Stranded by the State & Starving the Beast: Two Films Examine the Battle to Fund Higher Education in America

By Donnica Gordon
Associate Editor

On Wednesday, February 22, two critically important films were screened and discussed at GSU in front a standing-room-only audience.

Stranded by the State and Starving the Beast tackle the coordinated assault that is currently being waged against public higher education in America.

Stranded by the State is an episodic documentary web series produced by Liz Kaar of In These Times Production Company in collaboration with Kartemquin Films. Episode one, viewed at the screening, examines the effects of a decade long trend of decreased funding for public higher education coupled with the current Illinois budget crisis upon the state’s higher education institutions noting that Illinois is only state to go an entire year without a full operating budget in over 80 years.

The documentary highlighted the case of Eastern Illinois University to put faces to the thousands of students –often first generation, low income, or under-resourced students– who are most at risk of losing their path and access to higher education due to the ongoing state budget crisis.

It also examined the effects of the crisis upon the institutions themselves in terms of employee layoffs and furlough that have occurred, and their threat to the existence or sustainability of Illinois state higher education institutions.

Stranded by the State illuminated the fact that Illinois has lost over 29,000 students to out of state since the budget impasse largely due the decrease in available scholarship and financial aid resources.

Liz Kaar, the film’s creator, said that Illinois’ budget crisis is a manufactured crisis – an outgrowth of a war that’s been waged on the public good since the 1980s. She said she has, however, gained a lot of hope from the activism that’s involved, and the people coming together.

According to the film, it costs more for Illinois residents to attend Illinois public universities that it does to attend neighboring state schools in Indiana, Wisconsin, and Iowa due to their reciprocity agreements. High school students are reporting their counselors are advising them not to go to college in Illinois.

Additionally, the film reported that state appropriations for public university operations fell by 25% in Illinois from 2008 to 2015, while the average tuition at four-year universities increased by 23% during this same time.

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Editorial

Still Tackling Immigration

By Brenda Torres
Editor-in-Chief

Immigration has been a huge topic over the past eight years, but more so this past month. First, the executive order, Protecting The Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into The United States, the “Immigration Ban” which was not apparently not a ban. On Friday, Feb. 24, President Trump addressed the Conservative Political Action Congress. According to BBC, Trump declared that he will put citizens first and afterwards, claimed, they are ahead of schedule on building the wall on the southern border. Trump also stated that they will be “getting bad people out of this country.”

Since the Obama administration, there was a promise that the United States would have an immigration reform. Yes, undocumented students were granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). It was introduced in 2008, for young minors who had entered the United States undocumented with their families at a young age. With this action they were able to get work permits and many attended college.

During the 2016 Presidential Campaign, Hilary Clinton, stated that during her first one hundred days, she would propose immigration legislation. Would that have happened? Would we have moved forward with a progressive immigration reform?

On Feb. 23, according to NBC news, Department of Homeland Security Chief Kelly, pledged that there will be no mass deportations, and that everything will be done legally. Recently, when Trump was elected, many millennials feared that DACA would get eliminated. However, it was newly announced last week that DACA would stay unbroken under the Trump administration. But what happens to the families of the DREAMers?

It is time that our politicians view the world from up above, and see that there are no borders or walls to be spotted.

OpEd

Mel’s Corner

By Melanie Fitch
Staff Reporter

Q: How do you deal with all the stress of being a full time student and working a job during the week and on weekends?
A: Most adult students have a lot on their plate. A sixteen credit hour course load is no joke, I can tell you from experience. Add to that, two part-time jobs (week and weekend) and parenting a teen and you have one heck of a lot of potential stress.

Between the students and faculty of Gov State, I’d bet that if we harnessed all of our stressful energy we could probably use it to power this building.

