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Dr. Hudak Resigns; Replacement Sought

By Sarah Silhan
Editor

In the midst of celebrating its 40th anniversary and ending another academic year, the Art Department will be welcoming another new face to its faculty. Dr. Jane Hudak has decided to resign as Provost, Nice President of GSU, but to its faculty. Dr. Jane Hudak has decided to resign as Provost, Nice President of GSU, but for personal as well as professional reasons.

According to a statement from GSU President Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, "in addition to taking care of family concerns, Dr. Hudak looks forward to a return to teaching art and to developing needed education courses."

Since assuming her position as Provost about a year ago, Dr. Hudak has undertaken several important initiatives. They include, among others, the development of orientation programs for new faculty members and adjuncts, the implementation of a new professional development series for chairs and deans, the recruitment and hiring of two new deans, and the restructuring of the Graduate Council.

She has also provided valuable leadership in the development of Strategy 2015, GSU's new strategic plan, and in the effective functioning of our planning and budget process through PBAC. She has also been working hard toward strengthening our partnerships with area community colleges.

A national search is now taking place to find a permanent replacement for Dr. Hudak. In the meantime, Professor David Curtis will serve as the Provost. He will also serve as the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Lewis University and returned to GSU as Provost in 1982.

After serving as Provost for ten years, he returned to the faculty and has fulfilled the responsibilities of University Professor/Professor of Management for seventeen years. As a senior faculty member, he has provided leadership in strategic planning at the university and college level, chaired the search committee for Dean of CBPA, and served on the Planning and Budget Advisory Committee (PBAC). He has continued to publish in juried publications in his field. For thirty-three years, Professor Curtis has been a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) peer consultant/evaluator, chairing numerous evaluation teams and acting as a consultant for many institutions.

President Maimon will be consulting with various constituencies on the appointment of a committee to undertake a national search for a permanent Provost. However, she asks that the GSU join together to welcome Professor Curtis to his new responsibilities.

"I am certainly most thankful for his willingness to serve us in this capacity," President Maimon said in her statement.

GSU’s Student Art Show Awards Winners

By Barbara Hogu
Contributing Writer

In April, GSU’s Art Forum Co-Presidents, Patty McWilliams and Margie Glass-Sula helped to organize the Student Art Show with Professor Javier Chavira the Gallery’s Director and Christopher Clark, the gallery’s Coordinator.

At the opening of the GSU Student Art Show, the award winners were announced. The show had been judged by Mark Slotkowski, a professor from DePaul University’s Department of Art and Art History.

Slotkowski lead faculty, students, and their guests around the gallery announcing the winners and deliberating on the artistic attributes of each art form which he chose to receive an award.

The award winners are Best of Show: “Park Barbecue” by Michael Costanza, a mixed media Collage; Second Place went to Jim Tadson for his “It’s a Bird,” a carved bowl out of wood; and the Third Place award was given to Margie Glass-Sula for her “Autumn’s Moth,” a delicate tinted graphite drawing.

The Honorable Mentions went to Patty McWilliams, Kristina Schmitt, and Diane McGarel. McWilliams received her award for her “Demeter” a painted portrait, oil on canvas. Schmitt created a Mantis with the mixed media of porcelain and wool yarn. While McGarel’s digital image “Honesty is Never a Lie” is a colorful abstraction.

The award winners not only received Certificates of Recognition Awards but they also received a monetary award. The Best of Show received $250, second place received $150, and the third place winner earning $100 dollars. The Honorable Mention winners each received a $50 prize.

The Student Art Show contains works created in class by students who have attended GSU’s art classes since the Spring/Summer Trimester of 2008. Each student was permitted to submit two entries. These entries were paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, ceramics, digital prints and printmakings.

Today is the LAST DAY to visit the student art show in the gallery from 11a.m. until 4p.m.

See Art Photos on Page 5
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The Phoenix

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

We welcome articles, suggestions, photos, commentary, cartoons, and letters to the editor on issues that concern you or the greater GSU population. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, legality, and interest to our GSU readership. All submissions should be signed, and include the student, faculty, or staff member's ID number, department, and phone number.

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It's A Sales Letter, Not A Cover Letter

By Bob Roth
The "College & Career Success" Coach

When college students are instructed to create a cover letter, they are receiving bad advice. Letters that merely copy and accompany a resume are nearly worthless. The letter that all students should develop is a sales letter, a letter that will convince an employer that they are something special.

