

Interior

February 9, 2005

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Speaker highlights Black History Month activities at SVSU

One of Michigan's most prominent political figures will visit SVSU in honor of Black History Month.

Detroit mayor **Kwame Kilpatrick** will address current social and political issues during his talk, "African-Americans Investing in Becoming Leaders of Today," Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 2 p.m. in the Student Center Multipurpose Room.

Kilpatrick became the youngest mayor in Detroit history when he was elected in 2001 at age 31. Prior to his election as mayor, he served as a state representative and was selected as the leader of the Democratic caucus, becoming the first African-American to lead a political party in the Michigan legislature.

A lifelong resident of Detroit, Kilpatrick completed a law degree at the Detroit College of Law. He received his bachelor's degree in political science from Florida A & M University.

SVSU's Student Life Center is sponsoring the event. Admission is free of charge.



Kilpatrick will address current social and political issues during his talk, "African-

Black History Month Events at SVSU

- **"A Taste of Soul" Food Festival**
Wednesday, Feb. 9, 11:30 a.m.
Student Center Rotunda
Cost: \$3 for students, \$6 for staff
(Meal Plans welcome)
- **An Exhibition of Photographic Essays**
The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is exhibiting "The Preacher and His Congregation," a collection of photographs by southern minister James Perry Walker. The exhibit will be shown through Saturday, March 19 in the Museum's reception hall.
- **Malcolm X Symposium**
Monday, Feb. 21, 6 p.m.
Alan Ott Auditorium
Moderated by Kenneth Jolly, assistant professor of history
Sponsored by Office of Diversity Programs
- **Eyes on the Prize II: The Time has Come, 1964-66**
Published by Blackside Inc., distributed by PBS
Film and Moderated Discussion
Tuesday, Feb. 22, 6 p.m.
Alan Ott Auditorium
Sponsored by Office of Diversity Programs
- **Defining the African-American Research Agenda**
Wednesday, Feb. 23, 6 p.m.
Alan Ott Auditorium
Sponsored by Office of Diversity Programs
Among the faculty presenters are Joseph Ofori-Dankwa, "Diversimilarity," and Ava Lewis, "Recruiting and Retention of Diverse Nursing Students in a Traditionally White BSN Program." Other presenters will include LeCreta Evans, Vanessa Brooks Herd, Dawn Hinton, B. Jean Jones, and Pamela Ross-McClain. Refreshments will be served following the event.

SVSU faculty, staff and students donned ice skates for figure skating and hockey on a new ice rink, installed in the courtyard near the bell tower. Campus facilities grounds crew workers encountered a number of challenges with the drainage system before laying a plastic liner that held water long enough for the water to freeze. Warmer temperatures in early February also prevented the rink from seeing heavy use. (Photo by Tim Inman)



Professional Profile

- **Hasan Al-Halees**, assistant professor of mathematical sciences, attended the AMS-MAA annual meeting, Jan. 5 through 8, in Atlanta, Ga. A preliminary report of the paper, “Extreme operators on a continuous vector-valued function spaces,” co-authored by Al-Halees and Richard Fleming of Central Michigan University, was presented by Fleming at the conference.
- **Jane Girdham**, professor of music, read a paper “Music for young ladies: accomplishment and recreation” at the annual meeting of the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Oxford, England, in January 2005.
- **Judith Kerman**, professor of English, published a poem, “One-Book Poet,” in *House Organ*, #46, Winter 2005.
- **Tai-Chi Lee**, professor of computer science, recently was invited to deliver a lecture on “Image Compression” at the Second International Conference of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, which will take place in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Aug. 12 through 17.
- **Alexander Nalbach**, assistant professor of history, recently received the Newcomen-Harvard Special Award in Business History. He was given the honor for his article, “‘Poisoned at the Source?’ Telegraphic News Services and Big Business in the Nineteenth Century,” which was published in *Business History Review*, a scholarly publication of the Harvard University Business School. For winning the award, Nalbach will receive \$500 and a scroll from the Newcomen Society, an educational foundation for the study and recognition of achievement in American business.
- **Hong Y Park**, professor of economics, addressed the Korea Institute of Finance (KIF) and Korea-America Economic Association (KAEA) joint conference on Structural Changes in Banking Industry and Banks Asset Management Strategy, Dec. 17 in Seoul. Conference participants were bankers, scholars in economics and finance and government policy makers.

Park also presented a paper at the 2005 Allied Social Science Association meetings, Jan. 6 through 9 in Philadelphia. Park’s paper was titled “Corporate Strategies and Performances of Korean Firms: The Unified Theory of the Firm Perspective.” Park also chaired an economic policy forum; presenters at the forum were presidents from the leading research institute in Korea and the contents of forum were reported in the *Korea Times* (an English newspaper in Seoul). He also participated in the economic issues forum sponsored by the *Maekyung Economic Daily News* (the largest business newspaper in Seoul). Contents of the forum were reported in the Jan. 10 newspaper. And, Park completed his term as president of the Korea-America Economic Association on Jan. 9.

