SVSU's 40th anniversary provided the inspiration for remarks during Commencement ceremonies Friday, Dec. 12. Robert C. Braddock, professor of history, delivered the keynote address as he discussed the University's creation, how it has transformed into the institution of today, and what responsibilities accompany the graduates' education.

Braddock joined the Department of History in 1970, rising to the rank of professor in 1980. In addition to his faculty role with the University, Braddock has served in several administrative capacities, including Chair of the Department of History from 1974 to 1976, from 1985 to 1987 and from 1996 to 1998; Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs from 1987 to 1989; Director of International Programs from 1989 to 1991; Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences from 1991 to 1993; and Fellow in the Center for International Studies and Services. Braddock also served as coach of the Cardinal club soccer team for 15 years.

His commitment to University service earned Braddock SVSU's 1995 Terry Ishihara Co-curricular Involvement Award, as well as the SVSU Faculty Association Award for University Service in 1986. In 1990, Braddock was presented the Landee Teaching Excellence Award, SVSU’s most prestigious honor for quality teaching.

Braddock's special area of scholarly research is Tudor Administrative History, with emphasis upon the Royal Household. He has published nearly 40 articles and reviews in professional journals. Among them are two papers, “Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset” and “Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk,” in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Fall 2003).
UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Professional Profile

• Three faculty members from the Communication Department received awards at the 89th annual National Communication Association (NCA) Convention, Nov. 19 through 23 in Miami, Fla. Rob Drew received the Book of the Year Award from the Critical Cultural Studies Division for his book *Karaoke Nights: An Ethnographic Rhapsody*. Amy Pierce received the Top Paper Award in the Feminist and Women's Studies Division of NCA for her paper titled, “More than 'Just a Mom in Tennis Shoes': Exploring the Effects of Gender and Status in Patty Murray's Senatorial Campaign Rhetoric.” Heather Gallardo received a Top Four Paper Award in the Interpersonal Communication Division of NCA for her paper titled, “Social Skill in Sexual Communication and High-Risk Sexual Behavior in Dating Relationships.” Another paper titled, “A Brief Oral History Interview: Revelations about Couples' Relational Adjustment to a Chronic Illness,” by Michael S. Peters, Heather L. Gallardo, and Eve-Anne M. Doohan, was also presented in Miami.

• Ruth Copp, Department of English lecturer and member of the Committee on Your Reading, participated in a panel announcing the publication of the National Council of Teachers of English 2003 edition of Your Reading, reviews of middle school books, at NCTE's annual convention in San Francisco on Nov. 21. Copp’s part of the presentation was titled “Trends in Multicultural Young Adult Literature.” The publication of this book is the culmination of a three-year project.

Condolences

The campus community extends condolences to:

• David Jerome, custodial/maintenance II, on the loss of his brother-in-law, James Michael Simons, who passed away Dec. 5.

• Tamara Waugh, library technology and training specialist, on the loss of her mother, Alvina Spitz, who passed away Dec. 2.

Transitions

New Staff

• Janet Ritter, custodial specialist

• Melissa Casey, custodian, ext. 4279

Transferred

• Sandy Hawley, administrative secretary, Academic Advisement Center, ext. 4286, 117 Wickes Hall, skhawley@svsu.edu

SVSU professor to appear on statewide television

Christopher Schilling, Strosacker Chair of Engineering, will speak on statewide television during the weekend of January 17, 2004. He will appear as a guest on the program *Michigan Farm & Garden* to discuss his research on converting agricultural byproducts into fuels and biodegradable building materials.

Schilling is studying how to use corn as an energy source and as a way to form plastics. He and a group of SVSU students installed a corn-burning furnace that will heat the Good Neighbors Mission in downtown Saginaw.

*Michigan Farm & Garden* airs in the Tri-Cities, Flint and the Thumb on Fox 66, Saturdays at 6 a.m.

