

OU Staff Agrees to Review Frosh Advising

By Bill Connellan
Of the Observer Staff

Oakland University's present policy of counseling and advising freshmen must be reviewed, administrators agreed last Thursday at their meeting at Haven Hill.

Chancellor Varner emphasized that the meeting in Highland was not an "emergency meeting," but has been scheduled since November. There was no agenda for the all-day meeting which included Chancellor Varner, the University's deans and associate deans; the registrar and admissions staff; the director of business affairs; Oakland Center manager John Corker, Mrs. Alice Haddix, residence halls director, and Gary Beeman, program advisor.

The whole range of University problems was discussed at the "routinely held" meeting, with the counseling program "emerging clearly" as something which needs much improvement, Varner reported.

The Chancellor stated that a series of discussions with more directly affected people will be held in order to determine what can be done to improve the present program.

Transition Period

The first semester is a transition period for freshmen, Varner said. He felt that they needed "closer contact" with their advisors to help them in their adjustment.

visors to help them in their adjustment.

Enrollment was also discussed at the meeting, according to Varner. The Chancellor pointed out that the discussion of enrollment was centered around total enrollment for the future. "This is always a major problem," he stated, "because the University must plan for it."

Attrition, a major concern at the end of every semester, was another problem discussed at Haven Hill. The Chancellor stressed that "nothing new" was brought up in regard to this.

Other OU issues discussed included the new grading system, student activities, curriculum, automobile parking, music festival, and the placement program.



Last Year's Sno Queen
Barbara Carson

Without Statistical Success

Campus Minister Here To Serve 'Students'

By Howard Coffin

Of the Observer Staff

When he was first seen emerging from political science and philosophy classes last summer, most students guessed that the Reverend James McAlpine was simply an extra curious campus visitor. However, many thought it somewhat strange to find the youthful minister listening intently and receptively to a discussion of modern political theory, and, after a week or so some began to wonder why the Reverend didn't spend a little more time tending to his church as other ministers did.

The fact was that McAlpine was tending to church and still is, for the classroom, the grill, and political science discussions are just as much a part of his church as the bare floor office he occupies in the old gate house at the top of the parking lot. The "curious visitor" has become a regular, although unofficial, member of the community. His ministry at Oakland is that of an ecumenical chaplain—the first chosen by the University Christian Federation, a private organization of clergymen from seven Protestant sects, founded to serve the needs of the new university.

Attends Classes

The chaplain finds it difficult to give any pat description of his ministry's role in "serving Oakland." Calling universities in general "one of the great liberalizing forces of men in that it frees them from prejudices and half-truths," he explained that he attends classes when he can because he feels that this is one way in which he can affirm the goals of the University.

He stated that he felt it essential to his work to relate to students in terms of their intrinsic tasks—as students, not as religious practitioners.

Asserting that, "The secular world is the primary arena of God's activity," McAlpine said that, "If he is to be revealed, it will be in the concrete experi-

ences and classrooms within the curriculum and in the interchange between teacher and student."

Sensitive to the changing role of the church in a changing society, McAlpine is in a sense exploring the possibilities and problems of the University's relationship to his ministry. He asserts that "If the church cannot serve the University in a beneficial capacity—i.e., assist in the liberalizing process, then it has no business being here."

Worldly Approach

McAlpine's approach to religious questions is decidedly this-worldly. His concern is with the reality of human existence, and not with gentle platitudes. "The most faithful thing a student can do is to be a good student, and the most faithful thing for a



The Rev. James McAlpine

teacher is to be the best teacher he knows how to be."

Strongly set against compartmentalization in religion, McAlpine claims that "God is in no way limited to institutional forms". Instead, he "feels that the church and the University both have a common goal, not to protect students, but to help them

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Features Queen Contest

Snow Carnival to Be Held Next Weekend

By the Observer Staff

Program Advisor Gary Beeman announced this week that the traditional Snow Carnival is to be held Friday, Jan. 31 and Saturday, February 1.

