

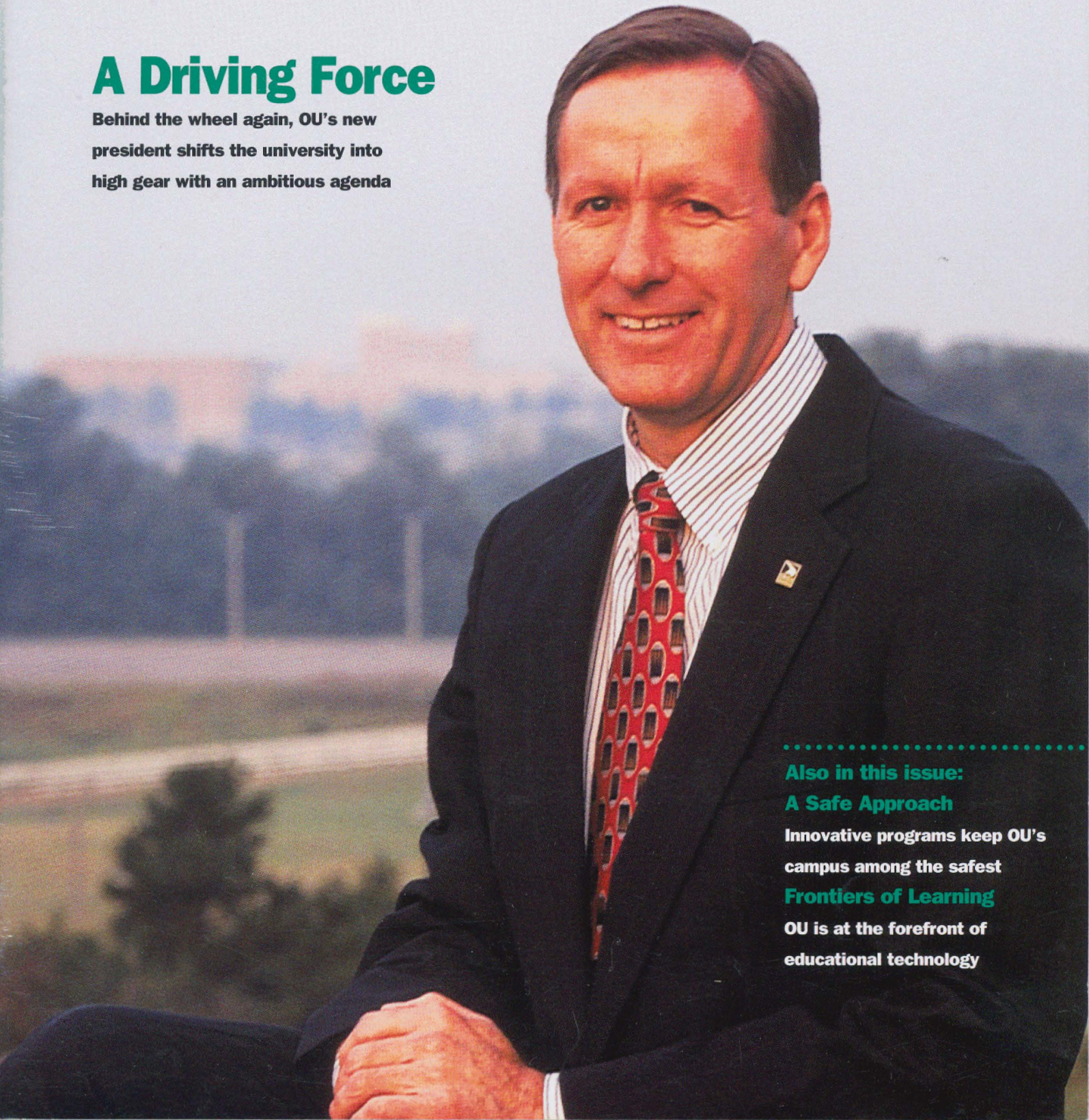
Oakland University

Fall 1996

MAGAZINE

A Driving Force

Behind the wheel again, OU's new president shifts the university into high gear with an ambitious agenda



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Also in this issue:

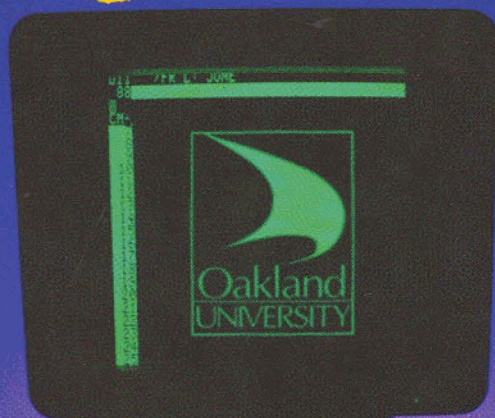
A Safe Approach

Innovative programs keep OU's campus among the safest

Frontiers of Learning

OU is at the forefront of educational technology

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Oakland University is an equal opportunity and
affirmative action institution.

On the cover: OU President
Gary D. Russi at home at Sunset
Terrace.



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University wins prestigious award for outstanding fund-raising programs

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) named Oakland University a winner at its 1996 Circle of Excellence in Educational Fund Raising awards program July 8 in San Francisco. The program honors only 5 percent of fund-raising programs from more than 1,000 colleges and universities across the country.

CASE selected OU for "outstanding overall improvement" in its analysis of the university's fund-raising data. Slightly more than 3 percent of colleges and universities were so recognized.

CASE

"We are delighted and honored to be recognized by this prestigious organization for our overall fund-raising improvements," said David S. Disend, vice president for University Relations and executive director, OU Foundation.

Cool news — Vandenberg has air conditioning

When temperatures soared this summer, diners in Oakland University's Vandenberg Hall sat in cool comfort. Air conditioning was installed last May in the 575-seat dining facility.

Increased demand for the dining area and increasingly hot Michigan summers made installing the air conditioning necessary, according to Deborah Wade, assistant director, Finance and Operations.

State increases university funding

Gov. John Engler announced in June that Oakland University will be one of several Michigan universities to receive an increase in state funding this year.

In doing so, Engler commended the work of Oakland University and President Gary D. Russi for academic excellence.

The increase means Oakland will receive \$40.2 million, up 5 percent from last year and 18.9 percent since fiscal year 1990.

Conference selects 5 for All-Academic teams

Over the summer, Oakland University placed five student athletes on the 1996 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) All-Academic teams.

To be named, selection criteria include a minimum 3.0 grade-point average and that the student athlete has attended the institution for one year and is a starter or key reserve.

GLIAC named Kevin Manninen, a junior, on the Golf All-Academic Team.

On the GLIAC Baseball All-Academic Team, seniors Aaron Carpenter and Derrick Ross, junior Fritz Coyro and sophomore Matt McClellan were selected.

Board approves unique nursing alliance

The Board of Trustees August 30 approved a unique health care/academic alliance to better prepare nurses for a rapidly changing health-care environment including managed care. The alliance is between Oakland University's School of Nursing (SON) and the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS).

It is believed to be the first partnership of its kind in the nation between a state-supported university and a private health care system. Through this alliance, HFHS is making an annual investment of more than \$1 million in academic nursing, supporting its belief that nurses can play a key role in making health care more cost effective and available.

With the alliance, OU nursing students will have the opportunity to gain firsthand experience in HFHS's ambulatory and managed care settings.

Board names new chair, vice chair

Oakland University's Board of Trustees August 30 named Rex E. Schlaybaugh Jr. chair and David J. Doyle vice chair.

Schlaybaugh replaces David T. Fischer, whose term as chair expired. Schlaybaugh was appointed to the board in 1993 and was re-elected as vice chair in 1995, the position he most recently held. He is a member of the law firm of Dykema Gossett PLLC, resident in the firm's Bloomfield Hills office. He specializes in mergers, acquisitions, financing and corporate law, and serves on the firm's executive committee. He is a member of the board of directors of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), The Bank



Rex E. Schlaybaugh Jr.

of Bloomfield Hills and the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce.

Doyle is vice president of Marketing Resource Group, a corporate and political consulting firm in Lansing. He is the former chair of the Michigan Republican State Committee, has



David J. Doyle

served as executive director of the Republican Party of Michigan and has held positions with the Michigan State Senate and the Michigan House of Representatives. Doyle received a bachelor's degree in political science from Oakland in 1980.



Office of New Student Programs Director Beth Talbert helps students focus on communication skills.

For new students, orientation program spells success

Oakland University's incoming freshmen and transfer students have a unique advantage: They may take an eight-week class for credit focusing on communication skills needed to make an easier transition to campus life.

Part of the Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism Department, "Collegiate Communications" offers one credit. The class is taught by a team of faculty and staff with expertise in the student's major area of interest.

"An advantage is that the student gets to form a peer group in his or her own area of study," says Beth Talbert, director of the newly named Office of New Student Programs. "Some class groups focus more on career choices, the type of major and what to do with it. For example, the nursing group's class may focus on deciding on a specialty. For those who haven't chosen a major, the class tends to be more for information gathering and helping them select a major."

Howard Hughes Medical Institute awards \$600,000 to boost undergraduate research technology

Oakland University's undergraduate education program in biological sciences was awarded a four-year, \$600,000 grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

OU's proposal requested financial support of renovations and modern scientific equipment and computers for undergraduate laboratory instruction. Also included were expansion and revision of lower-level laboratories, seminars and directed research for undergraduates

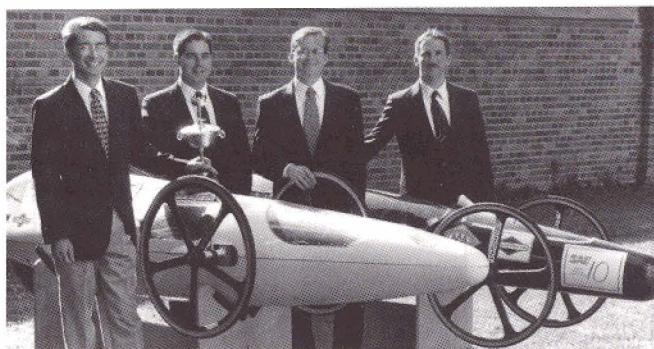
in faculty laboratories using biological communications as a theme and outreach activities for high school teachers from Pontiac City Schools, or school districts with a majority of underrepresented minority students, to include research and seminars in the sciences.

Part of OU's College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Biological Sciences was one of 52 colleges and universities chosen by the institute from a pool of 201 grant applicants. The institute, a medical research organization and the nation's largest philanthropy, awarded \$45.4 million overall.

Student team places second

Oakland University's School of Engineering and Computer Science student branch of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) took second place at the Midwest Supermileage Competition held June 1 in Marshall, Michigan.

The car, named the "Duryea," averaged 876 miles per gallon and beat out 22 other student engineering teams from across the country and Canada. The team won \$480 and a trophy. A team from the University de Sherbrooke in Canada, with a car that averaged 962 mpg, rolled to first place.



Oakland University students (from left) Matthew Nielson, Maximiliano Larroquette, Jeff Fenoseff and Mark Ware were second-place winners in the Supermileage competition.

Seniors set their sails for the 'real world'

Singer Christopher Cross dreamed about sailing away to escape reality.

At Oakland University, seniors and graduating students are doing just the opposite this fall. They attended a week of career-oriented programs September 21-27 to help prepare them for the "real world."

Called Set Your Sails, the program included a half-day workshop to assist students in making the transition after college and a prep week to help prepare them for a job and settle on a career.

Theatre season features award-winning play

Meadow Brook Theatre will feature four Michigan premieres during its upcoming season, including last year's winner of the New York Drama Critics' Circle award for best play, *Arcadia*.

