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Grand Valley State University

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Grand Valley Forum

Monday, April 4, 1983 Vol. 7, No. 29

Grand Valley State College

BLANCHARD ANNOUNCES STATE SPENDING CUTS

Gov. James Blanchard has issued an executive order calling for reductions in state appropriations including a \$25 million cut in state funding for higher education. For Grand Valley, the cut will mean a reduction of \$525,000, or 3.7 percent of the institution's 1982-83 budget, according to Ronald F. VanSteeland, vice president for administration.

"In January Governor Blanchard called for a tax increase, combined with certain reductions in state appropriations, in order to balance the state's budget in the face of Michigan's continuing economic

difficulties. The executive order announced by the Governor on March 30 reflects his earlier recommendations, including a \$25 million cut in 1982-83 appropriations for higher education," VanSteeland said.

"It is our understanding that the Governor is proposing that 60 percent of this cut, which would amount to \$315,000 for Grand Valley, be restored next year. At this point, no specific plan for the repayment has been announced, nor is it yet clear what next year's appropriations will be."

Grand Valley and other higher education institutions have been

aware of the possibility of such a cut for some time, according to VanSteeland. "As we have previously indicated, we instituted an extremely conservative budget this year in anticipation of continued state funding problems. Thanks to the cooperation we have received from our faculty, staff and students in this difficult budgeting process, we are prepared to cope with the most recently announced cutback, to meet our 1982-83 financial obligations by continuing to follow the stringent budget plan we adopted for the year."

STUDENT SENATE, ACLU SEEK INJUNCTION TO FORCE STATE FUNDING OF X-RATED MOVIE

Members of the GVSC Student Senate, with the aid of the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, are seeking a federal court injunction which would force the college to spend state funds to show an X-rated film on campus. A hearing on the injunction is scheduled for Monday, April 4, in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids.

According to GVSC Provost Glenn Niemeyer, "Such an expenditure would be contrary to the official policy adopted in February by the college's Board of Control."

He noted, "The board acted after a review of the positions taken by other institutions with regard to X-rated film showings. We found that some state-supported colleges and universities in Michigan do allow the showing of X-rated movies on their campuses, but

only with the stipulation that no state funds be used and that the sponsoring groups assume the legal risks involved in showing the films. The Board of Control adopted a policy based on this approach.

"We regard it as reasonable and responsible, not only because of the precedents established by other institutions, but also because it conforms with legal precedents regarding students' rights without compromising the college's responsibilities as a public institution of higher learning.

"We believe our position is reasonable and responsible -- that X-rated film entertainment is not a necessary or appropriate component of higher education and thus not an activity for which college funds should be used. Our concern is X-rated movies, not any particular movie, and our policy speaks to the critical issue of intellectual values.

"It is unfortunate," Niemeyer said, "that the Student Senate members have forced the institution into expending funds for legal fees at a time when the fiscal pressures generated by the state's economic problems already make it difficult to meet the institution's academic priorities."

The resolution adopted by the Board of Control on February 25 states that:

"Whereas, Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Michigan establishes institutions of higher education, and

Whereas, section 4 of that Article authorized the establishment of Grand Valley State College, and

Whereas, Section 6 of that Article declares that the Board of Control '... shall have general supervision of the institution and the control and direction of all expenditures from the institution's funds ...' and

Whereas, the Board of Control is unaware of any constitutional or statutory basis on which any particular student or group of students has a right to direct the Board of Control to expend institutional funds for any particular educational or entertainment purpose, and

Whereas, the use of institutional funds for any particular educational or entertainment purpose through the showing of a particular film or type of film, as well as any other form of education or entertainment requiring the use of institutional funds, is within the control and direction of the Board of Control, and

Whereas, the College recognizes that individual students and faculty members have rights of expression which are protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution

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WGVC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE GOES OVER THE TOP

Public television viewers in west Michigan contributed \$392,739 to WGVC during the station's 17-day membership drive which concluded March 20. The campaign, designed to raise operating funds by soliciting on-air pledges, went more than \$32,000 over the \$360,000 goal set by the station.

The total dollar amount was garnered from 5,798 pledges; it represents an increase of 11 percent over the amount raised in last year's March membership drive.

Channel 35 ranked eighteenth in a field of 133 public broadcasting stations nationwide

conducting similar drives in March. West Michigan viewers pledged more to WGVC than did viewers to local stations in Dallas, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Milwaukee and many other cities larger in population than Grand Rapids.

The programs drawing the most response from viewers in terms of dollars pledged were "Country Music Jubilee," "The Weavers: Wasn't That a Time," "Juke Box Saturday Night," and several specials featuring popular lecturer and educator Leo Buscaglia. Special pledge breaks during the line-up of children's programs on

WGVC also contributed to the success of the drive.

"The station management is extremely gratified with the results of this drive, which will enable WGVC to continue its high quality program offerings and allow us the freedom to make additional program purchases," WGVC Development Manager Thomas Hurley said. "We are anticipating another successful edition of the Grand TV Auction, to be televised April 24 through May 1 on Channel 35, in order for us to meet our local fund-raising goal of \$1.4 million for the fiscal year ending June 30."