- **Jill Wetmore**, professor of finance and acting assistant dean of the College of Business and Management, had a paper accepted for publication by the *Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*. “Mortgage Refinancing Activity: An Explanation [1990-2001]” was co-authored by Chiaku Ndu of Eastern Connecticut State University. Wetmore also recently published two papers in the *American Business Review*. The papers were titled “Components of Interest Rate Risk of Commercial Bank Stock Returns: Mismatch of the Gap, Basis, and Embedded Option (1990-1997)” and “Panel Data, Liquidity Risk, and Increasing Loans-to-Core Deposits Ratio of Large Commercial Bank Holding Companies [1992-2000].”

Condolences

- To **Vonnie Killmer**, women’s basketball coach, on the loss of her husband, Gregg Killmer, who passed away Jan. 28.
- To **Thomas McCann**, director of the Math Resource Center, and **Suzanne McCann**, staff nurse, on the loss of Thomas’ mother, Dorothy McCann, who passed away Jan. 29.
- To **Wynn McDonald**, assistant director of career planning and placement, on the loss of his father, Paul McDonald, who passed away Jan. 9.

New Cardinals

- **John Lowry**, lab technician/athletic training clinical instructor, and his wife, Charlene, welcomed a boy, Andrew Craig Lowry (8 lbs., 6 oz., 20.5 in.), Jan. 9.

Sponsored and Academic Programs Support announces grants received

College of Science, Engineering, and Technology

David Swenson, H.H. Dow professor of chemistry, received \$25,000 from the Zdanowicz Family Foundation for his research project titled, “Metabonomics: Analysis of Products of Cystathionine beta Synthase in Urines of Children with Down Syndrome and Comparison with Unaffected Control Populations.”

Crystal M. Lange College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Elizabeth Roe, assistant professor of nursing, received \$1,000 from Theta Chi Chapter, Sigma Tau Honor Society of Nursing for her project titled “Treatment Seeking in Women with Signs and Symptoms of Myocardial Infarction.”

College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences

Cliff Dorne, associate dean of the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences, received \$37,200 for the development of the Saginaw County Truancy Early Intervention Program. The program will address the substantial truancy, suspension and expulsion rate of students in area schools.



The Interior is published every three weeks throughout the year. University departments sponsoring activities or events listed in the Interior will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when contacted at least three days in advance.

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**Interior Publication Schedule
March 1 & 22**

**Submission Deadline:
Noon on the Friday before the
publication date.
Please send items by e-mail
to: tmi@svsu.edu.**

In the last issue of *The Interior*, University Communications told readers about imminent plans to make changes to University publications and advertising that provide **a focus and consistency to our appearance and messages.**

The first phase of that change is reflected in soon-to-be-launched **graphic standards.**

“Graphic Standards” are consistent recommendations for **how and where to use the University logo, colors, fonts and department icons.** Plans call for eventual changes in University stationery, business cards, signs, banners, etc., that will be phased in as inventory is used. On a departmental basis, new tools will be given to help employees charged with creating a variety of marketing pieces like flyers, tri-fold brochures and invitations. Our graphic identity publication will also include a CD with templates on these and other material produced internally. Everyone involved with developing such material will see that the graphic tools will lead to an easier process for creating such pieces **with a more consistent and professional look.**

In the next issue of *The Interior*, University Communications will share the University’s strategy for **“branding” SVSU.**

Continue to be on the lookout for **Something More. Something Better.**

Saginaw Mission to unveil mural created by SVSU students

The walls of the Good Neighbors Mission in downtown Saginaw will soon be graced by a large, colorful three-paneled mural designed by two Saginaw Valley State University students. The artwork will be formally unveiled during a noon ceremony Friday, Feb. 11 at the Mission, located at 1318 Cherry St.

The mural was created by Clyde Araujo, an SVSU graphic design major from Goa, India; and Matt Zelle, an art major from Grand Blanc, who graduated from SVSU in August 2004. The artists developed their design after gathering input from local residents and incorporating sketches drawn by students at the nearby Trinity-St. John Community Center.

“The mural depicts our young people’s vision of a better world, a better neighborhood, and a better Saginaw,” said Carolyn Butler, director of the Good Neighbors Mission.

“A community mural is democratic ‘politics’ in the best sense of the word, a process of incorporating many voices,” said Mike Mosher,

assistant professor of art and faculty advisor for the mural project.

