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South Carolina students get head start at school

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — For the brightest high school seniors from across South Carolina gather each summer for the Governor's School — one of the bright spots in a state education system that has stagnated for years.

While their peers are vacationing or working summer jobs for spending money, 240 rising high school seniors spend five weeks on the oak-shrouded campus of the College of Charleston studying such things as marine biology, creative writing and computer science.

"This is a program that we can really be proud of in South Carolina," he said. "There are a lot of things we're not doing as well as we should be doing (in education). But sometimes in our worry about what needs to be addressed and what needs to be changed, we forget about all the good things."

Godow said it's just as important for the education system to provide programs for its brightest as it is to provide remedial programs for slow learners.

They also attend global-issues seminars where they're exposed to new topics of view and can debate such points as human rights, nuclear arms and global relations.

It's been a decade since the school was started in 1976 as a residential summer program for talented and gifted students.

Teachers as well as students thrive in the intense academic atmosphere. "I want to challenge the students on a level they haven't been challenged before," said Van Sturgeon.

"Initially they resisted it. But then they came to love it," said Sturgeon, who is working on his Ph.D. in International Relations at the University of South Carolina. "They stopped looking for simplistic answers."

Much of the atmosphere of the school is set by the "Skip" Godow, an animated, bearded man who serves as the school's director.

Above his desk in a house nestled in the heart of the campus is a poster of Albert Einstein that reads: "Great Spirits Have Always Encountered Violent Opposition from Mediocre Minds." Godow won't accept mediocre.

Godow says the Governor's School, run on a \$300,000 state appropriation, tries not to duplicate high school or college course offerings but to offer something different for students. He also says it's important that students wrestle with contemporary issues.

"We don't want to forget what is really at the heart of the liberal arts tradition — that is, educating for citizenship," he said. "These kids are our future leaders. These students

are people who are going to be making the decisions."

Outstanding students — considered to be intellectually and creatively among the top 5 percent of their high school classes — are screened and nominated by their schools. Then a statewide screening panel makes the final selections.

A \$200 tuition fee covers student costs "except pizza and souvenirs" and scholarship aid is available to those who can't afford it.

Students don't get grades, but do receive certificates when they've satisfactorily completed the work.

For Craig Rimmerman, a political science professor at the College of Charleston, the benefits of teaching at the Governor's School are obvious.

"We get a chance to work with the best and the brightest kids in the state," he said.

Man sued for building \$30 fence

HOUSTON (AP) — Ainsworth is being taken to court by his neighborhood civic group to protect a small flower tree.

"I've never dealt with anyone as stupid as this," Ainsworth said. "I cannot fathom that this has been taken to court and, this far, I was really angry we started happening, but now it's hilarious."

According to the Gulf Freeway Oaks Civic Club, the fence obscures a neighborhood tree, which has aesthetic quality of the area.

"We sent him numerous letters and he would not even budge," says Club President James Yauch. "Twice we went over to talk to him. It could've all been resolved just in a matter of days."

If Ainsworth loses the suit, a \$30 investment in the fence could cost him the \$191 filing fee, court costs plus legal fees the club already has reached \$1,000.

Public service contest finalists named

NEW YORK (AP) — Twenty newspapers ranging in size from the 7,000 circulation *Daily Journal* in Wheaton, Ill., to the 500,000 circulation *Philadelphia Inquirer* have been selected as finalists in The Associated Press Managing Editors Association's 16th annual Public Service Awards competition.

APME judges selected 10 finalists in each of two circulation categories. The winner in each category will be announced in October at the APME convention in Cincinnati.

"The wide range of work done by newspapers in this country is impressive," said Michael J. Davies, immediate past president of APME and chairman of the judging committee. "Once again, it demonstrates how newspapers are constantly focusing public attention on the problems and needs of our communities and the nation."

a lengthy investigation of a school superintendent that led to his resignation.

Hays (Kan.) Daily News, for a special section that explained the farm crisis and its impact on northwest Kansas.

Odessa (Texas) American, for a series dealing with the unanswered questions about problems of a deadly gas, hydrogen sulfide, found in oil fields.

The competition attracted 153 entries, 16 fewer than a year ago. There were 114 entries from newspapers over 50,000 circulation and 39 entries from the under 50,000 circulation category. All newspaper members of The Associated Press are eligible.

Davies, editor and publisher of the *Hartford Courant*, said the judges were particularly pleased with the caliber of journalism being performed by the smaller papers.

"The entries showed again that small reporting staffs can accomplish big things," he said.

Panama City (Fla.) News-Herald, for an investigation that uncovered evidence of torture and other abusive practices in a county jail.

Port Huron (Mich.) Times Herald, for a series on pollution in the St. Clair River.

St. Petersburg (Fla.) Evening Independent, for coverage of problems in local foster care that led to a task force created by the governor.

Entries dealt with subjects including abuses in the selection of juries, in the transportation of human organs, in charitable fund raising, in absentee ballots and in the use of lie-detector tests.

Finalists in the under 50,000 circulation category, listed alphabetically, are:

Carbondale (Ill.) Southern Illinoisian, for a series on the alarming rate of teen-age pregnancy in some counties of Southern Illinois.

Texarkana (Texas) Gazette, for coverage of mismanagement and ineptness of local county government that led to the calling of a general election.

Indian official, operators argue

Telephone call leads to strike

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — This is a true story about modern India. The villain is the telephone, taken for granted in much of the world, but in India regarded as an instrument of torture.

The leading man is a former Cabinet minister, once a powerful politician who defied Sikh death threats, but a man humbled by the telephone and a call that wouldn't come through, even at gunpoint.

he says, the shop stealer knocked him out. He got home at 3:30 a.m. Saturday and his doctor certified he was drunk.

But about 4,000 operators' staff disputed Sethi's account, claiming they arrested a man who was drunk.

Twenty-six hours and 20 minutes after booking, he got the call. The leading lady is played by hundreds of low-paid, sari-clad, shrieking operators, described by the politician as "fat, lazy gossips, drinking tea in a lousy telephone system, the worst in the world."

The operators went on a three-day wildcat strike, smashing switchboards and demanding

the offending operator, Miss Kiran.

Then accounts differ.

Miss Kiran said she peeked from the ladies room and saw a man in a white pajama suit — drunk, staggering, swaggering and abusive — advancing with three guards toward the switchboard. She said she came out and he grabbed her arms, waving his revolver and blowing cigar smoke into her face.

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Still, Sethi's fury struck a responsive chord.

India's telephone system is notorious for inefficiency, rude operators and thousands of phone lines.

He warned the operator he was on his way to her office and set off with his son-in-law and three armed bodyguards, assigned to him because his life had been threatened.

Brushing past guards at the downtown exchange, the capital's telephone riders stormed to the ninth floor and demanded to see

the offending operator, Miss Kiran.

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But the strike was an emboldenment. Over the weekend, police and soldiers got involved. Several corps engineers worked without pause to repair equipment.

After 2½ days, on Sunday night the government announced the strike was over and Sethi apologized, but many strikers denied it and so did Sethi.

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Casa Ole Fiesta Feast 6.25
Two Beef Enchiladas covered with Gravy, melted Cheddar & Monterey Jack Cheese and Green Onions. Rice, Beans, Chutney, Beef Taco, Chile Con Queso and Tortilla Soup or Frijoles a la Chama.

Dinner Presidente 4.95
Two Beef Enchiladas covered with Gravy, melted Cheddar & Monterey Jack Cheese and Green Onions. Rice, Beans, Chutney and Tortilla Soup or Frijoles a la Chama.

Dinner Ambassador 4.95
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