

Welcome Week

special edition

The OAKLAND POST

Weekly campus newspaper serving The Oakland University community

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Award-winning independent newspaper THE OAKLAND SAIL, INC.

FAST facts

• OU ranks in top tier of Midwest universities.

U.S. News & World Report ranks OU among the Best Regional Schools in the year 2000 edition of its guide, *America's Best Colleges*, and ranks OU among the ten best public universities in the region.

U.S. News ranks OU 31 out of 133 Midwest regional universities.

The rankings are based on academic reputation, graduation, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

• Egyptians want to collaborate on OU high-tech control projects.

The Egyptian Cultural and Educational Bureau (EEB) is funding the cost of prototype development and Internet connections between OU, other Michigan sites, and Cairo.

Researchers from OU's School of Engineering and Computer Science have been awarded three \$3,500 grants, one for each project.

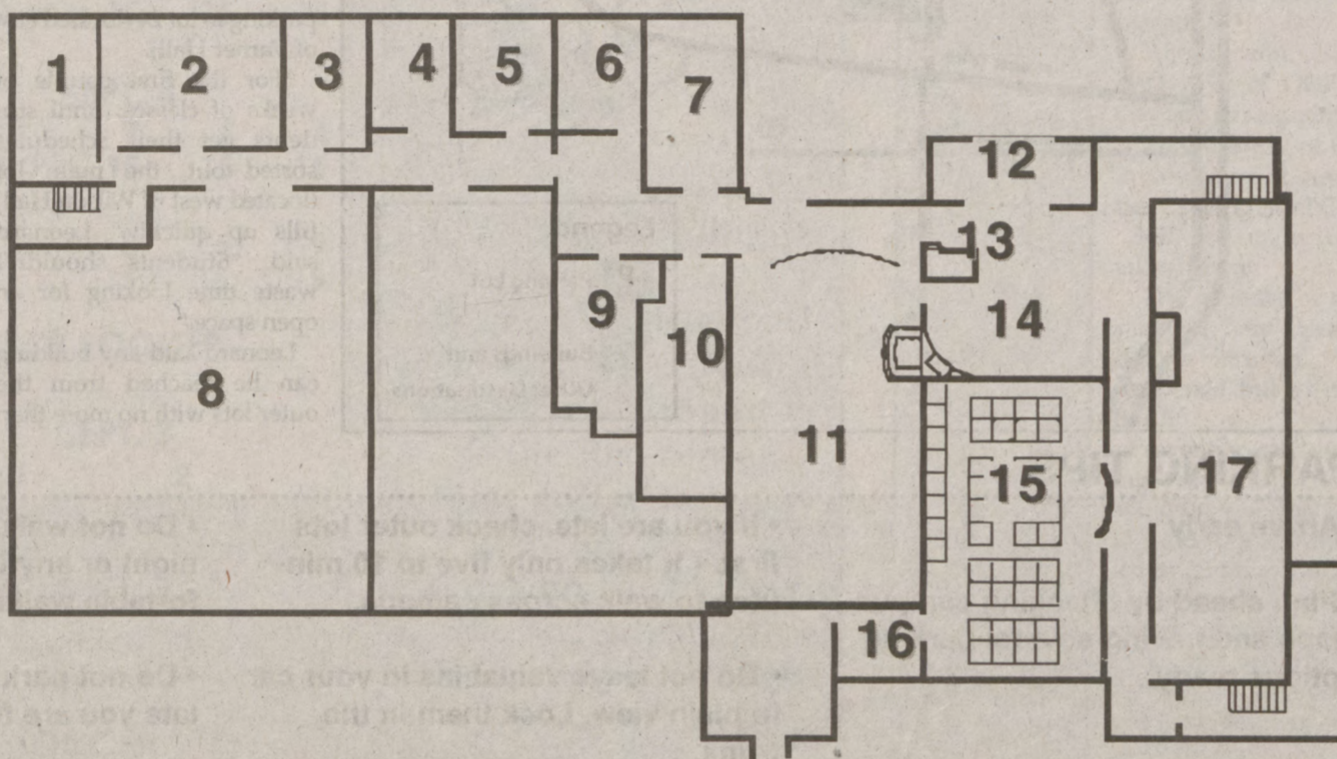
The projects include a walking robot, a digital stabilizer control system, and an automotive braking control system.

• OU celebrates Hispanic culture.

OU will mark National Hispanic Heritage Month with its annual Hispanic Celebration Sept. 20-24, concluding with a reception on Oct. 7. OU faculty, staff, students and the public are invited to enjoy and learn about Hispanic culture at many events, which are free of charge. Hispanic Heritage Lunch specials will be served Sept. 20-23 in Pioneers Court's Center Stage in the OC. For more information call Office of Admissions at (248) 370-3364.

