

The Oakland Sail

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Future of the Village - a plan of action

By Gail De George

"The Village Project will never be totally finished," says Tom Aston, coordinator of the project. Although this is true due to the ongoing revisions inherent in the Project, a strong sense of pride and accomplishment is apparent in anyone involved with it. Aston hopes to see the Village change and grow as students change; with each graduating class leaving behind a mark uniquely their own.

Plans for expansion will involve students from different organizations and backgrounds in addition to the Student Enterprise Theater which already produces plays in the upper level of the Barn.

Some of those plans in-

clude the building of a geodesic dome, a free-standing structure originally designed by R. Buckminster Fuller. The School of Engineering is estimating materials needed and projected costs as well as providing the blueprints. Tentative plans for a solar energy system have also been indicated, although exact details have not been worked out. Plans also include a Village mall, run by and for students, which would allow management majors a chance for practical application of skills learned. A student literary magazine, a coffeehouse or old style pub, and open-air market for student art exhibits, a center for guild trades and a Village Square as a park, are also

possibilities.

"I see it as providing a place for student-run creative enterprises as well as an alternative to the educational outlets at Oakland," said Annette Platt, who has just completed an internship for student enterprises. "But we don't want to appeal

strictly to students with a liberal arts or theater type background. The Village is for everyone."

"The biggest problems," she continued, "lie in communication and publicity. Communication with the administration as to needs such as lavatory (continued on page four)

Unresolved issues await Congressional action

The University Congress dealt with, but failed to resolve, several issues of continuing controversy at its meeting Sept. 14.

Under "Committee Reports" Al Watson, recently elected Concert Lecture Board Chairperson, announced the confirmation of a Nov. 14 lecture at OU by noted anthropologist Margaret Mead.

Watson proposed that he, as CLB Chairperson, be allowed to select CLB members to serve from Sept. 1977 through Sept. 1978. He criticized Congress' failure to re-elect Jim Shaffmaster to the CLB last spring after spending nearly \$500 to send him to a National Entertainment Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Congress expressed strong opposition to the idea of giving up their power to select CLB members but introduced no formal

motion on the point.

Four of six Congress vacancies were filled by the selection of Marie Brown (freshman), or ex-Congressman Gary Foster (Junior), Ken Konchel (freshman) and Anet Platt (Sophomore).

Congress members Maureen Flynn and Steve Quick were elected to fill two Steering Committee vacancies.

Ex-Congress member Lori Philo was selected as Student Activities Board Chairperson to replace

Torongeau, who was not at the meeting, said he will challenge the action by Congress. He claimed Congress, by removing him as SAB Chair, had disobeyed the constitutional requirement of an Ad Hoc committee hearing and a two-thirds vote of Congress in order to remove an SAB Chairperson from office.

Congress President (continued on page three)



TEN YEARS OF HARD WORK by the Students for the Village have transformed a dilapidated old storage barn (top photo) into the home of the SET theatre (bottom photo).

Trustees discuss growth

Addresses by vice-Chairperson of the board of Trustees David Lewis, vice-President and Provost Fred Oscar and University President Donald O'Dowd highlighted a special colloquium sponsored by the Board of Trustees September 14.

The colloquium brought together members of the Board of Trustees, administrative personnel and faculty for informal as well as formal discussion of important topics in the past and the future of the University.

Trustee Lewis, in a rare appearance before a faculty

and administrative assembly, related the University's present and future challenges to his personal experience an undergraduate at Oakland over a decade ago. He sighted important, though often humorous incidents which he felt gave him a unique perspective on the University.

Provost Obear concentrated his comments on the ever increasing financial and academic demands that are placed on the University. He also mentioned some exciting new areas being explored by the University in (continued on page two)

Feed-Back

Dear Editor:

I am appealing to the higher instincts of this newspaper to provide information to its readers that would be timely, informative and relative.

There is an information gap about professors at this university. Picking classes is an exercise in juggling open time slots with closed classes with little regard to who's teaching what.

Getting a good professor is a random stroke of luck.

Why hasn't the Sail started a reference file on the professors and made this information available to the student body? Are the professors so insecure that they couldn't handle such a review?

Jim McClure

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The Oakland Sail

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Colloquim

(continued from page one) educational tools like televised classes.

