

The Oakland Observer

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Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

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Milestone Reached

Editors Announce Manuscripts Used

Oakland University has reached another milestone in its growth as an academic institution. Today, Professor Casstevens announced officially that the university has "put to press" its first scholarly review.

The publication, entitled simply enough, the Oakland Review, will be available to students early in the winter semester for a nominal charge of under one dollar.

Of twenty manuscripts submitted, only five were finally accepted for publication. The editors of the journal are Mr. Casstevens, of the Political Science Dept; Robert Williamson of Physics; and Gertrude White of English. They said that all of the manuscripts submitted were of fine quality, but many had to be

rejected either because they assumed too much of the reader, or because revisions had to be made.

The articles were written by four Oakland undergraduates: Fred Pearson (who is now a grad student at Michigan), Ruth Brocane, Cynthia Sowers and Owen Poterfield; and one graduate student, Elenor Covault.

All of the papers were written by people in Humanities and English. The editors of the journal are hopeful that there will be articles by science and mathematics students in the next issue.

Manuscripts for the next edition of the Oakland Review are now being accepted by the editors. It is hoped that the journal will be published each academic year.



The Observer staff would like to extend its gratitude to the Allocations and Control Board, as well as to Dean Thomas Dutton, without whose financial and moral support, this issue could not have been printed.

Dutton Wants Solutions To O.U. Problem

A random group of students met recently with Dean of Students Thomas Dutton concerning the inter-racial atmosphere on Oakland's campus.

Dean Dutton was basically concerned with the Motown Dance incident and its ramifications among Oakland students. The discussion of this incident went to the higher plan of human relations, communications, and the unawareness on Oakland's campus. Since that first meeting, in which there was a heated discourse on Caucasian unawareness versus Negro hyper-awareness, more positive programs to combat the former's mental block have been projected.

The Human Relation Council feels it can be an influential educative force through the use of seminars, lectures and dorm meetings to help rectify past unfamiliarity with the Negro and other minority cultures.

Although the Council has a wide range of interests, it is currently concerned with Negro-Caucasian relations on campus.

Letvin Resigns; Editor Named

Janet Crouse was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the Observer last Wednesday by the Senate publications committee, replacing David Letvin. Letvin had submitted his letter of resignation in late November, effective at the end of this semester.

He is resigning because of conflicts between his academic work and his job as editor.

Miss Crouse had been serving this semester as Managing Editor.

Students Organize On Open Housing

A group of OU students have banded together in the hopes of instilling in the Oakland community a feeling of urgency regarding the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1967.

In order to reinforce their efforts, the group has established an Open Housing Headquarters in the Oakland Center, which will be open until December 8.

Although this group claims to be completely independent of any other campus organization, it asks the support of these other groups, and all interested students, through letters of endorsement.

The group sees the headquarters as meeting a three-fold

objective: 1) making the entire university community aware of the reality of racial discrimination, 2) informing them about House Bill No. 2035, the Michigan Fair Housing Act of 1967, and 3) initiating a letter writing campaign to State Representatives and Senators indicating attitudes toward the passage of the bill, either pro or con.

The headquarters is providing printed matter on Open Housing, including a copy of Bill No. 2035 and other pertinent information, and is showing two movies, All the Way Home, and Integration and the Price of Housing, all free of charge.

Soch Survey Starts

The research project of the Oakland Sociology Department came closer to completion as students went out into the field to begin interviewing.

The attitude and opinion survey is directed by Carleton Smith. The students in Sociology 303, assisted by volunteers from UCO58, have been carrying out the various stages of the project.

Beginning last September the students in SOC 303 made a random sampling of dwelling units in Pontiac. The first step was to number all the blocks in Pontiac and randomly select a number of blocks which would be covered in the survey. From here the students went out and listed all the dwelling units (houses, apartments) on the selected blocks.

