

The Oakland Observer

STUDENT PUBLICATION FOR MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY OAKLAND

Vol. II—No. 1

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1960

Rochester, Michigan



GETTING THEIR first taste of MSUO hospitality are freshmen Dolores Gelemey and Diane Rankin; pouring is AWS sophomore Julie Becker.

MSUO Heralds L-C Series

This year MSUO will present its first lecture-concert series. Under the direction of Dr. Gerald Straka four programs have been planned for presentation each quarter in the Oakland Student Center.

The first program by a string quartet from Michigan State University will be presented October 9 at 8:00 P.M. Future programs include "A Musical Adventure With Karl Haas", WJR Fine Arts Director and lectures by a Russian expert, John Scott, and Werhner von Braun on "Why Must We Conquer Space?"

Full-time students and faculty members of the university will be admitted free to all events, but they must present proper identification when calling for tickets. These tickets must be called for at least four days in advance of each engagement. Extension students and the general public are cordially invited to participate at the cost of \$1.00 a performance and they may call for their tickets during the four days prior to the event. Mail orders will be filled providing they are accompanied with cash or check and a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The Student Center Council will again present a series of films for the enjoyment of MSUO students, faculty and the public. All films will be shown in Room 156 of North Foundation Hall starting at 8:15 P.M. Admission is 50c each.

The first attraction, "The Perfect Furlough" is a comedy romance which stars Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh. It will be shown November 4 and 6 — in color!

Sophs Honor Freshmen

Smiles were appropriate attire for the AWS Tea on Sunday, September 25. The tea was a special project of the Big Sister Council of AWS to help sophomore big sisters and freshman little sisters get acquainted. The tea was very successful in accomplishing this purpose, as the more than 200 girls who attended will agree. Highlight of the afternoon was a grand match of big and little sisters.

Autumn set the mood for decorations. Artificial and real flower arrangements in fall colors and organ music by Mr. Griffin added warmth to the atmosphere of the Student Center lounge. Glowing white candles and tablecloths added sparkle to the silver tea services and crystal punch bowls. The theme was completed by gold-edged leaf name tags.

Johnse Lipousky was the only male attending the tea. Considering that he was outnumbered by 200 girls he did quite well in keeping the tea and coffee pots filled.

While trying to carry on an intelligent conversation with several freshman girls he proceeded to pour tea all over the floor. That's all right Johnse considering the situation you did all right.

Dance

The "Sweater Swing", a record hop, will be held in the basement of the Student Center tomorrow night, Oct. 8. Everyone is invited. Admission is 50c stag or 75c drag.

Mr. Cherity claims, "My students minds are like blotters. They soak up everything I say and get it backwards!"

908 Enrolled; 12 States 4 Countries Represented

513 Freshmen, 397 Sophomores Are Registered

MSUO has enrolled 908 students to start off its second year, according to Herbert N. Stoutenburg, Jr., registrar.

Of these 513 are freshmen or transfers and 397 are sophomores from last year's charter class.

They come from ten counties in Michigan and from a dozen other states and four other countries. The states are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts (two students), Minnesota, New York (four students), Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington (two) and Wisconsin. The other countries are Canada, Greece, Turkey, and South Viet Nam.

Most of the students — 676 of them — come from Oakland County and 171 from Macomb. Wayne is next with fifteen and Lapeer fourth with fifteen. The other counties are Genesee, Goebic, Ingham, Muskegon, St. Clair and Sanilac.

The legislature last session voted MSUO funds for an enrollment of 900, and had everyone been admitted — and shown up — who applied, the enrollment would have been 157 more. There were 770 applications, of whom 626 were admitted. The 513 who showed up represented one of the smallest "no-show" percentages in the country, — 18 percent — if not the smallest. Over the nation, 35 percent of those admitted don't "show", and some Ivy League colleges are said to admit 1,700 applicants in order to get a class of 1,000 or smaller.

Just exactly 330 of the freshmen were in the top quarters of their high school classes, and 217 in the second quarters.

The most popular program is education, in which 360 have indicated they are interested. Engineering claims 194, liberal arts 181, business administration 108, and those who want to get a liberal arts degree in science number 65.

