

Oakland University

Winter 1997

MAGAZINE

Wearing New Hats!

OU's Meadow Brook

**Theatre turns 30 this year
with changes in the cast
and reason for optimism**

Also in this issue

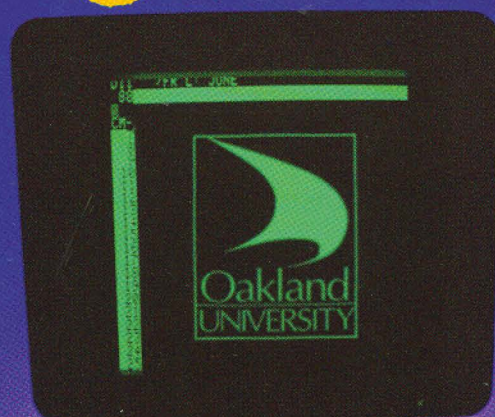
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Oakland University is an equal opportunity and
affirmative action institution.

On the cover: Diana Van Fossen
and Spencer Beckwith in MBT's
production of *Three Musketeers*.



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AmeriCorps students work to cut Pontiac youth violence

Forty Oakland University students pledged "to make Pontiac children safer, smarter and healthier" in an OU program providing opportunities such as lunch and tutoring that may not have been available otherwise.

In exchange for a \$2,363 tuition award and a \$4,206 stipend, each OU student will work 900 hours in one year.

The partnership between the university and the Pontiac community gives the students valuable work experience while they work to reduce youth violence. With their help, children attend day camp, go on field trips, eat lunch, get tutored and learn how to resolve conflicts peacefully.

AmeriCorps students range in age from 18-55 and major in many fields, but most are studying education and psychology.

OU helps Compuware stay competitive

With a grant from the Michigan Jobs Commission, Oakland University will upgrade the skills of 64 computer programming professionals at Compuware Corporation.

Compuware, a worldwide provider of software products and professional services, has representatives who serve on OU's President's Technology Advisory Board, another collaborative relationship between the institutions.

Oakland will use the \$91,000 Michigan Jobs Commission grant to train professionals at Compuware's Farmington Hills, Michigan, office. Training is to be completed by spring 1997.

The competitive Michigan Jobs Commission grant comes from Michigan's \$35-million Economic Development Job Training program. The commission works with communities and businesses to retain and expand job opportunities and prepare workers for career advancement.

SECS professors win optical grant

Five professors from Oakland University's School of Engineering and Computer Science on October 1 won a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop an optical device.

The \$214,000 grant from NSF, a federal agency that supports research in American universities, is for the development of a high-speed shearographic instrument. The device can sense stress patterns in materials and use the patterns to measure time varying deformations, says Michael Polis, dean, SECS.

The award recipients are Michael Hung, Joseph Hovanesian, Michael Latcha, Edward Y.L. Gu and Sarma Vishnubhotla.

Hail Meadow Brook

The Historical Society of Michigan recognized Meadow Brook Hall for its preservation of the 100-room mansion.

The hall was among 18 which received Awards of Merit for contributions to Michigan history.

OU establishes Cumulative Trauma Research Institute

Oakland University has established a Cumulative Trauma Research Institute to generate knowledge and to improve treatment and reduce incidence of cumulative repetitive trauma disorders — considered among the fastest growing job-related health problems in the country.

Under the direction of Ronald Olson, dean, School of Health Sciences, the institute will initially focus on carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS), a disease characterized by pain and numbness in the wrist and hand and often accompanied by a weakness in grip strength.

CTS alone costs American businesses billions of dollars and it is estimated that one in 10 workers will develop CTS, Olson said.

OU's new institute will establish a national database on the causation, diagnosis and treatment of CTS, and focus on non-invasive imaging techniques, the effectiveness of physical therapy treatment for CTS, and refining a diagnostic device that may not only detect CTS but also one's susceptibility to the syndrome.

The institute will also conduct research in areas addressing causal mechanisms, laser treatment technology, biomechanics and physical and computer simulation of workstation design.

OU plans London-Paris tour

Oakland University is organizing a tour of London and Paris, with an emphasis on their art, architecture and cultural heritage.

The nine-night trip May 5-14 is open to OU students, employees, alumni and their guests. The cost is \$1,445 per person and covers hotel, breakfast and transportation, including Channel fee.

At least 20 people are needed, otherwise seats will be offered to people from other colleges and universities.

The tour guide is Lisa Ngote, OU art and art history lecturer and coordinator of visual services.

For more information, call (800) 228-0707 or (810) 370-2020.

Special rooms available at Kresge Library

Four rooms at the Kresge Library have been converted to help Oakland University students with learning

disabilities and/or visual impairments.

The first room contains closed-circuit TV systems that magnify all text and display full-color images such as textbook maps, illustrations or photos for people with low vision. The second features full-screen magnification and allows students to individualize programs. The third converts text to synthesized speech and allows the user to control the reading speed and choose from six different voice



selections. The fourth includes a computer with voice synthesizers that read all text and commands paired with a Braille printer.

Eric Condit, assistant to the dean, Library, (above) demonstrates the Tele Sensory Chroma SVGA, which makes words larger.

College awards scholarships

Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences awarded two students \$1,500 scholarships to help them in their studies of Slavic life, culture, language or history.

CAS awarded Nancy Weatherhead the Frederick G. Kaviuk Scholarship and Maryann Schaller the Fred and Mary Kirachuk Scholarship.

The scholarships are funded through an endowment established by the estate of Annie Kaviuk to commemorate the memory of her parents and her son, a former OU student.

Executive Spotlight airs on cable TV

Oakland University's School of Business Administration Dean John Gardner hosts a new cable television show, *Executive Spotlight*, on Channel 74 in Oakland County.

Michael Grieves MBA '80, president and CEO, Data Systems Network Corporation, was the show's first guest on October 24.

1997 MICHIGAN

HEALTH & FITNESS EXPO



OU to co-sponsor health expo

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute, *The Oakland Press* and WJR Radio will host the 1997 Michigan Health and Fitness Expo April 11-13.

The event, which will take place in OU's Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion, will feature a weekend of free lectures by health and fitness professionals and a 5K fun run. The expo is designed to offer consumers help in making healthier choices regarding their eating, exercise and lifestyle habits.

School of Nursing selects Dean's Circle

Justine J. Speer, dean, School of Nursing, recognizes the value of teamwork and leadership — the backbone of the newly formed Dean's Circle, a group of top nursing students who will represent the school both on and off campus. Students honored to serve in the Dean's Circle will be awarded a Geese-in-flight pin to symbolize nature's essential lessons about teamwork.

"There is 71 percent more flying range in the V-formation than in flying alone because as each goose flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the others," Speer said. "Scientists also observe that geese in V-formation rotate leaders to conserve the energy of the flock and those flying in the rear honk to encourage those up front."

Group activities include a historical tour of Meadow Brook Hall, professional image building workshops, phonathons and recruitment career fairs.

Oakland Fulbrighters reflect on their 'golden' experiences

The Fulbright Program — the United States' prestigious flagship international educational exchange program — is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

In honor of the milestone, some of the 40 Oakland University Fulbright professors reflected on their unique, global experiences:

- "It opened a lot of doors." — Anahid Kulwicki, associate professor, Nursing, who returned in June after a six-month stay in Amman, Jordan.
- "It gave me insight into other places where Americans sometimes have

difficulty understanding ethnic conflicts." —

Education Professor Sharon Muir, who traveled to Cyprus in 1992-93.

- "For me, the world is a far better place in which to live." — Economics Professor Kevin Murphy, who spent the 1987-88 academic year at University College, Cork, Ireland.
- "The most important experience was the immersion in a culture where the U.S. is not the center." — Economics Associate Professor Sherman Folland who spent 1993-94 in Freiburg, Germany.



Celebrating their experiences as Fulbright scholars are (from left) Kevin Murphy, Anahid Kulwicki, Sharon Muir and Sherman Folland.

Oakland increases graduate stipends

Oakland University has raised the stipends awarded for graduate student assistantships. The change went into effect this fall, and the increases are expected to offer a significant improvement to the programs.

"Graduate assistantships are a tremendous resource both for the university and the students," says Claire Rammel, assistant dean, Graduate Study. "Degree

candidates give back to the university, in terms of research, publishing, recognition and teaching. Likewise, the credentials which the degree candidate establishes while performing an assistantship become a competitive asset for the candidate, who will enter the marketplace with a Ph.D. plus experience."

OU awards about 150 students graduate assistantships each year, with about 40 percent involving doctoral students.

OU offers '2-plus-2' articulation agreement

Oakland University has formalized a new academic relationship with Oakland Community College (OCC) that allows students who earn an Associate of Applied Science Degree in criminal justice at OCC's Auburn Hills campus to transfer to OU and earn the BA. It is called two-plus-two because the agreement requires 62 credits of work at OCC and 62 credits at OU.

OU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences offers the program.

Palace signs 10-year Meadow Brook deal

Palace Sports and Entertainment, Inc. (PSE) will pay at least \$3.2 million to operate and renovate OU's world-renowned Meadow Brook Music Festival over the next 10 years.

A lease agreement, approved by the OU Board of Trustees December 12, also requires the company to build a new electronic marquee on campus to promote the festival and other OU events.

Under the agreement, PSE will pay \$450,000 up front, and then \$105,000 a year through 2006, with the option to extend an adjusted lease agreement for five years.

Institute to award fellowships

The Eye Research Institute will award up to four competitive undergraduate research fellowships of \$2,500 each beginning in summer 1997. This is the first time the institute has made such an award.

Research fellows will be able to spend 12 weeks in the summer conducting independent research projects under the guidance of ERI faculty.



BUILDING THE DREAM

OU President Gary D. Russi and Athletic Director Jack Mehl get ready to break ground in the Bubble December 4 for OU's new Recreation and Athletic Center.

Doctoral graduate may be first in state

Carlson A. Jackson MA '92, Ph.D. '96 is believed to be the first black male in Michigan to earn a doctorate in reading and language arts.

For Jackson, who received his degree on September 8, this is just one more accomplishment in a career marked by achievement. In nearly 20 years in education, he has taught in a number of school districts and at several area colleges and universities. In 1988, he was named one of the first recipients of OU's Martin Luther King Jr./Cesar Chavez/Rosa Parks Doctoral Fellowship.

OU provides Cost of Living Index for Oakland County

Oakland University's Economics Department will provide the Oakland County data for a national Cost of Living Index. The effort will provide paid research opportunities for OU students while allowing them practical experience outside the classroom.

Associate Professor Ronald L. Tracy and Department Chair and Professor Kevin Murphy say the index measures the relative prices for consumer goods and

services in several categories: groceries, housing, utilities, transportation, health care and miscellaneous.

Growing by degree

Oakland University's School of Business Administration is adding a new Master of Accounting degree in fall 1997 and eight new post-master certificate programs targeted at MBAs who want additional specialization.

Programs include accounting, business economics, finance, marketing, human resources management, management information systems, international business and production and operations management.

Oakland heads distance learning educational network

Oakland University is the headquarters for a new North American distance learning educational network that is bringing experts from around the world into the college classroom.

Called the Mercury Project, named after the Roman messenger to the gods, the network is a consortium of universities in the United States, Canada and Mexico that is opening

the doors of communication and education through French, German, Spanish and Russian college language departments. The project is centered around video teleconferencing but uses other electronic media such as e-mail and the World Wide Web.

Food court opens with fast food, presentation cooking

Oakland University's food court is open, featuring Burger King, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, a deli sub shop and a presentation cooking area called Center Stage. Also on the menu: rotisserie chicken, turkey and ham.

The 537-seat court in the Oakland Center cost \$1.3 million, and has a unique evening take-out window with medium pizzas to go. The former JWs 200-seat cafe and Oakland Room will become meeting space.

Oakland Center Director Richard Fekel said the renovation effort will make the facility a "living room" for the campus.

Governor names new OU board members

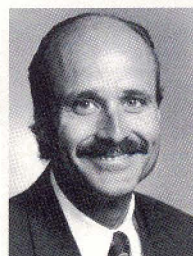
Governor John M. Engler named Henry Baskin, Louis Grech-Cumbo and Dennis Pawley SEHS '82 to the Oakland University Board of Trustees.

Their terms began August 14.

Baskin is of counsel to Clark Hill, PLC, Birmingham, Michigan.

Grech-Cumbo is director, Operations, Powers Distributing, Sylvan Lake, Michigan.

Pawley is executive vice president, Manufacturing, Chrysler Corporation, Auburn Hills, Michigan.



Louis Grech-Cumbo



Henry Baskin



Dennis Pawley

Book Notes

By Vivian DeGain

*Reviews of published works from the
Oakland University community.*

The Customer is Always Right

Armen J. Kabodan SBA '83, McGraw-Hill, \$14.95, 1995, (800) CEO-READ

Armen Kabodan SBA '83 credits two people for the inspiration of his provocative collection of customer service wisdom: Lou Ross, former vice chairman and CEO, Ford Motor Company and current OU Foundation director, and Zorob Kabodan, his father.

Ross said: "Customer satisfaction created Ford." The senior Kabodan wrote to his son: "The road to real customer satisfaction begins with sincerity and integrity, followed by hard work and dedication for the long haul."

Kabodan, a consulting client representative with IBM Corporation, has received three Golden Circle Awards for outstanding achievement in sales and customer service in support of the Ford Motor Account.

