



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

News

104 North Foundation Hall
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A publication for faculty and staff

May 4, 1990



Move Out

When students move out of the residence halls, it's a day of mixed emotions. Some watch wistfully as their friends leave for the summer, perhaps forever. Others find that nearly all their worldly belongings fit into a laundry cart. For still others, like Howard Vrij and Andre Bond, sitting on a couch and watching the action is a good way to pass the time. In four months the process will reverse itself and students will cart everything back.



Scholar-Athletes

Two from Oakland Join Select Few Who Will Receive NCAA Scholarships

Two Oakland athletes have been named recipients of NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarships for their academic and athletic achievements.

Basketball players Brian Gregory and Debbie Delie will each receive \$4,000. In all, 10 men and 10 women nationwide receive the awards. Of each 10, four go to Division I players, four to Division II and III (Oakland competes in Division II) and two are at-large selections.

"I think it is great that we are able to acknowledge these two fine student-athletes in this way," commented Paul Hartman, director of athletics. "It is rare that one person gets selected from an institution. To have two is outstanding. I am happy for Brian and Debbie, and I am also happy for our institution because it typifies the type of student-athlete we have."

Gregory, a three-time All-GLIAC selection and an All-North Central Region choice as a senior, has a 3.82 GPA in secondary education. Gregory was selected as a Division II representative, and he was the only male player selected from Michigan. Other schools represented were Washington (Md.) College, Northern Colorado, University of the Redlands, Georgia, Northwestern, Maine, Brigham Young, San Francisco and Long Beach State.

Delie, a first-team Kodak All-America player and GLIAC Player of the Year, led the women's team to the national semifinals and earned a spot on the all-tournament team. She is a human resources development major with a

3.21 GPA. She was an at-large selection. The only other Michigan player selected came from Alma College. Other schools in the women's group were Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Delta State, Abilene Christian, Grinnell, Princeton, Bowling Green, Oregon and Yale.

Gregory and Delie are the fifth and sixth scholarship winners that Oakland has had, and the first basketball players to be honored. Previous winners were all men's swimmers: Tom Allen, 1980; Mark Doyle, 1981; Gordon Geheb, 1983; and Alan Faust, 1985.

Delie's award is not the only post-season recognition to come for the women's team. Delie, Ann Serra and Coach Bob Taylor have all earned Division II All-America team status.

Delie was selected for the second-team for the second consecutive year by the American Women's Sports Federation. She finished her Oakland career with 2,038 points.

Serra was named to the fourth team despite playing in only 20 of the team's 33 games due to a knee injury. The OU career assist leader led the nation in assists at 7.6 a game at the time of her injury.

Taylor was named one of 12 All-America coaches by the AWSF. He led the Pioneers to a 27-6 mark this season, a second straight league title and a trip to the semifinals. His OU career record is 98-21 after four seasons, and his career record is 150-52. Taylor was league Coach of the Year this season.▼

Professor Makes Tracks with Controller Stabilizer System

A "tracking controller" system with military and industrial applications is the target of an Oakland University-industry collaboration.

Professor Ka C. Cheok, electrical and systems engineering, has won a \$20,000 grant from Cadillac Gage Textron, Inc., for phase I of the project. The goal is to develop a highly accurate stabilized tracking controller for the aiming system of military off-road vehicles.

Cheok says the controller must adapt to unexpected changes in the terrain, reject vibrations and allow the aiming system to lock on and track a moving target at a distance.

To explain the nature of the problem, Cheok says, "Try to visualize the difficulty of keeping a video camcorder aimed at a distant object

when we are inside a moving vehicle on a rough road. Now imagine that the object you are trying to aim at is a mile or so away. On top of that, the object is moving quickly in random fashion. On playback, the video that you shot is probably full of jittery motion."

Cheok has done extensive research in tracking-controller areas, including application of artificial intelligence and digital signal processing into the designs.

He says the main concept from this research has many potential applications, from auto-target locking systems for the military to satellite tracking, and video camcorder stabilization platforms for better taping, even in off-road conditions.▼

Microwave Device Aided by OU Research

A physics professor has won a \$53,743 grant from the Office of Naval Research for work on a new class of materials for use in high-frequency devices.

Gopalan Srinivasan said his main objective is to "study the magnetic structure of amorphous oxide (non-crystalline or glassy) materials to develop glassy oxide compounds with

superior magnetic properties for microwave signal processing."

Srinivasan said most crystalline magnetic oxides become nonmagnetic in the amorphous or shapeless state. If he is successful in creating glassy oxide compounds with great magnetic properties, a new class of materials could be developed for use in microwave transmission and other high-frequency devices.▼

Nursing Presents Nightingale Awards

Four nursing professionals from the metropolitan area were honored by the School of Nursing Board of Visitors with its second annual Nightingale Awards for Nursing.

The four were cited at a banquet April 24 for excellence in the areas of administration, practice, research and education. Each received a \$1,000 cash prize and a jade crystal statuette of a nurse's hands. The awards are named for Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing.

Recipients were Lynn T.

Rinke, vice president/chief operating officer at Visiting Nurse Home Services in Detroit, the award for nursing administration; Deborah Godoshian-Klein, acting director of clinical services at Beaumont Home Services, the award for nursing practice; Davida F. Kruger, clinical nurse specialist-diabetes, Henry Ford Hospital, the award for nursing research; and Patricia Johnson, clinical nurse specialist at Hutzel Hospital, the award for nursing education.

