



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | Fall 2005



The Wonder of It All!

Alumnus puts science at your fingertips

INSIDE

Unlocking the mysteries of marriage

Looking at life

Mike Sevilla's formula for success

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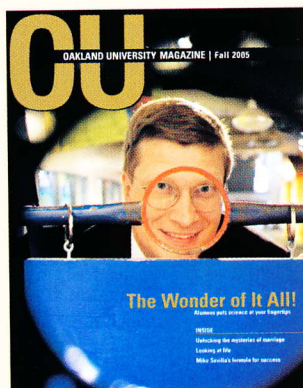
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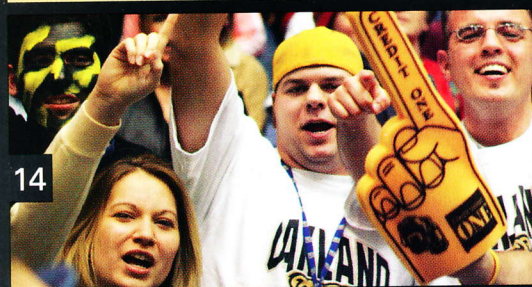
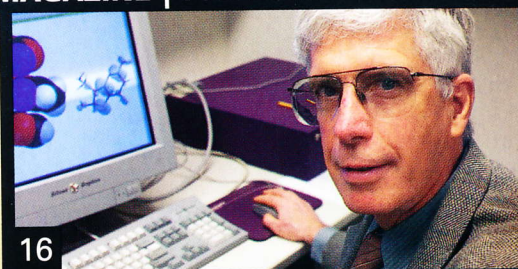


On the cover:

Mel Drumm CAS '80 has spent a lifetime bringing the wonders of science to the young and young-at-heart.



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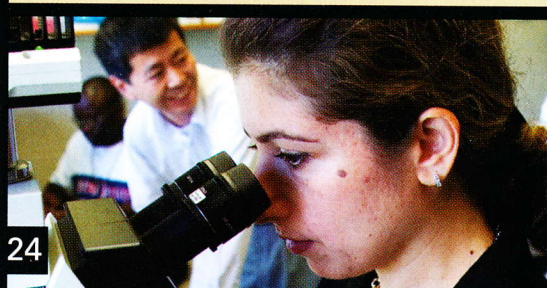
Nearly 20 years of research with more than 350 couples reveals some surprising truths about the greatest mystery of all — matters of the heart.

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Mel Drumm thinks science should be fun and he's spent a career proving it to countless youngsters and the young-at-heart.

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Behind the Stories

Making sense of the world around us — and each other. In many ways, no matter where and how fast our careers or lives take us, we all try to spend at least a little time trying to do just that. And while many of us may not feel that we ever truly reach enlightenment, we hope that, despite a million other tugs and obligations, we come to some comprehension of why things are the way they are. This issue highlights people who make their professional lives about understanding. People who ask questions that lead to more and more questions.

Understanding means many different things and is arrived at in many different ways. Here, you'll read stories of discovery in the lab, where students and faculty question what is known and observe and test what is not to push the boundaries of our knowledge of the physical world further. Outside the lab, one OU professor strives to harness and understand perhaps the biggest mystery of all: love. You'll also find one of our alumni who has spent a career fostering a love of science and discovery (and lasers — enlightening in themselves) in children, encouraging them to question, question, question the world around them.

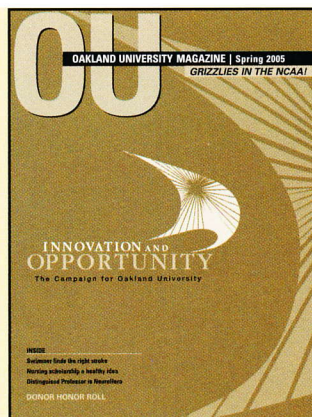
And finally, our *Gold Minds* column this issue finds Jude Nixon, director of The Honors College, struggling to make sense of something that has touched just about all of our lives in one way or another — the terrorist attacks in London this summer and in our own country in 2001. Those who go after larger truths bring intellectual fortitude, open minds, and a never wavering sense of wonder to their work. In pursuing "why," they are usually the first to encounter "why not?"

Lillian Lorenzi, editor

Letters

Welcome to *OU Magazine's* Letters section. Our recent stories on Oakland's Distinguished Professors got two readers thinking about how OU professors have impacted their lives and careers. One reader shares memories of how an OU professor instilled a love of the English language and another tells of meeting her husband in Professor Robert Eberwein's class.

We'd like to hear from you, too.



Professors who made lasting impressions

My name is Jacqueline Smith-Davis. I am a graduate of OU class of '84. Some of the most wonderful days of my life were spent at OU. As I reflect on professors who inspired me, three come to mind. Professor Graham, whose knowledge of African culture still amazes me today. Then there was Professor DeWitt Dykes who I can still see on the street and he knows that I am an OU grad. I would have to say the professor who touched my heart, expanded my academic knowledge and cared enough to be my adviser and friend is the late Professor Robert Donald. I would just sit back and marvel at his eloquent use of the King's English. When I was asked by him what I wanted to do my independent studies on, I simply told him I would love to talk like you. I would love to use words in sentences as poetically as he did. He died about five years after I graduated and it was one of the saddest days of my life. However, I rejoiced in just knowing him and trying to live up to the legacy he left behind. He was a wonderful mentor and professor.

Jacqueline Smith-Davis CAS '84
Detroit, Mich.

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Robert Eberwein

I read with interest your recent issue highlighting Robert Eberwein. My husband and I met in his learning skills class back in winter semester 1978. This was the only class that we both shared in four years of college. We have been married 24 years now and fondly remember that one semester, where we both scored 4.0's as final grades in the class (no competition there!)

An interesting side note...my husband didn't ask me out until the end of the semester, lest we not hit it off and be stuck sitting next to each other for the duration of the class!

Now our son, Andy Richard, is attending Oakland University. Professor Eberwein spoke at a recent New Student Convocation in the O'rena. Though he is 24 years older, Professor Eberwein was immediately recognizable to us and brought back great memories.

Christine (Rea) Richard CAS '81
Sterling Heights, Mich.



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photo above: OU dance team and mascot at the 2004 Rochester Holiday Parade.

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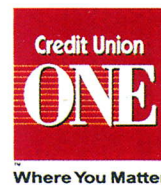


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The best business schools in the world.
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SBA receives AACSB re-accreditation

Oakland University's School of Business Administration (SBA) received the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)-International re-accreditation of both its business and accounting programs.

To achieve the business accreditation and separate accounting program accreditation, the SBA's programs must satisfy a wide range of quality standards relating to strategic management of resources, interactions of faculty and students in the educational process, achievement of learning goals in degree programs and contributions to knowledge in business fields. These standards are mission-linked.

"We are very pleased to have both our business and our accounting programs re-accredited by the AACSB and to continue to be recognized for the outstanding work and accomplishments of the students, faculty and staff in the School of Business Administration," says John Tower, associate dean of the SBA.

During the accreditation process, the SBA was visited and evaluated by business school deans and chairmen of accounting programs with detailed knowledge of management education, applying accreditation standards that are widely accepted in the educational community.

The School of Business Administration is one of 434 business schools in the United States to earn AACSB accreditation. Of the approximately 1,200 accounting programs offered in the United States, Oakland is one of only 163 that have achieved the separate AACSB-International accounting accreditation. ●



A great place to live — Rochester ranks 39th in a list of 100 top cities.

Hands down: OU's hometown a winner

The city of Rochester, home of Oakland University, was named 39th in a list of the top 100 cities in which to live by *Money Magazine* and *CNN Money*. Rochester and its surrounding area was ranked based on population, the number of educational facilities, safety, environment, housing affordability, taxes, weather, commute times and job market. Rochester was the highest ranking Michigan city in the survey.

"We are proud to call downtown Rochester our college town home," says Gary Russi, president, Oakland University. "This recognition is a testament to the strong quality of life,

committed citizenry and careful planning and management of city resources in Rochester."

Two years ago, the university formalized a partnership with the City of Rochester to partner on a variety of reciprocal business and academic ventures. As an added perk of the partnership, OU students, alumni, faculty and staff can enjoy discounts provided by various Rochester merchants.

OU, its students and programs will again be featured in Rochester's annual Christmas parade, Sunday, Dec. 4. ●

New look for South Foundation Hall

Major renovations to South Foundation Hall were completed over the summer, enhancing the building's appearance and the technology in the classrooms, providing students and staff with a much more modern facility.

The first floor was entirely updated with a new stairwell, corridor and furniture in each classroom. The classrooms were upgraded to a level three, meaning each has OU network connectivity, a VHS/DVD player, video/data projector, multimedia presentation podium, computer, electronic whiteboard, document camera and sound system. ●



Detroit Piston's Dance Team *Automotion* includes OU students, alumni

As part of the Detroit Pistons' dance team, some OU students and alumni are charged with the happy task of firing up Pistons fans and keeping them excited about the game. Under the direction of Rebecca Girard SEHS '93, founder of OU's *Images* dance team, *Automotion* worked overtime to support the Pistons in their 2004-05 championship pursuit.

The team performs twice during timeouts and quarter breaks and tries to keep the crowd on its feet throughout the game with performances of YMCA, Shout and other interactive fan

favorites. In addition to performing at all Pistons' home games, the team practices twice a week, makes public appearances, and many of the team's 16 dancers are working or going to school — four of the 2004-2005 team members were OU students.

A few of the dancers who have performed with *Automotion* spent time dancing at OU's basketball games with *Images*, which was started by Girard during her time as a human resource management major at OU. ●



Saving Matilda's greenhouse — efforts lauded by city

Matilda Dodge Wilson liked to have fresh flowers in her home all year long. Long before Meadow Brook Hall was built, she had a greenhouse constructed adjacent to her first home on the property at Adams Road. Restoration of the Meadow Brook Greenhouse, now part of the Oakland University campus, was honored with an Earl Borden Award for historical preservation by the City of Rochester Hills this past spring.

Restoration efforts over the past four years were made possible by the Meadow Brook Greenhouse volunteers, a group of dedicated, hard working volunteers and skilled trade workers who logged hundreds of hours cleaning, fixing vents and installing fans to return the greenhouse to working order. Community members, Oakland Community College landscape and horticulture students and members of the OU student organization SPIN Preservation participated in the volunteer efforts.

The six-room greenhouse was constructed around 1914 and remains functional today, supplying plants for special university events and plants and flowers that beautify the campus. The greenhouse is known for its many species of orchids. Restoration efforts are ongoing and the university is always looking for volunteers to help with planting and greenhouse maintenance. For more information on volunteering, call (248) 364-6171. ●

OU, St. John Providence partner to increase nursing grads

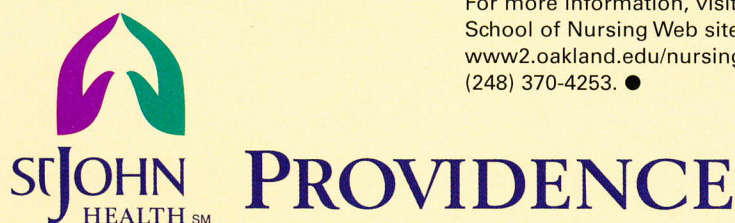
The state of Michigan has been struggling with a severe nursing shortage for several years and current projections estimate that by the year 2010 the shortfall will reach 7,000 and nearly 18,000 by 2015. Oakland University has begun an innovative new partnership with St. John Providence Hospital to provide accelerated curriculums to help increase the number of registered nurses and nursing faculty in the state.

Grant funding for the program was approved as part of Gov. Jennifer Granholm's MI Opportunity Partnership initiative and will provide for the education of 75 more nursing students and additional nursing instructors at the St. John Conner Creek Village in the northeast corner of Detroit. St. John is working with OU to set up the classroom space at Conner Creek, with programming slated to begin in January 2006.

The two OU nursing programs targeted for inclusion in the initiative are:

1. The second degree program, an expansion of the traditional bachelor's degree program designed for individuals who already possess a bachelor's degree in another discipline. It is an accelerated 12-month program. Students graduate with a BSN ready to take the NCLEX exam to be licensed as registered nurses.
2. Master of Science in Nursing Education, which prepares nurses to teach in associate and bachelor's degree programs. This full-time curriculum is usually taken over four semesters or two years. The proposed program will allow students to complete the requirements in one calendar year.

For more information, visit the School of Nursing Web site at www2.oakland.edu/nursing or call (248) 370-4253. ●





Undergrads present research during *Meeting of the Minds*

More than 180 presentations by students from Oakland University, the University of Michigan-Dearborn and the University of Michigan-Flint were given or displayed during the 13th annual Meeting of the Minds Undergraduate Conference: A Celebration of Research and Creative Endeavors held at OU on May 13.

Undergraduate students from all majors participated in Meeting of the Minds by presenting scholarly work or research using oral or poster presentations. The poster presentations were informal, and students spoke about their work in a one-on-one setting. Oral presentations were more formal and organized into concurrent sessions where students spoke about their work, answered questions and received feedback during a brief discussion period.

Topics of all varieties including science, art and women's studies were presented during the daylong event.

Meeting of the Minds participants also are eligible to have their work published in a Meeting of the Minds journal of undergraduate research, an important venue for students looking to continue in research or graduate school. ●

OU selected to receive Merck award

Oakland University recently was selected by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to receive its second three-year Merck Company-funded award. The 2005-07 Merck/AAAS Undergraduate Science Research Program award provides \$20,000 per year for interdisciplinary research experiences for outstanding students in biological sciences and chemistry and to support career-related activities for all science majors.

Oakland's program features interdisciplinary research projects with selected students working with both a biology faculty mentor and a chemistry faculty mentor. The 12-week summer program provides a stipend to the student researchers and supplies support

through the College of Arts and Sciences to two faculty mentors.

In addition, Oakland University Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil is providing funding for an additional Merck scholar, bringing the total number of awards to six. This year's student winners are biochemistry majors Line Jensen and Brandon Twardy; biology majors Ashlee Krisko, Charla Harvey and Natalie Jameson; and chemistry major Bojan Sljivic.

The Merck scholarship winners will present their research at multiple local and regional undergraduate research gatherings, including Meeting of the Minds. ●

OSH program receives prestigious accreditation

Oakland University's Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) program recently received accreditation from the Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. This official recognition means the OSH program meets the quality standards established by the profession. Oakland is one of 10 colleges or universities across the country to offer an ABET-accredited OSH program.

"I believe Oakland University will become a university of distinction by having numerous programs of distinction, such as the OSH program," says Charles McGlothlin, program director, OSH, School of Health Sciences. ABET is the recognized United States accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering and technology. ●



Student Adrian Parish, Vice President of Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder and OU President Gary Russi (left to right) officially open the Student Technology Center.

Center helps bridge the digital divide

Oakland University recently opened the Student Technology Center, the first of its kind among Michigan's 15 public universities. The center will foster the growth of technology and provide an environment that offers far more than the typical computer lab.

Guided by system specialists and undergraduate student mentors, the Student Technology Center provides training in one-on-one and group settings in several specialty areas including

operating systems, Adobe software, Microsoft Office suite and Macromedia applications. Students will also be able to borrow digital still and video cameras to explore how integrating interactive media can enhance a project.

Located in the lower level of the Oakland Center, the Student Technology Center offers a convenient location and flexible hours to make it useful for all OU students. ●



Macomb Community College President Al Lorenzo and Michigan Lt. Gov. John Cherry join OU President Gary Russi and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil (left to right) in announcing the OU and Macomb partnership.

OU and Macomb Community College launch partnership

Oakland University and Macomb Community College have announced a partnership program — OU at Macomb — that will provide Michigan's first dual-degree program. Eligible students will be able to get an associate degree from Macomb while pursuing a bachelor's degree at OU.

The innovative partnership provides students majoring in high-demand fields with hands-on education, research opportunities and cultural experiences through concurrent enrollment at both educational institutions.

"Oakland University is pleased to partner with Macomb Community College to provide enhanced, market-driven educational programs that citizens of Macomb

County and the entire state want and need," says Oakland University President Gary Russi. "Moreover, by sharing resources, Oakland and Macomb are following the recommendations of the Cherry Commission and working toward the governor's goal of producing more college graduates ready to make an immediate contribution to the workforce and the state's economic vitality."

To facilitate the increasing demand for undergraduate and graduate degree offerings in Macomb County, Macomb will add a 40,000-square-foot addition to the University Center and renovate the existing structure to serve as headquarters for the OU at Macomb program. ●



Elizabeth Miller (left) and Julie Holderer, Tulane University students displaced by Hurricane Katrina, are attending OU this fall. Fifteen students from the devastated area are attending Oakland for the fall semester.

OU opens its doors to hurricane victims

In the wake of one of the most devastating natural disasters in recent history, Oakland University offered scholarships to students of universities that have been impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Fifteen students took advantage of the scholarships, which covered tuition and fees for the fall 2005 semester.

Elizabeth Miller would have been a senior at Tulane University in Louisiana this fall and is looking toward law school next year. A semester setback would have meant delaying law school by a year. She came to OU after her Tulane roommate Julie Holderer, also an admitted OU student, alerted her to the scholarship. Holderer offered Miller a place to stay with her family, who lives in Harrison Township.

"Everyone here has been so helpful. It was so hard not knowing where I was going to go to school. I feel much better about that now," says Miller, who hopes to finish at Tulane in the spring. ●

Vandenberg Dining Center gets new flavor



Under the new agreement, Chartwell's will continue to provide campus food service until 2014 and also provided \$1.5 million in capital investments including a \$1.3 million renovation to Vandenberg Dining Center, which opened this fall. The dining center was last renovated in 1996.

The new dining center provides late-evening dining, numerous seating configurations and styles, areas to accommodate groups and a more aesthetically pleasing food service environment. The food options also will change to include Menutainment, a fresh grill, salad bar and more made-to-order options. Next spring, the remaining money will be used to replace some of the current retail food vendors in the Pioneer Food Court in the Oakland Center. ●

The Board of Trustees approved an extension to Chartwell's contract for food service on campus in exchange for renovations to Vandenberg Dining Center, replacement of retail vendors in the Oakland Center and upfront commissions to the university.

INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY



Capital Campaign Kickoff 2005 Gala

Oakland University
Friday, April 22, 2005



Top, from left to right: Longtime friends and donors Carlotta and Dennis Pawley; Charter class member Tom Werth shows his OU pride at the Campaign Kickoff Gala; Maggie Allesee opening her OU necklace with Nancy Elliott and President Gary Russi looking on; Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Virinder Moudgil with longtime friend and donor Stebban Sharf; a new donor honor wall in the southwest corner of the Oakland Center is an impressive testament to the countless donors who have given their support to Oakland University.

