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Illinois Governor-Elect Bruce Rauner. Rauner won the election by with 50.8% percent of the vote, narrowly defeating Governor Pat Quinn, who won 45.9%.

By William Wright
Political Writer

Illinois voters elected Bruce Rauner as their governor on Tuesday night, bringing a Republican governor into office again after eleven years with Democrats in the seat. The Illinois gubernatorial race was one of the most expensive political races in the country, with Rauner having raised around $65.9 million, $26 million of which he donated personally, and with Quinn raising $31.4 million over the course of the campaign. In the end, Rauner came out on top, winning the election with 50.8% of the vote.

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GSU holds Peace Corps general information presentation

By Jonathan Bulthuis

The Office of International Students is celebrating International Education Week this week, with a variety of workshops and presentations to promote “the study and appreciation of international culture and perspectives,” according to the OIS.

On Monday, November 10, Jennifer Venecek held general information sessions at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Hall of Honors to promote student awareness of the Peace Corps and the opportunities available to Peace Corps volunteers.

“My brother served [in the Peace Corps] in the late nineties, and that inspired me to serve,” said Venecek, who was a Community Health Educator in Tanzania and Malawi for a total of three years, and is now a Volunteer and a Peace Corps recruiter.

“Through researching my own study abroad program, I really fell in love with [the Peace Corps],” said Venecek, “and I decided it was what I wanted to do with my life.”

The Peace Corps has served in impoverished and underdeveloped countries around the world since President John F. Kennedy signed the federal institution into law on March 1, 1961.

Continued on page 4

GSU Fall Theatre and Performance production of A Raisin in the Sun

The cast of Raisin gathers for a group photo. Image by Gerald Slowik.

By Brenda Torres
Online Media Editor

On November 6, A Raisin in the Sun opened at The Center For Performing Arts, Governors State University, and played for an additional two days. Raisin’s single stage set - the nineteen-fifties tenement apartment of the Younger family - was totally on target to ones imagination, and the performances of the GSU community members who filled the shoes of the iconic Younger family were extraordinary.

Coordinator of Campus programs and Community Service Dennis Dent played one of Raisin’s lead roles, Walter Lee Younger. Dent was excited when he was notified that he had been accepted for the role of Walter. “I felt ready,” said Dent. “I felt like the timing was right, the role was right, and like it was meant to be”.

Continued on page 7

GSU Study Abroad Program Spring 2015 Trip to Brazil

By Mychael Vanarsdale; Viverette, April Grammar, and Dennis Dent

GSU Study Abroad Program participants will visit Paraty before visiting Rio de Janeiro.

GSU Study Abroad Program Spring 2015 Trip to Brazil

By Bob Meyers
Staff Writer

Brazil’s flag, adopted November 19, 1889. Translation: “Order and Progress”

The Business and Culture of Brazil GSU Study Abroad Program will be heading to Brazil - the world’s fifth largest country by geographic area, and the world’s fifth most populous country, with about 200 million people - on Sunday, June 7, and returning on Friday June 18, 2015.

The GSU Study Abroad Program is motivated to take students to Brazil, which is rich in natural resources and beauty, to gain an understanding of the business environment and culture of the country as an emerging economic and political power in Latin America.

Brazil has become a major emerging economy in recent years, and is a member of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) Group, an international coalition that fosters business development in these economically emerging nations.

Trip participants are encouraged to enroll in MGMT 5000 Business and Culture of Brazil in order to get a background on Brazilian culture ahead of the trip, although it is not a requirement.

Program participants will visit Sao Paulo and have a brief overnight stay in Paraty before visiting Rio de Janeiro.

Continued on page 4

International Education Week

GSU Student Senate Election Results

By Dorian Daily

Governors State University students have chosen the new members of the Student Senate for the 2014-2015 academic year. The student senate promotes the general welfare of the GSU student body by representing and presenting student concerns, viewpoints and interests regarding governance issues to the administration, staff and faculty.

Students voted online for the Student Senate candidates from October 25 through October 31. Members of GSU’s first freshman class also ran for senate positions.

The student senate elects are as follows: from the College of Arts and Sciences, Doria Scott, Jonathan Viverette, April Grammar, and Mychael Vanarsdale.

Continued on page 4
is now housed in GSU’s new Civic Respond to Violence initiative which youth violence. Brown and the professionals.

civic leaders, academic and care organizations, community and of violence and feature grassroots These projects explore various forms based content in partnership with videos, televised forums and web-

year, Respond to Violence develops dialogue and collaboration. Each searching for solutions through violence prevention and intervention.

The initiative strives to give voice to what should be done to alleviate or bring about positive change in their communities.

Yvette Brown, Associate Professor of Media Studies, created this virtual public square through multi-media projects and a Respond to Violence: Reaching Our youth. The November 18th program will include a Readers Theater Performance by GSU students of the book, “How Long Will I Cry,” Chicago hip-hop peace activist FM Supreme, 2014, the “March Down” Champs – Omega Psi Phi, Rap Activist Rhymentest and DLOW (the DLOW Shuffler)! DJ Sean Legend is also scheduled to appear. A panel with LIVE Tweets on the impact and prevention of youth violence will include journalist Dr. Garrard McClendon, former host of CLTV’s “Garrard McClendon Live,” and interview subjects from the book. Reserve your seats at www. respondtoviolence.eventbrite.com. Respond to Violence: Reaching Our Youth is a FREE event open to the GSU community and the public.

