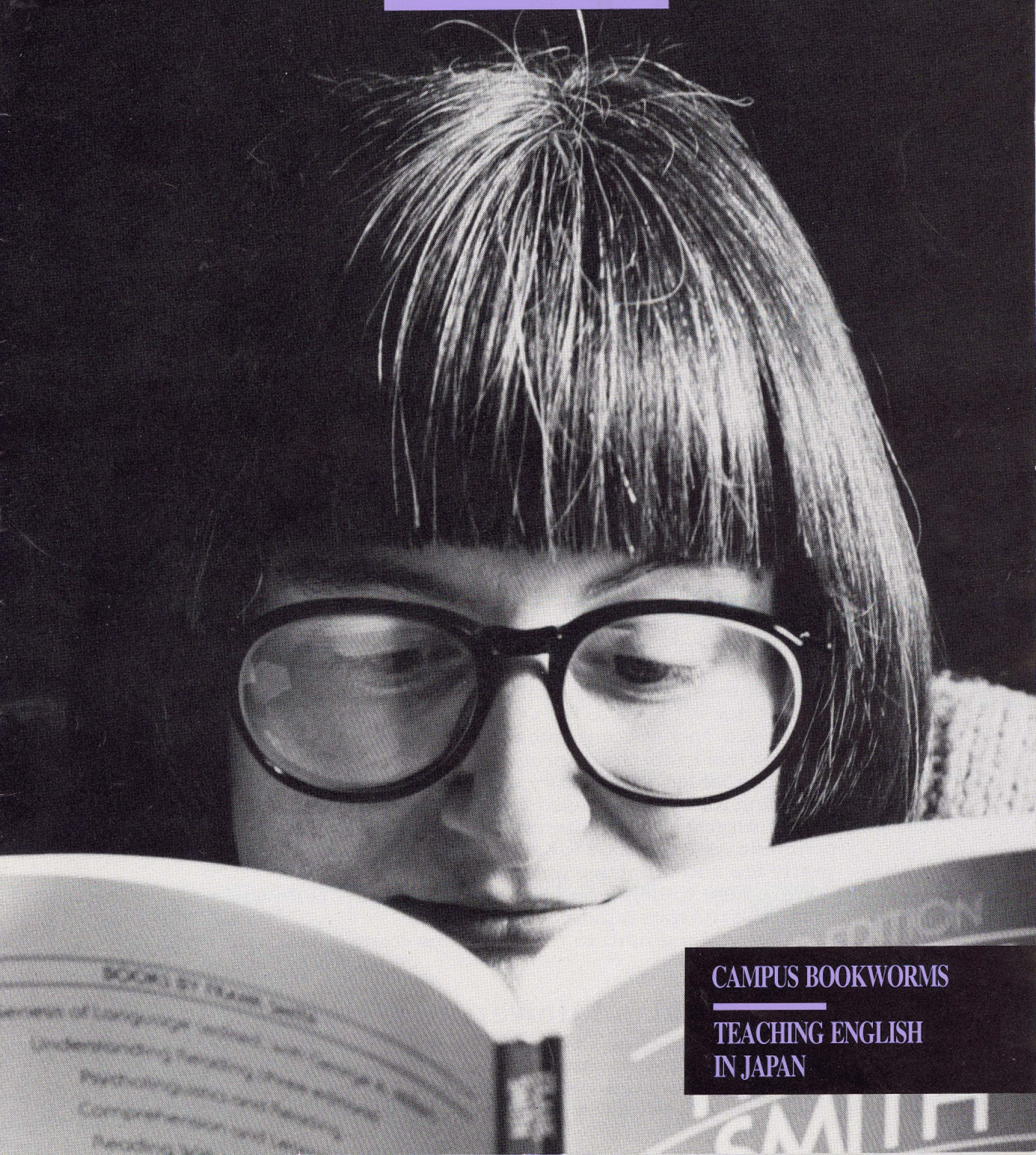


OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

Winter 1992

MAGAZINE



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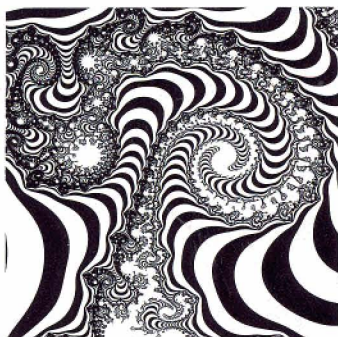
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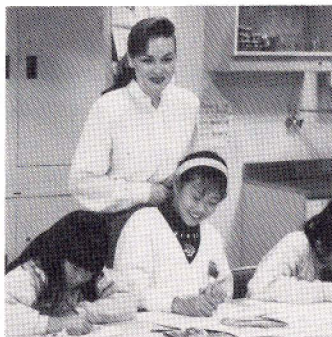
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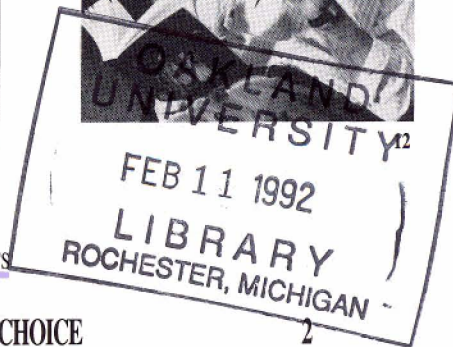
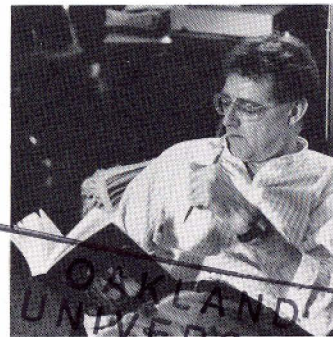
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Times are tough. Cost-cutting, belt-tightening, fat-trimming — whatever the phrase, they all describe ways businesses and households are balancing budgets by reducing expenses. And those expenses, those "expendables," can range from paper clips to groceries to jobs.

Few budget discussions today focus on the revenue side; that is, increasing sales. But this discussion will.

Beginning with the next issue (Spring), OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE will offer its readers space to advertise business services, help-wanted and position-wanted listings, real estate sales and rentals, and miscellaneous product sales, such as furniture and automobiles.

Why? Three major reasons:

1. People like to do business with those they can trust — and the Oakland University family provides 32,000 people (and counting) with a common bond. And 85 percent of those readers live in southeastern lower Michigan. If you are an employer, wouldn't you rather fill an opening with an OU grad? Or, if you have a second home to rent out, wouldn't you rather have OU faculty, staff, alumni or President's Club members answering your ad? This vehicle can put such parties within closer touch of each other.

2. Such information about people you shared the Oakland experience with is not only fun to read, but it provides another way for you to keep "in touch" with them. The magazine is a communication medium, and this section will add to its effectiveness.

3. A full page of classified and business services listings would pay for itself and leave some left over to help ease a tight magazine budget. (Cost-cutting is under way here, too.)

We'll call the section "In Business," and it will run with the In Touch listings in the back of the magazine. We've set up a couple of dummy ads on this page to give you an idea of what they can look and sound like.

Join in the fun — and generate some business for yourself or your company. For further information on rates, deadlines, formats, etc., call (313) 370-3184 and ask for Sheila. You'll need to get your material in by March 1 for inclusion in the Spring issue.



Editor

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Winter 1992

Editor

Geoffrey C. Upward

Managing Editor

Duffy Ross

Staff Writer

Vicky Billington

Editorial Assistant

Sheila Carpenter

Art Director

Lynn Metzker

Graphic Artist

Cindy Bromell

Photographer

Rick Smith

Magazine Advisory Board

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Professor, History

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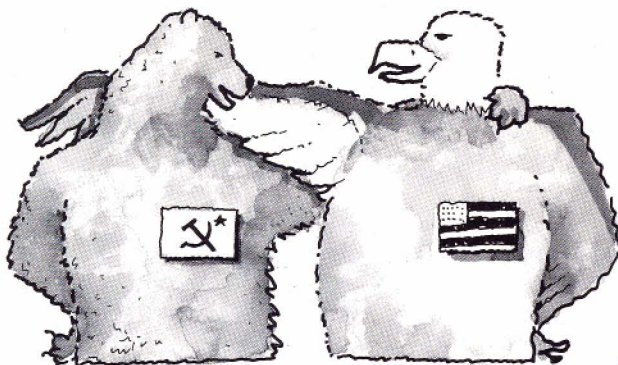
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Oakland University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution.

Professor Karl Gregory waited patiently for his moment to speak to the president, and got it.

Not to George Bush — even Gregory can't get to that president — but to Mikhail Gorbachev.

Oakland's professor of economics and management stood before the camera at WXYZ-TV in Southfield last fall and asked the president of the Soviet Union about nuclear missiles. From Moscow, Gorbachev told the professor not to worry, that despite the crumbling political system in the USSR, the



GREGORY MEETS GORBY

missiles were under central control.

Gregory had prepared five other questions dealing with economics. ABC News, which arranged the live "national town meeting" with Gorbachev, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Americans across the United States, reviewed and selected

the questions in advance to avoid repetition.

Gregory was among a select few who actually spoke to Gorbachev and Yeltsin. Anywhere from 10 to 60

hopefuls from 10 American cities sat in studio audiences, waiting to be called. Out of the local WXYZ-TV audience, only two were selected.

