

# Oakland University

Magazine

Vol. 6, No. 2

Spring 1987



All talk and plenty of action

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**Meetings of the  
Oakland University Alumni Association  
Board of Directors and Alumni Affiliates**

OAAA Board of Directors: May 4, June 1, July 6  
Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate: May 7, June 4, July 2  
School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate: May 12, June 9,  
July 14  
School of Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Affiliate: May  
21, June 18, July 16  
School of Human and Educational Services Alumni Affiliate: May 13,  
July 8

*Meetings are subject to change. Contact the Alumni Relations Office, (313) 370-2158, to  
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Oakland University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution.

## A call to action as alumni move forward

THIS LAST YEAR was one of the most industrious and successful of the four years I have spent on the board of directors of the Oakland University Alumni Association. The association has moved dramatically away from activities-orientation and toward service. I believe we have done so without sacrificing any of the important roles traditionally supported by Oakland's alumni.

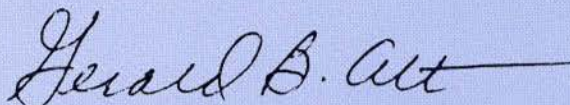
I find it hard to think in terms of our next 12-month plan, because the reality of working with the association is that the impact of its planning is usually not observed until well after one year from the inception of an idea. The Alumni Campaign for Kresge Library was kicked off by a \$1,000,000 pledge, which past president Rick Wlodyga presented to the Oakland University Board of Trustees in the fall of 1985. We are only now completing our first round of alumni solicitation, with the phone/mail campaign about to begin. The effort will continue until about December, when we hope to have completed solicitation of all alumni.

Traditionally the board has had a specific agenda of annual activities to monitor over its term of office. However, its role has changed dramatically in the last two years. The affiliate alumni associations have assumed responsibility for many of these activities (i.e., Career Days). Each affiliate has an active board, scholarship and/or mentor programs, and the support of its school. However, additional interested alums are needed and welcomed to augment the ranks of these associations. Eventually the board would like to see alumni events co-sponsored by at least one affiliate, thereby broadening the scope of each school's involvement in alumni affairs.

In fund raising, the role of the association has traditionally been to host the annual fall Telefund. In the last year and a half we have begun our Alumni Campaign for Kresge Library and a series of in-house corporate fund raising campaigns. A natural by-product of such maturity is our expectation that Telefund will become a regular, year-long activity. In the interim, the association is challenged to work toward maintaining the annual level of Telefund donations while other fund raising activities dip into the same pockets for capital contributions.

Membership is the key to any successful and active alumni association. Members of the association play a more important role than simply funding board activities. You provide a volunteer base upon which we draw to make our programs possible. Too often the only tangible alumni commitment to an important university project comes from the 18 directors. We have not adequately tapped our non-board alumni volunteers except for special events like Telefund and Career Days. I would like to see a non-board alum on every major committee appointed during this next year. Ours is worthwhile work, and there's plenty to do for all who want to be involved. I make this a challenge and a plea to anyone reading this article; we need your energy, your resources and your ideas. If you can invest a few hours in Oakland's future please contact the Alumni Relations office.

The responsibility for keeping Oakland a wonderful place to learn and grow lies with the nearly 30,000 alumni of this university. Today's students deserve the same worthwhile educational experience you enjoyed. Your degree is a valuable commodity, made more precious by the standing of the institution from which it was earned. Your involvement in the alumni association will ensure the highest standards of academic and community reputation for current and future generations of Oakland students.



Gerald B. Alt, a 1976 graduate in biology, is a practicing trial attorney in Southfield. He was recently elected to his second term as president of the Oakland University Alumni Association. — ed.

# Play in the Masters North!

Move over Augusta National. We've established a tradition of camaraderie, a great golf course and great golfers up here at Oakland University's championship Katke-Cousins Golf Course.

Well, the great golfers might be stretching it, but the rest is true. Join your fellow alums and friends for the **12th Annual Alumni Golf Outing** on July 20, 1987. Sponsored by the Oakland University Alumni Association; Greg Demanski ('63), Jay Mihalak ('74, '79), Marty Sabo ('78) and Tom Vella ('82), golf outing committee.

**Three-member team scramble format.**  
**Refreshments on the course.**  
**Picnic supper, complimentary beverages.**  
**Prizes.**

## Want to be a sponsor?

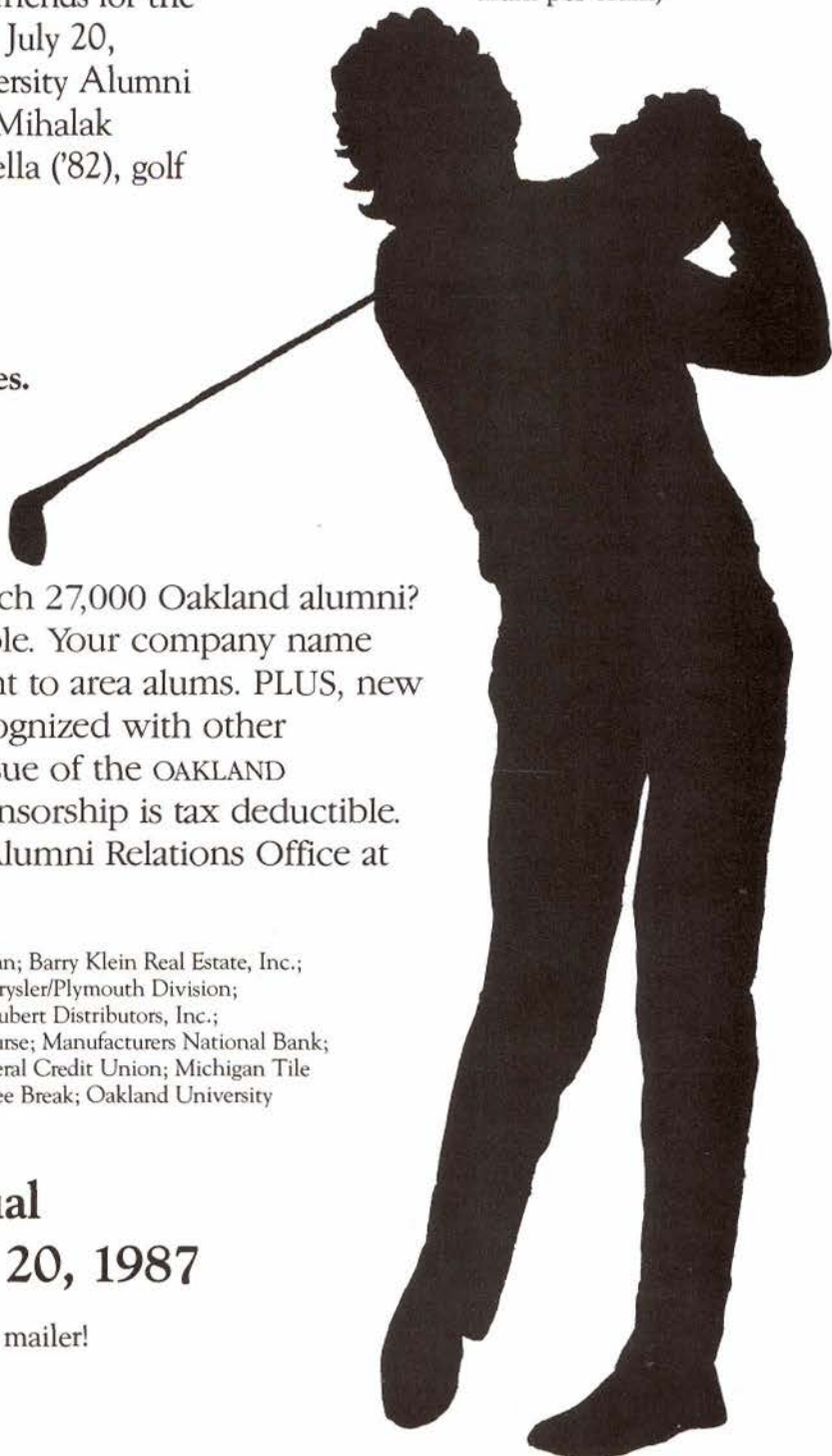
Would you like your business to reach 27,000 Oakland alumni? For just \$200, you can sponsor a hole. Your company name will appear in a direct-mail piece sent to area alums. PLUS, new this year, your company will be recognized with other sponsors on a full-page in the fall issue of the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE. And, your sponsorship is tax deductible. For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158.

A special thank you to our 1986 sponsors: AAA of Michigan; Barry Klein Real Estate, Inc.; Basse and Heiter, P.C., Attorneys; Chrysler Corporation-Chrysler/Plymouth Division; Document Services, Inc.; Foxy's by Machus; Golf World; Hubert Distributors, Inc.; Huttenlochters Kerns Norvell, Inc.; Katke-Cousins Golf Course; Manufacturers National Bank; Oakland University Branch-Michigan State University Federal Credit Union; Michigan Tile and Supply; Page Toyota; Patrick's Restaurant; Pontiac Coffee Break; Oakland University Bookcenter.

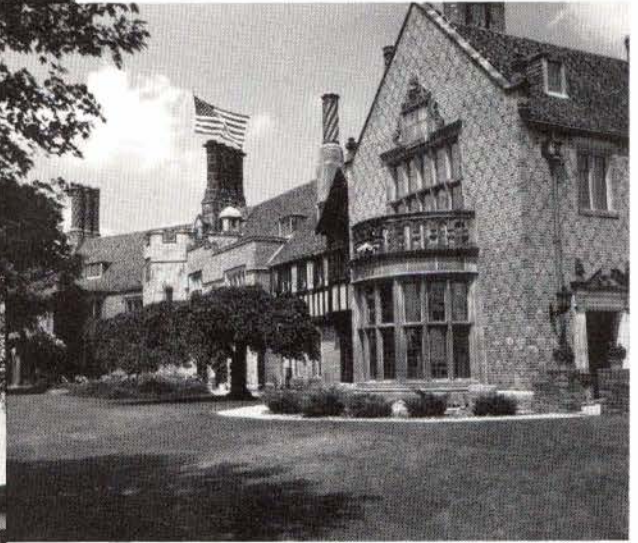
## Don't Miss the 12th Annual Alumni Golf Outing, July 20, 1987

Watch your mailbox in May for a registration mailer!  
(MasterCard/Visa accepted)

11:30-12:15 Registration  
12:30 Shotgun start  
6:30 Supper and prize ceremony at the Meadow Brook Hall Tent  
  
Fee: \$50 alumna/us, \$70 non-alumni guests (minimum one alum per team)



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## Winfrey wows 'em in Black Awareness Month lecture

Oprah Winfrey's secret to success is straightforward and simple: Be yourself, don't blame others for your position in life and, for heaven's sake, don't spend time worrying about what others think of you.

The actress and host of the hit talk show "Oprah" made quite an impression on the 1,200-spectator crowd at the Oakland Center during her February talk. Her visit was sponsored by the Student Life Lecture Board and was part of Black Awareness Month.

