

FOUR FOR FOUR!



The women's swim team takes national championship for the fourth straight year; men finish second.
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The Oakland Post

OTHER THINGS & CO.

OU students and alumni perform to teach and entertain children.



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Briefly ...

"Cloud Nine" finalist

For the second time in OU history, a drama production has made it to the finals of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

"Cloud Nine", a production directed by OU Assistant Professor of Theatre Karen Sheridan, will be one of five plays competing in the festival on April 23 and on April 24.

Faculty promotions

At the OU Board of Trustees March 4 meeting, the following faculty members received promoted to the full rank of professor effective Aug. 13, 1993; Augustin Fosu, economics, Subramanian Ganesan, computer science and engineering, Frank Giblin, biomedical sciences, Paul Ketchum, biomedical sciences, John Marney, Chinese, Marry Otto, counseling, Meir Shillor, mathematical sciences, Barry Winkler, biomedical sciences, and Mark Workman, English and Folklore. Retired OU Professor Jack Moeller was named as a Distinguished Emeritus Professor of German.

Trustee committees

The OU Board of Trustees Finance and Personnel advisory committee will meet Thursday, April 1 at 8 a.m. in the OC.

The next board meeting will be Thursday, April 1 at 3 p.m. in the OC Gold Rooms.

The University Affairs advisory committee will also meet on April 1, with no time and on-campus location set.

The Investment advisory committee does not have a meeting scheduled at this time.

Task Force meeting

OU's strategic planning committees are holding the following meetings this week:

Today: Student Development Task Force - Lepley Sports Center 8 a.m.

Today: Community Outreach Task Force - 479 Varner Hall 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday: Undergraduate Education Task Force - 100 Kresge Library 7-10 p.m.

Honors for writing

The Department of Rhetoric, Communications and Journalism is sponsoring the Writing Excellence Awards for the 1992-93 academic year. Cash prizes will be awarded in three categories: 1) RHT 100 - non-research essays, 2) RHT 101 - research papers, 3) Writing across the curriculum - non-research essays or research essays.

Papers are due May 3 in 316 Wilson Hall. For information contact Margaret Pigott (4131) or Mary Hoisington (4121).

Dates to remember

Today - The Public Classroom series, Latin America with Dr. Patricia Montenegro, 1 p.m. OC Fireside Lounge.

Tomorrow - Petitions for OU Student Congress presidential candidates due.

Friday and Saturday - Meadow Brook Estate Spring Concert, Varner Recital Hall, Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Tuesday - Gays in the Military debate, noon, OC Fireside Lounge.

OU hikes dorm rates 4.7 percent

By JOANNE GERSTNER
News Editor

Citing rising inflation and the future expense of refurbishing, OU residence halls rates will increase by an average of 4.7 percent for students and by 5.3 percent for conference guests during the 1993-94 academic year.

The OU Board of Trustees approved the rate hike after little discussion at its March 4 meeting.

A student living in a double room with a 19-meal plan would pay \$3,715 next fall, an increase of \$175.

Also, the daily rate fees for OU's summer sports camps, freshman orientations and conferences

housed in the residence halls will be increasing between .40 and .75.

Another affected housing unit is the George Matthews apartment complex located on the northeast side of OU. Per unit, married persons apartments monthly rent will increase from \$440 to \$465.

In the proposal, \$141,000 has been budgeted for ceiling, carpet, furniture replacement, painting and brick repair in the dorms. Plus, a declining freshman enrollment in the dorms and a 3.5 percent factor of inflation were key factors in shaping the rate hike.

According to Ray Harris, interim vice president for finance and administration, the rate hike will not bring large amounts of

profit to OU.

"They (Residence Halls) are projecting a net income of \$45,000, and that's very close to breaking even," Harris said.

Wilma Ray-Bledsoe, vice president for student affairs and presenter of the proposal to the board explained the reasoning behind the increase.

"We experienced the impact of inflation with the residence halls operation like the costs of goods and services," Bledsoe said. "We will also try to make some progress is refurbishing the halls. But, our cost is still in the middle of the pack when compared to other state universities."

Assistant Director for Student

Development Jean Ann Miller agreed with Bledsoe, saying that the increase was necessary to keep up with the rising costs of inflation.

