GSU Alumnus Adds Art to Pool

By Barbara Hogu
Contributing Writer

When the swimming pool of the Recreation and Fitness Center reopens, it will display a panoramic recreational mural created by Erik Glenna, a recent graduate of GSU. Beach Scene with Recreational Activities is the title of the mural.

Glenna's mural will be displayed on the Plexiglas panels that border the balcony's seating area in the area surrounding the swimming pool. The mural is painted with acrylic paints on Plexiglas panels. Currently, only two panels are completed; however, in a few weeks, three more panels will be added. The five panels will display various recreational activities which occur in a beach environment, on the shore and in the waters.

Glenna won the opportunity to create this mural through a sketch competition. The Recreation and Fitness Center at GSU advertised the competition in newspapers, on public television stations and by way of fliers. Many artists replied to the competition, and Glenna's mural composition was selected from a series of sketches which were submitted by twelve artists to a board of judges.

Glenna is delighted that he was selected to produce the mural. "I always wanted to have the opportunity to display my work, and I welcome the opportunity to display it at the university from which I graduated," Glenna says. "I am happy that I'm able to do something special for GSU."

Glenna says the mural is his ways of giving something back to the school and to the community which he feels have given him his education and support in his educational efforts. He worked in the Recreation/Fitness Center as part of a work-study program. Glenna checked IDs, cleaned facilities and worked in customer service while he was a student at GSU.

Last April, Glenna graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Learning and Studies. His course of study included classes in communication, business and history. He hopes that these studies will help him to pursue a Master's degree in museum studies so that he can become a museum curator. He would also someday like to oversee and restore in a museum or own a gallery.

Even though Glenna did not take any studio art classes at GSU, he transferred from Northern Illinois University with more than 80 credit hours in studio arts. He began as a self-taught oil painter in high school. Taking great pleasure in creating paintings, he then started taking art classes in high school. After high school, he went to Prairie State College, where he earned an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts and an Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts.

The date has not been set for the reopening of the swimming pool. Construction, renovation, and structural corrections are presently being made to this area. When the construction is completed, the Recreation/Fitness Center will have a reopening celebration. Glenna will be on hand for the celebration and hopes his mural will be a welcome addition to the pool area by GSU students, faculty and administration.

See Page 3 for a photo of artist, Erik Glenna.

Mural Photos Courtesy of Barbara Hogu.
Dean's List Achievers — Where Were You?

On Thursday evening, September 4, Dr. Eric Martin and Dr. Karen D'Arcy presented a number of GSU students with certificates and awards for their accomplishment of earning a spot on the Dean’s List during the 2007-2008 academic year. GSU’s provost, Jane Hudak, also gave a very enjoyable congratulatory speech to those in attendance.

But while there were hundreds of names in the program, a very small percentage of students actually came to the Awards Ceremony. Now granted, the ceremony was held at a time which interrupted two different class periods. Many students who DID attend were forced to leave one class early and potentially arrive to another one late. (Perhaps this issue can be resolved for next time?)

Yet nonetheless, I was surprised that so few students were proud enough of their accomplishment to attend the ceremony and receive their award.

My parents came to GSU that night and watched me walk across the stage, and afterwards, I gave them a mini-tour of campus. They were as proud of me as I was of myself. To be honest, I believe earning Dean’s List honors is more gratifying than actually graduating.

Where can gays and lesbians meet?

A new occasion in the south suburbs for persons of alternative sexual orientations to gather and socialize, the Rainbow Cafe resumes monthly meetings this semester. The first fall meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. The RAINBOW Cafe provides an opportunity for single or partnered gays, lesbians, bisexuals or other sexual minorities and their allies to meet one another and socialize in a safe and supportive atmosphere. The gathering is open to all adults (over 18) who identify as gay, bisexual, lesbian or other sexual minorities, or who are exploring their sexual identity. We also welcome straight persons (allies) who are supportive of such persons. The gatherings are held on the third Saturday evening of each month, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

The meetings were initiated last year, and have proved important to many who had attended. One of the women attending many of the meetings last year writes: “I could not imagine having the Rainbow Cafe. Being part of the LBGT community and living in the South Chicago suburbs can be very hard; generally there is nowhere for us as a community to be with other people that know how hard of a life this can be. The feeling of being alone can be very depressing. Finding the cafe has helped me more than you could know.”

