Professional Quality Performance

by Sam Schneider

"PQP Day gave the faculty an opportunity to engage in a discussion of assessment of student learning," stated Interim Provost Jane Wells.

Thursday, October 13, the faculty at Governors State University participated in Professional Quality Performance (PQP) Day. They assessed and discussed student learning at GSU.

Assessment of student achievement in four areas at GSU is based on the 1997 Student Outcome Assessment Plan.

Dr. Eric Martin, Director of Writing Across the Curriculum, outlined the assessment process. The Office of Admissions and Records reviews the students' transcripts. The Office of Student Development assesses student through proficiency exams in writing and math.

Program faculty identifies the objectives and learning outcomes of the students. They also measure the students' abilities to meet their objectives, analyze test results, and use the information to improve the courses and curriculum.

Assessment continues with the development of study plans, the advising process, and a review of the students' study plans prior to graduation to ensure that all of the programs' requirements have been met.

Assessments also take place by way of alumni survey, which is coordinated by the Office of Alumni Relations.

The responsibility for assessment of the students falls primarily on the faculty. The provost, with the assistance of the deans and division chairs, is responsible for implementing an overall assessment plan.

The Committee on Student Outcome Assessment reviews the university's assessment every year as well as the individual programs. They are also responsible for the annual assessment cycle.

The cycle is known as "University Assessment Day" and takes in the fall trimester. The programs establish the goals for the year ahead. In the spring, the committee reviews the plans again as well as the activities, which occurred throughout the year in various programs.

The committee then summarizes its findings in a written report for the de

continued on page 4

Hands across Southland

by Eileen Truszkowski, professor of Communication Disorders

On September 26, 1999, residents of the South suburbs came together in a show of unity and community as Hands Across the Southland took shape. More than 6,500 people lined up single file along a designated route to hold hands from 1:00PM to 1:05PM in an act of harmony and accord.

The community action event was the product of Beverly Sokol of Olympia Fields. Sokol, president of the Enhancement Organization of Olympia Fields thought up the human chain as a way to argue against the misperceptions the continued on page 2

It's a celebration!

by Cindy Kanseo-Schneider

The term 'globalization' has integrated itself into our daily dialog from the media to business and personal conversations. And though few can agree on its definition, many would say that globalization is synonymous with interconnections of people throughout the world.

Governors State University has kept pace with the world's new perspective of connection with both Intercultural and Integrative Studies, but long before these studies were realized, Dr. Roger K. Eden, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, made a vision into a reality. 25 years ago, seeing a need for understanding and connections between people and the resolution of world problems, he brought to and for GSU the Third World Conference.

Saturday, October 30, 1999, Governors State University, in celebration of the coming millennium, will again witness an extraordinary event: Globalization: Opportunities and Challenges for the 21st Century. Committee Co-Chair and Keynote Coordinator, Dr. Geoffroy de Laforcade, a Caribbean specialist and a professor of Integrative Studies who teaches courses on Globalization, with Committee Co-Chair Dr. Larry McClellan, Dr. Larry Levinson, and Dr. William Dodd, have created an inordinate coordination of speakers, plenary panels and discussions, and workshops.

Four guest speakers will appear on the Plenary Panel: President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the UNESCO Prize recipient for Human Rights and former president of the Republic of Haiti, Dr. David C. Ranney, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Mary Houghton, president of Shorebank, and Dr. Marvin Zonis, professor at the Graduate School of Business at The University of Chicago.

Aristide will be the keynote speaker following a welcome to the participants of the conference by Dr. Paula Wolff, president of Governors State University.

Aristide was president of Haiti December 1990-Octuber 1991 and October 1994-December 1995. A Catholic priest, he left the priesthood to concentrate on the presidency that he won by a 70 percent vote. He was deposed in September 1991 by the military. Three years of military rule ensued until President Clinton called for the restoration of democracy and ordered United States troops into Haiti. Former President Jimmy Carter allowed for a bloodless intervention brokered by an eleventh-hour deal. Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras and his supporters surrendered power in return for amnesty.

According to Michael Norton, Associated Press, September 17, 1995, when Aristide returned, "Haitians could concentrate on surviving in one of the world's poorest nations, where 80 percent of people are illiterate, most are jobless, and almost everyone is hungry."

Paul Brown, a gas station attendant who had lost his job for 11 months, was quoted as saying, "I lived by the grace of God." His earning of 360 gourdes continued on page 3

Jean-Bertrand Aristide, former president of Haiti, keynote speaker at the Millennium Conference
Capitalizing on pain and anguish by Cindy Kanso-Schneider

It seems that the media does not want to let go of the tragedy that took place at the Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Unfortunately, when reports are printed or broadcast, either half of the story is reported or there is no background given to the story. But this ploy promotes more controversy and makes for a greater audience.

Apparently, some of the parents of the deceased have filed 'notice of intent to sue' against the school district and the sheriff's department. The plaintiffs allege that the school district and the sheriff's department may have been negligent in failing to provide safe conditions in the school and/or failing to act on alleged tendencies toward violence that Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had demonstrated.

