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# MAKING AMERICA WORK

1989 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY



Joseph E. Champagne  
President

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February 22, 1990

Dear Friend of Oakland University:

This year's President's Report features a collection of profiles--telling glimpses of three dozen alumni who are daily making their way in the world and, in the process, making America work. We are pleased with their successes, respectful of their opinions and proud that Oakland University has touched the lives of so many special people.

We also include a brief summary of Oakland University's record of accomplishment for 1989. From opening our newly renovated and expanded library to receiving a full 10-year accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, we had a year rich with both fulfillment and promise.

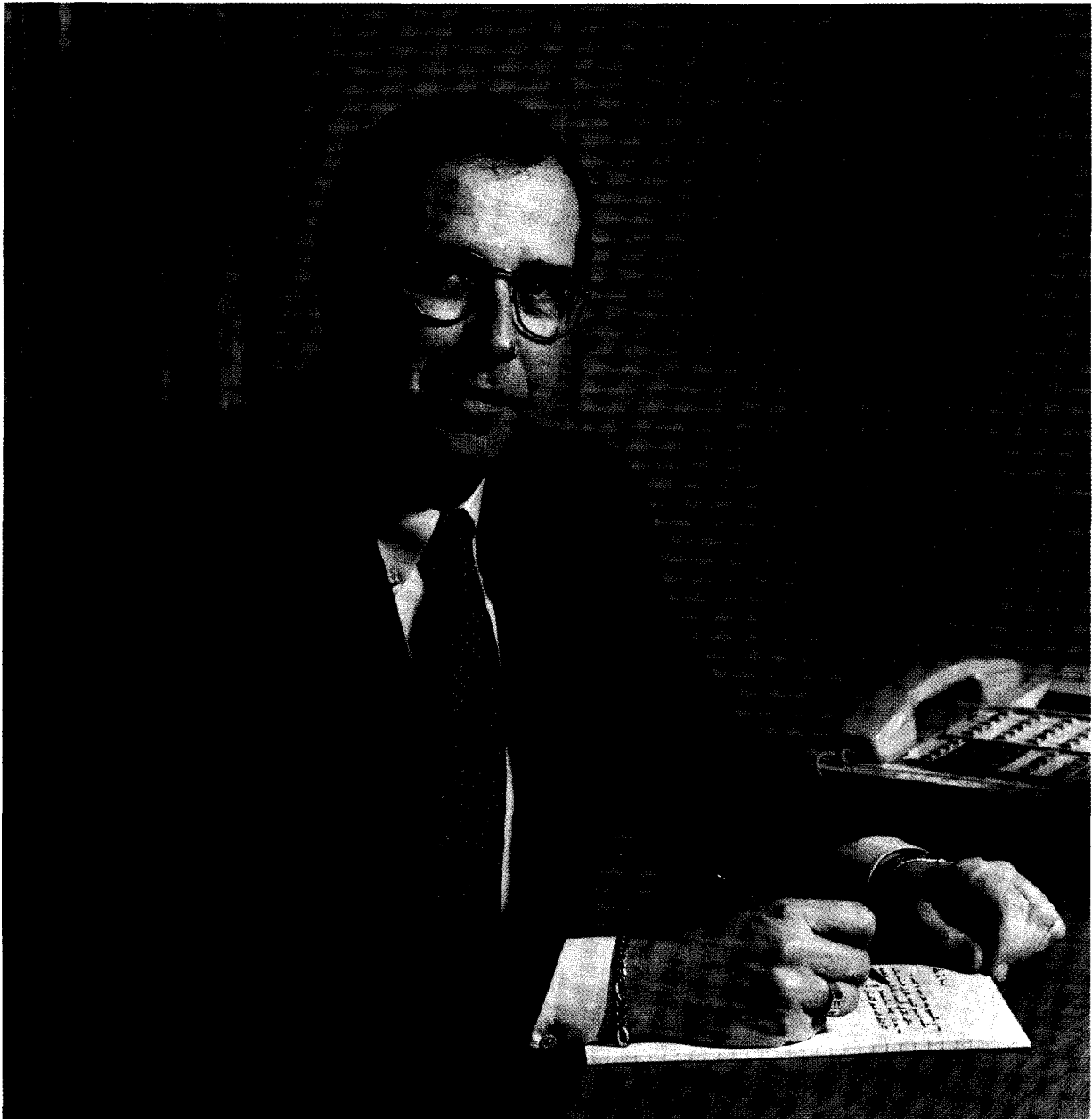
As always, your comments are welcomed.

NON-CIRCULATING

# 1989 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

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## MAKING AMERICA WORK

Two years ago, we embarked on a series of President's Reports focusing on Oakland's human resources. We began in 1987 with outstanding faculty and followed with our best and brightest students. We now come to the examination of how our products have fared in the marketplace — our alumni.

Oakland University is in the education business. We enrich the minds of our students and send them into the world of life and work with the tools to survive, to contribute and hopefully flourish. We know our alumni are, as a body, productive, successful people. Our placement statistics support this, as do demographic surveys. Yet measuring their success — as human beings and workers in a competitive world — can't justly be performed with a calculator.

So, for the purpose of offering a more personal look at the performance of our graduates, this report features a selection — from submissions by faculty, staff, alumni and friends — of some 36 accomplished people. Why so many? They represent a cross-section of ages, graduation dates and disciplines studied. They also, as you will see, represent dozens of professions and a wide range on the socioeconomic scale. We wanted to give as full a picture of Oakland's impact on America as possible.

The question we wanted answered was not "Are these Oakland's most successful alumni?" but rather "Do you consider yourself to be a success?" What you will find on the following pages are their candid, simple, yet powerful statements about opportunities in America and how they approach them.

You will also find a photograph of each alum, some two dozen of which were taken by university staff photographer Rick Smith. Rick was on the road for much of November and December, capturing his subjects at work from the stages of Broadway to the fudge shops of Mackinaw City. Stories of his East Coast shoestring dash would fill another volume. But the central message he related on his return was how impressed he was with the spirit of cooperation and hospitality offered him by our alums. They were impressed that we wanted to tell their stories.

These 36 people, and thousands like them, have emerged from Oakland University over the past 25 years to take on life and its challenges — to contribute as a tiny machine part to making America work. The fact that most of these 36 judge their success by non-monetary criteria makes me believe that Oakland is doing its job — and doing it well.

How well? You be the judge. But since the body of this report is told by the alums themselves, I can't resist lifting a comment, in summary, from one of our "real" judges, Gary Allen of Gladwin, Michigan: "I've never had a boring day."



Joseph E. Champagne  
President



## I STARTED WITH MY OWN INITIATIVE

### BARRY KLEIN

*Work: Chairman, Barry M. Klein Real Estate, Inc., and  
Nationwide Redevelopers, Birmingham, Michigan.*

*Education: B.A. in sociology, Oakland University, 1968.*

*Personal: 43, divorced, three children.*

**I**t's a real test of the heart to open up your own 'house' — lock, stock and barrel. All I started with was my own experience, reputation, initiative and some connections that led the phone to ring. There was a lot of pressure that first year, but I'm very glad I did it.

I don't measure "success" or "class" in monetary terms, like the size of a house or the price of a car. I'm a healthy person with a wonderful family and a great

lifestyle. I have a challenging job that provides variety and friendships throughout the world — and it keeps getting better and better, like a snowball rolling down a hill. I feel better in my 40s than I did in my 30s, and I think I'll do the same in my 50s, God willing. I like being Barry Klein. For me, that's the best definition of success.

## ACTORS AS ARTISTS

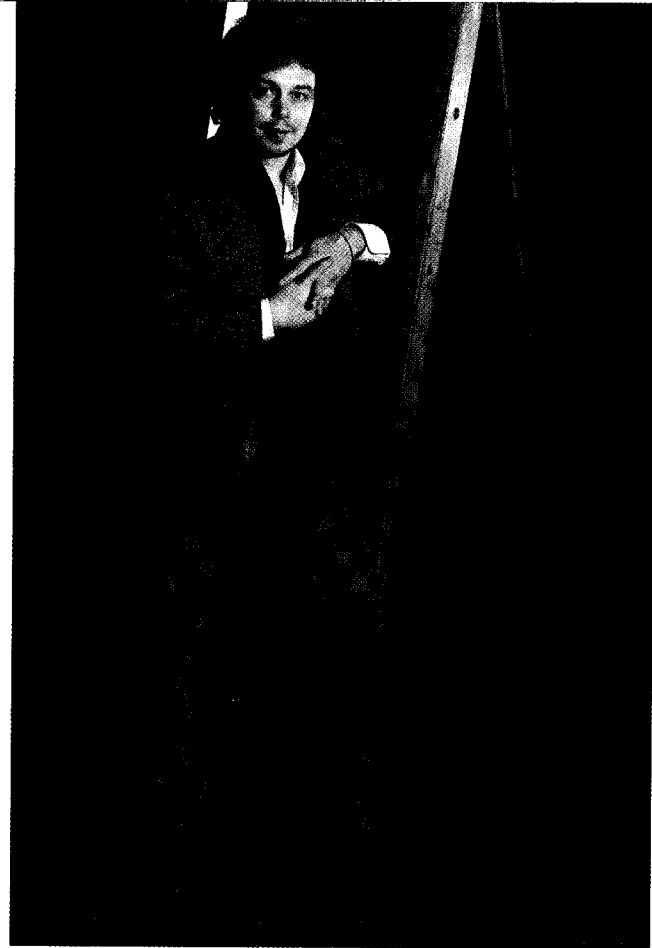
### CURTIS ARMSTRONG

**Work:** Actor, Los Angeles, California; credits include "Moonlighting," *Revenge of the Nerds*, *Revenge of the Nerds II: Nerds in Paradise*, *Risky Business*, *The Irish Hebrew Lesson (Off Broadway)*, *Present Laughter* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream (Meadow Brook Theatre)*. **Education:** *Certified by the Academy of Dramatic Arts, Oakland University, 1974.* **Personal:** 36, divorced.

At Oakland's academy we were drilled that each job is to be given the same degree of attention, no matter what it is. The *Revenge of the Nerds*' character Booger gets the same degree of attention as Shakespeare's Puck does, for instance. I've continued to use and depend on many other technical specifics that were taught us at the academy; methods of dedication and concentration.

Artists, generally, are not well received in America. Even in England, which I'm not holding up as a bastion of goodness, artists are given much more respect than they were ever given here. Here, people don't look at actors as artists. They are looked upon as not much better than thieves.