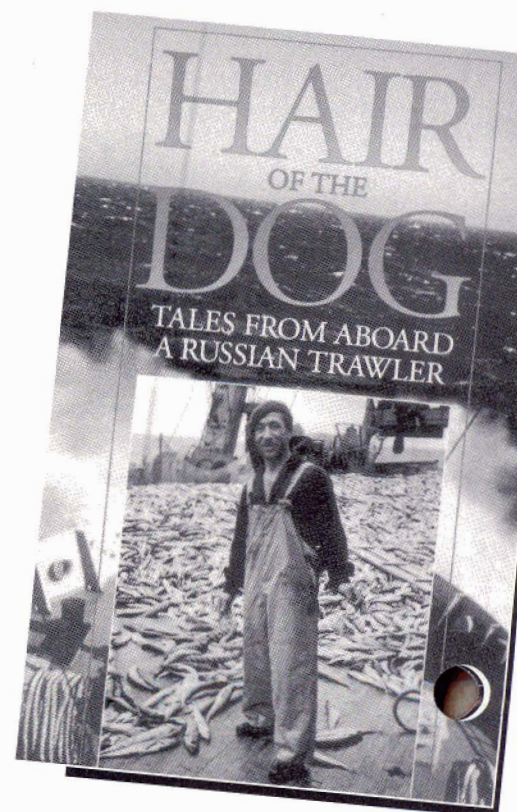
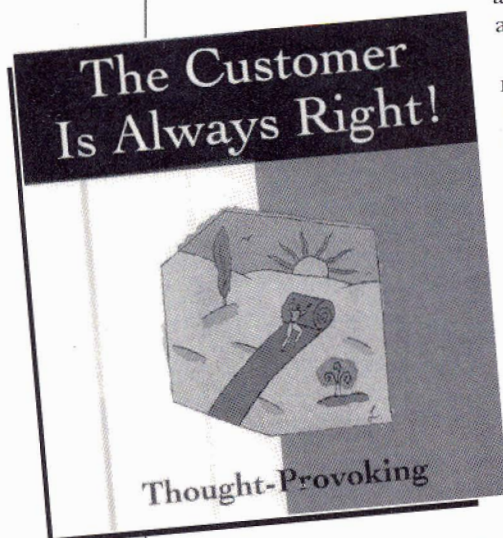
To research his book, Kabodan wrote 1,000 letters to company presidents and CEOs across the country. He asked, "What, in your words, is customer satisfaction?"

The 153 one-liners compiled in *The Customer is Always Right* relate the importance of customer service in the global marketplace.

A sampling of responses:

- "You can never be good enough at customer satisfaction." — Robert E. Allen, chairman and CEO, AT&T
- "Everything begins with the customer." — Louis V. Gerstner, chairman and CEO, IBM Corporation
- "There is never a traffic jam on that extra mile." — Mary Kay Ash, chairman emeritus, Mary Kay Cosmetics Inc.

Kabodan resides with his family in West Bloomfield.



Hair of the Dog, Tales from Aboard a Russian Trawler

Barbara A. Oakley MS '95, Washington State University Press, 1996, \$19.95, (800) 354-7360

Twenty years ago, Barbara Oakley MS '95 tested the Russian-American waters and found them buoyant and animated.

Currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Systems Engineering at OU, Oakley retells an adventure on the high seas that transcends cultural and social expectations. She discovered two necessities that bridged her relationships with Russian shipmates: copies of the coveted Sears Catalog and the ability to drink with the best of them, thus the title.

In *Hair of the Dog*, Oakley writes, "The relationship between Americans and Russians has tended toward volatility even at best, and fishermen everywhere are among the most independent, obstinate and hard-nosed of people."

Jerry Ostermiller, director, Columbia River Maritime Museum, described the book "as an engaging, instructive, contemporary sea story about ships, politics and personalities. It is about the culture of off-shore fishing, about real people in a surreal world."

Oakley, who graduated summa cum laude at OU, resides in Utica, Michigan. She has served as president of FireFly Enterprises Inc., an independent prototyper of electronic games and toys; product design engineer, Ford Motor Company; radio operator, South Pole Station, Antarctica; platoon leader, 50-man cable and field communications unit, Regular Army Signal Corps; and linguist and buck private, U.S. Army Security Agency.

The Warden Wore Pink

Tekla Dennison Miller MA '76, Biddle Publishing Company, Maine, 1996, \$11.95, (203) 833-5016

When the *Detroit Free Press* reporter arrived a day earlier than expected a few years back to interview the first warden to manage two Michigan prisons, the reporter asked a well-dressed woman in the office to please get him some coffee. When she brought the coffee, the photographer politely asked her to sit in the warden's chair for a "light" measurement.

"When the team had finished their set-up ritual, the reporter looked at me and asked, 'When's the warden coming in?' 'I believe she's already here,'" Tekla Dennison Miller MA '76 said. "I am Warden Miller. Please take a seat." Unprepared for the

interview, she'd been caught in her pink suit that morning.

Miller earned her degree while serving as the first female probation officer for the Oakland County Circuit Court. Continuing in a series of groundbreaking roles, Miller served as the first female:

- Supervisor for the first prison camp for women in Michigan from 1980-83
- Deputy warden of Huron Valley Women's Facility from 1983-85
- Warden of Huron Valley Women's Facility from 1985-90
- Warden of Huron Valley Men's Facility from 1990-91

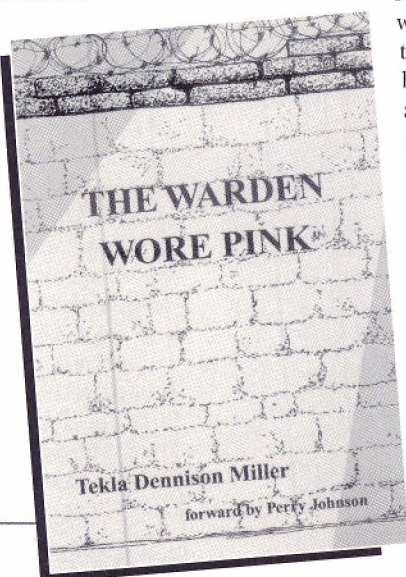
Describing herself as committed to women's rights and human rights for minority staff and prisoners, Miller trained for the sensitivity of the job the hard way.

Her father died when she was 9 years old and her mother, who read a book every day despite an eighth-grade education, committed suicide when Miller was 13. In a voice of detachment, yet witness, Miller writes, "I became a ward of my sister who was 23 with two small children, married to a husband who beat her, and who let his pals enter my bedroom whenever they wanted."

Her sister eventually found the courage to flee and protect her boys and the teen-aged girl. Miller found self-reliance and the courage to fight for success. Her writing blends down-to-earth

recounts of "life inside" with the tension of being the authority, challenged by the prisoners, the administration and the morale of her staff.

Since retirement, Miller serves with the University of Chicago National Opinion Research Center, and as a corrections consultant for Tekla Miller & Associates. She resides in Colorado.



Season of High Adventure, Edgar Snow in China

S. Bernard Thomas, University of California Press, 1996, \$34.95, available at Border's and Barnes and Noble

S. Bernard Thomas, Oakland University professor emeritus of History and China scholar, perused 40 years of Edgar Snow's diaries to profile the author in *Season of High Adventure*.

"In 1928, Snow (1905-1972) set out to see the world and make his mark as a travel-adventure writer. His stopover in Shanghai began a 13-year tour in China, during which he became a journalist and developed close friendships with China's emerging revolutionary leaders. Snow's 1938 classic, *Red Star Over China*, strongly influenced American views of the Chinese Communists and is still in print."

Thomas's biography of Snow, "emphasizes the journalist's experience and shows how he became involved in events along with reporting them, as well as his hopes and fears, his moods and motivations. Thomas skillfully links this material with Snow's public writings and deeds. In recreating the milieu in which Snow worked in China, Thomas provides a clearer understanding of both the man and his times," writes one reader.

Thomas escorted three student tours to China during the 1980s. He served in the Pacific in World War II and studied Chinese language and culture in Peking in 1947-48. He specialized in the history of the Chinese revolution and did research in East Asia as a Fulbright scholar. Thomas is the author of numerous articles and books, including *Government and Administration in Communist China* (1953) and *Labor and the Chinese Revolution* (1983).

He resides in Troy, Michigan.

Vivian DeGain is an Oakland University Magazine staff writer.

Wearing New Hats

By Gary Graff

A 30th anniversary is usually a time for celebration, reflection, remembering past glories. But in the administrative offices adjacent to the 608-seat Oakland University Meadow Brook Theatre — the largest professional regional company in Michigan and one of the largest in the country — all eyes are focused on the future, on what MBT can be, rather than what it is.

That's understandable.

Times have been better.

Prejudiced fan mail following controversial productions, administrative complacency and misperceptions about donor opportunities have saddled the theatre's growth in recent years. Geoffrey Sherman, MBT's new artistic director, puts it succinctly: "There's a lot that needs to be done here." But that should not imply that MBT is on the precipice of ruin. Rather, Sherman and his associates — many of them new to their jobs and some in new jobs altogether — see this as the opportunity to take the theatre to the next level, to make it one of, if not the leading regional theatre in the country.

There are plenty of signs of health. MBT annually plays to about 76 percent of its capacity, higher than the national average of 70 percent. And though it's less than the 14,000 subscribers the theatre enjoyed during the mid-'80s, MBT principals are certainly happy with 9,500 season ticket holders for this year's seven-play series.

They just want more — subscribers, money, artistic achievements.

"The time is ripe for new thinking," says Melodee DuBois, MBT's first development director, added in September.

New thinking indeed. Phillip Locker's associate director position is new, too. MBT Managing Director Gregg Bloomfield, who's been with MBT and

OU's Meadow Brook Music Festival organization since 1985, says, "There's an energy level and willingness to try new things. More than anything, it's a willingness to step back and re-examine what you do and why you do it."

Sherman, in fact, is steering the theatre's offerings in a more provocative direction — including some plays written by African Americans and others dealing with delicate issues such as homosexuality.

At MBT, the goals are simple: Put more people in the seats; increase donations; raise awareness; and produce the highest quality theatre.

"We want people to have more fun when they come here," Sherman says.

"Within five years, we will have some brilliance onstage. We have had flashes of it." In other words, welcome to the future.

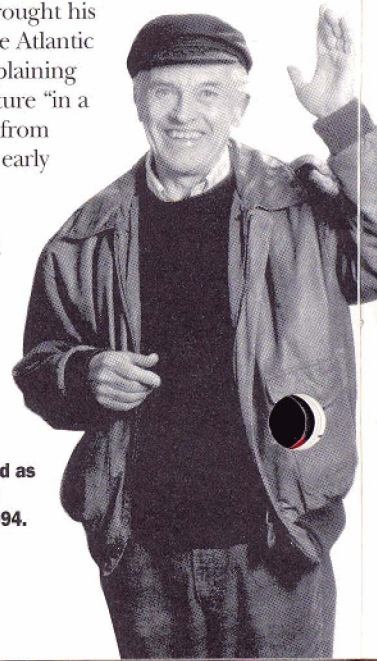
A QUICK LOOK AT THE PAST

The idea for MBT was hatched in 1965, championed by the then-young OU administration. OU officials wooed John Fernald — an American expatriate in Britain — to be its first artistic director, and he brought his company across the Atlantic to Rochester, complaining about creating culture "in a cornfield 25 miles from anywhere." MBT's early days were rough. Budgets were constantly strained and tested. Staff did double and triple duty. Actors were housed in trailers and in Meadow Brook

Terence Kilburn served as MBT's second artistic director from 1970-1994.



Geoffrey Sherman, MBT's new artistic director, says his artistic policy "is simple: produce plays written within the last five or six years that are particularly relevant to the latter half of the 20th century."



Fighting prejudice, complacency and misperceptions, OU's Meadow Brook

Hall. An extreme deficit — \$700,000 in 1970 — led to severe budget cuts and Fernald's resignation.

But under Terence Kilburn, who helmed MBT from 1970-'94, the theatre grew and prospered. Locker, who's acted every season at MBT since 1981, remembers "a time in the mid-'80s where



John Fernald was MBT's first artistic director.

our subscriptions were in the 90-percent range, so every performance, we were guaranteed a full house."

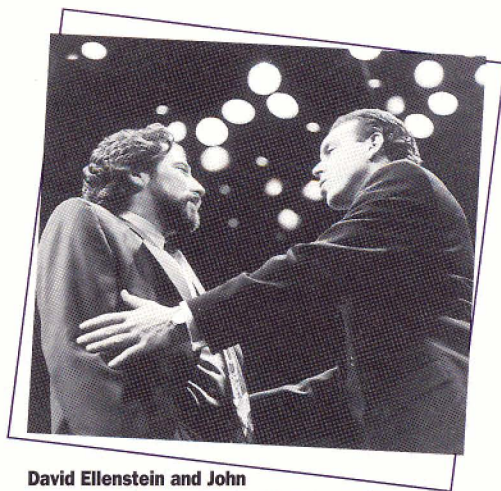
But success sometimes breeds complacency. "We sort of fell into some bad habits for a while; we felt that we could coast," Locker acknowledges. "There was no outreach. No one seemed to be putting together an audience for the future." Falling attendance and more budget cuts during the late '80s shook MBT from its reverie. Clearly, it was time for something new.

miles farther away from where I came from, originally."

Through friends — including actors Wil Love, Carl Schurr and Robert Spencer — Sherman knew of MBT and made inquiries when he heard Kilburn was leaving. He took the job in 1995 with a mission. "Live theatre is a unique experience, and once you've done it a few times you're hooked," explains Sherman, 47. He lives in Auburn Hills, Michigan, with his third wife Diana, a former Royal Shakespeare Company actress who teaches in OU's Music, Theatre and Dance Department, and their 11-year-old daughter Alice. "People think going to see mega-musicals in large downtown spaces is theatre. I would not say that. The uniqueness of theatre is the moment of human communication that takes place between two individuals."

Sherman wasted no time in establishing his creative daring at MBT. Ultimately, Sherman says, his artistic policy is "simple: produce plays written within the last five or six years that are particularly relevant to the latter half of the 20th century."

