Candidate Carter Meets With GSU

by Craig Hunt

In what appeared to be a last minute scheduling after being informed of her visit on campus Thursday, Feb. 3, Dr. Patricia Carter—candidate for the Dean of Student Affairs and Services—was able to address and meet some of the Governors State University community members. Many who attended were informed of the meeting via a voice mail message sent only one day prior to her visit.

In her presentation in room D3409 at 2 p.m., Carter seemed at ease speaking to the group of about 25 or more faculty, staff and students. She came across as a strong advocate for the incorporation of student activities with academic programs as a way to better prepare graduating students for the world of work. Her talk included such areas as providing avenues for activities outside class, assessing students for academic and development needs along with curriculum offerings, providing a variety of faculty and career advisors and preparing students for a global market.

"When cuts come, we (at student services) are the first to be cut," Carter said in reference to budgeting affairs in higher education. She went on to explain that this is why activities need to be tied to the curriculum as much as possible to reinforce their need in academia. Can we afford to promote isolated activities, she asked, in these times of shrinking budgets and the growing needs of students?

Carter has been well respected in the field of student services according to some university officials. In her presentation, she admitted to being in chaotic, changing situations before and maintaining a clear head would be an important asset for the future top dog in student services, which has taken several hits in the past years with budget cuts and personnel changes. Carter said she was not afraid to find the solutions to problems like retaining students by asking other successful institutions what they were doing right.

GSU has recently been concerned about retaining students, especially from the undeclared and non-degree seeking enrollments which have a high turnover rate.

Asked what her first priority would be if selected, Carter suggested doing an evaluation of student affairs and services. During such an assessment, employees should be asked "what is it we are doing and why are we doing it?" she said. It is important to meet with the various units in the division to take a look at what is planned and necessary to make realistic requests. Her message: communication with everyone should be a priority.

It would mean talking to administration, faculty, staff and students and sitting in on Senate and committee meetings. A "total assessment before thinking about change" would be a long term goal.

Such a division-wide meeting—which would bring all employees into it once—has not been done since the position of dean became vacant about two years ago.

Also in her presentation, Carter expounded on her thoughts on issues in higher education today such as diversity, campus crime and discrimination, and cited some examples of the legal questions facing higher education.

Carter also spoke of an environment that exposes students to the programs offered by the university with the understanding that these prospective students would return to GSU or another institution of higher education. Such a program was implemented successfully at Prairie State College, according to Carter. The idea of farming students from high schools is new to higher education, but is currently used only on a limited basis by GSU.

With her strong background in the student services, Carter seems to be a likely choice, but that was also true of the past candidates. However, something in her favor is that she has been in the local circuit as her resume lists experience with the student services at Chicago State University and Prairie State College; one of feeder schools for Governors State University.

"Dr. Carter knows the area," said Dr. Sven Groennings, Provost for GSU, which is an advantage, but he added that this is not the only criteria for the dean's position. Some members of the GSU community thought Carter had some good ideas but seemed doubtful of her chances of being approved of by the university president, Dr. Paula Wolff. Since one of the president's favorite candidates, Saul Benjamin, has dropped out of contention, Carter is considered a strong contender for the position.

"Dr. Carter is in the running," said Dr. Groennings, "She is not necessarily the only candidate, but is 'considered a strong contender' for the position. However, he admitted that Dr. Carter is the only candidate since Benjamin to give a presentation to the GSU community. The Dean of Student Affairs and Services has to be a "good diplomat among the various constituencies," and be able to address immediately "what the problem is at the moment," Groennings said.

"We would like a professional in student affairs" who understands the special "needs of older and non-traditional students and assert a creative role in relations with community colleges, enrollment management, problem solving and testing writing skills," Groennings said, and someone who uses "imagination on how to better serve students who aren't typical. That person needs to know people and be a good judge of character."

Groennings said that Burton Collins, Clark Defier and Doug McNutt are a good team and have done a good job up to now.

Whate'er the choice, there is a growing feeling among many involved with the student services that placing almost anyone in the position would constitute a step in the right direction for the future, amid the growing uncertainty and anxiety about the lack of leadership that currently exists.
Nik's PIs

by Nicole M. Sebit

As the Spring season slowly grabs onto our coalitaals (thanks to Mr. Gopher), the excitement of love is rushing in like water from a broken water main!