A man who has come regularly also stated that the group has become very important to him. He wrote: “The Rainbow Cafe provides an opportunity to develop cohesiveness among like-minded people. I’ve been to many similar organizations; however they are always too far north, with few participants from the south suburbs or from the nearby rural areas. I’m glad the Rainbow Cafe is here. It is an excellent place to meet our neighbors!”

Some of those who have become part of these enjoyable and safe exchanges are extremely grateful that the Park Forest Unitarian Universalist Community Church (UCC) has reached out to host these events and to welcome us into their community. We feel sure that there are dozens of other lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals in the south suburbs who a longing for such a community.

We welcome you — and those who affirm your lives — to join us at meetings throughout the coming months. The Rainbow Cafe meets on the third Saturday of every month in the front room (“the Gathering Room”) of the UCC, which is located on the Southeast corner of Western Avenue and Sycamore Drive in Park Forest. The church is at the intersection just south of the traffic light at Steger Road on Western Avenue.

For more information, please call 708-481-5339, press 3, and leave a message.

Dr. David Matteson
GSU Professor Emeritus

Own Your Vote, Don’t be a Follower

By Michelle Hudlet
Staff Writer

The upcoming election promises to be a pivotal turning point in American history. The excitement it has generated has largely surpassed previous elections and we are seeing a steep rise in voter registration.

Everyone seems to have something to say about the candidates. From morning talk shows to popular radio programs, everyone has an opinion. I’ve even noticed that the election is a hot topic among GSU students and faculty. This is great! It’s exciting to see so many of my peers so invested in the course of the election. I have, however, noticed a disturbing trend among many of my peers. They don’t own their opinion.

Many people, in and out of GSU, seem to be “borrowing” their opinions from the talk shows and celebrities. Instead of doing their own research, watching the debates, and forming personal opinions, many people simply choose a side without really knowing why. Instead, they seek out the candidate that is more popular or the one their parents favor. Then, they latch onto other peoples’ opinions, using them as their own.

It’s easy to point these people out because they’re the ones who can never answer the question, “Why do you feel this candidate is the best choice?”

To put it bluntly, this trend is embarrassing. We are college-educated people and we should be able to form our own opinions. We have this amazing opportunity every day to go to school and share thoughts and ideas, to debate and learn. So my advice is: Use the opportunity! It doesn’t really matter whether your vote is for a Democrat or a Republican. What matters is that you honestly know our candidates and understand the issues for which they stand.

Do the research, watch the debates and most importantly, own your vote!
Dr. Karen D'Arcy always wanted to "save the world"—literally. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Northern Colorado, where she aspired to save the environment, she began working in a lab conducting water quality analysis. As an undergraduate student helping in the chemistry department, she realized her passion for working with college students. She also learned of funding opportunities available to her for continuing education. Taking advantage of what was offered, Dr. D'Arcy earned her Ph.D. and continued on to Portland State University where she earned a degree in Environmental Science. It was then that she came to GSU. As an Environmental Electrochemist, she was a perfect fit into GSU's evolving Environmental Studies Program.

Now a part of the GSU faculty, she strongly encourages students to get involved with internships, faculty projects and other outlets in which students can participate in the science field. "These projects and internships will open your eyes to other opportunities," she explains. Though her primary duties as Division Chair of Science require her to hire faculty and schedule classes, she has continued to create opportunities for students at GSU.

Dr. D'Arcy works with Argon Laboratory where teams of GSU faculty and students conduct research with Argon scientists. The program is designed to recruit underrepresented groups to pursue laboratory research and Ph.D. programs in the sciences.

More information on this program can be found at http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/scied/fast/about.html.

D'Arcy also continues her environmental stewardship by working with the Thorn Creek Ecosystem Partnership, which acts as a conduit between local organizations and the state to fund environmental projects in the Thorn Creek Watershed. The results of these partnerships have led to two exciting restoration projects: the restoration of wetlands in Park Forest and the prairie restoration across the street from GSU.

Anyone interested in helping with these efforts—from volunteering to planting native species of plants to building a website for the Partnership—can contact Dr. D'Arcy at k-darcy@govst.edu.

Dr. D'Arcy's one piece of advice for students is to "do your homework." Simple advice that she feels carries a much larger meaning.

"It is important, especially in science and math, to practice and improve your critical thinking skills," she explains. "Try it yourself. If you get stuck, teachers and tutors can assist you. As a professional, you will be expected to work independently, so you need to build these skills."

