

OCC panel:

Conserve to 'cope'

By NANCY KOURTJIAN

A panel of energy experts speaking at Oakland Community College agreed on one point: In order to "cope," Americans must conserve.

Conservation was advocated repeatedly during a national issues forum Friday at OCC's Highland Lakes campus in Union Lake.

They predicted individuals and industries will use energy more efficiently, but only if they can make free economic choices.

They saw economic incentives and a strong desire to be efficient as the best methods.

While a utility spokesman called for continued nuclear power and an auto official favored oil shale development, all agreed that changes in lifestyle face the average American.

The forum was the second in a series sponsored by OCC. Faculty member Dennis Fiems was moderator.

PETER WALTERS of the Michigan Energy Administration called President Jimmy Carter's estimates of a 10-20 percent solar capacity by the year 2000 too optimistic.

He said Americans must use systems which realize a net energy gain such as low-head hydro, adding, "We have exhausted 'easy energy' sources."

The Great Lakes Basin Commission shows Michigan's only large-scale hydropower on the St. Lawrence River. But there are 640 dams on inland rivers which could generate electricity on a small scale, Walters said.

Walters said Michigan's growing population will demand 4.5 million quads (quadrillion BTUs) of energy by the end of the century. Only 4.1 million can be supplied, and "tough trade-offs" must fill the gap.

He prefers mandatory restraint measures such as speed limits and travel restrictions to gasoline rationing.

Rationing could be equitable, Walters commented, but would encourage black marketing and be very hard to administer. "Michigan will not enforce gas rationing with uniformed men," he said.

Walters also predicted a "conservation ethic" that will reduce our dependence on imported oil. Since petroleum now supplies 36 percent of Michigan's energy needs, he called conservation a "good investment."

DETROIT EDISON Co. spokesman Clayborne Mitchell cited a major example of improved energy use: the cogeneration project in Monroe which is 60-70 percent efficient. It makes steam and electricity and recovers heat that is normally lost.

A General Motors Corp. energy recovery project in Maryland solves two problems at once: It burns trash and reduces landfill volume. According to GM representative Russell Stebar, it also creates energy and saves GM money.

Recovering energy from garbage incineration is also being considered by Oakland County, Mitchell said.

Downsizing cars and reducing weight with plastic and aluminum parts has helped GM meet miles per gallon standards, Stebar continued. Diesel engines allow full-size cars to meet mileage standards.

However, diesels are noisy and need more maintenance than standard gasoline engines. Air pollution from diesels is low in hydrocarbons and carbon dioxide, but higher in oxides nitrogen and soot.

RUSSELL GOSSMAN gave the United Auto Workers energy position — alternative sources and conservation have top priority.

The union supports solar development because it promises more jobs.

One form of solar, biomass, which Gossman defined as "an organic material that contains energy," can be burned for heat or processed into methane gas or ethanol to make gasoline.

The audience challenged the panel with many questions including the cost-effectiveness of gasoline and oil from shale.

The oil shale process uses tremendous amounts of water causing a severe problem for the arid West, Edison's Mitchell replied. He discussed the difficulty of disposing of large amounts of residue from "the flaky stuff... that fluffs up" during shale oil production.

Though more expensive to make than petroleum, oil shale or coal, gasoline can be economical if usable byproducts are made, the UAW's Gossman said.

It is practical in a mild climate, but causes starting problems at temperatures below freezing. Product quality varies, he added, noting that fuel-grade ethanol must be 200 proof for top efficiency.

The panel answered queries on photovoltaic cells which make electricity directly from the sun (still too expensive), and nuclear wastes (Europe recycles them in breeder reactors).

OU prof leads water study

Paul Tomboulion of Rochester has been named chairman of a regional task force studying ground-water contamination in southeast Michigan.

Tomboulion heads the chemistry department at Oakland University.