It can be easy to lose yourself out here in Hollywood. But I'm not part of the social whirl. Mainly, I lead a very quiet life here, and that keeps me from getting lost.



## A FIELD NEW TO WOMEN

### SUSAN CISCHKE

**Work:** Executive Engineer, Chrysler Proving Grounds, Chelsea, Michigan, and Wittmann, Arizona. **Education:** M.S. in mechanical engineering and Master's in management, University of Michigan, 1978 and 1983; B.S. in engineering, Oakland University, 1976. **Personal:** 35, single.

I really admire my grandparents, who came over from Ireland in the 1920s. They had the courage to say goodbye to their families, knowing they would never see them again. My grandmother, in particular, was a strong woman; she knew what she wanted and went after it.

Other heroes of mine are Lee Iacocca and my parents. My parents encouraged me to test a field that was relatively new to women — even though they didn't know what an engineer was.

My job involves technical as well as organizational skills — and, it has a lot to do with people. Right now, we have 600 people at the proving grounds, and everyone's contribution is important. Sometimes people can get so caught up in hierarchy, they lose sight of the fact that no role is more important than another. It takes everyone to make the place run.



## LIKE A KID IN A SANDBOX

### BARBARA DALE

*Work: Greeting Card Artist, Dale Cards™ and Cartoonist, Baltimore, Maryland. Education: B.A. in English, Oakland University, 1973. Personal: 38, married, one child.*

I'm like a kid playing in a sandbox. I'm working on this comic strip called "The Stanley Family." It's about Barbara and Jim Stanley, who have two jobs, three kids and much too much to do. They have a basset hound, named Spot, who is as slow as they are fast. And in order to talk, the parents have to go into the closet. They do the best they can. But they're trying to "have it all," which causes some stressful moments.

I've been very influenced by Cathy Guisewite, who created the comic strip "Cathy," and is a friend of mine.

She made me think that doing something like this was a possibility. At the time, there couldn't have been more than two or three women in the entire syndicated cartooning business. I doubt there are many more than that now.

One of my favorite projects was the cartooning industry's contribution to "U.S.A. for Africa," which I coordinated. We published a greeting card that featured more than a hundred famous cartoon characters saying, "We all got together to help."





MONICA LEE

## MAKE THEIR IDEAS GROW

### GARY APPEL

*Work: Executive Director, Life Lab Science Program, University of California-Santa Cruz, Agroecology Program, Experimental Farms. Education: B.A. in sociology, Oakland University, 1972. Personal: 38, married.*

I was one of the co-founders of Project Life Lab, an integrated, garden-based approach to elementary science and environmental education. Using a garden seemed to be a perfect medium to have students interact with the environment in a positive, hands-on way.

I originally planned to go into law. But after working in summer camps, it became clear to me that my heart was with the environment. There were going to be plenty of lawyers around, but probably not as many environmental advocates.

The American educational system needs to put a lot more money and energy into innovation and research and development. We need to reward teachers who come up with good ideas and then help those teachers make their ideas grow.

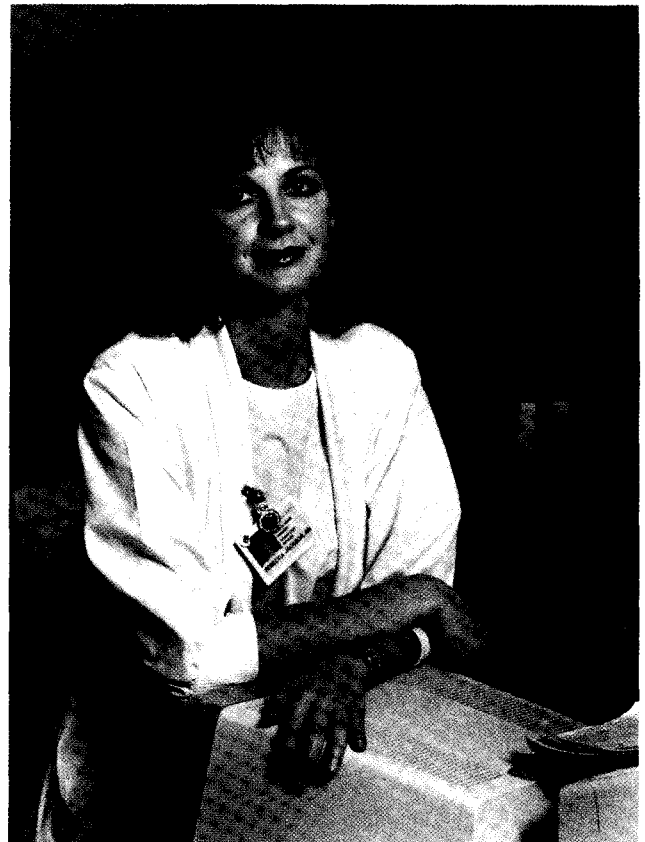
## THE OUTPUT IS HUMAN LIFE

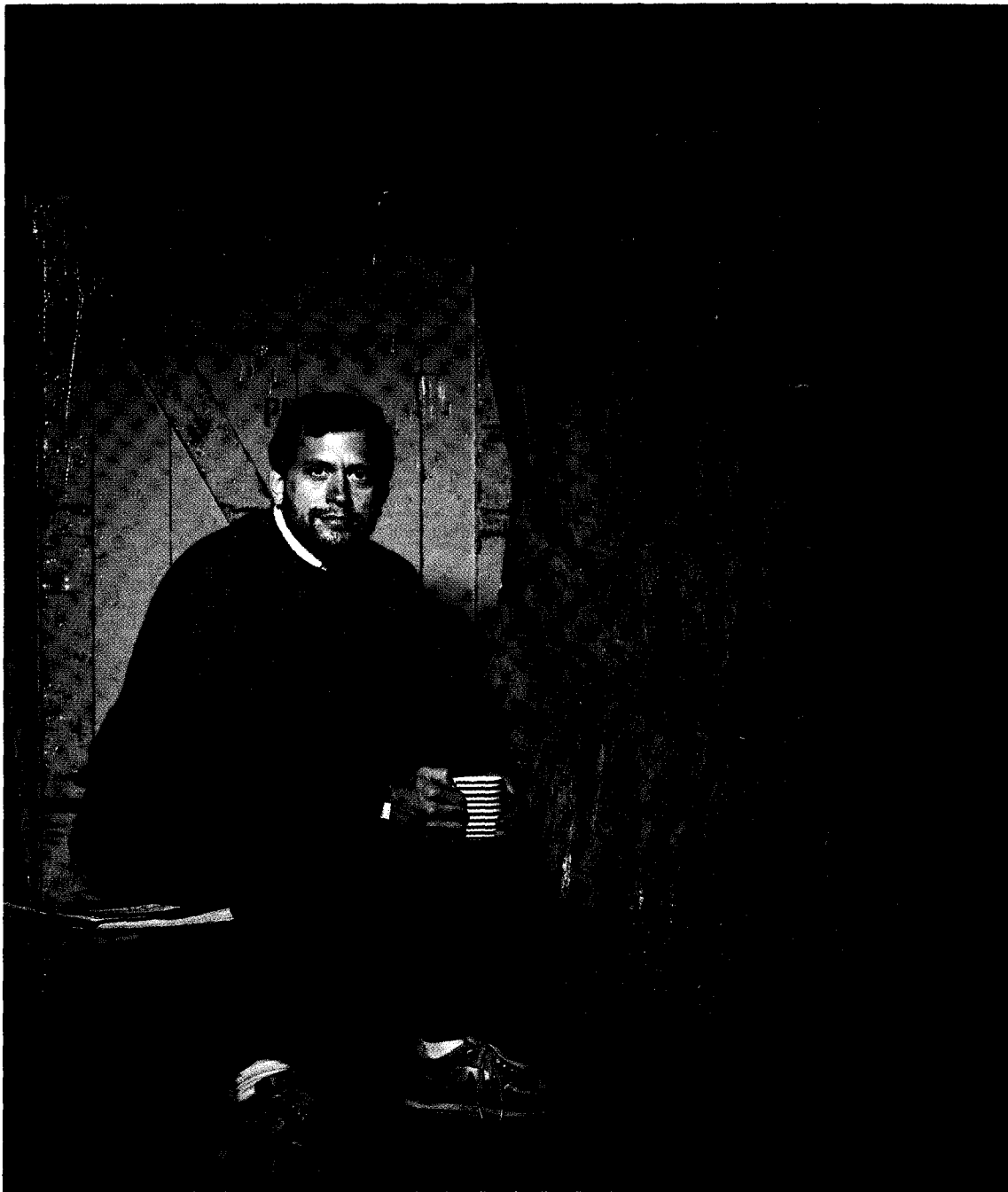
### REBECCA JACKSON

*Work: Head Nurse, 40-Bed Gynecology/Urology/Cardiology Medical-Surgical Unit, Providence Hospital, Southfield, Michigan. Education: B.S. in nursing, Oakland University, 1981. Personal: 30, single.*

My mother, who was a nurse, told me not to go into nursing because the work was too back-breaking. But the seed was planted. My father encouraged me to always be the best. Although he died when I was in high school, his influence has stayed with me. I really pushed hard for scholarships and received lots of financial assistance while at Oakland. Without that, I wouldn't be here today.

A lot of the things that differentiate a good nurse from a mediocre nurse — and help or hinder a patient's recovery — occur outside the room. The mentality of the American hospital is becoming more like a business: Do the most amount of work with the least amount of people. That might be okay in a factory, where the output is nuts and bolts, but in a hospital, the output is human life.





## I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING ON STAGE

### DAVID PFEIFFER

*Work:* Stage Director, New York City Opera, New York, New York. *Education:* M.F.A. in theatre, Wayne State University, 1981; B.Mus., Oakland University, 1979. *Personal:* 33, single.

I was ready to chuck it all once and go into something that made more money and was more stable. Luckily, I was in Paris between jobs with Rhoda Levine, whom I apprenticed with through a grant, and saw Peter Brooks' production of *Le Tragedie du Carmen*. I stood in line for three-and-a-half hours to get a ticket, and then stayed another day and stood in line again. I was so transported by the economy used to make the drama work that I thought, "Yeah, this is really what I want to do." I'm

responsible for everything you see on the stage, as well as what the performers do. We perform up to eight different operas a week while rehearsing four to six others.

We're not just curators within a museum of theatre; we're not just doing yet again another production of *Carmen*. There needs to be a sense of life and humanity as opposed to cardboardness. That is really why I'm in this business.

