

Spring 1992

# KLAND UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE

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JAIL HOUSE KNOCK  
WHO ARE YOU?  
SURVEY RESULTS

10TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



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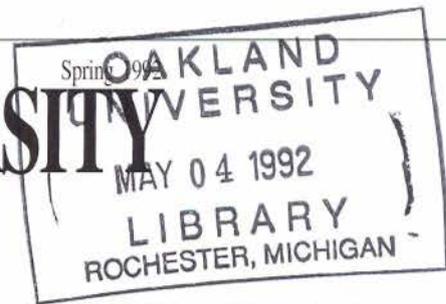
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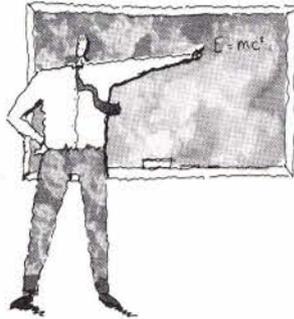
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# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

## MAGAZINE



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## EDITOR'S CHOICE

# 10

10 Years and 40 Issues Later

With the publication of this issue, the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE staff celebrates 10 years of sharing university news and alumni and faculty accomplishments with our readers.

Forty times we have communicated with you since the spring of 1982, and according to our recent readership survey (see highlights, pages 10-11), you're listening. Eighty-six percent of you keep up to date on Oakland through the magazine and more than 55% of you take 30 minutes or more to read each issue — impressive numbers for any periodical.

We recognize this decade of publishing by catching up with six of the more interesting people we have featured over the past 40 issues. "Through the Years" starts on page 6.

While 10 years may not seem like a long time in the life of many institutions of higher learning, to Oakland it represents almost a third of our history. Consider:

- ▼ Enrollment has increased from 11,644 to 12,530. The increases are higher among female students (12%) than males (1%) and graduate students (23%) than undergrads (4%). Today's numbers: 8,021 females, 4,509 males; 10,016 undergrads, 2,514 grads.
- ▼ The university's total annual operating budget has increased from \$49.7 million to \$93.5 million.
- ▼ The average undergraduate tuition for 12 credit hours has increased from \$456 (\$38 per credit) to \$840 (\$70 per credit).

▼ 21,755 degrees (16,337 undergraduate, 5,418 graduate) were conferred during the 10-year span, about half the total Oakland has awarded.

▼ The President's Club, Oakland's primary community support group, has seen its membership triple from 400 to 1,220.

▼ Perhaps the biggest changes have come in the turnover of faculty, staff and administrators. All the schools and the College of Arts and Sciences have new deans and, beginning in June, Oakland will have a new president (see opposite page).

Let's not overlook the fact that the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE staff has undergone nearly a complete facelift since that first 12-page issue in spring 1982. Only one current employee, typesetter Robert Shoemaker, was on staff then, and he is retiring this July.

We hope we're still here and you're still reading the magazine when it turns 25 in 2007, which, coincidentally, will be the 50th anniversary of Matilda and Alfred Wilson's gifts to establish the university in 1957.



Editor

## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY Spring 1992 MAGAZINE

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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE is published quarterly in January, April, July and October by Oakland University, with support from the Oakland University Alumni Association and The President's Club of the Oakland University Foundation. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. ISSN: 1054-6480

Editorial, advertising and publishing offices are located at 109 North Foundation Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309-4401. (313) 370-3184.

Oakland University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution.

Sandra Packard of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga has been named the new president of Oakland University by the university's Board of Trustees.

Packard, 49, is provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and professor of curriculum at UT-C, a position she has held since 1985. She accepted the chief executive spot at Oakland in March after a nationwide search by the board, and plans to assume her new duties by mid-June.

The fourth president of Oakland University, and the first woman, Packard says she is looking forward to helping the university increase revenue and "educate students for the 21st century."

"Oakland University is truly an outstanding university, and I'm looking forward to keeping some traditions and making new ones."

At UT-C Packard is respon-



## PACKARD NAMED PRESIDENT

sible for an annual budget of \$27 million. She initiated and raised funds to establish a \$3.5 million center for arts education. She co-raised funds for and established nine \$1 million endowed faculty chairs of excellence and established the College of Health and Human Services and the School of Social and Community Services. Under her direction, black faculty employment rose more than 100 percent.

Packard, a native of Buffalo, New York, received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Syracuse University and master's and doctoral degrees in art edu-

cation from Indiana University. She previously worked at Bowling Green State University and the University of Miami.

Packard said she and her husband, Martin, a clinical psychologist, plan to move into Sunset Terrace, the on-campus former retirement residence of Matilda and

Alfred Wilson. The Packards have two college-age daughters.

Packard replaces Joseph E. Champagne, president of Oakland University for 10 years, who resigned last August. John De Carlo, vice president for governmental affairs, general counsel and secretary to Oakland's Board of Trustees, was named interim president last June.

Other leaders have included Durward B. "Woody" Varner (chancellor, 1959-70) and Donald O'Dowd (president, 1970-79). George Matthews served as interim president between O'Dowd and Champagne.

## "FORWARD EVER... BACKWARDS NEVER"

Although different in style and presentation, rap music star KRS-1, and William H. Gray III, president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund, carried messages of unity and healing in lectures at Oakland University as part of the campus' Black Awareness Month activities in February.

Once homeless and a welfare recipient, KRS-1 has started a movement he calls H.E.A.L.: *Human Education Against Lies*. He spoke out against ignorance and racial hatred with a motto of: "Forward

Ever ... Backwards Never.

"America has labeled itself a group of colors — Red, Black, White and Yellow," he told a group of about 200. "But before we are any of these things, we are human beings. Don't have human rights without human duties and don't call yourself a human being when you are doing nothing for humanity."

Gray spoke about a coming

demographic revolution in the United States.

"Whether it likes it or not, America is engaged in a demographic revolution which will transform it into the most pluralistic, diverse society the world has ever known,"

Gray said. "Diversity is going to happen folks, it isn't an intellectual discussion."

— Alicia Cunningham-Sampson



KRS-1

▼ Joann Richards has been named interim dean of the School of Nursing. She replaces Penny Cass, who left OU at the end of the fall semester to become dean of nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

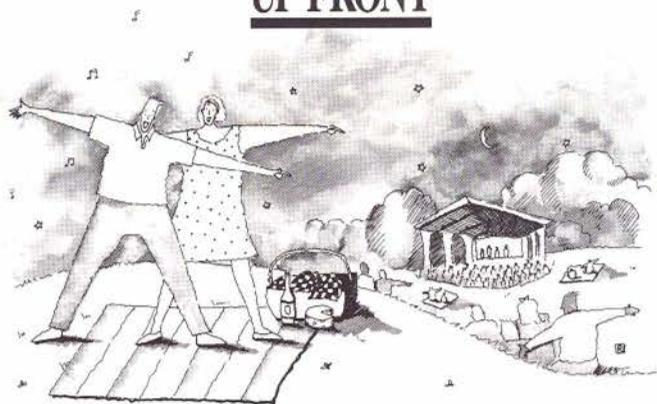
▼ The 1991-92 season of Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre concludes with the Fats Waller musical *Ain't Misbehavin'*, April 23 through May 17. For ticket information contact the theatre box office at (313) 370-3300.

▼ David Rodwell, vice president for development and alumni affairs and member of the OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE Advisory Board, announced his retirement from the university effective February 28, 1992. In his role at Oakland, Rodwell had been responsible for coordinating all donor programs and overseeing the alumni relations efforts. He had a direct hand in raising more than \$27 million in private gifts.

▼ Wanted: Oakland graduates in a sentimental mood for participation in 1992 Alumni Reunion, October 3, 1992. Planning committee needs creative, enthusiastic volunteers for publicity, arrangements, communications, decorations entertainment and more. To offer your time and talents, or for more information contact the Alumni Relations office at (313) 370-2158.

▼ More than a dozen executives from leading area businesses are helping Oakland students see how business theory is put into practice. The "Dimensions of Quality" Executive-on-Campus Program brings business leaders to campus for brief talks with classes in the School of Business Administration. Executives from GM, Kmart, Fidelity Bank and Data Systems Network Corp. are just a few who are sharing "real world" experiences.

## UP FRONT



### A NEW LEASE ON LIFE

The hills surrounding Oakland University will be alive with the sound of music again this summer.

Oakland University's Board of Trustees has approved a multi-year agreement with Olympia Arenas, Inc. and Brass Ring Productions, to operate Oakland's Meadow Brook Music Festival — with responsibilities extending to all pro-

gramming, marketing, public relations, group sales, parking and concessions.