Because it’s flu season, it’s easy to mistake stress symptoms for the flu. Headache, muscle pain, sleep problems and stomach upset are all considered flu-like symptoms, but they are symptoms of stress as well. The most important thing to know is that stress can not only make it difficult to keep up with your course load and responsibilities, it can cause serious, life threatening conditions like heart disease, obesity or diabetes.

Therefore, the best method for reducing stress is finding an activity that’s really relaxing and schedule it in, on a regular basis. It can be anything from a night at the movies or a bubble bath, to a full-body massage or weekend getaway.

Whatever you choose, just know that it is worth the effort and possibly the cost as well. These types of activities are what I refer to as “maintenance”. Youth will carry you for a few years but the quality of what you’re made of in the long run is often determined by maintenance.

You will never make a better investment. So take care of yourself today. Your future self will thank you.

So you think you can write? Email us at phoenix@govst.edu

Grad Column

MOT Community Outreach Projects

By Brittany Godsey
Grad Columnist

Beginning this week I’m going to be spotlighting different departments and programs, showcasing how their students at the graduate level are impacting the community and being honored in their respective fields.

As part of a class in their second year curriculum, the Master of Occupational Therapy students are tasked with implementing a community outreach project. The main focus of the class is based on planning. Instead of creating plans to just present in class, the students are receiving real world experience and learning the importance of giving back to their community. It’s taken the last semester before students enter field work, and gives them an idea of what’s to come. Students who are in their first year have also volunteered their time to work on the programs which shows a commitment to community outreach from all students in the program. This year there were four different projects that students were a part of implementing.

One group collaborated last weekend with the Tim Tebow Foundation at the “Night to Shine Prom for Individuals with Disabilities” event. MOT student Sara Thorpe explained they developed a sensory room for this event to allow more participation since it can be overwhelming for some people to be around the flashing lights and loud music. The room was filled with calming activities so people could take a break and relax. She said that the entire event was an eye opening experience of how an occupational therapist can make an impact on the individual and community level.

Another group is collaborating with Kids Connection Therapy. Students in this group are running a support group for moms with children on the autism spectrum as well as a social skills group for the children while the moms are in group. MOT student Marjorie Borg said that the main goal of the project is to support children in developing social and communication skills while giving parents the chance to connect and ask questions about their child’s needs. Personally she believes the most fulfilling aspect of this community outreach project is being able to interact with the children in a fun, engaging and supportive way.

The other programs this semester are helping design a space for South Chicago Parent & Friends, an organization working to develop opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and the YWCA in Kankakee helping to develop a healthy physical activity program for children from birth to age.

All four projects will be up and running in the next four weeks. At the end of the class, the students will present their program outcomes to their classmates and be given a chance to reflect on their experiences.
Congresswoman Robin Kelly Launches a Bill and Speaks with Students

By Brenda Torres
Editor-in-Chief

On Feb. 23, Congresswoman Robin Kelly from the 2nd District visited the GSU dormitory, Prairie Place to launch a new bill entitled Today’s American Dream Act. “Today with all the pride with Americans who will come after us and chasing the American dream, I am introducing today’s American Dream Act. It’s a jobs bill, education bill, a reinvestment bill that will do one thing, bring more security to our families and in small businesses, in universities, especially its direction of America’s public universities, making sure that elementary school teachers have a strong science and mathematics background,” stated Dr. Maimon. Mayor Vivian Covington from University Park, Mayor John A. Ostenburg from Park Forest and David Robinson from Manufacturing Renaissance and Mollie Dowling from Opportunity Advancement Innovation (OAI) were also in attendance.

