



Student Career Days Success

By: Crystal Morter & Brian Keith

This March the CSLA once again competed at the PLANET Student Career Days, with successful results. The trip began with a tour of the Ford Rouge Plant, including a tour through the museum, which included the Oscar Mayer Weiner mobile; students were also able to view the new green roof and other environmental friendly features of the plant and a trip through their newest assembly plant. Students spent the next few days preparing for competition by attending workshops and event briefings. Students were also treated to a reception given by the host school Michigan State University.

This years PLANET Student Career Days reception was an interesting combination of good food and odd contests. Upon

entering the hall students were asked if they wanted to partake in a tug-o-war contest for some prizes. After hearing a brief speech from two Michigan State students, the participants we able to dress up in sumo outfits and battle or joust. All in all it was a nice change to relax our minds for the real upcoming competitions.

After a day of learning, fun, games, and networking students were ready for two days of competition. Students competed against more than fifty two-year and four-year schools from across the nation, in events such as Irrigation Assembly, Pest Management, Interior Design, Plant ID and many more.

Continued on page 2

AEF Awards Eight Students CSCC Students Scholarships By Crystal Morter

Every year the ALCA Educational Foundation awards more than 30 scholarships to deserving, hardworking students enrolled in two-year and four-year landscape contracting and horticultural programs. This year eight Columbus State students earned scholarships that were given out during the 2007 Student Career Days. Not only did Columbus State have more scholarship recipients than any other school, this is the most scholarship recipients the CSLA has had in one year.

Akerman Family Scholarship

Michael Legates

GroundMasters, Inc. Scholarship

Matthew Mayle

Tom and Carol Lied Scholarship

Crystal Morter

Vito Mariani, Sr., Scholarship

Dean Karbler

Bill and Mary Murdy Scholarship

Bela Chavda

Unnamed Scholarships

Ryan Boston

Nick Esthus

Starlene Link

Inside this issue:

ONLA Scholarship	2
Student Profile	3
SCD Job Fair	3
Ryan Boston, Scholarship King	3
Letter to The Editor	4

Scholarship Watch

- *Worthington Hills Garden Club Scholarship*
- *More to come in the fall*

Two Students Receive ONLA Scholarship

By Emmy Morrow

Each year the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association has the opportunity to present three CSCC students with scholarships in memory of John Patrick Riepenhoff III. Not only was Mr. Riepenhoff a board member and a past president of the ONLA, he was the founder and president of Riepenhoff Landscape, Inc. and he was a strong supporter of Columbus State. Because of John's dedication, two well-deserving students' names will be added to the ONLA scholarship plaque located in the landscape studio of Davidson Hall. At the ONLA "CENTS" show this past January, Crystal Morter and Bela Chavda each received \$1,000 scholarships.



Professor Ansley, Crystal Morter, Bela Chavda, Professor O'Neal

Upon completion of Winter quarter classes, Crystal graduated in March and is planning to attend the Ohio State

University. She will be earning a bachelor's degree in Landscape Horticulture and would like to work as a landscape estimator. Crystal also plans to use her education and experience to teach children about the wonderful world of plants and landscape.

Bela is quickly approaching graduation. With only one class left and the internship program to be completed, she is expecting to graduate by the end of Fall quarter. As an international student, the tuition cost is almost 3 times what it is for an Ohio resident. Bela continues to apply for available scholarships in hopes to lessen her tuition bill. Over a dozen scholarships are offered to CSCC landscape

students; thousands of dollars are available. It only takes a few hours to fill out the necessary information and Bela is determined to do just that.

SCD Continued

The final day offered students the much-awaited results. The Columbus State team placed tenth in the nation, and ranked as the second best two-year school in the nation. Several students placing in the top ten in their events, Andrew Root and Mike LeGates placed first in paver, Bob Moreen placed second in Safety Management, Amber Haynes placed third in Annual and Perennial Identification, and Matt Mayle placed third in Sales Presentation.



Team Photo

Student Profile : Andrew Root

By: Brian Keith

Well known throughout the halls of Davidson is a student who is a friend to all of us, yet strikes fear to competitors at Student Career Days (SCD), Andrew Root, a 3-year veteran of our program and former CSLA treasurer. For the past two competitions, Andrew and his amazing teammates have received first place in the paver installation competition. These competitions have formed his fondest memories about our fellow students.



Andrew Root and Mike LeGates during the Paver competition

Andrew is currently an estimation assistant at Greenscapes, and loves to be hands on and meet new people. Andrew's words of wisdom are this: "Get involved, go to competition, meet new people and network. Also listen to the professors even though Dick rambles sometimes, but all of them have helped make this the great program it is".

