



THE INTERIOR

FOR SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES. CALL INFORMATION SERVICES AT 790-4055 WITH NEWS ITEMS

May 18, 1993

BIDI Selects Business Owners for Entrepreneurial Awards

Sharing the Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club spotlight at the May 12 Entrepreneur of the Year Awards Banquet were businesses located in Coleman, Bay City, Merrill and Saginaw.

Back in 1945, Fred and Ardis Robinson began fabricating small items out of plastic foam. Since then, Robinson Industries, Inc. has grown to become one of the world's leading manufacturers of returnable industrial packaging materials. Ardis Robinson, who has served as company president since her husband's death in 1975, was presented the "Master Entrepreneur" award by the Business and Industrial Development Institute (BIDI).

One of the largest employers in the Coleman-Beaverton area with 210 full-time positions, the family-owned and operated business grew by 33 percent between 1988 and 1992. Sales projections for this year indicate the corporation could reach the \$30 million mark. The company lists customers throughout the U.S., Canada and overseas, with 95 percent of its business outside the Saginaw Valley.

In addition to manufacturing plastic packaging for automotive parts, glassware, textiles and computer parts, the company also produces end products including automotive components, computer stands and work stations, sporting goods and agricultural items. Contributing to the company's growth, Robinson designed one of the first continuous forming plastic extrusion machines and holds patents on a unique "wheel" vacuum molding process.

One of the Club's "Entrepreneur of the Year" awards went to Gary and Mary Kay Yackel, president and vice president of Merrill Tool and Machine, Inc. Established in 1968, the company is composed of three divisions:

Merrill Tool (machining and tool and die makers), Merrill Fabricators (fabricated plate work and weldments) and Merritech (design and production of machine tools). This year, the company expects to add 25 new jobs to its present work force of 125 and is in the process of purchasing a site for expanding one of its operations in Saginaw.

Another "Entrepreneur of the Year" is Thomas T. Princing, president of Scientific Brake and Equipment Co., whose company employs 54 full-time workers and expects to add five more in 1993. The Saginaw-based company's principal sales territory is in the eastern half of Michigan with a branch in Gaylord and in Alpena following the purchase of Alpena Northern Welding Company in December of last year.

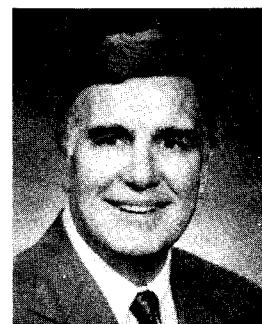
Entrepreneurial honors also went to Bill Leifer and Pat McFarland, president and vice president of Sempliner's Formalwear, Inc., based in Bay City. The company added two new outlets and seven new employees in Port Huron and Ann Arbor during 1991. Last year, three more stores and ten employees were added in Birmingham, Grand Traverse and Port Huron. The tuxedo rental operation now has outlets in 15 Michigan cities.

Featured speaker for the banquet was Burl C. Adkins, president of Global Technology Associates, Ltd. of Lincoln Park. Last year he was a finalist in the statewide Entrepreneur of the Year program sponsored annually by Ernst & Young, Inc. magazine and Merrill Lynch.

This year's winners join 20 past Entrepreneur of the Year award winners and eight Master Entrepreneur award winners representing manufacturing, retail, service and wholesale operations.



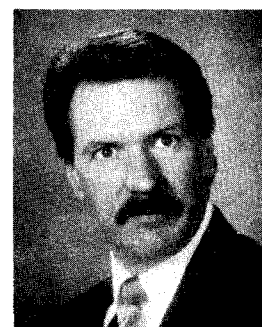
Gary & Mary Kay Yackel



Thomas T. Princing



Bill Leifer



Pat McFarland

Board Chair Requests Comments on Proposed Prayer Policy

Board Chairman George Ward wishes to propose a policy regarding prayer at University functions. A copy of his statement and proposed policy follows.

"I believe the Board of Control should establish a policy on the use of invocations and benedictions at University commencements.