The season opened September 18 with James Sherman's *Beau Jest*. It runs through October 27.

Other performances are *Jest A Second* by Sherman, October 16-November 17; *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, November 29-December 29; *The Woman in Black* by Stephen Mallatratt, January 8-February 2; *I Am a Man* by Oyamo, February 12-March 9; *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard, March 19-April 13; and *Appalachian Strings* by Randal Myler and Dan Wheetman April 23-May 18.

Association inducts professor to serve as president

The National Economic Association (NEA) named Oakland University Economics Professor Augustin Fosu its next president.



Augustin Fosu

Fosu will serve a two-year term and his duties will include heading the international conference planned for the NEA in New Orleans in 1997.

"I was surprised and honored," Fosu said. "I never expected to be appointed. I was really flattered."

The NEA is an organization of African-American economists, with a growing membership throughout the nation and the world.

Board approves new food service contract

Fast food will make its way on campus in December.

A new Oakland Center food court is planned under a food services contract with Delaware-based ARAMARK Corporation. The center will offer OU colleagues, students and campus guests more culinary choices on campus from national franchise brands.

The new food service contract, approved by the Board of Trustees at its April 11 meeting, began May 2 and runs through April 2001.

ARAMARK has taken over the operations of JW's in the Oakland Center and the Vandenberg Dining Center. The new Oakland Center Food Court will offer Burger King, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut, as well as Starbucks Coffee, Freshens' Yogurt, D.C. Subs, Gretel's Bake Shop and Wings and Things. Vandenberg will offer a cafe and grill, Deli Corner, World's Fare with international selections, a vegetarian bar and occasional speciality meals.

The new food court, to be located in the OC Crockery area, will feature new seating and expanded hours, making it more accessible not only for meals, but also for study sessions, group meetings and breaks, says Mary Beth Snyder, vice president, Student Affairs.

The university will spend up to \$1.3 million for food court construction and furnishings in the Oakland Center, Vandenberg Dining Center and two other campus locations.

"Up-front expenditures to support the food court and associated start-up costs will be recouped over time through reduced labor and food costs associated with fast food outlets," Snyder says.

Enrollment continues to climb

Facing the choice of hitting the beach, working more hours or attending classes, more Oakland University students decided to return to the classroom this summer.

Summer enrollment climbed 6.6 percent over last year and total credits increased 11.2 percent.

"Oakland enrollment climbs in a pattern of steady growth," OU President Gary D. Russi says. "Last year's fall enrollment, at 13,600 students, recorded an all-time high."

Russi attributes the increased enrollment directly to the university's commitment to preparing students for a successful future in the workplace.

Oakland University Foundation allocates nearly \$1 million

The Oakland University Foundation (OUF) allocated nearly a million dollars to Oakland University for academic programs, scholarships, development and research for 1996-97.

OUF, a private, nonprofit corporation whose sole mission is to support Oakland university, is comprised of business, civic and community leaders. Major OUF allocations for 1996-97 include student scholarships, cash-matching funds and Continuous Quality Improvement efforts. Those efforts support additional faculty and staff training and resources to increase quality and productivity and reduce costs.



Sharon Abraham

Sharon Abraham named EO director

Sharon Abraham joins Oakland University as director of the Office of Equal Opportunity.

In her new position, Abraham assists in compliance efforts with laws and initiatives governing equal opportunity for faculty, staff and students. She also supports faculty and staff hiring, plans and implements employee training in equal opportunity, drafts affirmative action plan updates, counsels staff and students, investigates complaints and serves as the university's Americans With Disabilities Act coordinator.

Scholarly journal ranks Department of Economics 4th in state

Continuing its tradition of teacher-scholars, professors in Oakland University's Department of Economics are among the most-published in the country, according to the quarterly scholarly journal, *Economic Inquiry*.

The journal ranked Oakland's economics department fourth overall in producing the most published works among economics professors in universities across Michigan. Nationally, Oakland University ranked seventh among comparable schools that offer undergraduate economics degrees.

Organization names professor to national study section

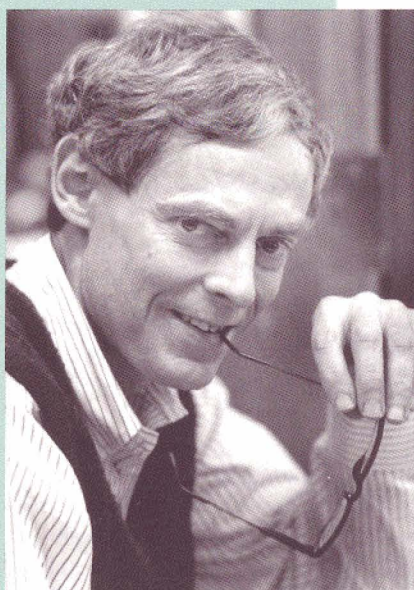
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) appointed Oakland University Professor Frank J. Giblin to serve a four-year term as a member of a national study section in visual sciences.

Giblin, associate director, OU Eye Research Institute (ERI), and professor, Biomedical Sciences, specializes in cataracts research. His study into hyperbaric oxygen-induced cataracts investigates the formation of cataracts in order to better understand how the condition can be prevented or delayed.

"Dr. Giblin's appointment is an extraordinary recognition of the caliber and national standing of our faculty," said Venkat N. Reddy, Ph.D., director of the ERI.

Giblin joins the NIH Visual Sciences A (VIS-A) Study Section, a peer review group that includes college faculty from Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Yale and Southern California.

Giblin has previously served on the NIH Vision Research Review Committee. He is the seventh ERI member to receive an invitation to serve on an NIH Study Section or other



Frank J. Giblin

peer review groups of the agency in the past 25 years.

Giblin's work has been recognized by two prestigious awards: the Rohto Award for Cataracts Research and the Alcon Research Recognition Award.

Oakland's ERI has performed breakthrough studies on cataracts, glaucoma and other blinding eye diseases since opening its doors in 1968. Over the years, the world-renowned vision center has received \$17.5 million to fund its research, and is the only major eye research facility in the country not associated with a medical school.

Board appoints acting vice president

Oakland University's Board of Trustees named William Connellan CAS '67 as acting vice president for academic affairs.

Connellan most recently served as acting vice president for academic administration. Previously, he held the titles of associate vice president for academic affairs, associate provost, assistant provost, assistant to the president and director of public relations and information services. He also was acting director of the

Urban Affairs Center and acting director of the Office of Computer and Information Services. Connellan received a bachelor of arts degree in history and political science from Oakland and master's in political science and doctorate in higher education from the University of Michigan. Among numerous associations and memberships, Connellan is a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau and chairs the Technology Committee of the board.

Job market lucrative for graduating seniors

The 1995-96 academic year was a record for employer activity on campus, according to Robert Thomas, OU's placement and career services director.

Reasons: the red-hot auto market and growth in retail and service jobs.

While not all students were placed in their first choice of jobs, "seniors are doing very well," Thomas says.

"Computer-related positions are booming. It's an excellent time for finding employment in the metro Detroit area."

Residence halls are wired up

Several years ago, Oakland University students — unhappy with relatively poor reception of some TV

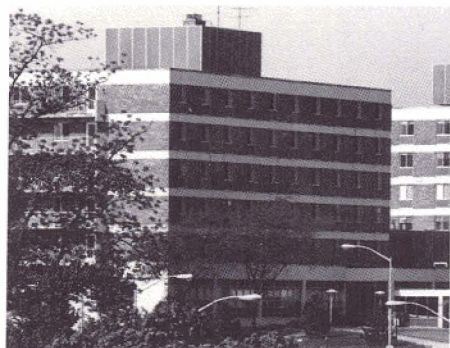
channels and the inability to get their favorite shows — made a request for cable TV.

Through a negotiated contract with TCI Cablevision of Oakland County, work began last July to lay cable in the residence halls.

"The logistics

were a bit tricky in some cases," says Mary Beth Snyder, vice president, Student Affairs. "The cable was being installed while rooms were occupied so we had to get the students' permission. It required a lot of staff participation and student cooperation. But we did it."

Wiring in the residence hall buildings was completed in late January. Current students were then notified to contact TCI to arrange for the cable service.



West Vandenberg Hall

Board of Trustees approves 3 charter schools

Oakland University's Board of Trustees approved applications for three charter schools August 30. The schools include the Academy of Michigan in Harper Woods and Nsoroma Institute and Elbert Thomas Clark Academy in Detroit.

OU received 11 formal applications statewide for the establishment of charter schools. The university Public School Academy Application Review Committee made recommendations to the board based on each proposal's completeness and potential for offering programs consistent with university goals.

"We selected the three schools most compatible with OU's mission: use of technology to enhance learning, establishing partnerships with business to better prepare students for future markets, and offering diverse cultural programs to students," OU President Gary D. Russi says. "Also, each school has a strong programmatic link to the university. We believed after thorough reviews that we could give the strongest support to these three academies."

Mary L. Otto, dean, School of Education and Human Services (SEHS), says the charter schools will build on the university's existing partnerships that support state public schools.

"OU has a long history of interest and involvement in enhancing public school education," she said. She added that Oakland is an active participant with the Michigan Partnership for New Education, and has committed substantial resources to long-term collaboration with public schools in southeastern Michigan.

University offers new health sciences degrees

Oakland University offers two new options for bachelor of science degrees in the School of Health Sciences — radiation therapy and physical therapy.

The degrees were created in response to market demand in the fields of health sciences and medical laboratory sciences.

Radiation therapy, the new specialization in medical laboratory sciences, is a venture with the William Beaumont Hospital School of Radiation Therapy.

A physical therapy degree, on the other hand, is currently earned on the way to receiving a master's degree. Now, other students may also pursue this degree as it expands to include academic focus areas in exercise science and industrial health and safety.

Foundation names officers, directors

The Oakland University Foundation (OUF), a private, nonprofit corporation whose sole mission is to support Oakland University, named its 1996-97 fiscal year slate of officers and directors:

- Francis A. Engelhardt, owner of Engelwood Enterprises, will serve as chair of the foundation.
- David Baker Lewis SBA '65 will serve as vice chair. Lewis is the chairman of the board of Lewis, White and Clay, P.C.
- Gail Duncan MA '79, president of Jerome-Duncan, Inc., will serve as OUF secretary.
- Paul E. Bissonnette, vice president of OU Finance and Administration, and treasurer to the Board of Trustees, will serve as the OUF treasurer.
- David S. Disend, vice president for University Relations, is executive director of OUF.

Oakland honor society gains international recognition

The Oakland University Chapter of the Golden Key National Honor Society shines among the most successful in the world. The chapter claims several regional and national awards, including the distinction that an OU member will serve as the Golden Key regional representative. OU holds the honor for the fourth year in a row.

Golden Key is an international academic honors organization dedicated to recognizing the scholastic achievement and academic excellence of its members. There are 230 chapters around the world. Invitation to membership is exclusive to the top 15 percent of the junior and senior classes each fall and membership is lifetime.

Physical Therapy program accreditation continues through 2001

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association voted recently to continue accreditation of Oakland University's physical therapist (PT) education program through 2001.

The commission, which requires all accredited programs to complete biannual reports, made its last on-site visit to OU in May 1993. That visit resulted in accreditation of OU's PT program for eight years.

OU receives \$1 million grant for research laboratory

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded \$1 million to Oakland University to help defray the cost of the university's proposed \$3.4-million animal care laboratory in the new Science and Engineering Complex.

