

# OCC board loses veteran as 3 women win

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By Tim Richard  
staff writer

Three women with backgrounds as educators were elected Monday to the Oakland Community College board, and voters dumped 22-year incumbent trustee David Hackett.

"Che sera, sera — what will be, what will be," said Hackett, 62, who ironically is a member of the National Organization for Women and who as a trustee frequently argued the cause of women's advancement.

"I feel worse for Dave than for myself," said another male candidate who finished back in the nine-candidate pack.



Judith Wiser  
finishes first



Margaret MacTavish  
re-elected



Norma L. Ross  
newcomer to board



David Hackett  
dumped after 22 years

THE WINNERS in an unusually light turnout were:

1. Judith Wiser, 7,470 votes, she taught on the OCC faculty from 1973-81, directed her own ballet company and now is treasurer of Health Care Services. She had run for mayor of Southfield in 1977 and the city council in 1979 and had been active in Democratic politics. She was in the top three of every Observer & Eccentric area district except Birmingham.

2. Margaret MacTavish, 7,353. A one-term incumbent, she is director of human resource management at Macomb Community College. Now a Rochester Hills resident, she previously lived in Birmingham. She ran strongly in every Observer & Eccentric district except Southfield.

3. Norma L. Ross, 7,353. Director of community education in Madison Heights, she ran strongly in the southeast portion of the county, Southfield and Troy. She admitted a "little direct contact" with OCC previously.

Hackett, of Rochester Hills, ran only 193 votes behind Ross to finish

In fourth place. A retired Detroit teacher, Hackett shrugged at his first defeat since the early 1960s: "I've got a lot of things I can do."

Incumbent Edward Pappas, a Farmington Hills attorney, did not seek re-election.

THE NEW trustees are tentatively

Traditional graduations are back — at least at Oakland Community College.

"Actually, we planned on 500 or so like last year, but 270 more showed up than we anticipated," said registrar Charles W. Kurzer.

So in the final minutes last Friday before commencement ceremonies in the Pontiac Silverdome, OCC staff members set up additional seats on the arena floor.

Altogether, 770 of the 2,015 students who earned degrees during the last year at the two-year college showed up for the ceremony — a record. Many don't show because they have transferred to a four-year college or taken jobs elsewhere.

Another 5,000 friends and relatives crowded the stands, exhausting the supply of programs.

CHANCELLOR R. Stephen Nicholson, presiding at his first graduation since taking the top office last fall, said that of the degree earners:

• 800 were enrolled in career or applied science programs.

• More than 800 were enrolled in liberal arts, science and business administration programs for transfer to four-year colleges.

• 200 received general studies degrees or one-year certificates in vocational-technical fields.

• 15 full-time OCC employees were in the ranks.

THE FINAL presentation — 1986 OCC meritorious alumni award — went to Wilma R. Garcia, an Oakland University professor.

A one-time financial-aid student, Garcia graduated from OCC in 1971, went on to earn a doctorate at

Wayne State University in 1983, and was appointed OU associate professor of rhetoric, communications and journalism in 1985.

"She had to be whisked to the Silverdome from downtown Detroit where, earlier in the evening, she had been presented the 1986 teaching excellence award by the OU Black Alumni Association. She was the only non-minority OU faculty member ever so honored.

OCC ALSO honored three distinguished instructors: Kay Hillinger, Birmingham resi-

Immediately available for the total voter turnout, but individual districts indicated the vote was light:

WISER WAS the only candidate who advertised extensively, in a race usually won by word-of-mouth and quiet group endorsements.

She declined to discuss where besides Observer & Eccentric Newspapers she advertised saying, "I really don't remember tonight." "ak votes were tallied in the OCC board's Bloomfield Hills headquarters."

She also declined to count her previous attempts to run office in Southfield, saying, "I'm not giving an interview."

The OCC race was virtually a non-campaign, with no groups holding forums for candidates or making public endorsements.

Here is how the rest of the field finished:

Hackett, 6,340; Ruth Bornstein, Southfield, 5,226; John A. Erich, Southfield, 4,653; Franklin A. Burn, West Bloomfield, 3,584; Ben Colley, Hazel Park, 3,424; and Paul Funk, Rochester Hills, 3,009.

## OCC commencement has 'record' crowd

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