Fifty-eight nurses were

nominated for the awards, which were presented by Dean Andrea R. Lindell, Boris Sellers, executive director of the Beaumont Foundation, and Joseph F. Galvin, a partner in the law firm of Schlusell, Lifton, Simon, Rands, Kaufman, Galvin & Jackier. President Joseph E. Champagne and Neal Shine, publisher of the *Detroit Free Press* and former Oakland professor of journalism, both offered remarks to the 350 guests in attendance at Shottwell-Gustafson Pavilion.▼

Planning Something Big? You Need a Plan Just to Map Out Strategy

Sometimes you need a plan to work together. The traditional committee, seated around a table and assigning work among its members before carrying out tasks, may be an ineffective way to get things done. It's an idea that may not work at all, in some cases.

James Clatworthy, associate dean of the School of Human and Educational Services, says some of his educational specialist degree students have come up with a hefty blueprint to show how a committee can carry out its work successfully.

Although it sounds obvious, in practice the message that "people must work together" is not carried out effectively. They fail because during the initial stages of group action, they don't take the time to learn about each other.

New Retirement Options Offered at Oakland

The university has adopted the new options that TIAA/CREF introduced on March 1.

- Choices now include:
- Two new CREF accounts: a bond market account and a social choice account.
 - CREF transferability: within all CREF accounts, to TIAA, to Fidelity and from Fidelity to CREF.
 - Lump-sum cash upon retirement or termination.
 - Fixed-period payment option.

"If you wish to make any transfers among the CREF accounts, transfers to TIAA or transfers from CREF to Fidelity, you will need to contact TIAA/CREF," says Diana Decker, staff benefits manager. "If you wish to transfer from Fidelity to TIAA, you need to contact Fidelity. If you wish to make any changes in the allocation of future contributions between TIAA/CREF and Fidelity, you will need to come in to the Staff Benefits Office, 142 NFH, to sign forms."

Questions regarding your retirement or insurance benefits will be answered at the Staff Benefits Office, 370-3483.▼

The plan the 12 students developed, *The Team Process: Realizing Effective Group Work and Advancing School Improvement Plans*, is geared toward local school districts. Plan details, however, can be applied to nearly any group that is carrying out a project. The group, working as the Delta Team, makes its plan available to local school districts.

The education students identified four steps in the process of developing a successful team. Convening, clashing, cultivating and creating all have their place and must be recognized for the team to function, they said.

During convening, the students found, members examine interpersonal relationships, goals and norms, define group structure and begin communication networks. The students said that often a team will think that getting to know each other personally is out of place professionally, but it is actually an essential element of group interaction.

Clashing involves challenges to rules set down by the majority or group leader. Conflicts

arise and members must work out their hostilities in this phase. Once they do, each member gains a sense of belonging.

During cultivating, members clarify their task, adapt to changes and recommit to group participation.

The final stage, creating, involves actual participation and collaboration.

The Delta Team noted that during lengthy projects, group membership may change. When this happens, the four-step process repeats itself naturally.

The professionals involved in the project all work for school districts in the Detroit suburban area. They were concerned mostly with how school districts can implement school improvement projects. The SIPs may pull together administrators, teachers, parents and others in the community. Unless these teams focus properly, the Oakland students noted, chances for success are limited.

The 12-member team surveyed 10 school districts to find out how they were handling

school improvement projects now. None specifically mentioned any kind of team process skills as part of their regimen. What the OU students found was that individual members of these school teams had widely varying perceptions of how their own team performed. The teams' effectiveness was inherently limited, the OU students concluded, because the members did not agree on their own degree of success.

Clatworthy notes that team-process building becomes more critical as the size of the enterprise under study increases. Teachers, administrators and parents in a small school from a small town may naturally get along much better than a similar-size team culled from several buildings in a large city.

Another value of the OU study, Clatworthy says, is that the Delta Team provides a conflict simulation during its presentations. Local school personnel will be able to see that conflict is a natural element in the early stages and learn methods to resolve the problems before the team process breaks down.▼

AASCU Programs on Computer May Assist in Research

Member institutions of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities looking for innovative or exemplary programs in higher education may find them in AASCU's computer-based Model Programs Inventory.

The computer database includes program descriptions from many of AASCU's 375 member institutions. Model program descriptions are also entered into the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) on Higher Education database, where researchers can obtain abstracts and complete documents.

Computer-assisted learning, institutional development, housing reforms, economic impact studies, social worker development for minorities, teacher training, women's studies, nursing, mathematics seminars, career placement and multicultural educational are on the database.

Users may find the information at Kresge Library. Listings are available through on-line searches with the aid of library staff members or

on their own with the CD-ROM terminal. Using the information that results from the subject search, the user then obtains the full text of the article in the microfiche section.

Since last September, model programs in academic affairs, external relations, facilities planning, personnel and general administration have been included.

The project goal is to improve the educational community's ability to know and share information on activities at comparable institutions, and to encourage the use of ERIC as a cost-effective planning resource before developing new institutional programs.