A second sample was drawn of the dwelling units where interviewers were to go. Each interviewer goes out with the 35 page questionnaire and directions for determining which of the adults in the dwelling unit to interview. Hopefully he returns with the answers to the 210 questions.

The questions themselves were developed by each student as part of an individual research project, on which a paper will be written. Topics include Vietnam, racial prejudice, political preference, and a wide range of other controversial topics.

Over 400 residents of Pontiac will eventually be interviewed. Through a high level of organization, Smith hopes to complete the interviewing in two weeks. A large map in his office indicates each block in the sample, and a record of student's schedules allows him to maintain a maximum efficiency in getting interview-

ers to the subjects to be interviewed.

To lessen the burden on the Soc. 303 students, Smith has gotten volunteers from his UCO58 class to assist in the interviewing. Each of these students is supervised by one of the Soc. 303 students.

Smith has previously directed similar projects at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. These projects have resulted in several published and unpublished papers. The Pontiac study will provide information on the residents of the city, and give the students a practical knowledge of research methods in Sociology.

Baroque Concert; Bearcats to Wail

The Baroque Bearcats, Oakland's notorious faculty-student-friend instrumental ensemble which specializes in out of the way pre-baroque and baroque chamber music, will present its annual concert for the Oakland student body on Thursday, December 14 at a location yet to be disclosed.

Norman Susskind, the ring-leader and administrative mind behind the group, feels that "this year's concert will be better than never."

The following evening, in the IM building, the University Chorus and Orchestra will present their gala annual pre-Christmas program. The featured work will be the Magnificat by Alan Hovhaness, conducted by John Dovoras, director of the Oakland singers and chorus.

McNamara Resigns Post; Successor Still Unknown

Washington D.C. - Again a political move is made that will be questioned for years to come.

Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense, resigned his job last week to become President of the World Bank.

President Lyndon Johnson had previously suggested McNamara for the job.

The World Bank is a U.N. organization which lends development capital to poor nations.

A major question is why McNamara left his job. He had been Secretary of Defense longer than any other man in history. It is possible that he is the first to go in a general housecleaning, to give the administration a new look before the 1968 election.

A few names have been offered as possible successors to McNamara's position.

Texas Governor John Connally was reported to have been offered the job earlier this fall. Connally has said that he will not seek election next fall.

McNamara's favorite choice seems to be Cyrus Vance, the man LBJ sent to Detroit to watch

the riots. Vance, a New York lawyer, held top posts in the Defense Department for six and one half years before quitting last June. He is still troubleshooter for LBJ, spending this past week in Cyprus.

Another top contender appears to be Washington lawyer Clark Clifford, who (along with Justice Abe Fortas) is one of LBJ's top confidants.

Clifford drafted the act in 1947 which unified the services and set up the office of Secretary of Defense.

The other major contender, is General Maxwell Taylor. Taylor, a friend of both Johnson and McNamara, is also supported by Robert Kennedy, and that may be just enough for LBJ to scratch him off his list.

We're thinking ahead to the best Big Sister Program ever. AWS is now accepting applications for the chairmanship of this committee. Applications are available in Dean Houtz's office until December 15.

IF YOUR CLASS MEETS:

- 8:00 a.m. Mon., Dec. 18, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- 9:00 a.m. Sat., Dec. 16, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 10:00-11:00 a.m.-MWF Mon., Dec. 18, 12:00-3:00 p.m.
- 10:00-12:00 a.m.-TTh Tues., Dec. 19, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- 11:00 a.m. Tues., Dec. 19, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 12:00 a.m. Mon., Dec. 18, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- 1:00-2:00 p.m.-MWF Tues., Dec. 19, 12:00-3:00 p.m.
- 1:00-3:00 p.m.-TTh Wed., Dec. 20, 12:00-3:00 p.m.
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. Sat., Dec. 16, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Wed., Dec. 20, 3:30-6:30 p.m.
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Wed., Dec. 20, 8:00-11:00 a.m.

IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN:

- Modern Foreign Language . . . Sat., Dec. 16, 12:00-3:00 p.m.

The Oakland Observer

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.

Editorials

Editor's Last Reflections

Editing the Observer has provided me with the opportunity to learn much about the operation of the university. One of the things which I have observed I feel obliged to relate.

I approached many people this semester with the explicit intent of finding answers to the many questions that have been raised in the paper. Some of these were members of the university administration. And what I found in many cases, was most disconcerting.

Decisions are made and acted upon, but often no one is willing to take on the responsibilities that go with making those decisions. It would seem that with authority comes responsibility, but often this second factor is not squarely shouldered.

Although the administration has been, on the whole, very helpful and considerate in dealing with us, now and then the smoke screen goes up, and no one will put himself on the line; no one will chance it himself.

Some of the things that I've been told inspired me to compile a sort of collage of answers and things which indicate the kind of decision making that sometimes goes on here at Oakland.

Chancellor: Well . . . after conferences with the Dean, the Provost and Mr. Strong, we have decided to put the decision up to a committee made up of hand-picked faculty members.

Chairman of Committee: Well . . . the Chancellor asked us to make recommendations, but said that what we choose will be considered only as an advisory opinion.

Member of Committee: You see . . . the committee was split and undecided so we flipped a coin, but I can't tell you how it turned out.

Official memorandum: "The university has

decided to instigate a program of . . ."

Chairman of Committee: Our decision was rendered only after long and careful deliberation about all of the aspects of the problem under consideration, and we are almost prepared to stake our professional reputations on it, but refuse to let anyone know our names because we are now up for tenure consideration. Anyways, it was only a suggestion that we made . . .

Provost: Yes, I took the suggestion of my subordinates, who are professional in such matters.

Registrar: I have fun doing my job, but it was my superior who decided what must be done; besides, I don't have any money.

Chancellor: There should be no problem from the business office. This is strictly an academic matter, and the decision has been left up to . . .

Memorandum: "It is officially declared that whereas all matters . . ."

Chancellor: But of course, ultimately all decisions lie in the hand of the Trustees. I am able to exercise only that power which they delegate to me. And their power comes from that great supernatural force, the people of Michigan.

So, everyone plays his own little game and decisions are somehow made. The only problem is that no one -- absolutely no one -- is ready to take an ounce of responsibility on his shoulders. And thus no one can be criticized. The whipping boy becomes the looming monolithic "administration."

David Letvin

"He must go by another way who would escape this wilderness, for that mad beast that fleers before you there, suffers no man to pass."

Dante, "Inferno," canto iii

Resignation

David Leaves

The end of this semester brings me to act upon a decision which I made some time ago, that being to resign my position as editor of the Observer. This was a difficult choice for me to make; the newspaper office is an exciting place to work, and the editorship has been often very gratifying to me.

Much criticism has been directed my way this semester; this I accept gratefully -- I am glad to see that people have been reading the Observer. Many compliments have also been directed to me; these I accept modestly as a representative of the entire staff.

That which has been good in the paper must be attributed to the devotion and competence of those who have worked with me. That which has been bad is my responsibility and mine alone. To those who have stayed with the paper all semester, I express my deepest and most sincere gratitude and appreciation. I also thank the others who have helped out on a periodic basis.

To the readers of this paper I owe an explanation of my resignation. My purpose, my primary purpose, here at Oakland is that of being a student; and being a student requires full time concentrated effort at academic work. Nothing can be allowed to come between this responsibility to myself and my student activities. However, a newspaper which meets several deadlines a week, and requires many hours spent in conference and discussion each week, stands in direct contrast with this approach to work. My academics have taken a beating this semester, and this cannot happen again. Further speculation on my leaving will be most fruitless. No pressures to leave have been applied by anyone; I am resigning because of reasons which must ultimately be considered highly personal.