In addition, the Klebolds have also filed 'notice of intent to sue' against the school district and the sheriff's department stating that they had been informed of Harris' alleged threats made against a student and the Internet web site he had created, they would have kept their son away from him.

"I think it's outrageous," Sheriff John Stone told the Denver Post, "It's their parenting thing, not our fault for their kids doing the thing."

Before these families proceed with litigation, they should back track and check out the laws that protect the rights of such children, including Harris and Klebold.

A school cannot divulge information on any student to anyone other than a parent or guardian without written permission from the parent or guardian. The same laws govern the sheriff's department, especially when dealing with minors. Thus, neither the school nor the sheriff's department could have gone to anyone but Harris' parents with information of the threats and/or the web site.

The parents of the student who threatened to keep you child captive, no way interested in gaining insight because they have no reason to do anything with the information.

Southland continued from front page

saw depicted in the NBC Dateline program entitles, "Why Can't we Live Together?"

In the Dateline program, which one the prestigious Columbia-DuPont award for journalism, the South suburban area was shown in an illuminating way - as an area that is racially tense and filled with nervousness, and who are unwilling to live with blacks and who are in no way interested in gaining insight into their black neighbors.

Sokol told Daily Southtown staff reported Sean Hamill that she had received a letter from Tom Rep. Jesse Stroger in the Cook County Board President John stroger and the County's Attorney Dick. These presentations explained on the community and the unity needed to make this area grow and expand economically.

As the celebration of unity came to a music of predominately black Rich School, a symphonic event of the early afternoon. Speakers at the closing presentations included U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Chicago), Cook County Board President John Stroger and the County's Attorney Dick. These presentations explained on the community and the unity needed to make this area grow and expand economically.

Afasak Tell and Governors Highway where this writer was participating in the event, area residents, students, faculty and staff, joined Bimba employees to show our support of the event and the diversity that the event represents.

Closing presentations at Rich High School followed the symphonic event of the early afternoon. Speakers at the closing presentations included U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Chicago), Cook County Board President John Stroger and the County's Attorney Dick. These presentations explained on the community and the unity needed to make this area grow and expand economically.

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Celebration continued from front page $(72)$ monthly was seen to more than double under Aristide. Mounds of garbage was cleared from the streets, vendors were able to carry on business after dusk, and people no longer had to hurry home in fear of military rule.

As president of the Aristide Foundation for Democracy, Aristide has continues to promote democratic participation in national affairs and strives to advance dialogue that transcends class and social boundaries. He openly states his principles (see Touching the Principles) regarding human development and interconnection of people.

Presented by Governors State University and South Suburban Peace Action, the millennium conference, Globalization: Opportunities and Challenges for the 21st Century will take place on the GSU campus, Saturday, October 30, 1999. It is through the support of President Paula Wolff, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Public Administration, Student Life, Dr. William H. Dodd, Dr. David C. Runney, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Dr. David C. Runney, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Mary Houghton, president of Sharebank

Governors State University Alumni Association, Governors State University Foundation, South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium, Kankakee Community College, Prairie State College, South Suburban College, South Metropolitan Regional Leadership Center, and Midwest Suburban Publishing Company, that the conference is brought to the community.

Conference registration is free to Governors State University students at the Student Life Service Office, room A1120. Regular conference registration is $25 per person and includes lunch.

Touching the Principles INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL ETHICS excerpts from an interview with Jean-Bertrand Aristide

I think (the question of ethics) is a very serious issue for the next century, because if we keep the focus on economic growth, without putting the focus on human development, we may go too slowly. And once we promote human development, we touch principles. How could I promote human development if I don’t respect you? Once I respect you, I will pay attention to what you are telling me. I may disagree with you, but at least you will be happy because you will be aware that I respect you.

If we address ethical issues, principles, we may also feel the necessity of asking questions about love. A human being cannot survive without love. Does someone say he is happy when he doesn’t have anyone to love and nobody loves him? I think the same way we need breath, the same way we need love. (Love and respect) are universal values that transcend culture. You can be Haitian, you can be American, you can be French. But you will always need people to love you, and need to love people, to promote your own growth and human development, as interconnected people.

I’m full of hope—not because I don’t see misery around my country, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and one of the 20 poorest countries in the world. Our goal is simple: moving from that misery to poverty with dignity. This is our hope.

Young people around the world want to improve the quality of life, and they are asking to put the focus on values, on the necessity of loving each other, respecting each other. Yes, they care about education. Yes, they care about business. But they also care about the quality of relationship, asking us to face that kind of ethical crisis with the light of principles.

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A day-long conference to celebrate the coming millennium

Saturday, October 30, 1999

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Mary Houghton

Dr. Marvin Zonis

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Governors State University

University Park, IL 60466
Dear Editor,

I would like to offer some thoughts on your recent article regarding Kosovo, the military, etc. In a couple articles you asked for input and opinions regarding topics about which you had written. I also remember the issue of a very controversial play review. I believe it was last summer, when you commented that all opinions, feedback, etc. had come only from the faculty and not from students. With that in mind, I would like to try to balance the viewpoints that have been expressed recently.