The university will be guaranteed at least \$200,000 a year or six percent of all gross ticket sales annually — whichever is greater — under terms of the three-year contract, which carries an additional five-year option. The funds will help pay off

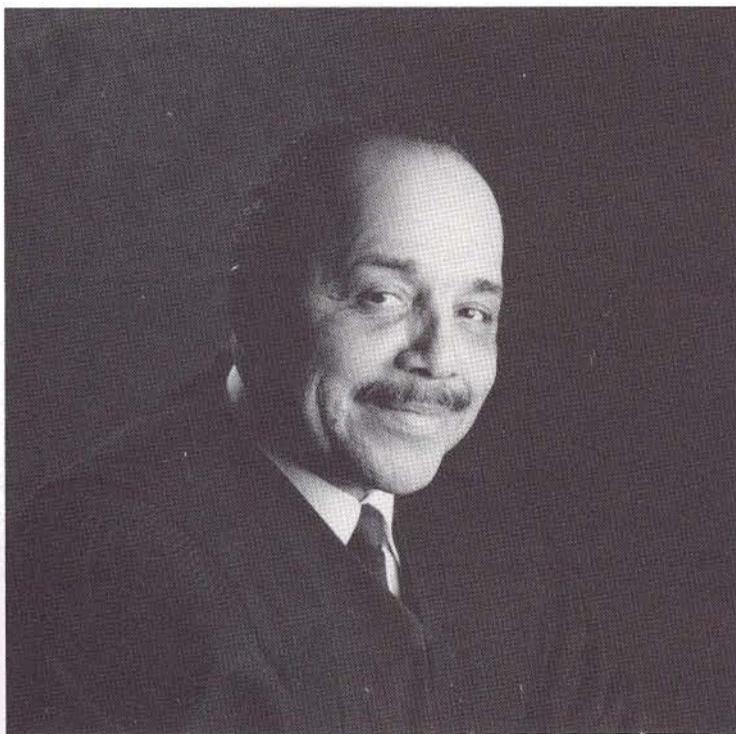
a \$1.2 million debt the university has incurred in operating the festival over the years.

Olympia Arenas, Inc. and Brass Ring Productions book shows at Detroit's Fox Theatre, Joe Louis Arena and Cobo Hall. Olympia and Brass Ring, part of a group headed by Little Caesars pizza chain owner Mike Ilitch, also plan improve-

ments of Meadow Brook's parking lots, sidewalks and the concession area — adding pizza and other food stands.

The new managers were also granted permission to apply for a Class C liquor license. If approved by the state Liquor Control Commission, the license would allow beer, wine and liquor to be served — although how and when it would be sold is still under negotiation.

## FOCUS



### William F. Bledsoe

President's Club member since 1982

**Marital Status:** Married, two children. Wife is Wilma Ray-Bledsoe, Oakland's vice president for student affairs.

**Home:** Highland Park, Michigan

**Age:** 62

**Current Profession:** Judge, 30th Judicial District Court in Highland Park, since 1985.

**On Being a Judge:** "It's an *awesome* responsibility ... and an honor. It takes a certain temperament to serve on the bench and I learn more about myself each day."

**Any Heroes?** "I guess I never really thought about that. I know one thing, though. A lot of what I say and do seems a lot like the way my father acted when he was my age. He had a tremendous amount of influence on me."

**Last Book Read?** "*The Chain Reaction*. It's a book about politics, race and taxes in America. It's a great book. I couldn't put it down."

**On Oakland University:** "Oakland has always had an atmosphere of intimacy — where human exchange and gentleness is encouraged — where people respect one another and the world around them."

**How important is education for inner-city youth?** "My grandmother used to say she didn't want to see us end up riding on the hind end of a mule — meaning you better get an education if you want to make something of yourself. I've never forgotten that. An education is important for everyone — not just kids of color."

## SPORTS

### TITLE WAVES

For the third straight year, Oakland's women's swimming and diving team took the NCAA Division II national championship, setting a point-total record in the process. Oakland scored 621.5 points and Northern Michigan trailed with 475 at the national meet in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Oakland dominated the tournament from start to finish for the second straight year. The Pioneers and Cal State-Northridge are the only women's teams to win three consecutive titles.

"We had so many questions and problems this year," said OU's Tracy Huth, who for the second year was named Coach of the Year. "We split the dual meets with Northern Michigan and lost to them in the GLIAC conference meet. People were asking us what was wrong.

"But our women believed in what we were doing. We just went out and controlled the meet."

Sophomore Amy Comerford was OU's top performer. Named Swimmer of the Year, she won the national championship in the 100-yard back stroke in a Division II record time of 55.49 seconds, was second in the 200 backstroke and third in the 100 butterfly and the 200 individual medley. She was also a part of the championship 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay units.

Oakland's other individual champion was sophomore diver Ingrid Bartnik. She won her



**The dry look:** Pioneer swimming standouts (from left) Amy Comerford, Ingrid Bartnik, Coach Tracy Huth, Diving Coach Nikki Kelsey, Lynn Schermer. Schermer, a senior, ended her career with 28 All-America honors and 7 national championships.

crown on the three-meter board and was second on the one-meter.

The women also won a national title in the 400 freestyle relay.

The men's team missed out on its sixth consecutive second-place finish by just half a point, trailing Clarion with 480.5 points. California State-Bakersfield, however, won its seventh straight title by scoring 910 points.

Five Pioneer men won individual national titles. They also won titles in the 200 freestyle and 200 and 400 medley relays. The men have placed in the top three nationally 14 times in the past 15 years.

On the basketball court, both the women's and men's teams participated in the GLIAC tournaments by tying for second and fourth respectively during the regular season.

▼ The women finished 12-4 in the league, 21-8 overall and fourth in the conference tournament, won by Northern Michigan. The 21-win finish marks the sixth straight year the Pioneers have won 20 or more games under Coach Bob Taylor.

▼ The men finished 8-8 in the league, 16-13 overall, and beat Saginaw Valley, 72-71, in the consolation game of the GLIAC tournament for third place. Grand Valley won the tournament and the automatic bid to the NCAA Division II tournament. OU has had 6 straight winning seasons under Coach Greg Kampe.

▼ Major individual honors went to Jennifer Golen, named First Team All-GLIAC and First Team Academic All-GLIAC; Stacy Lamphere, First Team All-GLIAC; and Eric Taylor, First Team All-Region and First Team All-GLIAC (for the third straight year).

## BRIEFLY

▼ Mark June 6-7 on your calendar if you want to get the real dirt on the gardens at Meadow Brook Hall. The hall and the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association are presenting the first Meadow Brook Landscape and Garden Show. The show will inaugurate the ongoing restoration of the grounds.

▼ The School of Business Administration has started a program that involves both students and SBA alumni. The mentoring program enables students interested in particular careers to meet with volunteer alumni who serve as role models, friends and resource persons. Additional information is available from the Office of Alumni Relations, (313) 370-2158.

▼ The Fall Telefund '91 contributed \$196,428, a seven percent increase over 1990 pledges. More than 4,100 alumni supported the annual fund raiser — with an average gift of \$47. Challenges from the Oakland University Foundation also helped spur alumni to make pledges — with matching dollars designated for Kresge Library.

▼ Nominations are now being accepted for the 1992 Distinguished Alumni Service Award. The annual award is presented to graduates of Oakland who have demonstrated exceptional service to the university, their profession or their community. Nomination letters must be received by the Office of Alumni Relations by June 5, 1992.

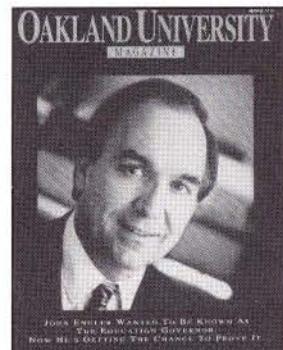
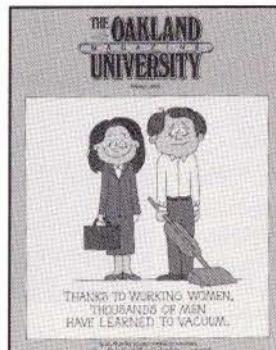
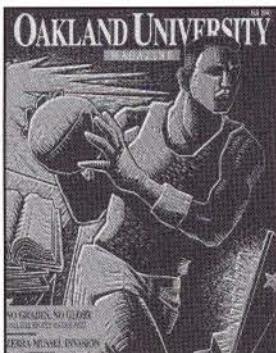
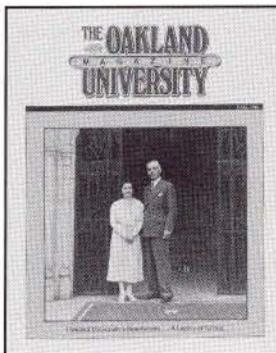
▼ "Justiceville," a documentary on America's homeless, produced and directed by alum Gary Glaser ('74), will air in the Detroit area on Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 56 WTVS in Detroit. And look for a feature story on the award-winning filmmaker in an upcoming issue of this magazine.

