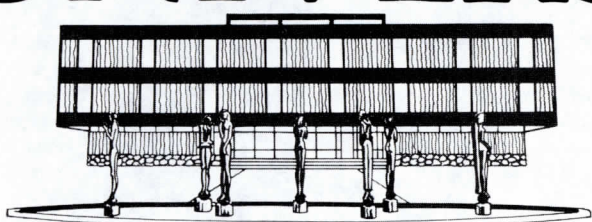


OAKLAND UNIVERSITY NEWS



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December 13, 1985

A publication for faculty, staff and friends



Admissions Director Jerry Rose enjoys the buffet.

Years of Hard Work Cited

One hundred employees representing the equivalent of 1,350 years of service to the university were recognized December 2 at the annual Employee Recognition Program.

The program cited 35 individuals for each contributing 20 years of service and 65 employees for 10 years each.

"We recognize and appreciate the demonstrated loyalty of Oakland University employees to this institution. Their dedication and service have made the university what it is today. We are grateful for the professional manner and pride with which their skills and talents are applied to the betterment of Oakland University," said President Joseph E. Champagne.

Speakers and presenters included Willard C. Kendall, Jr., director of the Employee Relations Department; Robert J. McGarry, vice president for finance and administration; Wilma Ray-Bledsoe, vice president for student affairs; Keith R. Kleckner, senior vice president for university affairs and provost; and Wallace D. Riley, chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

Employees cited for 20 years service were:

Dorothy M. Alexander, Sally L. Ashcraft, John Barnard, John W. Barthel, David E. Boddy, Marc E. Briod, Richard W. Brooks, William C. Bryant, John B. Cameron, John W. Dettman, Lucy B. Douglass, Mary C. Dupuie, Rita K. Edwards, Robert G. Gaylor, Letha E. Grant, Gerald C. Heberle, Don R. Iodice, G. Philip Johnson.

Also, William H. Jones, Nancy Kleckner, Arthur J. Large, Roger H. Marz,

David W. Mascitelli, Gladys B. Rapoport, Roderic E. Righter, Jerry W. Rose, M. Sue Smith, Rose A. Smith, Robert E. Stocker, Amitendranath Tagore, Samuel B. Thomas, Anne H. Tripp, Margaret R. Twyman, Carl R. Vann and Claud Vaughn.

Employees cited for 10 years service were:

Iola Adams, Vince Ammann, Nancy B. Barton-Kenney, Gloria T. Blatt, Kenneth E. Byrd, Denis M. Callewaert, George A. Catton, Charles C. Cheng, Nancy C. Collins, Eleanor M. Davis, James E. Dawson, Diana L. Delater, Paul M. Doherty, M. Joyce Dudley, Robert S. Fink, Joan B. Finn, Susan M. Forgette, Cresencia N. Franco, Joan Marie Fredericks, Henry L. Gawne, Douglas Godwin, Jerrold W. Grossman.

Also, Rose M. Haggarty, Ranald D. Hansen, Daniel E. Harvey, Egbert W. Henry, Elaine F. Hill, Mary J. Hubbard, Yau Y. Hung, Elnora Jackson, Nadine E. Jakobowski, Florence W. Keils, Barbara Kline, Helen S. Korhonen, Vicki S. Larabell, Charles B. Lindemann, Shelia J. Lovell, Ruth O. Mahr, Marguerite M. Marshall, Mildred Merz, David P. Meyer, Billy J. Minor, Alberta J. Moorhouse, Edward D. Moshier.

Also, Asish C. Nag, Marilyn J. Oberstadt, Mary L. Otto, Arlene M. Pamukcu, Margaret B. Pigott, Dean G. Purcell, Stephanie C. Riley, Daniel F. Ring, Gail A. Ryckman, Gloria S. Schatz, Richard B. Stamps, Linus E. Stepp, Virginia C. Streetman, Sema Tafralian, Katie M. Taylor, Jane Y. Tsui, Sze-Kai J. Tsui, Bonnie J. Upcott, Harold C. Vogt and Diane R. Wilson.



Marc E. Briod, left, is congratulated by President Joseph E. Champagne.