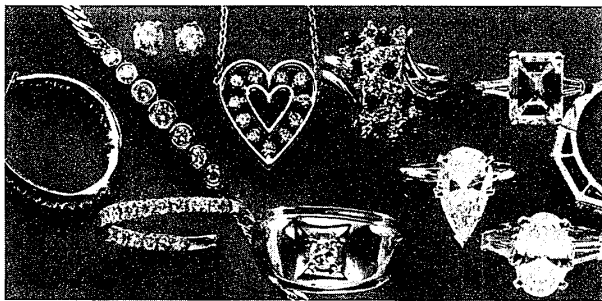
A member of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments' Areawide Water Quality Board, Tomboulion was named by the board to lead the special task force.

The water quality board monitors water problems in a seven county area, including Oakland, Wayne and Macomb.

HUDSON'S

SEMI-ANNUAL DIAMOND SALE

Save 10% to 50% on every diamond and precious stone in our dazzling collection



Who could resist glistening, fiery diamonds or the cool elegance of rubies, emeralds or sapphires at 10% to 50% off? And now, during Hudson's semi-annual diamond and precious stone sale, nearly everyone will find them irresistible. You'll save on rings, earrings, pendants, bracelets, wedding bands, engagement sets, diamond watches, men's rings and more from our multi-million dollar collection. So, come in and save now through April 5. In Fine Jewelry. Remember, we accept all diamonds for trade-in.



save 50%

...on a fabulous collection of jewels. But hurry—quantities are limited and at these prices they won't last long. Choose from earrings, rings, Art carved wedding bands, men's rings and more from our multi-million dollar collection. So, come in and save now through April 5. In Fine Jewelry. Selection will vary.

See more exciting styles at our Diamond Sale trunk shows. Plan to come in and meet our experts while viewing their entire sample collections in Fine Jewelry, check below for store nearest you.

	Downtown	Northland	Eastland	Pontiac	Westland	Oakland	Southland	Brarwood	Fairlane	Twelve Oaks	Lakeside
SUNDAY, MARCH 23	11-5										
MONDAY, MARCH 24			4-8		11-8	11-8					11-8
TUESDAY, MARCH 25		11-8				4-8	11-8			11-8	
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26		11-8	11-8		11-8			11-8	4-8		
THURSDAY, MARCH 27							11-8			11-8	11-8
FRIDAY, MARCH 28					11-8	11-8			11-8		
SATURDAY, MARCH 29		11-8	11-8							11-8	
SUNDAY, MARCH 30		11-8				11-8			11-8		
MONDAY, MARCH 31			11-8		4-8		11-8			11-8	
TUESDAY, APRIL 1		11-8			11-8	11-8	4-8		11-8		11-8
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2			11-8	11-8			11-8		11-8		
THURSDAY, APRIL 3		11-8	11-8			11-8				11-8	11-8
FRIDAY, APRIL 4		11-8	11-8			11-8	11-8			11-8	
SATURDAY, APRIL 5		11-8	11-8		11-8	11-8			11-8		

You are invited to attend an exciting Downtown Diamond event, Sunday, March 23 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Hudson's Downtown store only. See the entire Fine Jewelry department transformed into a diamond and precious-stone showroom. Select styles from top designers or create your own from our exciting collection of stones and mountings. Plus, at this event only:

- Save an extra 5% on any designer diamond purchase
- Appraisals will be done at no charge (limit 2 pieces please)
- Register for our diamond giveaway
- Refreshments will be served
- Valet parking at no charge (use Farmer Street entrance)

SURVIVAL SKILLS for SPRING '80

- Job Programs - for plastics technologists, paralegals
- Outplacement/Training Program - for job-seekers
- Saving Expertise - tax shelters, investment in collectibles, cutting energy costs in your new home
- Successful Management - for condo association directors and developers, small business owners
- Valuable Arts - bookbinding, wedding photography

For a brochure, call 577-3122. Div. of Cont. Education
Term begins April 7
Oakland University