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Rex D. Larsen Photo

Grand Valley State Colleges

Lanthorn

Volume 9, Number 37

July 7, 1977

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GVSC Board of Control votes \$2 tuition increase

by Craig Vaughan

In its regular meeting on June 10, 1977, the GVSC Board of Control raised tuition for state residents in undergraduate programs to 18 dollars per credit hour. The two dollar increase went into effect at the beginning of summer term.

The state appropriation figure for the 1977-78 year has not yet been decided upon by the Legislature, but college officials' best guess is that this figure will be approximately one-half million dollars short of expected expenditures. The tuition increase will bring in about \$500,000 in additional revenue.

Dak Woodbeck was introduced to the Board by outgoing Student Congress President Robert J. Fitrakis. Woodbeck asked the Board not to approve the tuition increase until such a time as an "ad hoc committee of students, faculty, and administrators can sit down together to see where funding priorities are, and where budget cuts and increases are being made."

Woodbeck, general manager of

Campus Cops acquire new radar unit

by Earl Atkinson

On Tuesday, July 5th, the GVSC Campus Police began using a new traffic radar unit. Head of Campus Security, Paul Cobb, hopes this unit will help reduce the number of on-campus accidents due to speeding.

The unit, a compact Model K55 made by M.P.H. Industries of Chanute, Kansas, can be used while the police car is either moving or sitting still. Unlike older models it is not highly visible. It sits on the dash rather than being mounted outside the window of the vehicle.

It cost the GVSC Police Dept. \$338.06. Its total value is approximately \$1500.00. Bought in a quantity of 24 by the Ottawa County Sheriff's Dept. the actual cost is \$112.70 per unit. Seventy per cent of the funding came from the Michigan Dept. of Highway Safety and Planning.

WSRX-FM, said that he was merely acting as a concerned student, and not in any official capacity.

President Fitrakis said that, "students at GVSC are still not involved in the decision making processes on campus, and the budget is not available to them."

President Arend Lubbers disagreed, saying that, "the budget is open to the students by law."

Board member William Kirkpatrick said that he was "in favor of offering a course in which business students would be able to look over the budget and see how it works." Lori Robinson, Executive Director for Budget and Planning explained that "this has been done in the fall."

Board member Richard DeVos said it was more important to him that the college continue to attempt to "raise the quality of the product (education), and then students will stand in line to get into Grand Valley, regardless of the price."

Vice-President Bruce Loessin noted that in his statewide travels he had seen the same thing happen at other state schools. "Tuition is going up everywhere.

Even with a two dollar increase, I feel Grand Valley still offers a college education at a good price," he said.

Loessin added that administrators, as well as faculty and students were "equally concerned about rising costs here at Grand Valley."

Student Congress president Fitrakis said later that he knew before he went into the meeting that regardless of what he said the Board would approve the tuition increase. "I felt it was my obligation as Student Congress President to let the Board know that students were deeply concerned about the proposed increase," he explained.

In other business, the Board approved the creation of two new graduate programs. Both programs, the Master's Degree program in General Education, and the Master's Degree program in Health Sciences, will be offered through the Graduate School of Education.

Approval of these programs is tentative, and no final decision will be made on the fate of the programs before the 1977-78 budget is finalized. This was done at the request of the All-Colleges Academic Senate (ACAS), who introduc-

ed a resolution of concerns about the possible detrimental effects of the new programs on existing undergraduate programs. The resolution also called for the increased utilization of present undergraduate faculty in the new program, rather than the hiring of new personnel.

The Board also approved a new Cross-College Women Studies Program, and raised the salary of President Arend Lubbers. Effective July 1, the President's compensation will be increased from \$44,000 to \$47,000 a year.

The next meeting of the Board of Control will be held on Thursday, August 18 at 1 pm.

Thompson TJC dean

By Susan Stone

Thomas Jefferson College, the one college at GVSC which has been without a dean for the last year, has finally found one.