Sales letters present information that is not already covered in the resume. It clearly demonstrates the student's vocabulary, grammar and writing skills. More importantly, the sales letter offers an insight into the student's goals, personality and operating style.

The best employers want to know what makes you special. At the same time, you want to find a way to differentiate yourself from other candidates. Therefore, your sales letter must fulfill both of those important roles.

Here are a few ways for you to accomplish both goals.

- Refer to Professors, Supervisors and Community Leaders who speak well of you.
- Mention several interesting facts that you have learned through research and networking.
- Talk about your most impressive campus, work or community contributions.
- Mention something specific that a respected and influential person has said about you.
- Refer to any problems you have solved or prevented.
- Provide examples of your creative, work ethic or problem-solving skills.
- Indicate your eagerness to make a contribution with this employer.
- Mention a current employee who has said good things about this employer.
- Show that you are familiar with their products, services, goals, finances and challenges.
- Explain why you are qualified for the position that interests you.
- Talk about your job-related campus, work or community experiences.
- Demonstrate your enthusiasm and interest in the company and the job.

Your sales letter must be carefully crafted and revised several times over the course of time. It is always a work in progress. As things change or you receive useful feedback, your sales letter should be reworked, improved and polished.

Talk with six or eight business professionals, community leaders and professors who know you well. Ask them to tell you what impresses them the most about you. Request that they think in terms of your field of interest, your work performance and your most impressive accomplishments. Once you have the complete list, show it to them. See if any other thoughts can be generated. Then, quote the most impressive statements in your sales letter.

As you craft your letter, make certain that it accompanies several things.

Every sales letter must: Effectively sell your attributes. Be interesting and creative. Flow smoothly and have no errors. Contain important information that is not presented in your resume. Be written in a way that will motivate the reader to invite you for an interview.

Once you are satisfied with that final version of your letter, give your letter to a number of people with exceptional writing skills. Ask them to provide you with a few words and phrases that will strengthen the message that you are trying to communicate. Then, go back and incorporate some of these words and phrases into your letter. Let it sit for a few days before you look at it again. Then, go back and make the final revisions.

Now that you know that a sales letter is necessary to set you apart and give you an edge, never revert back to cover letters. Sales letters tell employers that they have discovered a special candidate, one they are likely to hire.

College students who grasp this letter writing concept and take advantage of it will always come out ahead of those who don't. The most successful candidates understand that they are writing a sales letter, not a cover letter.

Panelists promote civic engagement
By Renee Wickeham
Staff Writer

Promote the quality of life in your community by becoming civically engaged. This was the general message promoted throughout the forum on civic engagement at GSU.

The forum was sponsored by the Social Work Program and the Student Senate as part of National Professional Social Work month. The panelists included Dr. Larry Levinson, Director of the University Honors Program and Coordinator of Political and Justice Studies; Dr. Phyllis W. Bell, Assistant Professor of Social Work, and Randall Vaughn, community organizer for the Illinois Coalition for Community Service; Ignacio Carrillo, community organizer for the South Suburban Action Conference and Gambling of Metro Chicago; and Carmin Garnica, President of GSU student senate.

The panelists answered a variety of questions about civic engagement. Dr. Levinson believes civic engagement is the "fulfillment of the human experience." For example, students in the university honors program rebuild a house in the community every year. The project is part of service learning and is one way students can become civically engaged on campus.

Vaughn stressed all citizens have a duty to be civically engaged. "As a citizen of a democracy we have a responsibility to be engaged," he said. "The best reason to be civically engaged is because you (the student) will benefit," he stated. Students will benefit through life experience.

All of the panelists said the current economic situation will force people to come together. People will become more concerned with the needs of the community not just the needs of the individual.

Vaughn pointed out, the needs of the individual or "meism" seems less important in light of current economic crisis and many people are coming together more. This coming together is very similar to how American communities worked during the Great Depression and the years following it until the 1960's. Vaughn noted that people he is already seeing people were come together for the environment.

The need to understand ourselves as a global society was also addressed. "You can't fully understand where you live until you leave," said Dr. Bell. Her experience in the Peace Corps in Africa helped her understand her community. The United States has a long way to go with race relations but being civically involved helps improve it along with many other civic problems.

