Jody Powell, White House Press secretary during the Carter administration, was the keynote speaker at the Midwest Writers' Conference held Oct. 11 and 12 at the Kent Stark campus.

News is often misinterpreted or misrepresented, he said at the conference. The information flow from the national government to the media to the public is not what it should be.

The “flaw,” as he put it, in the information channels constitutes a danger to democracy. It could potentially deprive the public of its right to be well informed and threatened freedom of the press, he contended.

The problem stems from bias, Powell said, but not political bias like Democrat vs. Republican, or Liberal vs. Conservative. Nor is personal bias the biggest problem, he added.

Economic bias is the most dangerous threat, he said, because “news has to sell.” This causes competition among journalists for exciting or sensational news. After all, he added, news corporations have to make money and journalists need to sell columns or keep television contracts.

Accuracy and fairness may lose out, he said, because the common journalistic response to that is that news “has to be made interesting” or no one will read or watch.

Powell cited a Walter Cronkite broadcast in CBS which made allegations linking a White House aide, Hamilton Jordan, with illegal drug use. Powell said he asked the producer to delay the broadcast for just one day, warning him that the allegations were only innuendo. His recommendation was refused and the program aired.

Powell said that Cronkite later called the broadcast one of his “most embarrassing journalistic experiences.”

Powell cited an incident with Jack Anderson, a syndicated columnist, as another example of unethical journalism. Anderson ran a series of articles in 1980 about the hostage situation in Iran. According to Powell, Anderson accused President Carter of ordering military action to free the hostages as a re-election campaign tactic.

The column wasn’t printed in the Washington Post, Powell said, because the paper’s senior editor decided to check the facts of the articles. When Anderson was asked to back up his facts, he couldn’t and the Post as well as the other Washington papers refused to run the column. “There was not one word of truth in it!” Period. Powell added. It was printed in thousands of other papers, though, and Anderson should have been subject to some consequences, Powell said.

If journalists “go off half-cocked” be stated, give wrong information which damages reputations or misinforms the public of foreign policy, they are violating their own ethics. The problem is compounded, he added, by their lack of concern for punishment or retribution.

It’s not that journalists are all “rascals” or dishonest, he clarified, but sometimes individual conscience is not enough. They need to have a healthy fear of what will happen to them if they misinform the public.

Powell believes the press should and can be both competitive and responsible. The press needs “real competition,” said, the “go-for-the-jugular” kind. If the competition is careless with the truth, he admonished, “by God, say so.”

Journalists, he continued, need to monitor each other, look into these misrepresentations and publish the record straight. Journalists will be more careful to print the truth if they are ridiculed before an entire country, he added.

An aggressive, cynical and skeptical press and a well-informed public are needed if democracy is going to survive, he warned. If we ever lose that, we will lose every small shred of democracy.

The saying goes, he continued, that it takes a strong democracy to survive a free press, but there is no such thing as a democracy without a free press. “My greatest fear,” Powell said, is that a political climate might exist in this country someday which threatens the constitutional privileges journalists need to do their job.

“We have a responsibility,” he concluded, “to make sure that day never comes.”

Jody Powell has called his five years since the Carter administration “an interesting metamorphosis.” He states that he used to think political columnists were the kind of people who “viewed conflict from afar then came out of the hills to shoot the wounded.” He is currently a columnist for the Los Angeles Times syndicate and the Dallas Times Herald.

Jody Powell is also a commentator on ABC’s David Brinkley Show and author of the book The Other Side of the Story. In his book, he contends that powerful media personalities often misinterpreted, mishandled and even misrepresented what happened during the Carter administration.

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News Briefs

• A Halloween party will be held Oct. 31 from 8 to midnight in the lower level of the SSA Building.

Five costume prizes will be awarded, so get into your spookiest stuff and come on down. Munchies, soft drinks, music and a lot of fun will be provided.

The party is sponsored by your Student Activities Council.

• Could you be the next Miss America? Possibly ... If you are a young woman between the ages of 17 and 26, single and never married, a U.S. citizen and a resident of Ohio for at least six months, you are eligible.

You can take the first step toward the Miss America title by participating in the Miss Canton Scholarship Pageant Dec. 7. Miss Canton is a preliminary pageant open to all girls in the state of Ohio who meet the requirements of the Miss America Board of Regulations.