Winfrey, who is also known for her appearance in *The Color Purple*, retraced her life, telling what it was like to grow up in the back woods of Mississippi, to become a runaway, and to turn her life in another direction. Responsibility for failure or success lies within each person, Winfrey said.

"The way the world works is through divine reciprocity," she stated. "Exactly what you put out is exactly what comes back to you, all the time. From the time you were born you were empowered with the ability to take control of your life. That is true whether you were born in a slum or whether you were born in a condominium overlooking a lake. The power to take control of your life begins and ends with you."

— From the *Oakland University News*

## Hildums' gift is a tribute to Howes

An outstanding student who might not have otherwise attended Oakland will enroll in the Honors College next year — with no tuition worries. That's the intent of a new scholarship program established by Donald Hildum, professor of communication, and Priscilla Hildum, director of continuing programs for the Division of Continuing Education.

The Hildums' decision to finance the scholarship, named after retired history professor and Honors College director Robert C. Howes, demonstrates their "real belief in the Honors College and in the kind of students that are attracted to it," as well as their admiration for Howes.

They will pay the tuition of a full-time Honors College student for four years or



Oprah Winfrey

however long it takes the student to graduate. Afterwards, they plan to provide for the education of other students.

"The Robert C. Howes Scholarship is, obviously, of tremendous importance to us in the Honors College," said Brian Murphy, director. "In giving us a full tuition scholarship, Don and Priscilla Hildum enable us to attract and keep the kind of honors student who, at present, is lured to other institutions.

"More than that, the Hildums, in their unprecedented and unparalleled generosity, reconfirm the value of our university and of education itself. It is impossible to thank them adequately. All we can do is put their generosity to good purpose."

## Sharf, Chunovich named new trustees

Stephan Sharf and Larry W. Chunovich have been appointed to eight-year terms on the Oakland University Board of

Trustees by Governor James J. Blanchard.

Sharf and Chunovich replace Alex C. Mair, retired vice president of General Motors Corporation, and Wallace D. Riley of Riley & Roumell.

Sharf, co-chair of the major gifts committee of the Campaign for Oakland University, retired in 1986 from Chrysler Corporation as executive vice president of international business development. He is now president of Sharf International Consultant Associates, chairman of Industrial Development Systems, and is a consultant for several organizations. He also is a vice president of the Oakland University Foundation.

Chunovich has been president of the Michigan Education Association since 1983. His career includes having taught mathematics and held various posts with Southfield Schools, the Southfield Education Association, the National Education Association and the MEA. He also has been vice chairman and chairman of Delta Dental Plan.

## Search for young musicians begins

Aspiring musicians who want to learn from some of the world's finest professionals are invited to audition for the Meadow Brook Academy Orchestra, a cooperative venture between the Oakland University Center for the Arts and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

The academy orchestra will be unique among premiere musical training programs in the United States, said Carl F. Barnes, Jr., director of the Center for the Arts. Rather than studying with professionals only in classrooms, the career-oriented musicians selected for the 99-member orchestra will perform in concert at Meadow Brook Festival with the DSO.

Maestros Gunther Herbig of the DSO and Leonard Slatkin of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and Stephen Stein, music director of the Meadow Brook Academy for the Arts, are among the conductors. Master classes will be taught by world-renowned clarinetist Richard Stoltzman.

Musicians age 17 and older are invited to apply for positions. Cassette audition tapes and application forms must be submitted by April 27. For additional information, call (313) 370-3018.

## OUAA elects new officers

Gerald B. Alt ('76) has been elected to a second term as president of the Oakland University Alumni Association. Alt was re-elected at the March meeting of the OUAA board of directors.

New officers for the OUAA are Fran C. Amos ('80), vice president-visibility; Greg Demanski ('63), vice president-fund raising; Marty Sabo ('78), vice president-affiliates; Barbara Hartline ('84), treasurer; and John Rhadigan ('83), secretary.

Board members are William S. Clemens ('84), Timothy J. Glinke ('82), Andrea Kendrick-Williams ('77), Melisa J. Lawfield ('78, '81), Jay Mihalak ('74, '79), Kathleen Nicosia ('84), Paula Pankow ('80), Richard A. Steele ('78), Richard J. Tondera ('80, '82), Andrew N. Vanchick ('85) and Thomas A. Vella ('82).

Joan B. Stinson ('63), director of alumni relations and assistant director of development, continues as an ex officio member of the board.

## Calling all Barn fans, devotees and mavens

We know you're out there.

You charter alums who spent freshman year living in the Barn, when it served as a residence hall. You alums who helped turn the Barn into a drama center. You who were determined to preserve the Barn when its destruction seemed imminent. And you who count the hours spent at the Barn among your fondest memories of Oakland.

Share those memories with us. Send your reminiscences by June 1 to: OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE, 119 North Foundation Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48063. Or, call Karen Hill, (313) 370-3184.

We'll run a collection of stories in the fall magazine.

By the way, there's also a search on for all former Barn Theatre performers and technicians. A reunion weekend is being planned for July 31-August 1. If you are interested, contact Tom Aston, 370 Varner Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48063, or call (313) 370-3014. Volunteers to help run the weekend also are needed.



*New officers of the Oakland University Alumni Association, from left: Barbara Hartline, treasurer; Marty Sabo, vice president-affiliates; Gerald B. Alt, president; Greg Demanski, vice president-fund raising; Fran C. Amos, vice president-visibility. Not shown: John Rhadigan, secretary.*

## Bennetts create fund for science acquisitions

Jan and Ron Bennett have contributed \$75,000 to endow a fund for library acquisitions in the sciences. Their gift to the Campaign for Oakland University will be invested and the interest used to purchase new materials for Kresge Library.

Alumna Jan Bennett ('79), now a doctoral candidate in biomedical sciences, said the fund will be used to purchase "monographs, journals and books on a continuing basis, not just a lump sum purchase.

"Ron and I have a lot of faith in this university, and the library is really the core of the university itself. If the library is good, then other things usually follow."

Ron Bennett, who recently sold his businesses in manufacturing appliance parts and plastics, expresses strong support for the study of science. It is an area that needs constant updating and purchase of new materials, he said. "There is

a point of irony in it, in the sense that the people involved in the research who so desperately need the library are themselves making it obsolete," Bennett said.

Suzanne O. Frankie, dean of Kresge Library, calls the Bennetts' gift "a wonderful contribution. An endowment will enable us to subscribe to new materials and assures us of continued funding to keep those materials current," she said.

## Williams joins Honors College

G. Mennen Williams has been appointed distinguished university professor and special assistant to Oakland University President Joseph E. Champagne.

Williams, retired chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and former Michigan governor, will develop an interdisciplinary course for the Honors College. As special assistant to the president, he will work on institutional development and advancement.



## OUAA awards research grants to 13 students

Nine undergraduates and four graduate students have won research grant support for 1986-87 from the Oakland University Alumni Association. The University Research Committee selected the winning proposals.

Recipients of the \$300 undergraduate competitive grants are: biology majors Susan Herderich of Ortonville, Greg Hodder of Bay City, Alan Kaiser of Richmond, Judy Thul of Madison Heights, Saeema Rathur of Utica; biochemistry major Steven Lundy of Howell; environmental health major Patricia Pesta of Rochester; and psychology majors Barth Riley of Romeo and Carol Roan of Holly.

Winners of the \$500 graduate awards are biology student Mary Jo Anter of Pontiac, chemistry student Mary Francis Papin of Alpena, and health sciences students David Moore of Birmingham and Julie Raedy of Troy.

## Oakland swimmers take the silver at nationals

Oakland University's men's swim team locked up the second place trophy at the National Collegiate Athletic Association-Division II Championships in Long Beach, California.

Thirteen Oakland swimmers earned 31 All-America honors during the four-day event. Seniors Steve Larson of Grand Rapids and Bruce VerBurg of Sterling Heights and junior Mark VanderMey of Grand Rapids earned five national honors each. Larson won the national championship in the 100-yard backstroke, while VanderMey defended his championship in the 100-yard breaststroke and placed second in the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard breaststroke.

The team's second place finish marked the ninth time in the last 10 years Oakland has placed in the top three nationally; it was the fourteenth straight year the team ranked in the top seven.

The women's swim team also turned in a winning effort, taking eleventh place at the national championships. Juniors Nancy Schermer of Zeeland and Lee Ann

O'Neill of Holt scored 69 of the team's 70 points. Schermer was third in the 100-, 200- and 500-yard freestyle events and placed sixth in the 1,650-yard freestyle. O'Neill placed second in one-meter diving and fourth in three-meter diving. Freshman diver Nikki Kelsey of Saginaw, took 12th in three-meter diving.

The women tankers have placed in the top 12 nationally for the past six years.

## Pioneers tip in best basketball season in history

It was a banner year for the men's basketball squad, as coach Greg Kampe led the Pioneers to their best season ever. Oakland won 20 games (finishing 20-8) for the first time, achieved its first winning season in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (finishing fourth) and turned in its first national ranking (eleventh).

Other firsts included a 7-0 start, the team's longest winning streak ever, the longest GLIAC winning streak (five) and the best GLIAC start (5-0).

Junior Scott Bittinger of Toledo, Ohio, was named to the All-GLIAC squad and ranked third in the league in scoring. Sophomore center Dave Hintz of Fenton was named to the All-Defensive team.

The women's squad also turned in a spectacular season, under the leadership of new coach Bob Taylor. The squad finished with a 21-7 tally, tying for third in the GLIAC with an 11-5 conference record. Oakland ended the season with a six-game winning streak, including a thrilling 95-88 overtime win against Taylor's former team, Lake Superior State College, in the season finale.

Juniors Margaret Boyle of Saginaw and Sarah Knuth of Homer earned All-GLIAC honors. Boyle set new single-game and season assist marks for both Oakland and the GLIAC, while Knuth led Oakland in scoring and rebounding and set a new school record in free throw percentage. In addition, Junior Kim Klein of Bay City was a league All-Defensive pick and sophomore Leah Fenwick of Muskegon set a new GLIAC field goal percentage mark.

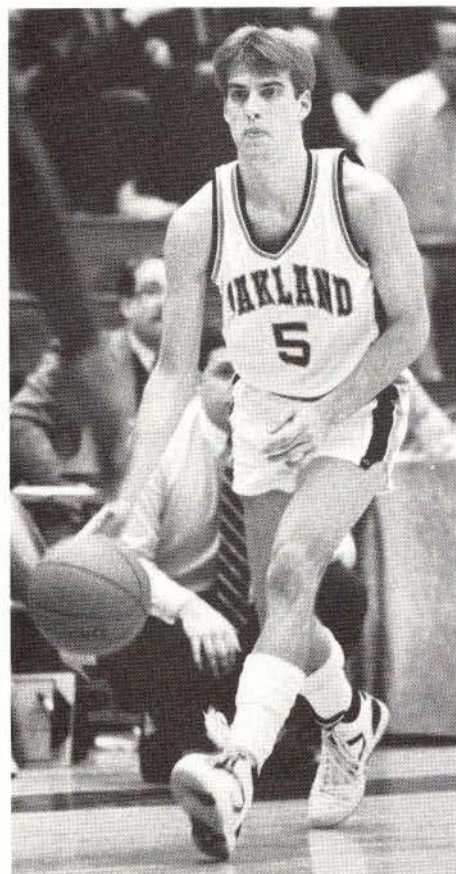
*Scott Bittinger helps the Pioneers to a record-setting year.*

## Crain's taps OU sophomore for scholarship

Cited for her outstanding academic achievement and leadership and entrepreneurial skills, sophomore Sharon R. Molnar of Troy was named the recipient of a \$2,000 Executive Newsmaker of the Year Scholarship Award from Crain's Detroit Business.

