

Wednesday

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The Oakland Sail, Inc.

Opinion Student wants to see power put behind words in OU's equal opportunity amendment. See Page 4

ORIENTATION TIME

New and incoming students are back once again to learn the rules and ropes of OU.

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The Oakland Post

Board argues CULTURAL DIVERSITY fund spending

By SALLY TATO
News Editor

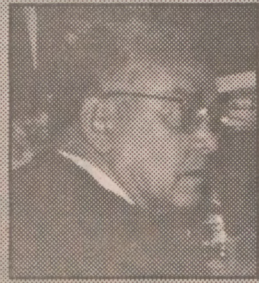
After almost an entire hour of tossing ideas back and forth to each other, Trustees James Sharp Jr. and Howard Sims persuaded their colleagues to solicit from the entire community entrepreneurial plans to improve multiculturalism on campus beginning in the 1996-97 academic year using the Trustees Academic Success Fund.

In a gesture of compromise the two trustees allowed the status quo plan—to have the Interim President and the director of the Office of Equity use the money for scholarships, a graduate assistant and peer mentors—for the upcoming academic year.

However, under Sharp and Sims' entrepreneurial plan anyone on campus can propose a project

"Year after year we have heard things that haven't achieved success..."

—Trustee Howard Sims



Post file photo

"Our ideas are all new for OU. They may have been tried at other universities, but not at Oakland..."

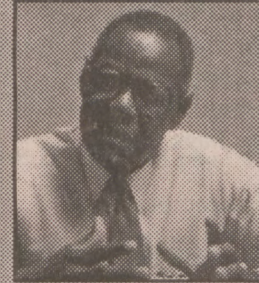
—Glenn McIntosh
Director of Office of Equity



Post photo/Nelson May

"In all areas we are going backwards, we have to change, we have to change..."

—Trustee James Sharp, Jr.



Post file photo

or idea directly to the board and seek funding from the Trustees Fund.

The Fund has a principal totaling more than \$3 million, which is earmarked solely to increase cultural awareness and diversity at OU. The board's approved spending policy only allows five percent of the fund earnings to be spent annually, making \$177,000 available for the '95-'96 school year.

The issue, among board members, however, was deciding the best way to spend the money to accomplish the cultural diversity goal.

Trustee Howard Sims, feels that the main cause of disagreement is tenure among the trustees. "We (the board) have been thinking about it for three years, and the trustees are coming from different places and not all of

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Big Under the Top

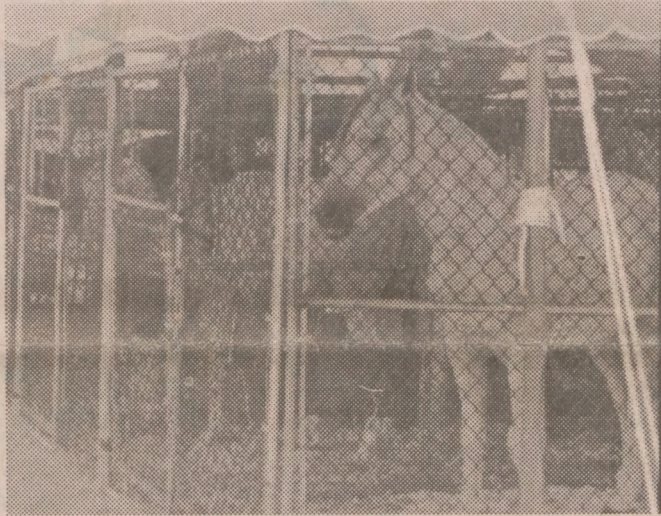
By HEIDI HEDQUIST
Assistant Features Editor

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls if you will turn your attention to the Adams' and Walton corner of campus you will see an amazing sight, the Big Apple Circus has come to town for your enjoyment.

Be prepared for acrobats, clowns and for once, the ability to see the whole show without missing a beat.

The Big Apple Circus boasts of their one ring show performed in a 1972 seat, air conditioned big top. Each spectator is seated no more than 50 ft. from the action. This will allow the audience a chance to really be a part of the action.