It has been a pleasure serving the Oakland community. I am only sorry that I cannot reconcile continuing to do so with myself. To my readers I thank you and bid you goodbye.

David Letvin

McCarthy Will Run

Last week the senior Senator from Minnesota, Eugene J. McCarthy, walked into the Senate Caucus Room and announced that he would challenge President Lyndon Baines Johnson, for the 1968 Presidential nomination in at least four state primaries.

Eugene McCarthy is a "dove." He is running because, as a man of conscience, he feels there is a question in the political scene that must be taken from the legislative caucuses and placed before the American public for the good of the nation. "If no one runs," he stated, "then you will have people who will stop participating in our political process, you will have Democrats voting Republican, you will have third-party movements, you will have continuing futile protests."

There are four things that can happen.

McCarthy could be defeated badly and only succeed in giving Johnson more confidence; he may beat the President enough to get the Democratic nomination but divide the party so badly that only the Republicans benefit; he may force Johnson to step down, but in favor of Robert Kennedy, not Eugene McCarthy, or he might just win.

The Observer hopes that McCarthy succeeds in vocalizing American public opinion on Vietnam.

Housing Endorsed

The following letter was submitted to the Headquarters for Open Housing on December 6.

Dear Sirs:

As the representative of the editorial staff of the Observer, the student newspaper of Oakland University at Rochester, Michigan, I am pleased to inform you that we, both as individuals and as the newspaper itself, place our whole-hearted support behind the bill supporting open housing in the state of Michigan.

David Letvin, Editor-in chief, the Oakland Observer.

New Committees Leading Nowhere

A short time ago Greg Willhinganz defined student leaders as "students whose primary leadership quality is that they can lead themselves into believing they have followers." The latest effort of these students has been the formation of an ad-hoc student government committee, to finally give Oakland a unified student bureaucracy.

The students have responded to this committee to end all Committees by a massive wave of silence. The "student leaders" will probably retaliate with their favorite call to arms, "Apathy, apathy." But why? The student leaders revelling in their glorious committees may fail to see why ordinary students do not respond to their pleas to get involved.

Let us consider the meaning of these two important terms: apathy and student government. Apathy has become the word which all the failures of our university community learn to hide behind. When the Off Campus fails to draw enough students to meet expenses, they cry over student apathy. When nobody votes in the Wilson Memorial election, the cry is once again heard. Maybe no one really wanted to see the Bryan Wells Jazz Trio. Maybe nobody wanted a Wilson Memorial.

Apathy, as used currently, has become a category for students who don't do what the student leaders want them to do. But it implies much more. It suggests that such students are passive do-nothings who take no concern over what goes on. There is in fact no verb corresponding to the noun apathy. The best one can do is say "to be apathetic." But such an expression must be used transitively; no one can be totally apathetic.

Everyone who is not at the Off Campus on Friday night must be somewhere else. (Unless some rare student has found out how to cease existing every weekend.) Perhaps they had gone to the Friday night movie, the Meadowbrook Theatre, or an off campus party. (Oakland is not a party school?)

Or maybe they just stayed in their rooms to study (apparently the student leaders don't think that's worthwhile.)

But even if a student had been engaged in none of these activities, had spent the entire evening doing nothing socially valuable, culturally satisfying or intellectually stimulating, is he apathetic? One of my friends spends a lot of his time playing solitaire. So what? He has a passion for this activity more fervent than any student leader's devotion to "student government."

What the "student leaders" fail to see in this is that people have different interests. One can be apathetic toward something in particular, but I have never met a student who was totally apathetic. Maybe there is nothing more worthwhile than eating, sleeping and making love. (How about the Off Campus?)

Student government at Oakland has emerged in the intellectual masterpiece of the coordinating committee. (Remember SACC?) Everyone knows that every student organization will carry on activities, and they know someone must coordinate them to prevent interference. (Let no one ever introduce such reactionary, fascist ideas that perhaps competition might result in a striving for quality.) Our student organizations are so well coordinated that my student activities fee can simultaneously be appropriated to the College Republicans, the Young Dems and SDS, none of which I personally support.

