



Sled dog races
—page 10 & 11

NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1972

Smoking survey delivers mixed results

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

The smoking survey recently issued online yielded no definite answers from participating students and faculty.

The results of the survey, along with revisions to the Campus Master Plan (CMP) and an increase in funding, were some of the many topics addressed by President Les Wong during his latest university forum.

The forum was held Thursday, Feb. 14 in the commons area of Whitman Hall and was the first held by Wong this year.

The information on the smoking ban was collected in a survey sent out via e-mail to students and faculty. A total of 4,548 people participated in the survey, 3,945 of which were students. Out of those students, 3,781, or 83 percent, were non-smokers. According to the results Wong presented, 54 percent of non-

smokers supported the ban, compared to 4 percent of smokers. Just 28 percent of non-smokers were opposed to the ban, compared to 89 percent of smokers.

Wong said he is creating a panel to discuss enforcement of the current smoking policies and explore possibilities for implementing a ban.

English professor Ray Ventre said he hopes the panel will reach a good compromise with the smoking ban.

“A total ban on smoking would present serious difficulties for individuals in every university constituency,” Ventre said. “We need to find a balance between the rights of smokers and non-smokers.”

Currently, we are so far out of balance that we have a serious problem with the rights of non-smokers. [But] I don't want to see people disenfranchised and made into pariahs.”

At the forum, Wong also spoke on the revised CMP,

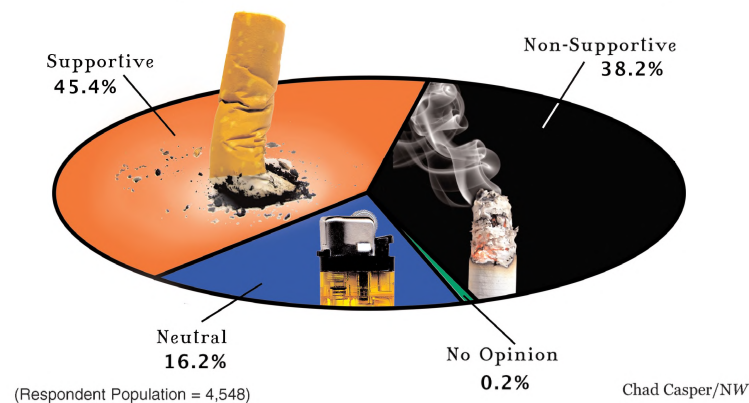
which he called “The Road to 2015.” One of the topics addressed concerned new buildings to be placed in the same location as the current Native Plants Area. The new proposal will allow for both the new buildings and the project to co-exist, Wong said.

Biology professor Ron Sundell, and faculty advisor for the Environmental Science Organization, the student group working on the Native Plants Project, said the compromise will allow them to continue to work on the project.

“It appears our project will go forward and be integrated into the proposed master plan nicely,” Sundell said. “I think the compromise will be beneficial to everyone.”

Wong announced that after listening to student and faculty concerns, administrators made changes to the master plan to accommodate the project. There will be fewer buildings on the

Student Support for Possible NMU Smoking Ban



current natural plants site and the shape of the remaining planned building will be changed, so it will have less of an impact on the site.

“They did a good job of changing the location and shape of the buildings to minimize the impact to the native plant wildflower and grass area,” said Sundell, who added that a decision still hadn't been made concerning the proposed native flora, trees and shrubs area.

Also discussed during the forum was the new co-generation, multi-fuel boiler that will be installed on campus.

The boiler, which would primarily burn wood by-products, would be 20 to 30 percent more efficient and save NMU approximately \$1 million a year in heating costs.

Wong also noted that Northern would be receiving a 2.3 percent increase in funding from the state government this year.



Jeff Kitson/NW

BLUE STUDENTS Vishnuprakash Dhanapal, Dylan Shiver and Emily Westphal represented the on-campus apartments in Tuesday night's Airband Competition in Jamrich. The group was emulating The Blue Man Group. For more information regarding WinterFest activities, reference the campus calendar on page 18.

NMU students protest future Coulter speech

by KYLE WHITNEY
editor in chief

A campus-wide debate sprung up recently after it was announced that conservative author and political pundit Ann Coulter was scheduled to speak at NMU on April 14.

“The No. 1 reason [for bringing Coulter to NMU] is that she is a dynamic speaker and she is someone who commands a lot of attention,” said Kyle Bonini, a senior secondary education history major and president of the NMU College Republicans, the group that is sponsoring Coulter. “You can't get away from her and it's hard to say that she doesn't attract people.”

Bonini said that the group had been talking about bringing a conservative speaker to campus for years and decided semesters ago on Coulter, who is best known for her controversial political opinions. She is a good choice because she is a prominent conservative that people will know, he said.

“A lot of students tend to not really be in tune with what's going on politically,” he added. “We felt we needed a really big name, someone who people recognize that would still fit inside our price

range.”

Bonini's group planned the speech with the help of the Young America's Foundation (YAF), a national conservative non-profit organization that offered the speech at a discounted rate of \$20,000.

You can't get away from [Ann Coulter] and it's hard to say she doesn't attract people.

— Kyle Bonini, president of NMU College Republicans

While the YAF also agreed to pay for Coulter's travel and lodging expenses, the College Republicans still had to pay almost \$3,000 for the use of the Vandament Arena, security and other incidentals in addition to the speaking fee.

The group finally secured the total amount needed—nearly \$23,000—through the Student Finance Committee (SFC) on Feb. 7. There was quite a bit of debate surrounding the Coulter proposal, which passed on a 4-3 vote, said junior pre-law major and SFC member Hobie Webster.

“There was some discussion as to whether or not the type of speech that she probably will be giving was something that we wanted to promote, especially at such a high cost,” he said. “The vast majority of the debate centered on whether or not an event that was that expensive was a wise use of student money.”

Please see **COULTER** on Page 2

COULTER

Continued from Page 1

Before the Coulter approval, the SFC had about \$40,000, said Webster, who voted against the proposal. After approving a selection of proposals at a subsequent meeting, the SFC's remaining budget for the semester is approximately \$13,000. The budget is composed exclusively from the Student Activity Fee, which every NMU student must pay. That is what upsets some Northern students.

Brandon Schlacht, a sophomore philosophy major, disagrees with both Coulter's views and the plan to bring her to campus.

"The biggest thing is that everybody's money is going to it," Schlacht said. "If the College Republicans had raised their own money for her—although I would not agree with her coming simply because I do not agree with her views—I would understand that there is nothing I could do. But this is the Student Finance Committee. It is the money that each student contributes and I think it is unfair to make every student pay for this type of person to come here."

He said he had heard talk of bringing Coulter to campus in the past, but that he was shocked when she got enough support

and money to actually make an appearance.

"My initial reaction was, 'When did this happen and why did this happen?' I felt we weren't asked," Schlacht said. "I felt that this minority that wanted to bring her here was overlooking a broader picture."

Schlacht said that he was also surprised by the support he received after starting a Facebook group entitled "NMU Students AGAINST Ann

appeal in time, said he had hoped his petition would demonstrate the displeasure of a large group of NMU students who disagree with Coulter's appearance.

"I just feel that she is polarizing this nation at a time when we should be trying to unite and show that America can be a strong country," he said.

While Bonini doesn't agree with the critiques of Coulter and believes that she appeals to people of all political ideologies, he understands that her message may be less than popular with some people. Still, Bonini said that Coulter represents an integral aspect of American life.

"She is the best example of free speech in the country," he said. "We live in an amazing society where you can stand up there and say things while half the audience hates you and half the audience cheers for you, and you're allowed to say it."

The controversy does not surprise Bonini, who said that Coulter's appearance has already begun serving its purpose.

"The whole goal of this was to raise a little bit of debate," he said. "I've seen more debate on this campus in the last three days than I've seen in the last three years and I think that is very important. Whether you disagree with Ann Coulter or whether you

Nothing is accomplished by sitting down and shutting up.

— Brandon Schlacht, sophomore philosophy major

Coulter." He and a small group of fellow students attended the Feb. 14 SFC meeting and produced a petition with 438 signatures opposing the committee's decision.

"I figured that if we had a chance to do something, why not?" he said. "Nothing is accomplished by sitting down and shutting up."

According to SFC bylaws, formal appeals must be filed with the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University (ASNMU) within a week of the decision in question.

Schlacht, who did not file an

GH2 tourney held at NMU

First Aid Productions will host a "Guitar Hero" Tournament, featuring "Guitar Hero 2," on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. in room 103 of Jamrich Hall.

The first "Guitar Hero" Tournament will feature a bracket-style competition, with competitors taking each other on head-to-head for one song, with the winner advancing, said Spike Frye, First Aid Production's production manager.

Frye said the group is expecting a large number of participants, so there will be plenty of action. Aside from being a great time for the competitors, the event promises entertainment for the audience as well, he added.

"The audience can expect an intense competition," Frye said. "'Guitar Hero' is an intense game and it is very easy to get

into it emotionally. It's going to be brutal."

The tournament will be broken down into three separate categories based on skill level.

There will be three separate brackets, one each for the medium, hard, and expert skill levels, Frye said. First Aid Productions will present the winner of the expert bracket with a brand new acoustic guitar, and the winners of the hard and medium brackets will receive merchandise and gift cards from local businesses, respectively.

The competition is open to anyone, but spots will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Sign-ups will be held directly prior to the event. Because spots are limited, Frye said he encourages those wishing to compete to show up early.

—Trevor Paulus

agree with Ann Coulter, you're still talking about it. To me, that's very important."

Webster, however, feels that a healthy debate could have been achieved another way.

"I think we could have gotten

the same kind of important dialogue by spending a lot less money," he said. "And by bringing someone who had something academic or intelligent to bring to the table, as opposed to just spewing hatred."

Map Key

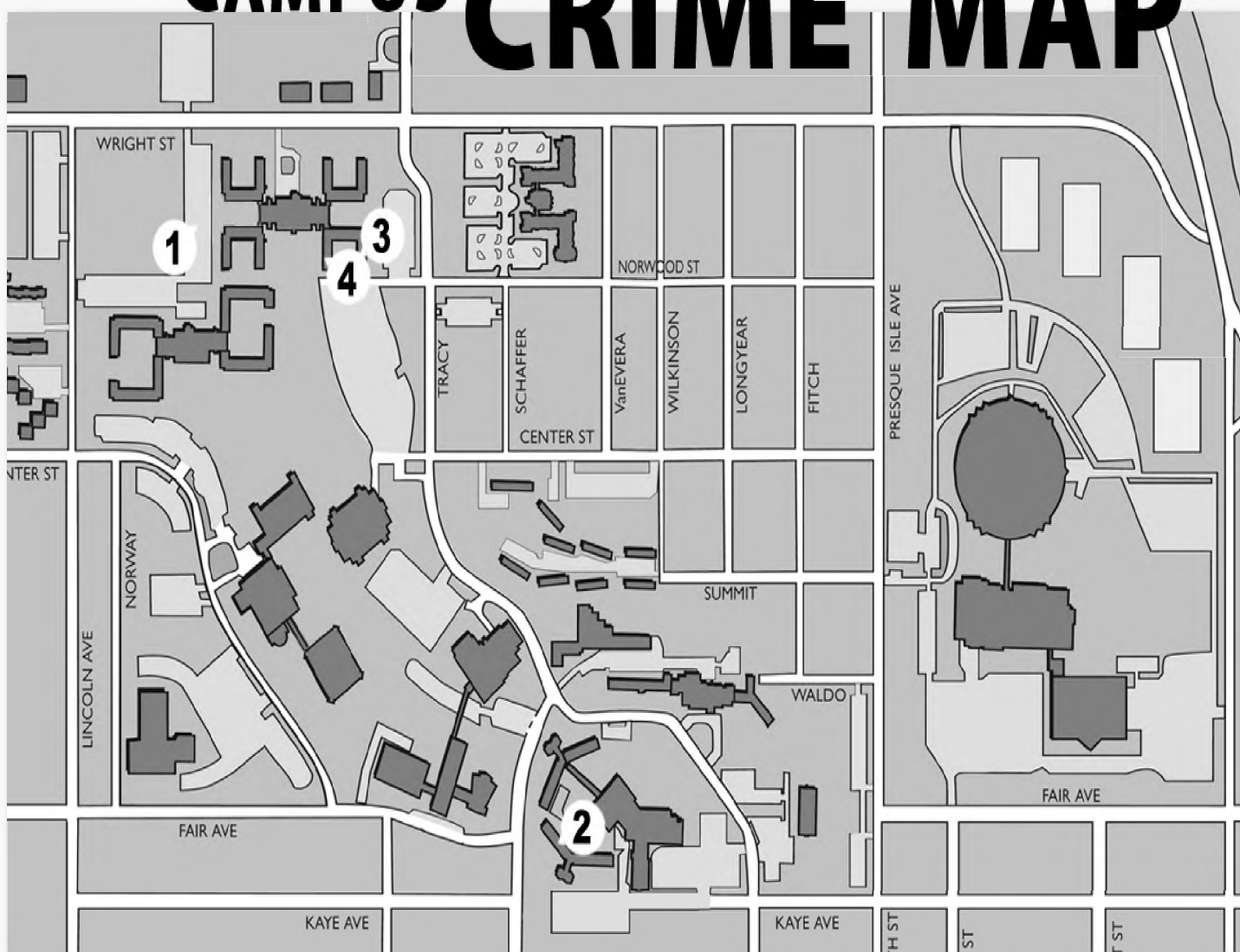
1) On Feb. 8, a minor was found in possession of alcohol in Lot 16. He was referred to the Dean of Students Office.

