

Oakland University

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | Fall 2003



**The more things
change . . .**

- **Today's freshmen —
can you relate?**
- **Charter grads share
their stories**

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Oakland University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution.



On the cover:

OU freshmen offer their perspective on campus life today, p. 20.

Cover photo by Rick Smith



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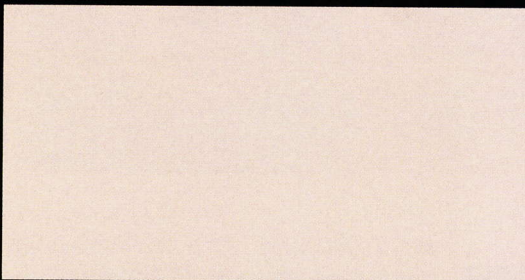
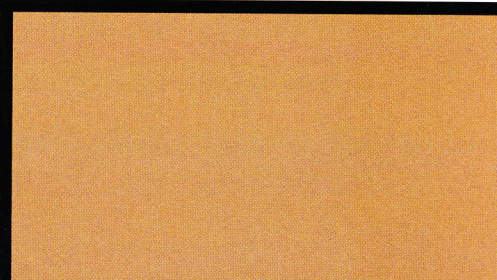
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making waves in Washington*

Behind the Stories

The French say, "plus c'a change, plus la même chose." The more things change, the more they stay the same. That's one of the themes of *OU Magazine's* cover stories, as we look at different generations of OU students, from members of the Charter Class, to the particular tastes and affinities of today's OU student.

On the surface, things seem completely different today than they were when Chancellor Woody Varner walked the corridors of North Foundation Hall. Today's students surf the Internet for information, while the charter class logged long hours in the library. Other technology (computers, videos and DVDs, mp3 players) so essential to the lives of today's students were not around in 1963. Black vinyl long-playing records provided the soundtrack for the charter class, while small black-and-white television sets with rabbit ears provided the visual entertainment. The majority of OU students today have jobs; student employment was strictly prohibited back in 1963.

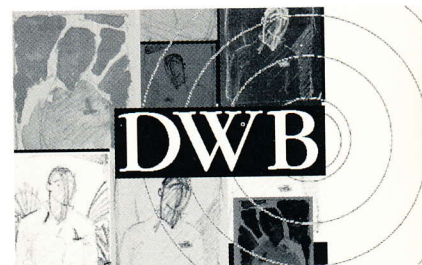
Yet there are some similarities between today's student and those in the Charter Class. Students still face the same economic challenges they did 40 years ago. Many students attend Oakland because of its proximity to their homes. And just like the Charter Class, today's students come to Oakland University to earn a high-quality education.

It's a different world today than it was 40 years ago. This edition of *OU Magazine* takes a look at how it was for OU's Charter Class, and how it is for today's students. As Charter Class member Elaine Henshon put it in Rebecca Lynn Wyatt's article: "I wasn't necessarily prepared for OU, but OU prepared me for the world." Forty years later, OU is still preparing students for the world, albeit a very different one.

Ted Montgomery

Letters

Welcome to *OU Magazine's* Letters section. One reader offered praise for the selfless work performed by Oakland students as they educate people about the AIDS epidemic in Africa. One reader wrote offering his congratulations on the design and content of the Summer 2003 issue of *OU Magazine*. Another reader wrote in response to a letter that appeared in the Winter issue regarding racial profiling and the concept of "black areas" and "white areas." We hope to hear from you.



Racial profiling

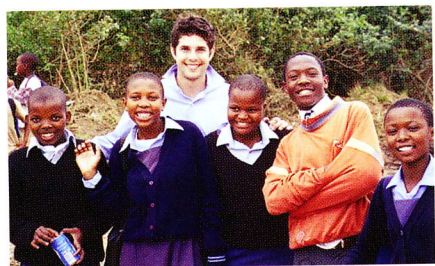
As an Oakland alumna who has lived in Virginia Beach for 12 years, I was blasted back to the past by David Marckini's letter in the Summer issue of *OU Magazine*. I immediately asked myself, "When was the last time I have been in a 'white' area or a 'black' area?" The answer: "Not since I left Michigan."

People who live outside of certain parts of the northern tier of states wouldn't understand the concept of a "white area" or a "black area." These places simply don't exist in many parts of the U.S. and overseas. In fact, Norfolk and Virginia Beach and several surrounding cities were recently found to be the most integrated area of the U.S.

Sure, you'll occasionally hear of an incident down here that is race-related. In any large city, a few interactions between people of different races are bound to go sour. But I far prefer that to growing up in a lily-white enclave in Michigan and not facing any racial incidents because I never knew any people of any other race.

So we are unable to relate to the issues that arose in Benton Harbor and St. Joseph this summer. I cannot name even one store or restaurant in my area that does not have an integrated staff across all of the races living here — Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic, Asian (especially Filipino), among others.

Mary Gardner Martin CAS '81
Virginia Beach, VA



Helping AIDS victims

The article entitled "AIDS: Please don't forget about us" was inspiring. As a registered nurse, I was pleased to read that OU students are participating in activities that bring these medical crises to light. The author succeeded in motivating me (and hopefully others) to find ways to help those afflicted with this dreaded disease. I applaud Oakland University for providing their students with opportunities to aid others.

Alison Reardon RN, BSN SON '95
Utilization Manager, VHA Consulting
Macomb Twp., Mich.

Letters to the Editor for publication should be mailed to our editorial offices, 433 Varner Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309-4401. Or e-mail your letter to OUMag@oakland.edu. Please label as Letter to the Editor and include your name, address, a phone number or e-mail address. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

Summer issue turns heads

So little time, so much to read. With newspapers, magazines, and the latest must-read best sellers stacking up around me, how will I find a few moments to spend with an alumni magazine?

Your Summer 2003 issue of the *Oakland University Magazine* compelled me to make time to read it.

The design, color scheme, high-quality photo reproduction, and two-page story format combined to make this issue the best to date. I especially enjoyed Liz Lent's article about the campus visit by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David McCullough. I was fortunate to attend several of McCullough's lectures, and Liz captured their essence (let us give thanks to Gretchen and Ed Adler for endowing this lecture series in the Humanities).



George Waldman

The summer issue sat on a coffee table in our house for several weeks, and won the attention of several guests who found it difficult to believe this was a university publication — any university. Good job to all!

Garry Gilbert CAS '95, MA History '02
Executive Editor
The Daily Oakland Press
Rochester Hills, Mich.

We make your life easier

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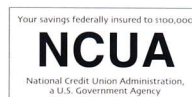
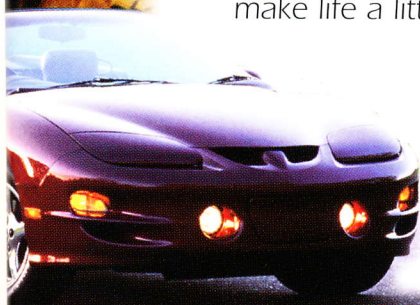


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Rick Smith

The addition to the Oakland Center offers spectacular views of the campus mall.



Studying, eating or just hanging out, the cyber café is the new campus hot spot.

Oakland Center expands to meet student needs

Students returned to campus last fall to find ample room and more amenities in an expanded Oakland Center. The 30,000-square-foot addition features state-of-the-art student services representing OU's commitment to enhancing its educational and social environment of campus. The facility, which opened Sept. 2, was dedicated in a special ribbon-cutting ceremony Sept. 19.

The expansion provides an additional 330 seats in the food court area; a 7,000-square-foot multipurpose room that seats 600; a 24-hour computer lounge featuring wireless Internet access; and Café O'Bears, an 80-seat coffee shop. ●

Varner Vitality Seminar Series

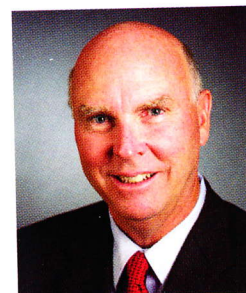
Noted scientist discusses genomic future

OU welcomed Craig Venter, president of the Center for the Advancement of Genomics, for its first Varner Vitality Seminar Series in October. In his discussion "Our Genomic Future," Venter detailed the lessons gleaned from sequencing the human genome as well as a multitude of other species' genomes; the impact genomic information will have on the future of biology and medicine; our evolutionary history recorded in the human genome sequence; the complex relationship between genes, environment, disease and behavior; and the small number of genetic differences between people and how this should profoundly change our view of race.

Venter is the former president and founder of Celera Genomics and has played a leading role in sequencing and analyzing the human genome. His

accomplishments in decoding the genetic sequences of other organisms, particularly the fruit fly and mouse, have provided important scientific

insights, including a new understanding of the genetic relationship between species as well as human evolution. Venter and his team decoded the genome of the bacterium *haemophilus influenzae*, making it the first free-living organism to have its full DNA deciphered. To date, Venter and his team have sequenced more than 30 genomes. ●



Dr. J. Craig Venter

Publications recognize OU nationally

Thanks to the reputation it is gaining within the region and beyond, OU has been recognized by several national organizations.

The Princeton Review named OU in its first edition of *The Best Midwestern Colleges, 150 Great Schools to Consider*. The book showcases the top schools in 11 states based on academic excellence

and student surveys about academics, campus life and the student body. Among the schools OU appears with are Indiana University, Notre Dame, Northwestern and the University of Chicago.

In the 2004 edition of *U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools*, OU's Beaumont Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia is recognized as sixth in the country. *U.S. News and World Report* consistently recognizes Oakland in its annual report about *America's Best Colleges*. Oakland has been listed among national-doctoral universities since the 2002-03 edition.

OU also is ranked one of the nation's most underrated schools in the 2004 edition of *The Unofficial Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges* along with Duke, Arizona and the University of Chicago, published by Kaplan Publishing/Simon and Schuster. ●



OU offers new academic degree programs

Following its central mission to provide a top-quality and challenging education, this fall OU introduced an MA in liberal studies (MALS), MS in adult/gerontological nurse practitioner, MS in nursing education and a BA in studio art.

OU is one of just five Michigan universities to offer the MALS. This 37-credit College of Arts and Sciences program is for students who want to perform interdisciplinary work synthesizing two or more academic fields.

The adult/gerontological nurse practitioner program prepares the advanced practice nurse to be a primary care provider for adult, older adult and frail elderly clients. The nursing education

program helps nurses become teachers by focusing on program and course design, development and evaluation.

The studio art degree is for students who are considering careers as professional artists, or in one of many fields tied to the arts, such as education, curatorial, research and archival positions in museums and galleries.

Last year, OU's School of Health Sciences introduced a bachelor's degree program in Wellness, Health Promotion and Injury Prevention to help students learn ways to prevent major killers such as heart disease, strokes and even auto accidents before they happen. ●



Oakland University and the City of Rochester will partner on future business and academic ventures, through an agreement signed by OU President Gary Russi and Rochester Mayor Karen Lewis.

OU and City of Rochester announce partnership

OU and the City of Rochester announced a formal agreement to partner on a variety of reciprocal business and academic ventures during an official signing in downtown Rochester in mid-October. Oakland University President Gary D. Russi and Rochester Mayor Karen Lewis both signed the agreement and discussed details.

Rochester merchants and businesses will partner with OU students and faculty in joint educational and cultural programming such as employment, internships, research and development projects, business development assistance, community service projects and opportunities to showcase the arts, theatre and music to complement their classroom work.

"The institution has played a vital role in our community for the past 46 years. Rochester has a vibrant downtown, with nearly 400 businesses, and we are confident it will become an even greater destination place for OU students, alumni, faculty and staff," Lewis says.

"This partnership is linked directly to OU's mission to provide a unique and distinctive educational experience," Russi says. "This will increase opportunities for our students to be involved in class projects and hands-on training with businesses in downtown Rochester and provide them with practical experience as they enter the workforce." ●



New International Education Office established

To increase awareness of the numerous opportunities Oakland offers its students and faculty to study and teach abroad, the university has created an International Education Office. Directed by Associate Professor of Rhetoric Margaret Pigott, the office serves as a one-stop education center for students and promotes international faculty teaching opportunities and exchanges.

OU has a long-established consortium of study abroad programs in Vienna, Austria; Cologne and Oldenburg, Germany; Dublin, Ireland; Macerata, Italy; Morelia, Mexico; Denedin, New Zealand; and Oxford, England. Oakland also recently signed a scholar exchange agreement with the Foreign Affairs College in Beijing, China. ●



Meadow Brook Theatre under new leadership

Though under new leadership, patrons of Meadow Brook Theatre still can expect to find the same level of production quality as in years past. The nonprofit Meadow Brook Theatre Ensemble assumed management of the theatre last summer.

Remaining MBT 2003-04 performances include: "A Christmas Carol," through Dec. 21; "Greater Tuna," Jan. 7-Feb. 1; "Of Mice and Men," Feb. 11-March 7; "Talking With," March 17-April 11; and "The Fantasticks," April 21-May 16.

To order tickets, contact the Meadow Brook Theatre box office at (248) 377-3300. For more information, visit the new Meadow Brook Theatre Web site at www.mbttheatre.com. ●

Nursing student completes Mayo Clinic externship

After completing a 10-week summer externship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., OU senior nursing major Jeri Raab is convinced she's chosen the right field. She was assigned to work in a cardiovascular intervention unit, alongside Mayo Clinic nurses, with noncritical care patients who had undergone catheterizations and other similar procedures to ensure there were no complications following surgery.

"The clinical experience solidified everything I've been taught in my nursing classes," Raab says. "I became an integral part of the team and worked closely with Mayo Clinic professionals. I also had the opportunity to bond with nursing students from all over the country."



Jeri Raab

Raab was among the 159 student nurses accepted to the program out of the 750 who applied. Earlier this year, she was named Michigan Student Nurse of the Year and received the School of Nursing Alumni Affiliate Scholarship. ●

Students to receive tuition increase rollback

In September, the OU Board of Trustees approved a proposal that would take 100 percent of the \$1.9 million recently restored to the university's budget and give it back to students in the form of a tuition-increase rollback, added class sections, research support and financial aid. The measure will reduce Oakland's previously approved tuition and fees increase by 1.4 percentage points, from 9.9 to 8.5 percent, beginning in the winter 2004 semester.

"We have always felt strongly that our students shouldn't have to shoulder the

entire financial burden in these tough economic times," says board chair Henry Baskin. "Moreover, we believe that the governor and the legislature cut Oakland's appropriation by less than we originally anticipated with the assumption that we give back to our students. The administration's proposal was made in that spirit."

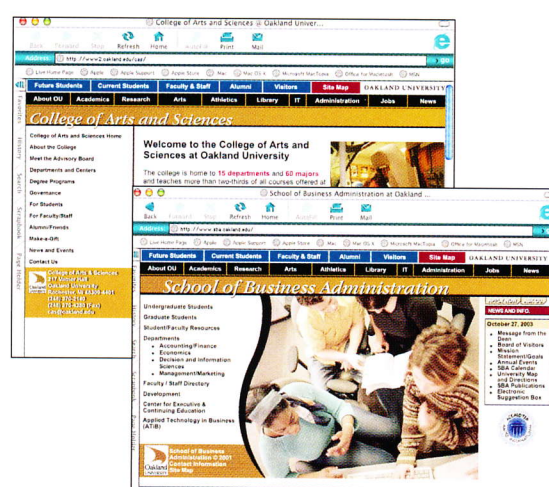
OU initially set its budget assuming its state appropriations would be cut by 6.75 percent. The reduction approved by the state, after the June board meeting, was 2.9 percent. ●

— Compiled by Jeff Samoray CAS '90



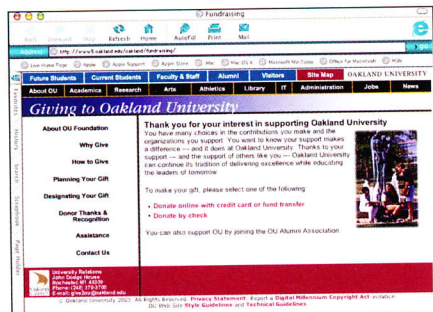
Visit *OU Magazine* on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu for links to more information on:

- The Oakland Center expansion
- OU's new academic programs
- The partnership between the City of Rochester and OU
- Study abroad and international education at OU
- The hands-on experiences OU students receive in and out of the classroom every day
- OU's budget updates ●



Giving

Connect with Oakland University through online giving



Visitors to the university's Web site can now make a secure gift to OU and sign up or renew their OU Alumni Association (OUAA) membership with a few simple clicks of the mouse and their credit or debit card.

Online giving is now part of an overall suite of flexible giving methods. Alumni and friends can choose to give via the Web, through the mail or by telephone. Alumni are encouraged to stay connected

to the university through the OUAA, and the ease of online membership will make this possible.