Goal Set at \$50,000 for Faculty/Staff Drive

Committee members heading the annual faculty and staff fund drive are hoping to reach a record \$50,000 in contributions. The campaign is now under way and all employees will receive detailed information packets.

Chairperson Geoff Brieger, chemistry, says contributions may be designated for specific programs, such as the Kresge Library or scholarship funds, or be left undesignated. A committee of faculty and staff members will distribute the undesignated funds.

Last year 239 donors contributed \$38,500 for an average gift of \$161.09. Brieger notes that the Oakland University Foundation is providing university employees with an incentive for giving this year. For every \$2 in new or increased gifts raised during the 1985-86 campaign, the foundation will contribute \$1, up to \$10,000 total. If a gift is designated, the matching amount from the foundation will also be applied to the same project.

Brieger says he agreed to head the campaign because of his own commitment to the university. "As a longstanding faculty member for 22 years now, I'd like to be able



Brieger

to play a role in developing the university's potential for excellence."

Employee gifts are eligible for tax deductions. In addition, half of the gift (up to \$200 for a single taxpayer or \$400 for a married couple filing jointly) may be taken as a direct credit against the Michigan income tax.

Brieger is being assisted by David Bricker, philosophy; Karl Gregory, economics and management; Vicki Krenn, purchasing; Jack McGhee, Jr., Campus Facilities and Operations; Patrick Nicosia, budget and financial planning; and Jacqueline Scherer, sociology and anthropology.

Students Aid Holiday Cheer

The holiday season is a little brighter, thanks to the efforts of some student organizations.

The programs range from a canned food drive conducted by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority to a photography session with Santa sponsored by Theta Chi Fraternity.

Alpha Kappa Alpha collected canned goods, took some money from the sorority treasury to buy turkey, and prepared Thanksgiving food baskets for three Pontiac families. The effort provided holiday dinner for 24 children and adults.

Theta Chi sponsored a *Rap with Santa* in the Oakland Center. Members of the university community posed with Santa for \$1 a picture. Profits from the session will be matched by funds from the fraternity members. The money will be donated to the Toys for Tots organization for Christmas presents.

At Havenwyck Hospital in Auburn Hills, a Christmas party for children was held on December 5. It was sponsored by the Association of Black Students, Area Hall Council Programming, and RH Positive, another residence hall committee.

In addition, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity provided children in the Lowry Child Care Center with a happy ending to their semester by sponsoring their traditional Christmas party; and the Student Engineering Society held a bowl-athon for the benefit of Children's Hospital in Detroit.

Macomb Gains as Feeder County for Enrollment

Macomb County continues to provide an increasing share of the university's student population, particularly at the undergraduate level.

An analysis of the record fall enrollment of 12,586 students shows 3,444 undergraduates come from Macomb County, up 129 from a year ago. At the graduate level, 498 come from Macomb County, up 101 from last year.

Statistics prepared by David C. Beardslee, director of the Office of Institutional Research, show that Oakland County still provides the largest number of students. Oakland County provides the university with 5,000 undergraduates, down 46 from last year, and 1,274 graduate students, an increase of 267.

Since 1980, the undergraduate population from Macomb County has risen by 840 students and enrollment from Oakland County has decreased by 245. Enrollment from outside Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties has dropped by 236 students. Nearly half of the out-state increase comes from the three counties north and east of the university: Lapeer, Genesee and St. Clair. OU now enrolls 470 undergraduates and 235 graduate students from that area.

In total, 83 percent of OU's undergraduates come from Oakland and Macomb counties and 7 percent from Wayne County. At the graduate level, 81 percent of the students reside in Oakland and Macomb counties and 2 percent in Wayne County.

Enrollment of students who are first time in any college (FTIAC) shows a decline from 1,456 in 1984 to 1,394 this year (the figures include summer and fall enrollment). FTIAC numbers declined for both Oakland and Macomb counties. Oakland dropped from 594 in 1984 to 535 this year. Macomb FTIAC enrollment is now 487, down from 534 a year ago.

Holiday Message

We are delighted to express our best wishes to you and your families for a joyous holiday season and personal fulfillment in the New Year. Your efforts as members of the university community are deeply appreciated.