2) On Feb. 8, a male student was referred to the Dean of Students Office for making harassing phone calls and computer-generated-contacts to another student in West Hall.

3) On Feb. 11, an iPod and camera were stolen from a student's room in Magers Hall. The case is still open.

4) On Feb. 12, DVD's and a digital camera were stolen from a student's room in Magers Hall. The case is still open.

CAMPUS CRIME MAP



BRIEFS

Campus

Summer job fair to be held today

NMU students will be given the opportunity to meet a variety of employers from across the country at the Summer Employment Job Fair in the Great Lakes Rooms on Thursday, Feb. 21 from 1-3:30 p.m. So far, 41 employers have registered to be at the fair, said John Frick, director of Career Services. There will be representatives from on-campus departments, local off-campus organizations and regional companies — all looking to find summer help. “This is the eighth annual Summer Employment Job Fair that we’ve hosted,” Frick said. “It grows every year and will help students find an employment option for the summer.” Students should do four things if they plan to attend the job fair, he added. They should seek information about the employers that will be there, prepare a resume, dress appropriately and plan to talk to all of the employers. Each employer will have a table with displays and applications to hand out; if students have questions, the Career Services staff will be there to help. Frick said that attending the job fair is beneficial for students because they can start to establish a professional network for when they graduate, obtain skills for informal interviews and make money or gain volunteer hours. If students would like help making a resume, they can contact Career Services at 227-2800. To view a list of the employers that will be attending, visit www.nmu.edu/careers.

—Jaci Bjorne

Campus

Students to learn sushi history

The Skill Builder “The Art of Sushi” will be held on Thursday, Feb. 28 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. Robin Rahoi, a registered dietitian, and Pam Phillips, a dining services worker at Temaki and Tea, will host the event. Students will learn the history of sushi and its nutritional attributes. They will also be given a demonstration on rolling sushi, and will even have a chance to sample and participate, Rahoi said. “[Students] shouldn’t be afraid to sample [sushi] because we will have some that will be made with just vegetables,” Rahoi said. “There will also be miso soup and tea sampling.” The Japanese have a lot of culture and put a lot into what they eat, she added. Sushi is very healthy and there are a lot of health benefits from the rice, seaweed, seafood and tofu used in it, Rahoi said. Students will receive a list of all the ingredients made in the sushi as well as nutritional facts and where to go to purchase the ingredients. The event is open to the general public and there is no fee to attend. All materials will be provided. Space is limited so students should sign up soon if they are interested in attending. Call 227-1771 or e-mail slfp@nmu.edu to register.

—Sarah Eberhard

Weird News

Couple celebrates burger wedding

Three couples got the Valentine’s Day wedding they craved on Thursday, marrying at a White Castle in the restaurant chain’s home city. The morning ceremony at the burger joint, which features the slogan “What You Crave,” involved a flower girl who threw salt and pepper packets instead of rice, and employee name tags on the grooms’ lapels. The cake resembled a White Castle tray holding three “slyder” burgers, fries and a drink — all made of cake and frosting. Cyndie Nunamaker of Plain City, Ohio, 17 miles northwest of Columbus, said she and new husband Brian Wilson opted for the alternative wedding because they love White Castle. The nuptials were broadcast live on a local radio station, which paid for the flowers and other arrangements.

—Associated Press

Did You Know?

The Porcupine Mountains have the highest vertical ski drop in the state of Michigan, measuring 641 feet.

—American Profile

Students win awards

Several Northern Michigan University students will be honored March 11 in Grand Rapids after receiving awards from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Every year, the association holds media competitions in radio and televised broadcasting at the high school and collegiate levels. For the past 16 years, NMU students have submitted entries, and competed with college students from around the state at schools such as Central Michigan University and Michigan State.

“At times we’ve swept whole categories of awards,” said Charles Ganzert, a professor in

the communication and performance studies department.

Ganzert added that the competition is a good indicator of where NMU students stand state-wide. Students receiving honors include Katherine Cox, Dan VanderMeuse, Ian McLeod, James Opiekun, Elizabeth Gasperich, Cody Smith, Tyler Czarnopis and Luis Gomez, ranging in year from junior to recently-graduated.

Ganzert collected submissions at the end of the fall 2007 semester. The entries consisted of media pieces such as public service announcements and sports broadcasts, and were judged by professionals in the field.

Winners will receive plaques in an award ceremony, but Ganzert said the awards mean much more.

“It’s a form of recognition for people who have gone beyond the average, and achieved something that’s as good as anybody else in the state or better,” he said.

Ganzert is working to fund the trip downstate for as many of the honored students as possible.

The awards will be presented at the convention. While there, students will have the opportunity to attend a job fair, workshops and meet professionals in the field.

—Joe Ashworth

Native plants to stay grounded on campus

by CLAIRE ABENT
assistant news editor

A compromise has been reached about the fate and location of the Native Plants Area on NMU’s campus.

The current Native Plants Area, located between the New Science Facility and the Learning Resource Center, is a section of campus reserved for education and research about plants native to the Upper Peninsula. It is also an attempt at creating a greener and more sustainable campus, said professor Ronald Sundell, director of the environmental science program.

The Campus Master Plan (CMP), released in the fall 2007 semester, originally placed buildings, including a residence hall, over what is currently the Native Plant Area. Those plans might have required the Native Plants Area to be moved off campus, Sundell said.

After NMU students working with Sundell expressed concerns and produced over 1,000 signatures, NMU administration revised the plan to move the plants to another location on campus, he added.

Another section of the current Native Plants Area has been completely set aside for the project, protecting it from further building developments by the university and ensuring that the plants stay on campus, Sundell said.

This area exists from the retention pond near the current residence halls and the woodlot behind the New Science Facility, Sundell said.

“There was a point there, right after January, where they told us we were going to have to

move it completely off-site. It was a little bit scary. That would not have been good, but it seems like now that the plan, from my understanding, is to go ahead and develop the area, which is good,” he added.

This alternate location was proposed by students and later agreed upon by the Campus Master Plan Committee, said Jim Thams, computer-aided design/geographic information system manager for the NMU planning and engineering department.

“It started almost right after

We should thank President Wong for all the hard work he’s done on this.

— Mike Rotter, senior botany major

we got done in October and we worked with JJR (Johnson, Johnson and Roy Consultants) on a number of options for this area and when we got one that we felt comfortable with ... we sat down with Ron [Sundell] and his group,” Thams said.

Financial assistance will also be offered to help cover any cost associated with moving the Native Plants Area to its new location, said Carl Pace, associate vice president for Business Services and Facilities.

Sundell credits the administration with helping save the project.

“[The members of the administration] have listened to the students, they’ve listened to concerns and to the faculty, and I applaud [them],” he said.

Mike Rotter, senior botany major and member of the Environmental Science

Organization, has been working on the Native Plants Project with Sundell for over a year and was responsible for collecting the signatures.

“[The revised plan is] something that we can work with and we feel that we can still manage to get our end goals of the study area to stay intact. It also allows a lot of room for the administration to get some of their goals for the area done,” said Rotter.

Rotter also cites NMU President Les Wong for helping to save the project.

“We should thank President Wong for all the hard work he’s done on this. He has been really instrumental to keeping the study area on campus. It’s been a pleasure working with him,” Rotter said.

In the proposed area, the project intends to plant various grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees, all of which are native to the Upper Peninsula, said Sundell. It will also contain a wetland that will serve as a groundwater recharge location.

The proposed area behind the New Science Facility, after further development, will also contain benches and trails that will allow all students to enjoy the aesthetic and recreational value of the site, said Sundell.

“We don’t want to be like some of the urban universities that are building after building. Here we have an opportunity to keep this campus in a natural setting,” Sundell said.

After spring break, Sundell and his students will present the Campus Master Plan Committee with a design layout for the area in order to show the committee how they plan to develop the space, Thams said.

MTU death highlights need for slope safety

by CASSANDRA STUROS
associate news editor

An 18-year-old Michigan Tech student died after hitting a tree on Mont Ripley recently, and though Marquette Mountain hasn't seen a death on its hill in 12 years, students still need to practice caution while skiing.

There is an average of 150 skiing accidents a year on Marquette Mountain and most of those could be prevented with safer skiing practices, said Matthew McKellar, a ski patrol member at Marquette Mountain.

Upon arrival at the ski hill, skiers can check daily trail status reports, which indicate runs that are open or closed and information regarding the forecast.

"I try to make it as safe as possible for the skiing public, whether it's using bamboo to mark hazards or ribbons to open or close a hill," McKellar added.

Good preparation before even getting on the hill will help ensure a skier's safety, said Carolyn Venner, a sophomore undeclared major who has been skiing since the fifth grade.

Before she hits the slopes, she makes sure her gear is safe and

that she has everything she needs, including extra layers in case it gets too cold.

Being properly dressed is an important measure to take into consideration when skiing, McKellar said.

"There's no such thing as cold weather, just the wrong clothes," he said.

Venner said it also helps to have the proper equipment.

"Skis have brakes on them to prevent you from just shooting down the hill and taking someone out and helmets obviously are very important to keep your head safe," he added.

The ski patrol at Marquette Mountain strongly encourages helmet use while skiing, though it isn't a rule, McKellar said.

Timothy Lutterman, an alumna of NMU, and avid skier, said that while helmets are an important asset, they are not the most crucial part of staying safe.

"If you make dumb decisions it's not going to help you," Lutterman said. "In the end, equipment can help but it's not what's going to save you."

It is important for skiers to know their limitations; beginners shouldn't be trying the most diffi-

cult hills or skiing into the woods, he said. He advised skiers to go with a partner so that someone is there to help in case of injury.

"Know the rules of the hill; there is etiquette on the ski hill to avoid accidents. It's up to you to avoid the [other skiers], not the other way around," Lutterman said.

Skiers who understand their boundaries can avoid injury, McKellar said.

"The most common reason a person is injured is because he or she is fatigued—also people skiing out of their ability levels," he added.

Another factor that can cause serious injuries while skiing is alcohol, McKellar said.

"Ski smart, just use your head. That encompasses everything from knowing your responsibilities and abilities, to not drinking, getting all tuned up and then crashing," he said.

Venner agrees that using caution is a key ingredient to skiing safe.

"Most accidents happen. [because] people can be too careless or hug a cliff that's way too big," she said. "Make sure you're in control of yourself."

marquette music scene

Thursday, Feb. 21

Northland Pub:
UpFront & Company:

Billy Alberts, 8:30 p.m.
View From Everst, 10 p.m.
Jim & Ray, 8 p.m.

Vango's:

Friday, Feb. 22

Matrixx — Skyboxx:

Hip Hop Show, 10:30 p.m.

Matrixx — Skyboxx:

Stranded, 10:30 p.m.

UpFront & Company:

Natalie Stovall, 10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23

Matrixx — Skyboxx:

Stranded, 10:30 p.m.

UpFront & Company:

Natalie Stovall, 10 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24

Reynolds Recital Hall:

University Choir & Madrigal Singers, 3 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 25

Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery:

Zydecology, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26

Northland Pub:

Chris Valenti, 9 p.m.

UpFront & Company:

Terra Cotta Half Life, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Matrixx — Skyboxx:

Wisecrack, 10:30 p.m.

Reynolds Recital Hall:

NMU Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30 p.m.

UpFront & Company:

Jon Roberts, 10 p.m.