The grant will help fund an 8,400-square-foot centralized, state-of-the-art facility on the east side of the complex. It will contain individual animal housing, two surgical suites and an X-ray and hematology laboratory, among other amenities.

NIH's support makes Oakland fully competitive with other research institutions in the country, says Donald A. McCrimmon, director, Grants, Contracts and Sponsored Research. "The NIH grant will help solidify Oakland University's position as an institution with both excellent scientists and excellent facilities for conducting biomedical research."

Oakland will gain full accreditation with the American Association for the Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care after the facility is open, according to McCrimmon.

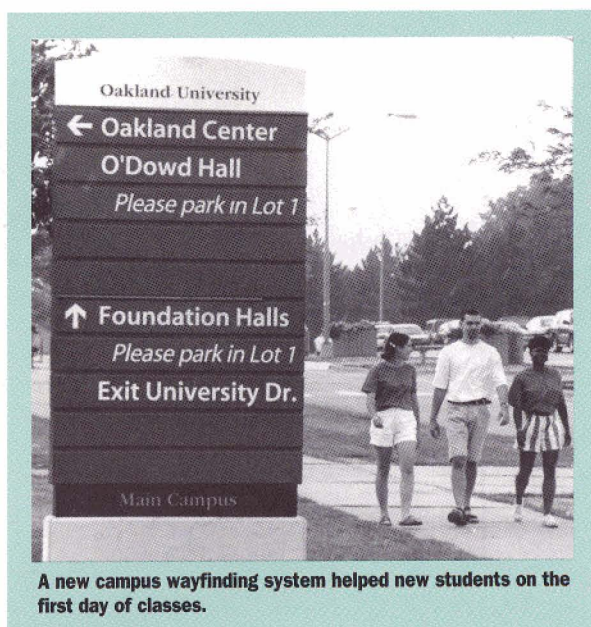
Dr. Lori Penman, OU veterinarian and assistant director, Research Institute, William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, says she has always been impressed with OU's researchers. "This facility will enable us to provide better veterinary care and will allow investigators to expand the volume and scope of their research," Penman says. "It puts us on the cutting edge in biomedical research."

Oakland honors outstanding graduates

Oakland University announced the winners of the Alfred G. and Matilda R. Wilson awards and the Human Relations Award, its three most prestigious honors for graduating seniors.

The 1996 winners are David E. Smyth, Alfred G. Wilson Award; Kelly M. Schehr, Matilda R. Wilson Award; and Michael A. Simon, Human Relations Award.

Oakland presents the Wilson awards annually to an OU senior male and female for academic success, leadership and personal service to the growth of the university. OU presents the Human Relations Award only when a graduate has made outstanding contributions toward intergroup understanding and conflict resolution within the university and greater community.



A new campus wayfinding system helped new students on the first day of classes.



Behind the
wheel again,
new president
shifts Oakland
into high gear with an
ambitious agenda

The bright flashing lights on the vertical pole are again tumbling down, like clockwork, for Gary D. Russi.

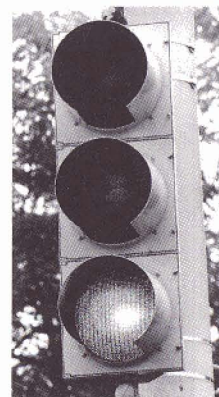
He's sitting comfortably behind the wheel of a super 1957 hardtop Chevrolet Bel Air at the starting line in an abandoned air field in Oklahoma, engine rumbling, tail fins glowing, hands squeezing the steering wheel and the throttle.

Red.
Yellow.
Green.

In a flash — tires smoking — he's driving 150 mph. Only this time he's perched behind a tidy desk in 204 Wilson Hall overlooking Beer Lake on the campus of Oakland University, which, coincidentally, was founded in 1957.

He's sitting in a driver's seat, again, as the university's fifth president. Only instead of trying to beat the clock, Russi, 50, is setting an unprecedented pace.

Few leaders are this focused. Or this



A Driving

Force

By Theodore G. Coutilish

pleasant. Or this well prepared.

And, unabashedly, this private.

For Russi, who loved to drag race and tinker on Chevrolets growing up in the '60s, self-discipline is paramount. Each day begins around 5 a.m. with a run and complete exercise program ("It's a private time for me; a time to help me organize my thoughts," he says). He arrives in the office typically before 7 a.m. and often leaves near dusk as one meeting overlaps another. Breaks are rare.

"We deal with a different topic every 30-45 minutes throughout the day," he says. "So the capability to move from topic to topic is critical."

Evenings and weekends are consumed with reading, writing and preparing for the next work day. Preparation is his life ("I always carry an umbrella," he says).

That marathon work pace may be something expected of leaders in the fast-paced '90s. But Russi — to just about everybody who knows him — is not just another workaholic.

"People who work 80 hours per week are most often called 'driven' or 'consumed,'" says Paul Bissonnette, vice president, Finance and Administration. "Gary is neither. He somehow keeps his positive attitude in the face of adversity while always being balanced in his reactions. He is a consummate planner. Having worked with Gary for three years, I know he won't slow down. It's not his style."

When you meet Russi in his office, his style immediately rubs off on you. The caring. The warmth. It's infectious. He's the type of person everybody loves to work for.

"Gary is exactly the way he seems — very straightforward and committed," says Mary Otto, dean, School of Education and Human Services. "He cares deeply and works hard to achieve what is important to him. He is honest about his thoughts and feelings. He approaches all issues with a 'fix it' mentality rather than a critical review. He recognizes that it is important to focus on how can we fix this problem rather than on blaming and being angry."

Russi is ever the optimist. He shows

little emotion but lots of positive energy in his daily routine. Nothing seems to wear him down. Or make him show frustration. Even during his most embarrassing moments.



President Russi at a Student Congress meeting.

"Several years ago, I presented a budget in front of a large public audience and later found out the assumptions in that budget were inaccurate," Russi says. "I communicated with the people who provided the assumptions for that budget without laying blame. In this case, the information they received was erroneous. I would say 95 percent or more of problems are process-related, not people-related."

Forever thinking positive, Russi is well known for his proactive style and supporting his nice words and winning attitude with results.

In progressive budget, planning and academic administrative roles at Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, Russi spearheaded a campuswide effort to revitalize the university.

"When presented with highly ambitious or even outrageous goals, he attacked them relentlessly," Drake President Michael Ferrari says. "This confidence permeated everything he did."

"His work ethic was consistently astounding — and it was directed to the good of the institution rather than his own personal welfare. If we had a budgetary crisis, Gary would take the books home at night and return the next day with a detailed plan for how we might solve it. There was little doubt in my mind that Gary was destined to an important academic presidency. I have not been surprised by his success at

Oakland, and I am confident he will lead the university to increasing distinction and service in the coming years."

Red.

Yellow.

Green.

Russi has built his career based on certain principles and will stick to them no matter what: ensure sound mind and body, properly prepare, think future and plans, empower people and focus only on the issue.

His systematic management approach is rooted in common sense, respect and meticulous preparation. "The issues aren't personal," he says. "They're more objective and you try to look at them as cleanly as possible. Remember everybody has certain needs. Needs for recognition. Needs for support. Set an example. Be organized and clear about what is expected and what the activity is, provide support to make that happen and communicate appreciation when the job is done."

Russi's management style is best defined as building teamwork. With Russi, everything starts with the team, the team, the team. And to get team players, you must start with the right people.

"There is no activity more important than hiring people, so it's critical to hire the best people to fit the organization," he says. "The success of any organization is really driven by the nature and character of its people."

During his 18-month tenure as OU's interim president, Russi quickly moved Oakland forward. He is credited with bringing to life OU's 10-year strategic plan, record enrollment growth, major campus construction, historic articulation agreements with community colleges, new market-driven degree programs, increased community and business partnerships, implementation of formal academic assessment, legislative appropriations and distance learning initiatives.

With race-course precision, Russi has begun shifting Oakland into its future with a powerful cadre of initiatives.

Take the Electronic Network Management Program, for example. The result of discussions with top business and industry leaders that he brought together in an advisory capacity, OU will launch

the market-driven program this fall to address the national shortage for highly skilled network managers. It's the first of its kind in the country, combining the philosophical and technical aspects of the profession into first a certificate program and ultimately a degree program.

"This is a great program," Russi says. "The companies who told us they needed employees with this background will hire our students first as interns, then as permanent employees — all of our students in the program."

Another example is Creating the Future. The external relations program will seek advice and counsel from 500 or more top alumni and other movers and shakers in the region during the next 18 months. The group will deliberate on the steps necessary to take the university's 10-year strategic plan to the next level. "This has never been done before," Russi says. "We will connect with some of the brightest and most powerful people in southeast Michigan. We are strategically located, so we are able to pull together the resources of business and industry to help us create our own future."

Perhaps the most visible sign is campus growth. Not since the campus was built has there been as much construction. The new Science and Engineering Complex will open in January and the Recreation and Athletic Center is scheduled to open in fall 1998. Expanded facilities include a new home for the Honors College, new food court, classroom renovations, computer labs, additional parking spaces, a new entrance court and driveway at Meadow Brook Hall, new campus signs and a refurbished Admissions and Academic Skills Center.

And the best appears yet to come.

Under Russi's leadership, plans call for escalating advertising and marketing, creating new advisory boards and encouraging faculty and staff to assume regional and national roles. Oakland will also strengthen and expand its market-driven degrees and regional, national and international recruitment efforts, infuse more technology into its operation, offer more student-oriented services, spend more time on process redesign, deliver more courses off campus, as well as develop hundreds of partnerships.

To support these initiatives, Russi says

the university will soon announce a major fund-raising effort.

"We want to become a model university for the 21st century," he says. "We would like to move our identity to a level so that it is almost a household name and so it becomes the choice in this region."

"In five years, I would like our graduates to be identified as the best liberally educated and prepared in the state, if not in the region, for immediate employment or advancement in business, industry, government, education, the arts or service sector."

Red.
Yellow.
Green.

Teen-agers race cars. Most eventually grow up and lose some of their spirit, even the professionals who continue honing their skills to the tune of seven-figure salaries.

And then there are those rare birds, the ones who never seem to lose their spirit.

Russi says he would like to someday return to his boyhood passion, as well as write in various disciplines in higher education.

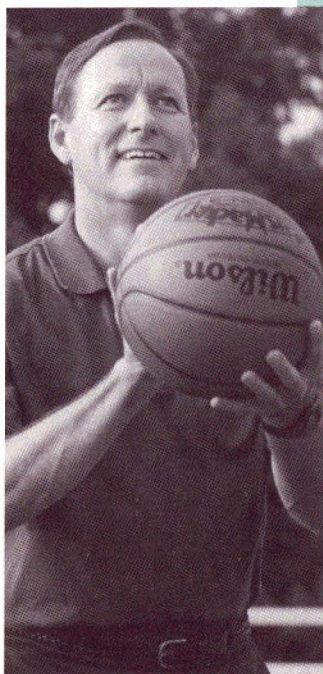
"My lifelong dream is to rebuild from the ground up a 1965 Corvette hard top," he says.

But, for now, he says he's happy behind the wheel at Oakland University.

"I can't think of a better position in the world to be in," he says. "We are poised for greatness."

For Gary Russi and Oakland University, it's life in the fast lane. ■

Theodore G. Coutilish is OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE editor and director of Editorial Services.



Gary Russi makes the first shot at the 1994 Gus Macker 3-on-3 Tournament.

About Gary D. Russi

View of himself: "An open individual who is supportive of the community, friendly, easy to approach, accessible."

Interested in community service."

Growing up: "We moved from city to city in Ohio, Indiana and Oklahoma."

