

The Oakland Observer

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Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

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OU art students Janet Crouse, Bonnie Jasinowski and William Pemberton paint their way to victory in the Paint a Javelin contest sponsored by American Motors Corp. at the Cars and Stars Auto Show. The Oakland team beat the University of Detroit in the popular voting contest using a yellow, orange and dark green design based on the word Javelin.

Brokensha Reaction Mixed

by Jeffrey Kulick

Last Monday the Jack Brokensha Jazz Quartet appeared in Wilson Auditorium. The performance was met with mixed audience reaction.

Some felt rather disappointed. This reviewer agreed that the group lacked some of the professional polish of certain other jazz groups, specifically the Dave Brubeck Quartet. However, what they lacked in polish they more than made up for in spontaneity and warmth.

A specific instance of the lack of polish was that the drummer Dick Riordan was a quarter of an hour late for the performance. This should not happen.

The spontaneity was demonstrated by the fact that Mr. Brokensha himself substituted for Riordan for the first number.

No member of the group, composed of Jack Brokensha on vibes, Bess Bonnier on piano, Dave Jordan on bass and Riordan, compares with the first rate musicians in their fields. The group must, however, be commended for their ability to work together. Special mention should also be given to Miss Ursula Walker's vocal selections.

There was also a certain amount of very poor preparation, exhibited by the fact that the mic-

As a sequel to the Placement Council hearing on military recruiting, held on November 21, a debate is planned for the week of December 13. The list of participants is not yet firmly established, but members of the administration, faculty and student body, as well as Marine Corps and Navy recruiters, have been invited. The format will provide for response and rebuttal, and will permit questioning from the audience. The date and time of the debate will be announced early next week.

rophone used was not adequately carrying the singing. Whoever was supposed to take care of this failed to do his job properly.

The concert was fun. One could feel the audience emote with the group. The warm spontaneous applause was only a slight indication of the empathy exhibited.

For those who were not there, you missed an evening of fun. For those who went and were not satisfied, you can always get a record and listen to it in your room. There is a fine collection in the library. For those of us who went and enjoyed ourselves, we know it was an evening well spent.

Non-existent Law Dealt by Strong

Three Oakland students were confronted by two members of the Public Safety Department at 3:35 a.m. on Wednesday, November 22.

The three, David Letvin, Jeff Zabner, and Ric Lutz, were challenged with what the officer quoted as a ruling of the Chancellor's that imposed a 2:00 a.m. general curfew on the entire campus which had been in effect since the beginning of the semester.

A check earlier that week with both Dean Dutton and Chancellor Varner had informed the students that no such policy indeed did or ever had existed.

Therefore the three refused to comply with the officer's demand that they either return to their residence hall or walk off campus.

He recorded their names and told them that they would be reported to the Dean in the morning.

When the students confronted Mr. Dutton and Mr. Varner, both administrators apologized and said that communication would be made with Tom Strong, director of the Public Safety, and that such an incident would not be repeated.

Atkinson Suppresses Data

No Preregistration!

Returning to Oakland, after an absence of 3 1/2 years, is an institution known as the standard registration procedure. This homecoming is, in part, conditioned by the uncertainty as to the courses that will be offered in the spring semester.

It has been difficult for all the academic departments to plan their course offerings for the winter semester until they are certain of what they will be able to offer students during the spring period, a memorandum from Provost O'Dowd stated. Mr. Atkinson added that his office is presently understaffed to handle any preregistration.

As it is currently planned, there will be no early or preregistration. Instead, registra-

tion will take place in the IM Building on January 2 and 3.

The Registrar's office has conveniently disjointed the alphabet into groups for student registration. The schedule for registering can be found in the new (Winter, 1968) class schedule.

Before a student can register, he or she must pick up an enrollment slip from the registrar and have his adviser sign it. The signed enrollment slip is the student's "ticket" for admission into the registration center.

With this system there is no upperclassmen priority for classes. According to the registrar, the scattered alphabetization takes into account the limited availability of class enrollment. With a few of each class

(fresh, soph, etc.) entering at the same time for registration, there will be no need for priority.

(Ed. Note - The editor and the reporter could not obtain

information concerning the new registration policies due to Mr. Atkinson's refusal to give information to a newspaper which he felt had a consistent policy of bad journalism.)

UFO Spotted By the Boys

A UFO was seen on the campus of Oakland University. This sighting was made by four of Oakland's die-hard card players Terry Brown, Bob Drake, Ric Lutz and Jeff Zabner, while on their way to Royal Oak. There were two similar sightings made during the following week.