## WOMEN CAN PLAY THE SPORT

### LINDA KRAWFORD

*Work: Professional Basketball Player, All-Spanish League, Zaragoza, Spain. Education: B.S. in management, Oakland University, 1985. Personal: 28, single.*

One of my goals was to make the All-American team while at Oakland, which I did. Another goal was to play professional basketball. My parents encouraged me to do my best at whatever I do, and that's what I strive for. And my coaches at Oakland, Duane Jones and Rose Swidzinski, helped me gain confidence in myself.

You have to be strong to be able to pick up and go to a completely different world and stay there for a year. I'd definitely rather play in my own country, but we haven't been able to establish a women's professional league in the U.S. and maintain it. The basic problem has to do with promotion. There are still so many people who don't realize that women can play the sport — and play it well. If the NBA would take a small part — let us be a franchise, perhaps — it would help a lot.

## DETERMINATION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

### TOM VOLGY

*Work: Mayor of Tucson, Arizona, and Professor of political science, University of Arizona. Education: Ph.D. in political science, University of Minnesota, 1972; M.A. in political science, University of Minnesota, 1969; B.A. in political science and history, Oakland University, 1967. Personal: 42, married.*

My parents and I fled from Budapest, Hungary, in 1956 during the Hungarian Revolution. John Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. were my heroes, and their assassinations had the most immediate impact in terms of my life. John Kennedy was the first politician I ever met. He struck me as a person who could change the nature of this nation. His death was a tremendously disillusioning, difficult experience for me. Martin Luther King's death also resulted in a great deal of alienation — and then a determination to make a difference.

The American way of life is probably the only way of life where an immigrant kid with no roots, wealth or resources could make good. I've been very fortunate in that I've been able to lead a double life — in academia, where I've been fairly successful, and in this political world. I think you measure success by looking in the mirror and feeling good about yourself. This morning, I feel that way.



PAT HELGESON



## A PHYSICIAN IS FIRST A TEACHER

**MARY ELLEN BRADEMAS**

*Work: Chief of Dermatology, St. Vincent's Hospital; Director, Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic, Bellevue Hospital; Physician with a private practice, New York, New York.*  
*Education: M.D., Georgetown University, 1979; Residency, Dermatology, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1980-81; New York University; Skin and Cancer, 1981-83; B.A. in biology, Oakland University, 1975. Personal: Married, four children.*

When my daughter told me at age 16 that she was going to study medicine, I thought, "What a terrific idea." It was like a proverbial lightbulb went on and I realized *that* was what I wanted to do.

I can't tell you the pleasure I get from my work. I get

an enormous amount of intellectual and spiritual gratification from both seeing patients in private practice and teaching. I think that a physician is first of all a teacher. I have an obligation to teach, because I have been trained so well by so many good people.

## HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS

### GAIL DEGEORGE

*Work: Bureau Manager, Business Week Magazine, Miami, Florida. Education: B.A. in journalism, Oakland University, 1981. Personal: 30, single.*

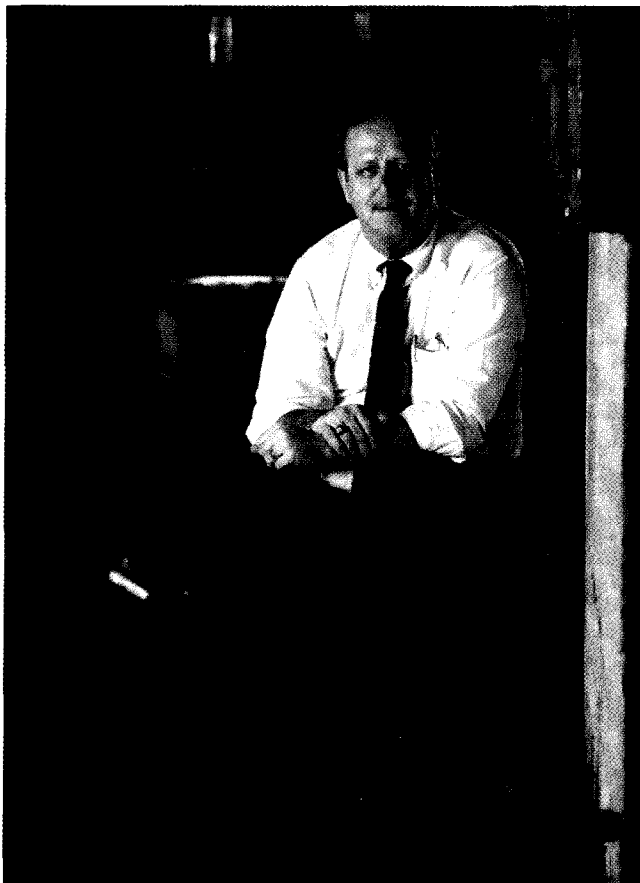
Without freedom of the press or the First Amendment, we wouldn't be able to do what we do. That's why my heroes are reporters who practice their craft in an atmosphere where it's dangerous to do so. Journalism often gets criticized, but as a working journalist I have pretty high ethical standards — and expect others to have the same.

For *Business Week*, I've traveled to Jamaica to cover a hurricane, Venezuela to do a story about economic collapse and reported on elections from the Caribbean. As a journalist, you're always looking for the underdog.

I never set out to be successful — I only set out to be good at what I do. Age doesn't really matter; there's a danger in the pressure we put on youthful success. And after a decade of excesses, I think there is a realization that happiness is not a BMW in the garage.



AL KAPLAN



## AMERICANS HAVE TO WORK HARDER

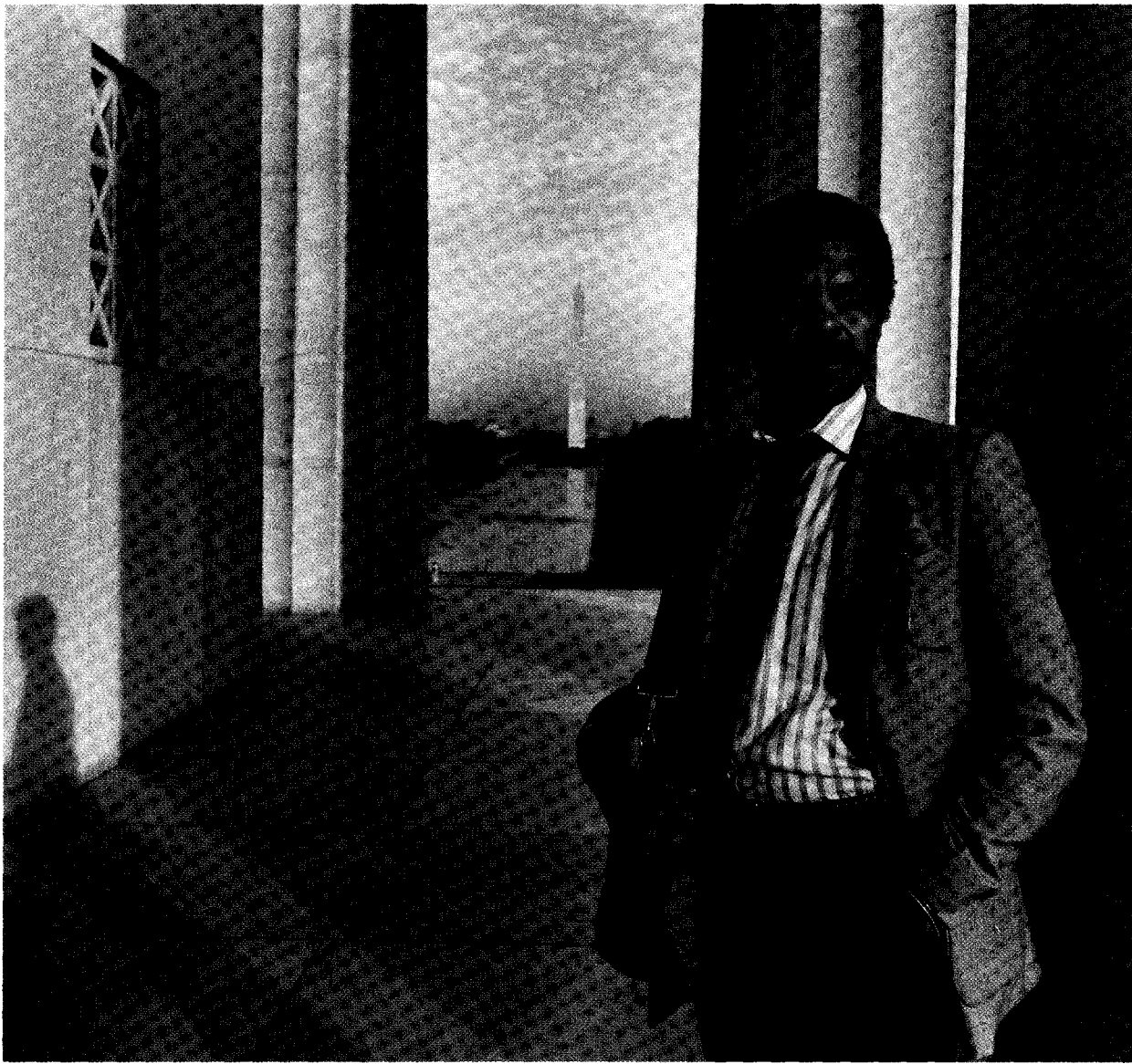
### DENNIS PAWLEY

*Work: General Manager, Advanced Manufacturing Engineering, Chrysler Motors Corporation, Detroit, Michigan. Education: B.S. in human resource development, Oakland University, 1982. Personal: 48, married, three children.*

We're really engulfed in the international car wars. Chrysler is probably the auto company with the biggest challenge for the '90s. But Chrysler is also more open to taking risks than any of the other domestic car-makers.

Americans have to work harder, and learn to work smarter. The Japanese believe that every day you have to improve. Americans look at the short-range goal and then coast. The competition never quits. The companies in my industry who stop to catch their breath will probably never draw another one.

Trying to balance the needs of family and career is an ongoing struggle every executive faces. Although it's tough on the individual, it's almost tougher on the family. I have to confront them and explain why I have to work so many hours, or it can destroy us.



