Office replaces keys
Lost keys no problem

By Debbie Friedman
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Have you ever had one of those
days when everything goes wrong
and to top it all off you lose your
keys, namely an OSU key?

It’s happened to everyone, but
here at OSU keys can be duplica-
cated at Key Control, located at
2003 Millikin Road in the Central
Services Building 155

In order for someone to obtain a
key to a building, the specific de-
partment has to issue an au-
thorized request which is then
sent to the lock shop. The key is
sent back downstairs to Key Con-
trol where once again authoriza-
tion is needed to get the key.

“OSU has over 30,000 doors that
Key Control has to keep track of,”
Anderson said.

One dorm on campus has had to
have the locks changed twice be-
cause of lost keys.
Central Service Building
key to finding lost items

By Jeff Merritt
Lantern staff writer

If you’ve lost something on campus lately, it could be waiting for you in the basement of the Central Service Building.

This is the location of the university’s Key Control Center, which is in charge of distributing and recording keys to all Ohio State facilities other than the hospital and residence and dining halls. It’s the university’s lost and found department.

Wilma Franklin, who works in the key control office, said a small room in their office houses a rack of coats, other pieces of clothing and boxes of eyeglasses, wristwatches and keys.

She said the lost items are from virtually every part of campus. They are brought to the office regularly by students, OSU police and the management of some campus buildings.

Other buildings, however, have their own collections of lost items and do not deal with the key control office, she said.

She said students searching for items must be able to describe them, and a student describing a missing watch would certainly need to be more specific than one missing a sweatshirt. In the case of keys, students are allowed to look through the boxes themselves to see if they can identify their own.

Jean Anderson, head of the office, said people come in to look for their possessions a few times a week, and only some actually find what they’re after.

As a result, the room fills up quickly. Twice a year, all unclaimed things are thrown away to provide space for the new ones, Franklin said.

When a found keyring includes a university key, they are sent upstairs to the locksmith’s office for identification. If the key belongs to either University Hospitals or Residence and Dining Halls, then the appropriate office is notified. Otherwise, the key control office identifies and notifies the owner.

Franklin said most of the keyrings they receive contain a university key and are therefore returnable. However, the residence and dining halls and medical facilities have only thirty days to claim their keys before they’re returned to the box.

The keys are grouped into three-month intervals, according to the date they were found. Keys found between January 1 and March 31 will be destroyed after June 1 to make room for those found during the summer. The box designated for April through June has about 25 keyrings in it, Franklin said.