The on campus sighting occurred on the Library drive. As the four were leaving campus, Terry Brown notices a bright light over the library in what was an otherwise black sky. The stars and moon were blotted out by the 2500 ft. cloud ceiling. Drake Lutz and Zabner began reciting "Star Light, Star Bright,..."

By the time the car finally ground to a halt in the wrong lane of the road and its four occupants had fallen out, the light had moved directly over the Science Building and seemed to be getting brighter. Someone yelled "To the Gatehouse!!" and the four jumped back into the car. As the car was turned around, the light stopped getting brighter and started to grow dimmer. It followed the movements of the car.

Two policemen were sitting in the police car as the four stopped and began pointing to the sky. With the six of them watching, the light remained over South Foundation Hall for a few seconds, disappeared, and reappeared for an instant, and then was gone for the night. "I see it, but I don't believe it!" was the comment of one of the officers.

Competition Opens

The Community Theatre Association -- Michigan (CTAM) is holding its annual one act play writing competition. Anyone interested in submitting his play in the competition for cash awards should contact Mrs. Fred Golden, 6795 Rickett Road, Brighton, Michigan, 48116 for further information. The entries must be submitted before February 15, 1968 for the Spring judging.

Senate Sets Rules

The University Senate has been hard at work determining procedural policy to govern itself for its initial year.

Last Tuesday the Senate met to consider necessary changes in the structure of the standing committees. Besides changing the membership specifications for three of the committees, the Senate also decided to change the name of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee to the Athletics Committee. The reason for the change has eluded the Observer.

Also approved at the last meeting was the membership for the ten (10) standing committees, which are, besides the Athletics Committee, the Academic Policy, Academic Standing and Honors, Admissions and Financial Aids, Faculty Affairs, Graduate Study, Library, Long-Range

Planning, Research and Student Publications Committee.

Two of the Senate's committees, Athletics and Student Publications, include two student members, each from the student body at large. To select these four an ad hoc student nominating committee was established by the Steering Committee. Members of the ad hoc committee are the Student Senators; Carol Juth (Chairwoman), Cindy Attwood, and Frank Richter; President of Dorm Council, Kit Tennyson; President of Commuter Council, Bob Simmer; and member of the Commission on Student Life, Art Colton.

Also established by the Senate was an ad hoc committee to deal with visitor policy. The Chairman is Mrs. Gertrude White.

Snow, Sleet, Slime-Bumpers Entwined; Papers On Time

Last Tuesday night, on the way to the printer's the "Observer" ran into Mrs. Jean H. Taylor. Mrs. Taylor, driving a blue 1961 Pontiac, pulled out into Hunter Ave., from a parking lot, directly into the path of a University car driven by an "Observer" staff member.

The "Observer" proved once again that neither rain, nor snow, nor women drivers can keep the "Observer" from coming out on Friday. The slight damage did not effect the driving condition of the car, so the paper went on to the printers after the Birmingham police had completed the accident report.

Notice

Sophomores! (28-56 credits) Plan to attend the Declaration of Major Day program on Monday, December 4, 1967. A general session will be held at 3:00 p.m. in the Wilson Hall Theatre, at which time information concerning career research related to choosing a major will be discussed. Also at the 3:00 p.m. meeting Mr. Willard Cheek, a member of the Educational Relations staff of General Motors Corporation, will speak on the topic, "The Privilege to Pursue."

At 4:00 p.m., departmental meetings will be held so that individuals can find out about specifics concerning various majors and the procedure for applying for major standing.

The Oakland Observer | Editorials

The opinions expressed in this column are the opinions of the paper. They are not necessarily the views of the university, faculty or other students. Signed columns are the personal opinions of the authors.

A Liberal College?

Two surveys by the Vandenberg house council have served to bring to light once again a problem of the Oakland resident student that will get more severe and insistent upon solution in the near future: the university maintains a policy of co-educational relationship control which is both worthless and highly conservative if not downright reactionary.

The most recent survey shows 75% of the residents demanding a more liberal open house policy than is now maintained. This indicates a clear-cut need for reevaluation of position with intent to liberalize. It also suggests some of the same problems which have been arising in the past few years; specifically, who has, and should have the right and/or authority to make decisions regarding non-academic matters within the university?

Let us first consider the immediate problem at hand. The basic arguments traditionally given for the status quo's position are: 1) the need for privacy by residents - some students want to study; 2) security problems -- men might attack women, or vice versa; 3) the university has no responsibility to aid in the provision of social activities for its residents; 4) adverse public reaction to the option of students engaging in sexual conduct; 5) the university must act in loco parentis for its students because they are mere children who should be kept under lock and key at all times.

