September 30, 1997

Wolohan Lumber Company increases endowed scholarship

The Tri-County community support for Saginaw Valley State University’s Campaign for Distinction has included the enhancement of existing endowments, such as the Wolohan Lumber Company Endowed Scholarship, initially established in 1995. Since that time, the Wolohan family has both increased the level of endowment, as well as the scope of scholarship opportunities.

The Wolohan family implemented the endowment in 1995. Additional gifts were committed in 1996, which will provide multiple scholarship opportunities for deserving students. The Wolohan family increased by $150,000 the value of the endowment for the Wolohan Lumber Company Endowed Scholarship. The Wolohan commitment encompasses gifts from both the Wolohan Lumber Co. and the Wolohan family.

The scholarship opportunity is provided first to Wolohan Lumber employees and their children, then extends to other SVSU students. Eligible students include those pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees. Financial need is not a determining factor, thus allowing scholarship awards to be considered for all who have achieved scholastically and have demonstrated good character and leadership. As with all endowments the number and amount of scholarship awards will be determined by the amount of money available from the earnings of the endowment funds, in accordance with SVSU and SVSU Foundation policies.

The Wolohan name is not a new one to SVSU. And this endowment reiterates the Wolohan family’s commitment to, and belief in, SVSU.

Richard “Dick” Wolohan received an honorary doctor of laws degree from SVSU in 1985. Most recently, in April, he was honored with the University’s Distinguished Service Medallion. Wolohan has been a member of the Board of Fellows and served as a volunteer for many SVSU fund-raising campaigns.

Dick Wolohan’s sons, Jim and Mike, also have been greatly involved with SVSU activities. Jim is the current chairman of the SVSU Foundation Board. Mike is team physician for SVSU athletics.

Dick Wolohan said his family and company were happy to help the University in any way possible.

“The first thing is our recognition of the importance of the availability of quality education to the area — to the Saginaw Valley State University area — and the significant number of individuals who can benefit from such availability without being located away from home in order to participate,” Dick said.

“We have been fortunate to see the University from its inception grow in quality and physical presence. And as the world around us changes, it is important that such availability — and the quality education benefits that accrue from that availability — continue in present and future years.”

Jim Wolohan said the scholarship opportunity was broadened for two reasons: “We wanted to both increase the funding for the scholarship and expand the opportunity beyond Wolohan associates and their families.”

Jim said he, his family, and company management have "seen the significant contributions SVSU makes to the community — both in the education of our youth and as a significant economic factor in the region."

(Please continue on Page 2)
Wolohan (Continued from page 1)

“SVSU represents a lot to the community, too, as far as activities — both cultural and athletic events. It improves the quality of life for the residents of the Tri-City area and makes it a better and more attractive place to live.”

Jim went on to say that SVSU offers educational opportunities for individuals who might not otherwise afford a college education, particularly if they had to leave the area and absorb higher tuition costs, in addition to room and board expenses.

“With the tremendous physical growth in the infrastructure we’ve seen, when the campaign came along to build on the bricks and mortar with more academic opportunities for intellectual growth, we felt it was good for Wolohan associates and the family, and good for the community” to enhance the endowment, Jim said.

Dick added: “And it is because of our affection for, and interest in, the welfare of the community that we are pleased to do whatever we reasonably can.”

Dick Wolohan was the founder of Wolohan Lumber Co. and has served as director or trustee for numerous public and not-for-profit corporations. Jim is president and CEO of Wolohan Lumber Co. Mike is an orthopedic surgeon in Saginaw.

Events planned for National Mental Health Awareness Week

Personal Counseling Services and the Student Action Team (SAT) will host three speakers as part of the week-long activities surrounding National Mental Health Awareness Week.

Dr. Jennifer Bramer will provide a workshop for faculty, administrators and staff at 2 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6 on the second floor of Curtiss Hall. This two- to three-hour workshop will focus on insights and strategies to foster college students with attention deficit disorders, AD/HD. In addition, Bramer will present an evening workshop for students, parents and educators at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 6. There is a $20 fee for the evening workshop.