Student Meeting On Election Set

The Exploratory Committee will explain plans for elections for student government at a meeting at 3 P.M. on Monday.

A candidate running for the office of senator must have a petition with 35 signatures.

Candidates for president must obtain 50 signatures.

All candidates must submit an application for a petition to the Dean of Student's Office so that grade requirements can be checked. These petitions will be in circulation for one week.

Following the week of petitioning there will be a week for campaigning. The election will be held on October 24.

Wilsons Host Frosh

Sophomores could easily appreciate the excitement of the freshmen as they anticipated a buffet dinner and dance at Meadow Brook Hall.

After a cordial greeting by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson and Chancellor and Mrs. Varner, the awed frosh were allowed to tour the estate. The grand piano, the view from terrace, the objects of art and trophy collection were all carefully examined and appreciated. A turkey dinner was served in the dining room and on the terrace after which the explorations continued.

The most spectacular part of the evening was a dance in the ballroom with a band and light refreshment thoughtfully provided by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson.

The freshmen will long remember the wonderful welcome of the Wilsons and hopefully, they will not soon forget the sound of gaiety and laughter brought by over 500 students to the halls of their estate.

Lecture Series

From October 1 through December 17 Dr. William Kluback, professor of philosophy and western institutions at MSUO, will present a series of lectures on the subject, "Philosophies of Life". The lectures will be broadcast by WPON radio (1460) every Saturday morning from 10:00 to 10:30. Three class meetings will be held on campus for discussion.

The registration fee for the non-credit course is \$1.00. Anyone may take the course.



DR. KLUBACK

Students Tell Why They Chose To Come To MSUO

It is generally agreed that the students this year are better than last year. The returning sophomores have come back to study, and there should be no freshmen in this school with stars in their eyes after all the publicity about MSUO's "tough" curriculum. Among the 908 students, there are 21 out-of-state and foreign students. Many have been asked, "How did you learn of MSUO, and why did you come?" Here are some of their replies:

Lance Eastman — Sebring, Fla. — "I read about the college in Life Magazine and I got interested in what they said about the depth of the curriculum. So I wrote to the college and with the complete information, I knew this was the only school that would really interest me."

Dang Xich Lan, Saigon, Viet Nam — "I worked with Mr. Stoutenburg who was the executive officer of an advisory group sent to South Viet Nam by MSU at the request of the Viet Nameese government. I mentioned my desire to further my studies, which had been interrupted by the war, to Mr. Stoutenburg and he promised he would help. After finishing his two year term in Viet Nam, he returned to the U.S. and became Director of Admissions at MSUO. He then worked out a scholarship for me."

Neil Smith, Fall River, Mass. — "I was out on the Mediterranean on a heavy cruiser, the Des Moines, when a friend handed me a page out of the Detroit News. Such phraseology as egghead and Grecian-style education, and particularly the conception of the student taking as active part as possible in his education, caught my attention."

Edwin Brown, Baton Rouge, La. — "In reading 'A critical look at our educational facilities' in Time Magazine, I was impressed by the credo of one of our new colleges — MSUO. It promised an education free of the old 'social adjustment' taboos and inhibitions, a dynamic young faculty to implement these revolutionary aims, and a student body poised and eager for the challenge."

Susan Bierstein, Hershey, Pa. — "I first heard of MSUO through an article in the New York Times last year. Its concept of the mind as an 'activity, not a repository' impressed me, and I liked the 'pioneer' atmosphere about the school. But I must confess that I was also lured by the thought of no more compulsory physical education or mathematics."

Joel Levinson, Brooklyn, N.Y. — "I first heard about MSUO from a friend of mine whose father is the education editor of Associated Press. I was interested in the kind of (Continued on Page 2)

EDITORIAL

Thought Control, Step One?

For many years now the central problem facing American education has been that of the gifted child, and student, and how to deal with him. The great democratic principle of equal education for all is usually held paramount to the obvious need of those individuals with exceptional ability; the result, so far, has been the education of all at the level of the lowest common denominator. The bitter fruit of this policy is now evident, not only in our secondary scientific status, but in the sad state of our culture as a whole.