One obvious goal of the new student government would be to eliminate duplications among the various governing bodies. Their effectiveness is quite unclear to me when I see this ad-hoc committee doing what I thought the Commission on Student Life was supposed to be doing.

The committee is composed of the student leaders. Many of you freshmen may wonder how you can become one. If Mr. Willhinganz has not answered your question adequately enough, let me help you. Volunteer for the next

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Apathy Goes On

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committee that comes along. After you have volunteered several times someone in the administration will recognize your leadership potential and you will be picked to represent your fellow students on some new committee the Chancellor is creating.

You will find yourself with a group of your fellow students, such as the ones who retreated to Camp Holiday to find out how to lead. (After they had already been chosen because they were leaders.) You will soon learn that a committee of five can spend five hours doing what one person could do in one hour.

The Commission on Student Life is a committee of a different composition and has moved ahead on some points. But like Sisyphus, they can only move so far before tumbling down. The most important recommendations of the Commission have been turned back for further study: the Board on Expression, and off-campus housing. Students were delighted to hear that because of the Commission, the Board of Trustees had agreed to eliminate hours for upperclass women, only to learn that the same thing (or better) had taken place at many other universities which didn't have a Commission on Student Life.

There remain two objections to the Commission on Student Life. Though superior to the other student committees, since it does have elected student representatives, there is the problem that these students constitute only one-third of the Commission. The rest is made up of faculty and administration. What does an aging faculty member know of student life? Clark Kerr, former President of the University of California, stated that the faculty will tend to resist change unless they are prodded by an external force. As for the administration, does Chancellor Varner really have to appoint Dean Dutton to a committee to find out what he thinks?

The second objection is that the Commission on Student Life, as a permanent advisory body, will hinder the advance of real student power.

Student government seems to be moving rapidly forward as committee replaces committee in this cyclical game. But what has really changed since 1962, when the Student Faculty University Council met to think up good advice? Two questions remain unanswered: Will we have a student government which will really govern? And, do the students want such a government? If the indications of the latter prove true the first need not be considered.

Michael Hitchcock

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Washington D.C. . . . I traveled 500 miles to this city to get background material for my term project.

In his letter in the November 17 issue of the Observer, David Black suggested, ". . . Why not allow different small groups of students and professors to spend semesters away from the Univer-

sity, to form learning communities to study subjects within one particular major field?" You know, after this trip, I agree with him.

My project was related to congressional visits to South Vietnam and their relation to the administration's policy in that country. I didn't talk to Senators and Representatives, I didn't try. I knew better than to try because of my past experience in the Capitol. This is something that a student working on the scene could quickly find out for himself or could easily be taught. Rather than try to talk with Congressmen, I talked with administrative assistants and newspapermen. These were people who had seen or taken part in national decision making and had also been privy to people such as the President and members of Congress. They were living insights with anecdotes and facts that no newspaper or textbook could give.

There is something about the dynamics of a city like Washington that involves one beyond imagination. To get my information I had to move all around Washington. This brought me in contact with many people, in many places, with many opinions, about many things.

I met one cab driver who described to me in detail the processes that were being set in motion for the resignation of Defense Secretary McNamara; a fact which I disregarded until the next day when the news that McNamara was resigning hit the city in sketchy outline form and which completely upset me one week later when I read, in "Newsweek," basically everything the cab driver told me.

