The Doctors are in! GSU’s 1st Doctoral Class Receives Degrees

By Danyale Lucado
Contributing Writer

The audience stood to their feet and cheered as GSU’s first doctoral class took the stage to receive their degrees at this year’s commencement ceremony. The historic ceremony, held at the Tinley Park Convention Center June 12, culminated the hard work of students from the College of Health and Human Services, who received doctorate degrees in Nursing Practice and Physical Therapy.

While it was a personal achievement for the 20 Students who received their doctorates, the day also marked an important milestone for Governors State.

“This first class of doctoral graduates is a sign of the future for GSU and our students. It shows that we’re growing in the right direction,” said Peggy Woodard, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. “I was just as excited when I got my Bachelor’s as I was when I got my Masters, as I was when I received my Ph.D. It’s exciting no matter what level.”

The doctoral program in Physical Therapy was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in January 2006 followed by the nursing program December 2007.

But it wasn’t just doctoral students who earned their degrees. Hundreds also earned their bachelor’s and master’s degrees, prompting cheers from family and friends.

“The audience stood to their feet and cheered as GSU’s first doctoral class took the stage to receive their degrees at this year’s commencement ceremony. The historic ceremony, held at the Tinley Park Convention Center June 12, culminated the hard work of students from the College of Health and Human Services, who received doctorate degrees in Nursing Practice and Physical Therapy.

While it was a personal achievement for the 20 Students who received their doctorates, the day also marked an important milestone for Governors State.

“This first class of doctoral graduates is a sign of the future for GSU and our students. It shows that we’re growing in the right direction,” said Peggy Woodard, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. “I was just as excited when I got my Bachelor’s as I was when I got my Masters, as I was when I received my Ph.D. It’s exciting no matter what level.”

The doctoral program in Physical Therapy was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in January 2006 followed by the nursing program December 2007.

But it wasn’t just doctoral students who earned their degrees. Hundreds also earned their bachelor’s and master’s degrees, prompting cheers from family and friends.

“Your degrees also come with a responsibility to serve others, GSU President Elaine Maimon said. Maimon strongly encouraged students to give back to those who helped them by helping others. “Pay it forward,” she said. “Encourage community service, voting, and college attendance.”

Maimon further commented that students should follow the example of Bryce Johnsen, student speaker for the ceremony, in working toward the public good.

“Education is power only if used to give back to others,” Johnsen said in his commencement address. Johnsen, who earned his bachelor’s in interdisciplinary studies and is going on for a master’s degree at GSU, says he likes helping students see the possibilities of education and has plans to become an Academic Advisor.

“It’s a privilege to give back to the school that gave me so much” he said. "In an interview after the ceremony, Johnsen said the biggest challenge for him in attaining his degree was the efforts to balance his schedule."

This is a common challenge for many of GSU’s students including Physical Therapy doctoral student Andrew Lange, who got married, had a baby, and bought a new home, all while pursuing the Ph.D. Lange, who is currently a Physical Therapy Aid, said crossing the stage was a very proud moment, knowing he had persevered through all the hard work.

“You have to stay calm, try to relax, and have confidence in your talents and abilities,” he said.

Kristina Jones, who also earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy, says it felt great to be part of the historic graduating class and knows that many more will follow in their footsteps. When asked for advise for future students Jones said “Stay focused, know what your goals are, and don’t give up”.

The doctors are in! GSU's 1st Doctoral Class Receives Degrees

The doctoral program in Physical Therapy was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in January 2006 followed by the nursing program December 2007.

But it wasn’t just doctoral students who earned their degrees. Hundreds also earned their bachelor’s and master’s degrees, prompting cheers from family and friends.

“Your degrees also come with a responsibility to serve others, GSU President Elaine Maimon said. Maimon strongly encouraged students to give back to those who helped them by helping others. “Pay it forward,” she said. “Encourage community service, voting, and college attendance.”

Maimon further commented that students should follow the example of Bryce Johnsen, student speaker for the ceremony, in working toward the public good.

“Education is power only if used to give back to others,” Johnsen said in his commencement address. Johnsen, who earned his bachelor’s in interdisciplinary studies and is going on for a master’s degree at GSU, says he likes helping students see the possibilities of education and has plans to become an Academic Advisor.