Education: B.S., pharmacy, 1969, Southwestern Oklahoma State University; doctorate, pharmacology and toxicology, University of Kansas, 1972.

People he most respected growing up: "Teachers and those I observed in business. I always tried to figure out why they were successful."

Residence: He and wife Kathryn live on campus in Sunset Terrace.

Wife's occupation: Clinical manager for a benefits management firm.

Children: Christopher, 23, medical school; and Jennifer, 20, college.

Last book read: *Chicken Soup for the Soul*.

Favorite hobby: "I love to play golf."

Last movie he saw: "Good question."

Secret life ambition: "I was going to be an architect but I couldn't draw a straight line."

Life-changing experience: "I spent 15 months in the American Council of Education Academic Administration Fellows program, which was designed to give faculty leaders a look at administration. It moved me."

Life priorities: "They shift as one goes through life. Today, the job, family, self."

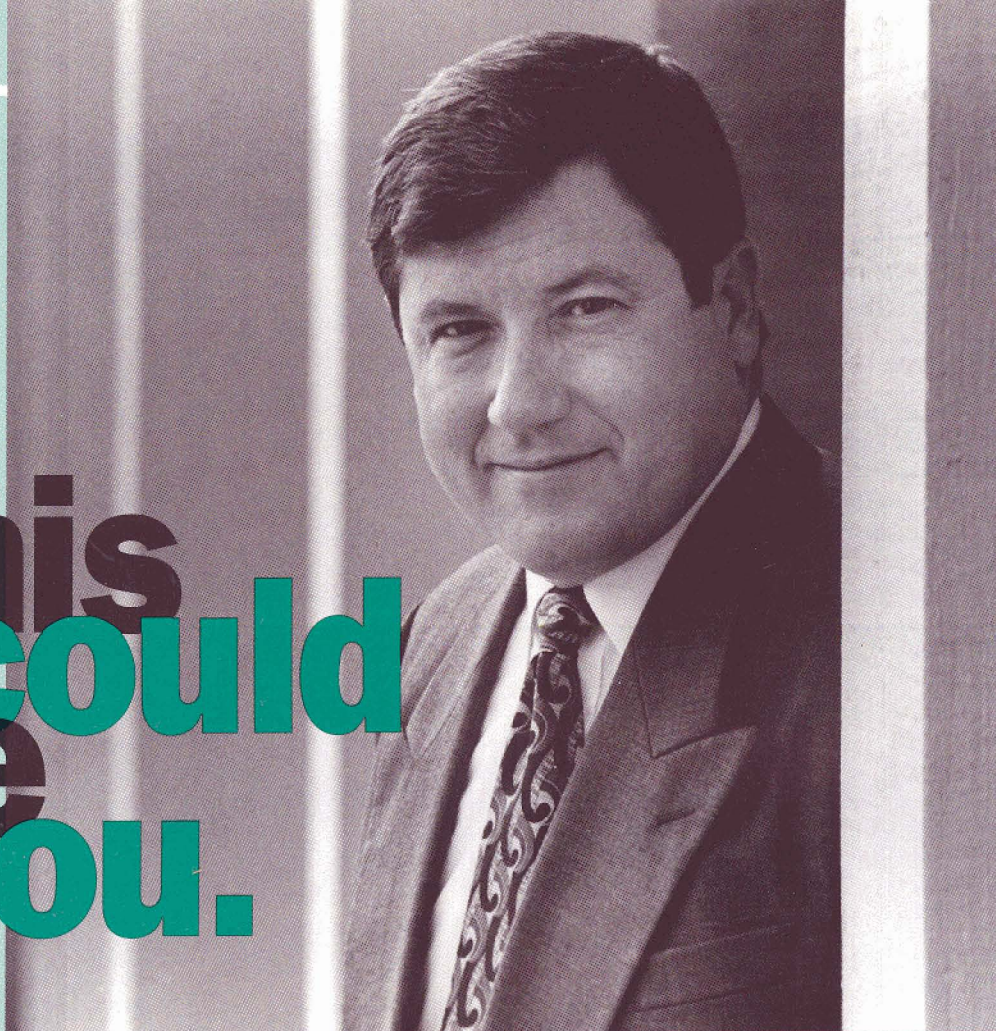
Biggest challenge: "Ensuring I have a strong enough information base to do the best job possible."

What you want alumni to know most: "Oakland is a top-quality institution. You will see a lot of successes and be proud as a graduate of a vital, vibrant university that keeps moving forward."

Life philosophy: "Success breeds success" and "enjoy life."

How he would like epitaph to read: "He made a contribution."

This could be you.



Name: Ed Williams CAS '73

Occupation: Regional manager, Farm Bureau Insurance

Business accomplishments: Past recipient of the Agency Builder Award and the Distinguished Management Award (Farm Bureau).

Personal: Married to Jeri Williams SEHS '94 now working on her master's degree in counseling at OU. Four children. Lives in Birmingham.

Memberships: Oakland University Alumni Association (recent past treasurer), Oakland County Association of Life Underwriters, Society of Certified Insurance Counselors, Chartered Life Underwriters.

Family activities: Coaches basketball and soccer for his children's teams.

Likes: Golf, reading, spending time with his family.

Dislikes: Overly pretentious people and sweet pickles.

Fondest student memories at OU: Meeting friends for lunch, discussions and a round of euchre in the Oakland Center; playing intramural basketball; psychology classes with Professor Harvey Burdick.

On his OU degree: "I've noticed in the last 20 years working in the business world how better educated I am than graduates from other colleges."

Volunteer work: CAS June '96 commencement speaker; alumni ambassador for Office of Admissions and Enrollment Management; career development speaker and seminar planner; speaker for the "Set Your Sails" workshop in September 1996; member of the Golf Outing committee.

How does he find time to volunteer: "Schedule it, commit to it and do it."

Don't keep your success a secret . . . get involved in the Oakland University Alumni Association today.

For details, contact the OUAA
at John Dodge House, Rochester,
Michigan 48309-4401,
(810) 370-2158
via the World Wide Web:
<http://www.acs.oakland.edu>

A SAFE APPROACH

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS,
TECHNOLOGY AND
ENFORCEMENT
KEEP OAKLAND'S
PICTURESQUE CAMPUS
AMONG THE SAFEST

BY ERIC FREEDMAN

When it comes to crime in America, campuses are no islands. Consider a cross section of events this year from public and private colleges across the nation:

- At the University of Miami, Hurricanes linebacker Marlin Barnes was beaten to death in his on-campus apartment. A nonstudent friend also died in the attack.
- Florida State University freshman Jeffrey Knowles was charged with setting at least 18 fires in more than a dozen campus buildings, including residence halls, and with breaking into mailboxes to steal credit cards.
- A University of Michigan graduate student, Kei Chi Chang, was accused of stealing \$100,000 worth of artwork and books from the library and of stalking an Eastern Michigan University student.
- An embarrassing number of midshipmen at the prestigious U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, were linked to sexual assaults, a car theft ring, burglaries and drug sales.

"Students need to realize they're living in a real environment, just like at home," explains Chief Richard W. Leonard, Oakland University Police Department. "We often think our small environment is a utopia and nothing can happen here, but we should always be conscious, no matter what we do, that this is the real world."

Doug Tuttle, the director of public safety at the University of Delaware and immediate past president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, agrees: "The challenges that colleges face mirror the society in which they're located."

In some ways, the nature of a college may make it more vulnerable to crime than its surroundings, he notes. "One thing that differentiates a college is its openness. Buildings are open at night and on weekends, so controlling access is certainly a challenge. Personal security is obviously an issue, but studies show violent crime rates on campuses are lower than in communities where they're located."

THE OAKLAND PICTURE

A comparison of national crime statistics shows Oakland offers a safe campus, "one of the safest institutions in the state relative to crimes against

persons and property," Leonard says.

According to the university's 1995 report to the U.S. Department of Education, campus police were notified of one sexual assault, one aggravated assault, four burglaries and three stolen vehicles. OU police made four drug arrests on campus. There were no murders or robberies reported, and no arrests for weapons or alcohol violations.

Comprehensive 1995 figures are not available yet for all colleges across the country, but statistics for 1994 show a sharp increase in arrests for drug crimes, and slight increases for weapons and liquor law violations. Murders and sex offenses also rose nationally in 1994, compared with 1993, while other assaults, burglaries and car thefts dropped, according to a *Chronicle of Higher Education* analysis of 831 campuses with more than 5,000 students each.

BEYOND THE NUMBERS

Experts believe the rise in reported sexual assaults may not mean more attacks take place. Instead, the figures may reflect a greater willingness of victims to come forward, especially in situations involving "date rape" or "acquaintance rape." In the past, emotions such as shame, self-blame and fear of publicity and embarrassment deterred many victims — male and female — from contacting police; they're still a deterrent in many situations, however.

In addition, more colleges that once handled assaults by students exclusively as disciplinary cases or counseling matters now treat them as crimes to be handled by police.

At Oakland, "prevention of sexual assaults is an important part of the university's response to campus safety issues," the university's safety and security



A COMPARISON OF NATIONAL CRIME STATISTICS SHOWS OAKLAND OFFERS A SAFE CAMPUS. "ONE OF THE SAFEST INSTITUTIONS IN THE STATE RELATIVE TO CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AND PROPERTY," CHIEF RICHARD LEONARD SAYS.

procedures state. "Victims have the right to report the sexual assault to the OU Police Department, and university staff must assist a victim in contacting police if that is the victim's choice."

As for overall safety, federal crime statistics merely provide an indicator and don't tell the whole story. For example, many types of crimes are not included, especially larceny, which is the most common crime at Oakland and many other schools. That involves the theft of personal property such as books, coats, jewelry, auto accessories such as CD players and radar detectors, bikes, portable computers and backpacks.

Other factors that skew the numbers include whether incidents are reported to an outside law enforcement agency instead of campus police; the proportion

1994 STATISTICS FOR REPORTED CRIMES AT COMPARABLE SCHOOLS

	Forcible sexual assault	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Motor vehicle theft
Oakland	0	0	2	1	7
Northwestern	2	2	1	70	7
Hoffstra	1	0	0	2	7
Bowling Green State	5	1	3	23	0
Washington (St. Louis, MO)	0	4	4	4	27
Seton Hall	1	3	2	2	13

of students living in residence halls rather than commuting; and such different state-by-state definitions of crimes such as aggravated assault or burglary.

In addition, standard reports mandated by the U.S. government also do not cover these types of troubling

violent crime by channeling incidents into campus disciplinary systems. "Look down the columns (on the crime reports) and see if you believe the statistics. It's laughable because sexual offenses are the most prevalent crimes outside of theft, yet only one out of 10 rape victims report them to anybody."

The nonprofit organization, which serves as a national clearinghouse on campus crime, was founded after a fellow student at Pennsylvania's Lehigh University murdered Clery's daughter during a 1986 residence hall burglary.

Clery credits colleges for improving security technology, for improving safety-related orientation for students and for adopting sexual assault, drug and alcohol policies. At the same time, however, she says colleges often downplay the true risks because "college is a big business today. Money and image are uppermost in the administrators' minds. Students are generally more aware of crime, but

lieutenant and the chief. All have full arrest powers, and all undergo certified police academy training and periodic updated training. There's also a round-the-clock dispatch center with four dispatchers.

And a cadre of OU student cadets, who are equipped with radios but unarmed, serve as extra eyes and ears on campus and provide escort service to students who don't want to walk alone.