Visionary gift establishes writing center



Joan Rosen

No one knows better than former OU faculty member, Joan Rosen, that to make a difference, when an idea takes hold of you, you have to take hold of the idea — and not let go. In Rosen's case, the idea she held fast to for almost 40 years is a great one: to marshal the resources, talent and

dedicated space necessary to provide a first-rate center dedicated to fostering student communication skills.

With a generous \$300,000 gift, Joan and her husband, Robert, provided the funding to establish the Joan Rosen Writing Laboratory. Their gift and inspiration is the fulfillment of her perseverance and testament to how visionary individuals can make a real difference in students' lives. The lab, which will open this winter in Kresge Library, is a first step in what will become a full-fledged writing center and another valuable element in the distinct undergraduate education that Oakland offers.

Rosen, a retired English emeritus professor, has always believed in the importance of helping students hone their writing and communication skills. She, along with university administration,

knew that philanthropic support would be critical to making her vision a reality. "Private funding is absolutely important if any institution is not only to maintain but better the quality of its academic life," she says.

The new center will serve undergraduate students who need writing consultation for any courses involving writing, speaking or presentation. As it expands capabilities, it also will serve the community and local businesses.

In giving, Rosen also touches on getting: "Writing and teaching writing are very important to me because I realize how important it is to be able to communicate well," she says. "This writing center will help enhance the writing services offered to the community and explore the research topic of writing and communication." ●

New scholarship helps local students



Freshman Tyana Green received the first Donald and Norma Golden Family Scholarship.

Dr. Donald Golden, founder of the retail optical chain D.O.C., wanted to do something to honor his wife of 50 years after her death in 1995. His son, OU alumnus Randall Golden CAS '78, suggested that the family create a scholarship fund at his alma mater. That idea led to a generous gift of \$50,000 to establish the Donald and Norma Golden Family Foundation Scholarship.

The fund will make an annual financial award of \$5,000 to a freshman or new transfer student with at least a 3.0 grade-point average from the tri-county area of Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties each fall.

"Oakland is a tremendous school and underrated in terms of public awareness," says Randall Golden, executive vice president of D.O.C. "I received a good education there and it's an excellent atmosphere and environment in which to learn. Whenever I can, I encourage students to come to OU, and it's important to help students financially when we can."

A committee selected the first recipient, psychology major Tyana Green, this fall. The scholarship will cover an academic year's worth of tuition, books, and room or board. "I was overwhelmed," says Green. "I had asked my family to help pay for this year, but I wasn't sure how I would pay for next year." ●



Jack's Place at Oakland continues to grow

Experts project that by the end of this decade, more than 4 million people will be identified as having Autism Spectrum Disorder, a complex developmental disability. Last year, a gift to the School of Education and Human Services from the Jack's Place for Autism Foundation helped establish a partnership at OU to provide autism-related programs and resources for families and professionals impacted by the spectrum disorder.


Jack's Place for Autism at OU continues to grow and expand its resources and programming. Those efforts recently were aided by an additional gift of \$181,932 from the Jack's Place for Autism Foundation. "It is truly wonderful to look back and see the great success we've had thus far," says Lisa Price, co-founder of the foundation. "We could not have chosen a better organization than Oakland University to get things off the ground with Jack's Place."

Programs available through Jack's Place at OU include a lending library, resource referrals, parent support groups, no-cost family counseling, recreational programming and parent and professional workshops. For more information on the programs and how you can support Jack's Place at OU, log on to www.oakland.edu/jacksplace. ●



"Thanks to a scholarship, I had the opportunity to work as an intern in Washington, D.C., with the Department of Veterans Affairs and see how things work in the real world. The internship has been the most valuable part of my education so far. I couldn't have added the extra expense to my student loans, so without the scholarship, I couldn't have pursued the internship."

– Antonio Augustyniak, SBA, senior



Scholarship and the *Messiness of Things*

In a personal way, 9/11 and the recent London bombing (7/7) have one thing in common — both impacted my research. On the lovely Tuesday morning that was 9/11, I was enjoying a cup of coffee with a friend before leaving for Ann Arbor and the Buhr and Hatcher Libraries. When news of 9/11 broke, we took it to be a mere accident, knowing that small planes and helicopters routinely fly around Manhattan sightseeing. But it was no small plane and there was nothing routine about the incident. The television monitor at Hatcher, which for years was merely a blank screen, suddenly came alive with images of death and destruction, Icaruses falling out of the sky. My work at Hatcher was no longer possible — I simply could not focus — and I never made the five minute drive to Buhr. Everything had changed.

The bombing of the London tube and bus on a similarly lovely morning also interrupted my research. I had arrived in London the day earlier and kept a noon appointment with the archivist, the Jesuit Father Hodkinson at The Church of the Immaculate Conception in Farm Street, Mayfair. I worked for some hours in the archives, then left for King's Cross and the British Library. I flashed my reader's card and ordered a number of books. Other materials were ready for next-day pickup following my usual morning coffee and newspaper

at the Starbucks across from the library — all of this rather routine. But such never occurred, not that morning anyway.

That morning I was on my way to King's Cross (where we later learned some 21 riders on the Piccadilly Line were killed). I took a detour to the Art Library to see what manuscripts, if any, it might house on the Victorian poet Gerard Manley Hopkins. That brief stop interrupted my tube ride to King's Cross early that morning. And while my train and countless others might have arrived safely, the randomness of the act and its proximity remained with me.

I did not make it to the British Library that day, because the entire tube was shut down. A friend from Italy warned me to mind the trains and buses. But I did make it back to Farm Street after walking close to an hour and a half. On my way back to South Kensington later that day, I was struck by how I felt — vulnerable, depressed, disoriented, lost. All public venues were now closed. Joining the sea of people making their way somewhere, I actually thought of T. S. Eliot's Dantean lines from *The Waste Land*: "Unreal City. / Under a brown fog of a winter dawn, / A crowd flowed over London Bridge, so many, / I had not thought death had undone so many." Attempting to escape that evening by writing was impossible.

Both 9/11 and 7/7 happened on days I was to be immersed in scholarly

work and lent some perspective to my academic work, helped in large measure by the great Victorian essayist and controversialist, Thomas Carlyle. Recently rereading *On Heroes, Hero-Worship, and the Heroic in History* (1841), I was struck by his remarks about Men of Letters and the messiness of things. What scholars do and what the art of writing does, he notices, is bring light, a Promethean act. But literature also deals with the apocalyptic, for it is "a revealing of the 'open secret.'" Carlyle got the apocalyptic events of 9/11 and 7/7 just right when he talked about "the disorganized condition of society," and the "many powerful forces . . . working in a wasteful, chaotic, altogether unarranged manner," where too "all other confusion circulates in the world."

What we scholars do and what I was attempting, unknown then to me ("an accident in society"), was "fashioning a path through the impassable" in "a world of which he is as the spiritual light, either the guidance or the misguidance." I was reminded then as now that we scholars work at — and that what I was doing on my way to Ann Arbor on 9/11 and to the British Library on 7/7 — trying to make sense of, perhaps lend some coherence, order, and perspective to, the messiness of things around us of which we too are constituted. ♦

— Jude V. Nixon is professor of English and director of The Honors College

If you've got thoughts on life, learning and fun that you'd like to share, send us your essay. Gold Minds is open to alumni, faculty and staff. For submission guidelines, visit *OU Magazine* on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu.

Golden Grizzlies HOME SCHEDULES



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 10	SAINT LOUIS	6 p.m.
Dec. 23	SPRING ARBOR	7 p.m.
Jan. 4	IUPUI*	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 7	CHICAGO STATE*	6 p.m.
Jan. 9	SOUTHERN UTAH*	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 21	CENTENARY*	6 p.m.
Jan. 26	VALPARAISO*	7 p.m.
Jan. 28	WESTERN ILLINOIS*	6 p.m.
Feb. 9	ORAL ROBERTS*	7 p.m.
Feb. 11	UMKC*	6 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 10	ILLINOIS STATE	3:30 p.m.
Dec. 20	BUFFALO	7 p.m.
Dec. 22	BOWLING GREEN	7 p.m.
Dec. 28	IUPUI*	7 p.m.
Jan. 2	VALPARAISO*	7 p.m.
Jan. 4	EASTERN MICHIGAN	5 p.m.
Jan. 7	CHICAGO STATE*	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	SOUTHERN UTAH*	5 p.m.
Jan. 21	CENTENARY *	3:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	WESTERN ILLINOIS*	7 p.m.
Feb. 11	UMKC*	3:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	ORAL ROBERTS*	7 p.m.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Jan. 7	HOPE COLLEGE	1 p.m.
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TENNIS

Mar. 22	DETROIT	Noon
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For ticket information, call (248) 370-4000 or logon to www.ougrizzlies.com.

* Conference opponent

Standings



Nick Panza after scoring a goal at the national tournament.

Lacrosse players earn All-American titles

The men's club lacrosse team lost in the first round of the U.S. Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates (USLIA) National Tournament in Blaine, Minn., in May, but went on to win the final two games in the consolation bracket, obtain a 10th place ranking and earn All-American titles for seniors Billy Binge, attacker, and Matt Kosek, midfielder.

The Grizzlies lost 9-11 in the first round of the tournament to No. 7 seed Virginia Tech and moved on to the consolation bracket, where the Grizzlies recorded a win against the University of Minnesota 13-8. In their final game this season, the Grizzlies beat Utah 13-10.

Binge was named to the U.S. Men's Division Intercollegiate Associates Division A All-American first team and Kosek was given a USLIA honorable mention for his performance in the tournament.

Stuard claims Mid-Con golf title

Brian Stuard became the first OU golfer to claim the Mid-Continent Conference Championship title and Player of the Year accolades. OU senior Jonathan Pauli was also recognized, earning second team all-conference honors and tying for eighth place in the three-round Mid-Con tournament.

As a team, the Golden Grizzlies finished sixth in the Mid-Con Championships held in Macomb, Ill., in April.



Brian Stuard became the first OU golfer to claim the Mid-Continent Conference Championship title and Player of the Year.

Softball team comes a long way back

With a revamped coaching staff and 11 new players, the Golden Grizzlies softball team struggled at the beginning of the season but ended up 12-41 overall for the 2005 season.

Outfielder Camie Knorr was named to the Mid-Continent Conference All-Conference second team squad for her performance this year. Glenn MacDonald was named the head coach after serving as the interim head coach for two months and assistant coach for four years.

Baseball players stand out despite season

Despite a 14-38 season record, OU baseball team players saw personal successes off the field.

Senior first baseman Ty Herriott signed with the Richmond (Ind.) Roosters of the Frontier League in late May and entered the starting lineup as first baseman immediately. Pitcher Paul Phillips became OU's highest Major League Baseball draft pick since OU moved to Division I when the Toronto Blue Jays took the sophomore in the ninth round as 266th pick overall.

Additionally, catcher/designated hitter Nate Recknagel became the first OU baseball player to earn All-America status as Collegiate Baseball named him to its Louisville Slugger Freshman All-America team. Phillips and Recknagel have been named to the Mid-Continent Conference All-League first team and Chad Winkler was selected to the second team.



Jack Huczek has been playing racquetball since age 2.

OU student ranks second in the world in racquetball

OU senior Jack Huczek not only makes the grade in the classroom, but on the racquetball court as well. The 22 year-old Rochester native is ranked second in the world in racquetball.

Huczek is the defending world singles champion, national singles and doubles champion, a U.S. Open semifinalist, and he took second place in the Pro National tournament in Chicago in March and first place in May's Players' Championship in Dallas, Texas. In January 2004, Huczek was ranked the number one racquetball player in the world.

Repeat? NCAA in 2006

Oakland University is hosting the 2006 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Four first-round games will be played March 17 and two second-round games played March 19, advancing two teams to the Sweet 16.

Get your tickets now! Call (248) 370-3117

OU adds track and field to sports line-up

Oakland University is off and running, beginning men's and women's outdoor track as OU's 15th and 16th Division I sports available to students. Coached by Paul Rice, also the men's and women's cross country coach, the team will begin competing against other universities in the region and in the Mid-Continent Conference meets in spring 2006.

There are no plans to build a track and field facility on campus at this time; track and field members will have opportunities to train at local facilities.

Baseball team adds Dylan Putnam as head coach



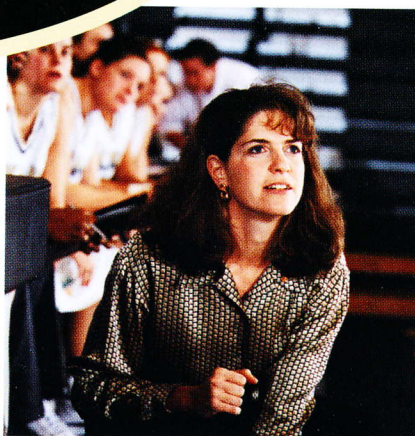
Dylan Putnam

Dylan Putnam has joined OU Athletics as the Golden Grizzlies baseball team's head coach.

Prior to arriving at OU, Putnam spent three years as the Michigan State University team's pitching coach,

recruiting coordinator and academic liaison. He also worked as a mentor for the Student-Athlete Support Services and work crew supervisor for the MSU athletic grounds maintenance staff. Putnam also spent five years as a volunteer assistant coach with the Ann Arbor Braves.

Putnam played baseball for the Spartans as well as Tulane University in New Orleans, La. Drafted twice, once for the New York Yankees in 1997 and for the Oakland Athletics in 2001, he spent the summer of 2002 with the Washington Wild Things in the Frontier League as a relief pitcher.



Beckie Francis has returned as head coach for the women's basketball team.

Francis named head coach

Beckie Francis has returned to the Golden Grizzlies as head coach for the women's basketball team.

She held the position from 1997 through the 2001-02 season, leading the Grizzlies to a Mid-Continent championship in 2002 that marked the team's first bid to the NCAA Tournament. In her five years as coach, she put together a 90-54 overall record, achieved a 39-20 conference scorecard in OU's first three seasons as a member of the Mid-Con Conference and led the team to two Mid-Con regular season titles (2000, 2001). Francis took a three-year break from coaching for health reasons.

Prior to arriving at Oakland, she was head coach at SUNY Stony Brook, taking the program from Division III to Division II status. She led the Seawolves to the NECC playoffs in 1997 and her 1995 squad made the postseason, playing in the New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association (NYSWCAA).

"Very seldom does a school get the opportunity to know what they're getting when they hire an employee," says Greg Kampe, OU men's basketball coach and interim athletic director. "We already know what she can do here at Oakland. We have banners hanging in the arena because of her."



Rawle Marshall

Marshall makes the NBA

Former Oakland basketball star Rawle Marshall made his first NBA appearance on home turf at the Palace of Auburn Hills on Oct. 18. His performance against the Detroit Pistons helped him secure a spot on the Dallas Mavericks 2005-06 roster, making him the first OU player to be signed by the NBA. He scored six points in the Mavericks' 94-88 win over the Pistons. Marshall's friends, family, former OU teammates and basketball coach Greg Kampe were there to cheer him on.

Marshall CAS '05 led the Golden Grizzlies to their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance last season. As Mid-Continent Conference Tournament MVP, the 6-foot-7-inch forward led the league with a 19.9 point per game scoring average and finished his three-year career at Oakland with 1,671 points, 10th all-time at the school. Marshall signed with the Dallas Mavericks as a free agent this past August. ●

— Compiled by Rebecca Wyatt CAS '03

April 4, 2005 — Basketball Coach Greg Kampe's log

When the final 1.3 seconds had finally ticked off the clock and Pierre's shot was etched in Oakland history, I didn't see the thousands of closet Oakland fans who were leaping for joy or screaming at their television sets. I didn't hear the waves of fans sitting in sports bars throughout the Rochester area hugging and toasting a university that was about to crash the national media scene as this year's Cinderella.

As hard as I've tried to relive that moment, I can't really put in words the numbing feeling that gripped my body. My wife, watching with our kids back home told me that as I talked to the announcer in the post game interview I had a bewildered look on my face, and that for once, I was at a loss for words. (Anyone who truly knows me, knows it is rare that I would ever be speechless.)

I was, and am, just truly happy for a university I've spent a lifetime working for, and a group of kids that fulfilled a dream no one thought they could. And so it was this that motivated me to start hugging everyone in sight. I watched with pride as each player, coaches, the Grizz, and even OU President Gary Russi took their turn climbing the ladder to secure their piece of history, a six-inch string

of netting. I cheered as Courtney Scott and Rawle Marshall hung the remains of those nets around their necks. Then as OU Sports Information Director Phil Hess came to get me to meet the media, I was about to learn first hand what life in the national media spotlight was like.

It started slow, most Tulsa reporters were shocked that we had upset the hometown boys, but by the time we had returned to the hotel, Phil's cell phone was ringing non-stop with requests from the Detroit market. Can Kampe come on the 11 o'clock news live? Can we get him at 5 a.m. tomorrow morning? And that's the way the first night went. I decided that I would handle every request made (I don't regret that now, but I'm sure that only the adrenaline rush in my body allowed me to meet them all!). I felt that this was a moment in the sun for Oakland University and it was essential that all media requests were met. I didn't know that people in Alaska would be calling.

About 2 a.m. after the game, I had a moment to myself so I checked my cell phone. I had 35 messages (a full mailbox) and the office phone was full with 15 messages. I went down to the business center in the hotel



The Grizz at the Big

Across oceans

I was in the Republic of South Korea for a military exercise when Oakland made the finals. *The Stars and Stripes* (daily newspaper serving the U.S. military) ran a full page article on

the university and the Grizzlies after their "play-in" victory. It was exciting to watch the Grizzlies play North Carolina, even though the outcome was not in our favor.

The NCAA Finals is a chance for the smaller schools to gain some national recognition. Having military personnel from all over the United States supporting their schools, and having my university in the "Big Dance" was a special time for me and made the deployment memorable. Congratulations to the team and the university.

— Lieutenant Colonel Scott Gross, USMC, who is married to Lynn Gross SBA '87, Oakland University Alumni Association (OUAA) board member



Thoughts from a former captain

Great achievement. I am remembering back to the day in 1965 when I walked into Chancellor (Woody) Varner's office and said, "We need to have intercollegiate athletics here at Oakland University." His reply was, "in what sports would you suggest we field teams?" To which I responded, "Let's start with... basketball, swimming, soccer and cross country." He said, "go down and talk to Mr. Lepley (Hollie Lepley was Oakland's first athletics director) and Mr. Robinson (Dick Robinson was head coach of men's basketball, 1967-68) and get it started. I'll call to tell them you're coming."