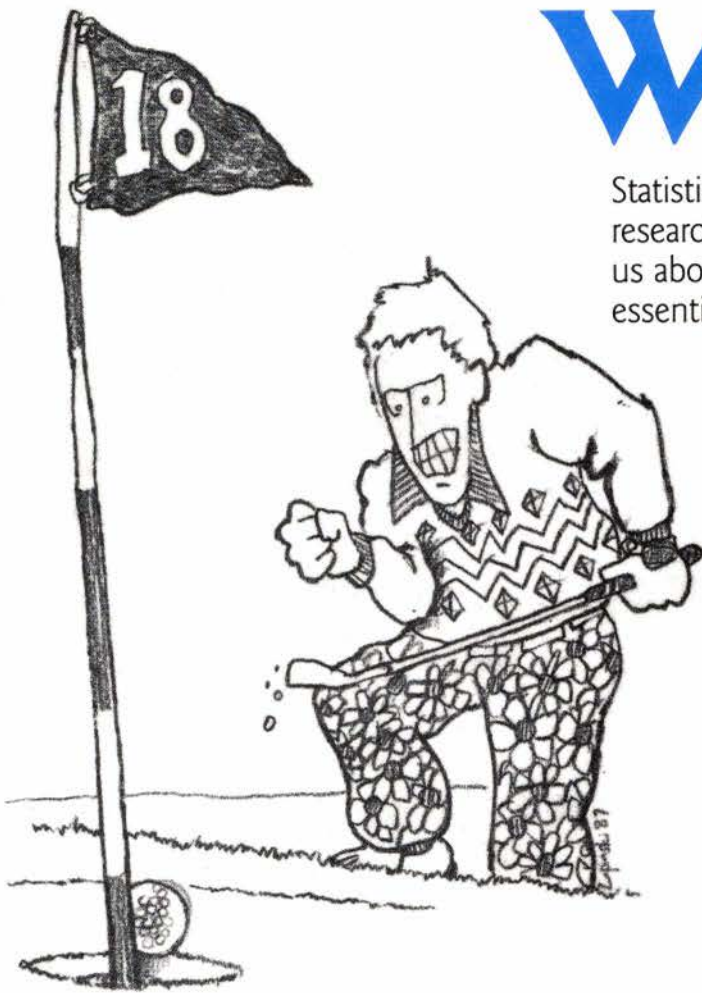
Receiving the award at a February luncheon of the Women's Economic Club of Detroit, Molnar shared the spotlight with Governor James J. Blanchard, whom Crain's named Executive Newsmaker of the Year.

Molnar, who plans to major in international marketing, holds an A average in the School of Business Administration. She also has held a Student Life Scholarship, and is a member of the Residence Hall Council, Student Program Board, RH Positive (a service-oriented student group), and the business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi. She has worked two summer jobs to help pay for her education.



# Wild, weird

Statistics can tell us much about the excellence of Oakland's research, academic and community activities. They can also tell us about hot dogs, miles of mail, chicken coops and other essential trivia.



## Tee-rrific total

More than 258,644 rounds of golf have been played at Katke-Cousins Golf Course through the fall of 1986. Skip Holton of Titusville, Florida, holds the record, 67 (37 + 30) on the par 74 course. The highest round? That statistic can remain private!

## About those new neighbors...

Descendants of Matilda Wilson's private deer herd still roam the campus. The deer, originally obtained from the Detroit Zoo, number about 30 and have been seen in the faculty subdivision and East Campus area.

## Is that seat taken?

The Meadow Brook Music Festival has had 2.5 million people attend its various performances since it opened in 1964. The festival grounds has a capacity of 7,500 and regularly sells out for popular performances. The lowest attendance for a Meadow Brook Music Festival performance: The Borodine Trio had 37 patrons attend its July 1, 1980, recital.

## A ghostly tale

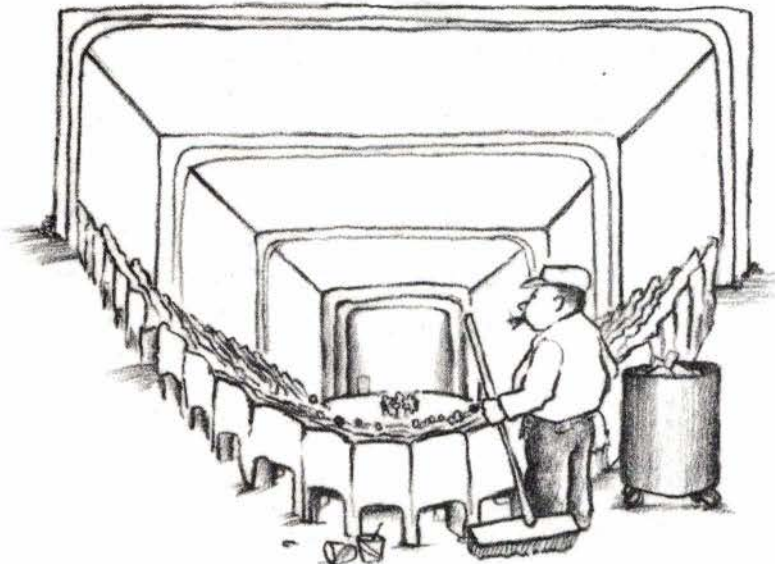
Meadow Brook Hall has welcomed 1,139,148 visitors through its door as of December 31, 1986. Most of these are undoubtedly unaware of the phenomenon known as the "Flying Carpet." Although there are no ghosts in the Hall, a carpet is found out-of-shape every morning in the roped-off sitting alcove. No explanation has been found, although a Meadow Brook spokesman speculates that the strange event is caused by "Matilda Wilson just checking up on the Hall."

## Neither rain nor snow nor change of classes

More than 1 million pieces of inter-departmental mail are delivered on-campus each year, in addition to 2 million pieces of U.S. mail. If this mail were laid from end to end, it would extend from Oakland to Marquette in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

## Still undecided about that major?

One student enrolled this semester, a junior, started at Oakland in the charter class of 1959.



# or worthless?

by Bret Moeller



## Past the stairs and to the left

The library staff receives 43,689 questions each year. The most common? "Where's the bathroom?"

## And for dessert...

Oakland University served 1,116,000 meals this past year, including 9,632 gallons of orange juice, 336,084 eggs, 8.4 tons of turkey breast, 464,000 glasses of soda and 603,200 glasses of milk.

## 193,952 yawns a year?

The Oakland Center has become the social focal point for students, faculty and staff. Approximately 438,000 meals are served in the Oakland Center, and 1.7 million people-trips are made through the building each year (talk about carpet wear!). Some 4,408 meetings take place in the environs of the O.C., with an average of 44 people in each meeting.

## Now that's outstate!

More Oakland students come from China (16) than from Grand Rapids (11).

## U-Haul, We-All-Haul

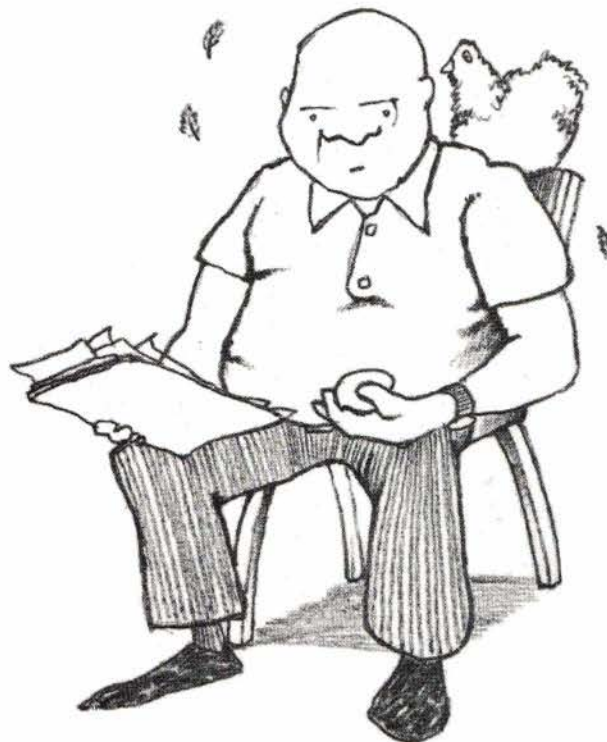
It took 80 students three and a half hours to move 20,000 books from the old library in North Foundation Hall into Kresge Library in 1961. With the library's present 1,229,832 volumes now on hand, it would take 80 students working at that rate over one month to move the library's books again!

## 8,500,000 ringy-dingy, 8,500,001 ringy-dingy...

Approximately 8.5 million phone calls are made on campus each year by students, faculty and staff.

## Cooped up

The first classes at Oakland University began on September 27, 1958, in a chicken coop. Matilda Dodge Wilson had an array of chicken coops on her estate, and once the land was turned over to Michigan State University, officials were told to fly the MSU flag in Rochester and start classes as soon as possible. The chicken coops were quickly remodeled and still had feathers circulating in the walls the first year. The coops have 9 inches of solid concrete flooring and ceramic tile floors — leaving little doubt that Matilda expected some heavy poultry. The current status of the chicken coops? The university's Lowry Early Childhood Center uses them for child care purposes.



