

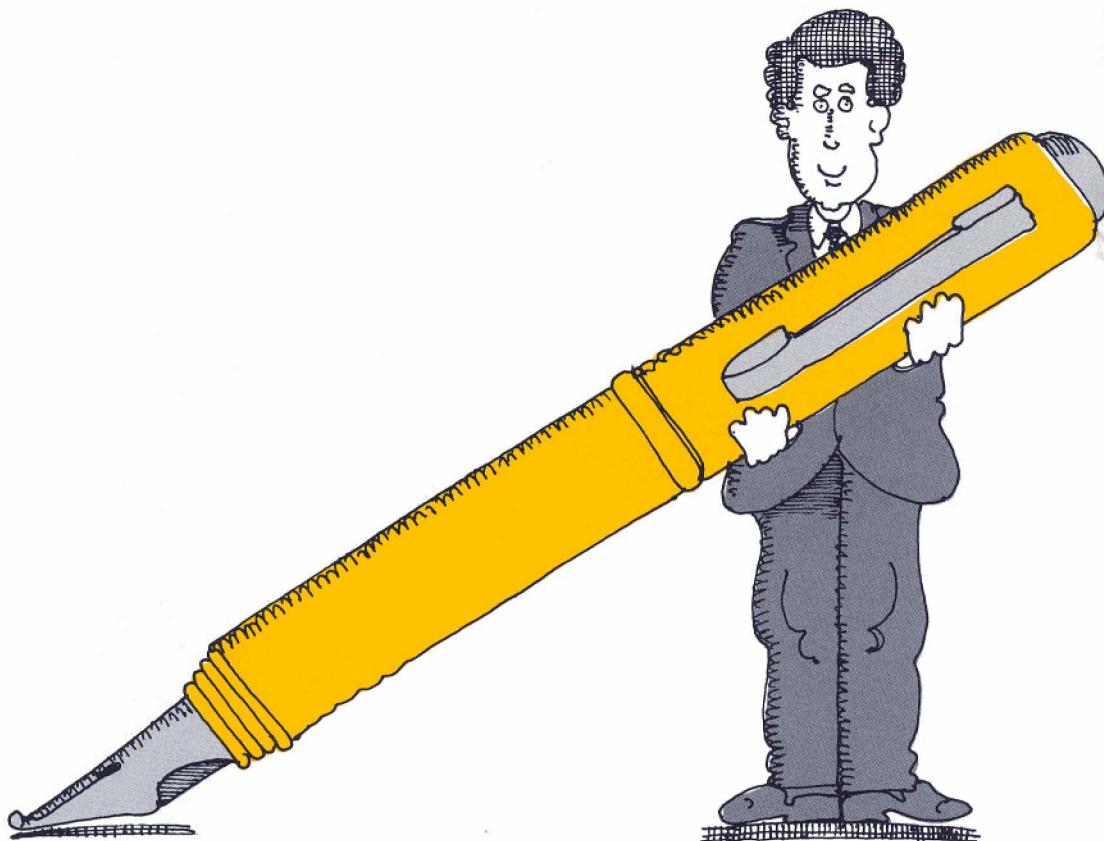
Winter 1993

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE

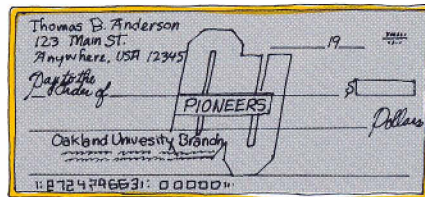


"THE CHOICE IS OURS"
Sandra Packard Takes the Helm



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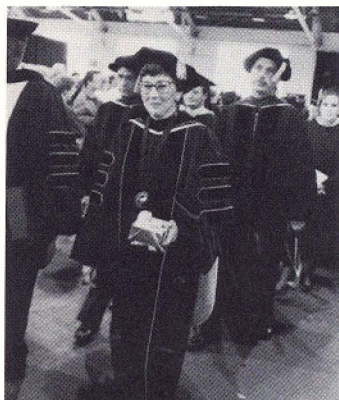
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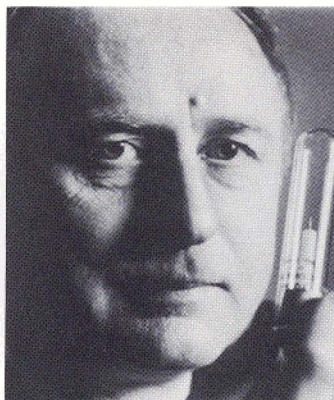
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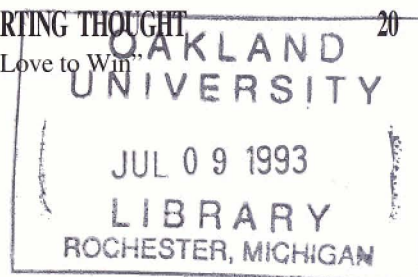
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"I Love to Win"



LATE BREAKING: To accommodate a new advertising sales program, the quarterly OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE is changing to a March, June, September, December publication schedule beginning with the Summer (June) 1993 issue.

KRESGE LIBRARY WALL OF HONOR



Donors Mr. and Mrs. Louis R. Ross were honored at the dedication.

One thing I learned quickly about being a university president: You have to love to host events. Fortunately, I do, especially for members of Oakland's extended family of students, faculty, staff and friends.

One of the warmest moments of my first six months was hosting the December dedication of the Wall of Honor in Kresge Library. The "wall" is actually a large plaque, with individually inscribed names of major donors to the university's Enduring Legacy campaign for Kresge Library.

Some of you may not be aware that we are raising funds to improve the library's collections of books and periodicals. A university is only as good as its informational resources. (The most notable of these are, of course, real live faculty members and library materials.) In the 1989 accreditation review of Oakland University, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools found our library collections to be acceptable, but in need of enhancement.

North Central will be returning in 1994 to check our progress. Since an average book costs \$50 and an average journal subscription \$270, we need help with the price tag. Thankfully, our "family" is rising to the occasion.

Already, the generosity of dozens of

donors has brought in more than 60 percent of the \$3.5 million goal. All funds raised in the campaign will be used to acquire books, journals and information resources, such as on-line computer resources and CD-ROMs.

I invite you to view the Wall of Honor next time you're on campus. You'll surely recognize many familiar names; names of people who have meant so much to this university in its first 35 years. Should you choose to add your name to our new wall, your generosity will not only put books on the shelves, it will directly assist students in their quest for education.

A second thing I have learned of as Oakland's new president is the generosity and dedication of its alumni and friends. Please accept my appreciation for all you have done for the university and continue to do.

Sandra Packard

Sandra Packard
President, Oakland University

Editor's Note: Those interested in contributing to the library campaign may call OU's Development Office at (313) 370-4382.

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*Fran Engelhardt, Ford Motor Land Development, and
Janette Engelhardt, real estate agent, Max Brook, Inc.*

Fran and Janette Engelhardt take stock in Oakland University

For more than a decade, this husband and wife team have been extraordinary volunteers and ambassadors for Oakland. ♦ Janette and Fran co-chair the Executive Committee of the President's Club and Fran serves on the OU Foundation Board of Directors. They belong to the President's Club Ambassadors and the Alfred G. Wilson Society for major contributors to the Oakland University Foundation. ♦ Janette was the first president of the Meadow Brook Festival Women's Committee. Today she serves on both the Faculty Forum and Special Events committees for the President's Club. ♦ The Engelhardts were instrumental in founding the Director's Circle for Meadow Brook Theatre.

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BRIEFLY

▼ Governor John Engler has appointed OU President Sandra Packard to serve on the Michigan World Cup Commission. The commission will counsel and assist the activities of the Michigan Host Committee for the 1994 World Cup soccer competition. The World Cup is the largest single sporting event in the world and will be held at nine sites, involving 24 nations and 52 games. The Pontiac Silverdome will host four games.

▼ In another important appointment from the governor's office, Rex E. Schlaybaugh, Jr. has been appointed to the university Board of Trustees. Schlaybaugh replaces L. Brooks Patterson, who resigned from the board in January, citing possible conflict of interest. Last fall Patterson won election as Oakland County executive and began his new position in January. Schlaybaugh, of Birmingham, is an attorney with the Dykema Gossett law firm where he specializes in issues and developments in the merger and acquisition area. His new position on OU's board expires August, 1998. Schlaybaugh is also a member of the board of directors of the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company of Michigan, Bloomfield Hills Bancorp, Inc. and The Bank of Bloomfield Hills.