None of these can really hold much water under even very light scrutiny. Residents can leave their doors open or shut at their pleasure, and have the option of inviting or not inviting visitors to their rooms as they see fit. Experience with the elimination of hours for upper class women has demonstrated that no great security problem exists either from students or otherwise. Men and women have always attacked each other in cars, in motel rooms, in the fields, in the lounges, so why not in the privacy of their own rooms? If the university has no place in providing social activities for its students, then surely it has no place in limiting them either. The public has lost little or no respect for another, and more significant, state university in Michigan which has initiated extended open house policy. There is no reason to believe that such problems would arise from Oakland's indulging in such a policy change. A parent would not send his child away from home to go to school if he did not have a good deal of confidence in his offspring's ability to main-

tain himself under most conditions, and to make his own decisions.

The problem of "student power" may be dealt with easily. The students most certainly have at least some voice in the formulation of housing regulations, especially in light of the remarkable liberal and commendable university position concerning student voices in other forms of decision making. Students decide upon academic policy, upon allocation of their funds, but are denied the power to control their immediate living situations. If three-quarters of the residents demand change, then change should and must be made if we claim any relationship with the democratic process. Surely three-quarters of the students did not vote for the elected officers or the Wilson Memorial, but this overwhelming majority has voiced a needed policy change. The university must heed such a voice.

The Chancellor has stated that the dormitory rooms are to be considered, for all practical purposes, as hotel rooms. Privacy will be maintained but for the case of imminent danger to the community at large, such as fire in a room, etc. However, he also feels that the university should regulate the morality and social lives of its residents, especially in the dormitories. This is somehow internally inconsistent. If the university will not enter a room without a warrant, then surely it cannot profess to retain the authority to control who may or may not be in that room.

The University of Michigan now has 24 hour "open-opens" in many of its men's residence halls and is moving toward the same or similar policies in the other halls. These decisions are being made by the residents of those halls. A similar policy at Oakland is not at all unfeasible, especially considering the complete lack of any sort of off campus community in terms of a city or facility. Oakland's presently active policy, however, does not even make provision for coeducationally inhabitable lounge facilities past the freshman curfew hour for any of its students.

It would appear that we are a true and close blood relative of the backwoods land grant college which so adequately serves the protestant ethic. This, however, is not the road toward an existence as a great university.

Popular opinion calls for social change. Let the university have the courage to meet such a relatively simple and basic demand. It could be the road to a twentieth century school.

From the Orient Lee E. Hines

The lack of Chinese culture in Hong Kong is disappointing, but not surprising. The commercialism of Hong Kong would be oppressive, if the city weren't so beautiful. I find the people here very difficult to get to know, even though I am tutoring a Chinese girl, Theresa Huang, in English while she tutors me in Mandarin. Her family fled from Peking in 1949 - Mr. Huang, her father, was a professor of law at Peking University. He also headed the political science department at a university in Nanking. He is very old now and he teaches English at a private college here in Hong Kong.

A few days ago Mr. Buote, Mike Honey, and I climbed a

mountain near Sha Tin to see the temple and some of us started climbing the nearby hills. There is an extremely high hill in the vicinity called Lion's Peak. Mr. Buote, Mike, and I hiked off in the direction of it. After an hour and a half of strenuous huffing and puffing, we reached the top. At that time the weather changed and it began to rain. The wind seemed to be about 80 miles an hour and the three of us were drenched as we began the long, torturous route down the mountain. We spent over an hour groping around on slippery rocks in what appeared to be a typhoon, only to find ourselves magnificently lost. Mike fell and cut his hand. Finally, after following a few false paths,

we emerged triumphant in the middle of a Chinese graveyard. Naturally, there was a funeral going on and the mourners stood around under umbrellas. Can you imagine the surprise at seeing three wet Americans emerge from the Graveyard? It was absolutely ludicrous.

Finally, a peasant woman took us into her home, gave us hot water to drink, and bandaged Mike's bleeding hand. Then her husband came, gave us umbrellas, and walked us to the train station. We said goodbye and rode back to Kowloon cold, wet, and happy that we'd conquered Lion's Peak. Such is education at Oakland U. in Hong Kong.