"I enjoyed the exchange," Gregory says. "I lost a lot of sleep the three nights before. I was reading up on the changes in the USSR over the past three months, in case they asked me a counter-question."

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Last issue (Fall, '91), we were happy to report that Oakland University had been named one of "America's best colleges" and a "best buy" in education by *U.S. News and World Report*. This issue, we're just as pleased to acknowledge these OU alums who have been cited by other publications and groups as leaders for the '90s.

Recently named by *Crain's Detroit Business* as one of "90 for the 90s" as well as *Crain's* "Top 40 Under 40," are:

Bruce Fealk ('75), president of Hi-Tech Reporting in Southfield; **Marianne Fey** ('80), director of client services for McCann SAS, a subsidiary of McCann-Erickson, Inc. in Troy; and, **Jeffrey Hipchen** ('81), vice president and one-

third owner of Digital Data Solutions Inc. in Ypsilanti.

Three other executives worth watching are: **Louisa Aragona** ('66), financial planner for the Matrix Group of Traverse City, who was recently elected "Woman of the Year" by the Grand Traverse Chapter of the American Business Women's Association; **Laura Redoutey** ('77, '82), executive director of the Greater Flint Area Hospital Assembly, who was named by *Modern Healthcare Magazine* as one of 11 "up and comers" in the healthcare industry; and, **Timothy Hudson** ('83), president of Fourth Wave Technologies/US Connect of Michigan in Troy, who has been selected as one of the "15 to Watch in '92" by *Computer Reseller News*.



Sheiko

Also, **Katherine Daros Sheiko** ('74), principal of Green Elementary School in West Bloomfield, was one of 10 Michigan educators who recently earned a \$25,000 award for outstanding work. The awards, sponsored by the state Board of Education and the Milken Family Foundation, were established in 1987 to recognize and encourage outstanding educators.

▼ Official enrollment has increased by 130 students from the 1990 level, to 12,530. Undergraduate enrollment is down for first-year and sophomore students, but is up slightly for juniors and seniors. The large headcount increase came at the master's level with 2,370 students enrolled, up from 2,166 a year ago.

▼ Noted architect Howard F. Sims and higher education activist Phyllis Law Googasian have been re-elected to leadership posts on the university Board of Trustees for 1991-92. Trustees elected Sims chairperson and Googasian vice chairperson to serve their second one-year terms.

▼ The Wilson Hall auditorium that houses Meadow Brook Theatre performances has been named the Marion and David Handleman Auditorium. The Handlemans are patrons of the arts and active in many civic activities. David Handleman has been a university trustee since 1979.

▼ The university's general fund operating budget for 1991-92 will be a record \$64.5 million, an increase of 4.3 percent from the previous year.

▼ *The McGregor Fund*, a Detroit-based foundation, has awarded a \$256,499 grant to Oakland University for an improved languages program, including a computer-based language technology center and the addition of two faculty members to teach Japanese and Russian.

BRIEFLY

▼ A single search committee of 15 members will assist the Board of Trustees in selecting a new president. The committee, drawn from all areas of the university community, will report to the trustees no later than January 27, 1992 with the names of three to five individuals. The search timetable calls for the board to name a new president by March 11, 1992.

▼ The 1991-92 season of Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre continues with the Michigan premiere of Lee Blessing's *Cobb*, February 13 through March 8. For ticket information contact the theatre box office at (313) 370-3300.

▼ Five faculty members received a \$2,500 cash award in recognition of their superior teaching and research skills. Teaching Excellence Awards were presented to Richard F. Barron, associate professor of education; David L. Lau, assistant professor of communication arts; Bruce J. Mann, assistant professor of English; and Anne H. Tripp, professor of history. The Research Excellence Award was presented to Michael Y. Y. Hung, professor of engineering.

▼ The proposed \$38.5 million science and technology building heads the 1992-93 capital outlay requests the university has submitted to the state. Funds for planning the building have already been received from the state. The tentative completion date is now 1994-95.

UP FRONT

SPORTS

THREE-PEAT? A NEAT FEAT!

Oakland University's women's swimming and diving team has a chance to move into rare company this season.

With two straight National Collegiate Athletic Association national championships in the showcase, the Pioneers could become only the second school in NCAA Division II history to win as many as three in a row.

Oakland's five seniors, Lyn Schermer, Kerry Leavoy, Katie Ill, Cindi Parker and Kathy Van Houten, have combined for 73 All-American honors. Schermer is a six-time national champion while Leavoy has won four relay national titles.

Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) foe Northern Michigan and last year's national runner-up, Florida Atlantic, will provide plenty of competition.

Oakland's other winter sports teams have league and national championship aspirations as well.

▼ After five straight runner-up finishes and 13 top three showings in the last 14 years, the men's swimming and diving team has its sights set on winning it all in 1992.

The squad is buoyed by a deep senior class. Eric McIlquham, Jon Teal, Jeff Seifert and Shayne Wilson have combined for 50 All-America honors. The Pioneers also return the NCAA Division II Swimmer and Diver of the Year in juniors Doug Allen and Marc Hairston, respectively.

▼ Led by senior guard Jennifer Golen, a second-team All-American last year, the



Kerry Leavoy, a four-time national champion, will help the Pioneers' chances for a third straight NCAA Division II crown.

women's basketball squad is looking to return to the top of the GLIAC.

Oakland is loaded with talent. Along with Golen, guard Jessie Powell, a GLIAC All-Defensive choice last year, and three-point specialist Stacy Lamphere are the other returning starters. The Pioneers were picked to finish second in the GLIAC by the pre-season coaches' poll.



Freshman forward Trina Govan and her teammates were picked second in the GLIAC pre-season coaches' poll.

▼ This is Eric Taylor's last chance to deliver a GLIAC title for the men's basketball team.

Taylor, a senior guard and third-team All-American selection last year, leads a squad that includes four seniors and eight freshmen and sophomores. Oakland was selected fourth in the GLIAC pre-season coaches' poll.

In fall athletic news:

▼ Oakland's soccer squad finished its season with a 13-6-2 mark — losing 3-2 after four overtimes to Sonoma State University in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

▼ The volleyball team settled for sixth place in the GLIAC — posting a 6-10 league record, 10-26 overall.

▼ Paced by John Myatt, the men's cross-country team finished third in the GLIAC. Myatt finished first in the league championship meet and 12th in the midwest region race.

▼ The women's tennis squad settled for seventh in the GLIAC with a 1-6 record, 2-8 overall.

FOCUS

Eli Zaret & Denny McLain

President's Club members since 1991



McLain and Zaret

Biographies:

Zaret: Sports Director, WJBK-TV, in Detroit.

McLain: Radio Talk Show Host, WXYT-AM, in Detroit. Former Detroit Tigers pitcher and winner of 31 games in 1968.

Other profession:

Hosts of the *Eli and Denny Show*, Sports talk show, WJBK-TV, Channel 2, on Sundays at noon.

Denny on Eli:

"He's quick, honest, very unpredictable and the best television sportscaster in this town."

Eli on Denny:

"Nobody got more out of a single baseball season (1968) than Dennis Dale McLain. He has a very good personality for this type of show — and nobody fills a television screen like Denny."

What's wrong with sports today?

Zaret: "Professional athletes aren't sending a positive message anymore. They can no longer be considered role models for children to look up to."

McLain: "I don't think there is any-

thing wrong. Drugs and alcohol in sports have been around for years. They get more attention today because the media is focusing more on sports and athletes."

Pistons, Tigers, Red Wings, Lions ... who wins the next championship?

Zaret: "The Red Wings. They finally have the talent to compete in the National Hockey League."

McLain: "I'd have to agree with Eli. The Red Wings look good, but the Lions aren't far behind."

What makes Detroit a great sports town?

Zaret: "Because people in this town get passionate about it. They are very knowledgeable about sports and it's life or death for them."

McLain: "Blue collar towns have always made great sports towns. Look at Pittsburgh ... Chicago ... Cleveland. Detroit fans care and they are very loyal."

Where were you in the fall of 1968?

Zaret: "I was a freshman at the University of Michigan and taking bets on the St. Louis Cardinals winning the World Series. What do you expect for a kid from New York City?"

EYE WITNESSES

Sharon ('69,'75) and Jim Smith ('69,'75) of Sterling Heights, have seen every play produced by Meadow Brook Theatre since its debut 1966/67 season some 26 years ago.

"The theatre opened when we were freshmen at Oakland," recalls Jim, now an English teacher for Avondale Middle School in Auburn Hills, and president of the Avondale Education Association. "Tickets for students were only \$2 apiece, so it was a great, cheap night out for students and we loved it. It's what got us started as theatregoers."

The Smiths remember the first production ever staged, *The*

Caucasian Chalk Circle by Bertolt Brecht, featuring the theatre's first artistic director, John Fernald.