"As more and more people rely on the Internet for banking and Web-based purchasing, Oakland is pleased to announce its expansion of online services," says Susan Davies Goepp, vice president, University Relations.

Online giving and OUAA membership options can be accessed by clicking "Give to OU" on OU's home page at www.oakland.edu.

Questions or comments about online giving should be directed to Julie Vulaj, director of annual giving, at (248) 370-3700 or via e-mail at vulaj@oakland.edu. Questions about OUAA membership should be directed to Gail Meyers, alumni membership coordinator, at (248) 370-3700 or via e-mail at meyers@oakland.edu. ●



Preserving precious memories

First they made history, and now they're working to preserve it. In conjunction with its 40th anniversary, the class of 1963 created The Charter Challenge Endowment Fund to properly archive Oakland's records.

Today, Kresge Library houses significant pieces of the past, including newspaper articles, photographs and university documents. Unfortunately, they are not properly identified, archived or preserved. The Charter Challenge Endowment will support professional resources, critical archiving activities and preservation supplies.

A. Michael Deller CAS '63 made an initial leadership gift to the endowment fund. He says, "I'm leading The Charter Challenge so we can ensure our history is there for future generations to appreciate."

In addition, The Charter Challenge also is soliciting donations from alumni of personal OU memorabilia such as early yearbooks, blue books, newspapers, photographs or apparel.

To make a gift to the endowment fund or donate items to the library, contact the Annual Giving office at (248) 370-3700. ●

Endowment is passport to global experience

A love of travel led William Goldenberg CAS '70, and his wife, Enid Bienstock, to establish The William Goldenberg and Enid Bienstock International Student Endowment.

Through this endowment, more OU students will expand their cultural and social experiences by studying abroad. The endowment will assist students with travel costs, including airfare and fees above and beyond tuition.

Goldenberg, senior vice president at Morgan Stanley, and his wife have traveled throughout the world with their children. "Our kids had good experiences, and both studied abroad while in college. We wanted to give this opportunity to Oakland students."

In addition, international study provides invaluable career experience. "With the

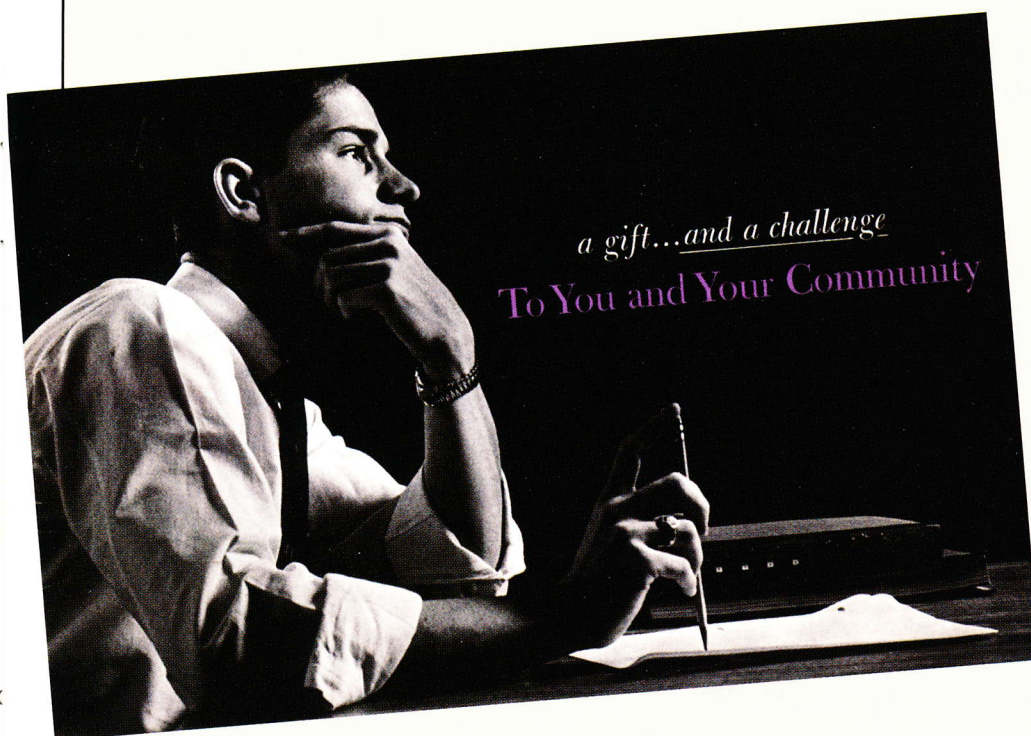


Enid Bienstock and William Goldenberg (center) in Japan.

globalization of the economy, it's necessary that students are exposed to an international view. We can't divorce ourselves from the rest of the world," says Goldenberg. ●

— Compiled by Dawn Pauli CAS '88





Many gifts have been donated to the university to make MSU-Oakland possible...gifts of land, money, and untold hours of effort on the part of prominent Oakland-Macomb community leaders. But, shaping brick and plaster into classrooms does not necessarily make a university. It takes the *student* to complete the picture.

In order to build a student body of high quality, the MSU-O Foundation has initiated a scholarship program designed to aid 100 students during the first academic year, 1959-1960.

\$255 buys a year's scholarship

\$500 pays a full year of expenses

You are invited to participate in this worthwhile scholarship program. Each contribution will help substantially to make the Oakland-Macomb community justly proud of its first MSU-O student body.

(Excerpt from 1959 MSU-O brochure)

The cost of a superior education may have changed. *Its value has not.*

On a fall day in 1959, several hundred students stepped onto the Oakland University campus for the first time, ready to make history. Today, more than 16,500 young people make up the OU student body, each eager to make an indelible impression on the university and their future.

As our student body grows, so too does the cost of a top undergraduate, graduate and doctoral education. In today's world, students depend

more than ever on financial aid and scholarship assistance to fulfill their academic goals.

We invite you to participate in today's worthwhile scholarship program. Every dollar — from \$500 to \$50,000 — helps an Oakland University student realize his or her dream of learning, growing and making a difference, just like the Charter Class that set the OU standard of excellence all those years ago.

Help OU students realize their dreams.

For more information on supporting a scholarship at Oakland University, please contact:



Annual Giving

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Fall wrap ups

The **men's golf team** capped one of its most successful campaigns in school history this fall at the prestigious McDonald Cup, hosted by Yale. The team finished fourth in the 18-team field, after having finished first in five tournaments during the season. During the week of Sept. 22, the team was ranked 22nd in the nation by *Golfweek Magazine*.

The **women's golf team** concluded its fall schedule at the Arlington Golf Club, finishing seventh in a 16-team field at the Eastern Kentucky Fall Invitational. The team also took first at the Golden Grizzly Invitational, easily outdistancing the two second-place teams by 22 strokes.

Oakland's **women's tennis team** ended its fall season with a 2-4 record, with wins coming against St. Francis (Pa.) and UMKC (Missouri-Kansas City). ●



Rick Smith

OU golfer Matt Pullen

OU athletes also successful scholars

OU athletes show they can handle the challenges of academic work in addition to the physical demands of sport. The Mid-Continent Conference named 57 OU student athletes to its winter and spring 2003 Academic All-Conference team. Only Valparaiso placed more student-athletes on the team.

Oakland's women's swimming and diving team contributed the most student athletes to the team, with 12 members. Six of Oakland's teams — women's basketball, men's and women's swimming and diving, men's and women's golf, and softball — had the most honorees of any of their counterparts in the conference. ●

Winter previews

Oakland University's **men's and women's swimming and diving teams** each began the 2003-04 season aiming for a fifth-consecutive Mid-Con Conference championship. Junior Chris Sullivan, one of the country's fastest freestyle swimmers, became one of the most decorated athletes at Oakland last year when he set two individual pool and school records in three school record-setting relays. The men's team finished 27th in the 2003 NCAA Championships. Senior Oksana Strelets leads the women's freestylers.

The **women's swimming and diving team** was also successful out of the water. The team earned a cumulative 3.3 grade-point average in the winter/spring 2003 semesters, one of the country's best in both swimming and diving, and in school athletic history.

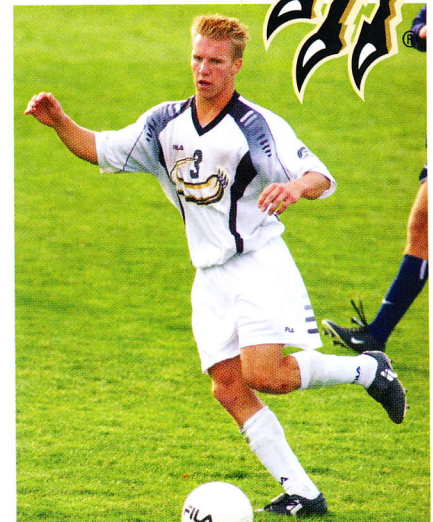
For the first time since joining the Mid-Con, Oakland's **men's basketball team** was tabbed the preseason favorite for the conference title in a poll of the league's coaches, sports information directors and media members. Senior guard Mike Helms was picked the league's preseason Player of the Year, and was one of three Golden Grizzlies named to the preseason first team all-conference squad.

The **women's basketball team** was picked to finish fourth in a preseason poll. Sophomore guard Jayme Wilson was selected to the preseason All-Conference First Team. She averaged 15.5 points-per-game to finish second on the team and third in the conference in 2002-03. ●



Rick Smith

The women's basketball team kicked off the season Oct. 18.



Jose Juarez, The Oakland Press

Ryan Rzepka

Rzepka named Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year

Ryan Rzepka kicked it up a notch on the soccer field and in the classroom. The junior defender was recognized with the Mid-Continent Conference 2002-03 Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year award, the most prestigious honor given by the league.

In addition to exceptional athletic and academic performance, awardees also must display an exemplary mental attitude toward their peers and academic and athletic mentors. Individual leadership, maturity, integrity and personal contributions to the community also are considered. ●



Rick Smith

Dance team

Images, the **OU dance team**, took second place in the 2003 regional competition and finished in the top 10 at the Universal Dance Association National College Dance Team Championships in Orlando, Fla. ●



Taking on the NATION'S ELITE



Golden Grizzlies Division I basketball

Get in on the fast-paced action of NCAA Division I basketball when the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies compete against the nation's elite at the O'Rena on the campus of Oakland University.

Men's:

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Oral Roberts

Women's:

Central Michigan University
University of Florida
Ohio University
Valparaiso

Fun for the family

With no seat higher than the 14th row, free parking, free game programs and affordable tickets, Golden Grizzlies basketball is an event for the entire family.

Tickets

For tickets or more information call OU's Athletics office at (248) 370-4000 or contact Ticketmaster. For a full-season schedule, visit ougrizzlies.com.





Rick Smith

Jane Eberwein, distinguished professor of English, is one of the nation's leading Emily Dickinson scholars.

The poetry of Teaching

**Distinguished professor recognized
for changing lives and opening minds**

By Jeff Samoray CAS '90

When Alisa Clapp-Itnyre entered Oakland University, she was not sure what she wanted to do with her future. Little did she know Jane Eberwein's freshman composition course would give her the answer and change her life in the process.

"I'm an English professor because of Jane," says Clapp-Itnyre, a 1989 CAS graduate. "I enjoyed her enthusiasm for teaching and was in awe of her research abilities. She helped me groom my writing skills and prepare for graduate school, and she continues to be a mentor. Jane remains very much a part of my work. I don't know if I could have become a professor without her mentorship and help."

Jane Eberwein has been changing lives for more than 30 years as a professor of English at Oakland University. One of the nation's leading Emily Dickinson scholars, she

has brought distinction to the university through her research and expertise. OU's Board of Trustees recognized her achievements recently by naming her one of four new distinguished professors. The board touted her numerous teaching and research awards, her service on many university and department committees, including the University Senate, and her tireless encouragement of countless students.

"The seriousness and authority Jane Eberwein brought to the class were very impressive," says Clapp-Itnyre, who now teaches Victorian and children's literature as an assistant professor of English at Indiana University East. "She elevated us to the level of serious college students."

Sustained excellence

Eberwein came to OU in 1969 after receiving her doctorate in American civilization from Brown University. Since then, she has introduced countless students to the pleasures of early American literature and the complex poetry of Emily Dickinson. After sustaining a high level of excellence in scholarship, teaching and service for more than 30 years, the question remains — how does she do it?

"Those things sort of feed into each other," Eberwein says. "I focus on scholarship during the summer because teaching becomes dominant during the fall and winter. And at times when I might become a bit discouraged in the classroom, I'll receive an engaging e-mail from a fellow Dickinson scholar from somewhere in the world and become charged up again. At other times, I'll walk into a classroom and it's possible to talk with my students and become uplifted. And university service is part of the profession — the role of the faculty in academic governance is special to those at a university."

"What a treasure Jane is," says Bruce Mann, chair of OU's English Department. "Her teaching is exemplary, her research is internationally recognized and her service to the

university is over the top. But in doing it all, she remains a resource for all of us. She's incredibly generous in her mentoring of students and faculty. A lot of us go to her for counsel."

A world-class scholar

Eberwein's scholarship is monumental. She's written about 50 essays or book chapters, 18 reviews, presented about 30 conference papers, and has published three books, including *Dickinson: Strategies of Limitation*, which established her as one of the pre-eminent authorities on the 19th-century poet. Greenwood Press invited her to edit *An Emily Dickinson Encyclopedia*, a massive undertaking combining more than 100 years of scholarship that was published to international acclaim in 1998. Eberwein initially shied away from the daunting project. But after talking it over with her husband, Bob, a fellow professor of English at OU, she immersed herself in the endeavor.

It's clear by the comments of Eleanor Heginbotham, a professor of English at Concordia University-St. Paul and a fellow member of the Emily Dickinson International Society, that Eberwein's work has been a tremendous addition to the field.

"Jane is a guide to many of us," Heginbotham says. "She writes and speaks of early American intellectual movements and the details in Dickinson's world with uncommon clarity, grace and an almost classical dignity. Her editing of the encyclopedia required tact, patience, organization, an eye for details and knowledge of Dickinson, all of which Jane has in abundance. Her hard work has yielded a volume that has become a sort of bible for most of us."

Looking back, sailing forward

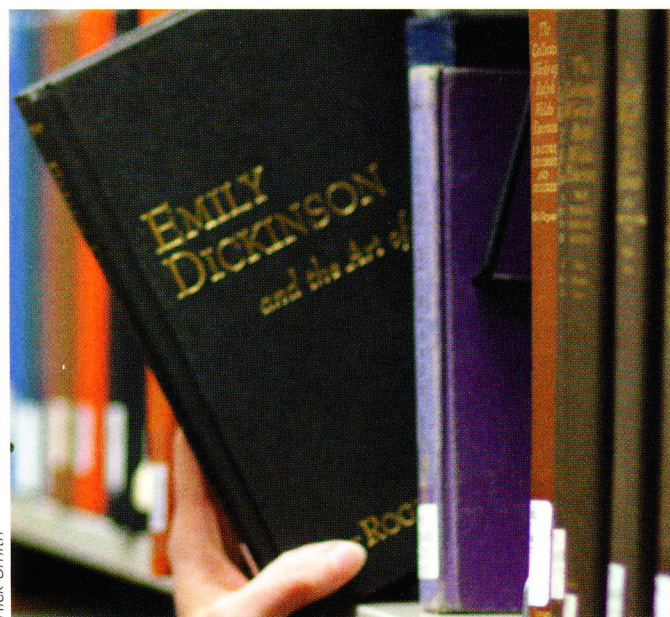
After more than 30 years of engaging her students through inspired teaching, Eberwein says many of her fondest OU memories come from the questions her students answered through their own research.

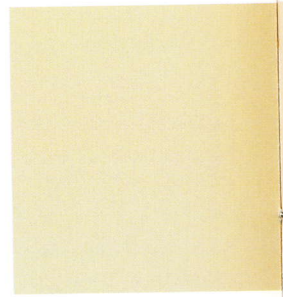
"We have wonderful students at Oakland and many have become my friends," Eberwein says. "A lot happens in the classroom and a lot happens after they leave. Several have become professors themselves and that's wonderful to me. Some of my happiest moments have been listening to their presentations."

"I really enjoy being a part of this university and am proud of it. I like the Oakland University sail and what it stands for. There's a lot of aspiration on the part of the faculty and the students." ■

This story marks the third in a four-part OU Magazine series on the work of Eberwein and fellow distinguished professors Sheldon Appleton, Ron Cramer and Paul Tomboularian.

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 our thoughts to OUMag@oakland.edu. Please include your full name and phone number.





Then & now



The stats show that OU has changed a lot since 1959, but in this special section, several charter freshmen and their 2003 counterparts show that the best things often stay the same

1959 vs. 2003

1959: Just 570 students were enrolled that first September.