Meredith Ludwig, AASCU director of association research, said that AASCU tends to develop "pockets of valuable information" about institutions through individual contacts with members and through nominations for association award programs.

AASCU said that sometimes institutions were

having to reinvent the wheel because there was no central listing of proven programs. With the inventory, institutions will be able to save valuable planning time.

AASCU members using ERIC will be able to search for information about state colleges and universities easily because an identification number is assigned to each model program.

The project will increase the information on model programs available to all institutions through ERIC, encourage the use of ERIC by member institutions, improve AASCU's ability to know and share information on activities at member institutions, and test a collaboration with ERIC that other organizations might adopt.

The project is funded through a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education in collaboration with the ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education at George Washington University.▼

Our People

Send details about your scholarly efforts to the News Service, 104 NFH. PRESENTATIONS

- Carl F. Barnes, Jr., Center for the Arts, delivered a paper, *Villard de Honnecourt's View of Ancient Romans as Seen Through Their Statuary*, at the 11th Medieval Forum held at Plymouth State College in Plymouth, N.H.
- Robert Stewart, psychology, presented *Argue, But Don't Fight: A Naturalistic Study of Child-Child and Mother-Child Conflicts* at the Conference on Human Development. The conference was held in Richmond, Va. Copresenters were undergraduate students Debra Meyer, Alice Wiener and Erica Eichleay, all psychology majors.
- Laurie E. Osborne, English, presented a paper, *Constructing Female Desire and the Female Gaze in the 'Dreams' of Max Reinhardt, Peter Hall and Joseph Papp*. She presented it at the 18th annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association of American in Philadelphia.
- Peter Binkert, linguistics, gave five presentations on various aspects of his research. He delivered two papers at Henry Ford Hospital, *The Description of Syntactic Competence in Agrammatic Aphasics and Normal Children* and *The Assessment of Syntactic Competence in Children*. He was the keynote speaker for the annual induction of new members into Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology. He spoke on *The Cognitive Basis of Grammar*. He also delivered two papers at the University of Kansas. One was *Syntax, Cognition, and the Innateness Hypothesis*. The other was *A Non-transformational Account of Empty Categories*, delivered to faculty and students in linguistics and related disciplines. While in Kansas, Binkert met with graduate students who are

using his model of language in their doctoral dissertation.

- Donald Morse, English, and Csilla Bertha, visiting scholar, English, presented a paper, *The Literature of Subversion: The Variety of Ways Hungarian Playwrights Subvert Totalitarianism*, at the College English Association convention in Buffalo, N.Y.
- Donald I. Warren, sociology, presented a research paper, *Talk Radio and Political Discontent*, at the Popular Culture Association annual convention in Toronto. He will chair a session of the same organization in 1991 on *Mixing Religion and Politics on Radio: Some Historic Examples*. He also delivered a presentation, *The 'Historical Revisionists' and American Populist Protest*, to the Scholar's Forum of the Ecumenical Institute in Southfield. Now on sabbatical, Warren is working on a book dealing with race tensions in the 1980s.
- Anahid Kulwicki, nursing, presented *Meeting the Needs of Arab-American Child-Bearing and Child-Rearing Families* during the Perinatal Lecture Series sponsored by Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

PUBLICATIONS

- Anahid Kulwicki, nursing, has prepared an Arabic/English educational booklet about AIDS.
- Roberta Schwartz, journalism, wrote a *Traveler's Tales* column for *Innsider* magazine. Her review of the poetry collection, *Imaginary Paintings*, appeared in the *Detroit Free Press*.

CONFERENCES

- Charlotte Stokes, art and art history, will

serve in June on the committee that reads the 1990 Art History Advanced Placement Tests administered by the Educational Testing Service and the College Board.

- Bonnie Abiko, art and art history, attended the Association for Asian Studies Conference in Chicago.

In the News

Recent news coverage about the faculty has included the following items.

- Philip Singer, sociology and anthropology, and behavioral sciences, was interviewed for the Metrovision cable television program *Horizons*. The half-hour interview covered aspects of cross-cultural health-care approaches. He was also featured on a three-part series on WXYZ-TV on traditional medicine. Several clips from Singer's films were shown in the series, which was also shown on other stations in the United States.
- One of his films, *Water Witching (Dowsing) in Middle America*, was reviewed in the March issue of *American Anthropologist*. The 1987 film was shot in Montana. The review noted a "great deal of America is contained in this film" and that "it would be most useful in anthropological teaching as a source of field data..."
- Anahid Kulwicki, nursing, was interviewed on Dearborn cable television about an AIDS project with the Arab community that she and the School of Nursing have coordinated.
- United Press International moved a story about Dick Haskell, engineering, on the national wire. Haskell's computer program to pick

horses was reported by *The Detroit News* science editor and carried in other local papers.

- Engineering students who placed second in the Rube Goldberg competition at Purdue University were featured in the *Detroit Free Press*, *Oakland Press* and *Eccentric* newspapers.
- The Associated Press ran a story on Fred Stransky's Sixty Plus program on its national wire, generating 30 calls to the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute.
- *The Wall Street Journal* ran a feature on the wellness dorm in all editions. Dean David Herman, student life, was interviewed by a San Diego, Calif., radio station, as well as numerous local papers including the *News*, *Eccentric* and *Oakland Press*.
- Abe Liboff, physics, was the subject of a feature in the new joint Sunday newspaper published by the Royal Oak *Daily Tribune* and the *Macomb Daily*.
- Liboff and Norm Tepley, physics, were among those cited in a combined Sunday edition of the *News/Free Press* talking about the need for physics teachers and about the OU research work at Henry Ford Hospital.