*When not counting deer or measuring yawns, Bret Moeller ('82) is assistant to the president for planning and policy analysis.*

*Cartoons by Jeff Lapinski, Graphics Coordinator, Sliger-Livingston Publications, Howell, Michigan.*

# All talk and plenty of action

by Nancy E. Ryan

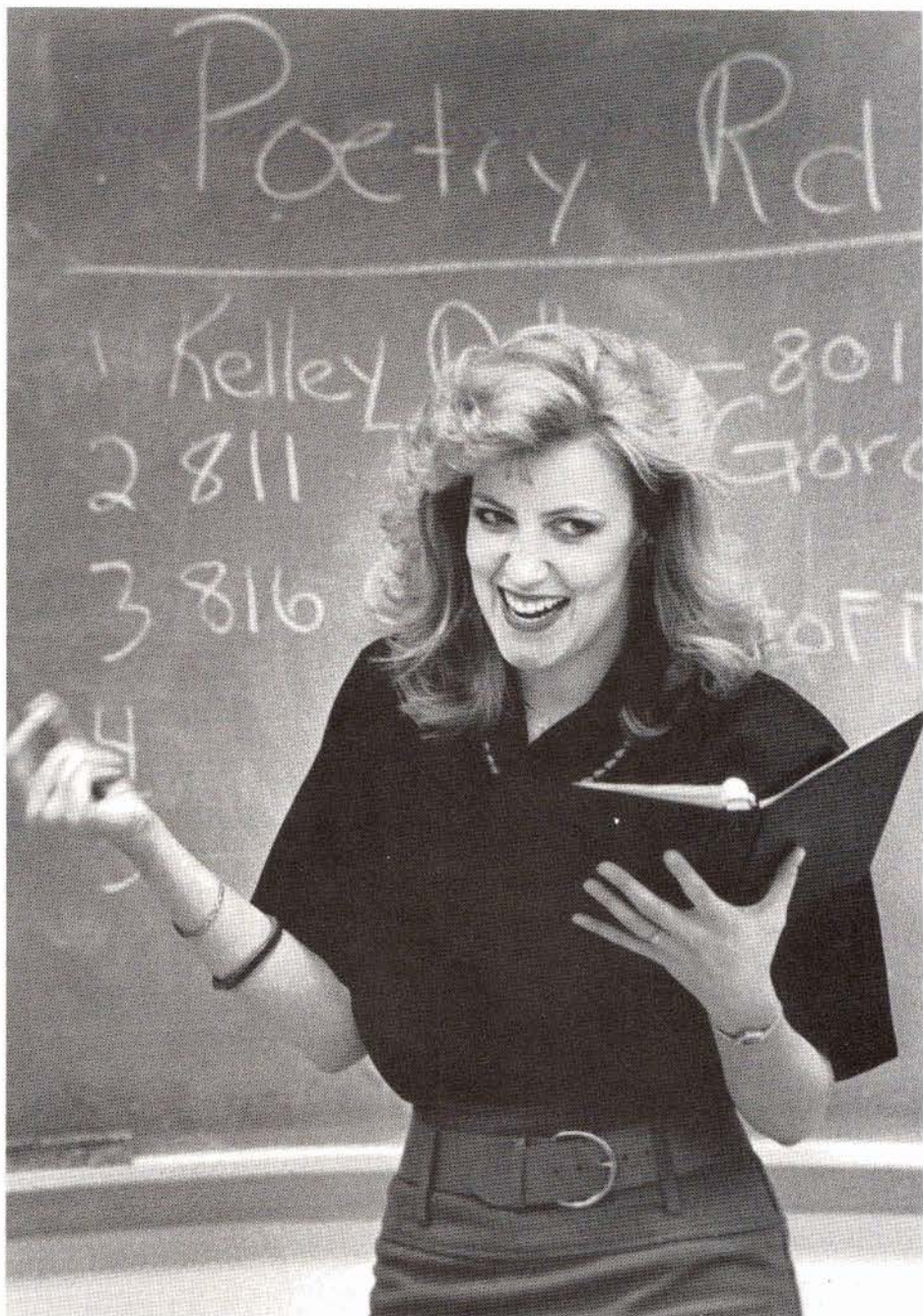
**Eight years on the road to victory have shaped Oakland's forensics team into a tough, competitive force to be reckoned with. Now they plan to bring home their best national finish ever.**

**I**TS OFFICIAL NAME is the Vietnam Veteran Memorial. But to family and friends, it's simply the Wall. I've been coming to the Wall since it was dedicated in 1982. In the snow, in the fog, in the rain. In all hours of the day and night," Oakland University senior Kelley Dillon of Sterling Heights confesses.

She is gesturing, beseeching, invoking a gamut of emotions with her voice. Her audience — nine Oakland students and two alumni — provides silent support, nodding its approval, appreciation, camaraderie.

"Do you know, not once have I seen it without somebody there. That's how it should be. For this monument to the dead has a magical power for the living. Those who come to the Wall become a part of it. . . ."

Dillon, co-president of the nationally ranked Oakland forensics team, is performing her prose selection at a showcase presentation in 308 Wilson Hall,



*Senior Kelley Dillon, who has reaped dozens of awards during her four years on Oakland's forensics team, has her sights trained on the national tournament in April.*

the forensics office. It's a small classroom that serves its purpose well. There are desks, chairs, tables, a wonderfully worn sofa, and shelves lined with forensics trophies, memorabilia and texts. Kathy Kent Rhadigan ('83) of Oxford, Michigan, director of the Oakland forensics team, orchestrates from one corner. A photo of Karen Seelhoff, director of the team from 1979 to 1985, reinforces from another.

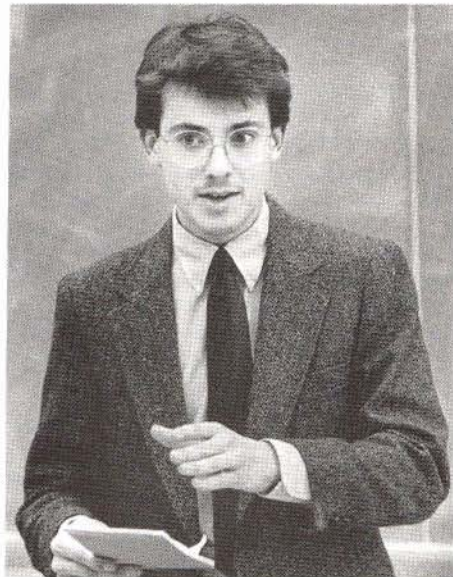
Through the efforts of such volunteers as Rhadigan and Seelhoff and such students as Dillon, Oakland has acquired an envious record in forensics — organized, competitive public speaking. At the 1986 Individual Events (IE) National Tournament in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, sponsored by the National Forensics

Association, Oakland placed seventh out of 118 universities. In addition, it has been in the national top 10 for the past three years — compared to 62nd place in 1979, the team's inaugural year.

"There's a team award, as well as individual awards, at every tournament," Rhadigan explains. "You get points for every team member who takes a first, second, or third place in each of their preliminary rounds. Our goal is to have people in the top three of each event so they can get points. Last year our team did so well in the preliminaries that we placed in the top 10 without including the scores of our finalists."

Oakland has also excelled at the state level, placing first in 1982 by beating

Senior Tom Zizka believes his forensics training will help launch his career in broadcast journalism.



LeeAundra Preuss and Kelley Dillon research topics for upcoming competitions.

Eastern Michigan University, a state and national forensics powerhouse. "We usually take second. That was the only year in the history of Michigan forensics that anyone dethroned Eastern. It was great," Rhadigan says.

Rhadigan, along with alumni Edward Asher ('80), Marian Czarnik ('81) and Lenora Ledwon ('80), co-founded Oakland's forensics team. She was also the first team member to qualify for an IE Nationals.

Forensics events are organized into three categories: public address (after-dinner speaking, informative speaking, persuasive speaking and rhetorical criticism), interpretive (dramatic duo, poetry and prose) and limited preparation (impromptu speaking and extemporaneous speaking). Like athletes, forensics team members train rigorously for their sport. They work out with coaches on a weekly basis; they work on their presentations in their spare time. Most also hold part-time jobs and participate in a smattering of additional extracurricular activities. Two current team members, juniors Keith Faber of Battle Creek and Robert Waters of Pontiac, were candidates for University Congress president; two alums, John Rhadigan ('83) and Robert McClory ('85) are recipients of the prestigious Wilson Award.

Both current forensics team members and alumni cite true team spirit — a feeling of family togetherness — as a primary contributor to Oakland's forensics success. Another is the winning combo of heart and hard work.

"There are basically two schools of

thought in terms of what makes a forensics participant successful," team alumna Lisa Olsen ('84) of Mt. Clemens says. "Some people believe that you have to work on your speech every single night — we call this the 'forensics is my life' kind of attitude. There's also another school of thought, that forensics is something you do because you enjoy it. Oakland has managed to blend the two of these very successfully." Olsen, now an instructor in the university's Department of Rhetoric, Communications and Journalism, was the first Oakland forensics team member to break into national quarter finals in three events.

These two schools of thought meet both on campus and on the road. Take, for example, the tournaments themselves. Tournaments are usually two days long; team members typically attend three to four tournaments per semester. The team leaves Oakland early Friday morning, returns late Saturday night. At a tournament, each student makes approximately 20 presentations (four per event). In between presentations, team members lend moral support, eat fast food and foster friendships that last a lifetime.

"My second year (1980), after we found we were 20th in the nation, we had an 18-hour drive awaiting us," John Rhadigan recalls. "Karen Seelhoff was such a trooper. She slept on the spare tire in the van: There was so much luggage, there was no place to put anything else. We had sleeping bags so we wouldn't have to pay for additional hotel rooms. There are so many stories like that — we have a scrapbook full of them. That's half the fun. We

still get together at least once a year . . . You never forget times like those."

Leading up to the tournaments are hours spent practicing delivery; preparing presentations; and participating in showcases, where presentations are made to the university community. These and more go into the making of a national-champion-caliber forensics team.

Support from the coaches, the students and the university administration . . . all are important ingredients for a first-rate forensics team. "We always tell the students that the time and commitment are up to them. We don't say 'if you want to be a member you have to put in so many hours and travel to so many tournaments,'" Kathy Rhadigan explains. "But the students who are successful are those who voluntarily do that, who come in for coaching two or three times a week and travel to 50-70 percent of the tournaments we attend. If you don't have that spirit of cooperation you won't have a team. The same holds true for coaches."

Different events require different commitments in terms of both time and tasks. According to senior Tom Zizka of Brighton, co-president of the forensics team, "The time I invest depends entirely on the event I'm working on. In the interpretive events — prose and poetry, for example — the hardest part for me is finding the right material. This means finding something that will not only work for me as an interpreter but will hold the audience's attention as well.

"With the public address events, I find the hardest part to be the writing. More specifically, the rewriting. You write it

once, take it out to competition and then go home and fine tune it. It's a never-ending job."

Zizka, who received a Student Life Scholarship from Oakland based in part on his high school forensics performance, also serves as general manager of Oakland's radio station, WOUX — a post once held by John Rhadigan. He hails from the same high school as his coach and, like Rhadigan, a sportscaster at Channel 12 in Flint, is pursuing a career in broadcast journalism. Zizka placed in the national semi-finals in two events last year: He was eighth in dramatic duo with Shaye Dillon ('86) and ninth in informative speaking.

Kathy Rhadigan feels that forensics offers something for just about everyone. She cites interest and enthusiasm as the two foremost requirements for success. Achieving this success, however, may take some time. "We've had so many people who really don't win anything their freshman and sophomore years," she says. "It's amazing to me that these people stick it out — I know I wanted instant gratification. But then I see them blossom in their junior and senior years, taking home trophies every weekend. I've seen it happen time and time again. If they have a love for forensics and the desire to do well, there's nothing to stand in their way."

Like any sport, however, there are certain rules that must be followed. All events are timed, for example, and first places are not awarded to speakers who exceed or don't meet the time requirement. In addition, speakers are required to wear "forensics attire" — professional-looking clothes such as dresses and suits. Forensics is, on the other hand, a very creative outlet, offering many avenues for personal expression and professional growth.

"We've found that people have to be artistic yet competitive," John Rhadigan says. "If you're just in it for the art you're not going to like it. Most of the people who stay involved are competitive. We've had two forensics team members, Mark Clawson ('80) and Lenora Ledwon ('80), go on to become attorneys. Both credit forensics as their single most important extracurricular activity relative to their success after college. And I credit it every time I do a live broadcast."

