For more than a year, the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park has hosted Steinen Thorarinsdottir’s *Horizons*. The unique artwork features 12 bronze figures placed in various positions on the field north of the campus pond.

In recent days, however, frequent visitors to the park have commented that the statues seem to be arranged differently. “The statues are too heavy for pranksters to move,” said park director Geoff Bates. “It’s almost as if they’ve moved themselves, which I realize is impossible.”

However students and faculty observations seem to prove just that. While most accounts are unconfirmed, there have been several sightings of rogue statues in different locations on campus.

According to park docent Nick Battaglia, “I was passing the E Lounge last week and swear that I saw one of the figures hanging out with the totem poles.” Rusty footprints have also been found on the treadmills in the Rec & Fitness Center and in front of the Starbucks’ counter. “Maybe they just got sick of the long Chicago winter,” added Battaglia. A DPS investigation is pending.

**Name That Space!**

Given Illinois’ recent budget woes, it’s no secret that the next fiscal year will be challenging. Thanks to GSU’s conservative fiscal planning through the PBAC budgeting process, the university is in a better financial position than many other State departments and institutions.

In order to stay ahead of the game, GSU will implement a new fundraising initiative this summer. The campaign will solicit donations for naming rights of various campus rooms. With the exception of the McGee Hall of Honors, almost any other space is available, according to the Advancement Office.
The first room to be named under the new program is the bathroom on the second floor of the Faculty Office Center. Faculty and staff have been pooling their money for several weeks to help honor Dr. David Curtis, who is serving as Interim Provost until his retirement in June. “It’s a fitting tribute to David, who never puts up with anyone’s crap,” said a close colleague. Additional information about the new naming rights program is available by calling the Advancement Office.

**Hooved Eco-Warriors On The Way**

Four-legged environmental specialists will soon be on the job at GSU, munching their way to a cleaner planet.

Thanks to a $300,000 grant awarded jointly by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, GSU is preparing to purchase 50 dairy goats that will be used to “mow” grass around campus, control weeds, and reduce the university’s energy needs.

In addition, the goats will be milked regularly. Cheese will be produced and sold to gourmet groceries and upscale restaurants throughout the Chicago area.

It’s all part of GSU’s drive to be the greenest university in Illinois, said Susan Rakstang, assistant vice president for facilities development and management. “This allows us to greatly cut down on traditional lawn mowing,” she said. “That saves us money and reduces the greenhouse gases we generate. These goats are natural-born grazing machines with a minimal carbon footprint. They’re well-mannered and cuddly, too.”

During the day, the goats will wander throughout the campus, both around grassy areas and more natural terrain, such as the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. At night, they will be housed in a barn to be built north of the sculpture park.

Job listings for two positions – a goat herder and milking assistant – will be posted this spring.

**How Low Can You Go?**

Producers of a reality television series will be looking for “lowdown, despicable” behavior when they hold auditions at Governors State University later this month.

Cutthroat U will be filmed at GSU this fall, according to a press release from Get Real! Enterprises, the show’s producer. Get Real! will hold auditions for a cast of eight GSU faculty or staff members on campus, the press release states.

off a quiet, respectable Midwest university campus.”

According to the *Cutthroat U* plotline, the university is facing a budget crunch due to the inability of state lawmakers to properly fund higher education. As a result, the show’s cast members will look for every possible way to divert funds into their own departments – at the expense of other units at GSU. Cast members rack up points based on, for example, charging their use of copiers to other departments, or posting embarrassing information on other unit’s Facebook pages.

Auditions will take place “in a week or two,” the press release states.

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**Stayin’ Alive at GSU**

In a foot tapping, high stepping, body-swaying move the GSU campus responded to a recent “Why Not? suggestion by altering the carillon music that entertains the campus on the hour.

Instead of the current variety of classic, big band, and oldies music that emanates from the carillon, the anonymous “Why Not?” suggested a switch to Disco Music.

“We weighed the intellectual merits of the suggestion and concluded that it would be a good idea if we, as a community, do a little dance,” responded Diane Dates Casey, chair of the Intellectual Life Committee which oversees the music selection.

All Disco All the Time will begin on April 2. A trial run of a medley of key disco tunes from the 80’s brought a positive response.

“That’s the way, un hun, un hun, I like it,” commented Gebe Ejigu, Executive Vice President.

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**GSU in Stirrups**

On the heels of a successful first season for GSU’s table tennis team and the formation of a women’s volleyball team, the university is looking to add a third sport to its roster. Beginning in mid-April, FDM will begin manicuring the field just west of the main entry drive for use as a polo court, according to grounds supervisor Kevin Barto.

Polo was chosen due to its appeal to international students and because GSU’s prairie landscape provides the perfect location as a polo grounds. The university will lease ponies from Greg Kain of ITS, who already raises horses for racing at local tracks.
Student Life is working to finalize the paperwork needed for certification by the United States Polo Association, which governs both the professional and collegiate levels of the sport. GSU will begin recruiting players as soon as certification is complete.

**Lights, Camera, Action!**

GSU is now the Hollywood of the South Suburbs.

‘Twilight’ director Catherine Hardwicke has turned her attention from vampires and werewolves to the increasingly popular zombies for her next movie, “Zombies Go to College”, and the location will be GSU.

Filming begins in early summer, with many of the extras enlisted from GSU students, faculty, and staff.

“I have toured the campus and find that the air of walking dead both powerful and pervasive. This campus has a stunning post life atmosphere,” added Hardwicke.

A casting call will be held in conjunction with June Commencement exercises. Graduates and university personnel interested in a part in the film need only hold out both arms as they proceed down the aisle to “Pomp and Circumstance.”

**People Who Live in Glass Houses...**

A solarium that makes winter days easier? A lab for growing eco-friendly biomass? A cozy corner café?

Long vacant, GSU’s F-wing Greenhouse is the university’s most prominent – and interesting – empty space. At the GSU View, our offices overlook the Greenhouse and we often ponder how the space could be better used.

As a result, the university has announced the “What the Heck Should We Do with the Greenhouse?” contest. Entries should be 50 words or less and sent to GSUview@govst.edu by April 30. The person who submits the winning entry will receive a packet of cool GSU collectibles.
Surf's Up

The success of the Let’s Get Fit program is apparent in the healthier, more active students and employees on campus. To increase the effectiveness of Let’s Get Fit, to attract more participants, and to provide the next big challenge, an indoor wave machine was installed in the GSU swimming pool.

Specially designed pumps and propellers propel water over a stationary wave form providing the illusion of the big waves found in Hawaii. The flowing wavelike shape permits riders to carve a turn, ride up the wave surface, and hang ten.

Nurse sharks, seaweed, and other marine life were introduced to the pool in an effort to add authenticity to the ocean experience. Swimmers, however, are cautioned against ingesting the fish, as it is not sushi grade.

“This will be the ultimate GSU fitness challenge,” commented Julia Jameson, director of the Let’s Get Fit program. “We plan to install sun lamps and palm trees to turn our pool into a tropical paradise as soon as the State releases the funds.”