

Black author converts KKK members



Julia Woehrer/NW

by ASHLEY BERKEN
news editor

The last thing one would expect to see at a Ku Klux Klan (KKK) meeting would be a black man. However, one distinguished black man infiltrated the KKK years ago and has, since then, been changing members' racist beliefs.

That man, Daryl Davis, 49, a pianist and author, spoke in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center Tuesday about his on-going relationship with the Klan. The Black Student Union brought Davis to campus.

Davis started convincing Klan members to quit the organization while doing research for his book, "Klandestine Relationships."

"I decided I wanted to write a book and I needed a nucleus; so I chose the Klan," Davis said. This decision came after playing piano in a bar in Maryland where Klan members frequented and befriended Davis; however, their friendship never left that bar.

Eight years later, Davis decided to set up an interview for his book with the Grand Dragon of Maryland, Roger Kelly, the state leader of the KKK. Before meeting with Kelly, Davis didn't dis-

close his race.

"[I thought] if he agrees to the interview, he'll figure that out when he sees me. You know he's not colorblind if he's in the Klan," Davis said.

Kelly did agree to the interview and while he was shocked upon meeting Davis, he stayed and completed the interview.

"Yes, we're enemies, he's the head of the Klan and I'm a black guy. But guess what? We were at the same table in the same room, talking. Even when we were disagreeing we weren't at each other's throats, we were civilly disagreeing," Davis said.

Kelly and Davis became friends after a long bout of uneasiness. Kelly invited Davis to Klan rallies and Davis attended in order to accumulate more research for his book.

"I would go to Klan rallies," Davis said. "[I would] watch them light up the cross and parade around and shout 'white power' and salute the cross. I would take my notes for my book and learn some more."

During one rally, a camera crew from CNN attended after being informed about the untraditional KKK gathering. The crew talked to Kelly about his relationship with a black man.

"I've got more respect for the black man than I've got for all you white niggers out there," Kelly stated on the video.

This began the slow decline of Kelly's Klan involvement and years later, even after being promoted to Imperial Wizard, which is a national leader, Kelly began to second-guess his beliefs. He then gave his cape and hood to Davis, which was presented at the speech.

"Eventually, that cement that held Roger Kelly's ideology together began to crack," Davis said. "Then it began to crumble, and just a few years ago Roger Kelly quit the Klan. He no longer believes in what he said. He's out of it."

Racism is an issue America has faced for many years. The KKK began in the United States in 1866 and promoted racism nation-wide. Today, Davis has many capes and hoods from KKK members who have changed their beliefs after

meeting him. However, Davis claims that everyone in America has the ability to change the minds of those who have bigoted beliefs.

"How is it that we Americans can talk to people as far away as the moon but we can't talk to the person who lives right next door because he or she is a different religion, race or ethnicity?" Davis said. "That makes no sense to me. It seems to me that our ideology needs to catch up to our technology."

Davis argued that racism is a problem that needs to be directly addressed.

"Racism is not the elementary school bully; if you ignore it, it won't go away," Davis said. "Discrimination is a cancer, if you don't treat it, it will spread. The KKK was invented in 1866. We are in 2008. It's still here."

Aaron Whitaker, junior media production major and vice president of the Black Student Union, said she was very pleased with the amount of students at the event and found the speech inspirational.

"I think the speech went amazing. We had a great turnout," Whitaker said. "You always want to see people change over to the right way, if I can say that. It really touched me."

Alice Jasper, a junior psychology major, also found the speech to be not only inspirational, but surprising as well.

"I didn't know much about him before the speech but I was blown away by how much he did in terms of the KKK and really changing people's perspectives. I think he gives a lot of hope that it can be done," Jasper said.

Frozen pipes lead to floods on campus

by JAMIE REED
managing editor

Two NMU residence hall lobbies and the loading dock of the Marketplace flooded on Monday, Feb. 11, resulting in multiple damages to university property. All three incidents were caused after sprinkler systems unexpectedly malfunctioned due to frozen water pipes.

The lobbies of Gant/Spalding and Payne/Halverson halls filled with water early Monday morning, said Anson Bonte, the resident director of Payne Hall. Bonte added that water levels in the Payne/Halverson lobby were ankle-deep.

Resident advisors and directors from most of the residence halls used shovels and squeegees to remove the water that covered the lobby floors, Bonte said. NMU Public Safety was also called to the scene to shut off the water.

"The RAs and a couple of residents had some quick thinking," Bonte said. "Otherwise, this could have been much worse. Usually, RA's get woken up that early when there is a snow day. Instead they were woken up to put on their flip flops or shoes and grab a shovel and push water out."

A sofa and the carpeting in

both of the residence hall lobbies were damaged, with repair costs unknown at this time. Greg Pronger, a resident advisor in

There was an awful lot of water in the area. It was a significant flood.

— Carl Holm, director of housing and residence life

Spalding, said the carpeting in the Gant/Spalding lobby is in tile form, and some of the tiles are peeling from the floor due to water damage. Multiple ceiling

tiles also need to be replaced. The carpeting in Payne/Halverson lobby, however, is solid carpeting and was cleaned shortly after the water was removed. No electrical damage was reported in either lobby.

The loading dock of the Marketplace also experienced sprinkler problems Monday evening after a water pipe froze and split, said Carl Holm, director of housing and residence life.

"There was an awful lot of water in that area," Holm said. "It was a very significant flood."

Most of the water, however, was able to be swept down a drain by employees. Bonte said

computers and other electronic equipment were cleared out of offices to prevent further damage. Public Safety was again called to shut off the water and students in the Marketplace were asked to leave.

Holm added that this wasn't the first time cold weather has affected Northern sprinkler systems.

"Unfortunately, it has happened before in those lobbies," Holm said. "At least on two occasions we've had sprinklers freeze and we thought the remedial work that we've done would have prevented that from happening again. But obviously there is more we need to do."

NMU to host conference

The 12th Annual Upper Peninsula Indian Education Conference will be hosted on Monday Feb. 18, by the NMU Center for Native American Studies and the NMU Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship.

"The conference is designed for educators (principals, counselors, teachers, and school system staff) who work on a regular basis with American Indian students and families," said Grace Chaillier, an adjunct faculty member for the Center for Native American Studies, and also a member of the planning committee for the conference.

Chaillier added that the conference is a one-day event that consists of three groups of nine individual break-out sessions, which will concentrate on topics such as health education and sociology and how these pertain to current American Indian students.

Another aspect of the conference will be a presentation put

together by the Hannahville Indian Community, Rich Sgarlotti and Tawni Ferrarini, the director of NMU's Center for Economic Education and Entrepreneurship.

The presentation, "Monopoly on the Rez," consists of a game designed by the students of the Hannahville Indian School. There will be a free lunch of traditional American Indian food such as wild rice, and a Three Sisters dish that consists of corn, beans and squash. The conference's keynote speaker D.J. Eagle Bear Vanas, a renowned American Indian motivational speaker and author, will also give a speech.

The conference will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center. This event is free for NMU students. Check-in and registration is at 8:15 a.m. outside of the Great Lakes Rooms.

—Cameron Whitbeck



Spencer Bouchard/NW

NEW YORK FUNNY MAN Pete Holmes performed in Jamrich 102 Wednesday. Holmes a comedian and cartoonist was brought to Northern by Primetime Productions.

Students depict history

Northern Michigan University is currently accepting applications for a summer internship where students will spend the summer at Fort Wilkins portraying historic characters from 1869.

The internship, sponsored by the NMU history department and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will focus on historical role-playing based on employees of Fort Wilkins from the late 1800s.

Fort Wilkins is located near Copper Harbor and served as a U.S. Army post in the 19th century.

The internship will take place from June 16 through Aug. 22. This is a great opportunity for NMU students to participate in a non-traditional learning experience and be part of a living class-

room, said Howard Nicholson, assistant history professor.

"It gives students a chance to interact with the public using skills from the classroom," Nicholson said.

Nicholson will teach the course with Tom Friggins, director of the Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee.

The internship will also serve as a great résumé builder.

"Students will develop public presentation skills, organizational skills, as well as better thinking skills," he added.

Students who participate in the internship will be paid by the hour and will receive an additional stipend for housing, Nicholson said.

They can expect to work five days a week, with weekends

being the busiest.

He added that participating students will train with a theater major from mid-March until the end of the semester to learn their respective character(s).

As well as financial reimbursement, students will receive two credits for the training portion of the program, and can apply for two more credits for the summer role-playing segment, Nicholson said.

The internship is open to all current NMU students, regardless of major or class standing.

Those interested can obtain an application from the history department, at 208 Cohodas. Call 227-2512 for more information.

—Trevor Paulus

Corrections

In last week's article, "Decision pending on Kennecott permits," the acronym should have been defined as Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Map Key

1) On Feb. 8, a minor was found in possession of alcohol in Van Antwerp Hall. The case has been resolved.

2) On Feb. 8, a checkbook was stolen from a room in Van Antwerp Hall. The case is still open

3) On Feb. 8, a domestic assault occurred in Lot 36. It was a former dating relationship. Public Safety officials said Joseph Moschetti went to where the victim had her vehicle parked, and after arguing, he struck her with his fist. Moschetti was arrested on charges of domestic violence, and also trespassing because he is not an NMU student.

4) On Feb. 9, an assault occurred in Magers Hall, involving two 19-year-old males. There was a minor injury to the victim. The suspect has been charged with simple assault. The charge has been authorized, but not yet served as of this time.

CAMPUS CRIME MAP



BRIEFS

Campus

Costly break-in occurs on campus

On the evening of Jan. 29, three individuals, two adults and one juvenile, were arrested and charged with breaking and entering after illegally entering Carey Hall and causing extensive damage. The three men—Carl Anderson, 20, Richard Sturdivant, 18, and the juvenile, 16—were apprehended around 8 p.m. on Jan. 29, said Public Safety investigator Victor LaDuke. Old light fixtures were broken, leaking mercury, and broken shielding and pipes were found covered with asbestos. The items that were broken caused hazardous materials to leak into the building. Due to the danger of the broken materials in the hall, Public Safety has been unable to get into the hall to do a full report or estimate the cost of damages, LaDuke said. Just to remediate the hazardous material is going to cost thousands of dollars and the property damage is an additional few thousand dollars, LaDuke predicted. This is one in a number of break-ins to the hall recently.

—Cassandra Sturos

Local

Mine approved for two permits

After months of debate, the Kennecott Eagle Minerals Company recently cleared another major hurdle on the road to the creation of a nickel and copper mine. On Thursday, Feb. 7, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) approved Kennecott's surface-use lease and mining and reclamation plan. "We're certainly disappointed that the DNR decided to go ahead and grant exclusivities to a private company without, in my view, really having demonstrated a public benefit," said John Rebers, the faculty adviser to Northern's Students Against Sulfide Mining. The DNR decision came two months after the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality approved three separate Kennecott permits. Kennecott is on track for a May groundbreaking on the mine, which would be located in the nearby Yellow Dog Plains, but Rebers said there is still another obstacle that Kennecott must pass. The company must obtain a permit for well-water injection from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). "To be honest, I'm not real optimistic that is going to be able to block the mine, but I hope the EPA will take a careful look at things," Rebers said. "In terms of holding out a lot of hope under the Bush administration for taking positive action to protect the environment, I'm not real hopeful."

—Kyle Whitney

Weird News

Family finds robber in son's bed

There was no fairytale ending for a Malaysian man who copied Goldilocks. The man broke into an empty house in northeastern Malaysia, helped himself to cookies in the kitchen and then went to sleep in a child's bedroom, where he was discovered when the family returned home, police reports said Monday. The man, who later tested positive for drugs, woke up only when roused by police officers, who were summoned by the shocked family late Saturday, state crime investigation chief Mohamad Hazam Abdul Halim said. House owner V. Sathya said the intruder was discovered by his 9-year-old son who ran out shouting in a scene reminiscent of the "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" fairy tale. "Even then the burglar did not wake up and carried on sleeping while holding on to one of my wife's purses," he told The Star newspaper. Mohamad Hazam said the intruder was arrested for alleged trespassing because the family reported nothing missing except the cookies. "I guess my wife's cookies were just too irresistible for him ... the rogue ate everything," Sathya was quoted as saying.

—Associated Press

Did You Know?

There are 21 places in the United States named "Rose." Rose Hill, Va., is no. 1 as far as population goes with over 15,000 residents.

—U.S. Census Bureau

NMU to battle Tech in student blood drive

The annual NMU versus Michigan Tech Blood Drive will be held this Tuesday, Feb. 19, from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

This blood drive will be in conjunction with the Wildcat Wellness Fair, which will also be held in the Great Lakes Rooms. The event will be organized by the Volunteer Center and the U.P. Regional Blood Center.

To donate, students can show up at the UC with a photo ID and fill out the necessary paperwork. Before students can donate, the

Student Nurses Association will be taking vitals. Students will also have the opportunity to sign up for organ donation at the drive.

NMU has lost this competition for the past eight years in a row, said Nicole Weber, assistant coordinator of the Volunteer Center. But due to a rising trend in past NMU blood drives, Weber said spirits are still high.

The last blood drive was held on Oct. 31, 2007, and boasted a record for NMU with 171 students donating and 117 pints of blood collected.

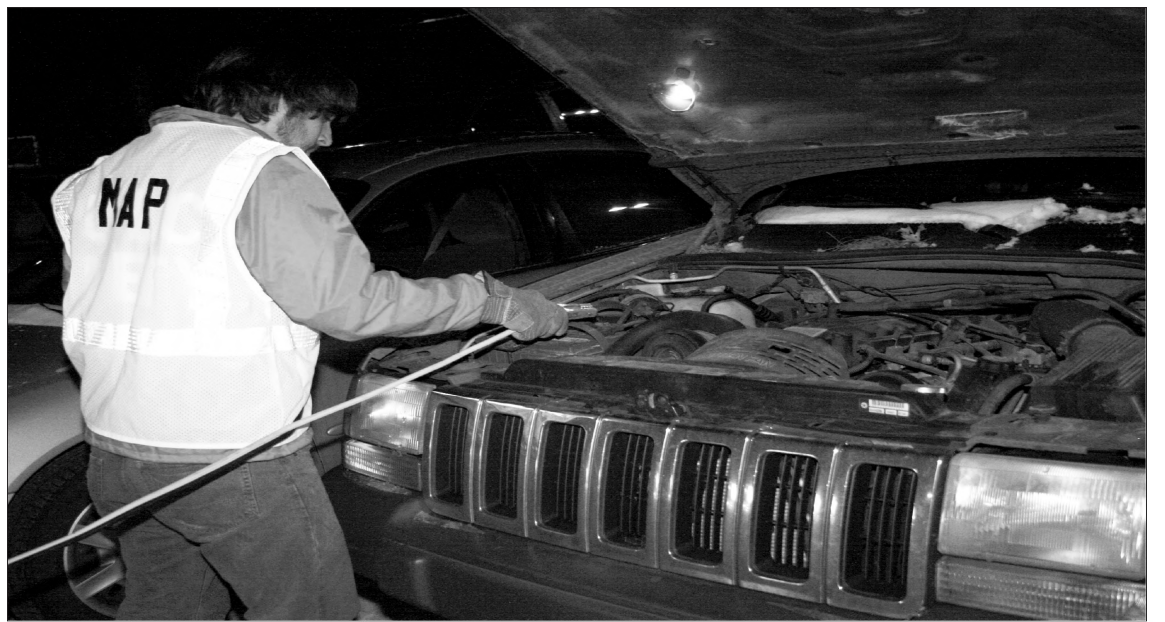
Weber said students should prepare for donating by drinking lots of water and eating foods rich in iron at least three days prior to the drive.

