## OCC, corporate friends open CIM doors

They're "tools that liberate the spirit" to R. Stephen Nicholson, the philosophical chanceller of Oakland Community College.

But the OCC catalog calls it Computer Integrated Manufacturing — CIM, for short.

And companies like International Business Machines and Cross & Trecker Corp. of Bloomfield Hills are so hot to hire skilled people that they're giving — or selling at bartgain basement prices — hundreds of thousands of oddars of sophisticated equipment to OCC. HITTHE !

OCC instructor Steve Atma uses a CATIA software package on an IBM 5080 work station. In the background, students operate a milling machine.

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CIM COMES to OCC this fall with a seven-course lineup at the Auburn Hills Campus, a half-mile east of the Pontiac Silverdome on Featherstone Road — in the heart of Michigan's hilly version of Silicon Valley.

So far OCC has offered CAD — Computer Assisted Design. Now it's going the distance — a two-year CIM program.

"It took a 33 million investment to get this program moving," Nicholson said at dedication ecremonies lost week. "If things are going to happen in America, it better begin in Oakland County."

More than immediate jobs are at stake. "What really matters is the matters is industrial base. Unless that control the state investment in bricks, mainframes, software and faculty upgrading thus amounts of \$12,000 per student.

Steve Atma, of the college's applied tecnology department, expects six sections to be filled in the fall semester, starting around Labor Day, with a capacity for 250 students.

last three years in order to teach the new technology, Atma said. Skilled technical people from in-dustry will be hired, when needed, as part-time faculty, added Dr. Bill J. Rose, OCC's dean of career educa-tion.

tion.
IBM's Robert F. Sposito, area ibbis Robert F. Sposito, area manager of engineering in the scientific and industrial sector, cited OCC's location in the metropolitan Detroit area, its neighborhood relationship to the booming Oakland Technology Park and its successful Business and Professional Institute for the consumer of the first programme of the consumer of th

Business and Professional Institute for the company's decision to invest. New facilities include a CAD and engineering lab, a functioning work cell or automated manufacturing station and an operating robotics

HERE'S A BREAKDOWN on the

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THREE TO four full-time faculty members will teach CIM courses. They have been in training over the

bedestal robot.

Cross & Trecker also will upgrade the equipment and provide on-site; engineering assistance over the next. Three years.

IBM's contribution wasn't revealed in dollar terms. Besides expertise, it includes computer systems, software programs and class room computer terminals.

The existing CAD equipment cost \$1.2 million — \$1 million from in youtsty and \$200,000 from the college.

TWO KINDS of students are expected to flock to the CIM program.

• Traditional high school graduates — and Rose says they should have algebra, physics and maybe trig under their beits.

• People already working for companies that want them to get state-of-the-art training.





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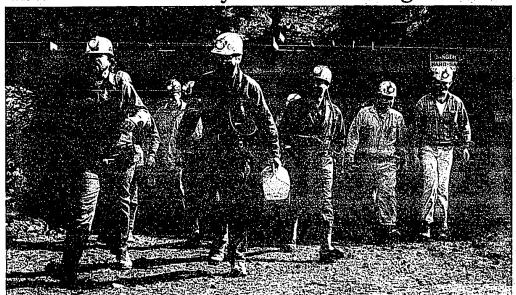
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## How A Small Community Came To See The Light At The End Of The Tunnel.



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