## TRUTH IS NOT ENOUGH

### JOE DAVIDSON

*Work: Reporter, The Wall Street Journal, Washington, D.C., Bureau; Journalism Instructor, Howard University. Education: M.P.P. in public policy studies, University of Michigan, 1974; Fellowship at the Washington Journalism Center, 1971; B.A. in secondary education/social studies with a concentration in political science, Oakland University, 1971 (Alfred G. Wilson Award winner). Personal: 40, married, three children.*

I don't pretend to be a robot without feelings — I bring all of me to work. I can't deny certain opinions, and that's why the notion of objectivity is a phony one. I'm mindful of the fact that I can write a story where everything is true, but only tells one side of the story. That's why for me, the truth is not enough.

My respect for Martin Luther King, Jr. was very important in my political development. I remember when the news broke about his assassination. I was sitting in my room in Vandenberg stunned while the white students down the hall were having a water fight — and continued having one. That showed me how far apart our views of the world were. That played a major role in the

way I define myself and my position in society. I'm still definitely not part of the mainstream — and don't want to be.

What makes me happy? I'm happy when I see folks being successful against tall odds; not necessarily monetarily, but in integrity and spirituality. I'm happy when I think I've done a really good job on a news story. Really good sex makes me really happy. I'd love to see a free South Africa; that would make me happy. I'd love to see the problems of drugs and racism disappear. I'd love to see my kids prosper as human beings. And I'm going to do everything I can to make sure they grow up to be honorable.

## SECOND IN COMMAND

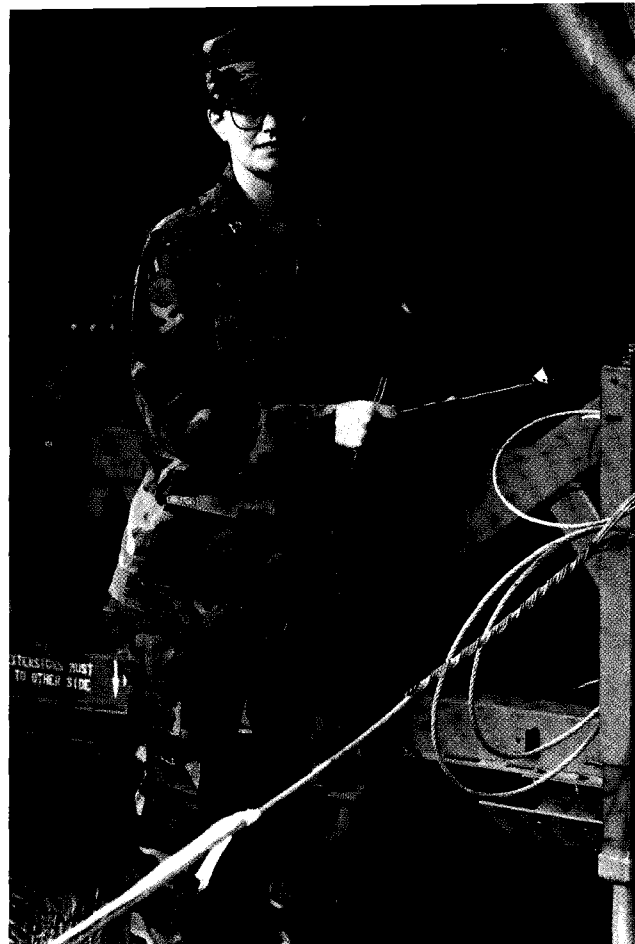
### SHAILA SIMMONS

**Work:** *U.S. Marine Corps Captain, Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, North Carolina.* **Education:** *B.A. in Chinese language and civilization, Oakland University, 1977.* **Personal:** *34, married.*

**I** joined the Marines because my B.A. and a quarter would have gotten me a cup of coffee in Detroit in the late '70s. I planned to get a Reserve commission, do my three years active duty, and go on. But I discovered there was a lot I liked about the Corps, and decided to apply for a regular commission. Right now I'm a comm-elect officer and second in command of a 140-man division that handles all commercial telecommunications for the base.

I've held some challenging billets, but I have gotten to go places and do things I never would have otherwise. I went to Korea with 30 people and more than \$1 million worth of equipment. I was a very junior lieutenant — and I was the boss.

In the future I'd like to work in military procurement. I've experienced firsthand some frustrations in working with tactical equipment, and someday I'd like to be in a position to say: "Stop, use some common sense," when dealing with equipment design. We have some good gear, but I'd like to make it better.



MORRIS HUMPHREY

## SOLID FOUNDATION OF THE LAW

### GARY ALLEN

**Work:** *Judge, 80th District Court in Clare and Gladwin, Michigan.* **Education:** *J.D., Detroit College of Law, 1970; B.A., elementary education, Oakland University, 1964.* **Personal:** *47, married.*

**L**aw deals with people in all the other fields — doctors, chemists, farmers, plumbers. I've never had a boring day. I have the solid foundation of the law mixed in with different personalities.

During my first year at Oakland, there was a philosophy professor who would call on people randomly for discussion. And when my turn came up, I would freeze. On the first test, though, I got a "B," and he called me into his office and said, "You've got what it takes to graduate from college." No one had ever pulled me aside and said, "You can do it." After he did — a person whom I highly respected — I believed I could, too.

Success is how good you feel about what you do in life. For me, it's whether I'm working to my potential. I'm not afraid to chance failing or not being better than the next person — I've come in second and third many times.





CAREY VAN LOON

## NOTHING LESS THAN EXCELLENCE

### ANNIVORY CALVERT

**Work:** *Director of Public Works, Fontana, California.*  
**Education:** *M.A. in guidance and counseling, Oakland University, 1978; B.A. in psychology, Oakland University, 1977 (Matilda R. Wilson Award winner).* **Personal:** *35, married, one child.*

Only in America could I, a woman of color, be a public works director. I'm the only black female in the world with experience in fleet maintenance in a government agency.

I was still pursuing my master's when I started working for the city of Detroit. Having been raised a child of the '60s, I was really enthusiastic about using what I learned in college to do some good in the world.

The person who had the most effect on my career was my mother. She received her master's when I received my bachelor's, and we marched together. She showed me that who, what, what sex or what color you are doesn't matter — it's the undying persistence for nothing less than excellence that counts. There will be times when you have to suffer when standing up for what you know is right. But good wins out in the end.





## WE STAY AWAY FROM ADVICE-GIVING

### MARYJO KAISER-LORD

**Work:** *Crisis Line Coordinator of HAVEN, a shelter for victims of violence, Pontiac, Michigan.* **Education:** *M.A., counseling, Oakland University, 1986; B.S., human resource development/human services, Oakland University, 1985.* **Personal:** *27, married.*

**I**n any human service job, you need to learn not to take problems home with you. Sometimes that's very difficult, but it would be overwhelming otherwise.

We try to stay away from advice-giving and rescuing. We tell clients we can explore options with them but we can't make decisions for them — only they can make the decisions that will affect their lives.

I believe you have to make the most of your experiences, out of what you've been given. Lack of experience is an obstacle for everyone. For me, being blind isn't an obstacle; it's more of an inconvenience.

## MORE ATHLETIC-RELATED INJURIES

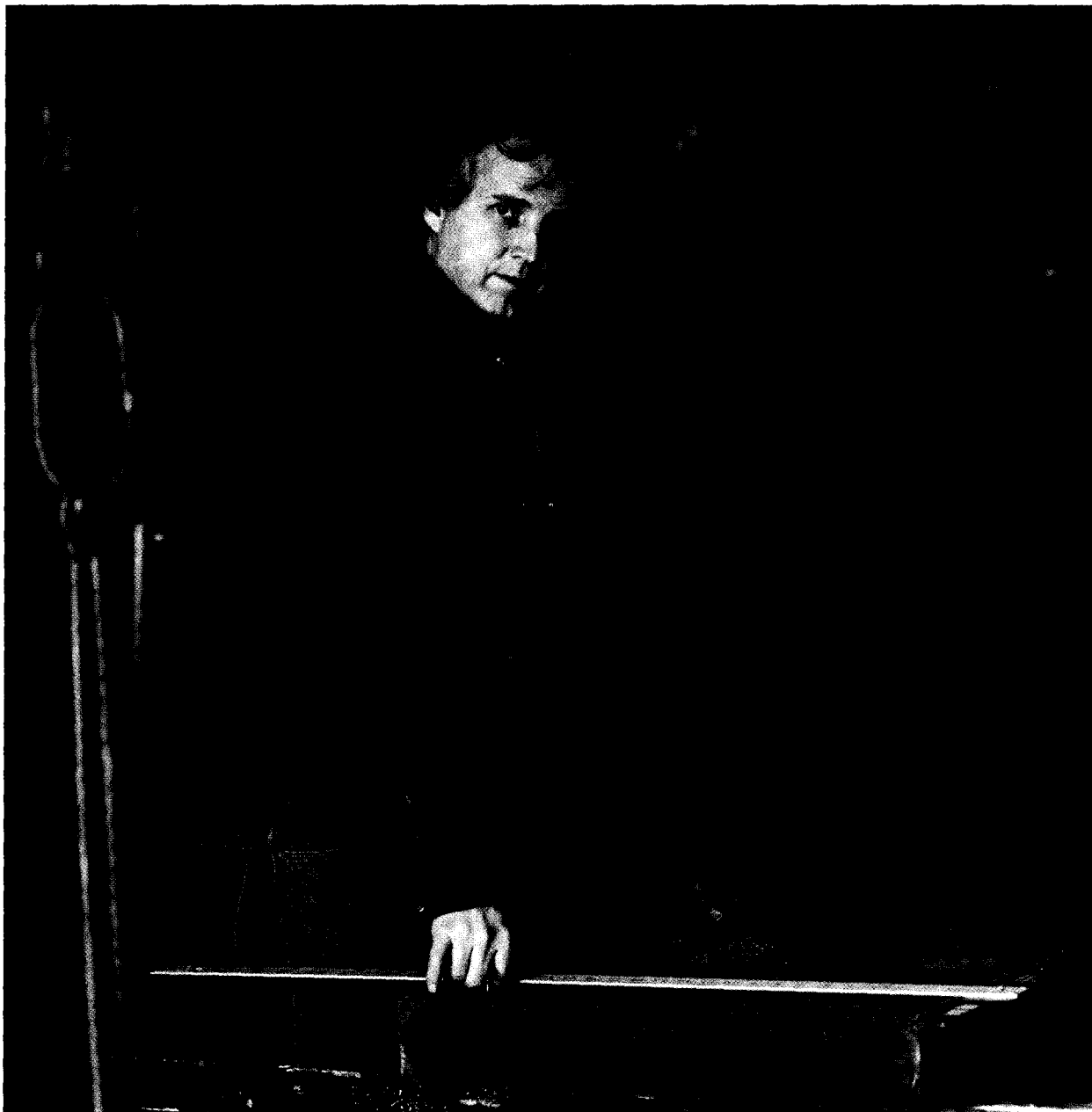
### DAVID RAPSON

**Work:** *Sports Medicine Coordinator, Munson Medical Center, Traverse City, Michigan.* **Education:** *B.S. in physical therapy, Oakland University, 1986.* **Personal:** *26, married.*

**W**hen I was 12, my brother broke his neck in a diving accident and became a quadriplegic. That was my first exposure to physical therapy. I later suffered a knee injury while playing high school football. I ended up at a rural community hospital that didn't have any specialists and thought, "There's got to be a better way to do this." That got me interested in the sports end of physical therapy. My brother, father and mother, who has multiple sclerosis, have been a big influence on my career, as has my wife, Ellen.