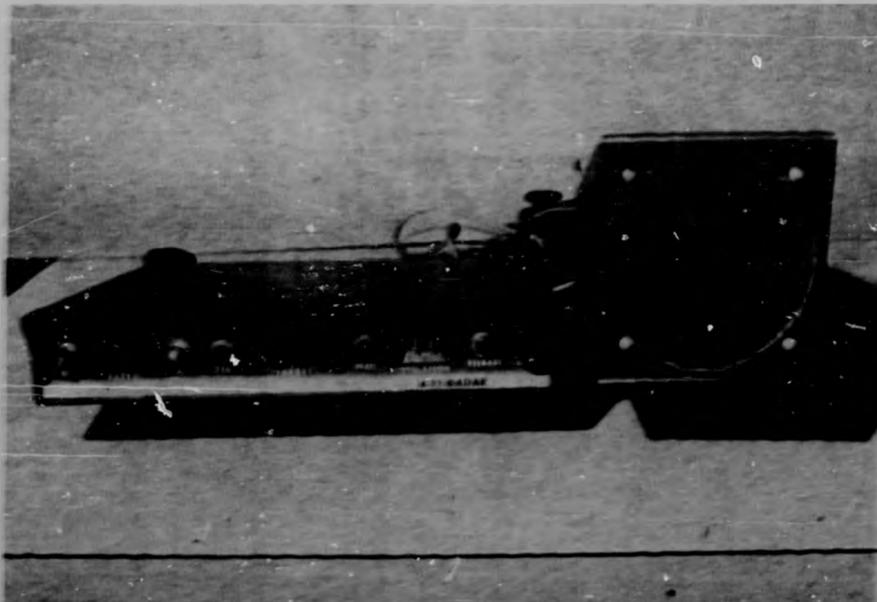
Phyllis Thompson, who has been acting dean since December was recently confirmed by the Board of Control. The dean before her was T. Dan Gilmore and also Dennis Winters, temporarily from last July until Thompson's appointment in December.

She has some definite plans for the direction she would like to see TJC take. "The big master plan for TJC is to establish and recapture some of its former enrollment and meet the responsibility of student's needs. It is very essential that we understand and respond to the needs of students here."

She went on to explain that TJC is abandoning the Majic Wednesday programs, and instead develop a "Self and Civilization" integrated course theme.

Faculty member Don Klein, who was on the faculty search committee said that he was "disappointed that the administration didn't take our recommendations more seriously." That group did not recommend Thompson's appointment.

Another faculty member, Arthur Cadieu said that 2/3 of the TJC faculty thought that "Thompson was an unacceptable candidate for dean, and is now trying to work this division out and come to terms with it."



GVSC police hope the new radar unit will help reduce accidents on campus.

When asked why the radar unit was purchased, Al Wygart, a campus police official, said it was due to an increase of accidents on campus. According to police statistics, 78 per cent of all traffic accidents in the county are speed related. Wygart said, "six months ago Corporal Alderink of the Ottawa County Sheriff's Dept. wanted a unified traffic control program to help deal with the problem." Out of this effort

came the Uniform Traffic Enforcement Program unit which began June 1st and meets quarterly.

All speeding tickets will be processed through the Ottawa County Courts. Cobb said the traffic enforcement unit will not be used to gain revenue.

Cobb added, "We will be keeping accurate records of how accidents increase or decrease on campus."

Two Lanthorn editorials for the price of one . . .

The Minority Task Force report

The task force, made up of students, administrators, and faculty representatives, was charged by President Lubbers to investigate charges of institutional racism on the Grand Valley campus.

One section of the report recommended that the Student Code Book be rewritten "to reflect current court decisions and other due process regulations".

In the past, there have been questions raised by various individuals, mostly isolated cases, as to the some of the provisions of the Student Code Book. These individuals have challenged the constitutionality of some of the procedures in the handbook.

Now we have a committee of individuals who have studied this problem and see a similar need for revision of the Student Code Book.

NEW STUDENTS

The All-College Student Congress is the vehicle by which students strive to alter, counter and improve upon Zumbergeian (i.e. administrative) policy.

