November 3, 1992

'Many Cultures, One Nation' Becomes Theme for Unity Week Activities

The Office of Minority Services has announced a full slate of activities for Festival of Unity Week, November 5-12.

This cultural gala event, now in its third year, supports SVSU’s mission to provide opportunities for greater ethnic understanding and enhance the University’s image as a culturally diverse higher education institution.

The activities in this year’s festival offer a perspective on how SVSU fits into our diverse world. Programs foster an awareness and appreciation of contributions made to the University and region by individuals of all ethnic identities. Among the offerings are:

Thursday, November 5
- Cultural Exchange: "Quest for Unity" — A presentation by Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, professor emeritus, Rutgers University. Lower Level Doan Center, 12 noon to 1 p.m.
- Native American Storytelling — Alumni Lounge, 12 noon to 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 11
- Minority Services Open House — International coffee and pastries will be served. 173 Wickes Hall, 9 to 10 a.m.
- International Cuisine — Culinary tidbits from various countries around the world. Cost: $3 per person. Brown Concourse, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Cultural Exchanges: "Facing Differences" — presentation by Dr. Robert S.P. Yien, vice president for academic affairs. Alumni Lounge, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, November 12
- Ethnic Cuisine — Mexican, Casa del Rey Restaurant; American Deli Sandwiches, Subway; African American Soul Food, Hickory Rib Inn; Oriental, Peking City Restaurant; Polish Pastries, Polish Club. Brown Concourse, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Cultural Displays — On hand will be the African American Specialty Shop, Touba Fashions by Samb Ibrah and the Saginaw Black Cultural Alliance.
- Cultural Exchange: "Multiculturalism on Campus" — Informal student panel discussion on diversity at SVSU. Zahnow Student Lounge, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For further information on Festival of Unity Week events, contact the Minority Services Office at ext. 5663.
Showcasing SVSU

It's long been recognized that there's a wealth of talent and diverse interests among SVSU employees. During class/office hours, that talent is primarily focused on job responsibilities. But during off-duty hours, the creative juices flow into other wonderful — and sometimes unexpected — channels.

With the arrival of a new, lighted display case, members of the campus community are invited to share what turns them on when they are off.

The 69" x 72" x 36" showcase, located in the reception area of the central corridor, third floor Wickes Hall, will feature displays based on employee hobbies, avocations or special interests. The case can accommodate a wide variety of items ranging from paintings, sculpture and other artifacts to memorabilia, collectibles, handmade books or needlework.

"We are inviting display proposals," said Richard Payne, who is working with a campus committee to initiate the project. "We encourage all employees to share their hobbies and talents with the SVSU community through this series of displays."

Payne said each display will remain in place for three to four weeks. All ideas will be considered. Some may become one-person shows, while others may be grouped with similar proposals around a theme, he said.

The opening display will consist of works by the SVSU art faculty. Subsequent shows could be as diverse as handmade furniture to a collection of fishing lures and flies, or kites, or election campaign memorabilia.

"These displays not only are a great way to share our interests with others, but also an opportunity to learn about a wide variety of topics," Payne said. Interested persons may submit proposals in memo form. For more information, call Payne at ext. 4041.

Marketing Research Students Hone Polling Skills

Students in Shiv Arora's day and evening marketing research classes this fall recently completed a unique learning experience. In cooperation with WNEM TV-5, they conducted a state-wide presidential poll, with the results airing on 11 p.m. news segments seen October 28, 29 and 30. Poll information also was put on A.P. and U.P.I. wire services and picked up by WJR radio's J.P. McCarthy, among others. CBS also ran the story.

The phone survey consisted of four questions related to the presidential race and three for demographic information. A random sample of 1053 people was contacted in a four-day period ending October 27. News anchor Rod Meloni met with the students before the survey, developing the questionnaire, interviewing and videotaping. He again met with students when the survey was completed and tabulated.

Results showed the race to be a toss-up in Michigan, with a large number of voters still undecided just a short time before the election. In addition, the student researchers discovered that a large proportion of the undecided voters were women. The "undecideds" tended to be concentrated in certain age brackets and geographic areas.

Remember — you heard it first from SVSU.

University Art Gallery Exhibit Features Louis W. Doll Collection

Traditional woodblock prints from the Louis W. Doll collection will be shown November 10 through December 3 in the University Art Gallery.

Dr. Barron Hirsch, director of the gallery, notes the woodblock print became a major medium of artistic expression in Japan during the Edo period (1603-1867).

"This was an age of unprecedented peace, which saw the growth of a prosperous middle class," Hirsch said. "Woodblock prints produced in large editions supplied this middle class with images that would record the pleasures and beauty of life in the capital city.

"Fashionable ladies, Kabuki actors and tea houses were popular subjects. Later prints from the Meiji period (1868-1912) document the change from a feudal lifestyle to a modern industrial society," Hirsch said.