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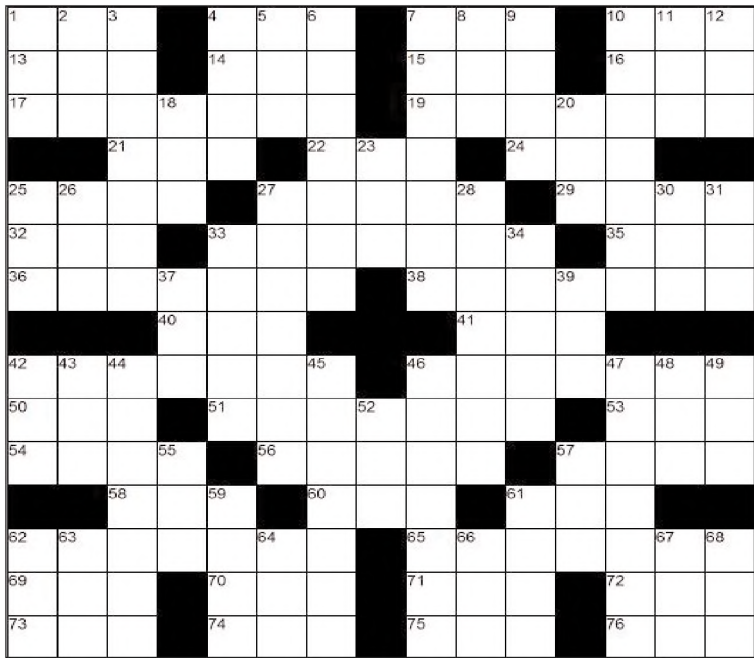
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ACROSS

- 1 Advertisements
- 4 Central Intelligence Agency (abbr.)
- 7 Central processing unit (abbr.)
- 10 Business (abbr.)
- 13 Have
- 14 Cause of sickness
- 15 Rowing tool
- 16 Head motion
- 17 Site of ancient Olympic games
- 19 Pearl makers
- 21 Large number
- 22 TV lawyer Matlock
- 24 Sky
- 25 Tack
- 27 Bear

- 29 Parent groups
- 32 United Parcel Service (abbr.)
- 33 Person
- 35 Frost
- 36 ___ Gandhi
- 38 Olympic flipper
- 40 Hat
- 41 Least amount
- 42 Range
- 46 Healed (2 words.)
- 50 Freudian term
- 51 Mischief-makers
- 53 Still
- 54 Not us
- 56 Sappy
- 57 Marsh grass

- 58 Unpleasant (abbr.)
- 60 Morse code for "E"
- 61 Sibling
- 62 School
- 65 Accompanies
- 69 Facial twitch
- 70 Sticky black substance
- 71 Epoch
- 72 IOU part
- 73 Beg
- 74 Abdominal muscles (abbr.)
- 75 Liberal (abbr.)
- 76 Great!

DOWN

- 1 Gone by
- 2 Pain unit
- 3 Modish
- 4 Captain (abbr.)
- 5 Caesar's three
- 6 U.S. state in South
- 7 Raccoon hunting animal (2 words.)
- 8 Net
- 9 ___ Major (Big Dipper)
- 10 Physics motion tendency
- 11 Neither's partner
- 12 Discs
- 18 After Sun.
- 20 End
- 23 Weathervane direction
- 25 Liquor
- 26 Environmental Protection Agency (abbr.)
- 27 Ancient Italian city
- 28 At present
- 30 American Cancer Society

- 31 Pose
- 33 Elevator alternative
- 34 Gives off
- 37 Air Cushion Vehicle (abbr.)
- 39 Compass point
- 42 Pooch
- 43 Expression
- 44 Male roe deer
- 45 Ponders
- 46 Polite
- 47 Facial hair arch
- 48 Downwind
- 49 Limited (abbr.)
- 52 Thai
- 55 McDonald's "Big ___"
- 57 River (Spanish)
- 59 Information
- 61 Replace a striker
- 62 Estimated time of arrival
- 63 Pluto
- 64 Check
- 66 ___ Lanka
- 67 II
- 68 Quilt

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Editorial

Coulter unwanted at NMU

If word hasn't gotten around by now, Ann Coulter is coming to NMU. After receiving an approval for nearly \$23,000 from the Student Finance Committee (SFC), the NMU College Republicans announced that Coulter, the infamous conservative political pundit, will come to campus for a speech in early April.

The price of Coulter's speech represents about one-third of this semester's SFC budget, which is composed exclusively from the Student Activity Fee. In other words, Coulter is coming to NMU and the student body is picking up the tab.

Coulter is known, among other things, for calling names and hurling vicious insults at anyone she deems fit. Racist, sexist, generally bigoted and reliably self-serving, she is the most recent incarnation of the shock jock, willing to say anything to draw attention and get ratings.

She is so far outside the political norm that it would be almost pointless to attempt to juxtapose her ideas with those of the conservative party. Despite claiming to be a political commentator, Coulter has proven that she is, above all else, an entertainer.

At this point, Coulter's entertainment value should be understood. However, the NMU College Republicans, a student-run political organization, is sponsoring the event. And that sponsorship lends her speech an air of political credibility that it frankly doesn't deserve.

Many people unfamiliar with Coulter may automatically assume that she will be espousing the views of the Republican Party.

However, the majority of Coulter's political views are not widely accepted among even the GOP, and her narrow-minded, vicious opinions and ideas are certainly not representative of that party as a whole.

Clearly, this is a lose-lose situation. Coulter is sure to have a packed house in April; people will attend to hear her say outrageous things, and to become outraged themselves.

Those who belong to the groups Coulter targets—and the list is long—will doubtless be offended. Even thoughtful Republicans in the audience are bound to be embarrassed, at the least. And the College Republicans stand to lose face by bringing such a polemic speaker to campus.

But we, the students, will lose the most. In footing the bill for Coulter, we sacrifice not just our money, but also our respect for diversity and our desire to foster genuine intellectual inquiry.

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Letters to the Editor

Vegetarian/vegan diet something to live by

I wanted to thank Jackie Stark for her article (Feb. 14) on meat from cloned animals. I agree that we should be alarmed about the manipulation of our food; however, there are issues related to meat consumption far more pressing than animal cloning.

In a society where a staggering variety of food products are available nearly everywhere, from farmers' markets to vending machines, and microwaved meals are ready in a minute, we are becoming less connected to the foods we eat and less aware of the enormous impact our food choices have on ourselves and everything around us. Of all the foods we eat, animal products have the greatest effect because they take the largest amount of resources to produce.

There are many reasons for people to reconsider animal products in their diets: health concerns, as most conventionally raised animals are pumped full of hormones and steroids and fed on contaminated grain; environmental concerns, because of the huge amounts of fossil fuel going into meat production and the huge amounts of waste spewing into the soil and water; and animal concerns, considering the absolutely brutal manner in which animals are hastily raised, tortured and killed in order to put chicken or steak on hundreds of millions of plates.

From any angle, it is not difficult to see that the conventional meat industry has run amok. As consumers, we have the power to demand better.

Finally, please allow me to

address Ms. Stark's unfortunate vegetarian ventures.

I would like to reassure everyone that vegetarian and vegan lifestyles are rarely the bleak, deprived state of existence people may make them out to be. Most vegans I know enjoy wide varieties of delicious foods, including many mouthwatering desserts. Ms. Stark, I'm sorry to hear about your grassy vegan cookie. I'd be happy to bake you a better one. Or maybe a cupcake? We could even do vegan ice cream. Honest.

I understand veganism may not be for everyone, but I hope most would agree that a diet of healthy, whole foods from sustainable agricultural practices is one to which we should all subscribe.

*Kyle Bladow
graduate student, literature*

Smoking ban useless

I work in the University Center kitchen and we have a

designated smoking area outside, secluded in a corner behind the generator, which is well away from where any non-smokers walk.

I was just informed that we must now stand 30 feet away from that door because President Wong saw a few of our cooks outside smoking a few days ago.

Standing 30 feet away from that door to smoke puts us right next to/directly in front of the people that the rule about smoking by doorways is designed to protect.

As it is, we're only hurting ourselves when we are smoking at work. But now, because we are forced to follow the letter of the law instead of the spirit of law, we are being told to do something that is so asinine it makes me wonder if we're just being set up to get in trouble and add more support to the smoke-free campus movement.

*James Ribby,
senior, social work*

web poll question

Do you think waterboarding is torture?

- Absolutely. It should never be used no matter what.
- Yes, but sometimes it is necessary to save lives.
- No. Waterboarding is not as bad as it's made out to be.
- No. We should use it whenever we think we can obtain information from it.

web poll results

What is your opinion on cloned meat?

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

Letter Policy

Letters to the Editor must include full name, year, major and a phone number for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words or less. All letters may be edited for grammar and may be cut due to

limited spacing. Letters can be submitted via e-mail to opinion@thenorthwind.org or mailed to Room 2310 University Center, Marquette, MI 49855.

Comments on www.thenorth-

windonline.com are urged to be expanded into letters. Anyone desiring to have a letter printed from a comment on the Web site can contact the opinions editor of The North Wind.

Smokers' rights snuffed

For What It's Worth



by Jackie Stark

Lately, NMU President Les Wong has been pushing for a smoke-free campus. While I commend his effort and his intentions to make Northern a safer, healthier school to attend, I don't believe making the school's campus entirely smoke-free is a good choice.

I am an ex-smoker myself, and while attending Northern significantly contributed to my increasingly bad habit, I became good friends with a fair amount of people over cigarettes. We'd huddle together outside in the blustering snow talking about our classes, the food in the M.P. or our roommates. We regularly bummed each other cigarettes when one of us was tight on cash. My smokers' circle eventually became my good friends.

And though I have since quit smoking, I remain friends with these people today.

An outright campus-wide ban on smoking would certainly cause an uproar among Northern's smokers. I've visited a few campuses and NMU, by far, has the most smokers traveling to and from classes that I have seen. It would be a strange day for me if somewhere between Gries and Jamrich I didn't stumble upon at least one smoker, huddled inside a jacket, puffing away.

And while I agree that second-hand smoke is an unneeded hazard for students who only want to get to class without having any health risks imposed upon them, I don't agree that the solution is to prevent everyone from smoking on campus.

All smokers are required to stand 30 feet from a university

building when smoking. However, it didn't take me very long to realize that this rule was more of a suggestion. Hardly anyone actually stands 30 feet from a building when smoking, unless they are walking to class.

There are two things university officials could do to prevent students from smoking next to buildings: They need to actually enforce the 30-foot rule, and they should build shelters for smokers to use in inclement weather, much like the bus shelters which were added to campus last semester.

If Public Safety handed tickets to anyone smoking within 30 feet of a university building, people would more than likely stop smoking there. If they handed out tickets every time an officer saw a student flick a cigarette butt somewhere other than a garbage or cigarette receptacle, our campus would look much cleaner. Smokers spend a lot of money on their habit and would probably rather spend that \$25 on a carton of Camel's than a ticket from Public Safety.

And if the university can provide shelters for the small number of its students who take the Wildcat Shuttle, it can certainly add a few more on campus for

the much larger number of its students who smoke.

Smokers don't stand next to university buildings for the sole purpose of blowing their smoke straight at innocent bystanders. They stand there because the buildings block the bitter winds that are signature of the U.P. If they had a sheltered place to smoke, they would use it. Like the old adage says, if you build it, they will smoke there.

And even if university officials did none of these things, there is still the issue of a smoker's right to puff away.

Until smoking itself becomes illegal, which will never happen, smokers will need to have a place to get their nicotine fixes. They've already been shunned from restaurants or most other public buildings. "No smoking" signs are hanging everywhere, and when smokers do find a place to light up, it's not uncommon for a complete stranger walking by to tell them they are probably going to die from some sort of cancer.

Taking away a smoker's right to light up on campus is not the solution for the issues that non-smokers raise. It's an extreme reaction to an otherwise manageable problem.



Waterboarding a valuable option

Staff Column



by Carson LeMahieu

Last week, the U.S. Senate voted to ban the CIA's use of 19 interrogation techniques which they deemed too cruel, including the controversial technique of waterboarding. Banning waterboarding is a mistake which will hamper future intelligence efforts and ultimately put lives in danger.

During a waterboarding session, the suspect is placed on a board, his mouth and nose covered with cellophane. The suspect is then turned upside down while water is poured over his face, creating a feeling of drowning.

Waterboarding has received the most attention of these 19 methods (which include using electric shocks, attack dogs, and exposure to sub-zero temperatures) due to controversy over its use against detainees suspected of having upper level ties with Al-Qaeda. Waterboarding is used in lieu of these other dangerous techniques that could permanently injure or kill the suspect. When carried out properly, waterboarding carries very little risk of major injury or death.

Among the three suspects who the United States admits to waterboarding are Khalid Sheik Mohammed and Abu Zubaida, top-level Al-Qaeda operatives who had a central role in the planning of the Sept. 11 attacks. The information given led to the arrest of several key Al-Qaeda figures responsible for plotting future attacks against America.

Waterboarding works. The three people waterboarded by

CIA agents after 9/11 talked, giving the United States valuable information quickly. According to an account by former CIA officer John Kiriakou, Abu Zubaida broke after just 35 seconds of waterboarding, offering up important information regarding the 9/11 plot.

This isn't to say that waterboarding is not a cruel technique; it undoubtedly is. It is a method that should be used by trained CIA investigators in extreme circumstances, where a delay in retrieving information from a detainee could result in an imminent threat to American lives.

It is not a technique that should be used by investigators in military prisons or by the FBI against American citizens, who are protected by their constitutional rights. Nor should confessions obtained by waterboarding be allowed to be used as evidence in legal proceedings.

Waterboarding's only value and use should be in obtaining information from terror suspects when time is short.

Having the option to waterboard suspects in worst case scenarios could be the difference between saving American lives or having them lost to tomorrow's version of 9/11. To rule it out entirely is to allow our enemies to claim victory over us if they can wait out interrogations until after an attack.

The United States must draw a line when it comes to torture. We must make clear to the rest of the world that there are practices we will never resort to. But to suggest that a practice which produces 30 seconds of fear and discomfort is as destructive and awful as if we outright beat prisoners into giving up information is ignorant.