Much of the American population tends to be overweight and sedentary, which increases its health risk. On the other hand, we're still experiencing a fitness boom. As we exercise more and become more fit as a society, we're going to suffer more athletic-related injuries. It's a lot easier to take care of these types of injuries; the former tend to be much more fatal.





## ART REQUIRES ENDURANCE

### TOM BILLS

*Work:* Sculptor; Brooklyn, New York; represented by Zabriskie Gallery, New York City; Feigenson/Preston Gallery;

Birmingham, Michigan; Rolf Ricki Gallery, Cologne, West Germany; Zack-Shuster Gallery, Boca Raton, Florida.

*Education:* M.F.A. in sculpture, Yale University, 1978; The Whitney Independent Study Program, New York City, 1975;

B.A. in English, Oakland University, 1974. *Personal:* 40, single.

When I began making sculpture, I was an English major at OU. I got a student job at Meadow Brook Art Gallery and, after the first contemporary sculpture exhibition, I knew immediately that this was what I wanted to do. It felt very natural. I started taking art classes. Kiichi Usui, Jim Hart and Michael Brakke identified something in me and gave me an incredible amount of support. After all these years, they're still very supportive. I visit Kiichi when I get back to see my family in Warren.

Art requires endurance. It's very hard to try to make a living with fine art. You have to constantly fight off feelings of hopelessness. There's nothing predictable about it. But if you're fortunate, your turn comes up.

Artists in this country have a disadvantage over other countries. In Europe, for instance, artists are treated with much more respect. In America, people look at visual artists like they're crazy; like they are doing something their 5-year-old kid could do.



## MORE VIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT ROLE

### CYNTHIA ATTWOOD

*Work: Associate Solicitor, Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. Education: J.D., University of Minnesota, 1973; B.A. in English, Oakland University, 1969. Personal: 42, single.*

I never wanted to do anything except public service work. The simplest way to describe my current job is that I'm the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's lawyer. I've been heavily involved in the effort to bring a more vigorous enforcement role back to OSHA.

There's an awful lot going on these days that's really shameful — corruption, the buying of the federal government through influence peddling. Resolving these kinds of issues is critical to having a government that is fair and deals effectively and justly with its citizens. Unfortunately, public service is becoming less and less attractive to people of real quality and integrity. There's no money to be had, and unending public scrutiny and pressure with very few rewards.

## SERVING THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

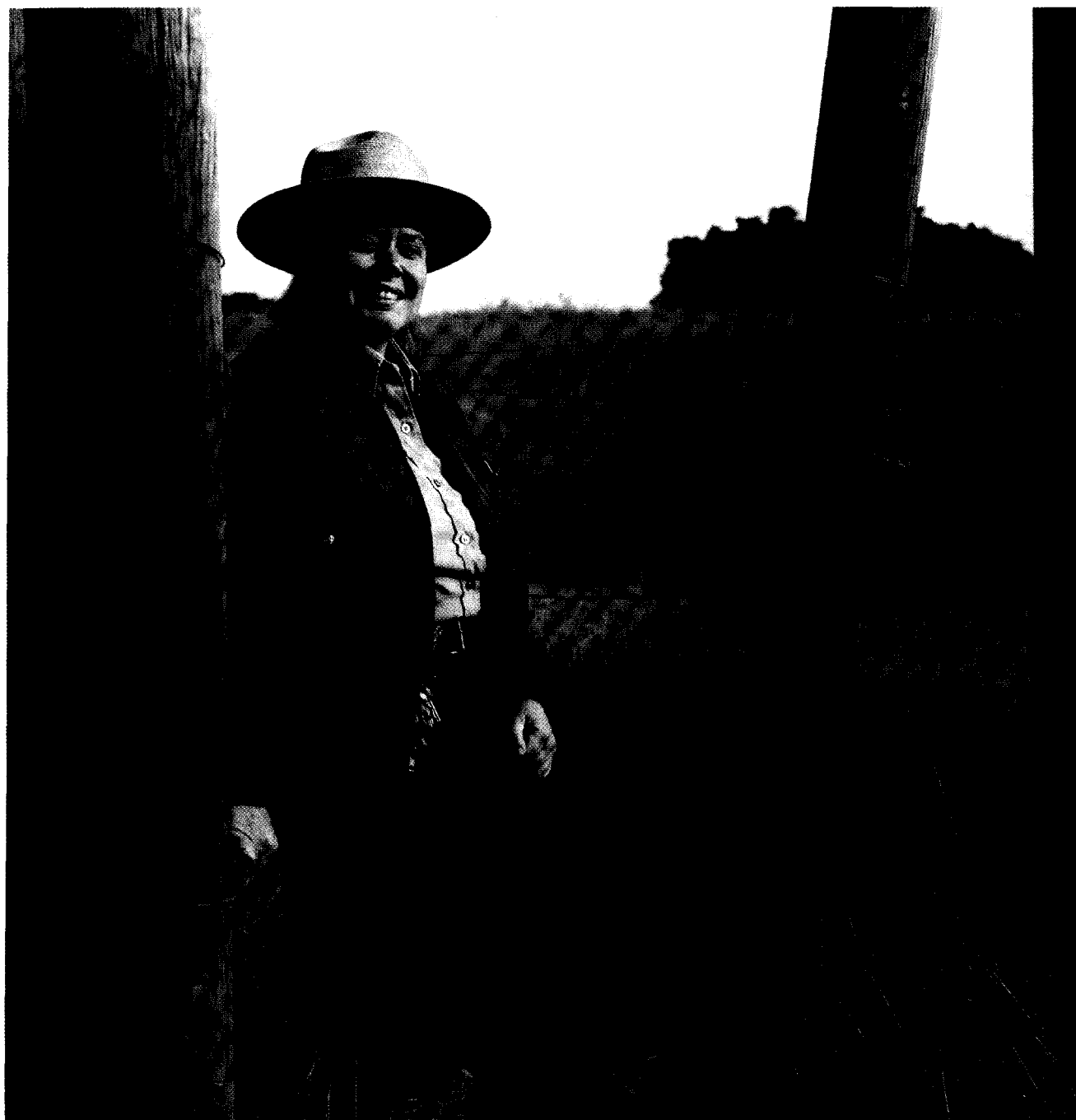
### JAMES WILBERT

*Work: Partner, Coopers & Lybrand, New York, New York. Education: C.P.A., 1978; M.B.A., Michigan State University, 1975; B.S. in management, Oakland University, 1973. Personal: 38, married, three children.*

I've always had this thing about being in control of my destiny. I was able to put myself through school and tried to follow some pretty basic goals.

I'm probably most proud of passing the C.P.A. exam and becoming a partner in the international firm of Coopers & Lybrand — and being a part of a profession that is doing an excellent job in serving the business community. The principles that guide our profession are high quality and integrity. Without these principles, our profession would be in jeopardy.





MONICA LEE

## PROTECTING MY PIECE OF THE PLANET

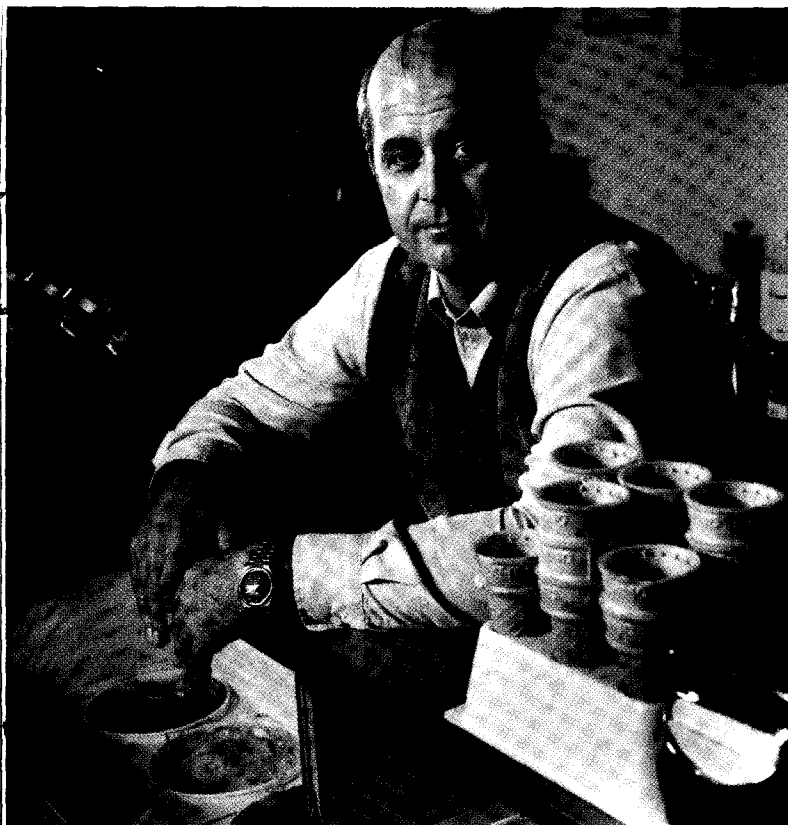
### DONNA LEE DEBAETS

*Work: Park Ranger II, Sonoma County Regional Parks, Sonoma County; California. Education: M.A.T. in elementary education, Oakland University, 1979; B.A. in elementary education, Michigan State University, 1972. Personal: 39, single*

**W**e're peace officers — we wear a badge and take care of the bad guys. We're also Emergency Medical Technicians; we administer first aid and handle medical emergencies. But primarily, we take care of the parks and make sure that everybody's happy. There are many different habitats in this division, and the job varies with the environment.