The University Art Gallery is located on the first floor of the Arbury Fine Arts Center. For further information on the exhibit, or for gallery hours, call ext. 4391 or 4159.
Foreign Language Day Brings Area High Schoolers to SVSU Nov. 4

Area high school students will compete for prizes at the SVSU Foreign Language Day, Wednesday, Nov. 4. The annual competition, now in its 17th year, takes place between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in Cardinal Gymnasium. Participating students will demonstrate their knowledge of French, German, Latin, Polish and Spanish while performing skits, songs, dances or cheers. The event is sponsored by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages.

Photo Club Sponsors Competition

Latent Image Club and the Art Department are sponsoring "Latent Image Photo Competition IV." Held in the University Art Gallery Jan. 10-30, the contest is open to all forms of photographic processes. The juror this year will be Jan White Arvanet, assistant professor of art from Alma College. Fees for non-students are $15 for up to three works; $10 for up to three works by students. Further entry information and registration forms are available from Hideki Kihata, assistant professor of art, by calling ext. 5644.

Events/Activities

- **Non-Traditional Student Organization Lecture** — Wednesday, Nov. 4, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 242 Zahn Now Library. "Designing Your Career Path," presented by Diana Gutierrez, coordinator of career services.
- **Voices in the Valley Series** — Thursday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m., Lower Level Doan Center. Stuart Dybek and Lawrence Pike read from current works of poetry and short stories.
- **Entrepreneurs Club Meeting** — Wednesday, Nov. 11, 6 p.m., Lower Level Doan Center. "Employee Empowerment Through Creative Management" will be presented by Terry Duperon, president of Duperon Corp., and Joseph Ofori-Dankwa, associate professor of management at SVSU.
- **Fall Theatre Performances** — Nov. 13 and 14, 8 p.m., Nov. 15, 2 p.m., SVSU Theatre. *Harvey* is the scheduled production. For complimentary tickets, call ext. 4019.
- **Organizational Leadership Series** — Monday, Nov. 16, 12:10-12:50 p.m., Alumni Lounge. Joseph Ofori-Dankwa, associate professor of management, will discuss "Motivating Others."
- **Valley Christian Fellowship Lecture** — Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m., SVSU Theatre. "Why Should Anyone Believe Anything At All?" Free admission.
- **Program Board Lecture Series** — Tuesday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m., Cardinal Gym. Ex-CIA officer Phil Agee will offer "CIA Issues."

Professional Profile

- Kay Harley, professor of English, and Sally Cannon, assistant professor of English, along with student tutor Jennifer Majchrzak, presented a paper titled "Faculty, Adjuncts and Student Tutors Revise the Traditional Basic Writing Classroom" at a meeting of the Michigan Council of Teachers of English in Lansing on Oct. 23. This presentation is based on the English 080/111 Piloting Intensive Support program initiated by Cannon and Harley in fall 1992 to better meet the needs of underprepared students.

The Economics Society invited Dr. M. Madiah, vice chancellor of the University of Mysore, to speak at its 13th forum on Oct. 26 in Ryder Center Dance Studio. Madiah spoke to more than 100 people from SVSU and the community on "Privatization of Indian Economy." The University of Mysore is located in Mysore, India, and enrolls some 100,000 students in 106 colleges. Dr. Mahendra Kanth, professor of economics, is the Economics Society's club advisor.
Personnel

The following positions are open to all regular employees of the University:

- **Groundskeeper, Physical Plant** — Full-time (replacement) position. Work hours: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., rate of pay $7.50 per hour. Minimum of three to five years of groundskeeping experience, including operating mowers, plows, backhoe, irrigation systems and knowledge of turf maintenance required. Pesticide Applicator’s license preferred.

For further information, call the Personnel Office at ext. 4112. SVSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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Normal Hours Resume Monday, November 30

Did You Know? ...

- Regalia orders are due in the Bookstore by Nov. 6 for Commencement on Dec. 18.
- Margaret M. Flatt, associate professor of nursing, will speak at a public meeting sponsored by the Saginaw League of Women Voters on Nov. 12. Flatt, whose topic is "Financing of Health Care," will address one of the proposed reforms, National Health Insurance. The meeting will take place in the Saginaw Township Hall’s lower level at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Norma Gase Zivich, president of Saginaw LWV, by calling ext. 4075.
- The 14th Annual Student Scholarship Tribute included a brunch and was celebrated in conjunction with Family Festival Day. Participants also were invited to watch the Cardinals defeat Northwood in football.
- The Saginaw Civic Center is offering $5 discounts to SVSU faculty, staff and students for tickets to "Ricky Van Shelton in Concert," Nov. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Theater. Present SVSU ID at the box office to receive the discount off the regular $29.25 and $24.25 ticket prices. Phone orders will not be accepted. The box office opens at 9:30 a.m.

Transitions

The following personnel changes occurred since October 6. Please make changes in your Faculty/Staff Directory.

