Student Senate elections are official

Students Senate election results have been verified by the Student Senate Election Committee. The following students have been elected as Student Senators:

Paul Stovall, representing the Board of Governors
DeDe Whiting, representing the College of Education
Jason Komenda, representing the College of Business and Public Administration
Walter Henne, representing the College of Arts and Sciences
Frances Bradley, Matt Lake, Dominic Kuczwarz and LeRoy Schmidt, Student-at-Large representatives

One position remains vacant.

The newly elected Student Senators take office the first day of the Winter 1998 Trimester.

Pearl Harbor was bombed 26 years ago

December 7  A Commentary by Denise Graham Zahn

At 6 a.m. (Hawaiian time) on December 7, 1941, a Japanese fleet of 183 planes took off from aircraft carriers located 230 miles north of Oahu. At 7:02 a.m., two Army operators at a radar station on Oahu's north shore picked up the Japanese fighters on radar. A junior officer they contacted regarding the sighting disregarded the notice believing it to be B-17 bombers from the U.S. The first bomb was dropped at 7:55 a.m. on Wheel Field, eight miles from Pearl Harbor. The crews at Pearl Harbor were on the decks for morning colors, singing The Star Spangled Banner. Approximately 100 U.S. Navy ships were in the harbor that day. Eight battleships were damaged and five were sunk in the bombing. Eleven smaller ships were also badly damaged. Sixty-eight civilians and 2,335 servicemen were killed. One-thousand-one-hundred-seventy-eight people were wounded. A 1,760 pound bomb struck the U.S.S. Arizona causing the ammunition on board to explode, killing 1,177 servicemen. Today, a memorial spans the sunken remains of the Arizona. It is dedicated to all those lost in the bombing. The United States citizens rallied behind the president in declaring war on Japan.

On December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S., creating a global conflict. The war ended when the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. While it may not be politically correct to honor an anniversary that resulted in the release of two atomic bombs — our fathers or grandfathers fought for what they believed in — America. The remaining veterans of World War II are in their 70's or older. We need to pay our respects to them.

ATTENTION

For all those who have expressed interest in working on The INNOVATOR next trimester, please call Ted Spaniak at (708) 748-2448.
News of the World

AIDS IS NO JOKE: THE GOOD NEWS IS...

THE BAD NEWS IS...

by Dave Matteson
Psychology & Counseling

After 15 years of the AIDS pandemic, it's a relief, in 1997, to finally hear some good news. However, the media focus on the new drugs may have obscured some of the important issues that still need our attention. Here's a summary of both the good and bad news that's emerged in the last year or so concerning medical treatments, the virus itself, and habits of prevention.

MEDICAL TREATMENT: The good news about "cocktails". The development of new anti-viral therapies (using the new protease inhibitors and old and new reverse transcriptase inhibitors) is helping many HIV+ patients to be more successfully treated with less side effects. The quality and length of life with AIDS is much better for those who are getting these combination therapies.

The bad news: These medications cost as much as $10,000 a year. The drugs have to be taken several times a day on a very strict schedule. Some must be taken with food. Others must be kept refrigerated. In some cases, missing a single dose can be more harmful than never taking the drugs at all. So only those who are disciplined enough to follow exact schedules are likely to be helped.

Though the amount of HIV in the blood may be reduced, and in some cases disappear altogether, the virus may be hidden away in infected cells elsewhere in the body which decay more slowly, or it may have crossed into the brain where some of the drugs cannot reach it. Sequestered virus in follicular dendritic cells may hide for three or four years.

A recent study showed that in about half the patients who started the cocktails when they were first available (March of 1996), the virus has begun to return. It appears that the new drugs temporarily knock the virus into submission, but for many if not most of the patients, it will eventually come back. Unfortunately, the disease is not being cured or eradicated.

Since AIDS is increasingly diagnosed in women (up from nine percent of the cases in 1990 to 20 percent in 1996), it is of concern that women seem to experience more side effects from the new medications than men do. Further, drugs on top of each other encourages the mutations that have made the development of a vaccine, and of treatments, so difficult. The virus itself keeps changing.

THE VIRUS ITSELF and transmission patterns. The good news: Despite the constant mutation, HIV Virus I, the form of HIV that is most prevalent in United States, is not totally changing, but is mutating around a fairly constant protein core. This may make it possible to develop a vaccine that will ward off any virus that has this core.

The bad news is, and this is really scary, that HIV Virus II, the form of HIV that is most prevalent in Africa and Asia, is now present (so far only in a small number of people) in the United States. This form of the virus developed primarily among homosexuals, and is much easier to catch through penile-vaginal (heterosexual) intercourse, in contrast to HIV Virus I, which is spread most easily by anal intercourse (in both gays and heterosexuals). Now that new heterosexual transmissions outnumber male to male transmissions, as HIV Virus II becomes more common, the ease of transmission will increase and the epidemic could heat up again.

More bad news: Even people who engage in sexual behaviors that were considered "low risk" are now catching the virus. A three-year study found that transmission through oral sex is occurring more frequently than previously thought. Almost half of new infections in this study occurred among people who unprocted sex with partners they have gotten to know.

The bad news: The U.S. doesn't look so good compared to other countries. Our teens are less responsible than those in other industrialized nations. It's not that they are more sexually active; they are not. But that they take less precautions. Our teen birth rates are at least twice those of other industrialized nations. And Chicago has the highest rate among U.S. cities.

Directly concerning HIV infections, the numbers of new infections are down in Chicago itself, but the epidemic is moving more and more into the south and west sides of Chicagoland.

Finally, though the epidemic is far from over, and the medical advances are too expensive to have much effect on the epidemic worldwide, on the personal side there is good news: HIV/AIDS is one disease you can prevent. Learn exactly what is safe and unsafe, and behave accordingly. Both you and your partner can be tested in the privacy of your home. (See the update on home testing in men's and women's rest rooms at GSU).

You can set the limit and not engage in penetrative sex with partners who you don't know well and who have not been tested. And, with partners with whom you do decide to have penetrative sex, you can stick to protected sex (using a latex male condom or the new "female" condom, and a water-based lubricant). With the "female" condom, more and more people are discovering that safer sex is completely enjoyable.

What's new with the GSU Psychology Club?

Students and members are pleased to have guest speakers attending the School Psychology Club meetings. Recently a local elementary school principal and special education teacher attended and spoke of real life experiences in the school system. They touched on the joys, frustrations, conflicts and rewards of being in each of their professions. Both having formerly attended GSU's programs, they were an inspiration and a delight to those not trilling far behind.

Once again, congratulations to GSU's School Psychology Program for being approved by NASP, the National Association for School Psychology. The students and faculty are quite pleased and excited about the news. On behalf of the club and students, we wish to thank everyone who helped making the accreditation a reality, especially Dr. Praze and Dr. Krug.

In the next issues of The INNOVATOR, we will be talking to GSU's finest — our School Psychology Program's students — to get their opinions and thoughts on the program, field experience and much, much more.

Stay tuned.

Leslie R. Thomas
Secretary
Sixty Alumni Academic Awards presented

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Eight GSU Physical Therapy Students Attend '97 National Student Conclave in Phoenix, Ariz.

Sixty students in GSU's Physical Therapy program attended The '97 National Student Conclave (NSC) in Phoenix, Ariz. More than 1,000 students from all over the country attended this year's NSC. Students had an opportunity to participate in the Mock House of Delegates and attend any of the nine clinical sessions that were offered. The sessions were on cardiopulmonary care, acute geriatrics, neurology, oncology, orthopedics, pediatrics, sports physical therapy and women's health.

The students also had an opportunity to have their résumé evaluated and students brought T-shirts with them for a T-shirt swap. GSU student Lisa Zaide said their shirts were so popular, they had to take orders. It was the design of a list of the various physical therapy areas and the networking aspect of the conclave was very important as was meeting the president of the American Physical Therapy Association, Jan Richardson. Students were also informed of trends in physical therapy education.

GSU students participating in the conclave were Karin Berults of Plainfield, Daniel Diens of Thornton, Andrew Farrell of Midlothian, Christy Goodman of Homewood, Michelle Johnson of New Lenox, Wendy Reils of Hazel Crest, Terri Verbeeren of Beecher and Lyza Zaide of Willowbrook. The trip for two of the students was paid for by Student Life. The other six received scholarships from the Illinois Eastern District of Physical Therapists.

GSU Student Peggy Collier Awarded Ralph Turner Scholarship

Peggy Collier of Robbins has been awarded the Ralph Turner Scholarship. This scholarship was established by the residents of Robbins and other southern suburb communities in honor of the late Ralph Turner, who completed both bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Governors State University when he was in his 60s. The scholarship is designed to assist returning students, who might otherwise not have the financial ability to continue their education. The Turner scholarship recipient is selected by Ralph Turner’s widow. Collier said she saw the scholarship advertised on television and, though she did not think she had a chance at winning, she applied anyway. “I had the desire to go back to school,” Collier said, “but the money. (The scholarship) is helping me make a dream come true.” Collier of Robbins, is personnel director and administrative assistant to the mayor of Robbins.

Before working for the village, she was employed for more than 25 years at Sears Roebuck & Co., but was laid off due to downsizing. Through the Dislocated Workers Program, she was able to attend school at Governors State University when in his 60s. The Turner Scholarship is helping me make a dream come true,” Collier said, “Working with the homeless allows me to do what I like. Getting this degree will help me get a lot out of it.

“The Ralph Turner Scholarship Ordinarily receives all its funding from an annual dinner. However, Ameritech employee Dawn Williams of Crestwood supplemented the funding this year with a total of $500 from two other sources—a $150 fund-raiser she organized for the foundation which resulted in $500 in private donations, and a unique Ameritech employee program designed to increase support for volunteering and community service which awarded an additional $1,000.

Learning in Context Program at GSU Receives Grant from JCCC Foundation

Brandon Senter, CEO of the Governors State University Foundation, received confirmation that the Learning in Context Program (LIC) at GSU has received a $5,000 grant from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago (JCCC).

The goals of the LIC program is to help Ford Heights children aspire to prepare for college and ultimately contribute to the growth and stability of a financially depressed region. Ford Heights is one of the poorest communities in the nation. The educational grants made by JCCC fund a wide range of programs including math, computer, and bilingual education, as well as mentoring, college preparation and work skills training. GSU was one of only 29 organizations to receive a grant out of 114 requests made to the JCCC/Shibagaki Endowment, secretary of the JCCC Foundation said.

