Communications Careers in the 21st Century

By Sasha Folkes

Panelists Abe Thompson president and owner of Focus Radio, Inc., and Erik Peterson, senior producer/project manager for Ahrens Interactive and Erik Peterson Communications, Inc. confer with students at break. (Photo by Janel Clarke)

On Thursday and Friday, March 28 and 29, GSU's College of Arts and Sciences and Division of Liberal Arts sponsored a Media Symposium, focusing on 21st Century Careers. This program, also offered to undergraduate and graduate students by GSU Professor of Media Communications and chair of the symposium, Dr. Mel Munchnik, is designed to let GSU students meet and network with experts in different media related fields and also allow students to prepare themselves for the constant change in media and communications as a whole.

Not only did the Symposium offer information to the students and other professionals considering job upgrading and career changes, but aspiring professionals were able to assess themselves, their own goals and aptitudes by taking a Myers-Briggs self test.

The two-day conference included topics such as converging technologies and career opportunities in the digital world, the emerging communications infrastructure, new and competing entertainment and information media; and industry job projections and distance education.

Providing information were six different panels made up of both GSU faculty and staff and other professionals in communications.

The first day of the media conference covered three panels, focusing on the "Twenty-First Century Careers and Challenges," "Converging Technologies, Emerging Careers," and "Challenges to Media Managers and Converging Technologies."

To start the conference chairman Mel Munchnik gave some background as far as what the symposium was designed to cover, how it should prepare you for careers in the media.

The first panel consisted of GSU's Michael Purdy, university professor of communications and publications programs coordinator, and Paul Schranz, university professor of art and coordinator of the art department.

While Purdy pointed out the different opportunities that are available in the communications field, Schranz amazed the audience with some examples of the different technologies that are being used.

"We are now producing and advertising your dreams," said Schranz. Included in his presentation were different examples of electronic imaging and motion graphics.

The second panel was titled, "Converging Technologies/ Emerging Careers."

"I've never been sorry I chose this field; I love it," said GSU's Graphics Art Supervisor, Suzanne Oliver. Other panelists gave some insight as far as what aspiring professionals would need in the field. "First of all, you've got to know how to read," stresses Charles Fuller, adjunct professor of communications at GSU.

Ann Jutlestad, technical editor for Chilton Publishing said she needs to keep up with different technologies and says she has access to a lot of things thorough The Internet.

Jutlestad also states that all the courses she took at GSU taught her how to do what she's doing now. "If you want to go the high road instead of the low road," encourage Perkins who also says there are a lot of jobs out there. "With your knowledge in journalism, but who you know is just as important," Perkins said.

Also speaking on the panel were Press Secretary of the Democratic National Convention, Delmarie Cobb, and "Preparing Yourself." "Journalism Futures" was chaired by GSU's Professor of Media Communications, Walter Perkins."You want to go the high road instead of the low road," encourage Perkins who also says there are a lot of jobs out there. "With your knowledge in journalism, but who you know is just as important," Perkins said.

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The Addiction Training Center of Illinois at Governors State University has been awarded an additional $600,000 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to expand its training programs.

The funding is allowing the Addiction Training Center (ATC) to expand its services to meet the needs of criminal justice and health professionals, and to establish a second Addiction Training Center on the campus of the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

"These newest efforts reflect on the positive results from our groundbreaking efforts," said Dr. Cheryl Mejta, director of the Addiction Training Center and a professor of addictions studies at GSU. "As we branch out to serve in new areas, we remain true to our mission to serve practitioners in counseling and treatment and to educate students."

The Addiction Training Center was established in 1993 with a $2.13 million five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Addiction Training Center serves as an umbrella for services based at Governors State University, including master's degree programs, professional development sequences and continuing education courses in addictions.

The Addiction Training Center has worked with its consortium partners, the Illinois Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Cook County Hospital, and three private Chicago-based agencies: Interventions, Inc., Treatment Alternatives for Special Clients (TASC), and the Center for Family Health. The Addiction Training Center was asked to collaborate with the University of Iowa to establish a master's degree in addictions studies and to provide professional development in addictions for practitioners. "Governors State's program is considered a national model," Mejta said, and the work of the Addiction Training Center has only strengthened its position. GSU offers the only master's degree in addictions studies in Illinois. "Since it was established in 1983, the addictions studies program has filled a tremendous need for trained professionals, and has made a conscious effort to share its resources with community agencies," the GSU professor said. Dr. Mejta and colleague Dr. Judy Lewis have already begun work in Puerto Rico to establish a similar program. The Addiction Training Center now is working on a two-fold approach with criminal justice and health professionals. It is developing cross-training systems as well as specific curricula for clients who are addicted or abuse drugs.

Career Development and Job Search

Governors State University is hosting a two-day seminar, "Career Development and Job Search," to help you achieve your goals. During the 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. program April 12 and 13, on campus, participants will initiate an individual program for career development and examine the role of self-assessment for achieving career goals. Special focus will be on four steps: personal evaluation, goal and decision-making, planning and ongoing feedback.

Participants will work with self-administered surveys and case studies to examine major trends that affect career and job success. This course is especially useful for anyone contemplating a job or career change.

The fee for this workshop is $100. Students can take the workshop for one credit-hour. Tuition is $132 for undergraduates and $136.50 for graduates. Registration is being accepted by the GSU Center for Training and Educational Development at (708) 534-4099.

Workshop on the Web

The information superhighway is at your fingertips with the WorldWide Web, if you know how to access it. Professor Diane Dates Casey of Governors State University will offer a two-day workshop from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 12 and 13 on using the web as a research and resource tool. The workshop can be especially helpful for teachers, students, librarians and others who need to create lesson plans, develop research papers and need bibliographical instruction.

The fee is $100. Students can take the workshop for one credit-hour. Tuition is $132 for undergraduates and $136.50 for graduates. Registration is being accepted by the GSU Center for Training and Educational Development at (708) 534-4099.

Technology Conference for Educators

Governors State University, in partnership with AT&T, will host a conference May 9 that will help develop south metropolitan regional partnerships using new technologies. This daylong event will focus on technology uses for students, teachers, government officials, libraries and community organizations and individuals.

Through discussions, workshops and information sessions, participants will learn first-hand how teachers are using technology to integrate information into classroom learning, the role technology plays in linking students with library and other data resources, and how technology links campuses for joint learning sessions through electronic classrooms.

A special look will be given to the Internet and to the creative options computers can provide.

"We see this conference as the perfect opportunity for educators, education officials, civic leaders and the general public to learn how technology is assisting us in everyday life," said conference organizer Dr. Sherry Gimenez, director of the Center for Training and Educational Development at GSU.

"While many of us have included computers, telecommunications links, electronic databases and the Internet into our vocabularies, gaining first-hand knowledge of these technologies isn't always available. This May 9 program will offer that," she said.

