

2-Year Colleges Catch Eye

By KATHY MORAN

It took three years, but Provost S. James Manilla finally succeeded in getting highway signs on I-696 identifying the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

Along the way, he had a lesson in government bureaucracy but scored a point and won the right for all Michigan community college to be identified on state highways if they have a significant student enrollment.

Manilla's lengthy debate with the highway department culminated recently with the erection of signs approximately one mile in either direction of the Orchard Lake Rd. exit reading "Oakland Ridge NEXT RIGHT."

Comm. College Orchard Ridge NEXT RIGHT.

Those few words on the six-by-10 foot sign were a long time in coming but well worth the time and trouble, Manilla says.

Now he hopes to have a respite from complaints by visitors that they missed the Orchard Lake exit and had to drive well out of the way to backtrack and find the campus.

Now Manilla can look out the window and know that cars buzzing by on busy I-696 will have some idea of what the ultra-modern buildings with the gaslines and on the south side of the expressway.

Manilla began his campaign for the signs because of complaints that the campus wasn't identified, despite the fact that the expressway forms its northern boundary.

When he requested some type of freeway identification, the highway department mailed him the criteria for freeway signs and was told that Orchard Ridge didn't fit the criteria.

Among the requirements for college and university freeway signs are that they offer a four-year curriculum, are accredited with North Central Assn., are on a road, street or highway which intersects with the freeway within five miles of the campus and that they have a minimum enrollment of 2,500.

Manilla balked at the criteria which meant that smaller colleges, like Marygrove or Mercy, could get

freeway signs but Orchard Ridge couldn't because it offers a two-year college program rather than four-year.

Orchard Ridge has an enrollment of 6,000 and draws students from all over southern Oakland County. While most of the student body is enrolled in two-year programs, many come for just one or two classes.

Manilla said the highway criteria were set in 1969 before the impact of community colleges was felt on Michigan higher education.

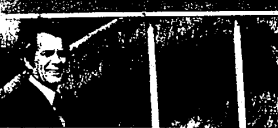
So he waged battle with the highway department and succeeded in having the criteria expanded to include two-year colleges.

"We're all pleased at the campus that the signs have finally been installed," Manilla said. "It's been a long time coming, but since we didn't fulfill the various highway department requirements for freeway signage, we had to convince them that an institution with 6,000 students deserved appropriate signs on the freeway."

It was a philosophical victory, too, since Manilla scored a point for Michigan community colleges in their battle for recognition equal to other institutions of higher learning.

The signs came in time for a conference co-sponsored by the American Assn. for Higher Education and Orchard Ridge on Oct. 31. Educators from all over the state attended the conference, which was the first hosted by a community college.

Oakland Comm College Orchard Ridge NEXT RIGHT



"IT'S BEEN A LONG time coming," says Orchard Ridge Provost S. James Manilla who succeeded in getting freeway signs on I-696 identifying the Farmington Hills campus after a three-year debate with the State Highway Department.

DCDS Having Alumni Day

BIRMINGHAM Detroit Country Day School will hold its Alumni Day Saturday, Nov. 3, with all alumni from 1927 to 1973 invited.

A special cocktail party reunion will be held immediately after the football game. The reunion will be in the Bay Pointe Country Club in West Bloomfield.

Alumni will be able to register at 11 a.m. in the Commons Room in the main

building of DCDS. Activities include a varsity soccer game against Inner-City Christian beginning at noon.

The 47th varsity football game against Grose Pointe University Liggett will begin at 2 p.m. The Headmaster's Cup, originated in 1936, will be kept by the winning team.

Halftime activities will feature the first DCDS instrumental group, some 24 middle and upper school students.

OU Holding Senior Exams

ROCHESTER Oakland University will hold its 1973 competitive scholarship examinations for high school seniors on campus on Nov. 10, 11.

The tests will be given in Room 201 of Dodge Hall. Forty full and half-tuition scholarships will be awarded on the basis of test scores, without regard to family income.

Soph Is Champ

Michigan State sophomore Roger Young of Detroit is the 1973 U.S. champion in sprint cycling.

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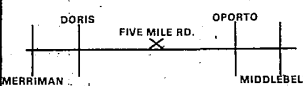
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OCC Sets GED Dates

A high school equivalency test called the General Educational Development (GED) examination will be given from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1.

Both sessions must be attended in order to complete the test which will be administered on the second floor of A Building on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College (OCC) located at I-696 and Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Persons taking the test should report just prior to 6 p.m. on Nov. 30. Fee for the test is \$5 payable at the test site, preferably with a check made order of OCC. No appointment is necessary.

The test is open to anyone 18 years of age or older or to anyone whose regular high school class has graduated.

If the test is successfully completed, an application may be made to the Michigan State Department of Education in Lansing for a high school equivalency certificate.

Many employers, colleges and universities in the state recognize the certificate, and many trade unions will accept the GED examination for admission to an apprenticeship program.

OCC has administered the test since 1966.

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