"If the decision is to retain Saginaw Valley State University's tradition of including an invocation and a benediction on the commencement program, it will constitute a specific Board policy to accommodate the protected status that Free Speech and Free Exercise of religious expression have under the First Amendment and would be fully consistent with our University's general policy of openness to a multiplicity of cultural expressions.

"Whichever way the decision goes, some will be disappointed. No one should be insensitive to this fact. But, as a recent column by *Washington Post* writer William Raspberry indicates, life in America, especially in adult communities imposes a duty of 'common courtesy' on everyone on those occasions when he or she is not in agreement with protected expression.

"A policy to include an invocation and a benediction would also be consistent with a defining national tradition. While some of the founders were deists for whom God was a logical inference from common experience, and others were theists for whom God was not only an inference but an object

of worship, none indicated any hostility to public acknowledgement of the work of the Creator. Michigan's distinguished constitutional scholar, Thomas Cooley, in his classic text *Constitutional Limitations* said:

'The American constitutions contain no provisions which prohibit the authorities from such solemn recognition of a superintending Providence in public transactions and exercises as the general religious sentiment of mankind inspires, and as seems meet and proper in finite and dependent beings. Whatever may be the shades of religious belief, all must acknowledge the fitness of recognizing in important human affairs the superintending care and control of the great Governor of the Universe, and of acknowledging with thanksgiving His boundless favors, or bowing in contrition when visited with the penalties of His broken laws. No principle of constitutional law is violated when thanksgiving or fast days are appointed; when chaplains are designated for the army and navy; when legislative sessions are opened with prayer or the reading of the Scriptures; or when religious teaching is encouraged by a general exemption of the houses of religious worship from taxation for the support of state government.' (118 Mich at 567)

"To acknowledge on solemn occasions the work of the Creator, especially if done in a manner that is not narrowly sectarian is, in my opinion, a community benefit. It militates against excessive individualism by adding a universal perspective to each individual's self view. It promotes a sense of community by giving expression to what all religious groups and all those in the tradition of the deists hold in common. It's also an opportunity for the campus to exemplify its cultural openness. It would be terribly ironic if this openness were betrayed by a vote to 'silence' cultural expression that not only has a basis in the Constitution, but is as intimately a part of our national character as that in question.

"To me the reason to support Saginaw Valley State University's tradition is best summarized in Justice Cooley's words:

'[S]olemn recognition...in important human affairs...(of) the superintending care and control of the great Governor of the Universe...seems meet and proper in finite and dependent beings...'

— GEORGE E. WARD

Proposed Policy

(Introduced by George E. Ward, Robert Walpole, Ruth A. Braun, Terry L. Clark, and Elva Revilla)

Resolved:

Pursuant to the Free Speech and the Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment, it is the policy of the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University to include an invocation and a benediction on the program of commencement. We would request that the invocation and the benediction be nonsectarian and nonproselytizing in nature.

Members of the campus community are invited to express their views in writing to Richard Payne, secretary to the Board of Control.

President Eric Gilbertson indicated that he does not recommend this proposed policy.

Brown-bag Information Session on "Proposal A"

A brown-bag information session on a proposal to amend the state's constitution and change the way Michigan finances its public schools will be held at noon, Tuesday, May 25 in the Alumni Lounge. Saginaw County ISD Superintendent Larry Engle will be the guest presenter.

All members of the University faculty and staff are invited to participate in the session, which is designed to enable the campus community to be better informed about provisions of "Proposal A" appearing on the ballot of a special statewide election on June 2.

Backers of Proposal A say provisions of the constitutional amendment will cut the average homeowner's property tax by 21 percent and will roll back school millage by three percent. The amendment also is designed to hold down future property assessment increases to five percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is least. Proponents also say the plan will make home ownership more affordable by lowering property taxes and will place a cap of 27 mills on property assessments for school operations.

To offset the loss of \$1.85 billion in annual property tax revenues, the proposal calls for an increase in state sales and user taxes from four to six percent or about \$1.7 billion. Under the proposal, the additional sales tax revenues plus lottery proceeds would be dedicated to schools. Food and medicine would continue to be exempt from sales taxes.