Awrey, Baumgartner receive football awards

SVSU head football coach Randy Awrey was named Region 3 Coach of the Year by the American Football Coaches Association.

“This is the only coach of the year award voted on exclusively by coaches,” said Grant Teaff, AFCA executive director. “The winners are selected by the coaches they compete against on a daily basis.”

Awrey has a five-year record of 45-15 at SVSU. The Cardinals finished 2003 with a school-record 12 wins and advanced to the NCAA Quarterfinals for the second time in school history.

Junior defensive lineman Neil Baumgartner was named a CoSIDA Academic All-American College Division First Team selection this season by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Baumgartner maintains a 4.00 GPA in Secondary Education and also excelled on the field for the 2003 GLIAC Champions.

He was a First Team All-GLIAC Defense pick this season after leading the Cardinals with 14 tackles for loss and nine sacks. Baumgartner’s nine sacks also ranked fifth-best in a season at SVSU.
Renowned minister and writer to speak at SVSU as part of MLK celebration

The Rev. Horace L. Sheffield III will be the keynote speaker at a banquet as part of SVSU’s Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. The dinner will be held Thursday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m. in the Curtiss Hall banquet rooms. The theme for Sheffield’s address is “Vision 2004: Looking Back and Reaching Forward.”

Sheffield is the pastor of New Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit. He was born in Detroit during the midst of the Civil Rights and Labor

Publication features creative work of the SVSU community

Poetry, photography, fiction and artwork are featured in the Fall 2003 edition of Cardinal Sins, which features the creative work of SVSU students, faculty, staff and alumni. The editorial board selected 36 submissions for publication from the more than 240 entries received.

Lindsay Bryce served as editor-in-chief. Melissa Seitz, SVSU lecturer in English, served as faculty advisor.

“The number of submissions was overwhelming, not only in volume, but in quality, making the voting process a difficult one,” Bryce said.

Submissions were judged in six separate categories. The judges were thoroughly impressed with the writing ability of A. Palmer. The freshman literature major from Midland received the top prize in poetry, fiction and flash fiction.

“Despite blind voting by the editorial staff, Palmer’s work stood out above the rest in an unprecedented manner and served to set the tone for this issue,” Bryce said.

The design of Casey Williams, a senior graphic design major from Alma, was chosen as the new logo for “Cardinal Sins.” It is featured on the cover, along with the winning artwork entry submitted by Mike Mosher, assistant professor of art. Photography honors were captured by Cheryl Dotterer, a secondary education and English major from Warren. The winners were announced at a reception Dec. 4.

“I believe that the function of Cardinal Sins is to showcase the literary and artistic talents of SVSU’s students, staff, faculty and alumni. Each of these groups is superbly represented, making it a testament to the creative atmosphere nurtured in and around SVSU,” Bryce said.

Sheffield says he was called to preach in June 1965, at age 11, while listening to the preaching of Dr. Martin L. King Jr., who was in Detroit at the invitation of Sheffield’s father to raise money for the Lowndes County Movement.

Sheffield is a published writer, having co-authored two plays with Ms. Yolanda Denise King, the daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. One of the plays is titled “Stepping Into Tomorrow,” which was also co-authored by Ms. Atallah Shabazz, the daughter of Malcolm X. Additionally, Sheffield, King and Shabazz co-founded Nucleus Inc., a New York-based theatrical company, which toured the country performing positive messages for underprivileged youth.

In addition to writing plays, Sheffield is presently in the process of publishing his first book, Standing in the Shadows, though Barrett Books.

Sheffield also serves as the executive director of the Detroit Association of Black Organizations, a federation of over 200 black organizations in Metro Detroit. He is president of the Michigan Chapter of the National Action Network, as well as chairperson of the Ecumenical Ministers Alliance. Sheffield appears as a guest co-host of WCHB’s “Inside Detroit,” a Radio One broadcast with Mildred Gaddis. He is a national journalist for Rolling Out Urban Style magazine, and is a life member of the NAACP.

