

Steven Stamps of Rochester peers through a microscope at bits of "moon rock" in Oakland University's Space and Aviation Cen-

## OU space center becomes model across nation

Based on the success of an Oakland University program, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is settling up space education centers around the country. More than 3,000 children and hundreds of adults have visited the OU Space and Avaitation Center, which was established as a model project 18 months ago.

"It's kindled much more enthusiasm in schools for science," said David Housel, OU assistant education professor and head of the center.

"We've been trying to do that for a while and finally hit on something that works."

ALTHOUGH OU'S center is the only one in Michigan, NASA has opened up now centers in the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, in Minnesota, and at the University of Wisconsin.
NASA hopes to eventually have 200 centers across the United States. Based in O'Dowd Hall's Introducinal Materials Center, OU's Space and Avistion Center contains samples of moon rock, more than 200 videotapes of space missions, and 30 new 16mm films that can be taken out on loan.

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Also in the center are several hun-fred books on NASA programs. New this year are documentaries captioned for the hearing impaired.

Requests for videotapes of NASA missions have come from as far away as the Upper Peninsula.

groups, school classes and just dropins.

"University students are captivated by the center," observed Laura Snider-Feldmesser, who is in charge of its daily operation.

"And we get a few aerospace buffs in, it's fun to meet them."

Housel said the center has helped edurate nearly about space missions and

in. It's fun to meet them."
Housel said the center has helped educate people about space missions and NASA. The professor said most see the agency as a builder of rockets when ac tually NASA conducts extensive research on the oceans, energy use, and other areas as well as space exploration.

The favorite topics of the children are the shuttle missions, the moor rocks and lerning how to fly.

STILL BUILDING its collection, the enter is looking for contributions from area residents. Sought are collection of old technical magazines with articles on aviation.

"We're interested in anything on aviation, astronomy, energy research, space or futurism—the future uses of technology," said Housel.

Unlike other NASA projects, the OU Space and Aviation Center has a collection of children's literature about space. All the lates books arrelated the collection of children's literature about space. All the lates books are the flow what's available," Housel explanation of the property of the charse in the officers who offices received the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of the charse in the collection of the property of t



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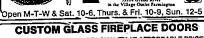
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