



THE INTERIOR

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Bay City executive named 1997 Master Entrepreneur of the Year

The Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club presented its Master Entrepreneur of the Year Award to Thomas A. Willard, president of Metro-Fabricating Inc. in Bay City. The citation capped the club's annual awards banquet, Wednesday, May 21.

Others honored during the event were winners of the 1997 Entrepreneur of the Year awards. Executives recognized for their business achievements were Scott L. Carmona, CEO of Sunrise National Distributors Inc.; F.W. Horak, chairman and CEO of the F.P. Horak Co.; and Rodney A. Kuznicki, president, and Thomas W. Spaude, vice president, secretary and treasurer of Innovative Communications.

Willard founded Freeland Fabricating Inc. in 1975 and operated the business under that name until 1984. For a few months Willard turned leadership responsibility to another individual, but resumed direction when Freeland Fabricating experienced financial problems. In 1985 the business began a comeback under its present name, Metro-Fabricating Inc.

Originally operated out of three buildings totaling 35,000 square feet, in 1996 Metro-Fabricating moved to a 56,000-square-foot facility located in the Valley Center Technology Park in Bay City. The firm serves more than 150 customers. It manufactures electric control panels, machine tool guards, and work stations for the machine tool, plastics and chemical industries. About 30 percent of Metro-Fabricating's sales are in the Saginaw Valley area, and 70 percent are derived from Southeast Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Florida, Indiana, Mexico and Canada.

Under Willard's direction, sales have grown from \$1.4 million in 1985 to more than \$6.3

million in 1996. Seven new positions were added in 1996 and five more between January and April 1997. An additional five are expected to be added to the 90 employees by the end of the year. A new product line, Numatics, was added in 1996.

Both Willard and Metro-Fabricating have a strong record of community contribution. The company participates in the "job-shadowing project" through the Bay County school system and the internship program at Bay-Arenac Skill Center. Willard and the firm's employees support United Way, Bay County; the Saginaw Valley Blood Drive; and Bay County Blood Program. Metro-Fabricating also sponsors softball teams in Bay County.

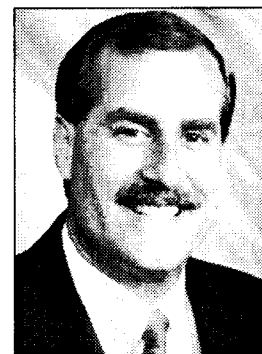
Since Carmona became a shareholder in Sunrise National Distributors Inc. in 1991, sales have increased dramatically to more than 10 times their previous level. The firm is a distributor of aftermarket car and truck accessories. Its product line includes sunroofs, running boards, bedliners, tonneau covers and wheel covers.

Headquartered in Bay City, Sunrise has distribution centers in Flint and Orlando (Florida) and a satellite office in Naples (FL). Currently the firm employs 35 people, up from 10 in 1991. Warehouse capacity has been tripled in recent years, and new positions have been created in accounting, sales, customer service and marketing.

Sunrise serves customers throughout the U.S., plus some in Canada. Most sales are to accessory shops and chains, but some are direct to individuals and car dealerships.



Thomas A. Willard



Scott L. Carmona



F.W. Horak

Please see "Entrepreneurs," page 2



Rodney A. Kuznicki



Thomas W. Spaude

Entrepreneurs (Continued from page 1)

Still in his 30s, Carmona has successfully operated several businesses. He started Cherokee Pools at age 19 and subsequently has owned, operated and provided vision to several other companies, including B & B Engineering, S.S.P. Investment Co. and National Equipment.

F.P. Horak was founded in 1946 by Horak's father. The firm has grown steadily across five decades and today is a family of five services that create, produce, manage and distribute business information. Services include business forms production, commercial printing, electronic graphic design, digital print-on-demand and inventory warehousing.

Sales have grown more than 54 percent since 1992, and now are in excess of \$16.3 million annually. In 1995 Horak merged with BBS Printing Inc., resulting in expanded service and greater sales. Some 142 people currently are employed in the business.