Oakland University  
Magazine

# Through the Years

To honor its first decade, OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE catches up with some of the people you've read about on these pages during the past 10 years — successful alumni, dedicated faculty and generous members of the President's Club — to underscore the impact Oakland is making on the world around us.

By Duffy Ross



Summer '90

## G.I. Joan

Was America ready for women killing in the heat of battle? Opening the combat ranks to women serving in the U.S. armed forces fueled a debate bordering on trench warfare.

In the summer of 1990, OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE featured a story on women in combat — focusing on four Oakland alumni who were either serving, or had served, in the U.S. military.

One of them, Captain Shaila Simmons ('77), a U.S. Marine stationed at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina, was scheduled to leave for Saudi Arabia a week after the launch of *Desert Storm* as part of a battle assessment team. But a leg injury suffered when her jeep collided on the base with a five-ton military truck sidelined her for the duration of the war.

Before the war, Simmons disagreed with having women serve on the front lines, and after watching the action on the evening news, her conviction is even stronger:

*"I'm writing a research paper for the Marines that will emphasize the fact that women just do not have the same brute strength as men when it comes to front-line duty — thus, women should serve in support roles. That shouldn't be considered a negative for women. Desert Storm taught us that quick, mobile, agile forces are preferred on the front-lines — roles that are better served by men."*



Winter '89

## Current Events

You won't find the story of electromagnetic fields on the front pages...yet. But scientific explanations of their effects are now surfacing.

For more than 20 years, Abraham R. Liboff's research has focused on possible long-term health risks to humans.

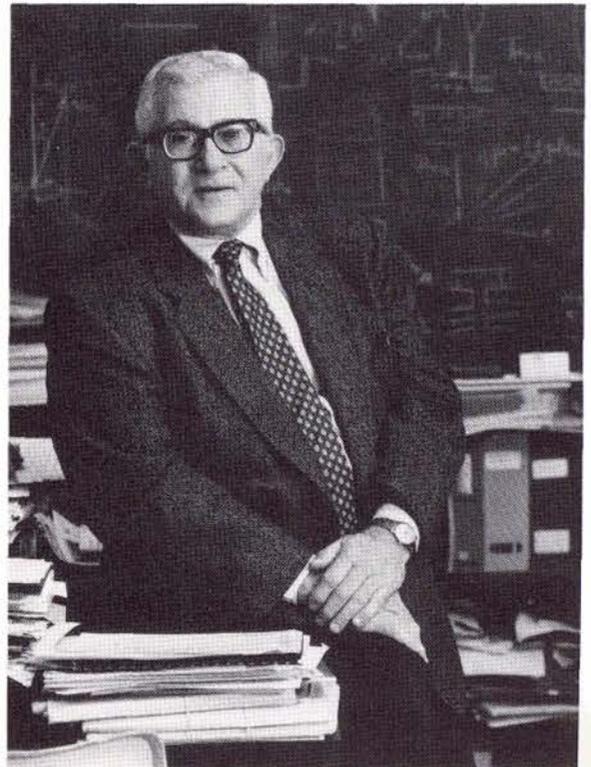
Until now.

Liboff, professor of physics at Oakland University, has studied the link between electromagnetic fields, which are generated by power lines and other electrical equipment, and changes in body cells. His research convinces him that there is a connection to diseases, including childhood leukemia.

Today, Liboff's research is "branching" out to study the effects these fields have on beanstalks. His findings reveal that certain species of beans exposed to carefully calculated electromagnetic fields sprout roots as much as 22 percent larger than those of unexposed beans — producing bumper crops of plants more resistant to drought.

His report:

*"This is another confirmation that the activities of plant and human cells can be influenced by electromagnetic fields. We may have developed a way to grow plants in many areas where crops are at risk — or grow crops that have greatly increased yields. And it's nice to be doing some research of a positive nature for a change."*



Winter '85

## The Barbara in the Dale

Greeting card entrepreneur  
contemporizes humor — and has  
fun doing it.

The idea was born over a bottle of wine and a candle-lit dinner in the Florida Keys.

Barbara Dale ('73) had proposed an idea of a great greeting card for new mothers to her husband, Jim. He transferred the idea to words and polished it up and before too long, his lines and her drawings were selling at the local stationery store in Birmingham, Michigan.

Eventually, with a \$200 investment, the Dales plunged full time into the greeting card business. Today, Dale Cards are distributed in more than 20,000 retail outlets. Recently, Barbara developed a comic strip for national syndication — which closely paralleled the Dales' lives — but dropped it after a year.

*"I hated producing that comic strip more than anything I've ever done in my life. I never knew how many conservative newspaper editors there were in America until we started this. We even had to pull a strip that showed a baby sitting on a toilet. I longed to get back to doing something silly — greeting cards allow me to do that. Now the fun is back."*



Summer '85

## Faith on Trial

For 25 years, Max Rice has followed his conscience. It led him from the '60s protest movement to a commune to work with political refugees. In 1989, his conscience led him to prison.

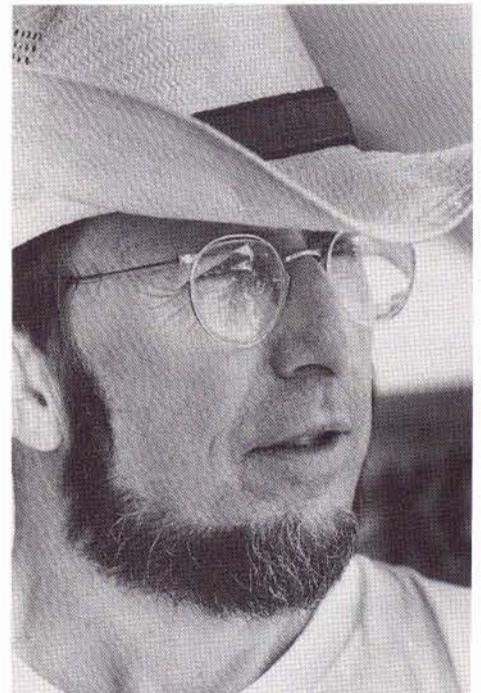
Maxim R. Rice ('64), a partner in a northeastern Georgia commune dedicated to Christian service, found himself in scorching water in 1989 with the Internal Revenue Service for "resisting war tax."

His refusal to pay income tax cost him 40 days in jail. Since then, the IRS has written a letter saying they would drop all charges without prejudice and he doesn't expect the IRS to ever come knocking again.

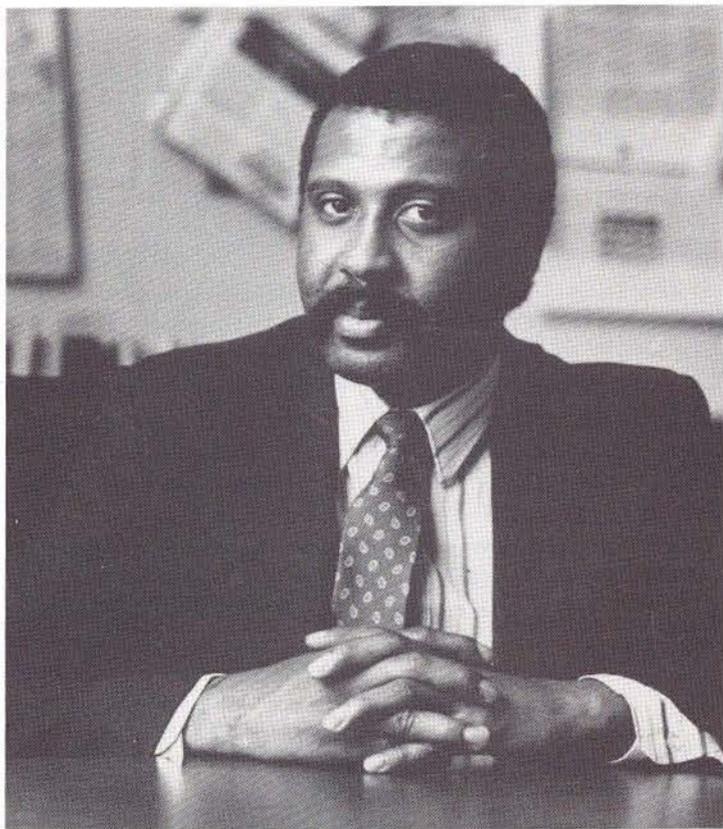
Rice and his 15 communal *Jubilee Partners* continue to work with Central American, Armenian, Asian and Afghan refugees who flee their homes for political reasons — by locating new, safe homes in Canada. He is also involved in political struggles and protests in America — most recently the push to lower America's huge military budget and expanding social programs.

