Break in water main closes GSU

By Anthony F. Sanchez
Design Editor

On Friday, April 6, students arrived on campus to be turned away by University Park Police and GSU Department of Public Safety officials posted at main entrances. Approximately 6:00 am, building service workers discovered a massive water leak from the restroom near the F-Wing corridor and reported the incident to Physical Plant Operations. University Park Police and Fire personnel arrived to provide assistance at the scene. After a thorough inspection it was determined that an underground water sprinkler pipe had severely ruptured. As a result it was necessary to reroute the water sprinkler system by shutting down the water supply, which also affects the campus' entire fire sprinkler system.

Following emergency protocols, the decision to close the university was reached to prevent further damage to the facilities and avoid any safety hazards.

Most of the water, which was not more than a few inches deep, surrounded the F-Wing's first floor bathrooms while some did flow down the F-Wing corridor. The water also flowed about 8 feet past the doors of the biology department, however at the time of this report, there was not any damage to the offices or labs in that area, according to an unofficial report by Eric Martin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who was on the premises Friday when the emergency occurred.

A Service Master cleanup crew was observed dehumidifying the carpets on Thursday, nearly one week after the initial incident. Physical Plant Operations department at GSU was unavailable for comment regarding both the extent and cost of the water damage. However, according to a Physical Plant Operations representative, after containment, the area in the F-Wing has been blocked off and presents no danger until further repairs are completed.

The F-Wing washrooms, and the physical and occupational therapy portions of the wing, will remain closed until the problem is completely corrected.

Breaking curators

By John Conrad
Associate editor

Dr. Ora Simcha-Pagan, Director and Curator of GSU's Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park since 2003, is retiring and handing over the reigns to her successor Geoffrey Bates, who formerly served as the Associate Curator for Art at the Illinois State Museum (ISM) Lockport Gallery for 11 years.

Bates, who began his new position on April 9, feels that the opportunity to work on the sculpture collection will enable him to grow in several directions, and looks forward to the challenges ahead.

"My duties will be to maintain, and grow the current collection, build educational and outreach programming based around the park and its collection, and raise the public profile of both the park and GSU," commented Bates on his new responsibilities.

Bates sees the sculpture park as the premier destination for learning about and viewing contemporary sculpture in the Midwest. He hopes to build an organization around the park that will serve and compliment the university, its students, and the region.

By Steve Schering
Phoenix staff reporter

College life can be tough on us guys. Sometimes it can feel like there is nowhere to turn for help, guidance or support when the pressures become overwhelming.

Soon there will be a place to go as GSU launches a new program designed specifically to help male college students make it through school. The program, called Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), began in the State of Georgia, will be establishing a chapter at GSU with several other area colleges this spring.

"The goal of SAAB is to provide leadership from high school all the way to college," said Vanessa Newby, Acting Executive Director of Student Life at GSU. "It helps guide you toward a career and helps our retention rates at the college."

Over the past decade, SAAB has helped continued academic success of African American males by helping 80 percent of SAAB participants persist from their freshman to sophomore year. Institutions that have had a SAAB chapter on their campus for five years or more graduate 85 percent of their SAAB members. This far exceeds the national five-year graduation rate of 55 percent, according to the group's web site.

The program at GSU will be called Brother to Brother, because it will be expanded to include male students of any race who need guidance and support throughout their college experience.

A meeting will take place on campus featuring Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe, the founder of SAAB, on April 19 from 9 a.m. to noon in the Engbretson Hall.

"It's a wonderful program," said Viola Gray, who organized a trip for GSU members to attend the SAAB Conference in Toledo, Ohio March 23-24. "It develops friendships, promotes academic success, networking and time management."

The current plan is to form SAAB offices and a working committee at GSU. Also in the plans is to hold the National SAAB Conference at GSU in April of 2008.

The conference in March, which took place at the University of Toledo, Ohio, featured speakers who were previously involved in the program. Many of whom had their lives turned around by SAAB.

"One of the speakers that spoke before he got involved with SAAB, had a 1.9 GPA. He just didn't have direction," Gray said.

"When he graduated he was in the top five percent in GPA. He realized if you want to be smart you've got to hang with smart people. He still socialized, but school came first."

GSU is working with Prairie State College, Joliet Junior College, Kankakee Community College and South Suburban College in establishing the Brother to Brother organization.

"It gets you to think about furthering your education," added Gray. "It gives you a sense of belonging and a little bit more."