Last year, Sherman staged *The Piano Lesson* by August Wilson, MBT's first production of an African-American playwright. This season includes the sober *I Am a Man* by OyamO. It also features comic but poignant *Jest a Second!*, James Sherman's sequel to the season-opening *Beau Jest*, in which the protagonist becomes involved in a homosexual relationship. "These plays are important to do," Sherman explains. "It's important we look outside ourselves. But I did not



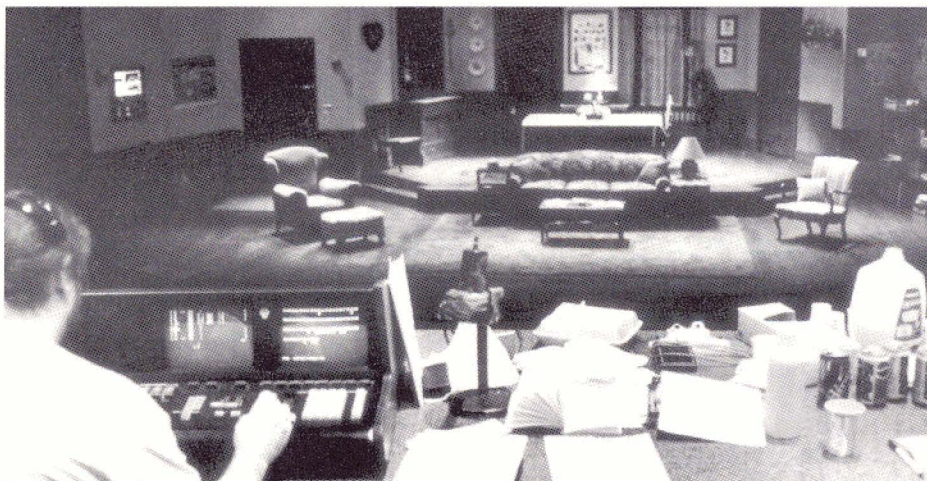
David Ellenstein and John Michael Manfredi performed in this year's comedy *Jest a Second!* The play, which dealt with a man telling his parents that he's gay, raised eyebrows and attendance at the theatre.

Theatre turns 30 this year with changes in the cast and reason for optimism

WASTING NO TIME

Enter Geoffrey Sherman, a Briton who has seen his share of North America. He first crossed the ocean to work about 17 years ago, to direct a couple of plays at an arts camp north of Toronto. He met his first wife there and decided to move to New York to be with her. He worked in Manhattan and at regional theatres in Baltimore, Buffalo, Seattle and Milwaukee. Sherman did some TV directing, including the soap opera *Another World* and the cable show *Woman's Day U.S.A.* Six years ago, Sherman decided to look for a more suitable climate. He found it 3,000 miles away, at the Portland Repertory Theater. He had great success there, opening a second house to develop new plays. "It's God's country, it really is, an amazing place to live," Sherman notes. "But it is 3,000

anticipate racism and fairly major homophobia from this community. Too often across the country, theatres become factory lines for producing plays." To that end, Sherman doesn't anticipate becoming any less provocative over time. His greatest regret about the letters he received is that they weren't signed. "I'm trying to form a long-term artistic policy," Sherman says. The theatre has already instituted talkback sessions after previews and Sunday matinees, during which Sherman, Locker and other theatre personnel discuss current and upcoming plays with audience members. "They make much more of a connection between the shows than we thought," Locker notes. Sherman says he's pushing for some sort of lounge where audience, actors and behind-the-scenes workers can chat after performances. "That's



A theatre electrician makes adjustments for the 118 light cues used in the recent production of *Beau Jest*. MBT's larger plays and musicals have up to 250 light cues.

part and parcel of the theatre experience," he explains. The audience feedback, in fact, is only an extension of what Sherman has instituted in the MBT organization. "When you can involve the entire staff in helping to choose a season, you can make a lot more people happy and make some wiser choices," Locker says.



OU student Jennifer Ripari (right) shadows theatre actress Diana Van Fossen in a dressing room at the theatre.

OUTREACH IS THE GOAL

During the past year, the theatre has expanded or introduced a number of programs that take the theatre back into the community. Among them:

- Class Acts, which takes actors into area classrooms to offer a bare-bones look at acting craft.
- Page to Stage, a new program — currently in two high schools — in which students attend performances and also have an opportunity to write and stage their own plays.
- Actors' workshops.
- A continuing mentor relationship with the Mosaic Theatre, a company of mostly Detroit high school students that writes and stages its own plays.
- A playwrighters' forum that is slated to start during 1997.
- The popular Costumes in the Classroom program for high school and junior high classes and community groups.
- A shadow program, which allows high school seniors to work with professional mentors at the theatre.

Additionally, the theatre will revive its annual practice of sending a company

on the road during the spring, this year taking *Beau Jest* around Michigan as part of a \$170,000 grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

There's more to these programs than simply being a good neighbor, of course. "We're building our future audience," Locker explains. The outreach programs, Sherman says, are meant to "show people that the act of theatre doesn't bite. Once they understand more of it, their appreciation begins to grow, and they enjoy it more."

KEEP THEM COMING BACK

MBT's desire is to educate these new theatregoers about how they can help keep the theatre healthy.

The short answer: money.

That's why the theatre has brought a development director on board. MBT's subscriptions now run about 9,500 — not bad, but a substantial drop from its mid-'80s peak.

Enter Development Director DuBois, who's charged with instituting the development effort that was missing for so many years.

But first DuBois says it's important to counter some misperceptions that future audiences might have about MBT. One is that the actors are OU students; MBT productions are staged by theatre professionals, most of them members of the actors' equity union.

The other, DuBois says, is that the theatre is funded by ticket sales alone. Most regional theatres of MBT's size receive up to 40 percent of their operating budgets from donations; at the theatre, contributions account for only 18 percent — about \$378,000 — of MBT's \$2.6-million budget. This year's goal, she says, is to raise more than \$500,000 in



Eric A. Payne and Diarra Kilpatrick star in MBT's *The Piano Lesson*. The play won the Detroit Free Press "Best Play" award for the 1995-'96 season.



Scott Mikita and Kathleen McCall had the audience rolling in the aisles during the Sherman-directed hit *Lend Me A Tenor*.

donations.

To do that, MBT has formed an active advisory board that includes well-placed social and corporate leaders willing to hawk MBT's virtues to their constituencies. The MBT Guild is also expanding its involvement, adding a spring fund-raiser — The Orient Express dinner and auction on May 30 — as well as continuing its fall gift market, Spotlights. Special programs, such as a premium major donor club, the Director's Circle, will offer perks to the most generous patrons.

REASON FOR OPTIMISM

As if all this isn't enough, MBT's principals tick off loads of other plans for the theatre's future. Sherman foresees an expanded involvement with OU's Music, Theatre and Dance Department; the two entities share a scene shop, and he's encouraging more interaction. He'd also like to see the department use the MBT facility for one of its productions.

Sherman also sees great potential for the university's 120-seat Studio Theatre. One possibility; using the smaller venue as a house to showcase new works by local playwrights. "Things are upbeat these days," he says. "There is a very palpable feeling of renewed spirit and direction and purpose. And I think that's definitely reflected in the quality of what's going on onstage."

Curtains up.

Gary Graff is a freelance writer from Beverly Hills, Michigan.

MEADOW·BROOK

T H E A T R E

Real Life Drama

February 12 — March 9

I AM A MAN

by OyamO

When two sanitation workers are crushed to death by their faulty truck, union leader T.O. Jones calls for a wildcat strike. Jones, who seeks only to secure decent wages and safe working conditions for his men, must take on city hall as well as others who seek to exploit the event for private gains.

Romantic Comedy/Mystery

March 19 — April 13

ARCADIA

by Tom Stoppard

Set in the grand drawing room of an English mansion, *Arcadia* shifts between observing characters from 1809 and today. As researchers investigate a supposed scandal involving Lord Byron almost 200 years ago, the audience has the opportunity to see what really happened.

Down Home Musical

April 23 — May 18

APPALACHIAN STRINGS

by Randal Myier and Dan Wheetman

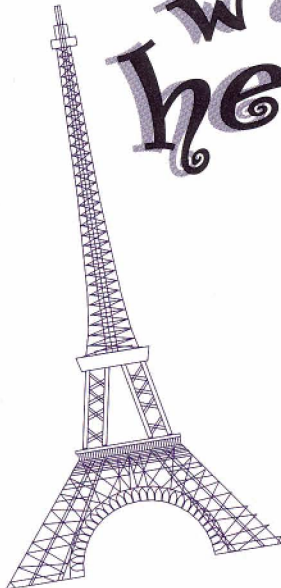
This exciting new musical played to packed houses and standing ovations during its world premier at the Denver Center Theatre Company. Through story and song *Appalachian Strings* follows a family as it leaves Ireland during the 1840s and settles in America's Eastern mountains.

**For ticket information
or a FREE brochure, call
(810) 377-3300.**

ALUMNI DISCOUNTS

OUAA members receive a 20-percent discount on the purchase of one or two tickets. Some restrictions apply. Join alumni affiliates at Meadow Brook Theatre on February 12 or April 13.

**Napoleon
was
here**



Walking the halls, eating his meals, huddling with his advisers. After all, Versailles was his house. Now, it is history's house, one of the largest palaces in the world. It's also a half-day stop on Oakland University's 10-day tour of Paris and London May 5-14.

London Paris Trip

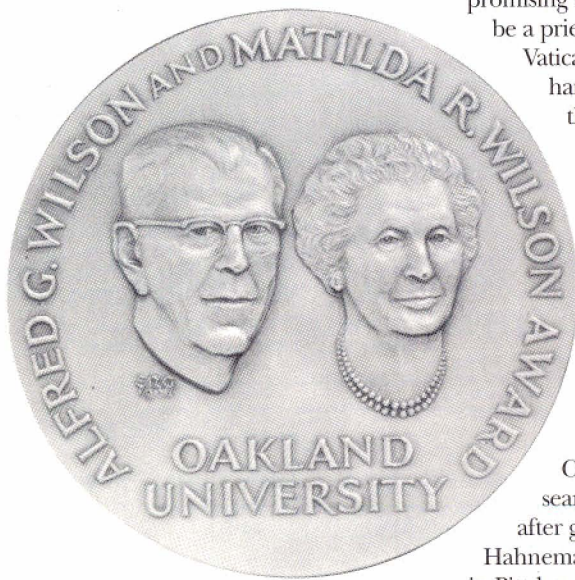
It costs only **\$1,445** per person, and with an OU art lecturer as your guide, you won't just visit Versailles, the Eiffel Tower, Tower of London, and Westminster Abbey. You won't just oooh and aaah over the art and architecture. You'll get a sense of where you are standing and of who stood there before you. We're making Europe affordable and educational.

For ticket information, call (800) 228-0707 or (810) 370-2020.

Where Are They Now?

Wilson Award winners are more than names on a wall

By Larry Perl



Oakland University's highest honor binds three graduates together in a deep, abiding friendship.

Continents apart and years removed from OU, they have tried to stay in touch. It is easier said than done.

Robert J. McClory CAS '85 left OU as a promising attorney, but now, he wants to be a priest. He studies in Rome at the Vatican's invitation and shook hands with Pope John Paul on three separate occasions.

McClory exchanges holiday letters with Ann Giacomazza Bonde SBA '86. She graduated to marketing's fast track. Now, she job-shares and devotes much of her life to volunteerism, church work, her husband and infant son.

The third member of the trio is Anthony C. Boganey CAS '89. Boganey slipped seamlessly into corporate Detroit after graduation — and now he is in Hahnemann University medical school in Pittsburgh. He is as curious about his friends as they are about him.

"Ann's married? She had a baby?" Boganey asks incredulously. "I guess I have been gone awhile."

What's become of all the Wilson Award winners?

Since 1965, 62 seniors have won a Wilson; 31 men receiving the Alfred G. Wilson Award and 31 women receiving

the Matilda R. Wilson Award.

Their names are etched on brass plates on two wood plaques that hang on a brick wall in North Foundation Hall, opposite the offices of Admissions and Academic Skills.

Winners are more than names on a wall. They are doctors like G. Mark Doyle of North Carolina, and human resources directors like Virginian Daryl Porter. They are teachers like Ann Parkinson of Germany and journalists like Joseph Davidson of *The Wall Street Journal* bureau in Washington, D.C.

They are investment counselors like Maureen McClow Allyn of Upper Montclair, New Jersey, who works on Park Avenue in New York City.

For all who have moved away, just as many have stayed home.

The first female winner, Christine Kifer Sundberg, is a Coloradan who is teaching in Tanzania for two years. Anthony Cornellier, the first male winner, is a retired teacher in Troy. Marilyn Mims is a systems analyst in Utica. Sean Higgins practices law in Detroit.

Two of the most recent female winners, Christina Grabowski and Amy Rickstad, work at OU, and so does 1978 winner Jean Ann Miller, assistant director, Student Development, Residence Halls.

If there is a common thread to their lives, it's the sort of social activism that won them the award in the first place.

Each of the 62 has a story to tell. Meet six of them:

How
they
won

Oakland University awards the Wilsons each May to the two OU seniors who contribute most to university life by excelling academically, usually with a 3.3 or higher GPA, and by showing community interest.

Typically, they're student government leaders, tutors, volunteer social workers, campus tour guides and resident assistants.

Students can nominate themselves or can be nominated by professors.

Then, a committee of students, administrators and faculty choose three men and three women as finalists.

The president makes the final choice.

With certificates in hand, bronze medallions around their necks, \$500 stipends in their pockets and applause in their ears, Wilson winners walk off the stage at Meadow Brook Hall and into campus history.