Weekend activities will be launched with the Snow Queen Contest Friday night. After two days of swimming, statue judging, skiing, tug-of-war, ice skating, and dog sled contests, the annual Snow-Ball Dance with the usual assortment of blondes, brunettes, red heads, champagne, crepe streamers, candlelight, and a nine-piece band will get underway at 9 p.m., Saturday, in the Oakland Center Gold Room.

Events Scheduled

Events will run off on the following schedule:

FRIDAY: 8:00 to 10:00:

Queen Contest

10:00 to 12:00: IM Swimming Contests

SATURDAY: 12:00 to 1:15:

Statue Judging

1:15 to 2:00: Skiing Contests

2:00 to 2:45: Ice Tug-of-War

2:45 to 3:30: Ice Skating Contest

3:30 to 4:30: Dog Sled Race

9:00 to 1:00: Sno-Ball Dance

Beeman urged campus organizations to form teams for all contests.

Each contest will be conducted on a point system, with scale

ranging from 15 to 8 points for first place; 10 to 5 for second; and 5 to 3 for third place.

Enter Candidate

Any student group may enter a candidate for the Queen Contest. Entry fee is \$1.00. Application must be submitted to the SAC mailbox no later than Monday, January 27.

Judges will be selected both from the University staff and the Oakland community.

Tickets for the Sno-Ball Dance are \$2.00 per couple. A well-known area band, the Am-Tones, will provide the music.

Beeman hoped that both commuting and resident students will join in the activities as enthusiastically as last year.

Detailed information on the 2-day program may be obtained from a special bulletin at the activities desk in the Oakland Center basement.

Gallery Strike Rumors Blasted By Galloway

By the Observer Staff

John Galloway, chairman of the art department, Tuesday blasted rumors of a strike in the OU Art Gallery. "For Hell's sake," he insisted, "Don't further such a rumor. There is no strike at the gallery."

The rumor arose from the shortage of qualified personnel to staff the gallery during exhibition hours.

Previously, the gallery sitters, attendants who remained in the gallery during the hours it was open, have been volunteers, but last term there was a dearth of dependable students willing to spend one hour a day in the gallery. This semester, due to class confusions, even less students are available.

Tries for Budget

To solve the problem, Galloway is trying to secure from the administration a small budget which would allow the Gallery to employ dependable and qualified students at the prevailing campus rates. The sitters would not necessarily be art majors, but an ability to handle the public would be absolutely essential.

Galloway cited student Dave Fullerton for his efforts to recruit volunteers and praised those students who had dependably staffed the gallery last term. He reaffirmed that there was no strike at the University art gallery, and stated that the exhibition would be open two hours a day, from noon to 1 and 4 to 5 p.m.

Beyond Economics

"Beyond Economics—What?" is the title of a lecture by John E. Maher, associate professor of economics, to be given at 12 noon, January 29, in 190 Science.

Vocalist Added To Seniors' Jazz Festival

By the Observer Staff

Vocalist Nina Simone has been added to the senior jazz and folk festival, to be held in the IM gymnasium Feb. 23.

Starring in the festival, along with Miss Simone, will be Herbie Mann and his jazz group, and with several as yet unannounced groups, according to the show's organizer, John Kelb.

Kelb, a Ferndale senior, is a member of the senior class steering committee headed by Don Roe.

The show has been devised as a fund raising project for class activities during the remainder of the winter semester, and to finance a class gift.

Kelb estimates that the gymnasium, using an in-the-round staging, will seat 2,000 or more persons. Preliminary ticket prices, as set by the committee, will be \$1.50 for students and University personnel, and \$2 to the general public.

"We expect to fill the auditorium right to the balcony with this show," said Kelb. "I think it's one of the outstanding programs ever to be offered in Oakland County, and most certainly at the University."

"John has done a first-rate job in taking the initiative on this ambitious task," said Roe, "and Gary Beeman (program advisor) has our thanks as well."

