November 10, 1987

IT'S OFFICIAL: WE'RE NOW A UNIVERSITY!

During the budget-crunch years of the early '80s, Saginaw Valley State, Grand Valley State and Lake Superior State colleges made news headlines as possible candidates for closure. Last Wednesday, the three, along with Ferris State, became universities when Gov. James J. Blanchard signed a series of bills changing their designation.

Blanchard reminded on-lookers of the earlier threats, and said it gave him "great pleasure" to authorize the name change. He said the change in status was both "long-deserved and well-deserved."

Signing of the bills concluded a legislative process that began several months ago. The bills received House approval before summer recess and were passed by the Senate in October.

Members of the SVSU community now are adjusting to the use of the new name. During upcoming months, the title will begin appearing on a variety of institutional items. Since amendments to the bills limit the source of funding for name change costs, the transition will be gradual.

Gov. James Blanchard on Nov. 4 signed legislation granting university status to Saginaw Valley State University. A contingent of university administrators and members of the Board of Control were present for the historic occasion.

Etceteras ...

... "Saginaw Valley College" was chartered as a private institution on Nov. 13, 1963.

... The institution became "Saginaw Bay State College" on July 22, 1965.

... The board of SBSC successfully petitioned the legislature to change the new state institution's name to "Saginaw Valley College" on April 6, 1966.

... In 1975, the legislature renamed the school "Saginaw Valley State College" to recognize its role in Michigan's system of public higher education.

... On Nov. 4, 1987, Gov. James J. Blanchard signed bills naming the institution "Saginaw Valley State University."

... SVC enrolled its first class, including 119 students, in the fall 1964.

... The first baccalaureate degrees were awarded to nine SVC graduates in April 1966.

... The first SVC classes were conducted in rooms rented from Delta College.
ADMISSIONS STANDARDS EXAMINED AT OPEN FORUMS

Two forums, conducted Thursday, Oct. 29 and Wednesday, Nov. 4, opened dialogue among campus constituencies on proposed revisions to SVSU's admissions standards. The proposal under discussion was prepared by the Academic Policies Review Committee, chaired by Director of Academic Support Services Angelita Torrez.

The forums resulted in an open exchange of ideas and concerns about the institution's admissions policies, according to Torrez. Faculty ratification and administrative approval are necessary to implement any changes, she noted.

SVSU UNITED WAY PLEDGES HIT $9,943

SVSU employee contributions to the annual United Way fund drive have hit nearly $10,000.

Dr. John Fallon, assistant to the president, extends his appreciation to faculty and staff who have contributed and reminds all personnel to hand in their pledge cards. For bookkeeping purposes, personnel are asked to return the cards even if they elect not to participate.

TIME MANAGEMENT TOPIC OF ENTREPRENEURS MEETING

Jerry Willing, M.S.W., founder and director of the Academy of Counseling Service, will be the keynote speaker during the Nov. 11 meeting of the Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club in Lower Level Doan.

Willing will discuss time management beginning at 7:45 p.m. A social/networking hour begins at 6 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner. For more information, contact BIDI at extension 4048.

CAMPUS ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK NOVEMBER 16 THROUGH 19

SVSU residential halls are planning four days of activities to increase awareness of alcohol abuse. Alcohol Awareness week is Monday through Thursday, Nov. 16 through 19.

Beginning on Monday, the BACCHUS movie, "Thinking About Drinking," will be shown at 10 p.m. in Lower Level Doan. On Tuesday, a lecture/discussion pertaining to alcohol/substance abuse and life skills will take place, with a speaker to be named later, at 10 p.m. in Lower Level Doan. A mocktail party and coffeehouse entertainment will begin at 10 p.m. in the Cardinal Nest Snack Bar on Wednesday. Events conclude Thursday at 10 p.m. with a Casino Night in Lower Level Doan.

In addition, Merry Jo Starrine, director of Housing and Residential Life, said the office would provide a poster series and distribute written information pertaining to alcohol use/abuse.

Vice President George Bush was on campus Thursday, Nov. 5 to meet with Republican precinct delegates. Nearly 300 people gathered in the Theatre to hear Bush speak.
SOFTWARE CLASSES SET

Computer software training classes for faculty and staff are scheduled free of charge by Computer Services.