Garnica urged students to become involved in the student senate as a way to engage. She also stated "we can't make changes unless we are aware." Change doesn't just happen overnight, it takes time and commitment from everyone to make change happen. Other ways students can become involved would be by volunteering, campaigning and voting, she said.

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Who's Who at GSU?

Jon Carlson, Professor

By Michelle Hulett
Staff Writer

Jon Carlson, Governors State University professor of Psychology and Counseling, has an impressive resume. He has two doctoral degrees, an EdD Counseling from Wayne State University and a PsyD in Clinical Psychology from the Adler School of Professional Psychology. In addition, Dr. Carlson has a Certificate of Psychotherapy from the Adler School of Professional Psychology.

Dr. Carlson's lifelong career of teaching began when he was 23 years old. He joined the faculty at Governors State University in 1971, becoming one of the Founding Faculty members. Dr. Carlson remembers much of GSU's beginning years, saying that the University was a much different place.

"GSU was an amazing place when we opened the doors," he said. "School was in a warehouse near I-57. There were no grades and students took modules not classes."

However, though much has changed since the founding of GSU, Dr. Carlson has enjoyed witnessing the evolution of the school, faculty, and students.

In addition to teaching graduate courses, Dr. Carlson has produced 250 DVD programs for the American Psychological Association which are currently used in psychology programs both nationally and internationally.

"We make all the films for the American Psychological Association," he explains. "Each week, a leading psychologist comes to GSU and is filmed working with actual clients and interviewed by me."

Further, Dr. Carlson leads the Chi Sigma Iota society. He founded the Chi Sigma Iota society in 1990 as the international honor society of professional counseling. The goal of this society is to provide recognition for outstanding achievement as well as outstanding service within the profession.

"CSI was created for counselors-in-training, counselor educators, and professional counselors whose career commitment is to research and service through professional counseling," Dr. Carlson explained.

Add to all this his extensive work as an author and publisher. He has written an extraordinary 45 books and 150 articles/book chapters! His books focus on marriage, psychotherapy, athletics, teaching, and most recently spirituality.

He also co-authored the best selling Mummy at the Dining Room Table with Jeffrey Kotler.

"We interviewed 35 of the leading psychotherapists and had them tell us about the strangest cases they have had," he explained.

A lot of his work is focused on couples. Married for 41 years to his wife, Laura, Dr. Carlson has five children. His oldest son, Matt Englar-Carlson, recently spoke at the GSU campus about working with men. Matt is an Associate Professor in the Counseling Department at California State University at Fullerton.

In 2004, Dr. Carlson was named a "Living Legend in Counseling" by the American Counseling Association. With all he has contributed over the years, Dr. Carlson is indeed an invaluable member of the GSU psychology department and to GSU as a whole.

GSU Copes With Death of Professor Brubaker
Governors State University Press Release

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Ronald Brubaker, a long time and admired member of the GSU faculty. Dr. Brubaker passed away on April 2, 2009.

He began his career at Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60466.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Personal messages may be sent to: Jean Brubaker, 45 Arjona Way, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909-7645.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made to the Computer Science Program at Governor's State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL 60466.

Donations should be made to the GSU Foundation with Computer Science Program designated on the check notation line or in a note, or by visiting www.govst.edu/donate.

Friends and colleagues in the GSU community offer Jean and her family and friends our support and sympathy during this difficult time.

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Awards Given at Art Exhibition

By Barbara Hogu
Contributing Writer

On Friday, April 3, at the closing of the Illinois Community College Exhibition, the award winners for the exhibition were presented their awards. The awards were certificates of recognition for being Best in Show, Awards of Merit, and Honorable Mention. Jeremy Biles from the Chicago Artists Coalition judged 83 works of art from 17 Illinois Community Colleges and selected the following student artists to receive these awards.

The "Best in Show Award" was given to Steven Stoll who attends John Wood Community College. He created a large aesthetic construction which included sculpture, painting, and design with various types of materials and forms. "1,4,9,2" is the title of the construction which he labels as a collage on canvas but it is much more than that. His award validates his creative ingenuity.

