

Executive says first 100 days were 'productive'

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

L. Brooks Patterson is pleased with his performance during his early days as the new Oakland County Executive.

"I would do this job if they didn't give me a paycheck," Patterson said Wednesday during a press conference marking his first 100 days in office.

Using 100 days as a milestone for evaluating his administration is arbitrary, Patterson said, because that amount of time is in-

sufficient to really implement any policies or make any serious changes.

But in as much as other leaders — including the president of the United States — are evaluated by a similar yardstick, the new executive said he was willing to look at his first 100 days and pass judgment.

"It's been a very successful start," Patterson said, with much focus on laying groundwork. Assembling an executive staff, for example, and establishing liaison

with Gov. John Engler are structural moves that will bear bountiful fruit in the near future.

"Those who entrusted me with their vote in November (when he defeated Democrat Elizabeth Howe) have a right to know what my administration has accomplished since taking office in January," Patterson said. "I believe they will be delighted with the results."

Here are some of those accomplishments cited by the executive:

- Department tours. During the

campaign he promised to visit each county department to "get into the nooks and crannies" of county government, he said.

His first visits have been so rewarding that completing the circuit will take nine months instead of six. "But it's well worth the effort."

- The Employee Suggestion Program. Employees can win paid trips to Hawaii or Mexico as well as cash bonuses for suggestions that save money.

The program, funded by his golf

outing, has thus far yielded one suggestion that could save \$1.5 million, Patterson said.

- The new science and technology center at Oakland University. "I can't take credit for this one by myself," he said. But with Engler's efforts, OU is scheduled to receive \$38 million to "help Oakland County realize its vision of becoming the High-Tech hub of the Midwest."
- Creation of a south Oakland County liaison position within his staff. While that position does not

have any concrete accomplishments to tout, it will help revitalize maturing communities like Royal Oak, Southfield and the Farmingtons.

- Upgrading technology within the county. County employees have worked with "appalling lack" of personal computers and other high tech tools needed to improve efficiency, Patterson said. His administration will change that, "even if we have to find the money."

33 at OCC take early retirement

BY RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITER

It's not exactly an exodus, but 33 faculty and staff members from Oakland Community College are taking advantage of the college's early retirement program.

The employees have an average tenure with OCC of 23 years, said college spokesman George Cartsonis. The average severance pay is \$22,000, and each retiree gets a pension, too.

The college administration put in the early retirement program because it makes financial sense to replace teachers at the top of the pay scale with new teachers who work for a lot less money.

Thirty-three people also retired early last year, leading Cartsonis to believe that "this may well be the last time this will happen for a long, long time."

The 16 faculty retirees will probably all be replaced before the fall 1993 semester, Cartsonis said, but with administrators "there is not such a pressing need."

Nearly all the retirements are effective June 30. The only retiring administrator is Mary Comden, the dean of auxiliary services at the Orchard Ridge campus. She's been with OCC since 1965.

The teacher retirees are: math teacher Joel Cohen (with OCC since 1965), humanities teacher Janet Young (1969), history teacher John Drain (1969), Individualized Instruction Center teacher James Fader (1969), math teacher James Harris (1965), sociology teacher George Mitchell (1969), biology teacher Leo Murray (1969), nursing teacher Theresa Peterson (1979), humanities teacher Clinton Pfau (1968), English teacher Sandra Ratliff (1969), counselor William Samples (1967), counselor Thomas Stone (1969), counselor Thomas Trudell (1968), English teacher Laurence Wassner (1970), music teacher Gerald Woughter (1965) and sociology teacher Ann O'Grady (1966).

Other retirees are: paraprofessionals Fern Brodie (1979), Mary Fromm-Frank (1970), Audrey Jakoe (1969), secretaries Helen Stock (1971), Mildred Shatzman (1978), public safety sergeant Frederick Costello (1978), business office specialist Gretta Cotter (1968), administrative assistant Marilyn Gannon (1978), coordinator of business services James Ingram (1965), administrative specialist Jeffrey Hope (1974), accounting assistant Shirley Padden (1977), mailroom worker Timothy Rowe (1972), maintenance worker Joseph Skwienec (1967), administrative specialist Frances Simon (1970), staff assistant Beverly Verselo (1979) and bookstore supervisors Rolf Weeks (1970) and Rosmarie Walsh (1965).

Gravel roads ready for work

It's spring at last and time to work on Oakland County's gravel roads.

Brent O. Blair, managing director of the Road Commission for Oakland County, is assigning lots of highway maintenance department workers to blade the gravel roads in Oakland County.

"The roads have finally dried out to the point that grading them will now do some real good," said Blair. "We have been waiting for this moment and have sent as much equipment and as many workers into the gravel road system as we can. They will work until it is too dark to see, blading the roads."

The Road Commission for Oakland County is the steward of nearly 2,500 miles of roads, with 1,000 of them being gravel.

*Lease payment for a 1993 Max Cougar XR7 with P.E.P. 260A is based on an average capitalized cost of 93% of \$17,438 M.S.R.P. Excludes title, taxes and license fee. See dealer for payment and terms. Average capitalized cost of 24-month Ford Credit Red Carpet Leases purchased in the Lincoln-Mercury Great Lakes Region for the period 9/92-2/93 on Max Cougar XR7. Some payments higher, some lower. Lease payment for a 1993 Tracer with P.E.P. 578A based on \$11,605 M.S.R.P. 24-month closed-end Ford Red Carpet Leases on Tracer. Leases may have option, but is not obligated to purchase the car at lease end at a price to be negotiated with the dealer at lease inception. Lessee is responsible for excess wear and tear and \$11 per mile over 30,000. Lease subject to credit approval and insurability as determined by Ford Credit. For special lease terms, you must take new vehicle retail delivery from dealer stock by 5/3/93. *Total cash due at lease inception includes first month's lease payment, refundable security deposit and cash down payment. For cash back take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 5/3/93. *Package savings based on M.S.R.P. of package vs. M.S.R.P. of options purchased separately. *Total savings on Tracer based on \$200 cash back and \$1,491 P.E.P. 570A savings and \$1,491 P.E.P. 570A savings and \$1,491 P.E.P. 570A savings. *Based on sales 9/92-12/92. **Excluding models with optional privacy glass.

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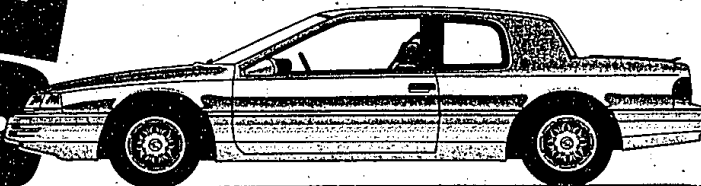
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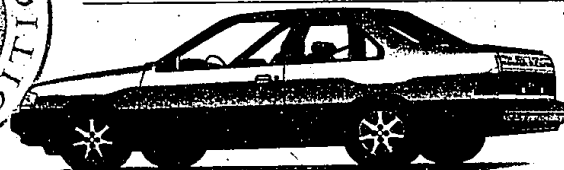
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