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No Students Represented

Student life was a major point in last week's marathon 14-hour administrative meeting. Gary Beeman, program advisor, and Mrs. Alice Haddix, residence halls director, were present, due to their direct connection to and effect upon student life. No students were present. Nor are students ever present at meetings of the administrative group.

Yet the Chancellor continues to ask "What do the students think about this (or that)?" He has nowhere to turn for representative student opinion. SFUC? The council is nonrepresentative, selecting its own members, and holding closed meetings. SAC? The activities group represents, again, only the views of its members, who are selected internally. The Observer? This paper represents the opinions of its staffers, not the student body.

The Chancellor has stated and restated his eagerness to have students participate in campus decision-making. Yet the new student government proposal was defeated.

Two substitutes for student government could be tried, however, which would not require campus-wide approval, yet would be representative of most students. The first is a dormitory council. With the new dorm opening, more than 500 students will be housed on campus. A system of administrative representation for this body would benefit both the group and the administration.

The other substitute for a government would be a Student Union Board, with power to set policies for control, to a certain extent, in the Oakland Center.

SUB, with administrative function in an area as densely populated with students as the OC, would be especially sensitive to student opinion and criticism, and could reflect that opinion when consulted by administrative officials.

The two organizations, SUB and the dorm council could, if need be, exist side by side. Representation to the administration, on that basis, would be fairly comprehensive.

If only one or the other were to prove viable, the contribution to be made to student life and communication in general would be the most significant made in the last two years, since the close of the old student government.

Campus Minister

(Continued from Page 1)

to be free—to explain and take risks, to act upon society as scholar-citizens, bringing their intellectual commitments to bear on their responsibilities as men and women in society."

The task of the ministry at Oakland, according to the chaplain, is to "raise the religious questions," which he feels are important in a liberal arts education. "I'm not so sure they'd be asked otherwise," he commented.

No Formal Structure

Lacking any formal structure for dialogue with students, McAlpine's ministry, by his evaluation, is "one which has to live without statistical success with reference to programs and numbers of members."

McAlpine vows he has no intentions of proselytizing or trying to "win believers." He is disturbed that most church people "waste their time providing answers to

questions that haven't been asked," and acknowledges that "if the church is going to benefit the University, it must devote itself to answering the questions that are being asked, and that concern themselves with human problems."

PLACEMENT OFFICE

The following companies and school systems will interview on campus the week of Jan. 27.

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For further details, contact the placement office, 266 SFH.

Minority Report

By Daniel Polsby

Other than Richard Wilbur, the only poet born in the 1920's whose work seems to me capable of surviving is W. D. Snodgrass.

So far, Snodgrass' *magnus opus* is "Heart's Needle" (Knopf, 1959). The title poem of the volume is outwardly the story of how Snodgrass' relationship with his daughter was affected by his divorce; but what it really is a striking portrait of the poet as a man. Snodgrass is never afraid to look at himself, no matter what he might see. His poems are filled with the imagery of constipation, entetherment, inversion, guilt, and Lady-Macbeth-like dirty hands. As we read "Heart's Needle," we get a rather abrupt picture of a man willing to suffer any extremity at the hands of truth. Such openness is, for me at least, disarming. There are no poets now writing who are much like Snodgrass; his stuff is sui generis, like all first-rate art.

Snodgrass' professed theory of composition, if I understand it aright, is a rather anti-intellectual one. How many new ideas have appeared since the middle ages, he asks. And of the new ideas which have appeared, how many have been thought up by poets? The same problem, that is, what should a poet write about, is posed in Plato's *Ion*. It seems obvious that a general has more business speaking of military matters than a poet, a blacksmith has more business speaking of blacksmithing than a poet, a gardener has more business speaking of horticulture than a poet, and so on. There seems to be no subject which someone cannot discourse upon better than a poet.