So we started and I became the captain of the first OU basketball team. Louis Putman was the captain of the first cross country team and Rick Krogsrood was captain of the swim team.

Oakland, playing its way into the NCAA Tournament was indeed a proud day for the school and a personally rewarding day for the Captain of its first basketball team.

— Ozzie Carlson SBA '68 (Carlson served as captain of the basketball team from 1965 to 1968.)





and got on my e-mail, 247 e-mail messages. I made a huge mistake by not beginning to answer them. By the time we got home from the North Carolina game, the number had grown to 745. People I had not talked to since high school, teammates from college, and just fans of college basketball saying 'good job.'

Being Cinderella has some big advantages. Full page spreads in the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune* and many others, trumpeting the story of Oakland's move from Division 1 want-to-be to the Big Dance. Television appearances on *Sports Center* and Cold Pizza wearing Oakland apparel... The night after we beat Alabama A & M in the opening round game I started with a radio show at 5 a.m. and every 15 minutes was live somewhere in the country until 2:30 that afternoon, when we had to leave for Charlotte, N.C., to get ready for Carolina. I really don't know the number, but a low guess would be 80 live radio spots were done during that two-week period.

How did I feel though all this? Happy, proud, excited for Oakland. I always speak in terms of 3's, so here are the three things that moved me the most during this run.

1. The thousands of fans who made their way to

Dayton to watch us win the opening round game. To see us fill up the Dayton arena with fans dressed in black and gold and the noise we made created a home court advantage for us.

2. Not once during this intense media blitz did you hear an Oakland player use the word "I." Everything was about the team. Our kids were first class!
3. Standing in the tunnel before the Carolina game, 23,000 fans, Billy Packard and Jim Nance, and playing North Carolina on national television. I wanted to run out on the floor, raise both hands to the heavens and yell, "YES, we made it." Thank God for all of us I didn't. But I did have a small smile on my face as the two police officers escorted me on the floor. ♦



Dance 2005 NCAA MEMORIES...

Ouch!

I was at the Spectadium (in Troy, Mich.), watching the OU game on TV! Brian Arbeiter (former Athletics department development officer) was sitting behind me on a bar stool. I was sitting at a table in a normal-height chair. When

Pierre sunk that three-pointer, I jumped up and Brian jumped down – his elbow connected with my head and I actually suffered a minor concussion. All in the name of Oakland basketball! So I will never forget that moment. I have the game on my TiVo, too... I have replayed the last five minutes about a zillion times. It's always a thrill!



— Beth Benson SBA '81 (who has since recovered), OUAA board member and season ticket holder

A sure bet

I was in Las Vegas on a family business trip when the team was in the tournament. I was bummed that I couldn't be home to cheer them on with our OU and alumni family. I went to the New York New York Hotel and placed my official bet. I was thinking how crazy it was that OU was on the bet sheet. I went to the ESPN cafe to watch the game. The team was playing Alabama. I went into the restaurant with my OU flag and made the receptionist put our game on every TV in the lounge. Pretty soon I was yelling and clapping and people were catching on. By the time the game was over, we had 100 new OU fans in Vegas. It didn't hurt that I stopped and cashed out on my bet, which played out double. I made \$100. I was grinning from ear to ear and so proud and happy for the team.

— Adrienne Bass, OU director of Alumni Relations





FORMULA *for success*

Distinguished Professor Mike Sevilla's lab sets standard for excellence *By Alice Rhein*

While most of the Oakland University colleagues he started with 35 years ago have retired, Michael Sevilla, professor of chemistry, says that's not part of his formula.

Instead, Sevilla, a 63-year-old California native who earned his Ph.D. at the University of Washington and spent his early career in the private sector working for a company that developed nuclear reactors, says he enjoys watching the chemistry department he chaired for six years grow younger. After all, new people with new ideas bring an enthusiastic and fresh approach to research.

"I enjoy my job, so I'm not looking for that moment to retire. A lot of people look down the road to when they can retire like that's their dream in life," says Sevilla. "I'm living my dream."

With a lab devoted to looking at fundamental properties of DNA and the processes involved in radiation damage to DNA from the molecular standpoint, Sevilla says he applies physical chemistry techniques to look at biologically important systems.

Pondering DNA puzzles

"You have to have a bent for puzzle solving," says Sevilla, whose research into how radiation damages DNA is funded by the National Cancer Institute as it holds promise as a process to eradicate tumors. David Becker, adjunct professor of chemistry, says he walked into Sevilla's lab more than 25 years ago and asked him if he needed another magnetic resonance spectrometrists. Since then, Sevilla's lab has progressed from radiation chemistry of small isolated molecules at low temperature to radiation chemistry of DNA.

"Maybe he's too modest to say, but he's an internationally known radiation chemist and he's the upcoming president of the Radiation Research Society, which is quite an honor," says Becker. "It is all well-deserved. He's a fabulous research scientist, a great teacher and has a great sense of humor. You couldn't ask for a better person at Oakland University."

Undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students, along with senior staff like Becker, all find Sevilla's lab conducive to innovative research and a place where open discussion is encouraged.

"This is simply wonderful," says Amitava Adhikary, speaking from, and about, Sevilla's lab. Adhikary read several of Sevilla's published research papers when he was in Germany studying radiation chemistry, and knew that his research interests were similar. Adhikary, a native of India, took a sabbatical from his teaching position at the

University of Delhi to come to Oakland University to work with Sevilla. "I always worked in aqueous solution, never in solid state, so I am learning solid state chemistry," he says. "In this way, I'll be able to direct my students in new areas."

Inspiring tomorrow's researchers

During his years at Oakland University, Sevilla has served as chair of the chemistry department and was acting associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. Yet, teaching and research are what he loves most, and he continues to inspire a new generation of students, including Jessica Koppen, a senior chemistry major from Grand Blanc.

"He expects a lot, but you do a lot, and that turns out a better student," says Koppen. "I don't mean to gush, but I am so lucky. He really cares about his students and really wants you to learn. I have so much confidence now."

Koppen will also have the added kudos of having her name as a co-author on a research paper that was recently accepted for publication by a prestigious journal.

Mark Severson, chair of the chemistry department, says that Sevilla has received more than \$4 million in research grants since his arrival at OU in 1970. His research, which has been funded by external sources such as the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Energy, has led to more than 140 published papers and 150 international lectures.

"For 35 years it's been an uninterrupted record of research success," says Severson, "He is the definition of what a distinguished professor should be."

Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees conferred on Sevilla the title Distinguished Professor, and honored him at the Founders' Day luncheon. While Sevilla is modest about the honor, his colleagues are quick to compliment.

"Mike sets up an attitude in the lab that invites new ideas from everyone from undergraduates to senior scientists like me," says Becker. "As a result, we have really made a number of seminal discoveries in this lab. The collaboration is really incredible and we have a great deal of fun, too. It really is as ideal as it sounds." ■

DNA puzzle solvers. From left to right, they are: Jessica Koppen, senior chemistry major; Distinguished Professor Mike Sevilla; David Becker, adjunct professor of chemistry; Amitava Adhikary, professor and researcher from Delpbi University in India, who came to Oakland to work with Sevilla.



This story is the seventh in the OU Magazine series on Distinguished Professors. Past stories highlighted Robert Eberwein, Paul Tomboulion, Sheldon Appleton, Ron Cramer, Jane Eberwein and Michael Chopp. For links to their stories, visit OU Magazine online at www.oakland.edu.

Alice Rhein is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.

Tell us about an OU professor who inspired you. Write to us at 433 Varner Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309-4401. Or e-mail your thoughts to OUMag@oakland.edu. Please include your full name and phone number.



Getting where they're going

Helping disabled students will out By Alice Rhein

David MacKinder (above) and Adam Fuhrman (opposite page) both credit OU's office of Disability Support Services for providing accommodations to help them earn their degrees. MacKinder earned a bachelor's degree in human resources, a master's degree in counseling and this past spring, finished his certification in Complimentary Medicine and Wellness while at Oakland. Fuhrman graduated magna cum laude with a history degree in 2004 and is currently enrolled in Oakland's master of counseling program.

Unable to move and floating face down for minutes, David MacKinder, remained aware enough to suspect that his dive from a pontoon boat was life altering. A strong vibrant man, a former paramedic who spent six years as a paratrooper with the U.S. Army's famed 82nd Airborne Division, he remembers how he felt nothing below his shoulders as he was pulled to shore.

"My head found a stump in the water," is how the 43-year-old father of two describes the accident 13 years ago that left him a quadriplegic.

MacKinder's toughness is not just restricted to his physicality. Alongside enduring years of therapy in North Carolina, Denver and Detroit, MacKinder applied himself to getting a solid education and earned a bachelor's degree in human resources from Oakland University in 2001, a master's degree in counseling in 2004 and this spring completed his certification in Complementary Medicine and Wellness through the School of Health Sciences. While pursuing his master's degree, MacKinder lent a helping hand to others through a 600-hour internship in OU's Academic Advising Center. He also volunteered his time, giving regular lectures to second-year physical therapy students on what they can expect in treating handicapped patients.

Unlike MacKinder, Adam Fuhrman has never known a day without a wheelchair. Born with cerebral palsy, the 23-year-old history major graduated magna cum laude in 2004. He completed a student-teaching assignment during his senior year to add to his experience base and is currently enrolled in Oakland's master of counseling program.

Both credit OU's office of Disability Support Services (DSS) for providing and coordinating the accommodations they needed to complete their degrees.

Special needs, caring solutions

Offering all students equal access to educational opportunities has been the goal of DSS since it became a dedicated department in 2000.

Linda Sisson MA '99 director of DSS, says accommodations can include priority registration, interpreters, note-takers, books on tape, auxiliary aids such as Phonic Ear units, assistive technology such as a Braille Printer or Dragon Naturally Speaking, which turns a student's speech into text, and door openers, or "clickers," as they are commonly known on campus. The office helps find housing, and was consulted for the design of the new handicapped-accessible student apartments. In addition, DSS, located in North Foundation Hall, assists students in navigating the campus and community. All of the buildings on campus are handicapped accessible.

"OU does not have a shuttle or transportation service available for either non-disabled or disabled students, but that doesn't mean we don't have students who sometimes have difficulties getting around campus," says Sisson. So she and Johanna McReynolds, administrative secretary for the office, often schedule someone to help transport students to class.

"Sometimes we go above and beyond because it's just the right thing to do," says Sisson.

MacKinder knows first-hand the lengths DSS will go. When a winter storm kept dumping snow outside his on-campus apartment, they ensured that his walk was plowed before class. He's also quick to tell you that both Sisson and McReynolds even played a role in helping him find part-time work while he completed his studies.

Meeting increasing demand

Of the more than 17,000 students at OU, roughly three percent or 516 students are registered with DSS. Among this population, disabilities range from physical and psychological limitations to vision and hearing impairments to learning disorders and attention deficit disorders. A handful of students are temporarily disabled — a broken ankle, for

instance — and are eligible for assistance. Since 1990, the number of disabled students has increased fourfold.

Sisson says that the most challenging moments come when student expectations and what is considered reasonable collide. "What we do is provide access. We must provide the same environment for learning, but there is no guarantee for success."

She suggests that students register early with the office so there are no last-minute surprises, such as a book that needs larger-print scanning overnight.

Sisson says that parents of students with disabilities have inquired about OU as early as junior high. And while she can highlight the options and resources available, Sisson relies on the students to determine what it will take for them to have a successful college experience.

"Each individual is different, and when it comes to knowing what's needed, the person with the disability is the expert," she says. ■

For more information on Oakland's disability services, log on to www.oakland.edu, click on "Current Students" and select "Disability Support Services."

Alice Rhein is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.



UNLOCKING THE *mysteries* OF *marriage*

Professor reveals secrets of love By Liz Lent

If you ask 373 couples what the secret to marital bliss is, you'll get 373 different answers. With or without consensus, however, the topic holds an undeniable fascination and value for sociologists such as Oakland University Professor Terri Orbuch. Also known to Detroit's WMGC radio listeners as "the Love Doctor," Orbuch has spent her career working to unravel the mysteries of successful relationships through her nearly two-decade long study, "The Early Years of Marriage" project.

Her study began in 1986 with 373 couples who had applied for Wayne County marriage licenses. Every few years, Orbuch and her team of researchers question the couples on a wide range of factors involved in a marriage, from work patterns to children to economic issues to conflict resolution. The study is one of only three in the nation that has followed couples for an extended period of time, and the only one of its kind to examine differences in African-American and Caucasian relationships.

Kids, money, family dynamics

The research, says Orbuch, was conceived with three main goals in mind: first, to examine marriage over a long period of time; second, to look at variations by gender and ethnicity. "Many people argue that you can explain away any ethnic differences by income or class," Orbuch says, "but when we looked at the data, we could not explain away those differences. Levels of income did not influence or predict divorce over time."

Orbuch and her team also learned that African-American couples tended to have a more egalitarian attitude toward women and the roles they play within families than white couples. For African-Americans, the idea of intergenerational relationships also played an important role in the stability and well-being of families.

The third goal was to examine the structural impacts on marriage versus interpersonal and individual impacts. "These are the three levels of influencers affecting how people relate to their spouses," she explains. "There are external factors like education, income, family and background. Then there are interpersonal factors such as tension, how many kids you have and your sex life. Then there are individual factors such as depression or anxiety."

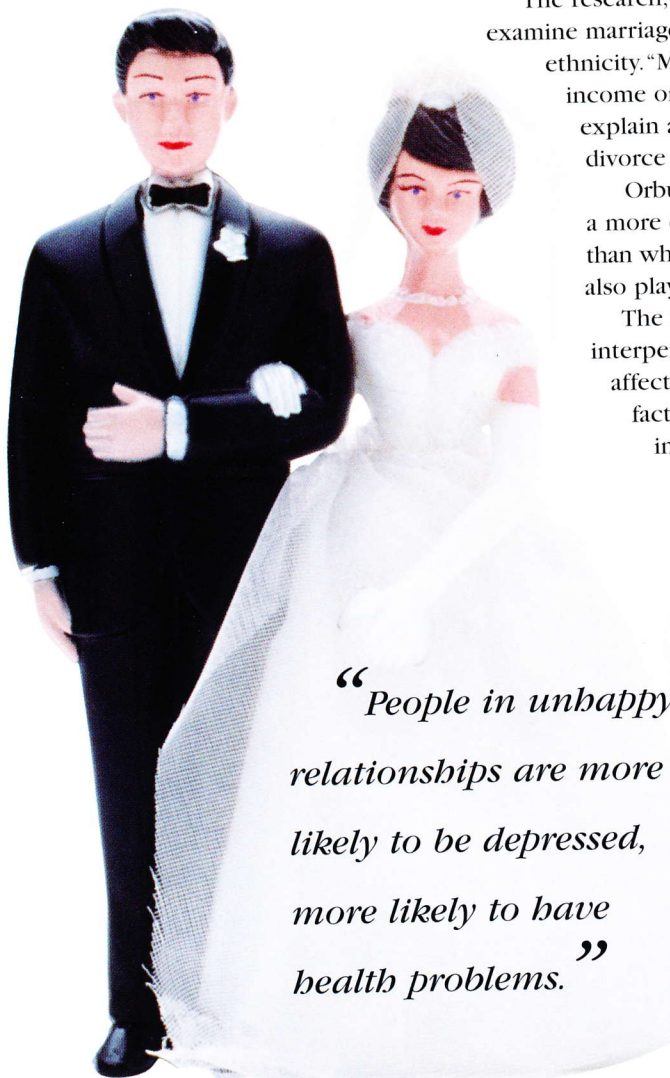
Over the years, the study has grown and evolved, focusing attention on other aspects of long-term relationships, including divorce, remarriage and the effect of children. "We're looking much more at divorced individuals and what predicts adjustment to divorce,"

Orbuch says. "We're also looking at how children adjust. As the economy has changed, we've focused more on financial pressures and how women's work patterns change as their children grow."

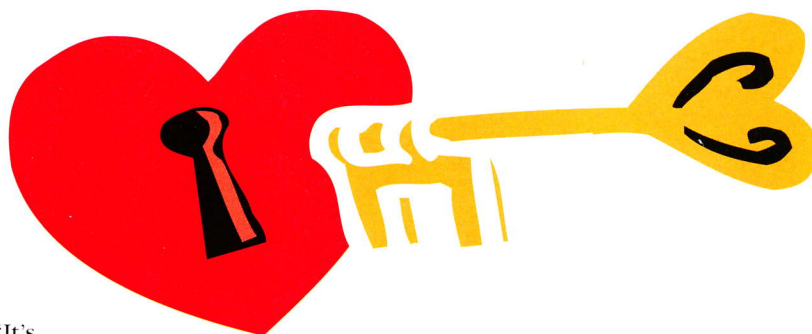
Venus and Mars

Understanding relationships and why they're important is integral to a well-adjusted society. "Relationships are so important to well-being," says Orbuch. "People in unhappy relationships are more likely to be depressed, more likely to have health problems."

One of the keys to maintaining a good relationship, Orbuch contends, is to recognize that men and women do not see things the same way. "We know women and men ask different questions, and they evaluate the health and well-being of relationships differently." Most men, for example, consider themselves content if



"People in unhappy relationships are more likely to be depressed, more likely to have health problems."



they feel appreciated. For women, however, a good relationship means one with a low level of conflict.

"Women hold on to conflict longer," Orbach says. "It's important for husbands to realize that may be why their wives haven't gotten over particular problems." The study asked husbands to describe their last marital conflict. Men had a difficult time recalling arguments. Women, however, could remember the subject of the fight as well as details such as time and place where the argument occurred.

"Our study has confirmed that it's extremely important to constructively manage conflict," Orbach says.

"Destructive conflict resolution is a big predictor of divorce over time. Both men and women say that shouting, name calling, withdrawing and not fighting fair are all very destructive to relationships."

Other destructive factors include substance abuse, infidelity and trust. "When a partner's trust is broken, that can lead to significant unhappiness," Orbach says.

Do's and Don'ts for a successful marriage

- ♥ DO praise each other and give credit for the good things your spouse may do. Statistically, men proved happier in relationships where they received more positive affirmation.
- ♥ DON'T let arguments devolve into destructive conflicts. For both men and women, shouting, name calling, withdrawing and otherwise not fighting fair proved very destructive to their relationships over time.
- ♥ DO remember that trust is everything in a relationship. Once trust is broken, it's incredibly difficult to repair it. Nurturing and protecting trust is critical for a happy marriage.
- ♥ DON'T lose sight of the fact that men and women see conflict differently. While a man may fight and move on, a woman may hold on to that conflict for a long time.
- ♥ DO try to keep a healthy bottom line financially – or at least try to keep finances in perspective. Outside strains such as debt, rising expenses and other burdens can cause unnecessary strife in the long term.
- ♥ DON'T forget to divide the childcare and household tasks fairly and as equitably as possible. If one person feels he or she is doing it all, this can become stressful. ●

There is good news for America's couples, however. "The media would have us believe that divorce rates are increasing," the professor says. "It was 66 percent in the 1980s and 50 percent in the 1990s. Today, it's 45 percent."