“... "The members of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Chicago formed the foundation to provide a means for the Chicago area Japanese business community to come together and support local education, arts and cultural activities and to express our appreciation to the residents..." Senter said. As part of the mission of the JCCC Foundation, each year approximately $150,000 in grants of up to $10,000 are awarded to institutions, agencies and schools involved in education, cultural activities and the arts. The Foundation attempts to be a balance between funding more grants of smaller size. This permits the Foundation to achieve its annual objectives even if it grants serve only as seed money for worthy projects.

A special grant has been set aside to fund diversity through giving to a broad range of organizations. Senter said that “We are very appreciative of the JCCC in providing dollars to further the LIC initiative in Ford Heights. The grant will be used to support free tutorial services, the use of technology for teaching and learning, entrepreneurial and teacher training, mentoring opportunities and increased parental involvement in School District 169.”
Thoughts for the merry-impaired: transcending "Capitalianity"

by Ted Spaniak, managing editor

I don't plan on following. I recently asked myself, "Are any of my traditions meaningful?"

It occurred to me that my practices were the traditions of American society as a whole. Even though my heritage is Polish and French, my ethnicity is more suburban baby-boomer than European. When I was a kid, my closest relatives were Jack Brickhouse, Garfield Goose, and Oliver O. Oliver. Furthermore, whatever society told me was important and traditional has subsequently been disdained by someone of officially-imposed tradition is epitomized during this holiday time of year. You see, ready or not, it is time for those of us who have been brought up in the culture of "Capitalianity" (capitalism and Christianity) to have a "merry Xmas".

Now before you stop reading this column because you're afraid that I'm going to be a depressing kill-joy, raging on and on about the commercialization of X-Mas, let me assure you that the ensuing diatribe has a happy and meaningful ending—perhaps even for those in cultures not practicing Capitalianity (and even if you don't find what follows meaningful, it's always fun to laugh at the dominant culture).

I bet that people from many cultures feel that X-Mas and all the obligatory hoo-haa that goes with it is insanely out of control. It appears that one cannot escape the obligations of the holidays without being regarded as an iconoclastic heretic; we must participate — there seems to be no choice in the matter.

This festive tyranony has us by the sugar plums, and each year we are forced to march---while the insatiable, maniacal, mercantile juggernaut—in its lust to feed its greed—blamed the depression I felt on society. Then out of nowhere, inexplicably, I changed.

I am programmed to follow. I recently asked myself, "Are any of my traditions meaningful?" The thought made me stop walking:

"Yes, the holidays are absurd," I thought, "but wouldn't it be better to acknowledge this idiocy rather than fight it? Wouldn't it be better to let society's holiday pressure force my thoughts into contemplation of my own personal truths rather than outward in bitter confusion over the societal hypocrisy surrounding me? Wouldn't it be a wonderful challenge to flee inside myself and find the intended truth and love of the holiday even in the midst of the absurdity? Wouldn't laughing at it all be more fun than brooding about it?" Of course, the answer to all these questions was "yes."

The message of Xmas is "buy, buy, buy." The message of Christmas is "peace and love." Peace and love, being an infinitely more substantial idea than buy, buy, is also infinitely harder to comprehend. However, if peace and love are glimpsed at all, the journey past absurdity and inward to one's center becomes, in itself, a meaningful new tradition: the annual transcending of cynicism; the embrace of the crystalline kernel of truth that lies behind the superficial veil of society; the desire and ability to smile in the face of the materialistic force that separates me from others and blankest our holiday existence; the recognition that love is the glue of the universe.

Dare I say it? Merry Christmas—everyone.

**Reasons to panic: A frightening look at cultural illiteracy**

by Ted Spaniak, managing editor

"Okay, question 5: What year did the Pilgrims land?" Let's see, I used to know that—I think. Ahhhhh...1817. No wait. I better erase that—1718. There. Okay, next question: "On what coast did the Pilgrims land?" Oh, God. Ahhhhh...I'll come back to that. Okay, #7: 'What ocean did the Pilgrims cross?' Shit, I thought he said these were easy. Ohhhhh...I'll say—Indian. No wait, they FOUND Indians. Ahhhhh...Pacific. Yeah, that's right—I think.

You just have read a dramatization of what could have been going through the mind of a junior college freshman as he filled out a Thanksgiving questionnaire that contained questions such as the following:

- What coast did the Pilgrims land? (2) West coast
- Question: The Pilgrims landed at a place that would eventually become which state? (12) Blank; (2) Delaware
- Question: What was the name of the Pilgrims' ship? (10) Blank; (1) Pinta; (1) Quaker
- Question: What ocean did the Pilgrims cross? (6) Blank; (6) Pacific; (1) Arctic
- Question: What did the Pilgrims look like? (5) Blank; "People with goofy pants, socks, hats, etc." People with an auster appearance; Indians; Mormons; Omsh; Funny clothing that looked similar to Scottish people; White.

Question: Where did the Pilgrims come from? (8) Blank; (3) Europe; (4) Plymouth; (1) Spain
Question: Who were the Pilgrims? (2) Settlers that stole the Indians' land; The people who started Thanksgiving; Settlers the Queen of England sent to look for a new land; The native Americans; People who hated their religion in Spain; People; Puritans

Interestingly, there were two questions that the class did fairly well on. Seventeen out of 22 knew that "Plymouth Rock" was a famous rock associated with the Pilgrims. Five left the answer blank. Surprisingly, the other question that rang a bell with them was "Who was Squanto?" Sixteen identified him as an Indian who helped the Pilgrims. Six others left this question blank. One said Squanto was an Indian "tribe." Another said that Squanto was "an Indian they took from." I don't believe that this dearth of awareness has anything to do with the students' socio-economic status. This particular classroom was racially mixed and comprised of lower class, lower middle, middle and upper middle class students. Besides, even if one's parent(s) aren't particularly wealthy or educated, is there really any excuse for so many students not to know these basic facts?

Educators and sociologists can come up with plenty of excuses why students may not know that the Pilgrims landed on the east coast after traveling over the Atlantic ocean, but are there really any legitimate reasons for students not to have this basic cultural literacy that so many previous generations had learned by the fourth grade? Educators today seem to be emphasizing learning how to learn, critical thinking and problem solving and not paying as much attention to traditional methods of education that reinforce such things as history and dates. Granted, dates without the significance that surrounds them is pointless, but students today appear to be learning neither dates nor significance. If one looks at the results of my Thanksgiving questionnaire, it appears that some are learning very little indeed.

There are undoubtedly some great educators in America today; however, if one looks at education in America as a whole, it is a frightening picture: a political quagmire fraught with ineptness, confusion over curriculum and pedagogy, and frustrated instructors trying in vain to teach children whose parents have not given them the tools necessary to succeed in life.

It is a tragically ironic paradox in the "information age" that today's students seem unable to obtain the information required to be culturally literate.
Monday, December 15, 1997 - THE INNOVATOR

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

by Denise Graham Zahn

As this trimerster ends, I will be moving on to other endeavors, but before I leave I would like to thank the many people who contributed their time, energy and enthusiasm to producing the best paper that we could.

First, I would like to thank Student Life Director Tom Dascenzo and Assistant Mike Blackburn, as well as the Student Communications Media Board. Through consistent conversation we were able to move some things along that are now coming to fruition.

I also want to thank Tom, Mike, Dean Patricia Carter and any others who participated in relocating The INNOVATOR office. (Obviously, PPO, Wes Coates and others were essential in getting things prepared for the move and the move itself.)

The INNOVATOR is no longer located in a remote corner above the swimming pool. Instead, the office is situated in a highly visible and highly presentable office just off the Student Commons on the second floor. While much of the daily historians, already we can envision a much more pleasant working environment and hope that exposure to the many passers-by will invite others to participate in creating a great student publication.

I also want to thank the SCMB and those who assisted in evaluating and processing and obtaining the office equipment and software. Having a new computer with updated software, a CD-ROM with clip-art, a scanner and a digital camera will make the paper a more pleasant experience for anyone interested in participating in its production.

Those are major accomplishments. It has taken some time to get the ball rolling, and the pieces are still arriving - but it is happening!

I also want to thank the people who participated regularly in getting the paper out. Ted Spaniak, has done a tremendous job as managing editor and photographer. His sophisticated intellect and wit has challenged and entertained our readers. His reliability in taking photos and editing were invaluable. Dan Kostos, our business manager, is the person behind the scenes, who has done a tremendous job in organizing, cleaning-up records, selling advertising and dealing with the customers. She's done a fabulous job. (We hope you will patronize our advertisers.) She not only sells the ads but mails out "tear sheets" and invoices.

Professor Walter Perkins was on-hand to ensure that no legal bounds were crossed and to be a second set of eyes in the editing process.

Of course, once again, Tom, Mike, the Student Senate and SCMB made working for The INNOVATOR a terrific experience. Together we produced a candidacy forum prior to the Student Senate elections. Though first, hopefully it won't be the last.

Cindy Kansoer-Schneider could always be counted on for stories, despite the fact that she was taking a whopping 24-credit hour load (some at another school). Karen Piekjo covered the arts - "What's up with the shows?". A prolific writer, Karen never failed to turn in something - even at her busiest. I have concluded that neither Cindy nor Karen require sleep.

Sherry Anderson was a major plus in getting the paper ready for publication every two weeks. She spent a considerable amount of time going through the desktop publishing tutorial. That takes determination!

Ann Pace regularly turned in her much appreciated "Health Tips" and Thom Dennis puzzled our readers every edition with his "Polygon Puzzles."

In addition to the regular contributors, we had a variety of guest writers who told their "War Stories," presented their creativity on the "It Won't Pay the Bills" page, or international stories in "News of the World." Club members and other organizations also contributed information for the GSU community interest. Director of Career Services, Jim Opon, recently began a column that should be read by every GSU student because we all must leave the next one day.

I'd also like to thank Dan Lubovich, who saved me when the computer failed one day. If I failed to thank anyone - I apologize right now. Those who contributed know who they are, and don't doubt that your effort was appreciated.