Plato seems content to believe that poets should shut up and leave the talking to their betters. Snodgrass, who is a very humble man, seems acutely aware of his own intellectual limitations, and so turns his eyes away from the outward world and in upon himself. The poet's dominion, in Snodgrass' view, is personality. The poet should not purvey information, intelligence nor instruction; he should look to himself, and present without pity what he sees. The personality is of paramount importance.

One might suppose that this philosophy of composition could lead the poet to produce formless and effete fribble. In fact, Snodgrass produces no such thing. No contemporary poet I know of, unless it is Richard Wilbur, is more aware than Snodgrass of the virtues of form and formal structure, and few poets have ever handled the elements of verse with a more sure control than he.

As Snodgrass approaches his forties (he was 38 a few weeks ago), he may find that the job of transcribing his personality forces him to abandon his utterly clear, simple style; to seek expression in that crabbed, allusive utterance characteristic of a great many post-Browning poets. If he abandons his present clarity, he may discover himself, but he will lose his readers. Or if he retains his lucidity, he may develop into one of the finest poets America has yet produced.

Krausmeyer's Alley

by Bob Linsenman

Not wanting to further alienate this column from Oakland's brightest freshman class, I decided to write something that would be in direct accord with their delicate and scholarly-gear sensitivities. The problem was, what to write on? The paradox of the fortunate fell, birth control, the pastoral tradition in "Comus" and "Lycidas," euthanasia, the responsibility of physics to the world, or perhaps the psychological enjoyment one receives from smoking two packs of cigarettes per day. These wouldn't do. It would have to be something useful, like "how to come out of the bookstore smiling," or "how to unlock the conference rooms on the third floor of the library without a key."

My mind fell, at best, into a quandary and, at worst, into the orderly arrangement and pattern of action seen in a sty full of neurotic pigs. I lit a cigarette, thought a few nondescript thoughts, put my head down on my desk and cried.

Maybe I could start a "Name that Quote" contest, but no, if I did, I not only would be stepping into the professor's territory, but it would also be necessary to give prizes, which I cannot afford to do. There seemed to be no way out. I reached for my bottle of dexedrine, they were all gone save two. I took them and prayed for inspiration.

A smoke ring bounced off the wall and back into my eyes. When the tears and smoke cleared there was, standing about ten feet away, a creature of indescribable magnificence and mystery. A warm and beautifully moist, airy woman, dressed in a gown of some strange and cool liquid walked towards me. It was then that I noticed, or rather sensed, the dry heat from her blazing eyes and the cold, earthy rush of air to and from her lungs.

"I have crossed the heavens to see you, Robert. You are much too sanguine, mental derangement may result. Your passions control your mind. Your blood has overpowered you. Without me and my two sisters who follow closely, you will collapse, decompose and disintegrate. My name is Melancholy. I am from Saturn. I am the greater evil."

I ventured to speak, her finger crossed my lips, a soft finger. The scent of lilacs in heat tumbled in the currents made by her swirling hair. I felt weak. Honey touched my eyes and blinded me. She whispered in paraphrase the last lines of Milton's "Paradise Lost."

"We hand in hand with wandering steps and slow

Through Eden will take our solitary way."

This gold dust was blown hit into my ears and deafened me. A pale neck muffled, baffled my own words and the opaque smoothness of her slender arm but carressed my hand, ever so slightly, eased my freshman labor pains and struck dumb this pen for the duration.

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

What is the purpose of the lounge in the Oakland Center? Center Manager John Corker seems to think that it is solely for the purpose of idle conversation. Corker feels that it is his duty to disturb anyone who looks "too comfortable." Looking "too comfortable" may be defined as sleeping on the floor, (maybe he's afraid you'll get it dirty), reclining on one of the many couches, even if you are studying, or sitting in a chair with your feet propped up while you are considering the merits of Zen.

How long are we going to permit this stupidity to exist? Students of OU arise! We must nip this malignant idiocy in the bud. What is the value of a lounge if you can't lounge in it?

