Innovator, 1997-01-27

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Snow & Extreme Cold Result in Cancellation of Classes

By Karen Piejko
Senior Writer

Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow! While some thought the weather was delightful, most GSU students found it frightful! "There was nothing delightful about it at all," said GSU graduate student Zamafo Dahnweit. "Some roads were impassable, the wind blew cars all over, on many streets the ice was too slick, I could not see through drifting snow from the open fields, and the ride to GSU was pretty dangerous!"

"I got on I-57 and I prayed. It was awful. There were several accidents and cars in ditches. I was scared to death," said GSU graduate student John De Young. The students were referring to January 15 and 16. In mid-afternoon on January 16, GSU made the decision to cancel all evening classes. While classes were not in session, the building remained open. As television news pointed out, the problem with traveling in the continued on page 5

This tranquil scene belies the dangerous conditions GSU experienced on January 15 and 16.

Celebrate African American History Month at GSU

Monday, February 3, 7 p.m.
Engbretson Hall - Eighth national African American Read-in Chain - Join us as schools and a million individuals across the country read passages authored by African-Americans. This annual event is sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English and the NCTE Black Caucus. Dr. Rashidah Jaami Muhammad, GSU Professor of English and Secondary Education, will be the moderator for this program of guest readers. Those interested in reading a short passage for our audience, no more than 5 minutes, please, must call Dr. Muhammad at (708) 534-6974 or Student Life at (708) 534-4550 no later than 5 p.m. Friday, January 28.

Friday, February 7, 7 p.m.
Sherman Music Recital Hall - Ethnic Heritage Ensemble - "We have to break the habits of boredom, get beyond our nostalgia, and think about what's continued on back page

NO CLASS
Wednesday, Feb. 12th
(Not Mon., Feb. 10)

World Class Advertising to be Showcased in Chicago
Advertising's most creative leaders from around the world will gather in Chicago on Wednesday, February 5th, for the 26th Annual Mobius Advertising Awards. The awards screening and presentation will be held at The Museum of Broadcast Communications at the Chicago Cultural Center, Michigan Avenue at Washington Street. The event begins at 6 p.m.
This year, over 5,000 entries from 39 countries were received. The prestigious Mobius Award is presented to advertising, as well as package design. Free tickets are available by calling the MBC at (312) 629-6023.

"A Bright Room Called Day" The Theatre School - Depaul University
The Theatre School Showcase, Depaul University, presents A BRIGHT ROOM CALLED DAY by Tony Kushner as the third production of the 1996-97 season. The play is directed by John continued on page 7
The INNOVATOR Needs Writers.

The GSU student paper is looking for staff writers for the 1997 Winter Trimester. Call (708) 534-4517 if you're interested in possibly earning credits for your work. You'll get guidance, help and direction. You don't have to be a Communication/English student to want to and enjoy writing.

Immediate Openings:
- Business Manager
- Advertising Sales
- Work Study students

Business Manager: The Innovator is looking for a responsible person to fill the position of Business Manager. Responsibilities include tracking receivables, payables, invoicing, and budgeting. Excellent experience for business/finance major or someone with bookkeeping experience. College credit available to right person.

Work Study: The Innovator also has 1-2 openings for intelligent, self-starting work study students. Responsibilities include answering phones, correspondence, typing, data entry and customer service on accounts. Computer skills a must. Pay in accordance with university guidelines.

Advertising Sales: Position open for self-starting individual to sell advertising over the phone and in-person (inside/outside sales). Phone skills a plus. Responsibilities include the initial sale, working house accounts, sending materials, correspondence, and follow-up to area businesses. Fortune 500 corporations and advertising agencies. Excellent experience for business/marketing majors. Pay available at 15% over work study students.

For the above position openings, call (708) 534-4517 and ask for Candy Sexton, Innovator Editor.

Calendar Change: NO CLASSES on Wednesday, February 12 (not Monday, Feb. 10)

Tuition and fee payment in full is due by February 20, 1997. Payment may be made either at the Cashier's Office or through the mail via: Check, Mastercard/VISA, or Cash (no cash through mail). A $20 nonrefundable charge is assessed to any account when the amount billed is not received by the due date. A $25 charge is assessed for any checks returned by your bank. Payments may be made after-hours at the Cashier's Office depository. Mail payments to: Cashier's Office, GSU, University Park, IL 60466-0975

Correction: Professor Michael Purdy's name was misspelled. The Innovator regrets the error.