"This is the minimal, the least amount that we could go to meet our budget and not gouge their (residence halls students) pocket-books," Miller said. "I hope that it will not be a deterrent for students...But the real kicker will come in the combination of residence hall and the proposed tuition increase."

However, some students are not happy with the increase in their housing rates.

Sophomore Hamlin Hal resident Taundeko Collins, 20, said,

"No, it's not fair. It shouldn't go up that much. Some, but not by those big chunks of money."

Another Hamlin resident, Kevin Miller, 25, of Detroit said, "They make it rough for people to live on campus since financial aid is so strict. It's rough. I don't like it. If we should pay more, we should have more (amenities)."

According to a comparison of tentative housing rates at other Michigan colleges and universities, OU ranks sixth out of 11. The University of Michigan is first, proposing \$4,480, reflecting a 4.6 percent increase for 13 meal plan housing. In last place is Saginaw Valley State University, with a

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Keeping the beat



The drummer from Surrogate Earth powers out the percussion for the groups performance during a celebration of Japanese-American friendship. The performance took place on Thursday, March 4 in the OC's West Crockery. For more photos, see page 3.

Meetings opened, with exceptions

By DEBORAH DZIEWIT
Editor in Chief

All university committees, including those of the Board of Trustees, will open to the public for the first time since their creation as required of a new policy approved by the board March 4.

However, the policy allows committee chairs to close meetings or close sections of them when they feel it is "in the best interests" of the university to discuss items behind close doors.

OU's board and university committees were not given a

"magic list" from contained in the Open Meetings Act" or specific guidelines in which to close meetings from the Committee to Study Openness, which drew up the policy, nor would the board draw one up for themselves.

"The list could never be complete in such a complex organization," Ronald Horwitz, chair of the Committee to Study Openness. "We purposely left the responsibility to close a given meeting up to that group or its chair."

Board members agreed the decision to close a meeting will

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Board updated on searches, science building changes

By JOANNE GERSTNER
News Editor

After a one-month hiatus, the OU Board of Trustees met on Thursday, March 4, approving proposals for a new science building, changes and receiving updates on three vice presidential searches.

The Southfield-based architectural firm of Harley, Ellington, Pierce, Yee and Associates has been drawing up the plans for OU's long-awaited science building, with the completed preliminary design plans submitted to the State of Michigan.

The building's office space was redesigned by George Dahlgren and other faculty members, to fill the state's request for more laboratory and classroom space. President Sandra Packard said the faculty has been "very cooperative" in the reconfiguring of the building's space.

Through a posterboard series of plans shown to board members, representatives from the firm characterized the building as being "more collegiate in feel rather than high-tech."

The building's plans are awaiting funding approval from Michigan's Office of Management and Budget.

In other business, Packard gave progress reports for OU's three vice-presidential level searches. The search for a vice president of academic affairs has been narrowed down to three finalists, with Packard spending a day fact-checking at each candidate's campus.

"It's very interesting to substantiate and strengthen some candidates and in some cases, weaken," Packard said.

The initial search process for a vice president of university relations

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OU bookcenter renovation project on track for May 1 completion date

By JOANNE GERSTNER
News Editor

Shelving units in the snow. ... partially tiled floors ... the smell of paint permeating the atmosphere ... Welcome to the war zone - rather, the OU book store.

The bookstore is now in the second week of a two month renovation process, with new coats of paint, carpeting, tiling, shelving and counter units, wiring, and more sales space, changing the store's look.

To prepare the new carpeting and tiling, most of the shelving units have been moved outside

and walls have been stripped of shelves.

"It's been a real mess, we had to move all of our books to clear the way," Book store manager David Bixby said. However, the bookstore is still selling books, "If we can find them, we'll sell them."

Freshman Nichelle Philips, 18, said she was surprised at the bookstore's condition.

"I just came in here to get a blue book, I had absolutely no idea that they were making changes in here," Philips said. "It really looks different."

Not just the look of the store has changed, the former location

of the service counter in the rear of the store has been walled in.

The counter will be moved to the front of the store for convenience.

Bixby said that the renovation is on track so far for meeting a May 1 completion goal.

"It's going full speed ahead, now."

Last time the bookstore was in the late 60s - Bixby believes 1969 (when it was still MS-OU). Regarding whether the green paint on the back wall was from the Michigan State days he said, "That wouldn't surprise me a bit."



Wet paint marks the spot, warning bookstore browsers to stay away from the fresh coat of paint.