Reaching out to couples

Getting the word out on keeping couples happy has become a mission for Orbach. For the past year and a half, she has been sharing her relationship tips with metro Detroiters on WMGC radio's morning show and appears each week on the Fox 2 News Morning Show.

Orbach's pioneering research has earned her significant attention in the field of relationship studies. This past year, she was honored with the prestigious 2004 Article Award from the International Association For Relationship Research, a recognition given only once every two years. "She's really regarded as an extraordinary talent in her field," says David Maines, chairperson of OU's department of sociology and anthropology.

Orbach's research has helped focus the spotlight on the university. "She brings a specialization to this department and a huge research project that only a handful of people are doing nationwide," Maines says. "She's an extremely rare kind of scholar."

Orbach's sights, however, are set beyond what the data can tell her.

"Academic research is very important, but for those of us researching things that are at the heart of people's lives, it's important those findings be disseminated to a wider audience," she says. "There is so much research that can help people understand each other better."

Orbach will reach out even more in the near future with a new book based on her findings. And she will continue her research, following these couples she has come to know so well. "I hope this research continues for a long time," she says. "It's been a wonderful and fascinating study." And she hopes it will "help those in marriages make their relationships happy and successful." ■

Liz Lent is a freelance writer from Birmingham, Mich. ... and happily married.



Wonder-*full*

**Alumnus spends a career
bringing light, learning and fun
into people's lives** By Lillian Lorenzi

Mel Drumm CAS '80 has always been fascinated by the way things work.

"As a kid, I took apart just about everything in the house — and usually put it back together," he says. "My parents were great. They never told me that something couldn't be done."

Drumm, the executive director of the nationally renowned Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum since last October and still a kid himself when it comes to enthusiasm, has spent a self-described eclectic career passing his love of "what makes things tick" on to hundreds of thousands of children and adults in Michigan and across the country.

Drumm, of course, didn't just materialize at the museum (although he would have liked that very much). Just as compelling as his interest in how the physical world operates, is the way Mel Drumm himself *works*.

"When I was a kid, I went to Cranbrook and saw this crazy physicist doing a demonstration on the earth's rotation," he says. "I sat there as this inquisitive 10-year-old and said, 'Ah, I get this.' Little did I know, I'd be working for him in 10 years."

To get there Drumm not only took the road less traveled, he put it on the map, working as a physics technician at the Cranbrook Institute of Science while pursuing combined interests in theatre and computer science at Oakland University.

"I was fascinated by the idea of how technology could control theatre and theatre lighting. I wanted to use microprocessors to manipulate theatre technology," he says.

OU gave him the flexibility to pursue his degree and work part time. Although his academic interests didn't fit neatly into any one curriculum, he says his OU professors were supportive and helped him define his interests.

He started out in engineering, but given his particular bent, wound up in communication arts. "The professors at Oakland really encouraged me," he says. "Here was this young student who was looking to do something totally outside the normal realm of what was going on and they said, 'Sure, try something different.'"

Asking questions

After completing his degree, he continued working at Cranbrook building exhibits while living (and learning) in a very material world. Like Oakland, Drumm found his environment there open ended and expansive. "No one would ever really answer a question at Cranbrook, they would just ask you questions," he says. "I really got caught up in the environment of museums there." Eventually, Drumm took on a project that would influence his career for the next decade. A project, he was told, that was not possible.

"At that time, laser projectors for planetariums were being used all over the world and we wanted to bring that to Cranbrook," he says. "I went to San Francisco and saw this show called Laserium. I ran up to the demonstrator after the presentation and said, 'How do you do that?' and he basically said, 'We're not going to tell you.'"

Drumm returned to Cranbrook and began calling companies that made laser projectors. They also said 'no,' insisting that the institute's planetarium was too small.

No surprise, he did it anyway.

"We refused to believe we couldn't do this," he says. "We ordered laser and sophisticated optical equipment and started working. I wasn't exactly sure how we were going to do it myself, but one of the things I learned at Oakland was how to be resourceful and solve problems."

Carrying moon beams home in a jar

Lasers became a passion for Drumm. He left Cranbrook in 1986 and for the next several years worked with a Boston-based company that brought laser shows to

"...one of the things I learned at Oakland was how to be resourceful and solve problems."



Local youngster Madeleine Raab turns an Oscylider Scope, which uses a moving black and white background to show movement of guitar strings as they are plucked.

museums, corporations and theme parks all over the world. From there, he started his own laser company, bringing educational laser shows to school systems across the country.

Having spent nearly six years traveling, Drumm decided to stay closer to home (and his infant daughter) and return to his first love: museums. He took over as president of the Detroit Science Center in 1995. At the time, the museum had been in the red for decades and many were saying it wasn't going to survive — it couldn't be saved.

Once again, Drumm had a different take on things. In six years, he and the board and staff turned the museum around, got the books back in the black and launched the New Detroit Science Center 2001.

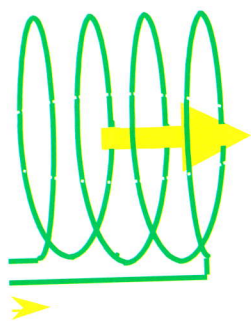
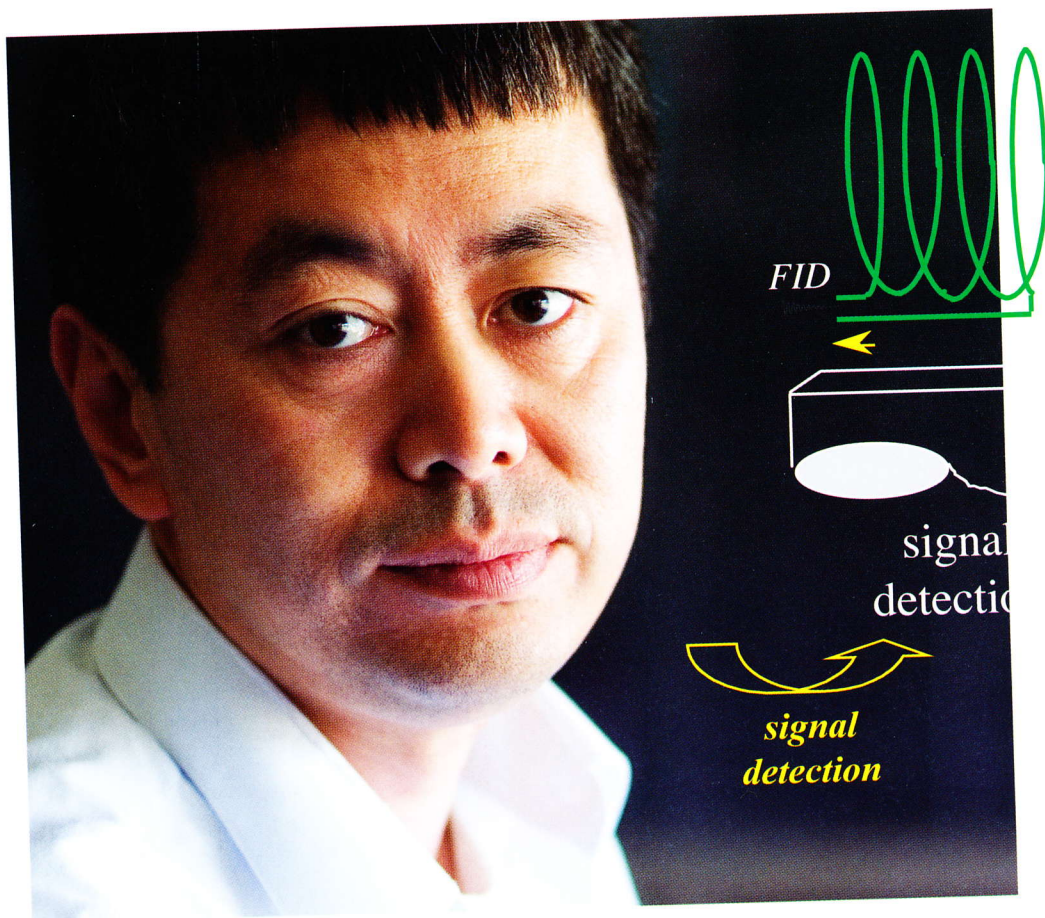
Touchy, feely, icky and really neat

Drumm's can-do attitude and passion for science makes him a perfect fit for the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, where his days are filled with what he loves best — enlightening young minds with the wonders of science. And of course, making sure they have fun doing it.

"I truly can't think of any part of my day that isn't wonderful. Just being here is fun," he says. "Everyone is dedicated to making a difference and the Ann Arbor community really believes in us. It's a true sense of community ownership that drew me here. I really feel like we're inspiring a love of science in everyone. I can't think of anything better."

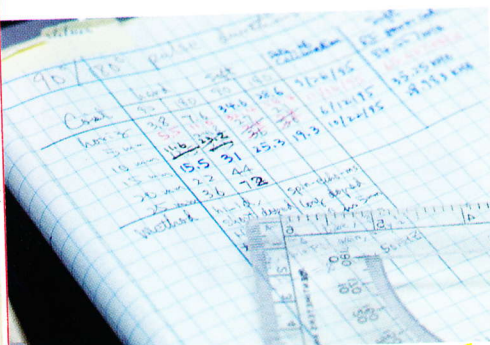
Drumm, whose mantra is, if it's not broken, maybe we should see what breaking it will reveal, is all about — with and without lasers — illumination. ■

Yang Xia
PHYSICS PROFESSOR



Seeing hidden clues in the first signs of arthritis

By Tom Schram



When it comes to osteoarthritis, it all depends on how you look at it. Or so believes the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which this year gave a \$2.1-million grant to Oakland University physics professor Yang Xia for his research on high-tech imaging to prevent the condition.

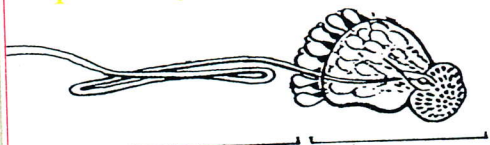
Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis, affecting more than 20 million Americans. It is caused by the degeneration and eventual loss of articular cartilage in a joint. This cartilage is a thin layer of very stiff protective tissue that provides a cushion of support. When it breaks down, bone rubs painfully against bone.

Yang's breakthrough research is studying how to prevent the disease by examining the cartilage through three types of technologically advanced imaging: microscopic magnetic resonance imaging, infrared imaging and polarized light microscopy. The goal is not to find a "cure," but to detect subtle changes in the cartilage that could lead to early intervention and preservation of tissue.

"The problem is, by the time you feel the pain in your joints, it is often too late," says Yang. "We are looking for a set of 'markers' that could become useful in terms of diagnosing disease early — before symptoms — and management."

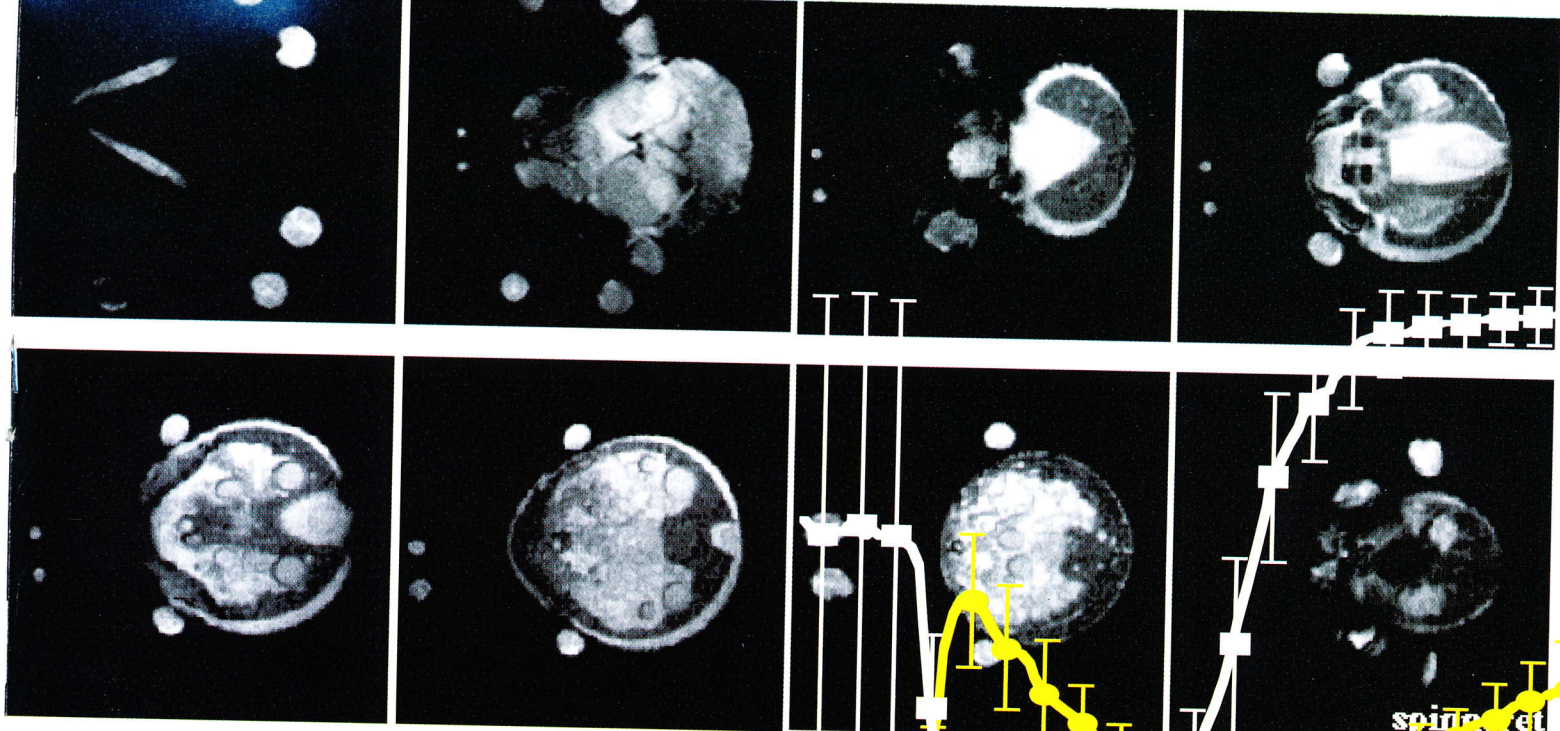
The NIH grant is the second one for Yang for his research on imaging of articular cartilage. "What we try to do is use multiple techniques to study the same system to try

liquid crystal



Duct

Spinneret



to establish some correlations," Yang explains. "Essentially cartilage is a very complex system."

Cartilage is, Yang admits, also an atypical research subject for a physicist. In standard physics experiments "if it works once, it will work a million times," he says. "Once you start working with biological tissues, there are so many variables, so many variables."

To deal with those variables, Yang sought the help of colleagues at OU. He received excellent cooperation, although he was asked the obvious (in the world of biological research) initial question. "They scratched their heads and said, 'Look, we've been studying the same tissue for the last 50 years. What can you tell us that we don't already know?'"

Yang's research is unique and on the cutting-edge of science. "What we do in terms of imaging at the moment no one at a hospital can do," he emphasizes. "We are studying the problem at the highest resolution that anyone can provide on the planet. There just isn't anything more advanced out there."

One of the four students helping with this pioneering research is Ilco Aksovski, who recently graduated with a degree in Engineering Physics and is currently enrolled in Oakland's Ph.D. program in bio-medical physics. Most undergrads would not have the chance to work on this level of research, a fact that is not lost on him.

"It's very rare to allow undergraduate students to work on this kind of complex research," Aksovski says. "I believe Oakland's philosophy is that this is the way to attract young people into science. The United States needs scientists, not only for the present, but even more importantly, for the future. Working on a project that might have such a positive impact on such a large portion of the population is something very special to me. I don't think I could have gotten this experience as an undergrad anywhere else."

Yang says that his task is not nearly finished. In fact, he is working on yet another grant application from the NIH. As he pondered the amount of work yet to be done on cartilage, he shook his head.

"I didn't know the whole story when I got into this," he says with a smile. "Otherwise I probably would have chosen something easier."

Which goes to show that in life, as in cartilage, it just depends on how you look at it. ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.

From left to right, graduate students Rolan Tebob and Niloufar Fozouni; Professor Yang Xia; undergraduate student Ilco Aksovski, who is now a graduate student in the OU medical physics program; Aruna Bidhanapally; lab technician.