When she is not working to help faculty and staff or save the environment, you will find Dr. D'Arcy jogging with her two Springer Spaniels or perusing antique markets. She is also a member of the GSU Road Scholars and a participant in the River to River Relay. After traveling to Europe and frequenting the Western U.S. coast, she says there's still only one place she'll recommend to anyone.

"No one should miss is the Isle of New Zealand," she says.
Artificial Intelligence Taught at GSU

By Sarah Silhan  Editor

In this modern era of technological advancements and space exploration, many scientists are becoming more and more interested in the idea of Artificial Intelligence (AI). But the subject may no longer be left only to the professionals.

An annual class at Governors State University (GSU) is making the subject its focus. Computer Science (CPSC) 660 was taught this past summer by Professor Aslam "Sam" Shahid after Dr. Karen D'Arcy, Chairperson of the Science Department, asked him if he'd be interested.

The idea stemmed from Dr. Winfried K. Rudloff, who was always interested in the subject, and had taught it previously. According to Shahid, the course was developed for graduate students in the Computer Science department.

Before enrolling in CPSC 660, students must have previously completed CPSC 415 and Math 355. However, while the course is typically taken by graduate students, Undergraduates may be enrolled with permission from their advisor. Shahid says as long as there is student demand for the class, he will continue to teach it at GSU.

"During the summer term, we covered AI framework, methodology, rule-based expert systems, neural network, game playing, knowledge representation and AI programming language (Visual Prolog and C++)", Shahid said. "Students also completed AI hands-on labs and gave AI presentations to their classmates." While some may be questioning the importance of an AI class, or the purpose it serves, Shahid says that in the 21st century, AI is not simply fiction. "The Terminator movie is reality, not fiction," Shahid says. "Artificial Intelligence is everywhere: unmanned vehicles for air, land and sea, cyber space agents, computer network security, DaVinci surgical systems, Cisco Routers, NASA Phoenix Lander on Mars, Honda Asimo Robot, fuel efficient vehicles, and online games for education and entertainment." Shahid hopes his students appreciated the way computers with artificial intelligence learn, think and make decisions.

"CPSC 660 is an invaluable teaching and learning experience, since AI applications are used everywhere," Shahid said.

Social Work Department Pulled From Near Extinction

By Katie Moler  Contributing Writer

It was about six years ago when Adelle Sanders joined the Social Work Department at Governors State University (GSU). As the program coordinator, Sanders found the department in jeopardy of losing its accreditation.

Two professors, Bill Boline and Sonya Monroe, both retired within the next year, leaving GSU short two professors of the requirement for the Bachelors of Social Work (BSW) Program.

According to Dr. Lorri Glass, Monroe was a "pioneer." At one point, she didn't even give grades, but she is nonetheless considered the Mother of the BSW Program at GSU. Monroe, both retired within the next year, leaving GSU short two professors of the requirement for the Bachelors of Social Work (BSW) Program.

At the end of her first year, Sanders found herself with a few adjunct professors and only 22 students, causing the program to end up on the Provost's elimination list. Increasing enrollment became top priority to the program's survival.

Sanders marketed the program a great deal and adjusted some of the policies so it would be accessible to more students. According to Glass, Sanders "pulled the department out of the fire and got the numbers up.

Since the end of the 2002-2003 school year, the department has seen improved retention and graduation rates due to the mentoring and advising efforts Sanders implemented. In addition to increasing numbers, the department has also seen an increase in the sense of community among the BSW and Master's of Social Work (MSW) students. The department began holding more meetings to become a more cohesive group and recreated the Social Work open house.

In 2006, the BSW and MSW program welcomed Glass to the department. Her first year at GSU, she focused solely on teaching, but she has been serving as the Program Coordinator, replacing Sanders, since the Fall 2007 trimester.

She believes GSU is appealing to students for its unique student body who have struggled to get where they are today. Another staff addition is Dr. Asabi Yakini, who refers to her students as "Doctor (insert last name)" so they can begin thinking of themselves with PhDs.

The department now has approximately 140 students, and both the BSW and MSW programs have been reaccredited. Recently the department has expanded its bachelors program to Triton College and is holding periodic open houses. For more information on this program call (708) 534-4099.

The department has also moved from the College of Health Professions to the College of Health and Human Services. Glass hopes the department's unique student body, academic excellence, and sense of community will continue to grow. The department is also interested in becoming a full day program and continuing night classes as well. Sanders realizes this could take many additional resources but believes it is possible.