Is there growing support in America for Rice's alternative lifestyle?

*"I wouldn't say there is a groundswell of support for communal life. We believe you should leave the world with what you came with — that's difficult for most of us. My family has zero assets ... no car, no savings account, no nothing. But it's a very rewarding lifestyle. We feel rich."*



Winter '90



## The Equalizer

On one side there's the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazis. On the other, there is Curtis Davenport, who confronts prejudice head on.

Curtis Davenport ('79), executive director of the Interfaith Center in Warren, Michigan — home to an amalgamation of denominations — realizes the fight against hate isn't easy. He is out in the battlefields everyday.

His job means smoothing over a racially motivated incident with the principal of a Macomb County high school; scheduling fund raisers to send students on a "Freedom Tour" through the heart of the Old South; and beefing up local libraries with civil rights historical material.

Davenport sees something unsettling in the recent uprise in hate groups in the United States. Could it be the still, quiet, calm before the storm? Could it be the shameful ability of man to look the other way, as history has shown?

*"There are some scary people alive and well today. They may be a little more quiet, but they still control some level of power — and they're very dangerous. There are prejudiced people everywhere. But I know they can't win. God's love is greater than man's ability to hate."*

Summer '89

## Molding his Future

With pails of plastic, entrepreneur Ilija Letica has made his mark on the world of shipping containers.

There's a good chance you've seen — or will see — the name *Letica* on the bottom of your yogurt, cottage cheese or sour cream carton. And if you work in industry, your paint or chemicals have probably been shipped in a Letica container as well.

In the world of high-density polyethylene, Ilija Letica, a member of Oakland University's President's Club and Meadow Brook Hall Pegasus Society, has made it big time.

Letica is president and founder of Rochester, Michigan, based Letica Corporation, the largest plastic shipping container company in the United States. Today, Letica employs some 1,300 — exporting plastic packaging goods as far away as Mexico, Hong Kong and Japan.

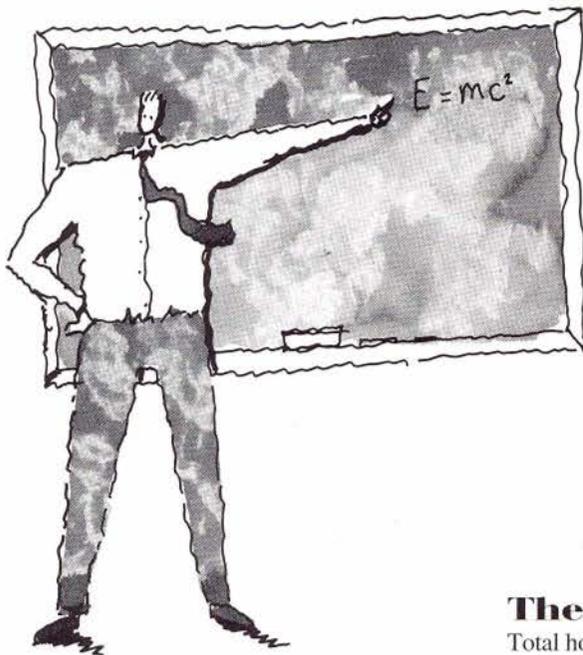
When asked about the recent trend of "bashing" foreign competitors and what the future holds for American business and industry, Letica responded:

*"America is going about this the wrong way. We're flying around like a bunch of geese but nobody is taking any action. We were the entrepreneurs of the world long before anyone else. We need to channel all this hostile energy and get back to producing goods that the world needs. It's going to take a lot of hard work, but we can do it." ■*



# Who are you?

by Vicky Billington



**WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE READ OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE?** At long last, we present the results of the spring 1991 magazine readership survey.

Last April, we randomly inserted copies of a readership survey into 15 percent of the magazines we mailed out, and asked those of you who received it to fill it out and send it in. Not all of you did, but to those who obliged, we sincerely thank you. Your answers will help us update our readership profile. Many of you gave us some decent story ideas and critiqued our writing and choice of articles. And we'll be using other data from the survey to revise the media information kit we give to prospective magazine advertisers. To see how you compare with other readers — and alums compose 92% of those answering — read on.

## Fields of Dreams

When we asked what topics you'd like to see more of in future magazine issues, the overwhelming majority of you (62%) want to see more alumni profiles. And no wonder. There's no end to the interesting professions OU alums have chosen. From a jail chaplain and the president of a sheet music company to a freelance dancer and an aluminum recycler, we're on the job. And in today's economy, it's great to see (almost) everyone working.

The top 10 professions among our readers, in descending order:

1. Education
2. Management (including sales)
3. Health Industry
4. Engineering
5. Finance
6. Communications
7. Homemaking
8. Government/Computer Industry (tie)
9. Business Owners/Skilled Trades (tie)
10. Law

## Back to School

Ambition has driven most readers further than a B.A. A little more than 60% of you have taken post-baccalaureate courses — including almost 41% who have master's degrees and another six percent who are Ph.Ds.

## The Bottom Line

Total household income, before taxes (1990):

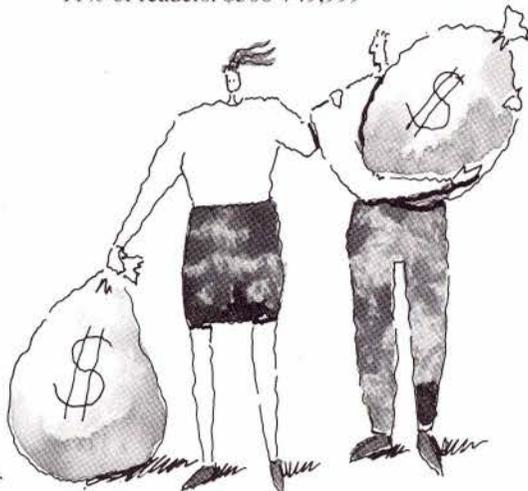
**Average: \$65,000**

- 7% of readers: under \$25,000
- 25% of readers: \$25-49,999
- 11% of readers: \$50-59,999
- 20% of readers: \$60-74,999
- 22% of readers: \$75-99,999
- 15% of readers: \$100,000 or more

Total household net worth: (includes bank accounts, investments, real estate, autos, etc.)

**Average: \$140,000**

- 16% of readers: under \$50,000
- 11% of readers: \$50-99,999
- 22% of readers: \$100-199,999
- 20% of readers: \$200-299,999
- 20% of readers: \$300-499,999
- 11% of readers: \$500-749,999



## Married with children?

We didn't ask about kids, but most of you, 67%, are married. Another 23% are single, never married.

## The Basics

38% of you are male  
62% of you are female

Not a surprising figure. Women have outnumbered men as students at Oakland every year except for three in the early 1970s. Today, about 64% of the students on campus are female.

## Thirty-something

Come on, stop your whining. No one is getting any younger here. Almost 36% of you are in your 30s, another 32% are in your 40s — the average age bordering on the big 4-0.



### It may not be Meadow Brook Hall, but . . .

- 66% own your own house
- 12% rent an apartment
- 8% own a condo
- 7% rent a house
- 6% live with your parents

### Ziptiles

Judging by your zipcodes, more than 80% of our readers live in southeastern Michigan. But there's a scattering of you from 02767 (Raynham, Massachusetts) to 98370 (Paulsbo, Washington).

### R & R

You may have been a party animal in college, but these days you're more likely to invite friends over for a cookout than for a cocktail party. When time is on your side, what do you like to do with it?

The top 12 sports and hobbies:

1. Reading\*
2. Outdoor gardening
3. Photography
4. Swimming
5. Indoor gardening
6. Bicycling
8. Gourmet cooking
9. Weight Lifting/Interior Decorating (tie)
10. Aerobics/Dancing (tie)
11. Jogging/Needlework (tie)
12. Hiking

\*A whopping 30% said you would be willing to subscribe to OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE in order to help us defray costs. (See page 20.)