A Lotus class (three, three-hour sessions) will take place Nov. 16, 18 and 23. A WordPerfect course (three, three-hour sessions) will be offered Dec. 7, 9 and 14.

For class reservations, contact Mary Lou Taylor, administrative secretary in computer services, at extension 4225.

DataBase classes will be offered soon. Interested personnel should call Taylor.

COMPUTER FAIR FEATURES LOCAL VENDORS

Six local computer dealers will participate in the SVSU Computer Fair Nov. 17.

The fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Lower Level Doan.


A special purchase payment program is available for faculty and staff through the Controller's Office, extension 4218.

CINEMA TICKETS AVAILABLE AT REDUCED RATE

Student Government has cinema passes available for the Quad 11 Theatres in Saginaw at a cost of $2.50 per ticket, a savings of $1.50 for tickets purchased at the cinema.

The tickets may be purchased in the Student Government office on the third floor of Wickes Hall, ext. 4232.

GRAND RAPIDS MUSIC GROUP TO PERFORM CONCERT NOV. 18

The Early Music Ensemble, a professional early music group from Grand Rapids, will perform at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 18, in Room 102 of the Arbury Fine Arts Center.

The group will perform a concert of medieval pieces focused on the themes of love and journey. The performance is in conjunction with a medieval cultures course offered this fall.

The free concert is co-sponsored by SVSU and the Michigan Touring Arts Agency.

BIDI CITED FOR ECONOMIC EXCELLENCE

The Business and Industrial Development Institute was one of the Saginaw County economic development organizations to be noted in the county's quest for designation as a Michigan Community of Economic Excellence.

Gov. James Blanchard and the Michigan Department of Commerce honored the county with a 1987 Overall Excellence Award on Oct. 29.

In addition, the Michigan Technology Council noted BIDI's contributions to bringing out-of-state technology to Michigan.

The MTC also listed three unique technologies available through BIDI, including an ultrasonic inspection system, an ultrasonic method and device for defect detection, and an apparatus for continuous measurement of the BTU (heat) and water content of finely divided coal.

Information on the patents is available through BIDI, extension 4048.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

-- Twenty-six volunteers plan to log more than 120 hours of service during the three-day UNICEF Christmas card sale Nov. 16 through 18. The sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day in the Doan Lobby and Brown Concourse. For information or to volunteer, call Volunteer Services at extension 4167.

-- The Valley Woodwind Quintet will open its fifth season with a concert at 8 p.m., Nov. 17 in the Theatre.

-- Dr. Eric Petersen, professor of history, will lecture on "Nuclear Arms and Foreign Policy," at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 18 in the Alumni Lounge of the Zahnow Library. His lecture is sponsored by the Honors Program and the History/Political Science Club.

-- The Valley Film Society will show "Stalker," a Russian film, beginning at 7:45 p.m., Nov. 20 in the Theatre. For more information, call extension 4332.

ACROSS CAMPUS

-- Mrs. Judy Zietz, senior certification clerk in the office of the Registrar, had a daughter, Kristi Nicole, on Oct. 11. Kristi weighed in at six pounds, 11 ounces. She is the first child of Zietz and her husband Steve.
PERSONNEL

The following position is open to all regular employees of the University.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ENGLISH, full-time permanent (new) position for fall 1988. Requires Ph.D., Ed.D. or D.A. (or expected completion within one year), with concentration in reading. Salary negotiable.

All internal applications must be received by Monday, Nov. 16 in the Personnel Office, extension 4108.

SVSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

DIRECTORY ALTERATIONS

-- The extension number for Ms. Cathy Litka, cataloguer, is 5633.

-- Mr. Dale Mahoney (ext. 4080), was hired in the grounds/maintenance area of Physical Plant during the month of October.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

-- Dr. Anna Dadlez, associate professor of Polish, will address the issue of "World War II War Victims in Eastern Europe" for the Cass City branch of the American Association of University Women on Nov. 17.

-- Dr. John A. Fallon, assistant to the president, was appointed chairman of the Human Resources Committee of the Michigan chapter of the National Arthritis Foundation.

-- Dr. Thomas Hearron, professor of English, on Oct. 17 participated in a panel discussion on "International Perspectives in Education" during the 1987 Fall Conference of the Michigan Sociological Association.

-- Ms. Margaret Krawczyk, instructor of nursing, was elected to the Cabinet on Administration and Education with the Michigan Nurses Association. Her term of office is two years.