▼ From scratch golfers to duffers, those who play the Katke-Cousins Golf Course are helping to strengthen the university's academic programs. For 1993, \$23,000 will be turned over to the university general fund from golf course revenues. Those funds will be used exclusively for support of academic programs and scholarships. In addition, \$69,635 will be given to the general fund to cover 100 percent of the course's operating administrative overhead, such as accounting services and other business functions. This is an increase of \$22,694 over last year. The golf course is one of the university's self-supporting auxiliary enterprises.

UP FRONT

EARLY CURTAIN CALL

The time: July 17, 1964.
The place: Festival Theatre at Stratford, Ontario.
The memory: Belongs to Dave Thorndill ('66), second from right, now Dr. Dave, a biologist and professor at Essex Community College in Baltimore, Maryland.

A feature story in the fall '92 issue of this magazine about the OU alumni association's bus trip to Stratford prompted Thorndill to share a little of his OU history.

"Tom Jackman (third from left) had a van and I believe we

all drove down together," recalls Thorndill, who was a 20-year-old junior at the time. "We slept in tents which had been rented by OU. Dozens of students went . . . It was a fun thing to do . . . and it was on this trip that I met my wife to be," (Gillann Gilbertson, '66, third from right).

Being the romantic that he is, when Thorndill and Gilbertson married two years later, they went to Stratford on their honeymoon. Today, alas, they are divorced.



He remains, however, a big fan of travel and arranges group travel tours for students at Essex.

Other OU alums pictured, who all graduated in 1966 or 1967, are Gary Durst, Nicole (Neely) Kniffen, Theresa Wooley and John Cupal.

FOCUS



John R. Ylvisaker, M.D.

President's Club lifetime member since 1983

Marital Status: Widower, father of four

Home: Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Current Profession: President, Ylvisaker Investment Company

Former Profession: Retired surgeon; medical director of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, Michigan

Hobby: Flying; owns a sporty Piper Comanche and frequently flies to Florida. Has flown to Europe, South America, the Northwest Territories, and flew across the Atlantic Ocean in 1987 to meet the King and Queen of Sweden on a mission of goodwill for then Michigan Governor James Blanchard.

Noteworthy: Member of the President's Club executive committee; chair of the club's Faculty Forums committee; member of the Alfred G. Wilson Society; involved in the formation of the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute and the School of Health Sciences; helped raise funds for tennis courts at Meadow Brook Hall.

Scholarship: Established and maintains an endowed scholarship for nursing students, the Tekla Strom Ylvisaker Memorial Scholarship Fund, in memory of his wife, a nurse.

On Scholarship: "It's better to be a friend and a donor. That way, you remain a resource for life."

On the School of Nursing: "It's a desirable resolution for the local hospitals to have the responsibility of helping to train new nurses. It bolsters the standards of care and quality, and also provides a pool of new graduates opportunities in our local hospitals."

NEAR THE PEAK

The Oakland Pioneers' soccer team made its seventh straight trip to the NCAA national championships — the longest streak in Division II history — but lost out to the University of Tampa in the semifinals of the Final Four. Oakland's 1992 soccer squad finished the season with an 18-3-1 record — the Pioneers' best season since 1983. The team set school records for goals (80), assists (99) and points (259).

Senior defender Derek Williford and sophomore Mali Walton were named NCAA Division II second team All-Americans. Williford, a sweeper on the OU team, anchored the Pioneer defense and tallied eight assists. Walton was OU's number two scorer with 17 goals and 14 assists for 48 points. He finished 12th in the nation in scoring. Williford and Walton were joined on the All-Mideast team by junior goalkeeper Mike Sheehy and sophomore Eli Tiomkin. Tiomkin set a school record with 51 points on 20 goals and 11 assists, finishing tied for ninth place in scoring and 10th in goals scored in the final NCAA Division II statistics. Sheehy was 10th nationally in goals against average. Tiomkin and junior John Gentile were selected to the regional All-Academic team, and Gentile earned second team Academic All-America honors. (To be eligible for any All-Academic squad, a student must have at least a 3.00 grade point average.)



Sophomore Andrew Wagstaff fires one in.

In other sports news:

▼ The men's and women's swimming and diving teams will compete at the NCAA Division II National Championships March 10-13 in Canton, Ohio. The women's team will be shooting for its fourth straight national championship. The men have placed in the top three in the country for seven straight and 14 of the last 15 years.

▼ The cross-country team earned a best-ever second place finish at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference meet, hosted this year by Oakland. Senior John Myatt and juniors Paul Rice and John

Nemens each earned All-GLIAC honors.

▼ The volleyball team finished with an overall record of 20-15, and placed third in the GLIAC. Senior Darlene Monroe was named first-team All-GLIAC, while senior Julie Bardoni and junior Natalie Koan earned honorable mention.

▼ Junior Lisa Bielenda led the women's tennis team to a fourth place finish in the GLIAC tournament. Bielenda was the runner-up at number one singles, and combined with partner Jennifer Graham to finish second at number one doubles.

BRIEFLY

▼ A play by students in the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance emerged as one of six top productions from a field of 148 regional entries at the 1993 American College Theatre Festival Region III held in January at Southern Illinois University. The play, *Cloud Nine* by Caryl Churchill, is a provocative look at sexual, racial and gender roles in Victorian colonial Africa and pre-AIDS London of 1980. Festival judges will decide which of the six regional winners go on to compete in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Washington, D.C. in April.

▼ OU senior Angela Maclean, cast member of the play *Cloud Nine*, was one of 16 finalists nominated for the Irene Ryan Foundation Acting Scholarship by judges at the American College Theatre Festival. More than 200 actors took part in preliminary competition, which included monologue and two-person scene performances. If you missed Maclean's performance in *Cloud Nine* at Varner Hall last fall, you can see her behind-the-scenes talent when she directs Fernando Arrabal's *Guernica* April 1-4 at OU's Studio Theatre. For more information, call (313) 370-3013.

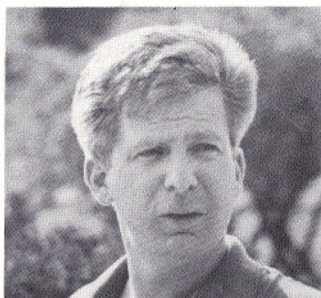
▼ *Parlez vous glasnost?* Sally Silk, professor of French, is lecturing in the former Soviet Union on a Fulbright scholarship. At Moscow State University Silk lectures on French literary theory and at the Russian Institute for the Humanities she leads a course in reading French novels. An exciting part of her Fulbright is the opportunity to create from scratch a library on French literary theory.

▼ OU's chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers has been awarded the "Most Active Student Chapter Award" for its activities during the 1991-92 academic year.

UP FRONT

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

About 500 alumni — from Seattle to New York — came back to campus to attend Oakland University's first All Classes Reunion October 3.



CARL GRUSNICK, 35
Oxford, Michigan
General Studies,
Political Science and History ('85)
Security officer with General Motors

"The funniest thing I remember about my days at OU was going to a big party at my cousin's dorm on campus. They had a fire drill at the the same time. I can still see all those girls running in their pajamas clutching pillows."



C.P.A. Hopeful: Hope Walker, a 20-year-old junior from New Baltimore, was the recipient of a \$500 scholarship sponsored by the the Black Alumni Association and the Association of Black Students. She was presented with her check at a reception at Sunset Terrace hosted by President Packard for members of the Black Alumni Affiliate, as part of the reunion festivities. She hopes to become a certified public accountant.



BARBARA WILLIAMS, 47
Rochester Hills, Michigan
History and Education ('66)
Special ed teacher in Lake Orion

"My happiest memory was the day I met the man who would become my husband in the Kresge Library. To commemorate that fate, we've remained board members of the Friends of Kresge Library."



Old friends: Alumnae Jeannine Daly ('76) and Virginia McIntyre ('63) share a close moment during a reception at Kresge Library, one of the many reunion activities on campus. Daly (left), is a teacher at Page Middle School in the Lamphere school district in Madison Heights (MI) and McIntyre is a reading specialist for the Waterford (MI) Schools Learning Center. Both received Master of Arts in Teaching degrees from Oakland.



LYNDA WOJTALEWICZ, 27
Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Mechanical Engineering ('88)
Engineer at Ford Motor Company

"My happiest memory of OU was attending the Meadow Brook Ball in the fall of 1987. It was hard to get tickets to the ball and Craig asked me. We fell in love and we married."



CRAIG WOJTALEWICZ, 29
Dearborn Heights, Michigan
Mechanical Engineering ('87)
Engineer at General Motors Corporation

"My fondest memories of OU are of the \$1-a-night movies at Dodge Hall. You could get in for 50 cents if you were hard up by saying you belonged to a student organization."

THE CHOICE IS OURS

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

by Dr. Sandra Packard



Oakland University President Sandra Packard and James A. Sharp, Jr., chairperson of the university Board of Trustees, lead the recession.

