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Grand Valley State University

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GRAND VALLEY FORUM

Monday, July 30, 1986

Vol. 10¹¹ No. 1

Grand Valley State College

Construction Begins on Grand Rapids Center

Construction work on the Grand Rapids Center was started on Monday, July 7, by Dykema Excavating Co. of Grand Rapids, the firm which has the contract for excavating, foundations, and footings. A contract has also been awarded to Douglas Steel Fabricating Co. of Lansing for the structural steel and metal

deck. Delivery of the steel is scheduled for September.

The architect is completing the detailed plans and specifications for general building, mechanical, and electrical trades. These major contracts will be advertised for bids in early August, with the contracts

scheduled to be awarded four weeks later.

The City of Grand Rapids will award a contract this month for the relocation of major water lines, which is necessary to permit construction of the building. Because of the construction, Front Avenue will be closed and relocated by the city at a later date.

Grand Valley State Offers Programs For Special Students

Grand Valley State's School of Education is offering two special programs for gifted and talented students this summer.

From July 14 to 31, 180 first through sixth graders from Kent, Muskegon, Ottawa, and Allegan counties will participate in the program "Focus on Ability." These students have demonstrated a strong interest in learning and have above average academic abilities. This year's group will include some special needs children.

Students may choose to concentrate on various subjects, including electricity, astronomy, archaeology, creative and performing arts, zoology, or history. This year's program will include a

special section for students interested in becoming physicians, which will be taught by a medical technologist. All students will work with a self-paced computer program. "Focus on Ability" instructors are experienced teachers who have an interest in instructing high-ability students.

The program will be offered on Monday through Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 11:45 in various locations on campus.

For the third consecutive year, Grand Valley will host the Michigan State Board of Education Summer Institute for the Arts and Sciences. One hundred high school students from all over the state will participate in the program from July 13-26. Students must be nominated by their schools and chosen by the state to be part of the program. Only five colleges or universities are chosen to host the program each year.

The theme for Grand Valley's Institute this year is "Valley of the Grand: A Natural Sculpture of Water, Wind, and Ice." The students may choose to study science or art. Science course electives include limnology, archaeology, and ecology. In a new science elective this year, students will use the computer to analyze data from their field studies. Art course electives include ceramics, landscape drawing, photography, and oil painting.

Alumni Reunion To Be Held August 1-3

The Alumni Office and the Post-Dome Decade Alumni Association are sponsoring a Weekend in the Dorms Reunion, otherwise known as the Laker Chill, for the weekend of August 1, 2, and 3.

Included in the activities will be a mixer, volleyball, golf, jogging, an outing to the beach, and a party.

For more information, contact the Alumni Office, extension 3576.

Staff Sketches

Sharon Babcock, Director of Educational Services at WGVC/WGVK-TV, was elected to a two-year term on the Central Educational Network's School Services Council executive committee. She was elected chair of the council.

Doug Woods, Head Athletic trainer, spoke at Butterworth Hospital on June 18 to the surgical assistants staff on sports medicine and how it relates to athletics today.

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