This season of love begins with one of the most adored (or loathed) holidays of the twentieth century. Valentine’s Day, as we know, is number one in that group of non-holidays: the greeting card industry makes up so they could put more “posts of our day” to work. Honestly, I can’t imagine what else a client of the Starring Arties Fund. But nonetheless, with beautiful landscapes, furry animals, and my favorite, the grumpy old lady, their cards brighten our days when the sun isn’t out so well there is space for feeling inside; especially on Valentine’s Day. Knowing that there are other people out there who are just as thankful to their partners for being there makes you feel good and that your co-dependency isn’t a nice disease afflicting only you.

Remember a time when all the valentines received were handmade? We don’t even use the word “rose” anymore. I mean who thinks that a great poet your admirer was? The days when putting a little effort into the card meant more than stopping off on the way home for a card you signed but hadn’t even read? Or bringing her flowers through every time a new year rolls around and the non-holidays begin, it would have to be this. THERAPY.

Gotta Plov!

Legislator Visits Class

by Ann Jettstadius

Representative John Ostenburg, D-DuBois, gave a lecture in Prof. Dale Perkins’ Writing For Print class, and explained his role as a freshman representative in the Illinois General Assembly. Ostenburg, formerly Director of External Affairs for Governors State University, was himself a journalist, and he was able to give the class the benefit of his experience from the perspective of both a politician and the newsmen.

As an experienced educator and businessman, Ostenburg has been appointed to sever on committees dealing with education (including higher education), business and local government. Ostenburg claims the legislature operates in a manner that he had not quite expected when he won the office in 1992. During the 1993 legislative session, Ostenburg was asked by the Senate and the House. He says there is a close relationship between the General Assembly, which is Democratic in the House and Republican in the Senate. For the Republican governor, according to Ostenburg, the Democratic bills will pass the House, only to be turned down by the Senate. These bills will be passed by the Senate in order to get the approval of the Republican governor. He also said it is a trend that the Republican governor is to change all that if elected. She would also like to invest the public funds in things that need change.

Ostenburg told the class that the school budget crises will not be solved before the election, because that would require an increase in taxes, and the governor has vetoed to save any bill which will raise taxes. Edgar wants to get reelected, too. One of the governor’s opponents, Dennis Clark Netcs, has proposed an increase in the state income tax and a decrease in property taxes to meet the budget crises, a proposal which Ostenburg calls “the kiss of death” for any candidate. Ostenburg called for more analytical political writing from journalists, not merely reporting on the outcome of the bills. He feels that if an informed public is one that will be able to better make the decisions that will affect the state. To this end, he urged the writing class to keep up on the politics of the state and to investigate carefully the measures and candidates for the upcoming election. And, of course, he urged the class to register and vote.

Topinka Eyes The State Treasurer’s Office

by T. Dean Fidan

Anyone slightly familiar with politics knows that 1980 was the year when ERA became law, but does anyone remember how difficult it was for women to enter politics? She recalled vividly how difficult it was for women to enter politics those days?

When you read the cute little “roses and red violets are blue” poem and thought what a great poet your admirer was? The days when putting a little effort into the card meant more than stopping off on the way home for a card you signed but hadn’t even read? Or bringing her flowers during the holidays of the twentieth century. Valentine’s Day, as we know. is a time when a card you signed but hadn’t even read? Or bringing her flowers to show how much you care. You kept women at home, and the Kiwanis.

"Fourteen years ago, my disaster was presented by an Indiana Motel embezzling his goals, and the goals of his constituency, accomplished. Ostenburg has sponsored bills to require private insurance carriers to cover drug and alcohol treatment, especially for young people, a bill to create programs for pregnant and parenting teens with substance abuse problems; an ethics bill eliminating the requirements for full financial disclosure statements from state teachers; and an economic development bill for the time sharing of business incubator resources.

The key issues in this election year are school reform and the reduction of property taxes. Ostenburg claims that the school budget crises will not be solved before the election, because that would require an increase in taxes, and the governor has vetoed to save any bill which will raise taxes. Edgar wants to get reelected, too. One of the governor’s opponents, Dennis Clark Netcs, has proposed an increase in the state income tax and a decrease in property taxes to meet the budget crises, a proposal which Ostenburg calls “the kiss of death” for any candidate. Ostenburg called for more analytical political writing from journalists, not merely reporting on the outcome of the bills. He feels that if an informed public is one that will be able to better make the decisions that will affect the state. To this end, he urged the writing class to keep up on the politics of the state and to investigate carefully the measures and candidates for the upcoming election. And, of course, he urged the class to register and vote.

