

# Romney turns students on to newspapers

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The Oakland County Bar Association is having a fund-raiser 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 1, at the Ultimate Sports Bar and Grill in Pontiac to benefit the Michigan Center for Law-Related Education and Haven, which serves victims of domestic violence.

Scheduled activities include dancing, basketball, billiards and wall climbing. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Students with their college ID can get a \$5 discount. Call 398-2100 or 398-3937. The bar is located at 40 W. Pike St.

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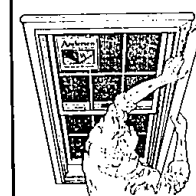
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BY RALPH H. ECHTINAW  
STAFF WRITER

Although the media in the U.S. is mostly liberal, not always trustworthy, slanted and biased, it plays a pivotal role in protecting our way of life.

That's what WKYT-AM talk-show host Ronna Romney told a group of about 150 students, faculty and staff at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills last week.

Romney, 49, of Bloomfield Township, was invited to OCC by marketing teacher Harvey Bronstein to speak on the topic, "Can We Believe the Media?"

With one notable exception, the students in attendance seemed to think they can believe Romney, if not the media. The exceptional student was visibly angry over Romney's view of political correctness ("it's dumb"), but other students quickly became fans.

"I think she's an inspiration to

women," student Theresa Bunker said, noting that she sees in Romney much of what she'd like to become. "I want to sit in on one of her talk shows now," she said.

Student Elizabeth Kapp, a Farmington Hills resident, said she didn't know who Romney was before hearing her, but now she wants to visit Romney at her radio show, too (9-11 p.m. week-nights).

In keeping with the format of her show, the Seaholm High School graduate (class of 1981) talked for a half hour at OCC, then took questions.

As someone who has worked in the Republican party for many years and spent most of her life in a political family before turning to talk radio last August, the former Ronna Stern said she sees the media from the unique perspective of someone who's been on both sides.

"I think you bring a lot of substance to what you do (in the me-

**"The most important form of power is knowledge. And knowledge has to come primarily from print (media). The (television) media has done a lot to hurt real journalism."**

Ronna Romney



die) when you've been on the other side," she said. "I know where a lot of bodies are buried."

Romney also emphasized that newspapers are a lot better than television news.

TV news people, she said, work so much that "they don't get out in the community any more. They don't see life the way life actually is. The one (big) dimension I bring to the media is that I have a

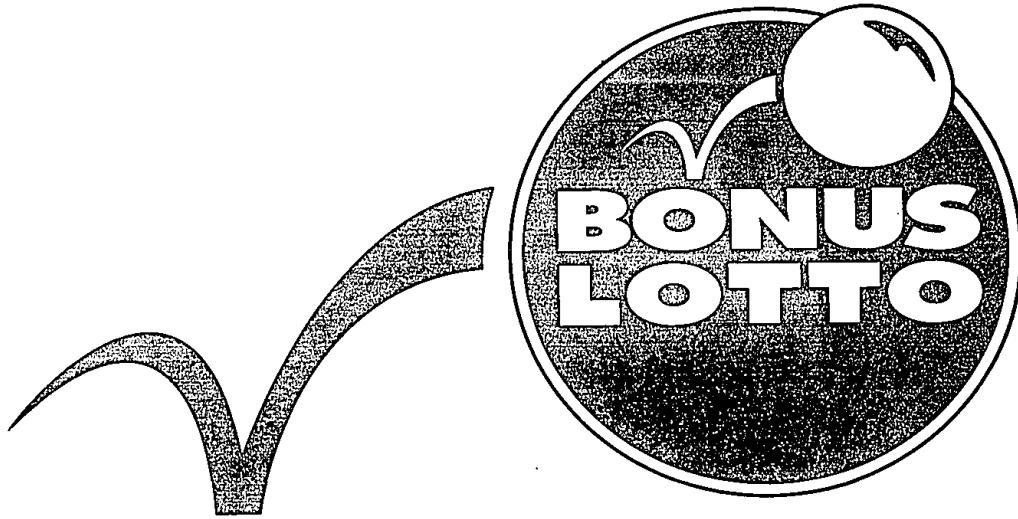
edge has to come primarily from print (media). The (television) media has done a lot to hurt real journalism." (However, Romney later noted that her TV set is tuned to the Cable News Network "all day.")

Although she admitted to being mostly uninformed when she was of college age in the 1960s, Romney suggested that the mostly student audience "establish" a daily regimen of reading (to) get a sense of the way the country is shifting. "As students plan their professional lives, Romney said, they ought to know what the national trends are in order to play more effectively."

She recommended The New York Times ("That's where you get the best solid information"), The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post.

As for the Observer & Eccentric, Romney said she doesn't read it. "I got divorced and my husband got The Eccentric."

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