Yvette Rose, R.N., M.S.N., a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) candidate at Governors State University, was recently named Student Scholar by the 2014 American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) Board of Directors (BOD) Student Scholarship Program.

Rose is currently an Assistant Professor of Nursing at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais and teaches Mental Health Nursing. Nursing students from across the United States were invited to apply for the Student Scholarship Program. Rose was one of just 10 graduate students chosen for this honor. Her fellow awardees hailed from Vanderbilt University, Yale University, Rutgers University, University of California at San Francisco, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and East Tennessee State University. Ten additional undergraduate nursing students from across the nation were chosen, as well.

With demonstrated commitment to their education and motivation to make a difference in psychiatric-mental health nursing care, they are students that we are honored to support,” read a statement from the APNA Board of Directors. “These BOD student scholars have an enthusiasm for psychiatric-mental health nursing that is palpable.”

Rose will enjoy one year complimentary membership in the APNA; she also was afforded registration, travel and lodging for the recent APNA 28th Annual Conference held October 22-25 in Indianapolis, IN.

Rose was nominated for the award by Dr. Martha Libster, Ph.D., RN, CNS, AHN-BC, a Professor of Nursing at Governors State University. According to Dr. Libster, Rose is currently finishing her final scholarly project in the DNP program entitled, “Fighting a New Battle: A Care Standard for Elderly Male Military Veterans with Delayed-Onset Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (DOPSTD).”

“Yvette is translating the current nursing science on the care in bathing elderly veterans with dementia to those seriously affected with DOPSTD. Her proposed work is strategic, innovative and enthusiastically received by her community” … and “may prove to be an important dimension to care for this population of psychiatric mental health patients,” the statement continued.

The American Psychiatric Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Got something to say?
Submit your editorial content to the Phoenix.

phoenix@govst.edu

Correction: Dates published in the Oct. 29, 2014 issue of the Phoenix were not accurate. Chicago Live will be held on November 20, 2014.

Correction: Photographs published in the Oct. 29, 2014 issue of the Phoenix were not attributed to the talented photographer that took them. Many thanks to Verana Stark and Student Life for permitting publication of their photo coverage of Governors State University sports.

The PHOENIX is published twelve times annually. 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 must be signed, and include the submitters full name, graduate status, and field of study.

Address Correspondence to: Phoenix Newspaper, Governors State University, 1 University Parkway Room E2543, University Park, IL 60466

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By Tamike Hurley

With a mission to address what should be done to alleviate or solve the violence crisis at schools and in communities, “Respond to Violence: Reaching Our Youth,” is the second annual tapping taking place in Governors State University’s (GSU) Center for Performing Arts on November 18, 2014 from 2 to 4 p.m. and hosted by Michelle Relford of NBC Chicago.

Yvette Brown, Associate Professor of Media Studies, created this virtual public square through multi-media projects and a Respond to Violence website, focusing on violence prevention and intervention. The initiative strives to give voice to those impacted by violence by searching for solutions through dialogue and collaboration. Each year, Respond to Violence develops videos, televised forums and web-based content in partnership with the Department of Digital Media, Marketing and Communication. These projects explore various forms of violence and feature grassroots organizations, community and civic leaders, academic and care professionals.

This year’s focus is on youth violence. Brown and the Respond to Violence initiative which is now housed in GSU’s new Civic Engagement and Community Service Center is being featured on NBC’s “Making a Difference,” a segment that spotlights those working to bring about positive change in their communities.

The November 18th program will include a Readers Theater Performance by GSU students of the book, “How Long Will I Cry,” Chicago hip-hop peace activist FM Supreme, 2014, the “March Down” Champs – Omega Psi Phi, Rap Activist Rhymentest and DLOW (the DLOW Shuffler)! DJ Sean Legend is also scheduled to appear. A panel with LIVE Tweets on the impact and prevention of youth violence will include journalist Dr. Garrard McClendon, former host of CLTV’s “Garrard McClendon Live,” and interview subjects from the book.

Reserve your seats at www.respondtoviolence.eventbrite.com. Respond to Violence: Reaching Our Youth is a FREE event open to the GSU community and the public.

By Margaret Brady

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The American Psychiatric Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
Rauner’s Education Plan to Benefit Students if Implemented

By William Wright

According to Bruce Rauner, the newly elected Governor of Illinois, Pat Quinn’s record on education got a failing grade. Tuition prices at public Universities rose across the board throughout Illinois during Quinn’s tenure as governor. Governors State’s tuition prices rose by 12% between 2009 and 2013, with a $1092 increase, which while still high, pales in comparison to increases at Illinois State and Northeastern Illinois, where tuition rates rose by 24% and 22% respectively, as well as an average 26% increase in Community College tuition fees.