Tickets for the banquet are $20 for SVSU faculty, staff and the general public. SVSU students may purchase tickets for $3. Reservations must be placed by Wednesday, Jan. 7. For more information, contact the SVSU box office at ext. 4261 or the Office of Diversity Programs at ext. 4068.

Anniversary discount for bricks good through Dec. 31

The year 2003 marks the 40th anniversary of Saginaw Valley State University as well as the completion of construction of the new Student Center. A wonderful opportunity awaits you to leave a permanent “impression” at the new Student Center in the brick walkway.

SVSU graduates and their families and friends, and SVSU faculty and staff, are invited to have their names and the names of those they would like to honor or memorialize on bricks, placed in the entryway area of the new Student Center.

Special brick pricing is being offered on a limited time basis during SVSU’s 40th Anniversary. Bricks can be purchased at the discounted price of $40 for one 4” x 8” engraved brick, through Dec. 31 (this price is a discount of at least 50 percent).

To order a brick, please call the SVSU Foundation at ext. 4052, or send an email to foundation@svsu.edu.
• The SVSU Foundation is accepting applications through Jan. 30 for the SVSU Foundation Resource Grants. These grants are made to projects that directly benefit SVSU students. Please call or stop by the SVSU Foundation Office (307 Wickes Hall, ext. 4052) to obtain the program guidelines and an application form. Electronic copies are available by emailing busch@svsu.edu. Grants made during this cycle will receive final approval at the April 6, 2004 meeting of the SVSU Foundation Board of Directors.

• Nominate the best student papers from the semester for the annual Braun and Tyner Writing Awards. For submission guidelines, see www.svsu.edu/ writingprogram/braun.htm and www.svsu.edu/writingprogram/tyernom.htm.

• The campus was originally scheduled to be closed for the holiday break from Wednesday, Dec. 24 through Thursday, Jan. 1. However, in order to reduce operating costs (utilities, potential snow plowing, etc.), the campus will now remain closed through Friday, Jan. 2. Normal operations will resume Monday, Jan. 5. Support staff and A/Ps will be granted an additional paid day for Friday, Jan. 2. Payroll checks for staff members not on direct deposit will be mailed to home addresses. Direct deposit advices will be delivered to offices on Monday, Jan. 5.

• Student Life is offering unique gifts for Christmas. Purchase Red Pride items for Christmas presents, including T-shirts at $4 (some children’s sizes available), mugs at $2, and cookbooks at $4. All three items, which may be purchased for $8, are available in Student Life. Contact Trish Gohm at ext. 4170 for more information.

• The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum has announced the addition of several new items for sale in the gift shop. Among the items are a Christmas ornament, “Baboon Playing a Mandolin,” which is five inches tall, and made of hand-blown, hand-painted glass in the traditional European style, in a small family-owned workshop in Poland. The ornament is priced at $35 plus tax. Another new item is the ceramic sculpture, “The Pewabic Mouse,” from the story Lion and Mouse. The sculpture is nearly five inches tall and has been carefully cast and glazed in celadon by Pewabic Pottery in a limited edition using the original Marshall M. Fredericks molds. The sculpture is priced at $325 plus tax. Also featured is the book Marshall Fredericks, Sculptor. The chapters include color photos and cover early career, pre-war career, drawings, post-war career, late works, Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, bronze casting process, and medallic art forms. The book is priced at $65 plus tax. View items at www.svsu.edu/mfsm. Call ext. 7125 or email mfsm@svsu.edu to order.

• The University will conduct a garage sale Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 17 and 18, in O’Neill Arena. Available for purchase will be used furniture, food service supplies and miscellaneous equipment. Hours of operation for both days will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Terms of sale will be cash and carry, and all items will be sold in “as-is-where-is” condition.

• The General Education Committee will convene a General Education Forum Thursday, Feb. 19 in 115 Wickes Hall from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The Faculty Association has reserved this time period for the GEC to conduct this meeting. Students, faculty, and administrators are invited to attend.