After the press conference, Joshua Baker, began the second half of Kelly’s visit to GSU with a student-centered conversation called Future Forum. The conversation took place between Congressman Eric Swalwell from California, Congresswoman Kelly and students of GSU. Baker gave a bit of background on what the Future Forum is, “It is a committee filled with young democratic members of congress that are focused on issues and opportunities geared towards millennials. Those of us in the room today are focused on engaging millennials and on how congress can do their part to ease the burden of college debt so that hard working college people can follow their passion, own a home and start their own businesses when they graduate,” said Baker. Kelly expressed that they wanted to give the opportunity to students express what they are feeling and see what was on their minds and wanted for the students to ask them questions. The students that were in attendance where from various colleges of the university. Swalwell asked the student audience that who among them was the first in their families to go to college. A majority of the students raised their hands. Then Swalwell asked if anybody wanted to share their challenges of being first generation in college, so that they can make it a bit easier. A few students shared their experiences.

Jocelyn James Moore an undergraduate in social work shared her experience, “It's been difficult for me trying to figure it out on my own. My mom had to help me as far as loans; I didn’t know what a Promissory Note was, just trying to figure out things on your own,” stated James-Moore. Many students shared their worries regarding our current president. They wonder if Trump will cut funding for their education. Student Senate President, Justin Smith, asked a question on Illinois budget for higher education, “What are you doing on your level, to try to push Illinois to get funding back, [pass] the state budget, getting money flowing in Illinois?”

Kelly’s response was that during the Obama administration, she and Congressman Mike Quigley, now Senator Tammy Duckworth and former president Obama, came to Springfield to speak to the Senate and the House on the budget issue. Kelly further expressed that they are just at a standstill, and Springfield needs to hear from students.

Stranded by the State & Starving the Beast: Two Films Examine the Battle to Fund Higher Education in America

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Meanwhile, 66% of students from four-year public colleges or universities in Illinois graduated in 2015 with student loan debt of $29,305. The next film, Starving the Beast, examines the current nationwide battle to control the financing and direction of America’s public universities, especially its research universities. The film explores the ongoing, under-the-radar ideological fight to dictate the future course of public higher education.

At the heart of the 90-minute documentary features, is an analysis of 35 years of systematic national defunding of public higher education coupled with the emergence of a well-financed market-oriented reform effort. The central message of Starving the Beast, concerns the “reframing of public higher education as a ‘value proposition’ to be borne by the student as a consumer, rather than an investment in citizens as a ‘public good’.”

The film explores the ongoing, under-the-radar ideological fight to dictate the future course of public higher education. As a ‘public’ university in fact means that education is considered a good that is of benefit to the overall society when citizens we place upon the notion of ‘public’, and what that really means. To be a ‘public’ university in fact means that education is considered a good that is of benefit to the overall society when citizens are able to consume it, and then contribute back to the society through the knowledge and skills gained from their education.

As a long-time economic and political strategy of continuously cutting taxes and reducing government spending in order to foment a budgetary crisis that can then, ostensibly, only be solved by cutting public services.
Put a Little Love in Your Heart

By Dana Solatka
Staff Reporter

Mr. GSU (JuJuan Day) and Ms. GSU (Ashley Palacios) made an appearance at the Heart-2-Heart event. “We, the students, don’t know the problems that we face with heart disease,” Day stated. “We eat all this bad food but we don’t really know what we’re doing to our bodies. We need love.” Palacios joined in, “We are just trying to alert people of what is really in their food.”

Intern and community health major, Ramy Elian, assisted in the event. He said the event was “to promote awareness for Heart Disease Awareness Month.” He said he wanted students to “figure out how much calorie intake” they have with foods such as muffins, bagels, pizza, and so on so that they may combat heart disease.

Elian said he wants to raise “more awareness on smoking, on obesity, on eating out more, and for high blood pressure and how it can effect heart disease.” He agreed that this event for students because it will help improve well-being now as well as in the future.

When asked if they are positively impacting the community, Ms. GSU replied “I think we are. Just by being here and showing that we are promoting this. By passing out information, by giving out the quiz and the cups, we are positively impacting the GSU community. And I’m very proud to be here.” Day said “As Mr. and Ms. GSU, I feel that our role is to inspire other students. So when we hold events we are participating in the GSU community, we are inspiring others to be involved in their community and to have a positive impact and eventually be a world changer.”