Topinka Eyes The State Treasurer’s Office

by T. Dean Fidan

Judy Baar Topinka does. She is the GOP candidate for State Treasurer, twice elected to Illinois House and now serving her third term as Senator for the 22nd District. She was here last week as a guest speaker for the “US and Illinois Elections” class, taught by Dr. Paul Green, on Tuesdays between 7:30 to 10:30 p.m, featuring prominent names in politics in its curriculum this winter.

Topinka may be shy, but she wasn’t discouraged by the challenges she encountered in politics, as she recalled vividly how difficult it was to make a breakthrough.

Thirty seven years ago, my district was represented by a Republican, and I was very ethnic. You kept women at home and women who have fallen into the hands of this monstrous non-holiday. Mature adults who were willing to sacrifice their most prized possessions (mine being my video of a bear) were a rare sight.

As the Spring season slowly grabs onto our coattails (thanks to Mr. Gopher), the excitement of love is rushing in like water from a broken water main!

This season of love begins with one of the most adored (or loathed) holidays of the twentieth century. Valentine’s Day, as we know, is number one in that group of non-holidays: the greeting card industry makes up so they could put more “posts of our day” to work. Honestly, I can’t imagine what else a client of the Starring Arties Fund. But nonetheless, with beautiful landscapes, furry animals, and my favorite, the grumpy old lady, their cards brighten our days when the sun isn’t out so well there is space for feeling inside; especially on Valentine’s Day. Knowing that there are other people out there who are just as thankful to their partners for being there makes you feel good and that your co-dependency isn’t a nice disease afflicting only you.

Topinka Eyes The State Treasurer’s Office

Undeterred, Topinka went to her party bosses and asked to be a part of the political process. There was a vacancy to be filled. By this time, Topinka had spent many years in the area as a newspaper reporter (a graduate of Northwestern University). She knew almost everybody, had a good name recognition, did a lot of charitable work, and was a devoted Republican of many years who stuffed envelopes—like a good girl was supposed to do.

She was ready for the area, but the party machinery was still ancient. She was told by several people that she would be an ideal candidate, but "it wasn’t her time yet." Besides, they had someone else lined up for the job. A gentleman with no qualifications but because he was unemployed, he needed to become a state representative. So he was his candidate. Not styled, Topinka informed the bosses that "this time she would like to run.” Their answer was, bluntly speaking, "You have no right to run, you are a woman.” Another republican gentleman advised her to go home and "bake some cakes.”

Topinka did not give up. "I went to my party bosses and said, "Look, you know that I am just a poor dumb woman who doesn’t realize what is going on here. So you don’t let me run for the legislative district I was representing, but you want me to win. We all know I am not going to win. You control everything and you could just crush me. But that’s fine. Why don’t you just let people who want to run this once?”

Her persistence paid off, when they said, "Fine.” That was their first mistake. She stuck out, not like a lot of candidates. She soon got into the thick of things as a candidate. Not only did she win, she won by thirty thousand votes. One of the gentlemen never spoke to her again and it took them years to accept her.

Topinka saw women brought an element of independence and excitement into politics. Most of these gentlemen who fought her tooth and nail back then are now dependent on her legislative seat, and wonder how they ever made it without her. But for Topinka it meant "mediocrity” was dead in Illinois.

Yet, for her, the war goes on. Asked as to who she wants to be a State Treasurer, Topinka replied, "I am running for the State Treasurer’s office which has not been held by a republican for thirty-one years. Because it is one of the most important offices in the state. I disagree with the democrats who say the office is useless. The last democrat who had the office ran it from an Indiana Motel, embrazing money through his tracking company.

"The State Treasurer’s office is like a state bank. The Treasurer invests your money. Everything that is collected goes into the treasurer and its interest is invested to get the best yield for your dollars. The office is not useless. It has a lot of potential. Am I private business could not function without its treasury. The office isn’t the problem, it is the person in the job.”

Topinka hopes to change all that if elected. She would also like to invest the public funds in things that need change.

She would like to maintain link deposit programs and minority-female business investments while speeding up the process of state-of-the-art computerization in the office. Furthermore, she’d change the rules for investments to cover various units of government for standardization, efficiency, and for the sake of common sense.

Besides hard work and progressive activism, she promises to push for legislation to get rid of waste, institute General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for the state government, and develop better funding of pension funds.