Ken Mitton

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES



Shedding light on the eye's DNA

By Tom Schram

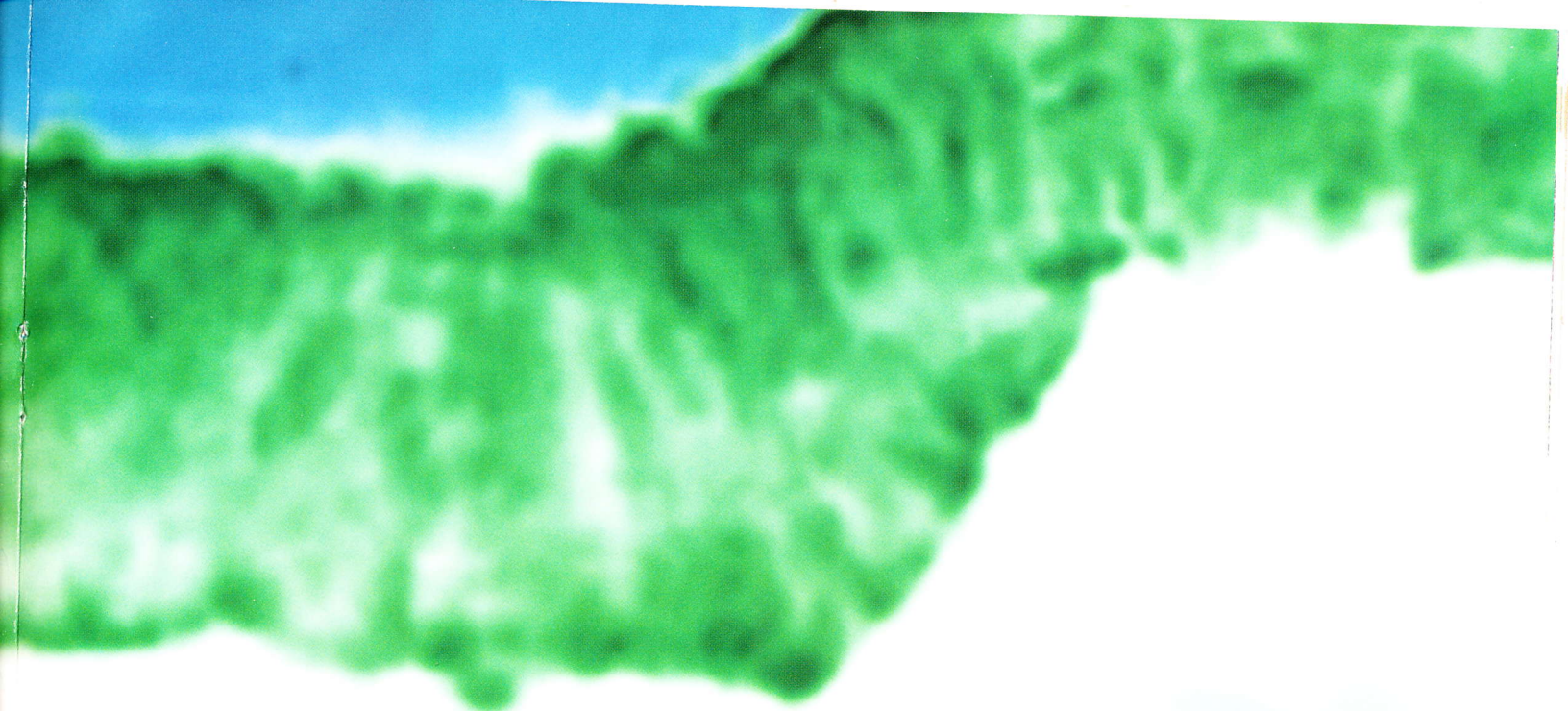
When it comes to researching diseases of the retina, the old adage applies: There is much more than meets the eye. It is a complex area of science, particularly at the genetic level, where Ken Mitton labors as assistant professor of Biomedical Sciences at Oakland University's Eye Research Institute (ERI).

Mitton recently received a \$1.1-million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to continue his work to understand how critical retinal genes are regulated in development and the process of disease. It's not a subject for light reading, but Mitton explains his work this way.

"There are two aspects of the research that are fundamentally important to human health," he says. "The first one is to learn how retinal genes are regulated, and to do that, we need to understand all the switches that control the interactions of these genes."

Genetic defects in several retinal genes result in retinal degenerations. For example, Mitton explains, mutations in the gene for rhodopsin, the light detecting protein of our night vision, can cause blindness. "We look at proteins that act like 'switches,' controlling the expression of the rhodopsin gene," he says. "Defects in those switching proteins cause retinal degeneration."

The second important part of the work is to identify other genetic controlling proteins that are currently unknown. While completing post-doctoral training at the University of



Michigan, Mitton and a colleague discovered “Fiz1”, the gene controlling protein that is the subject of his NIH grant.

Mitton likens the eye to a machine.

“If we learn how the engine works normally, we can understand why it gets broken — from a genetic perspective — and we can engineer remedies,” he adds.

The sight-saving treatments that could potentially result from his research will involve the highly complex, sensitive science of gene and stem cell therapy. Some of the proteins being studied also play roles in other tissues of the body and other diseases including leukemia.

At 43, Mitton is the new guy on the block at the Eye Research Institute, coming to OU in September of 2001 from the Kellogg Eye Center at the University of Michigan. He says Oakland’s ERI is unique as a non-clinical institute, which applies hard science to biomedical research. Mitton has long been aware of OU’s leading reputation in the field.

“When I was a Ph.D. student at the University of Western Ontario, I would read papers in my field from researchers that are here. Mike Riley (ERI professor emeritis) was the external referee for my own Ph.D. thesis,” he says. “It’s a very impressive group of people, and it’s a very supportive environment for research.”

That environment filters its way down to the students.

“Oakland concentrates not only on undergraduate student lectures, but on trying to give these students opportunities to get real hands-on research experience in our labs,” Mitton adds. “The experience they get here very often sets them on a career path in research. They get experience here that simply wouldn’t be available at other institutions. It’s very influential in helping students get into grad school or medical school.”

One of those undergrad students was Afreen Siddiqui, a SUPER (Summer Undergraduate Program in Eye Research) award winner at Oakland in 2002. She worked with

Mitton that summer and stayed on two more years. Now a graduate student at Wayne State University’s Karmanos Cancer Institute, she is working on a Ph.D. in cancer biology. More than 100 students applied for the program; she was one of only six chosen.

“I had a great experience with Dr. Mitton because he let us be hands-on with research,” Siddiqui says. “I think a big part of the reason I am in graduate school is because of that research experience.”

Siddiqui is an example of how ERI research has implications that reach far beyond the vital science of the eye being studied in the labs. It is not only a matter of sight. It’s a matter of vision. ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.

Raghuveer Singh, Eye Research Institute post-doctoral fellow (left), and Ken Mitton look for genetic clues to better understand retinal development and inherited retinal diseases.



Shailesh Lal
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



Genetic plant studies hold possibilities for mankind By Tom Schram

In 2003, Oakland University Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Shailesh Lal was sitting up late one night in his office. He was not only sitting in his office, he was sitting in the midst of a dilemma.

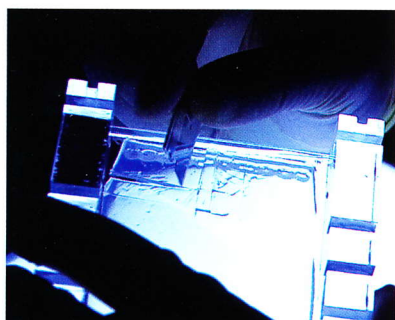
"I was thinking about what my next publishing project would be and my mind went back to gene sequencing I had done in 1997 at the University of Florida. It was promising but I didn't know if it would have the potential for published work," Lal says. He explains that the sequencing was interesting, but genome mapping had not advanced enough to tell whether it was significant.

"But since 1997, science had changed and advanced," he adds. "There was more data in the database. So I went back and revisited the data I had in 1997. And at that time I could not have made the discovery I did in 2003. So with the new data in the database, I said 'Oh my God, I think I've found something really unique.'"

What he had found led him to the discovery of helitrons — genes that jump from one part of the corn genome to another.

"When the genes jump from one place to another, they take a segment of the genome and they insert it all over the genome," Lal says. "The first implication is purely academic. How did our genome evolve?"





But other implications are potentially staggering. Plants could be genetically engineered to increase yield dramatically, thus aiding in the fight against world hunger. Diseases that attack plants could

be eliminated. The problem of antibiotic resistance could be solved. And since genes also jump in humans, the discovery could be significant in the fight against cancer.

"Jumping genes are the major etiology for cancer in human beings," Lal says. "So there is a lot of biomedical application to what I do, even though I study plants."

Lal, who recently received a \$104,325 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue his research, says the work on jumping genes is only the beginning. It's a lesson that he has tried to pass on to the students who assist him in his lab.

"The first thing Dr. Lal told me is that you have to be patient," says Eric Fouladbash an OU graduate student majoring in molecular biology. "Sometimes things don't work out for a reason and as a scientist you have to understand the mechanisms of why it's not working out. That's one of the great challenges."

And Natalie Jameson, an undergraduate studying biology, worked with Lal this past summer as an intern. She says the opportunity gave her legitimate research experience early in her academic career.

"One of the best things about being at Oakland is that if I were at a bigger school, I'd only be allowed to wash dishes," Jameson says. "Getting this kind of research experience as an undergrad is a pretty big deal. It's really helping me understand whether research is something I want to do. Now I realize how much I love it."

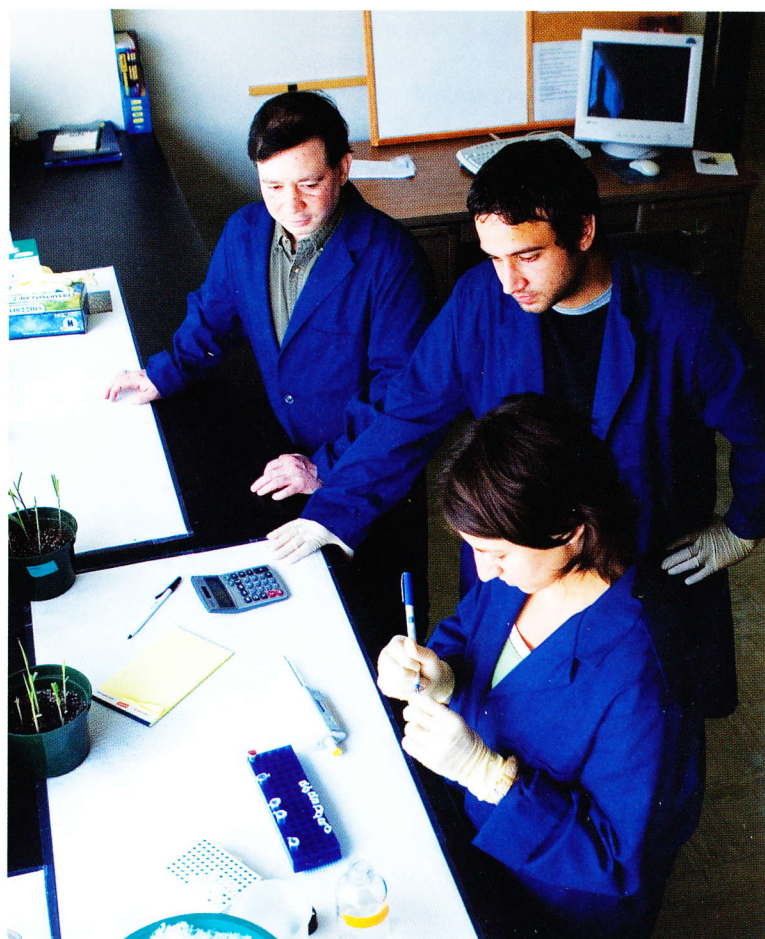
Lal did end up publishing his findings in a paper for the National Academy of Sciences and for the prestigious journal *The Plant Cell*. It all came about because two years

ago one professor's mind wandered back to work he had set aside in 1997.

"When I go to conferences, many people ask me, 'How did you discover that?' And I tell them ADD — attention deficit disorder," he says with a smile. ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.

Assistant Professor Shailesh Lal works side by side with graduate student Eric Fouladbash, who is studying molecular biology, and undergraduate biology student Natalie Jameson.



Ken Hightower
DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF
HEALTH SCIENCES



Mountains of OU data may hold clues to deadly syndrome By Tom Schram

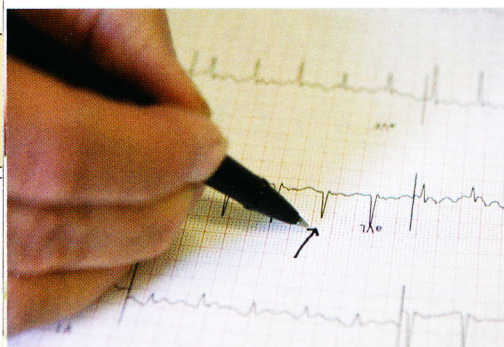
When you find a vein of gold, you mine it. Or so goes the philosophy of the School of Health Sciences (SHS). In this case, the precious commodity in question is 25 years of data gleaned from records of the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute.

From 1979 until it closed in 2003, the campus-based institute kept detailed health records of more than 8,000 members in Southeast Michigan, creating a unique and lasting opportunity for OU professors and students to study the prevalence and trends of a wide range of health issues for years to come.

"When the institute closed some people said, 'What are you going to do with all that information? I hope you're going to do some research,'" says Ken Hightower, SHS dean. "So when I became dean a few years ago, I said, 'Let's look at that data. Let's go over the records anonymously.'"

And so the process of analyzing, digitizing and sifting through mountains of data began. More than 3,000 of the records were of sufficient duration to make them of value to researchers. The first health issue being studied is metabolic syndrome, a relatively new term that encompasses some very old problems.

The term came into use in the last three years to describe people who have at least three of five common risk factors. Metabolic syndrome, also sometimes known as





Syndrome X, is a cluster of metabolic disorders — encompassing such areas as abdominal obesity, elevated blood pressure, high insulin levels, and abnormal cholesterol levels — that greatly increases the chances of developing diabetes, heart disease and/or stroke.

“Fifty million American adults have it and probably most don’t know it,” says Hightower. “It’s simply a cluster of three everyday abnormalities that many of us have. If you have the syndrome, your chances may be quadrupled for having cardiovascular disease. Your chances are almost guaranteed that, if you have metabolic syndrome at age 40, you’ll have diabetes at age 50; your chances of having a stroke triple.”

Under the direction of Hightower and other SHS professors, one undergraduate and five graduate students began examining the data. What they found was surprising.

“We found that the people who joined the institute were much fitter than the population of adult Americans at large,” says Hightower. “We also looked at BMI (body mass index) and the development of other risk factors — high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol — over time. The health and trending data in these records is particularly valuable because they encompass such a long period of time — we’ve got health records that span 25 years. Most studies just don’t provide data over that long a period.”

Preliminary results revealed that only 17 percent of the study group had metabolic syndrome when they joined the institute, well below the 24 percent national average. Hightower also says that preliminary data suggest that institute members had a high success rate of syndrome reversal. Finding out the “whys” to these anomalies is part of the next research phase and may reveal clues to lifestyle changes that can help people avoid becoming part of the growing number of syndrome statistics.

Hightower also sees promise in future research to examine yet-unanswered questions such as prognoses for people who have varying combinations of the symptoms that define metabolic syndrome.

That research avenue will create excellent opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to examine the data, studying not only metabolic syndrome, but a host of other health-related problems. It also offers students the

extremely valuable — and unusual — opportunity of getting published in scientific journals.

Heather Rea is a graduate student in exercise science who saw the database as a unique chance for pursuing her career goals.

“I have a real interest in preventive disease and lifestyle issues,” she says. “When I heard about this data set, I was really attracted. The experience itself — the research process that I’ve used — has been an invaluable learning opportunity for me.”

Mark Maxwell, exercise science graduate student, also worked on the data. “Research opportunities are what science is all about,” he says. “You do not have an educational process without research. For me, this project was a practical application of the concepts covered in the classroom.”

And the database is not going anywhere. It will remain an invaluable tool, a virtual gold mine with one loud message for faculty and students at the university’s School of Health Sciences: Dig in. ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer from Huntington Woods, Mich.

School of Health Sciences Dean Ken Hightower and Heather Rea, graduate student in exercise science, input and analyze thousands of health files looking for insights into metabolic syndrome, a relatively new term encompassing some very well-known health problems.



Alumni

Susan Davies Goepp

Vice President, University Relations
Executive Director, Oakland University
Foundation

Adrienne Bass

Director, Alumni Relations

Erin Czelada

Assistant Director, Alumni Relations

Julie Vulaj

Director, Annual Giving

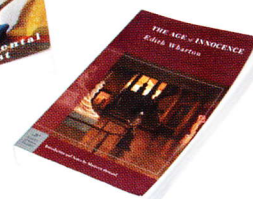
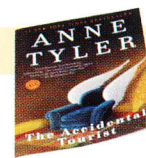
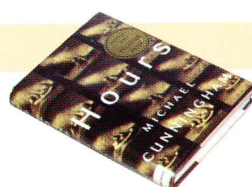
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or take advantage of the form on page 42. Help
make the Class Notes section more interesting by
submitting a recent photo of yourself (color or black
and white print or negative), or high resolution
digital picture.



Read the book, see the movie

If you love books and adore movies, the new Literature to Film Book Club is for you. This exclusive club, created just for OUAA members, began in May with a reading of Anne Tyler's *The Accidental Tourist*, followed by a viewing and in-depth discussion of the movie it inspired. Led by Anne Switzer, OU assistant professor of information services and outreach librarian for the Kresge Library, the club is already gaining popularity.

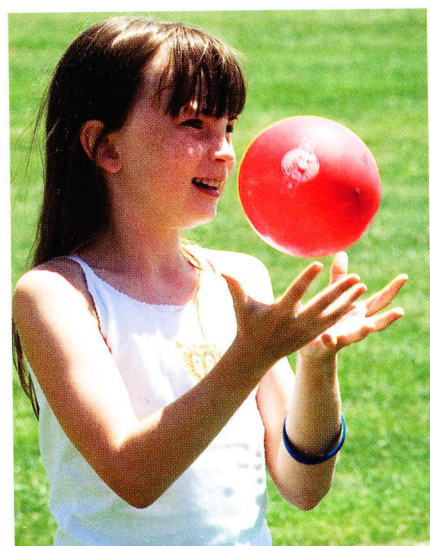
Members meet every four to six weeks for lively conversation and, of course, good company. Club members select books, with titles reflecting a healthy diversity of interests. So far, the group has read and seen *Girl with the Pearl Earring*, *Age of Innocence* and *Catch-22*,

the choice of club member and class of 1970 graduate Ed Brouhard.

"Being a fan of literature and films, this format was perfect," Brouhard says. "The discussions are uniformly intelligent and enlightening. Would we expect anything else from OU grads?"

As if that's not enticement enough to join, participants also receive a book club tote bag, compliments of Kresge Library and OUAA. So don those glasses, get out the bookmarks and start reading. For more information on joining the Literature to Film Book Club, call Gail Meyers, OUAA membership coordinator, at (248) 364-6132 or e-mail her at meyers@oakland.edu. ●

Left: Lynn Gross SBA '87 and her 8-year-old daughter, Stacey (right), and 5-year-old son, James, enjoy the day. Middle: Cassie Darling sits patiently for face painting. Nearly 200 alumni, students, faculty, staff and community members turned out for the first annual Family Fun Fest.



Alumni fun in the summertime

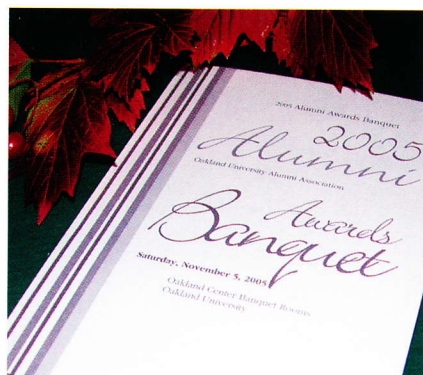
What better way to celebrate summertime than with friends and family? That's what nearly 200 OU alumni, students, faculty, staff and community friends discovered on July 23 at the first annual Family Fun Festival. Hosted by OU's Alumni Association (OUAA) and Oakland County Parks and Recreation, the event was held on the university campus and provided a perfect opportunity for friends of Oakland to get together for games, food, contests, prizes and more.