Although the circus is smaller than a three ring circus



Post photo/Ian Houston

CAGED HORSES AWAIT: Two saddlebreds, nine arabians and one miniature horse will entertain crowds under the big top.

The troupe is confident that it is just as good, "Although we have some of the worst equipment around, we definitely have the best show," said Dan Le Blanc who has several jobs in setting up the show. Tom Larson, Assistant Performance Director for the circus, added "We go for the art rather than the spectacle."

The circus will be running at Meadow Brook June 16-27. Tickets range in prices from \$12-\$25. Children under 12 receive a \$3 discount.

The Big Apple is a non profit organization that only gets 80 percent of their funds from ticket sales. They rely heavily on donations from outside sources.

The circus was founded in 1977 by Paul Binder, the ring master of the show.

The troupe help those in need by providing free tickets to shows.

They also run the 'Clown Care Unit'. This program is made up of 'Doctor' clowns who administer such cures as chocolate milk transfusions and red nose transplants. The 'Clown Care Unit' serves six hospitals in the New York area and makes more than 50,000 bedside visits annually.

Each August, the Big Apple changes its acts to form a completely new show.

The theme for this year's show is "Grandma meets Mummenschanz". It will center around the beloved clown, Grandma, and her encounters with the masqueraders of the mystical Mummenschanz.

See CIRCUS page 2

But what do they do with the animal's...

The Big Apple Circus brings with them 26 animals which will be performing in the show.

The animals are housed on campus at the site of the show. Their trainers feed them and bathe them each day.

In the 10 days they'll be here, the 12 horses will go through almost 1,000 bales of hay and 25 lbs. of grain; the four pigs will go through 200 lbs of pig chow and three bales of hay and the eight ducks will go through 25 lbs. of duck chow.

These animals plus the two elephants will produce enough waste in a week to fill a large garbage dumpster.

AND IN THE CENTER RING: The Big Apple Circus comes to town this week bringing tigers, horses and Grandma (Barry Lubin). The Circus can be seen on OU's campus until June 27.



Photo courtesy/ Big Apple Circus

Board okays rec center bonds

By CHRIS TAIT
Sports Editor

THE MONEY AND THE ARCHITECTS

The first time that OU considered building a new athletic facility to update the aging Lepley Sports Center Ronald



Bissonette

Reagan was president of the United States. That was 1982.

Last week, a little more than 13 years later, the Board of Trustees approved the sale of \$37 million in tax-free municipal bonds at the June 8 meeting.

The board also selected TMP Associates Inc. of Bloomfield Hills as the lead architectural firm. Its lead designer, David Larson, recently designed the Central Michigan

Student Activity Center.

TMP Associates is the local firm which will be responsible for final plans and will be the firm on site.

The lead firm chose Cannon-Parkin Architects of Los Angeles as the recreational sports programming and planning experts for the project.

Cannon-Parkin is a national firm whose lead designer, David Body, designed buildings for the University

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Dorm Contract Talks End

Students must leave down payment with signature

By SALLY TATO
News Editor

Students choosing to live in OU's residence halls next year will be faced with a new \$100 down payment fee upon signing their contracts.

The down payment, similar to those charged at other Michigan universities, was approved by the Board of Trustees at its June meeting last Thursday and will go into effect for the 1996-97 school year.

Under the old policy, students who signed a contract during the early registration period, in March, had until June 1 to cancel without penalty, said Eleanor Reynolds, Residence Halls Director. To avoid a penalty fee after that date, however, students had to apply for a contract release with a documented cause.

"If there is a family emergency or uncontrollable change in family circumstances, like a death, illness or lay-off; that the student could not have been aware of when they signed the contract, and they can document that emergency, then the university releases them without the penalty and they pay a \$45 fee," said Reynolds.

Students who could not show a documented emergency were released from their contracts but had to pay 25% of their remaining contract, plus a per-diem rate, for days they had already lived in the hall.

The new residence contract basically omits the requirement of cause from the release agreement and instead requires a down payment and charges a penalty fee for breaches in contracts.

"We changed (the contract agreement) because we were having to require students to give us personal information about family matters and that is legally okay for getting out of a contract, but its better not to have to get involved," said Reynolds.