Multicultural Fashion Show

By Brenda Rock
Contributing Writer

The International Culture Organization (ICO) is hosting their signature event, the Multicultural Fashion Show on April 10, 2017.

ICO operates with the goal of promoting cultural awareness and exchange amongst the Governors State University (GSU) community. The annual Multicultural Fashion Show is just one of various exciting cultural activities planned by ICO. During the Fashion Show, models will wear traditional outfits from their native countries. By doing so, they help educate the GSU community about how people dress in other countries.

“I think it’s important to GSU because it really highlights all of the diverse cultures that are represented in the GSU Community.”

So much of our student body, faculty and staff are comprised of individuals who come from different backgrounds or have traveled and lived abroad. This is a time for us to come together and honor the beauty of the world’s culture through fashion, song and dance.” Mirabel Wyrien, former ICO Model, stated “The Multicultural Fashion Show was not just about modeling. It was a humbling opportunity for me and other students that wanted to celebrate their cultures. The truth is that some students were afraid they would be judged for looking different. For me it was all about showing my culture, accepting who I am and knowing that I am enough. With that, I was able to encourage others to do the same.”

The ICO Multicultural Fashion Show will take place on April 10th from 12pm to 5pm in the Center of Performing Arts (CPA) Lobby. ICO is looking for models who would love to represent their country or another country. ICO will hold an information session regarding the Fashion Show on Tuesday, Mar.7th in room A2110 from 3pm to 4pm.

If anyone has any questions in regards to the Fashion Show or would like to be a model, please email Brenda Rock at brock@student.govst.edu. ICO looks forward to hearing from you!
By Hannah Carroll
Contributing Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 21, The Office of International Services hosted the Study Abroad Fair, where representatives from various organizations came to share information about programs and possibilities around the world.

The organizations included:
• Athena Study Abroad
• International Studies Abroad (ISA)
• University Studies Abroad Consortium
• CAPA: The Global Education Network
• Academic Programs International (API)
• Barcelona SAE
• Across the Pond
• Peace Corps

If interested in studying abroad, do not hesitate to check out some of these organizations (and the OIS here at GSU)!

Upcoming GSU Study Abroad Programs include:
Summer China Studies

Program (July 4-21, 2017) Public Health Brigade in Nicaragua (January 2018)
For more information, please email Amy Schoenberg at aschoenberg@govst.edu
In other exciting study abroad news, GSU has recently joined the Institute of International Education’s (IIE) Generation Study Abroad commitment. This initiative aims to help more Americans to gain international experience through study abroad programs. IIE has more than 700 commitments announced across the country.

Studying abroad is an eye-opening, life changing, perspective-broadening opportunity that every student deserves, and GSU is committed to making the opportunity to study abroad more accessible for all students.

Governors State is committed to doubling its numbers and reaching a goal of 100 students who participate in credit-bearing study abroad programs by the 2019-2020.

Nominations for the 2017 Student Leadership Awards are open

By Dana Solatka
Staff Reporter

Nominate your friends, favorite club advisors, favorite staff members, or favorite students for awards like Outstanding Student Club/Organization, Outstanding Graduate, Outstanding Undergraduate, Freshman of the Year, Rising Star, New Organization of the Year, Program of the Year, Outstanding Student Club/Organization Advisor, Outstanding Staff Support, Civic Engagement Fellow, and the Elaine P. Maimon Award.

Nominations are due Mar. 3. The nomination form can be found on Jaguar Connection. The form takes less than 10 minutes to fill out, but can change someone’s life.

“First and foremost, [we want] to recognize student achievements and accomplishments from a club standpoint as well as from individual student leaders on campus,” Konya Sledge, event coordinator, had to say.

She stated the event’s purpose is “to get more exposure, more interest...in becoming a student leader”. She continued, “So the actual purpose of the event is to get students involved in campus and then, once they’re involved and they’re active, to recognize greatness”.