Many local radio stations were on site for the event, including WRIF, 89X

Radio, WDTJ, WKRK, WYCD and DOUG FM. They provided music, food and drink samples, prizes and the chance to win everything from concert tickets to sports jerseys. Partygoers also enjoyed tours of the OU campus provided by the 2005 Orientation Group Leaders; a visit from the Grizz; face-painting by Paint Creek Center for the Arts; and science experiments from Mad Science of Oakland County.

Plans are underway for another festival next year, so watch for details in 2006. ●

Alumni Awards Banquet recognizes excellence



This November, OU alumni gathered to honor their own at the 11th annual OUAA Alumni Awards Banquet. The awards honor achievement in business, community service, volunteerism and more.

This year's honorees include OU Adjunct Professor and attorney **Susan J. Evans CAS '88**, who was recognized with the Distinguished Alumni Service Award, OU's highest alumni honor. University of Southern California Professor of Chemistry **Dr. Charles E. McKenna CAS '66** was selected winner of the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, recognizing outstanding professional achievements or contributions to the community. The Spirit Awards, which honor exemplary volunteer service to OU, go to attorney **Peter J. Lucindo CAS '83** and **John Ganfield SBA '81**, former Senior Vice President of JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., while The Odyssey Award, which recognizes those graduates who exemplify OU's motto "to seek virtue and knowledge," goes to Seacoast Science Center President **Wendy W. Lull CAS '74**. Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club President **Roberta Bresette**, Men's Basketball Coach **Greg Kampe** and former SBA Interim Associate Dean **John Tower** received Honorary Alumni Awards, which recognize individuals who did not graduate from OU but who have rendered outstanding service to the university.

Hosted by Jill Washburn, formerly of WDIV Local 4 News, the awards were held on November 5. ●



Jim Aubry (right), member of the President's Club Executive Committee, with Richard Gibbs at the annual OUAA/President's Club Golf Classic.

A swing in support of scholarships

The annual OUAA/President's Club Golf Classic just keeps growing! More than 250 golfers turned out on August 22 at Oakland's R & S Sharf Golf Course to raise funds for student scholarships. Now in its third year, the outing offered two tee times due to popular demand. The daylong event featured 18 holes of golf, a boxed lunch, hors d'oeuvre reception,

door prizes and a raffle. This year's raffle ticket buyers competed for a golf getaway for four to A-GA-MING Golf Resort on Torch Lake as well as jewelry, a round of golf for four at OU's Katke-Cousins Golf Course and much more. Together, golfers, hole sponsors and corporate sponsors raised \$15,000 in support of student scholarships. ●

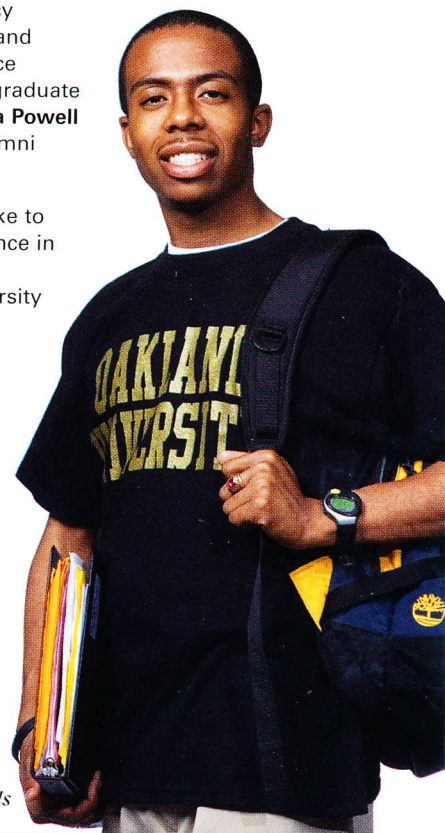
Scholarship fund breaks \$1 million mark

More students than ever are benefiting from an Oakland University education, thanks to the outstanding generosity of OU alumni. This year, the OUAA Scholarship Fund reached the \$1 million mark.

This fall, 14 students benefited from an OUAA scholarship, including senior marketing and Spanish major **Natalia Blasco** (SBA Alumni Scholarship); senior journalism major **Julie Swidwinski** and senior sociology and linguistics major **Ann Schreier** (CAS Alumni Scholarships); junior elementary education major **Michael Lerchenfeldt** (SEHS Alumni Scholarship); senior computer science major **Miguel Castillo** (SECS Alumni Scholarship); senior wellness, health promotion and injury prevention major **Nicole Winkowski** (SHS Alumni Scholarship); senior nursing major **Adrienne Walker** (SON Alumni Scholarship); senior human resource development major **O'Juan Edwards** (Black Alumni Scholarship); junior instrumental music education and performance major **Katherine Fox** (Honors College Alumni Scholarship); junior marketing major **Trevor Stuve** (Frances C. Amos SBA Alumni Scholarship); junior computer engineering

major **Rami Haddad** (Thomas A. Yatooma Alumni Memorial Scholarship for SECS); freshman **Mark Andrews** and sophomore English major **Christina Wagner** (Legacy Scholarships) and human resource development graduate student **Sandra Powell** (Returning Alumni Scholarship).

If you would like to make a difference in the life of an Oakland University student by supporting the OUAA Scholarship Fund, please contact Carol Carpenter at (248) 364-6134 or e-mail at cmcarpen@oakland.edu. ●



O'Juan Edwards



You're invited home for the holidays for

MEADOW BROOK HALL 35TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY WALK

TOURS

Thursday – Sunday from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(last admittance 4 p.m.)

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

How about breakfast with the big guy?
Dec. 10 & 17 from 9 – 11 a.m.
Reservations required.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE AT THE GRAND MANOR

An evening of 1940s holiday treats, traditions
and entertainment throughout incredible
Meadow Brook Hall. Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.
Reservations required.

VISIT THE MUSEUM SHOP

Looking for that perfect gift for someone special? Make sure your
next visit to the hall includes a stop in the new Meadow Brook Hall
Museum Shop. Browse amid the books, postcards, special holiday
gift items, T-shirts and tote bags, along with unique gift items that
relate to the hall including exquisite tea sets. The shop also sells
beverages, snacks and candy.

Shop hours: 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. Monday – Friday;

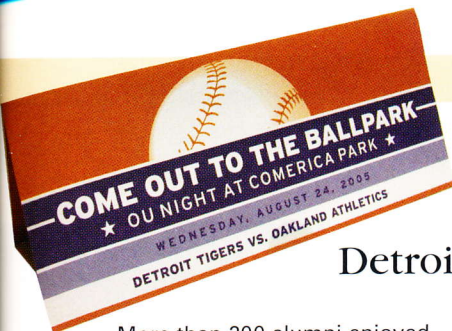
11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

*During the Holiday Walk (November 25 – December 18)
shop hours are Monday – Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.*



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

For more information, call (248) 364-6200 or
visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.



Alumni cheer on Detroit Tigers at OU Night

More than 200 alumni enjoyed baseball under the stars at the first-ever OU Night at Comerica Park in August. Friends and families gathered for a private pre-game reception at the park featuring snacks, drinks and a chance to mingle. Participants then headed out to their seats to savor a perfect summer's night at the ballpark. Free OU t-shirts to the first 100 people at the reception helped cushion the blow of the Tigers' loss that night. OUAA plans to host another OU Night at Comerica Park next season. Watch for details. ●



OU Night at Comerica Park.

See the world with OUAA

Pack your bags now for a travel-filled 2006, starting in February with a seven-day excursion to Hong Kong. OUAA members and their families will

venture by land and sea through this vibrant city and experience life in one of the world's fastest growing countries. In May, spend eight days with fellow alumni in Kitzbuhel, Austria. Nestled in the heart of the Austrian Alps, this city is one of the country's most famous resorts.

Offered in conjunction with Global Holidays travel agency, these OUAA-sponsored trips include round-trip air transportation and first-class hotel accommodations. For more information or to reserve your spot now, call (800) 842-9023 or visit www.globalholidaysinc.com and ask for details on Oakland University excursions. ●



Future is now with FANS

Members of the Future Alumni Network (FANS) kicked off the start of the school year with their annual distribution of the Student Discount Card. Created by FANS and OUAA, the card offers Oakland University students deep discounts at some of the area's most popular retailers. With a student discount card in hand, shoppers can save anywhere from 10 to 50 percent or

more on everything from dinner, yoga sessions and dry cleaning to a trip to the spa, and even ice cream. Participating merchants include East Side Marios, Taste of Thailand, Green's Art Supply, SEE Eyewear and many more. For a complete list of stores and discounts, visit www.oakland.edu/org/fans. If you're a student and have not received a card, e-mail FANS@oakland.edu to have one sent to you. ●

Alumni and Legacy scholarships available

Every year, the OUAA helps students and returning alumni by providing scholarship assistance through a number of scholarship awards. Two of the OUAA scholarship awards that will be accepting applications this January are:

- Legacy Scholarship, awarded to incoming freshmen and sophomore students who have a parent or grandparent who is an OU graduate and member of the OUAA. Applicants must have at least a 3.0 GPA and be a full-time student.
- Returning Alumni Scholarship, available to OU graduates who are pursuing a second degree at Oakland. Applicants must have applied and been accepted into a degree program (certifications excluded).

Both scholarships are non-renewable \$2,000 awards and will be distributed during the fall 2006 and winter 2007 semesters. Scholarship applications will be available online at www.oualumni.com beginning January 3, 2006 and must be submitted by February 10. For more information, call Carol Carpenter at (248) 364-6134 or e-mail cmcarpen@oakland.edu. ●

Tell us what you think

During the coming months, OUAA will be distributing an online survey to members of our alumni population. We are looking for your opinions on general topics such as your student and alumni experiences at OU as well as more specific feedback on OUAA programs, services and benefits. As always, the opinions and ideas of our alumni are vital to us as we plan ways to better serve you. Be on the lookout for a survey coming your way soon, and let your voice be heard! ●

CAS

Good to be green

This year the OU community is examining the biological, social and cultural conditions that influence the world and shape the environment through books, classes, lectures and events as part of the "Celebrating Liberal Arts: Environmental Explorations" theme.

Sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences with support from Student Affairs and Academic Affairs, this global perspective on the environment emphasizes the multidisciplinary aspect of an Oakland education.



Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

On October 5, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., chief prosecuting attorney for Riverkeeper, senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council and president of the Waterkeeper Alliance, spoke about environmental issues. Meadow Brook Art Gallery presented an

environmental photography exhibit, which featured the work of eight internationally known artists. CAS classes enjoyed OU's 2005-06 community book, *The Future of Life*, by Harvard biologist Edward O. Wilson.

Along with environmental-themed classes, films and panel discussions, student activities included writing contests, campus cleanup, nature observation and informational fairs. Engaging in a parallel theme titled "Environment and Public Health," The Honors College included classes on mental health, AIDS, environmental cleanup and infectious diseases.

On March 14, environmental activist and Colorado State University Philosophy Professor Holmes Rolston will talk about environmental ethics for the inaugural Richard Burke Visiting Scholar in Religion, Philosophy and Society program.

SBA

Supply side smarts

A new graduate concentration in supply chain management offers School of Business Administration students an important opportunity to advance their knowledge with insightful study of competitive companies that operate smoothly with the many suppliers and partners they rely upon each day.

Launched this fall, the concentration focuses on supplier-customer relationships, recognizing that successful interactions play an important role in cutting costs, pleasing customers and gaining market share — critical aspects in today's fiercely competitive business environment. "Supply chain management addresses, among other things, how companies can work together to provide enhanced value for the final consumer, as well as for themselves," says Henry Aigbedo, assistant professor of production operations management.

With a wide range of professional backgrounds, students in the supply chain management class discuss procurement, distribution, global issues, ethics and mass customization (the practice of customizing products for specific customers or customer groups).

In addition to this course, OU's supply chain management concentration goes beyond what others offer to create a comprehensive study with the following courses: supply chain purchasing, supply chain logistics, management and control of quality, and customer and supplier relations in the global enterprise.

SECS

Automotive giants, FAJRI leaders look for new technologies

Leaders from OU's Fastening and Joining Research Institute (FAJRI) signed a four-way research collaboration agreement with DaimlerChrysler, Mercedes Benz and the Material Testing Institute at the University of Stuttgart in Stuttgart, Germany, to work on a project that will further the growing trend of using composite materials in automotive applications.



School of Engineering and Computer Science Dean Pieter Frick (left) discusses the agreement between OU's Fastening and Joining Research Institute and DaimlerChrysler, Mercedes Benz and the University of Stuttgart.

The project, titled "Fastening and Joining of Automotive Composites and Polymers," also includes opportunities for student and faculty exchanges, where OU engineering students and faculty members will spend six weeks at the University of Stuttgart.

Created in June 2003, researchers at FAJRI explore the fundamental and applied research to develop and disseminate new technology for the fastening and joining of metals, composites and polymers.

Degrees focus on manufacturing

To better meet the needs of the manufacturing industry, Oakland has created a new department of Industrial Systems Engineering (ISE). The department is responsible for the bachelor's program in systems engineering, master's program in systems engineering with a manufacturing option, and the master's program in engineering management.

ISE will also participate in the schoolwide Ph.D. program in Systems Engineering. In the near future, the bachelor's program will be restructured into an industrial and systems engineering program and the engineering management master's program will also have an executive engineering management track. ISE will also provide oversight to the Product Development and Manufacturing Center.

Additionally, SECS introduced a new bachelor's degree program in information

technology this fall, providing students a strong undergraduate work experience in applied information technology through industry internships or participation in industry sponsored projects, as well as on-going research opportunities with faculty.

SEHS

A new master's option for working adults

OU's School of Education and Human Services introduced a new degree option that allows students to earn a master's degree in teaching with initial elementary teacher certification.

The Master of Arts in Teaching with elementary certification program, which began this fall, is designed for individuals who have already earned a bachelor's degree and want to pursue a career teaching grades K-8. Except for one semester of daytime student teaching, all classes are scheduled in the evening and on Saturdays. The 48-credit program prepares future teachers by requiring students to complete 100 hours of field experience and 12 weeks of student teaching. Classes, which are taken as a cohort group, are offered at the Macomb Intermediate School District in Clinton Township and at Troy High School.

Advancing Oakland's leading reputation for teacher preparation, the new program is aligned with State of Michigan requirements for teacher certification and major and minor teaching endorsements. Applications for the fall 2006 semester are due April 1. For more information, contact Professional Development at (248) 370-3033 or pro-development@oakland.edu.

SHS

First DPT students to graduate

Oakland's School of Health Sciences will graduate its first Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students this December. Twenty-eight students will earn their clinical doctorate degree, and will be prepared to treat and care for physical therapy patients.

Consisting of one class of students per year, the DPT program provides students with the opportunity to develop personal

skills for productive citizenship along with the professional skills of physical therapy. Full-time students enroll in the professional program for three-and-a-half years. Upon graduation, students may apply to take the professional licensure examination.

Physical therapists are employed in a variety of settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, public schools, private offices, rehabilitation centers, community health centers, research centers, industry, home health care, athletic programs and physical therapy educational programs. For more information about Oakland's PT program, visit www.oakland.edu/shs/pt.



Adjunct Physical Therapy Instructor Sue Salinga (right) works with students Tricia McNeil and Brian Felczak, who are both pursuing doctor of physical therapy degrees.

SON

Beyond the classroom

When students in Oakland's traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program graduate, they are on the cutting edge of health care practice and light years ahead of the competition, thanks to the real-world experience they receive in the School of Nursing.

In addition to taking courses in the classroom each semester, students participate in clinical experiences on a regular basis. Clinicals vary from course to course, covering a broad range of areas including pediatrics, medical/surgical, obstetrics, psychiatric, community and geriatric nursing. Held in hospitals and community agencies all over Oakland,

Macomb and Wayne Counties, BSN students spend an average of six to 15 hours per week in a clinical setting with an OU faculty member. "The clinical experience enables students to apply the theoretical material they learn in the classroom to patient care in real world settings," says Diane Norris, SON associate dean and assistant professor.

Oakland's School of Nursing is the only education provider in Oakland County offering undergraduate, degree completion and master's programs in nursing accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

HC

Scholarships attract best and brightest

Two new scholarship opportunities are helping The Honors College continue to attract bright, highly motivated, inquisitive students to Oakland University. Three incoming freshman, Michelle Grzesiak, Erin Kott and Michelle Maxfield, received the Credit Union One COS Scholar Award, a one-year scholarship that covers tuition and fees, room and board, and books. Recipients must have a minimum 3.8 GPA and 31 ACT, and demonstrate leadership qualities to be eligible.

"It's such an immense feeling of relief to not worry about how I'm going to pay for my tuition and books," says Grzesiak, a music theatre major from Owosso, Mich. "Now I'll be able to focus completely on my classes for my freshman year, which I hear is the hardest because of the transition period. It takes a lot of stress off of me, and I'm really going to use that to my advantage." Grzesiak lives on campus in the residence hall designated for Honors College students, another requirement of the award.

Ten other incoming freshmen received \$2,000 Credit Union One CO Awards, given to first-year Honors College students who have a minimum 3.5 GPA, 25 ACT score and demonstrate leadership. ●



The Honors College

CAREER / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1960s

Gerald (Jerry) J. Smith CAS '69 was the first props master for Meadow Brook Theatre. He has been living in Toronto, Ontario, since 1969 and in 1970 received his Master of Arts degree in Theatre History from the University of Toronto under Robertson Davies. In November 2004, he became deputy registrar, Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists.

Robert Szymke CAS '68 retired from the Michigan Department of Corrections in June 2004 after 32 years of state service as assistant deputy warden of programming at the Oaks Correctional Facility, and assistant deputy warden in charge of Camp Sauble. He is currently considering future career options.

Judy (Rosencrants) Walter SEHS '69 is now the director, Educational Services Division at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) in Bethesda, Md. ASHP is the largest provider of continuing education to pharmacists in hospitals and health systems, with a mid-year clinical meeting that attracts more than 17,000 participants. She continues to reside in Alexandria, Va.

1970s

Gerald Alt CAS '76 was promoted to president and chief operating officer of LOGS Network in January. LOGS is a national financial services company that manages 24 law firms operating in 31 states whose primary business is representation of mortgage lenders.