On Tuesday, Oct. 7, Jack Klott will discuss Suicide Assessment, Intervention and Prevention. The day will consist of a series of short lectures for the campus community. At 8:30 that morning, Klott, a suicidologist, will meet with RAs, resident scholars and public safety. From 10 a.m. to noon, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to learn identification of students at-risk. Klott’s presentations will take place on the second floor of Curtiss Hall.

A presentation on Eating Disorders will take place at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 8. Jill Learman, personal counseling intern, will provide information in 216 Zahnlow Hall.

Also on Wednesday, informational booths will be set up in the Alumni Lounge and Brown Concourse on Stress/Anxiety and Alcohol and Other Drugs.

On Thursday, Oct. 9, Depression Screening will be offered on the Brown Concourse and in the Alumni Lounge.

Finally, on Saturday, Oct. 11, the SAT will prepare non-alcoholic drinks for sale during the Homecoming football game. Radio station WKQZ-Z-93 disc jockeys Joe and the Poor Boy will guest bartend.

For additional information, call Tony Thomson, personal counselor, at ext. 4228.

Date set for Awards Banquet

Mark your calendars now for the ninth annual employee awards banquet. Nearly 60 staff members will be honored for their years of service to the University. Many other faculty and staff are honored during the banquet, as well. The 1998 banquet will take place Friday, April 17. Additional details will follow as the date approaches.

Dinner, including the reception, is free to employees and their guests. All employees will be honored, but in particular, two will receive 30-year awards, nine will receive 25-year awards, 13 will be recognized for 20 years of service, eight for 15 years, and 26 will receive 10-year awards.

A number of door prizes are given each year. In the past, a theater package for two to Toronto, including rail passage, was given away. In 1996, the prize was a weekend trip for two by train to Chicago.

Who knows what fun the 1998 banquet on April 17 will hold? Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Across Campus

* The campus community congratulates Chris Holgard, assistant football coach/academic advisor, and his wife, Anna, on the birth of a daughter. Dakota Rae (7 lbs., 4 oz., 21 in.) was born Sept. 14.
You can make a difference!

As more and more volunteer agencies receive fewer and fewer federal and state dollars, every dollar you give to programs such as United Way, gives hope to local individuals and families. Just $2 per week finances one youth's participation in a scouting program for one year. Your $1 combined with other generous contributions makes it possible for United Way to provide counseling, crisis intervention, tutoring services, food and other services to families in the region.

Soon you will receive a request to give to the United Way in one of the three counties — Bay, Midland or Saginaw. A committee of campus employees has met to determine how best to solicit support from SVSU personnel. Payroll deduction is an option for employees who wish to simplify their United Way contribution.

The United Way appeal is made just once a year, but the good work of United Way agencies in our communities is felt all year long. A pledge form will be sent to all University personnel. It is designed especially for SVSU faculty and staff. All personnel are asked to return the card, regardless of United Way contributions. The committee has noted that many folks give in their own way through churches, volunteer efforts and other community organizations. Please make a note of these activities on the pledge card and return it.

SVSU does not benefit directly from the United Way campaign. The University cooperates to facilitate employ-

### Professional Profile

- **Tom Hearron**, professor of English, had a short story titled “The Therapist’s Song” accepted for publication in *Huckleberry Press*.

- **Gary Lange**, assistant professor of biology, was elected vice president of the Friends of Bay City State Recreation Area at the organization’s August meeting at the Saginaw Bay Visitor Center.

- **Tirumale Ramesh**, professor of electrical and computer engineering, has been selected as a regular reviewer for *IEEE Transactions on VLSI* systems. Ramesh recently reviewed a paper on “Computer Vision Mapping onto a Reconfigurable Array Architecture.” The *Transaction on VLSI* is a joint publication of the IEEE Computer Society, IEEE Circuits & Systems Society and IEEE Skid-24 State Circuits Council. Ramesh also regularly reviews papers submitted to the *Journal of Parallel & Distributed Computing* and the *Journal of Parallel Processing Letters*.