Jobs

For information on position openings, call the Employee Relations Department Jobs Hotline at 370-4500.

- Laboratory research technician II, C-9, Department of Chemistry.
- Executive director of President's Club and assistant director of development, AP-18, Oakland University Foundation and Division of Development and Alumni Affairs.
- Business manager, AP-8, Campus Facilities and Operations.
- Director, AP-16, Office of Institutional Research.
- Director, AP-10, Upward Bound.

Funding Opportunities

The Office of Research and Academic Development has details about sources of external funding. Stop by 370 SFH or call 370-3222. Unless noted, proposal due dates are unknown.

- Centers for Disease Control**
Injury control research and centers, October 1 and February 1 for research, May 1 and April 1 next year for centers.
- Department of Defense**
University research initiative, September 13.
- Department of Education**
School, college and university partnerships,

May 25; and special programs staff training, June 29.

- Department of Justice**
Parental abduction investigation, June 1.
- National Science Foundation**
State systemic science education, letters of intent by July 9 and complete proposals by October 15.
- Environmental Protection Agency**
Antimicrobial test methods, May 15.

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- James Llewellyn, senior editor and news director
- Jay Jackson, staff writer
- Rick Smith, photographer

Bits & Pieces

Last Stop Before Summer

The May 18 issue of the *Oakland University News* will be the last of the bi-weekly issues until September. The June, July and August issues will be monthly.

If you have any June announcements to make, please observe a May 24 deadline (a day early because of the Memorial Day holiday). The June issue should be in your mailbox on June 1.

Remaining deadlines are June 29 for the July issue and July 27 for the August issue.

Four Earn Scholarships

Three students in the School of Business Administration have each received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Golden State Minority Foundation, and an occupational health and safety major has won a scholarship from a statewide association.

The awards were presented to Hong Dinh, finance major; Madge Perkins, marketing; and Sandra Rodriguez, accounting. The presentations were made at the Fox Theatre on April 10.

Eligibility includes full-time status, junior standing, a minimum 3.0 GPA, a business administration major and financial need.

Vicki Schaffler, a student in the industrial health and safety program, received the Michigan Safety Conference Memorial Scholarship. She received the award at the 61st annual Michigan Safety Conference in Lansing. The conference is an organization of private, public, educational and government leaders.

Quick, Get an Interpreter

They could be talking about you and you'd never know it. More than 1,500 high school students will demonstrate their foreign language skills in competition May 4.

The students will compete in French, German and Spanish in the 15th annual Foreign Language Fest sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

Contest categories include skits, dances, recitations and musical performances.

Competitions will be from 9 a.m.-noon. French language students will compete in 201 Dodge Hall, German students in Varner Recital Hall and Spanish students in 202 O'Dowd Hall.

Prizes will be awarded at 1 p.m. in each performance room.

It Was Just an Odor

The distinctive odor associated with natural gas that wafted across campus the morning of April 26 was nothing more than just the odor itself.

Consumers Power Co. workers injected the odor at a pumping station near Walton and Joslyn roads. Some of the odor escaped and reached campus. The odor is injected into pipelines to make it possible to detect leaking natural gas, which is odorless. The odor itself posed no threat to anyone's safety, but it did create confusion in various offices about a possible gas-line leak.

Concours Selects Artist

Artist and sculptor Stanley Wanlass will paint the official poster for this year's Concours d'Elegance at Meadow Brook Hall.

The Faces are Familiar

No one can say the coaching staff in athletics doesn't know the university.

Athletic Director Paul Hartman says that five of the teams are coached by four alumni, and in addition, five of the assistant coaches are either alumni or on their way to becoming graduates.

The alumni coaches are Tracy Huth, women's swimming; Kris Jeffrey, men's and women's tennis; Dave DeWulf, men's golf; and Paul Chapoton, men's baseball. The assistant coaches are Jeff Cooper, women's swimming; Mark VanderMey, men's swimming; Morris Lupenec, men's soccer; John Henderson, men's basketball; and Tracey Jones, women's volleyball.

Rising Expectations

Oakland Students Fit the 'Typical' Label When Compared with Their National Counterparts. What Rates High Today May be Opposite What their Parents Valued When They Were in College

Looking for a typical Middle America public university?

Rest easy.

David Beardslee, director of institutional research, says you needn't look beyond the OU campus.

Studies of Oakland's FTIACs (that's first time in any college) students were so similar to national findings that, "We could rent ourselves out as a marker institution in terms of surveying student life goals and opinions," Beardslee says.

The director's reports are based on surveys given to first-time students here and nationally as part of the orientation program. The questionnaires were prepared by the American Council on Education.

Some small variances, like numbers who work, can be traced to OU's strong commuter population, Beardslee says. Of all students, for example, there are approximately 12,000 full- and part-time students. Oakland has space for approximately 1,600 residential students in all classes.