Richard Clanton CAS '76 was recently recognized by Grand Rapids Community College and several African-American organizations as the recipient of The Walter Coe Public Service Award, one of 12 Giant awards given out annually to West Michigan community leaders. Clanton was honored for his work as executive director overseeing construction of the downtown YMCA facility and building relationships throughout the community. His wife, Deborah, was also honored with the Floyd Skinner Justice Award for her work as director of

probation services and magistrate for the 62nd B District Court.

Joseph P. Drader Sr. MSE '75 is battling a serious disease, Primary AL Amyloidosis. Prayers are appreciated. His first son, Joseph, married Marie Mathe in October 2005.

Robert J. Frank CAS '73, through his home inspection company RJ Frank Home Inspections – A Buyer's Ally-ASHI, has completed his 10,000th home inspection.



Gwendolyn (Shumpert) Franklin SON '79 has been accepted into the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program, a national advanced-

leadership program for nurses in senior executive roles in health services, public health and nursing education who aspire to help lead and shape the United States health care system of the future. This three-year fellowship is designed for fellows to remain in their current positions, and is intended to offer participating nurses the experiences, competencies and skills necessary to achieve or advance in executive leadership positions in a health care system.

Mary Beth Ginter SEHS '79 was chosen to participate in the National Institute for Leadership Development LEADERS program, an international program for administrators and faculty in higher education. She is employed as executive assistant to the president of PIMA Community College West Campus.

Sigrid Grace MAT '79, second grade teacher at Orchard Primary School of Almont Community Schools, was elected chair of the Early Childhood Educators Caucus of the National Education Association. She was elected at the 143rd Annual Meeting of the NEA on July 3 in Los Angeles, Calif.

Robert F. Grant SBA '79 has been named executive vice president and head of TCF Bank Michigan's commercial banking division. Grant will manage the people responsible for the bank's relationships

with corporate, commercial real estate and private banking customers. He has offices in Ann Arbor and Troy. Grant and his wife reside in Brighton.

Leslie G. Griffen CAS '70 started a new business, The Griffen Group, LLC and also works full time as the marketing officer for FBD Consulting, Inc., a national full-service benefit design and administration firm and human resources consulting firm in Kansas City.



Steven Kaplan CAS '75 is an assistant prosecuting attorney in Macomb County. Recently, he gained a jury conviction in the first case that brought charges of making a terrorist threat in Michigan under the statute that was enacted in 2002.

Daniel V. Kinsella CAS '73 has been selected as one of Illinois' Super Lawyers in a survey of peers conducted by the research department of Law & Politics and the publishers of *Chicago Magazine*. He is a shareholder in the Chicago law firm of Schuyler, Roche & Zwirner and concentrates his practice in the area of labor and employment law. He is a member of the Board of Editors of three books published by the American Bar Association in conjunction with the Bureau of National Affairs. The books are: *Covenants Not To Compete: A 50-State Survey*; *Trade Secrets: A 50-State Survey*; and *Employee Duty of Loyalty: A 50-State Survey*. He is also a frequent speaker on labor and employment law issues.



Jonathan Lowe SBA '74 has joined the team of financial and philanthropic advisers at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit as associate

director of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund.

1970s *continue*

Jim Olson SECS '72 is owner of zimmathematics.com, a Web site specializing in creative mathematics, applications, math art, song/poem, expressions/formulas, math games, creative concept lists, discussion and biography.

Judge Stephen M. Rubin CAS '71 of Tucson, Ariz. was elected Secretary of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) at their annual meeting in Boston. Judge Rubin has been on the bench since 1987. He was in his fifth year as a trustee of the council when he was elected. The NCJFCJ is the oldest and largest judicial membership organization in the country. The Reno-based NCJFCJ provides training and technical assistance to courts, judges, lawyers and other court service professionals.



Helena Ruffin CAS '79 has worked in the fields of sales management and marketing for more than 22 years, working with companies such as CBS/Viacom,

Arbitron Ratings, and Infinity Radio Sales. She was sought after by many high profile new media companies and served as vice president for several years at NetZero, CBS Storerunner and most recently Clear Channel Interactive. After nearly a decade of dominating her position in Los Angeles, the number one radio market in America, Helena's entrepreneurial spirit could wait no longer and she created RuffinDirect, an eMarketing firm that focuses on the needs of the financial services community. With family ties in the financial services industry, Helena understood the needs of financial advisers and tailored eMarketing solutions to help them communicate more effectively to their market. This opened up a new opportunity and she went to work with Rose Greene Financial Services as an insurance specialist and has received her Series 6 Securities license.

Michelle Simmons CAS '78 was promoted to senior associate director of the Bowling Green State University (Ohio) Career Center.



Charting his own course

John Denison, CEO of ATA Airlines.

John Denison SBA '67 believes job satisfaction really is possible for most people. Achieving it calls for hard work, integrity and a few simple rules.

"From my own experience, live in the present," Denison says. "Enjoy what you're doing, and treat with dignity the people you have the opportunity to work with."

Denison, who became the CEO of ATA Airlines in February, follows his own advice. He has discovered considerable rewards in the airline industry. "The people are fun, and the work is fast paced and challenging," he says. "My most recent work at ATA has given me an opportunity to contribute at a later time in my career."

Though the Indianapolis-based airline filed for bankruptcy in October 2004, it continues to provide service to more than 30 destinations. Denison is working to steer the company toward a healthier future.

He says he gained an important foundation for his business career while earning his economics degree at Oakland University. "My experience at Oakland confirmed that remaining dedicated to something could actually lead to a successful result," says Denison, who also met his wife, Kathy, at OU.

In his case, dedication has consistently proven to be fruitful. Denison went on to earn an MBA in finance from Wayne State University and launch a career with Chrysler Corp. He still remembers the interview that landed him in the finance department after a two-year stint in the U.S. Army. Denison told the interviewer, Joe Arpin, he didn't know what people did in his department, but if given a chance he would get it done. "After a few minutes Joe said, 'John, business is not nuclear physics. It is 90 percent willingness to work hard along with a little intelligence.'"

Later, Denison would hold corporate finance roles with The LTV Corp. — a conglomerate with interests in steel, energy and aerospace — and senior management positions with Southwest Airlines.

Denison says the airline industry does have its challenges. They range from the ongoing impact of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, to the recent upturn in fuel prices. He says working under difficult circumstances can be satisfying, even on the days it's not fun. "You can still feel good about what you do and what you're accomplishing," he says. ■

By Flori Meeks CAS '88 a freelance writer from Tomball, Texas.

1970s *continue*

Lisa (Fitzpatrick) Sokol CAS '74 is acting director of the Orion Senior Center in Lake Orion.

Ray Thibodeau SBA '78 recently joined CIBC World Markets as executive director of fixed income for the western region in San Francisco.

1980s

John Bomarito SBA '83 has opened a new direct mail advertising business called Money Mailer of North Macomb, which reaches the most affluent households in Macomb County, north of Hall Road. His Web site is www.moneymailer.com/macomb.

Jennifer Borgesen SBA '83 is avp/branch manager at BankOne/JPMorgan Chase in Clarkston.



Laura Brodeur SBA '84 was named partner at Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn LLP, a Detroit-based business law firm servicing clients nationwide.

She is a member of the firm's Labor and Employment Law department.

Constance Franco SON '83 has been promoted from vice president of operations and patient care services to chief operating officer at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital.



Terry (Gartelman) Gonzalez SEHS '81 and her husband Julian are realizing their dream and moving to Cali, Colombia, after she spent more than 20 years as a teacher. She plans to write bilingual books for children and become involved with literacy projects in Cali.



Richard Clanton, director of the Greater Grand Rapids YMCA, was honored with a "Giant" award this year in recognition of his community service.

A 'Giant' in the community

"It's something to see a child who's never been horseback riding or seen a lake experience those things," says **Richard Clanton CAS '76**. It's also something to see someone dedicate his life to creating such moments. As the director of the Greater Grand Rapids YMCA and a city commissioner for the Grand Rapids suburb of Kentwood, Clanton has become a shining light in his community. In addition to directing and, in some cases, piloting child and family-based initiatives, he is also overseeing the construction of a multi-million dollar YMCA branch office.

Clanton sees all this as giving back. "All my life, I have had somebody who stepped in and helped me out," he says. He points to how, when he was left orphaned at 13, his sister and brother-in-law stepped forward to take care of him. And how, when he struggled with decisions about his future, friends and family were by his side encouraging him to go to college and supporting his efforts.

It took a while for Clanton to be in a position to do community good full time — before that he was busy just making his community proud: After graduating from Oakland, he spent 26 years in management with Sears honing the relationship building and people skills he would bring to the YMCA post.

Clanton says he knew in the interview that the YMCA could take him to where his heart had always been. "I listened to the CEO talk about his vision for including the entire community in the YMCA's programming. It wasn't happening as quickly as he had hoped."

Clanton rose to the challenge, turning vision into brick and mortar in the case of the \$29-million David D. Hunting branch and into child play elsewhere, with the Y's four-campus, after-school programs and summer camp for low-income children.

Clanton says he sees his work as a mission that is a joy to carry out. Others see it the same way. Earlier this year, Grand Rapids Community College, along with several African America organizations, presented he and his civic-minded wife, Deborah (a local court magistrate), with two of their annual Giant awards, in recognition of their community service. Says Clanton, "I'm just blessed that people see how important this work is. For my wife to also receive this recognition for her work just blows me away."

For the Clantons, it looks like giving also means receiving. ■

By Flori Meeks CAS '88 a freelance writer from Tomball, Texas.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The Department of Music, Theatre and Dance Upcoming Events from the Featured Artist Series



BARBARA BLAND, MEZZO-SOPRANO

Sunday, January 29, 2006 at 3 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

\$15 general, \$8 students



MARIAH MALEC MOVEMENT PROJECT

"An Evening of Small Works"

Guest Artist Tommy Parlon of Tommy Parlon
Dance Projects, Washington, D.C.

Saturday, February 11, 2006 at 8 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

\$15 general, \$8 students



MUSICA MUNDI

Latin/World Jazz

Saturday, March 11, 2006 at 8 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

\$15 general, \$8 students.



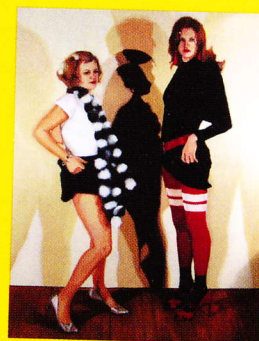
FLAVIO VARANI PIANO BENEFIT CONCERT AND RECEPTION

Friday, March 24, 2006 at 8 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

\$50 VIP, \$25 general, \$10 students

MTD Box Office
Varner Hall
(248) 370-3013
oakland.edu/mtd



KRISTIN BEAVER, *The Sarahs* (left); *Self Portrait with Dilet*



Meadow Brook ART GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY FINE ART FACULTY EXHIBITION

January 14 – February 19, 2006

Celebrating the success of Oakland's new studio art program, this exhibition features new work by OU's studio art faculty.

KRISTIN BEAVER – DETROIT FIGURATIVE PAINTER

March 11 – April 16, 2006

In her first solo exhibition, Detroit figurative painter Kristin Beaver showcases her large-scale portraits that convey excitement about the unlimited possibilities of painting the figure.

BA IN STUDIO ART SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION

April 21 – May 21, 2006

New graduates flex their expressive muscles and test drive their artistic vision for the first time.

Full-color catalogue available for purchase at most exhibitions.

We're open every day, except Mondays, from noon to 5 p.m. All exhibitions are free of charge. Find out why thousands of people come to Meadow Brook Art Gallery to experience great art. **Visit us today!**

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oakland.edu/mbag

We want to hear from you

Alumni

Send us the latest information about you or your accomplishments for future publication in Class Notes. Be sure to include a print or high resolution (300 dpi) digital file if you have one. Class Notes are printed on a space-available basis. Return this form to the address below.

My News

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss

Name

Maiden Name

Spouse Name

Class Year

Major

Degree

☐ Check here if this is a new address

Home Address

City

State

ZIP +4

Country

Home # ()

Work # ()

E-mail

Company

Address

Title

Please return this entire form (with payment, if appropriate) to:
**Alumni Relations, Oakland University, John Dodge House,
Rochester, Michigan, 48309-4497**

Forms also may be sent via **FAX** to (248) 364-6141
Contact us at **1-877-445-ALUM (2586)** or at (248) 364-6130

E-mail us at ouaa@oakland.edu

Join OUAA online through our secure Web page at www.oualumni.com

OU Alumni Association Membership

An Oakland University Alumni Association membership offers many benefits — on campus and off. Campus benefits include opportunities for service and leadership, borrowing privileges at Kresge Library, access to two rounds of golf at Katke-Cousins Golf Course, a reduced rate for Recreation Center membership, discounts around campus and invitations to special alumni events. Community benefits include discounts at DOC Optics Corp., Stevens Van Lines, Hertz and participating Choice Hotels. For details, check www.oualumni.com.

Alumni Membership

For those who have received a degree from OU or an academic certificate.

- ☐ \$35 Regular Alumni Membership
- ☐ \$60 Two-year Alumni Membership

(both OU graduates or academic certificate holders)

- ☐ \$60 Married Alumni Membership
- ☐ \$100 Two-year Married Membership

Friends of OUAA

For those who wish to be connected to OU but did not receive a degree from the university.

- ☐ \$50 Friends of the OUAA Membership
- ☐ \$90 Two-year Friends Membership

I/We would like to contribute \$_____ to the Oakland University Alumni Association Scholarship Endowment Fund.

☐ Enclosed is a check payable to Oakland University.

☐ Please charge my ☐ VISA or ☐ MasterCard

Amount \$_____

Print name as it appears on card

Expiration Date

Card Number

Signature

- ☐ I am interested in volunteer opportunities, please add me to your list.
- ☐ Please send me information on how to include OU in my estate plan.
- ☐ I am interested in other giving opportunities at OU.

1980s *continue*

Orest Iwasiuk SECS '81 was added to the College of Engineering Hall of Fame at Wayne State University on November 20, 2004. Orest is past president of Teleflex Automotive Group of Troy, a major division of Teleflex Corporation with 4,000 employees and 18 operations in North America, Europe and China.

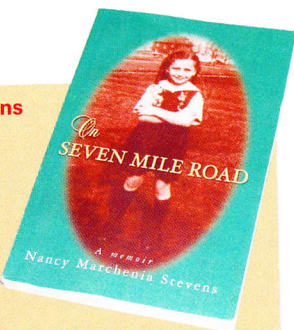
Marianne Fey Miller CAS '80 has been promoted to oversee Buick's national advertising accounts in addition to retail advertising accounts at McCann Erickson's Birmingham office.

Lynda M. Poly-Droulard SON '83 is a part-time faculty member in the nursing program at Oakland University.

Cindy Pronger SEHS '87 is senior manager of EEO Compliance and Governance at DaimlerChrysler Corporation.

Nancy Stevens

CAS '84 has published a memoir entitled *On Seven Mile Road*, telling the story of her family's life in Detroit just after World War II.



Lori (Sharp) Stewart SBA '82 is a pharmaceutical representative with Alta Division of Pfizer, Inc.

Beth Vollbach CAS '80 has moved back to Michigan after 20 years in California.

1990s

Michael Antonelli CAS '98 received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine on May 5, 2005.

Kevin Baker CAS '99 completed his master's in psychology/behavioral neuroscience at Yale University. He is currently employed as a researcher in the neuroscience division of Lexicon Genetics.

Nancy (Dourjalian) Beattie MAT '94, SEHS '90 developed a spelling program for her 6th grade students five years ago. She could not find a program that worked and was convinced middle school had become the "forgotten years" for spelling programs. The program was a success. Her students liked it – and they did well. The program now sells across the country to other teachers who are in the same situation. It is called *Spelling-An Integrated Approach for Middle School*.

Stacie (Seitz) Behler CAS '92 has been promoted to director of communications and government relations for Meijer stores. Prior to her promotion, she practiced law for nearly 10 years and handled litigation matters for Meijer.

Kathryn (Lauer) Black SEHS '97 earned her masters of education in school counseling from Grand Valley State University in December 2004. On April 11, 2005, she received an award for Outstanding Student of the Year in School Counseling at Grand Valley. She recently moved to Grand Blanc from the Grand Rapids area with her husband and three sons.

Kurt M. Brauer CAS '91 has been named partner at Bodman LLP's Detroit office. He represents both plaintiffs and defendants in complex environmental litigation.

Edward Burnette MAT '91 is retired from Royal Oak Community Schools.

Cheryl Case CAS '92 accepted a position as vice president, Network Operations at Consolidated Underwriting Alliance, Ltd.

Michael Charach CAS '95 creates promos for FX Network's show *DVD on TV* and movie trailers for *Paramount Domestic Television*, which have included, *The Golden Child*, *Naked Gun 2½* and *Romeo is Bleeding*. Michael lives in Marina Del Ray, Calif., with his wife Geetha of 2½ years. Geetha also shares his passion for movies and television as special effects artist and 3D coordinator on the movie *Aeon Flux for Digital Domain*. In 2006, they hope to welcome their first child into the family.

Robert Chryczyk CAS '98 is supervisor for SBC Communications working at the Southfield Network Dispatch Center. He has been married for three years and has a one-year-old daughter.

Wendy Drum CAS '97 has accepted the position of corporate attorney at the U.S. Health and Life Insurance Company, located in Sterling Heights.

Christina Fuoco CAS '90 is a news editor for Independent newspapers in suburban Phoenix, Ariz. She also freelances for RollingStone.com, liveDaily.com and the *Flint Journal*. She resides in Mesa, Ariz.

Denise J. (Davidson) Murray BGS '96 accepted a position as managing director at Northland Center in Southfield, America's first mall. She is very excited to be working at such a historical icon.

Meredith Kadlec BGS '90 attended Prague's prestigious film school called F.A.M.U. where she completed a post graduate film production program. Shortly thereafter, she moved to Los Angeles where she worked as a production assistant on the sitcom *Mad About You*. She is now working as vice president, original programming for the historic first-ever television network to serve the gay and lesbian audience, here! TV.

Catherine Lahti SBA '97 joined Morgan Stanley as a financial adviser focusing her practice on non-profit endowments, trusts and foundations as well as executive women and other clients seeking to build their wealth.

Gerald Lohr MBA '95 was promoted to director of network and fleet strategy at Delta Airlines, headquartered in Atlanta, Ga.

Debra K. Osuch CAS '91 was one of six team members from Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. who were honored for their hard work, teamwork, commitment and dedication to SME, their profession and their clients.

