July 26, 1988

COMPUTERS MULTIPLY AT SVSU

Although SVSU classrooms don't resemble the interior of the Starship Enterprise, the campus is becoming computerized.

"Technologically, our instructional computers are ahead of almost every other school in Michigan," said one college official. "Virtually all our instructional computer workstations are less than two years old. Most of our microcomputer labs run with state of the art networking, and many DEC and IBM labs have been installed within the last academic year."

Since the purchase of the first IBM 1130 in 1971, the school has spent nearly two million dollars purchasing equipment for academic use. There are approximately 120 workstations available to students as of summer 1988, and by fall semester, 80 more workstations will be added.

"I use them. My students have used them to write a health newsletter for the last four semesters," said Anita Harrand, instructor of nursing. "We're using newsroom software on the Apple computer to print our newsletter, which goes to (places such as) area hospitals and home care agencies. Some nursing students go on to do spread sheets, mortgage tables...it's been a springboard for other things for students. We're using available software and letting it help us." A new computer laboratory is being built in Wickes Hall for the nursing department. It will be up and running during fall semester of 1988.

The English department also utilizes computers. "We have one classroom designated for use by the English department with IBM PC compatibles. It's used for writing papers, correcting papers, and there is software available for students that is of a tutorial nature; students get immediate feedback," said English professor Dr. Thomas Hearrorn.

The Music and Art Lab uses computers in a less traditional way. Music students can use computers like synthesizers in which music can be written and various instruments can be simulated. An entire band can be simulated from one computer. Art students can illustrate documents, change sizes of drawings and simulate graphic designs.

Computers enable students of finance to learn about the world of wheeling and dealing. Said Jill Wetmore, assistant professor of finance, "In my case, I have finance packaging used in conjunction with Lotus software. It does capital budgeting, statistical regressions, and number crunching. The computer provides students with a nice, neat list when they do number crunching on it. I also strongly urge my students to use computers when they write papers for me." Wetmore said that she and her students utilize the computers in Brown 213, one of the computer labs available to all students.

There are nine computer laboratories for student use at SVSU. The labs in Brown 213 and 215 are available to all students. The English lab in Zahnow Library is available to all students, but first priority is given to students taking English courses. The chemistry, nursing, music and art, and CAD CAM labs are for students in those fields. CAD CAM is used by the school of engineering. The newly built Learning Assistance Center, located in Academic Support Services, first floor Wickes, will initially be for students taking certain courses and having certain tutorial needs, but eventually will be available for anyone who needs tutoring.

There are no specific hours of operation for the labs. Coordinator of Microcomputer Laboratories Janet (see 'Computers'- pg.3)
HOMEs NEEDED FOR
JAPANESE VISITORS

Eighteen young women from Shikoku Women's University in Tokushima, Japan are seeking an American experience unlike any provided by a tour guide.

The women are on campus for five weeks. They arrived July 18 and will leave Aug. 21. In the past, during their last weekend in the tri-city area, the women stay in the homes of University personnel, according to Bill Hodgkinson, director of the summer institute for the women. Hodgkinson also is an adjunct faculty member.

He said the women speak English. They will be available for the homestay after 2 p.m., Aug. 19 and should return to campus during the early evening hours of Aug. 21.

Hodgkinson said this is the largest number of women to visit the campus during the five-week summer stay. In the past, he said the women have "had absolutely no complaints about being in the homes."

"They love it," Hodgkinson said.

The women seek an experience with a genuine American homelife. It also is a cultural and educational experience for the host family.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

-- Professor Zhang Jian of Shandong University, will visit SVSU through July 27. Zhang will address the public at 7:30 p.m., July 26 in Brown Hall, Room 127. His visit is sponsored by SVSU's College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences. Zhang, an expert in English/Chinese translations, will discuss "Characteristics and the Present State of the Chinese Language."

SCHOLARSHIP CHECK RECEIVED -- SVSU President Jack M. Ryder accepts a $9,000 check from Triskelion officers. Since 1977 the women have presented their gifts to be used as scholarship awards at SVSU. The monies are generated through operation of a resale shop in downtown Midland. The Triskelion Consignment Shop is located at 136 Townsend at Larkin. The shop will re-open to accept consignment and donations on Aug. 15. Sales in the shop begin Aug. 29.

Triskelions 1988-89 officers are Jane Rubens, president; Marge Madden, vice president; Shirlee Hampton, secretary; Audrey Harding, treasurer. Susan McCaffrey is the Consignment Shop treasurer/business manager; Pat Sanders is chairman for the shop.