If voters cast a majority of "Yes" ballots in the special election, the amendment will take effect July 17. Sales taxes would increase on that date and 1993 summer property tax bills would show decreases, according to proposal sponsors.

Proposal A is the latest attempt to change the way Michigan finances its public schools. During the past two decades, two major study commissions recommended changing the system, but seven previous statewide ballot questions have been defeated by majorities ranging from 58 to 79 percent.

Free punch, pamphlets and other background material will be available at the meeting.

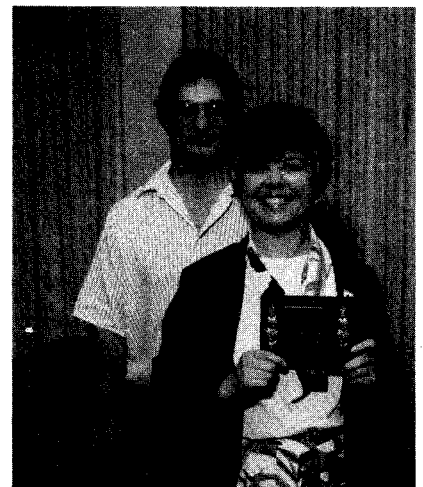
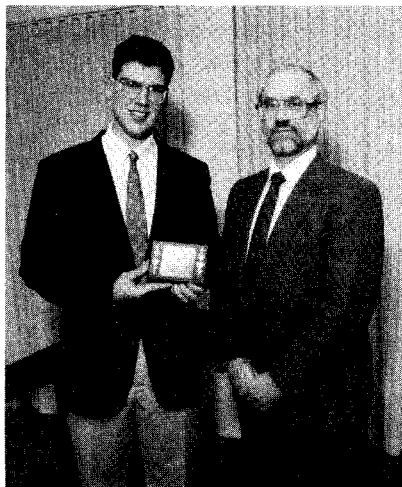
BIDI Workshop Aims to Bring Federal R&D Funds to Area Businesses

Area high tech companies seeking Federal research and development funding may have found the information they've been searching for during a May 10 workshop at SVSU.

"Over 180 Michigan small firms have won more than \$100 million in federal R&D funding for technology innovation since 1985," according to Mark Clevey, vice president of MERRA Research, Development & Commercialization Business Development Center in Ann Arbor. "The areas of innovation that have won grants include environmental science, biotechnology, material and manufacturing science, energy technologies, agriculture, information technology and others."

Clevey said the session was of particular interest to high tech firms involved in defense work. The government is seeking new technologies that have application to both defense and commercial markets and has specific plans to fund projects that allow defense technologies to be spun off to the commercial sector.

The federal R&D budget this year is nearly \$80 billion. Federal agencies with external R&D budgets of \$100,000 or more are required to set aside 1.5 percent for small businesses.



FACULTY ASSOCIATION HONORS STUDENT SCHOLARS — Recipients of the SVSU Faculty Association scholarships pose with their mentors following the May 3 Awards Banquet. Eric R. Peterson [left], a junior marketing major from Saginaw, stands with Gary Clark, associate professor of marketing. Kamarie O. Warmouth [right], a sophomore psychology major from Sanford, will work with associate professor of psychology Matthew Margres.

Teaching Enhancement Team Approves Fall 1993 Projects

Faculty members from the mathematics and nursing departments will receive a total of \$1900 for projects to enhance teaching.

Mathematics instructor Paul Becker will receive \$850 to write brief biographies of five non-traditional mathematicians, focusing on the points in their lives that would appeal to students in "remedial" mathematics courses. The biographies will be used to motivate mathematics students who are likely to lose interest in the subject.

A teaching workshop for nursing preceptors earned \$600 from the fund. Nursing professors Jan Blecke and Sachiko Claus will organize a one-day workshop to train volunteer nursing preceptors in three capstone nursing experiences involving NUR 450, 452 and 454. These preceptors, who now are untutored prior to working with senior nursing students, will be given preparation to help them function more effectively in teaching their respective students. The funding covers the honorarium for a keynote trainer and five presenters.