Weber said she also has advice to those who fear needles.

"Don't look at it; focus on something else," she said. "Keep in mind that you are saving someone's life."

For more information, or to volunteer to help run the sign-up tables, students can call the Volunteer Center at 227-2466.

—Jaci Bjorne



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Eric Schleicher, junior, digital cinema major, and employee of the MAP program helps a student on campus in Lot 1.

Program helps provide car service for students

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

If students happen to get stuck in a snow bank or lock their keys in their cars, a program on campus called the Motorist Assist Program (MAP) can help with these inconvenient mishaps.

The program started at the beginning of the 2007 fall semester in collaboration with ASNMU and Public Safety, said Sgt. Ken Love.

MAP was started because of the popularity of similar programs at other universities. The program has helped free some of Public Safety officers' time for other duties. If officers were tied up with calls and a student called needing help with his/her car it could be awhile before Public Safety officers could get to them, Love said.

"MAP is dedicated to the campus community. [They have] a pretty quick response compared to what an officer might have been able to do," he said.

MAP can provide a variety of different services to NMU stu-

dents, including lockouts, jumpstarts, escorts, assistance in changing tires or car batteries, helping students push or dig their cars out of the snow or providing assistance if they run out of gas, said John Lakowicz, a junior environmental science major and driver for MAP.

"[Students] can save their money and call us," he said.

[Students] can save their money and call us.

— John Lakowicz, junior environmental science major

"While driving around I've seen tow truck companies come by to unlock cars and our [program] is just funded through the school."

In an average month, MAP unlocks about 40 cars, does 25 jumpstarts, 12 escorts and 10 miscellaneous services, Love said.

MAP is available to help students Monday through Friday

from 8 a.m. to midnight, Lakowicz said.

Garret Francis, a junior political science major, said he used MAP when his car battery died at the beginning of this semester and found it to be very useful.

"They were very helpful. They came and hooked their vehicle up to mine, made sure it started, made me fill out a little paperwork and that was it," Francis said.

As far as advertising goes, most of what MAP does is drive around and make sure people are aware of the service, Lakowicz said. A lot of students aren't aware of what MAP is on campus for.

"We're not here to get people in trouble, a lot of people think we're like Public Safety, but we're here to help them out," he added.

Francis also added that with the amount of people on campus who have car trouble it's a program that's definitely worthwhile.

"It's just a really great program for students; it doesn't cost you anything," he said.

NMC members on TV

by ANGELA MCCOY
contributing writer

Members of the Northern Michigan Constructors (NMC) will be featured on the TV show "This Old House" after meeting up with the crew while doing volunteer work in New Orleans over winter break.

Nineteen of the organization's members worked with Habitat for Humanity from Dec. 21 to Dec. 28. Volunteers assisted with both exterior and interior work on houses affected by Hurricane Katrina, said Jim Conlin, junior construction management major and vice president of NMC.

Coinciding with the group's visit was filming for the PBS television show. The show features historic homes under renovation and involves carpenter Norm Abrams and host Kevin O' Connor spending time with contractors while explaining what is happening to the home during the process.

The show was filming for the New Orleans Project, a 10-part series dedicated to rebuilding the parts of New Orleans affected by the hurricane. The crew started filming a home that NMC members were working on, said Jeremy Bubb, senior construction

management major and president of NMC.

"We were told that 'This Old House' would be filming on site during the week we were there," Bubb said. "It just so happened that they were filming on a home that we were siding at the time."

During filming, which took up the majority of one day, some NMC members had the opportunity to volunteer as extras. For others, filming consisted of pretending to do work and simply

management and building technology majors. The group focuses the majority of its efforts on construction-related community service projects throughout Marquette and surrounding communities.

The group put in about 640 volunteer hours in New Orleans alone and did not receive class credit, said Conlin.

New Orleans presented the group with culture shock, with many of the homes in the same condition they were in right after Katrina, Bubb said.

"Visually, the homes are in very poor condition," he said. "There are abandoned, damaged homes everywhere."

Most of the houses had water marks up to an average person's neck when standing on the ground, Conlin said.

"Seeing all the devastation was a shock, and it really hit home. However, it felt great knowing we were making a difference for other people," Conlin said. "Hearing New Orleans residents say how much they appreciated us being there was heartwarming."

The episode of "This Old House" featuring NMC members will air Saturday, March 1, at 1:30 p.m. on WNMU-TV Channel 13.

Seeing all the devastation was a shock, and it really hit home.

- Jim Conlin, junior construction management

remaining in the background.

"As far as work went, it was very unproductive. It took them about 20 takes to shoot the first scene," said Conlin. "Otherwise, it was pretty fun being in the background and actually experiencing what it is like to film a show."

The New Orleans trip was planned and run by members of NMC, an organization open to all NMU students but mostly comprised of construction manage-

marquette music scene

Thurs. 2/14

Northland Pub:
UpFront & Company:
Vango's:

Billy Alberts, 8:30 p.m.
Jupiter One, 10 p.m.
Jim & Ray, 8 p.m.

Fri. 2/15

Matrixx-Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Gizzae, 10 p.m.

Sat. 2/16

Longshot Saloon:
Matrixx-Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Overtones, 9 p.m.
Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
Gizzae, 10 p.m.

Mon. 2/18

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery:

Fast Eddies Blues Band, 6 p.m.

Tues. 2/19

Northland Pub:
UpFront & Company:

Valenti, 9 p.m.
Ugly, 10 p.m.

Weds. 2/20

Matrixx-Skyboxx:
UpFront & Company:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.
View from Everest, 10 p.m.

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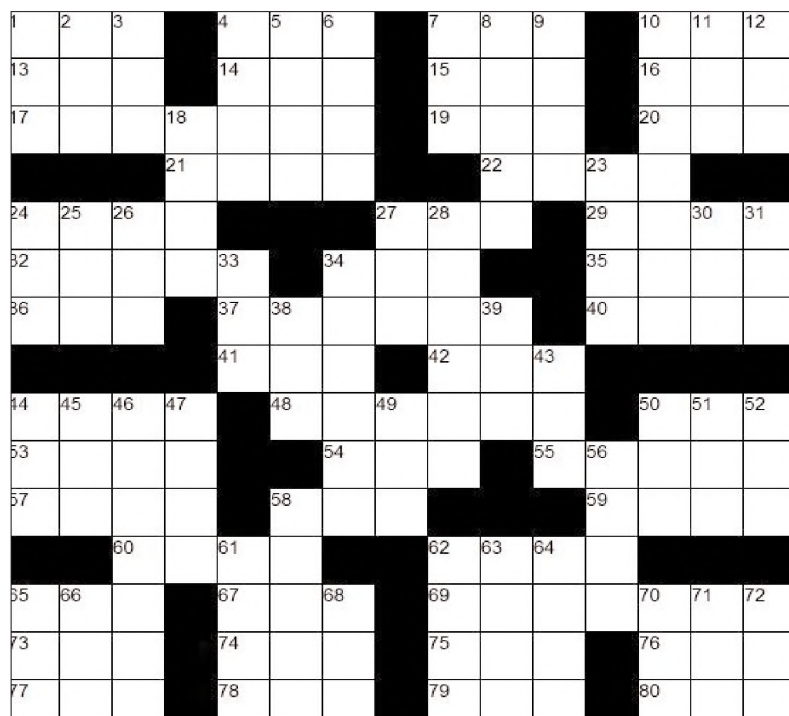
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ACROSS

- 1 Certified public accountant
- 4 Punching tool
- 7 Touch affectionately
- 10 Vehicle
- 13 Winter month
- 14 Ocean
- 15 Flightless bird
- 16 East southeast
- 17 Sappho related
- 19 Pimple
- 20 Tyrannosaurus
- 21 Harp
- 22 Seeds
- 24 Bunsen burner
- 27 Self
- 29 Marsh grass
- 32 Plunders
- 34 British thermal unit
- 35 Iraq's neighbor

- 36 I want my ___
- 37 Gum arabic
- 40 Vegetable
- 41 Hairpiece
- 42 Big Apple (abbr.)
- 44 Dalai ___
- 48 In agreement
- 50 Gal's pal
- 53 Not that
- 54 Government agency
- 55 Melody
- 57 Caused
- 58 Fortify
- 59 Pixies
- 60 Western Athletic Conferences
- 62 Abbreviate
- 65 Foot extension
- 67 Genius
- 69 Person who is given property
- 73 Used to be

- 74 Cheat
- 75 Track
- 76 Picnic pest
- 77 Often poetically
- 78 Farm animal
- 79 Before (prefix)
- 80 Affirmative

DOWN

- 1 Disks
- 2 Legume
- 3 American College of Physicians (abbr.)
- 4 Wan
- 5 Net strung across a stream
- 6 Clothing decoration
- 7 Brand of dispensable candy
- 8 Protein part, with "acid"
- 9 Ballet skirt
- 10 Amuck
- 11 Usage
- 12 Gender
- 18 Small ground plot
- 23 Triad
- 24 Tree
- 25 Toddler
- 26 Winter mo.
- 27 And so forth
- 28 Old gold coin
- 30 Hearing part
- 31 Genetic code
- 33 Cutting tool
- 34 Packer
- 38 Central Intelligence Agency
- 39 Popeye's yes
- 43 Central daylight time (abbr.)
- 44 Long-term memory
- 45 Expression of surprise
- 46 Region between Rockies and Ohio

- 47 At sea
- 49 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
- 50 Precious stone
- 51 Arbiter
- 52 Yea
- 56 Retain
- 58 Computer characters
- 61 Fish
- 62 American Association of Retired Persons (abbr.)
- 63 Obscure
- 64 Gnaw
- 65 Pair
- 66 Klutz
- 68 Scrambled food
- 70 Congressional vote
- 71 Compass point
- 72 Estimated time of arrival

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Editorial

Festival needs pep talk

Thursday, Feb. 14 marks the official start of WinterFest, NMU's annual winter celebration. Over the next 10 days, Northern students will be able to attend concerts, Wildcat sporting events and an airband competition. There will be an NMU ski and snowboard day at Marquette Mountain, an open skate at the Berry Events Center and a campus-wide scavenger hunt. In addition, Marquette will play host to the U.P. 200 sled dog races this weekend.

Despite the full slate of activities, however, NMU students never really get excited about the WinterFest events. Instead, they seem to have one common thought: "This isn't as cool as Winter Carnival."

The Carnival is Michigan Tech's annual winter celebration, complete with prominent guest performers, big time hockey games and gargantuan snow sculptures.

The fact of the matter is that WinterFest has never been able to compete with Winter Carnival.

Though NMU's activities span more than a week and closely resemble those at MTU, Tech's festivities reach a fever pitch during a four-day stretch where students are excused from classes and the sidewalks fill with people in a celebration of snow, ice and cold.

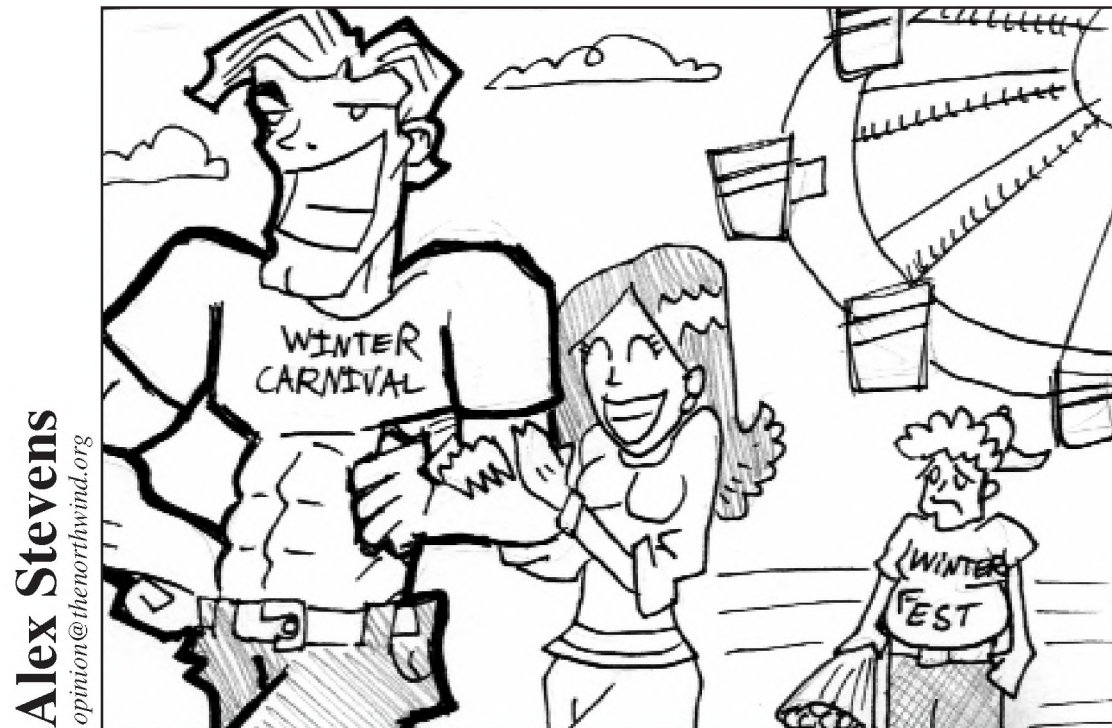
Aside from the length, the main difference in the two celebrations lays in the organization. At Tech, a local branch of the nationally-recognized Blue Key Honor Society sets up the event. The group begins planning and actively collecting donations in late summer and the Carnival is the honor society's biggest event.

At Northern, the Special Events Committee (SEC) is in charge of WinterFest, just one of three events—including homecoming and a leadership recognition banquet—that the SEC plans over the course of the year.

This winter, the Blue Key Honor Society received \$10,000 from the MTU student activity fee and boosted that total with nearly year-round fundraising. The SEC was given \$5,000 to work with this year and no extra fundraising was done.

A successful WinterFest—able to involve the university as well as the community—would have to occur over a shorter period of time and should require a higher level of dedication and organization.