President O'Dowd delivered what amounted to a "State of the University" address. He reported that in the University's 19th academic year it was functioning with a budget of nearly \$23,000,000 and over 11,000 students. He emphasized the fact Oakland was gaining in enrollment and resources at a time when it is difficult for many universities to simply keep a constant level.

In President O'Dowd's view however, it is going to be progressively more difficult to maintain growth. He projects that in 1992 the number of students graduating from Michigan high schools will drop 30 to 35 per cent from the 1978 level.

"It's been a good summer and I think we have a good year ahead," said O'Dowd. "It is a time for optimism, but there are some clouds on the horizon."

Bomb threat at OC

A bomb threat was made last Saturday night during a WOUX disco dance held in the Crockery.

WOUX general manager Bob Sokoler said, "I was approached at the dance by a public safety officer who told me that a bomb was reported planted in the building and that everyone must be cleared out immediately."

A crowd of nearly 400 campus students stood outside in the 50 degree weather while police searched the Crockery. Police okayed the entrance back into the building after their forty-minute search.

Editor's Opinion

I covered a meeting of the chairpersons of various student organizations on Saturday, Sept. 10. They met to discuss the goals, problems, and purposes of their groups and of campus life in general.

The heads of Area Hall Council, Project Unity, Association of Black Students (ABS), GDI Society, and Intrepid Souls were present. Representatives from University Congress, Oakland Student Advisor Council (OSAC), and Tautological Society were also invited but did not attend.

The fact that no commuter-based organizations were present disturbed me. None of the groups that should be most involved with commuter representation saw fit to attend. As I tried to think of possible reasons for their absence, it occurred to me that commuter interest in many student organizations is far below what it should be.

Commuters outnumber residents by roughly a 4:1 ratio. By rights, commuter involvement in student organizations should correspond to that same ratio. However, the number of commuters with families, jobs or other responsibilities makes commuter involvement at a 4:1 ratio to resident students an unrealistic goal. Still, I believe that commuter involvement should still be far higher than resident involvement, and much higher than it is presently.

As a result of this lack of involvement, commuter interests are not adequately represented. For example, University Congress, as representative group for the whole student body, should primarily serve the interests of commuters. However, this is rarely the case.

An example of this is the athletic fee resolution which Congress unanimously passed. The fee benefits residents far more than commuters. How many commuters use the sports and recreation facilities between 10 and 11 p.m. and on Sundays?

Yet commuters provide the bulk of the financing. This is hardly an adequate representation of commuter interest.

Many commuters are very active in university life, but the percentage of the total commuter population is far too small. Resident students have achieved numerical parity in organizations from SET theater to the Sail. This is not due to any extraordinary resident participation, simply commuter inactivity.

Commuters have no one to blame but themselves for their inactivity and lack of representation. It is up to them to get involved; the opportunities are available in a seemingly endless variety of organizations.

I have heard people, both commuter and resident, complain about the lack of things to do and activities to get involved with here at OU.

I place primary blame on the commuter population. I believe if the same proportion of commuter students were involved as resident students, that this university would be a much better place to be.

Studies conducted on this campus by the Office for Institutional Research, have shown that the students who get involved in extracurricular activities are more likely to graduate and to have a favorable opinion about their education than students who simply attend classes.

And so to you uninvolved commuters, I challenge you you to get into this university, whatever your "thing" is, and to make OU a better place for yourselves and others.

It has been said that people "get out of things exactly what they put into them." I believe this is especially true of an education. And a college education can be so much more than books, lectures, and tests. Try it. Discover OU.

Mark Clausen

All signed letters to the editor of appropriate content and length will be considered for publication by the Oakland Sail. However, the Sail reserves the right to deny publication of any letter submitted.

Congress continued

(continued from page one)
Aaron Burnette may, if he desires, veto the Philo appointment.

The President has the constitutional right to appoint the SAB Chairperson, subject to Congressional approval. Philo was nominated by Congress without Burnette's recommendation.

An exact interpretation of Torongeau's position as "interim" SAB Chair will be needed before the question can be resolved.