Since F.W. Horak took over leadership of the firm in 1967, he has created a management team to mold and shape the business. Among the innovations created through this mechanism is a network of nearly 200 distributors throughout the Midwest, allowing Horak to provide "private label" printing services to a broad geographical market. Employee training is a top priority and the firm takes a leadership role in recycling. Horak has set a goal of completing ISO 9000 certification in the first quarter of 1998.

Innovative Communications, under the leadership of Kuznicki and Spaude, is in the business of interactive television and videoconferencing. The firm designs, installs and maintains interactive educational and telecommunication systems that provide for full voice and video interconnection to designated locations.

Systems build by Innovative have earned a reputation for high quality, user friendliness and consistent reliability.

Since 1994 the company has grown from five to 20 employees. Sales increased from \$362,000 in 1992 to more than \$4 million in 1996. Approximately 90 percent of those sales are outside the Saginaw Valley, including classrooms in Korea and Hong Kong.

Since 1984 the Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club has recognized the

achievements of the area's most successful entrepreneurs. The names of the 1997 winners will be added to the current list of 54 previous awards recipients.

Sharon Miller, a Midland small business owner and member of the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) board of directors, gave the keynote address. Miller is president of Temporary Health Care Providers, a Midland-based firm. She also is president of the Branch Office in Midland, which provides business consulting and other services.

The banquet was sponsored by SVSU, Michigan National Bank, Michigan Small Business Development Center, Citizens Bank, the Small Business Association of Michigan, First of America Bank, NBD, Chemical Bank and Comerica.

Three receive Tyner Award

Raymond Tyner taught English for 20 years at SVSU, commanding from his students a respect for the language bordering on reverence. Following Tyner's death in 1988, friends and family created a fund for the Tyner Award to symbolize his faith in the potential achievement of student writers at SVSU, as well to serve as a reminder of Tyner's lifetime commitment to the written word. The award seeks to encourage and recognize excellence in classroom writing at the University.

Prizes of \$100 each are awarded in three categories: poetry, fiction and non-fiction. Winners for 1997 are:

- Noah Tysick for a collection of poems, *My Sweet Auschwitz*. Tysick, of Mayville, completed a major in art during winter semester.
- Cynthia Lyman for a short story, *David's Wife*. Lyman, a junior majoring in English, has been active with the *Cardinal Sins*, SVSU's student-edited literary journal.
- James Kajpust for a scientific paper, *Comparison of External Structures and Appearance of E-coli as Affected by Scanning and Transmission Electron Microscope Specimen Preparation Procedures*. Kajpust is a senior with a computer information systems major. He recently received an SVSU Faculty Association scholarship.

In addition to the monetary award, prize winners received plaques. Their names were inscribed on the English Department's Tyner Award plaque.

Professional Profile

• **Alfred G. Bracciano**, associate professor and director of occupational therapy, was interviewed for the cover story in the *Advance for Occupational Therapists*, the nation's oldest occupational therapy weekly. Bracciano was interviewed for an article titled "What Should New Grads Look For?" The feature discussed the professional and personal issues facing new graduates in occupational therapy.

• **Jane Girdham**, assistant professor of music, in April attended the national meeting of the American Society for 18th Century Studies. She presented a paper titled "An Unsuspecting Public," which discussed how an operatic composer manipulated his audience's taste. Girdham also chaired the judges in the society's biannual teaching competition.

• **Carol S. Wolfe**, associate professor of teacher education, coauthored and presented a paper titled "Social Construction of Identity Through Inter-University E-mail Journals" at the American Educational Research Association's Spring Conference in Chicago, March 28. This paper presented information on how SVSU and Purdue University teacher education students chose to disclose or not disclose information about their identity through asynchronous e-mail communication, especially information about race, class and gender.

As A Matter of Fact...

The "Board Report" included with the May 13 *Interior* contained a serious error in the listing of faculty promotions approved by the Board of Control. The lists of those promoted to associate professor and professor were switched. The correct listing is:

Rank of Professor

- Stephen Barbus, Teacher Education
- Robert Cheek, Management
- Sally Edgerton, Teacher Education
- Hideki Kihata, Art
- Albert Menard, Physics

Rank of Associate Professor

- Diane Krider, Communication/Theatre
- Zhidong (Patrick) Pan, Mathematical Sciences
- Carol Wolfe, Teacher Education
- Stephen Yanca, Social Work

Our apologies for the error, and congratulations to all who were promoted.

