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Student Life

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By Dheeraj Reddy
Contributing Writer
& Steve Schering
Editor

Governors State University was evacuated following a bomb threat on Nov 13. The university police received an anonymous call around 7:15 p.m. that a bomb had been planted at the GSU campus and it would go off at 8 p.m. The call was later traced to a pay phone in Orland Park. The evacuation announcement was made over the intercom and students hurried towards the exits. The notifications were also sent to trustees, deans, governance leaders and law enforcement agencies. Students waited outside for several minutes until campus police spread word that classes were cancelled and instructed students and faculty to leave the campus immediately. The evacuation resulted in a traffic jam, but the intervention of university police cleared traffic easily.

"The Cook County Bomb Squad, accompanied by a university police officer and one of our facilities engineers completed a walk through and an evaluation of all buildings and grounds and have ruled out any threat," the university said in a statement released shortly after the evacuation. "All involved performed their jobs well, always keeping safety as our highest priority," said Elaine Maimon, GSU President, who was on the scene. Overall university officials were pleased with how the evacuation was handled. "From my vantage point, the evacuation was handled in an organized and orderly manner," said Gebe Ejigu, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff. "The Emergency Response System we have put together worked as planned and as expected. "We will continue to tweak and perfect our response system but I feel comfortable with the way it worked and served us during this incident." The investigation is underway using all leads that have been obtained and the Orland Park Police Department is cooperating with the ongoing investigation.

A bomb threat is a felony which carries a severe penalty if convicted. The university re-opened for normal business the following day.

By Cynthia Sims
Contributing Writer

Paul Blobaum wears many hats at Governors State University. To his current responsibilities, he now adds Faculty Senate President. Blobaum is a warm hearted and passionate man when it comes down to the business of deciding what's right for the students' well being here at GSU.

One of Blobaum's goals is to help the faculty have more of a presence on campus. "We need to know more about the great people we have here," he said. "The current web pages that we have aren't detailed enough," said Blobaum, noting that some are very well put together but others need to be more informative. "Many people are not aware of the talented educators that we have here," he added.

So what can students expect from Blobaum? "Students can look forward to absolute honesty," said Blobaum. "What is done and said will balance themselves, and we can look forward to my advocacy to excellence."

He hopes to use the 'Why Not?' campaign as a means to cut bureaucracy and solve problems for the students as they arise. Blobaum is no stranger to working with the faculty, staff and administration here at GSU. For the past five years he has been a member of the faculty senate, which represents 219 GSU faculty, reviews academic policy and makes curriculum recommendations. He is also an associate professor and reference librarian in the university's library. Professor Blobaum is happy to begin his term as faculty senate president at the same time that Dr. Elaine Maimon is starting her presidency here at the university. This, along with the family responsibilities that he has going, will be quite a challenge for the next few years. "Just when I thought things were slowing down so that I could spend some quality time with my family I gained a new responsibility." But he says he's more than willing to take on the new responsibility as Faculty Senate President, especially if it means he can assist in improving the GSU experience for both students and faculty.
GSU hires alum to head GSU initiatives

By Steve Schering
Editor

Former alum Joan Vaughan will be re-joining Governors State University on January 8. Vaughan has been hired as Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Chief Executive Officer of the Governors State University Foundation.

Vaughan, who grew up in Evergreen Park, first attended college in Minnesota and transferred to St. Xavier to earn her bachelor’s degree. After teaching for a few years, she settled down to raise her three children.

“When the kids grew up I decided I liked the field of education,” Vaughan said, “but I wanted to work with adults.”

That’s when she decided to attend GSU and took some MBA courses. She was referred to Instructional Design by a friend.

“I went to talk to the head of Instructional Design,” she said. “He was packing up his books, and I realized he was leaving. It was kind of a leap of faith for me to enter a program when the program head was leaving.”

After graduating from GSU she went to work for the Lupus Foundation of Illinois. It was there where she planned education for adults affected by lupus and their families. She also began fundraising for the foundation on her own.

During her stay at the American Association of Neurological Surgeons she really found her calling.