Editor's Column

As the new editor for the Innovator, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I'm female, a returning student, age 36, a mother, married, pursuing my master's degree full time in Media Communications. While that in itself is no big deal, I have learned that I am the "typical" GSU student. I like to think of myself as having "typical" interests as well - I read, hike, spend time with my family, study, cook, drive to school, and want to know what's going on at GSU. I want to get information, however, without having to look at 14 bulletin boards, read every flyer posted on the Wall of Truth, and find out too late that a meeting occurred two nights ago that I would have liked to attend.

Don't think that's asking too much, do you? By accepting the position of editor of the Innovator, I took on the job of making sure information that students want to know is provided to them via their paper - your paper. I understand what it's like to read the school paper, only to wonder why an event wasn't listed, or an issue wasn't discussed, or the right questions weren't asked about a problem affecting the student body.

This is your paper. To make the Innovator contain the information you want it to, you need to give us feed back. To begin that process, look in the next issue for a questionnaire. The questionnaire is important in that it will determine what direction the Innovator will go this winter term and beyond. It will give you a say so beyond. It will give you a say in what you want, what issues are investigated and discussed, and what you don't want to read or have discussed in the paper. By filling out and returning the questionnaire to the Innovator, you'll help us deliver a good product to you. You'll also be qualified to win a prize in a drawing (to be announced in the next issue with the questionnaire).

All you have to do is answer the questions, return it to us, and you're entered to win!

We'll tally the results and run them in the Innovator, along with the winner in the drawing and his/her picture.

In addition, we welcome any feedback you wish to give us. Feedback in the form of phone calls, letters to the Editor, or just notes or a kind word will do.

Right now, we have a bare-bones staff, and supplements are very welcome. Basically, two people wrote this issue, two added one article and two produced it. The next issue will be a little meatier since we will have a few more staff members putting the next issues together.

However, we still have openings - check out the ad to the left of this column - and we need people to fill these positions.

Upcoming issues will bring back the Faculty Focus, Photo Poll, International Corner, Eye on Technology, News, Music and Book Reviews. You'll see more interviews with students and local coverage of events and happenings in the area. GSU news will take precedence over "outside" news. While it's important that you stay informed, printing daily news events isn't.

As we begin the Innovator's transformation, we have patience with it. Newspapers take a little "tweaking" to get them just right. We'll still make mistakes and look for a copy of The Innovator every other Monday. Next Issue: February 10th.
Earn 3 Hours of Non-Western Credit – Register for the 23rd Annual Third World Conference


The Conference seeks to bring greater understanding of economic, socio-cultural, political, and technological changes in a rapidly changing world. Participants will examine the theoretical and practical issues of poverty, education, and health that effect Third World and Diaspora societies. The objective is to pose questions and formulate solutions to develop a better understanding of the important issues confronting the changing global system.

The 23rd Annual Third World Conference will provide a unique opportunity for students, teachers, and resource professionals, as well as community leaders, and the general public. This experience will provide exposure to international and multicultural issues.

Sample topics to be covered:
- Critique of the Globalization Process, Leadership Roles of Women
- The Environment and Ecology, Technology and Social Change
- Innovative Educational Approaches, Culture and Creative Expression, Urban/Community Development, Human Resources and Population Issues and Reconciliation

AAUW Education Foundation Fellowship & Grants

The AAUW Education Foundation provides funds to advance education, research, and self-development for women, and to foster equity and positive societal change. The AAUW Educational Foundation has helped more than 6,500 women reach their personal and professional goals through a variety of fellowships, and grants.

All applicants must have demonstrated scholarly excellence. Preference goes to women whose civic, community, or professional work show a commitment to advancing the welfare of women and girls. Women of color are strongly encouraged to apply. For more information come to The Career Services office, room 1321.

January 27, 1997

Just what is going on at GSU performing arts center?

Innovator:

When the Center for Arts and Technology at GSU had its gala opening at the end of 1995, it was hailed as "the jewel of the crown of the south suburbs." The price tag for this bauuble included $6.2 million in state funds, and now it appears that this costly ornament continues to burn a hole in the pockets of Illinois taxpayers: the Center's statement of revenues and expenses for the year ended June 30, 1996, shows a loss of $388,357.

