

OCC offers cable show



Dan Greenberg (left), cinematography professor, and Ted Rancont, professor of communications and producer of "The Arts in Review," go over plans for the cablecast.

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Many of the same students who staff "Arts in Review" also staff and produce "Oakland County Connection," one of the few entirely student-produced weekly television talk shows in the nation.

"Oakland County Connection" features interesting individuals who live, work or play in Oakland County. Each half-hour show, hosted by OCC students, includes 12 to 15 minutes of edited field video showing what the guest is talking about.

BOTH REGULAR OCC-TV programs are distributed to all cable systems in Oakland County over the college's "bicycle network," with campus AV technicians carrying videotapes physically each week to the various locations.

Rancont estimates that more than 100 OCC television production students and volunteers have been involved in keeping "Arts in Review" on the air during its first two years.

"It's better experience for the students than class exercise no one else is likely to see," says Rancont. "They're producing a complete, accurately timed show that people actually watch. They're doing it under

This is the first of two articles about local cable TV programs on the arts. See next Thursday's entertainment pages for a story on Thalia Productions, which works out of the facilities of Bloomfield Community Television.

live broadcast conditions with very real deadlines. And they're getting serious air credits, a rarity on student resumes."

More than 100 theatrical events and 120 feature films have been reviewed in the last two years for southeastern Michigan audiences by the show's regular and guest critics. In addition to Detroit area theaters, "Arts in Review" has evaluated pro-

ductions of interest playing New York, Toronto, Windsor, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo and Stratford (Ontario).

"Arts in Review" videographers have been the only student crews invited to shoot the Stratford Festival, where they rub shoulders on "television day" with professional Canadian station and network crews.

THE PROGRAM also has examined painting, sculpture and music; aired interviews with prominent film and theater figures; and presented the first known television review of a radio show.

Present or potential OCC students interested in becoming part of "Arts in Review" and "Oakland County Connection" may contact Rancont at 471-7682. Both programs are scheduled for studio production between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Fridays during the coming winter semester.

After two years "Arts in Review" remains the only regular, scheduled television criticism of theater and film available to the huge southeastern Michigan audience.

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