“I really got into fundraising,” Vaughan said. “I had to raise money just to provide the programs." Vaughan worked for the Mayo Clinic from 2004 until she accepted her new job at GSU.

“It is one of the best medical organizations in the world,” she said about her time with the Mayo Clinic. “It is an amazing place to work. They really focused on the needs of the patient. That comes first.”

She learned from a friend that the GSU position may be opening and kept her eye on it, eventually landing the job.

“I would like to give back something, make GSU a better place,” Vaughan said. “Moving back to Chicago in January may not be the smartest thing, but I wanted to be closer to family and I’m familiar with GSU and the university’s mission.”

Vaughan could recall one funny story during her student days at GSU.

“I was taking an economics test, and had only missed one class all year,” she said. “I was taking the final exam and got the first few questions very easily.

“Then the rest of the test was harder and I couldn’t believe I missed all that from one day of class. I knew I had failed.”

Afterward, she asked classmates about the test, but none of them recalled having those questions. She then went to question the professor.

“It turned out I was the only one who got a high level graduate test,” she recalled. “He thought it was funny, I didn’t. I was sweating for an hour-and-a-half. I had to re-take the test in his office.”

Welcome back to GSU.
Global education opportunity

By Alicia Smith

The importance of global education is exposure. Being exposed to another cultural tradition gives students the opportunity to better understand current affairs and people in that region.

Many years ago, I had the opportunity to go to Costa Rica. The one thing I was curious about was the Rain Forest. The first thing I did when I arrived at my hotel was book my trip to the Rain Forest.

The next day I boarded the bus with other eager tourists. Our first discovery was in order to get to the Forest we had to travel through a cloudy forest first. Our small bus rolled around a mountain for miles.

The fog was so thick one hardly could see out the window. The moment the bus got to the rain forest was magical, because the trees were extremely tall and the leaves were extremely wide. Our tour guide was able to tell us the type of bird we were listening to by the chirping sound.

I truly enjoyed that moment and it will be with me forever.

Educational Tours is in the business of providing students with the opportunity travel abroad and to learn about different cultures.

EF Tours is providing GSU students the opportunity to travel abroad to Paris and Rome for 6 days. The trip is scheduled for August 18, 2008 until August 25.

If you are interested in being exposed to the traditions of Rome and Paris go to eftours.com. Click on students/parents at the top and head to the bottom right corner under the 'Get Started' page. Choose either 'Check out your teacher’s tour' or 'Enroll in your teacher’s tour' and enter tour number 422840 to get started.

The trip begins with a flight to Rome, Italy and includes sightseeing tours and a visit to Vatican City. A trip to Pompeii is optional to see how wealthy Romans lived 2,000 years ago.

The trip continues with a train ride to Florence. After taking in the sights in Florence a train will take you to Paris, France.

After a sightseeing tour of Paris, including a visit to Notre Dame Cathedral and getting a taste of cuisine on the river, the eight-day trip will come to an end.

Remember that exposure is the key to a good quality education.

Student Senate Corner: A Message From Student Senate President, Rosa Moran

The student senate presented many wonderful projects and achievements to Dr. Maimon and her guests. Our President was interested and enthusiastic about all the student presentations as she joined in the celebration!

I would like to pay a special tribute to Dr. Maimon for her support of the students and the student senate! I can certainly express my sentiment that we have the best of the best. Further detail on this presentation will be issued by the Programming Chair, Karen Meyer.

The student senate has one student, Carmine Garonica, from the Latino Center for scientific studies.

STR Partners, the architectural company hired for the project, is located in the Chicago Loop. Architect Paul Brock along with Grady Electric foreman Kevin Graves, are supervising the renovation project to create and modern-looking place with new functions such as evidence labs, storage and classrooms, installation of new sprinkler systems, and installation of a new electrical security system.

Dr. Coldren said in a recent interview that he was looking forward to the opening of the new labs and for the first classes to begin.

Coldren is also part of the Illinois Restorative Justice Coalition, and Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee. He along with co-director, Computer Programming Professor Steve Shih hope to find the best way to combat the war on crime in education.

Classes began October 22nd.