Emilie and Joe Champagne

Reception Planned

The president and provost cordially invite all faculty and staff to attend a holiday reception from 2-4 p.m. Monday, December 16 in the Oakland Center Fireside Lounge.

Our People

Brief notes may be sent to the News Service, 109 NFH. The deadline is the Friday preceding the publication date, but there is no penalty for early submissions.

• Teri Spinelli, economics and management, presented two papers at the national conference of the American Institute for Decision Sciences in Las Vegas. She received the Outstanding Paper Award for *A Simplified Approach to Demand Analysis and Product Planning for Youth Market Segments*. It was one of 14 papers receiving the award out of 431 presented.

Spinelli's second paper, *The Importance of Identifying and Analyzing Components of Multi-dimensional Attributes for Measuring Consumer Preferences for Package Design and Redesign Considerations*, was presented with Nesa L'Abbe Wu.

Spinelli was also named president-elect of Alpha Iota Delta, the national honor society in the decision sciences. She will serve a two-year term as president beginning next November.

• Joan Rosen, English, served as a respondent to a paper, *Loren Eiseley: A Man of Another Time*, presented at a forum on *Eiseley and the Scientist as Autobiographer*. The forum was at the Midwest Modern Language Association meeting in St. Louis.

• Sid Mittra, economics and management, presented a paper, *Establishing a Financial Planning Service*, at the annual meeting of the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Educators in Anaheim. He also presented *The Growing Pains and Pleasures of a Mid-sized Firm* at the annual meeting of the International Association for Financial Planning in Anaheim. He spoke at the Midwest Credit Women's Conference in Detroit on *Economic Outlook: 1985-86*.

• Robert T. Eberwein, English, presented two workshops on *Teaching Film Theory to High School Students* to teachers at the Oakland Schools Center in Pontiac.

• Margit Jackson, economics and management, spoke at a preretirement conference sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Chapter of the American Association of University Women. Her topic was *Preventive Maintenance (Financial Planning)*.

• Anandi Sahu, economics and management, presented a paper, *Federal Reserve*

System and the Monetary Policy, at the current events seminar organized by the Oak Park Adult Education Program.

• Penny Cass and Gary Moore, nursing, presented their abstract, *A Survey of Michigan Nurses' Perception of Collective Bargaining* at the Michigan Nurses Association Convention Research Forum in Flint.

• Mary Ann Krammin, nursing, was elected to the Oakland District Nurses Association Board of Directors. She is also chairperson of the practice committee.

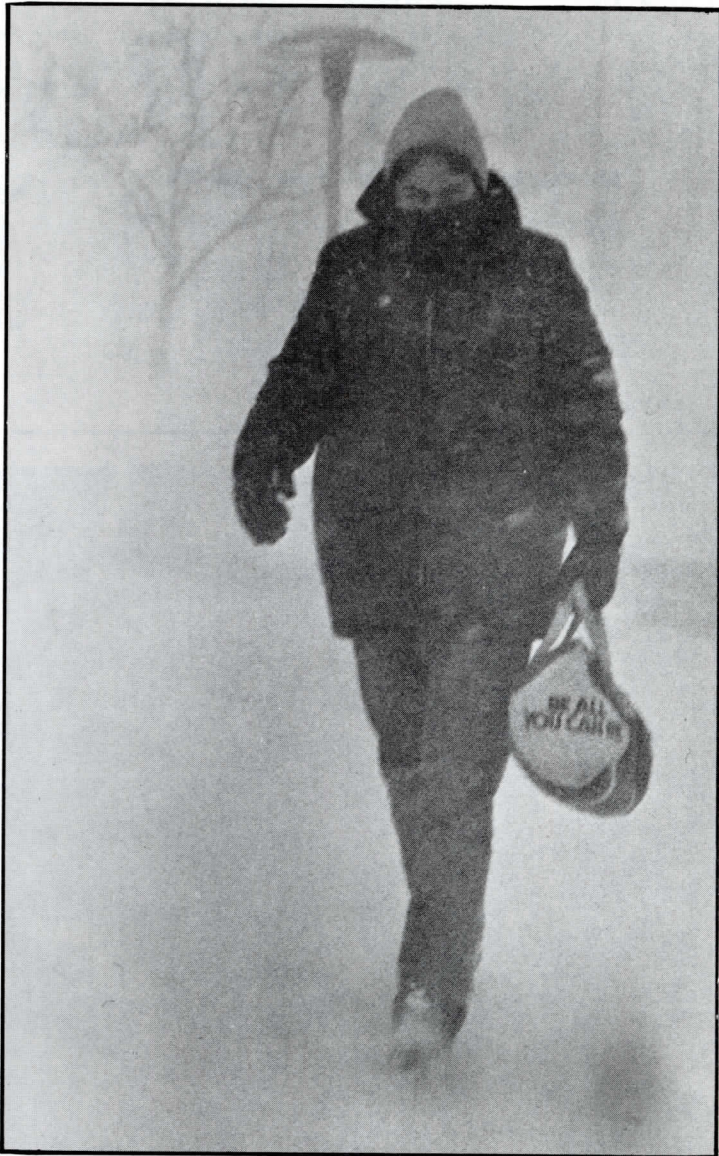
At the biennial convention of Sigma Theta Tau in Indianapolis, the House of Delegates voted to approve the petition from Oakland's nursing honor society and recommended it become a chapter designate. A formal ceremony will be held in May when all members will be inducted into the new chapter.