If you are interested in shaping decisions that will vitally affect your life - utilize the Student Congress and its resources.

Contact the Congress at ext. 651 or drop in, South Wing Campus Center 1-3 Mon. thru Thursday.

This is one area of concern raised by the task force that would be relatively easy to remedy. We urge President Lubbers to work on a remedy. Or, at least, appoint someone to do so.

Tuition goes up, again

To quote Richard DeVos, "If we raise the quality of the product(education), then people will stand in line to get into Grand Valley, regardless of the price."

We must attack this statement of education philosophy on two points.

One, if we continue to raise the price of tuition at Grand Valley, it will penalize those who can least afford to attend a college in the first place. Not the bright students with no money, or the bright students with plenty of money, but those somewhere in between.

Two, how do we justify this increase with cries of "Let's have more quality!", when the evidence of quality on campus is not exactly overwhelming. After all, Richard DeVos should know that consumers are sharper than that.

letters

Editor,
The Lanthorn-WSRX Grasser was great!

I know that there is a fair amount of work which is involved to make it all possible; set-up of fences, wiring and lights, people to man the kegs, get the kegs, people to clean up and most important, someone to keep the generator running so lights can continue to shine on all the goings on...."wet tee-shirt" contests, "fireside dancing" and an array of other assorted activities.

Appreciation to all those helping hands.

Now, a few notes for next year's

Spring Grasser....in order to accomodate the full range of interests, how about a "wet brief" contest to be added to the agenda for next year?

Sincerely yours,
Jeri Liszewski

Dear Jeri,
You brought up a good point. Now, if you only had gotten your letter in earlier, more people would if seen it. From now on, sign your letters when you send them in.

-Editor

classifieds

AVON can help you pay tuition bills. Sell in your spare time. Men and women are invited to call Mrs. Janet Kemp, Avon Manager, 392-6238.

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LANTHORN



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Features

Hansen makes initial cut, U. S. World university team

By Dave LeMieux

Kim Hansen is an exceptional basketball player. Hansen, a junior, has broken most of GVSC's womens' basketball scoring records. She totaled 899 points her 56 games, an average of 16.1 a game, and holds the single game scoring mark at 32 points, set against Michigan State last season.

Hansen has a chance to test her skill against some of the best players in both the United States and the world this summer. Hansen made the initial cut for the United States' World University team earlier this month in St. Joseph, Mo. July 25th she travels to New Paltz, N.Y. to train for two weeks and attempt to make the final 12-player cut. Those 12 players will compete against 10 other world teams August 14-28 at Sophia, Bulgaria.

"They expect anywhere from 20 to 30 players at the next tryout," said Hansen. Her chance to make the team? "It depends on how many forwards and centers show up. When I was in St. Joseph I saw things I had to improve upon. My shooting and quickness. I saw a lot of moves I'd like to do but I'd have to practice."

The 6-1 center forward has over eight years of experience to draw from. "I started playing with my sister outside my house. She helped a lot. It was a lot of practice."

It was a good introduction to basketball. Hansen's older sister, Cheryl, played in junior high and high school, at Calvin College and GVSC.

"In junior high were the first organized teams. School didn't interest me but I enjoyed basketball," Hansen said. As with many new sports qualified coaches



Lanthorn Photo by Rex D. Larson

weren't easy to find. But the lack of a qualified instructor lasted only a year. "In eighth and ninth grade we had a coach who was really good. He got a lot of girls ready for high school," said Hansen.

Hansen was ready for high school basketball. "My junior year (at Hudsonville Unity Christian) we took the Class B state championship. There was a lot of talent on that team," remarked Hansen.

It was just a move from one talented team to another when Hansen came to the Lakers. "For some reason we get a lot of talent coming into Valley," Hansen said. "Grand Valley is about the strongest team in the GLIAC (Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) right now. There is a lot of talent here. It's super, for

the most part. Every team has its problems but I think we get along well."

The team has gotten along to three consecutive GLIAC championships. The Laker women won it outright in 74-75 and 76-77 and were co-champions with Saginaw Valley State College in 75-76.

