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# The Oakland Post

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Oakland University, Rochester, MI  
ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN

## Miller stable but critical

Junior removed from  
respirator; remains in  
coma, intensive care

By CAROL ZITO  
Editor in chief

James Miller, the 22-year-old sophomore critically injured in the same automobile accident that killed junior Gregory Marris Nov. 18, is listed in critical but stable condition at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, according to James' father, Robert Miller.

"He is off the life support," Miller said, however, "he is in a coma."

"Unofficially, (the coma) is lightening up. He's been showing signs the last few days; he's fighting it," Miller said.

Miller said James' mother, Pamela, and his aunt, Becky Gilbertson, have been staying at the hospital's hotel, the Med Inn, all along. He and James' sister, Barbara, have been visiting regularly.

"It's always good to have somebody there to help him when he coughs," Miller said. James had pneumonia once and has come down with it again, he said.

"Also, it helps to have someone holding his hand and trying to communicate with him."

See MILLER page 3

## Bookin'



The lines went to the back wall at the OU Book Center Thursday as students returned to classes and began purchasing books. These patient shoppers finally made it to the front.  
The Oakland Post / Tom Voytas

## Lopez appeal dismissed but questioned

By L. VILLAROSA-BOLTON  
Staff Editor

A program specialist dismissed in May 1989, lost her appeal to return to the Ken Morris Labor Center on Dec. 21, after the final phase of a five-step grievance process for OU employee personnel that has since come into question itself.

After two days of hearing testimony from both sides, a written opinion issued by the five-member appeal board stated that in the case of Irene Lopez, who was dismissed for taking an unauthorized medical leave, termination "while legal, was excessive."

The appeal board, headed by Andrea Lindell, the dean of the School of Nursing, also ruled that the university had the right to withhold the sick benefits that Lopez had filed for.

In addition to addressing the specifics of Lopez's case, the statement expressed the board's concerns about the management of the matter and the current inadequacies of the grievance process.

Lopez, 58, began filing grievances of sexual harassment at the Labor Center in October 1988, and was eventually denied a request for a 30-day medical leave that was based on emotional stress.

After receiving notice of the board's decision, Lopez stated that her attorney is preparing to file a lawsuit against the university, sexual harassment.

Lopez maintains that her dismissal, and the subsequent transfer of her former office assistant, Kathleen Ford, was a direct result of grievances they had both filed charging "The men were protecting themselves, so they got rid of the women they saw as trouble," Lopez said.

Lopez was also involved in a lawsuit charging the university with wage discrimination based on gender that was still pending at the time of her termination. The suit was dismissed when her former lawyer, Jeffrey Mallon, removed himself from the case on Nov. 13. Lopez said

she had planned on resuming the suit after her appeal for reinstatement was decided.

During testimony that began on Dec. 19, her new attorney, Deborah Tonelli, said that Lopez was told by her supervisor that if her job was too stressful, she should "just stay at home." Tonelli stated that Lopez was also accused of asking for a fraudulent sick leave when she submitted a note from her therapist stating that she was unable to work due to depression.

During her testimony, Lopez tearfully stated that after months of severe job-related stress she felt "suicidal."

Robert Verduynde, the attorney representing OU at the hearing, said that when Lopez presented a one-line statement from her therapist, the university required that she be examined by an independent doctor.

The doctor, recommended by OU clinical psychologist, Robert Fink, found that Lopez was fit to work. When she did not return to work on May 18, she was treated as "a voluntary quit" and terminated without further sick pay, according to Verduynde.

He said the hearings were to determine whether the university had "the right to hold back sick pay and did the university have the reasonable belief to consider this a volunteer leave."

Despite the agreement to limit the hearing to these matters, each side addressed several conflicts that had occurred at the Labor Center involving Lopez and other members of the center, including director David Cooper.

In an effort to explain the circumstances that lead to her depression, Lopez and her attorney raised issues such as the sexual harassment grievances, alleged racial slurs, public embarrassment and slow handling of complaints.

An internal investigation into some of these incidents was held on April 14; however, according to

See LABOR page 3

## Custodian confesses to taking \$4,000 in goods

By HEIDI JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

An Oakland Center custodian admitted to taking more than \$4,000 in university property from the OC during a span several years after he was arrested Dec. 7 for taking Marriott food from the OC, according to Public Safety senior investigator Mel Gilroy.

Mike Carritti, 28, pleaded not guilty during his arraignment at 52-3 district court in Rochester, Dec. 8, to a charge of larceny from a building. He was released on \$2500 personal bond.

While on patrol, Dec. 6 at 11 p.m., OU public safety officer Brian Munson noticed Carritti carrying a large box to his truck parked at the

Oakland Center loading dock. According to the report Munson filed with public safety, Carritti returned to the building and came out again carrying two different boxes.