• Roberta Schwartz, journalism, was invited to become an academic juror to select scholarly papers for *Masthead*, a publication of the National Conference of Editorial Writers. Professor Warren Bovee of Marquette University issued the invitation.

Schwartz has written several articles for *The Detroit News*, including pieces about Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester and the Rochester Christmas parade, and a profile of author Elmore Leonard. She was a guest on radio stations WWWW and WNIC to discuss her writing.

• Gloria Boddy and Priscilla Hildum, continuing education, will be guests on the Michigan Employment Security Commission's *The Job Show* to be broadcast the week of December 16. The program appears on cable television systems throughout Michigan. Boddy and Hildum, directors of the accounting assistant and legal assistant programs, respectively, will discuss paraprofessional training provided by their programs and the many job opportunities available for graduates.

• Helen Schwartz, English, gave a plenary session address, *Myths about Software*, at the Conference on Microcomputers and Basic Skills in College. It was sponsored by the City University of New York. She also discussed computer conferencing and her own software program, SEEN, at a session, *Audiences and Learning on Computer Networks*.



When the weather is abominable, as it was on December 2, it's hard to "be all you can be," as this student's bag urges.

Mimes Perform in Holly

The Mime Ensemble is adding its spontaneity and warmth of improvisation to the 12th annual Old-fashioned Dickens Christmas Festival in Holly. *Not Just Any Christmas Carol* is being performed for visitors along Battle Alley.

The 15-minute adaptation of Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*, is being performed at 1,2,3 and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays until December 22. Director and performer T. Andrew Aston, assistant director of the Center for the Arts, wrote the adaptation.

Visitors see scrooge — played by Aston — appear on the balcony of the historic Holly Hotel to ridicule cheerful carolers and shoppers. Others in the cast are Jim Miner as the Town Crier, Bill O'Connor as Cratchet and the Nephew, Heidi Guthrie as Belle and the Ghost of Christmas Past, Lisa Kaleita as Martha, John Worful as Marley and the Ghost of Christmas Present, and Mary Rychlewski as the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.

When not performing the prescribed show, the costumed cast members mingle with the crowds along the street and in stores to add to the ambience and merriment of the season.

The Mime Ensemble has performed extensively since it was founded by Aston 10 years ago. Appearances have included a tour of 12 Michigan cities on the Artrain in 1976, festival competitions which led to performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in 1982, the Michigan Renaissance Festival in Clarkston for the past three years, and the Meadow Brook Music Festival this past summer. The ensemble also takes its shows to schools, hospitals, street fairs and shopping malls.

Funding Opportunities

The Office of Research and Academic Development will provide further details about the following external sources of funding. For information, call 370-3222 or visit 370 SFH. Unless noted, the proposal due date is unknown.

U.S. Missile Command Directorate

Family services, due December 27.