-- Ms. Gayle Leece, publications designer, and Mr. Perry Toyzan, Graphics Center supervisor, were given an award of excellence from Nekoosa Papers Inc. of Wisconsin for an invitation designed by Leece and printed by Toyzan. The national honor was awarded Nov. 2 at the Bay Valley Inn by Butler Paper Co. of Lansing.

-- Dr. Enayat Mahajerin, associate professor of mechanical engineering, conducted a training seminar at Dow Chemical Co., Midland, on Nov. 4. Topics covered were stress deformation and failure prevention of machine parts. The seminar was for engineers and designers in the Mechanical Design and Development Division of Dow.

-- Dr. Kerry Segel, assistant professor of reading, English department, was a featured speaker during the 12th annual MUTESOL Conference in Holland, Mich., on Nov. 7. The title of his presentation was "Measuring Textbook Reading Proficiency of ESL Students Entering College."

-- Dr. Elaine Stephens, associate professor of education, spoke at the regional compensatory education conference in Midland on Nov. 2. Her topic was "Comprehension Strategies for Low Achievers." Dr. Susie Emond, professor of education, also addressed the conference. She discussed "The New State Definition of Reading."

HIGH FIVE

-- The cross country team swept all NAIA District 23 cross country honors at Siena Heights on Saturday. In addition, coach Jim Nesbitt was named "Coach of the Year." All seven SVSU runners earned all-district honors and Robert Lemuel set a course record. SVSU finished the meet with 34 points. The Cards compete in the NAIA national at Kenosha, Wisc., on Nov. 21.

-- The football squad dropped a 31-12 decision to Ferris State on Saturday. The Cards scored two touchdowns in the final quarter. SVSU TDs were made by Kevin Mitchell and Jim Miron. The Cards finish their season Nov. 14 when they host GVSU.

-- The volleyball team hosted the NAIA District 23 tournament Saturday and came in second place behind Northwood Institute. The Lady Cards defeated The University of Michigan-Dearborn in semifinals before losing to NI 15-6, 14-16, 7-15, 8-15. NI defeated Hillsdale to get into the finals.

EVENT WATCH

Nov. 12...Lunchbreak Concert, Jazz
Nov. 12...IRRA Meeting
Nov. 14...Alumni BB
Nov. 14...FB vs. GVSU
Nov.16-18...UNICEF Christmas Card Sale
Nov. 17...Valley Woodwind Quintet
November 10, 1987

SVSU's governing board set a frenetic pace Monday with a schedule that began with a special meeting, proceeded through two open committee meetings, included lunch with the Delta trustees followed by a joint board meeting and concluded with a tour and demonstration of Delta's new computer numerical control lab. While the joint meeting with Delta's board is an annual affair, the open committee meetings preceding it were in addition to past years' activities.

Prior to meetings of the Academic & Student Affairs and the Business & Facilities committees, SVSU's Board of Control met briefly to take action related to approving a contract for construction of a roadway and retention pond north of the Arbury Pine Arts Center. Members also authorized signing a contract to provide an alternate primary electrical service to the campus.

The state of Michigan has allotted $359,000 to SVSU for design, construction and site development for the road and retention pond in the area north of Wickes Hall and the Fine Arts Center. Bids on the project were to be opened at 2 p.m., so Board members were asked to decide whether they preferred to reconvene following the joint meeting, or instead to authorize President Jack Ryder and Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs Jerry A. Woodcock to sign contracts up to $359,000 for the work. They opted for the authorization process. Six contractors were expected to submit bids on the job.

President Ryder and Vice President Woodcock also were authorized by the Board to enter into agreements with Consumers Power Co. to provide an alternative primary electrical service to the campus. The alternate service capability is needed to prevent inconvenience or damage that can occur with power interruptions. The campus has experienced occasional electrical outages in the past, and electrical service needs are increasing as the campus becomes more complex.

Cost of the alternate service is expected to be $280,000, with the State providing $250,000. Board member Charles Curtiss asked whether the remaining $30,000 would be included in SVSU's capital outlay appropriation for the next fiscal year. He was informed that the funds could be part of the school's capital outlay allotment in an upcoming year, or, if necessary, could be drawn from the institution's reserve for repair and maintenance.