The GSU audience was elated by Judy Baar Topinka. Aside from the dignitaries (President Paula Wolff was on hand) who cheered her on, the students were also impressed by her. A quick poll revealed that she is hot. One student said, "She is a consummately politician.” Another praised, her for her "Stamina and Enthusiasm.” Most of the others who were interviewed, simply said, "She is just Great.”
NATURALIST IN A NEW WORLD

by Avalon Zakazakina

On January 28, Linda Leigh of the Biosphere II Project was present at GSU for a slide presentation and a question and answer session. Biosphere II? Wasn’t that the place where some people were locked in a glass thing in the desert? Indeed it was, but as many people who attended the program discovered, Biosphere II was, and is, much more.

The Biosphere II Project was designed to sustain humans, animals, plant life, and terrains in a completely closed system. The idea of a completely contained living life system is not a new one. The theory was first proposed and tested as early as the 1920’s. In the 1980’s, a small module which was not a completely closed system was constructed in Siberia and sustained 3 humans for a few weeks.

Biosphere II was the first attempt ever at a completely self-sustaining, self-contained area sustaining life on earth. In 1994 Biosphere II was not a completely closed system. The Biosphere was the first atempt ever at a scientific experiment in one of the following trades: Welding, Computer science, Secretarial services for today’s businesses. PRM’s newest program will be the Social Work program. The program is a not-for-profit organization that specializes in placing men and women in employ next upon their release from prison. The program is designed to serve ex-offenders who have received their high school diploma or GED, as well as additional training and education in one of the following trades leading to certification: Auto Mechanics, Construction Trades, Electronics, Food Service, Horticulture, Computer science anduids. McGhee stated, “In order to reduce the rate of recidivism and to provide the revolving door syndrome, ex-offenders must be given the opportunity, while incarcerated, to equip themselves with a marketable skill, so that upon their release they can succeed in the community’s construction ab-
sorbing the carbon dioxide and re-
tarding the plant’s ability to make more oxygen.

While Biosphere II may not have been as perfect as it was planned to be, the experiment is not over yet. Designed for 100 years, the complex still has a long life ahead of it. The next group of Biospherians gets scaled into the complex on March 6, 1994 for a ten-month stay.

There was a great deal of very hard work and hardship for the 8 people who took part in this monumental undertaking. According to the one Biospherian who has visited GSU as of yet, it was well worth it. She could have felt left at any time, but said it never crossed her mind for a moment.

As for the main goal of earth study and global awareness, if even five people who heard Ms. Leigh speak on January 28 would come away with any new knowledge that was discovered or refined in the Biosphere? The real answer is unknown, but let us remember that Michelangelo was thought to be crazy, and da Vinci was told his flying machine would never work. You never know a thing until you try.

Linda Leigh The human inhabitants of the complex would possibly have fared better if they had done some of the things that rumor insisted they did. As it was, they all lost a great deal of weight at one point due to very little food. As with every new scientific discovery, or specialized experiment, Biosphere II has its share of skeptics. It was designed to be a completely closed system. It failed in that category since an air-lock door was opened several times during the closure period. It was designed to have no elements present at the end of the experiment that were not present at the beginning.

It failed here also where oxygen had to be pumped into the complex to raise the oxygen level that had fallen to a dangerously low 14 percent. The oxygen was ‘disappearing’ due to all the concrete in the complex’s construction abso-

Student Assists Jobs Program

Mack D. McGhee, a GSU Criminal Justice student and President of the Criminal Justice Organization, has been selected as the newest employment counselor to join the staff of Prisoner Release Ministry, Inc. PRM is a not-for-profit organization that specializes in placing men and women in employ next upon their release from prison.

Cook County Jobs Project, PRM’s newest program will be operating out of its south suburban office located at 159 E. 154th street, Harvey, IL. The program is designed to serve ex-offenders who have received their high school diploma or GED, as well as additional training and education in one of the following trades leading to certification: Auto Mechanics, Construction Trades, Electronics, Food Service, Horticulture, Computer science anduids. McGhee stated, “In order to reduce the rate of recidivism and to provide the revolving door syndrome, ex-offenders must be given the opportunity, while incarcerated, to equip themselves with a marketable skill, so that upon their release they can succeed in the community’s construction ab-

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BALKANS: MEDIA UNFAIR TO SERBIA, SAYS PROFESSOR

by T. Dean Fidan

Media is often the target of all sorts of criticism. It gets blamed for reporting either too much, too little or simply not enough of the kind of news we want. But can the news-media ever truly comply our definition of what is news, opinion, and propaganda? As journalists, faced with the Balkan conflict, where do we draw the line between fact and fiction?