With just a little time and a bit of effort, WinterFest would compete with Winter Carnival. We have the snow, the ski hill, the hockey team and even a larger student body. All that's left is for NMU to make a premier winter festival a priority.



Soldiers deserve best care

by SEAN KELLY
Northern Star (NIU)

Every day, five U.S. soldiers try to kill themselves, according to an article published on CNN.com. Before the U.S. entered Iraq, that number was less than one soldier a day. In 2007, 2,100 soldiers attempted suicide, the article said, and that number doesn't appear to have leveled off — the trend is an upward one, so we can expect more tries in 2008.

The statistics for soldiers are still lower than those for civilians, so the Average Joe is still more likely to commit suicide than a soldier. But the climbing numbers still say that U.S. soldiers aren't doing as well as they were before, and that is something that needs to be addressed now.

Part of the problem is the culture of warfare. No one is supposed to be stronger, tougher, or more stable than a soldier — and when something goes wrong, that same soldier may then be reluctant to admit they need help. We have to make sure that our fighting men and women realize there's nothing wrong with needing a helping hand — one we're more than willing to give.

The other problem is simple logic: the more traumatic an event, the more likely a person is to develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD causes a slew of difficulties in a person's day-to-day life, like depression and trouble interacting with friends and family, laying the groundwork for the type of distress that can lead to a suicide attempt. With our combat troops

cycling back into combat zones for long tours of duty without relief, the odds of them encountering such a traumatic event go up all the time.

But the problems go further than that. Sometimes, the soldiers who are willing to ask for help don't get it. Last week, as representatives took the floor of the Senate to debate the problem, Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) claimed that some soldiers only receive an 800 number in order to call for help.

Meanwhile, Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.) introduced legislation geared toward improving the military's suicide prevention programs. We'll see how far that goes; efforts to revamp the Veterans Affairs system haven't gotten very far in the past, and last year's reports about the Walter Reed Army Medical Center indicated that returning veterans don't often receive the best care.

Certainly, we all have our own

opinions about military policy, the War in Iraq and all the other ways U.S. soldiers have been deployed in the past five years. However, I think we can all agree that men and women who give everything for our country deserve a happier life to come home to when their tour is finished. People who manage to avoid being killed by enemy combatants and roadside bombs should be safe from personal darkness as well.

The conversations on the political stage lately have turned to focus on the economic downturn, stimulus packages, legislative earmarks and a lot of other problems that seem to have more of a direct impact on our day-to-day lives. But for the families of the 89 soldiers who killed themselves in 2007, there is no more direct impact than that.

And those deaths are a stark reminder that there's a lot the country still needs to fix before we're done.

web poll question

What is your opinion on cloned meat?

- The more the merrier. Bring on the steak!
- Sure. Who cares where the meat comes from?
- I don't think so. There has to be some health risks.
- No way. That is disgusting.

web poll results

Did you participate in the smoking survey?

- Yeah! I want my voice heard.
28 votes
- Yep, but I'm addicted to taking surveys.
0 votes
- No. I have too much to do to worry about smoking.
2 votes
- No. I could care less either way.
1 vote

THE NORTH WIND est. 1972

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Cloned food a bad choice

For What It's Worth



by Jackie Stark

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently gave the go-ahead for meat and dairy products that come from cloned animals to be used as food.

Personally, I don't want Dolly on my dinner table.

Scientists have been messing with our food for awhile now. They made the soybean, the most genetically altered food out there. They've come up with tear-free onions, tomatoes that resist rotting and corn that can withstand strong weedkillers.

While all of these things make me wonder what exactly I'm eating, they still retain a somewhat natural feel to them. After all, they were all produced in nature's own way, just tweaked a bit by human hands.

But the idea of eating a cloned animal, an animal that was effectively born from a petri dish, is enough to make me just say no to meat, which is no easy task. I tried to exclude meat from my diet for one week last semester. I lasted for three days, living mostly on pasta and carrots.

Taking away meat would seriously impact my diet. I came from a meat and potatoes kind of family. I grew up eating meat-loaf, roast beef, pork chops, hamburgers and chicken. Meat was always the main course. But the idea of eating meat that came from a cloned animal honestly, just freaks me out.

And if I couldn't even last one week as a vegetarian, becoming a vegan would probably kill me.

Milk, cheese, yogurt, ice cream and other dairy products from cloned animals were also ok'd by the FDA. Dairy products from a cloned cow are no better

than meat from a cloned cow. I could probably live in a world without meat, but a world without ice cream is my definition of hell. Even so, using cloned animals in the world of groceries would effectively make me a vegan. I ate a vegan cookie once. It tasted like grass.

Scientists should be working on a cure for cancer, or trying to find a clean source of renewable energy, not cloning animals. Their work should better our society as a whole, and adding cloned animals into the mix is probably not going to bring about world peace. Just because scientists can clone animals doesn't mean they should. Have they never seen "Jurassic Park"?

And the fact that the FDA has approved using cloned animals for food doesn't make me feel any better. The FDA approves everything. Every drug that was on the market that caused any sort of lasting, irreversible symptoms was FDA approved. If it wasn't, people wouldn't have been able to legally buy it. Fen-Phen, a weight loss drug, and Celebrex and Vioxx, arthritis medications, all were shown to cause heart problems and all were FDA approved.

I believe that eating cloned animal products probably has no

immediate health effect, which is what the FDA is saying, but I don't believe that 10, 20, or even 30 years later, people aren't going to start getting sick. It's not natural to be eating an animal that was completely man-made.

And the argument that cloned animals would only be used for breeding is worse than only using them for food. If Buck the cloned bull and Cathy the cloned cow fall in love and want to settle down and start a family, their offspring will be the product of two man-made organisms. Just because the offspring of two cloned animals is begotten using sexual reproduction doesn't make them natural animals. Their parents were made by people, not by other cows and bulls. And, since these offspring would have been born the old fashioned way, they would not be labeled as cloned animals. How far back would I have to research to make sure that the beef I'm using in my spaghetti sauce didn't come from Buck and Cathy?

I believe science is a good thing. The world we live in today is a by-product of science. Life as we know it could not exist without the scientific advances that have come before us.

Our food, however, should not be a by-product of anything.



Love is all you need on V-Day

Staff Column



by Ashley Berken

I remember first-grade Valentine's Day when everyone had a paper bag filled with Valentine's cards on their desk from each student in the class. Every 5-year-old couldn't wait for Feb. 14 so they could get their grubby mitts on a handful of candy hearts.

That all ended for me in fifth-grade, the year of my first "boyfriend." This was a title-only relationship: my friends coerced me into calling him that though I still believed boys were infested with cooties and was more concerned with Barbie and playing house than with dating boys.

On Valentine's Day that year, I was anxiously waiting for my sack of pink Power Rangers cards when I noticed a single red rose on my desk accompanied by a gold necklace. I froze. I saw my 11-year-old friend-prescribed boyfriend sitting goofy-eyed across the room. I didn't want to touch that garbage. I wanted to puke on my Lisa Frank folder from embarrassment. However, the other girls in the class immediately ceased writing on their Valentines with feather pens and narrowed their jealous little eyes at me. That, for me, was the end of Valentine's Day being about platonic love and the beginning of it being Single's Awareness Day.

Now, I am single and have been for the majority of Valentine's Days since the fifth grade. Never since that day have I received a Valentine card from a

friend. Nor have I felt that giving my friends or family cards or presents was appropriate.

I'm not against what Valentine's Day represents: love. I am, however, irate that the sun shines on couples on Feb. 14 and singles are left to brew with bitterness.

There are 180 million Valentine's cards currently going out on Valentine's Day, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Imagine the possibility if people weren't excluded for not having a significant other? Hallmark would be jumping in its corporate boots with dollar signs for pupils. What is holding us back?

A mere seven percent of sales at aboutflowers.com are for friends or acquaintances. When was it decided that love can only exist between two people whose relationship will more than likely be over by next Feb. 14? Don't they get enough celebration with Sweetest Day and their anniversaries? When was the last time you took your brother out for a steak dinner?

I certainly have had more great friendships than great relationships. We should all be proud of these friendships, not hiding in our dorm rooms with our friends sobbing and watching "The Notebook" while wishing for our own Noah Calhouns to kiss us in the rain (I've been there).

I've seen people go out for \$100 candle-lit dinners on Valentine's Day and part their ways weeks or even days later. It's almost guaranteed that relationships start blooming around this holiday because of the stigmas about being alone.

Every year, if a girl is seen at dinner with her best friend or her mother there are immediately snap judgments that she's single. This year, especially if you have a significant other, take your best friend, mother, grandma, sister or anyone that you love out to an expensive meal and tell them how much they mean to you. I bet it's been awhile.

SOUND OFF

What is your opinion of NMU's WinterFest?

— Compiled by Amanda Shellnut



Joel D'Agostino
senior, digital cinema

"I haven't done anything since my freshman year, but it's a good event to get into."



Thomas Swayne
freshman, undeclared

"I don't know anything about it."



Renee Dieschbourg
junior, social work

"I'm not sure. I haven't heard about it."



Amy Napper
junior, social work

"I don't know what the WinterFest is, but it sounds like it might be fun."



Melissa Schultz
junior, psychology

"I really don't know much about NMU's WinterFest."

Politics lost in religion

Guest Column



by Anne Bradley

Politics and Christianity seem to be more and more intertwined in America today, with evangelical Christians at the front line. Mike Huckabee is bringing religion to the foreground in the 2008 election, using his Baptist beliefs as part of his platform. While speaking at a prayer rally in Grand Rapids, he quipped, "Some people say that I believe only Baptists are going to heaven ... but I don't think all of them are going there!" This was from a serious presidential candidate.

Religion has become so intertwined with political thought that the true principles of religion have been lost. The issue boils down to one key point: The religious right feels that they have the right to tell you how to live. Whether it's the right to die, the right to life or the death penalty, it seems the Christian right is

always trying to stick its nose into someone else's business.

This may stem from the underlying concept of conversion present in Christianity. Certain passages in the Bible exhort believers to spread the good news to others, thereby bringing them into the fold. But does telling others how to live equate to saving them?

Gay rights are a hot button issue for this reason. Biblical prohibitions against homosexuals have influenced the dialogue on gay rights, when in truth, the Bible should have no bearing on the law. The free exercise clause of the First Amendment states "Congress shall make no law concerning the establishment of religion..." specifying that one religion is not above another, and all are protected. How can the government deny gay people the right to marry based on a Christian value?

In spirit, the Constitution is based on compromise; political opposites must come together with a law enough people can agree to, and the evangelical right refuses to consider a different viewpoint than their own.

When arguments are based on a moral stance that not everyone shares, a compromise is seen as blasphemy to the Christian right, rather than a rational decision which enters into law and applies

to everyone. The fight over whether to keep Terri Schiavo alive using machines was intensely publicized. Court battles raged for over a decade. Right wing groups were up in arms, calling her right to die "state-sanctioned murder." Such a fight would seem logical, except her husband testified in court that she didn't want to be hooked up to life support. How did her right to die, which she laid out before she was incapacitated, get trumped by religious considerations?

The Christian right has forgotten to forgive, and has taken it upon itself to judge those not following a strict doctrine of beliefs. Legal institutions have begun paying attention to sinful behaviors on the Christian watch list; several groups celebrated when another Conservative justice was appointed to the Supreme Court, saying it was only a matter of time until the Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

The Bible says, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Eph 4:31-32). Is this what the Christian right is exhibiting today?

McCain a good choice for 2008

by JARED MARTIN
Daily Mississippian (U. Mississippi)

For better or worse, though I would suggest better, McCain appears to be the impending Republican nominee for the upcoming presidential election.

While McCain is the most electable GOP candidate, he has taken an excessive amount of criticism over his inability to be considered the conservative "ideal." I would say that the "ideal," as suggested by Rush Limbaugh and Ann Coulter, appeals to only an exceedingly narrow, however vocal, profile of Americans.

While I am hardly a tree hugger, I cannot see how anything but harm can come from our pollution practices. I certainly haven't succumbed to some blind global warming hysteria, but any reasonable person would agree that we must clean up our act now.

McCain wants to implement a cap-and-trade system. Each industry will be allowed so many pollution credits, which they might trade with other corporations. The free market will allocate the ability to pollute, and we would take a step toward reducing carbon emissions while minimizing any adverse impact on our economy. How is that not a con-

servative move?

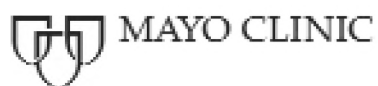
And though I disagree with McCain's stance on building a wall to prevent illegal immigration, I don't see how it could be construed as non-conservative.

The last major stance that has drawn ire is McCain's involvement in campaign finance reform. Many of the senators and representatives who claim their First Amendment rights have been violated by the bill's control of advertisement spending and other limitations are the same voters who supported the Patriot Act and its civil rights atrocities. McCain's sponsored legislation is aimed at preventing a candidate's wealth from playing an excessive role in his or her election.

These three issues are the primary recruiting tools of the anti-McCain crowd. Nevermind that McCain has an 82 percent conservative voting record.

It is unfair to suggest McCain is hijacking the Republican bid. Perhaps this is simply the reaction among conservative and moderate Republicans to the neo-con movement. Maybe the promise of fiscal responsibility, open-hand relations with Democrats and an unflappable pursuit of this country's best interest has trumped the "ideal" conservative candidate.

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December  Volunteer of the Month



The NMU Volunteer Center and Casa Calabria would like to congratulate December's Volunteer of the Month, Jessica Ann Murphy. She is a senior environmental science major from Perry, MI. Jessica is a volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters, has helped with Project Gift Wrap in the Westwood Mall over the holidays, and gives her time to the Salvation Army Recreation Center at KI Sawyer. She also coordinates a group called "Kids Changing Images" in which she gets youth involved in the community through volunteering. Jessica has worked with so many great people and over the years and has made great friends from her volunteering experiences. We would like to congratulate Jessica for all of her wonderful commitments to servicing the campus and the community, and award her with the NMU Volunteer Center Volunteer of the Month for December.