If we are to maintain our national security, we cannot handcuff the CIA by limiting the tools they have when interrogating dangerous detainees.

SOUND OFF

What do you think of Ann Coulter speaking at NMU?

— Compiled by Spencer Bouchard



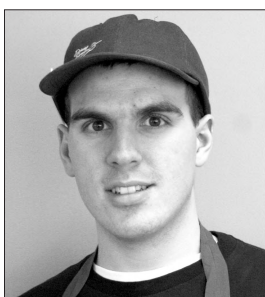
Dennis Quinn
junior, undeclared

"I think it's a good thing. Anyone of popularity who comes to a small school in a remote place is a good thing."



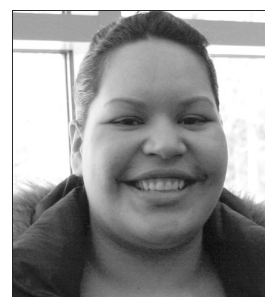
Stefanie Burrington
junior, art and design

"It's not what the student body will attend, and it does not support NMU ideals."



Dan Bechtel
senior, accounting

"I think it is great. I don't totally agree with her views, but for the people that do it is a good thing."



Yolanda Hazen
senior, English

"I hate Ann Coulter. All her being here will do is promote ignorance and hate, and we don't need that."



Derek O'Connell
junior, philosophy

"I don't agree with her, but she is free to speak and I won't stop her."

the Big Green Idea

We Need Your Ideas!

NMU's AQIP Sustainability Committee wants your ideas, from the practical to the fantastical, on how to make NMU greener. The winner will receive

Apple 32 GB iPod Touch (\$500.00 value)

Prepare a one page summary that explains your idea and submit it with any original supporting material you wish to include by

March 24, 2008

This competition is restricted to students enrolled at NMU. Submissions from groups or individuals are welcomed. Any supporting material you wish to include must be original and not infringe on any third-party rights. The winning submission will be selected on the basis of originality, feasibility and potential impact. The winning submission will become the property of NMU.

See The Big Green Idea website for more:

www.nmu.edu/BIGgreenIdea

NORTHERN EXPOSURE

The Forest Roberts Theatre season continues with the hilarious and hearty "The Full Monty"

by ALLI FOX
staff writer

Six men dare to bare it all before an audience in this year's musical, "The Full Monty." However brave or crazy that may seem, the show is not all about the men dropping their drawers.

As well as baring their bodies, the actors also end up baring their souls.

Directed by theater professor Paul Truckey, "The Full Monty" delivers just what the title promises, as well as an unexpected emotional aspect.

Based on the British film of the same name, the musical version of "Monty" takes place in present day Buffalo, N.Y. A recession has hit, and many men have been laid off from their jobs at the local steel mill. Jerry Lukowski (senior Zachary Ziegler), out of work and down on his luck, must get the money to pay child support or face losing joint custody of his son (12-year-old Marty Grey) to his wife (senior Sherry Bollero) and her new boyfriend (senior Mike Rudden).

"[Jerry] is really just trying to regain his son and his dignity," Ziegler said. "Not that he ever really lost (his son) in the first place, but it's more of a respect thing."

"He's also trying to finally be on well enough terms with his ex-wife to have a good relationship with her," he added.

One night, Jerry and his best friend Dave Bukatinsky (junior Travis Moscinski), an ex-steel mill worker with body image issues, are walking home and witness a group of women paying big money to see a male Chippendale stripper at a seedy strip joint. Jerry gets a brilliant idea: Why not do a one night only strip show for some quick cash? That way, he can get the money and show the women what a real man looks like. Thus, the amateur strip act "Hot Metal" is born.

The rest of the show details the antics of their auditions and rehearsals, all leading up to the final strip show. Throughout these processes, Jerry and Dave recruit four others to the act: Malcolm MacGregor (senior John Pann), Ethan Girard (sophomore Brenton Fitzpatrick), Noah "Horse" T. Simmons (Anthony Gibbs) and Harold Nichols (NMU education professor Steve Oates). The men eventually realize their act is so unlikely to succeed that the only way they can attract an audience is to promise to go *The Full Monty*.

It's a simple, yet hilarious and heart-warming story, detailing the trials and tribulations of each man involved in "Hot Metal."

Part of the beauty of the story is watching the six men come together as an act and as friends,

something that the actors agreed had to happen in reality as well.

"One of the best parts was bonding with the other five guys and establishing relationships both on and off stage," Pann said.

Despite the cast growing closer together as rehearsals progressed, there were still some uncomfortable moments because of the nature of the show.

"The most awkward part is the concept of baring it all before the faculty, administrators and students," Oates said. "Paul calls me the bravest professor on campus."

For Pann, just accepting the part of Malcolm MacGregor was a huge challenge.

"I've never really been comfortable," he said. "But once you're up there and naked, it's the most liberating and exhilarating feeling."

Not only are the emotional aspects of the show

appealing but, the visual and technical aspects of the show are stunning as well. The set is elaborate and well-painted, and the lights – from the sleazy-looking neon sign above the strip joint to the larger than life "Full Monty" light box at the end of the show – clearly took a considerable

amount of time to construct.

The sets move on and off the stage smoothly either by being flown or wheeled in and out. Because of this, the show runs without blackouts to keep you in the moment.

"I wanted the show to move seamlessly from one moment to the next," Truckey said. "In New York, everything moves very seamlessly, which is something that doesn't happen very often in college shows. It really helps keep you in the story, which is important."

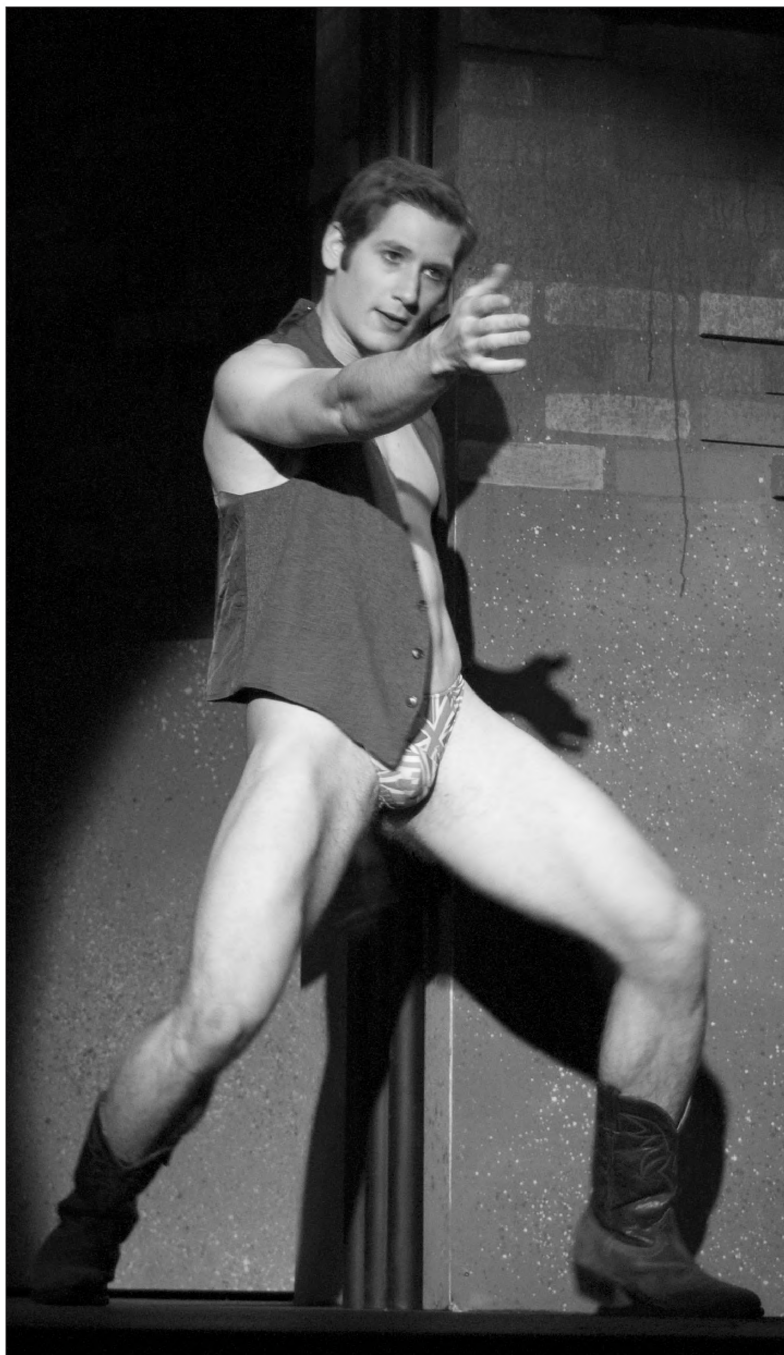
In the end, the show ends up not being just about stripping, but about humanity.

"Overall, the question really isn't 'Will they strip?'" Truckey said. "I think the question is 'Will these six men regain their dignity and respect?' It's about overcoming obstacles, it's about these guys trying to find themselves in the world."

"It's really a declaration. They're saying 'We're going to be OK' ... something seen as awful turns into something really important," he added.

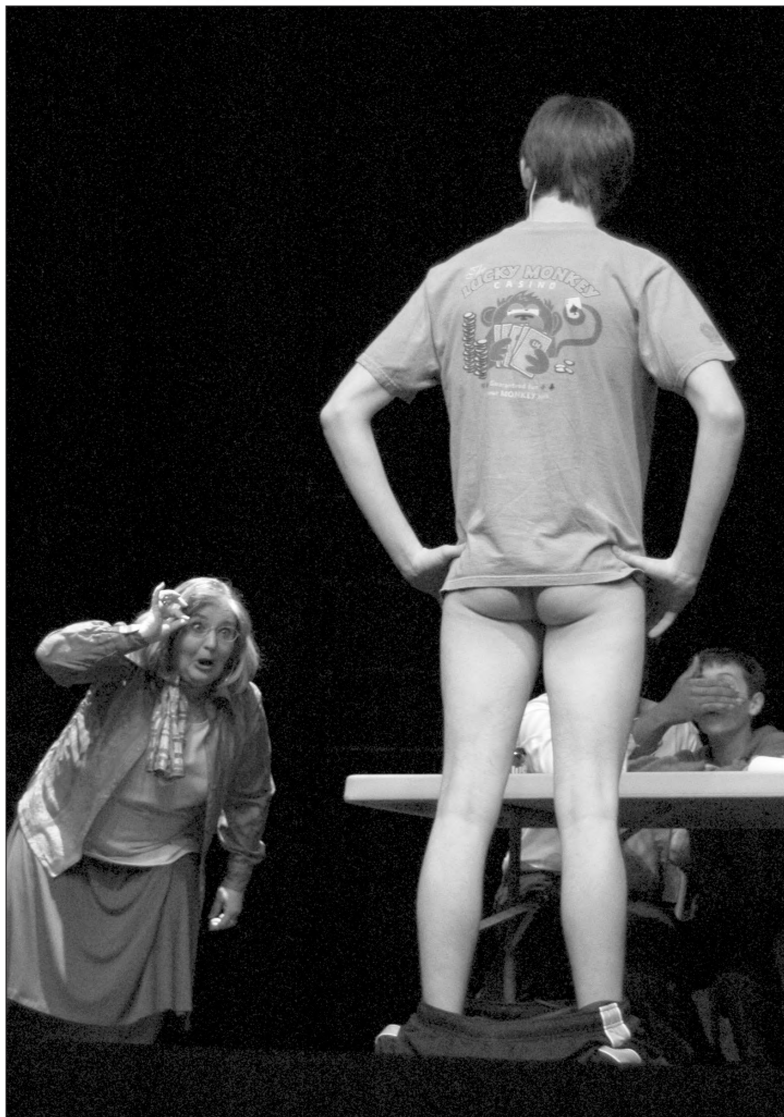
"The Full Monty" runs Feb. 19-23. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. with a 1 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Tickets are \$9 for NMU students and \$13 for non-students.

"Everyone should come and see the show," Truckey said. "Make it a friends night out and then go out afterward. I want this to be like a party in the theater."



Julia Woehrer/NW

Buddy "Keno" Walsh, played by Tony LaMalfa, gives the Forest Roberts crowd a cowboy strip-show at Tuesday's rehearsal.



Julia Woehrer/NW

Actress Julie Williams can't believe her eyes as Ethan Girard, played by Brenton Fitzpatrick, shows everything he has to offer at the audition.

U.P. 200 SLED DOG CHAMPIONSHIP FINISH

U.P. 200 brings athletes from near and far

by KYLE WHITNEY
editor in chief

On Feb. 15, Marquette's Washington Street was transformed into a scene from a Jack London novel as mushers from across the nation converged on the town in hopes of claiming victory in the 19th annual U.P. 200 sled dog race.

Mushers, ex-mushers and fans of the sport are drawn back to Marquette year after year to take some part in the race—an Iditarod qualifier. There are numerous reasons for the race's drawing power, said Pat Torreano, president of the Upper Peninsula Sled Dog Association (UPSDA).