Glass notes that it is important to remember social work is more than just social workers pulling children out of families and working with foster care. While that is a small fraction of social work, there are so many more areas to go into.

The doors to the social work professors are always open and they would love to hear from you. Who knows? Maybe a BSW or MSW is in your future!
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Get Involved in a GSU Club!

Compiled by Sarah Silhan
Editor

As the new school year kicks off, there are many opportunities for students to get involved on campus! Below is a list of these clubs and organizations. Contact information is listed for each one. Check one out today!

If you would like to see your club or organization profiled in a future issue of The Phoenix, please submit your information via email to phoenix@govst.edu.

**Art Forum Club**

We are looking to grow creativity on Governors State University Campus! This is a student run club that focuses on the arts at GSU, and how they can improve the lives of the students by promoting the arts not only on campus, but to the community through exhibitions, receptions, sales, and lectures. Reactivated after a period of being somewhat defunct, the students & 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 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 club Chair Margie Glass-Sula. "We love to see others come and enjoy our works. That is what we strive for."

We are currently a small group but have extremely dedicated, giving, talented members. These individuals came together and raised approximately $7,000 for a cancer charity last year during a silent auction of artwork.

Watch for upcoming events hosted by the club and come enjoy them! Look for postings in The Phoenix, on campus bulletin boards and on video monitors.

**Association of Latin American Students (ALAS)**

Our mission is 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. For more information, contact Tito Martinez, Club President, or Jose Reyes, Faculty Advisor, at j-reyes@govst.edu. BIENVENIDOS!!!

**Black Student Union (BSU)**

The mission of Governors State University Black Student Union is to effectively communicate the academic, cultural and social needs of students in the college community. We regularly program cultural activities that influence changes in academic and social matters, for the development of the student body as a whole as well as students on an individual basis. In addition, BSU is committed to providing and promoting leadership opportunities, understanding, goodwill, diversity and friendship among all people within the surrounding communities. The group meets the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, contact Tina Hughes, Faculty Advisor, at j-hughes@govst.edu or call 708.235.3969.

**Brother 2 Brother**

Brother 2 Brother offers minority male students assistance and guidance to help them preserve and succeed. Brother 2 Brother is committed to the principles of brotherhood, scholarship, accountability, leadership, self-discipline and intellectual development. For general information about the Brother 2 Brother program, contact Dr. Rupert Evans at r-evans@govst.edu or Vanessa Newby at v-newby@govst.edu.

**Computer Science Club**

This club tries to promote the advancement of technology among students. For more information, contact Yunyou "Steve" Shih, Faculty Advisor, at s-shih@govst.edu.

**Masters of Public Administration Club**

For more information, or to find out how you can get involved, contact Susan Gaffney, Faculty Advisor, at s-gaffney@govst.edu.

**Management Information Club**

This Club is open to students of all majors who are open to learn more about the vast new changes in technology. For more information, contact Elcia Frelix at e-frelix@govst.edu.

**Phi Alpha**

The society invites membership to those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work. Members support each other, promote humanitarian goals and ideals, and foster high standards of education for social workers. For more information, contact Maristela Zell, faculty advisor, or Kenneth Abrams Jr. President of Chapter.

**Physical Therapy Student Association (PTSA)**

The purpose of the PTSA is to strive to familiarize and enhance the students with knowledge of and participation in professional organizations such as the American Physical Therapy Association, Illinois Physical Therapy Association, and other physical therapy related special interest groups, develop and augment leadership skills in students, promote service learning through community outreach programs, enhance students’ and the public’s knowledge of the physical therapy profession and Governors State University’s physical therapy program. Some examples of club activities are sales of Crocs® shoes, assisting with the fitness screening of candidates for GSU police officers, scoliosis screening in a local elementary school, assisting the Illinois Physical Therapy Association at the Chicago Marathon, and sponsoring continuing education courses in physical therapy. For more information, contact Joyce Sligar, Faculty Advisor at j-sligar@govst.edu.

**Social Work Student Organization (SWSO)**

The Social Work Student Organization (SWSO) gives Social Work students the opportunity to get to know other Social Work students and faculty. SWSO members are invited to participate in community volunteer projects, on campus activities, as well as in our Lobby Day in Springfield each year. Belonging to this club is a great way to better understand the G.S.U. Social Work Program; it even looks great on a resume! A Social Worker’s service to others is a way of life! Why not get started now?