The avowed purpose of this university has been quite the opposite of this older concept of the great American mediocrity; in the words of Dean Hoopss, "We don't want well rounded men, what we need are men with sharp, abrasive corners."

The point of this lengthy diatribe is to point up the contradiction between the individualistic aims of this institution, and the dutiful massism of much of its present policy. For example, the university calendar, which incidentally came out so late as to be almost useless, carried no listings of those instructors assigned to lead individual sections. The calendar simply observed that each course would be taught by its "staff". One is grateful it permitted no confusion on this point.

The implication, of course, was that it really made little or no difference who teaches a course such as Western Institutions. And yet one instructor may be an historian, another a philosopher, yet another, a synthesis of both; one thing is sure, each will teach the course as he must, and each will be different.

Perhaps in a society dominated by the totalitarian ethic of massism the above mentioned policy would be necessary. But in a nation ridden on all fronts and at all levels by conformity and stereotyped thinking, it seems manifestly obvious that imagination and creativity should be the aims of our educational institutions. These aims will be realized only when individuality is prized above expediency.

EDITORIAL

Is There A Right To Be Immature?

Is MSUO's student policy a liberal one? Our answer is in the affirmative. For example, few schools allow smoking in the class rooms. Here the staff and faculty have been very lenient. Further, roll-taking is left to the discretion of the individual instructor, on the theory it is the student's responsibility to learn. Many instructors feel that the taking of roll is "grade schoolish". Or it can be compared with an Army sergeant who calls roll because he fears that some recruits may have run away.

This stimulating of mature attitudes and thought was abused during the first dance on a recent Saturday night when a group of students were hiding out in the parking lot trying to sneak a drink.

We cannot see where a dance is the proper place for such activity. The University has said drinking on campus will be dealt with by automatic expulsion.

We hope the lessons learned by the freshmen do not include the juvenile actions of some sophomores, but the realization that an institution of higher learning is to be respected at all times. Michigan State University Oakland will and can offer a continuation of this liberal student policy, which is so vitally important to all of us, only if we all realize its benefits and respect its limitations, not just a majority of us. The minority in short, has no right to show its immaturity.

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—Jon Lohla

MEET PROFESSOR STAFF,
WHO IN HIS MANY YEARS OF TEACHING

**LETTERS
to the
EDITOR**

An open letter to Freshmen students:

At a meeting October 5th, there was a very small representation of students interested in undertaking the task of turning out the 1961 yearbook. It is the opinion of the sophomore editors that it would be extremely difficult to produce a good yearbook in the next six months with such a small staff, half of whom would be inexperienced freshmen.

I, for one, challenge that statement. I feel that the freshman class of '60 is just as capable of putting out a yearbook as the class of '59. (Perhaps even more capable.)

There will be a meeting at 1 p.m. Wednesday (Oct. 12) in Room 166 which I urge every interested freshman, and sophomore, to attend. Let's show that a good yearbook can be finished in six months.

Al Mitchell

Welcome

The Oakland Observer wants to welcome everyone and let you know a little more of the workings of your campus newspaper.

The Observer will now appear every other week and may be had free of charge. If one of the eager staff does not catch you with a copy of the paper, you can probably get one from "Charlie" Brown at the Student Center concession stand.

If your club has a meeting that you would like to have mentioned, or you have installed new officers, please call the office (ext. 2221) or stop in at 363 between 9 and 3 and give the information to the staff member on duty.

Or if you have a strong opinion, write a letter to the editor.

Anyone who is interested in newspaper work is invited to join the staff. Just come to the newspaper office in 363 and fill out an application form.

**New Parking Lot To Hold
150 More Automobiles**

MSUO students are eagerly welcoming the expansion of the parking lot.

The new area will accommodate approximately 150 cars and will be completed by Thanksgiving.

EDITORIAL

**Rochester
Hosts MSUO**

On September 26 the Rochester Chamber of Commerce played host to the freshmen of NCCC and MSUO.