"It's the overwhelming welcoming that they get from this community and the surrounding communities," Torreano said. "This is such a big deal and the Visitors Bureau tells us that it's one of the biggest events of the [year]."

Of course, the mushers also have more practical reasons for running the race.

"It's toward the end of the season and everyone is really wanting to race," said musher Rick Larson. "It's a good distance to test out good dogs on and you can have a lot of fun on it."

Larson, who lives in Sand Coulee, Mont., won the race in 2005 and has twice competed in the Iditarod. He added that the 240-mile U.P. 200 certainly allows a musher and his or her dogs to prepare for larger races, some of which may run 1,200 miles. The Midwestern location of the race also makes only a moderate trek for racers from the Rockies to the East Coast, Larson said.

Another major contributing factor to the success of the U.P. 200, largely considered to be the premiere mid-distance race in the lower 48 states, is in the tireless organization.

"It is one of a kind and it is a very well-organized, well-run race and it does draw a lot of mushers back," said former U.P. 200 racer Rebekah Chapman.

Many of the U.P. 200 mushers have also taken a shot at the Iditarod. Those competitors often notice a similarity between the famed Alaskan start and the one that takes place in downtown Marquette.

"It's amazing. At both of those starts, you can't even hear yourself think," Larson said. "It's what makes dog mushing exciting. This is a very limited spectator sport and when you see 4,000 people out there watching it, that's an amazing feeling."

Stan Passananti, of Ely, Minn., has also taken dog teams into both the Iditarod and the U.P. 200, which he

won in 2001. He said he has always liked the Marquette race, but added that the starts were, in fact, a bit different.

"I did the Iditarod a few years back," Passananti said. "The Iditarod has a great start, but I'll tell you what, I still like the U.P. 200's start better than the Iditarod."

The race has become an annual draw for mushers from across the country, with this year's competitors coming from six U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. As the crowd of mushers grows, the U.P. 200 workers must continue to improve as well.

"We have grown in many respects," Torreano said. "We have more veterinarians involved—we have 14 now. We have a huge network of HAM radio operators—this year there will be 94 HAM radio operators involved in this race and its safety."

All that hard work and dedication doesn't go unnoticed by the local race fans, or by the U.P. 200 racers.

"I think they put in a great year-round effort," Larson said about the UPSDA. "I feel some races are kind of thrown together in three months. To organize a downtown start and all that, they have to have a year-round effort and put in all the effort to make it the great race that it is."

Race gives students volunteer opportunities

by AMANDA LOBSINGER
contributing writer

For one busy February weekend, hundreds of Northern students set aside loaded class and work schedules to volunteer their time to dealing with both the frigid cold and teams of yapping dogs competing in the annual U.P. 200.

"It doesn't matter what I have going on the weekend of the U.P. 200, I will find a way to be involved," said junior secondary education major Cori LaChance, who volunteers at the race each year.

LaChance said the event creates a positive atmosphere in the city unlike anything else that goes on in Marquette.

"The dogs' tails are wagging, people are smiling — volunteers, participants in the race and spectators are all excited for the very same thing. It brings a whole community together," she said.

Like LaChance, many students volunteer for the races

through the NMU Volunteer Center, while others choose to be involved through their student organizations and fraternities. Organizations that help with the races include Theta Kappa Epsilon, Alpha Sigma Phi, the rugby clubs and the soccer teams, among others, said Cori Bodeman, a volunteer coordinator for the U.P. 200 and two shorter associated races, the Midnight Run and the Jackpine 30. Bodeman said Northern students account for about one-third of the volunteers at the three races.

"We couldn't do it without them," she said.

NMU pre-veterinarian and management students have a unique volunteer experience because their classes allow them to be a large part of the race. President of the pre-vet club Leah Schuman said the pre-vet students are the only volunteers who really get to handle the dogs and work side-by-side with the vets throughout the three-day race. Schuman, who has volunteered at the race for three years, said she and club members have earned the nickname 'vetlings' from event veterinarians.

"The vetlings do anything they are told," Schuman said.

Duties range from getting medications to helping with vet checks and restraining the dogs while IVs are given. Schuman said it's exciting to watch the veterinarians work during the race and think that one day she'll be there.

"Plus, the vets do everything out in the cold, and work with cold fingers. It makes everything more exciting because your adrenaline is going," she said.

Schuman said it's easy to sacrifice time out of the weekend in exchange for great hands-on experience. The club members take their own food and drive

the estimated 220 mile round trip from the start of the U.P. 200 in Marquette to the end of the race in Grand Marais, Shuman said.

"We get very little sleep, but it's worth it," she said.

NMU business professor Carol Steinhaus started involving her management students in the race last year so they could learn about how a large event, like the U.P. 200, comes together. It also provides a better understanding of the management team's cohesion needed during the race. This year, 47 students from her two classes are volunteering for the race. Steinhaus said their duties are wide-ranging and include tasks that are to be done before the race as well as during.

Marketing major Mike Angeli has been in Steinhaus' management classes for two years. Angeli said that last year his responsibilities as a management student included crowd control, vehicle parking and, his favorite, getting the teams back on the trail after their rest in Deerton, Mich.

The teams have to be back on the race course in the same order that they took their rest, with the same time difference between each team.

"There is so much going on in the middle of the night, being tired isn't an option," he said. Angeli added that watching the dogs do what they love and feed off each other's energy is what makes the experience so amazing.

"I think everyone should take the time to enjoy this event," he said. "Whether they are volunteering, getting paid or just going to watch the start of the race in downtown Marquette, it's an event that I will always remember and be able to share with my kids someday."

(Photos by Jeff Kitson)





Photos from Rolling Stone, Amazon.com
 Sebastien Lefebvre and his Simple Plan bandmates released their new album on Feb. 12.

Simple Plan "Simple Plan"



★★★★☆

There are two ways to look at Simple Plan's self-titled album. Either they're tired of themselves, or they saw that Good Charlotte changed their style and decided to follow suit.

Whatever it was, it's obvious that the simple pop-punk style that the French Canadians broke into the mainstream with was not working anymore.

The original album cover proposed for "Simple Plan" was the five members of the band standing in the apparent destruction of a city. The artwork could be a symbol for Simple Plan erasing everything and starting anew. That cover was denied publication due to some similarity to 9/11.

The new artwork shows the guys of Simple Plan in black and white, standing in front of a black background, looking serious. The symbolism has changed from starting anew, to just plain growing up. And the band

has done that. "Simple Plan" is full of pop songs, but not like the annoyingly catchy choruses of "Addicted" or "How Could This Happen To Me?" The singer, Pierre Bouvier, grew his hair out to cover his eyes, and with it comes a more acceptable emo sound for the latter half of this decade.

The album features electronics, witty lyrics and choruses that aren't anything exceptional but nonetheless will get stuck in listener's heads. These are all staples of the recent emo trend that Simple Plan just was not getting right with their last album.

In many ways, "Simple Plan" is better than their previous albums. Still, if they had written an album similar to their first two, they would be standing out among the emo and pop punk scene, but now they've just released another album that has been done a dozen times before by similar bands.

For fans of: American Hi-Fi, Good Charlotte or Jimmy Eat World

— Radio X staff



Radio X's top weekly album plays:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. I/O/I
"I/O/I" | 6. The Beggars
"Party to the People" |
| 2. The Raveonettes
"White Chalk" | 7. Impaled
"Winds of Plague" |
| 3. Two Gallants
"Two Gallants" | 8. Caspa & Rusko
"Fabriclive.37" |
| 4. Vampire Weekend
"Vampire Weekend" | 9. Protest the Hero
"Fortress" |
| 5. Aleph-1
"Aleph-1" | 10. Nada Surf
"Lucky" |

This week's top RUCKUS downloads at NMU:

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

Steve Smith "This Town"



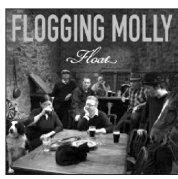
★★★★★

Steve Smith is the singer of the now defunct group Dirty Vegas, which saw some success in the past decade. "This Town," Smith's new solo disc, is written in typical singer/songwriter format, but it is absolutely stunning. This guy has a great voice, and has made some fantastic music to go along with it.

Don't let Smith's extremely generic name deter you, this is absolutely worth enjoying. All of the album's acoustic guitars are played by Smith, but he has some help with the electric instruments and drums which make it a complete rock album. Track 12 is an acoustic version of Dirty Vegas' well-known "Days Go By," and it sounds better and even more natural here than it does on the dance floor.

For fans of: Magnetic Fields, Vampire Weekend or Daughtry

Flogging Molly "Float"



★★★★★

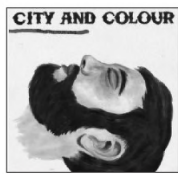
Flogging Molly has one of the most interesting sounds in all of punk music. Their music belongs in pubs in Ireland, with their Celtic-folk-punk mixture.

Flogging Molly is a seven-piece band from Los Angeles, and their lengthy lineup includes accordion, bagpipe, mandolin and fiddle players, as well as standard rock instruments. The vocals are raspy and dry, like any run-of-the-mill hardcore punk band, but Flogging Molly is in an entirely different league because of its strange style.

For those who are already fans of the band, "Float" sounds like a much more complete album than its previous works, and it has an even more enjoyable sound than "Within A Mile Of Home" did. Expect to see "Float" reach higher on the Billboard 200 than the last

album's peak at 20.
For fans of: Dropkick Murphys, Real McKenzies or The Pogues

City and Color "Bring Me Your Love"



★★★★☆

City and Colour is the side-project of Alexisonfire guitarist Dallas Green.

Green wrote all the songs, sings them and plays guitar. He has help from some friends on drums and backup vocals on a few tracks to make the songs more than just a simple acoustic-folk album. The songs on "Bring Me Your Love" are folky, but at the same time poppy enough to appeal to most emo fans. The songs are very emotional, and the album as a whole is very beautiful. It doesn't hurt that Dallas Green has a great voice.

For fans of: Iron & Wine, Elliot Smith or Spill Canvas

Darla Farmer "Rewiring the Electric Forest"



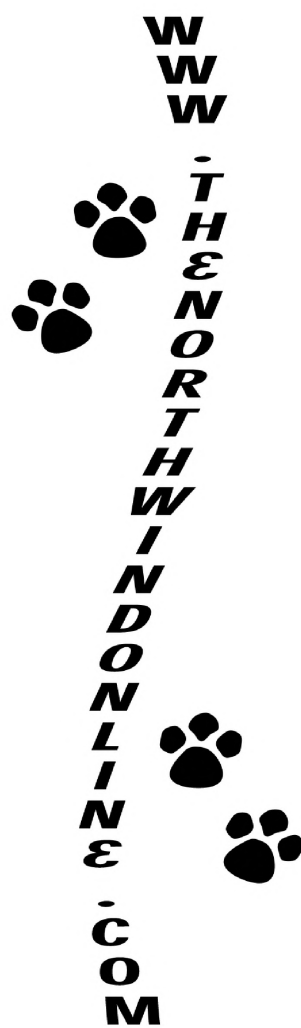
★★★★★

"Rewiring the Electric Forest" is very strange. Darla

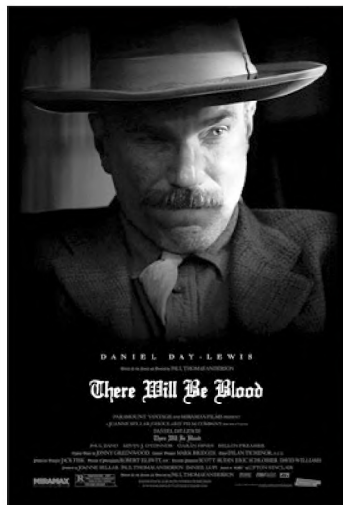
Farmer is not the name of a singer, but the name of the band whose male singer has a voice somewhere in between a tenor and an alto. The music includes piano and brass instruments and is performed in a way that might come off as confusing. Being so strange makes it all the more interesting. The emphasis isn't so much on vocals, but the words do come screaming out at you, sometimes grabbing you with their strangeness. Whatever this album is called, it's definitely worth a listen for indie rock fans who are getting bored with the overall blandness of the genre.

For fans of: Pistolita, Cursive or Blood Brothers

— Reviews courtesy of Radio X staff



There will be Oscars for drama 'Blood'



★★★★★

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

Each year, there are few Hollywood films that I would consider high art. Films that are both highly engaging and visually stimulating are rarities. More often than not, attempts at such films result in colossal failures — reminders that it takes a truly talented artist to captivate and move an audience simply by pointing and shooting a camera. If we're lucky, a given year will have one film that fits this category. 2007 saw the release of such a film in "No Country for Old Men." However, thanks to writer and director Paul Thomas Anderson ("Magnolia"), we have a second magnificent film in "There Will Be Blood."

"Blood" opens in 1898, with Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day-Lewis) mining for

gold in California. He finds oil instead and starts his own drilling company. Years later, he receives a tip from a young man about an untapped oil field in a town called Little Boston. He goes to the town where he meets the Sunday family, whose land the oil is on and meets Eli Sunday (Paul Dano), a young man with dreams of being a preacher at his own church. Plainview buys the land and begins drilling, while Eli builds his church. However, both men desire wealth and influence over the town and a battle ensues between the oil tycoon and the young preacher, one that will consume their lives.