Rauner’s 26-page education plan, titled “Bring Back Blueprint”, promises to roll back cuts to higher education funding, in order to relieve some of the stress placed upon University students in Illinois. The plan states that Illinois ranks 45th in the nation when it comes to the affordability of higher education. The figures only get bleaker, as according to Rauner’s “Blueprint”, only 4% of students at 2-year colleges graduate in time, and of students enrolled in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time, with only 25 in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time, and of students enrolled at 2-year colleges graduate on time, with only 25 in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time, and of students enrolled in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time, and of students enrolled in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time, and of students enrolled in a four-year college, only 15 will graduate on time.

Rauner’s “Blueprint” promises to roll back cuts to higher education funding. However, Rauner faces a problem in that his plan offers no real solutions to the problems he outlines. He was criticised by the Sun-Times (who later endorsed his campaign) during his campaign for making promises he has no way to pay for, with experts calling his plans a “fantasy”. In addition, his history of investments in for-profit Colleges, one of which incurred a law suit for allegedly fraudulently deceiving students, who unknowingly enrolled in uncredited programs, a suit which was settled for around $1.2 million. The accusation being that while Rauner may talk a lot about improving public education, the way he invests his money suggests otherwise.

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You are invited to attend the GSU Phoenix Open House

Room E2543

from 2pm to 4pm

on November 20, 2014,

prior to the Chicago Live! event at GSU on same day.

GSU students, faculty, and members of the community are encouraged to attend. Hosting an Open House gives us an opportunity to meet with the community and discuss publication options and potential objectives of the GSU Phoenix.

Refreshments will be served.

Demographic Information

How old are you? _____________
Ethnicity:

Yes / No Are you married? _ Black/African-American

Yes / No Are you a U.S. veteran? _ Latino/Hispanic

Yes / No Are you disabled? _ White/Caucasian

Yes / No Are you a U.S. veteran? _ Southeast or East Asian

Yes / No Are you disabled? _ Native American

Yes / No Do you have any dependents? _ Pacific Islander

_ Other

Origin: _ Urban IL/IN

_ Suburban IL/IN

_ Rural IL/IN

_ Other U.S. state

_ International origin

Graduate status:
_ Undergrad
_ Graduate
_ Masters
_ Doctorate

GSU holds Peace Corps general information presentation, International Education Week itinerary

Students or members of the GSU community who are interested in exploring career options in the Peace Corps should visit www.peacecorps.gov

Today, Peace Corps Volunteers are stationed in 76 countries around the globe, in multiple capacities. PCV’s are given and derive objectives for their host communities that span the education (40% of volunteers), health (22%), community economic development (11%), environmental (12%), youth development (6%), and agricultural fields (5%). Volunteers are posted in North Africa (4%), the Caribbean (4%), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (13%), Asia (10%), the Pacific Islands (3%), Africa (46%), and Latin America (20%).

Once Peace Corps volunteers complete their application and training process (see image) and travel to their host country, they begin a three-month cultural and environmental acclimation process that includes language acquisition and project brainstorming. During this time, PCVs determine how they will implement their first (and secondary projects) during their time in their host country. Secondary projects (i.e. environmental cleanup or agricultural projects for a volunteer serving primarily as an educator) are determined by the PCV’s in the field.

“You should be able to do your own research,” said Venecek.

Peace Corps Volunteers are given a monthly living stipend and gradually accumulate a $300 USD readjustment allowance which is dispersed to them at the end of their assignments. PCV’s are also afforded free transportation to their host countries, two days of vacation per month, medical and dental coverage, free training, and a 30% - 70% cancellation of Perkins Loans debt. PCV’s are also eligible for the Public Service Federal Loan Forgiveness Program.

PCV’s are also provided with medical and security officers in their stationed areas, trained staff to support and assist their transition into the cultural life, community immersion training, U.S. government support, and the option to compete in a non-competitive eligibility pool for federal jobs after two years of service. Also on Monday, the GSU Dance Troupe, Chicago’s Old Town School of Folk Music, and Palestinian singer-songwriter Mary Habtour performed in the E-Lounge from 4 to 7 pm.

On Tuesday, a second information session about the GSU Study Abroad Trip to Brazil was held in the Cafeteria Annex from 6 to 7 pm, and information table in the Hall of Governors was manned by OIS students and members of the GSU community, and a workshop entitled “Facing Cross-Cultural Crossroads: Our Politics of Identity in Action” was led by Gerald Hankerson of the Council for American-Muslim Relations at 1 pm in room D1496.

Wednesday activities will include an International Bake Sale in the Hall of Governors, from 11 am to 3 pm, and a “Funding Your Education Abroad” presentation in room B 1200 at 1 pm. The workshop is sponsored by the OIS and the GSU Financial Aid Office.

On Thursday, OIS is sponsoring a final presentation that details and focuses on job possibilities and career opportunities abroad. The “So You Wanna Work Abroad?” presentation will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 am in the E-Lounge.