When this project was under consideration, I asked whether it deserved so huge a public subsidy, especially when there were so many competing educational needs. I asked whether there were any assurances that the state would ever recoup its investment. Now we see from its first year's operating experience that this venue for the likes of Rich Little, Roy Clark, and Paula Poundstone - among the "big-name" acts featured at the Center - has been a big money loser.

In promoting this project, GSU President Paula Wolff waxed lyrical about the way the Center would stage operas that would be simulcast into local schools using the Center's sophisticated communications technology. Now, after a year, I ask President Wolff, how many operas - or other programming - has your Center brought to local school children?

Recently-deposed state senator Aldo DeAngelis was the chief sponsor of the legislation for this pork-barrel project. It is curious that Sen. DeAngelis, as senate assistant majority leader, was totally ineffective in getting his legislative colleagues to support meaningful solutions to the state's school funding crisis, but he was congratulated by President Wolff for "wheeling" 6 million dollars out of the state legislature for a white elephant of a theater at GSU. (It was not surprising to see President Wolff's name among the list of Aldo supporters in campaign brochures that I received.)

With great fanfare, GSU announced in early 1995 that it had lured Richard Cordos from his position as executive director of the Holiday Star Theater in Merrillville to become executive director at GSU's arts center. In September of this year, it was announced that Cordos left the center and a search for a replacement was underway. In an interview reported in the January 13 Innovator, the Center's interim executive director observed that the level of interest from GSU students has not been quite as high as desired. Just what is going on at the GSU performing arts center, and how much longer will it continue to be a financial drain on the state?

John T. Ciri

Editor's note: The use of parentheses to denote negative figures that indicate a loss is a common practice in accounting procedures.

January 27, 1997

Freedom of Information Act request dated October 26, 1996 and responded to by Nancy A. McKeating, University Legal Counsel, on November 4, 1996: unaudited Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the GSU Performing Arts Center for the year ended June 30, 1996.

REVENUES:

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<th>THEATRE</th>
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<td>Commissions</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td>Total Revenues</td>
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EXPENDITURES AND OTHER DEDUCTIONS:

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<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$697,272</td>
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</table>

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES: ($388,357)

FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR: $18,374

FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR: ($369,983)

ANNOUNCING

Two GSU University Research Associate Positions

Temporary 1 Year Appointments

Director/Producer

Will be responsible for all phases of professional video production projects from planning and producing, through editing. Must have 3 years of professional experience, be proficient in lighting, studio, remote production, audio, and editing. Familiarity with non-linear editing, multime­dia production, and production computer skills is desired. Applicants must provide a demo reel that demonstrates their production experience.

Producer/ Instructional Designer:

Will work with clients on assigned instructional and contracted training projects to provide appropriate design to accomplish the goal. This will include conducting content meetings with clients, performing research, writing or assisting in writing scripts, work­ing with the assigned director to manage talent and production elements, and performing follow-up and evaluation of the project with the client. Applicants must have 3 years of professional experience and work in production setting. Willingness to explore and develop multimedia and Internet products for distance education and strong computer production skills are desired. Applicants must provide examples of professional products that they have produced.

For more information about these position contact Gary Fisk, Communication Services, at (708) 534-4094.

continued on page 4
NALEO Educational Fund Announces 1997 Summer Legislative Intern Program

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund and Shell Oil Company have begun a nationwide search for qualified Latino college and university students interested in an intensive six and a half week summer legislative internship program. The NALEO Summer Legislative Intern Program is designed to give students a behind-the-scenes look at how public policy is developed and implemented at the state and federal levels. Applications must be received at the NALEO Los Angeles, CA office by 5:00 p.m. PST Friday February 28, 1997.

During the six and a half week program, participants will travel to their state capitol, local county and city halls and Washington, D.C. to work with legislators and their staffs. Interns will perform a variety of important functions including research-legislation, monitoring hearings and preparing briefing papers. They also will meet with White House representatives, advocacy organizations and the news media.

Another highlight of the internship is participation at NALEO's Annual Conference to be held June 19 through 21 in Miami, FL. Here interns will attend workshops and network with prominent Latino elected officials.