ROBERT J. McCLORY CAS '85

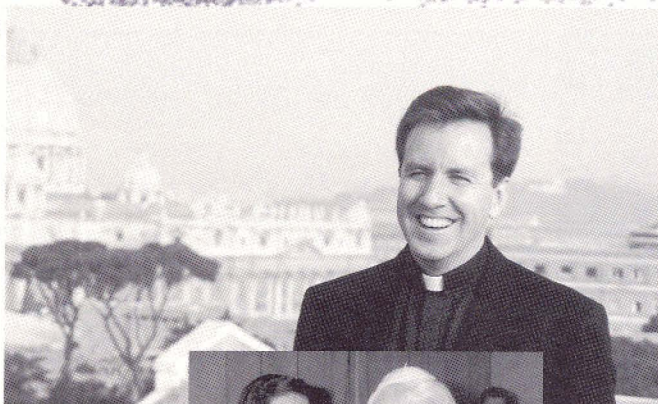
The Wilson was "a public recognition of everything I had tried to do" as president of University Congress, says McClory of Royal Oak.

He majored in political science and communications, and received his master's in public administration from Columbia University in New York. He joined the debate team. He thought he would be an attorney. But a social consciousness permeated his life, from his job at an economic development agency to his apartment in Spanish Harlem.

After University of Michigan law school and several years as a litigator, McClory's conscience began to gnaw at him, because, "I always had a lingering question as to whether I had been called to work in the church."

In 1994, he gave Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit a try, and says he was prepared to study here. But Cardinal Maida gave him a rare invitation to be a student in Rome. He will be ordained in June 1999, and hopes to pastor on "home turf" in metro Detroit. He has few regrets that he left law.

"This is a completely different plane," McClory says.



ANTHONY C. BOGANEY CAS '89

Boganey had his own epiphany. After a classic college life as a resident assistant, fraternity brother and orientation group leader, Boganey eased into the automotive world, as a sales and marketing executive. He spoke Japanese, having studied it at OU and spent one semester in Japan.

One day, during a sales meeting about auto bearings, Boganey realized, "None of this means anything to me. I couldn't imagine spending another 40 years selling bearings."

Off to medical school he went. He's in his third year at Hahnemann in Pittsburgh and is in training at Allegheny General Hospital.

"I'm more tired than I've ever been," Boganey reflects. "I had a positive income and now, I have a negative income. But I enjoy what I'm doing."

He plans to practice internal medicine or surgery, and predicts his "life experience" will help. "I already had a career. I did quite a few things," he says. "I'm glad I did it that way."

ANN GIACOMAZZA BONDE SBA '86

OU and its people will always be close to Bonde's heart. She remembers McClory's and Boganey's going-away parties. She's amazed that OU Professor Frank Cardimen alone has sponsored so many students as Wilson candidates over the years — and she is eternally grateful that he sponsored her.

They still keep in touch and met for lunch recently.

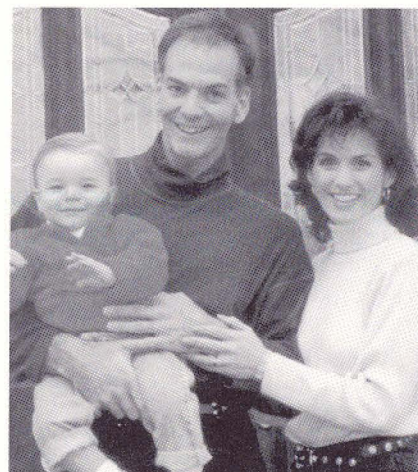
The award hangs in her home office in West Bloomfield, and reminds her of "something you have to live up to."

In a typically hectic week, Bonde job-shares at a telecommunications firm, helps Special Olympians in track and field, models, fund-raises for her church and still finds time for her husband and their 1-year-old son.

The job-share is a rare arrangement in a customer-conscious industry. It's also the only post-college job she has had; an outgrowth of an internship.

Her Special Olympics work also harks back to college days. She used to teach Special Olympians to figure skate.

The Wilson reminds Bonde of her OU roots, and she marvels, "It just seems like yesterday that I left."





AUGUSTINE WRIGHT POUNDS CAS '74, MA '75

Pounds' eight-page resume is a rich ride through the illustrious career of a once-disadvantaged woman who made up for lost time. She started from scratch, as one of seven siblings in a Pontiac housing project.

Her family struggled to send the three oldest kids to college. She wasn't one of them.

Pounds was a young homemaker and mother when her husband died. She became a secretary and worked full time at OU while raising two children and

taking all the classes she could cram into lunch hours and evenings.

She graduated in three years, with a BA in sociology, and she earned a master's degree in counseling. She rose to become assistant to the university vice president for Urban Affairs. In her 40s, with her own children off to college, she was still "hungry for learning," and got a Ph.D. at Iowa State University.

She has been a visiting professor in Zambia, dean of Students at Iowa State, a member of the 1980 White House Conference on Families and much more. Now 60, she's a consultant to Virginia-based ADISA, which trains and raises funds for nonprofit South African agencies.



KIMBERLY A. ROMANCHUK CAS '88

Romanchuk has a medical degree.

The mother of two is a homemaker and a home schooler. She's active in her Baptist church in a Baltimore suburb.

She first came to Baltimore as an aspiring doctor and did her residency at prestigious Johns Hopkins University. Her husband, Stephan Romanchuk SECS '87, stayed home with their children.

Now, that's her job.

"I couldn't see myself changing things as a radiologist. I wasn't making a difference and it became clear to me I needed to do something different."

Romanchuk teaches parenting classes and spent two years as a director of the church school nursery.

Though her life has changed direction, the award is still "a part of who I am," Romanchuk says. "Part of the award is being a part of your community and wanting to change things. The award is reflective of that."

ROBERT E. ANSON CAS '72

Born to Americans in Costa Rica, Anson had a privileged upbringing. His life's work has been about helping those less fortunate.

"Coming from another country, I was acutely aware that there was a lot of poverty," he says. "You can't close your eyes to it."

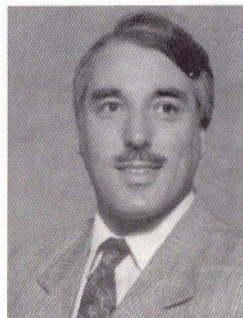
At OU, Anson tutored Mexican-Americans, while majoring in Spanish language and Latin American area studies.

He has since helped an advocacy group investigate nursing homes and has run the nation's largest mental health and human service organization.

Anson was a policy analyst during a 1981 White House Conference on Aging, a commissioner on aging in Montgomery County, Maryland, and co-founder of the National Hispanic Aging Organization.

Anson joined the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 1979 and now runs a federally funded rural health program in Maryland.

Larry Perl is an Oakland University Magazine staff writer.



ALFRED G. WILSON AWARD WINNERS — WHERE THEY ARE NOW

Anthony R. Cornellier SEHS '65

Troy, Michigan;
retired French
teacher

David B. Lewis SBA '66

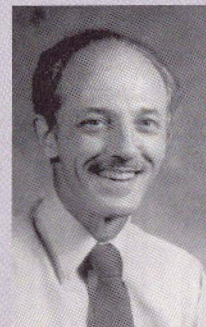
Detroit,
Michigan;
chairman of
the board,
Lewis, Clay &
Munday,
Detroit

William T. Peters CAS '67

Annandale,
Virginia;
team leader,
Information Bureau, U.S.
Information Agency

Patrick A. Gibson SECS '68

Arcadia, California;
vice president, KAKU Associates,
Santa Monica



Anthony R. Cornellier
SEHS '65 was the first
recipient of the Alfred
G. Wilson Award.



David B. Lewis SBA '66 and wife Kathleen

Rev. Ingo R. Dutzmann CAS '69

Taunton, Massachusetts;
pastor, Lutheran Church of the
Way

Jerome D. Hill CAS '70

Hamtramck, Michigan;
owner, Jerome D. Hill &
Associates, Detroit;
teaches Chinese literature at
Oakland University

Joseph T. Davidson SEHS '71

Washington, D.C.;
Reporter, *The Wall Street Journal*

Robert E. Anson CAS '72

Gaithersburg, Maryland;
director, Maryland Office of Rural
Health

Earl Johnson Jr.* SEHS '73

BA, elementary education/social
science

Donald E. Johnson CAS '74

Wayne, Michigan;
part owner of a computer
company

Craig H. Woodward CAS '75
Lakeland, Florida;
retired clinical social worker

Daryl G. Porter SBA '76
Roanoke, Virginia;
human resources director, Advance Auto Parts

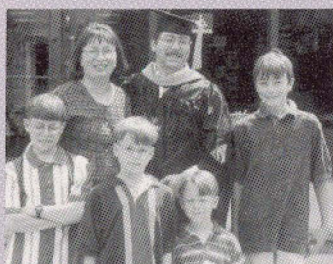
John M. Shacklett CAS '77
Mount Vernon, Ohio; Information Systems Manager, Continental Office

Dale M. Carpenter SBA '78
Duluth, Georgia;
manager, Training and Development, Union Camp Corporation

Lawrence L. Stebbins SECS '79
Ross, Ohio;
technology development manager, Fluor Daniel Fernald construction



Daryl Porter SBA '76



Larry Stebbins SECS '79 and his family celebrate his recent graduation from University of Findlay with a degree in environmental management.

Dr. Michael E. Zielinski CAS '80
Clarkston, Michigan;
osteopathic physician

Dr. G. Mark Doyle CAS '81
New Bern, North Carolina;
urologist

James E. Green CAS '82
Columbus, Ohio;
high school social studies teacher

John E. Rhadigan CAS '83
Grand Prairie, Texas;
sportscaster, KXAS-TV, Dallas and Texas Rangers TV Network

Alan R. McMann CAS '84
Washington, D.C.;
regional administrator, Administrative Office of United States Courts

Robert J. McClory CAS '85
Royal Oak, Michigan;
seminary student; studying for priesthood, currently living in Rome, Italy

Matthew Tomilo SBA '86
Dearborn, Michigan;
international financial analyst,

Ford Motor Company

Dennis C. Washington CAS '87
Lansing, Michigan;
grants and program coordinator, City of Lansing

Sean M. Higgins CAS '88
Pontiac, Michigan;
attorney, Wise & Marsac

Anthony C. Boganey CAS '89
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania;
medical student, Hahnemann University of the Health Sciences

Gary B. Stachnik SBA '90, MBA '95
Sterling Heights, Michigan; owns an investment company

Michael Alan Poll* CAS '91
Rochester Hills, Michigan

David E. Nykanen CAS '92
Southfield, Michigan;
attorney, Mason, Steinhardt, Jacobs & Perlman

Kenneth D. Johnson* CAS '93, MA '93
New York, New York

David M. Martin* SECS '94
Lake Orion, Michigan

James E. Haviland CAS '95
Clarkston, Michigan
medical student, Wayne State University

David E. Smyth SECS '96
BS, mechanical engineering



Gary Stachnik SBA '90, MBA '95

Carol S. Freeman* CAS '68
BA, economics

Cynthia L. Attwood CAS '69
Alexandria, Virginia;
attorney, U.S. Department of Labor

Christine Hamill Walton CAS '70*
Bloomington, Illinois

Kathleen Gibson Sgambati CAS '71
Tilton, New Hampshire;
deputy commissioner, State Health and Human Services Department

Sharon R. Barkham '72*
BA, secondary education

Deborah Kalcevic CAS '73
Alexandria, Virginia;
principal analyst/student education programs, Congressional Budget Office

Augustine Wright Pounds CAS '74, MA '75
Glenn Dale, Maryland;
executive consultant, ADISA Inc.

Colleen Jennings-Roggensac SEHS '75
Tempe, Arizona;
executive director, Public Events, Arizona State University

Susan M. Cischke SECS '76
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; general manager, Scientific Labs and Proving Grounds, Chrysler Corporation

Annivory Calvert* CAS '77, MA '78
Riverside, California;
public works director in Fontana

Jean Ann Miller CAS '78

Rochester Hills, Michigan;
assistant director, Student Development, Residence Halls, Oakland University

Marilyn L. Morrow Mims CAS '79

Rochester, Michigan;
systems analyst, Electronic Data Systems Corporation, Utica

Mary S. Rogers CAS '79
Uxbridge, England;
partner/consultant, Coopers & Lybrand

Mary Schaefer Griffin SECS '81
Royal Oak, Michigan;
project manager, Interfaces, Unisys, Detroit

Dawn Santy Voisard* SECS '82
Bountiful, Utah



Maureen P. McClow Allyn CAS '67

Margaret Plant Davis SBA '83
Boulder, Colorado;
financial analyst, Lockheed-California Company

Jean Chagnon-Royce SECS '84
Northfield, Minnesota;
director and counseling psychiatrist, Wellness Center, Carleton College

Linda M. Nicholson* CAS '85
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Ann Giacomazza Bonde SBA '86
West Bloomfield, Michigan
marketing representative for a telecommunications group

Mary B. Tierney CAS '87
Ithaca, New York;
professor of nutrition

Kimberly A. Romanchuk CAS '88
Owings Mills, Maryland;
homemaker

Melinda S. Alessi Rivelli SEHS '89
Indianapolis, Indiana;
assistant director, Campus Activity, Butler University

Lisa Stamps-Jones CAS '90
Salt Lake City, Utah;
department chair for Paralegal Studies, Mountain West College

Sara J. Pastoor CAS '91
Houston, Texas;
resident physician, Baylor Family Practice

Lynn M. Waroway SBA '92
Chesterfield, Michigan;
manager, accounting services, Personal Home Care Services

Christina J. Grabowski CAS '93

Troy, Michigan; admissions recruiter, Oakland University

Lisa S. McRipley CAS '94
Ann Arbor, Michigan; studying higher education administration, University of Michigan

Amy Rickstad CAS '95
Royal Oak, Michigan;
admissions adviser, Oakland University

Kelly M. Schehr CAS '96
BA,
psychology



Amy Rickstad CAS '95

* = last known

COLLEGE TUITION:

Outrageous Burden or Bargain in Disguise?