If you know a volunteer who should be recognized, please e-mail volctr@nmu.edu.
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FEBRUARY

tuesday 12
Entries Due!
 5 p.m.
 Center for Student
 Enrichment

wednesday 13
Airband Mandatory Meeting
 5 p.m.
 Back Room

thursday 14
NMU Basketball vs. Northwood (Diamond Date Night)
 Women's - 5:30 p.m.
 Men's - 7:30 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

Radio X Rock Show
 8 p.m.
 Great Lakes Rooms

friday 15
UP 200 Sled-Dog Race
 7:10 p.m.
 Downtown Marquette

saturday 16
NMU Basketball vs. Saginaw Valley
 Women's - 1 p.m.
 Men's - 3 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

President's Ball
 6:30 - Midnight
 Great Lakes Rooms

sunday 17
Human Sled-Dog Races
 2:30 p.m.
 Broomball Field

Broomball Championship Game
 4 p.m.
 Broomball Field

Clue Kick-Off Event
 7:30 p.m.
 Back Room (UC)

monday 18
YTMND:ftp;winterfest.ytmnd\omgforserious! y!oneWTF!!!leavebritneyalone!!LOL
 6-9 p.m.
 West Science

tuesday 19
NMU vs. MTU Blood Drive
 Noon - 5:45 p.m.
 University Center

Airband Competition
 7 p.m.
 JXJ 102

wednesday 20
NMU Discount Ski Day
 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
 Marquette Mountain

Open Skate
 6-9 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

thursday 21
First Aid
Guitar Hero Competition (Duel To The Death)
 6 p.m.
 JXJ 102

"Take It Off Thursday"
 The Full Monty
 7:30 p.m.
 Forest Roberts Theatre

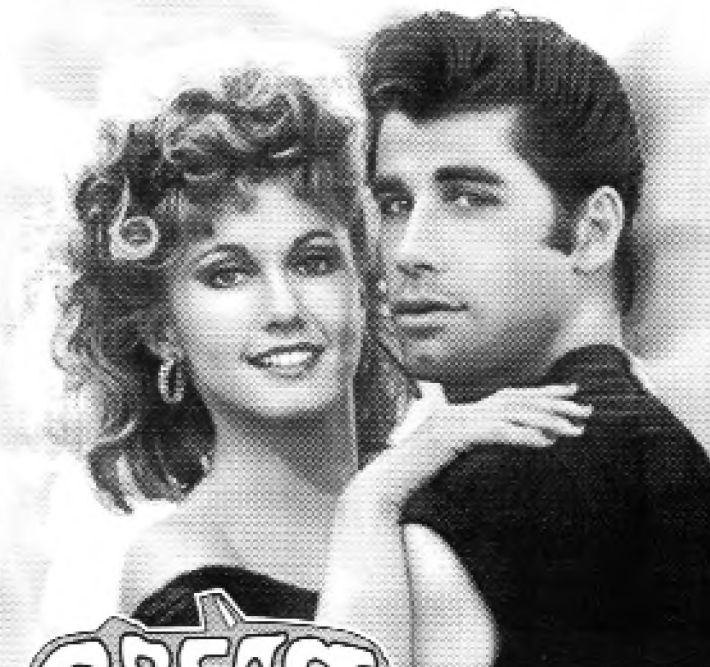
friday 22
NMU Hockey vs. Nebraska-Omaha (TCF SuperFan)
 T-shirt Night
 7:30 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

saturday 23
NMU Basketball vs. Lake Superior
 Women's - 11 a.m.
 Men's - 1 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

NMU Hockey vs. Nebraska-Omaha
 7:30 p.m.
 Berry Events Center

Campus Cinema Presents

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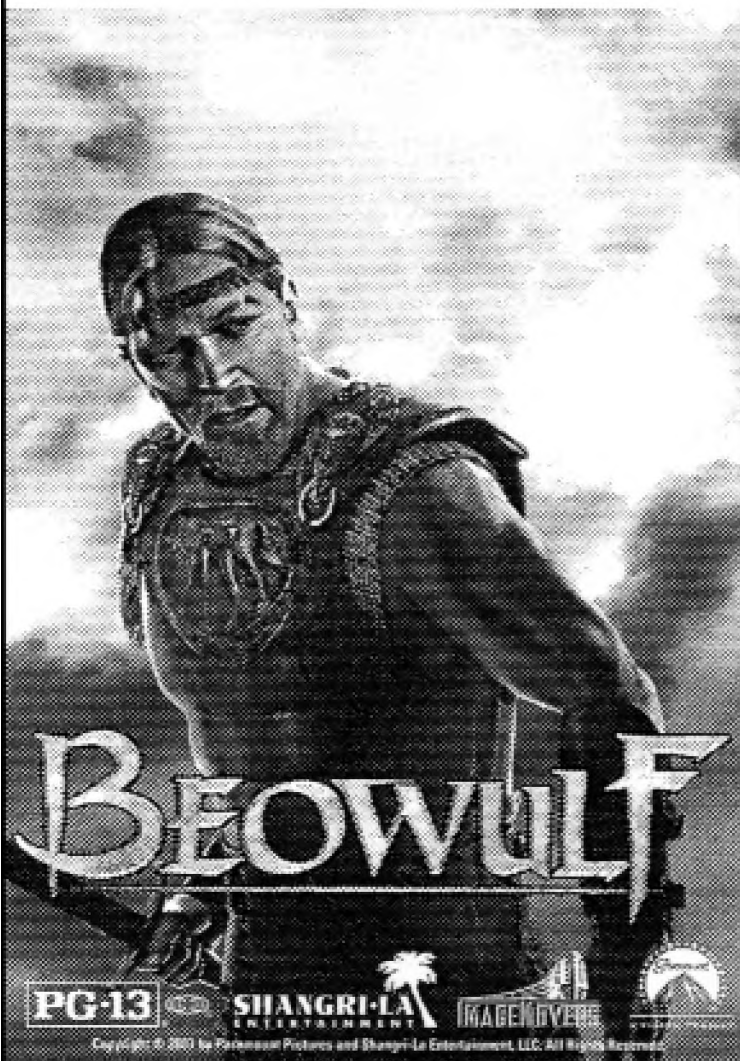

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Sat. February 16th - 9:00 PM
Sun. February 17th - 6:30 & 9:00 PM

Showing in JXJ 102
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booking the **BIG SHOW**

Photo from Chiodos.com

In December of 2006, First Aid Productions brought rockers Chiodos (above, at Warped Tour) to the Great Lakes Rooms.

First Aid Productions emerges as the premier group bringing musical acts to Northern

by SHANE NYMAN
features editor

Three years ago, First Aid Productions attempted to book the popular metal band The Dillinger Escape Plan to play a show on campus. Although the band was interested, the process for First Aid to acquire funding was extensive and time-consuming. While First Aid waited for their proposal to be accepted by the Student Finance Committee, The Dillinger Escape Plan booked a show elsewhere and never came to Marquette.

Starting this past fall semester, First Aid became an Earmarked Fund Group (EFG). As an EFG, First Aid is allocated a certain amount of money to spend on bringing acts to campus each semester. Without having to apply for funding from the Student Finance Committee and wait for approval to submit offers to performers, First Aid already has their budget. Last semester, they were allotted \$24,438. The group can now avoid bands sliding through the cracks, like with The Dillinger Escape Plan.

Senior T.J. Hanrahan, a booking agent for First Aid, said that becoming an EFG has impacted his job immensely.

"It shortened down the process and made my job a lot easier by being able to immediately get back to the agent," Hanrahan said. "Because when booking the tours, a lot of it is first come, first serve."

Although the acquiring of funds and booking of bands has now been simplified, the decision on which bands to invite to Northern is still a process that takes time and energy.

Lindsey Archambeau, president of First Aid Productions, said when it comes time to decide on an act to pursue, it's completely a group effort.

"First off, we look at how much money we have to spend on a certain show, and we try to get the biggest name with the amount of money," Archambeau

There are always instances where a band is like 'Where? We're not going there!'

— Lindsey Archambeau
president, First Aid Productions

said.

The group then passes around paper and the members write down a list of bands that they think would be successful at NMU. From there, the lists are compiled and a vote is held. Once the candidates are narrowed down to one, First Aid turns to their booking agents, like Hanrahan, and they start making calls.

Just because an offer is made, however, doesn't mean the band will automatically accept.

"There are always the

instances where a band is like, 'Where? We're not going there!'" Archambeau said.

When First Aid became an EFG before last semester, Northern Arts and Entertainment (NAE) lost its EFG status. NAE formerly was the premier group that brought bands to campus, including Jason Mraz and Dashboard Confessional's Chris Carrabba.

First Aid is now filling the role of booking the biggest names that Northern can bring in, while also trying to keep the student body happy with their choices.

"We try to diversify the amount of music that is brought up to campus," Hanrahan said.

Some of the bands that First Aid has brought to campus in the past include MxPx, Lucky Boys Confusion and Chiodos.

This semester, First Aid has booked solo artist Ben Kweller to perform in the Great Lakes Rooms on March 22. Another headlining act for an April 10 show will be decided within the coming weeks, Hanrahan said. A list has been narrowed down, and the group just needs to make a final vote and submit an offer.



Photo from BenKweller.com

Solo artist Ben Kweller will perform at Northern on March 22.



Photo from MySpace.com/LuckyBoysConfusion

Chicago rockers Lucky Boys Confusion previously played a gig on Northern's campus, thanks to booking by First Aid Productions.

RADIO X ANTI-VALENTINE SHOW



WUPX to host anti Valentine's Day bash

By Carson Lemahieu

Television ads sell diamond necklaces and expensive rings, florists offer bargains on dozens of roses and even Wal-Mart has had Valentine's Day gifts spread across their aisles for over a month. However, a large group of Northern students plan on spending their Valentine's Day in a more untraditional manner.

This Valentine's Day, Radio X is hosting an anti-Valentine's Day extravaganza featuring free T-shirt stenciling, a zone to smash romantic items, a performance by the Bad Seed Burlesque Company and live music by three bands, including the progressive-metal band Russian Circles.

"I don't like Valentine's Day. I think it's a Hallmark Holiday where for one day out of the year you say you love somebody and the rest of the year it doesn't matter, and I hate that," event organizer Anne Bradley said.

NMU senior sociology major Dan Hall said he agrees with Bradley that Valentine's Day is an over-inflated Hallmark holiday.

"I think a lot of people put too much emphasis on Valentine's Day when it's just another day of the year," he said.

Bradley said the idea for the event was inspired by a conversation she had with a member of NMU athletics. Bradley decided that the best way to get more people to attend the show was to tie in promotions between Radio X and NMU sporting events.

Radio X hosted a "Name That Tune" competition at the home hockey game on Feb. 1, and Watson & Watson Jewelers is hosting a "Diamond Date Night" at the basketball game Thursday. In addition anyone who brings a ticket stub from last weekend hockey games or basketball games will receive a free prize.

One of the highlights of the event is an area where concertgoers can vent their Valentine's Day frustrations by destroying romantic any items they bring in exchange for a free gift from Radio X.

"We are going to have an area set up in the Great Lakes Rooms where people can take whatever romantic item they brought and rip it up, smash it, hammer it, whatever they want to do to it really," Bradley said. "It's going to be a pile of destruction."

Hall said he was looking forward to being able to destroy something at the show and was hoping to bring in a memento given to him by his ex-girlfriend.

"Maybe a picture of me and her," Hall said. "I'd take those and destroy them a bit. I wish I had a gift from her left because if I did, I would take that and crush it."

Progressive-metal band Russian Circles is headlining Thursday's show. The band, from Chicago, has toured with bands such as Minus the Bear, Chin Up Chin Up and Tool. They also have performed at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin.

"We're really lucky to have them up here," Bradley said. "Russian Circles is one of the most underappreciated bands in the metal scene right now."

Opening for Russian Circles is hardcore band Beast in the Field. Houghton rockers Spare the Rod will also return to Marquette to kick off the musical action.

"People should come to this show because it's better than having to buy a \$50 dinner for your girlfriend or sitting around depressed because you don't have one. It's going to be a fun night to be together with other people," Bradley said.

The show begins at 8 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms. It is free for students and \$5 for non-students.

Editor's note: Anne Bradley is a contributing writer for The North Wind.

**"It's going to be a pile of
destruction."**
- Anne Bradley



Local studio records unique gifts

by Josh Snyder

NMU students who wanted to do something extra special and a bit different for their valentine this year had the chance by recording their very own Valentine's Day song in a professional recording studio.

Redfella Records, a local media production company, ran the Valentine's special, giving anyone the opportunity to come into their studio and record their very own song. Participants were given access to all of the services and features Redfella uses when professionally recording, including full production and background music. Redfella also offered custom designed cover artwork, as well as the option to include a box of Doncker's chocolates or a bouquet of flowers from Garden Bouquet & Design.

Junior sports science major Kimi Robaczewski, who recorded her own version of Martina McBride's "In My Daughter's Eyes" for her parents, said she thought the idea was an excellent option for those wanting to do something a little unconventional for Valentine's Day.

"I wanted to do something different for them," she said. "I thought that was something really cool that I could do."

On top of giving a unique gift to her parents, Robaczewski also accomplished something else — her lifelong goal to record a song.

"I've always wanted to record something in a studio," she said. "It was like a dream come true."

Robaczewski said that even though she was nervous, the laid back atmosphere of the studio and the professionalism of the staff helped her calm her nerves.

"It was really a great experience," she said. "It was definitely a lot of fun."

Robaczewski, who has been taking recording lessons since she was a child, said she has already considered going back to Redfella Records in the future just to record more songs for other special occasions.

"I'm definitely thinking about going back and recording some more songs," she said.

Redfella's graphic design director Jeremy Symons said they enjoy giving people from the community the opportunity to come into the studio and record their own song.

"Anything you want recorded, we'll record," he said.

Symons hopes that people who are in-

LOWE NOTES

terested in recording, but have never done so before, will come in and check out everything the studio has to offer.

"We adapt to the person that's in here," he said. "We're still going to treat people as we do every client."

Redfella's office manager and marketing director Andy Ferns said they enjoy doing promotions such as the Valentine's Day special because it allows people from the community to see what it's like to be a recording artist.

"Everybody's a rock star," Ferns said.

After the process was completed, Robaczewski said her experience was so rewarding, she would encourage other students interested in recording to take advantage of future promotions offered.

"If that's something that people want to do I'd say go for it," she said. "It's so cool to be able to say 'I'm on this CD.'"

The Valentine's promotion included recording a single song for \$55, which included custom artwork. The chocolates or flowers were an additional \$10. Students could also have the CD delivered by Redfella Records at no extra charge.

To learn more about Redfella Records you can visit their Web site at: www.marquettemusic.com.



Photos from Rolling Stone, Amazon.com

Lead singer and guitarist Jason Hill, along with his Louis XIV bandmates, released their second album "Slick Dogs and Ponies" in January.

Louis XIV "Slick Dogs and Ponies"



★★★★☆ Louis XIV was once the king of France, who took the throne at age four. During his 72 year reign, he won the Franco-Dutch war, married twice and fathered numerous illegitimate children. He outlived all of his children and grandchildren, and upon his death the throne was taken by his five-year-old great-grandson.

Louis XIV was an unpopular monarch, but he united the French people like never before. Four hundred years later, a garage rock band pays commemoration to the longest reigning king of any European country.

The group's first album, 2005's "The Best Little Secrets Are Kept," made it to 159 on the Billboard 200 and featured a single that hit number 28 on the modern rock chart. They're respectable numbers for a band in a

country whose national hatred for the French has led them to change the name of "French Fries" to "Freedom Fries."