The Brother to Brother event on April 19 is free and open to the public. A reservation is required for non-GSU students. For more information and to make a reservation, call 708-534-4530.
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PHOENIX  

The Phoenix is Governors State University’s student newspaper. It is published twice monthly during the fall and winter, and monthly during the spring/summer.  

We welcome articles, suggestions, photos, commentary, cartoons, and letters to the editor on issues that concern you or the greater GSU population.  

We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, legality, and interest to our GSU readership. All submissions should be signed, and include the student, faculty, or staff member’s ID number, department, and phone number.  

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GSU gets a ‘Global Warning’  

Beverly Younger lectures about the dangers of global warming and educates the GSU community about ways to lessen their CO₂ emissions.  

By John Conrad  
Associate editor  

Beverly Younger, a lecturer with the Department of Social Work at GSU, gave a lecture on global warming in GSU’s Sherman Recital Hall on April 4 at 6pm.  

The lecture, titled “A Global Warning,” was an adaptation of Al Gore’s Academy Award winning documentary, “An Inconvenient Truth.” Borrowing many Power Point slides and much information from the film, Younger spent the first half of her discussion, explaining what global warming is, and the negative effects it has on our environment.  

Younger is by profession a social worker, not a meteorologist or a climatologist, who cited two reasons why she ended up on the GSU stage giving this lecture. First, her interest was sparked as she noticed subtle changes in the local environment and weather patterns over the past few years. Second, she is a social worker who focuses on social justice, or the tensions between the haves and the have-nots.  

As Younger explained, we (in the U.S. and other developed countries) are the haves; the have-nots consist of those who reside in third world countries. Younger feels the sad truth of the matter is, through industrialization, the haves are creating problems for the have-nots, including droughts, floods, changes in weather patterns, rising ocean temperatures, and an unprecedented amount of disastrous storms.  

“Which artists wanted them to be viewed.”  

“Bates”  
Con’t from page 1  

The new director of the park also plans to continue with a conservation program initially started by Simcha-Fagan, which will return several works to the manner in which artists wanted them to be viewed.  

“I will work with Geoff (Bates) familiarizing him with the overall conservation plan and in further strengthening the newly formed group ‘Friends of the Park,’” commented Simcha-Fagan on helping Bates make a smooth transition into his new position.  

During Simcha-Fagan’s time as park director, she did much conservation work on weathered sculptures, expanded the parks collection by one-third (adding 8 new sculptures), created a “highly successful” semester long children’s art program titled “Art in the Prairie,” and hosted an event last fall that brought many of Chicago’s noted curators, museum directors, and supporters of contemporary art to the park.  

“Clearly such efforts must continue for the park to remain and grow as a cultural hub,” Simcha-Fagan stated about the park’s future. “It’s gratifying to know that the revitalized park will be in such good hands,” Simcha-Fagan said in a GSU press release, regarding her confidence in the newly appointed director.  

“It is clearly an exciting time to be arriving at Governors State. The university is healthy; the student body is diverse and dynamic and has a level of commitment to their education that I believe many schools would envy,” stated Bates. “I hope to be able to tap into some of that enthusiasm as plans for the park develop.”  

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park contains one of America’s largest outdoor sculpture collections. For more information on the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park visit their website at, http://webserve.govst.edu/sculpture/index.html. To find out information about becoming a park volunteer, send an email to sculpture@govst.edu.
Talk of traffic lights along Stuenkel Rd

By Derek Curtis
Contributing writer

Installation of traffic signals along University Parkway between Crawford and Central avenues is expected to begin spring 2008.

The project is anticipated to ease congestion caused by those driving home from work, especially during rush hour.

The problem is heightened further during Rush hour.

"I'm tired of waiting at that stop sign when I leave GSU," said Pamela Daffin-Sibbess, a Master of Communication Disorders student.

"It takes a long time just to get on University Parkway, and then it takes forever to get past the stop sign at Cicero. I usually wind up going the other way (west on University Parkway, then north on Crawford)."

The proposal involves a two-year plan for revamping the coordination of traffic along the heavily traveled road.

In addition to installing traffic signals at the intersections along the parkway are three other facets of the project: widening the road, providing adequate street lighting and re-grading the railroad tracks just east of Cicero.

Although no specific locations have been mentioned for the traffic lights, it was suggested that they would be placed at major intersections along University Parkway between Crawford and Central, and possibly also at the University's main entrance along Stuenkel Road.

See 'Lights' Page 5

Illegal downloading in colleges

By Caitlin Bauer
Daily Collegian (Penn State)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — A recent survey shows that most college students are not concerned with the consequences of illegal downloading, even as 413 students at 22 universities received pre-litigation settlement letters yesterday.