AN INAUGURATION is a very special occasion in the life of a university. It is a time to remember and give honor to the past, to acknowledge present strength and excellence, and to look forward to the future. It is a time of reflection and of anticipation. Today we celebrate our life together as an academic community.

Thirty-five years ago, in January of 1957, through the generous donation of the Meadow Brook Farms Estate and funds by Matilda and Alfred Wilson, and the visionary leadership of Oakland's first chancellor, Woody Varner, Michigan State University-Oakland was chartered by the state of Michigan. Its purpose was *to liberally educate all students who enter its classes.*

From its very inception, Oakland University was intended to be a different sort of place. At the Charter Class Convocation, Thomas Hamilton, one of Oakland's original planners said, *Here, if ever there is an opportunity for a fresh start — a chance to choose wisely from that which time and experience have proved valid and to clear away the rubbish of superficiality which certainly clings with at least the tenacity of ivy to many older universities.*

The founders of our university had intended Oakland to be a beacon, not an extrapolation; an opportunity for innovation, a break from the traditions of rigid academic departments and formal lecturing.

Students were to be active learners; with the library and laboratory, not the classroom, the center of learning. They were to receive both a liberal and a professional education,

so that they could be educated as human beings, as well as skilled in a discipline.

The model adopted for education was one of academic intensity. Traditional extra-curricular offerings of Ivy League institutions, such as intercollegiate athletics, fraternities and sororities, and the vocational focus of community colleges, were to be avoided.

Oakland was intended to be a distinguished university, where the average student could, through intensive teaching and small classes, *be brought a long way from their mindless and relaxed frivolities.*

Thirty-five years ago, our university began with a noble vision; a vision of accessible undergraduate education for local students that would liberate their intellects and give them a knowledge of the world and of their chosen area of study equal to that provided by the best universities in America.

Although we have changed in some ways from this original vision, we can take pride in the fact that Oakland has fulfilled our founders' aspiration for educational excellence. Oakland is nationally recognized for excellence in teaching and research, and our community is strengthened by our presence and service.

I am fortunate to inherit a presidency that my predecessors have held with wisdom and courage and to enter a new academic family that is talented and dedicated to this university.

I am confident that the future we will chart together for Oakland will be worthy of our founders' vision.

Yet what future shall we chart? What vision impels us into the next decade?

Like most universities in America, we find ourselves in what might have been called in the 1960s an existential dilemma. Aware that the course we will chart for the decade will shape not just a new generation, but a new century, we have yet to reach consensus on which course to chart.

Nor is Oakland unique in this dilemma.

“...ADDING

SELECTED DOCTORAL PROGRAMS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR GROWING PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY...”

Members of the academy all across the nation are debating issues of purpose in higher education; teaching vs. research, political correctness, cultural literacy, to name just a few.

University leadership is faulted for a lack of sureness of foot and future vision, and university mission statements are rewritten.

What has caused this unease? Is the failing ours in the academy, or do the roots of our dilemma lie elsewhere?

Since World War II, profound societal changes and global interdependence have occurred which have had a major impact on higher education.

As in society in general, the degree and rate of change has scarcely left us time to respond, let alone to plan. Knowledge bases in our academic disciplines are growing exponentially. The technology with which we teach and do research is changing rapidly.

There are more nontraditional than traditional students on our campuses and they seek an education that will help them succeed in a global economy and a high tech world, not an education that will help them enter a common cultural mainstream.

Legislative and accreditation bodies require outcome accountabilities. Communities seek more help in advancing the public good, corporations more assistance in economic development, and government more applicable research solutions.

As scholars we have chronicled and even helped to bring about these changes, irrevocably altering the nature and importance of information and thereby changing the role and functions of the American university.

American universities are the best in the world and college-bashing best-sellers aside, we are prepared to meet the needs of each of our constituencies. Yet we also recognize that we must do so with shrinking resources.

Our uncertainty about the future comes not from a belief that the academy has failed, but from our aspiration for its continued success. We may appear to lack focus, not because we do not have a clear mission, but be-

the well being of our students, our community, and our country, that we expect so much of ourselves.

Yet we know that we cannot afford to be all things to all people, that difficult choices and institutional and personal adaptations must be made if we are to maintain our commitment to excellence.

As we end one century, in fact one millennium, and begin another, we are shaping a future we cannot predict, but for which we have great expectation: a future where the

genetic engineering that we undertake in our science laboratories may eliminate illness and prolong life; where the designing we do in our computer labs may replicate the human brain; where our archaeological and astro-physical discoveries may reshape our most fundamental beliefs in our origins.

What an exciting time in which to be a member of the academy! How can



cause we have a more complex mission; not because we lack direction, but because we have more directions than resources to support them.

Thirty-five years ago Oakland was founded with a single educational mission. Today it has a fourfold mission: *to provide excellent and relevant instruction; high quality basic and applied research and scholarship; responsive and effective public and community service; and a comprehensive schedule of student development activities.*

Derek Bok, president emeritus of Harvard University, claims that American universities have lost the public trust. *It occurred to me, he said, that to be so admired in other parts of the world while being so roundly criticized at home was a singular achievement for our institutions of higher learning.*

I would disagree. Currently, over 62 percent of American high school graduates enter college. Perhaps never before have the citizens of our country so heavily depended upon and placed their hopes in higher learning as the road to future prosperity.

I believe my colleagues at Oakland agree with me. It is because we understand how significant our university's endeavors are for

we, who are the fiduciaries and the creators of the world's knowledge, not feel humbled by these challenges? To again quote Hamilton, *Here, if ever there is an opportunity for a fresh start — a chance to choose wisely from that which time and experience have proved valid ...*

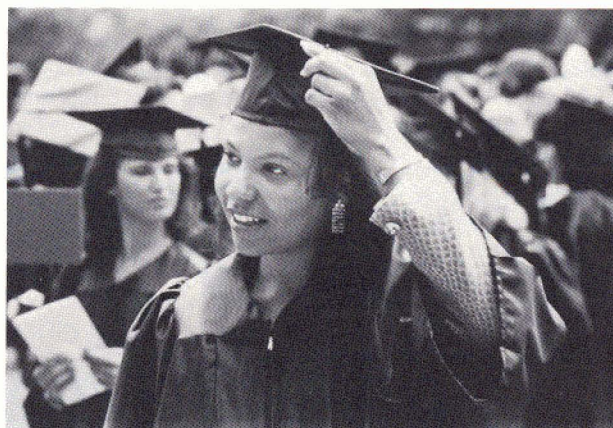
Time and experience have proved valid the purpose for which Oakland was established: to provide a quality education for local youth to prepare them, and by extension their community, for a changing future.

We have accomplished that mission well. Seventy-seven percent of our 40,209 alumni live in and contribute to the well being of our three-county region; almost 30 percent live in Oakland County. They have helped it to advance from an isolated, rural county to one of the fastest growing, most affluent counties in the state.

It is time now to broaden our perspective; to adopt a state-wide mission and position ourselves among the top-ranked universities in the state, not in size, but in focus; and to seek to provide for Michigan that which we have helped accomplish for our region.

Expanding our vision will not mean lessening our commitment to Oakland County.

“... *To* BROADEN
THE DIVERSITY
OF THE
STUDENTS WE
SERVE...”



To the contrary, it should enable us to serve it better. We will continue to serve as a major educational and cultural center, and to annually provide thousands of hours of volunteer service to community groups, agencies, schools and businesses.

Expanding our mission will mean extending the educational opportunities of our campus, in nontraditional times and formats, to meet the needs of working students and those who live away from our campus.

It will mean adding selected doctoral programs to meet the needs of our growing professional community and to provide more highly educated citizens for state advancement.

It will mean improving our campus residence and recreational facilities to attract more students from other regions of the state and to broaden the diversity of the students we serve.

And it will mean undertaking and supporting teaching and research endeavors at nationally ranked levels, levels that support selection for a campus chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, or dual membership with the National Association of Land Grant Colleges and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Why, in times of lean resources, should Oakland University seek to educate a wider range of students, a stronger research mission, and a broader service agenda? Should we not be shrinking by design, or at least standing

still till the winds of recession blow over?

These are difficult times. On a stormy sea of budget cuts, some might argue that we should trim our sails and lighten our load to weather the storm. I do not believe that to be our best course. Capping enrollments, limiting research, or curtailing programs will only encourage stagnation, while other universities forge ahead. Such strategies also carry the risk of reducing resources even further.

Difficult times require difficult choices, but they also provide opportunity. Greatness comes not to those who run from obstacles, but from those who challenge them.

Only 35 years young, Oakland has the freshness of vision, energy and flexibility characteristic of youth. As we plan for our

future, we can use these assets to our advantage.