Questions about Peace Corps opportunities should be directed to Venecek at jvenecek@peacecorps.gov, or by phone at 1(312) 353-6122. A YouTube video documenting Venecek’s experiences in Africa can be found at http://youtu.be/Continued from page 1

From the College of Business and Public Administration, Yolanda Pitts and Gina Kates Mitchell;

From the College of Health and Human Services, Addison Jackson Jr. and Regina P. Ward; from the College of Education, Lisa Garman; Senator at Large, Dawn Prince, and Senator elects from the Freshmen class, Arnett Lewis IV, Kevin O’Neal Green, and Fred Hamilton.

The newly elected GSU student senators join Lisa Wallace, Natasha Dillard, Darren Heldt, Marie Penny, Michael Alexander (Illinois Board of Higher Education Rep) and Jeremy Joyce (Board of Trustee Student Rep).
Quinn Ousted as Rauner Wins Gubernatorial Election

Continued from page 1

Governor Pat Quinn won 45.9% of the vote on November 4, a slim loss to Rauner of just over 180,000 votes.

Rauner’s victory comes as somewhat of a surprise, considering Illinois’ status as a deep-blue state, the outcome of voter advisory ballots, and the fact that registered Democrats in Illinois far outnumber registered Republicans.

Conversely, voters chose to vote yes on all three advisory questions by a landslide; with 66% voting to tell the legislature to raise minimum wage to $10; 65% voting to say yes to force insurance companies to provide contraceptive care; and 63% voting yes to raising taxes 3% on incomes over a million dollars; all of which are policies of the Quinn campaign. It seems that Rauner’s late night commercial push to highlight corruption among Illinois Democrats, the Sun-Times and the Tribune’s endorsements of Rauner’s campaign, and the low turnout of black voters Quinn needed to push the election his way, sent Rauner to victory.

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Republicans fared similarly well in the races for Illinois seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, with incumbent Democrats Brad Schneider of the 10th district losing his seat to Robert Dold by a slim margin of just over 5000 votes, and Bill Enyart of the 12th district losing his seat to Rodney Davis, by a much larger margin of around 68,000 votes, giving the Republicans a gain of two seats in Congress, which contributed to an overall gain of 14 seats for the Republicans in the US house of Representatives.

Elsewhere, Democrat Richard Durbin retained his seat in the US Senate, with 54% of the vote. However, the night was not good for Democrats overall with regards to the Senate, as Democrats lost seven seats, giving Republicans back control of both branches of Congress, in a turn of events which gives the Republican party significant momentum as the Presidential election of 2016 approaches.

On the trip, participants will visit the University of Sao Paolo and a handful of Sao Paolo companies in various industries, including energy, banking, and healthcare, and become familiar with a mix of Brazilian international companies. In addition, students will be welcome to visit local museums and pursue sightseeing activities. In Rio de Janeiro, students will visit more universities and companies, as well as the beaches of the South Pacific and Rio’s famous Copacabana district.

The estimated cost of the trip is $3,500 dollars, which includes domestic and international flights to and from Sao Paolo from Miami, Florida. The price also includes hotel accommodations for the duration of the trip. Students are welcome to use the Office of International Service Scholarship to help pay for the trip.

The application deadline for an OIS Scholarship to assist students in finding travel expenses is March 1, 2015. In addition, you can apply for the Indiana University Center for Business Education and Research Scholarship, which gives $600 dollars to the first 16 students accepted. The OUS Student Life Travel Funds also give $400 dollars for up to 4 participants. Individual passport and visa fees are not included in the estimated trip cost. United States passports cost $180 dollars, and your passport must be valid until December 18, 2015. Sightsseeing is not included in the itinerary. You must pay for all personal purchases. Tuition and fees do apply for MGMT 5000 students. All completed application forms for the trip and a $500 dollar deposit are both due by January 30. The second payment, amounting to $1,500 dollars, is due by February 28.

For further inquiries about the GSU Study Abroad Program and their trip to Brazil, contact trip leader Dr. Anthony Andrews, Ph.D. at andrewws@govst.edu.

GSU Study Abroad Program Spring 2015 Trip to Brazil

By Bob Meyers
Staff Writer

Ebola has been in Africa since 1976, but has only recently become a global concern.

Professor of NIU Biological Sciences Neil Blackstone told niutoday.com, “we don’t yet have a grasp on how it got to West Africa, and the concern is that it’s evolving. It’s evolving to be a better human parasite than it has been, perhaps less deadly but more transmittable.”

Dr. John LaPook, M.D. told CBS’ Sunday Morning, “Ebola is a frightening virus. That’s for sure. But there’s also been some illogical panic. Ebola is spread by direct contact with body fluids. It is not spread through the air like influenza. If it were, there would be millions of cases of Ebola throughout Africa, just as there are tens of millions of flu cases in this country every year. Patients with Ebola are not infectious until they have symptoms. Every single Ebola outbreak in Africa over the past 40 years has been brought under control with standard public health measures, by basically isolating infected patients and tracking down their contacts.”

“Ebola has a mortality rate of about 70% ... in West Africa,” said LaPook, “but as a colleague of mine has said, it has never before collided with modern medicine. Although no drug has been proven effective yet, treatment such as intravenous fluids to correct severe dehydration will likely dramatically improve outcome.”