The student goal which currently receives the largest number of choices as "essential" or "very important" by both men and women is "be very well-off financially." This illustrates a huge shift that has taken place since the mid-1960s when social goals and developing a philosophy of life were given much greater importance than self-satisfaction goals.

Beardslee observes that over the years, individual successes have replaced social concerns as goals.

In other goals, being an authority in one's field ranked high, as did obtaining recognition for colleagues, becoming successful in a business of one's own, and marrying and raising a family.

Much smaller percentages of the FTIACs say socially oriented goals are important. These include keeping up with politics, being involved in environmental cleanup or participating in community action programs.

Ranking in the middle ranges in importance are developing a philosophy of life and helping others. Beardslee notes that many more women mark helping others as being important than do men.

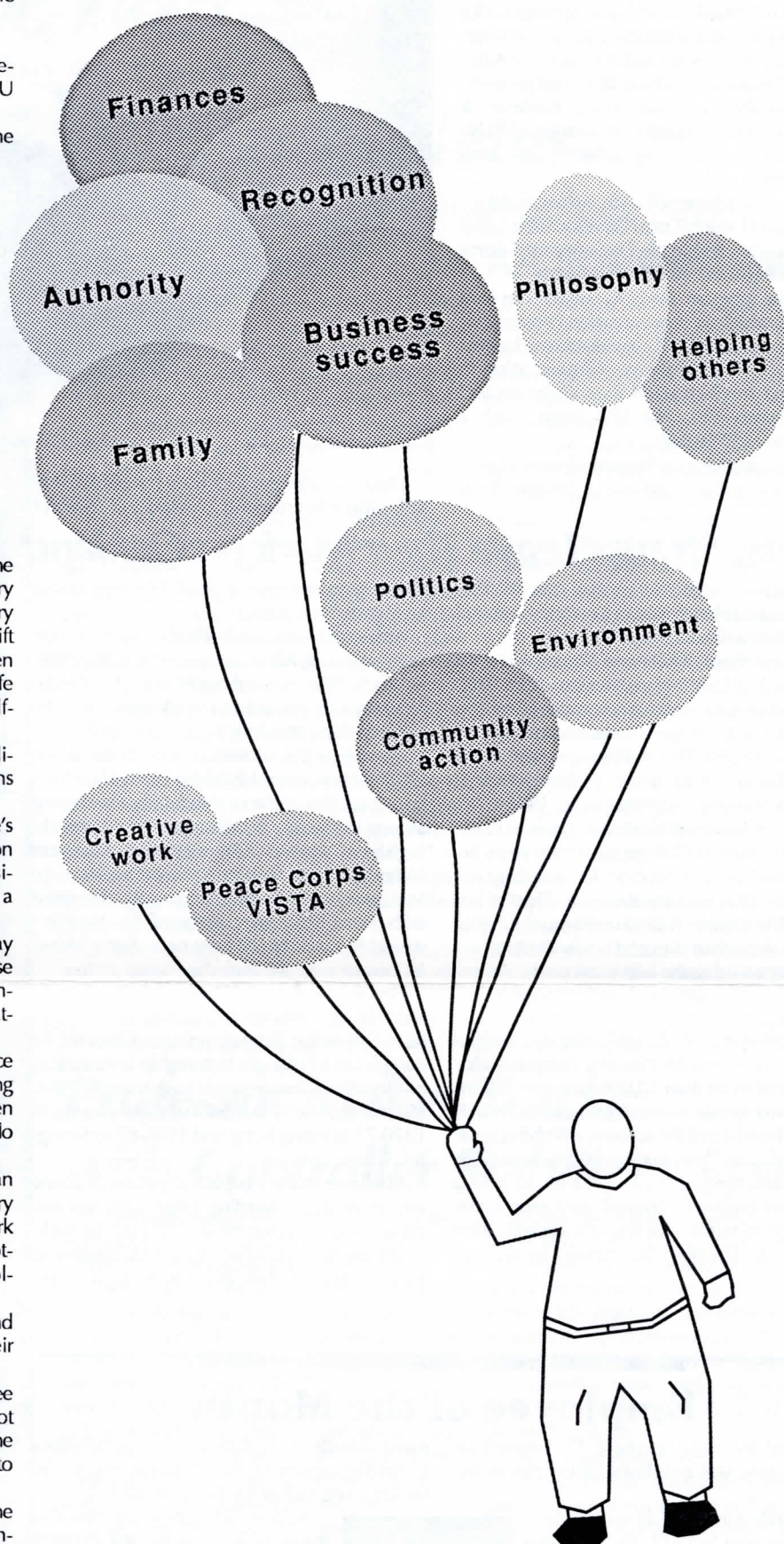
Almost at the bottom of the list, with less than 10 percent marking it as "essential" or "very important," are creative artistic or literary work and involvement in performing arts. At the bottom is participation in the Peace Corps or Volunteers in Service to America.

In opinions on national issues, Oakland FTIACs again show little variance from their national counterparts.

Some examples: around three-fourths agree strongly or somewhat that the government is not doing enough to control pollution, to limit the sale of handguns, to protect the consumer or to provide a national health plan.

Sixty percent of the students or more say the chief benefit of college is that it increases earning power. The same high percentages support drug testing and mandatory tests for AIDS, agree that there is too much concern in the courts for criminals, and agree the government is not doing enough for disarmament.