### Monthly note

Average rent/mortgage: \$600 a month  
 Almost 28% pay \$1,000 or more  
 And 1% pay \$2,400 or more a month

### Your own private Idaho

Vacation cottage/cabin owned or planning to be owned: almost 18%  
 Undeveloped land: 14%  
 Waterfront property: 12%

### Who does the cooking?

A restaurant is one of your favorite recipes:

- 86% of you eat out twice a week at a full-service restaurant
- 81% grab a bite twice a week at a fast-food restaurant
- 70% order take-out at least once a week



### American drive

Average number of cars owned by household: 2  
 Readers who drive U.S.-made vehicles: 76%  
 Readers whose vehicles cost more than \$14,000: 63%

Your next vehicle will be:

- Econo car: 24%
- Luxury sedan: 18.5%
- Sports car: 18%
- Minivan: 15%



### 'Til you drop

Most of you (60%) visit a shopping mall at least once a week. And when you need new clothes, here are the stores you hit first:

1. Hudson's
2. J.C. Penney
3. Specialty shops
4. Jacobson's
5. Lord & Taylor
6. Sears

### Weekend pass

Going to the symphony, opera or ballet this weekend? Not likely. Instead, you're probably renting a video and staying home, if you're not out . . . going to see a movie: 90% of you see two new movies a month . . . going to the theatre: 69% see a play three times a year. ■

Illustrations by Robin Albrecht

# Homing in on Hormones

*Can progesterone be the cause — and cure — of breast cancer? An Oakland University research lab is aiming for answers.*

**By Vicky Billington**

DAPPER IN A double-breasted blazer, striped shirt and soft leather loafers, Virinder Moudgil looks more like a CEO than a scientist.

Yet he has spent thousands of hours in a plain white lab coat fighting a scientific battle that may save the lives of thousands of women. Moudgil, a professor of biological sciences at Oakland University, is on a quest to discover the true nature of hormones — the human body's natural steroids — more specifically, the hormone progesterone.

With the support of an \$875,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health, Moudgil and his research team at Oakland are studying a new drug and its potential use in blocking the hormonal action of progesterone.

Known as a "female hormone," progesterone is made by the ovaries and uterus in women (and to a lesser extent by the adrenal gland in both men and women), and is crucial to the initiation and maintenance of pregnancy.

But progesterone can also work against the female body. It can trigger every woman's nightmare — breast cancer.

"About one-third of all breast cancers carry hormone dependent tumors," says Moudgil. "Breast cancer is a killer on the rise, affecting one in every nine women.

"If cancer is spreading because of progesterone, then we can save time, money and lives if we can block the progesterone from being released into the body."

Moudgil and his researchers in Oakland's Laboratory for Biochemistry and Biotechnology,

composed primarily of biomedical sciences graduate students, are researching ZK98299, an "antihormone."

The drug, made by a German pharmaceutical company, is a newer version of the controversial French drug RU486, nicknamed the "abortion pill" because it can be used in the early stages of pregnancy to stop the action of progesterone, therefore stopping a pregnancy.

Both drugs, however, have the potential to treat breast and uterine cancer, regulate menstrual cycles, induce labor and even treat disorders that affect both men and women, such as

Cushing's syndrome, hypertension and colon cancer.

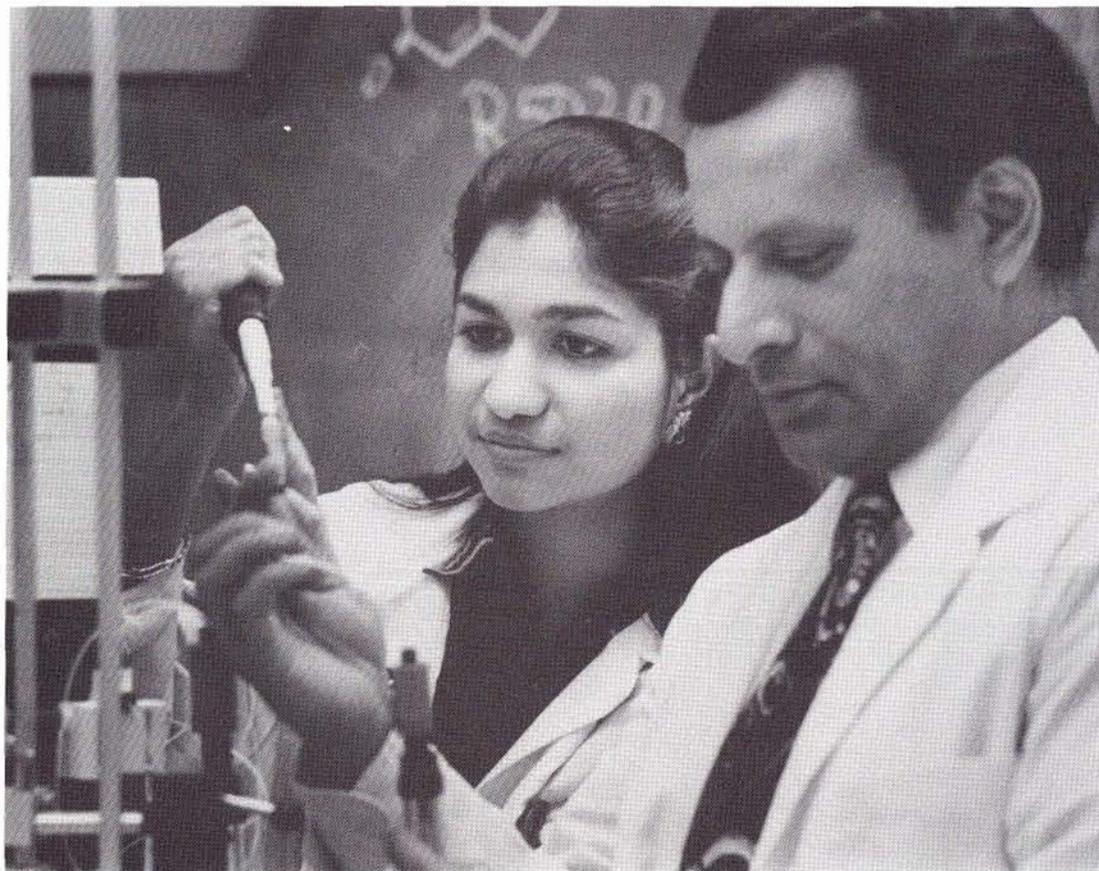
Moudgil's laboratory was one of the first in the country to do research on RU486, and because of its work, was approached by the German manufacturer to test the newer version of the antihormone.

"My interest is not in abortion," Moudgil is quick to point out. "My interest is to see how the two drugs compare and to find out if this new compound can help women suffering from cancer.

"The idea is to first see whether these compounds will block the proliferation or growth of cancer cells in a petri dish before we put them in a human," says Moudgil. And there may be subtle differences in the two drugs.

"Without laboratory testing, how will we know if one is better and what the potential side effects and long term effects may be?" asks

*"Breast cancer is a killer on the rise, affecting one in every nine women."*



**Sharing discoveries:** "An experiment can take a day or several weeks," says Ph.D. candidate Amrita Bhakta, who has worked with Moudgil on hormone research for several years.

Moudgil.

"But before we know what any antiprogestosterone does and how it works, we need to know how the normal hormone works. Then we can see what triggers or changes it in a cancerous state."

Much is known about what progesterone does, says Moudgil, but exactly *how* progesterone does what it does remains a mystery.

In the female, progesterone binds to proteins called progesterone receptors, which then form progesterone receptor complexes. These complexes trigger the hormone into action, releasing progesterone into the blood stream. The complex is something like a traffic cop inside the body, telling the hormone which direction to take.

What Moudgil wonders is why, in some cases, the hormone is sent in a direction no one wants — such as to the breasts, stimulating cancer.

If Moudgil can unlock the secret of how progesterone goes into action at the molecular level, then controlling it will be a much simpler task.

"Then we can devise mechanisms by which we can make progesterone work less, or simply interrupt its function," he explains. "If we do that, we are basically eliminating a

deadly disease in that segment of women who suffer from breast cancer, or whose breast cancers are developing because of a continued supply of progesterone."

Another critical issue of his research is at what point during tissue development does the progesterone begin to have a negative effect.

*"If cancer is spreading because of progesterone, then we can save time, money and lives if we can block the progesterone from being released into the body."*

"Do we have a mechanism or the expertise to interrupt the trigger, without interrupting the normal process of this hormone function?"

It's the kind of question that keeps this scientist sharp.