New
- Keleen M. Marciniak — student employment specialist, Placement Office, ext. 4070.

Promoted/Transferred
- Patricia Gomez — general accounting clerk, Controller’s Office, ext. 4213.

Departing
- Betty R. Chenoweth — Bookstore director.
- Lori Fisher — student employment specialist, Placement Office.
- Herbert C. Heider — accounts receivable manager, Controller’s Office.
- Robert W. Wolfgram — groundskeeper, Physical Plant.

Telephone Extension Correction
- Greg Wright — research and technical marketing specialist, ext. 4124 or 4137.
His usual response to a jingling phone is "Kanthi here." But for Mehandra S. Kanthi, "here" has included an extensive list of places and phone exchanges.

A native of India, Kanthi received his graduate education in the U.S. (Bowling Green State and the University of Kentucky). He extended his international travels by service to the United Nations and to several third world governments.

"I went as a consultant to help in terms of getting foreign aid and to help with economic planning. I also travelled quite a bit on U.N. missions," Kanthi explains. His travels included former Warsaw Pact countries, Japan and other nations.

"What I found was that the average citizen and student was more aware of their respective economies than their U.S. counterparts," he says. "The level of economic literacy was very low in the U.S.

"People didn't know what a trade deficit is, or a budget deficit, or how unemployment or prices rise and some possible results of changes."

Kanthi's conviction that something needed to be done led to the formation of SVSU's Economic Society in 1987. "Its goal is to raise economic literacy," he says. Former Board of Fellows chairman Dan Toshbach set up a committee that included Kanthi, Dave Wierman (formerly publisher of the Saginaw News) and others interested in the concept.

"I just do things," Kanthi smiles. "I went to John Dyke (then president of Student Government); he was very helpful. We held the first Economic Forum in 1987."

The thirteenth forum took place October 26, 1992, and Kanthi is mulling plans to enhance the series by bringing national and international speakers to campus. For the most part the series has been funded through contributions, he says. Planning and organization is done on a voluntary basis by faculty, staff and students interested in the Economic Society and its purposes. "My idea was to somehow get students and the business community together to discuss global issues," he says.

Soon after the first forum, Kanthi published a journal titled Laissez Faire, featuring articles by students, faculty and business leaders. Three volumes of the journal have been published and work is underway on a fourth. "Laissez Faire seeks mostly articles by students on economic issues," Kanthi says. He credits Chris Looney and Melissa Ruterbusch for their assistance in editing and producing the publication.

But the successes with the forums and the journal have not ended Kanthi's aspirations for engaging students in matters economic. "There is one thing I would like to do," he reports. "We have some students who can debate very well. They need some training and fine tuning; then I would like to find a way to take them for debates at Oxford and Cambridge (Universities). And we could invite students from other parts of the U.S. and world to come and debate on our campus."
Thomas C. Grobaski

Tom Grobaski doesn't like to sit still — either literally or figuratively.

The demands of his position, which places him in charge of maintenance and setup for Ryder Center, keep him on the move during working hours. His love of nature and his sons, age eight and three, insure that the pace is equally lively in off-duty hours.

But Grobaski also is interested in progress in the more abstract sense.

"I have been here (at SVSU) eight years and I have grown with the job," he says. "I like to keep advancing. I don't want to be satisfied with where I am; I always want to look higher."

His attitude has resulted in assignments carrying an increasing level of responsibility since he started with the SVSU work pool in 1984. Initially he worked as a temporary on call, but he has been a full-time employee for the past six years.

Today, as assistant custodial foreman in charge of Ryder Center, he oversees cleaning of the giant facility. Grobaski also makes sure that all necessary physical setups are completed for each scheduled sports activity, as well as for the many special events hosted in the building each year. This often means working a split shift and planning for quick changes when events with differing needs are scheduled back-to-back. Grobaski keeps in close touch with Ryder Center Operations Manager Joe Vogl to monitor the special needs for various events.

After completing setup for an event, Grobaski checks with those who will be using the facility to be sure that everything is satisfactory. "I make any changes that they request," he notes.

The day after a major event Grobaski and his crew are busy "breaking down" the setup and returning the facility to its normal use.

"Sometimes there are three different events the same day," he notes. "That makes a lot of change for us."

Recently he prepared the arena for the Cathy Rigby lecture. He arrived that day at his usual 6 a.m. starting time, worked until 2 p.m., then returned for a 5 to 7:30 p.m. stint. He didn't stay for the program, "because I had to be back at 6 a.m. the next day," he smiles.

Among the more interesting aspects of his job has been the opportunity "to watch the place grow," Grobaski says. "I can remember when Ryder Center was being built. It looked so huge that I never dreamed I would be in charge of keeping it clean."

Grobaski also enjoys working with outside clients who rent the facility for their events. "You are with different people from year to year and you get to know them," he says.

The Staff Member of the Month award cites Grobaski for his excellent work record and his enthusiasm for his work.