Awards of Merit were given to Brian Sullivan of Parkland College, Richard Neubauer of McHenry County College, Andy Lechner of McHenry County College, Ashley Dedin of Joliet Junior College, Charles Rohrer of Prairie State College, Laura Meador of Heartland Community College, and Michelle D. Cox of Prairie State College.

Brian Sullivan created a large symbolic painting; the "Long Ranger" is an oil on canvas. Richard Neubauer's "Snarkey 1.1" is an intricate abstract painting in oil and mixed media. "Pot Belly" is a two part ceramic pot which won Andy Lechner his award.

Ashley Dedin won her award for an interesting ceramic sculpture "Baby-Be-Gone" which has forms inside it made from different types of materials. "You Can Call It a Cookie Cutter" is the title of Charles Rohrer's painting in which he used acrylic and spray paint to create it.

Jeremy Biles, the judge for the awards, was very complimentary toward Rohrer's use of acrylic and spray paint as his painting medium.

Laura Meador's created a photograph "Widowmaker," which is a photograph of tall winter trees with interesting shapes of branches and stems over shadowing a lonely frame house. And Michelle D. Cox photographed the interior of a dilapidated church in "Illuminate My Soul" which is a Silver Gelatin print.

The Honorable Mention Awards went to Chasity Logan of Heartland Community College, Bruce Peerson of Prairie State College, Brandon Swartz and Mercedes Wagner of Joliet Junior College, and Alena Yakimova of Parkland College.

Chasity Logan received her honorable mention for an "Untitled" black and white photograph of a store front with a gas pump in front of it. The image is reminiscent of small town locations in black and white films. It is a Silver Gelatin Print.

Bruce Peerson's award was given for his digital photograph of a lonely road in light and dark at night. It is a black and white image. Brandon Swartz and Mercedes Wagner collaborated on a mixed media figurative sculpture with many extended material objects, textures, and forms. The last honorable mention was given to Alena Yakimova for her "Fishbone" a wood and metal sculpture which is truly a parallel of the fish's skeleton in artistic form.

ART Photos by Barbara Hogu
**Tough Times Call for Serious Budgeting**

By Renee Wiechman  
Staff Writer

Does this sound familiar? The average undergraduate student has $2,200 in credit card debt. This was one of the points at a recent budgeting workshop focusing on managing debt during difficult times.

Yiyu Shen, Assistant Professor of Finance gave a presentation about credit cards. what credit companies look for in customers, and provided helpful hints on staying ahead of bills and creating a savings account.

Credit, whether it is good or bad, is an essential part of American life. Without credit people would not be able to get a home, car or even go to college.

The key to good credit starts with the right credit card. Professor Shen advised students that a credit card should not have an annual fee and to be aware of other hidden fees such as late fees, missed payment fees and over the limit fees.

Consumers should also be conscious of the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) as some credit card companies offer lower rates at first that are raised substantially later on. Cash back rewards and airline miles are great perks but Shen warned students to read the fine print on the card agreement as the rewards are not always as great as they initially seem.

Before considering someone for credit, lenders look at three things: the capacity to repay, character/liability of consumer, and collateral.

To determine if a consumer can repay credit, companies look at job history, salary, reliability of income, current living expenses, current debts, the number of dependents, and expenses such as alimony and child support.

Character/liability refers to credit history, bill paying history, character references, and such things such as how long an applicant has had their job or lived at one address. Collateral such as checking, savings, stocks and bonds, valuables, and ownership of automobiles and homes are also looked at.

Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act consumers are entitled to one free credit report for each service annually. The three services are Equifax, Experian, and Transunion. Credit reporting agencies report outstanding debt, pay history, types of credit, length of credit history and recent credit inquiries.

Shen gave some advice to students on how to maintain good credit. Some hints included paying bills on time, never borrowing more than you can pay back and having a good savings plan. She also advised students not to apply for too many credit cards and keep the balances low.

Other tips to save include choosing between wants and needs and quitting costly habits such as smoking, high priced coffee and eating out. Another great tip is to pay yourself first. In other words, put aside money in a savings account before you spend it on other things.

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**GSU Hosts Etiquette Luncheon**

By Krystal Lang  
Contributing Writer

Imagine being invited to a business luncheon at a formal restaurant and upon arrival you realize you aren’t sure which fork is the salad fork or the main course fork, or you don’t quite know where to put your napkin.