The letters were part of the third wave in a movement by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) to deter illegal downloading among college students. Penn State University students have not yet been affected, but the enforcement will continue on a rolling basis, according to the RIAA.

Sixty-seven percent of college students are not concerned with their illegal downloading habits, according to a recent survey by Brooklyn, N.Y., based research group SurveyU. Five hundred online interviews were conducted between March 24 and March 26.

The survey showed that 98 percent of the students said they had at least one song they obtained without payment. Overall, only 57 percent of the respondents' music libraries had been bought legally.

In February, the RIAA enacted a new initiative to deter illegal downloads. The new process gives students the opportunity to settle copyright infringement claims against them before a formal lawsuit is filed. February's first wave sent out 400 letters to 13 different universities. In March, 465 letters were sent to 23 universities.

"This is not our preferred course, but we hope that students will understand the consequences of stealing music and that our partners in the college community will appreciate the proactive role they can play," RIAA President Cary Sherman said in a press release. "This is a program about defending our rights and providing the appropriate foundation for the legal marketplace to flourish."

The RIAA sends pre-litigation letters to the universities, informing school officials of a forthcoming suit against one of its students or staff members. Administrators are then asked to forward the letter to the affected network user, who is identified only by Internet protocol (IP) address.

"Because we haven't gotten any litigation letters, we haven't had any discussions about what we would do," Penn State Assistant Director of Judicial Affairs Gary Miller said, adding that the office would be involved with holding students accountable but is not usually involved in legal proceedings.

See 'Download' Page 5

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Despite the recent chill, Spring has sprung at GSU.
"Lights"  
Cont'd from page 3  

The Illinois Department of Transportation, IDOT, has con- cluded its study of the traffic conditions; a requirement before government funding is allocated. Of the current $11 million dollar budget, the federal and state governments are grant- ing $10 million.

"The project was supposed to begin between August and September of 2006," said John Touhy, the department's vice president, Administration and Planning for GSU. "It was a University Park village run initiative and they wanted us to ease the land. I thought they had the dollars... then the plan just seemed to disintegrate."

"The widening of Parkville Road requires land acquisitions from property owners, including GSU. Allegations of an impending airport in the area could impact who the owners believe they would receive fair market value for their land."

"The plan is definitely not dead," said Dave Linton, University Park Village. "We’re still looking for the right of ways for all twelve properties so we can begin. We currently have seven or eight. The funding is still out there. We just need to get through the [April 17] elections before we can move forward."

"Download"  
Cont’d from page 3  

Miller said illegal downloading violates the university code of conduct section 13, regarding unauthorized entry or use. The same concept applies to computer misuse. A student would receive a warning notice and a review of Penn State’s policy for a first offense. Miller said. With various infractions, the sanctions level begins with extended disciplinary probation up to deferred expulsion, temporary loss of Internet connection and parental notification.

Although most crimes occur on campus, Judicial Affairs would also handle off-campus violations, Miller said. The campus is encouraged by the response of universities that are forwarding the pre-litigation settlement letters to students, "Steven Marks, executive vice president and general counsel for the RIAA, said in a press release, "Not every student will take advantage of this opportunity, but those that do get the benefit of a discounted settlement and no public record on their mark."

Glen Gorecki (freshman - information sciences and technology) said he thinks most college students feel that getting caught is something that only happens to other people. "The odds of them being picked, it’s statistically unlikely to get caught," he said.

The RIAA encourages legal downloads from sources such as Yahoo! Music or Google. Two multimedia services that offer free music tracks and videos to any user with a .edu email address.

'Porch'  
Cont’d from page 2  

The first film is Rodriguez's homage to violent and gore-filled classic zombie films, aptly titled Planet Terror. In the movie, a band of soldiers led by Lt. Muldoon (Bruce Willis) becomes infected with a top-secret viral agent known as D.C-2 while serving a tour in Afghanistan. The soldiers attempt to reverse the effects of the toxic agent, Muldoon and his men foolishly unleash the virus on an unsuspecting Texas town. As the virus begins to infect the town, it turns them into horn-of-hornified mutated, flesh eating zombies, who in turn do their part to exacerbate the outbreak.

The heroes of the feature are Cherry Darling (Rose McGowan-in the best performance of her career) an unhappily go-getting dancer who recently quit her job, and El Wray (Fredly Rodriguez) a mysterious auto-wrecker who was formerly Cherry's boyfriend. Do they sit on a chance meeting just prior to the outbreak, the two team up with a rag tag group of survivors in an all out battle against the zombie menace.