• SVSU faculty and staff who were involved in the Spring 1997 Michigan Chapter of The Young Educators' Society (YES) Conference (see InnerView) include: **Diane Boehm**, director, Writing Program; **Jeanne Chipman**, certification officer; **Jim Dwyer**, director, Admissions; **Melissa Hayden**, associate professor of teacher education; **Robert Lemuel**, assistant director, Admissions; **Joseph Ofori-Dankwa**, professor of management; **Gretchen Owocki**, assistant professor of teacher education; **David Pugalee**, assistant professor of teacher education; **Anne Reittenbach**, administrative secretary; **Karen Selby**, assistant professor of teacher education; **Ervin Sparapani**, professor of teacher education; **Dee Storey**, professor of teacher education; and **Craig Tatum**, director, Multicultural Programs/Affirmative Action.

Transitions

Please note the following personnel changes in your *Faculty/Staff Directory*:

SVSU Welcomes

- **Cecilia Jerome**, director of Information Services, 790-4055
- **Lisa Verdoni**, custodial specialist, Ryder Center, 791-7333

Same Face, New Place

- **Cheryl Michalski**, faculty secretary, first floor Brown Hall, 790-4492
- **Tish Drexler**, administrative secretary, Academic and Student Support Services, 790-4286
- **Pat Beyer**, custodian, Physical Plant, 790-4279

They're Moving On

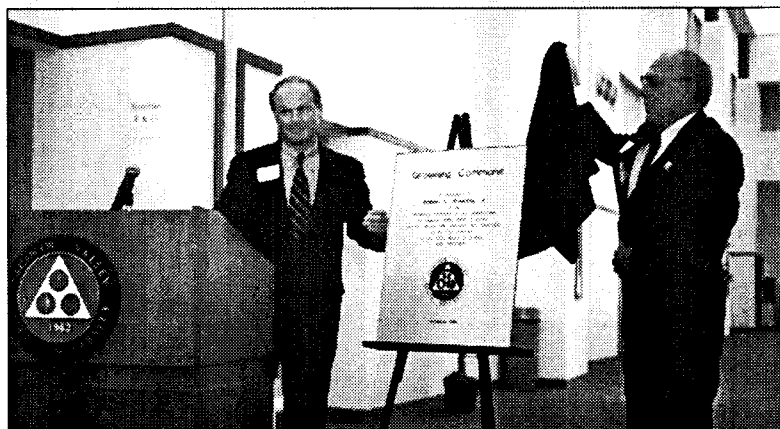
- **Christine Greve**, BIDI

Retiring

- **Garry Montle**, custodian, Physical Plant

MAKING THE Grade

- Thirty-one students recently were awarded SVSU Recognition Scholarships. Of those, 17 received the scholarships for the first time and 14 received renewals for the Fall 1997 and Winter 1998 semesters. The scholarship provides \$400 for tuition and fees per academic year (\$200 per semester), and is renewed each academic year upon maintenance of a minimum 3.40 GPA.
- High academic achievement has placed 678 students on the Winter 1997 semester Dean's List. The students earned GPAs between 3.40 and 3.99.
- SVSU recognized 331 students by naming them to the President's List for the Winter 1997 semester. To earn this honor, students maintained a 4.00 GPA.



President Eric Gilbertson, left, and **Charles Graham**, executive director of the SVSU Foundation, unveil a plaque commemorating the dedication of Groening Commons at a brief ceremony May 16.