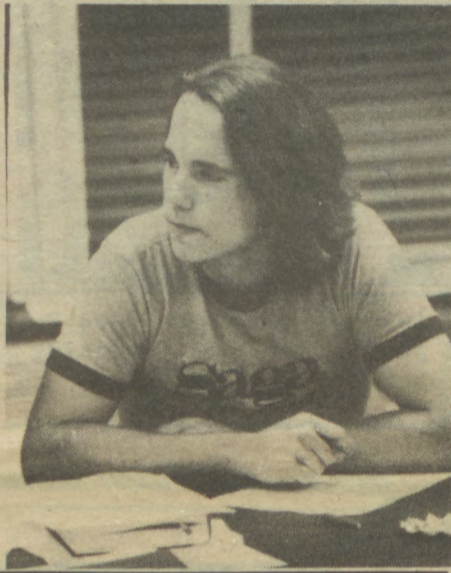
The by-law placing a two hour limit on meetings was suspended and the agenda altered so the Congress

a referendum last spring, negotiations have been going on between lawyers, administrators and Congress staff.

Most of the changes suggested by the lawyers and administrators were changes in wording.

Substantive changes, requiring the amendment process, were suggested in the areas of Congressional accountability for Student Activity fee monies, criteria for nominations to congressional seats and the power of Congress to take notice to actions by the University.

Congress decided to allow President Burnette and



Newly elected University Congress members, (above left,) Anet Platt, (above right,) Gary Foster, (below left,) Ken Konchel and (below right,) Marie Brown.



could deal with questions about the new Congressional Constitution.

Executive Assistant, Will Biddlingmeier, said he was planning to take the constitution to Dean of Student Life Jack Wilson September 15. The constitution would then be forwarded to Vice President for Student Affairs, Ken Coffman, Board of Trustees Secretary John DeCarlo, University President Donald O'Dowd and finally to the Board of Trustees for their approval.

Since student approval of the proposed constitution in

E.A. Biddlingmeier to try to persuade the Board to approve the Constitution without changes in "substantive" issues.

The Board may approve the constitution without approving the article it doesn't like. It may also reject the entire constitution and send it back to Congress.

The Congress meeting adjourned after three and one half hours of work. Four major motions were left unattended until the next meeting.

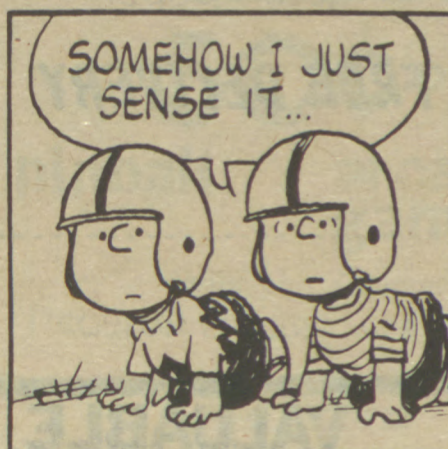
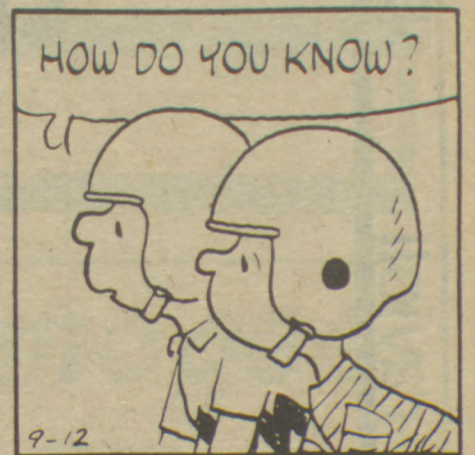
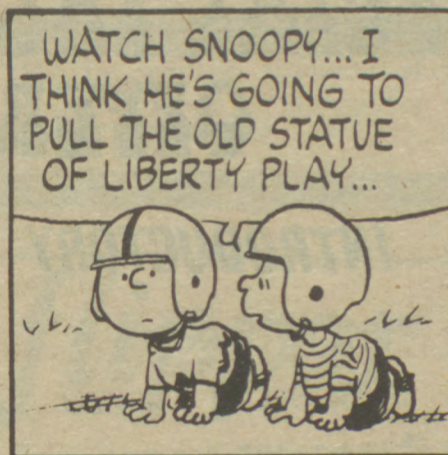
Faces in the crowd



KATHLEEN RANDOLPH is a senior human resource development manpower major concentrating in management. She is currently a student intern for the Department of Undergraduate Advising and Counseling. Kathleen is also the advisor for the Oakland Students Activities Council (OSAC) which was formerly known as the Freshman Advisory Council (FAC.) She will graduate in 1978.

PEANUTS®

by Charles M. Schulz



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