Ramesh also has received state-of-the-art Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) professional version hardware and software from a major FPGA computer company in California. These items are worth more than $25,000 and will be used for instructional purposes in computer engineering, and also for faculty research in high performance computing and applications. Ramesh already has integrated many of these new experiences in his technical elective courses in computer engineering. Ramesh also has been invited to join for active participation among four technical committees under the IEEE Computer Society.

- **Thomas Renna**, professor of history, presented a paper titled “Penance and Popular Piety, 1250-1400” at the 22nd International Conference on Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Studies Sept. 13 at Villanova University in Pennsylvania.

Any faculty interested in the possibility of teaching abroad should contact Woody Pelton in the Office of International Programs (141 Wickes Hall, ext. 4473, Email pelton@tardis.svsu.edu). In particular are opportunities to teach at Shikoku University in Tokushima, Japan, during the summer. A teaching opportunity also might be available at Shanghai, China for a semester. Contact Pelton by Oct. 20 for further information.
SVSU staff, students appear on Fox

Two SVSU students and two staff members will be featured during the next edition of Mid-Michigan Focus. Student Association members Shawnette Moll and Andrew Booms, are joined by Bethany Rusch, police officer with Public Safety, and Tony Thomson, personal counselor, for a discussion on “Teenage Substance Abuse.” Also on the program is Debra Schaefer, employee assistance program manager at Bay Health System. The program is scheduled to air at 10 a.m., Monday, Oct. 6 on Fox 66.

Hosting and producing the show is Cecilia Jerome, director of Information Services. The program is the second in a series sponsored by WSMH and produced/directed by SVSU personnel.

Directing the show was Keith Frye, electronic media distribution and production technician for the Zahnow Library, and Brian Mudd, head of audio/visual services for the library.

Transitions

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

SVSU Welcomes

- Eric Gardner, assistant professor of English, 249-1662
- Turesie Genwright, custodian, Physical Plant, 790-4276
- Scott Maxwell, plumber, Physical Plant, 790-4274

Same Face, New Place

- Kari Golden, faculty secretary, first floor Curtiss Hall and third floor Brown Hall, 249-1936

Moving On

- Rey Wojcik, Information Services

New Phone Numbers

- Tracy Claeyis, assistant football coach/summer camps, 249-4683
- Rob Reeves, assistant football coach, 790-4479
- Eric Rutherford, assistant men’s basketball coach, 249-4684
- Mike Sullivan, assistant football coach, 790-4479
- Warren Wood, assistant men’s basketball coach, 249-4684

Have You Heard?

- The University Club Committee announces opportunities for lunch and fellowship in the Emeriti Room with your SVSU colleagues

(and maybe even a little music). These events are open to all faculty and staff from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 1; Wednesday, Nov. 5; Thursday, Nov. 6; Tuesday, Dec. 2 and Wednesday, Dec. 3. A salad, bread and meat lunch will be offered for $3.95 per person.

- Health Services reports the Saginaw Valley Blood Program had 75 donors give 59 pints at the Sept. 16 blood drive. The next opportunity to donate blood will be Wednesday, Nov. 12.

- Flu shots will be available from Oct. 1 through Dec. 1 in Health Services. The cost is $6 for all students, faculty, staff and spouses. Call ext. 4271 for more information.

- Fire alarms and sprinkler systems will be tested in Wickes Hall, Brown Hall, Zahnow Library and Science Building from 8 a.m. to noon on Sunday, Oct. 5. Contact Physical Plant at ext. 4080 for further details.

- Faculty are requested to announce Graduate School Day to their classes. The Oct. 15 event allows students to meet with representatives of graduate admission programs from SVSU and other Michigan colleges and universities. The day runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Brown Concours.

- SVSU will host an education conference for Latino students from 7:45 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4 in Curtiss Hall. Students in grades nine through college will have an opportunity to meet with representatives from various colleges and universities. A continental breakfast and lunch are included in the $10 per student fee. For more information, call the Minority Student Services office at ext. 5631.

High Five

- Football (3-0, 4-0) — defeated Fairmont State College, W. Va., 56-7. The Cardinals are ranked 11th nationally in NCAA Division II, and lead the nation in scoring and turnover margin.