Student Career Days Job Fair “The Experience”

By Mike LeGates

I attended the PLANET Student Career Days for the first time in 2006 and again this past March and would like to share my thoughts on the Job Fair held during Student Career Days. My approach in 2006 was to meet every company, to broaden the possibilities for internships and future employment. I can remember feeling anxious but timid, prepared but not, and determined yet nervous. I walked into the auditorium where I was surprised to see nearly a hundred green industry companies ready to converse and establish relationships with the future leaders of the green industry. Before this event I had never attended a career fair in my life, and the scope of this career fair seemed massive. I continuously introduced myself to everybody while handing out business cards and trying to acquire information about each company. When I arrived home and began to unpack my belongings, I realized that I had made plenty of contacts, received a lot of “give-a-ways,” but had not learned much regarding what many of the companies did. I had received so much information that I lost touch with the actual investigation process of each of these companies. In short, too many companies and information in too little time. In 2007 my approach was completely different. I decided to

“I can remember feeling anxious but timid, prepared but not, and determined yet nervous.”

research several companies, companies a few months before the 2007 Student Career Days career fair to inform them of my interest in their company. I arrived at the career fair with my business cards, resumes and electronic portfolio, which I believe helped me to stand above other students. I spoke with the companies that I had researched and received plenty of additional information. My conversations seemed to have a stronger impact with each company representative because of my knowledge about the company and my predetermined direction. I had a few sit-downs with companies offering positions in locations that I desired, with the attributes I preferred. I contacted several of these interviewers and felt that my attempts to find a company for me were successful. In the three weeks after the career fair, I was still networking with a few of the companies, when my hard work and determination paid off. On a Thursday morning I had received a phone call from a recruiter I had been working with over the past six months and she stated, “Mike, you’re going to San Diego.” Preparation, organization and determination have led me to an internship in the Sunshine State.

Ryan Boston Awarded Four Scholarships

By Emmy Morrow

Since December, Ryan Boston’s bank account has seen an increase, a \$4,000 increase to be exact! This deposit was not from holiday gifts, a year-end bonus or from a hefty tax return; Ryan simply applied for various scholarships and won. Over the past few months, he has received four awards, each worth \$1,000. Unfortunately none of the checks were those giant cardboard ones seen on TV. Mr. Boston has been chosen for the following awards: the Ohio Turf Grass Scholarship, the Ohio Lawncare Association Scholarship, an unnamed AEF Scholarship through PLANET and the Builder’s Exchange Scholarship. As a very determined and dedicated student, Ryan has been on the fast track



Ryan Boston and Brian Keith competing in Truck and Trailer

towards graduation. His CSCC adventure began just last fall but will be quickly coming to an end by September of this year. Managing to squeeze more than 6 classes in per quarter, that is well over 20 credit hours, he is already proving to be tough competition in the green industry. It is a good thing he is planning to head to Australia then! In October, Ryan will be packing his bags and moving to Wollongong, Australia, which is just south of Sydney. He will be working as a designer for Craig’s Coastal Landscape. Working? Is that it? Of course not, Ryan is more determined than that. He will also be attending the University of Wollongong to obtain a degree in Business Management. It is a good thing he received those four scholarships. Best of luck Ryan and remember the little people from Ohio when you are down under.



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We're on the web at
<http://csla.ws>

CSLA MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide our members with a variety of opportunities and experiences related to the landscape industry. To promote education and camaraderie through community service and group activities, in close cooperation with faculty and industry professionals.

TWIGS

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We are currently looking for more
writers, if you are interested in joining
The CSLA STICK please contact
Crystal Morter at cmorter@csc.edu

Letter to the Editor

In response to your announcement about the Third Annual Valentine's Day Flower Sale in Issue 2, I would like to brief you about how well it went. I, Bela Chavda had chaired the event with help of a co-chair, Brian Keith, in order to raise funds for CSLA to participate in a national level competition at the Student Career Days organized by PLANET. We prepared ourselves by taking presale orders with our user-friendly order forms, designing banners and flyers, marketing, etc. We sold over \$1300 dollars with presale orders, which covered 99% of the cost. I would like to thank those students and people who helped us sell roses before the actual sale dates.

The Valentine's Day sale was supposed to be held on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February. On the morning of the 12th, a few volunteers got together and helped us de-thorn 700 roses and prepare bouquets for the presale orders. The CSLA students were very excited regarding the recovered costs through presales and the possibility of raising more money this year compared to the last two years. Mr. Tom, the manager of the dining hall let us store the pre made bouquets in the storage cooler in the back of the cafeteria.

On the 13th of February, I woke up in the morning to find myself staring outside the window at a white carpet of snow and my heart sank down in. Columbus was in the middle of a very large scale snowstorm and I jumped out of bed and turned on TV to find that Columbus state was going to close at 1pm. All the preparation we had made for the sale and all of the anticipation of a great turn out was about to be buried in the snow. But one cannot fight against Mother Nature, and the only thing we could do was to pray that the storm would pass soon. We tried to deliver as many bouquets as possible, but still some were left and we had to store them back in cooler.

The storm did not pass until night of the 14th, and the

college stayed closed. Mike LeGates even tried to deliver some orders through this storm to Mr. Bill Liedecker's home for his generosity towards the CSLA. After two days, I was scared to open the cooler and find that all the roses and carnations had died. Mike LeGates and Professor Ansley went ahead and checked the cooler while I attended my morning classes. The roses were still in good condition and the carnations had not lost their quality. We ended up selling the roses and carnations at discounted prices. With great efforts by the CSLA students and the Vice President Mike LeGates, the CSLA flower sale event was still a success. The Landscape Association secured over \$500 profit. We were not able to sell all of the flowers so we donated the carnations to the Isabelle Ridgeway Nursing Center and Professor Deb Knapke was kind enough to turn the remaining roses into potpourri for a future sale. It was a tough experience for everybody who put his or her efforts into this event to create success but teamwork always comes through. I personally would like to thank Amber Haynes, Starlene Link and Franny Johnson for placing such large presale orders. I would also like to thank Mike LeGates for helping sell the last of the roses and all the volunteers for their outstanding efforts.

Thank you,
Sincerely
Bela Chavda