"We focus on three parts in crime prevention: Technology such as sodium-vapor lighting and 'blue lights,' human resources such as high-visibility patrols and the escort program, and education such as orientation and sexual assault avoidance," OU police Lt. Mel Gilroy CAS '89 says. "We link traditional law enforcement practices with building security enhancement and a concerted crime prevention training message."

Leonard emphasizes the similarity between OU police and police departments in local communities. "We're no different than any other municipal police agency, just a rose by a different name."

The department also maintains a close working relationship with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, nearby police agencies and federal agencies.

If you haven't been on campus for a few years, you'll see a number of changes that reflect the university's heightened awareness of safety and security.

Among them: three police officers patrolling on specialized, fully equipped mountain bikes. "That gets the officer out of the scout car and much closer to the public for more personal contact," Leonard explains. "Bikes are especially helpful in working patrols in parking lots to deter auto crimes. The criminal is still not expecting to see a police officer riding up on a bicycle."

Another innovation this fall is a system of four closed circuit cameras that provide surveillance of busy parking lots and pedestrian walkways; the department hopes to add two more. The cameras are monitored 24 hours a day from the police dispatch center.

Ten emergency "blue light" phones are strategically placed around campus for 911 calls directly to the OU dispatcher. The university also has invested close to \$100,000 over the past several years to improve outdoor lighting.

To deter unauthorized visitors, the school is considering an electronic card access system for some buildings. "Card



criminal or violent incidents that occurred this year:

- The discovery of a \$1 million long-distance phone scam at Southern Illinois University.
- The accidental shooting of two nonstudents at an on-campus sorority party at Stanford University in California.
- The defacing of dozens of University of North Carolina library books with Nazi swastikas and Ku Klux Klan initials.

Not surprisingly, violent crimes make the biggest headlines and draw the most attention on TV news. What surprises many students and parents, though, is that outsiders are not responsible for many of them. The Campus Violence Prevention Center at Towson State University in Maryland estimates that 80 percent of violent crimes are committed by students against students, with alcohol a frequent contributing factor.

Connie Clery, co-founder of Security on Campus in Pennsylvania, contends schools too often hide the truth about

it's a dangerous time. It is probably more dangerous because our society has become more dangerous, and campuses are just an extension of our society."

The University of Delaware's Tuttle cites a high relationship between alcohol involvement and crime on campus.

"Most common are the physical assaults where the people know each other — roommates, teammates. Even a number of property crimes on campus, such as situations when things are stolen because the victims had been drinking and failed to lock up their residence hall rooms or cars.

At Oakland, Leonard says tighter alcohol policies and stricter enforcement of alcohol rules in the residence halls have reduced the number of drinking-related fights and assaults.

INSIDE THE OU POLICE

Oakland fields a police department with nine patrol officers, four sergeants, a

access is becoming very popular at some schools, and we're beginning to think seriously about it," Leonard says.

The large number of vehicles on campus make attractive targets for thieves interested in components or entire vehicles. Thieves "work our university, they work big office building parking lots, they work the malls," Gilroy observes. OU police work with the county's auto theft task force to combat such crimes.

Meanwhile, campus officials around the country are testing other innovative ways to prevent and detect crime and to deter criminals. At Michigan State University and the University of Delaware, for example, police established field offices in residence halls and other buildings as operation points for foot and bike patrols. Virginia's University of Richmond runs a "silent witness" system so students, faculty and employees can use their computers to anonymously report suspicious activities or crime-related tips.

Some campuses maintain a computerized information system so students can register the serial numbers of bikes, computers, stereos and other

valuables.

Police can check the database if an item is stolen or found.

Oakland police have recommended keyless electronic access control with computer-controlled card readers at several buildings and some specialized internal locations such as computer labs and the Eye Research Institute.

In addition, OU is among the forefront of campus police agencies with their own home pages on the World Wide Web. From the convenience of a computer terminal, you can check crime statistics, review safety-related policies and send e-mail messages directly to OU police. Other schools with police Web sites include the University of Southern California, Texas A&M, Wayne State University and West Valley Mission Community College in California.

FEELING SAFE

Technology coupled with a visible police presence are important, but equally important to the learning environment is the way students and employees feel, and the perception among prospective students and their parents of whether a campus is safe. Oakland received high marks on recent surveys.

Both perception and crime prevention are vital, says Glenn Stevens, executive director, Lansing-based Presidents Council,



Emergency blue light phones dot the campus.

State Universities of Michigan.

"You see a lot more integrated approaches to prevention as well as enforcement programs," Stevens says. "You see a different accent than before."

The topic of safety on campus frequently arises at statewide and national meetings of university administrators, he notes. "Schools have made a major effort to address a broad range of issues in this area. The last thing any institution wants is to be perceived as unsafe or insensitive."

At OU, police attend parent and student orientation sessions to explain safeguards and precautions, and to answer questions. They also provide anti-crime and fire safety training to residence hall staff and hold voluntary crime prevention and sexual assault training sessions around campus.

"We provide a safe campus, but students have a responsibility, too. They must practice safe habits for their own protection," Leonard says. "They should walk in pairs, report problems, become involved when they see suspicious activity. We will be there when necessary and will work as a team to provide a safe atmosphere." ■

Eric Freedman is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist from East Lansing.



Oakland's Police Department provides 24-hour protection and a safe campus environment.

FRONTIERS -OF- LEARNING



BY VICKY BILLINGTON

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY IS AT THE FOREFRONT IN MAKING INTELLIGENT USE OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Oakland University is pioneering intelligent use of educational technology and reaching more people than ever before with the knowledge they need.

The university is infusing more than \$2 million into a variety of state-of-the-art initiatives. As the university's advanced technology grows, it is adding more flexibility and responsiveness to Oakland's academic programs, more student services, more administrative efficiencies, and more partnerships with business, industry and the global community.

"Things have opened up tremendously with international access to the World Wide Web. You can get virtually unlimited access to information, and people are clamoring to take advantage of it," says Jack Nachman, mathematics professor and distance learning facilitator. "The technology has improved so much. Two-way video communication is a good example. Over telephone lines and without much expense, two-way video is to the point where you can actually use it. It's not a toy anymore."

OU President Gary D. Russi is committed to technological growth because it is a way Oakland can become more student-centered and focused on preparing students for the demands of a rapidly changing workplace. Through allocations of a special technology fund and the strategic plan implementation fund, he is encouraging the College of Arts and Sciences, the professional schools and departments to design educational technology applications that will enrich the teaching and learning environment of Oakland.

"Educational technology is a part of Oakland's vision to further our

commitment to our constituencies through excellence in teaching, learning, research and service. We want to create a climate which encourages and supports human diversity and development," Russi says. "By making educational experiences more accessible, more focused on individual skill levels and interests, and available at times convenient to learners, Oakland is enabling our community to better reach their true potential in today's marketplace."

Opportunities for technological innovations in education are plentiful and pervasive, Nachman says. "Each university has its own contributions to make and we're making ours."

OU is leading the state, and in some instances, the nation, in the use of several major technological advances.

Long before Web browsers became popular, OU's Oak Archive (oak.oakland.edu) was — and continues to be — one of the most popular Internet sites in the world. It offers more than 30,000 software packages that can be downloaded free of charge. More than 300,000 users access the computer host daily.

The university serves as the hub of the Macomb-Oakland Area Network, which brings the power of computers, through the Internet, to classrooms in 49 public school districts and several community colleges. This network opens the door to greater collaboration on educational issues and expands opportunities and knowledge for more than 370,000 students in kindergarten through high school.

Oakland is also one of the heaviest users of the Michigan Merit Network (MichNET) in the state, the primary network provider for educational institutions. The system links students, faculty and staff to 12 other MichNET member universities and is Oakland's primary link to the Internet.

Kresge Library uses modern library technology through a consortium with university libraries around the Great Lakes Region. Through the Internet, students also have access to more than 19,000 libraries in 61 countries.

OU is also initiating a number of other educational technologies.

Oakland University is actively involved in an attempt to build partnerships for distance learning with colleges and universities throughout the state. "There is no one distance learning organization

DELIVERING TECHNOLOGY- ENRICHED LEARNING

Through work-based learning and communication and applied technologies, Oakland University is preparing students for a technologically advanced workplace.

Consider this sampling of new courses and projects at OU:

- **The Electronic Network Management Program** begins this fall to address the national shortage for highly skilled network managers. It's the first of its kind in the country, combining the philosophical and technical aspects of the profession into first a certificate program and ultimately a degree program.
- **Applied Statistics** and a course in microprocessors, via delayed videotaping, is an important course this fall for engineers at Ford Motor Company work sites throughout Michigan.
- **Ten campus classrooms** are wired for access to instant multimedia — the Internet, videotape libraries, the Web and more.
- **The university's third state-of-the-art distance learning classroom** opens this winter, complete with Internet access and focusing on College of Arts and Sciences humanities disciplines.
- **A management information class**, via two-way instructional television, is being beamed to students at the Oakland University Center-Birmingham.
- **Students in the Traverse City area** working on OU degrees are taking College of Arts and Sciences classes, via two-way instructional television, at the Northwestern Michigan College University Center.
- **Oakland has some 150 computers** designed for student use. Students have access to the Web through the university's Internet system, and the opportunity to have their own individual home pages on the Web.

in the state that brings together all four-year institutions," Nachman says. Meetings are under way with the academic officers of higher educational institutions around Michigan.

Oakland is working to improve its excellent working relationships with community colleges, making the transition to Oakland easier by offering courses, via distance learning, at their sites.

The Mercury Project does even greater outreach, as the Department of Modern Languages in the College of Arts and Sciences is developing a North American distance learning



consortium linked to universities in France.

Flexibility, expertise and ongoing uses of technology in both administrative and educational settings are distinguishing characteristics of Oakland University.

"Oakland will also be a model of support keeping up with its vision," Nachman says, "so that we never implement anything we cannot support."

At the end of October, OU is hosting a major conference, "Workforce 2000: Exploring the impact of technology on the readiness of the work force." The conference will bring together leaders in manufacturing, information systems, software, retail, government and education.

"Never before has the need for partnerships and collaboration among education, government, business and industry been as important as it is today," Russi says. "The pace of change, especially technology, is requiring more of the work force to enter into continuous education.

"At Oakland, meeting the needs of the marketplace is an integral part of our mission and vision. OU continues to foster unique collaborative relationships with industry leaders that are resulting in new market-driven programs and initiatives. OU is making a total commitment to being a learning organization and a model university for the 21st century."

Vicky Billington is an OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE staff writer. ■

Educational technology applications to enrich the teaching and learning environment

A sampling of new initiatives:

College of Arts and Sciences

- The college has received \$391,989 over the last two years for projects that combine distance learning, the Internet and interactive video.
- Six interactive television (ITV) classes are being offered by the college this fall at the Northwestern Michigan University Center in Traverse City.
- A medical Spanish course for health care professionals, via distance learning and an advanced course in German language for IIT employees in Germany, W. Virginia, Texas and Sault Ste. Marie is in the works.
- The Department of Languages and Literatures is forming a consortium that will include the University of Michigan-Dearborn, University of Tennessee-Martin, the University of Arkansas, one French-speaking (Quebec) Canadian university and one English-speaking Canadian university, and the Université de Nancy, France, in a distance learning initiative.

School of Business Administration

- The School of Business

Administration has received \$100,000 over the last two years for technology advancements.

- Two PC labs have received hardware and software upgrades that include CD-ROMs, access to the Web, state-of-the-art systems development computer-aided software engineering, and new computer video systems allow for desktop video conferencing and increased shared-screen applications.