The Miss Canton winner will participate in the Miss Ohio Scholarship Program in Mansfield, Ohio, next June and will also compete in the Miss America contest in Atlantic City, N.J.

Deadline for entry is Nov. 3. A preliminary screening, which requires all contestants to participate in a judged personal interview and present a talent, will be held Nov. 17.

For more information contact Sue Gasser at 435-2488 or write for an application to: Miss Canton Scholarship Pageant, 1321 Baycrest Drive N.W., Canton, Ohio 44706 — Attention Sue Gasser, Executive Director.

A leadership conference was held Oct. 8 to promote leadership qualities and organizational techniques for Kent-Stark Campus student organizations.

The organizations represented were the Kent-Stark Campus Student Government, French and Spanish Clubs, The Chronicle, and Criminal Justice Club.

The clubs were led in various activities by Sister Mary Noel, co-director of the Interfaith Campus Ministry Inc. and Betty Ann Foulk, director of Student Affairs.

The 12-hour conference was concluded with a dinner at The Pines Restaurant.
Buy Stock in Prisons?

By Fred Cameron

Should some prisons be privately owned? Answer: Yes, according to criminal justice studies, many people are recommending this option.

Privatization means that the public could buy stocks in prisons. One company, Corrections Corporation of America, was formed only a year ago. CCA already runs prisons for women, juvenile offenders and illegal aliens and expects to be running 20,000 prisons by 1995. CCA has complete responsibility for running the prisons, including security, health and retraining of offenders. The company claims the private run jails can operate 25 to 30 percent cheaper than state run jails and still make a profit.

Thomas Beasley, a Tennessee lawyer who started CCA, has been touring this country and foreign countries trying to interest investors in his prisons.

Beasley claims that staff assaults and prisoner complaints are down and that accommodations, staffing and food service are better in CCA's prisons than in most state-run prisons.

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Have the Courage to Care

By Lowery Lockard

Kent State University Stark Campus and the American Red Cross are sponsoring an on-campus blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 30, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the conference rooms of the S.S.A. Building.

Students are being asked to donate blood to help keep Northwest Ohio's blood supply plentiful. “All types of blood, especially O, the universal blood type, are needed to fulfill the 900-pint-a-day need of patients in the Northeast Ohio area,” Red Cross volunteer Barbara Egenkowlier said.

The widespread fear of contracting AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, is blamed for the recent drop in the amount of blood donated. Ms. Egenkowlier assures all students and staff interested in donating that "you cannot contract AIDS by donating blood" and the risk of contracting AIDS through transfusion has been minimized by the administration of a newly developed screening test that exposes the presence of the AIDS virus in donated blood.

An information table will be set up in the cafeteria of the S.S.A. Building Oct. 28 and 29 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to answer questions and sign up donors. Additional information is available 24 hours a day by contacting the Western Stark County Chapter of the American Red Cross at 333-9941.

Hunger Awareness Week

Hunger Awareness Week, sponsored by Interfaith Campus Ministry, is scheduled for Nov. 18-22.

The purpose of the event is to increase awareness of issues surrounding world hunger, while collecting food and raising money for those in need.

With the help of the Stark County Hunger Task Force, this event offers students the opportunity to participate in the fund-raising projects. Students may donate food or money, or they may recruit sponsors to pay them for fasting 24 to 36 hours.

The week will include the annual Hunger Talent Show, set for Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. Admission to the show is a non-perishable food item.

The talent show will feature performances by students and faculty. Participants are needed — talented or not. Help brighten the holiday season for some very special people in your community.

Stop by Interfaith Campus Ministry in Building 300, or call Sister Mary Noel, extension 290 for more information.

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Student Development Center
Free tutoring and more

By Cindy Green

When you need help in any subject or wish to improve your study skills, the Student Development Center is the place to go.

The SDC, located in Room 11 of the Learning Resource Center, offers free, individual tutoring to any KSU-Stark student who wants to improve academic performance. The tutoring program provides help in almost any subject, and walk-in tutoring is available for math on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m.

Other services include self-paced instructional aids such as filmstrips, slide kits and audio cassette programs. Copies of tests used in previous semesters are also available for some courses.

Answers to short math and grammar questions are given by phone, Monday through Thursday between 1 and 2 p.m. Just call Mr. Math or Grammar Moses with your question at extension 363.

Services which diagnose and improve reading, writing, math and study skills are what the SDC is all about. If you are having trouble with these and are falling behind, don't put off getting the help you need. Find the SDC now, so when finals week is here, you'll do your best.