I'm proud of being a child of the '60s. I still have

ideals about working for the greater good and peace and love — things that seem to have gone out the window in the '80s. One of the burning issues in this area is development versus preservation. This is indicative of what's happening to the whole planet, with people coming in and doing whatever they want to the land. In this line of work, I feel that I'm protecting my little piece of the planet.



## “YES” TO TIME; “NO” TO MONEY

### KARL BERA KOVICH

*Work: Proprietor: Kilwin's Chocolates, Bell's Melody Motel and North Winds Motel, Mackinaw City, Michigan. Education: B.S. in social studies, Oakland University, 1969. Personal: 42, married, three children.*

**M**y wife and I do a lot of the work ourselves. I manufacture ice cream, fudge and confectionary items and do the maintenance, desk-clerking and payroll. We can both do just about everything; we fill in where needed when we don't have enough help.

We both started out as teachers in downstate Michigan. I had summered up here since I was a child, and really liked the area. It seemed like a great place to raise a family, so we moved here 18 years ago. We've tried to balance living in a vacation area with making a living and still enjoying ourselves. Our family life is pretty nonexistent in the summer, though, when we average 18-to-20-hour days.

My heroes are the people I know who manage to balance a successful business career with a rewarding family life — people who occasionally say “yes” to the time and “no” to the money.

## WILLING TO TAKE RISKS

### SUSANNE GATCHELL

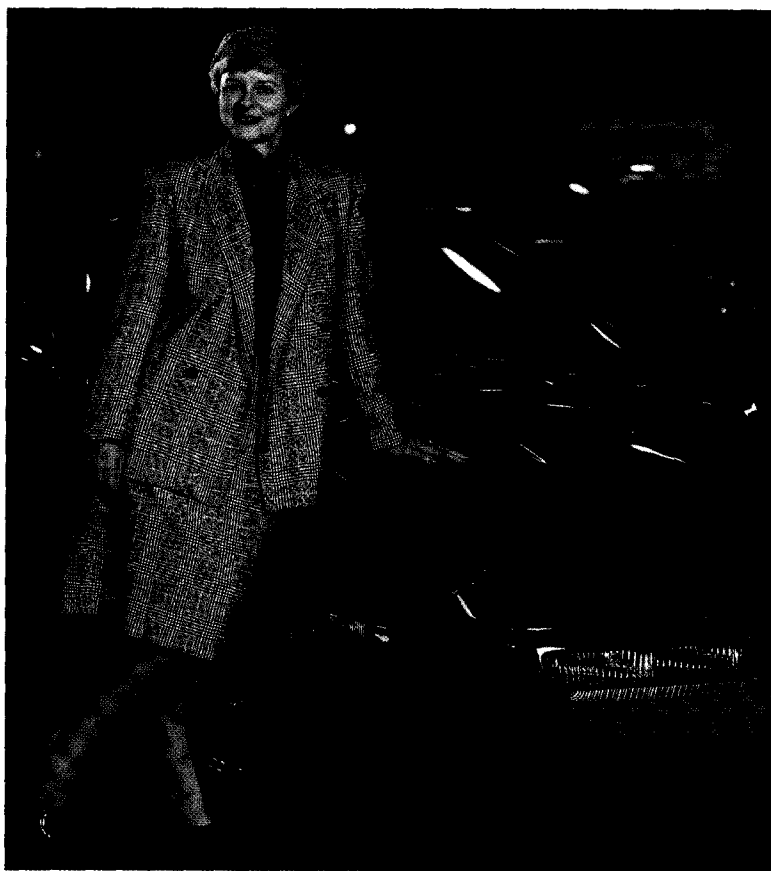
*Work: Director, Quality Network, General Motors Corporation, Warren, Michigan. Education: M.S. and Ph.D. in industrial and operations engineering, University of Michigan 1972 and 1977; B.S. in engineering, Oakland University, 1969. Personal: 42, married, one child.*

**I**t was extremely rare in those days for a high school girl to want to become an engineer. The only thing my science teacher could tell me about engineering was that “only boys are engineers.” Luckily, I didn't listen to her — and I set out to prove that girls could indeed be engineers.

To be successful in engineering or any field, you need to be motivated, creative, persistent and willing to take risks. If you demonstrate your capabilities over and over, someone is bound to notice you.

Some women tend to worry about why they aren't getting ahead. They wonder if there is prejudice. They may spend too much time worrying about the female issues, rather than worrying about how well they are demonstrating their capability consistently on the job.

Being an engineer is the most exciting, challenging career that I could have chosen. And as a member of GM management, I enjoy motivating and encouraging others to be creative, to take risks and, of course, to reach their maximum potential.





## THE SYSTEM HAS ELASTICITY

### DAVID BAKER LEWIS

*Work: Chairman, Partner and Attorney, Lewis, White & Clay, P.C., Detroit, Michigan. Education: J.D., University of Michigan, 1970; M.B.A., University of Chicago, 1967; B.A. in economics, Oakland University, 1965 (Alfred G. Wilson Award winner). Personal: 45, married, two children.*

The American system has tremendous elasticity and variety for the aspirations of each person; the person who wants to write for a living, sing for a living or be the CEO of General Motors. Yet, it's still riddled with biases and prejudices — limitations based upon gender, race, family background or financial means. But I think many of these limitations are being curtailed — and eventually will be eliminated. Not in my lifetime, though.

One aspect of dealing with setbacks is something my

dad taught me in an indirect way: Don't expect too much out of life. His set of expectations was balanced; he didn't set out to conquer the world.

Educationally, OU was a pivotal experience in my life because of the nature of the university at that point. Oakland was still actively pursuing the ideal of being the "Harvard of The Midwest"; it was a wonderful collection of fine people with fine minds who were very excited about teaching.

## POLITICS IS A TOUGH BUSINESS

### RONNA ROMNEY

*Work: Republican National Committeewoman for Michigan; Co-author, Giving Time a Chance: The Secret of a Lasting Marriage and Momentum: Women in American Politics Now; Lecturer, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Education: B.A. in elementary education, Oakland University, 1967. Personal: 46, married, five children.*

**P**olitics is a tough business — the kind of business where the losses far outnumber the wins. I've had the normal career setbacks that anyone would have, but nothing I'd consider major. I really get caught up in things; it seems to be my nature to go all out in everything I do.

I was recently named chairperson of the Commission on White House Fellows by President Bush. I'm the first woman to chair this commission and also the youngest person.

I'm really comfortable with myself. I'm comfortable being a woman, I'm comfortable if I shed a tear and I'm comfortable if I never have one more success in this world that is measurable by man. I've found the way to go in my life, and that is to just keep learning.



## NEVER REST ON YOUR LAURELS

### CLARE WENTWORTH

*Work: President, Champion Motor Coach, Inc. (subsidiary of Champion Enterprises, Inc.), Dryden, Michigan. Education: B.S. in engineering, Oakland University, 1964. Personal: 50, divorced, three children.*

**M**y folks gave me a good, old work ethic: You can never rest on your laurels. They also made sure I had respect for people — and it shows. That's basically what's kept me going.

The industry I am in has prospered almost entirely because of the American way of life. This country is big enough, beautiful enough and affluent enough for people to travel extensively. I personally enjoy traveling, particularly getting off the main roads to see how people live in each area. But lately, it saddens me to see the differences in local customs disappearing.





## MORE THAN A GREEN THUMB

ABBIE ROY JACOBSON

*Work: Owner/General Manager, Bowerman's Westview Orchards, Romeo, Michigan. Education: B.S. in chemistry, Oakland University, 1976. Personal: 36, married.*

The farm has been in my family since 1813. My great, great, great grandfather, Michael Bowerman, received the land as bounty for his bravery in the War of 1812. My mother is fifth generation; my sister and I, sixth generation. My sister and mother are extremely active in the retail side of things, and my sister also does all the book-keeping. My husband, who works as a maintenance engineer for the U.S. Army Tank Command, looks after

all the equipment. I make the daily decisions, but we make the major decisions as a family.

You need to have much more than a green thumb to farm: It's a whole way of life. You need to have a very strong work ethic; farming is very demanding, and the economic rewards aren't there. Just when you think you've got it, Mother Nature throws you a curve.





## GOOD APPRECIATION FOR WHERE I AM

### SHERYL WRAGG

**Work:** *Attorney/Manager of Contracts and Procurement, General Dynamics Corporation, Cairo, Egypt.* **Education:** *J.D., University of Detroit, 1984; B.A. in history and art history, Oakland University, 1979.* **Personal:** *35, single.*

I was the first female that my company sent overseas. When I said that I wanted to go to the Middle East, they said forget it, that I'd have to put a veil on and walk behind everybody. But I've been here since 1982, and there's really no end in sight. I'm the official liaison between General Dynamics and the Egyptian government. I do a lot of negotiating and trying to figure out how to get things done in a third-world country. I speak Arabic, which makes all of this doable.

I'm thrilled that I was an art history major, because it has given me a good appreciation for where I am. Everything here is at least 500 years old, including the buildings that people live in. I'm continuing to study Arabic, I go to the Sinai Peninsula a lot and scuba dive in the Red Sea, and I try to blend in with the locals as much as possible.

