

# Investigators: OU fire started in science lab

By RALPH R. ECHTINAW  
Staff Writer

Investigators have determined that a March 14 fire at Oakland University's Dodge Hall originated in a glassware dryer in a science laboratory, according to OU spokesman Jim Llewellyn.

The university has hired an electrical fire expert, Bill Sadler of Sadler and Associates in Ohio, to investigate further.

The glassware dryer is a large piece of equipment, 3-feet by 4-feet by 5-feet, used to dry glass laboratory equipment.

The fire destroyed a laboratory on the third floor, damaged a lab on the fourth floor and killed 140 Mongolian jirds that were being used in the research of professor John Yates. (Jirds

**The university has hired an electrical fire expert, Bill Sadler of Sadler and Associates in Ohio, to investigate further.**

are cousins of gerbils.) Llewellyn also said two white rats were also killed in the fire. Twenty-eight jirds remain of a pre-fire group of 168. He was using the jirds in vaccine research for elephantiasis, a disfiguring disease that afflicts about 100 million humans worldwide.

Yates said the death of the jirds sets back his research about one year. "Next March we'll be back to the point we were sitting on last Monday," he said.

Yates' research is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

An estimate of the cost to repair the damage was still being figured out at press time.

Dodge Hall was closed for three days following the fire, but re-opened Friday, March 18.

Oakland University is south of Walton Boulevard between Squirrel and Adams roads. The main part of the campus is in Auburn Hills, and the rest of it is in Rochester Hills.

## Hills engineering firm award finalist

The Farmington Hills engineering firm of NTH Consultants Ltd. is a finalist in the American Consulting Engineers Council's 28th annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition for geotechnical and environmental services for a lead remediation project at Ford's Marina Village on the Detroit River.

The site, which previously had been used as a marina, was blanketed with 10 to 25 feet of fill material deposited over a century. Hazardous levels of lead contamination were found in some areas. Removal and replacement of 33,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil was not a feasible alternative.

The firm worked with the state Department of Natural Resources and developed an on-site containment cell consisting of a slurry cutoff wall, an internal dewatering system, and a clay and membrane cap.

This allowed development of the village to proceed. Finalists will be judged on March 26-27 at the Westfield International Conference Center in Chantilly, Va. A panel of 28 judges hailing from engineering, architecture, government, media, academia and the military will determine winners from a field of 127 finalists.

The winners will be announced at a luncheon on Tuesday, May

17, in Orlando, Fla. in conjunction with ACEC's 1994 Annual Conference.

The convention, which will be held at Disney's Beach and Yacht Club in Orlando, is expected to draw some 600 attendees. The luncheon will be preceded by a news conference to announce the winners.

ACEC is a national professional association representing the business interests of more than 5,000 private-practice consulting engineering firms. ACEC members, who employ some 176,000 engineers, scientists, technicians and support staff, annually design more than \$100 billion in constructed public works.

## The Perfect Marriage: Style & Sophistication.

Join us for our exclusive Wedding Band & Engagement Ring Show. Featuring collections from ArtCarved, Christian Bauer and Memoire.

APRIL 1st & 2nd  
10am - 5:45pm



26400 W. 12 Mile Road • Southfield, MI 48034

Service & Repairs (810) 357-5578 • Order Toll-Free 1-800-337-GIFT

## Classic Interiors



FURNITURE FOR THE HOME SALE  
**ONE WEEK ONLY!**

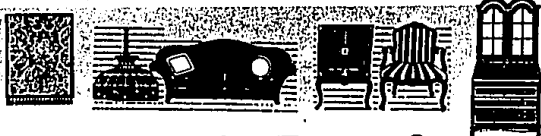
**SAVE 35% TO 40%**

AND

**WE WILL PAY YOUR SALES TAX  
NOW THRU MONDAY, MARCH 28th AT 9:00 P.M.**

- Pennsylvania House
- Century
- Bob Timberlake
- King Hickory
- Hekman
- Hitchcock
- Howard Miller
- Berkline
- Thomasville
- Nichols & Stone
- Lexington
- Conover
- Stiffel
- Jasper Cabinet
- I.M. David
- Harden
- Bradington-Young
- Hooker
- Sligh
- Canal Dover
- Superior
- Butler
- Hancock & Moore
- Charleston Forge
- Chapman
- Dinalre
- Restonic
- Spring Air
- Athol
- Matland-Smith