Shortly we will begin a major, campus-wide strategic planning effort to determine our focus and priorities for our next decade. As we prepare for a new century, let us capitalize on the entrepreneurial spirit that began our university and yet persists.

In closing, I want to tell you two stories. The first is a story about Casey Stengel told by Irvin Reid, president of Montclair University, at his inaugural. When Casey was manager of the New York Mets, he was asked by a reporter about the future prospects of two of the Mets' 20-year-old players. *In 10 years*, Casey said, *Ed Kranepool has a chance to be a star. In 10 years the other guy has a chance to be 30.*

The second story is about a young man who wanted to outwit the town's wise man. He decided he would catch a bird, hold it behind his back, and ask the wise man if it was alive or dead. If the man said it was alive, he would kill it and show it to him. If he said it was dead, he would open his hands and free it. So he caught a bird and went to see the wise man. *Wise man, what is it I have behind my back?* A bird, the wise man answered. *Is it alive or dead?* the young man asked. The wise man looked deeply into his eyes and said, *The choice is yours. Its future is in your hands.*

In 10 years, 2002, Oakland University has a chance to join the ranks of the nation's best universities, or in 10 years we can be 45 years old. The choice is ours. ■



“... *Im*PROVING
OUR CAMPUS
RESIDENCE
AND
RECREATIONAL
FACILITIES...”

Hard Cell

by Jay Jackson

Skeptical scientists doubted nitric oxide molecules could be counted until an OU chemist singled them out. Now the scientific world is singling out his discovery.

THINK TINY.

In the expanding field of bioelectronics, what you pack into a small package counts. It's an approach that works for Oakland Professor Tadeusz Malinski, whose research has created a microsensor of such miniature dimensions that it's virtually invisible to the naked eye. Yet its potential for solving mysteries in the medical field is of such magnitude that scientists from around the world are rushing to Rochester.

Malinski, a professor of chemistry, developed the microsensor. The precision of the device is notable, in that it measures the amount of nitric oxide gas in a single cell to the trillionth of a gram. If that revelation draws yawns from the public, Malinski understands.

When Malinski says the microsensor is small, he means it. The microsensor is one micrometer in diameter, or one-millionth of a meter. Despite its size, the device has been a lightning rod to scientists who dream of methods of limiting damage from strokes or finding ways to destroy cancerous tumors.

One reason for the attention is the microsensor's ability to detect nitric oxide *in situ* (meaning in its original place). Malinski's work is significant because nitric oxide (NO) is one of the most important

"messenger molecules" in biology. Or, as he puts it, it's the mail carrier taking information from one part of the cell to another and getting an instant reaction.

NO plays diverse roles. In one instance, nitric oxide causes blood vessels to dilate by relaxing smooth muscle cells. In another, it's a neurotransmitter in the brain.

The big question Malinski's research answered was whether nitric oxide molecules could be "counted." To the astonishment of the scientific community, the answer was yes. In simple terms, Malinski inserts the microsensor into a cell and turns on a faint amount of electrical current. If nitric oxide is present, it reacts. An accurate count is obtained through a complex set of computations based on the point at which the disruption occurs.

The microsensor allows researchers to single out NO molecules from the trillions of molecules of all kinds that make up a cell. Accurate counts are a major step toward establishing reference points for how much NO should be present in different cells. Once that is accomplished, researchers will be able to spot deviations from the norm, and perhaps take corrective steps with prescription drugs, Malinski observes.

Here and Gone

Until Malinski developed his microsensor, scientists could detect NO only as the gas was emitted by a cell. Further complicating attempts to measure the number of NO molecules — and what made the discovery of them so difficult in the first place — is that NO molecules are measurable for only a few seconds at most before they dissipate. Add to that the fact that not all cells contain NO and it's easy to see why tracking and understanding NO is like working in the puzzle factory.

Already Malinski's work has answered a question of critical importance to researchers studying the circulatory system.

"We proved for the first time that the molecule released from the endothelial cells within the blood vessel is really NO," Malinski says. To a scientist studying stroke, this is big. It has been hypothesized that during a stroke, a very high release of NO damages surrounding brain cells. Although NO damages the body in some cases, it helps you in others.

Malinski points out that nitroglycerin, commonly used to treat heart patients, also releases nitric oxide. "It has been known for

100 years that nitroglycerin works, but no one really knew why it worked," he says. "Now we know that nitroglycerin works through the release of NO in the body, which causes relaxation of smooth muscles of the aorta, for example. Then blood can flow much easier."

New pharmaceuticals might regulate nitric oxide release or react with NO. Malinski speculates such drugs could regulate dilation of blood vessels, thereby making it possible to prevent a stroke or to lessen the effects of one if treatment began immediately.

It's no exaggeration to say that Malinski's research contributes to understanding how the human body works. Nitric oxide was first discovered in humans five years ago. When Malinski came along in 1992 and reported that he could measure NO in a single cell, the scientific community rustled in its chair. The prestigious international journal *Nature* published Malinski's paper describing the microsensor. Within hours, Malinski's phone started ringing with scientists calling to set up appointments.

More than 250 universities, research institutions and pharmaceutical companies from North America and Europe have either called or sent representatives to Malinski's lab. The list of universities includes Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, the University of Michigan ... and on and on. As is Malinski's style, he shrugs modestly when asked about the attention.

"The microsensor looks so good on paper that some people, of course, find it very difficult to believe. They're surprised when they see it's possible," Malinski says.

Solomon H. Snyder of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine commented in the same issue of *Nature*:

"The development of a sensor that can rapidly respond to minute changes in

concentration of NO *in situ* is therefore a considerable technical advance towards monitoring the release and distribution of NO in the body," Snyder wrote.

The Right Mix

Malinski's answers come from an inquisitive mind educated in art and science. His path to Oakland started in Poland, where as a 6-year-old he surprised educators with his advanced abilities. Later he studied art and art restoration at the Academy of Art in

Poland before leaving in 1981, just before martial law was imposed. Malinski had come to the United States for a conference, and with the political condition in Poland at the time, staying in the U.S. was a good bet. It wasn't until last year that he was able to return freely and be assured of leaving again on his own accord.

The early years in Poland were productive in training Malinski, but facilities at European universities don't compare in sophistication with typical laboratories in U.S. universities, he says. To get an idea of

how difficult it could be to work as a researcher in Poland at the time, consider that while the country was under Communist rule, the use of ordinary copying machines was government-regulated.

"Eighty-five percent of the research discovery is done in the United States," Malinski says. "The style of work and the efficiency is much better here. What takes a few days to do in a lab here can take several months in Europe."

Cells Killing Cells

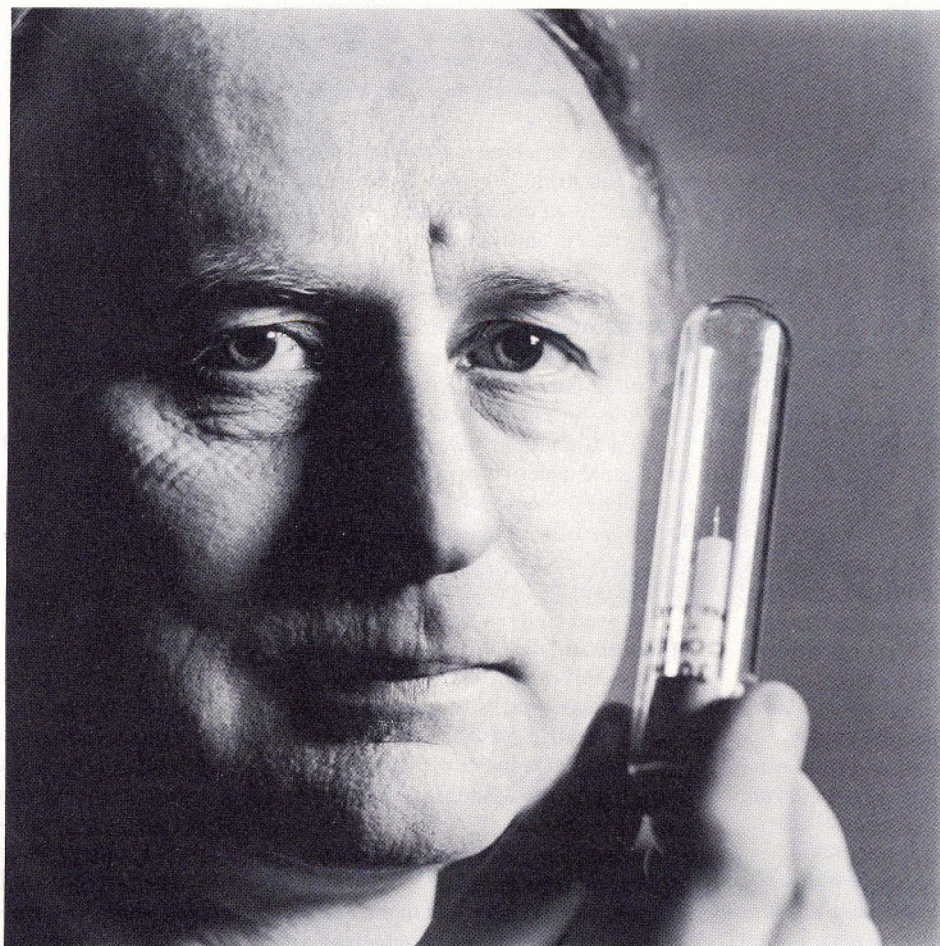
The efficiency of Malinski's lab will be good news for those awaiting

scientific breakthroughs and more answers to nitric oxide's secrets, questions like whether nitric oxide, known to be destructive in high quantities, can be harnessed.