AT&T is a perfect partner for Governors State to work with on this conference because it offers a broad perspective as a technology leader that has consistently shown its commitment to improving education through technology," said Dr. Lee Zaborowski, dean of GSU's Center for Extended Learning and Communications Services. "AT&T's work with communities and schools will be an excellent link for GSU at this conference."

"Governors State University has demonstrated tremendous leadership in educational frontiers, including the information superhighway," said Ray O'Connor, executive vice president at AT&T. "This partnership demonstrates how our combined expertise in technology and innovation can reach into the community to enhance lifelong learning and foster a positive environment for dialogue and problem solving."

At the May 9 program, representatives of the South Metropolitan Regional Leadership Center and the regional Action Project/2000+ at GSU will outline how the two entities will work to link communities and regional leaders for collaborative work, public information and dialogue, and distance education to help solve regional problems.

The technology link for these efforts will be the Learning In Community On-Line Network (LINCOLN), a U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration project that is designed to give computer and phone connections to agencies, schools and government agencies in the Chicago south metropolitan region.

AT&T, a global communications company, operates the world's largest and most advanced long-distance network and provides communication services, products and equipment to customers and customers. As a partner with leading Chicagoland community initiatives, such as the May 9 program at GSU, AT&T brings the capabilities of anywhere, anyplace communication to enhance the lives and livelihood of people worldwide.

For information on the May 9 program, call the GSU Center for Training and Educational Development at (708) 534-4099.
WICI PRESENTS CHICAGO CAREER CONFERENCE

By Patricia M. Gorniak

Women In Communications, Inc. (WICI), open to both men and women, is presenting a Career Conference April 26, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Chicago Athletic Association.

This opportunity to network with employers and professionals is open to everyone. The event will include breakfast, interviews, curbside consultations, employer display area, lunch, headhunters, networking opportunities and much more.

WICI would like to invite anyone interested in expanding their career interests and knowledge. Your job search or career advancement could take a positive turn by networking with the right professional; gaining the proper knowledge of qualifications you might need for a particular career; or asking the questions you have for the professional of your interest.

WICI would like to give you the opportunity to act on these concerns.

The conference will be located at the Chicago Athletic Association at 12 N. Michigan in Chicago. The cost is $40.00 for the all-day event.

If you are interested in attending, PLEASE contact Pat Gorniak at (708)355-3866 by April 17, to reserve your space. We hope you will take advantage of this career event. We hope you will gain everything the conference has to offer.

WICI THANKS YIRKU

By Patricia Gorniak

Women In Communications, Inc. (WICI), would like to thank Marilyn Yirku for a successful and enlightening "Women's Empowerment" presentation that took place March 14, in the Hall of Honors at Governors State University.

Yirku made a lasting impression of approximately 25 people who had the audience think of who they are, where they are going, and what it takes to get where they want to be in life, whether it is personal or professional. She emphasized that it is okay to think good thoughts about yourself. Yirku demonstrated the difference of intuition and empowerment.

She successfully made everyone in the audience leave the presentation with a better attitude about themselves and an understanding of how they perceive themselves and others.

WICI was very fortunate to have Yirku present Women's Empowerment for Women's History Month and welcome her to open our minds anytime.

THREE SMART REASONS TO CONSIDER THE ARMY:

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J. Peter Grace
Chairman and Executive Officer
W.R. Grace and Company

These are just three reasons, and there are even more. Find out what they are from your local Army Recruiter.

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ARMY. BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

New CD-ROM to Help Students With Understanding Economy

With a grant from the National Science Foundation, the National Council on Economic Education is making a CD-ROM available to all elementary and secondary teachers.

The CD-ROM, valued at $2,000, is designed to give teachers the resources they need to help students at all grade levels understand the economy and develop basic decision making skills.

The CD-ROM includes newsworthy footage, animated graphs, visual puns and illustrations that bring economic concepts to life.

The disk also includes a 60,000-page source library of curriculum materials, reference books, lesson plans for teaching economic concepts, critical thinking skills and economic decision making at every grade level.

"We are pleased to publish and distribute this unique resource to equip teachers with solid background, creative ideas and ready-to-use lessons in economics for any grade," said Dr. Robert Davall, president of the Economics America National Council on Economic Education.

The Economics America Office of Economic Education at Governors State University has the CD-ROM available. School staff can call (708) 514-4926 to arrange for a CD-ROM disk.

Attention Poets

The National Library of Poetry has announced that $24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for this contest is April 15, 1996. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style, to The National Library of Poetry, 11419 Crandridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-1987, Owings Mills, MD. 21117. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 1996. A new contest opens April 16, 1996.

Adult CPR Course to be Offered

The Student Life Division is offering an American Red Cross Adult CPR course to the GSU Community. It is a fact that more people can jump start a car than know basic CPR skills that can jump start a human life.

The course will be help of Saturday, April 27th from noon until 5:00 p.m. The fee is $10.00 and includes all materials. Call Student Life at 708-534-7057 for more information, or you may register at the Student Life Box Office, Room A1120.
**In Praise of W.S. Gilbert**

**By Bruce Weaver**

This week I'd like to share my favorite author in the English language. Some of you may be familiar with the name, but some of you may not recognize the name. The author's full name was William Schwenk Gilbert and he lived from 1836 to 1911. Any historians out there, will immediately recognize the dates as comprising the Victorian Era; so his contemporaries included such authors as Charles Dickens, and Algernon Swinburne.

Gilbert is the first half of the famous, "Gilbert & Sullivan," partnership, and at the time of his fame he was the most popular playwright in the English-speaking world. The reason I include him in this column is his use of the English language; Gilbert used English in a way no other writer has done before or since. Most of my English teachers did not really accept him as a great writer; they concluded that since Gilbert wrote nonsensical farces and comic verse, he was not considered great as the other writers. I took that to mean that one must write tragédie before one can be considered a great writer.

Gilbert really didn't get famous until he started writing *The Bab Ballads* for a little magazine called Fun in 1861. "Bab," was Gilbert's pet name as a child; and he started to write delightful comic verses that not only gave him a best-seller, but was later to serve as the starting point for two-thirds of the Gilbert & Sullivan operas.

"The Bab Ballads" are the most popular comic verses ever written in the English language; but they are royally whimsical, intelligently naive, and just plain fun; a few examples from the works will prove my point. Gilbert is the only writer in the English language to put himself into a story muttering unnecessary but funny asides while the characters are totally unaware of his presence.

For example in, "Emily, John, James and I," Gilbert starts off the ballad like this:

> Emily Jane was a nursery maid—
> James was a bold life guard,
> And John was a constable, poorly paid.

Then for the last line, he adds in parenthesis:

> (And I am a doggerel bard.)

The second verse starts off like this:

> A very good girl was Emily Jane,
> Jimmy was good and true,
> And John was a very good man
> (And I am a good man too.)