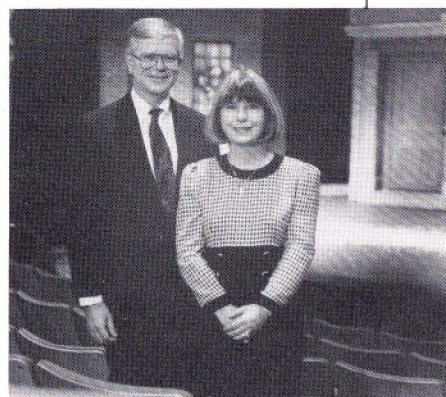
"Our very favorite play was during the 11th season," says Sharon (nee Glus), a reading specialist for Edmonson Elementary in the Lamphere School District, Madison Heights. "That's when they performed *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder*? We thought it was the greatest thing we ever saw. But half the audience walked out because there was a scene in it that was violent. It was so close and so real, a woman in the audience started screaming. We were so im-

pressed, we gave them a standing ovation," she recalls. "It was radical theatre and they never tried anything like that again."

Other favorites through the years include *Quilters* from the 23rd season. "It was exceptional," says Sharon. "It was about pioneer women and their lives and it was the Detroit premiere, so that made it special, too."

"We also like the musicals," says Jim "and we love Eric Tavares. We think he's great in everything he does."

The Smiths did not become season subscribers until the year they first graduated from Oakland.



Jim and Sharon Smith

"Everything for us happened in 1969," says Jim. "We both got our bachelor's degrees, we got married, we got our first teaching jobs, and we became season subscribers."

A State of Chaos

by Duffy Ross



The rise and fall of Florida's bird population may offer vital clues to the mystery of the state's ecology.

Donald McCrimmon is using an irregular science to track them down.

DONALD MCCRIMMON KNOWS he's on the right track ... in an off-the-beaten-path kind of way.

Population levels of Florida's wood stork, a bird which feeds for its fishy prey in shallow waters, plummeted several years ago — to the point where it was placed on the United States' endangered species list.

Today, the wood stork population may be making a comeback, yet McCrimmon, Oakland University's director of Research and Academic Development, and an ecologist by training, isn't completely confident about that notion.

The cattle egret, another Florida-based species and also dependent on wetland areas, has found things much easier. For years, its numbers have increased dramatically — of great interest to naturalist and scientist alike.

McCrimmon doesn't have the answer for that one, either.

But he's getting there.

He is using the science of chaos — a way of finding order in the unpredictability of disorder — to support his research of Florida's bird population.

Chaos, and its parent field, non-linear dynamics, are a mathematician's delight and a lay-person's nightmare. Chaos has become a shorthand name for one of the fastest-growing areas of science. For the uninitiated, chaos is a way of depicting: If A happens, then there is a great likelihood that B should occur — at least in the short run — and supporting the thesis visually, with graphic shapes and patterns that capture its delicate structure.

The appealing aspect of chaos is its ability to interpret complicated behavior as something purposeful and structured instead of accidental. On its journey to disorder, nature usually takes a few well-beaten paths. In the jargon of chaos, these patterns are called "attractors" — a set of states to which all things tend to go.

McCrimmon uses the example of snowflakes. Each is unique, yet almost all have six arms.

When trying to understand complex problems — fluctuations in Florida's bird populations, say — McCrimmon and fellow chaos proponents try to isolate and program any irrational element by imposing non-linear analytical techniques on it. Drought, wet-

land erosion, floods ... ostensibly random, each has an effect that, given enough data, McCrimmon says can be simply assessed with some assurance of accuracy.

Armed with this information and using powerful computers that model complex behavior, ecologists may be able to determine solutions to environmental problems faster and with greater results.

"By studying the birds, we can begin to understand the fundamental dynamics of the ecosystem in which they live," says McCrimmon. "What we have tried to do is ask the question: Are the birds really good indicators of the ecosystem? If water levels are low and the bird population drops accordingly, can that be considered a pattern?"

For The Birds

McCrimmon has found remarkable patterning in what would have seemed like mere randomness just a few years ago. He is working with colleagues at Cornell University in researching the egret and stork through the chaos method. Their graphical analysis — which resembles a two-dimensional map — plots the population trends of the two Florida bird species.

McCrimmon says deep within that map, though, just may be the characteristics that operate the dynamics of the entire ecosystem.

"There have been a variety of other wildlife populations studied using chaos principles, but not birds," says McCrimmon. "Yet bird populations are of particular interest because their rise or fall can be considered an environmental indicator. If populations are changing, they're certainly changing because of the environment around them. The intriguing question is whether it's a *chaotic* environment.

"What's happening to these populations? What do we know about them over time? How predictable are the changes in these populations and are they acting in such a complicated way that you cannot predict what they will do in the future? That's the heart of our research," says McCrimmon.

Butterfly Wings

"We've found some predictability — what I believe is a real pattern — in the cattle egret," McCrimmon says. "But wood stork populations reflect an environment that is in a lot of trouble and the long-term consequences for their survival may not be answerable. That's a very troubling conclusion to reach for an endangered species. It challenges ecologists to confront what may be real limits to our science."

The modern study of chaos began with the creeping realization that simple mathematical equations could model systems every bit as violent as water cascading over a waterfall, McCrimmon says. Tiny differences in input

“Once you get into this, the mathematics can blow you away quite quickly.”

could quickly become overwhelming differences in output.

“In simpler terms, such as the creation of weather patterns, this could translate into what is known as the *Butterfly Effect*,” McCrimmon says. “It supports the notion that a butterfly stirring the air today in Tokyo, Japan, could conceivably transform storm systems next month in New York City.”

Pretty heavy stuff.

McCrimmon says non-linear principles can be used in virtually any form of research. And where chaos begins, classical science stops.

“As long as the world has had physicists inquiring into the laws of nature, it has suffered a special ignorance about disorder,” says McCrimmon. “If we look at the atmosphere, the turbulent sea, the fluctuations of wildlife populations, the physiology of the heart and the brain — they have been puzzles to science.”

But McCrimmon says in the late 1970s, several scientists in the United States and Europe began to find a way through the disorder. They were mathematicians, physicists, biologists, chemists — all seeking a connection.

Many believe they have found it.

Physiologists suddenly see a surprising order in the chaos that characterizes the human heart before a heart attack. Economists are digging out old stock price data and trying a new kind of analysis and reaching surprising results.

A Dripping Faucet

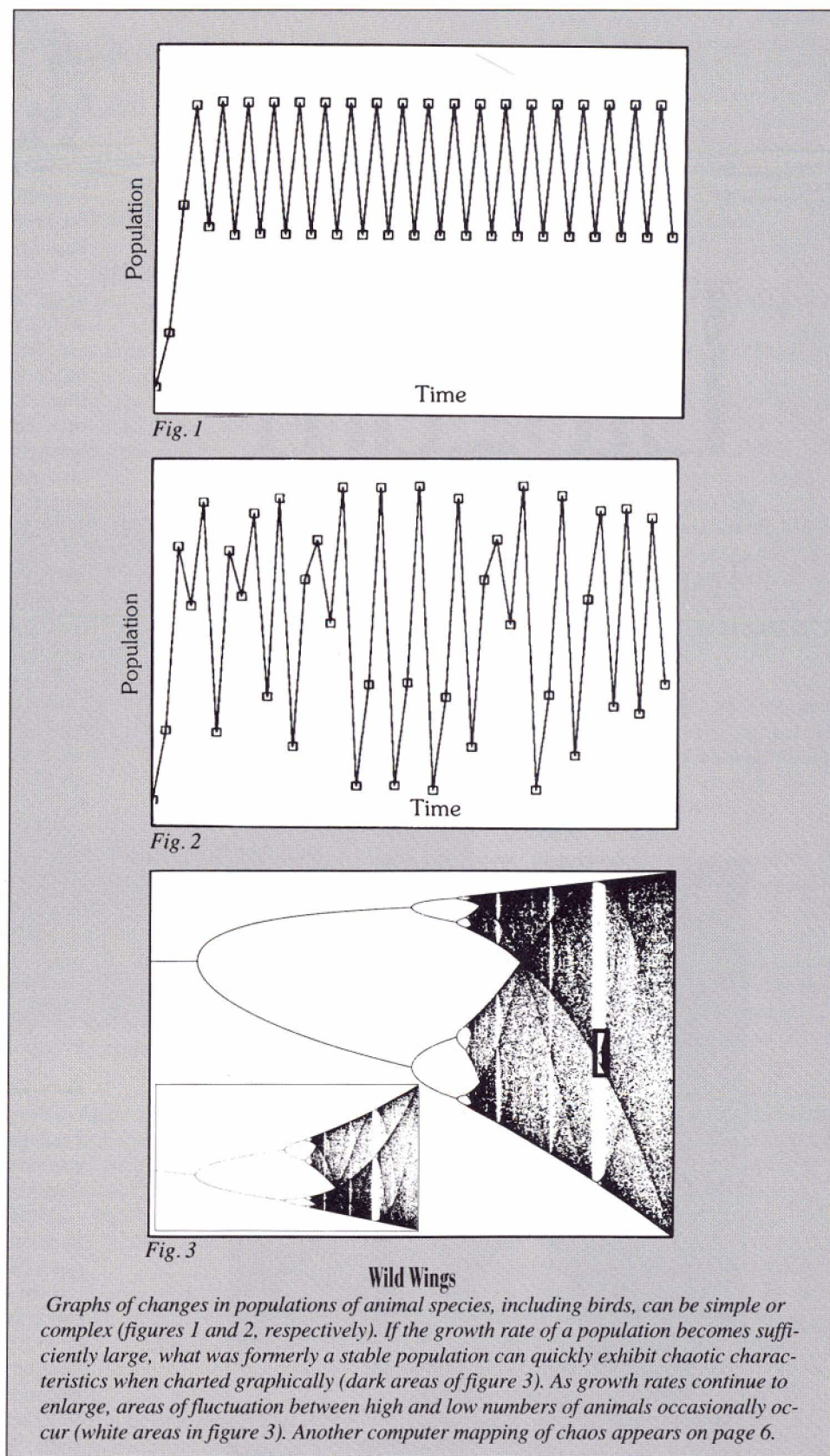
And now that science is looking, McCrimmon says scientists are finding chaos everywhere. A rising column of cigarette smoke breaking into wild swirls. A flag snapping back and forth in a stiff breeze. A dripping faucet that goes from a steady pattern to a random one.