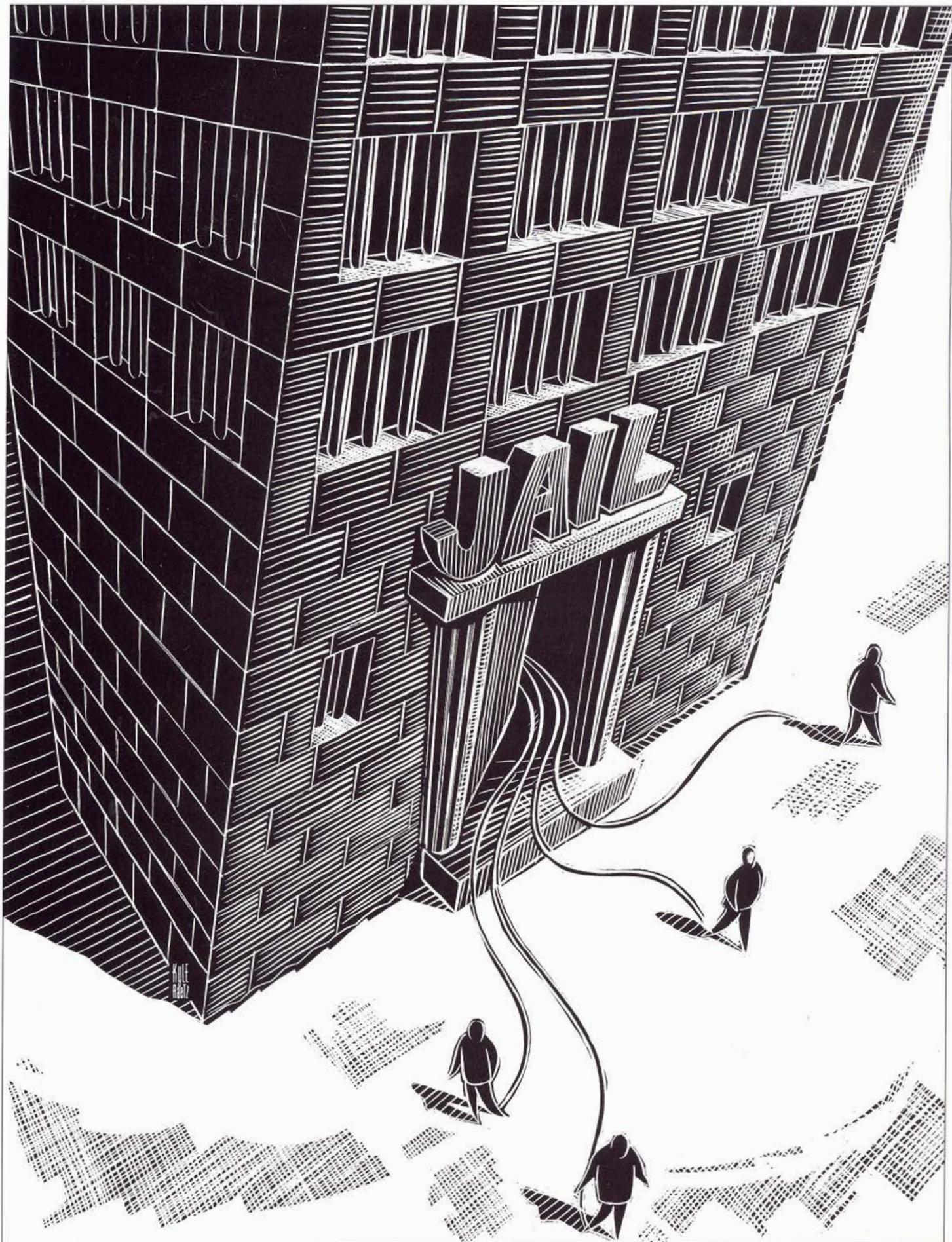
Combining his chemistry knowledge with endocrinology — the study of hormones and hormone disorders — Moudgil has been studying progesterone for almost 20 years, the last 16 at Oakland. His research — and that of his students, who are an obvious point of pride — has won international acclaim. He has written four books and published more than 70 papers, many coauthored by students.

"We have made major contributions to the knowledge of steroid action," Moudgil says, "and we continue to make strides, trying to devise ways that we can use our knowledge in the real world."

About the new drug, ZK98299, Moudgil estimates that "within the next three to four years, we will be in a position to provide more concrete evidence in support of it for therapy."

In the meantime, he says, "if we can make even the smallest contribution to the understanding of hormone action, I will say it is worth it." ■

*Research assistance provided by Jay Jackson, staff writer for Oakland University's News Service.*



# JAIL HOUSE KNOCK

With prison space at a premium, Oakland County's judicial system may experiment with alternative sentencing — based on a study by OU sociologist Jay Meehan.

BY DUFFY ROSS

**J**OHAN Q. PRISONER is about to face the consequences for his actions. He has been charged and found guilty of shoplifting at the local mall — a crime that could bring a sentence of up to two years in the county jail. Instead, the judge offers an alternative: Six months in jail, followed by two months of wearing an electronic device so local authorities can monitor his movements, followed by another two months of intensive probation that includes vocational training and substance abuse programming. Mr. Prisoner, unemployed and a drug user, and his attorney agree to the judge's terms.

Case dismissed.

Jay Meehan, professor of sociology at Oakland University, believes courtroom scenarios like this one are here to stay. And using Meehan's research as a guide, Michigan's Oakland County has come to the same conclusion.

"We can't keep sending everybody to prison because there are more people banging on the doors to get in than we have beds for," says Meehan, coordinator of the university's concentration in social justice and corrections, and author of a new plan for Oakland County's corrections system.

"What we've offered is increasing the menu of sanctions — giving judges the flexibility and creativity in sentencing," Meehan says. "What you are doing is gradually releasing this person and at the same time freeing up bed space for the violent criminal," he suggests.

For years, southeastern Michigan's Oakland County has grappled with prison overcrowding. Three years ago, the county expanded its jail by more than 40 percent (500 additional beds). But in the last few months, the county has been

*Illustration by Kyle Raetz*

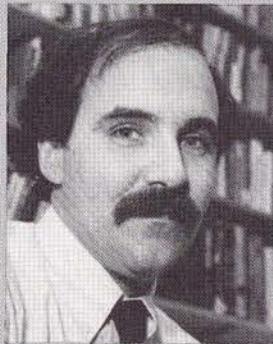
## SOLD ON CELLS?

Jay Meehan insists you'll never solve the crime problem by building your way out of it. Now he's hoping to change the mindset of Oakland County officials.

In 1990, Meehan received a \$60,000 grant from the Oakland County Community Corrections Board — a

group comprising public and law enforcement officials, county commissioners, and circuit and district court judges — to help the county develop a comprehensive plan for its corrections system.

Meehan's plan has become the catalyst for the board to determine how best to establish and fund community-based corrections programs. But not all members are convinced. The county commission finance committee, in a 5-5 vote in February, put the plan on hold



Meehan: "Worth a shot."

until more detailed information is available.

The plan is mandated under Michigan's Public Act 511 — which requires each county to assess its own system and its impact on fiscal and physical resources — with the hope that counties can devise alternative sentences for certain offenders — leaving more cells available for those who have

committed more serious offenses.

"It was a fine research project, done professionally and done with cooperation of many county persons," said Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Alice Gilbert, who chaired the advisory group. "I'm hopeful that it will eventually be approved."

Oakland County's share of public monies to fund the innovative programs totals almost a million dollars — with additional funding promised if Meehan's proposal flourishes.

forced into renting bed space from neighboring county jails to help ease the growing load — a situation Meehan says is not only costly, but unnecessary.

**W**e're keeping a lot of people in a

very secure setting at a great cost without materially affecting the quality of life in the county one way or another," says Meehan. "Many of those behind bars don't need to be there at taxpayer expense."

His study of the 1,411 inmates housed in the Oakland County Jail revealed some interesting findings:

▼ Almost 90 percent are male and more than half are white. Retail fraud cases (shoplifters) constitute the largest number of offenders. Inmates charged with retail fraud, drunken driving, drugs and probation violations make up 40 percent of the jail's population.

▼ About 16 percent of the inmates, or less than 250, are charged with crimes against people — such as homicide, criminal sexual conduct and aggravated assault.

▼ Crimes against property account for more than 90 percent of all serious crimes in Oakland County. Of violent crimes against people, aggravated assault and robbery are the most often reported — about nine percent — while murder and criminal sexual conduct together total less than one percent.

"The public's perception is that crime is made up mostly of murder, rape and vio-

lence," says Meehan. "That isn't the case at all. Our study shows retail fraud and alcohol-related cases are the fuel driving Oakland County's criminal justice system."

It's not that driving while intoxicated is not a threat to public safety, but Meehan suggests a few days in jail is not likely to make the roads any safer. Likewise, although shoplifting is a major nuisance for retailers, those who do it typically are not dangerous. Hence, is jail time truly necessary, or the right sentencing option?

Meehan's corrections model is broken into three parts.

First, Meehan offers suggestions at the front end of the system, or following arrest and arraignment, consisting of a program of pre-trial screenings, service work and supervision as a potential alternative to immediate or long-term incarceration.

