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Getting By with a Little Help from the Friends

Latino Film Festival Celebrates GSU’s Diversity

By Chris Gloff
Contributing Writer

This summer, the GSU Latino Center for Excellence (LCE) and the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) are co-sponsoring the first annual GSU Latino Film Festival with seven different film screenings between July 17 and September 25. The festival will feature film works from Spanish-speaking countries highlighting Latino art, culture and society. Most of the films are in Spanish and shown with English subtitles (unless noted below).

“One goal of the LCE is to educate by whatever means through culture,” said Carlos Cantu, GSU cohort advisor and an ALAS member. “All of the films we are presenting were previously seen at the Chicago Latino Film Festival last April.” Every screening will conclude with a discussion facilitated by the Spanish Reading Club.

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The Chicago Latino Film Festival began in 1985 as 14 films projected onto a concrete wall for 500 viewers. This year’s festival drew 30,000 viewers over the screening of 120 films.

The GSU Latino Film Festival opened with “The Near East,” a 2006 film directed by Spanish director Fernando Colomo, on July 17 and “That Benny,” Cuba’s 2007 candidate for the Academy Awards, on July 31 in Engbrethton Hall.

“We had about 10 viewers at our first meeting but we’re hopeful, as the screenings continue, more people will join us,” continued Cantu.

ALAS President Oscar Herrera said, “I expect the audiences to increase, especially in September during Hispanic Heritage Month. Showing these movies on campus is an excellent opportunity students should not pass up. To see these movies elsewhere you could expect to pay anywhere from $40 and up.”

The festival continues with an August 14 screening of “To Play and to Fight,” a documentary following the Venezuelan Youth Orchestra System which was originally designed to expose rural children to the wonders of music and now has become one of the most important and beautiful music phenomena in modern history.

One month later, the festival will resume with a showing of “When the Waves Break” on September 10. The Colombian film directed by Ricardo Gabrielli is about a young boy finding a forgotten photo album which leads him on a series of adventures that give insight to family secrets. “When the Waves Break” will be shown with no English subtitles.

The Argentine-Chilean co-production “Fugue,” the first full-length feature directed by Pablo Larrain, will be screened on September 11. The plot of “Fugue” centers around composer Elías Montalbán who can not deliver his masterpiece because not only is his composition difficult to execute, but it represents for its creator the sum of the traumas he experienced as a young man when he watched in horror the murder of his own sister in mysterious circumstances.

On September 18, the Puerto Rican film “The Clown,” co-directed by Pedro Adorno Izrrarý and Emilio Rodríguez, will be presented. In “The Clown,” immediate happiness strikes a small-town circus clown who is selected by an ad agency as the lead character of a fast-food campaign that appeals to children and mothers.

See ‘Friends’ page 3

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See ‘Friends’ page 3
Play Ball ... But Play Nice!

By Michelle Hulett
Contributing Writer

There is nothing more distracting than a cell phone in the classroom. If you take a look around your classroom, you’ll find a cell phone sitting neatly in front of almost everyone. If it’s not sitting out on the desk, you can be sure that they have it under the desk — out of sight so that they can send text messages throughout the lecture.

Some people might argue that this is college. Students have paid for the classes, so they should be able to do what they like. However, I disagree. These students’ decisions affect everyone — including me, a student who has also paid for the same education. Why don’t I get a choice?

I should be able to enter a classroom knowing that, for at least a couple of hours, I don’t have to deal with cell phones ringing and buzzing. I deal with that all day long at work!

When I go to class, it is an escape from the cell phone mania and I enjoy shutting everything else out to learn. To allow cell phones into the class is to say I don’t have that right. In other words, I have paid the same amount of money for tuition, but I don’t have the right to go to class and remain undistracted by cell phones.

I realize that there are parents in my classes that may have a babysitter at home, and I understand they may need to check in with the sitter. However, I stand by my opinion. If you have a cell phone, it should be turned off and out of sight during class. Most teachers give a break halfway through class during which students can call home or return all of those very urgent text messages. If no break is given, and the student knows they will need to check in with the babysitter, they can quietly leave class to do so.

It’s bad enough that cell phones have infiltrated just about every aspect of our daily lives. But please, do not let them take over my classrooms. I think you’ll find it’s a relief to be unplugged for a couple hours.