What do you do? This could be a potentially embarrassing moment not only for you but for your client or even your boss.

Well believe it or not, proper etiquette is important not only in your professional life but also your personal life. Darcia Campos, Director of Career Services, and Cynthia Comber, Career Counselor for GSU, hosted the annual GSU Etiquette Luncheon and provided students and faculty with an array of etiquette do’s and don’ts that could save you from unnecessary embarrassment.

Business etiquette is more than just wearing the right suit or eating with the right fork, it’s how you respond to certain situations and how you handle yourself under pressure. Etiquette is about presenting yourself in a professional yet confident manner that shows you can be taken seriously. A potential employer may feel that if you can’t be trusted not to embarrass yourself in business and social situations, you may lack the self-control to be good at what you do.

The luncheon was very elegant with a beautiful layout that felt like a formal restaurant. Comber began the presentation with an overview of basic etiquette practices for personal and business situations. She spoke on proper attire for job interviews and presented two models one male and one female who were dressed as business professionals.

Comber talked about many forms of etiquette, like always using titles, the proper way to shake hands, and the proper distance to speak, time etiquette, telephone etiquette, cell phone etiquette, driving etiquette and a many more. The information was very informative and could be very beneficial to many people for their everyday use.

Campos spoke for the second half of the presentation and coached the attendees through their four course meal. The meal consisted of French onion soup, garden salad with a cherry tomato, savory chicken and veggies, and a delicious looking strawberry cheesecake for dessert. Campos explained the 10 commandments of a business meal which covered everything from table talk and how to hold your fork, to the proper placement of your utensils when you leave the table.

Campos explained two different styles of eating, the American style and the European style, which was demonstrated by how you hold your fork and knife when you cut your food and placement of your fork and knife when you are finished. Campos explained that the American style of eating is only used in America but the European style is used in all other parts of the world.

The layout was fabulous and the food smelled great, Campos said because of the interest that students and faculty have had in the etiquette luncheon they want to start doing a second part to the luncheon. She said she would like to do a fall and spring event. Campos also stated that for the people who attend they will be able to attend business luncheon or dinner that will afford them the opportunity to meet and network with local companies.

And last but not least “Smile; it’s the ultimate gesture understood by all,” said Campos.
Research Leads Students to Conferences and D.C.

This spring, students in the Master of Science in Analytical Chemistry at Governors State University will learn first-hand what impact their research projects have with presentations at several conferences and to the Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C.

Lakshmi S. Pallothu and Rahul A. Kharke, both of University Park, recently presented results of their research at the Annual Illinois Student Research Conference in Chicago.

Pallothu’s research concentrated on the effect of zinc compounds on human skin cells that are exposed to sunlight. Her research has implications for skin cancer treatments. Kharke, in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration, presented his research on the effects of sunlight on scalp cells after the hair has been treated with yellow-based hair dye.

According to Dr. Patty Fu-Giles, their research advisor, “Presenting at a conference motivates students to complete good research and reinforces the validity of their findings. It is good for our students and showcases the strength of our programs.”

This month, GSU students will also present at the American Chemical Society Conference in Chicago. Priyanka Kotha and Rahul A. Kharke, both of University Park, will present the results of their experiments using a combination of light and nontoxic drugs to destroy specific targeted tumor cells.

Sriniketh R. Benda of University Park will present his results on experiments using a platinum compound to treat cancer. Amikumar Tanna and Lakshmi S. Pallothu of University Park will present the findings of the research they conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on the potential toxic effects of Lawson when it exposed to sunlight. Lawson is a compound found in natural henna extract, a widely used hair and skin dye.

“Our students’ research has far reaching implications. Some of their research may lead to patented medicines to treat various cancers,” explained Fu-Giles.

Fu-Giles, who worked for the FDA for five years before taking a teaching position at GSU, will accompany several of her students to Washington, D.C. later this year when they present their findings to the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition of the FDA.

“The results of our students' research may also be used to refine warning labels issued by the Food and Drug Administration on commonly used products,” said Fu-Giles. “They will have the opportunity to impact lives in a very positive way through their work here at GSU.”

Communication Honors Society Inducts New Members

By Sarah Silhan

The Governors State University Lambda PiEta Honor Society (LPH) recently inducted new members who had achieved academic success in the communication program at GSU. LPH is the official communication studies honor society of the National Communication Association.

