

BGLA

BGLA sponsors BGLAD Week

- A BGLA lunch is planned for Friday on the Russell House Patio. A rainbow flag symbolizing diversity in the gay and lesbian community will be flying.
- The Fifth Annual Gay/Lesbian Pride March on the State House will be Saturday. Line-up starts at noon, the march will begin at 1 p.m., and a rally will begin at 1:30 p.m.
- BGLA supports bisexuals, gays and lesbians on campus.
- BGLAD is designed to raise awareness on campus.

Gamecock Graphics

Thrift stores offer inexpensive, stylish clothes

By College Press Service

LAFAYETTE, La. — From the shiny bell bottoms of disco to old flannel shirts of grunge, the most popular look for the '90s is retro, according to students who have honed their sense of what's authentic on trips to thrift stores.

Goodwill and St. Joseph's Distribution Center are becoming more popular than department stores with the "phat" of contemporary society.

Thrift stores offer a wide variety of used items, with the most popular item being clothing. Here, someone's discarded junk can be another person's collected treasure. It is not unusual to find vintage clothing from other eras among the piles and racks of clothing offered. Shopping can become not a chore, but a mini-adventure with guilt-free, affordable purchases.

Tight-budgeted University of Southwestern Louisiana students agree that they are shopping at thrift stores as a solution to their budgetary needs, and also because it's fun.

"The reason why I thrift shop is because it's a hobby," said Rachel Le Tulle, a general studies junior whose favorite shop is St. Joseph's Distribution Center. "And because it's so inexpensive, I can find many

great things in a store."

Rita King, who has worked at St. Joseph's for four years, said she noticed a significant increase in the number of young people shopping there within the past year.

"I think everyone is going to a thrift shop now," she said. "I've enjoyed working with the young people the most. It amazes me to see what they like. Something that I would throw away, they pick up."

King added that although younger people bring a lot of business to St. Joseph's, the clientele varies in all aspects.

"We see just about everyone," King said. "We even have people that come from out of town just to stop here. I have some ladies from Opelousas, St. Martinville, Breaux Bridge, Cade and Maurice."

"It helps them because we sell at minimal prices," she said, adding that all funds go directly to the St. Joseph's Men's Shelter.

Petty Robinson, manager of Ambassador Caffery's Goodwill store, recalled a time when Goodwill was in an old warehouse.

"We started in a warehouse in Broussard," she said. "There was no air conditioning in the warehouse and no heat. We were just trying to make an old warehouse look like a retail store before this store was

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Angelique Guillory
General studies major

built."

Robinson stressed the quality of the merchandise at Goodwill stores.

"We get \$180 designer blouses from Anne Klein and Ellen Tracy, and we sell these for \$3.49," Robinson said. "We get a few people that are clotheshorses, and they come here in the morning and rack up on \$100 and \$200 stuff for \$3.49. That is a real deal!"

Wilbert Morrison, a music theory freshman, said he can "never pass up a bargain."

"There's a market in used clothing," he said. "Personally, I think since I'm into music, that has a lot to do with why I shop there. I see a lot of artists there, too. I think they're trying to project an image."

"Some people go with the grunge look, and some people want to be

the image of the artist. Used clothes make all different kinds of looks easy to achieve. The look I'm going for, really, is just to be myself. If the grunge look is me, then I'm grungy."

Angelique Guillory, a general studies major, mentioned another use for used clothing.

"They make great costumes," she said. "So, when Mardi Gras and Halloween come around, you can buy the best stuff at basement prices."

"People are getting wise toward buying products and shopping," she added, noting that people are starting to buy more generic items from retail stores. "Shopping wisely fits naturally into the clothing area of the economy."

Guillory has many friends that share her hobby.

"All my friends get together, and they'll show me what they bought, and I'll show them what I bought," she said. "It's a lot of fun."

If individuality is what the '90s are about, then that is the essence of shopping at thrift stores on a bargain budget.

"You can put pieces together and have a vintage look, or a grunge look, or a punk look," Guillory said. "You can basically pick up any kind of look you want to if you shop long enough and hard enough."

California university solicits scholarship funds

By College Press Service

DAVIS, Calif. — The University of California-Davis campus has launched a Students First campaign to solicit \$15 million in private donations to fund scholarships, fellowships, student-related academic programs and other financial aid for undergraduate and graduate students.

UC fees have more than doubled in three years, now costing students an average of \$3,800 per year, with an increase of more than \$600 expected in 1994-95. While the number of students applying for state financial aid has risen sharply, the percentage of applicants who actually get state grants has dropped to 20 percent.

"Students First comes at a time when the state's economic woes mean financial instability for many families and for the university as well," UC-Davis Acting Chancellor Larry Vanderroef said. "Through this campaign, we intend to bridge the gap between fees and available financial aid. We must do all we can to reduce the growing indebtedness of our students and their families."

UC-Davis graduates can now owe an average of \$10,000 by graduation. Two to three times that amount is typical for graduate and professional students.

The campaign is sponsored by the UC Davis Foundation, a volunteer support group of alumni, business and professional leaders from the community.

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Students with high grades get free tuition

By College Press Service

WORCESTER, Mass. — Students who pursue four-year degrees at Clark University will be eligible for a fifth year of free tuition to complete a master's degree under a new program designed to combat the rising cost of education.

Essentially, the program allows eligible students who maintain grade point averages of 3.25 or higher to receive a master's in business administration, health administration or other fields for the price of a bachelor's degree.

Clark Provost Roger Kasperson said, there are three advantages for students who opt for the five-year, combined degree programs.

"First, they can save themselves the price of a master's degree or MBA," he said. "Second, while they are doing that, they can accelerate their studies through well-designed and strong academic programs. Third, they can make themselves more competitive in the job market without incurring substantially more debt."

Clark has offered the accelerated five-year degree programs for more than 20 years. Students who opt for the programs are accepted into the master's programs in their junior years, begin meeting requirements in their senior years and fulfill the requirements in the fifth year.

Combined bachelor's and master's programs are available in biology, chemistry, education, environment, technology and society, international development, physics, and business and health administration.

The waiving of the fifth-year tuition believed to be the first program of its kind in the nation, recognizes student and parent concerns about the escalating costs of a bachelor's degree. It also recognizes that a bachelor's doesn't necessarily ensure professional career opportunities anymore, the university said in a news release.

The cost savings are substantial, particularly for expensive programs such as MBA degrees. MBA students at Clark can expect to save about \$22,000 in tuition, room and board for the sixth year they won't need, plus the \$17,500 in tuition that the university will waive for the fifth year.

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