2003: Today, the student body numbers more than 16,500.

1959: With 25 faculty members, MSU-Oakland had a teacher-student ratio of 1-22.

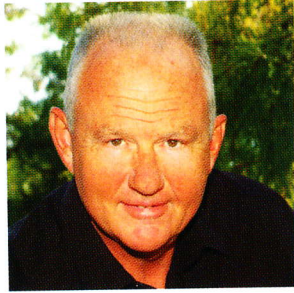
2003: Today there are 427 full-time faculty, and the ratio is 1-19.

1959: Just 34 people worked at Oakland that first year.

2003: With 2,300 full- and part-time employees, OU is one of Oakland County's top employers.

1959: OU started with three buildings, North and South Foundation Hall, and a portion of today's Oakland Center.

2003: Today's main campus has 14 academic buildings, six residence halls, student apartments, and numerous student-service and administrative buildings, now totaling 46 in all.





Michael Vallee never planned to be a banker. But when the English major traded in Dante for credit reports, he never looked back. Seven years after retiring, the former president and CEO of Fidelity Bank is still an enthusiastic cheerleader for the financial institution he helped build.

"It's a wonderful bank, with a powerful balance sheet," Vallee says. Ironically, Vallee never studied business formally. During his four years at Oakland, Vallee planned to become a teacher. When a student-teaching stint convinced Vallee that life in the classroom wasn't for him, OU's placement officer suggested he apply for a bank opening. He started out at Detroit Bank & Trust Company, now Comerica.

Vallee learned the business day by day. By 1973, he'd moved to the fledgling Fidelity Bank in Birmingham, Mich., and worked his way up to executive vice president. By 1980 he was named president and chief executive officer, a position he held until he retired in 1996.

While at the helm of Fidelity, Vallee chaired the board of the Birmingham YMCA, a match well-suited to his love of sports. He also served on the OU School of Business Administration's Board of Visitors, an experience he calls, "interesting and rewarding in many ways."

The position brought him back to the university where his career roots were planted. For Vallee, OU's degree of academic intensity impressed him most. "The classes were small, and I had the opportunity to develop one-on-one relationships with my professors."

Forty years later, Vallee credits Sheldon Appleton, distinguished professor of Political Science, with teaching him how to approach problems and think on his feet. Norman Susskind, professor of French and a fellow-weightlifter in the Student Center's tiny, basement weight room, offered Vallee friendship along with academic motivation.

At OU, he also found love in Cora Duke. "It was the romance of a lifetime," he says, "one of the greatest things that ever happened to me." The couple married half way through their junior year, beginning a partnership that has lasted 42 years and counting. Their children, Kathleen and Michael, both graduated from Oakland.

Now living in South Florida near his children and three grandchildren, Vallee didn't experience the quiet retired life for long. Always an avid reader, he noticed a sign in his local library asking for volunteers to teach English to adults. Today, Vallee is putting his student-teaching experience to use at last, as a tutor for adult ESL students. ■

Lori Eaton is a freelance writer from Birmingham, Mich.

For information on OU's School of Business Administration, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu

Sam Johnson

Banking on a solid foundation

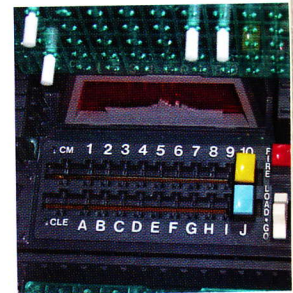
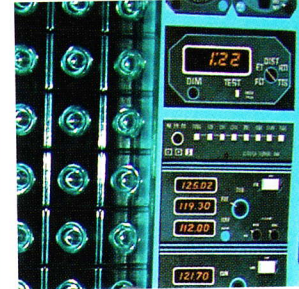
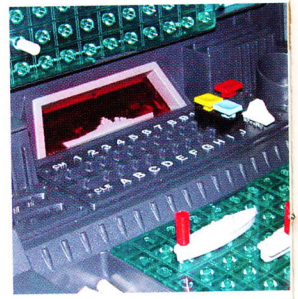
**Michael Vallee
made it in business,
and gives back to
the community
as a volunteer**

By Lori Eaton





Eric Parham



Winning the game of life

Elaine Henshon designed electronic games, influenced women in engineering and believes in a generation of Special Olympians

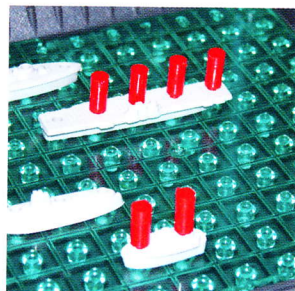
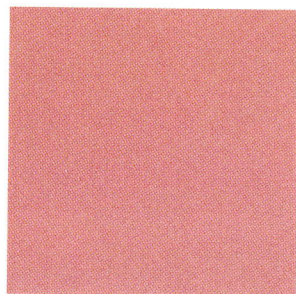
By Rebecca Lynn Wyatt CAS '03

For OU Charter Class graduate Elaine Henshon, life has been a game and a series of strategic moves.

The education major who swore never to teach ended up making kids wrack their brains as a developer of electronic games for Milton Bradley. She influenced a decade's worth of Smith College students, not by teaching but by directing engineering programs and convincing members of the all-female student body to get work experience through summer internships. She never swam competitively but her work as a coach has helped more than 20 athletes a year make it to the Special Olympics Summer Games in Boston since 1988.

Even as a teenager, the 1963 OU graduate stood out. She came to OU to study education at the insistence of her father, but she was determined to make her mark on the world in a different way. "You remember people like that," says Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Paul Tombouliau, a charter faculty member. "She made a strong impression."

"Our challenge was to teach regular college-level courses to the students who came through the door," Tombouliau says. "There were a lot



of students who were not prepared. She was."

For Henshon, the professors at OU and the supportive environment made a difference. "I think we were very fortunate to have the caliber of people we had teaching us," she says.

With help from OU's career center, Henshon landed a job at Burroughs in Detroit after graduating with a degree in secondary education and math. After moving to Massachusetts, Henshon completed her master of science in computer engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

In 1976, she joined Milton Bradley's division of advanced research after the toy giant experienced a whirlwind of success with Simon, the color-coded copy-cat game. She spent the next eight years playing.

"We went on to do all kinds of toys," Henshon says. Some of her favorites, including a talking fortune-teller, never made it to the market because of cost. Her most famous contribution: Electronic Battleship.

In 1984, Henshon moved on to direct the engineering programs at Smith College in Massachusetts. "The idea was to get students interested in using their math and science skills in this manner, and getting them into internships over the summer," Henshon says.

All the while, Henshon and her husband, Thomas, raised four children who attended such schools as Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Wesleyan, M.I.T., and William and Mary College. Her fourth child, born with Down Syndrome, inspired her ongoing work with the Special Olympics.

"I wasn't necessarily prepared for OU," she says, "but OU prepared me for the world." ■

Rebecca Lynn Wyatt is editor in chief of The Oakland Post, OU's student newspaper.

For a link to more information on the Special Olympics, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu

1959 vs. 2003

In the news, on the screen, out in space, what were the hottest trends when OU's Charter Class came to campus and what are they for the freshman of today?

By Tom Schram



Chart-topper

1959: **Elvis Presley** brings gospel music to the rock 'n' roll forefront.

2003: **Eminem** brings hip-hop music to the rock 'n' roll forefront.

Group chart-topper

1959: **The Kingston Trio** Folk-rock group lands two of top four albums of the year.

2003: **Dave Matthews Band** Leader of top touring group releases solo album *Some Devil*.

Big flick

1959: **Anatomy of a Murder** Classy courtroom drama stars Jimmy Stewart and Lee Remick.

2003: **Seabiscuit** Big movie about the little horse that could might be the year's best.

On the tube

1959: **Gunsmoke** James Arness stars in this most durable and famous television western. What was going on between Marshal Dillon and Miss Kitty?



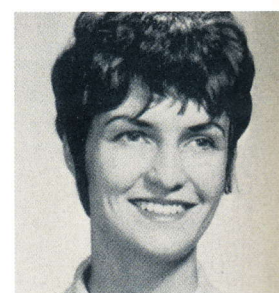
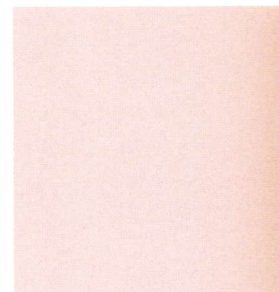
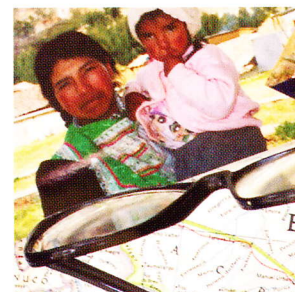
2003: **American Idol** It began in the UK as the hit show Pop Idol, and hit U.S. soil like a Kelly Clarkson high note on steroids. Over 30 million viewers tuned in for the first season's finale.



Hunka Hunka movie love

1959: **Charlton Heston** Allstate would not approve of his tactics as a chariot driver in Ben Hur, but Heston wowed audiences with his macho performance.

2003: **Colin Farrell** With six films out this year and one already filming for 2004, this Irish actor hardly has time to take advantage of his status as a reigning male heartthrob.



Seeing the world through new eyes

**Mary Sloan taught
hundreds of
special education
students and now makes
international eye care
her mission**

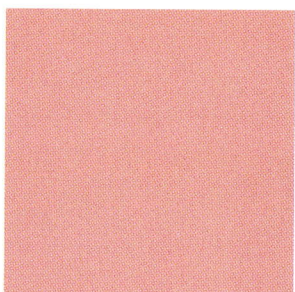
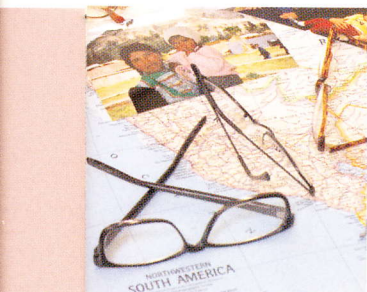
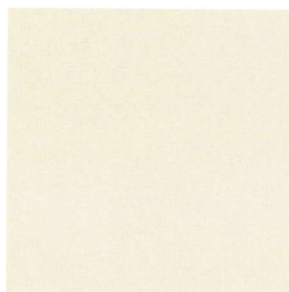
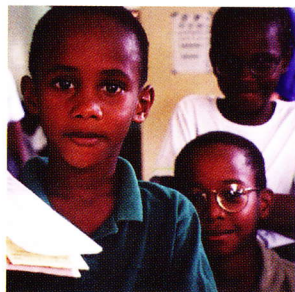
By Elizabeth A. Katz CAS '95

Mary Puzerski Sloan doesn't describe herself as a globetrotter' but through her travels she's helping people see the world more clearly.

A special education teacher for more than three decades, she opened the eyes of young children to the world of learning. Now the OU Charter Class graduate travels to developing countries with eye missionaries, offering examinations and eyeglass fittings to thousands in Peru and Grenada.

Before retiring from the Bloomfield Hills School District in 2001, Sloan joined the Clarkston Rotary, where she learned about the Voluntary Optometric Service to Humanity. The Michigan branch conducts about 10 trips each year, providing free eye care to poor communities in Peru, Grenada, Honduras, Kenya, St. Lucia, Dominica, Haiti and Mexico.

Sloan was initially frightened at the thought of traveling as a missionary. "But I decided, 'Doggone it, I'm going to go there,'" she says. The single mother of two grown children had four decades of leading classrooms and running a household to give her confidence. She was also the first female president of the Clarkston Rotary Club.



As a Charter Class member, she earned a bachelor's degree in education and human services. "Coming to OU was a big shock from high school," she says. "The expectations were very high. It was very hard, but I think we rose to the challenge."

She rose to a new challenge by overcoming her fears and heading to Grenada in 2000. "It was an eye-opener for me." Raised on a farm in Troy, Sloan says she couldn't have imagined the beauty of Grenada, a 133-square-mile island tucked in the azure waters of the West Indies. "It's beautiful but they don't have much," she says.

Assisting more than 250 adults and children each day, Sloan dispenses some of the approximately 4,000 eyeglasses that Rotarians take on each mission.

Nelson Edwards, a Fowlerville, Michigan-based optometrist who plans the trips to Peru, Grenada and Kenya, praises Sloan's work. "She can handle any part of the process."

In 2002, on her third trip to Grenada, Sloan took time away from missionary work to fulfill one more dream. She married a fellow missionary and member of the Clarkston Rotary Club, Jeff Lichty. They work together, side by side.

"It's very rewarding," she says. "We're doing something outside of our community and our country." Forty years after graduating, Sloan is still opening eyes. ■



Elizabeth Katz is a freelance writer living in Royal Oak, Mich.

For a link to more information on the Voluntary Optometric Service to Humanity, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu

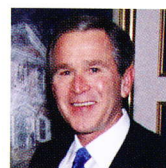
1959 vs. 2003

Hail to the chief

1959: Dwight D. Eisenhower The 34th president was supreme Allied commander in Europe during World War II.



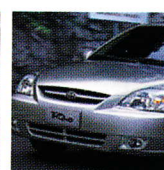
2003: George W. Bush The 43rd president is son of 41st president, George H. W. Bush.



Hot wheels

1959: Cadillac Eldorado The Caddy boat with the huge rear fins remains an automotive classic.

2003: Lexus SC 430 Top of the line luxury vehicle will set you back more than 60 grand.



Cheap wheels

1959: Volkswagen The VW Beetle was basic transportation for generations. No, the heater doesn't work.

2003: Kia Rio Not much style or class. But you've got a brand new car for under \$10,000.

Over the pond

1959: Elizabeth II is in 6th year of reign.

2003: Elizabeth II is in her 50th year of reign. Long live the queen!

Vamps on screen

1959: Simone Signoret wins Best Actress Oscar for her role as a married English woman who has an affair in *Room at the Top*.

2003: Nicole Kidman receives rave reviews for her performance in *The Human Stain* as an abused woman who has an affair with a distinguished college professor.

Toys 'R' You

1959: Barbie Doll Ruth Handler introduces first Barbie Doll at Toy Fair in New York City. Barbie #1 has round holes w/copper tubes in the bottom of her feet. Ouch!



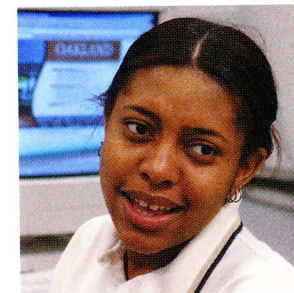
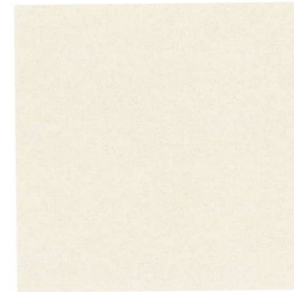
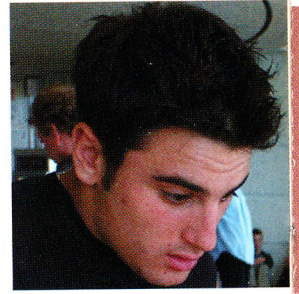
2003: Hard Rock Café Barbie is big hit of 2003 collection. Rock on, Barbie. Rock on, Ken.



Courtesy of Mattel



Rick Smith



The new freshmen

Forty years after OU's first class graduated, OU freshmen number in the thousands, skip politics and surf the net

By Tom Schram

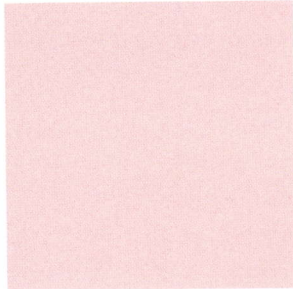
Today's OU freshmen don't care much for politics, they're often liberal, drink less than their counterparts of a decade ago and usually live within an hour of campus. In the new millennium, freshmen spend less time studying and more time surfing the Internet.

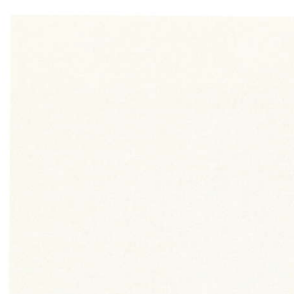
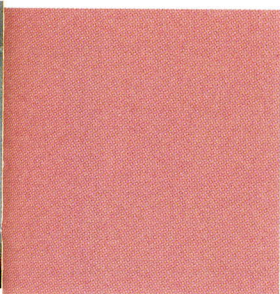
At some 2,100 students strong, OU's freshman class is almost four times larger than the entire student body of 1959, the year Oakland opened. And while they drive different cars and listen to different music than the class that launched their university, they're still determined to get a good education, good grades and a good job.

"I've seen a lot of freshmen over the years," says Oakland University's Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder. "One observation is that today's college students are more visual than they were 40 years ago. They're certainly watching television and videos, and using computers more than they're reading."