A total of fourteen students form Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Mexico, New York and Texas will be selected. Students must be residents of these states, but do not need to attend school in these states. Interns will receive a stipend, transportation and accommodations at NALEO's Annual Conference and the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Applications and program information are now available by going to our World Wide Web page at http://www.naleo.org or by writing to: NALEO SLIP Program, 3409 Garnet Street, Los Angeles, CA 90025, or by calling 213/262-8503 ext 31 or by contacting the Chicago Office at 3645 West 25th Street Chicago, IL 60623 Tel(312) 277-1440, Fax (312) 277-1015.

3,000 Seasonal Jobs/Internships Available at Six Flags Great America

Six Flags Great America launches its annual recruitment efforts in search of more than 3,500 interns and seasonal employees looking for an employment experience that is "beyond fun." Six Flags will be conducting interviews at: Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL on Sat., Feb. 22, 1997 (10 a.m.-3 p.m.)

A variety of seasonal positions and internships are available in Finance, Human Resources, Food Service, Operations, Merchandising, Design, Guest Relations, Marketing, Horticulture, Mechanical and Electrical Maintenance and much more.

"Perks" include bus transportation, housing, scholarship programs, social and recreational programs and sporting events. For those unable to attend, the Six Flags Employment Office will accept resumes at P.O. Box 1776, Gurnee, Illinois, 60031. For more employment information call (847) 249-2045 or visit Six Flags on the World Wide Web at www.sixflags.com.

Summer Research Program

The University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center Medical School

Summer Research Program-Designed for undergraduate students interested in pursuing a graduate degree (M.D., Ph.D., M.D./Ph.D.) in the biomedical sciences.

Research Program Profile

The University of Texas Houston (UT-H) Summer Research Program provides hands on biomedical research training for undergraduate students under the direct supervision of experienced faculty researchers and teachers.

The emphasis of the Program is to provide trainees with laboratory experience through specific research projects. The trainee's role in the laboratory is to participate to the full extent of his/her ability in background reading for the project, the experimental design, the technical aspects of carrying out the experimental analyses, the interpretation of data, and the summarizing of results. Trainees will submit a research abstract for publication and may be asked to present their data in a research forum.

Trainees will also attend weekly seminars focusing on biomedical ethics, career development, scientific technique and new discovery, and the relationship between basic research and clinical applications. Specialized training in laboratory and radiation safety, laboratory animal methodology, and research technology are also provided. Other scheduled events include medical center tours and various social events.

Students interested in receiving college credit through their home institutions should consult with their academic advisors prior to attending this program.

Research and research training are strong components of the university's offerings. Support in research activities to create and evaluate new knowledge is evident by the fact that more than 600 research projects are supported by almost $73 million in contract and grant awards.

The university includes six degree-granting schools: Dental Branch, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Medical School, School of Allied Health Sciences, School of Nursing, and School of Public Health.

The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences prepares students for research careers in the biomedical sciences. The school ranks in the top quarter of graduate biology programs in the United States, according to a U.S. News and World Report survey. The Medical School conducts the highest caliber of research in the biomedical and health sciences, and provides the highest quality of education and training.

The university is located south of downtown Houston within the Texas Medical Center, the world's leading medical city employing nearly 55,000 people.

A Unique Study/Travel Experience in Europe: The UNO-Innsbruck International Summer School-1997

The University of New Orleans (UNO) announces the session of its annual INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL in Innsbruck, Austria during summer of 1997. About 250 students as well as some faculty/staff members live, learn, and travel in the magnificent setting of the towering Tirolese Alps in the "Heart of Central Europe".

Participants can earn up to ten semester hours of credit. Trainees will submit from over 50 courses offered in a wide variety of subject areas. Courses focus primarily on the cultural, historical, social, economic, and political aspects of U.S./European relations. All instruction is in English, and course work is complemented by field trips and European guest lectures which are in