Food and entertainment were prepared in expectation of about 700 students, including this year's NCCC and MSUO freshmen and 35 MSUO sophomores who entered late last year. NCCC was represented by most of its freshman class, President Otis Gatewood and several faculty members. MSUO was represented by 11 freshmen, less than 2% of the class.

The invitation was extended to MSUO ten days in advance of the welcoming party. It is unfortunate that poor publicity prevented more students from attending.

*Study Secrets
Revealed*

Dr. Robert Hopkins of the counseling and testing department will again present a series of informal discussions aimed at developing study skills and ultimately, improvement of grades.

In addition to informal discussion, Dr. Hopkins has included in the program several films and tests which will permit students to determine where they need help. Mrs. Hopkins, an expert in the reading field, will offer students advice on methods of improving reading habits.

Dr. Hopkins recommends the book, *LEARNING TO STUDY*, which is available in the University bookstore, for all students who are interested in improving their studies regardless of whether they attend the Study Skills Program. Two of its co-authors, who are professors at East Lansing, will visit campus to confer with students.

The meetings are from 1 to 2 p.m. in room 163, South Foundation Hall. The following topics will be discussed:

Friday, October 7 — Reading Problems.

Monday, October 10 — Note-taking.

Tuesday, October 11 — Writing Themes, Term Papers.

Thursday, October 13 — Reviewing For and Taking Exams.

Friday, October 14 — Summary—Questions and Answers.

**Political
Parties**

If everything should happen according to plan, this year politically-minded students at MSUO will have a choice of three clubs to participate in.

The newest of these, a socialist group, is still in the embryonic state. Advisors will be Dr. Straka and Dr. Burke. This organization will not be affiliated with any local or national socialist group as the Democratic and Republican groups are affiliated with their respective organizations. Rather, the group would meet to talk over the beliefs and problems of socialism. No date has yet been set for a meeting, however, everyone interested is urged to inquire further and help to make this into a full-fledged organization.

Dr. Rhode, who was advisor for the Young Republicans last year, will be advisor to the Young Democrats. This year's advisor to the Young Republicans will be Dr. Chernø, a new staff member.

The Young Democrats and the Young Republicans have set a date for one joint activity and are planning another. On Oct. 26, in the Student Center there will be a debate between the two groups on some of the major domestic issues of the coming election. Specifically, discussion will center on the farm program, aid to education, civil rights, and medical aid to the aged. In addition, there will be a question and answer session following the debate. Dr. Straka will moderate, with three members of each group debating.

Still in planning is a mock election. This would be held the week before the national elections. Perhaps the old adage will have to read "As goes MSUO, so goes the nation."

ENROLLMENT

(Continued from Page 1)
school he described and sent for information.

"I came to MSUO because everything about it promised to be different from and as good as, if not better, than other schools. It would be attended by students of superior ability who were learning because they wanted to, not because it was a means of achieving a higher paying job. MSUO is an institution of higher education, not a degree factory. It said it wouldn't try to shape its students to fit society, but rather it would guide them in critically analyzing society so that they might remold it. This is why I came to MSUO."

Jack Leedy, Goshen, Ind. — "Like many high school students . . . I was interested in finding a college that would not only equip me with a good education, but would be somewhat different. I had pamphlets from everywhere. Then my mother began to read articles about the formation of a new school — MSUO. The more I read about the school, the more I was convinced that I would enjoy being a student at such an institution, and now that I have been here approximately three weeks, I am sure that I was not disillusioned."

Joan Commeree, Seattle, Wash. — "Like most of the other out-of-state students, I found out about MSUO from the publicity about it in the paper. I think the main reason I chose MSUO was that I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to get in on the ground floor of an institution that I feel will eventually become one of the most respected in the country."

Oakie Observes

Oakie has been looking forward to school starting this year, thinking he would not have to put up with all the moans and groans that went on last year. However, he was greatly disappointed when he arrived last week.

MSUO students were busy complaining about the flies. This situation led Jim Wolfe to write the following: Why flee from flies when you can flail them with a flyswatter like the faculty? Tom Moore decided to take the matter into his own hands and brought a can of "Raid."