Having grown up in the information age, freshmen today are willing to give their opinions. In 2002, more than 282,000 students nationwide participated in UCLA's annual freshman survey. Some 1,500 were from Oakland.

Released in April 2003, the survey shows rising interest in politics for the second year running. The upswing "likely reflects two events that have reignited America's interest with politics: the hotly contested 2000





presidential election and the events of September 11, 2001," UCLA researchers say. But at a mere 23.6 percent interest level, politics are still not high on their agenda. In a year when American troops invaded Iraq, the majority of freshmen support the military. But they sometimes feel "powerless on the level of the war," says OU freshman Lauren McIntyre. She laments the "general negative and depressing content"

of world affairs. "I try to be a very optimistic person and these issues hinder that."

While they may not be running for political office yet, they're not out partying either, despite what the media portrays. More than half planned to work to pay for college. Less than 12 percent smoked in high school and only 30 percent reported partying regularly. Over the decades,

they've made a huge turnaround on social issues, Snyder says. "I think students are much more appreciative of, for example, gay rights and interracial relationships."

McIntyre, a 2003 graduate of Michigan's Milford High School, certainly fits this pattern. "The racial relations are very familiar, friendly and relaxed. I do not detect any bigotry of any kind," she says. "And I have gay friends. I simply do not agree with their lifestyle, and they know that; but we are still good friends." Nearly 60 percent of her OU classmates, however, support same-sex marriage.

Mike Lerchenfeldt, a freshman who attended Madison Heights' Lamphere High School, hears racial slurs off campus, but not at the university, he says. The color of a person's skin shouldn't make a difference, he argues. "I hate it when I hear racist talk. It's not what's on the outside, it's the inside that counts."

And Kirbionne Fletcher, an Honors College student who graduated from Oakland Christian High School last June, says she finds racial relations good on campus because she goes out of her way to communicate with a lot of people.

All three were excellent students in high school, and like their fellow students, they're very focused on their educations and their careers, Snyder says. Nearly 30 percent of OU students enrolled in the fall plan to major in arts and sciences, 15.3 percent entered engineering, 13.3 study business and 10.4 percent hope to become teachers.



Kirbionne Fletcher



Mike Lerchenfeldt

Health sciences and nursing attract another 11 percent of students.

"There's quite a bit of interest in immediate occupation," Snyder says. "Our students are very purposeful in going to college and looking at ways to better their economic circumstances. That's probably always been the case for OU students."

The university emphasizes getting freshmen involved in campus life, and the common theme among Fletcher, McIntyre and Lerchenfeldt is that they are involved, and want to do more.

All three freshmen express optimism for the future. As Lerchenfeldt pointed out, they wouldn't be at Oakland University were that not the case. "I think everybody's positive in my class. I wouldn't be comfortable paying for an education if I didn't think that everything's going to be okay."

Still, being a freshman is not easy. Moving to the open campus of OU after the friendly familiarity of high school can be both daunting and emancipating. It's a social challenge as much as an academic challenge, argues McIntyre, her graduating class's salutatorian.

"As a freshman, I thought it would be a lot harder to adjust to the workload of college," she says. "Much to my surprise, adjusting to the social atmosphere is proving to be more difficult. One can get involved in so many things, and there's no pressure to be better than someone else. It's a great, new feeling to be free to be myself and be in the right environment to discover myself further." ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer living in Huntington Woods, Mich. He is co-chair of the National Writers Union of Southeast Michigan.

To view the OU freshman survey report, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu



Rick Smith

Take Her Advice

**Alumna counsels couples,
families and individuals to
lead happier, healthier lives**

by Karla K. Dorweiler

When it comes to advice on marriage and family, it's always best to consult an expert. Oakland University alumna Bobbie Baker fits that bill — she's got the counseling credentials and more than 50 years of marriage to back it up.

Baker has helped hundreds of couples work through their problems in her role as counseling director for Trinity Family Counseling Center. Readers of *Ladies Home Journal* will recognize her, too, from her column, "Can This Marriage Be Saved?" In it, couples she counseled anonymously share their stories with readers in hopes of helping others with similar problems. She also contributed to *Mademoiselle*, offering guidance to young couples preparing for marriage.

Baker impressed Sandra Forsyth, writer of the "Can This Marriage Be Saved" column, from day one. "She is incredibly educated and very intelligent," says Forsyth. "She was scholarly in her approach, and yet she knew how to work with couples to get them to open up so that she could get to the bottom of things."

Baker's experience with the magazine led to an appearance on NBC's "Today Show" in October 2002, when she was interviewed with one of the couples featured in *Ladies Home Journal*. "It was exciting," Baker says of her time in



the spotlight. "Everyone was very gracious. It was definitely a memorable experience."

Baker attended OU first for her bachelor of science degree in early elementary education. After a battle with breast cancer, she returned for her MA in counseling in 1986. "As soon as I went back to OU for my masters in counseling, I knew I'd found my passion," she says.

Strong in her faith and looking for a Christian-based perspective on the field, Baker took the initiative to arrange an internship for herself through Trinity Lutheran Church. Shortly after receiving her degree, the church created the Trinity Family Counseling Center, which specializes in marriage and family counseling, working with families and individuals of all ages. As director, she oversees three counselors, facilitates pre-marital workshops and guides OU interns in their on-the-job training. Baker cites her own OU internship as instrumental in launching her career.

Away from Trinity, she oversees a grief support group in conjunction with a Utica funeral home.

Beyond the office, Baker says she is most proud of her accomplishments on the home front. She recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary, and enjoys time with her three children and 10 grandchildren. What's the key to *her* successful marriage? In two words, she says, "Commitment and respect — for each other and for the marriage."

Obviously, the formula has worked for her. Baker offers three more matrimonial tips:

1. **Slow down.** "We live in such a fast-paced world that it's easy to get caught up in it all," Baker says. The simple joy of family is often overlooked. Try not to over-schedule week after week. Leave blocks of time open to spend as a couple and together as a family.
2. **Don't be right all the time.** "Pick your battles," she says. "Not everything has to be a big deal." And sometimes — especially for small issues — agreeing to disagree may be the best approach.
3. **Nurture, nurture, nurture.** Couples should make a point to spend quality time with each other. (Those with children need time alone without the kids!) Be it a relaxed night out or a daily walk together, the time spent one-on-one will serve the relationship well. ■

Karla Dorweiler is a freelance writer living in Farmington Hills, Mich.

R_x For A Good Relationship

On campus at Oakland University, Terri Orbuch is known as associate professor of sociology. On WNIC 100.3 FM's Breakfast Club program, however, she's the "Love Doctor." And listeners can't seem to get enough of her medicine.

Orbuch discusses relationship issues with the hosts of the popular morning show every Thursday, offering advice based on 16 years of research into relationships and the predictors of divorce. Orbuch also answers questions from listeners, who write to her for help through the station's Web site.

"The Love Doctor brings an element to the Breakfast Club that helps our listeners," says Chuck Gaidica, host of the morning program. "We routinely inform and entertain, but Dr. Terri really *helps* people. Her knowledge is great, and she is one of the sweetest people around. I am so proud to have her on our show."

So what's the Love Doctor's advice for a healthy relationship? "What's most important is affirming that your partner is special so they feel worthwhile," she says. "People forget the importance (of this) because it's common sense."

When in Detroit, listen to Orbuch every Thursday at 7:10 and 7:20 a.m. on 100.3 FM. ■

— Karla Dorweiler

For a link for more information about the Love Doctor's relationship enrichment workshops, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu.

Courtesy of The Oakland Press, Photo by Vaughn Gurganlian



Terri Orbuch

Taking STOCK



Rick Smith

Balaji Rajagopalan

Tracking millions of online messages, OU business professor's research examines how chat rooms influence investor decisions

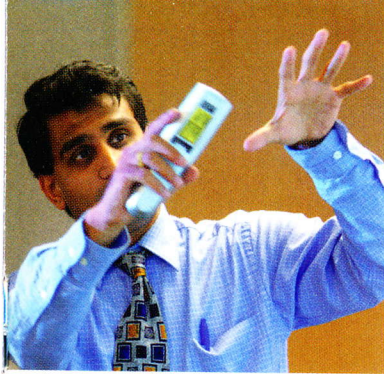
By Tom Schram

Balaji Rajagopalan is getting the message about the stock market — up to a half million messages on certain individual stocks alone.

The associate professor of Management Information Systems for OU's School of Business Administration is collaborating with professors from the University of Texas, Austin, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, on a \$500,000 National Science Foundation study of online investing. At the heart of the study are investment message boards on popular Internet sites. Rajagopalan and his fellow researchers hope analyzing the messages will explain how information is generated and spread through these virtual investing-related communities, known as VICs, and how that information goes on to influence investor decision making.

If successful, the study could provide the framework for similar studies in other disciplines. According to a National Science Foundation panel that reviewed the proposal, "This project is important on a stand-alone basis, but very likely it will have significant (influence) on other important areas of research. For example, information is crucial in consumers' decisions on which health care providers to utilize."

Through ringing phones and amid a scattering of papers and Post-it notes in his Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology office, Rajagopalan spoke with *OU Magazine* about his research.



Q. What are you trying to learn about online investing in this study?

- A.** The study has two phases. In the first phase we're looking at how information is generated in VICs. Our primary focus is message boards at such well-known sites as Yahoo, Morningstar and Motley Fool. We're learning how information is generated in these communities and how the volume of this information correlates with the performance of the stock. There is no causality implied here. We can't say that the correlation actually means it's moving the market. The second phase of the study will look at how economic, social and psychological factors come to influence the adoption of online investing and participation patterns in VICs. In other words, how much does the investor value the information from VICs? How does he or she use it on a day-to-day basis?

Q. What have you learned so far?

- A.** Our challenge in the first phase is that there is no way to manually analyze this enormous volume of information. We have developed an automatic classifier to go through these messages and classify them based on the sentiment of the message. Preliminary findings indicate that there is a correlation between the number of positive messages and the stock price going up and the number of negative messages and the stock price going down. Once again, it is important to remember that this does not imply that the VICs drive stock-price movement. A couple of recent studies are also finding similar correlations.

Q. Are there certain characteristics of individuals using VICs?

- A.** The primary participants and users of the VICs tend to be individual online investors. Most never used to trade directly, but with this sudden, direct access to their portfolios, a lot more people feel this sense of control over their investments through online investing.

Q. Aren't these message boards rife with the possibility of fraud? You buy a cheap stock, go online and talk it up. The stock price goes up and you sell it at a profit.

- A.** That can happen. A couple of really high-profile cases brought this to the attention of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). One of the reasons that the SEC could be interested in our study is for regulatory purposes. What, if any, policies can keep these message

boards free for everyone to use, while safeguarding investors or at least educating them on these kinds of frauds? Some of the messages purport to have some inside information and mislead participants of the message board.

Q. How many people are investing online?

- A.** Online investing has experienced explosive growth in the last few years. Recent projections are about 25 million online investors at the end of 2003. The Internet has facilitated the unprecedented ability to generate and provide access to information in a timely manner. A single stock like Amazon generated 500,000 messages in the five-year study period, 1997 to 2002.

Q. How should investors use the message boards?

- A.** In some instances, they help you think about issues and perspectives that you otherwise may not have considered and give you insights into other individuals' sentiments.

Q. Are there online sources that can be trusted?

- A.** Yes. I think Morningstar has a well-known rating system. Fidelity and all the major agencies have a rating system and provide fundamentals about the companies that you can rely on.

Q. When the study is finished in 2005, what do you think it will show and how will it help?

- A.** At the end of phase two, we expect to find how characteristics of the trading process like trustworthiness, availability and psychological biases — like self-attribution and illusion of control — influence participation and satisfaction in online investing. We also hope to answer other questions. How is information (circulated) in VICs? Does a positive rumor diffuse faster than a negative one? Do participants rely on these message boards? The National Science Foundation and research community are very much interested in fundamentally understanding how information is generated and diffused in VICs and how individuals use it to make decisions. ■

Tom Schram is a freelance writer living in Huntington Woods, Mich. He is co-chair of the National Writers Union of Southeast Michigan.

For more information on OU's Management Information Systems Department, visit www.sba.oakland.edu.



Rick Smith

OU graduates flourish keeping workers safe and sound By Flori Meeks CAS '88

Imagine going to work each day doing all you can to protect your fellow employees and keep the workplace safe, no matter what the situation. No pressure, right? Graduates of Oakland University's Industrial Health and Safety (IHS) program know that a company's most important asset isn't dollars and cents. It's people.

"If you like helping people, I can't think of a better place to be," says Charles McGlothlin, chairman of OU's IHS program. "It is exciting, very dynamic work. But a lot of people don't know about it because it's a young industry."

It's an industry where an individual can make a significant impact on workers' well-being by influencing a company's culture. "You bring all of your skills into play — communications, crunching numbers, creativity and training," says Gwendolyn Kuhn SHS '97, a safety technical specialist at FANUC Robotics America Inc.

The federal government passed its first major safety and health act in 1969, followed by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. "This represented the first time workplace hazards were managed by legislature," McGlothlin says. "That was how the safety program we know at Oakland University really got its beginning."

Oakland's IHS program, founded in 1978, prepares students to protect workers and the general public from injury and illness by combining a strong health sciences core with major course offerings. Classes delve into the chemical, physical and biological hazards found in the workplace. Specialized classes include fire prevention and protection, industrial toxicology, robotics and automation safety, and ergonomics among others.

Gwendolyn Kuhn, above, safety technical specialist at FANUC Robotics America Inc., focuses on robot and laser safety, fall protection, crane operations and more

Students learn to apply multiple approaches to improving company safety. The first option — engineering controls — refers to built-in protection systems. In a robotics factory, engineering controls could involve mechanical guards to keep people out of key areas or infrared light curtains that automatically de-energize hazardous areas when people are detected in the vicinity. The links between workplace safety and engineering are significant, making it especially meaningful that the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) recently recognized OU's IHS program.

Another valuable approach is administrative, where workplace procedures help prevent dangerous situations. Personal protection, such as hard hats and gloves, is often the third prong of attack.

Safety: The name of the game

The demand for professionals who have completed the IHS program and its required internship is increasing. McGlothlin believes more companies are beginning to understand that safety and health management is a vital part of doing business well. Manufacturers, insurance companies, construction companies, health care providers, consulting firms, government services, the Big Three auto companies and robotics manufacturers all show interest in making IHS graduates part of their management teams.

Joe Galusha, regional manager for Marsh Risk Consulting, hired a number of Oakland graduates for his firm, which helps clients reduce injury in the workplace. "I find OU graduates well prepared technically," he says. "Their experience in the field with the internship structure gives them a well-rounded education."

Some IHS graduates have embarked on careers with firms not immediately associated with safety issues. OU graduate Kathy Glodich serves as a safety professional for Target Corp., working with Target, Mervyn's and Marshall Fields stores and distribution centers. "Everyone associates workplace safety with manufacturing, but there's so much

you can do," says Glodich, past president of the American Society of Safety Engineers' Detroit Area Chapter. "Everyone wants to work safe and be safe, but not everyone knows the specifics behind it."

For example, during a recent busy season, Glodich constantly watched for potential hazards. When additional merchandise poured into the stores' storage areas, she worked with staff to keep the areas safe. On the sales floor, where the store teams used top shelves for additional storage, risers started to look like the towers of green houses used in Monopoly games, she says. "We had to stack them safely, or they could come down on guests' heads."

Additional concerns arrive with winter. Glodich maintains hidden spill stations throughout the stores where she keeps safety cones, flashlights, paper towels, gloves and absorbent material. She also makes sure contractors keep parking lots clear.

All in a day's work

IHS alumna Kathy Hiltner coordinates health and safety for The Palace of Auburn Hills, DTE Energy Music Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival. During the course of her day, Hiltner may confer with builders on federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration issues or train set-up crews on proper lifting techniques.

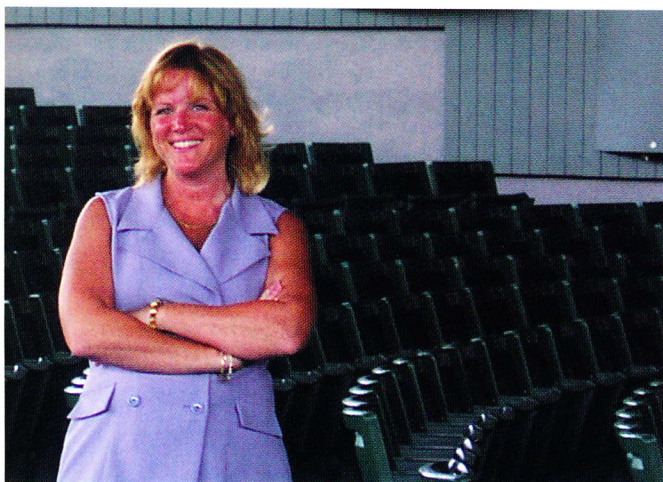
Her job is about details. She even monitors landscaping to prevent mudslides and works with housekeeping to make sure chairs are free from bee-attracting soda residue — a danger for allergic patrons. She educates ushers and security staff on how to handle blood-borne pathogens, training that comes in handy with belligerent guests who bite. Hiltner says she enjoys her job's fast pace and variety. "You walk in the door expecting to work on insurance, and you end up on something that happened last night at a concert."