“The organization is comprised of undergraduate students in communications,” said Shereen Sanderson, LPH faculty advisor. “Its purpose is to foster and reward outstanding scholastic achievement and stimulate interest in advanced study in communication.”


New Officers for Accounting & Finance Club

By Sarah Silhan

The Accounting & Finance Club at GSU held its annual election of officers on May 6. The newly elected officers are: Melissa Dana-President and Ann Warner-Vice President. The Treasurer and Secretary positions are still open.

The Accounting & Finance Club is student-run and is for anyone interested in accounting and finance. Members are given the opportunity to come together to learn about events and potential careers in the fields of accounting and finance. It is also a place for prospective GSU students to learn more about the opportunities that Governors State University offers and the opportunities in the accounting and finance fields.

However, the group has also announced an interest in keeping up with those who were once a part of the group, but have now graduated.

Kelly Legner, the group’s advisor, said, “We would also like to keep in touch with alumni, so let us know how you are doing and plan to join in on our events!”

Students in the Accounting & Finance Club can invite group members to attend events of interest and RSVP to those events. This includes social events initiated by students, some of which are accounting and finance related. Other events are just for fun.

For more information about the Accounting & Finance Club, please contact Kelly Legner at kn0001@hotmail.com.

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- Starting salary of $4,284
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- $90,582 after 30 months
- $110,478 after 36 months
- $130,374 after 42 months
- Comprehensive medical care plan
- 20 days paid vacation
- Annual salary advancement of $1,800
- Annual Duty Availability Bonus of $2,050
- "Before retirement" may receive advanced degrees
- City of Chicago home ownership incentive programs
- Pension plan

Minimum Eligibility Requirements:

- Be at least 21 years of age. NOTE: Pursuant to the Municipal Code of Chicago, no person may be appointed in a police position if after their 40th birthday
- 60 Seconds (or 96 quarters) by standard college or university.
- $43,104 after 12 months
- $55,728 after 24 months
- Be appointed in a police position after their 40th birthday
- $1,800 after 30 months
- $2,920 after 36 months
- $3,940 after 42 months
- $5,060 after 48 months
- "Before retirement" may receive advanced degrees
- City of Chicago home ownership incentive programs
- $43,104 after 12 months
- $55,728 after 24 months
- $68,352 after 30 months
- $81,996 after 36 months
- $95,640 after 42 months
- $119,280 after 48 months
- Pension plan

Contact us to be placed on our mailing list for the next Chicago Police Employment Announcement & Application Procedure.

C.P.D. Recruitment Team - Unit 127
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E-mail: recruitment@chicagopolice.org

Crossword & Sudoku found on page 8.
By Michelle Hulett
Staff Writer

About three months ago, over a school break, I was browsing my local Barnes & Noble. There were Twilight displays in the front of the store and though I was sick of the Twilight phenomenon, I gave into curiosity and picked one up. Brushing it off as a “fluff” book, a silly teenage romance novel, I sat down to see what the fuss was about. Before I knew it, an hour had passed and I was completely engrossed in the story. Let me preface this by saying that I really dislike romance novels. They’re cheesy and predictable, and frankly, I think they foster unrealistic expectations of love. But I was completely transfixed and I just couldn’t put it down lest I read it all in one night.

The book was captivating. I had to force myself to put it down lest I read it all in one night. Ultimately, it took me 2 days to read the 600 page novel but only because I had to keep tearing myself away from it. I didn’t want it to end! Sure, it was a bit predictable in a “girl-gets-guy” way but it was much more than that. As I said, I typically shy away from the romance novels...but this one was different. Stephanie Meyer knows how to create a fictional man with whom women will fall in love. I must admit (a bit hesitatingly for fear of ridicule) that I was completely enamored with Edward. Yes, you may laugh now.

Needless to say, that same week, I went back to get the second book and ended up buying the complete series. That same week, I finished the entire series. For those of you who aren’t familiar with the series, there’s Bella Swan, the somewhat overly intense heroine who moves in with her Cheesecake Factory co-workers, and is in love with the intense teen vampire, Edward Cullen.

Adding to that are awkward high schoolers, hormone-laden werewolves, families of “vegetarian” vampires, and of course, the Volturi. I don’t want to say too much, though...you have to read it for yourself.