With these questions in mind, students listened to an incoming GSU professor (of 200-level linguistics), Milan Panic, talk about the current events in Yugoslavia, as Walter Perkins writing for Print Media class on Jan. 31.

Professor Panic first refreshed our memory about former Yugoslavia. The country was created in 1918, after the allied victory at World War I, as a Kingdom for Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. Later the nation was renamed Yugoslavia (south-slavs). During WWII, the Slovenians, Croats, and the Bosnians fought on the side of the Nazis, who eventually lost the war.

Subsequently, a communal Yugoslavia emerged under the leadership of the Partisan J. Brno Tito, himself a Croat, who once again divided the victorious Serbs into six different republics and two autonomous states (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosov and Vojvodina), to keep them from dominating the Yugoslav federal government. Nearly one million Serbs were killed by the Nazi puppets in the area, but mostly in eastern Croatia and in the Krajina region. Overall about 2.5 million Yugoslavs perished during that war. According to professor Panic, Tito did not punish the Croats and the Bosnians sufficiently for massacring the Serbs, even though the Serbs dominated the political and the military establishment of the twenty million people in Yugoslavia.

"For a long time," said professor Panic emphatically, "the West including the American media took the anti-Serbian position right after the Gulf War when Saddam Hussein was given the kind of treatment he did or didn't deserve. It seems to be more discussable now than it was then. Well, they had the same media machinery—still going fast-speed, and they just applied it to the Serbs. Because they were the next thing."

In 1991, after all the benefits they escaped from the Yugoslav union (e.g. industry), said professor Panic, the Slovenians and Croats decided to become independent countries. Left unmentioned was the fact that in March 1991, it was Serbia's Milosevic who actually recognized the autono­mous Yugoslavia, thus effec­tively dissolving it. The western most Slovenians split without much resistance from the Yugoslav army, heavily fighting between the Croatian militia and the Serbs in Krajina intensified, nearly destroying Dubrovnik. In March 1992, fighting between the Serb militias and the Bosnian government began, and continues to this day. Moreover, while the Muslims are fighting with the Serbs, they are at the same time fighting with the Croats in that multinational state. In all those conflicts, the super-power Yugoslav military units have joined forces with the Serb insurgents, who had defected from Croatia and Bosnia, because the latter had declared its independence.

"You know, for a long time you saw a lot of anti-Serbian stuff in the American TV," said Panic, "which was preparing you for giving your rubber-stamp to somebody in your family being sent overseas and the maybe getting killed. He might be killing one of the Serbs but he can't be sent back to you. It was conditioned for you. What would be the justification for that? Often, the savagery with which the Serbs went about this war." Professor Panic tried to enlighten us about the discursive, and gruesome developments of his native land (he is a Serb), but just as important as the points he made were the facts he failed to mention. Facts which include nearly half a million Bosnian Muslims who were uprooted by the Serbs, ten to fifteen people who are daily being killed in Sarajevo, and the rapes and concentration camps holding Muslims.

"They killed everything and everybody, and raped and so on," said Panic. One of the [media] pictures you saw was a young Serb guy, strapped with a rifle, a 26 year old guy, just out there to destroy something. And the opponents, the Croats and Muslims, were always shown as women and children, and old people, even though they are all a war between ages..."

One student asked professor Panic why is that the media would do such a thing? Unfortunately, class time ran out and the professor couldn't go into any more details. He cited a European publication that purportedly alleges to have uncovered a mass-media conspiracy against the Serbs. He promised to give the student a copy when it gets translated.

Another student asked Panic what he thought about the ultranationalist media. He laughed. "I don't think they would do such a thing, just a bit. Zhinovskiy is an important man. He is bound to play an important role in world politics."

Ironically, last week, Zbinovskiy turned up in Serbia. Amidst cheers, he told the crowd not to fear western bombardments since Russians would come to rescue them. The same Zhinovskiy, who has been dis­band­ed from almost all of the major capitals of the world, recently tied the knot with the German Nazi Movement, and then, unexpectedly made a surprise appearance in Serbia to honor his earliest supporters, the right wing radical leader Vojislav Seselj and Zeljko Raznatovic, if not directly Slobodan Milosevic.