Under the new guidelines,

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COMPARING OU'S CONTRACT

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

WMU requires a \$175 contract down-payment and has a \$100 penalty for cancellation.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

CMU charges a \$400 contract down-payment and also has a \$100 penalty fee.

EMU

EMU has a \$100 contract-down payment fee and a penalty charge of \$450.

Oakland UNIVERSITY

OU has a \$100 down payment and \$100 penalty.

-all fees for cancellation prior to contract period

Price tags higher than expected for OU searches

By HEIDI HEDQUIST
Assistant Features Editor

Despite the early termination of the presidential search, OU will still pay search firm Spencer Stuart half of its allotted salary. Originally, the contract,

between OU and the firm, price-tagged the search at \$40,000. According to General Counsel, Susan Gerrits, however, they will still receive \$20,000—half the contract amount.

"Of their portion of the work, maybe more than half was done," said Board Chair David Fischer. "I'm not concerned with that investment at all. I feel more than comfortable paying them that amount."

The search firm had not yet compiled a list of candidates for the job when it was dismissed.

The board terminated the search May 22, after Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Gene Schnelz ruled that the search committee had violated the Open Meetings Act by closing its initial meeting and its plans to close future ones. The

See PRICES page 2

PENNINES SPENT

Presidential search firm Spencer Stuart received \$20,000 after search terminated.

Carrington & Carrington, search firm for a dean for the College of Arts and Sciences was paid \$55,955.

SBA hired MacNaughton & Assoc. to search for dean at a cost of \$27,500.

Funds

Continued from page 1

them have been here from the beginning," said Sims.

One of Trustee Sharp's main concerns was that the monies would be controlled by a sole department. "There should be access to the funds to provide the money for good ideas that lead to improving the racial climate and cultural diversity," said Sharp.

He and Sims both oppose using the monies for attempts that have been tried, they argue unsuccessfully, before.

Sims, after hearing Office of Equity Director Glenn McIntosh's ideas for the monies use, shook his head and observed it was more of the same type of plans that had been unsuccessful in the past.

The Office of Equity, this year, began a recruitment pilot program funded by the OU Foundation. With the \$58,000 that the foundation allotted the program, recruiters from the Office of Equity were able to bring in a combined number of 30 high achievement African Americans and Latinos to the campus, said Glenn McIntosh, Director of the Office of Equity.

"These are traditionally the underrepresented groups on college campuses," said McIntosh defending his plans for the money.

Twenty-nine of the new students were then offered scholarships that were renewable, depending on their academic achievement. The monies from the OU Foundation, however, were not renewable, said McIntosh.

McIntosh, who pleaded the Office of Equity's case at the meeting, would like to see all of the \$177,000 used for continuing current scholarships and creating new ones. Additionally, McIntosh said portions of the fund would be used in programs to increase cultural diversity awareness.

Trustee Louis Ross also sees the plans for the monies in this light. "To achieve the object of increased minorities on campus is less of a problem then keeping them in school," said Ross, in regards to financial or family problems that may occur. Ross would like to focus more on maintaining minorities at OU, after they have been recruited.

Sharp opposes these plans, stating that they are not headed in the right direction. "In all areas we are going backwards, we have to change, we have to do things differently," Sharp said during the meeting.

Sharp believes opening the process to anyone with a good idea for bringing cultural diversity to the campus can be successful. "It may be belts and suspenders...but let's wear them," Sharp told fellow Trustee Ross who chairs the University Affairs Committee of the board. Ross raised several objections about administration to counter Sharp and Sims proposals.

"People are thinking it's not their responsibility and that it's the responsibility of them (the Office of Equity). We need to spread responsibility with the resources and not just leave it on one office," Sharp said.

However, Ross questions whether the Trustees should have to handle the monies and decide whether each idea presented should be granted funds. "The discussion at the Board meeting bordered on how much the Trustees can do and whether University Affairs or other offices should handle it," he said.

Sims disagrees that the ideas presented will attain the university's goals. "Year after year we have heard things that haven't achieved success," he said.

According to McIntosh, however, the ideas presented by the Office of Equity are not recycled. "Our ideas are all new for OU. They may have been tried at other universities but not at Oakland," he said. McIntosh added that specifically recruiting African Americans and Latinos has not been done at OU.