Specifically, could NO kill cancerous tumor cells?

"A high concentration of nitric oxide is toxic, and it kills cancer cells. The idea is to induce the release of a large amount of NO from cancer cells so the cells will kill themselves. Of course, nobody knows how high the nitric oxide level should be."

With continued research by scientists like Malinski, that answer and others like it may not be far off. ■



Miracle in a bottle: Professor Tadeusz Malinski displays the microsensor he developed that accurately counts the number of nitric oxide molecules within a single cell.

Poznan. He also holds a degree in chemistry from the University of Poznan. Art and chemistry mixed well for his work in art analysis and restoration.

"Sometimes I would take a very small piece of the paint or varnish and analyze it," he says. The analysis could not only date a painting, but verify which school of art or master produced it.

Malinski taught art and chemistry in

HITTING THE HIGH SEAS

by Vicky Billington

Alum
Paul Ritchie
rides a wave
of success
crooning
on the QE2



FOR SINGER AND SONGWRITER Paul Ritchie, the high seas definitely cause more problems than the high C's.

Ritchie ('86), is an entertainer on the Queen Elizabeth 2, the world-class luxury superliner. It's an uncommon job, with uncommon perks . . . and hazards.

"We were in the North Atlantic last fall when rough seas rolled in," recalls Ritchie. "We were rehearsing a show in the Grand Lounge when suddenly the ship did a 20-degree tilt. It felt like we were in the middle of a landslide — or an earthquake. Dishes started falling and smashing onto the floor. Chairs and marble tables began sliding across the room at us — becoming instant weapons — and trapped one of the other singers against a wall. Needless to say, the performance was cancelled that night."

But such high sea drama is rare as a pearl in pâté aboard the QE2, where passengers can pay upwards of \$57,000 to be pampered and feted for a few weeks' voyage. It takes a lot more than rough seas to rock the 13-story, 937-foot, 69,000-ton cruise ship that Ritchie has called home — and stage — for the last year.

And there are plenty of perks on this sea-going vessel.

Because he performs at night, Ritchie can spend his days with the passengers — swimming in one of four pools; taking in a game of quoits, basketball or roulette; dining on sumptuous food from morning to midnight.

Landing the job on the QE2 has been the highlight of his budding career, says the 30-year-old baritone, who has earned his sea legs but is still trying to find his niche in the entertainment world.

And one sees a lot of the world on a cruise ship.

Since he began his year-long contract with Cunard Cruise Lines (operators of the QE2) last spring, Ritchie's job has taken him to Norway, Spain, Portugal, Greece, France, Italy, Bermuda, the Caribbean, the Canary Islands, Mexico, South America, Hawaii, and

his personal favorite, Denmark.

Aboard ship, Ritchie entertains guests in the 800-seat Grand Lounge, sometimes with two performances a night. Always in tuxedo, with back-up singers and a live 12-piece orchestra, Ritchie sings reviews — a Rodgers and Hammerstein set, a Hollywood musicals sampling, a Las Vegas review and a special Christopher Columbus extravaganza.

He describes his singing voice as being similar to that of Jack Jones, "or Harry Connick, Jr. when I want to be." He has opened for such well-known performers as Marvin Hamlisch, Kris Kristofferson, Suzanne Somers and Twiggy. And when he's not a featured star on the big stage, Ritchie performs in a five-couple ensemble, the Jean Ann Ryan Singers and Dancers, on a smaller stage on board.

But Ritchie is itchy for the big time. With the contacts he's making with some of the ship's entertainers and influential passengers, along with his relentless self-promotion, Ritchie is trying to navigate a future that will net him a recording contract, a songwriting contract, a break on Broadway or a nod in Nashville.

So far, he's had a song published ("Tomorrow is Here at Last"), made three trips to Nashville, gets to New York as often as possible, and writes music whenever he can. Another of his songs, "Holiday Magic," was the lead musical score for OU's 1992 Meadow Brook Estate Christmas program.

Ritchie writes positive, upbeat melodies and admires songwriters like Amy Grant, Billy Ray Cyrus (whom he met on board) and Dolly Parton.

Religion plays a part in his music, as well as his outlook on life.

"Everyone has a gift," says Ritchie. "God has given me a gift of song. Since He is the creator, He has given me something to create. It's a way of making a living, but it's also a way of reaching other people."

Ritchie says he was born to perform, and he literally learned about singing at his

mother's knee.

"When I was a baby, my mother sang in the church choir holding me on her hip," he says. "I wouldn't sit still for anything else."

Later, in kindergarten, while his playground peers headed outdoors for recess, Ritchie would stay behind, intent on building a stage out of red brick cardboard boxes "so I could do a show."

Today aboard the QE2, Ritchie's stage is two-stories tall. He admits that his six-foot-four frame helped him win the audition for the job.

"They not only wanted someone who could sing and dance, they also wanted someone who could fill up the stage," he laughs.

Ritchie started taking music seriously at L'anse Creuse High School in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, when he studied piano and voice.

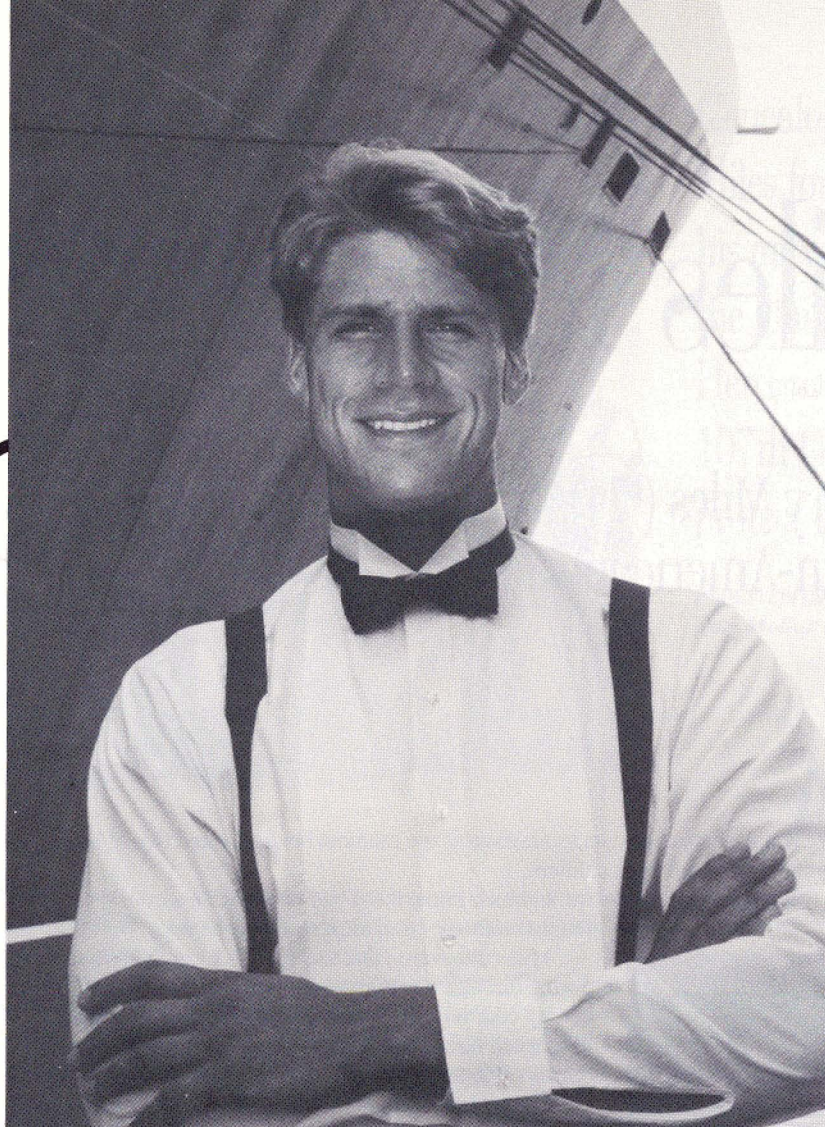
Oakland University was the next logical step for him.