Department of Health and Human Services

Psychological services, January 10; and preterm delivery, March 10.

NASA

Management training, December 26.

U.S. Navy

Young investigator program, December 18.

Rotary Foundation

American faculty members to teach social sciences at universities in developing nations, April 15.

Michigan Council for the Arts

Artist-in-residence and mini-grants, February 21.

National Science Foundation

Biotic systems and resources, May 1; chemistry and biology research interface, January 15; developmental neuroscience, January 15; economics, January 1; memory and cognitive processes, February 1; and social and economic science, January 1.

National Endowment for the Humanities

Research programs, March 1.

In The News

Recent media coverage of OU activities has included the following:

• Dean Gerald Pine, human and educational services, was interviewed by WJR radio, *The Detroit News* and *The Spinal Column* in Walled Lake about increased enrollment in teacher-education programs.

• The *Eccentric* and *Oakland Press* ran stories about a new booklet produced by mathematical sciences. The booklet helps students fight math anxiety.

• Frank Cardimen and the Center for Economic Development and Corporate Services were featured in a *Rochester Clarion* story.

• The *Oakland Press*, in news and editorial coverage, supported efforts for increased funding for the university. A new funding model for state universities is under consideration in Lansing.

Job Listings

Information about the following job openings is available from the Employee Relations Department, 140 NFH, or by calling 370-3480.

• Research assistant/electron microscopy, AP-6, Eye Research Institute.
• Staff attorney, AP-13, Office of the Board of Trustees.

• Clerk I, C-3, Bookcenter.

• Secretary II, C-5, School of Economics and Management.

• Secretary II, C-5, Project Upward Bound.

• Assistant to the director, AP-8, Eye Research Institute.

News Notes

Exhibit at Gallery

Meadow Brook Art Gallery is presenting an exhibition, *Recent Acquisitions: University Art Collection*, until December 22 and again from January 2-26.

The exhibition includes contemporary artists, such as Dan Christenson, Ralph Humphrey, Dennis Guastella and Tom Hale, and samples of tribal art given to the university in recent years by Professor Harry Bober of New York University.

Hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 2-6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 7 p.m. through the first intermission of Meadow Brook Theatre productions.

OU Receives Grant

Chrysler Corp. awarded the university a \$30,000 grant to consult on the *Development of a Comprehensive Program in Management Education*. Ronald Horwitz, dean of the School of Economics and Management, is directing the program through January 1.

OC Revises Hours

The Oakland Center will operate under a reduced schedule for the holiday/recess period. The building hours will be 7 a.m.-9 p.m. December 19-20, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. December 21, closed on December 22, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. December 23, closed from December 24-January 1, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. January 2-3, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. January 4, noon-11:30 p.m. January 5, and 7 a.m.-11:30 p.m. January 6. Regular hours will then resume.

Old Programs Needed

The next time you're rummaging through the deep recesses of your desk or closet, look for some Meadow Brook Music Festival programs from the past.

Robert Gaylor of Kresge Library needs copies for the university archives. The missing programs are from 1973-78 and 1981. If anyone has a spare program, send it to Gaylor in 14B Kresge Library.

The *Oakland University News* is published every other Friday during the fall and winter semesters and monthly from June-August. Editorial offices are at the News Service, 109 North Foundation Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48063. The telephone is 370-3180. Copy deadline is noon Friday of the week preceding the publication date.
• James Llewellyn, senior editor and news director.
• Jay Jackson, staff writer.
• Ann Straky, photographer.

Retiring from OU, but New Career Awaits

For nearly 20 years, the university has been part of the lives of Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia and her husband, Nahum Medalia. Now they are heading into retirement, but far from calling it quits.

The two professors are looking forward to new careers as documentary film-makers. The arrangement will draw from her experience as an associate professor in theatre and his as a professor in sociology.

"In our travels we have seen so many fabulously interesting things that are part of the way older people are living," she says. "We want to document it."

Adds her husband, "We've identified some who are rather unusual older people, shall we say."

For starters, there is the woman in her 80s who still trains horses for dressage events. "She's an interesting woman. It's something to see her, very slim and sitting erect on the horse," Hirschfeld-Medalia says.