A NOTE FROM THE GSU STUDENT SENATE

Collaborating to Create a Vibrant Campus Life
The Club Presidents Council

The Club Presidents Council is an entity overseen by the Student Senate. The purpose of the organization is to facilitate communication and cooperation among the various clubs and organizations at Governors State University. This council provides club presidents the opportunity to meet with other representatives and share ideas and information about fundraisers and activities.

On behalf of the GSU Student Senate, I thank the Presidents and representatives of the different clubs and organizations on campus who have made the time and commitment to participate in the Club Presidents Council’s activities. In the short time we have been working together, I am very grateful for all of your contributions to our council. I am quite confident that working together, we will continue to make a positive difference on our campus.

Sincerely,
Fernando Rayas
GSU Student Senate Vice-President
Club Presidents Council Chair
in the shape of a book will be sewn on the quilt in honor, celebration or memory of a friend or loved one.

The Friends also have a number of events coming up this fall including a silent auction, blood drive and book sale.

The silent auction will take place in the Hall of Governors on October 13-17 and will include items such as theater and dining certificates, a limited edition ESQ watch signed by Chicago Bulls GM and former player John Paxson, golf items, books, DVDs, an autographed baseball of local sports legends, tickets to a wine tasting and much more.

The blood drive is scheduled for October 30 from 2-6 p.m. in the E-Lounge and the book sale will take place during Welcome Week in September. Those interested in signing up for the blood drive should contact Kelley Nichols at Kelley.Nichols@yahoo.com.

Anyone who becomes a member of the Friends of the GSU Library will receive benefits such as on campus access to the library's electronic databases, an electronic subscription to the library newsletter, a preview of book sale merchandise, and special invitations to programs and events.

The next GSU Friends meeting will take place from 12 to 1 p.m. on August 20 at the library balcony. For dates of upcoming events, information on donating to the library or further information on becoming a member of the Friends of the GSU Library, go to the Friends of the GSU webpage at www.govst.edu/library/friends or contact Lydia Morrow-Ruetten at (708) 534-4116.
'Film Festival' Con't from page 1

However, the ad agency forever forbids him from exposing his true self to the public and he will have to choose between his recent affluence and happiness.

The festival will conclude on September 25 with a screening of "More Than Anything in the World," a film directed by the Mexican filmmaking duo Andres Leon Becker and Javier Solar. Winner of the Montreal Film Festival, this visually inventive tale is about the warm relationship shared between a seven-year old girl and her single mother, and what becomes of their bond when the imaginative daughter becomes convinced that her mom has been possessed by a vampire. The September 25 festival conclusion happens to fall in the middle of National Hispanic Heritage month.

"The average GSU student can expect to get a glimpse of the richness of the Latino culture from various perspectives. All these countries share the same language but are very culturally different," said ALAS campus advisor Jose Reyes.

According to Cantu, Governors State University currently has 233 registered Hispanic students.

"The discussions that follow each screening will address questions of moral and ethical character, religion, language from different regions, traditions and customs in the Latino culture and other topics to encourage those in attendance to interact with each other in Spanish," said Cantu.

"We will accommodate those who do not speak Spanish in the discussion as well with assistance from the Spanish Reading Club," he added.

The Latino Center for Excellence supports Hispanic students through graduation and ensures they are prepared to face the professional challenges of a highly competitive society. This is completed through the facilitation of transition from other institutions, increasing the university's personnel cultural competence, and training professors on inclusive teaching techniques. The LCE is completed funded through a Department of Education.

The Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) strives to enhance the educational experience of fellow students through their involvement in school events intended to increase awareness about Latino heritage and culture, as well as outreach activities that positively impact our community.

Depending on attendance, all remaining films can be seen either in Sherman Hall or Engbretson Hall at the above dates at 5 p.m. Those interested should check http://www.govst.edu/pagview for updated screening locations. There is no cost to see any film. For more information about the First Annual Governors State University Latino film festival or the Latino Center for Excellence contact Carlos Cantu at (708) 534-4554. For more information on the Association of Latin American Students contact Oscar Herrera at (708) 439-5176.

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One Day Service Available in some cases, Pick-Up & Delivery Available

Also Learn How to Write Like a Pro!
Creative Writing and Non-Fiction Tutoring, Mentoring and Coaching are available to writers, and lectures to groups.
Learn Writing techniques that bring characters to life!
Reactivated after a period of being somewhat defunct, the students and faculty trying to resurrect the GSU art club are hoping others will join them in their efforts. New members and their input are always welcome.