Munson waited and returned to the building finding the first box containing bulk food that Marriott employee Michelle Salomon later estimated to be worth \$108.

Munson pulled Carritti over on his way out of the university that evening for having improper plates and asked him what he was carrying in the first box. Carritti said he did not know what the officer was talking about. Munson then cited Carritti for having an expired license and impounded his truck.

Public safety obtained a warrant and arrested Carritti at his home on

Dec. 7. Carritti was and confessed during interviews to the theft the night before as well as many other thefts during the past several years.

Public safety obtained a warrant to search Carritti's mother's house and Carritti consented to having his house searched.

During the searches on Dec. 8 public safety found a Macintosh computer and printer taken from the University Student Congress office last year, camera equipment taken from *The Oakland Post* in 1986 as well as various pieces of university furniture including pictures taken from J.W.'s last year.

Other items Carritti admitted to stealing included a Sanyo cassette radio and in two separate occasions he said he stole a total of \$120 in cash

from the University Congress office. A VCR with the serial numbers burned off was also found in Carritti's house but Carritti said he bought it from an unidentified man.

"Munson did a hell of a job," detective Gilroy said of Munson's investigation and action to arrest Carritti.

Gilroy said it was a very significant arrest since it has closed eight OU larceny cases.

Carritti will have a hearing in Oakland County Circuit Court although no date has been set.

Jim VanWyck, supervisor of building maintenance in the OC, said he didn't really suspect much.

"I trust everybody I've got. You hate to think that someone you work with would steal from you," he said.

## Dean Horwitz to resign

Committee meets today to begin search for replacement to head School of Business

By KYLE GREEN  
Staff Writer

Ronald Horwitz, dean of the School of Business Administration, announced his resigning in December from his position effective Jan. 1, 1991.

"You don't stay 12 years on the job if you don't enjoy it, unless you are crazy in which I might be?" Horwitz stated.

He emphasizes that the main reason for leaving is to go back to teaching and have more time for his health care research.

"I view it as a promotion instead of a demotion," the 51-year-old Horwitz explained. "I miss the contact with the students."

"Usually the (students) you see in this office are the students in trouble or the other extreme, the ones who are really good. You miss the ones in the middle," Horwitz said.

In the past Horwitz has taught classes during fall terms, however he would rather go back to teaching

full time.

Although the committee has a year to find a replacement for Dean Horwitz, it isn't wasting any time.

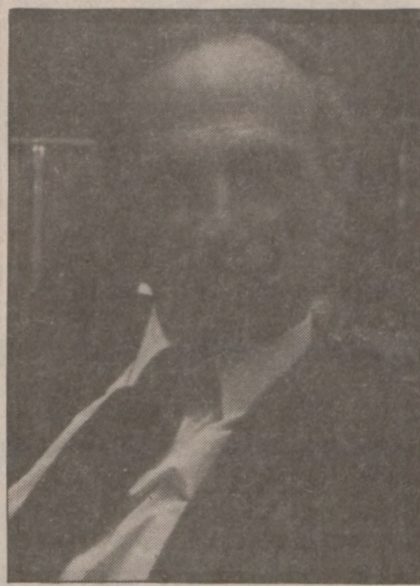
"I would like to have a new dean in place when Dean Horwitz resigns. The timeline is short. We are going to get a lot of stuff done as soon as possible," Elizabeth Barclay, chairwoman of the department of management and marketing who is heading the ten-member committee, said.

The committee, consisting of members of the administration, school of business faculty and an alumni association representative, is meeting for the first time today.

Barclay said she knows the committee has a difficult job ahead of them and that there is competition with other universities who are also looking for deans.

"We (the committee) need to show that Oakland is a good place to come to," she said.

Barclay said the committee is looking for someone who will be committed to their job, not only



The Oakland Post / Tom Voytas  
Ronald Horwitz, dean of the School of Business Administration, will resign his position in January of 1991.

worried about the years and the money in their contract.

"I'd rather have a dynamic person who did a lot for the school in five years than someone who does nothing for 20 years," Barclay said.

The new dean's responsibilities include dealing with the faculty, budget management, curriculum approval, fund raising and dealing with the outside world.

See DEAN page 3

## Greek awards planned in Marris' honor

By CAROL ZITO  
Editor in chief

When Robert Marris opened his front door for the state police on a Saturday morning last November, his life and that of his family were forever changed when the officers told him that his son, Gregory, was dead.

Marris was told that his 21-year-old son, an OU junior and Theta Chi member, was killed in an automobile accident on northbound Inter-

state 75 when the pickup truck he was riding in slammed into the back of a semi truck.

Marris would learn later that Greg and the driver, James Miller, a 22-year-old sophomore, had been drinking.

"There is no way to describe the feeling of having the state police come to your door and tell you your son is dead," Marris said.

Now all that's left, he says, is to help prevent this kind of tragedy from happening to other parents.