Then there's the couple's Finnish friend who studies mythology. "She's relatively young, only about 70," Medalia adds.

The first step in making these "definite dreams" come true, Hirschfeld-Medalia says, is to obtain funding. Technical help will come from their daughter-in-law, Ellen Kingsley, who is a prize-winning documentary film-maker herself and a Washington, D.C., television newswoman.

All of this interest in recording the triumphs of older people resulted from years of study in their fields. Hirschfeld-Medalia came to OU in 1966 after earning her doctorate in mass communication and educational

media from Wayne State University. Medalia arrived in 1969 from Chatham College in Pittsburgh. His previous experience included a number of research and teaching positions in the West and the East following his formal training at Harvard and the University of Missouri. He came to OU at the urging of colleague Jesse Pitts, whom he had met years earlier.

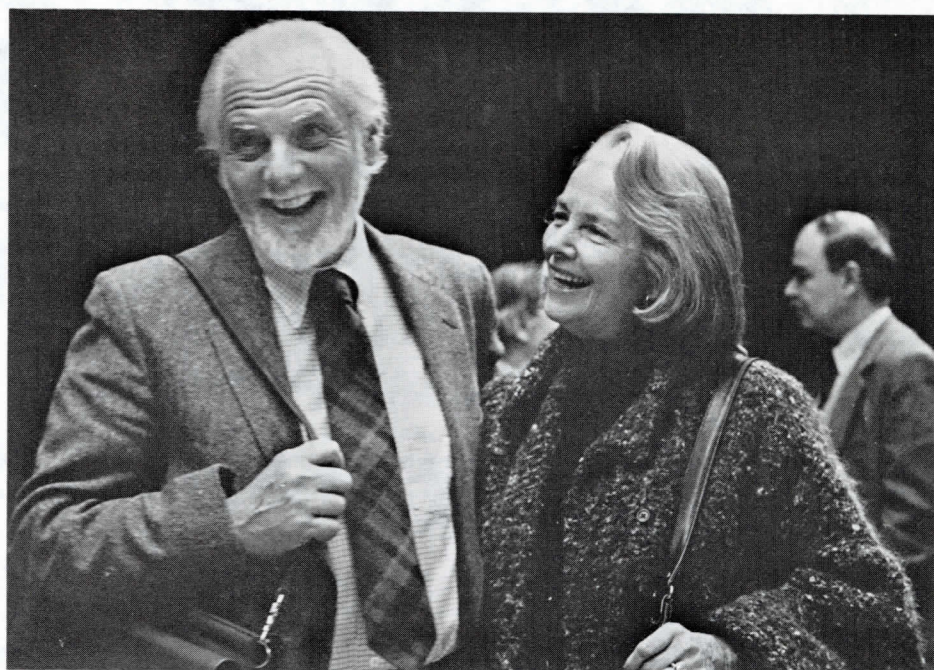
Medalia's research interests have shifted toward social gerontology. "I began to preach what I was practicing," he jokes.

Hirschfeld-Medalia taught speech courses upon her arrival at OU and later moved into theatre. She was instrumental in forming the departments for the speech and theatre programs.

"My main focus has always been theatre and that's what I've always wanted to teach," she says. She has acted and also been the director of 12 student productions, including the current *Man and Superman* at Varner Studio Theatre. She once talked Medalia into acting, playing the title character's father in *Candida*. "I haven't been able to get him to try out since," she says. "A reviewer said he was a 'man of a 100 faces!'"

Hirschfeld-Medalia also has a strong interest in Japanese Kabuki theatre and use of voice. After her first exposure to Kabuki, "I was absolutely stunned by it. It's so outrageous, so colorful and so unabashedly dramatic." In Kabuki theatre, the voice is all-important. "They train so hard that their throats bleed," she says.

Their careers have intertwined in other ways, too. They both chaired their depart-



Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia and her husband, Nahum Medalia.

ments, which allowed them to compare notes — and grumble together at home. They also witnessed the tremendous growth of OU and experienced the optimism for the future. Then during the 1970s when budgets became restricted, living with less became the norm. Says she, "I learned a lot about what it is to grow and do it slowly and patiently." Hirschfeld-Medalia remembers one bit of advice given to her was to keep a low profile.