There's a lot of talk going into the Oscars of Lewis winning Best Actor, and it's clear why. Plainview is an evil, calculated individual, made believable by Lewis's rich, charismatic performance. He brings Plainview to life better than most actors could ever dream of doing. If Lewis doesn't win the award, it would be one of the biggest injustices in Oscar history.

But it's not just Lewis who puts in an amazing performance. Dano's portrayal of Sunday is mesmerizing. You can feel his conviction as he delivers his sermons, sometimes to startling effect. It's safe to say that Dano has put himself on the map.

There are many themes in "Blood" and each one is explored intensely throughout the near three-hour runtime. Anderson has crafted a story that looks at how greed affects people and why they are willing to take these drastic steps to achieve what they desire. The lengths that Plainview and Sunday are willing to go to not only one-up each other, but obtain what they want is

a chilling reminder of how blind we can be in our pursuits.

Not content to stick with just one aspect of the human condition, Anderson looks at the bonds of family and how religion impacts lives. These themes are more subtle, but still have an influence over the characters. What's so great about these additional layers is that Anderson doesn't hold the viewer's hand. It's a perfect balance that allows the audience to get engaged with the film but doesn't distract from the story.

What allows "Blood" to stand out above the crowd is Anderson's unique style of narration. The story is constructed in a manner where you see only what

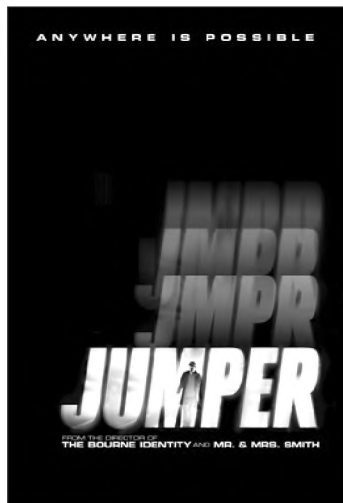
Anderson feels is important, but what he feels is important may not readily seem so. Because of this, Anderson spends little time setting up the story. If most directors would have done this I would have trashed their film. However, I can offer nothing but praise for Anderson. He has proven himself to be one of those rare directors who can break all the rules and make his film work better than a conventional one.

There are few films I would recommend as highly as "There Will Be Blood." Anderson's latest is an engrossing film that you do not want to miss. It's one film I will definitely purchase the minute it arrives on DVD to enjoy countless more times.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies
Oscar-hopeful Daniel Day-Lewis stars as Daniel Plainview in Paul Thomas Anderson's "There Will Be Blood." The film is nominated for eight academy awards including Best Picture.

Action gives little boost to 'Jumper'



★★★★☆

by JOSH SNYDER
staff writer

It's February, that wondrous time of year when movie studios release films that sounded like great ideas, but turned out to be just that — a great idea and nothing more. "Jumper," the latest from director Doug Liman ("Mr. and Mrs. Smith") is such a film. "Jumper" has a great premise but succumbs to being just another February release no one will remember.

David Rice (Hayden Christensen) is a jumper, someone who can create small portals to take him anywhere in the world he wants to go. After a tragic childhood accident, Rice learns he has this unique ability. He leaves his hometown and lives a life of luxury in New York. After a day spent in Egypt and London, he encounters Roland (Samuel L. Jackson), who is a member of

the Paladins, a religious group bent on killing all jumpers. Rice flees for his life, and in doing so becomes the central target in a war that has been waged for hundreds of years.

The film brings two words to mind: wasted potential. "Jumper" could have easily been the next "Matrix." The sci-fi elements are there, as are their consequences and moral implications. The premise of jumping would allow anyone with a marginal amount of imagination to create some very memorable action sequences. Even the religious themes and symbolisms are there. But for mind-boggling reasons, Liman decided to ignore all of these possibilities, focusing on mindless action and nothing else.

Liman's devotion to explosions and fist-fights winds up ruining the story. There are so many plot holes that it makes me wonder how conscious studio executives are when screening films. Nothing about the story makes any sense, especially characters' motivations. Why Roland and his crew want to kill the jumpers is never explained. The closest the movie comes to an explanation is a line that Jackson recites not only multiple times in the movie, but in the trailer as well: "Only God should have the power to be in all places at all times."

There are many obvious questions that are never addressed in the film. Why jumpers stay and fight when attacked instead of jumping halfway around the world is one of many things I asked myself. It would make sense if they were armed and ready to fight, but plenty of times they are caught off guard and not prepared. The

power that Roland and his army have is never explained. They can infiltrate any government agency at any time, but where this influence comes from is never addressed. These plot holes are so distracting that they take away any enjoyment from the film, leaving a film devoid of any emotion or meaning.

The one thing "Jumper" proves is that Christensen cannot act. He nearly ruined the "Star Wars" prequels and his lack of talent helps to destroy "Jumper."

Bad acting is one thing — annoying characters are another. Rice is perhaps the cockiest, most ignorant jerk I've seen, and he's the film's hero. He makes stupid decisions

around every corner and doesn't understand anything about the war he's involved in.

Perhaps the most aggravating part of "Jumper" is the action sequences are actually really cool. It would have been easier to write this movie off if everything in it was bad, but the fact that Liman shows us a glimpse of just how awesome this movie could have been is frustrating to say the least.

I thought for a moment that the curse of February was over, that for once there would be a good film released in this cold, depressing month. But "Jumper" ends up being just another film that will be on the shelf in Blockbuster in a few months.



Photos from Yahoo! Movies
Hayden Christensen proves in Doug Liman's "Jumper" that the poor acting he showcased as Anakin Skywalker in the "Star Wars" prequels was not a fluke.

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Skiers glide through Regionals, now on the trail to Nationals



by GORDON BEEDLE
associate sports editor

Last season, the NMU ski team had a significant finish in the NCAA National Tournament. The Wildcat women swept the podium in both the classic and freestyle races.

This season the Wildcats have 10 skiers who qualified for the race, five men and five women, and NMU head coach Sten Fjeldheim stressed that this is a new group of skiers, with a new chance at history.

"Last year, that was history and that's done," Fjeldheim said. "I think if the girls ski like they can, I wouldn't be surprised if they can get three in the top 10 and the same thing with the men. But if everything has got to happen right and they have got to ski like they know they can ski."

Women

The women proved they knew how to ski for success as Laura DeWitt of NMU (32:46) beat teammate Morgan Smyth by 1.7 seconds to take the crown in the Central Regional classic race over the weekend. The 'Cats won the competition with a final score of 166.

The freestyle race proved successful for the Wildcats as well, as Smyth edged a second place

finish and teammates DeWitt and Maria Stuber earned fourth and fifth.

"It's pretty big, definitely," DeWitt said. "We got a lot of momentum and we're racing strong and everyone is healthy."

Men

In the men's classic race Phil Violett out-sprinted the undefeated Marius Korthauers of Alaska Fairbanks University (UAF) to bring home the top spot. While NMU's Banerud, Kaeding and Bill Bowler placed in the next three spots. The Wildcats won the men's regional team title, beating out UAF by six points.

"You can't complain with a win and it definitely builds your confidence, especially over [Korthauer], I've only beat him once," Violett said.

For the freestyle race, Martin Banerud was third at 28:39 and Bowler placed sixth, en route to a second place overall finish for the Wildcats. UAF took the title, by a score of 79-78.

"It's definitely solid and we're looking strong for nationals," Violett added.

Nationals

The National race is held in Bozeman, Mont., March 3-8. Coach Fjeldheim said his team has recently been making final

Please see SKI on Page 16

Northern basketball travels to Houghton

Women

The women's basketball team continued its trend of losing close games in the final seconds Wednesday night, as they fell to Michigan Tech 54-52.

The game was tied by a Steffani Stoeger layup with 1:19 left in the game.

The Huskies then set up Lena Widman for an open jumper to give Tech a two-point lead.

With four seconds left NMU inbounded the ball to Allison Carroll. A foul was called on Widman as Carroll put up a three-point shot that clanked off the back of the rim.

Carroll, a 75-percent free-throw shooter, needed to make two of the three free throws to give the 'Cats the tie; all three for the win. Her first two shots hit the rim and bounced out and the 'Cats lost their eighth one possession game of the year.

Carroll, LaShawn Lambert, and Kellie Rietveld each scored 10 points to lead the Wildcats. Kelsey Deacon grabbed a game high seven rebounds as the 'Cats outrebounded the Huskies 42-31.

Men

A weathered NMU men's basketball team came into Tech's SDC Arena and led for the majority of the game; in the end their valiant effort wasn't enough as the Huskies wore the 'Cats down and took the game by a score of 48-46.

The Wildcats at one point built a 12-point lead.

Then, the game's momentum swung to Tech early in the second half when NMU sophomore Jerard Ajami, who scored 13 first half points, went to the floor with an injured left ankle.

Northern was led by senior Jake Suardini who scored 18 points. Despite leaving the game five minutes into the second half, Ajami finished the game with 13.

NMU outshot the Huskies 47.5 percent to 24.5 percent, and were out-rebounded 42 to 22. Fredrick Bowe grabbed a game high 15 rebounds for Tech.

With the loss NMU falls to 7-19 overall and 6-11 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC). The Huskies improve to 13-12 overall and 8-9 in the GLIAC. Northern needs to win on Saturday against Lake State to win a spot in the GLIAC playoffs.

— Carson LeMahieu

Hockey splits with Buckeyes

by KYLE WHITNEY
editor in chief

On Saturday night in Columbus, the NMU Wildcats were tied late in the game with the Ohio State Buckeyes, moments away from extending their unbeaten streak to six games.

Then, with just one second remaining in regulation, Buckeye forward Tommy Goebel's shot slipped past sophomore netminder Brian Stewart and, essentially, gave Ohio State the 3-2 victory.

Prior to Saturday's last-second loss, the 'Cats (13-16-3 overall, 10-12-2 Central Collegiate Hockey Association) downed the Buckeyes (10-21-3, 6-16-2 CCHA) on Friday night by a score of 2-0.

"We let down at the end," freshman Wildcat forward Jared Brown said about the loss. "It would've been nice to get [two wins], but we just didn't get the job done at the end."

NMU head coach Walt Kyle

said that a couple of the Wildcat skaters thought an icing call was coming on Saturday's final play and they had quit by the time the puck was knocked in.

"Like I told our guys, it's a bad way to learn a good lesson," he said. "You play to the end of that shift. It's not your job to call icings. It's not your job to worry about it."

Despite allowing three goals on Saturday night, Stewart stopped 75 of 78 Buckeye shots on the weekend and was named the CCHA Goaltender of the Week for the second-straight week. In the past four games, Stewart has allowed four goals on 134 shots for a .970 save percentage.

After the split in Columbus, the Wildcats have now won six of the last seven regular season games and will turn their attention to the road ahead. With four games remaining in the season, the 'Cats need to worry about playoff positioning and are currently playing for the chance to

host a home series in the first round of the upcoming CCHA Playoffs.

"Our goal is to get home ice," Brown said. "We're not quite there yet, but we want to get

home ice. It's better to play at the Berry than it is to travel."

When the playoffs start in two weeks, the top four teams in the CCHA will get first-round byes.

Please see HOCKEY on Page 17



Spencer Bouchard/NW
Erik Gustaffson attempts to block a shot before it reaches sophomore goalie Brian Stewart during the Michigan State series at home.

NMU women split in dramatic fashion

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

The NMU women's basketball team got a much-needed win, Saturday, and narrowly missed picking up another one last Thursday as they beat Saginaw Valley, and lost in overtime to Northwood.

Northwood

On Thursday, the 'Cats jumped out to an early lead and spent the rest of the game trying to hold off Northwood in a back-and-forth battle. Northwood took the lead with just over 10 minutes left in the second half, but never led by more than five points.

Northwood clung to a three-point lead as the final seconds ticked off the clock. Northern ran a play to junior guard Kelsey Deacon who pulled up and shot a long three. The shot hit nothing but net.

"We set up the play on the timeout and I ran it and just shot the ball and it went in," Deacon said.

"She deserved to make that shot," head coach Troy Mattson added.

In the overtime period the 'Cats battled back and forth with Northwood, neither team gaining more than a two point lead. As the clock waned in the overtime period, the Wildcats once again found themselves down by a single possession.

The team passed the ball inside to senior forward Allison Carroll who couldn't put the ball through the hoop. The scoreboard hanging above the Berry Events Center read 70-71. NMU had lost another single possession game, the seventh one of the year.

This was the third of the last four games against Northwood that went into overtime; NMU has lost every overtime game against them.

"I thought we played a real

fine game. We got control on the offensive side of the ball, got people the ball when they needed. It was real encouraging," Mattson said. "It was a good basketball game and a good basketball team won."

Carroll led the 'Cats in scoring with 18 points, 14 of which came in the second half and overtime. Deacon and sophomore Angie Leckson scored in double digits, as well with 14 and 11 points. Carroll also added nine rebounds in the game.