PHOENIX

GSU goes CSI: new Criminal Justice classrooms & labs

By Laura Owens

Contributing Writer

Similar to the popular program CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, Governors State University College of Arts and Science students are going to be finding out the answers to the unknown in a scientific manner with the help of a new lab that is being constructed in the Outreach Technology Services (OTS) building.

The College of Arts and Science, Academic Coordinator of Criminal Justice Program, James Coldren, expressed the need for this type of education saying "if the system operates unfairly, we should all be concerned...."

The new lab will support courses needed to obtain a post-baccalaureate certificate in cross-disciplinary areas of security. These courses will also teach modern laboratory technology such as digital forensics, intrusion detection, forensic science and other such

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Date: Sunday, December 9th

Time: 6:30 - 8:00pm

Cost: $10 per person

Location: Famous Liquors

For reservations call 708-366-2500

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The Spirit of Thanksgiving
watercolor,
By Sandy Sandy

The First Thanksgiving
By Jennie Augusta Brownscombe
Dressing to impress is dressing for success

By Dheeraj Reddy
Contributing Writer

In an endeavor to make students understand Corporate Culture’s ‘Dress for Success’, a Fashion Show and Seminar was organized by the Office of Career Services on Thursday, November 15th, from 4-6 pm.

Fashion Show Coordinator, Cindy Comber from the Office of Career Services said that the show was designed to help students understand how to dress best both on an interview and in the office after getting a job. Several departments participated in the event, including Admissions, Student Life, and the Academic Resource Center to help the show become a success.

The Fashion Seminar was offered by the Career Link Inc., the speaker gave an enthralling presentation about different types of dresses like professional dress, business dress and casual dress with their significance in the corporate market.

Telling about the importance and need of professional dress, she said that the dress would give a professional image, promotes a positive work and would ensure safety. She made the audience realize the importance of wardrobe building.

In Fashion Show, there were 18 models including both Governors State University students and staff members who participated in the event. The female models included Dr. Catalina Ramos-Hernandez, Fabiola Gutierrez, Vanessa Newby, Sharon Evans, Denise Austin, Tiika Sanders, Ariel Larson, Elicia Frelix, Noreen Heidelberg, Tenisha Brewer. The male models were Rance Staples, Raymond Foster, Oscar Herrera, Donald Washington, Larry Heidke, Jameel Dabney, James Akintonde, and Adam Taylor.

There were also several booths set up by some of our sponsors, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Lia Sophia Jewelry, Lea Ann’s Esthetique, the Nail shop, Paris Salon, and The Herb Basket. Several students also won gift baskets during the student drawing worth over $100.00 in prizes. Clothing sponsors included The Dress Barn of Homewood, Sears in Matteson, and Kohl’s from Orland Park, IL.

Fashion Show Coordinator, Cindy Comber concluded the program by saying that she was pleased with the turn out and that there will be more fashion shows in the future.
Berkeley signs research partnership with BP — U-WIRE — UC Berkeley signed off on its $500 million partnership with energy giant BP Wednesday morning in the largest deal the campus has ever entered with a corporation. The deal was officially sealed Wednesday in Houston, Texas, with the signature of Robert Malone, president of BP America. Wyatt R. Flinn, UC executive vice provost and vice president for academic and health affairs, signed the deal on Monday. William Tucker, executive director of technology transfer and research administration for the UC Office of the President, signed the contract Friday, said campus spokesperson Todd Olivet.

Over the next 10 years, BP will give half a billion dollars to researchers at UC Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to conduct biofuel research with BP at the new Energy Biosciences Institute. The research will focus on developing plants that can be used to create biofuels, methods of breaking down those plants to turn them into fuel and the global economic, social and cultural impacts of biofuel production, Sanders said.

The deal was first announced in February, but was delayed by contract negotiations for several months. It has since faced criticism from abroad and from UC Berkeley students, professors and community members who say the corporate presence could tainted academic freedom on campus. Sanders said the deal is significant for both UC Berkeley and the beginning of developing solutions to global warming.

"There is a long history of Berkeley researchers making great contributions to society and we hope this will be one of them," Sanders said.

