

# No new college — Macomb president



## 'Ridge' chief

Daniel Jackson, 49, takes over in mid-August as president of Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. Once a baseball coach, Jackson spent 21 years rising through the administrative ranks of Macomb Community College. OCC hired the Utica resident last week.

Macomb Community College denies that its Aug. 5 property tax proposal is aimed at creating a 16th state college.

Macomb President Albert L. Lorenzo said the two-year college's innovative move to expand higher education in Michigan's third-largest county is being wrongly interpreted by some as a step toward creating a new university.

"We've said from the beginning there are several reasons it doesn't make sense to start another public university," Lorenzo said.

"The state already is having trouble funding its 15 existing senior-level colleges and universities. We want to invite existing Michigan universities to offer certain needed courses and programs on our campuses."

"WE WANT to be the host, or facilitator, for several colleges offering baccalaureate (bachelor's de-

gree) course work. We feel we are in a strong position to help Macomb residents, and these in surrounding communities, prepare for tomorrow's jobs."

"Many of these jobs will be based on new and emerging technologies." Macomb, whose enrollment of 30,000 students is the largest of the state's 29 community colleges, is betting that countywide interest in job training, continuing professional education and bachelor's degree courses will win voter support Aug. 5.

If voters approve, the college will collect an additional two-thirds of a mill in property taxes (67 cents per \$1,000 of state-equalized valuation) — less than \$15 a year to the average household.

THE \$5 MILLION raised annually will enable the community college to establish a Center for Advanced Education, a separate facility housing classrooms, seminar rooms, lecture halls and demonstration areas. The new facility would provide concurrent seating for about 1,200 students.

Senior colleges — such as Wayne State University, University of Detroit, and Walsh College — would offer advanced courses and for the first time, it would be possible to earn a four-year degree in Macomb County.

Lorenzo said the MCC board of trustees studied the proposal for nearly a year. It concluded Macomb lags behind its southeastern Michi-

gan neighbors in job creation and economic development.

"We've seen how highly educated populations and facilities for techni-

cal training have drawn companies to Oakland and Washtenaw counties. Macomb must compete for employers' attention."

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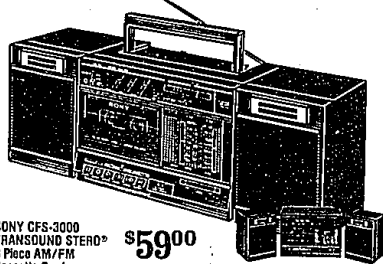
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