This club will enhance your whole experience at Governors State University. Come and join us. Do not miss the chance to help others and make lifelong friends. We hope to see you at our monthly meetings! Watch for signs around campus regarding time and place of meetings or e-mail Diane Moler (club president) at diane.moler@sbcglobal.net for more information.

**Student Health Care Management Association**

The Student Health Care Management Association (SHCMA) is an organization of students in the College of Health and Human Service’s Health Administration degree program at the Bachelors and Masters levels. The Purpose of the association is...
to develop and maintain a strong viable student body to more effectively have input in the national health care delivery system. It has provided a vehicle for students to effectively participate in the design, direction and delivery of quality health care to all people and participate in local and national programs and projects designed to improve quality, access and availability to health services and to expand educational opportunities in the field of Health Services Administration. For more information, contact club president Monica Longmire at mlongmire215@sbcglobal.net or Dr. Rupert Evans, Faculty Advisor, at r-evans@govst.edu.

The Phoenix Student Newspaper
The Phoenix is always looking for writers to cover GSU events, community happenings and student or faculty feature stories. The paper is printed bi-weekly during the fall and winter terms and once per month during the spring/summer term. For more information, contact Sarah Silhan, Editor, at SarahSilhan@aol.com or Victoria Pierce, Faculty Advisor, at v-pierce@govst.edu.

The Wellness Club
The Wellness Club’s purpose is to enhance the educational experience of all GSU students by offering opportunities for individuals to learn, share and implement stress management techniques in a real world situation. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Student Commons room A2140. You can contact the Wellness Club at gsuwellnessclub@yahoo.com or by emailing Vanessa Newby, Faculty Advisor at v-newby@govst.edu.

Chemistry Club
For more information, contact Dr. Shelly Kumar, Faculty Advisor, at s-kumar@govst.edu or call 708-534-4528.

International Student Organization
For more information, contact Dr. Shelly Kumar, Faculty Advisor, at s-kumar@govst.edu or call 708-534-4528.

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Parking Lot Improvements Underway

By Katie Moler
Contributing Writer

Many students are unaware of the improvements being made in the parking lot. The parking lot has been closed since the beginning of classes this fall trimester and has created small inconveniences for students. The lots have been in bad shape for some time now and have been in need of a facelift.

Currently, our lots at GSU have runoff leading into our ponds which then travels into Thorn Creek. Because Thorn Creek is a stream of great importance in our area, the issue of the runoff was important to address.

GSU hopes to have the B-lot completed by Oct. 15, as long as weather cooperates; however, they will begin freeing up some spaces most likely starting Sept. 30.

But how long will the construction last, and is it going to continue to other lots? GSU hopes to have the B-lot completed by Oct. 15, as long as weather cooperates; however, they will begin freeing up some spaces most likely starting Sept. 30.

Upon completion of the B-lot, they will start work on the C-lot, which is also in need of work. The amount of work on other lots and a construction schedule is still to be determined.

GSUVotes

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"Burn After Reading" Fits Coen Style

By Anna Wiegstein
The Daily Iowan

"I'm fixin' to do something dumber than hell, but I'm going anyways."

The above quotation, as many completists can probably already identify, comes from the screenplay for last year's No Country For Old Men. On the surface, it has pretty much nothing in common with the writing/directing team's latest effort, Burn After Reading - if anything, this looks like a step backward. After all, hadn't the Coens spent too much time doing their usual thing - working with their typical casts (Frances McDormand and George Clooney are some of the main repeats here), detective screenplays (dealing with the money and the scrabble to get it, usually), and fondness for classic Hollywood cinema (Hitchcock himself would be proud at the ridiculous plot here)?

No, not really. Because, as Burn After Reading proves, these things are classic Coen trait that's a little endemic in the best possible sense - not worn-out.

Doing things extraordinarily dumb but going anyway is kind of the point, after all, of many beloved Coen characters, and the ridiculous web of Burn After Reading's plot is par for the course.

Linda (McDormand) and her best friend, Chad (Brad Pitt), are leading hot-boom lives of working at a Washington, D.C., gym and looking for love online, until the day when a CD of, as Chad puts it, "some raw intelligence" lands in their midst. Obviously, this is their opportunity for blackjack - "You slip on the ice outside a fancy restaurant. Or 'cowabunga' or 'anacondafix', it's like something like this happens," Linda explains matter-of-factly of the chances life hands a person.

The CD actually belongs to Osborne Cox (John Malkovich, in full volcanic fury mode) an ex-CIA man whose icy wife Katie (Tilda Swinton) is one of many charmed into sleeping with the also-married Harry (Clooney). Somehow, the Russian Embassy also gets involved, and it doesn't seem like something that's fast-forwarded.