Let's say, you do not use any language as a communication tool to express your idea, vision, and emotion to people, let alone English. What media do you use to bring about a cordial understanding with people? Drawing, sculpture, or photography? Art major students at Governors State University know their own way to share them with people.

The Student Art Show 1996 was held from March 7 through 20 at GSU Art Gallery. On March 15, Professor Richard Keane a painting teacher from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago was a guest artist critic. The awards announcement and reception were held at the Art Gallery to a near capacity crowd.

This year, the competition was open to all GSU art students enrolled in art courses during the Fall 1995 and Winter 1996 trimester. Exhibited were fine art media including paintings, drawing, photography, computer imagery, sculpture, and prints. Professor of Art History Arthur Bourgeois stated "this year the exhibit is very diversified show." Dr. Joyce Bourgeois continued, "The judge from the previous year expressed utter amazement. Many of the students' works at other schools are very much like their teachers. Here the work is uniquely distinct. Of course, we faculty, try not to have students emulate our own faculty's paintings or sculpture; I think this is a long standing tradition here, trying to get each student to do something quite distinct.

The art show is annually held by GSU art students with very limited faculty assistance. "It was founded by the students' Artforum," said Morishita. The Artforum is a student club whose members consist of almost all art major students. The general activities of the club are to promote student involvement in the visual arts, and to advise the faculty of the needs of art students and those interested in art. "We have students go to art shows external to GSU to invite artists to workshops for the purpose of having them comment," said first prize winner Sergio Gomez, an undergraduate student in art and a member of the Artforum.

Morishita concluded, "They really ran the show. They come up with money and prizes. They make a decision and judge. They really organized the show, arranged the reception, and the prizes. The faculty does nothing."

"We prepared the flyers, some food, installed and hung each student's art works," said Gomez. The hardest thing in holding the art show is "inviting a guest artist." Morishita also thought the show was "excellent and the best yet."

**Continued on Page 14.**
President Engbretson gave bold words for a bold university. Our first president had a great vision, but dreams fade fast apparently. I have always thought that the human spirit along with symptoms of apathy and decadence coexisted consistently, but everything possible must be done to stave off this depressing phenomenon here at GSU. The first president of this university put a lot into the university apparently. I have always thought that age discrimination is abound and many are skeptical to take a chance and return to school. Where is the human spirit? Are we all so burnt out and apathetic that the notion of volunteering for various clubs and organizations is too time consuming and preposterous? Granted this is a phenomenon here at GSU, but let's show some enthusiasm. This is Governors State University's 25th anniversary, but no celebratory parties are abound, not even plaques, or posters to signify this fact.

"We must train our students in a socially relevant context, otherwise, we fail and I am not accustomed to failure."
- First GSU President William Engbretson

The Salute to Graduates was a nice touch, but it was for the graduates, not the entire student populace. It was some anxious to build resumes and gain filming and writing experience. A grand GSUmentary could be created through joint efforts combining all departments. If it works well it could also even be used as a commercial spot on local cable stations promoting the campus. The outlying areas of the campus, (i.e. Park Forest, Matteson, Country Club Hills), are veritable havens of clients to advertise to and make it known that this campus exists.

Advertisement was initiated last year on a trial basis with a GSU billboard on highway I-57, and it was pure genius. A black-on-white photo of Auguste Rodin's "Thinker," stated. "the place to finish what you started" - Need it have said more? I'm sure billboards situated in downtown Chicago are expensive, but it wouldn't hurt to try to acquire some ad space. Mainstream newspapers like the Chicago Tribune and The Sun Times would be excellent candidates also. With greater advertising, more recognition would undoubtedly result in increased funding to the university from the state allowing facility expansion and a wider variety of curriculum. It would inform unsure returning students that a special place exists for them to "finish what they started." GSU could someday be as reputable as the University of Illinois, or University of Chicago. We sure have enough land to expand. The GSU staff is excellent, and our non-traditional students work hard, having to balance child care, work and school. This has to be the most unique, unorthodox university around. This outstanding population deserves more. Celebrate these attributes. The 25th anniversary should be a time to reflect and celebrate the past, present and future of GSU in a positive light, all the while including everyone in the process.
"Funny Money" Worth the Wait

By Karen Piejkio

At long last, author Ray Cooney's latest hit comedy, *Funny Money* has finally arrived in America! Following tremendous success overseas, *Funny Money* has made its American debut at the Forum Theatre, under the watchful eye of award-winning Director William Pellini. Chicago legend Dale Benson captivates the audience in this crazy, fun-filled adventure. Benson stars as a lovable, but nutty suburban accountant who stumbles across a brief case containing $1.5 million! His wife, played by Kathryn Nash, begs him to return it, but he refuses. This is where the trouble and the fun begins.

Mohammed Kahvand, 32, is an international student from Tehran, the capital city of Iran. He has been working on his graduate degree in computer science and focused on software engineering. Then, as a full-time worker, he worked at a computer company called Ex. IBM, the market share of which accounts for 70 percent of the total computer market in Iran.

Mohammed played two roles at the company. First he served as a personal computer research engineer belonging to the research development section in the Personal Computing department. There he was engaged in consultation, designing and the implementation of LAN (Local Area Network), a computer network housed in a building connected by cables using a common protocol to communicate with each other.

His second role was as a teacher at the education center of the company. He taught high school and college students along with workers in various business fields, to develop their technical abilities on computer.

Mohammed's practical experience in the business field can be greatly attributed to the business computer laboratory he works at. Liu says, "He played the most important role in setting up this lab last trimester. His practical experience is very helpful to us. I have learned a lot of things from him." As a graduate assistant, he is in charge of system administration and taking care of software problems that may arise at the Business Computer Laboratory.

It seems that Mohammed already has enough competency and knowledge about computers to make a good living as a computer engineer. The reason he came to the United States for study was for better education. He states, "I didn't consider continuing my study in Iran. It is very valuable in Iran to receive a higher education in the United States. The universities in the United States have close relationships with various industries and students have good chances to receive scholarships or grants from the companies allowing them to work on a specific project there."

Not only did he come to the United States to receive a better education but to enjoy a melting pot. He adds, "The United States is a multicultural country. This advantage makes it possible for me to acquire a multicultural point-of-view by sharing ideas with students from other countries. It is fun for me."

Goverors State University is extremely different from what he had imagined it to be. "No informal parties within the school are planned by students at GSU. I want to get more familiar with American culture and more acquainted with Americans. I don't want to come to school just to attend classes." He feels the lack of socialization is because many students have jobs off-campus and family responsibilities.

He speaks openly in regards to GSU happenings. He was pleased about the opening of the Center for Arts and Technology, but he maintains the opinion that, "The admission fee is too expensive for students. It is preferable to be around two dollars or even free for GSU students."