write to: UNO-INNSBRUCK-1997, P.O. Box 1315- (UNO), New Orleans, LA 70148; call the UNO Division of International Education at (504)280-7116, or use our E-mail address: ilen@jazz.unc.edu. The Division also has a web site that includes more information on UNO-INNSBRUCK-1997 as well as a multitude of other international study travel options: http://www.uno.edu/~inst/Welcome.html.
GSU vicinity was drifting snow from the surrounding open areas which made travel on major streets such as Harlem Avenue, Governors Highway, and Cicero Avenue dangerous and difficult at times. Overall, most GUSU students felt canceling classes on January 16 was a good idea; however, many students would have liked the cancellation to have been announced earlier in the morning. By the actuality, the least of a GUSU student's worries. Each student is assessed a parking fee with their enrollment fees, and staff members are assessed through a payroll deduction. One of the services provided by revenue from the parking fee is called "Quick Start." The attendants can help GUSU students and staff with frozen locks, battery problems, empty gas tanks and flat tires. If the attendant is unable to fix the problem, the person will be referred to a local towing service for help. If a student or staff member needs help with this service it can be obtained by calling the GUSU Department of Public Safety. Physical Plant Operations worked around the clock in an effort to keep GUSU's parking lots, streets and sidewalks clear. The strong winds on January 16 made this a difficult, almost impossible task. The snow plow would push the snow out of the way, only to have it blow right back onto the pavement instantly. Tons of salt was used, but with the extreme cold, it was not much help. The forces of nature were just too much for anyone to handle, which is why classes were eventually canceled.

"I could not see through drifting snow...the ride to GUSU was pretty dangerous." GUSU graduate student Zeambo Dahnweib

the cancellation was officially announced, many students who attend the 4:30 p.m. to 7:20 p.m. classes were either on their way to GUSU, or just arriving. Many students, such as Linda Berck, expressed the opinion that the announcement to cancel classes should have been made earlier. "I called (the general information line) as late as 2:30 p.m., and was told all evening classes would go on as scheduled," said Berck. "I enjoy coming to GUSU, but it really was not worth it to end up in a ditch or something. I also worried that if I got to GUSU, would I have been able to get back home safely. I worried about what would happen if my car didn't start."

Frozen locks and dead batteries are

"looking out at the lake from the cafeteria at GUSU"

Call the IRS and Hang Up
Study Shows Young Filers Reach Out to Touch the Tax Man

Along with the Internet and sophisticated computer software, younger Americans have a great way to make life easier — filing their taxes by phone. Using a Touch-Tone phone, the file-by-phone system called TeleFile was used last year by nearly three million taxpayers — over half of whom were under 25 years of age. More than 26 million people nationwide are eligible to use the service this year, according to the IRS.

"The TeleFile program is ideally suited for college students and those earning under $50,000 annually with fairly basic tax returns," points out Judy Tomasso, national director of communications. "The procedure is quick, there’s no paperwork to mail, and it’s the fastest way to get refunds," she said.

How It Works
Taxpayers who qualify for TeleFile get a special tax by-mail letter letting them know they are eligible. They call a toll-free number from any Touch-Tone phone and answer a series of prompts on wage and tax information from their W-2 form. After responding to the prompts, the system calculates the total taxable income, adjusted gross income, amount of refund or balance due to the prompts, the system calculates the total taxable income, adjusted gross income, amount of refund or balance due and even the earned income tax credit for those who qualify. No tax tables are needed.

Proof of Filing
Once a caller gets a confirmation number, they can hang up the phone, which completes the filing. The entire call typically takes less than ten minutes and the service is available 24 hours a day. The confirmation number, which should be written on the TeleFile Tax Record and kept with other important tax papers, is the record that shows taxes were filed. It can be given to banks, lending institutions, the Department of Education and the Small Business Administration as proof of filing.

One of the primary TeleFile benefits is the speed by which TeleFile returns are processed, usually in a typical tax year refunds being mailed to taxpayers within three weeks. This year, TeleFile users can be either single or married, filing jointly, with no dependents, with taxable income less than $50,000, including wages, tips, taxable scholarships or fellowship grants, taxable interest of $400 or less, and unemployment compensation. Also, taxpayers must have filed a tax return previously and not have changed residences in the past year.

TeleFacts
• 92% of users were very satisfied with the TeleFile program
• 99% of TeleFile users said they would file by phone again
• Nearly 97% of filers received a refund averaging $438
• 52% of filers had completed some college or vocational training and 21% were college graduates
• 73% of filers were under 30 and 52% were under age 25
• 80% had income less than $30,000; 30% had income less than $10,000

Tips for Driving in Winter Weather
by Jody Carter
Staff Writer

Pre-trip Planning
To avoid being subjected to an automobile breakdown, plan trips with personal security in mind.