My satisfaction has been in getting the paper out every two weeks. It's out there for everyone to see and make judgment on. I judge myself. One of the things that pleases me is when I hear comments that the paper is looking very professional. Certainly things can be improved or changed, but we provided some consistency. Just like a real world newspaper has a local section, an international section, a classified section - we did, too. Each edition included "Stuff you should know." Entertainment, regular columns, humor and international stories or war stories. It's been a team effort. I enjoyed working with the many people it took to get things done. Without the assistance and cooperation of those people, the time commitment would have been overwhelming. As I move on, someone else will step in with new concepts and innovations. With this paper, I pass the baton and ask that all those interested in making this paper an award-winner again, call The INNOVATOR office at (708) 534-4517 or talk to Ted Spaniak.

Happy holidays!

---

The child within

by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider

Most people would agree that it is more fun to be a kid than an adult. I devote as little time to being an adult as possible; to make the world palatable, one has to look at it through a child's eyes to see the newness and wonder waiting to be discovered. I find nothing wrong with making snow angels, having snowball fights, or catching snowflakes on your tongue. There is no harm in scooping off the top layer of snow, tasting the layer underneath, and enjoying the bite of the icy magic.

I remember when there was a time when 'Goodwill' meant more than a dropbox for old clothes. It was a time when the holiday season came and even the meanest, most obnoxious, most antisocial individual relented and smiled, extended a hand in friendship, and displayed humanistic traits inherent in all of us. What happened?

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Professor chosen to annotate Sci-Fi Channel Web page

Eli Segal, professor of Media Communication (CAS/LIBA), has been chosen to annotate The Sci-Fi Channel's new Web page for the 52 weeks beginning January 1, 1998. Selected episodes of Segal's Peabody and Ohio State award-winning radio drama series _Future Tense_ and programs from his _Grip of Terror and Audio Theatre_ series will also be featured, in addition to weekly replays of class science fiction dramas from radio's golden age.

The Internet address of the Sci-Fi Channel is www.sciif.com.

Student Health Insurance and Carpooling

As the fall term draws to an end and the winter term is almost upon us, we are all looking forward to providing information to the students. Students should be aware that the Office of Student Life provides information on three health insurance options. Students decide whether to contract directly with any of the three companies.

The Student Carpool is offered by the Chicago Area Transportation Study and theform is provided in the office. Once the student has completed the form, a free carpool match list is provided. This provides information about other students traveling in the same area.

The Office of Student Life is continuously seeking ways to assist students in reaching their goals.
If she delivers, deliver me.

Ones.

The Spiral Arms of the Clan--
Ancient.

Every year, in the month before the Light
Alicia's moans.

hand, I reached around with my right and suctioned the nostrils and mouth. I remem-

was it? Frantic,

bored about three centimeters. The pain had started a half hour before when she felt

Larry loved "driving hot." Although I felt a certain thrill, it scared the hell out of

"Hey Kehoe, have you ever delivered a baby?" he asked with a sly grin.

"No. Have you?"

"Negative, my friend...but not to worry. She'll probably be in labor for hours."

"Yeah, right."

His words of assurance came up short. Please God -- if she delivers, deliver me from birth birth, hemorrhage, and cord complications.

We arrived in seven minutes. No time to waste. After scouring her on the

bench.

We loaded her into the rig.

Her name was Alicia. She was 25 years old, about 3'4" tall and "all baby." This

was her third pregnancy. Her water bag had broken. Examination revealed she was

in labor.

"Larry, Larry. She's crowning. What's the closest hospital?"

"Breathe.,"

I said.

"Breathe," I said.

I held the baby up. A wave of satisfaction washed over me as Larry's jaw

dropped and his eyebrows stretched into his forehead.

"Well, I'll be. Merry Christmas you O.B. guy, you!" he exclaimed. The

emergency room staff pronounced both mother and child in good condition. No

breech birth, no cord problems, no hemorrhages -- just a normal delivery.

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"Well, I'll be. Merry Christmas you O.B. guy, you!" he exclaimed. The

emergency room staff pronounced both mother and child in good condition. No

breech birth, no cord problems, no hemorrhages -- just a normal delivery.

His pink complexion indicated good oxygenation, but I wanted to be sure no residual

blood or mucus remained in his airways. Before bundling him up, I snapped

my fingers against his heel. He rewarded me by howling loud enough to get Larry's

attention.

"Hey, Kehoe. We're here. What's going on back there?"

"Larry, you're right on cue."

I held the baby up. A wave of satisfaction washed over me as Larry's jaw

dropped and his eyebrows stretched into his forehead.

"Well, I'll be. Merry Christmas you O.B. guy, you!" he exclaimed. The

emergency room staff pronounced both mother and child in good condition. No

breech birth, no cord problems, no hemorrhages -- just a normal delivery.

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emergency room staff pronounced both mother and child in good condition. No

breech birth, no cord problems, no hemorrhages -- just a normal delivery.

Or was it? The experience for me was anything but normal. Amid the sounds of

the siren and a mother's labor, somewhere between the pulse of yellow and blue, in

the presence of new life -- I discovered the true radiance of the season. After

work, Larry bought me a beer and offered me a cigar. I

hesitated. "I'm not sure I can handle this," I said. He had a twinkle in his

eyes.

"You can handle it, Kehoe. Just this once...light it up."

A Mythic Thanksgiving

by Robert Kehoe

Every year, in the month before the Light
Returning.

As set down in the writings of the
Ancient Ones,

The Spiral Arms of the Clan--
Flung far and wide over the Land --

Coalesce and converge
At the Hearth

of the Chosen

Ones.

Here, the cackle and crackle

of friends and fire

The Great Feast takes place

in Celebration

of Hunt and Harvest.

Food and Drink

are in Abundance--

A Cornucopia of the Fowl and Forage

of the Forest.

Tales are told: not only of

Labors Long Past, but also,

Of Moments fully Experienced:

the Sun's gilded kiss

on mauve, morning horizons

They eat...They enjoy.

The soft gaze

of an infant's eyes

an amber moon

in a purpleneight.

silk caresses of summer's

southwest breezes

gentle nudges

of lover's thighs

fresh, fecund fragrance

of forest in Spring

giggles of children

dancing among daises

Of Time, which all too swiftly,

passes from the Past

into the future

of Love Lost

and Love Found.

Within the Wonder

Of the Good Earth Mother.

The harvest.

of the Bounty

in their lives

Not only for the nourishment

of their body

but also,

They eat and drink

of each other's Spirit . . .

The Soulful Sustainence

which binds them together

Final Humor

by Sue Finder

Wos a fella ta do? the worlds gone awry and everything's asekew
Wos a fella ta do?
Semesters' bout to end all the papers are due.
Will we live thru the finals? Our brains in a stew!
Wos a fella ta do?

Campus Holiday
Hours Announced

GSU will be closed on the fol-

lowing days due to the holidays and between-semester periods: Wednesday,

December 25; Thursday, De-

cember 25; Saturday, December 27;

Sunday, December 28; Wednesday,

December 31 and Thursday, Janu-

ary 1.

The university will be open but

operating with minimal staff on the following days: Friday, December 26;
Monday, December 29 and Tuesday,

December 30.

The university resumes regu-

larly scheduled hours on Friday,

January 2, and the Winter 1998 tri-

semester begins on January 12.

A recorded 24-hour information

line offers information on emer-

gency closing of the school. That

number is (708) 534-4999. Radio

stations would be notified, how-

ever, if the university should be

closed due to inclement weather.

If any emergency should arise

on-campus, the Department of Pub-

lic Safety (DPS) can be contacted

by picking up one of the on-cam-

pus wall-phones connected with

DPS and dialing extension 111.
What do like and dislike most about the holidays, and what is your most absurd holiday memory?

Sherry Troike
Like: Food
Dislike: Traveling
Absurd memory: I have no absurd memories. Make something up for me if you want. I don't care what you write. Well, okay, Sherry. I'll write my most absurd memory.

When I was in 2nd grade, my class had to write a Christmas story. I thought I'd be clever and write a horror story. In the story, my dog jumps on my dad, eats his head off and sends him careening into the Christmas tree which then falls over and burns down the house. I was so proud of the story because I knew that I'd be the only one in the class with a horror Christmas story! I couldn't wait for all the amazing compliments and the oohing and ahhing from my parents, teacher, and classmates. Unfortunately, my teacher sent a nasty letter home to my parents regarding the story. I got in trouble. Gosh darn it, they just don't train teachers like that anymore. Genius is so misunderstood.

Kim Lall
Like: The time off. It allows one to catch up on their life.
Dislike: Thinking about how lonely some people are during the holidays.
Absurd memory: I can't differentiate between holiday memories; they're all the same. That's the absurdity.

MariAnn Mailhot
Like: All the Polish food such as Czarnina (duck blood soup), sausage, and pierogies.
Dislike: Having a small family of six that always fights with each other.
Absurd memory: When my brother was in 2nd grade, he woke up Christmas morning to find nothing but coal in his stocking. My mother had put it there. He eventually received his presents, but not before he cried and cried.

Senior aquacize and exercise group holds 17th annual "Senior Bash"

The GSU Student Life Senior Aquacize Class held its 17th annual "Senior Bash" in the Student Commons. A pot lot event, these are local residents who use the GSU facilities for floor and aqua exercise -- and they have been for many years.

Arta Dickerson, age 77, has been teaching aquacize at GSU for 17 years now, she said. The youngest in the group of about 50 is 62 years old, the oldest, 85. Their photo album was full of pictures of the group -- and their hearts full of memories, I'm sure.

Wanna Grab Some Extra Cash?
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24 hours a day - 7 days a week

Locations: Hodgkins/Willow Springs (1-55 & I-294) Addison, Palatine, Northbrook & Westmont

http://www.ups.com

Reprinted from the GSU Seniors Photo album as published by Abbott's Minute Printing
What's up with the shows!

Shows and Music

Karen’s Korner
Local Musicians Need Your Help To Clothe The Homeless

Kraig Kenning, nationally acclaimed suburban based recording artist, is hosting his 11th annual holiday charity benefit on Tuesday, December 23 at the Beale Street Cafe, 1550 N. Rand Road, in Palatine. There are a couple of cool ways that you can help. If you can, great.