Next year? "I know Oakland is going to be tough. They have an incoming freshman that made the world cut with me. It's not going to be easy. It wasn't easy last year. We were sweating it out there a couple of games with Wayne State," Hansen said.

Hansen, a physical education major, wants to coach and teach. "I'd like to coach at a four-year college but the jobs are few and I'll take what I can get. If I had to coach at high school for a few

years I'd do it," Hansen said. "I like working with older girls who have a lot of skills."

Hansen prefers not to work with the younger players, though she has as a camp counselor. "There are probably a lot better people for that job than me," she explained.

She agrees there is a need for women's sports programs to begin at an earlier age. "It's not in Michigan so much, but out of state they start out in grade school," Hansen said.

Hansen also realizes that women's sports programs are just beginning and that there are problems. "With time they'll be improved. It's just that a lot of sports are young, there is a lack of funds and they have to have time to develop," she said.

Unlike male college athletes, women have few career possibilities after college. That too is changing. A counterpart to the National Basketball Association is beginning for women. "It's sort of starting," Hansen explained. "But from what I hear of the men's (NBA) I really wouldn't like it. It (the NBA) seems more for the money than the sport. If they did get a good program started I might change my mind."

Hansen enjoys sports but realizes that the good athletes need more challenge than intramurals can offer. "You definitely need both intramurals and varsity sports because I think there is always going to be that higher level of athlete. Varsity should be fun but you're there for the competition, to win," she said.

Kim Hansen plays basketball well. Physically she is suited to the game. But there is another reason she does so well. "I love basketball," she says, smiling.

Reviews with Jennifer Anderson

"Star Wars" is hailed as the "sleeper of the year." Its unexpected and monumental box office success is attributed to its escapist nature. Supposedly, it is the good clean fun that America needs.

Unlike most science fiction, but typical of the other genres mimicked in the film — the western, the pirate film, the made-for-television movie — "Star Wars" is escapist in the traditional sense of the word.

Traditionally, escapism is a deceptive label. Escapist entertainment does not, as the name implies, avoid dealing with serious eternal or contemporary issues. Rather, it deals with issues of social or moral significance in a very oversimplified manner, and draws from the status quo in its treatment of them.

By answering these issues on the screen or in print the way society or a majority of people or a particular demographic group thought to be a good advertising target answers them, escapism successfully keeps the issues from becoming a distraction for the audience.

Racism, sexism and war become a part of the realistic background, accepted without thought as the story unfolds in the foreground. The media acceptance of the status quo, to avoid disturbing its viewers or readers, is a large factor in the perpetuation of cultural myths, stereo-

types, attitudes and phenomena.

The ways in which issues are resolved in the background are subliminally accepted by the audience as well, which often contains imitative children.

Works of entertainment are not supposed to be primarily thematic. That is not the function of entertainment, especially escapist entertainment, for which there is definitely a demand in American culture. To attempt to treat issues in a serious and thought-provoking manner would be to not entertain (or make money.)

However, the media does not have to answer these issues in the same unjust manner that real life answers them, and sanction these answers by including them without comment or emphasis.

In one sense, "Star Wars" is truly escapist. It has good special effects, making the visuals during space travel realistic, fascinating, and aesthetically pleasing enough to be thoroughly absorbing. However, as for being a "visual extravaganza", its lack of imagination in sets, scenery, and costumes detracts so much from the film visually that only a young child would be continually impressed or lost in this world.

More importantly, "Star Wars" does not really escape the ugly realities of 20th century Western culture or

eternal human questions.

"Star Wars" deals with racism. It makes fun of the bartender who refuses to serve a certain type of android, while his establishment is filled with at least as many varieties of creatures as in all the episodes of "Star Trek". This is the film's most conscientious social statement and it is negated by the fact that throughout the movie creatures who have human characteristics (as unimaginatively they all do) but look inhuman (which, except for general size and shape they are supposed to) are bought and sold as slaves, treated with contempt or condescension, ridiculed, and called names which deride their appearances because of deviations from human appearances. (The Princess, who is herself the subject to poor treatment because of her sex, calls Chewbacca, another main character but not a human, a "walking carpet.")