CHANNEL 35 OFFERS PREVIEW OF ARTS AND ANTIQUES SLATED FOR AUCTION

A diverse collection of works by both regional and international artisans will be available for viewing when WGVC stages its annual Art and Antiques Preshow, April 11-15 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. The event permits interested bidders to inspect original paintings, sculpture, prints and antiques which will be auctioned off during the May 1 Art and Antiques Night, part of WGVC's annual Grand TV Auction, April 24-May 1.

Although advance bids will be accepted at the preshow, the donated works of art and antiques will be subject to higher bids when the items reach the Channel 35 auction block and viewers bid by phone from their homes.

For the first time this year, prospective buyers and art enthusiasts will have an opportunity to meet the artists at a special reception scheduled for 7-8 p.m., Wednesday, April 13, at the Amway Grand Plaza.

Among the works on display at the preview showing will be "Mute Cortège 35," the most recent creation of Takeshi Takahara, a Japanese-born artist and GVSC instructor who is recognized as one of America's finest printmakers. Also shown will be "Escargot," an Alexander

Calder lithograph signed by the master and donated by Mr. and Mrs. H. Justin Brown of Caledonia.

Other works which will be on exhibit and available for bidding during the auction include a cast paper work by James Kusmierski; a water color by Sylvia Krissoff; a colored pencil drawing by Johan VanderTol; an oil painting by

Patricia Block; and a bronze sculpture of a cowboy and a horse by Roberto Chenlo.

Auction viewers will also have the opportunity to bid for an oil portrait painted for the bidder by artist Jon McDonald.

More information about the reception, the Preshow, or the Grand TV Auction is available from Auction Coordinator Mary Ann Cheney, ext. 386.

STUDENT SENATE, ACLU SEEK INJUNCTION TO FORCE STATE FUNDING OF X-RATED MOVIE

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of the United States of America, so long as those rights are exercised in a way that is consistent with the rights of this institution, the rights of other persons on the campus, and not in violation of local community standards, and

Whereas, the College recognizes and accepts its responsibility to be a forum for the free and open exchange of ideas and opinions consistent with the constitutional rights of all members of its community and the College does not restrain those individual rights in any manner by its limitation on the expenditure

of institutional funds, and

Whereas, nothing in this resolution is intended to abridge the academic freedom of faculty in the performance of their academic responsibilities,

Now therefore be it resolved, that no institutional funds of this College shall be used by student organizations for the acquisition of X-rated films, such films being the type which, by their nature show excessive violence and/or sexually explicit material. The Administration is directed to review and authorize the expenditure of institutional funds in accordance with this policy."

SUPPLEMENTAL LIFE INSURANCE RATES TO GO UP

Grand Valley faculty and staff members who purchase supplemental life insurance through payroll deduction will pay more for their coverage beginning April 5. The cost of the insurance has increased from 63 cents to 78 cents per thousand dollars of insurance, according to Tom Butcher, assistant to the personnel officer.

The cost increase is the result of several factors, Butcher said, including recent federal legislation requiring insurance companies to make administrative changes which have led to increases in their rates. In addition, he said, Grand Valley's rates have been adversely affected by the

fact that employees electing supplemental coverage tend to be older and that the ratio of claims payouts to premiums has been higher than expected.

The rate increase will affect only those employees who have elected to supplement the basic life insurance coverage paid for by Grand Valley as a fringe benefit. About 40 percent of the faculty and staff now have supplemental coverage, according to Butcher.

Grand Valley currently offers three options for life insurance coverage. Under the first, the institution pays for life insurance coverage equal to half of the employee's base salary, with no contribution from the employee required. The second

option enables employees to increase their coverage to equal their full base salary by paying for the cost difference between that level and the coverage provided by Grand Valley under option one. The third option provides for coverage at a level double the base salary, with the employee picking up the cost difference between that level and option one coverage.

The increased rates will automatically be deducted from the paychecks of employees who have chosen option two or three coverage beginning with the April 5 paychecks. Persons seeking to change their coverage should call the Personnel Office, ext. 215.

ACROSS CAMPUS

BOARD MEETING RESCHEDULED

The Board of Control meeting scheduled for April 22 has been postponed until Friday, May 20.

CHORALE AND SINGERS TO OFFER "KING DAVID" THURSDAY

The Festival Chorale and the GVSC Singers will present a performance of Honegger's "King David," with instrumental accompaniment, on Thursday, April 7. Maynard Klein will direct the two groups in the free performance, which will be held at 8 p.m. in the First Park Congregational Church, 10 East Park Place, N.E., Grand Rapids.

Soloists for the event will include John Tevebaugh, narrator; Jean DeVries and Julie George, sopranos; Leslie Eitzen, contralto; and William Beidler, tenor.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP BANQUET SLATED FOR APRIL 20

The fifth annual Kenneth R. Venderbush Student Leadership Award will be presented at the Student Leadership Banquet to be held at 5 p.m., Wednesday, April 20, in Kirkhof Center. The banquet honors students for their contributions of time and energy to student organizations and other aspects of campus life.