The specific project proposals and participating researchers have not yet been finalized, he added.

New workouts go wireless — U-WIRE — After five minutes of flat pumps, bicep curls and lateral raises, the computer screen returns to normal and you resume writing.

"This is the world of wireless workouts. FLOW," said Akkanad Isaac, a professor in New Delhi, India in 2000. "He was fully committed to the teaching mission of GSU," said Akkanad Isaac. "They use video games to engage students.

GSU loses one of its own — By Steve Schering — Governors State University lost one of their own Dr. Zafir Malik passed away on November 6. Malik was Professor of Management in the College of Business and Public Administration for over 25 years. He was survived by his wife Salty, who also teaches in the CBPA as an adjunct faculty member. "Dr. Malik was a person of integrity and very devoted," said Professor Bill Wilkinson. "He helped me carry my stuff on my first day at GSU in the middle of a hot summer."

"He showed me where my office was and became a short-term mentor for my first few weeks. He and I were very friendly colleagues since my first day."

Malik, who had back problems, under went two major surgeries in the span of a couple months. "He had problems with his back for at least a year," Wilkinson said. "This summer he had back surgery and he was recovering from that when he developed coronary problems and had bypass surgery."

Malik passed away in the rehabilitation facility where he was recovering from that when he developed coronary problems and had bypass surgery. Born in India, he was educated in London, England where he received a Mechanical Engineering degree in 1955. He moved to the United States in 1965 and received his master's and doctoral degrees in New York.

"He was fully committed to the teaching mission of GSU," said Akkanad Isaac.

Malik also worked as an exchange professor in New Delhi, India in 2000 and held jobs at IIT, Indiana University and the University of San Diego. A memorial service was held in his honor November 19 in the GSU Hall of Honors.
We give thanks for good movies

By John Conrad
Associate Editor

Over the long Thanksgiving holiday, you are likely to find yourself stuffed with stuffing, teaming with tryptophan, and living on leftovers. After all this hard work, perhaps you will need a break. And when that time comes, there are several cinematic gems recently released at your local theaters just waiting to be viewed. I will provide you with the run down on some of these films, and hopefully aid you in your film selecting process.

No Country for Old Men

In the latest film written and directed by the Coen brothers (Fargo), a hunter (Josh Brolin) stumbles across over $2 million and several dead bodies in what is apparently a botched drug deal in the middle of the desert. However, when $2 million is lost, it won't stay lost for long. Soon a man that seems to symbolize evil (Javier Bardem) comes looking for his money, leaving a trail of death and destruction in his wake.

A bounty hunter (Woody Harrelson) is soon placed onto the evil man's trail. A local sheriff (Tommy Lee Jones) catches wind of what's going on in his rural area, and begins putting together the pieces. This situation is sure to come to a head, and when it does, it'll be one hell-fire of a climax.

This movie is beautifully shot, and the desolate desert landscape is captivating. The tension just builds and builds, and the payoffs are phenomenal. Add spectacular acting and witty dialogue and you get a cinematic gem. This movie gets 3 1/2 stars out of 4.

American Gangster

This is the true story of the 70's Manhattan drug kingpin Frank Lucas (Denzel Washington), and the cop (Angelsa Jolie) and the curse she bares may prove a formidable enemy.

This movie is visually stunning. If you are going to see it, make sure the theater you go to is playing it in 3-D. I'm sure it would be a good film without the aid of 3-D effects, but why settle for that when you can get the whole shabang. This movie was made for digital 3-D, so do it and yourself justice, and see it that way.

The action sequences in the film are stellar. Honestly some of the best animated action I have ever seen. The animation process used in the film is similar to that of the Polar Express, but a lot of improvements have been made since the latter was released. This movie will blow you away!

I give this film 3 1/2 stars out of 4. (Disclaimer: although this movie is animated, it is incredibly violent, has some suggestive nudity, and definitely earns its PG-13 rating. You may want to think twice before bringing the kiddies along).