"Star Wars" deals with sexism. There are two women in its cast of hundreds. One goes about the womanly business of cooking, serving and incessantly calling for her nephew to do things for her. The other is the stereotyped woman who "has a lot of spirit." By virtue of an aristocratic system she had escaped the drudgery of housework by being a Princess. She has learned not to intervene but a quickwittedness usually reserved for men or Katherine Hepburn. Her reward is that she is subjected to comments about the stupidity of "women's advice" and referred to as "sweetheart" and "sister" or idolized by an infatuated boy. An important part of her role is to look beautiful, cast ambiguous glances at,

her suitors, and dole out kisses for luck or reward to the men.

"Star Wars" deals with violence and war. Violence is not escaped—just not taken seriously. Although the film is reputed to contain little violence, actually the excessive violence is just treated so casually that the audience doesn't realize how many corpses are being created. Besides numerous shootings by a variety of weapons, an entire planet and an entire space station, both quite inhabited, are blown up. But at least the actual gore is only implied. The audience must imagine what happened to a bloody dismembered arm and two human skeletons which are void of almost all flesh. To be fair, though, "Star Wars" has a consistent philosophy about killing. If the enemy, (the bad guys) kills good guys (our side) it's bad. If we (the good guys) kill them it's good, just and cause for celebration. Nobody's death means anything—except of course the main characters', and even their deaths can be humorous, if they're not human.

The legend at the beginning of the film places it in the distant past. Society hasn't progressed much. Nor has escapist entertainment. Truly escapist entertainment would truly escape the problems and issues plaguing people. Instead of including violence and war nonchalantly, it would leave them out. Instead of making sexism and racism part of its background it could make equality and justice part of its natural setting. Then everyone could relax and escape into the plot...if it were more captivating than the one in "Star Wars."

4th student ousted after all

By Bob Fitzakis

GVSC President Arend D. Lubbers recently upheld the two term suspension of the fourth student involved in the Jan. 16th intramural basketball altercation. Lubbers had earlier overruled the sanctions placed on three other students in the same incident.

Lubbers' intervention was prompted by charges of institutional racism at GVSC and in this case in particular. All four suspended students were black. Lubbers' earlier decision was released amid rumors and attempts of protest by black students and community members.

In a memo date June 3, Lubbers cited no specific reason for his action. The memos state, "Because of the result of recent investigation, my decision is to support the sanction issued by the College Hearing Officer. Lubbers was out-of-town last week and could not be reached for comment.

Dean of Student Life, Richard Mehler was the officer alluded to in the memo.

In discussing the decision, Mehler commented, "Only the president knows the reasons for his decision. But that decision was made with a great deal of input at his request and careful deliberation." Asked how he felt about the president vetoing his earlier decision,