Letters to the Editor

Ask an Authority

To the Editor:

In reference to the scintillating article of Nov. 17, "Wynns Gets Off" -- from one who knows a little more about it than the author. First, I find that the article is in keeping with the normal "Observer style" - draw your own conclusions. Second, since I was the student - secretary in question, I would like to assure anyone interested that the Dean of Students did NOT save the day for the poor, harassed, student in question. Perhaps it is Mr. Dutton's policy to do or say anything which would keep him in a pleasant light with the students on this campus. I was not pressured into the decision to drop charges by any office, much less by the Dean of Students. In addition, I was assured several times, by several parties, that no one was to pressure me in any way.

Yes, this incident was an outrage. If any student, faculty member, administrator, factory worker, police officer, etc., barges into any office and harasses anyone in that office, whether it be verbally or otherwise, then that is an outrage. Most of us learn common decency before we enter kindergarten. If there are people on this campus who choose to ignore that training, then anyone has the right to see that the laws of the State of Michigan and the ordinances of Oakland University are invoked to punish such an offender

E. Magone #5747

Registration Farce

To the Editor:

Regarding the proposed registration fiasco scheduled for January, I feel I must air my objections. Being a veteran, I am opposed to standing in line in the first place. But as a student who is trying to make up for "lost time" I cannot advocate "mob registration." My reasons being that when I registered in September (as a transfer student) I saw the results of mob registration - three out of four of my chosen classes were closed. I foresee exactly the same situation in

January (except maybe the first hundred people in line.)

Those of us trying to take advantage of Oakland's much-touted tri-semester plan will be summarily shot down (like trying to fly a doghouse, Red Baron) if we have to make last minute schedule changes in line. I hold this view due to the fact that when one is being jostled, hurried and driven through a line, like so many sheep through the pens, one is not likely to consider all the consequences in choosing a last minute alternate class. We are all, no doubt, aware of the rather limited choice of scheduled classes offered in the summer term. If we should happen, for the sake of expediency, to pick a class that would be better suited to use as a fill-in for the summer term, while the class or classes we may have missed out on won't even be available during the summer, I expect many of us will be up the proverbial waterway with no visible means of propulsion.

This also smacks of discrimination against commuters. The dorm students have only to walk across the street and get in line, while the commuter has to awaken and leave early enough to get to school before the rush, which generally packs the parking lots to overflowing in a matter of minutes. So, for the commuter, it is a matter of timing. If he miscalculates the opposition (the other commuters,) gets caught in traffic, or is just a few minutes late for any reason, he may find himself at the end of the line. It is these poor saps (probably the last 1000 or so people) at the end of the line who will be the recipients of the "Oakland Shaft."

Nick Weber (a commuter)

Discuss Issues?

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, November 20, perhaps, for the first time in Oakland's history, the three major segments of the community assembled to discuss a major campus issue.

The action was initiated by 138 students and faculty, who had

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Students, Faculty Show Interest in Oakland's Problems

Discuss Issues?

(Continued from Page Two)

petitioned for a revision of the University's recruiting policy. It is encouraging to see that the democratic tradition -- concern for the consent of the governed -- still prevails on the Oakland campus.

The original petitioners, while making a relatively minor demand of not allowing Army and Navy recruiters on campus, raised a number of fundamental issues, with others, will have to deal sooner or later. These issues are: (a) what is the role of the University and how is it related to the society? (b) what are the obligations of the University to society? and (c) who should participate in the decision making process of the University?

Although Provost O'Dowd and Dean Matthews must be complimented for their fairness in conducting these hearings, much remains to be done to satisfy the ideals of an academic community. Perhaps some reflections on the events of Tuesday will help us make a better plan for the future.

Indeed, the opening statement of Provost O'Dowd was most fair. However, many of us feel that the organization of the hearings did not follow the same spirit. For example, the hearings were limited to the issue of recruiting on campus, which prevented the discussion of more basic issues, of which recruiting is only one manifestation. We regret that some of the speakers were allowed to spend their time on the topic of freedom of speech. It will be recalled that the Provost had clearly stated that freedom of speech

and the speakers' policy were not the issue under discussion. Why, we wonder, was permission not given for the discussion of more relevant issues, like those mentioned above?

We also feel that it was unjust of the Placement Committee to assume the role of a tribunal. It appears that the committee was acting as a vested interest group. This became apparent with the fact that by far the largest number of questions were directed towards those who opposed the recruiters presence on campus. As far as we can recall, only Provost O'Dowd expressed, through his questions, an interest in clarifying the total picture.

We note further that the structure of the hearings led one to believe that the committee was an impartial party in the discussion. But, the content of the questions of certain members exhibited a certain predisposition towards the issue. It would have been more democratic if a representative of the committee would have expressed its point of view in front of a truly impartial body.