This is something similar to what David mentioned. He talked about the idea that, since everyone was taking the same basic courses in an off campus situation, out of class discussion was almost impossible to avoid. In Washington, where everyone is immersed in the political process (even the construction workers), I found myself discussing political science with everyone. I was using ideas that I had learned in class. Not only was I reading and learning political science, I was living and seeing it. Bill Swor

Letters

Rights Threatened

To the Editor:

In the November 21 Open hearing of the Placement Council, most of the issues were covered, but there were a couple of points which I feel were essentially overlooked. First is the similarity between the present dispute and the Free Speech controversy at Berkeley several years ago. In that instance, the University attempted to draw a distinction between the free expression of views (permitted!), and the action of recruiting students on campus for participation in civil rights demonstrations and possibly illegal sit-ins (not permitted!) The students wouldn't buy this distinction, and the faculty backed them up, so the campus has remained open both to

official and unofficial recruiting. Now, however, we have a group of students and faculty who propose that Oakland make a similar distinction between expression and action. I can't really believe that they would have sided with the administration at Berkeley against the Free Speech Movement, nor do I believe that this issue would continue to hold their attention if the Vietnam war were to suddenly and miraculously end.

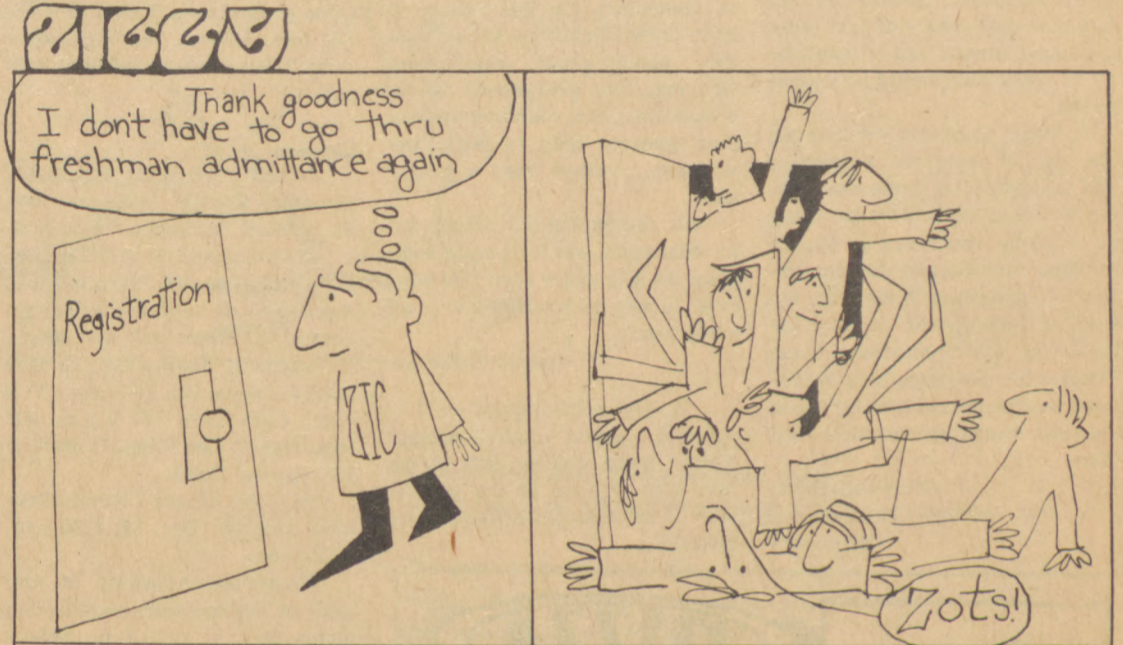
The real problem is that no one as yet has been able to find meaningful and effective ways to protest this war. There have been petitions, newspaper ads, peace marches; yet the war continues.

This is frustrating to all of us who, to whatever degree, oppose the war, and I believe that those who would restrict recruiting on campus have been driven to this extreme by their frustration, and that they have overlooked some

very real dangers in the proposal.

What will happen if we establish a mechanism by which a majority may exclude an unpopular organization from campus? Will the military be excluded? Probably not. Contrast the trickle of applause that followed Mr. Biblarz's statement that he would not serve in the armed forces with the enthusiastic applause that

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