The student run club centers and focuses on the arts at GSU, and how they can improve the lives of the University students by promoting the arts not only on campus, but to the community through exhibitions, receptions, sales and lectures.

The GSU Art Forum Club wants all the students of GSU to come participate and enjoy all the club events. "It isn’t necessary to be an art major or versed in the arts to enjoy it," says Margie Glass-Sula, Chairperson of the club. "We love to see others come and enjoy our works, That’s what we strive for". Glass-Sula continued, “We are currently a small group but have extremely dedicated, giving, talented members.” She noted that these members came together and raised approximately $7,000 for a cancer charity last year during a silent auction of artwork.

The club wants students to watch for upcoming events hosted by the club and to come enjoy them. Look for postings in The Phoenix, bulletin boards and on video monitors around campus.

There is always art to be seen on campus, and the art club encourages students to visit the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) E-Lounge where they can see historical artifacts from New Guinea, the adjoining Visual Arts Gallery, which exhibits current works by students along with visiting artists, and go outdoors to enjoy the large artworks in GSU’s Sculpture Park.

Sometimes, art is an enjoyable escape from the ordinary!

**Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!**

**September 4**
A trip to the Art Institute
Art of Africa: The Benin
A club outing with GSU’s own African art Scholar, Professor Bourgeois to view the exhibit of the artifacts of the Benin African people, and attend the lecture “Translations from Ivory to Bronze” by scholar Barbara Blackmun.
Details TBA.

**September 24**
A Creative Life
A town hall style lecture featuring dual speakers Jeff Stevenson & Geoff Bates in which attendees will be introduced to bringing creativity into one’s life, professionally and personally. Join us for this inspiring informative lecture with refreshments. Watch for time and campus location to be posted soon.

**November 6, 2008**
ArtsFest
GSU College of Arts and Sciences Second annual event promoting and featuring the Arts at GSU. This event will include the chance to create, observe and inquire about art during open studio workshops. Art faculty will be available to guide workshops and answer questions. The Art Forum Club will be participating in the event promoting the arts with an exhibition of current student and faculty works, and live music. The event will conclude with a reception featuring great food and live entertainment.

**Thanks to Margie Glass-Sula for submitting this piece to The Phoenix!**

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**Making Connections, GETTING RESULTS**

Professional Women’s Network Conference

**September 11, 2008**
7:30 am to 4:30 pm
Doubletree Hotel
Alsip Illinois

Join ambitious women from throughout Chicagoland seeking to enrich their professional and personal lives through educational programs and networking.

** Did You Know... **

- Women-owned firms account for 48% of privately-held firms in the Chicago Metro area?
- Women-owned firms employ $19.1 million and generate $2.5 trillion in sales?
- 1 in 11 adult women is an entrepreneur and 1 in 7 employees works in a women-owned business?

© Center for Women's Business Research, 2006

$99 per member after August 1 – $149
$129 per non-member after August 1 – $169
$49 per student with current, full-time student I.D.

7:30 Breakfast Reception
8:15 Keynote Speaker
9:30 Workshop Breakout Session 1
11:00 Workshop Breakout Session 2
12:30 Luncheon
2:30 Structured Networking
3:30 Business After Hours

Professional Women’s Network is a 220+ member organization of entrepreneurs and professional women dedicated to helping each other develop their careers and enhance their businesses through educational programs, resources sharing and networking opportunities.

For More Information, Please Contact
Professional Women’s Network  PO Box 291  Park Forest, IL 60466  Phone: 708.937.5525  Fax: 708.748.4526
info@pwncentral.com   www.pwncentral.com
Here Come the Olympics!

Compiled by Michelle Hulett
Contributing Writer

Here is a quick-hitters guide on the major events for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, including a "who-to-watch-for" guide for those of you who will be following the summer events.

Track and Field

Tyson Gay set the American-record of 9.77 seconds in the U.S. Olympic Trials, making him the third-fastest man of all time. He placed fifth in the 100m semifinals at the 2004 U.S. Olympic Trials but made headlines at the 2007 World Championships where he finished in 9.85 seconds, just shy of the season record of 9.84, which he set at the U.S. Nationals. This will be his Olympic debut.

Lolo Jones will compete for the United States in her Olympic debut. At the 2008 Olympic Trials, Jones was astounding in the 100m hurdles final, with a flawless execution and winning with a 12.29 second finish.