• Noted playwright James Still will be on campus Feb. 25 through 27 as the Barstow Seminar Guest Scholar. Still’s award-winning plays have been produced throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. He is a two-time recipient of the TCG-Pew Charitable Trusts National Theatre Artist Residency Grant (with the Indiana Repertory Theatre where he is in his fifth season as the IRT’s first-ever playwright in residence). Still will be available to speak to classes during his visit. Please contact Janet Rubin at ext. 4019 or e-mail rubin@svsu.edu for more details.

• Due to the Brown Hall sprinkler renovation project, water will be shut off for Brown Hall and Zahnow Library Wednesday, Dec. 17, starting at 9 a.m. Water service should be restored by 4 p.m. During the shut off, please use restrooms in Wickes and the Science buildings. For more information, contact Campus Facilities at ext. 4080.

ITS is doing several upgrades to the campus network over the holiday break. Service outages will include the R/25 Master Scheduling system, which will be unavailable from Thursday, Dec. 11 at 8 a.m. through Friday, Dec. 12 at 5 p.m. Also, BlackBoard is being upgraded to version 6.0, and will be unavailable from 8 a.m. Friday Dec. 19 through 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23. The campus network will undergo various upgrades from 8 a.m. Monday, Dec. 29 through 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30. During this upgrade cycle, the e-mail systems will be down for hardware and software upgrades; the network itself, including Internet access from ResNet and offices, will be down for hardware and software upgrades; and all severs, including Colleague, will be inaccessible from on campus and off campus. The down times are conservative and services will be restored sooner if possible.
Cheri Stokes is usually on the move. On the job, she lets her fingers do the walking. Outside the office, the avid runner puts one foot in front of the other.

Sometimes, the activities mirror one another. Stokes has begun training to run in a half-marathon next year. As the person responsible for entering all of the data for upcoming course schedules, she says that process can sometimes make it seem as though the finish line is out of sight.

“It’s six to seven months of running a race to enter all that data, which is very time consuming. There are about 1,300 sections that I enter myself for a typical semester.”

Before Stokes can type in the appropriate information, she has to decipher worksheets returned from faculty that often have scribbled notations on them.

“I have to read between the lines, literally,” she said. Working ahead can cause Stokes to feel lost from time to time.

“I’m always working with next year. Sometimes, I forget where I am,” she said, chuckling.

While she admits that her eyes occasionally go blurry from staring at the computer screen, Stokes says she enjoys typing away day after day.

“That’s something that I have always enjoyed is data entry—as tedious as it is.”

Prior to joining the academic affairs staff three years ago, Stokes spent 12 years working in financial aid.

“There’s a big difference,” she said. “It was a great experience and it was with a bit of reluctance that I left the financial aid office and student services.”

Stokes says she sometimes misses the direct contact with students, but she is not completely removed, as she monitors the scholastic progress of students on academic scholarships.

“It’s equally challenging, but now I work more with faculty,” she said.

Away from work, Stokes enjoys the company of her family. She and her husband, Rod, recently moved to a new house in Saginaw Township with their sons Ryan, 20, and Kyle, 16.

Stokes says it was bittersweet to leave their previous home in Saginaw, because it was built by her great grandfather in 1912.

“It had a lot of happy memories,” she said.

Stokes need not go far to find family. Her sister, Vicki Hayes, works in Admissions, and her son, Ryan, is taking classes at SVSU. He is studying abroad in Spain this semester.

After work, Stokes can often be seen using the new Fitness Center or running the track at the Ryder Center. She says she has been a runner for 25 years.

Stokes has a picture to the left of her computer, but it’s not the typical pin-up photograph. The subject is an 81-year-old woman who still runs competitively.

“It’s a photo of inspiration,” Stokes said.

Stokes says her time at SVSU has flown by faster than someone running a four-minute mile.

“It’s hard to imagine that I’ve been here 15 years. Time goes by before you know it.”