“It’s a privilege to give back to the school that gave me so much” he said. "In an interview after the ceremony, Johnsen said the biggest challenge for him in attaining his degree was the efforts to balance his schedule."

This is a common challenge for many of GSU’s students including Physical Therapy doctoral student Andrew Lange, who got married, had a baby, and bought a new home, all while pursuing the Ph.D. Lange, who is currently a Physical Therapy Aid, said crossing the stage was a very proud moment, knowing he had persevered through all the hard work.

“You have to stay calm, try to relax, and have confidence in your talents and abilities,” he said.

Kristina Jones, who also earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy, says it felt great to be part of the historic graduating class and knows that many more will follow in their footsteps. When asked for advise for future students Jones said “Stay focused, know what your goals are, and don’t give up”.

By Danyale Lucado
Contributing Writer

Looking for affordable summertime fun for the family? The GSU swimming pool is currently offering affordable aquatic programs for swimmers of all ages. Students and members can take advantage of free aqua aerobic classes for the duration of the 2010 summer trimester.

The Total Water Exercise class is offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10-11am, and includes stretching, toning, and flexibility techniques. The Senior Aquacise class is also held on the same days from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., and is tailored especially for senior citizens.

In addition to the aqua aerobics, the center also offers instructional swimming classes for swimmers 5-years of age and up. Children’s Beginner Lessons, which teaches basic swimming and safety to skills, is held Saturdays from 11:00am to 11:40am. Children’s Interim Lessons teaches water competencies and stroke refinement, is held from 11:40 to 12:20. Advanced Children and Adult Level 1 & 2 classes are also offered. All classes are offered to GSU students at $5 per 8-week session, and $10 for other center members.

Victor Griffin, the Facility Supervisor says that the center is mostly occupied by GSU students spending time with their children or residents from the local community. “We do our best to accommodate all member needs” said Griffin, who has been a member of the management team for the past 4 years.

If you’re not interested in classes and would like to simply stop by the pool for a few laps, the facility is open Monday through Friday, 6am to 9pm, and Saturdays 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Classes run through August 7th and are a great way for families to spend affordable quality time during the summer months.

For more information regarding center membership and class registration, please visit the GSU Recreational Center near the A-Wing, or contact Victor Griffin at 708-534-4941.

The Doctors are in! GSU’s 1st Doctoral Class Receives Degrees

The Doctors are in! GSU’s 1st Doctoral Class Receives Degrees

By Danyale Lucado
Contributing Writer

Looking for affordable summertime fun for the family? The GSU swimming pool is currently offering affordable aquatic programs for swimmers of all ages. Students and members can take advantage of free aqua aerobic classes for the duration of the 2010 summer trimester.

The Total Water Exercise class is offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10-11am, and includes stretching, toning, and flexibility techniques. The Senior Aquacise class is also held on the same days from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., and is tailored especially for senior citizens.

In addition to the aqua aerobics, the center also offers instructional swimming classes for swimmers 5-years of age and up. Children’s Beginner Lessons, which teaches basic swimming and safety to skills, is held Saturdays from 11:00am to 11:40am. Children’s Interim Lessons teaches water competencies and stroke refinement, is held from 11:40 to 12:20. Advanced Children and Adult Level 1 & 2 classes are also offered. All classes are offered to GSU students at $5 per 8-week session, and $10 for other center members.

Victor Griffin, the Facility Supervisor says that the center is mostly occupied by GSU students spending time with their children or residents from the local community. “We do our best to accommodate all member needs” said Griffin, who has been a member of the management team for the past 4 years.

If you’re not interested in classes and would like to simply stop by the pool for a few laps, the facility is open Monday through Friday, 6am to 9pm, and Saturdays 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Classes run through August 7th and are a great way for families to spend affordable quality time during the summer months.

For more information regarding center membership and class registration, please visit the GSU Recreational Center near the A-Wing, or contact Victor Griffin at 708-534-4941.
Rethinking “No. 1” in Class Ranking

By The Pitt News Editorial Board
U-Wire

Being “No. 1” has become something of an elusive goal at an increasing number of suburban high schools across the United States. Some schools are altering the coveted valedictorian ranking in order to decrease pressure and fierce competition among high-achieving high school students, The New York Times reports.