Beowulf

Yes, Beowulf, the 8th century epic poem by an anonymous author that you were likely forced to read during high school. Yet fear not, this film is more easily digested and entertaining than the poem (If you're a fan of the poem and I invited you, I'm sorry. But get real, that poem is practically unreadable.).

In the story, incase you are fortunate and didn't have to read the original, a villages monster making angers the village's mead hall, and kills nearly all inside. The king (Anthony Hopkins) calls for a hero to save his people.

Enter Beowulf (Ray Winstone). Beowulf comes to the aid of the villagers, to battle the monstrous Grendel. However, if the Grendel can be slain, Beowulf may find his troubles aren't over. The Grendel's mother (Angelina Jolie) and the curse she bares may prove a more formidable enemy.

The action sequences in the film are stellar. This movie is visually stunning. If you are going to see it, make sure the theater you go to is playing it in 3-D. I'm sure it would be a good film without the aid of 3-D effects, but why settle for that when you can get the whole shabang. This movie was made for digital 3-D, so do it and yourself justice, and see it that way.

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Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

Across
6 A series of pictures representing a continuous scene (7)
7 Abuzz (5)
9 Mineral-bearing rocks (4)
10 Textbook (10)
11 Overshadowed (8)
13 Not danger (6)
15 Thrill (4)
17 Gasoline and butane (5)
19 In some mysteries, he did it (6)
20 Mislay (8)
23 Positionings (10)
26 Threesome (4)
27 Sharp high-pitched cries (5)
28 Momentum (7)

Down
1 Reverent (10)
2 Vapors (6)
3 Reduce to small pieces (4)
4 Last car in trains (8)
5 Pierce (4)
6 An order of classical Greek architecture (5)
8 Male chicken (7)
12 Fantasy (5)
14 Be of use (10) 16 Impartially (7)
17 Ranking above all others (8)
21 Waistbands (6)
22 A large Asian country (5)
24 Seal (4)
25 Fastener of wood (4)

University Closed for Thanksgiving
Thurs., Nov. 22-Sun., Nov. 25

Health Professions Career Fair
Office of Career Services is sponsoring a Health Professions Career Fair on Tuesday, December 11, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., in the Center for Performing Arts lobby. Prospective employers will be on hand to discuss job opportunities and review resumes. Students, alumni, and community members interested in learning about career opportunities in the health professions are encouraged to attend, dress professionally, and bring plenty of resumes. Call (708) 235-3974 or visit www.govst.edu/careerservices.

SIDL Bi-Weekly Information Sessions
Bi-weekly information sessions that will answer your questions and give you a tour of the campus.

SIDL Portfolio Workshops
The two-hour sessions include an explanation of the process and what you are expected to submit to earn credit. Our next workshop will be in GSU's Hall of Honors, March 4 from 10:00am-12:00pm. Call the SIDL office at 708.534.4092 or e-mail sidl@govst.edu.

An Introduction to QUANTUM Gradnamics
Another principal concept in Quantum Gradnamics is the observation that graduate students do not move toward graduation in a steady and continuous manner. Rather, they make progress through discrete bursts of random productivity called "wanta" (short for "want data") whose energy is proportional to the frequency of meetings with their advisor.

Grad students, or "p-ons" as Einstein called them, can only occupy a discrete number of energy states:

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Recreation / Fitness
Center hours
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 4 p.m.
Closed Sundays during the Spring/Summer trimester.

Library hours at GSU
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

ACS Lab Hours
Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

I discard all hope of predicting what is unpredictable quantities, such as my graduation."
- Werner Heisenberg

A direct consequence of this is the "Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle", perhaps the most well-known theorem of Quantum Gradnamics. Developed by Heisenberg during a particularly unproductive period in his graduate career, the principle states that it is not possible to know where a grad student is and where it is going at the same time.

When probed under pressure, a grad student will either blurt out what they are doing (but won't know if it means anything), or they will blurt out what they plan to do (but won't know how to do it). Simply put, there is an inherent degree of certainty and precision that is missing from their everyday life.

Heisenberg attributed this to the fact that meetings with professors are non-communicative (that is, the order in which orders are given doesn't tell you whether they are worth doing).

Glorious diagrams from Comics.com.