For more information on the categories, log onto Jaguar Connection and check the gold box with a link that reads “Click Here to Submit Your Nomination”. Those selected will be awarded on April 27 from noon to three in the Center for Performing Arts.

By Dwaylon Bledsoe
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 16, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship and Lambda Pi Eta presented Black History Taught Through the Bible, Part Three out of a five-part series. The event was held in E-Lounge at 6pm and was attended by students, faculty, and staff.

Part three discussed “Spiritual Death and Resurrection”, an aspect of the series that dealt with how Israelites have forgotten who they are, who their God is, and where they came from; but through research, have regained this knowledge.

The informational event provided students, faculty, and staff information about spiritual death and resurrection, how it relates to the Bible, and how to apply that knowledge to everyday life.

During the event, the presenters went through scriptures, and broke down their meaning. As they broke down the scriptures, they gave knowledge about how to apply the scriptures to one’s life.

The purpose of the event was to provide everyone information about history in the Bible. After discussing principles and breaking down the scriptures to everyone, there was a question and answer session that let anyone ask questions about what they learned, or anything that they wanted to ask.

Everyone is invited to come out to remaining sessions to be empowered and to learn about history as taught through the Bible.
By Sydney Milligan
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, February 18, Governors State University theater department presented Eve Ensler’s Vagina Monologues with a fully engaging performance and V-Day movement celebration. The event took place in GSU’s Sherman Hall auditorium, where an extremely diverse audience of men and women with varied ethnic backgrounds, ages, abilities, etc. all partook in the presentation Ensler’s moving piece of political theatre.

The audience of about 100 individuals was invited to feel right at home and completely cozy in the quaint venue, as if getting ready for an epic slumber party with your best girlfriends. The simple setting of the stage, completely barren except of chairs for the performers, added to the ambiance and impact of the work being interpreted. This minimalist approach to the production’s staging allowed the audience to focus on the stories being told.

An ensemble of all women arrayed in uniforms of black and red with very minimalist or natural looking makeup (apart from bright red-stained lips in some instances), made for excellent and understatedly elegant costuming aligned with the simplicity being aimed for with the presentation of what is arguably Ensler’s most popular and influential work as well as the tradition and spirit of Ensler and her piece’s “V-Day Movement.”

For those now asking “What is the V-Day movement?”, it is a testament to political advocacy and awareness Ensler’s creative, educational and philanthropic endeavors with The Vagina Monologues has helped generate and nurture.

V-Day is a declaration of Valentine’s Day and the festivity surrounding this holiday as a time for denouncing violence against women and celebrating and empowering all womankind.

The performers interpreted all of the classic monologues of the episode play with the exception of “When I Was Twelve, My Mother Slapped Me,” a chorale number describing the experience of women’s first menstrual cycles. With these staple monologues, Maya Shelton’s rendition of “Hair,” the telling of a jilted wife’s experience with shaving her vagina to try and please and therefore save her relationship with her philandering husband, was endearing, but just a bit too full of youthful naivete and sweetness to be totally believable.

Roshaunda Ross’ “My Angry Vagina,” arguably the most famous of all the monologues, was absolutely hilarious and spot-on with just the right amount of sarcastic anger and incredulity. Michelle Taylor was captivating in her delivery of “The Little Coochi Snorcher that Could,” especially in the last chapter of the monologue that tells the tale of a 16-year-old girl’s encounter with a mature, sexually experienced woman who takes advantage of her.

Additionally, Sonia Zamora and Jessie Hughes’ “My Vagina Was My Village,” which gives breath to the story of female Bosnian refugees who had been subjected to rape camps was unflinching and had many audience members sobbing emphatically along with Jessie who broke down in tears on stage during the middle of performing the monologue.