One way you can help is to volunteer your time on December 23 at the benefit, or on December 27 delivering coats to the homeless. (If you can volunteer, call: (630) 830-4521.) Another way you can help is to attend the big show! The donation for the big show, which features a variety of local and national talent, is three dollars with a used winter coat or warm winter clothing, or seven dollars without a clothing donation. In return, you’ll receive non-stop entertainment from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. on December 23, plus your donation will greatly help someone less fortunate.

Ralph Covert of The Bad Examples is scheduled and Dave Anderson of the I-Lites.

Naturally, Kraig Kenning will perform and many other bands are being scheduled. All musicians volunteer their performances for this event, and you never know which musical varieties may pop up. This benefit is unique, because Kraig Kenning and other volunteers go out into the streets and personally deliver these coats to the homeless.

In addition, all money that is collected is used to purchase grocery store gift certificates that the homeless can redeem for food.

Hope you can help, if not, remember there are plenty of places in your own community that need people just like you to volunteer an hour of time, or some spare change, not just for the holidays, but all throughout the year!

Happy Holidays!

Illinois Philharmonic is coming

The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at the Center for Performing Arts on Sunday, January 18 at 3 p.m.

Casual Classics will be presented in a relaxed atmosphere with pre-concert activities and an engaging stage commentary by Maestro DeLeone.

Tickets available at The Center Box office or by contacting IPO at (708) 481-7774. Prices range from $16 to $47. Children’s tickers range from $8 to $13.

Album: Refried Rice
Artist: Ronnie Rice

Sunlight Records
Released: 12/97

Refried Rice rocks! Chicago’s own Ronnie Rice finally has a CD of his own and it really, really rocks. There’s no “New Colony Six” on this thing, no way! Just Ronnie Rice in all his glory. Rice had many hits and continues to record and perform today. Refried Rice is a discography of the artist’s music before and after his affiliation with “The New Colony Six.” Refried Rice is a compilation of new and old music, carefully blended with some rare, off the wall novelty sounds.

The new material outshines the old stuff, no question about it. The best tracks are “Come In From The Pain,” “Guard Up” and “Sometimes I Can’t Be There,” which emerges with a modern country-rock sound. “Been Looking For Someone” has received a lot of air play in Chicago and is truly a musical masterpiece. The older songs, at the beginning of the album, are rare recordings from the beginning of Rice’s career. Some were transcribed from the original master tapes, while others were taken directly from vinyl. In all, there are 28 fabulous songs.

The combination of new and old music makes it a real crowd pleaser, especially for upcoming holiday parties. It also makes a cool stocking stuffer for anyone who loves that homegrown Chicago rock-n-roll sound. I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, in Chicago, Ronnie Rice rules! Get your Refried Rice today! Refried Rice is available at Beverly Records or by calling Sunlight Records at (800) 364-8611 or (312) 527-2003.

GSU Awarded $180,000 annual grant for four years

GSU has been awarded a Student Support Service Grant from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of $180,000 per year for four years. Peggy Woodard, director of Student Development, said “This is a pretty big deal, and we are really excited about receiving the grant.” Many institutions applied for grants, but GSU was one of only 125 to have new programs funded.

The function, which is to target college students who are first generation, low-income and/or disabled, provide support services to ensure that they matriculate into the university through graduation and into careers or graduate school. First generation college students and/or have attended, generally in place to help them get through college. Consequently, this group has a very high drop-out rate. The grant will provide the funds to hire personnel who will support these students so that they don’t get frustrated and quit.

“We will help at every juncture,” Woodard said. “These students will be supported by a Special Project Manager and a counselor devoted specifically to helping them through registration, academic and personal counseling, tutoring, career services and anything else.”

Continued on page 5
We Survived The Great Debate '97

by Karen Piejko, GSU, America & Peter Wilson, UNISA, Australia

Students on two separate continents, on opposite sides of the world, have completed an extraordinary experiment in distance education. The students demonstrated remarkable communication skills as they researched, compared notes and finally conducted the debates in a logical, timely, orderly fashion. It is not easy to share flaws, but it was an outstanding achievement just the same. Well, this is it, the end of a journey between nations via cyberspace. No more e-mailing of Big Macs and off the cuff remarks about kangaroo poop, koala bear crud and dorky American teachers. And now, my special guest columnist Peter Wilson, from the University of South Australia, is going to hash it out, right here, right now, with yours truly!

Peter Wilson (Australia) Notice Board Topics: Crocodiles, lost debate partners, logic tests, horse races and young bucks rubbing horns? Is Hungry Jacks better? Is this what our nations should be talking about?

Karen Piejko (America) Notice Board Topics: Ducks, dorky teachers and doorknobs? Whatever! We have a lot to learn from all the people in the world around us. Each person has come to this world with a special gift and it is up to all of us to communicate with each other and share our special talents and experiences. The Great Debate offers us a chance to learn from each other and to bring our special talents to the world.

We have an enormous amount to learn from our indigenous people who have lived on the driest land of the world that great things can happen if we all work together. As for our own people, don't eat people all the time. We have the best food in the world, and we're serving it at our professors' expense...& so on your lips, and wear sunglasses to prevent snow blindness. Also, wear material that wicks moisture. Wear a wind-resistant jacket. Cover your head, ears and hands. Put chapstick on your lips, and wear sunglasses to prevent snow blindness.

We will connect them with financial aid and diversity programs, as well as offer them leadership training. The criteria will be identified each year through student self-assessment, in particular the faculty committee members. Annie's props included Perkins Pickles (in honor of Professor Walter Perkins), Segal Suds (alluding to Professor Eli Segal), King's Cookies (baked for invited guest Anna Kong) and a bonus of Muchnik Mushrooms for invited guest Professor Mel Muchnik. While these foods may not be a specialty of A, I'd just like to set a few things straight. We don't ride Kangaroos in Australia! Hungry Jacks is short for Flagon, a large liquid container.

Professors taste the best when coated with Heinz 57 sauce, at least the ones I know. Professors taste the best when coated with Heinz 57 sauce, at least the ones I know. When all else fails, just grin it, and call it Annie's Goon. Annie's Better than any other sandwich I've ever had. Also, wear a wind-resistant jacket. Cover your head, ears and hands. Put chapstick on your lips, and wear sunglasses to prevent snow blindness.

We have a lot to learn from all the people in the world around us. Each person has come to this world with a special gift and it is up to all of us to communicate with each other and share our special talents and gifts. We have a lot to learn about making this world a place of peace, love and harmony. The Great Debate '97 has brought us one step closer to achieving world peace and is a symbol of cultural diversity and unity.
JOBS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Career Corner
by Jim Opon
Director of Career Services

It’s December and you need a job. You’ve just graduated and you’ve got bills to pay and presents to buy. You look at the paper and the want ad section is down to a thin few pages and the only jobs you find are for part-time temporary positions. What do you do?

You ask some friends for help. Their response is “You’ll never get a job during Christmas; wait until after the New Year or “You’ll never get anyone to talk to you - they’re all at parties.”

Your confidence fades. “Well, since I’m stuck until after New Year’s, I’ll just put things on hold for awhile and get into the holiday spirit - or spirits for that matter.”

Many of us can share this experience of needing to find a job during the holidays.

And to be honest it is a difficult time to look for a job. People and the organizations they work for are less focused on business during Christmas; people do take more time off at this time of year and companies often put important hiring decisions off until after the New Year.

But these realities should not prevent you from making whatever progress you can to advance your career. They are not an excuse to shut down your job search.

Well, you ask “What should I be doing”?

First of all, don’t give up on finding the position you want. Many organizations do hire during the holidays. It is especially true this year because many firms are in need of qualified workers. Keep your job search active. Follow all leads and contact any that seem promising. Remember for every job hunter that quits looking during the holidays, you have one less person to compete against. Your odds can improve for the available jobs because of those dropping out.

While it is true that many people and organizations keep a less intense schedule during the holidays, you can use this factor to your advantage. This is a good time to network. Try to go to parties and functions where you will come in contact with a variety of people. Make an effort to meet as many people as you can. Have some general purpose business cards printed. (They should have your name, address, phone and E-Mail address.) These can be given to those promising prospects you meet. They’re also handy for writing down names and addresses of potential contacts who don’t have business cards.

Along with networking comes information interviewing. This is the process of meeting with a person doing the type of work you are interested in order to gain a better insight into that field. Identify several prospects and ask them if they could spare you a half hour at lunch or after work. Prepare some general questions and get as much information from them as possible. The information interview is your most important source for inside information of careers and organizations.

The holiday season can be a promising time for information interviews since many individuals may have a less structured schedule during the holidays. They may be more available now than at any other time of year. If you do have difficulty in getting job or information interviews, the holidays are great times to do your research. All successful job seekers need to conduct serious research on their potential careers and potential employers.

Make an appointment with a research librarian. Have that person show you the resources available for conducting a job search. Check out the periodicals, trade journals, directories and other reference materials. Also have the librarian show you any computer-assisted technology the library offers. Many public libraries now provide Internet access for clients.

Finally, don’t let the fact that you are looking for a job during the holidays get you discouraged. While you need to keep working seriously toward finding employment, don’t let your situation consume you. Keep active. Stay involved in social activities. Don’t avoid people just because you are out of work. The greatest enemy to your success is discouragement and depression. It is important that you maintain a healthy attitude during this time. We grow stronger as we meet our challenges.

Remember this as a time when you met and mastered a difficult challenge. If you are in need of assistance in your job search or have any questions regarding the issues in this article, feel free to call the Career Services Office at x5080 on campus or at 708-235-3974 from off campus.

Have a Happy Holiday Season from all of the Career Services Staff.

New Cherry Coke Web Site Urges Visitors to “Do Something Different” Online Competition Seeks Creativity in Writing, Design and Music

How does a budding screenwriter get attention for his creative concepts? How does an aspiring designer begin to stand out from the crowd? How does an unpublished composer get an “ear” for her works? How do all of them see the future?

The answer: www.cherrycoke.com. Starting December 2, the Cherry Coke Web site will offer visitors the chance to express themselves creatively in a variety of mediums — music, art and writing. Each month, for four months, another competition will begin. A panel of judges will award Cherry Coke hats to 24 semi-finalists and a Sony digital camera to a finalist in each of the four competitions. At the end of the four competitions, the Internet community will pick one grand prize winner from the four finalists, who will receive the ultimate grand prize — his or her own theme page within the Cherry Coke Web site.