Kuhn describes the same kind of diversity about her role. As an OU intern at FANUC, Kuhn developed hazards communication and respiratory programs. Since becoming a full-time employee six years ago, her responsibilities have increased dramatically. On any given day, Kuhn's focus ranges from confined space entry, blood-borne pathogens and robot safety to fall protection, crane operations and laser safety.

Kuhn, who previously worked in a hospital chemistry lab, enrolled in Oakland's industrial safety program after deciding she wanted a career that was more people oriented. "When I looked at the industrial health and safety program, it offered everything," she says. Years after graduation, she still feels a connection to OU. "That source of support has been tremendously important to me." ■

Flori Meeks is a freelance writer living in Tomball, Texas.

For more information about OU's Industrial Health and Safety program, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu



At Meadow Brook Music Festival, and other Palace Entertainment venues, Kathy Hiltner coordinates health and safety issues for guests and workers.

OU nursing students assist elderly at local senior center:



Rick Smith

Easing the aging process

New nursing program helps ensure quality of life for tomorrow's elderly By Elizabeth A. Katz CAS '95

At Oakland University, being on the cutting edge means more than simply mastering a new technology or learning a new computer program. It's about people, about looking ahead and being prepared to face the needs of tomorrow. A new graduate program in the School of Nursing does just that, training nurses to care for America's aging Baby Boomer generation, a need that will continue to grow each year.

"The Baby Boomers want to be taken care of and want to stay healthy," says Karen Dunn, OU assistant professor of nursing and facilitator of the new adult/gerontological nurse practitioner program.

By the year 2030, the 65-and-older age group will double to approximately 70 million, with the fastest growth rate occurring in the 85-and-older group who will total nearly 9 million, according to new Census Bureau statistics.

Dunn says medical costs for the elderly are high and will continue to rise. She notes that an estimated \$36.2 billion dollars was spent on nursing home care in 2000. This figure is projected to rise to \$57 billion in 2010 and \$69.7 billion by 2020.

Putting more nurses into the field who are equipped to care for elderly patients and their chronic illnesses will allow doctors to spend more time on other equally-pressing

medical needs, while ensuring that older patients remain in good hands. "Many older adults have a minimum of two to three chronic illnesses, which require frequent follow-up visits," Dunn says. "If a physician collaborates with a nurse practitioner trained to perform advanced health assessments, monitor treatment regimens and the laboratory values, he or she will have more time for other work."

Advanced nursing students, or those already in the field, will learn from an OU curriculum that will focus on providing culturally sensitive care, health promotion, and prevention and management of acute and chronic health problems in the adult and older adult populations. Course objectives address a wide range of subjects, including diversity and social issues, health policy and finance, holistic perspectives on aging, lifetime health promotion, and advanced nursing care of adults, older adults and frail elders.

Upon program completion, graduates are prepared to take the adult nurse practitioner national certification examination and/or the gerontological nurse practitioner national certification exam. This dual approach is something unique to OU and found nowhere else in the state.

"Certain lifestyle behaviors have been found to be associated with the development of chronic illnesses later in life," Dunn says. "One program goal is to promote healthy lifestyles in early adulthood to foster successful aging and maintain optimal health outcomes."

It is a practice the program's benefactress, Maggie Allesee, strongly supports. For eight years, Allesee ran a senior women's program in Birmingham and for nearly three decades has spent significant time visiting nursing homes with the Junior League Chorus. "I touch everyone in the room, because some so seldom get touched," she says, adding that too often, families forget their elderly members.

Allesee has touched hundreds more senior citizens with her recent \$1-million gift to the School of Nursing, which led to the creation of the master's program and includes the Maggie Allesee Chair in Geriatric and Rehabilitation Nursing. The chair will provide additional compensation and resources to support a faculty member with expertise in the art and science of nursing care for the elderly. It will help extend knowledge in this field, and develop and support community service projects to enhance quality of life for elderly citizens.

With an active approach to healthy aging, Allesee believes that quality of life can improve dramatically for older individuals. "Doctors think of the elderly and of diseases, rather than quality of life," she says. "I hope this program will offer intellectual advantages for people who want to study senior health." And ease the aging process that so many Americans are preparing to face. ■

Elizabeth Katz is a freelance writer living in Royal Oak, Mich.

Bringing new chairs to the table

Growing number of endowed chairs enhance OU programs

From Maggie Allesee's chair in the School of Nursing and the John F. Dodge Professorship in Engineering to alumnus Barry Klein's CAS '68 new endowed chair in culture and globalization for the College of Arts and Sciences, endowments work to strengthen OU programs by directly supporting professors, their research and the kind of work that is bringing national and international distinction to Oakland with increasing frequency.



Barry Klein

Rick Smith

In 2001, Allesee donated \$1 million to establish the endowed chair in geriatric and rehabilitation nursing (see story this page). A longtime supporter of OU, Allesee also is a director of the OU Foundation and sits on many boards, including those for School of Nursing and the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance.

Once a self-described member of the 1960s counterculture, Klein, chairman of Barry M. Klein Realty Enterprises, LLC in Farmington Hills and a longtime OU supporter, believes in intellectualism and its ability to inspire students. Klein furthered that interest with his recent bequest of the endowed chair and the Barry M. Klein Endowed Scholarship benefiting Honors College students.

"I hope the endowed chair (in sociology and anthropology) will enable faculty and students to study how different cultures can understand each other," he says. "I hope they'll do the kind of research that will improve world peace and call attention to OU for its contribution to this type of work." The endowed chair will provide for an additional scholar who can contribute to national and international dialogues on religion, economics, democracy and world tensions.

The Barry M. Klein Endowed Scholarship will be given annually to Honors College students in good standing who do not qualify for other financial aid and for whom a scholarship would enable them to pursue their academic goals. ■

— Elizabeth Katz



Dennis Collins

Maggie Allesee (right) with former SON Dean Justine Spears at the announcement of Allesee's gift to OU of an endowed chair in 2001.



Gregory's first practice with his new team, the Dayton Flyers.

Holding court

Alumnus Brian Gregory takes charge as Dayton's new head coach By Joanne C. Gerstner CAS '93

The first time Brian Gregory faced the media throng, he was prepared for a lot of tough questions. Amid the mob of TV cameras, reporters and photographers, Gregory was beaming. Nearly 17 years in the making, this day was the product of careful choices and thousands of hours of hard work. He was finally a college basketball head coach, chosen by the University of Dayton to lead its program.

The 1990 OU graduate is now one of the hottest rookie head coaches on the major college scene. "Everything that's happened has prepared me for what I'm now facing: coaching, media, recruiting, handling the public, all of it," Gregory says. "The first big step I took to get on this path was Oakland. I'm still learning every day how to be a better coach and teacher, but I'm lucky that I've got a good foundation to build on. I owe so much of what's happened to OU."

A 1997 inductee into OU's Athletic Hall of Fame, Gregory served as an assistant for some of the nation's best college coaches before taking the Dayton position. He worked side-by-side with NCAA-title winning coaches Jud Heathcote and Tom Izzo at Michigan State and former Northwestern University coach Kevin O'Neill (now the

head coach of the NBA Toronto Raptors). And he cites his former OU coach Greg Kampe as an influence.

"Brian's got the potential to be one of the really successful coaches, he's that talented and driven," Izzo says. "He's been ready for a while to fly the nest and be his own coach somewhere. This was the perfect opportunity, and Dayton got the perfect coach."

Finding the future

Gregory's path to coaching stardom started with a huge leap of faith.

The year was 1987, and Gregory was a freshman point guard for the Naval Academy, a standout on a team that featured future NBA Hall of Famer David Robinson.

Even then, Gregory knew his ambitions lay behind the bench, not on the court. Despite his success as a player, he knew he had to transfer from the Naval Academy to further his goal — he worried that his post-graduation Naval service commitment would effectively remove him from the coaching job track.

Knowing Gregory's concerns, Navy Assistant Coach John Fitzpatrick called his good friend, Greg Kampe. "I was told there was a scrappy little point guard who wants to

coach, and John asked if he could come play at OU," Kampe recalls. "He said I should give him a shot. I took him on right there without seeing him play."

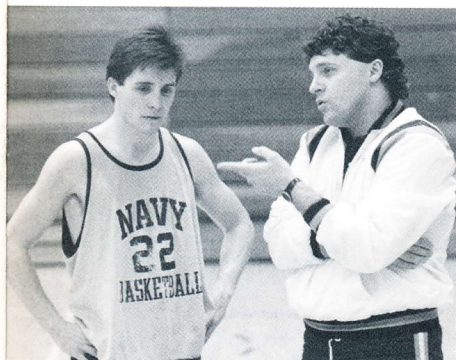
Gregory took a similar leap, enrolling at OU without ever visiting the campus.

While he wasn't the tallest (5-foot-9) or the most skilled player on the team, he made up for his deficiencies with hard work, selflessness and smart play. Kampe pushed Gregory, giving him responsibilities that no OU point guard — then or now — ever faced.

"I trusted him completely to make decisions on the floor, to be responsible for the team's fate," Kampe says.

"For a coach to let go of that on the floor is huge, but that's how much I trusted Brian. I saw the potential and smarts in him. I've never coached anybody like him."

Gregory finished his OU career as the school's all-time assists leader, an academic All-American and a three-time All-GLIAC player.



Gregory, as a transfer from Navy in 1988, played for OU Coach Greg Kampe's Pioneers.

Moving up

Gregory graduated from OU with a degree in secondary education and worked as a coach at Heathcote's Michigan State summer youth camp. Heathcote then hired him as a graduate assistant.

From there, Gregory took on assistant jobs at Toledo (1996) and Northwestern (1997). He returned to MSU in 1999 to become Izzo's associate head coach, leading MSU's recruiting efforts and landing blue-chippers Paul Davis, Zach Randolph, Marcus Taylor and Kelvin Torbert. Gregory also shared in MSU's national title triumph in 2000.

"Brian is the entire package," O'Neill says. "He's a very good coach, and has a wonderful innate feel for people. He's learned how to win the national championship, how to maximize talent. What makes Brian amazing is he never lets you down. He always rewards your faith and trust."

Gregory believes his secret advantage as a head coach comes from his days at OU.

"I know every scam the players are going to try to run on me (because I've) been there and done that," he says. "I'm old enough to have coaching experience, but I'm still young enough to know how the players feel. I remember playing at OU like it was yesterday."

Gregory isn't sure how he will act on the sidelines. Izzo, Kampe and Heathcote are known for their fiery tempers and O'Neill fires off enough hard-core profanity to make a Marine blush.



Before landing the head coaching job at University of Dayton, Gregory was assistant coach for the Michigan State Spartans.

"I've learned a lot of words from all of those guys, most of which I can't repeat in polite company," Gregory jokes. "I think I'm going to just be myself. I might get excited, I might be calm. That's the exciting part in this. I can just be me. I'm the one in charge now." ■

Joanne C. Gerstner is a sports writer for The Detroit News.

For a link for information on Brian Gregory's progress in Dayton, visit OU Magazine on the News & Info site at www.oakland.edu.

Alumni

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Or take advantage of the form on page 46. If possible,
please include a photograph of yourself as a color
print or high-resolution scan.

An evening with Regina Carter at the Max

Discover our very own violin virtuoso when alumna Regina Carter CAS '85 joins the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for a performance of Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. Along with conductor and violinist Christoph Poppen, Carter's virtuosity will highlight this concert set against the backdrop of the newest gem in Detroit's cultural heart, the Max M. Fisher Music Center.

An Evening with Regina Carter, sponsored by the Alumni Association and the College of Arts and Sciences, will take place Thursday, Jan. 29, 2004. Festivities begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. during which autographed CDs of Carter's recordings will be available. Carter will make a special guest appearance at 6:30 p.m. to discuss her music with this intimate group. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m. with the performance set for 8 p.m.

Carter, a Detroit native, studied at the Center for Creative Studies and the New England Conservatory of Music before returning home to complete her studies with Oakland University's highly regarded music department. Influenced by Detroit jazz musicians such as Marcus Belgrave, Lyman Woodard and Norma Jean Bell, as well as the "viscount of the jazz violin" Frenchman Stefan Grapelli, Carter has etched a new groove through the jazz violin world.

In November, Carter received the International Achievement Award from ArtServe Michigan at the Governor's



Regina Carter

Bill Phelps/Verve Records

Awards for Arts & Culture Gala. Carter was selected as "Best Violinist" in the Jazz 2001 Readers' Poll and she has performed with Wynton Marsalis at Carnegie Hall in New York. She has been interviewed on NPR's *Morning Edition*, appeared on CBS' *60 Minutes*, and featured in "O" magazine. Last year she was nominated for a Grammy for Best Jazz Instrumental Solo for "Fragile," available on her duo album *Freefall*, which she recorded with Kenny Barron.

Carter has recorded five solo CDs including a tribute to Detroit called *Motor City Moments* and her newest, *Paganini: After a Dream*, which features Carter playing the famed Il Cannone, a 250-year-old violin owned by Paganini.

To attend this premier event at the Max, contact Jamie Simek by calling (248) 370-3700 ext. 1113 or by e-mail at ruark@oakland.edu. Tickets are limited, so call for reservations soon. ●

Cheer the Grizzlies to victory



Rick Smith

Join the OUAA and The President's Club for another basketball Family Fun Day on Sunday, Feb. 29, 2004, when our hard-charging men's and women's Golden Grizzlies go head to head with the Leathernecks of Western Illinois. The fun begins at 3:30 p.m. when the women take the floor. At 4:30 p.m. head to OU's Recreation Center Activity Room for a dinner buffet, giveaways, a visit from the Grizz and more. The men's game follows at 6 p.m.

Make your reservations by Sunday, Feb. 15, 2004, to join other area alumni and their families. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and \$10 for children 12 and under. Contact Carol Carpenter at (248) 370-3700 ext. 1390 or e-mail cmcarpen@oakland.edu. ●

Alumni opportunity to tee it up in 2004

Join other Oakland University alumni and their guests on OU's Katke-Cousins Golf Course for an enjoyable season of golf. This exclusive opportunity is available to Alumni Association members only, and allows you to play on Katke-Cousins for \$500 for one-year access. Greens fees and cart rental fees will apply and are not included in this offer.

Take advantage of this opportunity to experience an outstanding golf season at OU. This offer is limited to the first 100 alumni who respond.

If you're interested in the program, please contact OU's Golf and Learning Center at (248) 370-4150. ●

Rick Smith

Emerald Isle shimmered for OUAA adventurers

"This was one of the best trips I've ever been on," says Gloria Cruce CAS '75, one of 31 OUAA members and their friends who toured Ireland this past September with the Grizzly Getaways program (photo below).

The group spent seven days exploring Ireland's history-soaked West Country. The ancient city of Galway surrounded by rolling hills was the first stop on the tour followed by three days in County Waterford.

Ed Schmerling SBA '01 declared this a "fantastic trip," citing the optional excursions, such as the Aran Islands, Dublin City and Blarney Castle, a definite plus.

The fabled Gaelic charm was evident in the greeting the visitors received. "I was touched by how friendly and inviting people were to Americans," says Cruce. Fabulous food, a knowledgeable guide, and the opportunity to make lasting friendships with fellow travelers made the trip unforgettable. ●



Courtesy, Global Holidays

Live La Dolce Vida

Overflowing with historic architecture, fantastic restaurants offering fine food and wine on every corner, and some of the most breathtaking works of art ever created, Rome awaits you with a sampling of La Dolce Vida.

Join OUAA friends and family on the Grizzly Getaway to Rome and fall in love in February. Spend seven nights in the Grand Hotel Beverly Hills, a superior four-star first-class hotel located near the famed gardens of the Villa Borghese. This elegant hotel will welcome you home after a full day marveling at the city's jewels, from the Colosseum to the Roman Forum, from the Pantheon to the Trevi Fountain. Be sure to save a day to stroll the Via Veneto, one of the world's finest shopping streets, made famous by Fellini's film *La Dolce Vida*.

This Roman holiday, scheduled for February 20 through 28, 2004, coincides with Oakland's spring break. As with all Grizzly Getaway programs, round-trip airfare, seven nights accommodation, breakfast buffet, and airport transfers are standard features. For trip details, visit www.globalholidaysinc.com.