SDC hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The SDC needs student tutors. If you've received an "A" in any subject and would like to tutor someone, contact Jean Forman, SDC coordinator at extension 363, for information.

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Keep moving in the positive

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The Chronicle
Debra Druse Dew, Lowery Lockard — Editors

Do something for somebody else...

By Debra Druse Dew

What is there to do in Canton, Ohio? I've heard that question so many times.

I don't really understand it because my dilemma is the opposite: I don't have time to do all the things they are doing in this town. In fact, I don't even have time to attend half of the events that are happening right on this campus.

I've heard people say there is no culture in Canton. Well, I'm sorry but that argument just doesn't hold up. There are plays, movies, lectures, seminars, concerts, ballets, and something new is going on every week. I just wish I had time for it all.

Canton is not New York City — that's true — but how many of you could support the arts if you lived in NYC?

Maybe the real complaint is just that you're bored with the bars in Canton.

Now that I can understand. So why limit yourself to a bar atmosphere? You deserve to expand your views on life a little.

Maybe you'd like to do something for somebody else.

There are people in this community who would really appreciate your help, who really need your help. Hospitals, nursing homes, Big Brothers and Sisters, and churches are just a few examples of how you could make a difference in someone's life. You would be helping yourself as well. You'll eat back more than you've given in good things about the person you are.

Boredom is a state all right, but not the one you live. It's a state of mind you can change.

Keep moving in the positive

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Student Development Center
Free tutoring and more

By Jean Forman, SDC coordinator.

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Kent Stark Theatre Presents

Crimes of the Heart

By DEBRA DRUESEDOW

Crimes of the Heart, a Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Beth Henley, opened Oct. 25 at the Kent Stark Theatre. The three-act comedy-drama is directed by Mr. Phil Robb.

Crimes of the Heart is set in the small town of Hazelhurst, Miss., about 1970. The lives we are invited to observe are those of the MaGrath sisters, a trio of southern charmers who have been reunited by the impending death of their granddaddy.

The sisters are no ordinary lot. Their lives are beset with tragedy. When the first scene opens, it becomes clear that this day is probably the worst of their lives and one that will leave them permanently changed.

While granddaddy is lying near death in the hospital...

... Lenny, the self-martyred, eldest sister, is trying to cope with her 30th birthday (she's still not married and that's a crime), and the death of her horse. Her horse was killed by lightning last night, even though it was barely raining. Besides that, no one even bought her a birthday present, except for a cousin she hates.

... Babe, the immature, youngest sister, has returned home after flopping as a country singer in L.A. going to work in a dog food factory, and having a mental breakdown.

... Meg, the promiscuous, middle sister, has returned home after floating as a country singer in L.A. going to work in a dog food factory, and having a mental breakdown.

The author, Beth Henley, was born and raised in Jackson, Miss., where most of her family still lives. She draws on her background throughout the work, poking fun at southern charm and conveniences.

Henley graduated from Southern Methodist University with a degree in dramatic arts. She then relocated to Los Angeles to try her hand at acting. Not having much luck with her career, Henley turned to screenwriting and then to playwriting. Crimes of the Heart, her first full-length play, was the Pulitzer Prize-winning result of her efforts.

The other cast members joining this eccentric ensemble are Barnett Lloyd, a young lawyer intent on keeping Babe out of jail, amiable Doc Porter, a former beau of Meg's, and Chick, the sisters' self-righteous, busybody cousin.

The play humorously and poignantly reveals how the sisters are drawn together in adversity, come to terms with their existence, and deal with their "crimes of the heart."

The Pulitzer Prize committee has described the work as "a play rich with the wisdom about the way people respond to life." It explores the nature of emotional survival.

Crimes of the Heart does not trivialize the characters' pain of situations, according to Variety, but shows "how closely depression and joy can interact."

Crimes of the Heart boasts the distinction of being the first play ever to win a Pulitzer Prize before its Broadway presentation. It received the prize for drama in 1981 during an off-Broadway run.

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Performances for the final week of Crimes of the Heart are Oct. 31 and Nov. 2-3 at 8 p.m. Admission is $5 for adults, $4 for students and $3 for children. KSU and STC students may attend Thursday and Sunday performances for $1 with a valid I.D.

Ushers are needed this week. Sign up sheets are in the FPAC office.