As the battle for survival rages on, the human and zombie body count continue to rise. This film is intensely violent, bloody, gory, and an all around good time.

The film features three multi-dimensional characters, with spin off subplots that only help fuel the main storyline.

Two other notable performances in the film are Marley Shelton (playing Dr. Bloke in both films who seems slightly reminiscent of The Bride character from the Kill Bill films) who is stumping leaving her overly abusive and oppressive husband at the start of the outbreak, and Jeff Fahey (playing BBQ Shack owner J.T.) who provides much of the film's comic relief.

Oh, and I almost forgot, McGowan sports a machine-gun leg for half the film. Where else can you see that type of tattoo?

Although not for the weak-stomached, or faint-of-heart, Planet Terror masterfully captures the tone of the gore-filled 70's zombie genre. I give this film 3 stars out of 4.

Next in the lineup, Tarantino pays homage to such cult classics as Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry and Vanishing Point (both of which are referenced in the film), in his high-octane slasher/flick, Death Proof. The film begins as a group of friends (Sydney Tami-Poiler, Jordan Ladd, and Vanessa Ferlito) go for a night on the town. As the evening wears down, the trio find themselves drinking in a local dive. Also in the bar are Rose McGowan (in a different role as the helpless woman) and Stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell), seemingly floating through washed-up Hollywood stuntman. As the evening progresses, Mike offers McGowan a ride home. She never takes it. Later that same evening, Mike goes on the prowl for the aforementioned trio of ill-fated women. The stunt driver's weapon of choice- death proof car of course.

The next group of women the sadistic stunt man sets his sights on are Rosario Dawson and Staci Fergison, as Zoelander Zoe Bell (Uma Thurman's stunt double in both Kill Bill films). As the group of girls test-drive a 1970 white and red Dodge Challenger (the same car from Vanishing Point), Mike sets to strike. Yet, the stumner may have met his match as the three female fatalities turn the tables, and give Mike a taste of his own medicine.

This film is a bit slower paced than Planet Terror, but that doesn't detract from its appeal. The movie is very dialogue driven and full of the multi-character conversations that made Tarantino famous. Russell is also as slimy, slim, and perfect for the part, portraying both the charming and evil sides of the stuntman masterfully. He also looked at home on the aged film, it was almost as if I was actually watching an old Kurt Russell flick.

Another highlight of the film is the high-speed chase and stunts sequences, in which Tarantino did the CGI too often used today, for actual cars with actual stunt drivers behind the wheel. Actually it's even more amazing what we used to do, you said so too."

Grindhouse is defined in the Urban Dictionary as: "A term used to describe a movie that parodies traditional film-making concepts such as good acting, character development, production values, creative directing and well developed plot, in favor of gratuitous sex, gore, nudity, violence and other shocking themes." I couldn't have said it better myself.

In a throwback to the cheaply produced B-movies of their childhood, film-makers Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez created Grindhouse, a double bill that brings audiences back to the nostalgic time of '70s exploitation films. Although it is not only the subject of this gibberish feature that will transport audiences back, as Tarantino and Rodriguez have pulled out all the stops to create a comprehensive experience that converts audiences back to the cinema of yesteryear.

This includes, but is not limited to, aging (both of which are referenced in the film) and the name of Freddy Rodriguez's character in Planet Terror (El Wray was the name of the Mexican town the Gecko brothers were running to in From Dusk Till Dawn).

Another aspect that tied the films together was the filmmakers' choice to cast McGowan in a double role. In both her roles, she is a girl in a bar in need of a ride home. However, the roles are a complete juxtaposition of one another, in one film she is the hero rescuing the world from a zombie menace, and in the other McGowan herself is in need of rescuing.

I call Grindhouse a collaborative triumph for both Tarantino and Rodriguez, and a perfect example of what we get when two extremely talented filmmakers put their heads together. Whether you’re in the mood for a nostalgic trip to the cinema of our past, or you just want to have a sadistically gore-splattered good time, Grindhouse is the place for you.

So, without further ado, let's take a closer look inside the Grindhouse.
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Tuesday, April 10
5:30 – 7:15 p.m. / Cafeteria Annex

Saturday, April 14
9:30, Continental Breakfast
10 – Noon, Workshop / Hall of Honors

Wednesday, April 18
5:30 – 7:15 p.m. / Cafeteria Annex

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Tuesday, April 24
1 – 4 p.m. / GSU Gymnasium

For additional information: 708.235.3974 www.govst.edu/careerservices
GSU mourns loss of CHP professor

By Anthony F. Sanchez
Design editor.