Why?

The scientific jury is still out on that one.

“Chaos appears in virtually everything,” McCrimmon says. “No matter what the medium, the behavior obeys these same laws. Chaos theory says systems are not utterly random and it might explain why one path is more likely than another. One day, maybe we’ll know why — or maybe not.”

McCrimmon believes the realization of chaos will begin to change a myriad of processes — from the way business executives make decisions about insurance, or the way astronomers look at the solar system, to the way political theorists deal with the stresses



leading to armed conflict.

And, maybe, why Florida’s bird population appears to be in such a state of, well, chaos.

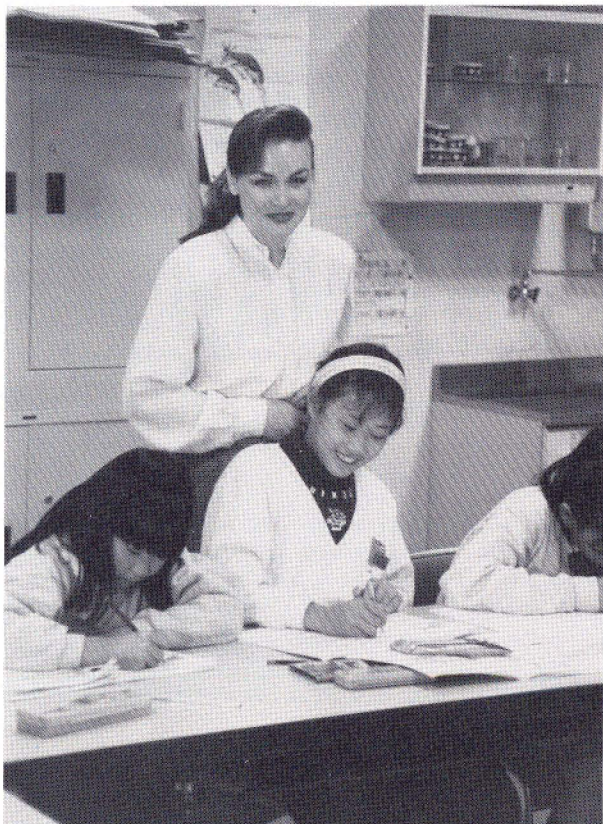
“Once you get into this, the mathematics can blow you away quite quickly,”

McCrimmon says. “But you can take a lot of sophisticated mathematical ideas and make pictures out of them. And it helps people who are not trained mathematicians have confidence and the courage to ask some of the hard questions about their data.” ■

Buy Lingual

TEACHING ENGLISH TO THE JAPANESE
IS BIG BUSINESS
FOR JENNIFER SIMONSON ('87)

by Vicky Billington



Photos by Robert Duncan

Entrepreneurial ki (spirit): "I found something I could do and not be bored . . . and still make money."



WHEN JENNIFER SIMONSON visits a prospective business client, she often takes her shoes off at the door.

"In Japan, there are still many people who follow the old customs, so I always buy well-made, expensive shoes because the labels will show."

Such Western ingenuity comes in handy for this successful 34-year-old entrepreneur who runs an English language school in Japan.

Simonson ('87), is co-owner of Trend Japan Co., Ltd. in Osaka, a busy port city and industrial center with 2.5 million residents.

She opened the business five years ago with only \$700 in her pocket and three years of experience teaching English to the Japanese. She talked a Japanese businessman, a trading merchant, into helping her finance the business venture. No small feat for a woman who grew up on a quiet, isolated farm in the Ohio Valley, a half a world away, who didn't enroll in college until age 24.

Today, Trend Japan has grown to include nine branches, 25 employees and will gross \$750,000 this year instructing children and adults alike in the finer points of her native language.

Simonson says the Japanese take learning English very seriously, and that's good for business.

"For Japanese adults, English is the international business language. If you know English and one other language, you can go anywhere in the world.

"For Japanese kids, English becomes mandatory in the seventh grade when students have to take English classes four times a week," she says. "But most of the teachers are Japanese, so they (the students) don't really learn English very well. They can read it and write it, but they can't speak it. That's why there are a lot of language schools in Japan."

And horror stories about the heavy workloads and pressure Japanese schoolchildren are under are all too true, says Simonson. "It's not unusual to hear about a student jumping out of a window — especially in junior high school. You see seventh graders losing their hair.

"The majority of our 1,200 students, about 1,000 of them, are in elementary school," she says. "Children here have to get into the 'right' preschool to get into the 'right' kindergarten, to get into the 'right' prep school — all the way up to university, so they can have lifetime employment at the 'right' company."

While her partner handles the financial matters, Simonson runs the day-to-day business operations. She sets up the curriculum, hires the teachers (all American, and she likes to recruit them from San Diego, California, simply because she likes visiting there), hires the assistants (who are all bilingual Japanese), runs shuttle buses to transport students, handles the advertising, and looks for new markets and new ways to recruit students.

"There is money in kids," Simonson says matter-of-factly, "because people will spend money for education and because of the competition and the entrance exams."

Simonson has recently opened a kindergarten. Her strategy, she says, is to build a strong foundation with children, then go into the adult market.

"We start children out with the ABC's and try to make it enjoyable for them because they're kids. If they don't like it, they won't come," she says. "We advertise directly

to children. We hand out literature in front of elementary schools and we hold open houses."

Children commit to the school on a month-by-month basis for \$50 a month, while adults have a three-month, \$200 to \$300 commitment, says Simonson.

When she first went to Japan, it was in 1983 as a student from Oakland University studying abroad. She was an international business major who decided she needed to learn a language and chose Japanese. ("French is fine if all you want to do is be able to read a menu," she quips.) Simonson spent nine months at Nanvan University in Nagoya, Japan studying Japanese. And she hated it.

"I got there in August and it was hot and humid and dirty. I looked at my round-trip ticket every night for two weeks and just cried and cried," she recalls. But that was before Simonson realized that her affinity for the Japanese language and her savvy business sense could catapult her career as a successful businesswoman in a foreign land.

Upon returning from her nine-month stint, Simonson received several job offers, particularly from automotive companies, because of her Japanese experience.

"I felt that in order to *really* learn the language well enough so I could be even more marketable, I should go back to Japan before I forgot what I already learned."

So she did.

Two classes shy of a degree in international business, Simonson went back to Japan later that year, back to Nanvan University, and took private Japanese classes and began teaching English part-time. Eventually she landed a job with a language school and was transferred to its branch in Osaka. Once in Osaka, Simonson looked around and decided she was good enough to start her own English language school.

Simonson ended up earning her degree from Oakland in East Asian Studies.

"After I started the company, I contacted Carlo Coppola, head of Oakland's Center for International Programs, and learned that I was actually only one class short of a degree in East Asian Studies. Coppola put me in touch with Bonnie Abiko, (assistant professor of art/art history and a faculty member in Oakland's East Asian studies program), who was kind enough to let me write a paper about how to start your own business in Japan. She gave me the credits I needed to graduate."

.....
"I got there in August and it was
hot and humid and dirty. I
looked at my round-trip ticket
every night for two weeks and
just cried and cried."
.....

Funny thing is, Simonson says, even though she heads an English language school, English was never her strong point. "But I always wanted to learn about five different languages," she says.



On the town: The gaijin (foreigner) with friends.

The Japanese language has about 2,000 common characters, or kanji, says Simonson.

"Then there's the phonetic alphabet (hiragana) and the katakana, a phonetic alphabet for foreign words and phrases. My name, for instance, would be all in katakana," she says.

Trend Japan offers classes from 2 to 9 p.m. Since its offerings are extracurricular — and not part of juku, the after-school "cram schools" that the majority of Japanese students attend — Simonson's classes have to be offered at flexible times of the day.

Despite the company's success and her five-year plan for it, Simonson says she is getting, well, a little bored. Homesick maybe.

After living in Japan for eight years, she knows enough now not to be too quick to accept a cup of tea.

"When a person of a higher level than you offers you a refreshment, you cannot accept.

You have to not accept three times," explains Simonson, "and you end up drinking a lot of cold tea.

"Once I was having a business meeting with a new client and after about 45 minutes of talking, I finally drank my tea. And his office girl asked him if I would like some more and I said yes, thank you. That was a big mistake. I don't think I ever talked to him again."

Simonson has also had her fill of exotic food adventures.

"I no longer have a policy of at least trying every dish set before me," she says.

A meal with a Japanese family changed all that.