The first panel is 23 feet wide and portrays the benefits of charitable giving. The second shows several scenes aimed at linking urban and rural communities in the Saginaw Valley. The third panel shows local crops as a renewable energy source.

The murals are the latest in a series of cooperative ventures between the Mission and SVSU. The Mission has seen its utility costs decline sharply since SVSU engineering students installed a corn-burning stove to heat the facility. In addition, the Mission is able to serve its clients more efficiently since SVSU sociology faculty members computerized client records, and with volunteer assistance from SVSU social work students.

The mural project was sponsored by the SVSU Foundation, the Dow Chemical Company, the Michigan Corn Growers Association, the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network, Saginaw County Farm Bureau, and Citizen’s Bank.



To engage its campus and local community with the teachings and spirit of Martin Luther King Jr., SVSU organized an MLK Day of Service. More than 40 SVSU students voluntarily assisted teachers in their classrooms and mentored students at Ricker Middle School in Buena Vista Township, Friday, Jan. 28. The day of service was coordinated by SVSU’s Student Life Center and Office of Diversity Programs. (Photo by Tim Inman)



CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Thursday, Feb. 10

An artist's reception for "Press: Graphics by Mark Dancey," will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. in the University Art Gallery. The exhibition, which features bloodshot eyes, maniacal clowns, and other cultural and pop-art oddities, is on display through Feb. 26.

Thursday, Feb. 10

Arvid Panagariya, the Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy and professor of economics at Columbia University, will discuss "South Asia Economy: Can India be the Tiger that China Is?" at 7 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is free of charge.

Monday, Feb. 14

A Faculty Authors Reception will be held in the Roberta Allen Reading Room in Zahnow Library from 4 to 5:30 p.m. This event will focus on books, textbooks, book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles authored or co-authored by full-time faculty and published from 2002 through 2004.

Wednesday, Feb. 16

A Music Students Recital is set for 7:30 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is free of charge.

Thursday, Feb. 17

Visual anthropologist Tejaswini Ganti, associate professor of anthropology at Connecticut College, will present "The Indian Film Industry: Bollywood and Globalization" at 2:30 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is free of charge.

Thursday and Friday, Feb. 17 and 18

A consultant from TIAA-CREF will be available for one-on-one counseling sessions in 116 Curtiss Hall. For more details, call ext. 7100.

For more details on events taking place at Saginaw Valley State University, visit campusnews.svsu.edu

Briefly Speaking

- The **15th Annual Equity in the Classroom Conference** will take place April 3 through 5 at Western Michigan University. An opportunity to register will be available in the near future through the Office of Diversity Programs. For more information, call ext. 4068.
- Nominations are being accepted for the **Innovative Writing in Teaching Award**. Guidelines for nominations are outlined at www.svsu.edu/writingprogram.
- The **Roosevelt Ruffin Awards Committee** is accepting nominations for individuals and/or groups at SVSU who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and creativity in the area of diversity. Deadline for entries is Monday, March 21. The awards ceremony will be Friday, April 15 at 6 p.m., in Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms. For more information, including the award criteria and nomination forms, visit www.svsu.edu/diversity, contact the Office of Diversity Programs at ext. 4068, or e-mail mtthorns@svsu.edu.

Cardinals sign 32 high school football recruits to national letters of intent

SVSU head football coach Randy Awrey announced Feb. 2 that 32 student-athletes have signed National Letters of Intent to play football for the Cardinals in 2005.

SVSU's class includes 15 players on offense, 16 players on defense and one specialist. In addition, 31 of 32 players hail from Michigan.

This freshmen class not

only excelled on the field but in the classroom as well, boasting a combined overall grade point average of over 3.00.

This year's crop of players features seven offensive linemen who are very agile despite averaging 280 pounds, four wide receivers averaging a height of 6-2, two quarterbacks that combined to throw for

almost 7,000 yards and 70 TDs in their prep careers, a kicker who sent many of his kickoffs through the end zone, and a running back who rushed for 1,939 yards and 27 TDs as a senior.

Nine players from this class will play in the Michigan East/West All-Star Game and over one-third earned All-State honors.



Critically acclaimed soprano Glenda Kirkland performed Saturday, Feb. 5 as part of the 2004-05 Rhea Miller Concert Series. The concert featured operatic compositions and spirituals. Kirkland's charismatic stage presence and smooth, pure and flexible vocal skills were accompanied by Garik Pedersen on piano. The Rhea Miller Concert Series is made possible by a generous gift from Rhea E. Miller, a long-time friend of SVSU. (Photo by Tim Inman)

Joan Garant

Administrative Secretary, College of Education • February 2005

To a superstitious person, it might appear that Joan Garant was predestined to work at SVSU. A framed picture of a cardinal is perched above her desk, but it has been in her possession much longer than her employment in the College of Education, which dates back to 2000.