To participate, you must have a current OUAA membership or be a Friend of the Alumni Association member. For information about the Grizzly Getaway program and membership, contact Director of Alumni Relations Adrienne Bass at (248) 370-3700. ●

Alumni Association and The President's Club golfers hit the links

Eighty-six OUAA and The President's Club members and their guests gathered on Sept. 15 for the 2003 Golf Classic held at OU's Sharf Golf Course.

The event consisted of a delicious New York strip steak lunch at Danny's cabin, 18 holes of golf, some friendly competition for "longest drives" and "closest to the pins" and door prizes. In addition \$750 was raised for the OUAA scholarship fund.

The OUAA and The President's Club would like to thank the many local businesses that offered support, especially Randal Golden of D.O.C. Optics Corporation and John Savio of the MSU Federal Credit Union's OU Branch. ●



Hank Mittelstaedt tees off while Terry Odom waits.



Dennis K. Pawley



George W. Jackson Jr.



Monica E. Emerson



Jack E. Parker



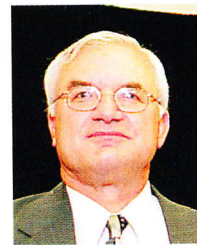
Barry M. Klein



R. Hugh Elliott



Nancy E. Elliott



Patrick Nicosia

2003 Alumni Banquet Awards

Alumni banquet recognizes outstanding accomplishments

The Oakland University Alumni Association celebrated the leadership, achievement and service of several individuals who have made significant contributions to the university at its annual banquet.

More than 250 guests attended the October event to support the award winners. "The banquet raises awareness of the outstanding achievements of our alumni," says Adrienne Bass, director for Alumni Relations, "and [it's] a great way to bring alumni together on campus."

Master of Ceremonies Mike Lewis, weekend anchor and reporter for WDIV in Detroit and interim director of OU's journalism program, presented awards to:

Dennis K. Pawley SEHS '82, trustee Oakland University; chairman and CEO, Pawley Enterprises — Distinguished Alumni Service Award

George W. Jackson Jr. SEHS '75, president and CEO, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation — Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award

Monica E. Emerson SEHS '71, executive director, DaimlerChrysler corporate diversity office — The Odyssey Award

John (Jack) E. Parker, M.D., FACP, FCCP, CAS '72, professor and chief of pulmonary and critical care medicine, West Virginia University Hospital — The Odyssey Award

Barry M. Klein CAS '68, chairman and member, Barry M. Klein Realty Enterprises, LLC — The Spirit Award

R. Hugh Elliott, president and CEO, Elliott Group International — The Honorary Alumnus/a Award

Nancy E. Elliott, retired teacher, Utica Public School System — The Honorary Alumnus/a Award

Patrick Nicosia, retired director, budget and financial planning, Oakland University — The Honorary Alumnus/a Award ●

— Compiled by Lori Eaton

Swimmer sets her sights on 2004 Paralympics



Cheryl Angelelli

National swim champion Cheryl Angelelli CAS '93 is hoping to make a splash at the 2004 Athens Summer Olympics and Paralympic Games.

After sustaining a spine injury while diving into a pool at age 14, Angelelli's dreams of becoming a champion swimmer didn't end. She is focusing on the Paralympics, the highest athletic achievement for elite athletes with physical disabilities, held two weeks after the Olympics in the same city. Angelelli competed in the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

At the Canadian Nationals this summer, Angelelli collected six gold medals, set two American records and chalked up personal-best times in every event. She shaved five seconds off her 200-meter freestyle, and is ranked second in the world. ●

OU CALENDAR

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2004, 6:30 p.m.
The 12th Annual Keeper of the Dream Scholarship Awards Banquet
"Fulfilling the Dream through Education"

With a special keynote address by Daniel G. Mulhern, first gentleman of Michigan

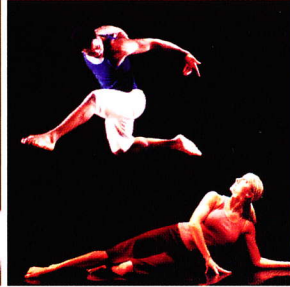
Tickets for dinner and event are \$100

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MATILDA WOULD BE PROUD OF WHAT WE'VE CREATED



Many people say they're devoted to the arts. But Oakland University founder Matilda Dodge Wilson didn't express her devotion with mere words: she created a legacy.

Matilda's love of the arts can still be seen and felt. Her attention to architecture and fine art remains in full display at Meadow Brook Hall. Her support for the performing arts helps artists even today. She would be proud that the arts have found their way into nearly every building on the Oakland University campus. Through the hard work of university students, faculty, staff and patrons, Matilda's legacy thrives through *Arts at Oakland*.

Arts at Oakland brings the performing and visual arts to life through its member organizations (below), offering exhibitions, performances and events throughout the year. *Arts at Oakland* serves Oakland University, its neighboring communities and beyond. Join us soon and throughout the seasons.

MEADOW BROOK ART GALLERY

Interior Particular

Constructions by Jane Lackey
November 22 - December 21, 2003

A Retrospective by Rob Kangas

January 9 - February 22, 2004

Lectures and Special Events

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MEADOW BROOK HALL

Holiday Walk

November 28 through December 23, 2003
Call for prices and details

Holiday Tea

Tuesday, December 16, 2003, at 3:00 p.m.
\$55 per person

Special Events and Tours

Meadow Brook Hall (248) 370-3140 meadowbrookhall.com

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE ENSEMBLE

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
Adaptation and Original Staging by Charles Nolte
November 28 - December 28, 2003

Greater Tuna by Joe Sears,
Jaston Williams and Ed Howard
January 7 - February 1, 2004

Wilson Hall (248) 377-3300 mbtheatre.com

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

**Oakland Dance Theatre and
OU Repertory Dance Co.**
December 5 - 6, 2003

Love Letters by A.R. Gurney
January 9 - 11, 2004

Symphonic Band Concert

Thursday, January 22, 2004, at 8:00 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall (248) 370-3013 oakland.edu/mtd

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Those who made history...

OURS



Rick Smith

Linda and Tom McAllister join Kay MacMichael at the Charter Class reunion's opening event. The three attended school together from kindergarten through college.



Heather Kapanka

Madelene and Roger Williams dance at the gala celebration at Meadow Brook Hall.

They graduated and went out to conquer the world. This fall, OU's Charter Class returned to campus with 40 years of memories. By Liz Lent

Buildings rise from hillsides where sheep once grazed. Founder Matilda Dodge Wilson no longer hosts tea at her home and Chancellor Woody Varner stopped walking the corridors of North Foundation Hall long ago. One thing, though, remains the same for the class of 1963 — a sense of pride at being the first graduates of Oakland University.

In October, the Charter Class returned to campus for a 40th reunion. "Your class blazed the trail and set high expectations for the students who followed," OU President Gary Russi told them. "Your contributions and accomplishments will never be forgotten."

They went on to become teachers, engineers, lawyers. They broke ground in automotive computer modeling, led campaigns for the United Way, worked for Fortune 500 companies. Two served in the military. At least one went into the clergy. Most traveled the world. One lived in Japan.

As high school graduates, they came to a place touted as the "Harvard of the Midwest." Four years later, they went out to affect the world, some as teachers making a difference one student at a time; others as leaders, serving in government, business and the technology sector.

They returned to campus, to the glow of a warm fire on a chilly fall Friday and remembered those youthful days. "I'm still very grateful that OU was able to provide me with a scholarship," says A. Michael Deller, director of Michigan's Library Network. "I wouldn't have been able to attend college without it."

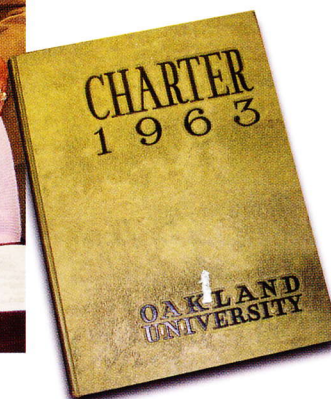
On Saturday, classmates met with Charter faculty, leafed through memorabilia and archival photos, and capped off the day with a black-tie dinner-dance at Meadow Brook Hall.

As the 1963 graduates walked the campus and remembered their college days, it became clear that they share much in common with the students who populate today's Oakland University. The Charter Class knows what it's like to live and study in uncertain times. Many majored in Russian, indicative of a world chilled by the ever-present threat of the Cold War. Like many Americans, they felt



Heather Kapanka

At a Charter Class reunion committee meeting Beverly Donato Miller, Julie Becker Fredrick (seated), A. Michael Deller, Jamie Simek (assistant director, alumni relations), Pat Sadowski, Paul Tombouljian (distinguished professor of chemistry and charter faculty member) and Mary Jo Koren Ahern (standing) reminisce over a 1963 yearbook.



OU Charter Class yearbook from the archives.

helpless during the Cuban Missile Crisis, mirroring today's concerns about terrorism.

Students make the grade

Closer to home, Charter Class members struggled with the same fiscal challenges facing today's college students. Many 1963 alumni came to OU not only because of its promise of a top-flight education, but because it was within their reach. "The chance to come here and commute made the difference," says Kay MacMichael, who worked in the insurance business for 30 years.

For Oakland's first class, college was all-encompassing. They were not allowed to hold jobs. Faculty made it clear that academics were the first and only priority. "Some days it was hell," says Linda McAllister. "The faculty tested us to our limit every minute of every day."

Former Russian majors remembered the rigors of study well. Professors taught classes speaking only Russian. Students wrote their final papers in Russian and read all 10,000 pages of *War and Peace* without translation.

"(Woody) Varner and the faculty had a sense that they had to prove themselves," Deller recalls. "They all worked hard to get here and knew other people were watching them. Ultimately, how we performed would lend respect to what we all were doing."

The class earned that respect. "When I went out into the workforce and compared the education I had gotten at OU, there was a definite difference between what I could do and what others could do," Deller says.

Among Deller's classmates, dozens of educators sprang from the ranks, many inspired by their OU professors. At the Saturday morning brunch with faculty, graduate Mary Jo Ahern approached former English Professor Gertrude White. Placing her hand on White's shoulder, she leaned in and said, "You taught me how to write." Later, Ahern added,

"Reconnecting has been the best part of this weekend. Just speaking to Mrs. White was wonderful. She was instrumental in my life — I ended up being an English teacher."

"Wonderful role models"

The dinner-dance gave alumni a chance to remember two important figures: Matilda Wilson and Woody Varner. For the alumni gathered in Wilson's former home, the ties between founder and students were still strong. Alumni remarked throughout the evening on her generosity, fingering the small diamond rings she gave each student upon graduation. "I remember very well when Mrs. Wilson gave us those rings," Ahern says. "The Wilsons were very close to us. They were wonderful role models." Deller agrees. "We all wanted to do well for Mrs. Wilson. She was a person whose company we prized."

Varner made an impression on the students, in large part by selecting faculty who would be instrumental in their young lives. "Woody loved OU and he loved building this university," says Russi, who came to Oakland as vice president for academic affairs at Varner's urging.

Just as Varner loved building the university, his first class of students is driven to help preserve its past. At the OU archives, alumni poured over old photos and newspaper clippings, pointing out familiar faces, including their own. At reunion's end, Deller and other members of the organizing committee announced a Charter Challenge to create an endowment for the archives. It seemed fitting the class that made history would be the one to preserve it. ■

Liz Lent is a freelance writer from Birmingham, Mich.

For a link to more information on the Charter Class reunion, visit OU Magazine on the News and Info site at www.oakland.edu

CAS

Volunteer's enthusiasm spreads to others

Steven Samet has been named a Distinguished Volunteer by Oakland University.

The honor included an invitation to the 12th annual National Philanthropy Day celebration presented by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)-Greater Detroit Chapter Nov. 13. Every year, the AFP gives southeast Michigan organizations the opportunity to recognize excellence with Distinguished Volunteer awards.

Samet, the executive vice president and general manager of King Pharmaceuticals in Rochester, has served OU's CAS as a former chair of its advisory board and the Center for Biomedical Research Task Force and as the current chair of the Center for Biomedical Research Advisory Board.

"He has hired our students as interns and permanent employees and has made a significant impact in gaining philanthropic support from his own company and other biomedical companies," CAS Director of Development Julie Lichtenberg says.



Laurie Eisenhower

Assistant professor earns one of dance world's top honors

Assistant Professor of Dance Laurie Eisenhower received ArtServe Michigan's highest honor Nov. 10 during a gala at the Max M. Fisher Music Center in Detroit.

The Governor's Awards are presented to individuals and organizations that have been recognized as invaluable assets to the arts and cultural community.

Eisenhower has danced professionally in California and New York with various dance companies and choreographers, most notably Pilobolus Dance Theatre, David Parsons, Chen and Dancers, Harry Strep III and Mel Wong.

After retiring from full-time work, she moved to Michigan to teach at Oakland. She also served as the artistic director for Harbinger Dance Company. In 1991, she formed the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, where she now is the artistic director and resident choreographer.

SBA

EMBA targets health care providers

Doctors, nurses and hospital administrators are gaining insight into health care management through Oakland's Executive MBA in Health Care Management (EMBA-HCM), which recently launched its third cohort of students.

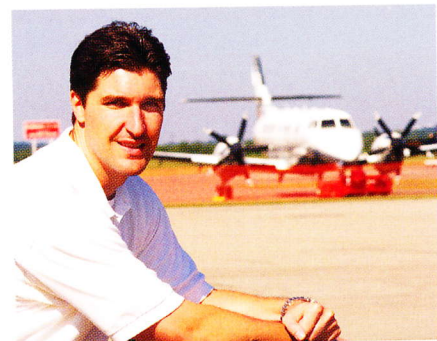
"There is a high demand for the program, because we have high-quality instruction and courses relevant to cutting-edge issues in health care," program director Miron Stano says.

SBA faculty and senior health care professionals teach program courses. This year's lecturing professionals include former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Conrad Mallett Jr., now chief administrative officer of the Detroit Medical Center and interim president of Sinai-Grace Hospital in Detroit. Mallett will teach a course on legal and ethical issues in the health profession. "Quality Improvement in Health Care" will be taught by Ernie Yoder, chair of internal medicine at Providence Hospital.

SECS

Grants help SECS research take flight

When the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded Assistant Engineering Professor Daniel Aloï a five-year cooperative agreement (\$300,000 per year) to assist in the development of a satellite-based landing system, it introduced a new era at Oakland University.



Daniel Aloï

The grant puts Oakland in the company of Stanford University, Ohio University and Illinois Institute of Technology — other schools the FAA has called upon to develop and test new systems.

While most airports have a reliable instrument landing system in place, Aloï says, they require hardware and antennas at each runway. Airports can set up a satellite-based system in just one location.

Research program opens eyes

Say the word "researcher" and a thousand definitions spring to mind. For students who never spent time in a research lab or handling a theoretical problem, the "r" word can seem somewhat nebulous. That's why SECS created UnCore, the Undergraduate Computer Research program.

Funded by the National Science Foundation with support from Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler Corp., the program brings 11 students from local and national colleges to OU for 10 weeks each summer to experience life as a researcher.

SEHS

Lowry Center receives new award

Oakland's Lowry Early Childhood Education Center was one of the first organizations to receive the Open Hands of Hope Award from the International Rett Syndrome Association's Michigan Chapter.

The award recognizes people and organizations that have had a significant

impact on lives touched by Rett Syndrome, a developmental disorder that begins in early infancy.

The Lowry Center, which was honored in the education category, was represented by Carol Swift, chairperson of the Human Development and Child Studies department, at the Oct. 4 presentation. Tom Watkins, Michigan's superintendent of public instruction, made the presentation.

Lowry Center offers an inclusive environment intended to meet the needs of all children. Its facilities are handicapped accessible, and there are no limitations on families for admittance. Learning programs are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each child.



The award-winning Lowry Center offers full- and half-day options for children 18 months to five years old.

Volunteers honored for dedication to outreach program

Opal Redman and Bill Richardson have been named Distinguished Volunteers by Oakland University and were honored along with Steven Samet (see CAS item first column) at the 12th annual National Philanthropy Day in mid November.

Redman and Richardson coordinated the efforts of the SEHS' Chinese Summer Language Institute for nearly 20 years. The program sends OU-trained volunteers to China every summer to help educators in the impoverished Guizhou Region improve their English skills. Redman and Richardson recruited and trained volunteers for these efforts, and they also attended a number of the summer trips themselves.

This year, Richardson is volunteering with Marie Burke to coordinate the institute's efforts.



Dean Ron Olson

SHS

Dean Olson retiring

Ron Olson, OU's first dean of the School of Health Sciences, arrived at Oakland from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1987 to lead SHS through its evolution from a center into the present-day school. Today, SHS offers several bachelor's and master's degree programs.