Reflecting on that, her husband notes wryly, "One of the lovely things about our present state is we don't have to keep a low profile anymore. We're probably ready to be kicked out."

Some of their devotion to OU has rubbed off on her family. Her mother and her late father established the Ruth and Alex Gitlin Fund in 1983 to assist academic theatre. The funds are used for scholarships, workshops and other projects not included in regular budgets. Hirschfeld-Medalia's mother is a member of the university President's Club.

When the professors are not making documentaries, they may be found fishing, racing boats and listening to jazz music. Medalia comments that their references to entertainers of the past usually go over students' heads today. "That makes you feel like it's time to pack it in," he laughs.

Myths Cloud Our Understanding of Suicide

With the onset of the holiday season, the last thing most may be thinking about is suicide. For many others, it may be the first.

A bit dramatic, perhaps, but not entirely true. The common belief that the holidays trigger far more suicides than any other time of the year is a myth, says Nursing Dean Andrea R. Lindell. She is an expert on the topic and says myths abound about suicide, a subject many prefer to avoid.

"Actually, studies show that most suicides take place in May or April," Lindell says. During spring, when flowers and trees are in a stage of rebirth, the depressed individual may feel no personal improvement is occurring in his or her own life. Some researchers have found slight increases in suicide rates during December and January, but the rates were not considered to be statistically significant.

In general, it is the lack of hope that characterizes suicidal persons. As Lindell notes, however, another myth about suicide is that it occurs suddenly. In reality, she says, suicidal persons send out numerous "cues and clues" as forewarning.

"Believing that suicide 'strikes' relieves

our burden for not picking up on it," Lindell says. "It is a myth that suicide 'strikes' or happens without warning."

Although suicide indicates severe unhappiness and emotional disorder, Lindell says, it should not be assumed that the person is mentally ill. To the suicidal person, Lindell explains, the act is seen as a rational solution.

Among the "cues and clues" that Lindell speaks of are verbal warnings.

"There are indirect verbal cues like, 'What's the use of going on?' or 'Why bother, I'm not going to be around' or 'Good-bye, I'm not going to see you again.'"

"A direct cue is saying, 'I'm going to end it, I'm going to kill myself.'"

An indication that a depressed person may be contemplating suicide is a sudden shift in personality. Someone may suddenly begin to make amends for past misdeeds and try to patch up disputes with family members. The suicidal person may give items away to friends. All of these actions lead those around the person to believe that the suicidal person is "getting over it" and recovering.

Actually, Lindell says, a suicidal person

may act at a time when others least expect it. A severely depressed person may not have the "psychic energy" to commit suicide, she says. Once the person makes the decision, however, he or she will get affairs in order. It is during this time that others think the person shows emotional improvement.

Signs that a person could be headed toward depression involving suicidal tendencies include sudden loss of appetite, withdrawing socially, losing sleep, losing attention span, and not coping with life as one did before.

Lindell cautions that not everyone exhibiting such behavior is suicidal nor is the presence of just one or two proof that severe emotional problems exist.

Helping the suicidal person, Lindell says, means offering a "lifeline" to show concern. When confronted, Lindell adds, the typical suicidal person will react in one of three ways: laugh hysterically and suggest the other person is "crazy," express anger that he or she has been discovered, or express relief that someone cares enough to help.

"People are sending out the cues and clues because they want help," Lindell says. Suicidal persons are usually ambivalent about death, she says. If a better alternative comes along, they may accept that, she adds.

Suicidal persons act in four situations. Lindell says some are impulsive following

anger or disappointment (after having given numerous warning signs beforehand), some act because they believe "life is not worth living" and they do not understand their feelings, some kill themselves because of serious illness or incapacitation, and others kill themselves to communicate unhappiness about others' behavior.

Suicide is a leading cause of death among persons ages 14-35, Lindell says. Men typically use what Lindell calls masculine methods, such as firearms, while women choose tranquilizers, poisons and carbon monoxide.