This tendency is actually what makes Burn After Reading such a pleasure to watch - not the ability to work in a Cold-War-style hilarious figure, but the way that the film makes even the most insane things, be they lines of dialogue or plot threads, just coast by on the wave of fun the filmmakers are having. (The indispensable J.K. Simmons gets the joy of delivering, "So, we don't really know what anyone is after.") That's writer/directors and cast included: All the new additions to the clan are fine, with the standout being Pitt and the weakest link Clooney, surprisingly enough, bringing just a little too much twitchiness to his philanderer.

It's almost as if all the positive criticism for No Country got channeled into this: an ultimate Coen flick - a melding of the comedic spirit behind past caper comedies such as O Brother, Where Art Thou? and Raising Arizona and, in the truly smart move in the screenplay's later section, twisting into the violent kind of ironic humor that fueled so many moments in Fargo and its ilk.

Does this live up to those past moments of glory? No. And, to answer the unspoken question posed by my opening paragraph, no, it's certainly not attempting to live up to the No Country fervor. But it does prove, as perhaps its creators were hoping to, that having a style detectable enough that film dwells such as myself often just throw "esque" at the end of your name isn't a sin if you know how to work it right.

College Distributes iPhone Technology to Students

By Meghan Pesch
Tufts Daily, Tufts U

As brand new college freshmen flooded university campuses earlier this month, some were greeted with more of what has become known as the Aligene bottle and a class of 2012 shirt. In an effort to bring the latest technology into the classroom, several universities decided to give every student a new iPhone or iPod touch.

The University of Maryland, Abilene Christian University, and Oklahoma Christian University and Freed-Hardeman University are among the schools that gave out the devices to freshmen or upperclassmen in their first year. By doing so, the schools hope that students will take advantage of the technology to connect to academia in the same way that they would connect with friends.

George Saltzman, director of educational technology at Abilene Christian, hopes that now students will be able to more easily immerse themselves in their school's curriculum. "Students take their cell phones everywhere; it's the way they interact with the world," Saltzman said. "We wanted them to be that way in their academics. We want students to have the same opportunity to engage in academics as they do socially."

The iPhones and iPods the students receive from their schools are the same as those available to the public, but include special applications that are specific to the student's schools. The Abilene Christian University iPhones have an interactive map feature that can track the phone and give directions to the student's next class. The phones can also be used to poll the students to have the same opportunity to engage in academics as they do socially.

The faculty at Abilene Christian was forced into new ways of teaching. "Other faculty time to get used to the ubiquitous - we don't have any days off," Saltzman said. "Instead of everyone having a clicker, [the phone] becomes a clicker. It becomes a way to have a response system. It gives the professor a formative way of taking the pulse of the class."

The phones also have a mobile form of a program similar to Blackboard, where professors can share documents and pretty much all other required to attend several training courses, the first of which was basic iPhone use, like synchronizing with your computer, and the second session was more about how to use it in a classroom setting. While Abilene Christian has decided to integrate the technology slowly, starting with only the incoming freshmen and roughly half the faculty, other schools have offered the phone to the entire student body. At the University of Oklahoma Christian University, any student can receive the phone on the condition that they participate in a feedback seminar. Stansfield University also offers the iPhone to all students, but they must be willing to pay the costs of the phone.

In past, schools like Duke University have given out phones to students who don't already own them as a tool to use in cases of campus emergencies. While Tufts has not given out phones, the university has taken action against emergency events. "We chose to do that using 'Send Word Now', which reaches out to students automatically in case of an emergency via text message, e-mail or a phone call," Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Reistman said.

While Tufts doesn't offer "smart" phones like the iPhone, most Jumbos said they aren't missing out on much. Freshman Joy Hanselman feels that giving every student an iPhone is unnecessary. "I think that besides just wanting an iPhone, it's a little extravagant," Hanselman said. "Students don't really need that around a college campus."

Senior Christina Kelly also feels that although technology is an important part of the modern education process, it is excessive to provide every student with an expensive phone. "Especially now, we expect technology to be that convenient and that accessible," Kelly said. "But, my immediate reaction is that we don't all need iPhones."

While the iPhones students have received allow them to give instant feedback and have a tighter connection around campus, they also provide students with Internet access from any seat in the classroom, the ability to text friends around campus and the power to download hundreds of games.