He is very interested in art, especially music. Mohammed spends his free time listening to classical music. His favorite composers include Igor Stravinsky, Claude Debussy and Dimitry Dmitriyevich Shostakovich. He also plays two instruments: traditional string instrument in Iran called the se-tar, which means the tree-strings in English and the piano. He has played both instruments since the age of 18.

As for the future, Mohammed is not sure if he will continue on to pursue a Ph.D., or go back to Iran to find a job. He even contemplates securing a position in the U.S. He states, "Half of me feels I should pursue a Ph.D. in computer science, and the other half wants to settle down and get married. But if I get married, it would be difficult to continue study. So, I don't know." Whatever Mohammed decides to do in the future, he is bound to be successful. This is certain because of the determination and hard work he puts forth in everything he attempts and accomplishes.
Last issue there was a mistake in this puzzle and some important information was left out. We run this contest again with apologies to Dennis Thom. - Editor

Hi everyone. Today we have our Second Annual Polygon Puzzle Contest. The winner will receive a $20 gift certificate from Crown Books. Here is the puzzle. Good Luck.

We will assume for this puzzle that every birth of a child has an equal chance of being a girl or a boy. There is a family with exactly three children. You know at least two of the children are boys. Which of the following statements about the other child is correct?

A. The odds are 2 to 1 it's a girl.
B. The odds are 2 to 1 it's a boy.
C. The odds are 3 to 1 it's a girl.
D. The odds are 3 to 1 it's a boy.

RULES FOR THE POLYGON PUZZLES CONTEST

1. Only GSU students, those who work for GSU, or Student Life patrons may enter.
2. Workers in Student Development and members of the Innovator staff are not eligible.
3. There is to be only one entry per person. A person submitting more than one entry will be automatically disqualified.
4. Put your name, SSN, and the letter you believe to be the correct answer on the entry blank below. Put the entry blank in the contest box at the Innovator office or Student Development, room B1215. There is only one correct answer.
5. If more than one person has the correct answer, there will be a drawing to determine the winner.
6. If no one has the correct answer the same prize will be offered in another contest.
7. To qualify for the prize an entry must be submitted no later than 8:00 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 1996.

When Spring Arrives

Winter's gray begins to fade
To the green and yellow of Spring's renewal
Tiny buds burst forth with joy
After a winter's sleep deep within.
New growth, renewal, beginning again.

Winter's gone, the fading dreariness of the season
Gives way to the chirping of the birds,
And the green grass beneath our feet.
Flowers begin to peak through still chilled ground
Searching for the warmth of the sun.

The Winter of my life is past too.
As I face the Spring with new joy and hope.
The grayness of the past is soon to fade
And the newness of Spring is soon to be mine
As I search for the warmth of a kindred soul.
You have brought Spring back to my spirit
New growth, and new life.
You have chased the dreariness of Winter far away
Making room for Spring.
Making room for you.

Each New Spring

Each year it comes
Slowly transforming the dismal darkness
Darkness that was Winter's mark upon the land.
Each year Spring is awaited,
Patiently at first, then with pushing and prodding.
Then that first glorious day appears.
In shirt sleeve, and with no coats
We venture out into that once cold world.
Trees still waiting to burst forth,
Grass growing loudly in the back yard.

Flowers peeking timidly through the chilled earth,
Seeking the warmth of the Sun
After a long Winter's rest
Each year it comes, Spring.

The Entertaiment Page

The Polygon Puzzles

By Dennis Thom

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Making room for you.
I have heard it everywhere I go. "Boy J.H. You really flubbed up on your predictions." It is true that my guesses weren't quite accurate, but you have to admit that this year's Academy Award had a few surprises. I know I was glad to see Whoopi Goldberg back in the driver's seat hosting the Oscars. I just loved her opening line after they introduced her. As soon as she stepped out and the applause died down, she gave the crowd a wide grin and asked, "Did you miss me?" She has been absent as host for the show and David Letterman was in his place. I hope she continues hosting. She has been nominated so far. As a result she is a bit nervous. So far she has been absent as host for the show.

The Oscars also tried something new. The first award of the evening was for best costume design. John Travolta read the nominations while sketches were shown to let people see the nominated costumes. I was not that impressed by Travolta's sketch. It was too long and made the show longer. Now I have to agree that this year's Academy Award was spectacular! Mel Gibson put his heart and soul into this film. He is a very talented actor. He has been a star for many years and has never taken a chance. He took a chance on this film and it paid off. He deserved this award. He was in tears as he thanked his family for their support. His speech was heartwarming and touched the many hearts of actors and actresses. We should all be proud of him.

Another touching moment that took place was when actor Chris Evans appeared on the stage. He has been nominated for a supporting actor award. He thanked his fans for their support and gave a moving speech. He is a very talented actor and deserves this award. He is a very talented actor and deserves this award.

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What If We Held An Election And No One Voted?

By Al Citizen

For the last few weeks, there have been 11 positions open on the GSU Student Senate. After submitting articles in the Innovator, hanging large posters in GSU hallways, and personally asking other students to run, as of today, five students have asked for election packets, and I have done the paperwork needed to be a candidate on the ballot. One candidate out of 6,000 students!

Last Tuesday, Illinois held a primary. The turnout was the poorest in recent history. Unlike GSU, there were dozens of candidates, and millions of dollars spent on advertising. In some districts, the turnout was less than 10 percent of the eligible voting population. The majority did not vote. Apathy, and ignorance won the day. "I don't have the time", was a close finisher. With elections like these, it is no wonder that many eligible voters feel that public institutions do not reflect their views. They must think democracy works through ESP.

In both election cases, eligible non-voters showed that they do not see themselves as citizens of a free society, but as consumers of a government product. Do we see ourselves as students at GSU, or as consumers?

Governor State wisely has given us, as students, an opportunity to affect policies. This is done through Student Senate elections. Important decisions are made there. Senators make a difference. Policy decisions affect student education. There is a need to get student input. It is done through elections. But as you can see, the majority does not vote.

It is more preferable to be a citizen than a consumer. As a citizen, you have the power to change policies that effect your life. As a consumer, you only have the power of the purse, and a yes/no decision. We need more active citizens, and fewer apathetic consumers.

As of now, the Student Senate is trying to assemble an election without you as a candidate. When elections are held this April for the GSU Student Senate, and this November for the federal, state, and local governments, VOTE!
They came from Africa, The Bahamas, China, Germany, Japan, Mexico, and other international nations. They came together in the spirit of camaraderie. Who are they? They are Governors State University's international student body.

The international students gathered in the cafeteria for tea every Thursday at 3 p.m. Student Sen. Glen Swierkowsz said, "The purpose of this gathering is to help international students meet other international students." Sergio Gomez, an undergraduate Art major who's from Mexico, shared the same sentiments. Gomez said, "I think that it is good because you get to see other international students you would not see unless they are in your classes." Hong Kong native Nancy Cheng a Computer Science major smilingly said, she enjoys it when international students get together, and said smilingly, "I think that this is a great idea."