Olson, who plans to retire next year, has been spending his final months with the university tackling a new challenge. Effective Oct. 6, Olson agreed to temporarily serve as the interim vice provost for research.

His experience as a senior member of the academic leadership team will serve him well, says Virinder Moudgil, vice president for academic affairs and provost. "We will look to Ron to increase the level of grants, contracts and sponsored research from last year's all-time high of \$12 million — activity vital to building the external resource base necessary for institutional health and growth."

Ken Hightower, professor of health sciences and acting associate dean, has begun serving as the school's interim dean.

SON

Nursing professor to direct health department

Nursing Professor Anahid Kulwicki recently was appointed director of the Wayne County Public Health Department

by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

"Since 1987, the School of Nursing and our students have benefited from Anahid's knowledge, experience and research," says Linda Thompson, dean, SON. "Her passion for promoting public health and her expertise in cultural diversity in health care will serve her well in her new role. We are grateful that she will continue teaching and serving as a role model for our students."

Kulwicki is an editorial review board member for the *Journal of Cultural Diversity* and the *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. Since 1987, she has been a consulting editor for *The International Nurse*. She is a member of the Fulbright Association, which supports and promotes the Fulbright Program of international educational and cultural exchange. She also is the author of numerous professional articles and reports and has conducted research on a variety of health topics.

HC

College may introduce visiting scholar program

Honors College leaders are developing plans to enhance the program's residential component by introducing a scholar-in-residence program.

Since September, HC students have been encouraged to live in Vandenberg Hall as part of the new Scholars Tower and Residential Honors College Community.

The visiting-scholar program builds upon that by inviting a visiting professor to live in a suite at Vandenberg during the semester or at least for one or two months of his/her tenure. The professor would interact with students on a formal and informal basis, work with the department associated with his/her area of study and be available for campuswide programs, such as lectures or workshops.

— Compiled by Flori Meeks CAS '88

CAREER / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1960s



Kathleen Kohler CAS '69 retired in 2001 after 30 years teaching 4-6th grades in Au Gres, Mich. She enjoys traveling with her mother and living in Arizona in the

winter. She hopes that all of her China trip friends are well.

Mary Schultz MAT '63 is enjoying life in Arizona.

1970s

Mary (Huemiller) Bragg MA '72 retired from Rochester Community Schools in July 2002. She taught mathematics and computer science at Rochester Adams High School.

Charlotte A. Chase SEHS '78, MA '80 received a PhD in Instructional Technology from Wayne State University in December 2002. She is a quality assurance manager at SBC Midwest.

Carl E. Christiansen CAS '78 was recently accepted into the Cloistered Order of Trappist-Cistercian Monks in Conyers, Ga. He recently retired from government service within the Department of Veterans Affairs this year.



Carol A. Eddy CAS '77 is the new director of the Wayne County Family Center in Westland, a program managed by Lutheran Social Services of Michigan.

Paul T. Elder CAS '72 is alive and well in Annapolis, Md. He was recently elected secretary-treasurer of the medical staff at Anne Arundel Medical Center. His third son Thomas is in Thailand as part of a Rotary International Student Exchange program. His fourth son Henry is enjoying his freshman year in high school.

Rebecca Ezyk SON '79 has joined the Oakland County Bar Association as a legal nurse consultant on the Medical Legal Committee of the OCBA.

Leslie Griffen CAS '70 recently purchased CSG Partners, Inc., a career services consulting firm in Kansas City where he has served as president since 1995.

Robert M. Hack CAS '79 is a clinical psychologist with expertise in couple counseling therapy.

Will Hendrickson SECS '76 is living and working in Silicon Valley. He is married, has two children and a grandson.

William H. Horton CAS '76 has been elected president of Cox, Hodgman & Giarmarco, P.C., one of Michigan's largest law firms with more than 70 lawyers. He lives in Rochester Hills with his wife, Denise, and their three daughters.

Greg Jamian SBA '74 was elected to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners District 16 in 2002 overseeing Orchard Lake and portions of West Bloomfield and Bloomfield Township. He was recently appointed to the SBA Board of Visitors at Oakland University.

Jan Kepes SEHS '72, MAT '76 is married to Scott Silver and has five children. She teaches at Carlson Hospital School at UCLA and has been working for LA U.S.D. for 11 years.

Robert Kopacz MA '74 is a senior software engineer at Interlink Networks in Ann Arbor. His daughter Jill graduated May 2, 2003, from Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Pheronia Ludy SEHS '79 is a federal government employee with the Department of Army, and later Health and Human Services, effective 1986.

Wendy Lull CAS BA '74 is president of Seacoast Science Center in the Odiorne Point State Park in New Hampshire's 18-mile stretch of Atlantic coast. It recently received a \$1-million grant from NOAA to upgrade the center.

Gerald Miller CAS '72 has recently been appointed the CEO to Star of Hope Inc., a multi-service organization providing services to developmentally disabled adults.

Christopher Reggio SEHS '79 has been appointed to the additional title of associate publisher and director of Reader's Digest Adult Trade Publishing.

Christine (Herrema) Runette MAT '78 retired in 1999 after 32 years as an elementary education teacher. She still substitute teaches in the Bloomfield Hills district.

Richard D. Skaggs MA '78 is co-manager at Loomis Sayles Growth Fund.

Steven Wagg CAS '72 was a guest instructor at OU in the School of Business Administration.

1980s

Susan (Gutleben) Brennan MAT '88 began her 10th year of teaching elementary school. Susan and her husband relocated to Socorro, N.M., in February so she could take a mid-year teaching job. She will continue teaching second grade this school year. Her Core Knowledge Integrated Science Unit has been accepted by the Core Knowledge Foundation in Charlottesville, Va., for presentation at its March 2004 National Conference in Atlanta. Her daughter is also a teacher in a small village in western Alaska.

Claudette (Zolkowski) Brown CAS '89 is director of web and marketing services at Oakland University, after 11 years in public relations at Ameritech/SBC. She recently married Eric Brown, who moved to Michigan from Dallas in 2002.

Patrick Brown SEHS '80 has been appointed as manager, human resources, Cairns City Council. Located in far north Queensland, Australia, Cairns is one of the fastest growing cities in Australia. It is the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and World Heritage Rainforest. The council employs more than 1,100 staff and services a population of 130,000 residents.

Susan Cirocco SON '82 is working with her husband, Bill, a colorectal surgeon, in the Kansas City area. They are also busy raising five children and keeping in touch with '81 and '82 SON alumni.

Alisa Clapp-Itnyre CAS '89 published a scholarly book entitled *Angelic Airs, Subversive Songs: Music as a Social Discourse in the Victorian Novel* (Ohio University Press, 2002) discussing music in the novels of Elizabeth Gaskell, George Eliot and Thomas Hardy.

Carol (Duerr) Druskinis CAS '89 and her husband are enjoying retirement. They are planning to travel east to the New England states and later to Hawaii to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary.



Kathryn A. George SON '85 was recently elected Judge of Probate to the Macomb County Probate Court. Prior to her election, she was an attorney in private practice

and served as councilwoman and mayor pro tem for the city of Sterling Heights.

Beth S. Gotthelf

CAS '80 has been named one of the region's top emerging business leaders by the *Detroit*, the Detroit Regional Chamber's monthly magazine. She is an attorney and shareholder at Butzel Long.



Luke Joseph SBA '89 is running for Michigan State Representative in the 41st District covering Troy and Clawson in 2004.

David C. Knapp SEHS '81 is a 2003 Colorado NAESP National Distinguished Principal finalist.

For Safekeeping

Engineering pioneer makes roads a safer place to be

Somewhere today an airbag went off and protected a body from harm. And **Thomas Vos SECS '64** saved another life. For more than three decades, Vos worked to perfect airbag and seatbelt technology. In 2002, *Design News* rewarded his groundbreaking efforts by naming him Engineer of the Year. In appreciation for his years at Oakland University, Vos donated his \$25,000 prize toward scholarship support in OU's School of Engineering and Computer Science.

It was at Oakland that Vos first found his focus as an engineer. An OU physics professor sparked his interest in automotive safety at a time when "the industry was not terribly focused" on the issue, he says. "(My professor) had an old Ford. He had strapped padding on the hub of the steering column and installed seatbelts. He was well aware of the safety aspects of driving a car."

After graduating Vos went to work for General Motors as a hardware design engineer. Quickly, though, he moved into the relatively uncharted area of airbag research and development. "One of the frustrations for someone like myself whose career tracked this product through its evolution was its discontinuity," Vos says, recalling the political and economic hurdles he and others in the industry faced. "Programs would completely shut down and you'd lose a lot of momentum. You'd lose continuity of thought, you'd lose the champions, and all of that had to be reinstated."

Despite the challenges he faced as an engineer, Vos always found time to support his alma mater. He served on the SECS advisory board for years, earning a reputation for his valuable insight. "He has been a great supporter of this school," says Bhushan Bhatt,



Courtesy of TRW Automotive

Thomas Vos

SECS associate dean. "He has great love, respect and affection for this place."

After retiring from TRW earlier this year, Vos and his wife moved to Washington's Puget Sound where already the engineer has made his mark. "One of our hobbies is designing and building houses," Vos says. The couple is on house number five. "We're going to build our retirement house here in the mild climate of the Puget Sound."

No matter how far away he moves, Vos always will carry a piece of Oakland with him. "My job ultimately ended up (taking me) around the world, working with people of all countries," he says. "I was much more comfortable doing that because of the doors that had been opened for me at OU." ■

By Rebecca Wyatt CAS '03, editor in chief of The Oakland Post, OU's student newspaper.

Class Notes

1980s *continue*



Sr. Maria Gemma (Kelly) Martek O.P. CAS '89 (pictured second from right) made her first profession of vows in the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist in Ann Arbor on August 6, 2003. Fellow OU alumni there to celebrate with her were **Rev. Robert McClory CAS '85** (not pictured), **Rev. Jim Prehn SJ CAS '91**, **Michaela Ludwick CAS '91** and **Randall Straughen CAS '89**.

Diane Michele MA '83 is president of the Michigan Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling, a division of the Michigan Counseling Association.

Sandra Murphree SBA '80 was named director, organizational development and training for Collins and Aikman in Troy.

Joseph Novak CAS '86 is the assistant librarian at Mound Correctional Facility in Detroit.

Judy Palnau CAS '84 is the public information media specialist at the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing. He was appointed by Governor John Engler to the Michigan Humanities Council.

Geoffrey Peters SBA '81 joined Technology Investment Partners, LLC on January 1, 2003, as director of syndications.

Lorraine Pohl SBA '80 is a group sales representative at Principal Financial Group.

Carolyn (Tober) Schmidt CAS '88 is continuing her education in classical music, the French and German languages, drawing and painting, and the history of music and art through independent reading and occasional classes. She is a piano teacher and freelance copyeditor.

Dave Sheehan CAS '80 has joined the University of Phoenix, Nevada campus as an enrollment counselor in the area of teacher and corporate education.

Larry Sulenski SBA '82 accepted position with SMW Autoblok in February 2002.

Robin (Benjamin) Thumann MAT '82 is working as a registered mediator in Georgia and has recently written, illustrated and published a unique children's picture book, *Peaceful Thoughts: An Interactive Journey in Positive Thinking for Children and Their Parents*.

1990s

Frances C. Amos SBA '90 was elected as a Michigan State Representative in 2002.

Joyce (Steinbrink) Baldrice SBA '90 was promoted from director of finance to executive director of St. John Home Care, a subsidiary of St. John Health.

Kathryn (Lauer) Black CAS '97 is finishing up her master's in school guidance counseling from Grand Valley State University. She is currently working as a guidance counselor at West Catholic High School in Grand Rapids. Kathryn and her husband have adopted three sibling boys and recently celebrated their three-year anniversary as a family. They hope to adopt a baby girl very soon.

Robert Carr CAS '96 has been named editor of the *Michigan Real Estate Journal*, a monthly news magazine covering the state's commercial property industry. He has been a reporter for various Detroit-area newspapers, most recently with *The Oakland Press*. He also has 14 years in the U.S. Navy, and served as a public affairs officer in a local reserve unit.

Kevin Caton SBA '93 has been living and working in downtown Chicago for the past three and a half years. He manages the IT department for two medium-sized financial firms in the Chicago Loop.

Carrie L. Ciliberto CAS '91 was admitted to the United States Supreme Court in March 2003.

Raymond E. Cruz CAS '90 works as a graphic artist for Phoenix Press, Inc. in Troy. He also owns and operates Gwinc Video & Graphics, a video editing company in Bloomfield Hills.

Cynthia Della Torre CAS '91 of Kemp, Klein, Umphrey, Endelman & May, P.C. was one of two speakers for a daylong seminar on Estate Planning and Probate by the Institute for Paralegal Education. Topics included the fundamentals of will drafting, the basics of living trusts and understanding basic probate tax procedures. She concentrates her practice in exit planning, business planning and transactions, estate planning and post-death administration.

Wendy Drum CAS '97 earned her juris doctorate from Michigan State University — Detroit College of Law in May and sat for the Michigan bar exam in July 2003.

Terrence Flynn SBA '93 received an MSF in International Finance from Walsh College in 1997 and Project Management Professional Certification in 2001.

Thomas J. Gartner CAS '98 graduated from Case Western Reserve University School of Law with a juris doctorate in May 2003.

James C. Gilbert CAS '94 is currently active in re-establishing a Black Alumni chapter of the Oakland University Alumni Association.

Kim (Smith) Gundy SEHS '95 is a second-year master's level counseling student at OU. She is currently working full time and is the mother of two and a half year old son Gabriel and six year old daughter Lauren.

Krisit (Woodard) Hameedi SECS '91 earned her MBA with distinction from the University of Michigan Business School in May 2003.

Ann Roemer Harrington MA '90 was named Oakland Counseling Association's Counselor of the Year for 2003.

Vinod Kalothia SECS '96, MSE '98 recently received a certificate of recognition for five years of service to General Motors Corporation.

Andrea Kozek CAS '96 completed her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Western Michigan University in June 2003. She began a post-doctoral fellowship in the department of psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago in July 2003.

Martyna Lojewska BGS '99 is fluent in English and Polish, and has studied Spanish and French for two years.

Michelle (Franzen) Martin MA '99 has joined Franco Public Relations Group. She is also an adjunct instructor of English at several area colleges.

Jeff Matis SECS '90 was promoted to partner at the law firm of Secrest, Wardle, Lynch, Hampton, Truex & Morley, P.C. in Farmington Hills.

Eric Noyes MBA '92 is now working as a system acquisition manager for the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command in Warren and is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Corinne Opitck SBA '90 and her husband, Robert, opened a bed and breakfast in Stratford, Ontario, which operates from May through October to serve patrons attending the Stratford Festival shows.

Renique Quick CAS '99 is working as an assistant coordinator at the Center for Academic Programs at the Center for Talented Youth at Johns Hopkins

University. She is planning to pursue her PhD in education policy and leadership at the University of Maryland.

Brian Roberts BGS '97 ran the Boston Marathon on April 21, 2003. His time was 3:46:49, which landed him a 7,446 finish.

Jon Rubin CAS '96 is now assigned as an F-16 fighter pilot. He was recently promoted to captain and deployed in support of Operation Noble Eagle (homeland defense), Operation Northern Watch (enforcement of the Northern no-fly zone), and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Michael Sabol MBA '92 is continuing work for General Motors as the program engineering manager for the Chevy SSR.

Brian D. Stermer MBA '90 is director of purchasing and logistics at Henkel Corporation.

David Tomczak CAS '90 is living in North Carolina and studying to become a minister.

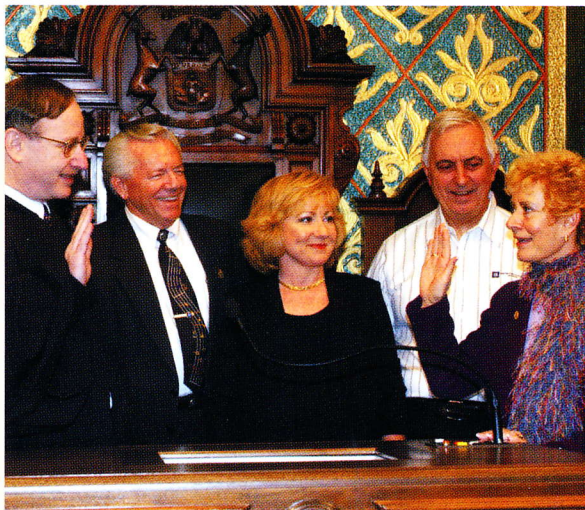
Laurence L. Virden SECS '99 was just promoted to research and development at Siemens Dematic.