Visitors will have a chance to compete in: Composing music — Special software will offer the tools to create a tune, listen to it and submit it. Design the world of the future — Use your imagination and some computer design tools to visualize how things could be. Writing a movie treatment — Choose from a cast of characters and craft a drama worthy of the silver screen. Designing Web screens — Create new wallpaper for your computer screen.

The contest is only open to U.S. residents. No purchase is necessary.

Michael Wasniowski's Commentary on Life through Digital Imaging
Our Lady of Athletic Footwear

by Ted Spaniak

GSU's Michael Wasniowski doesn't consider what he does to be art. "I only had one piece [in the show] that I considered art; the rest was a political statement or a statement about society."

Hmmm. That's funny. When I saw Wasniowski's show "Purgatory," in the GSU Art Gallery, I thought it was some of the most compelling "art" I'd seen in ages.

Originally, I wanted to destroy the show when it was over but because people enjoyed it, I decided to continue showing it.

Oh, these artists. But what is art anyway? There are 10 definitions in my dictionary, all of them obviously wrong. I can't help it; when I see a computer generated image of Jesus with a television for a head, I believe that I am in the presence of great art. Wasniowski's aesthetic sense is fun to look at, but then he serves up extra delights through biting observational subtext.

"My work is like a puzzle. I've always liked Rubic's Cubes; I like to think. I like landscapes, but I can look out my window and see one of those. [When I go to an art show], unless there's something else going on [besides the surface aesthetic], I have a tendency to move on to the next art work until I find something with depth."

Unlike Wasniowski, I hate Rubic's Cubes and puzzles, mostly because I have neither the patience nor the type of intelligence necessary to solve them; however, I find lingering over the work of Wasniowski extremely gratifying. Perhaps it is because there is no objective mandate to appreciating his "art." He is not asking the viewer to solve it — only to consider the subtleties and layers of meaning implicit in the collective image. So Michael, why "Purgatory"?

"The theme of the show is Purgatory. When I was working on my B.A., I was in a stasis, not advancing nor falling back. I loved the bad oil paintings on the wall.

"You noticed. Most people didn't even notice the installation.

Wasniowski is referring to a mock living room — the living room of the American "Everyman." In the middle of the gallery, there are things like a couch, coffee table and a television. Food wrappers litter the floor. A time magazine with a picture of Lady Di stares out from the "K-Mart-ish" landscapes adorn the walls. There are Reebok shoes on the floor and a Chicago Bears blanket on the back of the couch.

"Most people didn't even notice it was part of the show. They thought they could just sit down and relax. There is a lot of detail in this installation, and I wanted to see how much people would notice. It's interesting that they didn't realize that this living room setting is their living room setting.

Wasniowski relates that essentially, he is making fun of himself, culture and society by putting a living room setting in the gallery as part of the show. He's ticked off at the people with blinders on — the one's who come home from work, turn on the TV and shut out the rest of the world. He's worried about us losing our freedoms because we are not paying attention to anything but the TV. So did anyone get upset about Jesus with the television head?

"No."

That's terrible. I'd be kind of pissed off that no one was pissed off.

No one had much to say about that, but I did have some people who wanted to buy 'Our Lady of Athletic Footwear.' The inspiration behind the image has to do with me being really upset that people are actually killing each other. I mean, how far will these kids go to get this status symbol? And who's responsible for this killing? The parents, the marketing executives, society, the children themselves? The image says 'Who do you worship: the shoes or the icon?'

The Nike symbol as halo is priceless.

I try to back off from pointing my finger directly at any one organization, group, or business. I just want to make sure that everyone sees and then they can judge for themselves. That's why I put more than one brand of shoe in the installation.

"You mean that it is planned out from beginning to end. In 1977, when Star Wars came out, I started noticing the world around me. There's just so much out there that we don't question and seemingly can't know even when we do question it.

"I decided to continue showing 'Purgatory' because people enjoyed it. I'm also disgusted by how much our society is programmed. My installation was called 'Programming.' The inspiration behind the image has to do with me being really upset that people would notice. It's interesting that they didn't realize that this living room setting is their living room setting.

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A new Mark Twain

by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider

Walter Mosley appeared Friday, November 21, at the Harold Washington Library Center. To anyone who missed his discussion of his latest novel, Always Outnumbers, Always Outgunned, you didn’t miss a lecture; you missed an experience. His hard hitting prose, that not merely stirs the imagination, but jars the consciousness and promotes understanding, is surpassed only by his expressive and magnetic persona.

“My books are political,” stated Mosley. “All my books are political.” Yet, the politics deal with the urban environment, survival in that environment, and the reflections on reality. Though fiction, Mosley’s novels are based on reality; thus, those individuals who live or have lived in the ghetto relate to the story at hand.

Those who have had no knowledge of the ghetto gain some understanding of the environment and how the inhabitants’ destiny is sadly altered. It is a different kind of politics. The insular environment of the ghetto promotes crime, punishment and, if lucky, redemption. A newly introduced character, Socrates Fortow, never forgives himself. Mosley explained that Socrates believes that you have to own up when you are wrong. There is the possibility of redemption he said, “but not forgiveness.” In the past character have been left with only ideals. Today, the reading audience is different, and the heroes now have to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. Mosley laughingly compared himself to Mark Twain, in that they both have dealt with controversial (and unpopular) issues that many people find difficult to acknowledge. There have been times when his books have been banned from schools and returned to him.

When questioned as to where his characters emerge from, Mosley told the following story as an example: It seems that when he was a teenager, he visited his Aunt Harriet in Galveston, Texas. The timing was such that it was New Year’s Eve, and as Mosley explained, “People were in the street celebrating. They were drinking and they had guns—it was dangerous!”

He and a friend decided to visit someone not far away. When they reached the house, they found this “guy” drinking a pitcher of vodka straight from the vessel. Curiosity got the better of them and they asked: “What’s wrong?” to which they received: “My friend went to a bar instead of going home. He was drinking when his girlfriend came in and shot him six times because he told her he was going back to his wife.” Mosley admitted how scared he was and that he and his friend quickly returned to Aunt Harriet’s house. He stated his fear to his aunt with expectations of mockery. With the roll of his eyes and a grimace, he repeated his aunt’s reassurance: “Don’t worry baby, I have a ’38’ right here in my purse. They have to go through me to get to you.” Not only is the source of characters verified, but the authenticity of the characters are proven.

According to Mosley, and many concurred with him, fiction should be written for kids. “Black kids know reading is important,” he said, but they also know that other kids have a 10 year advance on them.” Kids have to be able to relate to what they are reading. In being able to relate, Mosley stated: “Reading leads to discussion and discussion leads to learning.”

Though Mosley asked that any reference to him being Twain be taken lightly, I, however, wonder if there is not more than one truth in this comparison. Both men face important, political and social issues, but they do so artistically, humorously, and learnedly. Anyone can tell a story; it takes one of artistic ability with a touch of magic to make a story come alive. The audience was spellbound (myself included) and selfishly pleaded for more time and discussion from this dynamic author. Perhaps it would be wise to check Mosley’s birthday with the visitation of Haley’s Comet. It may be found that at the same time that Twain winked out, Mosley winked in.

A picture's worth ...

The INNOVATOR's Cindy Kansoer-Schneider smiling typically. (Left)

Catherine Bernhardt, Student Leadership Advisory Council chair, who is graduating in December 1997.

Lynne Hostetter, word processing supervisor, and Virginia Eysenbach, coordinator of publications, dancing the polka to music provided by Dr. Cecilia Rokusek. (Left)

Musically talented Dr. Cecilia Rokusek, Dean of the College of Health Professions, entertaining the crowd at the Pre-Thanksgiving Diversity celebration. (Right)

LaMonda Kidd of Student Life, currently off for surgery, conducting university-wide club seminar. (Left)
Banned in the U.S.A.

by Laura Bennert

Censorship is the control of what people may see, hear or read. Censorship affects all types of mass media. Everyday someone tries to restrict or control what is being said, written, sung, or broadcast. Is banning books from schools the right thing to do? Are we hiding the facts of what really goes on in our world today? Are most parents overprotective or trying to protect their children?

For example, the First Amendment of the Constitution states: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

I feel that freedom of religion, freedom of assembly, and freedom of speech are important. These rights give us the opportunity to try different religions, write, print or say what we feel is necessary. But then why are there several books banned from our school, libraries and book stores?

In textbooks and libraries across the nation the right thing to do? Are we hiding the facts of what really goes on in our world today? Are most parents overprotective or trying to protect their children?

Censorship is not only an attempt to control what is taught in our schools, libraries and book stores is limiting our experience of other people’s views on places. Censorship is not only an attempt to control what is taught in our schools, libraries and book stores is limiting our experience of other people’s views on things.

Parents do not sit down with their children and explain killing, rape, drugs, or incest. Children today know about these things because of television, radio and newspapers. But no one is really explaining the why and what of these violent acts.

In a classroom setting where books are the key learning tool, teachers can explain these acts. When reading about act of violence, racial remarks and even profanity, teachers can explain in detail and discuss what is going on. I feel that opening the children’s eyes to the world and explaining what is going on is essential. Any child can see, hear or read about violent and unfair things. But in the classroom setting it gives them a chance to hear about why these things happened and the consequences.

Banning books is hurting the children of tomorrow. However, not exposing them to these things may make them more in tune with what is happening around them. Children will see or experience violent acts regardless. But in the classroom they can get a sense, and explanation and result of the violent and unfair things the books are. It gives them a sense of knowledge in the world where things are not always right or fair.

"The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger has been banned for several years. The Twelve Most Targeted Books finds that, “Parents feel objected to the deficiency and profanity in this novel.” In my opinion high-school students already know and use profanity. Reading words will not effect their everyday life. The words in this book only add feeling and meaning to what is happening to the characters.

Now also banned is a preschool book, a fairytale, "Little Red Riding Hood" by Grimm brothers. Parents suggested that the book gave false ideas to children. Little Red Riding Hood was walking through the forest to bring food and drink to her grandmother. According to the Twelve Most Targeted Books, “Parents feel their children would think it is okay for them to walk somewhere by themselves. Parents also felt the drink she was bringing miseducated her. "We do not want our child to think that she can drink Kool-aid. And as for walking by myself, I do not think that would have ever crossed my mind. I feel if banning this book has gone to far.