First, let me offer some background on myself. I am forty years old, in the BOG program, and am interested in the MA in Political and Justice Studies. I am in the process of retiring from the U.S. Army after a twenty-two year career, three years active duty and nineteen years reserve duty. The last thirteen years I have worked for a defense and aerospace contractor in the security and safety fields.

Regarding the issue of Kosovo and the right or wrong of our actions there in relation to what we have done elsewhere (Africa for example), the "big picture" needs to be considered and understood. America committed itself to two wars on European soil in the first half of this century. Hundreds of thousands of men and women, including several of my maternal great uncles, served in these wars. Many of these men died and are buried on European soil (think of the opening scene in "Saving Private Ryan"). In the last half of this century hundreds of thousands more American men and women have served peacekeeping duty across Europe and around the world. Among these are my father, my brother, my wife, myself, and many other fine men and women I have known. NATO and the American commitment ensured peace and equally ensured that the now former Soviet Union would not try to spread the evils and failures of communism. American Presidents - - Democrat and Republican, conservative and liberal - all have reaffirmed the strong American interest in maintaining peace and economic prosperity in Europe. In November of 1989 I watched the fall of the Berlin Wall on CNN and felt that my family and I had played a part in this victory. In many ways, the fall of communism in Eastern Europe was the completion of World War I. It was not just a victory for those of us who had served in the Cold War. It was the final victory for those who had served in World Wars I and II. The Europe which President Woodrow Wilson had envisioned was finally going to exist.

The civil war in the former Yugoslav federation posed a threat to the peace which Europe has enjoyed since the end of World War II and to the bright hopes that many had for a united and democratic Europe after the Cold War. I believe that President Bush should have led America and NATO into Yugoslavia right at the beginning of the problem in 1991. An early, strong commitment would have made clear to the Yugoslav government that they would not be able to get away with it. The long waiting period cost thousands of lives and made America and NATO appear completely ineffectual.

In 1995, President Clinton made the decision to commit troops to Bosnia for peacekeeping duties. He then decided to commit more troops for combat and now peacekeeping in Kosovo. If we had continued to ignore what was happening, I believe this would have constituted spitting on the graves of those who had served in both World Wars. Peace and democracy in Yugoslavia are the last remaining goals of the Cold War and both World Wars. The troops there now are trying to write a successful, final chapter to 20th Century Europe. They have done a tremendous job and deserve the congratulations and support of all Americans, even if you do not agree with the policies that they are enforcing.

On the other hand, America has no historic commitment to Africa that is comparable to the history we have with Europe. Indeed, our history with Africa can basically be summarized by the brutal institution of slavery in the 1700s and 1800s, the establishment of Liberia, and the anti-Communist efforts of the 1960s and 1970s (Congo, Angola, etc.) The only time America has ever made a direct commitment of troops to Africa (not counting our Cuban and mercenary surrogates in the 60s and 70s) was in 1992-93 when President Bush sent troops to Somalia to preserve order and help the UN feed the starving masses. We then made a deeper commitment to try to reconcile the opposing political factions so that a government could be formed, peace established, and people fed. Several dozen American soldiers died there and some American bodies were dragged through the streets of Mogadishu. President Clinton (perhaps remembering the way LBJ kept pouring troops into Vietnam) decided to pull out and not take the chance on more American deaths. To this day that nation is, essentially, a nation in name only. It has no functioning government, various political factions warring with each other, and people still starving. Our soldiers were there to help feed the people and reestablish a country and the people responded by killing them.

In contrast, I can tell you from personal experience that Europeans greatly respect Americans and appreciate what we have done over the years. When a President has lost soldiers in a specific type of mission or in a specific area of the world - when he has "had his nose bloodied" - he will generally shy away from going there again. When Rwanda erupted into its bloody civil war, I am sure the President's first thoughts were what had happened in Somalia. Considering that, he decided to not make another commitment to Africa to stop fighting. Once the fighting had ceased, the President then made a commitment.
of troops and aid to try to rebuff. He stayed clear of the fighting and then tried to help afterwards.

The government of Yugoslavia is a corrupt, ruthless, economically bankrupt dictatorship that only sees the self-perceived wrongs of the past. It is surrounded by nations that are building democracies and free market economies. Other Eastern European countries have reached agreements with each other to not look back at the history that they all have and which have resulted in numerous wars in the past. They are working together and looking to the future.

The collective leadership of the continent of Africa needs to be capable of doing so that and taken an

ended his conversation with President Clinton and informed the Haitian Generals
and Mr. Aristide was able to assume power. I can still remember a congressman
of the month?!) I agree that Mr. Aristide deserves praise for the time he has spent
and Mr. Aristide was able to assume power. I can still remember a congressman
standing on the House Floor saying “President Aristide, we only want to hear
three words, ‘Thank You America.’” To this day there are still American military
forces in Haiti. Some are performing security and law in Haiti. Some are providing security and law enforcement duties and helping to train a new Haitian police force to replace the hated “Ton Ton Macoutes” from the Duvalier era. Others are performing various basic medical functions such as treating wounds and giving vaccinations. Some of them are military reservists, this is also in Bonnai, meaning they are full-time civilians with jobs, school, families, etc. and they are in Haiti for six to nine month tours. (Do you think Mr. Aristide can mention this when he addresses the conference at the end of the month?) I agree that Mr. Aristide deserves praise for the time he has spent fighting against the despotic regimes and deserves credit for bringing democracy to that impoverished land after the years of “Papa Doc” and “Baby Doc” Duvalier. However, he did not do it alone. As in many other places in the world throughout the second half of this century, America — and particularly the American military — has been there to help a nation become and remain democratic. I would like to close with a quotation from Voltaire: “I disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.” Everyone who wears or has worn an American military uniform has raised his or her right hand and taken an oath to do just that: defend to his or her death your right to say something, even if they may personally disagree with it. That is something that all American citizens — especially college professors — should remember.