Who can't pick up this idea? Patricia Carter, Dean of Student Affairs and Services is responsible for the event. She said, "I think it is a good idea because other international students can get together and talk about their different cultures. They also can share their food, music and different experiences while here in the United States." One of the purposes of the program is to help international students adjust to the cultural change. To assist in this effort is the Study Abroad Office.

Carter said, "The Study Abroad Office is necessary for adjusting international students coming to the United States, and for American students traveling to international countries. He said, "It is extremely important that you have someone to help you. This will make traveling abroad easier."

Allan Lee said, "The Study Abroad Office is necessary for adjusting the ride of your life. A trip around the world Wide Web (WWW) is at your fingertips. What is the "International", or as some will call it, "the net"? The Internet consists of millions of computers and terminals throughout the world that is interconnected in the global computerized telecommunications network.

Approximately 25 years ago, the Internet, which was then known as "the Advanced Research Projects Agency" (ARPA), was initiated exclusively for universities, large corporations and government agencies to access and exchange research data. Within the past five years, the Internet has become available to anyone with a computer, a telephone line, or a modem.

The Internet allows users to send and receive electronic mail, tap data libraries, check stock prices, interact with other users, access computer programs, participate in educational programs and thousands of other services. Most importantly, the Internet hosts web sites for most major colleges and universities in the world, also multimedia interactive tours are available at these institutions.

"The Internet is a good way to do academic searches, but also a good way to do business and find a job," says Bill Kolstad, Educational Computing Network (ECN) and Campus User Coordinator. "We talk about global awareness, multiculturalism and international studies, what better way to achieve all of these things than by talking to people around the world on Internet," says Kolstad. Since the trend in education is going toward long-distance learning, learning can be extended around the world at GSU.

Kolstad has noticed, "Most faculty has responded favorably to using the Internet because it allows them to quickly respond to students with class assignments and class notes. They can also send and receive mail electronically."

However Kolstad admitted that, "Some faculty members...don't like it because it depersonalizes their contact with students, they see themselves getting away from content and learning more toward tools for information." Faculty member, Carol Meyer says, "With good teacher preparation and supervision, I think the Internet will be a good practical tool for teachers." Professor Meyer teaches an education course entitled, "Educational Applications of the Microcomputers: Reading and Writing Development." Meyer strongly advocates well trained classroom teachers and experienced with the Internet so they can keep their students focused and give them appropriate guidance and supervision.

A visit to Meyer's class revealed teacher, students, actively engaged in group discussions about their first encounter on the Internet. The issues being discussed in the class were the participi­ants' fears, hopes, and plans for using the Internet, either in the classroom or at home. The group's consensus was that children would become so engrossed in the vast offerings of the Internet that they would spend too much time in unrelated pursuits. These teachers hope to find a lot of ideas and information that could help them with their lesson plans. They also plan to continue investigating all the possible uses of the Internet, especially learning how their students could benefit from it.

V. Texas Perry Evans in the September 15, 1995 issue of Library Journal says, "The progress and success of any community will depend upon its citizenry to create and access computerized information, to use electronic resources adroitly, and to translate these skills successfully into app­lications beneficial to themselves and to society. "The future demands that its inhabitants think globally and go beyond specialized functional skills. That is why universal access is so important." The Center for Technology and Information has formed a committee to explore the uses of technology on campus as it relates to education. Kolstad explained, "We are looking at state-of-the-art technologies in hardware and software. Our mission is to get more students involved in technology. We hope to get everybody excited and to see the value in what computers have to offer them."

The services of the Academic Computing Laboratory (ACL) and give them beyond access to the Internet. ECM and ACL offers general service use as well. There is access to computer programs for word processing, spreadsheet, e-mail, and world-wide web available on personal computers. Laser printers are also available for student use. Students can join over 3,000 other GSU students, faculty and staff who have registered for ECM accounts. It is easy to set up an ECM account. To get a SLIP (Serial Line Inter­net Protocol), simply go to the campus computing center. At the center, after you present your identification card you get your user I.D., password, Internet address, and a SLIP/PPP (point-to-point protocol) disk, in the mail. This is also referred to as an ECM Internet starter kit. The kit includes, Trumpet windsock, ECM Trum­pet windsock scripts and Netscape: The software that allows you to connect to the Internet. Alumni and not-for-profit community groups can also have access to the Internet.

"We are looking at state-of-the-art technologies and software. Our mission is to get more students involved in technology. We hope to get everybody excited and to see the value in what computers have to offer them."

Alumni and not-for-profit community groups can also have access to the Internet. As our country is becoming more global-oriented, it may be wise for education majors to not only focus on the consumer­ism of the Internet, but to strongly con­sider becoming producers of the information that the world consumes.
Tips on Helping Yourself in Preventing Carjacking

Carjacking has gained media attention lately. Carjacking is the theft of a motor vehicle from a person, and it was rarely encountered ten years ago. It is more common in large urban areas, but recent trends have brought it to the suburbs more frequently. It can happen anywhere. Some of the common locations for this crime are: parking lots or garages; gas stations; at or near the victim's home, on roadways (especially at intersections); and when stopping along side of the road.

According to the Department of Justice, there was an average of 35,000 attempted or completed carjackings each year in the United States between 1987 and 1992. Victims were injured in 24 percent of completed carjackings and 18 percent of attempted carjackings.

Some injuries include: gunshot or knife wounds; broken bones; loss of consciousness.

Some simple tips can be followed to avoid becoming the victim of a carjacking.

Do not approach your car if you see anyone loitering nearby.

Approach your car with your keys in your hand and only open it if it is safe to do so. You are more vulnerable during the few seconds it takes to insert the key, unlock the door, and get into the car and lock it. If there are suspicious people nearby, call the police or parking security for an escort to your car.

Get in the vehicle and lock the doors before you lock the child into their car seat. This is especially useful for those parents with vans. Picture a situation where your attention is diverted, your back is to an unprotected parking lot; your child will not sit still; your vehicle is a hot item for theft; and you have nowhere to run in case of emergency because you will not leave your child. Check the back of the van, as usual, enter, and lock the door behind you. I tried this with my wife and our van and it does work well.

• Drive with your windows up and doors locked. With the current trend of criminal mobility, these crimes can happen anywhere. I have encountered criminals who have taken the bus in to commit their crimes. No matter where are are, no matter how short of a trip, lock your doors.

• Travel with a cellular phone. Keep it with you at all times. Get the smallest model you can afford and purchase an emergency call package from your carrier. A PIN number is recommended to maintain the security of your telephone number and to keep it from being "cloned." Pick a PIN number you will remember even when under stress. Do not leave it out in plain sight, as this may invite crimes of opportunity.

• Plan your trip in advance. Know where you are going, when you leave. Get directions from people you trust and maintain a quality map book of the areas you will be traveling through. Keep a full tank of gas and maintain your vehicle with regular checkups from a certified mechanic.