Following adjournment of the business meeting, simultaneous meetings of the Academic & Student Affairs and the Business & Facilities committees were conducted.

-- The Academic and Student Affairs Committee heard comments from Director of Academic Support Services Angelita Torrez on the proposal for changing SVSU's admissions standards. Torrez chairs the Academic Policies Review Committee, which studied an Administrative Council proposal to alter present admissions policies.

She said APR members analyzed ACT and SAT scores and GPAs as predictors of college success. Committee members saw a need to be flexible and realistic while adopting standards that the university "could be proud of." Open forums have been conducted to obtain campus input. (See separate story on Page 2.)

In response to Board questions, Torrez noted a marked improvement in Basic Skills test scores among students currently entering SVSU, indicating they are receiving more thorough preparation in K-12 settings. Professor John Willertz added that SVSU faculty are committed to "very high quality in our graduates. SVSU students graduate with a very good education," he said.

Board member Joyce Woods cautioned that extremely rigid admissions policies could limit access to education for some area
residents, and said that the needs of the region should be kept in mind.

"Access and quality of education will be a continuing discussion on this campus," noted Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert Yien.

The committee also heard a brief report on the progress to revise SVSU's affirmative action plan. The Administrative Council is reviewing proposed changes, and Affirmative Action Director Leroy Hampton is accumulating data to be used in developing staffing goals. Materials will be available for the Dec. 3 Council meeting. Proposed revisions will be submitted to the Board for study prior to action at their January or February meeting.

The number of minority students attending SVSU declined slightly this year, following a national trend. However, a number of long-range initiatives are under way that should reverse this trend locally and assure that SVSU's student population reflects the makeup of the regional population. Measures include the Visiting Minority Professor program, the minority mentoring program implemented this fall and M.L. King/Cesar Chavez/Rosa Parks program targeting junior high students. In addition, four graduate students have received scholarships for study at SVSU.

-- The Business and Facilities Committee discussed plans for a policy and guidelines statement on educational business activities. The statement is in response to statewide concerns by the private sector toward government competition with goods and services.

Woodcock said SVSU currently is not a threat to the private sector; but would devise a policy similar to those of other state institutions.

The committee reviewed advantages of obtaining a new carrier for directors and officers insurance.

It also discussed the possibility of obtaining natural gas from a supplier other than Consumers Power for a substantial savings. Woodcock said further deregulation opened the door to the University taking advantage of the legislation. He said if any new supplier had to interrupt services to the University, Consumers would immediately begin service so the University would always have natural gas. Woodcock said savings could amount to $50,000 to $60,000 gross annually.

Discussions also took place concerning an instructional computer purchase and student loan default rates. The rates were the subject of recent media attention, following the dissemination to the press of a report purporting a high default rate among borrowers who held Guaranteed Student Loans. However, Woodcock said a phone call to Department of Education officials indicated a "highly questionable" methodology was used to calculate the rate. Woodcock is awaiting copies of the Dept. of Education documents. GSLs are obtained by students from private lending institutions, and are not administered or collected by colleges and universities.

The joint meeting was hosted by Delta College and featured six discussion and information items. Printed materials supporting all discussions are available in the Office of Information Services.

Topics included a review of current and past cooperative activities of the two institutions. They range from the sharing of specialized physical plant equipment and joint purchasing that secures volume discounts on paper purchases to articulation agreements, a common post office, and frequent communication and meetings at various levels.

The level of cooperation is reinforced by missions that serve different clientele. While Delta's primary goals involve providing certificate and associate degree programs focusing on occupational entry preparation or on preparing students for transfer to four-year schools, SVSU offers baccalaureate and master's degree programs.

A study prepared by SVSU Registrar Paul Saft showed that nearly 41 percent of fall 1986 transfer students came to SVSC from Delta College. The average age of the 248 transfers from Delta that year was 29, just above the average age of 28 of all SVSC undergraduates.

A comparison of tuition rates showed that while Delta's in-district (tri-county) rate is lower, the $59/credit hour rate for students from other Michigan counties to attend Delta is higher than SVSU's resident undergraduate rate of $54.50. The lower tri-county rate reflects support received by Delta through local property taxes. The combined revenues from local property taxes and state appropriations are approximately equal to SVSU's percentage of total support from state appropriations, now about 65 percent.

Concluding the agenda was a presentation on economic development initiatives by the two institutions. Both have active programs.