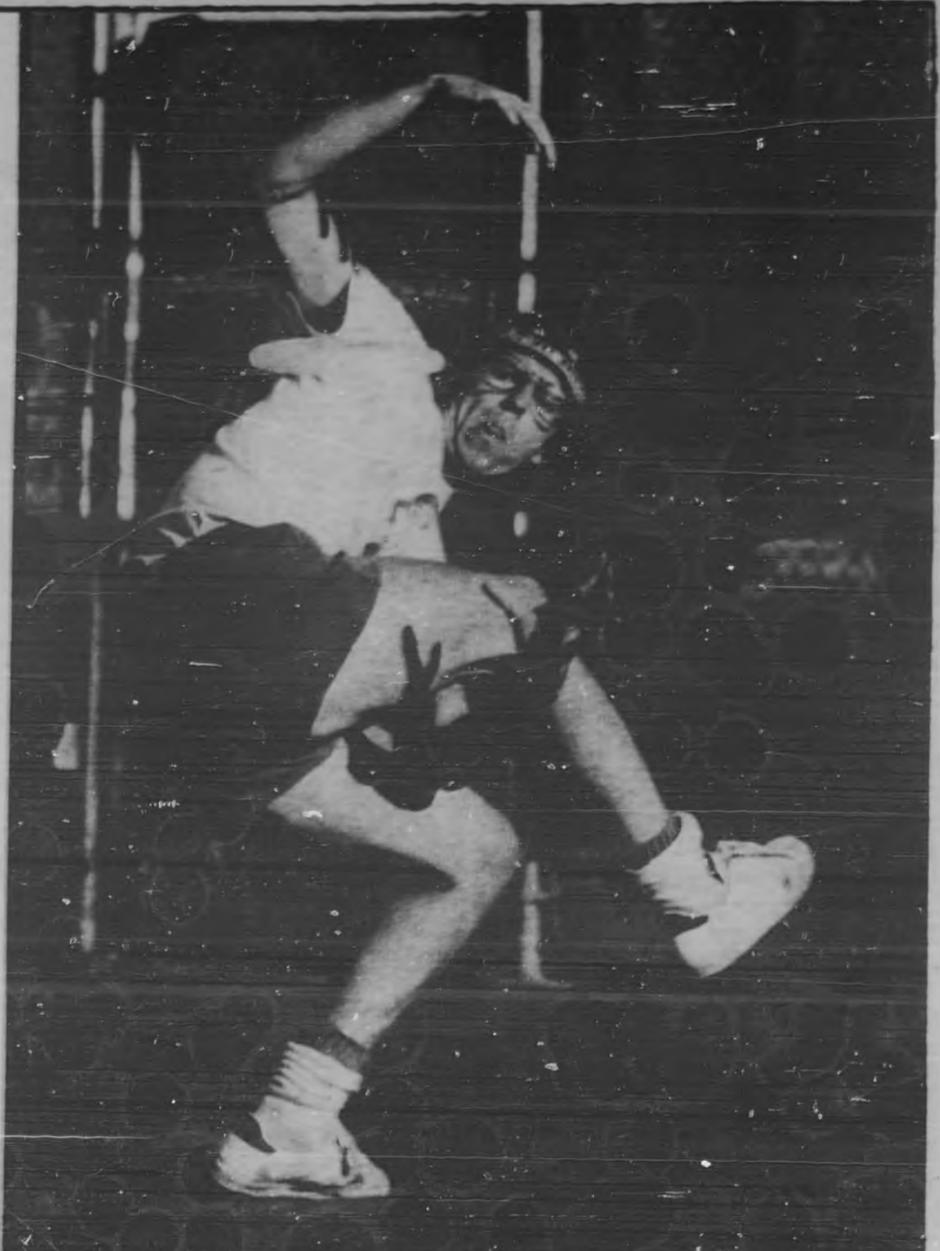
Mehler replied, "it's the president's prerogative."

In the June 2 issue of the Lanthorn, Norm Donker, a student injured in the fight, charged, "Dean Mehler simply succumbed to the pressure executed by some parties who cried discrimination." He was referring to the reduced penalties ordered by Mehler after a second hearing involving the same individuals, but on different referral charges. Donker had filed the first judicial referral.

In response to Donker's charge, Dean Mehler said, "additional testimony provided further insight and understanding of the incident...on the basis of my new perspective, the individuals were still judged guilty—but lower penalties were issued." Mehler mentioned that no one in the college administration advised or pressured him to lower the penalties.

The college's Court of Three agreed with Mehler's second decision following an appeal from Donker. The appeal was on the grounds that the sentences stemming from the second hearing were too light. Those were the same sentences overturned by President Lubbers as reported in the May 12th issue of the Lanthorn.

The decision regarding the fourth student, the topic of the June 3 memo, resulted from that student pleading but appealing the severity of his. Lubbers ruled against that appeal. There are no further appeals pending from the incident.



This Frisbee enthusiast shows his form to the judges during the free-style event of the Michigan State finals at GVSC June 18. Contestants battled each other and the wind for a simulated gold Frisbee plaque and a chance to compete nationally in the Rose Bowl this fall. Lanthorn photo by Rex D. Larsen

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