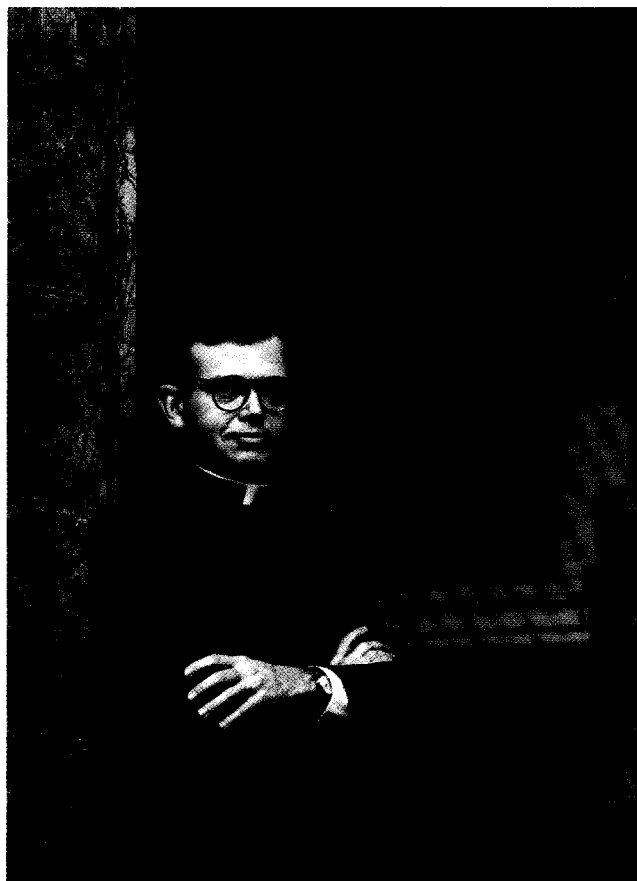
## MANY WAYS TO GOD

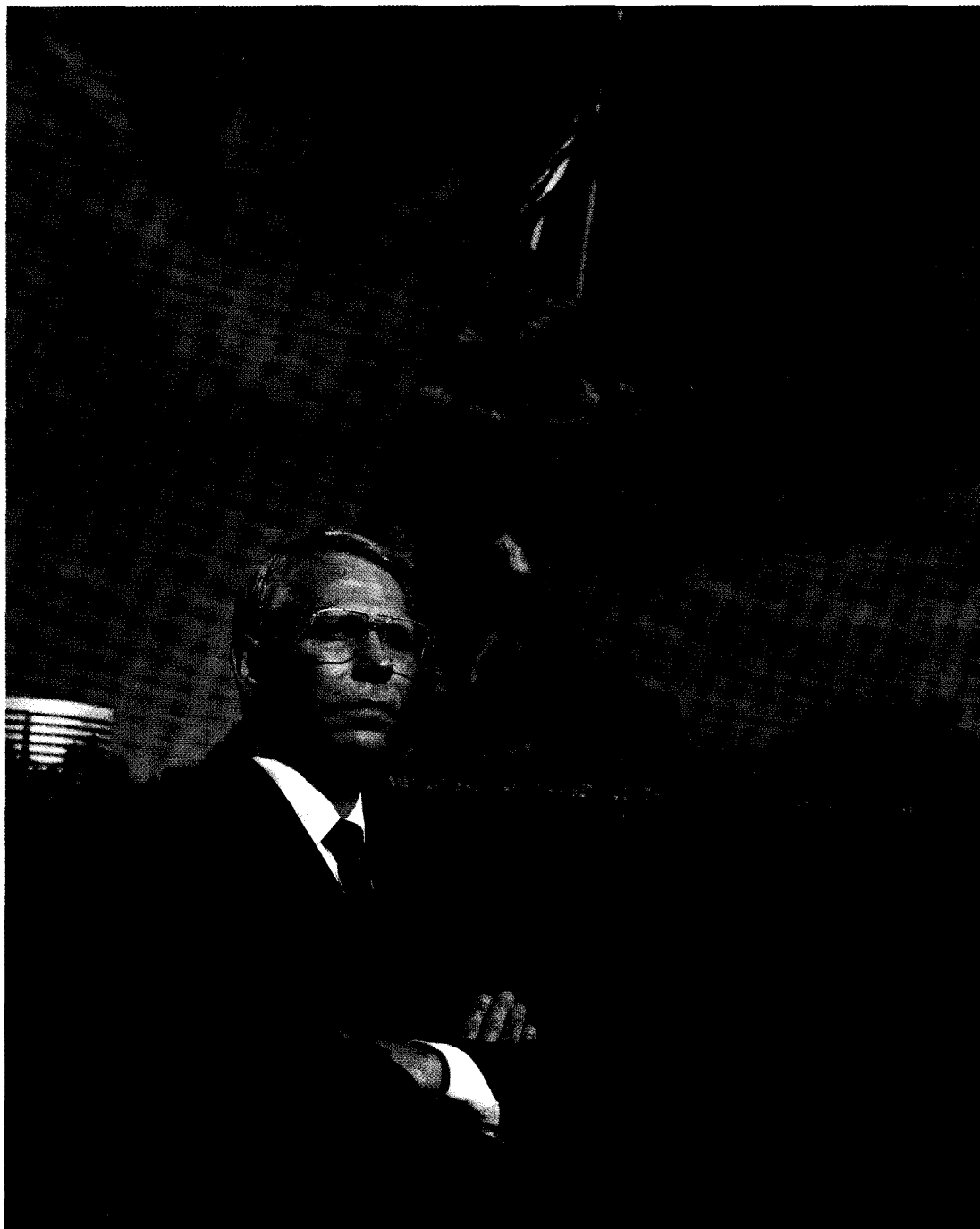
### ROBERT SULLIVAN

**Work:** *Roman Catholic Priest and Professor of Church History, St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Massachusetts.* **Education:** *M.Div., St. John's Seminary, 1979; Ph.D. in church history, Harvard University, 1977; A.M., Harvard University, 1969; B.A. in history, Oakland University, 1968.* **Personal:** *42, single.*

The priesthood seemed, with increasing clarity, to be a way that I could be of service to other people and to God. There were two things that most affected my chosen career: My service in the military between 1969 and 1971, particularly a spell in Vietnam where I saw some remarkable work of charity on the part of religious sisters with lepers, and my teaching experience as a graduate student, which I found very fulfilling and suggested that teaching could be more than just academic.

There's a growing recognition that there are as many ways to God as there are people. One tries, with mixed success, to help people locate what might be their particular way to God. However, it's often the case that one has the goodwill and energy to start with, but goodwill and good efforts tend to diffuse and exhaust.





## SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY WINNING

### ANDREW BILINSKI

*Work: Corporate Vice President, BDM International, McLean, Virginia. Education: M.S. in engineering, Oakland University, 1973; B.S. in engineering, Oakland University, 1971. Personal: 41, married, two children.*

I've always been sort of a patriot. I was in the Marine Corps during the late '60s and went to Vietnam and got wounded. I guess it started there; I was naturally drawn to the defense industry. During the Reagan administration, I was appointed deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Air Force, which is a very technical job that requires an understanding of computers, systems integration and federal procurement. It was a very gratifying position. I was responsible for acquisitions totalling some \$7 billion

a year. And I travelled all over the world — to Egypt, Korea, Japan, the Arctic Circle and Europe.

Defense industry contracting is very competitive; success is measured directly by winning. People who understand the system are sometimes tempted to take advantage of it in order to win. The real challenge is to employ the Golden Rule, "Do unto others . . ." in everyday business, which will keep you out of trouble — and out of jail.



## DIFFICULT FOR ANTHROPOLOGY TO DEVELOP

**RICK ZUREL**

*Work: Assistant Vice President, First Federal Savings Bank and Trust, Pontiac, Michigan; Research Associate in anthropology, Cranbrook Institute of Science; Instructor in anthropology at Schoolcraft College and Oakland University; Producer and Host, "Culture and Nature," United Cable Television. Education: M.A. in anthropology, University of Georgia, 1978; B.A. in anthropology, Oakland University, 1974. Personal: 39, married, two children.*

I switched careers in response to changing economic conditions in the early 1980s, joining the bank as a teller. I also continue to practice anthropology. I suppose you could say that one is a good distraction from the other.

There are very few job opportunities in anthropology because our country is not as interested in cultural heritage as many other countries. For example, we tend to overlook the Indian's role in the development of this country, whereas Canada takes a very different point of view. There's no profit motive tied to anthropology, and therefore, it's difficult for a philosophical field like anthropology to develop.

## CULTURAL DIFFERENCES WERE ASTOUNDING

**LINDA METZGER**

*Work: Staff Therapist, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center at Sand Lake Hospital, a division of the Orlando Regional Medical Center, Florida. Education: M.H.S., University of Florida-Gainesville, 1989; B.S. in physical therapy, Oakland University, 1983. Personal: 27, married.*

I was at a point in my life where I was single, had some money and started looking into buying a condo. Then I thought, "You always said you could give it up for God" — so I decided to try. I spent two years in Macao, near Hong Kong, China, working in a Christian clinic. When I first arrived in Macao, the cultural differences were astounding; I had to use gestures to buy a loaf of bread. I thought, if I can't even communicate with the people around me, how can I convey the message of Christ? But you learn to convey the message through the way you live, not words.

In a more materialistic society — like American society — success tends to mean things money can buy. But I had to question what I, personally, felt success really meant. I felt success was becoming who God wanted me to be in this world. It was a cleansing experience.



BILL THOMSON



## THE BABY COMES FIRST

ANN PEARCY BLATTE

*Work: Currently on extended maternity leave, Washington, D.C.; former News Anchor/Reporter, Little Rock, Arkansas.*

*Education: B.A., communication arts, Oakland University, 1980. Personal: 31, married, one child.*

I recently left KARK-TV in Little Rock, Arkansas, where I was a 6 o'clock and 10 o'clock evening news anchor. My husband just started a new job in Washington, D.C., which will make things a bit more difficult for me. In the news business, especially TV, you have to be mobile — you have to be able to pick up and go wherever the offer is.

Right now, though, the baby comes first. I always

thought I would have a baby, take a couple days off and then go right back to work. I'm glad things worked out like they did: I was working from 2 in the afternoon to 11 at night and holidays, which would be hard with a baby. I don't want to rush into anything — I've never done this before and I don't know what to expect. But I know I'll always do something in the business.

## ONLY PART-TIME CARETAKERS

DONALD INMAN

*Work: Assistant Deputy Director, Department of Natural Resources, Roscommon, Michigan. Education: Ph.D. in wildlife ecology, Michigan State University, 1971; B.A. in chemistry, Oakland University, 1966. Personal: 43, divorced, two children.*

We aren't going to continue to have renewable resources and a healthy environment until humankind rises to a higher ethical standard. I really want to get people thinking about proper resource management and environmental protection — how much gasoline we use, what happens to our trash. I care about the environmental legacy we're going to leave our children and grandchildren, and I wish more people did.

I spent two years at the University of Georgia and worked with Eugene Odum, the "father of ecology." His tutelage further shaped my feelings. We need to return to land-use ethic: We're only part-time caretakers of the property we pass on; we really don't own it.



## BRINGING ABOUT SOCIAL CHANGE

JANET HOLMGREN MCKAY

*Work: Associate Provost, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey; Author of Narration and Discourse in 19th-century American Realistic Fiction; Co-author of The Story of English. Education: M.A. and Ph.D. in linguistics (specialization in American Literary Style), Princeton University, 1970 and 1974; B.A. in English with a linguistics concentration, Oakland University, 1968. Personal: 40, divorced, two children.*

I love the educational community — the intellectual and social challenges in higher education. I have had an opportunity to use ideas and teaching to bring about social change. I'm a social reformer at heart. The civil rights and feminist movements were absolutely critical to my development.