Lindell suggests confronting someone who may be contemplating suicide. The suicidal person should be informed of sources of help, including pastors, health clinics and crisis lines. Above all, Lindell says, do not deny the person is facing difficult times. Rather, agree that problems exist but offer signs of hope.

"The suicidal person will not attempt it if he or she knows there is a lifeline like a pastor, a crisis center, or a friend who says you can call at any time if you don't feel you can go on," she says.

Other misconceptions about suicide, Lindell says, are that persons who talk about it do not act, that once a person is suicidal, he or she is suicidal forever, that it occurs more often among the rich and the poor, and that it is inherited or "runs in the family."

Grants Further Research

Two professors are continuing their work toward creating a computer that will interpret human commands and "think."

Peter Binkert, linguistics, and Christian Wagner, engineering, are already on the trail with their research into a language parser for computers. Parsing is analyzing the syntactical structure of sentences. A computer capable of parsing could understand English and have a human-like awareness of its own sensory, motor and reasoning capacities.

The professors have just received two \$20,000 grants from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research to further their work. The grants are for basic research and will be used to buy equipment and provide support services. Three other grant proposals to the military are pending.

Wagner says that by the end of the winter semester, he and Binkert "hope to have a

system in place that will be capable of parsing all syntactical structures in the English language." Such a system would be able to parse sentences beyond ordinary human capacity, Wagner says, because people simply cannot remember all of the grammatical rules.

Binkert and Wagner's system will allow a computer to describe a word in relation to all others in the sentence and to provide an unambiguous interpretation of the word. For example, if the computer sees "apple," it will know the meaning and be able to tell if the word is used correctly in a sentence.

Wagner is especially pleased that the grants are for basic research rather than applied. The practical applications of parsing systems are not the professors' main concerns now, Wagner says. However, he adds, thinking of the possible uses others may find for the system "just astounds Peter's and my minds."

Wagner predicts that a computer able to understand English commands and respond appropriately is in store. "Hal," the famous super-computer in the film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, is an example of such a machine. Wagner ventures to say that the science-fiction of that film will one day be fact.

Home computers that could understand human questions would open the market to unlimited possibilities.



The men's and women's basketball teams were victorious against Hillsdale December 4. The teams played before a crowd of university employees during the annual appreciation night. The men won, 90-81, and the women beat Hillsdale, 74-49. Heading into games on December 13-14, the men are 3-3 and the women are 6-0.

Registration Jan. 6

Winter registration will be held for undergraduate and graduate students from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. January 6 in the Oakland Center.

Late registration for on-campus classes only runs from January 8-20 in the registration office, 100 O'Dowd Hall. Hours will be 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday.



1985...

...will be remembered for the continuing development of the Oakland Technology Park...a \$1.3 million consulting contract with Ford Motor Co. for the mathematics faculty and students...a tuition freeze...a big freeze in January that closed the university...the birth of "Sweet Sensations" and expanded girth for waistlines...the millionth visitor to Meadow Brook Hall...a faculty strike and a longer fall semester...the renovation of the former riding ring and stables into the Meadow Brook Center and Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute...a record fall enrollment...appointment of Deans David Herman and George Dahlgren...a merger creating the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance...elevated status for the Eye Research Institute and the School of Health Sciences...learning a new phone system...symposiums on James Abbott McNeil Whistler, Gilbert and Sullivan, and George Bernard Shaw...faculty and staff visiting China and OU acting as host for Chinese and European scholars...guest lecturers Alex Haley and Ruth Westheimer...being listed as a "best buy" in a book about educational bargains.



Photos, clockwise from top left: *Black Lion Wharf* by Whistler, from the Whistler symposium at the Center for the Arts; Kim Zelinski and Chad, who with twin, Ryan, captivated the community following their premature birth; soccer team Coach Gary Parsons (left) and his assistant, Brian Tinnion, again earned national attention with their squad; nursing students got on-the-job training in a unique Harper Hospital mentoring program; Robert Dearth, cultural affairs, enjoyed the Meadow Brook Art Gallery auction; the January ice storm brought beauty; Joseph Hovanesian discussed engineering with French visitors; the high-technology park progressed rapidly; and a three-day faculty strike disrupted classes.