Schools that support the multi-valedictorian system have found various ways to provide what they see as a more fair and equally distributed rewards system. For example, some deem any student with a 4.0 or higher as a valedictorian. Sure, such a policy takes away some of the honor — and glory — of the title, but schools that adopt this policy could bring benefits to the larger body of students.

High school students must work harder and study harder to be accepted to their preferred schools — especially if those choice schools are top tier. Assuming a school’s valedictorians have no short supply of brains, they inevitably still worked hard to achieve their rank. Yet those in competition could face burnout even if they didn’t receive the top spot or other high rank. By calling all students with straight As valedictorians, it lessens the cutthroat competition.

Schools also wrestle with factoring in weighted grades in determining ranking. Some contest a weighted grade carries an advantage while others say the class’s difficulty provides merit. Yet with multiple valedictorians, there’s potentially less scrutiny over such fine points.

Still, reporting a top rank when applying to college is one of the most tangible benefits — and that shouldn’t be taken away. Rankings should still be calculated but without all the fanfare, feuding and half-hour graduation speeches.
Is Accepting Applications for the Fall Trimester.

Positions to be filled:
- Business/Ad Manager
- Writer/Reporter

A stipend is available for the open positions!

Please Contact the Phoenix’s Faculty Advisor
Victoria Pierce to Apply.
708-774-4589
V-Pierce@govst.edu
Pack a Penguin on Your Next Vacation!

By Jerome Hughes
Contributing Writer

If you think penguins can only be found in the Antarctic, you haven’t met Pierre the Penguin, Governors State University’s unofficial mascot.

Pierre has traveled from the Bahamas to Alaska and other exotic locales this summer as he went on vacation with university students, staff and faculty as part of a contest that ends Aug. 15.

The idea of the contest is to take Pierre the Penguin with you on your vacation or outing to have fun and to take pictures of Pierre at your favorite sights. Participants also have to share a glimpse of their vacation experiences with friends, classmates, teachers and everyone at GSU.

So far some of the sites and activities Pierre has enjoyed include drinks on a Caribbean cruise, hitting the links, enjoying the natural beauty of Hawaii. He’s even checked out Alaska’s glaciers with GSU President Elaine Maimon.

“We have given out over 150 Pierre the Penguin replicas and have received many pictures back from different people who were vacationing all over the world,” says Eric Matanyi, Director of Public Affairs.

Anyone desiring to participate in this contest can pick up their very own Pierre the Penguin from the Public Affairs Office Room 369 or 370 in the G Building.

Matanyi said, “Prizes have not been determined as yet, but they will be very good.”

The rules and regulations for the “Take Pierre On Vacation Contest” are as follows:

*All entries become the property of Governors State University
*All entries must be submitted via email
*Entries must be accompanied by name, phone, email address, and GSU status (student, faculty, or staff)
*Only one photo per email entry
*Multiple entries accepted
*Penguins available while supplies last
*Limit one penguin per person
*Signed photo release forms may be required
*And no computer generated or manipulated images - no matter how humorous

To view vacation pictures of Pierre the Penguin in different locales go online to, www.facebook.com/govstate.

Have Fun!!!
GSU's 1st Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

GSU's Class of June 2010 is one for the history books with the university's first doctoral graduates. Twenty doctoral candidates received their hoods during the school's first hooding ceremony in a nearly full Sherman Recital Hall two days before graduation.

The hooding ceremony is a tradition dating back to medieval times, said GSU President Elaine Maimon. Back then the hoods bestowed on scholars—who were often monks—kept them warm in drafty cloisters and provided a place for the coins given them by parishioners, she said. These days the hoods are symbolic of investiture, the formal ceremony conferring the authority and symbols of higher office, Maimon said. While students no longer have to shave their heads or live in old monasteries, she said the hood and the ceremony remain important today symbols of the responsibility that comes with academic authority and higher education.

Maimon also noted that while GSU is a modern university, its educational roots date back to Socrates who walked the public square and taught his students to be leaders. GSU is building upon that tradition and also training future leaders—among them the new doctoral students.

"We expect you to make society better," Maimon said.

"We are so very proud of your accomplishments," said Lorine S. Samuels, chairwoman of the GSU Board of Trustees.

Patricia Martin, who earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice, said the work for this degree was more difficult than her master's and added that she was very excited to be part of the first group of doctoral students.


