



Thursday, September 20, 2001

## OU Heart Walk takes off Saturday

By **Jennifer Charney**, OU Staff Writer

Participants coming to Oakland University for the nation's largest Heart Walk on Saturday, September 22, will see the **American Heart Association** (AHA) present \$250,000 to victims of last week's terrorist attack.

During the opening ceremony, the AHA will present the check to the **9-11 Disaster Fund** of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

OU is hosting the walk for the third consecutive year to help in the fight against heart disease and stroke. This year, the event is expected to attract 17,000 walkers and raise \$1.6 million for heart disease and stroke research and education.

More than 100 Oakland students and employees are volunteering their services at the event.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. at the **Meadow Brook Music Festival** site. The walk begins immediately after the opening ceremonies, which start at 9 a.m.

The walk, for people of all ages, includes entertainment and educational activities along the route. Dogs are not allowed on the walk.

"Oakland University is proud to host this event on our campus for the third year in a row. This is an exciting event to raise awareness about the devastating effects of heart disease and stroke," says **OU President Gary D. Russi**. "There are very few people who have not been touched in one way or another by these diseases."

For more information or for directions, contact the **American Heart Association** at (248) 827-4214.

### SUMMARY

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