LaPook went on to dissuade Americans from blowing the presence of the Ebola strain on U.S. soil out of proportion, arguing strongly against the likelihood of the virus becoming a pandemic. “So far, there has been one death among eight patients treated in America. It’s a near certainty more individual cases will continue to reach other countries until the epidemic in Africa is controlled, but individual cases will not lead to widespread outbreaks if health care workers make diagnosis quickly, and the correct protocols are followed. This will protect health care workers from Ebola.”

LaPook also argued the reality of mistakes being made in health care systems fighting against the virus all across the world. “One thing’s for sure,” said LaPook, “there will be a learning curve, and mistakes can never be totally eliminated. But if we keep finger pointing to a minimum, and learn from our mistakes, we will get Ebola under control in the United States. And, as we battle the relatively small number of cases here, we have to understand the single most effective step our country can take to eliminate the threat in America is to help wipe Ebola out in West Africa.”

Barry Bode, chair of the NIU Department of Biological Sciences, also told niutoday.com, “the likelihood that we could see a pandemic here [in the U.S.] is extremely remote, but vigilance is probably advisable right now. We do have a great deal more resources here and protocols are in place. We can easily isolate the virus and prevent its spread here. In Third World countries, it’s more difficult because they don’t have the resources and viruses are notorious for mutating. Because the human-to-human transmission rate has been so high, it gives the virus more opportunity to evolve with each subsequent infection.”

For signs and symptoms and more information about Ebola visit the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webstite at www.cdc.gov. For further inquiries about the trip, contact trip leader Dr. Anthony Andrews, Ph.D. at andrewws@govst.edu.

EBOLA remains a concern in Africa

Continued from page 1

Results to follow. Stay well.

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Criminal Justice Honors Society Fall Induction

GSU celebrates Freedom Summer and the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act

By Gregg Greer
Contributing Writer

Every year, the Criminal Justice Honors Society (Alpha Phi Sigma) recognizes its newest members with the Honors Induction Celebration. This year the Fall Induction was kicked off in high form.

The Alpha Phi Sigma induction ceremony provided recognition and information for new CJUS society members who have worked hard to achieve the grade point average minimum required for acceptance. The consistent theme for the inductees was personal accountability. Division Chair of the Humanities and Social Sciences Dr. Andrae Marak provided opening remarks.

Special recognition went to GSU faculty member Vincent Edward Starks for his overall excellence in service to the Criminal Justice Program.

Guest speakers at the event included: Airickca Gordon-Taylor, Director of the Mamie Till Mobley Memorial Foundation, speaks at the APS event.

By Gregg Greer
Contributing Writer

GSU hosted a conference marking the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Summer and signing of the federal Civil Rights Act. The theme this year was “How far have we come? How far have we yet to go?” The event was standing room only with waiting lines outside each panel.

In addition to the great attendance, every forum filled to capacity in the several rooms that hosted the event. The keynote presentation was given in the Hall of Honors Banquet Room by Dr. David Hamilton Golland, who addressed the audience with a speech on “Affirmative Action from the Ground Up.”

A depiction of a U.S. Marine during a presentation at the civil rights event.

Members of the GSU community participate in the interactive event.

Dr. Larry Levinson and Dr. David Goland speak during the civil rights event.

Dr. Andrae Mark, Vincent Jones, and Vincent Edward Sparks.

Dr. Andrae Mark, Vincent Jones, and Vincent Edward Sparks.

By Gregg Greer
Contributing Writer

The Freedom Summer event was supplemented by a TAPS performance of the stage play “A Raisin in the Sun.”

As one attendee—a veteran civil rights activist stated — “So many great memories here,” she was involved with the Freedom Summer and Civil Rights Act but lamented that “50 years after, we are free, but not equal.”

By Gregg Greer
Contributing Writer

GSU celebrated Freedom Summer and the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

By Brian Bock
Assistant Editor

Phoenix: What country are you originally from?
Ali: “I am from India”
P: What made you choose GSU?
A: “Well there are only few colleges in Chicago which offer MPA program and GSU is one of them and I see GSU as a higher learning institute with a diverse culture”
P: What do you plan to study at GSU?
A: “As a law graduate from India and MBA from Wisconsin, I’m pursuing Masters in Public administration at GSU.”
P: What has been the most difficult thing about studying in a different country?
A: “I think language barrier and education system of different countries are the major issue for most of the international students, but I am lucky throughout my schooling has been in English from India so I never had that issue”
P: What has been your favorite aspect of living in the United States?
A: “Living daily a life dedicated to integrity, commitment, challenge, and joy”
P: Do you have anything (such as music, food, art) that you have tried to share with your GSU peers?
A: “As a law graduate from India and MBA from Wisconsin, I’m pursuing Masters in Public administration at GSU.”
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P: What do you plan to study at GSU?
A: “As a law graduate from India and MBA from Wisconsin, I’m pursuing Masters in Public administration at GSU.”
Dent did a lot of research for his role, by watching prior performances of Walter, including the recent production starring Denzel Washington in Walter’s role. Dent played the role right on point, starting off his performance by slamming his hand over the table, because of Walter’s frustration of not being understood.