"I was halfway into a bowl of something unrecognizable when this sea stuff, robbed of its shell, began moving," she says. "While telling myself it was my imagination, I checked with the mom on the condition of our dinner. Taking her hashi (chopsticks) she poked and pondered. Her report: critical, but not dead. Suggested treatment: wait until they suffocate. That was one of the delicacies I missed."

Simonson lives in a one-bedroom apartment south of Osaka, that has a living room and kitchen, "which is big for one person, here," she says. "A family of four would live in an apartment this size."

Since she eats Japanese food for lunch — mostly rice, vegetables and fruits ("I hate sushi. It's like catfood.") — after work, Simonson will often stop at an international market and buy the ingredients for fettuccine alfredo or a sack of tacos and head for home where she'll plop down in front of her TV and watch CNN.

Other times after work she'll go out to a bar or restaurant that caters to Westerners.

"After a long day at the office, sometimes I just want to be able to sit down and have a drink with somebody from my own background," she says.

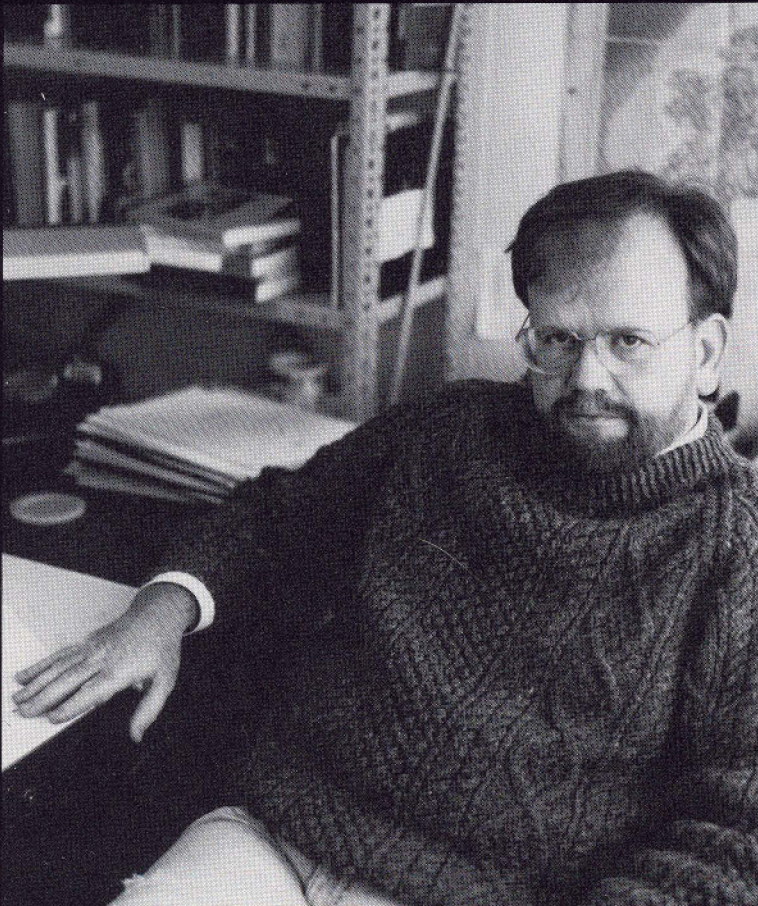
There's a long list of things Simonson misses from home. Chief among them are decent medical care ("anything above the level of primitive would be welcome"), clean air ("or at least the kind you can't see"), water with fewer chemicals ("not only does your hair feel like straw, but your eyes can water"), a more varied diet, and "most, most of all, American men."

Eventually, Simonson says she'd like to go back to school, get her Ph.D. and become a university professor in the states.

"One of my favorite profs at Oakland, Professor John Marney (associate professor of Chinese) once told me to make my money first, then study. So that's what I'm doing." ■

When Irish Eyes Are Spying...

by Duffy Ross



In Ireland, it is known as *The Troubles*—a centuries-old struggle pitting Protestant against Catholic, British unionist against Irish nationalist.

Neighbor against neighbor.

There is no political middle ground. You either support an Ireland as part of an all-encompassing Great Britain, or you favor an independent and free Republic of Ireland.

Find yourself among sympathizers and there is security and safety—a brotherhood sharing a common bond. Stray into neighborhoods that hold an opposing point of view and you may end up with a bullet in your head before anyone asks a single question.

It is a bloody, no-questions-asked, down and dirty war.

Sean Farrell Moran watches the situation with more than a passing interest.

And someone is watching Moran.

S EAN FARRELL MORAN, an assistant professor of history at Oakland University, is a citizen of both the United States and Ireland. His research focuses on the mentality of terrorism and violence in Irish politics and has involved many trips to Ireland — always pleasurable because he still has family there.

"The town in which my family lives is close to the border of Northern Ireland and is somewhat known for its large pockets of republican sympathizers," Moran says. "On many of my trips, I've interviewed members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), considered the oldest terrorist organization in the world, and Provisional Sein Fein, the IRA's official political wing."

Many times, as he's made his way through Northern Ireland, he's been stopped at checkpoints by British security forces — wondering what he's doing there, where he's been and who he's seen.

"Do I support an independent and free Ireland? Absolutely," Moran says. "But am I a member of the IRA or any other terrorist organization? Absolutely not. I happen to be deeply sympathetic to the IRA's goal, but I don't agree with their tactics."

Moran believes it's no accident that the British are interested in him.

During the Vietnam War, Moran filed for conscientious objector status and worked very hard in the American anti-war movement.

"I've always assumed the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation kept a file on me and, somehow, that file had gotten into the hands of British Intelligence," Moran says. "It seems understandable because they share information all the time."

"Because I've made so many research trips to Ireland and have met some rather questionable characters in the eyes of the British, I figure my file is rather large by now."

And it probably got a little thicker this summer.

In July, Moran received a university grant to continue his research on the language of revolutionary movements and how it's related to popular culture. It involved digging into archives throughout Ireland and interviewing several political figures.

At the end of the trip, his wife flew over for a little mini-vacation. They did some sightseeing through Wales and England and ended up in London — their final stop before flying home the next day.

And that's when things got sticky.

"We were driving through Brixton, a

southern area of London which houses Great Britain's maximum security prison for political prisoners, when we encountered a huge traffic jam," Moran says. "Nothing was moving, police were everywhere and helicopters zoomed overhead. It looked like a war zone."

"I turned on the radio — only to learn that two IRA prisoners had shot their way out of the prison a half hour before and ended up in the subway, right near the road we were on."

Moran was afraid that if he and his wife got in an accident, or were stopped by the police, they'd do a license check on their rental car and his name would pop up.

"It would have been a nightmare. I told my wife if the police find out we're here, they're never going to believe it's

a coincidence. We were really in the wrong place at the wrong time, but we managed to get through the traffic without incident."

The next day they arrived at London's Gatwick Airport to fly home. Moran's wife had booked a nonstop flight from London to New York while he had to hopscotch from London to Shannon, Ireland, then on to New York.

He boarded the plane — and waited.

The plane was delayed for almost two hours without any indication as to why.

"Suddenly, onto the plane came three chaps wearing earpieces — they looked like FBI agents — with a British police officer and a representative from the airline in tow," Moran recalled. "I knew immediately they were there to see me."

"Sure enough, the British Intelligence officers walked up and asked if I was Sean Moran. I replied, 'Who wants to know?' They said this was a very serious situation and asked for my passport — which I handed over along with my tickets. They escorted me out of the plane for questioning in the terminal entryway," Moran says.

"They wanted to know what I was doing there and had I been in Brixton the day before. I told them that I had driven through London but, being a tourist, didn't really know where I had been," Moran says. "They searched through my luggage and, once they

realized there wasn't anything they could do with me, let me get back on the plane."

Moran says that when he arrived in Shannon, after all he had been through already that morning, he decided he needed a drink.

"So there I was, at 11 a.m., with a bunch of American tourists at the bar, when the airport intercom blasts: 'Would Mr. Sean Moran of Detroit, Michigan, please report to the security desk.'"

"It was the same scenario. I proceeded to sit for an hour over coffee with the police asking me the same line of questions — whether I had been in Brixton, all that," Moran says.

Finally, he made his flight back to the states — believing the troubles were behind him, no pun intended.

The day after he got home, he went to his university office on the third floor of O'Dowd Hall and noticed the doorknob hanging off the door.

Stunned, he realized his office had been broken into.

"At first, I thought a disgruntled student had done it, but no, it was too clean, too professional," Moran says. "All the files had been carefully gone through. Someone had looked through the books and given the entire office a thorough once-over. Thankfully, nothing was taken."

And it hasn't stopped there.

Quite often, Moran says, his mail from Ireland is opened and then resealed. At a lecture he gave this fall, a mysterious man posing as a reporter for a local newspaper sat in the back row throughout the talk and quickly vanished when it was over. No story ever appeared in the newspaper he claimed to represent.

"I suppose the British will keep paying attention to me," Moran says. "They don't have

the Communists to spy on anymore, so maybe they've got a lot of free time. All kidding aside, if I were in their shoes, I'd probably act the same way — try to figure out what this guy is writing about and how he has access to people associated with the IRA and other Irish political organizations.

"I do have personal feelings about the situation," Moran says. "But as a historian, I'm interested in what happened 50 years ago, not what's going on today."