“I love watching birds,” she said. “I see a lot of cardinals; they’re beautiful birds.”

Garant also has a stained glass cardinal affixed to her window, a gift from professor Susie Emond.

Given her many tasks in the dean’s office, Garant says time flies by.

“My days go by so fast,” she said. “Noon is here before you know it.”

Garant is often busy preparing, reviewing and filing contracts for adjunct faculty. She also monitors faculty course loads and handles various other chores around the office.

At certain times of the year, Garant is preoccupied with processing faculty evaluations and coordinating the hiring of new faculty with Employment and Compensation Services.

Garant and her coworkers also keep a close ear to the telephone.

“We don’t let the phones go to voice mail,” said Garant, who explained the practice dates back to former Education dean Ken Wahl. “Sometimes we have four lines going.”

Garant also spends much of her time greeting visitors, some of whom drop in unexpectedly.

“Everybody wants to come to the dean’s office, whether they need to be here or not,” she said.

Garant previously worked in the purchasing department, and she says her knowledge of working with vendors often comes in handy when acquiring equipment.

“Everything comes to this office,” she said. “Everything needs Steve’s (Barbus) signature.”

When Garant gets out of work for the weekend, she and her husband, Dan, often get away. The couple hails from Alpena and have a cottage there.

“We go there as often as we can,” she said. “We never close it up.”

The family engages in a variety of outdoor activities. During the cold weather months, they engage in cross country skiing. After the spring thaw, the family’s pontoon boat will be used for fishing and relaxing on the water.

Garant says they also enjoy having extended family come to visit.

In recent years, Garant has taken up a new hobby: building scrapbooks. Periodically, she will invite friends over and the group will spend the day pasting away.

“Right now, I’m getting ready for (daughter) Natalie to graduate from high school,” she said.

The couple also has two older children attending college.

Garant estimates that she has spent hundreds of hours on each child’s scrapbook, which she gives as a high school graduation present.

“It brings back a lot of memories,” she said. “Time goes by so fast.”

Garant often thinks of her children when assisting students.

“I hope my kids get the same TLC that we give our students,” she said.

Garant loves her job and tries to keep a positive attitude at all times.

“It’s never hard work to treat people nicely.”



Political Perspective and Retrospective

David Weaver is a seasoned scholar. The professor of political science joined the SVSU faculty in 1967 and is instructing his third generation, literally teaching the grandchildren of former students.

“I’ve had that experience, believe it or not. Usually, I wonder if they talked to their grandparents first,” he said with a hearty laugh.

Weaver says today’s students are similar to their predecessors, for the most part, though he often finds it more difficult to convince modern students to read material, given their short attention spans.

“Of course, professors always decry the general level of ignorance about public affairs,” he added.

The most significant change Weaver has noticed over the years, though, is not in students’ study habits, but in their attitudes toward politics.

“I’d say the greatest shift is an increased pessimism and negativism about the subject of politics,” he said. “Even during the 1960s and ’70s when the anti-war sentiment was very strong, the positive attitudes about what could be done in politics were stronger.”

Weaver has also detected more stridency among those students who have political views, which he attributes to the proliferation of “talking heads” on radio and television, but he says many students are simply disinterested in politics.

“I try to persuade them that this stuff is important,” he said. “I literally tell them to pay attention, recognize the stakes you have in (politics) and participate, or become a victim, because those who choose to take part will win. That’s always a hard sell.”

Weaver says there is a natural tendency for people to allow their leaders to make decisions in order to compensate for their own inattention.

“You assume the job is being done, and that fits neatly with the notion that it’s not a very important job, anyway,” he said.

Weaver shared a recent example of what he considers a perversion of the principle of accountability.

“I had a student last year who asked, ‘Shouldn’t we do what the President tells us to do?’ At which point I said, ‘Never.’”

Weaver may seek to influence public opinion following his retirement at the end of the semester. He is toying with

the prospect of becoming a regular op-ed columnist, though that may be interrupted by the traveling he and his wife, Carol Ann, would like to do.

Woodworking will also occupy Weaver’s time. He lists a reclining chair that he made for their cottage in the Upper Peninsula among his favorite pieces of furniture.

Weaver recalls the days when SVSU had one building, one large bean field, 200 students and five faculty. The explosive growth that has occurred in the years that followed makes its biggest impression on him in a personal way.

“I no longer know everybody,” he said. “For the first 15 to 20 years, I did.”

For that reason—and others—Weaver applauds plans to keep SVSU at around 10,000 students.

“I think that is a wise decision,” he said. “In terms of what we’re supposed to do, I think it’s an optimum size.”

Perfect for fourth and fifth generation Cardinals.