"Slick Dogs and Ponies" continues Louis XIV's reputation of writing songs with sexual and creepy lyrics in a very garage rock vein. The production quality on this album is key, sounding flawless from beginning to end. There is a strange aura caused by string instruments and drums ran through a bit of distortion that gives "Slick Dogs ..." an airy feeling. However, that feeling is more like a hurricane than a slight breeze. Guitar solos litter the album as well.

Louis XIV knows what they're doing, and sound like they're having fun while they're at it. If they keep making albums like this, they might just be around for as long as their namesake.

For Fans of: mewwithoutYou, Hot Hot Heat or The Strokes

— Radio X staff

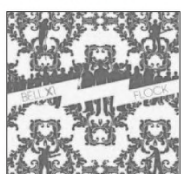
Headlights "Some Racing, Some Stopping"



★★★★☆ The latest release from Headlights, a product of Champaign, Ill., is incredible. "Some Racing, Some Stopping" is a disc memorable in its simplicity. There are no guitar solos or time changes to confuse the listener's brain, and the melodies from both a male and female will make you want to sit back and smile while enjoying the sounds of keyboards and xylophones.

For fans of: Stars, Death Cab for Cutie or Saturday Looks Good To Me

Bell X1 "Flock"



★★★★☆ Bell X1, who formed from Juniper's remaining members after Damien Rice went solo, has already gone five

times platinum in the band's homeland of Ireland. "Flock" is very radio friendly and full of indie-pop songs with high production quality. The music is beautiful, and the lyrics either have some naughty innuendos, or the Irish just have strange ways of expressing normal thoughts. Bell X1 has the potential to be the next U2, but whether or not they will ride their success into the states is still something to be seen.

For fans of: Snow Patrol, The Frames or Matt Pond PA

Flowers Forever "Flowers Forever"



★★★★☆ Flowers Forever is a project started by Derek Pressnall, the guitarist of Tilly and the Wall. The music is somewhat reminiscent of '60s psychedelic rock and folk. Imagine the Beatles starting around 1968, a touch of synth The Doors did so well and add it to today's modern indie-folk rock, and this is pretty much what you've got. It's dark

and mysterious, but open and enjoyable at the same time.

For fans of: Bob Dylan, Adam Green or The Doors

The Loved Ones "Build and Burn"



★★★★☆ The Loved Ones are one of the best contemporary melodic punk bands. The singer has a raspy voice that is rarely seen outside of the punk genre, but the melodies sound like they belong in pop, and the songs could easily get stuck in your head. The music is also a bit more advanced than the typical three-chord stereotype that punk is sometimes given, but is still mostly simple. The tempo is much slower than other punk bands as well.

Even with all these differences from typical punk, The Loved Ones are definitely a punk band, and "Build And Burn" is one of the best punk albums in a long time.

For fans of: The Lawrence Arms or Lifetime



Radio X's top weekly album plays:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The Magnetic Fields "Distortion" | 6. Coheed & Cambria "No World For Tomorrow" |
| 2. PJ Harvey "White Chalk" | 7. The Hives "Black and White Album" |
| 3. The Von Bondies "We Are Kamikaze..." | 8. Soundtrack "Juno" |
| 4. Jonny Greenwood "There Will Be Blood (Soundtrack)" | 9. The Beggars "Party to the People" |
| 5. British Sea Power "Do You Like Rock Music?" | 10. Company of Thieves "Ordinary Riches" |

This week's top RUCKUS downloads at NMU:

1. "Flo Rida" **Low**
2. "Apologize" **Timbaland**
3. "Love Song" **Sara Bareilles**
4. "Bubbly" **Colbie Caillat**
5. "Kiss Kiss" **Chris Brown**
6. "The Way I Are" **Timbaland**
7. "Stronger" **Kanye West**
8. "Tattoo" **Jordin Sparks**
9. "Crank That" **Soulja Boy Tell 'Em**
10. "Sweetest Girl" **Wyclef Jean**

Ruckus Roboticus "Playing With Scratches"



★★★★☆ The concept for Ruckus Roboticus's "Playing With Scratches" is very unique.

Ruckus is a DJ from Ohio who scratches his way through childhood. He starts with his birth, goes through a child's obsessions with learning the drums, and ends with the child getting a lullaby sung to him and ultimately going to sleep. He takes a lot of sounds from terrible '50s television and health class soundbytes and mixes them with awesome beats.

Ruckus Roboticus is not likely to be the next club hit, but this album would definitely make a great addition to anybody's novelty collection.

For fans of: Soul Coughing, Dangermouse or DJ Shadow

— Reviews courtesy of Radio X staff

The Company Band "Sign Here, Here, and Here"



★★★★☆ A just-for-kicks project of Clutch frontman Neil Fallon, Fireball Ministry's Jim Rota, CKY drummer Jess Margera and a cast of other rockers, The Company Band presents their first, and probably only, piece of work — a four-track EP titled "Sign Here, Here, and Here." The work is currently only available on iTunes, but will be released in physical form in the coming weeks.

Although each song is tightly-wound, solid rock 'n' roll, fans — especially Clutch fans — may be let down by the lack of variety between the handful of songs. As a unit, the EP feels like a slightly uninspired effort that this gang put together.

For fans of: Clutch, Fireball Ministry, CKY or Queens of the Stone Age

— by Shane Nyman

Cat Power's covers a pleasant surprise



★★★★☆

by SARAH O'NEILL
contributing writer

On the sequel to her 2000 album "The Covers Record," Chan Marshall shows that when it comes to remaking the classics, she can soar where many artists fall flat. Performing under the name Cat Power, Marshall tackles an array of well known performers on "Jukebox." From Billie Holiday, to Bob Dylan, to Janis Joplin, she proves that it's possible to make a song your own without completely stripping its allure.

If you're looking for a full-blown carbon copy of your favorites, this album isn't for you. While the same lyrics remain, Marshall adds in her beloved indie rock and uniquely beautiful voice to create an almost unrecognizable track. She turns Frank Sinatra's famous track "New York, New York" into a cool and collected blues tune, using a pulsating drum beat and slow streaming electric guitar. Cat Stevens' love song "How Can I Tell You" is transformed into a light and

airy fairytale, where Marshall's voice soars above her lone companion — the piano. No matter which timeless tune she chooses to recreate, the outcome is a delightfully original version that is appealing nonetheless.

A particularly standout track on the album is the Bob Dylan song "I Believe in You." Marshall channels Dylan himself, even slipping into his famous scratchy, somewhat toneless voice at times. With the incendiary guitar hooks and steady drum beats, she does the unthinkable by redoing the poet laureate of rock 'n' roll. After listening to this track, the similarities between the two artists become apparent. People may begin to see Marshall as Dylan's protégé — a modern, female version of the famous artist.

Despite the amazing musicians covered on the album, the most unique track happens to be a Cat Power original. The song "Metal Heart" is redone on the album, which proves to be an impressive feat. Penned by the artist herself, the lyrics, as well as the music, hit some rather personal notes. With verses like "Losing the star without a sky/ Losing the reasons why/ You're losing the calling that you've been faking/ And I'm not kidding," we get a glimpse inside Marshall's head and heart that is otherwise absent on the album. Although it is a collection of cover songs, she manages to prove that her true talent lies in her original work.

Whether coincidence or not, every track on the album seems to tell a similar story of the wandering character who

hates to be in one place for too long. The song "Rambling Man" by Hank Williams is changed to "Rambling (Wo)man," which sings regret for the naturally free spirit of the singer. The Highwaymen's "Silver Stallion" croons the lyrics "I'm gonna chase the sky forever," while Joni Mitchell's "Blue" reflects on a person met along the wandering trail. The pattern continues in some way with every song, which makes the album much more interesting. This also furthers the comparison to Bob Dylan, who often sang of the same reckless soul and winding road of life.

Overall the album is a pleasant sur-

prise, with one downfall along the way. While it seems that Marshall has always been trying to prove herself as an artist, the recordings seem lackluster and a bit unprofessional. Some may see this as part of her charm; others may find it somewhat ironic. For an artist who is known to cry on stage and complain that her music will never be good enough, it seems as if she would try a little harder. Luckily she is good enough, both vocally and instrumentally, to pull it off with grace. However, if it's fame she yearns for, it may require a little more studio time and a lot more money.



Above: Cat Power's Chan Marshall bares her soul on stage.



Left: The distorted Claudia Gonson and Stephin Merritt of The Magnetic Fields.

Photos from Rolling Stone

Magnetic Fields push 'Distortion' theme a bit too far



★★★★☆

by ADAM DOMPIERRE
staff writer

The Magnetic Fields have come a long way from their humble indie-pop beginnings in the early '90s. After peaking with 1999's classic "69 Love Songs," Stephin Merritt and company have experimented with everything from dance music to opera.

The band reinvents their sound again on the aptly-named "Distortion," this time by running everything through a thick layer of, you guessed it, distortion. The results are at times revelatory, but some tracks would be better served with a more straightforward, conventional presentation.

Merritt described "Distortion" as trying "to sound more like The Jesus and Mary Chain than The Jesus and Mary Chain." Unfortunately, that gimmick sometimes gets in the way of the songs themselves.

"California Girls" isn't a Beach Boys cover, but the melody would fit right in on "Pet Sounds." Shirley Simms' reverberated vocals cut through distorted guitar lines to deliver catchy choruses about, ironically, hating California girls. While the song isn't anything groundbreaking, it is especially well-executed.

Other tracks fare similarly well given the distortion treatment. The album's best melody belongs to "The Nun's Litany," which is the most memorable song despite some really contrived lyrics. Merritt toes the line between comedy and tragedy on "Too Drunk to Dream," which is equal parts light-hearted ode to drunkenness and song of lost love.

Simms' vocal delivery shines on "Drive On, Driver," a melancholic ballad that balances personal resiliency against a broken heart. "It's such a pretty little ring," she sings, "But it doesn't mean anything / Drive on." Each of these songs would work well without distortion, but the added fuzz fits them well.

Other times, the distortion is distracting. "Xavier Says" and "Mr. Mistletoe" are poorly-mixed at best, and the heavy-handed use of distortion and reverb renders them unremarkable.

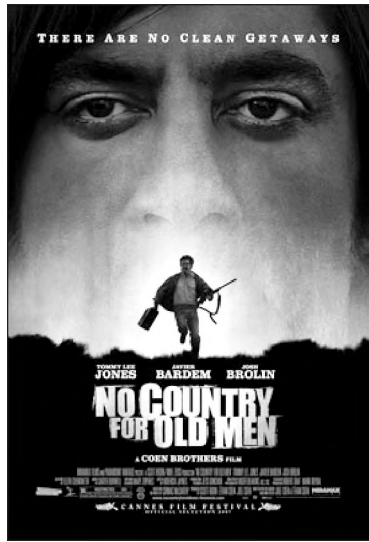
Coming in at 13 tracks, the theme simply wears out its welcome. Songs like "Till the Bitter End" and "Zombie Boy" seem to crank the noise just to fit the album's motif — not because it's good for the song. The effects are less overwhelming for the album closer "Courtesans," but it's a strategy the band should've used

more often throughout the album.

It's hard to fault a band for taking a chance on a novel idea, and The Magnetic Fields' impression of artists like The Jesus and Mary Chain does make for a handful of really good songs.

"Distortion" could have been a great EP, but as it is the album runs a little too long and the new sound loses its charm towards the end. It was an interesting experiment, but the band would be better served by playing more to their strengths in the future.

Brutal 'No Country' 2007's best film



by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

The Coen Brothers have proven to not only be two of the best modern directors, but also two of the best storytellers in the business. Their films flow eloquently, with instantly-relatable characters and scenes that feel like a part of everyday life, despite their surreal nature. However, no one is perfect, and after 2004's less than stellar "The Ladykillers," the Coens took a step back from Hollywood. Fortunately, the time off proved to be beneficial. The Coens have returned to brilliant form with their latest, "No Country for Old Men," delivering one of the best films of their illustrious careers.

While hunting in the Texas desert,

retired Vietnam vet Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin) discovers a drug deal that has gone terribly wrong. He snatches a briefcase with \$2 million dollars, hoping he and his wife can abandon their trailer and live the life they always wanted. Unbeknownst to him, the owners of the money have hired bounty hunter Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem) to retrieve it. However, Chigurh is not looking to return the money to his employer — he wants it for himself, and will kill anyone in his path in order to collect it.

The most amazing thing about "No Country" is how tightly focused the story is. There is absolutely no filler — every scene has a purpose. Everything, from Moss finding the money to Chigurh's encounter with a gas station attendant either advances the story, develops the characters, or explores many of the film's themes.

The characters are some of the most well thought out and realistic I've seen in any film. Moss handles his situation exactly how you would expect someone who's a former soldier to act; he's calm and precise in everything he does, but is not perfect and is bound to make mistakes.

Chigurh might just be the most terrifying villain since Hannibal Lecter. There are few characters that have such an intense presence, let alone one that is felt in every scene, regardless of whether or not the character is even in it. Bardem's portrayal of the crazed killer will have you on the edge of your seat every second of this film.

But "No Country" has more than just two men engaging in one of the most intense cat-and-mouse games you'll ever

see. It also has one of the strongest supporting casts in any film this past year. Tommy Lee Jones does an outstanding job as the aging and depressed Sheriff Ed Tom Bell. The emotions expressed by Jones say more than some films entire scripts do. Woody Harrelson's portrayal of bounty hunter Carson Wells, who's attempting to track down Chigurh, is a reminder at how well the Coens can balance a character who is both comical and serious. Even the old clerk at the hotel who hassles Moss leaves a lasting impression.

Being a fan of film music, I was surprised when "No Country" had nearly no score whatsoever. However, this was perhaps one of the most genius moves I've

seen a director make in years. Instead of mood-altering orchestration, we hear the creak of each footstep, Moss's panicked breaths as he's being chased and the deafening crack of Chigurh's life-ending gunshots. This focus on sound upped the intensity to a level rarely seen in film. Every little detail had an enormous impact, one that stayed with me long after the film had ended.

If you haven't already seen "No Country for Old Men," I suggest you do so immediately. There is a reason that the Coens' latest is the favorite going into the Oscars. Not only does it easily top the list of best films of 2007, but it is one of the rare films deserving of a perfect score.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies
Javier Bardem's portrayal of the cold-blooded killer Anton Chigurh — one of the creepiest film villains in years — has already earned him an Oscar nod for Best Supporting Actor.

Big names, little value in 'Fool's Gold'



by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

One of the unique aspects of seeing a movie in theaters is watching the audience react to the film. People cheer, applaud and laugh when they enjoy a film. It's a good indication of how popular a film is. It's never a good sign when people take extended bathroom breaks. It's never a good sign when people get up and leave halfway through the film. And it's definitely not a good sign when you pay more attention to those in the theater than the film itself. But that was my experience with "Fool's Gold," the latest romantic comedy from director Andy Tennant ("Hitch").