Tickets for the banquet are \$4. They will be available at the Kirkhof Center Information Desk through April 20; however, the Student Activities Office is

asking those planning to attend to make reservations with that office (ext. 585) by April 13.

LUNCHEBREAK SERIES TO FEATURE CHAMBER GROUP

The Apple Hill Chamber Players, a string ensemble with piano, will perform Schubert's "Trout Quintet" and "Turina Piano Quartet" in a Lunchbreak Series concert to be held Wednesday, April 6. The free concert will be held at 12 noon in the Calder Fine Arts Center.

PRINCETON PROFESSOR TO PRESENT BAROQUE FESTIVAL LECTURE

"The Baroque and the Crisis of the 17th Century" will be the topic of a lecture to be offered by Theodore K. Rabb on Thursday, April 7, at 3 p.m. as part of the Baroque Festival. The free lecture will be held in Room 174, Lake Huron Hall. Rabb is a professor of history at Princeton University and co-editor of The Journal of Interdisciplinary History.

PHOTOGRAPHER DAVID PLOWDEN TO VISIT GVSC, LECTURE AT ART MUSEUM

Internationally-acclaimed photographer David Plowden will offer a slide presentation and lecture at the Grand Rapids Art Museum on Friday, April 8. Plowden has illustrated fourteen books, the most recent of which, An American Chronology, is a distillation of the finest works of a career spanning 25 years.

Plowden, a professor of photography at the Institute of Design in Chicago, is renowned for his photographs of "man-made America" -- steam locomotives, roadways and main streets, river steamers, steel mills and bridges, tilled fields, skyscrapers, and nuclear generating plants. He has received major commissions

and grants for photographic studies ranging from the bridges of North America to railroad workers.

Plowden's appearance in west Michigan was arranged by GVSC photography instructor David Rathbun and is being sponsored by Grand Valley and the Grand Rapids Art Museum. He will work with Rathbun's advanced photography students on Thursday and Friday, April 7 and 8.

Plowden's slide presentation and lecture will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the museum's Cook Auditorium, 155 North Division, Grand Rapids. Tickets are \$3 for general admission and \$1.50 for museum members and students.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, April 4

- 10 & 11 a.m.: Geoflicks: "The River Must Live," "The Sea River," and "Strip Mine Trip." Free. 118 Loutit Hall.
12-1 p.m.: Lunchbreak Series -- "Ballet Folklorico de Albuquerque," featuring Mexican music and folk dances. Free. Calder Fine Arts Center.
12-5 p.m.: Art exhibit by GVS student Scott Patrick (through Friday, April 8). Free. Kirkhof Center Gallery.

Tuesday, April 5

- 12 noon: Student recital by Anne Holmlund, pianist, and Ken Bier, guitarist. Free. Calder Fine Arts Center.
12-5 p.m.: Art Exhibit. See April 4 for details.
2 p.m.: Men's Baseball -- GVSC at Central Michigan University.
3 p.m.: Women's Softball -- GVSC at Hope College.

Wednesday, April 6

- 12-1 p.m.: Lunchbreak Series -- Apple Hill Chamber Players, ensemble. Free. Calder Fine Arts Center.
12-5 p.m.: Art Exhibit. See April 4 for details.
3 p.m.: Women's Softball -- University of Michigan at GVSC.

Thursday, April 7

- 12-5 p.m.: Art Exhibit. See April 4 for details.
12:30 p.m.: Catholic Liturgy. Kirkhof Center Cove.
3 p.m.: Women's Softball -- Wayne State University at GVSC.
3 p.m.: Lecture -- "The Baroque and the Crisis of the 17th Century," by Theodore K. Rabb, professor of history, Princeton University. A Baroque Festival event. Free. 174 Lake Superior Hall.
8 p.m.: Concert -- Honegger's "King David," by the GVSC Singers and Festival Chorale." Free. First Park Congregational Church, 10 East Park Place, N.E., Grand Rapids.

Friday, April 8

- 12-5 p.m.: Art Exhibit. See April 4 for details.
1 p.m.: Men's Baseball -- GVSC at Hillsdale College.

Saturday, April 9

- 1 p.m.: Women's Softball -- GVSC at Northwood Institute.
1 p.m.: Men's Baseball -- Northwood Institute at GVSC.

Sunday, April 10

- 10:30 a.m.: Dialogue Worship. Kistler Pit. (Coffee at 10 a.m.)
3 p.m.: Student recital by Denise Wicklund, soprano, and Angel Delgado, pianist. Free. Calder Fine Arts Center.
6:30 p.m.: Catholic Mass. Commons Deli.

Monday, April 11

- 10 & 11 a.m.: Geoflicks: "Ground Water -- The Hidden Reservoir," "Yellowstone -- The Living Sculpture" and "Mt. McKinley -- The Land Eternal." Free. 118 Loutit Hall.
12-5 p.m.: Art exhibit by GVSC student Dave Noffsinger (through Friday, April 15). Free. Kirkhof Center Gallery.
1 p.m.: Women's Softball -- Lake Superior State at GVSC.
2:30 p.m.: Men's Baseball -- Lake Michigan College at GVSC.