A newsletter for Oakland University colleagues

Saving old glory

Colloquium speaker sees flag desecration as a burning issue



Robert Goldstein

The American flag is a symbol of our nation, and sometimes, it's a symbol of our national discontent.

That is why the 20th century is replete with instances in which Old Glory has been burned, raised and worn in protest, to the chagrin of patriots, the consternation of the courts, the delight of libertarians, and the abiding interest of political scientists like Oakland University's Robert Goldstein.

Goldstein, professor, Political Science, will focus on the issue February 4, when he gives a President's Colloquium Series lecture called Burning the Flag: The American Flag Desecration Controversy. A reception scheduled at 11:30 a.m. in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms will precede the noon presentation.

The presentation will include a history of the controversy, summaries of key arguments on both sides and an update on the continuing efforts by flag desecration critics to pass a constitutional amendment to ban it.

Goldstein, who this fall will teach an honors course on the issue, says freedom of speech requires Americans to tolerate the use of the flag for purposes that some may view as abhorrent.

Debates over its desecration may superficially reflect pride and patriotism, but under the surface, they show "considerable insecurity and doubt about the basic health of American society," he said.

"Toleration of political expression, no matter how unpopular, is at the heart of American democracy," Goldstein said. "The flag's real beauty lies not in its cloth, but in the freedom it represents. What it stands for would be destroyed if we could only use it in certain ways mandated or tolerated by the government."

By 1932, all states banned virtually all unorthodox uses of the flag, spurred by complaints that its allegedly sacred character would be compromised by using it for advertising and commercialism. But, in practice, only political dissidents were prosecuted, Goldstein said.

The issue burned fiercely during the Vietnam War, when flags were burned to protest American policy, and most recently in 1989, when the Supreme Court legalized protest desecrations. Critics failed to pass a constitutional amendment banning such desecrations, but the new Congress will likely reconsider such an amendment, he said.

Goldstein is basing his talk on his acclaimed 1995 book, Saving Old Glory: The History of the American Flag Desecration Controversy, and his equally acclaimed 1996 book, Burning the Flag.

The 1995 book was cited by continued on Page 4

breaking

Energy savings fuel cool changes

Recent energy savings will mean cool times for the Oakland University community.

Pending OU Board of Trustees approval on Februray 6, every air conditioning system on campus by fall 1998 will either be replaced, converted or backed up with new air conditioning systems.

The \$5.5-million air conditioning project is part of the \$8.6-million energy services agreement, which uses utility money saved by the installation of more energy-efficient equipment to help pay for air conditioning systems.

"Two-thirds of the dollars for the energy services project are coming from the energy savings," said Rick Perhai, OU plant engineer and energy manager.

Included in the project, South Foundation Hall, Hannah Hall of Science and the north side of Oakland Center will undergo a facelift, receiving state of-the-art windows to cut solar glare and heat.

One contractor, Viron Corporation, is responsible for conceptual design of energy conservation systems, including heating, ventilation and lighting.

Journeys of knowledge

Faculty, administrators hone skills while seeking professional development

Each year Oakland University faculty and administrative members make the trek to professional development workshops and fellowships throughout the country.

They return with new outlooks, plans for new courses, motivation to face challenges at Oakland and, sometimes, memories of offbeat training sessions.

Five travelers include Sean Moran, Peter Bertocci, Lynn Hockenberger, Susan Awbrey and Thomas LeMarbe.

The interests of Sean Moran and his students over the years spurred him to explore modern Scottish history. Moran, associate professor, History, College of Arts and Sciences, teaches modern British and Irish history and Modern History of Ideas.

"It's rare for any British historian to have expertise in three or four of the United Kingdom nations (English, Irish, Welsh and Scottish history) under their belt," Moran says.

His interest in Scotland stems from his youth, when he had Scottish friends. He also married a Scot. And studying the influence of Scotland on Northern Ireland is also an area of interest in his own research. Moran needed to immerse himself in the historical literature to be able to teach and do research in Scottish archival materials. So he devoted a semester and part of the summer last year to study in the

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Professional development participants include (from left to right)
Peter Bertocci, Sean Moran, Lynn Hockenburger, Thomas
LeMarbe and Susan Awbrey.