Hanselman feels that having a phone with Internet access would distract her in class. "It would definitely be a distraction," she said. "I would use it to check the weather all the time."

But Sophomore Dan Slate, who owns a first generation iPhone, said that the phone does not regularly interrupt his learning. "Other than the occasional 'cowabunga' or 'anacondafix', it's not much of a distraction, since I put it on silent during classes," he said.

I think [the added technology in class] would be cool, but you get to the point where the technology is a hindrance. You have to wonder if it truly is functional, or practical for a classroom."

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IF SO, THE PHOENIX NEEDS YOU!!!

GSU's student newspaper, The Phoenix, is looking for writers for the 2008-2009 season! Story topics range from school and community events to student and faculty interest features to book, music and movie reviews. Suggestions and story ideas are always welcome!

For more information, email Sarah Silhan, Editor, at SarahSilhan@aol.com or contact the Phoenix at Phoenix@govst.edu.

Applications are available in the box outside the Phoenix office (E1500).

Fill one out TODAY!!!

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**RICH CITY SKATE - WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before 7pm Only Private &amp; Custom Sessions</td>
<td>Have A Private Party Call Us @ 708-748-7750</td>
<td>Before 7pm Only Private &amp; Custom Sessions Held</td>
<td>Before 7pm Only Private &amp; Custom Sessions</td>
<td>12pm-1pm Kids &amp; Adult Lessons $3.00</td>
<td>10am-1pm Adult Morning Breakfast Skate 27 &amp; over $8.00</td>
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<td>8pm-9pm JB Lessons 10 &amp; over $4.00</td>
<td>4pm-6pm &quot;After School&quot; Skate Cheapest All Ages $3.00</td>
<td>8pm-9pm Old School JB Lessons $4.00</td>
<td>1pm-4pm We Are Family Matinee All Ages $5.00</td>
<td>1pm-2pm Kids &amp; Adult Lessons $3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>9pm-1am The Ultimate JB Experience 10 &amp; over $6.00</td>
<td>June-Aug. 7pm-10pm Gospel Skate $6.00</td>
<td>9pm-1am Old School JB Workout 27 &amp; over $6.00</td>
<td>4:30-7:30pm Private Parties &amp; 2nd Sat. of Month PARADE OF STARS All Ages $8.00</td>
<td>2pm-5pm We Are Family Matinee All Ages $5.00</td>
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Rich City Skate

**HURST PURCHASE THE SESSION TICKET THAT FollowS, OTHERWISE "LESSONS ONLY" COSTS $3.00. SKATE RENTAL IS $2.50.**

| 8pm-12am R&B Smooth School | 8pm-11:30pm Family Night All Ages $8.00 (includes skates) | 6pm-7pm Adult Lessons 30 & over $4.00 |
| 4645 Sault Trail Richton Park, IL 60471 708-748-7790 708-748-7763 | 7pm-11pm Grown Folks 30 & over $5.00 | 12am-5am Private Parties Midnight Ramble **Call Us** |

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**Rich City Skate**

10 Place, One Choice

1571 S. Gurnee Ave. Richton Park, IL 60471


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Happenings
What's Going on at GSU!

-TODAY September 17, 2007: 3-4:30 p.m.
Community Forum on The Constitution, Citizenship and Voting Rights, in Sherman Recital Hall. Colleen Connell, ACLU Executive Director, will be the guest speaker. There will also be a voter registrar available so that students may register to vote.

-Thursday, Sept. 18, 5 p.m: Latino Film Festival, El Clown/The Clown, Directors: Irizarry & Rodriguez. Spanish w/English subtitles. The movie will be shown in Sherman Recital Hall. Admission is free.

-Sept. 15 to Oct. 10: The 2008 Regional College and University Art Faculty Exhibition will take place at the Governors State University Visual Arts Gallery.

-Sept. 20-21: The Tall Grass Arts Association Annual Art Fair will be held in the Culture District, Park Forest from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The public is invited and admission is free. For more information, call Janet Muchnik, President, Tall Grass Arts, at (708) 748-5123 (home) or (708) 439-2424 (mobile).

-Sept. 21, 5 p.m.: Backstage Experience with the Cast of Jersey Boys, Center for Performing Arts.

-Thursday, Sept. 25, 5 p.m.: Latino Film Festival, Mas Que Nada en Este Mundo/More Than Anything in the World, Directors: Becker & Solar. Spanish w/English subtitles. The movie will be shown in Sherman Hall. Admission is free.

