OCC remembers King despite cold

As a bone-rattling arctic wind hurried through Farmington Hills Monday, a hardy contingent of cheery singers shuffled across the frozen slopes of Oakland Commu-nity College's Orchard Ridge cam-mus.

nity College's Orchard Ridge cam-pus.
Dodging anowflakes on their meandering way to the Smith Theatre, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrants sported "I'm a dreamer, too!" badges and sang "Oh Freedom" while garnering stares of confusion and amuse-ment from passers-by.
"Join us," said one young wom-an to a fellow who didn't.

"I don't think any of us, marching or otherwise, covered this campus quicker then we did to-day," quipped George Keith, the campus president.
"The weather was better at

Berkeley (California)," noted teacher J.J. Berry.
The ragged queue of King celebrants ended its symbolic march at the college's auditorium for a program including apecches, sing, a reading of King's comments and Keith's request that everyone turn to the adjacent individual and say, "Peace be with you."

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Although a head count revealed that 132 folks occupied the theater, OCC Community Chorus members characterized the turnout as disappointing.
"It was a shame more people couldn't have been here," said Julie Skene. "I expected it to be a huge thing with hundreds of people."

The event was likewise diminished by the absence of Clementine Bartfeld-Chism, the founder of Save Our Sons and Daughters who was scheduled to speak.

However, the audience seemed pleased with what was left. Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Claudia House Morcom, in particular, piqued the crowd's interest. As a young attorney with the National Lawyers Guild in 1984, Morcom went to Mississippi to fight the good fight in the civil rights war.

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Mississippi, she said, "was our South Africa in the United States."
It was Morcom's wish to march with the protesters and endure the fire-hose dousings, melevolent dogs, national guardsmen and cops bearing nightsticks and samesks.
But she was urged not to. Had she been arrested, she said, no one would remain to extract the protesters from jail.
"The face of history was changed by young people like

you," Morcom told the audience.
OCC students heard similar messages at the college's other campuses, as activities were scheduled for each location, College spokesama George Cartsonis reported about 200 in attendance at the Auburn Hills campus to hear Pontine Mayor Charlie Harrison's booming, resonant voice and eloquent presentation.
At Orchard Ridge, the crowd was treated to a performance of The Orchard Ridge, the crowd was treated to a performance of The Orchard Ridge Readers presenting selections from King's speeches. The Trinity Mission Baptist Church Choir and the Community Chorus singers, with the vigorous piano accompaniment of leader Kevin Dewey.
"I thought it was a very inspiring program," said chorus member Peggy Wilson. "I'm some member Peggy Wilson. "I'm some member Peggy Wilson." The solid proposed to the whole campus to be here."

Computers subject of talk

Rick Instome, chairman of Ina-Com Corp., will be guest speaker at noon Thursday, Jan. 20, for the Oakland County Chamber Divi-sion of the Greater Detroit Cham-ber of Commerce's economic for rum at the Northfield Hilton in Troy.

Inatomo's speech is called "The Next Computer Revolution."

Tickets are \$25 for chamber members, \$30 for overyone else. Call 456-8600 for reservations.

Special Olympics needs help

The Oakland County Special Olympics is seeking volunteers to participate in the Special Olympics Alpine Ski Competi-tion at Pine Knob Ski Resort in Clarkston.

The event, scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 25, will benefit 82 Special Olympians (athletes with mental retardation) from Macomb and Oakland County. The athletes will be compet-ing in downhill, giant slalom,

slatom and developmental events. Opening ceremonies be-gin at 9:15 a.m. and the competi-tion follows immediately at 10 a.m. and lasts until 4:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help run the competition. This in-cludes timing, recording, pre-senting awards, set-up and gen-eral activities.

To register call the Oakland County Special Olympics at

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Special Olympics is an international sports training and competition program for athelets with mental retardation.
Oakland County Special Olympics is a year-round program offering 18 individual and team aports for more than 1,000 athletes. Special Olympics is a non-profit organization operating primarily with volunteer support.

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