Now, if only he can get British Intelligence to believe it ■

Editor's note: Sean Farrell Moran's book: Patrick Pearse and the Politics of Redemption, is scheduled for release this summer.

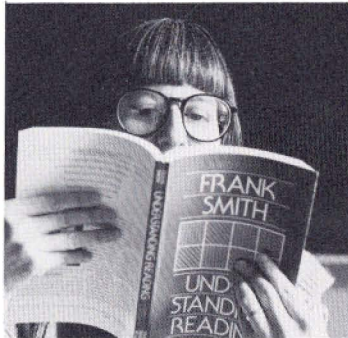
"I've always assumed the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation kept a file on me and, somehow, that file had gotten into the hands of British Intelligence."

"I suppose the British will keep paying attention to me... they don't have the Communists to spy on anymore, so maybe they've got a lot of free time."

CAMPUS BOOKWORMS

- n. 1. Oakland University faculty and staff unusually devoted to reading and writing.
2. The first in an occasional series on campus book authors.

by Vicky Billington



ALICE S. HORNING

Associate Professor of Rhetoric, Linguistics
Ph.D., Michigan State University

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *Teaching Writing as a Second Language* (Southern Illinois University Press). For some developmental students with basic, beginning writing skills, academic writing (the kind we expect from students in college) is so different from anything they've ever done, that it's almost like teaching writing as a second language. This book explores how such a teaching approach can help these students.

NEXT BOOK: "The Psycholinguistics of Readable Writing, what makes some text easier or harder for people to understand."

WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "Reading is number one on my list for pleasure. I like to read trash novels, mysteries and best-sellers. I just finished *An Honorable Profession* about a high school English teacher."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME: "Understanding Reading by Frank Smith. He talks about the psycholinguistics of reading and how we manage to make sense out of written text. It's a fascinating discussion and I've

adopted some of his ideas in my own research."

WHERE I LIKE TO READ AND WRITE: "I can read anywhere, except in a car. I write at my computer — completely — for almost everything, even letters."

WHAT'S THE GREATEST THING ABOUT BOOKS AND READING: "Being literate, being able to read and write is a peak, a summit with our ability with language. It's a unique kind of experience that we do — put in ideas as we write, pull out ideas as we read. There are approximately 5,000 languages in the world and only 2,000 have writing systems. It's a quintessentially human ability to work with written text."



ANNE H. TRIPP

Professor of History
Ph.D., University of Michigan

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *The I.W.W. and the Paterson Silk Strike of 1913* (University of Illinois Press). The book explores the rise and fall of the radical International Workers of the World union and its unsuccessful attempt to organize the silk industry in Paterson, New Jersey.

NEXT BOOK: "For several years I have been working on and off on a book about Michigan politics in the 1940s."

WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "I enjoy biographies. I also like mysteries. I'm a mystery buff. I like P.D. James and Robert Ludlum."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME: "I guess I would have to say the Lassie books and the Flicka books, because that's what I started out with. I developed the habit of reading early. I used to raid my father's library and read his historical novels."

WHERE I LIKE TO READ: "I can — and do — read almost anywhere."

THE GREATEST THING ABOUT BOOKS AND READING: "If you read, it makes you more compassionate and understanding of other people. And reading non-fiction opens new dimensions and is just plain enjoyable. It takes you from the present to another milieu, a different time."



SID MITTRA

Professor of Finance
Ph.D., University of Florida

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *Practicing Financial Planning: A Complete Guide for Professionals* (Prentice-Hall, Inc.). This book, his 14th, is geared toward training financial planners.

NEXT BOOK: He plans to edit a book for advanced financial planners, taking 10 people from around the country who are tops in their field — in taxes, estate planning, retirement planning, investment planning, etc. — and ask them each to write a chapter about how they help clients.

WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "Most of what I read has to do with philosophy and I use the word philosophy in a broad sense. I like to read about people in different cultures and in different ages — Oriental, Western, Middle Ages — to see how they have helped humanity, how they've tried to make themselves more useful, like *The Life of Mother Theresa*. I also sometimes read light, humorous books by comedians."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME: "*The Autobiography of Winston Churchill*, because it has the simple message that re-

gardless of the odds, never give up; you will succeed if you keep at it. I first read it when I was in my 20s and I've read it several times since."

WHERE I LIKE TO READ

AND WRITE: "I like to read in my office at home; it has a relaxing atmosphere and the lighting is just perfect. I write in the morning. I'm an early riser, I get up at 5 a.m. I find that I'm very creative in the morning, and four mornings a week I write for an hour. I don't type my books or write them in long-hand — I dictate them, and while I dictate I also add all of the commas, the paragraphs, etc."

THE GREATEST THING

ABOUT BOOKS: "Being able to communicate with someone you know nothing about. They can be from a different age and time and philosophy, but a writer can control the time and place for a reader. I like having all the controls in my hands."



BRIAN F. MURPHY

Associate Professor of English
Director, Honors College
Ph.D., University of London

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *The Enigma Variations* (Scribner's). An unconventional murder mystery about a date rape on a college campus.

NEXT BOOK: "I'm working on another novel, a romantic comedy, which also has an academic setting. (Working title, *The Fall Semester*.) And it's turned into almost a political novel, too."

WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "My favorites are Hemingway, Graham Greene and George Orwell because they all have such clear, clean prose. I like to get through the prose and right into the experience when I read. I'm also in a book group and we read a book a month, then meet and discuss the book. I recently read *Brothers Karamazov* by Dostoevski, which I had never read before. Also *Mr. Bridge* and *Mrs. Bridge* by Evan S. Connell. I also like big philosophers like Emerson and Nietzsche. And I like to read poetry, too."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME:

"*All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque, which I read 30 years ago, because it turned me into a pacifist. I became very anti-war after reading it and it has influenced my whole life."

WHERE I LIKE TO WRITE

AND READ: "I like to write in the morning, in my office. With fiction, I find it isn't the amount of time *writing* that's important, you need to spend more time *thinking* about it, because if the characters don't come to life in your mind, they won't on the page. So I think and fantasize about it (my book) a lot. I like to write by hand, because it's portable that way and I like to be able to carry it around with me and have it with me. You can't carry a computer disk around the same way. I like to read in bed. I like being stretched out and to be able to totally relax."

THE GREATEST THING ABOUT BOOKS AND READING:

"Reading gives you more lives. It gives you control. It changes the interior of your mind. It's living a lot more — it's life."

"Bookworms" continues on page 14.



JOHN S. KLEMANSKI

*Assistant Professor of Political Science
Director, Master of Public Administration Program
Ph.D., Wayne State University*

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *The Urban Politics Dictionary*, co-authored with John W. Smith of Henry Ford Community College, (ABC-CLIO, Inc.). A reference work for those in local government and politics, covering politics, planning, administration, law, social issues and public policy as they relate to the urban experience.

NEXT BOOK: A comparison of the economic development politics and policies of four cities: Detroit and Boston; and Birmingham and Bristol, England. "The idea came in part from the year I spent in England during the 1989-90 school year."

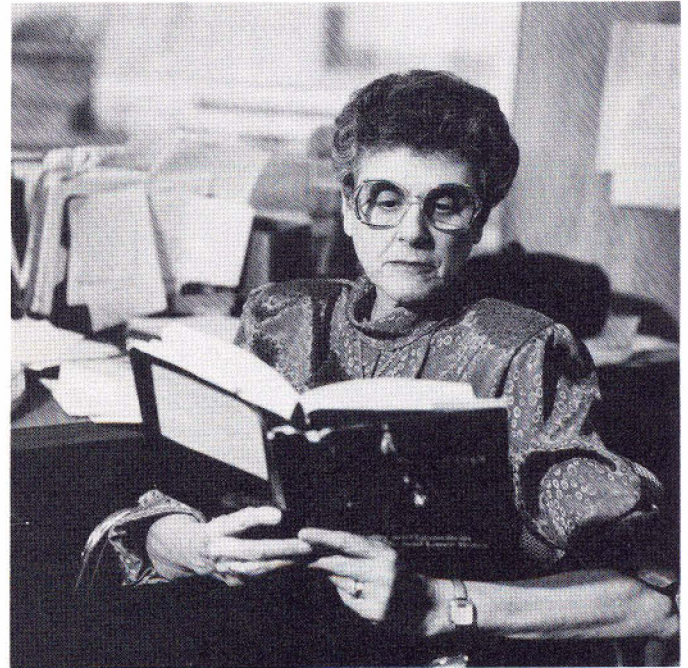
WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "I read books that are probably as far from scholarly research as possible — humorous novels, usually. Though they are both several years old (and more), I've recently read *Handling Sin* by Michael Malone, and *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole. Both novels are what I would call humorous, but with intelligence and a heart. I also enjoyed *Rivethed* by Ben Hamper."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME: "No one book jumps out as being obviously influential."

Some books are enduring though — parts of them stay with you for a long time. Books such as *Ulysses* by James Joyce, *The World According to Garp* by John Irving and *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* each have made me think and have challenged me in different ways."

WHERE I LIKE TO READ AND WRITE: "I have adopted the habit of writing at the office. I find I can't concentrate at home as easily. I almost always do my reading for pleasure at home, on my living room couch."