Imanarily, there are lessons to be learned from the ongoing conflict.

This horrendous conflict has reminded the world to gene­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­…"
Divergent Opinions

The Rise And Fall Of The American Empire Part I

By Terry Crane


It seems that there was a time that this would have been a lot of news for one year. Certainly, this may not be an average day as murder and mayhem are concerned, some may have more and some less. However, which of these, if any, makes us angry? Why these stories might move us at least toward constructive dialogue?

The answer is of course that these kinds of stories do make us angry but perhaps in a way, they don't make us angry enough. Maybe, because these events have become so common, we have become anesthetized to them. What would the deranged, disgusting, savage act be before they are moved to respond? Will we see more of such collective shudders at the worst possible offences? I think that people have been so bombarded by recent escalations in crime that they may think there is nothing they can personally do about it. I think that way too. There are probably many reasons for the rise in crime we see in our society and the idea of identifying them may likewise seem overwhelming. However, there are answers and solutions, especially concerning the rise in crime committed by young people.

It would be hard to argue that crime and deviant behavior has risen dramatically for no ascertainable reason. So, it would be helpful to in-examine why people in society (those involved in extreme criminal activity) have de-valued human life. Likewise, what are the messages that society is sending concerning the value of human life? These are the questions that we need to ask and find answers to, once our anger and disgust have moved us to act. I will address these questions in Part II.

Have you fallen on your butt in the parking lot yet?

Whether you have or not, you may be wondering why our parking lots and walkways are so icy. As it turns out, the best intentions of the powers-that-be at GSU may not be enough to keep you unspilled this winter. According to the office of Physical Plant Operations, there is a shortage of salt right now, and additional supplies of salt will not be available for purchase for 2 to 4 weeks. What salt GSU has left will be used at intersections and hazardous areas. Cinders will be used in all other areas including roads and parking lots, so leave your white shoes at home! It'll be after Memorial Day. PPO will be doing additional plowing to try to control the situation. So for now, stop carefully and keep in mind that the school is doing the best it can under the circumstances.

Photo Opinion...

If you could do one thing to improve GSU, what would it be?

Ann Juttelstad, CAS, media communications
I would raise the standard of education and make the curriculum more difficult.

Evan Wallace, Alumni
Have more of a liberal arts curriculum, with more emphasis in art and music and less in computers.

Neil Marolewski, COE, psychology
They don't have to be so greedy in the bookstore... They should give discounts to students.

Ada Middleton, BOG
Because students come from great distances and so many are older adults, I feel developing an on-campus residential community would be mutually beneficial for both the students and the university.

RANDOM MUSINGS

By Jason Hortech

Lately, it seems as though it is no longer "let the punishment fit the crime," but more like "let the crime fit the name."

For example, Senator Bob Packwood stands accused of sexual harrassment. If he's "packin' wood," it would stand to reason that he would sexually harass anyone within earshot. The upside of the whole incident is that he will probably be packin' his suitcase and headin' home.

Example two: Joey Buttafucco is charged with sodomy. When broken down into syllables, the name itself should have been a fair warning of the impending sexual act, (nood say more)? A little jail time should be all the inspiration he needs to change his last name.

Example three: John Wayne Bobbitt. Breaking his surname into syllables also provides a fair warning. To "bobb" something would be to shorten, i.e. a bobbed haircut. "It is usually the terminology folks use to refer to their genitals. i.e. "Hey man, did she touch it?" It only stands to reason, then, that old J.W. knew what was in store for him. If I were Buddy Hackett, I would definitely watch my step.

Finally: Why is it that flashers always fit into one of two categories: a) They are from the Show-Me-State, or b) Their last name is Cox (there actually was a recent case like this)?

On a much lighter note, I think I have found the best weight loss program yet, and it was right under my nose. I call it "The GSU Workout."

Here's how it works: simply go to any department with a simple question, i.e. go to the admissions office and ask where to get a school ID. They will send you to the office of student life where, if you have a current copy of your class schedule, you will receive an I.D. on the spot (If this applies to you, you will not work). If, like most people, you do not have a copy of the class schedule, you will be sent back to the registrar's office to get one. You must then return to the student life office, show them your new schedule, and you will receive an I.D. Of course, the main place that you would use your I.D. is in the library, which is located on the other side of the building, far away from the office of student life. The best part of the whole thing is that, if you can bear the frustration, you will get an excellent workout and it comes free with your paid tuition. Just another one of the many fine services offered here at GSU.
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IBM PS/1 COMPUTER MODELS COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>2133-101</th>
<th>2133-107</th>
<th>2168-221</th>
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| All Models Include: MS-DOS 6.2, MS Windows 3.1, MS Works for Windows, Programs, IBM PS/1 Tutorial, IBM PS/Notes and IBM PS/1 Notes. Also, high end PC Model with IBM PS/1 Single Display, IBM PS/1 MultiSync and IBM PS/1 MultiSync2.