• Do not stop for strangers along the side of the road. You do not know them or their motives. You have some degree of safety while locked inside your moving car. Call the police to aid them, but do not stop.

• If you are caught at a disadvantage, do not resist, all he wants is your property. Surrender your car. Do not, under any circumstance, let him take you anywhere. Never go anywhere you do not feel comfortable, or where you do not want to go. You will be victimized further. If he attempts to grab you or drag you, fight to break free of his grasp and run to where people are, or where you may find help. You may safely assume that you will be killed or sexually assaulted, or both if you leave with the criminal to a secondary crime scene.

• When stopping in traffic, leave enough room between your car and the car in front of you to allow you to maneuver away. Preplan your escape route whenever you stop. Watch for anyone approaching your car under the pretext of selling something, passing out flyers, asking for directions, requesting change, or asking for a ride. Drive away carefully by any route available to you if you must, and report the incident immediately to the proper law enforcement agency.

• If your car breaks down or you are involved in an auto accident, stay in your car with the windows up and the doors locked until the police arrive. Use your cellular telephone to notify the police immediately. Try to get a license plate number, description of the occupants without getting out of your car. Call on your cellular phone and get transferred to the appropriate police agency. Give the officer on the phone the accurate location. If you break down on the road, and you do not have a cellular phone, or cannot get to a phone safely, place a call police sign in your window. Do not get out of your car for anyone but a uniformed police officer in a marked squad car. If the department will not send an officer out, make sure you understand their directions or live in the City of Chicago, you must remember that the Chicago Police are not expected to respond to an incident unless there are injuries, or at least one of the vehicles is non-driveable.

• Stay alert and attuned to your environment. Keep your volume down so you can hear what is going on around you and avoid lengthy cellular telephone conversations. They may divert your attention and reduce your perception of the roadway and possible dangers around you.

• Car pool and drive in pairs or groups with people you trust whenever possible. There is safety in numbers. Even though males are the victims of a greater number of carjackings than females, general crime trends indicate that criminals avoid victimizing groups or pairs of people.

One sense and preplanning are two of the most important resources you may have in a dangerous situation. Pre-plan your responses to a variety of scenarios. Read the newspapers and see what crimes have happened to other people and plan what you would do in a similar situation. Visualizations of appropriate actions is an important tool in handling stressful situations when you do not have time to think of what to say or do. You must know what you will do before you are put at risk. The bad guys know what they are going to do. They have visualized. They have planned it.

Lee Enokian is a community policing and crime prevention officer for Northwestern University Police Department's Chicago campus. He received his law enforcement training at the Illinois State Police Academy in Springfield, Illinois and his crime prevention training at the National Crime Prevention Institute at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky. Enokian is a PCT certified defensive tactics instructor and member of the law enforcement professionals organization, Professionals Against Confront Dence Crime.

If you have any crime prevention questions and safety concerns, and wish to see them answered in print, please write to Lee Enokian at the Innovator office. If you wish for your name to be withheld, please say so in your correspondence.
"I've never gone backwards I've always gone forward," says Cobb as she tells students that you always need to be prepared to move in this business. Cobb stated further, "You need to know what's going on in the world at large, not just on a local basis."

Press secretary to the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Stephanie Gadinil, advised the audience to know current events as well as history. The aspiring journalist should read everything and build relationships as well as contacts.

Lee Bay, staff writer for the Chicago Sun-Times says to take advantage of internships, while staff writer for Exitos, Anna Mendita says, "When you're a woman you have to work like crazy."

Other panelists included Stephen Hender Fisk, director of Communications Boston, California, Virginia, Seattle, and Anna Mendieta says, "When you're a student you have to work like crazy."

For the first time at a GSU, Munachnik managed to work in an Audio Conference with professionals in the field. Students were able to contact professionals from Boston, California, Virginia, Seattle, and New York via audio bridge.

The media conference wouldn't be complete without "Prepare Yourself." Gary Fisk, director of Communications Services of Communication and Michele McMaster were included in the last panel of the conference.

While Fisk gave insight as far as the area where people need to have basic knowledge and background. McMaster shared with the audience three communication components, self-awareness, speaking, and, listening, "Let me point out that if you really want to be popular, learn to listen," McMaster says.

After each panel, students were able to ask questions, give feedback, or even speak with the lecturer one-on-one. Furthermore, after the session, students were able to go over the results of their self-assessment tests, and give their reactions to the overall conference. One GSU student, Patrick Hartney, was very pleased with the presentations of the symposium. "The symposium was a wonderful experience. It taught me that despite all the technology and rapid pace, it's all people and ideas—not machines—that are the true force behind the media world."

"The response I got from students was very, very positive," says Muchnik. "It was a wonderful experience for everyone."
Addie Wyatt Visits GSU to Reflect and Project

By Alleah Phelps

"We pause for 'station identification', to honor women in our society and all over the world. Women who have been denied justice, equality and peace. And to also say, we are here, we are here to stay, and we are going to be reckoned with." This, Reverend Addie Wyatt said, is the reason for celebrating International Women's History Month. Wyatt, who is best known as a labor union pioneer, helped found the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW, a trade organization) in 1974. As she spoke to a gathering of approximately 25 people in the Hall of Honor at Governor's State University on March 18 she said a "station identification" is needed because women are not respected and appreciated as equals.

Born in Brookhaven, Mississippi (the same day declared national International Women's Day), the 72 year old woman said, as her birthday approached this year, she reflected on the things that she has gone through as a woman, a non-white woman, a wife, a mother, and a grandmother, and could not believe "In the year 1996, we are still singing 'We Shall Overcome!"

One of the first major challenges in Wyatt's life came in 1941. Wyatt, then 17, applied for a job as a typist at a meat packing plant in Chicago. Although she was hired as a typist, she was handed a white nurse's hat and uniform, and sent to the rear of the canning department to pack stew for the Army. "It was too naive to know that they did not hire blacks in their front office."

Wyatt said she thought her skills of typing 60-70 words-per-minute would qualify her for the position. But after learning the reason for not getting the job she said, "I put that on my agenda to deal with later."

Later, Wyatt was assigned to another post (placing lids on cans). She said she grew to like the job, but then a young white woman was hired to replace her. Consequently, she was sent back to pack meat in cans. That was it. She protested and got her job back.

Wyatt has been in labor and civil rights movements for over 50 years. She said "I always knew blacks were not free, but I did not know women were not free, until I started working for pay." During the time Wyatt worked at the plant, women received about 14 cents less per hour for doing the job as men. "Not only do we have to struggle against racism," she said, "we also have to struggle against sexism."

There will always be times when women find themselves in unmanageable situations. Wyatt said, but "we must find a way to adjust ourselves, and hold on." She also explained how difficult it was for women to get jobs outside of the home for the very things that they were doing inside the home. Once women attempted to get compensated for their work, "the argument arose that a woman's place is in the home. It was a great struggle to overcome that kind of attitude," she said. But, "our argument has always been that a woman's place—like a man's place—is wherever the interest.