THE GREATEST THING ABOUT READING: "It can take you to so many different places. It builds your imagination and your vocabulary. It also disciplines your mind in preparation for more 'serious' pursuits. I love books. I collect old editions and have several that are over one hundred years old."



ELINOR B. WATERS

*Adjunct Associate Professor of Education
Director, Continuum Center
Ed.D., Wayne State University*

LATEST BOOK WRITTEN: *Empowering Older Adults: Practical Strategies for Counselors*, co-authored by Jane Goodman (Jossey-Bass). A practical book for professional counselors who have done most of their work with other age groups. Outlines four themes of aging adults: family issues, work issues, self-esteem, and loss and grief.

NEXT BOOK: "I plan to co-author a revision of a book called *Counseling Adults in Transition*."

WHAT I READ FOR FUN: "I read fiction for fun. I like Anne Tyler and Gail Godwin."

THE BOOK THAT HAD THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON ME: "*Clan of the Cave Bear*" by Jean Auel because the main character is a very inspiring young woman. She inspired me to look at things differently. She's a good example of someone who knows how to hang in there."

WHERE I LIKE TO READ AND WRITE: "I write at my computer in my office, generally on Saturdays when it's quiet and no one is around. I like to read in the bathtub. I had a very embarrassing situation once because I fell asleep in the bathtub and the pages of the library book I was reading got a little wet. When I returned the book, I had to explain to the librarian why some of the pages looked wavy."

THE GREATEST THING ABOUT READING: "It provides inspiration sometimes, entertainment other times and just straight-out knowledge." ■

IT'S A WHITE THING

by Jay Jackson

**BLACKS HAVE
EXTREMELY LOW
SUICIDE RATES.
KEVIN EARLY
WANTS TO
KNOW WHY.**

"I probed this and found that it goes against soul. It's something that is unacceptable, given the tradition of suffering. As the clergymen said, it's 'a white thing.'"

THE FINE PRINT told the story.

Deep in the realms of statistics churned out by government agencies, a revealing set of figures emerged. Kevin Early blinked at them, realizing the numbers confirmed what he'd been told time and again: Blacks and suicide are a rare combination.

Early's doctoral research interviews while at the University of Florida found that blacks consider suicide to be "a white thing." That was only hearsay to a researcher, however, no matter how intriguing. He demanded hard facts that would withstand scrutiny from his peers.

Early, now an assistant professor in the Oakland University Department of Sociology and Anthropology, knew he was on to something. Figures compiled by the National Center for Health Statistics gave him the data he needed.

Early's research confirmed strong family and religious ties contributed to low suicide rates among blacks. The rates were especially low when compared to those of whites. For all age groups, the suicide rate among whites was approximately 2.5 times greater than that for blacks.

Higher suicide rates for whites versus blacks held true for all age categories. The differences were especially apparent among the elderly, however. Among white males ages 75-84, the suicide rate was 61.5 per 100,000 persons in 1988, the latest year figures are available. The corresponding rate for black males was 12.6 per 100,000. Rates for females followed similar patterns.

Those numbers jumped at Early. These rates were for blacks and whites who live in the same communities, the same states, the same nation. How could they differ markedly, Early wondered, and how come no one noticed the discrepancies before?

"When I started to read about suicide in the literature, I didn't come across anything talking about black suicides. I found official data, but no one could explain to me *why* suicide was so low," says Early, an expressive man who is passionate about his work. His dissertation, recognized as ground-breaking by others in

Early's field, will be published next September by Greenwood Press under the title *'It's a White Thing: Religion and Suicide in the African-American Community*.

Church pastors and congregation members in the Deep South who Early interviewed condemned suicide as unforgivable sin and a denial of what it means to be black.

Preachers do not rail against suicide, Early found. Yet they were incredulous when Early asked why blacks should "just know" suicide is taboo. Pastors assumed the unspoken rule was ingrained.

The explanations Early heard revealed something about black culture itself, in that certain admonitions were passed on through

word of mouth, at best. Early, who is black, was surprised that these messages had escaped him.

One phrase that spurred Early on was that suicide is "a white thing." He heard that often, and not as ridicule of whites, but as mere statement of fact as professed by blacks.

"I probed this and found that it goes against soul," Early says. "It's something that is unacceptable, given the tradition of suffering. As the clergymen said, it's 'a white thing.'"



Kevin Early

Early developed a "buffering effect" hypothesis, which describes a relationship blacks have with the church that keeps them from killing themselves.

"Blacks are tied to institutions — historically, politically and socially," Early explains. "The one institution that is inherently black is the church. It is through the church that black people have been able to 'escape' status barriers: economic, political, social obstacles. The church is the conferrer of status for African-Americans.

"While you may be a janitor in a downtown Detroit bank, at church you can be the president or the deacon, or the head usher, irrespective of your social standing in the community. In church, it's totally different. It's the only organization that blacks have historically. Blacks did not have all the country clubs, the Kiwanis, the Lions and so forth, but they did have the church." ■

Editor's note: Jay Jackson is a staff writer for Oakland University's News Service.



Sharpen those skis... Explorations rides again!

Explorations, Oakland University's travel program for alumni and President's Club members, kicks off another season with a romantic ski weekend at the Homestead in Glen Arbor, Michigan, February 28 - March 2, 1992.

Your weekend package includes two nights lodging in a deluxe suite with fireplace, two breakfasts for two, one dinner for two and skiing from time of arrival to departure — all for \$116 per person for the downhill package or \$98 for cross-country, based on double occupancy.

If you prefer, stay in a two-bedroom condominium with fireplace — same meal and ski package — for only \$181/163 per person based on double occupancy, or \$121/103 per person based on quad occupancy. Bring your friends and save!

Space is limited, especially for the condominium package, so make your reservations today. Call Pat Stinson at The Homestead at (616) 334-5111 and tell her you want the Oakland University Alumni *Explorations* package.

Watch your mail for these upcoming *Explorations*:

(continued on next page)

IN TOUCH

ALUMNI

1964

Jonathon Rakich is a distinguished professor of management and health services administration at the University of Akron. He received his M.B.A. from the University of Michigan and his Ph.D. from St. Louis University. His wife, **Tana (Smith '64)**, is a first grade teacher.

1966

Louisa Aragona was elected *Woman of the Year* by the Grand Traverse Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. She is a financial planner for the Matrix Group of Traverse City.

1967

Susan Stussy is enrolled in the School of Law at Washburn University.

1969

Jacqueline Bishop was appointed director of technical and information services at Southwestern Michigan College, Dowagiac. She holds a master of science degree from Union College of Schenectady, New York.

1970

Lawrence Murz is a senior contracts supervisor for the Bechtel Corporation in Houston, Texas. He earned a B.S. in construction management (1988) and an M.B.A. (1991) from the University of Houston. He and his wife, Anita, and their five children live in Lake Jackson, Texas.

1971

Mark Nolte is a TDS project instructor at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where he trains staff to use the medical information system.

1973

Stephen Bonczek is city manager of Largo, Florida. He was keynote speaker on Ethics in Government at the 1991 annual conference of Florida Women in Government and has several recent publications on ethical decision making and public management.

1975

Bruce Fealk, president of Hi-Tech

Reporting in Southfield, Michigan, is listed in *Crain's Detroit Business* as one of 40 top local executives under the age of 40.

Alexis (Salisz) Iveson married Michael on August 16, 1991. She is manager of technical services at Oakland University's Kresge Library.

Steven Kaplan is serving a second four-year term as a trustee on the Southfield Board of Education and was also re-elected to serve as president of the board. He is an assistant prosecuting attorney in Macomb County.

1976

Christine Dudley was appointed manager of the Eastgate office of the Old Kent Bank of Ludington, Michigan.

1977

Darrell Datte was promoted to systems engineering manager of sales and marketing applications for EDS Technical Systems Development Division. He and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters.

Dave Kaleita of Sterling Heights, Michigan, has been named operations manager at Signals & Systems Inc., Troy, Michigan.

Helen Koc has resigned from Hazel Park School District after 35 years of teaching.

1978

William J. Evans was appointed vice president and regional controller for First of America Bank-Southeast. He completed his M.B.A. at Michigan State University.

Antoinette (Lipscomb) and Walter Robinson announce the birth of their first child, Aisha Nicole, August 4, 1991.

1979

Cynthia (Chapman) and Jerry Baine announce the birth of their second child, Ryan Patrick, July 25, 1991, brother of Heidi Lynette, age 4.

Donna Lee DeBaets was promoted to area supervisor of the Central Division of Sonoma County Regional Parks, the second woman to be promoted to the title of Park Ranger III in the 29 year history of SCRPP. She lives in Petaluma, California.

Karen Brookshire Franklin and her husband Paul announce the birth of their first child, Zachary Joseph, on September 26, 1991. Karen and Paul are both employed at Oakland University.

1980

Marianne Fey, director of client services for McCann SAS of McCann-Erickson, Inc., was selected by *Crain's Detroit Business* as one of "90 for the '90s," a profile of business people expected to be area leaders in the '90s.

Gorton Greene is supervisor of materials and fasteners engineering at Ford Motor Company.

1981

Jeffrey Hipchen, vice president, one-third owner of Digital Data Solutions, Inc., of Ypsilanti was listed in *Crain's Detroit Business* as one of 40 top local executives under the age of 40.