Campus campaign tops goal

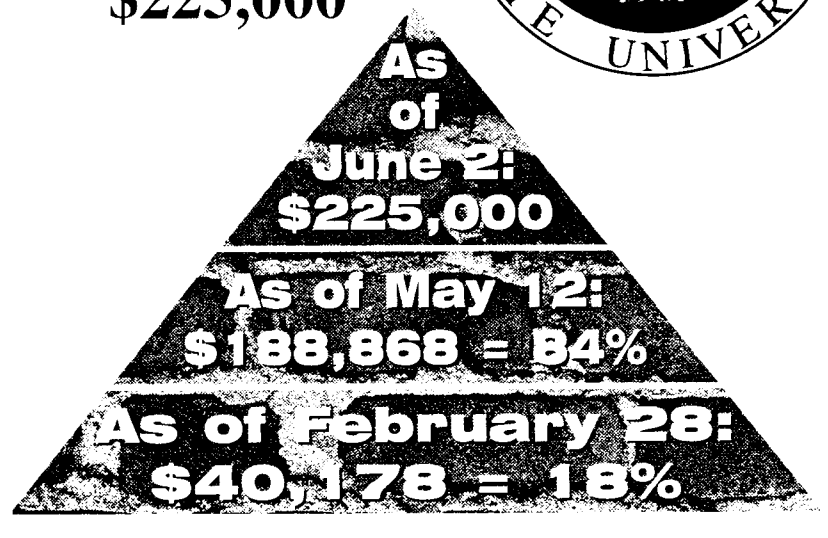
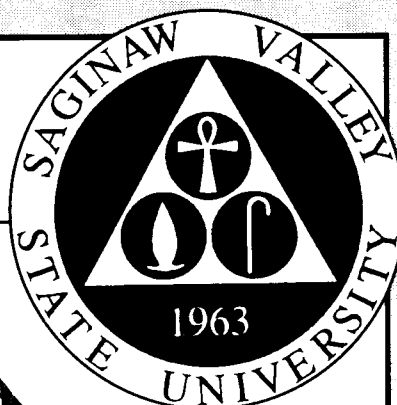
The Campus Committee for the Campaign for Distinction is proud to announce that payments and pledges by employees have surpassed the established goal of \$225,000. However, time remains for faculty and staff to make pledges toward the campaign's overall goal of \$11 million.

Employees who have not yet received lapel pins signifying their contributions should contact Sue Browning at ext. 4423. Pledge forms are available from Browning or Gene Hamilton at ext. 4069. Hamilton also has information on the advantages of the Michigan State Tax Credit as it relates to this campaign.

Campaign for Distinction

"Intellectual Bricks and Mortar"

University Division Goal:
\$225,000



Across Campus

- The campus community extends condolences to **Tim Lipan**, former president of the SVSU Alumni Association, on the loss of his mother, Ruth A. Lipan, who passed away May 20.

Have You Heard?

- **Central Stores** will be closed for inventory June 26 and 27. Orders received by Tuesday, June 24 will be delivered and charged to 1996-97 budgets. Orders received beginning Wednesday, June 25 will be charged to 1997-98 budgets. Deliveries will resume Monday, June 30.

- Children of University employees will receive a \$15 discount for a **Fine Arts Day Camp**. The camp will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 23-27 for students entering grades 4-8. The \$125 fee includes lunch and snacks. Multiple child discounts also are available. For more information, contact the Department of Communication/Theatre.

The Interior is published bi-weekly when classes are in session fall and winter semesters and periodically through the summer. Items should be submitted to the Office of Information Services, 276 Wickes Hall, 790-4055.

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.



recycled paper

Retirement RECEPTIONS

Dr. Judith B. Kerman

4-6 p.m.

Tuesday, June 10
Emeriti Room, Curtiss Hall
Light refreshments served
with a short program at 5 p.m.

Marilyn G. Frahm

2-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25
Emeriti Room, Curtiss Hall
Light refreshments served with a
brief presentation at 3:30 p.m.



INNER VIEW

FEATURING FACULTY OF SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Say "YES" to education

Carol Wolfe believes that what was true in her own life can be true for others. That's why she is so enthusiastic about the YES (Young Educators' Society) program.

"Often people of color or people who live in poverty believe they cannot achieve beyond what their parents achieved," she says. "They need to know what education can do for them."

Wolfe, who notes that she grew up in a household with limited resources, says that some of her teachers served as mentors, encouraging her development. "Because they were such positive role models, I went into teaching," she says.