The roles of the Mama (Lena Younger) and Ruth Younger were very maternal and convincing. One could probably relate to the screaming of a mother from their excellent performances.

Mama was played by Cheryl Frazier, who hails from Southland College Prep Charter High School, where she coaches and directs high school theater. Frazier played an undoubted mother that is concerned for the well being of her children and family in an uncertain world. There is no doubt that Frazier was meant for the role. Her outstanding performance imparted the struggles of an African American woman in the late fifties.

Ruth Younger was played by Janiece Russel, a GSU alum. Her role as a mother and a wife was both serious and entertaining.

The character of Beneatha Younger was played by Cherish Brown, a graduate student in media communication at GSU and a former broadcaster for TWAG. Brown absolutely reflected the character of Beneatha Younger, the daughter, sister and student who is trying to find herself. Brown was very excited when she landed the role. “It was a dream come true,” said Brown. “I’ve always wanted to play this character, ever since I was a kid, when I first read the book in school.”

Brown related strongly to her character which helped her prepare for the role. “I looked at the similarities between Beneatha and myself,” said Brown. “I’m in college, and I have a lot of things that I want to do that are not traditional for a young black woman. I’m from Chicago. I have a lot similarities that I just drew natural inspirations from.” Brown’s powerful performance was so on point that it was as if the audience was literally finding herself. “I had challenge to lose my accent, and to gain other one, because naturally I have Lithuanian accent,” said Sergalis. “And this character cannot have this accent in the play.”

Sergalis, who is in his final academic year at GSU, was surprised that he got the part. He said that there was not a lot preparation necessary for his part, but he still found it somewhat challenging. “I had challenge to lose my accent, and to gain other one, because naturally I have Lithuanian accent,” said Sergalis. “And this character cannot have this accent in the play.”

Johnson’s portrayal of Joseph Asagai, the Nigerian freethinker that sweeps Beneatha off her feet, was similarly outstanding. Johnson developed an acute Nigerian accent for the role, with the help of a few Nigerian friends.

“Karl Lindner and Bobo Younger were played by Markas Sergalis and Michael DePriestreed, respectively. Sergalis, who is in his final academic year at GSU, was surprised that he got the part. He said that there was not a lot preparation necessary for his part, but he still found it somewhat challenging. “I had challenge to lose my accent, and to gain other one, because naturally I have Lithuanian accent,” said Sergalis. “And this character cannot have this accent in the play.”

DePriestreed, who played Bobo, has been in the acting business for 35 years. DePriestreed’s performance was short, full of life, and intrinsically believable. Jordan Walters and Cordaro Johnson, a GSU community member who played an exemplary performance of 10 year old Travis Younger, was entertaining and provided comic relief throughout the tumultuous play.

“Dr. Patrick Santoro’s direction was integral to GSU’s performance of Raisin. Since GSU and colleges and organizations across the country are commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act this year, this seemed like the perfect play for the season.”

“Continued from page 1

This is an incredibly timely piece for that very reason,” said Santoro. “I chose the play to create additional programming for our campus’ yearlong celebration, but I also chose to direct Raisin because it’s a great show, a classic that I know our community would enjoy.”

Santoro enjoyed the rehearsal process and seeing the actors develop into their roles. “It’s always exciting and rewarding to watch performers transform themselves week by week,” said Santoro.

“It’s incredible to chart a performer’s progress from start to finish,” said Santoro, “to see an actor move from initial hesitation, to eventual confidence. It’s one of my favorite parts of the process.”
By Kyle Horn  
Associate Editor

On November 10th an informal study was conducted of the GSU website search engine, to test the search optimization. There have been complaints from students about the effectiveness of searches, for basic information on the GSU site such as office contact information, information for different colleges, and staff/faculty contacts.

To test the quality of the sites search engine, a myriad phrases were queried and their results tested for relevance. The searches related to faculty, different colleges of study at GSU, and various offices such as office contact information, basic information on the GSU site.

By Brian Bock  
Assistant Editor

The GSU Library and The Cube will be preparing to help students study for finals by being open longer hours and providing support for students. From December 1 to December 3 the library and the Cube will be extending their hours from 8:30 a.m. until midnight. These extended hours are helping to make the GSU Library and The Cube more accessible to students who have difficulty using the library because of scheduling conflicts.

Apart from the different colleges of study at GSU, and various offices such as financial aid and the registrar’s office, but will instead find various articles pertaining to registration deadlines and Board of Trustee meetings.

In the event that a prospective student was seeking information about the College of Communications, they would find event fliers and guides to transferring to different schools, rather than faculty contacts or even the Communications homepage.

A student to be looking for information posted to the GSU view they would find the last issue but if the information was in a later issue it would be impossible to find via the search engine.

Between all searches the results are often unrelated or loosely related. Often, the images from a page related to a search will appear or reports on Board of Trustees where the search topic was mentioned.

Ultimate, it seems to be an issue of validity. The homepage for, say, the College of Communications and an outdated report where the College was mentioned are given the same validity and therefore are shown in search results without discrimination.