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Salt-n-Pepa Very Necessary
Music review by Avalon Zakarakina
This album is typical SNP fare, which is definitely not a bad thing. It combines lyrics about such topics as sex, fidelity, annoying people, and AIDS awareness with the grooving beat and musical arrangement that people have come to expect from this female duo. Rap and male rappers have often gotten a bad name for too much sexism and all treatment of women in their songs. While most of the songs on this album either are about sex and sexual relations or mention sex in the song, there is no air of female chauvinism. This album contains the song "Shoop" that you may have heard on the radio. That is about as close as SNP gets to any of the things that their male counterparts are accused of: as they openly ogle and admire the fellas they see. Not only is this song excellent, but it makes sport of all men who consider women simply sex objects by saying, "Oh yeah, we can do that too!"
SNP are part of a group that I consider to be "responsible" rap. Sure I like Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg. Dogg as much as the rest of you, but I certainly would not want my children, nor anyone else's, to actually believe some of the things these men describe or advocate. Salt-n-Pepa, along with others, like Queen Latifah, have a much more responsible attitude toward the listening and buying public. This responsible attitude is especially illustrated in the track "Whatta Man," which features the Funky Divas of En Vogue. This song upholds their version of the ideal man. He is a good mate, an excellent father, a hard worker, an attentive lover, and an all-around great guy. I find this responsible because this lets women know that they should settle for no less in life and men know that women want a whole lot more out of life that a quick roll in the hay. This is something that our young people, and even our not-so-young people, really need to learn. SNP proves that you can deliver a strong positive message and at the same time have an excellent song that gets air play.
There are 13 selections for your enjoyment on Very Necessary. Twelve of them are danceable, singable, grooveable Salt-n-Pepa creations. The 13th is a group called "We Talk." They are a group of young people from Boston who travel around and teach others about AIDS. They do a short skit called "We got AIDS." It depicts the plight of a 16-year-old girl and her earth-shaking discovery of being HIV positive. The fact that SNP gave room on their album is proof positive that they are "responsible" minded. Since they have 12 other fantastic songs on the album, I don't think they were just hungry for tracks and stuck this in to be "Politically Correct." I think they really want to save lives.
If you are a rap lover, or want to hear positive uplifting music as truly in-your-face fashion, this is the album for you. If you want to peek into the minds of these women, and find out what they think life is all about, this is also the album for you. If you want to be entertained in a not-too-heavy fashion, you guessed it, this is the album for you. Vap Blasphemy is one of the most aptly named albums I've heard thus far.
GRADE A+.