We feel that a discussion limited only to minor issues, like recruiting, will not yield meaningful results. We urge that the total university community be involved in further discussion of those major issues which confront our institution.

Saghir Ahmad
Douglas Kavanaugh

Council Condemned

To the Editor:

At last Tuesday's Placement Council hearing I was not permitted to complete my remarks,

although I had stated clearly in my request to speak, submitted before the Council's arbitrary decision to limit the scope of the hearing, that I would be concerned with the second of the two issues raised, by the anti-Navy petition. This was the issue of Student-faculty non-participation in the campus decision-making process.

When an institution exists without built-in provisions for securing the consent of the individuals affected by its policies, one may infer either that the institution is governed by malevolent, self-seeking men, or that its constituency is so uninformed and immature that it cannot be invested with decision-making power.

I am not willing to admit that either of these conditions exist on this campus; but the fact is that Oakland faculty and, to a greater degree, students, are impotent to control the institution of which they constitute the two indispensable parts: teachers and learners.

Logically the students and faculty should be allied in the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, and together should be served by the administration. Instead, the learners are divided from the teachers, and both are ruled by the administrators.

An excellent example of student-faculty impotence was revealed in the Placement Council hearing. The University policy of permitting military and other recruiting on campus was instituted without general discussion several years ago, because no campus group had questioned the propriety of military recruiting,

and the administration, probably quite correctly, assumed that community consent existed. The petition of November 1, however, raised the issue of propriety, and indicated that such consent may no longer exist. Provost O'Dowd accepted the petition and recognized the validity and currency of the issues raised. Less good faith was displayed by the Placement Council, which rejected the possibility of a moratorium on military recruiting until a decision could be reached. Apparently lack of explicit student-faculty consent to the presence of the military was not a matter of concern for the Council. The Council as a whole, unlike Provost O'Dowd and Dean Matthews, does not seem willing to deal seriously with the petitioners.

The hearing was a fraud if it purported to sample community opinion on the issues raised in the petition, because an informed public opinion can exist only after a period of intense discussion and debate, both oral and in print. The hearing was further fraudulent if, as was the case, the testimony elicited, the purported community opinion sampled, had no binding effect whatever on the decision of the Placement Council, which itself established the procedure and format of the hearing, chose the speakers, and retained for itself all decision-making power. The hearing was a sham, intended, I believe, to create the illusion of a democratic process and to mollify dissenters, thereby avoiding "trouble" and disruptive debate.

Only a free, binding, campus wide referendum, participated in by an informed student body and faculty, voting on equal terms, can produce a legitimate resolution of the issues raised by the petitioners. We request that machinery be created for such an election, and that the administration, in dealing with these issues, manifest as much good faith and seriousness in the future as it has courtesy in the past.

William Rotsel

All Should Speak

To the Editor:

The Fitzgerald House Council condemns the action of the petitioners attempting to limit recruiting on the Oakland campus.

A self-appointed minority cannot dictate to the rest of the students to whom they may or may not speak. If an individual wants to work for an organization which is in any way unsuitable in the eyes of some, he still must have the right to speak as easily to this organization as if it were a more popular, more suitable organization. The limiting of facilities for one group over another casts a psychological shadow over the unpopular group; the necessity of going elsewhere to contact this group by interested students is obviously an unnecessary waste of time and money and can by no means be considered democratic.

Recruiting is essentially a service to the students provided by the university. Student interest in the organization is the only criteria for legitimacy of recruiting. Regardless of the protestations of the more vocal minority there will be students who want to contact an "unpopular" recruiter. To tell the student he can or cannot see a recruiter because the morality of his organization is suspect is in effect creating a double standard and is automatically assuming that the morality of the decision making body is superior to the recruiter's. The question of equality between group A and group B is an arbitrary point better left to the individual student.

If you play a game, you must let everyone play, even the ones you dislike, otherwise it is censorship. In a democracy does anyone, including the petitioners, have the right to say, "I censor you in the name of freedom of speech?"

Fitzgerald House Council
November 20, 1967

arts

Theatre:

Hilberry Theatre: Wayne State University presents "Flea," Dec. 1, 8:30 p.m.; Dec. 2, 8:30 p.m. "Dream."

Meadowbrook Theatre: "John Gabriel Borkman," Nov. 10-Dec. 10, 8:30 p.m.

Night Life:

Off Campus Dec. 1, 9-1:00 a.m., Folk singer Pete Bowen.

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