Beardslee reports that on some of the issues, women are 10 percent stronger for governmental intervention than men, but that most items on which the sexes disagree involve sex. Sixty



percent of the men but only 30 percent of the women agree that "if people like each other, sex is OK, even on short acquaintance," and 93 percent of the women and 74 percent of the men agree that "even if a man believes a woman has led him on, he is not entitled to sex."

Fifty-five percent of the men and 40 percent

of the women agreed that a couple should live together before marriage.

Beardslee concludes that "OU first-time students hold opinions on a variety of issues very close to those of national samples of students at public universities. We could rent ourselves out for surveys about national student concerns and goals."

Alumni Affiliates Award Scholarships to Dozen Students for Fall

Twelve students have been named recipients of 1990-91 scholarships from four alumni affiliates.

Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate Scholarship

Elspeth Galloway, senior management information systems major, and Carolyn Berry, junior accounting major, each received \$1,000. Galloway also received the award this year.

College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate Scholarship

Michael A. Poll, junior history major, and Sara J. Pastoor, senior psychology major, each received \$850. In addition, \$100 book awards were presented to Christy A. Hicks, sophomore history major; Michael W. Wood, junior biology major; and Keith Tocco, senior modern languages major.

Black Alumni Affiliate Student Achievement Award

Stephen Hart, junior political science and history major; Tracie M. Smith, junior nursing major; and Lisa M. Taylor, senior communications and public relations major, each received \$500.

School of Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Affiliate, Thomas A. Yatooma Memorial Scholarship

Susan Andries, junior engineering major, and Tricia Olszewski, sophomore engineering major, each received \$1,000.

Science Fair Coming to Oakland

Encouraging children of all skill levels to be more proficient in science is the goal of the Michigan Discovery Science Fair May 16-18 at Oakland University.

The program will draw over 500 students to campus and is open to "at risk" K-12 students of all ages and ability levels.

Sponsors say the fair encourages special needs students to become actively involved in science. The fair also offers an opportunity to

recognize those students for their accomplishments.

The annual Michigan Discovery Science Fair is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Learning Disabilities Educators, The Michigan Association of Teachers of Emotionally Disturbed Children, the Michigan Council for Exceptional Children, Science Education for Exceptional Children, and the Michigan Science Teachers Association.

Students Put Their Talents to Work to Assist County, Businesses

Students in the School of Business Administration took their talents on the road this past semester and assisted private businesses and the county government.

The 12 students worked on four projects in their management information systems class taught by Thomas Lauer, assistant professor. The point of the projects is to give students a hands-on look at business problems.

Students created a loan-tracking program for the county, created a database to track maintenance records for 400 machines at GKN Automotive, created a database to record property records for the real estate firm of Kushman & Wakefield, and completed an analysis of existing computer scheduling software for Lamb Technicon.

The loan-tracking software was created for the Oakland County Local Development Company, a service within the Department of Community and Economic Development.

With the program, the LDC will track its loan portfolio, which is now recorded conventionally on paper. The LDC provides loans backed by the U.S. Small Business Administration to small- and medium-sized manufacturing and service companies. The SBA loans reach a maximum of \$750,000.

Students working on the project were Daniel Ducat, Janice Steir and Ivana Enright. They

spent the winter semester writing and perfecting their loan database.

Mary Langhausen, loan officer, commented,

"As far as the students and their work, we just could not be happier. It is something that will enable us to be much more efficient and hope-

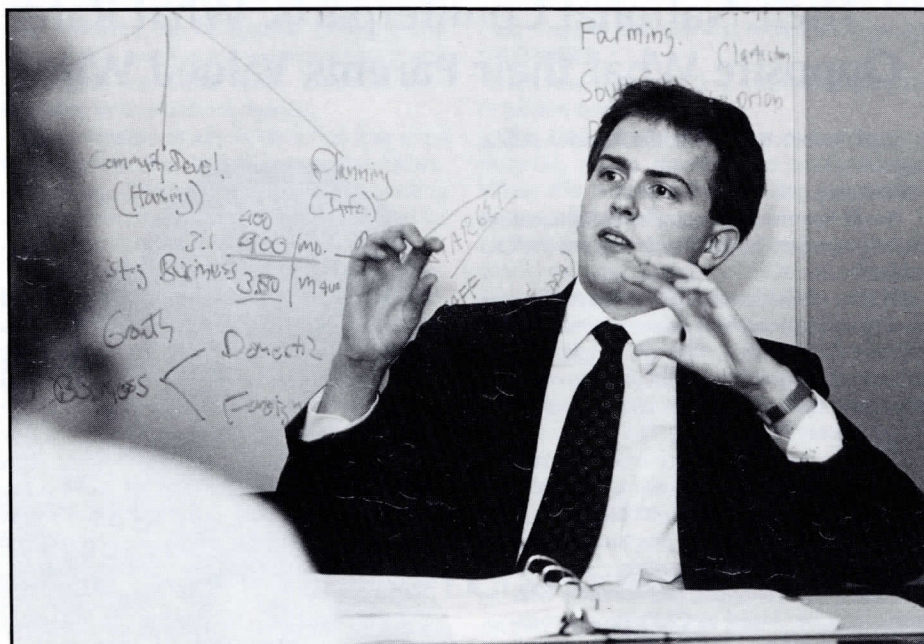
fully, do more deals, because we aren't spending our time doing paperwork. That will certainly lighten that load. That has enhanced our program and our ability to function."