To conquer the barriers of racism and sexism, Wyatt suggests people study the lessons learned from labor unions. According to Wyatt unions can teach people skills that will enable them to form coalitions. "Workers joined unions because they wanted to improve their lives, and the lives of their children. They wanted better working conditions, a better educational system and better health care. The union with white workers, black workers, male and female banded together, had the power, strength, and resources as well as the direction sufficient to take on the task."

A recipient of the Dr. Martin Luther King "Keeper of the Dream Award," Wyatt said we "have to keep struggling until every person regardless of race, color, creed, sex or geographical location has the right to his or her own life."

On March 24, 1974, (one of the coldest days of the year) Wyatt, then the vice-president of CLUW, said women came from all over the world for a conference. Only 1500 women were expected to attend the event which was held at the Pick Congress Hotel in Chicago, and over double the amount showed up. "They came to have their eyes opened and their minds and hearts lifted," she said The message: "The time for women is come."

Wyatt who was the first woman president of the United Packing House Local Union, said she is now glad to see women holding positions in conferences, and on jobs that people never thought were possible.

After becoming an international representative for the union Wyatt developed programs that called for legislation to end discrimination on the basis of sex. As the role of women undergoes a metamorphosis, she said, "we are preparing (them) to be comfortable in fulfilling that role. For wherever a woman decides she wants to be in life, if she can accomplish that goal, the mere fact that she is a woman, should not prohibit her from doing so."

Wyatt continues stating that we would not be here today, if it had not been for the women she refers to as bridge builders. "These are the great women who have fought the battles that they faced, and now the legacy belongs to us."

Two of the bridge builders who inspired Wyatt are: Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman, two women born into slavery who have fought for women's rights and the abolition of slavery. She changed her name to reflect her life's work: to travel (or sojourn) and to preach the truth.

Harriet Tubman was known as "The Conductor" of the Underground Railroad. After she escaped from slavery, she returned to the South approximately 19 times to lead 300 slaves to freedom.

After reciting excerpts from Truth's " Ain't I A Woman," Wyatt said that she was inspired by Harriet Tubman because "Unlike many of us who once we brake through and make it to freedom, we let everybody get there by his or her own bootstraps, (Tubman) said, I cannot be free alone."

As people from all over the world pay tribute to women during International Women's History Month, Wyatt suggests the following:

• Write a note of thanks to a woman who has helped you.
• Share two of your friends by introducing them to each other.
• Mentor a young person.
• Record the history of women in your family.
• Thank your mother for all she has done for you, and bring her something.
• Share what you know by speaking to classes and organizations.

Wyatt co-pastors the Vernon Park Church of God with her husband Claude Wyatt and believes men and women should work in concert with each other. "It is to the extent that we learn how to work as full partners in managing the affairs of this complicated world we live in that we create a better world of all of us." "When God created this fabulous world he told "them" to be fruitful and multiply. . . .Not to him alone, not to her alone."

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Be eligible to win $5,000, a Pioneer commercial and a trip to Florida

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GSU ALUMNI PHONATHON SUCCESSFUL

By Bruce Weaver

"The money's out there; we're getting the pledges. (We just) need more volunteers." So spoke Ginni Burghardt, director of the GSU Alumni Association, during the 16th annual phonathon to raise money for GSU's budget, activities, services, and day-to-day operations.

At the time we go to press, the Phonathon raised 85 to 90 percent of the $125,000 goal needed for fiscal 1996. Everyone from the college participated in the drive, from President Paula Wolff, to administrators, to professors, even to the GSU choral group.

According to Burghardt, the money for the college is out there, it just seems that this year the staff was short of volunteers. "Everyone seems to have a lot to do," said Burghardt. "Because of that we're hurting a little."

The phonathon is held every year at GSU to ask graduates for their continued financial support in helping GSU reach their financial goals. Many GSU graduates have gone on from the university to lead very successful lives. Some graduates are currently living in California, while some continue to live near the University Park area. All pledges are made easier now by the convenience of the credit card. GSU alumni have a wide variety of ways to pledge their support of the university.

Burghardt says that GSU alumni can pay in installments, by major credit card, check or just plain cash. Most of the time, GSU alumni are willing and able to continue to support the university in its financial goals.

Volunteers give their time in Engbreton Hall to assist the Alumni Association in their annual Phonathon. (Photo by Sean Carr)

Here's Proof That A College Degree Can Really Pay Off.

Right Now Recent College Graduates Get $400 Off Every New Dodge. In Addition To Most Other Current Offers:

**Dodge Neon starts as low as**

$10,155 after $400 college grad cash back.**

A '96 Consumers Digest "Best Buy," Neon has cab-forward design, dual airbags, 16-valve, 132-horsepower engine.

**Dodge Avenger starts as low as**

$14,175 after $400 college grad cash back.**

A '96 Consumers Digest "Best Buy," Avenger has dual airbags, double-wishbone suspension, dual overhead cam, 16-valve engine.

Don't forget to ask about '96 college graduate finance plans available to eligible customers through Chrysler Credit. ☎

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*Ask for eligibility requirements. NA with certain other offers. **Base MSRP after $400 College Graduate Cash Back. Includes destination. Excludes tax. Base models may have to be ordered. Always wear your seat belt.

This year, in order to get more volunteers in take the phone calls, Burghardt initiated a contest. Visitors to the phonathon in Engbreton Hall may have been surprised to see a giant, pink pig near the door.

Burghardt explained that the group at the college that brings in the most volunteers for the phonathon, gets the pig, plus a $1500.00 award from the university.

The second prize consists of $1,000.00 and third prize is $500.00.

"Last night (March 29) we had the people from administration and planning to man the phones," said Burghardt.

"I hope that we had the Center for Extended Learning, the library, and the (music) chorale."

Burghardt said she had high hopes for the phonathon, and was assured that it would be a great success.

Art Continued from Page 4.

Second prize winner Javier Chavira, undergraduate student and member of the Artforum said, "we had contacted two other art critics before Professor Richard Keane. But both of them declined our offer because they were busy with their own works." "Although we work with them in the classes when they make their works, we don't make any decision what goes into the show. What goes in is up to them," Moriishita said.

Moriishita continues, "we have never judged the show. We always have somebody outside the university judge the show. Every year we try to get someone from a different field as in: print major, sculptures painting." This year, the students invited Professor Keane to give his summary of the two first prize art pieces:

"Comments on Occupied by Mary Florence Forsythe, "I like that she used some paper-like material. It works very well. I think it's a good use of material. I think it has a sense of mystery. It is very unique. It works from all sides. The back is as equally beautiful as the front. The choice of color was excellent."