Lisa Roti’s “Reclaiming Cunt” in which audience participation was solicited and the performer encouraged the entire audience to scream out with her this traditionally less-than-desirable term for female genitalia was quite uncomfortable and a bit thought-provoking about why this particular term and saying this word feels so shameful and uncomfortable.

Similarly, Kate Ryan’s “The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy,” which illustrated the story of a dominatrix enthralled with women’s moaning and sexual pleasure made those like myself who are typically more conservative squirm in our seats, but it was thought-provoking and an important dialogue to have in a similar way and garnered the most laughs of the entire evening with the whole cast’s execution of demonstrating the various types of moans across the female diaspora.

Lastly, Yvonne Oldaker’s interpretation of “I Was There In The Room,” a recount of Ensler’s experience watching her daughter give birth to her grand-daughter was moving. What was also appreciated about Governors State’s production that contained many traditional elements of this piece it’s performance was the inclusion of some of the lesser known and performed scripts that are part of the Vagina Monologues canon, such as “They Beat The Girl Out Of My Boy” in which three GSU students Nekia Driver, Hayley Zarriffs and Jessie Hughes outstandingly encapsulated the struggles of violence against transgender women.

Kayla Liggins’ “My Short Skirt” offered a sassy and full of gusto manifesto against blaming women for violence against them by shaming them for the way they dress. Lisa Henderson’s rendition of “The Vagina Workshop” was quite enjoyable, as was Michelle Taylor’s zesty and confident “Vagina Happy Fact.”

Governors State University’s V-Day celebration and mounting of The Vagina Monologues was produced in tandem with and to benefit Planned Parenthood Illinois and the South Suburban Women’s Shelter, two regional leaders in the protection and advancement of women and their rights.

It was a completely engaging event inside the theatre and out. A silent auction benefitting both South Suburban Women’s Shelter and Planned Parenthood Illinois was held in the lobby. Additionally, baked goods and other treats were sold, and swag and informational material for both of the organizations were given out.

With the wonderful direction of Marie Goulet and the insatiable efforts, compassion and determination of Goulet and Yvonne Oldaker who organized the Chicagoland V-Day commemoration, this stage show and the surrounding event was mesmerizing, eye-opening and empowering in every facet, from beginning to end. Continued on p. 7
might become. and hope, at all that they but to look, with courage where they have been, pain of who, what or really “see” not just the mirror for women to their reflections. She encourages women to as that is, Ensler’s art As frightening view of the feminine. some of the results of porn industry are just sex trafficking and the brides, genital mutilation, sexual exploitation, child generations is not a society, of having weak or dishonorable. is to imply that someone as a “Pussy” or a “Cunt” insult. To be referred to however, it is usually an female genitalia are used, When words that As frightening view of the feminine. some of the results of generation is not a society, of having weak or dishonorable. is to imply that someone as a “Pussy” or a “Cunt” insult. To be referred to however, it is usually an female genitalia are used, When words that "see" not just the pain of who, what or where they have been, but to look, with courage and hope, at all that they might become.

By Mychael Vanarsdale Political Science Columnist


On Jan. 25, President Trump signed a pair of executive orders that expand the field of requirements for illegal citizens to be deported and to begin the process of building a wall between Mexico and the United States. Under the Obama administration, illegal immigrants who have committed a serious crime were subject to prioritized deportation. Under the current rules, anyone deemed as a risk to public safety or national security can be processed for deportation. Under new rules set in place under Trump, federal agents can deport all undocumented individuals in even if illegal immigration is their only crime.

According to the Pew Research Center, there was 11.1 million people living in the United States illegally in 2014, and about 2/3 of them have been in the United States for over a decade. The new immigration policy now effects all illegal immigrants living in the United States. The Department of Homeland Security will look to hire 10,000 additional officers and agents at Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and also to hire 5,000 additional officers and agents for U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The Department of Homeland Security is also seeking to expand expedited removal across the country for illegal immigrants unable to prove they have been in the United States for over two years.