Check the forecast. If a winter storm is predicted for the area in which you will be driving, ask yourself if the trip is really necessary. Check weather conditions by listening to the radio or calling the area's weather service. For GUSU, call the information desk to determine if specific and/or all classes have been canceled at (708) 334-5240.

Make sure the roads are clear. Current road condition reports are available from most state department of transportation. To obtain information on area roads and highways call the 24-hour number for Illinois DOT at 1-800-452-DOT. For Indiana road condition information call 1-800-261-7623.

Be especially cautious if driving in unfamiliar areas. Schedule your trips so you are driving in daylight hours and carry current maps.

Prepare an Emergency Car Care Kit. The kit should include some or all of the following: jumper cables; fans or roadway reflectors; flashlight with extra batteries; windshield washer fluid; small shovel; ice scraper; antifreeze, flat tire inflation canister (available at most automotive departments); blanket and extra gloves, hat and scarves; extra boots; non-perishable food; a candle and matches; first aid kit; a window sign that says in large reflective letters "Call Police" (available at most automotive departments) and a white cloth (the universal signal for help). You should consider carrying a cellular phone, as well, with emergency numbers written down or programmed into the telephone.

Inform friends or family of the route you will be taking. If you tell people your intended route and estimated time of arrival, help won't be far behind you if trouble occurs.

Driving Tips
Winter driving requires lots of patience, practice, and special techniques.

• Always wear seatbelts.
• Remove snow and ice from windows, license plates and lights.
• Clear snow from roof, hood and trunk.
• Reduce your speed. The posted speed limits are for dry, clear conditions only.
• Watch for slick spots under bridges and on overpasses.
• Keep your gas tank at least two-thirds full to prevent your fuel line from freezing.
• Avoid sudden braking or accelerating if you skid. Instead, ease off of gas pedal and gently brake, then steer back to the direction in which you were heading.

What to do if you are stranded
If your car doesn't make it to your destination, stay calm, use common sense, and do the following:

• Pull as far off the road as possible. This helps to avoid getting stuck by another vehicle.
• Indicate trouble. Tie a white cloth to your antenna; open your hood; and turn on your hazard lights. You may want to put a "Call Police" sign in the back window.
• Stay in the car. Avoid the temptation of accepting a ride from a stranger. If someone offers to help, send them to notify the police.
• Stay warm. Wrap yourself in a blanket or run your car's engine and heater periodically. You are not at a high risk for carbon-monoxide poisoning unless your exhaust pipe is covered by snow. If you're unsure of this, crack your window open slightly while car is running.

Emergency Cell Phone Information.
A cellular phone is a handy tool in case of an emergency, but only if you know which numbers to call:

Dial 999 in the Chicago metropolitan area and in the collar counties.
Dial 911 elsewhere in Illinois.
Dial *11 on the Indiana Toll Road.

Unlike land-based phones, cell phones cannot be traced by dispatchers. Therefore, dispatchers rely on cell phone users to accurately convey the location of the emergency. Try to note the roadway, mile marker, intersection or nearest exit.

Source: American Automobile Association - Chicago Motor Club (AAA-CMC)

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Back Stage Pass: The Business Side of Show Biz!

By Karen Piejko

Arts & Entertainment Editor

There's no business like show business, and the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse/Forum Theatre complex makes show business its own business, 365 days a year. Business is risky, and the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse/Forum Theatre complex has been thriving on Chicago's south side for 17 years thanks to the hard work of keeping America's first dinner theatre and a registered national historical site.

Welcome to your backstage pass into the fascinating, and sometimes grueling world of live theatre. You are about to experience a rare glimpse into the day-to-day operations of one of the most successful entertainment venues.

The Candlelight Dinner Playhouse features a dining room in the round. Within a time span of only a few hours, 600 people are served, and the staff is there. In addition, the complex has the 435-seat Forum Theatre, and another restaurant appropriately named Chicago's Last Supper.

Steve Avros, one of Candlelight's most popular waiters said, "What the guests see, and what goes on behind the scenes are two completely different things. As a waiter, I have to come out and be all cheerful and smiling with the guests, and then you might be running around like a maniac, bickering and trying to get many things done at once. It's all at the same time, so you have to have different personalities at the same time. It's hectic and challenging, yet it is very rewarding at the end of the night."