Benjamin Finnegan (Matthew McConaughey) is a down on his luck treasure hunter who has just been divorced by his treasure-hunting partner Tess Finnegan (Kate Hudson). Tess, who has a passion for history, is working as a stewardess for millionaire Nigel Honeycutt (Donald Sutherland) to save money to go back to school and earn her Ph.D. Believing that she's rid herself of Benjamin forever, she continues to work aboard Honeycutt's yacht. However, Benjamin has befriended Honeycutt and convinces not only him but Tess to go after a famous, missing treasure. However, an evil rapper by the name of Bigg Bunny (Kevin Hart) wants the treasure too, and Tess and Benjamin must work together to retrieve it before he does.

You would think any movie that features an evil rapper would be a cinematic classic. Sadly, "Gold" does not deliver. The story is really terrible, attempting to combine elements of action flicks, dark comedies, and romantic comedies. But instead of feeling innovative, it feels like Tennant watched a marathon of romantic comedies and copied bits and pieces from each.

The one recurring word throughout the above descriptions is comedy, although it would be misleading to call "Gold" such a film. The movie never once brought a smile to my face, let alone made me laugh. And I wasn't alone — I heard maybe three chuckles throughout the entire film. There are more laughs in most movie trailers than all of "Gold." If Tennant would have

had a sharper focus, this could have stood a chance.

The characters proved to be a missed opportunity. Instead of taking standard formulas and giving them a fresh twist, Tennant relies on the same old cliché characters. Benjamin is the typical handsome, sweet-talking loser. But at least he has motivation — and a six-pack — so his flaws are justified. Tess is gorgeous and exceptionally smart, but she can't catch a break and constantly allows men to walk all over her. But that's OK, too, because she looks good in a bikini. The supporting cast is just as bad. Luckily, "Gold" isn't a character study, it's a romantic comedy,

although Tennant forgot to add the romance. Not once during the film does it feel like there is any real tension between Tess and Benjamin, especially considering they're recently divorced. It's just not convincing, and I know the cast can do better.

I disagree with the stereotype that guys cannot enjoy a chick flick. I can enjoy any movie, regardless of genre, as long as it's done right. Unfortunately, hardly anything in "Fool's Gold" was. The only thing good about this disaster is the attractiveness of the two main stars, but it would be cheaper and easier to search for pictures of them online instead of wasting your time and money on this.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies
Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey may prove with "Fool's Gold" that they can't make a film entertaining, but they still have two of Hollywood's hottest bodies.



NMU Track Team sets records in home meet – pg. 21

'Cats sweep the Spartans

by KYLE WHITNEY
editor in chief

Since the beginning of the season, the NMU Wildcats have been saying that they are a better team than their record shows. The 'Cats knew they were a young and inexperienced team, but that they had the talent to one day compete with some of the Central Collegiate Athletic Conference's (CCHA) best.

That day may have already arrived for the Wildcats, who swept the defending national champion Michigan State Spartans out of Marquette by scores of 3-1 and 3-0 over the weekend. Entering the weekend, the Spartans were ranked sixth in the nation according to the USA Today D-I Poll.

"Any time you get a sweep, it's big," NMU defenseman T.J. Miller said. "When we came out and got that second win, it was big for us. Playoffs are right around the corner. It's good and hopefully we can keep that going."

The sweep, which is just the second of the year for the 'Cats, comes a week after NMU tied a pair with the nation's top-ranked team, the Michigan Wolverines.

"We've talked all year about being a

young team and a team that is growing and improving," Northern Michigan head coach Walt Kyle said. "Our last couple of weekends, to me, have shown that we are a team that has improved and gotten better. Early in the year, both Michigan and Michigan State swept us. Coming back and playing them in the second half gave us the opportunity to use them as a kind of measuring stick."

In Friday's 3-1 victory against MSU, the 'Cats (12-15-3 overall, 9-11-2 CCHA) controlled the play throughout the game, securing an early lead which they would never relinquish.

In the process, junior forward Nick Sirota netted all three NMU markers, collecting a hat trick.

The following night, the 'Cats put in a nearly identical performance, controlling the pace of play. The main difference on Saturday was that the Spartans (18-8-5, 14-5-3) failed to score.

"We knew that we had to step up our game if we were going to compete with Michigan or Michigan State," sophomore NMU forward Billy Smith said. "We know that we're capable of competing against teams like that as long as we show up and we work hard."

Also stepping up for the 'Cats over the

Our last couple of weekends, to me, have shown that we are a team that has improved and gotten better.
—Walt Kyle
NMU head coach



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Mark Oliver handles the puck against Michigan State. Oliver scored one goal in Saturday's game.

weekend was the defense, which put in a strong effort, allowing just one goal on 56 shots against the CCHA's top power play team. On the weekend, the Spartans were 1-for-18 with the advantage.

And while sophomore goalie Brian Stewart, who was named the CCHA Goaltender of the Week, stopped 55 of those 56 shots, he wasn't forced to make too many amazing plays.

"I thought Stewart was very good, but I thought that he didn't have to be good a lot," Kyle said. "I thought that was important, because [against Michigan], he had to be good a lot."

Though the defense in front of Stewart played well enough that he didn't always have to make highlight-reel saves, the goalie's performance was indicative of the team's play.

"One of the reasons I think we're playing better as a team is because we've really found a belief in Stewart and a confidence in him and what he is capable of doing," Kyle said. "I think that's something a good team always has to find. I think when you find that, it can give confidence throughout the lineup and I'm seeing that in our room right now."

Stewart was also aided by the NMU skaters' ability and willingness to get into shooting lanes and put their bodies on the line.

"Our defense out there was huge. The top four [defensemen] logged a lot of minutes and that's something that we're probably going to have to do for the rest of the season," Miller said. "On the penalty kill,

Please see SWEEP on Page 20

Skiers dominate in pre-regional race



Jeff Kitson/NW

Tanya Cook pushes forward during the pre-regional event in Marquette.

by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

As the NMU ski team prepped for the regional races this coming weekend, they participated in a long-distance freestyle competition with Michigan Tech and University of Wisconsin-Green Bay in Marquette on Saturday.

In the 18k men's race, Martin Banerud won the freestyle race with a time of 48:57.6 while teammate Phillip Violett was just four seconds behind at 50:1.3. Other top finishers for NMU were Gus Keading, seventh (51:53.4) and Tim Cook, ninth (51:53.9).

"I think Martin may have had one of his best races ever," said cross-country skiing head coach Sten Fjeldheim. "He is really on his game."

The men's team used their depth to take Saturday's race at home.

"All-in-all, in the men's side it looked really good," Fjeldheim said. "Phil Violett had a real solid race and the rest of the guys—Tim Cook and our third man, Gus Keading. All of them have just been skiing really, really solid."

On the women's side, NMU had four of the top six skiers in the 12k race.

Morgan Smyth led the way by winning the race with a time of 39:05.9. She finished just ahead of teammates Laura DeWitt at 39:06.9 and Maria Stuber at 39:37.1. Other top placers were Anna

Berguld in 6th and Tanya Cook in at 11.

The NMU women's team seemed pleased with its finishes.

"The women did really well this weekend," Smyth said. "I think a lot of people gained confidence for the upcoming races."

The 'Cats took the team scores with 22 points. UW-Green Bay had 15 and Michigan Tech had eight.

The race seemed like a good preparation for the Wildcats as they head into regional competition.

"We're skiing strong right now," DeWitt said. "I'm confident that we'll be skiing fast at regionals, as well."

Since the classic race was canceled due to weather conditions, the coaches chose to prolong the race in Marquette to an additional six kilometers.

"There's no sense risking life and limb to ski a race that didn't matter that much, so unfortunately we did not race," Fjeldheim said.

Although the second race didn't occur, the 'Cats took full advantage of this final opportunity to race before regionals.

"The race was mostly just a final tune-up for us going into regionals," DeWitt said. "A chance to get some more experience in a mass start so I just tried to ski a smart race and have some fun while skiing hard."

Please see SKI on Page 20



Spencer Bouchard/NW

NMU men set sights on GLIAC playoffs

by CURT KEMP
sports editor

The NMU men's basketball team lost two more games – against Ferris State and No. 2 ranked Grand Valley – on the road last weekend, dropping their record to 6-17 overall and 5-9 in the conference.

Despite the losses the 'Cats are still in the hunt for a home Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) playoff game.

"We're in the only conference, I think in the world, where you can lose and it really doesn't hurt you," NMU head coach Dean Ellis said. "So, we're still in a situation to get in the postseason tournament."

NMU's first game was against Ferris State (10-15, 5-9 GLIAC), on Feb. 7 in Big Rapids.

During the game, NMU held a 16-point lead in the second half, but were eventually worn down by an aggressive Bulldog defense. NMU lost by a score of 64-59.

NMU went into halftime during the Ferris game up 33-23. Senior guard Ryan Reichel said the NMU coaching staff urged the team during the half to continue to play at the level they had during the first 20 minutes, and not to let up.

"Coach Ellis stressed at halftime for us to come out at the second half and play, and we just didn't come out," Reichel said.

Ellis said the defensive pressure by the Bulldogs was what got to the 'Cats in the second half.

"Their pressure bothered us," Ellis said. "We were tired and wore out at the end of the game, and they had some energy because they were making plays."

NMU's three leading scorers each played 20 minutes in the second half, with Jerard Ajami playing all 40 minutes of the contest. Ajami (18 points), Jake Suardini (14) and Tyler Kazmierkoski (15) led Northern in scoring.

Kazmierkoski said that Ferris' defen-

sive pressure and the full-court presses, took their toll on the team.

"When you're that tired, you just start to get lazy both on the offensive and defensive side of the ball," Kazmierkoski said. "It's just hard to execute properly when you're drained mentally and physically."

The 'Cats then traveled to Allendale for a Feb. 9 matchup with the GLIAC's only undefeated team, Grand Valley State (26-0, 14-0 GLIAC). There, NMU was dropped 74-41.

No Northern player reached double figures during the game, and NMU was led in scoring by Suardini and Kazmierkoski, who each picked up nine points.

"They're just a super-talented team, and we were playing them at their place," Kazmierkoski said. "Mentally, we were a

little down from the Ferris game still."

Grand Valley was led defensively by pre-season GLIAC player of the year, Callistus Eziukwu, who blocked five shots during the game.

Ellis said Eziukwu was one of the biggest factors in the success of Grand Valley this season.

"The big issue with Grand Valley is that Callistus is in the paint, and your guards can't score off the dribble and your centers can't score in the paint," Ellis said. "That's the factor. Guards go in there on a drive and he's going to block it, and if you throw it in the post, you can't score. And that makes him really good."

NMU is currently in a four-way tie for third place in the GLIAC North Division with Northwood, Lake Superior State University (LSSU) and Ferris State. Over the final four games of the season will face two of those teams: LSSU and Northwood.

All of NMU's remaining games will be played in the U.P. Three of the remaining four games are at the Berry Events Center. The only game on the road is against Michigan Tech in Houghton. NMU plays two home games this weekend, against Northwood on Thursday and Saginaw

Valley on Saturday.

"We were all over the country before this," Ellis said. "And I told our guys after the game at Grand Valley, 'We're yoopers now. We've got four games in the U.P., and if we do well, we'll probably earn the right to play another game in the U.P.'"

Ellis said there was a possibility of Northern still earning a first round home GLIAC playoff game, and if the GLIAC North's second-place team, Michigan Tech, were to finish the season in their current position, Tech would host a playoff game.

For the four seniors on the basketball team, Suardini, Mike Polfus, Darren Jones and Reichel, these last four games could be the last of their careers.

"These last four games are huge," Suardini said. "It's pretty much do or die time now. As crazy as the season's gone, we still have a chance to make it to the playoffs and we've just got to buckle down and get our wins at home."

Suardini has been the team's unquestioned leader throughout the season, and his coaches and teammates praised the Gwinn native for all he brings to the team.

"His mind is incredible," Ellis said. "He's just a smart, high IQ'd basketball player. And that's helped him his whole career."

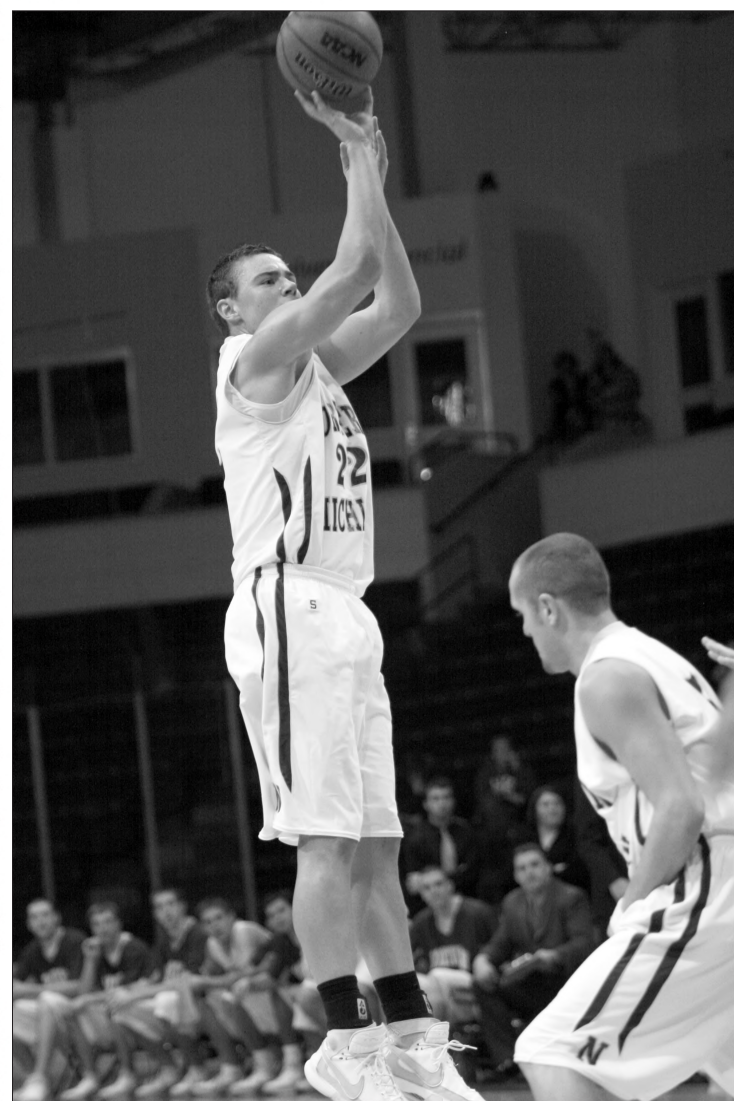
Kazmierkoski said during the games, Suardini has the ability to break down the play

tion, but all the positions on the floor.