Last Wednesday, Oakie was sauntering down the hall when someone shouted, "All right, everybody up!" This aroused his curiosity, and peeking into the keyhole of Mr. Hetenyi's education classroom, he got the surprise of his life. All of the students were jumping up and down doing their daily exercises, Oakie still wonders where he can find out about calisthenics in Social and Philosophical Issues in Education.

When Oakie just happened into the library for a minute the other day, there was a lot of laughing going on among the staff. When he asked what was so funny, Jim Weisen and Rita Stanley showed him a memo which read, "Get Bird-whistle for Schwab." Wonder what he wants a birdwhistle for?

Has anyone seen Lauree

Webb — the real one, that is. Lauree was standing at the bulletin board the other day when she heard someone call her name. She turned around and Mr. Pope exclaimed, "Oh, excuse me. I was looking for Lauree Webb." Lauree caught him at the door just in time to spare him a long search for the "phantom".

When Chancellor Varner opened the door to the social psychology classroom, he was thrilled to see it brimming with eager-looking faces. He was beginning to carry on a discussion with the students when Dr. Beardslee came rushing in with a worried look on his face. When Chancellor Varner complimented him on having a class of bright, eager students, Dr. Beardslee replied, "Well, you see, the reason they're all so eager is that I'm a few minutes late and they were hoping I wouldnt show up." Please, someone, help Oakie give Dr. Beardslee a little more confidence in his students.

Oakie has noticed some puzzlement over the transfer students by those few who cannot understand why anyone would want to transfer to MSUO. However, Jean Addington, a transfer from MSU, came up with a wonderful answer, "Why go to a branch of a university when you can go to the main one." This is good reasoning, Jean. Glad to have you with us.

Now back to snooping, Oakie

Wesley Plans Study Groups

The Wesley Foundation will hold its first social event, a picnic at the Foundation, 3920 Pontiac Road, Rochester, on October 7 from 3:00 to 10:00 P.M. Planned recreation will be held from 3 to 5 P.M. on the Foundation lawn. Eating will begin at 5:00 with the group moving inside afterward for indoor recreation until 10.

The Wesley Foundation headed by its officers, will sponsor many activities for the coming term.

Among these activities are planned each Tuesday beginning October 4 from 1:00 to 2:00 a series of study groups on, "Faiths of The World." Judaism and Roman Catholicism will be discussed this quarter. The group will meet on campus in room 164 with the Rev. Douglas Parker of St. Paul's Methodist Church in Rochester, who will act as resource person for the group.

Also, on the first Monday of each month beginning October 3 a Holy Communion service will be held at 7:15 at the Wesley Foundation followed by free coffee.

Numerous service projects, still in the planning stage, will take the group to various state homes and hospitals for a weekend of work, consultation and study.

The new Wesley Foundation is open from 12:00 noon to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Frosh Win Trophy At Funday Picnic

The area east of the Student Center was the scene of a Frosh-Soph Funday the afternoon of Sept. 23. It was an all-University function to help students, members of the faculty, and staff get better acquainted.

It was planned by Mr. Lepley, Mr. Hidde, Miss Young, and Mr. Fritz, who were assisted by the Student Center Council. There was also a committee whose job was to acquire a trophy for the winning class in the day's competitions. The Freshmen, represented by Clive Enos, were presented a "Trophy" composed of a pie plate, a grapefruit can, and a funnel.

Immediately after Funday, Chancellor Varner expressed a general opinion when he commented that, "This Funday was the finest one MSUO has ever had." He also said that "It was very well planned and would become an annual event if the students wished."

Students Beat Faculty - Again

Bald Mountain Golf Course was the scene September 29 of the student-faculty golf tournament. The students won. Faculty members Jack Hidde and George Karas tied with 42 totals for the nine holes, while Greg Demanski paced the victorious students with a 43. The lone feminine entrant was Mrs. Pat Race. Student scores ranged from 41 to 64 for an average of 48.1, while faculty fell between 42 and 60, the average being 49.3.

This continues a tradition started last year when the students humiliated the faculty in basketball and softball.