Improved Signage Coming to Campus

By Jerome Hughes
Contributing writer

The idea is to start with parking lot identifications, he said. There will be a complete revamping of the signs and maps in the parking lots. The west parking lots and the east parking lots will have building designations on the color-coded signs to make it easier for you to park in the lot closest to the building entrance you want.

Then classroom designations will be modified inside the building to make it easier for you to locate your classrooms. Improved signs will also be posted in corridors and at bridges that connect the buildings to each other.

The signage proposal program is not new to GSU. It actually started in 2006, but did not get off the ground because of funding. Now it has been restarted as of 2009 and plans for its completion should be by the fall 2010. Schultz said.

The funding for the exterior signs will be from the Deferred Maintenance Initiative funds; the interior and the remainder will be funded from FY2011 operating budgets.

According to a response from Mr. Louis Schultz, "The budget for the upcoming sign project is best described by the resolution presented at the GSU Board of Trustees Committee." It reads: Resolution 10-39 Upon the recommendation of President Maimon and the concurrence of the Facilities Committee, Board of Trustees recommends the approval of a purchase order and construction contract to L&H Signs, Inc. of Reading, PA, in the amount of $327,236.06 for construction of work as specified in the bidding documents. With the standard 10% contingency, this action authorizes the University to spend up to $366,009 on this project.
It Just Makes Cents at GSU

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

GSU is asking people to give their two cents on how to help the university save money and handle the $1.75 million budget reduction next year. It Just Makes Cents is the name of the program where anyone can submit ideas to either cut down on costs or create new revenue streams. The website, at www.govst.edu/itjustmakescents, has a brief form to fill out to submit suggestions and an “Idea Bank” where the best suggestions will be shown. Suggestions can be given anonymously.

Ideas for suggestions can be related to improving GSU’s bottom line, increasing efficiency, implementing time saving measures, effectively using limited resources, trimming waste, going green/saving energy, and the pursuit of new business opportunities.

The idea was thought of by Karen Kissel, Assistant Vice President of Business Operations, as a way for anyone to suggest ways to save money in any area of the university. Kissel says they are looking for “Idea’s that are out of the box.”

Supplies for Area Students

The Black Student Union is sponsoring its annual Elementary School Backpack Drive to assist elementary school students who are in need of school supplies and backpacks. Participants are asked to purchase a backpack (for a girl or boy) and include two spiral notebooks, four folders, four report covers, two packs of loose leaf paper, safety scissors, crayons, glue, glue sticks, markers, pencils, pens, wet wipes, travel size hand sanitizer, highlighters, individual packets of Kleenex tissue, and a pocket dictionary.

The backpacks will also include a note from the BSU encouraging the students to achieve high grades and be the best they can be.

Backpacks with school supplies should be dropped off at room A2126, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Donations will be accepted through August 6.

Rent Your Books?

Follett’s GSU Bookstore will begin offering a textbook rental option this fall. The textbook rental program:

- is available to students in store and online
- allows students to choose a preferred form of payment, including financial aid and campus cards
- allows students the freedom to highlight and take notes all within the normal wear and tear associated with coursework
- gives students the option to purchase their textbook at the end of the term.

The rental option is available for select titles only. For more information, contact Bookstore Manager Bernie Bolz at ext. 4562.

Crossword & Sudoku found on page 8.
Game Review: MegaMan Zero Collection

By Steve LaVoie
Contributing Writer

MegaMan Zero Collection gathers all four of the very challenging MegaMan Zero titles that appeared on the Game Boy Advance. All four titles have the same premise; you play as Zero who has been revived to assist resistance fighters against a deadly regime.

Zero can run, jump, dash, wall jump, and use a blaster or saber. Zero can also find and equip Cyber Elves, power ups that have a variety of effects from permanently increasing the health bar and running speed to temporary effects like saving you from bottomless pits, but using Cyber elves decreases your score at the end of a mission, and high level scores are needed to unlock new skills in most of the games.

While the games do have similar gameplay, each individual title has its own unique twists. In the second title you can use a weapon similar to a grappling-hook which allows you to cling to ceilings or bring enemies closer, while the fourth title has the "Zero Knuckle" an innovative tool which allows you to steal weapons from common enemies, ranging from a basic pea shooter blaster to flamethrowers to a vertical firing cannon. The third title has a "Recoil Rod" that allows you to jump higher and Cyberspace doors where everything has a green tint, certain Cyber Elves activate without affecting the score, and enemies only drop healing items. The first game features a more interconnected world.