"Jake's such a unique leader because he's the unquestioned captain of the team and nothing needs to be said about it," Kazmierkoski said. "He will never say a negative word, and the basketball IQ that he possesses is just phenomenal."

As Suardini's career nears an end he said he's pushing his team to continue to fight for a playoff spot.

"I'm just trying to tell them that we've just got to stick together at the end of the year," Suardini said. "Teams start to fall away at the end of the year, and we can't. We've got to step our game up now, get a couple wins, and then go into the tournament."



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Tyler Kazmierkoski goes up for a shot as senior guard Ryan Reichel for, not just his position looks on. Kazmierkoski is a top-three scorer for Northern.



Amanda Shellnut/NW

NMU head coach Bernie Anderson looks on from the Superior Dome stands a week after recruiting 25 players

NMU looks to future

by DREW KOCHANNY
staff writer

With the door now closed on the 2007 Wildcat football season, NMU welcomes 25 new student athletes to the 'Cats football program.

All players in all divisions of the NCAA signed their national letters of intent Feb. 6. Northern's 25 commitments come from a total of six states, including six athletes from the U.P.

"I think there are some exceptional players in this group," NMU head football coach Bernie Anderson said. "I think that the overall talent from top to bottom is an improvement over the last couple of years."

This is Anderson's second full season recruiting for the Wildcats. Anderson was previously the head football coach at Michigan Tech for 19 years.

"I like this class on the standpoint that I think all 25 players are going to play in this league," Anderson said. "I just think it is a very solid group with some outstanding individuals."

The NMU football team is coming off a season that concluded with the most wins since 2002 (5-5) and entered the off-season in need of a strong recruiting class for the future with the hope the program would continue to rise amongst the best in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC).

One very important factor in the recruiting game is bringing talent to campus from one's own backyard. In Northern's case, Michigan's U.P. provides local talent for the program. Recruiting the area has always been important to the coaching staff.

"You always want to take care of your backyard," Anderson said. "They are the ones familiar with your school and have a higher probability of staying and finishing. It brings local interest as well."

Northern's location in Michigan can play a major role for many recruits. At times, it can

be a determining choice for a downstate player.

"We lose a good deal of players because it is too far to travel," Anderson said. "Well, when we have a good [recruit] in the U.P., we shouldn't be losing them to other conference schools."

Offensively, the team brought in 11 players. The 'Cats brought in a trio of running backs, as well as three wide receivers, to help build on an offense that progressed throughout the 2007 season.

Junior all-conference and junior starting running back Mark Bossuah returns next year after re-writing the record books throughout last season. Depth behind Bossuah and the future of the position needed to be addressed after losing senior Brad Anderson, and redshirt freshman Bo Fry, after he transferred in the offseason.

Within the class of running backs are Maurice Williams, 6-0 190-pounds, of Imperial Beach Cali., who was also a standout safety in high school, ranked within the country by ESPN, Julian Pierce, 5-10 202-pounds, of Grand Rapids, Mich., a Detroit Free Press second team all state selection who in 2006 won the Best Running Back award at the University of Michigan's football camp, and Free Press, first team all state Casey Hares, 5-7 180-pounds, of Ishpeming, Mich.

"Maurice Williams, Casey Hares, and Julian Pierce are all special athletes," Anderson said. "They're at that position where their speed and athleticism is a little bit superior to others."

The local of the group, Casey Hares, comes to Northern as one of the more desirable U.P. recruits in recent years.

After rushing for 2,777 yards and 31 touchdowns, his yardage ranked eighth in the nation.

Hares said he wanted to stay nearby to play his college football, and chose NMU for that reason.

"It is close to home and I really liked the coaches," Hares said. "I liked playing in the Dome, but

I definitely didn't want to leave the U.P.

With Hares' high school only 15 miles away, Wildcat coaches were able to see Hares play in Ishpeming.

"He was their offense and people keyed on him, yet I thought he did an exceptional job of skating along, finding a seam and hitting it; he's got a great burst," Anderson said. "He's good enough to play in this league and that's why we wanted him."

If the program is on a rise, Casey feels that one of the main goals for him is to help NMU go higher in GLIAC during his upcoming years in a Wildcat uniform.

"I'd definitely like to be at the top of the GLIAC, that's a goal," Hares said. "I'd like to make it to the playoffs."

On the defensive side of the ball, the Wildcats will be looking to replace six starters on a defense, which is currently without a defensive coordinator. Selling a recruit on a defensive scheme and style when the coaching situation remains uncertain can be a hard task at hand, but Anderson said he didn't feel it was a problem for recruits.






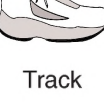
"I think it had a role," Anderson said. "The question had come up a few times. I don't think we lost anyone for that reason."

"It didn't help, but I'm not convinced that it did hurt," he added.

Overall, 13 defensive players signed on to play for NMU.

"I think it is a solid group defensively," Anderson said. "I think we really addressed our need at the defensive front."

The 'Cats bring in two defensive ends with excellent size for the position in local Zach Anderson from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Anderson, 6-3 255-pound, is a member of the U.P. Dream Team. The other, Jordan Mancl of Stevens Point, Wis., brings his 6-4 255-pound frame. Mancl will participate in the annual Wisconsin All-Star Game.

| Home | Away | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--|----------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | Men's | Northwood 7:30 p.m. Berry | | SVSU 3 p.m. Berry | |
|  | Women's | Northwood 5:30 p.m. Berry | | SVSU 1 p.m. Berry | |
|  | Skiing | | | CCSA Regional Champ. 9 a.m. | CCSA Regional Champ. 9 a.m. |
|  | Swimming | GLIAC championships University of Indianapolis | | | |
|  | Hockey | | Ohio State 7 p.m. Columbus, Ohio | Ohio State 7 p.m. Columbus, Ohio | |
|  | Track | | | St. Scholastica Duluth, Minn. 10 a.m. | |

Women's basketball drops pair on the road

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

The NMU women's basketball team's shooting woes continued last week as they dropped contests to Great Lakes Intercollegiate (GLIAC) opponents Grand Valley State and Ferris State.

NMU (8-14 overall, 3-11 GLIAC) dropped Thursday's contest to the Ferris State Bulldogs (15-8 overall, 10-4 GLIAC) by a score of 59-64, despite holding Rachel Folcik, the GLIAC preseason player of the year, to only 11 points and six rebounds. In two games against the Wildcats, Folcik has averaged only 13.5 total points per contest; she is currently averaging 20.2 points per game this season.

The 'Cats were led in scoring against Ferris by senior Allison Carroll who scored 24 points. Also scoring in double digits for Northern were Angie Leckson, a sophomore, and Kelsey Deacon, a junior, scoring 11 and 10, respectively.

NMU jumped out early against Ferris State and held on for a one point lead at the halftime break, but Ferris State's depth proved to be Northern's downfall as the Bulldog's bench outscored Northern's reserves 23-8.

The 'Cats made only four of the 16 threes they attempted in the game, and shot only 28 percent from the field in the second half of the game. The Wildcats are ranked 10th out of the 13 teams in the GLIAC in field goal percentage.

On Saturday the 'Cats couldn't reverse their fortunes as they dropped a 63-50 game to Grand Valley. Grand Valley jumped out to a 7-2 lead early in the game and NMU failed to narrow that gap as the Lakers continually extended their lead throughout the game.

Deacon led the 'Cats in scoring with 17 points. No other players on the Wildcats scored in double figures in the game. Senior LaShawn Lambert grabbed nine rebounds to lead the 'Cats on the boards.

Turnovers hampered NMU, as they allowed Grand Valley to score 26 points off of 23 Northern turnovers. The Wildcats were also held back by shooting troubles as normally productive freshman Stephanie Stoeger shot 0-10 in the game.

The 'Cats are back in action this weekend as they return to the Berry Events Center to take on another pair of GLIAC teams. On Thursday, Feb. 14 NMU will host Northwood University (15-7 overall, 10-4 GLIAC) and on Saturday the 'Cats will face Saginaw Valley State (11-12 overall, 4-10).

NMU is looking to break out of a rough snap that has seen the team lose 6 of 7 games. Even though the 'Cats are out of GLIAC playoff contention they are attempting to break into the double digits in the win column for the first time since the 2004-2005 season.

The Wildcats will be looking to avenge a close loss to Northwood earlier in the season. When the two teams met on Jan. 4, NMU failed to convert on a last second shot to win the game and fell to the Timberwolves 66-67.

On Saturday, NMU will be battling Saginaw Valley for sixth place in the GLIAC North Division. Saginaw Valley currently holds a half game lead over NMU. When the teams met earlier in the season NMU picked up a 47-39 win. Thursday's game begins at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday's at 1 p.m.

Twin freshman sisters making big splash on the Wildcat diving team

by BRICE BURGE
staff writer

While the NMU diving team has only two women on its roster. These two women not only share the same team, they share the same residence hall, the same birthday, and the same parents.

This case of déjà vu divers is not a scene from "The Twilight Zone," just the twins Kara and Kelli Vander Baan.

The two 5-foot-5 blondes are two out of three freshmen on the swim and dive team and both of the twins score points in nearly all of the diving events.

When the Vander Baans talk about their sport it's easy to see the passion and care they have for their diving. Despite only diving for four years now, the twins have taken to the sport quickly, and have thrown themselves into it.

"Diving for me is an unexpected passion," Kara said. "We didn't have a pool or anything like that growing up, but we went out and tried it. Then it turned out to be something I enjoyed."

Kelli agreed with her sister. "[Diving] allows me to stay active and express myself in a way besides just words," she said.

Being twins, the sisters have a special friendship, and the sport of diving has enabled them to connect on another level.

"Its fun to dive with my sister," Kara said. "We don't have to work on the teamwork because we already have that close bond. When I see Kelli do well, I want to do well also."

Before coming to NMU, the sisters had been teammates throughout their respective high school careers. Both of the Vander Baans qualified twice for the Michigan State Diving Championships. The twins didn't just qualify for state in diving – they each have qualified three times for downhill skiing as well.

At one ski meet in high school, they finished a race with the exact same time, down to the hundredth of a second. The two continue to ski and snowboard with family, but not during the swimming season to avoid injury.

"The two are great for each other because they are so competitive," their mother Roberta Vander Baan said. "They both want to win, but they both want to see the

other one win too. So, they end up pushing themselves and each other to win."

The sisters started diving their sophomore year after Milford High School in Highland, Mich., built a pool. There, the Vander Baans were coached by Mark Miller.

"They were my best divers to start off with," Miller said. "The twins were always one-two for us and between the two of them they hold the top 10 scores in school history in both the six and 11-set dives."

But the Vander Baans haven't done it alone. The sisters have had the added support of family and friends since the pair started diving. During a meet held at Grand Valley State University this year, the divers had a cheering section of over 70 people who came to watch and support them. Kelli did well in front of her fans, and was able to qualify for the NCAA Division II national championships.

"I am very proud that they are able to compete at the college level and I'm happy that my daughters can have fun," said their father Rob Vander Baan. "They enjoy diving and I enjoy watching them and we don't get to do that nearly enough as we want to with the distance."

Both parents also expressed their happiness about the life skills that their daughters can take away from diving.

"To stand up and do what they do is amazing. They overcome their personal

issues and fears and compete, along with being students and being on their own. I could never do it," said Roberta.

The NMU diving team has also appreciated the twins' success here. The Vander Baans have taken first and second in over half of the dual meets this season and Kelli's qualification for the national championships is the first for a diver since Michelle Ruiz finished tenth in 2006.

But the sisters came for much more than just the diving team at Northern.

"I like the outdoors and all of the physical things to do up here," Kelli said. "But I also remember a family trip that we took when I was in middle school up here. I didn't know that the school was up here then, but I fell in love with the area. We still have a picture up on the refrigerator back home that has us jumping off Black Rocks at Presque Isle Park."

With both of the twins being so close for so long, it

They both want to win, but they both want to see the other win too. So, they end up pushing themselves, and each other, to win.

– Roberta Vander Baan



Spencer Bouchard/NW
Kelli Vander Baan dives in the PEIF pool on campus, while twin sister Kara readies herself below. During a meet at Grand Valley, the two freshmen were cheered by more than 70 family and friends. They have been diving four years.

can be assumed that the two of them decided to come to Northern as a pair, but Kara says that is not the case.

"The decision to come to NMU was independent; it just seemed to work out that way. When we came up here for the recruiting trip, we saw what the school had and it started to unfold pretty nicely from there for me. I know that we both had some similar and different reasons to come here."

As Wildcats, the Vander Baan twins have managed to not only strengthen their diving abilities but to also stay true to their family ties.

SKI

Continued from Page 17

The race gave skiers the chance to make the necessary changes in their strategies before the bigger races.

"Long skate races tend to be one of my weaknesses, so Saturday was a breakthrough for me," Smyth said. "I'm really happy with my race."

The final results were not only pleasing for the racers but Fjeldheim said he was impressed with the women and the men, who are heading into more competitive competitions.

"The race was really great the whole way," he said. "And I was really excited."

The next race for the NMU ski team is the Central Collegiate Skiing Associations (CCSA) regional championship starting Feb. 16 in Giants Ridge, Minn. For the men, Fjeldheim said he predicts a tight race between the Wildcats and University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"I think it's going to be a very tight competition with NMU and UAF," he said. "Probably where we have our strength right now over them is our depth. We've got five racers skiing right now really close to each other. We're confident

that everything is going to go well and we're excited."

For the women's side, he added they should handle the meet easily, but Fjeldheim doesn't want to be overconfident, especially when the upcoming races are so important.

"I'm pretty confident the girls will be able to handle the competition but you never want to count your chickens before they're hatched," Fjeldheim said.

Over the weekend, the CSSA first and second teams were announced. For the women, Smyth, DeWitt and Stuber were named to the first team, while Cook was a second team selection.

On the men's team, Violett and Banerud were selected to the first team. Singleton and Kaeding were named to the second team.

Head coach of the year, voted on by the CCSA coaches, was Fjeldheim. NMU's head skiing coach said his winning the award should be a good confidence builder for his team.

"I think it gives them some confidence and it's good to get named to a team like that," Fjeldheim said. "It's an achievement, and I think they're happy about it. I've got a feeling, with the regional race coming, that they're feeling really good."

SWEEP

Continued from Page 17

that's just something that we have to do to limit their goals and if we can do that, I think we'll be good."

The entire defense performed very well, Kyle said, but Miller's play still stood out.

"I can single T.J. out in that Michigan State series because I thought he was unbelievable out there," Kyle said.

"He was a physical force, he was blocking shots and he was one of the dominant players in the series. I'm amazed he can walk today because of the number of shots he blocked."