The late Dr. Arthur Durant.

Born in 1940 in Guyana, a small Central American country, Arthur Durant came to the US in 1963 where he settled to make it his new home. He earned his BA in economics 1972 where he attended Howard University, and later earned his MA in social policy at The University of Chicago in 1978. Like many adult returning students at GSU, Durant established his career as a clinician in the field of addictions where for many years of dedication and service progressed to become a director of a social services agency in Lansing, Michigan. His altruistic inspiration carried him through many years of public service where at the age of 50 decided he could greater impact the community by furthering his education where he embarked doctoral studies, and in 1993 was awarded a PhD in Addictions from Brandeis University. In 1994 he accepted the position of professor in the College of Health Professions at GSU where he was admired by his colleagues for his unique vision. A well published author, Dr. Durant received high acclaim from domestic and international journals for his extensive research in substance abuse; guiding culturally appropriate alcoholism treatment among African Americans in 1999.

Few had explored the theme setting a new prece­dance within the African American community, and building a better foundation with Alcoholics Anonymous.

Throughout his entire teaching career at GSU the later years of his life were the happiest. He honored his wife Etta, his soul mate of three years, and was promoted Department Chair of Addiction Studies and Behavioral Health. In addition to teaching his research interests were theoretical integration and technical eclecticism and how these new ideas enhanced the knowledge base of substance abuse counselors.

Durant ended his battle with dignity, due to complications from cancer in late March of this year. He is survived and cherished by his wife, siblings, several children and grand children. He was not only an asset to his profession, but to his community and will be dearly missed by his extended family here at GSU. We honor his many accomplishments and research in addictions which he poured his genuine concern and talents into.
What's Up

If you wish to advertise in the Phoenix, please call Business Manager, Sylvia Mcghee at 708-534-3068, or e-mail at phoenixad@govst.edu.

Library hours at GSU

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Friday - Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.

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SIDL Information Sessions

For information on the School of Interdisciplinary Learning, and how they can help you earn your BA, attend their weekly information session between 6-7pm on Tuesday, April 17. For more information call 708-534-4092, or email at SIDL@govst.edu.

Psychology B.A. Information Session - Naperville: April 26

Learn about earning your Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at the new Naperville Education Center on Thursday, April 26. Faculty and advisors will be on hand to discuss program specifics. For more information or directions, visit www.govst.edu/nec.

College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Lecture Series at Kankakee Education Center

Tuesday, April 10, 2007 - Room 310 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Speaker Dr. James R. "Chip" Coldren, Jr., Criminal Justice Program Coordinator at GSU Topic: Restorative and Community Justice.

University Open House at Kankakee Education

Wednesday, April 25, 2007 - Center - Room 310 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

National Museum of Mexican Art

Art Program Assistant Professor Javier Chavira will showcase his work at the National Museum of Mexican Art, March 15 - July 8, 2007. The museum is located at 1852 West 19th Street, Chicago, Illinois. For additional information visit www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org or contact Javier Chavira at 708-534-4017.

Winter 2007 Trimester Ends- Monday, April 23

Spring/Summer Trimester Begins- Monday, May 7

20 Questions with...

What do you do at GSU? I'm the Associate Editor of the Phoenix.

What's your favorite color? Blue

What is your favorite movie? It's a tie between Pulp Fiction, Who Framed Roger Rabbit, or The Shining.

When is the last time you traveled? End of March/beginning of April.

Where? CANCUN!

How Was it? Too wonderful for words!

What did you do? Rode a jet ski in the ocean, swam with sharks & dolphins, and drank PLENTY of cerveza.

Best thing you ever tasted? Steak!

What was your first memory as a child? Hating pre-school.

What is your favorite item to order at the cafeteria? Coffee!!!

What do you like more on your popcorn, butter or salt? Salt.

What's your FAVORITE household chore? Cleaning my room because of all the crazy stuff I find.

Would you ever go on a reality T.V. show? ...Yeah.

Why or why not? I wouldn't really want to, but I would have to because I wouldn't want to pass up the opportunity.

Favorite childhood cartoon? "He-Man!"

Favorite childhood toy? A Smurf Sit-N-Spin!

Which element is more powerful, water or fire? Water, because it gives life and is powerful enough to SHUT DOWN THE CAMPUS!

What is the most exciting thing you ever did? Became an older brother after 10 years of being an only child.

What is the most boring thing you ever did? Jury duty, because I didn't get picked.

JOHN CONRAD
Associate Editor
The Phoenix

Which taste better, thin or thick crust pizza? Thin.