L-R in photo: Dr. Albert Beutler, executive director of the SVSU Foundation; Shirlee Hampton; Jack M. Ryder; Susan McCaffrey.
AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1- The Lady Cardinal basketball team will host a girls' basketball camp Aug. 1 through Aug. 5 in Cardinal Gymnasium. More than 50 girls will be given the opportunity to hone fundamental skills during the camp. The camp's director will be Claudette Charney, women's basketball coach, extension 4118.

1- The Office of Admissions will host a group of junior high school students during "Dream Week." The week's activities, for students involved in the Martin Luther King Jr./Cesar Chavez/Rosa Parks program, feature a look at college life and employment opportunities.

25 Faculty/staff orientation will take place Aug. 24 and 25 in Lower Level Doan.
& 26 Activities on Wednesday, from 1:30 to 4 p.m., are geared toward University personnel hired within the last year. Thursday's events, from 8 a.m. to noon, are open to all campus faculty and staff. From noon to 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, a Deans' Luncheon for faculty will take place. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Frederic H. Erbish, president of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters. For information, call the Office of the Vice President for Administrative Affairs at extension 4296.

27 The Real Estate Examination will be administered in Brown Hall. For further information, contact Conference Bureau at extension 4248.

Computers (from pg. 1)

Joyce said that the combination of computer labs in Brown 213, 215, and the lab in Zahnnow Library are open an average of 90 hours a week during the school year. She added that ideally, the Zahnnow lab and Brown 213 hours of operation should not overlap in order to insure that software is available to students. These labs also are open some nights and weekends, if needed.

Not everyone knows how to use computers, despite the numbers of them around campus. SVSU provides students with the opportunity to enroll in various classes to teach computer knowledge. "The nice part about Saginaw Valley is that we try to offer training in all major computer systems," said one college official. "Students can take classes here that enable them to go to a job interview being familiar with IBM, DEC, Prime, IBM PC, Apple IIIE and MacIntosh."

Although nearly every academic department at SVSU is using computers for instructional purposes, professors say that the computer cannot be a substitute for traditional teaching methods.

Dr. Kerry Segel, assistant professor of English/reading said, "Computers are a useful medium for teaching certain skills to certain people. Computers ... are an instructional tool that works best with other media. They serve as a bridge to utilize learning skills; they are ... an integral part of the learning experience."

SHANNON THOMPSON GOLF MEMORIAL SET

The second annual Shannon Thompson Golf Outing is set to tee off at 11 a.m., Mon., Aug 15, at Owosso Country Club. There is a $60 entry fee, with all proceeds going to support the Shannon Thompson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

According to event chairman Jim Dwyer, the four-person scramble will ensure a good time for all who participate. A $20 steak dinner follows the golf outing. The fee includes door prizes, entertainment and dancing. Tickets for the golf outing and the dinner can be purchased separately or in combination. Donations also are accepted, Dwyer said. His extension is 4200.
PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

-- Dr. Jennifer Bridges, professor of physical and health education, has had the article "National Association for Girls and Women in Sport Media Tips" published in the National Coaching Institute Applied Research Papers in June 1988. In addition, Bridges gave a seminar on applied anatomy and physiology for exercise to potential instructors of the Body Image Corp. of Saginaw on July 15.

-- Dr. Eric Nisula, professor of music, was the musical director for the A.B.C. Productions Summer Community Theatre presentation of Oklahoma!, by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The production took place July 21 through 24 in Bay City. As musical director, Nisula was responsible for preparing the orchestra and providing assistance with the singers. This is the second music theater Nisula has conducted.

OOPS!

The lab fees listed in the July 12, 1988 issue of The Interior should have noted an increase from $16 to $18 per course (not per cr. hr).

PERSONNEL

The following position is open to all regular employees of the University. For further information, contact the Personnel Office at extension 4112.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, Information Services, full-time, permanent (replacement) position. Grade Level 5: $6.96 per hour. Exact date of availability to be determined.

All internal applications are due to Personnel by Monday, Aug. 1.

SVSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

GALLERY BOARD MEETS, ELECTS OFFICERS

The newly-appointed Board of Directors for the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery conducted its organizational meeting on July 21. Elected chairman was Ned S. Arbury of Midland. Marshall M. Fredericks will serve as vice chairman, and Dr. Robert Yien is secretary of the board. His administrative assistant, Kristin Gregory, will serve as administrative secretary for the gallery board.

Other members of the board are Rosalind Fredericks, Dorothy "Honey" Arbury, Barbara Heller and Hillary Bassett.

The board will set policy for the gallery and will initiate the hiring of a curator in conjunction with the SVSU administration. Board members will meet again on August 17.