The LDC has 52 loans in its portfolio, and another 12-15 are in the application stages. A major benefit for the LDC is that this software program was tailored specifically for the loan program it administers.

"The hard part for us now and the time-consuming part is getting our portfolio into the computer," says Langhausen. "Once that is done, it'll be a management matter of keeping the files up to date. The program will be able to generate additional reports as we see our needs expand. The program is ever-changing in and of itself."

Langhausen says her department will be the only one in the county government to use the program, but other counties have similar programs. "There's a potential that we could possibly interest others in using our software," she says.

Lauer has taught the class for five years. "It's been a very positive experience for the students," he says. Then there's also the benefit that will come once they graduate. "When they go in for a job interview, they can take their project along."▼



Daniel Ducat explains how the database program that he and two other School of Business Administration students created will benefit Oakland County.

Akers, Strauss Leave Their Mark on Oakland

The retirement of Charles Akers and W. Patrick Strauss has left a void in the Department of History that will be hard to fill.

Between them, Akers and Strauss have 48 years worth of teaching experience at Oakland. Hundreds of students have come away from the university with a greater understanding of American history. The professors retired at the end of the winter semester, ending careers at Oakland that began together in fall 1966.

Akers, an Indianapolis native, came to Oakland from Geneva College. Over the years he has established a reputation for scholarly research on 18th century America. One of his books, *The Divine Politician: Samuel Cooper and the American Revolution in Boston*, received an award as the best book on the American Revolution from the American Revolution Roundtable.

A biography of Abigail Adams, *Abigail Adams: An American Woman*, compiled after a review of more than 10,000 documents from the Adams family manuscripts, earned much praise. The editor of the series in which the book appeared said "few studies of any American woman are its equal."

"I have enjoyed Oakland very much. We have a good number of first-rate students who have made teaching fascinating, as well as

challenging. It's been a good 24 years; I have no regrets," Akers says.

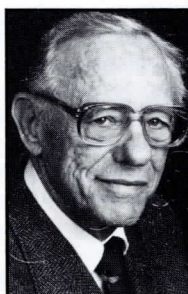
Although he has established a fine reputation as a researcher, Akers enjoys the "teacher" label as much. "I've never thought of myself fundamentally as a researcher, but a teacher who did a little writing and fairly regular research."

As one of the professors who came when Oakland was just establishing itself, Akers says he regrets that some of that family-like feeling among the faculty has disappeared. He speaks highly of former administrators Durward (Woody) Varner, Donald O'Dowd and George Matthews. "Although I frequently disagreed with them, they were three of the people I would like to take with me on a desert island. It's been a great 24 years," he says.

Strauss also came to Oakland in 1966. From 1961-66, he was on the faculty at Michigan State University. Before coming to Oakland, he completed a Fulbright lectureship in American history at the University of Hong Kong in 1964-65. He received two more Fulbright awards, in 1970-71 to Hong Kong and 1986-87 to Shanghai, China.

"The one in the People's Republic of China was especially rewarding. I had fairly few students and I got to see most of China," he adds.

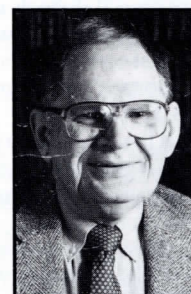
Strauss has published numerous books and articles, and he has been a frequent guest



Strauss

speaker in the community. His lectures and slides about China and Michigan history have been well-received. He also taught American studies.

"The most enjoyable part of Oakland was my students and my colleagues. I had some very, very fine colleagues in the history department. I enjoyed working with Oakland students and got along quite well with them. I enjoyed the university, I thought both the administration and the faculty of the university were excellent, and they're all a joy to work with," Strauss says.▼



Akers

Haskill Retires After 20 Years

A member of the support staff who has helped keep the Office of Student Life moving along retired as of April 30.

Maxine Haskill, executive secretary, had been with the university since May 1970. Her entire career at Oakland was with either student affairs or student life.

As often seems to happen, what started out as a job simply to add some extra income for the family turned into a career. "I thought I would work a few years to ease the expense of raising a family and whatnot. I never dreamed I would be here this long," Haskill says.

University life appealed to Haskill, however, and she found it difficult to think about leaving. She adds she especially enjoyed "the variety of people, working with students and the relaxed atmosphere — you still feel that you're serving people and doing some good."

As a retiree, Haskill plans to keep nearly as busy as she was working full time. She'll take up golf in earnest, travel to the West Coast and Hawaii and spend more time with her children and grandchildren. She also wants to do some volunteer work.▼

National Educators Hear Praise of Multicultural Agreement

Oakland University's multicultural efforts earned praise from Hispanic role-model Henry Cisneros at an April 23-24 national conference at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Cisneros, a recent speaker at Oakland, cited OU for its recent accord with black and Hispanic students over multicultural concerns. The former mayor praised the OU process. Said Cisneros, "Black and Hispanic students recently began a dialogue, tremendously democratic, that is to say, grass-roots inspired, that resulted in the signing of an accord between the university and the students..."