A freedom march to commemorate the birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr kicked off Oakland University's annual observance of African-American Celebration Month January 20.

An array of special programs and activities are scheduled for the month-long celebration, centered around the theme "Celebrating the Strengths of Our Culture." The fifth annual "Keeper of the Dream" Banquet, named in honor of King, is the culminating event, scheduled February 20. William C. Brooks, vice president, Corporate Affairs, General Motors Corporation, will be the keynote speaker for that program.

"The annual freedom march and rally is the pivotal event for OU's observance of African-American Celebration Month," President Gary D. Russi said.

"This event draws together a diverse group of students, faculty and staff, and provides a solid foundation on which to expand our efforts in recognition of the

tremendous impact Dr. King had on all of us - particularly in his commitment to improving the quality of all our lives through educational opportunity.

A variety of programs have been planned at Oakland including storytelling, film showings, special student-sponsored events and programs, art exhibits, poetry and choral readings, an ethnic fair and concerts.

Felecia Bumpus, coordinator, Intercultural Programs; and Monifa Jumanne, director, Special Programs, are committee co-chairs. The committee is composed of faculty, staff and students.

"The theme says it all," Bumpus says. "We have struggled, we have made progress, and we have the uniqueness of our culture to keep us strong.

"What we're doing this year is honoring the past, present and the future, but we're not just celebrating African-American history, we're celebrating all culture, because we are one of each



The annual Martin Luther King Jr. march on campus January 20 was sponsored by the Association of Black Students.

INSIDE OAKLAND is published each month September through May for the faculty and staff of Oakland University by the University Communications and Marketing Department (C&M). C&M also publishes a

condensed mid-month Inside Oakland edition to update faculty and staff on university news and

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DEADLINES

Submit items for publication no later than the 10th of the month before publication

NEXT DEADLINE

February 10

Sciences, chaired the Session on Mechanics at the 103rd Annual cal Society. He also presented a paper on the dynamic behavior of a contact with a rigid obstacle. The paper was co-authored by Meir Shillor, also of Mathematical Sciences, and Kenneth L. Kuttler of Michigan Technological University.

Ka C. Cheok, Engineering and as one of the recipients of a 1996 Society of Automotive Engineers Oral Presentation Award. The award is presented to those who gave outstanding presentations dur-

Engineering, received the prestigious M.M. Frocht Award of the Society of Experimental Mechanics. The award recognizes "outstanding achievement as an educator in the field of experimental mechanics," and is presented annually to the

Yang Xia, Physics, is invited to give a podium presentation at the 43rd Annual Meeting of Orthopaedic Research Society in San Francisco

this month. Fewer than 50 percent of submitted abstracts are accepted at all with only a small minority of these qualifying for podium presentation. The title of his presentation is T2 Relaxation Anisotropy as a sensitive signature for the Orientation of Molecular Networks in Car-

Brian Sangeorzan, Engineering and Computer Science, will receive the 1997 Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Faculty Advisor Award at the 1997 SAE International Congress & Exposition in Detroit February 25-28.

Philip Singer, Health Behavioral Sciences, wrote a commentary which was published in the December 1996 issue of the Anthropology Newsletter. It appeared in the section edited by the Society For Medical Anthropology. The commentary appeared as Beyond a 'Contribution to Knowledge'? Santeria as Therapy Among Haitian Refugees. Singer was also invited on the Omni world-wide-web page Brainstorms November 29. The subject was Shamanism for the Masses. The interview was followed by computer open chat.

Michael C. Vigilant, Meadow Brook Theatre, expects to have his 11th published musical, a new version of Kipling's The Jungle Book, released this spring by Pioneer Drama Service, Denver, Colorado.

Susan Wood, Department of Art and Art History, presented a paper, titled Forgotten Women in the Roman Imperial Portrait Group at Beziers at the annual meetings of the American Institute of Archaeology December 30. A published version of this paper will appear in the journal Archaeological News.

employee

·····january

Employee: Anthony Becker Title: Senior Systems/Database Analyst Department: Computer and Information Services

Length of Service: 14 years

University Service: Member, AP Assembly Communications

Committee

Member, Peer Advisory Committee for Academic

Comments: "Tony has contributed many hours of effort to resolve technical issues related to financial aid processing of loans and government required reporting. His efforts have saved many, many staff hours."