To improve the experience of GSU’s site as it is, it is important to formulate searched words to be as specific as possible. The more a search is similar to the information in question the more relevant the results will be.

GSU’s marketing department was contacted for this story but the Phoenix received no response.

By Dorian Daily  
Contributing Writer

New meal plan in the works for GSU students

With the everyday costs that come with being a college student, buying food sometimes has to be put on the back burner; but as we speak, student residents at Prairie Place are finding it challenging to eat healthy on a daily basis. With the disparity of distance between the student residence and the nearest grocery store, finding healthy food choices on campus can be a difficult task.

In addition to the distance between the campus and Marion Park’s grocery stores, many freshmen students do not have access to an available vehicle to drive to the grocery store, and are forced to depend on fellow residents for that purpose. Also, no GSU student meal plan currently exists, although an official GSU student meal plan will be available for the Spring 2015 semester.

The new Declining Meal Balance Plan will allow both residential and commuter students to have money available for food and beverage purchases on campus.

All enrolled GSU students will be eligible to apply for and use this plan.

The new Declining Meal Balance Plan is another effort to help both residential and commuter students to have money available for food and beverage purchases on campus. All enrolled Governors State University students will be eligible to apply for and use this plan. There are three whole dollar option amounts that will be available beginning in the Spring semester of 2015:

The $1,500 dollar per semester plan will be recommended for students who live in the suite style housing or an apartment, but who don’t want to cook, and plan to purchase food/beverages on campus. The $1,000 dollar per semester plan will be recommended for students who eat on campus regularly, but don’t purchase food or beverages daily. The $500 dollar per semester plan will be recommended for students who only plan to purchase occasional meals or beverages on campus.

Students with sufficient financial aid can pay for the meal plan with financial aid like any other charge on their student account. Also, unlike meal plans from other campuses, the GSU Declining Balance Meal Plan provides maximum flexibility and value.

Students can apply for the new meal plan at www.govst.edu/housing/mealplan.
Communication in graduate school requires a unique balance amongst written, non-verbal, and verbal forms of communication. These skills need to be able to convey information efficiently, concisely, and correctly with a variety of audiences. While in school, this will enable you to proficiently interpret information in the classroom and feedback from faculty and colleagues in a timely manner. Once in your professional field, this will empower you to confidently approach every situation and adeptly communicate with supervisors and coworkers.

Written communication can be tricky for some in our text speak and hashtag savvy world. Many often find it difficult to convey a message without the added visual and verbal cues that accompany face to face interactions. Because those conversational components are missing when communicating through e-mail, it is essential to use correct grammar rules and omit slang and other forms of unprofessional language. A prompt response time is equally as crucial to efficient and effective communication. It also shows that you are able to quickly process and synthesize the necessary information.

Non-verbal communication is everything that is conveyed through one’s body language, presence, gaze, expression, touch, and distance. The human mind picks up on these physical messages subconsciously; subsequently, they play a large role in our thoughts and opinions. In a professional or academic setting, one can never go wrong with a clean-cut appearance and professional attire. Maintaining personal space is essential for making those around you comfortable as this will aid in creating a nonthreatening presence. While everyone has their own personal opinion of how large or small their “bubble” is, refraining from excessive physical contact, touch, appropriate gaze, and maintaining a distance of about two feet will help to alleviate any feelings of encroachment. Verbal communication is not only spoken word but also a variety of interpersonal skills including listening, asserting, influencing, persuading, empathizing, and exercising sensitivity and diplomacy with the appropriate tone. One who can master this delicate balance will enhance every team project, council and committee they serve on. These skills require a fluid balance that can only be improved through practice.

One way to gain practice in this area is to join a club or organization on campus like the Graduate Professional Network, Student Senate, the Society of Collegiate Entrepreneurs, and many more. Becoming involved in groups like these not only looks good on a resume, but also shows that you are an active and involved student who is continually trying to cultivate these skills and develop into a dynamic professional.
Ready to Work?
November 25, 2014
Center for Performing Arts Lobbies • 2 — 5 p.m.

Everyone is welcome — especially those in the fields of Healthcare and Human Services

Bring Resumes!
For more information, call 708.235.3974
www.govst.edu/careerservices
Communication is the key to getting what you need and want out of life, and if you do not use it properly, it will be hard for you to survive mentally. We all need a way to express ourselves to the world and one another. Sometimes when people think of communication, most of the time they think it is about what you say.

However, I have found communication to be embedded in everything around us. There is communication through art, expressing ones feelings on a canvas. There is the non-verbal communication of life, whether it is sign language, or the persona you are using to convey your verbal meaning.

If you are able to communicate in this powerful way, it will help you to set standards and boundaries in your relationships, and if the man or woman you are involved with respects you, then they will work hard to interact with you within your standards and boundaries. That is why it pays to have good communication skills in your relationships.

When you are communicating your needs and wants in a relationship in a way that is respectful and in a way that speaks to your significant other, they are more likely than to give you what you want. It is not about who you choose to be with; it is about speaking their language. When you understand your man or woman's language you are better able to serve them. Your ability to communicate will strengthen your relationship and lead you to exciting opportunities in your career.