EVENT WATCH

July 26-29...Summer Institute
July 26...Prof. Zhang
Aug. 1-5...Girls' Basketball Camp
Aug. 1-5..."Dream Week"

For information on these and other campus events, call Information Services at extension 4054.

GALLERY OPEN TRIO OF AUGUST WEEKENDS

Following a successful run of three July weekend openings, the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery will be open to the public during three weekends in August.

The gallery will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, August 13 and 14, 20 and 21, and 27 and 28. Admission is free.

The gallery contains a visual feast of Marshall Fredericks' sculptures. Included in the collection are bronze figures, reliefs, scale models and many original plaster molds used as patterns for the artist's larger-than-life works. Located in the sculpture garden just outside the gallery are several bronzes. "Night and Day," male and female figures, grace a reflection pool in the garden.
When Mary Lou Taylor came to Saginaw Valley State College in 1980, there was just one computer mainframe on campus and three work stations. Today, there are four mainframes and dozens of work stations across campus.

"I've watched (computer services) grow; and it has grown," the administrative secretary said. "When I came here, I knew absolutely nothing about computers."

Taylor speaks highly of the director of computer services, Jim Finzel. The duo are among the earliest members of the staff, having arrived the same year.

"Jim and I are approximately the same age," Taylor said. "The others are just 'kids.'"

Many of those "kids" began as student work studies and now maintain full-time positions with the department.

"They all call me 'mom' here."

Others call Taylor "mom," too -- her four children, two sons and two daughters.

Taylor's youngest daughter Barbie has brought Taylor much happiness in her 23 years. She also has been the source of much sadness. In January, Barbie was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease, a chronic illness that strikes the lymph nodes, spleen and often the liver and kidneys -- and tears apart the hearts of loved ones, much as it has Taylor.

"You just don't know until you go through it," Taylor said. She went through a similar ordeal years ago when her husband suffered through Lou Gehrig's Disease, an illness similar to muscular dystrophy.

"Carl and I went through it together. When you're married you become one. We went through it as one. I helped him and he helped me. But a child is your flesh and blood. When (Barbie's) down, I'm down. She's been a real trooper and you do what you have to do."

Despite Barbie's illness, additional joy has been brought to Taylor, in the form of four "roommates." Barbie, her husband and two toddlers live with Taylor.

Having the children in her home, Taylor laughed, is like being a mother again.

"I just had my furniture all set ... and my plants, my poor plants. They used to be healthy," she chuckled. "The children love to chew and pull on them"

Taylor also said the children have adapted "beautifully" to the arrangement, including a variety of church volunteers that help with the children and the house.

When Taylor isn't busy at SVSU or with her family, she enjoys knitting and cross stitching. With all the grandchildren, (there are eight and No. 9 is en route), Taylor said she has knitted little but "afghans and baby blankets -- and not a thing for myself!"
The recent rains bring promise; but they may not be enough to give the Midwest a green summer.

Dr. Al Menard, assistant professor of physics and "resident meteorologist," said the below normal rainfall combined with above normal temperatures should continue until after Labor Day. That could spell the demise of the usual lush green Michiganders expect in the summer.

The summer also was not what the writers of the Old Farmer's Almanac had expected. Above average rainfall was predicted for the Midwest. How could such a faux pas occur?

Easily, Menard said, adding that the Almanac has been on the mark for the New England region of the country because it has been predicting its weather since 1810. It has been in recent history that those same people began forecasting for other parts of the country.

"This is the worst drought in Midwest history," Menard said. "At least locally, I have complete confidence is saying this is the least rainfall in history since (rainfall was) recorded."

The weather is predicted according to history, Menard continued. Forecasters usually will take the rainfall or temperature for a particular month for each of 30 years, divide that sum by 30 and come up with an average.

The heat and dry lands have broken an assortment of records, Menard said, including 15 in Flint.

"Since May, I have seen so many days of bright, sunny skies," he said. "And month after month of no rain. This is a most unusual drought."

Menard said the drought is affecting a very large part of the country -- quite severely. He said Minnesota is in even worse shape than Michigan. There, the Mississippi River has less than 10 percent of its water remaining, he said.

"And I never dreamed of a watering restriction in Michigan," Menard said.

Menard is a self-taught meteorologist, having an extreme interest in weather and its effects. "I just keep educating myself and continue to learn."

He added that he learns much from his students' experiences in other parts of the country and from their papers. Because he likes the role of teaching, Menard has never pursued a career as a meteorologist.

"I like the interaction; seeing people get enthused and turned on. That's the biggest payoff. That's what I hope to do."

Menard said weather is something one can always learn about.

"You don't have to be a professional to be up on weather," he said.