Though some of the novels geared towards teens have become racy and provocative, Meyer writes a thoroughly captivating PG version of the romance novel. Weaving teenage issues with the supernatural, the books have become a nation-wide sensation...and for good reason.

Though there is little literary value to the series, it’s a great read nonetheless.

For those of you who have thought about reading the books, it is well worth the time. My only regret is that there aren’t more books in the series.

By Amy Beth Porter
Contributing Writer

You’ll know right away whether or not Cat Power is for you. This humble critic fell hook, line, and sinker for Chan Marshall’s voice. In fact, Cat’s sixth album and the dynamic narrative that expresses the wisdom of the music that appeals to you rather than buying whatever is handily popular. Good Woman, featuring Eddie Vedder on guitar, is a totally different from the other songs in this collection, but instead of standing out, it fades because interesting: “Look out, young son/It’s a good thing of ridicule) that I was completely enamored with Edward. Yes, you may laugh now.

Fool, one of the choice tracks of the album, wrestles with maintaining a relationship while touring. On He War you can really hear Dave Grohl’s handiwork and it’s got a great instrumental hook. Shaking Paper is persuasive and evocative in meaning: “Look out, young son/It’s a good thing of ridicule) that I was completely enamored with Edward. Yes, you may laugh now.

Nymes is a quiet elegy, it seems, to the untimely death of one of a kind artist. The title is a hommagingly melodic Evolution Eddie Vedder joins Marshall on vocals, but hangs back quite a bit, shadowing rather than partnering. As you can see, the songs on You Are Free all have to do with freedom — getting it, keeping it, and sacrificing it. Hopefully, Chan Marshall is closer to getting hers.

Cat Power’s Album, You Are Free

Free is about liberation from media and loving the music that appeals to you rather than buying whatever is handily popular. Good Woman, featuring Eddie Vedder on guitar, is a totally different from the other songs in this collection, but instead of standing out, it fades because interesting: “Look out, young son/It’s a good thing of ridicule) that I was completely enamored with Edward. Yes, you may laugh now.

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Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

Across
1. Barter
6. Charity
10. Adore
14. Small bird
15. Closed circuit
16. Metallic element
17. Paragon
18. Having little money or possessions
19. Diplomacy
20. System of measurement
22. Set of three
24. Seafarer
25. Small island
27. Statusque
29. Steady
33. Epoch
34. Radiate
35. Object of worship
37. Personnel
41. Exploration site
42. Design theme
44. Fish eggs
45. Air, Earth, Fire, Water
48. Breaker
49. Portable shelter
50. Large tub
52. Able to read and write
54. Whole number
58. Desperate
59. Spoil
60. Hitch
62. Storage space
66. Partiality
68. At the peak
70. Stage whisper
71. Malevolence
72. Square root of eighty-one
73. South Pacific monarchy
74. Contradict
75. Worn in ancient Rome
76. Spiritual being

Down
1. Neat
2. Traveled by horse
3. Assist, usually in wrongdoing
4. Writer
5. Join the military
6. Mountain
7. Plunder
8. Ties up a boat
9. Fairy
10. Illuminated
11. Talk pompously
12. Outspoken
13. Way in
14. Small bird
15. Adore
16. Metallic element
17. Paragon
18. Having little money or possessions
19. Diplomacy
20. System of measurement
21. Closed circuit
22. Metallic element
23. Adore
24. Seafarer
25. Small island
26. Empower
27. Statusque
28. Cheapness
29. Yield
30. Leave out
31. Near
32. Sum
33. Epoch
34. Radiate
35. Object of worship
36. Ashen
37. Quantitative relation
38. Region
39. Typeface
40. Fiesta
41. Exploration site
42. Design theme
43. Putrid
44. Fish eggs
45. Air, Earth, Fire, Water
46. The night before
47. Tallers
48. Breaker
49. Portable shelter
50. Large tub
51. Rent-paying
52. Able to read and write
54. Whole number
58. Desperate
59. Spoil
60. Hitch
62. Storage space
66. Partiality
68. At the peak
70. Stage whisper
71. Malevolence
72. Square root of eighty-one
73. South Pacific monarchy
74. Contradict
75. Worn in ancient Rome
76. Spiritual being

Sudoku

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