Make sure what you are communicating is clear, concise, concrete, correct, coherent, complete, and courteous. In order to do this, you have to really listen to the other person without distractions, and ask questions to make sure you understand them. As my father always said, "think before you speak!" This will save your relationships, because knowing when to speak and when not to speak is a good skill to have, as well as knowing what to say and when to say it. So get out there and become great communicators!

By Byritsha Ashley
Relationship Column

Make sure what you are communicating is clear, concise, concrete, correct, coherent, complete, and courteous. In order to do this, you have to really listen to the other person without distractions, and ask questions to make sure you understand them. As my father always said, "think before you speak!" This will save your relationships, because knowing when to speak and when not to speak is a good skill to have, as well as knowing what to say and when to say it. So get out there and become great communicators!

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Athlete Profile: Starting Forward Pierre Jolly


By Gregg Greer
Sports Writer

Governors State basketball player Pierre Jolly is a natural point guard who possesses all of the intangibles coaches love. Jolly #20, a GSU starting forward, has averaged 20 points per game with 5.4 assists in the first six games of the season. Jolly, a junior majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies, came to GSU after leading Joliet Junior College to multiple wins in 2012 and 2013, in addition to earning the Division One Player of the Year honors.

Jolly is a 3rd team All-American, and the only factor that prevented Jolly from accepting an American, and the only factor that prevented Jolly from accepting an offer to play overseas professionally was his desire to complete his education.

Pierre Jolly was named the NCCC’s Men’s Basketball Player of the Year and played a major part with his previous head coach Joe Kuhn, claiming the top coaching award as Coach of the Year. Jolly is certian that GSU’s Men’s team will be a top contender, and is appreciative of Head Coach Bates, the coaching staff, and his team.

“Coach Bates is working with me,” said Jolly, “and his leadership has allowed me take my skill set to another level.” Pierre Jolly’s motto when mentoring children is “never take the game for granted.”

The Governor State University Golf program is off to a great start. The focus of this years’ golf season is on development and competition. The GSU Executive committee members and community partners, including President Elaine Morrison, University Park Mayor Vivian Covington, and GSU Athletic Director Tony Bates recently signed the golf program contract.

GSU’s Coed Golf team will be led by Coach Craig Bowen, a native of the South Suburbs of Chicago. Coach Bowen was the golf Swing Coach for his alma mater, Homewood-Flossmoor High School, in addition to a position as the Men’s and Women’s golf coach at Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina.

Coach Bowen’s resume includes being named by the World Golf Hall of Fame as a contributor to the growth of African Americans in the game.

In a February 9, 2009 interview for the Chicago Tribune, Coach Bowen tells a great story of how he picked up the phone one day and heard this: “Hey, Craig, it’s Mike. I loved the book. Where’d you get the picture of my dad?” “The Mike was Michael Jordan, and the picture was the cover art for “Uneven Lies: The Heroic Story of African-Americans in Golf.”

“I said, ‘Dude, it’s not your dad,’” recalled Bowen. “He said, ‘No, that’s your dad.’ We went round and round and shared a good laugh.”

The University Golf & Conference Center on the north side of Stuenkel Road is GSU’s chosen training and playing arena, which offers one of the best 18-hole championship golf courses in the Chicagoland area. Each hole of GSU 18 hole home golf course presents its own challenges, including sand pits, water obstacles, and elevation changes, encouraging golfers of every skill level to strive for their best.

The championship golf course holds a number of surprises for its patrons including sand and water obstacles as well as elevation changes. It’s definitely a very exciting time for the GSU Jaguars in our first-ever golf program. Go Jaguars!

Veterans Appreciation Week at GSU

Governors State University is sponsoring a series of programs centered around Veterans Day to recognize and appreciate the service and sacrifice of our veteran community and their families.

November 7-14, 2014

Friday, November 7
GSU Student Veterans Organization & Sears present:
Invite A Veteran To Work Day
8:30 a.m. • 3333 Beverly Rd, Hoffman Estates

Saturday, November 8
YWCA Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Symposium and Health Fair
9 a.m. – Noon • E-Lounge

Saturday, November 8
GSU Student Veterans March in Richton Park VFW Post 311 Veterans Day Parade
10 a.m. • Southland College Prep Charter HS 4601 Sauk Trail, Richton Park

Tuesday, November 11
GSU Veterans Resource Center Town Hall and Open House
GSU Veterans Resource Center
9 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Bldg. A Rm. 2109

Wednesday, November 12
Mindfulness Workshop for Military, Family, & Friends
2 - 4 p.m. • Classroom TBD

Thursday, November 13
Illinois Small Business Development Center Veterans Entrepreneurial Boot Camp
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. • E-Lounge

Friday, November 14
Awareness & Prevention: Military Suicide & Depression
9 a.m.- Noon • Classroom F 1622

Friday, November 14
Veterans Life Changing Services: Post—Traumatic Stress
1 - 4 p.m. • Classroom TBD

All events are held on the GSU campus unless otherwise noted.
For event registration information, call 708.235.7597 or email veterans@govst.edu