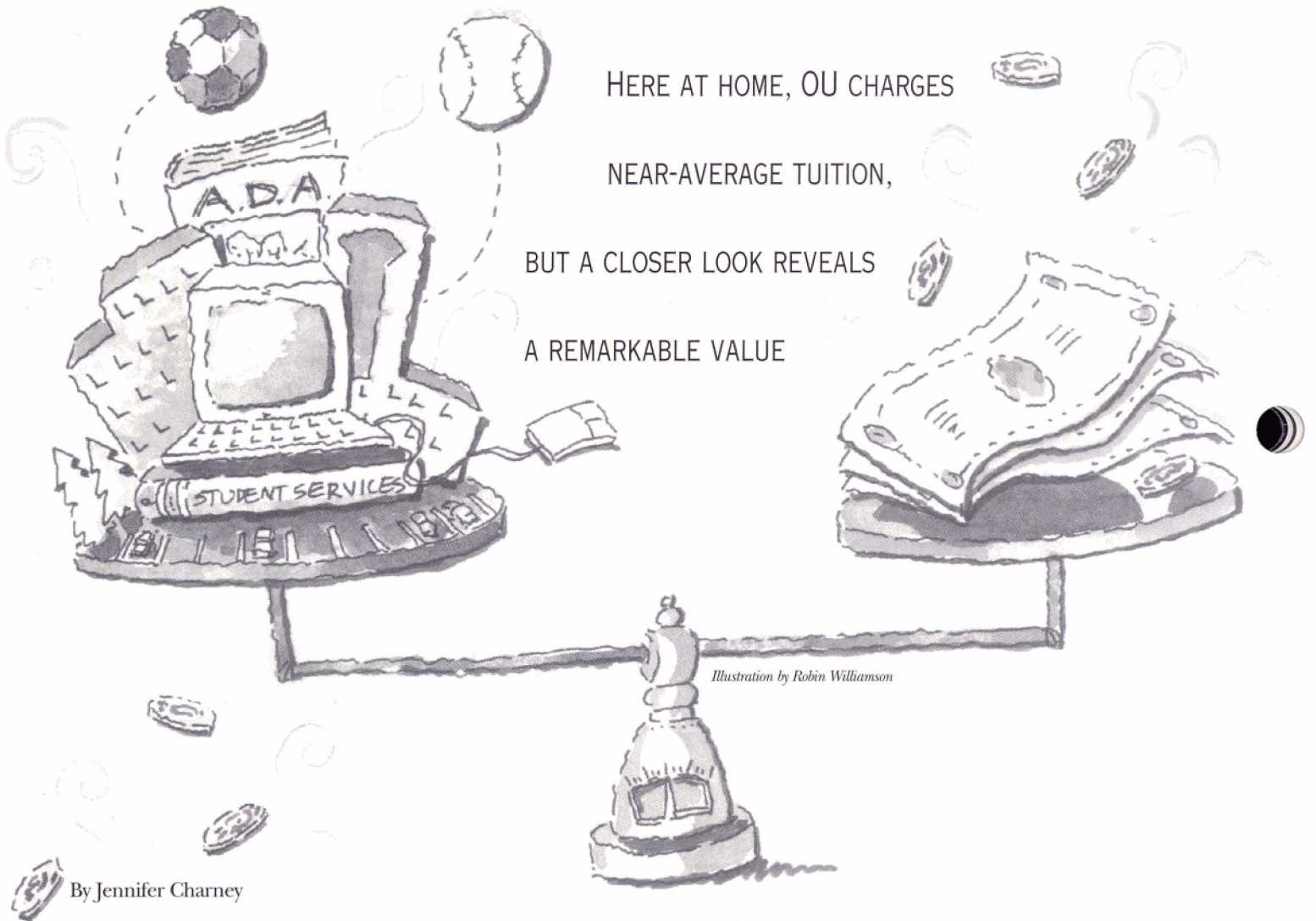


Illustration by Robin Williamson

By Jennifer Charney

Rodney Dangerfield in the movie *Back to School* tells graduates: "It's a rough world out there. Go back home. Let your parents worry about it."

Applause. Cheers.

He was only half right.

There are dark clouds over the academy as well. From tiny community colleges to the prestigious Ivies, higher education is facing tough times. Add to the equation media criticism over

spiraling costs, public anxiety over escalating tuition, demand for more student services, compliance with new comprehensive government regulations and declining state funding, and it's no wonder there is debate about how colleges and universities operate.

At the same time, these critics, most of whom have not set foot in a classroom in years, conveniently ignore that a closer look at higher education today reveals a

remarkable value.

But recent media coverage turns the interrogation light on universities and their costs: national magazine and newspaper sources assert that the increasing cost of college is blowing the American dream out of reach. In an exhaustive series, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* says that higher education, once touted as the key to a higher standard of living, is now the great separator, pricing the

middle class out of the market.

Additional stories target the public's soaring anxiety over college costs and the grim forecast of more increases. Cost controversies of recent years made for sensational copy, too. Federal government statistics show in-state tuition at four-year public colleges spiraled 234 percent since 1980, leaving in the dust medical costs, which increased 182 percent, and household incomes, which climbed only 82 percent.

Unfortunately, public perception of higher education is nebulous at best. A report by the American Council on Education shows that most members of the general public don't know what goes on at colleges and universities.

If they did, they would know that public universities continue to receive less state aid. Historically, states footed about two-thirds of education costs at these universities. Now many states pay half. In 1988, the state of Michigan

shouldered 60 percent of the cost of an Oakland University student education; by 1996 the state's contribution had dipped to about 50 percent. The state appropriation and tuition make up about 97 percent of Oakland's general fund revenue, says Pat Nicosia, acting associate vice president, Finance and Administration.

Additionally, they would know that universities are encountering expenses that cannot be postponed. Higher education must comply with newer federal laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act. At Oakland, record enrollment growth necessitates building more classroom space such as the state-of-the-art \$43-million Science and Engineering Complex, making long-deferred repairs of campus facilities, upgrading scientific equipment and enriching food service, recreational and residential-life offerings. Bringing the campus up-to-speed electronically is essential. "Technology costs more. It costs universities more just to service students,"

says OU's Robert Johnson, associate vice president, Enrollment Management. "When I was in school in the late '70s, we typed on typewriters. Now, with computers, you're talking about upgrading software and hardware, paying on-line charges."

OU's long-deferred maintenance repairs include such things as \$48,700 for classroom furniture in several campus buildings and \$44,800 in exterior building, road and walkway lighting controlled by individual time clocks and

with piped-in Bach and elegant townhouse residence halls with free cable, the *Inquirer* says. The changes worked, garnering the college raves from annual magazine ratings.

DEALING WITH RISING COSTS

In spite of rising expectations and services, critics say college cost hikes are out of control. The *Inquirer* says prices keep rising because of institutional greed — universities have recognized that the public equates quality education with high prices.

And here's where media articles appear to employ scare tactics and mislead the public. The headlines decry the \$30,000 a year college costs, yet those levels really refer to the Ivies and other nationally elite private schools (see chart on Page 18).

Tuition is still a burden to many, though. Most Oakland students (estimates say at least 75 percent) work to pay for college.

"About 35 percent of

our students are receiving some kind of financial aid," says OU's Lee Anderson, director, Financial Aid. This aid includes federal and state dollars, OU scholarships and tuition reimbursement from employers. For the other 65 percent, resources come from students or parents or both. "We're starting to see people who leave Oakland owing 16, 18, \$20,000," Anderson says. "If you're going out looking for your first job, think of the cost-of-living expenses you have to face in addition to a monthly loan payment. And if you go on to graduate school, you could easily end up with a loan that's the size of a small mortgage."

And working more than 15 hours a week may detract from a student's education, says OU's Augustin Fosu, chair, Department of Economics, School of Business Administration. "My preference is to have students not work as much, so they can concentrate on their studies. Because college is the experience of a lifetime."

Jennifer Allison would benefit if Fosu's wishes came true. Allison, 23, of

A RECENT PUBLIC OPINION POLL SPONSORED BY SEVERAL HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS SHOWS THAT AMERICANS SHARPLY OVERESTIMATE THE COST OF A COLLEGE TUITION

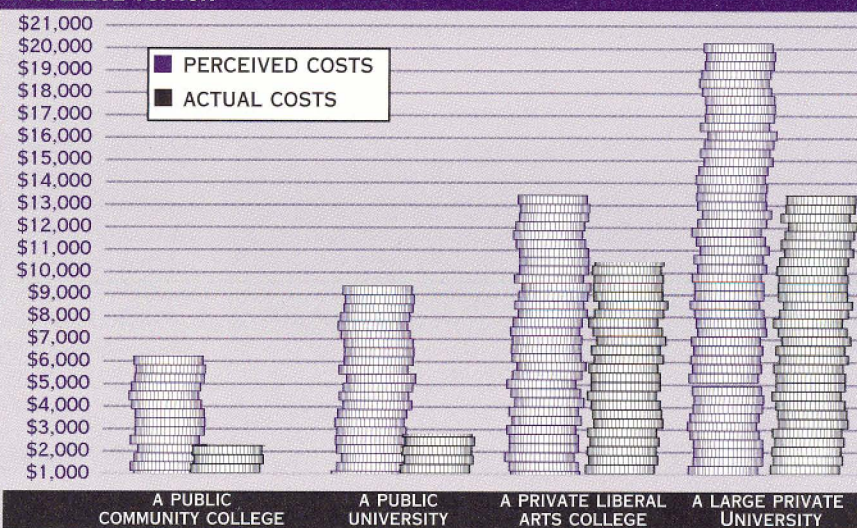


photo sensors. OU's total deferred maintenance cost is \$35,318,052.

Other pressures that increase tuition costs at OU:

- The need to lower student-faculty ratios which improve academic excellence but contribute to increased labor costs.
- Increased demand for computers. OU provides more than 150 computers with access to the World Wide Web. Kresge Library, through the Internet, provides students with access to more than 19,000 libraries in 61 countries. And the College of Arts and Sciences offers 12 "distance learning" courses, which allow the instructor and students to be in different locations.
- Making available syllabi and class notes for many courses via OU's computer services.

Growing student service expectations appear to be a national trend.

Trenton State College in Trenton, New Jersey, banked on students' sophisticated tastes, boosting its image by adding a neoclassical concert hall, a food court

Ortonville, Michigan, takes two OU classes, works 30 hours a week in the university's financial aid office, and cares for her daughter as a single parent. She manages to balance her responsibilities, but says she does look forward to holiday breaks. Allison is working toward a bachelor's degree in human resources development. She pays her way with a federal Pell grant, a federal direct student loan, work-study at the financial aid office and a Michigan Competitive Scholarship she won with her American College Test score. "It's always a given that tuition is expensive," Allison says. "You can either accept it and go on in life, or make your life miserable, and I don't have time to gripe. I have to be able to get a job that'll support my daughter and I. If school is the answer, then I'll do anything I can."

A REMARKABLE VALUE

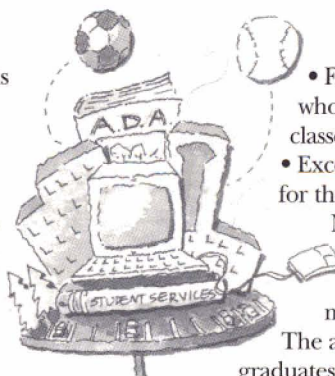
The severity of the college cost burden depends on how American society values education.

For OU students, the cost for a year of tuition, fees, room, board, books and supplies for a typical freshman or sophomore taking 12 credits each

semester — \$7,540 — is about \$120 below the national average, according to The College Board. For most OU students who do not live on campus, the average cost for a year of tuition and fees is \$2,969, slightly above the national average. Divide that \$2,969 by 150 days in an academic year and the cost is \$20 a day to attend OU. Included in that price are typical public university benefits: academic counseling; job placement services; student organizations providing leadership opportunities; interactive television courses; and education from world-renown faculty members.

But with these benefits OU reveals a remarkable value in also providing new, unique or uncommon advantages, some of which are:

- Business insight from nearby guest lecturer executives and the opportunity to intern with leading corporations at the nearby Oakland Technology Park.
- A student-to-faculty ratio of 18-1.



- Faculty, not graduate students, who teach 98 percent of OU's classes.
- Excellent and focused preparation for the workplace of the 21st century.