Also banned is “Go Ask Alice.” by an anonymous author. The book has been taken out of schools because of drug abuse and sexual activity are portrayed in this unsigned diary of a teenage drug user. If anything this book should be in schools. The story depicts the thoughts and feelings of a drug user. The book goes into graphic detail of teen drug use and its terrible consequences. In my opinion this book would scare kids away from using drugs.

We are eternal and spiritual beings. The ability to think and reason is the expression of what is in us. But putting a ban on books is limiting our knowledge. Books send out other people’s opinions and viewpoints. What we know and believe is expressed in some type of book. So banning books in schools, libraries and bookstores is limiting our experience of other people’s views on the world. If everyone thought and believed the same thing the world would be a boring place. At the same time it also silences the author, by not letting us know what he/she has written. "Book Burning" by Cal Thomas states, "Books are the great miseducators. A great conservative that respects human beings will allow free discussion.” Isn’t the best place for children to learn in school? Is the government saying that we can not let our children read these books? The book "Go Ask Alice" and "Little Red Riding Hood" have nothing about actual drugs and we guide them to do right, wouldn’t this country be a better place? Where are children going to get a proper foundation in learning about what is wrong in the world and how they can become better people or how to change it?

Not only are novels and stories banned and censored, but also text books. According to “Censorship, Evidence of Bias in Our Children’s Textbooks,” "Religious, family values, and political and economic status have been excluded from children’s textbooks.” Paul Vitz studied over sixty social studies books for grades one through four and carefully evaluated them. He found that not one book referred to any religious activity, or did the words marriage, wedding, husband or wife appear. These text books are not including references to the large part of American life. Everyone in America has some type of religious view. Whether one is agnostic, atheist, conservative or liberal, one believes in something. Maybe teaching children about different religious views and how they started would become a beneficial part of their knowledge.

Religious aspects in high school history classes are few and far between. "These books lack important dates, events and people. People of any age need to know the plain facts of the past, in most school textbooks, many of the facts are left out. God, or any other type of religious aspect should not be left out of textbooks. Just because people have different ways of worshiping, it does not conclude that religious aspects should be banned. But God is being edged out of more and more places. Author of "Book Burning," Cal Thomas notes, "The American way prevents us from outing all traces of religion and Christianity in public, even rejecting it as a historical phenomenon that played a central role in shaping our countries laws and freedoms.” Some feel students are too impressionable and must not encounter different religious views or aspects at school.

Isn’t banning history books disgraceful? Shouldn’t parents want their children to learn about how others are different from them? I know I would want my children to learn about how others are different from them. I would want my children to learn about Jewish and Muslim holidays along with other important things in school. They should learn to have an understanding and respect for the diversity in other cultures. All parents should want their children to have some idea of the different religions that have shaped western civilization for the past two-thousand years.

But one might ask, what can I do about this? In actuality there are several important things we can do. First of all, parents should attend meetings and get involved with the community. If parents are involved in the decision making process, it shows interest in trying to improve education in all ways. Parents should get involved with their children’s study. Know about what they are and are not allowed to read.

Secondly, parents and students can write lots of letters to representatives and senators to protest federal funding of textbooks that undermine values. Sometimes our representatives are not aware of the severity of the problem. We should also write to state and local education officials. We support the public school system through our taxes, so we should have a say in what goes into our children’s textbooks. Our children are reading books that lack important historical information, because religion is tied into them. If we want our children to learn, we should want them to learn about the whole truth, religious aspects included.

And there is always protest. Even with the present school system there could be some positive changes. Vitz concludes, “If parents and educators begin to select books from other publishers who put out more accurate and representative books then even anti religious books can begin to make a difference.” If parents and educators begin to select books from other publishers who put out more accurate and representative books then even anti religious books can begin to make a difference.

Overall, it is quite clear. The author Norma Fox Mazzer states, “These are the books hidden in a drawer, or behind glass in a locked case. These are the books not ordered, the stories not discussed, the issues ignored, the words not used.” And even as you read this, the list of books being banned and censored is getting longer.
The Social Meaning of AIDS -- A Student Perspective
by Tina Hughes

Eleven thousand children were kept out of school in Queens, NY, as parents protested the decision to allow a seven year old girl with AIDS to attend second grade (despite no evidence of transmission by schoolchildren). In San Francisco, Hospital workers refused to enter the room of an AIDS patient. When ordered to attend, they appeared wearing masks, gowns, and goggles.

A Baltimore policeman refused to enter the office of a patient with AIDS to investigate a death threat and donned rubber gloves to handle the evidence. The list goes on and on. There is clearly still a great fear embodied by the spectre of AIDS, a fear that has led to an overreaction to the actual problem. This only makes managing life more difficult for the sufferers and does not make the world "safer" from AIDS.

Because there is no cure for AIDS in the near future, we must make a special effort to help the hysteria and overreaction brought on by the disease. Several studies have been conducted on different individuals that actually had the disease and how they were treated either by a friend, coworkers, or family members. Much to my surprise, people still believe that casual contact is infectious. By understanding the disease, we who do not have aids will have a better chance at helping to reduce the stigmas that have caused the AIDS sufferers to be known as social outcasts. In this culture we tend to give compassion to severely and terminally ill patient with the exception of AIDS victims.

If a family member has AIDS then the victim tends to be neglected and rejected without having been shown any type of compassion at all. This is due to the fear that this society has towards the AIDS disease. Does society still have a negative attitude towards AIDS? Have we Americans taken the proper steps in order to educate the public on the disease? Have we changed the social behavior towards the disease. One way of accomplishing this would be to have the image of the disease. We must unmask the correct information and not allow the incorrect myths to become the basis for social policies.

One strategy would be to "normalize" the disease, meaning to continue to inform the public that the disease does not discriminate against a certain type of people, but that it has no boundaries. Even the most clean-cut movie stars get the disease, our favorite sports players can get the disease, our very own flesh and blood get the disease, and so can we ourselves become a victim of AIDS. We need to bring the AIDS sufferers back into this world and show them a little compassion.

And we know it could be one of us, feeling alone in this world without anyone will to give us the time of day. It is difficult to change the attitudes towards certain illness and diseases. We all must develop the attitude and resolve to change the social meanings and response to AIDS and deal with it as a high priority along with control, treatment, and eventual eradication of the disease. It's up to us as a society to reduce the social as well as the physical suffering of AIDS. What role will you play?

Diabetes: the disease with deadly complications
by Sandra Sefton

Diabetes can be associated with serious complications and premature death according to the National Health Institute. As defined by the American Diabetes Association, "Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high levels of blood glucose resulting from defects in insulin secretion, insulin action, or both. Insulin is a protein hormone formed in the pancreas and secreted into the blood, where it regulates carbohydrates (sugar) metabolism.

Data from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease reveals that 8.2 percent of all people 20 years or older have diabetes. Men and women are equally vulnerable to the disease with 7.5 million men (8.2 percent of all men) and 8.1 million women (8.2 percent of all women) having diabetes.

In a study by NIDDK these complications of diabetes were noted:

Heart disease: the leading cause of diabetes-related deaths. Adults with diabetes have heart disease death rates about 2 to 4 times as high as that of adults without diabetes.

Stroke: the risk of stroke is 2 to 4 times higher in people with diabetes. High blood pressure is a major contributor to heart disease and stroke.

Blindness: Diabetics are the leading cause of new cases of blindness in adults 20 to 74 years old. Diabetic retinopathy causes from 12,000 to 24,000 new cases of blindness each year.

Kidney disease: Diabetes is the leading cause of end-stage renal disease, accounting for about 40 percent of new cases.

Nervous system disease: About 60 to 70 percent of people with diabetes have mild to severe forms of nervous system damage. Several neuropathic nerve diseases are major contributing causes of lower extremity amputations.

Amputations: More than half of lower limb amputations in the United States occur among people with diabetes.

From 1993 to 1995, about 67,000 amputations were performed each year among people with diabetes.

The American Diabetes Association estimates the costs of diabetes in the United States in 1992 to be $92 billion. Of these costs, direct medical costs account for $45 billion and indirect costs for $47 billion, which includes disability, work loss, and premature mortality.

Diabetes cannot be cured, but it can be controlled. The ADA adds that persons with diabetes can take measures to reduce the likelihood of complications.

Diabetes knowledge, treatment, and prevention strategies advance daily. Treatment is aimed at keeping blood glucose near normal levels at all times. Training in self-management is integral to the treatment of diabetes. Treatment must be individualized and must address medical, psychosocial, and lifestyle issues, according to the NIDDK.

College tuition assistance

Most parents and students think that scholarships are only for the students with excellent grades, low-income families, or the athletically inclined.

There are organizations that have spent hundreds of hours in research locating scholarship sources. The U.S. Commission for Scholaristic Assistance - College Board is such an organization and supplies the public with over 700 different private scholarship sources.

Many scholarships pay the entire tuition; others can be applied towards tuition, living expenses and /or other fees. The Commission for Scholaristic Assistance - College Board is an education-based and non-profit organization.

For information on obtaining these scholarship lists, send a self-addressed, stamped, business size, #10 envelope to: The U.S. Commission for Scholaristic Assistance, P.O. Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

Chaos 2000 -- What is it?
by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider, INNOVATOR reporter

The College of Arts and Sciences and the Integrative Studies Program presented "The Value of Integrative Forms of Knowledge in the Workplace," last month in the Hall of Honors. Dr. Jacqueline Kilpatrick, professor in English and coordinator of the Integrative Studies program, introduced the select panel who spoke at the symposium. Dr. G. Country, visiting professor of Integrative Studies, spoke about the "big picture." He explained that we are in an age where there is an exponential explosion of information.

Rico added that not only do students have to be educated, but also people in the workplace. They must be invited "to come out and dance on a slippery floor." She quoted T. S. Eliot: "Where is the wisdom we must acknowledge, where is the knowledge we must learn?" Rico stated that facts are worthless unless brought into relation with one another. It is necessary in the workplace for people to learn new things and not go with the "tried and true.