School of Education and Human Services

- The School of Education and Human Services has received \$313,000 over the last two years for technological initiatives.
- A new mobile technology classroom with state-of-the-art multimedia equipment has been purchased to integrate interactive multimedia, Internet and distance learning technology in the classrooms.

School of Engineering and Computer Science

- The School of Engineering and Computer Science has received \$100,000 for upgrades in technology over the last two years.
- A combined High Performance Digital Network/Multimedia Distance Learning Laboratory opened this semester offering a new

resource for classroom instruction and for experimentation, research and design of digital networks, hypermedia, asynchronous transfer mode, fiber optics and production of CD-ROM media, among other uses. The lab is also being used for a new pilot network management program that is upgrading the skills of current information systems professionals.

School of Health Sciences

- The school received \$65,000 for a number of initiatives.
- A physical therapy computer network is being designed for access by all faculty, staff and students.
- New software and videodiscs on topics such as anatomy, orthopedics, pathology, biomechanics and physiology are being purchased.
- A National Library of Medicine with Medline capability for use in various databases and research is being established.

School of Nursing

- The School of Nursing has received \$2,000 for innovative technological projects including software to create computer-based courses that test and provide immediate feedback to students.

Betty J. Youngblood: Alumna honors father with endowed scholarship

Betty J. Youngblood CAS '65, president, Western Oregon State College, and former chancellor, University of Wisconsin-Superior, recently made a substantial gift to the Oakland University Foundation to establish an endowed scholarship in memory of her late father, Carrell T. Sherman. She is establishing this scholarship in recognition of the major role her father and the university

have played in her life.

"I received a high-quality liberal arts education in a caring and supportive environment," Youngblood says. "In the classrooms, in the residence halls and in various recreational activities, the faculty and staff helped ensure my success through a total educational experience which I have always felt was

second to none. I am grateful to Oakland University and pleased to express that gratitude by creating a scholarship fund to support other students from Macomb County."

The Carrell T. Sherman Endowed Scholarship will benefit students like Youngblood — those who live in Macomb County, have high GPAs in high school but need financial assistance to make a college education possible.

Youngblood's father did not have the opportunity to pursue higher education. He was a farmer for many years and worked as a counselor at the Macomb County Youth Home. He was, however, determined to provide a college education for his daughter. Oakland's campus was as much his own as it was Youngblood's, she says.

"He was there in September 1962 when Chancellor Durward Varner met the incoming students. He was there in April 1965 when I received my Bachelor of Arts degree. In between, he was on campus hundreds of times, attending events, giving rides," Youngblood says. "He was always there for me."

Through the establishment of an

endowed scholarship, Youngblood ensures her father's name will forever be linked with an appreciation of higher education in Macomb and Oakland counties.

Gift from longtime Oakland supporters creates new auto research laboratory

Stephan Sharf, former Chrysler Corporation Executive Vice President and his wife Rita have committed \$125,000 to fund the Computer Integrated Manufacturing Laboratory in Oakland's new Science and Engineering Complex.

"We are delighted to help Oakland with its first new building in 13 years, and we want to encourage Oakland to have stronger connections to the auto industry," says Stephan Sharf, a longtime Oakland friend and volunteer.

Involved with Oakland for more than 20 years, the Sharfs have held virtually every major volunteer role at the university.

Their generosity and goodwill toward the university are an inspiration to all students, faculty and staff. Tireless advocates for higher education, the Sharfs established the Stephan Sharf Endowed Scholarship, awarded annually to Chrysler Corporation employees or their children. Bringing the university to new heights, they have dedicated their valuable time and efforts through participation on countless boards and committees. Realizing the importance of academic excellence, their respect for the university has been evident over the years through their commitment, gifts of time and their personal resources.

Their concern for the future of the university is as strong as ever. Stephan Sharf continues to demonstrate his vision as a member of the OU Foundation Board. Rita Sharf, meanwhile, recently joined the new Meadow Brook Theatre Board, demonstrating her commitment to the arts and the outreach programs of Oakland University.



Betty Youngblood



Stephan and Rita Sharf



Leo Bowman
CAS '75



Susan Cischke
SECS '76



Randal E. Golden
CAS '78



Dan Medow
SBA '71

OUAAs board appoints new members

The Oakland University Alumni Association (OUAA) appointed four new members to the OUAA Board of Directors. Each will begin their term in the fall.

New members are Leo Bowman CAS '75 of Pontiac, Susan M. Cischke SECS '76 of Bloomfield Hills, Randal E. Golden CAS '78 of Orchard Lake and Dan Medow SBA '71 of Huntington Woods.

Bowman, a judge in the 50th District Court in Pontiac, is currently serving his second term on the bench. He was first elected to the bench at age 34. He is active in the community. He is the first vice president and a board member of the Northern Oakland County NAACP, a board member of the Pontiac Urban League, committee member of Pontiac Youth Assistance and fraternity member of Omega Psi Phi.

Cischke is general manager for Scientific Labs & PG, Chrysler Corporation, Auburn Hills. She is responsible for all of the company's key test laboratories and is one of the industry's highest-ranking women executives in a technical post. She was selected by *McCall's/Ward's Auto World* Magazines and the New York Auto Show to receive the Outstanding Woman in the Automotive Industry manufacturer's award in 1995.

Golden is executive vice president of D.O.C. Optics Corporation, headquartered in Southfield. He is responsible for laboratory operations within the company, which retails prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses, optician services, as well as franchises. D.O.C. operates more than 50 stores in the metro Detroit area and is rapidly growing to expand in other areas of the country.

Medow is the president of a rapidly growing national distribution company, Standard Distributing, and chair of Campau Advertising, both based in Detroit. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Vocational Services and the Jewish Association of Retarded Citizens. He lives with his wife Miriam CAS '70, a psychiatrist.

University announces alumni awards

The Oakland University Awards Selection Committee announced the following alumni winners at the OUAA Awards Banquet September 27:

- **The Distinguished Achievement Award:** Janet Holmgren CAS '68, president, Mills College, Oakland, California
- **The Distinguished Service Award:** Julie Granthen SBA '81, MBA '87, department chair, Social Science, Oakland Community College
- **The Spirit Award:** Bonnie Karas CAS '87, instructor, Powerhouse Gym; Paul Karas SECS '77, MBA '85, test development engineer, Ford Motor Company; and Colleen Ochoa Peters CAS '87, assistant director, Alumni Relations, Oakland University
- **The Odyssey Award:** Jacqueline Solway CAS '73, professor, Trent University, Ontario, Canada

Association designates gift in alumnus' name

In recognition of Ward M. Johnson MS '74, the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Quality Control Association (NJPQCA) has designated the Oakland University School of Health Sciences as the recipient of a \$5,000 gift.

Johnson is a NJPQCA past chairman.

The School of Health Sciences is delighted with the gift from NJPQCA designated by Ward Johnson," says Ronald E. Olson, dean, School of Health Sciences. "Our alumni affiliate is newly formed and has established a high priority to raise funds for an endowed scholarship. This gift serves as a challenging kickoff, which we hope to double this year."

NJPQCA is a nonprofit educational association founded in 1964 to provide members with the latest information and concepts in quality control. The association has approximately 100 members, representing virtually every pharmaceutical company in the mid-Atlantic region of the United States. The School of Health Sciences Alumni Affiliate Board will use the gift to provide scholarships to students who would not otherwise be able to pursue a career in the health sciences.

Back to business

Alumni may link their home pages to the School of Business Administration Alumni Web page and can, if they do not have another server, put a Home Page on the SBA server as long as they are a member of the Alumni Association.

For more information, call John Tower at (810) 370-3280 or e-mail him at tower@oakland.edu

OCAA board elects new officers

At its June 3 meeting, the Oakland University Alumni Association elected five new officers.

New officers include John Flick SECS '77, MS '81, chair; Marianne Fey CAS '80, vice chair; James Wilbert SBA '73, treasurer; Lynn Westfall Gross SBA '87, secretary; and Barbara Williams SEHS '66, MAT '80, immediate past chair.



John Flick
SECS '77, MS '81



Marianne Fey
CAS '80



James Wilbert
SBA '73



Lynn Westfall Gross
SBA '87



Barbara Williams
SEHS '66, MAT '80



In its 21st year, the Oakland University Alumni Association Golf Outing reached and exceeded its goal of raising \$4,000. Unfortunately no one scored a hole-in-one on the 17th hole, which would have been good for a car, courtesy of Saturn of Southfield.

Hole sponsors of the 1996 OCAA Golf Outing:

Alcoa Automotive Extrusion
The Baker Financial Group
Co-Op Optical Service, Inc.
Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P.
D.O.C. Optics Corporation
Ed Williams Agency
GMC Construction, Inc.
Honeywell Inc.
Hovinga Business Systems
Joe Lunghammer Chevrolet-Geo
Michigan National Bank
The Moore Financial Group, Inc.
NBD Bank
North Electric Supply Co.
Oakland University Branch-MSU Federal Credit Union
Pontiac Coffee Break, Inc.
Rockwell Automotive
Saturn of Southfield & Saturn North
T.K.M.S. Ltd.
TMP Associates
Todays Temporary
United American Freight Services, Inc.
Katke-Cousins Pro Shop
La Fontaine Pontiac
Oakland University Branch of MSU Federal Credit Union
Saturn of Southfield
OUAA

Career/Accomplishments

1990s

Melissa Bara SEHS '96

reigns as the Peach Queen of Michigan. The Peach Queen participated in the activities of the Michigan Peach Festival, and represents Romeo and the nearby peach growers throughout the year.

Erica Blake CAS '96 was hired full time as a staff writer for *The Oakland Press*.

Amy Falkenberg SON '92

married Stephen Dean Warner in May. Falkenberg is employed at Promina Cobb Hospital. She was expecting to receive a Master of Science degree in nursing from Georgia State University in

August. Warner is a systems engineer at MRJ Inc.

Brian Gregory CAS '90, the Pioneers' all-time assist leader, accepted an assistant coaching position at the University of Toledo. Gregory previously served as an assistant coach at Michigan State University. Gregory played basketball with "Mr. Robinson" — David Robinson — in the U.S. Navy for one year before transferring to Oakland. He joined MSU in 1990 as a graduate assistant.

Thomas Hendricks SEHS '90 graduated from Northwest Missouri State University this spring with a master's degree in business.

Evelyn Peter-Lawshe MAT '94 was featured in *Detroit*

Monthly as a "Wonder Tutor." She is president, Reading and Language Arts Centers, located in Birmingham, Livonia and Shelby Township.

James S. Prehn CAS '90

recently relocated to Berkeley, California, for graduate studies. He was a teacher at Walsh Jesuit High School in Ohio.

Sarah Smith Redmond SON '94

was appointed a member of the Advanced Planner Group — Personal Financial Advisors of American Express Financial Advisors, the nationwide financial planning and services company. Redmond is a personal financial adviser.

Peggy Stone Beeler CAS '91

is teaching swimming at Pontiac Northern High School and is working as a pre-professional librarian at Auburn Hills Public Library. She is also studying library science at Wayne State University.

Anita Taylor MA '92

was quoted recently in *Detroit Monthly* on the topic of self-indulgence as a singularly rewarding pursuit. Taylor has been a practicing psychologist for seven years in Birmingham.

1980s

Margaret Cooney Casey MA '82

has been named vice president for development, marketing and public affairs for Mission Health Corp. She will oversee the coordination of all Mission Health's philanthropic, marketing and public relations efforts.

Eva Marie Davis CAS '84

received an Emmy Award for the program *Straight Talk*, which she produces for WKBD UPN 50. She has worked at UPN 50 for almost 11 years.