I feel that Corker could put himself in a position where he could be well-liked by every student. Whether this position should be with General Motors or the Ding Dong Nursery School, I cannot say.

Don Downing

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German Expressionist Exhibit

Predilection for People

By Susan Bierstein

Of all the estimable qualities of German expressionism, that great art movement of the early 1900's, the artists' predilection for people-subjects is the most dominant in the collection of Expressionist graphics in the University Art Gallery exhibit (closing today).

Forceful examples are two lithograph portraits by Max Pechstein, a prominent member of the bridge group. "Portrait of a Girl" conveys power, but the strong chin, heavy eyebrows over penetrating eyes, and prominent cheekbones do not decimate the overall impression of femininity.

Also representative of the Expressionist interest in human subjects is the humorous Rudolph Schlichter lithograph, "Card-Players in Cafe." A heavy-lidded, fezzed Turk watches as a wild-haired Arab in spats and high-heeled shoes plays his hand. An English gentleman, with pince-nez and center-parted hair, watches over the Turk's shoulder. In the background, a woman in operatic costume attempts an aria.

"A little Child Shall Lead Them," a lithograph by George Grosz, also reveals the Expressionist sense of humor. Grosz shows a cigar-chomping, bedroom-slippers tycoon beleaguered by two small, fat children as he tries to pour a drink. This type of work has little more artistic content than a newspaper cartoon or comic strip, but it offers valuable political and social satire.

Another type of Expressionist subject, the nonrational and emotional, can be seen in the small Emil Nolde lithograph, "The Monster." There is little resemblance here, however, to the brilliant color and vigorous technique so characteristic of Nolde's work and Expressionism generally. The diminutive and ugly figure in gray and red on white has none of the vibrance of such Nolde oils as "Christ Among the Children."

Oskar Kokoschka, too, is represented here by undistinguished

examples, several illustrations for stage productions. There are none of his landscapes or passionate lithographic portraits in the collection.

Turning to the woodcuts, there is often a distinct impression of African influence, as in Felix-Mueller's "Family." Small forms in the background bear unmistakable resemblance to the cowrie shells used as decoration by African tribes. African influence also can be traced in facial features of the subjects and in the woman's hairdo. Such identifications are heightened by the presence in the gallery of some of the African objects (they seem like old friends!) from the collection of G. Mennen Williams that appeared in the African exhibit last fall.

Variety is the principal virtue of the exhibit (though some of the work offered is not technically Expressionist). To its discredit, many important Expressionists are represented by inferior work,

or by indistinct prints reproduced near the end of a series. Still, those works that actually represent Expressionism serve to increase our understanding of that movement.

An exhibit of recent oils and drawings by John Beardman, instructor in art at Oakland, will open Feb. 9 after a reception in the Gallery for Oakland faculty, staff and students. The collection will be offered for sale.

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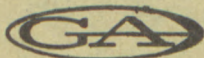
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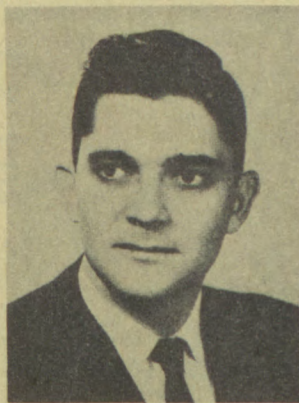
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High Scoring Marks Fourth OUBC Victory

By the Observer Staff

Two scoring records were set last week as Oakland's Basketball Club reeled off its fourth win in a row, a 102-52 victory over Christian College.

The 102 points set a new game high for the Club. Previous high was 99 points, set in the opening game. The team is now averaging 88.8 points per game.

Lance Gentile scored 25 points to top John Reynar's season high of 23. Reynar's record was also set in the first game. 19 of Lance's points came in the second half.

Five other Oakland players were in double figures. John Reynar had 16, Phil Williams 13, Bob Rowell 11, Ron Toles and Darryl Keezer each had 10.