Clearing the path to passing math

Mathematics and business school partner to benefit students

Two Oakland University faculty members are trying to help students succeed in math.

Darrell Schmidt, professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences (DMS), College of Arts and Sciences, is working with Kevin Murphy, professor, Economics, School of Business Administration (SBA), to help students who are having trouble passing math courses required for admission to the SBA.

The DMS and SBA started working together on this issue in 1990. And they're still coming up with ways to help students. Students are required to earn at least a 2.0 grade-point average in Math 121, algebra; Math 122, basic calculus; and other courses.

The two math courses are part of an important foundation in a business career.

"If students don't do well in these math courses, it is also more likely that they will not be successful as business majors," Murphy says. "Many of our core courses, such as accounting, finance and statistics, are very quantitative. Therefore, if students have not mastered basic mathematical concepts as taught in Math 121 and 122, they are likely to have difficulty with the quantitative concepts taught in most business courses.'

Instead of thinking of the courses as a hurdle, students should view passing the classes as an important part of earning a degree and admission to the SBA, Schmidt says.

The DMS and SBA have provided avenues for students to succeed in the courses: Schmidt says the number of topics was reduced and courses were reorganized to spend more time on difficult and important sections such as word problems. "Once you walk out of the university, everything's a word problem," he says.

More review days were added before final exams. And the academic units are seeking funding to pay upper-level students to grade all homework. Grading homework is now an option of instructors. Grading all home-

work would prompt students to learn by doing, Schmidt says. "Mathematics isn't a spectator sport," he says, stressing that students should do all of the homework and be active in the classes. Supplemental Instruction (SI) has also proven effective since it was instituted for the two courses in 1990.

"SI is the work of the Academic Skills Center and we value it as an important resource for students," Schmidt says.

SI courses are taught by upper-division students who attend the main classes, then discuss study skills with students and how to focus on the right elements in the course. They also answer questions about the material or present it in a different way.

Other aids are a "Tips for Success" sheet and self-assessment exercises that include a contract students make with themselves. The contract encourages students to think about how much time and effort they plan to invest in the course. This exercise also encourages periodic plan review. A second self-assessment exercise allows students to assess how strong they are on each exam topic and to gauge their review based on their assessments. It also provides a basis for which they can go over the returned tests and assess how well their reviews work.

More improvements are on the way: in the works for use in summer 1997 courses are software demonstrations. The academic units will also meet with advisers to gain different perspectives on the courses that students may be reluctant to share with instructors. Schmidt stresses that many people from SBA and DMS have "done a ton of work" for the project to help students succeed in the math courses. They include the SBA's Ronald Tracy, associate professor, Economics; Lizabeth Barclay, professor, Management; and Kenneth York, department chair and associate professor, Management and Marketing; and DMS professors Curtis Chipman and Jerrold Gross-

Barclay and York, for example, with the help of two continued on Page 4

of distinction

Kevin T. Andrews, Mathematical Meeting of the American Mathematithermoviscoelastic body in frictional

Computer Science, has been selected ing one of SAE's meetings.

George Dodd, Michigan Center for Automotive Research, has received a \$12,000 award from Porsche Engineering Services for his research on Design Review — New

Joseph Hovanesian, Mechanical SEM Educator of the Year.

Kevu Li, Engineering and Computer Science, received a \$7,500 award from the Alcoa Foundation for her research on Modeling with smart strain sensor for high temp

Journeys of knowledge — continued from Page 1

Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and at the University of Guelph in Ontario, which has the largest Scottish studies department and Scottish archives in North America.

After studying at the University of Michigan, Moran read more than 150 books, dozens of scholarly articles and collections of documents.

His first goal is to develop, in 1998, a proposal for an undergraduate upper-division course in modern Scottish history. The next goal is to develop a graduate course and be able to direct graduate research. "The research made me aware of things I didn't know," he says. "In the end, at least in the United States, I think I'll be virtually the only historian teaching British, Irish and Scottish history."

Moran says professional development is valuable because it allowed him to develop a teaching and research area that would have taken years without the leave.