For that reason, Marris and his wife, Irene, decided to create an honorarium in their son's name to provide incentives to students to be responsible.

"I'm hopeful that it can be a meaningful thing to remember my son by," Marris said.

The Gregory R. Marris Awards for Greek Excellence are four awards designed to reward students in Greek organizations for their contributions to the community and to the

See MARRS page 3

## Registration changes cause confusion

By CANDI SCHWARK  
Staff Writer

Several hundred OU students hoped to begin a new year free of hassles, but didn't get their wish when they tried to register or buy books on January 2.

Many students were following the calendar in the 1989-90 University catalog and did not hear of the schedule change announced in June 1989.

According to a memo issued to 44

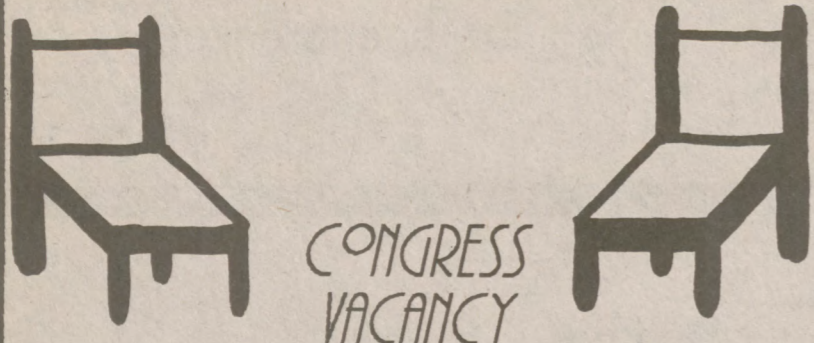
university offices and seven deans by Priscilla Hildum, assistant to the provost, the calendar was revised because of "... a belated recognition that agreements with two employee groups require Tuesday, January 2, to be a university holiday."

The Oakland University and UAW/CT Local 1925 contract states in Article XIX, No. 154, "If Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 fall on Monday, that Monday and the following Tuesday will be observed as paid holidays.

The new schedule was printed correctly in the Winter schedule.

According to Bill Marshall, director Oakland Center, several hundred students came to the center on the second to register or buy books. Somehow the scheduled changes were not communicated to the students, he said.

Adding answering machines to the university's general information number and to CIPO will help during future holiday periods, he said.



## CONGRESS VACANCY

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS HAS ONE SEAT TO BE FILLED AT ITS WEEKLY MEETING.

JOIN US TONIGHT AND EVERY MONDAY AT 5:15 IN THE OAKLAND ROOM.

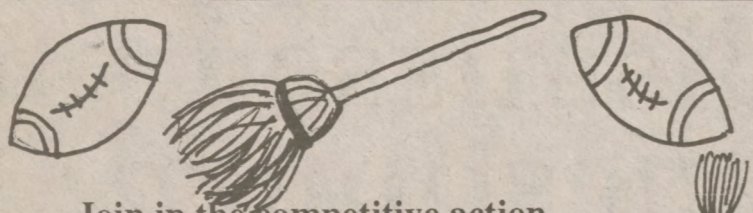
*Congratulations to this years recipient of the OUSC Community Service Award*  
**LISA TAYLOR**



January 12 & 14  
Can women and men be friends without becoming lovers? Find out what Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan think in the romantic comedy.

\* All movies are shown at SPB Dodge Cinema in 201 Dodge Hall. Times are 7 & 9:30pm on Fridays, and 7pm on Sundays. Admission is \$1.50.

*When Harry Met Sally*



Join in the competitive action of the 1990...

## WINTER CARNIVAL

...for a blizzard of excitement on January 15 thru January 19.

Get a team together! Organize a team of...

- Friends...
- Floor Members...
- Greeks...
- Clubs...
- Anybody!

Prizes to be awarded for teams who excel in the various events. Points are also available to the teams who sponsor - but do not participate in the individual events.

Events include...

- SNOW FOOTBALL
  - TUG OF WAR
  - SNOW WIFFLEBALL
  - OBSTACLE COURSE
  - FOUR MILE RELAY
  - SNOW SHOE / FLIPPER RACE
  - SNOW BROMBALL
- Sign up in CIPO now!!!

Welcome Back!

The 1990 Winter Semester is here. It's time once again for classes, homework and bills.

The University Student Congress is ready to help you in any way possible. Whether it's by bringing you the Student Book Fair or the Student Discount Card - we're here for you!

The Student Program Board of OUSC is ready to take your mind off school. With mega-hit movies like "Batman" or stars like A.J. Jamal, SPB guarantees a good time.

Call us at 370-4290 or visit 19 O.C.