Advocating McIntosh's ideas is Interim-President Gary Russi. "I support the Director of Office of Equity in hope to apply funds for recruitment and retention of a diverse student body and for staffing and programming to enrich multicultural sensitivity and understanding in students, staff and faculty," said Russi.

Prices

Continued from page 1

board appealed the decision to a higher court.

Additionally, the university is also paying two other firms for dean searches for the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Education and Human Services and the School of Business Administration.

The firm Carrington and Carrington received \$55,955 for identifying minority candidates in the search for a Dean of the College and SEHS, according to Gerrits. They were originally contracted for \$50,000 plus expenses.

Additionally, MacNaughton and Associates, the search firm hired for the School of Business Administration, has already received \$10,000 of its contracted \$27,500.

Circus

Continued from page 1

The Big Apple tells the story through amazing circus acts from around the world. "It is a European circus in flavor," said Tom Larson, assistant performance director. "It's an international community with people from all over the world living and working together," Larson said.

One of the most exciting acts is the Russian Egorov Troupe. In this act performers fly through the air exhibiting amazing stunts in aerial acrobatics. Another popular act is the comedy set between American Ben Williams and his side kick Ned, a 5000 pound pachyderm.

Gary L. Wasserman, President of Allied Metals and Chairman of the International Freedom Festival is responsible for bringing the Big Apple to Detroit. Wasserman is very excited about this year's theme, "Audiences of all ages are captivated by this unique blend of poetry and excitement, nostalgia and innovative theatre all wrapped up in fun and laughter," said Wasserman.

Dorms

Continued from page 1

students who sign early contract agreements have until June 15 to cancel without penalty. If students cancel between June 15 and the start of the Fall semester, however, they will forfeit their \$100 down payment and owe an additional \$100.

And students who back out of their contract in mid-semester must forfeit their \$100 down payment, pay a \$200 penalty fee, plus pay the days they resided in the halls; approximately \$20 a day, said Reynolds.

Graduate and former Residents Hall Council President, Ju Wiegand has mixed feelings about the new contract. "It sounds like tougher. I don't know all the details (about the contract) but I knew a few students every year who left for family emergencies, and when you have a family emergency, money is usually pretty tight."

Reynolds said that approximately 150 students each year apply contract releases, with cause, and of those, about a dozen file an appeal. Under old contract guidelines, students could appeal Reynolds' decision that their cases did not qualify as emergencies, to the Dean of Students and then to the Vice President of Student Affairs. An appeal process is not included in the new contract.

"I would probably say that there is comparability (between the old contracts) in the long run," said Jean Ann Miller, Assistant Director of Student Development in Residence Halls. "The hassles of going through this existing procedure will cease because they know up front what the cost is and they should know the time frame in order to do without paying extra costs."

Without a definite appeal process under the new contract, however, Wiegand is still concerned about special situations. "They (Reynolds and Miller) have been really sympathetic with students in the past,

Scholarship Source

The fund was created by the sale of university property to the City of Auburn Hills for the widening of Squirrel Road in 1991. The proceeds, then, totaled \$3,307,975. As of July 1994, however, the market value of these monies was \$3,540,549.

A portion of the money, \$750,000, was set aside in an account specifically targeted for scholarships for Auburn Hills residents, according to the original contract.

Two tuition scholarships a year, for four years must be given to incoming students from the Avondale, Pontiac, and Oakland Christian school districts; districts that serve Auburn Hills residents, said Helen Venos, Auburn Hills City Clerk.

Additionally, the university must fund a third scholarship, from its own funds, matching the two from the scholarship account.

At the end of the fifth year, OU can withdraw \$500,000 from the remaining monies in the scholarship account and use them at their discretion, said Venos. The remaining monies in the fund, however, must still be used for scholarships, she added.

Welcome New Students & Parents!!

The Orientation Staff:

Sara

Gabe

Lawrence

David

Jessica

Garrick

Bonnie

Tony

Melissa

Marilyn

Christine

Kelly

Andrea

Tierra

Beth

Charneise

Christian

Carla

Bridget

Micki