"Oakland was one of a handful of schools in the country offering what was primarily a performance degree — it readied you for the world of entertainment," Ritchie says of his bachelor of commercial music degree, earned in 1986.

"Oakland also has the Meadow Brook Estate, and at the time, the university had a vocal jazz ensemble similar to the Manhattan Transfer. That's why I came to OU."

Ritchie sang and danced his way through college, pausing once or twice for an acting class, and eventually began to compose and arrange his own music. He also was assistant director/arranger/choreographer for the Meadow Brook Estate for two years.

After graduating from OU, Ritchie spent a year in grad study at Eastern Kentucky



and entertainment venues throughout the Midwest and at Michigan's own Traverse City and Schuss Mountain resorts. He spent the winter of 1990 as unit manager of City Lights, a six-member musical ensemble that toured U.S. military bases in Central America and the Caribbean for the Department of Defense.

Ritchie says that he'd like to work at least one more year on the QE2.

"I need to be there to meet people. It's good for my career — the exposure to Broadway when we're in New York, and to

London's west end when we dock in England.

"Plus, it's the most money I've made so far as an entertainer," he admits. "So I'm paying off my car and student loans. Being on ship is a good way to save money."

"There aren't many lows in this job," he adds, "but sometimes I get sick of being on water, of being confined to the ship. Sometimes I want to be in a city, walk on a sidewalk, eat at a McDonald's for a change."

His room on the luxury liner is the simplest available, and he usually shares it with another cruising performer.

"My room is like a Motel 6," jokes Ritchie. "It's a very compact 12-feet by 8-feet — with two beds, two closets, a shower and a sink."

"There's just enough room to sleep, read a book or write a song." ■

Editor's Note: For information on Oakland's Meadow Brook Estate and Department of Music, Theatre and Dance performances, call (313) 370-2032. To see Paul Ritchie perform, well, save your pennies.

"My room is like a Motel 6...very compact 12-feet by 8-feet...just enough room to sleep, read a book or write a song."

University, where he also taught a class in choral conducting, and acted as director/choreographer/arranger for the university's student show choir.

"I like teaching, but I'm a ham," he says. "I like to perform and get the applause."

The stage beckoned once again.

Ritchie worked with several different companies, singing and performing for resort

Miles into the past...

by Jay Jackson

Gregory Miles ('74) attempts to trace his African-American heritage

ALUMNUS GREGORY MILES REMEMBERS the moment he discovered two of his forefathers were Union soldiers.

"That fact alone gave me so much pride, that I had two black ancestors who fought on the fields against slavery," he says.



Gregory Miles

Miles uncovered that fact from his family's past while poring through musty records stashed in closets, attics and county courthouses. When carefully extracted by genealogists, such threads between centuries link fascinating family histories.

Tracing genealogical twists and turns across generations can be especially difficult for American black families. It's not that blacks fail to keep family records. Rather, the trail for many blurs before the Civil War period when slavery was practiced.

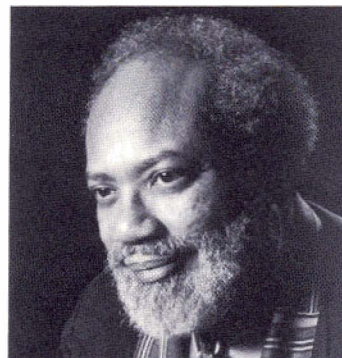
Historians like Miles and De Witt Dykes, Oakland associate professor of history, believe strongly in bringing these family narratives into the present.

"Genealogical research is important in preserving many kinds of history," Dykes says. "It helps give us something of the background of people involved in history, when you're dealing with people who were part of movements or organizations. It also helps us understand what major family life was like."

Dykes is convinced families must sustain their heritage, which he sees as a vital piece of American history. When not teaching in the classroom, you might find him lecturing on genealogy throughout the country. In 1992, Procter & Gamble sent Dykes on a seven-city Black Family Life Lines tour. P&G is a major national sponsor of the National Council of Negro Women's Black Family Reunions.

Dykes' roots in genealogical research run deep. In addition to teaching, research and publishing, he cofounded the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society in 1979 in Detroit. The organization is named for a pioneer in black family research. Dykes is also a charter member of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society of Washington, D.C.

For black families, Dykes has found, the trail often vanishes when researchers dig



De Witt Dykes



Genealogist Gregory Miles found that two of his ancestors served in the Union Army. Here, members of the 107th Colored Infantry protect the capital.

Photo reprinted with permission from Mollus-Mass/USAMHI.

to the slavery period. Personal details about slaves, such as birth certificates or records of their passage to the United States, are hard to find. Searches are further complicated by name changes, either by the owners giving the slaves their family name, or by the slaves themselves who did so as a declaration of freedom after emancipation.

"The hardest part is to make the connection with slavery, because so many of the families were uninterested in preserving that information or the persons who knew it best are no longer around," Dykes observes. "Twenty years or so ago, many people who had talked directly to those who had been born into slavery were still alive and could pass that information on."

Miles, a 1974 Oakland graduate in political science, is an active genealogist and Williams Society member. He knows the frustration of tracing a family tree, but also the satisfaction.

"I found out through my research that I had two ancestors, one paternal and one maternal, who were soldiers during the Civil War," Miles says.

Miles offers tips for genealogists when the paper trail seems to end. Family pronunciation of a name for generations may not match the spelling in old records, he found.

"My great-grandmother told me about a King Worthy, who was her daddy. I searched and searched the records, but I didn't find anything on King Worthy whatsoever," Miles says.

"A long time ago there were a lot of blacks who couldn't read or write. They

would say their names, and the person who copied them would just write them down the way they sounded."

Miles scoured records from Pike County, Georgia, and a few years later found a Cain Worthy. "Anybody black will tell you that if you ever hear the old-timers talking about Martin Luther King, they'll never say 'King,' they'll say 'Cain.' So, I found his name was Cain Worthy, instead of King Worthy."

Cain Worthy was a slave, one of 12 who Miles found among his ancestors.

Miles also discovered a number of other discrepancies between the family's oral history and official records. One distant relative called 'George' turned out to be 'Joshua,' and the surname 'Clater' was listed as 'Clayton.' "Sometimes you find something and you don't even know you have it," Miles says.

One of Miles' finds was that his own family surname changed from Meyers to Miles. "Frank Meyers changed the name, because he didn't like his father Joseph (who was a white plantation owner and later a Confederate soldier)," Miles says. "Joseph Meyers took Frank Meyers with him to war to be his cook and to take care of him. A lot of Confederate soldiers wanted their 'boy' with them to polish their boots, or whatever. Evidently, Frank took off and joined the Union Army, which was common for a lot of slaves."

Dykes says too many black families purposely decline to talk about the slavery in their past. "Frequently slavery was looked

upon as such a terrible thing, and such a thing unworthy of any pride, that it was something to be forgotten," he explains. "Many persons growing up in the late 1800s and early 1900s didn't even want to hear the stories of what had happened and how their relatives had survived and overcome the hardships."

For those who do want to pursue their family history, Miles says a trove of information is contained within U.S. census records, property records, pension records and death certificates (because parents are listed). A valuable resource in Michigan is the Burton Historical Collection within the Detroit Public Library.

Dykes says families should not underestimate the importance of preserving their history. History texts usually leave out significant details about black culture, which makes it imperative that families themselves preserve the legacy. The task is formidable. Out of hundreds, if not thousands, of organized genealogical groups in the United States, Dykes knows of 27 dedicated to African-American heritage.

For Miles, hunting information is half the fun. "I don't think you ever find out all you need to know. That's the essence of genealogy," he says. ■

Editor's note: Oakland University celebrates national Black History Month in February with its own African-American Celebration Month. Call (313) 370-2020 for details.

Call for Nominations: 1993 Teaching Excellence Award

Nominations for the 1993 Teaching Excellence Award are now being accepted. The award recognizes a full-time tenured/tenure track member of the Oakland University faculty for superior classroom performance, innovative instructional practice, high academic standards, or maintenance of a productive or inspirational learning environment.

The Oakland University Foundation sponsors the \$2,500 award which will be presented at the fall 1993 commencement.

Nominations will be accepted through February 14, 1993. Previous Teaching Excellence Award winners and current members of the Teaching and Learning Committee are not eligible for nomination.

Send letters of nomination to Professor Kevin T. Andrews, Teaching Excellence Award, Department of Mathematical Sciences, 332 O'Dowd Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401. Call (313) 370-4025 for more information.