Avros is often requested at Candlelight for his prompt service, and his attitude with the customers. He explained, "I always do my best, and the customers appreciate that." He went on to say, "Without the customers we have nothing, and it is my job to make sure the customer leaves happy. I will do anything to keep the customers happy, and coming back year after year."

The waiter enjoys every aspect of his job, even when the going is tough. "Sometimes it can be very crazy, things might not go as smoothly as you want, but you've got to keep smiling at the customers, and continue your goal of satisfying the customer," said Avros. "It's a challenging job, because it is different every night. You never know what kind of problems will be encountered in the kitchen, or if there will be problems with the show. You have to be prepared to deal with unexpected situations, because you never know what might happen.

Keeping track of all those customers is a full time job for the large crew of workers. John Economos, the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse and the Forum Theatre said, "Everything is computerized, so that the waiters and waitresses have a somewhat easier time keeping straight everything. The computers keep track of the customers' tables, their orders and their bills. It's a complex and fascinating system."

While the computers help to keep the orders and bills straight, teamwork and excellent communication skills to get things done. We serve food to 1,500 customers 16 times a week, and are serving about 5,500 people. Efficiency is very important, because the play is set to go at a certain time, and once it's time for curtain, the servers have to move the play along, and without sufficient cooperation and teamwork, none of it would be possible.

As if running two restaurants were not enough, the complex maintains one theater in the round producing musicals, and one proscenium theatre presenting plays. "Concentration is the key to working in the round," said Morgan. "With all acting, you must constantly be thinking ahead, but when you are in the round you are able to have a very focused concentration."

During Candlelight's recent production of the Scottish classic "Brigadoon," all the men had to wear kilts. Morgan had a very funny, and painful experience with the show. "You should've seen the night I tripped and fell, everybody in the world saw my underwear," laughed Morgan.

Anne Carey secured tickets to work at the Forum Theatre. "I absolutely love working at Candlelight's Forum Theatre. The pre-show activity is so much more intimate, it brings you much closer to your audience. The behind the scenes technicians really make it all possible - they are faced with many difficult tasks," said Carey. Tasks faced by Candlelight technicians include managing the hydraulic stage and getting the lighting cues just right.

A highly focused team of people run spotlights at the Candlelight. Lighting in the round always poses potential hazards. Lighting technicians must be careful to avoid spill-over. This happens when the spotlights are on the audience, but for the most part, people are usually nice. In one instance, a spotlight hit a man's face, but the audience applauded, and喷涂ed "Hallelujah!"

The sound technicians must be very careful with the sound. The sound technicians are responsible for each and every Forum play and musical. "As a sound technician, you are responsible for each and every Forum play and musical," said Carey. "As stage managers we are in charge of all costumes, scenery, properties, light cues, sound cues, and everything else."

Carey and Sharber work together as a team to keep the Forum Theatre successfully operating on a regular basis. "There are many different faces to the Candlelight/Forum Theatre complex. They do this by issuing press releases, arranging interviews between the press and performers, conducting surveys to better serve the patrons, and answering ticket requests from orphanages and other not for profit organizations.

Eileen La Fontaine is the director of marketing, and an integral part of the team. Eileen has some innovative ideas to promote the Candlelight/Forum Theatres. The Publicity and Marketing department is responsible for promoting the Candlelight/Forum Theatres to the general public and the media. They do this by issuing press releases, arranging interviews between the press and performers, conducting surveys to better serve the patrons, and answering ticket requests from orphanages and other not for profit organizations.

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So, there you have it. This is only a small sample of what goes on in a single day at the Candlelight/Forum Theatre complex. It takes a lot of patience, teamwork and dedication to be a part of it, and the assistant stage manager Scott C. Sharber is responsible for each and every Forum play and musical.

"As stage managers we are in charge of all costumes, scenery, properties, light cues, sound cues, and everything else," said Carey. "It's an extremely rewarding experience." The Forum Theatre also presents plays for children in a separate theatre. Care is taken to make sure that the family theatre is separate from the adult shows that are playing at the same time. While the family shows are specially written and lit for children, they are running on a regular schedule. The family shows are set up to be self-contained and fun for children. The Candyland Dinner Playhouse/Forum Theatre is highly successful entertainment complex has a rare glimpse into the day to day operations of one of the most rewarding businesses.