Peter Bertocci, professor, Anthropology, CAS, also recognized a need at OU. He noticed while teaching courses in international studies that most students lacked basic knowledge of geography. "When I teach Introduction to India, I have to spend nearly half an hour just locating India in relation to the rest of Asia before getting into the details of South Asian geography," Bertocci says.

This lack of knowledge prompted Bertocci to work on developing a basic course in human geography. Last fall he took a professional development leave to bone up on geography by reading, attending a workshop on teaching geography, consulting with geographers and observing geography courses at Wayne State University.

This semester he's developing the course for fall 1997. "Professional development leave was a very good opportunity," Bertocci says. "It increases my ability to be of professional service to the university by offering something it needs."

Hockenberger, director, Learning Resources, last summer attended the Bryn Mawr Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education to hone her skills. The month-long program at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania educates women about the issues facing higher education and teaches skills necessary for career advancement. Hockenberger wanted to attend to develop her skills in directing the Department of Learning Resources, which includes the Academic Skills Center, Upward Bound, precollege programs and the academic opportunity program.

She says she came back with valuable strategies on how to promote collaboration in her unit and a greater understanding of the external issues facing higher education today. The program covered college student demographics; legislatures' and the publics' view of higher education; managing academic

departments and budgets; strategic planning; and curriculum and diversity issues. Each woman was assigned a mentor who was or is an administrator in higher education.

"I found the four weeks to be extremely helpful to me," Hockenberger says, "not only in managing my own department but also in understanding issues the university is now dealing with."

Susan Awbrey, assistant vice president, Academic Affairs, was selected from hundreds of national candidates to spend 13 months in 1995-96 as a fellow in the American Council on Education's leadership development program. The ACE Fellowship trains future presidents and provosts. Awbrey served as assistant to OU President Gary D. Russi for the first four months of the fellowship, focusing on revamping university outreach and strategic planning. Awbrey then joined her host institution, the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, where she concentrated on areas including budgeting, campus culture and diversity.

"I'm very interested in the future of universities and how administration can help them move into the next century," Awbrey says. She says the fellowship gave her a broader perspective on the role of higher education in society.

"Society is looking to universities to assist them with large intractable problems," she says.

Thomas LeMarbe, budget manager, Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, spent a week last June at the Central Association for College and University Business Officers (CACUBO) Management Institute. Program goal is to enhance leadership experiences through practical approaches to campus operations and team building activities. LeMarbe and his six teammates capped off their week with a comedic skit portraying Ebenezer Scrooge as a college president in search of process re-engineering solutions.

"It was a refreshing alternative to the typical overhead projector style presentations," LeMarbe says.

LeMarbe says he intends to complete the two-year diploma program next summer.



1500 Club

Admissions sets goal for enrollment campaign

Remember this motto: "Each one, reach one." It's part of Oakland University's campaign to enroll 1,500 first-year students, a record-high goal, for the fall 1997 term.

The admissions staff developed the 1500 Club campaign to compete in the hot market for "first time in any college" (FTIAC) students.

Area community colleges are increasing their efforts as well, said Robert Johnson, associate vice president, Enrollment Management, Office of Admissions and Scholarships. So OU must increase its efforts to maintain or gain market share, he said.

Admissions can't reach this goal alone, though. "If each faculty and staff member reaches out to one person and tries to attract them here to Oakland, we will achieve the goal," Johnson said.

Admissions has planned new enrollment efforts in addition to activities such as distributing OU applications in high schools, recruiting in northern Ohio, attending college fairs and inviting prospective students to the university.

Recruiters will contact all admitted students monthly by phone to promote enrollment.

And for the first time, OU is cooperating with a community organization, the Detroit Urban League, to enroll students. The university and the league expect to host a reception for Detroit Public Schools students.

"This is a way to increase diversity and build bridges," Johnson said.

OU also plans to tap the talents and connections of 70 alumni, who will introduce prospective students and their families to the university through the Alumni Admissions Ambassadors Program.

Another strategy is to enhance personalized service in the recruitment process, ensuring that students get the help they need in applying for financial aid, Johnson said.