Books, Beats & Eats

The renovated lower level of the Oakland Center caters to the different lifestyles of today's OU students



- 1 - LAKE MICHIGAN ROOM
- 2 - LAKE SUPERIOR ROOM
- 3 - LAKE HURON ROOM
- 4 - WOMEN'S RESTROOM
- 5 - MEN'S RESTROOM
- 6 - STUDENT PROGRAM BOARD
- 7 - UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS
- 8 - OU BOOKSTORE
- 9 - 88.3 WXOU RADIO STATION
- 10 - THE OAKLAND POST
- 11 - "BUMPER" GAMES ROOM
- 12 - STUDY LOUNGE
- 13 - PRETZEL LOGIC
- 14 - T.V. ROOM
- 15 - STUDENT ORGS OFFICE COMPLEX
- 16 - ASSOCIATION OF BLACK STUDENTS

"There's no place like...
The Oakland Center"

Wednesday, September 8

10A.M. - 10P.M.

Free use of pool tables, table tennis & video games - **OC GAMES ROOM.**

Guess the number of sports items in a bottle - **OC GAMES ROOM.**

10A.M. - 2P.M.

Billiards trick artist - **OC GAMES ROOM.**

11A.M. - 2P.M.

Free "Pretzel logics" samples - **Pretzel logic, OC.**

NOON - 1P.M.

Meet and greet "sports celebrity" - **OC GAMES ROOM.**

V.I.P. Tournament

- **OC GAMES ROOM.**

Book buying goes online

The Internet offers college students cheaper options when buying textbooks

By Shajan Kay
OF THE OAKLAND POST

Number of online bookstores have reared their heads in the past year, and are providing steep competition for the traditional bookstores.

If you are suffering from sticker shock after going to check out the prices of your textbooks this year, there are now some reasonable alternatives that you can take advantage of.

Two Internet-based book sellers

have been advertising heavily here at Oakland for your textbook dollars. You may have noticed them, they are Varsitybooks.com and Textbooks.com.

Both online bookstores advertise deep discounts in their prices. In doing a random comparison of their prices to Oakland's Bookstore, operated by Wallace's, it was found that all the prices from the online bookstores were lower than OU's bookstore. The difference in price ranged anywhere from \$20 to \$5.

Textbooks.com seemed to have the

lowest prices of the three. They also sell used books as well as new, and as an added bonus, they will also tell you if they'll buy the book back and what they'll pay you for it.

To order from either online book seller you will need the ISBN numbers of the books you are buying. That number is usually on the back cover of the book. It takes three business days to receive your order at a cost of \$4.95 for shipping and handling.

OU Bookstore

French 114-Rendez-Vous: An Invitation to French (with cassette, workbook and lab book included) **PRICE: \$120.50**

Physics 151-Principles of Physics: **PRICE: \$108.00**

Accounting 200-Financial Accounting: **PRICE: \$90.75**

PT 577-Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy: **PRICE: \$50.00**

Varsitybooks.com

French 114-Rendez-Vous: An Invitation to French (with cassette, workbook, and lab book included) **PRICE: \$104.67**

Physics 151-Principles of Physics: **PRICE: \$101.58**

Accounting 200-Financial Accounting: **PRICE: \$82.11**

PT 577-Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy: **PRICE: \$46.25**

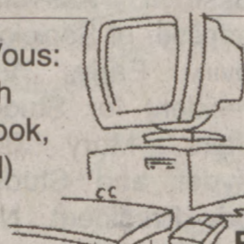
Textbooks.com

French 114-Rendez-Vous (price reflects a used book price of \$46.90 for the actual textbook) **PRICE: \$88.15**

Physics 151-Principles of Physics: (New Textbook) **PRICE: \$91.80**

Accounting 200-Financial Accounting: **PRICE: \$81.70**

PT 577-Differential Diagnosis in Physical Therapy: **PRICE: \$45.00**



inside

Life 3
Sports 3

CT contract talks 'disappointing'

By Shajan Kay
OF THE OAKLAND POST

University bargainers are working under the threat of a strike by 250 secretaries, office assistants and lab technicians who have been working since June 30 under a contract extension. Late last month, the Clerical and Technical Union, UAW Local 1925, passed a strike authorization vote by a margin of 160-20.

Major stumbling issues are salary and proposed changes to benefits including health care, sources told The Post.

According to Suzanne Russell, chapter president, the union is "disappointed" with the slow pace of the negotiations for a new three year contract.

The strike authorization vote gives the Union's bargaining team the ability to tell OU that its members are ready to strike. When that happens, OU has ten days to reach an agreement with the union or face a walk out.

The Union still needs to seek the permission of its International Union in

order to go on strike. If the secretaries leave, phones, mail, and much of the day to day operations of the university will come to an abrupt halt with administrators filling in and department heads forced to answer their own phones, sort their own mail, etc.

The CTs are also the only large segment of the OU community currently trained on the new Banner system.

Bill Kendall, Assistant Vice-President for Employee Relations, is the chief negotiator for OU, seemed optimistic that a contract could be reached without a strike.

The two sides are still bargaining and if an impasse occurs, either side can request the help of a mediator to resolve issues.

In contract negotiations in 1996, the CTs faced a similar struggle with OU.

Issues debated then are haunting negotiations now including the hiring of employees who perform CT job duties but are outside the union.

During the dispute, CT members picketed a Board of Trustees meeting.