With the exception of the clutch three at the end of regulation, the Wildcats were once again cold from beyond the arc — shooting only 22 percent for the game.

SVSU

On Saturday the Wildcats battled the Saginaw Valley Cardinals for fifth place in the GLIAC North Division. SVSU held a one game lead over the 'Cats entering Saturday's game. When the two teams met earlier in the year Northern picked up a 47-39 victory.

Saturday's game was a higher scoring affair as the 'Cats picked up another victory, 79-68.

"We played smart enough and took care of the basketball and gave ourselves chances to score," Mattson said. "It was a good game, I don't think it was our best of the year, but it was a win and we needed a win."

The 'Cats were led by emerging freshman star Steffani Stoeger who scored a career high 27 points against the Cardinals. She also added a game high eight rebounds.

Stoeger did most of her damage from the free throw line as she made 14 of the 16 free throws she attempted. Her 14 free throws are the third most of any player in the GLIAC. The team attempted a total of 30 free throws.

"It's exciting to finally get a

win; it feels great," Carroll said. "We played well, Kellie (Reitveld) and Steff made some huge shots to carry us."

Allison Carroll and Angie Leckson both scored in double figures for the 'Cats with 15 and 13 points.

Carroll has now scored in double figures in 21 of the 'Cats 25 games. Freshman Kellie Reitveld picked up eight points coming off the bench, including two important threes late in the game to secure NMU's lead.

Northern appeared to correct its shooting problems from behind the three-point arc as the team shot 33 percent. The 'Cats shot 44 percent from the field in the game.

Veterans

This Saturday the 'Cats return home to face Lake Superior State in their final game of the year. This game will be the final collegiate game for LaShawn Lambert and Carroll.

"Allison Carroll is wrapping up an incredible four year career here," Mattson said. "The wins might not have been there during her four years, but her individual statistics show her success."

Carroll is the leading scorer and rebounder for the 'Cats, averaging 14.9 points and 5.7 rebounds in her final season with the Wildcats.

Lambert, a junior college transfer, has spent her time at NMU as a key player off the bench. This season she is averaging 4.5 points and 3.5 rebounds as one of the first Wildcats to come off the bench in most games.

"LaShawn Lambert came here from a community college in Ohio and she will be graduating in May; I'm real proud of that," Mattson said. "She's had some big games here."

Saturday's game against LSSU begins at 11 a.m. in the Berry Events Center.

finish]," Violet said.

Even though most of their training is complete, the Wildcats still need the desire to win, in order to place high in Nationals.

"This is where you start seeing years of training and the work in the summer starting to pay off," DeWitt said. "You got to want it and we want it bad."

Fjeldheim said even though the team wants a victory badly, he is still reminding them to stay focused because skiers at the national level have been training just as hard and are just as prepared.

"There's a lot of strategy going on," he said. "And the cooler heads will prevail."

The Wildcats will leave for the event on Thursday, Feb. 21.

They will stay and train in Montana until the races begin on March 3.

Fjeldheim and the 'Cats will be looking to make history once again.

"They're just working hard and looking really good," Fjeldheim said. "We are just real close to where we want to be."



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Kelsey Deacon made a last second shot against Northwood to force OT.



Spencer Bouchard/NW

Freshman guard Hillary Bowling defends a Findlay player along the perimeter during a recent game at the Berry Events Center.

SKI

Continued from Page 15

adjustments in order to ski more polished at the higher altitude. He said, in the thinner air, the athletes can't ski as hard as possible at all times, because it is harder to regain oxygen.

"Racing in altitude is definitely a huge challenge," Fjeldheim said.

Despite this constant difficulty looming over the heads of the skiers, NMU's head coach still predicts the best out of them.

"I expect them to handle it like they do every race, and just not go into it like it's the national championships," he said. "They need to focus on the task and just ski the race."

For the 'Cats, this is the last scheduled race of the 2008 season and is the last race for the seniors. Some of the athletes have been training their whole collegiate career for this opportunity.

"Right now, it is like you have done all of your training in the summer and worked hard all year, so you just ride the wave and hope you get [a top

NMU competes at St. Scholastica in preparation for GLIAC indoor meet

by CARSON LEMAHIEU
assistant sports editor

Leslie Luehmann and Natalie Bertucci performed well for the Wildcats, as the NMU track team got one last chance to compete before the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Indoor Championships.

The NMU women's track team competed in the Lake Superior Challenge, an unscored meet, at St. Scholastica College on Saturday, Feb. 16 in Duluth, Minn.

"It went really well. It was a big meet so there was a lot of competition, a lot of different competition, too," NMU head coach Tom Barnes said. "We're getting ready for the GLIAC, so we didn't expect to get our best times this weekend, but we did get really good times and we're going to work hard this week and rest up next week to be ready."

The 'Cats were led in the meet by juniors Bertucci and Luehmann. Luehmann placed first in the long jump and third in the 55-meter hurdles. Bertucci won the 55-meter hurdles and finished third in the high jump.

This is the first meet this season where Bertucci did not break or tie an NMU record in the 55-meter hurdles.

Also finishing in the top three for the Wildcats were senior Danielle St. Onge, who finished third in the 55-meter dash, senior Kaylee Laakso (second in the 200-meter dash) and freshman Michele Bisig (second in the 5,000-meter run).

The Wildcats will be off this weekend as they look to get rested for the GLIAC Indoor Championships March 1-2. The team will be trying to improve on last season's seventh place overall finish in the GLIAC indoor competition.

"I think, realistically, we can get fifth or sixth place. We have a really good confer-

ence, which is great; there are a lot of teams (in the GLIAC) ranked in the top 25 right now," Barnes said. "If we are able to get a fifth or sixth, we will have beaten one or two of the top 25 teams."

GLIAC teams ranked in the top 25 of the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association include Ashland (No.1), Grand Valley (No. 2), Hillsdale (No. 3), Findlay (No. 4), Ferris State (No. 21) and Saginaw Valley (no. 23). The six teams that are currently ranked in the nation are the teams which finished ahead of the 'Cats in last season's conference meet.

Barnes said he expects several NMU athletes to place in the conference meet. Luehmann is ranked second in the triple jump, fourth in the long jump, and fifth in the high jump in the current GLIAC top performance sheet, a list of the conference's top performers; Bertucci is ranked sixth in the 55-meter hurdles. Many Northern athletes are ranked just outside of the top eight on the performance sheet. The top eight finishers in the GLIAC meet place and score team points.

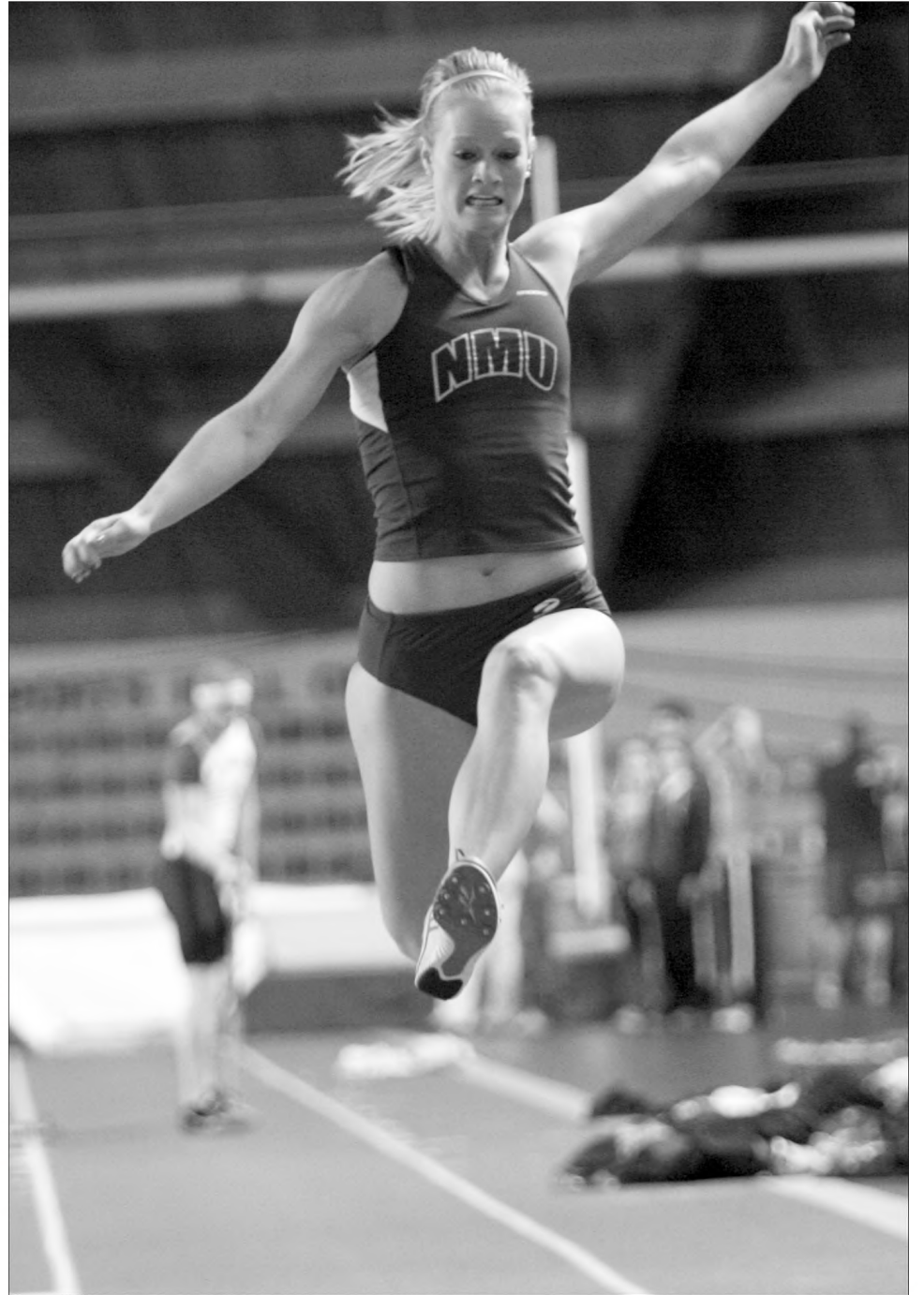
"Just to place in our conference in the top eight is going to be an accomplishment; it truly is the best (division-II) conference in the country," Barnes said.

This meet will be the first scored meet for the 'Cats this season. Barnes said the team has matched up well against the GLIAC teams they faced in non-scored competitions so far this season.

The conference meet takes place Feb. 29-March 1 at Findlay University in Findlay, Ohio.

"I guess we are about ready to go," Barnes said. "It's always exciting to compete in a conference meet, so we're real anxious to get out there and see what we can do.

"This is what we've worked for during the whole indoor season," he added.



Spencer Bouchard/NW
Junior Leslie Luehmann competes in the long jump during Northern's recent home meet. Luehmann will look to place highly at the GLIAC meet Feb. 29-March 1 in Findlay, Ohio.

Swimmers place eighth at GLIAC

The NMU women's swim team finished its season on an exciting note last weekend, as the team finished ahead of Findlay in the last event of the meet to clinch an eighth place finish at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) championships this past weekend.

The team entered the last event of the meet, the 400-meter relay trailing Findlay by three points and needing to place higher than the Findlay Oilers to finish in eighth. Findlay was disqualified in the event, and the 'Cats placed eighth in the event — ahead of the Oilers.

"It came down to the last relay," head coach Bob Laughna said. "It was exciting."

The Wildcats finished the meet with 179 points, narrowly besting the Oilers who finished with 178. Wayne State won the meet with a score of 800.

Hillsdale finished in seventh place, 71.5 points ahead of Northern. NMU had beaten Hillsdale twice in dual meets this season, but fell to them in last weekend's GLIAC meet.

Senior Mimi Marschall took advantage of the last GLIAC championships of her collegiate career and led the Wildcats with

a fourth place finish in the 400-meter individual medley and a sixth place finish in the 200-meter individual medley. She was also a part of the 200-meter freestyle and 400-meter freestyle relay teams which finished in seventh and eighth. Marschall's time of 4:40.21 in the 400-meter individual medley was under the cut-off time for the NCAA II championship, meaning her time qualified her for the national meet.

Also placing well for the 'Cats was freshman diver Kelli Vander Baan who finished in third place in the 3-meter diving event and fifth place in the 1-meter event.

Also finishing in the top 10 for the Wildcats were senior Sarah Dobratz, who finished sixth in the 200-meter backstroke with a time of 2:13.27, and sophomore Sarah Cempel, who finished 10th in the 200-meter breast stroke with a time of 2:32.52.

"I was really pleased with how it went," Laughna said. "I'm happy about how it ended up and I'm really proud of the team."

— Carson LeMahieu

HOCKEY

Continued from Page 15

The next four teams receive first-round home series and the bottom four teams will be on the road for the entire postseason.

Kyle said, with such a young team, it is imperative that the veteran skaters step up and guide their inexperienced teammates into the playoffs.