Chaos Science and knowledge shifts were then explained. "We watched the flowering and fading of certain research areas," said Rico, "the over treading of the old and the recent, the reliable and the old, and we suffer from new paradigm indifference." There is not enough time in this age of computers and other technologies to have music appreciation, art appreciation, literature classes and sciences classes taught by the traditional methods. "We have to begin to see how we can integrate (and) help students become active participants in their own learning by making connections," explained Rico.

Fragmentation of knowledge is called state bound learning and prevents its application to other areas. "Dancing on a slippery floor" means learning how to go into the workplace and adapt what you have learned to other areas. This is where Chaos Science is applied. Creative learning occurs by the interaction of chaos and order. Rico stated, "creative learning is a process by where chaos and order are enfolded within each other, uniting to form a core of complex and comprehensive order.

Uneven progression, interdependence, and constant feedback is what Integrative Studies is all about. "These factors produce chaos patterns, grounded in unpredictability without total randomness," said Rico. "Chaos is not anarchy." She added, "Chaos is what makes life and intelligence possible. The human brain has become selected to become so unstable that the smallest change can lead to the formation of order.

Dr. William Nowling, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration, was called upon to apply Integrative Studies to the curriculum in the College of Business and Public Administration.
Happy Holidays, everyone. We'll see you next trimester.

The INNOVATOR staff

What do you think?

Managing Editor Ted Spaniak took a survey to get students' opinions on displaying a "Christmas" tree on university property. He asked 26 people to answer four questions. Those questions were:

1. Is the tree in the Hall of Governors a Christian symbol?
   - Twenty-four said yes and two said no.

2. Is it appropriate that it be displayed in a state run university?
   - All 26 said yes.

3. Does this tree represent other cultures besides the Christian culture?
   - Fourteen said yes and 12 said no.

4. If someone were to persuade you that it was strictly a Christian symbol, would it then be inappropriate display it?
   - All 26 said yes.

Do you agree with these answers?

If you have an opinion you'd like to express, write a letter to the editor. We will gladly print it if you include your name, address and phone number. You may request that your name not be published.

Youth orchestra to play at Copernicus Center in Chicago

The Protege Philharmonic, a youth orchestra dedicated to the future of music with strong emphasis on polished professionalism and musical discipline for high school students, will present a Christmas concert on Sunday, December 21 at 3 p.m. at The Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence in Chicago.

Musical selections will include: Mussorgskiy, Nigh on Bald Mountain, Sain-Saens, Dance Macabre, Rimsky-Korsakovk and Capriccio Espagnole. A Christmas carol sing-along with audience participation will be held.

Tickets are $12 for adults, $8 for students and seniors and $5 for children under 12. For more information, call (312) 341-3121.
When I think of today's movies I think of action, special effects, and prices. A majority of the films produced today are action packed thrillers. It seems even if the movie starts out in a mellow setting such as, "The Devils Advocate," it always seems to develop into an action movie. I am looking at today's paper that I can count six new action thrillers at the theaters. There has got to be a reason that so many producers have put so much effort into creating action movie after action movie. Special effects seem to be a part of movies that will continue to improve along with technology. A question you might ask is why are so many movies today built around action and special effects? Who are producers targeting these action packed movies?

Do you remember when you could go to the movies for a couple of dollars? Not anymore! Anyone who has been out to a movie within the past year knows it can get expensive. The single man of the 90's can no longer consider the movies a cheap date. One writer from the New Yorker stated, "Movies today are produced seemingly without regard for an audience. Instead, the people who control the money and contracts are considered heroes, for the industry seems economic hurdles as the primary impediments to success."

Movies today always seem to hurdle over their original budget before the movie is completed. Is this the reason the price of a ticket for a movie increases every year? Will going to the movies in the future cost the same as going to an NB, or NFL game? Will it be possible to be another dominating piece of the movie pie. Almost every movie you see today has some type of special effects feature. A good example of special effects put to work is in movies like "Die Hard," and "Star Wars." Today, it seems special effects are almost as important as the actors in a movie. Special effects seem to be a part of movies that will continue to improve along with technology. A question you might ask is why are so many movies today built around action and special effects? Who are producers targeting these action packed movies?

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**Monday, December 15, 1997 - The INNOVATOR**

**“Rent” at Shubert in Chicago**

Theatre review by R.J. Armstrong

Young adults have created a cult following surrounding the musical "Rent," which opened in New York barely two years ago and then moved to Broadway, and on to multiple national companies traveling North America. In an age where youngsters on the Internet barely seem to recognize names like Mary Martin or Puccini, (who died young and before the show's opening), the audience at a certain distance from the characters.

"Rent" is often powerful: chi.

**Laughter is a good medicine.**

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film.

Boycott shampoo! Demand the REAL roo.

If you choose a scent, what color does it turn?

If one of your goals is to build an awesome, muscular body or even just to lose a few pounds, write down six things you have to start doing this WEEK to reach your goal. Be specific. Write down how much fat you want to lose or even how much muscle you want to gain and how you're going to do it.

The show, written and composed by the late Jonathan Larson and directed by Michael Greif, is loosely based on the Puccini opera "La Bohème," based in turn on a novel by Henri Murger. The familiar Parisian characters of this story are transported to New York's present-day East Village, where the community of starving artists is intermingled with various subcultures of urban life.

Larson's music is often powerful:

**Theater is lost by a disappointing second act and the aforemen­

Larson's music is often powerful:

The audience is let down by a disappointing second act and the aforemen­

All hard-training athletes supplement their diets with at least three grams of Vitamin C a day.

One of the tasks that needs to be done in order to achieve your dreams is visualizing your success with very specific and graphic details. Picture yourself following the perfect diet-giving

To help you visualize and give you a little focus on your goals, get a fitness magazine and find some pictures of people who inspire

...and also avoid some of the typical consequences of overtraining: namely,

It has also been documented to actually suppress the body's natural production of cortisol, thus supporting a stronger testosterone to cortisol ratio. It also seems to suggest that the risk of being poor, sick, and drug-dependent in New York at the end of this century.

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**Anyone interested in working for THE INNOVATOR next trimester, call Ted Spaniak at (708) 748-2448.**
Bored of books? Tired of ties? If you're looking for a gift that really stands apart, take a look at these ten extreme and definitely expensive items. These are the perfect presents for you and from you.  

1. Let us begin with the Macassar ebony and pear-tree wood humidors made in France with inlaid signature logo—and brass lock and key from Louis Vuitton. There are three separate sizes that you will definitely utilize. The travel size, which is only $550. The medium size which holds up to 75 cigars, $1,775. And finally, the large, which holds 150 cigars, $1,850.  

2. Fly first class to Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic and work with Dominican cigar masters to create the ultimate cigar, which will be named in your honor. You and three lucky guests of your choice will spend six days and five nights in a private villa complete with housekeeper and cook. For four days, you will be guests of the General Cigar premium cigar facility in nearby Santiago, where Macanudo, Partagas, and Dominican Cobija cigars are handmade.  

Two thousand cigars, in up to four different sizes, will be rolled expressly for you by cigar masters. After a personalized band is added, the cigars will be placed in private-label boxes of 25. The first 100 cigars will be delivered in a custom-made cedar-lined humidor to your home, and the balance will be maintained under ideal conditions at General Cigar. For the complete package in this little trip, $50,000.  

3. To make sure that you’re looking your best, Kiton makes clothing the old-fashioned way—by tailors. Their incredibly soft, light, and supple suits and sport coats are handmade in Naples, Italy, by master artisans. Their concern for quality saturates every step of production. When the moment the pattern is hand-laid on cloth until the finished garment is pressed. Each suit is individually scissor-cut, and among the details that are hand sewn are the lapels, pockets, buttonholes, and collars. The suit’s cloth is very unique. Composed of Italian Merino wool fibers, this material is so rare that there is currently only enough available for the creation of 25 suits. A small number of special sheep sporadically produce this special wool every few years. The fibers are only 13.8 microns in diameter, finer even than cashmere. There is a respect for quality and elegance at Kiton that can only be found in the self-confidence of craftsmen committed to providing the best. This dark gray, 13.8 micron wool suit, from Kiton goes for $5,500.  

4. To go with your new suit, you need to purchase the year’s “trend.” Be the first to wear this. Be the “Breezing” gentleman’s certified chronometer bracelet watch with chocolate color dial so rare it can only be found in stores in Beverly Hills. The price tag is a cool $20,975.  

5. As much as the time is of the essence, so is having an instrument to write with. In honor of the re-unification of Hong Kong to China, Omas has created the only authorized limited edition collection of luxury writing instruments memorializing this event. Custom-designed red veined resin supports a body of 18k gold or .925 sterling silver. With deco­ rated cap, red enameled clip, and unique nib it is engraved with the head of a dragon in the same shade of red as the resin, and it comes within a red presentation box embellished with gold or silver. The Gold Fountain Pen, $10,000. The Sterling Fountain Pen, $1,800.  

6. Do you get home from your trip, awaiting you and your friends at the airport will be your new 1998 “Sony Limited Edition” GMC Suburban. This vehicle is the ultimate collaboration between General Motors, the premier maker of luxury vehicles and Sony, a world leader in electronics and entertainment. Beginning with a fully equipped 4-wheel drive GMC Suburban, and then adding significant custom features, including body-surround cladding system in pewter, genuine metal in interior in “clay” color powder, remote sunroof; remote start; alarm and keyless entry system! There are four seats custom-heated; reclining, power, unbrush seat; alloy spoke wheels with Michelin tires; GM stereo with cassette/CD player. The ultimate Sony mobile family entertainment center is comprised of a de­ luxe sound system with two tuners and satellite. A powder delivered to eight speakers, nine-inch television with VCR, four seat-back video monitors, Game Boy, game pads, and a portable computer. Also provided, in two Tumi Limited Edition Sony travel cases, are 100 Sony music CDs, 24 Columbia Tristar home video video cassettes, 10 video games, plus 25 special sports apparel items. This special offer is limited to 100 ve­ hicles. Owners will be invited to attend special Sony entertainment events throughout the coming year. This 1998 “Sony Limited Edition” GMC Suburban is prices at $75,000.  

7. Be the king of the road with a $550. It will shoot up to 90 minutes in MP mode and fea­ tures a two-and-one-half-inch LCD screen to look at while you record. The Steady Shox also comes with digital stereo sound recording, 1200 digital zoom and digital editing capabilities. The total price for this model is more than $500 stills on a single tape, making it an excellent handycam. The Sony Super Steady Shox Digital Handycam costs $2,900.  