Tyler Haynes, professor of mathematical sciences, gained \$450 for a project titled "Sequence, Time and Success in Mid-level Math Courses." The funds provide for a student assistant to relate students' performance in math courses with their prior course of study in mathematics, including the length of time that passes between sequential courses. The outcome could lead to a change in curriculum.

Math Olympics Draw High Schoolers to SVSU Campus

Five faculty members from the Department of Mathematical Sciences welcomed about 500 high school students from 20 area high schools to campus on May 3 for the annual Math Olympics.

Paul Becker, Diana Frederick, Gretchen Mooningham, JoAnne Mosca and Lynette Verch co-directed to event, which was split into two levels of individual and team competition. Andrew Menard, son of physics professor Albert Menard, placed first in the individual Level II category, which comprises students skilled in more complex math such as solid geometry and trigonometry.

Winning teams earned plaques for their high schools. Winning individuals received gift certificates. Graduating seniors competed for two tuition-paid scholarships at SVSU.

Sign-up for Corporate Challenge

Two teams of 30 people will be needed to compete in the 1993 Corporate Challenge, September 23-25. Participants can choose from 14 events. Contact Marie Rabideau, ext. 4226, for a list of events and to sign-up.

Severe Weather Procedures

Springtime months normally are associated with severe weather in Michigan. Thunderstorms are common and an average of 16 tornadoes appear in the state each year. If severe weather occurs, listen to a local AM/FM radio station for weather updates. Keep a flash light with fresh batteries nearby in case of a power loss at home. A tornado warning is issued by the local Weather Service if one is sighted. Take cover immediately in a basement or inside hallway. Avoid doors, windows and outside hallways.

Transitions

The following personnel changes have occurred since March 9. Please make changes in your *Faculty/Staff Directory*.

New

- **Sara E. Desmarais**, administrative secretary, Offices of Marketing Research/Information Services and Public Information, ext. 4039.
- **Troy Heinz**, groundskeeper, Physical Plant, ext. 4316.
- **Cindy Munger**, senior transfer credit clerk, Registrar's Office, ext. 4095.

Transferred

- **Cindy Butzin**, administrative secretary, College of Education, ext. 5650.
- **Angie Dennis**, production manager, Campus Dining, ext. 4253.
- **Martha Kormos**, catering manager and assistant director, Campus Dining, ext. 4253.

Departing

- **Tim Smith**, assistant director, Campus Dining

The members of the Wellness Team wish to thank all who participated in the Wellness Extravaganza. Those who have comments or wish to offer feedback should contact Lynda Donner, ext. 4109.

On display in the Wickes Showcase through June 11 are photos and paraphernalia by Eric Petersen of his Mississagi River canoe trip in northern Ontario. Petersen is showcasing a canoe that he built himself. Inside are the instructions on how to construct a strip canoe.



BOARD REPORT

A REPORT OF THE SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF CONTROL

May 7, 1993

Control Board Approves Degrees, Elects New Officers, Sets Goals, Congratulates Student Government Officers, Welcomes Shikoku University President

The Board of Control approved the awarding of degrees and set the stage for some 450 graduates who participated in spring commencement exercises. During its regular meeting, Friday, May 7, the Board also elected officers for the 1993-94 academic year. Midland physician Thomas E. Rush was named chairperson; Ruth A. Braun, vice chair; Robert H. Walpole, secretary, and Charles B. Curtiss, treasurer.

On behalf of the Board, outgoing chairperson George Ward congratulated newly elected Student Government president Joel Olvera and vice president Tom Provoost for their recent victory. The Board also passed resolutions congratulating all new Student Government members and thanking past president Scott Fales and vice president Jonathan Pope for their service.

Following last month's approval of a revised Mission Statement and Purposes for the University, the Board approved long-term goals to be accomplished through 1996-97 and endorsed a series of objectives to be achieved during the 1993-94 academic year.

In other action, the Board adopted policy that declines contributions by the University to other non-profit organizations. "The University's primary sources of funding are state appropriations, tuition and fees paid by students and private contributions from individuals and organizations...it would be inappropriate for the University to redirect funds it receives from these sources and for these purposes to other individuals or organizations, however worthy their mission."