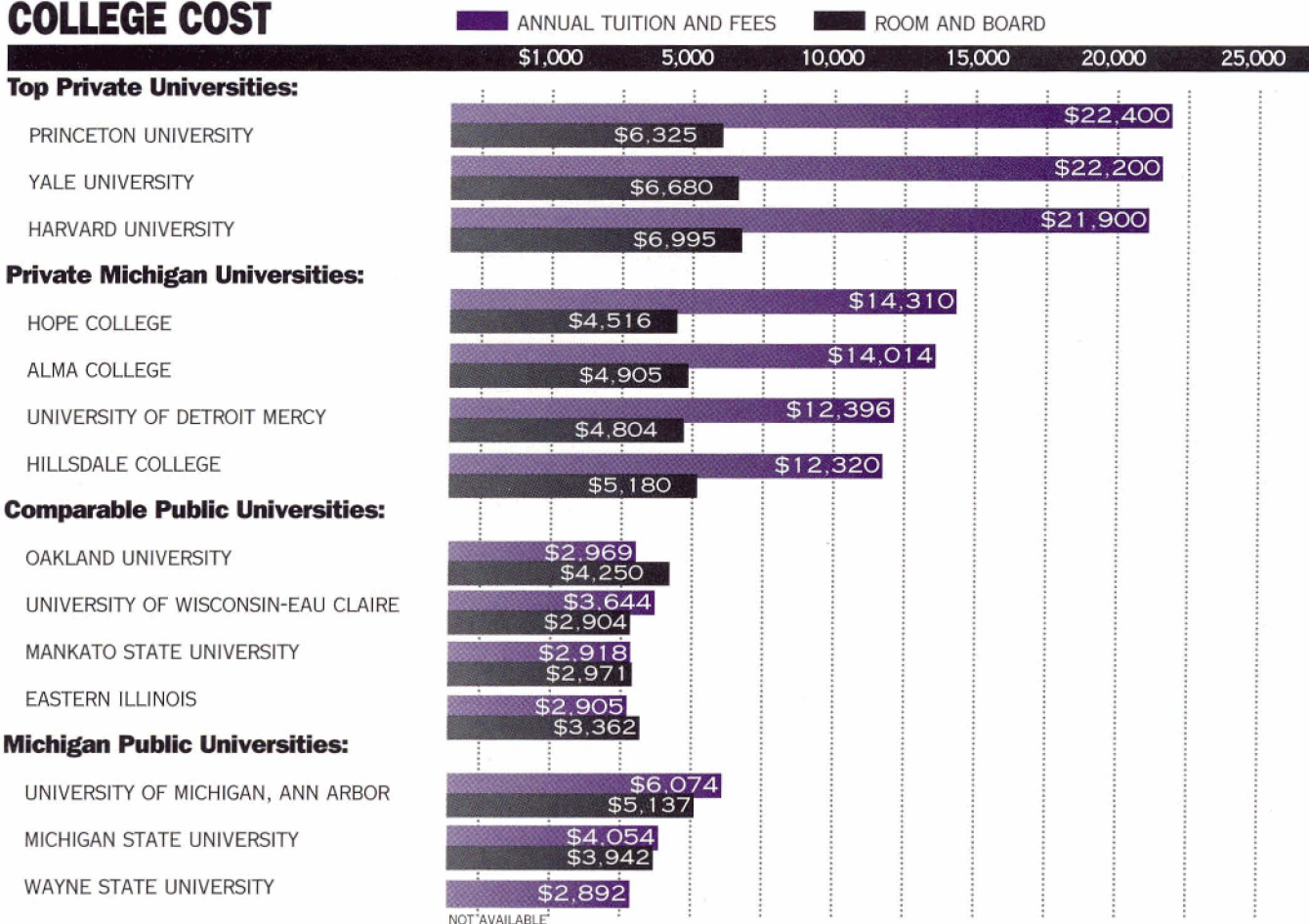
Ninety-five percent of those holding bachelor degrees found jobs within four months of graduation in 1995. The average salary for such graduates in 1994 and 1995 was \$28,410.

And more advantages are on the way, including the Science and Engineering Complex housing the latest technology and a \$31-million Recreation and Athletic Center.

"We are committed to holding down the costs, while still delivering an outstanding education to our students," OU President Gary D. Russi says. "It's a difficult balance, but one that we work hard to achieve every day. We have a lean, efficient organization and we are determined to continually improve it through performance and outcomes-based reviews — for every program we offer."

Alumni believe an Oakland education is a good value.

COLLEGE COST



“Value is determined by what you wind up with after you graduate,” says Michael Grieves MBA '80, president and CEO, Data Systems Network Corporation, Farmington Hills, a major network management integration company. “At OU, you receive a first-class education because of the quality of professors. OU is getting better every year and continuing to improve and reposition itself on how education is going to change in the 21st century.”

Michael Simon CAS '96 says he received his money's worth. “I got the full college experience using all that was available to me outside of the classroom,” Simon says. Simon, who holds a communications degree, says networking while he was a member of OU's Student Congress paid off — it led to his current job as a staff assistant for U.S. Congressman Dale Kildee. It's a position he really enjoys. “Oakland was my first and only choice. I didn't want to go anywhere else. And I wasn't going to wind up paying exorbitant fees.”

In the big picture, OU annual tuition is “a relatively low cost,” says OU's Robert Johnson, associate vice president, Enrollment Management. “We're talking around \$300 a month. When parents think about it, how many have a car payment that's more than \$300 a month?”

Even more important, an OU bachelor degree is likely to net graduates almost double the income of a worker with just a high school diploma, according to U.S. Census Bureau: In 1994, a person with a bachelor's degree earned an average of \$31,500; people with only a high school diploma earned an average of \$16,560.

Johnson thinks an educated public is a benefit to society. “An educated population gives you a good work force and the result of that is more productivity, more creativity, which create jobs,” he says.

For most, staying home with mom and dad is not an option.

“The American people are smart enough to realize that education is an appropriate investment for the future,” Fosu says. “And therefore they will be willing to provide the necessary government subsidies to make education affordable to the average person. When you think about it, education is a remarkable value.”

Applause. Cheers.

Jennifer Charney is an Oakland University Magazine staff writer.

THE OAKLAND VALUE

A full-time Oakland University undergraduate in the fall and winter terms attends class for about 150 days. The cost for those terms, averaging upper and lower division tuition and fees, is \$2,969. So it costs \$20 a day to attend OU. Adding room and board (\$4,250), the cost is \$48 a day. Included in these prices are typical public university benefits: academic counseling, job placement services, interactive television courses and education from world-renown faculty members.

For those who live on campus, the annual room and board fee includes amenities such as laundry facilities, microwave ovens on many floors, recreation areas, aerobics and weight rooms, computer labs and telephones with voice mail in each room.

WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT OAKLAND:

For \$20 or \$48 a day, the cost of one or two concert tickets, here's why an OU education and other campus opportunities provide students an edge:

- OU was rated 23rd in academic reputation among the 122 top Midwestern regional colleges and universities for 1996 by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Of Oakland's full-time faculty, 87 percent have earned Ph.D.s from many of the nation's finest research institutions. Ninety-eight percent of undergraduate students are taught by faculty, not graduate students.
- Oakland's student-to-faculty ratio is 18-1. At bigger research universities, students tend to get lost in the shuffle, attending crowded lectures taught by teaching assistants. Students at those schools do not receive nearly as much individual attention as they do at OU. And tutoring is free.
- OU is home to more than 80 student organizations that provide leadership opportunities, from University Student Congress and the Residence Hall Council, fraternities and sororities, social and academic clubs, to athletic groups. These opportunities extend the Oakland advantage outside of the classroom, making for well-rounded graduates who can succeed in every aspect of life.
- Students can benefit from the business insight of executives and the opportunity to intern with leading corporations in the heart of the automotive industry. The nearby Oakland Technology Park includes Chrysler Corporation World Headquarters and companies specializing in computers, robotics and banking. Executives from these companies appear for special lectures at OU.
- Ninety-five percent of OU bachelor degree-holders found jobs within four months of graduation in 1995. The average salary for bachelor degree grads in 1994 and 1995 was \$28,410.
- Oakland offers Michigan's only degrees in systems engineering and software engineering. OU's systems engineering program is ranked among the top 12 in the United States.
- The university's athletic teams have a tradition of victory, making state history by winning four conference titles on the same day (men's and women's basketball and men's and women's swimming). The Pioneers have won nine NCAA Division II team national championships and more than 300 All-America awards during their first 30 years.
- More OU advantages are on the way, including a \$43-million Science and Engineering Complex housing the latest technology; and a \$31-million Recreation and Athletic Center, featuring a 50-meter pool, bubble pool, spa, 3,000-seat arena, walking/running track, social lounge, sun decks and high-fidelity sound system.
- Meadow Brook Hall hosts more than 60,000 people each year for business meetings, seminars and tours. The 100-room Tudor mansion and former home of Oakland's benefactors hosts such special events as the Concours d'Elegance classic auto show and the Holiday Walk.
- Meadow Brook Theatre won the annual Detroit Free Press award for best play of the 1995-96 season (*The Piano Lesson*). The theatre offers a full season of plays, from classics to world premiere productions.
- Katke-Cousins Golf Course has been acclaimed as one of the top 10 courses in Michigan. The 18-hole course is host to the annual Charlie Gehringer Memorial Meadow Brook Golf Classic, the Katke Invitational and numerous corporate outings.

New alumni program to boost enrollment

The Oakland University Alumni Association is launching a pilot Alumni Admissions Ambassadors Program to increase enrollment, improve scholarships and enhance the university's visibility in the community.

OU plans to tap the talents and connections of alumni to introduce prospective students and their families to OU.

Alums will also represent the university as goodwill ambassadors, building connections with community-based organizations. The program's second tier involves streamlining the alumni scholarship application and selection processes, funding the scholarships through endowments and raising the minimum scholarship amount to \$2,000. Currently, alumni scholarships range from \$300 to \$2,500.

"By the end of June 1997," says Alumni Relations Director Terry Barclay, "we expect the work of 100 new alumni ambassadors to increase enrollment of admitted students by 5 percent."

If you are interested in volunteering to join the alumni ambassadors program call Alumni Relations (810) 370-2158.

Chemistry plans reunion on July 4

About 500 chemistry majors who graduated since 1959 will be invited to a July Fourth weekend reunion.

Chemistry Professor Robert Stern says the reunion will celebrate the department's new home in the Science and Engineering Complex, to be occupied in April. Reunion plans include a dinner dance, picnic and a performance at Meadow Brook Music Festival.

For information, e-mail stern@ouchem.chem.oakland.edu or call (810) 370 2336.

'70s reunion draws alumni from afar

A return to the Oakland University area after a decade sparked in Jon Levin (Allport College '72), a yearning to see old friends. So he contacted 20 alumni from the early '70s.

Then those 20 told friends. Sixty alumni of OU's Allport College, Charter College and New College came from states including Washington, Texas and Louisiana. One even made the trek from Israel to the October 19 reunion at Meadow Brook Hall.

Swim team alumni make reunion splash

Proving they've still got it, the OU men's and women's swimming and diving alumni beat the current varsity teams in a reunion competition.

The September 27-28 reunion at Lepley Sports Center included graduates from the early '70s through 1995. Alumni also enjoyed a pig roast and a golf outing.

Put us into your 1997 schedule

Meadow Brook Landscape & Garden Show — June 13-15

Meadow Brook Concours d'Elegance classic car show — August 3

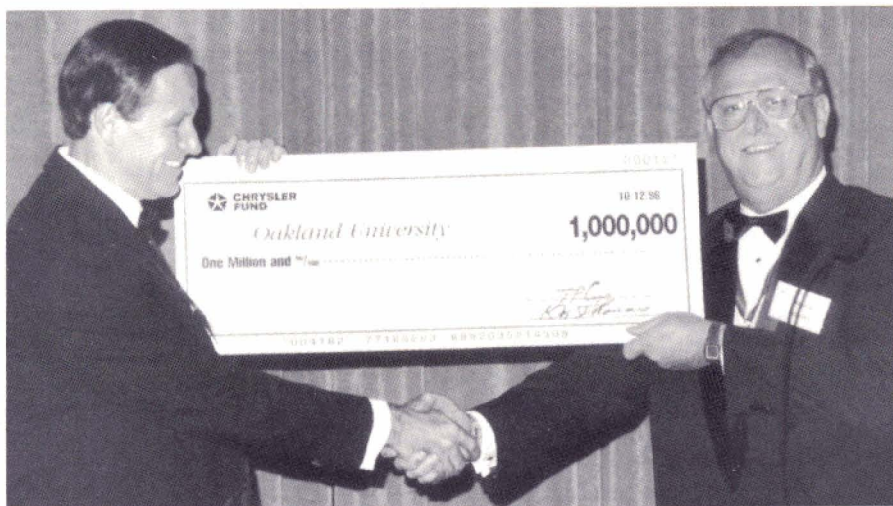
Summer Tea Room — July and August

Daily tours year-round

New Gift Shop

Facility rental programs

*Oakland University's
Meadow Brook Hall*



Chrysler Corporation's Dennis Pawley SEHS '82 presents OU President Gary D. Russi with a check for \$1 million at the third annual Donor Recognition Gala, October 12, 1996.

Chrysler Corporation commits \$1 million to Oakland University to strengthen partnership

During the third annual Donor Recognition Gala October 12, the Chrysler Corporation Fund announced that it has honored Oakland University with a commitment of \$1 million for its science and engineering projects.

The gift, to be paid over five years, represents the largest commitment in a long history of the automaker's philanthropy to Oakland, including nearly one-half million dollars in recent gifts to OU's Meadow Brook Theatre, School of Business Administration, School of Engineering and Computer Science and distance learning programs.

The gift symbolizes Chrysler's long-term generosity and goodwill toward the university as well as the corporation's excitement over its growth and strategic direction. This partnership extends to research opportunities, faculty and student internships, educational seminars, academic enhancements, training and recruitment (Chrysler currently employs 705 Oakland alumni).

OU is the first university to respond to Chrysler's offer to experience the current manufacturing environment by placing faculty interns in plants, research laboratories and offices. Considered successful by any measure, Chrysler's first summer internship program last year netted the university more than a quarter-million dollars in contracts, and provided OU engineering professors with

a working example of how the theories they teach in the classroom apply to the manufacturing environment. Last summer, 12 more faculty participated — 10 from the School of Engineering and Computer Science and two from the School of Business Administration. In return, OU professors contribute critical thinking and problem-solving skills to Chrysler engineering teams.

Chrysler's interest in OU's future is as strong as ever. In announcing the grant, new OU trustee Dennis Pawley SEHS '82, executive vice president, Manufacturing, Chrysler Corporation, described Oakland as a "great intellectual asset" and "important industry partner" in strengthening its corporate position.

"The close proximity of Oakland University to the Chrysler Technology Center has provided a visible, prominent symbol of our long-term relationship and we are proud to be affiliated with such a fine institution that is truly committed to preparing its graduates for the demands of a rapidly changing workplace," Pawley said. "We recognize and support OU's efforts to educate students who will be able to assume leadership roles in the future and wish the university well in its continued success."

David S. Disend, vice president for University Relations and executive director, Oakland University Foundation, said: "We are pleased to accept this generous support from the Chrysler Corporation Fund. It is testimony to the great many people at OU who have made an impact at Chrysler, and the corporation's acknowledgment of the university's importance to the community."