Thank you,

Dennis P Doyle
10/13/99

Interestingly, this email arrived about the same time as your letter:

Subject: countries that the U.S. has bombed

Here’s a list of the countries that the U.S. has bombed since the end of World War II, compiled by historian William Blum:

- China 1945-46
- Korea 1950-53
- China 1950-53
- Guatemala 1954
- Indonesia 1958
- Cuba 1959-60
- Guatemala 1960
- Congo 1964
- Peru 1965
- Laos 1964-73
- Vietnam 1964-73
- Yugoslavia 1999

In how many of these instances did a democratic government respect of human rights, occur as a direct result? Choose one of the following:

a) 0
b) zero
c) none
d) not a one
e) a whole number between -1 and +1

Though this email makes light of the situations, sadly the answer is true. Perhaps it is time to get our point across with less violent means

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Humor to lighten the load..........................................

Subject: Inspirational Posters

Top 19 Sayings We'd Like To See On Those Office Inspirational Posters:

1. Rome did not create a great empire by having meetings, they did it by killing all those who opposed them.
2. If you can stay calm, while all around you is chaos...then you probably haven't completely understood the seriousness of the situation.
3. Doing a job RIGHT the first time gets the job done. Doing the job WRONG fourteen times gives you job security.
4. Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
5. Artificial Intelligence is no match for Natural Stupidity.
6. A person who smiles in the face of adversity probably has a screw loose.
7. Plagiarism saves time.
8. If at first you don't succeed, try management.
9. Never put off until tomorrow what you can avoid altogether.
10. TEAMWORK means never having to take all the blame yourself.
11. The beatings will continue until morale improves.
12. Never underestimate the power of very stupid people in large groups.
13. We waste time so you don't have to.
14. Hang in there, retirement is only thirty years away!
15. Go the extra mile. It makes your boss look like an incompetent slacker.
16. When the going gets tough, the tough take a coffee break.
17. INDECISION is the key to FLEXIBILITY.
18. Succeed in spite of management.
19. Aim Low. Reach Your Goals, Avoid Disappointment.

From: Law_Resources-owner@lists.com
To: eydooli@worldnet.att.net

Dumb Criminal Stories

1) In Culpeper, Virginia, no one may wash a mole on the sidewalk.

2) The Best One Yet:

An elderly lady did her shopping and, upon return, found four mice in her car. She dropped her shopping bags and drew her hand guns, proceeding to scream at them at the top of her voice that she knew how to use it and that she will if required: get out of the car. The four men didn’t wait around for a second invitation but got out and ran like mad, whereupon the lady proceeded to lead her shopping bags into the back of the car and get into the driver’s seat.

Small problem, her key wouldn’t fit the ignition. Her car was identical and parked four or five spaces farther down. She loaded her bags into her car and drove to the police station. The sergeant to whom she told the story, nearly tore himself in two with laughter and pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale white mice were reporting a car jacking by a mad elderly white woman, no charges were filed.
Dear Ima,

I am having a difficult time this semester. It seems as if I'm struggling and can't get anywhere. To make matters worse, this is my last semester and I have lost interest in my classes. I don't even know what I want to do anymore. I want to graduate but lack the drive. What should I do?

SENIORITIS

DEAR SENIORITIS,

For one, stop complaining, everyone encounters difficult times. You sound like a broken record.

I realize that college is demanding, but you're almost done (isn't that great!!?)! You should finish what you started and attain your degree. If you seriously need to talk to someone contact the counselors at Student Development.

Dear Ima,

I have a serious problem! I'm a student here at GSU and well, I can't decide on my man situation. I enjoy being single but like to date too. I have been dating this guy (let's say Jim) for a few months and recently met another guy that I like too. I feel guilty because I'm dating both and don't know what I want. They both have great qualities yet, I'm not ready to commit to either one.

TORN BETWEEN 2 LOVERS

DEAR TORN BETWEEN,

Let me tell you what you should be worried about, your schoolwork not the men! Your first priority should be your education; will these men support you when you flunk out of college? Anyway, get yourself on track and if you desperately need to date, do so. Just don't make them your world.

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Jean Hickey's story, published in its entirety, is in response to a usual situation of a railroad crossing sign sitting in the middle of a lake. Since both the road and the railroad disappeared over 50 years ago, it would seem that the sign would be in severe disrepair; however, it appears to be new. Who is taking care of the railroad sign?