Other alumni use their forensics experience as the basis for scholarships and graduate assistantships that fund graduate degrees. Two such alums are Olsen ('84) and Pam Schultz ('84) of Warren, forensics team cohorts at Oakland and roommates at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, where both pursued master's degree in communications. Both went on to coach forensics and teach at Bowling Green; both stress the importance of forensics to their ability to communicate self-confidently under challenging conditions.

"Most employers are really impressed by forensics. They initially may not know what it is — they'll say 'forensics, like in "Quincy," right?' — but once they know it's competitive public speaking they're impressed. It adds to your actual work experience and education in a very positive way," Schultz says.

For Olsen, Schultz, the Rhadigans and myriad others, being part of Oakland's forensics family didn't end upon graduation. Many alums serve as volunteer forensics coaches, working with the team as time permits. Others came back to lend a hand at the Pioneer Classic Individual Events Tournament (held on Oakland's campus).

Universities from around the region — which is determined by financial considerations, which tournaments are feasible to travel to — attend this annual event. Its goal is to raise funds, through entry fees, for the forensics team, enabling it to travel to other tournaments. Additional monies come from hosting and judging high school tournaments, as well as from stipends from the Student Activities Board and the Oakland University Alumni Fund.

Oakland forensics team volunteers and members work together — as a family — at this tournament. Some, in fact, have actual family ties. Sophomore Robyn Schultz participates in a variety of forensics events, following in the footsteps of her sister, Pam. And co-president Kelley Dillon's sister, Shaye Dillon ('86), was an active member of Oakland's forensics team, receiving a second place in informative speaking and semifinal honors in dramatic duo (with Zizka) at the 1986 IE Nationals.

Kelley Dillon is focusing her energies on



Alumni coaches John and Kathy Kent Rhadigan are helping build Oakland's national reputation for forensics excellence.

interpretive forensics events. She has qualified for the IE Nationals each of her four years on the team, placing in the final rounds the past three years. She was also, with partner Mike Connell, one of the first two Oakland team members to break into national finals, earning a fifth place in dramatic duo as a freshman in 1984.

At this year's Pioneer Classic, held in February at Oakland, Dillon won the poetry competition with a perfect score, earning straight firsts in both her preliminary and final rounds.

"What I want to talk about is dancing the jig. It is very strange to dance the jig. I am doing it now. My hands jolt from my wrists, my elbows fly from my shoulders, my head twists from my waist and my legs leap . . . Oh, I am dancing, dancing," she crescendos in a slurred voice. Her hands are jolting, her elbows are flying, her head is twisting, her legs are leaping. She is in the midst of the poetry competition final round in 217 O'Dowd Hall. Her audience watches intently.

" . . . You know how it is at a party, that moment in the conversation when someone gets up to fix another drink. The room is silent and smoky. No one speaks and you let your eyes stare off and see double. You allow your eyes to go; and want your eyes to go; you prefer, for instance, to observe a chair." Her voice trails off. Her eyes stare off, observing a chair in the front row. Her audience, too, looks at the chair, drawn into the presentation.

" . . . Why do I leap up and start to dance? I can't think of it! I look at that chair, the smooth shadows, the stiff arms in their places, the four legs hitting the floor. I can see it. I can see it double! It's fine." She heads back toward her seat, awaiting the next speaker. Her audience applauds. And so does the Oakland community.

Nancy E. Ryan ('82) is an associate editor at the Society of Manufacturing Engineers in Dearborn, Michigan, and a former assistant editor of the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE.

### Oakland University Finishes in the National Forensics Association Tournament

1979, 62nd

1980, 20th

1981, 27th

1982, 19th

1983, 15th

1984, 10th

1985, 9th

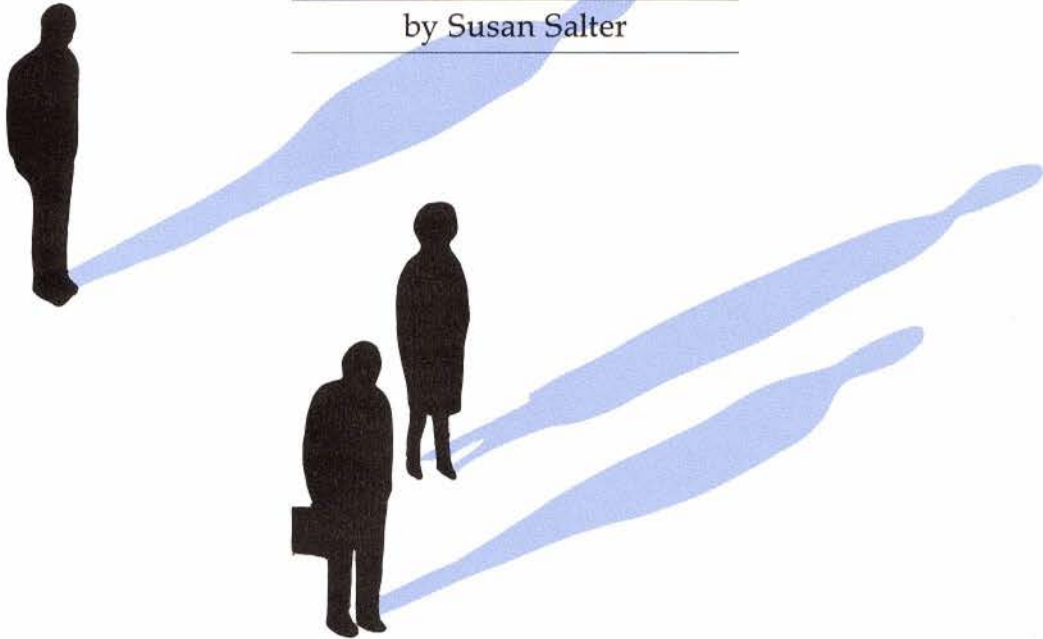
(1st in Division II)

1986, 7th

1987 tournament scheduled for April 23-28 at Mankato State University, Mankato, Minnesota.

# THE SHADOWS KNOW

by Susan Salter



Students in two new programs are discovering career options by shadowing Oakland alumni in interesting fields

**O**AKLAND UNIVERSITY'S arts and sciences students have a number of majors to choose among — English, psychology, political science, communications, to name a few — but one course that's never been offered is Real World 101. Some arts and sciences majors reach upper-class status or even graduate without knowing how to put their degrees to best use.

Johnetta Brazzell has been working to change that. The director of Oakland's Office of Placement and Career Services, Brazzell has launched two special programs designed to give arts and sciences students a clearer picture of the career opportunities awaiting them.

The first, Career Explorations, lets students talk with alumni in a variety of fields in order to help them focus their career interests. The second, Job Shadowing, gives students a realistic idea of what a particular job is like — day

in, day out — by allowing them to "shadow" an alum for up to one week. The programs were first offered during the 1986 winter semester, and Career Explorations has since been expanded to include students who are undecided about their majors.

Together the programs provide a tool to encourage more students to take advantage of the career preparation guidance offered through her office, said Brazzell, an arts and sciences major herself (history).

"We know that arts and sciences people tend to be very versatile and can go in many directions, but they often don't know what their choices are," she said. "Their sense of career purpose is not as clear as other students'. People who go into sociology, for example, often are not particularly sure why they are going into it or what their career possibilities are. We want to get across to students that the arts and sciences are not a dead end, but they do have to work harder at defining their career direction."

That challenge is compounded by the fact that many arts and sciences students either don't go to the placement office at all or go too late in their academic programs for the services to have much impact, Brazzell said. She was determined to help such students focus their career



"It was nice to be able to show the actual routine. Too many people get their only impressions of law enforcement from television shows."

— *Oliver Mathes ('74)*

get a chance to see what this person does and how they do it."

Alumni response to the call for help was very positive, Brazzell said. The more than 100 alumni volunteers represented a mixed bag of specialties, including cinematographers, art dealers, research technicians and law enforcement officers.

The fledgling program drew raves from students and alumni alike.

"For some alumni, participating was a way of feeling they were making a contribution to the university, other than a monetary one," Brazzell said. "Others said, 'I wish you had had this program when I was a student — it might have made a difference in my career direction.'"

For Marilyn Trumper-Samra ('80), talking with a student about her work at the *Port Huron Times-Herald*, where she was a copy editor, gave her a chance to reaffirm her commitment to journalism.

"It restored my enthusiasm for the business and was a shot in the arm," said Trumper-Samra, now a reporter for the *Ypsilanti Press*. "It reminded me of all the reasons I chose journalism as a career."

"I think students need programs like this," she said. "In the so-called 'glamour' jobs like reporting, people are idealistic; they come in with big ideas and aspirations. Then they find out that journalism isn't all glamour; it's not like 'Lou Grant' or 'Citizen Kane.' It's like any other job."

Another career with media-created misconceptions is law enforcement, which is partly why Oliver Mathes ('74) a patrol officer for the Pontiac Police Department, was so happy to have human resources development major Debbie Lieberman of Birmingham shadow him for a few days last spring.

Lieberman accompanied Mathes on some of his calls (non-hazardous calls, Mathes stresses) and observed arrest procedures at crime scenes. Mathes also provided lessons in interviewing complainants and suspects, as well as a general orientation to the daily goings-on at the police station. "It was nice to be able to show the actual routine of what we go through," he said. "Too many people get their only impressions of law

goals, recognize the opportunities available to them, understand what the jobs were really like, and get them talking with people in the field. She also wanted to encourage them to take advantage of placement office services. And so Career Explorations and Shadowing were born.

Brazzell recruited two interns, human resources development major Judy Johnson ('86) and graduate sociology student Felicia Bumpus ('84), to get the programs off the ground. They began by surveying hundreds of arts and sciences alumni on whether they would lend their time and talents to students looking for career guidance. At the same time, students were queried on their career focus.

The results of the students' questionnaire was pretty much as Brazzell had expected: "Their responses ranged all over the place. Some were pretty sure about what they wanted to do. Others named several totally different jobs. Still others had no idea whatsoever."

The responses helped Johnson and Bumpus identify students for each of the programs. Students who were clear about their job interests were channeled to the Shadowing program. Those who had a rough idea were targeted for Career Explorations.

As Brazzell explains: "Career Explorations was designed for students who had many areas of interest. Our idea was to identify an alum in a field the student was interested in and arrange a half-hour meeting between the two, so the student could find out more about that job. Students could do a lot of these interviews to try to narrow down their choices.

"Shadowing was intended for students with more focused goals. We placed them with an alum, or with one of the employers we work with if we couldn't locate an alum in that profession, for a one-week period during the spring or semester break. The student would work with the person, get a feeling for the job environment, and really



enforcement from television shows."

When Bob Cooper ('73) was attending Oakland, he didn't know his political science degree would eventually lead to a position as division manager at Michigan Bell. In recent months, Cooper has hosted a number of Career Exploration students; indeed, he is so involved with his alma mater that he is now Michigan Bell's corporate representative to Oakland.