Usain Bolt will compete for Jamaica in his second Olympic appearance. He competed in the Athens Olympics in 2004 at 18 years old but was eliminated in the first round of heats in the 200m. He made history on May 31st when he shattered the world record in the 100m at 9.72 seconds. He has also broken the Jamaican record set by Olympic legend Donald Quarrie when he ran the 200m in 19.75 seconds.

Yelena Isinbayeva is the Russian competitor. This will be her second time at the Olympics. She won the Gold at the 2004 Olympics in Athens and is an overwhelming favorite to repeat as champion in the women's pole vault. She has set 23 world records, and won eight straight gold medals in indoor and outdoor championships. In July 2005, Isinbayeva broke the world record four times.

Blanka Vlašić, competing for Croatia, is a favorite for the high jump. At 24 years old, she is 6-foot-4 and has had 34 consecutive victories in the high jump over the last year and a half. This is her third time at the Olympic Games. She made her debut in Sydney when she was just 16.

Gymnastics

Morgan Hamm is competing for the U.S. men's team after a decision was made by the International Gymnastics Federation not to appeal Hamm's punishment by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). Morgan tested positive May 24 for glucocorticosteroid.

Jiang Yuyuan, competing for China, captured the Gold for floor exercise and won and even in the floor and vault event at the French International Invitational Tournament recently. Although according to her passport, Jiang is old enough for the Beijing games, several media reports have indicated that she may be as young as 14. She does, however, continue to be the favorite and is expected to take home a gold medal for China in the Olympic floor exercise and uneven bars.

Swimming

Garrett Weber-Gale was the breakout performer at Olympic Trials, winning the 50m and 100m freestyle. Set the American record in the 50m free, coming in at 21.47 with the fourth fastest time in history. In the 100m free, became the first American under 48 seconds at 47.78. Four years ago, he finished seventh in the 100m free at the 2004 Olympic Trials.

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Samantha Peszek will also be competing for the United States. Although she does not have one spectacular event, her repertoire includes one of the most difficult dives in the world: a backward 3.5 somersault pike.

Troy Dumais will be heading the men's Olympic diving team after qualifying for his third Olympics by winning the springboard event at Olympic Trials. His final score was nearly 90 points ahead of the second-place finisher. Competed in the springboard and synchronized springboard events in both Sydney and Athens.

Guo Jingjing will be competing for China for the second time. She earned two silver medals in Sydney on springboard and synchro springboard and two gold medals in Athens as well. She is currently undefeated in major competition. Guo is expected to defend both of her Olympic titles in Beijing, which would maintain China's streak of springboard gold-medal wins which started in 1988.

Tom Daley, from Great Britain, is one of the youngest competitors. He qualified for the 2008 Olympics at age 13 and will be 14 in Beijing. He qualified by finishing seventh in the 10m platform at the 2008 World Cup in February. Daley is the second-youngest British male Olympian ever. He has plans to compete in five Olympics, finishing in 2434 at age 30. He is, on average, nine years younger, seven inches shorter, and 40 pounds lighter than his competition.

Tennis

James Blake will be making his debut for the U.S. in Beijing. He has played in 29 Davis Cup matches since 2001, compiling a 17-8 record in singles and a 1-3 record in doubles. He remains a 12-0 record while playing on hard court, which he is expected to continue in Beijing.

Maria Sharapova will be competing for Russia. Although she has had some disappointments, she has three singles titles already in the 2008 season. She is a 3-time Grand Slam Champion (Wimbledon 2004, US Open 2006 and Australian Open 2008) and was the second-youngest Wimbledon champion.

Philipp Kohlschreiber is hoping to continue Germany's well-known Olympic reputation in Tennis. He has won four doubles and two single titles since going pro in 2001 and reached a world ranking of 24.

Triathlon

Hunter Kemper may lead the U.S. men to their first Olympic medal since the triathlon was added in Sydney. He was the top American finisher in Sydney and Athens but had his breakthrough in 2005 when he claimed the World Cup title. He has been competing in triathlons since age 10.

Laura Bennett is competing for the U.S. on the women's triathlon team. She is married to Greg Bennett, a triathlete who finished fourth in Athens and her older brothers are also triathletes. Reached the world's top ranking for the first time. She is a three-time medalist and is ranked number four in the world.

Emma Snowsill is competing for Australia. She is a three-time world champion and in 2006, won three races in eight days. She started competing in triathlons in high school.