By Karen Piejko

Art & Entertainment Editor

January 27, 1997
Jenkins and runs February 6-16, 1997 (pre­views 2/4 & 2/5), at DePaul University’s Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago. For tickets call the Box Office at (312) 292-9992.

In this contemporary drama, Pulitzer prize-winning playwright and Chicago native Tony Kushner, explores the story of 1930s Berlin. Playwright Tony Kushner is recognized as one of the most important playwrights of this generation. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the 1993 and 1994 Tony and Drama Desk awards. His work has been performed at theatres throughout the United States and the Royal National Theatre in Lon­don, the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, the Deutches Theater in Berlin and in more than 30 other countries around the world.

Wednesday, February 12 is De Paul Night: two tickets for the price of one for current high school and college students with ID.

Ticket prices are $5-10. Students, senior and group rates are available. Performances are presented by DePaul University during the Merle Reskin Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago. Discount parking is available with prices from the Box Office. Diner/the­atre packages are available with the Chicago Hilton and Towers. For tickets call the Box Office at (312) 292-9992.

Blood Drive Set For Holiday Inn O’Hare – “Free Hotel Room Night” For Donors

There is a critical shortage of blood supplies in the Chicago area that hospitals use for operations and trauma care. According to LifeSource Blood Services, this condition is a familiar one after the December holiday season. To help relieve some of the shortage, a large blood drive is held at the Holiday Inn O’Hare International on Wednesday, Feb. 12. The drive is in conjunction with LifeSource that supplies to over 100 area hos­pitals and healthcare agencies with blood and blood products.

Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment to donate should contact the Holiday Inn O’Hare by calling 847-671-6350. The next drive is scheduled for Mickey Darras, ext. 1532. However, appointments are not re­quired and walk-ins are welcome. The Holiday Inn O’Hare International is located at 5440 N. River Rd., across from the Rosemont Convention Center and next to the new Rosemont Theatre.

PSC Presents Ninth Annual Jazz Festival

“Music is everywhere,” jazz pianist Horace Silver once stated. “You just have to listen for it.” The sounds of this distinctly American music will be reverberating at the Prairie State College Community Instruc­tional Center Auditorium during the ninth annual PSC Jazz Festival, Friday, Feb­ruary 7 at 8:00 p.m.

The jazz festival is in the con­cert hall in conjunction with the Prairie State College community and will offer a variety of musical genres. The concert will feature the Prairie State College Community Big Band, which is comprised of students, faculty and community members.

The Prairie State College Community Big Band will be featured on the afternoon of February 7 with a special performance of popular jazz standards.

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At the Movies

"Evita"
by Johnny "Hollywood" De Young

Don't cry for me GSU. The truth is I never left you. To be honest, I have been branching out and sharing my wonderful wisdom on W.J.O.L. 1340AM, where you can hear me January 31 at 9 a.m. However, one other individual who has really branched out is pop music star Madonna, who is now starring in the long anticipated film "Evita" based on Andrew Lloyd Weber's Broadway musical.

Madonna plays Eva Perón, a one time aspiring actress who later becomes the first lady of Argentina. She ends up meeting Juan Perón, played by Jonathan Pryce, a former general of the army who wins the hearts and confidence of the people and becomes president. The other governing factor of his presidency is the enduring support and endless dedication from his wife Eva, who goes on to become a woman of sophistication and stature.

Regarding the music, the film itself is a wonderful return of musicals to the screen. The music has accomplished. This is indeed an endurance comedy, social activist, and nutritionist Dick Gregory at Elmhurst's Hammersmith Chapel. GSU will provide round-trip transportation to the event based on prior registration. GSU students are FREE, others are $2 per person. Register at the Student Life Service Office, A1120, no later than Thursday, February 13, 1997.

Tuesday, February 24, 7 p.m.
GSU's The Center for Performing Arts — W.E.B. DuBois: A Biography in Four Voices. This stunning video brings to life this remarkable scholar-activist, author, intellectual, editor, organizer of the first Pan African Congress and Founder of the N.A.A.C.P. The program will be facilitated by Dr. Anthony Andrews, GSU Professor of Economics & Liberal Studies.

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