"The truth is that your older guys that have been around—we don't have a lot of those guys—have to do everything that they can to make sure our guys know the significance of playing at home," he said. "The older guys and the leadership in the room need to make sure our guys are as focused as they can be."

Currently, the 'Cats are on pace for a home series, as they sit in eighth place with 22 points. NMU sits just two points—the equivalent of one game—ahead of Alaska. NMU will finish the regular season with a series against the Lake Superior State Lakers on March 1.

Prior to their season-ending matchup with the Lakers, the Wildcats will host the

University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks (14-14-4, 11-11-4) this weekend. Despite being more than 700 miles apart for the majority of the season, the sparks always fly when the Wildcats take on the Mavericks.

"I think it is a big rivalry for us and we've had a ton of great, great weekends with them," Kyle said. "We can't take this team lightly and, from experience, we should know not to."

In preparation for the Mavericks, Kyle said NMU is playing the best hockey of the year. The hope,

however, is that the team will continue to improve.

"I hope we haven't peaked, yet," Kyle said. "I believe you sort of have to peak through the playoffs and keep growing as the playoffs go. Over our last seven or eight games, I would say that we're playing our best hockey of the year. What I hope is that we have more in there and more to give."

The puck will drop against Nebraska-Omaha in the Berry Events Center at 7:30 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday.

I would say that we're playing our best hockey of the year.

**— Walt Kyle
head hockey coach**

TODAY, FEB. 21

Event: IntersVarsity Christian Fellowship will meet from 6-10 p.m. in the Pioneer A & B Rooms of the University Center.

Winterfest: First Aid Productions presents: Guitar Hero II Tournament. It will begin at 6 p.m. in JXJ 102.

Event: Campus Crusade for Christ will meet from 7-10 p.m. in the Brule Room of the University Center.

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

Event: NMU Sailing will be meeting from 7-8 p.m. in the Cadillac Room of the University Center.

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

Event: Victory over Death will meet from 7-10 p.m. in the Marquette Room at the University Center.

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

students.

FRI., FEB. 22

Event: WUPX will be meeting from noon-1:30 p.m. in the Huron Room of the University center.

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

Winterfest: NMU vs. Nebraska-Omaha at 7:30 p.m. at the Berry Events Center.

Event: Magic the Gathering tournament begins at 6 p.m. at Ultimate Game Zone on Washington St. Fee is \$15.

SAT., FEB. 23

Event: Dreamscapes will be meeting from noon-midnight in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

Event: NMU Fencing will meet from 1-3 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

Event: Falun Dafa Club will be meeting from 1-3 p.m. in the

Pioneer A Room of the University Center.

Event: Magic the Gathering tournament begins at 1 p.m. at Ultimate Game Zone on Washington St. Fee is \$6.

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

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

SUN., FEB. 24

Event: NMU Fencing will meet from 1-3 p.m. in the Marquette Room of the University Center.

Event: Mortar Board will meet from 4-6 p.m. in the Marquette Room of the University Center.

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

Event: Victory Over Death will meet from 6-7:30 p.m. in the

Nicolet Room of the University Center.

Film: "Enchanted" (PG) will show at 6:30 p.m. in JXJ 102. Admission is free to NMU students and \$1 for non-students.

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

MON., FEB. 25

Event: Steppin Out Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11 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.

TUES., FEB. 26

Skill Builder: "Group Dynamics - This is How We 'Role'" will be presented from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Back Room of the University Center. This counts towards the Leadership Edge.

Event: NMU International Dance Club will meet from 6:30-11

p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

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

Event: A Holistic Health Forum for the Mind/Body/Spirit will be held from 7-9 p.m. in the Peter White Public Library in the Lower Level Community Room.

Event: Northern Entrepreneurship Organization will meet from 7-8 p.m. in the Charcoal Room of the University Center.

WED., FEB. 27

Event: NMU International Dance Club will meet from 5-7 p.m. in the Superior Room of the University Center.

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

Event: Pagan Moon will meet from 9-11 p.m. in the Pioneer B Room of the University Center.

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

DON'T MISS

RECYCLED PERCUSSION

MAN VS. MACHINE LIVE!!

MAN VS. MACHINE TOUR

DON'T MISS THE MOST INSANE ROCK - HIP/HOP PERCUSSION SHOW WITH THEIR MONSTEROUS NEW "MAN vs. MACHINE" TOUR.

Wednesday, March 12, 2008
7:30pm @ Vandament Arena
Free for NMU Students, \$3 General Public

Northern Arts Entertainment
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Classified Ad Rates

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Each additional word \$0.10

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Each additional word \$0.10

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Help Wanted

Summer Camp Positions: Make a difference in the life of a child! Summer therapy camp for children with physical disabilities. Located on the shore of Lake Superior in Big Bay, MI. Positions available for Counselors, Waterfront, Instructors for Nature/Arts & Crafts/ Recreation, Nurses Therapists, Food Service, and Auxillary. Must be enthusiastic, responsible, and love children. June 8 through Aug. 3. Salary, room & board, and experience of lifetime provided. Call or write for application and information. Bay Cliff Health Camp, P.O. Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808, (906) 345-9314, e-mail BayCliffHC@aol.com. Visit us at www.baycliff.org.

Diversified farm seeks intern/apprentice 2008. Learn about organic farming, community supported agriculture, mushroom cultivation, chickens, pigs, cattle alternative energy, alternative building, and lots more. Position is five days a week. Six hundred dollar stipend a month and housing are available. A positive attitude, enthusiasm and the desire to work outside is all that is required. For more information and an application please contact us. **Seeds & Spores Family Farm** 724 Greenfield Rd. Marquette, MI 49855 #249-2158. Jeff Hatfield & Jeff Chiodi. seed-sandspores@miuplink.com.

Shout Outs

Bre — I want to grow old with you and own 50 cats. — **KJE**

Karlee — I'm setting up an account for you on match.com to find you a spider monkey. — **Your co-worker**

Baptist — I'll have you know that Sean sounds an awful lot like John ... the baptist. — **Bre**

Bre — I want to grow old with you and own 50 cats. — **KJE**

BFF — I love you always. ps. butt tattoos soon! — **BFF**

Roommates — You smell and I'm tired of cleaning! — **Not Your Mom**

Ma — Happy early birthday! — **Daughter**

Pa — I hope the computer is working swimmingly. — **Daughter**

Bo — Welcome to facebook. Now, Jess can spend twice as much time on it. — **Roommate**

Superfan — Thanks for helping me, even if the web site was written in English. — **Jackie**

Eric and Linz — Thanks for the incredibly thoughtful Valentine's Day gift last week. You made my day! — **Your Favorite Reporter**

Eric — And extra thanks to you for making my friend so happy. That's all I could want for her. — **Cassandra**

Emileisil — My queen tells me she's ready for another re-match. Prepare to die. (Followed by another lovely wedding). Haha. Love you. — **Awesome Chess Player**

Chad — HOLLA — **Shane**

China — I think I hear the Olympics yelling my name. — **Not in China**

Shelby — I'm thinking '90s movies, box wine, and tub cheese. Get back to me. — **Smash**

Cassandra — Can you please sleep over soon? — **Ash**

Grandma — I can't wait to see you next weekend. We can eat Subway and talk forever. I love you. — **Ashley**

JDS — In the next issue "10 reasons to hate Juno" and "JDS is always right." — **Housewife with trig skills**

Berken — We are extremely scandalous peoples, period. — **Fellow wig-wearer**

Stark — Thanks for introducing me to RodentBook. If Rastafari gets a page, you'll be the first to know. — **G-pig fan**

Bum — Let's buy a soda and go to Macy's. — **Shane**

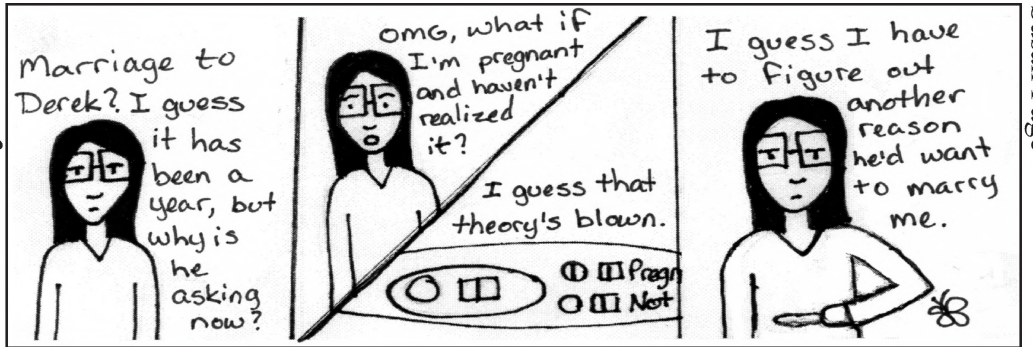
Stevie — Did you miss me? I missed you... but not anything else at that store. — **Big Daddy**

Roommate — I'd like to bake cookies this weekend. Let me know your thoughts. — **Jackie**

Inspirations

- Samuel L. Jackson
- Tour guides
- Fun Dip
- Short stories
- Lunar eclipses
- Great '90s music
- Daft Punk
- Mom yeller atters
- Being in the limelight
- Really really really loud laughs
- Rodentbook

Snow Days



Susan Page

The Assassin Sessions



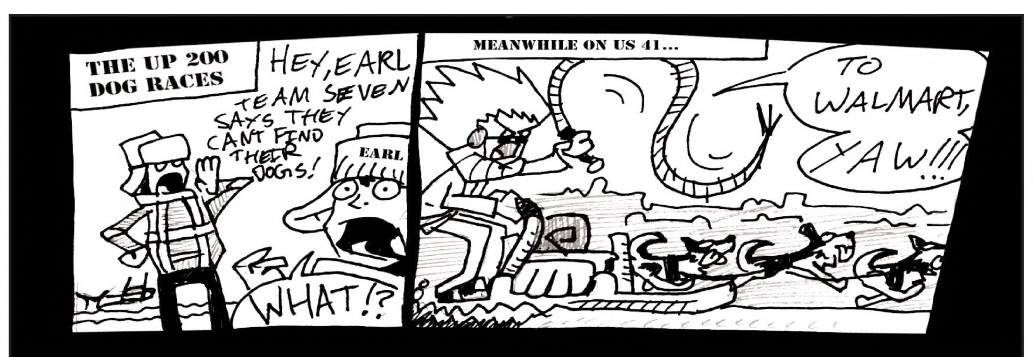
Andrew McCanna

Stick People



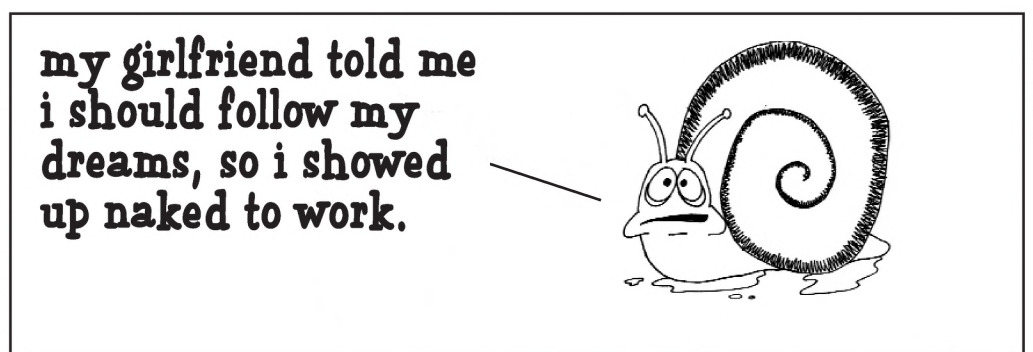
Sean Chevrier

Creative Diarrhea



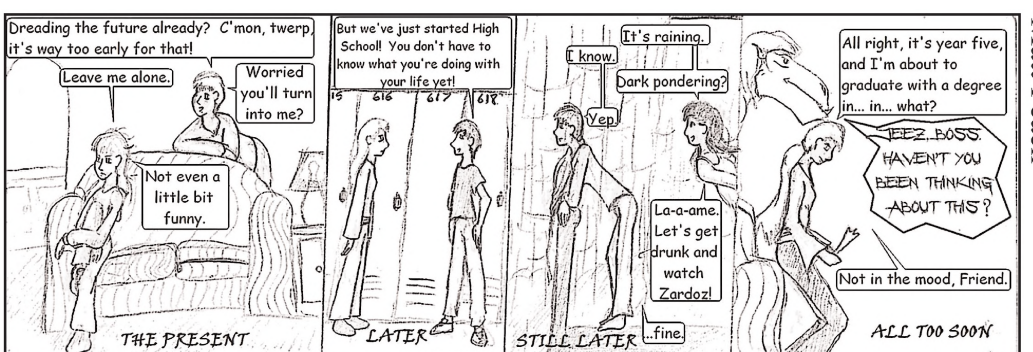
Alex Stevens

Snail's Tales



NW Staff

Ellen's Friend



Matt Peach

Australian Mudwizard



Sean Baptist

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Student Society
of America

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