Shaye Dillon CAS '86

completed her Ph.D. in Communications at Wayne State University and is leaving OU, where she has been a



REFUSING TO GIVE UP: Heidi VanArnem GS '89 created a foundation in 1991 to raise money for spinal cord research.

Alumna turns personal tragedy into national crusade

It seems only natural that Heidi VanArnem GS '89 has dedicated herself to helping people get to and from their destinations.

The 29-year-old president of Travel Headquarters agency in Birmingham can relate to the troubles with travel better than most.

At 16, she was accidentally shot by a friend's brother as he was playing with a gun. The bullet tore through her spinal column. She awoke in the hospital to be told she was paralyzed from the neck down.

"I felt like I was in hell," she says. "I would look in the mirror at myself and see nothing. My life was over."

Five months in a hospital bed and five years learning to move her right arm enough to feed herself and brush

her hair helped teach her to make peace with herself. And another important life lesson: She has much to offer.

VanArnem, a quadriplegic, has turned her personal tragedy into a national crusade to increase awareness of spinal cord injuries. She speaks to students about spinal cord injuries and, in 1991, she began the Heidi VanArnem Foundation to raise money for spinal cord research. Through fashion shows, golf tournaments and parties, the foundation has raised more than \$150,000.

More recently, she was awarded the first Evan Kemp Award, given by the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

"Now I look in the mirror and say 'God, my hair doesn't look good,'" she says. "But I'm comfortable with myself."

special lecturer, for a tenure track assistant professor position at the University of Pacific in California.

Gail DeGeorge CAS '81 is currently Miami bureau chief of *Business Week Magazine*.

Colette Dywasuk SBA '82 has been appointed Macomb County chief deputy clerk. Dywasuk previously served as the county's chief deputy registrar and has been treasurer of the Orion Township Library Board since 1992. In her new position, she oversees a staff of 60 people. Her responsibilities include supervising the Vital Records department, the Elections department, the Circuit Court department and the Jury Room for the county's Circuit and Probate courts.

Carol A. Friend GS '89 joined Howard & Howard Attorneys, P.C., Bloomfield Hills. Friend will concentrate her practice in labor and employment law.

Gregory Havrilcsak MA '89 was the only Michigan teacher selected to attend a three-week seminar in colonial studies. Two weeks were spent living and working in the birthplace and ancestral home of Robert E. Lee and one was spent attending classes at the University of Virginia.

Steven Hillier MBA '86 was appointed Facility Program leader of Ellis/Nacyaert/Genheimer Associates, a Troy-based architectural, engineering and planning company. A registered architect, he is a member of ENGA's facility management team.

Armen Kabodian SBA '83 wrote a book, titled *The Customer Is Always Right*, which was published by McGraw-Hill. Kabodian sent letters to more than 1,000 company presidents and CEOs nationwide detailing customer-service questions. Examples from the 153

responses are shared in his book. Kabodian believes his book defines how companies and institutions view customer satisfaction in a global marketplace that is constantly placing higher demands on quality and service.

Dr. Ara E. Kallibjian SHS '83 was appointed chief of podiatry at Parma General Hospital. Also, his wife, Dr. Mila Davidovic, gave birth to their first child, Adam Daniel Kallibjian, on May 10, 1996.

Cathy Slater MAT '80, formerly assistant principal of Algonquin Middle School in Algonac, was named principal of Indian Hills Elementary School in Romeo.

Anthony Tersigni MPA '83 was elected to the Board of Directors of the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce. The organization is the second largest of its kind in the country. He is president and CEO of St. John Health Systems.

Wendy Wendland CAS '89 has joined the *Detroit Free Press* as a staff writer. Wendland had been working at *The Flint Journal*.

Nancy Zimmerman CAS '83 is an archivist II for the California State Archives and was involved in the design of the recently established Sacramento facility of the Archives. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

1970s

Judith Boyer-Morris MA '79 has been elected vice president of the Michigan Community College Student Services Association. She will serve as president-elect for the 1997-98 year. Boyer-Morris, the dean of student services at St. Clair Community College, has been a board member since 1993. The association addresses legislative and

institutional needs of students to try to serve them better.

Frank Bunton MA '76, MBA '79, in 1994 was selected as one of the participants in an NEH Seminar on the Civil War and also as Orange Park High School Teacher of the Year.

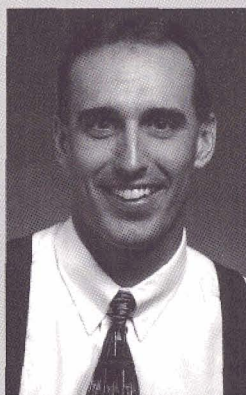
Helen Constan SEHS '74 has been hired as the new head branch librarian for the Okemos Branch Library. She has worked in the public library setting for many years, in both youth and adult services. Her most recent position was at the Lansing Public Library.

Robert A. Cooper CAS '73 succeeded James Wilkes as president of Ameritech. Cooper was previously the vice president of human

Burda ices Hurricanes' sports information director position

Bob Burda CAS '85 was just trying to do his job.

It was 1993, his second year as assistant sports information director at Florida State University, and his task was to get the top-rated football team on the field on time in front of a nationally televised audience.



LAST LAUGH: Bob Burda CAS'85 scores big with new job.

"We were running late so I point to my wristwatch to an assistant coach," he says. "Coach Bobby Bowden stops his speech and asks me if I had anything important to say. He ices me in front of the team. Everyone laughed. From then on, I was known as 'ice boy.'"

Burda, who earned a master's degree in marketing communications at FSU, has the last laugh. In June, he joined FSU's rival, the University of Miami, as sports information director. He still receives plenty of calls from his

former colleagues, though.

"It's a civil rivalry with a lot of similarities between the schools," he says. "It was a joy to work at FSU and I have a lot of good friends there."

Working closely with Bowden and top players such as Charlie Ward has taught Burda to be on guard at all times.

"Always prepare for the unexpected," he says. "This job is all in good fun. I have a passion for this. I get up every morning not to come to work but to enjoy what I love doing."

Even if that means responding to the call of "ice boy" every once in a while.

All the world's a classroom for Michigan Opera Theatre co-founder

Karen VanderKloot DiChiera GS '81 created a shopping list of career goals for herself as an Oakland University student.

Composer. Stage director. Educator.

And she created the stage to accomplish those goals when she

helped her former husband, David DiChiera, found the Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) in 1971.

MOT, which is restoring an old movie palace to be the Detroit Opera House, is celebrating its silver anniversary. The nationally acclaimed company has a mainstage repertory ranging from Mozart and Verdi to Sondheim while its Department of Community Programs tours the Midwest with one-act educational operas for children and full operas and Broadway revues for adults.

DiChiera, who is department director, has devoted herself to arts programs for all ages. One such program, Create-An-Opera, allows students to experiment in writing, composition, choreography and art, while creating original works.



DEVOTED: Karen VanderKloot GS '81 DiChiera has devoted herself to arts programs for all ages.

"My passion is to foster creators, performers, consumers and supporters of arts at any age," she says. "I educate people that art is part of everything we do."

With numerous arts and education awards to her credit, DiChiera has helped save and restore Detroit's Music Hall and Opera House and founded the Department of Community Programs at Michigan Opera Theatre and Opera Pacific, a sister company in Orange County, California. She also serves on the OU committee, Take a Seat, which seeks to physically improve Varner Hall and the studio theatre.

"My greatest success is yet to come," she says.

resources for Ameritech's cellular services division.

Cooper is a past OU President's Club member.

Tekla Dennison Miller MA '78

wrote a book, titled *The Warden Wore Pink*. The book offers a peek inside prison based on her 20 years of experience from being the first female probation officer for the Oakland County Circuit Court to becoming the first warden in Michigan to manage two maximum security facilities. Another first, her caseload as a probation officer included men.

Nancy Gast Morand CAS '72

recently worked on several major projects as a planner I for the City of Windsor Planning Department. She earned an MA degree in Geography and Planning at the University of Windsor.

Roy Gold CAS '73 was awarded a South Florida Eco Award for his environmental activism by XS, a regional magazine. His numerous environmental accomplishments include creating the citizen activist group Adopt-A-Mile. He has worked to prevent the overdevelopment of Coral Springs, where he lives with his family.

Fred W. Gottschalk SHS '70

was named executive director

of Head Waters

Land Conservancy.

He lives with his wife

Kathy and two sons

in Mio, Michigan.

Bernie Kent SBA '71

was promoted to

regional manager for

personal financial

planning at Coopers

& Lybrand.

Leonard Kniffel

SEHS '70 has been

appointed editor of

American Libraries,

the flagship

magazine of the

American Library

Association (ALA).

The four-color

monthly is the

official magazine of

ALA, with more than

113,780 readers in

public, school,

college, university

and special

institutional libraries.

Jean Martinez

McMasters BA '71,

MA '77, MA '82,

works as a

coordinator and

supervisor in a

hospice in

Pennsylvania.

Wayne Walli SECS

'71 was named

Milford Village's new

police chief in

August. Walli, who

previously served as captain of the Pontiac Police Department, replaces former chief John Daly, who retired in January. Walli served the Pontiac Police Department for more than 25 years.

June West SBA '79 has been

appointed press secretary for

Wayne County Executive

Edward McNamara and the

departments under his

jurisdiction. West was

previously marketing director

of the Suburban Mobility

Authority for Regional

Transportation (SMART).

West helped spearhead the

marketing campaign that led

to SMART's landslide victory

at the polls last November.

Cliff Wilkins CAS '77 owns

the Rochester Conservatory

of Music, which has recently

remodeled and expanded.

The conservatory currently

has 400 students, both adults

and children.

1960s

Katherine Lee Parrish

Dahlstrom CAS '67 has left

her visiting teaching

appointment in journalism to

join the staff of *The Oakland*

Press. Dahlstrom and her

husband Don created an

endowment in memory of

her son Craig Parrish, an OU

student who committed

suicide in June 1994.

Sondra Forsyth SEHS '64

has a dual career in

journalism and dance. She is

currently a contributing

editor and monthly

columnist for *Mademoiselle*,

and her byline appears

frequently in *Good*

Housekeeping, *Family Circle* and

Dance Magazine, as well as in

many other major

publications. She is also on

the ballet faculty of the

Young People's Program at

STEPS on Broadway.

Ira Lax CAS '69 is teaching

history and government in

the Brighton School District

and is on the board of the

Michigan Alternative

Education Organization,

which represents about 300 alternative high schools in Michigan.

Engagements/Weddings

1990s

Brad Asselin MBA '93 has announced his engagement to Katrina Bates. He owns and operates the House of Cars, and his fiancée is a registered nurse in obstetrics. They planned an August 24 wedding.

Jennifer Barrett GS '94 and **Patrick Goik CAS '90, MS '92** announced their engagement. They plan an August 10 wedding.

Katherine Brege MSN '94 and **Philip Biland SON '88, MSN '94** married in June in Gaylord.

Kelly Cashman CAS '94 announced her engagement to Andrew N. Grams. Andrew is a University of Detroit Mercy Law School graduate, and Kelly will be graduating from the same school in December. They plan a June 1997 wedding in Nashville, Tennessee.

Anissa Ann Duncan SBA '96 and Roland Henri Bertholet

Jr. were married in May in Mt. Clemens. She works for First of America Bank.

Patrick Eckhout SBA '93 has announced his engagement to Kristina Haut of Okemos. She is a graduate of both Michigan State University and the University of Michigan, and is a product engineer for Chrysler Corporation in Auburn Hills. He is employed as an accountant for Grant-Thornton in Southfield. A June 22 wedding is planned at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills.