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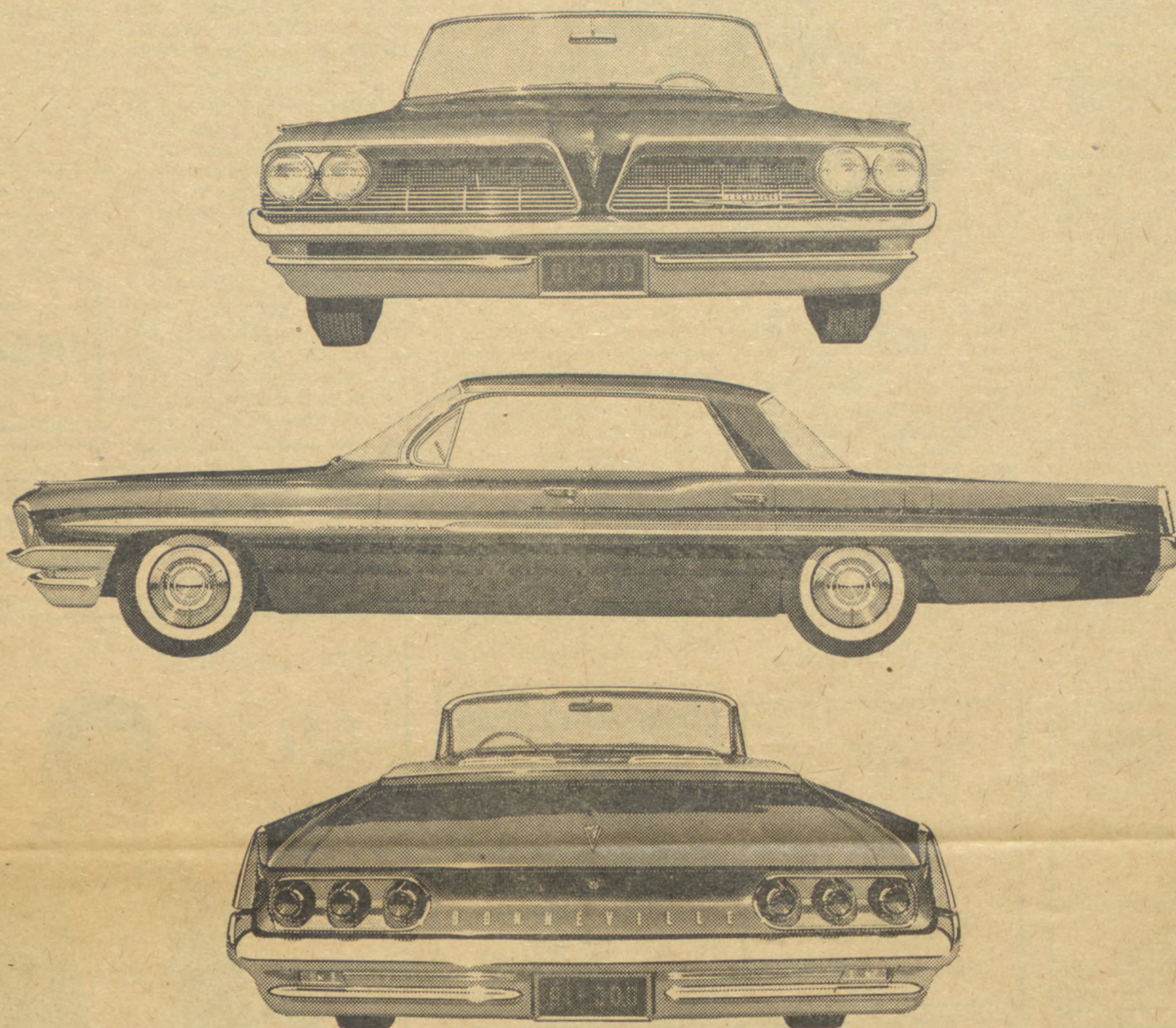
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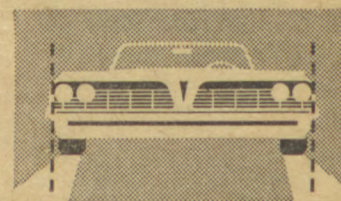


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