The Legend of Round Lake

by Jean M. Hi ckey

There is something very strange about Round Lake. On the surface, this lake looks just like any other lake...trees, bushes, water, insects, and fish. I'm sure you know the kind of lake I'm talking about. I feel mesmerized whenever I see a magnificent scene. I remember the incredible beauty of nature when I looked at the changing reds, oranges, and golds reflecting in the water. Not only do I remember the beauty of nature, I experienced it. I felt my body relaxing as I drifted into an altered state of consciousness. I felt so wonderful. I didn't want to leave. I didn't want to go home yet.

Eventually the reds, oranges, and golds changed into shadows and I came back to reality. I looked up and down the lakeshore so that I could remember every bit of beauty of the day. Then I passed. I saw something that did not make sense. I turned away to focus my eyes and then turned back. It was still there. I thought that my mind was playing tricks on me because I was looking at a railroad crossing in the middle of the lake. I repulsed myself on the shore to get a better look. There was no doubt that I was looking at a railroad crossing.

As I walked down the shore, I kept thinking that this must be a Halloween joke. I finally found a few people nearby. When I asked them questions about the history of the lake and the railroad crossing, they stopped smiling. They answered my questions and then slowly backed away from me. There was something strange about this lake that was affecting the people who lived here. What could it be? My intuition was yelling at me to not ignore this opportunity for adventure.

I decided to call my friend, Steve Irwin, the great Australian hunter. There is nothing he loved better than an exciting mystery. Sure enough, within a month, Steve and I were back at Round Lake to search for clues. Even though I had every confidence in the expertise of Steve, my intuition continued to sense the strangeness of the area.

After I showed Steve the railroad crossing, we excitedly began hunting for clues to explain this 50-year-old mystery. Within a few days, Steve found disturbing clues that indicated a complicated and perplexing story. A possible explanation slowly emerged at all of these clues were put together. Steve later discovered that these clues were based on fact and on legend from the area. Steve began to tell me the story as we had dinner near our tent.

Fifty years ago there was a logging camp in the area. Families carried their living through this logging camp and the nearby river that was used to transport the logs. Eventually, the railroad became a reality. The railroad was then used to also transport the logs inland to previously unreachable areas for the logging families. The river was still used but connected to larger bodies of water. The ships that would carry this precious cargo further than originally dreamed by these loggers. This meant that the market had increased for the families. It also meant an easier life because they were making more money. Some people used their money wisely and shared their goods with the other families. Some people became greedy and selfish.

The legend continues: in 1910, a huge tornado, said to be miles wide, began to batter this thriving area. It tore up the road, the railroad, the railroad crossing, and the logging camp as it worked its terrifying path through this land. A Cherokee Indian burial ground protectedly hidden from the town's people was also uncovered as people ran for cover.

Then one of the strangest things began to happen. An eerie sound of an animal in pain could be heard. It was the cry of a large animal. It had to be a large animal to be heard while a tornado was going on. The people only thought to protect their families and themselves. However, legend tells us that there was one brave farmer, Frances, who dared to find out where the sound was coming from. Frances was known far and wide for his uncanny ability with animals. He would often be seen talking and soothing animals; this time, he responded to a cry for help from another animal.

When Frances saw the stranded animal, it was named with mud. He had no concern for himself. 'He only wanted to help this animal stuck in thick, deep mud. He talked to soothe the animal so that he would not get kicked. Frances took his life in his hands by getting so close to such a large wounded animal. He wasn't even sure what kind of animal it was because the storm made the daylight look like nighttime. With the winds howling and the tornado getting closer to both of them, he freed the animal with a final burst of strength. The animal ran away.

Frances took shelter and a torrential rain came along with the fierce winds. The tornado moved away from him and he began to relax because he knew he was safe. There in the distance he saw the animal he had released. Because of the rain, most of the mud had been washed off. Frances knew that he had helped a White Buffalo that was thought to only exist in the legend of the American Indian. He dared to go close to it so that he could see it better. As Frances approached the buffalo, he saw an American Indian in full headdress standing beside the buffalo. The Indian spoke to Frances and said, "Once this area was a thriving logging town. People prospered, but many became greedy and self-centered. People began to not care about their neighbors. However, you not only cared about others but also about animals. Therefore, you and your family and your children's children will have long lives because of the bravery you have shown today in rescuing our beloved White Buffalo. The railroad crossing will be forever protected and will remain in the middle of the lake. This will be a reminder to the town, and all those who come here, of your bravery and that people must never forget how to love others as well as animals."

Steve's eyes became large as he enthusiastically explained to me what he had discovered. I sat there enthralled with his Australian accent. He told me that the interesting thing is that he was able to find some buffalo tracks—even though no buffalo have ever been seen in that area—near the site of the Indian burial grounds. He found bits of white fur that did not match any type of fur he had seen in all his years as director of a zoo in Australia and as a worldwide hunter. He said that he definitely felt a magical sensation as he searched the hallowed Indian burial ground.