"A good example of this would be a drunk driving offender," says Meehan. "If we can get the person into an alcohol rehabilitation program, and he or she shows progress prior to the court hearing, a judge may rule that he or she continue in the program — rather than serve hard time.

"And then it's up to them. If they screw

up, the judge can come back with a much harsher sentence," Meehan says. "But in many minor cases, this type of sentencing is worth a shot."

Secondly, Meehan's plan calls for expanding the

county's military-style "boot camp" program — for prisoners who are minimum security risks. Also, Meehan believes community work projects, such as cleaning county parks, could replace jail time — if combined with educational or substance abuse rehabilitation components tailored to fit the offender.

Lastly, Meehan's plan calls for re-evaluating the county's probation system. Currently, a vast majority of probation violation arrests are for technical violations. In other words, probation violators do not normally commit another crime, but instead are arrested for failing to pay fees or report to probation officers.

"A lot of this is economic," says Meehan. "They're out of jail, they're unemployed, they don't make court costs. Are we setting them up for failure? We can do better, rather than sticking them in jail.

"The county has a real opportunity to design some creative corrections programs," says Meehan. "We know this won't work for every case — the violent or repeat offender will still end up behind bars. But if we can free up some jail space, we'll have really accomplished something. I believe it's possible." ■

## IN TOUCH



### Travel with OUAA

OU's Explorations travel season is back! This year we stay a bit closer to home, but with itineraries that will transport you to other times and other worlds. Mark your calendar and watch your mail for more information:

**May 2-3:** Spring Fever Get-away. Stay overnight at the new Hilton Suites in Auburn Hills. Enjoy a spacious suite, work out in the spa or indoor pool, and join us for cocktails and a buffet dinner. Then take the short hop across I-75 to Meadow Brook Theatre for the evening's performance of the rollicking musical, *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Return to the Hilton for billiards and a nightcap. Complete your get-away with breakfast on Sunday.

**June 20:** Join College of Arts and Sciences Dean John Urice and his wife, Penny Koloff, for our second annual trip to the Stratford Festival in Stratford, Ontario. Enjoy continental breakfast and a preview of *The Tempest* and *HMS Pinafore* on board our luxury motorcoach. Arrival in Stratford will offer time for lunch and shopping before matinee performances, followed by dinner at the charming Waterlot Inn in New Hamburg, Ontario. Head back to OU with a lively on-board review of the plays by our resident experts.

**September 18-20:** Return to Mackinac Island and the Mission Point Resort. Back by popular demand, a wonderful family weekend. Three days and two nights at the resort with all the amenities plus coupons for sightseeing and other family fun.

Call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158 for more information.

### ALUMNI

1964

**Evelyn Gehres** was named regional representative for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation and will be based in Pontiac, Michigan. She studied at the College for Financial Planning to become a certified financial planner.

**Thomas E. Christo** of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, was promoted to president at Michigan National Corporation. He is a state certified real estate broker in Michigan as well as in Florida.

**Patricia (Killian) Curtis** is a learning disabilities teacher consultant in the Waterford School District and recently launched a second career as co-owner of The Authors' Clearinghouse Literary Agency.

1968

**Barry M. Klein**, chairman of Barry M. Klein Real Estate in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oakland University Foundation. He has served as OU Alumni Association president and in 1984 received the association's Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

1972

**Leo Miserendino** received a dental degree at Northwestern University Dental School in Evanston, Illinois, and practices in Lake County. He recently achieved Diplomate status of the American Board of Endodontics.

1978

**Robert J. Meyer** received the Distinguished Alumni Service Award during Oakland's commencement ceremonies in September 1991. He retired in 1988 from Federal-Mogul where he was honored for his "generosity and dedication." He remains on the OU Alumni Association board and is active in fundraising projects.

**Judy A. Rogers** was awarded the Golden Poet Award for 1991 for her poem "The Caller." She is a past recipient of the Silver Poet Award and has been published by the Chicago Fine Arts Society.

1979

**Cynthia (Chapman) and Jerry Baine** announce the birth of their second child, Ryan Patrick, in July 1991. They have a daughter, Heidi Lynette, age 5.

1981

**Tracey Ann (Danloff) Capaldi** graduated from the Tulane Medical School and completed an anesthesia residency at Tulane and a pediatric fellowship at St. Christopher's Hospital for children in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Tracey is an anesthesiologist at Children's Hospital of New Orleans.

**Richard W. Davis** was appointed to Director of Purchasing/Accounting in the Taylor School District. Richard lives in Wixom, Michigan.

**Kyle McEwen** was married in September 1989. In the summer he works in home construction and is a ski instructor in the winter. His home is in Killington, Vermont.

**Pat Nowaczynski**, counselor, Oakland Community College, Auburn Hills, was appointed to a two-year term as department head of the counseling department.

**Howard Spector** and his wife, Paula, announce the birth of their daughter, Leslie Sara. He received his masters degree in accounting from Walsh College and is employed as assistant controller of J.G. Financial Management Services, Inc., in Birmingham, Michigan. They live in West Bloomfield, Michigan.

1982

**Mary Lynn Barbee** was appointed to coordinator of special projects, City of Flint, for Mayor Woodrow Stanley.

**Linda Larson** was named director of adult programs at the YWCA of Greater Flint.

**Eric and Melinda Lilley** announce the birth of a daughter, Courtney Laine, December 1990. He works in 747/767 service engineering for the Boeing Commercial Airplane Group in Seattle, Washington.

1983

**Debbie (Kozak) and Don Martin** announce the birth of their daughter, Christina Anne. They live in Sterling

Heights, Michigan. She is a business relations analyst for EDS on the GM Truck & Bus account. He is a marketing representative for Metal Industries, covering Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

**Donna J. Ross** is employed at WDET-FM Public Radio as the music librarian and also co-hosts the "Dimension" program heard 9-11 p.m. Sunday evenings, playing "alternative music." She also handles duties at Repeat the Beat, a chain of compact disc stores, as advertising director.

1984

**James F. Kamp**, associate editor for Gale Research Publishing Co., was named an "Employee Who Makes a Difference" for developing user-friendly computers that streamline publishing operations. He received his M.A. in English from Wayne State University.

**Marianne Lamping** is a software specialist at Chrysler, supporting application developers who work with computer aided software engineering technology. She and her husband, Michael, have a son, William Victor, born July 27, 1991. She lives in Dearborn and is working on her M.B.A. from the University of Detroit-Mercy.

**Stephen McClaskey** announces the birth of a son, David Troy, in October 1991. He is self-employed with a C.P.A. firm in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania.

**Mary Kay (Dodero) Mencotti** was named manager of industry/media relations for Nissan North America, Inc.

**Paul and Laura Weaver** announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Rose. He is a staff engineer at IBM in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. They live in Durham.

1985

**Mary Ann Cristiano** was promoted to media sales specialist at the Lansing State Journal. She has also been elected to the Lansing Chapter of the National Association of Career Women in charge of publicity.

**Jeffrey M. Davidson** was promoted to senior vice president at Oxford Bank. He is a graduate of the

## New program makes giving automatic

Have you wanted to take advantage of the benefits of OU's annual giving clubs – the Century Club, Dean's Club, University Associates or the President's Club – but didn't think you could afford to? Now you can!

The OUAA and the OU Branch of the MSU Federal Credit Union have joined forces to make those gift clubs easier on your budget with the *Automatic Transfer Plan*.

Your pledge payment will be transferred automatically from your personal account to Oakland University as a tax deductible gift in your name. No checks to write, no pledge reminders and no service or interest charges.

To learn more about the Automatic Transfer Plan, call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158.

## Get ready, get set, golf!

Tired of the cold, gray skies of winter? Dreaming of your first day out on the green? Well, dream no more! Mark your calendar for these upcoming OUAA golf events:

**June 4-August 27:** OUAA Golf League. Every Thursday at 5:15 p.m. at the Katke-Cousins Golf Course. You must be an OUAA Gold Card member to be eligible.

**July 13:** 17th Annual OUAA Golf Outing. Bigger and better than ever with morning and afternoon scrambles. Luncheon under the Meadow Brook Hall Tent at noon. Fun, prizes and surprises for everyone. Don't miss it!

Call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158 for more details.

Prochnow Graduate School of Banking. He and his wife, Diane, and their two children live in Clarkston, Michigan.

**Edward A. Eickhoff** is the alumni adviser for Theta Chi fraternity at Oakland University and was appointed a regional counselor for Region 6 of Theta Chi.