Kent Stark Theatre production of "Crimes of the Heart" (photo by Viv Addicott)

Beth Grove, Pamela Pickard and Tamara Marks star as the MaGrath sisters in the Kent Stark Theatre production of "Crimes of the Heart" (photo by Viv Addicott).

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Welcome, New Administrators

By Carol Boreman

Dr. William G. Battle, dean of Kent State University Stark Campus, has made three new administrative appointments.

Gregg Andrews has been appointed Director of Special Programs. He is responsible for developing and implementing continuing education programs on campus as well as conferences and workshops. He is also responsible for researching faculty grants.

Andrews is a cum laude graduate of KSU and is currently working toward a doctorate degree in sociology. Andrews previously worked as the Executive Director of the Voluntary Action Center of the Central Stark County United Way.

Sally Markham is the new Director of Business and Administrative Services. Her department is responsible for campus security and maintenance.

Ms. Markham is the former Manager and Promotions Director for Belden Village Mall and is certified in property management.

The Chronicle welcomes editorial comments (must be signed) from its readers and is accepting stories or ideas from students, faculty and administrators.

Volleyball Players Net Wins

By Ron Lewis

The KSU-Stark women's volleyball team is off to a winning start, capturing six of their first eight matches. This is quite a turnaround considering the team won only three games last season.

This improvement is due, in part, to the work of coach Patty Rafaelides.

Coach Rafaelides is no stranger to Kent Stark. She played on the volleyball team here for three years before attending Kent Campus, where she majored in physical education and majored in coaching. She coached at Jackson High School before coming here to coach the Cobras.

Rafaelides is looking for girls to play on the team. Most volleyball teams have between 8 and 12 players. Kent Stark's team is on the low side with eight, so new players are welcome.

Eligibility requirements are the same as for other women's sports on campus. Each player must carry at least 6 credit hours and maintain a 1.7 grade point average.

Players must also be willing to practice. The team practices five days a week for an hour and a half. If schedules pose a problem, Rafaelides is willing to work around them.

Of the eight girls on the team, only two are returning from last year. They are Renee Kopache, back for her third year, and Pam Guilliam, for her second. Rounding out the team are Julie Harwig, Roberta Frederick, Cynthia Shear, Mary Beatty, Ann Hobson, and Aaron Wilder.

But turn-out for freshmen already played has been low. The team needs some support. The volleyball team is winning, so why not go and watch? Admission is free.

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THE CHRONICLE

6000 Frank Ave. NW

Canton, Ohio 44709

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The National Shakespeare Company will perform Comedy of Errors at the Kent Stark Theatre on Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. This will be the company's only performance in the area this year.

Founded in 1963, the company annually tours the U.S., bringing the works of William Shakespeare to colleges, universities, and community arts councils. Each year, more than 25,000 students attend the live performances given by the company.

Comedy of Errors is the story of twin brothers who are separated in infancy because of a shipwreck. As adults, one brother's search for the other results in an absurd comedy when the lost family is reunited. Plot sources for the play were the Mopsichnion and the Amphi tus, both written by Plautus in the second century B.C.

All tickets are $5. For reservations or more information call 499-9064.

No Thoughts Necessary Today

My Prof's are good with analogy. But sometimes that places a burden on me. Allergy fits that category too.

I like listening. But symbolism seems so senseless when I'm tired.

Metaphors are a mystery, similarly, alien. I can't even remember what matters to me when I'm tired.

Subtexts submerge in my brain. They're so deep! To converge with the nonsense I'll just get on with my reveries.

D.L. Druesedow

November 15, 1985

Stark's team is on the low side with six of their first eight matches. This is quite a turnaround considering the team won only three games last season.

The Chronicle begins Sept. 27 with a presentation by Sharon Carson entitled "The New Female Hero and the Patriarchal Literary Tradition." The second colloquium was given by Inga Mullen on Oct. 18. It was entitled "When God Was a Woman."

Additional presentations for the year are:

Nov. 15 Thomas Sonnowski
"E Pluribus Unum; Ethnic Diversity in Canton 1840-1940" Dec. 6

Julie Saltman
"Studies of a Fragile Movement: Neighborhood and Stabilization"
March 7, 1986

George Kiel
Topic to Be Announced
April 11

William Bittle
"James Nayler: The Quaker Jesus"
May 2

Louis Patras
"Simone Weil"

National Shakespeare Company Due Here