2000s

Megan (Justice) Banks SON '02 is a registered nurse at Detroit Receiving Hospital in the surgical trauma intensive care unit.

James A. Baubie III SECS '02 is vice president and business area manager within the information systems department of Comerica Incorporated. He is also pursuing Project Management Professional certification.

Courtesy of the Michigan House of Representatives.



Fran Amos holds up her right hand and takes the oath of office at Michigan's state capitol in January.

Up to the Challenge

SBA grad elected to Michigan legislature

As the daughter of a Greek immigrant, **Fran Amos SBA '80** had the ideals of a strong work ethic and a desire to serve the community ingrained in her from an early age. They were a large part of what propelled this OU graduate to Michigan's state legislature last November after a dogged campaign that included ringing some 24,000 doorbells.

Amos now serves on the state's powerful House Appropriations Committee in a year of economic downturn and budget cuts. "She's proven herself to be a distinguished member of appropriations," says Rep. Marc Shulman, R-Oakland, chair of the Appropriations Committee and fellow Oakland County representative. "She's a capable and industrious lawmaker."

Amos is a long way from her days fresh out of high school when, newly married, she took a job as an operator for Michigan Bell (now SBC). When her kids were both in school, she decided it was time for her to do the same. Having always wanted to go to college, she enrolled at OU to pursue a bachelor of science in management.

Her degree earned her a promotion in finance at Michigan Bell, where she continued to do well in her 35-year career — so well that the American Business Women's Association named Amos one of the top 10 businesswomen in America in 2000.

Amos served on multiple community boards, including OU's SBA Alumni Board. These experiences whet her appetite for more community involvement. Shortly after retiring from SBC, Amos successfully campaigned for the office of Oakland County Commissioner. The highly demanding job got her hooked on public service.

In 2002, at the encouragement of friends, family and fellow Republicans, she decided to give it her all and run for state representative for the 43rd District, which includes a portion of Oakland County. Amos won by more than 1,600 votes. "I had to pinch myself the first time I went to Lansing as a state rep," she recalls. "It was an awesome feeling. I know I'm here making decisions for people."

Amos sees several key issues for her district. As a member of the Transportation

Subcommittee, she wants to ensure that Oakland County receives ample money for roadwork. Another issue for Amos: helping young Michigan adults get a quality education through merit scholarships.

Unsure of where she'll go from here, Amos is relishing her time in the legislature. "Whatever she wants to do, she'll succeed," says Todd Harcek, chief of staff for Representative Shulman. "She's not only capable, but she's got the enthusiasm and energy to take on anything." ■

By Karla K. Dorweiler, a freelance writer living in Farmington Hills, Mich.

Making waves in Washington



John Jamian

For a man who survived 1999s "perfect storm" aboard a Belgian cargo ship, navigating the political waters of Washington, D.C., isn't all that daunting. In fact, **John Jamian CAS '77** finds the capital's waters just right.

In May, President George W. Bush appointed Jamian

deputy administrator for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration. In his new role, Jamian assists in leading operations for the 850-person agency, including the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and oversees issues concerning the Great Lakes, inland waterways such as the Mississippi River, deepwater ports and segments of the Marine Transportation System initiative.

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta lauded Jamian's appointment. "His leadership and team-building skills will be invaluable in achieving the department's strategic goals and will prove to be important assets as we meet the challenge of improving our nation's maritime transportation systems."

A sailor since 19, Jamian's passion for water has taken him not only to Washington but around the Great Lakes, across the ocean, even to the Arctic where his ship was stranded in ice for three weeks before breaking free.

Back on land, Jamian's career has been long and varied. The former sociology major served three terms as a Michigan state representative after several years building and managing a successful medical supply and staffing company with his brother, Greg, a fellow OU graduate. The experience piqued his interest in health care.

"I saw problems, and I wanted to fix some of the components of the medical system," he says. He chaired the state's health policy committee and wrote the Michigan Patient Rights Bill, only the second one in the country at the time. He also served as the vice chairman of the House Maritime Affairs committee and chairman of the U.S./Canada Relations committee of the Midwest Council of State Governments.

Following his departure from state government, Jamian served as executive director of Detroit Wayne County Port Authority. His proudest moment: When Edsel Ford II and (then) Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer asked him to chair Sail Detroit for Detroit's 300th anniversary celebration, which brought 5 million visitors to Detroit's waterfront. Most recently, he headed the Armenian Assembly of America, the nation's largest organization dedicated to promoting understanding of Armenian issues in America. During his tenure, he led a U.S. State Department and Department of Defense De-mining project, which removed landmines from former borders and battlefields, saving innocent lives and making the ground productive for farming.

Jamian remains a strong supporter of OU. "My years at Oakland were wonderful," he says. "I received a great education there, which built the foundation for my future."

In coming months, Jamian will work to bring maritime issues to the legislative forefront. The United States relies heavily on the industry not just for trade, but also in times of war to convey troops and supplies. "When people see ships, I don't think they realize how much what those ships carry affects their lives," Jamian says.

When Jamian's term ends, he will return to Michigan where his wife and two children (who are OU students), live. His political career, however, will be far from over. "I plan to have a lot to do with Michigan politics in the future." ■

By Liz Lent, a freelance writer living in Birmingham, Mich.

2000s *continue*

Karen (Uhl) Fisher CAS '01 was hired as a phonics first reading specialist at the Reading and Language Arts Center in Bloomfield Hills. For the past year, she has been contacted to tutor children ages 6-14 who have dyslexia. Karen was trained at RLCA in the Phonics First method to help students with this learning disorder become more capable readers while increasing their self esteem and overall potential to enjoy learning.

Garry Gilbert CAS '95, MA '02 is executive editor of *The Daily Oakland Press*, and recently marked 25 years as a member of the newspaper's staff.

Kara N. Herber CAS '01 began her doctorate in osteopathic medicine at Michigan State University in August 2003.

Kelly Ingham SEHS '02 is starting the application process of the master's program.

Adam Kochenderfer CAS '02 was recently selected as an associate editor of the *Michigan Law Review*, one of the most cited law journals in the country. He is a student at University of Michigan Law School.

Amy Lai CAS '00 is a student at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work.

Tonja Lawrence CAS '97, MA '00 is an Oakland County Youth and Family caseworker and a second-year doctoral student.

Kristy McKendrick SEHS '01 owns The Webitect, a Web design and development firm specializing in developing sites for small and medium-sized businesses.

Brian Meitzner SBA '02 is working at William Beaumont Hospital as a management engineer.

Ann Marie Mireles MAT '02 accepted a position as school counselor at Great Lakes Elementary in the West Ottawa School District.

Jeanne Pellegrino CAS '00 is doing research for a non-fiction book she would like to publish. She has been working with the U.S. Army for the last two years.

Randy Reida MBA '02 accepted a position as product engineer in quality assurance at Toyota Motor Sales in Torrance, Calif., after 18 years at Chrysler Corporation.

Nichole Rhodes CAS '01 is a news producer with the local NBC affiliate and is living in West Bloomfield with her four cats.

Lisa (Farwell) Ross CAS '03 is vice president, administrator of business promotion and design at Harper & Ross, Inc. Building Contractors.

Elizabeth Roycraft CAS '02 is working as an archaeological field technician for the USDA — Forest Service in Burns, Ore.

Angela Ruth CAS '02 joined Lawrence Technology University as a development associate for annual giving and alumni relations. She will help coordinate annual giving programs and alumni activities.

Jamila Atlas Turner SBA '00 is working as a human resources specialist for Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency in Pontiac. She is also making efforts to become fluent in Spanish to reach out to the Hispanic community.

Beverly Vienot SON '00, MSN '03 received her second degree from OU in May 2003.

Nicole L. Wheeler CAS '00 is employed as a therapist in Macomb County. She completed her master's degree in social work at Grand Valley State University in 2002.

Aleksander Zafirovski SHS '00 has been promoted to senior radiation therapist and student supervisor at Northwestern University Medical Center. He was also elected president of Chicago Area Radiation Therapists.

ENGAGEMENTS / WEDDINGS

Pamela (Turner) Blakley MA '83 was married on February 15, 2003, and is retired from Ford Motor Company.

Jaclyn (Fleury) Dixon CAS '02 married **Eric Dixon SHS '95** on April 5, 2003.

Steven Gaynor CAS '71 married Jean Marie Boettcher, a home economics and math teacher in her 26th year at Mosinee High School in Wisconsin, on July 6, 2003.

Jennifer (Kozlowski) Green SEHS '00 married Frank Green on June 29, 2002. The couple met on the Internet.

Melanie (Campbell) Henkel SECS '96 married Matthew Henkel on July 12, 2003. The couple now resides in Waterford.

William Eli Hollowell CSE '02 married **Jennifer Lintol CAS '02** on July 4, 2003. They now reside in Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Erika Lieberman CAS '98 is engaged to Aaron Kizak. An October 2003 wedding and Hawaiian honeymoon is planned. The two will reside in West Bloomfield.

Michelle (Martin) Meyer CAS '02 married **Steve Meyer CAS '02** on August 1, 2003. The couple moved to Indiana to pursue graduate degrees at Purdue University.

Julie (Tyll) Rubicz SON '97 married John Rubicz in August 2002. They are expecting their first child in June.



Laura (Sherman) Russell CAS '01 married Keith Russell on June 14, 2003. She is attending medical school at Wayne State University.

Tiffany (Dorozenko) Scott CAS '02 was married September 13, 2003.

Michael Simon CAS '96 married **Michelle Strong CAS '01** on August 16, 2003. Michael is an assistant to U.S. Congressman Dale E. Kildee, and Michelle works for a family practitioner. The couple resides in Grand Blanc.

Justin Voytal SBA '02 married his high school sweetheart on June 21, 2003.

Judy Wiegand SBA '95 is engaged to **Bryan Hegelund SBA '97**. An April 2004 wedding is planned.



Nicole Wigley SEHS '99 is engaged to **Christopher Grabowski SEHS '98**.



Megan (Latawiec) Zannetti SBA '00 married **Michael Zannetti SBA '00** on October 19, 2002.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leann Aberlich CAS '96 and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of their son Nathan Randy on September 26, 2002. He joins big brother Jacob Dale.

Carol Azarovitz SBA '94 and her husband, **Jeffrey Azarovitz MBA '97** announce the birth of their son Alexander Aaron on December 28, 2002.



Mandy (Cribar) Battaglia CAS '95 and her husband Nick are proud to announce the birth of their first son, Giovanni on October 7, 2002.

Raymond E. Cruz CAS '90 and his wife Aileen announce the birth of their daughter Kylie Michelle on October 16, 2002.

Colleen Griffith SON '00 and her husband Chad are happy to announce the birth of their daughter Megan Renee born September 24, 2003. She joins big sister Cailin Brianna.

Geoffrey Peters SBA '81 announces the birth of his daughter Claire Lisa on May 10, 2003. She joins siblings Lauren, Luke and Noah.

Class Notes

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.

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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., Allied Van Lines, Hertz and participating Choice Hotels. For details, check www.oualumni.com.

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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.

Births *continued*

Brian Roy SECS '94 and his wife, Vasylena, welcomed their first child Aiden Michael in February 2003.

Dana (Roll) Slifco SON '84 and her boyfriend, Kenneth, announce the birth of their son Justin Michael on March 3, 2003. He joins his brothers Michael, Matthew and Grant.

Sarah (Nagel) Stout CAS '91 and her husband Clint announce the birth of their daughter Josephine Mary on May 13, 2003. Sarah is a college professor at Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek.

— Compiled by Carol Carpenter CAS '00

DEATHS

Mary Balousek CAS '87
died March 20, 2003.

Joanne Bart MAT '73
died January 4, 2003.

Judith Berk MAT '81
died January 30, 2003.

Carolyn Oakes Broeri MAT '69
died March 15, 2003.

Larry Davis MA '75
died April 25, 2003.

Joan DeFrancesco CAS '77
died March 6, 2003.

Gayle Fountain MAT '77
died October 6, 2002.

Lorainne Frazho MA '80
died July 11, 2002.

Geraldine Konesny MAT '77
died December 2, 2002.

Shirley Lane MA '75
died February 2, 2002.

Francine Langeland MAT '03
died March 21, 2003.

Carol Ann Mickiewicz MAT '89
died July 27, 2003.

Shane Millner SHS '96
died February 17, 2003.

Danny Thorpe CAS '74
died December 14, 2002.

You can help make the Class Notes section of *Oakland University Magazine* more fun and complete by sending a recent photo of yourself (color or black and white print or negative) with your Class Notes submission. If you have a high resolution digital image (at least 300 dpi), please feel free to e-mail your image to cmcarpen@oakland.edu with your name, school or college attended (e.g., SBA, CAS, SEHS, etc.), and your date of graduation.

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This photograph from an MSU-O brochure circa 1959 neatly sums up the beginning of Oakland University's journey — from humble rural spin-off of Michigan State University to a thriving, vibrant 16,500-student-strong university making a difference in the community, state and nation.

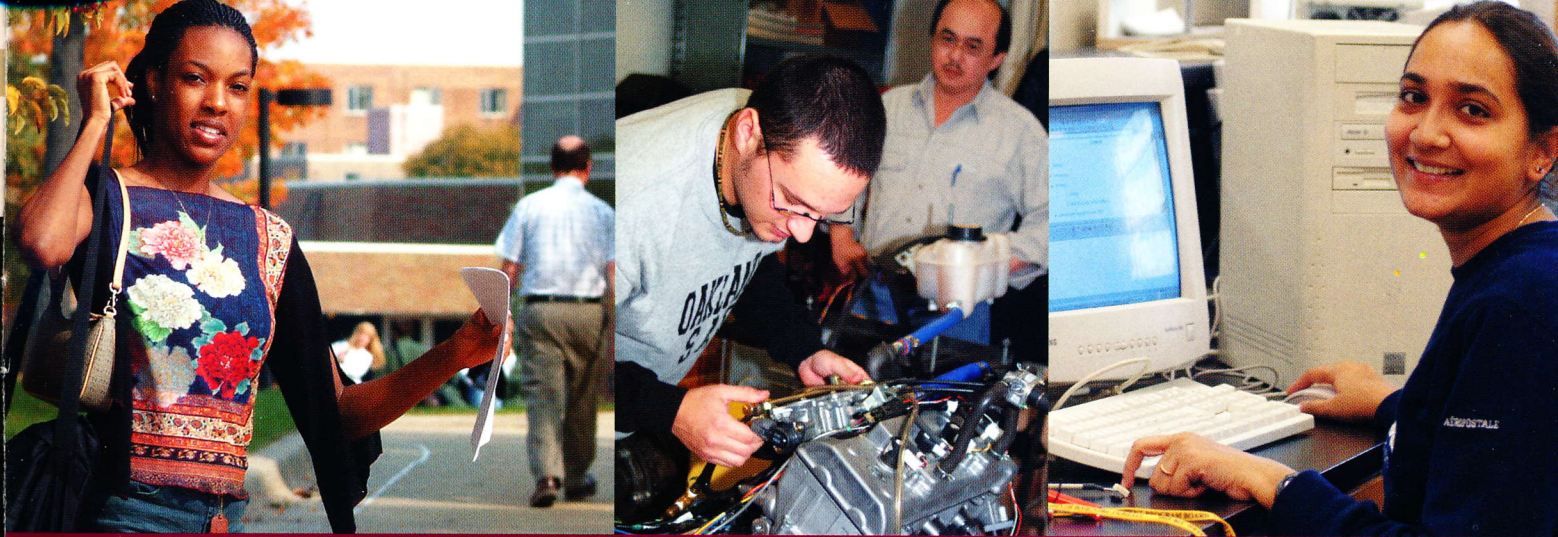
As the two OU scientists of yesteryear ponder the contents of their lab beaker, it's easy to imagine them seeking the correct formula for the result they are trying to achieve. A similar challenge faced the first faculty, students and staff of Oakland University. How do we choose and mix the right ingredients that will achieve the perfect formula for a new university that leads to enduring success?

Forty-five years on, the formula has been a great success. With world-class faculty, a talented student body

and dedicated staff, Oakland University has scaled heights never even imagined by its forefathers. Today, The Carnegie Foundation ranks Oakland as one of the country's 110 Doctoral/Research-Intensive universities; and The Princeton Review named Oakland in its first edition of *The Best Midwestern Colleges, 150 Great Schools to Consider*; a book that showcases the top schools in 11 states based on academic excellence.

These accolades for the distinctive undergraduate experience and the commitment to graduate study that Oakland offers belong to every generation of Oakland students, faculty and staff, for each played a part in finding the right formula for success. ♦

— Ted Montgomery



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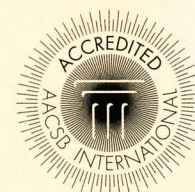
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