The next morning it was time for Steve to leave. The mystery had been explained, and it was time for Steve's next adventure.
BOOK REVIEW
Wes Craven's 'Fountain Society'
by Tommy Tung
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(UWIRE) BERKELEY, Calif.—With more and more advances in the human genome project and improved bullet-proof saran wrap, the 20th century can't escape the clutches of cautionary science fiction. "The X-Files," "The Matrix," the new television series "Roswell"—sci-fi has exploded lately with trembling paranoia about who controls us and who controls the truth.

Wes Craven's debut novel, Fountain Society, tries to provoke our thoughts about using human clones for spare body parts, or in this story's case, for spare bodies. Though the book may have A Brave New World tattooed on its butt, it is still astute and propitious in its time of release as many still debate issues like the headless tadpoles cloned in England. Had Craven's novel continued more along the vein of the imperious attitudes of cutting-edge technology, it might have been a more compelling read. However, it freely conflates science fiction with a tangled love-quadrilateral plot, which holds the interest level of an ADD patient watching 'Headsbanger's Ball.'

Since I have enjoyed Craven's work in the past, I'll say right off that his book had good intentions and philosophies behind it. He's an intelligent artist with films like A Nightmare on Elm Street and Scream to prove it. So what can I ascribe to the failure of the novel? The lack of fleshed-out characters and vibrant figurative language, and the structuring of the plot mainly.

You won't put down the book not knowing what the characters are like. You'll put it down not caring. The protagonist is Peter Jance, a government scientist, perfecting a prototype for a 'rail gun'—you've seen them in 'Quake.' They emit lethal particle beams at the speed of light. Practical ones don't really exist yet, but when Toys R'Us starts carrying them, you'll see kids Super Soaking city blocks with them. Anyway, Peter is dying of cancer and the government needs him to stay alive and complete his weapon. Like any old friend, Dr. Frederick Wolfe tells him that he and his wife, Beatrice, have been cloning people for the last 30 or more years and that he has a younger version of Peter Jance running around in America. The nice guy that he is, Peter initially refuses having his brain transplanted into Hans Brinkman (the younger clone), but then after a couple of pages, he feels so much pain that he acquiesces.

First of all, there is no surprise here. If Peter doesn't give in, the novel would be no more than seventy pages. My other complaint is that his oscillation between choosing a body transplant is resolved so easily, you wonder what would really disturb him, if not this supreme out-of-body experience. When ensues is an unnecessary subplot about Hans Brinkman's mother and friends mourning his death as well as his mistress, Elizabeth Parker, resolutely determined that there was more to his "car accident." I'm sure Eastwood Insurance was as equally curious.

So far the sci-fi aspect is the rail gun and the brain transplant technology and Craven does very well at elucidating the medical procedures, but not with cellular memory. After the operation, Peter Jance retains the cellular memory of Hans Brinkman's body. He starts adopting Hans' sarcasm, his boxing moves and eerie feelings for Elizabeth. While this is all fascinating, Craven doesn't stop to breathe and expond on the meanings of cellular memory. He does describe that the RNA keeps some of the body's memories, but he shies away from giving any more details that might satisfy our intrigue.

Unfortunately, much of the book focuses on the jealous feelings of Dr. Frederick Wolfe for Peter's wife. Beatrice then becomes irked at Peter's nocturnal emissions. And Peter feels love for Beatrice and Elizabeth. What we've got roughly is a Victorian novel romance transplanted into a sci-fi thriller that deserves more attention. Indeed, more than half of the novel is filled with this Real World soap-opera drama, that is both distracting and languidly vicious.

The physical descriptions in 'Fountain Society' exist solely to set the scene and rarely evoke any deep moods. Almost like a screenplay, Craven writes so sparingly, our impressions of the scenes and personalities evacuate into a vacuum of disappointment. The dialogue between characters does well, but their actions are useless enough a call for the aid of constant third-person narration. Surprisingly for a filmmaker, Wes Craven tells more than he shows in this novel and when he's not telling enough, he puts two characters together hoping they'll make sparks on the stage, only to forget that this is only a sheet of paper and not a silver screen.

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A Tribute to MY friends...
Thank you all for being there
by Eileen Truszkowski
I have a list of folks I know all written in a book. And every now and then I go and take a look.

That is when I realize these names... they are a part, not of the book they are written in... but taken from the heart.

For each Name stands for someone... who has crossed my path sometime, and in that meeting they have become... the reason and the rhyme.

Although it sounds fantastic... for me to make this claim, I really am composed... of each remembered name.

Although you are not aware... of any special link, just knowing you, has shaped my life... more than you could think.

So please don't think my greeting... as just a mere routine, your name was not... forgotten in between.

For when I send a greeting... that is addressed to you, it is because you're on the list... of folks I am indebted to.

So whether I have known you... for many days or few, in some ways you have a part... in shaping things I do.

I am but a total... of many folks I have met, you are a friend I would prefer... never to forget.

Thank you for being my friend!

What's in a word?
bloviate [v. BLOW-vee-ayt]
To bloviate is to speak loudly, verbosely, and at great length, without saying much. It's an American word that was used by (and to describe) President Warren Harding, who was known for long, windy speeches. To bloviate is to engage in obloviation [n. blow-vee-AHY-shun].