Cooper says he's "absolutely in favor" of such get-together programs. "They are beneficial to both students and business people," he said. "Sometimes we get good ideas from students who ask questions about our operations." Most importantly, Cooper says, arts and sciences majors should try to get as much real world work experience as they can while in school.

Cooper, Mathes and Trumper-Samra share the wish that the programs had been around when they were in college. Similarly, students who were involved in the first Career Explorations and Shadowing programs consider themselves lucky to have had this learning opportunity.

Senior Diane Moore of Pontiac, a communications major, took the opportunity to interview a public relations executive and a state politician. "I'm seeing different ways I could use my education," she said.

Dennis Washington of Detroit, a senior English major and Honors College student, was impressed by the enthusiasm and expertise of his alumni contact, attorney Kathleen Walton ('82). "She was very supportive, down to earth and cordial," he said.

"The program gave me more insight and information than I could get from my classes. It can affirm your commitment or shed some light on what's possibly not for you — or expand your interests." Washington has long had his sights set on becoming an attorney, but the Shadowing experience prompted him to also consider earning a master's degree in public policy, he said.

"I wanted to help because I had a similar experience when I was at Oakland," Walton said. "I went to work with Chris Cynar ('72) for a whole summer, which had a lot to do with my decision to go to law school. So when I was

called for the shadowing program, I was thrilled to participate."

Walton keeps those contacts up in other ways, too. She is one of a number of Oakland alumni who attended Detroit College of Law who met occasionally to touch base and talk over professional issues. "I hope programs like Shadowing and Career Explorations will help create a network between Oakland alums pursuing the same career," she said.

The success of the programs was almost a bittersweet victory for Brazzell. The programs were put on hold this year due to a lack of funding and staff resources. The cost of administering the program ran about \$2,000 the first year, with most of the money going to pay the salaries of the interns who run the programs, Brazzell said. The Oakland University Alumni Association provided most of the funding needed. This year, after many requests and much searching, Brazzell obtained a \$10,000 grant to fund Career Explorations and expand the program to undecided students.

"We need to find a continuing funding source, and we are trying to find some individual or some organization to underwrite it in the future," Brazzell said. "Funding suggestions are welcome!"

She hopes to open the programs to students in other academic areas — from engineering to health services.

"We really would like to see the programs expand to all disciplines," she said. "No matter what the discipline, there are students who quite often don't know the options available to them. In some areas, like marketing, there are so many possibilities — it's just as murky as it is for arts and sciences majors.

"We strongly feel the more knowledge a student has, the better. All Oakland students can benefit from early exposure to professionals in the field."

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*Susan Salter ('83), an arts and sciences graduate (communications), is a writer/editor who lives in Southfield.*



"I wanted to help because I had a similar experience when I was at Oakland. It had a lot to do with my decision to go to law school."

— Kathleen Walton ('82)

# ON THE RESEARCH TRAIL

## Oakland investigators tackle knotty issues in their efforts to advance knowledge

*The search for knowledge is a never-ending challenge. Oakland University researchers confront that challenge daily and are steadily making new strides — in areas ranging from consumer health to life in nursing homes. This sampling of recent research projects brings into focus the efforts of a few investigators.*  
— ed.

### Study eases concern over unleaded gasoline vapors

Male rats who sniff unleaded gasoline vapors are known to suffer kidney damage. Should motorists who pump their own gasoline have a similar concern?

This question led to an unusual collaboration between the General Motors research labs and Oakland University Professor of Biological Sciences Arun K. Roy.

"The GM-Oakland research was pro-

moted by earlier studies done by the major oil companies and other investigators in this country and abroad," Roy said. "Those results showed that inhalation of unleaded gasoline vapors by male rats results in the accumulation of excessive protein droplets in the kidney. These droplets may lead to cell death and kidney damage."

The Environmental Protection Agency became concerned because more than 80 percent of the driving public uses self-service pumps. The agency was worried about the effect of gasoline vapors on humans.

The EPA's interest in the issue was growing, and the agency could have ordered oil companies to install vapor collection devices at the gasoline pump or auto companies to install on-board controls for recovery of gasoline vapors.

According to Roy, the major cause of the formation of the kidney droplets is a highly volatile hydrocarbon present in the gasoline and also in certain industrial solvents.

Roy explained that the major component of the droplets in the rat kidney is alpha 2u globulin, a rat urinary protein discovered by Roy and long used in his

studies of aging and other hormone-related disorders.

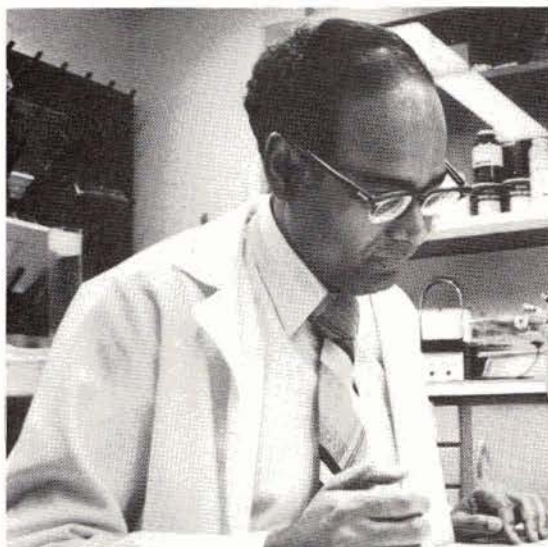
"General Motors was quick to respond to this public health issue and came to me for help," Roy said. The goal was to initiate an in-depth study to establish the mode of action of the gasoline on kidney function. Researchers at GM and Oakland are currently studying the kidney damage from the biochemical, molecular and cell biological aspects. They are looking also at age, sex and species differences in gasoline toxicity.

Results obtained over the last 12 months have shown no harm to humans and should ease concerns of the Environmental Protection Agency and the auto and oil industries, Roy stated. Experiments have consistently shown no cause for alarm for the human population. "Alpha 2u globulin is only found in rats and other rodents which show excessive proteinuria (protein in the urine)," Roy said. "It is not found in human subjects."

Roy says that when the studies are complete and the data analyzed, they will eliminate the concern for human health and avoid the need for costly alterations to the current generation of internal combustion engines.

### Project sheds light on effectiveness of physical therapy

"Obviously genetics has something to do with the way a person moves; however, most movement patterns are learned, not inherited," said Osa Jackson, associate professor of health sciences and chair of the department of kinesiological sciences. "We're interested in seeing movement patterns as subconscious actions. One of the things we plan to address in our current research project is



Professor Arun K. Roy



Associate Professor Osa Jackson



Associate Professor Ranald H.

the question of how to change these patterns in the easiest way."

Working with Kornelia Kulig, assistant professor of physical therapy, Jackson plans to measure the effectiveness of the Feldenkrais method, a type of physical therapy which she has seen effect great results among patients.

"We seem to get a much better response with Feldenkrais than with some of the traditional methods," Jackson noted.

"Clinically, we know it works. What we want to determine scientifically is why it works."

The researchers will use Ariel, a computer program and machine that measures the speed and smoothness of movement, to quantify speeds, distances and the evenness of movements.

"This way, we can provide controlled input and get the results of the change in movement pattern," Jackson said.

### Exploring how emotional stimuli affect actions

Ronald Hansen, associate professor of psychology, is studying involuntary facial movements that occur during the first few thousandths of a second following an emotional stimuli. His research, funded by the National Science Foundation, suggests that disguising your emotions is more complicated than it sounds.

"With the precise measuring techniques that have been developed," Hansen said, "analysis of these facial expressions could replace current forms of lie detection techniques."

Hansen also has developed a theory to explain why, when an audience is present, a subject's performance level increases while doing simple, well-practiced tasks but drops while doing complex or difficult tasks.

Hansen believes this phenomenon

stems from the interplay of conscious information processing, which requires paying attention to the task, and automatic processing, which does not.

"Performance level rises with simple tasks because the two information processing systems are working together," he said. "On the other hand, an audience distracts a person from the conscious processing required for a complex task so the performance level drops."

### Researcher studies secrets of hormone function

Over the years, scientists have learned that hormones are responsible for changes in growth, differentiation, reproduction and many physiological processes. But a question remains: How do hormones actually function?

"If we can learn how they work, we'll have a handle on controlling what they do," said Virinder K. Moudgil, associate professor of biological sciences.

In his laboratory, Moudgil and his team of researchers are studying the mechanism of steroid hormone action, especially in relation to progesterone, the hormone required for the initiation and maintenance of pregnancy. Changes in the levels of circulating progesterone also have been shown to be involved in the growth of breast and uterine cancers.

In one project, Moudgil is conducting basic research on RU-486, an experimental drug now being tested in Europe. The drug holds potential as a new method of birth control and/or as a chemical agent against breast cancer.

RU-486 binds to receptors in the cell and stops the action of progesterone. It doesn't oppose the actions of progesterone at the final stages; it simply blocks its actions at the outset. There appear to be few of the side-effects that occur with other drugs.

Moudgil's laboratory is one of the few in the United States to have an active program on the basic aspects of this revolutionary drug. He said basic research is necessary so that any possible negative reactions can be identified before it is considered for marketing to the public.

### Studying ways to improve nursing home environments

Improving the quality of life for America's growing elderly population is the main research effort of Anna B. Dugan, professor of nursing. She is doing exploratory research that focuses on improving nursing home environments. Her aim is to reduce the high incidence of mental disorders and emotional distress among elderly residents.

"There has been very little attention paid to the factors in a hospital that may be contributing to mental confusion and deterioration in the elderly population," said Dugan, whose background is in psychiatric nursing and anthropology.

Dugan hopes to use the data she collects to help design nursing home programs that would alleviate emotional stress.

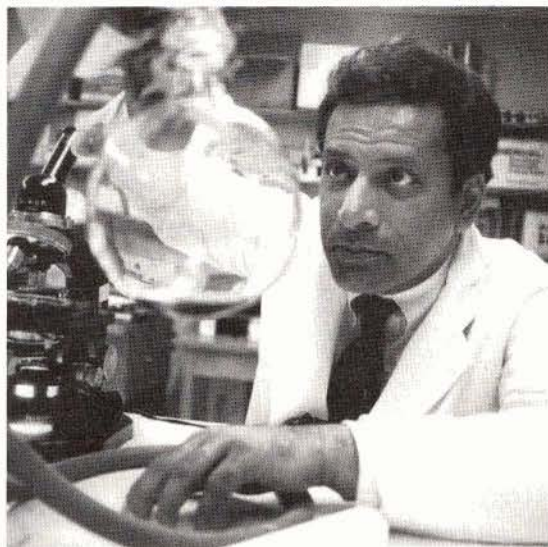
In another area, Dugan is researching what motivates people to change their lifestyles and habits in order to maintain or restore their health. Preliminary results of her study indicate that self-image and media scares are very strong motivators for people to change their behavior toward healthier lifestyles.

She also is investigating whether or not motivating factors differ according to income level, social class or ethnic group.

"The results of these studies will indicate the kind of health promotion programs we ought to design, making them relevant to each particular group," she said.