Admissions aims to increase attendance of prospective students at the Go For The Gold open house and the Honors Exploration Program, which is for students who have earned a 3.5 GPA or above.

High school counselors are also on the guest list for a reception, at which OU plans to further relationships and learn more about counselors' needs.

In addition, scholarship dollars are being distributed to a wider range of students. Last year Admissions gave most of its scholarship money to students who had a 3.8 GPA or above. This year, students with at least a 3.2 GPA are eligible for money.

Admission staff members display their 1500 Club buttons.

What is your favorite food station?



Oakland University President Gary D. Russi makes a beeline for Taco Bell in the new food court.

What do other OU administrators prefer?

- "The salad." David S. Disend, vice president, University Relations and executive director, OU Foundation
- "I will go for them all in some random order!" —
 Bill Connellan, acting vice president, Academic Affairs
- "Pizza." Michael Polis, dean, School of Engineering and Computer Science
- "Taco Bell." Suzanne O. Frankie, dean, Kresge Library
- "The yacht club at Vandenberg Hall." Ronald Olson, dean, School of Health Sciences
- "DC Subs and Easy Goes Salads." Mary Beth Snyder, vice president, Student Affairs

Tell us your favorite food station. Responses will be printed in a future issue. E-mail: coutilis@oakland.edu

A feature highlighting specific groups of university colleagues.



RON HORWITZ **Professor of Finance** School of Business Administration

They have gotten more complicated and



much easier.

KITTY GENTILE **Box Office Manager** OU's Meadow Brook Theatre Computerizing the box office is the

NIGEL HAMPTON Associate Professor English

We've become more like all the universities. We are not as distinctive as we



Staff Benefits Manager Employee Relations

It's moved away from the family atmosphere. It used to be like one big family students, staff and faculty. I knew students by name.

What is your favorite anecdote or experience at Oakland?

How have things changed

Getting the initial AACSB accreditation for the SBA.

In 1979 pigeons roosted in the MBMF pavilion roof. A season ticket holder complained pigeons pooped on his head. Eventually, his seat was changed.

biggest change - advances have made it

Nothing stands out. A turning point as a faculty member is when we organized.

Somebody took the bell from MSU and rang it 80 times outside the OC.

How do you attribute your longevity at Oakland?

I don't take things too seriously.

Move it closer to my house.

I enjoy working here. I like the people and the theatre.

I enjoy teaching and the students.

I like the atmosphere and I've been

able to grow. I like the people.

What about Oakland would you change if you could?

I have a much better appreciation of

More handicap bathrooms and parking.

I wish we still had the general assembly meetings where the whole college community could meet and interact.

Encourage more input from all employees in major decisions affecting the university community.

How has Oakland changed you over the years?

how tough academic administration is in a state institution

It has aged me a lot. The summer of '88 we had over 80 shows at MBMF and the weather was terrible.

It's given me an opportunity to do what I hope is meaningful teaching and learn-

Made me an old woman.



Rolling along

Oakland University engineering students

David Stiles (left) and Mark Wave show

Maurice Head, 9, of Detroit the trophy-

winning super mileage car of OU's stu-

tional Auto Show in Detroit.

dent branch of the Society of Automotive

Engineers at the North American Interna-

People with disabilities who need special assistance to attend any of the events listed may call the sponsoring unit or the Office of University Diversity and Compliance at 370-3496.

February

Meadow Brook Hall tours, 1:30 p.m. daily and from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sundays (last tour begins at 3:45 p.m.). Admission. Gift Shoppe also open. Call 370-3140.

> 3--9 Tadeusz Malinski Collection, Meadow Brook Art

3rd Annual Women & Men Conference, OC Golds, 4 p.m.-11 p.m.

Poetry of Black Women, OC Fireside Lounge, noon-1 p.m.

President's Colloquium Series, OC Golds, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

African Americans in Technology, OC Fireside Lounge, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Concerts and Music in Food Court, noon African-American Dinner Special, VBH Dining, 4:30 p.m.-7 p.m.