Cisneros told an audience of presidents and chief academic officers to face the need to prepare students for life in a pluralistic society.

He cited Oakland and Rutgers as examples of institutions that do interesting things in preparing their students to enter a vastly different world from the one they might be facing on campus, particularly if they are in institutions that are predominantly white.

The forum was intended for officials from so-called metropolitan universities, or institutions that were located in suburban areas but very near diverse metropolitan populations.

The keynote speaker, repeating a theme he cited during his Oakland lecture, said the world students are going to enter is one that requires that they "understand how other people look, think and act, because they will never escape their peers. If they are going to be in business, that different population is going to be their customers, their employees. If they are going to be educators, that different population is going to be the parents of the children that they teach."

Attending the meeting from Oakland were Keith Kleckner, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost; Sheldon Appleton, associate provost for undergraduate study; and Deans John K. Urice (arts and sciences), Gerald Pine (human and educational services).▼

Employee of the Month

Richard Tomczak, sergeant, Department of Public Safety, was employee of the month for April.

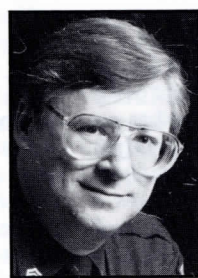
Tomczak was hired as an officer in the department in 1972. He became a sergeant in May 1978 and has various letters of commendation on file.

In selecting Tomczak, the review committee relied on such nominating statements as:

• "Dick Tomczak has persistently demonstrated a sense of pride and professionalism in his role as a public safety officer that not only serves him well, but also Oakland University."

• "Sgt. Tomczak is always ready to assist in any way he can, the faculty, students and staff members of Oakland University. Dick is always available to provide training during the new employee orientation program on the

many aspects of the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Public Safety, and to the students and staff of the housing office."



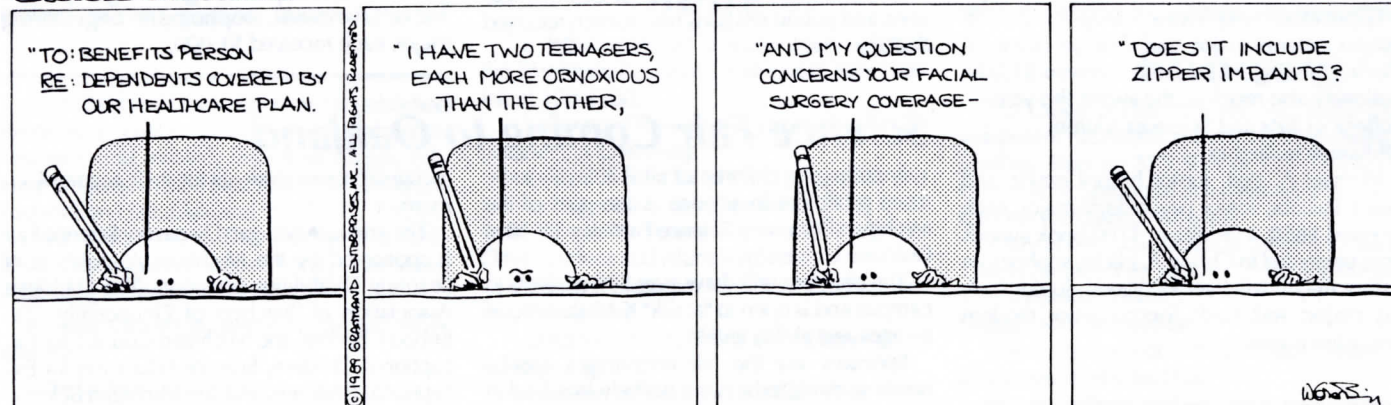
Tomczak

• "Mr. Tomczak continually strives to improve himself in every way possible. He is always a willing volunteer to receive additional training in his field, and on his own, he has continued his education by pursuing his master's degree in public administration at Oakland University."

• "Dick is viewed as more than a 'cop.' He is a friend, colleague and a strong advocate of students, as well as an ambassador for Oakland University."

Employee Recognition Award nomination forms are available in all departments, CIPO and ERD.

GRANTLAND®



Events

CULTURAL

Until May 20 — Play, *Dracula*, at Meadow Brook Theatre. Admission. Call 370-3300.

May 6 — Concert, Lafayette String Quarter, 8 p.m. (note time change from 3 p.m.), Varner Recital Hall. Admission. Call 370-3013.

May 11-13 and 18-20 — Play, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, various times, Varner Studio Theatre. Admission. Call 370-3013.

May 14 — Concerts-for-Youth Series with Los Flamencos Dance Theatre, 10 a.m., Varner Recital Hall. Admission. Call 370-3013.

May 20 — Pianist David Syme in concert, 3 p.m., Varner Recital Hall. Admission. Call 370-3013.

ETCETERA

May 15 — Academic Edge Toastmasters, noon-1:30 p.m., Oakland Center Abstemion.

June 4-5 — Gehringer Meadow Brook Golf Classic, all day, Katke-Cousins Golf Course. Admission. Call 370-3140.

ATHLETICS

May 5 — Baseball with Wayne State University, 1 p.m., Pioneer Field.

May 8 — Baseball with Calvin College, 2 p.m., Pioneer Field.