Best Wishes,

University Student Congress  
and  
Student Program Board

THE  
*Lecture/Special Events*  
COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS

## SPIRIT WEEK

### OU FACT DAY

Check out the banner in the Fireside Lounge and find out some new and interesting facts about OU. If you would like to add something just let us know in writing and we will make the additions. The banner will be hanging from 10am-2pm.  
January 15

### OU FIGHT SONG COMPETITION

Submit your great ideas for an OU Fight Song/Chant in CIPO Jan. 8-Jan. 15. Songs will be performed in the Fireside Lounge at noon and a prize awarded for the best one. The song will be used at the Pep Rally Jan. 17, and will be eligible for adoption as the Official OU Fight Song. (Music will not be provided.) Go down in OU history with the new fight song!  
January 16

### PEP RALLY

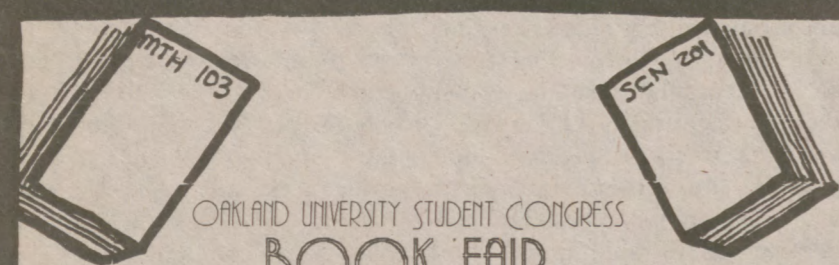
Come out to cheer on your OU Basketball team before the big Ferris State Game the next day. Hear the new OU Fight Song and get fired up for OU. For more information on how to get fired up visit the Student Organization Day in the Crockery from 10am-2pm.  
January 17

### OU SPIRIT DAY

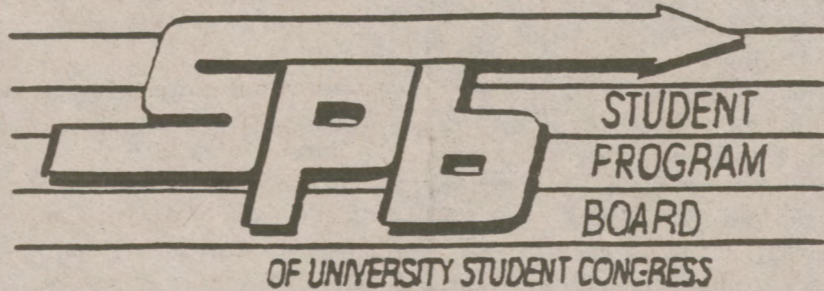
Wear your favorite OU clothes or school colors today. Get your face painted in Lepley before the Ferris State game and cheer them on with style!  
January 18

### SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Bring all of your favorite friends to the Fireside Lounge to watch the football game. Munchies provided. Be there from 4pm-10pm to cheer on your team and have a great time!  
January 21



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS  
**BOOK FAIR**  
THE LOW COST ALTERNATIVE TO THE BOOKSTORE  
JANUARY 4  
THRU  
JANUARY 10  
IN THE OAKLAND CENTER - ROOM 125  
9AM - 6PM



THE *Lecture/Special Events* COMMITTEE

Regrets that the Henry Cisneros Lecture has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control.

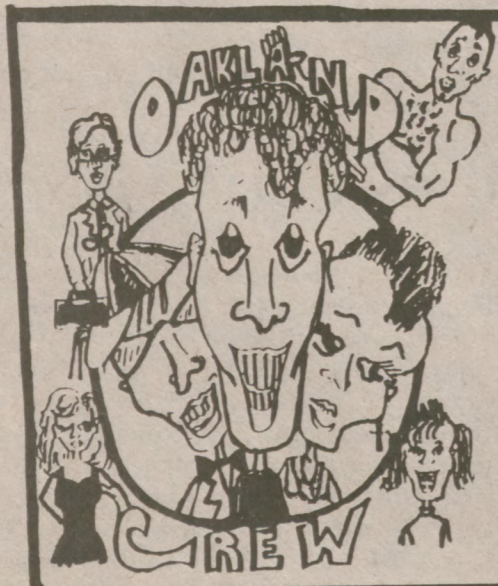
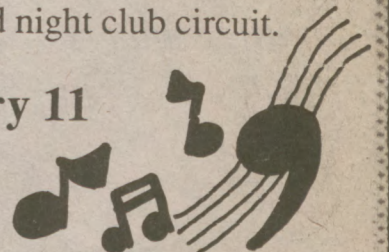


## ACME

Vocals

This dynamic 5-member acappella singing group combines rich sounding, creatively arranged songs with a comic flair that make them a hit on the comedy and night club circuit.

January 11



## O.U. Student Congress

### Book Fair

9am-6pm

The low cost alternative to the bookstore...

January 4 thru January 10  
in the O.C., Room #125.