In the early nineteenth century, it was fashionable to create "latinized" words by adding Latin endings to ordinary words, giving them an enhanced sense of importance or formality. From blow (braq, boast) was created bloviate, to describe the extended, self-imposing speeches of certain political figures. This word has gone in and out of fashion several times after mostly vanishing for the first half of the twentieth century. It is not found in most dictionaries, but is now heard again in the political arena, where such a word may live for years to come.
Entertaining Arts

The perfect date by Burton Dikelsky, executive director of The Center
Jim Brickman’s new single Destiny is currently the number one requested song for weddings in the United States. This fall he will make his debut in The Chicago Southland at The Center for Performing Arts.

Audiences across America have responded overwhelmingly to the keyboard artistry of Jim Brickman. His music is a staple of adult/contemporary, pop, country, and smooth jazz radio playlists.

In 1997, his albums “By Heart,” “Picture This,” and “The Gift” all became Gold Records. Brickman’s songs Valentine and The Gift have been adopted as new holiday favorites. His syndicated weekly radio show “Your Weekend” has been picked up by more than 75 top adult/contemporary stations coast to coast. The program has featured such guests as Jim Carrey, Tom Cruise, Whitney Houston, and John Travolta, among others.

Concert Review JT Taylor electrifies crowd by Pachina Crook

I recently attended a free concert featuring JT Taylor, the former lead singer for the R&B band Kool and the Gang. The event was held at Hawthorne Race Course and was sponsored by The Beat 103.5.

The opening act was a mediocre local band whose name was forgettable. JT Taylor opened the show with “Get Down On It.” Even though the crowd was small in number considering the event was free they were enthusiastic and lively. Although Taylor left Kool and the Gang in the late eighties to pursue a solo career, he is still able to perform the group’s hits because he co-wrote most of them.

He sang a few of the many hits Kool and the Gang had like “Too Hot,” “Ladies Night,” and love songs “Cherish” and “Joanna.” During “Cherish” he incorporated R. Kelly’s “I Believe I Can Fly”, after singing the chorus Taylor begin to preach. He encouraged the audience to stop the violence against one another. And to end racism because we are all God’s children.

Also during the concert JT Taylor allowed a young protege he discovered in Philadelphia to sing a song. He was very talented young man. And has been signed to Taylor’s new label called TaylorMade Records.

With African attire and masks Taylor and his background singers jumped on stage like hunters looking for prey. They sang “Jungle Boogie” one of the biggest hits from the 70’s. After changing they returned to the stage with army gear and sunglasses energized the crowd with “Hollywood Swinger.” His next to the last song for the evening was the Kool & the Gang anthem “Celebration” which had the crowd rocking and jumping. Taylor informed us that he has a new album coming out titled “Sex on the Beach” and he sang the title cut.

Overall JT Taylor’s performance was great. He still has the same strong and sexy voice that we are accustomed to hearing. And his band composed of all men was tight. It was good to see him still performing well & continuing to grow musically. I still was a little disappointed that he didn’t perform a few more songs.

More fantastic talent is coming to perform this fall at Hawthorne Race Course. On October 3 Sawyer Brown will be there, October 10 legendary rock icon Alice Cooper will be there with Steppenwolf. And on October 23 The Average White Band will be rocking the place. The concerts are free with a ticket or pay clubhouse admission of $3.00 dollars. Please remember these events are held outside so bring a jacket and folding chair. For more information call (708) 780-7650.

A few Holloween legends compiled by Camille Cialoni

Resurrection Mary seen near or at 7200 S. Archer, Justice; the most famous ghost in Chicago, she habitually appears and disappears from road sides, cemeteries, and cars. She dresses in white and hitches along Archer Avenue. She asks her drivers to drop her off at Resurrection Cemetery and is also known to haunt the nearby Willowbrook Ballroom, where she goes to dance.

German Church Road at County Line Road and 83rd Street, Burr Ridge: unresolved murders often leave psychic traces behind. In the still-unsolved Grimes Sisters case of 1956, a psychic re-enactment of the dumping of the bodies on the road has been seen and heard by neighbors and motorists on German Church Road. A phantom car is encountered near the steel guard rails where the lifeless bodies of Barbara and Patricia Grimes were discovered on the snow-covered ground in January, 1957.

Maple Lake at 95th Street near Archer Avenue, Willow Springs: on the far shore of this man-made lake in the south Forest Preserves, a mysterious red light has been observed on many evenings. Ghost lights are widely known in folklore and this is the most active one in the greater Chicagoland area.

Biograph Theater at 2433 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago: in the alley just a few doors south of the theater, John Dillinger, Depression Era outlaw and bank robber, was shot down by FBI officials in 1934. A shadowy figure, resembling a man running and then falling, has been reported at the location where Dillinger fell mortally wounded.

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Tribus Futuras (Future Tribes)

Tribus Futuras performed Friday, October 18th in Celebration of Project Hope's, Latino Festival. Through music, stories, and workshops, the group promote the exposure of Andean music to all people. The music includes sounds of nature, original compositions, world music, and Latin American folk music.