More Blues for You

As a result of my request for suggestions of blues acts and places to see, I was invited to see a band that is starting to become a regular part of the southside blues scene. Little Whitey and the Castlerockers, who derive their name from one of their favorite hangouts, played at McPuts recently. A four piece group that puts out a lot of sound, these guys boast a roster of musicians that they have played with that includes Bo Diddley, Pope Staples, John Lee Hooker, Buddy Miles, James Cotton, Jimmy Johnson, Blythe Smith, and many others.
I would dare to say that this band is still in its infancy to blend the vast influences that the players bring to the bandstand. Their songs reflect the diverse background of southern delta blues to the mean street sound of Chicago on the 50's and 60's. Little Whitey, the leader, plays a blissing guitar between his vocals that can get low down like the home of the blues. Whitey also plays the "Mississippi saxophone" (the harmonica to us), with the best of them in a smooth style that reminds me of Paul Butterfield. John "Butane" Johannes was a founding member of the No Mercy Blues Band, plays guitar in a very traditional Chicago Blues style. Bruce Felgen adds rhythms with his bass guitar. Finally, giving the beat to the music is Glenn Wierchick on drums.
The band is highly charged on stage, playing each song with the flavor that the original artist gave it. This makes for an interesting show, complete with Whitey (and harmonica) walking into the scat while the band played on. He stopped a few times to blast out a short solo lead before he wandered on through the place. Finally, he jumped up on top of the bar, almost hitting his head on the low clearance, continued his way down the edge of the bar, jumped off and strutted back to the stage.
Though Little Whitey and the Castlerockers have only been playing for a short while together, they do justice to the old blues songs, and I'm sure that they will be working on more before too long.
For those of you who might be looking for some upcoming things to do, let me tell you a couple that I will be covering in future issues. On Fridays, February 11th, McPuts which is located on Waverly avenue just half a block north of 14th street in Midtown will present Jon Southern and his band. Jon Southern hail from Indianapolis and will be a very talented guitarist with his blues the very much, in the style of the Allman Brothers and the Marshall Tucker Band. He plays a warm, southern feeling in the blues that he plays, especially the slide guitar numbers. His playing is something to be seen and definitely heard.
Also at McPuts on Saturday, February 12th, Chicago area blues group The No Mercy Blues Band will return. The No Mercy features "Lefty" Collins on guitar and "Magic Chef" on harmonica. I have been looking forward to seeing this group again for a while.
Saturday, February 19th legendary guitarist Bo Diddley will be playing at lands in Chicago. Bo Diddley, who is best known for the song "Who Do You Love," has influenced many guitar players including George Thorogood. Chances are this one may sell out so if you're interested act quickly. Remember, to avoid defeat take a dose of the blues.

Photos by Rita D.
Valentine's Day!
Kathy C.
Best wishes for the school year

Happy Valentine's Day!

Happy Valentine's Day to the woman who always smiles
Happy Valentine's Day Cherry!

Kristen, will you be my valentine?
O.K. I was just joking, now smile from the man who can't line dance!

Nancy, Shawna, (and Dee)
It's great to see you again. It's been just like old times. Happy V-Day!

Joan,
You are the sun, the moon and the stars. Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Or shall I just say...I love you babe, more than I ever thought possible.

You love slave, Paul

Happy Valentine's Day, Tom
You're the Best

Happy Valentine's Day, Ally
Can I rub your tummy sometime?

Love from down under, Joey

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A Quick Valentine's Day Quiz: For Men Only
by Stella

The time for last minute Valentine's gift buying once again draws near. Are you going to strike out again? Or, will you attempt to learn from your mistakes at last and go for B-I-G relationships points to boot?

Let's see, there's the candy and flowers route (too safe, too tame for the really big points), the jewelry route (too expensive), the stuffed toy route (charming, but childish), and, oh yes, the lingerie route (not for the amateur, see below).

There can be no doubt that pretty lingerie somehow resonates with the spirit of romantic intimacy and playful sexuality that this holiday has come to signify. As a result, many men will think this the perfect time to rush out to their nearest underwear dealer and purchase a skimpy, see-through, candy-colored skivvy trimmed in the feathers of some soon-to-be-extinct bird to bestow on their beloved. Many retailers will make a special appeal to these buyers by displaying racks bursting with these garments, on sale, placed near all the exit doors. But is this really the proper strategy for you?

Find out now by taking this brief diagnostic test. Imagine your loved one on a cold and frosty morning, preparing for her work day, standing before her dresser in her bare and freezing feet, frantically plucking the depths of her underwear drawer. Suddenly, she comes across a barely remembered item, (black and red lace with feathers and garters that hung to her knees. circa 1989). She holds the garment briefly aloft and says:

(A) "Perfect! Now where are the red knee highs that went with this?"

(B) "What a randy rascal! I can't wait to see what he gets me this year!"

(C) "Hah! What a pig! All he thinks about is his own pleasure!"

If you think her answer will be (A), I can't help you sorry. If you think her answer will be (B), you're doing fine, you don't need help. But if you think her answer might be (C), consider the following. Might it not be a better idea to get her some dainty in a color and style that she would have bought for herself and might consider wearing every day, even when you're not around? (Answer to respondents--this does not apply to you.) In short, why not get her a Valentine's gift that carries a message: "I think of you as a sex object and a human being," if you don't have any idea what she would like, why not ask her? Tell her you want to stop making costly gift-giving errors and you'll score points for caring suddenly, she comes across a barely remembered item.

You? For the really big points), the jewelry route (too expensive), the candy and flowers route (too safe, too trite)

Is this really the proper strategy for you? To submit an ad or for more information, call The Innovator at (702) 574-4517, or on campus dial extension 5318. Ask for Craig or Johnathan.

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