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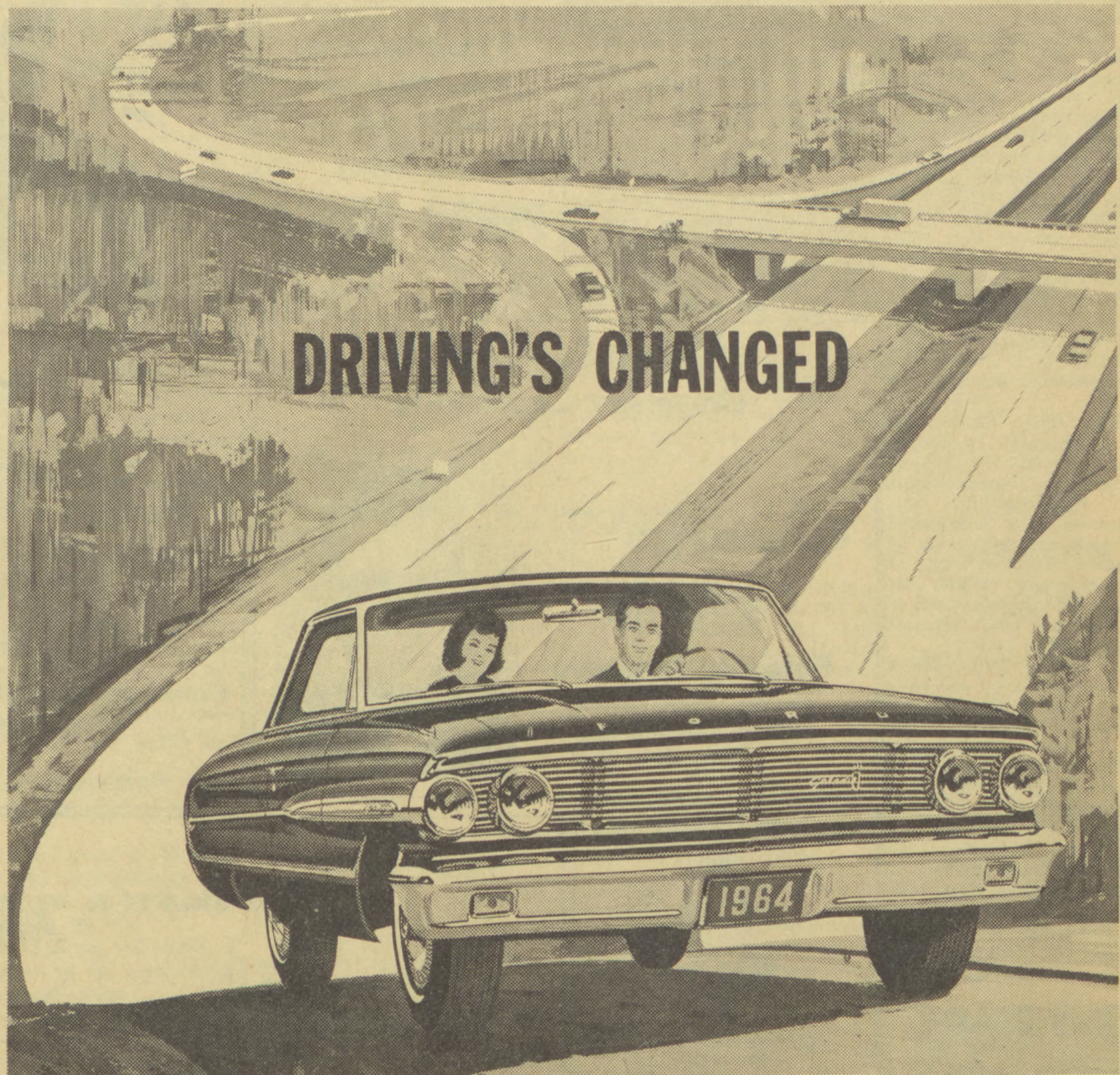
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