- Men’s Soccer (0-6) — dropped a 4-1 contest to Ashland University Saturday.

- Women’s Soccer (3-3, 0-2) — lost to Ashland 4-1 Saturday.

- Tennis (4-3) — grabbed an 8-1 win over Michigan Tech Saturday.

- Volleyball (11-5, 4-0) — remained undefeated in conference play with a 15-12, 10-15, 15-12, 15-11 victory over Ashland University Saturday.
Few bridge the gap between the young and the “young at heart” like Linda Peterson. With guitar and puppets in hand, Peterson heads for nursing care facilities in the Tri-County region and plays the songs from which memories were made.

Peterson and her husband, Gary, claim six puppets as their “children.” The puppets have become part of Linda Peterson’s performance at area nursing care facilities, where she strums tunes from the 1900s through ’40s on her guitar.

“It’s so satisfying when you see their eyes light up when they hear a particular song,” Peterson said. She performs nearly two dozen songs at each concert, then brings out one of the six puppets.

“They love the puppets,” Peterson said. “Puppets are so much fun. It’s especially fun when people start talking to the puppets.”

Peterson purchased her first puppet, “Tex,” in, well, Texas. He is a cowboy wolf puppet. Tex is joined by one of her favorites, Stanley, a turtle, and her newest, a little boy puppet named Corky. There also is Chiquita, a monkey, a bird, Henrietta, and a large marionette dragon called Puff.

About three years ago, Peterson began practicing ventriloquism with her puppets. She also juggles Crystal Stix. (You can see her perform the latter during Family Festival Day on Oct. 25.)

Peterson said she didn’t start out thinking about performing in nursing facilities. She played and sang for herself, friends and family. Then one Sunday evening it struck her that some of the folks in those homes might enjoy her act. Her husband accompanies her as her “sound man” setting up the elaborate speaker system at each concert. And as cheerleader from the back of the room.

Peterson has been a member of the SVSU staff since 1974, coming in as one of only two faculty secretaries. She has worked in Wickes Hall and in 1987 transferred to the first floor of the Science Building. Peterson was born in Saginaw. She and Gary, professor of psychology, met at SVSU and were married in 1988. The Petersons reside in Saginaw Township.
Ask Barb McGregor why she’s here and her response may appear typical for any university faculty member: The students. But press her further and her responses will tell you why she is tops among one of the finest groups of faculty in the state.

McGregor, associate professor of social work, began her career with Saginaw Valley State University teaching introductory classes. She now focuses on student majors and is a field coordinator in the social work program.

McGregor said she enjoyed the beginning courses because it gave her the opportunity to “socialize” the students into the program. Even the opportunity to “burst their bubbles” when necessary.

“Students sometimes think the system is easier to change than it really is,” McGregor said. “They don’t always understand how social assistance programs impact an individual’s housing, clothing, health care... They don’t always see how complex the programs are.

“Sometimes it’s a wake-up call. Then we tell them ‘don’t despair,’ they may actually change someone.”

McGregor now teaches upperclassmen the difference they make in people’s lives may not be visible right away, or not at all.

“They must be able to tolerate ambiguity and must be able to be happy with their job.”

McGregor has practiced social work in hospitals, with Visiting Nurses Associations, a family and children services in Midland and in private practice.

“Social work is so much fun,” she said. “It’s perfect for people who are easily bored!”

McGregor said she stays with social work because she gets a lot of satisfaction out of helping people change.

“I really believe people can change. It’s harder the older you get.”

A testament to McGregor’s teaching methods hangs upon her wall: A plaque from a former student who received her bachelor’s degree in social work.

McGregor explained the student struggled during her first year in the program. Then McGregor took her aside and assured her she could do the work if only she applied herself.

Upon graduation, the student presented McGregor with a certificate of appreciation for her confidence in the student and her assistance in helping her obtain her diploma.

That’s what keeps her going.

A resident of Midland, McGregor has a daughter in the social work field and a son who designs Internet web pages.

She and colleague Steve Yanca, assistant professor of social work, recently collaborated on a revision of a social work text due out this fall and then in a new edition in 1999.