1987

**Peggy Sue (Alexander) Bailey** married Paul on September 21, 1991. She works for North Oakland Medical Center-PGH as a psychiatric nurse. She is also a delegate on the Community Mental Health Association Board. They live in Shelby Township, Michigan.

**Kathie (Schaub) Puckett** married Tom in May 1989. They are expecting their first child in April. She is a Michigan C.P.A. and is applying for an Ohio C.P.A. license. They live in Lima, Ohio.

**Darryl R. Reaume** received his doctor of osteopathy degree from Michigan State University and is interning at Oakland General Hospital, Madison Heights, Michigan. He is married to the former Kim Muster, a student at MSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine.

**Anita Schamante**, following graduation, went to Europe on a USO tour with the Meadow Brook Estate show ensemble. She is now working at Ross Roy Advertising, Inc., in Bloomfield Hills, as a program coordinator and is seeking a career change to corporate/professional recruiting for colleges and organizations.

1988

**Andrew and Michelle (Troy) Aiello** were married in September 1991. She works at U of M Hospital and Andrew works at Hygrade Food Products in the Corporate Accounting Department.

**Gary Sophia** is serving as administrative assistant at Coolidge Junior High in Ferndale, Michigan.

1989

**Nancy and John Trudeau** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on December 17. They have two grandsons. She is a substitute teacher

at Imlay City and Lapeer Community Schools. They live on 20 acres in Attica, Michigan.

**Robert Vanderlip** of Finland married Mariitta Helineva in Jamaica in the fall of '91.

1990

**Maria Almaguer** received a Master of Information and Library Studies from the University of Michigan and is a librarian at the Rochester Hills Public Library.

**Vicki Dorazio** is an associate engineer at Computer Science Corporation in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

**Evan Genest** is an industrial hygienist at Nova Environmental Services in Des Plaines, Illinois, and lives in Oak Park, Illinois.

**Carol Paielli** has completed her Master of Information & Library Studies from the University of Michigan and is student teaching at a junior high school in West Bloomfield for her certification as a school librarian.

**Jeff Samoray** is a second-year master's student at SUNY-Binghamton University in Binghamton, New York, with a concentration in English literature.

**Sue Stephens** moved to Rockford, Illinois, where she is a news anchor/disc jockey at WKMQ-FM.

## IN MEMORIAM

1983

Deborah Lynette (Johnson) Howell

1985

Suzanne M. Iott

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

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

**Mr. & Mrs. Frank R. Alexander**  
Southfield

**Mr. & Mrs. Durwood C. Allen**  
Bloomfield Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. Ted J. Andrusz**  
Rochester Hills

**Mr. Henry Baskin**  
Bloomfield Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. George J. Beauchamp**  
Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. Eugene E. Boivin**  
Bloomfield Hills

**Dr. & Mrs. Michael J. Booth**  
Shelby Township

**Mr. & Mrs. James L. Borin**  
Troy

**Dr. Robert W. Brown and  
Dr. Mary L. Otto**

Rochester Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Bruchanski**  
Rochester Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. Harold L. Bunge**  
Birmingham

**Mr. & Mrs. Carl P. Burkhard**  
Bloomfield Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Carter, Jr.**  
Farmington

**Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Cianek**  
Auburn Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. F. James Clatworthy**  
Rochester Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. James C. Clement**  
Rochester Hills

**Mr. Rodney A. Coleman**  
Farmington Hills

**Mr. & Mrs. Kelly M. Collins**  
Shelby Township

**Mr. & Mrs. Telmer L. Constan**  
Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. James H. Crum**  
Auburn Hills

**Mr. Paul C. Cueny**  
Rochester

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Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. Steven L. DiClemente**  
Troy

**Mr. Edward A. Eickhoff**  
Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Elliott**  
Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. Gerald L. Elson**  
Rochester

**Mr. Thomas N. Foot**  
Troy

**Mr. & Mrs. Larry J. Foster**  
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Troy

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**Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Graham**  
Orchard Lake

**Mr. Andrew J. Greenlee**  
Farmington Hills

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# IN TOUCH

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Troy

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Troy

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Clarkston

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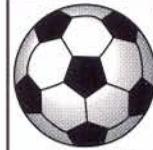
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### "HELP" WANTED

**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE** is looking for help in preparing four possible feature articles. Need names, addresses, phone numbers of alums: • serving in the U.S. State Department in foreign countries • working in areas they did not major in at OU (list major & occupation) • working as entrepreneurs, particularly in unusual ventures • working/living overseas (list occupation). Send information to: Editor, OU Magazine, 109 N. Foundation Hall, Rochester, MI 48309-4401. (313) 370-3184. FAX: (313) 370-4249.

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**Need a speaker for your group or next meeting?**  
 Outstanding faculty available to talk on a variety of topics. Contact Oakland University's **Speaker's Bureau** (313) 370-4350



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**FOR SALE.** Deluxe, handmade dog house, fit for your king or queen. Cedar construction with removable peaked, shingled roof. Maze-like entry for protection from wind. Wood chips for warmth on floor. 3'x3 1/2' with 10 1/2" door. Paid \$100, will take \$50. Call (313) 642-3625 after 6 p.m.

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for boys and girls  
**Week-long camps**  
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## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

### Classifieds

**CIRCULATION:** 32,000 quarterly. 80+ percent of readership lives and works in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties; 90+ percent in lower Michigan.

**DEADLINES:** December 15 (for Winter issue), March 15 (for Spring issue), June 15 (for Summer issue) and September 15 (for Fall issue). Publishing dates are January 15 (Winter), April 15 (Spring), July 15 (Summer) and October 15 (Fall).

**PAYMENT:** All ads must be prepaid with check or money order made payable to "Oakland University." Do not add sales tax.

**RATES: Display ads:** \$50 per column inch per insertion; 1-inch minimum. Additional space \$25 a half-inch. **Line ads:** \$5 per line per insertion; 4-line minimum. (Average of 50 characters per line.)

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**Categories:**  Business Services  Help Wanted

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Real Estate Sales  Equipment & Merchandise

**Ad Type:**  Display  Line

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**Watch your mail for your 1992 membership application.  
Join before July 31, 1992, and your name will be entered  
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For sweepstakes and membership information, call the Alumni Relations  
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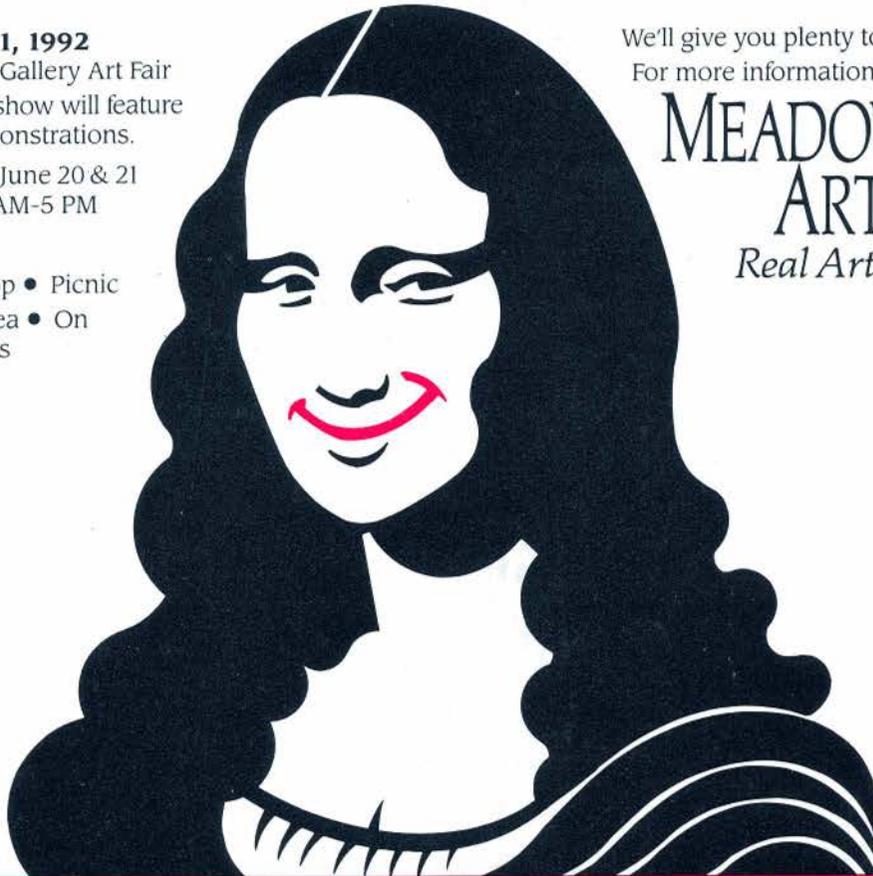
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