Javier Gomez, on Spain's triathlon team, was ranked No. 1 in the world in 2007. He was also awarded the BG Triathlon World Cup Series medal and has won nine World Cup events. Gomez competed in his first triathlon at the age of 15 and has been competing ever since.
Atmospheric Disturbances: A Novel Idea

By Michelle Holetz
Contributing Writer

In Rivka Galchen's debut novel, Atmospheric Disturbances, nothing is what it seems and that of which you are sure may simply be an illusion. Dr. Leo Lieberstein is an awkward, socially inept psychiatrist searching for his wife. "Last December," he states in the opening lines of the novel, "a woman entered my apartment who looked exactly like my wife... but it wasn't Rema." She talks like his wife, acts like his wife, and appears to be his wife, but he is certain she is a "doppelganger," a "simulacrum," and an "impostress.

With virtually no reason or logic to guide him, Dr. Lieberstein embarks on a quest to find his wife. His search leads him to his missing patient, Harvey, who believes he is a secret agent for the Royal Academy of Meteorology with the power to control the weather. In turn, Dr. Lieberstein turns to Dr. Tzvi Gal-Chen, a meteorologist for the Academy and the mysterious workings of the weather. He cannot be sure, however, what is real and what is imagined and notes that "Plato was apparently the first to state that what we are sensing are only images of the real world."

In this novel, Galchen confronts issues of reality, love and identity, questioning what happens when the logic battles with the heart for the upper hand. She weaves together seemingly unrelated, random events into an exceptional novel that will leave your brain in a twist. Philosophical and witty, Atmospheric Disturbances is a must-read.
Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

ACROSS
1. Down the ____________
6. "American ___"__
10. "Beg pardon ___"
14. Its license plates say "Famous potatoes"
15. A language of northeastern India
16. Scotia
17. Former president of Argentina
18. Ends a prayer
19. Cupid's Greek counterpart
20. Mountains covered in white
22. Benefit
23. Shack
24. God of the sky (Greek mythology)
26. Accord
30. Sometimes caused by smoking
32. Indian dress
33. God with a hammer
35. Irk (2 words)
39. Adhesive
41. Trick taker, often
42. Step
43. Domingo
44. Rigid band of metal
46. European
47. Bubbly drinks
48. As a whole
50. Jail
54. Amniotic
55. A competition of speed
56. A stronghold
63. Father of Balder
65. Desexualize
66. Victories
67. Black cat, maybe
68. About 1.3 cubic yards
69. Balcony section
70. Copper
71. Bubbly drinks
10. It produces insensitivity
11. A traditional Romanian dance
12. Arouse
13. A microwave laser
21. Em, to Dorothy
25. They come from chickens
26. A Swiss army knife has lots of them
27. Auto parts giant
28. "Pumping ___"
29. Intuitive insight (2 words)
30. Après-ski drink
31. Type of cookie
34. Chemistry Nobelist Otto
36. Hyperbolic tangent (trigonometry)
37. Assistant
38. Anagram of "Wort"
40. It comes easily to hand
45. Busiest
48. As a whole
50. Ski downhill
51. Move about stealthily
52. AM/FM device
53. Cake topper
54. Barely enough
57. Flimsy, as an excuse
58. Roasting appliance
59. "I'm ___ you!"
60. Utilized
61. "Buona ___" (Italian greeting)
62. Former spouses

DOWN
1. Pelvic joints
2. Gulf of ____, off the coast of Yemen
3. Hawaiian tuber
4. Dog with a blue-black tongue
5. Boss
6. Not suitable
7. Extinguish
8. Arch type
9. A 4-wheeled covered carriage
10. It produces insensitivity
11. A traditional Romanian dance
12. Arouse
13. A microwave laser
21. Em, to Dorothy
25. They come from chickens
26. A Swiss army knife has lots of them
27. Auto parts giant
28. "Pumping ___"
29. Intuitive insight (2 words)
30. Après-ski drink
31. Type of cookie
34. Chemistry Nobelist Otto
36. Hyperbolic tangent (trigonometry)
37. Assistant
38. Anagram of "Wort"
40. It comes easily to hand
45. Busiest
48. As a whole
50. Ski downhill
51. Move about stealthily
52. AM/FM device
53. Cake topper
54. Barely enough
57. Flimsy, as an excuse
58. Roasting appliance
59. "I'm ___ you!"
60. Utilized
61. "Buona ___" (Italian greeting)
62. Former spouses

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