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9:00; Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30; Open Sun. 1-5



**Classic Interiors**

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile • 474-6900

• All discounts are Off Manufacturers Suggested Retail Prices  
• All previous sales excluded • Offer not valid in conjunction with any other promotional discount

### DISCOVER THE NEW TROY-BILT® MOWERS

**TROY-BILT® High Wheel Mower**  
OTROY-BILT NEW PRODUCT  
\$694<sup>00</sup>

**TROY-BILT® Mulching Mower**  
OTROY-BILT NEW PRODUCT  
\$339<sup>00</sup>

**TROY-BILT® Sickle Bar Mower**  
OTROY-BILT NEW PRODUCT  
\$999<sup>00</sup>

**TROY-BILT® Wide Cut Mower**  
OTROY-BILT NEW PRODUCT  
\$1298<sup>00</sup>

Now there's a new TROY-BILT® Mower for every size and type of lawn, from small suburban plots to spacious rural retreats! All made with famous TROY-BILT® quality to the most exacting standards! Totally new Mulching Mower and WideCut Mowers for manicured front lawns...High Wheel Mowers and Sickle Bar Mowers for rough terrain! All backed by the exclusive 7-Year Warranty! Ask your dealer for complete details and a free copy of the TROY-BILT® 7-Year Warranty.

**TROY-BILT® 7 YEAR WARRANTY**

**WEINGARTZ**  
SINCE 1945  
"We service what we sell"

46061 VAN DYKE • UTICA  
1/2 Mile North of M-59  
731-7240

39050 GRAND RIVER • FARMINGTON HILLS  
East of Haggerty Road  
471-3050

Hours: Monday 8:30-8:00 Tuesday-Friday 8:30-5:30 Saturday 9:00-4:00  
Michigan's LARGEST Lawn, Snow & Outdoor Power Equipment Dealer

## McDONALD FORD

"THE DEALER YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR"

## PRE-TAX INCREASE SALE

ON MAY 1, 1994 THE MICHIGAN SALES TAX WILL INCREASE TO 6%, A 50% INCREASE. WE HAVE HUNDREDS OF NEW & USED CARS, TRUCKS, VANS & CONVERSION VANS IN STOCK AT REDUCED PRICES READY FOR DELIVERY BEFORE THE INCREASE. COME EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION.

## Check Out These Savings

<b>Escort LX 2 Dr.</b> Air conditioning & more. Was \$11,401 Discount \$2,702 Rebate \$400 <b>NOW \$8,299*</b>		<b>Escort LX 2 Dr.</b> Automatic, air conditioning & more. Was \$12,123 Discount \$2,924 Rebate \$200 <b>NOW \$8,999*</b>	
<b>Escort GT</b> Loaded, loaded, loaded. Was \$13,909 Discount \$3,410 Rebate \$500 <b>NOW \$9,999*</b>		<b>F150 XLT Pickup</b> V8, auto., air conditioning, loaded. Was \$19,843 Discount \$5,844 <b>NOW \$13,999*</b>	



**PLUS: Special Meal Certificates**  
From Rocky's Of Northville  
with every test drive\*\*

**WE NEED TRADE INS!**  
TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR USED CAR, TRUCK OR VAN.  
BRING YOUR TITLE

**McDONALD FORD**  
550 W. Seven Mile • Northville  
349-1400 between Northville Rd. & Sheldon Rd.

\*Plus destination, tax, license, title and assignment of rebate to McDonald Ford.  
\*\*Buy 3 get 1 free. See certificate for additional details. No purchase necessary.