Hansen



Associate Professor Virinder K. Moudgil



Professor Anna B. Dugan

## ALUMNI

1964

**Paul A. Turk**, a veteran aerospace journalist, has been named director of publications for AVMARK, Inc., a Washington-based aviation and airline management consulting company. Turk also is president of the Aviation/Space Writers Association, the international professional association of journalists and communicators who deal with the aerospace industry.

1965

**Barrie Hirsch Lowy** was awarded a doctorate from the University of Michigan in August, 1986. The title of her dissertation was, "The Relationship of Female Body Image to Gender Role Identification."

1966

**Elsa Jakob** has retired from teaching and will be going to China in June on a tour of eight cities.

1967

**Merle Niemi Kindred** has been teaching college and high school for the past six years in Nassau, Bahamas, and was a college lecturer in Montego Bay, Jamaica, for two years. She recently returned to Port Huron, Michigan, and married Garfield F. Kindred, an architect.

1968

**Gail Bagale** works as a program manager for Family Service of Detroit and Wayne County in Dearborn, Michigan. She also writes the Family Living column for the *Dearborn Press and Guide/Leader* newspapers. As program manager, her greatest challenge is dealing with societal stressors — the economy, changing technology, drug and alcohol abuse — that affect families and contribute to family disruption. "We have to find ways to preserve the richness of human interaction," she says. "It begins with the family unit." Husband Ed Bagale '68 is director of admissions at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he also works in legislative relations.

**William LaFay** is owner and president of Karen's Carpets. The Flint-based company, which expects to do \$6 million this year in sales, is considered among the top three carpet retailers in the Flint-Saginaw area.

**Mary Robertson** has been appointed vice president in the executive banking department of Manufacturers National Bank.

1969

**Michael Dengate** has been appointed senior vice president of First of America Bank, Oakland Macomb, Pontiac, Michigan.

**James Stevens** has been named vice chairman of the board at Selton Associates, Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

**Judy Rosencrants Walter** has been named director of the writing center at Frostburg State College in western Maryland.

1971

**Judy Allen** has been appointed senior director of the Kelly Girl Division, branch operations staff, of Kelly Services.

**Diane F. Isenberg** is a counselor/educator with Lifeskills in North Andover, Maine, specializing in work-related difficulties, career choice and advancement, and professional effectiveness training.

**Nancy Pendergast**, a fifth-grade teacher at University Hills Elementary School in Rochester, Michigan, carried a school banner in the inaugural United National Children's Fund Earth Run in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, last December. The run commemorated UNICEF's 40th anniversary.

**Mark E. Williams** completed his Ph.D. in physics and will be awarded the degree from the University of Cincinnati. His dissertation topic was "An Empirical Study of Coded Aperture Imaging." He is married to Mary Beth Kemper.

1972

**Patricia Garvey** has been named national sales manager for the Westin Hotel in Detroit, Michigan. She will be responsible for obtaining convention business from associations in the Midwest and West.

**Rod Reinhart** is assistant pastor of St. Andrew's Memorial Episcopal Church in Detroit's Cass Corridor. Reinhart says he looked around the community, saw a lot of needy artists looking for a place to perform and proceeded to provide one. Since October, 1985, artists have been lining up at his improvised coffeehouse in the church rectory to sing, dance, read poetry, or otherwise perform for whoever shows up. "No alcohol, no dope, no craziness — but a happy place where creative artists and performers can be seen and have their work heard," says Reinhart. "This is a kind of ministry, too. It's a very free and accepting atmosphere."

**Randy J. and Cynthia Markiw Sutt** are residing in Duluth, Georgia. Randy is a senior lead engineer for the consulting firm Impell Corporation in Norcross. Cynthia is marketing her own art work and laying the groundwork to establish a graphic arts company. They have a three-year-old daughter, Amanda.

1973

**Thomas Carey** has been promoted to director of sales services at Plumb Shop, a Southfield-based division of Brass-Craft Manufacturing Co., which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Masco Corp.

**Harrison E. Miller, Jr.** is administrative assistant at Our Lady of the Lakes High School in Waterford Township, Michigan.

**Robert Morris**, director of industrial applications for Michigan Bell Telephone Co., has been named executive director of the Automotive Industry Action Group, based in Southfield, Michigan. He is on loan from Bell to this non-profit trade association, which works to increase productivity and effectiveness in the auto industry.

**Kent Regal** is employed at Siemens Medical Laboratories in Walnut Creek, California. He resides in Concord.

1974

**Dennis M. Au**, assistant director of the Monroe County Historical Commission, recently spoke at the symposium "War on the Great Lakes — Canada and the United States in the War of 1812," held at Monroe Community College. Au's address was entitled "The Civilians of the River Raisin: A Story of Survival in the War of 1812." Au is involved with exhibit designing and historical research at the Monroe County Historical Museum. He is also co-chairman of a symposium on "War on the Great Lakes."

**Ric Cameron**, has been named senior associate administrator at Henry Ford Hospital. He holds a master's degree in hospital administration from the University of Michigan.

**Gary Hawald** was recently promoted to sergeant of the Farmington Hills, Michigan Police Department. He has been an acting sergeant since April, 1986. Hawald, his wife, Nancy, and their two children live in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

**Donald Johnson** has been promoted to director of marketing planning and resources with Grand Trunk Western Railroad.

1975

**Sandra Burgess** has been elected to the board of directors of the Detroit chapter of Women in Communications, Inc. She is president-elect and a regional delegate. Burgess is a supervisor in the marketing communication section at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan.

**Steven M. Kaplan** is an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Macomb County (Michigan) Prosecutor's Office.

**Ronald D. Marks** has been appointed vice president of bank investments with Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit.

1976

**Bruce Brown** has been named president of the Michigan operations of United Development of Grand Rapids.

**Kevin E. Brown** received a Ph.D. in psychology in 1982. He is married with one child and is employed at Pine Rest Christian Hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he works with children and adolescents.

**Kevin Brown** has been promoted to a group head position at DDB Needham Worldwide in Troy, Michigan.

**Gene P. Cancelosa** has been named vice president of industrial relations by Reef-Baker Corporation of Mount Clemens, Michigan.

**Barbara Cicchelli**, a Waterford (Michigan) School District teacher, recently had her art work exhibited in the "Our Town Art Exhibition" sponsored by Carson Business Interiors, Inc., of Southfield. The exhibit benefited the Birmingham Community House. Cicchelli, also a noted potter and basket maker, has taught in Waterford for 17 years.

**William H. Horton** has become associated with the Detroit office of Fitzgerald, Hodgman, Cox, Cawthorne & McMahon, attorneys and counselors.

**David Lewsley**, manager of workers' compensation for Chrysler Corporation, has been elected vice chairman of the Michigan Self-Insurers' Association in Detroit.

**Jeanine Arend Lugo**, a U.S. Army finance officer, has been promoted to major. Previously chosen for the Army's civilian schooling program, she is currently attending Indiana University, where she expects to complete an M.B.A. degree in May, 1987.

**Michael Niederquell** has been named senior vice president of Anthony M. Franco, Inc., Detroit, and will assume management responsibilities for administration of the firm.

**Kirk M. Peters** was recently promoted to bulk manufacturing operations supervisor at Wyeth Laboratories, Inc. in Mason, Michigan. He and his wife, the former Pamela Putnam, have two children.

**David Rose** has been appointed an associate with the firm of Luckenback and Ziegelman and Partners, in Birmingham, Michigan.

**Dorothy Victory Wagner** has earned a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Michigan. Her dissertation is titled, "Selected Personality Characteristics and Situational Factors as Correlates of Completion and Non-Completion of the Doctoral Dissertation."

**Richard Walker** has been named general manager for AT&T College and University Systems in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was formerly a division manager with AT&T's Southfield, Michigan office.

## 1977

**Robert Dieters** is head baseball coach at Rochester High School in Rochester, Michigan. He teaches social studies at West Junior High School in Rochester.

**Patricia Mills**, manager of public relations for the Berline Group, Inc., a Birmingham, Michigan-based agency, has earned Public Relations Society of America accreditation.

**Jeffrey Poole** has been appointed general manager of Trappers Alley in Detroit and director of operations for Cordish Embry & Associates of Baltimore, Maryland.

**Mary Stewart** has been appointed divisional banking officer of Empire of America in Southfield, Michigan.

**Joseph Thomas** has been promoted to president of Creative Specialties Co. Inc., in Detroit.

## 1978

**Cynthia Brody** has been promoted to assistant legal officer at National Bank of Detroit. Brody is president of the Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate.

**Louise Churches** registered as a college freshman at Oakland Community College at age 59, eventually earning bachelor's and master's degrees at OU. Now 73, she is a contract services specialist for the Area Agency for the Aging in Southfield, Michigan.

**Nancy Ditzik** has been promoted to nursing administrative supervisor at William Beaumont Hospital, Troy, Michigan.

**Daniel Haag** has been appointed manager of Sealed Power Corporation in Muskegon, Michigan.

**Tony Hernandez** has been promoted to senior vice president/sales promotion and merchandising at Intergroup Marketing and Promotions, a subsidiary of D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles, Inc. in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

**Patrice Nolan** has been promoted to vice president, creative supervisor, of multi-clients group at Intergroup Marketing and Promotions, a subsidiary of D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles, Inc. in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

**David Templeton** has been promoted to manager, human resources, TRW Vehicle Safety Systems Division, Washington, D.C.

**Larry Voelpel** is mortgage originator vice president of Franklin Savings and Loan in Southfield, Michigan.

**Cynthia Winston** is an editorial assistant in the Oakland University Publications Department. She lives in Rochester, Michigan.

## 1979

**Elizabeth Bannister**, a teacher and former chairperson of the music department at Leelanau School of Glen Arbor, Michigan, performed with the Chicago Lyric Opera Center for American Artists at the Leelanau Center for Education. Her wide and varied music experience includes having been an accompanist for the Louisville Junior Chorus, music director for high school, university and community theater productions, president of Detroit Orff-Schulwerk Association, and clinician for Orff-Schulwerk teacher and student workshops. She is a member of Chamber Arts North.

**Susan Kluge** has been named director of financial services for Group Health Plan, a Troy, Michigan, health maintenance organization.

**Linda L. Shaw** is a student in the Master of Science in Public Administration (MSPA) program at Russell Sage College in Albany, New York.

**Beverly Smith** was appointed office manager at Hermanoff & Associates in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

**Gary Williams** has been appointed director of operations for MVP Communications, Inc.

## 1980

**Sharon Chalmers** has been appointed to head the substance abuse prevention and education program for Redford Union School District in Redford, Michigan. She is a social worker with Oakland Family Services and holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan.

**David Harris** has been named director of business planning for Rockwell International Corporation's Automotive Operations, based in Troy, Michigan.

**Debbie Jones** has joined the firm of DDB Needham Worldwide, Troy, Michigan, as a media supervisor of the Audi account.

**Paul Lee Marr** recently became a motivation specialist for Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

**Ken Schleicher** has been named director of the Macomb County Drug Abuse Treatment Clinic in Centerline, Michigan. Schleicher is active as a board member for the Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate.