Career/Accomplishments

1990s

Dan Blose BGS '96 was named Farmington Hills Auxiliary Officer of the Year. He has put in more than 450 hours this past year.

Lynn Bowden MS '91 was named president-elect of the Michigan Society for Cardiovascularpulmonary Rehabilitation. Bowden is cardiopulmonary manager for the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan.

Todd Dressell CAS '90 is opening the Renaissance Fencing Club in Madison Heights, Michigan. The facility will provide fencing instruction and practice. He was the saber captain for the OU fencing team and ran OU's fencing society for several years.

Amy L. Elwart (Powers) SBA '94 was appointed to program manager for Lapeer County's American Red Cross. While at Oakland, Elwart was active on the Student Program Board for Special Events, helped conduct fund-raisers for the university and was a member of the university chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management and the National Golden Key Honors Society.

Richard L. Fenstermacher CAS '93, Navy petty officer 3rd Class, is on a six-month overseas deployment to the Adriatic Sea and the Persian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington. Fenstermacher is one of more than 5,000 sailors and marines aboard the carrier that helped support the peace implementation forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Brian Gregory CAS '90 has been named assistant coach for the University of Toledo men's basketball team. Gregory was a three-time all-conference selection while at Oakland and set school records for assists in a game (25), season (347) and career (906). He also earned honorable mention All-

America honors as a senior.

Brian J. Hardy CAS '95, Marine 2nd lieutenant, recently graduated from The Basic School at Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia.

Scott C. Hunter SECS '94, Navy ensign, received his commission as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School, Pensacola, Florida. During the 13-week training program, Hunter received extensive instruction on a variety of specialized subjects including navigation, ship handling, engineering, naval warfare and management.



READY TO JUMP: Michelle P. Hillen CAS '94 says she is moving to New York to begin working with touring companies.

For the love of acting

Michelle P. Hillen CAS '94 remembers the thrill of getting paid for the first time to perform her hobby.

"I couldn't believe I was getting paid to do what I love to do," says Hillen, who moved to New York in January to continue her professional

acting career. "It was an absolute thrill. It enticed me to keep going."

Hillen last fall returned from Japan where she was performing in a musical show. She has paid her dues and enjoyed success recently as a singer/dancer on cruise ships and on the dinner theatre circuit.

Hillen's had her share of failure, too. "Maybe I didn't have curly hair or a pointed nose or the look they wanted for a role," she says. "There are so many factors in getting hired that you never know what they're going to be."

And now she says she is ready to jump to the next level — touring companies.

"It wasn't until my sophomore year at OU that I received the encouragement to stick it out," she says. "The professors were great. They made the difference for me."

While concentrating on singing and acting these days, Hillen says she is keeping one eye open to the future.

"I would like to produce, direct and cast someday," she says. "But I can't see myself doing anything outside of the performing arts. For now, I am happy and I'm enjoying the time of my life."

Her ship's come in

Natalie Fordon BGS '93 has combined her twin passions — video and freighters — into nautical escapism.

Freighter Affair is a 29-minute video that features huge freighters as they pass along her home on the St. Clair River. The journey includes views of freighters from different vantage points along the shoreline. Soothing background music accompanies the slow movement of the ships.

"It's very relaxing with images of sunrises, the Bluewater Bridge and the Fort Gratiot Lighthouse," says the St. Clair resident. "I always believe in learning. You're never too old to try something new."

Case in point: At age 57, Fordon returned to Oakland University to study TV production. Her education is paying off.

She sold 1,200 videos from July through December, and the future market looks even brighter.

"It's taking on a life of its own," she says. "I've received letters and calls from people nationwide. They're very enthusiastic."

Originally conceived as an art video, Fordon says most people are buying the video for



NEVER REFUSE TO LEARN: At age 57, Natalie Fordon BGS '93 returned to OU to study TV production.

relaxation or nostalgia purposes.

Fordon did most of the camera work herself and used a professional company in Ann Arbor to handle the dubbing. She is now working on producing a documentary about freighters. "I've always loved the river," she says. "This video is about feelings. It's like you're having an affair."

Freighter Affair costs \$19.95 and is available by calling 810-329-4212.

Brent Lilly SBA '95, Marine 2nd lieutenant, recently graduated from The Basic School at Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia. During the 26-week course, newly commissioned officers are prepared for assignment to the Fleet Marine Force.

Veronica "Roni" Mitchell (Bowen) BGS '94 joins Cooper Automotive Group as account manager for the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) sales division in Troy, Michigan.

Merrideth Perry Nichols SEHS '93 has joined OU as an admissions adviser. She will be responsible for recruiting students from Detroit as well as Wayne County high schools.

John Ottman CAS '96 is now the staff writer for the *Blue Water Voice*. He most recently covered the Richmond area for its North Macomb edition.

Derrick Ross SEHS '96 has been named the Detroit Tigers stadium operations

coordinator. Ross was captain of the OU baseball team last season.

David E. Smyth SECS '96 was the 1996 winner of the Alfred G. Wilson Award. Smyth served as president of OU's chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and vice president of OU's Society of Automotive Engineers.

Jeffery S. Young CAS '92 recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois. During the eight-week program, Young completed a variety of training that included classroom study, practical hands-on instruction and an emphasis on physical fitness.

1980s

Allan Benedict CAS '80 was named one of *Crain's*

Detroit Business 40 Under 40 — Metro Detroit's Best and Brightest. Benedict is executive vice president of Nordhaus Research Inc. in Southfield, which is one of the 50 largest research firms in the country.

Ann Blatte CAS '80, MPA '94, has joined Paint Creek Center for the Arts as director

of Marketing and Development. Before joining PCCA, Blatte was a news anchor for KARK in Little Rock, Arkansas.

John Bomarito SBA '83 recently was promoted to vice president, Buick Cross Brand Marketing, McCann-Erickson.



Allan Benedict CAS '80

Jeffrey A. Bossenberger CAS '89 recently completed his residency in family practice at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Flint. His family practice will be located in Fenton, Michigan.

Sharon K. Campbell MAT '81 is a clinical director at Willowbrook Rehabilitation Services, Brighton, Michigan. She is a clinical social worker and licensed marriage and family therapist.

Paul Caudill CAS '84 is retiring as pastor after 28 years with the Mammoth Baptist Church. Caudill and his wife are planning on moving to Alabama, where he expects to perform guest preaching from time to time.

Randy Eckhardt MBA '86 has been appointed assistant superintendent of instruction for the Utica Community Schools. Eckhardt has been with the Utica Community Schools since 1970. He is currently the director of Management Services.

Joan Flynn BGS '86 has been elected to her second term as Macomb County

commissioner, Northeast Warren District 6. Her daughter, Ann Klein, was also elected for District 5. This is the first mother and daughter to serve on a Michigan County Board.

Robert Foster CAS '80 has joined the faculty at Augusta State University as an assistant professor of music. Foster's extensive performing experience includes symphonic and chamber music as well as jazz combo and big band, and he has appeared with such greats as Dizzy Gillespie, Dave Brubeck, Charlie Daniels, the Four Tops, Melissa Manchester, Frankie Avalon and Bob Hope.

Martha Germain MA '83 has retired after 28 years of teaching. Germain has completed his Ph.D. in teacher education with a specialty in international and multi-cultural education at Michigan State University.

Germain has also been asked to rewrite her dissertation, *Worldly Teachers*, as a book for publication in 1997.

Carol A. Friend BGS '89 has joined Howard and Howard Attorneys, P.C. Friend works at the Bloomfield Hills office and concentrates on labor and employment law.

Michael P. Kitchen CAS '84 has been appointed Ferndale's chief of police. Kitchen has served the Ferndale Police Department for 21 years, most recently as captain.

Debra Lewakowski SBA '84 recently was appointed the Metro Detroit Chapter Chair, Michigan Association of CPA.

John Makowski SBA '89 joined Andersen Consulting LLP as a consultant in the Financial Services Industries Group.

It's his word

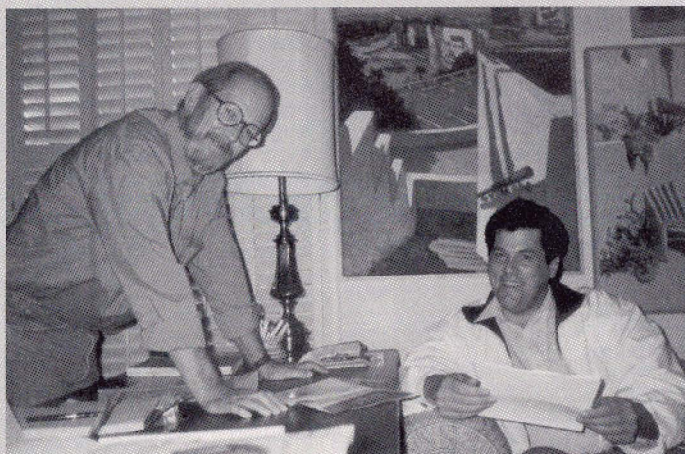
A typical week may find Gregg Sutter CAS '73 in a library on Monday. By Wednesday, he's taking notes at a Nazi rally in Palm Beach. Friday, Italy?

Working exclusively as a full-time literary researcher for Elmore "Dutch" Leonard — writer of slick crime novels — means packing lightly and being ready to scramble at will.

"What I do is unique," Sutter says. "Dutch likes to write. I like to research. I'm like someone who leads an archeological dig, then turns the findings over to someone who knows what they mean."

Sutter met Leonard — who lives in the Detroit area — while profiling him for *Detroit Monthly*. Leonard was so impressed with Sutter that six weeks later he asked Sutter to work for him. That was 16 years and 13 books ago.

"I had a profound interest in his book, *52 Pickup*, which evolved into a career," says Sutter, a resident of Hollywood, Florida. "I work for a great writer and a great person. He



PAYING OFF: Gregg Sutter CAS '73 says he often draws on and credits his education at OU in his research for novelist Elmore "Dutch" Leonard (left).

has a great generosity in spirit."

Sutter says he often draws on, and credits, his education at OU.

"History Professor Roy Kotynek taught me how to think," he says. "He led the most engaging historical discussions. My education is paying off for me."

These days, Sutter is doing research for Leonard's next book, *Cuba Libre*, and looking forward to a bright future.

"This will segue into continuing my writing career," he says. "For now, I am enjoying what I do. I like history, fact gathering and assembling information. It's like mining for gold."

Steve McClain SECS '83 has left Unisys after 13 years to take a position with Hewlett Packard. McClain is senior project manager at Hewlett Packard's Telecommunications, Utilities and Media Professional Services Organization.

Lucius D. Murray CAS '80 was appointed manager, Government and Community Affairs, The Wellness Plan, Detroit.

Barbara Palazzolo CAS '83 has joined Darcy, McManus, Benton & Bowles Public Relations as vice president. She will lead the development of the company's nonautomotive business. Palazzolo belongs to the Public Relations Society of America.

Scott W. Pascoe SBA '85, a Navy lieutenant, recently reported for duty at Naval Air Reserve, Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego. Pascoe is part of the most highly technical naval force in history.

Dr. Grant Schneider CAS '85 and his wife, Dr. Martha

Schneider, have opened Grand River Chiropractic Life Center in Howell, Michigan.

Greg Stanalajczko SEHS '83, executive vice president of Technology Teammates Inc. in Detroit, was featured in *Crain's Detroit Business* as 40 Under 40—Metro Detroit's Best and Brightest. Stanalajczko acknowledged his biggest achievement was developing and maintaining a large and close circle of friends and family while trying to be a successful business executive and entrepreneur.

Andrew Vanchick SECS '85 was honored at a Detroit Pistons game by Henry Ford Hospital during the annual Shoot for a Cure October 11. Vanchick was diagnosed with epilepsy at age 13 and has suffered from it for more than 30 years. He underwent surgery at Henry Ford Hospital to remove abnormal brain tissue 2 1/2 years ago and has not had a seizure since.

Linda Voss SBA '82 has been appointed director of Finance and Business Controls for the

Atlanta region of General Motors Acceptance Corporation. She will be residing in Marietta, Georgia.

Kathleen Walters SON '80 was honored at the November 7 Salute to Nursing, an annual affair sponsored by *Detroit Metropolitan Woman* magazine to benefit Wayne State University's College of Nursing. Walters founded Caring Home Support Services, Inc., of Waterford, Michigan, which has provided care for more than 785 clients, many of whom are long term.

1970s

Sandra Burgess CAS '75 was recently selected for faculty of judges at International Academy of Communication Arts and Sciences. Burgess Editorial Services is celebrating its 10th anniversary and expanding into Burgess Strategic Marketing Services.

John Dickinson MA '78 was promoted to principal of Clawson Middle School. Dickinson has been with the Clawson School District since

Straight Talk about winning an Emmy

Eva Marie Davis CAS '84 talks straight about winning a 1996 Emmy last May from the Michigan chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS).

"This is the most exciting thing to happen in my career," says Davis, producer of UPN 50's *Straight Talk*, hosted by Amyre Makupson.

Appearing midnight Sundays, the award-winning show focuses on such controversial and current event issues as crime, health care, racism and stalking. NATAS awarded Davis an Emmy in the Interview/Discussion category for a show produced on May 28, 1995, about teen suicide.

"This is such a competitive field that I never expected to be nominated, let alone win," she says. "It's great to be recognized by your peers. I am honored and excited."

Life on the set of a weekly television show focusing on current events can be difficult, she says

"I'm glad I have a long drive home," she

says. "It can be tough dealing with murder and stalking and suicide, especially if there are small children involved. It's a heart-wrenching program."

For her future, the Waterford resident says she would love to continue to work in the Detroit area and someday become a director of public affairs.

"I love this area and want to live here the rest of my life," she says.



HEART-WRENCHING: Eva Marie Davis CAS '84 enjoys a long drive home following work.

An undeniable love for teaching

Sharon Finley CAS '76, MAT '80, sees the media and the community not as friends, but as foes.

