relations after obtaining his M.A. degree there. He completed his Ph.D. in higher education at MSU last year. Birch served as director of the Oakland Center during his first three years at Oakland and has been assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs since revamping of the office last fall. He and his wife, Sue, and their two daughters live in the faculty subdivision.

ISAAC JONES FUND GROWS

At present, contributions to the Isaac Jones Scholarship Fund amount to \$1070.40. Additional contributions should be sent to Miss Patricia Houtz, 202 Wilson Hall.