**Elizabeth Vollbach** is an engineering writer with General Dynamics, Convair Division, in San Diego, California.

**Joyce Weiss**, is president of Choices Unlimited. A corporate workshop specialist, she designs and presents customer service, communications, management skills and stress management programs to corporations and organizations.

## 1981

**Mary Ann Boot**, a staff nurse at St. John Hospital in the neo-natal unit, was recently married to Dr. David Bryk.

**Carrie Conley Bryson** was promoted to systems analyst at Henry Ford Hospital in Troy, Michigan.

**Brenda J. Buckner** is founder and owner of Merry Pop-ins, matching child care workers with clients, and Party Pop-ins, children's party planners.

**Gary DeVar** and **Flora Ann McIntyre**, pantomimists, have formed the Silent Theatre Company in Chicago, Illinois. Their appreciation for this silent art form began at Oakland, where both studied with mime specialist Thomas Aston. DeVar's training has led to appearances at the White House, the Rose Bowl parade and the U.S. Open Tennis Tournament, and resulted in his recently being named the winner of the National Yoplait Mime Search. McIntyre has appeared with the Prince Street Players and currently appears at the Palmer House Gaslight Club in Chicago.

**Theresa A. Hipchen** and her husband announce the birth of their daughter, Stephanie Anne, on November 24, 1986.

**Mark Kochis** has been elected to the board of the Detroit Producers Association and will

serve as program chair for 1987. Kochis is vice president of Moon-Kochis Productions, a film and video production company in Farmington Hills. He is a board member of the Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate.

**Dr. Michael Murphy** is in dental practice with Dr. Dallas Avery of Almont, Michigan.

**Elizabeth Roach** is the marketing and public relations director at the Premier Center, Sterling Heights, Michigan. She has assisted Mitzi Gaynor, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Patti LaBelle and other entertainers who have performed at the nightclub.

**Patricia Sweeney** has been appointed public relations coordinator for Saratoga Community Hospital in Detroit.

## 1982

**Richard Barnes** has been named chief operating officer of ABOW Companies, Troy, Michigan.

**Michael Buck** has been appointed special projects manager for Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

**Collette Dywausuk** has been named manager of marketing communications for the Americas-Communications group of Vickers Corporation in Troy, Michigan.

**Al Sebastian** is an account assistant at PR Associates in Detroit.

**Edward Talaski** is employed by Pratt/Whitney and resides in Manchester, Connecticut.

**Michael Weber** has been named manager of Foland's in Rochester, Michigan.

**Michael Young** has been elected senior vice president of Advanced Computer Management Corporation, a Troy, Michigan computer services firm.

## 1983

**Rev. James E. Britt** and Linda Drahn were married December 27, 1986, exchanging vows at Central Methodist Church in Owosso, Michigan, where he serves as pastor.

**Margi Plant Davis** is a financial analyst at Lockheed-California Company. She was recently married to Brad Davis.

**Gretchen Gozzard** is teaching kindergarten half-time at Washington Elementary School in Washington, Michigan.

**Michael D. Matelske** is a professional and technical staff recruiter for the military electronic systems operation of General Electric in Syracuse, New York. He earned a Master of Science degree in labor and industrial relations at Michigan State University.

**Anne C. Priemer** is employed by Medical Care, Inc. of Rochester, Michigan. She received a Master of Arts degree in rehabilitation counseling from Michigan State University.

**Michael Stafford** was named director of marketing by *Detroit Monthly* magazine. He had been publisher of *Dallas-Fort Worth Living* and *San Antonio Living* magazines.

## 1984

**Theresa M. Beaver** has joined the firm of Real Estate One as home-finding coordinator for metropolitan Detroit, with responsibility for counseling transferees on the Detroit market and acting as a liaison between the transferee, the referral source and Real Estate One's relocation specialists.

**Thomas Cirtin** has published an edition of *Sonata in G Major, RV 59*, by Antonio Vivaldi with Schott Publishers, a prestigious international music publisher. Cirtin and Oakland student Daniel Jencka perform under the name Flauto e Basso.

**Joyce Palmquist** is a member adviser for AAA in Dearborn, Michigan. She completed a Master of Science degree in administration at Central Michigan University.

**Carolyn Peters** has been appointed vice president and associate broker with Birmingham Bloomfield Investments, Inc., in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

## 1985

**Judy Campbell** has been promoted to classified outside sales supervisor of the *Detroit News*. She had been a classified representative since joining the *News* in 1978. She received the *News'* Classified Salesperson of the Year Award for 1985.

**William Clark** was named senior vice president of operations with Gale Research Company, Detroit.

**Robert Harris** is a sales consultant for microcomputers with Midwest Business Systems in Ohio.

**Mary McDowell** attended Phi Sigma Sigma sorority's national Leadership Training School (LTS) in New Jersey last August. McDowell is Phi Sigma Sigma's adviser to the sorority's University of Windsor (Ontario) chapter.

**Robert Pyles** teaches eighth-grade math at Lessenger Middle School in Detroit. Pyles was selected by the *Detroit Free Press* to contribute occasional reports in "Detroit Plus."

**Joy A. Spence** teaches fifth grade in Garland, Texas. She directed the play, *Treasure Island* and acted in a video for Child Evangelism Fellowship.

**Kevin L. Wirtanen** has completed one station unit training at U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

## 1986

**Patricia Blenkle** has joined Lawrence Institute of Technology, where she is an associate in information services for LIT's College Relations and Alumni Services. She also served as assistant press secretary for the 1986 gubernatorial campaign of Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy.

**Geri Graham** began a new job in January as personnel administrator for Pica Systems, Inc., an information processing company in Oak Park, Michigan.

**Gildana Hegyan** has been elected president of the Gold Club, an alumni organization for members of the Golden Key National Honor Society.

**Laurie Keister** is employed as a physical therapist at Herrick Hospital, Tecumseh, Michigan. Her clinical emphasis during her education was orthopedics and geriatric patients. Her article, "Heat Illness and First Aid Detection and Prevention" appeared in *Commercial Advantage* magazine.

**David K. Vogler** is a product analyst with the marketing and sales staff of Detroit Diesel Allison Division of General Motors.

## In memoriam

**Doris Dressler** ('81), who helped found the Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate of the Oakland University Alumni Association, died in December. Dressler, who had continued to serve on the affiliate's board of directors, was an English major and a tireless supporter of Oakland, recalled Joan B. Stinson ('63), director of Alumni Relations and assistant director of development. "Doris received an award at commencement and immediately came over to the alumni office to contribute it to the Annual Fund," Stinson said. "That was her first act as an alumna, and it was characteristic of Doris." In her memory, Dressler's husband, John, and her daughter, Diane, have established an endowed scholarship fund for English majors. The first Doris Dressler Memorial Scholarship will be awarded next year.

## FACULTY/STAFF

**Sheldon Appleton**, professor of political science and associate dean for advising of the College of Arts and Sciences, is the author of "Public Perceptions of Truman," a chapter in the newly published *Harry S. Truman: The Man from Independence*, edited by William Levantrosser.

**Donald L. Bemis**, a member of the Oakland University Board of Trustees, has received a School Administrator Award from the Alliance for Arts Education. Bemis, superintendent of Utica Community Schools, was one of 13 superintendents in the nation to receive the award and the only Michigan educator.

**Frank Cardimen**, director of the Center for Economic Development and Corporate Services, has been elected chairperson of the Southeastern Board of Directors of the Michigan Technology Council.

**Carlo Coppola**, director of the Center for International Programs, has become a food writer for the *Observer & Eccentric* newspapers.

**Lyle Nordstrom**, professor of music, presented "Four Decades of 'Lessons for Consort,' a Study in Style" at the International Lute Symposium in Utrecht, Holland.

**Satish K. Walia**, associate professor of biological sciences, has been invited to serve on the Environmental Biology Peer Review Panel of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## In memoriam

Alice C. Gorlin, professor of economics, died March 21. Gorlin came to Oakland in 1972 and quickly distinguished herself as a scholar of the Soviet economy, particularly industrialization in the USSR. She had studied in the Soviet Union on an American Council of Learned Societies fellowship, revised the section about Soviet industry for *World Book Encyclopedia*, and was widely published. She was also an active participant in the academic governance of the university.

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Members who have joined the President's Club of the Oakland University Foundation since the last printing of OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE:

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The OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE keeps you informed about — and in touch with — Oakland University and its many programs, alumni and friends. Please use the space provided to send us news (appointments, promotions, honors, marriages, children and other activities) about yourself or your Oakland University friends. Moving? Send us your new address right away. Let's keep "in touch"!

Parents — we know that you also enjoy reading the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE, your source of university and alumni news. Feel free to use the space provided to pass along pertinent information about your children.

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Mail to: Office of Alumni Relations, 104 North Foundation Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan 48063.

News and information (be sure to include your year of graduation and maiden name, if applicable):

# Calendar

## May

- 1** *Go Back for Murder*, through May 17, Meadow Brook Theatre.
- 4** Spring classes begin.
- 8** School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate Stroh Night
- 29** Center for the Arts: Lafayette String Quartet, 8 p.m., Varner Recital Hall.

**Complete schedules and ticket information are available from:**

Athletic Department, 370-3190  
Center for the Arts box office, 370-3013  
Campus Information, Programs and Organizations (CIPO), 370-2020  
Meadow Brook Music Festival box office, 370-2010  
Meadow Brook Theatre box office, 377-3300  
Office of Alumni Relations, 370-2158



Office of Alumni Relations

Rochester, MI 48063

## June

- 1** Gehringer-Kaline/Meadow Golf Classic, through June 2, Katke-Cousins Golf Course.
- 7** Spring Commencement.
- 12** Center for the Arts: *Opera Trilogy (Two Fantasies and a Farce)* by Stanley Hollingsworth, through June 14, Meadow Brook Theatre.  
Children's Performances: *Harrison Loved His Umbrella* and *The Selfish Giant*, through June 14, Meadow Brook Theatre.  
Oakland University Alumni Association: Alumni Laugh-In, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle. Buffet, 6:30 p.m.; show, 8:30 p.m.
- 16** Meadow Brook Music Festival opens.
- 18** Continuum Center: "Your Career, My Career and Us," 7-10 p.m., Oakland Center, \$30. Call 370-3033.
- 22** Spring classes end.
- 30** Summer classes begin.

## July

- 1** Summer Tea Room opens for luncheon, Monday through Friday, through August, Meadow Brook Hall. Hall opens to daily tours.
- 6** Classes in the Arts for Talented Young People, through July 31. Sponsored by the Center for the Arts and the Academy for the Gifted and Talented of Michigan. Courses in creative writing, mime, modern and jazz dance, music and music theatre, visual arts.
- 18** Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Sir Neville Marriner conducting, through July 19, Meadow Brook Music Festival.
- 20** 12th Annual Alumni Golf Outing, Katke-Cousins Golf Course
- 21** Mikhail Baryshnikov and Friends, through July 22, Meadow Brook Music Festival.
- 31** Barn Theatre Performing Arts Group Alumni Reunion; write Class Reunions, P.O. Box 1171, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046, or call (313) 469-1410.

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