Comments on Liberation by Sergio Gomez, "This is a very cold and strong image, I think. He created it, considering the rising images of the figures that are burning and twisting. So that it becomes different from what once was. It may have been a mask, used in some sort of sacrifice."

Each award was given to the following students' works:

First Prize for a graduate student, $100
Mary Florence Forsythe, Occupied

Second Prize for a graduate student, $75
Cheri Vanderplow, Sleeping Spirit, Screaming Soul

Third Prize for a graduate student, $50
Jan Meister, One Less Tenant From the Houses of Mystery

First Prize for an undergraduate student, $100
Sergio Gomez, Liberation

Second Prize for an undergraduate student, $75
Javier Chavira, Self-Portrait

Third Prize for an undergraduate student, $50
Jennifer Cartolano, Untitled

Art Continued from Page 4.
First-ever Salute to Graduates is a Hit!

By Sandy Tuleja

The first-ever Salute to Graduates was held for two days on March 20th and 21st. Governors State University hosted the program for the August and December 1995, and the April 1996 GSU graduates. The program was designed to provide graduates with the opportunity to take care of all of their graduation needs in one location. According to Pam Bax, Professor of Counseling from the Office of Student Development, said student comments were very positive regarding this most memorable event.

The Career Services Workshop, held March 21st, was open from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The workshop was designed to provide students with the opportunity to view sample resumes, and learn how to write and format their resumes, "claimed Bax. "Students enjoyed the opportunity to talk with a career service representative from the Office of Career Services, Financial Aid, and Women's Issues Network.

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Hurdle Anderson, graduate of GSU addresses the Salute to Graduates audience. (Photo by Frances Bradley)

"Graduating students thought that the "Salute" concept was an excellent idea. They liked the fact that they were able to talk with a career service representative and learn how to write and format their resumes," claimed Bax. "Students encouraged the university to offer the Salute to Graduates program as an annual affair for GSU graduating students." The Career Services Workshop, held three times each day gave students pertinent information about resume preparation and job searching strategies. Participants were able to view sample resumes and ask questions about their particular resume design. Handouts used during the workshop are available in the Office of Student Development.

Guest speakers were another integral part of the Salute to Graduates program. Bax expressed the theme of the speeches by summarizing the speaker's key issues: President Paula Wolff briefly addressed the graduates, encouraging students to pursue graduate studies. She stressed the necessity for students to gain advanced degrees in order to compete in a globally competitive society. Commissioner Jerry Butler and Mr. Hurdle Anderson, both graduates of GSU's bachelor programs, emphasized the importance of their education in their respective fields. Mr. Roxane Geracie and Ms. Bobbie Sievering explained their route to career advancement via their educational pursuit at Governors State University.

Display tables were the third element of the Salute to Graduates program. Chappell Studio was set to take graduation pictures. This was a one-time opportunity for students to have their photo taken by Chappell with the American flag in the background. However, Chappell will also take pictures of GSU students receiving their diplomas on graduation day. Proofs will be mailed to students' homes approximately two weeks after graduation, with order forms enclosed.

Jostens was on hand to measure students for their cap and gown. Jostens also took orders for school rings and graduation stationary, including announcements and notecards. Jostens will not be on campus again before graduation, but students can get ring information from the bookstore. Additional ring and stationary orders can be made by calling Jostens, at 1-800-297-GRAD. According to Jostens representatives, orders take 4-6 weeks for delivery. Representatives believe that many GSU students order school rings mainly due to the older demographics of GSU students, "who are able to appreciate their education more, and can afford to make the purchases on their own. " They also believe there are many first generation graduates at GSU, and school rings are a measure of pride for them.

Tables were also hosted by Student Life, Office of Career Services, Financial Aid, and Women's Issues Network.

Graduation requirements information was available, as well as Senators to Graduates T-shirts, Alumni information and faculty invitations. "The students addressed a total of 151 invitations to GSU staff and faculty members," stated Bax. The credit card company, Discover, was represented offering credit card applications to students. Ameritech was also there offering students a great deal on cellular phone packages. For more information, students can call 708-499-8660.

According to Pam Bax, "From an expected total of about 500 graduating student's for the 1996 commencement program, a total of 203 undergraduates and 117 graduate students participated in the event over the two-day period." Hopefully, the Salute to Graduates will become an annual event which will continue to offer future graduates vital services, opportunities and information.

Commissioner Jerry Butler encourages graduates to get their education. (Photo by Frances Bradley)
By Eileen Truszkowski

Long before the first European settlers landed in North America, Native American people occupied this land. They were as diverse a people as those who were to come thereafter. Their proud heritage, culture, values and their diversity is still carried on today by teaching, sharing and expressing their culture to others. On Saturday, March 30, 1996 the American Indian Center of Chicago in conjunction with the GSU's Students for Native American Interest did just that. The medium they used for this educational event was a traditional Pow-Wow, complete with merchants whose wares were displayed. They all came to share and to assist the Student for Native American Interests in this unique fund raiser. Funds raised are to go to The American Indian Center of Chicago, and the Students for Native American Interests.

Pow-Wows have traditionally been gatherings of Native American people. They preserve Native American heritage and carry on the old ways by singing, dancing and visiting with old friends and new ones. Today many Pow-Wows are "intertribal," with representatives from diverse tribal cultures all participating. It is an opportunity for Native Americans to be themselves. It is also a place for them to express their pride in traditional ways, and to consolidate the sacred circle of people and its' elements into a thriving whole, for themselves and for future generations.

The word Pow-Wow is from the Narraganset language meaning religious leader or religious ritual of singing, dancing and feasting. The word was adapted over the past few centuries to mean an Indian celebration. The whole setting of the Pow-Wow is in the form of a great circle, which is reflective of the Native American great circle of life. The entire event is traditionally symbolic of the revered cycle and harmony of life. The heart beat is at the center, while the drums, singers and dancers provide the rhythmic throb of the spirit of the occasion. Today, Pow-Wows perpetuate the pride of the Indian identity, tradition, and values. It is an opportunity for Native Americans, young and old alike, join in the International Circle Dance, expressing everlasting friendship and good will. With the intertribal aspect of Pow-Wows today, we see also an expression of intertribal cooperation and solidarity among tribes that were once adversaries. In exchange for this wonderful opportunity to learn about the culture and traditional music and dance, visitors are asked to show respect for their traditions. If you are interested in attending a traditional Pow-Wow you may want to attend a Pow-Wow to be held at Morton College on April 20th. Interested call 312-275-5871. You may want to attend the 6th Aurora University Pow-Wow to be held May 11-12, 1996. For more information about this event, call 708-844-5402. Pow-Wow information can also be located through the National Pow-Wow Directory, a supplement to a bi-monthly newspaper, News From the Nation's Native Journal Indian Country. This is available by subscription or single issue, at a nominal from Indian Country Communication, Inc. at 715-634-5226, in Hayward, Wisconsin.

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