Progress and Advancement Fund Reaches \$95,000

Thanks to the 1,800 OU alumni who responded last fall to our Progress and Advancement Fund student callers to the tune of \$95,000 in unrestricted pledges.

Remember, a pledge is only a promise until it's completed. Fulfill your promise now by sending your check, payable to Oakland University,

ALUMNI

1964

Nancy Rinke Ozturk recently opened a one-person English writing/translation bureau in Istanbul, Turkey.

1965

Betty J. Youngblood was inaugurated as the 10th chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

1967

Susan Aktary is an ESL-Bilingual Implementor for the five campuses of Oakland Community College while teaching English as a Second Language for Berkley Schools and Spanish for Royal Oak Schools Community Education Programs. She's also raising two teenage boys and working on a doctoral dissertation in curriculum design.

1970

Christine Hage is Library Director, Rochester Hills Public Library. She has been married to Robert for 22 years and they have identical twin sons, Paul and Andrew, age 11. Christine got her master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan.

1972

Jim Windell is a psychologist with the Oakland Psychological Clinic, Bloomfield Township. He recently published "Discipline: A Source of 50 Failsafe Techniques for Parents."

1974

Beverly J. Beasley-Knight (Manana) received her J.D. from Detroit College of Law in February, 1992. Beverly is a board member of the Community House in Birmingham and was promoted to district manager for the Michigan Department of Social Services. She plans to wed Dr. Andrew Worthly, ('75).

Norbert Leonard graduated cum laude from Wayne State University Law School and is a partner with Franklin and Leonard, P.C. in Troy. He and his wife Janet have two daughters, Hannah and Gillian. They live in West Bloomfield.

M. Diane Vogt is a shareholder with

Charles D. Bovol, Bovol and Associates, P.A. law offices. The firm will be known as Bovol and Vogt, P.A. and will remain at its current location, the First Union Center in Tampa, FL. Vogt received her law degree from Wayne State University.

1975

Joyce R. Schomer received a Ph.D. in clinical psychology in June 1992 from the University of Detroit Mercy. She lives in Bloomfield Hills.

1976

Jeannine Daly was selected 1992 Rochester Kiwanian of the Year by the board of directors citing her perfect attendance and participation in numerous community events and projects.

Julia Lambert took early retirement after 26 years at Roseville Schools.

Toni S. Walters earned her Ph.D. in 1984 and is an associate professor at OU in the School of Education and Human Services in the Department of Reading and Language Arts. She recently earned tenure and is the 1992 recipient of the Celebrate Literacy Award from the Michigan Secondary Reading Interest Council.

1978

John P. Gardner was re-elected supervisor of Lenox Township, in Macomb County.

Thomas M. Jaksa teaches mathematics at Ferndale High School and was recently named chairperson of the math department. He continues as treasurer of the Ferndale Education Association and business manager of the annual musical.

Tom Schramski was recently appointed resident engineer for a new mini-van program at Ford. Tom and his family will relocate to the Toronto, Ontario area for a two year period. While there, Tom will represent Ford Truck Operations to the Canadian work force at the Oakville Assembly Plant.

1979

Stan Kirkendall has been named principal of the Hastings Middle School. He received an educational specialist's degree in instructional technology from Wayne State University and is a doctoral student in

K-12 educational administration at Michigan State University.

1980

David H. Brainer has been promoted to senior manager by Deloitte & Touche in Minneapolis. He received his M.B.A. from Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Cheryl D. Dove received her M.A. in Counseling from Wayne State University and completed academic and professional requirements to receive a License of Professional Counselor from the State of Michigan.

Raymond W. Gunn was honored in *Crain's Detroit Business* the week of September 14, 1992 in the feature "40 Under 40".

David M. McCleary of Holly, is an attorney and licensed residential builder. He received his law degree from the University of Detroit Law School.

Dennis Poupard was promoted to vice president, publisher, databases at Gale Research, Inc., Detroit.

Reeta Smith is the administrator of Redwood, Inc. that she opened August, 1991. Her son, Scott, works for her and her daughter, Michelle, is studying at Michigan State University. Reeta lives in Oxford, MI.

Martha (Hoerberling) Smyth was featured in the October 10, 1992 issue of the *Nord Amerikanische Wochen-Post*, a German newspaper based in Troy, MI, for her unique teaching of the German language to adults in Royal Oak. She and her husband, Patrick, live in Detroit with daughters Monica, 10, and Julie, 2.

1981

Tracey Danloff Capaldi, M.D., completed a residency in anesthesiology at Tulane Medical School and a fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology from St. Christopher Hospital for Children, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Tracey has accepted a position as a pediatric anesthesiologist with Children's Hospital in New Orleans, LA.

Carol Dobos was promoted to Director of Development of the Easter Seal Society of Oakland County.

Phyllis N. Klinger earned her Juris

IN TOUCH

Doctor from Detroit College of Law and her Masters of Law in Corporate and Finance from Wayne State University Law School. She is in private practice in Birmingham and serves on the Birmingham "Cablecast" Board.

1983

Colleen (Kors) and Eric Anderson announce the birth of their first child, Christina Ashley, on June 2, 1992. Colleen is a third grade teacher for Brandon Schools in Ortonville, MI. They live in Rochester Hills.

Marilee (Morrison) and James Allen Roth, along with their son, Robert Allen, announce the birth of Rebecca Ann, born on July 27, 1992. Marilee is employed by Berrien General Hospital. They live in Bridgman, MI.

1984

Margaret Dittmar has a new last name - Philippi. "Peggy" Philippi lives in Rochester Hills.

Joyce Palmquist spent three weeks visiting South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Pamela Schultz joined the faculty of Alfred University in New York as an instructor of communications in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Pamela completed the work on her doctoral degree from Wayne State University. She obtained a master's in mass communication from Bowling Green State University.

Bill Sleeman, senior law librarian with Aspen Systems, was promoted to manager of the law library of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Bill lives in Baltimore, MD.

1985

Ed Eickhoff was named vice president of leasing at Ramco-Gershenson, Inc., by the principals in Southfield. Ed is a member of OU's President's Club, and is an alumni adviser for Theta Chi Fraternity. He serves as a regional counselor for fourteen universities in Michigan and Ohio.

Patrick O'Dwyer moved to Bryan, OH, and plans to attend Defiance College.

Kenneth A. Thrush and his wife Annette announce the birth of their

son, David Kenneth, on July 7, 1992. Ken is a financial analyst senior for General Dynamics Land Systems Division in Sterling Heights, MI.

1986

Renee Hausherr married Stefan Faeller on June 14, 1989. Their first son Alexander was born on June 29, 1991. They live in Switzerland.

1987

Mary Beth Curell and David Pardington ('88) are engaged to be married in July 1993. Mary Beth is a fourth grade teacher at Beverly School in Birmingham and David is a sales representative for Blakely Products in Warren.

Kathy Mann married James Terpstra on July 25, 1992. They live in Waterford. Kathy is a math/science teacher for Brandon Middle School in Ortonville, MI.

Steven Sandman and Beth Bagosy ('89) were married in 1988 and are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Evan Michael. Steve was promoted to Canadian Border Sales Manager for RJR International.

1988

Michelle (Sorgeloos-Paholak) Schulz is assistant controller at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit. Michelle lives in St. Clair Shores.

1989

Jimmy Cvetanovski completed his master's degree in industrial/organizational psychology from Central Michigan University and recently presented his master's thesis at the APA(N105H) Conference on occupational stress in Washington D.C. Jimmy is a research analyst for the American Society of Employers and plans to marry Anita Stefanofski in May, 1993.

Richard Gordon was appointed director of security services at Sinai Hospital in Detroit.

Susan Hickey was promoted to vice president at Triad Financial Inc., a Bloomfield Hills finance company.

Kelly M. Martek accepted a position in the International Services Group of Concord in Denver, CO., and is working on her Ph.D. at the University of Denver.

David A. Richie married Laura A. Smith of St. Louis, MO., July 24, 1992 on Mackinac Island, MI.

Laure Stanczak-Tuscany and husband Mark announce the birth of their daughter, Melissa Lauren on August 10, 1992. Laure is a program planner in the Continuing Education Department of Children's Hospital of Michigan.

1990

Judith Adams is research analyst in the Department of Research & Evaluation at Macomb Community College.

Joseph F. Bastian works for the Department of Defense as a technical writer and is married to OU student, Julie Crilly. They have a daughter, Elizabeth, who was born in May, 1992. He has published poems in various periodicals across the country, won awards from the National Library of Poetry and was named GOLDEN POET of 1990-91. His first book of poems, *Light at Dawn* was released locally in 1991 to a modest success. Joseph's second book *Fragile Visions* was released in December 1992.