Finley, a science teacher at Pontiac Northern High School since 1989, believes they influence students to feel like they always need to be entertained. "And that can't always be the case," she says. "Sometimes they will have to struggle through the material."

With an undeniable love for teaching, Finley has found innovative ways to maintain interest. She involves her ninth-grade students more in selecting course topics and even allows them to research, investigate and present their findings to classmates. "They enjoy the interaction," she says.

Students in the ninth-grade level are impressionable, Finley says, so they are more open to new ideas.

"They are naive enough to give new ideas the benefit of the doubt," she says. "They're fun, have positive attitudes and are willing to learn."

Finley left Oakland University to work in the middle school and adult education areas of the Pontiac School System from 1980-84. From 1984-89, she served as a vocational teacher/coordinator in the district.

What's next?

"I am taking educational administrative classes at Michigan State University," she says. "I hope to be a principal some day."



INNOVATIVE TEACHER: Sharon Finley CAS '76, MAT '80, says her students are open to new ideas.

1968, primarily as an English teacher at the middle and high school levels. He was an assistant principal the past two years.

Michael Esralian CAS '73

is now a regional manager for Schumacher Chemical Company. Esralian's territory covers Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Northern California.

Michele Goodier SBA '77

is Foote Hospital's new chief operating officer. Goodier would like to see the hospital become more involved in the Jackson community, especially with community agencies. Before she returned to Michigan, Goodier was given the Athena Award for success in business and for civic involvement by the Northeast Connecticut Chamber of Commerce.

Ronald C. Paul CAS '76 has been appointed associate attorney with Buesser, Buesser, Black, Lynch, Fryhoff & Graham, PC. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the State Bar of Michigan.

Carol S. Petrea (Strother) CAS '79

was promoted to Navy commander while serving with Personnel Support Detachment in Naples, Italy. Petrea joined the Navy in January 1980.

Arlyce Seibert MAT '74

has been named director of Cranbrook Schools and vice president of the Cranbrook Educational Community. Seibert had been serving as acting director for the past year and has been with Cranbrook for the past 25 years.

Wayne Walli SECS '71 is the new chief of the Milford Police Department. Walli was a

captain with the Pontiac Police Department and had served 25 years in Pontiac.

1960s

Francine Dye CAS '66 has retired after 30 years with the Lansing Public Schools. Dye served as a teacher as well as the Social Service Department chair and union representative.

James Getchell SECS '67

was promoted to assistant staff engineer at the General Motors midsize car division, Manager of Production Controls and Logistics. Getchell serves as the president of the SECS Alumni Affiliate.

Engagements/Weddings

1990s

Amy Falkenberg SON '92

married Stephen Warner in May 1996. Falkenberg is currently employed by Promina Cobb Hospital in Austell, Georgia.

Michael Fish BGS '94

and Jennifer L. Sandersen were married in May 1996. Fish is a physical therapy aide at Optmax Human Performance Institute and Sandersen is a bank examiner at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Kimberly Giles SBA '93

married **Paul L. Hill SBA '94** October 12. Giles is employed by Ford Dealer Computer Services as a training specialist and Hill works for EDS as a technical associate.

Mark D. Leonard SBA '92

married Kimberly Cantwell on September 28. Cantwell is a physical therapist for Beaumont Hospital and Leonard is a financial analyst for Beaumont Hospital.

Rachelle Martin SHS '94

married Jerry Baier in September 1996. Baier is employed by Heidebreicht, Inc.

Pamela Naples SEHS '94

announces her engagement to John Young. Naples is employed by Executrain in Southfield and Young is the owner of Young's Window and

ABBREVIATION KEY

BGS	General Studies
CAS	College of Arts and Sciences
MA	Master of Arts
MAT	Master of Arts in Teaching
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MM	Master of Music
MPA	Master of Public Administration
MS	Master of Science
MSLS	Master of Science-Library Science
MSN	Master of Science-Nursing
MSW	Master of Science-Social Work
SBA	School of Business Administration
SEHS	School of Education and Human Services
SECS	School of Engineering and Computer Science
SHS	School of Health Sciences
SON	School of Nursing

Carpet Cleaning.

David Nykanen CAS '92

married Kelly Powell on September 28. Nykanen, an associate with Mason, Steinhardt, Jacobs & Perlman, recently had an article, titled *Administrative Law*, published in the Winter 1996 *Wayne Law Review*.

Amy Rickstad CAS '95 and Derek Wilczynski CAS '93

are planning a wedding in May 1998. Both have been OU Student Congress presidents. Rickstad is an OU admissions adviser and Wilczynski expects to graduate from Wayne State Law School this spring.

Jason Sakis CAS '95

announces his engagement to Kelley Kennedy. A June 21 ceremony is planned. Sakis is currently attending the University of Detroit Mercy Law School and Kennedy is employed as a psychotherapist.

Kara Struski SBA '91

married Charles Ferrara in September 1996. Struski is

employed by the law firm Dykema Gossett, Detroit, and Ferrara is an electrical engineer with Electronic Data Systems.

Debra Tollzien CAS '92

married Vincent Gainor in July 1996. Gainor works for Lasting Impressions, Dearborn Heights, Michigan.

Heather Williamson SON '95

married Brian Ross September 14, 1996. Williamson works as a registered nurse at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in obstetrics. Ross is a structural engineer at Ledy Design Group, Lansing, Michigan.

Elizabeth Wisley CAS '95

announced her engagement to Paul Baeten. Wisley is employed by General American Life in Southfield and Baeten is employed by General Motors Corporation, Pontiac, Michigan.

1980s

Christine Fellows SBA '85

and Michael Kubert were

married in May 1996. The couple is employed by PMH Caramanning Inc.

Angela Valchine SBA '89

announces her engagement to James Andary. A September 1997 wedding is planned.

Births

Kathleen DiDonato CAS '91

and John Snyder announced the birth of their first child, Nicholas DiDonato Snyder. Nicholas was born September 23 in Victorville, California.

Death Notices

Bernice Dotseth SEHS '78

September 25, 1996

Yvonne Golden SEHS '78

September 1996

Laura Lang Huelimantel

CAS '88 July 6, 1996

John Lawrence Schomburg

CAS '79 June 25, 1996

Anne Marie Schrupp CAS '92

May 21, 1996

Calendar of Events

February 20, 1997

Keeper of the Dream Banquet

April 13, 1997

School of Education and Human Services Alumni Affiliate Meadow Brook Theatre Outing

July 4th holiday

Chemistry Alumni Reunion

July 28, 1997

OUAA 22nd Annual Golf Outing

September 6-7, 1997

OUAA Booth at Rochester's Art and Apples Festival

September 12, 1997

Fourth Annual Alumni Awards Banquet, Meadow Brook Hall

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Please call me. _____

Phil's favorite Meadow bloopers...

Green eggs, bonbons and tangled bats fill MBT with off moments — and laughs

Part of the magic of live theatre is that, well, it's live. And when it's live, some things happen that aren't necessarily part of the script. Herewith, a few of the more memorable moments from Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre's first 30 years:

- In one production of *Life With Father*, staged before MBT had a fully operational props department, the actors would sometimes find green eggs on their plates (no ham) after the theatre ran out of yellow food dye. Sometimes, when supplies ran low, there was no food at all.
- Former artistic director Terence Kilburn once had to take over in *The Merchant of Venice* when the leading man injured himself on opening night. He even had to carry the script with him onstage, and had trouble reading it without his glasses.
- A 1973 production of *Dracula* was plagued by unstable scenery and props, including a bat that became tangled in a wire over the audience's heads, a secret passageway that became stuck, falling wooden blocks, one of which struck an actor on the head, and a mirror that fell out of its frame.
- One 1971 performance of the Civil War play *The Andersonville Trial* was marked by a scuffle in the audience. The actors later learned that a man — a Northern partisan — had brought a gun into the theatre to make sure Mr. Wirz, played by Booth Colman, would not go unpunished.
- When Eric Tavares, who played Oberon in one production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, decided his costume was a bit too revealing. While the curtain was going up, costume shop coordinator Mary Lynn Bonnell applied layers of spirit gum and glitter — which, fortunately, stayed on as he made his leaping entrance onstage.
- One performance of *The End of Ramadan* turned comic when Mary Pat Gleason tossed her corset off, only to have it land on Wil Love's head. Then, trying to pop a bonbon into his mouth, she "impaled" it on one of his teeth.

Take another look

The cast at Oakland University's Meadow

Brook Theatre may surprise you

By Phil Locker

How much time did you spend on the beautiful Oakland University campus? One year? Two? Three? During that time, how often did you frequent Meadow Brook Theatre? A dozen times? A few? Once? Never?

Regardless of your answers to those questions, I'd like to personally invite you and your family to return to your alma mater and to Michigan's leading professional theatre. Needless to say, quite a bit has changed since your last visit no matter how long you've been away.

Both OU and MBT have grown and evolved in recent days. The campus boasts a gleaming new Science and Engineering Complex and will open a new Recreation and Athletic Center in fall '98. The Honors College has a new home; new, larger, well-marked parking lots accommodate students and visitors alike. Enrollment is up. OU's reputation for excellence is growing worldwide.

MBT is moving forward stride for stride with OU. New Artistic Director Geoffrey Sherman is leading the way to make MBT one of the premier regional theatres in the United States. Offering a full seven-play season of entertaining, exciting and challenging professional theatre is just the beginning. MBT

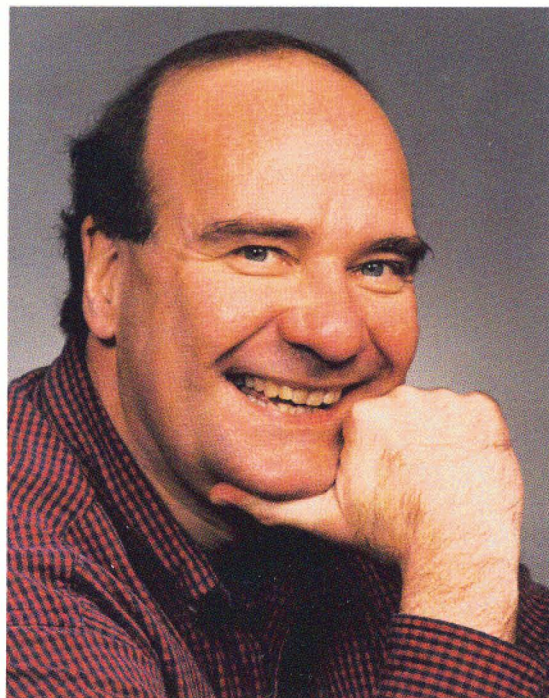
boasts a new and highly motivated advisory board; new corporate partners and new outreach and educational programs designed to include area students in a wide range of activities. Improvements in lighting, sound and audience comfort are being made. Even the seat covers and carpeting are new.

Some things about OU and MBT have not changed. Both are still committed to maintaining the highest standard of excellence and to serving our constituents by consistently seeking a new level of performance as we move together into the next century.

We invite you to return to see what's new as we embark upon this remarkable journey. As an OU alumnus, you are eligible to receive a 20-percent discount on your MBT ticket price.

See you at the theatre.

Phil Locker's film credits include Somewhere in Time, Dillinger and Poltergeist 3. Since 1981, he has performed in more than 40 plays at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre. He is currently MBT's associate director.

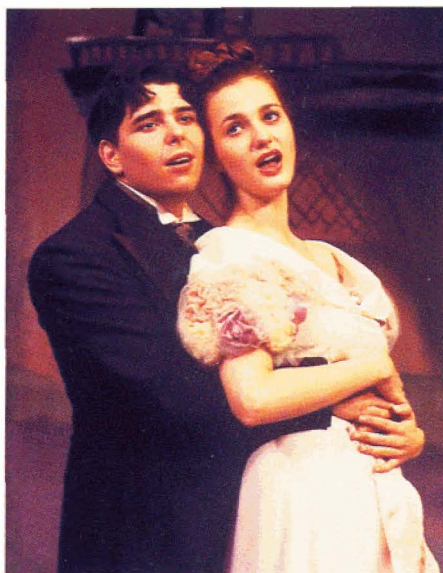


Phil Locker

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE

1996-97 WINTER-SPRING EVENTS CALENDAR



FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND TICKETS, CALL
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Departmental Auditions for Scholarships

February 15, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,
Varner Recital Hall

**Pontiac-Oakland Symphony
Young Artist Winners**

February 16, 3 p.m., Varner Recital Hall

**Concert Band
"Homegrown Talent"**

February 21, 8 p.m., Varner Recital Hall

Three Sisters by Anton Chekhov

March 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 and 22, 8 p.m.

March 9, 16 and 23, 2 p.m.

March 13 and 19, 10 a.m.

Varner Studio Theatre

**Oakland University Jazz
Ensemble and Vocal Jazz
Ensemble**

March 19, 8 p.m., Varner Recital Hall

**Gianni Schicchi by Giacomo
Puccini and Black Comedy by
Peter Shaffer**

April 2, 3 and 5, 8 p.m.

April 6, 2 p.m.

April 4, 10 a.m.

Varner Recital Hall

**Oakland Dance Theatre
"Journey Into Dance"**

April 4 and 5, 8 p.m.

April 6, 3 p.m.

Varner Studio Theatre

**Concert Band Season Finale
"Graduation Day"**

April 16, 8 p.m., Varner Recital Hall

**Oakland University Chorale
and University Chorus
"The Romantic Tradition"**

April 17, 8 p.m., Varner Recital Hall

**The Meadow Brook Estate
Spring Spectacular**

April 11, 10 a.m.

April 12, 8 p.m.

April 13, 3 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

**Pontiac-Oakland Symphony
and Oakland University Chorus
"Sacred and Profane"**

April 13, 7 p.m.

Pontiac Central High School

*People with disabilities who need special assistance may call
the box office in advance of the performance.*

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