Rayissa (Slywka) Palmer CAS '96 is currently working at RED F, a marketing consultancy in Charlotte, N.C. RED F, in its first year of eligibility, was named to the 2004 INC 500 Fastest Growing Companies list and debuted at #21 overall and #1 for marketing companies. Palmer is the marketing director leading a team that works with Fortune 100 clients in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Frank Randazzo CAS '96 has completed his five-year residency program in radiology at The Detroit Medical Center. He passed the radiology oral board exam and is now board certified.

Alumna goes from graduation to Capital Hill insider



Just out of college, Amy Wills was picked to serve on Sen. Hillary Clinton's exploratory committee. She stayed with the senator's staff for six years.

It was a scene that could only be described as surreal. **Amy Wills CAS '98** was sitting on a couch in Sen. Ted Kennedy's home when the veteran lawmaker started performing "Blueberry Hill" on the piano. Accompanying him was President Bill Clinton.

"It was an incredible, unforgettable experience," Wills says.

It would be one of many memorable moments to come. Wills, who was serving on Hillary Clinton's exploratory committee for the New York senate race at the time, went on to become Sen. Clinton's director of compliance. This fall, she moved back to her home state to get married and landed a job as Internet director for Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Wills describes her career as a dream come true. She had been aspiring to work in Washington, D.C., since she traveled to the capital with Oakland University's student congress. Now she was interacting with the president and first lady and visiting the White House. "It wasn't touristy," Wills says. "We could sit anywhere, go in any room...Just meeting the president, sitting next to him, it was awesome."

Wills took her first step toward realizing her dream career when she was a sophomore public administration student at OU. She was working full time in the admissions office and

taking night classes. After Political Science Professor Pat Piskulich stressed the importance of internships in his class, Wills landed a summer internship in Rep. Sander Levin's office. Her supervisor later referred Wills to her sister, Shelly Moskwa, the compliance director for Sen. Carl Levin. Wills got a job that year supporting Sen. Levin's campaign.

That position would prove pivotal three years later, in 1999, when Moskwa became the compliance director for Clinton's senatorial campaign. Wills was working on her master's degree at George Mason University when Moskwa asked her to join the exploratory committee. Wills didn't blink.

She spent the next six years in the nation's capitol, working for Sen. Clinton. "It was so great to work for someone I admire so much," she says.

Now Wills is looking forward to marrying fiancé **Barry Gray CAS '98**, who she met through OU's Student Congress, and settling into her new job at the governor's office.

"I was so excited to find a political job here," she says. "I've always worked in public service and really wouldn't know how to do anything else. Also, it's nice to be working for another strong, progressive woman who's in the forefront of the political spotlight." ■

By Flori Meeks CAS '88 a freelance writer from Tomball, Texas.



Amy Wills meets President Bill Clinton at a White House Christmas party.

1990s *continue*

Mary Skalsky MAT '96 received an award in recognition of outstanding service from the Michigan Career Development Association at the fall 2004 Michigan Counseling State Conference. This award was presented to her for her coordination of the National Career Development Association's Poster and Poetry contest for the State of Michigan. The focus of the contest is celebration of National Career Development week in November each year. The contest is designed to highlight the importance of life-long career development and the personal empowerment of all people.

Helena Stovall CAS '96 graduated from Michigan State University with a master's degree in Labor Relations and Human Resources in May 2005.

Daniel Williams CAS '97 accepted a position with the Cranbrook Institute of Science as superintendent of Building Services.

2000s

Allison Aiello SEHS '00 is a second grade teacher at a charter school in Warren. She is getting married this November and hoping to return to OU to begin graduate classes.

Jocelyn M. Baldwin CAS '04 is pursuing her master's degree in information and library science at Wayne State University and is hoping to work as a public librarian soon.

2000s *continue*

Brian D. Bill BGS '02 graduated May 1, 2005 from California Western School of Law in San Diego with a J.D. degree.

Bradley Burnside SECS '05 was recently hired as a software engineer for Hyland Software, Inc.

Patricia A. DiBartolomeo SEHS '04 is working full time as a 5th grade teacher and is pursuing a master's degree at Oakland University.

Sarah Elbaum CAS '00 is employed at Johns Hopkins Hospital, epilepsy monitoring unit, as a technician.

Jacqlyn M. Herrick CAS '04 is working in communications and corporate marketing at DaimlerChrysler Services North America. She is engaged to be married and also is pursuing a master's degree.

David Hartzel CAS '03 just opened his off-Broadway production of the *Bare World*. His original poetry has been underground and touring throughout New York City. With this current break, David has the opportunity to tour his poetry with i-Bird productions during their summer festival as an up and coming writer of the theatrical and literary environments. Currently, the *Bare World* is performed at the Phil Bosokowski Theatre on 45th St. in New York.

Adam Kochenderfer CAS '02 passed the bar examination and joined the law firm of Honigman Miller Swartz and Cohn in Detroit.

Shinko Kondo MM '04 had two papers accepted at the 5th Asia-Pacific Symposium for Music Education Research held in Seattle in July 2005. One paper entitled, "Young Composers' Meaning-making and Individual Development within Group Composing" is based on her master's thesis.

John P. Kozely SBA '03 is currently working as a financial representative for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Troy. His business consists of personal planning and asset/income protection. He helps to create a secure future for his clients through investing and planning. His goals are to be as successful and as happy as possible in all aspects of his life.

Ryan Kroge SBA '02 is small business sales manager at Peoples State Bank in Madison Heights.

Navy Seaman Sean J. Lewicki SECS '03 recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, he completed a variety of training that included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

Charles M. Rinehart CAS '04 is working at an advertising firm in Royal Oak and recently bought a house in Southfield.

S. Alex Ruthmann MM '02, music education doctoral student at OU, presented a session at the Mountain Lake Colloquium for Teachers of General Music Methods in May 2005 entitled "A Constructivist Approach to Teaching and Learning Music in Technology-Infused Secondary General Music Classes."

Sommer L. Starck CAS '03 is pursuing her master's degree in public administration at Oakland University with an expected graduation in December 2006.

Steven Treppa MBA '04 has joined Rader, Fishman and Grauer as information technology director.

ENGAGEMENTS/ WEDDINGS

Nancy Chess SEHS '04 married Kevin Blitz of Philadelphia in July 2005.



Patrick G. Clor SECS '97, MS '00 wed **Mary C. Crova SECS '97** on August 27, 2005, at National Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak, Mich. Pat works at General

Motors as a regulatory engineer and Mary at DaimlerChrysler as a process quality manager.

Teresa M. (Beddow) DeBastiani MPA '97 married Jeff DeBastiani on November 6, 2004. She is a first vice president and division manager for LaSalle Bank overseeing the branch offices in the Troy, Rochester and Bloomfield areas. She is celebrating her 12th year with Standard Federal Bank.

Jennifer Hay SEHS '01 married Michael Hay in May 2005. She currently works with law enforcement and child protective services to assist in and conduct forensic interviews of abused children.

Tracy A. (Wilson) Horner SEHS '02 married Glenn Horner on July 31, 2004.



Donna M. Crane-Rossi CAS '89 married Conrad Rossi in June 2004 in Arizona. They are expecting their first child in November 2005. She is

currently with BBDO in Phoenix working on the DaimlerChrysler account.

Andrea (Zwolinski) Weber SEHS '00 married Donald Terry Weber Jr. on June 25. The couple has moved to Easton, Pa., where she is a greek life coordinator at Lehigh University. In attendance at the wedding were Kristy Chene '00, Karen Babel '99, Sharon Stanton '00, Jennifer Wegner '01, Justin and Amanda Ewald, and Adam Kochenderfer '02. OU staff members in attendance were Rahki Roy and Don Ritenburgh.

Jay Wren MSE '03 married **Janice Laffreda CAS '03** on June 5, 2004.

BIRTH/ADOPTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kim (LeRoy) DeAngelo SEHS '99 and her husband Dave welcomed Ryan Joseph on January 22 at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Ryan weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 21 inches long.

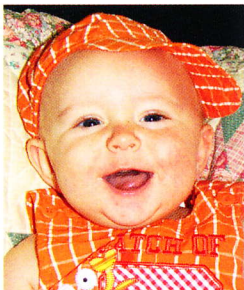
Christine (Brunner) Grimm SEHS '96 and her husband Paul are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Kaitlyn Elizabeth on November 12, 2004.



Class Notes

BIRTH *continue*

Nicole (Wallace) Kuyoth MBA '04, SBA '00 and her husband **Christopher Kuyoth MBA '98** announce the birth of their daughter Alexis Juliet on April 6, 2005.



Jenni (Herzog) Lemon CAS '02 and her husband Ted announce the birth of their son Trevor James born on his daddy's birthday, January 20, 2005.

Linda (Phillips) Manuszak MA '97, SEHS '94 and her husband Don announce the birth of their second child, Elizabeth Emily on November 11, 2004. She joins big brother Brandon Steven.



Nicole T. Perry SEHS '94 and her husband Wayne, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ramona Perry.

Katherine (Quaiatto) Pruchnic BGS '89 and her husband Michael announce the birth of their third child, Joseph Anthony on January 5, 2005. He joins big sister Lauren (5) and brother Michael (2). Katherine is a prenatal education coordinator and lactation consultant at Mount Clemens General Hospital.

Dr. Frank Randazzo CAS '96 and his wife **Laurie (Sliwinski) SEHS '96** announce the birth of their daughter Grace Lauren on August 24, 2004.

Coletta M. Canavan MAT '74 died August 21, 1995.

George R. "Bob" Joyce CAS '63 died July 21, 2005.

Doris E. Kreager SEHS '83 died June 26, 2005.

Brenda (Shelton) Milnes MAT '78 died February 20, 2005.

William Patrick O'Neill CAS '72 died January 15, 2005.

Lori (Zagorski) Ruks MA '97 died February 21, 2005.

Regina Marie Singleton SEHS '93 died April 16, 2005.

Angela Sykes MAT '69 died October 20, 2004

Lillian J. Way MAT '76 died May 18, 2004.

Michelle D. Worell CAS '91 died January 26, 2005.

Matthew Wray SBA '80 died March 24, 2005.

DEATHS

Patricia Berg MAT '78 died December 24, 2004.

Volunteer reaches out to those most in need



Kim Perkins believes that reaching out to others is a way to effect real change in the world.

Kim Perkins MBA '95 has positioned herself at the very start of the way back. She sees being helpful as a responsibility. It's up to each of us to harness our potential and put it to good use, she says. To the victims of rape, the victims of violence and domestic abuse, and to those who are homeless, she may well appear more as a pillar, the first good to move forward after so much bad.

Perkins, who believes reaching out to others can effect real change in the world, is conviction in motion. As a volunteer First Response Advocate for the non-profit Turning Point organization, she is sometimes one of the first to talk with Macomb County rape victims after an attack.

She speaks with victims before they're examined by one of Turning Point's forensic nurse examiners. She tells them about the services available to them. She tells them the rape wasn't their fault. And she listens. "You do what you can to ease the tension, to let people know someone cares," she says.

Perkins, a systems administrator with General Motors Corporation, started volunteering for Turning Point in 2001. She has a personal reference for what she's doing — a member of her family was the victim of abuse.

"A lot of Turning Point's volunteers or their family members have been victims of sexual assault," she says. "I'm not unusual in that regard."

Perkins generally takes several 12-hour midnight shifts each month as a First Response Advocate. And she spends

her Sundays at Turning Point's shelter for domestic abuse victims. There, she has more opportunity to see how clients' lives progress. "You get to listen to them, to talk to them. You get to share the good and bad with them."

Late last year, the United Way gave Perkins its CHEERS award for outstanding corporate employee volunteers. "That was quite an honor," she says. "It's given me the opportunity to get the word out (about Turning Point)."

Since then, Perkins has joined the board for Macomb County's Rotating Emergency Shelter Team, a program for the homeless. She says she'd like to get more involved with the management side of outreach programs. "I want to start influencing the direction of the programming," she says.

Perkins says she finds great satisfaction in working directly with victims. "Each day you interact with these survivors — they're amazing people — you become more sensitive. You become more outspoken. Every day you grow and learn."

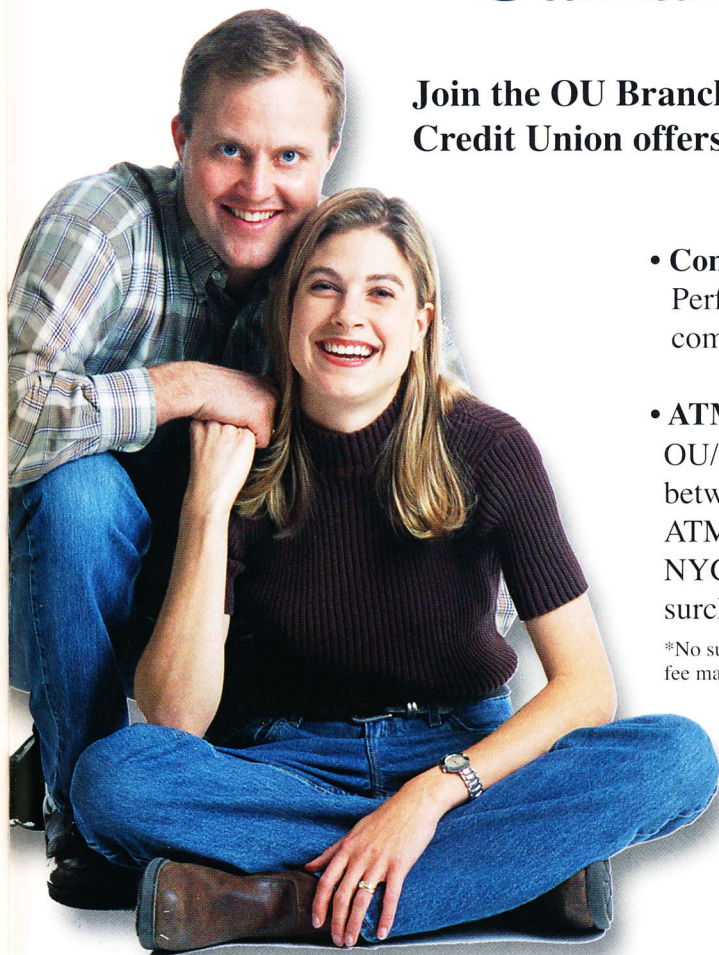
And everyday she's there to lean against. ■

By Flori Meeks CAS '88 a freelance writer from Tomball, Texas.

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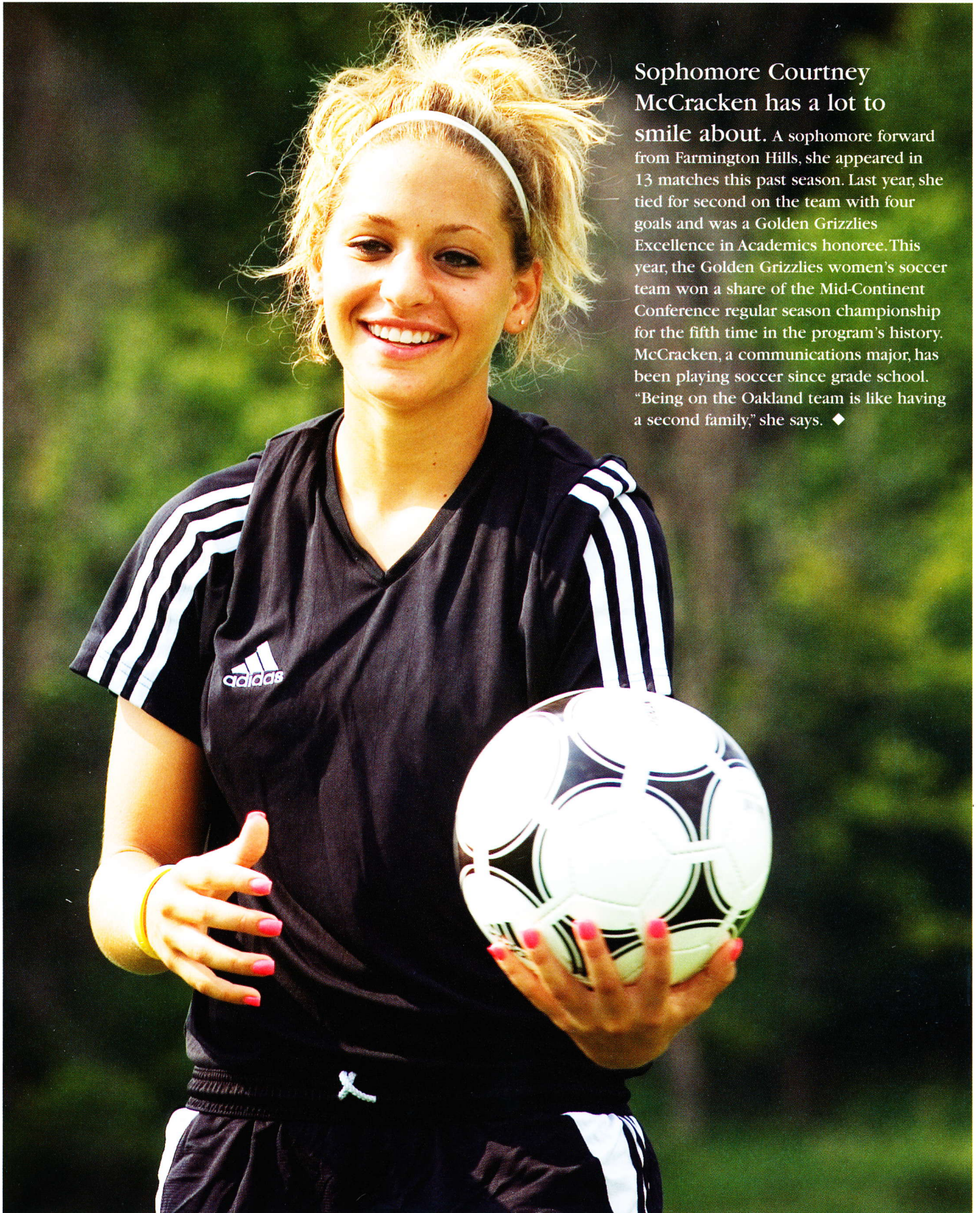
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Sophomore Courtney McCracken has a lot to smile about.

A sophomore forward from Farmington Hills, she appeared in 13 matches this past season. Last year, she tied for second on the team with four goals and was a Golden Grizzlies Excellence in Academics honoree. This year, the Golden Grizzlies women's soccer team won a share of the Mid-Continent Conference regular season championship for the fifth time in the program's history. McCracken, a communications major, has been playing soccer since grade school. "Being on the Oakland team is like having a second family," she says. ♦

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