A new feature added for this collection include the "Easy Scenario," a unique mode which significantly lowers the challenge and makes the game more accessible, but there is only one save slot for this mode and you have to play the titles through in order as if they were all one game.

There are also wallpapers, artwork that appears on the bottom screen during play and unlockable character cards and Mod cards which cause changes in the third game. Plus the games control a lot better now with the DS's additional two buttons.

Overall these are all solid and challenging action titles with good 2D graphics that manages to be accessible to newcomers to this series as well as the die-hard fans. The only big compliment is the music, while the sound effects are nice and crisp you won't be missing much if you mute your DS because the music feels like bland filler which adds little to the experience.

Steve's Score: 8.0/10
Similar titles you may like: MegaMan ZX or any other MegaMan collection.

Outdoor Farmers Market

Buy Local, Buy Fresh
Every Thursday Rain or Shine
1 to 6 p.m.
June thru September
GSU Campus - South end of Parking Lot D

Featuring:
Locally harvested fruits and vegetables
Artisan baked goods
Organic products for the home

1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60464
Directions: www.gsuv.edu/directions
Vendor spaces are still available. Call 708.534.4982 for more information.

Share Your Soles
(Shoe and Linen Drive)

Share Your Soles (SYS) provides shoes to thousands of the world’s impoverished children and families. Since 1999 SYS has brought tens of thousands of pairs of shoes to desperately impoverished people throughout the world: Central America, Southeast Asia, the Caribbean, Appalachia, Africa, Eastern Europe, American Indian Reservations, and India: No boundaries. No borders.

SYS students have come together to help those in need; please donate your gently worn shoes, and new bed sheets. Chi Sigma Iota, Illinois Counseling Association (ICA), the Student Senate, and Student Life have joined together to help SYS assist those in need.

Deposit your gently used shoes, and new bed sheets in the Share Your Soles bins located at the following locations:
Welcome Center, F-Wing Entrance, A-Wing Recreation Center, A-Wing Student Commons, F-Wing Entrance, G-Wing Entrance

The SYS Foundation is a not-for-profit, charitable foundation.
Crossword & Sudoku: solutions on page 7

Across
1. Intense adverse criticism
5. Skewer
9. Stitches
13. Racing sled
14. Overwhelming fear and anxiety
16. Ellipse
17. Assist in wrongdoing
18. Assuage
19. Abnegate
20. Trials
22. Trader
24. Record of events on a voyage
26. Story
27. Incantations
30. Conundrum
35. Actor's prompt
36. Dig
39. Worthless material
40. Deficiency
42. Mythological water nymph
44. Stable gear joining two draft animals
45. Be of use to
47. Virtue
49. Annoy
50. Relating to the mind
52. Not moving as quickly
54. Taxis
57. Prevarication
58. Preside over
62. Young animals
66. Mature
67. Pal
69. Stolen goods
70. Examinations by word of mouth
71. Have need of
72. Group of three musicians
73. Vast multitude
74. Group of three musicians
75. Water source
76. Animals

Down
1. Musical notation
2. Part of the ear
3. Historic periods
4. Large hemispherical drum
5. Health resort
6. Part of the hand
7. Recess
8. Jewelled headdress
9. Soft drink
10. Tied
11. Have need of
12. Cunning
15. Oscillation
21. Exchanged for money
23. Chickens
25. Narrow secluded valley
27. Smooth in manner
28. Smooth brown oval nut
29. Close violently
31. Frozen
32. Orchard
33. Manufacturer
34. Peak
35. Marine mollusk
37. Compete for something
38. Corn spikes
39. Tools for a specified purpose
40. Aromatic herb
41. Decorative fabric
42. Work hard
43. Coniferous tree
44. Riches
45. Nobleman
46. Keep aside for future use
47. Morass
48. Opaque gem
49. Small wooded hollow
50. Concludes
51. To a greater extent
52. Painful sore
53. Halt
54. Angry dispute
55. Examination by word of mouth
56. Spend a beautiful place and spend the whole time inside a convention center
57. Location location location
58. Relating to the mind
59. Important Dates!

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