1982

Dale Brandt is employed with Hughes Aircraft Company in Reston, Virginia, as a project engineer.

Timothy Murphy is a vice president for Team One Advertising. Tim and his wife, P.J., live in Manhattan Beach, California.

1983

Maureen (Livernois) Chabala is music director for St. Mary Magdalen Church in Hazel Park, Michigan. She is working on her master's degree in church music at Madonna University. Maureen is married to **Craig** ('82) who owns an insurance and financial planning company in Southfield, Michigan. They have a daughter.

Jennifer (Thomas) and Brian Cranfill announce the birth of first child, Aaron Thomas, on March 17, 1991.

Carol Karnes graduated from Clemson University with a Ph.D. in industrial management and is teaching at Anderson College in Anderson, South Carolina, this fall.

1984

Nancy Bliss founded Backstage Productions in June 1991 to meet the growing need for quality tour and

IN TOUCH

production management and to provide artists with a professional representative.

Laurene (Marson) and Don Hillebrand announce the birth of their first child, Donald Erick, on August 9, 1991.

William Art Holdsworth was promoted to senior consultant at Plante & Moran, an accounting and management consulting firm. He graduated from Michigan State University with an M.B.A. in marketing.

Gary and Suzanne (Drury)

Lichtman announce the birth of their first child, Natalie Rose, January 27, 1991. Gary is media relations director for United Way for Southeastern Michigan. Suzanne is a processing/systems analyst for AAA-Michigan.

Christopher Rohlman is assistant professor of biochemistry in the Department of Chemistry at Pomona College in Claremont, California.

1985

Kenneth A. Thrush is a C.P.A. with Stieber and Thomas in Utica, Michigan. He married Annette Cynowa on October 7, 1989 and lives in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

1986

Sherry Baker is a staff research associate in the OB/GYN department at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center.

Eric N. Brown is in the master of science in communication program at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Pier (Gilmore) married Mark Rodges on November 9, 1990. She received a master of science in administration degree from Central Michigan University.

Karen Pavlesak married Christopher Sales on January 30, 1991. She is working for Dow Chemical U.S.A. Plastics in the commercial research department and will graduate with a M.B.A. from the University of Michigan.

Kathleen Tresnak is a medical technologist at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan. She married Paul in May 1987 and they have two sons, Luke and Joshua.

1987

Linda Christine Kisse (Marx) and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of their daughter, Jacqueline Nicole, on March 22, 1991.

Brenda McKenzie is resident director/coordinator of freshman year and orientation programs at Marietta College. She received her master's degree from Kent State University in May, 1991.

Chris Pesta married **Christine Egger** ('87) on April 20, 1991. Chris is a product engineer for Chrysler and Christine is a medical technologist at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

1988

Steve Barnett and Barbara Kin graduated from the Southern Connecticut State University-Bridgeport Hospital nurse anesthesia program in May 1991. They each received an M.S. in biology with a certificate in anesthesiology.

Jill Benedict married Kevin Powell on August 24, 1991. She was awarded a graduate assistantship at Bowling Green State University and will complete her M.B.A. in April 1992.

Margie (Dare) Bryce and her husband, Craig, are the proud parents of Kyle James born on April 13, 1991. She is working as a freelance communications specialist.

Renee (Poko) Burke married Thomas Patrick on April 27, 1991.

Denise M. Miller received a promotion to staff COBOL programmer at Fireman's Fund Mortgage Corporation of Farmington Hills, Michigan. She is in the masters of science in management program at Walsh College.

1989

Deborah (Kuntze) Hays is selling real estate with V.I.P. Realty of Waterford, Michigan and working part-time at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital in its ICU unit.

Danette (Greenberg) Simon is teaching at a parochial school in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. She married Matthew in November 1990.

Lisa (VanGelder) and TJ Yarema were married July 19, 1991.

She is the comptroller for Profile Manufacturing in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. TJ is a project engineer in the interior trim department of General Motors' Automotive Division in Lansing, Michigan.

1990

Richard Cucchi is an organist at St. Hugo of the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and is a graduate student at the University of Michigan.

Kristine Lorenzo is in phase 1 of the SED program at EDS in Troy, MI.

Amy Sadlowski is working for Kraft in Champaign, Illinois.

IN MEMORIAM

1975

Deane M. Beard

1980

Michael Swerbinsky

1988

David I. Stillman

1989

Barbara J. Kruger

Dorothy Eberline Hope, Oakland University's first Director of Placement and Alumni Relations (1962-1971). Mrs. Hope was also an accomplished painter whose works have been exhibited at the Detroit Institute of Arts, and a poet with publications in the *National Anthology of Poetry*.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

Members who have joined the President's Club of the Oakland University Foundation since the last printing of the Oakland University Magazine.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Allen
Rochester Hills

Mr. & Mrs. W. Bogdziewicz, Jr.
Rochester Hills

Mr. Neil W. Casaceli
Sterling Heights

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Coletta
Bloomfield Hills

Mr. & Mrs. Michael V. Coletta
Rochester Hills

▼ May 1-3, 1992: Meadow Brook Spring Fever Weekend. Spend the night at Meadow Brook Hall and enjoy a performance of the Fats Waller musical *Ain't Misbehavin'* at Meadow Brook Theatre.

▼ Dates to be Announced: Bus Tour to Stratford, Ontario. Celebrate the Stratford Festival's 25th Anniversary with us!

▼ Autumn Escape to Mackinac Island at Mission Point Resort.

Call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158 for more details.

SBA alumni mentors help OU students

It takes more than a good education to find a job and build a career these days. Graduates need friends in the work force — mentors who can show them the ropes and steer them to the people and organizations that will enhance their professional visibility and opportunities.

That's what the School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate hopes to accomplish with its SBA Mentors Program.

The program is designed for students interested in particular career fields to meet with alumni who volunteer as role models, advisors, friends and resource people.

The best part is you don't need an extensive professional background or to be the CEO of your company to be effective. Mentors come from a variety of backgrounds and offer a wide range of life experiences from which students can learn.

The first group is already under way, but if you are interested in becoming a mentor, call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158.



Dunphy Named to Top Alumni Post

Jill K. Dunphy has been appointed director of alumni relations and assistant director of development. She had been acting alumni director since last spring.

In her new position, Dunphy will oversee the alumni annual fund, the capital campaign, recruiting alumni for the university's President's Club and working with the Macomb Scholarship Committee, which raises money for Macomb County students to attend Oakland.

Alumni ambassadors to recruit for Oakland

Oakland University was recently cited by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the "best buys" in America. And no one can provide better proof of that than our alumni.

That's why the Oakland University Alumni Association and the Office of Admissions are joining forces through a new *Alumni Ambassadors* program to convince top high school students that Oakland University should be *their* university, too.

Alumni will work with the Admissions Office in identifying prospective students in their area, talking with them or their parents either in person or by phone, as well as at local college nights. If you would like more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB *Cont'd*

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Rochester Hills

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West Bloomfield

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Rochester Hills

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Ms. Connie Eis

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Mr. Russell L. Kavanaugh

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Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Uminski

In Memoriam:

Mrs. Glenn H. Bixby (Pauline)

KEEPING IN TOUCH

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE keeps you informed about — and in touch with — Oakland University and its many programs, alumni and friends. Please use the space provided — or attach an additional page — to send us news (appointments, promotions, honors, marriages, children and other activities) about yourself or your Oakland friends. Moving? Send us your new address right away. Let's keep "in touch"!

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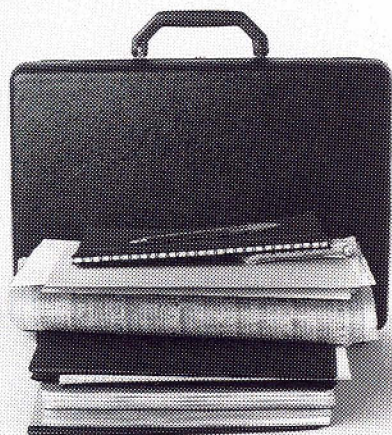
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PARTING THOUGHT

A NEW RESPECT FOR AMERICA

by Nancy Elizabeth Fitch



Nancy Elizabeth Fitch ('69) worked for Clarence Thomas from 1982 to 1989 while he was chairman of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and testified as a character witness in the second phase of Thomas' lengthy U.S. Supreme Court confirmation hearings. She is an assistant professor in the Department of African-American Studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

She holds a B.A. in political science and English language and literature from Oakland University, and master's and doctoral degrees in history from the University of Michigan.

I'VE LEARNED THAT the American public is a lot wiser than I ever thought. This experience taught me that people have their own ideas and are not afraid to challenge or confront our national leadership. It's given me a new respect for America.

The Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings will force the issue. People are sick and tired of not being heard. Maybe we'll see a change of leadership and more people running for office. I believe we need a fresh start in Congress . . . men and women who are not afraid to weigh the issues that confront them with *fairness*, not

making decisions based on how it will affect them politically.

Most of us try to be fair in our lives and we're a lot smarter than our representatives in Washington give us credit for. The majority of America *believed* Clarence Thomas and Congress had no choice but to listen. Because of the American people, everything worked out in the end.

The hearings were a spectacle and no one walked away without being damaged. No one.

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