Bernadette Galaska and John Below are engaged to be married May 28, 1993. John will graduate from the University of Detroit School of Law in May, 1993. Bernadette is a registered nurse at Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital in the intensive care unit.

Karen Coley is the program coordinator for Oakland County Employment and Training with the Oakland School District.

John Henderson has been named the varsity girls basketball coach at Michigan Lutheran High School.

Margene Johnston is a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker/Schweitzer Real Estate and is the first woman president of the Madison Heights Rotary Club.

Keith and Mary (Guastella) Krier married on July 11, 1992. Mary works as an account coordinator for J. Walter Thompson and Keith as an EDP auditor for NBD Bank, N.A. They live in Waterford, MI.

Audrey (MacArthur) Lidtke is a financial analyst for Selectcare in Troy, MI.

sity. Mail it to 104 North Foundation Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401.

If you thought you were overlooked by this year's TeleFund, don't worry. Faculty, student and alumni volunteers will call in March to ask for your support for your favorite academic program or special project. First time gifts will be matched three to one by the OU Foundation with the match going to the Kresge Library's Enduring Legacy Endowment Campaign.

African-American and Hispanic Alumni: Become an Ambassador!

The Alumni Ambassadors invites OU's African-American and Hispanic alumni to become part of its student recruitment efforts for Oakland University.

As an Ambassador, you will be part of a network of alumni volunteers who assist the Admissions Office in recruiting students. You will be asked to target phone calls, letters and college night visits in an effort to identify and recruit African-American and Hispanic students for Oakland University. Many of the activities can be completed from your home. Complete information and training is provided by the Admissions Office.

Volunteers are especially needed in Oakland, Macomb, Wayne and Genesee counties.

For full information, call the Alumni Relations Office at (313) 370-2158.

Explorations Heads to Saigon Via Toronto in June '93

Explorations, the OU alumni travel program, invites you to Toronto to see the critically acclaimed *Miss Saigon*, June 11-13, 1993.

Travel by rail from Windsor, Ontario to the Royal York Hotel for two nights' deluxe accommodations. Saturday evening's performance of the musical hit of the nineties will take place at the New Royal Alexander Theatre in the heart of Toronto's theatre district.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean (and Explorations' resident theatre expert) John Urice will join us to lend his special insight to the play and the world of theatre.

Packages including rail, accommodations, tickets, taxes and other features start at \$300 per person. There are a limited number of choice seats available, so make your reservations early! Call Nancy at Hampton Travel (313) 852-0616 for details.

Top Scholars Compete for AMS

Twenty-five of the top high school scholars applying to Oakland University will compete for the *Alumni Memorial Scholarship* on Saturday, February 13. The endowed scholarship awards \$2500, renewable over four years, to a top incoming freshman based on academic performance and the results of a written essay and personal interviews with the members of the AMS Committee.

Members of the 1993 AMS Committee include Co-Chairs Mike Carbone '86 and Julie Granthen '81, '87; Cynthia Brody '78, Elizabeth Ezmerlian '86, Kevin Horrigan '88, Bill Horton '73 and Penny Zielinski '77.

IN TOUCH

Robert N.V. Seffinger was accepted to Hamline University in St. Paul, MN for the Legal Assistant/Paralegal Graduate program.

Kelchen Shih, of Sterling Heights, was named to the faculty at Lawrence Technological University. He holds a master's degree in civil engineering from Wayne State University and is an architect with Giffels and Associates, Inc.

1992

Robert Bloomberg has been appointed to the position of youth director at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, MI.

Lori Kochanski is working at Ross Roy Group Advertising and planning marriage July 31, 1993 to Michael A. Moran, her high school sweetheart.

IN MEMORIAM

1972

William Warriner

1976

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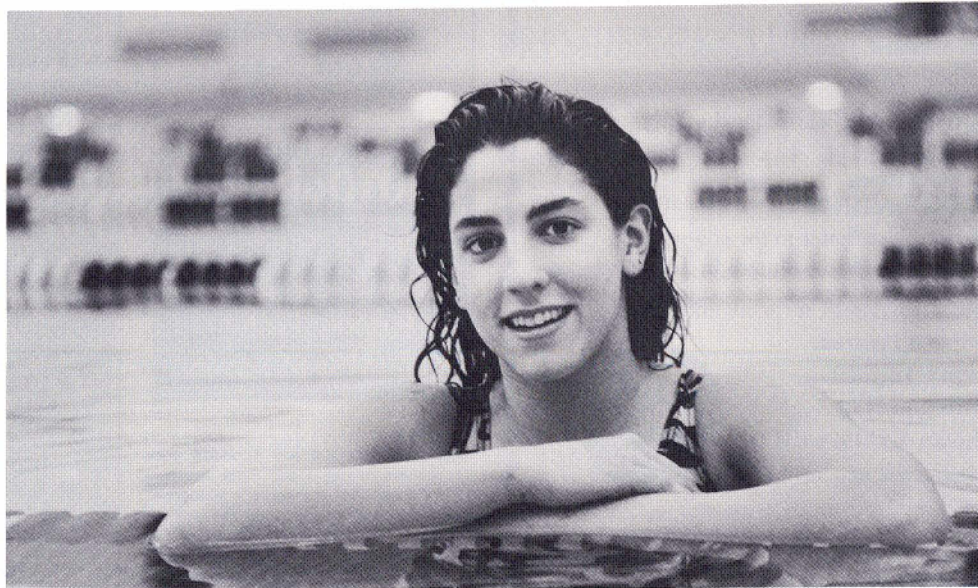
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PARTING THOUGHT

“I LOVE TO WIN”

by Amy Comerford



Amy Comerford, 20, of Fredericktown, Ohio, a junior majoring in psychology with a minor in exercise science, is a swimmer on Oakland's national championship team. OU's women's swimming and diving team has won the NCAA Division II nationals for the last three consecutive years, and is working on lapping up a fourth victory this March, when the nationals will be held in Canton, Ohio.

Last year Comerford was named NCAA Division II Swimmer of the Year. She has won three individual national championships, two team national championships and 13 All-American honors. When she set the national record in the 100-meter backstroke last year, in 55.49 seconds, she missed the deadline for the U.S. Olympic trials by one week. But she hopes to make the U.S. team in 1996.

Although she didn't swim in high school after her sophomore year (her new high school had no team), Oakland kept in touch, while Division I programs lost interest. Oakland offered her a scholarship based on

her times as a sophomore.

Comerford plans to continue her education at Oakland, to get a master's degree in exercise science and hopes to work in cardiac rehab and own a horse farm.

Juggling classes and swimming is probably the hardest thing I've ever done. People don't realize all the preparation that goes into competing in a race that may be only four laps long. We live swimming 24 hours a day. Even though, by NCAA rules, we can only practice 20 hours a week, there's a lot of other work we do — running, lifting weights, dry land exercises. And of course, going to class, studying (sometimes studying on the way to a meet), trying to find time to eat.

Swimming has taught me discipline in training and in everyday life. I have a commitment to compete and practice, and it helps me to be competitive in the classroom.

I love to win. In that respect, I've always wanted to be better than everyone else. I

grew up in a neighborhood with all boys and played football with them. Everyone in my family is into sports. I ran track and cross-country in high school. I've participated in all different sports. I like to ski — both water and snow — and my real love is horseback riding. But I would be miserable if I weren't swimming. I started swimming when I was six years old and won my first trophy for the backstroke.

Basically I'm just a small-town country girl. There were only 90 students in my high school class. That's another reason I like Oakland so much; it has a small-town, small-school atmosphere.

Right now I'm concentrating on winning the nationals again. I don't consider myself special because I was named Swimmer of the Year. I just feel that I did my part for the team.

My advice to student athletes is to make sure you get your priorities straight and put school first. A sport can be over and done with in four years, but your schooling will last a lifetime. ■

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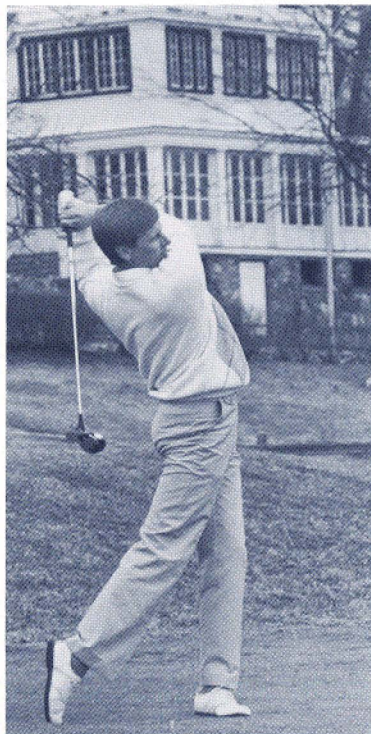
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