Change of Life  
by Amy Nienkirk  
Do you ever have the feeling that nothing is going right for you? Does something always seem out of place? It is like you do not know where you are? This is my problem with the future. I do not have a clue what I want to do. I am indecisive about whether I want to continue my education yet again. My parents do not understand. I have been working full-time for a couple of years. I thought my life was always good, but I always had this nagging feeling in the back of my mind. I never knew what it was. Then I was talking to one of my friends. He is in college. She told me, "I feel great. I am almost done with my psychology degree. Then I will be with you in the work force." I thought that was fine. I was proud of her.  

Why was I feeling jealous over her success? I had a job that was paying the bills. Is there more out there than just paying the bills?  

I remember the ordeal with my parents when I wanted to leave Western Illinois University (WIU). It was a typical Sunday afternoon. I was decided to continue to my usual ritual of calling my father and practicing what I wanted to say and had myself extremely nervous and could not understand where my nerve had gone in just a few moments. So, I hung up the telephone. As I tried to relax, I sat down on my roommate’s bed. I thought to myself, "Uh, what was I saying?" And then, just thinking about it, I answered, "Hello?" He answered, "No, she’s not shopping with your sister. Nor how are you doing?" I knew that I had nothing to say to my father about school yet. I was going to tell my mom I wanted to come home from WIU. I had prepared myself all week. I had been practicing what I was saying. I wanted to have great arguments back to it up.  

After I quickly gulped down some water to relieve my dry, scratchy throat, I finally picked up the phone. I found my mom’s nurse was home, and I could not understand where my mom was. I hung up on her and I, "Hello?" She answered, "What’s the matter with you?" I thought I was no different than the rest. I knew that I had nothing to say to my father about school yet. I had just graduated. I had planned to get my mom on my side first before approaching the "Big Man." "Oh, fine, I thought I would call and see what’s going on at home," I finally spit out.  

Well, I decided I had nothing to lose, so I went for it. I told my dad I did not want to go to WIU anymore. He practically flipped. He wanted to know why. Why? All the arguments I had ever made to my father about school was on the one end. I could not even think of one of my great reasons for leaving Western.  

I finally decided to end my chatter with, "Uh, I was just thinking about it." He said in authority with his voice, "Well, stop thinking about it." I was speechless, which is not typical for me. "I’m gonna get going now. Talk to you soon." I love you," I managed to say clearly as tears were streaming down my face. He just said, "Bye."  

I left Western the next semester. That is when I began my job as a receptionist. It seemed like an eternity ago. I was so determined. I had the feeling of not being satisfied, but I never finished what I started. Maybe I made the wrong decision. I thought that I would like to go back to school for the second time. But where is a school that is welcoming returning students? My friend goes to Governors State University. Maybe, I thought, that is the school for me.  

Making the decision to go back to school for the first time was tough. Especially if you have children and still need to work full-time. I think that returning to school is to finish my education the most wonderful and scariest thing. Going back to school when you do not know anyone, and you do not know your way around the school is also difficult.  

I know with the support of my family and friends, though, that coming to GSU is the correct decision for me. I know there are many new students like me who have just started out. It is a great feeling to know that others share my fears and apprehension. In the end, knowing I am back in school to get a degree is a warm and inviting emotion. The best feeling will be when the dream becomes a reality by receiving that diploma.
Censorship and music
by Darry Gerwing

"The people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution of the United States of America..."

"...Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of Religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or — hold it! Go back a few pages. "Abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." What does this mean?"

This passage from the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights was first proposed by James Madison and adopted on December 15, 1791. Did the writers know then that some 200 years later it would be the basis of major controversy involving the First Amendment in many cases, the "singing war"?

Does this amendment protect our right to say or sing anything we want, at any time, in any place, for any reason? Do we as citizens have the right to publicly express ourselves in such a way that it may offend others? Does this mean I can shout "fire" in a crowded movie theater? Are you expected to accept the way I express myself without question, or does it depend on who I offended? Censorship? What is this all about?

From 1944 until the mid-70's, a series of rulings on freedom of speech ought to be repressed, but to whom are we to commit the power of doing it? This is a key question because in any controversy there are opposing viewpoints. The best way to become informed is to analyze the positions of those who are regarded as experts in a particular field. However, we must consider if those opinions are radical, reactionary, or biased in any way. A pitfall to avoid in considering opposing views is that of regarding our own opinion as being that of common sense and the most rational stance and other views as being only opinion and therefore wrong.

Since the early 60's, lyrics of a profound nature have begun to creep, and in a few songs, stumped into our lives. These lyrics have run from just plain socially unacceptable words, to promoting the abuse of women and the murdering of police. Is there a case here of "I do not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it?" Not so in Germany, where the government is responding to the dramatic rise in right wing music containing neo-Nazi lyrics. Germany's Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, believes that right wing groups incite racial hatred on their CDs, encouraging anti-immigrant campaigns and even murder. She sits one group, Zillertaler Tuerkenjager, (Turk Hunters) as "particularly aggressive," and applied to the Federal Office for the Examination of Publications Endangering Young People to ban their latest campaigns.

She is also asking that office to arrest anyone disseminating such music and to hold them liable for criminal prosecution. Between 1991 and 1996, Germany banned 130 extreme right-wing groups' CDs and albums, not only from the public airwaves but from general distribution as well.

In 1994, the United States government established the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to ensure that broadcasters serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Obscenities over the public airwaves do not go unnoticed when the FCC reviews or renew license applications. Although not its primary objective, the FCC has been explicit about obscenities. As it became apparent that lyrical content was getting somewhat loose with words, the FCC in the early 70's issued a statement saying that radio stations should know the content of any lyrics prior to broadcast. Failure to adhere to this policy would result in suspension raising serious questions as to whether or not a particular station was operating in the public interest. The issue would be whether or not such stations were serving the public interest, and if its license should be renewed.

More recently, in the United States, it seems that explicit lyrics have found their way to store shelves, and in some cases, over the airwaves. In 1995, cens
ers almost made Clark Gable do a retake because of his famous line from "Gone with the Wind," "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn." How times have changed.

Music of questionable value is generally referred to as Rap. Hip-hop or rap is principally an urban phenomenon and is used as a means of expression for frustrated ghetto kids. Unfortunately sometimes, explicit lyrics dealing with violence and sexual abuse can easily make innocent teenagers who are the main patrons of this type of music. Hip-hop was born in the early 70's youth culture and is a twin brother to rap. Rappers use unceasing rhythmic beats to produce a steady rhythm and overlapped by sentences which are recited rapidly but in cadence with the music. Rap music often denounces women, "promotes drug use and violence," and can swing from positive to negative beliefs. The success of rap and the ability to make money has attacked racism through more racism, lack of power through supremacy and poverty through sales of racist material to those willing to be entertained in their quest for information about ghetto culture.

Democrats have often given to include gangsta-rap which promotes crime and criminal assault and now to porno-rap, which vociferously states the case for rape and other deviant acts of sexual pleasure. "I Live Crew" is a leader producing CD's with lyrics that many regard as salacious while others will say that only the bluesmen among us get the point. The United States is the only country that has more radio stations with more listening hours than any other country on earth. Do we have the right to limit what or who can be heard? This country has freedom that most other countries in the world can only imagine. It is time to start limiting sound of those freedoms. What is the best, or second best, or another, been associated with the criminal actions of our citizens. Travelling on our right to free speech cannot be taken lightly. The freedom of expression has been guaranteed in our nation's constitution. Are we prepared to surrender that freedom for something that may be less valuable?

"Congress shall make no law..."

By Darry Gerwing
Famous Quotations
Do you know who said these?

1. Every man has his price.
   A. Walpole  B. St. Thomas Aquinas  C. Moore

2. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
   A. B. Franklin  B. Cervantes  C. Byron

3. One boy is more trouble than a dozen girls.
   A. Plato  B. English Proverb  C. Homer

4. I am not now that which I had been.
   A. Shakespeare  B. Chesterfield  C. Byron

5. You must look into people as well as at them.
   A. Homer  B. Chesterfield  C. Kipling

6. When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; When health is lost, something is lost; When character is lost, all is lost!
   A. Anonymous  B. Homer  C. Voltaire

7. In death a hero, as in life a friend.
   A. Homer  B. Franklin  C. Browning

8. Every burned book enlightens the world.
   A. Tennyson  B. Kingsley  C. Emerson

9. The great hope of society is individual character.
   A. Tennyson  B. Cervantes  C. Channing

10. Talent is nurtured in solitude; character is formed in the stormy billows of the world.
    A. Goethe  B. Keats  C. Eliot


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The Polygon Puzzles
by Dennis Thom

Hi everyone. Poets and the number four are in both of our puzzles today. Thanks to all of you who have asked questions about previous puzzles. Please continue doing so.

1. Emily Dickinson and Gwendolyn Brooks each had identical boxes of stationery. Emily wrote all one-sheet letters and Gwendolyn wrote all two-sheet letters. Gwendolyn used all the sheets of paper and had four envelopes left over. How many sheets of paper and how many envelopes did each box of stationery contain?

2. Suppose Matthew Arnold goes back and forth to work by either the trolley or the bus. If he goes to work by trolley, then he comes home by bus. When going to work, he takes the bus twice as often as he takes the trolley. He took the bus to work four times and came home by bus four times. He took the trolley a total of four times. How many times did he go to work and back?

ANSWERS:

Word Power - Test your knowledge
What is the correct definition of the following words?

1. Rakehell
   a. Raise hell
   b. Headstrong
   c. Pompous

4. Furkin
   a. Distance relative
   b. A small barrel
   c. A small fire

2. Ratite
   a. Designating a flightless bird
   b. An historic people
   c. A rope knot

3. Obtund
   a. To make oval
   b. Vague
   c. To deaden

ANSWERS:

Answers to the Polygon Puzzles

1. There were 16 sheets of paper and 12 envelopes. From Emily we know there were four more sheets than envelopes. From Gwendolyn we know there were more than four envelopes. Trial and error gives the answer in a short amount of time. For a solution using algebra visit me in Student Development.

2. B. 6 The only relevant information is that he made eight one-way trips by bus and four one-way trips by trolley. That's a total of 12 one-way trips, so that means he made six round-trips.