

# Pianists Play--But Have No Sound

A student at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Township can play a complete piano concerto without anyone hearing it.

The reason -- OCC has now installed a Keyboard Instruction System which makes it possible for students in the beginning piano classes to receive individual instruction without disrupting the other students.

According to Theodore H. Mann, instructor, Humanities and Communications, who teaches the class, the teacher

can monitor the work and communicate with any single student or group of students.

THE SYSTEM, which is produced by Fender Rhodes, consists of pianos connected to a master teaching console speaker and earphones. "The student can listen only to himself and this system eliminates the need for practice rooms required for normal piano instruction," Mann said.

OCC has initially installed eight pianos under the system, but the teaching console can accommodate up to 24 pianos.

"Under the system, it is possible to give private instruction, operate several class levels and allow for practice time, ensembles, individual projects, etc., all at the same time in the same room," Mann added.

IN ADDITION, the pianos have

built-in metronomes, which keep track of the beat, and a tape recorder, which enables students to playback their work.

The electronic pianos, according to Mann, cost approximately \$500, which is somewhat less than traditional pianos.



SILENT MUSIC -- Oakland Community College students practice on the new Piano Keyboard Instruction System on the Farmington Township Campus. At the front of the row is Margaret Watt of 30855 Springland, while Dan Riedl of 18901 Gilman, Livonia is at back of row. The codd in the center was not identified.



# 'Paint Your Wagon' Opens EMU Theater

Opening the season with the Lerner and Loewe musical, "Paint Your Wagon," the Eastern Michigan University Players Series promises to be bigger and brighter than ever. The Players series is one of three regular performance programs offered at Eastern.

An annual Children's Theatre production is presented and the very active Experimental Theatre Series plans its usual 50 or more offerings.

"Paint Your Wagon" will be presented on two consecutive weekends, Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and 2, and Nov. 5 through Nov. 8. This will be followed by Arthur Miller's lofty drama,

"Death of a Salesman" from Dec. 10 through Dec. 14, from March 4 through March 6, Bertold Brecht's multi-media anti-war explosion, "Mother Courage," will be produced.

The Players' season ends with William Wycherley's bawdy comedy, "The Country Wife," from May 20 through May 24.

The Children's Theatre will present an ageless allegory entitled "The Dragon," April 17 through April 19. The experimental theatre program has no advance schedule but happens all during the year on a flexible basis.

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