I think women and men of my generation expected to be able to have it all without having to make decisions about priorities, for example, raising healthy, well-adjusted children and having rewarding careers. We are now wrestling with the tradeoffs in a society that values individual success and often fails to recognize the efforts we put into building communities. We're all working for balance, and I believe educational communities will provide leadership in bringing about social change — change in our value systems.

# 1989 IN BRIEF

## UNIVERSITY RECEIVES CONTINUED ACCREDITATION

A three-day visit by a team of consultant-evaluators from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ended with a recommendation that the university receive continuing accreditation for 10 years, the maximum period allowed.

The committee's report for the NCA noted that OU is now a mature institution and all programs should receive full accreditation. One of the stipulations of the previous accreditation period was that any new doctoral programs had to be reported to the NCA before implementation. The committee recommended that restriction be removed.

Although the NCA has awarded full accreditation, a special "focus visit" will be conducted in 1994 to look at Kresge Library. The committee was concerned about the adequacy of the collection, given the scope of the university.

## HARTMANN, SIMS RE-ELECTED TO BOARD POSITIONS

The OU Board of Trustees elected Patricia Hartmann as chairperson of the board for a second one-year term.

The board expressed satisfaction with the first year of Hartmann's leadership. The Birmingham, Michigan, business and civic leader became the first woman to lead the board when she was elected in fall 1988.

Named to a second term as vice chairperson of the board was Detroit architect Howard F. Sims. Hartmann has been a trustee since 1980 while Sims was appointed to the board in 1981.

Both are active in fund-raising for area organizations and charities. Hartmann is a recent winner of the Heart of Gold Award from the United Foundation and Sims was named recently as winner of a Mercy College Medallion for community service.

## LIBRARY DEDICATION MARKS COMPLETION OF RENOVATION PROGRAM

Dedication ceremonies were held in November for the \$11.6 million renovation and expansion of Kresge Library—culminating more than three years of development and the cornerstone program of "A Share in the Vision: The Campaign for Oakland University."

The project nearly doubled the library space available for books and support services by adding two multi-story wings, and included money for collections.

The renovation and expansion represented a model collaborative effort between the private and public sectors—finding support in all corners of the university. Through the Campaign for Oakland University, \$4.6 million was raised—\$1.3 million coming from alumni, \$1 million from longtime friend of the university, Howard L. McGregor, Jr., and another \$1 million from the Kresge Foundation. The remaining \$7 million was appropriated by the state of Michigan.

The new library wings are named in honor of the alumni and McGregor.

While the improvements will meet Kresge Library's physical needs through the beginning of the 21st century, plans are under way to improve its collections—enabling the university to meet the increasing needs of students and support the research and scholarship of faculty.

## OSTHAUS, STANOVICH RECEIVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Two Oakland University professors received special honors at fall commencement ceremonies.

Carl R. Osthaus, associate professor of history, received the Teaching Excellence Award and Keith E. Stanovich, professor of psychology, received the Research Excellence Award.

Both professors were selected by their peers from nominations submitted by the university community. Each award carries a \$1,000 stipend, provided by the Oakland University Foundation.

## INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS IN RESIDENCE ON CAMPUS

An international flavor has been added to the university's study of the molecular secrets of steroid hormones with scientists from Yugoslavia and Japan in residence at Oakland.

The visitors include Zorica Zakula, an endocrinologist from Yugoslavia's Boris Kidric Institute of Nuclear Science and Dr. Makoto Nakao of the Department of Internal Medicine, Osaka University Hospital.

Recent problems with athletes and anabolic steroids have focused new attention on the powerful steroid hormones that influence all facets of human life.

## EYE INSTITUTE AWARDS GRANT FOR REDDY'S RESEARCH

The National Eye Institute has awarded Oakland University's Venkat N. Reddy a Merit Award of \$1.37 million—the only eye researcher in Michigan to receive the award since the program's inception.

The award provides long-term support to investigators whose research competence and productivity are superior. Reddy, director of Oakland's Eye Research Institute, heads one of only two labs in the United States to successfully grow human lens epithelial cells in a tissue culture while still retaining their lens-like characteristics.

After five years, he will have the opportunity to obtain a five-year renewal based on evaluation of his research findings—without the standard peer review procedure.

## JOHN K. URICE NAMED DEAN OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

John K. Urice has been chosen dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the university's core academic unit.

Urice came to Oakland from Ball State University, in Muncie, Indiana, where, since 1984, he had been dean of the College of Fine Arts and professor in the Department of Theatre. Prior to his Ball State appointment, Urice was director of the Master of Business Administration in the Arts program at the State University of New York at Binghamton. At Oakland, Urice will also serve as a tenured professor of theatre.

## FOUNDATION FUNDS PROJECT FOR DISADVANTAGED

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Oakland University are developing a program to improve educational opportunities for disadvantaged children from preschool through third grade and to strengthen the preparation of early childhood educators.

The four-year program, funded by a \$496,200 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan, will involve eight Detroit-area school districts and two intermediate school districts.

The five-part project will emphasize applied research and development which focuses on children's school learning experiences, the transition of children from preschool to early elementary grades, developmental appropriateness of instruction and curriculum practices, and the advancement of teachers as leaders and advocates for children's learning and development.

## COLLABORATIVE PROMOTES MULTI- CULTURAL EDUCATION

Oakland University, Oakland schools and 12 area school districts have joined

forces to fight racism and promote multicultural education.

The Collaborative for Educational Equity and Multicultural Curriculum has completed two programs, one to discuss affirmative action and employment equity in K-12 and university hiring practices and a second to look at equity and racism. The third program will launch the process of multicultural curriculum development.

The collaborative was formed to develop a network of support among educational institutions to deal with issues of racism, multicultural education and equity.

## PIONEERS CELEBRATE BEST YEAR EVER

Oakland is quickly becoming the "Campus of Champions."

The OU athletic program completed its best year ever by finishing third in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) all-sports race.

OU teams picked up four conference championships in 1988-89, with the volleyball and women's basketball teams joining both swimming squads atop the league standings.

The men's and women's swimming teams were the most successful, finishing second and third in the nation, respectively. Sophomore Hilton Woods was named the NCAA Division II Swimmer of the Year while Nikki Kelsey earned Diver of the Year honors.

The women's basketball team won 25 of 28 regular-season games and received its first NCAA Tournament bid in six years—advancing to the second round. Junior center Debbie Delie was named to the Division II All-American team.

The volleyball team won the league title with a 15-1 GLIAC record. Senior Tracy Jones was named GLIAC Player of the Year and Bob Hurdle was named Coach of the Year.

In addition, the Pioneer baseball squad celebrated its second best win total ever, finishing the season 31-16 and 10-7 in the GLIAC—good enough for second place, a half-game behind champion Ferris State University. OU men's basketball team finished third in the league and won 20 games, tying a school record for season wins.

## PHYSICAL THERAPY DEGREE, APPLIED STATISTICS MAJOR APPROVED

The Oakland University Board of Trustees has authorized establishment of a Master of Physical Therapy (M.P.T.) degree program to conform to new norms established for entry into the profession.

The undergraduate program has been replaced and the program modified to create a 10-semester offering. The fall 1989 class was the first admitted under the new program.

The American Physical Therapy Association has endorsed the master's degree to become the entry degree to licensed professional practice.

The board also approved an undergraduate major in applied statistics to meet growing student demand.

In the past, students majoring in mathematics have taken as many courses as possible within the constraints of the mathematics major. The separate major will allow restructuring of core requirements to include more work in the statistics area.

## ALESSI AND BOGANNEY NAMED WILSON AWARD WINNERS

Melinda Suzanne Alessi of Rochester, Michigan, and Anthony C. Boganey of Muskegon, Michigan, were the 1989 recipients of the prestigious Matilda R. Wilson and Alfred G. Wilson awards.

The students each received \$500 and a medallion at the June commencement exercises. The awards, in memory of the Wilsons, who donated their 1,500-acre estate and \$2 million to establish Oakland University, honor one outstanding female and male undergraduate student annually.

Alessi graduated with distinction and has a double major in Spanish and human resource development. Boganey completed his degree in political science and made significant contributions to student life as both president and executive assistant of the University Congress.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	1988-89	1987-88	% Increase (Decrease)
<b>SUMMARY OF CURRENT FUNDS REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES:</b>			
<b>GENERAL FUND REVENUE:</b>			
Student Fees	\$ 19,986,000	\$ 18,661,000	7.1%
State Appropriations	32,153,000	31,397,000	2.4%
Other	<u>1,865,000</u>	<u>1,809,000</u>	3.1%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE</b>	<u>54,004,000</u>	<u>51,867,000</u>	4.1%
<b>DESIGNATED FUND REVENUE</b>	<u>2,999,000</u>	<u>2,850,000</u>	5.2%
<b>AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES REVENUE:</b>			
Bookcenter	2,860,000	2,756,000	3.8%
Residence Halls	5,049,000	4,985,000	1.3%
Meadow Brook Music Festival	2,946,000	2,564,000	14.9%
Meadow Brook Theatre	1,840,000	1,684,000	9.3%
Meadow Brook Hall	1,461,000	1,589,000	(8.1%)
Katke-Cousins Golf Course	855,000	895,000	(4.5%)
Other	7,163,000	7,138,000	0.4%
Elimination of Rebilled Services	<u>(4,533,000)</u>	<u>(4,645,000)</u>	(2.4%)
<b>TOTAL AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES REVENUE</b>	<u>17,641,000</u>	<u>16,966,000</u>	4.0%
<b>EXPENDABLE RESTRICTED FUND REVENUE</b>	<u>7,706,000</u>	<u>8,083,000</u>	(4.7%)
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	82,350,000	79,766,000	3.2%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS</b>	<u>(81,878,000)</u>	<u>(79,959,000)</u>	2.4%
<b>REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES AND TRANSFERS</b>	<u>\$ 472,000</u>	<u>\$ (193,000)</u>	
<b>EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION (ALL FUNDS)</b>	\$ 56,221,000	\$ 53,942,000	4.2%
<b>MARKET VALUE OF ENDOWMENT FUND</b>	\$ 3,295,000	\$ 2,843,000	15.9%
<b>INVESTMENT IN PHYSICAL PROPERTIES</b>	\$106,880,000	\$ 97,967,000	9.1%
<b>LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS</b>	\$ 4,978,000	\$ 5,375,000	(7.4%)
<b>DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS</b>	\$ 752,000	\$ 899,000	(16.4%)



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