Miller and the rest of the Wildcats will soon head down to Columbus to take on the Ohio State Buckeyes (9-20-3, 5-15-2). The Wildcats, who are in a fight for a home-ice game in the first round of the CCHA Playoffs, know that they

need to keep a level head as the end of the season nears.

"[The mood in the locker room] is no different," Smith said. "We know that those were just a couple of games to build off. We've been up and down and we've had times where we've played well and times where we haven't. I think this weekend really just helps us get to where we'd like to be going into playoffs."

The all-time series between the Wildcats and Buckeyes is 29-29-3. The 'Cats haven't been to Columbus since upsetting the Buckeyes in the first round of last year's CCHA Playoffs.

"They're still a good team, even though they haven't quite put together a good year," Miller said. "It's still one of those teams that we can't lose to. We need points. We need to get up in the standings so we can have home ice in the first round."

Wildcats set new marks in dome meet

The Northern Michigan University women's track and field team hosted its lone home meet of the year last Saturday; fast times and new NMU records were produced in the unscored meet.

Danielle St. Onge captured the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.45. NMU had the top four runners in the 200 dash. Stephanie Boyer won the event (26.36) as she was followed by Britnee Balbierz (26.51), Kaylee Laakso (26.52) and St. Onge (27.07).

Boyer (59.61) and Laakso (59.67) were the top two runners to break the tape in the 400 dash. Danielle Stein won the mile with a clocking of 5:18.67. Michele Bisig won the 3,000-meter run with a time of 10:53.03.

Natalie Bertucci set a new NMU record in the prelims with a clocking of 8.52 and won the 55 hurdles with a time of 8.68 in the finals. Leslie Luehmann was second in the hurdles as she had a time of 8.69.

The 4x400 relay of Balbierz, Erin VanEnkevort, St. Onge and Boyer won the event with a time of 4:13.17.

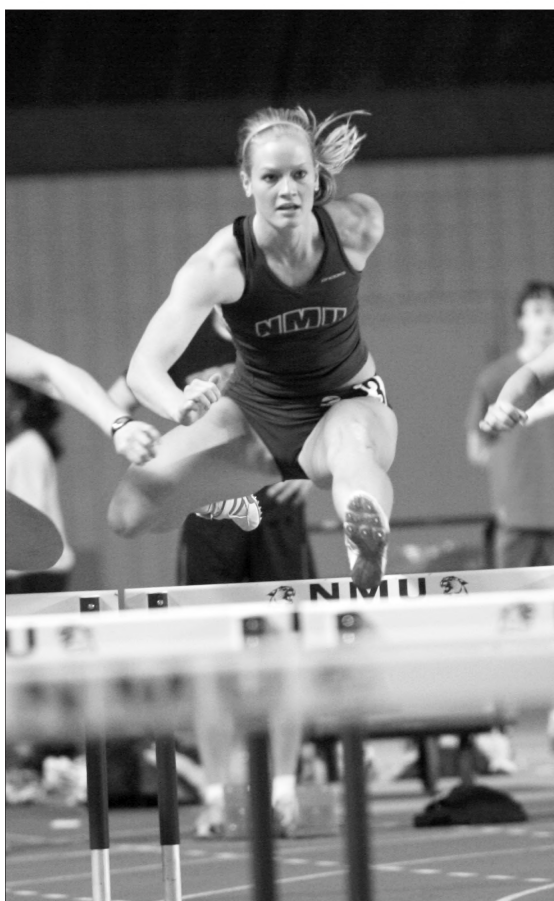
In the field events, Luehmann set a new NMU record in the long jump with a leap of 17-11.75 to win the event. In the pole vault, Karin Diebold and Paris Malin tied the NMU record of 10-00.00.

Luehmann took the long jump (17-11.75) and finished second in the triple jump (34-11.00). Krista Squiers won the weight throw with a throw of 46-03.50.

The team will be back on the track this Saturday (Feb. 16) at the St. Scholastica Invite in Duluth, Minn.

-NMU Sports Information

Spencer Bouchard/NW
Leslie Luehmann (left) competes in the 55-meter hurdles in NMU's lone home track meet of the season on Saturday, Feb. 9. Karin Diebold (top) clears the bar in the pole vault. Diebold's vault of 10 feet tied NMU's school record and was good for third place in the competition. Danielle St. Onge (right) launches herself into the air en route to a distance of 17 feet 4 and a half inches and a third place finish in the long jump.



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TODAY, FEB. 14

Event: Anti-Valentine's Show with Russian Circles will begin at 8 p.m. in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

Event: First Aid Productions will meet from 7-8 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Event: Swing Dance Club will meet from 7-11 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Film: "Eagle vs. Shark" (R) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

FRI., FEB. 15

Event: WUPX will be meeting from Noon-1:30 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Skill Builder: Ethics in Your Organization will be presented from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. This counts toward the Leadership Edge.

Event: Budo Taijitsu will meet from 6-8 p.m. in the Marquette Room of the University Center.

SAT., FEB. 16

Event: Jewish Student Union will be having a Shabbat Dinner from 6-9 p.m. in the Brule Room of the University Center.

Event: The President's Ball will be from 6:30 p.m.-midnight in the Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

Film: "Beowulf" (PG-13) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Film: "Grease" (PG) will show at 11:30 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

SUN., FEB. 17

Event: Homeless Shelter Benefit will be hosted by Phi Sigma Sigma from 1-3 p.m. in the Michigan, Huron and Erie Rooms of the University Center.

WinterFest: Human Sled-Dog Races begin at 2:30 p.m. at the Broomball Field.

Event: NMU Paranormal Research Team will meet from 5-7 p.m. in the Erie Room of the University Center.

Film: "Beowulf" (PG-13) will show at 6:30 p.m. in JXJ

102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

Event: Latin Dance Club will meet from 7-9 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Film: "Beowulf" (PG-13) will show at 9 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

MON., FEB. 18

Skill Builder: D. J. eagle Bear Vana will be speaking from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Whitman Commons Room at Whitman Hall. This counts toward the Leadership Edge.

Event: Steppin' Out Dance Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: NMU Cuong-Nhu Oriental Martial Arts Club will meet from 6:45-9:15 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Event: Snowsport Instructors Group will meet from 8-9 p.m. in the Nicolet Room of the University Center.

TUES., FEB. 19

Event: 2008 Health Fair will be held from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. in the

Great Lakes Rooms of the University Center.

WinterFest: NMU vs. MTU Blood Drive will be from Noon-5:45 p.m. in the University Center.

Event: NMU International Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

WinterFest: Airband Competition will begin at 7 p.m. in JXJ 102.

Event: Campus Free Thought Alliance will meet from 7-9 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

WED., FEB. 20

WinterFest: NMU Discount Ski Day will be from 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. at Marquette Mountain.

Event: Budo Taijitsu will meet from 6-8 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

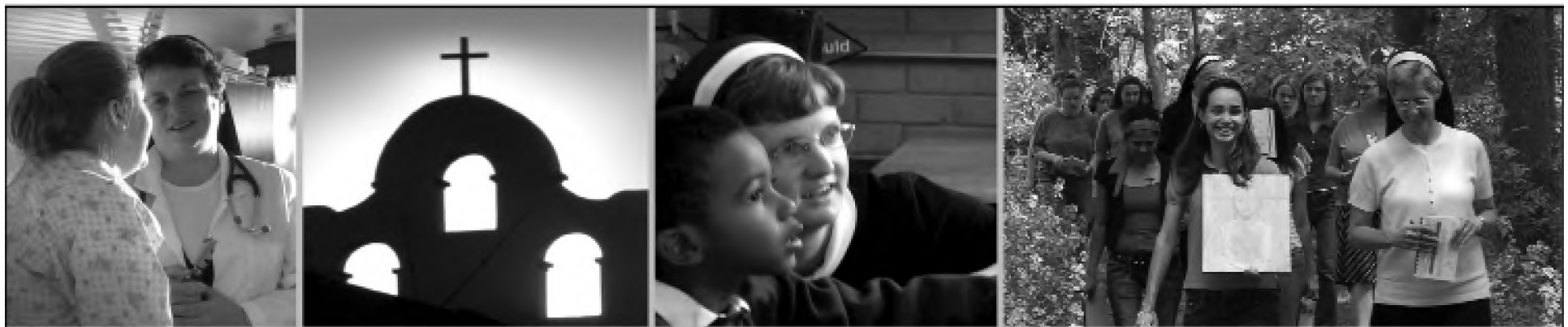
Event: Open Skate will be held from 6-9 p.m. at the Berry Events Center.

Editor's Note: Send your organization's meetings or events to editor@thenorthwind.org or call The North Wind office at 227-2545.



The North Wind is looking for students interested in writing news, sports or features stories. An English major is not required, but the applicant must be able to demonstrate advanced writing skills, as well as a respect for accuracy and deadlines.

This is an opportunity to impact your student newspaper and build clips for your portfolio. Please stop by the North Wind office at 2310 University Center to pick up an application. You can also download your application off of the web at thenorthwind.org/NWapplication.pdf or call 227-2545



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Announcement

It's National Condom Day, so be prepared! Stop by the Health Promotion Office (HPO) 101 University Center, or come to the lower level of the LRC Valentine's Day to get FREE condoms for you or someone you know TODAY!

Sex is cleaner with a packaged wiener Protect yourself and your partner with FREE condoms compliments of the Health Promotion Office (HPO) located in 1201 University Center.

Help

Interviewing for temporary part-time personal care providers. Will train. Start \$8.50/hour. Older gentleman on east side. David, 225-0621.

Shout Outs

Students— It's National Condom Day, so keep it clean and avoid the mess with a FREE condom! The choice is yours from the Health Promotion Office (HPO), 1201 University Center. — **HPO**

Chev — Happy belated Valentine's Day. Let's make this one the last one we don't spend together. Yay! — **ME**

Ash B — I wonder if the hotel will mind if our cots are parked across the street. And like I said, your training will pay off big time. I'm thinking...tequila. — **Love of your life**

Cassandra — I promise you, for real this time, that I'm never raising my hand again. Ever. — **Crushed classmate**

Roomate — Climbing is fun. And I wish I could have been there for Bo's first bath. — **Hot chocolate recipient**

Stark — Here. — **Jam**

Copy Eds — Welcome to the NW. You'll get used to us yelling after awhile. — **Staff**

Students— What kind of cap do you wear? Think about it on National Condom Day because the choice is yours .. and FREE, compliments of the Health Promotions Office (HPO), located in 1201 University Center. — **HPO**

Mom— Thanks for letting me steal your car. — **Daughter**

Momma Reed — I am so happy that Dad and I managed to surprise you. The look on your face...priceless woman! — **Daughter**

Ann Coulter — I'm already mad about you coming here, mostly because people in the office won't shut up about it. — **Exhausted**

Snyder — Thanks for not making me write that. Or, thanks for writing it. — **ME**

Students— Free is good! Get a free condom today, National Condom Day. Compliments of the Health Promotion Office (HPO), 1201 University Center. — **HPO**

Nicole — I'm so excited to see you! Remember to bulletproof your car. It might be a problem, especially with my loud mouth. — **Jamie**

Angela — Hope your first night at the office wasn't too scary. We can definitely be loud sometimes! — **NW Staff**

Wendy — I'm so happy you got adopted! I really am jealous though, I wish I could have taken you home myself! — **Wants a puppy**

Rachel — Have fun at jumps this weekend. I'm so mad I can't go. Make sure to drink lots of beer for me, and maybe wear ugly snowpants and pass out in a snowbank. — **Roommate**

Students — Today is National Condom Day! Want a condom? Need a condom, get one for free at the Health Promotion Office, 201 University Center. — **HPO**

Mom & Dad — Thanks for the birthday package, you're the best. — **Gordon**

Copper Harbor— If I could sell you to Canada, I would — **JDS**

JDS — You make me sad. — **Stark**

Inspirations

- North Wind birthdays
- Office debates
- Jamie's Valentines
- Cupcakes
- Great mugshots
- Road trips to Minneapolis
- Liquor stores across the street
- The snail's girlfriend
- Everything north of the lift bridge
- Chocolate, of course
- New looks



Susan Page



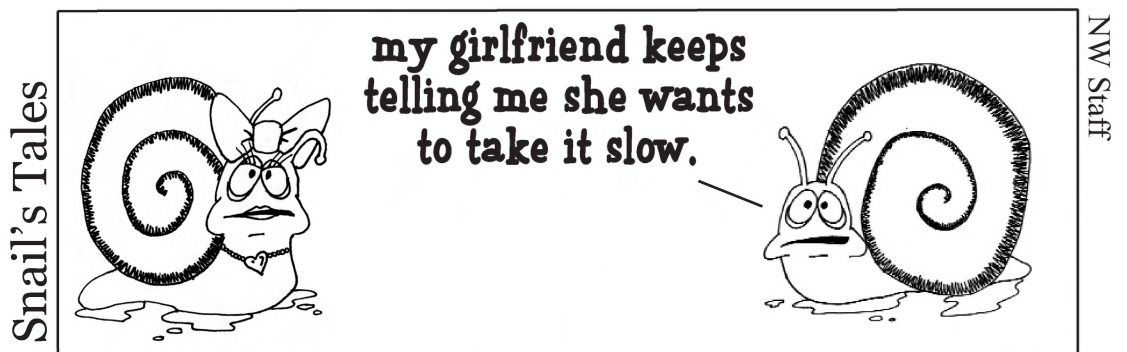
Andrew McCanna



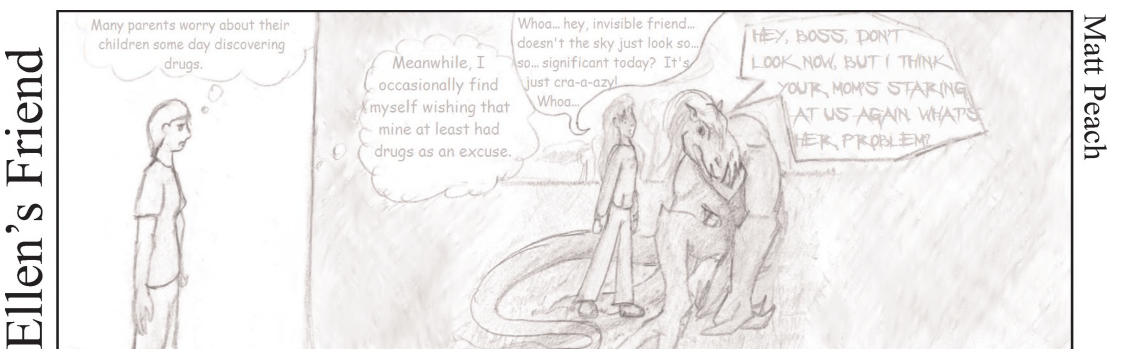
Sean Chevrier



Alex Stevens



NW Staff



Matt Peach

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