Blizzard of Bucks, OC Food Court, 8 p.m. Men's and women's basketball at Hillsdale College Kathy Sinnett, R.N.: Alternative Healing

Techniques, OC Oakland Room, 4 p.m.-6 p.m. The Beauty of Africa with Vincent Khapoya, Honors College Office, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

The Price of the Ticket, OC Golds, noon-2 p.m. Men's and women's basketball at Ashland

Employee Benefits, 265 SFH, 9:30 a.m.-noon Project Upward/Forward Bound Program, SFH,

all day Professional Artist's Series, Chamber Music, Liz Rowin, VAR Recital Hall, 3 p.m.

W.E.B. Du Bois: A Biography in Four Voices, OC, 10noon-2 p.m.

10-Sarafina, VBDC, 9 p.m.-11 p.m.

10— *Two Women in Love*, VBH, 9 p.m.-11 p.m. Race Relations Panel Discussion, OC Fireside Lounge, noon-1 p.m.

The Politics of Prejudice with Tim Wise, OC Oakland Cafe, noon

12— Jazzy Ethnic Fair, OC Golds, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

12 -Concerts and Music in Food Court, noon 12 -

Movie series Goin' To Chicago, OC Golds, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

12 — 13 *I Am A Man*, MBT, 8 p.m. **13** —

Movie series Black Boy, OC Annex I, noon-2 p.m. **13** — Men's and women's basketball vs. Gannon University

14 — Jazzy Ethnic Fair, OC Golds, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

15 — Men's and women's basketball vs. Mercyhurst College

15 — 16 *I Am A Man*, MBT, 8 p.m.

15 — Athletics Hall of Honor induction dinner, MBH, 7 p.m. 17-In Black and White: Three Women Writers, OC Annex I, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

17 -Men's basketball vs. Michigan Christian College

18 — Winnie Mandela Lecture, MBT, 2:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

We Shall Overcome, OC Annex I, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. 18 -

18 — I Am A Man, MBT, 8 p.m.

Concerts and Music in Food Court, OC, noon 19 —

19 — African dancers and drummers, OC Golds, 7 p.m.-10

20 — Outstanding Women Leaders in Racial Equity, OC Oakland Room, noon-1 p.m.

20 — Men's and women's basketball vs. Wayne State University Keeper of the Dream Banquet, Shotwell-Gustafson, 6 **20** —

20 — Computer-Assisted Legal Research, SFH 265, 7 p.m.-9:30

I Am A Man, MBT, 8 p.m.

Employee Benefits, 265 SFH, 9:30 a.m.-noon

Passing Math — continued from Page 2

students in SBA, conducted an extensive study of our placement exams and recommended that we change one of the exams," Schmidt says. "Based on their findings and another study, we are going to a combination of ACT scores and a calculus placement exam for placement."

Murphy says that helping students succeed in math is important work. "Analytical skills will be of crucial importance in the

work world of the 21st century," he says. "The latest economic research on this subject indicates unambiguously that technically proficient workers have gained significantly in economic terms relative to other workers in the labor force. There is no reason to believe that this trend will change in the future."

Old Glory — continued from Page 1

the Gustavus Meyer Center for the Study of Human Rights in North America as an "outstanding work on intolerance in North America."

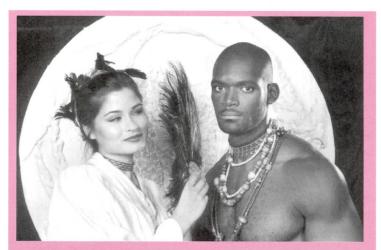
It was also praised by American Historical Review as "not only fine history, but also a reminder of the tenuousness of the right to free speech in a political culture inclined to hysteria during moments of perceived national crisis.'

The 1996 book was chosen as one of the year's best by Choice, an influential journal that reviews books for college

Goldstein earned a B.A. in

political science from The University of Illinois at Urbana. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from The University of Chicago. He taught for two years at San Diego State University, and is the author of seven books and more than 30 articles in popular and scholarly publications.

Goldstein has won four Faculty Research Fellowships at Oakland University. He has received awards from the National **Endowment for the Humanities** and from the American Association for Advancement of Science.



Heading to D.C.

Oakland University theatre major Esau Pritchett is the 1996-97 **Region III Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival** winner of the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship. The award secures his place in the upcoming national competition in Washington, D.C., April 14-22.