Included in their program is an educational component regarding the origins of the rhythms and instrument that they play. Five types of instruments are played. The guitars were incorporated into Latin American music after the arrival of the Spanish in South America. Charango, a ten-string instrument created by the people of the Andes, is similar and based on the guitar. Zamponas, known as pan pipes, are of various sizes. Quenas are Andean bamboo flutes. Finally, there is the percussion that are clay drums with goat skin, ocarinas, chachacas (goat nails), rain stick, bamboo, and metal chimes.

The programs offered by Tribus Futuras include children's stories, High School programs with narrative and music, musical performances, such as that performed for Governors State University, and workshops that offer Andean instruments and legends as a medium for learning South American history.

Further information on the group or to order a CD or book a performance, contact Tribus Futuras at tribusfuturas@msn.com, or call (847) 533-7163.

Quaint town
by Cindy Kansoor-Schneider

Princeton, Illinois is a town with a mixture of history, old and unique architecture, and contemporary design and amenities. Situated in a four-county area of LaSalle, Bureau, Lee, and Ogle Counties this quaint town is the county seat for Bureau County and the host of the annual Blue and Gray Civil War re-enactment.

The re-enactment was held on October 8 through October 10 with three days jammed with activities. The 4th Artillery Regimental Brass Band provided a concert at the Bureau County Metro Center Friday night. An authentic re-enactor's camp was open to the public on Saturday and Sunday at the City/County Park with wagon tours of the campsite provided every 15 minutes. Period merchants displayed their wares plus a Strolling Minstrel Band and Story Telling entertained visitors. Battle re-enactments with participants in period uniforms, musketry, and cannon occurred on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Saturday also witnessed a Period Fashion Show at the Emerald Isle, a patriotic rally at the Soldiers and Sailors Park, and a Harvest Ball at the Bureau County Metro Center in the evening. Sunday began with a Pancake Breakfast at Darius Miller Park. President Lincoln spoke at 12:30 p.m. at the re-enactment camp followed by a band concert before the battle began at 1:30 p.m.

It is not necessary, however, to attend the re-enactment to be immersed in Civil War history in Princeton. In addition to the Civil War Museum in the heart of Princeton, the Owen Lovejoy Homestead, a national historic landmark site, is also located within Princeton. Lovejoy's home was one of the most important stations on the Underground Railroad in Illinois, providing food and lodging for runaway slaves seeking freedom. Lovejoy was a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln and was elected to the State Legislature in 1854 and to the United States House of Representatives in 1856 where he served five terms. The Lovejoy Homestead is riddled with the history of a tumultuous time.

Behind the Lovejoy Homestead is the Colton Schoolhouse, moved from its original location two and a half miles east of the Homestead. The school was built in 1849 with classes that continued until 1945. Its authentic furnishings are typical of the one-room schoolhouse era.

A site to be included in a visit to Princeton is the Red Covered Bridge, constructed in 1863. The bridge is one of six remaining covered bridges in Illinois. It crosses Big Bureau Creek and was once part of the Peoria-Galena Trail. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the bridge still has a warning posted proclaiming “Five dollar fine for driving more than 12 horses, mules or cattle at any time or lending any beast faster than a walk on or across this bridge.” The bridge is sturdy enough of support vehicles, but not wide enough to allow more than one vehicle to cross at a time and it is doubtful that anyone has been fined for a very long time.

Even if history is not your interest, the homes of Princeton are well worth the trip. Add to the excursion, antique shops, cafes with homemade pies and soups, and the easy pace of the town, and chances are you will regret having to leave.

Princeton is located southwest of Chicago, take Interstate 80 to the Route 26 south exit.

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by Sam Schneider

If you were a judge, what penalties and stipulations would you impose on parents/legal guardians convicted of child abuse?

Beverly Bronson, College of Education:
"Kids need to be separated from their parents. The parents should go to some counseling and parenting classes for as long as it takes."

Isha Grady, College of Business and Public Administration:
"I would penalize them to the full extent because children are helpless and they can't defend themselves. No, I don't think they should be returned back (to their parents) because the abuse will never stop."

Nancy Schaeffer, College of Education:
"I would have a prison term depending on the severity of the abuse. If the parents receive help, then, yes they should be returned. It also depends on the type of abuse."

Corey Owens, College of Arts and Science:
"Depending on the level of abuse, I would make the parents go through some counseling. They will have to be rehabilitated. After they go through therapy, they will be reevaluated to decide if they will have their children returned."

Yolanda Ivey-Bernett, College of Business and Public Administration:
"I would impose life imprisonment. They should not be returned under the past laws. It's hard to decide what abuse is nowadays. There's a line between discipline and abuse."

Palmer Kloster, spouse of a GSU student:
"If there is injury involved, the child should be taken out of the environment and the penalties would be whatever the law would allow. (Children should not be returned) until counseling is done and the judge must make sure the children will be safe."

Julie McGuire, graduate student in Photo/Digital Imaging:
"Parents should have prison time, but they also should get counseling. It depends on the case as to whether the parents get their children back or not."

Debbie Hensley, College of Arts and Sciences:
"It would depend on the degree of abuse. I would try to keep the family together but with mandatory counseling and home supervision. For severe to moderate cases, I think the child should be moved to a safe environment because sometimes there is no second chance for the child."

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