YES is a national organization developed to recruit students of color into the teaching profession, Wolfe explains. "Colleges of Education at major universities in various states support the efforts of the Young Educators' Society. In Michigan, Saginaw Valley is joined by Michigan State, the U. of M. (Ann Arbor and Dearborn), Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan, Wayne State, Grand Valley and Central," she says.

"It's a great initiative here," she says, "with support from the Admissions Office and Minority Services."

Recently SVSU hosted the spring 1997 Michigan Chapter YES conference. A long list of SVSU faculty and staff (see "Professional Profile") were involved in the effort, along with local teachers.

"It's important to bring these students to a college campus," Wolfe says. "It provides a way for them to look at a profession before they make a decision in college. Also, the students understand that they would have access to college and they need to explore what that means to their lives. When they've had the opportunity to visit campus, it helps remove anxiety about college life; it's not an unknown."

The program seems to be working, Wolfe says. "When I joined SVSU's adjunct faculty in 1987, I had one student of color." Today, she says, they have more role models they can turn to for support, and more of them are choosing teaching careers.

"YES allows students to shadow teachers. Also, part of what it does is to mentor the students who are here," she notes.

In addition to her work with YES, Wolfe took an active part in the Roosevelt Ruffin Symposium, a community effort targeted toward area middle and high school students who are considering careers in education. She says that a sidelight to the conference has been the frequent comments attracted by the symposium tee shirt worn by her son. The garment even started a conversation when the Wolfes were visiting Boston. A young man noticed the shirt and told them how Dr. Ruffin had influenced him as a young student at North Intermediate in Saginaw.

Wolfe is part of the SVSU group involved in the Epiphany Project, a national venture exploring ways of using the Internet in teaching.

Residents of Saginaw, Wolfe and her husband, John, are the parents of a college-age son and daughter.





STAFF MEMBER

OF THE MONTH

Robert J. Tutsock

Director, Physical Plant

June 1997

Bob Tutsock seldom gets away from his job. Although his home phone may be mercifully quiet when things are going smoothly, the fact is that overseeing SVSU's expanding physical plant is an all-consuming task.

"The Physical Plant staff is responsible for providing a safe, attractive and comfortable facility for students, faculty and staff," Tutsock says. "It's a 24-hours per day, seven days a week operation," he points out. "It requires three shifts of employees scheduled over the week."

As director, Tutsock oversees the entire operation, coordinating the efforts of the supervisors and foremen who work with the Physical Plant crew. "We have 61 to 62 full-time equivalent staff members to do all the work necessary to maintain 1,300,000 square feet of building space and 782 acres of grounds," he says.

"I certainly could not do this without all the hard work and dedication of the men and women in the Physical Plant department," he adds. "They deserve to share in the recognition I have been accorded."

Keeping SVSU's physical plant humming involves coordinating a number of differing assignments. For example, "We do most of the

cleaning work on third shift so offices and classrooms are clean prior to the morning rush," Tutsock says. "Most grounds work is done during the day, while preventive and maintenance work usually is done during second shift."

Other tasks include ensuring that fire extinguishers and sprinkler systems are in working order, which requires periodic testing. In the winter months snow removal becomes a major item. "We may start as early as 4 a.m.," he says. "I also initiate the action to cancel classes or close due to weather conditions. I receive feedback from the crews and monitor local weather information."

Physical Plant personnel also handle maintenance and scheduling of the Motor Pool fleet. "Our goal is to remain competitive with rental agencies while providing a convenient form of transportation for campus personnel."

Managing campus utilities falls under Tutsock's jurisdiction as well. The list includes natural gas, water, sewers and electrical service. Tutsock has worked on energy management strategies to achieve cost efficiencies while maintaining comfort. He notes that central computer controls allow him to monitor and adjust room temperatures without visiting each building.

Recently Physical Plant staff completed a relamping project that improved campus lighting while reducing the cost to operate it.

"I'm also involved in the design of the energy loop that will link campus facilities," he says. "We're working with Engineering Services on that project."

Tutsock, who served in the navy and is a Vietnam veteran, has 17½ years experience in plant maintenance. He first worked at SVSU in the mid-80s while employed by ServiceMaster. After three years at Eastern Michigan, Tutsock returned to SVSU in 1989. He was named director in 1990.