The effect on is weak or dishonorable. is to imply that someone as a “Pussy” or a “Cunt” insult. To be referred to however, it is usually an female genitalia are used, When words that "see" not just the pain of who, what or where they have been, but to look, with courage and hope, at all that they might become.

Vagina Monologues

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When words that are synonymous with the female genitalia are used, however, it is usually an insult. To be referred to as a “Pussy” or a “Cunt” is to imply that someone is weak or dishonorable. The effect on society, of having the essence of the feminine identity used as a negative slur for generations is not a mystery. It is obvious. Domestic violence, sexual exploitation, child brides, genital mutilation, sex trafficking and the porn industry are just some of the results of society’s subconscious view of the feminine.

As frightening as that is, Ensler’s art (and it is art) has done what it was intended to do. She’s held up a mirror for women to see their reflections. She encourages women to really “see” not just the pain of who, what or where they have been, but to look, with courage and hope, at all that they might become.

GSU Basketball Season Review

By Jeremy Manthey Sports Reporter

With the 2016-2017 basketball season now finished, it is the perfect time to review the past season. The men’s basketball team finished the season with a 11-19 record; 8-6 at home, 3-11 away, and 0-2 neutral. The Jaguars saw some growth in their 11-19 record as they improved over last season’s 8-21 record. The women finished with a 7-22 record, also an improvement as they finished 2-28 a season ago (Dakotats).

Torrey Oliver and Jalen Miller were a dynamic duo for the Jaguars. Torrey Oliver finished averaging 20.5ppg, 5.3rpg, 4.0appp, and 1.9spg while shooting .443% from the field, .361% from the three-point line, and .783% from the free throw line. The men’s basketball team finished the season with a 11-19 record; 8-6 at home, 3-11 away, and 0-2 neutral. The Jaguars saw some growth in their 11-19 record as they improved over last season’s 8-21 record. The women finished with a 7-22 record, also an improvement as they finished 2-28 a season ago (Dakotats).

Men’s Golf

Mar. 31 IU South Bend 9am Tournament

Apr. 1 IU South Bend 9am Tournament

Women’s Golf

Mar. 31 Olivet Nazarene 9am Invitational

Apr. 1 Olivet Nazarene 9am Invitational

Illinois’ biggest union could strike soon

Illinois’ largest public worker union, The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 31, have decided to authorize a strike since they have been unable to come to an agreement over their contract since June 2015. Such a vote to determine state-employee bargaining hasn’t been done in over forty years. This news transpired around the same time a judge ruled to deny the request of Attorney General Lisa Madigan to freeze paying state workers until a budget is passed. As of now, AFSCME could strike whenever they feel organized enough to do so.


Chicago News-
No ICE in CPA

The Chicago Public School system has taken a stand against President Trump’s new immigration policy and they have told their teachers to not allow federal agents into their schools. In light of the recent changes made to our federal immigration policies, teachers have been apprehensive of whether Immigration and Custom Enforcement agents will show up to their schools. Janice Jackson, CPS Chief Education Officer, not only urged teachers to keep immigration agents outside and to avoid giving information about any of their students, but she also urged parents who could possibly face deportation while their children are in school, to set a plan for such an emergency should an occurrence happen.

Chicago School Principals Told Not to Let ICE Agents In - NBC News. (n.d.).
Call For Nominations

Awards Ceremony
Thursday, April 27th
Noon-3pm
CPA Stage

- Outstanding Student Club/Organization Award
- Outstanding Graduate Student Award
- Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
- Freshman of the Year Award
- Rising Star Award
- New Student Club/Organization of the Year
- Program of the Year Award
- Outstanding Club/Organization Advisor Award
- Outstanding Support Staff Award
- Civic Engagement Fellow Award
- Elaine P. Maimon Award

Nomination Deadline
Friday, March 3, 2017
Submit your nomination and RSVP
WWW.GOVST.EDU/JAGUARCONNECTION