Three Bags Full: A Sheep Tale
By Michelle Hulett
Staff Writer

If you're looking for an interesting read this semester, Leonie Swann's debut novel, Three Bags Full, may be a worthy choice. The tale opens on a picturesque meadow in Ireland where a shepherd is dead on the ground, a spade through his torso. Surrounding him is his flock, cautiously eyeing the scene. This is no ordinary "who done it" story. No, it is not ordinary at all because in this novel, it is the sheep who take the lead. They are a unique cast of characters, ranging from Mrs. Maple ("the cleverest sheep in the flock...quite possibly the cleverest sheep in the whole world") to the lovable Moppie the Whale ("the memory sheep" who is almost always hungry). It is this eccentric flock of sheep that set out to solve the murder of their faithful shepherd. Playing second fiddle to the sheep is an equally eccentric cast of human characters. There is the shepherd's wife, his lover, a mysterious butcher named Ham, the rival shepherd, "Bible-Thumping" Beth, a goat named Satan, and a suspicious preacher to whom the sheep refer as "God." Using their sharply-honed sense of smell and knowledge of detective stories, the sheep muse over the behavior of the humans. They provide the reader with a witty, though often mislead, interpretation of the human world. The book, though slow-moving at times, is a refreshingly original and endearing detective story. Offering a new perspective on the workings of human heart and mind, Swann creates an instant classic with her cast of sheep.

An international bestseller, Three Bags Full has already been translated into 20 languages and is a must read for anyone who enjoys a good detective story.

Solutions for Crossword & Sodoku found on page 8.
Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

**Crossword**

**Across**
1. Exchange
5. Principle
9. Ray of light
13. Root vegetable
14. Caper
16. Motor vehicle
17. Divisible by two
18. Prepared
19. Harvest
20. Juicy fruit
22. Small bird
23. Residence
24. Pelvis
26. Move upward
28. Trophy
33. Abdominal pain
36. Evergreen tree
37. Test
39. Wanderer
41. Affirm
42. Rebel
43. Mistake
45. Speed competition
46. Force back
48. Arm joint
50. Fuel
51. Male singing voice
53. Class annual
55. Pitcher
57. Nothing
58. Render a melody
61. Field game
64. A great distance
65. Supplication
70. Deciduous tree

**Down**
1. Pace
2. Breaker
3. Region
4. Blanket-like cloak
5. Saloon
6. Afresh
7. Celestial body
8. Type of duck
9. Unmarried man
10. European currency
11. Particle
12. Be apathetic
13. Detractor
14. Part of a sword
15. Whittle
16. Male offspring
17. A great distance
18. Catlike mammal
19. Small thin pancake
20. Dreadful
21. Before time
22. Adult insect after metamorphosis
23. Chocolate tree
24. Part of the ear
25. Writing table
26. Rebuke
27. Noise, characteristic of bovines
28. Legal document
29. Refund
30. Plant disease
31. Automaton
32. Exhale audibly
33. Not in use
34. Close
35. Valuable ore deposit
36. Ended
37. Shout
38. Decamp
39. Important job
40. Important job
41. Important job
42. Important job
43. Important job
44. Type of horse coat
45. Important job
46. Important job
47. Important job
48. Important job
49. Important job
50. Important job
51. Important job
52. Important job
53. Important job
54. Important job
55. Automaton
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70. Automaton

**Sudoku**

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17 15 18 16 14 12 11 9
8 5 7 9 4 6 3 1

Correction

Deciding to take a day off from his important job, a young hot-shot broker went back to visit some of his professors at his old school. Entering the school, he saw a dog attacking a small child. He quickly jumped on the dog and strangled it. The next day, the local paper reported the story with the headline "Valiant Student Saves Boy From Fearsome Dog."

The broker called the editor of the paper and strongly suggested that a correction be issued, pointing out that he was no longer a student, but a successful Wall Street broker.

The following day, the paper issued a correction, with a headline that read, "Pompous Stock Broker Kills School Mascot."

**Physics**

A college physics professor was explaining a particularly complicated concept to his class when a pre-med student interrupted him.

"Why do we have to learn this stuff?" one young man blurted out.

"To save lives," the professor responded before continuing the lecture.

A few minutes later the student spoke up again. "So how does physics save lives?"

The professor stared at the student for a long time without saying a word. Finally the professor continued.

"Physics saves lives," he said, "because it keeps certain people out of medical school."

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