Professor Emeritus status was granted to Rosella E. Collamer Bauman. Reappointed to the Board of Directors of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery were John W. Martin, Barbara Heller and Dr. Robert S.P. Yien.

During a break in the meeting, Board members unofficially welcomed Dr. Harou Saito, president of Shikoku University, SVSU's "sister school," who was on campus to receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree. Later, Lee (Woody) Pelton briefed board members on the University's International Programs.

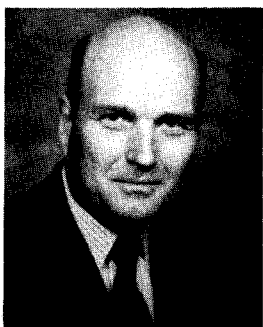
**This is an unofficial report of Board activities.
Official minutes are on file in the library.**



BOARD PROFILES

PROFILING THE SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF CONTROL

Thomas E. Rush



Dr. Thomas Rush was somewhat surprised when informed two years ago that Governor Engler had appointed him to SVSU's governing board.

Nonetheless, he is very pleased to be part of the Board of Control, and feels he has learned much about SVSU. "I really knew very little about the University until that time," he says. "I am still somewhat in the early part of the learning curve. Everything that I found out so far is very, very positive."

Rush draws upon similarities he sees between education and medicine.

"One thing I have found as a professional is that I help people help themselves. There is an analogy between that and education. Professors help students optimize their potential. It is the same in the medical care field."

Education not only is important, but an on-going activity, Rush believes. "The most important thing is to teach somebody how to learn, because education is a life-long process. Most people are going to have multiple careers," he says.

That is one of the reasons for SVSU's success, according to Rush. "It was beneficial to have SVSU established to serve people in this region. The student body here is unique.

Many come at significant personal sacrifice."

Rush also applauds SVSU's outreach programs. "The idea of trying to encourage and assist the less advantaged to look at the possibility of a college education is desirable. Education is the only solution to some of our problems."

Rush is pleased about the growth he observes at SVSU. "It is very exciting in that

SVSU is an organization that is in its rapidly growing phase still," he says. "So, it is changing rapidly and developing. What I see here is akin to the renaissance that is occurring in the State of Michigan. A lot of positive things are happening in Michigan. We are getting more high tech and there is more emphasis on cultural activities. SVSU contributes to that."

SVSU is growing in stature as well as size, he believes. "The growth here speaks to the value that the University is perceived to provide," he says.

Rush sees the primary role of the Board as "trying to preserve and protect the growth of a great idea that is coming into bloom at this time. The faculty and students have priority. The administration has to provide resources to make it happen. The Board has to supervise and help the University stay on track in terms of its purposes and goals."

"In a sense, I am sort of a bit player. I cannot take credit for anything that has happened so far," Rush says. That credit, he says, is due to others who served earlier. And philanthropy has been important to SVSU's success, he notes. "A great deal of support has come from the private sector. The whole area can take a lot of pride in SVSU. As a Board member, I want to make sure that we don't let anything slip away that they have worked so hard to attain."

Rush is impressed by SVSU's international programs. "International exchanges give students here an opportunity to gather some insight into other cultures. One of the biggest exports that the U.S. has is our university system. The amount of money spent by other countries to get an education here is remarkable. For a small university in the middle of the Saginaw Valley to be partners in the international sense I find to be quite exciting. It has to be helpful to our students and faculty."

Rush has words of praise for his colleagues. "There are seven other people from diverse backgrounds who are bright and dedicated. It is a privilege to serve with them."

Personal

Residence:	Midland
M.D.	University of Michigan
Community	Board of Directors,
Service:	MidMI Regional Medical Center
	Board of Directors,
	Comerica Bank Midland
	Board of Directors,
	MidMI Regional Health Care Systems
Professional	American College of Surgery
Societies:	American Academy of
	Orthopaedic Surgeons
	American Medical Association
	Michigan State Medical Society
	Midland County Medical Society
	American Trauma Society