Marl Finn SBA '96 announced her engagement to Gary Seek II. He is a Michigan State graduate, and is employed at Fieger, Fieger and Schwartz of Southfield. She is employed in the Human Resources Department at First of America Bank in Royal Oak. An August 1996 wedding was planned.

Jennifer Giardot '94 announced her engagement to J. David Fisher, a graduate of West Virginia University. A July 13 wedding was planned.

Margene Ann Johnston

CAS '90 announced her engagement to Jack Scott. She currently serves as a Madison Heights city councilwoman. He is a functional name analyst for the General Motors Corporation. Together, they recently organized a Random Acts of Kindness week for the city of Madison Heights. They planned to marry on September 8 at Addison Oaks.

Joe Joyce '94 married Jill Burt on June 29. Joe was recently appointed to lead engineer on Off-Highway/Small Engine Account for Farnum Sealing Systems in Troy.

Wendy Makar Puglia SHS '94 and **James C. Puglia SHS '93** wed recently. He is employed at Bi-County Hospital in Warren as a cryotechnologist and she is a medical technician at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. They make their home in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Ann McMillan GS '94 and Scott Baumgartner married in May.

Joelle Nault MAT '95 announced her engagement

If it fits, volunteer opportunity can be rewarding and great fun

Anella Baker SEHS '94 loves golf, entertaining and people.

So, naturally, she welcomed the opportunity to chair this year's 21st annual Alumni Association Golf Outing July 15.

The event was a success.

It drew 160 golfers, up 39 percent from the previous year, and a record number of hole sponsors (22). The event also raised more money than its goal of \$4,000.

"I loved it and I had a great time. This was a perfect fit for me," says Baker, an account manager for Siebe Fluid Systems, the Auburn Hills-based automotive supplier. "If you find a volunteer effort that coincides with your abilities and passion, it's worth pursuing."

Baker describes herself as a positive, outgoing person who enjoys having fun and working with her children and participating in their sporting events.

She says she enjoyed her time as a student at Oakland, especially the people she met while attending classes.

"I would recommend Oakland University to most people I know," she says. "The professors are excellent and the academic programs diverse. I found the quality of education was high and the staff helpful and courteous."



SWINGING FOR SUCCESS: Anella Baker SEHS '94 welcomed the opportunity to chair this year's OUAA golf outing.

to Craig Robinson. He is a University of Michigan graduate and an investment consultant with Everen Securities. She is a third-grade teacher at Novi Woods Elementary School. They planned an August wedding at the First Presbyterian Church in Northville.

Amy Singer SEHS '93 announced her engagement to Jeff Webb. She is employed as a registered nurse at William Beaumont Hospital. The groom, a graduate of Central Michigan University, is a teacher at Hudson Middle School. They planned to wed on August 3.

Cathryn Sornig SBA '94 married James K. Guest in May.

1980s

Tim Durand SECS '89 announced his engagement to Dana Gildersleeve. She is a Michigan State University graduate and is employed as an accountant with Coopers

& Lybrand. He is employed as an engineer at Loctite Corporation. They planned to wed in September.

Birth Announcements

1980s

Jane Abraham CAS '81, and husband Senator Spencer Abraham, announced the birth of their third child, Spencer Abraham, on September 5.

Christine Conzemius Proctor SBA '89 and husband Bob recently had a baby boy, Robert Steven Proctor Jr.

Sherri Loweke SBA '87 and her husband Richard announced the birth of their daughter, Rachel Erin Loweke. She was born May 18.

Susan McHenry-Bendel CAS '80 and her husband Dennis announced the birth of their child, Alanna McHenry-Bendel. She was born April 4.

Renea Morgan-Huth SEHS

'84 and Tracy Huth CAS '85 announce the birth of their second child, Chancellor A. Huth.

Death Notices

1990s

Oluwayemi Bain GS '95
June 25, 1996

1970s

David Chlubna CAS '75
June 11, 1996

The Rev. Ralph S. Hayse MA '75
May 15, 1996

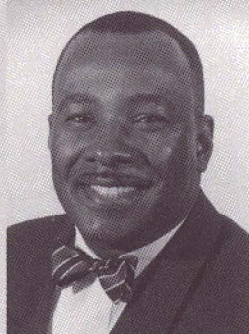
Joanna M. Linsalata CAS '70
May 28, 1996

Dolores Nieratka MA '75
March 27, 1995

John Schlee SBA '74
April 19, 1996

ABBREVIATION KEY

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



BUILDING BRIDGES: Robert Thornton CAS '77 says he is committed to the community

New Detroit manager takes proactive stance in the community

Love, poets say, makes the world go 'round.

But that's not the whole story.

That is if Robert Thornton CAS '77 has anything to say about it. The New Detroit manager for computer development and technical assistance believes cooperation and trust turns the earth on its axis.

"At New Detroit," he says, "we are always building bridges and are on the cutting edge of new initiatives. Our goal is to foster relationships that enhance and improve the social and cultural impact of this region."

Thornton, who earned Oakland's first Human Relations award in 1977, knows a thing or two about building. His career has been rising fast.

He became deputy director of the Detroit Pre-Employment Training Center and the Detroit Training and Placement Center in the early 1980s. From 1984-1987, he served as the employment services director for the Pontiac Area Urban League before joining New Detroit as director of economic development. Thornton is also expanding his talents outside the office. He plans to launch a new training and development company — Motivation Plus.

At New Detroit, Thornton helps community-based, nonprofit organizations empower themselves and raises money for summer youth programs.

"My biggest thrill is to work with block clubs and watch them become fiscally solvent and do great things in the community," he says.

Thornton's ultimate challenge, though, is to improve race relations.

"It is a challenge we are winning," he says. "We must move regions together. Inclusion is our goal. Diversity is our approach."

Dates to Remember

October 10, 1996

Hammerle Lecture
Dodge Hall of Engineering

December 16-20, 1996

OU Men's Division II
Basketball Tournament,
Las Vegas, Nevada

May 5-14, 1997

Alumni/Student
Paris and London Trip

Weekend of July 4, 1997

Chemistry Alumni Reunion

July 28, 1997

22nd Annual OUAA
Golf Outing
Katke-Cousins Golf Course

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Office of Alumni Relations
John Dodge House
Rochester, Michigan 48309-4401
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Maiden name _____

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City/State/ZIP _____

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Class _____

Major/degree _____

☐ I want to volunteer for the OUAA. I am interested in _____

Please call me.



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are you hoping to retire on it?*

The goal for a secure retirement is to have arranged for an after-tax income approaching that of your last working years. Then you won't have to lower your standard of living and your retirement years can be among the best in your life.

Surprisingly, a charitable gift to Oakland University may help you to achieve your retirement goals.

For information on all phases of retirement planning:

- accumulating for the future
- increasing your current retirement income
- disposition of your remaining funds

Contact Pam Acheson, Director of Planned Giving,
at (810) 370-4247 or acheson@oakland.edu





“But more than any other reason, I believe Oakland University will succeed because it has a plan for success.”

Keeping pace with Oakland University is a challenge

By Governor John Engler

Michigan is home to many outstanding educational institutions, but few of them can match the pace that Oakland University has kept over the last year, in which:

- School enrollment reached an all-time high;
- A new president was named;
- Oakland University Center-Birmingham opened its doors;
- Millions of dollars in construction continued to reshape the campus;
- OU's men's swimming and diving team won its third consecutive national championship, while the women's team placed second after five national titles in a row; and
- *U.S. News and World Report* ranked OU third in faculty resources and 23rd in academic reputation out of the 122 best midwestern regional colleges.

With each new semester, Oakland University is achieving a higher standard of excellence. And when it comes to what matters most — providing students with what they need to successfully enter the working world — OU does it as well as anyone. Statistics for the 1994-95 school year show 95 percent of Oakland students were employed within the first three months of graduation. That's compelling evidence as to why this school is so important to our state.

OU, like so many of its graduates, can expect a bright future. The university now has a permanent president in Gary D. Russi, who can apply his considerable leadership skills without reservation. Also, I was recently pleased to appoint three exceptional individuals to the Board of Trustees. Henry Baskin, Louis Grech-Cumbo and Dennis Pawley will provide wise counsel for this school as it enters the next millennium.

But more than any other reason, I believe Oakland University will succeed because it has a plan for success. The “Strategic Plan 1995-2005” is an ambitious blueprint for raising OU to even higher levels of excellence and prominence. Indeed, many of the nine strategies it implements are already achieving stellar results.

I congratulate OU on setting a pace for other universities to keep. Students, faculty and alumni should take pride in knowing that there has never been a better time to be a part of the Oakland University community.

Oakland University's Professional Theatre Company

MEADOW·BROOK T H E A T R E

1996-97 Season

Side-Splitting Comedy!

Beau Jest September 18 - October 27

by James Sherman

Side-Splitting Sequel!

Jest A Second! October 16 - November 17

by James Sherman

Holiday-Tradition

A Christmas Carol November 29 - December 29

by Charles Dickens

Spine-Tingling Ghost Story

The Woman in Black January 8 - February 2

by Stephen Mallatratt

Real-Life Drama

I Am A Man February 12 - March 9

by OyamO

Romantic Comedy/Mystery

Arcadia March 19 - April 13

by Tom Stoppard

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Call (810) 377-3300

Programs subject to change

ALUMNI DISCOUNTS

OAAA members receive a 20 percent discount on the purchase of one or two tickets.

Some restrictions apply.

People are already talking

Somerset Collection and Meadow Brook Hall Present

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This year Somerset Collection helps Meadow Brook Hall dress for the holidays.

Dazzling room vignettes by Somerset! Historic gowns from the hall!

The magnificent setting of OU's castle! Invite everyone you know!

Gala Black-tie Dinners December 5, 6, 7

810-370-3140

about the new Holiday Walk.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE

1996-97 Fall Season Events Calendar

Professional Artist's Series
Second City Touring Company
Sept. 27, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Concert Band Performance
"Home Opener"
Oct. 18, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Chamber Music Ensemble
Oct. 24, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

The Secret Garden
Book and Lyrics by Marsha Norman
Music by Lucy Simon
October 25, 26 and Nov. 1, 2, 8 and 9 - 8:00 p.m.
Oct. 27 and Nov. 3, 10 - 2:00 p.m.
Oct. 31 and Nov. 6 - 10:00 a.m.
Varner Studio Theatre

Professional Artist's Series
Eisenhower Dance Ensemble and
Dance Gallery: Peter Sparling & Co.
Nov. 1 and 2, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Oakland Chorale/University Chorus
Concert
Nov. 7, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Oakland University Jazz Ensemble
and Vocal Jazz Ensemble
Nov. 14, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Pontiac-Oakland Symphony
"Grieg-Garious Piano"
Nov. 17, 3:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

All In The Timing
by David Ives
Nov. 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 24, 2:00 p.m.
Varner Lab Theatre

Oakland Dance Theatre Concert
"Breaking New Ground"
Nov. 22 and 23, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Professional Artist's Series
Gregory Patterson in Concert
Nov. 24, 3:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Concert Band Performance
"Thanksgiving Eve Family Night"
Nov. 27, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

Meadow Brook Estate - "Holiday
Spectacular"
Dec. 5, 10:00 a.m.
Dec. 6 and 7, 8:00 p.m.
Dec. 8, 3:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Oakland University Community
Chorus and Orchestra
34th Annual Yuletide Concert
Dec. 13, 8:00 p.m. - Varner Recital Hall

For more information and tickets call the
Box Office at (810) 370-3013

Persons with disabilities who need special assistance may call the
Box Office in advance of the performance.



Rochester, Michigan

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